

Director's Report

- The Library has a new expanded online magazine service on the Libby or Overdrive app. Patrons now have access to over 2,400 titles, which they can check out on their favorite digital device. There's a magazine for everything! From bird watching to bike repair, if you have a hobby, then there's a magazine for that. The collection also includes popular magazine titles such as Time, Better Homes and Gardens and Reader's Digest.
- Media Match is a new service we're offering that repackages traditional reader's advisory to include listening and watching recommendations. There's also Media Match Junior for kids. Patrons fill out an online application and are paired with a selector. Selectors will suggest media options including, movies, podcasts and TV shows.
- We continue to watch what Illinois libraries are doing to mitigate the risks of spreading the COVID virus. Most libraries closed again in early December and a handful of libraries remained open like us. The libraries that closed are reopening and continuing to limit visit times and capacity. We will continue to evaluate operating procedures as new data is produced by the County and State.

ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT January 2021

Patron Interactions

Things got a little busier with the new year. January interaction numbers were up for the first time since July.

Virtual Meeting Rooms

Virtual meeting room use continues to slowly increase. Thirty-six virtual online meetings were held in January.

Winter Reading

The Winter Reading program for Adults and Highschool continued this month and runs through the end of February. In January, 52 reading challenges (<http://elmlib.org/challenge>) have been requested by 34 patrons. Each completed challenge is an entry into the prize drawing to win one of 3 City Centre Gift Cards. Your last chance to request a challenge is February 21.

Tax Information

While the official individual income tax season isn't starting until February 12, the tax information display has started to go up as materials became available and patrons started asking questions. A complete set of photocopyable federal and state tax forms along with J.K. Lasser books and bookmarks with local and general information will be available by the time the season is begun.

Digital Magazine Transition

RBDigital Magazines transitioned on January 25th to Libby after RBDigital was acquired by Overdrive last year. The new product took our collection of eMagazines from 100 titles to over 3000 between Libby and Flipster.

Kids' staff kept busy preparing for the launch of our picture book audit on February 1. Twenty-six staff from across the library volunteered to assist as we gather data on the various types of representation that can be found in our picture books.

Patron feedback on January 18th: [...] *we are so very grateful that you have remained open for us to visit and pick out books. Your books have been one of the primary ways we've stayed busy during the pandemic, and the depth and breadth of your well curated collection has been so appreciated. We also have very few safe places to visit, so we are ever so grateful for our 2x a month visit. Finally, we are grateful for your focus on bringing in more diverse books with characters of different races/cultures and family dynamics that stray from mom/dad/kids. Thank you for all you do!*

Programs

Ruth Ronnau shared that her January 13th Create Your Own Comics program was a blast. The kids' comics were so funny and silly; they didn't seem worried about their drawing skills and just went for it.

Lori Lorenz shared that after her January 14th Owl Diaries program, she had a patron who sat in on the Owl Diaries book party call and Lori helped the patron brainstorm things she could do remotely with her 1st grade granddaughter who lives in Atlanta.

Katie Stringwell led the January 18th program "Why Kids Need Diverse Picture Books," with appearances from **Gloria Walsh-Rock, Lori Lorenz, Allison Davis, Jan Simmons, Nuala Maloney-Murphy, and Alea Perez**. It shared information on why representation matters and provided titles for parents to check out. Patrons shared the following comments on it:

- *Great resource for parents and teachers!*
- *It looks like our Elmhurst Public Library is doing a fantastic job of reaching out while opening eyes and minds to some great reads.*
- *loved it!*

School, Scouts, & Community Outreach

School – Bluestem booktalks have been recorded to be shared with the schools and posted on EPL@ Home, on YouTube.

Scouts – **Nuala Maloney-Murphy** and **Linnea Dolan** did a pilot Scout Zoom program on Friday, January 29. It went well and in feedback provided from three parents, all said their scout's favorite part of the program was when they played Pictionary and they were able to use the whiteboard to draw.

Staff Training

Lori Lorenz, Gloria Walsh-Rock, Nuala Maloney-Murphy, Allison Davis, Lori Hoegler, and Alea Perez participated in **16.75 hours** of staff training and networking opportunities. Topics included programming in a pandemic, diversity audits, intellectual freedom and social justice, and makerspaces.

January Marketing Topics included:

Program: *Common Connection: Find Your Voice*

Our quarterly Common Connection topics use lectures, discussion, and critical thinking to identify topics that influence the world today – no matter who we are. This winter, we encourage our community to find their own voices or help amplify someone else's. The world is listening.

elmlib.org/common

Collection: *Learning Links - Parent Teacher Student collection*

After winter break, we revisited the excellent academic support collection that was put together by Kids' Library staff after the pandemic started. In addition to this physical collection, which can be found near the Kids' Help Desk, we also promoted our online Homework Help services and collections.

elmlib.org/homework

Service: *Winter Reading programs*



Our popular Winter Reading Programs run until February 28! We have a reading programs for people of all ages.

Adults and High School Students: Take our Winter Reading Challenge by filling out a quick entry form. Based on your likes and dislikes, a Librarian chooses a title out of your comfort zone—especially for you.

Kids newborn to 8th grade: Be a Smart Cookie by reaching your reading goals!

elmlib.org/winter

Insiders Scoop: *eNewspapers*

Love reading newspapers? Read them online with PressReader using your browser or the PressReader app! Get instant online access to today's newspapers from around the world in full-color, full-page format and a small collection of magazines. This ever-expanding collection currently includes more than 2,000 U.S. and international titles.

Community Connection: Valentine Card Project

We encouraged our community to create a Valentine's Day card for seniors, veterans, or Ronald McDonald House kids. Cards could be made from scratch or templates were available through the Library's website.

elmlib.org/community

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

The screenshot shows a Facebook post from Elmhurst Public Library. The post text reads: "We are proud to announce that we continue to be your Five-Star Library! Read about it at elmlib.org/stars". Below the text is a green banner with five orange stars. The post has 713 people reached and 80 engagements. A "Boost Post" button is visible. The performance analytics for the post are as follows:

Performance for Your Post		
713 People Reached		
40 Reactions, Comments & Shares		
37 Like	37 On Post	0 On Shares
1 Love	1 On Post	0 On Shares
2 Comments	2 On Post	0 On Shares
0 Shares	0 On Post	0 On Shares
40 Post Clicks		
0 Photo Views	8 Link Clicks	32 Other Clicks
NEGATIVE FEEDBACK		
0 Hide Post	0 Hide All Posts	
0 Report as Spam	0 Unlike Page	

Below the analytics, there is a comment from JoAnn Naraine: "The library has been such a valuable resource that has really sustained us through the pandemic. Aside from books, we've borrowed DVDs, bakeware, boardgames and video games for the kids and have done many of the craft kits. I am so grateful! Many thanks to the talented staff at EPL!"



The screenshot shows an Instagram post from the account "askelmhurst". The main image is a woman with a red headband and a yellow blazer speaking at a podium with two microphones. The post text reads: "Were you inspired by inaugural poet Amanda Gorman? Unlock the power of #poetry with books from the 2nd Floor display!". The post was liked by "arianahaze and 29 others" on January 26. The Instagram logo and the word "Instagram" in its signature font are overlaid on the bottom right of the screenshot.

PROGRAM STATISTICS

January 2021

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
20s/30s Book Discussion: Read a Memoir!	20 and 30 Somethings	4	1
20s/30s Murder Mystery Party	20 and 30 Somethings	8	1
Adult Book Discussion	Adult Book Discussion	11	2
Ciao Italia!	Adult Program	12	1
Craft Club	Adult Program	1	1
Culture Club: Mediterranean Music Cruise	Adult Program	13	1
Genealogy Club: Dig Into Your Research	Adult Program	2	1
Great Decisions	Adult Program	11	1
Interviews: A Perspective from Across the Desk	Business	25	1
Library Board Meeting	Adult Program	11	1
Meditation as a Strategy for Stress-Free Living	Adult Program	16	1
Music Theory for Songwriters	Technology	7	1
Next Chapter Book Club	Library Insiders	31	2
Organizing Solutions to Pandemic Problems	Adult Program	19	1
Social Issues Learning Group	Library Club	7	1
The Immigrant Experience on Film	Common Connection	33	1
The Shakespeare Project of Chicago	Common Connection	74	1
Understanding Behavioral Interview Questions	Adult Program	18	1
TOTALS		303	20
Teen Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Anime / Manga Drawing: Beginners	High School	4	1
Creative Writing for Teens	High School	5	1
First Thursdays: Careers	High School	2	1
Learn About FAFSA: College Financial Aid Form	High School	6	1
Minecraft Mondays	High School	41	4
Minecraft UHC	High School	76	4
Smash Bros. Tournament	High School	19	4
Teen Advisors	High School	5	4
Teen Jackbox Game Night	High School	1	2
TOTALS		159	22
Middle School Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
TOTALS		0	0
Kids' Library Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
1000 Bks B4 Kindergarten	Preschool	11	1
Create Your Own Comics	Elementary School	14	1
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s	Storytime	140	4
Kids' Online Chess	Elementary School	9	1
Little Wiggles Storytime	Storytime	226	4
Owl Diaries Party	Elementary School	10	1
Songs and Stories	Storytime	130	4
Songs and Stories	Storytime	34	1
Zoom Prgm Why Kids Need Diverse Picture Books	Elementary School	2	1
TOTALS		576	18
Passive Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Adult Passive Programs:			
Cozy Cottage Painting	Adult Program	78	1

Craft Kit: Botanical Poster	Adult Program	69	1
EPL @ Home Learn about Martin Luther King	Adult Program	58	1
Health and Fitness with Technology	Technology	100	1
New Exhibit! Telling a People's Story	Adult Program	73	1
New Skill Saturday: DIY Dry Erase Board	Create	38	1
New Skill Saturday: How to Make a Vision Board	Adult Program	28	1
Papier-mâché Nesting Bowls	Adult Program	36	1
Recording of 1/14 Culture Club: Mediterranean Music Cruise	Adult Program	37	1
Recording of Organizing Solutions for Pandemic Problems	Adult Program	20	1
Tangling	Adult Program	38	1
What We're Enjoying Wednesday	Books and Authors	76	2
Winter Stitch-Along	Adult Program	578	5
Winter Stitch-Along	Adult Program	6	1
Teen Passive Programs:			
Take and Make Craft: Brighten Up Your Winter Decoration	High School	42	1
Middle School Passive Programs:			
Kids' Passive Programs:			
Anytime Storytime	Storytime	123	5
Bluestem Award Nominees	Elementary School	24	2
Bullet Journaling	Middle School	58	1
Community Connection: Valentine's Day Card Project	Family	57	1
Homeschool Writing Prompt	Elementary School	10	1
Learn to Use a 3D Printer	Elementary School	10	1
Make a Mo Willems Stick Puppet	Family	58	1
Outdoor Explore: Ice!	Preschool	45	1
Passive Program Rebecca Caudill	Elementary School	14	1
Recording of Why Kids Need Diverse Picture Books	Family	58	2
Science Makers: What's Inside of Me?	Elementary School	30	1
Snowflake Bookmarks Jan kit stats	Family	80	1
Snowman Measuring Sticks for Kids	Elementary School	58	1
Adult Program Grand Total Attendance		1538	
Total Passive Program Attendance		1,235	
Total Program Attendance		303	
Teen Program Grand Total Attendance		201	
Total Passive Program Attendance		42	
Total Program Attendance		159	
Middle School Program Grand Total Attendance		0	
Total Passive Program Attendance		0	
Total Program Attendance		0	
Kids' Program Grand Total Attendance		1,201	
Total Passive Program Attendance		625	
Total Program Attendance		576	
Passive Program Total Attendance		1,902	
Total Attendance		2,940	
Total Programs			99

STATISTICAL REPORT

January 2021

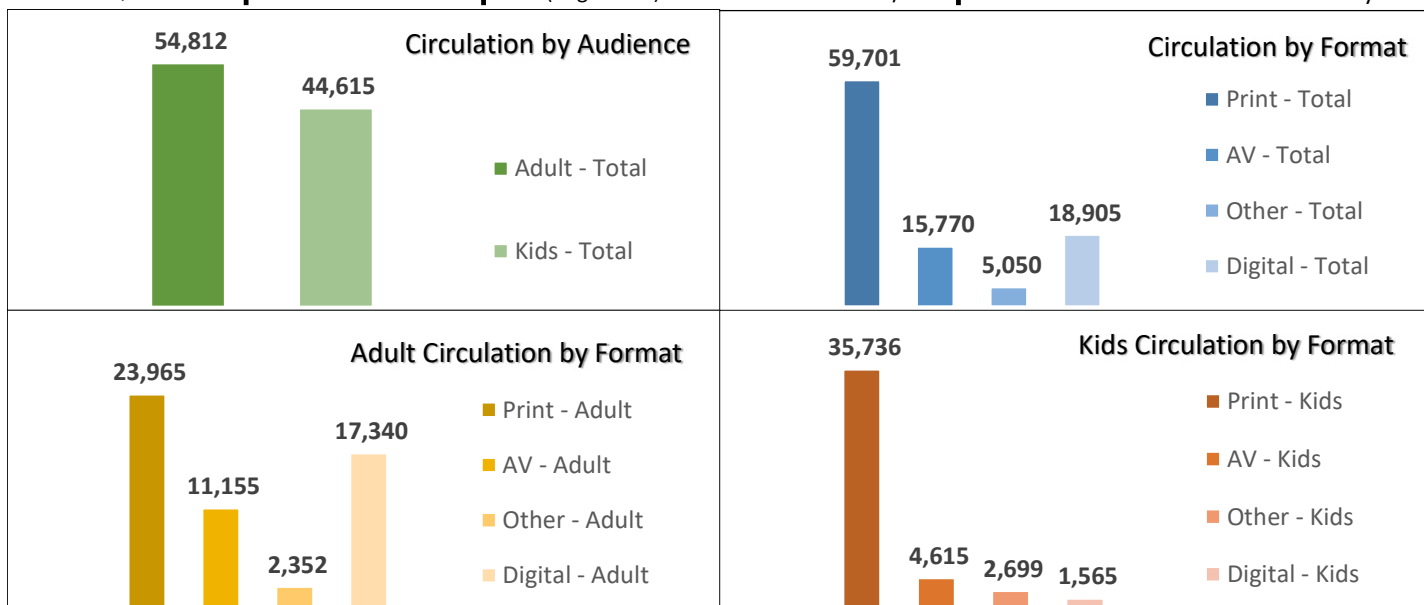
Circulation

Total Circulation
81,855 ↓ -23%
 105,898 last year
Card Holders
 25,143

Library Card Usage
7,555 ↓ -20%
 9,487 last year

Library Cards Issued
Elmhurst **77** ↓ -50%
 (Issued) 154 last year
Reciprocal Borrower **19** ↓ -71%
 (Registered) 65 last year

Interlibrary Loan
Borrowed **1,367** ↓ -5%
 1,445 last year
Lent **886** ↓ -11%
 999 last year



Technology Usage

Public Computer Use

2,575 ↓ -90%
 25,396 last year

Website Visits

104,283 ↓ -24%
 137,187 last year

Self Checkout

(% of total checkouts)

36% ↑ 29%
 28% last year

WiFi Sessions

8,618 ↓ -66%
 25,135 last year

Reference Queries

Reference Questions Total

3,397 ↓ -38%
 5,482 last year

Reference Questions

Adult
2,252 ↓ -49%
 4,391 last year

Kids
1,145 ↑ 5%
 1,091 last year

Meeting Room Use

Library Programs

99 ↓ -28%
 138 last year

Public Meetings

27 ↓ -78%
 121 last year

Group Study Rooms

- ↓ -100%
 1,608 last year

Programs

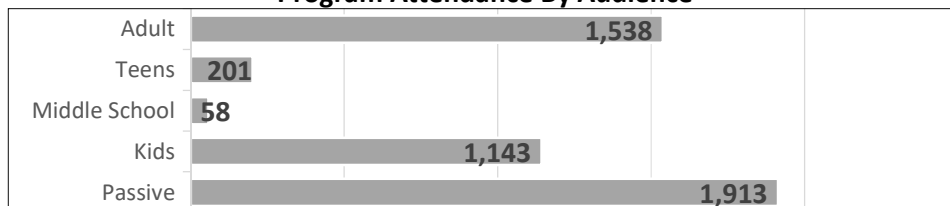
Program Attendance

4,853 ↑ 1%
 4,795 last year

Library Programs

99 ↓ -28%
 138 last year

Program Attendance By Audience



Library Visits

Total Visits

17,130 ↓ -62%
 45,362 last year

In House Visits

- ↓ -100%
 1,384 last year

Walk-In
12,863 ↓ -70%
 42,857 last year

Drive-Up Visits
4,267 ↑ 70%
 2,505 last year

Makery

Creative Studio

- ↓ -100%
 149 last year

Monthly Comparison

Total Circulation

81,855 ↓ -23%
105,898 last year

Adult Circulation

37,452 ↓ -38%
60,036 last year

Kids Circulation

43,036 ↓ -3%
44,411 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,367 ↓ -6%
1,451 last year

Digital Material Circulation

18,905 ↑ 5%
17,947 last year

Databases

1,515,358 ↑ 5258%
28,284 last year

Reference Questions Total

3,397 ↓ -38%
5,482 last year

One on One Tutorials

- ↓ -100%
57 last year

Number of Programs

99 ↓ -28%
138 last year

Program Attendance

4,853 ↑ 1%
4,795 last year

In-Person Visitors

12,863 ↓ -70%
42,857 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

4,267 ↑ 70%
2,505 last year

Year To Date Comparison

Total Circulation

81,855 ↓ -23%
105,898 last year

Adult Circulation

37,452 ↓ -38%
60,036 last year

Kids Circulation

43,036 ↓ -3%
44,411 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,367 ↓ -6%
1,451 last year

Digital Material Circulation

18,905 ↑ 5%
17,947 last year

Databases

1,515,358 ↑ 5258%
28,284 last year

Reference Questions Total

3,397 ↓ -38%
5,482 last year

One on One Tutorials

- ↓ -100%
57 last year

Number of Programs

99 ↓ -28%
138 last year

Program Attendance

4,853 ↑ 1%
4,795 last year

In-Person Visitors

12,863 ↓ -70%
42,857 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

4,267 ↑ 70%
2,505 last year

Collection Totals

Books and Magazines

198,850

Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics

4,337

Audio Visual

44,590

Digital

125,190

Notable Happenings in Circulation

- We issued our first *Cards for Kids* library card to a student from York High School. Three applications have been submitted since we began the program giving library access to these previously unserved students. At the request of Elmhurst school personnel, we created Spanish language version of the application.
- No Non resident cards were purchased this month.
- The busiest day at the Drive Up Window was Monday, January 25.
 - 207 patrons were served that day.
 - 4,267 patrons were served at the Drive Up Window in January where they picked up holds and Craft Kits.
- We filled 8,916 holds this month. That is a 20% increase from January 2020.