

I appreciated the opportunity to attend Branch Out conference at St. Olaf college in Northfield, Minnesota. There was quite a bit that I brought back and can use at our library.

Some of the workshops I attended were:

Gentle Yoga It was a great way to start the conference, relaxing after the long trip and focusing on learning. She gave great tips for reducing stress at work.

Supported library employee Stressed helping our coworkers, taking care of ourselves physically and emotionally, and planning fun things at work for our patrons and staff.

There were 2 great authors that spoke at lunch, Dan Jorgensen and Tom Swift.

Overdrive This was the workshop I most wanted to attend because of all the questions on eBooks we are having at work. I learned a lot, but the PowerPoint wasn't working so we didn't get the benefit of the entire class the instructor had planned.

Google books and Hathi Trust I didn't know exactly what this one was all about when I signed up for it, but it was interesting to find out what it was.

The day ended with beautiful harp music and dessert at the Northfield public library where I was able to talk with their librarians and see their beautiful library. They had a great book drop also!

On Wednesday, I attended these classes:

Nonfiction readers advisory Included some great handouts.!

Lunch included a great speaker, Jim Rossow on Storytelling: nurturing the human spirit in children.

Public relations @ your library with more ideas than \$\$\$ Wonderful ideas from the librarians at St. Olaf to promote their library to students. I can see using some of these ideas for winter and summer reading programs.

Manage stress the easy way Great way to end the conference!

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