



Lifelong Learning and Libraries

Cuyahoga County Public Library
 Fatima Perkins, MSLIS, MNO
 June 3, 2009
 Conference on Independent Living
 Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging




Defining Lifelong Learning

“Lifelong learning is the development of human potential through a continuously supportive process which stimulates and empowers individuals to acquire all the knowledge, values, skills, and understanding they will require throughout their lifetimes and to apply them with confidence, creativity and enjoyment in all roles, circumstances, and environments.”



In a nutshell! Keep on truckin’ baby...

Lifelong learning is all learning activity undertaken throughout life, whether formal or informal.



Lifelong Learning Theories/Context

Home schooling where this involves learning to learn or the development of informal learning patterns.

Adult education or the acquisition of formal qualifications or work and leisure skills later in life.

Continuing education which often describes extension or not-for-credit courses offered by higher education institutions.

Knowledge work which includes professional development and on-the-job training.

Personal learning environments or self-directed learning using a range of sources and tools including online applications

This definition includes several basic elements of the lifelong learning ideal:

- (1) a belief in the idea of lifetime human potential and the possibility of its realization;
- (2) efforts to facilitate achievement of the skills, knowledge, and aptitudes necessary for a successful life;
- (3) recognition that learning takes place in many modes and places, including formal educational institutions and non-formal experiences such as employment, military service, and civic participation and informal self-initiated activity; and
- (4) the need to provide integrated supportive systems adapted to individual differences that encourage and facilitate individuals to achieve mastery and self-direction. Society should make these systems available to learners with flexibility and diversity.

The Library's...

Cuyahoga County Public Library

Our mission is to be at the center of community life by providing an environment where reading, lifelong learning and civic engagement thrive.

Our six priorities...

- Reconnect with reading.
- Ensure every child enters school ready to learn.
- Put Cuyahoga County back to work.
- Keep seniors healthy, happy and independent.***
- Connect with new Americans
- Help youth reach their maximum potential.

Programs and Services

- Educational
- Informational
- Entertainment
- Recreational
- Vegetable...oops I didn't say that!!!!

Educational

- Book Discussions
- Story Hours
- GED classes
- ESL sessions
- Career and employment
- Entrepreneurship



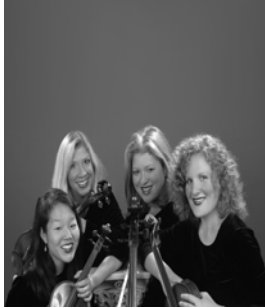
Informational



- Tax preparation
- Digital TV Transition
- Medicare
- Foreclosure
- Emergency preparedness
- Social Security

Entertainment

- Cavani String Quartet
- Cleveland Orchestra
- Jazz Bands
- Poetry
- African Drumming
- Cuban Martial Arts



Recreational...



- Book Clubs
- Yoga
- Low impact aerobics
- Zumba
- Swing Dancing
- Line Dancing
- Wii Competitions
- Gardening Clubs

Vegetable....

- Relax
- People watch
- Strike up a conversation
- Stare into space
- Read...that's a novel idea



Opportunities Abound

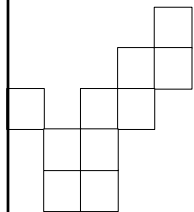
- Senior Centers
- Departments on Aging
- Area Agencies on Aging
- Hospitals
- Governmental Organizations
- Municipal entities
- Museums



Ways to Connect

- Contact branch manager or program staff
- Cross Board/Advisory participation
- Sign up for email blasts, newsletters etc...
- Volunteer with Friends groups
- Engage the library
- Invite local library to do an in-service or you do one for them
- Promote life-long learning





Thank you for attending ...Join us at Cuyahoga County Public Library branch where browsing is just the beginning and you can reconnect with reading!

Fatima Perkins, MSLIS,MNO
Adult Services Manager
Cuyahoga County Public Library
fperkins@cuyahogalibrary.org
(216) 749-9359
