

## Exhibit Room Report Foundation Meeting, March 2024

Respectfully Submitted by Liz Kneer, Exhibit Room Coordinator

### PAST EXHIBIT:

#### Franklin

*Franklin* was a wonderful exhibit to host at the library. We had many passive activities available for patrons, including a station to trace *Peanuts* characters and a station to draw your own comic strip. Items had to be restocked a number of times as patrons participated in these activities. Almost all of our books on Charles Schulz, the *Peanuts*, and comics were checked out over the course of *Franklin*.

We hosted a program for kids and caregivers on Martin Luther King Day (January 18, no school), which happened to be one of the coldest days this winter. Even with the frigid weather, we had 15 kids and their caregivers stop in for the program.



Feedback for *Franklin* was fantastic. We had many visitors from Waupaca, but also had people from South Carolina, Illinois, California, Texas, Wyoming, Michigan, and Minnesota. This shows the quality of our library when visitors choose us as a stop during their time in Waupaca. A few of their comments included:

'Great place to spend time with family'

'I continue to be amazed at the superb quality of all the displays here'

'Great exhibit. Quite informative in its simplicity, just like the strip'

And many thank yous, loved it, amazings, and terrifics.

*Franklin* closed on February 10, with 2439 people visiting the exhibit. Our Exhibit Room Committee did a great job taking everything down and clearing the room for Youth Art Month. All close-out tasks have been completed as required by the Charles Schulz Museum, sharing images, promotional materials and completing their survey. Their staff were very pleased with visit numbers and layout for the exhibit. The museum required that all items must be destroyed after the exhibit closed due to copyright policies; I asked if they had any use for the panels we produced and they connected us with the staff at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, who is hosting the exhibit this fall. They are excited to reuse our panels and prints at their campus.

### ON EXHIBIT:

#### Youth Art Month

Youth Art Month is open! The School District of Waupaca art teachers installed this fun, community exhibit that we look forward to every year. The reception to celebrate student artwork was held on February 20, 6-7p (awards at 6.30p). The Exhibit Room was PACKED, with approximately 300 people attending the reception. Here are the winners for Youth Art Month:

High school

Best in Show: Lily Swendrzynski

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Cooper Roberts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Ula Rozanska

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Lalita Renteria



Honorable Mentions: Sarah McCourt, Jenna Olson, Claire Hemmila, Stephanie Nickerson, Kevin Crawford, Brooke W., Tustin Phillips

#### Middle School

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jordan Cockrell

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Christine Packingham

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Luka Adkinson

Honorable Mentions: Kendall Rice, Aiden Folz, Garrett Bohringer, Bailey Nelson

#### Elementary

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Silas Hackett

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Lisette Heinsohn

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Evelyn Fritz

Honorable Mentions: Cass Garrison, Liam Wohlrabe, Theodore Doscher, Emma Storck, Zachary Doscher, Grace Washburn, Jaqueline Johnson

We have many additional programs to complement this exhibit. February 19 was a day off of school for local students, so we collaborated with the Arts Hub for a 'Maker Morning' where kids and caregivers could create Dr. Seuss origami bookmarks, and explore watercolor and chalk pastel art. This was a busy morning with over 50 people stopping by to enjoy hands-on activities and interactions. The Arts Hub is also organizing Wednesday morning arts programming following story time; 9 people attended the first one on February 21. More Arts Hub programs are scheduled for March 13 and 20. We hosted a cross-department collaboration canvas painting program February 29. Programming and Outreach Coordinator, Molly Reinke, did a great job marketing this program, which quickly filled and had a waiting list. We had a fun evening helping participants create artwork for their spaces. We are working on another cross-department collaboration with the Children's Department on Saturday, March 23 to dye Easter eggs in the Exhibit Room and have a scavenger hunt throughout the lower level of the library. Additionally, the Waupaca Learning Center 4th grade classes will again use our space for their Wax Museum night on March 19.

In total, 1568 people attended the Youth Art Month exhibit in February.



#### UPCOMING EXHIBIT:

##### Shine

Shine is a collaboration with the Waupaca Community Arts Board (WCAB) to showcase and explain the process for their next community art installation. We will also 'Shine' a light on local artists, Maneul Munoz and Paulina Schilling. WCAB has a committee working on the exhibit, and we have met a few times to discuss logistics for displaying these beautiful, fragile pieces of stained glass. We are always delighted to highlight these projects that make our community a richer place to live.

<https://www.waupacaarts.org/shine-fused-glass-gallery>



#### Adventure Begins at Your Library

PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE WORD! Adventure Begins at Your Library is the theme for our Summer Learning Program, and we are hosting a community photo submission exhibit.

Participants can submit photo(s) to us with a short description of their favorite adventure. We will print and display them in our lower level Exhibit Room. (Participants are also welcome to print their own artwork. Physical copies of the entry form are available at the library service desks.)

You **DO NOT** need to be a professional photographer, and no adventure is too big or too small, too close or too far from home. We are excited to showcase where our community members have traveled, and places that fill their hearts. This is open to EVERYONE in our community, including BOARD MEMBERS!

**Prizes** will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in a Youth and Adult division. <https://waupacalibrary.org/exhibit-room/>

#### **ADDITIONAL EXHIBIT ROOM ITEMS:**

We had our January and February Exhibit Room Committee monthly meetings to discuss programming for Youth Art Month, as well as our exhibit schedule through the summer.

We had a light that wasn't working in the corner of the Exhibit Room closest to the built in display case. City maintenance was not able to fix it, but had an electrician repair it.

My city credit card unfortunately had fraudulent activity (quickly taken care of) but delayed getting Chamber gift certificates in time for the Youth Art Month awards reception. I will get these to the art teachers to distribute to their students. Thank you to the Library Foundation for sponsoring these awards; we give (1) \$25 to Best in Show, (3) \$20 for 1st place, (3) \$15 to 2nd place, and (3) \$10 to 3rd place for a total of \$160.

Donations continue to come in for the Library Foundation, and had the opportunity to help Mary Burns, who is the coordinator for our Little Free Pantry (LFP). She was asked to present at Waupaca Women Who Care, and I also got Mary on the schedule at Rotary to help spread the word on the LFP. I put together a presentation for Mary, worked with her to refine it, and am happy to report that she was the quarterly recipient for Waupaca Women Who Care. Almost \$5,000 has come in for the LFP! We are in the process of issuing thank you notes/tax receipts through the Library Foundation for all donors. Food insecurity is such an important initiative for our library and community, and it was a pleasure to work with Mary to bring greater attention to the issue.

I continue to meet with groups for our upcoming Shine, Hunger and Typewriter exhibits to make sure they keep moving ahead. We have been very fortunate to have patrons and community groups willing to collaborate to continue bringing diverse, high quality exhibits to our space.

Winchester Academy is always a willing partner to coordinate speakers with our exhibits, and help generate exhibit ideas. I attended their monthly meeting in January to discuss our 2024-25 schedule and learn about their potential speakers. They will have some great speakers that will complement a number of our exhibits this year.

**EXHIBIT ROOM REMODEL:** Almost all of the trim is installed above the rail system-we were one piece short, and now just waiting for the maintenance staff to install it. Once this is in place, I will fill holes, touch up paint, and finally have the project completed! ALL of our display cases, rail system and furniture are being put to good use for Youth Art Month; the school district art teachers commented on the quality and ease of the new rail system and cases.

Please **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**, a reception (open to the public) will be held on March 25, 6-7.30p, to celebrate this great project and recognize the Vergauwen family for their generosity.

A new plaque was created by Sunset Woodworking to recognize the generosity of the Verguawen and Klismet families. Owner, Josh Pauling, a wonderful library advocate, donated the plaque to the Exhibit Room.

**AMERICANS & THE HOLOCAUST EXHIBIT:** We received FANTASTIC news from the American Library Association (ALA) that we are one of fifty libraries that will host the exhibit for its 2024-26 tour. This was a very competitive process, and I am thankful to our partners at the School District of Waupaca, Winchester Academy, and Waupaca Historical Society who strengthened and supported our application. I'm so excited that we can bring this high quality, relevant, and educational exhibit to our community. I will travel to Washington DC for 2 days of training in mid May, and the exhibit will be in Waupaca November 7-December 19, 2024. This exhibit has a short run, but we will have to make some adjustments to our current schedule.

## **MONTHLY ATTENDANCE REPORTS:**

The attendance charts for January and February are included with this report.

### **2024 Schedule**

- *Franklin: Celebrating Black History*: December 16-February 10
- *Youth Art Month*: February 17-April 6
- *Shine: Ecuadorian Art (Manuel & Paulina)/Shine Project (WCAB)*: April 13-June 1
- *Waupaca: Show Us Your Adventure (Summer Learning Program:Adventure Begins at Your Library)*: June 8-August 3
- *Hunger*: August 10-October 5
- *Typewriters*-October 12-November 30
- *Americans & the Holocaust* (ALA Traveling Exhibit) November 7-December 19
- *Quilts*-December 7 - February 1

### **2025 Schedule**

- *Quilts*-December 7 - February 1
- *Youth Art Month*: February 8-March 29
- *Waupaca International Cultural Exchange Committee: April/May*
- *Summer Learning Program (Color Our World/Art)*: June/July/August
- *Community Blood Center: August/September/October*
- *World War I/II (Smithsonian Poster Exhibits)*: November/December

### **2026 Schedule**

- *World War I/II (Smithsonian Poster Exhibits)*: January
- *Youth Art Month*: February/March
- *TBD: April/May*
- *Summer Learning Program (Unearth a Story/Dinosaurs)*
- *WACB 20th Anniversary*: June/July/August
- *Banned Books*: September/October/November

### **2027 Schedule**

- *Youth Art Month*: February/March
- *Summer Learning Program (Mystery/Detective/Suspense)*: June/July/August