

## 08/2023 Director's Report

### **Staffing update:**

- We have three new on-call techs who are being trained
- Youth Services Librarian, Mark Riddle's last day was July 21.
  - The position opened on 7/21 and will close 8/13
  - We are doing a nationwide recruitment

### **Remodel:**

- None of the bids that came in were accepted for various reasons
- It will go back out to bid in the next 6 weeks
- We are still hoping to start in the fall
- The Council Chambers, which is a separate project, is underway

### **Request for reconsideration of material**

- We received a formal request to remove the book *Our Skin* by Megan Madison from the library
- The library management team reviewed the book and the complaint and decided to keep the material.
  - The book received starred reviews from four professional journals
  - Meets the criteria of timely – national conversation on racism
  - The book is a board book, we have a second copy in the parent resource collection, both collections that are intended to be read with an adult
  - The book also has back matter and referral to more resources for further discussion
- Letter sent to person who submitted request notifying them of the decision
  - A copy of the starred reviews was included
- The complaint was specifically about a two-page spread that addresses the history of racism. We shared an article that addresses the concern of the veracity of the information in the book <https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race/topics/historical-foundations-race>

### **Museum**

- New exhibit opened - Motorcycle History – very cool
- Museum will be closed to the public from Jan 2024 through June 2024 to allow for collection care
- Planning for Fright at the Museum 2023

### **Grants**

- We submitted a grant to OCF to support 5 pop-up library events using the new library van 2024
  - Sidenote the van was used for the first official time at the Noche Cultural event
- The Cressey Grant was submitted. This is funding we receive every year to help support summer reading
- The Ready to Read grant is due at the end of the

### **Summer Reading & Plaza Programming**

- We are on track to hit the same number of participants as last year in summer reading

- We still aren't reaching pre-pandemic levels
- Will evaluate our program at the end of this year the online program versus a 'paper' program. We have used the on-line Beanstack program for about 5 years
- The Plaza programming is going well. Great turnout and the collaboration with SPS started this week. Summer school classes from a couple schools attend the plaza program and then the artist goes out to a couple of other schools