September 9, 2015

Summertime Fun at the Berkeley Public Library
A different **West Edge Opera** program from the usual… the composer and the co-librettists told the story of their new (2014) opera, and the story behind it.

**The Magical Moonshine Puppet Theatre** presented puppet theatre for adults.

**The Knitting Hour** is a multi-generational program.
Central Library

Koto player Shirley Kazuyo Muramoto Wong presented her documentary *Hidden Legacy: Japanese Traditional Performing Arts in WWII Internment Camps.*

A 3-monitor video display at the Reference Desk with images and expert discussions of amazing photos and unexpected discoveries coming from the New Horizons probe as it made a flyby of Pluto.

Betty Reid Soskin recalled Richmond and the Bay Area during World War II.
Central Children’s

Emma Coleman visits Willard Middle School to promote Summer Reading.

A Summer Reading finisher’s decorated reading log.

Participants fold origami cranes at the multi-generational Peace Day event.
Library on Wheels brought the Library to Senior Centers and Farmers’ Markets around town as well as special events such as the Berkeley World Music Festival, Third Thursdays and National Night Out.
Berkeley READS

Awarded the “Spirit of the League” Award by the League of Women Voters of Berkeley/Albany/Emeryville.

Outreach table at Black Infant Health/Mother’s Day event.

“A Journey to Literacy: Adult Learners in Conversation” an Adult Learner Panel presentation at the Bay Area Book Festival was coordinated by Berkeley READS.
Claremont

⇐ Nikki Santiago hosted a multigenerational maker program with a terrarium craft on National Night Out. The activity proved to be engaging for a range of participants, with toddlers to adults getting creative in the dirt.

Michael Kwende (a.k.a, Mr. Michael) has offered story time sessions at Bateman Mall Park. At each of the first two sessions, over two hundred children and caregivers gathered for stories, finger plays and sing-along.

⇑ Local pianist and teacher Brenda Becker offered a series of 90-minute piano classes for seniors covering the basics.
North Branch

Village Rhythms Drumming on the lawn was well attended by enthusiastic rhythm lovers.

North Branch and the Bone Room collaborated to bring The Body Appropriate’s Stephanie Stewart-Bailey to an after-hours event that celebrated Mary Shelley, Frankenstein, and a discussion and lecture on the science of reanimation.
South Branch

↑ Circus of Smiles brought their upbeat silliness to the enjoyment of the large audience in attendance.

Magical Moonshine Puppet Theatre returned with a highly participatory puppet show that incorporated Spanish language.

String Figure Fun brought in a small audience to learn traditional string games and tricks.
West Branch

Award-winning local children's musician Gary Lapow shared songs and fun!

Professional goofballs from the Mark & Dre Comedy (and Juggling Show) provided lots of fun with hysterical banter, skillful juggling, stunts & carefully calculated chaos!

Percussionist Onye Onyemaechi provided a fun-filled, energetic, educational African drumming experience for the whole family!
All Ages Summer Reading!

This year, we expanded our popular Summer Reading Program to include adult participants!

At summer’s close, we had:

• 1756 child readers
• 175 teen readers
• 438 adult readers
• 317 groups and/or families

41% of our participants completed and returned their reading log.
Thank you Library Staff and Friends for celebrating our community of readers!