

Upstairs, Downstairs

What's going on behind the scenes at the Cedar Rapids Public Library

2-25-2008

Administration

- Jazz at the 'Brary was a huge success, with over 300 attendees and many kind words of praise for the Sax Offenders' tribute to Charlie Parker. Foundation donors and members of the Friends Board enjoyed a lovely reception prior to the first program, hosted by the Foundation. We are particularly grateful to Bradley & Riley PC for their generous support of the program, as well as to the other sponsors: KCKK Radio, the Iowa Arts Council, and the Iowa City Public Library.

Iowa Substance Abuse Information Center

- Business as usual. The amazing ISAIC staff do a wonderful job of keeping patrons happy and providing excellent service, and just seem to take all the changes and adjustments in stride.
- We'll be working on developing materials and promotions for upcoming campaigns that will be utilized across the state.

IT

- Nick has been working on finishing up a few final projects. He has been reviewing with Leon and Roger some of the details about what he has been doing. Nick has been with the library almost eight years and he will be sorely missed. Nick has been here through some immense technological changes. Many of those changes could not have been done without him. But, he has a great opportunity to move into the private sector and it is something that he could not pass up.

Maintenance

- We spent a great deal of time removing heavy snow and ice accumulations around the Library this week.
- We are working with the heat pump contractor to keep the installation process in the Children's department from being to much of a disruption to Library activities while still moving forward.
- The heat pump installation in the Red room is complete except for the fire alarm system within the room which will be finished this week. The old pumps above the Children's story hour area have been removed and the new pumps will be installed this week.

Children's/Programming

- Author and illustrator Kelly Dupre gave a seminar on Saturday, Feb. 16. Thirty one people attended and enjoyed her talk about the research she goes for her books and how she writes and illustrates her books.
- More cancellations of tours this week were rescheduled due to the weather.
- Summer reading materials (bookmarks, stickers, book bags, etc.) have arrived from Highsmith.
- The final special program presenter has been confirmed for this summer.

Circulation

- Work continues on updating both shelver and circulation procedures. Zone 1 procedures for shelvers have been completed. The goal is to have all zone procedures completed and online by June.

Adult

- On Sunday, February 24, Rebecca presented a grant proposal for "Teen Write'n'Read: Writing Opportunity for High Schoolers," to members of YouthPower, a teen philanthropy program of the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation. We are asking for funding to sponsor a writing workshop as part of Teen Read Week during October 12-18, 2008.

Aspiring teen writers would work with a local author and then present their short stories and poetry in a writing “slam” at the CRPL.

Ask Marian