

By: Kathleen Degyansky
Dept.: Assistant Director
Subject: Monthly Report
Date: March 30, 2012

OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

- Attended the annual Library Advocacy Day in Albany sponsored by the New York Library Association on March 6. Participated in group meetings with A. Paulin, G. Latimer, R. Castelli (led this delegation) and Steven Otis, Chief of Staff for S. Oppenheimer.
- Met with A. Montalbano, VP and Executive Director of the White Plains YMCA to discuss hosting an adult focus group and other opportunities for collaboration.

WEBSITE TASK FORCE

The new Library website launched on March 14th. Staff training in content management is scheduled for the beginning of April.

GRANTS AND PROGRAMMING

- The GED program began on March 14 in collaboration with the Westchester Library System. Thirty-seven students participated in the program in the first three weeks of operation.
- Scheduling completed for the Allstate PSA program to begin April 28th. This program is a 10-week video production class for high school aged teens.
- Coordinated Library programming for the City's Earth Week celebration, including a screening of the film, "Bag It", dealing with the adverse effects of plastics on the environment. Public performance rights were purchased so that the film may be shared with schools, PTAs and other school groups.
- Arrangements finalized with the Hudson River Potters to offer a show and sale over Mother's Day weekend. Ten percent of the proceeds will benefit the Friends of the Library.
- Received a grant from the Metropolitan New York Library Council for a two-day assessment of our local history collection by a professional conservator. This is not a cash award.
- Attended a grant workshop for Creative Aging in Place, a program offered by the Westchester Library System for fine arts programming for older adults.

TRAINING AND CONFERENCES

- Arranged for and hosted a training, In Our Own Voices, sponsored by the National Association for Mental Illness of Westchester. This session, open to all library staff in Westchester County, offered sensitivity training for staff on working with patrons with mental illness. Twelve people attended.
- Attended the Public Library Association Conference in Philadelphia, March 14-16. Attended programs on building renovations, innovative reference service, staff development and improving circulation efficiency. Met with vendors on the exhibit floor focusing on suppliers of materials in other languages, self check, and Brainfuse, an alternative to our current provider of online tutoring.