



## San Antonio Public Library Director's Report September 2015

SAPL booth, Alamo City Comic Con 2015

# DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

## **Discontinuing the Sale of Immunization Records at Libraries**

On September 8, Dr. Vincent Nathan requested that all four Library locations processing immunization records discontinue the sale of immunization records to the public immediately. The Branch locations are: Mission Branch Library (D3), Great Northwest Branch Library (D6), Thousand Oaks Branch Library (D10) and Las Palmas Branch Library (D5). MetroHealth has identified several issues with the current process and the sale of immunization records will cease until a permanent fix is established. Library Staff will redirect members of the community to one of the City locations (as provided by MetroHealth) for services.

## **Meeting with Mayor Taylor**

Mayor Ivy R. Taylor scheduled a meeting with Library Director Ramiro Salazar on September 2, concerning the fall education of the Mayor's Book Club Program. Library Staff is currently developing the Mayor's Book Club programming to support the fall and spring book selections.

## **Councilman Saldaña Expected to Visit Cortez Branch Library**

Academia America holds a Citizenship Class at the Cortez Branch Library. Councilman Rey A. Saldaña is expected to attend the class on September 20 as the class celebrates Citizenship Day. As part of the class, two inaugural students of the Citizenship Class have been invited to share their testimony. The class will begin at 10:30 a.m. and will be followed by a reception at noon.

Citizenship Day is an American federal observance that recognizes the adoption of the United States Constitution and those who have become U.S. citizens. It is normally observed on September 17, the day in 1787 that delegates to the Constitutional Convention signed the document in Philadelphia.

## **Kick-off of Hispanic Heritage Month**

The Library has kicked off Hispanic Heritage Month on September 15 with the presentation "Narrar Una Historia." The speakers, author and professor Ben Olguin and Storyteller Carolina Quiroga-Stultz, discussed their works and the significance of the Latino American narrative. Live music from *Los Inocentes* and an exhibit *Voces Americanas* were also part of the celebration. This event at Central Library Auditorium was sponsored in part by a grant through the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

## **Library Pilots Pop-up Story Time**

The Library's Little Read Wagon unit visited the Woodlawn Lake and Alderete Park for pop-up Story Times. At Woodlawn Lake, 11 children and 7 adults participated in Story Time. At Alderete Park most of the children were involved in football or cheer practice, but we still had some of their siblings (6 children and 8 adults) join the Library for pop-up Story Time. The Library took advantage of the opportunity to opportunity to distribute Every Child Ready to Read brochures, Live Homework Help bookmarks and library location guides at both sites. A couple of the parents at Woodlawn expressed interest in participating in future story time programs at the park. The Library will continue this pilot program and measure its success.

### **Library Submits Partnership Application to SA2020**

The Library submitted an application to SA2020 to be considered as an SA2020 Partner. Applications are currently under review by SA2020 with an announcement about new partners on October 8, 2015.

### **San Antonio Public Library seen as leader at Digital Conference**

Steve Potash, CEO of OverDrive, the major eBook provider for libraries across the country acknowledged David Cooksey, Library's Performance and Innovation Manager, on his presentation to an international conference of OverDrive users.

The Library Director received the following message from OverDrive:

"...David's presentation on the Library's "Ultimate Mission: Reach Every Corner of Your Community" was timely, exciting, and interesting to the more than 500 conference attendees. David's presentation dealt with how SAPL is reducing costs, increasing awareness, and improving its relevance within your local communities. He also inspired discussion among our attendees about the depth of analysis, the technical innovations, and the leadership that SAPL has brought to the library world. It was our pleasure to host David in Cleveland and have his participation on a session panel. We greatly appreciated his time and efforts. ..."

## **REFERENCE**

Reference staff both provided and received training this month. In a busy urban library, it's important for staff to review the practice of *Maintaining Respect and Civility in the Workplace* and to learn *The Art of Conflict Resolution*. These classes were provided through Deer Oaks on August 25 and September 2, respectively; Maria Hernandez and James Laferla each hosted one of the training sessions.

On August 21, new students in the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) program at the Southwest School of Art (SSA) were welcomed by Central Library staff. The Marie Swartz Art Resource Center serves as the School's "library of record." Martha Loewen provided tours featuring Central's unique art and architecture. Deedee Lu and Cynthia De Leon provided an introduction to library resources. On September 2, Ms. Lu and Ms. De Leon gave more specialized instruction for students taking SSA's "Visual Literacy" class; students learned how to access books, journal articles and images through the Library's Catalog and Databases.

In furtherance of a goal to offer more diverse volunteer opportunities, Tricia Masterson worked with Veronica Anderson to create *Book Repair Training* sessions for Library volunteers; sessions were held on August 12 and August 30.

On August 31, Ms. Masterson and Dan Garcia presented database training to an enthusiastic group of adult students from Wayland Baptist University; the training complements a class on writing research papers.

Pannaga Prasad and Ms. Lu presented a recurrent class, *Prep Yourself before You Test Yourself* on August 30. Attendees learned how to access online databases such as 'Learning Express Library' to prepare for college/career entrance exams including the SAT, ACT, GRE. Participants appreciated the 24/7, free with library card, availability of these resources.

On September 1, Matt DeWaelche led a computer class on the very useful SAPL genealogy database, "American Ancestors." Those who attended learned how to navigate this very worthwhile collection of New England-based records.

Sylvia Reyna has completed processing one of Texana's newest archival acquisitions, *The Randy Bear Fiesta Medal Collection*. Earlier this year, Mr. Bear donated his substantial collection of over 500 Fiesta medals to SAPL. Through the generosity of the Library Foundation's *Cathy Powell Endowment Fund*, Texana was able to purchase special storage containers for the medals. Ms. Reyna has spent the last several weeks organizing and recording the contents of this unique and colorful collection.

Ms. Reyna also curated an exhibit in Texana entitled *Spirits of Texas*, which explores our state's rich history dealing with ghosts and hauntings and elements of the spiritual world.

## DIGITAL SERVICES

On August 22 and September 5, Digital Library Services Assistant Christina Hess and Digital Library Services Assistant Andrea Silva joined the Digital Services team.

## MARKETING

The marketing department has promoted the Hispanic Heritage Month, the Mini Maker Faire and supported the participation of the Library at the 2015 Alamo City Comic Con during the reporting period. Also, the department continued to support a successful ending to the Summer Reading Program across the system and continued to assist in the preparation for the budget presentations.

### Graphic Design

The graphic designers continued their work on materials for Bilingual Hours Bookmarks, Low Vision, Staff Awards, Mayor's Fall Book Club, *Of the Self*, Young Pegasus, Play and Learn, John Nicholas

Comic Con, Back to School, Learn Centers, Texana, Low Vision, Young Pegasus, Collins Gardens, District 6 and Schaefer. The graphic work also included materials 80yrs of Dance, Poetry Pueblo, Carmen Tafolla and others Hispanic Heritage Month materials – including the Latino Americans events.

### Public Relations

Public Information Officer Marcie Hernandez Booked and facilitated a segment on SA Live (KSAT 12) on August 17 to promote the San Antonio Mini Maker Faire. Also, she booked and facilitated a segment on SA Live (KSAT 12) on September 3 to promote the 30 Days of Downtown Children's events at Central Library. Hernandez presented about the Library's resources and programs at the September meeting of the San Antonio Junior League on September 8. In her continual media communications work, Hernandez produced and distributed press releases about: back-to-school resources, *Of the Self* exhibition, David Cooksey at *Digipalooza*, *30 Days of Downtown*, and Library Card Sign-Up Month. Also, she produced and distributed Press Releases for branch programs at: Central, Memorial and Carver. SAPL received 110 media mentions during the reporting period. Also, the total value of broadcast coverage equal \$35,660.

Public Information Officer Arturo Gallardo wrote an article in Spanish about the Hispanic Heritage Month for the AMEP newsletter and worked on other translation work to support the production of marketing materials. Also, Gallardo continues the ongoing production of articles for eConnections (October), email blasts of this Weekend at SAPL, and the production of the News & Events newsletter for the department.

Additionally, Gallardo worked on the creation of “fictional personas” as an exercise in illustrating local demographics for the development of the new website.

### **Marketing**

Marketing Specialist Karla Vasquez is filling in as interim Special Activities Coordinator – in addition to her duties. Vasquez represented the Library at some events this month including:

On August 20 and 21, Vasquez participated at an open house at St. Philip’s College where she served 20-30 people. Also on August 21, she participated in an *All Better Speech and Language* back-to-school event.

ON August 22, she represented the Library at a back-to-school health fair at H-E-B’s Central Market.

### **Social Media**

The social media efforts have yielded the following results: Facebook has 9,408 likes, Twitter has 2,895 followers and Instagram has 615 followers, Pinterest has 36 followers, and YouTube 118 subscribers.

## **CHILDREN’S (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

By far the biggest news in Children’s Services this month is the successful completion of the 2015 Summer Reading Club. Total registration this year topped out at 31,362 representing a 1.6 percent increase over registration in 2014. Comparing this year’s total to registration in 2011, five years ago, reveals an increase of 58 percent while a ten year comparison to registration in 2006 is even more impressive – an increase of 134 percent.

The number of children who actually complete the Summer Reading Club requirements by listening to 16 books or reading eight is the library’s other measure of success. In 2015, just over 14,850 children met this challenge resulting in a 47 percent completion rate.

While the children’s librarians carry the biggest responsibility for Summer Reading success, it actually takes the energetic support of staff from across the library system to accomplish the task. The children’s librarians send out a hearty thanks to their coworkers as well as the Library Foundation and the Friends for the part they play in this sustained and remarkable success.

As a group, SAPL’s children’s librarians are not inclined to wait quietly for the next thing to happen. Plans are underway for a variety of programs this fall beginning with celebrations of National Play-Doh Day in September, World Octopus Day and Star Wars Reads Day in October and of course Hispanic Heritage (HHM) Month as well. Award-winning Latina author/illustrator Yuyi Morales will speak about her unique perspective on children’s books and public libraries on September 27 at the Central Library to kick off this year’s Hispanic Heritage Month celebration.

Professional development is also on the agenda for the children’s librarians. Seven members of the children’s staff are currently enrolled in a web-based course on bilingual story time, eleven staffers are registered for the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress on Children scheduled for September 25 and the entire group enjoyed a workshop on Mathematics in Early Childhood on September 10. This workshop was presented by Sandra Reza, a member of the Pre K 4 SA training staff.

# TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

## Partnerships

### Artpace

Library Assistant JD Elizondo (Teen Library @ Central) developed a partnership with Artpace in which staff from Artpace will facilitate an art activity for teens in the Teen Library on the second Saturday of each month. In September, teens learned how to make zines and expressed themselves creatively by making their own zine to keep or display in the library.

### San Antonio Food Bank

The Summer Food Service Program ended on August 21, and the Teen Library @ Central began the Kids Café afterschool snack program on August 31. Teens receive snacks afterschool Monday through Friday during the school year. In addition, Teen Library staff attends monthly nutrition lessons as part of a mandatory “Train the Trainer” program at the Food Bank. Staff then incorporates the information learned at the lessons in monthly teen programming at the library.

### Professional Development

The teen services librarians met for their regularly scheduled workgroup meeting at Encino Library on September 9. Assistant Manager Kathleen Fordyce (Teen Library @ Central) led the meeting, and Teen Services Librarian Matthew Loaiza at the Encino Branch Library provided the group with a tour of the library.

Kathleen Fordyce attended two of the City's SET (Supervisor Excellence Training) classes during the reporting period. She will attend the last two during the next reporting period.

### System-wide Support

JD Elizondo took his Eclectic Electric music program on the road during the reporting period. He brought guitars to Tobin @ Oakwell Branch Library for their teen time on September 3 to teach teens how to play.

# CENTRAL LIBRARY TEENS

## Weekly Programs

Mondays with JD Elizondo (Library Assistant): Elizondo facilitated Eclectic Electric music programming during the reporting period. Elizondo assists in the music recording teens create by showing them how to record, using the equipment in the studio. Teens have begun to plan the annual haunted house in October, and Elizondo has been working with them to develop ideas.

Tuesdays with Caroline Mossing (Librarian I): During the reporting period, Mossing hosted Science & Tech Tuesdays. Teens modified and printed 3D models with the Teen Library's Makerbot Replicator 2, created tracks for line following robots, and upcycled discarded CD cases into mini 3D 'hologram' projectors for use with smartphones. Teens also built simple bugbots using batteries, vibration motors,

paper clips, and upcycled packaging materials. However, any attempt at racing the bugbots ended in a huddle of bots, no matter the structural alterations.

Wednesdays with Kathleen Fordyce (Librarian II): On Wednesdays, teens pick their favorite video or board game and engage in friendly competition with their peers. During the reporting period, teens have enjoyed playing the WiiU games, as well as board games like Chess, Jenga and Apples to Apples. Library Assistant Victoria Tijerina also facilitates craft activities some Wednesday evenings. She assisted teens in making bead sprites on September 2.

Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): During this reporting period, teens maintained creative control, positive peer interactions, and an interest in learning while having fun. One young teen named Esteban expressed an interest in having a Harry Potter party at the Library. With his familiarity with the books and movies and with some online research, he knew and suggested many an activity anyone in the HP fandom would appreciate. One craft he attempted and proudly completed was weaving a Gryffindor scarf (an activity not done at the party due to the length of time to complete, but it will be scheduled in the Teen Fall Thursday lineup). Teens enjoyed making Hogwarts-themed bead crafts, butterbeer, wizard cupcakes, potion bottles, games, buttons, and one-of-a-kind wands. It was an excellent last Summer Thursday event. To begin the Teen Fall Thursdays, teens were able to make a quick and easy afterschool treat: cinnamon pinwheels, using puff pastry, cinnamon and sugar. Teens also made a cream cheese pumpkin dip as well. During snack time, one group of teens suggested making bubbles and watermelon cake. Teens took a watermelon, cut it into round shapes, frosted it with Cool Whip and decorated it to look like a cake using berries, bananas, and crushed cookies. Afterwards, in a nod to some fun science, they used soap and dry ice to create fog bubbles. Their curiosity and interest had them asking “what if” questions which they tested. Another quick and easy afterschool snack teens created was a pudding parfait, but this time teens decorated their cups to look like the pipe from the Super Mario games and on their spoons glued the piranha plant from the games. After Thursday programs have concluded, in a non-competitive environment, teens played video games. Pictures from Thursday programs as well as other Teen Library and system-wide programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary>. Some nights, photos and mini-videos are also posted to Teen Library’s Instagram account: <https://instagram.com/210teenlibrary>.

### **Tours and Groups**

On September 11, 8<sup>th</sup>-graders from a Communities in Schools (CIS) program at Davis Middle School received a tour of the library from Regina Almanza. Caroline Mossing then gave them a tour of the Teen Library and provided catalog and database instruction. The students also received library cards.

## **CHILDREN’S**

The Central Children’s department is pleased to announce that the Summer Reading Club registration goal for the department was surpassed at the end of summer! Staff celebrated the milestone together with a special luncheon, bringing the busy summer season to a close, in anticipation of programs resuming and back to school fun. The last week of August saw many children returning to claim their Summer Reading prize books, causing a spike in the number of Summer Reading finishers by the last day of summer. The switch from summer to fall was ushered in as the Central Children’s staff transformed the displays and décor with a ‘Back to School’ apple tree theme. Bushels of staff book picks were highlighted in the whimsical displays.

Fall programming kicked off to a strong start, with Story Times seeing large numbers of families attend. The department has been thrilled to host Play & Learns presented by the Little Read Wagon team throughout the month of September. The staff has benefited from observing these early literacy pioneers in action every Wednesday and their programs have drawn in new families who have enjoyed discovering the Central Library Children's Department. Collection Development Librarian Nohemi Lopez Rosdahl continued to present Bilingual Story Times on alternate Tuesday evenings, to the great benefit of the department and families visiting after work. Toddler Time on Fridays with Librarian Jasmin Salinas saw the return of regular families and many new faces as well, as children and parents enjoyed stories and play centered around bear, zoo animal and library themes.

In partnership with Centro San Antonio's *30 Days of Downtown*, a special downtown-themed series of Family Fun programs were presented on Saturdays. During the first of these programs, Librarian Kate Simpson shared stories about San Antonio, city life and city critters, after which families worked together on collages, watercolor art and paper puppets. The program series was featured on the KSAT SA Live television show, during which Ms. Simpson demonstrated the activities and encouraged families to join the fun on Saturdays in September at Central. Several families in attendance this month told staff they had heard about the program on television and were thrilled by the fun events.

The Central Children's Department had several personnel changes this month, with Assistant Manager Kate Simpson being promoted to Manager and long-time team member, Library Assistant (part-time) Dawn Guest, moving on to a full time position with the Fort Worth Public Library. Ms. Guest was an integral and treasured member of the team and she will be greatly missed by staff and patrons alike.

## **LITTLE READ WAGON**

### **Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents**

Little Read Wagon has been busy receiving workshop requests for the coming school year. Workshops are already scheduled into April 2016 and will begin later this month.

### **Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Teen Parents**

The delivery of the early literacy kits developed for use by teen parents and their children is almost complete! The kit delivery is part of a workshop presentation in which the parents have the opportunity to explore the materials while hearing from Little Read Wagon staff about the kit use and connection to early literacy development.

Little Read Wagon staff is scheduling workshops for teen parents for the school year.

### **Staff Development**

Julia Lazarin attended the webinar *Family Workshops Work! Hosting Literacy Workshops for Families of Preschoolers*.

### **Youth Outreach Story Time**

Little Read Wagon staff encouraged participation in summer reading at youth outreach story time sites. Several groups of children completed the program and received a prize book. Centers that were closed for the summer were quick to request resumption of youth outreach story time services. Ronnie Webb, II presented the first youth outreach story time of the school year at San Antonio Can High School on August 26.



On August 25, Mr. Webb and Cresencia Huff launched *Pop-up Story Time*, a new outreach endeavor in which staff visits a City of San Antonio park to deliver a brief story time to anyone in the park who is interested in participating. The first attempt included stops at Olympia, Woodlawn and Alderete parks. While the 6:00 p.m. stop at Olympia Park revealed that it was too hot and early in the evening for young children to be visiting, Mr. Webb did have the opportunity to speak with some teens at the basketball court about Live Homework Help and digital downloads. The stops at Woodlawn and Alderete parks were exactly as hoped, with several families eagerly joining in songs and stories.

Liliana Ornelas and Ms. Huff made similar visits to Lockwood, Denver Heights and Pittman-Sullivan parks on September 8. There were several young children waiting with their parents at Pittman-Sullivan Park while older siblings were at football practice. After story time a couple parents were overheard expressing surprise that their children were interested in the books and so engaged in the experience.

### **Play & Learn**

A new series of Play & Learn programs began August 27 at Olympia Park. This series, as well as the Wednesday morning Play & Learn program at Central Library, will continue through the end of September. At Olympia Park there have been many families that had their first experience with Play & Learn earlier in the summer. They have been joined by families from the immediate neighborhood that just happened to be visiting the park.

### **Workshops for Early Childhood Teachers**

The final *Music and More Early Literacy Moves* workshop was presented on August 19 to a group of 21 teachers. Meanwhile, the new workshop for 2015-16, "Smart Arts: Enhancing early literacy through creativity" was announced on September 4 and already the first workshop, to be held October 3 at Pre-K 4 SA South, is full!

## **BRANCH LOCATIONS**

### **BAZAN**

On August 5, the Bazan Branch Library hosted a reception for artist Stephanie Torres who participated in the City-wide *Of the Self* exhibition. The photo exhibit, by Ms. Torres, which focuses on the physical and emotional scars left behind in the aftermath of my cancer diagnosis, runs through September 26.

The first *Computers for Beginners* session at the Learn Center was held on August 19 and the students advanced in their knowledge of basic computer skills at an impressive rate. Many students returned between sessions to put what they had learned into practice. On September 1, the first Spanish session of *Computadoras Para Principiantes*, was held and quickly filled to capacity. During the month of August, a record number of learners worked in the Learn Center. As in recent months, the ESL groups continued to serve as "feeders" for the additional resources the Learn Center offers. With children back in school, many new learners started attending ESL sessions at the Bazan Learn Center and there was also a significant increase in the number of adults (primarily senior citizens) coming to the Learn Center to learn to use a computer for the first time.

Bazan's weekly Teen Time programming commenced for the fall session on August 26. Teen Time followed the same format from the summer session with Lead volunteer, Seleste Salazar, continuing to help facilitate Teen Time in deciding what activities were to be offered.

The Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen resumed Family Fun programming on August 24 with a back to school theme. A LEGO's program, which proved very popular in the summer, was increased to twice a week and the Come and Go Crafts was presented weekly. Ms. Sonnen also made preparations for the start of several book clubs at area elementary schools.

A new semester of Lunch and Learn began at Bazan on September 8. The Lunch & Learn Program, in partnership with San Antonio College, provides City of San Antonio employees with the opportunity to earn an associate's degree in public administration.

## BROOK HOLLOW

Attendance for the monthly tabletop gaming events has grown steadily at the Brook Hollow Branch Library. On August 16, participants enjoyed board games such as Castle Panic, Forbidden Island, and Settlers of Catan as well as traditional favorites including Monopoly and Scrabble.

On August 20, Librarian Tapley Trudell presented Spotlight on the Collection: Mystery. This program discussed the history of the mystery genre, subgenres within mystery and tools and techniques that mystery readers can use to find more titles and authors to suit their tastes.

On August 29, Brook Hollow's longstanding Spanish language book group La Tertulia met and enjoyed a rousing discussion of "Calamari" by Emilio Juan Ruiz.

The Brook Hollow Branch Library started the new school year off with a car-themed Play and Learn program. A record-breaking 108 people participated in a fun-filled morning. Children enjoyed dramatic play with a cardboard car, gas pump, and stoplight. They got themselves messy with the car-themed craft, where they painted with toy cars and tempera paint. In addition, they got to put themselves through a "car-wash" which consisted of different tactile materials (bubble wrap, cut plastic tablecloth, and clear gift wrap) taped to the underneath side of a table. A sensory station with black beans, toy cars, yellow straws, and red, yellow and green pom-poms encouraged children to create road scenes. Many other car-themed activities accompanied the successful event.

## CARVER

Branch Manager DL Grant attended the Claude W. Black Center's *Annual Back to School Jamboree*, where he met with dozens of families and talked to them about library resources. On August 31, Carver Branch Library kicked off the month-long art exhibit: *Of the Self*. A reception was held in honor of artist Julie Ledet, who wanted to offer an installation that invited people to get involved with it. That was certainly true here. Ms. Ledet's canvas was popular with customers as it invited them to write on it, announcing to the world their dreams and goals and aspirations on the actual canvas. As its name implied, the canvas also invited them to share their perceptions of themselves.

Children's Librarian Jodi Miller offered Tuesday Baby Time and Toddler Time story sessions at Landa Branch in late August and early September while that library was without a children's librarian. Ms. Miller visited Bowden Elementary to perform outreach to pre-k and kindergarten students on September 9.

Assistant Manager Monty Holcomb hosted three Teen Time events with the Wii gaming system as well as four Chess events. Mr. Holcomb also continued the Mayor's Book Club group at the District 2 Senior Center session and during this period facilitated three book club meetings. The group was eager to get underway after a summer-long hiatus.

Carver's Learn Center has increased the number of patrons it serves since hours were readjusted several weeks ago. Training Officer Jeanne Johnson said "we are now able to reach more patrons in increase the number of success stories."

## CODY

On August 24, Children's Librarian Sheila Acosta welcomed back the school-aged children for Tween Time with a *Getting to Know Your Tweenmates* exercise at the Cody Branch Library. This eventually led to a discussion of the kinds of activities they would like to have for *Tween Time*. After a short creative project, the tweens were extremely excited to have access to iPads, where they immediately logged onto the Minecraft app, among others.

For Story Time on August 26, Library Assistant Kimberly Ammerman along with Acosta presented a teddy-bear-picnic themed program. Many of the children brought their teddy bears or some other favorite stuffed animals. After Ammerman read a variety of teddy bear stories, the children engaged in several activities, including pin-the-bow on the bear and a bean bag feed-the-bear game.

Tweens experimented with wind power on August 31. Sheila provided them with straws and paper towel rolls to move a variety of objects. Tweens teamed up while others remarked on observations.

Over 60 attendees participated in Cody's first *DUPLO Day* for the school year on September 4. Sheila set up several stations of DUPLO's for the children. In addition to the DUPLO's, children played with building blocks, soft floor puzzles, and manipulative foam story books. Many of the parents commented that this was a great way for their children to socialize and learn at the same time. They are looking forward to attending more of these events.

Pre-school children at the Kids Campus Daycare were excited to see Acosta visit for story time on September 8. The teacher reported that they were just finishing a unit on the librarian.

Several families attended the *Grandparent's Arts and Crafts* event on September 8. Children made a variety of cards for their grandparents in celebration of Grandparents' Day on September 13.

On September 9, young readers attended the Beginner Readers Book Club. Each child had an opportunity to present a book they had read. After their presentations, Sheila introduced a *Bowling For Sight Words* game where the children paired off and recorded their score. Following the game, the children were given seek-and-find sight word sheets, and sheets that paired opposites. Snacks were served at the end.

On August 18, Teen Time had a visit by Minako Miyamoto, a representative from the Japanese American Society of San Antonio. Miyamoto taught teens how to write the kanji characters for the numbers one through five using traditional Japanese paper (hanshi), brushes (fude), and ink (bokuju). Miyamoto also taught teens how to count from one to ten in Japanese.

The Teen Library Leadership Council Meeting was held on August 25, so that teens could plan programs for the month of September. Teens selected some great food, movie, and craft programs for September. Afterwards, teens used permanent markers and rubbing alcohol to create tie-dyed designs on pillowcases.

Teens made cake pops during Teen Time on the September 1. This popular program showed off the teens' awesome baking skills, as well as their passion for Red Velvet.

On September 8, teens bid summer a fond farewell by making homemade cherry slushies.

The teens at the Cody Branch Library look forward to all of the fun and exciting programs that they have planned for the rest of September.

On August 29, the library hosted local illustrator and video producer Mike Fisher. Mike demonstrated the creative process behind his sci-fi inspired art as part of SAPL's *Illustrator Series* of events that led up to the Alamo City Comic Con 2015.

On September 12, Stephanie Oatis, Coordinator of Catholic Charities' Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, began a series of outreach presentations to Cody's various book clubs about the benefits of volunteering.

In August, Cody welcomed two new library aides, Victoria Ford and Candie Elsner.

## **COLLINS GARDEN**

Public Services Administrator Joel Bangilan updated the Collins Garden staff on the progress of the building's major renovation. Also, Bangilan asked staff members to begin thinking of events that would take place during the celebration of the branch's reopening. In addition to discussing these items, staff members participated in team building exercises.

Children's Librarian Leigh Bedford continues to visit local daycares and an elementary school to tell stories and change out book collections.

## **CORTEZ**

Cortez Branch Library staff said another farewell – this time to Leticia Segundo who was a great help in the Learn Center as the temporary Community Services Specialist from the Department of Human Services. Mayra Elizondo takes her place and the branch welcomes her to the team.

Story Time with Children's Librarian Leigh Bedford has been expanded slightly, with more stories and a craft activity. The parents like the crafts and enjoy having an activity they can share with their children.

Some of the children have started school, but new faces have joined Story Time and the enthusiasm is still strong. The new fall scheduled programming has begun: on Wednesdays, Story Time takes place at 11:00 a.m. and Game Time at 3:30 p.m. The first Tuesday of the month is Movie and Game Night at 6 p.m. and Family Fun is on the schedule Tuesdays at 4 p.m.

The juvenile collection at Cortez is being renewed and refreshed. Several branches have sent duplicates and extra copies to replace books that have been weeded. So the collection is both leaner and newer, enabling patrons to quickly find information that is current and relevant to their needs – great for upcoming school assignments.

The Cortez Film Club with Adult Librarian Michelle Ricondo celebrated director Stanley Kubrick with a viewing and discussion of the cult classic “Dr. Strangelove,” with one of the members dressing up as a character from the movie. 8 loyal club members attended along with a new member who found the group through the calendar on the library’s website.

Cortez welcomed the installation of the *Of the Self* Art Exhibit by Chris Castillo and hosted an intimate reception for the artist. 20 patrons were in attendance to appreciate the artwork and discuss the artist’s process.

For the month of August, the Cortez Gettin’ Crafty Crafters Group learned how to decorate cakes with buttercream frosting. This proved to be much harder than the fondant classes. However, in the end the ladies were very happy with their finished product and are excited for the next cake decorating classes. In September, the group will be working on clay pot birdfeeders and birdbaths and Halloween candle holders.

The branch recognized the top 3 teen readers with gift cards and hopes they continue to read throughout the school year and participate again next summer. Teen Time has seen over 20 teens gather to hang out with friends, play video games, and grab some snacks at 4:30 pm on Thursdays.

Monster Meet with Madeline Vasquez had 10 people show up for movies and games. The next Monster Meet will be a special joint program with the Film Club. Join the group on the second Saturday of the month for monster survival tips, monster movies and games, horror book discussions, and special guests. The Once Upon a Crime Book Club is reading *The Road Out of Hell* by Anthony Flacco.

The English as a Second Language continues weekly on Saturday mornings with loyal attendees.

## ENCINO

Tween Time has been a welcomed addition to children’s programming at the Encino Branch Library.

Tweens have enjoyed coding on the Mondopads, constructing a motor, and crafting during the reporting period. Children’s Librarian Nicki Weaver also added a Come & Go Craft on Thursday afternoons, allowing Encino’s juvenile patrons to enjoy an additional crafting opportunity. Librarian Robin Alcorta has continued Kids Time into the fall months, much to the delight of the school age children. Their activities have included duct tape journals and paper sling shots.

In collaboration with the regular teen program attendees, Teen Librarian Matthew Loaiza added Anime Club, Gaming Day and a Teen Book Club to the mix of programming offered at Encino for 13-18 year

olds. Encino's teens worked together to create mixed media canvas art to decorate the Teen Space at the first Teen Time of the fall, and they practiced their cooking skills by making and decorating cake pops. Encino Branch Library hosted the Teen Services Meeting on September 9, where Loaiza proudly gave a tour of the unique features of the branch.

Adult Summer Reading came to a close at Encino with Librarian Barbara Kwiatkowski hosting a program that combined the best of Downton Abbey and Game of Thrones. Downton Dragon Thrones was held on September 12. Attendees spent the afternoon bowling down the shows' villains, posing with the iron throne, and interacting with trivia questions. Refreshments for the popular event included high tea and Sansa's lemon cakes, and the positive patron feedback reflects the enjoyable afternoon.

Many of Encino's patrons have shown interest in ebooks, eaudiobooks, electronic periodicals, and downloadable music. Patrons can receive personalized assistance with their devices at either the circulation or reference desk. To ensure that patrons continue receiving incredible customer service with downloadables, two new employees were sent to Basic Overdrive Training during the reporting period.

Encino's marketplace area has been rearranged to showcase the young adult Express Collection, a selection of materials for tween (ages 9-13) readers, and an enhanced juvenile Express Collection.

Several illustrations by Juan Carlos Ramos are featured in the front lounge area and Children's Space. Patrons have enjoyed the changes and complimented the library on "always having something new." Encino's Collaborate space is growing in popularity as area small business owners and non-profit organizations learn about its benefits and unique features. Collaborate was checked out 31 times during the reporting period. Another of Encino's unique features, the drive thru window, remains a pleasant experience with close to 40 patrons serviced each day.

## FOREST HILLS

Forest Hills Branch Library continues to add groups that meet regularly at the Library. The newest addition is the Urban Sketching & Drawing group, which is an art group for adult artists at various levels of experience. The group will meet at Forest Hills the last Saturday of each month.

The other groups that regularly meet at the Library are the Mah Jongg group, the Ladies Chit Chat Club, the Screenwriters Guild and Project Linus.

Forest Hills also hosts family friendly art classes with Artpace, which holds a program every second Saturday of the month.

A new NPR Book Club has been created in partnership with the Briscoe Library, at the Medical Center – University of Texas Health Science Center. The Briscoe Library and Forest Hills Library will alternate holding book club meetings to discuss books reviewed on NPR. The first book to be discussed will be "Do No Harm: Stories of Life, Death, and Brain Surgery". The Libraries hope to encourage a mix of Forest and Briscoe Library patrons at the monthly discussions.

Finally, Forest Hills participated in the "Illustrator Series" programs which were intended to support SAPL's participation in the Alamo City Comic Con 2015 in September.

The two programs were heavily attended. The program with Freddy Lopez Jr. attracted 43 patrons.

## **GREAT NORTHWEST**

### **Adults Services**

Adult Services Librarian Cindy Moreno hosted the Book discussion for both the branch and at the Alicia Trevino Senior Center; the summer read was "Into the Forest" by Jean Hegland. Adult summer readers were excited about getting a free tote bag (courtesy of the Friends) and a book for their prize. Moreno learned that many customers are excited for the Book & Movie continuing for the fall & winter events. Suggestions were made to have programs on learning new languages and also organizing homes. The Book & Movie event at the library for September was "Chocolat" by Joanne Harris. The book was first discussed and then participants enjoyed the movie.

A binge watching movie display was created by Library Assistant, Monica Trejo. As soon as Trejo placed the Walking Dead, seasons 1, 2, 3 - they were instantly checked out! Popular and indie titles were added to the display and customers eagerly look at this display as soon as they enter the library.

### **Children's Services**

The Great Northwest Branch Library was invited to attend Elrod Elementary open house for parents. Those attending (approximately 200) were informed of the services the library offered, such as story times, homework helper and birth certificates for the children born in our county.

The library had its first meeting with the new Library Drama Team for the Middle School and High School students. Fifteen students came to the first meeting and look forward to presenting at the Great Northwest Enchanted Library Event on November 24th called Enchanted Library.

### **Teens Services**

Teen volunteers held a meeting to discuss the upcoming fall programs. The volunteers discussed how they could contribute to fall programs and what projects they could work on to help with family programs at the library. Teen volunteers started meeting at Great Northwest Library on Tuesday afternoons and some Saturday mornings to work on props, sets, and costumes for the fall programs. The Great Northwest Library hosted a Super Smash Bros Mini Tournament on September 5 where teens could compete for first and second place. Teens used Challonge.com to register players for a double elimination tournament and tracked their progress using the websites online bracket system. A teen volunteer created the game rules and stage list for players to abide by and he also officiated the event.

## **GUERRA**

A quarterly staff meeting was held on August 25 at the Guerra Branch Library. On September 8, the staff participated in a Teambuilding exercise followed by a recognition lunch. On September 7 and 8, the branch hosted programs presented by Alamo Workforce. On September 8, Metro Health held the first in a series entitled *Diabetes Self-Management*. Branch Manager Dexter Katzman attended a Meadow Village meeting on September 12.

Also, Katzman presented literature and music outreach programs at the Careplex Adult Day Center on August 18 and 25 and September 2 and 9. Katzman attended COLS on August 27, the Safety/Security meeting on September 2, and the joint central/branch managers meeting on September 3.

Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard moderated the Clube do Livro (Portuguese language book club) on September 12. The group discussed the documentary “Sergio Vieira de Mello: A Caminho de Bagda” (Sergio Viera de Mello: The Road to Bagdad). On September 10, the Thursday Evening Club met to discuss “The Invention of Wings” by Sue Monk Kidd. Cristiane also hosted the inaugural Classic Movies in the Library screening “Rear Window” on September 4.

During the reporting period, Children’s Librarian Arlene Richardson planned and presented eight in-house programs: two Toddler Times, two Story Times, two Come and Go crafts, and two LEGO Clubs. Arlene started a weekly Fall LEGO club on September 2. All creations are displayed at the library. She planned, facilitated, and reported on the quarterly staff meeting where branch issues were discussed and staff participated in a professional development exercise. Also on September 2, she installed a Labor Day display. On September 10, she participated in a training —“Mathematics in Early Childhood” — facilitated by pre-K for SA. On September 11, she visited Greatest Gifts Daycare and presented story times to three groups of children and their caregivers.

Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson recorded a dial-a-story in Spanish: “La Hora de Acostarse de Francisca” (*Time to go to bed Francisca*) by Russell Hoban. On August 27, the Club de Lectura (Spanish book club) discussed “Delirio” (Delirium) by Laura Restrepo.

Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on August 8 and 27 and September 3. The teens screened a Justice League movie on September 10, with refreshments provided by the Guerra Friends.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl created an Excel spread sheet for planning and tracking displays. She created a “Dog Days of Summer” display which included a definition of the phrase, quotes about the topic from literature, photos of staff pets, and materials along the theme for all ages. She added several slides to the TV monitor.

Circulation Attendant Allison Fink installed a display with comic-related materials to tie in with the library’s comic events this month.

## IGO

### Children’s Services

The reporting period begins with the conclusion of the 2015 Mayor’s Summer Reading Club. The Igo Branch Library is proud to share in San Antonio Public Library’s system wide registration success of 31,362 children in this year’s program. The Igo Branch registered 802 children consisting of 339 listeners and 463 readers. Throughout the summer, library staff delighted in the excitement of young patrons as they received their certificates and incentive books. The summer reading program theme, *Every Hero Has a Story*, inspired attendees to see themselves as heroes, to celebrate and learn more about local community helper heroes such as fire fighters, librarians, teachers and service animals, as well as, to explore and enjoy favorite story book heroes.



Moving forward, the children's fall schedule includes five weekly early literacy story times, bi-monthly offerings which include Tween Time and LEGO® Club on Tuesday afternoons and Read to a Dog on Wednesdays for children of all ages. Weekly Come & Go Crafts, Igo's all-day Friday Family Fun activity has found a loyal following with both library regulars and local homeschooling groups. In summary, Children's Librarian Nancy Rodriguez with the assistance of Igo Library staff, presented 25 programs serving over 1225 children and their caregivers.

Staff wishes to thank the Friends of the Igo Library for their most generous support of children's programming and early literacy enrichment activities. Area families continually offer positive feedback concerning resources and enrichment materials available to their children during story times and Play and Learn activities.

### **Teen Services**

Teen Services Librarian has followed through with his plan to expand teen programming at the Igo Branch Library. September saw the introduction of the Teen DIY program, where teens work on a different craft project every week, on Monday evenings and the Teen Home School Hangout, a program directed towards teens that are home schooled and need a place to socialize with other home school teens, on Tuesdays from 1:00 – 3:00. The Teen DIY program was a program created by the Teen Library Leadership Council (TLLC), as they wanted to have a program specifically for craft-based projects, and the Teen Home School Hangout was a program that came about when Mr. De Leon spoke to some of the teens' parents and asked them about their needs. There is a rather sizable home school population that has not been reached out to and Mr. De Leon thought that creating programming space for these teens might be beneficial. If the program is successful, it will continue into the new year.

The TLLC increased by 5 new members. As the new school year began, and teen participation in the programs has increased, more teens have been interested in joining the TLLC. In fact, participation in the TLLC has been so robust that the TLLC as a whole logged in 93 hours of volunteer time. Apart from planning out programming for the last half of the year, the TLLC decided to rename a couple of the programs. Teen Time! was changed to FNKY YES Time! and the Anime Club was officially changed to OTAKU Anime Club! There was also the adoption of the new Teen DIY program, previously mentioned above. The TLLC is currently making plans for Halloween and other future events.

Mr. De Leon was also able to set up an outreach event at the Health Careers High School where the incoming freshman class will be treated to a presentation of all the learning resources SAPL has to offer to students as well as inform them of the various teen programs offered by the branch libraries in general. Mr. De Leon has also reached out to Brandeis High School and O'Connor High School and plans are being made for outreach events in those schools as well.

### **Adult Services**

On August 18, the Afternoon Book Club discussed "The Husband's Secret," which was Igo's Adult Summer Reading selection, while on September 2, the Mystery Book Club discussed "A Thief of Time." For its final meeting, August 24, the AFI Top 100 Film Club viewed "American Graffiti."

Plans are underway for *Beatles Day*, which will take place October 3. Dr. Drew Stephen of UTSA's Music Department will speak about the importance of the Beatles in cultural history. Games, crafts and a movie will also be offered. Plans are also being developed for a book signing with John Igo, in celebration of the release of his new book, "A Stone for Plot 4."

San Antonio's Multimodal Transportation Plan was the topic of discussion for the Elderberries' September 3 program meeting. Representatives from COSA presented a short video, which was then followed by a Q & A that lasted for over an hour.

Branch Manager Ashlee Chavez accepted a position as Central Library Reference Manager and will be leaving Igo Library near the end of September.

## JOHNSTON

Fall programming for children is slowly picking up speed at the Johnston Branch Library. Story Time themes have featured gardens, trees, and alligators/crocodiles. For Family Fun, the kids played with Electronic Snap Circuits and celebrated World Elephant Day.

On August 17, Children's Librarian Beverly Wrigglesworth recorded "Pickin' Peas" by Margaret Read MacDonald for Dial-a-Story.

The Johnston Teens closed out the summer with an End of Summer Water Party on August 26 led by Library Assistant Megan Stanley and Library Aide Sheridan Richardson. There were over 25 in attendance. They enjoyed an obstacle course, slip and slide, water balloon fight and more to celebrate the end of summer reading. Each teen that completed the obstacle course, including jumping in a pool of shaving cream and pouring ice over their head, walked away with a cool prize.

With the start of the school year, Teen Time is back on Wednesday evenings led by Library Assistant Megan Stanley.

On September 2, the teens painted their own tile canvas to help decorate the teen area.

On September 9, free backpacks were given out with fabric spray paint and markers to style them up.

Ms. Stanley also has been weeding and rearranging the Teen Collection to increase circulation and is in the process of creating a more defined space for the Johnston Teens.

On August 19, the Athena Readers Book Club discussed Liane Moriarty's "Big Little Lies."

On August 21, the Friday Family Film series continued with a screening of "Insurgent," part 2 of the Divergent series.

On August 28, for the end of summer adult program the musical group, *Beethoven Dance Band* performed to a welcoming crowd of 100 attendees. The band played a mix of well know movie soundtrack hits. Patrons provided very positive feedback saying the event was greatly enjoyed. Refreshments were served.

On September 12, as part of the *Curanderos Program*, Herbalist Don Jacinto Madrigal and his translator Jesus de la Torre set multiple potted plants on a table in the middle of the library. There were six attendees. They received a discussion on the healing value of various plant and herbs.

# LANDA

## Children's Services

Children's programming at the Landa Branch Library got back into full swing on Tuesday, August 25, with Baby and Toddler programs back in their same 10 and 11 a.m. timeslots, respectively. During the vacancy of the Children's Library Services position, Jody Miller from Carver is leading these two programs. Landa Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta is leading the Thursday morning Story Time. Attendance is strong at all programs and everyone is having a great time, which is what it's all about.

## Teen Services

Landa Teen Programs resumed under the new leadership of Teen Liaison Melissa Carroll. The Teen Leadership Council (TLC) meets monthly on the first Saturday of the month. They have organized The *Clash of the Titles* competition in observance of *Teen Read Week*. This "guess the quote source" contest will take place on Wednesday, October 21. Cool Teens are meeting weekly on Wednesday evenings to carry out various projects set forth by the TLC and Ms. Carroll.

## Adult Services

The Adult Summer Reading at Landa completed August with three outstanding programs. On August 17, Narjis Pierre, local speaker and author, presented informational program entitled "Islam 101." She spoke to a large crowd; many in attendance had questions about this topic not well known by many people who are not of that faith. The following week, the *Beethoven Dance Band* performed outdoors at the Valero Pavilion. They attracted a good-sized audience who braved the heat (and mosquitos!) to hear this outstanding ensemble. Author David Liss closed out Landa's summer programming with a discussion about his recently-published book, "The Day of Atonement." He is a popular local writer and the Landa patrons gave him a good reception.

Landa adult programming has two on-going book clubs, Reader's Ink and the Seniors Mystery Book Club. Reader's Ink has changed meeting times and now gathers the second Thursday of each month at 2 p.m. September's selection was "Time and Again" by Jack Finney, a science-fiction, historical mystery, love story.

# LAS PALMAS

Play-Doh Day was a fabulous event at the Las Palmas Branch Library. Children and their families loved creating unique expressions of art. Children's Librarian Gina Brudi has added the YWCA next to the library to her extensive outreach to literacy sites where she presents monthly Story Times. An assistant teacher at the Avance site she visits told Ms. Brudi that her grandsons still sing the songs they learned from her when they attended the Madonna Literacy Center. Clearly, youth outreach makes a positive impact on our community.

Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez held a birthday party for Bilingual Story Time. Participants enjoyed songs, stories, and cupcakes.

Teen Librarian Connie Hejl has asked teens to form a Teen Advisory Council. Once formed, the Teen Council will begin planning a Fall Carnival. Outreach at Estrada Alternatives School went well. Ms. Hejl plans to continue partnering with the school to get students library cards. Artists from the Edgewood Fine

Arts Academy are creating a Teen Area sign. The art will be displayed the teen section of the facility later in the school year. Ms. Hejl also supported SAPL outreach efforts at the Alamo City Comic Con. Citizenship classes in both English and Spanish continue at the Las Palmas Branch.

## MAVERICK

The month of August was busy at the Maverick Branch Library. Children continued to turn in their reading logs and as of the first week of September, 1009 registered and 413 completed the program! Story Times resumed on August 24 as did LEGO Club. The first two weeks of the LEGO Club had 63 attendees at the first session and 48 attendees at the second session. Baby Time has also grown into the largest story time this fall!

Adult and family programming continued in August and September as well. On August 22, *Jorge and Nicole* came and performed a guitar and voice concert for 44 patrons. A Chess Club, planned by Librarian II Ben Longoria and facilitated by patron Greg Trimble, garnered between 11-23 participants on Friday afternoons. Teen Liaison Lucy Villa continued to have teens come to Tuesday and Thursday Teen Nights. The teens have enjoyed playing Yu-Gi-Oh and playing Dance Dance Revolution.

## McCRELESS

Three Story Times were held during this time period at the McCreless Branch Library. Children heard stories about opposites: big and little, loud and quiet, and day and night. They listened to stories, sang songs and learned rhymes. They also made several projects: a story scene, a shaker and a day-and-night door hanger. Hands-on building and sorting activities were also enjoyed by everyone.

Three Family Fun programs were also held: Back-to-School Bingo, Sunflower Story Time and Fairy Tale Fun. Families enjoyed bingo, projects, stories and refreshments.

Children's Librarian Katy Brown and Manager Cammie Brantley co-hosted a coloring party for all ages on Wednesday, August 19. Participants ranged from children to teens to parents and everyone enjoyed the variety of images to choose from and the relaxed atmosphere.

The Branch welcomed Librarian I Georgina Salinas. She took over teen programming at the branch and had an immediate success with her first two programs drawing good attendance and some new participants.

Ten patrons attended the Movie Time showing of "Catching Fire" on August 29.

The garden area planted with the help of the Friends in April thrived throughout the summer and there are plans in place to transition to some fall plants to keep it attractive year-round.

# MEMORIAL

On September 3, the Memorial Branch Library hosted *Habitat for Humanity*. Approximately 35 patrons attended the presentation on low cost, affordable housing and many stayed after the talk to learn more about the organization's programs and to have their questions answered.

To commemorate September 11, *Air Force Band of the West, Mission Winds Quartet* came to play at Memorial. The concert music played was mix of themes to reflect upon the events and memories of that day. The ensemble consisting of four highly skilled musicians had a diverse repertoire and each told stories about what happened to them during September 11. Councilman Chris Medina attended the event and commented on the significance of September 11. Patrons were given small U.S. flags and waved them as the band played. The concert was well attended.

The children of Memorial Library enjoyed three new programs with the start of the school year: LEGO/DUPLO Clubs, Kids Time and Read to a Dog to go along with Story time and Come and Go Craft Time. After a brief break, kids returned to the Kids Time, Back-to-School program, where they made their own bookmarks, notebook dividers and pencil decorations. They also received information about the library's services and resources. Story Time was enjoyed by all who were listening to STEM and sensory-based stories, crafts and action rhymes. The Read to a Dog program includes a certified therapy dog, *Chiko* and his handler Arlene, for kids to practice their reading skills. For our Come and Go Craft Time, kids made superhero bracelets along with checking out superhero books. During Kids Time, children designed their own library card to celebrate National Library Card Sign-Up Month. Memorial's children had a blast while participating in our LEGO/DUPLO Clubs by creating an airport and a raceway. Children from three to eighteen years old were encouraged to write and submit original poems for the Young Pegasus Poetry Competition. Children's Librarian Trina Smith enrolled in a month long online class titled, *Bilingual Story Time* through Library Juice Academy, an online professional development website for librarians.

# MISSION

On August 22, Librarian Oscar Gonzalez organized the First Annual Table Tennis Tournament open to beginners, intermediate and advance players in the categories of singles and doubles. This tournament marks the one year anniversary of having a Table Tennis Program at the Mission Branch Library in partnership with the Department of Parks and Recreation and also their 2015 FitPass program.

The entire meeting room space was open with four tables. Trophies and medals were awarded in four different categories to five players out of 36 total participants. A local TV station (Kens 5) interviewed participants and ran a story highlighting Mission Branch that evening in their news program.

The Table Tennis program has grown. On Saturday, September 12, Mission library had the most attendance for a regular table tennis day with a count of 29 players.

None of this would have been possible without the general contribution of the Friends of the Mission Library who bought two initial tables and equipment to start the program and recently bought two more tables and a *table top pro robot* for this expanding and popular program.

The City of San Antonio had a planning and Community Development Meeting on August 28.

On September 1, the City had a Transportation Planning Workshop and later in the day VIA had an Open House public meeting regarding the VIA South/West Corridor Transit improvements.

The Mission Community Garden Planning committee on September 10 reached their required five year Core Member commitment goal of eight individuals not related by family or employment for the Green Space Alliance Garden Funding Application.

Librarian Oscar Gonzalez as part of the committee responsible for the library participation in the Alamo City Comicon Convention helped to set up and tended the library booth at this event on September 10, 11, and 12. Thousands of people went through this area and Mr. Gonzalez reported that the Library was well represented and promoted with many activities for children, teens and adults.

With the new school year underway, Mission teens have had extracurricular fun at the library by creating video game controllers, pendant necklaces, and also learning about Japanese weaving. Teens also participated in a minute to win it challenge and enjoyed playing volleyball in Mission's courtyard area. Teens from St. Peters-St. Joseph's Children's Home International program visited with Teen Librarian Cindy Cruz who provided a presentation on teen services and gave them a tour of the library and grounds.

Librarians Oscar Gonzalez and Cindy Cruz visited with the community at the Mission Marquee's Back to School event. Families were able to play video games on the Library's VROOM van, play a fun golf putting game, and learn about library resources.

With the children back in school, things have changed a bit for the Children's Department. In lieu of Kids Time, which ended at the end of July, we started a LEGO and Play-Doh Time that was well attended and gave the kids one last fun thing to do before school started again. The very first week of school we had our best attended Tween Time ever, 26 tweens and 6 parents. Ping pong, video games and laptops are proving to be a winning combination for the tweens. Many of the Toddler Story Time kids are now in school, and the new group is younger, but catching on fine and having a great time. Discovery Time has started up again for the fall. Some of the children from last year have returned along with new children and a lot of exciting math and science activities are planned.

Ongoing programs at Mission Library include Cult and Classic movies, Trivia Game night –Current events and games, Chess Club, and an embroidery and craft group.

Continuing partnerships include Fitness in the Park with yoga and cycle circuit classes and Familias en Acción.

## PAN AMERICAN

The warm days of summer brought many patrons to the Pan American Branch Library seeking a place to cool off and enjoy a variety of programs. Adult Services Librarian Cindy Pope provided patrons an opportunity to explore their creative side. Ms. Pope held weekly adult coloring programs and monthly craft nights. Additionally, the branch held family movie matinees on Saturdays.

On September 2, the Pan American Branch Library held an artist reception for Jenelle Esparza to kick off the *Of the Self* photo exhibit. The city-wide exhibition showcases a group of four artists, all working with either their own portraits or portraits of other to establish a form of identity.

Besides hosting programs at Pan American, branch staff also went out into the community to engage patrons about library services. On August 22, Nathan Laubner and Pat Severson held an outreach event at HEB on South Zarzamora. Mr. Laubner and Ms. Severson spoke to many people about SAPL and gave out new library cards. Additionally, Cindy Pope represented the San Antonio Public Library at the Alamo City Comic Con on September 11.

The Pan American Branch Library held fun and creative Teen Time activities during the waning days of summer. Teen Liaison, Angela Olivarez provided young adults the opportunity to play interactive games such as “Apples to Apples” and Wii video games. To mark the end of summer, Ms. Olivarez held a “Back to School Bash” on August 24 where teens got to eat pizza, play games and socialize with their peers.

## PARMAN

As part of the Alamo City Comic Con graphic artist series hosted by SAPL, graphic novelist Mike Fisher gave a presentation for patrons at the Parman Branch Library. His art is on display in the Parman Gallery through November. Branch Manager Haley Holmes and Assistant Branch Manager Tim Johnson each spent a day working the Library booth at Comic Con. Parman’s green screen was used to take photos for people who stopped by the booth. The service was very popular.

The summer session of DIY U concluded with a Creative Paper Collage class hosted by Library Assistant Elissa Vura and Micro Macrame plant hanger (complete with live plant) taught by Branch Manager Haley Holmes. The Fall Semester starts on September 17 with Fly Fishing brought to the library by the Alamo Area Fly Fishers. The class was arranged by Children’s Librarian Carrie Vance.

Children’s Librarian Carrie Vance hosted Parman Library’s second Wee Wiggle Dance Party of the year. Close to a hundred parents and children danced for an hour, enjoyed refreshments, and played with balloons and ribbons.

Reagan High School Students for Environmental Awareness have volunteered to take over the Parman garden. They held their first organizational meeting in September to decide what they will plant for the fall. The Jane Austin Society of North America held an English Country Dancing program at Parman. Over 30 participants watched the dancers and then were invited to participate.

## PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Fall programming for children is off to a great start at the Pruitt Branch Library. Children’s Librarian Cynthia Saenz spent the month of August planning an exciting group of programs for the fall. Two of those programs have already drawn approximately 15 children and their parents to the library. Those programs were *Tomie dePaola’s Birthday* and *Grandparent’s Day* celebrations. The children made pasta necklaces for Tomie dePaola’s birthday and Grandparent greeting cards for Grandparent’s day. Upcoming events are Play-Doh Day, World Octopus Day, and Read for the Record. Librarian Kim Wygant continues to bring in an average of 15 toddlers for Toddler Time each Saturday. Bubbles are a big hit.

Teen Librarian Rae Downen has been busy reaching out to North East ISD's ACE program along with Parman's Teen Librarian Marisa DeBow. Teens have celebrated an *Unbirthday* and look forward to a new Teen Online Book Club. Teens at Roosevelt that need community service are able to sign up to volunteer at the Pruitt Library. Ms. Downen conducted Teen Volunteer Orientation sessions on Saturday, September 12 and Sunday, September 13. She also conducted a library card outreach to the students at Roosevelt during their lunches on Tuesday, September 8.

Pruitt patron Casey Planchon was the winner of the Adult Summer Reading Program goodie bag. Ninety adults registered and completed at least four books for the Summer Reading Program for adults. This is an increase from thirty-six the previous year. The last Book Was Better Book Club meeting was held Wednesday, September 9 with two members participating. Book club leader Rae Downen decided she wanted to focus on a new online book club for Teens. The TGIF and Cottage Creek (formerly Spring Hill) Outreach Book Clubs continue to meet.

Pruitt staff met on September 3 and created Super Hero capes to celebrate the end of summer and that staff are super heroes each and every day. Each staff member chose a cape and created their own *super hero* emblem to decorate their cape. This was a fun team building experience. This was led by Branch Manager, Troy Lawrence.

## SAN PEDRO

The new summer programs at the San Pedro Branch Library have been successful in attracting children who have not normally come to the library. With that in mind, the popular Monday Minecraft Club is continuing throughout the school year. There have generally been around 10-15 children attending and often not the same children from week to week. This is the same pattern that occurred in the summer and provides a good mix of children each time. Kids Time is on Wednesday (with the first Wednesday of the month being the very popular LEGO Club) and Ms. Dalton has started a Children's Chess Club on Thursdays, which also has attracted students to the library. Betsy Dalton's Summer Reading Program registration exceeded previous years. The children's Summer Reading Program reached its highest registration number: 1,623! The really great thing is that 443 children finished the program, which is 27.2 percent of the total.

Children's Librarian Betsy Dalton presented monthly Story Times to children at Educare Child Care Center (two classes), Study Hall Learning Center (two classes), and Monte Vista Montessori (two classes). Fifteen books were also delivered to each child care class for their use during the month. She also presented a monthly Story Time to two groups of children (each group was a combination of two classes) at Respite Care, a child care facility for developmentally disabled children. Books were left for each of five classes.

On September 10, Ms. Dalton attended training provided by Pre-K for SA on early mathematics for preschoolers. In addition, she is taking a four week class entitled *Bilingual Story Time at Your Biblioteca*. The special Story Time Outreach program series at the San Pedro Springs Pool ended on Saturday, August 16. The series turned out to be very successful, as a total of 426 people attended twenty-one programs over the eight week period. The children also had the chance to do *chalk art*, on a couple of days in July as an extra little *arts and crafts* treat. The kids drew animals on the concrete under the



pavilion using colored chalk supplied by the Library. The Parks and Recreation Department has requested the program be offered next summer.

April Schramm was the Adult Summer Reading Program winner for San Pedro. She was very pleased to hear she had won the “Bag of Swag.”

Branch staff is completing required IT Security Awareness training.

## SEMMESES

Semmes Branch Library staff celebrated the close of a very successful Summer Reading Program at the end of August. 1043 children registered for the program at Semmes. Teen registrations were up 77 percent over *Summer 2014*. On the adult side, 76 people registered for the program. It was a great summer, the entire staff of the branch was involved in talking to patrons and asking them to register for the program.

After taking a programming break in early August, Story Times resumed on Monday, August 24. Children’s Librarians Randi Jones and Shannon Seglin are currently providing eight different programs each week for the children and tweens that visit the branch. To further promote the resources of the library, Ms. Seglin attended the *Literacy Night* at Fox Run Elementary on September 1. She spoke with over 80 people about the various activities and opportunities to be had at the public library.

The Classic Book Club continues to meet at the branch on the second Saturday of each month. A new member joined the group on September 12. For most of the members, Semmes Library is not their closest branch, but their love of classic literature and lively discussions brings them out each month. This month they discussed “Middlemarch” by George Eliot. For October’s meeting they will be reading and discussing “Song of Solomon” by Toni Morrison.

## THOUSAND OAKS

Thousand Oaks Branch Library hosted four Teen Time events in the month of August. The teens made plastic crafts using the 3D printing pens called 3Doodlers, yet again. The teens have a blast with them. For our monthly Teen Movie, they chose to watch “Ender’s Game.” Thousand Oaks provided popcorn and other snacks for the teens. The teens that aren’t interested in participating in the activities, we designate a table in the meeting room for them to draw, read or play card games.

The Thousand Oaks Thursday Book Club discussed their selection for the month of August entitled, “Claire of the Sea Light” by Edwidge Danticat. Library Circulation Attendant Brenda Ramos led the discussion as the ladies chatted about the characters and surmised about what life must be like living in the little town of Ville Rose, Haiti. All of the participants enjoyed the novel and felt that the author’s literary style was poetic and yet deeply moving. During the discussion, the group members helped themselves to a healthy vegetable and fruit tray, followed by some cookies and lemonade.

# TOBIN AT OAKWELL

Summer Reading wrapped up in August with an impressive 439 adults, over 140 teens and 1100+ kids signed up at the Tobin at Oakwell Branch Library. Enthusiastic staff encouraged patrons of all ages to sign up and enjoy the numerous special programs at the branch along with their completing reading logs.

Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse was busy planning and coordinating San Antonio Public Library's booth for the annual Alamo City Comic Con held in Mid-September. The event celebrated comic books, movie and television and attracts many celebrity, authors and special guests.

Children's Librarian Elvira Sanchez Kisser has supplemented weekly Toddler Time with Story and Baby Times. In addition, Come and Go Crafts have expanded to all day Saturday and Sunday to accommodate more families. Ms. Sanchez Kisser added Play and Learn once a month on Fridays as well as continuing LEGO Club once a month. Tween Time is now held twice a month with Teen Librarian Karen Barton hosting one of the events. On September 1, Ms. Barton let tweens make birdhouses out of recycled materials she had gathered. The first day of school, K. Barton, had teens get creative with erasable markers on the Teen Room windows. Other teen activities include gaming, crafts and the formation of a teen council.

Collection changes made recently at the branch is moving all adult fiction genres off the bottom floor shelf for easier access and to promote more browsing. Multiple display shelves incorporated in the Mystery and Sci-Fi areas highlight many more of those materials for patrons. Featured displays this period focused on back to school, family and grandparents, Get Cooking with a Culinary Mystery and early literacy and new experiences in Juvenile.

Book clubs have grown to four groups now meeting at the branch monthly and one smaller neighborhood group selecting a title then meeting at a member's house to discuss the title.

On September 8, Librarian K. Barton and Library Assistant Elvia Ramos attended Garner Middle School's first PTA event for the school year. Both staff talked with a sizeable group of teens and parents about library programs and services.

# WESTFALL

Westfall Branch Library ended Summer Reading Program in August, with numbers up in all categories: children, teens and adults. Almost 1,000 children registered at the library, with another 650-plus signing up through Parks and Recreation. This year 40 teens signed up and 44 adults participated.

There are a couple of new faces at Westfall. Michelle Dangler has been hired as a temporary Training Officer for Learn at SAPL. Dangler taught ESL classes at Northside Independent School District and worked at Artpace. She also served as the local program coordinator for the Mennonite Voluntary Service and taught at Catholic Charities.

Christina Cardenas has joined the staff as a part-time library assistant. Cardenas has been with SAPL since 2006, working as an aide at Central, an aide at Carver, a public service associate at Central and a circulation attendant at Pan American. Christina also works as a library assistant at Northwest Vista College.

Westfall's Learn at SAPL Center remains a busy place and continues to help people improve their lives. Martin Ocanas was a regular patron of the Learn Center for the about three months. He would spend a few hours each day refining his resume and completing job applications online. On August 31, Ocanas received an offer to become a part-time custodian at a local church, with a possibility of becoming a permanent, full-time employee. He plans to continue coming into the Learn Center to search for jobs until he finds a full-time position.

In August, 247 people used the computers in the Learn Center for a total of 493 hours. Each session averaged about one hour. The Learn Center also worked one-on-one with 341 patrons and 336 of those patrons indicated that their short-term goals were met.

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

San Antonio Public Library  
Fiscal Year-to-Date Comparisons  
Aug 2015 (91.7% of FY Completed)

Performance Measures	FYTD 15	FYTD 14	% Chg	FY 15 Goal	% of Goal Achieved	FY 15 Status
Total Circulation	6,731,022	6,559,487	2.6%	7,313,500	92.0%	✓
- Physical Circulation	5,869,268	5,957,291	-1.5%	6,471,500	90.7%	◊
- Digital Circulation	861,754	602,196	43.1%	842,000	102.3%	✓
Visits	5,013,187	4,935,535	1.6%	5,390,000	93.0%	✓
Program Attendance	320,275	290,623	10.2%	302,450	105.9%	✓
- Adult's Program Attendance	52,272	38,986	34.1%	39,000	134.0%	✓
- Teen's Program Attendance	38,149	38,283	-0.4%	43,450	87.8%	◊
- Children's Program Attendance	229,854	213,354	7.7%	219,000	105.0%	✓
Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use	2,172,070	1,997,010	8.8%	2,202,000	98.6%	✓
Website and App Visits	3,257,982	3,270,565	-0.4%	3,400,000	95.8%	✓
Bexar County (Outside the City of San Antonio)			Customer Satisfaction*			
% of Circulation	FYTD 15	FYTD 14	2014	2012		
Total Circulation	19.8%	19.0%				
- Physical Circulation	18.9%	18.4%	96%	94%		
- Digital Circulation	25.6%	24.7%				

Goal Status   ✓ = On Target   ◊ = Monitor   ⛔ = Not on Target

FY 15 Renovations/Closures: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22 - Dec

FY 15 Openings: Encino opened April 30

FY 14 Renovation/Closures: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28-Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-31, Carver Sep 2-28

\* From the Biennial City of San Antonio Community Survey

# San Antonio Public Library

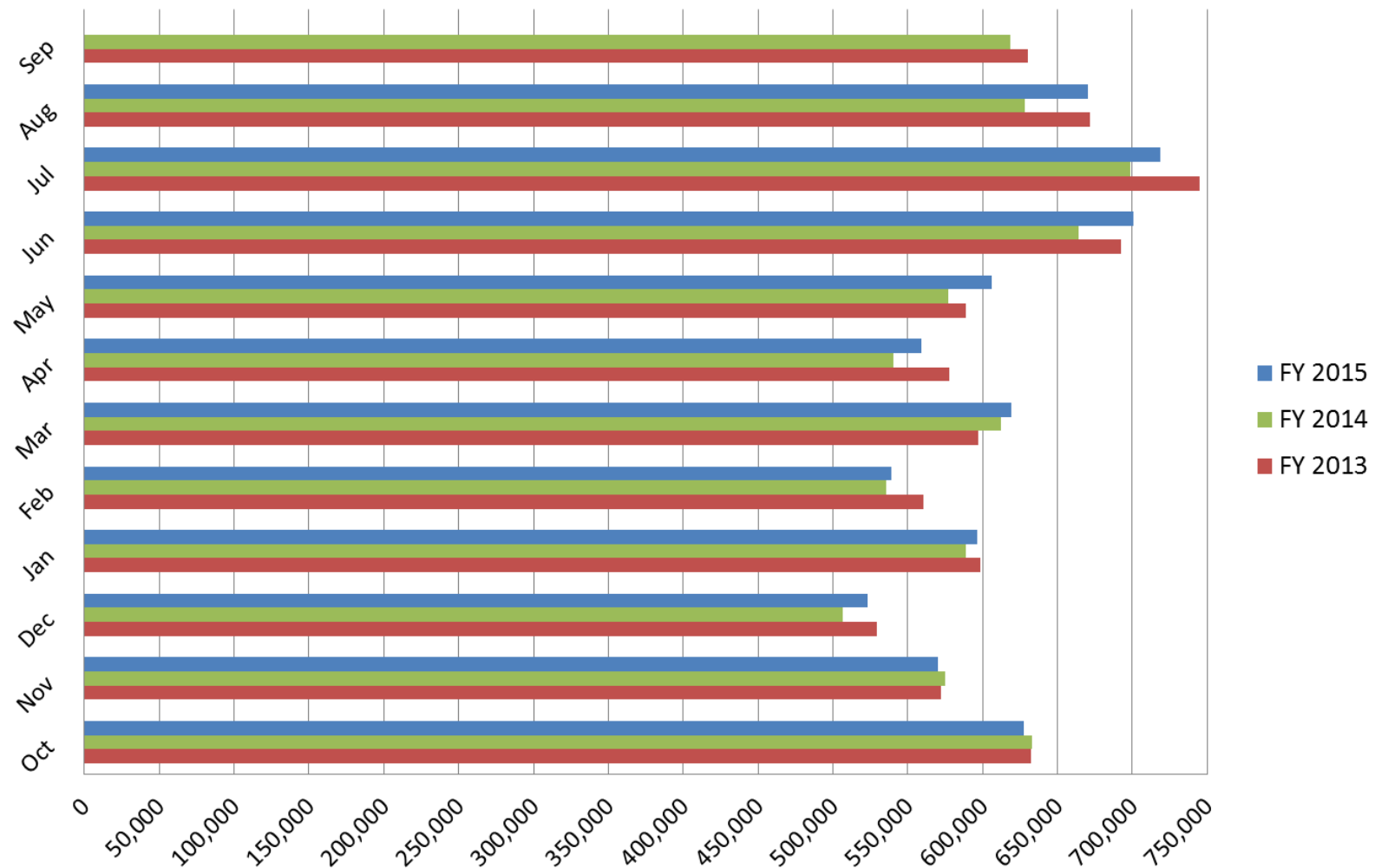
## August 2015 Usage

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Total Programs	Number of Programs			Total Program Attendance	Adult Programs	Teen Programs	Children's Programs	Hours of Computer / Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	6,401	11,778	25	10	2	13	207	167	7	33	7,520	2,466	5,054
Brook Hollow	28,986	18,315	23	15	2	6	346	113	0	233	5,869	1,616	4,253
Carver	5,463	12,649	35	14	4	17	820	282	25	513	6,579	2,574	4,005
Central	31,957	69,125	163	32	64	67	5,381	3,127	502	1,752	53,208	16,219	36,989
Cody	43,330	23,858	20	8	5	7	602	79	107	416	6,849	1,713	5,136
Collins Garden	0	0	7	0	0	7	55	0	0	55	1,026	0	1,026
Cortez	7,961	15,938	96	87	4	5	347	249	40	58	6,211	2,293	3,918
Encino	27,726	18,662	47	24	6	17	1,326	562	45	719	3,868	717	3,151
Forest Hills	9,420	8,807	21	12	3	6	250	160	9	81	4,068	1,376	2,693
Great Northwest	35,786	23,669	16	10	3	3	288	108	18	162	8,127	2,323	5,805
Guerra	15,648	14,907	17	11	4	2	201	115	23	63	8,519	2,530	5,989
Igo	31,509	22,925	38	11	13	14	1,283	177	440	666	5,705	1,693	4,012
Johnston	12,699	14,641	14	7	4	3	234	170	49	15	6,006	1,914	4,092
Landa	12,254	10,754	19	5	8	6	367	101	35	231	2,527	963	1,564
Las Palmas	8,148	16,604	19	10	4	5	148	58	50	40	7,608	2,332	5,276
Maverick	31,221	15,424	23	8	7	8	429	106	34	289	7,200	2,594	4,606
McCreless	15,858	18,918	9	4	2	3	118	62	11	45	8,080	2,122	5,959
Memorial	7,155	11,063	26	2	3	21	682	74	23	585	7,129	2,079	5,050
Mission	14,300	21,372	49	21	12	16	1,138	290	592	256	11,919	3,786	8,133
Pan American	10,101	12,143	30	25	5	0	290	265	25	0	6,503	2,385	4,118
Parman	35,926	25,105	50	26	5	19	775	244	103	428	5,384	986	4,398
Pruitt	8,124	14,205	89	11	0	78	125	124	0	1	4,358	1,821	2,538
San Pedro	4,313	7,974	16	1	0	15	202	12	0	190	2,870	744	2,126
Semmes	27,742	21,437	24	5	7	12	501	109	45	347	8,052	2,820	5,232
Thousand Oaks	13,806	21,344	11	3	4	4	127	18	25	84	5,370	1,530	3,840
Tobin	21,570	22,320	29	11	2	16	420	57	43	320	6,109	2,002	4,107
Westfall	19,365	17,161	13	4	1	8	328	22	3	303	8,469	2,342	6,127
Kampmann Library Portal	N/A	1,746	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	2,091	N/A	2,091
Interlibrary Loan Lending	1,015	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	91,841	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	90,546	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>670,171</b>	<b>492,844</b>	<b>928</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>16,990</b>	<b>6,851</b>	<b>2,254</b>	<b>7,885</b>	<b>217,226</b>	<b>65,939</b>	<b>151,287</b>

Circulation includes Digital (Freegal, OneClick, Overdrive) and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation



### Location Closures

FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22 – Dec, \*Opening: Encino April 30

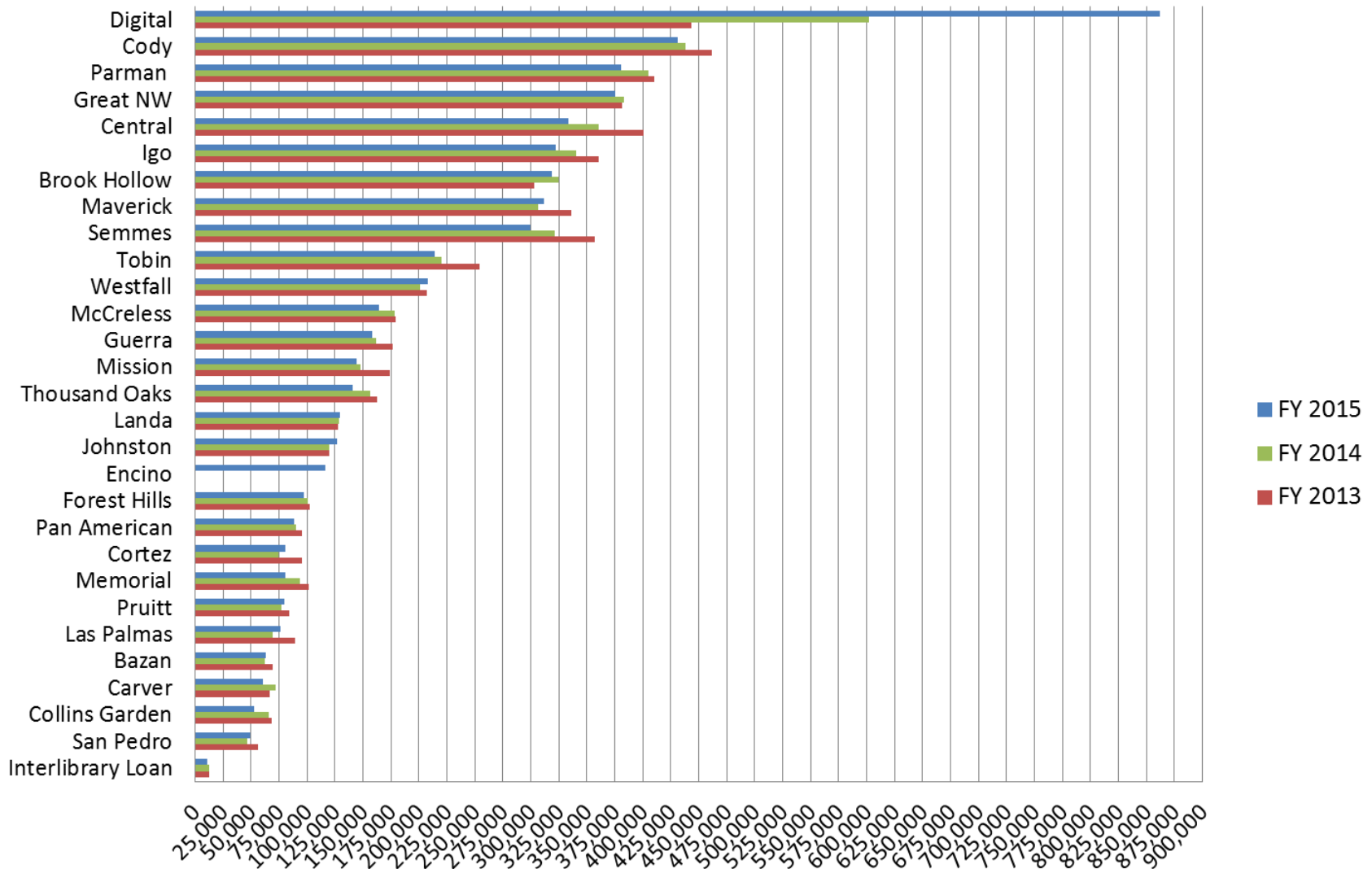
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09/18/2015

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Aug



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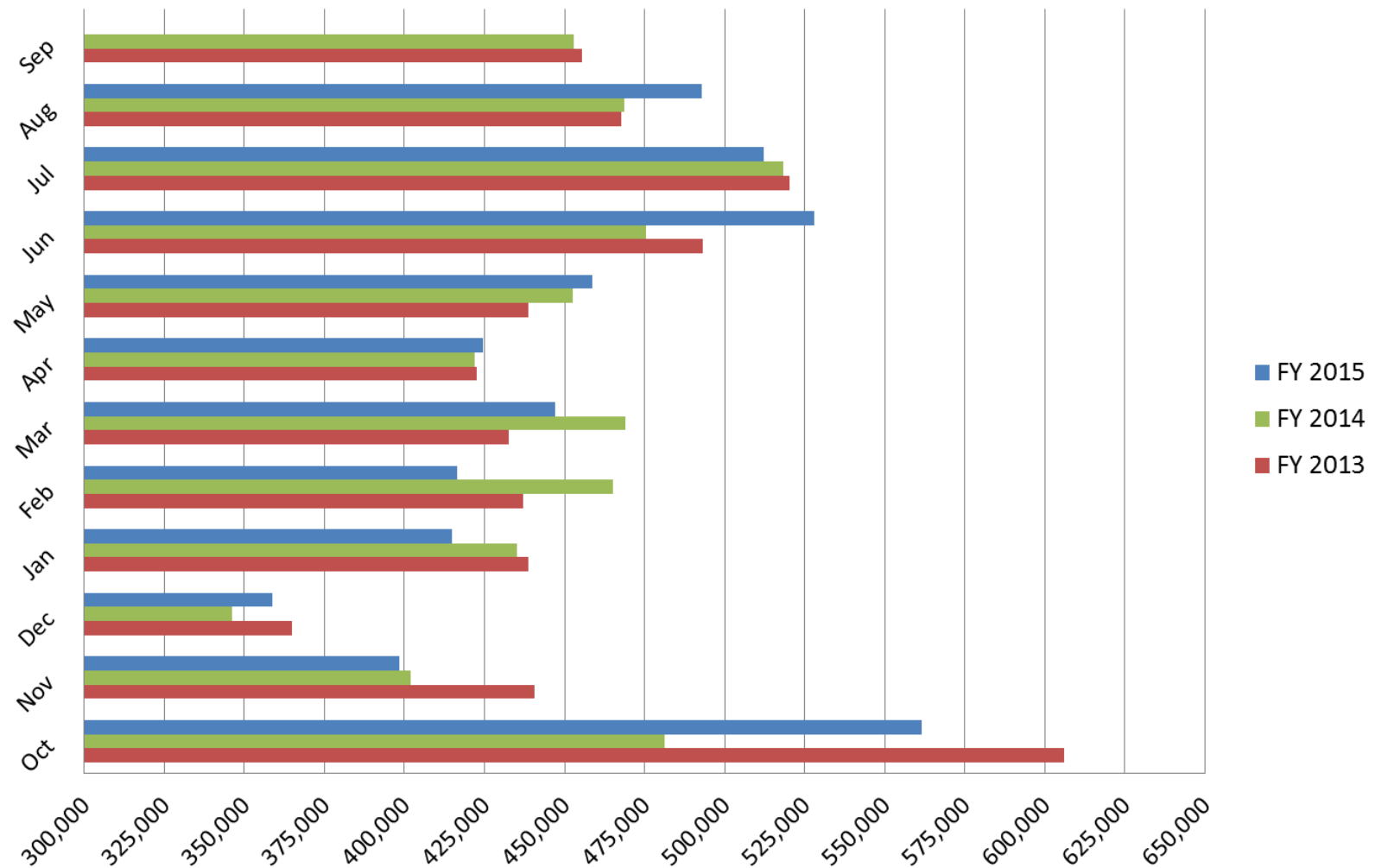
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09/18/2015

# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits



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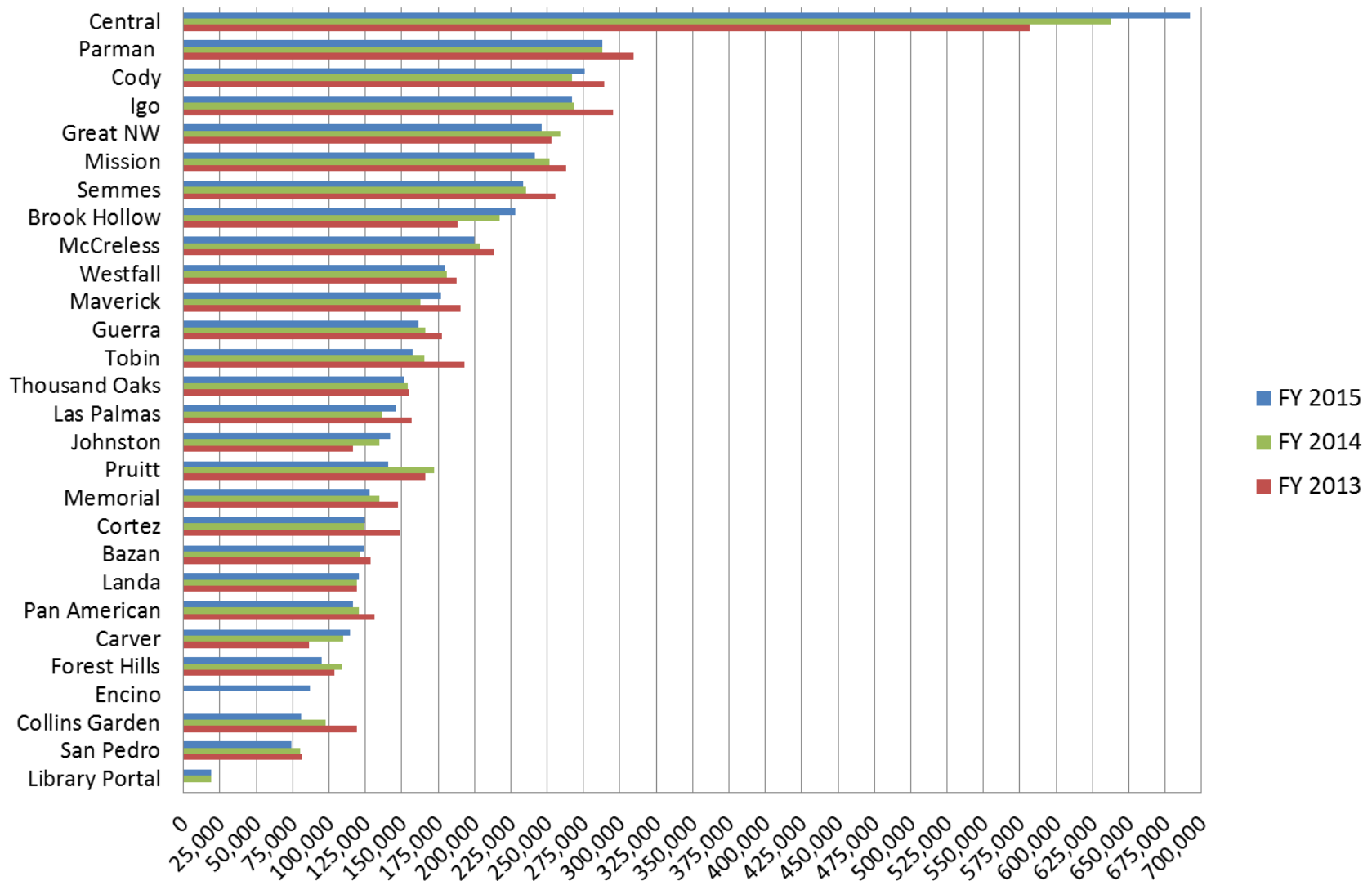
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# San Antonio Public Library

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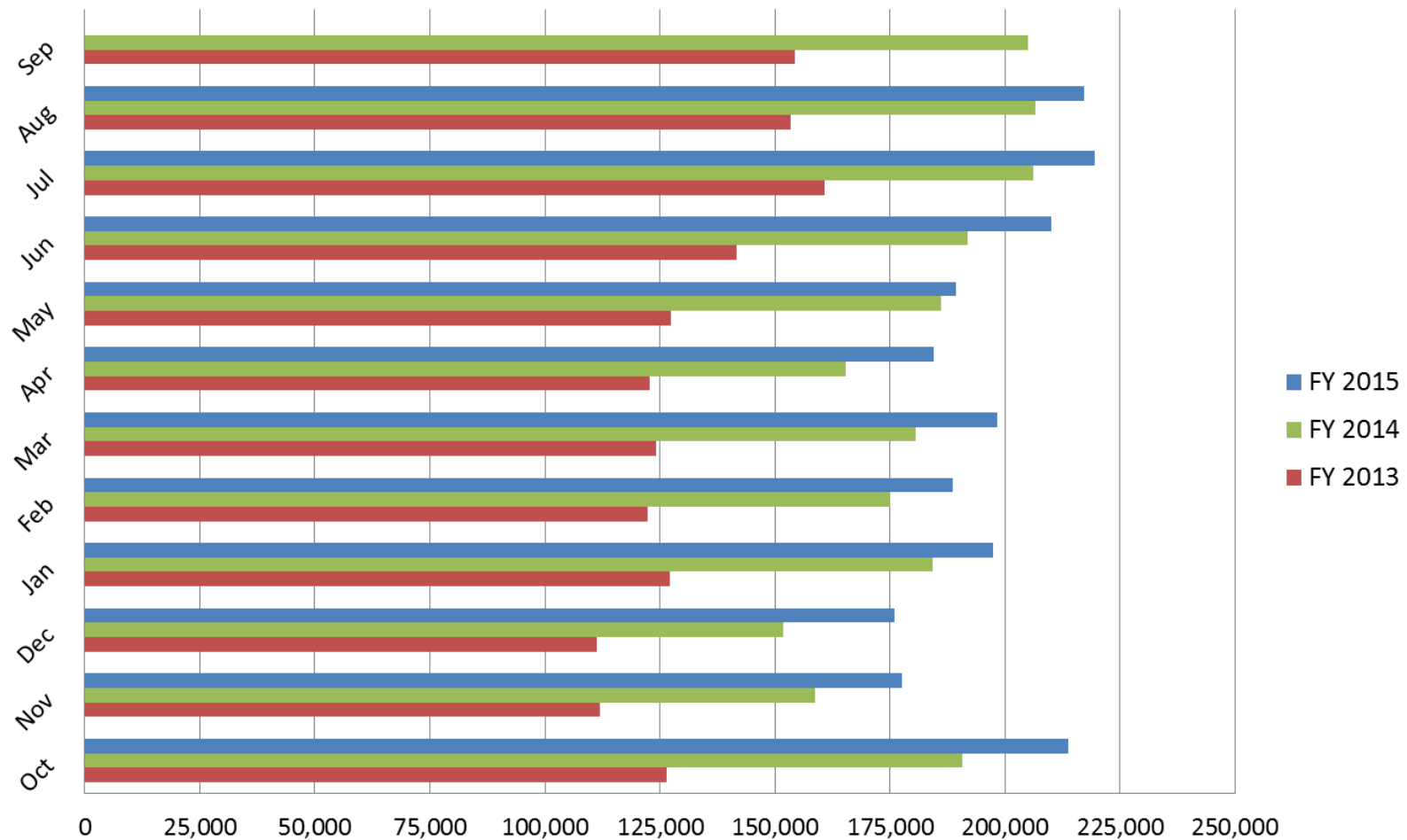
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09/18/2015

# San Antonio Public Library

## Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use



\*Combined measure of Public Computers Hours of Use and Wi-Fi Hours of Use

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