

Media Contact:

Jenna Fillmore, Marketing Coordinator
Troy Public Library
O: 248.526.5117
Jenna.Fillmore@troymi.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Universal Access Equals Learning for All at Troy Public Library

TROY, MICHIGAN: Troy Public Library (TPL) is excited to announce the expansion of the Universal Access collection, located in the Youth Services department. Thanks to a grant provided by the Troy Community Foundation and a generous donation from Entech Staffing solutions, this unique collection is flourishing and providing support to more families than ever before.

The Universal Access collection is focused on providing non-traditional library materials to the Troy community that focus on areas such as motor skills, sensory support items, adaptive toys, speech/language, reading/writing, and math/numbers. While these items are available and can benefit all families, this collection was created with the hope of fulfilling a specific need. “Traditional library collections such as books and audiovisual materials are not always enough for families that might be navigating day-to-day issues surrounding a disability or different learning ability in a world that is not created with them in mind,” says Keegan Sulecki, Head of Youth Services.



Access to these materials at TPL allows families to discover resources that can have a real impact and give them a more equitable library experience. “Needs change over time, so having these resources in a collection shared by the community helps users find what works for them as their situations change and in a way that hopefully helps them save time and money,” says Amanda Carr, Youth Services Librarian.

The additional funds provided by Troy Community Foundation and Entech Staffing Solutions has already allowed TPL to add nearly 50 items to the Universal Access Collection this fiscal year with more to come. Some of the new additions include items

focused heavily on mindfulness and on phonics skills. “Since the social isolation of the pandemic, we have seen an increase in the number of parents looking for resources to help their children regulate emotion and build coping skills. Phonics skills are also incredibly important to our community as they help support our many multilingual families and those who may need extra support due to dyslexia,” says Sulecki.

More changes will also be coming to the Universal Access collection and TPL looks to reorganize the collection to help families better navigate these resources. “Collections that include objects other than books and audiovisual materials are great, but come with the challenge of helping families to find what can benefit them,” says Carr. “Going forward we will be grouping items in categories such as those focused on reading, math, motor skills, etc. together to help families better browse and discover these resources.” Items in the Universal Access collection checkout for 28 days and can be found [here](#).



**Troy Public Library is located at 510 W. Big Beaver Rd., just northeast of City Hall.
Visit troypl.org for more information or call 248.524.3538 for all inquiries.**

###