

Oshkosh Public Library Highlights November 2013

1. The library entered a team in the downtown Oshkosh Chili Cook-off. OPL's team adopted a zombie theme as the Well-Read Undead. Though we didn't win any prizes, our good-naturedly ghoulish tent and costumes, chili-themed book titles (A Tale of Two Chilies, The Lion the Witch & the Crockpot, etc.) and simmering pot of Chili Con Carnage drew a good deal of attention from the more than 500 people who attended the event. Check our Facebook page for photos.
2. OPL is serving as a site for area writers participating in National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) during November. Writers are invited to spend time writing at the library as they work toward their NaNoWriMo goal of writing a 50,000-word novel in 30 days. Special "write-in" events are being held throughout the month, including a kick-off party, an evening lock-in after library hours and a wrap-up party. OPL is partnering with the Oshkosh Area Writers Club for NaNoWriMo, with support from the Friends of the Library.
3. The Children's Department ran its Pumpkin Pageant again this year, with more than 40 families decorating pumpkins to display in the lower level. Prizes were given in several categories and the pumpkins were a great seasonal addition to the décor in the lower level. Check our Facebook page to see some of the entries.
4. The library will mark the coming holiday season with stories, music and giving opportunities starting later this month. OPL will again run its Give the Gift of Reading book and Mitten Tree winter-wear collections for the Salvation Army; Children's Department staff will read holiday stories at the Celebration of Lights; and the Oshkosh West Madrigals and Oshkosh Youth Choir will both perform at the library. Complete details are at www.oshkoshpubliclibrary.org. The Friends of the Library also are providing holiday decorations again this year, including wreaths on the lions and Christmas trees under the Dome.
5. Two maintenance projects that enhance the appearance of the library have been completed. The red concrete at the library entrance has been replaced and the pillars in the lower level Children's Department have been recovered. Both were in high-traffic areas and had become worn in the 17 years since the building opened.