



San Antonio Public Library Director's Report March 2017

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services - Citizenship Ceremony
February 22, 2017

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE



On February 22, Library Director Ramiro Salazar served as the special guest speaker for a United States Citizenship and Immigration Services graduation ceremony for new citizens and their families. Mr. Salazar spoke about the importance of libraries as education resources as well as sites for civic engagement and community gathering spaces.



Mayor Taylor and Councilman Nirenberg joined 160 attendees who participated in the Digital Inclusion Summit on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at the Central Library. The Summit was well attended and the Library received allocates for being part of the planning for the insightful and educational Summit. The *Rivard Report* featured a story on the Digital Inclusion Summit on their homepage.

As previously reported, the 80/20 Foundation pledged \$100,000 for ConnectHome and other digital inclusion efforts in San Antonio. They reached out to the Digital Inclusion Fellows from San Antonio Housing Authority and San Antonio Public Library to organize a digital inclusion event. The summit, free and open to the public, showcased data, best practices and lessons learned from San Antonio and other cities in the area of digital inclusion. Targeted audiences included providers in the digital arena (within San Antonio as well as other cities), funders, and volunteers. The summit is funded through a gift in the amount of \$25,000 to the San Antonio Housing Authority as well as support from the Federal Bank Reserve of Dallas. The Central Library was designated as the venue for the day-long summit. Partnering organizations included: Google Fiber, Nonprofit Technology Network, Goodwill Industries of San Antonio, Federal Bank Reserve of Dallas, and National Digital Inclusion Alliance.



Councilman Ray Lopez is hosting a Family Movie Night on the grounds of the Potranco Branch Library and YMCA on Friday, March 24, 2017. The community is invited to begin gathering at 5:30 p.m. for family friendly activities with the movie, The Peanuts Movie, beginning at dusk. The Potranco Branch Library and YMCA is located at 8765 Texas Highway 151 at Potranco Road.



On Wednesday, February 15, 2017 Library Director Ramiro Salazar was interviewed by Elaine Ayala, reporter from the Express News, regarding an article on the Library's Latino Collection and plans for the creation of a Latino Collection and Resource Center. The interview was very positive. Expected publication of the article is March or April 2017.



Through a partnership with Rotary Club Kingdom for Kids, City Year, the San Antonio Public Library Foundation and other stakeholders, a volunteer-built playground was constructed at the Schaefer Branch Library (District 2) on Thursday, March 9 through Saturday, March 11, 2017.

MARKETING



The Marketing team supported efforts to organize, publicize and staff several events during the reporting period including: Black History Month events, Women's History Month events, Mayor's Book Club events, Learn at SAPL job fairs, and the Digital Inclusion Summit. The team continues to work extensively on the logistics and promotional plan for the grand opening of the Schaefer Branch Library on Saturday, March 25 at 2 p.m. Members of the Marketing Team also participated in outreach events including the Slinging Ink Tattoo expo.



Top media hits for the past month include - Coordinator of Services to Adults Haley Holmes and Mayor's Book Club pick author Jan Jarboe Russell were interviewed on WOAI AM radio; Spectrum News featured the Winds and Words of War art exhibit European tour; San Antonio Current named the Latino Collection and the SA Book Festival as "places to get your literary kicks"; Rivard Report and Express-News (front page) published articles about the Latino Collection & Resource Center; Rivard Report published an article about the Digital Inclusion Summit hosted at Central Library; an article about the Digital Library Community Project by Community and Public Relations Manager Caitlin Cowart was featured in American Libraries Magazine in print and online; SA Live aired a segment about Teen Tech Week and the Teen Library at Central; Teen Librarian and Assistant Branch Manager Caroline Mossing and PIO Marcie Hernandez were interviewed on "San Antonio Solutions" on KTSA AM radio about the upcoming Mini Maker Faire.



The design team has created materials to prepare for several programs, events and other design support as needed: Schaefer signage and materials; San Antonio Book Festival support materials; Summer Reading materials; Anthony Auld Ryan exhibit materials; Teen Arts Fest materials; updated volunteer brochure; LEARN at SAPL materials, and more. They have also been working on Potranco wraps and designs for self-service dispensing kiosk, Cesar Chavez celebration materials, and Veterans Empowerment materials.



The team is working on a Marketing Plan overview for the Library Board of Trustees at a future date. They are also learning a new social media management tool to better maintain our social media presence as well as engaging new streamlined strategies for content on all platforms.

Social Media statistics for the month:

1. Facebook: 13,033 page likes
2. Twitter: 3,587 followers
3. Pinterest: 84 followers
4. Instagram: 1,625 followers
6. Snapchat: 32 followers

DIGITAL SERVICES



Rolf Laun and Tricia Masterson worked with the Potranco staff and vendor Bibliotheca to set up the new holds locker at the Potranco Library location. The holds locker will allow patrons to pick up their holds even when the library is closed.



Ms. Masterson also worked with Potranco Staff, vendor MK Solutions and ITSD on installation of the media dispensing machine at the Potranco Branch Library. The dispensing machine will allow patrons to check out a wide selection of material 24 hours a day.



Ms. Masterson helped promote the San Antonio Public Library at the 14th Annual Slinging Ink Tattoo Expo on March 5, 2017.



Andrea Silva and Tricia Masterson successfully notified, via email, over 1,100 patrons concerning changes to the Library digital offerings; targeting those users who most frequently made use of the services.

LITTLE READ WAGON



Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents

The Avance Head Start at Flanders hosted a series of workshops for parents. Due to the rainy weather and lack of indoor space, it was not possible to offer the reading tents and after-school activities provided at other large early childhood sites. Little Read Wagon hopes to return to Flanders later this spring to give families the opportunity to use the tents and enjoy the activities. Every Child Ready to Read workshops were also presented at Head Start Passmore and Schulze Elementary.



Services to Teen Parents

Workshops for teen parents were offered at the following high schools: Holmes, South San (two visits), Churchill (two visits), Edison, Burbank, Navarro, Healy Murphy, O'Connor, and Stevens. This school year, enrollment in parenting classes has been low. Teachers and social workers at the various campuses have indicated that enrollment is low because teen parents are opting to pursue online classes in lieu of traditional campus-based studies.



Outreach Story Time Programs

There were two special story time events during this reporting period. The San Antonio College Child Development Center opened a new Little Free Library. Clair Larkin helped celebrate the grand opening by presenting a story time to two groups of children. Pre-K 4SA East invited Little Read Wagon to participate in their Read Across American celebration. Julia Lazarin and Elizabeth Huber read to a total of five groups of children.



Play & Learn

With new teammates to help, Little Read Wagon offered a short Play & Learn series at Woodlawn Island House. The February 14, 21, and 28 events were well-attended. Two more Play & Learn programs will be offered at Walker Ranch and Woodlawn Lake parks during spring break.



Community Events

Cresencia Huff represented the Library at Pre-K 4SA open house events at the North and West centers. The North site had an overwhelmingly large crowd in spite of torrential rain. The West site also had a good turnout and families at both events were excited to hear about how Little Read Wagon partners with Pre-K 4SA, library services, and upcoming Play & Learn events.



March and April are very busy for Head Start recruitment as well as health fairs. Teams of Little Read Wagon staff were present at Tynan and Carroll Early Childhood Centers for their Health Fairs. Teams also were at Knox, Carvajal, and Carroll for recruitment events.



Ms. Huff and Kathy Armbruster (Cortez) represented the Library at South San Antonio Independent School District's Careers on Wheels event. The very well-organized event is for all of the district's 2nd grade students.



Professional Development

Ms. Larkin and Ms. Huber attended training on Inclusive Story Times.



Little Read Wagon welcomed another group of early childhood professionals to the "Reading from the Heart" teacher workshop on February 18. Whataburger again provided breakfast for the group.

CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)



The Young Pegasus judges completed their work on Thursday, February 23 paving the way for publication of the 2017 Anthology. Congratulatory letters were mailed to the 47 selected poets on March 3 with a deadline of March 21 for the return of release forms and any editorial corrections that might be needed. The poems will be turned over to SAPL's graphic designers immediately following that deadline so that the Anthology can go into production. The 2017 Young Pegasus Awards Ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 7 at the Hermann Sons Grand Lodge.



SAPL's children's staff is busy preparing to "Build a Better World" with readers of all ages during the 2017 Summer Reading Program. The slate of summer performers has been confirmed with each branch hosting two special presentations from a selection of four performers.

- Mad Science
- Sandbank's Shadow Factory (shadow puppets)
- Spikey Mikey (magician)
- TamboRhythms (drum circles)



In addition to these special performances, each branch will be hosting a variety of weekly Kids Time programs designed especially for school age children. Branch children's librarians can select their Kids Time programs from a menu of ten options that the Summer Reading Committee developed and previewed on March 9 during the monthly children's meeting.



Children's Coordinator Viki Ash met with Kelly Ledbetter, coordinator of the Summer Youth programs hosted by COSA Parks & Rec, on February 27 to facilitate continuing efforts to enroll their students in the Summer Reading Club. The library's partnership with Parks & Rec began in 2012 when Sara Sharp, former coordinator of the Summer Youth program, expressed a desire to "keep our kids reading over the summer." Enrollment of the Summer Youth students increases Summer Reading registration by about 6,000 each year.



Viki is also working in partnership with the P-16+ Council of Greater Bexar County to promote summer reading across the county as a means of combatting summer slide. The group's message "Summer Reading: Eight is Great" will be broadcast widely across the county but the group will be targeting second graders at five specific schools with the goal of comparing test scores before and after the summer months. Hopefully, the change in test scores will show a positive impact due, at least in part, to participation in summer reading. It is important to note that this effort is not tied to SAPL's Summer Reading Club, but to any and all summer reading programs across the county. However, Viki and some of the branch children's librarians will be participating in this promotional effort and emphasizing the availability of books at SAPL.



In addition to the two monthly book clubs she hosts at Bonham Academy, Viki participated in several outreach events this month:

- Family Literacy Night at Collier Elementary (Harlandale ISD) on March 1
- Read Three parent training at Oak Hills Elementary School (Northside ISD) on March 7
- Family STEM at Kingsborough Middle School (Harlandale ISD) on March 8

TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)



Off-Site Service

Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor established a partnership with Davis Middle School that will bring gaming systems as well as a youth development program to 13-14 year olds at the institution. The partnership continued with a group of young teens, who participated in an exercise in honor of African-American history month, learning the story of Michelle Obama and connecting with her quotes on leadership. The character development created a positive rapport between Adam and the students, and the afternoon was balanced with game time for the teens who actively participated.



Adam continued the relationship forged with Bexar County Juvenile Detention Center, and will be visiting the teen boys in transition of the court system. He is working diligently to provide a conversation on how to transform a violent or negative path into a nonviolent and positive one through writing. Utilizing powerful figures like Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela, he has been able to open up the teens to expression around difficult subjects, and helped them to imagine a brighter path for their life once they leave. They wrote letters to their future self, which they received upon their departure.



Adam has also engaged with Krier Probation Center in creating a Teen Book Club, as well as designing a program that will help students phasing out of the probation center's program to enter society a healthy and active citizen. The partnership will focus on the book club for two months, and in the third month, Adam will focus on how to utilize library resources, get teens their library cards, and offer them a tour of their local library branch. The leaders at both institutions are very excited for the potential this partnership has, and the impact this can have on their teens, both inside their programs and on the outside. The first official date has been set for the book club, and the first session will take place on March 16.



Adam joined community college leaders and other community service agencies for the Brackenridge High School Career Fair on February 16, wherein juniors and seniors engaged with opportunities for volunteering at the library, as well as applied for library cards. Over 40 students were signed up through the outreach efforts.



Through a partnership begun by a previous teen liaison at Westfall Library, Adam Tutor will be working closely with the Jefferson High School librarian and her book club. The goal is to create excitement surrounding the upcoming San Antonio Book Festival, and to create a more direct engagement with their initiative Geektown.



Adam developed a partnership with Afton Oaks, an alternative school for teens who have been displaced through foster care and ended up in trouble with the law. The institution is seeking partners who can help excite an environment of reading and help to get their students access to the public library system. A collaboration was established wherein Adam will be facilitating a teacher training so that the staff is familiar with library resources, as well as performing an information session and library card drive for the students. From there, he will be visiting monthly to lead a multi-dimensional activity that incorporates music, acting, and more exciting forms of reading.



Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor began his work in supporting the Memorial Library Teen Time until a new teen liaison is hired. Transitions are a critical time, as teens are very sensitive to a change in personnel, and as they become attached to their Teen Librarian or Teen Liaison. The transition was made successfully as Adam has seen attendance growing since joining in mid-February. Carrying forward,

Adam was able to bring unique arts and crafts, as well as gain the trust of the teens through one of their favorite activities- video game time. A warm and friendly environment was created, wherein the teens and the Teen Outreach Specialist bonded that persisted throughout the course of their interaction.



Inspire U

Staff involved in the Inspire U Workplace Mentoring Program (part of SA2020) met with their “littles” for lunch in the Teen Library @ Central on February 13 and March 6. The Littles are now seniors at Edison High School, and staff has assisted them with advice about college, applying for college, and encouraging them to think about their future.

On March 7, Teen Library Manager Kathleen Fordyce attended a breakfast meeting she was invited to at the new Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Texas office. The purpose of the meeting was to provide input on SAPL's participation in the Inspire U program.



San Antonio Food Bank

As a requirement of the Kids Café afterschool snack program, a Teen Library staff member must attend a monthly nutrition lesson at the Food Bank and provide at least one nutrition lesson for the teens per month. Library Assistant Regina Almanza attends the lessons and incorporates what she learns into her weekly teen library programming on Thursdays.



Teen Arts Fest

Library Assistant J.D. Elizondo (Teen Library @ Central) and the Teen Arts Fest committee met during the reporting period to continue planning the Teen Arts Fest at the Central Library on May 6, 2017. J.D. chairs the committee, and the members are: Teen Service Librarians Stephanie Vazquez (Great Northwest Library) and Julia Pouliot (Encino Library), Library Assistants Nichole Garza (Johnston Library), Sara Ramirez (Schaefer Library), Adolph Lopez (Central Reference), Ciana Flores (Teen Library @ Central), and Marketing Specialist Regina Villalobos-Perez. J.D. also met with artist Alex Rubio to discuss an art battle competition to be held during the fest.



Teen Tech Week

The Teen Tech Week Committee included Nicole Garza (Teen Liaison, Johnston), Stephanie Vazquez (Teen Services Librarian I, Great Northwest), and Edward Maberry (Teen Liaison, Guerra). The Committee created a “menu” of Teen Tech Week programs for teen services librarians and liaisons to work with teens at their locations in choosing which program they would like. LED throwies was the top choice, and supplies were provided for branch locations participating in this program from March 6 - 10.



Professional Development

The Staff Recognition breakfast was hosted by Roberta Sparks and took place on February 28 in the Teen Library @ Central.

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)



Jan Jarboe Russell, author of the Mayor's Book Club Spring selection *The Train to Crystal City*, spoke to an audience at the Encino Branch Library on February 15th. The program was simultaneously broadcasted to Bazan, Johnston, and Igo. The group participating at the Johnston Branch was made up of their regular adult book club who had just completed reading *The Train to Crystal City*. Adult Services staff hopes to continue using technology and web conferencing to have programs shared across the system. Jan Jarboe Russell will be speaking at the Central Library on March 16th.



The LEARN @ SAPL sites have started another round of job fairs. Westfall Branch Library offered the first one in the series in February and Carver Library hosted in March, both with great turnouts. Participants had the opportunity to work on their résumés and interview skills before meeting with prospective employers. Branches that do not have LEARN centers are now requesting to offer job fairs. Thousand Oaks recently hosted one, and Forest Hills is planning one in the future.



Thirteen SAPL employees from throughout the system worked together at a new outreach event, the Slinging Ink Tattoo Expo. Staff is working to find ways to reach new users and individuals who may not know what the Library has to offer. The booth included a reading area with books for all ages, a place to charge mobile devices, temporary tattoos (including the SAPL logo), coloring sheets for all ages, and a green screen photo op.



Adult Services staff is always hard at work planning events and programs for the year. Numerous committees meet in person and electronically to plan systemwide programming. Upcoming programming series include Fiesta, National Poetry Month, Digital Inclusion Month, and National Mental Health Awareness Week.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S



Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin presented engaging programs for young children at *Play & Learn* and *Toddler Time*, starting with a series of story times devoted to vegetables! The children enjoyed a variety of imaginative play exercises like planting plastic vegetables in sensory bins full of potting soil, working at the garden store, and washing vegetables after the harvest. The “vegetable hokey pokey” dance was the highlight of the program. Toddlers took an undersea trip with Ms. Seglin when she presented ocean stories and activities. The sensory bin was full of sudsy “ocean foam” and an array of plastic sea creatures. Toddlers drove the cardboard boat through the sea and examined seashells with magnifying glasses. Ms. Seglin focused on the concept of size for another program series. Toddlers explored the differences between various sized puppets, hunted for large and small toy bears in a sensory bin and made different sized play dough shapes with cookie cutters. This learning experience was an excellent example of the *Every Child Ready to Read* principles in action, as children discovered size relationships and practiced comparison, all through the simple act of play.



Family Fun programs on Saturdays continued to be a draw for families looking for weekend learning experiences. Manager Kate Simpson highlighted the Mardi Gras holiday with a program featuring stories set in New Orleans, a Mardi Gras slideshow, and a green, purple and gold mask craft all set to rousing New Orleans jazz. In celebration of the start of Spring Break, she presented a beach and ocean experience for families. She read undersea stories and led an art activity using the special medium of chalk pastels. After children had colored large fish die cuts to take home, they played with sea creature figures and explored an array of seashells in a beachy sandbox. Ms. Seglin focused her programming on fine art this month. *Family Fun* centered on Henri Matisse one week, as she shared

biographies of the artist and led a unique activity that mirrored his art style in which the children were only given paper, scissors and glue as tools to create masterpieces. They made individual works of art to take home and collaborated on a larger collage that decorated the Story Room for weeks afterward. The *Family Fun* group got messy when Ms. Seglin presented a painting program. They listened to stories about creative expression through paint, then did so themselves as they worked together to create a massive painted mural on butcher paper for display in the Story Room.



Ms. Simpson helped welcome visiting Youth Librarians from the Austin Public Library, who after attending a training session at the Central Library, joined with SAPL Teen and Children's Librarians for lunch and a tour of the third floor. She enjoyed the opportunity to share ideas and talk through shared challenges. A great source of conversation was the upcoming opening of the new Central Library in Austin. APL librarians solicited feedback from Central staff about best practices and lessons learned.



Ms. Simpson led two tours for visiting student groups this month. Children from the Inner City Development program were given an after school tour focused on reading for pleasure. The children were part of a reading club and were thrilled by the wealth of reading material available on the third floor. Prior to exploring the collection, they crafted bookmarks that they left in books they chose for other patrons to discover and enjoy. The other visiting group this month was a preschool class from the Texas Migrant Head Start program. They enjoyed Ms. Simpson's spring themed story time and worked together to create a "Read & Grow" garden banner with colored flower and insect die cuts. While the children explored the picture book section, Ms. Simpson wrapped up the banner for the teachers to display at their school, much to their delight.



Ms. Seglin visited Madison Square Child Development Center and Central Christian Childcare Center, where she shared stories and big bags full of library books.



Library Assistant Judith Slaughter crafted a creative book display celebrating *Women's History Month*. She used a silhouette of a woman's profile filled with smaller pictures of famous women as the display sign. Many patrons have commented on the artistic approach and the biographies of notable women have been flying off the display. Ms. Seglin used the concept of migration to highlight picture books about animals and people journeying to new lands.



The Central Children's Department hosted the March Children's Librarians Meeting, with Ms. Simpson leading the meeting in the absence of the Children's Services Coordinator. The primary focus of the meeting was the presentation of program plans developed by the Summer Reading Committee, chaired by Ms. Simpson. Ms. Seglin was a key member of the committee, working closely with Ms. Simpson throughout the winter to bring together 10 unique program plans based on the *Build a Better World* theme. The week leading up to the meeting saw a whirlwind of preparation to which the whole department contributed. At the meeting, the presentation was well-received, with many SAPL Children's Librarians expressing their excitement for the summer ahead.



Ms. Seglin attended one of the last meetings of the *SAPL Mentorship Program*, this one focusing on interview skills.

TEENS



Mondays with J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant): During the reporting period, J.D. facilitated Eclectic Electric music programming. In addition to the music and video gaming aspects of the programming, J.D. facilitated kinetic programming via ping pong games. Teens got their exercise and got to engage in some friendly competition.



Tuesdays with Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT): During the reporting period, Ciana hosted Science & Tech Tuesdays, during which teens designed 3D models to print and printed models found online.



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 and PS4 games, as well as board games like Chess, Jenga and Apples to Apples. For Teen Tech Week, and through a YALSA partnership, Best Buy's Geek Squad hosted a program for the teens in the Teen Library on March 8. The teens were engaged and had a great time, also earning free prizes for participation.



Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Translating their pop culture intake into DIY time, teens took inspiration from viral videos, favorite foods and holiday celebrations. Having seen heart shaped boiled eggs, teens tried their hand at the simple, but tricky, trick. Using a simple recipe and method, teens made their own Pocky, a popular Japanese stick cookie, dipping them in melted chocolate. Teens also fulfilled their nutritional lesson for the Food Bank requirement by making smoothies. The goal was to "hide" either spinach or carrots in a smoothie to boost their daily fruit and vegetable requirement. They blended frozen fruits for fiber and natural sweetener, juice or milk, and ice. The results varied and teens sampled each one. Despite an egg white mini-disaster, teens were able to come through to make a macaron batter that they used to make panda faces, reserving some batter to tint black to add ears, eyes and a mouth. In honor of March being National Craft Month, teens will try their hand at new crafts each Thursday in March, starting with knitting and learning the basic straight stitch. They also tried their hand at brush lettering using brush markers. For Thursday's Teen Tech Week program, teens designed letterings and shapes to send to the Silhouette laser cutting machine to cut vinyl decals for use on walls, school items or phones. Also, since getting geeky requires sustenance, for a geeky Teen Tech Week food craft, teens tinted pancake batter and made various favorite video game and cartoon characters, as well as using Star Wars pancakes molds. Pictures of Thursday programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary>.



A Thursday type program on Saturday: For the last day of Teen Tech Week, sewing machines were set up in the craft area where teens could try their hand at sewing shoelaces, a case for their cell phones or tablets, or a zippered Pokeball-shaped earbud holder. Despite their level of sewing skill, teens were able to have peer-to-peer interaction and encouragement as well as go at their own pace. The machines were set out all day and prompted a come and go or make and take a break, conducive to a non-stressful learning environment.



Teens in the ArtPace Teen Council met in the Teen Library on February 21 and received an introduction to the teen space before conducting their meeting.



Several community centers brought groups of teens to the Teen Library to use computers and participate in teen library programming. Groups of teens from the George Gervin Center, Roy Maas, the Juvenile Detention Center, and the Selena Center made regular visits during the reporting period.

REFERENCE



Bettina Hernandez, Lily Perez, and Sara Severn hosted a 'Speed Friending' program on February 14. The program was marketed as a way to make new friends without the pressures of dating. Patrons were encouraged to visit the Library, accompanied by their favorite book to use as an introductory "ice-breaker". The craft table was a big hit; everyone loved making flowers. One patron commented that the Library should have more monthly get-togethers like this.



On February 17, Ms. Hernandez and Ms. Perez hosted "Buffalo Soldiers & Indian Wars: Lunch & Learn". Presenter Clarence Thompson from the Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers' Association delivered a speech to educate the public about the history of the Buffalo Soldiers, Black Indian Scouts and their contributions in settling the Western Sector of the United States during the 1800's. Attendees were captivated by the presentation and asked several interesting questions.



On February 18, Ms. Perez hosted a SCORE Workshop titled "Principles of Successful Business Ownership" that walked participants through the best practices of business ownership. The interactive workshop helped attendees examine and hone their management abilities in finance, projects, risks, time, personnel and clientele and aided in the decision to run a business of their own.



On February 26, Cynthia de Leon hosted a program for Black History Month titled, "Why Stories of Black Lives Matter." The presenter, Dr. Joycelyn Moody, an English professor at UTSA, discussed the history of Black autobiography in the United States and emphasized the importance of saving papers and letters for future historians.



Pannaga Prasad and Charles Delgado presented the class "Explore Vegetarian Recipe: How to Prepare Yogurt, Yogurt Lassi & More" on February 26 in the afternoon. Patrons viewed a video and received an instructional handout.



The evening of March 2 marked the "opening night" in a new Thursday evening film series: 'Thursday Lights, Camera, Action!' Ms. Perez presented *The Accountant*, a 2016 film starring Ben Affleck. Patrons were excited to receive small bags of popcorn to enjoy during the movie. Before the movie started, guests also received information on the Library's excellent film resources, including access to Overdrive's video collection.



Ms. Hernandez and Ms. Perez were invited to do outreach at the "Tattoo Expo" on March 3. Coloring sheets were passed out to families, and visitors received temporary SAPL tattoos.



On March 7 and March 9, Cristine Mitchamore introduced thirty-two Wayland Baptist students to databases. Ms. Mitchamore helped the students research topics ranging from polygamy, to raising the minimum wage, to cerebral palsy. Several students expressed their appreciation for Ms. Mitchamore's tutorial.



Ms. Mitchamore hosted the Sci-Fi & Fantasy Book Group on March 9. The title under discussion was, *Dark Matter* by Blake Crouch. The group felt the book worked well as a thriller, but confusion ensued during a discussion of the physics of the multiverse storyline.



On March 12, Joe Michael Gonzales, with assistance from Ms. Prasad, hosted “Veteran’s Empowerment Day: Life After the Military”. Mr. Gonzales, a veteran himself, invited Dr. Michael J. Hollis along with other veterans to share information on the opportunities that are available to veterans after leaving Military Active Duty. Topics included home life, career, education, and health care.

TEXANA/GENEALOGY



Sylvia Reyna attended a seminar hosted by the Office of Historic Preservation on February 14. The course dealt with historic house research and learning about services and resources available to help people interested in, or actively restoring, historic properties.



On Sunday, February 19, Ms. Reyna and Maria Adams (Reference) led a group on the very popular “Central Within Reach: River Walk History Tour.” The tour discussed the history and architecture of the historic buildings visible from the river as you leave the Central Library and walk towards downtown.



A continuing education class from Northwest Vista College visited the Texana room on February 24. The group was interested in learning about the indigenous people of this area and also how to begin researching their family genealogy. Ms. Reyna discussed the early inhabitants of our region and Deborah Countess went over researching ancestors and utilizing resources available at the Central Library and through mysapl.org.



Andy Crews, Matt De Waelsche and Ms. Reyna attended the San Antonio Regional Archivist’s Meeting on February 24 at the University of the Incarnate Word. The Archives and Museum of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word holds various collections pertaining to the Sisters work around the world.



In celebration of Black History Month, Ms. Reyna led an African American Genealogy class at the Carver Library. The February 25th class covered research strategies and resources specific to people with African American ancestry.



On Monday, February 27, Texana Staff, with the assistance of Interim Manager Ashlee Chavez, held another “Vault Day,” a team building event focusing on arranging and organizing various special collections.



Mr. Crews presented the class “Finding Family Bible Records” on March 7. The class focused on how to locate Bible records online and ways to target searches in order to achieve the best results.



Ms. Reyna invited local actor and filmmaker Jorge Sandoval to present his film “Las Tesoros de San Antonio: A Westside Story” on March 11 in celebration of Women’s History Month. The film examines the personal lives and the legacy of four South Texas singers all of whom hailed from San Antonio’s west side barrio: Rita Vidaurri, Blanquita Rodriguez, Beatriz Llamas, and Anita Janet Cortez.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN



Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen continued Book Clubs, Family Fun, LEGO's, and Come & Go Crafts during the month of February. Ms. Sonnen attended a parent literacy function at De Zavala Elementary on March 9 where she spoke to parents about library programming and the importance of reading and visiting the library.



Training Officer Emily Flores participated in the Technology Volunteer Training led by Digital Inclusion Fellow Emma Hernandez on February 25. The training was a great introduction to topics covered at the Digital Inclusion Summit on Wednesday, March 1. Both events covered the urgent need for digital inclusion in the City of San Antonio and provided practical tools for working with individuals who possess limited digital literacy skills.



On March 9, Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen and Training Officer Emily Flores participated in the parent literacy training offered to parents of De Zavala Elementary. Their presentation covered the services offered by the library, with a special focus on children's programming and ESL classes at the Learn Centers.



Teens at Bazan enjoyed a number of activities including gaming, learning to code and watching anime. The group has been led by Bazan Library Aide Michelangelo Sosa who has done a great job filling in as Teen Liaison for the last few months.



Tweens at Bazan had their first meeting on March 9. The program was led by Library Assistant Enedina Prater and featured arts and crafts.

BROOK HOLLOW



On Thursday, February 14, Children's Librarian Rachael Barrera visited the Heimer Rd. KinderCare for her monthly outreach visit. She presented a story time for two prekindergarten classrooms and delivered curriculum supporting books to three classrooms.



On Tuesday, February 14, the branch hosted a Valentine's Party Story Time for preschool aged children. Children and their families enjoyed a festive story time, while munching on popcorn popped in the branch's old-fashioned popcorn machine. After story time, the children and their families enjoyed a special Valentine's Day craft and enjoyed refreshments supplied by the Friends of the Brook Hollow Library.



On Tuesday, March 7, Children's Librarian Rachael Barrera presented a Play and Learn program all about cars. Children and their caregivers used "asphalt" play dough to build roads on laminated road mats, played in a homemade cardboard car with working headlights and filled it up with "gas" from the cardboard gas pump. They made sure to stop at the traffic light. Children had fun pretending to be a police officer and a firefighter in their costumes and hats. Seventy-five people attended.



On March 8, Children's Librarian Rachael Barrera visited five classrooms at Rhapsody Head Start for her monthly outreach. Ms. Barrera presented a story time at each of the classrooms and delivered 10 books per classroom to support their curriculum for the month.



On March 8, Children's Librarian Rachael Barrera gave a tour of the Brook Hollow Library for the Family Specialist/Parent Involvement Liaison from Coker Elementary and her class of parents and their preschool children. She informed the parents of all of the resources and programs that are offered at the library to support their children academically.



The Teen Library Leadership Council continues to plan and facilitate branch teen programs. The teens at Brook Hollow tried new things during the reporting period. Using a loaned button maker from Teen Library at Central, they made amazing buttons featuring their own art work as well as images from upcycled magazines and damaged books. They also experimented with kite making, with varying degrees of success. Lessons learned; the next attempt will no doubt be more successful. To celebrate Teen Tech Week, Brook Hollow teens built robots using the Cubelets modular robotics kit; made LED throwies, with LEDs, coin cell batteries, duct tape and magnets; and used an Arduino to assemble and program a light Theremin.



On March 2, Branch Manager Heidi Novotny attended the monthly meeting of the San Pedro Hills Women's Club. At the meeting Ms. Novotny gave a brief presentation on youth services at Brook Hollow and answered questions from the audience. Ms. Novotny spoke about the library's commitment to providing of a wide range of programs for families and children age birth to 12 years old as well as services to teens.

CARVER



Carver's Black History Month celebration included Dr. Joycelynn Moody's stunning lecture *Stories of Black Lives Matter*, not to be confused with the social movement. Instead, Dr. Moody's presentation focused on African-Americans' needs to preserve their stories to pass on their legacy to future generations. Black History Month at Carver also attracted aspiring genealogists interested in tracking down their family roots. The provocative discussion was handled by Texana Genealogy Librarian Sylvia Reyna, who promised to return for another discussion.



On March 9, the Carver Learn Center hosted its third annual job fair, which attracted nearly 80 participants. Vendors included San Antonio School District, Toyota and the City of San Antonio. The branch received many favorable remarks. One woman reported receiving an interview with Toyota. A number of job seekers asked when the next fair would be held. Manager DL Grant thanked the Carver staff for their hard work helping the Learn Center orchestrate the event and their tremendous display of teamwork.



Assistant Branch Manager Monty Holcomb hosted four Chess Events, continued the Mayor's Book Club group at the District 2 Senior Center and, during this period, facilitated three book club meetings. Mr. Holcomb, who also serves as the branch's Teen Services Liaison, hosted three regular Teen Time events with the Wii. In addition to the usual Wii activities, he planned a special gadget event in observance of Teen Tech week. Teens were invited to demonstrate things they found interesting on electronic devices while they enjoyed pizza. He also facilitated San Antonio artist Tim Lister's portrait exhibit which was expected to run through March.



Carver Children's Librarian Jodi Miller began Lego Time on Wednesday, March 1, 2017; it will be for school age children on Wednesday afternoons.

CODY



Children's librarian Kristin Yourdon visited the Gan Gani Preschool at the Chabad Center on February 14 to read stories to students. Kristin also visited Larkspur Elementary School for their Reading Restaurant Literacy night to speak with parents and children about library services.



The Middle Reader's Club met on February 15. Children in the club read a Rosco Riley book together, talked about their favorite book series, and then played a sight-word *Snakes and Ladders* game.



On February 21 the branch hosted a Black History Month *Come & Go Craft* program. Children celebrated African-American jazz artists and music as they added colorful tissue paper to images of instruments.



The Lego Club met on February 28 and created Lego pieces to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday. Each team chose a favorite Dr. Seuss character and created a Lego scene with the character.



The Minecraft Club resumed on March 1 and children had the opportunity to play the game on provided iPads.



Families gathered to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2. During the Dr. Seuss *Family Fun* program, families played games and completed crafts based on several Dr. Seuss books. A favorite game of the program was based on *Horton Hears a Who*. Children shook buckets filled with various objects and had to guess what was inside each bucket using their sense of hearing.



The Beginner Reader's Club met on March 8. Club attendees read *I Will Take a Nap* by Mo Willems together, discussed their favorite books, and then worked as a team on a sight-word scavenger hunt through the library to find Lucky the Leprechaun's missing shamrock.



Tweens celebrated Valentine's Day on February 13 by learning how to make their own pom-pom launchers. Then tweens had a contest to see who could get the most points by launching the pom-poms at heart targets. After the contest, tweens made Valentine's Day mini cakes and learned how to make homemade whipped cream.



Tweens celebrated Black History month during a *Tween Time* program on February 21. Tweens learned about Jean-Michel Basquiat and his artwork, and then imitated his art style as they drew with oil pastels.



The Tween STEM Club met on February 27 to learn about the science of roller coasters. Tweens learned about the physics behind roller coasters (potential energy, kinetic energy, inertia, etc.) and then applied their knowledge as they constructed their own marble roller coasters out of construction paper, straws, and paper plates. Tween decided to work together to build a giant roller coaster.



Tweens had a Minecraft Scavenger Hunt through the library on March 6. The tweens had to find specific Minecraft shapes and arrange them into a pattern on their crafting table in order to win a prize.



Cody Library Teens participated in planning many of the teen programs. On February 14 teens celebrated Valentine's Day during Teen Chocolate Valentine Craft Night. Teens played video games and made different chocolate treats. Teens also made origami hearts and perler bead heart magnets. On

February 21 teens made pancake art using colored pancake mix and played Wii video games. On February 28 they learned how to make optical illusion crafts, thaumatropes and kaleidoscopes. Teens also learned to make DIY microwave paper bag popcorn.



The Cody Teens celebrated Teen Tech Week on March 7 with a special Teen Tech program. Teens made a variety of LED craft projects, including LED throwies, and played Wii video games.



On February 15, Adult Services Librarian Adam Spana attended the monthly meeting of the book club at Adante Senior Living, where the group discussed *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver.

COLLINS GARDEN



Adult Programming: Coffee and a Movie program for senior citizens to enjoy a featured movie once a month from the *Golden Age of Mexican Cinema*.



Collins Garden Library hosted a basic photography class 101: Macro Photography. Instructor and professional photographer Jaime Garcia covered techniques for taking pictures with a mobile phone or a digital camera. Mr. Garcia also presented an Insurance 101 Class covering basic insurance needs for auto, home, renters and life insurance.



Internationally known dancer and teacher Karen Barbee demonstrated the basics of belly dancing. Barbee taught participants the history of belly dancing, costuming and dance moves.



Artist Rosemary Perez, a member of the Collins Garden Library Friends Group, and the library hosted a Beading Program for adults. Participants learned the art of stringing bracelets and neckless.



Teens: During Tuesday Teen Times hosted by library assistant Carlos Loera, 7-10 teens a week made holiday decorations for the branch, and wrote poetry for the Young Pegasus competition.



Collins Garden Library hosts a monthly matinee movie series for teens and children averaging an attendance of 35. This was especially popular during the holiday break from school where some parents attended with their children.



Children's: Children's Librarian Gina Brudi continues to deliver classroom collections and conduct early literacy outreach. Brudi presented 10 story times at Knox Early Childhood Education Center and four story times at Kelly Early Education Learning Center. She also attended the Career Day celebration at Perales Elementary where she read stories to the Pre-K classrooms.



Mary Valdez and her beautiful Golden retriever Foxie continue to help kids become more comfortable with reading. Their bi-weekly visit has an attendance average of 20 people.



Lego Club, a bi-monthly event, continues to be popular with children and caregivers averaging 20 attendees during the two sessions in this reporting period. Lego Club appeals to families who appreciate their children's creations being displayed in the library.



A tablecloth playhouse was added to the juvenile area at Collins Garden Library where children can read in a make-believe house. Staff continues to work on creative approaches for children to enjoy this area.



During a special Family Fun event at Collins Garden Library (Saturdays at 2 p.m.) celebrating Black History Month, children created guitars while listening to Motown Classics on the Mondo Pad. The children's artwork is displayed in the windows of a quiet reading area.



Chess Time All the Time! Two chess sets are available on high-top tables during library hours so adults, teens and children can strategize their moves. Patrons of all ages are now requesting chess books.



Ms. Brudi attended a Teaching Books workshop to learn how to bring books and authors to life for children. Part-Time Circulation Attendant Beatrice Galindo attended COSA Stress Management Class.



Collins Garden Library Branch Manager Jeannette Davies presented library information to the Collins Garden Elementary School PTA; read to students at the same school March 2nd in celebration of Dr. Seuss's Birthday/Read across America; networked with SAISD Board Members and the coordinator and volunteers from San Antonio Youth Literacy; attended two Texas Library Association/District 10 mixers; attended a branch manager meeting at Potranco and toured new facility; attended Urban Management Association of South Texas (UMAST) breakfast re: City of San Antonio bond information; and facilitated a branch visit with Public Services Administrator (PSA) Elma Nieto-Rodriguez. The Manager also coordinated a retirement party for former assistant manager Gerald Madrigal who retired this month. In addition, Davies is assisting the new Friends of Collins Garden Library Board/members coordinate events to benefit the library. The Friends have approved to hold a Cinco Di Mayo event and a Used Book Sale in October 2017.

CORTEZ



On Saturday February 25 Cammie Brantley, Branch Manager, led a discussion of the Mayor's Book Club title *The Train to Crystal City*. This fascinating story had a lot of relevance to current events and led to a lively conversation.



Cortez Branch welcomed COSA Solid Waste for a community information session in the meeting room on March 9. This meeting highlighted the "Pay as You Throw" program.



Story Time (Kathy Armbruster)

Story Time continues on Mondays at 10 a.m. Four sessions were held during the reporting period with themes such as donuts (for Mardi Gras!), birds and bird feeding, Valentine's Day and Dr. Seuss favorites. Attendance has waned but this seems to be offset by higher attendance in other programs. Seventeen children and five adults attended.



Baby Time (Kathy Armbruster)

Baby Time follows the Story Time program on Mondays at 11:15 a.m. Four sessions have been held with a program of rhymes, songs, and time for books and toys. Twenty four babies and 23 parents and caregivers attended.



Family Fun (Kathy Armbruster)

Family Fun sessions were held on Mondays at 3:30 p.m. Three sessions were offered during the reporting period featuring a LEGO play day as well as a session about birds and bird feeding. The Family Fun Valentine Party was also held with participation and assistance from Vicente Escobedo from the San Antonio Metro Health's Healthy Neighborhoods Project. Attendance has picked up with 39 children and 21 adults attending.



Tween Time (Kathy Armbruster)

Tweens continue to seek out the library on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Video games are always offered and a craft or cooking activity has proven to be popular as well. Tweens enjoyed National Gumdrop Day by making toothpick and gumdrop structures, learning to play an old-school game of jacks, and making pop-up books and cards. A food challenge of trying to eat a donut suspended from a clothesline added to post Mardi Gras fun. Four sessions were held with an attendance of 42.



Come and Go Crafts (Kathy Armbruster and Volunteer Marisa Torres)

Offered on Saturdays from 2 to 4 p.m., Come and Go Crafts is a passive program that has been offered four times during the reporting period. Cortez is thankful to have Marisa Torres as a volunteer helper on Saturdays to help oversee the activity. Nineteen children have participated in the program.



Read to a Dog (Mary Valdez and Foxie)

Twice each month, Mary Valdez brings her golden retriever Foxie to the Cortez library. Mary teaches children how to approach a dog for the first time and then helps them get comfortable reading stories to Foxie. They make new friends each time they visit.



Mini Movie Day (Volunteer Emily) – Saturday, February 25

Mini Movie Day is an animated movie day for young children and their families. *Trolls* was enjoyed by nine children and two adults.



Outreach Visit to Harlandale Middle School – STEM Night – February 15, 5 – 7 p.m.

Over 85 students and their parents enjoyed constructing all sorts of objects and structures with straws and connectors. Kathy Armbruster also offered SAPL branch maps, LEARN Center information, Learning Express bookmarks and Homework Help flyers.



Outreach Visit – Careers on Wheels – Shepard Middle School – March 9, 8 – 11 a.m.

Accompanying Crescencia Huff of Little Read Wagon, Children's Librarian Kathy Armbruster spoke with several hundred students about programs at the library and careers with SAPL. What a great day! We were able to hand out branch calendars and read stories.



Dial-a-Story

Kathy recorded Dial-a-Story for SAPL on February 13.



Teen Time (JoAnn Paredes)

The Teen program met four times during this reporting period with an attendance of 53. The teens took the challenge of learning a new skill – finger crocheting! Even though only two teens were successful with this crafting technique, they all had fun trying!



Adult Coloring and Creative Writing Groups (Michelle Ricondo) – February 14 and February 28

The Adult Coloring and Cortez Writers Groups continue to engage small but lively group meetings. The adult coloring group hosted a total of nine enthusiastic people and the writers group brought in the stories of six hopeful novelists.



Getting Crafty Program (JoAnn Paredes)

Crafts for this program were valentine mason jars, pine cone flower art, and beginning to crochet a shawl. There were four sessions with 27 crafters attending.



Monster Meet (Madeline Vasquez)

On March 11, the Monster Meet crew met offsite to investigate the hauntings of Mission Espada and Mission San Juan Capistrano! Monster Meet is a program developed and coordinated by Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez, who brings her love of the horror genre to the community at Cortez.



Cortez Film Club (Volunteer Derek Austin with assistance from Madeline Vasquez) – February 18

The Cortez Film Club viewed *Seven* with four film buffs in attendance.



COAST – Cortez Older Adult Social Time – Thursdays, 12:30 p.m. (Michelle Ricondo and Madeline Vasquez)

This is a new program offering at Cortez! Anyone 50 or better is invited to attend a 90 minute session of board games, puzzles and stimulating conversation to help keep the mind active and engaged! Vicente Escobedo presented some healthy eating options from San Antonio Metro Health's Healthy Neighborhoods Project. Two sessions have been held so far with more to come! Twelve adults were in attendance.

ENCINO



Encino proudly hosted Jan Jarboe Russell, author of the Mayor's Book Club pick *The Train to Crystal City*, on February 15. Mrs. Russell graciously greeted each of the 37 attendees before speaking about her experience meeting internees to gather their stories. Using WebEx, this presentation was broadcast to Johnston, Bazan, and Igo Libraries, an innovative approach for SAPL's author visits. Mrs. Russell ended her visit with a book signing and took the time to converse with each attendee.



Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot continues to facilitate innovative programming, planned with the community's teens. Cooking projects have been a recent theme, with cake pop pizza, smoothies, queso, sundaes, and cinnamon roll cake pops being made by Julia and the teens. Monday's Teen Anime Club activities have included watching anime episodes, making duct tape roses, and trying out the new glass markers. Wednesday's Teen Club attendees typically engage in multiple activities each week, including gaming on the Mondopad, playing Cards Against Humanity, and drawing. On March 8, for Teen Tech Week, Julia introduced the group to LED "Throwies" and a Makey Makey, while one attendee shared his Nintendo Switch. Julia assisted at Librarypalooza on February 25, where she promoted teen services to the community.



Encino's creative Children's Librarians Nicki Weaver and Ashley Stubbs introduced two new programs during the reporting period. Ashley developed Flannel Fridays, a story time that includes flannel board activities, to meet the community demand for children's programming. Nicki created a once-monthly program for older children, Artful Fridays. Both programs launched on March 3 and are working to grow their audiences. Library patrons have also expressed interest in book clubs for younger children, which will be developed into a Beginner Book Club in the coming months. Nicki's regular programs, Toddler Time, Story Time, Baby Time, and Lego Club have all seen increased attendance in the past quarter.



On March 8, a group of 17 Girl Scouts and their families met at Encino for a tour, led by Manager Keri Moczygemba, and a scavenger hunt. The scavenger hunt was designed to teach about library services and locations of items within the children's space. The entire group enjoyed using the Mondopad's whiteboard to test their library skills.



Manager Keri Moczygemba provided a briefing to the Library Board of Trustees on February 22 about collaborative technology in the libraries. She also attended the Digital Inclusion Summit on March 1, which ties in directly with Digital Inclusion Month programming being planned for the system in May. Keri also worked with Learn Training Officer Nella Johnson to provide ASVAB practice test services to Encino-area patrons. Using Collaborate and two laptops, two Johnson High School students set up accounts with Learning Express Library and took their first ASVAB practice test. The students and their parents were provided with instructions for repeating the test and other practice material from any connected computer.

FOREST HILLS



The Forest Hills Branch Library VITA service reported that the largest number of returns were filed at the Forest Hills Branch Library from January through February of this year. The service continues to be in high demand as visitors line up outside of the library as early as a full hour before opening time.



On February 23 the San Antonio Food Bank's Mobile Mercado made a stop at the Forest Hills Branch. The Mobile Mercado is a combination mobile mini-grocery and a healthy food truck with a main focus to increase the access to healthy food with an emphasis on seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables. The service has garnered attention from many patrons who look forward to the monthly visit.



AARP hosted a caregiver workshop on February 26. The workshop provided information to caregivers and allowed them the opportunity to talk about the different issues they face in their roles.



The SNAP Mobile bus made a stop at the library on February 28 to offer free and low cost spay and neuter services to low income households. This is always a high demand program which provides a critical service to this community.



Branch Manager Mary Naylor visited the Dorris Griffin Senior Center on March 8 to host the regular monthly book club. The group read *Z: A novel of Zelda Fitzgerald* by Therese Ann Fowler. It was a fitting

choice to be discussed on International Women's Day and during Women's History Month. The group had a lively discussion about the roles women played during the early 1920s.



Monthly programs for adults include the Contrarian Book Club, the MahJong Players, the Needlework Guild, Craft and Chat, and Project Linus. These programs are generally popular with the retired patrons of Forest Hills.



On March 6, Branch manager Mary Naylor attended the Inspiration Hills Neighborhood Association meeting.



Black History Month was celebrated by The San Antonio Youth Wind Ensemble with their performance on February 18.



Numerous programs for children were offered during the month, including the regular Storytime and Come and Go Craft. Patrons appreciate the rotating bilingual format. New this month was the addition of the Lego Builders program.



Children's Librarian Gladis Martinez visited Villarreal Elementary School on February 24. Ms. Martinez engaged students in learning about being a librarian by discussing the different tools a librarian uses throughout the day, the type of education one needs to become a librarian, and some really neat aspects of the job.



Students from Glen Oaks Elementary School visited the library for a Saturday tour with their teachers on March 4. Children's Librarian Gladis Martinez provided a tour as well as a story time for the group.

GREAT NORTHWEST



The Great Northwest Branch Library welcomes a new work study student, Francisco. As with current work study student Derek, they will gain work experience and learn about library services with hands-on experience serving the public.



The branch's younger visitors and their families enjoyed this month's program exploring countries, animals, colors and even color mixing with paints! Great changes have happened in the Great Northwest children's area. Library staff has worked very hard this month to change its look. The juvenile fiction books were the most recent in a series of changes. The children's Express items and Award books are now on shelves that allow easier access for browsing and discovering new titles. In addition, the shelves were rearranged to add more variety to the shelving of the books. The children have really enjoyed seeing the series sets in display on all the shelves. Several have picked up a new series to read.



The program *New Scholars of Texas Seminar* program uses the Socratic method of dialogue to have engaging and thought-provoking discussions – this series is focusing on the U.S. Constitution. On February 22, teens discussed the First Amendment and critiqued American archetypes by viewing paintings by Norman Rockwell.



On March 10, Brigham Young University – Idaho practicum student Annabelle Smith presented a workshop on understanding ADHD and ASD and strategies to use at home.



Cindy Moreno, Assistant Branch Manager, moderated a lively book discussion at the Alicia Trevino Senior Center on Monday, February 13 for the book *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes. The 11 attendees stayed to watch the movie as well.



Cindy Moreno requested several workshops by Deer Oaks, the Employee Assistance Program, for branch staff. *Appreciating Personality Differences* was facilitated by Patti Ricker, Deer Oaks staff member, on February 15. A group of 15 employees participated in the workshop. Deer Oaks counselor Melanie Hennis presented *Stress Management* on March 1 to a group of 10 attendees. *How To Deal With Difficult People* was covered on March 8 by Melanie Hennis with 15 attendees. Participants are able to ask questions during the workshop and were given print and online resources.



Great Northwest Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez visited the school library at Brennan High School on February 22 to provide a teen program to the students during their lunch period. This popular event is in collaboration with the Brennan High School Librarian Hugues Caby and is a way for the branch to reach out to teens in their environment. On February 17 Ms. Vazquez visited the Luna Middle School Library and provided a button making craft for the students. On February 17 Ms. Vazquez also attended a Volunteer Fair at Communication Arts High School. At the event students were given information about volunteering at the library.



On February 13 the Great Northwest Teens learned how to make onigiri rolls at the monthly *Anime Night* program and celebrated Awesome Anime Couples with a cubee craft project. On February 20 teens learned how to make the optical illusion thaumatrope crafts and the Teen Writer's Guild made book page flowers and buttons from resourced materials. On February 25 and 27 teens experimented with Van Gogh's painting technique at the *No Experience Needed Art* program for teens.



The Great Northwest Teens celebrated Teen Tech Week on March 6 with a special Teen Tech program. Teens made a variety of LED craft projects, watched the movie *War Games* and learned to make DIY microwave paper bag popcorn.



The Great Northwest Library hosted a Super Smash Bros Mini Tournament on February 25 where teens could compete for first place. Teens used Challonge.com to register players for a double elimination tournament and tracked their progress using the websites online bracket system. Teens also created the game rules and stage list for players to abide by.



Computer Tutoring is held at the Great Northwest Library. A very knowledgeable volunteer tutor provides basic computer instructions and answers computer and technology related questions.

GUERRA



On February 21 Library Director Ramiro Salazar came to Guerra to present a Customer Service and Professionalism EnCORE Award to Circulation Attendant Abella Lazalde-Jimenez. The award recognized her having gone the extra mile by providing voter registration forms to library patrons. Guerra staff said thank you and good bye to Ben Longoria, Librarian II/Maverick, and welcomed Jernell Williams as the new permanent Librarian II/Assistant Branch Manager. Also new to the team was Leslie Tolentino, a former volunteer and now Library Aide. An all branch staff meeting was held on February 16. The VITA program continued to provide assistance Friday through Monday for six hours each day.



Branch Manager Dexter Katzman provided music and literature outreach at the Careplex Adult Daycare Center on February 15, March 1, and March 8. On March 7, he represented the branch and SAPL at the monthly meeting of the Cable-Westwood Neighborhood Association.



Assistant Branch Manager Ben Longoria screened *Selma* on February 14 as part of Black History Month. On February 24, he facilitated the Mobile Mercado Van.



During the reporting period, Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson planned and presented four toddler times, four story times, and three Lego Clubs. School age children read to Foxie on February 15 and March 2 during the bi-weekly Read to a Dog program. On February 18, Arlene presented a Black History Month Come & Go craft program giving children and their adult care-givers the opportunity to create friendship rings. Arlene continued her weekly outreach to daycare centers in the community and visited Angelic Smiles, Lil Dragon Den and Greatest Gifts Childcare Centers where she presented story times to toddlers. On March 2, she celebrated Read Across America day with Dr. Seuss stories and crafts at Angelic Smiles and Greatest Gifts. At the branch, she presented a Dr. Seuss Come & Go craft for families. Arlene met with her Spring Play & Learn Committee members on March 7 to continue work on the spring program Brown Bear, Brown Bear. On March 8, she attended her monthly children's librarians meeting at Central library.



Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on February 16, 23, and March 2 and 9. Edward and Stephanie Vasquez held an outreach at Brennan High School on February 22.



Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl facilitated the Staff Picks Display; Circulation Attendant Abella Lazalde-Jimenez displayed Nicholas Sparks books, audio books and DVDs. Mary Lou created display slides promoting her Guerra Knits & Crochets! program and another set listing the Oscar winning movies. She held the Guerra Knits & Crochets! program on February 14 (Friends of the Library provided refreshments), 19, 21, 28 and March 7. Total attendance for all programs was 29.

IGO



Igo's Librarian II Allison Michalek started in February and jumped right into the fray, taking over Igo's Baby Time, Toddler Times, and Story Time. She has received excellent reviews from program attendees.



The Teen Cooking Class continues to be a runaway smash as teens made Breakfast for Dinner and two Indian dishes (vegan curry, butter chicken curry). The teens who attended left the program wanting more and it is currently being considered.



Teen Time continued to be the most popular program offering video games, board games, and just a general safe place for teens to hang out and do their thing. While attendance took a dip during this reporting period, there is the Anime Fest that is on the horizon that will undoubtedly increase teen participation.



On February 20 and March 6, the PoeTree Club met at Igo. This club welcomes new members who are interested in reading and/or writing poetry.



On February 15 Mayor's Book Club readers had a chance to "meet" *Train to Crystal City* author Jan Jarboe Russell through live streaming via Web-Ex. An additional Mayor's Book Club talk by live streaming is planned for April 10: Heidi Gurke Donald, founder of the German-American Internee Coalition, will Skype to an Igo audience.



On February 21, in celebration of Black History Month, James Oliveros of the Freedman's Bureau spoke to the Genealogy Club.



On March 1 the Mystery Book Club discussed Josephine Tey's *Daughter of Time*.



Igo continues to offer Hatha Yoga to seniors on Friday mornings and did a program on constructing butterfly gardens.

JOHNSTON



Johnston Library celebrated Valentine's Day with a staff meeting including Public Service Administrator Kate Gray on February 1 where everyone brought treats and praised their coworkers. Staff rejoiced when Library Aide Vida Salas accepted the position of Circulation Attendant on March 4. Staff worked on several displays for this time period including St Patrick's Day, Remember the Alamo and Women's History Month. Library Aide Blanca Hurley said goodbye to Johnston staff as she helps prepare Schaefer Branch Library to open on March 25.



The City of San Antonio's Solid Waste Department presented information about the Organics Program on March 27. The Food Bank's Mobile Mercado returned to their reoccurring date of the 4th Monday of the month visit on March 27 with great success.



Adult Services Librarian and Interim Branch Manager Monica Garza facilitated the livestream book discussion of the Mayor's Book Club selection *The Train to Crystal City* with author Jan Jarboe Russell via WebEx from Encino Library on February 15. Ms. Bustillo organized the final two Friday Oscar Film Screenings on February 17 of *Kubo and the Two Strings* and February 25 of *Suicide Squad*.



Ms. Bustillo attended the Adult Services Meeting at McCreless Library on February 16, the Library Leadership Team meeting at Central on February 23 and the Branch Managers Meeting at Potranco on March 2. On February 23 Ms. Bustillo attended the GoToWebinar *Making the Transition to Edelweiss + and the ReadyTalk Introduction to Title Source 360* Webinar.



On February 28 Ms. Bustillo presented library programs and events to the Springvale Neighborhood Association.



Children's Librarian Beverly Wrigglesworth facilitated story times with themes including Valentine's Day, Squirrels, Wild dogs, and Dr. Seuss. Ms. Wrigglesworth's Family Fun activities included Valentine's Day, Electronic Snap Circuits, Wild dogs and Dr. Seuss.



On February 16, Ms. Wrigglesworth attended a training session on the Teaching Books database. On March 2 Ms. Wrigglesworth visited the PCI at Southwest High School to read to children and leave books for the teachers.



Library Assistant Nicole Garza hosted San Antonio Food Bank's Chef Roman Longoria who has been holding healthy eating cooking demonstrations once a month at Johnston Library. On these visits, Chef Longoria focuses working with Johnston teens. This month's demonstration showed teens how to make healthy snacking choices that can be easily made at home. Chef Longoria showed the teen group how to make popcorn using several different methods that were healthier choices than bagged microwaved popcorn. The group also learned how to make simple fruit cups as well as a nutritious soda alternative. February ended with teens creating their own coasters with ceramic tiles and sharpies. Teens learned a unique tracing method using freezer paper and pencils. They used this technique to make copies of their favorite characters on the ceramic tile for their coasters.



March teen programs focused on technology. Teens learned how to use LED lights to create their own creations. The group made several LED throwies and used the LED lights to as magnets for their fridge.



Library Assistant Elsy Jackson moderated the Club de Lectura "Café con Libro" book club in Spanish on February 13. The participants discussed the historical fiction novel *El Descanso* by Andy Andrews. Ms. Jackson also recorded a short story for the program Telecuentos (Dial-a-Story) on February 24.

LANDA



Landa Teens celebrated February with adventurous culinary events and inclusive community-focused hangouts. Facilitated by Teen Liaison Rebekah Corley, the group followed through on their desire to expand their cultural knowledge with a program on Japanese culture which offered instruction on traditional greetings, some sharing personal experiences while visiting Japan, and even sushi in candy form. Their monthly Cooking Club focused upon healthier treats via Fruit Kebabs, offering a chance to turn everyday foods into something more nutritionally valued and beneficial. Teens also started planning for upcoming Tech Week activities March!



Homework Hangout, Landa's program for dedicated independent study, continued to be a valuable resource for middle and high school aged students. Facilitated by Ms. Corley and Landa Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas, this service continued to receive positive feedback from students and parents alike. Several of the attendees have begun staying for the Teen Night program for a recreational break after their hard studies. The Teen Night teens and Ms. Corley enthusiastically welcomed them to the group, pleased to provide a study break and to get to know even more of the Landa community youth!



Landa Adult Programming observed Black History Month with two programs: the San Antonio Youth Wind Ensembles played a short concert at Landa featuring music representing Black History, and genealogist James Oliveras brought several laptop computers for a special program that taught users how to find ancestry records with the Freedman's Bureau Records and other resources. The hands-on experience was popular with those in attendance.



Landa's longest-running book club, Reader's Ink, read *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker in observance of Black History Month. Most of those in attendance had read this now-classic before and brought interesting ideas to the discussion. The Mystery Book Club read *Acqua Alta* by Donna Leon. Several in the group indicated a desire to read more of this series which is set in Venice.



Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta leads these book clubs as well as an outreach book club that meets at The Village at the Incarnate Word. In February this group read *365 Thank Yous* by John Kralik, a non-fiction book about a man determined to write a thank-you note for each day of the year. In a very different type of outreach, Karen took a rodeo craft and related adult coloring pages to the Kenwood Senior Center. Attendees also heard about the history of the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo.

LAS PALMAS



Patricia Perez led the fun with children's programming. Family Fun events included an awesome Valentine's Day party with four "Creation stations." They included stenciling, a paper plate basket, a hanging heart decoration and a heart shaped door hanger. She also presented her Tuesday morning bilingual story times.



The Las Palmas Book Club read the book *God Bless the Child* by Toni Morrison and had a lively discussion about race discrimination.



Branch Manager Diane Backhus represented the Library at the Henry B. Gonzalez Elementary Career Day on March 2. She told the students in kinder and pre-kindergarten about her job as a librarian. She also read *How the Grinch stole Christmas* (in honor of Dr. Seuss), and one of her favorite children's books, *Listen Buddy*, by Helen Lester. It's an awesome story about how important it is to listen!



Teen Librarian Connie Hejl represented SAPL at the Slinging Ink convention on Saturday, March 4. Attendees enjoyed special library temporary tattoos, crafts, reading, and getting green screen pictures. During Teen Tech Week, Las Palmas teens had fun making music on the online site Button Bass.



The branch is going to be getting new computer furniture in March. Library staff members Josie Garcia and GeannaTakajasi have now shifted the DVD's, music CDs, and non-fiction materials twice to make room.

MAVERICK



Maverick Staff welcomed Linda Hartsell who gave a talk about internment camps. Additionally, the branch was able to provide space for two HOA's and our two regular book groups.



Maverick Staff made space for the District 7 staff to hold their orientation meeting. Maverick Branch also hosted the Quitxt representative who greeted customers at a table in the main section of the branch.



Children's Librarian Amy Roberts focused on the juvenile collection during the reporting period. She weeded all the Juvenile Fiction and Juvenile Board Books. In addition, she changed out the Bluebonnet Award books for the new list that came out recently. Ms. Roberts is appreciative of her holdings editors,

Public Service Manager, Jef Martin, Librarian II Jernell Williams, and Library Assistant Sara Ramirez (on loan from the Schaefer Library) for assisting her with these projects.



Ms. Roberts is booking performers for the summer reading program at Maverick. She also attended a Children's meeting on March 9 and signed up for Kids Time activities, created by the children's summer reading committee.

McCRELESS



Our Librarian I Ana Menchaca conducted Teen Time, which continues to attract new participants. Teens are helping to develop their programming. The teen space at McCreless has moved again to a larger space that will accommodate more teens. The new space will also accommodate the growing Young Adult collection.



Ms. Menchaca also continued to conduct Story Time. She also held a Come and Go Craft on a Saturday to give children that cannot attend the library during the week a chance to participate in library programming.



Ms. Menchaca established an ongoing outreach partnership with Jeff Davis Middle School where she will be working with ESL teens.



McCreless hosted Movie Time once again on Saturday, February 25. Over ten individuals showed up to watch the last installment of *The Hunger Games* trilogy. McCreless also offered an Adult Coloring Night on March 6. The program was well-received and is anticipated to become a regular offering at the branch. On March 11 the McCreless Book Club will meet to discuss *Life After Life*.



The McCreless staff is continuing to shift and move our collection to better facilitate patron needs and visibility. Staff has moved the adult graphic novels to the space which formerly housed the reference collection in order to offer easier access since graphic novels are a popular collection area with McCreless patrons.

MEMORIAL



Ms. Gonzales met with Memorial Friends and the St. Mary's University librarian to discuss upcoming Fiesta Oyster Bake events.



Ms. Gonzales attended TS360 training as part of Baker & Taylor collection development for Memorial branch library



Ms. Gonzales assisted with the interview panel in selecting candidates for Maverick and Cody branch libraries.



The Memorial Branch hosted the Mobile Mercado Food Truck which has been providing fresh fruit and vegetables at lower costs than retail outlets. This was the last time the truck will be at Memorial due to low traffic.



The Memorial Branch hosted a COSA-Westside Development Corp. meeting with Councilman Medina.



Ms. Gonzales attended a Managers Meeting at the new Potranco Library.



Ms. Gonzales met with the organizers of the Cincinnati Avenue Corridor Study Community Meeting. This meeting is coordinated by the Westside Development Corp.



Ms. Gonzales met with U.S. census bureau representatives to discuss using Memorial's meeting room for job interviews and testing.



Ms. Davila has started a new program at Memorial. The new program is *Sunday Movies at Memorial* and the library screened *Florence Foster Jenkins*. The event is slowly generating more attendance.



Ms. Davila is assisting with an ongoing event; the San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition workshops on Sundays. On February 26, approximately 6-8 patrons attended the class, which was also held in Spanish.



Ms. Deffendall continues with outreach to provide literacy programs at schools and daycare centers. These outreach efforts continue to bring approximately 60 families in contact with SAPL resources each week.



Ms. Deffendall participated in Read Across America events at both Madison Elementary and Fenwick Elementary, engaging with 80 children and 45 adults.



Ms. Deffendall was a featured participant at the Loma Park Elementary School Career Day, speaking to 84 children and 5 adults.

MISSION



The Mission Library partnered with the San Antonio Missions for a program focused on study results of DNA testing of people from the area that was very well attended. The Mission Community Garden celebrated its first year anniversary on February 16 with a party in the Mission Courtyard. Volunteers helped with activities for attendees, giving out seeds for planting and making hamburgers and hotdogs for all library patrons. The Mobile Mercado started going to Mission Library on a monthly basis beginning in February. In partnership with the Mission Library Community Garden the branch hosted a Bugs in the Garden Program on March 9.



The Mission children's department is saying goodbye to winter and hello to spring. Spring decorating has begun, as well as spring-themed story times. One of the latest Baby Times had 23 attendees and Toddler Time had 54. Several new families have been attending, saying they love Mission and all the programs that are offered. On February 22, after the Story Times, the Scholastic Literacy Van was here and the children were excited about visiting it, most for the first time.

PAN AMERICAN



To celebrate the work and life of famed children's author Dr. Seuss, Pan American hosted a celebration event on March 4. Students from the Texas Association of Future Educators (T.A.F.E.) chapter at McCollum High School planned, developed, and implemented the event. The students had a variety of activity/craft stations available for the children. Additionally, the students read different Dr.

Seuss stories to the children and their parents. Despite the rainy weather, families still made the trip to the branch for the celebration. The Pan American Friends provided refreshments such as lemonade, cookies, and gold fish crackers.



The Pan American Branch Library continued to offer weekly e-device clinics on Wednesdays, where patrons were welcomed to stop for assistance from library staff. Branch reference staff were on hand to answer questions and help patrons with their mobile devices such as smart phones, tablets, and laptops. Assistance was primarily with SAPL downloadable content from Overdrive e-books. Staff were available to assist with different operating systems such as iOS and Android.



Pan American hosted teen time every Wednesday night, where teens got the opportunity to partake in a variety of crafts and activities. Teen time is an opportunity for young adults to get together after school or in the evening. During the program, teens get to pick from a variety of activities from games to anime or just hanging out with their peers. It's not always fun and games though, some of the activities require teens to use their brains to solve problem or work as a team to accomplish a goal.



In addition to weekly and monthly activities, Teen Liaison Lisa Leandro worked on creating a teen space at Pan American. Now young adults have a dedicated spot at the branch just for them. Now teens can browse YA, graphic novels, and manga and hang out in their own space. Speaking of space, branch staff has been working hard to make library materials easier to find with the installation of brighter, clearer signs. Now, patrons can navigate the collection better when searching for materials. As always, branch staff is always available to assistance customers with their information needs.



The monthly writers' group at Pan American continues to be a success. Attendees can share ideas and inspiration as well as get tips on the writing process. The group members are dedicated to their craft and welcome input from their peers. Since Pan American is still looking for a new children's librarian, branch staff decided to have a monthly family game night. Parents and their children of all ages can choose from a variety of games to play together. Family gaming allows for some friendly competition and a chance to make new friends. The branch also hosted a monthly movie matinee day featuring such hits as Disney's *Finding Dory* and *Moana*.



Foxie the READ dog along with her handler Mary continued to visit Pan American during the reporting period. The children and staff always enjoy seeing Foxie. The READ program helps children build their reading confidence as well as learn how to safely approach a dog. Foxie loves to be read to and of course all the attention from the kids and adults.



Finally, the Pan American staff welcomed two new employees to the branch. Elvia Ramos will be joining the team soon as a part-time Library Assistant. Ms. Ramos had previously worked at the Tobin at Oakwell branch. She brings many years of experience and a dedication to customer service. Additionally, Marissa Garcia joined the team in March as a part-time Circulation Attendant. Currently, Ms. Garcia is a student working towards a degree in criminal justice. Being a new employee at any organization can be overwhelming but so far Ms. Garcia has been meshing well with her fellow employees and customers as well.

PARMAN



Parents continued to compliment the Toddler II program which grows in attendance each week. This program is prepared and presented by Circulation Attendant Melissa Moser. In her Toddler II program she is building a foundation for reading. By engaging children in what is being read she further promotes their critical and imaginative thinking which improves their intellectual and emotional development. Children continued to make creative explorations in variety of other programs offered at Parman. This month, there was a heavy emphasis on repurposing cardboard tubes. The tubes were used as printmaking tools for Valentine's Day cards, turned into maracas, and served as sticks for hobby horses. Not surprisingly, the hobby horses that were created during the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo were the biggest hit. Children enjoyed decorating their horses with paper scraps and donated yarn and naming their horses. Once finished, they rode their ponies exuberantly several times around the story room. The Children's Librarian was invited to the Little Blue Roof School in celebration of Read Across America Day for the fourth consecutive year. She presented a lively Seuss-themed story time for children.



DIY University is still popular among adult patrons, with registration full within a few days after opening. This month's presentation was prepared by branch manager Barbara Kwiatkowski. Participants enjoyed creating origami cherry blossom branches and learned about the paper folding tradition. A partnership with Fitness in the Park has already proven successful and popular with over 20 people attending weekly classes. Low impact circuit training had several new members sign-up in the last two weeks. Spring Forrest Qi Gong exercises class gains new members fast as well. Parman's three monthly adult book clubs presented by Joey Lackups, Pattie Vanlandingham and Keith Kisser have grown to be entertaining and thoughtful groups.



Library assistant Eva Banda put together Parman's Pizza Parlour for the transformation station. Kids used felt pieces to create pizzas with several different toppings and bowls of spaghetti with meatballs. The station included a soda fountain, cash register and tables to complete the realistic pizza restaurant experience.

POTRANCO



Children's Librarian Robin Alcorta got families revved up for the San Antonio Rodeo by hosting a cowboy and cowgirl themed story time. However it was the construction theme that garnered the most giggles and fun. Alcorta read *Go! go! go! stop!* by Charise Mericle Harper and it was a hit. She divided the room in half. One side said go, the other side said stop. Kids were battling back and forth until they reached the end of the story. Read to a Dog at Potranco is getting similar attention. Potranco volunteers Martha and her golden lab Miracle bring a bilingual element to the program.



Librarian Kassandra Vela-Laosa continues to host popular Tween times with a solid core group that is growing. Vela-Laosa attended a STEAM in Preschool story time workshop and quickly implemented the new ideas into Tween Time. Examples include Origami Secret Hearts and DIY Lava Lamps. Additionally, Vela-Laosa introduced artist Jean-Michel Basquiat during Black History Month. The children were intrigued as they made their own abstract art. Circulation attendant Raquel Reyes supports Tween Time programs and was able to help twice during February/March. Vela-Laosa credits Reyes' help and believes her assistance increases the success of the program as well as the tweens' experience. With both teammates participating, Tweens get more focused attention during learning and play. Vela-Laosa averages 6-10 tweens weekly.



Branch Manager Cindy Pope and Children's Librarian Robin Alcorta have been working together to create kits for calming children that become over stimulated. The idea was inspired by AutismSpeaks.org. The kits are being designed to help respond to the sensory needs of overwhelmed children. Items in the kits include sensory toys and fidget trinkets. Alcorta made sensory bags for story time to pilot one of the items selected for the kits.



Librarian Daniella Toll teamed with Great Northwest Teen Librarian Stephanie Vasquez to bring a button making craft to Luna middle school. During this time SAPL Librarians were able to pass out program fliers and introduce the students to the services they will find at the Library for teens. During the Manga club rice cookie making activity, the teens did a little bit of math, converting Celsius (in the Japanese cookie recipe) to Fahrenheit. Toll is also having some growth on the Potranco Teen Leadership Counsel. As many as six hours were donated during February/March. The Teen Leadership Counsel helps develop library programs by giving suggestions and feedback to Toll that will be used to engage teens in future library programs.



Teammates Elissa Vura and Assistant Branch Manager Matthew Loaiza continue to grow interest in their weekly craft series. Some examples include valentine mason jars and designed marbled frames.



Throughout of the months of January and February the aide shelving team tracked the daily amounts of intake from the outside book drops. Potranco leadership used this information to gauge workload expectations for the new dispensary equipment being installed outside the branch in the shared lobby of SAPL and the YMCA. Branch Manager Cindy Pope appraised the peak times of patrons through two measures; informational/directional questions per hour and door counts per hour. This information was collected through diligence of the Potranco Circulation and Reference teams. Potranco leadership began applying the new intelligence to customer service needs. Branch schedules were updated to ensure coverage. Staff availability was also increased at the Potranco ASK desk.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS



Children and parents visiting Pruitt Library recently enjoyed a fun-filled Valentine's party where they listened to stories, played games, and made heart-shaped door hangers.



In recognition of Black History Month, the focus was on jazz music during Kids' Time. Everyone sang along to Louie Armstrong's *What a Wonderful World* and listened to Bob Thiele's book by the same title. Kids showed their creative side as they prepared colorful collages featuring a specific jazz instrument.



Children's librarian Cynthia Saenz visited with three and four-year olds at St. Thomas More School during Dr. Seuss's "Read Across America Day". Kids listened to a reading of *I Can Read with My Eyes Shut* and discussed its valuable message about life and reading. The children were delighted to show off the Dr. Seuss hats they constructed during the visit.



Mrs. Saenz also paid a visit to nearby Montgomery Elementary during their annual Community Health Fair. Children and parents took part in an experiment involving water, pepper, and dishwashing liquid and were able to see first-hand the importance of using soap when washing your hands. The librarian also brought along related books about germs and hygiene for display.



Kids attending this month's SPARK science event learned about animal adaptations. They listened to a reading of *Germs Make me Sick!* by Melvin Berger. They also had an opportunity to design

their own “adaptations” using iPads. Attendees are looking forward to the next event where they will learn about surviving in nature.



February took teen librarian Rae Downen out of the library and onto the Roosevelt High School campus to help students celebrate Valentine’s Day with a fun and engaging craft. Over 100 students made origami fortune cookie valentines for their friends and families.



Teens and the teen librarian took to the road on Saturday, February 25 to attend Library Palooza 2017 at Brandeis High School. They listened to authors speak about the craft of writing, met authors, got authors to sign their books, and hung out with other like-minded, book-loving teens. One teen, Tatiana G., said that the trip inspired her to keep writing. She also said, “I want to go to more events like this!”



The Pruitt Teen Book Club met on Wednesday, March 1 to discuss the book *Replica* by Lauren Oliver. Ms. Oliver was a featured author at Library Palooza 2017, and teens were able to meet her and get their personal book copies signed. The teens learned from the author that the book will be made into a movie, so the discussion was quite lively.



Teen Time during Teen Tech Week drew a nice crowd. Teens made LED bookmarks, and there was a drawing for a 3D print from the library’s MakerBot 3D printer.



Zumba classes continued to draw adults interested in getting fit by dancing to upbeat music. As always, Instructor Moreno led high-energy classes, and participants felt accomplished after completing a great workout.



In February and March, Family Chess Nights continued to be a highlight each week with 50 to 70 patrons attending. Rackspace Foundation provided a catered meal followed by game time and an advanced chess lesson. Branch staff was pleased to see quite a few new faces at the advanced lesson.



Special needs adults participating in the SNAP program enjoyed stories about leprechauns, rainbows, pots of gold, and special wishes. They made a brightly-colored rainbow craft and watched a classic cartoon about leprechauns. This group is always eager to learn and participate.

SAN PEDRO



The staff at San Pedro had a busy February and March report period and staff appreciates all the support from Gamini Haluwana, Sylvia Reyna, and Elma Nieto-Rodriguez. Wilson Plunkett continues to serve as Librarian-in-Charge.



The San Pedro video area for adult viewers was re-done to form a striking and eye-catching display of movies and television show DVDs and Blu-Rays.



Carmen Roja’s popular book displays for February/March include– National Craft Month (both adult and juvenile readers), Graphic Novels, Dr. Seuss (easy readers), and tremendous spring displays for juvenile readers and easy readers with many bunnies, ducks, and frogs.

SEMMES



Children's Librarian Randi Jones was very busy this month presenting different programs at the library and in the community. She did her five weekly story time programs at the branch and also participated in several outreaches to local daycares. On Saturday, March 11, she did a special story time at Rolling Oaks Mall as part of their KidX Book Bash.



Library Assistant Melody Smith has been planning and presenting the weekly Tween Time programs. This month, the tweens tried their hands at painting with shaving cream. Participants had an enjoyable, if somewhat messy, time. The tweens also made homemade owl greeting cards.



The Classic, Adult and Outreach book clubs all met this month. The outreach book club really enjoyed *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. They would heartily recommend it to any book group looking for a great title to discuss.



The Mobile Mercado from the San Antonio Food Bank visited the library on February 21. It was a beautiful day and many patrons took advantage of the fresh produce and did some shopping on the truck.



The Semmes Branch Library hosted the Library Board of Trustees meeting on February 22. The Friends of the Semmes Branch Library President Judy Wilson provided some small refreshments for the trustees.



Alex Rubio, artist-in-residence at Blue Star Art Complex, installed new art pieces in the library on March 9. There will be a reception for the artist on Saturday, March 25.

THOUSAND OAKS



Children at Thousand Oaks had a great time dancing, singing, and listening to stories as Mr. Troy lead Toddler and Story Times for the first half of February. Ann Laird joined Thousand Oaks as Children's Services Librarian on February 20. The children and parents are happy she has arrived. Ann has great programs planned for Spring Break and upcoming summer reading programs.



Teens at Thousand Oaks enjoyed techy crafts for Teen Tech Week, as well as an evening with the green screen. Teens explored other cultures with a night of karaoke and candy sushi. Librarian Theresa Ybarra also hosted a movie night, complete with movie snacks of nachos and Frito pie



Fates and Traitors: A Novel of John Wilkes Booth by Jennifer Chiaverini was the book selection for the Thousand Oaks Thursday Book Club on February 16. Ms. Chiaverini enthralled book lovers with her account of the infamous assassin John Wilkes Booth. Those discussing the book were not only interested in the events leading up to the assassination of President Lincoln, but were also riveted by the final execution of Mary Surratt. An interesting conversation ensued as the ladies discussed the demise of this first woman who was an accessory in the murder of the sixteenth president of the United States. The group enjoyed some freshly brewed coffee and munchkins from Dunkin Donuts.



Thousand Oaks Branch Library hosted Omar Husain from the Muslim Children's Education and Civic Center. Omar gave a presentation on Islam and took questions from those in attendance. Thousand Oaks continues to host the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program through the end of tax season. The service fills up each day within minutes of the branch opening.



The Northeast Senior Center Book Group read *How It All Began* by Penelope Lively. Librarian Theresa Ybarra led the discussion about the fictional account of how the "butterfly effect" can change people's lives. The group discussed the book's London setting and how the economic status of the

characters helped determine how they fared after major setbacks. While most readers enjoyed the book, some found the author's British-isms hard to follow.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL



Tobin at Oakwell Library staff held a bittersweet luncheon on February 13 for Dianna Gamez and Soudabeh Arvin. Both accepted outside jobs – Ms. Gamez as a library tech and Ms. Arvin as an IT specialist in her field of study. Then the team was sad to see April Martinez transfer to Mission branch in March, as it shortens her commute by over an hour a day. The branch gladly welcomed Circulation Attendant Brenda Ramos from Thousand Oaks as a tenured circulation attendant starting on March 6.



Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse is temporarily assigned to Pan American branch to assist their staffing. She continues avid leadership as chair of the Arts and Culture Committee for Adult Programming. Ms. Woolhouse is helping coordinate the upcoming Summer Reading Program for adults. Ms. Woolhouse helped plan and staff SAPL's booth at the Slingshot Ink Expo at the Joe Freeman Coliseum March 3- 5. The expo features body art and a marketplace of artists and vendors, including over 150 tattoo artists. Library Assistant Elvia Ramos enthusiastically assisted at the event booth on March 4.



Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler demonstrated her cowgirl skills with a lasso and rodeo theme at toddler and story time on February 28. She then gladly demonstrated her rope tricks to staff at a short teambuilding meeting. Ms. Braeuler's second monthly Saturday baby time on March 4 saw attendance double from February's initial program and with nearly all new families enjoying the songs and creative play. Special thanks go to Brookhollow's Children's Librarian Rachel Barrera for hosting toddler and story time on February 15 while Ms. Braeuler attended a City of San Antonio training class. On March 1 the tots and kids learned and played with a focus on Dr. Seuss with Ms. Braeuler. Ms. Braeuler shared a similar Dr. Seuss program with 73 children at Northwood Presbyterian Day School on March 9, for which she received several raving written compliments.



Manager Tracey Knouse and Teen Librarian Ms. Coker attended the Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell's meeting on March 7. Friends President Nancy Gandara and Library Board Member Linda Nairn were in attendance as Alethea Bugg was elected the new President. Ms. Coker introduced herself with an impressive visual presentation on her background and examples of teen programming based on requests and ideas submitted by teens.



Ms. Coker developed daily programs for Teen Tech Week March 6 - 10. Lots of teens participated in Wii and gaming sessions, green screen photos, robot kits and sharing resources for technology information literacy. Attendance ranged from 16 - 35 teens each day. Ms. Coker's weekly programs are quite popular; averaging more than 20 teens each time with activities like creating art with various media including glass jars, paint, duct tape, oil pastels and pencils.



Library Assistant Elvia Ramos and Librarian Tracey Knouse attended the yearly SAPL employee recognition breakfast on February 28. Ms. Ramos was a quarterly winner after being nominated by a voter for her exceptional service during early voting. Branch personnel were treated to multiple treats during Valentine's Day week. One such gift was from Rosemarie and Buddy Banack who brought a two foot long box of chocolates for staff being so patient, helpful, knowledgeable and kind, especially to seniors.

WESTFALL



VITA has been in full swing at Westfall Branch Library. Beginning around the first week of February, volunteers were at maximum capacity as soon as the doors opened. Since mid-March it has slowed down a bit, leaving space for those who want to walk in.



Learn Center Training Officer Michelle Rickman served as a panelist at the Digital Inclusion Summit hosted by SAPL on March 1. Michelle joined Catarina Velasquez, an educational consultant with San Antonio Housing Authority, and Ernesto Resto, a digital inclusion fellow at Skillpoint, to talk about the Northstar Digital Literacy Assessment.



The Learn Center also pulled off another successful Job Fair in February. The event was made possible through a grant from Wells Fargo, a partnership with Workforce Solutions, and tremendous logistical support from Emma Hernandez at the Central Library. This year we had outdoor signs from the library's Marketing Department as well as take-home postcards and branded Learn goody-bags for job-seekers with a nice portfolio and a flash drive. Learn staff was here in full force and Westfall staff pitched in to make the event smooth, especially Mayra Elizondo of DHS and circulation attendant Aleida Ireta. Three technology volunteers assisted people in accessing the Work in Texas website from the Learn Center and two presenters were on-hand to prepare people to meet employers. One presenter was James Beeman, a career coach, and the other was Jacqueline Kinkle, an expert in interviewing.



Teen Librarian Megan Stanley helped out at SAPL's exhibit table at the 14th Annual Slingshot Ink Tattoo Expo at Freeman Coliseum.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY KEY INDICATORS

FEBRUARY 2017

Presented below are key indicators that align with the Library's Strategic Plan.

FY 2017

CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

GOALS



2,895,553 ↓ 1%
ITEMS
BORROWED



7,340,000
TOTAL FY GOAL

FYTD GOAL

LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

GOALS



2,356,643 ↑ 9%
VISITS



5,710,000
TOTAL FY GOAL

FYTD GOAL

Visits increase from 2016 presidential election voting

DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

GOALS



250,886
COMPUTER
HOURS



786,525
HOURS OF
WI-FI USE

1,037,411 ↑ 9%
TOTAL HOURS OF
COMPUTER & WI-FI USE



2,450,000
TOTAL FY GOAL

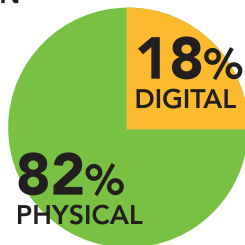
FYTD GOAL

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

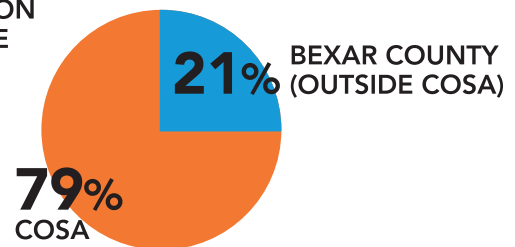
FEBRUARY 2017 (continued)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

CIRCULATION
BY TYPE



CIRCULATION
BY SERVICE
AREA



VIRTUAL VISITS: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE



1,238,486

MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

279,467

MYSAPL
APP SESSIONS

825,761

SANANTONIO.OVERDRIVE.COM
VISITS

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE



136,736

TOTAL ATTENDANCE

35,988

ADULT PROGRAMS

23,202

TEEN PROGRAMS

77,546

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

HOLOCAUST: LEARN & REMEMBER PROGRAMS

THE HOLOCAUST
LEARN & REMEMBER
REFUGE IN THE AMERICAS

15 PROGRAMS **552** ATTENDEES

REMARKS BY
Hannah Pankowsky
HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR AND AUTHOR

Thank you to our supporters:
Carmen & Steven Goldberg | Reiko Samuel & Lynn Stahl
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STREAMING

San Antonio Public Library | shastmado | mysapl | mysapl.org

Holocaust survivor and author Hannah Pankowsky
at Central Library on January 26, 2017.

San Antonio Public Library

February 2017 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	5,436	12,229	9,141	2,158	6,983
Brook Hollow	23,545	24,849	5,527	1,416	4,111
Carver	4,227	8,649	5,428	1,562	3,865
Central	23,963	52,770	43,465	10,491	32,974
Cody	31,810	21,621	7,268	1,483	5,785
Collins Garden	6,473	8,420	8,733	1,766	6,967
Cortez	5,133	9,968	4,974	1,412	3,562
Encino	17,263	12,215	3,566	386	3,180
Forest Hills	6,310	9,358	4,129	1,050	3,078
Great Northwest	23,613	15,439	6,231	1,532	4,699
Guerra	10,876	14,431	6,700	1,618	5,082
Igo	24,404	19,017	6,259	1,133	5,126
Johnston	9,557	12,300	6,299	1,363	4,935
Landa	12,230	11,896	2,518	695	1,823
Las Palmas	5,140	11,338	5,280	1,854	3,425
Maverick	22,323	11,968	5,771	1,900	3,871
McCreless	10,448	14,025	5,813	1,583	4,230
Memorial	6,482	9,678	5,707	1,664	4,043
Mission	10,821	20,639	9,461	2,430	7,031
Pan American	6,721	7,430	4,723	1,669	3,054
Parman	25,250	22,115	5,272	706	4,566
Potranco	16,180	14,920	11,834	594	11,239
Pruitt	6,107	17,859	5,637	1,306	4,331
San Pedro	3,666	6,066	2,743	599	2,144
Schaefer	25	0	1,159	0	1,159
Semmes	23,132	17,149	7,081	1,826	5,255
Thousand Oaks	9,935	13,362	7,021	1,239	5,782
Tobin	16,652	16,289	5,565	1,714	3,851
Westfall	14,650	17,094	8,467	2,201	6,267
Kampmann Library Portal	N/A	1,542	464	N/A	464
Interlibrary Loan Lending	573	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	74,330	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	100,139	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	557,414	434,636	212,236	49,350	162,882

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

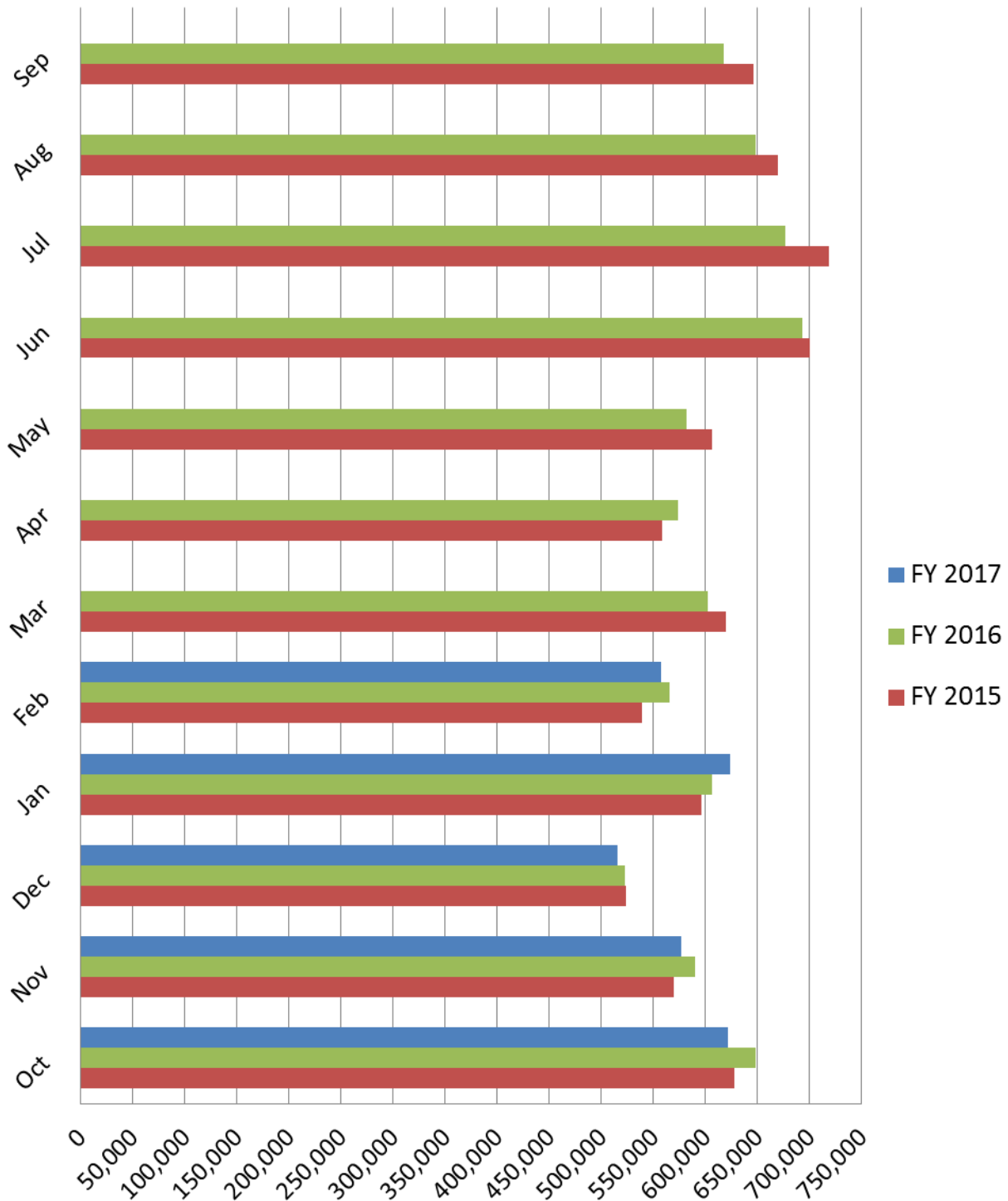
San Antonio Public Library

February 2017 Programs and Attendance

Location	Total Programs	Number of Programs			Total Program Attendance	Adult Program Attendance	Teen Program Attendance	Children's Program Attendance
		Adult	Teen	Children's				
Bazan	39	16	4	19	237	81	21	135
Brook Hollow	47	7	8	32	1,023	80	30	913
Carver	68	29	8	31	968	435	58	475
Central	156	24	97	35	2,077	403	917	757
Cody	34	6	4	24	737	72	46	619
Collins Garden	33	3	3	27	510	33	19	458
Cortez	83	55	4	24	704	126	87	491
Encino	72	26	9	37	1,225	203	92	930
Forest Hills	30	11	0	19	478	104	0	374
Great Northwest	31	7	10	14	1,540	70	250	1,220
Guerra	32	6	5	21	638	85	173	380
Igo	56	16	17	23	1,534	143	297	1,094
Johnston	33	12	8	13	386	140	109	137
Landa	64	6	16	42	1,374	26	61	1,287
Las Palmas	22	10	4	8	198	131	8	59
Maverick	23	3	0	20	725	37	0	688
McCreless	18	4	4	10	335	68	34	233
Memorial	17	5	3	9	95	32	11	52
Mission	58	26	8	24	1,032	476	98	458
Pan American	23	13	5	5	187	157	4	26
Parman	82	26	8	48	1,418	260	99	1,059
Potranco	38	9	12	17	768	72	98	598
Pruitt	65	15	29	21	1,433	190	641	602
San Pedro	3	1	0	2	46	31	0	15
Schaefer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Semmes	33	3	2	28	750	13	44	693
Thousand Oaks	21	5	6	10	288	47	95	146
Tobin	44	9	5	30	887	118	113	656
Westfall	41	17	4	20	395	92	33	270
Kampmann Library Portal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Read Wagon	86	0	0	86	924	0	0	924
TOTAL	1,352	370	283	699	22,912	3,725	3,438	15,749

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures

FY 17:

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

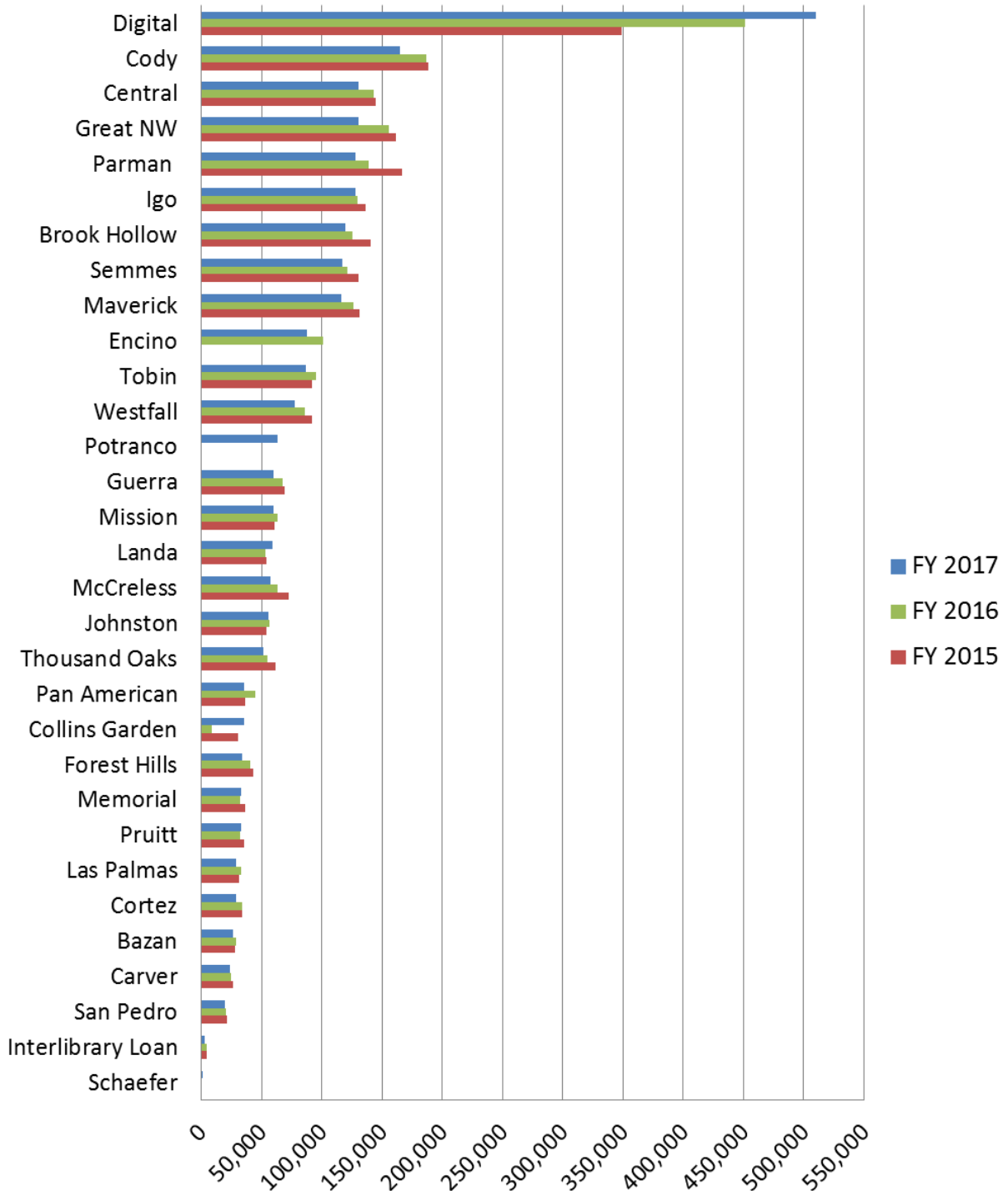
FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, * Opening: Encino April 30

* Openings: Potranco Nov 4

03/14/2017

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Feb



Location Closures

FY 17:

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

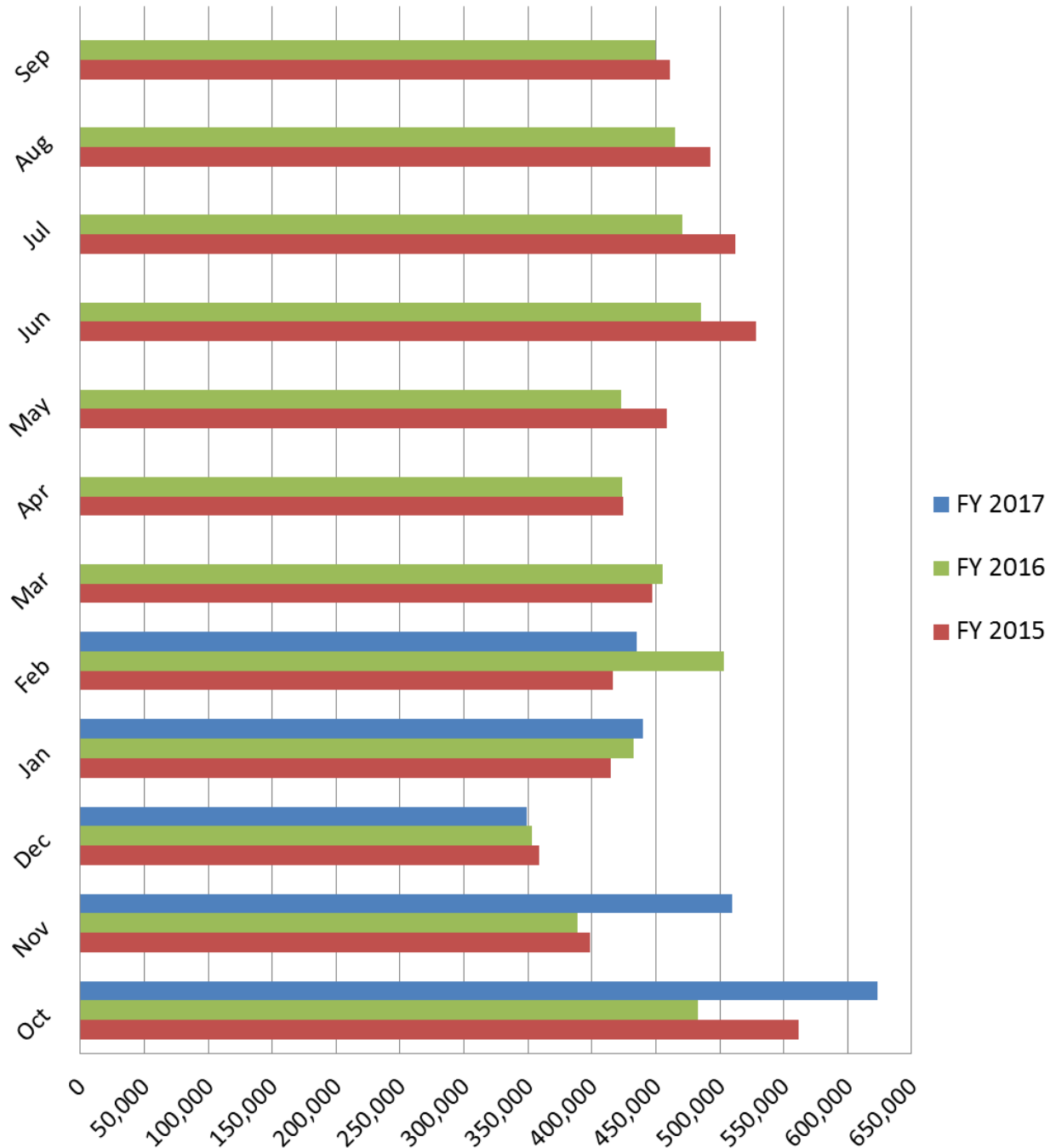
FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, * Opening: Encino April 30

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03/14/2017

San Antonio Public Library

Visits



Location Closures

FY 17:

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

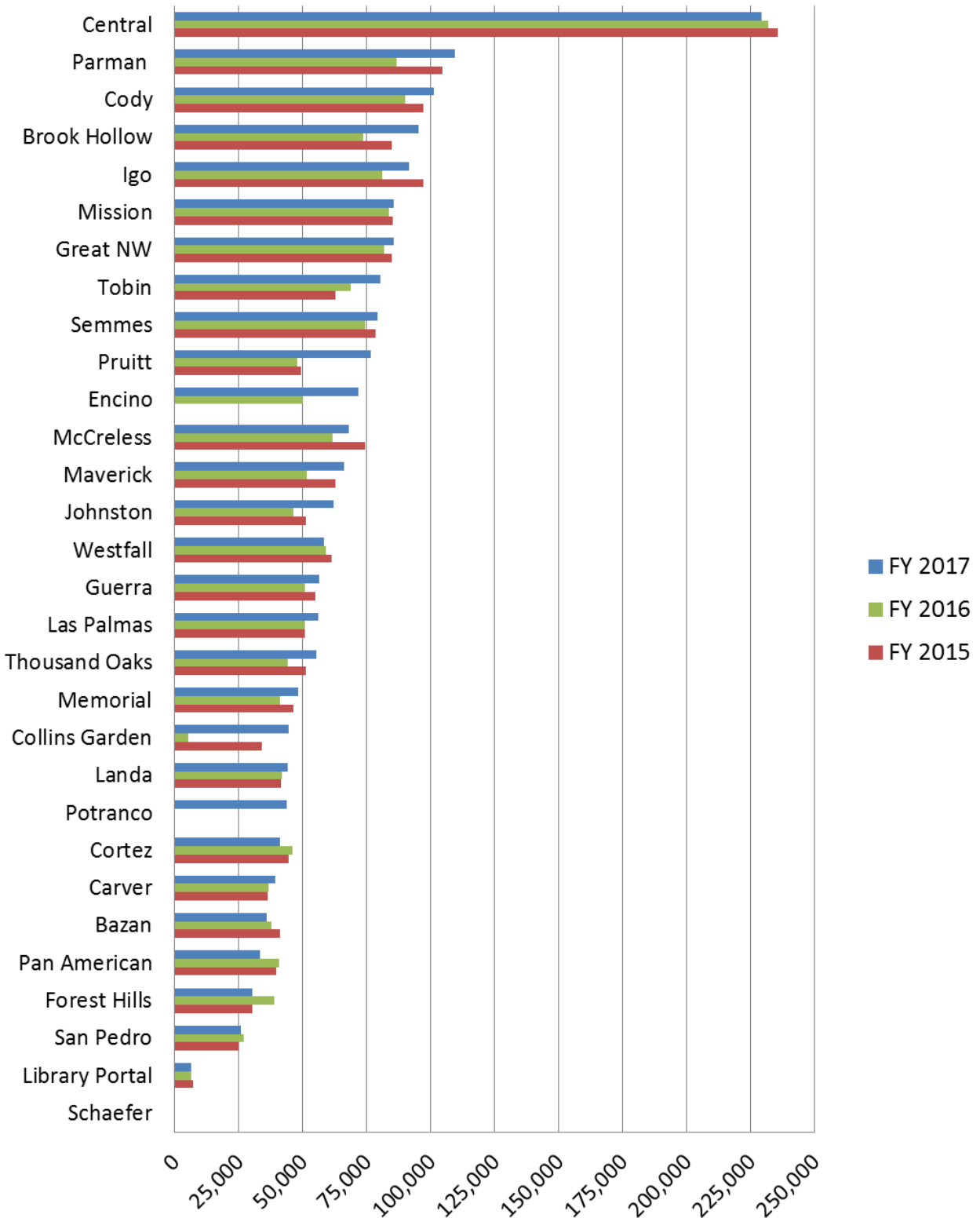
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San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Feb



Location Closures

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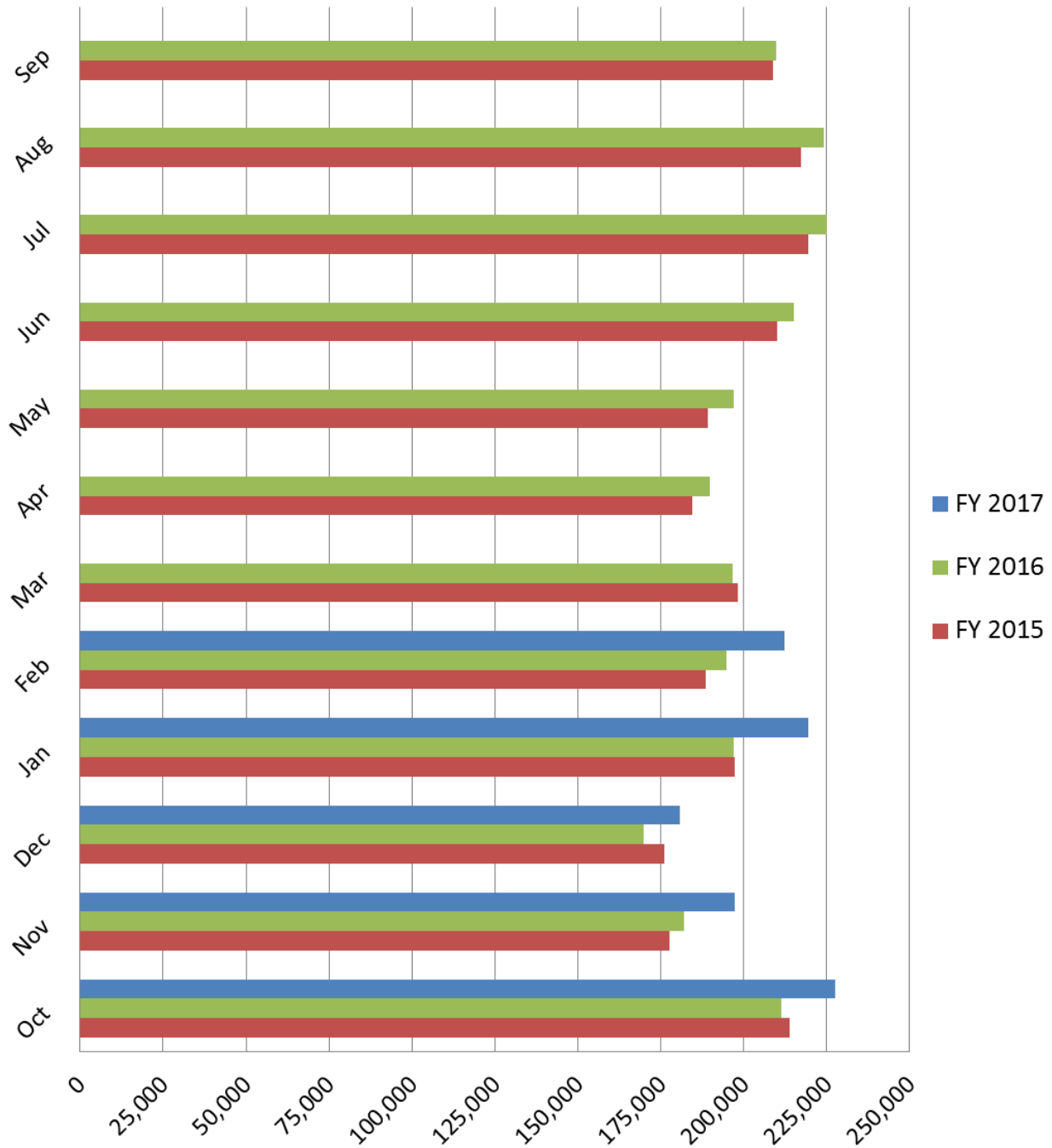
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03/14/2017

San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Computer&Wi-Fi Use



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

Location Closures

FY 17:

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

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03/14/2017