

# ENHANCING AND EXPANDING EXCELLENCE **QUICK GRANTS**

The Dayton Metro Library Foundation announced on May 2 the creation of the **Enhancing and Expanding Excellence Quick Grant,** a program of the Employee Engagement Committee that was created to encourage DML staff to share and implement ideas that would hopefully encourage patrons back through DML doors post-COVID, as well as align with the Library's Strategic Plan.



By the end of the year, the following staff and their ideas were selected to receive anywhere from \$500 - \$1,500 in grant money to execute their quick grant between August 2022 and March 2023:

- Jacqueline Gazda: LEGAL AID CLINICS at Main and Branches
- Dani Gustavich: Step Up To Quality **Celebrations** at the Trotwood Branch
- Destinee Hamilton, Haylee Hunt, and Miriam Adams: Grow Your Own at the West Branch
- Chelsey Hostetler and Peter Kilkelly: Teen Cooking Programs at the Northwest Branch
- Linda Lewis, New Lebanon Branch, and Teresa Curtis Morrow, Northwest **Branch:** Library Card Sign-Ups/Open House
- David Senatore: Bike Lock Lending Program, system wide
- Melissa Sokol: "What's New" Book Club and videos at the Wilmington-Stroop Branch
- Robyn Williamson: Board Game **Lending Library** at the Brookville Branch



On Monday, October 10, 2022, DML's Executive Director Jeffrey Trzeciak received the first **Excellence in Empowered Allyship Award** during Dayton's historic Inaugural Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration at Sinclair Community College. Stephanie Van Hoose, Mohawk, MBQ, an Indigenous advocate and REACH visionary, as well as creator of the Inaugural Indigenous Peoples Day, nominated Jeffrey because he was the embodiment of REACH in action, (REACH stands for Reconciliation & Representation, Education & Equity, Advocacy & Allyship, Ceremony & Community, and Healing & Human Rights. The silent "H" is human trafficking, which has led to an epidemic of MMIW murdered and missing Indigenous women) for the work he has achieved at DML.

# CHECK OUT THE ARTS (COTA)

Check Out the Arts (COTA) took place at the Main Library between September 30 and October 1 and featured the likes of *Gem City* Ballet, Dayton Opera, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, Dayton Salsa Project, Leesa Haapapuro, Muse Machine, Lov Locz Experiment, to COTA during this two-day event. Patrons of activities. COTA sponsors included Montgomery County, Culture Works, the Ohio Arts Council,



DML teamed up with Home of the Urban Creative Arts, WYSO of Yellow Springs, and the International College of Broadcasting to bring local musicians to the stacks – literally. Sponsored by the Friends of the Dayton Metro Library, the Tiny Stacks Music Series set out on a mission to connect musicians, books, and patrons in one place. The first Branches and Tiny Stacks musicians were:

- Ric Sexton at the **Northwest Branch**, August 18, 2022
- Lov Locz Experiment at the **Trotwood Branch**, September 15, 2022
- serin oh at the **Southeast Branch**, October 18, 2022



all ages enjoyed live music, dance, spoken word,

"THE LIBRARY IS A GREAT PLACE TO CONNECT PEOPLE WITH THE ARTS, BECAUSE WE STRIVE TO ENCOURAGE DISCOVERY, LEARNING, COLLABORATION, AND EXPERIMENTATION. IT'S ALL POSSIBLE WITH CHECK OUT THE ARTS."

# **2022** ANNUAL

DAYTON **METRO LIBRARY** 

### BRIDGE **GEM CITY BLACK EXPO**

Black Business Expo was held in Cooper

### **TRUST BURKHARDT OPENING**

On April 25, the new **Burkhardt Branch** opened its doors into a 17,800 square foot facility, located at 4704 Burkhardt Avenue, Dayton, across the street from its old location (which would become the parking lot for the new Branch). A community celebration was later held on August 10, with Dairy Queen, Cosmo and Pip, and DJ Basim on hand to welcome the public. With a children's area theme of "Soaring Beyond," the new Branch pays tribute to neighboring Wright Patterson Air Force Base. Relmagining Works Artists Carrie Longley, Deborah Dixon, Tracy-Longley-Cook, and InsideOut Studio also stopped by.

### **WEST OPENING**

The new West Branch at 300 Abbey Avenue, Dayton, held a ribbon cutting for their grand opening on February 5. Patrons in the surrounding communities received their first look at the 24,000 square foot facility. ReImagining Works artists for the Branch were celebrated: James Pate, Cedric Michael Cox, Kevin Harris, Susan Byrnes (in collaboration with Rodney Veal and Brianna Rhodes), and Willis "Bing" Davis (in collaboration with his son, Derrick). Unique aspects of the new Branch include a permanent nutrition cart and movable seating in the "Shine"-themed children's area; a one-year residency of Westside Makerspace, a Co-Op Dayton project, that offered workforce development opportunities for area residents; and a special, interactive outdoor Percussion Play area provided with support from the *Dayton*Metro Library Foundation and **A Novel Night** proceeds, with installed instructional signage by Learn to Earn Dayton.

# **KNOW**

On March 13, 2020, DML suspended operating hours due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. A focus of 24/7 digital Library services took force. By June 23, 2020, DML reopened with limited hours of Tuesday-Saturday, from 10 AM-6 PM, with safety protocols in place, such as limited programming, cleaning supplies, and Curbside Service. When June 1, 2021 arrived, operations had resumed almost back to normal with programing returning, meeting spaces being opened back up, and all locations returning to pre-COVID operation hours, with the exception of Sundays at Main. It wouldn't be until September 12, 2022 that the Main Library would resume its Sunday hours from 1-5 pm for patrons.

## GOODWILL EASTER SEALS MIAMI VALLEY (GESMV) PARTNERSHIP

In March, DML instituted a new service to patrons through GESMV: providing a certified Peer Recovery Supporter at the Main Library and the Northwest Branch, at each location one day a week – with funding through Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services (ADAMHS). Patrons were also offered access to individual peer support, peer support groups, intake appointments with Library-based behavioral health counselors, and links to a range of Good Will Easter Seals programs. By the end of May, the Main Library had a full-time Supporter available, with another Supporter still visiting the Northwest Branch once a week.

### **MENSTRUAL EQUITY**

In November, DML announced their role in supporting menstrual equity by making feminine hygiene dispenser products available, assessible, and affordable for patrons at Branch locations. The first Branches to receive such products were Trotwood, Brookville, New Lebanon, Northwest, and Vandalia. By 2023, every Branch will have dispensers, with approximately over 1500 menstrual supplies reaching community members in need.

# SHARE

DML received 295 volunteer applications in 2022. Throughout the year, 377 individuals/groups donated 4,680 hours of service to such roles as assembling Take & Make Kits, and being Reading Buddies, Homework Helpers, program helpers, and Foodbank Pantry helpers. Social Media Ambassador volunteer positions were also created, offering those with transportation, scheduling, and/or child care challenges to still be able to volunteer, engage, and support DML.

### COMP-U-DOPT

EARN

front doors between November 3 and 4 for DML's Annual **Career Adventures Day.** 

organizations were on hand for students to

education, and entrepreneurship. CAD was

made possible with support from the *Dayton* 

Area Chamber of Commerce, Ohio's 529 College

Advantage, the Strategic Ohio Council for

County Educational Service Center.

Almost 50 different businesses and

For a week in March, DML teamed up with **Comp-U-Dopt** to host STEAM TEAM – Spring Break Camp for students in grades 6-8 at the West Branch. Comp-U-Dopt's mission is to provide technology access and education to under-resourced youth and their communities. Students learned how too use STEAM components to solve real-world problems. For each student who completed the entire week of camp, Comp-U-Dopt donated a free laptop to them. The number of laptops donated at the end of the Camp totaled 17.

