



**Directors Report
January/February
2024**

1. PUBLIC SERVICES

Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events

Highlights:

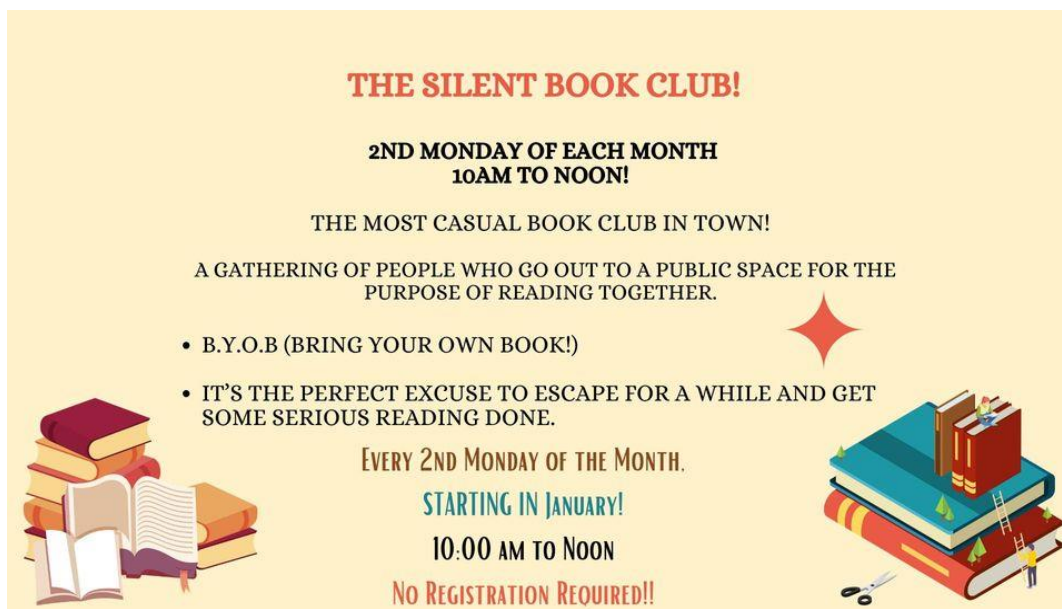
- Preschool Story Time (Julia Boyer Reinstein Library) as well as the Night Owl and Early Bird Story Hour (Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library) continue successfully at both Cheektowaga libraries, bringing in dozens of children and their parents to enjoy stories and crafts.



- January 4, at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library and continuing on Thursdays 12 pm -1:30 pm a new knitting program began entitled "Hooks, Needles and Thread" Led by Sr. Page Linda Wetzler, attendees enjoyed knitting and crocheting in good company and learning new skills through demonstration and conversation.



- January 6, Librarian Jeffrey Matrachisia hosted Scrabble Day for Adults at the Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library. Participants gathered to challenge each other in the classic word game while enjoying light snacks.
- January 8, The Julia Boyer Reinstein Library introduced a new monthly “Silent Reading Club”. Attendees met from 11am to 1pm for a brief conversation on what they were reading then sat in comfort with light refreshments reading quietly with others. After the session, many of the attendees commented how focused they were and read more than they normally do at home with their everyday distractions.

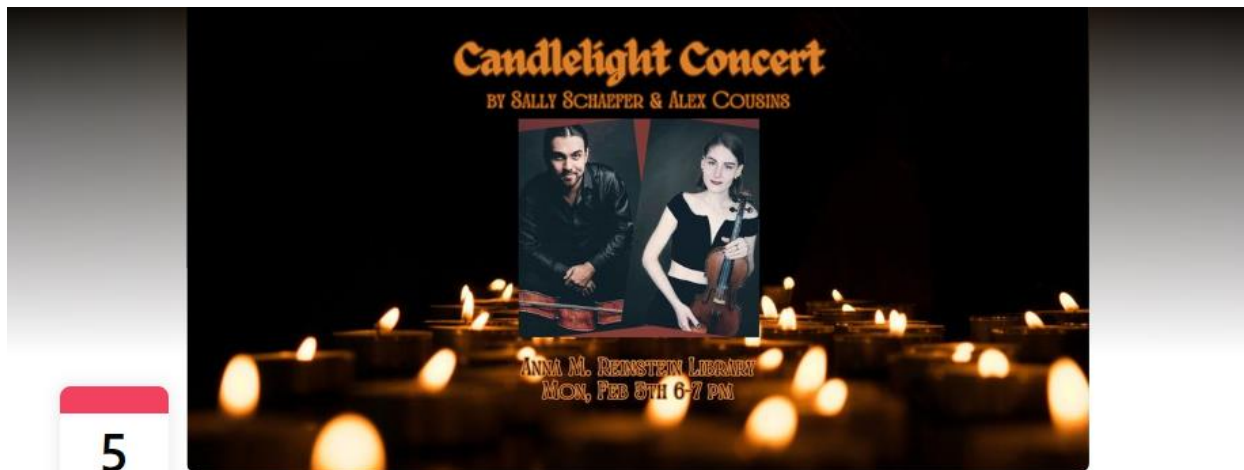


- January 20, Director Dan Caufield spoke at a small business development conference at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center. This was the 26th year for the “Straight Talk” Conference held each January to introduce current business owners and curious entrepreneurs to the resources needed to start and run a business. Dan participated in the first workshop entitled Business Basics with Small Business Development Director Susan McCarthy and SCORE Mentor Jeannine Higgins. The workshop introduced attendees to the importance of a business plan. Dan also coordinated and spoke at six follow up workshops at the Central Library on the following Tuesdays and Thursday expanding on resources available at the Library.



February

- February was a month filled with music starting February 5 with a “Candlelight Concert” at the Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library. The concert featured violinist Sally Schafer and Cellist Alex Cousins who played romantic music from past to present in celebration of Valentine’s Day.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2024 AT 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM EST

Candlelight Concert by Sally Schaefer & Alex Cousins

Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library

- February 10, Concert Violinist Henri Star Muhammad and his music students performed at the Anna M. Reinstein Library in honor of Black History month.



- February 17, Joyce Carolyn and the Best of the Best trio performed at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library. Joyce sang and discussed the history of jazz as “The” African American classical art form.



PERFORMING AT THE
JULIA BOYER REINSTEIN LIBRARY

**JOYCE CAROLYN
&
THE BEST OF THE BEST**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 FROM 1PM TO 2PM
FREE AND OPEN TO PUBLIC

FEATURING
Sabu Adeyola, Doug “Trigger” Gaston,
Abdul-Rahman Qadir and Mark Harris

*Jazz /jaz/ noun African American Classical Music
characterized by propulsive syncopated rhythms, polyphonic
ensemble playing, varying degrees of improvisation created
out of desperation by a people fighting to survive*



- February 17, Alex Fernandez and VRBuffalo brought an Immersive Media Explorers program to Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library for National Engineering Week. Participants donned goggles to experience augmented and virtual reality simulations in gaming, art and engineering.



- Throughout February, an art exhibit by painter Larry Deskiewicz graced the shelves of the Anna M. Reinstein. Mr. Deskiewicz is an artist who works through Aspire of Western NY. Aspire has worked with adults and children with various mental or physical challenges to reach their full potential. Mr. Deskiewicz's talent as an artist shines for all to see and it was a pleasure hosting such a vibrant exhibit.





Outreach to Schools

- January 31, Librarian Carol Vetch attended the Union East Elementary School Family Fun Night and on February 26, met with 7 third grade classes at the Maryvale Intermediate School. With both these outreach opportunities Carol guided hundreds of students through crafts and spoke about the services offered by the Cheektowaga libraries.

2. Collections: Development and Use

(Weeding, displays, special collections, etc) Include information about print, AV and digital content here.

- Librarians are currently weeding and ordering for their respective collections.

Highlights:

3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Facilities:

- January 13, Both the Julia Boyer Reinstein and Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library closed early and closed all day on January 17 & 18 due to lake effect weather.
- New shelving is being installed at Julia Boyer Reinstein Library. This new shelving will allow for an expanded classics section and a summer reading collection, which will reflect the summer reading lists created by the various Cheektowaga school systems.
- A new play table and wooden train track was added to the Children's room at Julia Boyer Reinstein Library. Additionally, wooden puzzles and other interactives for preschoolers have been set out on the tables for parents and children to use.

Technology

Infrastructure, equipment, network, website enhancements, ILS, RFID

NA

6. Partnerships

- Diane M. Bostwick donated \$25 to the Library stating, "Of all the libraries I have been to, Cheektowaga's are the most friendly and helpful. Thank you"
- January 27, Director Dan Caufield attended the "Together as One" (TAO) press conference at the Central Library Downtown Buffalo. Dan has been a member of the TAO Committee helping to arrange events and exhibit locations for WNY's African American History during February's Black History Month. Speakers included Representatives from the County and City of Buffalo and NYS Senator Tim Kennedy.



7. Meetings / Future Planning / Special Projects

- January 9, Director Caufield met with Christopher Kokoszka, Associate Business Services Representative for the NYS Dept. Of Labor. After a brief tour of the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library, the Dept. of Labor will host a Job Fair at JBR on April 12 from 11am-1pm.
- January 16, Dan Caufield met with Ted Galanawitz from the SBA to coordinate a Small Business development workshop at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library on March 2.
- February 21, Cheektowaga Councilmembers Barbara Bakowski, Michael Jasinski and Vern Thompson met with Judith Mietlicki at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library. The meeting was a chance for Council members to meet Ms. Mietlicki before a resolution passed for her reinstatement to the CPL Board of Directors. The meeting went well with Judith and Daniel discussing how the Libraries serve the public in Cheektowaga. The Council members were impressed with Ms. Mietlicki's dedication to the Library and on February 27 the Cheektowaga Town Board passed a resolution appointing her to another term of five years. This will be Ms. Mietlicki's 7th consecutive term of office serving as a CPL Board member.