

Exhibit Room Report

Foundation Meeting, September 8, 2025

Respectfully Submitted by Liz Kneer, Exhibit Room Coordinator

PAST EXHIBIT:

Marie App Oeuvre (Summer Learning Program: Color Our World)

We kept Marie App's beautiful watercolor paintings on display through August 5, due to an installation date change. Marie generously proposed having this show be a fundraiser for the Library Foundation. Four pieces of artwork were sold, priced at \$300. With 50% of the sale going directly to the Foundation, we received \$600! All artwork was safely returned to Marie's home or picked up by their buyers.

ON EXHIBIT:

~~You Can't Read This~~ - Censorship Is So 1984. Read for Your Rights. / Banned Books (August 9-October 11)

The exhibit was installed on August 6, and thanks to our amazing Exhibit Room volunteers, we were able to reopen our space the same afternoon. Visitors have many opportunities to learn about the differences between challenges and bans, explore challenged and banned titles, and check out many of these books. An additional display case is located upstairs by the main circulation desk to draw awareness to the exhibit, and Marci Cook made a wonderful display in the adult's department to further promote the exhibit. ~~You Can't Read This~~ is on display through October 11.



Every year, the American Library Association (ALA) recognizes Banned Books week at the beginning of October (5th-11th). The exhibit utilizes ALA resources, with the theme *Censorship Is So 1984. Read for Your Rights*. From ALA:

'With the escalation in attempts to ban books in libraries, schools, and bookstores around the country, George Orwell's cautionary tale "1984" serves a prescient warning about the dangers of censorship. This year's theme reminds us that the right to read belongs to all of us, that censorship has no place in contemporary society, and that we must defend our rights.'

UPCOMING EXHIBIT:

World War I: Lessons & Legacies (October 18-December 6)

Details are coming together for our WWI exhibit, with the Smithsonian poster exhibit, World War I: Lessons and Legacies as the foundation and supplemented with local items from community members and the Waupaca Historical Society. Additional materials will be on loan from the Wisconsin State Veterans Museum. We already have interest from the Waupaca High School history teachers for field trips, and are excited to partner with Tracy Behrendt from the Historical Society for these visits.

This exhibit will install on October 15.

ADDITIONAL EXHIBIT ROOM ITEMS:

Our Exhibit Room Committee met on August 6 when we installed the Banned Books exhibit. We discussed upcoming programs and dates for fall exhibit take down and installation. Our next meeting is scheduled for October 15 when we install the WWI Exhibit.

Help us spread the word on Ruta Sepetys and Steve Shienkin's program on October 1 at 6.30p at the Waupaca Middle School for their *Bletchley Riddle* paperback tour! Sarah Hanneman has been an enormous help to coordinate details with the Waupaca Learning Center, Chain Exploration Center, Waupaca Middle School and Waupaca High School. Winchester Academy of Waupaca is partnering on the evening presentation and promoting it at their September speakers. THANK YOU to the foundation for their support of field trip transportation and books for this author visit.

The Yuletide Trail will be here before we know it, and I am attending monthly meetings to help coordinate the library's role with this important community event on December 6. We are working to finalize details, but the library will host an interactive movie and we will have activities in the Exhibit Room.

We love having students visit the library and Exhibit Room; Simon Baumgardt (Head of Youth Services) and I will start reaching out to teachers for fall field trips.

As soon as the fundraising materials are approved by the foundation, I will start on the annual campaign mailing. Typically, the goal is to have it out by the beginning of November, but please let me know if the board has a new preference.

The American Library Association and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum are providing a refresh training for libraries hosting at the end of the Americans and the Holocaust tour. The ALA and USHMM felt our library did an outstanding job engaging secondary students while we hosted AATH-one of the main goals of the exhibit-and I was asked to participate in a panel discussion on how we achieved this in our community. This speaks volumes to the importance of collaboration as we approach programming and events at the library. Our success came from utilizing our partners and asking them how we can create programs that serve both entities; I'm excited to share this experience with libraries who will be hosting AATH in the near future.

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE REPORTS:

The attendance charts for July and August are included with this report.

2025 Schedule

- *Shelter In Knowledge*-December 21, 2024 - February 1, 2025
- *Youth Art Month*: February 8-March 29
- *Waupaca International Cultural Exchange Committee*: April 5 - May 31
- *Marie App Watercolors (Summer Learning Program: Color Our World/Art)* : June 7-August 2
- *Censorship Is So 1984. Read for Your Rights. / Banned Books*: August 9-October 11
- *World War I: Lessons & Legacies*: October 18-December 6
- *Community Blood Center*: December 13, 2025 -February 1, 2026

2026 Schedule

- *Community Blood Center*: December 13-February 1
- *Youth Art Month*: February 7-March 28
- *Gardens/Local Agriculture*: April 4-May 30
- *Summer Learning Program (Unearth a Story/Dinosaurs)* : June 6-August 1
- *WCAB 20th Anniversary*: August 8-October 3
- *Kevin Knopp*: October 10-December 5
- *Quilts*: December 12-January 30

2027 Schedule

- *Quilts*: December 12-January 30
- *Youth Art Month*: February 6-March 27
- *30 Works by 30 Artists*: April 3- May 29
- *Summer Learning Program (Mystery/Detective/Suspense)*: June 5-July/August