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The interests, lifestyles, and needs of library patrons are constantly changing due to new technologies and changing societal norms. A Year of Programs for Millennials and More is a timely addition to the literature on serving the needs of millennial adult library patrons. The authors are librarians at the Schaumberg Township District Library in Illinois who have both young adult and adult services experience. They use their expertise in this area to focus on programs to serve patrons in their late teens to early forties.

The layout of the book is conducive to implementing each activity into the reader’s own library. The authors begin by focusing on each age group to give the reader context for the subsequent activities. The “How to Use This Book” section is also very helpful. The authors separate each event into sections such as “Preparation Time,” “Suggested Age Range,” and “Make It Happen.” These sections provide a coherent pattern for the book. The activities are thoughtfully organized by the month with which they are associated, with an additional chapter on clubs near the end.

The programs described in the text range from off-site physical activities to presentations on social issues. Some activities focus on specific populations within the millennial age group, such as the “Adoption and Foster Fair” and “Virtual College Tours.” Other programs could be adopted for any age group: the “Fit Fair” in January’s section, for example, could inspire any age group to stay healthy through the cold winter season. In addition, LGBT Pride Month is an inclusive program idea that could involve several activities for many age groups. Some “traditional” library activities are mentioned as well, and for these the authors include fun variations and fresh ideas. “Poetry Reading Night” and “Great Reads and Treats for Book Clubs” are just two such programs. The “Clubs That Keep Them Coming Back” chapter provides the same practical setup for continuing activities that have the potential to become regular groups, such as the 5K running/walking club and Parent Nights.

While this book is clearly geared toward public libraries, any college or university librarian serving a similar population could modify many of these activities for their own outreach and programming. Academic librarians will find the “Variations” section of each activity plan especially helpful. Any programs involving guest speakers could be adapted to draw from faculty already on campus, and social issues that are often researched for coursework can be highlighted in an accessible way by presenting a library program. The most helpful sections for each activity were the “Setup” and “Power Promotion” sections. The “Setup” section assists with time management, and the “Power Promotion” section specifies the best way to advertise for each event inside and outside of the library. A useful addition to this section would be a focus on promoting the library collection itself, as the collection is only highlighted when it directly relates to event advertising.
This book is highly recommended for library staff in outreach and programming positions and is an inspiring book for any librarian who is passionate about reaching out to their community and bringing millennials into the library.