Message from the Director

Update on Library Funding

We are very appreciative here at the East Cleveland Public Library for the support we receive from our patrons through state funding. We would not be able to serve you at the current level without your support.

I want to share information with you about the present status of funding for Ohio’s public libraries. At the state level, we are fortunate to be funded through the Public Library Fund (PLF) which receives a percentage of the state’s tax revenues from the state’s General Revenue Fund (GRF). Revenue sources for the GRF include the state personal income tax, sales and use tax, business taxes, etc.

The PLF is currently set at 1.7% of the GRF, but it will be automatically reduced to 1.66% on July 1, 2017. This will cut state funding for Ohio’s public libraries.

The Ohio Library Council (OLC) is working with Ohio’s public libraries to educate members of the Ohio General Assembly and those that have been recently elected in November on the status of our state funding. We know that Ohioans value their public libraries and that public libraries create opportunities and transform lives. We will be working with the OLC during the next several months to protect state funding for Ohio’s public libraries. I will keep you posted with updates as we work through this process.

Thank you again for your support; it is truly a joy to serve the community of the East Cleveland!

Friends of ECPL, Making Music Accessible to All Children, Free Music Education

The Friends of ECPL and ECCAM (East Cleveland Community Arts and Mentorship Program) are proud to offer free classes to East Cleveland students. The program, “Making High Quality Music Accessible to All Children,” received grants from Neighborhood Connections and Cuyahoga County Arts and Culture.

Building on last year’s program, which offered music instruction to approximately 15 students, this year the program is expected to double in size.

The program provides FREE Instrumental and Vocal music lessons to participants, enabling them to study with professional musicians and educators. Featuring some of Cleveland’s best musicians and educators visiting from Oberlin College and Tri-C, year long professional instruction is available on clarinet, flute, saxophone,
Ongoing Programs

There’s something for everyone at ECPL! Visit the online calendar or inquire at the Reference Desk for details about these free ongoing programs for patrons of all ages.

Adult Programs
- **Job Shop Computer Lab** (during open hours)
- **Computer Classes** (Wednesday mornings)
- **GED Classes**, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, registration required
- **Creative Writing Wednesdays**, starting January 18, 5:30 – 6:45 pm
- **ECPL Book Club**, fourth Tuesdays, January 24, 5:30 – 6:45 pm


Youth Programs
- **Tutoring Programs**, 3:30 pm, Starting the week of January 23rd, for children and youth
- **Youth Chess Club**, 3:30 – 5:30 pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays
  Learn and Play with Chess Mentor, Donald McClendon (children and youth)
- **Making Music Accessible to All Children**: Mondays, 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm
  (space limited, registration required) open to students grades 4 – 12

Children’s Programs
- **Kid’s Café**, Monday – Friday 3:30 pm
- **Storytime**, Monday – Thursday 11:00 am
- **Pee Wee Reading Round Table** – Tuesdays at 4:00 pm
- **Making Music Accessible To All Children**: Mondays, 4:00 – 6:30 pm
  (space limited, registration required)
- **Lego Lab**, second Tuesdays, January 10 at 4:00 pm

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trumpet, trombone, baritone, guitar, piano, drums, voice, choir, rap, spoken word, and songwriting. Those seeking to grow music technology skills may also enjoy the audio production and engineering classes.

In addition to the sheer benefit of learning to create and play music, there are tangible academic benefits to studying music as well. Numerous music education studies show that students of music have increased averages on SAT scores, improved achievement in math skills, improved recall and retention, and improved academic performance by other indicators. The consistent, positive impact of music education reveals another way this opportunity is exciting and meaningful for young learners.

Learning to make music, makes academic sense, and the East Cleveland Public Library is thrilled by the leadership of the Friends of ECPL and ECCAM in bringing this innovative partnership to the students of East Cleveland. Learn more about the many benefits of music education from the Arts Education Partnership report, “Music Matters” (http://www.aep-arts.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Music-Matters-Final.pdf).

Program Details: The program is open to students in grades 4 through 12. Classes are held at the East Cleveland Public Library, in the Greg L. Reese Performing Arts Center. Sessions began December 5, 2016 and continue meeting Monday afternoons from 4:00 – 6:30 pm. Registration required.
Thank You, Robert Jackson, Friends of ECPL

Special Thanks to long time volunteer with the Friends of ECPL, Robert Jackson. Mr. Jackson has been involved with the Friends of East Cleveland Public Library for more than twenty years. As someone who loves “finding good, inexpensive books,” Mr. Jackson discovered a path to the Friends after attending a Book Sale. His long time involvement with the Friends began after attending and becoming interested in ways he could help.

This fall, Mr. Jackson has volunteered on a weekly basis, helping sort and prepare the books that will be featured in the upcoming February 2017 Book Sale. Everyone involved is so grateful for Mr. Jackson’s generous contribution of time and outstanding dedication to the Friends!

Mr. Jackson loves helping the library, and maintains an active interest in reading and books. Over the years, he has been involved with numerous Book Clubs and Reading Groups at the Library and in the Community. He loves helping the library and working on the Book Sale with the Friends. His own reading interests include fiction and murder mysteries, but he enjoys discovering all sorts of items that may be of interest to newcomers to the Book Sale.

Children’s Literacy Corner

Fostering your child’s imagination improves reading skills!

Einstein said “Imagination is more important than knowledge.” Imagination fosters cognitive and social development. Additionally, this is where is where creativity, ingenuity, and thinking outside the box begin for children. Imagining and experimenting develop key critical thinking skills and foster creative problem solving. Reading books to your child that enable him/her to use their imagination is a great way to help develop this skill. Here are some suggestions for helping nurture your imagination through literature:

Read books with rhymes, riddles and silly sounds. Ask your child to invent some of their own too. Make reading time memorable by making up different endings to a story. Make up stories with your child. If s/he is not writing yet, write for him/her. Together you can create your own book!

Ask your child questions while reading to spark imaginative thinking (“what do you think would happen if….”).

Some great books for engaging the imagination:

- Beautiful Oops! by Barney Saltzberg
- Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
- Oh, The Thinks You Can Think by Dr. Seuss
- The Adventure of Beekle, The Unimaginary Friend by Dan Santat

News from the Friends of ECPL

The Friends of ECPL are hosting their annual Book Sale this February, but there's more than books for sale, including great items like DVDs, VHS tapes, audio CDs, and more. You will discover gently used materials for purchase. With materials for adults, youth, and children, you won't want to miss it!

The sale will also include a number of older volumes that may be of interest to those interested in cultivating specialized home collections.

You'll also find a wide selection of books from ECPL's Black Heritage Collection for readers of all ages. Whether you're looking for something fiction or nonfiction, there is so much to explore. This unique opportunity provides everyone with a great time to stock up to pick up some gently used books, CDs, DVDs, magazines and other materials from as little as 50 cents (with special pricing on bags of books).

Volunteers are welcome and needed to pitch in with this important fundraiser! For info, visit online: www.eastclevelandpubliclibrary.org/friends-library
Save the Dates & Join Us!

Children’s Programs
- **Lake Erie Ink!** Monday, January 9 from 4:00 – 5:00 pm
- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**, January 13 at 4:00 pm
  Hear a story about this great man and make a souvenir magnet.
- **Pooh Day** (Winnie the Pooh activity), January 25 at 4:00 pm
- **National Puzzle Day**, January 30 at 4:00 pm
  Grab a friend, a puzzle, and have fun!
- **Lego Lab**, second Tuesdays beginning January 10, 4:00 pm

All Ages Programming
- **Nancy Redd Jazz**, Saturday, February 4 at 3:00 pm,
  Greg L. Reese Performing Arts Center
- **Visit the Shooting Without Bullets Exhibit**
- **Friends of ECPL Book Sale** – Thursday February 16, 1:00 – 5:00 pm
  Friday and Saturday, February 17 & 18, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Film screening: **I Have a Dream**, January 18 at 3:30 pm in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Adult Programming
- **Wednesday Writers** – Reboot – January 18, 5:30 – 6:45 pm,
  open to all genres
- **ECPL Book Club**, fourth Tuesdays, register at the Reference Desk!
  January 24, 5:30 – 6:45 pm. Margot Lee Shetterly's *Hidden Figures:*
  *The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race*
- January 28, 3:30 pm, Arts Factory, Play the Row, and conversation
  “Women in the Penal System” lower auditorium

Free Computer Classes

Wednesdays from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm, free computer classes at ECPL
cover a range of topics, from Introduction to Computers, Internet
Basics, Microsoft Office, and more. Registration is required, and classes
are filled on a first-come first-serve basis. Whether you’re new to tech-
ology or need a little instruction to help perfect your skills, check
out the free classes at ECPL’s Computer Lab!

Benefits of Your ECPL Library Card

Did you know you can instantly access news, politics, sports and more?
Your ECPL card can deliver a world of news at your fingertips with digital
collections. From the *New York Times* to the latest in technology, your
ECPL library card delivers.

Need help figuring out how to access digital materials? Ask one of our
friendly IT staff members!