Celebrating Reading

As we move into the end of summer 2017 and close out our Summer Reading Club – “Build a Better World,” I trust that you took the time to read one or two titles. It is also important to ask a friend, neighbor, or family member about what they read as well. What did I read this summer that proved to be interesting? I had the chance to read *The Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness*, by Sy Montgomery. But if you did not get a chance to read anything, well there is still time for you to set a goal to read something that is important to you on a personal level. The power that comes from reading gives readers the chance to build knowledge; and it can actually be fun. Congrats to our 2017 readers! We look forward many more opportunities to share in the knowledge. So stop by or check out the web to see what programming activities we are offering this fall and reading & AV collections.

SMB

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**Message from the Director**

**Celebrating Reading**

Books are still challenged and banned every year, and Banned Books Week is a time when ECPL joins the American Library Association (ALA), journalists, publishers, booksellers, teachers, readers, and libraries across the United States to celebrate the freedom to read. Books are often challenged that contain diverse or controversial content. As a consequence, book challenges have been made to some of America’s most accomplished African American authors, including Toni Morrison, Ralph Ellison, Alice Walker, Richard Wright, Maya Angelou, and others. This week and all year long, ECPL is proud to support the value of free and open access to information.

The subject matter of challenged books often relates to social justice issues, including examinations of race and ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other areas. But in 2016, for the first time recorded, a book made the Top Ten challenge list based on allegations against an author, for Bill Cosby’s *Little Bill* series.

Check out the Banned Book display at ECPL and join the Banned Readers!

- Sept. 24-30, visit ECPL’s Facebook page to find videos and more!
- Attend *Your Right to Read: A Conversation with Ann Rowlett, Deputy Director, ACLU of Ohio* / September 25 / 5:30 – 6:30 pm
- Join ECPL’s Book Club Discussion September 26, 5:30 – 6:45 pm *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead and celebrate your right to read!

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**Banned Books Week 2017: September 24-30**

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Ongoing Events

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

• Kids’ Café, Monday–Friday: afternoon snack at 3:30 pm
• Storytime, Monday–Thursday at 11:00 am
• Pee Wee Reading Roundtable, Tuesdays at 4:30 pm
• Lego Lab, Second Tuesdays at 4:00 pm

CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

• Kids’ Café, Monday–Friday: afternoon snack at 3:30 pm
• Chess Club, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays 3:30–5:30 pm
  Learn and Play with Chess Mentor, Donald McClendon
• Teen Zone, Wednesdays, 4:30 – 6:30 pm
  Join the Teen Zone for special activities every week, from gaming, crafts, speakers, movies, and more!
• After School Tutoring, Fall schedule coming soon

ADULT PROGRAMS

Tech Toys, Mondays, 2–5 pm – Learn about the latest cool devices available: tablets, remote control drones, and Bluetooth blood pressure cuffs, and more.

Wired Wednesdays, 3–3:30 pm – Bring your Kindle, laptop, or portable tech device for simple tech support.

Fear Not Thursdays, 4–6 pm you’ve got questions, ECPL has answers! Bring in your mobile devices for troubleshooting and tech support.

Nonfiction Writing Lab, Starting September 6 / 4:00 – 5:30 pm
Drop in Wednesdays with your nonfiction projects (school reports, college papers, proposals, application letters, etc.) to fine tune them in a casual setting with an ECPL staff member.

Creative Writing, Wednesday Writers, Third Wednesdays starting September 20 / 5:45–6:45 pm Wednesday Writers workshops strengthen creative writing by exploring styles, writing exercises, exchanging tips, and developing manuscripts. These monthly workshops are open to writers in all genres, with a focus on craft and publishing tips to build a supportive writer’s community. Bring copies to share for written feedback. Registration helpful, but not required – registered participants will receive ECPL gift bag (quantities limited) and will be able to make a limited number of copies for the workshop (five page maximum). Additional monthly free activities and speakers follow with award winning writers nearby with Literary Cleveland at Happy Dog at the Euclid Tavern (11625 Euclid Avenue).

ECPL Adult Book Club, September 26 / 5:30 – 6:45 pm
The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead
Children can have mixed feelings about returning to school in the Fall. There is excitement about the new adventures, teachers, and friends that the new school year holds in store. Your child will also most likely feel nervous about doing well and living up to the expectations of his or her teacher.

Here are some tried and true tips for helping both you and your child prepare for the new school year.

• **Get into a solid back-to-school routine.** Include a time in the evening to pack-up for the next day, quiet reading time, a regular lights-out time, and enough morning time for a nutritious breakfast.

• **Shop for supplies together.** To get your child excited about starting a new grade, allow them to pick out their own backpack, lunchbox, etc. This is a great way to practice math and reading skills, as well by checking prices, and reading labels on items!

• **Set up a homework station.** Sit down with your child and together designate a time and place where s/he can do her/his homework each day. This should be somewhere quiet with few distractions. Make sure to choose a time when someone is available to help, if needed.

• **Low tech time: turn off the TV and video games.** For many children, summertime is filled with endless video games and TV programs. Changing from this routine back to focusing on learning six hours a day can be a big adjustment. Ease your child back into the learning process by gradually decreasing the amount of time spent on electronics daily, and encouraging outdoor play, reading, or writing.

• **Get organized.** With the return of school comes a flurry of paperwork. Designate a spot for homework, permission slips, and any other school-related papers. Make sure to have them completed and returned on time to reduce stress for both you and your child.

• **Get your child’s yearly check-up.** School and germs go hand in hand, so it’s helpful to get your child’s yearly check-up early. Get any required vaccinations and immunizations.
A Card for Every Kid

National Library Card Sign-up Month

ECPL joins nine library systems teaming up in 2017 to ensure every child under 18 years old in Cuyahoga County owns a library card. A Card for Every Kid Library Challenge takes place during National Library Card Sign-up Month (September 1 – 30). Throughout the month, every library in Cuyahoga County is working to encourage all students to sign up for free library cards to gain access to the abundance of books and learning resources available in the county’s libraries. Children under 18 years old who already own library cards but owe fines will be invited to take advantage of one-time fine forgiveness anytime during National Library Card Sign-up Month (limits may apply).

What We’re Reading: ECPL Staff Picks

As we head into fall, you may find yourself wondering what to read next. Below are a few titles that staff members are currently reading. Looking for a suggestion? Ask! From fiction to nonfiction to the latest audiobooks, there is something for everyone in the ECPL collection.

*Drain the Swamp: How Washington Corruption Is Worse Than You Think* by Congressman Ken Buck

*The Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness* by Sy Montgomery

*Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah

*We a BaddDDD People* by Sonia Sanchez

*The World We Found* by Thrity Umrigar (a local author!)

*The Highest Glass Ceiling* by Ellen Fitzpatrick

*Assata: An autobiography* by Assata Shakur

*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L’Engle

*My Soul to Keep* by Tananarive Due

*Born Bright: a young girl’s journey from nothing to something in America* by Nicole Mason

*The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

*The Mothers* by Brit Bennett

**Special Events / Save the Dates**

- **A Card for Every Kid Challenge** / September 1 – 30 / Sign up for a free library card in the Children’s Area. If children owe fines on a current card, take advantage of one time amnesty until Sept. 30, 2017!

- **Wednesday Writers** / September 20 / 5:45 – 6:45 pm
  Monthly events every third Wednesday! Sept 20: Taboo Topics and Trigger Warnings. Celebrate Banned Book Week as we discuss effective strategies for writing and publishing that pushes boundaries on controversial topics and themes.

- **Your Right to Read: A Conversation with Ann Rowlett, Deputy Director, ACLU of Ohio** / September 25 / 5:30 – 6:30 pm
  Join a short talk and discussion about your right to read. The freedom to read is essential to democracy, but it is also constantly under attack by private groups and public authorities trying to limit access, label and censor “controversial” reading materials.

- **The Centennial Celebration of Ella: Musical Tribute Honoring Jazz Legend Ella Fitzgerald** / October 22 / 4:00 pm