

APL Volumes

Season 2, Episode 5: CRAFT LIFE

This episode was transcribed by APL volunteer Martha Ladyman.

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT

LETICIA: Hello everyone, welcome to Season Two of APL Volumes, Austin Public Library's podcast about all the cool things at the library and the staff who are passionate about them. I'm Leticia Leal, your host for this season and a Youth Program Specialist at APL Central Library.

The theme of this season is Everything but the Books, where we explore parts of APL's collection and programming that you might not expect to find at a library. This episode is All About Crafts, and I'm talking to Jennifer Connor, one of our Programming Librarians, and Claudia Dovalina, an Administrative Associate at our Manchaca Road branch. Let's get started.

MUSIC

LETICIA: Hello. Welcome to this episode of APL Volumes. I am meeting today with Claudia Dovalina and Jennifer Connor and we are going to be discussing crafts, and all the various and fun programs that we have at the public library, and all the fun things that we can make.

So, we'll get started. Let's talk about something easy. What got you interested in craft? Jenn-i-fer? Wait, that's your name? Correct? Jennifer?

LAUGHING

JENNIFER: I've been crafting probably my entire life. My grandma is probably who I would say really got me into it. We went into the Valley, the Texas Valley, to go to her house. Mission, Texas. And she was one of those costume makers for the Texas Citrus Fiesta. And my cousins and I were all in the Fiesta. And I won, well, her costume won awards. All of her outfits won awards. But that was, you know, when I was seven and eight. And I've just been the same ever since.

LETICIA: This is so exciting! A room full of south Texans! A different breed. My grandmother, also, she made clothing. I'm from Corpus, and she made costumes for the Buccaneer Parade, for all of the queens and the debutantes, or whatever they were called. That's an interesting coincidence.

JENNIFER: I love that.

LETICIA: How about you, Claudia?

CLAUDIA: My grandmother also made clothes. She was from Yahualica. I'm from a border town. I'm from Eagle Pass. So she made all of my aunt and uncle's clothing. By the time I came around, I'm the baby of the baby, there are seven. My mom is seventh. She taught me how to hand sew. So I had a Little Orphan Annie doll and one day we were just hanging out and she had some fabric and a needle and thread, and she taught me how to make a little skirt and a little top. I still have this Little Orphan Annie doll tucked away somewhere, still wearing that skirt and top.

So that's where my love of hand sewing comes from. And when I got older, and shout out to Jessica Hyink in the Teen Department, she gifted me a little squirrel, a little felted squirrel that was beautifully embroidered. And I wanted to make that or something like that for my niece. So she taught me how to do that. And that's where I started crafting again. Because I hadn't done it for ...

JENNIFER: How long ago was that?

CLAUDIA: Over, like, fifteen years ago? I've known Jessica almost eighteen years now. She's my oldest friend here in Austin. Yeah, I'm glad I shared that with her.

JENNIFER: I love crafty friends.

LETICIA: Grandma crafts are the best crafts.

CLAUDIA: Yes they are!

LETICIA: And that kind of leads into the next question. What's your favorite and/or earliest memory of crafting. You've talked a little bit about the hand sewing. That is a very valuable, that's not just a craft, that's a lifeskill.

CLAUDIA: It is, and that's my favorite memory of my grandmother, just sharing that time with her.

JENNIFER: Yeah, yeah, totally. Every summer my parents would send me and my sister down for two weeks. And we'd go to the five-and-dime, pick out a pattern and pick out the fabric, and we'd make a sundress or we would make pajamas or something every single summer. She would do decoupage. She would learn a whole craft to teach her grandkids when they came for the summer. We're out on the back patio, and she's in her nightgown. And she's got scissors and glue and all the fun supplies. It was just messy and fun. And that's how, I think it's very important how to learn how to craft.

LETICIA: Yeah, that's a fantastic memory. And you were bringing family traditions here to the library, to share and to teach other people. That's really valuable. And also, crafts are amazing because you can teach people different cultures. There are so many. There's the big cultural aspect and I feel that crafting is really inclusive and helps people get out of their shell sometimes. So that's really cool.

So you have some early memories of crafting? How do you think that your relationship with crafting has changed over time and developed as you became an adult and an Austin Public Library employee?

CLAUDIA: I craft more as an adult. And definitely I'm inspired by having run this program for as long as I did.

LETICIA: Which program is this?

CLAUDIA: Oh, that's right. I ran Nightcrafters at my home branch, which is the Manchaca branch. But I did come and help Jennifer with her Nightcrafters here at Central, which is much more popular than my tiny little branch. But that's OK. Everybody wants to come to Central. It's a really cool building to come visit.

LETICIA: But the branches have lots to offer too.

JENNIFER: One million percent.

CLAUDIA: They do, They do. But yeah, I've definitely been inspired more as an adult now.

LETICIA: What is Nightcrafters?

JENNIFER : Now we call it The Crafty Adult. We changed it because a lot of the branches don't do those adult crafts at night. So we tried to find this name that would cover all of the adult crafting. We call it The Crafty Adult. It's kind of a weird way to say, "Are you coming to The Crafty Adult?"

LETICIA: Are you a crafty adult? Could you call yourself a crafty adult?

JENNIFER: Yeah, it's kind of a weird thing. But we're making it work. And I kind of love it. It's growing on me. Yeah, just like Claudia, I did Nightcrafters for a hundred years. Yeah, about. I did them at Old Faulk Central Library. I helped Monica Jones at Ruiz. And then I was able to do it at Faulk and then I brought it here to New Central.

CLAUDIA: I have helped you at each of those branches.

JENNIFER: Oh, yeah. Totally. And the Craft Crawl. The Holiday Craft Crawl every ...

CLAUDIA: Three Craft Crawls, I did.

LETICIA: I was just saying the Craft Crawl sounds like a fun activity. I've heard of Pub Crawl. So what is a Craft Crawl?

JENNIFER: So picture this. I feel like Sophia in *Golden Girls*. "Picture this." It is adults only. Just like Nightcrafters or The Crafty Adult. And it's crafts, music, food, movies – we show like holiday movies on the big screen TVs. It's coming back this December in person. We did virtual the last two years. Before that we were here at Central and we were at Carver so we started this baby at Carver.

And it's just like people, 500 people, we had more than 500 people right before the pandemic, in this building, after hours, so we were closed. And it was just crafters.

LETICIA: Wow, that's like a big community of crafters came out for that!

JENNIFER: And not even crafters. It was people who had never done crafting before, but were, "This is a date night kind of thing. Let's go do this fun thing at the library." You know. It was just lots of fun.

LETICIA: What is an example of one of the projects you made during the Craft Crawl?

JENNIFER: Quilling comes to mind. Quilling is very, very popular. Molly Hults at the History Center leads that craft.

LETICIA: What is quilling? I don't know what that is. Does it involve porcupines?

JENNIFER: Quilling is, you've probably have seen the really expensive gift greeting cards. So it's just like a flat surface, usually paper, and you roll thin strips of paper. And you can make them into shapes or they can be like a spiral and you glue them on to the paper.

LETICIA: Yes, I have seen that. Beautiful bouquets made out of quilling. Yes. Those are beautiful.

JENNIFER: We've got lots of great books on quilling at the library.

CLAUDIA: We do now!

JENNIFER: Yes.

LETICIA: Are there any other paper crafts that y'all really like?

JENNIFER: What are the crafts that you led?

CLAUDIA: I had some very odd little crafts that I did.

JENNIFER: Beard oil. You did beard oil.

CLAUDIA: I did beard oil the first year.

LETICIA: That is not a paper craft.

JENNIFER: No, we wanted to have all kinds of crafts.

CLAUDIA: It's all kinds of crafts, and I was like, well, it's an easy craft, it's an easy craft to put together and it includes beard-y men.

JENNIFER: Or bearded ladies!

LETICIA: And it's a wonderful gift. Oh, yes, we do not discriminate. We are inclusive for the beard oil for everybody.

CLAUDIA: And then I remember the second craft involved a hot glue gun, but I can't remember the craft.

LETICIA: I try to stay away from hot glue guns because I injure myself every time.

JENNIFER: You want to keep your fingerprints.

LETICIA: Yes.

CLAUDIA: They're hot. A lot of people don't realize that.

LETICIA: They are hot.

CLAUDIA: And they stay hot.

JENNIFER: You did the fake beards.

CLAUDIA: And then we did the felt beards.

LETICIA: Oh, that was fun!

CLAUDIA: We did the felt beards when we were in the corner of the sixth floor.

JENNIFER: Yeah, I remember that.

LETICIA: I do not recommend putting the beard oil on the fake beards.

CLAUDIA: No, I do not recommend it.

JENNIFER: No, I wouldn't do that.

CLAUDIA: And then the last craft that I remember doing were the tangram printed tote bags.

LETICIA: Yes, I have a little craft that you made, that you gave to me, a tiny little scene in a bottle. And it has sand and a little picture of the beach. And I have it on my windowsill. And it's just so cute. I might bring it here so I can look at it in my cubicle and pretend I'm at the beach.

CLAUDIA: Yes, that is the point of that one.

LETICIA: Yes! So crafting is a good way to kind of like escape in ways. Do you have any themes for crafts that you've enjoyed?

JENNIFER: Well, the reason why people are always like, "Why are you doing this? Why aren't you doing it with the kids?" And I'm like, "Kids get all the fun. Why do kids get to do this stuff?" When you are an adult, the only time you get to craft, unless you are a hard-core crafter, is if you have kids and you are doing them with your kid. So why can't adults have some fun?

And it is a complete, like when people come to Nightcrafters or The Crafty Adult, they completely leave their job at work, their family woes at home, and they just come and chill and make something. They don't have to be good at it. They don't have to be perfect. But they walk away with a new-found knowledge and something that makes them feel just a little bit better. That's why we do it.

LETICIA: That sounds exactly like what the library is for. Where people can discover and create and learn new things. This is a sentence that I typed up, literally only one sentence and it's kind of a dorky sentence. It says: Crafting is a great way to meet new people.

CLAUDIA: And I was about to say that. You've mentioned that about people coming out of their shells. Every craft night I have run, every craft night I have attended, that I have assisted, has had at least one person who is new to

town, doesn't know anyone, they are not into the bar scene. They don't like to stand for long periods of time listening to a band. They want a way that's free in their community to meet people, to get out of the house sometimes.

I had one gentleman who took care of his ailing father. And the only time he really came out was to do craft night with me once a month on Wednesday nights. And it was so sweet. And he tried. He was like, "I'm real bad at this." And I was like, "It's OK." And I would watch him. And he would have conversations. You have to share at Nightcrafters. You have no choice. We don't have enough supplies for everybody. And I would always say, "Y'all get to know each other because you are going to have to share your scissors and all your good stuff."

I've had so many patrons who have come. Patrons from other countries. I remember the Spaniard woman who would come to Nightcrafters. I don't want to say any names, but there was one patron, she would come to my Nightcrafters and Jennifer's Nightcrafters. Because she was new to town and this was how she socialized. And she made friends.

JENNIFER: And that's another thing, the older adults, come and hang out with the twenty-something year olds. And just watching these people come sit next to each other and then have a conversation on top of crafting is just like, it makes your heart all warm and fuzzy.

LETICIA: Intergenerational crafting!

JENNIFER: Totally! It is why I do what I do. And want to continue doing.

LETICIA: And it's actually really important for some of our elderly patrons to get that interaction with people because unfortunately, kind of a bummer, they are some of the most ignored people in society. For them to be able to get out and talk to different people and keep their mind active – that's awesome that you are able to offer that to them.

CLAUDIA: And it's not just our Nightcrafter programs. The branches, my branch in particular for a while, ran a knitting club on Monday nights. And that was very much a large part of our older adult community. We didn't get a lot of folks. But they would show up.

LETICIA: The dedicated ones come.

CLAUDIA: They would show up. I loved it. I was like, "Look at this! We've got some knitters in the community!" I had no idea.

LETICIA: Some hookers?

CLAUDIA: Yeah. We also had the quilting club, too. They would come and make their little squares. I don't know. I don't quilt.

LETICIA: I wish I did. It's so beautiful.

CLAUDIA: I try to just be good at hand sewing, and I am still learning how to do embroidery. I didn't want to be a jack-of-mediocre-trades. I refuse to learn to knit, to crochet.

JENNIFER: I don't know how to crochet. I don't know how to knit. I know how to quilt. I know how to embroider. I know how to cross-stitch. In fact, going back to being young, my dad taught me how to cross-stitch. You should see my dad's cross-stitch. His backs are almost as beautiful as his fronts. And he still to this day, he's almost eighty years old, and he's still crafting and making and cross-stitching.

That's where it comes from. I was born into it.

LETICIA: I think your father would be appalled if he looked at the back of some of my cross-stitching.

JENNIFER: Mine too!

LETICIA: Over the pandemic I think many people kind of got into different crafts. I decided to try to get back into cross-stitching. And I bought all these vintage patterns off of eBay. One of Cathy from the comics, AACK! And I was planning to give them away to people, and I did one.

JENNIFER: Well, one's better than zero.

LETICIA: Yes. But they are very sloppy. Just a mess. Going from cross one to the other. No, your father would be appalled. I know.

JENNIFER: It's like, "Which side's the front, Dad?" It's gorgeous.

LETICIA: I think he would like that at least I'm trying. And that's so cool that he is keeping it up.

JENNIFER: It keeps his brain going. And I think that's an important thing for older adults. Keeps them nimble.

LETICIA: So I know there is a night, Crafty Adults, I was about to call it Nightcrafters again. Sorry. I know there is a Crafty Adults coming up sometime soon? What is the first craft that you are bringing back in?

JENNIFER: Well, Manchaca is going to be doing them starting in the Fall.

LETICIA: Oh, exciting! Yes!

JENNIFER: And I think that some of our staff are going to be leading it. Maybe even me. So it may kind of rotate around.

CLAUDIA: We don't have anything on the schedule yet. But if you do the Crafty Adult search in the event calendar, everybody's doing it.

LETICIA: Is that at all the different branches?

CLAUDIA: Oh yeah.

LETICIA: And that's one of the best things about APL is that we have so many different kinds of people who work here, a wide variety, and they have so many different talents and skills that they can share with the community.

CLAUDIA: And interests, too.

LETICIA: And interests too.

CLAUDIA: That plays a big part in a lot of our programming, I feel. If you are really into something, you are going to try and bring it to the library and try and present it to the community.

LETICIA: Definitely. So on that subject, how are you excited to see crafting grow at APL?

JENNIFER: I think we should probably talk about the, not necessarily the elephant in the room, but the pandemic. It kind of pooh-poohed a lot of fun programs, the pandemic and things that it brought.

LETICIA: Yes, I know that we did have some virtual crafting programs.

JENNIFER: And we did the Craft Crawl virtually for a couple of years. But it got too, it got, it was hard to do crafts. Without saying too much? It was hard to do crafts at work. So it was a very weird time.

CLAUDIA: It was a very weird time. Up until a certain point at my branch I was creating Take And Makes for adults. Just little felt crafts, wine corks and little felt succulents that will never die. And I'm bilingual, so I made sure to

translate those instructions as well. That was the only thing I had going on during the pandemic. It was the only thing that kept me sane.

I just really wanted to focus on Manchaca and my community because we were doing curbside and we were really getting hit really hard because we were the only branch open in that area. And we were carrying curbside in our region for a very long time. So this was a nice something else to think about, something else to do. And then yeah, that just stopped, unfortunately.

JENNIFER: It was painful. But now that we're kind of coming out of the woods, and there are still little irks of pain every once in a while ...

LETICIA: Yes, of course. Just getting things back up there are going to be bumps.

JENNIFER: Exactly. Now that I know, OK, my life is this and my work is this – I think probably that I was thinking that I can do this really fun thing at work and this is all it is. But I had to separate the two. I had to compartmentalize.

So now I'm like, "OK, I want to do crafts. I love crafts. I love teaching crafts. I love writing how to do crafts. Let's do crafts. I'm ready." So I feel like I've kind of come out of my pandemic shell. Which was a really horrible time for all of us. And I'm ready to do it again.

So what was your question again?

LETICIA: So, how excited are you to see crafting grow and develop here at the library?

JENNIFER: Very excited. And I think a lot, I'm in a Teams meeting with crafters across the system, and it's just like, everybody's buying a Cricut. I don't know if you know what a Cricut is. Everybody is buying a Cricut. Everybody is buying all the supplies to do Cricut stuff. It's crazy. It's like, BOOM!

CLAUDIA: It was my favorite craft program that I did.

LETICIA: The Cricut? So the Cricut is a

CLAUDIA: It's a vinyl sticker maker.

JENNIFER: You can cut fabric. You can cut paper. You can do stencils and do woodburning.

LETICIA: You can do woodburning?

JENNIFER: Yes!

LETICIA: It's like AI! It's going to replace us all! Cricut!

JENNIFER: Slow down! Not yet! Wait until after I retire!

LETICIA: Well, I didn't know, I know about the Cricut. I think I did a program here during a staff development day and we got to use the Cricut and we made glasses and a pub glass.

CLAUDIA: We did the pub glasses at ABGB's.

LETICIA: Oh, so you do things outside of the system?

CLAUDIA: That's one of the things that I'm excited about. I spent so many hours in the Manchaca's meeting room during curbside that I would love to do programming outside of the branch. And we have so many coffee shops in our neighborhood, so many cool bars in the area. We were lucky enough that we had a staff member that knew somebody at ABGB's so we were able to hold this program there.

And yeah, we had vinyl stickers on pint glasses and they went home with their pint glass that had APL on it or a little book with a little heart. It was awesome. And we still have pint glasses. We are going to do it again.

LETICIA: That's really cool. That's developing relationships with businesses and the community. So any businesses that want to step up, we're happy to work with you.

JENNIFER: Totally. Totally.

LETICIA: The Cricut machine. I have friends who make t-shirts with them, Christmas ornaments.

JENNIFER: My mom does scrapbooking with it. That involves lots of paper.

LETICIA: So many of the branches have Cricut machines. That may be something that we will get to use in the future.

CLAUDIA: If they do take over, we will be wearing really cool t-shirts.

LETICIA: Custom t-shirts. I always wanted, and there's nothing holding me back from this, but I always wanted to have shirts with L's on them, like Laverne. She had L's on all her clothing.

CLAUDIA: I so wanted this, but I am not an L name. So I just wanted the L for Laverne's sake. Or Lady? Latina? I don't know. I would have figured something out.

LETICIA: Cursive C's are very beautiful, too.

CLAUDIA: But I wanted that L.

LETICIA: The L is the best one. I've got two.

JENNIFER: I love that idea. I really like that. I'm going to totally do that for the Crafty Adult.

LETICIA: Yes, I will be there.

JENNIFER: Make your own monogrammed t-shirt.

LETICIA: I would wear a bowling shirt.

JENNIFER: We could do embroidery too. We don't even have to use the Cricut.

LETICIA: Yes, exactly. I wore a vintage bowling shirt that I got the other day. The name was Carlos. So yes.

CLAUDIA: Craft seeds are being planted as we speak.

LETICIA: Yes, this was a planning session. I also have one that says Daddy. But I will save that for Pedro Pascal when he comes.

What is one of the most unusual things in our collection that you have found in regards to crafting? Have you found any weird crafting books?

JENNIFER: Some of those old crafting books have stuck around. For some reason people keep checking them out. They are from, like, the sixties, and they are, like, yellow covers and just like, "What are you doing here?" when you pull it off the shelves.

CLAUDIA: The babies in the pictures are in their fifties at this point.

JENNIFER: Yes, totally. The knitting and crochet books are just always fun to look at.

LETICIA: Yes. I found one, when we were doing some weeding, and unfortunately this one did not make the cut, no one had checked it out in a long time, but it was a knitting book. I think it was *Sweaters for Men*. It was from the early nineties or late eighties. And all of the poor men in that book looked so uncomfortable and awkward in their hand-knit sweaters. But some of the sweaters were really nice.

So I understand why we had it in the collection, but I also understand why it hadn't been checked out in ten years.

CLAUDIA: I feel like we had a knitting with cat hair book that came through at one point.

JENNIFER: Yes, yes!

CLAUDIA: That comes to mind. I'm sure it's really warm. But I can't... I've been here almost eighteen years, I've had a lot of books pass through my hands, and there is so much goodness out there that has continued to circulate.

JENNIFER: Yeah, different strokes for different folks. That's all I can say. Some of these things are just like, huh, okay.

CLAUDIA: But sometimes they've given me ideas. I came across a book for dyeing wood. I was like, You can dye wood? Naturally dyeing wood.

I did the keychain craft with the little wood beads and we used turmeric and we used blackberries. And they were really cool. And then we used beeswax to coat it so that it wouldn't ... it was a whole thing, from one weird old book that came through my hands.

LETICIA: That's really cool, using all the natural resources.

CLAUDIA: Yeah, I was really big on the, I think, the really green, the recycle crafts. It's hard to make. You have to have craftsmanship, and sometimes we just can't do it with what we have and the time that we have.

LETICIA: Of course. I'm sure there are time constraints and that must make it difficult.

JENNIFER: And whenever I lead or when I've led programs it's always like, "It's OK if you don't finish. Take it home. We've given you the instruction. You know what to do. It's OK." And people get really freaked out. "No, I want to finish it! I want to finish it!" It's like, "Let's take a deep breath." If you're not going to finish it, you're not going to finish it.

CLAUDIA: So you are providing a new craft social hour, correct?

JENNIFER: Yeah, Jane at Manchaca wants to do a social hour.

LETICIA: A craft social hour? So that would be we provide the supplies and then people can make what they like, or...?

CLAUDIA: Bring what you are working on.

JENNIFER: It's all about the knitting circle or the stitch and bitch, all those. It's all about being social and talking and doing your craft.

CLAUDIA: It gives you an excuse to finish your craft.

LETICIA: Oh yes.

CLAUDIA: I've done these in my personal time.

LETICIA: I have so many unfinished crafts. Yes.

JENNIFER: UFO's, or WIPs.

LETICIA: Works In Progress? I do see we have a program in our system called Craft and Conversation. So people getting together to do various is that the craft social hour? We're calling it Craft and Conversation?

CLAUDIA: We're putting it under The Crafty Adult, but Craft and Conversation would be perfect.

LETICIA: Yes. It said that "people can bring their various craft projects while discussing important issues, such as careers, children, family, pay equity..."

CLAUDIA: That's more of a guided social hour. Don't we do that already?

LETICIA: Yes, that happens organically. No, I'm not making fun of the Crafts and Conversation circle.

JENNIFER: No, we're not.

LETICIA: I was just reading this. No, that is what we touched on a bit. You can talk about anything while crafting.

CLAUDIA: Or not at all.

JENNIFER: Or not at all. Just shut up and craft.

LETICIA: So are there any related community programs or events that are in Austin that are cool and exciting that you'd like to integrate maybe in the craft programming at APL?

JENNIFER: I think we are doing the cool stuff at the library.

LETICIA: I agree.

JENNIFER: I don't mean to pooh-pooh anybody, but we are already pretty cool. We are working towards pre-pandemic stuff. That was a crazy time the last few years, so ... I think we are fine. But I'm open arms to any relationship, any crafty relationship.

LETICIA: OK, if you can have one dream craft that you would like to make here at APL, what would it be?

JENNIFER: Well, I'm a quilter, so I would like to make a quilt from beginning to end. But that would be a very long program.

LETICIA: Well, maybe people could come back, submit their squares....

JENNIFER: Monthly.

CLAUDIA: What about a baby quilt?

JENNIFER: We could do baby quilts?

CLAUDIA: Or lap quilts? Or a quilt for your cat?

LETICIA: Cat quilts. I have one friend who made me a Tetris cat quilt so the squares were the different Tetris shapes.

Claudia, do you have a dream craft?

CLAUDIA: I actually want to do pint glasses again. Really, really bad. At every establishment that sells beer.

JENNIFER: Let's do it!

CLAUDIA: In the 78745 area.

LETICIA: Yes! The 45!

CLAUDIA: We should do it. Everybody, come.

LETICIA: Well, you've got to bring it to the 78723 because that's the place to be!

CLAUDIA: Oh really?

LAUGHTER

LETICIA: That's my zip code. Yes. Where the Windsor Park branch is.

JENNIFER: We could take it to Windsor Park. We could take it to all the branches. There are twenty-one branches out there.

LETICIA: Yes. And they all serve different communities. And they all have different needs. And all have different great offerings that we can bring in.

CLAUDIA: We can vinyl sticker coffee cups for coffee places. It doesn't have to be pint glasses.

CLAUDIA: I would just like to get out of the library with our programming and do program outreach in the community. A lot of people do not know what we are other than, "Oh, there's books in there." They don't know we have media. They don't know we have virtual library. They don't know we have programming.

LETICIA: Yes, we have some amazing things at the library, amazing offerings that I think people otherwise wouldn't get to use. 3D printer. The Cricut.

JENNIFER: When people ask me what I do, I'm like, "Do you have time? Because I'm going to talk your ear off, and I'm going to tell you all the cool things. And I'm going to tell you all the boring things, but I'm going to tell you how cool those boring things are."

LETICIA: And that's why I wanted you to be our guest!

JENNIFER: (singing) I love libraries!

LETICIA: So is there anything exciting in the pipeline?

JENNIFER: Well, the fall is going to be the grand reopening for a lot of craft programs.

LETICIA: We're going to kick it off!

JENNIFER: I'm at Menchaca, and there are three other programming librarians for adults only in the system. We are all compiling all the fun great programs. So definitely, September – watch out!

LETICIA: Oh yes, I did see one of the first Crafty Adults coming back as Quote Frames. So what is that?

JENNIFER: I don't know. That's not my craft! Not at my branch. But that sounds really fun! Probably involving a Cricut.

LETICIA: Well yes. It looks like they are going to have hand lettering, which we have lots of books about. I've checked out many books on that to improve my L's. My cursive L's. But yes, that's fun. Yeah, cool.

I think we've talked enough about crafting. I could talk all day about crafting. I think you could also talk all day about crafting.

JENNIFER: I could too.

CLAUDIA: I could only talk part of the day.

LETICIA: Part of the day. The other part is spent crafting.

CLAUDIA: Spent crafting.

JENNIFER: Yes, I like that.

CLAUDIA: Reading about crafting and crafts.

JENNIFER: Looking at crafts.

LETICIA: Well, this was a truly pleasurable conversation. I really enjoyed speaking with you, Claudia and Jennifer, and I look forward to seeing all the different Crafty Adult programs that are done around the system, at our twenty-one branch locations and at Central Library. I hope everyone has a great day and makes something.

MUSIC

LETICIA: Thank you for listening to this episode of APL Volumes, Season Two. Check out our calendar on-line to see when you can craft with us next. And extra special thanks to my guest Jennifer Connor and Claudia Dovalina for being so crafty.

APL Volumes is recorded and produced in the Library's Innovation Lab, a part of the APL Innovate Digital Maker Space. Come visit the Maker Space at the Central Library and explore our recording equipment and hardware and all kinds of audiovisual software for 3D modeling, graphic design, animation, and more. Many thanks to the APL Innovate team for their help behind the scenes on this podcast.

A huge thank you to Christen Hong, our editor; Peter Hofstad for being our marketing captain; Michael Wheat for our insanely cool logo; and Stephen Plail for our jaunty theme song.

This podcast is all library, all the time. Our next episode will be about cooking.

Thanks for listening and supporting your local public library.

MUSIC

END TRANSCRIPT