

Oshkosh Public Library Highlights May 2019

1. The Write Now series of writing programs concluded with an open mic event under the Dome on May 10. A total of 14 programs were offered on topics ranging from journaling to horror writing to roadmapping your novel. More than 50 people attended the programs.
2. The Lakefly Writers Conference was held May 10-11 at the Oshkosh Convention Center. The keynote speaker was Wisconsin author Liam Callanan, who went from the conference to Milwaukee to accept the Edna Ferber Award for Fiction for his latest novel, *Paris By The Book*. Other speakers included Wisconsin Poet Laureate Peg Rogza, author/television personality Silvia Acevedo, and Winnebago County Coroner Barry Busby. Attendance hit a record 114 this year, driven in part by a small feature in the spring issue of *Writer's Digest*, a partnership with the Wisconsin Writers Association and UW graduation ceremonies being held on the following weekend.
3. The Children's Department wrapped up its World Culture Series with a look at Native American culture and Earth Day, which 55 people attended. Participants learned about Native peoples' use of natural resources and made recycled paper. With additional spring events focusing on Chinese and Irish cultures, the World Culture Series brought to life interesting aspects of people, places and traditions across the globe and close to home.
4. Nearly 170 bikers of all ages stopped at OPL during the BikeOsh event on May 11. The event takes riders on a tour of the city, collecting stamps on their Pedal Passes at 24 stops to qualify for prizes.
5. Teen Librarian Maggie Mueller received an Outstanding Service Award from the City of Oshkosh Employee Recognition Committee for her work with the Teen Book Club. Two members of the club nominated Maggie and the award was presented by City Manager Mark Rohloff. Nice work Maggie!
6. Our latest schedule of events and activities promises a summer of space-themed reading and learning at the library. *Mission 2019: A Universe of Stories*, is packed with opportunities to explore and discover, with space themes running through everything from storytimes to STEAM activities to an escape room for teens. A Summer Reading Launch Party will be held Fri., June 7. A centerpiece of the summer activities will be ***It Came from Oshkosh, a Sci-Fi Short Film Project***. Community members of all ages are invited to make a sci-fi movie short, with the library offering resources, programs and tech assistance to inspire and support participants. Select submissions will be shown at the **It Came from Oshkosh Sci-Fi Film Festival** at the Time Community Theater in August.
7. The library is a partner in the Winnebago Literacy Council's Mark Gruenwald Comic Book Creation Challenge, which runs through the end of the summer. The project challenges

community members of all ages to create an original comic book, offering each participant a pizza box full of art supplies to help bring their ideas to life. Organizers include ZaRoni's Pizza, House of Heroes Comic Books + Games and the Winnebago County Literacy Council. Art supplies are being distributed and entries will be turned in at the library, with a final awards celebration held under the Dome in September. The objective is to promote literacy through comic books and graphic novels, raise awareness of the work done by the Literacy Council and bring people to the library. The project honors Oshkosh comic icon Mark Gruenwald, who was an executive editor at Marvel Comics from 1987-1996.