

Director's Report

- The new drinking fountains were installed this week. They include water bottle filling stations, an amenity that has been frequently requested by patrons. The fountains are located in the lobby and upstairs in ADS.
- EPL is a food drop off location for the UCCA annual drive again this year. The large bin will be in the lobby from November 1 – 17.
- In-person storytimes are back! We're still offering virtual storytimes but it's nice to see more kids and caregivers in the Library.
- EPL participated in a virtual author visit with 49 other Chicago Area libraries last week. Richard Rothstein, author of *The Color of Law: A forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America*, presented on policies that led to racial segregation. Over 800 people attended overall.

Patron Interactions

While browsing, meeting room and study room use seem relatively normal, patron interactions numbers continue to hold steady at about 30-35% below 2019 levels.

Creative Studios

The Creative Studios are continuing to see a modest increase in usage. We're seeing the return of familiar faces and the addition of new ones.

Book Discussion Area Renovation

The book discussion collection area renovation remains on track. Anne Swanson is doing an excellent job leading the planning. It will be completed this fall with new furniture, lighting, paint, signage and adjustments to the shelving. We all look forward to seeing the final result.

Displays

A few current displays include one highlighting the Hispanic Heritage Month and another, Nightmare Fuel, for people looking for scary media to get into the Halloween mood.



Staff at EPL were contacted earlier in the year by Elmhurst University Speech-Language adjunct instructor Dana Morgan regarding a potential collaboration that would lead to the creation of an augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) collection in the Kids' Library. **Lori Hoegler**, **Katie Stringwell**, and **Alea Perez** from Kids', as well as Assistant Director Marcy Rodriguez, have been in communication with Dana since July to move this project forward. In September, **Katie** finalized the list from which Dana's students will be working to create our new AAC collection. We're excited to see this progress and hope to have it available to the public by summer of 2022.

The Department is very excited to have welcomed new School Services Coordinator **Heather Forster Jensen** to the team on Monday, September 27th. Heather has hit the ground running and we can't wait to see the ideas she brings to serving our schools.

Programs

Allison Davis has been providing great guidance to caregivers for our youngest visitors who are struggling with regulating. One tip she has been giving to caregivers is to provide children with the opportunity to jump! It helps children to gain a stronger sense of self in their physical space and can increase focus.

School, Scouts, & Community Outreach

Lori Hoegler gave a presentation to 10 students from Elmhurst University's Reading Lab class on Tuesday, September 7.

Katie Stringwell made a visit to Madison Early Childhood Center for Parent Day on Friday, September 17. A larger audience was in attendance than in the past. Katie was able to meet and make positive connections with several Madison staff members in person.

Kelsey Wilcoxon was invited to visit Elmhurst Hospital to meet with new mothers and their babies on Wednesday, September 22.

Staff Training

Gloria Walsh-Rock, **Nuala Maloney-Murphy**, **Carol Chlystek**, **Linnea Dolan**, and **Allison Davis** participated in 7.5 hours of training and networking opportunities. Topics included back to school, race in Elmhurst, and programming and library software training.

In September, the Marketing Department kicked off the 2021 One Book, One Community title, *Nature's Best Hope* by Douglas Tallamy. Discussion questions, reading format options, and a list of supporting programs can be found at elmlib.org/hope. Additionally, there is an interactive map of Elmhurst in the Lobby which asks community members to mark their individual contributions to planting native as an effort to promote the concept of Tallamy's Homegrown National Park call-to-action to regenerate biodiversity. homegrownnationalpark.org

In other news, inspired by our recent Author Fair, Marketing recently put up the Writers Toolbox display by the Lexicon Café. Featuring books from both the Kids and Adult Services departments, it showcases topics such as how to write blogs, ideas on how to break into fiction and children's lit, and creative writing prompt cubes, as well as publisher listings.

September Marketing Topics included:

Programming: *Common Connection: Remember*

This Fall, the Library features programs that revisit the past to more closely examine our collective history. Asking questions, seeking new perspectives, and discussing what came before paints a clearer picture of how we got to where we are today – and how to move forward. elmlib.org/common

Collection: *Knitting Needles and Crochet Hooks*

Among the many things in the Library of Extraordinary Things collection, there is a large variety of yarn tools. We encouraged people to prep for the cold weather and winter holidays and check them out!

elmlib.org/knits

Services: *Learning Links collection*

Kids are back in school! We promoted the Learning Links collection, a compilation of various print materials, as well as many online tools available on our Homework Help page that help students expand their minds and succeed at school.

elmlib.org/homeworkhelp

Inside Scoop: *Lobby Exhibit Cases*

People often ask how to get their business or organization featured in our display cases. In response, we let them know that the exhibit cases in the Lobby area typically feature one non-profit community group and one Library-related display. Guidelines, case dimensions, and the application for community groups can be found on the Library's website.

elmlib.org/display

Community Connection: *Storywalk*


We continued putting out the word about our new storywalk at Eldridge Park. Feedback has been positive!

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

Post Details

Elmhurst Public Library is at Eldridge Park.
September 14 · Elmhurst · 📍

Have you visited the StoryWalk at Eldridge Park yet? Enjoy the beautiful outdoors as you read "Tomorrow I'll Be Kind" by Jessica Hische. The StoryWalk is a collaboration between Eagle Scout candidate Tyler Janiak, Elmhurst Park District, and the Library!



DAILYHERALD.COM
StoryWalk invites community to walk, read together at Eldridge Park

✔️ **Get More Likes, Comments and Shares**
When you boost this post, you'll show it to more people.

869 People Reached 73 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

👍👍👍 Gloria Walsh-Rock, Lindsay Moscatello and 13 others 2 Comments 1 Share

Performance for Your Post

869 People Reached

27 Reactions, Comments & Shares

17 Like	11 On Post	6 On Shares
4 Love	3 On Post	1 On Shares
1 Wow	1 On Post	0 On Shares
3 Comments	2 On Post	1 On Shares
2 Shares	1 On Post	1 On Shares

46 Post Clicks

0 Photo Views	25 Link Clicks	21 Other Clicks
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NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

0 Hide Post	0 Hide
0 Report as Spam	0 Unlik

Reported stats may be delayed from what you see



askelmhurst · Following

askelmhurst Are you hosting your own discussion on Nature's Best Hope, this year's title for One Book, One Community? If so, we have discussion question you can use to get the conversation going. Find them at elmlib.org/hope #nativeplants #dougallamy #naturesbesthope

3w

👍💬📌

20 likes
SEPTEMBER 22

😊 Add a comment... [Post](#)



PROGRAM STATISTICS

September 2021

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
20 + 30 Somethings Board Game Night	20 and 30 Somethings	4	1
20s/30s Book Discussion: Wisdom from a Humble Jellyfish by Rani Shah	20 and 30 Somethings	0	1
A Date We Will Always Remember: September 11, 2001 (In-Person)	Common Connection	9	1
A Date We Will Always Remember: September 11, 2001 (Virtual)	Common Connection	11	1
Addiction: Choice or Disease? (Virtual)	Social Services	7	1
Apple/Mac Basics	Technology	12	1
Beneficial Bugs (In-Person)	One Book	6	1
Beneficial Bugs (Virtual)	One Book	21	1
Cake & Canvas (for 20 + 30 Somethings)	20 and 30 Somethings	6	1
Chair Yoga	Seniors	22	1
Ciao Italia!	Adult Program	3	1
Classical Music 101 (In-Person)	Adult Program	34	2
Classical Music 101 (Virtual)	Adult Program	30	2
Culture Club: Awesome Australia (In-Person)	Adult Program	19	1
Culture Club: Awesome Australia (Virtual)	Adult Program	28	1
Driving Forces: 100+ Years of Women Influencing, Buying, Designing, and Driving Automobiles (In-Person)	Common Connection	3	1
Driving Forces: 100+ Years of Women Influencing, Buying, Designing, and Driving Automobiles (Virtual)	Common Connection	28	1
Excel Basics	Technology	5	1
GarageBand Basics	Technology	3	1
Google Docs, Sheets, and Slides	Technology	5	1
Great Decisions	Adult Program	12	1
Growing Greens Indoors (In-Person)	One Book	7	1
Growing Greens Indoors (Virtual)	One Book	28	1
Library Board Meeting	Adult Program	10	1
Library Insiders Karaoke Night	Library Insiders	14	1
Lyric Opera Lecture: Elixir of Love	Adult Program	12	1
Lyric Opera Lecture: Macbeth	Adult Program	10	1
Makery Craft: Embroidered Handkerchief	Kits	66	1
Medicare Solutions	Adult Program	36	1
Next Chapter Book Club	Library Insiders	28	2
One Book, One Community Book Discussion: Nature's Best Hope by Douglas W. Tallamy (In-Person)	Adult Book Discussion	13	1
One Book, One Community Book Discussion: Nature's Best Hope by Douglas W. Tallamy (Virtual)	Adult Book Discussion	14	1
Paper Bead Making In Person	Create	4	1
Plan and Prepare for a Successful Career Transition (In-Person)	Business	8	1
Plan and Prepare for a Successful Career Transition (Virtual)	Business	8	1
Protecting Seniors from Scams (In-Person)	Seniors	8	1
Protecting Seniors from Scams (Virtual)	Seniors	10	1
Rachel Carson: Silent Spring and the Birth of the Modern Ecology Movement (In-Person)	One Book	11	1
Rachel Carson: Silent Spring and the Birth of the Modern Ecology Movement (Virtual)	One Book	20	1
Retro Cooking (In-Person)	Common Connection	14	1
Retro Cooking (Virtual)	Common Connection	26	1
Staying Mentally Fit	Adult Program	7	1
Video Subscription Services and Technology	Technology	5	1
Watercolor Cloth Napkins	Create	22	1

TOTALS		649	47
Teen Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Dungeons & Dragons	High School	3	1
How to Begin Your College Search: Finding the Right College for You	High School	6	1
Minecraft Mondays	High School	13	3
Minecraft UHC	High School	15	3
Spill!	High School	24	3
Teen Advisors	High School	8	5
Teen Crafternoon	High School	8	1
Teen Video Game Tourney	High School	46	5
TOTALS		123	22
Kids' Library Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Free to Be Three Storytime	Storytime	65	3
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s (In-Person)	Storytime	71	4
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s (Virtual)	Storytime	65	5
Grandparents are Great! Zoom Storytime	Storytime	9	1
Grandparents' Treasury of Stories	Family	60	1
Kids' Conservation: Native Plants and Insects	Elementary School	6	1
Kids' Online Chess	Elementary School	9	1
Little Wigglers Storytime (In-Person)	Storytime	95	4
Little Wigglers Storytime (Virtual)	Storytime	58	4
Madison Preschool Outreach	Parents	35	1
Mother Goose and Me	Storytime	31	3
Music Factory	Family	20	1
Online LEGO Club	Elementary School	5	1
Outreach: Elmhurst Hospital Mom & Baby Hour	Parents	6	1
Saturday Stories	Storytime	41	3
Songs and Stories	Storytime	52	4
Unicorn Book Party	Elementary School	18	1
Wonderful Ones and Twos	Storytime	101	4
Zoom in Your Jammies Storytime	Storytime	6	1
TOTALS		753	44
Passive Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Adult Passive Programs:			
Adult Coloring Books	Adults	75	3
Paper Bead Making Virtual	Create	50	1
Recording of Author Fair on Originality w/Ben Hoffman	Adults	1	1
Recording of Author Fair Panel Writing to Verse	Adults	11	1
Recording of Author Fair Tension & Suspense Workshop	Adults	16	1
Recording of Author Panel Books for Kids & Parents	Adults	22	1
Recording of Author Panel Brining History to Life	Adults	12	1
Recording of Author Panel Writting Genre Fiction	Adults	45	1
Recording of Culture Club Awesome Australia	Adults	15	1
Recording of Dealing w/Difficult Topics	Adults	37	1
Recording of Design Solutions for Writing Problems	Adults	14	1
Recording of Getting Started in Publishing	Adults	17	1
Recording of Growing Greens Indoors	Adults	21	1
Recording of Plan & Prepare for a Successful Career Transition	Adults	16	1
Recording of Rachel Carson Silent Spring	Adults	35	1
Kids' Passive Programs:			
1000 BksB4K, passive	Preschool	12	1
Dia all Year! Suggestions for Kids, Cultures, and Books	Elementary School	6	1

Straw Rockets	Elementary School	60	1
Adult Program Grand Total Attendance		1036	
Total Passive Program Attendance		387	
Total Program Attendance		649	
Teen Program Grand Total Attendance		123	
Total Passive Program Attendance		0	
Total Program Attendance		123	
Kids' Program Grand Total Attendance		831	
Total Passive Program Attendance		78	
Total Program Attendance		753	
Passive Program Total Attendance		465	
Total Attendance		1,990	
Total Programs			133

STATISTICAL REPORT

September 2021

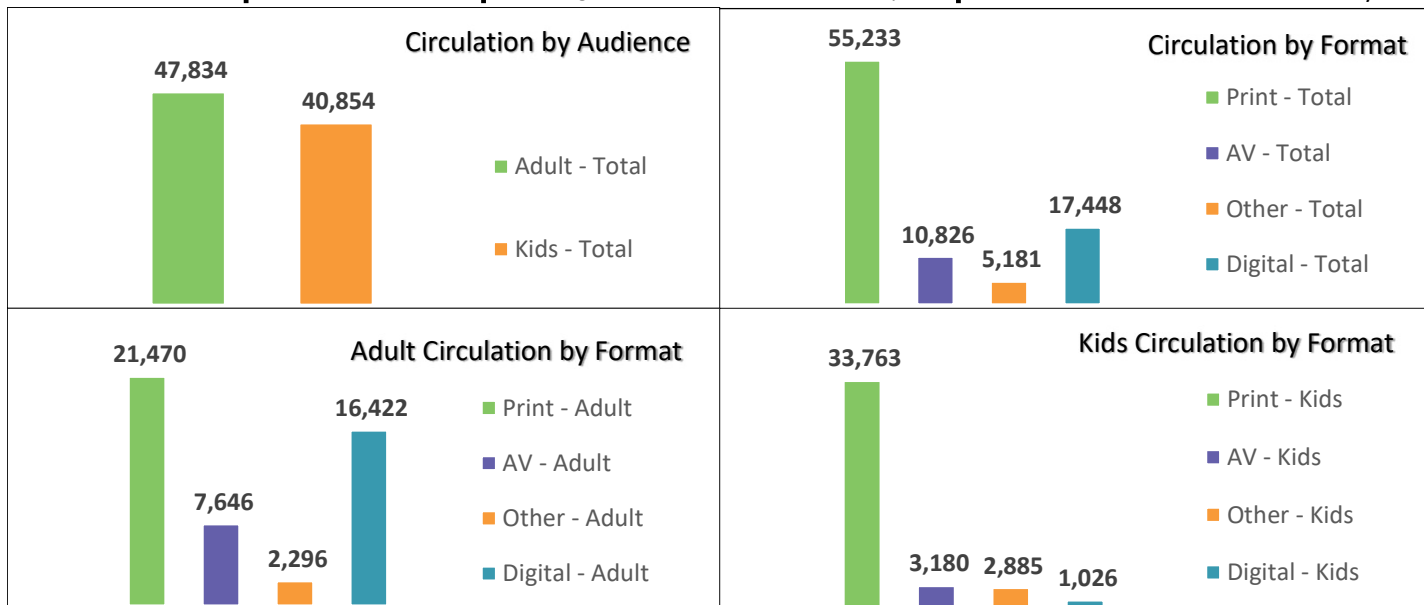
Circulation

Total Circulation
89,952 ↓ -11%
 100,803 last year
Card Holders
 25,165

Library Card Usage
8,496 ↑ 12%
 7,594 last year

Library Cards Issued
Elmhurst **215** ↑ 156%
 (Issued) 84 last year
Reciprocal Borrower **40** ↑ 82%
 (Registered) 22 last year

Interlibrary Loan
Borrowed **1,302** ↑ 13%
 1,148 last year
Lent **813** ↓ -10%
 904 last year



Technology Usage

Public Computer Use

12,862 ↑ 278%
 3,402 last year

Website Visits

126,904 ↓ -1%
 127,872 last year

Self Checkout

(% of total checkouts)

41% ↑ 24%
 33% last year

WiFi Sessions

18,600 ↑ 89%
 9,827 last year

Reference Queries

Reference Questions Total

3,318 ↓ -6%
 3,525 last year

Reference Questions

Adult **2,847** ↑ 16%
 2,449 last year

Kids **471** ↓ -56%
 1,076 last year

Meeting Room Use

Library Programs

133 ↑ 56%
 85 last year

Public Meetings

66 → 0%
 - last year

Group Study Rooms

1,284 → 0%
 - last year

Programs

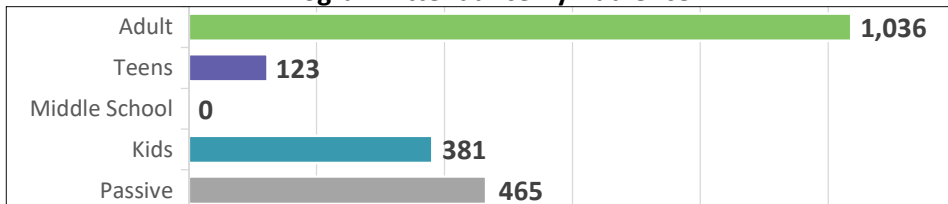
Program Attendance

2,005 ↑ 18%
 1,704 last year

Library Programs

133 ↑ 56%
 85 last year

Program Attendance By Audience



Library Visits

Total Visits

27,845 ↑ 70%
 16,416 last year

In House Visits

Makery **368** ↑ 1573%
 22 last year

Walk-In **25,667** ↑ 101%
 12,771 last year

Drive-Up Visits **2,178** ↓ -40%
 3,645 last year

Creative Studio **50** → 0%
 - last year

Monthly Comparison

Total Circulation

89,952 ↓-11%
100,803 last year

Adult Circulation

47,811 ↓-10%
53,053 last year

Kids Circulation

40,839 ↓-12%
46,602 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,302 ↑13%
1,148 last year

Digital Material Circulation

17,448 ↓-2%
17,726 last year

Databases

11,124 ↓-9%
12,215 last year

Reference Questions Total

3,318 ↓-6%
3,525 last year

One on One Tutorials

30 ↑67%
18 last year

Number of Programs

133 ↑56%
85 last year

Program Attendance

2,005 ↑18%
1,704 last year

In-Person Visitors

25,667 ↑101%
12,771 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

2,178 ↓-40%
3,645 last year

Year To Date Comparison

Total Circulation

874,040 ↑19%
732,767 last year

Adult Circulation

454,189 ↑5%
431,521 last year

Kids Circulation

408,765 ↑39%
293,792 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

11,086 ↑49%
7,454 last year

Digital Material Circulation

155,254 ↓-21%
195,581 last year

Databases

1,652,741 ↑686%
210,290 last year

Reference Questions Total

31,710 ↑7%
29,628 last year

One on One Tutorials

327 ↑55%
211 last year

Number of Programs

907 ↑4%
868 last year

Program Attendance

36,679 ↑32%
27,715 last year

In-Person Visitors

179,398 ↑20%
149,108 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

25,058 ↑22%
20,622 last year

Collection Totals

Books and Magazines

192,893

Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics

5,997

Audio Visual

41,283

Digital

138,812

Notable Happenings in Circulation

- We issued 1 and renewed 3 *Cards for Kids* library cards last month.
- One Non resident card was purchased this month for a total of \$239.00
- The busiest day at the Drive Up Window was Wednesday, September 8.
 - 120 patrons were served on that day.
 - 2,178 patrons were served at the Drive Up Window where they picked up holds and Craft Kits.
- We filled 5,909 holds this month.