

24 Adult Program Ideas in 60 Minutes

Amy Alessio amyaleccio@sbcglobal.net

Programs Easily Adapted for Almost Any Theme

- Writing Events
- Food Tasting and History
- Drop In Crafts
- Tech Demonstrations
- Charitable Drives
- Fitness and Wellness
- Photo or Video Events
- Art Displays
- Music
- Library Resource Demonstrations
- Travel Tie-Ins
- Interactive bulletin boards

Lunar New Year

- Music
- Dance
- Calligraphy/Writing in Chinese
- Felt or Paper Fortune Cookies
- Chinese Paper Cutting: <https://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-make-a-chinese-paper-cut-art/>
- Red Envelope Craft: http://www.firstpalette.com/Craft_themes/World/chineseredenvelope/chineseredenvelope.html
- Koi Kite Instructions: <http://www.thetoymaker.com/AroundtheWorld/Japan/TMKoiKites.html>

Snacks & Songs by Decades

- 1930s/40s: Velveeta, brownies

- 1950's: Mini Burger Bar, Chex Mix
- 1960's: Bugles, Pringles, Mini frank kabobs
- 1970's: fondue, cheese balls, Grape jelly/chili dip
- 1980's: Cream Cheese/pepper jelly
- 1990's: cupcakes

African American History Every Month

- Genealogy programs
- Drumming Circles
- Step Dancing Performance and Demonstrations
- Underground Railroad sites, speaker
- Musicians – Jazz study
- Display of Inventions
- Readings/Poetry performances
- African American History Month: <http://www.africanamericanhistorymonth.gov/>
- Webinars at National Museum of African American History and Culture: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/educators/professional-learning-events>
- National Archives resources: <https://www.archives.gov/research/aic/reference/black-history.html>

Movie Party and Trivia

- Gourmet Popcorn
- After Hours Oscar Night Party
- Short Movie Festival
- Local Film Trivia
- Background of Popular Movies
- Video Editing Courses, Viewing Night

March: Rosie Plus the Role of Women in WWII

Springing Into Health

- Staff post how much they walk on desk throughout the week
- Patrons post photo of themselves walking in the library or throughout the month for a prize
- Walk a 5K and screen shot Map My Walk or other evidence. Live walking 5K around library
- Steps scavenger hunt or Geocaching within library
- Demonstrations of ways to count steps

National Library Week

- Info Fair by departments
- Departments make something to auction
- Tours: Live or Virtual
- Flea Market and Craft Fair
- Comic Swap
- Authors with publishing workshop
- Learn Something New – punch cards for watching videos
- T/F: Library Common Sense

May the Fourth: Star Wars Day

- Movies & Coloring
- Costume cosplay for adults
- Trivia or Timeline
- Books
- Parody movie contest
- Fan fiction contest
- Origami
- Yoda Soda
- Rebel Legion
- <https://theoutreachlibrarian.com/2012/04/04/may-the-fourth-be-with-you/>

Easy Adult & Child Crafts (time to clean out the closet)

- Recipe Scrapbooking
- Paint and Book Cover Night (hold the wine for staff)
- Apron Decoration
- Painting /coloring: photo frames, tote bags, t-shirts, notebook covers
- Tye Dye socks
- Beaded bookmarks
- Bookmark design contest
- Cards for charity, gifts
- 3D printed keychains

Engaging Adults with Summer Reading

- Read a Latte all year round
- Reading challenges – no registration!
- Allow programs to count
- Drawings per book read
- Prize is book or fine clearing coupons
- Send photos wearing library shirt
- How many items in library tote?

Hidden Local Gems: One Day Trips to Remember

- With foods
- Speakers from historical sites
- Bus trips
- Virtual tour – picture, cost, website info.
- Ask for coupons from sites

Indoor/Outdoor Events

Bike Repair

- Basics
- Adding ID
- Local trails
- Safety tips

- Gear
- Area biking groups

Car Show + Safety

- Emergency kits
- Shopping through library sites, tips
- Basic Care
- What to look for in used cars
- Hooking up phones, media

Library County Fair

- Growing competitions
- Oldest items
- Collections
- Book wreaths
- Quilts & Pies?
- Discussion of craft competitions
- Talk on local farmers markets

Local learning or volunteer fairs

- Library classes for adults
- ESL
- Continuing Ed. Representatives from colleges, high schools
- Online Learning Options – through library?
- Park District
- Museums
- Colleges: auditing lectures

Fall Into Something New

- Style and Fashions: scarves, jewelry making, hairstyles
- Sushi demonstration, or other no-cook healthy choices
- Resume Refresh, Social Media review
- Travel tips: local favorites, upcoming museum exhibits
- New and readalikes for popular books & media
- Download and Go: technology demonstrations
- House Refresh: speakers on painting tips, woodworking
- Park District: new sports classes

Library Card Sign-Up Month

- Use card at local businesses
- Drawing for getting or renewing card
- Swipe card for drawing – virtual or live
- Clear fines with visible card
- Drawings for entire households with cards
- Using your card from home scavenger hunt
- Flash fiction library themed contest
- Show card around community photos

Hispanic Heritage Month

- Map your heritage
- Match photo to country
- Match food photo to country
- Ojo de Dios family craft
- Corn Husk Spice Painting (Harris Cty. Tx. Lib.)
- Language learning materials
- <https://www.hispanicheritagemonth.org/>

Mindfulness, Yoga and Smoothies

- Speakers for mindfulness, laughter, relaxation
- Massage techniques
- Yoga instructors for simple workshop
- Office fitness
- Smoothies or Yogurt parfait samplers (DIY)

- Teas
- Making tabletop zen gardens, zen terrariums

Nostalgic Halloween Party and Blood Drive

- Vintage horror movie or 80's monsters: Freddie, Chucky, Jason
- Halloween cartoons
- Duct tape or toilet paper costumes – mini contests
- Finish the scary story contest or flash scary fiction 1000 words
- Storytelling 101 – outside
- Dirt cup parfaits
- Decorate cookies

Veterans Thank You Open House

- Create a Card Party
- Online Photo Montage
- Collect Photos, Memorabilia
- Veterans Benefits, Spouses
- Records of What Units from Area Were in Each Major Conflict Including Civil War

Diwali: November 14 2020

- Ethnic markets – décor and food
- Local music or dance programs
- Henna painting
- How to drape a sari, wedding styles
- Decorate a Diya – prepare with base coat
- <http://www.wikihow.com/Decorate-a-Diya>
- <http://www.programminglibrarian.org/programs/diwali>
- Rangoli Art: <https://theeducatorsspinonit.com/rangoli-craft-idea-for-kids/>

NaNoWriMo

- Steps for Success – Getting Started
- Demonstrations of how to login in lobby

- Write-Ins – allow time after writing programs
- FINISH THAT BOOK!
- Formatting software and assistance
- Interactive display of local word counts
- Tweeting author quotes
- Display of books on writing, biographies

Night Star Gazing

- Telescope at certain place, certain times
- Partnership with college, expert
- Patrons record who can see what
- Getting started in stargazing
- Astrology 101: What's in store for you next year?

Holiday Library Open House: Virtual and Live

- Marketing features Invitation to special event
- Music, local high school groups
- Set hours: Free, fast and fun for all ages
- Demonstrations of timesaving tips or activities in each department
- Make and take easy ornaments, bookmarks
- Peaceful place to sit and read if desired
- Local food vendor
- Virtual: virtual tour, resources for easing year end stress, holiday traditional stories

Questions?

Amy Alessio

amyalessio@sbcglobal.net