

Director's Report

EPL's management team participated in crisis communication training last month with other community organizations. The training took place at the police station where a crisis management specialist presented us with scenarios and then we discussed how communication channels should work during a crisis. The training was very practical and it was good to get together and learn from each other.

We also participated in a half-day management training with a lawyer from HR Source. We reviewed management related procedures relating to staff performance documentation, FMLA and ADA laws, and hiring practices.

Ingrid Becton and I presented our budget to the City Council on Monday, November 7. I answered a few questions about the Capital Reserve Fund. Mayor Levin commented on how valued the Library in the community.

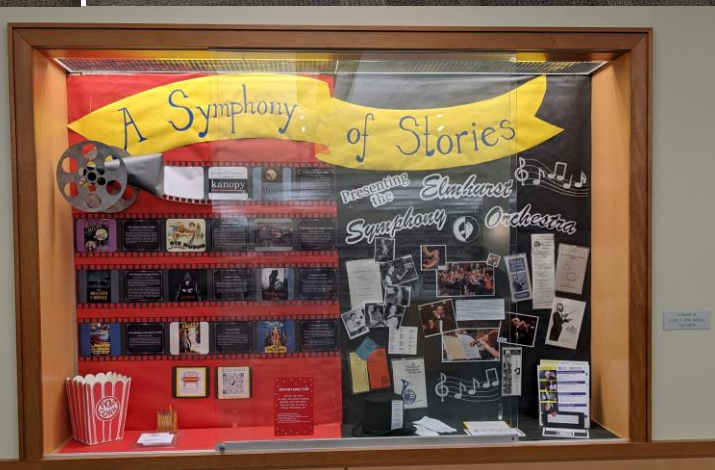
The Adult Services re-carpeting project began last week and is expected to be completed sometime in early December. So far, installation is causing minimal disruption to patrons. The Large Meeting Room and Kossmann Room will be completed last. The carpet looks great!

Oct 2022

While the floor is busier than 2021, interaction numbers remain more than 25% down from pre-pandemic times.

Rachael Mason, the new Business Services Specialist, started her training this month. She was promoted to this role from her hybrid position in Adult Services and Circulation. She celebrated her 5th year at EPL in 2022.

A few displays of note include “Rocketober”, “Spooky Reads!”. We also had a display in the glass case and a voting display that included the election information binder that many patrons used to research who to vote for.



Tracey Orick, Social Services Specialist

Libby Mercado, Teen Engagement Librarian

Programs

October was full of celebrations. Fifty-five people commemorated Diwali by listening to stories, making a Rangoli craft, and learning some traditional dance moves from Reena and Gopi of the Meher Dance Company. One father mentioned that it is hard to find programs for kids like this.

A Halloween Seek-and-Find display by **Nuala Maloney-Murphy** and **Kelsey Wilcoxon** kept the children entertained all month looking for enormous hairy spiders, creepy eyeballs, and cute little bats.



To celebrate Rainbow Fish's 30th birthday, **Kelsey** drew a fish outline on the window of the Kids' programming room. Children could select a pink, purple, blue, green, or silver scale to put up.

In recognition of Indigenous People's Day Forest Bruce (PhD candidate from Northwestern with background in environmental education and STEAM programing for indigenous kids) read *The Water Walker* by Joanne Robertson. Bruce is Ojibwe and so was able to read and translate the Ojibwe terms. The story focused on the importance of water and connected with a water painting project that followed the book. Thirty-five people attended.



Some seriously scary children submitted 137 entries to the Scary Writing Contest, which was up from 84 entries the previous year. The stories and poems were published in *Kids Ink* and the winners had a chance to read aloud their submissions at a special program at the library. Families also enjoyed the Book Haunt, a passive program where children enjoyed reading in spooky places all around the house.

School, Scouts, & Community Outreach

Katie Stringwell presented storytime outside at the Immaculate Conception Preschool. **Nuala** led a 3rd grade scout program in the Makery where they designed their own mugs. **Amanda Murray** provided library information and puppets at the park district's very busy Family Fall Fest.

It was a busy month for the official return to in-person school visits. **Heather Forster Jensen** went to five out of the seven open elementary schools in District 205 and saw all grades K- 5 except at Hawthorne school. With an overall theme of spooky and mysterious storytelling, grades K-1 enjoyed storytime, grades 2-3 learned about storytelling through Mad Libs, and grades 4-5 practiced creating an engaging story atmosphere using adjectives and a graphic organizer. All grades had some book talks interspersed as well. Immaculate Conception's 2nd grade class also made a field trip to the library.

Erin Howe at Jefferson said:

"I cannot thank you enough for coming yesterday! I had two kindergarteners today come and tell me that they went to the Elmhurst Public Library last night! Your visit had a wonderful impact on the students at Jefferson! Thank you for planning such thoughtful activities for each of the different grade levels! It was a wonderful day! I will be sharing all of these resources in the upcoming Friday newsletter!



Lincoln Elementary



Immaculate Conception

Collection

Our new Assistive Materials Collection is being prepared to roll out very soon. The Tech Services Department is working closely with the Kids' staff to prepare and catalog items to be checked out to patrons. Our goal with the collection is to make library resources easily available and accessible to patrons with a broad range of abilities and disabilities and to promote inclusion and acceptance. We've been very lucky to be working closely with the Elmhurst University's Language and Early Literacy Enrichment Group to bring together student educators and preschoolers with special needs to attend a storytime and utilize this collection.

Staff Training

Staff participated in **16 hours** of training and networking opportunities including attending a Jim Gill workshop at Geneva Public Library and watching a webinar entitled Celebrating Indigenous Voices.

October Marketing Topics included:

Programming: Halloween-themed Programs

October was officially the Library's "Spooky Season." With programs for all ages, community members had the opportunity to compete in a Short and Scary Writing Contest, make seasonal crafts, experience frightening storytelling, and learn about the history of Halloween.

Collection: STREAM Kits (Video available elmlib.org/YouTube)

Inspired by STEM learning, these activity-based kits offer kids the chance to discover and learn all year long. With the variety of topics (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Math) each bag offers kids a great foundation to learn and grow upon.

elmlib.org/stream



Services: Language Support (Video available elmlib.org/YouTube)

The Library is a place that welcomes every member of the community. Staff continually review collections and services to be as accessible and inclusive as possible to best serve community members. Be on the lookout for staff wearing our new language pins, which indicate a language other than English that the staffer speaks. Additionally, ALL staff can assist visitors whose primary language is not English by accessing different translation services at our various public service desks. Another resource worth noticing is the online language learning tool called Transparent Language, which offers classes for a variety of languages, including English classes tailored for up to 35 different languages!

elmlib.org/language

Inside Scoop: NewsGuard Browser Extension


With elections happening this fall, a variety of fact-finding tools were highlighted in October, including NewsGuard. This browser extension combats misinformation by showing a trust rating for more than 7,500 news and information websites. Ratings are based on apolitical criteria that are the foundation of reliable journalism. Available on the 2nd Floor computers.

Community Connection: Spooky Selfies Photo Stand


Visitors love when the Library has interactive events in the Lobby. This fall we tried something new by creating a Selfie Station. Marketing Specialist, Eva Bialecki, created a spooky scene with characters such as the headless horseman, Dracula, the Bride of Frankenstein, a mummy, and a ghost. She figured out different average heights of our visitors and had holes cut out where people could put their faces. It was a big hit with kids, young and old!

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

Post details

**Elmhurst Public Library**
Published by Carol Pavlik [?] · October 27 · 🌐

Be part of One Book, One Elmhurst! Coming up in November, we have book discussions, an author visit with Frank Waln, and more! Pick up a copy of "American Like Me" and visit elmplib.org/onebook for more information.



✔ Get more likes, comments and shares
When you boost this post, you'll show it to more people.

Boost post

Performance for your post

1,061 People Reached

24 Reactions, Comments & Shares

18 Like	18 On Post	0 On Shares
3 Love	3 On Post	0 On Shares
2 Comments	2 On Post	0 On Shares
1 Shares	1 On Post	0 On Shares

27 Post Clicks

2 Photo views	3 Link clicks	22 Other clicks
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NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

0 Hide post	0 Hide all posts
0 Report as spam	0 Unlike Page

Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts



**askelmhurst**
...



View insights

Boost post

♡ 💬 📌

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🔖

 Liked by [elmrotaract](#) and 19 others

askelmhurst Share your Spooky Selfies with us! (Be sure to tag us at [#ElmhurstPublicLibrary](#))

October 23



11/10/2022

Dear Elmhurst Public Library Board Members and Administration,

As some of you already know, I have accepted a new position and my last day at EPL is Friday, November 11, 2022. Before I leave, I want to reach out and thank you for making Elmhurst Public Library a great place to work over the last 17 years.

My overall experience working at Elmhurst Public Library has been incredibly fulfilling. I have held five different positions within the organization, and I have been encouraged to grow as a professional. My colleagues have been creative and supportive, for which I am incredibly grateful. I've had the opportunity to participate in a variety of professional development classes and conferences. I recognize that not every organization invests in its staff the way that EPL does, and I appreciate all of your support.

The experience of leaving is rather bittersweet. I am excited for this next chapter in my life, but I will miss working at the Library and everyone that I've worked with over the years. I wish all of you well in your future work.

Thank you all for your thoughtful leadership, and for your continued support of staff. It means a lot, and it makes a difference. Additionally, please know that your service to the community makes an impact and improves the quality of life in Elmhurst. Your time and efforts are recognized.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rita Perona", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rita Perona

PROGRAM STATISTICS

October 2022

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
20s/30s Book Discussion: <i>Solutions and Other Problems</i> by Allie Brosh	20 and 30 Somethings	2	1
American Mah Jongg: Open Play	Adult Program	37	4
American Stories Through Song (In-Person)	One Book	28	1
American Stories Through Song (Virtual)	One Book	12	1
Android OS	Technology	6	1
Be an Informed Voter (In-Person)	Civic Engagement	10	1
Be an Informed Voter (Virtual)	Civic Engagement	13	1
Bird & Butterfly Concert	Common Connection	25	1
Board Game Collection Promotion	Games	79	1
Board Game Night (for 20 + 30 somethings)	20 and 30 Somethings	14	1
Braided Pumpkin	Create	31	2
Bridge & Pinochle Club	Games	55	4
Celebrate LGBTQ+ History Month: A Conversation for Youth and Families (Virtual)	One Book	5	1
Chair Yoga	Seniors	16	1
Chess Club	Games	5	2
Ciao Italia!	Adult Program	7	1
Cloud Storage Services	Technology	2	1
Coloring for Mindfulness	Library Club	7	1
Creative Card Making	Create	33	2
Culture Club: Wales (In-Person)	Travel	23	1
Culture Club: Wales (Virtual)	Travel	16	1
Elmhurst Business Connection	Business	11	1
Etsy for Business	Technology	8	1
Excel Intermediate	Technology	4	1
Fall Watercolors	Create	16	1
Friday Features: <i>Dog</i>	Adult Program	44	4
Genealogy Club: Unusual Places to Find Births and Naturalizations (In-Person)	Adult Program	1	1
Genealogy Club: Unusual Places to Find Births and Naturalizations (Virtual)	Adult Program	11	1
Great Decisions	Adult Program	13	1
GreenMan Theatre Presents: Spooky Stories (In-Person)	Adult Program	18	1
GreenMan Theatre Presents: Spooky Stories (Virtual)	Adult Program	15	1
Halloween Book Discussion: <i>The Sun Down Motel</i> by Simone St. James	Adult Book Discussion	13	2
Halloween Nostalgia (for 20 and 30 Somethings)	20 and 30 Somethings	15	1
How Elmhurst City Government Works (In-Person)	Civic Engagement	7	1
How Elmhurst City Government Works (Virtual)	Civic Engagement	11	1
If the Broom Fits: Halloween and the History of Witches (Virtual)	Adult Program	41	1
In Stitches Needleworkers	Create	0	1
Learn & Grow Book Discussion: <i>How to Keep House While Drowning: A Gentle Approach to Cleaning and Organizing</i> by K.C. Davis	Adult Program	5	1
Library Board Meeting	Adult Program	11	1
Lyric Opera Lecture: <i>Don Carlos</i>	Common Connection	12	1

Medicare 101 (In-Person)	Adult Program	21	1
Medicare 101 (Virtual)	Adult Program	17	1
Multi-Generational & Multicultural U.S. Workplace	Adult Program	2	1
Music Crash Course: Songwriting 101 (In-Person)	Common Connection	7	1
Music Crash Course: Songwriting 101 (Virtual)	Common Connection	4	1
Name That Tune (for 20 + 30 somethings)	20 and 30 Somethings	6	1
Next Chapter Book Club	Library Insiders	20	2
PowerPoint Essentials	Technology	1	1
Pub Trivia: The 90s!	Adult Program	6	1
Salsa Dancing (In-Person)	Common Connection	8	1
Salsa Dancing (Virtual)	Common Connection	6	1
Scrabble Club	Games	7	1
Senior Tech Series: How to Download eMaterials	Technology	1	1
Senior Tech Series: Smartphones & Tablets	Technology	3	1
Staying Mentally Fit	Adult Program	6	1
Ukulele Circle	Common Connection	5	1
Understanding Inflation (In-Person)	Consumer	3	1
Understanding Inflation (Virtual)	Consumer	13	1
TOTALS		818	72
Makery Program	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Laser Cut Earrings	Makery	10	1
Makery 101: 3D Printing	Makery	6	1
Makery Craft: Mason Jar Luminaries	Makery	30	1
TOTALS		46	3
Teen Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Dungeons & Dragons	High School	5	1
High School Crafternoon	High School	2	1
Spill!	High School	15	3
Teen Video Game Tourney	High School	24	4
TOTALS		46	9
Middle School Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Nerf Battle	Middle School	11	1
TOTALS		11	1
Kids' Library Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
(keep unpubl) Adaptive Storytime with EU	Family	13	7
Chameleon Color Science	Elementary School	13	1
Code Ninjas	Elementary School	26	1
Diwali Party	Family	55	1
Elmhurst Children's Theatre Preview: Seussical	Family	65	1
Explore a Story	Storytime	42	3
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s	Storytime	69	4
Homeschool Explorers: Nature Art Journal	Elementary School	25	1
Indigenous Art: Learn and Make	Family	35	1
Kids from Everywhere Storytime	Storytime	22	1
Little Wiggles	Storytime	261	4
Little Wiggles Virtual	Storytime	15	4
Mother Goose & Me	Storytime	58	5
Outreach Community Family Fall Fest EPD	Family	300	1
Outreach Elementary AT Emerson (1st)	Elementary School	74	1
Outreach Elementary AT Emerson (2nd)	Elementary School	70	1

Outreach Elementary AT Emerson (3rd)	Elementary School	69	1
Outreach Elementary AT Emerson (4th)	Elementary School	61	1
Outreach Elementary AT Emerson (5th)	Elementary School	77	1
Outreach Elementary AT Emerson (Kindergarten)	Elementary School	70	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (1st)	Elementary School	115	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (2nd)	Elementary School	90	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (3rd)	Elementary School	93	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (4th)	Elementary School	82	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (5th)	Elementary School	80	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (Kindergarten)	Elementary School	88	1
Outreach Elementary AT Hawthorne (1st)	Elementary School	25	1
Outreach Elementary AT Hawthorne (2nd)	Elementary School	25	1
Outreach Elementary AT Hawthorne (Kindergarten)	Elementary School	11	1
Outreach Elementary AT Hawthorne (Kindergarten)	Elementary School	15	1
Outreach Elementary AT Hawthorne (Kindergarten)	Elementary School	50	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (1st)	Elementary School	60	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (2nd)	Elementary School	53	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (3rd)	Elementary School	63	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (4th)	Elementary School	62	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (5th)	Elementary School	71	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jefferson (Kindergarten)	Elementary School	62	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (1st)	Elementary School	89	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (2nd)	Elementary School	88	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (3rd)	Elementary School	75	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (4th)	Elementary School	79	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (5th)	Elementary School	83	1
Outreach Elementary AT Lincoln (Kindergarten)	Elementary School	88	1
Outreach Elementary Immanuel Lutheran Visit (2nd)	Elementary School	13	1
Outreach Preschool AT IC 4's class visit	Preschool	35	1
Play Switch!	Elementary School	7	1
Polish/English Bilingual Storytime	Storytime	24	1
Read to the Dogs	Elementary School	35	1
Scary Writing Contest Winners Read Their Stories	Family	110	1
Scout Visit - Computer Expert Badge	Scout Visit (P)	8	1
Scout Visit - Makery keepsake box	Scout Visit (P)	5	1
Scout Visit - Makery mug decorating	Scout Visit (P)	13	1
Short and Scary Writing Contest	Elementary School	137	1
Songs & Stories	Storytime	86	5
Who Would Win: Animals Edition	Elementary School	10	1
Wonderful Wednesday Storytime	Storytime	147	4
TOTALS		3,597	84
Passive Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Adult Passive Programs:			
Collections Spotlight: STREAM Kits	Adults	95	1
Library Services: Languages Support	Adults	71	1
Pollinator Display	Adults	5	1
Recording of Be an Informed Voter	Adults	14	1
Recording of How Elmhurst City Government Works	Adults	23	1
Recording of Medicare 101	Adults	24	1
Recording of Music Crash Course: Songwriting	Adults	9	1
Recording of Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning	Adults	35	1
Social Services Folders	Adults	9	4
Symphony of Stories	Adults	2	1
Teen Passive Programs:			

Tabletoppers	Teen	1	1
Spill	Teen	38	4
Middle School Passive Programs:			
Make a Meme (Passive Program) - Continue	Middle School	10	1
Make Your own Fortune teller (Passive Program)	Middle School	35	1
Who dunnit mystery (Passive Program)	Middle School	20	1
Kids' Passive Programs:			
1,000 Books before Kindergarten Passive Stats	Preschool	17	1
Book Haunt	Family	127	1
Halloween Seek and Find	Family	510	1
Rainbow Fish passive program	Family	136	1
Table of crafts	Family	1,050	4
		Attendance	Sessions
Adult Program Grand Total		1151	88
Total Passive Program Statistics		287	13
Total Program Statistics		864	75
Teen Program Grand Total		85	14
Total Passive Program Statistics		39	5
Total Program Statistics		46	9
Middle School Program Grand Total		76	4
Total Passive Program Statistics		65	3
Total Program Statistics		11	1
Kids' Program Grand Total		5,437	92
Total Passive Program Statistics		1,840	8
Total Program Statistics		3,597	84
Passive Program Total		2,231	29
Total Attendance		6,749	
Total Programs			198

STATISTICAL REPORT

October 2022

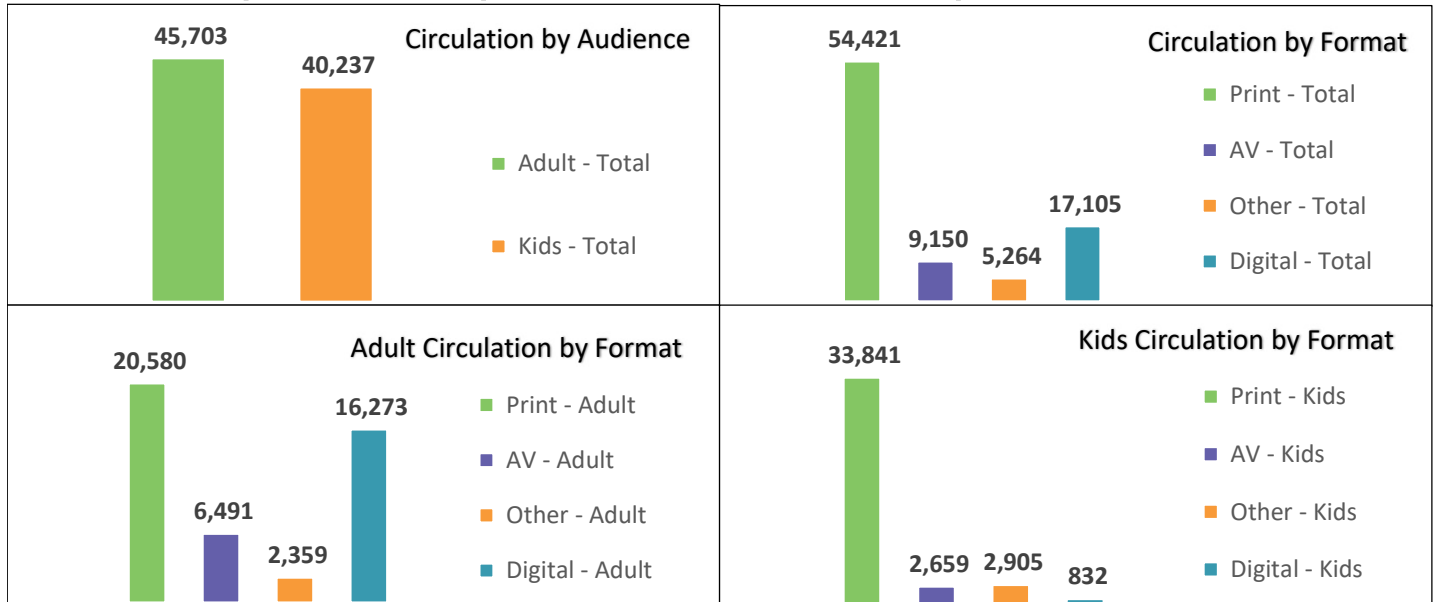
Circulation

Total Circulation
87,236 ↓ -5%
 91,694 last year
Card Holders
 23,683

Library Card Usage
8,614 ↑ 3%
 8,328 last year

Library Cards Issued
Elmhurst
 (Issued) **229** ↑ 31%
 175 last year
Reciprocal Borrower
 (Registered) **28** ↓ -26%
 38 last year

Interlibrary Loan
Borrowed **1,375** ↑ 13%
 1,215 last year
Lent **676** ↓ -8%
 737 last year



Technology Usage

Public Computer Use

18,235 ↑ 33%
 13,757 last year

Website Visits

169,551 ↑ 36%
 124,509 last year

Self Checkout

(% of total checkouts)

50% ↑ 19%
 42% last year

WiFi Sessions

25,761 ↑ 28%
 20,057 last year

Reference Queries

Reference Questions Total

3,932 ↑ 15%
 3,417 last year

Reference Questions

Adult
3,126 ↑ 11%
 2,826 last year

Kids
806 ↑ 36%
 591 last year

Meeting Room Use

Library Programs

198 ↑ 46%
 136 last year

Public Meetings

66 ↑ 2%
 65 last year

Group Study Rooms

1,858 ↑ 27%
 1,468 last year

Programs

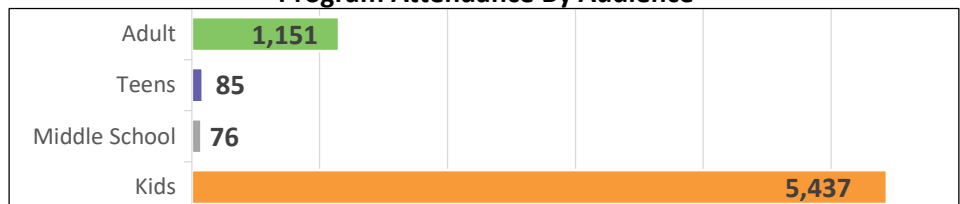
Program Attendance

6,749 ↑ 89%
 3,579 last year

Library Programs

198 ↑ 46%
 136 last year

Program Attendance By Audience



Library Visits

Total Visits

35,769 ↑ 27%
 28,166 last year

In House Visits

Makery **559** ↑ 51%
 370 last year

Walk-In

33,894 ↑ 29%
 26,187 last year

Drive-Up Visits

1,875 ↓ -5%
 1,979 last year

Creative Studio

81 ↑ 80%
 45 last year

Monthly Comparison

Total Circulation

87,236  -5%
91,694 last year

Adult Circulation

45,656  -3%
47,201 last year

Kids Circulation

40,205  -7%
43,278 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,375  13%
1,215 last year

Digital Material Circulation

17,105  2%
16,780 last year


Databases

10,141  -19%
12,463 last year

Reference Questions Total

3,932  15%
3,417 last year

One on One Tutorials

22  -57%
51 last year


Number of Programs

198  46%
136 last year


Program Attendance

6,749  89%
3,579 last year

In-Person Visitors

33,894  29%
26,187 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

1,875  -5%
1,979 last year

Year To Date Comparison

Total Circulation

934,520  -3%
965,734 last year

Adult Circulation

488,016  -3%
501,390 last year


Kids Circulation

433,633  -4%
452,043 last year

ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

12,871  5%
12,301 last year

Digital Material Circulation

175,172  2%
172,034 last year

Databases

122,389  -93%
1,665,204 last year

Reference Questions Total

42,309  20%
35,127 last year

One on One Tutorials

375  -1%
378 last year

Number of Programs

1,499  44%
1,043 last year


Program Attendance

54,146  85%
29,218 last year

In-Person Visitors

302,359  47%
205,585 last year

Drive-Up Visitors

19,801  -27%
27,037 last year

Collection Totals

Books and Magazines

185,780

Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics

5,996

Audio Visual

37,820

Digital

157,807

Notable Happenings in Circulation

- We renewed 1 *Cards for Kids* library card last month.
- Two Non resident cards were purchased this month for a total of \$256.25
- We filled 4,993 holds this month.
- The Circulation Department welcomed Cathy and Owen to our team
- Sam attended the Fall WILIUG meeting and the annual LINKin Users meeting.