Winning Designs Will Grace Two New Library Cards in 2017

Congratulations to Leila Gridley and Erin Tillett, winners of the TRL Card Art Contest!

Winning art in the kid category was created by Leila Gridley, age 10, Olympia.

Winning art in the teen category was created by Erin Tillett, age 16, Toledo.

Ten-year-old Leila Gridley is a patron of the Olympia Timberland Library; Toledo resident Erin Tillett, age 16, is a regular at the library in Winlock. Their designs will soon be seen on two new library cards.

Three-hundred and five kids (ages 5-11) and teens (ages 12-17) answered the call for designs.

"The creativity and skill in the entries were incredible," Youth Services Manager Kendra Jones said. "The judges had a very tough job."

Thanks to all the young artists from around the district who sent in artwork.

Who Doesn’t Love Starting the New Year with New Wheels?

Another TRL "Designer Original" Courier Van Hits the Road.

The newest TRL courier van continues the theme: your library card can take you anywhere.

First in the series hit the road in January 2016
Second van joined the fleet in October

Design for van #4, coming early 2017

Timberland Librarians Are Excited About Publishing Boom in Large Print Books Re-engaging Vision Challenged Readers.
Librarian Robin Bradford wants people to know about large print books: "Reading isn't supposed to be painful. Books aren't about struggling and squinting and getting headaches."

At its 1999 peak, the Baby Boomer generation numbered 78.8 million people in the U.S alone. For book publishers, all those aging eyes create a strong market for large print (LP) books. At TRL, Librarian Robin Bradford is excited.

"It used to be that publishers only printed a tiny number of LP books - a few Westerns, some Agatha Christie mysteries and gentle romances," Bradford said. "Now, LP is everywhere!"

"Reading isn't supposed to be painful," she asserted. "Books aren't about struggling and squinting and getting headaches."

I'm excited because having more LP books - on the market and in libraries - can help people rediscover their love of reading.

Showing the difference between regular type size and LP.

Publishers are offering more variety in LP. If you can't find what you're looking for, ask a librarian.

Want more LP books at your Timberland Library? Please help us by taking this short survey.

Take our survey

Managing Your Tax Dollars: Tough decisions and exciting new resources.

TRL faces tight finances in 2017. The forecast has resulted in some tough budget decisions. Most noticeable to patrons will be a $719,000 (16%) cut in materials - that means everything you can borrow, download or use online.

Topping the "non-renew" list is Hoopla - streaming video and audiobooks - and the music source, Freegal. These two services are not sustainable as the cost to TRL is over $250,000 in 2016.

The language learning program, Pronunciator, is available only through December 31, however popular language programs, Mango and Muzzy Club have been renewed. Universal Class joined TRL’s online learning/continuing education collection back on December 1, adding more than 500 different classes. It replaces Gale Courses, which was significantly more expensive and is ending the sign up for classes on December 30.

TRL will continue to monitor the use of our services combined with direct patron input to make informed decisions that provide the best possible value in library services. Thank you for your patience during this transition.

Library Closings in January & February

Mon., Jan. 2 - New Year’s Day (observed)
Mon., Jan. 16 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Mon., Feb. 20 - President’s Day