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Celebrating Libraries
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Overview

We have selected to create a weeklong teen program to promote Celebrate @ your library, National Library Week, April 11-16, 2011. A librarian from a local performing arts high school will team up with the neighborhood librarian to promote literacy and library services. The theme is Do the Arts @ your library, which promotes the arts such as graffiti art, dance and music. Activities will take place at both the school library and public library throughout the week.

Both libraries will display posters to promote National Library Week and provide bookmarks that showcase items promoting the arts. The libraries will also create material displays with items representing visual art, dance and music. (See bibliography.) The following events will take place throughout the week:

Monday, April 11, 2011 - Celebrate @ your library, National Library Week Kickoff

- Promotional items (displays, posters, bookmarks) will be displayed at both libraries and remain in place all week. Supplemental items will be on hand to replace items from the displays that students want to checkout.
- Author visit. The performing arts high school will host Rachel Cohn, <http://www.rachelcohn.com/>, co-author of *Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist*. Cohn's website offers writing advice and a playlist of songs from the movie can be found in iTunes. Cohn will visit the student body at an all-school assembly, which will kickoff National Library Week. After talking to the student body, Cohn will meet with a designated number of students who will have an opportunity to share writing samples with her and receive feedback. She will also sign books.
- Cohn has generously donated extra time to visit the public library in the evening. She will read an excerpt from her book and sign books.

Tuesday, April 12, 2011 – Dance @ your library

- Thriller! Charles Morgan, local dance teacher, will come to school to teach the choreography to Michael Jackson's *Thriller*. See the [Denver Post](#) article about Morgan.
- Interested students will spend time with Morgan during their lunch period (one hour).
- Students can perform the routine at Saturday's talent show.

Wednesday, April 13, 2011 – Graffiti @ your library

- Local urban artist Hitu Parmar will come to the public library Wednesday evening to talk about urban art, or graffiti art, and teach participants urban art skills. Parmar will define urban art, which is not irresponsibly "tagging" property; he is not

supporting or condoning vandalism, nor is the library. "Rather than becoming the 'decay of the city,' [graffiti art] is the intelligent construction of a generation that has a new vision of beauty - one that is unparalleled to anything preceding it. I would like to demonstrate how urban art can become a positive force; how one might see in it the change that is to come, or rather, the evolution and emergence of a new art form" (Varney, 2007).

- Participants will create their own murals or art expressions on the east wall of the teen section that will be torn down during the library's renovation next month.
- Teens will vote on their favorite mural. The top three artists will be invited to make posters of their artwork, which will be sold at the library's annual fundraiser. The items will also go on display at the library and the school, if the winner is a student at the high school.

Thursday, April 14, 2011 – Play Guitar @ your library

- A guitar instructor from Swallow Hill Music School will come to the school to teach a song voted on by the students, or guitar basics, depending on the abilities of the students who attend.
- Interested students will spend time with the instructor during their lunch period (one hour).
- Students can play the song at Saturday's talent show.
- During the evening, the library will host a Guitar Hero Tournament. The top three winners will win a prize: 1st place – a gift certificate to Swallow Hill, 2nd place – iTunes gift card, 3rd place – book relating to guitars/music.

Friday, April 15, 2011 – *Fame* @ your library

- The public library will show the 2009 feature film *Fame*.
- Popcorn will be provided

Saturday, April 16, 2011 – That's Talent! @ your library

- To wrap up Celebrate @ your library, National Library Week, the school will host a Talent Show. Any teen who has attended at least one event from the past week can enter the Talent Show. Students can submit their application at either the public or school library.
- The judges will be Charles Morgan, Hitu Parmar and the guitar instructor.
- Students will win tickets to local concerts, museums, plays, musicals as well as DVDs, books and iTunes gift cards.

Budget

Rachel Cohn - \$450

Gift certificates for other presenters who donated their time - \$75

Popcorn - \$20

Promotional items done in-house

Spray paint donated by The Home Depot

Gift certificates, tickets and other items are donated by our community partners

TOTAL \$545

Reference

Varney, D. (2007, August 12). Urban artist sees the potential of Denver's youth. *The Denver Post*. Retrieved from <http://denver.yourhub.com/Denver/Stories/Archive/Community-happenings/Story~346960.aspx>