



Submitted by: @cari_luna
Recommendation: [Mink River](#)
by Brian Doyle



Submitted by: @SparklesBob
Recommendation: [The Brides of Rollrock Island](#)
by Margo Lanagan

Staff match reading recommendations to patron tattoos

On July 26, the library tweeted its 10,000 followers to share pictures of their tattoos for personalized reading recommendations. People quickly responded, sharing tattoos of hot air balloons, geometric designs, birds and even a to-do list.

Multnomah County residents love tattoos almost as much as they love reading, and this campaign truly speaks to the power of knowing your community. Our initial tweet — "Okay, let's have some fun! Got a tattoo? Send us a (g-rated) photo & we'll suggest a book for you based on your ink. Ready? GO! #Book4Tat" — garnered 154 engagements and 59 retweets. And in just one week of the campaign, participants used our hashtag #Book4Tat 260 times.

We've received more than 200 Twitter submissions and have expanded the campaign to Facebook. Authors, libraries and publications have joined in far and wide, and some patrons even showed us their tattoos in person and got a good book to match. In total, we've paired more than 400 tattooed patrons with a personal reading recommendation.

You can [follow the #Book4Tat conversation on Twitter](#) to see more tattoos and their corresponding reading recommendations. And, as always, the library continues to offer personalized reading recommendations in person and online anytime with [My Librarian](#).

Summer Reading 2016 sprints to the finish line



Multnomah County Library is proud to sustain a culture of reading, and Summer Reading is the perfect example. This year, participants read more than 23 million minutes!

The numbers are still coming in as staff wrap up the program behind the scenes, but so far we know that more than 112,000 youth and 479 schools participated, with more than 26,000 kids reaching the finish line. Plus, more than 800 volunteers helped us every step of the way, most of whom are youth themselves.

New this year, staff ordered more than 10,000 [Oregon Battle of the Books](#) and [Oregon Readers Choice Award](#) titles as prizes, which were hugely popular. It's hard to compete with a Slurpee or pool pass, but many more youth than in past years chose books this summer.

We also engaged our youth volunteers in a more mentor-style training, with new and veteran volunteers training together at their work locations. This way, they started the program knowing more of their fellow volunteers and with a stronger relationship to staff. Surveys of volunteers and staff indicated it was a successful change to this instrumental training session.

Summer Reading is made possible by gifts to [The Library Foundation](#).

Library kicks off capital planning effort

In July, Multnomah County Library launched its one-year capital planning project to create a facilities master plan that meets community need in the near and long-term futures. The process includes assessing our current brick-and-mortar footprint and analyzing current and projected community demographics and need.

The work will engage a wide range of community members and leaders, culminating in a vision for future library spaces, services and innovations — and the needed funding strategies to support our changing facilities over the next 20 years. This planning process will develop a vision and strategy and not include building renovations or bond measures.

Our capital planning work is an exciting effort to plan for the library's future and our role in Multnomah County. I am grateful to all the members of our Community Action Committee (CAC) for bringing their perspectives and needs forward during the visioning process. And I want give a special thanks to Brian Wilson for chairing the CAC, and the entire Library Advisory Board capital planning subcommittee, for their participation in the process.

2016 banned books event highlights diverse comics

Year round, Multnomah County Library advocates for access to a wide range of books, programs and resources that reflect our community. [Banned Books Week](#), September 25 through October 1, is no exception to our commitment to intellectual freedom.

In 2016, the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom found that nine of the top 10 books challenged in 2015 contained diverse content, highlighting “an increasing social sensitivity to these issues and a growing awareness that such materials are still relatively rare in the publishing ecosystem.”

In support of diversity in storytelling, the library is hosting “[Banned Books: Diversity, Inclusion & Respect](#),” presented by the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund. Comic book authors M.K. Reed, Jonathan Hill, Anina Bennett, Tristan Tarwater as well as Dark Horse Comics Editor Hannah Means-Shannon will discuss the challenges to diverse books and how greater inclusion means a stronger future for intellectual freedom.

This program is made possible by The National Endowment for the Humanities Fund of The Library Foundation.

Patron comments

"We love seeing other kids in their [Summer Reading] T-shirts all over town. My kids will walk up to them and high-five them! Great way to feel like part of a community." — Patron, August 18

"I would like to nominate **Susan [Smallsreed]** at the Northwest branch for outstanding service. My friend Leigh and I have noticed repeatedly just how wonderful she is with all the kids who come into this branch. No one seems to be able to handle them so well, answering their needs and treating the kids in a non-condescending manner. — Bob Lowe, August 2

"**Alison Kastner** [and My Librarian] is a brilliant help. Thank you so much! There's nothing like seeing a true professional leap into action." — Patron, July 28

"When I was a kid, the only thing that could get me to read during the summer was the Multnomah County Library's summer reading program ... I still credit the Multnomah County Library for instilling in me a lifelong love of reading." — Sophia June, *Willamette Week* web editor, July 27

"My girls and I loved playtime with **Peter Ford** and **Natalie Schilling** at the **Gresham Library**. Now 9 and 10, they are avid readers thanks to you guys. Thank you!" — Julie Cyris Fiedler, July 11

"I like the library very much, especially the **Northwest Library** branch. The folks here are helpful, friendly and knowledgeable ... I have used the Interlibrary loan for research and have found it very useful — saved me much \$!! As the newspaper reported, the library is for ALL of us, rich, poor, homeless, young, old ... an equal opportunity source to increase our understanding and knowledge! :) Go library!" — Nonne Smith, June 8

In the news

[Wordstock's Challenge: Too Many Readers](#), *The Portland Mercury*, Aug. 31

[Jail librarian gives inmates the key to understanding the world](#), *Street Roots News*, Aug. 25

[26 Forward-Thinking Programs for Back to School](#), *School Library Journal*, Aug. 1

[Librarians to Portland readers: 'Show us your tats!'](#), KATU.com, July 29

['Evicted' is Multnomah County Library's 2017 community reading selection](#), *The Oregonian*, July 29
[The Multnomah County Library Twitter Gave Reading Recommendations Based on People's Tattoos](#), *Willamette Week*, July 27
[Immigrants Overcome Obstacles with Library Support](#), *Programming Librarian*, ALA, July 14
[This New Multnomah County Library Logo Cost \\$30,000. Thoughts?](#) *The Portland Mercury*, July 7

Upcoming events

[Becoming Your Own Publisher](#)
September 13
Gresham Library

[Creating a Legacy, Turning Genealogical Research into an Illustrated Heirloom Book](#)
September 19
Northwest Library

[Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body](#)
September 14
Hillsdale Library

[Buying and Selling on eBay](#)
September 20
Albina Library

[Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance](#)
Thursdays
Hillsdale Library

[Pageturners Author Visit: Valerie Geary](#)
September 20
Woodstock Library

[Blood Lead Screening Family Clinic](#)
Various dates and libraries

[Our Community Can End Homelessness: Here's How!](#)
September 21
Central Library

[Children's Book Fair: Do the Right Thing and Read!](#)
September 17
North Portland Library

[Pageturners Author Visit: Ellen Urbani](#)
September 21
Midland Library

[Voice Your Vote](#)
Various dates and libraries

[MicCheck!](#)
September 21
Midland Library

[Peruvian Handkerchief Dance](#)
Various dates and libraries

[Wild Foods in Survival & Self Reliance](#)
October 1
Hollywood Library

[End of Life Care in the Community](#)September 22
Hollywood Library[Banned Books: Diversity, Inclusion & Respect](#)September 26
Central Library[Going Solo: The Value of Solitude in a Social World](#)September 27
Kenton Library[Poetry Reading: Paulann Petersen and Deborah Akers](#)September 27
Sellwood-Moreland Library[Pageturners Author Visit: Molly Gloss](#)September 27
Northwest Library[Anyone's Domain: A Writing Workshop](#)October 1
Hillsdale Library[Letters to the Next President Through Poetry and Spoken Word](#)October 4
Gresham Library[*All the Difference*](#)October 4
Kenton Library[Author Talk: Katharine English](#)October 4
Central Library