

Building a World of Readers, Artists and Dreamers

A local cartoonist, Geoff Bevington, traveled to Angoulême to participate in the 43rd Festival International de la Bande Dessinée 2016 (the international comic festival), January 28 – 31, 2016. This festival draws over 100,000 visitors and includes seminars and exhibits for cartoonists and their fans. Geoff's agenda during his trip was focused on literacy through cartooning.

One of Geoff's events took place at a local school with a class of 6-7 year old students. The students used Geoff's drawings of local monuments to create a story with the characters in the drawings. Geoff also donated copies to each student of the book he illustrated and was written by Phil Yeh, Steve the Dog & The Winged Tiger. The workshop closely followed the story of Steve the Dog and The Winged Tiger with the theme being exploration and creativity.

Geoff continued to share his talents and his focus on literacy through cartooning the same day as he worked at a middle school with a group of students. His theme continued along with exploring sites in Angoulême on paper that Geoff had illustrated in advance.



His final event took place on Saturday of the festival when Geoff painted a public mural in the lobby of the Center for International Comic Strips. Many young people assisted Geoff in the painting of the mural that he had drawn.





Geoff was truly excited to return to Angoulême after a 26 year hiatus. He traveled to our sister city in 1992 to participate in this same festival. The theme of that year's festival was to honor America's contribution to the world of cartooning.

That year, Geoff represented Cartoonists across America, a non-profit organization that publishes comic books that promote literacy. He traveled with California cartoonist Phil Yeh who created Cartoonists Across America in 1985 to use non-violent, non-sexist, and multi-cultural comics to draw attention to the illiteracy problem in the United States.

Geoff will continue his magic at a special event on Saturday, June 4, 2016, at the Hoffman Estates Branch Library where he will paint a mural with young people for the library honoring our 20th Anniversary with our sister city, Angoulême. Check out the library newsletter in April for registration information.

Paint a Mural

Attention all artists, join us to paint a mural for the library with a local cartoonist, Geoff Bevington. Children ages 8-13 are invited for this exciting painting activity on June 4, 2016 with the Schaumburg Township District Library. All children will receive a t-shirt to wear for painting. A maximum of 5 children per session. Registration required.

Session 1: 10:30 - 12:00

Session 2: 1:00 - 2:30

Session 3: 3:00 - 4:30