

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The Library received a substantial donation of \$14,000 from the Estate of a former patron. This is a partial distribution of the Library's distributive share of 10% in accordance with the Will. The rest of the distribution should be received when the remainder of the Will is executed.
- Staff are meeting to discuss the next One Book choice. We'd love to see a repeat of the enthusiasm that last year's program attracted. Finding the right book is always challenging. We're looking for a book that most people like, that might have an author who is affordable for a visit, and that is readily available in multiple formats!
- Staff reviews take place during the month of March with merit increases effective in the first pay period of April.

ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT

Feb 2025



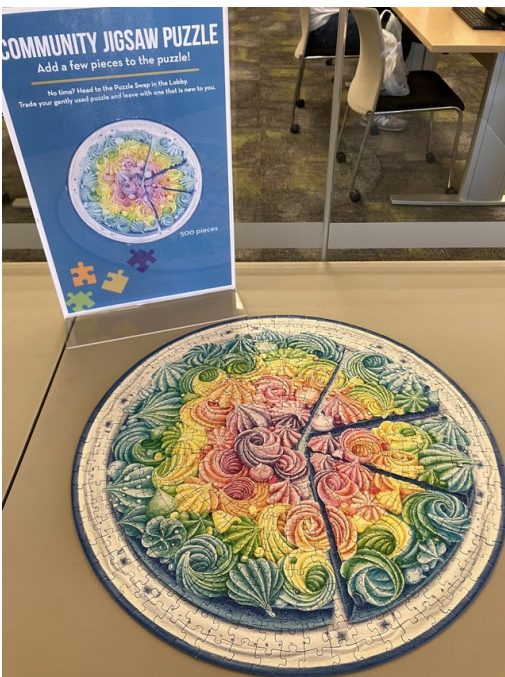
Winter Reading Retreat (above and right)

Patrons attended the retreat this February and participated in crafts, a cozy reading room and opportunities to share their favorite books.



Library Insiders: 3D Printed Keychains

(left) Hayley Rightnowar, Christina Racibozynski, Violet Pope, and Sue Nunamaker, assisted by teen volunteers, Emma and Skylar, collaborated to offer a program for Library Insiders to learn to use CAD software to create a 3D printed keychain with their name on it. Participants picked up their keychains at the next Library Insiders program.



Community Jigsaw Puzzle

(left) Patrons are enjoying the Community Puzzle on the 2nd floor and last month complete 2 puzzles.

Bad Art Night

(right) Rachael Mason helped lead this program where patrons were invited to shake off their inner critic and create the worst artwork. No art skills were necessary.



Programming

Programming by the numbers:

- 873 children completed 20 days and 720 completed 40 days for the Winter Reading Program, up 40% from last year's program.
- 122 attended *Total T Magic* on President's Day. We quickly ran out of tickets so we put out some building activities in the Kids' Programming Room for the overflow.
- 109 parents and children attended two seatings of the Valentine's Day Tea.
- 42 parents and children worked together to make sublimation mugs in the Makery.
- 20 children attended the Shelter Pet Pals program during which they made pet toys. Laurie Winnie from DuPage Animal Rescue brought in two six-week-old kittens for the children to interact with.



Valentine's Day Tea



Total T Magic



Shelter Pet Pals



Sublimation Mugs

Collection

Despite the increase in Winter Reading Program participation, Kids' circulation for the month trended down slightly from the previous year. Fiction was down 1.8%, non-fiction was down 6.8%, non-print was down 6.1%.

Outreach

Gabby Palomino and **Heather Forster Jensen** spent the day with kids at Fischer Elementary School reading stories, providing exploration stations, and distributing reading program prizes. Fischer participates in a special classroom version of the Winter Reading Program. Interestingly, this support at the school level may have led to increased interest in coming to the library since Fischer had the third highest number of students participate in WRP at the library.



Scouts

Nuala Maloney Murphy had 6 scout visits this month on a variety of topics. Choosing a fun background for the group photo was a big hit!!



AW Anne Woznica <anne.woznica@gmail.com>
To: Nuala Maloney

☺ Reply Reply all Forward Sat 2/8/2025 12:52 PM

Retention: EPL Email Retention Policy (7 years) Expires: Sat 2/7/2032 12:52 PM

-EXTERNAL EMAIL-

Hi Nuala,

Thank you so much for having us, these photos are fantastic! The girls (and parents) really enjoyed the visit. We are so lucky to have such a fantastic library in Elmhurst, we truly appreciate all you do.

Anne Woznica

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February Marketing Topics included:

Programming: Winter Reading Retreat

Join us for a cozy getaway to celebrate all things reading! Stay for a while and read a few chapters while enjoying comfy seating and hot beverages. Then, share with others what you've been reading.

Collections: LOET: Creative Studio (video)

The Creative Studio, located on the 2nd Floor, gives you access to high-end equipment and software needed to complete digital audio, visual, and graphic projects. If you need to work somewhere other than the Creative Studio, our collection offers technology items you can borrow and take home for your professional, personal, or school related project.

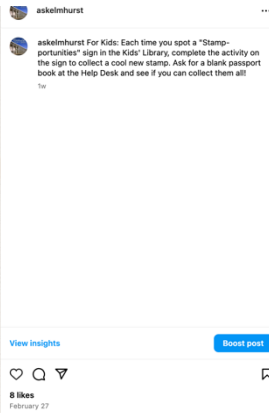
Services: Job Hunting Resources

Looking for a new job? Your library card gives you access to online resources that are helpful when searching for employment. Featured resources include; Career Center from Tutor.com and Reference Solutions by DataAxle.

Inside Scoop: DIY at EPL

The Library can be your partner when it comes to DIY projects. We have tools and digital equipment to use in the Library or take home with you. Creativebug offers online video of arts and crafts workshops and techniques that you can watch at your own pace.

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



Collections Spotlight: Creative Studio Tech



EPL's Creative Studio is an excellent resource for high-end equipment and software needed to complete your digital audio, visual, and graphic projects. Did you know some equipment can be checked out, too? Today, we're sharing two incredible stories of cherished family memories that were discovered, preserved, and digitized, all using equipment checked out from the Library.

Watch

Virtual Author Visit: Slowing Down with Amy Tan



Amy Tan joins us virtually on Wednesday, Feb. 19 to discuss her *body of work* and reflect on the wonder of slowing down and savoring the quiet moments. Her connection to nature is captured in her latest, *The Backyard Bird Chronicles*, a collection of sketches and essays which debuted at #1 on both the *New York Times* and the *Indie bestseller list*. Alison Cuddy will join her in conversation.

This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present (ILP), a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events.

Register

(Re)Treat Yourself



On Saturday, Feb. 22, join us for a cozy getaway to celebrate all things reading! Stay for a while and read a few chapters while enjoying comfy seating and hot beverages. Then, share with others what you've been reading!

Reading Retreat: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Gathering Room
Book-Themed Crafts: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Lobby
Trading Titles Session: 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. and 2:30-3 p.m., Gathering Room

In-person. No registration required.



In February, people watched your videos 14,622 times





Views	Reach
3,221	1,799
Interactions	Link clicks
112	1

Views
Followers vs. non-followers

17% Non-followers
83% Followers

Interactions

Reactions	102
Comments	8
Shares	2
Saves	0

70 36 0 3 0 0



Views	Reach
1,504	1,117
Interactions	Link clicks
8	--

Views
Followers vs. non-followers

47% Followers
53% Non-followers

Interactions

Reactions	8
Comments	0
Shares	0
Saves	0

7 1 0 0 0 0

Boost post

MAKERY DEPARTMENT REPORT

FEBRUARY 2025

	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
People Counter	1,737	1,832	1,776
Equipment Reservations	185	195	185
3D Prints	105	86	72



Maker Spotlight - Laser Cut Gift Box

Some kind words from one of our patrons... "I've been using the laser cutter/engraver in The Makery the past couple of months and I am a fan! The staff in The Makery have guided me along the way and I am appreciative of their knowledge."



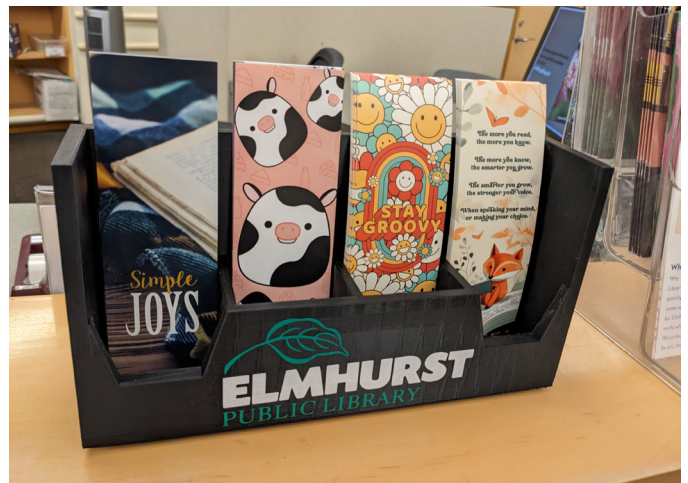
Cricut Basics

These two happy patrons were among those who attended our Cricut Basics class on February 17th -- a 1°F day! The class was full. We were exceptionally grateful for such a strong turn out on such a frigid day.



Valentine's Day Popup

Makery and Kids' Library staff collaborated on this Lobby Popup. Patrons made beaded hearts on Valentine's day using pony beads, ribbon, and pipe cleaners.



Maker Spotlight - Circulation Staff

Lead Desk Clerk Keith Meier designed and printed a custom bookmark holder for the Checkout Desk. The EPL logo was cut out on the Cricut. Stop by the Checkout desk to see it!

PROGRAM STATISTICS

February 2025

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Adult Book Discussion: <i>American Spy: A Novel</i> by Lauren Wilkinson	Book Discussion	14	1
American Mah Jongg: Open Play	Games	28	4
Bad Art Night	Create	9	1
Bingo	Games	5	1
Board Game Night	Enrich	9	1
Bridge and Pinochle	Games	65	4
Buy Your First Home	Enrich	11	1
Canasta: Open Play	Games	37	4
Canva Basics	Technology	5	1
Chair Yoga	Gather	42	2
Chamber Concert	Gather	96	1
Ciao Italia	Enrich	7	1
Civics and Artificial Intelligence	Civic Engagement	29	1
Coloring for Mindfulness		8	1
Cook-Along: Pierogis and Kolaczki	Enrich	75	1
Craft Swap	Enrich	141	1
Creative Cardmaking: Valentine's Day		23	2
Culture Club: From Merlin to Doc Martin: The Best of England's Dramatic Cornwall	Enrich	19	1
Diana: The Reluctant Princess	Common Connection	44	1
Enhancing Parent-Child Communication	Family	14	
Excel Advanced	Technology	4	1
Excel Intermediate	Technology	4	1
For Mystery Lovers	Book Discussion	5	1
Friday Features	Movies	50	4
Full-Time Employment to Entrepreneurship: How to Thrive	Business	5	1
Genealogy: Germans to America's Midwest (1848-1900)	Enrich	22	1
Great Decisions	Enrich	21	1
In Stitches Needleworkers	Create	10	1
Learn to Play Bridge	Enrich	5	1
Learn to Play Pinochle	Enrich	4	1
Library Insiders: Daytime Movie	Library Insiders	9	1
Library Insiders: Design a 3D Print	Library Insiders	16	1
Memory Cafe: Golden Age of Hollywood	Enrich	9	1
Mocktails and Masterpieces	Create	27	2
Next Chapter Book Club	Library Insiders	29	2
Outreach: ELSA Tour	Outreach	10	1
Painting Flowers with Karen Exiner	Create	30	1
Resume Review	Career & Job Hunting	5	1
Scrabble	Games	15	2
Staying Mentally Fit	Gather	10	1
The New Skills of the Workforce	Career & Job Hunting	3	1
Ukulele Circle	Gather	7	1
Virtual Author Visit: James McBride	Books and Authors	16	1
Virtual Author Visit: <i>Slowing Down</i> with Amy Tan	Books and Authors	22	1
Winter Reading Retreat	Book Discussion	163	1
Winter Stitch-Along	Create	690	4
TOTALS		1,872	65

Makery Program	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Makery 101: Cricut Basics	Create, Makery	6	1
Makery 101: Laser Cut a Coaster	Create, Makery	5	1
Makery Craft: Book Fan	Create, Makery > Makery	8	1
Makery Greencastle Outreach		5	1
TOTALS		24	4
Teen Programs			
Teen Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Teen Crafternoon: Clay Diffuser Stones	Create	5	1
V-Day Cards	Create	0	1
TOTALS		5	2
Middle School Programs			
Middle School Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Middle School Influencers	Middle School Influencers	3	1
The Ultimate Quest	Games	4	1
TOTALS		7	2
Kids' Library Programs			
Kids' Library Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
3D Printing	STEAM	9	1
After School Gaming		9	1
ASL Storytime	Storytime	13	1
Baby Play Date	Family	8	1
C.I.T.Y. of Support Playgroup	Family	21	1
Drop in Lobby Craft	Makery	29	1
Family Sensory Hour	Family	2	1
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s	Storytime	49	4
Graphic Novel Club	Books and Authors	4	1
Homeschool Explorers (6-12)	Homeschool	5	1
Homeschool Explorers (K-5)	Homeschool	14	1
Kids' Chess Club	Games	10	1
Little Wiggles	Storytime	533	7
Mini Makers: Sublimation Mugs	Create	42	2
Mother Goose & Me	Storytime	78	4
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (1st Grade)	Outreach	19	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (2nd Grade)	Outreach	24	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (3rd Grade)	Outreach	18	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (4th Grade)	Outreach	19	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (5th Grade)	Outreach	19	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jackson (Grades K-5)	Outreach	250	1
Outreach Mom and Baby Hour	Outreach	21	1
OUTREACH Preschool AT Courts Plus EPD	Outreach	12	1
OUTREACH Preschool AT Pythagoras	Outreach	14	1
Pop-up Romp & Rhyme		46	1
Pop-up Storytime	Storytime	135	5
Read to the Dogs	STEAM	33	1
Reading Clubhouse: Who Would Win?	Books and Authors	18	1
Romp & Rhyme	Storytime	315	8
Saturday STEM	STEAM	11	1
Scout visit Howl at the Moon	Outreach	6	1
Scout visit Makery mug	Outreach	39	3
Scout visit tour	Outreach	41	2
Shelter Pet Pals	STEAM	29	1
STEM Explorers: Candy Science	STEAM	23	1
Summer Recreation Open House	Outreach	116	1
Total-T Magic Show	Family	122	1

Valentine's Day Tea	Storytime	109	2
TOTALS		2,265	66
Passive Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Adult Passive Programs:			
Entertainment Station		14	5
EPL's High-End Equipment (Online)		119	1
Interactive Displays		43	2
Puzzles		40	2
Winter Reading		21	1
Makery Passive Programs:			
Drop In Craft		46	1
Scratch Art		5	1
Teen Passive Programs:			
DIY Lip Balm (passive)	Teen Program	10	1
Middle School Passive Programs:			
Middle School Hangout Passive		76	2
Kids' Passive Programs:			
Make & Take-Passive		435	2
Stay & Play-Passive		210	2
		Attendance	Sessions
Adult Program Grand Total		2184	82
Total Passive Program Statistics		288	13
Total Program Statistics		1,896	69
Teen Program Grand Total		15	3
Total Passive Program Statistics		10	1
Total Program Statistics		5	2
Middle School Program Grand Total		83	4
Total Passive Program Statistics		76	2
Total Program Statistics		7	2
Kids' Program Grand Total		2,910	70
Total Passive Program Statistics		645	4
Total Program Statistics		2,265	66
Passive Program Total		1,019	20
Total Attendance		5,192	
Total Programs			159

STATISTICAL REPORT

February 2025

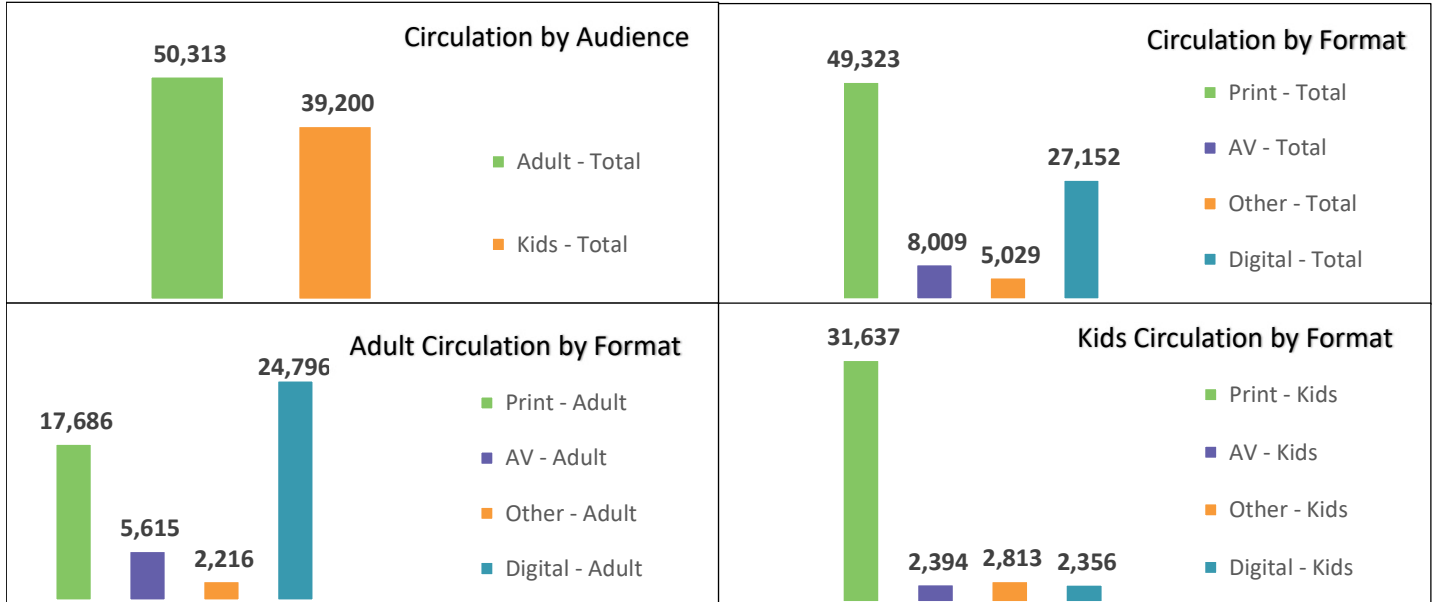
Circulation

Total Circulation
90,867 ↑ 2%
 89,217 last year
Card Holders
 26,052

Library Card Usage
9,367 ↑ 1%
 9,256 last year

Library Cards Issued
Elmhurst **160** ↓ -25%
 (Issued) 213 last year
Reciprocal Borrower **47** ↓ -23%
 (Registered) 61 last year

Interlibrary Loan
Borrowed **1,354** ↓ -12%
 1,531 last year
Lent **496** ↓ -25%
 664 last year



Technology Usage

Public Computer Use

18,856 ↑ 20%
 15,771 last year

Website Visits

33,725 ↓ -19%
 41,529 last year

Self Checkout

(% of checkouts)

53% ↑ 6%
 50% last year

WiFi Sessions

20,860 ↓ -7%
 22,504 last year

Reference Queries

Reference Questions Total

4,763 ↑ 7%
 4,467 last year

Reference Questions

Adult
3,152 ↓ 0%
 3,167 last year

Kids
1,611 ↑ 24%
 1,300 last year

Meeting Room Use

Library Programs

159 ↓ -12%
 180 last year

Public Meetings

103 ↑ 16%
 89 last year

Group Study Rooms

1,925 ↑ 5%
 1,836 last year

Programs

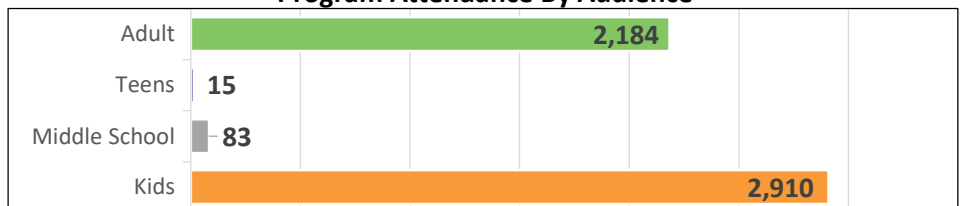
Program Attendance

5,192 ↓ -38%
 8,385 last year

Library Programs

159 ↓ -12%
 180 last year

Program Attendance By Audience



Library Visits

Total Visits

38,763 ↓ -6%
 41,251 last year

In House Visits

Makery **1,737** ↑ 146%
 707 last year

Walk-In

36,913 ↓ -7%
 39,509 last year

Drive-Up Visits

1,850 ↑ 6%
 1,742 last year

Creative Studio

120 ↓ -8%
 131 last year

Monthly Comparison

Total Circulation

90,867 2%
89,217 last year

Adult Circulation

50,313 3%
48,726 last year

Kids Circulation

39,200 1%
38,961 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,354 -12%
1,531 last year

Digital Material Circulation

27,152 24%
21,847 last year

Databases

50,916 170%
18,835 last year

Reference Questions Total

4,763 7%
4,467 last year

One on One Tutorials

31 -6%
33 last year

Number of Programs

159 -12%
180 last year

Program Attendance

5,192 -38%
8,385 last year

In-Person Visitors

36,913 -7%
39,509 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

1,850 6%
1,742 last year

Year To Date Comparison

Total Circulation

187,681 3%
182,767 last year

Adult Circulation

106,730 7%
99,916 last year

Kids Circulation

78,207 -2%
79,852 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

2,744 -9%
3,000 last year

Digital Material Circulation

56,827 27%
44,776 last year

Databases

113,657 291%
29,071 last year

Reference Questions Total

9,329 2%
9,191 last year

One on One Tutorials

75 6%
71 last year

Number of Programs

314 -9%
344 last year

Program Attendance

10,314 -23%
13,346 last year

In-Person Visitors

72,676 1%
71,958 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

3,763 3%
3,657 last year

Collection Totals

Books and Magazines

159,678

Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics

6,099

Audio Visual

27,153

Digital

177,797

Notable Happenings in Circulation

- No *Cards for Kids* library cards were issued in February.
- There are 40 active *Cards for Kids* library cards.
- One Non resident card was purchased this month for a total of \$89.75.
- There are 126 active Non resident library cards (patrons living in unincorporated Elmhurst).
- We filled 4,795 holds this month.