



FRIENDS of Decorah Public Library

Fall 2018 Issue

Award Winning Children's Musician Patty Shukla To Perform in Decorah this October!

By Joan Roach



Get ready to dance, jump, wiggle, and learn with award-winning children's musician Patty Shukla, a YouTube Superstar for kids! Decorah Public Library is excited to welcome Ms. Patty for two jam-packed family shows at Carrie Lee Auditorium on October 20, 2018! Patty Shukla is an American singer, songwriter, and musician, and an internationally recognized expert in educational-interactive music for children. Ms. Patty began her career in children's music by making educational music videos on YouTube. Now her channel is watched by hundreds of millions! Shukla's celebrated program "Musical PE for You & Me" focuses on children ages 2-8, teaching gross motor skills, counting, colors, shapes, rhyming, sign language, and social skills. She is a frequent keynote speaker for educational workshops nationwide and is a proud parent to three children.

Ms. Patty has a unique musical approach which engages children of all ages and developmental levels. Her performances are fully interactive, containing movement, song, and relatable lyrics which get families singing, dancing, and learning together.

Patty Shukla's performances will be free and open to the public. They are generously sponsored by Friends of Decorah Public Library, Marion E. Jerome Foundation, and Joey Headington Memorial. The Decorah Community School District is graciously hosting this event with in-kind support from Decorah Fairfield Inn and Suites.

Tickets for the 11:00 am performance are now available. Please register in advance via the library website at

National Friends of Libraries Week is October 21—27, 2018

By Jane Kemp

Friends of libraries groups now have their very own national week of celebration. The 13th annual National Friends of Libraries Week offers an opportunity to celebrate Friends – promoting the group in the community, raising awareness, and increasing membership.

The Board of the Friends of the Decorah Public Library will be sending membership reminders to community users, educators, and businesses. Your membership contribution helps provide funding for the purchase of books, furniture, software, equipment, and programming beyond the regular city/county budget. All of this is greatly appreciated by the many library patrons!



Online donations to Friends of Decorah Public Library can now be made with your credit card or PayPal account! Just click the button on the Friends' page of the DPL website!



FRIENDS of Decorah Public Library

Fall 2018—Page 2

A Rockin' Reading Summer By Cynthia Peterson

What a rockin' summer at the library! Joan Roach, Children's Librarian, kindly wrote the following summary to share with you, the Friends members...

The 2018 Summer Reading Program "Libraries Rock!" ran for 8 weeks (June 1st – July 27th). It was generously supported by Friends of Decorah Public Library, Marion E. Jerome Foundation, and the Decorah United Methodist Church Trust Fund.

This year the pro-
ticipants.
Weekly offerings
curious Kids
afterschool pro-



gram was, again, extremely successful, presenting 32 events to 1204 par-
included family storytimes, crafternoons, and a summer edition of the Cu-
gram.

- Book Buddies, a weekly reading mentor program, paired RSVP volunteers and DHS Silver Cord participants with 17 children for one-on-one shared reading experiences.
- Tweens were invited to participate in two CONNECT cooking classes led by Rachel Sandhorst at the Oneota Co-op Kitchen Classroom.
- DPL, in collaboration with the Decorah Police Department, piloted "Books With Badges," a program which enabled area children to come to the library on two separate afternoons to read with local law enforcement heroes.
- Family performances included Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre's Willy the Woolly Mammoth, Iowa State University's Insect Zoo, Grout Museum District's Sound Science Demonstration, Blank Park Zoo's Animal Sounds and Stories, and the International Owl Center's Build An Owl Program.
- 306 individuals participated in the "Libraries Rock" Summer Reading Raffle. Weekly prizes included DPL Book Tote Bags with a \$10 Chamber Dollars gift certificate. Three lucky grand prize winners were selected: Brynlee Kauth (children), Kinsey White (teen), and Mikah Jaschke (adult). Each received a \$50 chamber dollar gift certificate and a tote full of surprises!
- Young children also received small prizes for participating in a weekly Reading BINGO Challenge.

Hope you are pleased and amazed by all that your memberships and dona-
tions have helped to
accom-

Jester Puppets to Present Jolly Roger, a Musical Puppet Adventure

The Jester
Puppets, a professional puppet team out of Iowa, will be presenting "Jolly
Roger- A
Musical Pirate Adventure" on Saturday, November 17th at 11:00 am at the
Decorah Public
Library. This is a high energy, interactive, family-friendly show that will be enjoyed by all!
Children are encouraged to come dressed as pirates, as they will be learning how to walk, talk, and sing like a real
pirate!





FRIENDS of Decorah Public Library

Fall 2018—Page 3

Meet Your Decorah Public Library Staff

By Heidi Swets



If you grow up in America, it seems to be assumed that you are “the captain of your ship,” and that you are/can be completely in charge of the trajectory of your life.

There is a great deal of value in this idea, but looking back on the almost 12 years I’ve been working at the library, it seems that there are equal rewards to mindfully following where life wants to take you.

For my first 9 years here, I worked at designing and sharing programs with mostly upper elementary age young folks after school. Even though I came to this opportunity with lots of experience as an environmental educator, this was as much a learning experience for me as for the kids. Luckily, I was pretty much given full rein to try my hand at programs that would spring from knowledge contained in books or lead to a desire to access more of it. From scavenging for clue lines in books, to pie-making to building your own rocket stove or raising Polyphemus moths, we had fun. A snake surprisingly found one day in the lower level hallway (and who later escaped upstairs) was all that was needed to get the budding herpetologists crackin’ in the field guide section. These were rewarding times.

In the last three years, finding myself with not quite enough energy to keep up with the younger crowd, I’ve been blessed with the opportunity to work part-time serving patrons at the circulation desk. I enjoy the opportunity to become more familiar with the collection, to support the love of reading in our community, dream up new ways the library can stimulate creativity in Decorah, and to be a bright spot in someone’s day. And books give me so many ideas! In my other fortunate hours, I love working in our garden and fields, taking care of 4 horses, making handmade books and paper crafts, playing the classical guitar, and playing with my first grandchild, which of course, includes reading books to him.

Introducing New Friends Board Members

By Jane Kemp

Who is interested in being a member of the Friends Library Board? It turns out that a variety of people representing different backgrounds and unique skills are eager to support the Decorah Public Library.

The following new members recently joined the Friends Board.

Karla Brown is a native of Calmar with many Decorah connections. She moved to Decorah after retiring from a career as a professor with Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo. Karla currently is the Regional Events Coordinator for Vesterheim and the Friends Board Secretary.

Kelly Coppola is a Simpson alumna who moved to Decorah several years ago from central Iowa with her family. A former elementary school teacher and parent of three young children, Kelly has loved the books and programs which libraries offer especially to youngsters.

Carolyn Mottley has assisted library patrons at the Decorah Public Library with their technology needs for several years. A long-time Decorah resident, Carolyn retired recently as a professor of Chemistry at Luther College. Carolyn is now the Treasurer for the Friends Board.



**Friends of Decorah
Public Library**
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Vice President: Cynthia Peterson
Secretary: Karla Brown
Treasurer: Carolyn Mottley
Library Board Liaison: Ed Brooks
Friends Board Liaison: Cynthia Peterson
Past President(s): Kris Peterson

Board Members:

Jud Barclay
Karla Brown
Kelly Coppola
Carol Gaard
Mark Ruen
Jim Womeldorf

*For details about upcoming programs or to see pictures from recent events, like
Decorah Public Library on Facebook!*

FRIENDS OF DECORAH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fall 2018—Page 4

FRIENDS of the Library Membership Form



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zipcode _____

Student / Senior \$5

Supporter \$50

*Check here if this is a
business donation*

Individual \$10

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