

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Building updates: Plumbers completed the sump pump project this week. The old equipment was very corroded and all went well with the installation of the new pumps and pipes.
- Program Updates: Registration for the One Book One Elmhurst author visit has exceeded 500! We are grateful to the University for allowing the program to be moved to the Hammersmidt Chapel. The Chapel holds up to 750 so we should be able to include all new registrations. We're thrilled with the level of enthusiasm for the program.
- Staff Updates: The open enrollment period for benefitted employees, which takes place each November, just ended. The City held a vendor fair featuring health and wellness vendors who provide benefit products for both full and part time staff.
- Financial: Marsha and I presented the 2025 budget to City Council on Tuesday evening. There was a question about building reserves and several Council members complemented the Library on services and spaces – comments were especially glowing about the Makery!

Conference Attendance

Alyssa Murphy and Christina Racibozynski attended the virtual Internet Librarian Conference. They learned a lot about different AI tools and applications and gained valuable knowledge for upcoming programs they'll be organizing about AI.

Bryan Blank attended the Illinois Library Association Conference in Peoria and presented on the value of networking for managers. He brought back information and ideas to share with colleagues.



One Book, One Elmhurst Book & a Brew: Remarkably Bright Creatures

As part of the One Book efforts in October, patrons met at Bottle Theory for a book chat hosted by Bryan Blank. (left) Hayley Rightnowar, Anne Swanson and Alyssa Murphy hosted related book discussions inside the Library.



Supporting Elmhurst Voters

The election binder, a resource for patrons to get started researching candidates and find out where to vote, was made available with other voter info to help patrons prepare for the election. (left and right)



Reaching Out

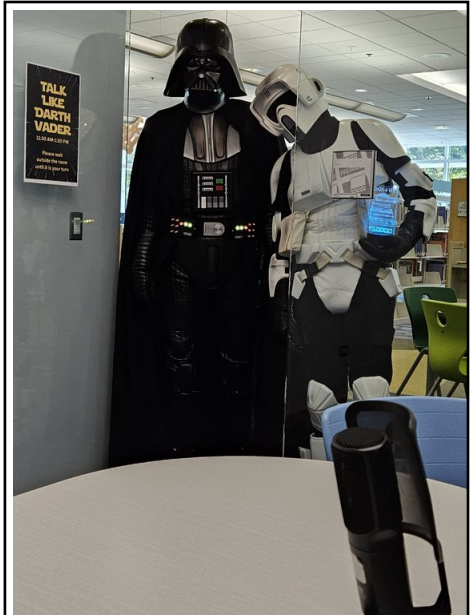
Christi Hawn led a genre study session looking at Relationship Fiction for the Adult Reading Round Table networking group at Lisle Library.

Libby Mercado and Taryn Palumbo demoed Makery technology to York High School Students during an outreach visit to York High. (right)



Senior Provider Conference

Hayley Rightnowar helped plan this annual event run by the Senior Commission. Susan Frick, the Keynote Speaker, presented about Dementia Friendly Illinois. Rachael Mason and Jez Layman attended this networking event.



Darth Vader visits the Talk Like Darth Vader Booth on Star Wars Reads Day at EPL on Oct 5.

Programming

October kicked off with Star Wars Reads which included a drop-in Jedi Academy program, crafts, a scavenger hunt, and costume characters. Mid-month we held a family Diwali program with performers from the Meher Dance Company and a lantern craft. The month concluded with the Short and Scary Writing Contest. There were 138 submissions of stories and poems. Both the winners and honorable mentions were invited to read their stories at an event on October 26. Their winning stories were also published in our *Kids Ink* magazine. Eighty-seven people came to see the 14 students read their stories. One dad even stopped by the Kids desk to tell us how great the program was. His daughter was thrilled to win and he said that **Amy Slagter** did a great job emceeding the event.

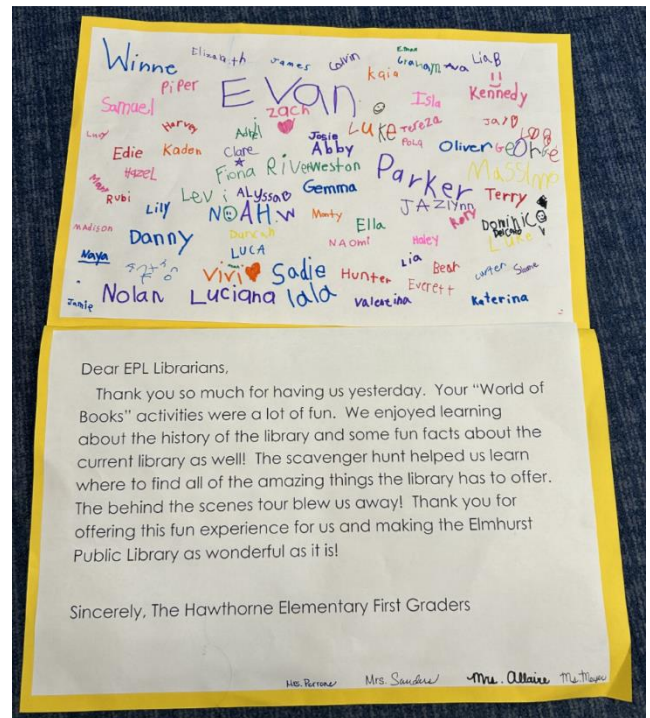


One of our goals in Kids Library is to surprise and delight our patrons with new ways to engage with the library each time they visit. To this end, **Nuala Maloney Murphy** created an interactive Halloween joke display and **Amanda Sheeren** hand crafted a make-your-own jack-o-lantern activity for the light table.



Outreach

October was a very busy month for outreach. First graders from all seven District 205 elementary schools came to the library for a World of Books field trip, which was designed to tie directly into their ELA curriculum, Wit & Wisdom. In addition, **Heather Forster Jensen** and other Kids staff visited Lincoln, Fisher, and Jefferson to present K-5th programs and Hawthorne to present 2nd-5th programs. These visits included storytimes, booktalks, and creative writing exercises.



Katie Stringwell made three visits to Sunbeams and Rainbows and one visit to Tree Town Co-op preschools. Teacher feedback was very positive: "Thank you for an awesome experience with your spooky science and Halloween reads with all our Tree Town friends. It was so fun for the kids and I hope you continue this opportunity for the future."

Twenty Elmhurst University undergraduate students majoring in education also visited Kids' Library. The students learned how teachers can partner with local public libraries, previewed high quality diverse, picture books to integrate into math, science, and social studies curricula, and took a tour of the library.

Patron Interaction

Claire Mitchell helped a patron who only spoke Spanish. Claire used Google translate and her limited Spanish skills to communicate about the computers and how to access documents on the computer and then print.



October Marketing Topics included:

Programming: Star Wars Reads Event

Journey to a galaxy far, far away to celebrate Star Wars Reads Month! Test your knowledge of the Force, design a droid, and celebrate your love of reading through crafts, games, and activities. Over 250 guests attended.

Collections: Library of Extraordinary Things: Tech

Transform your everyday tasks with tech devices. Discover the Library's collection of tech devices and accessories available for use both at EPL and at home.

Services: Human Services (video)

Facing life's challenges? EPL can help. Librarians are dedicated to connecting you to the support you need. While we do not perform clinical services like therapy, or form client relationships, we are here to refer you to resources and assist you when dealing with the complexity of finding the right resources to fit your unique circumstances.

elmlib.org/youtube

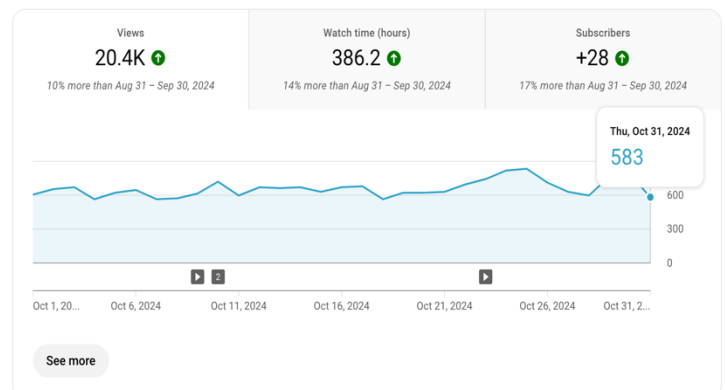
Inside Scoop: The Nest:

Try the Nest, a newly-designed space in the Kids Library for those who need a quieter, calming space or privacy to nurse. The room contains comfortable chair, subdued lighting, and a variety of sensory friendly items such as a weighted blanket, fidgets, and a pair of noise canceling headphones.

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



In October, people watched your videos 20,441 times



The Nest

Try the Nest, a newly-designed space in the Kids' Library for those who need a quieter, calming space or privacy to nurse. The room contains a comfortable chair, a bean bag chair, subdued lighting, and a variety of sensory-friendly items such as a weighted blanket, fidgets, visual timers, and a pair of noise-canceling headphones.

Read-Alikes

REMARKABLY BRIGHT CREATURES One Book Read-Alikes

Do you love our One Book, *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, and want more?

This list of read-alikes for all ages, curated by our staff experts, have topics and themes similar to our [One Book One Elmhurst](#) selection.

Happy Reading!

Read-Alikes

It's Star Wars Reads Month!

Celebrate Star Wars Reads Month during October. Access all of the Star Wars books and comics for free on Hoopla with your Library card!

Digital Library

Elmhurst Public Library
 Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
 · October 31 at 11:33 AM · 🌐


The views from our windows are especially lovely this time of year!



See insights and ads

Boost post

62 1 share

 The views from our windows are especially lovely this time of year!

Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
 · October 31 at 11:33 AM · 🌐

Post Impressions **836**

Post reach **826**

Engagement **71**

Interactions

51 12 0 0 0 0

Reactions 63

Comments 0

Photo Views 4

Shares 1

Other Clicks 3

Elmhurst Public Library
 Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
 · October 24 at 11:57 AM · 🌐


We discussed Remarkably Bright Creatures this week at [Bottle Theory - Elmhurst](#) for our One Book and a Brew program. Thanks to all who joined in the enlightening conversation! We have one more opportunity to discuss the book on Nov. 7 before author Shelby Van Pelt comes to Elmhurst on Nov. 20. More details at [elmlib.org/onebook](#).



See insights and ads

Boost post

40 1 share

 We discussed Remarkably Bright Creatures this week at Bottle Theory - Elmhurst for our One Book and a Brew...

Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
 · October 24 at 11:57 AM · 🌐

Post Impressions **6,819**

Post reach **6,809**

Engagement **488**

Interactions

39 5 0 0 0 0

Reactions 44

Comments 0

Link clicks 7

Shares 1

Other Clicks 94

MAKERY DEPARTMENT REPORT

OCTOBER 2024

	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
People Counter	1,997	1,695	1,752
Equipment Reservations	279	203	184
3D Prints	36	39	41

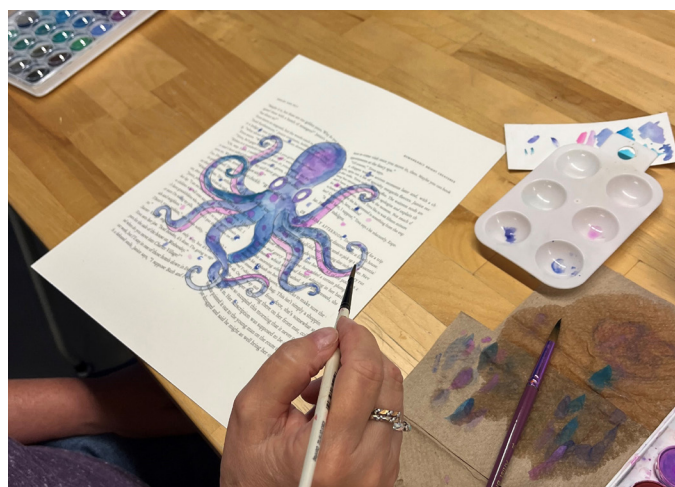


Makery Drop-In: Beaded Spider

There's a new kid-friendly drop-in craft every month in the Makery. October was full of beaded spiders. Patrons chose their favorite colors to decorate the creepy crawlies up until Halloween.

It Must Be Sweater Season

Lots of sweaters we adorned in the Makery this month! Students from Elmhurst University, York High School, and DuPage Dance Academy made custom branded apparel for their teams and programs.



One Book, Eight Tentacles!

Lead Makery Specialist Jen Kryczka led another session of the seasonal watercolors class. Patrons painted an octopus onto a copied page of this year's OBOV, Remarkably Bright Creatures.



Makery 101: Cricut Basics

Patrons attended a Cricut Class and learned to cut designs out of heat transfer vinyl to adorn trick-or-treat bags using the Cricut.v

PROGRAM STATISTICS

October 2024

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
A Look Into Lesser-Known Genealogy Apps & Sites	Enrich	15	1
Acing the Interview	Career & Job Hunting	7	1
All Things Pumpkins & Apples	Enrich, Food and Drink	75	1
American Mah Jongg	Games	45	4
American Mah Jongg: Open Play	Games	9	1
Barbie: The History of America's Most Famous Doll	Enrich	44	1
Be an Informed Voter	Civic Engagement	13	1
Bingo	Games	9	1
Board Game Night	Enrich	9	1
Bridge and Pinochle	Games	99	5
Canasta: Open Play	Games	29	3
Chair Yoga	Gather	56	2
Chamber Concert	Family	68	1
Ciao Italia	Gather	17	1
Coloring for Mindfulness	Create	9	1
Consuming and Discussing Political News	Civic Engagement	13	1
Creative Cardmaking	Create	28	2
Culture Club: Olympic Peninsula	Enrich	22	1
Cybersecurity for Small Business	Business	3	1
Documentary Screening: My Octopus Teacher	Movies	8	1
Economic Equity for Women in Illinois	Career & Job Hunting	55	1
Fall Prevention		18	1
Fall Watercolors with Karen Exiner	Create	27	1
Friday Features: Driving Miss Daisy	Gather	46	4
Gardening Can Be Murder	Books and Authors	6	1
Getting Started with Streaming Services	Technology	5	1
Good Giving: How to Donate and Volunteer Effectively	Civic Engagement	14	1
Great Decisions	Civic Engagement	19	1
GreenMan Theatre Presents Spooky Stories	Enrich	46	1
Hearing Testing	Enrich	20	2
How to Succeed at Novel Quest	Enrich	5	1
I-Cash Lobby Drop-in	Consumer	28	1
In Stitches Needleworkers	Create	6	1
Intro to Microsoft Office	Technology	6	1
Learn & Grow Book Discussion: The Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness by Sy Montgomery	Book Discussion	14	1
Library Insiders: Make a Halloween T-shirt		11	1
Lyric Opera Lecture: The Marriage of Figaro	Arts and Culture	4	1
Making Change: LGBTQ Activism Since the 1950s	Civic Engagement	12	1
Medicare Supplement Insurance Buyer's Guide	Consumer	13	1
Memory Cafe: Halloween	Enrich	0	1
Next Chapter Book Club	Inclusive	50	3
Octopus Fieldwork: Behavior to Bacteria	One Book One Elmhurst	10	1
One Book and a Brew	Book Discussion	12	1
One Book, One Elmhurst Adult Book Discussion: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt	Book Discussion	20	2
Outreach: Muhsen Private Craft	Inclusive	10	1
Painted Pinecones	Create	21	2

Resume Review	Career & Job Hunting	6	1
Scrabble	Games	19	2
Six Degrees of Separation: The Twilight Zone's Lasting Impact	Common Connection	31	1
Star Wars Reads Celebration	Enrich	140	1
Staying Mentally Fit	Enrich	15	1
Strategies for Picky Eating	Parents	13	1
Ukulele Circle	Gather	4	1
Virtual Author Visit: Erika Sánchez	Book Discussion	15	1
Virtual Author Visit: Jason Reynolds	Books and Authors	5	1
Watercolor Octopus	Create	21	2
TOTALS		1,325	77
Makery Program			
	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Makery 101: Cricut Basics	Create	6	1
Makery 101: Laser Cut a Coaster	Create	8	1
Makery 101: Sewing Basics	Create	7	1
Makery 101: Sewing Basics	Create	6	1
Makery Craft: Halloween Candle	Create	30	1
National Sewing Month: Zippers	Create	6	1
TOTALS		63	6
Teen Programs			
	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Cozy Spooky Movie Night	Teen Program	7	1
Outreach at York	Outreach	153	1
Teen Advisory Group	Teen Program	12	1
Teen Crafternoon: Faux Insect Taxidermy	Create	5	1
Teen Take & Make: Spector Sarcophagus	Teen Program	12	1
TOTALS		189	5
Middle School Programs			
	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Middle School Hangout Passive Program		73	3
Middle School Influencers	Middle School Influencers	5	1
Middle School Makers: Laser Engraver	Create	7	1
Middle School Pop-up Program		2	1
TOTALS		87	6
Kids' Library Programs			
	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
3D Printing	STEAM	10	1
Amulet Trivia and Craft	Books and Authors	6	1
Art Club	Create	3	1
Baby Play Date	Family	0	1
Book Haunt	Books and Authors,	55	1
C.I.T.Y. of Support Playgroup		22	1
Create Star Wars Vehicles	STEAM	8	1
Elmhurst Children's Theatre Performance		100	1
Family Diwali Party	Family	80	1
Family Sensory Hour	Family	3	1
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s	Storytime	55	5
Homeschool Explorers: Escape Room (Grades K-5)	Homeschool	17	1
Homeschool Explorers: Makery Project (Grades 6-12)	Homeschool	8	1
Kids' Chess Club	Games	13	1
Little Wigglers	Storytime	539	9
Mini Makers: A Blanket for Bear	Create	52	2

Mother Goose & Me	Storytime	87	4
Outreach Elementary (EU Elementary Education Students)	Outreach	20	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (1st Grade)	Outreach	94	2
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (2nd Grade)	Outreach	98	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (3rd Grade)	Outreach	107	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (4th Grade)	Outreach	95	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (5th Grade)	Outreach	96	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (Kindergarten)	Outreach	81	1
Outreach Elementary AT Hawthorne (2nd Grade)	Outreach	20	1
Outreach Elementary AT Hawthorne (3rd Grade)	Outreach	20	1
Outreach Elementary AT Hawthorne (4th Grade)	Outreach	20	1
Outreach Elementary AT Hawthorne (5th Grade)	Outreach	20	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (1st Grade)	Outreach	58	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (2nd Grade)	Outreach	51	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (3rd Grade)	Outreach	63	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (4th Grade)	Outreach	53	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (5th Grade)	Outreach	71	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (Kindergarten)	Outreach	54	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (2nd Grade)	Outreach	79	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (3rd Grade)	Outreach	94	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (4th Grade)	Outreach	89	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (5th Grade)	Outreach	72	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (Kindergarten)	Outreach	82	1
Outreach Elementary Edison (1st Grade)	Outreach	70	1
Outreach Elementary Emerson (1st Grade)	Outreach	85	1
Outreach Elementary Field (1st Grade)	Outreach	100	1
Outreach Elementary Hawthorne (1st Grade)	Outreach	90	1
Outreach Elementary Jackson (1st Grade)	Outreach	70	1
Outreach Elementary Jefferson (1st Grade)	Outreach	70	1
Outreach Elementary Lincoln (1st Grade)	Outreach	204	2
OUTREACH Preschool AT Eldridge EPD 2's	Outreach	10	1
OUTREACH Preschool AT IC 3's classes	Outreach	37	1
OUTREACH Preschool AT Tree Town	Outreach	22	1
OUTREACH Preschool AT Wagner	Outreach	12	1
OUTREACH Preschool AT Wagner EPD 3's	Outreach	9	1
Read to the Dogs	STEAM	15	1
Reading Clubhouse: Fall Edition	Books and Authors	12	1
Romp & Rhyme	Storytime	236	9
Scary Writing Contest Winners Read Their Stories	STEAM	87	1
Scout Visit Button making	Outreach	29	1
Scout Visit Computer Expert	Outreach	14	1
Scout Visit Digital Photography	Outreach	26	2
Spanish/English Storytime	Storytime	15	1
Use Your Noodle! Noodle Day Story and Craft	Books and Authors	12	1
TOTALS		3,720	87
Passive Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Adult Passive Programs:			
Beyond Books: Human Services (Online)		123	1
Collection Spotlight: Borrow Tech (Online)		103	1
Puzzles		15	1
Reading Adventure		2	1
Recording of Cover Letters Made Simple (Online)		10	1

Recording of Economic Equality for Women (Online)		16	1
Recording of Julia Child (Online)		47	1
Social Services Folders		10	4
Sticker Poster		504	
Kids' Passive Programs:			
Craft Table-Passive (DO NOT PUBLISH)	Families	1,206	5
		Attendance	Sessions
Adult Program Grand Total		2218	94
Total Passive Program Statistics		830	11
Total Program Statistics		1,388	83
Teen Program Grand Total		189	5
Total Passive Program Statistics		0	0
Total Program Statistics		189	5
Middle School Program Grand Total		87	6
Total Passive Program Statistics		0	0
Total Program Statistics		87	6
Kids' Program Grand Total		4,926	92
Total Passive Program Statistics		1,206	5
Total Program Statistics		3,720	87
Passive Program Total		2,036	16
Total Attendance		7,420	
Total Programs			197

STATISTICAL REPORT

October 2024

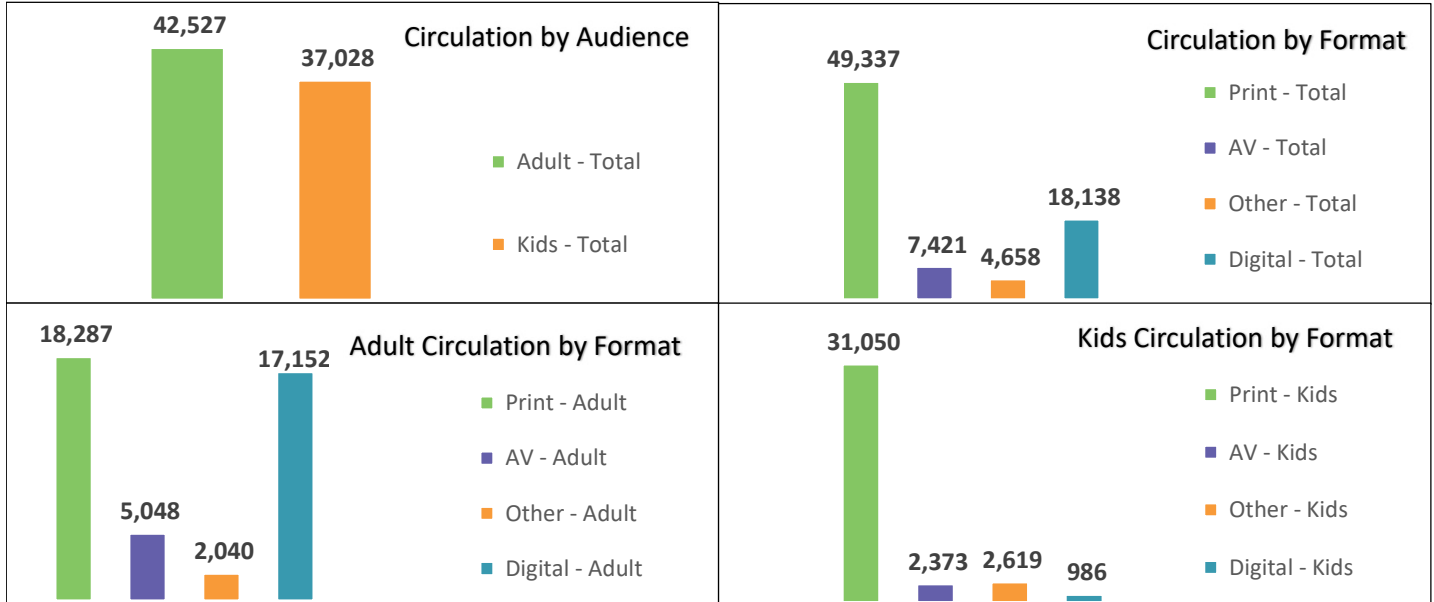
Circulation

Total Circulation
80,868 ↓ -10%
 89,598 last year
Card Holders
 25,432

Library Card Usage
9,074 ↑ 0%
 9,069 last year

Library Cards Issued
Elmhurst
 186 ↓ -19%
 229 last year
Reciprocal Borrower
 49 ↓ -13%
 56 last year
 (Issued)
 (Registered)

Interlibrary Loan
Borrowed 1,314 ↓ -2%
 1,343 last year
Lent 611 ↓ -6%
 648 last year



Technology Usage

Public Computer Use

16,296 ↓ -13%
 18,717 last year

Website Visits

36,930 ↓ -68%
 117,000 last year

Self Checkout

(% of checkouts)

52% ↑ 2%
 51% last year

WiFi Sessions

25,513 ↓ -15%
 30,132 last year

Reference Queries

Reference Questions Total

4,100 ↓ -7%
 4,396 last year

Reference Questions

Adult
 2,840 ↓ -12%
 3,223 last year

Kids
 1,260 ↑ 7%
 1,173 last year

Meeting Room Use

Library Programs

197 ↓ -6%
 209 last year

Public Meetings

84 ↑ 5%
 80 last year

Group Study Rooms

2,298 ↑ 17%
 1,972 last year

Programs

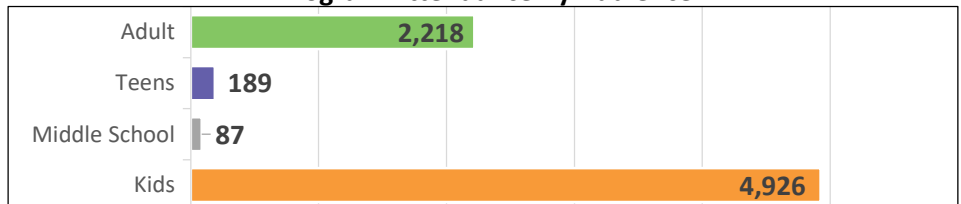
Program Attendance

7,420 ↑ 7%
 6,937 last year

Library Programs

197 ↓ -6%
 209 last year

Program Attendance By Audience



Library Visits

Total Visits

43,366 ↑ 7%
 40,420 last year

In House Visits

Makery 1,997 ↑ 162%
 761 last year

Walk-In

41,525 ↑ 8%
 38,532 last year

Drive-Up Visits

1,841 ↓ -2%
 1,888 last year

Creative Studio

95 ↓ -19%
 117 last year

Monthly Comparison

Total Circulation

80,868 -10%
89,598 last year

Adult Circulation

42,527 -11%
47,554 last year

Kids Circulation

37,028 -9%
40,701 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,314 -2%
1,343 last year

Digital Material Circulation

18,138 -11%
20,356 last year

Databases

94,690 900%
9,467 last year

Reference Questions Total

4,100 -7%
4,396 last year

One on One Tutorials

63 43%
44 last year

Number of Programs

197 -6%
209 last year

Program Attendance

7,420 7%
6,937 last year

In-Person Visitors

41,525 8%
38,532 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

1,841 -2%
1,888 last year

Year To Date Comparison

Total Circulation

919,457 -2%
941,709 last year

Adult Circulation

487,086 -2%
498,200 last year

Kids Circulation

419,366 -3%
430,873 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

13,006 3%
12,637 last year

Digital Material Circulation

213,092 5%
202,038 last year

Databases

280,533 71%
163,844 last year

Reference Questions Total

45,277 1%
44,878 last year

One on One Tutorials

374 -27%
511 last year

Number of Programs

1,782 -6%
1,901 last year

Program Attendance

70,981 13%
62,718 last year

In-Person Visitors

395,458 8%
367,222 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

18,233 -4%
18,898 last year

Collection Totals

Books and Magazines

163,414

Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics

6,071

Audio Visual

27,531

Digital

170,973

Notable Happenings in Circulation

- One *Cards for Kids* library card was issued in October.
- There are 34 active *Cards for Kids* library cards.
- Two Non resident cards were purchased this month for a total of \$479.42
- There are 132 active Non resident library cards (patrons living in unincorporated Elmhurst).
- We filled 4,923 holds this month.
- We began a postcard campaign in October. Patrons who move into Elmhurst will receive a card (see below) inviting them to visit the Library and apply for a library card.

The postcard features a photograph of the Elmhurst Public Library building on the left. The background is a light blue sky with decorative white dotted circles. The main text reads: "HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT YOUR LIBRARY YET?". To the right of the photo, there is a welcome message and instructions on how to get a library card. At the bottom, there is contact information and logos for "find me at Elmhurst Public Library" and "my EPL".

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

As you settle in, discover why your Elmhurst Public Library card is the smartest card in your wallet!

Visit us online or in person to begin exploring all that the Library has to offer and begin your journey at the heart of the community.

Bring this postcard and a photo ID to the Lobby Checkout Desk to get your library card today.

find me at
Elmhurst Public Library.

my EPL
Elmhurst Public Library

ELMHURST PUBLIC LIBRARY
Elmhurst Public Library
125 S. Prospect Ave. • Elmhurst, IL 60126
(630) 279-8696
www.elmlib.org

- EPL Cares Committee facilitated 2 collections in our Lobby in October
DuPage Family Shelter Service collected cleaning supplies for local shelters during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
The Girl Scouts collected socks for York High School to distribute this holiday season.