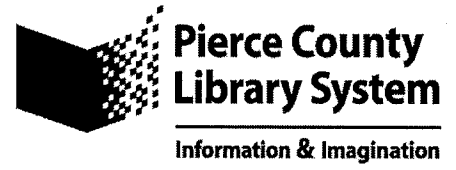


M E M O



Date: September 28, 2011

To: Chair J.J. McCament and Members of the Board

From: Michele Leininger, Information Experience Director and Clare Murphy, Virtual Librarian

Subject: OverDrive E-book Titles Now Available for Kindle

OverDrive, our current vendor for downloadable e-books, is now working with Amazon to offer e-books for Kindle readers. These e-books may also be read on other devices, such as the iPhone and iPad, with a free Kindle app. Customers will use the OverDrive site to check out the title with their library card, and then click a "Get for Kindle" button which redirects the customer to the Amazon site, where the actual book is downloaded to a computer or other device. An Amazon account will be required, but only an email address is needed.

Another significant OverDrive change is that customer will be able to decide which format to download (PDF, EPUB, Kindle, etc.) instead of it being predetermined through purchasing. Previously, the Library was required to decide which format to purchase, and how many copies of each, leaving the Library to guess which the most demanded format would be. Now, OverDrive will offer its e-book titles in all formats available for each title (EPUB, Kindle, or PDF, etc.) and leave the format choice customers. The Library simply needs to determine the number of copies of each title purchased. This change has already been done retrospectively for the current OverDrive collection and removes the artificial customer checkout limit by format. This change is also significant for the customers, as it allows them to just think about which titles to choose, instead of worrying about whether it will be in the correct format for a chosen device. Moreover, it simplifies and streamlines the ordering task for the selectors, giving us important staff time and dollar efficiencies.

Finally, the last change OverDrive has made is to retire the rarely-used "Mobipocket" format and any titles with only this format has been removed from the Library's OverDrive catalog.

Date: October 10, 2011
To: Neel Parikh, Chair J.J. McCament and Members of the Board of Trustees
From: Lisa McNamara, Senior Librarian
Subject: Sumner "Write in the Valley" Authors Event

For the last two Septembers the Sumner branch has partnered with the City of Sumner's Arts Commission to put on an annual program for aspiring writers and interested readers. The program, entitled "Write in the Valley," is a half-day event featuring morning and afternoon panel discussions with several local authors, a writing contest, and an opportunity to submit up to 10 pages of manuscript for critique by one of our own local authors, Judy Kimball.

As MC of Write in the Valley for the last two years, I facilitate morning and afternoon discussion between our authors and the audience. It is rewarding work! And it is extra rewarding to be part of a team that includes my outstanding colleagues at the Arts Commission, especially Judy Kimball, Judy Caviezel, Sue Larson, and Marsha Vandenberg. I am always honored that they include the library in the planning of Write in the Valley and that they invite a librarian to MC the event. It's a perfect fit and a wonderful spotlight for visibly connecting librarians with authors and publishing!

Again this year, we have had positive feedback from attendees; in fact, just a few weeks ago a customer stopped me in the library to thank us, the library and Arts Commission, for putting on such a nice event. As for numbers, at the author's event this year we packed the Sumner Senior Center with about 75 people, including the Commissioners and the Mayor, who kicked off the event with a warm welcome to everyone.

Next year our Adult Services Librarian Kate Savage and I will work with the Arts Commission to put on Chapter 4. I know it will be another outstanding event.

Attached: Letter from Ruth Anderson

Date: October 10, 2011
To: Neel Parikh, Board of Trustees
From: Judy T Nelson
Subject: Project Views IMLS grant

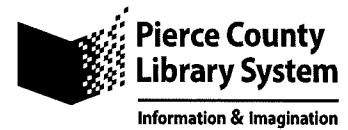
I am very pleased to be able to share the following news.

“The University of Washington Information School has been awarded a 3-year Institute for Museum and Library Services National Leadership Research grant of \$635,000.00, Project VIEWS2: Valuable Initiatives in Early Literacy that Work Successfully. Matching funds bring the total project funding to \$1,215,213.00. Early literacy programs are very common in public libraries across the nation, but libraries struggle to find accurate and meaningful ways to measure the impact these programs have on children. Building on a 2009 research planning grant from IMLS, researchers in the University of Washington Information School and partners including the Early Learning Public Library Partnership, the Foundation for Early Learning, and the Washington State Library will investigate and test new ways to measure the effectiveness of early literacy programs in public libraries. The research will focus on measuring early literacy outcomes for children from birth to entering Kindergarten related to library programming and will leverage innovative public library and school partnerships. The investigation will be conducted in 30 – 40 Washington public library locations but will be structured so that the results are useful for, the tools are available to, and the methodology can be replicated by libraries across the country.”

See IMLS news release at
http://www.ims.gov/news/national_leadership_grant_announcement.aspx

As founding members of the Early Learning Public Library Partnership, the Pierce County Library System is fully engaged in this project. Both Neel Parikh and Judy Nelson serve on the Strategic Advisory Board that worked to formulate the grant project and write the grant proposal and will be overseeing the work outlined in this grant. Along with other libraries across Washington State, the Pierce County Library System will be partnering with the University of Washington to test various ways to measure the effectiveness of early literacy programs provided in the public library arena. Our demonstrated commitment to evaluating our services has already been shown in the Ready for Reading project that earlier this year won an Urban Libraries Council Top Innovator award. I will provide ongoing reports as this work evolves.

M E M O



Date: September 14, 2011

To: Chair J.J. McCament and members of the Board of Trustees

From: Mary Getchell, Communications Director

Subject: Pierce County Library System's Service Area Population

Based upon the 2010 U.S. Census, the population in Pierce County Library System's service area is 527,394 for 2011. The population is lower than previous projections from Pierce County and forecasts from the Washington State's Office of Financial Management. Based upon the 2000 U.S. Census and various factors regarding population growth, Pierce County and the Office of Financial Management projected the Library's service area population for 2010 at an estimated 559,561.

Mike McKenney and Jason Anderson are continuing to review and analyze the U.S. Census data for further demographic and population information.