

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

COVID restrictions are beginning to ease at the Library just as they are in the State. We are taking a conservative approach and will continue to slowly bring back more services as positivity rates decline and more people get vaccinated. Visit time limits were extended to one hour at the end of February and materials are now only quarantined for 24 hours. We are hopeful that we're beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. As has been our procedure throughout the pandemic, I will continue to issue a community message as changes are made.

Staff development and training continues to be a major focus. Staff had the opportunity to participate in book discussions on *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo. Administrative staff also introduced new self-guided learning opportunities. A bibliography of resources was compiled on topics related to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Along with the bibliography, sharing and learning opportunities will be available. We will culminate with Staff Institute Day, which will focus on EDI topics.

# ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT February 2021

## Patron Interactions

Interactions were down slightly in February, but it is a shorter month.

## Virtual Meeting Rooms

Study rooms remained closed until March 1. Virtual meeting room use continues to increase. We had 49 uses, 31 of which were for the public. Staff also make good use of the rooms for various meetings and trainings.

## Winter Reading

The Winter Reading Challenge concluded on Sunday, February 28. The goal was to help patrons spark their curiosity by reading a book that they might not typically choose for themselves—instead, staff chose a book for them. In total, we received 118 challenge requests and patrons completed 77 of them by reading the book and completing a review form. Each completed challenge was entered into a prize drawing for three Elmhurst City Centre gift cards.

Comments from patron participants:

"I do not often pick new fiction books to read so I really appreciate this reading program! I read most of it in one sitting because I couldn't put the book down. Thanks for all you do at EPL."

"I liked that my book still had elements that I like ... but it was in a setting that I never would have picked. The writing was excellent and the characters were superbly developed. Thanks for the recommendation!"

## Media Match

Media Match has received an average of seven entries per month since its launch in mid-November, with the highest number of entries (10) arriving in December after an e-mail promotion. Half of the respondents have chosen to receive a monthly subscription. The vast majority have chosen to receive an e-mailed list over having items prepared by staff for pickup. Based on patron feedback, staff has been working on adjusting procedures to better serve patrons who want less interaction with selectors. Cross-promotions, such as a recent e-mail to Winter Reading Challenge participants, have also been planned to target Summer Reading participants and local book clubs.

## Giving DuPage, Agency of the Month

Tracey Orick, the Library Social Worker, launched our new "Agency of the Month" display. Each month it will feature a different agency. This will include a small display with information on the featured agency as well as items from our collection that reflect that agency. Some months there will be a program that will tie in with the agency. March's agency is Giving DuPage. Giving DuPage's mission statement is: To promote giving and volunteering in DuPage County. Giving DuPage will be presenting a program, Explore Volunteering!, with EPL on March 16.

## COVID-19 Vaccination Information

In preparation for a possible large volume of questions about COVID vaccinations, Alyssa Murphy prepared and will be updating information to help staff with these questions.

## Digital Magazine Transition

Now that the new eMagazine service through Overdrive/Libby has launched, we are working with Technical Services to make the titles more accessible in the catalog.

# KIDS' LIBRARY DEPT REPORT

February 2021

Over the course of February, staff across multiple departments in the library collectively reviewed 253 picture books in our collection as part of the collection's audit. Ongoing statistics, which are updating in real time, regarding the various types of representation in our collection – both creator and character – were shared with staff library-wide.

Patron feedback (via Instagram) on February 11<sup>th</sup>: *How lucky our kids are to read stories about characters that look like them or have a similar background. I'm glad our local library are filling their shelves with many voices. I may have to sit down and read a few myself :) #elmhurstpubliclibrary #asianvoices #indiancharacters*

In response, another patron shared: *Agree!! Love the diversity I see everywhere at our wonderful library 🙌*

Media Match Jr. was featured in the Weekly News on February 25, which gave us a slew of requests. One patron shared, *"Thank you so much, **Nuala**! The girls loved everything and were so excited to dive in. I appreciate your time in choosing great things for them."*

## Programs

Winter Reading wrapped up on February 28<sup>th</sup>. We saw significant increases in participation over the 2020 Summer Reading Program and are excited for what this likely means for our 2021 Summer Reading Program.

Marketing worked with **Gloria Walsh-Rock**, **Ruth Ronnau**, **Katie Stringwell**, **Nuala Maloney-Murphy**, and **K Donohue** to bring together the March Madness titles, ballots, and display graphics in anticipation of the March 1<sup>st</sup> start. In addition to the traditional inclusion of picture books, this year also features graphic novels.

## School, Scouts, & Community Outreach

*School* – School Services Librarian **Lori Lorenz** has finished recording Spring Book Talks for D205 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders, which were due to go out the first week of March. The school librarians look forward to these and staff have seen visits to the library specifically to find these titles. Summer reading titles are up next!

*Outreach* – **Gloria Walsh-Rock** created and shared a video for the annual Summer Recreation Open House, highlighting our Summer Reading Program and offerings for this year.

## Staff Training

**Allison Davis**, **Nuala Maloney-Murphy**, **Lori Hoegler**, **Katie Stringwell**, **Linnea Dolan**, **Lori Lorenz**, **Gloria Walsh-Rock**, **Jan Simmons**, and **Alea Perez** participated in **21.5 hours** of staff training and networking opportunities. Topics included readers' advisory, customer behaviors, Science Technology Engineering Art Math (STEAM), parental support during distance learning, and equity, diversity, and inclusion.

# MARKETING DEPARTMENT REPORT

February 2021

## February Marketing Topics included:

### Program: *Roving the Red Planet*

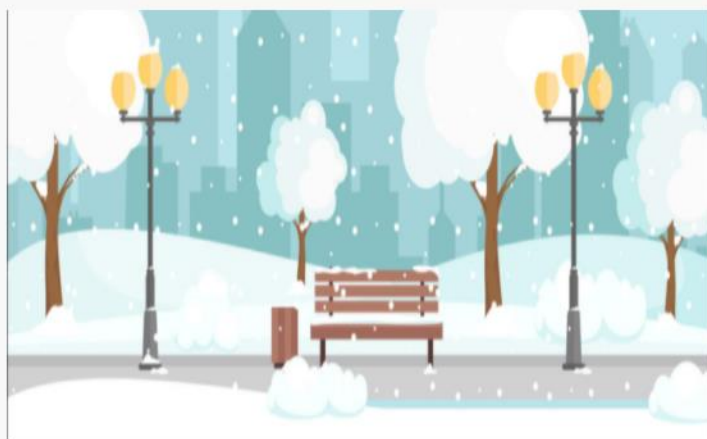
On February 1, EPL hosted Michelle Nichols, Director of Public Observing at Adler Planetarium, for a program that discussed the six U.S. spacecraft either on or orbiting Mars. She also spoke about the brand new rover, Perseverance, which was scheduled to land on Mars on February 18.

Additionally, we shared information about EPL's books and films about Mars from the Library's 2nd Floor display, and information about the Adler Planetarium's *Live Watch Party* on the day of the big event.

**Collection:** Romance! As a leading genre segment in the publishing industry, there is a romance for every kind of reader and we helped readers find their favorites with a list featuring topics like #OwnVoices, Comedies, Historical, LGBTQIA, Paranormal, Suspense, Sports, Teen, and Western romances.

**Service:** Amplifying partner organization events in town to help Elmhurst residents engage with local events and pass the winter months safely.

### Winter Blues Busters



Getting tired of the winter blahs? Combat cabin fever by getting out and enjoying these local events put on by our community partner institutions.

### Elmhurst History Museum

*Together We Cannot Fail: Overcoming the Great Depression*

Exhibit open January 22-May 2

### Elmhurst Park District

*Find Frosty*

January 22-February 26

### Elmhurst Art Museum

*There is Black Housing in the Future: Equitable Public Housing as Memorial*

January 28 – June 20

**Insiders Scoop:** February is Library Lovers Month! We featured a YouTube video created in September, *What Your Library Can Do for You*. We are updating and adding to it this month! Be sure to look out for the new video on Saturday, March 20 at [elmlib.org/youtube](http://elmlib.org/youtube).

**Community Connection:** Valentine's Day Card Project. Templates were created and shared online. Community members were encouraged to send cards to seniors, hospitals, veterans, Ronald McDonald House, and Elmhurst Hospital.

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



**Elmhurst Public Library**  
Published by Carol Schlundt Pavlik · February 1 ·

Here is the Kit Calendar for February. More information at [elmilb.org/kits](http://elmilb.org/kits)

## @HOME KITS: FEBRUARY

All kits are picked up at the Drive-Up window, while supplies last. One kit per Library card.

Pickup Starts	Kit	Suggested Age
Monday, February 1, 2021	Take and Make Crafts: Valentine's Day	Grades 9-12
Friday, February 5, 2021	Valentine Hand Sanitizer	Kids
Monday, Feb. 8, 2021	Travel & Create: Norway	Kids
Monday, Feb. 8, 2021	Craft Night from the Makery	Grades 9-12 + Adults
Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021	Chinese New Year	Kids
Monday, Feb. 15, 2021	Zodiac Mini Signs	20s/30s
Thursday, Feb. 18, 2021	African Kente Weaving	Kids
Monday, Feb. 22, 2021	Marbled Clay Coasters	Adults

### Performance for Your Post

**760** People Reached

**18** Likes, Comments & Shares

Category	On Post	On Shares
10 Likes	8 On Post	2 On Shares
5 Comments	5 On Post	0 On Shares
3 Shares	2 On Post	1 On Shares

**47** Post Clicks

Category	Link Clicks	Other Clicks
10 Photo Views	13 Link Clicks	24 Other Clicks

**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



# PROGRAM STATISTICS

February 2021

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
20s/30s Zoom Party Games	20 and 30 Somethings	5	1
Adult Book Discussion: Black Fortunes:	Adult Book Discussion	8	2
Anxiety and Depression: The Difference Between a Feeling	Adult Program	17	1
Audacity Audio Production	Technology	2	1
Ciao Italia!	Adult Program	17	1
Cool Tools to Use During Your Job Search	Adult Program	12	1
Craft Club	Adult Program	2	1
Elmhurst Library Board Meeting	Adult Program	12	1
Galentine's Day	20 and 30 Somethings	5	1
Great Decisions	Adult Program	11	1
Learning Tinkercad to 3D Print Minecraft Figures	Technology	1	1
Next Chapter Book Club	Library Insiders	27	2
Pre-Civil War Quilts: The Secret Codes to Freedom on the	Common Connection	80	1
Roving the Red Planet	Adult Program	54	1
SESSION ADDED: 20s/30s Murder Mystery Party	20 and 30 Somethings	12	1
Social Issues Learning Group	Library Club	13	1
The First 90 Days	Adult Program	6	1
The Shakespeare Project Presents: Macbeth and the Gump	Adult Program	47	1
Virtual Field Trip: Uncensored Library	Common Connection	17	1
Virtual Marvel Trivia	Trivia	37	1
Winter Stitch-Along Check-in	Adult Program	4	1
Zodiac Mini-Signs	20 and 30 Somethings	2	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>391</b>	<b>24</b>
Teen Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Anime / Manga Drawing: Advanced	High School	4	1
First Thursdays: Careers	High School	5	1
Meet a 3D Artist & Sculptor	High School	10	1
Minecraft Mondays	High School	30	3
Minecraft UHC	High School	67	4
Smash Bros. Tournament	High School	18	4
Teen Advisors	High School	17	4
Teen Jackbox Game Night	High School	7	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>158</b>	<b>19</b>
Kids' Library Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
A Visit from President Lincoln	Elementary School	45	1
Family Minecraft Challenge: <i>13-Story Treehouse</i>	Family	2	1
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s	Storytime	160	4
Get Ready for Chinese New Year!	Family	41	1
Kids' Discovery Kit: Make a Zine	Middle School	49	1
Kids' Online Chess	Elementary School	17	1
Little Wigglers Storytime	Storytime	251	4
Make an African Kente Woven Mat	Family	47	1
Songs and Stories	Storytime	137	4
Virtual Escape Room	Middle School	5	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>754</b>	<b>19</b>
Passive Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
<b>Adult Passive Programs:</b>			
Craft Night from the Makery	Adult Program	48	1

Do Not Publish - Puzzle Swap		320	1
How to Access eMagazines (Do Not Publish)	Adult Program	13	1
Kit: Zodiac Mini Signs (Do Not Publish)	Adult Program	41	1
Marbled Clay Coasters	Adult Program	43	1
New Skill Saturday: How to Host a Virtual Game Night	Adult Program	20	1
New Skill Saturday: How to Make a Vinyl Design without a	Makery	20	1
What We're Enjoying Wednesday	Books and Authors	74	2
Winter Stitch-Along	Adult Program	122	1
<b>Teen Passive Programs:</b>			
Take and Make Craft: Valentine's Day	High School	52	1
<b>Kids' Passive Programs:</b>			
1000 BksB4K, passive (keep unpublished)	Preschool	5	1
Anytime Storytime	Storytime	72	4
Code with Scratch Jr	Kids Technology	17	1
Cool Cookie Decorations	Elementary School	27	1
DIY Valentine Hand Sanitizer	Elementary School	48	1
Kids Travel & Create: Norway	Elementary School	56	1
Winter Reading Program		410	1
<b>Adult Program Grand Total Attendance</b>		<b>1092</b>	
Total Passive Program Attendance		701	
Total Program Attendance		391	
<b>Teen Program Grand Total Attendance</b>		<b>210</b>	
Total Passive Program Attendance		52	
Total Program Attendance		158	
<b>Middle School Program Grand Total Attendance</b>		<b>0</b>	
Total Passive Program Attendance		0	
Total Program Attendance		0	
<b>Kids' Program Grand Total Attendance</b>		<b>1,389</b>	
Total Passive Program Attendance		635	
Total Program Attendance		754	
<b>Passive Program Total Attendance</b>		<b>1,388</b>	
<b>Total Attendance</b>		<b>2,691</b>	
<b>Total Programs</b>			<b>83</b>



# STATISTICAL REPORT

## February 2021

### Circulation

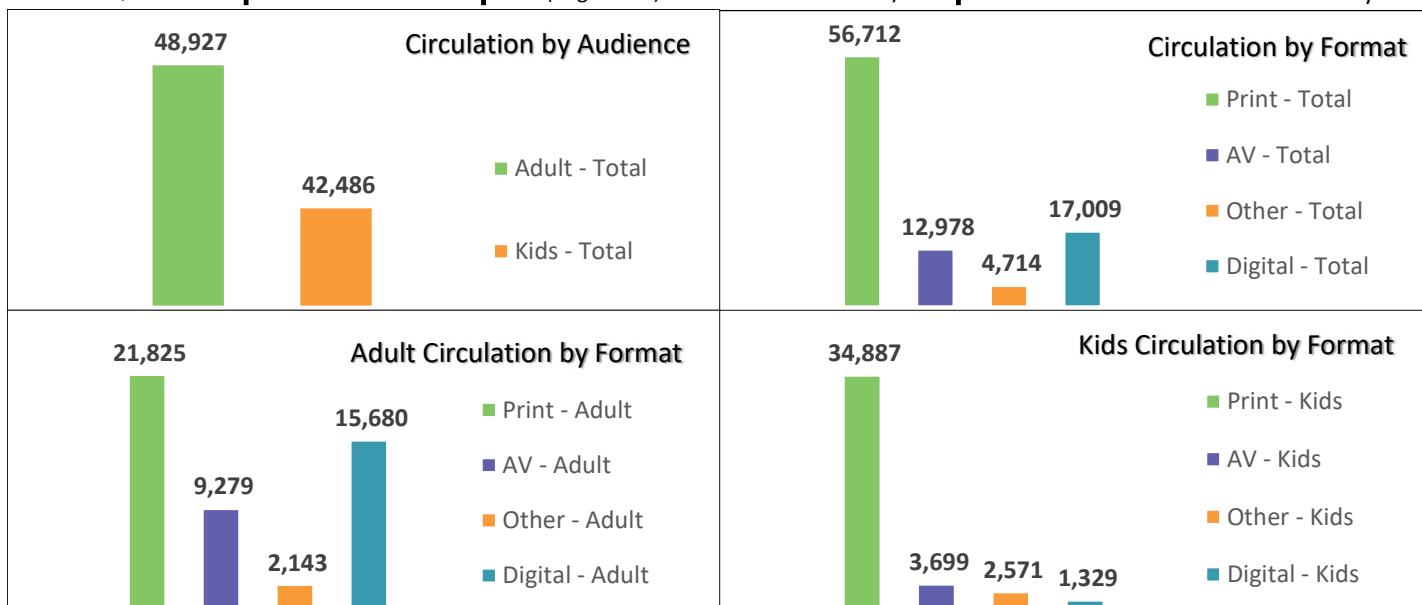
**Total Circulation**  
**92,749** ↓ -13%  
 107,174 last year  
**Card Holders**  
 25,246

**Library Card Usage**  
**7,516** ↓ -20%  
 9,404 last year

**Library Cards Issued**  
**Elmhurst**  
 (Issued)  
**Reciprocal Borrower**  
 (Registered)

**112** ↓ -34%  
 169 last year  
**11** ↓ -85%  
 74 last year

**Interlibrary Loan**  
**Borrowed** **1,371** ↓ -5%  
 1,440 last year  
**Lent** **828** ↑ 19%  
 693 last year



### Technology Usage

**Public Computer Use**  
**2,951** ↓ -89%  
 26,200 last year

**Website Visits**  
**97,107** ↓ -21%  
 122,393 last year

**Self Checkout**  
 (% of total checkouts)  
**36%** ↑ 44%  
 25% last year

**WiFi Sessions**  
**7,924** ↓ -69%  
 25,785 last year

### Reference Queries

**Reference Questions Total**  
**3,202** ↓ -44%  
 5,676 last year

**Reference Questions**  
**Adult**  
**2,092** ↓ -57%  
 4,918 last year

**Kids**  
**1,110** ↑ 46%  
 758 last year

### Meeting Room Use

**Library Programs**  
**83** ↓ -62%  
 217 last year

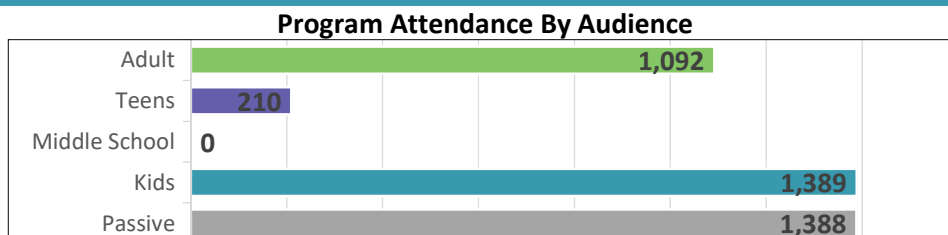
**Public Meetings**  
**31** ↓ -68%  
 98 last year

**Group Study Rooms**  
**-** ↓ -100%  
 1,543 last year

### Programs

**Program Attendance**  
**4,079** ↓ -19%  
 5,050 last year

**Library Programs**  
**83** ↓ -62%  
 217 last year



### Library Visits

**Total Visits**  
**16,307** ↓ -64%  
 44,780 last year

**Walk-In**  
**12,442** ↓ -71%  
 42,445 last year

**Drive-Up Visits**  
**3,865** ↑ 66%  
 2,335 last year

**In House Visits**  
**Makery**  
**-** ↓ -100%  
 1,361 last year

**Creative Studio**  
**-** ↓ -100%  
 134 last year



## Monthly Comparison

## Total Circulation

92,749  -13%  
107,174 last year


## Adult Circulation

48,906  -16%  
58,376 last year

## Kids Circulation

42,472  -10%  
47,353 last year

## ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,371  -5%  
1,445 last year


## Digital Material Circulation

17,009  8%  
15,763 last year


## Databases

9,852  -82%  
56,239 last year


## Reference Questions Total

3,202  -44%  
5,676 last year


## One on One Tutorials

28  0%  
28 last year

## Number of Programs

83  -62%  
217 last year

## Program Attendance

4,079  -19%  
5,050 last year

## In-Person Visitors

12,442  -71%  
42,445 last year

## Drive-Up Visitors

3,865  66%  
2,335 last year

## Year To Date Comparison

## Total Circulation

193,509  -9%  
213,072 last year

## Adult Circulation

103,698  -12%  
118,412 last year


## Kids Circulation

87,073  -5%  
91,764 last year


## ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

2,738  -5%  
2,896 last year

## Digital Material Circulation

35,914  7%  
33,710 last year

## Databases

1,525,210  1704%  
84,523 last year

## Reference Questions Total

6,599  -41%  
11,158 last year


## One on One Tutorials

124  46%  
85 last year

## Number of Programs

182  -49%  
355 last year

## Program Attendance

8,932  -9%  
9,845 last year

## In-Person Visitors

25,305  -70%  
85,302 last year

## Drive-Up Visitors

8,132  68%  
4,840 last year

### Collection Totals

**Books and Magazines**

198,112

**Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics**

6,151

**Audio Visual**

44,360

**Digital**

126,658

### Notable Happenings in Circulation

- We have issued 20 *Cards for Kids* library cards.
- No Non resident cards were purchased this month.
- The busiest day at the Drive Up Window was Wednesday February 21.
  - 202 patrons were served that day.
  - 3,864 patrons were served at the Drive Up Window in February where they picked up holds and Craft Kits.
- We filled 8,171 holds this month. That is a 16% increase from February 2020.
- The Lobby Holds Room opened on February 22nd.
- The quarantine time for returned material was reduced to 24 hours from 3 days. The latest research shows that COVID-19 mainly spreads through respiratory droplets in the air, not from one person to another through contaminated surfaces, which prompted the reduction in the quarantine period.
- The outside bookdrop has been opened for returns when the Library is closed.