March 2020 College Highlights

School of Arts and Humanities

• **Bryan Robertson**, 2D Visual Art Professor, hosted the Acorn Montessori School at the Prescott Campus for a painting workshop on January 31st. Students and teachers enjoyed their time creating together!





School of Social Sciences

- Tara O'Neill, Education Faculty at YC and long-time Yavapai County Spelling Bee Judge, was the pronouncer for the Bee this year in Camp Verde on Friday, February 21st at the Philip England Center for the Performing Arts. Approximately 34 K-8 students from across Yavapai County competed. The winner will be one of approximately 27 students across Arizona to go to the Arizona State spelling bee, which will be held at Arizona PBS on March 21st. The winner of the State bee will represent Arizona in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. The Yavapai County Spelling Bee is the oldest in Arizona.
- Laraine Herring, Psychology/Creative Writing Professor, sold her speculative memoir, A Constellation of Ghosts: A Speculative Memoir with Ravens to Regal House Press for a fall 2021 release. Professor Herring read from this manuscript at the Literary Southwest special summer event in 2019. An excerpt from the book will appear in the New York Times later this year.

Professor Herring's flash-non-fiction piece, "I Let You" appeared this month in the Literary Kitchen Collective's anthology, *Places Like Home*.

- Michael Davis, Director, Paralegal and Administration of Justice, spoke at the first CSI: Arizona Conference, sponsored by Arizona Attorneys for Criminal Justice, on February 28th in Phoenix, AZ. His topic was the "Forensics of Mens Rea." He is also teaching a Community Education class called, "Quantum Physics for Dummies," and has 34 students enrolled.
- The Yavapai College Early Childhood program hosted a community wide Kindergarten Fair on the Prescott Campus on Saturday, February 1st. Eight area public, private and charter schools (along with 2 elementary principals from Prescott Unified School District) joined several other community agencies that provide support for families and young children. Also included was the new Dolly Parton Imagination Library program that has been recently funded by area Rotary Clubs and managed by the Prescott Public Library.

Over 100 families attended to learn more about the school choices for their young children, participated in parent/child school readiness activities and attended a Q & A panel with area kindergarten teachers. Other highlights of the day were the opportunity to sit in a school bus, meet a school bus driver, and learn about YRMC's Partners for Healthy Students mobile clinic.

Yavapai College is proud to partner with Arizona Children's Association and many of our education and early childhood education students to make this day a success.



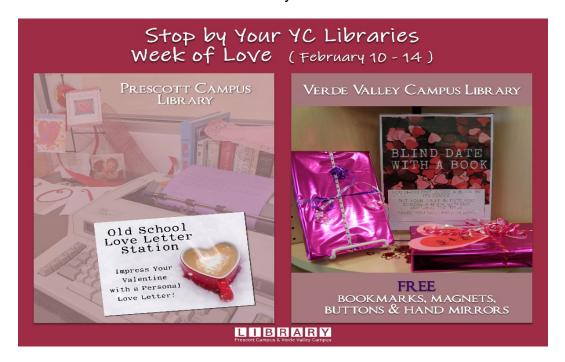
Office of Instructional Support

• The Verde Valley Library's new book return was recently installed. It is located on the north side of the campus, close to the I-Building.

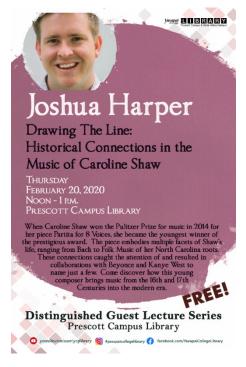


 Verde Valley Library staff participated in the creation of a float for Cottonwood's Christmas Parade. Special shout out to Sarah Brock, who made muffins, candies, gingerbread men to decorate the parade. Thank you all who worked on this project.

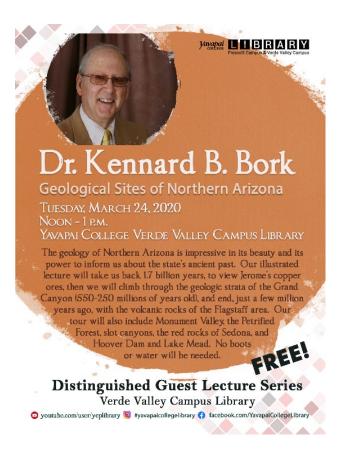
- The library hosted a lively book discussion on Elizabeth Gaskell's North and South in December!
- January's book discussion of Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeymoon
 was a winner. With great and heartfelt discussion, fine fellowship and food, what more
 could a person ask for?
- The library and learning center worked together to help students with library and learning center resources in a scavenger hunt at the beginning of the spring semester.
- Both libraries celebrated Valentine's Day with these Week of Love activities.



• The Prescott Library presented Joshua Harper's "Drawing the Line: Historical Connections in the Music of Caroline Shaw" as part the Distinguished Guest Lecture Series on Thursday, February 20th.



 The Verde Library will host Dr. Kennard B. Bork as part of the Distinguished Guest Lecture Series on Tuesday, March 24th. Join us at noon for his presentation, "Geological Sites of Northern Arizona."



Quality Matters

 Since integrating Quality Matters into Yavapai College, success rates for students taking online classes have increased from 66% (AY15) to 72% (AY19). Professor Lindsay Henning currently coordinates the program under the direction of Dean Stacey Hilton.

