

## New & Noteworthy



### **Getting Animated Ebooks Into Unit 4 Classrooms with TumbleBooks**

We are expanding our TumbleBooks subscription to include access for all Unit 4 elementary students K-6. Teachers will be able to use this valuable reading resource in their classrooms and school libraries. The 1100 titles in the collection include animated, talking picture books, read-along chapter books, graphic novels, and National Geographic videos. ([champaign.org/tumblebooks](http://champaign.org/tumblebooks))

### **Upcoming Launch at the Library Business Seminars & Roundtables**

On August 17, we are presenting a marketing seminar, "What's in a Brand?," led by Scott Clanin, with advance registration of more than 60 people. Start & Grow Your Business before-hours seminars are scheduled 8 to 9 a.m. on the first Thursday of every month. This fall's featured speakers include longtime educator Marc Changnon (September 6) and entrepreneur and business expert Laura Weisskopf Bleill (October 4), and CU at Home's Bailee Porter (November 1). The Third Thursday Business Roundtable discussions continue to provide a forum for area entrepreneurs to ask questions and get advice from community mentors.

### **Your Library at School Registration Sites**

Library staff set up shop at five Champaign Unit 4 School District sites on August 2, to sign up students, answer questions, and introduce library resources to Champaign parents. We reached more than 500 people and sent 100 students home with new library cards.

---

## Program Highlights



**Summer Workshops for Teens** Recent teen workshops have included Entrepreneurship 101, hands-on activities like creating stencils for screen printing with CU Fab Lab staff, Teen Trivia, handmade floral crowns, and 3D creations led by Joe Muskin from the U of I Mechanical Engineering Department. July's events drew 122 participants.

**Food Truck Rally Draws 1500 Community Members for Food, Music & More** On Wednesday, August 8, we hosted our third annual Food Truck Rally with 14 local vendors, live music on two stages, a roving juggler, face painting, and beautiful bubbles. Community members met up at the Library to enjoy sharing food, visiting, and listening to music. Many were first-time visitors. As part of the event, we connected the food truck owners with information about our new Launch at the Library resources. We were able to reach more than 43K people via the Facebook event page.

**"Getting Reading to Read" Storytime Sessions Reach 2K** In July, we presented 13 weekly storytime sessions and drop-in play times designed especially for birth through age 5, and added two new monthly Mother Goose on the Loose storytimes, one at each location, reaching a total of 2K children and families.

**Connecting with the Champaign Community at the Farmer's Market** We have a new partnership with The Land Connection to set up at the downtown Champaign Farmer's Market during their monthly kids' program. We give away free books to children, sign up new cardholders, and share information about Library resources. In July, Children's Services staff reached a total of 428 kids and community members during area school visits and at the Farmer's Market.

---

## Douglass Branch Highlights



**U of I Soccer Team Taught Free Clinic for Kids at Douglass** We partnered with head coach Janet Rayfield and the entire U of I soccer team to present a free clinic for kids. Power Up! Soccer Tips & Tricks was scheduled to be held in Douglass Park. In cooperation with the Champaign Park District we were able to move the event indoors to the Douglass Community Center gymnasium because of rain. The weather didn't deter the 101 soccer-loving community members who had a chance to connect with these powerhouse players. Participants ranged in age from 4 to 14.

**Kids Create Apps** Presented in partnership with the iSchool, we offered a six-week app design workshop for ages 9–11. The workshop met Monday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. and included 34 participants in July. This project was funded with an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant. The curriculum and strategy are available at <http://appauthors.ischool.illinois.edu/>.

**DIY Kids** meets weekly on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. During July, 107 school-aged kids and family members made sea creature crafts, built pool noodle structures, and created their own melted snowman slime.

**Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime** Our inaugural monthly Mother Goose on the Loose storytime at the Branch included 31 participants. The on-site storytime uses the same principles, special songs, and format as the storytimes we are scheduling at area childcare centers. This project is a partnership with United Way of Champaign County.

**Coaching iSchool Students** Amanda coached two iSchool students on planning and conducting storytimes, as part of their practicum for graduate school.



---

## Library Love from Our Customers

One of our little guys who comes in almost every day started walking here tonight! What a cutie and what a walker—he just took off and kept on going. His mom and dad were so excited (as were all of us), and then his mom said, “He’s done all of his firsts at the library: sitting up, crawling, talking, and now, walking. We love it here!”  
(Molly M., Children’s Services)

A mom of three from a military family remarked, “This library is so amazing! It’s wonderful. We’ve lived in a lot of places and have never seen such a great library.”  
(Ginny O., Children’s Services)

A customer with two children told us her son wanted to come back to the Douglass Branch this week because he remembered the scavenger hunt would be new and he wanted to complete it. (Amanda R., Douglass Branch)

A teacher came in to check out several teen and adult books for her classroom and told us, “Your urban fiction collection is so excellent here. It can be hard to find these books, but you have all the authors my students want to read. I like being able to come here and just grab a stack right off the shelf.” (Amanda R. & Lobna B., Douglass Branch)

A grandmother with three grandchildren was delighted to hear how simple it is for them to get on the iPads and computers now. As they sat down, a boy exclaimed “Grandma, I love this library!” and Grandma replied “Me, too!” (Ginny O., Children’s Services)

After we successfully figured out the title of a movie the customer was looking for he said, “That’s why I always come to this library. You always know what I’m talking about.”  
(Amanda R., Douglass Branch)

Grandparents who brought their granddaughter to Goodnight Storytime commented they had been planning to go to the pool that night—they had their sunblock and swimming apparel on—but their granddaughter wanted to come to the library instead.  
(Linda K., Children’s Services)

