

Homemade Holiday

[Hopkins District and Dorr Township libraries](#)

Young Adult

|

Adults

Homemade Holiday

Jun 30, 2016

\$1-50

\$

Byline

Natalie Bazan, Director, Hopkins (Mich.) District and Dorr (Mich.) Township libraries

Homemade Holiday is a wildly successful program series that the Hopkins District and Dorr Township libraries have hosted for several years now. It's an opportunity for patrons to get out and relax with friends while making their own gifts and decorations for the holidays. We've done projects such as linen gift bags, etched snowflake mirrors and glass-fused ornaments (**view the finished products in the Photo Slideshow at right**).

Because of its popularity, we've stretched the series from mid-October through the end of December, and now we host them twice a week rather than once. This year, we're considering adding a pre-holiday-pampering-palooza for adult and teen

women as a programming fundraiser.

Advanced Planning

Sometimes we have to purchase materials one year in advance. When you're writing down your list of craft materials, don't forget to add table covers. (Glitter is not my friend when I'm doing clean-up!)

Library staff members teach the majority of these programs to keep costs to a minimum. It's also important that they make the craft before they teach it. To help the participants, we print out a variety of pictures to give them an idea of what the finished products should look like.

Marketing

To publicize the event, we cross-advertised between the two libraries. We utilized our websites and [newsletters](#), as well as [local media calendars](#). We also hung up posters around town.

Budgeting

Our budget varies with each program, but we spend about \$40 per program for 10 to 20 people.

Day-of-event Activity

The materials should be easily accessible to participants. With crafts like these, it's critical to cover the tables. Depending on the activity, you may want to also cover the floor.

Program Execution

Before the program, we have the participants sign release forms. After searching for several of our projects on Etsy or at local craft stores, we let participants know how much the crafts would cost if they had bought them, which is a great “value of libraries” advertisement.

Advice

Be sure to have a sign-up sheet! This has become a major issue every year. We've had people just show up for the program, and we simply don't have the space or materials to accommodate them.

Supporting Materials

[Download this Program as a PDF](#)

- Feedback (Coming Soon!)
- [Programming Librarian Facebook Group](#)

Slideshow Images



Image



Image



More Programs

Dec 3, 2012

Adults (21 and up)+ |

[Image](#)



[Crafting an Adult Hand Skills Program](#)

Audiences:

Audience

Adults (21 and up)

Dec 7, 2015

Young Adult (17 - 20)+ | \$

[Image](#)



Holidaze Crafts for Teens

Audiences:

Audience

Young Adult (17 - 20)

Mar 10, 2016

Children (9 and under)+ | \$

[Image](#)



Quick Craft Cart

Audiences:

Children (9 and under)

Young Adult (17 - 20)

Adults (21 and up)

Intergenerational

Jun 21, 2016

Young Adult (17 - 20)+ | \$

[Image](#)



Chillin': Crafting it up with Cappuccinos

Audiences:

Young Adult (17 - 20)

Adults (21 and up)