

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Librarians Alyssa Murphy and Patti Palmer presented a program for the League of Woman voters on censorship and banned books. There were more than 30 attendees virtually. Community members expressed their gratitude that the League and Library collaborated to present this timely program.
- The new laser printer has arrived. After staff are comfortable operating the machine, it will be available to patrons. Feedback has been very positive so far. Staff report that the new machine is much easier to use than the old one.
- The State of the City will take place on Thursday, March 17, 7:30 – 9:30 AM at the Community Bank of Elmhurst. Marcy and I attend each year. Please let me know if you are interested in attending.

# ADULT SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT

March 2022

## Winter Reading Challenge

The Winter Reading Challenge finished at the end of February and the prizes have been awarded to the 3 winners of Elmhurst City Centre gift cards. The program ran for 11 weeks from Monday, December 13, 2021 through Monday, February 28, 2022. Eighty-eight adults and teens participated and 66 of them completed one or more challenges with some completing as many as 7 or 8. A few patron responses to challenges are shown below.

"...I did not think I was going to like it...unexpectedly found myself very drawn in...will definitely pick up something like this again."

"I always wanted to read this book -so this reading program was a good opportunity to finally read it."

"...am THRILLED that this program introduced me to this fascinating story."

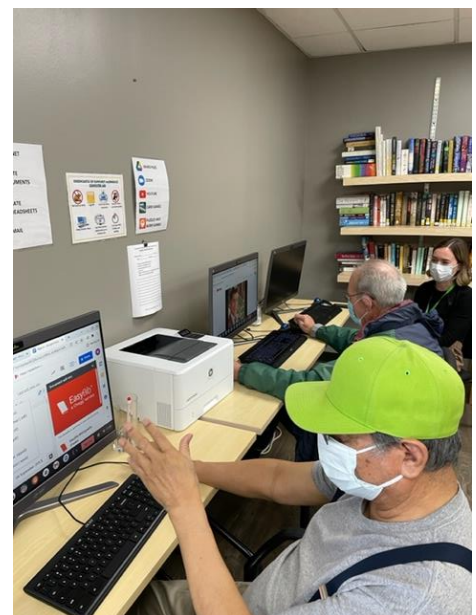
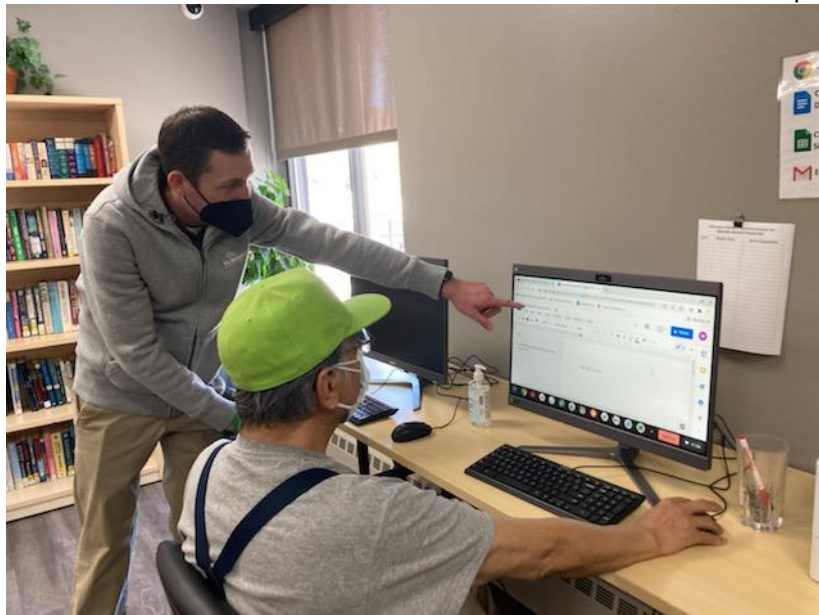
## Displays

ADS Displays of note this past month include "I'm Bored Games" and "Unusual Crafts".



## Offsite Visit to Greencastle

This month Mari Buttweiler, Inclusive Services Coordinator, and Jeremy Slayton, Technology Programming Librarian, offered drop-in technology help for residents at Greencastle, a 55+ community. This Inclusive Services program that happens throughout the year, offers an opportunity for residents to ask questions about their personal devices as well as learn more about their shared on-site Chromebook Desktop PCs.



# KIDS' LIBRARY DEPT REPORT

## February 2022

### Programs

The 2021-2022 Winter Reading program wrapped up on February 28 and we're happy to have had a total of **1094 participants**, which is an increase of approximately 300 participants over 2020-2021. Of that total, 548 were students from Conrad Fischer, with whom **Heather Forster Jensen**, working with **Gloria Walsh-Rock**, arranged a special in-school version of the program. Many of our Winter Reading finishers had a blast with the chomper prize Gloria picked out!



In celebration of children's author Mo Willems' birthday on February 11<sup>th</sup>, we had a surprise visit by book friends Elephant & Piggie. They were much loved by our youngest patrons, who asked for pictures and autographs, shared colorings, and invited the characters to play in the Learning Garden. Many thanks to **Gloria Walsh-Rock** for suiting up and to **Katie Stringwell** for arranging the visit!

**Jan Simmons**, **Michael Speers**, **Lori Hoegler**, and **Gloria Walsh-Rock** created a series of Black Inventors kits to celebrate Black History Month and they were very well received. If staff didn't put the kits out quickly enough on their drop dates, patrons would ask us to roll them out!

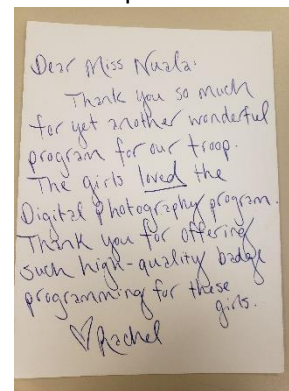
**Carol Chlystek** shared, "On February 12 we held the first in-person [Read to the Dogs] program since before the pandemic. We had 3 dogs (one dog canceled at the last minute) and the kids and their caregivers were delighted to read to these gentle dogs."

### School, Scouts, & Community Outreach

**Kelsey Wilcoxon** provide a virtual cradle talk for the Elmhurst Hospital's New Mothers and Babies group on Wednesday, February 2. It went well for sharing information but was definitely different than our in-person visits!

In an effort to increase regular communication with Elmhurst middle schools, **Shaira Rock** sent her first Middle School Newsletter this month. We're both excited to see ways in which that strengthens connections with those librarians and students.

There were 5 scout visits in the month of February. **Nuala Maloney-Murphy** received the following note from a happy troop leader after one of them! *Image alt text:* Dear Miss Nuala: Thank you so much for yet another wonderful program for our troop. The girls loved the Digital Photographer program. Thank you for offering such high-quality badge programming for these girls. ♥ Rachel



**Ruth Ronna** attended the Summer Rec Open House on behalf of the Library on Tuesday, February 15. They were able to share some information on our upcoming volunteer opportunities for middle schoolers and on the Summer Reading Program in general.

### Staff Training

**Carol Chlystek**, **Allison Davis**, **Katie Stringwell**, **Gloria Walsh-Rock**, **Heather Forster Jensen**, **Jan Simmons**, **Nuala Maloney-Murphy**, **Shaira Rock**, **Linnea Dolan**, and **Alea Perez** participated in **41.5 hours** of training and networking opportunities. Topics included Beanstack training, talking about disabilities, Project Ready reading/viewing/discussions, future audiobook releases, Prairie State Story League, book reviewing, and the LACONI Supervisors, Admin, Asst. Managers, and Managers (SAAM) section.

# MARKETING DEPARTMENT REPORT

February 2022

## February Marketing Topics included:

### ***Programming: Author Visits***

In February, we heavily promoted two virtual author visits, Jasmine Gilroy and Madeline Miller, both best-sellers. Gilroy is known for her romance novels, while Miller is known for turning classic mythology stories into modern novels. Both programs were offered through the new programming consortium, IL Libraries Present, in which about 200 libraries partner to bring in speakers, mostly authors, who are bigger ticket presenters that individual libraries would likely not be able to afford. Upcoming authors include: Jenny Lawson, Nick Offerman, Michelle Zauner, and Chef Kwame Onwauchi. More author visit info can be found at [elmlib.org/author](http://elmlib.org/author).

### ***Collection: Readalong Books (Video available on the EPL Highlights playlist at [elmlib.org/YouTube](http://elmlib.org/YouTube))***

The Library offers reading support for any age! Readalong books are a niche collection found in the Kids' Library. They have an audio player attached to the cover, which allows kids to listen along to the books while they are looking at the words and pictures. Wonderbooks and Vox books are popular producers of readalong books.

### ***Services: Homebound Services (Video available on the EPL Highlights playlist at [elmlib.org/YouTube](http://elmlib.org/YouTube))***

People who are temporarily or permanently unable to come to the Library because of illness, disability, or other factors, and who lives within the City of Elmhurst, are eligible for home delivery service. Library staff and volunteers deliver all types of circulating materials to homebound residents. Anyone needing this service can email [reference@elmlib.org](mailto:reference@elmlib.org) or call and ask for the 2nd floor Information Desk to set things up.

### ***Inside Scoop: ListenEverywhere app (Video available on the EPL Highlights playlist at [elmlib.org/YouTube](http://elmlib.org/YouTube))***

As part of the Library's ADA accommodations, EPL offers access to the ListenEverywhere app, a tool that provides assistive listening for in-person events in the Large Meeting Room. Unlike other assistive listening devices, this solution allows you to use your own equipment with which you are familiar. Just download the free app and bring a pair of headphones or ear buds to the next EPL event you attend.

### ***Community Connection: #BookstagramEPL***

In February, we invited people to celebrate National Library Lover's Month by using our *#BookstagramEPL* hashtag. We encouraged people to share their love of books with us by snapping a photo of the book they were in the process of reading, or just one of their favorites.



# PROGRAM STATISTICS

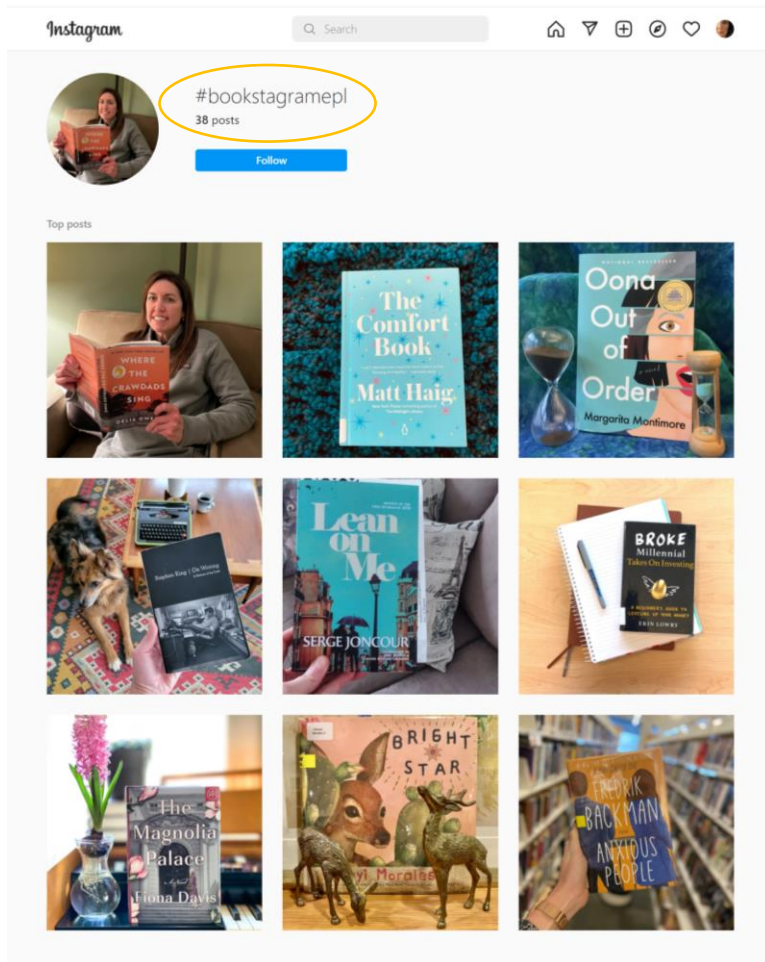
February 2022

Adult Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Adult Book Discussion: <i>Circe</i> by Madeline Miller	Adult Book Discussion	14	2
American Mah Jongg: Open Play	Adult Program	14	4
An Evening with Jasmine Guillory (Virtual)	Author Visit	8	1
Art Therapy Night (for 20 + 30 somethings)	20 and 30 Somethings	7	1
Bargello Needlepoint Sunglasses Case	Create	18	1
Board Game Night (for 20 + 30 somethings)	20 and 30 Somethings	12	1
Bridge & Pinochle Club	Games	57	4
Canva Basics	Technology	6	1
Chair Yoga	Seniors	11	1
Ciao Italia!	Adult Program	5	1
Coloring for Mindfulness	Library Club	6	1
Culture Club: Zambia (In-Person)	Adult Program	9	1
Culture Club: Zambia (Virtual)	Adult Program	19	1
Digital Personal Assistants	Technology	1	1
eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines	Technology	4	1
Elmhurst Business Connection	Business	14	1
Excel Advanced	Technology	1	1
Excel Advanced	Technology	5	1
Fiftyseven Things to Say (Virtual)	Adult Program	9	1
French Discussion Group	Adult Program	2	1
Friday Features: <i>Jungle Cruise</i>	Adult Program	48	4
Great Decisions	Adult Program	20	1
Houses of Tomorrow (In-Person)	Common Connection	4	1
Houses of Tomorrow (Virtual)	Common Connection	58	1
In Stitches Needleworkers	Create	4	1
Learn & Grow Book Discussion: <i>Vesper Flights</i> by Helen Macdonald	Books and Authors	2	1
Library Board ""Special Meeting""	Adult Program	22	1
Library Board Meeting	Adult Program	12	1
Lincoln on Slavery, Emancipation, and Equality (In-Person)	Adult Program	11	1
Lincoln on Slavery, Emancipation, and Equality (Virtual)	Adult Program	33	1
LinkedIn Profile Portraits	Technology	17	2
Next Chapter Book Club	Library Insiders	13	1
Parental Control Settings	Technology	2	1
Scrabble Club	Games	7	1
Staying Mentally Fit	Adult Program	3	1
The Great War and the Great Migration (In-Person)	Adult Program	4	1
The Great War and the Great Migration (Virtual)	Adult Program	37	1
What Your Library Can Do for You	Adult Program	9	1
<i>Zen Parenting</i> Book Launch Party (In-Person)	Adult Program	16	1
<i>Zen Parenting</i> Book Launch Party (Virtual)	Adult Program	7	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>551</b>	<b>51</b>
Makery Program	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Craft Night at the Makery	Create	8	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>
Teen Programs	Primary Event Type	Attendance	Sessions
Anime / Manga Drawing Workshop	High School	6	1
Dungeons & Dragons	High School	4	1
High School Crafternoon	High School	0	1

Spill!	High School	9	2
Teen Video Game Tourney	High School	35	3
Teen Video Game Tourney	High School	8	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>62</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Middle School Programs</b>	<b>Primary Event Type</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Sessions</b>
Once Upon a Potion	Middle School	5	1
Quilted Pennant Banners	Middle School	6	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Kids' Library Programs</b>	<b>Primary Event Type</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Sessions</b>
Brick-o-saurus!	Elementary School	19	1
Brick-o-saurus!	Elementary School	5	1
Elephant and Piggie Pop-Up Party	Family	170	3
Family Fort Fun	Family	0	1
Family Valentine Card-making Party	Family	53	1
Free to Be Three Storytime	Storytime	67	4
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s (In-Person)	Storytime	63	4
Fun for 3s, 4s, and 5s (Virtual)	Storytime	111	4
LEGO WeDo Robotics	Elementary School	7	1
Little Wiggles Storytime (In-Person)	Storytime	87	4
Little Wiggles Storytime (Virtual)	Storytime	114	4
Mother Goose and Me	Storytime	33	3
Other-Virtual Cradle Talk	Family	8	1
Read to the Dogs	Elementary School	30	1
Saturday Stories	Storytime	51	3
Scout Button Visit NM	Scout Visit (P)	15	1
Scout Digital Photog Visit NM	Scout Visit (P)	14	1
Scout Makery visit	Scout Visit (P)	21	1
Scout Makery Visit LD/NM	Scout Visit (P)	7	1
Scout Visit	Scout Visit (P)	10	1
Songs and Stories	Storytime	63	4
Who Would Win? EPL Dinosaur Edition	Elementary School	5	1
Wonderful Ones and Twos	Storytime	69	4
Zoom in Your Jammies Storytime	Storytime	13	1
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>1,035</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Passive Programs</b>	<b>Primary Event Type</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Sessions</b>
<b>Adult Passive Programs:</b>			
Winter Stitch-Along	Adult Program	60	1
Black History Month	Adult Program	9	1
Collections Spotlight	Adult Program	66	1
Recording of Fiftyleven Things to Say	Adult Program	4	1
Recording of Lincoln on Slavery	Adult Program	35	1
Recording of ZenParenting Book Launch	Adult Program	6	1
<b>Teen Passive Programs:</b>			
Tabletoppers	Teen Program	2	2
<b>Kids' Passive Programs:</b>			
1,000 Books before Kindergarten Passive Stats	Preschool	22	1
Black Inventors Drop-in	Elementary School	280	4
Kids' Winter Reading	Family	1094	1
Snow Day Activity Sheets	Family	100	1
<b>Adult Program Grand Total Attendance</b>		<b>739</b>	
Total Passive Program Attendance		180	
Total Program Attendance		559	
<b>Teen Program Grand Total Attendance</b>		<b>64</b>	
Total Passive Program Attendance		2	

Total Program Attendance	62	
<b>Middle School Program Grand Total Attendance</b>	<b>11</b>	
Total Passive Program Attendance	0	
Total Program Attendance	11	
<b>Kids' Program Grand Total Attendance</b>	<b>2,531</b>	
Total Passive Program Attendance	1,496	
Total Program Attendance	1,035	
<b>Passive Program Total Attendance</b>	<b>1,678</b>	
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>3,345</b>	
<b>Total Programs</b>		<b>129</b>

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





# STATISTICAL REPORT

## February 2022

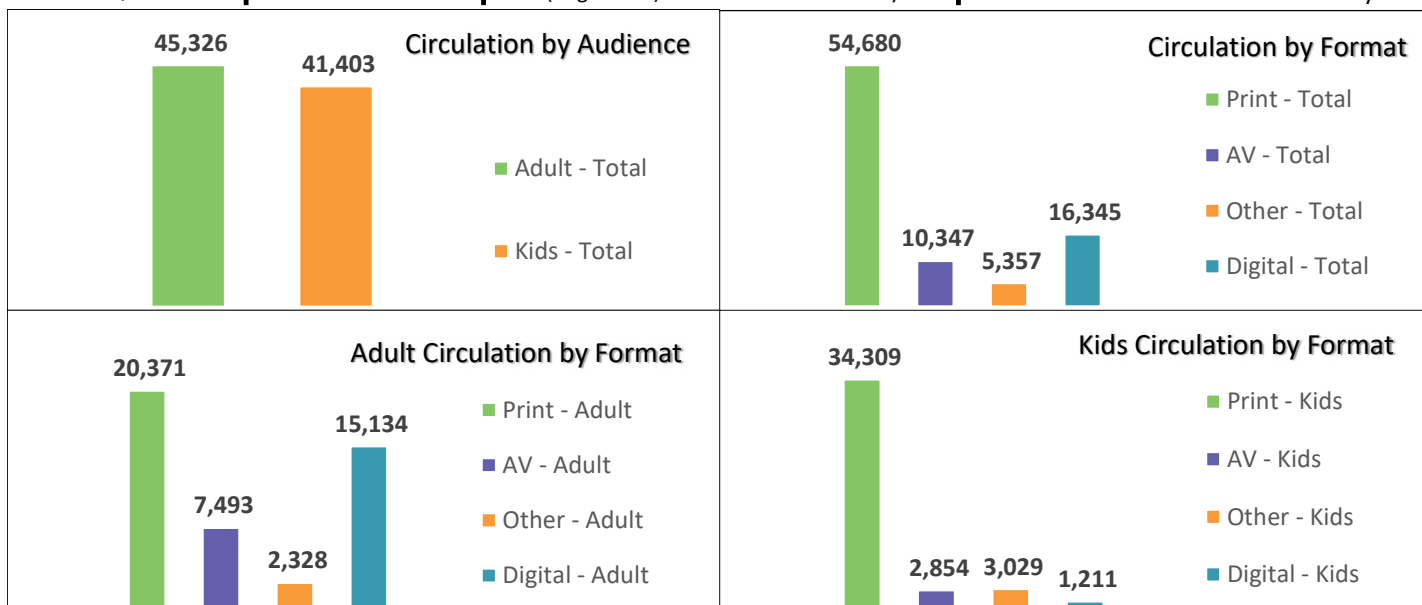
### Circulation

**Total Circulation**  
**87,967** ↓ -5%  
 92,749 last year  
**Card Holders**  
 25,112

**Library Card Usage**  
**8,330** ↑ 11%  
 7,516 last year

**Library Cards Issued**  
**Elmhurst** **203** ↑ 81%  
 (Issued) 112 last year  
**Reciprocal Borrower** **26** ↑ 136%  
 (Registered) 11 last year

**Interlibrary Loan**  
**Borrowed** **1,331** ↓ -3%  
 1,371 last year  
**Lent** **747** ↓ -10%  
 828 last year



### Technology Usage

#### Public Computer Use

**13,996** ↑ 374%  
 2,951 last year

#### Website Visits

**101,135** ↑ 4%  
 97,107 last year

#### Self Checkout

(% of total checkouts)

**42%** ↑ 17%  
 36% last year

#### WiFi Sessions

**18,872** ↑ 138%  
 7,924 last year

### Reference Queries

#### Reference Questions Total

**4,372** ↑ 37%  
 3,202 last year

#### Reference Questions

**Adult**  
**2,979** ↑ 42%  
 2,092 last year

**Kids**  
**1,393** ↑ 25%  
 1,110 last year

### Meeting Room Use

#### Library Programs

**114** ↑ 37%  
 83 last year

#### Public Meetings

**83** ↑ 168%  
 31 last year

#### Group Study Rooms

**1,621** → 0%  
 - last year

### Programs

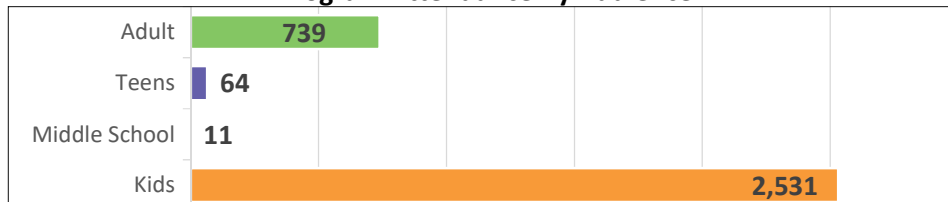
#### Program Attendance

**3,345** ↑ 24%  
 2,691 last year

#### Library Programs

**114** ↑ 37%  
 83 last year

#### Program Attendance By Audience



### Library Visits

#### Total Visits

**26,615** ↑ 63%  
 16,307 last year

#### In House Visits

**Makery** **400** → 0%  
 - last year

**Walk-In**  
**24,619** ↑ 98%  
 12,442 last year

**Drive-Up Visits**  
**1,996** ↓ -48%  
 3,865 last year

**Creative Studio** **73** → 0%  
 - last year

## Monthly Comparison

## Total Circulation

87,967 ↓ -5%  
92,749 last year

## Adult Circulation

45,270 ↓ -7%  
48,906 last year

## Kids Circulation

41,366 ↓ -3%  
42,472 last year

## ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

1,331 ↓ -3%  
1,371 last year

## Digital Material Circulation

16,345 ↓ -4%  
17,009 last year

## Databases

15,070 ↑ 53%  
9,852 last year

## Reference Questions Total

4,372 ↑ 37%  
3,202 last year

## One on One Tutorials

37 ↑ 32%  
28 last year

## Number of Programs

114 ↑ 37%  
83 last year

## Program Attendance

3,345 ↑ 24%  
2,691 last year

## In-Person Visitors

24,619 ↑ 98%  
12,442 last year

## Drive-Up Visitors

1,996 ↓ -48%  
3,865 last year

## Year To Date Comparison

## Total Circulation

181,445 ↓ -6%  
193,509 last year

## Adult Circulation

96,130 ↓ -7%  
103,698 last year

## Kids Circulation

82,719 ↓ -5%  
87,073 last year

## ILL Borrowed from Other Libraries

2,596 ↓ -5%  
2,738 last year

## Digital Material Circulation

35,500 ↓ -1%  
35,914 last year

## Databases

28,187 ↓ -98%  
1,525,210 last year

## Reference Questions Total

8,411 ↑ 27%  
6,599 last year

## One on One Tutorials

88 ↓ -29%  
124 last year

## Number of Programs

228 ↑ 25%  
182 last year

## Program Attendance

5,995 ↑ 6%  
5,631 last year

## In-Person Visitors

47,600 ↑ 88%  
25,305 last year

## Drive-Up Visitors

4,277 ↓ -47%  
8,132 last year

### Collection Totals

**Books and Magazines**

191,100

**Library of Extraordinary Things and Electronics**

5,962

**Audio Visual**

40,615

**Digital**

144,826

### Notable Happenings in Circulation

- We renewed two *Cards for Kids* library cards last month.
- Three Non resident cards were purchased this month for a total of \$1,021.03
- We filled 6,338 holds this month.