

# Bookmarks

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



## JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY SHINES AT THE 2025 PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION & AWARD CEREMONY



On May 9th, 2025, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL) proudly participated in the Public Service Recognition & Award Ceremony held at the Kagman Community Center. This meaningful event, hosted to honor the hard work and dedication of public servants across the Commonwealth, recognized the outstanding contributions of agencies including the Department of Corrections (DOC), CNMI Zoning Board, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Civil Service Commission, and the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

A highlight of the evening was the moment Team JKPL honored two of its own exceptional team members for their unwavering commitment to literacy, community service, and library excellence. Leoralynn S. Terlaje, Library Assistant III/Bookmobile Outreach Supervisor was named 2025

Employee of the Year for her outstanding leadership in expanding outreach services and making literacy resources accessible to remote communities. Additionally, Technical Services Librarian Beth B. Demapan received the prestigious 2025 Leadership Award for her exemplary work in improving access to library services and her tireless dedication to enhancing library collections, services, and programs..

This celebration of public service not only honored individual achievements but also strengthened the sense of community among government agencies. One meaningful outcome of the event was the renewed collaboration between public agencies, with plans for joint outreach activities and literacy initiatives discussed informally during the evening's reception – a testament to the power of recognition and shared purpose in building a stronger, more connected CNMI.

Team JKPL extends its heartfelt congratulations to all honorees and expresses deep gratitude for the ongoing support from community partners and patrons who make their work so meaningful.

## JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY HOSTS 5TH ANNUAL READ ALOUD WITH THE JUDGES FOR LAW WEEK 2025



In celebration of Law Week 2025, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL) proudly hosted its 5th Annual Read Aloud with the Judges program on May 3rd and May 10th, 2025. This inspiring event featured special guest readers — Honorable Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy and Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona from the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands — who shared engaging, thought-provoking stories with local children and families.

The program aimed to promote literacy, civic awareness, and positive community role models for young readers. Both judges captivated the audience with their read-aloud selections and meaningful conversations about the importance of reading, education, and understanding the role of the courts in the community.

The Read Aloud with the Judges event successfully fostered a love for reading while providing children the unique opportunity to interact with members of the judiciary in a welcoming, educational setting. The event strengthened community trust and highlighted the library as a vital space for civic learning and engagement.

Across the two sessions, a total of 50+ families participated in the program. Post-event feedback showed that 98% of attendees felt the event made reading more enjoyable and accessible, and 90% of parents expressed interest in attending future read-aloud programs at JKPL.



Library Director Erlinda C. Naputi presents a "Thank You" card from Team JKPL and students to Honorable Chief Judge Ramona Villagomez Manglona in appreciation of the Read Aloud with the Judges event during Law Week.



## JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY HOSTS SUCCESSFUL TWO-DAY CELEBRATION FOR THE U.S. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY



The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL) proudly joined libraries nationwide in honoring the 75th Anniversary of the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) with an inspiring two-day celebration of science, learning, and community engagement from May 9th to May 10th, 2025. The event united educators, families, students, and public officials in a shared mission to spark curiosity and empower the next generation through science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education.

The celebration launched on May 9th with a specialized STEM training session for 16 library staff and educators, led by Dr. Anne Holland, Director of the Education and Learning Research Group at the Space Science Institute. In collaboration with STAR Net, Dr. Holland equipped participants with tools, strategies, and free STEM resources designed for inclusive, hands-on community programs. A meaningful outcome of the training was the donation of three brand-new computers pre-loaded with STEM applications, now available at the library for public use – an investment that will benefit an estimated 2,500 patrons annually. [Continued on Page 4].



**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**  
**STEM DAY**

Happy 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary U.S. National Science Foundation!  
 Celebrate with us @ the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library  
**MAY 10, 2025 FROM 10:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.**

**JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED DAY!**  
**SPARK YOUR CURIOSITY WITH HANDS ON ACTIVITIES.**  
**LET YOUR CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION RUN WILD WITH:**

- **STORY TIME @ 10:30 A.M.**
- **SUN GAZING @ 11:00 A.M.**
- **INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES FROM 11:30 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.**
- **THE LEGO MOVIE 2 @ 2:00 P.M.**

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!**

NSF (through STAR Net, grant number DRL-1906172) provides support for science and education programs throughout the United States, including the Pacific Islands

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (670)235-7322/15**



On May 10th, the library transformed into a lively STEM Day Extravaganza, drawing over 180 children, parents, and community members for a full afternoon of interactive science experiences. Highlights included a solar science demonstration, where many attendees used a sun spotter, solar binoculars, and a solar telescope for the very first time. The event also featured read-aloud sessions by Honorable Chief Judge Ramona Manglona and Dr. Anne Holland, a robotics showcase by Arnel A. Gruspe of STEMify CNMI, and a thrilling live Ship-to-Shore Interaction with the E/V Nautilus exploration crew – offering participants a real-time conversation with oceanographers studying the Mariana Arc. Qualitative feedback from families and students described the event as “eye-opening,” “inspiring,” and “the best science day ever.”

## JKPL HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED:

1. On May 5th, 2025, Team JKPL was honored to attend the Correctional Officers & Employees Week Proclamation Signing at the Department of Corrections.
2. On May 6th, 2025, Team JKPL was honored to attend the Public Safety Awareness Month Proclamation Signing at the American Memorial Park Theater. We stand in solidarity with our amazing law enforcement/public safety officers and recognize their vital role in keeping our community safe. Biba, Marianas!
3. On May 8th, 2025, Team JKPL conducted outreach to DreamPlay, with a beautiful Read Aloud and Crafts Activity to more than 15 children.



4. On May 9th, 2025, Team JKPL hosted the “1st STEM Professional Development Workshop” at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library facilitated by Dr. Anne Holland of STARnet in collaboration with the National Center for Interactive Learning, Space Science Institute, American Library Association, Institute for Learning Innovation, SciGirls, and Education Development Center.

### 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.

### CONTACT US FOR MORE DETAILS:

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### LIBRARY HOURS OF OPERATION:

Tuesday to Thursday 10AM-6PM  
 Friday 1:30PM-7PM  
 Saturday 9:30AM-4PM  
 Closed: Sundays, Mondays, and Holidays

