

Director's Report

- The One Book, One Elmhurst event featuring best-selling author, Shelby Van Pelt, was a huge success. Over 500 people attended in person to hear the author talk about her book and writing process. Ms. Van Pelt could not have been more gracious as she signed autographs and interacted with patrons who waited in line to meet her after the interview.
- I hope you all had a chance to watch the video I sent you, which was made by D205, featuring the Library and our mutually beneficial partnership with the school district.
- New carpet was installed in the admin offices last week. The work went smoothly with some interruption to work spaces but nothing that we couldn't accommodate for the short-term. Carpet is being installed in the Kids' Department this week.

Unplanned Elevator Repair:

The elevator doors on the car and at the hoist way entrances are powered by the original door operator installed by OTIS Elevator in 2002 when the building was built.

In mid-November, the Lobby elevator started to record faults to the system. The Otis technician reset the software. A few weeks later, the elevator cart went to the upper-level location and the door opened and closed with an audible tone every 3-5 minutes. Otis services were contacted. After testing and trying to correct the issue, it was concluded that the door operator motor failed. The elevator was powered OFF to quell the door opening. Library staff blocked the elevator doors, put up signage, and informed staff to direct patrons to the Kids' Library elevator to access the upper level.

The existing motor is no longer manufactured and obsolete parts are not covered under our Otis contract. Otis tried to acquire another motor, but none was found. Therefore, the entire door operator system needs to be replaced. After parts for the work are obtained in a few weeks, work will be schedule that will take up to 4 days to complete. The elevator inspection service will then be contacted to test operator functions and approve the elevator for public use.

Once the new door operator system is installed and programmed, it will be covered under the maintenance agreement for repairs and adjustments. The total for this repair is \$33,261.55.



Teen Volunteers

Libby Mercado, the Teen Engagement Librarian, worked with teen volunteers to create Fall and Thanksgiving themed cards to be distributed to patrons who receive Outreach Delivery. One Outreach patron said that their card meant so much to them that they plan on writing one back. Teen volunteers have become an invaluable support at EPL and are involved with programming, clerical tasks, decorating the Teen Area and various other projects.

One Book, One Elmhurst: Author Event

Anne Swanson teamed up with Mary Beth Harper to interview Shelby Van Pelt with an audience of more than 500 patrons. Christina Racibzynski, Hayley Rightnowar and Bryan Blank were on the Library-wide team that helped to plan and facilitate the event.

ARC Training

Christi Hawn, Christina Racibzynski and Alyssa Murphy collaborated on a staff training about Advance Reader Copies(ARCs). Along with digital access, EPL has a collection of these pre-pub titles in the staff room for staff knowledge.



Memory Café

This month's Memory Café, facilitated by Hayley Rightnowar and Rachael Mason had a theme of family gatherings. A memory café is a program that is intended for those with mild cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's, or related dementia and their care partners to have a shared experience to socialize and participate in an activity.

LinkedIn Profile Portraits

Christina Racibzynski and Rachael Mason organized the popular LinkedIn Headshots program and provided 27 patrons with a photo for their professional portfolio. In preparation for the program this year, Christina simplified elements of the event setup.

Connecting with Patrons

Kelsey Wilcoxon reports a favorite interaction where a father came in right at closing. The father told Kelsey that he, his wife and their newborn were new to Elmhurst and that they wanted to learn about the Kids' Library. As Kelsey also works in the Kids' Library, she was more than prepared to tell him about Mother Goose and Me, the storytime for newborns, along with other programming and services. The patron seemed surprised and happy and said he'd be back with his family when they had more time to explore.

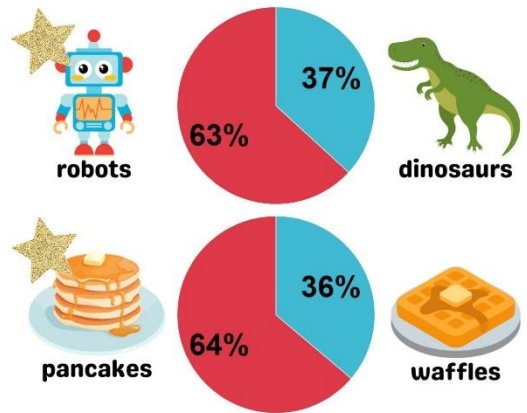
Programming

Di-November roared in with a variety of fun activities. 115 kids put dinosaur cutouts on the bulletin board after determining if their dinosaur was an omnivore, carnivore, or herbivore, which was a great way to introduce kids to what these very big words mean! The glass display featured a patron's dinosaur collection. K-2nd graders made fossils and did other dinosaur-related activities in the Makery, and the 3s, 4s, and 5s enjoyed a dinosaur storytime.



Other fun non-dinosaur activities included our our drop-in Art Club, a Rube Goldberg program for 3rd-5th graders, and our Kids Voting Booth where 365 kids weighed in on important issues such as their preferences for Robots or Dinosaurs or Pancakes or Waffles.

The week before Thanksgiving saw huge crowds in the Kids Library. Anticipating this surge in foot traffic, we reserved a glow rod exhibit borrowed from the Dupage Children’s Museum. 625 kids interacted with this display.



Community Partnerships

The inclusive playgroup led by the C.I.T.Y. of Support, a group for children in therapy, continues to have a good turnout, even if some of the audience isn’t quite the intended demographic.

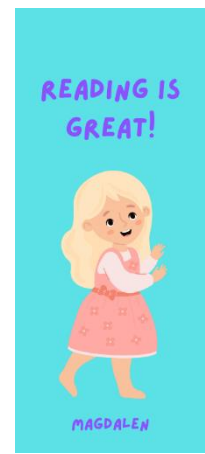
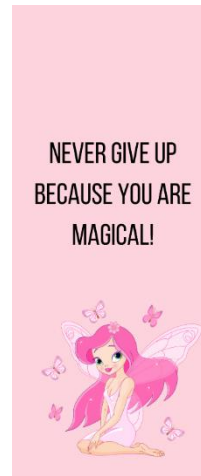
The display above the STREAM kits was “Reading Colors Your World” with a blank poster and prompt for patrons to color a house to add to the display. Over 70 houses were added! The display got an extra boost from students at Bethel Learning Center. They created a cardboard city using recycled materials, inspired by the picture book *Not-A-Box City* by Antoinette Portis



There were four scout visits this month during which the scouts made sublimation mugs, learned computer skills, played escape room activities, made bookmarks, and emailed author Dan Gutman. Gutman responded promptly, and his response was forwarded to the troop leader. Here are a few of the creative bookmarks the scouts made. The scout leader shared with Nuala Maloney Murphy that her older daughter still has her bookmark from 4 years ago!

Kindergarteners from Hawthorne Elementary School took a walking field trip to the library to listen to alphabet stories and participate in a Little Letter Parade.

EPL was featured in an article in [District 205's Community Connections Newsletter](#) and featured quotes from School Services Coordinator Heather Forster Jensen about the importance of early literacy and building connections between the school and public library.



Middle School Happenings

Fifteen middle schoolers had fun participating in "Find the Golden Tickets," and five attended the Middle School Influencers program where they wrote kind messages to leave around the Kids' Library. The tweens also enjoyed checking out books from the Reading Is Magic display.



November Marketing Topics included:

Programming: One Book, One Elmhurst Shelby Van Pelt Author Visit (video)

Elmhurst enjoyed a wonderful evening with local author Shelby Van Pelt, author of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. This debut novel became an instant *New York Times* bestseller enjoyed by a variety of readers. Van Pelt discussed her writing process, characters, loss, hope, and the giant Pacific octopus. The event was presented with Elmhurst University and the Friends of the Elmhurst Public Library. Over 650 in attendance along with Director, Mary Beth and Lead Readers' Advisory Specialist, Anne Swanson as moderators for the conversation with Shelby. Check out a video highlighting the event on our YouTube channel.

elmlib.org/youtube

Collections: Holiday Gifting (MyEPL Merch) (video)

Get ready for the gift-giving season with My EPL merchandise that will delight the Library lovers and bibliophiles on your list. Order now to beat the holiday rush! elmlib.org/MyEPL.

elmlib.org/youtube

Services: NoveList Plus

Novelist Plus can help you get book recs from home or at the Library. Visit elmlib.org/NoveListPlus to search for new titles that match your preferences.

Inside Scoop: Thermal Book Binder

Thermal Book Binder can be used to glue loose sheet of paper or sewn signatures into soft-or hard-cover books with a neat, professional look. The ThermoBind TB500 is ideal for binding reports and other documents. Works with a variety of thermal book binding covers. Available for use in the Makery.

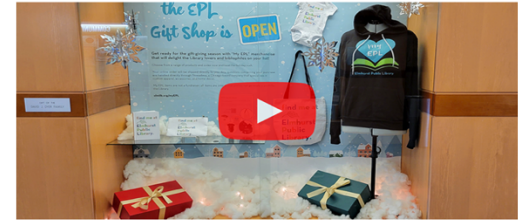
Here are some sample screenshots of our online presence from November:



In November, people watched your videos 15,027 times



Holiday Gifts



Get ready for the gift-giving season! My EPL merchandise will delight the Library lovers and bibliophiles on your list. [Order now](#) to beat the holiday rush!

Watch our YouTube short for details to learn about our My EPL items, and how to purchase them online. My EPL is not a fundraiser; all items are sold at cost and do not generate a profit for the Library.

Watch

One Book, One Elmhurst Author Visit

Shelby Van Pelt
Wednesday, Nov. 20
7-8 p.m.
Hammerschmidt Chapel at Elmhurst University → Live on Zoom

We are thrilled to welcome Shelby Van Pelt to Elmhurst for our culminating event in for this year's [One Book, One Community](#) program. She is the author of the poignant novel *Remarkably Bright Creatures* about the unlikely friendship of a widow, a young man, and a giant Pacific octopus.

Book signing to follow. Books will be available for purchase from [The Bookstore of Glen Ellyn](#), a local independent bookstore.

Presented with Elmhurst University and [The Friends of the Elmhurst Public Library](#).

Register

UCCA Food Drive



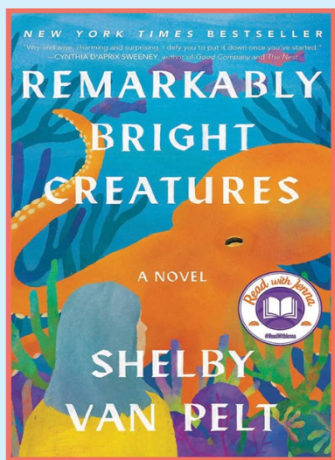
Help [United Community Concerns Association](#) of Elmhurst fill holiday food boxes with donations of nonperishable food. You can drop off the food in the Library Lobby until Dec. 1.

Click below to get a list of nonperishable items needed as well as other ways to help this holiday season.

More Info

Elmhurst Public Library
 Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
 · November 20 at 6:31 AM · 🌐

Tonight at 7 p.m.! Author **Shelby Van Pelt** speaks in Hammerschmidt Chapel at @Elmhurst University!



See insights and ads

Boost post

👍❤️ 273 21 comments 6 shares

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

All comments ▾

Lisa Ruud
 Darn!! just saw this today - bet it was a great Q & A

Tonight at 7 p.m.! Author Shelby Van Pelt speaks in Hammerschmidt Chapel at @Elmhurst University!

Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
 · November 20 at 6:31 AM · 🌐

Post Impressions ⓘ	Post reach ⓘ	Engagement ⓘ
52,485	51,667	1,501

Interactions ⓘ

👍 232 ❤️ 51 😄 0 😮 4 😞 0 😡 0

😊 Reactions 287

💬 Comments 30

🖼️ Photo Views 131

🖱️ Link clicks 2

➦ Shares 6

🖱️ Other Clicks 1,045

Elmhurst Public Library
 Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
 · November 1 · 🌐

These beautiful underwater scenes with an octopus tie in perfectly with our One Book, One Elmhurst novel, Remarkably Bright Creatures!



See insights and ads

Boost post

👍❤️ 35 1 share

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

These beautiful underwater scenes with an octopus tie in perfectly with our One Book, One Elmhurst novel,...

Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik
 · November 1 · 🌐

Post Impressions ⓘ	Post reach ⓘ	Engagement ⓘ
4,137	3,968	193

Interactions ⓘ

👍 29 ❤️ 15 😄 0 😮 1 😞 0 😡 0

😊 Reactions 45

💬 Comments 2

➦ Shares 1

🖱️ Other Clicks 40

MAKERY DEPARTMENT REPORT

NOVEMBER 2024

	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
People Counter	1,947	1,1997	1,758
Equipment Reservations	301	279	276
3D Prints	61	36	59



Entrepreneurial Ambition

This trio of junior high students used a variety of equipment to customize shirts and a hoodie. They developed a brand and logo with hopes of starting a clothing company.



Introducing: Guitar Pick Punch

The latest addition to the Makery is a small one. This clever tool enables you to upcycle old gift cards, library cards, or credit cards into guitar picks.



Makery Drop-In: Planet Lights

Battery Tea Light + Ping Pong Ball + Paint = Super Cute Night Light! Makery Specialist Angelina Mazonko developed this month's makery drop-in.



Sewing Basics

The Makery sewing basics class continues going strong. New staff are being trained to teach this popular class so we can continue offering more sessions.

PROGRAM STATISTICS

November 2024

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
The Marriage Portrait by Maggie O'Farrell	Book Discussion	12	1
The Marriage Portrait by Maggie O'Farrell	Book Discussion	5	1
Alfred Hitchcock: Master of Suspense	Enrich	38	1
American Mah Jongg	Games	34	3
Bingo	Games	12	1
Bridge and Pinochle	Games	79	4
Canasta: Open Play	Games	54	4
Chair Yoga	Gather	54	2
Chamber Concert	Family	130	1
Ciao Italia	Gather	9	1
Coloring for Mindfulness	Create	0	1
Culture Club: Wild West Africa	Enrich	18	1
Echoes of Freedom: The Rise and Fall of the Berlin Wall	Common Connection	43	1
Excel Advanced	Technology	3	1
Excel Intermediate	Technology	10	1
Finishing 3D Printed Objects: Dala Horses	Create	20	2
Friday Features	Gather	41	5
Genealogy: Looking for European Roots	Enrich	17	1
Great Decisions	Civic Engagement	13	1
In Stitches Needleworkers	Create	5	1
Library Insiders: Cookie Decorating		16	1
LinkedIn Profile Portraits	Business	27	2
Lyric Opera Lecture: Blue	Arts and Culture	3	1
Memory Cafe: Family Gatherings	Enrich	5	1
Next Chapter Book Club	Inclusive	21	1
One Book, One Elmhurst Adult Book Discussion: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt	Book Discussion	3	1
One Book, One Elmhurst Author Visit: Shelby Van Pelt	Books and Authors	650	1
Retirement Tax Planning	Consumer	23	1
Retro Video Games	Enrich	4	1
Scrabble	Games	18	2
Staying Mentally Fit	Enrich	8	1
Sticker Swap	Create	4	1
The Historical Wizard of Oz	Books and Authors	35	1
The Sticker Price of Higher Education	Teen Program	2	1
The Writing Journey: November Novel Quest Write-In	Books and Authors	35	4
Toys of the 80s and 90s	Common Connection	19	1
Trends in AI for Business	Business	15	1
Virtual Author Visit: Holiday Tips and Tricks with Chef Art Smith	Books and Authors	6	1
TOTALS		1,491	57
Makery Program	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Makery 101: Laser Engrave a Glass	Create	6	1
Makery 101: Sewing Basics	Create	6	2
Makery 101: Sublimation Basics	Create	6	1
Makery Craft: Autumnal Vase	Create	28	1

TOTALS		46	5
Teen Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Blind Taste Test: Mystery Potato Chips		21	1
OUTREACH Rising Freshmen Academic Night		115	1
Teen Advisory Group		9	1
Teen Crafternoon: Pumpkin Spice Candle		2	1
Teen Take & Make: Mini Dreamcatchers		24	1
TOTALS		171	5
Middle School Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Middle School Influencers	Middle School Influencers	5	1
Middle School Makers: Music in the Creative Studio	Create	9	1
TOTALS		14	2
Kids' Library Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Pop-Up Storytime	Storytime	60	4
Art Club	Create	28	1
Baby Play Date	Family	5	1
C.I.T.Y. of Support Playgroup		17	1
DiNovember Activity		118	1
Family Sensory Hour	Family	9	1
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s	Storytime	42	3
Homeschool Explorers: Draw Comics (Grades K-12)	Homeschool	16	1
Kids' Chess Club	Games	15	1
Kids Vote!	Games	365	5
Little Wigglers	Storytime	586	9
Make with Me: Make Your Own Fossil	Create	46	2
Mother Goose & Me	Storytime	59	4
Ornaments for the Wilder Park Tree	Create	43	1
Outreach (EU K-12 Education Students)	Outreach	25	1
Outreach Elementary Hawthorne (Kindergarten Classroom)	Outreach	110	2
OUTREACH Preschool AT Buttons & Bows	Outreach	45	3
OUTREACH Preschool AT Pythagoras School	Outreach	12	1
Read to the Dogs	STEAM	27	1
Romp & Rhyme	Storytime	315	9
Romp & Rhyme After Hours	Storytime	125	4
Rube Goldberg Machines	STEAM	14	1
Saturday STEM	STEAM	35	1
Scout Visit Computer Expert	Outreach	33	2
Scout Visit Makery Mugs	Outreach	17	1
Scout Visit Tiger-iffic	Outreach	15	1
TOTALS		2,222	63
Passive Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Adult Passive Programs:			
Coloring Stations:		0	0
Interactive Displays:		0	0
Lobby Table- Goodwill Workforce		16	1
Puzzles:		14	1
Reading Adventure		4	1
Recording of All Things Pumpkins & Apples (Online)		24	1

Recording of Genealogy: Looking for European Roots (Online)		16	1
Recording of Lesser Known Genealogy Apps (Online)		10	1
Recording of Making Change: LGBTQ History (Online)		37	1
Middle School Passive Programs:			
Middle School Hangout Passive & Pop-Up		55	2
Kids' Passive Programs:			
Craft Table-Passive		1,285	4
DCM Glow Rod Activity-Passive		625	1
		Attendance	Sessions
Adult Program Grand Total		1658	69
Total Passive Program Statistics		121	7
Total Program Statistics		1,537	62
Teen Program Grand Total		171	5
Total Passive Program Statistics		0	0
Total Program Statistics		171	5
Middle School Program Grand Total		69	4
Total Passive Program Statistics		55	2
Total Program Statistics		14	2
Kids' Program Grand Total		4,132	68
Total Passive Program Statistics		1,910	5
Total Program Statistics		2,222	63
Passive Program Total		2,086	14
Total Attendance		6,030	
Total Programs			146

STATISTICAL REPORT

November 2024

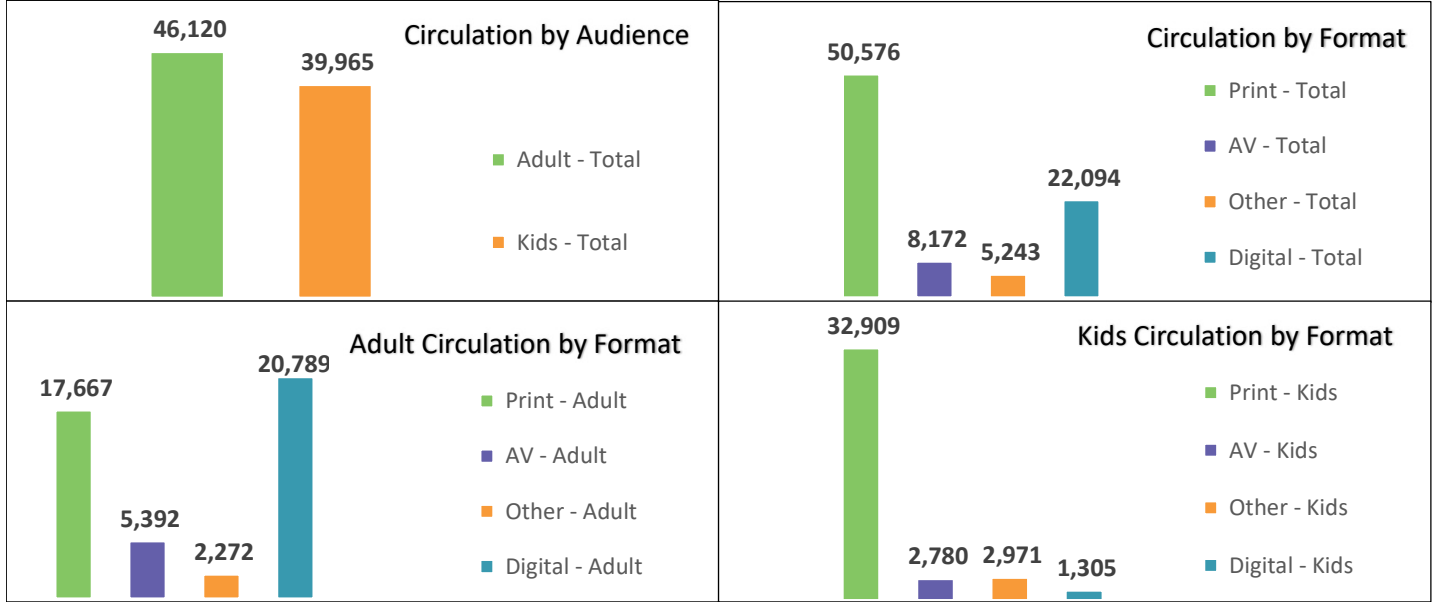
Circulation

Total Circulation
87,370 ↓ -1%
 88,418 last year
Card Holders
 25,614

Library Card Usage
9,345 ↑ 2%
 9,169 last year

Library Cards Issued
Elmhurst **179** ↓ -4%
 (Issued) 187 last year
Reciprocal Borrower **42** ↓ -22%
 (Registered) 54 last year

Interlibrary Loan
Borrowed **1,285** ↓ -6%
 1,366 last year
Lent **529** ↓ -12%
 601 last year



Technology Usage

Public Computer Use

16,007 ↓ -11%
 17,925 last year

Website Visits

36,264 ↓ -70%
 122,479 last year

Self Checkout

(% of checkouts)

53% ↑ 2%
 52% last year

WiFi Sessions

23,010 ↓ -19%
 28,290 last year

Reference Queries

Reference Questions Total

3,783 ↓ -9%
 4,170 last year

Reference Questions

Adult
2,679 ↓ -14%
 3,122 last year

Kids
1,104 ↑ 5%
 1,048 last year

Meeting Room Use

Library Programs

146 ↓ -11%
 164 last year

Public Meetings

90 ↑ 18%
 76 last year

Group Study Rooms

2,013 ↑ 7%
 1,875 last year

Programs

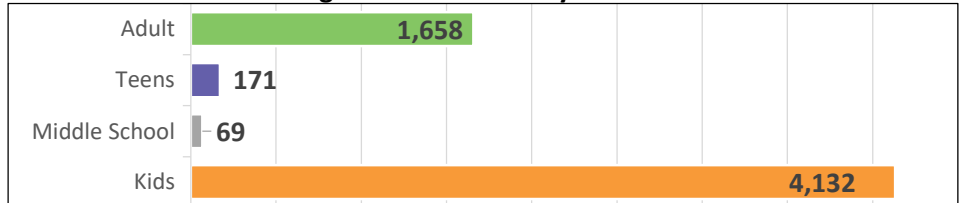
Program Attendance

6,030 ↑ 37%
 4,390 last year

Library Programs

146 ↓ -11%
 164 last year

Program Attendance By Audience



Library Visits

Total Visits

40,793 ↑ 6%
 38,487 last year

In House Visits

Makery **1,947** ↑ 137%
 820 last year

Walk-In
39,072 ↑ 6%
 36,893 last year

Drive-Up Visits
1,721 ↑ 8%
 1,594 last year

Creative Studio **127** ↑ 9%
 117 last year

Monthly Comparison

Total Circulation

87,370 -1%
88,418 last year

Adult Circulation

46,120 0%
46,142 last year

Kids Circulation

39,965 -2%
40,911 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,285 -6%
1,366 last year

Digital Material Circulation

22,094 9%
20,257 last year

Databases

54,565 364%
11,764 last year

Reference Questions Total

3,783 -9%
4,170 last year

One on One Tutorials

21 -48%
40 last year

Number of Programs

146 -11%
164 last year

Program Attendance

6,030 37%
4,390 last year

In-Person Visitors

39,072 6%
36,893 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

1,721 8%
1,594 last year

Year To Date Comparison

Total Circulation

1,006,827 -2%
1,030,127 last year

Adult Circulation

533,206 -2%
544,341 last year

Kids Circulation

459,331 -3%
471,783 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

14,291 2%
14,003 last year

Digital Material Circulation

235,186 6%
222,295 last year

Databases

335,098 91%
175,608 last year

Reference Questions Total

49,060 0%
49,048 last year

One on One Tutorials

395 -28%
551 last year

Number of Programs

1,928 -7%
2,065 last year

Program Attendance

77,011 15%
67,108 last year

In-Person Visitors

434,530 8%
404,115 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

19,954 -3%
20,492 last year

Collection Totals

Books and Magazines

162,829

Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics

6,090

Audio Visual

27,403

Digital

172,931

Notable Happenings in Circulation

- One *Cards for Kids* library card was issued in November.
- There are 36 active *Cards for Kids* library cards.
- Three Non resident cards were purchased this month for a total of \$1,097.76.
- There are 126 active Non resident library cards (patrons living in unincorporated Elmhurst).
- We filled 4,471 holds this month.
- EPL Cares Committee facilitated 2 collections in our Lobby in November
 - Elmhurst University's Public Health Organization collected hats and mittens in observation of National Homeless Awareness Month.
 - United Community Concerns Association held their Annual Holiday Food Drive.
- EPL Cares Committee presented Regal, Elsa, and their people with EPL swag as a thank you for visiting us.

