Birmingham Public Library’s (BPL) new exhibit, Shot in Alabama: Historical Birmingham Photographs, began December 10th and is open to the public through February 4th. The photo display features nearly 30 pictures from the book Shot in Alabama: A History of Photography, 1839-1941 - And a List of Photographers by author Frances Osborn Robb, released by the University of Alabama Press in 2016.

The exhibition highlights the Birmingham photographs, many which come from BPL’s Archives Department. Students from The Altamont School designed the exhibit and wrote the content for the photograph labels. Robb, author and curator of the exhibit, will give a lecture about the book and lead a gallery tour on January 7th.
Lawrence County Christmas

Lawrence County Public Library’s annual Christmas party for their Children’s Story Time featured a visit from Mrs. Claus.

Alabaster Programs in December

Children and adults created charming cottages good enough to eat at the Annual Gingerbread Workshop on December 5th at the Albert L. Scott Library in Alabaster. They used graham crackers, candy, cereal, and icing to build and decorate houses. Julie Littleton led the workshop, and the Friends of the Library made the program possible.

Pell City Holiday

Pell City Public Library had several holiday programs in December including an elf party and a German Christmas story time.

Nearly 200 people attended seasonal festivities at the library’s holiday party for children on December 13th. Guests of all ages enjoyed a trackless ride around the library grounds and a chance to speak with Santa and Mrs. Claus. They also decorated gingerbread men and received goody bags. Gloie the Elf added to the merriment. Individual families attended the festivities as well as children from area day care centers. The event was courtesy of the Friends of the Library.
Dutton Open House

Dutton Community Library’s annual open house was a fun event for all ages.

A Seuss Christmas

White Smith Memorial Library’s Sweet Dreams Program: A Christmas in Whoville was a great success! Jackson Mayor Paul South dressed as the Cat in the Hat to the delight of attendees.

All Services FREE to Public Libraries

- IT planning and consulting
- IT help desk services, either remotely or in person
- Desktop and Server support for PC or Mac
- Network setup, configuration (computers and printers)

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

- Web development, hosting, and consulting
- Software training courses online and at APLS
- Technical consulting and assistance on grant applications

1-800-723-8459 (ext. 3986) • helpdesk@apl.state.al.us
Odenville Tea Party

Odenville Public Library hosted a proper tea on September 21st. Attendees enjoyed a variety of teas, scones, pimento finger sandwiches, homemade Devonshire cream, wild blackberry jam, petit fours, and miniature éclairs. Margaret Lewinski taught the group how to build a proper scone with Devonshire cream and blackberry jam. They also Face Timed with Ms. Lewinski’s good friend in Newcastle, England! Remember – when in doubt, pinkies out!

Make an Impact!
Telling Your Library Story

You’ve been hearing about the importance of telling your library story – whether you are with stakeholders, elected officials, funders, or community members, it’s essential that you have impact stories readily available to help advocate for your library. You can share any story that shows how vital your library is to the community. Libraries from around the state shared impact accounts from their 2017 Summer Reading Programs to inspire you to find your own story.

Gadsden Public Library: “In the Teen Zone, we regularly have a bi-monthly program called Helping Hands, which teaches teens about local nonprofits, and then they make something for the non-profit. During the summer, we doubled the number of programs, so that the teens could serve in the library as well. The teens were able to make blessing bags for the population of homeless patrons that frequent the library, as well as for local shelters. They made toys and treats for animals at the Humane Society. They organized clothes for those in need. On hot days, they handed out cold waters and ice pops. When the grounds got littered, they assisted in picking up trash. Overall, the teens, some of which do not like to participate in the ‘craftier’ programs, all got very involved with Helping Hands. They were proud to be able to help others out. It was moral building for such a diverse group of teens to get together and focus on the greater good of their community.”

Tupper Lightfoot Memorial Library: “I think the impact of our Summer Reading Program will be felt for years to come in the children who attend, but I see the biggest impact on the teen volunteers who help me each year with the program. These teens, who may not feel that they “fit in,” seem to find their place here at the library. We have teens from all backgrounds who come together as a team. Nothing short of a miracle. Even the teens, who at the beginning of the program are not excited about actually working with the children, seem to grow in their compassion for the children, the other volunteers, our staff, and even the library itself.”

Russellville Public Library: “We were able to reach out to several low-income neighborhoods and were actually able to arrange public transportation for about 20 children that normally would not be able to attend the program. Seeing the enthusiasm of the children made all of the extra effort worthwhile and we are looking to increase our efforts in this area next year.”

2 Resources, 1 Goal: Helping Alabama Succeed
LearningExpress Library & Homework Alabama
- Online Tutoring for Grades K-12
- College Placement Resources
- Help for all ages and all skill levels
- Certification Test/GED Preparation
- Career Resources

Find both on the APLS Resources and Research Links Page