

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Our new Kids' Department Head started on August 29. We are very happy to welcome Mary Smith to the Library. She's a seasoned manager who's jumped right in. It's always good to have someone from another Library bring new ideas. One suggestion that I'm implementing right away is a monthly staff virtual information meeting on the morning after the Board Meeting. I'll provide a brief update about what happened at the Board Meeting and follow that with a brief question and answer session. It's always been challenging to hold regular all-staff meetings due to the size of our staff and various schedules we keep. The idea to hold it virtually and record it, was something I hadn't thought of. The meetings aren't mandatory and staff who can't attend can tune in later and watch the recording if they are interested. We've certainly held all-staff meetings in the past and will continue to do so when needed, but they require us to hold multiple meetings at different times to make sure that everyone can attend. I'm looking forward to trying this new idea!

ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT

August 2022

Patron Interactions

The new school year began in August and unlike July where interactions were down 11% from the previous month, August interaction are up 4% from July. Comparing patron interactions from August 2022 to August 2021 there is a 6% increase in interactions year to year.

New Staff

Stef Camaci joined Adult Services in August as a Library Assistant.

Training

Adult Services staff attended the annual Staff Institute Day in early August. Always a highlight of the day is our annual staff photo.



Displays

A few displays of note include Romance Awareness Month and Our Future Flies with Pollinators in the display case on the 2nd Floor.



Programs

August focused mostly on storytimes and passive offerings such as the Seek-and-Find and Alphabet Soup videos. The last-minute addition of Friday morning outdoor storytimes proved to be very popular. The dog-themed outdoor storytime had 70 attendees and received a lot of great patron feedback.



School, Scouts, & Community Outreach

It was a busy month for school services. At the **Lincoln Elementary School Kindergarten Screenings**, children got to choose an EPL pencil and their caregivers received information about homework help resources, special collections, culture passes, creative space as well as a list of fall programs. At the **Elmhurst Resource Coalition Back to School Fair**, [Shaira Rock](#) and [Heather Forster Jensen](#) handed out free books, EPL bags, pencils, crayons, and stickers to 400 people in attendance. They also brought along the bilingual Spanish-English handouts about the Kids' Library. Heather was able to speak briefly at the **District 205 New Educator Academy** and distribute goodie bags, which included the brand-new Teacher Request business cards.



The library hosted a group of 14 students and adults, led by Katy Costello, art teacher at Visitation School. " After their visit, Katy emailed the following: "Thank you so much! The students really enjoyed the tour and the activity! Hopefully they spread the word to the other classmates!"



Volunteers

This summer, we had our largest influx of volunteers since the beginning of the pandemic. In total, 49 volunteers devoted 216 service hours towards the success of our summer reading program. We received overwhelmingly positive comments about their dedication, professionalism, and willingness to go the extra mile to put a smile on our youngest patrons.

Staff Training

Heather Forster Jensen, Kelsey Wilcoxon, Shaira Rock and **Fiona Dolce** participated in **22 hours** of training and networking opportunities. Topics included Project Ready, Anti-Bias Education for Young Children, and workplace sexual harassment.

August Marketing Topics included:

Programming: Local Author Fair

Thirty-seven local authors gathered to discuss, answer questions, sell, and sign copies of their books at the Local Author Fair on August 20. The keynote event was presented by author Crystal Cestari. Her *Kick Your Bad Writing Habits* program covered tips and tricks for writing productivity, finding your next big idea, and getting published. Author tables were spread out throughout the Library.

elmlib.org/AuthorFair

Collection: Culinary Cupboard

The various cookery items available to check out were again publicized to promote the two food-focused event themes, *Common Connection: Around the Table* and *Kids' Summer Reading: Reading Is So Delicious*.

Services: Library App

(Video available elmlib.org/YouTube)

We've had a dedicated Library app for almost a year now! We took the opportunity to remind folks about it this summer and showcase some of the fun things it can do. For example, patrons can load their card numbers onto it and use it to check out at the Circulation Desk or with our Self-Check machines.

Inside Scoop: Subscribe to Weekly eNews or Book Alerts

(Video available elmlib.org/YouTube)

There is a wide variety of updates community members can receive through email. Weekly emails are sent out on Mondays about upcoming events and on Thursdays about Library news. Book alerts on a range of topics are also available. Some include: Coming Attractions, Bestsellers, Must-read Books, and Genre Lists.

elmlib.org/email

Community Connection: StoryWalk

A new StoryWalk went up this summer! Located off-site at Eldridge Park, our newest featured title is *Over in the Forest: A Woodland Animal Nature Book* by Marianne Berkes. StoryWalks encourage early literacy, physical activity, and family time together in nature. The first panel is found near the newly updated playground and follows the path going west between the soccer fields.

Weekly eNews from 8/4

ELMHURST PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library is closed Friday, Aug. 5 for Staff Institute Day

Get the EPL app!

Using the EPL app makes it even easier to utilize your library remotely!

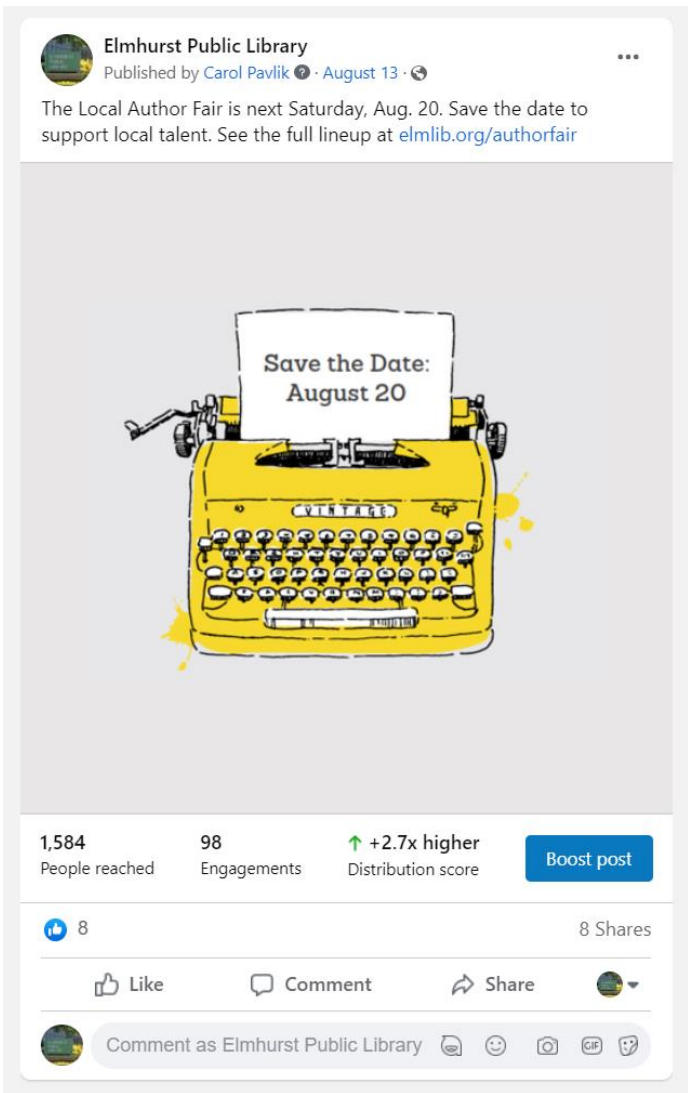
Our latest Library Services video shows you how to search for books, reserve rooms, access the online collection, and check your account through our newest platform. Just search for "Elmhurst Public Library" in the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

Take the challenge

There's still time to participate! Take our online Common Connection: Around the Table challenge, using the [Beanstack App](#). Complete the activities to earn badges on topics such as Foodie History, Get Cooking, and Food Entertainment.

The Beanstack challenge is inspired by our summer programming theme: [Around the Table](#).

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



PROGRAM STATISTICS

August 2022

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Trivia	Adult Program	25	1
20s/30s Book Discussion: <i>The City We Became</i> by N. K. Jemisin	20 and 30 Somethings	0	1
Adult Book Discussion: <i>The Mothers</i> by Brit Bennett	Adult Book Discussion	11	2
American Mah Jongg: Open Play	Adult Program	31	5
Android Essentials	Technology	7	1
Around the Table Discussion About Addiction	Common Connection	5	1
Bridge & Pinochle Club	Games	81	5
Chair Yoga	Seniors	12	1
Ciao Italia!	Adult Program	7	1
Coloring for Mindfulness	Library Club	6	1
Cutting the Cable Cord	Technology	10	1
Electronic Cooking Devices (In-Person)	Common Connection	10	1
Electronic Cooking Devices (Virtual)	Common Connection	26	1
Elmhurst Business Connection	Business	13	1
Excel Advanced Topics	Technology	7	1
Fantastic Food Firsts (In-Person)	Common Connection	7	1
Fantastic Food Firsts (Virtual)	Common Connection	15	1
French Discussion Group	Adult Program	6	1
Fruit Trinket Boxes	Create	16	1
Genealogy Club: Using Newspapers as Genealogical Resources (In-Person)	Adult Program	9	1
Genealogy Club: Using Newspapers as Genealogical Resources (Virtual)	Adult Program	10	1
Iconic Chicago Foods (In-Person)	Common Connection	27	1
Iconic Chicago Foods (Virtual)	Common Connection	21	1
In Stitches Needleworkers	Create	4	1
Intro to Office 365	Technology	2	1
Journaling for Self-Care	Social Services	10	1
Kick Your Bad Writing Habits (In-Person)	Adult Program	3	1
Kick Your Bad Writing Habits (Virtual)	Adult Program	4	1
Know Your Civics Challenge	Adult Program	4	1
Learn & Grow Book Discussion: <i>You're Not Listening: What You're Missing and Why It Matters</i> by Kate Murphy	Adult Program	6	1
Library Insiders: Karaoke Night	Library Insiders	16	1
Local Author Fair	Adult Program	288	1
Next Chapter Book Club	Library Insiders	23	2
Repetition Leads to Success! Mock Interviews	Career	2	1
Scones Bake-Along (Virtual)	Common Connection	42	1
Scrabble Club	Games	4	1
Shopping, Saving, Storing: Making the Most of Your Food and Funds (In-Person)	Common Connection	3	1
Shopping, Saving, Storing: Making the Most of Your Food and Funds (Virtual)	Common Connection	25	1
Staying Mentally Fit	Adult Program	7	1
Sweet Science (for 20 + 30 Somethings)	20 and 30 Somethings	9	1
Technology Tips	Technology	3	1
TOTALS		817	51
Makery Program	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Makery Craft: Laser Etched Charcuterie Board	Kits	50	1
Makery 101: Sewing Basics	Makery	4	1
TOTALS		54	2
Teen Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Game Hangout	High School	4	3
Teen Video Game Tourney	High School	24	4
TOTALS		28	7

Kids' Library Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
1BBK Grad Party	Family	42	1
Elementary Visit -YMCA camp	Elementary School	212	14
Kids' Online Chess	Elementary School	5	1
Movie in Wilder Park: <i>Jurassic Park</i>	Family	100	1
Outdoor Storytime	Storytime	155	3
Outreach Community AT District 205 New Teacher Academy	Preschool	45	1
Outreach Community AT Elmhurst Resource Collaboration Back-to-School Fair	Preschool	371	1
Outreach Elementary Visitation 4th-6th Makery Visit	Elementary School	14	1
Play Switch!	Elementary School	10	1
Pre K teacher open house	Preschool	14	1
Saturday Stories	Storytime	50	3
Songs & Stories	Storytime	101	4
Summer Family STEM for Tots	Family	14	1
Summer Reading Prize Pickup at Churchville Middle School	Family	0	1
Yoga for Relaxation	Elementary School	11	1
TOTALS		1,144	35
Passive Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Adult Passive Programs:			
Recording of Electronic Cooking Devices		52	1
African-American Genealogy		18	1
Coloring Stations		75	3
Inside Scoop at EPL: Subscribe for Weekly Newsletters		60	1
Library Services: EPL App		64	1
Pollinator Display		12	1
Recording of Backyard Caucus: Stories of Race		23	1
Recording of Fantastic Food Firsts		17	1
Recording of Iconic Chicago Foods		28	1
Recording of Kick Your Bad Writing Habits		14	1
Recording of Scones Bake-Along		50	1
Recording of Using Newspapers as Genealogical Resources		15	1
Social Services Folders		14	4
Kids' Passive Programs:			
1,000 Books before Kindergarten Passive Stats	Preschool	37	1
Alphabet Soup	Preschool	63	4
Bite-Sized Book Reviews (Passive Program)	Elementary School	7	1
Kids' Library Seek and Find	Family	177	5
Open LEGO	Family	10	1
Table of Crafts	Family	480	5
		Attendance	Sessions
Adult Program Grand Total		1313	71
Total Passive Program Statistics		442	18
Total Program Statistics		871	53
Teen Program Grand Total		28	7
Total Passive Program Statistics		0	0
Total Program Statistics		28	7
Middle School Program Grand Total		0	0
Total Passive Program Statistics		0	0
Total Program Statistics		0	0
Kids' Program Grand Total		1918	52
Total Passive Program Statistics		774	17
Total Program Statistics		1,144	35
Passive Program Total		1,216	35
Total Attendance		3,259	
Total Programs			130

STATISTICAL REPORT

August 2022

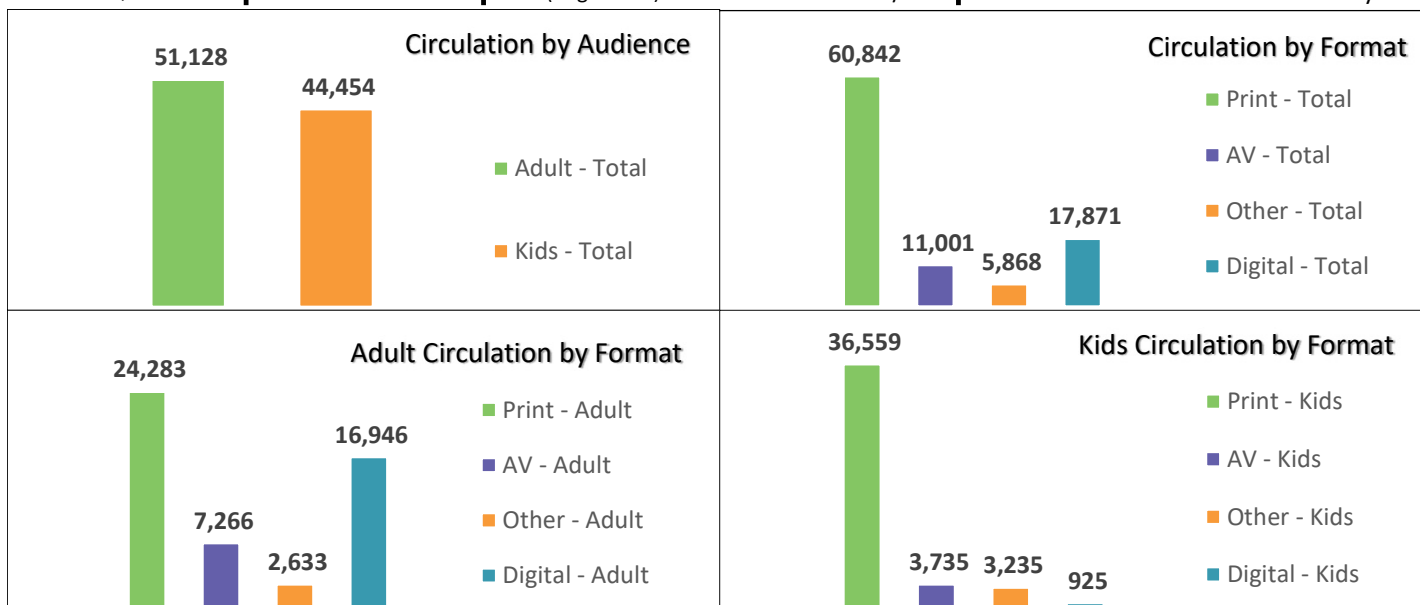
Circulation

Total Circulation
96,682 ↓ -1%
 97,781 last year
Card Holders
 25,952

Library Card Usage
9,058 ↑ 5%
 8,614 last year

Library Cards Issued
Elmhurst **252** → 0%
 (Issued) 252 last year
Reciprocal Borrower **36** ↓ -3%
 (Registered) 37 last year

Interlibrary Loan
Borrowed **1,138** ↓ -2%
 1,160 last year
Lent **1,008** ↑ 11%
 908 last year



Technology Usage

Public Computer Use

18,131 ↑ 92%
 9,428 last year

Website Visits

164,910 ↑ 44%
 114,300 last year

Self Checkout

(% of total checkouts)

48% ↑ 9%
 44% last year

WiFi Sessions

22,258 ↑ 33%
 16,727 last year

Reference Queries

Reference Questions Total

4,039 ↑ 12%
 3,611 last year

Reference Questions

Adult
3,096 ↑ 1%
 3,060 last year

Kids
943 ↑ 71%
 551 last year

Meeting Room Use

Library Programs

130 ↑ 40%
 93 last year

Public Meetings

64 ↑ 68%
 38 last year

Group Study Rooms

1,575 ↑ 45%
 1,086 last year

Programs

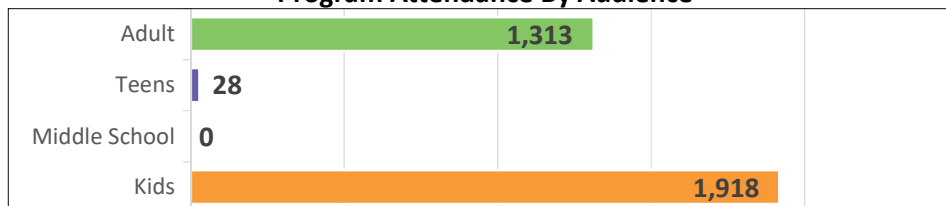
Program Attendance

3,259 ↑ 55%
 2,103 last year

Library Programs

130 ↑ 40%
 93 last year

Program Attendance By Audience



Library Visits

Total Visits

34,880 ↑ 31%
 26,587 last year

In House Visits

Makery **528** ↑ 55%
 340 last year

Walk-In
32,849 ↑ 34%
 24,529 last year

Drive-Up Visits
2,031 ↓ -1%
 2,058 last year

Creative Studio **91** ↑ 264%
 25 last year

Monthly Comparison

Total Circulation

96,682 ↓-1%
97,781 last year

Adult Circulation

51,105 ↑0%
51,055 last year

Kids Circulation

44,439 ↓-2%
45,566 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,138 ↓-2%
1,160 last year

Digital Material Circulation

17,871 ↑0%
17,854 last year

Databases

13,101 ↓-18%
15,919 last year

Reference Questions Total

4,039 ↑12%
3,611 last year

One on One Tutorials

31 ↓-6%
33 last year

Number of Programs

130 ↑40%
93 last year

Program Attendance

3,259 ↑55%
2,103 last year

In-Person Visitors

32,849 ↑34%
24,529 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

2,031 ↓-1%
2,058 last year

Year To Date Comparison

Total Circulation

760,682 ↓-3%
784,088 last year

Adult Circulation

396,690 ↓-2%
406,378 last year

Kids Circulation

353,866 ↓-4%
367,926 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

10,127 ↑4%
9,784 last year

Digital Material Circulation

141,388 ↑3%
137,806 last year

Databases

102,911 ↓-94%
1,641,617 last year

Reference Questions Total

34,626 ↑22%
28,392 last year

One on One Tutorials

329 ↑11%
297 last year

Number of Programs

1,133 ↑46%
774 last year

Program Attendance

43,184 ↑79%
24,099 last year

In-Person Visitors

236,581 ↑54%
153,731 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

16,110 ↓-30%
22,880 last year

Collection Totals

Books and Magazines

185,120

Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics

5,997

Audio Visual

37,775

Digital

154,632

Notable Happenings in Circulation

- We issued 0 *Cards for Kids* library cards last month.
- Six Non resident cards were purchased this month for a total of \$2,823.57
- We filled 5,540 holds this month.
- We began presenting these buttons and stickers to children receiving their first library card!

