

Reference Services

- Reference answered 346 reference questions, booked 203 meeting rooms, assisted 152 patrons with technology, and advised 14 patrons on reading choices. Two patrons used the Library's notary service.
- The department hosted a number of popular programs in March including Irish step dancing with Inishfree Massachusetts, which attracted 120 participants, and a one-woman show entitled *Shakespeare's Queens* with local actress Poornima Kirby (70 attendees). The Tuesday book discussion group discussed *She Said: Breaking the Sexual Harassment Story That Helped Ignite a Movement*, by Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey. Meanwhile, the Cookbook Club made recipes by John Kanell, author of the Preppy Kitchen cookbooks. Other popular programs included the monthly boardgaming group, led by volunteer Matt Ryan, as well as Thursday Morning Meditation and Ancient Wisdom, led by Lara Wilson of Mondiwell.
- Kate created a display for Women's History Month entitled "Revolutionary Women", while Michelle created a display of craft books called "Feeling Crafty".

Youth Services

Teen Lounge

- Teen ran 5 programs with 39 attendees.
- Our Magic the Gathering competition on Saturday March 22nd drew our first international crowd to a Teen program. As more and more tourists come to Concord for the upcoming 250th, teens from all over are getting to enjoy our space and programs. It was an excellent moment of cultural exchange for our teens.
- Facilities installed a locking cabinet in the Teen Lounge capable of holding snacks and supplies for our patrons. The addition has taken off some of the burden of traveling supplies up and down the stairs, and given a more controllable and secure place to store goodies. Thanks to them!
- Wednesday in-room attendance has been bolstered by the warmer weather. Foot traffic in teen on Wednesdays now ranges from 20-40 teens! Impromptu programming breaks out often on these popular days.



Children's Library

- **Students Rebuild 2025 Challenge: The Spark Peace Project**

Students Rebuild is an international social service organization that teaches students about world-wide concerns and inspires them to make a difference through art. This year's theme is Spark Peace. Any kind of artwork inspired by and promoting peace will earn a donation to selected charities doing the same work. The charities chosen this year include: Kids for Peace, 100 Cameras, Choose Love, and Earth Tones. The March 19 session of the Make-It! Club was facilitated by a group of retired Thoreau school teachers. The craft project was to create doves out of various sorts of paper. With a score of Make-It! Club regulars and special guests- the Concord Recreation Department After School program- the kids created ninety doves. \$900 will go towards the Spark Peace Project.



- **Talking With Toys**

Speech Therapist Sarah Burstein from Talk Time Boston came to facilitate the Talking with Toys program. Geared towards children ages 1-3, Sara chatted with caregivers and modeled ways to encourage speech development through play. Looking forward to partnering with them regularly in the future.

- **Meet a Veterinarian**

Dr. Steve and Katherine Wilson from Concord Animal Hospital joined Alphabet Storytime's edition of "Meet a Veterinarian". Dr. Wilson showed children how he conducts an examination of a dog- from nose to tail and then had kids splint stuffed animals using medical wrap.



- **Parenting Resources Project**

We are reviewing our Parenting Resources around neurodiversity, weeding and making suggestions to update the collection.

- **Milldam Nursery School Visit**

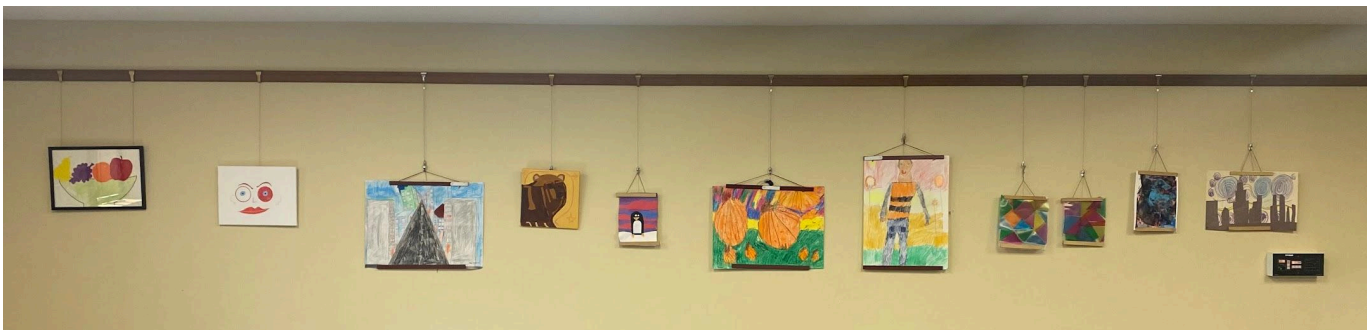
The Milldam Nursery School 3-4 class walked over to take part in Crafty Storytime on 3/25. Eleven children and their chaperones joined in the fun during the "kite" themed program. Kids sang and danced with scarves and then created their very own wind socks to play with outside.

Circulation

- March was a busy month in the circulation department. We participated in the delivery survey through the Massachusetts Library System. For one week, each item that is sent out to another library is counted. We also counted how many bins of items that the library receives daily. Over 2,000 items were sent out to other libraries during that week!
- Stacey created a fabulous list of all of the book groups that the library offers. Patrons have been inquiring more about joining book groups since the start of this year. The new list will be shared to the library website.
- Karin created the March non-fiction display on the theme of "How Does Your Garden Grow?". This was a very popular display as patrons are readying for spring!
- Corridor displays for the month featured the themes of "Women in the Arts" in celebration of International Women's Month. The other display featured books about spring cleaning and was titled "Housekeeping."

Fowler Library

- During March, Fowler prepared for spring: the sharing of Marti bracelets (a Greek/Balkan tradition), a first outdoor craft, the stocking of the seed lending library, the hanging of the spring art show, a spring-themed animal visit, and a community-member led Poetry and Nowruz Spring Celebration.
- During the annual Seed Packing Party, volunteer gardeners seeded the Seed Lending Library with open-pollinated seeds purchased thanks to the Friends of CFPL.
- Art for All displayed work by Arts and Crafts Club members, highlighting their ongoing, much loved program for teens and adults with cognitive differences. This month, during their weekly meetings at Fowler, participants created submissions for ArtScape's spring show, The Rivers of Concord.
- ArtScape curators hung this newest community art show at the end of the month to prepare for 250th celebrations across Concord. They partnered with OARS 3 Rivers to highlight Concord's unique location at the confluence of the Sudbury and Assabet Rivers to form the Concord River.
- Special afterschool programs included a Waterwise Workshop led by OARS 3 Rivers and our second visit from the Nature Connection, this month with angora rabbits Peaches and Cocoa.



Innovation & Communications

- The Workshop's hours are changing to better meet the needs of the community! Beginning April 1, our open maker hours will be Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 8 PM and Fridays and Saturdays from 10 AM to 4 PM. The Workshop will be closed Sundays through Tuesdays except for classes and events.
- The Workshop hosted classes on Gelli Plate Printing, Linocut Printmaking, Diamond Painting, and more in March!
- Our Concord250 Monumental (Re)Make project is 33% complete! The partial statue will be on display in the Workshop throughout the celebration April 14 to 25 as we continue assembly.
- The Innovation & Communications team was excited to introduce new items to the Library of Things collection this month, including organizational tools like a label maker and shredder as well as five of the popular children's music and audiobook players - Tonieboxes!