

## Meet Our Sister Library In Düsseldorf, Germany

Have you ever dreamt of a destination library? Much like people have destination weddings or select a vacation destination based on seeing a particular site such as Stonehenge or Niagara Falls, some of us dream of visiting libraries in faraway places.

For those library dreamers, we have good news. Our Metro Library System has partnered with the International English Library in Düsseldorf, Germany!

The partnership will allow our staff to learn more about library services in another country and engage with Düsseldorf citizens and library staff to gain new perspectives. In addition, it will help us bolster efforts to educate our Oklahoma County community about significant events in German history such as World War II and the Holocaust. Eventually we could also share some online resources including apps and databases.

Jynon Hibbard, a 16-year volunteer with the International English Library and member of the library's board of

trustees, spearheaded the partnership. Born and raised in Oklahoma City, Hibbard volunteered with the Friends of the Library Booksale for several years before relocating to Germany 25 years ago. Heather Zeoli, Metro Library's director of development and volunteer services, helped solidify the partnership.

"It's a real privilege for me to partner with the very library that helped nurture my love for books 55-plus years ago," Hibbard said. "And now here I am working with the Metro Library from 8,000 miles away. I feel like I've come full circle."

The International English Library in Düsseldorf was established in 1946 as a British Forces initiative to bridge the gap between nations at war. When budget cuts in the '90s almost closed the library, a group of private citizens and regular visitors came together to form a non-profit and make it a volunteer-run organization. The library has continued to run on volunteer support since 1999 and represents Germany, Japan, the United



States, the United Kingdom and many other countries.

Our partnership with the International English Library in Düsseldorf could be the first of many international library partnerships.



■ Düsseldorf is the capital city of North Rhine-Westphalia, located at the confluence of the Rhine and the Düsseldorf rivers.

■ The first written mention of Düsseldorf dates back to 1135.

■ Rheinturm, the tallest building in Düsseldorf, is home to the world's largest digital clock.

■ Düsseldorf is the fashion capitol of Germany.

■ **Altbier** is a beer unique to Düsseldorf for its crisp hoppy flavor created by hops adapted to colder temperatures and stored before brewing.

# Summer Reading Update

We're only one month away from the launch of the 2021 Summer Reading program, Tails & Tales. Prizes are being sorted at the service center to prepare for an exciting new season of reading.



# 3 Things to Know About:

## ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



In May, and every month, we celebrate Asians and Pacific Islanders living in the United States and pay tribute to the contributions made by generations of Asian and Pacific Americans to American history, society and culture.

**1. When was it first commemorated?**  
In 1977 Congress first proclaimed a week-long celebration of Asian and Pacific American heritage during the month of May. It was not until 1992 that congress passed public law designating May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

**2. Why May?**  
May was selected to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the U.S. in 1843 and to mark the anniversary of the transcontinental railroad, completed in 1869. Many of the workers who laid the railroad were Chinese immigrants.

**3. How can we celebrate and pay tribute to generations of Asian and Pacific Americans?**

There are many ways to celebrate the rich heritage and pay tribute to the contributions of Asian/Pacific Americans. Some ideas to commemorate this month include sharing books written by Asian/Pacific voices, sharing educational resources, including videos, activities and available exhibitions. The Library of Congress, together with other nationally recognized organizations, has put together a website with resources for anyone interested in learning more about Asian/Pacific heritage.

Visit <https://asianpacificheritage.gov/> for more resources.

## HELLO!

**Madison Connell**

*DN Library Aide PT*

**Christan Kjose**

*BI Library Aide PT*

**April Murk**

*DN Library Aide PT*

**Nava Yekita**

*BI Library Aide PT*

## GOODBYE

**Dochelle Whitley**

*8 yrs, RE Adult Engagement Specialist II*

**Kayla Morgan**

*9 mos, SO Library Aide*

**Patricia Gent**

*6 yrs, JN Access Specialist*

**Maria Kissner**

*3 mos, BE Library Aide*

**Deborah McPherson**

*12 yrs, BE Access Manager II*

**Darin Nelson**

*4 yrs, LU Access Specialist*

**Ngoc Nguyen**

*16 yrs, VI Engagement Manager*

## CONGRATULATIONS Promotions & Transfers

**Alannah Fenner**

*MC Library Aide PT to NW Access Specialist FT*

## COMING UP

**May 20**

Commission Meeting at Bethany Library from 3:30-5pm

**May 30-31**

All Libraries Closed for Memorial Day

.....



## DIY Development

### Handling Workplace Bullying

42(m) Bullying is a social phenomenon in which bystanders, leaders and organizational culture all play a role. It has emotional, psychological and financial costs to targets and the business. In this course, workplace bullying expert Catherine Mattice Zundel helps HR professionals, leaders, managers and supervisors put a stop to workplace bullying. She defines the key differences between workplace harassment and bullying, shares how to step in to stop bullying and explains how to coach those identified as bullies. To create a positive workplace that's free from bullying, Catherine suggests a healthy workplace corporate policy, ongoing training and the use of performance management. She also highlights the role leadership plays in being transparent about supporting a healthy workplace.