

## Upper Merion Township Library Board Meeting

December 12, 2016 6:445p.m.-8:00p.m.

### Attendees:

David Bristowe, Sharon Duris, Linda Noll, Janet Medrow, Fauzia Shamim, Laura Arnhold-Library Director, Carole Keeney-Township Liaison

### Unable to attend:

Katie Kohler, Tracy Pasquale

### Minutes:

Minutes were approved from the November 14, 2016 meeting.

### Adult Services and Directors Comments:

- Dr. Steve's "The Dead Really Do Tell Tales: Ancient Egyptian Medicine, Part II" was held Wednesday, November 9, 2016.
- SAT practice test on Saturday, November 15, 2016, co-sponsored by Huntington Learning Center, King of Prussia was attended by 19 high school students from our area and from neighboring townships.
- Coloring night on November 14, 2016 was well attended by our patrons.
- Fall Book discussion ended November 20, 2016. The leaders are finalizing the spring book discussion theme.
- Tech Night on November 21, 2016 was another successful night with 10 patrons and 10 volunteers.
- Knit Night on November 28, 2016 was attended by our regular patrons. The group decided to cancel the December Knit Night due to busy holiday schedules.
- Yoga with Kamini on Monday November 28, 2016 was attended by 17 patrons.

### Children's Services:

- During the first three weeks of November, the library partnered with Jeanne McKieran-Clark to provide thank you cards for local veterans.
- Thirteen students in 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade attended the Crazy 8 Math Club with Becky Ginther on November 7, 2016.
- Sixteen children participated in free play with blocks on November 8 using the library's large wooden blocks and Legos.
- Sue Kirkpatrick focused on changing leaves as her theme with the Preschool Explorer STEAM story time scheduled on November 9, 2016.
- Sixteen children in 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade participated in Fun Friday activities on November 13, 2016.
- Fourteen members of the Junior Friends of the Library met for a pizza party and discussion of the book, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J. K. Rowling on November 14, 2016.
- The library sponsored a Harvest Festival on November 15, 2016 with fun activities for the whole family.
- Twenty middle school students attended the Junior Friends of the Library meeting on November 14, 2016.
- The library offered a Moana Party on December 1, 2016 for children in second through sixth grade in celebration of the newly released Disney movie, Moana.
- This year's Write & Illustrate Your Own Book Contest judging panel included Judy Snook, Diane Shatzman, Joan Shaw, Terry McArdle, Laura Selinsky and Phil Piazza. They concluded their work during the third week in November and winners were announced November 21, 2016. Book contest winners along with summer art contest winners were honored at an awards ceremony on December 4, 2016. Close to 175 contest winners and family members attended. All of the winning entries will be bound, cataloged and added to the library's circulating collection.

- The 2016 Book Contest winners are as follows:

**Kindergarten:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Kashish Bhargav  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place- Anthony Belmonte  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Kieran McCaffery  
 Hon. Mention-Akshaya Ezhilvendhan

**First Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Alyssa Hepburn  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Grace Harmon  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Natalie Ford

**Second Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Max Belmonte  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Matt Adams  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Pranav Karthik  
 Hon. Mention(tie)-Nick Adams  
 Hon. Mention(tie)-Jaydeep Deshmunkh

**Third Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Talia Croy  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Makena McKay  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Michael Zeibari  
 Hon. Mention-Sofia Bagarazzi

**Fourth Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Sailor Abraham  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Isitaa Saxena  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Adalyn Becker  
 Hon. Mention-Nishan Shamlan

**Fifth Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Megan Chaing  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Rujuta Biren Gandhi  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Jocelyn Bilker  
 Hon. Mention-Cooper Abraham

**Sixth Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Devanshi Bhargava  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Helen Dimitriadis  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place(tie)-Lindsey Keller  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place(tie)-Nikki Khmelnitsy  
 Hon. Mention-Mahum Mahmood

**Seventh Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Miya Shin  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Elijah Canete  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Anna Walmsley  
 Hon. Mention-Siri Dandu  
 Hon. Mention-Adam Hox

**Eighth Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Sona Bardakjian  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Alexis Stewart  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Diya Das

- There were two additional awards given out. The Susan Lomax Award, was awarded to the book with the best illustrations. Fifth Grader, Rujuta Biren Gandhi received this award for her book, Adventure at Camp Treeperch and the Joane F. McNamara Award for the best overall book to Megan Chaing for her book, Home Away From Home.
- The Reading Buddy Program matches emerging readers with older students in 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Currently there are 58 active pairs of reading buddies meeting weekly at the library practice.
- Becky Ginther showcased Fantastic Beasts on the large table display in November. Rina Das highlighted Classic Character Books for the small table display. Holiday books for Thanksgiving, the Day of the Dead as well as Mexican stories, stories with squirrels and Hawaiian adventure stories were also featured.

**New Business:**

- The library board voted for an in-service day on February 20, 2017, which is Presidents Day for training for library staff. The library would be closed this day.

**Report from Carole Keeney-Township Liaison:**

- Carole updated the board on various township activities.

**Upcoming Events:**

- January 9, 2017 Library Board Meeting 6:45p.m.-Reorganizational Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,



Sharon Duris, Secretary