

Oshkosh Public Library Highlights March 2023

1. OPL patrons now have access to a new video streaming service - Kanopy. The platform offers thousands of critically-acclaimed and award-winning movies, inspiring documentaries, world cinema and more. The service is easy to use with a library card online and on multiple devices with the Kanopy app. Stream at home or on the go, anywhere there's an internet connection. Kanopy is paid for by the Winnefox Library System.
2. The annual LEGOMania Design Contest brought in 38 entries including elaborate spaceships, castles, a nature park and more. Fifty people came to view the entries and see the awards presentation. Winners received LEGO sets, books and gift certificates for their original creations. Thanks to generous sponsors Oshkosh Corporation and House of Heroes Comics & Games.
3. A magic show was just the ticket to draw 19 people to the March 8 Memory Café at the library. Memory Café offers people experiencing memory loss and their caregivers the opportunity to socialize in a comfortable and safe environment. Past sessions have featured music, art projects, games, seasonal activities and presentations by local businesses and organizations.
4. The library participated in the State of the City on March 13, answering questions about library services and gathering feedback from community members. OPL Board President Bill Bracken was also recognized for five years of service on the Library Board of Trustees. Congratulations!
5. Oshkosh readers logged some pretty impressive stats in the library's Wild Winter Read Off:
 - During the nine-week program, one adult patron tracked an impressive 13,200 reading minutes (220 hours).
 - The adult and teen programs saw a combined total of 139 active readers.
 - The children's program recorded 653 new registrations with 139 challenge completions.
 - Adults read a combined 198,800 minutes, earned 659 badges and redeemed 112 rewards.
 - Teens read a combined 45,154 minutes with an average total of 1,188 minutes per reader.
 - Children read a combined 125,152 minutes and earned 529 Reading Badges and 260 Activity Badges.
6. A visit with children's author Dean Robbins brought in 30 people on Feb. 25, to wrap up the Wild Winter Read Off. Robbins' funny, interactive presentation introduced kids to the everyday superheroes and extraordinary people he writes about in his books.
7. Art created by local middle school students is currently featured in the Helen Farnsworth Mears Art Exhibit. The exhibit in the library's lower level features the paintings, drawings, sculptures and digital artwork of 66 students and will remain on display through April 2. Thanks to the Women's Art Club of the WI-General Federation of Women's Clubs for continuing to showcase the creativity and talent of young artists at the library.

8. Children's Librarian Kallie Schell led a project that improves access to OPL's Juvenile Fiction collection in the lower level. Initiated in response to patron feedback, the redefined space and furnishings create a welcoming atmosphere and allow for more flexible programming options.
9. The library partnered with the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development to host a second mini job fair on March 13. Nine employers participated in the event, including 4Imprint, Amcor, Associated Bank, Kingsbury, Great Northern, Oshkosh Door, Sure-Dry Basements, and UMOS. Attendees and employers praised the event and several commented that they appreciated a smaller hiring event that allowed for more meaningful connections.
10. Patrons often convey their appreciation for excellent library service, but recently a patron took her heartfelt thanks a step further. A patron who attended one of OPL's monthly card clinics at a Miravida Living residence included a donation of \$200 in a thank you note, "in gratitude to (Community Engagement Librarian) Sandy Toland's services to Miravida Living."