



San Antonio Public Library Director's Report September 2019

San Antonio Public Library celebrated the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month on Sunday, September 15th at Central Library with La Lote: A Celebration of Art y Cultura.

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE



Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with Councilmember Dr. Rocha Garcia on Monday, August 19, 2019 and Councilmember Cabello Havrda on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 to share information about the Library system and the library locations within the respective City Council Districts. The meetings were informative and no follow-up action was required.



San Antonio Public Library and Harlandale Independent School District are partnering with OverDrive to enhance access to digital reading materials for students. Both entities utilize OverDrive as the primary platform to provide access to e-content. The Library's entire OverDrive catalog will be available to Harlandale students through the school district's mobile app utilized to access e-content. This seamless approach will eliminate the need for Harlandale students to transition between the Library's e-content app (Libby) and the school district's e-content app (SORA) and expands the availability of titles to students.



Library Director Ramiro Salazar accepted an invitation to join a joint American Library Association (ALA) and Public Library Association (PLA) press conference on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 in his official role as President of PLA and also representing a major urban public library. Currently the Digital Book World Conference is taking place in Nashville, TN and ALA and PLA are seizing this opportunity to host a press conference at the Nashville Main Library to launch a public action campaign – "EbooksForAll". The public action campaign is intended to bring attention to Macmillan Publishers for announced changes to their e-book purchase policy for libraries.

By way of background, in July 2019, Macmillan announced a change in their e-book purchase policy for libraries which limits libraries to purchase only one copy of a new release and places an embargo on the purchase of subsequent copies for eight (8) weeks. Macmillan claims that public library lending is affecting the company's bottom line, thus the change in policy. With this change, for example, San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) would only be allowed to buy one copy of a book for an eight (8) week period thus increasing hold times for customers. Currently, Macmillan published books currently represent 7% of the SAPL's collection.

The national library community is deeply concerned not only of the changes to Macmillan policies but that its action could serve as a gateway to policy changes of other publishing companies. Ramiro has been actively engaged with leaders with ALA, PLA, Urban Libraries Council, large urban libraries and other entities regarding this matter.

MARKETING

Top media hits for the past month:

- Texas Public Radio invited the San Antonio Public Library for a panel discussion on their show, The Source, about the 2020 Census. Elma Nieto-Rodriguez, Public Service Coordinator represented SAPL and shared the Library's role in this upcoming Census.



- KSAT ran a special feature on fun facts about Central Library. This was featured on KSAT's website and also ran on Good Morning San Antonio, KSAT's Live TV morning show.



- Spectrum News, WOAI, and Telemundo featured the Library's partnership with Harlandale ISD. This partnership allows Harlandale ISD students to access the Library's digital collection through a digital application available for students to download.



The design team completed a wide range of materials to promote library programs and events, including Teen Arts Fest, Halloween events for adults and children, the “Winds and Words of War” exhibit in the Central gallery, Library Card Sign-up Month, additional items for the Nature Smart partnership with Parks and Recreation, and materials to promote other events across all library locations.



The team also completed promotional materials for the teen event Rock the Plaza 2019 in collaboration with the Teen Library team. This community event is presented by the Eclectic Electric at the Teen Library hosted at Central Library plaza. The event includes music and dance performances by Eclectic Electric, Ariel Corin, Tai Li and local teens. The required materials to promote this event included: posters, postcards, stickers, stencils, digital displays, web banner, t-shirt and social media graphics. Promotional materials integrate the artwork created by one of the teen members, encouraging participation and involvement in the library groups and events.



The team led the promotional design efforts for the Silk Screen Print Workshop. This event is hosted at the Pan American, Bazan, Forest Hills and Encino Branches. San Antonio community members 13 years old and older are invited to participate in this free workshop instructed by an artist and art educator. The workshop provides a fun and interactive experience and gets attendees involved and will leave them with a lasting impression, helping them to develop a new skill. Eye catching and appealing promotional materials were created including: workshop flyer, digital displays, web banner, and social media graphics.



Additionally, the team designed and completed promotional materials for the Knit Out and Crochet too! event. This community event is presented in partnership with the Alamo Rows Crochet Guild and hosted at Igo Branch Library. San Antonio community members are invited to receive help to learn the basics of stitching. The required materials to promote this event included: workshop flyer, digital displays, web banner, and social media graphics.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:

- SAPL’s social media following base grew by 301 new fans
- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts 16,065 times.

Social Media statistics for the month:

- Facebook: 18,324 fans

- Twitter: 4,795 followers
- Instagram: 3,950 followers

DIGITAL SERVICES



On August 20 and 21, Digital Services staff members attended the Administrative training from SirsiDynix on the Library's new Symphony ILS. These sessions introduced Digital Services, the primary administrators of the new ILS, to the wide range of configuration features available in the system.



On August 22, Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun and Digital Library Services Analyst Tricia Masterson along with other key Library staff met with SirsiDynix Trainer Katie Lusk to discuss the best methods for training staff on the new ILS. Various options, such as train the trainer, online tutorials, and in person training were discussed.



A test upload to the Savannah Spot On data analytics system was performed on August 25 by Digital Library Services Coordinator Adam Spana and Mr. Laun to test the extraction and upload procedures needed to implement the service. Savannah Spot On is a platform designed to allow libraries to gain meaningful insights, connect with their customers and to measure the results. Test extractions were successful and weekly data uploads began on September 1.



Library Services Coordinator Ron Suszek, Mr. Spana, and Mr. Laun met on August 29 with Interim Coordinator of Children's Services Cresencia Huff, Interim Coordinator of Adult Services Morgan Yoshimura, and Performance and Innovation Manager David Cooksey to discuss this year's Summer Reading Database, a system created by Digital Library Services Assistant Michael Sheehan. Overall the system was very successful in helping Library staff register Summer Reading participants and to track their progress through the program. Some suggestions were made for possible enhancements for next year's reading program. On September 3, 2019, Mr. Sheehan distributed the final numbers of the database to the group.



Ms. Masterson and Mr. Laun participated in the September 3 - 5 trainings by SirsiDynix. These sessions covered the Acquisition and Serials functionality of the Library's new ILS.

LITTLE READ WAGON

The window between conclusion of summer programming and the beginning of school visits is dedicated to planning and preparation for the school year. Clair Larkin, Julia Lazarin, and Cresencia Huff have been in contact with community partners to schedule early literacy workshops and events. Scheduling at this time is somewhat limited due to Ms. Huff's assignment of interim Coordinator of Children's Services.

A new opportunity to make a city-wide impact is in development. The Little Read Wagon team, with support from Central Library staff members and Children's Librarians system-wide, will host Baby Day on February 15, 2020. With support from non-profit infant mental health organization First 3 Years Texas, this will be the first Baby Day event held in a library. The debut events in February 2019 were held at museums. The day is to be filled with activities for children 0-3 years old and their caregivers. Partners

from the community will be invited to facilitate activities and information about their services will be available in a centralized location.



Play & Learn

Play & Learn is off to a hot and humid but well-shaded start at Concepción Park. The beautiful park has lots of mature trees and interesting stonework and plantings that encourage calm yet energetic exploration of the park as well as the materials provided by the Little Read Wagon team. Program attendance has grown each week.



Workshops for Professionals

Ms. Lazarin and Ms. Larkin presented the first Saturday “Make Way for Play!” workshop September 14. This year the workshop is four hours long. As another means of eliminating barriers to access to library services, workshop participants were offered free parking. Ms. Larkin and Megan Cruz presented a shorter version of last year’s “Why? Using non-fiction in early childhood settings” to a group of Avance Head Start teachers at the Fenley Center. Ms. Larkin also presented “Early Literacy Basics” at the September 7 VOICES for Children early childhood training and resource fair at San Antonio College. It has been a very busy month!



System-wide Support

The Little Read Wagon team said good bye to one temporary staff member this month. Megan Cruz obtained full-time employment with another City department. The team wishes her the best of luck and looks forward to working with her again as her new assignment is within the early childhood community. Meanwhile, at the suggestion of Dale McNeill, an invitation to learn more about Little Read Wagon was sent to all staff. Several Circulation Attendants, Library Assistants, Library Aides, and Children’s Librarians have accepted the invitation and will be joining Little Read Wagon for Play & Learn in the coming months.

Ms. Larkin and Ms. Lazarin each spent time with Library colleagues assisting at the Migrant Resource Center. Since the number of migrants visiting the center has dropped compared to the spring and summer, there have been more opportunities to offer story time and share playdough with the children. The team is glad to provide these moments of fun interaction and early literacy skills development.

CHILDREN’S (SYSTEM-WIDE)



Children’s Programs

Several libraries celebrated Skyscraper Day, inviting children to build their own skyscrapers using everything from paper, blocks, and clothespins to upcycled plastic from used sheets of library cards. Multiple locations offered Playdough Day programs with home-made playdough and slime. Some Children’s Librarians chose to offer a playdough buffet with many prepared colors, recipes, and tools for children to use. Others presented the program for older children who participated in mixing up the playdough or slime. Materials to make the dough or slime were distributed with assistance from branch managers and delivery.



Special Performers

This month children have opportunities to learn about animals, insects, rhythm, and drumming. Tom Kinsey is presenting several Learn Nature programs at libraries across San Antonio through October. The programs feature insects, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Mr. Kinsey talks about their habitats and gives children a chance to touch the animals at the end of the program.

TamboRhythms is a drumming and rhythm-making program for children and their families. Jorge Ochoa leads group drumming and invites children to use different kinds of drums, shakers, and percussion instruments. Children also get to take turns leading the group, bringing lots of initially nervous and then proud smiles to their faces.



Summer Reading Wrap-Up

At the September Children's Services meeting Children's Librarians reflected on what contributed to the successes of the Over the Moon Summer Reading program and goals for next summer. Enthusiasm and support from all staff members combined with a great theme and beautiful materials to make for a wonderful summer. Goals for next year include more outreach, increased engagement with the community, building a lifelong love of reading, and providing opportunities to learn new and interesting things.

TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)



Fiesta Youth Partnership—On Tuesday, August 27, Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) and Ami Sarabia (Teen Outreach Specialist) spoke with parents of Fiesta Youth's teens during their bimonthly Parent Night meeting. Loaiza and Sarabia discussed LGBTQ+ physical and digital resources that are available through the San Antonio Public Library as well as the unique partnership between the San Antonio Public Library and Fiesta Youth. Afterwards, Loaiza and Sarabia engaged with Fiesta Youth teens during their weekly meeting as they worked on potting succulents, creating vision boards, and making beaded bracelets. Loaiza, Sarabia, and Erica Alcocer (Youth Facilitator, Fiesta Youth) also met to discuss the details of the Fall 2019 partnership programming initiative between Teen Services and Fiesta Youth, which will start in September and conclude in December.



San Antonio Food Bank Partnership—Teen Services resumed its partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank to provide after-school healthy snacks for teens during the school year. The Teen Library @ Central serves snacks Monday—Thursday from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM. Regina Almanza (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) and J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) attended a training session at the S.A. Food Bank on September 13 as part of the snack program requirements.



Teen Arts Fest and Rock the Plaza events—the Teen Arts Fest / Rock the Plaza committee meets regularly throughout the year to plan the upcoming event. The members are: J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central), Georgina Garcia (Teen Services Librarian II, Bazan), Ciana Flores (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central), Cindy Cruz (Teen Services Librarian I, Schaefer), Julia Pouliot (Teen Services Librarian II, Encino) Stephanie Vazquez (Adult Services Librarian II, Great Northwest), Michelangelo Sosa (Circulation Attendant, Memorial), and Cassie Garza (Library Assistant, Pan American).

During the reporting period, J.D. met with directors of the Ballet Conservatory of Southwest Texas to discuss having their troop perform at Teen Arts Fest. J.D. met with Fox Tech High School Principal, Jennifer Benavides, to discuss outreach opportunities, as well as Fox Tech students attending and / or participating in Rock the Plaza and the Teen Arts Fest.



Off-Site Service—On August 28, Ami Sarabia (Teen Outreach Specialist) drove the VROOM! van to the Pruitt Library for their Back to School Bash. Ami and Sheri Watkins (Teen Librarian, Pruitt Library) staffed the event, which allowed teens to explore the VROOM! van and learn about the services and activities the SAPL offers for teens, such as the live homework help service and participating in a button making activity.

During the weekend of Friday, August 30 through Sunday, September 1, Teen Services continued tradition by hosting the Manga Library at San Japan, an annual anime convention at the Henry B. González Convention Center. As usual, attendees were able to browse through/read over 1000 manga volumes and while learning about the variety of teen programs and services offered by the San Antonio Public Library. This year, attendees also got a glimpse of what teen programming looks like at the San Antonio Public Library: attendees were able to take pictures using the Simple Booth (a photo booth that sends pictures automatically via text or email), test their skills in “Super Smash Bros. Ultimate”, play a variety of tabletop games such as “Unstable Unicorns” and “King of Tokyo,” and get an anime-themed button. A big thank you to Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) and Ami Sarabia (Teen Outreach Specialist) for planning and preparing the details for this year’s Manga Library, as well as to Loaiza, Sarabia, Julia Pouliot (Assistant Manager/Teen Services Librarian, Brook Hollow), Georgina Garcia (Assistant Manager/Teen Services Librarian, Bazan), Chris Castillo (Teen Services Librarian), Regina Almanza (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central), Emily Young (Teen Services Librarian, Mission), Ciana Flores (PT Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central), Sheri Watkins (Teen Services Librarian, Pruitt at Roosevelt), Christian (Teen Volunteer), Leslie (Teen Volunteer), and Esteban (Teen Volunteer) for helping out with the Manga Library throughout the weekend of San Japan. A special thank you also goes out to Ruben Gomez (Building Maintenance Mechanic), Arturo Davila (Building Maintenance Mechanic), Ramiro Nevarez (Building Maintenance Mechanic), and Tracey Cundiff (Building Maintenance Mechanic) for delivering and returning library materials to/from the Convention Center during this event.



Ami visited Harlandale High School teens on September 9 to provide the students information about the teen programming at Mission Library. During the visit, Ami spoke to the teens about the live homework help available through the SAPL, and the students made their favorite buttons.

J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) and Cassandra Garza (Library Assistant/Teen Liaison, Pan American) visited Harlandale High School on September 12 to promote Rock the Plaza and

J.D.'s weekly Eclectic Electric music program in the Teen Library's recording studio. J.D. and Cassandra brought musical instruments for the students to play.

Teen Services participated in the 16 de Septiembre parade at the Plaza Guadalupe on September 14. Ami Sarabia drove the VROOM! van along Brazos Street.



Professional Development—The Teen Services Librarian workgroup meeting took place at the Pan American Library on September 11. Cassandra Garza (Library Assistant/Teen Liaison, Pan American) provided the group with a tour of the library and an in-depth look at the teen space. Daniella Toll gave the group a training session on using Decision Center for weeding. Meeting minutes are posted on the Teen Staff Web.

Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) continues to represent the San Antonio Public Library in this year's Alexander Briseño Leadership Development Program (ABLDP) and attended his fourth class session on September 13. As part of the Arts & Culture Action Team for the program, Loaiza and his team are developing a community impact project that will affect how San Antonians interact with arts and culture in the city.



System-wide Support—J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) continues to participate as a host on the SAPL podcast *Tuned in*. J.D. and the podcast team interviewed featured Teen Arts Fest artist Rachel Kamata, who is a past winner of the Teen Arts Fest Art Slam and designed the artwork for the Rock the Plaza and Teen Arts Fest promotional items this year.

Ami Sarabia (Teen Outreach Specialist) filled in at branches that have Teen Services Librarian vacancies. On September 4, Ami facilitated the teen programming at the Schaefer library. Teens played video and board games. Then on September 11, the teens at Schaefer enjoyed some fruit snacks and shared their favorite YouTube videos.

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)



In recognition of Hunger Action Month in September, Librarian Vicky Villalobos has coordinated a systemwide food drive to benefit the San Antonio Food Bank. Barrels were distributed to all library locations the last week of August and will be picked up the first week of October. The goal of this food drive is to collect the San Antonio Food Banks most needed canned and non-perishable items such as peanut butter, cereal, tuna and rice. Hunger Action Month is organized nationally by Feeding America in an effort to bring attention to and solutions for food insecurity in the United States.



During this reporting period, the first quarterly winner of a Kindle Fire from the patrons that completed a Digital Inclusion Certificate Program track was awarded. The winner was a patron of the Cortez Learn Center who completed the Computer Basics Certificate. She currently works full time as a maintenance worker for a large local employer and was able to use the Learn Center after work to improve her computer skills. She plans to use the computer skills she gained through the Learn Center and the Digital Inclusion Certificate Program to help her advance in her career – and move from her current position as a maintenance worker into a customer service or clerical position. The Digital Inclusion Certificate Program began in May 2019, and is offered at all four Learn Center Locations. This program gives participants the opportunity to gain skills in four areas: computer basics, connect with family and friends, find and apply for jobs, and build professional skills. Each skill area consists of five steps that

participants can work through at their own pace with the guidance of Learn Center staff. This program was developed by training officer Emily Flores in partnership with Google Fiber and NTEN.



The Tuned In Podcast Crew produced another episode during this reporting period. This most recent episode was an interview of local artist, Audrya Flores regarding her exhibit, "Digging", in the Central Library gallery. This exhibit was on view in the gallery through August 29th and featured self-portraiture and a site-specific installation recognizing the serpent as a symbol of rebirth. The Tuned In Crew includes J.D. Elizondo, Edward Mayberry, Rebecca Martinez, Raquel Reyes, Daniel Gonzalez, Diana Starett, and Daniel Garcia.

CENTRAL LIBRARY CHILDREN



Manager Kate Simpson and Library Assistant Ana Sandoval worked together with Cresencia Huff, Interim Coordinator of Children's Services, to develop children's activities for the La Lotería event in the Latino Collection and Resource Center featuring children's author Xelena González. They were inspired by her focus on the lotería card, La Rosa, to present an open-ended creative opportunity involving fresh flower petals. Ms. Sandoval facilitated the activity along with Practicum student Dacari Lambert. Children enjoyed the unusual sensory experience and crafted elaborate flower petal collages.



Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin's *Toddler Time* programs continued to be popular events. Families enjoyed the farm themed program, featuring a sensory craft where toddlers made "muddy piggies" by painting pink pig die cuts with brown paint mixed with sand. Children engaged in dramatic play with farm animal puppets and practiced color sorting using a variety of plastic vegetables. Sensory experiences included manipulating green playdough and playing in a bin full of dry beans and farm animal plastic toys. Ms. Seglin continued her innovative approach to early childhood programming the following week. Children immersed themselves in the crunchy paper material of a giant "bird nest" made from packing material and brown butcher paper and full of bird puppets. She made a sensory bin that gave children the unique experience of running their hands through cooked pasta noodles. The highlight of the event was the olfactory delight of painting with spices! Ms. Seglin added water to piles of cinnamon, comino, ginger and pumpkin pie spice and encouraged toddlers to use paintbrushes to make fragrant masterpieces. This activity was very popular with families and made the whole room smell amazing! Librarian Ashley Stubbs presented *Toddler Time* in Ms. Seglin's absence. She similarly focused on art activities for young children during her well-received program.



Librarian Ashley Stubbs presented *Play & Learn* early literacy programs. She expounded upon her art themed *Toddler Time* presentation at *Play & Learn* by facilitating the children's exploration of different painting tools. They used everything from traditional paint brushes to sponges and even toothbrushes! They also enjoyed the tactile sensation of sticking soft items like pom poms, pipe cleaners and yarn onto sticky contact paper to create a collaborative art piece. Ms. Stubbs encouraged children's fine motor skills development with a threading activity using ribbon and yarn. Pets and Vets was the theme when she presented an array of dramatic play opportunities, including washing plastic pets in a water sensory area. Young children engaged in an elaborate dramatic play experience as they played veterinarian to animal puppets, tending to them with flannel gauze and plastic stethoscopes. The sensory

activity was crafting a bird's nest from playdough, feathers, sticks and yarn. Librarian Olivia Escovedo presented *Play & Learn* in Ms. Stubb's absence with a "Back to School" theme. She crafted a dramatic play cafeteria with lunch trays and plastic food. Children developed their writing skills by tracing letters onto apple die cuts. She presented the sensory experiences of using letter stamps on play dough and digging for plastic letters in sand bins.



Ms. Escovedo led the *Family Fun* programs on weekends. Her first event was all about birthdays. After sharing stories, she presented two craft activities: making an oversized paper cupcake and designing elaborate birthday hats. The children enjoyed the dramatic play experience of recreating a birthday party with animal puppets wearing birthday hats and fake ice cream. She celebrated Mexican Independence Day with a special program demonstrating the art of papel picado. Ms. Escovedo made slime in the colors of the Mexican flag and that was a huge hit with children. Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez presented *Family Fun* in Ms. Escovedo's absence for Skyscraper Day. Children were encouraged to build their own skyscrapers using LEGOs, plastic cups, or straws and play dough.



Ms. Stubbs continued to craft creative collection marketing initiatives for the department. A new series of "Get to Know Us" displays she developed was unveiled this month. Ms. Stubbs made posters highlighting Ms. Escovedo and Ms. Seglin, featuring all the things they enjoy, along with displays of their favorite books. In an effort to increase circulation of overlooked titles, Ms. Stubbs created a "Golden Ticket" game. She placed the golden tickets in chapter books that had not circulated recently and encouraged kids to find them and earn a small prize. She instituted another idea for getting children into the stacks this month – a new I Spy scavenger hunt! It featured animals that live underground, with pictures of them placed on low shelves to emphasize where they live.



Central Children's outreach endeavors kicked into gear with the start of the school year. Ms. Seglin guided Ms. Escovedo in resuming outreach visits to Green Acres Child Care Center. They shared songs and stories with an enthusiastic group of preschoolers. Ms. Stubbs began monthly visits to Central Christian Church Child Development Center to deliver bags of board books and picture books to supplement the school's collection. Ms. Seglin presented story times to two classes of children at Madison Square Child Development Center. She also brought them carefully chosen picture books with topics that support the school's lesson plan. Ms. Simpson delivered selected books to the Discovery School in support of their curriculum as well.



Practicum Student Dacari Lambert joined the Central Children's team as an intern for the fall semester. She has already contributed to several projects and her diligence and positive attitude prove she will become an asset to the Central Children's department this season.

TEENS

TEEN LIBRARY @ CENTRAL



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.

J.D.'s Girl Scout Gold Star project advisee, Morgan Crowley, has installed her art project which consists of five large mosaics made of recycled plastic bottle caps and similar items in the Teen Library. The art will also be displayed in the installation gallery during the upcoming Teen Arts Fest event at the Central Library. Morgan seeks to educate people about recycling with her Gold Star Award project via an artistic interaction.



Tuesdays with Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager): In a surprising turn of events, Banjo & Kazooie (the latest DLC characters for “Super Smash Bros. Ultimate”) were unexpectedly released at the beginning of September. Teens mentioned that the new duo were a welcome addition to the growing roster of playable characters and were especially relieved that the latest character was not a swordfighter. But despite the nostalgia associated with Banjo & Kazooie, teens have concluded that Banjo & Kazooie’s moveset pales in comparison to both Joker and the Hero (the first two DLC characters released earlier this year). As an added bonus, Sans (a popularly requested character from “Undertale”) was also added to the game as a Mii costume—which came as a welcome surprise to all the teens (although they are still disappointed that he is only available as a costume, and not an actual fighter). With the anticipation of new controllers arriving soon, teens are working together to plan some tournament-style gaming nights in the near future.



Wednesdays with Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT): Ciana continued to facilitate technology programming in the lab in the Teen Library to assist teens with designing 3D models to print and finding printed models online. She also facilitated use of the Oculus Rift, a Virtual Reality headset loaded with games for teens.



Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): With teens engaging in some encouraging socialization and positive activities, they also express themselves creatively with programs suggested and

planned by them. During the reporting period, teens attempted a Japanese pancake, some boba (bubble) tea, and one teen threw a book party for Dragon Ball Z, a night reserved for watching episodes of the show, making papercrafts and a dragon ball fruit pizza.



To usher in Autumn, teens created a recipe using canned pumpkin. Incorporating some new crafts found teens attempting linoleum cuts to make cute stamps. The craft required some major hand-eye coordination and unfortunately some adhesive bandages.

During craft sessions, teens also engage in some open play using Teen Library's variety of games, including Twister, Uno, and Catchphrase. Teens also take the opportunity to spend independent time using the recording studio or the lab. Teens can also request video game systems to engage in some friendly competition. Pictures from Thursday craft times can be found at <http://www.instagram.com/210teenlibrary>.

Tours and Groups

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 Texas Juvenile Justice Department and other community centers made regular visits during the reporting period.

Several school classes made visits to the Central Library for tours from Teen Library staff, including CAST Tech High School and the Advanced Learning Academy.

REFERENCE



Reference staff presented two films this month for the Central Cinema series. The first film, *Maeda Family Funeral*, is the eleventh and final entry in a popular franchise. Comedy ensues when

Madea and her family travel to Georgia for a reunion and anniversary celebration. In an unexpected turn the family ends up planning a funeral which leads to the discovery of family secrets. Attendees laughed throughout. One patron expressed appreciation for the comedy and the snacks the audience is allowed to bring. *Shazam*, the second film, is a superhero movie based on a DC Comic character. The film's premise is that we all have a superhero inside us – it just takes a bit of magic to bring it out. In Billy Batson's case, by shouting out one word, this streetwise fourteen-year-old foster kid can turn into an adult superhero. Revelling in this adult version of himself, Billy has fun with his new superpowers. Soon he'll need to master his new powers to fight the forces of evil. Adults, teens, and children enjoyed the comedic and good natured battle of good versus evil.



Librarian, Lorin Flores hosted another entry in the Cinema Terrible series, *Cosmos: War of the Planets*. The 1978 science fiction horror opus is considered to be a remake of a previous Mario Bava film. It features killer robots, impossibly weird futuristic couture, an evil supercomputer, and an incoherent plot. In response to audience feedback, a playlist of bad space trailers was shown before the movie. The heckle leader wore his special badge and sat with attendees to encourage giggles and heckling. At the conclusion of the film, Ms. Flores led attendees in a short game of Cinema Terrible Pointless Trivia.



In September, Librarian Pannaga Prasad hosted a *Citizenship Information Session*, part of the Immigration Committee's system-wide series. The presenter, a member of the American Gateways Organization, provided information about citizenship rules and regulations. Attendees suggested having citizenship practice classes at the Central Library in addition to the information sessions.



This month Reference staff worked individually and collaboratively to create colorful and meaningful displays throughout the Central Library. For a selection of books made into movies is a:

The Book Was Better Display!



For Banned Books Week, the annual celebration of the freedom to read, staff used flames as bookmarks:



For Hunger Action Month staff created a meaningful display in the Lobby including a Food Bank donation barrel.



While adding more books to the display, staff observed a patron circling the display to view the new selections. The patron was very interested in the information, asking which titles staff recommended. During the interaction the patron revealed that she was opening a store and loved that the Library was shedding light on the topic of hunger in America.

LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER



On Thursday, August 29 the Latino Collection and Resource Center presented a “Meet the Artist: Audrya Flores” program, a nopal-carving workshop that drew 36 attendees. Artist Audrya Flores’ show “DIGGING” was on exhibit in the Central Auditorium for the month of August.



On Thursday, September 12, the Latino Collection and Resource Center partnered with the National Association of Latino Arts and Culture (NALAC) to present “Lunch and Learn: Grant Writing Workshop for Latinx Artists”, drawing 36 attendees.



On Sunday, September 15, the Latino Collection and Resource Center presented the Hispanic Heritage Month kick-off event “La Lote: a celebration of art y cultura” with author Xelena Gonzalez and artist John Picacio. The event was promoted across multiple media channels, resulting in a television segment with KSAT 12 and an article in the San Antonio Express News. The event drew 200 attendees.

TEXANA / GENEALOGY



Librarian Matt DeWaelche presented the class *Introduction to Ancestry.com (Library Edition)* on August 21 at the Central Library. Patrons were introduced to one of the most popular genealogy databases available today, to see how Ancestry (Library Edition) is organized and learn the best ways to begin researching family history.



On August 27 Librarian Sylvia Reyna hosted a book discussion of the New York Times bestselling memoir *Inheritance* by Dani Shapiro in the Kampmann Library Portal at the Briscoe Western Art Museum. The group discussed the implications of unsettling DNA test results and invited attendees to share and bare their own genetic detective narrative.



Following the multi-year Bexar County and International Tour (2015-2018), the exhibition “The Winds and Words of War” featuring WWI Propaganda Prints from the San Antonio Public Library returned to San Antonio for a “Welcome Home” installment. Additional materials from the Library’s Texana/Genealogy Archives & Special Collections are highlighted to enhance this exhibit and draw connections to the variety of related resources available to the local community. The exhibition is on view September 1 through October 13, 2019 in the Central Library Gallery.



Ms. Reyna worked the SAPL outreach booth at the World Heritage Open House at Stinson Field on September 14, hosting “SAPL’s Wheel of Fortune.”



Librarian Andy Crews and Ms. Reyna were invited to give presentations at the 18th Annual Family History Seminar at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on September 14. Reyna’s presentation entitled *Trailing Your Hispanic Roots* focused on Hispanic Genealogy research and Mr. Crews discussed resources available in SAPL’s Texana/Genealogy Department.



On September 15 Assistant Manager Deborah Countess conducted the genealogy class *Genealogy Databases @ Your Library*. Attendees learned how to access and navigate the SAPL genealogy databases Access NewspaperArchive, American Ancestors, Ancestry.com (Library Edition), Fold3 and HeritageQuest.



Ms. Reyna has continued volunteering shifts at the Migrant Resource Center on a weekly basis.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN



With the start of the school year, Bazan branch Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen was in contact with several elementary school librarians organizing outreach book clubs for their students. Ms. Sonnen continued to provide outreach to three Avance centers in the Bazan service area. Additionally, she resumed *Family Fun*, *LEGOs*, and *Come & Go Crafts* programming.



Teen librarian Georgina Garcia, along with Guerra branch teen liaison Edward Mayberry, visited Lanier High School late August and setup a booth in the cafeteria to promote upcoming fall teen programs at Bazan. Ms. Garcia resumed teen programming at Bazan on the last week of August with *Teen Hangout*. This school year Ms. Garcia added *Teen Anime Club* to the monthly teen programming calendar. The first meetup for the program occurs on Monday September 16. Gemini Ink continued to host the *Teen Open Writing Workshop* at Bazan every third Saturday of the month, offering teens the opportunity to expand their creativity with writing.



Bazan library partnered with the San Antonio Food Bank to encourage children 18 years of age and younger to participate in the *Afterschool Snack Program*. This program starts Monday September 16 from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, every Monday and Wednesday before teen and children programming.



Bazan Training Officer Emily Flores and her citizenship class students attended a tour at the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services facility in North San Antonio on September 9. The group learned first-hand about the interview process and gleaned a sneak peek of what to expect on their appointment date during this behind-the-scenes tour led by Jacque Crouse, USCIS Community Relations Officer. With three students scheduled to appear for the naturalization interview in the coming week, this represents an important step in helping students feel well prepared.



Along with fellow Training Officers Daniel Gomez and Nella Johnson, Emily Flores presented the Digital Inclusion Certification program requirements and an overview to Branch Managers at the September 5 Westfall meeting.



Bazan's LEARN at SAPL ESL Book Club volunteer, Karen Wyatt, organized a murder mystery-themed viewing party for the last session of the book "Murder on the Orient Express." The students watched a short part of the movie and finished reading the book.



In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Bazan branch hosted a Silk Screen workshop on September 14. The workshop, led by teaching artist Sabrina Alfaro, introduced attendees to the screen printing process. Each person was allowed to make their own silk screen prints from four Latinx oriented images designed by Ms. Alfaro.



The Alamo City Browncoats fandom club met in August and provided refreshments and free comic books for the public. The Meet-N-Geek included several patrons from out of town who came to visit and partake in the program as well!



Stationery lovers were welcomed to a journaling and planner program on August 21 by Library Assistant Enedina Prater who provide journaling writing challenges, printed DIY stickers for journals and introduced fall themed ideas. The group looked forward to more challenges, stickers and swaps.



Bazan's *Snail Mail Social Club* held its first meeting on August 21. The program, which celebrates the almost forgotten art of hand written letters, post cards, greeting cards and pen pals, was held right after Bazan's journaling and planner club, from which it was inspired. Those who attended the journaling and planner club were encouraged to attend both programs. Although each program cover two distinct interests, both share a common concept, namely the love of putting pen to paper!



The Bazan Branch Friends Group held a book sale on August 17. Several group members volunteered for the daylong event to raise funds for the branch. A family that home schools left with three boxes full of media, young adult books, children's books and fiction. The sale attracted many new customers to the branch.

BROOK HOLLOW



Fall programs resumed at Brook Hollow at the end of August with a bang – literally. *TamboRhythms* brought their drums and shakers so that families could practice their rhythm, stopping, listening, and coordination skills with occupational therapist Jorge Ochoa. Every child had a chance to be a soloist and leader in a fun-filled, loud, engaging family program.



Early literacy programming resumed this fall session with the return of popular program favorites *Baby Time*, *Toddler Two*, *Toddler Time*, and *Story Time*. Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas added new songs and rhymes to the repertoire for families to enjoy; creating instant hits with a silly finger play and forgotten nursery rhyme. On September 10, Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas added a *Play & Learn* program at Brook Hollow in place of story time that celebrated big bugs. Children ages zero to five years really enjoyed a STEM station that focused on looking up close at a variety of bug specimens, weighing a variety of objects, and identifying and matching bugs with their pictures. The favorite activity was painting a giant butterfly together that was hung vertically on a wall. The families also enjoyed diving into multiple sensory bins, art stations, play dough, and building areas.



During the last week of August, Brook Hollow also celebrated *Skyscraper Day* putting out Magnet Tiles, Straws and Connectors, and Duplos for children to play and experiment with as they built

the tallest towers possible. The children after school enthusiastically embraced the challenge creating fascinating structures.



Brook Hollow branch continued with *Come and Go Craft* programs on Thursday afternoons, creating a cute teddy bear craft in honor of National Teddy Bear Day in September. The branch also hosted *Read to A Dog* on Friday afternoons for early readers. For the first Friday in September, one young girl approximately four years old brought her own book about being a new big sister to read to her favorite dog, Sunny.



Ms. Salinas also added a few new school age afterschool programs. On the first Thursday of every month, Brook Hollow hosts *Books beTween Friends*, a Tween focused book club. Seven children tried out the program and made origami dragons, drawings and collages to highlight a selected title chosen by Librarian Salinas. Children participated in a discussion of their favorite books including *Magic Tree House*, *Ninjago*, and several graphic novels. The participants chose the book for the next month before leaving; excited to try out a few new titles.



Library Assistant Elissa Vura in conjunction with Ms. Salinas also created a new program *Young Artists* for patrons ages eleven to eighteen. The program allows these children to have a quiet space in the library to work on their art, time to discuss art techniques, and art activities provided by staff.



Still, Brook Hollow's favorite afterschool program continues to be *Tween Time* for ages nine to twelve years. Brook Hollow moved the program to a new day and time in order to extend the program time and allow the Middle School student to participate as well. The new program time on Tuesdays continues to be very popular with an average of fifteen children coming weekly to enjoy crafts, drawings, games, and Minute to Win It Challenges. Currently, their favorite game is Night at the Museum with children sneaking across the room in order to catch the "Night Guard" unaware.



On Thursday, September 12th, Brook Hollow hosted another special program, *Playdough Day*. Families are encouraged to drop by and squish and squash playdough in a variety of colors with a variety of tools.



Brook Hollow teens finished up their summer and started their school year with some fun *Teen Time* sessions in the meeting room. Teens got crafty making colorful friendship bracelets and had great time watching music videos, animated shorts, and vine compilations on YouTube. Teens got competitive in a Mario Kart competition using a Nintendo Switch borrowed from Teen Services for the final program of this month. Fueled with candy, teens battled it out for the top place spot and the title of Brook Hollow's Mario Kart Champion.



The Brook Hollow teen space had a signage re-do this month with a new informational bulletin board display highlighting local teen events, school help with Brainfuse, and Texas Universities free college program. On the other side of the space, teens suggested an homage to a popular anime and Library Assistant Elissa Vura, with the help of Brook Hollow staff, worked to make it a reality while also including a space to promote upcoming themes and goings-on at future *Teen Times*.



New Brook Hollow Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot joined Ms. Vura for the last two *Teen Times* of the reporting period. Ms. Pouliot was excited to meet the regular teen attendees and remains thankful to Ms. Vura for all of her dedication and hard work in keeping the teens at Brook Hollow occupied with engaging programming since May.



On September 11, Brook Hollow hosted the third class in the *Crochet Class* series *Crocheting in the Round*. Participants had a chance to build on skills learned in the previous classes or learn beginning techniques. All skills levels are welcome. The program was organized by Ms. Vura and led by Brook Hollow Volunteer Carrie Simmons. Supplies were provided by the Brook Hollow Friends of the Library.

CARVER



On August 13, Carver Branch Library and its Learn Center presented an information session hosted by Renee Watson of the Bexar County Small Business & Entrepreneurship Department. The two-hour event attracted 25 people interested in such topics as how to get started in business, procurement opportunities, and securing bids for local, state, federal and private sector, to name a few.



In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, Carver children's librarian Braulia Carrillo decorated young people's department with flags representing the various Spanish-speaking countries of the world. Her display included biographies of Hispanics who have made contributions in different fields, such as the arts, literature and science, as well as story books that celebrate the history and culture.



On September 7, the branch teamed up with the Friends of Carver Library to host an open house. All too often customers focus on a specific need when they drop by but miss out on all of the other services the branch has to offer. Everyone wanted to do something about that. At the event, volunteers and staff led visitors to different stations around the branch introducing them such sections as the Learn Center where they can receive adult basic education help, brush up their resume, and receive computer and technology training – at no charge! Many did not realize the branch offers faxing and scanning services – for free!

CODY



Cody hosted the Executive Book Club for its regular Tuesday meeting.



Cody hosted the following groups:

Texas Public Policy Foundation

Represent US SA



Cody hosted its longstanding book clubs:

Friday Book, Cody Film, Friday Friends with Fiction, Friends of the Library, Cody Saturday Book Club, Cody Mystery Book Club, Winn Murin Book Club and Tamil Book Club.



Ms. Katrina Chretien, author of *The Interview Artist*, *Understanding the Art of Career Development* and *Interviewing* will be hosting several workshops at our branch.



Cody continues to welcome back the following programs:

Ms. Kelly Wu presented ABC's of Medicare

Mr. Ramakrishnan Karunakaran presented Yoga for Beginners



Adult Services Librarian, Ms. McGowan is happy to announce the Adult Chess Open Play which will be every Friday at 10am.

Children's Services



Children's Librarian Kristin Yourdon visited the USAA Child Development Center on August 20th to read to their Summer Camp students. Yourdon read a selection of picture books and a few chapters of a novel to the students.



Children's programs resumed at the Cody Library on August 26th after a couple weeks off. The *Baby Time* and *Toddler Time* programs that day were about animals. During both programs children and parents listened to books and sang songs about animals, practiced making animal noises, and played with stuffed animals.



Later that day during *Tween Time*, children learned how to make fluffy slime during a hands-on demonstration. Then the group was split into two teams and tweens worked together to make their own slime.



Toddler, Two met on August 28th with a story time about the alphabet. During this program children listened to the story *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin and sang songs about the alphabet. During play time children were given magnetic letters to play with along with blocks and stuffed animals. Parents were encouraged to find the first letter of their child's name and show it to their child.



The Music Fairy visited the Cody Library during *Story Time* later that day. During the program the Music Fairy sang songs, told musical stories, and taught the children a lot of movement.



During *Kid's Time* later that day children celebrated the first week of school by making their own bookmarks and friendship bracelets and by competing in various STEM challenges, including creating the tallest tower out of newspaper rolls, making the longest paper chain with a single piece of paper, and building a structure out of Straws and Connectors.



Families gathered to make their own decorated pencils on August 29th during a *Come & Go Crafts* program. Children painted a small strip of paper with watercolors and then glued their artwork to a pencil. Once the pencil was sealed with watery glue, the children were able to sharpen their pencils and write with them.



Toddler, Two and *Story Time* had the theme of "The letter A is for Apples," on September 4th. During *Toddler, Two* Yourdon started doing a new weekly song called "Happy Letter Day." The song is

sung to the tune of the Happy Birthday song and celebrates the children present in the story time whose first name starts with the letter of the week. After the story times, children make apple stamping artwork and pretended to pick apples from trees at a dramatic play station.



Later that day children celebrated National Skyscraper Day during *Lego Club*. Children competed to see who could build the tallest, most colorful, and most unique skyscrapers. A couple of children



Children used bleeding tissue paper to create unique crayon resist artwork during a *Come & Go Crafts* program on September 5th. Children drew on a white paper with white crayons, then placed colored tissue paper squares over their drawing, and used paintbrushes to drip water over the squares. After letting it dry for a few seconds, the children peeled the tissue paper off of their artwork and were amazed to see their drawing appear.



Jorge Ochoa visited the Cody Library on September 7th to present the *Tambo Rhythms* program. Children and parents learned how to play percussion instruments and had the opportunity to practice skills like taking turns, focusing, and following directions.



Baby Time and *Toddler Time* on September 9th were about art. Children listened to stories and sang songs about painting. Parents were encouraged to let their babies have plenty of tummy time so they would be able to develop the muscles that will later be needed when they are learning to write. Parents of toddlers were encouraged to help their child make marks on paper with paint, crayons, or play with playdough in the next week.



Later that day tweens made ice cream during *Tween Time*. Tweens measured out the ingredients and mixed them together to make the ice cream base, then added the ice cream to a special ice cream ball, added ice and salt to a separate compartment on the ball, and then rolled the ice cream ball back and forth while asking ice breaker questions. Afterwards, tweens had a chance to eat their delicious ice cream.



Yourdon visited Locke Hill Elementary School on September 10th for their Back to School Night. Yourdon brought a button maker and made buttons for the children. Yourdon also talked with children and parents about upcoming library events and about the library's services.



Toddler, Two and *Story Time*'s theme on September 11th was "B is for Bedtime." Children listened to books and sang songs about bedtime. After the story times, children made their own night skies using paint and cotton balls, and pretended to put babies to bed in the dramatic play center.



Later that afternoon during *Kid's Time* children celebrated National Playdough Day. Children were creative in making cakes, towers, animals, etc. with their playdough.

Teens Services



Cody's interns continued to bring friendly smiles and great help to the library! They created displays to promote the Young Adult fiction collection, helped with Summer Reading, shelved, checked

items in, and more. The Cody Branch Library, and especially Teen Librarian Amy Rae Weaver, thanks them for their service this summer.



Teen Gaming provides teens with opportunities to hang out after school and play video, board, and card games. The addition of Oculus Go experiences has made Teen Gaming even more fun!



Teen Time, Cody's evening programming for teens, draws dedicated attendees interested in creating delicious food, playing games, and doing light crafts and art projects. Recently, teens created their own sugar scrubs and bath bombs, ate delicious dirt cups, and tried out tie-dying! They also DIYed microwave popcorn and played round after round of Unstable Unicorns.



The *Cody Chess Club* continues to bring children and teens into the library each Tuesday for games and chess puzzles. Summer brought three new volunteers to help keep the many games running smoothly! Two will remain to help through the school year.

COLLINS GARDEN



Adults CGL hosted Coffee & a Movie featuring Mexican Cinema with classic & recent releases with an all-time high attendance of 14 in August. August's Coloring for Adults had 5 attendees and the Beading program introduced participants to the basics of making earrings with 10 attendees.



Children Children's Librarian Gina Brudi hosted thirty-seven participants in 2 continuously popular Lego Clubs. Lego creations are displayed for public enjoyment in the reference area. Brudi also hosted a Come and Go craft with jewelry creations made with plastic straws. Children created engineering marvels from Straws and Connectors for Skyscraper Day September 4. To celebrate Play Dough Day on September 11 homemade play dough was rolled and shaped with googly eyes and sequins into works of art. Brudi attended Open House Night at Collins Garden Elementary School and spoke to more than 30 adults and children about library services.



Teens CGL welcomed new Teen Services Librarian and Assistant Manager Daniella Toll to the team. Toll hit the ground running and made a presentation to the Teen and Children's Services Librarians monthly meetings. She provided a demo and tutorial on the use of the Decision Center web application to help librarians maintain library collections and prepare for the new ILS. Toll participated in Ride for Reading San Antonio Bicycle Club's book delivery to Title One School Douglass Academy where 500 children gathered to receive free books. Toll discussed library services with 28 eighth graders.



CGL Outreach/Manager Happenings Collins Garden Library continues weekly Library Family Game Night with various board games. Two chess sets are located on the library floor and attract patrons to learn to play chess. CGL Team planning outreach to Mays Boys and Girls Club of San Antonio down the street from the library. CGL is working with the Lone Star Neighborhood Association's artist in residence Jesse Ward to help children create Day of the Dead artwork to be displayed at the Lone Star Gallery during second Friday.



Collins Garden Library Branch Manager Jeannette Davies is attending the ESC 20 Resources Roundup for teachers in September representing Texas Library Association (TLA 10) District 10 and San Antonio Public Library. Davies is working with the Friends of Collins Garden Library regarding fund raising ideas and attending the Friends upcoming workshop at the Central Library in September. CGL staff and Friends are participating in October's National Night Out sponsored by the Collins Garden Neighborhood Association.

CORTEZ



Planning continues for the big "Nature Smart Libraries" event on September 21 with activities and advertising being finalized for the event and through the year.



On August 12 construction started on the sidewalks, curbs, and wheelchair ramps along the Hunter Blvd side of the Branch and continued through this reporting period. This project is through TCI and is very close to completion.

Children's Programs



Toddler Time (Nicole Cubillas)

Toddlers and their caretakers heard more songs and stories on the themes of Back to School, Labor Day and helping out at home. They prepared relevant crafts, participated in dramatic play, and spent time digging through sensory bins, making music with soft rattles, writing with chalk and building with foam blocks.



Family Fun and Kids Time (Nicole Cubillas)

Cortez families heard stories on the themes of Back to School, Labor Day and helping out at home. They collaborated on arts and crafts, and participated in relevant challenges and competitions.



Ready, set, game! (Nicole Cubillas)

Attending families came together for board games, card games, puzzles, and more. This is a new program Monday afternoons at 4pm.

Teen Programs



Teen Time (Jo Ann Paredes)

The program started back up in September with a time change of 4:30pm to 5:30pm. An email will be sent out to all South San District Middle Schools and High Schools to inform them of our Teen Time program. With the re-opening of Kazen Middle School staff hopes to see an increase in attendance for Teen and Tween activities.

Adult Programs



Adult Coloring and Cortez Older Adult Social Time (Madeline Vasquez)

Every Tuesday, staff member Madeline Vasquez leads the COAST program. This weekly community event features advanced coloring for adults, board games, puzzles and light refreshments.



Getting Crafty Program (JoAnn Paredes)

Craft class has been playing with air dry clay and oven-bake clay. Marbled coasters were made for the last two classes of August and then in September clay jewelry will be on the schedule.



Quilter's Corner (Jo Ann Paredes)

Quilting Corner had a drop in attendance and due to that fact the class will now consist of quilting as well as crocheting. Crochet has been one of the classes that many people like, so it has been brought back to Cortez.



Monster Meet (Madeline Vasquez)

A good-sized crowd was treated to the comedy/vampire film "What We Do in the Shadows" on September 14. This popular monthly movie showing brings regulars as well as new attendees who enjoy anything spooky, scary, or mysterious.



Art Therapy (Madeline Vasquez)

On September 12, Ms. Vasquez taught patrons how to make a God's Eye out of yarn and popsicle sticks to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.



Healthy Cooking Class (Vince Escobedo, Metro Health)

On August 29, Mr. Escobedo led the group in making veggie-packed chicken quesadillas. Patrons helped prepare all the ingredients. After, Mr. Escobedo made the recipe and passed out free samples to all attendees.

Community Programs



Cortez Chess Club

Mr. Pacheco continues to lead our weekly chess club every Friday. He enthusiastically teaches attendees of all ages about chess. Chess sets are provided.



Alamo Colleges Mobile GO Van (Daniel Gomez, Ruth Prieto)

Alamo Colleges brought their Mobile GO Van to Cortez on August 6. They discussed major and career options, test prep resources, financial aid options and more. The LEARN Center also hosted a table informing patrons of how the LEARN Center could help with computer and testing resources.



Wizard of Oz Movie Anniversary Showing (Madeline Vasquez)

Ms. Vasquez hosted a showing of the Wizard of Oz on August 22. The showing celebrated the 80th anniversary of the movie. Light refreshments were served and trivia about the film was shared with participants.



LEARN Center Activities (Daniel Gomez)

This reporting period had a total of ninety-six patron visits, with an average of five patrons a day. The vast majority of patrons used the LEARN Center to develop their computer usage skills.

Over ten patrons received help with writing their resumes. One such patron, who has also been learning computer basics, applied for and found a job working for the 2020 census. The application process was a long and arduous one, requiring the online completion of many modules and onboarding forms. The applicant persevered through the process, which took many hours over several days to complete. She is now working as a census taker while continuing to look for permanent work. She has expressed much gratitude for the Cortez LEARN Center and its Training Officer.

The LEARN Center's first Kindle Fire drawing was held and a Cortez patron, Leticia Alfrido, won. Leticia worked on her Computer Basics certificate after regular work hours. After two months of dedicated learning, she received her certificate and was entered into the drawing. She was presented her gift at the Training Officer's meeting at Central Library.

On September 5, Training Officers Emily Flores and Daniel Gomez, presented at the Branch Manager's Meeting. The presentation covered the Digital Inclusion Certificate Program in detail, so that Branch Managers may have a better understanding of the program.

During this reporting period, three more patrons have enrolled in the Cortez LEARN Center's Digital Inclusion certificate program.

Enrollment in the ESL Level One class has increased to nine students, with an average of five students attending per class. This class meets every Sunday morning.

The Cortez LEARN Center now has a circulating book collection. About half of the total collection has been switched over to circulating status. Patrons now have more items available for check out, while the LEARN Center still has a sufficient amount of material for library use.

ENCINO



Fall programming for children resumed at Encino on Tuesday, August 27 with Baby Time and Story Time. Baby Time and Toddler Time are doing very well. Attendance at Story Time has dropped slightly due to some of the children starting school this Fall.



LEGO Time also resumed at Encino on September 4. LEGO Time has been very well received – the kids have a great time making their creations, then the creations stay on display until the next session. Librarian Katy Dillard hosts LEGO Time on the first and third Wednesday of each month.



Tweens create kicked off their Fall series on September 9. The tweens made Ritz cracker cookies using Ritz crackers, Nutella, melted chocolate, and sprinkles. Many cookies didn't make it home before being consumed!



Teen Programming for Encino continues despite the vacancy in the Teen Librarian position. While the cosplay series did not draw as much attention as hoped, Librarian II Mark Hall, part-time Librarian I Katy Dillard, and part-time Circulation Attendant Krystal Owen have collaborated to ensure that bi-weekly programs happen for local teens, including crafts, movies, and anime.



Adult programming through the end of summer has included an extension of the Libraries & Labyrinths summer campaign, and the continuation of the popular Hand Bee, San Antonio Needlework Guild, and Fitness in the Park programs. "Read it. Love it! Discuss it.", the branch book club, made a good showing this month, and remains well-attended month to month.



Encino's Collaborate space was reserved 45 times during the reporting period, for a total usage of close to 80 hours. Six different groups rented the meeting room; business meetings, Girl Scout troops, and high school summer trip groups among them. As summer has wound down, the patio has become popular in the evening, with groups studying or making use of the wi-fi in the east side shade and fans.

FOREST HILLS

Forest Hills Branch Library hosted a variety of programs for children and adults as summer came to an end and students headed back to school.



Adult Librarian Sandra Griffin hosted Book Talk on August 28. The book discussion group read and discussed *Heart : A History* by Sandeep Jauhar. Book Talk books are provided by the National Library of Medicine. Participants are provided a free copy of the featured book to read and keep. Supply of free books is limited, but the books can also be found in the library's catalog.



Two STEM related programs were held on September 7. The workshops featured experts on creating YouTube productions and podcasts. As these two technologies are trending at the moment, many people were present to learn about starting their own YouTube channels and or podcast.



Forest Hills is part of a second round of Citizenship Information Sessions, for those people looking for basic information about applying for US Citizenship.



In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, Forest Hills will be hosting a special exhibit titled *Gebhardt Company Exhibit | The Name that Made Chili Powder Famous*. The images include vintage photos and product advertising from the Gebhardt Company which was established in San Antonio during the late 1800s. The company went on to shape the commercialization of chili powder and Mexican convenience foods across the United States. This exhibit is a collection of images owned by the UTSA Libraries, Special Collections. Forest Hills will have an opening reception on Wednesday, September 18. HEB will also be at the library to do food demos with Gebhardt products; there will be cake and refreshments provided by the Friends of the Forest Hills Branch Library. A specially designed shirt will be awarded to 10 participants. Also on display are vintage Gebhardt books which are on loan from the Texana collection.



Forest Hills had a wonderful summer reading session and its autumn session for children will be just as exciting. The library will be hosting Story time, Kids Time, Lego Time, Bilingual Story Time and Come and Go Crafts. In order to allow more accessibility to children after school, Mrs. Menchaca decided to move Kids Time and Lego Time to 3:30.



Mrs. Menchaca has started to go the PCI Head Start on a monthly basis again. She read the new Mo Willems book, "The Pigeon Has To Go To School." The children and their caregivers really enjoyed the book and Ms. Menchaca was able to talk to the children about how much fun school is.



As usual Lego Time and the Come and Go Crafts are big hits with children and their parents.



Kids Time has been very interesting. On September 3rd, Kids Time was also Skyscraper Day. Children were provided with wooden blocks, straws and connectors, mega blocks, and popsicle sticks. Some children did make skyscrapers that went from the floor to almost touching the ceiling of the library. In fact, adults had to help the kids to get the structures as high as possible. However, the role of the architects were played by the children and the adults were the contractors. The children who attended had a blast and Mrs. Menchaca and the other adults were very impressed with their designs.



Playdoh and Slime Day was an enormous hit. Children helped the librarian make playdoh and playdoh tools were provided so that kids could sculpt and play with the playdoh at length. Mrs. The kids also made slime. They tried different recipes to see how different substances react with each other and how the slimes were different but similar to each other. Each child was provided a plastic bags so that at the end of the program everyone could take some playdoh and slime home.

GREAT NORTHWEST



Tom Kinsey came with his little critters to the Great Northwest Library for the *Learn Nature* program. The kids were very excited at the opportunity to hold and pet the animals he brought. Doves, snakes, rats, and roaches were among some of the little critters that were there. Just about everyone's phone was in action taking photo after photo. One heard many cries of delight from the kids and extremely nervous giggles from the adults. Stretching out of one's comfort zone sometimes has an empowering effect and that was definitely proven to be true during this program.



The children's fall programming has begun and many new faces are seen coming into the library. One new family shared their story: this young mom has just moved to the area to be closer to her family. She has a night job and has not been able to make any friends, much less connections. She had read about Great Northwest on someone's blog and decided to take her family to the library's programs to see what was going on. While she was there, she met some other families and actually found someone from her own neighborhood. This last week, her father requested to come with them to the library and see what all the excitement was about. He said it was the best time he has had in a long time and he was glad to be able to see his girl happy.



Great Northwest has discovered that their Story Times have turned into some of the best birthday parties ever. Several families have been inviting their children's friends to celebrate their birthday parties at the library and have lunch and cake at a park in the neighborhood. Their new friends discover what fun the programs are and keep coming back! Great Northwest Library has helped to build great memories for families this month.



Adult Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez was invited to the Great Northwest Community Association to speak with the O.W.L.S senior citizen group during their monthly luncheon. Ms. Vazquez provided information on library resources and upcoming programs at the Great Northwest Library and received feedback on programs their community would like to see at the library.



American Gateways presented a few *Citizenship Information Session* on September 4.



The San Antonio Parks and Recreation *Fitness in the Parks* program series continues with Barre Fitness and Core Training on Mondays from 12 pm to 1:30 pm in September. Great Northwest also hosted a free yoga class thanks to a partnership with *Fitness in the Park* and the Yoga Seva Institute on September 7.



The Friends of the Great Northwest Branch Library met on August 13. The group is always happy to have new members interested in supporting their local branch library. The next meeting is October 22 at 11:00 am.

GUERRA



Community Volunteer Ruben Lozano held Chess Club on Fridays--August 16, 23, and 30 and September 6 and 13; attendance total, including children, teens, and adults, was 52. The Friends budget for FY 2019 was \$2,169.00 of which \$1,558.87 was spent, leaving \$610.13 to be rolled over to FY 2020.



Branch Manager Katzman made three Wednesday outreach visits to the Careplex Adult Daycare Center on August 21 and 28 and on September 4; attendance total was 97. He met briefly with several new staff members to provide more information about his outreach. He held four computer classes on Friday, August 23, Saturday, August 31, Friday, September 13, and Saturday, September 14.



Assistant Branch Manager Jernell Williams held an adult coloring program on August 24. She held an outreach book group at the Virginia Gill Community Center on September 6. Participants discussed *The Woman in the Window* by A. J. Finn.



Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson joined Cresencia Huff, Interim Coordinator of Children's Services/Central and Valerie Shelly, Children's Librarian/Las Palmas for a meeting of the Black History Month committee at Great Northwest on August 20. Later that day, she participated in the John Glenn Elementary School's Back to School Bash, sharing information about library events, programs, and services. Fall children's programming resumed on September 4 with Toddler Time, Story Time, and Art Club; there were two Toddler Times, two Story Times, two Art Clubs, and one Lego Club. On September 6, she presented story times to two groups of toddlers at Greatest Gifts Childcare Center. Arlene designed and installed a fall display on September 9.



Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson, with the support of the Guerra Friends group, organized a volunteer appreciation lunch on August 24 for those who had volunteered during the last 15 months. He recorded *La oca que no quería marcar el paso* (*The Goose Who Did Not Want to Keep in Step*) by Jean François Dumont for dial-a-story in Spanish on August 26. On August 29, Stephen led the Club de Lectura book club in Spanish. The group discussed *Vlad* by Carlos Fuentes; the Friends provided support for this event. Stephen volunteered at the San Antonio Migrant Resource Center for two all-day shifts on August 23 and September 13.



Library Assistant Roxanne Menchaca continues to use Millennium and Excel to track and usually to resolve situations when an item returned still shows on an account. A key part of this process is to resolve the returned/not-returned status of the item before it reaches the claims returned threshold. Roxanne has shared her process with other Guerra staff; she sets aside time each week to work on this project. Katie Enright, Catalog Services Supervisor/Central, provided holdings editor training to her on August 28; this training will give her more resources that will help with her project. She held her Knit & Crochet program on August 27 and September 10 and a Quilting program on August 31.



Circulation Attendant Abella Lazalde-Jimenez continued her Wellness Steps challenge. Yamilex Rosales, Library Aide turned in the most steps. Abella continues to make sure the staff has healthy snacks and has found and posted useful information on the staff information bulletin board and has selected books in our collection relating to health and wellness on the job and has put this on the table in the staff break room.

IGO

Children's Services



Members of La Petit Academy's Summer Program visited the Igo Branch Library for a tour and story program led by children's librarian Carrie Vance during August. The children also participated in a library scavenger hunt and everyone received a bookmark and library-branded pencil for their efforts.



The branch celebrated National Playdough Day during Story Time on September 10. Stories about monsters and shapes were shared to inspire the creation of imaginative creatures and structures. In

addition to playdough and shaping tools, children were given access to assorted beads, chenille stems, craft sticks, pasta shapes, and wiggle eyes in order to create whatever they wished.

Teen Services



The teens were able to make hedgehog book art, make painted rocks for a future library rock garden and perler bead creations during this month's Teen Time.



The branch welcomed the teens back on the first day of school with ice cream and cookies. Many new teens came to this event and have started coming to teen events since.

Adult Services



The Igo Stitchery continues to enjoy good attendance. Members were encouraged to enter their creations in the Creative Competitions at the State Fair of Texas in July, and results were announced in August. Long-time attendee Maria Redosz earned both a first place ribbon in her class and a Best of Show ribbon for specialty stitches. Her self-designed piece of Hardanger embroidery will be on display during the Fair's run in Dallas during September and October.



On the 7th of September, a popular cryptozoologist, author of four books and a regular television personality who has traveled the world searching for evidence of legendary beasts including Bigfoot, the Loch Ness Monster, the Chupacabra and Mothman, discussed accounts of real-life monsters being encountered in and around the Alamo City. He also talked about the so-called 'Big Bird,' the Converse Werewolf, the Donkey Lady, and other fabulous creatures. He did a book signings after the program. 45 people attended the program.

On Saturday, September 7th, Igo's Dollars and Sense book club met to discuss Ken Langone's book / *Love Capitalism*. Ten people attended and discussion lasted for nearly 3 hours!

Senior Services



Level I HathaYoga classes continued on Fridays when the meeting rooms were available. Between 20 and 25 people attend regularly and often thank the Friends for supporting these classes.



On September 8, Grandparents Day was celebrated with a display of books about Grandmas and Grandpas. Kids activities, including coloring sheets, a linking hands cut-out, and certificates for grandparents, was set-up in the Children's area of the library.

On this day also, the Exhibition and Reception for the "en plein air" artists was held. The 2019 art classes were part of an ARTful Aging program, which has been offering art classes for the past 3 years. The program is supported by grants from Adult Services.

JOHNSTON



Johnston Branch Library hosted the Library Board of Trustees meeting on August 28. The Friends of the Johnston Library met on September 8. August was the conclusion of Johnston's participation in the

Summer Food Bank Snack Program, while, September was the beginning of Library Card Sign-Up Month. There continues to be a steady stream of area students signing up for new cards each day.



Branch Manager Monica Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion Min Jin Lee's *Pachinko* on August 21. Ms. Bustillo attended the Springvale Neighborhood Association's meeting on August 27. On September 13, Ms. Bustillo presented "What's New at a Library Near You" at the San Antonio Oasis Institute.



The Children's Librarian Tiffany Durham hosted four Toddler Times and four Story Times working through the letters of the alphabet one week and one book at a time. Victoria Liendo, Library Aide, worked with Miss Tiffany to use books, songs, play and crafts to engage the children and caregivers. On September 3rd during Story Time we featured special guest Naturalist, Tom Kinsey. Children in attendance were able to engage with snakes, Madagascar cockroaches, a toad, a turtle dove and rats. The children also learned about needs of animals like food, water, shelter and space. The children were full of questions and very brave encountering new species. Miss Tiffany and Ms. Liendo hosted four Lego Clubs building, playing and creating unique Lego masterpieces. One of the Lego Clubs featured extra building materials in observation of National Skyscraper Day. A new program for Johnston called Discovery Time, started this month with a focus on STEM activities for school age children.



Adult Services Librarian Cristine Mitchamore organized a class "Sewing for Beginners" on September 7, which was taught by Adult Services Librarian Diana Starrett from San Pedro Branch. The class was designed to teach sewing basics such as hemming pants or replacing a button. Ms. Mitchamore hosted a "Downton Abbey Tea, Talk & Trivia" on September 14 to celebrate the community's continuing interest in the world of Downton Abbey ahead of the new movie.



Library Aide Cynthia Blancas hosted four teen programs for the time period. On August 21 and 28 the teens worked on projects involving Perler beads and played card games. On September 4 and 11 the teens began a new project—decorating the branch for Halloween.



Library Assistant Elsy Jackson serves as a regular contributor to *Telecuentos* (*Dial-a-Story* in English), and she recorded a children's book for the week of August 19, 2019, *Tek: El niño moderno de las cavernas* by Patrick McDonnell and translated by Laura Lecuona. She also chose materials for a display honoring the grandfathers and grandmothers on the week of September 2. Ms. Jackson began a weekly program titled Conversational Spanish on September 9. Classes will meet Mondays at 1 pm.

LANDA

Children



Children's Librarian Robin Alcorta kicked off a new program this month. Process Art! Kids program began with an invitation to create with oil, pastels, water, and watercolors. Children's artwork was then displayed and showcased in an art gallery in the children's room.



Children celebrated Skyscraper day in Storytime. They listened to stories and sang songs about building and construction. Then they played with different materials such as cups, legos, blocks, brain flakes, magnet tiles, and others to build the tallest skyscraper.



Playdough day was a success in story time this month. It was an open ended free play activity with different elements such as pasta, pom poms, eggs, buttons, googly eyes and many other objects added to spark their creativity.

Teen



Landa Teens collaborated with Library Assistant and Teen Liaison, Rebekah Corley, to hold several Teen Club meet-ups geared around the start of the Teens' return to school. Ms. Corley reinstated Teen Study Hall by request of the group to offer a dedicated space to study and socialize afterschool. Previously known as Study Spot, the program was offered three days a week to supplement Landa's Teen Space which is frequently full with teens using the space.



Many new attendees came to Teen Club, helping to create gaming and Duct Tape crafting programs and plan for future activities. One teen wished "Teen Club was every day" and expressed interest in becoming a volunteer!



Drop-In Volunteering continued to bring in new volunteers needing service hours and regular volunteers needing flexible schedules. The volunteers helped to keep the library collection maintained and began working on the Teen Space's new décor that is getting revamped by their suggestion!

Adult



The monthly book clubs read a wide variety of selections this past month. The Reader's Ink club read *The Residence: Inside the Private World of the White House* by Katherine Andersen Brower. It provoked a lively discussion about secrets revealed concerning former residents of the White House. All agreed that they would have enjoyed knowing George H. W. and Barbara Bush—favorites with White House ushers, butlers, and other staff.



The Mystery Book Club read Katherine Hall Page's *The Body in the Gazebo*, agreeing that it was not one of her better books but arousing interest in reading some of the author's others in the series.



The book club that meets at The Village at the Incarnate Word read *Dewey's Nine Lives* by Vicki Myron, a follow-up to the original book about the cat that lived in a library. Most in the group had read the first book although it could be used as a stand-alone because of references to the original.



Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta made her monthly visit to the Kenwood Senior Center to do an arts and crafts session on painting with acrylics. She received compliments on the program as it challenged the creativity of the group.



Landa had a very special visit from the popular Di-Anna Arias, Vice President of Sales and Culinary Vision for Don Strange of Texas Inc. The theme was Hispanic History Month and Ms. Arias

did a demonstration of the making (and serving!) of *gorditas*. The program included a thorough description of the influence of the fusion of Native American and Hispanic cultures. Together with fruit and veggie trays furnished by the Friends of Landa Library, participants enjoyed a great culinary feast and learned a tremendous amount about indigenous plants and spices and how they have seasoned our food.

LAS PALMAS



On September 4, to celebrate Hispanic Heritage, Librarian Rhonda Davila created a felt craft to honor the many local bakeries on the West side of San Antonio. The sweet bread was a felt concha or “pan de huevo” to be used as a Christmas ornament. Patrons sewed toppings with pink, brown, yellow and hot pink felt. The colored felt represented topping favors of strawberry, chocolate, pineapple and a soft brown felt was used to for the bread portion of the design. The event was well attended with twelve patrons as a maximum for teaching proposes. The event was extremely popular; patrons from Stone Oak came across town to participate in the craft. Funds to support the event were granted by SAPL Foundation and the Latino Collection and Resource Center helped sponsor the event.

MAVERICK



The Ladies Choice Book Club met on August 24 and the Lady Mavs Book Club met on September 10. The South Texas Role Playing Games Group met on Sundays in September. The Maverick Writer’s Group gathered on September 14 for its monthly meeting. The knitters group continue gathering at Maverick. While sharing and engaging in conversation, the friendly group welcomes anyone who is interested in learning how to knit.



The Maverick Chess Club met on August 26 and September 9. Parkland Homeowners Association met on August 20 and Sagewood Homeowners Association met on September 7. Maverick celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with the Granaderos y Damas de Galvez on September 14. The Granaderos dressed in colonial uniform and provided an informative historical account of Spain’s contribution of the American Revolution.



As of August 28, Maverick had 973 children register for the summer reading program and 482 children completed the program! These numbers are much higher than the last couple of years. All children’s programming at Maverick started up again on Monday August 26 and Wednesday August 28.



Master Naturalist, Tom Kinsey, brought his menagerie of animals to Maverick on September 9. Mr. Kinsey brought 2 different sized snakes, a turtledove, 2 rats, a toad and several cockroaches! He had 75 people at his first performance and 29 people at his second performance.



Amy Roberts attended the children’s Librarian’s Meeting on September 12 at the Guerra Branch Library. Ms. Roberts continues to serve on the TLA’s Children’s Round Table 2x2 Selection Committee. So far she and her colleagues have read over 650 books geared from ages 2-2nd grade. They will narrow the list to 20 titles in January 2020.



Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl met with the TLLC on one afternoon during the reporting period. The TLLC was very busy in August as they planned an implemented their own End of Summer

Party on Aug 20. They requested pizza as a snack, planned, set up and ran the various game stations and issued tickets for the prize drawings. Their efforts were amply rewarded with 35+ teens attending and many of them participating in the games the TLLC created – though attendees also had the option of just hanging out and doing their own thing. A group of six that came all summer just to play their own D & D game abandoned their game and joined in the fun.

After the End of Summer Party, the TLLC unanimously voted to take a break during September as they readjust to their new school year schedules. All the teens that attend Teen Time at Maverick are encouraged to write down ideas and preferences each week for future programs. They know this document creates the frame work for their program the following week, so they regularly request a variety of crafts, board or table top games as well as video games. A recent Cooking Club recommendation was Elotes, or Mexican Street Corn! It's an ambitious endeavor, but plans are in the works for substituting frozen corn for the grilled on the cob corn, and they are eager to experiment.

Ms. Bleichwehl appreciates the energy and assistance of Library Aide Sarina Hackworth on Tuesday evenings, and was grateful that Teen Librarian I, Laura Herman (Igo), agreed to substitute one week. This collaboration is quite beneficial; Ms. Bleichwehl has incorporated a portable Ping Pong set (generously purchased by the Maverick Friends of the Library) into Teen Time, from an idea seen at Igo branch. Additionally Ms. Hackworth and the Teens are planning a Murder Mystery Night sometime in October.



Ms. Bleichwehl continues to promote the SAPL databases and Brainfuse in particular. Plans are underway for outreach at the Marshall High School Meet the Teacher Night on September 18. The parent of one high school student stopped to give feedback; her daughter was so happy with the on line tutoring that she made it a point to share the information with her friends!

McCRELESS



Lego Club continues to be a big hit for McCreless! The Lego Club continues to have a following of over 17 children and 5 adults. The children are able to watch a movie, build with Legos and Duplo's, play Lego Dimensions video game, and enjoy a snack. Mondays evenings at McCreless brings fun times for all ages!



Children at McCreless Branch Library had the opportunity for dramatic play in our Camp-Out dramatic play area. They were able to learn how to build a fire and make s'mores! They also were able to enjoy playing inside a teepee with some wildlife friends.



McCreless teens have enjoyed chilling out with each other every Wednesday. Thanks to the San Antonio Public Library Foundation's generous donation for branch equity funding, teens voted to purchase a Nintendo Switch and Super Smash Brothers game with a portion of the funds. Teen volunteer, Kaylah, has started a new Dungeons & Dragons Club at McCreless for ages 15 and up. They meet every Monday evening at 6:00 pm. This program has already brought in new teens to the library for Teen Time and the D&D Club.



Patrons at McCreless Branch Library got very creative in our ongoing Scrapbook and Art journaling class, a craft program for adults. The program was held on September 7th. This program was a fun and creative crafting class that used scrapbooking materials, handcut stencils, gelatos, paints and alcohol inks. Patrons got very creative and made their own collages and original art pages.



The ongoing McCreless Walking Club met on August 19th for a brisk 2.5 mile walk. These walks are held along the Howard Peak Greenway trail along Salado creek. The walk was held during new hours to try to accommodate the August heat. The new hours are closer to dusk. Patrons and staff are excited for the fall season and cooler weather.

MEMORIAL

Children's Services



Children's librarian Christine Deffendall contributed to the Children's Services Blog on September 3 with a review of the audiobook *Scat*, written by Carl Hiaasen and narrated by Ed Asner.



Mrs. Deffendall recorded the Dial-A-Story for September 9. Her selection was *The Highest Mountain of Books in the World*, by Rocio Bonilla.



At the invitation of Nelson ECC Mrs. Deffendall provided four story times and interacted with students and teachers on September 10th. She spoke to more than 70 students and teachers.



On September 11 Mrs. Deffendall attended a meeting of the Wash & Learn Initiative committee at the St. Cloud Street E-Z Wash laundromat.



The branch celebrated Playdough Day on September 14.



The branch hosted the Tambo Rhythms percussion circle, featuring Jorge Ochoa on September 14th.

Teen Services



Now that summer is over teens drop in to see what is going on at the branch. On September 3rd Mr. Capelo hosted a board game night and the game of choice was Heroscape. It helps to promote teamwork as it is a strategy based game. It also gave the teens a chance to talk to each other and make new friends. The Idea of the game is to communicate to each other to defeat the opposing team.



Circulation attendant and teen liaison Adam Capelo has been busy with teen services programming, he coordinated and hosted a Minecraft day on September 10th. The teens played Minecraft on the ps4. It helps to promote teamwork as we talk to each other about maps we could make and how to make structures. It promoted a lot of interaction between the teens allowing them to be creative with the ideas they had. From time to time all would debate on structure stability. The game allows for structures to float in midair without support of any kind. So the topic would be where to place and why support beams would have been necessary to make the house or building they made. This process in turn helps them to make more intricate but realistic building structures.

Adult Services



Yoga and health sc



reenings on a mobile unit from the Barrera Community Fitness Center were coordinated by adult services librarian Freddy Hudson. Patrons were able to have their BMI and blood pressure checked during this time.



Librarian Freddy Hudson coordinated a citizenship information session offered on September 5th. Participants could learn about the process of applying for citizenship. It was led by American Gateways.





Mr. Hudson presented a Shrinky Dinks program for the adult population. The program consisted of tracing or drawing images on special paper. The paper was then heated in a microwave oven and the image became a much smaller hard plastic item that could be used for crafts or ornaments. Fifteen patrons participated and enjoyed making a variety of artistic creations. It was a very successful program.





Mr. Hudson, assisted by Circulation attendant Adam Capelo presented an educational program based on math retention equations on a grid. The program was well received by adults who enjoyed the challenge of retaining mathematical computations as they worked on the grid.

Branch Services

 Branch manager Maria Gonzales attended the Credit Card Certification training, a requirement for all SAPL cash handlers.


 The branch hosted Texas Workforce Commission Training workshop. This was a job skills training event for patrons registered with Texas Workforce.

 Ryan Gonzalez, Community Relations Coordinator with Familia Dental offered information on dental services provided by Familia Dental at a table set up by the entrance of the branch.


 The branch hosted San Anto Cultural Arts community meeting in conjunction with TCI. Topic of discussion at the meeting was about a mural to be erected at fire station # 26. Mural is to inspire drivers to slow down on Culebra Rd.

MISSION



Community

 Mission served as a pick-up point for the World Health Organization's Tour de las Misiones packets for participants.


 The Mobile Health Clinic was on site offering services to the community.

 Mission continues to have a presence offering its library services in the monthly Farmer's and Artesian Market at the Mission Marquee.

Adult Services

  For the Cooking Demonstration, attendees learned how to cook Boba tapioca pearls and add them to a healthy smoothie using non-RBST milk and yogurt and all-organic ingredients.

Teen Services

 This month Mission Library teens were busy getting back to school. Teen Time continued to be popular among teens, with teens coming after school to watch movies and play video games, as well as eat snacks. Mission Library Teen Librarian Emily Young visited CASTMED High School to provide each student some information about the medical and general databases that could be used for student study. Students who are currently without library cards also filled out applications. Additionally Ms. Young visited Harlandale High School during lunch to inform area students about library programming.

Children's Services



Fall is in full swing at Mission Branch Library. The Children's Area is being decorated with scarecrows, stalks of corn and other fall things. Many new children, babies and toddlers, are coming to story times with their families as well as prior participants. The toddlers made their first fall craft, a tree full of bright leaves and a cute squirrel. The children are also enjoying the many new fall story books that have been arriving.

PAN AMERICAN



Library Assistant Stephanie Perez hosted the Sketchbook Club on September 15th 2019. She brings in art books, books with photographs, and items for participants to draw. Stephanie discusses ideas, feedback on work, and creativity with participants. The program is open to teens and adults.



In anticipation of the movie's theatrical release, Stephanie hosted the Downton Abbey Tea Party on September 8th 2019. Patrons discussed their favorite show moments while enjoying tea and desserts. Other activities included coloring sheets and a green screen for pictures.



Librarian Cindy Cruz, and Library Assistant Cassie Garza, visited the STEM Early College High School and brought a bottle cap craft to the outreach. Cindy and Cassie visited the afterschool program at the campus and discussed with the program facilitator opportunities for partnership.



Cindy also began a Tween Time program that emphasizes arts and crafts for 9-12 year old children. Tweens learned how to do print- making by drawing an image into foam board and then covering it with paint. The tweens then transferred the images to paper to create original art work that they could copy multiple times.



Children's Librarian Jane Miller provided a fun and vibrant toddler time to the Pan American Branch Library. The group of children in attendance listened to a fun story, sang some songs and enjoyed a creative craft. The return of toddler time after a short break was well received.



Branch Manager Steven Barrera gave a presentation on Fake News. Patrons in attendance were taught ways to spot fake news on the internet. The patrons were shown examples of different fake news stories and given tips on combating disinformation.



Pan American library assistant and teen liaison Cassie Garza demonstrated to the teen group how they could create a bento box. Teen volunteers also showed the group how to make onigiri or Japanese rice balls.



Ms. Garza continued facilitating the Pokémon Champions group. New members joined and were shown the basics on how to play the Pokémon trading card game. Several of the regular members traded some of their rare Pokémon cards.



Ms. Garza hosted the first day of Hogwarts for second year in a row at Pan American library. Library aide Jennifer Huizar assisted with helping participants get sorted into their Hogwarts house and the horcrux scavenger. Circulation attendant Yulissa Araujo showed patrons how to create an edible snitch. The event began with the opportunity to be sorted into a Hogwarts house, then the ability to design and decorate your own wizard wand and learn how to create slime.



During a Teen Time program, Ms. Garza showed the teen group how to make stickers. Teens used their own artwork and also printed images from the internet to turn into stickers.



Ms. Garza partnered with another city organization called NXL LEVEL to share information about career advice for teens between the ages of 16yrs to 24yrs old. Francisco from NXL LEVEL spoke with the teens about opportunities for career advancement with jobs and schooling.



Ms. Garza and circulation attendant Leticia Zuniga-Prather hosted an all-ages food demonstration for making corn tortillas. Participants used their hands to knead and mixed the dough. Then they were shown how to flatten out the dough to create a corn tortilla. Finally, patrons were shown how to cook their raw corn tortilla.



Pan American Branch Library hosted its monthly Cult Classic movie screening. This month brought the Western movie, My Name is Nobody. Patrons were treated to popcorn and snacks, while escaping the heat and enjoying a classic movie.



Every Friday at Pan American Branch, Qigong sessions are held. Qigong practice typically involves moving meditation, coordinating slow-flowing movement, deep rhythmic breathing, and a calm meditative state of mind. Instructor Mary Martha McNeel brings her knowledge of the practice with her weekly.



Sundays are Yoga days at Pan American Branch. Instructor Erika Dominguez teaches a weekly class that involves stretching, mediation and other breathing techniques.



Librarian II, Adrian Leal, took the Pan American Branch mobile to the Elvira Cisneros Senior Center. The Senior Center members were able to get their SAPL questions answered. They also continue to be very appreciative of SAPL and the Pan American Branch for bringing mobile services to them.



Mr. Leal held a 1-on-1 Computer Training session with a patrons. The patron was given a personalized training session at their comfort level, and at a time that was convenient for their schedule.



Mr. Leal provided an adult coloring class at the Elvira Cisneros Senior Center. The center's members are able to enjoy a relaxing and stress-free environment while coloring and listening to some good music.



The Pan American Library hosted a Citizenship Information Session. Patrons in attendance were given a presentation about the process of becoming a citizen and how to get the process started.



Palo Alto College Education and Training Center set up an information table at the Pan American Branch Library. They provided financial aid information to DREAMers that may be interested in college. While their focus was on DREAMers, they also provided basic financial aid information to those that asked questions.

PARMAN



In the last week of August, all the weekly children's programs at Parman Library that had taken a break resumed: Baby Time, Toddler Time, Story Time, Kid's Discovery Time, Tween Time and the Lego Club. The Baby Time, Toddler Time and Story Time events in particular all saw about the same high turnout rates that they had had before the programs took a hiatus. When the Lego Club first resumed, there were only a few kids showing up to the program. However, once a week had passed after school had started, the large groups of children that the Parman staff was used to seeing returned for the weekly Lego Club event.



Coinciding with the re-starting of the children's programs, Mr. Holcomb started once again in September the weekly Parman Knight's Chess group. Turnout was high the very first time it resumed and it quickly grew to its usual turnout size the very next week.



The Parman Library's transformation station, which is an ever-evolving creative space for children that has been very popular at Parman, was relocated recently so that it would be even more easily accessible to children. The relocation of the transformation station, as well as its ongoing maintenance, has been a collaborative effort on the part of the Parman staff.



The Parman Library was also pleased to have the interactive drummer Jorge Ochoa as a special guest for one of the library's Kid's Discovery Time events. Despite arriving late, the talented musician fully engaged the audience, leading them in a drum circle where all the participants had a chance to play driving rhythms.



Teens continued to participate in the weekly Teen Time at Parman, facilitated by Parman branch's new Teen Librarian Chris Castillo. Now that the teens are back in school, they are using the library's teen space for regular group study. Teens are also using Learning Express for practice tests and using online homework help to access online tutors.



Teen Time at Parman not only continues to allow teens to make new acquaintances, but it now offers other kinds of new opportunities. For example, teens had their first virtual reality experiences utilizing the library system's Oculus Go portable virtual reality systems. The immersive sensory experience lets teens face their fears and virtually explore faraway destinations. Other new opportunities for teens during Teen Time included learning new games like Bananagrams.



Recently, many new teens have signed up for volunteer opportunities with the Parman Library while many of the current volunteers continue to build their professional experience and marketable skills. The Teen Library Leadership Council at Parman is also growing momentum as its members help develop programming and services.



Teen Librarian Chris Castillo also helped out with the Manga Library at San Japan XXII. This event is the largest anime convention in South Texas and took place on Labor Day weekend at the Henry B. Gonzalez convention center. San Japan draws an international crowd in appreciation of Japanese and anime culture. The Teen Services' Manga Library offered the public a glimpse into the library system's popular manga collection. The reading room also featured a photo booth, video game battles, and card games during the 3-day event. Happy visitors repeatedly returned for incentives like free buttons and Teen Summer Reading Program prize t-shirts, if they showed their library cards.



Parman's regular adult weekly programs—Meditation, Yarns and Needles, Fitness in the Park, Alamo Woodcarvers and Zumba—all continue to maintain a consistent number of attendees.



Parman Library is also pleased to now have in its gallery the impressive photography of Michael Tidwell, who uses a special motion technique to achieve the desired effect. Mr. Tidwell's had an opening reception that went over very well and had a substantial turnout of those interested in his art.

POTRANCO

August 19 – September 15, 2019



Alicia Trevino Senior Center Book & Movie Group

Lisa Leandro, Library Assistant, moderated the book group instead of Cindy Moreno due to scheduling. The group had a lively discussion about the novel *The Light Between Oceans* by M. L. Stedman. Several attendees were able to connect with the group because of similar circumstances. Some were surprised at how they liked the book even though it romance in the novel. The attendees watched the movie after the discussion. The next book will be *When I Was Puerto Rican: A Memoir* by Esmeralda Santiago.



I Heart Vinyl Program

During this past reporting period, the I Heart Vinyl program has continued with its themeless, all-day (Sunday), virtual format, as branch staff await the purchase of a new sound system. In the meantime, as use of the "virtual" format continues, more staff members have become involved in deejaying Sunday's selections. As noted in prior reports, the branch will eventually have a need for more album bins, the cost and availability of which are still being researched.



Potranco Book Club

Potranco continued its monthly meetings of the Potranco Book Club (PBC). The September book selection was Julia Alvarez's *In the Time of the Butterflies*, a historical novel set in the Dominican Republic, during the waning years of the 30-year Trujillo regime; the "butterflies" of the title refer to three sisters who were murdered in response to their resistance to the regime. While the attendance at the PBC usually is in the range of 4-6 participants, attendance at this last meeting was a whopping 11 participants!

October's book selection is Paul Kalanithi's *When Breath Becomes Air*, a memoir of his fight with cancer—a fight that redefined his life and how he lived it.



Potranco Writer's Group

During the reporting period August 19, 2019 – Sept 15, 2019, the Potranco Writers Group continued its twice monthly meetings on the second and fourth Thursdays. Attendance continues at a steady and committed level, fluctuating between small, concentrated meetings and larger wide-ranging discussions. The supportive nature of the group makes it quite easy for newcomers to offer work of their own, a not infrequent occurrence. A fair amount of networking between participants has also developed between meetings. At a recent meeting, one of the regular participants introduced four issues of Early Buzz, a 'zine he is now publishing. Other PWG participants were encouraged to submit future material to the 'zine.



Children's Programming

The children's area displayed was based on Oregon Trail to promote the upcoming program. The library started back up programming including baby time, lego club, read to a dog, storytime, toddler time, and a weekly come and go craft.

August 24th- August 25th



Pipe Cleaner Snakes

The come-and-go craft for the weekend of August 24th through August 25th was pipe cleaner snakes. Children and families were provided pipe cleaners, beads, googly eyes, and foam paper to use in crafting their very own make believe snake.

August 31st – September 1st

Popsicle Stick Bookmark

Prepared the come-and-go craft for the weekend of August 31st – September 1st. Craft for the weekend was Popsicle stick bookmark. Children and families were provided a Popsicle sticks, crayons, markers, string, and beads to craft their very own bookmark.



Community Connections



STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)



Employee CORE Values (Teamwork, Integrity, Innovation, Professionalism)



Word

September 7th – September 8th

Paper Plate Masks



The come-and-go craft for the weekend of September 7th – September 8th. Craft for the weekend was a paper plate mask. Children and families were provided precut plates in the shape of a mask, markers, color pencils, sequence, glitter glue, fuzz balls, and construction paper to craft their very own mask.



Staff Trainings

Cash Handling Training

Both Desmond London and Jacqueline Gonzales attended an all day training on learning and testing for cash handling certification with the City of San Antonio.

Transgender Trainings

Several staff were able to attend the transgender trainings.

New Card Training by Abbigail Jepson for Potranco Staff

Abbigail, Circulation Attendant, gave a new card training for staff. This was helpful for new staff that weren't used to being at the Circulation Desk so often. Abbigail shared useful tips on creating new cards and offered to work one on one with staff if needed.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Children



The Family Circle Book Club met recently and discussed the book *As Brave as You* by popular, award-winning author Jason Reynolds. Tweens and parents expressed many positive comments about the selection and participated in a lively discussion. The group compared the relationships of the main characters and their grandparents with that of their own. How is your relationship similar and different?



The recent Kids Time event celebrating back-to-school was a big hit for families at Pruitt Library. Kids laughed as they listened to a reading of Bruce Hale's *Clark the Shark* by and his wild antics while attending Theodore Roosterfish Elementary. Clark learned how to "stay cool" and make friends by creating rhymes. Afterwards, kids constructed sharks from colorful perler beads and attached them to their backpacks with key rings. Everyone looked forward to showing them off at school.



Children's Librarian Cynthia Saenz provided outreach at the neighboring Walzem WIC Center. She met with parents and told them all about the wonderful programs and resources provided by the San Antonio Public Library. Expectant parents were especially looking forward to attending Baby Time events at various locations.

Teens



Pruitt Teens were excited to begin the school year. As we are located on the Roosevelt High School campus, the teens represented Pruitt by participating in the Red, White, and Blue Review where all organizations on campus participate in a community "parade," where they are introduced/recognized by local area residents.



The SAPL VROOM Van came to Pruitt and assisted us with our Back To School Bash. We had video gaming, music, treats, and button making. During this event, we were also able to distribute information regarding Pruitt activities and services.



We want to be well. So in the interest of self-care, Pruitt began offering yoga to teens. The facilitator brings all of the supplies and equipment.



It's never too early to set goals and make things happen. Motivational speaker Wale Adekanla provided a presentation to Pruitt Teens encouraging them to develop habits he described that would help them be successful in the classroom and out.



Teen Chess returned for the 2019-2020 school year.



Pruitt Teen Librarian was part of the SAPL Teen Library team that provided outreach at the San Japan Anime convention. This event gave SAPL Teen Services the opportunity to mix with convention attendees and share what we offer in support of their manga/anime desires.

Adults



An area in the Pruitt library has been designated as an Adult Lounge. This is an adult zone, conveniently located near the newspapers and magazines. It has been a big hit and heavily used. At any given time adult patrons can be seen reading and relaxing in the red lounge chairs.



Hispanic Heritage month was started at Pruitt with a Spanish and Coffee/Ingles y Café. Patrons came to practice speaking Spanish or English and discuss the Hispanic culture of San Antonio. One patron came all the way across town to practice her English. A patron from Peru talked about the difference in the Spanish she speaks compared to the Spanish spoken in San Antonio.



A new session of Family Chess has started with a new caterer. The new menu was well received. Patrons enjoyed the lasagna and fresh salad. Returning players are looking forward to the tournament in December.



TGIF Adult Book Club had a few new members this month. The discussion for the *Manhattan Beach* led to talking about the ship yards in New York. A couple of the patrons have lived there and gave great descriptions of life in that area. Next month the group is reading *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah.



The monthly Quilting Bee is making progress on their projects. Some brought smaller projects to work on with a Halloween theme. Holiday quilts will be the theme for the next few months. The participants look forward to seeing each other's finished quilts.

SAN PEDRO



Toddler Time

After the August Children's programming hiatus, this weekly program returned greeting an enthusiastic group of kids and caregivers. The families enjoyed participating in the songs, reading and play, as well as the camaraderie.



Baby Time

Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler has had much success with this program at her previous branch, so she wanted to reinstate it after a year's hiatus. There are many babies that pass through the branch during the week and the program is mentioned to their families. We're hopeful about growing the attendance at this weekly program.



Family Fun

Sundays in September are packed with activities for families. A Come and Go craft featured "Finger Football" – a craft that becomes a take home game once finished. "Playdough Day" was messy, squishy and creative – great for all ages.



Lego Time

This popular weekly after school program resumed after the August hiatus with an enthusiastic start. One week we featured a special “Skyscraper Day” to highlight spectacular actual buildings from around the world to serve as a launching point for our young LEGO builders.



Outreach Connections

Children’s librarian Karen Braeuler is working on keeping the excellent school community connections forged by our retired children’s librarian Betsy Dalton. Contact has been made with many schools and education centers, especially in the SAISD. Ms. Braeuler was a guest at the Hawthorne Academy (SAISD) Open House where she staffed a SAPL information table in the library and met with parents and kids.



Adult Services

Adult Services Librarian Diana Starrett created a bird feeding program using recycled materials including toilet paper rolls and pipe cleaners!. Participants were able to use peanut butter and bird seed to create a bird feeder that can hang from a branch in their yard. She also supported system wide programming by traveling to Johnston Library and presenting a basic sewing class to patrons there.

SCHAEFER



Following Story Time and Toddler Time on Sept. 10, kids celebrated Playdough Day. Tables and chairs were set up in the library, and the kids had lots of fun squishing, rolling and smashing the homemade dough. A variety of playdough tools were provided for extra fun.



Children’s Librarian Leslie Elsasser resumed her monthly outreach at the Evelyn King daycare on Sept. 12 after a break during summer reading. She read stories to two groups of preschool children.



Read to a Dog has been a rewarding addition to Schaefer’s slate of weekly children’s programming. Kids have the opportunity to practice their reading skills by reading to Molly, a terrier. Schaefer received a very generous donations of stuffed animals – white dogs that actually look like Molly – to give to the kids who read to Molly. The dogs were donated by grandparents of a boy who attended LEGO Time regularly.



Schaefer offers a variety of programming for children of all ages -- Toddler Time, Story Time, Baby Time and LEGO Time take place weekly. The fall session of programming began at the end of August and will continue through December.



Library Assistant Sara Ramirez hosted two Science Time programs during the reporting period. On August 27, children learned about measurements and made edible unicorn slime. On September 10, Robot Science Time celebrated National Play-Doh Day with the Makey Makey. Children learned about simple circuits and transformed play-doh into a keyboard using the Makey Makey board.



Pokémon time has been a great program for kids as they play with their favorite pocket monsters. Kids can choose from a few different things to play: Pokémon GO, Pokémon training card game, and also

Pokken Tournament. Pokémon time gives kids a chance to do something different at the library and have fun doing it.



Monday evenings at Schaefer, patrons gather for Chess Club. From 1800 to 1930 hours 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 provided by a generous donation from our friends at Dollar General.



Every other Thursday afternoon, Schaefer hosts the Kid's Gaming Program. School age 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.



Yoga in the Park continues every Friday at the Schaefer Library. Patrons are supplied with yoga mats to use during the class and program attendance has been growing with each class.



The monthly Zumba program continues in the flex space at Schaefer. Classes are held twice a month and are led by a certified Zumba instructor.



The Schaefer continued offering a second Zumba class, Zumba Gold at the library. This class offers a modified version of Zumba, appropriate for all ages.



On Wednesday, August 21, Adult Services Librarian Maria Adams hosted a tech help class at the District 2 Senior Center. Attendees came ready with their devices and questions. One senior wanted help using her iPad to send text messages. Another senior needed assistance transferring photos from her phone to a flash drive.



Library Assistant, Mason Matthews, and Adult Services Librarian, Maria Adams, hosted a weekend celebration in honor of the 80th anniversary of the theatrical release of the Wizard of Oz on August 24th and 25th. The weekend celebration started with an Escape from Oz escape room. Props and puzzles set the stage for teams to try and escape the game. Sunday celebration included patrons decorating paper straws with a pair of ruby slippers for a bookmark craft. The weekend celebration ended with the screening of the iconic movie.



Craft Night for Adults was hosted by Librarian Maria Adams on Wednesday, August 28th. This month crafters made shrinky dinks to be used as bookmarks. Participants chose a design and traced it onto special film then watched their creations shrink in an oven to half their original size.



On Tuesday, September 10, Adult Services Librarian Maria Adams hosted an session of coloring at the District 2 Senior Center. Participants are provided with coloring sheets and pencils to use during the program.



On Wednesday, September 11, the branch hosted the SA Food Bank for a monthly series on healthy cooking for adults. This month's topic was healthy eating in a hurry.

SEMMES



August 19 and 21—Semmes preschool-aged patrons and their caregivers started off the Fall story time session with an ABC story time. The hilarious *Z is for Moose* by Kelly Bingham got lots of laughs. The children accompanied Ms. Randi with percussion instruments for several alphabet-themed songs. For their art project, children made a blank book. Ms. Randi provided one picture for each letter of the alphabet for coloring and children were invited to use pictures from magazines to fill out their ABC book.



August 26 and 28—Semmes preschool-aged patrons and their caregivers enjoyed a reading of *Ten Pigs: an Epic Bath Adventure* by Derek Anderson. They accompanied Ms. Randi with percussion instruments to several counting songs. Ms. Randi taught them the action song *Two Little Hands, Ten Little Fingers* in English and Spanish. Finally, children were invited to make a paper pocket and a number & object matching game to keep inside it.



August 31—For Family Fun time, children and their grownups listened to Ms. Randi's reading of *Tiny Little Fly* by Michael Rosen. Ms. Randi taught the children the American Sign Language to "Mbube" ("The Lion Sleeps Tonight") by Ladysmith Black Mambazo on the CD titled, *Animal Playground*. The children were then invited to make a gecko paper bag puppet to take home.



September 9 and 11—The theme for this story time was Family. Ms. Randi read the book *Loretta's Gift* by Pat Zietlow Miller. She performed several songs about brothers and sisters, including Alan Katz's "My Sister Fights With Me" (to the tune of "My Country 'Tis of Thee"). For an art project, children used craft sticks to "build a house" on card stock and drew a picture of whoever lives in their house inside it.



September 14—For Family Fun time, children and their grownups listened to Ms. Randi's reading of *Waken the Rooster: Up All Night* about a rooster with a bad case of insomnia. Ms. Randi performed several farm-themed songs including, of course, "Old McDonald Had a Farm". For the craft project, children made a paper plate cow mask.



After taking a hiatus for the summer, the bi-weekly "Anyone Can Draw" program is back on the schedule. Priscilla Boatwright, Circulation Attendant, and accomplished artist, teaches this bi-monthly class. The classes started up again on Sunday, September 15th, with 4 students.



The September Pokémon Go Community Day event was one of the best attended Pokémon events the library has hosted. Over 150 people stopped by the library's event tables to do a craft, get a free badge, enjoy some cold water and just enjoy being with other fans of the game. Several attendees commented on how great they think it is that the library participates in Community Day.

THOUSAND OAKS



The number of children who signed up and completed the Summer Reading Program doubled this year at Thousand Oaks branch library. Fall programming was planned during the weeks of August 12-29th.



The theme for the first Toddler and Story time programs on August 29 were the Five Senses. Children enjoyed stories, music and movement activities, puppets and songs. Story time featured different areas which had the following sensory experiences: smelling fresh lemons, cinnamon and coffee, a sight activity creating a mini oil pastel crayon drawing, a hearing station with nature sounds and a singing bowl and a touch station with water play, bubble wrap and sand paper.



Ms. Lea Ann kicked off a new program called Family Fun Fridays designed for all ages and to include older children and working parents. This program is at 4:00pm on Fridays. The program will vary with fun activities like kids game night, pajamas-popcorn and a movie night as well as more traditionally formatted Family fun programs. The first Family Fun Friday program theme was How Animals See. This program included a slideshow and guessing game about recognizing animal eyes. Ms. Lea Ann read stories about animal vision and engaged in an interactive discussion. Children created stylized animal eye headbands with their families.



On September 5, Toddler and Story time themes were about Fall. Participants listened and engaged in stories, puppets, songs, rhymes and movement activities with Ms. Lea Ann. Children and their adults created a mixed media Fall tree with dot painters, construction paper and magazine cutouts during Story Time



The branch's second Family Fun Friday program was Skyscraper day. Attendees watched an interactive slide show featuring interesting buildings around the globe. Children shared their ideas about what they thought the buildings were designed to look like. Afterward, both adults and children helped to create skyscrapers out of large cardboard boxes and built structures with rolled up newspapers. The activity was highly collaborative with everyone engaging in teamwork!



Lego Pop Up happened on Saturday September 7 in the non-fiction area with many children and their adults gathered for a spontaneous building session.



The Story time and Toddler Time theme for September 12 was Visiting the Doctor. Ms. Lea Ann read stories about visiting the Dentist and Doctor. The children bandaged stuffed animals and dolls, learning to care for people and pets through imaginary play. The hands on activity was creating stethoscopes and putting together a life size skeleton puzzle. On September 13, Family Fun Friday attendees enjoyed the movie, Christopher Robin. Children were allowed to wear their pajamas, bring their favorite stuffed animal and watch the movie with their adults. Popcorn and juice boxes were served.



Teen Time, hosted by Librarian Kimberly King, had a relaxed few weeks with the beginning of the fall semester. The teens played the ever-popular strategizing game of Unstable Unicorns. Various rousing games such as Just Dance were played on the Wii and projected on the wall for an immersive experience. The teens also enjoyed making more s'mores and watching the movie, Labyrinth.



Readers of the Northeast Senior Center Book Club enjoyed the family setting in Lisa Scottoline's *Fearful* on August 27. Many readers felt it was a realistic portrayal of a female lawyer balancing family and career, although they did take issue with the pregnant woman fighting off a murderer. The male characters in the story could have used more development and paled in comparison to the female characters in the book.



American Gateways presented a Citizenship Information Workshop on September 9, to help inform potential US citizens on the process and prepare them for filling out the application for citizenship.



Librarian Theresa Garza lead crafters in a special Hispanic Heritage Month edition of Sunday Crafternoon. On September 15, participants were able to decorate sugar skulls, learn about how the decorations are used for Día de los Muertos. Crafters went home with the recipe to make Calaveras at home as well as sources for purchasing molds. Attendants also had the option of creating felt Calaveras to take home with them.



Library Assistant Lucy Villa continues to teach Crochet 101 to returning students who are looking to expand their skills in the craft. Ms Villa also is a regular volunteer at the City's Migrant Resource Center, putting her Spanish language skills to good use helping others.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL



On August 24, Tom Kinsey, local Naturalist presented his Learn Nature program to a crowd of kids and adults including hands on activities with live critters.



Children's Librarian, Barbaraella Frazier started hosting programs in August. Her Weekly programs include Toddler and Toddler Two, Story Time, Baby Time and weekend Come and Go Crafts. Read to a Dog has started up twice a month and Lego's are currently offered once a month. Many of these events include STEAM components to enhance play with science and art.



Assistant Manager, Rhonda Woolhouse, offered a special Downton Abbey Tea on September 14 to celebrate the upcoming release of the movie. Local Tea Experts from Garden Tea Lounge came to discuss all aspects of tea and to provide tastings of various brews. Activities included Sugar Cube Balancing on a popsicle stick, Tea Bag Toss, making colorful flowers and children making paper plate tea pots. Green screen photos with many participants in period dress made this a special program with good attendance.



Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell's Board met on August 20. Plans were finalized for the upcoming Book Sale on September 27 and 28. Installation of the wording "Book Nook" above the foyer shelving for their on-going book sales was completed this period.



The branch collected nearly two full barrels full of donated books for the partnership with SA Reads for their Summer Book Drive. The summer drive collects donated books from various organizations and businesses throughout the City that get donated to children in need, non-profit organizations that serve children and teachers for their classroom libraries.



After School Fun Time began on the first day of school, August 19, which includes offering healthy snacks provided by the San Antonio Food Bank. This program is targeted for students from Garner Middle School. Currently, attendance averages 45 - 50 pre-teens and teens a day, Monday through Friday.



Teen Librarian, Karah Garcia welcomed baby, Luna Rhiannon on August 16. Although Luna was five weeks early she has exceeded expectations and left NICU for home in less than one week and continues to gain weight and grow.



Manager Tracey Knouse concluded managing Intern, Alonzo Chavez, who worked from July 12 through August 23 as part of Workforce Solutions – Summer Earn and Learn (SEAL) Program. Various partners included Texas Workforce Commission, River City Group and City of San Antonio's Human Resources who all aided in offering employment opportunities for students and adults who historically are disadvantaged. Tobin at Oakwell was one of three locations that participated in this initiative.

WESTFALL



In September, 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.



August and September, the Westfall branch library continued to partner with SAMPL: San Antonio Music Production Lab, which provides free music production workshops for students and adults. The workshops primarily use Apple's Garage Band app to teach children and adults how to create and mix their own music. All equipment is provided by SAMPL and it's a great way for people to get creative. SAMPL is a mobile music production lab whose mission is to create positive change in the lives of young people by fostering creativity, empowering voice, and developing both tech based and social skills through audio and music production.



In August and September the Westfall Branch hosted Yoga for Beginners and Meditation for Beginners in partnership with the Isha Foundation. Each class focused on how yoga and meditation can improve one's health and overall wellness. These classes may be offered more in the future depending on demand.



Children's Librarian, Imelda Merino, visited the La Risa Apartments in the neighborhood for an after school program so children could learn more about the library. Ms. Merino also partnered with an elementary school teacher to get more students library cards for the beginning of the school year.



Teen Librarian, Daniella Toll worked with teen volunteers who have been running a math tutoring program over the past school year. The teens and Ms. Toll discussed the direction their program would move towards in the next year. The young adults expressed interest in science and a desire to expand the tutoring services to include both biology and chemistry. The math and science tutoring is for all elementary, middle school and some high school level math and sciences.



The Westfall Branch Library continued to host the "Stranger than Fiction" and "Third Thursday" book clubs. Books read this month included "What Unites Us" by Dan Rather and "The Miniaturist" by Jessie Burton. 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 August and September, The Westfall LEARN got a whole lot “brighter.” Two sets of adjustable track lights were expertly installed along the back wall, adding to a slow but steady facelift of the LEARN Center space. Westfall LEARN is now more visible from the library entrance and easier to direct patrons to. In addition to feeling safer, the brighter lighting has also been a benefit to computer users who previously strained to see their screens. Thank you to Haley Holmes, Mark Loiselle, Rich Walker and everyone who helped make this project happen.



In September the Westfall Branch staff said congratulations and welfare to Teen Librarian Daniella Toll, who was promoted to Assistant Manager at the Collins Garden Branch. The branch will miss her and wish her well in her in position. By the same token, the branch welcomed Cynthia Cruz to the team as the new Teen Librarian. Ms. Cruz had previously worked at the Schaefer Branch Library. The staff and teens are looking forward to working with her at Westfall.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

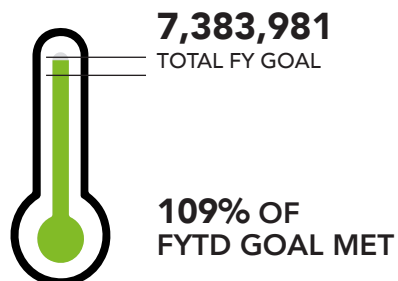
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY KEY INDICATORS

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

AUGUST 2019

FY 2019

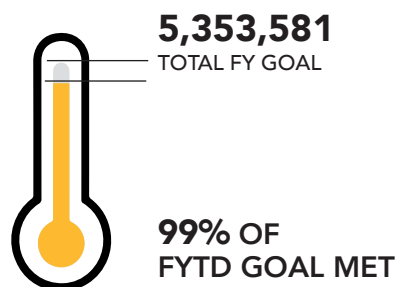
CIRCULATION: GOAL



CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR 2019



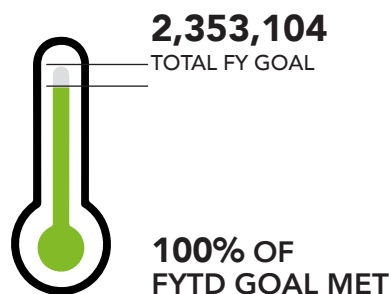
LIBRARY VISITS: GOAL



LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2019



DIGITAL ACCESS: GOAL



DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR 2019



2,130,834

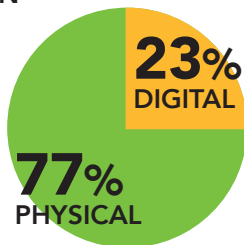
TOTAL HOURS OF
COMPUTER & WI-FI USE

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

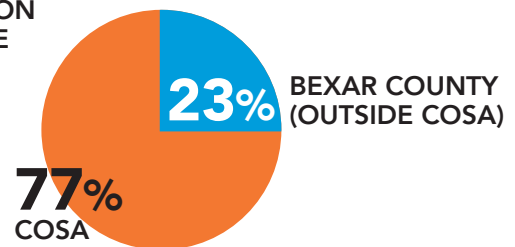
AUGUST 2019 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2019

CIRCULATION
BY TYPE



CIRCULATION
BY SERVICE
AREA



VIRTUAL VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2019



2,245,500
MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

1,060,566
MYSAPL
APP SESSIONS

1,371,678
OVERDRIVE
SITE VISITS

1,373,339
FACEBOOK
REACH

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2019



349,071
TOTAL ATTENDANCE

62,493
ADULT PROGRAMS

59,020
TEEN PROGRAMS

227,558
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

AUGUST MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS



San Antonio Public Library

August 2019 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	4,483	9,371	6,067	1,761	4,306
Brook Hollow	29,337	17,962	5,997	1,441	4,556
Carver	3,774	8,392	5,084	1,843	3,242
Central	26,874	55,527	51,244	16,482	34,762
Cody	33,726	19,660	7,553	1,615	5,939
Collins Garden	5,473	11,390	5,423	1,991	3,432
Cortez	5,916	9,518	3,667	1,404	2,263
Encino	18,255	13,033	4,455	538	3,917
Forest Hills	7,294	6,863	4,162	1,104	3,057
Great Northwest	27,844	18,265	6,036	1,618	4,418
Guerra	10,164	9,448	6,422	2,215	4,207
Igo	32,048	26,237	7,858	1,321	6,537
Johnston	9,891	9,709	3,255	1,240	2,015
Landa	13,865	11,022	2,614	797	1,816
Las Palmas	5,850	11,254	4,469	1,772	2,697
Maverick	25,463	12,366	5,531	1,635	3,896
McCreless	10,856	13,891	5,106	1,655	3,450
Memorial	6,917	9,065	4,176	1,331	2,845
Mission	13,549	17,472	8,161	2,458	5,703
Pan American	5,853	6,784	3,376	1,274	2,101
Parman	29,855	31,055	5,845	906	4,939
Potranco	18,711	16,658	13,273	1,113	12,160
Pruitt	6,062	12,530	2,052	834	1,218
San Pedro	3,522	6,566	2,713	754	1,959
Schaefer	9,157	12,198	6,207	1,328	4,879
Semmes	24,696	17,631	6,790	2,172	4,618
Thousand Oaks	10,092	10,714	5,389	1,181	4,208
Tobin	19,951	15,066	4,788	1,626	3,162
Westfall	15,510	13,685	8,081	2,785	5,296
Kampmann Library Portal	N/A	1,181	182	N/A	182
Interlibrary Loan Lending	972	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	105,371	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	170,187	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	711,518	434,513	205,976	58,197	147,779

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

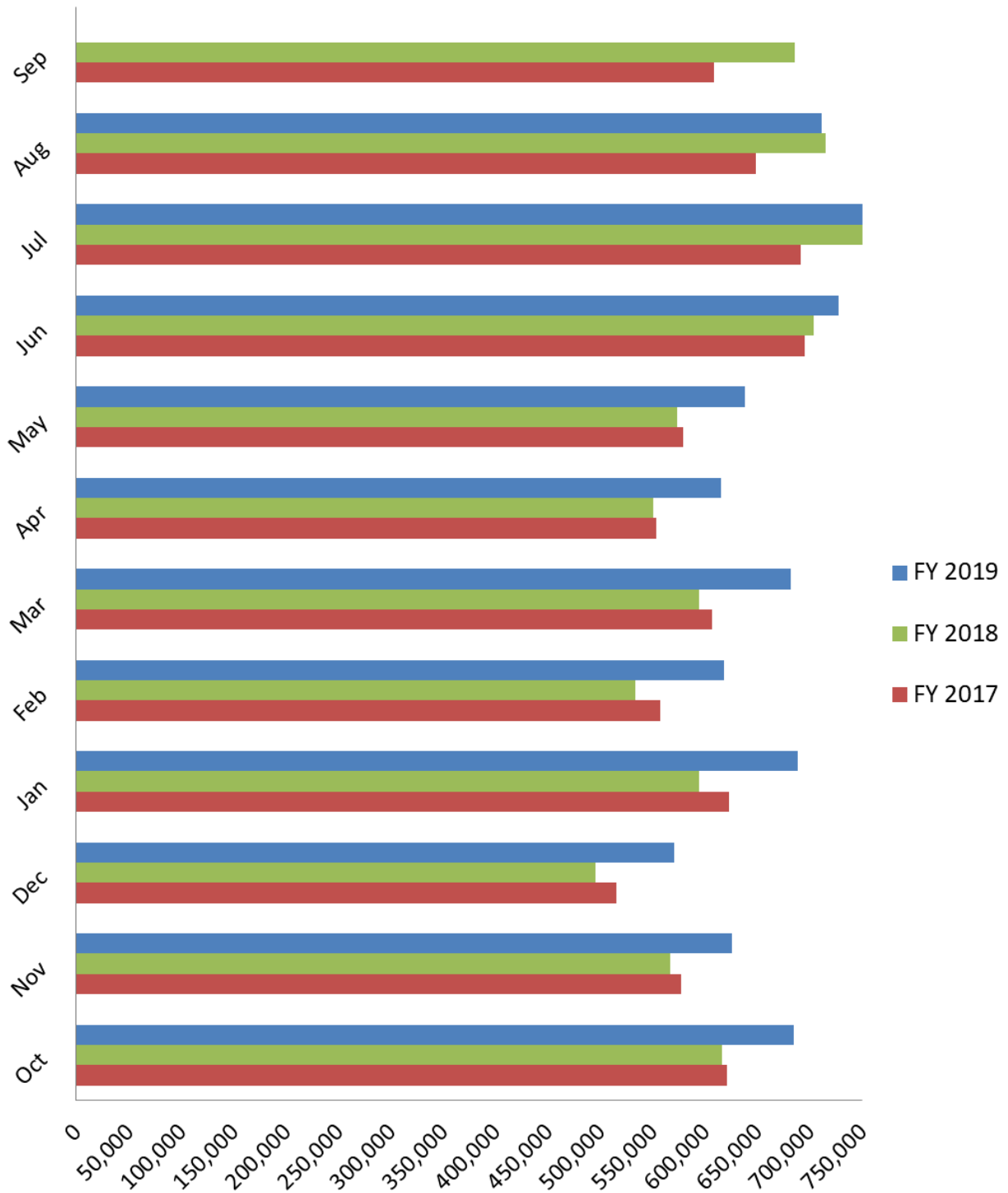
San Antonio Public Library

August 2019 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	33	27	3	3	401	197	198	6
Brook Hollow	28	8	4	16	585	71	30	484
Carver	23	9	7	7	509	211	82	216
Central	104	5	90	8	2,581	86	2,313	182
Cody	49	23	10	16	730	217	87	426
Collins Garden	13	7	2	4	1,304	41	22	1,241
Cortez	162	159	0	3	315	298	0	17
Encino	38	17	7	14	770	113	259	398
Forest Hills	25	16	0	9	325	136	0	189
Great Northwest	35	22	7	6	554	88	59	407
Guerra	48	35	8	5	1,166	556	97	513
Igo	43	20	7	16	1,277	222	91	964
Johnston	24	6	5	13	1,779	1,377	18	384
Landa	50	4	31	15	739	44	121	574
Las Palmas	63	49	5	9	663	302	237	124
Maverick	19	10	4	5	354	50	107	197
McCreless	15	5	5	5	218	56	48	114
Memorial	31	13	7	11	225	80	34	111
Mission	59	33	16	10	1,107	469	512	126
Pan American	51	33	8	10	651	457	101	93
Parman	53	34	5	14	647	275	15	357
Potranco	18	6	6	6	170	34	0	136
Pruitt	40	10	8	22	1,314	144	614	556
San Pedro	4	2	0	2	279	262	0	17
Schaefer	35	13	7	15	854	115	33	706
Semmes	53	18	10	25	1,074	216	75	783
Thousand Oaks	16	4	7	5	274	26	20	228
Tobin	28	5	7	16	781	84	145	552
Westfall	29	9	8	12	302	100	31	171
Kampmann Library Portal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Read Wagon	25	N/A	N/A	25	844	N/A	N/A	844
TOTAL	1,212	602	284	326	22,792	6,327	5,349	11,116

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures

2019/09/18

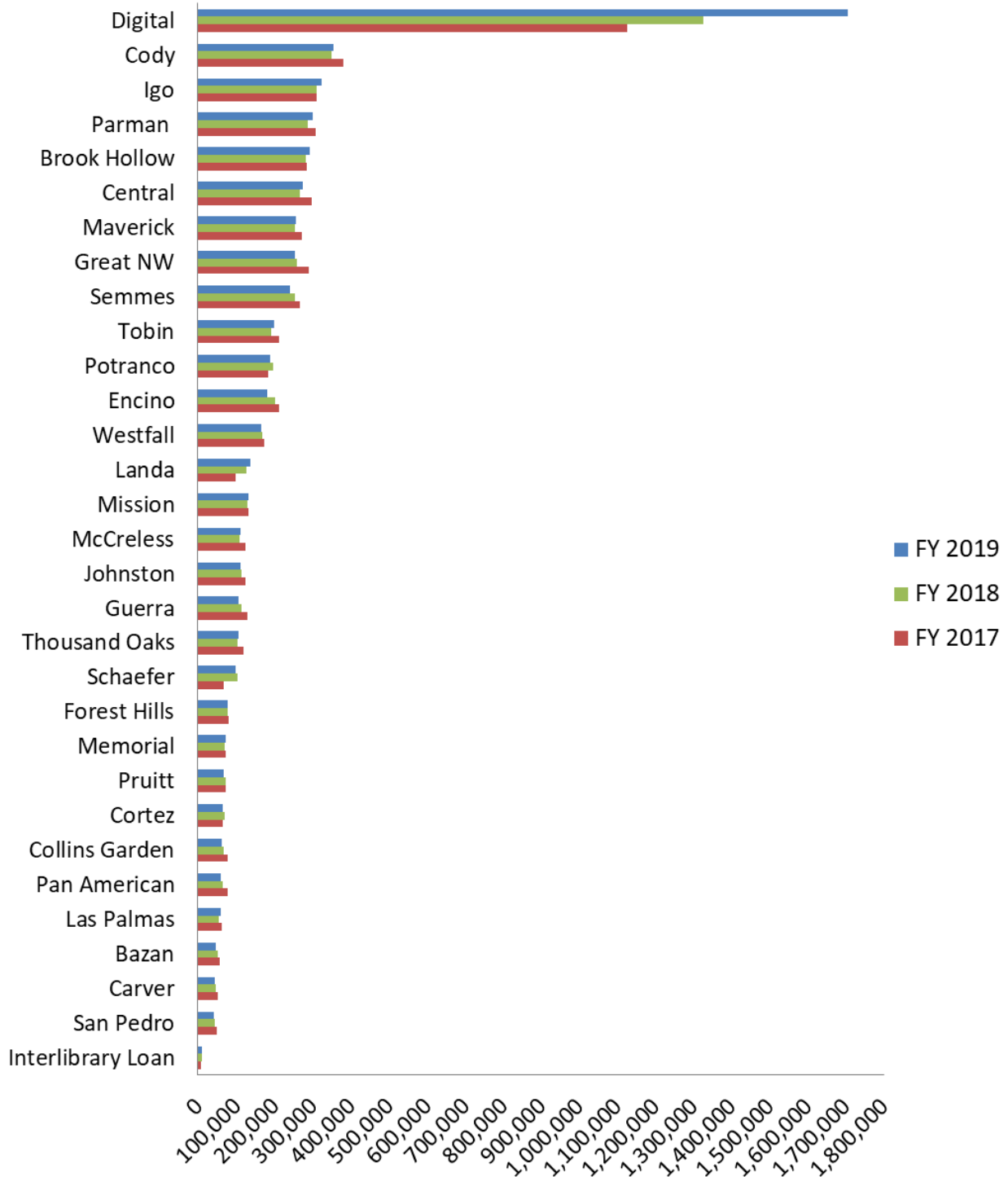
FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm, Great Northwest Apr15-May 5, Semmes May 1-26

FY 18: Central Oct 28 at 3pm, SAPL System Jan 16-Weather, Staff Transformation Day-Feb 19, Cody May 3-13, Pan American Jun 18-Jul 3 & Sep 24-30, Thousand Oaks Jun 25-Jul 5

FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16 * Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Aug 2019



Location Closures

2019/09/18

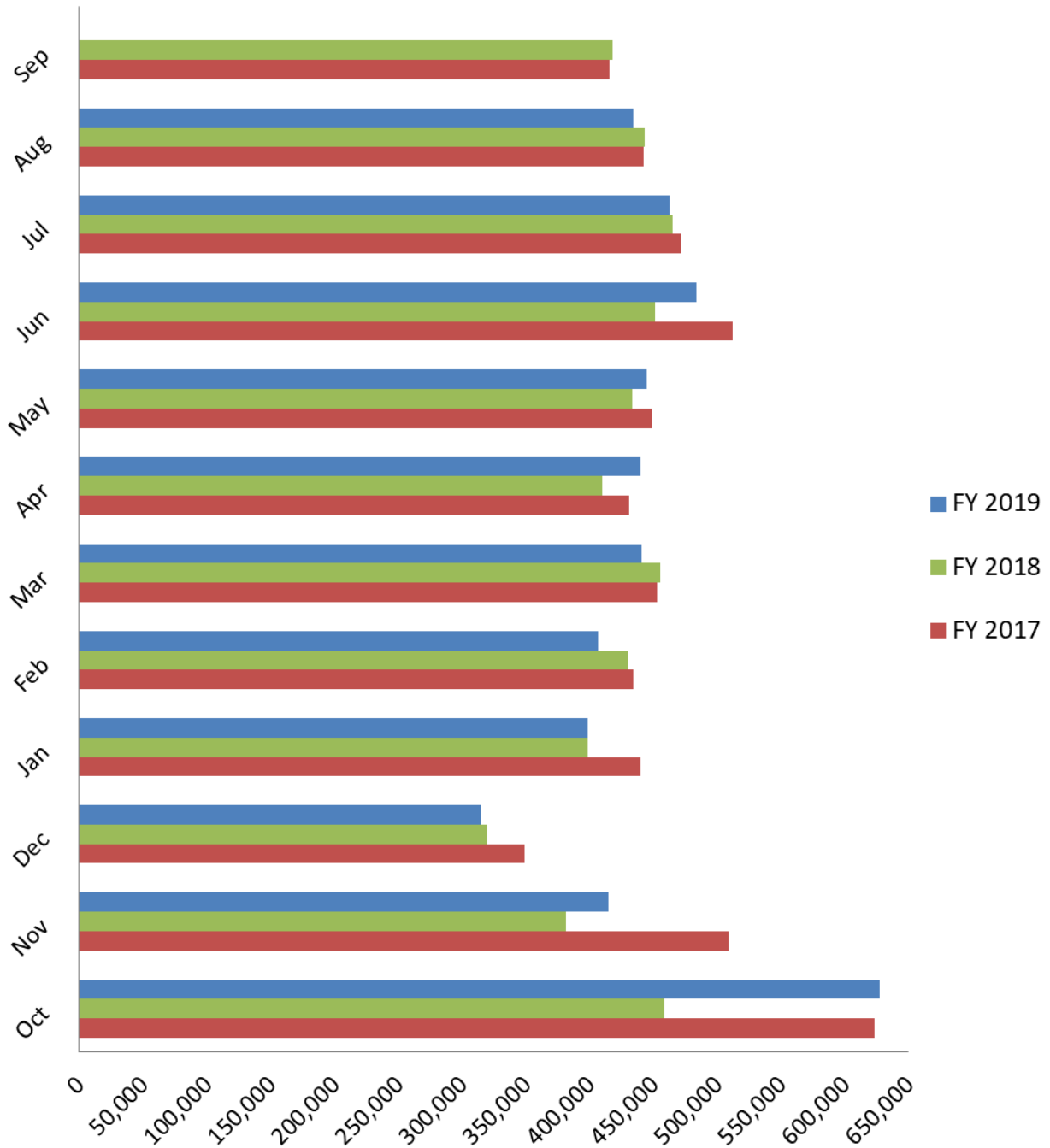
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San Antonio Public Library

Visits



Location Closures

2019/09/18

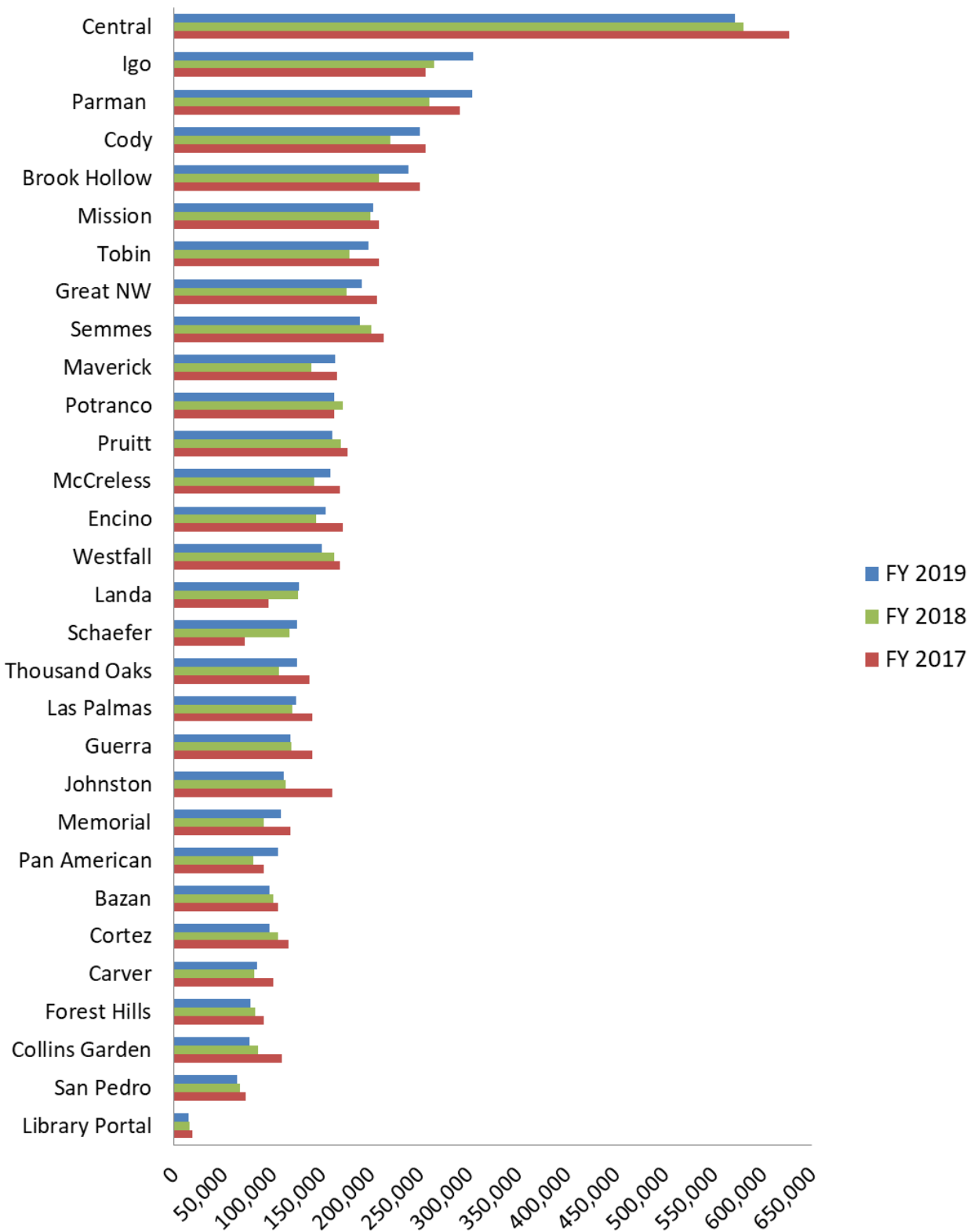
FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm, Great Northwest Apr15-May 5, Semmes May 1-26

FY 18: Central Oct 28 at 3pm, SAPL System Jan 16-Weather, Staff Transformation Day-Feb 19, Cody May 3-13, Pan American Jun 18-Jul 3 & Sep 24-30, Thousand Oaks Jun 25-Jul 5

FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16 * Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25

San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Aug 2019



Location Closures

2019/09/18

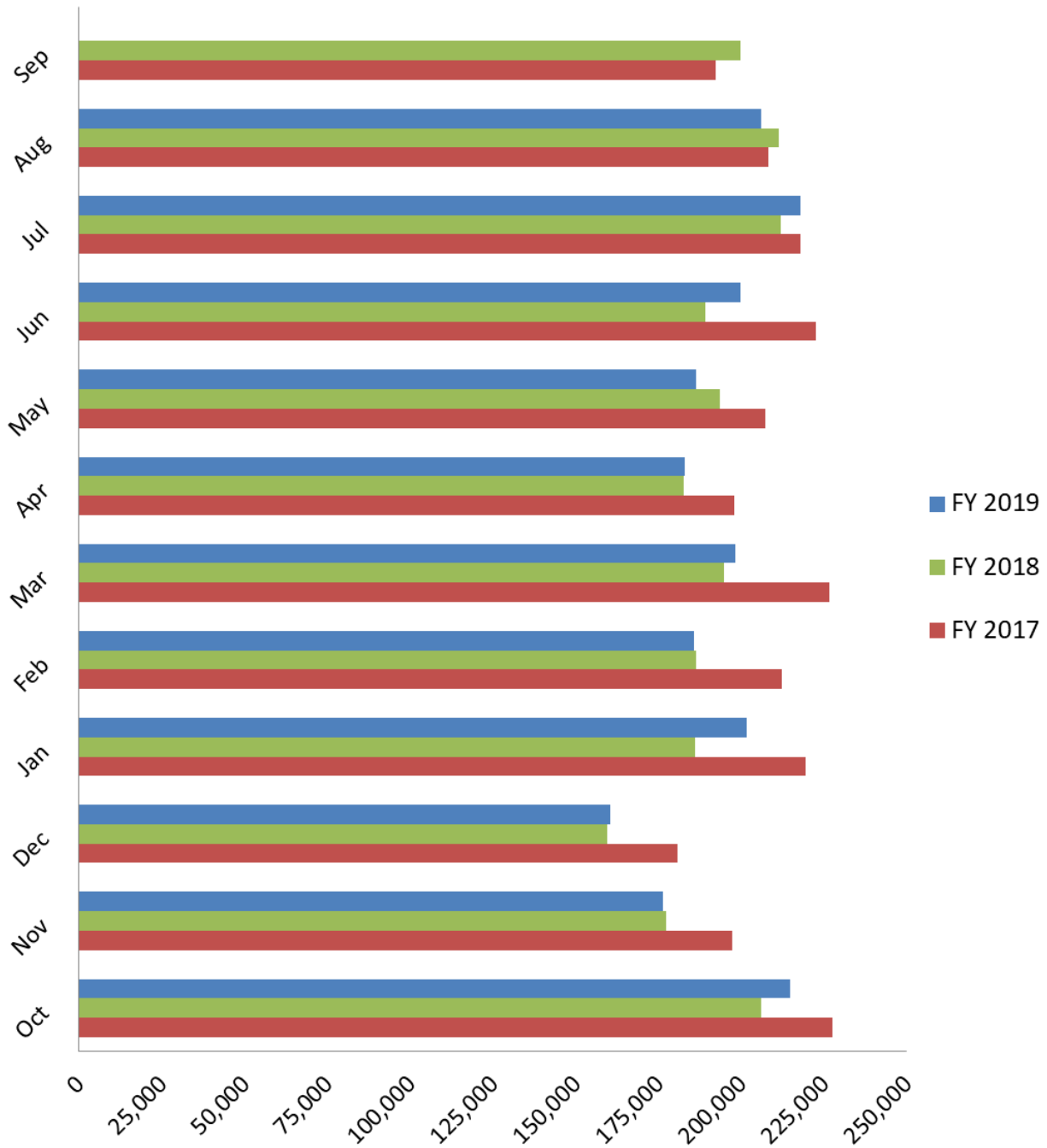
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San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Computer&Wi-Fi Use



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

* Beginning December 12, 2018 - unlimited time on public computers when no one is waiting

Location Closures

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