

Summer Fun at the Library by Santiago Vasquez

This past Thursday, our family had the opportunity to experience Magician Jeff Quinn's magic show at the Columbus Public Library. His charming presentation was both entertaining and humorous. The experience was a good reminder of the importance to keep our children engaged in fun learning activities, especially during the summer when their developing brains are not regularly being stimulated in the classroom.

With summer vacation being two weeks shorter this year for Columbus Public School students, it is important for parents and grandparents to adequately plan their summer activities and take advantage of the great programs being offered in our community. In doing this, please consider the Columbus Public Library as your venue for such activities.

Brad Hruska (Mr. H), the Children's Librarian, and his team have been busy putting together some pretty neat activities for the kids to enjoy during the summer reading program. These activities include a movie starting at 10:30 a.m. on Mondays. The library will be showing a combination of both classic and newer films.

On Tuesdays, also at 10:30 a.m., various guest speakers will be making a visit and sharing some appealing presentations. Story Time is then offered twice on Thursdays. The first session is scheduled from 10:30-11:45 a.m. and the second session runs from 1:30-2:45 p.m.

As an added incentive, children who register for the summer program and read at least 50 pages per week will receive a small prize. Little ones who cannot read yet, can have someone read five picture books to them and still qualify for the weekly prize.

The Tween program is not lagging behind on the fun! Starting Wednesday, June 13, any student who just finished the 3rd, 4th or 5th grade will have the opportunity to jam out with the Roadie-themed program. There will be a total of five different events, including a special celebration, which students can sign up for.

In these activities participants will be able to make a musical instrument, learn about acoustic sounds and sound waves, examine the science of how hearing works and end the program with a make-your-own pizza party at Pizza Ranch! Students can only miss one of the events to qualify for the pizza party. Please also note that students have to sign up for each event individually.

The teen program too will have weekly Anytime Activities, and various events on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The adult program will have a short story contest and events such as musical performances, a historical reenactment, and a cooking class. As an added incentive for adults, anyone who signs up will be entered in a drawing to win a \$25.00 Pizza Ranch certificate. Summer reading registration started June 4th.

Whatever activities your family decides to engage in, please enjoy the quality time you spend together! I hope everyone has a safe and blessed summer!