

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- EPL Committee work is proceeding well. The three committees, EPL Social, EPL Cares, and EPL Learns were formed last fall. All three committees are comprised of staff volunteers from different departments. Department Heads lead the committees and report to me about staff suggested events.
- The Kids' Department hosted a very successful Winter Reading Program this year with 835 participants. Picture Book March Madness is happening now and the brackets are narrowing with favorite titles advancing and others left behind.
- As part of the Library of Extraordinary Things, patrons can now check out a ukulele!

### Winter Reading Challenge

More than 100 adult and high school patrons participated in the Winter Reading Challenge this year. That's an increase over last year.

Patron story: Two patrons got library cards specifically because they wanted to join the Winter Reading Challenge.

### Teen Mental Wellness Month

According to reports from the American Psychological Association, the mental health of teens is in crisis. So, in March, Libby Mercado, the Teen Engagement Librarian, and Tracey Orick, the Social Services Specialist, teamed up to offer teen mental wellness passive activities in the Teen Space. Some of the activities include:

- Words of Affirmation (written by teens for teens) - Take one, leave one format;
- Coloring book;
- DIY Journal;
- Self-Care: 10 easy tips poster;
- Reading is self-care bookmarks: 5 easy tips;

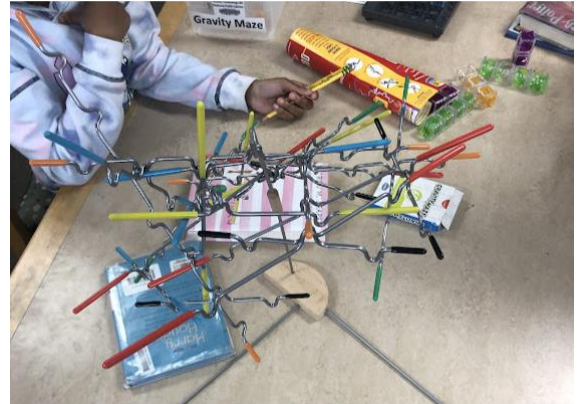
As you can see from the photo below, our teen patrons have been making good use of it.



### Programs

We had a 35% increase in Winter Reading Program (WRP) participants from 545 last year to 833 participants this year. Readers enjoyed choosing book prizes and entering the raffle. Thanks to our sponsors Culver's and O'Keefe McDonald's for their coupon sponsorship, and a big thanks to the Marketing Dept for all the appealing printed materials for this winter's program!

In addition, **Heather Forster Jensen** ran a successful classroom version of WRP for all of Fischer students, with classroom prizes instead of individual rewards. Fischer students have a more difficult time reaching the library, and this version of the Winter Reading Program strengthens our connections to students and encourages them to stay excited about reading as a class. Heather delivered the 20-day prizes in person and also brought storytimes, STEM classroom kits and the penguin costume. She shared a mini lesson around the Monarch Award nominee *Except Antarctica* by Todd Sturgell with the kindergarten, first, and second grade classes. Grades 3, 4, and 5 were able to spend their library time in a STEM playground, using our various STEM kits and games from the teacher collection.



Passive programming this month included Black History Highlights, which consisted of 5 weekly take-home kits for elementary school students. One week featured scientist and highlighted noted ophthalmologist, laser scientist, and innovative research scientist, Dr. Patricia Bath, who invented an improved device for laser cataract surgery. The kit included a vision experiment, meant to mimic how light enters our eyes through our pupils. Other weeks focused on musicians, activists, writers, and athletes. The projects were well received with 485 out of the 500 kits being taken.



Passive programming for the middle schoolers was inspired by Kehinde Wiley, an African American painter known for his portrait of Obama. Students colored a floral mural and add cut outs of inspirational Black figures. Each Black figure had a short summary of who they are and what they have done for their communities.

## **School, Scouts, & Community Outreach**

**Nuala Maloney Murphy** led the Homeschool Explorers in making chocolate heart molds and cards in the Makery for Valentine's Day. Participants learned to use the Mayku, embossing powder and the heat gun.

**Michael Speers** and **Heather Jensen Forster** participated in Jackson Elementary's Family STEM Night for grades K-5 students and their families. They brought Magnatiles, Keva planks, Ozobots, Cubelets, and Botleys. Eighty families attended.

## **Professional Development Highlights**

Kids staff had the opportunity to attend some in-person workshops this month. **Michael Speers** and **Callie Romenesko** learned fun ideas to integrate into their programming at LACONI's Storytime Bootcamp, and **Heather Forster Jensen** and **Liesel Metz** met authors and learned about upcoming kids materials at Anderson's Children's Literature Breakfast. Michael immediately put his new knowledge to use in planning Explore-a-Story, integrating sensory activities into his water-themed storytime.



## February Marketing Topics included:

### **Programming: Craft Swap**

During the week of Feb. 20 -24 patrons donated their lightly used craft supplies. On Feb. 25, patrons browsed through those donated craft supplies to take home. With an attendance of 104, this year's Craft Swap was a success.

### **Collection: Video Games for all ages** (video available)

Gamers can borrow video games from the Library including games for various consoles. You can find games in Kids' Library for more age-appropriate games and Adult Services Department for teen and adult rated games. Watch the video link below to find out more!

[elmlib.org/YouTube](http://elmlib.org/YouTube)

### **Services: Drop-In Tech Help** (video available)

The Library has a service specifically to answer all of your tech help questions. Drop-In Tech Help offers one-on-one tech assistance right from the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Info Desk or remotely through virtual Info Desk. Watch the video link below to find out more!

[elmlib.org/YouTube](http://elmlib.org/YouTube)

### **Inside Scoop: Work Perks**

Individuals who work in Elmhurst have access to additional borrowing privileges if they register their home library card with EPL's Work Perks. Perks include access to the Makery, select databases and the ability to place holds on Library materials.

[elmlib.org/workperks](http://elmlib.org/workperks)

### **Community Connection: EPL Highlights Video**

We've been creating video to introduce the community to the amazing things the Library offers. Each video highlights things Library staff thinks you should know about.

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





1,791 People Reached

46 Reactions, Comments & Shares

30 Like	30 On Post	0 On Shares
12 Love	12 On Post	0 On Shares
1 Comments	1 On Post	0 On Shares
3 Shares	3 On Post	0 On Shares

82 Post Clicks

15 Photo views	36 Link clicks	31 Other clicks
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**NEGATIVE FEEDBACK**

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Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts



1,442 People Reached

25 Reactions, Comments & Shares

21 Like	21 On Post	0 On Shares
2 Love	2 On Post	0 On Shares
0 Comments	0 On Post	0 On Shares
2 Shares	2 On Post	0 On Shares

112 Post Clicks

65 Photo views	16 Link clicks	31 Other clicks
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**NEGATIVE FEEDBACK**

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Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts



askelmhurst

askelmhurst Reading aloud to a dog helps readers gain confidence in a setting that's completely free of judgment. Thank you, @suburbanlifemedia, for featuring EPL's Read to the Dogs program on the front of the Feb. 17 issue! @dipalermophotography's photos captured how enjoyable this program is for both kids and canines!

#LibraryLife #dogsofinstagram #read #ElmhurstPublicLibrary #ReadToTheDogs #EarlyLiteracy #Reading #ExploreElmhurst #ElmhurstIllinois #ElmhurstIL

2w

cynsoreal We did it as well! The kids enjoyed it so much. ❤️

2w Reply

beachdre We used to do this every time it was available when my daughter was little. I have so many sweet memories of her reading to the doggies

2w 1 like Reply

dogpromo915 🐾 Send pic on @world\_dogs\_vibe

2w Reply

View insights

Boost post

👍👍 Liked by elmotractor and 91 others

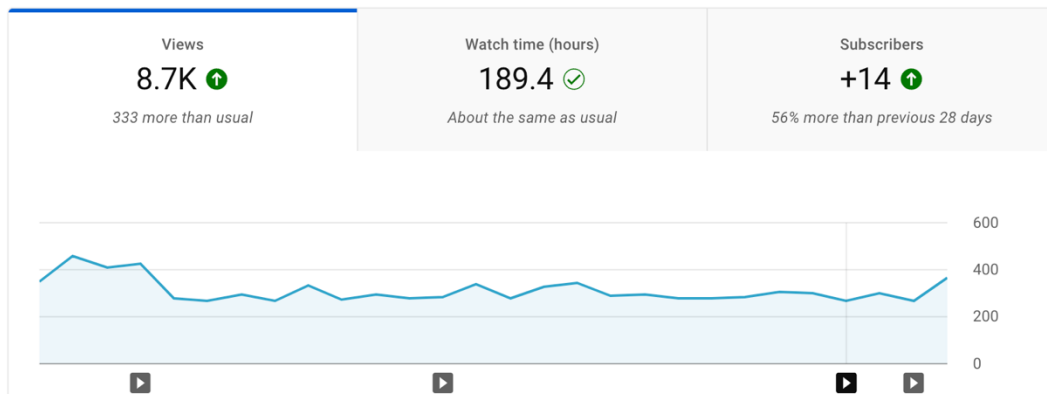
FEBRUARY 22

Add a comment...

Post



Your channel got 8,733 views in the last 28 days



## February Stats

Elevator Count	Equipment Reservations	Equipment Checkouts	3D Prints
<i>foot traffic</i>	<i>major equipment only (e.g. laser, embroidery, Cricuts)</i>	<i>laptops &amp; sewing ma- chines</i>	<i>requested by patrons</i>
<b>633</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>40</b>

## Programs & Outreach



### **Makery 101: Sewing Basics by Lead Programming Specialist Leslie LeResche**

Patrons practiced basic sewing machine skills by making pillow cases. Due to the popularity of this class, the Makery may purchase additional sewing machines so we can accommodate more than 4 students at a time.



### **Outreach to Greencastle**

Makery Staff visited Geencastle of Elmhurst, leading the residents through a simple Valentine craft.



### **Makery Craft**

For this month's Makery Craft, patrons sewed aromatherapy neck wraps filled with flax seed and lavender petals.



# PROGRAM STATISTICS

February 2023

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Book Discussion: <i>The Feather Thief</i> by Kirk Wallace Johnson	20 and 30 Somethings	2	1
Adult Book Discussion: <i>Razorblade Tears</i> by S. A. Cosby	Adult Book Discussion	0	1
Adult Book Discussion: <i>Razorblade Tears</i> by S. A. Cosby	Adult Book Discussion	3	1
American Mah Jongg: Open Play	Adult Program	25	4
Android OS	Technology	3	1
Andy Warhol in the 21st Century (In-Person)	Common Connection	21	1
Andy Warhol in the 21st Century (Virtual)	Common Connection	32	1
Ann Bradford Stokes: African American Civil War Nurse (In-Person)	Adult Program	14	1
Ann Bradford Stokes: African American Civil War Nurse (Virtual)	Adult Program	16	1
Bingo	Games	16	1
Blanket Fort Movie Night (For 20-30somethings)	20 and 30 Somethings	10	1
Board Game Night (for 20 + 30somethings)	20 and 30 Somethings	10	1
Bridge & Pinochle Club	Games	79	4
Buy Your First Home (In-Person)	Adult Program	7	1
Buy Your First Home (Virtual)	Adult Program	13	1
Chair Yoga	Seniors	24	1
Chamber Music Concert	Music	121	1
Chess Club	Games	0	2
Ciao Italia!	Adult Program	8	1
Cloth Portraits Drop-in	Common Connection	66	1
Coloring for Mindfulness	Library Club	8	1
Craft Swap	Adult Program	104	1
Culture Club: Polish Churches of Chicago (In-Person)	Adult Program	28	1
Culture Club: Polish Churches of Chicago (Virtual)	Adult Program	32	1
Cutting the Cable Cord	Technology	14	1
Decluttering Our Hearts and Homes: The Emotional Connection to Stuff (In-Person)	Adult Program	18	1
Decluttering Our Hearts and Homes: The Emotional Connection to Stuff (Virtual)	Adult Program	46	1
Disco Ball Planter	Create	12	1
Disco Ball Planter	Create	16	1
Elmhurst Business Connection	Business	16	1
Excel Advanced Topics	Technology	5	1
Freedom of Information Act (Virtual)	Adult Program	16	1
Friday Features: <i>Fisherman's Friends</i>	Adult Program	9	1
Friday Features: <i>The Monuments Men</i>	Adult Program	12	1
Friday Features: <i>The Woman King</i>	Adult Program	12	1
Friday Features: <i>Till</i>	Adult Program	15	1
Genealogy Club: (In-Person)	Adult Program	3	1
Genealogy Club: No Vitals? No Problem! Building a Family Through Circumstantial Evidence (Virtual)	Adult Program	48	1
Great Decisions	Adult Program	22	1
Green Castle Outreach	Outreach (P)	6	1
In Stitches Needleworkers	Create	2	1



In-Home Care & Home Modifications	Seniors	9	1
iPhone iOS	Technology	7	1
Learn & Grow Book Discussion: <i>ArtCurious: Stories of the Unexpected, Slightly Odd, and Strangely Wonderful in Art History</i> by Jennifer Dasal	Adult Program	3	1
Library Board Meeting	Adult Program	9	1
Library Insiders Trivia Night	Library Insiders	12	1
Linkedin Profile Portraits	Technology	68	2
Monet-inspired Haystacks	Create	9	1
Next Chapter Book Club	Library Insiders	9	1
President Who? Lesser Known Presidents in American History (In-Person)	Adult Program	21	1
President Who? Lesser Known Presidents in American History (Virtual)	Adult Program	28	1
Pub Trivia	Adult Program	15	1
Scrabble Club	Games	7	1
Staff Meditation	Adult Program	23	1
Staying Mentally Fit	Adult Program	5	1
Strictly Self-Defense	Adult Program	21	2
Vegan Cooking (In-person)	Adult Program	31	1
Vegan Cooking (Virtual)	Adult Program	22	1
Widen the Lens: Hidden Forces that Shape Kids (In-Person)	Parents	4	1
Widen the Lens: Hidden Forces that Shape Kids (Virtual)	Parents	14	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>1,231</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Makery Program</b>			
	<b>Primary Event Type</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Sessions</b>
Makery 101: Sewing Basics	Makery	4	1
Makery Craft: Aromatherapy Neck Pillow	Makery	24	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>28</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Teen Programs</b>			
	<b>Primary Event Type</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Sessions</b>
High School Crafternoon	High School	4	1
Night of Philosophy	High School	16	1
Spill!	High School	2	3
Teen Advisory Group	High School	10	1
Teen Snack Testers	High School	5	1
Teen Video Game Tourney	High School	10	4
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>47</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Middle School Programs</b>			
	<b>Primary Event Type</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Sessions</b>
Can you Survive? An Interactive Survival Adventure	Middle School	10	1
Graffiti Art	Middle School	0	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Kids' Library Programs</b>			
	<b>Primary Event Type</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Sessions</b>
Explore a Story	Storytime	130	4
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s	Storytime	61	4
Getting Started with T-Trak Model Trains	Family	100	1
Groundhog Day!	Elementary School	18	1
Homeschool Explorers	Homeschool	22	1
Ice-capades!	Elementary School	15	1
Junior Chefs	Elementary School	12	1
Kids' Chess Club	Elementary School	11	1

Learn to 3D Print!	Elementary School	9	1
Little Wiggles	Storytime	292	4
Little Wiggles Virtual	Storytime	6	4
Maker Kids: Chocolate Heart Molds	Elementary School	8	1
Mother Goose & Me	Storytime	54	4
Outreach Community Sum Rec Open Hs	Family	216	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (1st)	Elementary School	24	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (2nd)	Elementary School	24	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (4th)	Elementary School	20	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (5th)	Elementary School	25	1
Outreach Elementary AT Fischer (Kindergarten)	Elementary School	21	1
Outreach Elementary AT Jackson (K-5)	Elementary School	250	1
Outreach Preschool AT Sunbeams & Rainbows EPD	Outreach (P)	12	1
Outreach Preschool AT Sunbeams & Rainbows EPD	Outreach (P)	13	1
Outreach Preschool AT Sunbeams & Rainbows EPD	Outreach (P)	14	1
Outreach Preschool AT Sunbeams & Rainbows EPD	Outreach (P)	12	1
Outreach Preschool AT Sunbeams & Rainbows EPD	Outreach (P)	15	1
Penguin Practice	Family	21	1
Play Switch!	Elementary School	8	1
Pop-up Storytime	Storytime	95	4
Pop-up Storytime	Storytime	27	1
Read to the Dogs	Elementary School	35	1
School's Out Movie: <i>The Princess &amp; the Frog</i>	Family	41	1
Scout Visit - Computer Expert	Scout Visit (P)	19	1
Scout visit - Makery sewing	Scout Visit (P)	10	1
Scout visit Computer Expert	Scout Visit (P)	23	1
Scout visit Game Design	Scout Visit (P)	4	1
Scout Visit GS World Thinking Day prep	Scout Visit (P)	7	1
Scout visit- Junior Makery sewing	Scout Visit (P)	7	1
Scout visit Makery mug	Scout Visit (P)	17	1
Songs & Stories	Storytime	159	4
Spanish/English Bilingual Storytime	Storytime	12	1
Virtual Author Visit: Shannon Hale & LeUyen Pham	Elementary School	5	1
Wonderful Wednesday Storytime	Storytime	161	4
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>2,035</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Passive Programs</b>	<b>Primary Event Type</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Sessions</b>
<b>Adult Passive Programs:</b>			
Collections Spotlight Video Games for All	Adult	70	1
Library Services Drop in Tech Help	Adult	111	1
Recofing of Buy Your First Home	Adult	9	1
Recording of Georgia O'Keeffe	Adult	18	1
Recording of Lesser Known Presidents	Adult	33	1
Recording of Marriage Records for Genealogy	Adult	9	1
Recording of Polish Churches of Chicago	Adult	13	1
Social Services Folders	Adult	33	4
Spill Question of the Week	Adult	22	4
<b>Middle School Passive Programs:</b>			
MS Passive- Black History Month	Middle School	22	1
<b>Kids' Passive Programs:</b>			
1,000 Books before Kindergarten Passive Stats	Preschool	16	1
Black History Month Highlight	Elementary School	484	5
Open LEGO Building	Family	25	1
WRP Conrad Fischer Program		548	1
WRP Participants		833	1

	Attendance	Sessions
<b>Adult Program Grand Total</b>	<b>1577</b>	<b>86</b>
Total Passive Program Statistics	318	15
Total Program Statistics	1,259	71
<b>Teen Program Grand Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>11</b>
Total Passive Program Statistics	0	0
Total Program Statistics	47	11
<b>Middle School Program Grand Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>3</b>
Total Passive Program Statistics	22	1
Total Program Statistics	10	2
<b>Kids' Program Grand Total</b>	<b>3,941</b>	<b>75</b>
Total Passive Program Statistics	1,906	9
Total Program Statistics	2,035	66
<b>Passive Program Total</b>	<b>2,246</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>5,597</b>	
<b>Total Programs</b>		<b>175</b>

# STATISTICAL REPORT

## February 2023

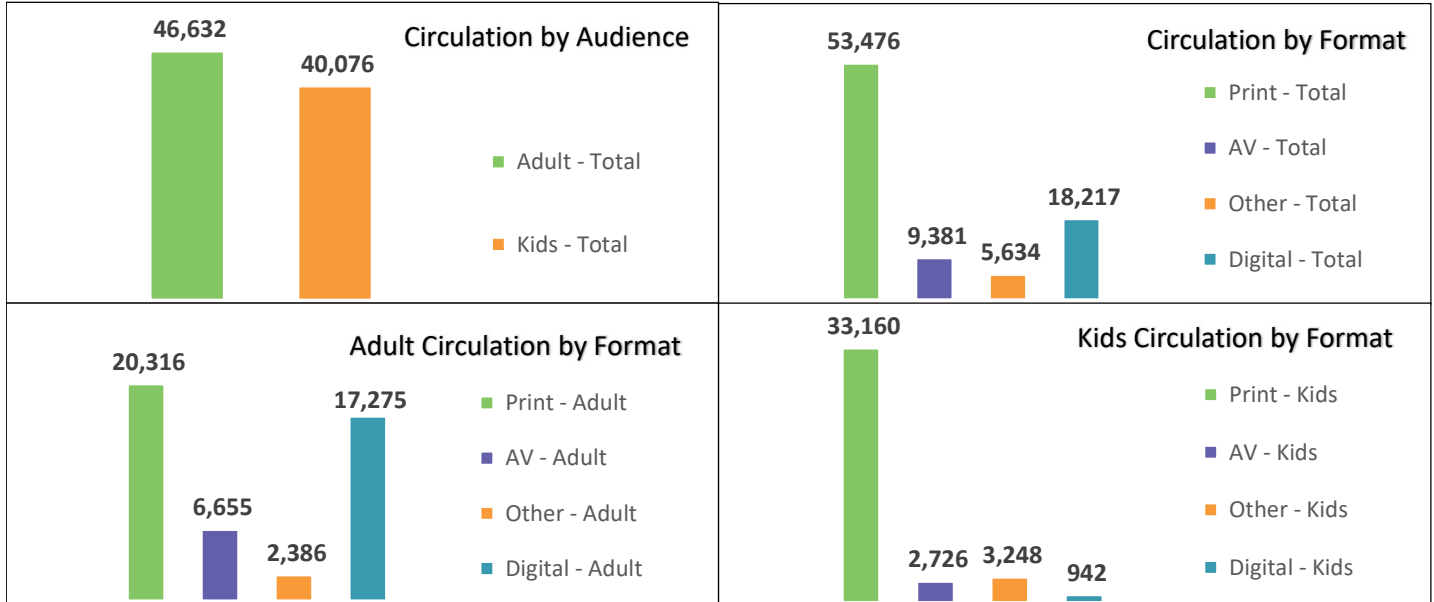
### Circulation

**Total Circulation**  
**88,050** ↑ 0%  
 87,967 last year  
**Card Holders**  
 23,905

**Library Card Usage**  
**8,631** ↑ 4%  
 8,330 last year

**Library Cards Issued**  
**Elmhurst**  
 (Issued) **191** ↓ -6%  
 203 last year  
**Reciprocal Borrower**  
 (Registered) **61** ↑ 135%  
 26 last year

**Interlibrary Loan**  
**Borrowed** **1,342** ↑ 1%  
 1,331 last year  
**Lent** **684** ↓ -8%  
 747 last year



### Technology Usage

#### Public Computer Use

**16,924** ↑ 21%  
 13,996 last year

#### Website Visits

**148,073** ↑ 46%  
 101,135 last year

#### Self Checkout

(% of checkouts)

**51%** ↑ 21%  
 42% last year

#### WiFi Sessions

**24,360** ↑ 29%  
 18,872 last year

### Reference Queries

#### Reference Questions Total

**4,189** ↓ -4%  
 4,372 last year

#### Reference Questions

**Adult**  
**3,063** ↑ 3%  
 2,979 last year

**Kids**  
**1,126** ↓ -19%  
 1,393 last year

### Meeting Room Use

#### Library Programs

**175** ↑ 54%  
 114 last year

#### Public Meetings

**80** ↓ -4%  
 83 last year

#### Group Study Rooms

**1,871** ↑ 15%  
 1,621 last year

### Programs

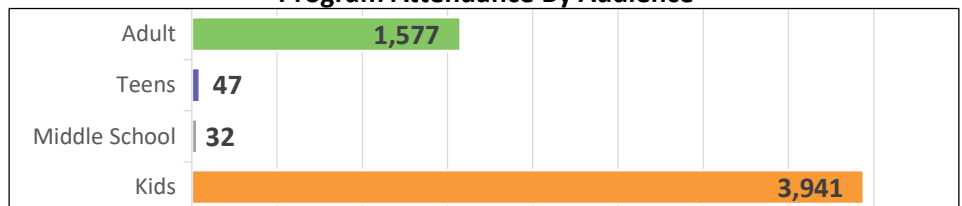
#### Program Attendance

**5,597** ↑ 67%  
 3,345 last year

#### Library Programs

**175** ↑ 54%  
 114 last year

#### Program Attendance By Audience



### Library Visits

#### Total Visits

**35,319** ↑ 33%  
 26,615 last year

#### In House Visits

**Makery** **633** ↑ 58%  
 400 last year

#### Walk-In

**33,421** ↑ 36%  
 24,619 last year

#### Drive-Up Visits

**1,898** ↓ -5%  
 1,996 last year

#### Creative Studio

**104** ↑ 42%  
 73 last year



### Monthly Comparison

#### Total Circulation

88,050 0%  
87,967 last year

#### Adult Circulation

46,632 3%  
45,270 last year

#### Kids Circulation

40,076 -3%  
41,366 last year

#### ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,342 1%  
1,331 last year

#### Digital Material Circulation

18,217 11%  
16,345 last year

#### Databases

24,611 63%  
15,070 last year

#### Reference Questions Total

4,189 -4%  
4,372 last year

#### One on One Tutorials

46 24%  
37 last year

#### Number of Programs

175 54%  
114 last year

#### Program Attendance

5,597 67%  
3,345 last year

#### In-Person Visitors

33,421 36%  
24,619 last year

#### Drive-Up Visitors

1,898 -5%  
1,996 last year

### Year To Date Comparison

#### Total Circulation

183,677 1%  
181,445 last year

#### Adult Circulation

97,979 2%  
96,130 last year

#### Kids Circulation

83,085 0%  
82,719 last year

#### ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

2,613 1%  
2,596 last year

#### Digital Material Circulation

39,643 12%  
35,500 last year

#### Databases

59,389 111%  
28,187 last year

#### Reference Questions Total

8,580 2%  
8,411 last year

#### One on One Tutorials

97 10%  
88 last year

#### Number of Programs

351 54%  
228 last year

#### Program Attendance

9,610 60%  
5,995 last year

#### In-Person Visitors

65,802 38%  
47,600 last year

#### Drive-Up Visitors

3,937 -8%  
4,277 last year

## Collection Totals

### Books and Magazines

186,128

### Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics

5,998

### Audio Visual

34,666

### Digital

16,843

## Notable Happenings in Circulation

- No *Cards for Kids* library cards were issued or renewed this month.
- There are 14 active *Cards for Kids* library cards.
- Two Non resident cards were purchased this month for a total of \$433.33.
- There are 108 active Non resident library cards (patrons living in unincorporated Elmhurst).
- We filled 5,137 holds this month.