

## Hercules Library Report, November 2024

### Library Programming & Outreach Staff:

Alison Peters, Library Manager  
Justine Rea, Teens & Adults Librarian  
Katy Buder, Children's Librarian  
Eric Lee, Library Assistant  
Kerry Kipp, Library Assistant  
Kayla Etheridge, Clerk Specialist  
Ary Rangel, Senior Clerk

### Programs & Activities – Year Round

#### Children's Storytime – every Saturday, 10 & 10:30am

Month	Attendees
July	395
August	456
September	289
October	285

#### Play Pals – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, 10am

Month	Attendees
July	11
August	38
September	35
October	43

#### Pajama Storytime – Last Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm

Month	Attendees
July	27
August	21
September	32
October	28

#### LEGO Builders Club - 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, 3pm

Month	Attendees
July	35
August	33
September	42
October	28

#### Chess Club – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month, 4:15-5:15pm

Month	Attendees
July	29
August	28
September	28
October	47

### Max Meditation – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 6-7pm

Month	Attendees
July	13
August	Canceled
September	11
October	7

### Senior Center Lunch Presentations

Month	Attendees
July	20
August	27
September	canceled
October	26

### Unplugged: Board Game Night

Month	Attendees
July	5
August	8
October	5

### Homework Help

October	85
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### School/Class Visits/Outreach

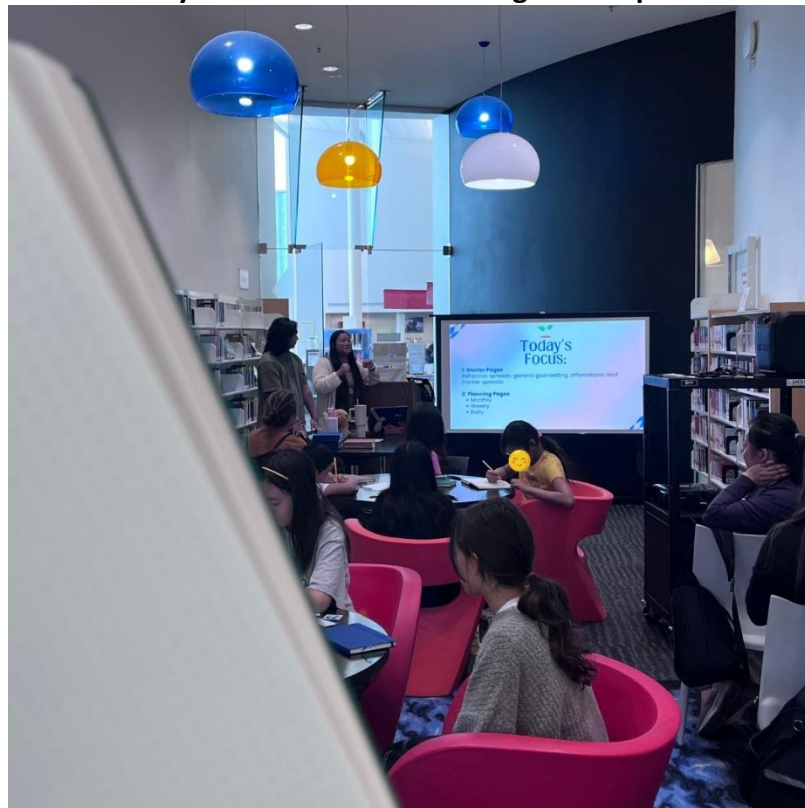
August: Hercules Middle School @ library	180
September: Learn and Play Montessori	30
September: Ohlone Elementary @ library	65
October: Lupine Hills Elementary @ library	25
October: Ohlone Elementary	84
October: Ohlone Elementary @ library	28
October: Carquinez Middle School	90
October: John Swett High School	64
October: Salesian Prep @ library	35

## October Programs Review

### UNITY Day! October 16



### Filipino American History Month: Bullet Journaling with Kapwa Kreations – 24 teens



**Filipino American History Month: Celebration with the Philippine Cultural & Historical Association – 96 celebrants**



## Contra Costa County Library Strategic Plan & Updates

### **Contra Costa County Strategic Plan Update 2024 - <https://ccclib.org/strategic-plan/>**

This Strategic Plan Update has been years in the making, responding to community changes and needs. It was thoughtfully, lovingly prepared with input from library staff, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, Contra Costa County Library Commissioners, Friends, Foundations, and members of the general public – to make sure we are still achieving our primary mission of Bringing People and Ideas together. The four goals of our plan, with some objectives I'd like to highlight, are:

#### **Goal 1: The Library champions personal and community engagement in literacy, learning and reading to enrich lives.**

Objective: Increase library use by 10%. This includes website visits, in-branch visitation, and circulation from both physical and digital items.

#### **Goal 2: All Library users feel welcome, included, and have a sense of belonging when using library services, resources, and facilities.**

Objectives:

- A. The Library is committed to actively and intentionally advancing anti-racism within the organization.
- B. The Library is a cultural hub that reflects the diversity of the community in its collections, programs, displays, staff, and services.
- C. The Library and its resources are easily accessible to people with varying abilities.
- D. The Library upholds the promise of intellectual freedom with access to full, diverse collections and resources.
- E. The Library is a place of connection and community building.

#### **Goal 3: The Library delivers a consistent, high-quality, and inviting experience at all points of contact.**

Objectives:

- A. All library facilities are a destination point!
- B. Library collections are substantial, meticulously curated, and well maintained.

#### **Goal 4: The Library successfully promotes its value, programs, and opportunities to the community.**

Objective: D. Collaborate with community partners to cross-promote resources.

These objectives are the backbone of our work as public servants, and are prevalent in every thing that we do, from planning programs to augmenting our collection, digital resources, and providing excellent customer service.

Hercules Library is responding to the plan updates by continuing our efforts to reach the community to get everyone library cards and access to 1.3 million items in our collection, free programs for enrichment and entertainment, and Hercules specific library resources. For 2024, we are paring back on programs just a bit, in order to do even more outreach, with literacy-focused programs and services as our top priority.

#### **Related Initiatives at Hercules Library:**

African American Collection Development Plan update.

New vendor for books by Filipino Authors, in English and Tagalog, to add to the our Filipiana collection.

Outreach outreach outreach! To seniors, schools from nursery to high school, places of worship, community clubs and nonprofits.

Heightened focus on literacy in programs. State mandate to ensure that all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in California have – and know how to use!! – a library card.

BeLoved and AfroFutures Month programs.

Homeschool Resource Center.

Resources for remote workers. Patrons ranked Hercules in the top 5 CCC libraries for remote work.

### **Library Wellness Team, Social Workers at the Library**

In an effort to provide services to people where they are, the Library and Contra Costa County Behavioral Health partnered to address community needs in libraries that have seen an uptick of patrons experiencing trauma, mental illness, substance abuse and other issues that are beyond the service abilities of library staff. The new partnership places a clinical social worker and a community support worker in three libraries. The newly formed Library Wellness Team will spend Mondays and Tuesdays at the Concord Library, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the San Pablo Library and Fridays at the Antioch Library.

Patrons can find the Wellness Team stationed at a well-marked table during open hours at the scheduled Library. The team provides education, resources and referrals as needed and has recently started offering meditation and art sessions.

### **Contra Costa County Self Service Sundays**

**What:** A pilot program to test reopening libraries on Sundays.

Pre pandemic, 9 branches were open on Sundays, 12-5pm. These were staffed by 'volunteer' staff working overtime, paid for by the Cities. While popular, Sundays were problematic staffing wise, and unsustainable in that model.

**When:** Hopefully starting December 2024, and running for 6 months as a test.

**Where:** Concord Library is the test branch.

#### **Details:**

- Patrons 18 or over with a library card in good standing who want to use this service will need to register, attend a mandatory orientation, and sign a user agreement adhering to the terms of use.
- They will be able to use their library card and special pin # to access Concord Library on Sundays during the pilot.
- There will be no library staff on site, but there will be 2 security guards.

#### **Services Available on Sundays:**

- Browsing the collection
- Using the self-check to check out items, including Hold items
- Quiet reading and study
- Wifi

#### **Not Available:**

- Computers, printing, scanning, copying
- Restrooms
- Link+ check outs or pick ups
- Reference services
- Community/Study room
- Book donations or Friends services