



## September 2017 Branch Manager's Report

### Personnel

Children's librarian Stephanie Bragg has been awarded a \$400 scholarship from Boyds Mills Press for youth services librarians attending the Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference for the first time. The conference will take place October 15-18 in Pittsburgh.

### Children's Programming

Fall programs are now in full swing. Back-to-School Bingo on September 15 was advertised for ages 8-12, but some younger and (much) older family members joined in as well. Prizes were like-new children's books that had been donated to the library.

Preschool storytime, German storytime, and Chinese musical storytime continue to fill our little meeting room to capacity.

Twenty-five preschoolers got their own library cards—and balloons--at a Library Card Sign-Up event on September 23.

### Adult Programming

The Art Book Club met September 20 to discuss Umberto Eco's *The History of Beauty*. Following the meeting Victoria Skelly, the facilitator for the club, sent an email with 10 suggested titles for 2018 and asked that the members help choose six of them, three fiction and three nonfiction.

### Facilities

The Friends of Paoli Library have applied for a Community Partners Grant from the Lowes Charitable and Educational Foundation to help finance renovation of the library. The application deadline was August 25, and the review process takes 90 days from the cycle close date. Applicants are notified of their status by email after review is completed.

The Facilities Committee met on September 25 and decided to postpone any decisions on renovation until funding has been secured.

Stephanie Bragg has purchased colorful new rugs for the children's area and for the storytime room.

### Library Services

While circulation at Paoli (and many other county libraries) is trending downward, we are seeing increases in the number of holds filled and the number of patrons seeking technology assistance. This means that more and more staff time is going to these relatively labor-intensive activities, and less and less to the stereotypical 'checking books in and out.'

Beverly Michaels  
Branch Manager  
September 25, 2017