

Librarian's Shelf by Brad Hruska

"What's Next @ Your Columbus Public Library"

With only a week of summer reading left, families are beginning to wonder what library events will be taking place during the 2016-17 school year. Though the summer months are quite busy for the Columbus Public Library (CPL), many shouldn't be surprised to know that the library is just as busy during the school year providing quality youth activities!

A sound story time program is vital to a great community library. Beginning Thursday, September 8, Story Time will once again be offered every Thursday from 10:30 AM -noon and 1:30-3 PM. The events consist of a half-hour story time filled with great books, finger plays, poems, and songs. Once the reading concludes, little ones are invited to build out-of-this-world creations in the Legos Zone and interact with various technologies located throughout the Children's Room. Before leaving guests are gifted with a balloon animal of their choice.

To add more fun to the story time lineup, CPL also rotates in on an every other week basis StoryART, which will start on September 15. Just like the Story Time program, StoryART includes a half-hour story time, but also provides families with an opportunity to participate in a fun, creative art project.

Because some families are unable to attend library programs during weekdays, CPL offers an entertaining evening event entitled Monday Night Book Adventures, which will kick off on September 12. This program takes place on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 6:30-7:30 PM. This activity includes a half-hour story time, art project, and bedtime snack!

The Super Sensational Saturdays program has fast become one of the Columbus Public Library's most popular events. The program is scheduled for one Saturday a month from 10 AM to noon beginning Saturday, September 17, and is geared for students in Pre-K thru third grade. This Saturday program is very laid back in structure. Families come during the two hour session and engage in three to four crafts. One of the crafts is always an edible project, so participants always leave with a tasty treat.

CPL's Word Warriors program is one of the many passive programs offered by the library. This activity, which will begin September 1, encourages students to keep reading by requiring them to enjoy three chapter books a month. Once they achieve this goal, participants fill out a raffle ticket and get ready to win! Tickets are drawn the last week of every month during September thru May. Lucky individuals will win free paperback books of their choice.

So if your family enjoyed the library during the summer months and were a part of this year's summer reading program, continue participating in the many engaging library programs that will be offered this upcoming school year. I am sure no matter what activities your family chooses to participate in, they will leave the Columbus Public Library with great books and a smile on their face. If you have questions about the many upcoming programs that are scheduled to take place, feel free to contact me at (402) 564-7116 opt. 4.