



San Antonio Public Library
Director's Report
March 2018

SA Pop Con- Saturday, March 3, 2018

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE



The San Antonio Public Library organized an inaugural San Antonio Pop Con event on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at the Central Library. Mayor Nirenberg and State Representative Bernal attended and delivered remarks during the kick-off program. Similar to the Alamo Area Comic Con, attendees were encouraged to wear costumes (cosplay) representing pop culture and comic book characters. The day-long event included panel discussions, artists, authors, gaming, and activities for all ages.



Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with Councilwoman Ana Sandoval (D7) on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 to discuss possible opportunities to partner with the Leon Valley Public Library to provide library services to District 7 residents who live in close proximity to the Leon Valley Public Library. Library Administration will contact the Director of the Leon Valley Public Library to begin a dialogue on possible partnership opportunities. Additionally, the TextShare Program, a reciprocal library borrowing program that both San Antonio Public Library and the Leon Valley Public Library participate, was identified as another resource to promote to District 7 constituents as a way to access the collections of the Leon Valley Public Library.



Individuals associated with the Firefighter's Union initiative to circulate petitions developed by the Union have visited several Library locations to solicit signatures for these petitions. Library Staff have redirected these individuals to the Library's Free Speech Areas or to the public sidewalk/row. Library locations on City property have identified Free Speech Areas designed to provide the public with a specific location for freedom of expression purposes.

The Library will post signs provided by the City Manager's Office and the Office of City Attorney informing the public of their rights as it pertains to considering signing a petition. The Library continues to communicate with the City Manager's Office and the Office of the City Attorney as needed.

MARKETING



Top media hits for the past month include: a panel discussion with U.S. Congressman Joaquin Castro and House Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi held at Central Library was featured by the Express News and News 4 WOAI; Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse and local artist John Picacio appeared live on News 4 WOAI's 6:30 p.m. evening news on Wednesday, February 21 to promote Pop Con at Central Library; Coordinator of Services to Adults Haley Holmes was interviewed during The Source on Texas Public Radio with artists David Liss and John Picaccio on Tuesday, February 27 to promote Pop Con; Latino Collection and Resource Center Coordinator Emma Hernandez was featured on The Source on Texas Public Radio on Wednesday, February 28 as an expert source in Latino literature and Rudolfo Anaya's book Bless Me Ultima; Brook Hollow Branch Library was mentioned in a number of stories related to early voting and the primary elections; GetYourGeekOn.org published a blog post with photos about the San Antonio Public Library's first-ever Pop Con; Fox 29 and News 4 WOAI featured a recap of Pop Con on Saturday, March 3; KSAT 12 Reporter Josh Skurnik interviewed Senior Public Information Officer Marcie Hernandez about Spring Break activities happening at the Library; and Library Journal named Latino Collection and Resource Center Coordinator Emma Hernandez a 2018 Mover & Shaker



The design team has created materials to prepare for several programs, events and other design support as needed: March newsletter; Mission City Film Festival bag, invitation, and awards; Our Family Reads March materials; Tricentennial Education Day flyer; Summer Reading promotional campaign; Engaged Spaces call for artists; Texana Voices of San Antonio History Libguide; Human Library banner; delivery van concept wraps; Vroom Van wrap; Schaefer fiesta medal, tote bags and LP bags; and Cody, Mission and Parman signage.



The team is currently planning for Our Family Reads- District 2, Mini Maker Faire, San Antonio Book Festival, Mission City Film Festival Award Ceremony and Screening, Our Family Reads- District 3 and several high profile events scheduled for May.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:

The San Antonio Public Library's Facebook page was viewed over 52,000 times during Pop Con on Saturday, March 3rd.

192 people from Austin follow the San Antonio Public Library on Facebook.

San Antonio Public Library tweets average 4 retweets per post.

75% of San Antonio Public Library's Instagram followers are women.

Social Media statistics for the month:

1. Facebook: 15,193 page likes
2. Twitter: 4,333 followers
3. Instagram: 2,350 followers
4. Snapchat: 117 followers

DIGITAL SERVICES



Digital Services Manager Ron Suszek attended the Technology Conference at South by Southwest in Austin, Texas. The conference was a high-quality learning opportunity that provided an actively engaging, interdisciplinary approach to understanding some of the most innovative and equity-based concepts being employed by city government and community action groups across the nation. Understanding how technology is being used (or misused) by different sectors to address, or in many instances significantly disrupt some of the most important facets of civic life, is a critical component for SAPL as we strive to provide citizens with access to reliable and unbiased information and usable, impactful learning resource tools to create a more relevant and equitable library experience. The conference was inspiring in that it helped in identifying opportunities for the library to actively engage in becoming a change agent for issues as diverse as dyslexia and open data.



Tricia Masterson (Digital Library Services Analyst), Rolf Laun (Digital Library Services Supervisor), and Mr. Suszek are participating as subject matter experts on the advisory panel for the Library's procurement process for the replacement of our Integrated Library System. The panel is reviewing

proposals and beginning to construct criteria for potential providers to use in producing system demos in the upcoming weeks.



On March 3, Ms. Masterson participated in the Library's first PopCon, ensuring the technology needed for the event was in place and working. PopCon celebrated all things popular culture, including books, graphic novels, and gaming.



Adam Spana, previously at the Cody Branch Library, took on the position of Digital Library Services Specialist starting March 3. Mr. Spana had previously worked in the department several years ago and the unit is excited to have him back again.



Digital Library Services Assistant Mike Sheehan has begun work on a computer project to improve the efficiency of the Digital Services unit. Currently billed as Digital Services Plus, the application centralizes a lot of the unit's daily tasks and procedures into a single, easy to use interface.



Digital Library Services Assistants Christina Hess and Andrea Silva, in cooperation with Texana/Genealogy, have begun displaying the Voices of San Antonio History videos on the main display in the Kampmann Library Portal. This living history project features interviews with prominent San Antonians who have made an impact on the cultural landscape of San Antonio.

LITTLE READ WAGON



Every Child Ready to Read Workshops were presented at: Early Head Start at Ella Austin, Medio Creek Elementary, Westwood Terrace Head Start, Avance Fatherhood program, Sky Harbour Elementary, Huppertz Elementary, Pre-K 4SA East, Pre-K 4SA North, and Pre-K 4SA South.



Workshops for teen parents were presented at Taft, Kennedy, Jay, and Lee high schools. A special story time for teen parents and their children was presented at Northside Independent School District's Growing Tree.



Routine outreach story time programs were presented at St. Phillip's Early Childhood Center. The new three-visit story time programs were presented at Nite Owl, Summerlin, and Discovery World. A one-time story time plus play dough, art, and blocks was offered to the families at Valley Ranch Community Center. Early Head Start at Healy Murphy invited Little Read Wagon to read to the toddlers and two year-olds in celebration of Read Across America day.



A week of reading tents was offered at Knox Early Childhood Education Center. A one-time reading tent event was set up for pre-k and Head Start families at Palo Alto Elementary with help from Kathy Armbruster (Cortez Library) at the request of Library Board member Ms. Andrea Sanchez.



The Play & Learn series at Woodlawn Lake Park has been very well-attended, as anticipated. The event on March 15, during spring break, drew at least 100 people. A one-time Play & Learn event was hosted during spring break at Dellview Park, which will be the site of a summer Play & Learn series. This event drew a smaller crowd due to competition with KLRN events at the same time.



Elizabeth Huber, Clair Larkin, and Cresencia Huff presented at the National Latino Children's Literature Conference held at the University of Texas at San Antonio Downtown. There was positive feedback for the presentation highlighting the portrayal of Latina characters in children's picture books. The rest of the conference was also very robust with sessions on a wide variety of topics related to Latino children's literature.



At the March Children's Services meeting, Ms. Larkin demonstrated "Roly Poly," a fun song that encourages children to cross the mid-line and act out opposites. Mary Grace Moreno helped with children's activities at the first annual Pop Con.



All of the Little Read Wagon team thoroughly enjoyed Staff Transformation Day. Ms. Moreno completed Defensive Driving and is now able to drive the Little Read Wagon vans.



Ms. Huff had an information table at literacy events hosted by Gallardo and Kindred elementary schools. Ms. Huff was accompanied by Kathy Armbruster (Cortez) at the South San Independent School District Careers on Wheels. This annual event is an opportunity to meet all the 2nd grade students in the district and their teachers. Julia Lazarin had a table at the Carroll Early Childhood Center resource fair. Megan Cruz assisted Viki Ash at KLRN's Super Why event at Woodlawn Lake Park. Ms. Cruz reported speaking with many regular Play & Learn participants as well as new families.

CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)



Branch Play & Learn programming kicked off on Saturday, March 17 with a Dinosaur Day at Memorial Branch Library. Throughout the spring, twenty-three branches will host dinosaur-themed Play & Learn sessions designed to give young children and their caregivers opportunities to talk, sing, read, write and play together thus supporting the development of early literacy skills.



Ten branches will be celebrating National Unicorn Day in early April with unicorn stories and opportunities to explore the joys of homemade puffy paint. In keeping with basic tenants of early childhood education this art activity emphasizes process rather than product. The puffy paint experience promises some good messy fun without the worry of "getting it right." Instead, it is all about exploring a new art medium and finding out how it works.



And of course, Summer Reading is just around the corner. The Summer Reading Kids Time Committee, under the capable leadership of Kate Simpson (Central Children's), previewed their recommended programs during the monthly Children's Librarians meeting on March 8. In honor of the Tricentennial, all of this summer's programs relate to San Antonio in some way. From the Spurs to the military, to the San Antonio Zoo, summer program attendees will have opportunities to read and learn a lot about the city as part of our *Adventures in Library Land*.



Work continues on the 2018 Young Pegasus Awards Competition. Letters of congratulations went out to 52 poets on March 6 announcing the selection of their poems for publication in this year's anthology. Three of the poets will have two poems included while one has a total of three included raising the total number of poems in this year's anthology to 57. The anthology will go to the Marketing Department for layout and design as soon as all the poets have returned their release forms and advised the library of any editorial corrections that might be needed. The award ceremony is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 6 at the Guadalupe Theatre. All Library Board members are cordially invited to attend.



Children's Coordinator Viki Ash is serving on the Planning Committee for the 2018 United Way Kids Festival. The Festival is an official Fiesta event, co-sponsored by the Texas Cavaliers. Held annually in Lockwood Park, on San Antonio's East side, this year's event is scheduled for Saturday, April 28. The library will host one of about 60 booth activities for children and families to enjoy. And of course, the booth will also distribute information about summer reading.



Educational Events:

February 16: SAISD State of the District Breakfast at the Pearl

March 6: *Rivard Report* Education Summit Luncheon: Early Childhood Education at the Mays Family Center, Witte Museum.

March 7: PreK 4 SA Grants Showcase at Launch SA, Central Library



Community Outreach Events:

February 28: Family Literacy Night at SAISD's Advanced Learning Academy

March 10: KLRN "Super Why" event at Pearsall Park with Kathy Armbruster (Cortez) and Beverly Wrigglesworth (Johnson)

March 12: KLRN "Super Why" event at Lockwood Park with Carolyn Bradley (Central Admin)

March 13: KLRN "Super Why" event at Woodlawn Park with Megan Cruz (Little Read Wagon)

TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)



Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor and Megan Coker (Teen Services Librarian I, Tobin), have begun a partnership with Premier High School of San Antonio, a charter school that gives non-traditional students an alternative approach to the conventional public school education systems. The faculty spends their days supporting students that are working to prepare for their GED and college application. The library's role in the partnership is to give the students a break from their diligent work efforts, and lead a story time. Adam and Megan spend 30-45 minutes with three classes reading a book of their choice, which has to this point been Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time*. The students have fully engaged with the reading and a strong relationship has been developed with an institution that is often overlooked in the education system of San Antonio.



Jennifer Velasquez (Coordinator of Teen Services) and Dr. Viki Ash (Coordinator of Children's Services) hosted a meeting of about 20 elementary through high school librarians from East Central ISD in the Teen Library at Central on March 7. Jennifer met with the group to discuss library spaces. Viki helped them to visualize their summer plans. The librarians were also interested in how the SAPL shelves materials, so Carla Conrad (Shelving Manager) met with the group.



On February 26, YALSA hosted a workshop featuring Linda Braun, author and former YALSA president, entitled *Engaging with Teens in Your Library*. Teen services librarians from large and small libraries in Texas attended the all-day workshop, including several teen services librarians from SAPL.



On March 14, Teen Services Librarians from around the system met at Igo Library for their regularly scheduled professional workgroup meeting. Teen Services Librarian I Matthew Loaiza provided a tour of the teen space for the group.



Assistant Director Dale McNeill and J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant in the Teen Library @ Central) are a match in the SAPL's mentoring program. As part of their upcoming final project, Dale and J.D. visited with several city leaders so that J.D. can focus on leadership skills. J.D. interviewed TCI Director Mike Frisbie during the rating period.



While Pop Con went on all around at the Central Library, teens were coming in and out excited at the swag, autographs, and costumed participants they encountered. Things at the Teen Library took on a prehistoric approach. At the request of teen volunteer extraordinaire Esteban, who made the list of crafts and food crafts, the Teen Library had a *Jurassic Park* party. With the added excitement of wearing T-Rex costumes, teens watched dinosaur movies, ate popcorn, had iced T(ea) Rex, water, and a blood red punch. Perler beads were set out to create dinosaurs or *Jurassic Park* logo bead sprite magnets. Teens also used construction paper and balloons to create mega-cute balloon dinosaurs. For a super fun treat, teens made prehistoric pudding cups, using chocolate pudding, crushed up graham crackers, chocolate eggs, chocolate rocks, and gummy things to create layers and mini-edible-dioramas. They also tried to recreate the mosquito encased in amber (as seen in the movie) by making hard candy lollipops. A misreading of the instructions led teens to put gummy worms, intended to be the "mosquito" in the center, in their boiling sugar mixture, creating a whole new kind of lollipop. As the gummy worms melted, the teens realized that food coloring was no longer needed nor was candy flavoring. Extra careful with the hot liquid, they used a dome-shaped mold and lollipop sticks.

Many thanks to the Pop Con folks who loaned teens the use of not one, but two, T-REX costumes. Teens had a blast heading out and running into Pop Con goers who approached them for pictures. Those who wore the costume wore it proudly and respectfully for the family-friendly event. Watching them get in and out of the elevator was definitely a highlight.



The Teen Library @ Central received a request from Roseann Garcia with the Government and Public Affairs video production team. The team is producing a series of videos to highlight the City's employees' work with the community, and they asked if they could get stories from teens and staff in the Teen library to highlight what Teen Services offers for teens in the community. Two teen volunteers were interviewed, as well as library assistants, J.D. Elizondo and Regina Almanza.

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)



Coordinator of Services for Adults Haley Holmes co-chaired the Staff Transformation Day planning committee along with the Manager of the Organizational Health Unit Roberta Sparks. The committee was comprised of the members of the Re-Visionaries group. Staff Transformation Day was held on February 19 at El Tropicano Hotel and included keynote speakers, four break-out session periods with 34 session options, staff recognition, the retirement of Libro and the introduction of the new mascot Smarty, and more. Feedback from staff was very positive. The morning speaker, Shark Tank, Speed Meeting with Library Leadership, and SAPL trivia all received high scores when reviewed.



Coordinator of Services for Adults Haley Holmes participated in an interview on Texas Public Radio's *The Source* to talk about Pop Con with artist John Picacio and author David Liss. Pop Con was held on March 3 at the Central Library and had about 2,100 attendees. Tobin Branch Assistant Manager Rhonda Woolhouse led the committee made up of many staff from throughout the system to plan the day's events and programs. The kick off remarks included Ramiro "the Riddler" Salazar, Mayor Ron

Nirenberg, and State Representative Diego Bernal. Twelve panel discussions were held with many local speakers touching on subjects such as Fan Fiction, Cosability (cosplay for people with disabilities), and covering a variety of fandoms. Special guests, artist Armand Baltazar and writer C. Robert Cargill, both spoke and were available for signatures and conversation. Many other activities continued throughout the day including artist and author areas, an anime room with performances, video gaming and board games, and virtual reality demos. The Teen Library had activities based on *Jurassic Park*, and the Children's floor hosted many crafts for children including wand making. Many attendees came dressed in costume, and the cosplay competition in the auditorium at the end of the day was standing room only.



The San Antonio Public Library participates in the Community Partner Program through the Texas Health and Human Services Department to provide internet access to residents in order to access state benefits. Ms. Holmes serves as the liaison for the library and recently attended a full day training held at the San Antonio Food Bank to learn about updates and enhancements to the services offered.



The Women's History Month workgroup has put together several programs for the time period. Author and Trinity Professor Coleen Grissom spoke at the Central Library about her life as a woman working in a predominately male profession. She also introduced the audience to her favorite strong female fictional characters and women authors she would recommend everyone read. Dr. Grissom is both funny and inspirational and was a perfect representative of the month's theme "Nevertheless She Persisted: Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women."



The San Antonio Public Library is hosting the first Mission City Film Festival. Entries were accepted through March 15, and a total of 58 eligible films were submitted in the five categories. Judges will soon be deciding on winners, and the prizes will be awarded at a ceremony and screening on April 11 at the Santikos Silverado.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S



The Central Children's Department was the scene of geeky family fun during SAPL's Pop Con event. Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez and Librarian Nicole Cubillas took the lead in developing and preparing a variety of children's activities for the day's celebrations. Over the course of several months, they explored options and honed in on specific activities that suited a festival environment and highlighted popular children's books. Their thoughtful planning and preparation made the children's portion of Pop Con a huge hit with families and garnered extensive praise. Since Pop Con panels took place in the Story Room, the West and East Terraces were activated as the exciting venues for *Harry Potter* wand and bookmark making, superhero costume design and photo ops, droid building, and comic book creation! Over 300 children of all ages, and adults as well, delighted in the array of activities and the special experience of spending time on the terraces. Jacqueline Gonzales, the department's MLS practicum student, was instrumental in keeping the activity stations running, the volunteers trained, and the visitors oriented to the day's offerings. The entire Children's Department team was on hand to assist families during the fun-filled day and spent many hours preparing the activities in the weeks leading up to the event.



The Central Children's Department ushered in the spring season with a change of décor. Library Assistant and resident artist Ana Sandoval designed a whimsical new look for the castle structure that greets families at the top of the escalator. She crafted detailed silhouettes of children reading and playing

and arranged them on the castle along with colorful shapes, creating an eye-catching and inspiring display. A children's art gallery was created on the back of the castle at the change of the season. Many return customers have since delighted in spotting their artwork on display. Library Assistant Judith Slaughter unveiled a passive programming scavenger hunt activity in the Toddler Play Area. Young children are challenged to find the 12 images of gnomes hidden throughout the space, in a scaled down, simple version of a traditional scavenger hunt, to the delight of many a toddler and preschooler.



Ms. Cubillas highlighted Women's History Month with a "Wonder Women" display, featuring imagery of the comic book super heroine and a variety of books about strong and pioneering women and girls. The Children's Department used spring as a starting point for experimenting with new displays and collection promotion strategies. In addition to featuring different types of material in displays, including media, the team created thematic multimedia bundles for check out, some including activity and song sheets for added enticement.



During Spring Break, the Children's team each developed a *Come & Go Craft* for presentation during the busy afternoon hours. Many families returned to participate in the craft of the day, often leaving their creations for display in the children's art gallery. The *Spring Break Come & Go Crafts* were a hit due in large part to a KSAT 12 news story that featured the activities as well as Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin's *Toddler Time*. A parent was interviewed for the segment and she raved about Ms. Seglin's program, calling it "the best in the city." The department was thrilled to benefit from this unexpected publicity!



Ms. Seglin's programs for young children, *Play & Learn* and *Toddler Time*, continued to be popular events this month. In celebration of the *Our Family Reads Mayor's Book Club*, Ms. Seglin presented a series of programs with an airplane theme in February. Toddlers participated in imaginative play with a toy airplane and hangar and contributed to a collaborative sky scene of blue butcher paper and white cloud die cuts they wrote their names on. Toy planes "flew" through bins of cotton balls and rice that had been dyed blue, as well as tubs of shaving cream "clouds"! The educational fun continued with a shapes and colors theme. Ms. Seglin blended creative expression with sensory experience in an activity that involved sticking colorful shapes onto different material like wax paper, plastic wrap, and parchment paper. She also made a colorful batch of green sparkly play dough for more sensory fun and facilitated gross motor skills development with large-scale shape sorting. Each child also held a different colored shape during the weekly "Toddler Parade"! Early childhood programming later focused on farm animals with a barnyard full of puppets, a sensory bin made of corn kernels, black beans and farm animal toys, and a sensory water station. Librarian Lea Ann McDonald and Ms. Cubillas presented *Play & Learn* and *Toddler Time* in Ms. Seglin's absence, focusing their programs on the springtime theme of baby animals. After sharing stories and rhymes, they presented dramatic play activities. Children pretended to feed and wash the baby animal toys, much to their delight. Ms. Cubillas and Ms. McDonald also developed crafts appropriate for toddlers and a measuring activity in which they compared their heights to those of baby animals.



Ms. McDonald continued her engaging *Family Fun* programs for devoted regular patrons. The science of plant growth was explored through stories and informative books. Children learned about the elements that plants need to grow, then practiced what they learned by planting different types of seeds in small containers to take home and grow. They also created flower crowns from recycled magazines and bug die cuts. In an unusual but interesting choice, Ms. McDonald did a program about

gargoyles! Families enjoyed a slideshow of famous gargoyles around the world and even in San Antonio. They created their own gargoyle paintings out of mixed media and traced gargoyle silhouettes using an overhead projector. Family Fun attendees explored another science topic when they examined rocks and listened to stories about mountains, volcanoes, and canyons. They gathered to use chalk (also a rock) to make a collaborative drawing of the Grand Canyon as well. Manager Kate Simpson lent her rock collection of petrified wood and geodes to the rock exploration station.



Ms. Cubillas led *Bilingual Family Fun* programming this month with a transportation theme. Families listened to bilingual stories about “things that go” and crafted airplanes from clothespins, as well as collages that spelled out the children’s names on train cars. Ms. Cubillas centered another program on birds, in which families created parrot images using their own handprints and constructed birdfeeders from pipe cleaners and cereal. In Ms. Cubillas’ absence, Manager Kate Simpson partnered with Emma Hernández, Latino Collection and Resource Center (LCRC) Coordinator, to present *Bilingual Family Fun*. They read books about colors in Spanish and English together in turn, and even led the group in a color song they learned especially for the program. The children then created colorful collages using tissue paper and watery glue. While their masterpieces dried, they engaged in imaginative play in a bilingual garden play center borrowed from the Little Read Wagon outreach department. They both enjoyed this collaborative experience and look forward to more opportunities to connect the Children’s Department and the Latino Collection and Resource Center.



Ms. Seglin presented story times to students at Madison Square Child Development Center, where she read books to two classes and delivered bags of books in support of the school’s curriculum this month.



Ms. Cubillas selected books and delivered them to Central Christian Childcare Center. Later, the preschool class visited the library for a special story time presented by Ms. Cubillas. Children listened to three stories and played with animal puppets.



Ms. McDonald continued her monthly visits to Green Acres Childcare where she shared stories and songs about peace, loving the world, and loving yourself with the preschoolers there. They also sang “Happy Birthday” to Dr. Seuss since it was his birthday!



Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez visited the San Antonio College Early Childhood Center for a monthly outreach visit conducted outside in the school’s playground. She also provided them with thematic book selections for use in the classroom.



Ms. McDonald represented the Library at Dorie Miller Elementary School's Career Day, where she shared with two classes of students information about what it is like to be a librarian. They were very interested in her work, asked many questions, and seemed very impressed with all the books she knew about!



In what has become a reoccurring event every semester, students from San Antonio College’s Early Childhood Studies program and the Family Services Association Early Childhood Education program visited the Central Children’s Department as part of their coursework. Central Children’s staff gathered book selections on a wide array of topics that were central to their education in

early childhood development, such as different family types, cycles of life, and multiculturalism. It can be time-consuming for the novice library user to track books like these down, so the students benefited greatly from the librarians' expertise in gathering materials for them.



Ms. Simpson and Ms. McDonald presented their work developing *Kids Time* program plans for the *Mayor's Summer Reading Program* at the March Children's Librarians Meeting. Ms. Simpson chaired the committee of five Children's Librarians, including Ms. McDonald, who crafted summer programming with the Tricentennial theme, under the guidance of Children's Services Coordinator Viki Ash. Their diverse plans drew from many different aspects of San Antonio culture and institutions. Crafts and activities highlighted everything from the San Antonio Spurs to the San Antonio Zoo, landmark buildings and musical traditions, the Military City, USA and River City monikers, and native animals including bats and even dinosaurs! The committee had a great time developing the activities and presenting them to their colleagues at the meeting, where they were very well received.

TEENS



Mondays with J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant): J.D. continued to facilitate Eclectic Electric music programming in the Teen Library's recording studio. Teens are invited to play instruments for fun and/or for school practice and record their music if they wish.



Wednesdays with Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT): Every Wednesday evening, Ciana opens up the lab in the Teen Library to assist teens with designing 3D models to print and finding printed models online. She also facilitates use of the Oculus Rift, a virtual reality headset loaded with games for teens.



Wednesdays with Adam Tutor (Library Services Specialist): Adam, the system's Teen Outreach Specialist, continued "Adam's Arts Industry," a new program in the Teen Library that utilizes his knowledge and skills as a musician, as well as his connections to community arts organizations. Adam is utilizing the recording studio to enhance community engagement and provide a space for professional musicians to connect with aspiring teen musicians.



Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Keeping things a little out of the ordinary, teens engaged in programs ranging from creative, cute, tasty, and skillful. Testing out hand-eye coordination, teens used pliers to open jump rings to attach charms and beads to chains. They attached lobster clasps to the ends of chains as well to wear as a necklace or use as a keychain.

Also, movies are shown on most nights, sometimes ones previously viewed, and sometimes with great soundtracks that make a pleasant background sound. But, not having known that the majority of the night's teens had read the book, watching the movie *Wonder* had them comparing it the book and entirely engrossed in the film. All hands were on deck for chopping and mixing as teens participated in a patron-requested program: making spinach artichoke dip. The voices of dissent of those hearing the words "spinach" and "artichoke" soon were soothed as they tasted the easily prepared dish. Using up leftover food craft items, teens created egg biscuit cups, an entirely cute item. Afterwards they engaged in some canvas collage art using washi tape, pipe cleaners, paper cutouts, and gems.

On the Thursday before their Spring Break began, teens took prepared peanut butter cookie dough to make turtle-shaped cookies, using the tines of the fork to create the shell and shaping small pieces of dough for legs and the head. They were undoubtedly very cute. Afterwards they enjoyed watching the newly released movie *Coco*. Spring Break Thursday at Teen Library was a low-key affair, so teens were able to have some one on one time, making spiders using melted caramels to shape eight spider legs

and nuts to create the body and head. Attaching the caramels to the body required the use of heat, which the teens handled like pros, taking care not to burn themselves or their spiders. After most Thursday night programs, teens enjoy bringing out the Wii-U to participate in video gaming that encourages cooperation, hand eye coordination, and helpful peer-to-peer teaching and learning. Pictures from Teen Library (and branch) programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary> and <http://www.instagram.com/210teenlibrary>.



On March 16, a group of teens from the YWCA visited the Teen Library to hang out in the space and use the studio. 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, and the Juvenile Detention Center made regular visits during the reporting period.



Classes from the Henry Ford Academy made regular visits to the Teen Library to use the computers and hang out in the space during the reporting period. In addition, a large class from Veterans Memorial High School visited the Teen Library to utilize the space during the reporting period. Groups of teens from area high schools (Fox Tech and Travis Early College) utilized the space for study.

REFERENCE



On March 3, the Central Library hosted Pop Con, a ground-breaking celebration of popular culture. Several Reference staff directly participated in the event. Other Reference staff supported regular Library services while also directing participants to their panel discussions and attendees to the various author/illustrator talks, gaming events, and cosplay competitions. In the auditorium, Reference Manager Marco de Leon hosted Robert C. Cargill, author of *Sea of Rust* and a contributing writer to *Marvel's Doctor Strange*.



As a participant, in preparation for Pop Con, Dan Garcia assisted in the selection of artists to invite. He made invitations; managed responses; and created and presented a final roster to submit to the Pop Con Committee. To make the artists' appearance possible, Mr. Garcia coordinated communications regarding required vendor forms and contracts. On the day of the event, he was the first point of contact for the artists: meeting them at the door; showing them where to unload; and escorting them to the artist area. In addition, Mr. Garcia moderated an engaging author panel and presentation with Pixar artist Armand Baltazar. Mr. Baltazar wrote the beautifully illustrated work *Timeless: Diego and the Rangers of the Vastlantic*. After the presentation, several children asked questions about the *Timeless* storyboarding process and how to be a career artist.



Cristine Mitchamore spent several hours training younglings (including the occasional adult) in the ways of the Force. Ms. Mitchamore mainly spent her time on lightsaber training, however; she enjoyed chasing and being chased by her trainees; several kids even grouped together to ensure Ms. Mitchamore went down in defeat. In the afternoon, Ms. Mitchamore helped organize a cosplay contest and appreciated the chance to slow down a bit.

TEXANA/GENEALOGY



Librarian Sylvia Reyna attended the February 24 *International Tricentennial Symposium: Spain's Encounter with the New World – "An Historical Perspective of the 300th Anniversary"* hosted by the Bexar County Commissioners Court under the direction of Dr. Felix D. Almaraz, Jr. and Dr. Paul T. Ringenbach.

Sessions discussed topics such as: Fray Antonio Olivares' homeland, Mission San Antonio de Valero, and Governor Martín de Alarcon and the Founding of Presidio San Antonio de Bexar. Guest speaker Frank Faulkner led a family history research class that dealt with "Federal Records in Genealogical Research." Researching and locating immigration, naturalization, military, and federal land records were the main topics of the program.



Librarian Andy Crews conducted a genealogy class entitled "Has Your Family History Already Been Written?" which focused on how to search for published family histories that can contain useful information.



Assistant manager Matt De Waelsche and Ms. Reyna attended the San Antonio Regional Archivist (SARA) meeting held March 2 at the Marion Archives at St. Mary's University. Discussion centered on the upcoming 2018 Society of Southwest Archivists Annual Meeting being held here in San Antonio May 23-26.



In honor of Texas History Month, Ms. Reyna organized a scavenger hunt for 7th grade history students from New Frontiers Academy. The theme of the hunt was historical people and events from the past 300 years. While the 18 students were learning about local and state history with the assistance of Texana staff, they were also learning how to use valuable research tools like databases, microfilm machines, and the library catalog.

LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER



The Latino Collection and Resource Center partnered with Gemini Ink to host "San Antonio's Literary History: A Platica with Tomas Ybarra Frausto and Bryce Milligan" on Thursday, February 22. The program drew 65 attendees. This was the debut reading of the newly published *Literary San Antonio* (TCU Press) and included a panel composed of San Antonio and Texas Poet Laureate Jenny Browne, journalist and cultural historian Cary Clack, and San Antonio book collector extraordinaire Bill Fisher.



The Latino Collection and Resource Center Coordinator Emma Hernandez attended and presented at the National Latino Children's Literature Conference on February 24. Her presentation served as an introduction to the LCRC's history and program offerings. The 3-day conference, which drew attendees from across the nation, concluded with a tour of the Latino Collection and Resource Center at Central Library.



The Latino Collection and Resource Center participated in the "Love and Libros" library giveaway in partnership with SAISD at the Frank Garrett Center on Tuesday, February 27. Attendees were able to enter a raffle to win a "Little Free Library" constructed by students of Lanier High School and stocked with a selection of bilingual and bicultural books. The Latino Collection and Resource Center collaborated with

SAISD to curate the titles selected. Emma Hernandez informed over 100 attendees of library services over the course of the evening.



The Latino Collection and Resource Center Coordinator provided expertise for Texas Public Radio's February 28 episode of *The Source* discussing *Bless Me, Última*, a quintessential title of the Chicano Literary Movement.



AP Spanish Students from Fox Tech visited the Latino Collection and Resource Center to tour the Mexican – American artwork featured within the Latino Collection gallery and the temporary 'Momo and Pompa' exhibit in Central Library's gallery, as well as to write comparative essays in Spanish. The group of 40 students visited the Latino Collection on March 7 and 8. .

The LCRC hosted the program "Universidad Sin Fronteras: A Xicano Retrospective" which included a panel of artists (David Zamora Casas and Deborah Vasquez), musicians (Juan Tejeda), and local activists. The panelists shared their perspectives on San Antonio's Tricentennial celebrations, highlighting the city's indigenous roots and the continued fight for social justice.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN



Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen presented a special Family Fun celebration on Dr. Seuss Day which included a reading of *The Cat in the Hat*, followed by a fun craft in which children made a Cat in the Hat mask.



The Bazan Branch Bad Girls Romance Book Club met on February 24 for their monthly meeting. The group discussed *Grey* by E.L. James, coinciding with the last release of the film and Valentine's Day. The group also discussed a movie day outside of the branch.



On February 28, Bazan's Coloring for Grown-Ups group gathered for their monthly coloring session and was delighted to have two regular library customers join in. One customer shared some wonderful news about why she loves the library: after several years of facing homelessness, she explained that she was able to finally find a home through the San Antonio Housing Authority and thanked us for being her home when she didn't have one. She added that she had been in some trouble in the past and that at the library she had found a safe space where she could indulge her passion for music.



On March 3, Library Assistant Enedina Prater helped at Pop Con which she recounted was a wonderful experience. She assisted in the author's area and connected with many wonderful customers who gave her a tremendous amount of positive feedback about the event.



Teen librarian Georgina Salinas continued hosting teen programs on Mondays and Wednesdays in the teen space. Ms. Salinas has developed a great relationship with the teens at the branch and they are often seen visiting her at the reference desk sharing stories and chatting. Teens

have also enjoyed working on various Perler Bead designs, making Cubeecraft figures, and playing YuGiOh! with each other during teen programming. In addition, on Saturday, March 17, Bazan hosted another *Teen Open Writing Workshop*, this time with Jim LaVilla-Havelin leading the group of creative teens.



Teen Librarian Georgina Salinas and Library Assistant Enedina Prater joined Training Officer Michelle Rickman from Westfall at Haven for Hope to promote library resources to families at the resource fair held March 9. Ms. Salinas and Prater shared valuable resources and information on various programs for all ages offered at Bazan Library.



Bazan Library had the pleasure to host a group of teenagers visiting from the Dallas Wesley-Rankin Community Center. The group toured various cities in the state during their spring break week studying Mexican-American civil rights in Texas. Bazan was a destination stop for the group along with several San Antonio historical landmarks. Special guests Carmen Tafolla and Juan Tejeda visited the group at Bazan discussing activism with the community and music's role in activism and cultural pride, respectively.

BROOK HOLLOW



On Tuesday, February 20, the Children's Librarian Rachael Barrera conducted the branch's monthly *STEM Story Time*. In addition to the regular story time activities, the children listened to stories and learned all about gravity. The families that attended were given opportunities to conduct their own gravity experiments at the end of the program.



On Tuesday, February 27, the branch held a *Mo-town Dance Party* for its preschoolers. After a brief story time, the families were able to dance along with some classic songs. The children used scarves, shaker eggs, and even a parachute to move to the sounds of the music. Refreshments and decorations were provided by the Friends of the Brook Hollow Library.



On Tuesday, March 6, Ms. Barrera presented *Play and Learn: Colors* where children and their caregivers learned while being given opportunities to engage in the five early literacy practices of talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing.



During the reporting period, teens at Brook Hollow had fun crafting and playing games. Most of the programs were facilitated by Brook Hollow Circulation Attendant Kimberly King who led the teens in a variety of activities including button making and creating designs with perler beads. On February 28, teens had fun playing the classic board game Battleship with Library Aide Emily Winkler.



On February 21, the Wednesday Evening Book Group discussed *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi. The novel tells the story about two sisters who are separated at birth and follows the descendant of each sister until present day. The book group members really enjoyed the story and hope to read more like it.



On March 17, Brook Hollow hosted a movie screening of *Suffragette* in honor of Women's History month.

CARVER



Black History Month activities in February drew to a close at Carver Branch with “Magnifying the Beauty of the Community”, a forum to celebrate the cultural heritage of the East Side.



Staff then turned their attention to Women’s History Month and on March 3 welcomed the African American Quilt Circle of San Antonio for a one-day exhibit called *Artistic Expressions of Our Heritage*. In addition to showcasing fascinating quilt designs, the exhibit also featured various quilting techniques and ways in which African American quilters promote culture and traditions while spotlighting what organizer Karen Robinson called, “the diverse creative styles of the women that created each piece.”



In honor of Mayor Ron Nirenberg’s Our Family Reads book club initiative and its March social justice emphasis, a voter education forum was held on March 15 featuring Commissioner Tommy Calvert, Jr. and Alamo Colleges political science professor Margaret Richardson-Taylor.



Assistant Branch Manager Monty Holcomb hosted four chess events which continue to be well attended by a variety of patrons. Mr. Holcomb also hosted four Teen Time events with the Wii. Mr. Holcomb also continued to host the District 2 Senior Center Book Club, making three visits to the center, and he is pleased that this club not only has a consistent core group attending but had three new people join the group within the last month.

CODY



During *Story Time* on February 21, the branch hosted a Preschool Dance Party with Motown Music. Children danced to classic Motown songs with egg shakers, ribbons, stuffed animals, and a parachute.



Children’s Librarian Kristin Yourdon visited Larkspur Elementary School on February 22 to attend their Reading Restaurant night. Yourdon spoke with parents about the benefits of having a library card and handed out library card applications.



During *Tween Time* on February 26, tweens competed in a STEM structural engineering challenge. Tweens had to build the tallest structure that they could using only toothpicks, straws, and marshmallows. After a half hour of building time, tweens tested the sturdiness of their structures by placing them on a tray of gelatin and shaking it for 15 seconds. The tallest structure that withstood our “earthquake” was the winner.



Yourdon visited the Gan Gani Preschool on February 27 to read to four different classes at the school.



On February 28, the branch celebrated Dr. Seuss’ birthday with games, crafts, and activities for the whole family. Families took part in games designed around some of Dr. Seuss’ famous books. Kids fished for *One Fish, Two Fish* fishes, played Up, Up, Up with the Fish from *The Cat in the Hat*, used their sense of hearing to guess what was concealed in four different covered cans to represent *Horton Hears a Who*, etc.



Yourdon visited the Blue Roof School on March 1 for a Dr. Seuss story time. Yourdon performed a puppet show based on *The Cat in the Hat* for the children and sang a few Dr. Seuss themed songs with them.



On March 5, the tweens learned how to play *Sushi Go*, a card game where they had to collect sushi to earn points. Tweens also made candy sushi.



Yourdon visited the Locke Hill Elementary School on March 6 for the last meeting of the Writing Wizards Club. During this meeting, Yourdon handed out copies of the Literary Zine that the club members had put together. Club members showed off the artwork, short stories, and poetry that were printed in the Zine.



That evening, Yourdon visited the Fernandez Elementary School for a literacy night. Yourdon first presented about some of the library services available to library patrons for the parents who attended the event. Then Yourdon presented a story time for the children who attended the event.



The Country Home Learning Center visited the Cody library on March 7 for a special pirate story time.



During *Kid's Time* on March 14, kids learned how to make St. Patrick's Day slime and created bubble art by mixing bubble solution with food coloring and then blowing bubbles at a piece of paper. When the bubbles popped, a unique bubble design was left on their page.



During the March 15 *Come & Go Crafts* program, kids decorated shamrocks and rainbows with glue, then sprinkled salt over the glue, and used watercolors to color the salt.



Teen Services Librarian Amy Rae Weaver worked with area teens to come up with Teen Time programs for the Cody Library.



Ever ingenious, Cody teens decided to play the card game *Mafia* in the Teen Space when a combination of tax preparation and early voting took over their usual meeting spaces. Combined with chips and salsa, it was an exciting, often hilarious way to spend Teen Time.



Cody teens put their artistic skills to use on *Cookie Painting Day* using food dye "watercolors." The Mafia deck made a return appearance as well!



On *Catapult Day*, Cody teens used common household items to create their own marshmallow-shooting catapults. Some of them branched out into their own original items and sculptures!



Ninja Star Day featured origami, YouTube videos, and spirited discussion of foods teens wanted to make at future Teen Times.



Cody Chess Club continues to draw players of all ages to improve their chess skills in a relaxed, afterschool environment.



On February 24, Amy Rae helped show off the awesome services teen librarians provide at a San Antonio Public Library table at Brandeis High School's annual Librarypalooza. She helped visitors create custom pins, talked up Teen Services, and reminded everyone to come to the first annual Pop Con on March 3!



Outreach to the Adante Senior Living group has continued to be successful, with the last book club meeting on February 21.

COLLINS GARDEN



Assistant Manager Sophie Smith and Library Assistant Carlos Loera continued weekly drop-in technology help to the community covering topics from Google Docs and cloud computing to using Overdrive/Libby via various devices.



Artist Rosemary Niño presented one class on beading with eight participants who all made bracelets.



Coffee and a Movie, presented by Library Assistant Carlos Loera, had eight attendees during this reporting period.



Assistant Manager Sophie Smith coordinated two programs with Japanese Outreach Coordinator Chinatsu Oku and additional support from the Japanese Club at UTSA. The first was a Japanese Culture Expo drawing in 30 participants who played games, made origami, learned how to use chopsticks, discovered fabric wrapping techniques, and tried on traditional kimonos. The second program was a Sushi Making Class with 16 people participating.



Assistant Manager Sophie Smith began a Walk and Talk Book Club in March, where participants meet at the library to walk around Collins Garden Park while discussing books they've read and enjoyed. This program is cross listed with the Parks and Recreation department Fitness in the Park series.



Children's Librarian Gina Brudi presented four Family Fun programs for the reporting period including a ladybug story time and a St. Patrick's Day craft.



Brudi hosted three Lego Club programs with an attendance of 54. Lego creations are displayed on the shelves in the reference area for customers to view.



Over Spring Break, Collins Garden Library hosted a family movie showing of *Coco* with 60 attendees.



The weekly Teen Time program, hosted by Library Assistant Carlos Loera, averages six to eight teens a week. Teens volunteered to decorate the Children's area for spring and hosted a spring break movie.



Two chess sets in the library's public areas are occupied with patrons of all ages strategizing their moves, with an average of 10 players daily.



Collins Garden Library is continuing weekly Family Game Night this spring with various board games for all ages.



Branch Manager Jeannette Davies and Assistant Branch Manager Sophie Smith assisted with Pop Con where they presented a panel on Pop Culture Nostalgia.



Davies attended District 5 City of San Antonio Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales' Town Hall Dinner Gala at Lanier High School, Culinary Café, on Cesar Chavez Blvd., Wednesday, February 28. Gonzales was honored to have Culinary Institute of the Arts (CIA) graduate and celebrity chef/owner of La Gloria Restaurant Johnny Hernandez introduce her for the evening.



The Councilwoman updated constituents on bond projects and other initiatives including a child abuse reduction program, a D5 housing pilot, and a new solar security light pilot program with CPS.



Hernandez and ICA instructors lead Lanier High School CIA students in the 6th Annual HEB High School Paella Challenge. The students' award-winning paella was served at the town hall dinner. In 2017, SAISN partnered with CIA to establish a unique college transfer-credit culinary program which focuses on training students to become the next generation of chefs and culinary leaders.



Davies serves as Texas Library Association (TLA) District 10 Chair, alongside UTSA Librarian and TLA Chair-Elect Jacob Sherman. In addition, Davies was recently selected to sit on the Texas Public Radio Community Advisory Board (CAB). CAB is a volunteer board that advises strictly on radio programming.

CORTEZ



The entire branch attended Staff Transformation Day at the Tropicana Hotel on February 19. Everyone reported having an enjoyable and educational day and is looking forward to participating again as an annual event.



The branch was host for the Library Board meeting on February 28. The Friends of Cortez helped with refreshments and Manager Cammie Brantley presented a PowerPoint on activities at the Branch and the various ways the staff interacts with the community in a positive way.



On March 3, Adult Services Librarian Brooke Mjolsness attended Pop Con and helped all day with activities at this very popular event.



Manager Brantley held her Book Club on March 2 and 3 in which she discussed *A Time to Kill* to tie-in with the Our Family Reads theme of social justice.



Bilingual Baby Time (Kathy Armbruster and Esmeralda Staudt) - Bilingual Baby Time still shows a glimmer of hope in catching on. Kathy and Esmy tag team a series of songs, rhymes, and fingerplays in both English and Spanish. One mother and baby drove from the Northside to attend!



Toddler Time (Kathy Armbruster) - Toddlers enjoy a brief story time with songs and circle games and finish their library time with interactive play. Blocks, puzzles, sensory play and large motor activities are available in the meeting room.



Family Fun (Kathy Armbruster) - Family Fun sessions were held on Mondays at 4 p.m. Lego play, a family yoga session, a spring break obstacle course, and a special story session featuring airplane stories to tie-in with the Our Family Reads initiative rounded out the Family Fun offerings during February and early March.



Tween Time (Kathy Armbruster) - Tweens are always welcome to play Wii and PS2 video games. Board games and chilling out with coloring and the mind-challenging Spirograph are also available. Open-ended art activities with a variety of materials have been popular as well.



Read to a Dog (Alan Schuminsky and Sunny) - Volunteer Alan Schuminsky and therapy dog Sunny visited Cortez on the first Saturday of January, February, and March. Unfortunately, Mr. Schuminsky has elected to stop volunteering. Volunteer Services is actively seeking a replacement.



Children's Librarian Kathy Armbruster attended outreach events at Kindred Elementary School's Community Fair on March 7 with Little Read Wagon's Cresencia Huff. They teamed up again for the Southwest ISD Careers on Wheels event March 8 where area second graders are bussed to Alan Shepard Middle School parking lot to hear various businesses, non-profits, and governmental agencies described their work and careers. Second graders often stop by the library with their families after attending this event.



Kathy stopped by Palo Alto Elementary School on Friday, March 9, to say hello to students and parents attending the Little Read Wagon's reading tents and to invite them to Cortez Library during Spring Break.



Kathy also assisted Children's Coordinator Viki Ash and Johnston Children's Librarian Beverly Wrigglesworth at KLRN's Super Why appearance program at Pearsall Park on Saturday, March 10.



Teen Time (JoAnn Paredes) - Although attendance has been lower than last year, it is gratifying that several teens are devoted to the Thursday time slot and make an effort to attend Teen Time with their friends.



COAST – Cortez Older Adult Social Time (Brooke Mjolsness, Madeline Vasquez) - Cortez adults get together once a week to enjoy stress-reducing coloring, play games, chat, and to enjoy each other's company. This program has a steady following and those participating are always ready to share their time



Outreach - Adult Coloring and COAST (Brooke Mjolsness) March 14, Legend Oaks Senior Community - Adult Services Librarian Brooke Mjolsness hosted an outreach program at Legend Oaks Senior Community (LOSC). She brought Cortez's popular Adult Coloring and COAST program to the seniors and they had a very enjoyable time. Everyone took part in coloring and board games while chatting with each other in a relaxed atmosphere. Approximately 10 people attended and the LOSC's activity director expressed interest in either visiting Cortez or another outreach program being held there.



Getting Crafty Program (JoAnn Paredes) - Craft class is still going strong with all the regulars attending. It's evolved more into a "front porch sit and chat" kind of crafting class rather than a come and learn hour. The crafters have truly become friends and miss each other when someone is absent. They look forward to seeing what they can accomplish each time.



Monster Meet (Madeline Vasquez) - On March 10, Monster Meet attendees viewed *Leatherface*, the origin story of the *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*'s main character of the same name. 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. Madeline prepares interesting fun facts about each film and serves some tasty treats to those attending.



Pop Con, March 3, Central Library (Brooke Mjolsness)- Adult Services Librarian Brooke Mjolsness attended Pop Con as a staff volunteer. She assisted with leading a children's craft table, supervising the break room for attending artists and authors, as well as helped oversee the art contest. PopCon had a wide variety of activities for the public to enjoy. There was Jedi light saber training, a public art contest, board games, performances, a cosplay contest, and numerous authors and artists visited and displayed their work.



Cortez Chess Club (David Pacheco) - David Pacheco continues to lead our weekly chess club. He enthusiastically teaches attendees of all ages about chess. Our attendance numbers continue to grow, particularly with younger players who want to learn how to play.



CAM - Contemporary Art Month (Brooke Mjolsness and Josh Huskins) March – May 2018 - Local photographer Josh Huskin agreed to work with SAPL for Contemporary Art Month and chose to display 11 photographs from a collection called *Dad Jokes* which shows people's first reaction to funny/silly jokes. His works were inspired by his recently becoming a father. Patrons are encouraged to vote for their favorite joke with a small balloting box near one of the displays.

ENCINO



Children's Librarian Nicki Weaver ushered out winter and began welcoming spring through her *Baby Time*, *Toddler Time*, and *Story Time* songs and activities. Parachute play engaged the children as they sang the rain away. Lively discussion accompanied *Story Time* as children learned about the changing seasons.



Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot and the Encino Teens filled their time this month with lots of anime watching, crafting, and snacking. Teens came out for a special *Spring Break Teen Gaming* to try out some new games and revisit old favorites. Teen-led programming was demonstrated this month with

teens suggesting and voting on what to watch in their *Teen Screen* program, as well as working with Ms. Pouliot to plan crafting projects for next month.



Encino teens celebrated *Teen Tech Week* during the first week of February. Teens enjoyed trying out a new tech craft, making paper circuit cards, and constructing edible mars rovers while watching *Star Wars*.



Ms. Pouliot attended an outreach at Brandeis High School for their annual Librarypalooza event on February 24. The library table attracted over 200 event-goers and featured book themed button making and lots of information about upcoming SAPL events.



Encino Library hosted Early Voting for Bexar County Elections from February 20 through March 2, incorporating staggered LIC schedules to meet the needs of the election judges and the public. During the early voting time period, Encino Library had 2,756 voters visit the library, with many of them obtaining new library cards or inquiring about our services.



Encino Library welcomed a new part-time circulation attendant Marcel Martinez Alvarez on February 26. Marcel is an avid anime fan and has excellent customer service skills.



Interim Manager Michelle Ricondo coordinated a Professional Development Seminar Series at the library with local career coach James Beeman. The Career Exploration and Discovery seminar on March 7 along with the March 14 Personal Branding seminar attracted a small but enthusiastic attendance.



The *Read It. Love It! Discuss It.* Book Group, facilitated by Ms. Ricondo, met for a lively discussion of *The Irish Girl* by Santa Montefiore on February 28 and added a new member to the group.



Art Journaling 101 changed days from Monday evenings to Tuesday afternoons to encourage more participation. Ms. Ricondo hopes to attract more seniors to the program by offering it during the day.



Encino's Collaborate space was used by outside groups 24 times during the reporting period. Use of Collaborate included job interviews, STEM tutoring via Skype, book clubs, game play therapy for an autistic student, SAPL committee meetings, and tutoring/study groups. The Mondopads in Collaborate are used about 25% of the time, and most users of the space utilize their own devices connected to the library's WiFi. Encino's WiFi-enabled patio space continues to serve as a supplemental study and meeting space for the community, both during and outside business hours. Examples of patio use include: group study sessions, business meetings, and exercise groups.

FOREST HILLS



Forest Hills Branch Library celebrates Contemporary Art Month through the month of March. Currently on display is art by Jimena Marin. Ms. Marin's art is influenced by her vegan lifestyle and features images of food and vegan recipes. The art adds a colorful and fresh aesthetic to the library.



Work by the San Antonio Needlework Guild is currently on display in the glass case. The exhibit welcomes spring with colorful and whimsical designs.



The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program is currently being offered through April. The program is a popular and meets capacity early each day. The program is offered Wednesday through Saturday each week.



Branch Manager Mary Naylor visited the Dorris Griffin Senior Center on February 21 to host the monthly book club. The book club selection for the month of February was *The Aviator's Wife* to fit the airplane theme of the Our Family Reads Mayor's Book Club.



Mrs. Naylor also hosted the Ladies Book Club on February 27. The group, which has been meeting at Forest Hills for eight years, has changed to meeting on the last Tuesday of the month at 12:30 p.m.



The City of San Antonio Health Department hosted STD screenings in the meeting room on March 6. Participants were invited to receive free and confidential screening for common sexually transmitted diseases. This project works to inform the community of their status to improve the health and quality of life of the residents of San Antonio.



Teens from the Business and Careers Magnet school at Holmes High School audio/visual program were on site March 11 to film patrons reading excerpts of Naomi Shihab Nye's poem *You Know Who You Are* which will be featured in April for National Poetry Month. The teens, led by their instructor, designed shooting sets, lighting, and action scenes which will be edited to create a video which will be shown at the Forest Hills Branch Library. Patrons of all ages and backgrounds were selected to participate in the video program and did a great job in front of the camera.



Children's Librarian Ana Menchaca hosted an Our Family Reads celebration in February. The focus was on airplanes. Ms. Menchaca provided kids with straws, paper, markers, and crayons. Ms. Menchaca researched different ways to fold a piece of paper to make an airplane. They tried to make paper airplanes and tried to determine which model flew the best. Ms. Menchaca and the kids had a lot of fun watching airplanes fly throughout the library.



Ms. Menchaca hosted a Motown Dance Party to celebrate Black History Month. Ms. Menchaca read stories either written by African American authors or stories with African American characters. Children were encouraged to dance to music made by Motown Records, such as the Jackson Five "ABC" and The Supremes "Stop in the Name of Love." As an accompanying craft Ms. Menchaca provided children with pastel paints, glitter, and tempera paint, so they could decorate a trumpet as they saw fit.



The bulletin board in the children's area was changed to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Additionally, Ms. Menchaca held a St. Patrick's Day story time where she read stories about Leprechauns and handed out green stickers and green pins to participants. She wanted to be sure everyone had something green for March 17. It was a great opportunity to speak about Irish Culture.



During one Kids Time, Ms. Menchaca showed patrons how to use salt, glue, and watercolors to create a painting. The craft was a success, with one young man remarking “I Love this craft! Can we do it next week?” Another popular activity was making dinosaurs out of paper rolls and paint. Children were given the template and were encouraged to paint and decorate their dinosaur however they wanted.



In order to celebrate Dr. Seuss’ birthday, Ms. Menchaca hosted a Come and Go Craft. She cut out large hats out of large pieces of construction paper. She encouraged kids to decorate with crayons, pastel paints, markers, and sequins. The results were varied and very interesting.



Ms. Menchaca hosted several *Come and Go Crafts* for Spring Break. Art supplies were left out for children so that they could be as creative as possible. In order to keep things interesting, Ms. Menchaca swapped out different materials for the arts and crafts. For example, pastel paints and round paper was used one day; another day construction paper and colored pencils were used.



Ms. Menchaca continues to host Bilingual Story time and Lego Builders. Lego Builders continues to be immensely successful.

GREAT NORTHWEST



Great Northwest Branch Library held a week of special programming for Spring Break. The *Choose Your Adventure* program had three tech stations to explore. Tweens paired up and rotated through the stations containing the MaKey MaKey Invention Kit, drones, and a green screen. Tweens most enjoyed being able to develop their own simple computer programs using the MaKey MaKey and they discovered that the drones were difficult to control. Other programs highlighted the St. Patrick’s Day holiday by celebrating Irish history and Celtic culture for a variety of ages. While the branch saw smaller groups visiting due to the holiday, it also provided opportunities for children who can’t normally attend programs during the school year.



Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez worked together with teens in the community to plan and create teen programs for Great Northwest Library. Great Northwest teens held *Craft and Movie Nights* on Monday evenings. In February, the teens watched *Spider-Man: Homecoming* and made art out of chocolate. On March 5 they watched *Adventures in Babysitting* and made D.I.Y. Polaroid magnet picture frames. On March 12 they watched *Labyrinth* and made D.I.Y. CD case labyrinths.



Great Northwest teen gamers meet every Wednesday afternoon for a *Teen Tech, Games, & Art* program. Ms. Vazquez worked with teen video gamers to provide a space for them to compete against other teens who share a common interest in gaming and art. Teens also have the opportunity to make a variety of crafts and art to display in the teen space of the library or to take home. In March, teens had the opportunity to try out retro video games, try flying a mini drone, and use the MaKey MaKey Invention Kit to celebrate *Teen Tech Week*.



Great Northwest Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez visited the school library at Taft High School on February 21 and Brennan High School on March 7 for outreach events where teens had the opportunity to sign-up for library cards, make button crafts, and compete in a video game competition.



Great Northwest Branch Library is celebrating Contemporary Art Month with a beautiful watercolor art exhibit by local artist Yoko Misu. Ms. Misu was born in Tokyo, Japan, and currently lives in San Antonio. She is a semi-member of Japan Print Society. Her works are included in the permanent collection of Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, Japan Print Society, and some private collectors.



Branch Manager Cate Prazak participated in Pop Con at the Central Library. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of many talented library staff, Central Library hosted the Library's first comic con with artists, authors, panels, contests, crafts, and much more on March 3. Thousands of pop culture lovers visited the library to show off their skills in cosplay, board games, crafts, and pop culture knowledge.



Adult Services Librarian Cindy Moreno requested the Bexar County Master Gardeners to present a series of gardening classes to the Great Northwest patrons. The classes consisted of *Container Gardening*, *Butterfly and Pollinator Gardening* and a *Native Plants* class. They were conducted on Wednesday evenings in February and one week in March. Class participants were excited with the gardening series and requested more presentations by the Bexar County Master Gardeners. The series was funded by the Friends of the Great Northwest Branch Library.



In celebration of Women's History Month, Library Assistant Christina Martinez created a spring display with a space for patrons to post photos of women who have made an impact in their lives. Cindy Moreno rounded out the display with books about radical and phenomenal women so that families and patrons of all ages can find books in the library about women in *herstory*.



The Great Northwest Library hosted a college intern through a partnership with the Alamo College Work Study Program. While at Great Northwest Library, Mr. Contreras has gained work experience and learned about library services with hands-on experience serving the public.



Volunteers from the community work together with Great Northwest Library in a variety of ways to ensure the best service is provided to the community. Volunteers help staff with daily library tasks and assist library staff with programs, including puppet shows, story time, and teen programs.

GUERRA



Eleven branch staff attended Staff Development Day on February 19; Circulation Attendant Allison Fink arrived early that day to volunteer with event set up. The branch hosted Early Voting (February 20 through March 2) and Election Day (March 6) and VITA (Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays). As in past years, VITA was a popular event. On March 14, SAPL Training Officer Laura Villanueva came to the branch to meet with Circulation Attendant Dave Alvarez and Library Aide Roxanne Menchaca. Dave demonstrated the Millennium routines and steps he had developed and is using to help track and reduce errors in data entry for both new and updated accounts. Roxanne showed her use of Millennium and Excel to track and resolve situations when a patron reports an item returned that still shows on that person's account. A key part of this process is to resolve the returned/not returned item before it reaches the claims returned threshold. Laura's experience as Head of Central Circulation and currently as Training Officer meant that her perspective gave helpful advice to each individual project. Progress is expected soon on the Part Time Library Assistant position vacant since the first week of January.



Branch Manager Dexter Katzman presented music and literature outreach at the Careplex Adult Daycare Center on February 21 and 28 and March 7 and 14. He provided a computer class in the branch on February 24, 26, and 28.



Assistant Branch Manager Jernell continued at Johnston.



Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson planned and presented four toddler times, four story times, four Lego Clubs, and three Art Clubs. Families participated in all day free art activities for the entire week during spring break. On March 2 she visited Marbach Christian Church Childcare and presented story times to all children at the location. She did the same on March 9 at Greatest Gifts Daycare. On March 17 families participated in an all-day Come & Go Craft in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. She also designed and installed a Women's History Month Display.



Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson moderated Club de Lectura, (Spanish book club) on February 22. Participants discussed *La misma canción (I Heard that Song Before)* by Mary Higgins Clark. On March 9, he presented a trivia game at the Willie Cortez Senior Center.



Library Assistant/Teen Services Liason Edward Mayberry presented a perler bead arts and craft session on February 22. He held Game-Ra sessions on March 1, 8, and 15. Edward assisted Teen Librarian Stephanie Vasquez from Great Northwest with an outreach event at Brennan High School on March 7, speaking with 100 students. Edward welcomed three first-time volunteers during the reporting period.



Circulation Attendant Abella Lazalde-Jimenez designed and installed a green book St. Patrick's Day display. Abella continued to work with staff as the branch Wellness Liaison. Activities included providing healthy snacks and tracking the Step Challenge for week 10.

IGO



Long-time Circulation Attendant Sara Howdyshell has transferred to Maverick and Library Assistant Barbara Celitans has retired. The Igo staff will miss them greatly. Circulation Attendant Aleida Ireta, formerly of Westfall, has joined the Igo staff and is most welcome.



Teen Services Librarian Matthew Loaiza and Adult Services Librarian Ramona Lucius assisted at PopCon on March 3. Loaiza assisted with the coordination of the volunteers at the event, and also acted as the emcee during the Cosplay Competition and Awards Ceremony. Ramona presented a program entitled "Fanfiction: Lazy and Unimaginative or Transformative?"



Teen Services Librarian Matthew Loaiza met with Melissa Gohlke (Assistant Archivist at UTSA) for a second time on Thursday, March 1 at the Igo Branch Library to further discuss the usage of UTSA's LGBTQ archival materials during Pride Month, as well as to plan LGBTQ programs at branches led by Gohlke.



Lego Club continues to be a success and is well attended by school-aged kids.



Children's story times now have a revised schedule: Baby Time is on Thursdays at 10:15 a.m.; Toddler Time is at 10:15 a.m. on Tuesdays and 11:15 a.m. on Thursdays; Toddler Two is at 11:15 a.m. on Tuesdays; and Story Time is at 12:15 p.m. on Tuesdays.



February's Teen Club programming consisted of gaming, snacking, and lots of laughing. Teens discussed the start of an anime club in the coming months, and what they would like to see the club include on a weekly basis.



Teen Lit Club began its weekly discussion meetings in mid-February. This literary group is targeted towards homeschooled teens, with varying topics spanning over several weeks. The current topic focuses on sleuths and the evolution of the detective story.



Teen Services Librarian Matthew Loaiza, along with two teen services librarians from other branches, represented the San Antonio Public Library at LibraryPalooza at Brandeis High School on Saturday, February 24. This yearly author festival is always a hit in the community, and the librarians in attendance were able to discuss teen services and programs with a multitude of teens. The librarians also promoted Pop Con to teens and their families.



Teen Services Librarian Matthew Loaiza attended a Youth Services Workshop "Engaging with Teens in Your Library" hosted by Linda W. Braun (YALSA's Continuing Education Consultant) at the Central Library on Monday, February 26. The workshop focused on how libraries can help teens develop the skills, knowledge, and social emotional development needed for success in life.



The Igo Branch Library hosted the monthly Teen Services professional workgroup meeting on Wednesday, March 14. Teen Services Librarian Matthew Loaiza led the group on a tour of the newly revamped Teen Space.



Early Voting and Election Day kept one of Igo's meeting rooms occupied through the end of February and early March.



On February 20 guest speaker Sanford Reed, genealogist for the Sons of Confederate Veterans, visited the Igo Genealogy Club to present tips for researching Confederate and Union ancestors.



The PoeTree Club met on March 5.



On March 12, in celebration of Community Arts Month, performance artist Martin Rodriguez gave a show featuring movement and poetry.



On March 16, Ramona had an outreach table at the Lopez Senior Center to promote the Older Americans Human Libraries Project. The May 5 Human Library, taking place at Igo, will feature seniors with an interesting story to tell. The May 12 Human Library at Johnston will celebrate Mother's Day by

featuring women who have raised children. The May 26 Human Library at Tobin will celebrate Memorial Day by featuring military veterans. All the books at these Human Libraries will be age 60 and over, in recognition of Older Americans Month. An informational meeting will be held March 24 to recruit “books” for the “libraries.”



Beginning Hatha Yoga was temporarily interrupted from their regular Friday hours due to Early Voting.



The Elderberries held its monthly program on March 8. Dr. Michael Wargovich, Professor of Molecular Medicine at the UT Health Science Center, gave a presentation on Anti-Inflammatory Diets.

JOHNSTON



Johnston Library served as an Early Voting site from February 20 to March 2. The team welcomed over 800 voters. On March 13 Branch Manager Monica Bustillo started an employee wellness gardening project titled “Let’s Start A Garden” which invited all staff and volunteers to plant seeds for cucumbers, pumpkins, watermelons, tomatoes, herbs, strawberries, and more. Staff used the window ledges in the workroom for optimal sunlight.



Ms. Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion of Celeste Ng’s *Little Fires Everywhere* on February 21. Ms. Bustillo organized the Friday Oscar Film screening of *Victoria and Abdul* on February 23 and started a new Friday Film series for March including *Thor: Ragnarok* on March 9 and *Coco* on March 16. On March 17 Ms. Bustillo hosted a Road Scholar Ambassador travel presentation with Bill Ball, a regular patron and avid traveler.



Story Time themes during this period included “Frogs,” “Butterflies,” “Mother Goose,” and “St. Patrick’s Day.” Family Fun activities included “Airplanes,” “Butterflies,” “LEGOs and other building activities,” and “St. Patrick’s Day.” On March 1, Librarian Beverly Wigglesworth took books and read stories to toddlers and pre-school children at the Southwest High School PCI. On March 4, the Come & Go crafts featured a variety of art materials, such as construction paper, scrap paper, and magazine cut-outs, for families to make their own pictures. On March 10, Children’s Librarian Beverly Wigglesworth attended the KLRN Super Why event at Pearsall Park with the Coordinator of Children’s Services Viki Ash and Children’s Librarian Kathy Armbruster. There she was able to promote library programs to about 100 attendees.



On February 21, Library Aide Cynthia Blancas hosted Teen Time in the Teen area of the library. Teens were invited to play card games and watched *Boss Baby*. On February 28 Teen Liaison/Library Assistant Eva Banda worked with Ms. Blancas to make hedgehog book crafts with the teens.



On March 7 Teens created electronic snap circuits for Teen Tech Week. On March 14 Ms. Banda and Ms. Blancas encouraged teen to make sundaes, create sidewalk art, and skateboard now that the time change allows for outside activities.



Library Assistant Elsy Jackson presented the Conversational Spanish for Beginners program every Monday including February 26, and March 5 and featured the themes of “The Past Tenses” (el preterito o tiempo pasado) and “Traveling” (viajar). Mrs. Jackson also moderated the Club de Lectura “Café con Libro”, a book club in Spanish, on March 19. The participants discussed *Violetas de Marzo* (*The Violets of March*) by Sarah Jio.

LANDA



Landa Teen programming continued to grow and excite this month. The monthly Cooking Club taught the group how to make quick and easy Italian mozzarella bites. Teen Tech Week was lit with LED bot creations, and Saturday's Drop-In Volunteer program continued to increase its attendance.



Weekly teen volunteer Perry offered to assist Landa's bi-monthly Minecraft program for children. Because of her knowledge and kind demeanor, the first session was a big success and the kids are looking forward to more of her skill sharing soon.



Library Assistant/Teen Liaison Rebekah Corley, alongside Westfall's Teen Librarian Daniella Toll, joined Edison High School's Literacy Night where they promoted SAPL resources, events and programs to families across the community. The hot topics of the night were Homework Help, volunteering, and the upcoming Maker Faire!



Landa's Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta has launched a series of special programs for Women's History Month. On March 11, Kathleen Weir Vale, CEO of Hope Medical Supply and the newly-elected chairman of the board of the San Antonio Symphony Society, shared her story of being a woman running a successful private medical supply company. In addition, she discussed the behind-the-scenes story of the San Antonio Symphony and the complexity of administering this non-profit organization. Advertisement of her program attracted many symphony supporters and even a member of the orchestra.



On March 18, Karen hosted a panel discussion on the topic of Women's History Month and the LGBTQ community. Several members of this community shared their stories of the additional challenges and issues they face. The program was well-attended and the panelists felt that this type of dialog was much-needed. Karen is glad that Landa was the beginning of what everyone involved hopes will be a continuing series of events.



As a member of the Women's History Month group of the adult services librarians, Karen helped organize a program at the Central Library Auditorium featuring popular speaker, author, and Trinity English professor Coleen Grissom. Coleen talked about the challenges she faced as a female administrator at Trinity from 1958 until her forced retirement from her administrative duties due to an age restriction. All who attended agree that she is a very special person.



Karen's book clubs continue to grow, including the group at The Village at the Incarnate Word, which added two new members in March. Reader's Ink discussed the classic *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck. This group also added a new member. The Landa Mystery Book Club read *Mystery* by Jonathan Kellerman. This was one of those works that about half of the group liked and the other half were not impressed by. Needless to say, a lively discussion was the result of this difference in views!

LAS PALMAS



On Wednesday, February 21, Children's Librarian Barbaraella Frazier participated in a parents meeting with YWCA's Early Head Start program to promote the Las Palmas Library's services. Ms. Frazier discussed new books available for parents through the San Antonio Library as well as upcoming events for children and their grown-ups. During the next week Ms. Frazier went to some of the Early Head Start classes to conduct story time.



On Monday, February 26, Family Fun celebrated a Motown Dance Party. Children were able to use construction paper and paper plates to make "records" and tambourines with dried beans. Children danced to Motown music such as *My Guy* by Mary Wells and *Stop in the Name of Love* by The Supremes, while others blew bubbles and watched the bubbles dance.



On Thursday, March 1, Children's Librarian Barbaraella Frazier visited Jubilee Lakeview University Prep and conducted story time for six classes of children in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and first grade. More than 100 children enjoyed the stories.



On Monday, March 5, children participated in process-based learning during Family Fun. Children's Librarian Barbaraella Frazier helped children build and race paper and straw gliders. They learned about airplanes and experimented with different designs.



The Las Palmas Branch celebrated Spring Break by having several children's programs during the week. Clowns came to Family Fun Night on Monday, March 12. More than 65 people came and received balloon sculptures, had their faces painted, and colored clown coloring sheets. The clowns came through the generous support of the Las Palmas Friends group. On Thursday, March 15, Las Palmas honored Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel) and had a party featuring characters from Dr. Seuss books. Children's Librarian Barbaraella Frazier, Library Assistant Elvia Ramos, and Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez all helped plan and manage the event. Children made several crafts such as a *The Cat in the Hat* hat and hoop gliders for *Oh, The Places You'll Go*. Many activities were included, such as a face painter who painted Dr. Seuss characters on faces, and green screen photo sessions that put children inside a Dr. Seuss book. With the generous support of the Las Palmas Friends, the library also provided Dr. Seuss themed treats such as *Hop on Pop*-corn, *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* (colored gold fish), *Lorax* Truffula Tree Tops (Gummy Treats) and *Horton Hatches the Egg* (candy eggs).



On Friday, March 16, and Saturday, March 17, the Las Palmas Branch celebrated Saint Patrick's Day. Children used green construction paper with die cut shamrocks to make bracelets and hats.



Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez presented four Bilingual Story time programs with 29 children and their parents in attendance. Story time themes included shapes and colors, where preschoolers had fun using colored egg shakers to reinforce color recognition.



Teen Librarian Connie Hejl and Library Assistant Elvia Ramos participated in Pop Con, the first popular culture/comic convention held at the Central Library. It featured fan panels, authors, artists, a cosplay contest, and an art contest. Ms. Hejl ran the cosplay contest and designed the Libguide for the Con. Ms. Ramos helped artists and panelists unload and direct people to their assigned places.



On February 18, Library Assistant Elvia Ramos helped set up for Staff Transformation Day by setting up tables and the gift bags that staff would be receiving on Staff Transformation Day at the Tropicano Hotel. She also helped out on Transformation Day (February 19) by monitoring some of the classes and directing staff to correct locations.



On February 21, the Texas Parks and Wildlife came for their free giveaway of trees. It was a highly effective program that had 50 visitors.



The Jump Start Performance Company performed various dances on a flatbed in the parking lot of Las Palmas for the public. This event was successful with 25 people attending.



On March 17 we hosted a presentation of The Democracy Project titled *Engaged & Active Citizenship: Overview of the US Constitution & Amendments*. There were 15 participants.

MAVERICK



The Ladies' Choice Book Club met on Saturday, February 24 and the Lady Mav's Book Club met on Tuesday, March 13.



The Maverick Chess Club met on February 26 and March 5 and 12.



Maverick Library was both an Early Voting site and an Election Day site for the Texas Primary Election. All librarians, Amy Roberts, Pat King and Ben Longoria coordinated together to accommodate with election schedules.



Children's Librarian Amy Roberts focused on weeding the Juvenile non-fiction in the 600-699.99 range. Also, Ms. Roberts weeded all the grubby juvenile paperbacks. In addition, she changed out the Bluebonnet Award books for the new list that came out recently and also the new 2x2 list for 2018, all of which will be in our high-demand Express Collection. Ms. Roberts is appreciative of her holdings editor, Librarian I Patricia King, for assisting her with the withdrawal of these items.



Children were treated to two special events during the reporting period. On February 26, Ms. Roberts read airplane stories and Ms. Maria Garcia, Operations Manager at the San Antonio airport, talked about her job and brought marketing goodies for both the parents and kids. Ms. Garcia happens to be the mom of one of Maverick's part-time circulation attendants, Elise Garcia. The second special event was another Gerald and Piggie puppet show, reading, craft and food! Headed up by Elise Garcia and Library Aide Laura Lopez, with support and suggestions from Ms. Roberts, 112 people attended this event on the first Saturday of Spring Break on March 10! Thank you also to Library Aides Justin B. and Katy Camacho for their support.



Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl coordinated four Teen Time programs during the reporting period. Maverick Teens continue to engage and connect with one another via Uno, Jenga and Life. One was heard to say "Tuesdays are my favorite day now!" They requested a vegetable tray one week and fruit tray another week, but remain committed to their favorites; grilled cheese and chocolate chip pancakes.



Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl promoted the Mini Maker Faire with a display showcasing photos from last year's event as well as several "how-to" books and DVDs .

McCRELESS



At the beginning of March, scheduling of Tween Time was changed from Wednesdays to Thursdays. Despite the day change, a small group of Tweens have consistently arrived for the weekly program to enjoy each other's company, play games, and make crafts. This reporting period tweens used watercolors, dot paint, and stencils in addition to making Valentine magnets.



Young and young-at-heart patrons continue to enjoy the branch's dramatic play station. This has recently been updated with a camping theme, created by Librarian I Marisa DeBow and Library Services Specialist Carolyn Bradley. The branch is thankful for the loan of a tent from Little Read Wagon to enhance the station.



During this reporting period, teens at McCreless had fun making Rice Krispie Treats and Candy Sushi. They also enjoyed making pompoms and bubble magnets, and learning a new board game called Labyrinth, a really cool moving maze game. Video gaming continues to be a big draw for the teens, as well. Teen are hoping for an upgrade to a projector with HDMI capabilities so they can bring in their newer gaming systems. Librarian Marisa DeBow is looking into ways to accomplish this for them.



In March, the branch hosted a computer class. On March 10, Library Assistants Al Chavez and Joseph Gonzales facilitated a workshop on e-mail basics in which participants learned how to register for an email account, navigate an email interface, compose, send and receive messages, manage a contact list, and upload and download attachments. A second computer class is planned for later in March.



On March 3, Assistant Manager Hayley Latshaw oversaw the board game area at the first San Antonio Pop Con. San Antonio Nerd Night was on hand to check out games to attendees and provide demonstrations. King of Tokyo, Tsuro, Monopoly, Connect 4, and Twister were among some of the favorites of the day. Blocks were tumbling as patrons competed to see how tall they could build Giant Jenga. Anthony Cruz brought the battle between the Dark Side and the Force with his demonstration of the Star Wars X-Wing miniatures game with attendees taking control of X-Wings and TIE Fighters and competing in an epic battle. Werewolves were also on the prowl looking for new villagers to play *Are You A Werewolf* with the Central Texas Werewolves. Everyone had a great time.

MEMORIAL



Children's librarian Christine Deffendall narrated the Dial-a-Story for the week of February 19. Her selection was *Gladys Goes Out to Lunch*, by Derek Anderson.



Mrs. Deffendall narrated the Dial-a-Story for the week of February 26. Her selection was *Yoko Learns to Read*, by Rosemary Wells.



Mrs. Deffendall visited Cardenas Early Childhood Center for their Read Across America event. She spoke with children and parents. She also coordinated and hosted students and teachers from

Woodlawn Hills Elementary School for a Bluebonnet book checkout event.



H.E.B. Read 3 families and instructors came to the branch for a tour and introduction to library services by Mrs. Deffendall.



During Spring Break, Mrs. Deffendall scheduled kid's movies so they could come in to watch a movie and enjoy a Come & Go craft every day.



Mrs. Deffendall has been diligently weeding the children's and juvenile collections to freshen Memorial's collections.



Teen liaison Rene Leija set up a mounted television for internet and YouTube accessibility as an alternative use for programs when the meeting room is not available for programming. He also hosted PS4 gaming for teens.



Mr. Leija has been hosting impromptu Wii gaming for teens. Wii gaming for teens is not a scheduled program, but when teens ask for them Mr. Leija accommodates them by setting up and hosting the games.



Adult Services Librarian Rhonda Davila scheduled and arranged for two exhibits to be set up for the winter season. From January to April, an exhibit from Madeline Hernandez, an art major at Baylor University, will feature watercolor illustrations. Another exhibit for Contemporary Art Month will feature works from St. Philips College art students. Patrons appreciate the exhibits and often view them throughout the day.



Ms. Davila also arranged a mini exhibit on the display case, featuring fabric art from Brian Zampier, a Marianist Brother at St. Mary's University. His artwork is the entire alphabet made from needle felt shapes. Brother Zampier designed, colored, and formed the shapes with clever images that correlated with a letter. For example, the letter "F" was created to look like the Facebook icon, the letter "E" looked like a fried egg. Patrons commented on the originality of the pieces.



Ms. Davila visited St. Mary's Law Library to discuss a partnership in preparation for a potential program in April or October 2018.



As an ongoing program to address health services to the community, the branch offered Medicaid and CHIP enrollment assistance during the months of February and March. Furthermore, to increase awareness of cancer resources, the branch hosted an information table from UT Health San Antonio, Cancer division.



Branch Manager Maria Gonzales hosted a Spanish Story Time and craft activity on a Saturday and Sunday.



In celebration of Black History Month, the branch offered themed adult coloring pages and screened the documentary film entitled *I am Ali*.



Representatives from the Bexar County Resolution Center held an information table to help resolve a variety of conflicts, from animal nuisances and landlord/tenant disputes to unsatisfactory services from businesses and more.



The branch hosted a series of Internet Basic programs including *Introduction to Microsoft Word*, *Job Searching Online*, *E-Mail basics*, and *Cyber Safety*. All programs were scheduled on different days to allow the community to pick and choose the program they were most interested in attending. The branch hosted a “Learn to Crochet” program to allow patrons the opportunity to develop or enhance their crochet craft skills.



In observance of Women’s History Month, the branch screened the movie *Suffragette*, a story based on working women in the United Kingdom who risked everything in their fight for equality during the early 20th century.



The branch hosted a meeting of “Hispanic Women’s Network of Texas.” This meeting was coordinated and attended by PSA Elma Nieto-Rodriguez.

MISSION



In the month of February, Mission Library had a very well attended play related to Shakespeare’s works performed by *Teatro Audaz*. Events at the *Mission Marquee Plaza* already started for this season and Mission library participated with a table with fun activities and promoting library services. March is Contemporary Arts Month and the branch already had two workshops for the public and a Mini Art Museum display in collaboration with *Spare Parts*.



Librarian Oscar Gonzalez was the Pop Con event at Central Library



As homage to the changing season, teens decorated the teen area in an Inspiration Garden, which allowed them to display their own artwork and poetry or write down their favorite song lyrics or quotes. Teens are becoming more involved in the selection of activities, choosing each item they made in the Teen Cooking Class this month. As the weather warms up, teens are looking forward to Mission Library’s outdoor games next month, which will allow them to get some exercise while enjoying the beautiful spring weather. Teens are enjoying participating not only in teen programming, but all-ages library programming, with almost half of the all-ages cooking class this month being made up of teenagers.



Spring has arrived and the children’s department is being decorated accordingly. A daily come and go craft kept the spring breakers busy.



A highlight of the month was a workshop for tweens and their families presented by Metro Health's Healthy Eating Initiative. The program, Refuel and Keep Cool, showed how to choose healthier drinks. The presenter demonstrated making different drinks with fruit for flavoring, instead of sugar. The large audience enjoyed the program and got to sample some healthy drinks.

PAN AMERICAN



The branch's meeting room took on the semblance of a fabric store when local quilter Yolanda Castillo opened a new series of quilting classes. Mrs. Castillo taught beginner classes at Pan American a few years ago, but has been taking a break. Classes are taught on Thursdays and participants have access to a sewing machine, fabrics and all the notions, as well as Mrs. Castillo's expertise.



Library Assistant Nicole Garza continues to attract community teens to Teen Time at the library. Every Wednesday night teens participate in different activities with a focus on science, technology, research, engineering, arts, and mathematics. In February Ms. Garza demonstrated how to create Kool-Aid Play-Doh. At first the teens were hesitant, but were amazed at how the recipe turned out when thoroughly mixed. Afterwards, teens sculpted different figures from the Kool-Aid mixture.



Teen Tech Week kicked off March programming for teens with Ms. Garza showing teens how to construct paper circuits. Teens used conductive copper tape, LED lights, coin batteries and paper to build their very own working paper circuits. Teens were also introduced to the wonders of virtual reality with an Oculus Rift demonstration. Most of the teens had not experienced virtual reality and it was an exciting new experience for them as well as Ms. Garza.



In March, a cooking demonstration for teens included a unique recipe for a waffle maker - pizza waffles. Each teen at first doubted their cooking ability, but were amazed at how delicious their pizza waffles came out.



Ms. Garza assisted with an ongoing monthly outreach at Brennan High School and at Taft High School with Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez from Great Northwest. At each visit, students are able to play video games, create button pins, and take green screen pictures.



Ms. Garza facilitated the Pokémon Champions group every other Sunday in February and March. New members have joined the group and are learning how to play the Pokémon trading card game. Regular group members taught each other how to play a different version of the card game and showed the new members how to play.



Weekly programs continue to be well attended. Those include qigong and yoga classes, as well as Knights of the Square Table, a drop-in chess group. Participation in the monthly adult coloring program is beginning to pick up. Library Assistant Christian Aldana has started an astrology group to discuss signs of the zodiac.



A *Su Salud*, a part of University Health System, partners with Pan American Library to promote healthy living among the Hispanic community. A *Su Salud* program aims to prevent breast and cervical

cancer, and they also work to reduce injury related deaths and disabilities in South Texas by educating youth about injury prevention.



Children at Toddler Time have been working on shapes. Attendance at Toddler Time is growing, with more youngsters and their big people joining each week. Older children have enjoyed the Family Fun evenings. There have been nights of Legos, crafts, and coloring for the families to complete. A large sheet of bulletin board paper on a table has been a big success. Outreach continues at two day care centers. One center has books checked out monthly. On a sad note Sunny, a therapy dog who listened to children read, has retired. Children's Librarian Valerie Shelley is working with Branch Manager Sherrie Hardin to find a replacement team to fill this void.



Ms. Garza also rallied staff and her friends together to make a short film for the Mission Film Festival's category for libraries. Pan American often has a community puzzle on a table. The film features many people putting a 1,000-piece puzzle together.

PARMAN



In the reporting period all weekly programs for children, teens, and adults at Parman continued as scheduled with steady attendance.



On March 10, Friends of the Parman Library's newly elected board held the first meeting in which they discussed book sale strategies, promotional steps, and fundraising ideas. A date for the staff appreciation day has been established. The branch manager attended the meeting.



During Spring Break, Children's Librarian Mr. Douglas presented a very well received Code Camp. Participants learned python – they started out from scratch and at the end of the hour, the kids had the code written and understood a guessing game program. A guessing game was picked as the first project because it contains all of the core concepts of a programming language. Mr. Douglas stressed that the language learned isn't as important as the concepts like problem solving and logical thinking. By the end of the program, all participants were able to tweak their code and make changes and suggestions to make the game harder. There was enough interest that Mr. Douglas is going to do a follow up camp the first weekend in April to work on projects with the kids who want to get more into coding. The "campers" were asked to come with a project in mind so they can spend the time working on each of the projects and offer suggestions and critiques to each other. Parman is planning on making a Code Camp a permanent feature during future Spring Breaks.



In March, Parman patrons enjoyed the annual visit of a member of the San Antonio Symphony. This year Parman's audience welcomed back amazing concertmaster Eric Gratz. His performance, as always, was flawless. He is also great at talking to and engaging with the audience of all ages. This program was organized by the Children's Department.



In celebration of Women's History Month, Parman hosted an event called "Meet the Women Next Door". Manager Barbara Kwiatkowski moderated a panel of women from around the Stone Oak area to talk about their experiences and influences, their career decisions and accomplishments, and how to inspire others. Attendees were able to interact with the panelists and learn about their lives and careers. A reception followed. Due to the very positive feedback, this event will become a yearly tradition. In addition to the panel, Parman created a special bookmark which was given to the patrons on March 8. The bookmarks were very popular, so we will continue to give them away until the end of the month.



Parman has had many popular displays in the last month. To celebrate the Academy Awards, Library Aide Leslie Cavill-Burns paired Oscar-winning films with the books on which they were based. Patrons were invited to vote on whether they liked the movie or the book better! For St. Patrick's Day and the beginning of spring, one display turned green with books that are primarily green on their covers. Librarian Caroline Mossing created a display in anticipation of the Mini Maker Fair that contained how-to and craft books. Finally, Library Assistant Keith Kisser created a Science Fiction display to highlight the ever-growing popularity of Science Fiction and Fantasy literature. These displays were incredibly popular and had to be constantly refilled with materials!



Circulation Attendant Joseph Lackups continues to head-up the increasingly popular Parman Picks Book Club. This long-running book club has seen a surge in popularity over the past few months. The most recent read, *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd, was especially loved among the members of the book club. Parman plans to move the book club to a larger room to accommodate the growing interest!

POTRANCO



Cross-training is one of the top goals we set for ourselves at Potranco. A Branch Manager often delegates tasks to team members. This delegation helps the whole group in many ways. One such responsibility is ordering office supplies. This task helps develop organizational and communications skills. This month we get to add CORE values to that list, teamwork and innovation. Since Potranco opened in November 2016 we have cross-trained three circulation teammates to have the skill set of prepping the monthly office supply order for Branch Manager approval and processing to SAPL Fiscal. This task runs the gamut of managing and ordering office supplies, patron print paper and toner, register and receipt tape, and public service forms. This responsibility also comes with the expectation that orders are listed on the Potranco Branch's homemade service ticket tracker, and moved to archives once the order is delivered and inventoried. This is a skill building responsibility! Circulation Attendant Miranda O'Neill took the initiative to create an all-encompassing "Quick Supply Check List" for her peers. The final duty for the person handing over the responsibility is to train the next person lined up for the task. It was important to Miranda that she do a good job training her peers

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS



Several children and parents attended this month's science SPARK event at Pruitt Library where the focus was on the circulatory system. After a reading and discussion of *A Drop of Blood* written by Paul Showers, kids took part in an activity where they laid down on butcher paper while someone traced an outline of their bodies. Afterwards, children labeled arteries, veins, the heart, and lungs. AVID students from Roosevelt High School were on hand to assist children with the activity. Many parents shared positive remarks about how pleasing it is to see their children excited about science.



Two children's events recognizing Black History Month were held at Pruitt. Tweens and parents discussed the latest novel by Rita Williams-Garcia, *Clayton Byrd Goes Underground*. Jazz music is one of the important topics of the novel, and attendees enjoyed listening to a variety of jazz music while discussing the book. For most of the tweens, it was their first time hearing jazz music, and they commented that they liked it. They enjoyed talking about their close relationship with their own

grandparents, a central theme of the novel. Attendees were excited to receive copies of next month's selection, *The War I Finally Won*, a sequel to a previous popular selection, *The War that Saved My Life*, written by Kimberly B. Bradley. Kids attending a recent Kids' Time event celebrated the Motown Sound. After listening to the popular selection *Drum Dream Girl*, children constructed their own colorful, glitzy tambourines and microphones and used them as they danced to popular Motown tunes.



Teen Librarian Rachel Downen joined the Roosevelt High School Diversity Book Club. The students read all three titles of Congressman John Lewis' graphic novel series *March*. The discussion was quite serious and centered on a question raised by one of the teens, "He [John Lewis] was willing to die for the cause [civil rights]. Are any of us willing to die for this [gun debate in light of the recent school shooting in Florida] or something else?"



Adults were treated to a special workshop where they learned how to make Luscious Library Lip Balm. Librarian Rae Downen instructed the crowd of excited learners. The ingredients used were environmentally friendly, and each participant walked away with two tubes of lip balm. Patrons even had the option of tint, flavor, and of course, sparkle!



Back by popular demand, Pruitt branch held another Loom Knitting class for adults. Participants used looms, crochet picks and various colors of yarn to create beautiful and practical knit hats. It takes several hours to complete one hat, and patrons had fun getting to know one another while they knitted.



In February, the TGIF Book Group tasted new and vintage varieties of pu-erh tea while discussing Lisa Say's *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*. Pu'erh is a fermented tea produced in Yunnan province, China. Patrons enjoyed learning about and sampling what several participants described as bold, earthy teas.

SAN PEDRO



Children's Librarian Betsy Dalton presented monthly story times to children at Monte Vista Montessori (two classes) and Laurel Heights Weekday School (two classes). Fifteen to twenty books were also delivered to each child care/preschool class for their use during the month. Monte Vista and Laurel Heights request thematic books for topics they will be discussing in their respective classes and the teachers are very appreciative to this enrichment to their curriculum.



Ms. Dalton hosted two Family Fun events during this period. One was part of the Our Family Reads program where the children and parents experimented with different paper airplane designs to determine which had the most aerodynamic design. Later, in March, a San Antonio Symphony violinist entertained an appreciative audience.



Minecraft Monday continues and Kids Time on Wednesdays has been converted to a weekly LEGO® Club. Attendance at both programs has increased. During Spring Break, Ms. Dalton hosted "Spring Break Boredom Busters". A different fun activity was held every day: Gamer Monday; Artful Tuesday (free form sculpting to create art in the style of Chihuly's sculpture on display at the Central Library); Green Spring Wednesday (enjoying the beautiful Spring weather while making a hanging planter and planting flower seeds of their choice, followed by LEGO club); Throwback Thursday (playing a multitude of board games all afternoon) and finally, Friday "Crafternoon" (making crafts from a variety of materials favored by the children). The Boredom Busters program was a huge success for San Pedro, drawing in an aggregate of 127 patrons!



Toddler Time programs continued during this reporting time with a small but very loyal group. A few new children have joined our group.



Children's Librarian Betsy Dalton and Manager Diane Backhus represented the library at the February 7 Rogers AC Family Literacy Night promoting SAPL and providing a fun craft for the children.



Ms. Dalton hosted nine book clubs in the aggregate for 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. These schools include Monte Vista Montessori, Kipp Poder, St. Anthony's School, and three SAISD schools: Hawthorne Academy, Cotton ES, and Beacon Hill ES. She also assists the facilitator of the book club at the Advanced Learning Academy by helping her select and obtain appropriate books.



Ms. Dalton was invited to speak at the Hawthorne AC Career Day held March 8. She informed two classes of first graders about the fun and challenges of being a children's librarian in a public library. In addition to bringing thematic books requested by the teachers for the three preschools she visits monthly, Ms. Dalton also brings thematic books to a 4th and 5th grade teacher at the Advanced Learning Academy.



Library Assistant Carmen Roja designed the San Pedro Adult Coloring Book Club. She organized everything for the program: pencils, markers, and a selection of coloring sheets which matched the interests of the participants perfectly. About half used markers and half used colored pencils. There were eleven participants (6 adults, 2 teens, and 3 kids), and they thoroughly enjoyed the activity. In fact, they were so intent on the coloring that time seemed to pass very quickly. The attendees voted and said they would like it if we offered the program every other Saturday. They named it the San Pedro Family Art Club. This program was supported by funding from the Friends of San Pedro Library.

SCHAEFER



Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser visited two elementary schools, Miller and Bowden, to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday for Read Across America. She read *Green Eggs and Ham* to kindergarten classes at each school. She also visited the Little Engine Learning Center on Feb. 21 and read stories and sang songs about dogs to four groups of children.



Story Time and Toddler Time programming has continued on a weekly basis. During the past few weeks, kids have heard stories and songs about dogs, chickens, socks, and the color green for St. Patrick's Day. LEGO Time also takes place each week on Wednesday afternoons, and the creations the kids make are displayed in the library.



Library Assistant Sara Ramirez facilitated two Science Time programs during the reporting period. On February 22, children enjoyed a series of engineering design challenges. Using foam blocks as building materials and shaving cream as an adhesive, children were challenged to build tall towers with a well-defined base. Children also learned about 2D and 3D shapes using popsicle sticks and challenge cards. After mastering 2D shapes such as squares and triangles, children were encouraged to build pyramids and tetrahedrons. There was also a free build station on the floor with an assortment of materials including wooden blocks and straws and connectors.



On March 8, Science Time celebrated the majestic Monarch butterfly. Children watched a time lapse of the metamorphosis of a Monarch butterfly and created a coffee filter butterfly using watercolors. Children also competed in a butterfly relay race. Kids were paired into teams of two and had to wrap their caterpillar partners with crepe paper forming a chrysalis. Once the chrysalis was formed, the kids raced to a flower and had to break free from their chrysalis. The first butterfly to reach the flower was crowned the winner.



Schaefer teen activities included STEM, arts/crafts, and gaming programs throughout the reporting period. Teens learned to create a circuit using fruits and vegetables as energy for their STEM program. Teens also used Sphero Ollie driving robots in a game of soccer that challenged teens to navigate the robots. Youth Code Jam visited with youth during Spring Break to teach how to code robots to compete in a putt-putt game. Teens also participated in low tech arts and crafts activities such as creating Japanese cherry blossoms with paint and paper. Schaefer also held a repeat of Chinatsu Oku's Japanese calligraphy workshop.



The St. Patrick's Day holiday gave teens the opportunity to work together on a scavenger hunt throughout the library. Teens followed clues to the water fountain, outside playground, front doors, and finally back to the Teen Space where they found their "pot of gold" which was filled with chocolate gold coins and other candy. Teens also worked together during a fun-filled afternoon of gaming during the first ever "Super Gamer Saturday." Teens used the library's Wii U and PS4 gaming systems for some friendly competition.



Teen Services Librarian, Cindy Cruz, continues visiting STEM Early College High School's afterschool program and presented to 40 teens. Students from STEM H.S. made 3D printed key chains during their monthly program.



Monday evenings at Schaefer, patrons gather for Chess Club. Children and adults play friendly games of chess in Schaefer's Community Flex Space. Patrons solve chess puzzles, observe historic chess matches, and learn the basics of strategy with Library Assistant Mason Matthews. Tournament Style Chess Sets were provided by a generous donation from our friends at Dollar General.



Once each fortnight, on Thursday afternoon, Schaefer hosts the Kid's Gaming Program. School-aged children gather in the Mays Family Community Flex Space to play Wii U and Nintendo Switch games in an environment which promotes teamwork, friendly competition, and social interaction. Library Assistant Mason Matthews offers instruction and mediation to the gathered patrons.



Every other Saturday at Schaefer Branch Library, patrons gather for Zumba! Licensed Zumba Instructor Darlene De La Garza leads an hour-long session of enthusiastic dancercise to a lively Latin soundtrack. Patrons shed stress and calories in the air conditioned comfort of the Mays Family Community Flex Space.



Monday and Wednesday evenings, and Thursday and Friday mornings at Schaefer Branch Library, patrons can attend GED prep classes. ESC-20 (Region-20) provides instruction and materials for local adults in ten week increments. Classes take place in the H.E.B Collaborate Space.

SEMMES



Kids and their adults had a slightly messy but fun time learning how to make puffy paint using shaving cream, glue, and tempura paint. This was one of their favorite crafts this month at Semmes.



All ages enjoyed the visit from the San Antonio Symphony and children and adults were serenaded by a violinist and heard about the upcoming symphony programs, violin facts, and possible paths to musicianship.



Children's Librarian Randi Jones had a whopping 18 babies for baby time. In her weekly Story Time program, one of her regular attendees took her first steps much to everyone's delight!



Tween time, led by Library Assistant Melody Smith, is going strong! This month teens completed challenging mazes, played board games, and played Minecraft. They also sewed shamrocks for St. Patrick's Day. A highlight of the month was that teens seemed to be addicted to playing the board game Life and two of the girls placed their husbands in the backseat of their cars when they "got married" in the game. The boys in attendance took it in stride.



Librarian Randi Jones represented SAPL at Family Literacy Night at both Rolling Meadows Elementary and Paschall Elementary.



Tuesday Teen Time has been dominated by competitive card games such as Dutch Blitz and Uno. The Teens also taught Library Assistant Melody Smith how to play Cut the Rope.



The Saturday morning walking group has reached a record high attendance with 10 participants. Families and individuals, led by Library Assistant Julie Ernst, went for a walk through Comanche Lookout Park every Saturday.



The Semmes Sunday Stitchers met thrice this reporting period and attendees are still working hard at their craft. All ages and skill levels are welcome and there is a nice mix of beginners and veterans.



Adult Services Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse led the first annual Pop Con at the Central Library. There were over 2,000 in attendance of all ages. Librarian Megan Stanley assisted by hosting a panel on Pop Nostalgia and Fan Fiction.

THOUSAND OAKS



Children's services at Thousand Oaks hosted a Motown Dance Party on Feb 22 in honor of Black History Month. Attendees enjoyed playing with shaker eggs, rhythm instruments, and colorful ribbons while famous Motown music played and the bubble machine provided loads of bubbles!



Children's Librarian Ann Laird has been providing a Come and Go Craft each weekend through tax season to help entertain some of the children visiting the library with caregivers that are utilizing the VITA service to have their taxes done.



During March Thousand Oaks is holding an ongoing “Easter Egg Hunt” in the children’s section of the library. The game gives children clues of where to find the eggs in different parts of the library. This has been successful in introducing children to parts of the collection that they may not have visited before. Some patrons have checked out items from these areas because of being led to them by the “hunt.”



Thousand Oaks Library hosted a Teen Game Night with Just Dance 2018, Twister, and Jenga. The teens enjoyed snacks while playing the games. The Thousand Oaks Branch Library continues to have the teen program grow in size, with many teens bringing friends to enjoy the activities, snacks, and socializing that is provided.



Librarian Steven Barrera volunteered to assist at Pop Con at the Central Library on March 3. This is a system wide event to provide a fun, action-packed time for those interested in anime and manga. Teens, adults, and families enjoyed themselves at this extravaganza.



The Thursday Book Group met on March 15 to discuss *The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend* by Katrina Bivald. Sara, a young Swedish girl, travels across the world to meet her pen pal Amy. Upon her arrival Sara learns of Amy’s death. After the funeral the members of the town invite Sara to stay as their guest. Books happen to be the tie between Amy and Sara. Sara, having nothing to go back to Sweden for, decides to stay. To find a way to fit into the small town, Sara decides to open a bookstore. The bookstore opens the small town to more than just books. The book group members enjoyed this book. Refreshments were tomato basil pie, blueberry muffins, and assorted cookies. Two new members have found their way into the group.



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) continues to provide customers with free tax preparation. Each day the service is open finds capacity crowds waiting patiently outside. Thousand Oaks is happy to be able to provide space for this important service.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL



Children’s Librarian Karen Braeuler impressively read books to four different grade levels at Southwest Preparatory School on Austin Highway on February 27. The theme, reading for fun and to learn, was emphasized. On March 2, Ms. Braeuler presented to a large group of preschoolers at Northwood Presbyterian Day School where Dr. Seuss’ birthday was celebrated with some of his stories and rhymes.



In addition to Ms. Braeuler’s significant number of weekly programs, she has introduced a monthly Saturday Toddler Time. This adds to the once a month Saturday Story Time for working parents and caregivers to be able to attend library programs at the branch. Word is getting out as story time has nearly tripled from the initial small group. The hope is that hearing stories, singing songs, and playing lively early literacy activities for toddlers on the 3rd Saturday each month, will happen as well.



Librarian Kimberly Wygant’s once-a-month Cooking Time with kids ages 9-12 is always a well-attended program. On February 27, the kids measured fruit roll ups to wrap around their decorated Rice Krispies bars to create sushi snacks. Using brightly colored plastic strings, kids wove plastic craft lace keychains on March 6 which many took to use inside their backpacks.



Teen Librarian Megan Coker hosts weekly programs incorporating STEM activities like paper electrical circuits to create blinking traffic lights. During Teen Tech Week's exercise on March 8, Ms. Coker utilized Teen Services laptop lab for an hour of coding with an enthusiastic group of teens.



Librarian Tracey Knouse arranged with one of Fort Sam's Librarian's for a SAPL presentation at the Military Bases International Librarian Conference in San Antonio. On March 12, Ms. Rhonda Woolhouse spoke, giving valuable guidance and advice to the librarians on offering creative and popular adult programs both in house and for outreach.



Tobin Library at Oakwell saw very high turnout for both Early Voting and Election Day on March 6. The branch had the 2nd highest attendance of early voters for library locations this election period. Many voters checked out the on-going sale of materials on the Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell cart and the Friends benefitted from lots of sales.



Voices De La Luna continues to meet with strong attendance each month for poetry readings by group members or special guests. The discussions are quite lively and fun for all to enjoy.



Similarly, the Interesting Book Club examines a title with feedback from the talkative participants on the first Wednesday of each month. March's title was Kate Atkinson's *Life after Life: A Novel*, which starts out in 1910 with the main character's birth and then as she develops several lives.



Branch personnel thoroughly enjoyed Staff Transformation Day on February 19. Many commented this was the best SAPL professional development day they had attended. The informational sessions, team and motivation classes, and receipt of special employee recognition certificates was quite inspiring. Several Tobin employees presented original and technical solutions for SAPL processes as innovative changes to be embraced at the first SAPL Shark Tank.



Adult Services Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse continues working at Semmes Library to help with their staffing needs. Remarkably, Ms. Woolhouse helped plan, arrange, and host San Antonio Public Library's first Pop Con at Central Library on March 3. The event included multiple authors from varying genres, discussion panels on a wide array of popular culture, and many folks dressed in their favorite characters from comic books and TV shows. Ms. Coker also assisted at the Con and enjoyed the festivities along with aiding customers find their intended locales.

WESTFALL



During March the Westfall Branch Library provided a variety of programs and services to the community. There were weekly programs for all ages and a wide range of topics. In addition to many events hosted at the branch, the staff was also able to offer off site services as well as outreach.



Children's Librarian Imelda Merino planned and held a variety of children's programs during the reporting period. Ms. Merion held weekly story time, toddler time, and family fun. Additionally, Ms. Merino visited the Kinder Care Learning Center and brought the children a variety of books to read.



Teen Librarian Daniella Toll held weekly teen time on Wednesday where young adults had the opportunity to hang out and do some fun activities. Ms. Toll has been working to make the teen area at Westfall more inviting and has gotten some new furniture we hope the teens will like.



The Westfall Branch Library continued to host the “Stranger than Fiction” and “Third Thursday” book clubs. Books read this month included *Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi of 1927 and How it Changed America* by John Barry and *A Man Named Ove* by Fredrik Backman. Both book clubs draw small but dedicated groups that enjoy discussing the themes of the books as well as other issues of the day.



In March, the branch continued to host the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, a free tax assistance service available to residents with incomes of \$60,000 or less. The service continued to be a much sought after program, with many people waiting in line prior to the branch opening.



The Westfall Learn @ SAPL Center continued to be busy throughout the year. Over 200 people have stopped by the center for assistance with résumé writing, online job applications, and educational support. The English as a Second Language (ESL) class held every Saturday afternoon continued to be popular with the community and well attended. In February and March, Learn @ SAPL offered a variety of computer classes and one-one-one coaching that included Microsoft Word, Excel, online searching, and email basics.



In addition to in-house services at the Learn @SAPL Center, Adult Education Officer Michelle Rickman attended a resource fair at the Haven For Hope center on March 9. During the event, Ms. Rickman spoke to over 100 people and promoted the offerings at the LEARN Centers throughout the city of San Antonio.



Westfall Branch Manager Nathaniel Laubner continued to visit the Madonna SAHA apartments to delivery and pick up books for the residents. Mr. Laubner brought books in English, Spanish and Russian. The Russian residents are the most avid readers and are always asking for new materials. We hope to one day have more foreign language titles in the collection, but until then we continued to search for other items. In addition to books, the facility manager and Mr. Laubner had crossword and word search games available to residents. Also, paperback books and more information about the library system were left for the seniors.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

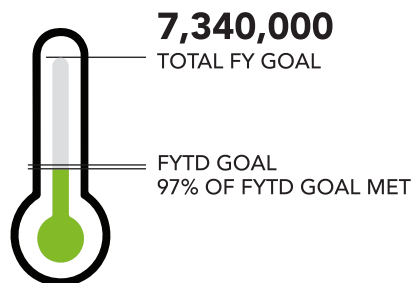
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY KEY INDICATORS

FEBRUARY 2018

FY 2018

Presented below are key indicators that align with the Library's Strategic Plan, with a comparison to FY 2017.

CIRCULATION: GOAL

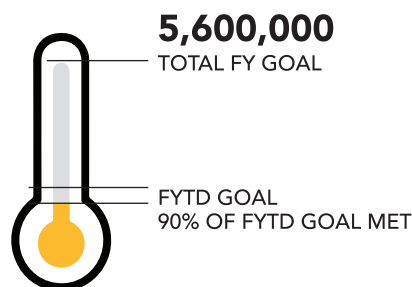


CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE



2,808,603 ↓ **3%**
ITEMS
BORROWED

LIBRARY VISITS: GOAL



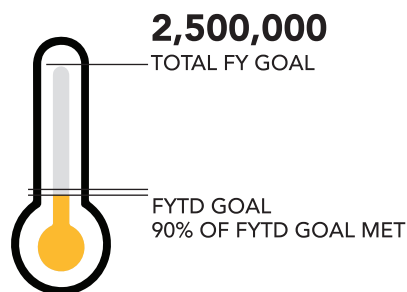
LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE



1,989,344 ↓ **16%***
VISITS

** As anticipated, visits are down compared to last year due to the presidential election*

DIGITAL ACCESS: GOAL



DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE



229,363
COMPUTER
HOURS



686,080
HOURS OF
WI-FI USE

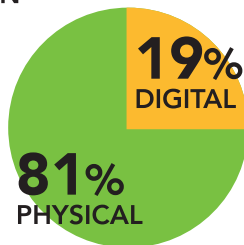
915,443 ↓ **12%**
TOTAL HOURS OF
COMPUTER & WI-FI USE

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

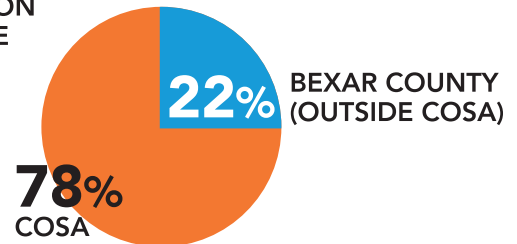
FEBRUARY 2018 *(continued)*

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

CIRCULATION
BY TYPE



CIRCULATION
BY SERVICE
AREA



VIRTUAL VISITS: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE



1,040,367
MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

354,429
MYSAPL
APP SESSIONS

719,041
SANANTONIO.OVERDRIVE.COM
VISITS

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE



131,234
TOTAL ATTENDANCE

26,947
ADULT PROGRAMS

19,946
TEEN PROGRAMS

84,341
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 2018



Staff Transformation Day at El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel



Black Panther Superhero Night at Carver Branch Library

San Antonio Public Library

February 2018 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	4,253	10,750	6,402	1,701	4,702
Brook Hollow	22,471	22,647	5,443	1,091	4,352
Carver	3,859	6,972	3,564	1,311	2,253
Central	21,155	48,038	40,831	10,295	30,536
Cody	29,922	23,903	6,293	1,165	5,129
Collins Garden	5,673	7,845	4,445	1,531	2,914
Cortez	5,397	8,857	3,788	1,080	2,709
Encino	16,244	13,587	3,480	456	3,023
Forest Hills	6,174	8,897	4,684	1,037	3,647
Great Northwest	19,910	16,744	5,605	1,377	4,229
Guerra	9,165	13,347	6,083	1,619	4,464
Igo	23,821	21,925	7,351	895	6,456
Johnston	9,335	10,436	4,131	1,243	2,888
Landa	10,728	9,989	2,181	662	1,519
Las Palmas	4,328	9,993	4,225	1,500	2,726
Maverick	20,195	13,860	5,075	1,383	3,692
McCreless	9,248	14,395	5,447	1,498	3,949
Memorial	5,937	9,291	4,225	1,130	3,095
Mission	10,307	21,063	7,267	2,067	5,200
Pan American	5,398	6,925	3,233	1,342	1,890
Parman	22,633	24,175	4,921	617	4,304
Potranco	16,042	13,443	12,491	919	11,573
Pruitt	5,772	17,161	3,658	907	2,751
San Pedro	3,464	5,332	2,413	599	1,813
Schaefer	7,888	9,790	5,555	670	4,884
Semmes	20,415	16,387	6,205	1,510	4,695
Thousand Oaks	9,201	8,866	5,445	1,043	4,402
Tobin	16,482	19,007	4,324	1,365	2,958
Westfall	13,481	15,279	7,031	2,182	4,849
Kampmann Library Portal	N/A	1,316	553	N/A	553
Interlibrary Loan Lending	874	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	68,726	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	105,562	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	534,060	430,220	186,350	44,197	142,153

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

San Antonio Public Library

February 2018 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	41	22	7	12	394	174	31	189
Brook Hollow	36	7	4	25	703	81	9	613
Carver	36	28	7	1	591	470	43	78
Central	117	11	69	37	1,781	314	613	854
Cody	41	7	8	26	1,145	86	273	786
Collins Garden	40	11	4	25	581	119	28	434
Cortez	86	62	4	20	399	192	16	191
Encino	52	11	8	33	1,029	69	178	782
Forest Hills	21	6	0	15	203	28	0	175
Great Northwest	42	12	9	21	1,575	116	231	1,228
Guerra	35	13	6	16	800	175	280	345
Igo	39	13	7	19	1,415	122	44	1,249
Johnston	31	11	4	16	314	44	19	251
Landa	54	6	8	40	1,241	78	15	1,148
Las Palmas	36	14	4	18	400	100	4	296
Maverick	25	4	4	17	613	34	36	543
McCreless	22	2	4	16	276	6	28	242
Memorial	28	11	0	17	271	121	0	150
Mission	54	26	13	15	837	318	283	236
Pan American	39	15	8	16	631	99	239	293
Parman	61	26	4	31	894	295	15	584
Potranco	15	2	1	12	407	9	2	396
Pruitt	57	14	20	23	1,452	127	476	849
San Pedro	27	1	0	26	343	2	0	341
Schaefer	42	4	8	30	675	65	104	506
Semmes	39	9	4	26	699	44	29	626
Thousand Oaks	14	1	4	9	105	17	62	26
Tobin	49	11	6	32	832	86	83	663
Westfall	31	9	5	17	190	65	25	100
Kampmann Library Portal	1	1	0	0	8	8	0	0
Little Read Wagon	71	0	0	71	1,316	0	0	1,316
TOTAL	1,282	370	230	682	22,120	3,464	3,166	15,490