

KCL MONTHLY



Kuskokwim Consortium Library Newsletter

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April 6th, 2023

Vol. 18

What is happening at the library?

Spring is here and so are more fun programs from the Kuskokwim Consortium Library. This month the library has some great programs planned.

April 8th at 1 p.m. Join the library for a book to TV adaptation of the most read book of all time--The Bible. We will show episodes 1-3 of "The Chosen". Popcorn will be available for \$1/bag.

April 22nd from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The library will be doing a craft at Saturday Market. This is also Earth Day and we will pass out bags and cloves for Clean Up Green Up. Help us beautify Bethel!

April 23rd-29th is National Library week. The library will be having different activities every day to celebrate (more info on page 4).

April 26th at 11 a.m. is Toddler Time in the Cultural Center. This is a time where Pre-K kiddos can play, make friends, and participate in fun activities.

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WHAT IS HAPPENING AT THE LIBRARY

APRIL CALENDAR

IMLS NATIONAL MEDAL

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK



APRIL CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Library Closed	3	4 Library Closed	5	6 Library Closed	7	8 "The Chosen" Showing @ 1 p.m.
9 Library Closed	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Library Closed	17	18	19	20	21	22 Craft @ Saturday Market 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
23 Library Closed	24 Community Book Swap 4 to 6 p.m.	25 National Library Worker Day Stop by to share your memories!	26 Toddler Time/Literary character storytime @ 11 a.m.	27 Upcycle Book Craft 4 to 6 p.m.	28 Trivia @ the Library 4 to 6 p.m.	29 Password Prizes Adult Crafting 1 to 3 p.m.
30 Library Closed	1	2 Library Closed KuC Graduation	3	4	5	6

National Library Week

KCL is a finalist for National Medal

By Theresa Quiner

Library staff are thrilled to announce that we are a finalist for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service for the second year in a row. The National Medal is the highest honor that a library can receive. Each year, fifteen libraries and fifteen museums are selected as finalists. We will find out sometime in May if we are one of the few organizations to receive the award.



To be a finalist for this award two years in a row is a huge honor. We have a very small staff and a smaller budget. We do not have adequate space in the library to meet the daily demands of the community, and it is very common for every seat in the library to be filled. We believe that our service to the community stands out on a national level alongside large, well funded library systems like King County Library, WA, is that because even with these limitations, we work really hard to provide the same level of service and programs to the community.

We are able to do this because of the amazing partnerships that we have with many of the other organizations in the community, and by working together we are all able to provide a more effective level of service to the community. Some of the standout programs and events that we organized this past year included author visits with Seth Kantner and Don Rearden, an Arctic Entries storytelling event, the 2022 Indigenous

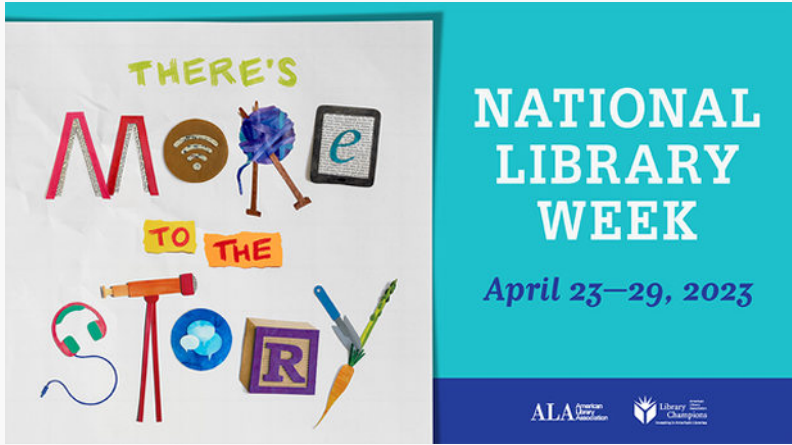
Peoples' Day celebration, and some amazing summer programs such as kayaking, art programs, Wilderness Survival, Dutch Oven Gourmet, and more. All of these were done in collaboration with community partners.

We are also committed to being an active player in efforts to make systemic change in the community. One example of this was our pandemic project to improve early literacy by bringing the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to Bethel. Alaska has the lowest literacy rates in the country, and reading to kids from birth is essential. Kids who are not read to from birth are already at a disadvantage when they start kindergarten. Many studies demonstrate that kids who participate in the Imagination Library start school more prepared than kids who do not participate, and continue to do better throughout their education.

The library has also been an active partner on the Bethel Housing and Homelessness Coalition since its inception in 2017. The library Jesuit Volunteer has an outreach component, and each year we work with the coalition to identify where that outreach is most needed. Through this effort, the library Jesuit Volunteer provided outreach at the Food Bank for several years, and kept the Food Bank open during the initial part of the pandemic by delivering food to people's homes. During that time, Bethel Community Services Foundation secured funds to hire a Food Security Coordinator, and now that program is stable and has grown exponentially.

We also work every year to provide multiple Project Homeless Connect events. This brings services to people experiencing homelessness, and also provides a venue for the coalition to collect the survey data needed to qualify for federal funding for housing projects. These efforts came to fruition in February when the coalition held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Permanent Supportive Housing facility that will provide stable housing for the most chronically homeless Bethel residents.

We love what we do, our community partners, and the community we serve. Thank you to everyone we have worked with this past year. Being a finalist for this award is a win for all of us!



"National Library Week Press Kit", American Library Association, February 14, 2013. <http://www.ala.org/news/mediapresscenter/presskits/nlw> (Accessed March 16, 2023)

National Library Week is April 23rd through the 29th. This week celebrates libraries and library workers for the work and support they provide to communities. The theme for 2023 is "There's More to the Story" which highlights why libraries are more than places that house books; and that there is so much more to what libraries and librarians do to help their communities. National Library Week started as an idea in the 1950's as communities were reading less and listening to the radio more; the American Library Association and American Book Publishers formed the National Book Committee in order to combat this issue. In 1958, the first National Library Week began with the theme "Wake up and Read!"

This year the Kuskokwim Consortium Library is celebrating by doing little activities from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. each day during National Library Week.

- On Monday, the library will be holding a community book swap. Bring a book to the library and trade it with someone else.
- Tuesday is National Library Workers Day so be sure to stop by the library to write your favorite library memories in our library guest book.
- On Wednesday, the library will host a story time while dressed up like some fun literary characters—we encourage the community to dress up as well!
- Thursday, join us for a book craft to upcycle some retired library books.
- Friday, we will be hosting a trivia game of fun facts about the Kuskokwim Consortium Library with snacks!
- On Saturday, the first 10 people to come to the library and say the password "There's More to the Story" can pick a mystery prize! And join us for an adult crafting session from 1 to 3 p.m.

Don't forget to celebrate your library this April!

KUSKOKWIM CONSORTIUM LIBRARY STAFF

THERESA QUINER, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

MIKAYLA MILLER, YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR

OLIVIA STEMKOWSKI, ADULT SERVICES COORDINATOR & JESUIT VOLUNTEER

THOMAS DANIEL, CIRCULATION ASSISTANT



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@KuskokwimConsortiumLibrary

MONDAY

11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

TUESDAY

11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

THURSDAY

11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

FRIDAY

11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

SATURDAY

11 A.M. - 4 P.M.

SUNDAY

CLOSED