

Making Space for Young Adults in Public Libraries [name removed] Public Library

Staff Video

So welcome to the [name removed] Public Library's teen [name removed] . It's located on the third floor of the main branch of the library. The [name removed] was built about three years ago. It's about 2 thousand square feet, and the teen advisory board and the young adult librarian worked very closely with the architects to design this space to be teen-friendly and to have a lot of great resources for teens.

So here on this first wall when you come in is a display space, and right now we have recommended summer reads that I had just book-talked at the schools while promoting our summer reading program. And then we have some staff picks or teen picks that staff who works in the [name removed] put up there, some of our favorite reads, same with teens from the teen advisory board can put stuff up there, or any teen, really.

And over here are our newest materials to the collection, and then on this back wall over here, we have some written up rules of the [name removed] that several years ago the teens and the [1:00.7] young adult librarian wrote up so that teens are aware of what's appropriate for the [name removed] in this space.

You can see we have some great programs coming up, Veronica Ross coming for an Awesome Author visit later this week, and then back here we have some storage for staff.

So in here we have a computer that actually is attached to this wall panel here, and we can display Power Points, we can play DVDs for movie nights, and we also use the TVs for gaming on the weekends, and we have different gaming platforms. We'll hang up-hookup for tournaments and things like that. So this wall has been really great. It's a lot of fun. It has a lot of uses. Also in here we have a DVD player, so we can play music.

We have a lot of storage for craft supplies and other materials for staff, and then over here in the back of the space, we have two study rooms, [name removed]. And [2:00.7] these study rooms can be used to study, for tutoring or just to hang out with your friends, so they're used almost every day. There's usually groups in each of them, whether it's tutors or kids hanging out. Originally the big panels in the back are actually clocks that count down for 60 minutes, but we don't really use them anymore. But originally, I think they were meant to be pretty cool.

And then behind the study rooms is the young adult collection, and so it's split up into just general fiction. As I said before, all the materials in the space is meant for teens in grades 6-12, so the first part of the collection is fiction, and then we have fantasy and sci-fi, mysteries, nonfiction and then on the back side of the shelves we have the audio/visual collection, and we have Playaways, audio books, we have a small DVD collection, a [3:01.2] small video game collection, too, that teens can check out when they're in here.

And then in this back space is the hangout area, so teens come back here and read. They can do homework if they want to sprawl out more, or just hang out with their friends and chat and do whatever teens do, and then this back wall, we just got new shelving back here to give us a little more space, and so all our manga and graphic novels are back here as well as books from the middle school summer reading list are back here as well right now.

And then on this wall we have more displays, so we have magazines for the teens. So we have things like *Seventeen*, *Mad Magazine*, and then we have some more display areas for graphic novels and manga, and then right now we have our Playaways on display, too.

Now, back over by that TV wall, we also have computers for teens to use. We have eight [3:56.9] computers total. Right now they're all desktop computers, but we're hoping in the near future to get laptop computers to offer us more flexibility with the space so that we could put the laptops away or the teens could take them wherever they want in the space so we could use the countertops for programming, or teens could do their homework there, whatever they'd like, because we don't have a lot of table space, basically, except for this table here and the tables in the study room. So we're hoping to get more study space and more space that we could use for programming, because most of our teen programming, unless it's a huge author event, is done right here in the [name removed] .

So we also have additional computers here. We also have our Guess How Many contest for our teen summer reading game that's starting.

And then here we have our staff computers, so the [name removed] is usually staffed by one staff person, and we're usually open during the summer from 11-9 p.m. and then 11-6 on the weekends.

So that's the [name removed] space. A few things we're hoping to change is to just get some more [5:00.1] digital media elements and hopefully get a digital media lab space in the future, where kids can explore math, science and technology things, but also things like making videos and stuff like that.

So that's the [name removed]. Thank you.

[End of Staff Video]

Youth Video

Hi, welcome to the [name removed] at the [name removed] Public Library. I am a teen patron/volunteer/member of the teen advisory board, and I'm going to be walking you through the space.

Out here you can see the illuminated teen sign and the double doors leading into the [name removed]. The [name removed] is a separated space from the rest of the library, on the third floor.

Now walking into the [name removed], you can see all of the new books that are on display as well as the prize books from the summer reading game. We have a summer reading game every summer, where teens can read different books or listen to audio books and review them and get prizes. It's really great.

Over here, you can see our study rooms. The study rooms, cleverly named the [name removed] because here is the [name removed], are available for checkout by teens for tutoring [1:04] sessions, projects, and they're also used for the many programs that we have in the [name removed]. They're also kind of hidden by the stacks, which I think is another really great part about the [name removed], that we have these great bookshelves that have our collection on them. Before the [name removed] existed, the entirety of 'young adult' in the library was just a couple of young adult bookshelves, and teens really love that they're laid out like this so that they can kind of get lost with friends, you know, in the graphic novels or the nonfiction section.

We also have a lounge, here, so located next to our video games and DVDs as well as audio visual collection. You can see the lounge where teens can work with friends. We've had everything from just kind of hanging out to it being completely jammed for [1:59.4] finals week and people even doing crafts around here, so it's a great space where teens can do a lot of different things.

We also have our new book shelf, which houses the graphic novel collection. Before, it was kind of hidden back with the rest of it, with the rest of our collection, but now it's nice and on its own wall, and it's great. We also have various displays throughout the [name removed] made by different staff members that just highlight different parts of what we have here. That's great.

These are our Playaways. They're a great resource for audio books that are even easier than CD's, which is awesome. Definitely get Playaways. They're great.

This is our computer area. We have seven stations for teens to work. They're available by checkout for two hours a day by the teens plugging in their library card numbers. And [3:00.7] yeah, they're a great resource. We also have a printer where teens can print for 10 cents a page, which is fantastic!

You can see here that we have Camp [name removed], our summer reading game program, kind of throughout the space. We always love to have something going on.

And that is the space. Now I'm going to talk a little bit about kind of my favorite things here in the [name removed], and maybe some things that I would change.

So things that I really like in the [name removed] are just all of our really great programs. I think that we do a good job of kind of tailoring to lots of different kinds of teens and relating them back to stories. I've done everything from the teen theater troupe where we've adapted different YA books, to going to Whole Foods and cooking meals inspired by different [3:58.3] books that we all read for a book group, so there are lots of just really interesting and fun things that we can do here.

As far as anything I would change, maybe just having more space in the [name removed], because, you know, we just had a *Hunger Games* release party where there were 40 middle-schoolers running amok in here, and it was definitely a little cozy, so, you know, maybe just expanding a little bit for when we have author visits or any kind of large programming like that.

So this is the [name removed]. Hope you enjoyed it. There you go!

[End of Youth Video]