

Services to Young Adults - The "Cusp Millennials"

I've got a confession to make. I'm a "cusp millennial." If you were born from the late 1970s to the mid 1980s, you are one, too. This is a group that came of age in an era when computers began to dominate our work, interactions, and way of life, but can still remember a world without the internet. It's also a group that, as children, might have tagged along to the public library with parents or other family members. Now that we're all grown up and free to do what we want, are we still coming to the library? Here are some reasons why people of this age bracket should use the library and its services.

Digital media is changing the way young adults such as "cusp millennials" experience books. I recently read that Amazon.com's e-books are outselling its hardback books by 43 percent. (Paperbacks are still its major seller, however.) Your public library is keeping up with this trend. The library subscribes to Overdrive, an online service that provides free access to downloadable audiobooks and e-books. The e-books are a new addition within the last month. Both formats can be enjoyed on your computer or transferred to compatible devices. "Compatible" is the key word, so check our Overdrive website (<http://barth.lib.overdrive.com>) for a list of compatible devices. The BCPL does not want you to experience the bummer of purchasing a shiny new e-reader, only to find it incompatible. For example, Kindle does not currently work with e-books from our library's website, or any non-Amazon site for that matter.

Twentysomethings love facebook. And what takes up a significant amount of facebook photo space? Childhood pictures, of course! If you're a "cusp," your baby pics are not of the digital variety. Did you know the public library has a public scanner that can be used free of charge? This can be used for recreational purposes, like scanning photos, or for professional purposes, such as scanning a resume. Once done scanning, you can use our library's free wifi to use the online resources offered through our website, such as finding magazine, journal, or newspaper articles, requesting materials to be loaned to you from other libraries, or preparing for college, post-college, or career exams on the Testing and Education Center website. The library's website is <http://barth.lib.in.us>.

Perhaps you are an upwardly mobile young professional looking to have a meeting for your non-profit foundation. The library has free meeting rooms available for those groups who would like to use our facilities. We also have a computer lab available if your group requires it. See our website for details on who can apply and to begin the registration process.

Finally, if you're a cusp millennial with young children, be sure to explore our Children's Area, with its extensive collection of picture books, easy reading books, fiction, non-fiction, audiobooks, and movies, all housed in one convenient spot. Since we "cusps" also love retro, you can also relive your own past memories by finding your old favorite books like Goosebumps or DVDs of after-school shows like Ducktales and Darkwing Duck.

For all of these reasons and more, "cusps" will find the library a relevant and enjoyable place to be. Obviously, though, these services and materials are open to

everyone, so we encourage all residents, young and old, to visit the local public library today.

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