

Bookmarks

The bi-monthly newsletter of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library



STRENGTHENING LIBRARY SERVICES ON ROTA: JKPL LEADS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SYSTEM UPGRADES



From May 14th to May 16th, 2025, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL) team traveled to Rota to provide crucial professional development training and system upgrades for the Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library. This collaborative effort aimed to enhance library services, expand community outreach, and prepare for an exciting summer of reading and learning.

Team JKPL conducted a comprehensive site visit and inventory review of capital items, including technology equipment and library collections. A significant highlight was the successful upgrade of the Integrated Library System (ILS) Horizon from version 7.5.6 to 7.6.1, improving catalog access, circulation efficiency, and patron account management for the Rota community.

In addition to the technical improvements, JKPL delivered ongoing Bookmobile Operations training for staff and facilitated a Summer Reading Program workshop,

distributing reading materials, activity kits, and event supplies to support the 2025 program. This year's program is expected to engage 25+ children and families on Rota, promoting literacy and a love for books throughout the summer months.

Qualitative feedback from local library staff and municipal leaders was overwhelmingly positive. ACAMemorial Library Assistant Bergitt Maratita shared, "This training and upgrade came at the perfect time. It's refreshing to see how much can be accomplished when we come together for our community's learning and growth."

JKPL extends heartfelt appreciation to the Office of the Governor, Rota Mayor Aubry Hocog, Rota Municipal Council members, Commonwealth Library Council Vice President Ivan Mereb, and the dedicated team of the Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library for their partnership and ongoing commitment to literacy and public service.

This successful visit not only improved infrastructure and services but reaffirmed the vital role libraries play in connecting island communities, strengthening educational opportunities, and fostering a culture of lifelong learning across the CNMI.

JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY EXPANDS LGBTQ+ COLLECTION WITH PRIDE MARIANAS BOOK DONATION



On May 13th, 2025, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library received a donation of five (5) books from Pride Marianas Chairman Roberto Santos, contributing to the expansion of the library's LGBTQ+ collection. This thoughtful donation enhances the library's ability to provide inclusive, diverse, and representative reading materials for the community, fostering greater awareness, understanding, and support for LGBTQ+ voices and stories within the CNMI.

JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY RECOGNIZED AT CNMI PSS CO-OP PARTNER APPRECIATION EVENT



On May 15th, 2025, Team JKPL was honored at the CNMI Public School System's Co-Op Appreciation Event at the Kensington Hotel, recognizing the library's role as a proud Co-Op partner for high school students from Marianas High School and Da'Ok Academy. Through this partnership, students PJ Chipuelong, Keli Lumbana, Iyannah Cabrera, Ulai Duenas, and Javan Muna gained valuable hands-on experience in a professional library setting, supporting their career readiness, personal growth, and civic engagement.

JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY HOSTS AUTISM PEER SUPPORT GROUP DURING SENSORY NIGHT



On May 16th, 2025, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library successfully hosted the Unique Pieces Autism Peer Support Session during Sensory Night, providing a safe, welcoming, and supportive space for individuals with autism and their families. This session fostered meaningful peer connections, promoted awareness and inclusion, and offered participants an opportunity to share experiences, resources, and encouragement in a sensory-friendly environment.

JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY PARTNERS WITH BANK OF GUAM FOR COMMUNITY READ ALOUD



On May 17th, 2025, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Saturday Read Aloud and Craft Activity successfully engaged children and families in a fun, educational program, featuring special guests from the Bank of Guam. Their participation helped promote the love of reading and community involvement, while strengthening partnerships that support literacy initiatives for the CNMI community.

HOW CAN YOU HELP ASSIST WITH OUR PROGRAMS?

We welcome and encourage businesses to please consider donating Educational Tax Credit. Pursuant to NMI Public Law 15-120, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is able to receive cash contributions under Educational Tax Credit (ETC). Please make checks payable to: CNMI Treasury. For MUNIS payments, to the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library MUNIS Vendor ID#100404.

JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY CONDUCT PD AT REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS



On May 28th to May 31st, 2025, Team JKPL conducted a professional development in preparation for the 34th Annual Pacific Islands Association of Libraries, Archives, and Museums (PIALA) Conference in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands. The 34th PIALA Conference is co-sponsored by the Marshall Islands Library Association (MILA), RMI National Alele Museum, Library and Archive, Nitijela (Parliament) of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs, RMI Public School System (PSS), College of the Marshall Islands (CMI), and the University of South Pacific (USP). Team JKPL coordinated efforts to advance critical planning and organizational tasks; finalization of Conference dates; refinement of the conference theme; designation of site visits; budget status of PIALA Conference; travel arrangements; and logistical concerns (airline, transportation, catering and hotel). Save the Date: 34th Annual Pacific Island Association of Libraries, Archives, and Museums (PIALA) Conference "Promoting Access and Indigeneity in Pacific Island Archives, Libraries, and Museums," which will be held on the beautiful island of Majuro in the Republic of the Marshall Islands from at the International Convention Center (ICC) from November 24th to 27th, 2025.

Team JKPL successfully networked and met with MILA President/Clerk of Nitijela (National Parliament) Morean S. Watak, MILA Executive Board, Minister Jess Gaspar Jr. of the Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs, Acting Minister of Education, Minister of Justice, Majuro Chief, College of the Marshall Islands Library Director Lisa Jeraan, PIALA Secretary/MILA Vice President Marshall Islands High School Librarian Suciana Mark and University of the South Pacific Library Assistant Lynn Miano, to discuss the 34th Annual PIALA Conference. Team JKPL toured Rongrong Island and was hosted by Marshall Christian High School (MCHS)/RongRong Island High School Principal Mark Luke and team. MCHS is a key educational institution in the remote area, serving over 300 students from Rongrong and other outer islands. The school has a history intertwined with the work of American Board missionaries and the United Church of Christ (UCC) in both the Marshall Islands and Japan, and has recently sought assistance from Global Ministries to rebuild relationships and infrastructure. Local government officials have successfully graduated from MCHS.

CO-OP EXPERIENCE AT JKPL



On May 23rd, 2025, JKPL Library Assistant Co-Op students presented their JKPL Experience power point group presentation, highlighting their remarkable on the job training they experienced at your friendly JKPL. Congratulations Co-Op high school students from Marianas High School and Da'Ok Academy: PJ Chipuelong, Keli Lumbana, Iyannah Cabrera, Ulai Duenas, and Javan Muna!

CONTACT US FOR MORE DETAILS:

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LIBRARY TEMPORARY SUMMER HOURS OF OPERATION: EFFECTIVE JUNE 17, 2025

Tuesday to Thursday 9AM-5PM
Friday 1:30PM-7PM
Saturday 10AM-3PM
*Closed: Sundays,
Mondays, and Holidays*

