

# End of the year Newsletter 2017

## Mayagüez Children's Library, Inc.

The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the MCL



Adelissa Gonzalez read Peter and the Wolf and Board Member Linda Rodríguez, took her puppets and stories to programs for children held at the MUSA, the Art Museum at UPR-RUM.

### You'll find interesting

- 2017 Highlights
- New book collections at the MCL
- Thanksgiving lunch 2017

## Greetings from all of us at the MCL!

To all the Friends of the MCL who, with donations in cash and in kind, help to make the MCL a vibrant and growing community organization, sincerest thanks for your support which has made 2017, our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, a great success.

In this edition of the Newsletter, we give you highlights of the activities

and services that your donations help to support.



## 2017 Highlights

**Feb 26** – We celebrated Lucas's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday with "Peter and the Wolf" told by AmeriCorps member, Adelissa González, with instruments that represent the characters in the story demonstrated by students from the Ernesto Ramos Antonini Free Music School in Mayagüez. Members of the Delta Chapter of the educational sorority ADK, and students in the baking and pastry program at Catholic University in Mayagüez provided cupcakes for all.

**From January through May**, our four AmeriCorps members, tutored children in grades 3-6 in reading and math. In August, they gave the children special workshops also in reading and math. Our AmeriCorps program was under the auspices of PAEC, a community development program in Aguada, María Hernández, director.

**"Early in 2018 we will have a 'Review of the year 2017 in photos' in the Gallery and Blog of our website."**



The girl in this picture told her tutor that it was easier to learn to add with an abacus than to use her fingers.



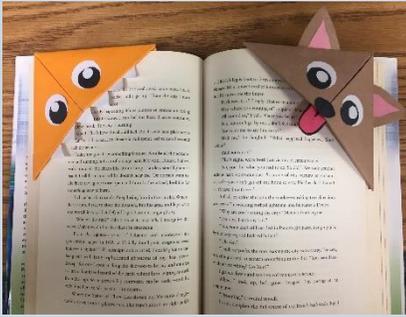
## 2017 Highlights

**March 14-18**, Board members Linda Rodríguez and Cindy Gines spent a week at the RUM Agricultural Fair, Cinco Dias con Nuestra Tierra, reading and telling stories to school visitors and selling books for the benefit of the library. Linda also put on her show at the Mayagüez Municipal Library and at MUSA, the UPR-RUM Museum of Art.

**In June and July** we held our major fund-raising activity of the year, *AventurArte* Summer camps. Camp activities included stories, handicrafts, theater activities provided by students from Teatro RUM, outdoor activities at the Parque de los Próceres, and field trips to a waterpark and other fun places, thanks to the generosity of the Municipality of Mayagüez, which provided the transportation.

**September 20**, Hurricane María brought suffering and incredible damage to all of Puerto Rico; thankfully for our library, she did no damage to our facilities or holdings. Since we are right in the middle of Mayagüez, we were among the first to have electricity, water and Wi-Fi back.

**In October and early November**, our employees and volunteers helped people file their online applications for FEMA aid. November 22 we held our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon to thank volunteers and employees whose loyalty and work beyond the call of duty make the library a reality. At this activity, we introduced the new Administrator/Director of Daily Operations, Aida Elena Mejía, and thanked Josseant Flores Cruz for five years of extraordinary service as Administrator/Director of the MCL.



Bookmarks made in handicraft class and a young actor getting his hair styled for his role in the play the older campers wrote to give at the end of camp.



## New collections of books at the MCL



2017 brought three new collections of books primarily for children and young people. Titles and authors of books in these collections will be found in the blog on the website early in the New Year.

- RUM student Iris Soto, donated 24 books, each by an author from a different Caribbean country. She has named her collection *Mapping the Caribbean with Children's Literature*.
- As her project to earn the Girl Scout Silver Medal, Laura M. Álvarez Malpica created and donated a collection of books entitled *Tell me How Far You Want to Go* to motivate girls to see themselves as powerful people.
- At the suggestion of Emily Aguiló, a former English Department student at the UPR-RUM, Joan Baker wrote a short proposal for consideration to receive a selection of books entered in the American Library Association Coretta Scott King Book Award competition for African American writers and illustrators. The proposal was one of three selected, and we received 48 books entered in the competition.



People waiting to have MCL employees and volunteers help them file their online applications for FEMA aid. (above)



Board President, Joan Baker; Party Coordinator, Yahirra Ramirez, retiring MCL Administrator/Director, Josseant Flores Cruz and new Administrator/Director, Aida Mejía





## 2017 Highlights

**December 9** Employees, volunteers and Board members worked together to have a post-hurricane Christmas party for children. Activities included decorating Christmas cookies, listening to the Christmas story *Villancico Yaucano* read by Board Member Gloria Fidalgo with the help of Linda Rodríguez and her collection of puppets. After the interactive reading, the villancico was sung by RUM student Gloria Patrón. They also heard the famous American poem *A Visit from St. Nicolas*, visited an exhibit of Christmas books which members could check out of the library, and received a small gift of a book and candies.



Board President, Joan Baker; reading to the kids who attended our Christmas party.

## Wishing you and your families a Very Happy New Year!

Again, we thank you for your 2017 donation; your continued Amigos donation will make 2018 an even better year for kids and reading. Remember to visit our website [www.bibliotecajuvenil.org](http://www.bibliotecajuvenil.org) in January to see more pictures and have more details about our 2017 events.

Letters with evidence of your donation for tax purposes will be sent in January.



## How you can help...

There are several ways you can donate money to our institution:

- Deliver your donation to the library in cash or send a check or money order to the address on the right.
- Donate online through PayPal <https://bibliotecajuvenil.org/mayaguez/get-involved/>
- Donate using ATH Móvil pATH/bibliotecajuvenil (available after February 1<sup>st</sup> 2018)



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