

## **Library Director Report**

**December 2021**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

The Public Health Face Covering Order #5 will expire on January 3, 2022. Until that time we are continuing to mandate masking in all public areas for both staff and the public, with the exception of vaccinated people can unmask if in a common enclosed area, like a study room or office.

### **BUDGET 2022**

We are anticipating to present the Imagination Center Operational Cost Plan in front of the Common Council January 18, 2022. This is a result of a Finance Committee Capital amendment to have this contingency approved before releasing any additional capital funds in 2022 to complete the design of the project. We will be bringing the plan in front of the Board at the January meeting.

### **GRANT FUNDS**

As a compliment to the MPL Foundation's funding of our Amplifying Community Voices grant, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction awarded MPL an IMLS grant for \$67,000 to extend Amplifying Community Voices to the Pinney Library and the Goodman South Library.

### **IMAGINATION CENTER**

The pre-design process is getting closer to completion and we should have preliminary drawings of the facility soon based on the current budget and programming of the facilities.

Discussion continues with the Ho-Chunk nation as to how we can best represent their land and history in this project.

One major change is with the redrawn Alder Districts, the Imagination Center is now within District 12, moving from District 17. I have already met with Alder Abbas (D12) to discuss the project, and he is firmly behind it and will advocate for its completion. The park is still right on the border of District 17, so I will continue to work with Alder Halverson and assist with his support of the project.

### **COMMUNITY CONTACTS**

I participated in a DMI Tour of the new Madison Youth Arts building and met two of the facilities programming directors. It is an amazing facility and we discussed a few ways that MPL and MY Arts could be partnering and collaborating on some programs. Team Bubbler will be planning for a tour and a visit with the directors after the start of the New Year. MY Arts already has over 20 different organizations utilizing the facility.

For my second time, I was invited to participate in an end of the season focus group for the Forward Madison Football Club (FMFC). Forward Madison does a comprehensive review of its season and the fan experience. One of the attendees mentioned how much he liked the We Read program in partnership with MPL. Conor Caloia, FMFC COO/Owner, was at the table and agreed he was very happy with the program and that their partnership with MPL worked really well for FMFC. He did not completely commit to renewing the program in 2022, but it appears they may be interested in doing so.

### **ROSEMARY LEE INTERNSHIP**

Montana Thompson was hired for the internship and started December 6, 2021. Rynn Kerkhove will be supervising her work as they focus on community engagement with the Imagination Center project; and begin an analysis of our west-side libraries service areas, focusing on community needs and identifying gaps in services. Montana is a MLS student at UW-Milwaukee, expecting to graduate in Spring, 2022.

## SHOUT OUTS

Congratulations to Mary Modjeski (Tech Services) and Steve Winnicki (Lakeview Library) in recognition of their work for MPL and the City. They both received a Team City Award presented by Mayor Satya. Thank you Mary and Steve for your many contributions and well deserved recognition.

Congratulations to Jake Ineichen (Web Services) and Rebecca Millerjohn (Bubbler/Youth Services). Jake and Rebecca were recognized for their participation and celebration of the City's 2021 Learning and Development program.

Congratulations Michael Ford. Typically I only feature MPL staff, but this time I am sharing from a December 7, 2021, Madison 365 article by Robert Chapell about Library Board member Michael Ford. <https://madison365.com/madisons-hip-hop-architect-surprises-student-at-his-alma-mater-with-10000-scholarship/>

*Yesterday [December 6, 2021] was Mike Ford Day at Cass Tech High School in Detroit, and the Hip-Hop Architect celebrated by giving away a \$10,000 scholarship.*

*Ford, who founded his Hip-Hop Architecture Camps in Madison in 2017, graduated from the magnet school in 2001 (as did his wife Gail Ford, who is now director of the UW's PEOPLE program). The school's 2,400 students are mostly Black, Ford said, and he's remained engaged in giving back to his alma mater.*

*As a result, the principal declared a "Mike Ford Day" in 2019, and again in 2020, when Ford couldn't travel to Detroit due to the pandemic. He was back yesterday, though, with a big surprise in hand: a \$10,000 scholarship for senior Sarah Shaw-Nichols, provided by interior design firm Herman Miller.*

## DIRECTOR ON LEAVE

I will be taking vacation and traveling out of town from Dec. 15, 2021 – Jan. 5, 2022. I will still be taking a few virtual meetings, and can always be reached via phone.

## MEETINGS, COMMITTEES, TEAMS & MORE

### City

Racial Equity & Social Justice Strategic Planning  
Deputy Mayor Check-in  
Mayor's COVID-19 Taskforce  
TeamCity Change Leadership

### MPL

Library Management Team  
All Staff Town Hall  
MPL Foundation Grants presentation  
Check-in with Foundation Director  
Alder Abbas meeting

Mayor's Management Team

Mayor Check-in

Meeting with Ho-Chunk Nation

Imagination Center Design Team

Imagination Center Stakeholders Team

Imagination Center LEEDS Focus Team

Imagination Center Displacement Study

### External

Wisconsin Resource Library Directors

Urban Libraries Council Director/CEO Calls

Tour of MY Arts

FMFC Focus Group