



North Portland Library celebrates books and community

North Portland Library held its annual Children's Book Fair on September 17. Families had a great time in spite of the stormy weather, and more than 500 kids and parents participated in the event. This year, North Portland Library's new youth librarian, Kirby McCurtis, revitalized the event by adding multicultural performers, inviting community partners and updating the traditional activities.

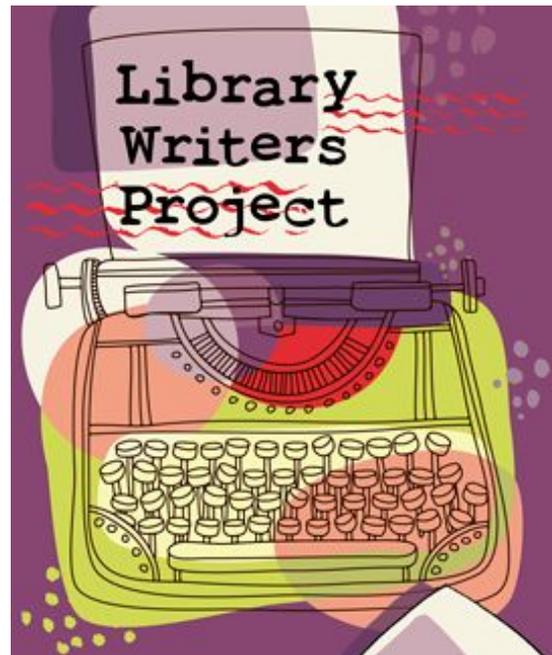
The event began with a retelling of "Peter and the Wolf" by the Portland Columbia Symphony Orchestra. Next, families got to watch dancers from Hip Hop Soulsation Academy and learn some new dance moves. The Frog Princess had a line out the door for her balloon animals, and parents commented on how wonderful it was to see an African American princess. The event ended with Newel Briggs' band playing down-home favorites.

Along with the performances, the fair featured activities for kids, including a button making station, a painting station and two STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) activities. Plus, kids got to choose a free book to take home. Healthy snacks were generously provided by New Seasons Market, Oregon State University Extension Service Food Hero Program and Ruby Rockets. Thank you to Kirby for leading the event, to all our volunteers that helped run the fair, and to community agencies Black Parent Initiative and Urban League of Portland for their support.

The Library Writers Project opens for second year

Multnomah County Library is accepting e-book submissions from local authors for the second year of the Library Writers Project. Authors can submit their e-books via the self-publishing website Smashwords, now through December 15. This year, the library is accepting works of fiction for adults, teens and children, including picture books.

Library staff will review submissions, and the best books will be added to the library's e-book collection on the OverDrive platform, visited by more than 2,500 patrons each day. In the project's inaugural year, we added 38 self-published books by local authors, which have been circulated nearly 4,000 times to date.



Local authors can get inspired to start or finish their novels at a number of library events this November in connection with [National Novel Writing Month](#). Check out the [Best of the Library Writers Project 2015](#) and stay tuned for this year's selections, which will be added to the collection in the spring.

Golden Ticket to Reading program underway countywide

The Golden Ticket to Reading program is an innovative way to bring children and families to the library, including many who have never been before, by offering a ticket that can be exchanged at any library location for a free book to keep.

Last year's expansion of the Golden Ticket to Reading program was highly successful, with 860 first graders and their families trading in their ticket for a book, with about 50 of those being first-time library users. The program opened again in October and is currently welcoming first graders and their families to Multnomah County Library and a world of reading.

The library's Youth Services team is now delivering Golden Tickets to every first grade student enrolled in a Multnomah County public school district. New this year, ticket holders can select books in Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Vietnamese as well as in English. Youth Services is also sharing information about the program with parents in these languages to help reach more families, especially those visiting the library for the first time.



The Golden Ticket program runs through January 8 and is funded by [The Library Foundation](#).

Patron comments

"The display of SHORT novels and stories is BRILLIANT [created by Library Assistant **Ken Hoesch, Northwest Library**]. I think you hit on an important situation in these times ... times of NO time to read. The fact that they're displayed particularly because they're short is BOUND to appeal to harried mothers and multi-tasking workers ("hamster wheel hamster wheel!") PLEASE CONTINUE this category in the future. I've already read 4 of them — NON-intimidating at that length. When faced with a 400- or 500-page novel, many of your customers will probably pass it up b'cuz (with sinking heart) they'll think, "GROAN, no time to finish this in 3 weeks" (if it's new). PLUS, if it's smallish, they can carry it with them easily. Thanks for thinking of this 'timely' display!" — patron, October 25

"I just had a tutoring lesson on the use of my computer. I was totally confused prior to our meeting on how to save pictures onto my computer from old emails. **Carlos [Galeana]** is very patient and walked me through the process. I like how he showed me first with all the steps, and then had me do each step, walking me through any errors or questions that I had. I am very impressed with Carlos. He is an excellent computer tutor and a "keeper." Thank you Carlos. I will spread the news about how competent and patient you are. I will come back for another lesson and eventually a class to learn about Windows 10." — Bev Arnold, October 10

In the news

[Gresham Library offers free blood test for lead](#), *The Outlook*, Oct. 4

['Wordstock' Raises the Bar](#), *Willamette Week*, Oct. 12

[Springfield Public Library seeks residents' input on its future](#), *The Register-Guard*, Oct. 12

[Author: Portland homeless families exemplify problem we can but don't solve](#), *The Oregonian*, Oct. 14

[Multnomah County Library's Bryan Fearn Talks Upcoming Events, New Technology](#), *Gresham Patch*, Oct. 18

[Midland Library celebrates 20 years](#), *East Portland News*, Oct. 29

Upcoming events

[Food Hero Recipe Tasting and Presentation](#)

November 8

North Portland Library

[A Shared City: Native Americans in Early Portland History](#)

Various dates and libraries

[Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance](#)

Thursdays

Hillsdale Library

[Fly Gals: Women Airforce Service Pilots in World War II](#)

Various dates and libraries

[National Novel Writing Month](#)

[\(NaNoWriMo\): Come Write In](#)

Various dates and libraries

[The Music and Life of Prince](#)

Various dates and libraries

[Introduction to Seed Saving](#)

Various dates and libraries

[太极扇 / Tai Chi Fan Dance workshop](#)

Mondays

Midland Library

[Native American Stories and Friendship Dance](#)

Various dates and libraries

[Health Insurance Information & Enrollment Assistance](#)

Various dates and libraries

[Waqtiga Qoyska / Somali Family Time](#)

November 12

Capitol Hill Library

[Sex in the Stone Age: Our Hybrid DNA](#)

Various dates and libraries

[Wild Foods of Native Americans](#)

Various dates and libraries

[Pageturners Author Visit: Brian Doyle](#)

November 18

Rockwood Library

[Anyone's Domain: A Writing Workshop](#)

November 19
Sellwood-Moreland Library

[Jason Okamoto](#)

November 20
Central Library

[All About Play: Language & Literacy
Development Through Play](#)

November 22
Central Library

[Native American Indian Storytelling and
Drumming](#)

November 28
Hollywood Library

[Caring for Another: Demystifying the Foster
Care System](#)

Various dates and libraries

[Squid Dissection](#)

Various dates and libraries

[National Novel Writing Month: Thank
Goodness It's Over Party](#)

December 3
Midland Library

[Hollywood Picks for the best of 2016](#)

December 7
Hollywood Library

[Celebrate Dark Horse Comics 30th
Birthday](#)

December 7
Central Library