

April 2020

Library Hours

Monday	9:30 a.m.—7 p.m.
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.—7 p.m.
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.—7 p.m.
Thursday	9:30 a.m.—7 p.m.
Friday	9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.
Saturday	9:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

2020 Friends Board

Gail Young	President
Carm Sosik	V. President
Annette Heffelfinger	Secretary

Board Members:

Tory Bieber, Karen Howard, Gerry Hynes, Trish Ott, Naomi Owen, Joanne Yoder

Friends Meetings:

3rd Tuesday at 2 p.m.

2020 Library Board

Cathrine Ruhf	President
Barbara Coffin	V. President
Martin Smith	Treasurer
Robert Shade	Secretary

Board Members:

Linda Foulke, Harry Heffelfinger Jr, Judy Koller, Lucy Muth, Mindy Wagaman

Board Meetings:

2nd Thursday at 7 p.m.

Library Staff

Janet Yost	Director
Taylor Kutz	Youth Librarian
Jackee Sharayko	Circ. Manager
Joanne Englehart	Asst. Librarian
Charlotte Hoare	Asst. Librarian

Mary Beth Friedle, Lacie Henninger, Mackenzie Keller, Megan Waidelich

KCL Adapts its Services During Pandemic

By Maddie O'Shea
KU Intern

Kutztown Community Library (KCL) and its patrons, along with many around the world, has been heavily affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. As of Saturday, March 14th, all Berks County Public Libraries are closed until further notice. While the library may not know its reopen date, the staff has been assisting its service area to cope by maintaining online services and keeping spirits high.

“We are still closed but remain optimistic that we are actively engaging patrons virtually,” said Library Director Janet Yost. “This give us the opportunity to do things in a different way and build new relationships.”

The community has been understanding of the library’s evolving efforts. KCL has received many messages of gratitude via social media. Here are some kind reactions library staff loved to see:

- Nominating Kutztown Community Library as today's hometown heroes. Keeping the library open until the last minute so families and people could stock up on books and items. Best library with the most caring staff. The staff had a crazy day, and still had smiles and were helping kids pick out books
- The BEST library ever!!!
- I was so happy to see how Kutztown Library is still taking care of its patrons- even while closed! You're the best!!

In addition, these are aspects of the library that our patrons miss the most:



Miss Taylor leads a Story Time prior to closing of the library.

- My daughter misses the dinosaurs in the play area! She also stacked Magna-Tiles® the other day and said, “Look at all these library books I checked out!” We can’t wait to be back for our visits and to see Dewey, her favorite hamster.
- Our daughter talks about Miss Taylor all the time and constantly sings the songs she has learned from story time (even as she's falling asleep). Hope everyone is well, we miss you!
- The smell of those fresh crisp pages
- Monday night Pokémon league
“I miss chatting with the patrons, helping them find the next great book to read, and all my wonderful employees. Everyone wants to come back!” Janet said.

KCL is still offering many services online. Accounts are still accessible for book renewals. Online databases are also available. Patrons with library cards have access to databases such as Ancestry.com, BookFlix, and POWER Kids. Take advantage of them now!

E-book and audio services KCL provides for patrons are Overdrive and

Are You Ready For a Summer Adventure?

By Maddie O'Shea
KU Intern

Summer is the perfect time to read, discover, and have access to engaging experiences. Through Summer Quest at KCL, you can do all that and more! Occurring from June 15th to August 15th, the program encourages learning through all ages. We welcome any interested adventurers to join the fun and participate in our exciting events.

Summer Quest is an action-based way to experience reading. Using a tracker, participants choose different activities that include both interacting with books and spending time with family. Activities can be making playdough, creating a paper airplane, and reading a book that became a movie. Once enough activities on trackers are completed, participants can win raffle tickets. Featured this year are activities and events separated into pre-school, elementary, teen, and adult sections. There's fun for all ages!

Some of the elementary school age events this summer are Mad Science, Story Time Unscripted, and Jesse the Reptile Guy. Children will get the chance to witness a scientist take on a foam explosion, create a performance with the help of a theater artist, and see an interactive reptile show with snakes, alligators, and tortoises!

Teens will get to experience some fun as well. This summer will include a journaling workshop, a tie dye



A fan favorite, Jesse the Reptile Guy, shows off a snake. See him and many more exciting events at Summer Quest!

session, and a Paisley & Company event. Teens will discover the power of their own words, socialize and create colorful tie dye art, and learn the science behind mixing scents while making their own personalized products. In addition to Teen Tuesday, there are other programs for this age group to enjoy. Teen Reading Lounge will still be available over the summer. There, teens get to

choose books to read, keep, and discuss. The last book covered by the group was, *Heroine* by Mindy McGinnis. Over the course of the session, teens have engaging conversations about how the literature relates to the real world.

Remember: Summer Quest is not just restricted to youth. Adults can get involved too with their own set of trackers. It's been a successful way to keep everyone in the family involved.

KCL is also looking for volunteers to help out during the summer. Teens are always encouraged to commit their time and help out. It's a great way to gain valuable skills and experience for a resume. As you can see, Summer Quest has a lot to offer! But if you can't commit, there are still plenty of other events occurring throughout the summer at KCL. Monday Story Times, Wiggly Wednesdays, Family Movie Night, and Teen Reading Lounge will still be available. We hope to see your shining faces at Summer Quest.

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Libby. Overdrive Kids and POWER kids have educational resources specifically designed for youth.

Even though the library cannot hold face-to-face Story Time, KCL offers Slumbertales. This is a video of a librarian reading a book to you. The service is available on YouTube (@Kutztown Community Library) and Facebook (@KutztownLibrary).

Make sure you thank KCL staff too. Janet has used some of her free time to go to her sister's house and remove wallpaper while she is at work in the hospital. Let her serve as an example of what we as a community should be doing to take care of each other.

Youth Librarian, Taylor Kutz, has been gathering online resources, virtual tours, and activities for families to

do at home. While working remotely, she is taking the time to focus on KCL's social media presence and prepare for Summer Quest and future programs. She has also been starting lots of craft projects and spending lots of quality time with her dog, Lola.

We thank our community for being adaptable, trusting, and most importantly, patient. Libraries will continue to follow the state Department of Education in its extension of closures at this time. In response, KCL wishes to continue evolving virtually. During this time it's important to continue supporting the library and the businesses that support it.

KCL posts daily via Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube with fun readings and other resources to browse. Check them out while you're at home. Stay home and stay safe!



As a volunteer, you could assist with KCL events like Teen Tuesday.

Wanted: Teen Volunteers

By Maddie O'Shea
KU Intern

KCL is always looking for help from teen volunteers. Our volunteers can assist with Summer Quest, prepare for events, and shelve books – all teach valuable skills and useful experience to build strong resumes.

The library hosts the most amount of teen volunteers over the summer, and many participate throughout the school year, including homeschooled youth.

For those that need to perform community service hours for school or an organization, volunteer hours at KCL are a great option. The library is conveniently located within walking distance from the Kutztown Area High School. KCL also offers tasks that will help teens develop and gain skills for daily life and work.

Taylor Kutz, Youth Librarian, interviews youth before volunteering to see what types of tasks are of interest.

One teen who stands out to the library is a girl who wants a pet at home. She asked if she could start cleaning KCL's hamster cages in order to learn how to take care of an animal. The hamsters' homes never looked cleaner!

"I enjoy volunteering here at the library because it helps me gain new work experiences and it helps me connect with the community," said teen volunteer Lauren. "It feels good to help Miss Taylor because she works hard to make the kids smile by offering a lot of fun programs for them."

Applications can be found by going to KCL's website, kutztownlibrary.org, navigating to Support Us on the left hand side, and clicking on the Volunteer drop down arrow. Fill out an application and email it to Miss Taylor at skuchild@berks.lib.pa.us or bring it to the library.

Questions or concerns can be addressed at KCL or via a phone call.

GivingTuesday is May 5

By Maddie O'Shea
KU Intern

When people in a community collectively unite, they have the power to spark generosity and give back for good. That sentiment is rooted in GivingTuesday, a global movement that inspires civic engagement. On May 5, 2020 you can participate with KCL in #GivingTuesdayNow.

GivingTuesday announced the hashtag as an emergency call to action in this unprecedented time of need amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal is to stay connected on the local level and show support to individuals, businesses, and organizations in your community.

KCL is one local public service that needs your assistance. Consider giving back to the library. The closure we are enduring is having a significant effect on us. In fact, with the suspension of passport photos and application processing, KCL is losing \$8,610 in passport income alone. These funds are crucial in providing our service area with a safe haven to come and learn. We wish to continue maintaining services, information, and programs for all.

During GivingTuesday 2019, \$511,000,000 was raised online in the United States. Use that as inspiration to give back on not just May 5, 2020 but every day. If you do contribute to KCL, share it on social media and tag us. Last year, there were 20.1 billion global social media impressions for the movement!

You can donate to the library from home. Go to kutztownlibrary.org and click on Support Us then go to Donate.

Keep up to date with the site and the hashtag #GivingTuesday. Most importantly, stay safe, wherever you are!



National Library Week



National Library Week is here! During April 19-25, celebrate all libraries. Whether it's a school, public, or academic library, it's a time to support yours for its contributions. It's a great time to check out a book, attend an event, or even get a library card!

Sign up for e-Newsletters

Did you know that KCL has an e-newsletter? We love informing our patrons with library programs, trips, and volunteer opportunities. Included are links to articles about the library and more. Sign up at the library, on Facebook, or our website: kutztownlibrary.org.



Vacation planning doesn't have to be hard with KCL's easy and reliable passport photo and application services.

Get Passport Photos and Applications @ KCL

Getting tired of armchair travel? Maybe you are hopeful that you will travel in person someday soon. Think ahead and when the time is right to get your passport photos/applications taken and processed at KCL! Not only is it convenient, but it supports the library.

While services are currently suspended, here is how the process normally goes, and will continue when KCL reopens. Appointment times are Monday to Thursday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. More information can be found on KCL's website: kutztownlibrary.org. Services are done by appointment only. Be sure to call in at 610-683-5820 and reserve your spot.

KCL Won Public Relations Award



Mackenzie Keller accepts the Chet Hagan Award.

KCL won the Chet Hagan Memorial Public Relations Award at the Berks County Public Libraries annual award ceremony. Over the course of 2019, Mackenzie Keller created a scrapbook that documented reaching its goals, like partnering with Kutztown University's Professional Writing department, publishing newsletters, seeking grants, and achieving PA Forward Gold Star Library Status.

The next time you come into the library, please congratulate Mackenzie on her work, page through the award winning scrapbook and admire the chicken statue award!

Meet the Spring Writing Intern

Maddie O'Shea is our Spring 2020 intern! She is an English/Professional Writing student at Kutztown University (KU). At KCL she produces articles and press releases to maintain public outreach. Maddie began working remotely in mid-March due to closures of libraries and KU and created this newsletter.



Maddie O'Shea

She grew up loving to read, and has had an appreciation for libraries ever since. Her favorite books are the Dublin Murder Squad series by Tana French.

Outside of the library, she is the News Head of The Keystone Newspaper, the Vice President of the English Club at KU, a contributing writer for The Archives Magazine at the Rohrbach Library, and a submissions editor for KU's *Shoofly Literary Magazine*.

When O'Shea is not writing, she loves traveling and watching investigative documentaries. Wish her luck for upcoming graduation in May and beyond!

An Appreciation for Volunteers

By Maddie O'Shea
KU Intern



Volunteers enjoy a celebration dinner

April is Library Volunteer Month! Our volunteers are greatly appreciated for helping with KCL events, assisting patron questions, and shelving books. Some of our volunteers have been doing so for many years.

Volunteer work is incredibly important for library functions. According to Independentsector.org, “about 63 million Americans volunteer about 8 billion hours of their time, talent, and effort to improve and strengthen their communities.” Specifically in Pennsylvania, the value of volunteer time equaled approximately \$25 per hour in 2018. With our tight budget, these volunteer hours help to keep the library running.

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering, we have options for what you can do to help: shelve materials, assist with youth programs, substitute for Story Time, material processing and repair, computer tutoring, and maintenance services on the property. We will train interested individuals when we reopen! Applications are located on the KCL’s website, kutztownlibrary.org, navigate to Support Us on the left hand side, and click on the Volunteer drop down arrow. Fill out an application and email it to the library at kutztownpl@berks.lib.pa.us or bring it to the library when open.

We thank all volunteers who dedicate time to KCL.

Alex Diamond: KCL’s Library Science Intern

By Maddie O'Shea
KU Intern

Alex Diamond, a KCL Library Science Intern, has been a great help to the library and its patrons. He is recognized for his kind attitude and dedicated assistance.

Diamond is from Allentown, Pennsylvania. A Library Science major at KU, he started interning in December 2019 and continued into the Spring 2020 semester. At KCL, his goals were to focus on readers’ advisory and event programming. During his internship, he presented work on Ancestry.com and a college scholarship workshop.



At KU, Diamond was an Undergraduate Assistant and Library Curator at the GLBTQ Resource Center. There, he was in charge of updates and reorganization to the library collection. He was able to utilize skills he learned there into his internship.

Outside of his major, he was a part of Eastern Spring Sectional Special Olympics, the Library Committee of University Senate, and Library Outreach Leaders, organizations he is passionate towards.

Diamond wishes to become a public education librarian or academic adviser with a student success focus.

Many of you have seen him in the library during his intern days, greeting with a welcoming hello! He loves becoming acquainted to patrons of the library. Diamond finished his internship in March and graduates in May. He is actively applying to grad schools for a Masters in Library Science. Wish him luck!

Use Your Voice to Vote

Elections are coming up—and it is your duty as a citizen to participate.

It’s easy to believe that your individual opinion doesn’t count in a major election but voting has a major impact on all of us. Elections determine more than government officials. They also dictate local and state level decisions such as state representatives, mayors, city council members, etc. Voting also extends to civic culture with the power to change issues such as college affordability, health care, climate change, workers’ rights, and taxes.

100 years ago, women won the right to vote. Please make their efforts count. In Pennsylvania, the next primary election takes place on June 2, 2020. The final day to register is May 18, 2020.

More information on registration, polling locations, and voting reforms can be found at Pa.gov. There is also a press release of recent changes made by Governor Wolf. Vote in the next election and make it a habit to participate in your civic duty!



Check out our voting display!

Share Your Art With KCL!

Library patrons have ways to share artistic works in the library.

Quilts and Art Pieces—KCL always has quilts and art by local artists displayed right when you walk in the doors. Let us know if you have your own pieces that you'd like us to exhibit.

Crafts- with many at home right now, we'd love to share your artistic works. If you picked up some crafts in our pop up library, tag us on Facebook or Instagram so we can repost it!

Cooking- Cooking up a storm during the pandemic? Take a photo of your delicious baked goods or dinner that you made. Remember to tag us on Facebook or Instagram.



Jewelry- there is jewelry on display by the circulation desk. Take a look at beautiful bracelets, necklaces, and earrings. Most pieces are only \$2. Does cleaning spark joy for you? We are always looking for donations, so dig through your jewelry boxes and donate today!

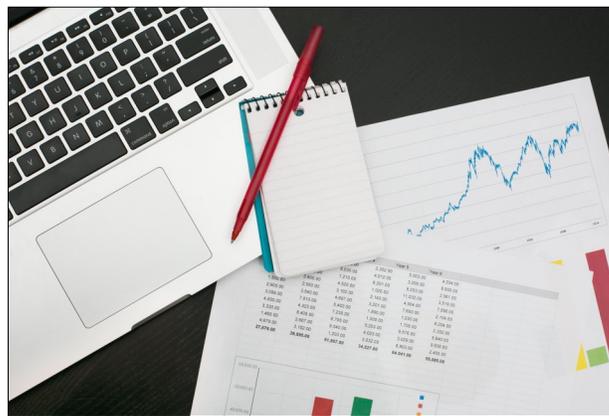
The 2020 Census Counts on You!

By Maddie O'Shea
KU Intern

The 2020 census may not seem like a big deal, but it's no joke. The country's mandated count of the population has a big impact: it provides data that the government uses to fund anything from hospitals, schools, and, yes, libraries.

By Census Day on April 1st, 2020, every household received an invitation to respond with detailed information on participating in the census. There are three ways people can choose to respond: online, by phone, and by mail. 2020 marks the first year the census will be available online. The questionnaire can be accessed at [My2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov). Click on the respond button, and it will take you right to the online response.

A census occurs every 10 years in order to accurately represent the people of the United States. One of the most important reasons it was established in 1790 was to determine the number of seats each state receives in the House of Representatives. But its impact doesn't stop there;



KCL aims to assist patrons with submitting census responses online, so come in and use one of our computers.

data from the census determines the distribution of billions of dollars for public services, schools, healthcare, emergency response, and road development. It helps to direct assistance to areas and services of need which includes a major impact on libraries, including KCL. Alison Trautmann, the Outreach Services Coordinator for Berks County Public Libraries, learned “Berks County could lose \$2,100 per person per year over the next 10 years for each person who is not

counted in the 2020 Census. 16,715 people were not counted in the 2010 Census, which works out to a total of over \$35 million lost by the county over the past ten years.” Therefore, it is our responsibility as a community to take part.

Your participation is important. It only takes a few minutes online, but results will influence the country for much longer.

KCL Database Updates

Take advantage of updated and useful databases on KCL's website! To access, navigate to the Research tab and click on Databases from the drop down menu. With a library card, patrons have access to eighteen online resources, including Ancestry.com, AP Images, Reading Eagle archives, and much more. With job, health and wellness, and driving related resources, there's something for all ages to utilize.

We have a special offer this month. You can access Ancestry.com from your home! This database is usually only accessible from inside the library building but this perk is being offered since the library is closed.

Click on COVID 19 link to see a list of electronic resources being made available at this time by other organizations. Topics are Educational, Entertainment, and Health/COVID 19. Make sure to take full benefit with your library card!



Library Staff member Mary Beth Friedle assists patrons checking out

No Library Card? No Problem!

Now through June 30, Berks County residents can sign up for an Instant Digital Card. Check out digital library materials from OverDrive and Libby instantly *without* a physical library card. Visit our **OverDrive page** on your desktop or download the OverDrive or Libby apps to log in with the Instant Digital Card to begin borrowing popular eBooks and eAudiobooks in just 30 seconds.

Family Movie Time

Looking for a movie to enjoy with the entire family? KCL has some suggestions below:

Spy Kids-A classic movie from 2001, *Spy Kids* features the adventure of Carmen and Juni Cortez as they go on a mission to rescue their ex-spy parents from scientist Alexander Minion.

Mary Poppins Returns-This 2018 film is a more recent follow up to the original 1964 film. With Emily Blunt as the new face of Mary Poppins, it's a wonderful and nostalgic continuation.

Hugo-Based on Brian Selznick's *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, *Hugo* takes viewers to 1930s Paris as a boy searches to uncover a secret from his father.

Ralph Breaks the Internet-For those that enjoyed *Wreck-It Ralph*, this film will be loved by internet fanatics. As Ralph and Vanellope race to save a glitch in the video game Sugar Rush, it's sure to be a sweet adventure!

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events-Some readers may recognize this title from the book series *A Series of Unfortunate Events*. This 2004 fantasy film focuses on three orphaned children who go to live with their mysterious Uncle Olaf.

Incredibles 2-*Incredibles 2* takes a wild and humorous spin as Mr. Incredible must stay at home and watch his children, Violet, Dash, and Jack-Jack Parr, while his wife Elastigirl goes out and saves the world.

Enjoy your time at home and spend as much time you can with each other. These movies are available on Netflix.

Having Fun at Home

The quarantine may have you feeling trapped at home, but there are still many fun activities you have access to. Check them out below!

Read online – Just because the library is currently closed doesn't mean books are unavailable. All you have to do is download Libby and log in with your KCL credentials.

Go on a virtual field trip – If walking doesn't take you as far as you wish, take a virtual tour! Conduct experiments at home with the California Science Center, visit art museums across the world with Google Arts and Culture, and surf the Cincinnati Zoo's Home Safari every day at 3 p.m. EDT.

Sort through shelves – Another great activity at your disposal is evaluating the books you currently own. Perhaps you'll find an old favorite to reread or start a donation pile for KCL. While the library's spring book sale is postponed, now gives you plenty of time to sort through your shelves!

Color Creatively – Coloring is a fun way to be creative and relieve stress for all ages. Crayola offers a variety of free printable coloring pages! Get out markers and crayons and make it a family event.

Plant some seeds – For those at home all day, it's a great time to start planting flowers. Kids can easily get involved too by creating mystical fairy gardens. Check out Country Living's whimsical guide filled with tutorial ideas!

As always, we hope all of our patrons are staying safe and healthy!



Kutztown Community Library

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U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit No. 5
KUTZTOWN, PA

610-683-5820
kutztownlibrary.org



or current resident

Short Stories @ the Library

Book Club meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Upcoming titles are:

- May—*An Invisible Thread* by Laura Schroff
- June—*The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See
- July— *The Lager Queen of Minnesota* by J. Ryan Stradal

Conversación con Amigos—Come have a fun conversation *en español* with native Spanish speakers while learning about the culture. The gathering is held on the last Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. New participants are always welcome.

The **Kutztown Area Garden Club** is planning to host a plant swap May 16 at 12 p.m. Label plants with their name and bring seeds along with sun, shade, and soil preferences. No invasive plants please! Optional covered dish lunch will be available prior to the event. If interested in lunch, please email mbeck@ptd.net with what you'll bring to share. Currently, the event is still on, but check for updates.



"Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life."

~ Sidney Sheldon | American writer and producer