

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Programming: Patrons enjoyed a Star Wars Reads celebration on Saturday, October 5th. Attendees participated in various Star Wars themed activities which included games, crafts, and trivia.

One Book, One Elmhurst: As I reported last month, the One Book, One Elmhurst event is so popular this year that we're investigating larger venue spaces to accommodate the interest. We haven't had much luck with finding a space that is available and will hold more people than the Founder's Lounge at the University but we're still trying. We're also thinking of creative ways to include more people even if it doesn't include being in-person at the event. It's really exciting that the event is garnering such enthusiasm.

Facilities Updates: The carpet project in the Kids' office area and Admin. office area will begin sometime in early December. It shouldn't take very long and there will be no disruption to any public areas.

ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT

Sept 2024



One Book, One Elmhurst: Remarkably Bright Creatures

As part of the One Book efforts in September, Anne Swanson and Mary Beth Harper hosted a Walk & Talk Book Discussion. Anne also collaborated with Jez Layman on the Remarkably Cozy Reading Room which involved a transformation of the Gathering Room into a Remarkably Bright Creatures cozy reading space with decorations, an AV aquarium and a craft. (left)

Death Star Destruction Challenge

Christi Hawn and Christina Racibozynski worked with the Marketing Department to modify the theme of the Library's Cornhole set for the Death Star Destruction Challenge for the upcoming Star Wars day happening on October 5. Christi and Christina are collaborating with staff across the Library to organize this upcoming library-wide event.



Elmhurst Farmers Market

Christina Racibozynski (left on the right) represented the Adult Services Department, along with Jez Layman (left on the left) from Marketing, at the Elmhurst Farmers Market.

Also in September, Hayley Rightnowar helped organize, along with the entire Senior Commission, the Senior Fair at the Kies Recreation Center. Hayley also organized a Lobby Drop-in about the Caregiver's Corner.

Rachael Mason organized Lobby Drop-ins with Serenity House and DuPage ROSC.

Programming

Fall storytimes have started again. Romp & Rhyme continues to be a big hit with a full attendance, a pop-up storytime in the Learning Garden for the overflow, and a drop-in playtime called Romp & Rhyme After Hours in the programming room. To tie in with the One Book, One Community book, our hidden stuffie is a pacific octopus. We also put together a cart of octo-mania activities and books. Another school year of homeschool programs began with an experiment of how many rubberbands it takes to explode a watermelon (answer: 808)! Meet a Firefighter was a huge hit with the storytime crowd—more than 100 people attended. The T-Trak train group brought their train display and around 250 people enjoyed the large display set up in the Kids Library. Our second Dig in to Play: Toddler Sensory Time was just as popular as the first, so the next one will be held in Meeting Room A to more comfortably manage the crowd.



Collection and Displays

The Teacher Technology Collection is in the process of being updated. Heather, Katie, Fiona, and Michael created a wish list of items, which are being ordered in two phases. Phase 1 included STEM Bins, Learn & Play Packs, transparent X-ray images of animals and insects for our existing light boards, magnetic force science lab kits, critical thinking games, and updated storage supplies to more efficiently organize, store, travel with, and check out the materials. As part of the update, the collection's scope is being expanded to include more than just technology.

As a tie-in with *Little People, Big Dreams* Day on September 21, **Heather Forster Jensen** created a mobile display and pop-up program with biographies, coloring sheets, and activity pages. Kids who stopped by the desk to share their hero or a big dream received a special vinyl sticker sheet from the publisher. (Not surprisingly, Taylor Swift and Caitlin Clark were both mentioned.) To keep this program focused primarily toward early to mid-elementary students, the cart was rolled out after school on the weekdays leading up to September 21 and remained in the Kids' Library throughout the weekend.



Following the success of last year's passive Library Sign Up Card Month program, **Kelsey Wilcoxon** re-created the giant library card prop for kids to pose with. **Michael Speers** improved the process by utilizing an iPad app that would send a picture directly to the Kids' Reference email account, so we didn't have to get the digital camera and then upload the pictures to print them. The quality was much better, and kids could see us print and hang their pictures right away.



Outreach

The library's relationship with District 205 continues to flourish. The fall *District 205 Community Connections* newsletter will feature Elmhurst Public Library, specifically the first grade World of Books field trip developed by the Elementary School Coordinator **Heather Forster Jensen**. A physical copy of the newsletter is sent to all taxpayers in Elmhurst, in addition to its digital sharing to D205 families and through social media. Throughout October, D205 will be collecting footage in order to create the article and accompanying video.

Patron Interactions

A patron came in and stated that her preschool-age granddaughter was struggling with managing her frustration and anger. **Brianne Rigitano** assisted her in finding an array of picture books, non-fiction, and parenting materials on helping children with emotions. About a week or so later, she came back in and thanked us saying that the books had been very helpful for her and her granddaughter.

MARKETING DEPARTMENT REPORT

September 2024

September Marketing Topics included:

Programming: Companion Reads

Our One Book, One Elmhurst selection *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt is also featured as one of our Companion Reads. Companion Reads displays feature titles with topics and themes similar to our One Book selection.

Collection: Media Match Jr.


Media Match Jr. is EPL's recommendation service for the youngest members of our community up to Grade 6. EPL's Media Match Jr. service includes recommendations not only for books but for board games, STREAM kits, and more.

Services: Niche Academy


Niche Academy is an online collection of video tutorials to help get you the most out of your Library. Learn how to use our databases, watch tutorials for Makery crafts, and learn how to use some of the amazing tech equipment available in our collection.

User Stories

We love to hear from you! Share you EPL stories with us by visiting elmlib.org/shareyourstory. You can also find some of our favorite stories submitted by you in our display case located in the Lobby.



Call for Submissions




Spooky season is upon us, and we are once again looking for talented writers and storytellers to send shivers down our spines!

Kids Gr. K-8 are challenged to come up with a short and scary story or poem, 15 sentences or less. Winners get a Barnes & Noble gift card, a spot in *Kids' Ink* magazine, and an opportunity to read their entry [live in the Library](#).

Deadline for entries is Monday, Oct. 7. Submit online at elmlib.org/scary.

[More Info](#)

Media Match Jr.




Try Media Match Jr., EPL's recommendation service for kids up to Grade 6.

Media Match Jr. includes recommendations not only for books, but for board games, STREAM kits, and more.

[Try Media Match](#)

All About the 60s, 70s, and 80s



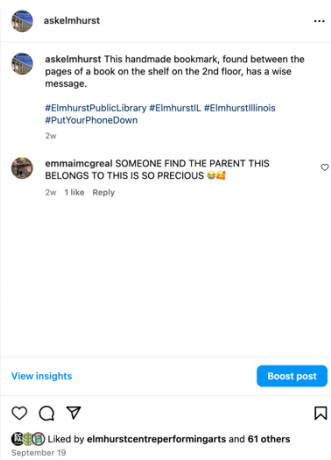
We're traveling through the decades with a series of groovy programs focusing on the '60s, '70s, and '80s.

We'll turn back the clock to talk about Disney's *EPCOT Center*, the rise and fall of the *Berlin Wall*, *1980s fashion*, and pay tribute to unforgettable pop culture personalities like *Julia Child*, *The Beatles*, and *Alfred Hitchcock*.

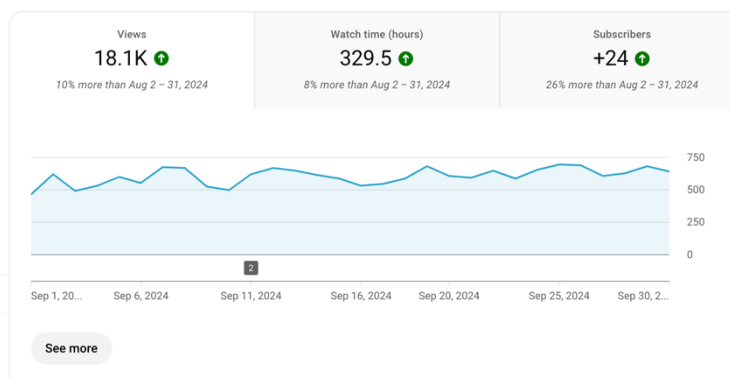
Mark your calendar for our full lineup of events!

[More Events](#)

Here are some sample screenshots of our online presence from September:



In September, people watched your videos 18,136 times






Elmhurst Public Library
Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
September 4 · 🌐

The 2024 Local Author Fair in August was our biggest ever! [Sara Fujimura](#), one of the participating authors told us: "I've never done a library signing this big! I was happy with my sales, but my favorite part of the day was talking shop with two college-aged writers just beginning their author journeys. It made my heart so happy."



[See insights and ads](#)


[Boost post](#)



Illinois Library Association and 42 others


4 comments 1 share

 Like

 Comment

 Share

View more comments



Kate Gingold · Follow

I agree with Sara! Talking with budding writers is such a thrill. A girl I talked to last year came back to tell me her manuscript was completed. Hooray for her!

4w

Love

Reply


Hide

2



Elmhurst Public Library
Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
September 4 · 🌐

The 2024 Local Author Fair in August was our biggest ever! [Sara Fujimura](#), one of the participating authors tol...



Post Impressions

3,730

Post reach

3,583

Engagement

452

Interactions

 36

 14

 0


 0

 0

 0

 Reactions

49

 Comments


5

 Shares

1

 Other Clicks

113





Elmhurst Public Library
Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
September 11 at 11:46 AM · 🌐

User Story: These local entrepreneurs used the Makery's sublimation printer and heat press to make work shirts for their window washing business! Window Whales




[See insights and ads](#)

[Boost post](#)



60

1 share



User Story: These local entrepreneurs used the Makery's sublimation printer and heat press to make work shirts...
Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
September 11 at 11:46 AM · 🌐

Post Impressions

2,656

Post reach


2,392


Engagement


136

Interactions

 51

 11

 0


 0

 0

 0

 Reactions

62

 Comments

1

 Photo Views

47

 Shares

1

 Other Clicks

25

MAKERY DEPARTMENT REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2024

	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
Door Count	777	858	703
Equipment Reservations	203	238	226
3D Prints	28	51	41



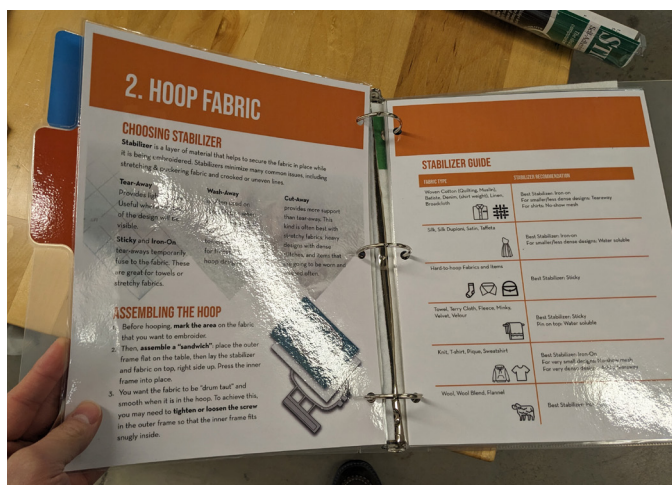
Laser Cutter + Watercolor

September's Makery Craft was an original innovation: watercolor on wood! Patrons laser etched a design onto a wood canvas and then painted it with watercolor. The way the paint diffused into the wood created a beautiful effect!



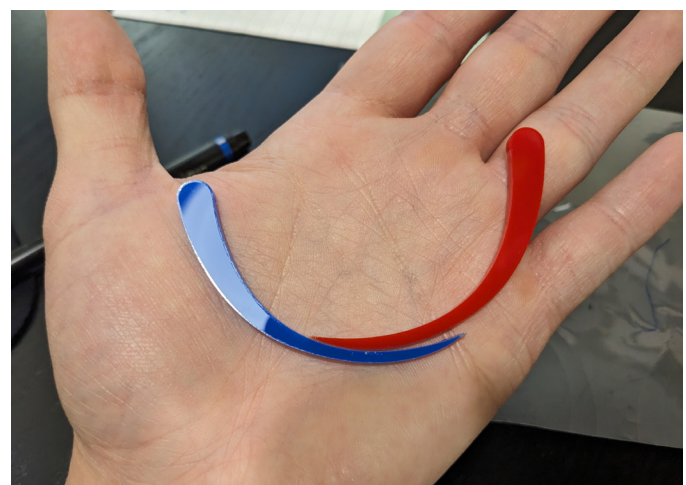
Makery Drop-In: Plant Pals

This young patron is proudly displaying her new "plant pals," custom decorated animals made as ornaments for house plants. She's one of dozens who participated in September's drop-in craft.



Embroidery Instruction

Makery Specialist Audrey Staron completely revamped the embroidery machine binder. It is freshly organized, color coded, and has updated instructions for hooping, choosing stabilizer, threading, and adjusting tension!



Being a Good Neighbor

Elmhurst Park Distric staff reached out to the Makery for help creating replacement labels for thier showers. Makery staff worked wih them to design and create red and blue labels for their shower mixers at Courts Plus.

PROGRAM STATISTICS

September 2024

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
American Mah Jongg	Games	47	4
An American Version of Swedish Death Cleaning	Enrich	98	1
Android Basics	Technology	7	1
Bingo	Games	6	1
Bridge and Pinochle	Games	80	4
Building the Magic: Disney's EPCOT Center	Common Connection	37	1
Canasta: Open Play	Games	51	4
Caregiver's Corner Drop-in	Inclusive	59	1
Chair Yoga	Gather	52	2
Ciao Italia	Gather	11	1
Coloring for Mindfulness	Create	11	1
Cover Letters Made Simple	Career & Job Hunting	9	1
Culture Club: Fall Colors	Enrich	14	1
DuPage ROSC/Serenity House	Human Services	28	1
Farmer's Market	Enrich	90	1
Fashion of the 1980s	Common Connection	28	1
Friday Features	Gather	41	4
Great Decisions	Civic Engagement	14	1
Hearing Testing	Enrich	15	1
How to Safely Manage DNA Genealogy Kits	Enrich	3	1
In Stitches Needleworkers	Create	6	1
iPhone iOS	Technology	8	1
Julia Child	Enrich	82	1
Library Insiders: Video Games	Library Insiders	9	1
Literacy DuPage Lobby Drop-In	Civic Engagement	21	1
Lyric Opera Lecture	Arts and Culture	20	2
Medicare 101	Consumer	57	1
Meditation for Stress Reduction (Virtual Only)	Health and Wellness	19	1
Memory Cafe: Toys of Yesteryear	Enrich	7	1
Narcan Education and Handout Event	Human Services	38	1
Neighbors Together Adult Book Discussion: Happiness Falls by Angie Kim	Book Discussion	13	2
Next Chapter Book Club	Inclusive	30	2
One Book, One Elmhurst: Walk & Talk Adult Book Discussion of Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt	Book Discussion	2	1
Outreach Visit: Roosevelt Salt Creek	Enrich	9	2
Outreach: Senior Fair	Outreach	52	1
Plug In & Play	Enrich	3	1
Polymer Clay Miniatures	Create	28	2
Remarkably Cozy Reading Room	Books and Authors	3	1
Resume Review	Career & Job Hunting	6	1
Scrabble	Games	7	1
Staying Mentally Fit	Enrich	11	1
Traditional Mexican Churros: A Neighbors Together Program	Enrich	2	1
The Beatles: Their History in One Hour	Common Connection	42	1
What Your Library Can Do for You	Enrich	6	1
Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning	Consumer	33	1
TOTALS		1,215	63

Makery Program	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Makery 101: Laser Engrave a Glass	Create	9	1
Makery 101: Sublimation Basics	Create	9	1
Makery Craft: Watercolor on Wood	Create	19	1
Middle School Makers: Sublimation Pop Sockets	Create	7	1
National Sewing Month: Buttons & Buttonholes	Create	6	2
National Sewing Month: Hemming Jeans	Create	7	1
National Sewing Month: Zippers	Create	5	1
TOTALS		62	8
Teen Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Blind Taste Test: Craft Sodas	Teen Program	14	1
Teen Advisory Group	Teen Program	17	1
Teen Crafternoon: Tiny Canvas Painting	Create	2	1
Teen Take & Make: Crochet Octopus	Create	15	1
TOTALS		48	4
Middle School Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Homeschool Explorers: Fun with Science Experiments	Homeschool	11	1
Middle School Pop-up Program		14	1
Short and Scary Writing Contest	Create	41	1
Show Us Your Library Card		31	1
TOTALS		97	4
Kids' Library Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Pop-Up Storytime	Storytime	38	3
3D Printing	STEAM	9	1
Art Club	Create	10	1
Baby Gives a Hand	Storytime	50	1
Baby Play Date	Family	0	1
C.I.T.Y. of Support Playgroup		18	1
Dig in to Play: Toddler Sensory Time		57	1
Fall Fun with T-Trak Model Trains	Family	250	1
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s	Storytime	47	4
Graphic Novel Club	Books and Authors	7	1
Homeschool Explorers: Fun with Science Experiments	Homeschool	17	1
Kids' Chess Club	Games	12	1
Lego Club	Games	15	1
Little Wiggles	Storytime	498	8
Meet a Firefighter!	STEAM	100	1
Minecraft Redstone Circuits	STEAM	9	1
Mother Goose & Me	Storytime	87	4
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (1st Grade)	Outreach	70	1
Outreach Elementary AT Salt Creek (PreK-1st)	Outreach	60	1
OUTREACH Preschool AT Courts Plus	Outreach	10	1
OUTREACH Preschool AT Fia Mia Academy	Outreach	10	1
OUTREACH Preschool IC 4's Field Trip	Outreach	47	1
Read to the Dogs	STEAM	20	1
Romp & Rhyme	Storytime	233	8
Romp & Rhyme After Hours	Storytime	87	4
Saturday STEM	STEAM	7	1
Scout Visit Digital Photography		12	1
TOTALS		1,780	52

Passive Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Adult Passive Programs:			
Interactive Displays:		5	1
Reading Adventure		9	1
Social Services Folders		45	4
Puzzles:		10	1
Coloring Stations:		25	1
Library Bingo		18	1
Recording of Medicare 101 (Online)		73	1
Recording of WWII Genealog (Online)		105	1
Mosaic Poster (Online)		200	1
Middle School Passive Programs:			
Middle School Hangout Passive Program		21	1
Kids' Passive Programs:			
Little People, Big Dreams Pop-Up (Passive)	Books and Authors	70	1
		Attendance	Sessions
Adult Program Grand Total		1767	83
Total Passive Program Statistics		490	12
Total Program Statistics		1,277	71
Teen Program Grand Total		48	4
Total Passive Program Statistics		0	0
Total Program Statistics		48	4
Middle School Program Grand Total		118	5
Total Passive Program Statistics		21	1
Total Program Statistics		97	4
Kids' Program Grand Total		1,850	53
Total Passive Program Statistics		70	1
Total Program Statistics		1,780	52
Passive Program Total		581	14
Total Attendance		3,783	
Total Programs			145

STATISTICAL REPORT

September 2024

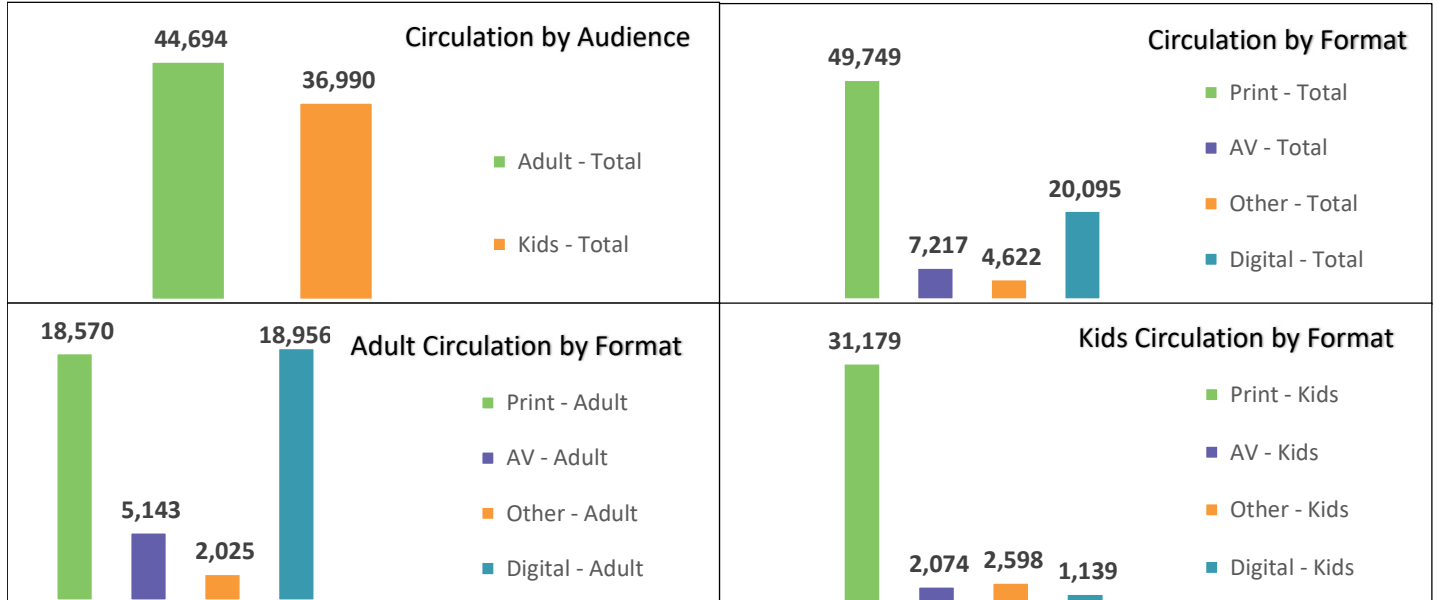
Circulation

Total Circulation
82,893 ↓ -6%
 88,076 last year
Card Holders
 26,302

Library Card Usage
9,247 ↑ 2%
 9,042 last year

Library Cards Issued
Elmhurst **263** ↑ 8%
 (Issued) 243 last year
Reciprocal Borrower **75** ↑ 14%
 (Registered) 66 last year

Interlibrary Loan
Borrowed **1,210** ↓ -5%
 1,269 last year
Lent **525** ↓ -14%
 613 last year



Technology Usage

Public Computer Use

15,787 ↓ -16%
 18,852 last year

Website Visits

34,339 ↓ -71%
 120,238 last year

Self Checkout

(% of checkouts)
53% ↑ 6%
 50% last year

WiFi Sessions

22,710 ↓ -22%
 29,190 last year

Reference Queries

Reference Questions Total

4,202 ↓ -4%
 4,359 last year

Reference Questions

Adult
3,034 ↓ -7%
 3,279 last year

Kids
1,168 ↑ 8%
 1,080 last year

Meeting Room Use

Library Programs

145 ↓ -17%
 175 last year

Public Meetings

81 ↑ 5%
 77 last year

Group Study Rooms

1,896 ↑ 16%
 1,630 last year

Programs

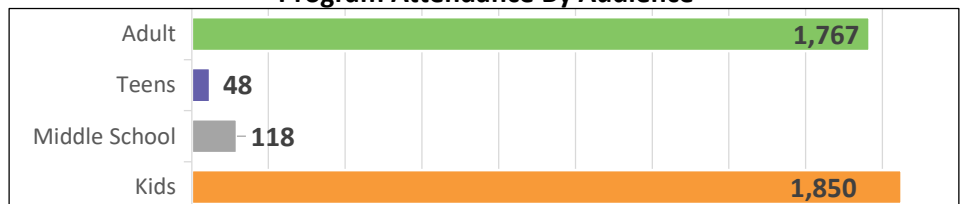
Program Attendance

3,783 ↓ -17%
 4,567 last year

Library Programs

145 ↓ -17%
 175 last year

Program Attendance By Audience



Library Visits

Total Visits

40,396 ↑ 10%
 36,859 last year

In House Visits

Makery **777** ↑ 11%
 703 last year

Walk-In

38,657 ↑ 10%
 35,092 last year

Drive-Up Visits

1,739 ↓ -2%
 1,767 last year

Creative Studio

92 ↑ 3%
 89 last year

Monthly Comparison

Total Circulation

82,893 ↓ -6%
88,076 last year

Adult Circulation

44,694 ↓ -6%
47,420 last year

Kids Circulation

36,990 ↓ -6%
39,388 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,210 ↓ -5%
1,269 last year

Digital Material Circulation

20,095 ↓ 0%
20,182 last year

Databases

30,742 ↑ 1%
30,440 last year

Reference Questions Total

4,202 ↓ -4%
4,359 last year

One on One Tutorials

34 ↓ -11%
38 last year

Number of Programs

145 ↓ -17%
175 last year

Program Attendance

3,783 ↓ -17%
4,567 last year

In-Person Visitors

38,657 ↑ 10%
35,092 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

1,739 ↓ -2%
1,767 last year

Year To Date Comparison

Total Circulation

838,589 ↓ -2%
852,111 last year

Adult Circulation

444,559 ↓ -1%
450,646 last year

Kids Circulation

382,338 ↓ -2%
390,172 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

11,692 ↑ 4%
11,294 last year

Digital Material Circulation

194,954 ↑ 7%
181,682 last year

Databases

185,843 ↑ 20%
154,377 last year

Reference Questions Total

41,177 ↑ 2%
40,482 last year

One on One Tutorials

311 ↓ -33%
467 last year

Number of Programs

1,585 ↓ -6%
1,692 last year

Program Attendance

63,561 ↑ 14%
55,781 last year

In-Person Visitors

353,933 ↑ 8%
328,690 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

16,392 ↓ -4%
17,010 last year

Collection Totals

Books and Magazines

166,469

Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics

6,497

Audio Visual

27,469

Digital

171,011

Notable Happenings in Circulation

- One *Cards for Kids* library card was issued in September and 38 were renewed.
- There are 39 active *Cards for Kids* library cards.
- One Non resident card was purchased this month for a total of \$393.60
- There are 136 active Non resident library cards (patrons living in unincorporated Elmhurst).
- We filled 4,959 holds this month.
- EPL Cares Committee is hosting a collection drive for Dupage Metropolitan Family Services in the Lobby. They are collecting household cleaning products for their family shelter.