

PRESS RELEASE

Saturdays @ Frink Wins Innovative Outreach Program Award

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (April 14, 2023) – Williamsburg Regional Library's (WRL) recently expanded outreach program, Saturdays @ Frink, received the Innovative Outreach Program award from the Virginia Public Library Directors Association (VPLDA).

The Saturdays @ Frink program evolved in 2022 from a once-monthly, family focused STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) event into four weekly events centered on arts activities, hands-on fun with technology, digital navigation, and continued STEAM events. The recognition from VPLDA acknowledges the program's significant impact on the community, providing access to hands-on experiences and creative projects to families who find accessing the library challenging. Over the past two years, over 2,600 people have participated in WRL programs at the Abram Frink Jr. Community Center in the Grove area.



Guests learn how to make slime at a Saturdays @ Frink program. High-res image available upon request.

"We are honored that WRL's popular and engaging Saturdays @ Frink program has received this recognition," said Library Director Betsy Fowler. "Our team is committed to creating meaningful connections with our community, and Saturdays @ Frink is just one way we provide these opportunities. We are excited to grow and evolve our work in Grove in the coming years."

The program, held at the Abram Frink Jr. Community Center in the Grove area of James City County, is organized by the WRL outreach team who create a fun and educational environment for children to explore, experiment, and build critical thinking skills. Adults expanded their digital literacy skills by learning how to access digital information on topics like job seeking and healthcare using library resources.

Thanks to support from the Friends of Williamsburg Regional Library Foundation and other community partnerships, Saturdays @ Frink has become a successful program that creates opportunities for people to engage with the library and forge new connections without coming to a library building.

For more information about Saturdays @ Frink, visit wrl.org/wrl-comes-to-you/youth-and-neighborhood-outreach.

The Williamsburg Regional Library (WRL) is an award-winning regional library system that consists of the Williamsburg Library on Scotland St. in Williamsburg, the James City County Library on Croaker Rd. in James City County, the Stryker Center on N. Boundary St. in Williamsburg, and its Mobile Library Services vehicles. The WRL service area includes the City of Williamsburg, James City County, and York County.

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