



San Antonio Public Library Director's Report

Caroline Weinberg, granddaughter of Sala Garncarz Kirschner, spoke about her grandmother's story of surviving five years in Nazi slave labor camps at the closing reception for the 2020 The Holocaust: Learn & Remember series on January 30.

February 2020

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DIRECTOR’S OFFICE

Community Needs Assessment, an element in the development of the Library’s Strategic Plan. As part of a strategic planning process the Library has launched a community needs assessment to gather data to gauge the expectations of the community and better understand current users and non-users. As part of this data collection, City Councilmembers will be invited to participate in a one-on-one interview (approximately 30 min) with the Library’s consultant, OrangeBoy. COSA Executive Leadership Team Members, including City Manager Erik Walsh, Deputy City Manager Maria Villagomez and Assistant City Manager Lori Houston, will also receive invitations to participate in these interviews.

By way of background, the Library has begun development of a comprehensive strategic plan. To facilitate this strategic planning process, the Library has obtained the services of OrangeBoy, a consulting firm to facilitate a community needs assessment.

MARKETING

Top media hits for this past month:

- The Low Vision Reading Room at the Central Library was featured in a 3-minute pre-recorded media package on KSAT 12’s *Good Morning San Antonio*. In addition to the pre-recorded segment, KSAT 12 filmed a live component from the Central Library to air with the pre-recorded package.

Check out a braille book at the public library in honor of Braille Literacy Month

January is a time to recognize, honor legally blind and visually impaired

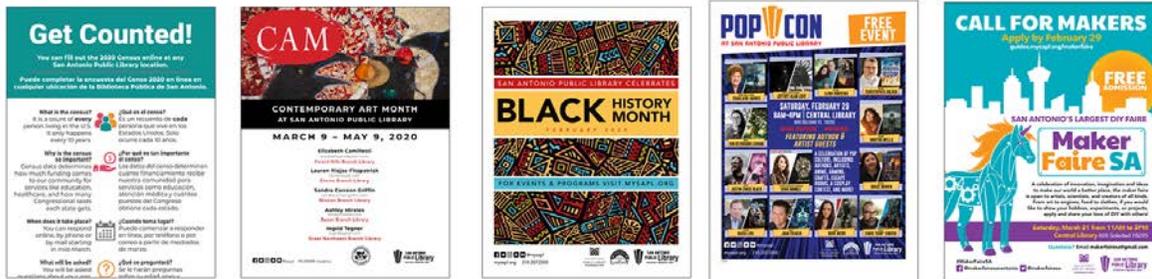


- Symphony at SAPL performances at Las Palmas, Maverick, and Cortez Branch Libraries were highlighted in the KSAT, News 4 WOAI 5:30 a.m., KENS 5 Eyewitness News at 6 a.m. newscast, in a TPR article.
- Director Ramiro Salazar was quoted, and the San Antonio Public Library mentioned, in an article by *Smart Cities Dive* about the role of libraries in smart cities.
- *San Antonio Express News* highlighted the San Antonio Book Festival in their Events section.
- KSAT also re-ran an SA Live segment on Children's programming and Dream Week events happening at the Library on MLK day. Victoria Villarreal from the Marketing team served as the Library's spokesperson.



Graphics Highlights

The Graphics Team created publicity materials for a variety of programs and events during this reporting period, including materials for Census 2020, Contemporary Art Month, Black History Month, Pop Con, Maker Faire SA and the upcoming Summer Reading program.



DIGITAL SERVICES

During the last half of January the Digital Services unit has been intensely engaged in working on the implementation of the the Library's new ILS, Symphony, with the focus primarily on the configuration and testing of the new system.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Megan Cruz visited teen mothers who have had their babies but not yet returned to their regular school campus at Cooper at Navarro Academy to talk about the value of reading to their newborns. Clair Larkin

visited students at South San High School, Southwest High School, LEE High School, Churchill High School, and Holmes High School and led the creation of a variety of make-and-take activities.

Julia Lazarin presented Every Child Ready to Read workshops at Pre-K 4 SA West, Boone Head Start, Tynan Early Childhood Education Center, Gilbert Head Start and Pre-K 4 SA North. Cresencia Huff led workshops at Indian Creek Head Start and Arnold Elementary. Ms. Larkin discussed library services and reading with preschoolers to parents and grandparents at Pre-K 4 SA South and Elm Creek Elementary.

Preschoolers and their grownups enjoyed the Reading Village to Pre-K 4 SA West with Ms. Lazarin.

CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Summer Reading - Children's Services team members shared their priorities for summer special guest presentations and performances. Cresencia Huff, Coordinator of Children's Services, has been working with potential guests to match their availability with library locations interested in having them. This summer will bring opportunities for children to attend programs with new performers and presenters.

Baby Day - The Little Read Wagon team has been hard at work coordinating with partners for Baby Day. Marketing and Children's Librarians from several locations are also providing support. Central Library will be the San Antonio venue for the February 15 state-wide celebration.

Battle of the Bluebonnets - The Children's Services team finished sorting and selecting Battle of the Bluebonnets questions for the Harlandale and San Antonio Independent School Districts.

Nature Smart Libraries - Several Children's Librarians attended training for Starting Out WILD a program for teaching about nature to children 1-6. The workshop, held at Phil Hardberger Urban Ecology Center, provided lesson plans and background information.

TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Fiesta Youth Partnership—Teen Services attended Fiesta Youth's LGBTQ Community Fair during DreamWeek 2020, where teens and their families interacted with a variety of organizations that support and serve LGBTQ youth in San Antonio. Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) also attended Fiesta Youth's January Board Meeting to discuss growing the partnership between both organizations throughout the coming year.

Amisarahi Sarabia (SAPL Teen Outreach Specialist) assisted Edward Mayberry (Teen Liaison, Guerra) in facilitating the third annual Engineering Day at Guerra Library. Teens from John Jay High School's Science and Engineering Academy learned about careers from mentors in the engineering field and worked to solve real world problems with these STEM professionals.

Professional Development—Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) participated in interview panels for a Teen Services Librarian position and a Graphic Designer position. Loaiza was contacted by the Lifelong Learning Librarian from Montana State Library to comment on how Teen Services utilizes virtual reality in teen programming. Loaiza also met with Sergio Gonzalez (Executive Director, Boy With a Ball) and Reyna Martinez (Public Information Officer, Marketing) to explore potential partnership opportunities.

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

The 8th Annual Holocaust Learn and Remember series continued during this reporting period. Events included nine programs at branch locations featuring local Holocaust experts - their presentations were on topics such as Miep Gies, who assisted the family of Anne Frank, San Antonio survivors of the Holocaust, and case studies of the various ways that women survived the Holocaust. Two library locations also hosted the Extended Run Players from UIW who presented a Readers Theatre performance of Letters to Sala. Holocaust Learn and Remember concluded on January 30th with a closing reception featuring Caroline Weinberg. Ms. Weinberg is the granddaughter of Sala Garnarcz Kirschner, whose story was told in the exhibit Letters to Sala, which was displayed in the Central Gallery. The 75 attendees of the closing reception had the opportunity to hear Ms. Weinberg tell personal stories from her grandmother, both during her time in Nazi slave labor camps and once she immigrated to America. Participants appreciated these stories and the opportunity to ask questions of Ms. Weinberg.

Many Library locations hosted programs as part of DreamWeek, which was from January 10-26th. The mission of DreamWeek is to celebrate our humanity by creating environments for civil and civic engagement to embrace ideas and dreams for the common good. One example of a program that was hosted for DreamWeek was a showing of the film Stolen Education, which was planned by staff at the Las Palmas branch library and hosted at the nearby YWCA's Olga Madrid Community Center. UTSA professor Dr. Enrique Alemán, Jr, producer and writer of the film, was present at the event and spoke to participants about the film and it's subject matter of the discrimination of Mexican-American farm worker school children in Texas schools in the 1950's. Approximately 125 individuals attended the event, and found the film and Dr. Aleman's presentation engaging and informative.

Learn@SAPL at Johnston Branch Library is off to a great start, as it opened on January 10th. The community is continuing to be interested in the services offered there. In its first few weeks of operation, eight individuals enrolled in the Digital Inclusion Certificate program to improve their skills in areas such as computer basics, job searching and resumes, and computer programs such as Microsoft Word and Excel. This Learn@SAPL location also saw its first individual complete one of the Certificate Tracks and receive a certificate. Plans are in the works to begin offering weekly computer basics classes in February.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN @ CENTRAL



Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin's Toddler Time programs focused on sensory experiences and loose parts play, a cutting edge model in the early childhood education field. Toddlers developed fine motor skills using paint brushes in sand trays and enjoyed the sensory experience of building with play dough and wooden blocks. She also invited a special guest – J.D. Elizondo, Library Assistant from the Teen Library – to play his guitar for children during her program. The kids loved having a chance to strum the guitar themselves.

Ms. Seglin also presented a special Pajama Story Time in the evening. Children and their parents explored light and shadow in tents with flashlights and a special projector. They engaged in dramatic play by getting baby dolls ready for bed.



Librarian Ashley Stubbs and Ms. Seglin led the new program, Let's Dance! Children danced with animal puppets, used scarves to accentuate their moves, and delighted in learning dances like the "hokey pokey" with their parents.

Ms. Stubbs presented Play & Learn programs to a group of regularly-attending families. Her hands-on story times featured dress up opportunities and gross motor skills development. Children got active with the sports-themed program and practiced "shooting hoops" into buckets.

Librarian Olivia Escovedo delivered the weekend program, Family Fun, also based on loose parts and sensory educational models. She presented a special STEM Saturday event as well. Children engaged in engineering play, building structures using shaving cream, blocks and straws and connectors.

TEENS - TEEN LIBRARY @ CENTRAL

Metro Health focus group—Staff from Metro Health presented to a group of teens in the Teen Library on January 29. Their mission was to gain feedback from the teen focus group on a presentation they intend to launch soon about the dangers of vaping.

Mondays with J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant): J.D. continued to facilitate Eclectic Electric music programming in the Teen Library's recording studio. Teens play instruments for fun and/or for school practice and have the opportunity to record their music using the digital recording equipment. A group of boys in a band schedule the studio to practice every week.

Tuesdays with Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager): During the reporting period, teens continued to enjoy gaming of all varieties which fostered positive social interactions and teamwork. After a particularly competitive Tuesday night of playing "Super Smash Bros. Ultimate," one teen suggested to his peers that they host an official tournament to determine the best players at the Teen Library. The teens demonstrated their leadership capabilities as they planned the tournament by preparing a tournament bracket, testing equipment, recruiting other teens, and running the tournament on Saturday, January 25. Afterwards, the participating teens decided that they would continue hosting a monthly "Super Smash Bros. Ultimate" gaming tournament at the Teen Library to maintain their rankings.

Wednesdays with Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT): Ciana continued to facilitate STEAM programming in the lab in the Teen Library, assisting 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): On Thursdays, teens participate in activities at their library that encourage peer-to-peer assistance, creativity and expressing themselves, all while helping plan or decide the day's program and the use of the teen space, ranging from showing movies to making tasty snacks to celebrating a holiday low-key to learning new crafts. Teens made word bracelets, mice out of cherries and strawberries for Chinese New Year, buttons, and mini scrapbooks. To fulfill the San Antonio Food Bank Kids' Café nutritional lesson, teens also learned a quick and easy way to make granola. Pictures from Thursday night programs can be found at <http://www.instagram.com/210teenlibrary>.

Tours and Groups—Several high schools visited the Teen Library to receive tours of the building and conduct research for school projects. Schools that visited during the reporting period were: Providence High School, Montessori School of SA, and IDEA South Flores.

REFERENCE

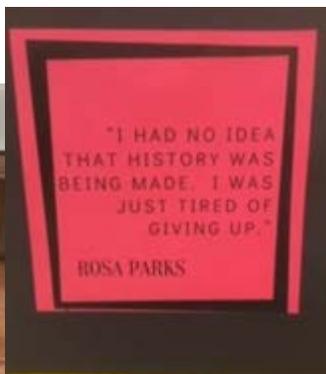
Staff presented two films in January for the Central Cinema series. In *Yesterday*, the premise of a world with no memory of the Beatles except for one struggling singer/songwriter fuels an unlikely plot. After trying to profit from the situation, the main character reconciles with his true love. The audience enjoyed hearing several Beatles' classics performed. The second film, *Joker* starred Joaquin Phoenix. The audience appreciated seeing this Oscar nominated origin story, expressing shock and laughter at Joaquin Phoenix's performance.

Librarian, Lorin Flores hosted a meeting of the *Athenaeum Steampunk Book Club*. Members discussed the Steampunk novel *Everfair* by Nisi Shawl and drank tea. Participants could join the discussion from the aetheric realm by tuning in to www.twitch.tv... on their personal Babbage Engines.

For the annual *The Holocaust: Learn & Remember* memorial events, staff hosted programs focusing on the experience of Women in the Holocaust. One program, *Refugees in San Antonio*, presented by the Center for Refugee Services provided an opportunity for refugees to share their personal stories about facing hardships and fleeing to seek safe shelter. The program, *Miep Gies: Hero of the Holocaust* presented the story of a brave, compassionate woman, who along with a few others, helped hide and protect Anne Frank and her family during the Holocaust. Miep Gies is also known for recovering and retaining Anne Frank's writings that were eventually published as, *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*. In her own memoir, Ms. Gies wrote, "I am not a hero..."

For *Dream Week*, staff hosted a program called, *Are you la/el Valiente? Worker's rights loteria/Loteria de derechos laborales*. Sarah Donaldson and Natalie Lerner from Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid provided a general introduction to basic rights for employees. The presenters used a loteria format to explore concepts such as overtime, tips, worker's compensation, and minimum wage. The enthusiastic participants kept interrupting the game to ask questions.

To celebrate and honor *Black History Month*, staff created a Lobby Display using inspiring quotes and images. One patron expressed her appreciation in an EnC.O.R.E. She wrote how inspiring the Display was and claimed to have enjoyed every picture and read every quote.



LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

On January 16th 2020 the Latino Collection and Resource Center hosted the TRLA Loteria de Derechos. The event was coordinated by reference librarian Cynthia de Leon and offer participants the opportunity to learn about workers rights in a fun, accessible way.

On January 18th 2020 the Latino Collection hosted the Canary Islanders Association's monthly meeting. Program Manager Emma Hernández Delivereda 30 minute presentation regarding the LCRC's services.

TEXANA/ GENEALOGY

On January 14 the Texana/Genealogy Department acquired two new digital ScanPro3000 workstations to enhance our patrons access to SAPL's microform collections. The Texana/Genealogy microform collection includes approximately 65,000 microfilms. San Antonio and Texas historical newspapers on microfilm are a significant part of the Texana Collection; some titles are not available anywhere else and are vital for historians researching a variety of subjects about the region.

Librarian II Deborah Countess, assisted by Librarian Sylvia Reyna & Library Assistant Clarissa Chavira, led a Computer Lab Database training class for Advanced Learning Academy high school students on January 14 & 15. The students were given a brief overview of how to conduct family history research and how to utilize the genealogy databases Ancestry (Library Edition) and Access Newspaper Archive.

Librarian Andy Crews presented a class on Military records at the Igo Library on January 14. The Igo Library has an active genealogy group and there were six attendees.

On January 18, Ms. Countess led the first class in a series of Genealogy classes being held at the Johnston Library: *Genealogy @ Johnston: Beginning Genealogy*.

Ms. Reyna and Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson participated alongside six other SAPL team members in the Martin Luther King Jr. March on January 20. Everyone took turns carrying the large SAPL banner and handheld sign. Over 300,000 community members walked the 2.75 miles in celebration of the national march.

On January 22 Ms. Reyna provided Beginning Genealogy training for staff at the Las Palmas Library.

On January 28 Mr. Crews presented his class on Military records at the Memorial Library. There were three attendees, including a representative from Rep. Joaquin Castro's office.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

On January 31, Training Officer Emily Flores participated in the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) meeting at the USCIS office. The meeting, designed to inform community stakeholders of recent immigration policies and procedures changes, covered topics intended to help citizenship instructors, advocates and lawyers better serve their clients.

Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen visited the Advance early learning center in January, delivering books and reading stories to preschoolers. She also visited Brackenridge Elementary where she hosted a book club for students, one of several she hosts at schools in the Bazan service area.

The Bazan branch saw heavy traffic from customers visiting the VITA free tax preparation service. The program, which assists families with incomes up to \$55000 with free tax filing, will run from January 21 through April 15.

Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia did outreach at Tafolla Middle School towards the end of the month. She spoke to several teachers and students about teen programs hosted at the branch and gave away young adult books to students who visited the booth. Some teenagers shared their interest in young adult titles asking Gina to recommend books and authors. Gina has been invited to continue outreach at Tafolla through the end of February. At the branch, Gina continues to host the *Afterschool Snack Program*, *Teen Hangout*, and *Teen Writing Workshop*.

The Bazan branch Bad Girls Romance Book Club discussed *Tyrant*, book two of the T.M. Frazier series by the same name. The group really loved the series and plan to continue reading the rest of it.

The Alamo City Browncoats fan group, which meets monthly at Bazan, announced that it would be participating in SAPL's annual POP-CON where they will be part of a panel discussing how fan groups give back to the community through their fandom. They will also be part of a panel judging the cosplay contest.

BROOK HOLLOW

Brook Hollow's Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas facilitated a total of twenty-three early literacy programs including weekly *Baby Time*, *Toddler Time*, *Toddler Two!*, and *Story Time* throughout January. Attendance at the branch's early literacy programs reached over 1100 children and adults in January

exceeding January's 2019 program attendance. One of the early literacy program highlights in late January was a *Play & Learn* program at Brook Hollow for ages zero to five years. Brook Hollow's *Play and Learn* featured multiple open-ended free play style of activities including a process art station where children were encouraged to paint a large washing machine box and a shredded paper sensory bin that proved to be a surprise hit.

In January, Brook Hollow hosted the *Symphony at SAPL* program with oboist Sydney Hancock. Ms. Hancock explained a variety of musical concepts and played classical music pieces as well as several popular Disney songs. The crowd sang along to Disney's classic, "A Whole New World" to close out a really educational and fun-filled program for all ages.

Brook Hollow's tween programming for ages nine to twelve years continues to be very popular after school. Tweens stated that their favorite program ever was a fort building program offered by Library Assistant Elissa Vura in mid-January. Children attending created their own forts with provided supplies and were allowed a great deal of freedom in the fort designing process. After building forts they then decided to open blacksmith shops and bakeries to market goods made out of newspapers. The program was a huge hit with both the children attending and staff and has become a model of free-style play for future tween programs.

Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot hosted three weekly programs for teens ages 13 to 18. This month Brook Hollow teens tried their hand at making nutritious foods including fruit smoothies and corn tortillas. The participating teens were excited to taste the fruits of their labor and to share with their friends in the program. *Teen Time* continues to fuel positive social interaction for the teens in our community with sessions of virtual reality, slime making, and decorating the teen space with post-it notes. Brook Hollow teens took ownership of their program with ideas of what to do and what to make for our next reporting period.

CARVER

In honor of DreamWeek, which marks the annual observance of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birth, Carver Branch hosted two presentations on January 18.

The first was an hour-long documentary film, *Resilience*. *Resilience* looks into what happens to people as they try to move forward with their lives after experiencing traumatic events that occurred during their childhood. This is actually a condition that affects many people and is known as toxic stress. It is now believed to contribute to heart disease, cancer and substance abuse and depression. *Resilience* is a powerful production that lets people know that these events can alter brain development and have lifelong effects on health and behavior.

The second was the documentary *Emanuel*, which was produced by Viola Davis, Stephen Curry and Mariska Hargitay, and centered on the Charleston church shooting that left nine people dead. The power of the film was its ability to capture the forgiveness extended to the shooter by the survivors just 48 hours after the tragedy. Many remained after the film for a dialogue. It was a powerful lesson in forgiveness.

CODY

Young children and their caregivers enjoyed weekly *Baby Time*, *Toddler Time*, *Toddler, Two*, and *Story Time* programs during this reporting period with Children’s Librarian Kristin Yourdon and Library Assistant Haly LeFlore. One particularly engaging story time was on January 22nd, when the theme was ‘P is for Pigs.’ Children listened to twisted fairy tale versions of the Three Little Pigs. Afterwards, children were able to retell the story with flannel pieces and make their own pig houses using paper bags.

Children at Cody celebrated the Chinese New Year during a special *Kid’s Time* on January 15th. Children collaborated on a giant dragon art project that was later hung up in the library. Children also made paper lanterns and paper plate drums that they were able to take home. Children also learned the Chinese zodiac sign for their birth year.

Tweens learned how to make bracelets by weaving with a DIY straw loom and made edible slime out of marshmallows and gummy bears.

Cody Teens became more familiar with arts and crafts they might not have experienced before. Teen Librarian Amy Rae Weaver introduced metal stamping pendants, which not only made an excellent way to get energy out but were also extremely customizable. One teen enjoyed the process so much that he asked to make several different pendants. Teens socialized over self-made snacks and video games and created their own impromptu Connect Four tournament. They also welcomed new teens into programming and introduced them to favorite card games, like Unstable Unicorn, Threes, and Uno Flip.

Many of those who came to Chess Club were excitedly gearing up for one of the major area tournaments. Extra-difficult chess puzzles and many games ensued.

Adults at Cody provided a warm welcome and large turnout for the Extended Run Players that presented “Letters to Sala” with over 55 participants on January 19. Cody also hosted its first Windows 10 class, a registered event presented by guest speaker Nick Swanson. It was such a hit, there are additional classes planned for the upcoming months.

Cody adults continued to participate in the weekly book and film clubs as well as hula hooping classes. Speaker Rogelio Sandoval from the Bexar Appraisal District presented a round table discussion on Understanding Your Property Taxes on January 30. Lastly, Adult Services Librarian Marcella McGowan, presented a class entitled “Strategies for Job Hunting - SAPL Library Positions”.



COLLINS GARDEN

Adults/Community/Family

Collins Garden Library began 2020 hosting community organizations such as Overeaters Anonymous; League of Women Voters; Move Texas; US Census Bureau; and the Collins Garden Neighborhood Association. CGL Branch Manager Jeannette Davies hosted Friends of Collins Garden Library and District Five Libraries meetings.

Children

Children's Librarian Gina Brudi hosted twenty-five attendees in three programs for the continuously popular Lego Club. Lego creations are displayed for public enjoyment in the reference area. Brudi resumed monthly visits to Knox Early Children Education Center reading to 180 children and delivering outreach book collections to thirteen classrooms rotating the books monthly. During the Come and Go Craft programs for the reporting period children made tissue paper artwork and Chinese Dragons in celebration of appreciate a dragon day/Chinese New Year. Brudi attended the First Annual Neighborhood Health and Wellness Fair on a rainy January 18 and spoke about library services to 65 attendees.

Tweens

Collins Garden Library Tween Scene, ages 9-12, is hosted by the library's three librarians and Library Assistant Carlos Loera. Fourteen tweens attended four separate programs during this reporting period with activities including; video games; connect straws; and arts & crafts making monsters from egg cartoons

Teens

Teen Services Librarian Daniella Toll hosted three teen programs with 38 attendees. Library assistant Carlos Loera hosted one teen event with 12 attendees, playing Xbox; Ping Pong and other relaxing activities after school. Other weeks, teens made lanyards and shoe crafts with fabric markers. Each teen's creation was an exercise in self-expression. During bubble art crafts and valentine heart chains, teens demonstrated interpersonal competence.

Collins Garden Library Teen Intern Gabby demonstrated commitment and excellence by conducting a program entitled Teen ArtReach. Her vision is for teens to take ownership in making art for the library. Gabby provided teens a constructive use of time, an opportunity for teens to be producers and change agents; and for teens to experience new avenues of creative expression. Most of the teens in the January 14 and 28 classes had never painted before and found it to be a great stress reliever.

Teen Services Librarian/Assistant Manager Daniella Toll is leading SAPL's Teen Maker Faire efforts and was interviewed for SAPL's Podcast to promote the upcoming program.

CORTEZ

Staff activities The Branch hosted several lobby tables during the month to allow partners to share information with the public. On different dates there were representatives from the Census, the League of Women Voters, Vote Smart, and the Department of Innovation Digital Divide Survey. At the end of the month the Branch bid a fond farewell to Librarian II Brooke Mjolsness with a big potluck breakfast. Brooke is transferring to Thousand Oaks to expand her professional profile. Branch staff are starting to get excited about the new ILS, Symphony, and have been given opportunities to start using the basic functions.

Children In addition to the regular weekly programs of Toddler Time and Family Fun the Branch has added “Ready Set Game” on Mondays for all ages to play with each other and Lego Time on the first Tuesday of the month. The Branch was visited by several classes from Palo Alto Elementary during this time frame. On January 25 a musician from the San Antonio Symphony shared some of his expertise on the bass with a diverse audience.

Teens On January 30 Nicole McLeod from the Parks and Natural Areas Department did a workshop on pressed flower bookmarks as part of the Branch’s Nature Smart Libraries partnership. Both teens and adults participated during this special Teen Time event.

Adults The “Getting Crafty” group made “stained glass” from colored glue and also made art from buttons at another session. The “Tea Time” group on alternating Sundays has enjoyed sharing a variety of teas and bringing whatever project they are working on to share as well. On January 16 as part of Holocaust Remembrance month the Branch hosted author Liz Reichman for her presentation on “Women of the Holocaust”. It was extremely interesting and the audience was moved to ask many questions of Ms. Reichman. Children’s Librarian Nicole Cubillas hosted the once-a-month Art Journaling program for adults. On January 23 patrons were treated to a monthly Healthy Cooking class led by Vince Escobedo from the Healthy Neighborhoods division of Metro Health.

ENCINO

On January 14, Encino hosted a Sea World Animal Ambassador program. At this program two trainers from Sea World came to Encino and gave a presentation on animal conservation. They brought a bald eagle with them and talked about why bald eagles are endangered, and what they are doing to conserve them. They also presented a lot of information about eagles in general including talking about their habitats, how they hunt, how they fly, and more. Children’s Librarian Ann Laird read *The Book with No Pictures* by B.J. Novak for Dial a Story the week of January 19. Encino Park Elementary invited Children’s Librarian Ann Laird to their Kinder Round up night on January 28. She was given a table to present SAPL information and also brought materials for children to make simple stick puppets. Ms. Laird saw several children and families there that recognized her from both Encino’s storytime programs and the outreach she does to Country Kids Academy.

Encino Teens took part in creative activities such as rainbow scratch off art, socialized with their peers while discussing their favorite books and media, and developed their mentorship skills through teaching

their peers how to play different video games on various consoles. Program activities are flexible and directed by the teens, increasing their sense of ownership in the teen space specifically and in the library as a whole.

Encino continued its popular adult programs, including Fitness in the Park and Hand Bee. Both saw more than 40 attendees in the month of January. Encino also partnered with Bexar County Appraisal District to present "Understanding Your Property Taxes 101", an informational program to help patrons get all the tax deductions and exemptions to which they were entitled. The month ended with a well-attended meeting of the Read It. Love It! Discuss It Book Club.

FOREST HILLS

Forest Hills Branch hosted a Dream Week Program titled, *We are lo que Hablamos: Spanglish Creates Language, Culture and Identity in San Antonio*. Meghann Peace, Associate Professor of Spanish at St. Mary's University, spoke about the history and structure of Spanglish.

The Seniors in Play acting group continues to meet at Forest Hills every Monday and Wednesday afternoon. The group can be heard enthusiastically rehearsing their lines as they practice a new performance piece.

Appreciate a Dragon Day was celebrated at Forest Hills during Storytime and Kids Time. Storytime participants were read stories that had to do with dragons and they were able to do a dragon craft. Kids Time had a more complicated craft having to do with dragons in addition to a powerpoint that had information about various dragon myths.

Storytime and Bilingual Story time continue to be a hit with our youngest patrons. This month they talked about bears, bedtime, dragons, and animals.

Marshmallows and toothpicks were the primary building materials for one of the Kids Time in January. Kids used these two items to see what they could build and their creation would stand or would collapse. Another Kids time was a craft that mixed two art mediums, oil pastels and watercolors. Children were given large sheets of watercolor paper and watercolor and pastels were used. Ms. Menchaca asked the kids to compare and contrast the feeling of paints and how they transferred onto the page. The children were free to draw whatever they liked but they had to use both pastels and watercolors.

As always Lego Time is a big hit with the children patrons of Forest Hills. Duplos and Legos are provided and children are able to create whatever they want. Their creations always surprise Ms. Menchaca and library staff because the creations tend to be complicated and elegant at the same time.

As she does every month, Ms. Menchaca visited a Place for Life, Head Start. This time she read, "Polar Bear's Underwear" and the children were delighted by the story. One of the classrooms requested that Ms. Menchaca read the same story when she visits in February. Ms. Menchaca is happy to oblige. She also handed out stickers to all of the kids and they sang songs. This time Ms. Menchaca delivered "fun books" to each of the classrooms and will pick them up next month.

Ms. Menchaca was invited to attend Esparza Elementary School, Dual Language Information Session. Ms. Menchaca had information about the services that are offered by the San Antonio Public Library that would appeal to Spanish speaking patrons of various ages.

Ingram Mall had a “Mommy and Me Playdate” and invited Ms. Menchaca to do a Storytime. Ms. Menchaca read “A Bad Seed” and “I Will Not Eat You” the children and the parents were delighted with both stories. Additionally, Ms. Menchaca got the children and parents to make howling noises in the mall.

The Forest Hills teen group has formed the first Teen Council at Forest Hills. This group of young people are excited about planning programs for the branch. Their first program planned is a Lan party scheduled for February 8.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Great Northwest Library patrons enjoyed visits from children’s librarians Valerie Shelley from Las Palmas Library and Tiffany Durham from Johnston Library during children’s librarian Cari Raley’s vacation. It was a joy to experience and appreciate the different styles and approaches to programming. The library staff is grateful to Ms. Shelley and Ms. Durham for their wonderful work during this time.

With the arrival of children’s library assistant Christian Aldana, the branch has added Baby Time on Saturday afternoons at 12:30 pm. The Great Northwest community has enjoyed the opportunity to introduce learning and literacy skills to their young ones as well as the chance to socialize with other parents. Mr. Aldana was very happy to meet and greet his new little attendees and their families.

Great Northwest teens continue to enjoy Monday night video gaming and virtual reality with teen librarian Desmond London. Mr. London visited Taft High School on January 15 and met with 119 students who had the chance to play Super Smash Bros., make buttons, and learn more about the Library’s resources.

On January 22 Great Northwest Library hosted the Holocaust Learn and Remember event Miep Gies: Hero of the Holocaust. Presenter Mr. Gene Festa discussed the life of Miep Gies, a remarkable woman of the Holocaust, and her friendship with Anne Frank.

GUERRA

During the reporting period, Children’s Librarian Arlene Richardson planned and presented three Lego Clubs, three Toddler Times, three Story Times and three Art Clubs. During Art Club, school aged children created art inspired by Keith Haring, they created their own optical illusion and they created art pieces using newspaper animal appliques

Children and their grown-ups participated in three Come & Go Crafts programs where they created unicorn masks and paper emoji faces.

On January 17, Ms. Richardson planned and presented story time to 52 toddlers and preschoolers at Marbach Christian Church Childcare Center. Families affected by Autism were hosted at another Autism Accessible Browsing Hour on January 18. Families affected by Autism were invited to enjoy this judgment-free, low lighting, sensory friendly hour. Children explored playdough, water beads and other inviting materials.

Edward Mayberry, Library Assistant, hosted the 3rd annual Engineering Day on January 30th. Engineering Day is in collaboration with John Jay High School’s Science and Engineering Academy. The students interact and solve real world problems with STEM professionals.

Assistant Branch Manager Jernell Williams held an adult coloring program on January 26 in celebration of the Chinese New Year, the year of the rat according to the Chinese zodiac

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson, presented a trivia game at the Willie Cortez Senior Center on January 24. This month the game emphasized the subjects Black history and rodeo. Mr. Jackson also moderated the Spanish language book club, Club de Lectura, on January 31. Club members discussed the book *El tiempo entre costuras* (Published in English with the title *The time in between*) by a Spaniard, Maria Dueñas. Members enjoyed learning about cultural and social upheavals during the Spanish Civil War and in Spanish Morocco during World War II.

IGO

Teen Librarian hosted 4 events with an attendance of 75. During Teen Time the teens could make watercolor paintings, tissue paper art as well as design cards made from dried pressed flowers that the Teen Librarian prepared beforehand. They enjoy any activity that involves painting or making something that they can take home.

On Saturday February 1st, The Igo Dollars & Sense book club met and enjoyed a rousing discussion on John C. Bogle's *The Clash of the Cultures*. 13 people attended the meeting.

On the 14th of January, 2020 Andy Crews from Texana Department of San Antonio Public Library did a presentation on how military records are useful to genealogists and family historians. Attendees were able to learn how to search for their ancestors using muster rolls, service records and other military resources.

Number of attendees of Weekly Meditation at Igo Branch Library is growing. Attendees enjoy breathing exercises along with light yoga stretches with the guidance of an instructor.

On the 19th of January Igo Branch Library hosted a program on Holocaust. Vivian Kearney, a Holocaust survivor was born during the Holocaust and grew up with a survivor family. She read her poems to the attendees. Her poems were reflections about the ongoing effects of the Holocaust. 18 people attended.

JOHNSTON

Johnston Library hosted several informational tables during the reporting period including the Office of Innovation Digital Divide Assessment initiative, the League of Women Voters informational table and the MOVE (Mobilize, Organize, Voter, Empower) Texas information. The new Learn Center at Johnston continued to draw in new users as Library Assistant Rebekah Corley from Landa Branch Library served as Interim Training Officer.

Branch Manager Monica Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion of *My Sister the Serial Killer* by Oyinkan Braithwaite on January 22.

Adult Services Librarian Cristine Mitchamore chaired Johnston's DreamWeek event, "Voicing our Visions to Shape our Dreams" on January 13; a performance by the Cox Family singers with Ms. Mitchamore providing an explanation of why music was chosen and examples of how music can shape people's behavior and beliefs. Ms. Mitchamore arranged for the first of a series of Genealogy @ Johnston classes

on January 18 with Beginning Genealogy where patrons were introduced to the basics of researching their family history. On January 25 Ms. Mitchamore hosted a member of Caritas Legal Services at a Free Legal Clinic to discuss the uses and abilities of different kinds of Power of Attorney. On January 26 Ms. Mitchamore hosted the Extended Run Players from University of Incarnate Word presented a reader's theatre performance of "Letters to Sala".

Children's Librarian, Miss Tiffany, hosted three toddler times and three story times based on the theme the ABC's. The children ended the six month long unit with the letters: V, W and X,Y,Z. The regulars were proud of their accomplishments as each letter was tracked by displaying the craft project for the day on a bulletin board. Library Aide, Victoria Liendo, assisted with activities during Toddler Time and Story Time and three Lego Times building, by playing and creating unique Lego masterpieces. On January 25 for the Lunar New Year, Johnston celebrated Appreciate a Dragon Day with a special Come and Go Dragon Puppet Craft. The craft was fun and exciting. Children who left the library then visited the playground enticed a group of children to come in and make their own dragon puppet. January was a month full of playing, learning and reading.

Teen Librarian Shannan Prukop hosted three Teen Time events. On January 15 teens made slime together and gave feedback on what other kinds of slime they wanted to try making, then on January 22 made slime again. This time, the teens experimented with different methods of creation and collaborated to help each other when things did not work as planned. On January 29, teens gathered to try out card and tabletop games, giving reviews of the different games as we learned each one through playing.

Library Assistant Elsy Jackson served as a regular contributor to *Telecuentos* (Dial-a-Story), when she recorded a children's book for the week of January 13, *El camaleón malcarado* by Xen López Dominguez. She taught a weekly class, Conversational Spanish for Beginners: On Monday, January 27, participants learned interactive lessons about different phrases to introduce themselves and a sing along song. A book club was integrated as a part of the class. The title of the book is: *Sol, Piedra y Sombras* by Jorge F. Hernandez, and it will be discussed the following month. Ms. Jackson collaborated with the LEARN at SAPL Adult Education Center by providing Spanish instruction to patrons and assistance to the Interim Training Officer.

LANDA

Landa closed for HVAC repair this month. The branch started providing limited service to the public with holds pickup out of the Monte Vista Historical Association's office. Patrons were very happy to continue visiting their branch during the closure. An average of 50 people per service day visit the office space.

Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta has continued to meet with her regular programming. During the month of January, the Book Club Outreach at The Village at the Incarnate Word read *The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers* by Maxwell King, a very personal biography about the beloved host of "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood." Due to HVAC work at Landa, the Reader's Ink Book Club met at Luby's Cafeteria on North Main. Their selection for January was *Fly Girls: How Five Daring Women Defied All Odds and Made Aviation History* by Keith O'Brien. This is an historical account of women involved in the airplane race craze between the world wars. Also meeting at Luby's on North Main, the Mystery Book Club read the lighthearted *Twelve Dogs of Christmas* by David Rosenfeld.

For the month of January, Karen brought a “mirror craft” kit that allowed the seniors at the Kenwood Senior Center to make their own “sunburst” mirror using craft sticks and light wooden discs on which the mirror was glued. Gold paint allowed for a very shiny product!

LAS PALMAS

Winter is the topic for the Story Time at Las Palmas Branch Library. We had fun playing with shaving cream as snow and also using large Legos to build. Added to the children’s area was a shelving unit to put craft supplies, a puzzle and some large Legos for the children to use their imagination and create projects. Sometimes there was a sample and supplies for making the craft and other times there were just supplies so the children made their own creations. Families were getting used to the new setup and were more independent in their library experience.

Family Fun nights encouraged families to make crafts for display at either the library or at home. The glitter was brought out and puffy “snow” paint was used to create scenes and objects on construction paper. Sequence was used to make bracelets and pictures that sparkled.

Lego Time had a steady group of students and parents who participated and created original designs using the blocks. Small Lego pieces are used by the elementary students and large Legos are provided for pre-school children. The younger children enjoyed trying to make the tallest structure.

Teen Services Librarian Connie Hejl and Library Assistant Elvia Ramos did outreach at the Edgewood ISD School Choice Fair. They talked to parents and teens about resources for students and various branch activities.

As part of Dream Week, the William R. Sinkin Eco Centro gave away hundreds of seed envelopes to patrons at Las Palmas. The seeds consisted of vegetables, and various herbs.

Las Palmas hosted the League of Women Voters on Jan. 15 to promote voting.

The U.S. Census set up an information table at the entrance to Las Palmas to recruit the public to work for the 2020 Census.

On Jan. 21, as a larger event for Dream Week, the library partnered with the YWCA, Olga Madrid Center to host UTSA professor Dr. Enrique Alemán, Jr., producer and writer of the documentary *Stolen Education*. The film exposes how Mexican-American farm worker school children were discriminated against in Texas schools in the 1950's. Approximately 125 patrons attended Dr. Alemán's talk and screening of *Stolen Education*.

On Mon, Nov 18, Las Palmas hosted the Sixth Sense Paranormal group. Leader Jeff Sullivan spoke of their findings and patrons shared their own ghost stories.

MAVERICK

The Maverick Chess Club met on January 13 and 27. The Lady Mav's Book Club met on January 14 for their monthly meeting; in addition, the local knitters group also gathered in the evening. In observance of the Holocaust, Maverick Library welcomed Mr. Gene Festa for an informative Holocaust presentation. Mr. Festa shared historic photos and sentimental personal stories of some the holocaust witnesses he met during his visit to Europe. The South Texas Role Playing Group met on Sunday, January 19. Librarian, Pat King, kicked off her new Silent Book Club on February 23.

The Ladies Choice Book Club gathered on Saturday, January 25. Also on January 25, City Council District 7 staff held a "Coffee Talk" as an opportunity for the community to address concerns and local issues. Camino Bandera Homeowners Association and Braun Willow Homeowners held their meetings on January 30. Maverick Library hosted Solid Waste Management for a Recycling/Organic Composting program on January 31. Community neighbors found the environment program useful and educational as they learned about disposing unwanted items in the proper bin and learning ways to become environmentally friendly.

Ms. Roberts wishes to thank Library Assistant, Mary Lou Bleichwehl, for filling in at 2 preschool storytimes and Lego Time when she was ill on January 27. It pays to have emergency plans available to staff members as Ms. Bleichwehl saved the day! The Maverick Branch was filled with the sound of a French horn, played by San Antonio Symphony Member, Peter Rubins on January 25 with 49 people in attendance.

Library Assistant and Teen Liaison Mary Lou Bleichwehl created a book VS movie display and bulletin board titled 'Is the book ALWAYS better?' Teens at Maverick discovered the magic of Shrinky Dinks and created sun catchers from glass gems, usually opting to fully express their creativity with their own ideas rather than using the examples. One Teen chose to celebrate her 16th birthday at Teen Time and brought a red velvet cake to share with her friends. Maverick Teens also enjoyed the physical activity of playing their new PS4 Virtual Reality game, Beat Saber. Initially, the game was quite challenging, but their skills quickly improved and the way they encouraged each other's achievements is noteworthy.

McCRELESS

The children's librarian hosted Art at the Library, where children explored creating crayon resist art in the style of children's book author and illustrator Denise Fleming. The children's librarian also attended multiple outreach events sharing about upcoming activities hosted at the McCreless Branch and system-wide. Finally, young families continue to enjoy attending both weekly story times and LEGO® Club at McCreless!

McCreless teens made use of Teen Services newest tech toy, the Xyron Creative Station. Teens chose images from Google which were then printed up by Librarian DeBow. They were able to turn these images into stickers or magnets with the Xyron machine.

The McCreless Walking club meets weekly and enjoys a 3 mile walk along the Howard Peak Greenway from Southside Lions East park to Comanche Park and back. Patrons and staff have taken advantage of the beautiful and mild weather for this healthy program. The walk begins at 4:45 pm and ends at 6:00 pm. Walks for this reporting period were on Jan 13th, Jan 20th and Jan 27th. On January 14th, McCreless branch library hosted a legal clinic where a representative from the Caritas Legal Services offered guidance and resources about crime victim's rights.

MEMORIAL

January Directors Report – Memorial Branch

Children's' Services

01/18 Children's librarian Christine Deffendall hosted "Dragon Day."

01/25 Mrs. Deffendall hosted "Elephant Toothpaste."

Teen Services

Circulation attendant Adam Capelo continues to provide Teen programs for the branch teens.

January 7th Teens created pearlier bead designs of their own interest and watched the Pokémon Movie 2.

January 14th Teens met to play videogames. The video game of choice was "Overcooked". Mr. Capelo instructed the group to work together to try and complete dishes to serve to the customers. Teens had a fun with constant communication to complete the levels required to serve the dishes.

January 28th Teens had a Valentine's Day theme where the group created works of art utilizing pearlier beads they painted and arranged their artwork that is to be showcased on the walls of the teen corner for the upcoming Valentine's Day.

Adult Services

January 23rd the branch hosted a free legal clinic on wills. Topics included steps on how to create a will. Participants eagerly asked questions. The presentation was led by a representative from Caritas.

The library screened *The Diary of Anne Frank* in honor of Holocaust: Learn and Remember.

January 28th The branch hosted a program on searching military records. It was led by Andy Crews from Texana.

Branch Services

Molina Healthcare Services provided a meeting for registered clients to receive nutrition information.

The branch hosted the following tabling services:

01/13. Familia Dental, providing dental information.

01/16 and 01/30. League of Women Voters, providing voting information

01/18. IDEA Monterrey Park providing information on schools
01/22. U.S. Census providing information Census forms

MISSION

Children's

The most exciting thing that has happened in the last few weeks is the large influx of people coming to Baby Time. Attendance has been up to 53. Toddler Time is hanging steady in the 30s. Lots of the new people are coming on the recommendation of other attendees and some from the Events Calendars online and in the branch.

Teens

Teens at Mission Library bonded this month over their love of Korean Pop Music at our Teen K-Pop Night. Teens enjoy this program as a chance to build a community of others with similar interests and it is consistently one of our most well-attended programs. Teens at Mission Branch also participated in Teen Time this month, actively participating in the selection and implementation of the activities that they selected during the program.

Adults

The month of January saw an uptake in voter registration promotion at the Mission Library by several organizations including League of Women Voters and Engage Texas. Also, for this month, Mission Branch had its winter Table Tennis Tournament for adults and seniors; with forty five people participating in the tournament for two categories. The Virtual Reality experience program and Pokemon Club have become very popular programs, for Fridays after school for the entire family.

PAN AMERICAN

Library assistant and teen liaison Cassie Garza implemented the weekly teen time program planned by the Pan American teen group. The teen group selected and participated with the organizing of each teen program this month. This month included rock painting, rainbow rice balls and ended with an experimental recipe of corndog nuggets.

Ms. Garza facilitated the Pokémon Champions program. The group has been planning for a series of interactive programming for the summer. Champion group members were also planning more tournament style duels between existing and new members.

Library Assistant Cassie Garza hosted the E-sports committee at Pan American library. The committee met to finalize Mario Day activities and crafts. The E-sports committee will be hosting the first ever Super Mario day celebration at the Central library Tuesday, March 10 from 1pm-4pm with a Smash Ultimate gaming tournament.

Library Assistant Stephanie Perez hosted the Sketchbook Club. 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.

The Pan American Library Children's Librarian, Monica Huerta, hosted a total of three Toddler Time story times for young children during the month of January. Children sang songs, listened to the librarian read engaging books, and participated in exploratory activities. In addition to the three Toddler Time story times, the librarian also implemented a Children's Department- sponsored story time titled "Every Child Counts" where children and their families practiced counting and learned some basic information about the census.

Monica Huerta has started Baby Time story time on Thursdays from 10:30AM – 11:30AM. Thus far, she hosted two sessions. Monica sings songs with the parents and their children, reads a story and provides sensory toys for the children to enjoy. The librarian is slowly building her base via in-house marketing and outreach to local daycare centers.

Ms. Huerta hosted a Craft & Go session for families. Children created a mixed media snowy owl.

Pan American Library hosted a weekly meditation program. Mr. Abel Menchaca speaks to the group about their week and then leads the group in silent meditation. The dedicated group of attendees enjoy the break from the noise and walk out of the session floating on a cloud of relaxation.

Adult Services Librarian, Adrian Leal, took the Pan American Branch mobile to the Elvira Cisneros Senior Center. The Senior Center members are able to sign up for library cards and get their SAPL questions answered. They continue to be appreciative of SAPL and the Pan American Branch for bringing convenient mobile services to the center.

Mr. Leal held his monthly adult crafting session. To celebrate the Lunar New Year, Patron's were invited to paint and decorate a ceramic dragon. Participant's enjoyed being able to express their artistic skills.

Pan American Library, in partnership with SA Parks and Recreation, continues to host weekly Qigong and Yoga classes. Attendees are encouraged to learn different relaxation and stretching techniques. These wellness programs have many dedicated regular attendees.

PARMAN

Children at Parman celebrated dragons and the Chinese New Year with a special Appreciate a Dragon story time for its youngest patrons. Children followed dragon footprints down the hall to a room where they encountered a large inflatable dragon sitting in a nest of giant "rocks". Children practiced their fiercest roars, danced, and interacted with felt dragons through rhyme. After a dragon story, several hands-on activities were available to extend the dragon-y fun!

A new tween program focusing on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) began this month. In one session, tweens learned about galaxies and nebulae while creating their own galaxy jars out of mason jars, cotton balls, glitter, and paint. Another class focused on architecture. Tweens had the most fun learning about polymer structures and tension in rubber when they poked skewers through different parts of balloons and marveled as a water balloon remained undamaged above a flame. Making ninja stress balls out of balloons and play-dough topped off the program.

In January teens at Parman expressed their creativity through fusible bead artworks that they then turned into functional magnets. A migrant refugee teen recreated the flag of El Salvador, which is the

country he came from. Teens also created decorations painted in watercolors for the Teen Space within the library. This helps visually separate the space from the adult and juvenile areas and gives teens ownership of their space. Teens challenged each other to chess games and used Parman's foosball table football setup, which in Spanish is known as "futbolito." The library system's Oculus Quest was a way teens could use their whole bodies to engage in one the latest virtual reality games called Beat Sabers. These teens would not otherwise have had access to virtual reality gaming.

Parman library was pleased to host *Women and the Holocaust: Four Case Studies*. Presented by Liz Reichman, this program, through the exploration of the experiences of four women in particular, examined how women faced special challenges during the holocaust and how women worked together to support one another in the camps and ghettos.

Parman library was pleased to usher in the Chinese New Year with a craft program and presentation that served as an opportunity to discuss the customs and traditions behind the holiday.

Appropriately, also in January, Parman library offered several classes of Tai Chi. Appropriate for all fitness levels, the classes gave patrons an opportunity to improve their balance, strength and internal awareness while reducing their stress in a relaxing and friendly environment.

POTRANCO

Potranco Library Circulation Attendant, Paschal Booker, hosted the Potranco Book Club. Mr. Booker also moderated the Potranco Writers Group twice this month as the group continues to grow with new attendees and regulars.

Ms. Bennett, Children's Librarian II, conducted her baby time, toddler time and story time on Tuesdays at the YMCA community room. Ms. Gonzales, part time Children's Librarian, continues her come and go crafts on Saturdays where participants are eager to take part in making a new craft each week.

Cindy Moreno, Interim Branch Manager, moderated the outreach book discussion at the Alicia Trevino Senior Center. The group discussed *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict. The book was a historical fiction account of Hedy Lamarr's life, born Hedwig Eva Maria Kiesler.

Potranco library held a Holocaust Rememberance event on Sunday, January 12, with a presentation by Mr. Festa who spoke about the life of Miep Gies, a hero of the Holocaust.

The San Antonio Astronomical Association was invited by Library Assistant, Lisa Leandro, to host an astronomy night on Tuesday, January 7. Telescopes were provided and customers enjoyed star gazing and looking out into the clear, frosty sky.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Pruitt celebrated the arrival of Children's Librarian Lucy Humphrey. Lucy hales from SAISD as an elementary librarian and St. Philip's College Reference Librarian. She jumped right in and has really enjoyed the children's programming.

Participants in both Kid's Time and Toddler Time celebrated Jazz music with *Charlie Parker Played Be Bop* and *John Coltrane's Giant Steps*. Participants had parachute time while listening to jazz be bop classics and then decorated their own instruments.

Kid's Time and Toddler Time programs celebrated Lunar New Year by creating dancing dragon puppets and learning about dragon and lion dances. Participants were given lucky red envelopes for good luck for the New Year.

The Pruitt branch's children's program initiated a Kid's S.T.E.A.M. Storytime. Participants read about building and creating and used Brain Flakes to exercise their creativity and engage their engineering skills, while their artistic talents were used to build miniature houses.

Tweens participated in the branch's Family Circle Tween Book Club. The selection for the month was award-winning novel, *Hello Universe*. Participants enjoyed an insightful and heartfelt discussion of the book and previewed next month's selection, *Me, Frida, and the Secret of the Peacock Ring*.

Pruitt Teen Services hosted 20 events in January. The monthly Book Talk Tuesday program gives teens an opportunity to discuss books they've read or hear about books they might like to read with their peers. Teens at Pruitt participated in two cultural awareness activities. During Dream Week, they learned more about the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., via an MLK trivia activity. In recognition and honor of women heroines of the Holocaust, Teen Services sponsored a screening of the film *The Zookeepers Wife*.

Pop Up Ping-Pong proved to be a good time for teens who just wanted to walk in and put their strategic thinking and problem solving skills to the test. A new program that seems to be working well is Foodie Friday for Teens. This partnership with COSA Healthy Neighborhoods allows teens to learn about healthy meal preparation while creating nutritious snacks.

SAN PEDRO

San Pedro staff created displays for Martin Luther King Jr. Day and for the Holocaust both sporting inspiring pictures and books to learn more. The branch hosted programs or opportunities for applying for a Census job, registering to vote, getting free seeds and planting information, and how to properly take care of feral cats. Our team also reached out to the local SAHA location to advertise our events for the upcoming month.

Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler added a Story Time for 3-5 year olds and an additional after school program, "Four O'Clock Fun" to accommodate families looking for programming during Landa's closure.

Outreach to schools continued with two SAISD school book clubs: Hawthorne Academy (4th and 5th graders), and Mark Twain Dual Language Academy (3rd graders) and the addition this month of a multi-grade book club at Monte Vista Montessori.

Families and children celebrated the Chinese New Year and dragons with the "Appreciate a Dragon" program. Kids and their parents learned about dragon creatures from literature around the world. They created dragon puppets to take home and continue the fun and learning.

The Friends of the San Pedro Branch library met and approved purchase of some items needed for Children's programming - for Lego Time and Baby Time. The Friends have started to sell attractive book bags for patrons, which benefit the library. They have been selling well.

Readers and pre-readers enjoy practicing their literacy skills in the company of a gentle therapy dog and its trainer, at the branch's twice monthly "Read to a Dog" program. The trainer and dog team are certified with the Alliance for Therapy Dogs and the R.E.A.D. (Reading Education Assistance Dogs) program. They provide this wonderful service to children as volunteers.

SCHAEFER

Winter children's programming is continuing through the end of February with Read to a Dog, Toddler Time, Story Time, Baby Time and LEGO Time. Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser presented two programs at her monthly outreach childcare center. She read stories and sang songs about penguins and winter to two groups of young children.

Dacari Lambert, Teen Librarian at Schaefer Library, facilitates weekly programs for teens age 13-18. For the month of January, teens implemented 2 games nights and 2 cooking programs. The teens took ownership over the selection of program activities and helped one another make the program evenings successful.

On January 14, Librarian Maria Adams visited the District 2 Senior Center to lead a session on adult coloring. Participants are provided with coloring sheets and coloring pencils to use during the program. On January 15, Librarian Maria Adams again visited the District 2 Senior Center. This program was for tech help for seniors at the center. The program encourages seniors to bring their personal devices in for a one on one session for any tech assistance they may need.

The Schaefer Branch began a partnership with Metro Health to bring a healthy living workshop on Thursday, January 16. This six week workshop addresses a variety of health related topics to provide participants with a toolkit to live healthier lives. On Saturday, January 18, Librarian Maria Adams hosted Caritas Legal Services for a free legal workshop on the topic of power of attorney. On Wednesday, January 29, Librarian Maria Adams hosted crafters for the first Adult Craft Night of 2020. Attendees were able to use sewing machines from Adult Services inventory to create lavender scented sachets. A few of the participants mentioned they had never used a sewing machine before. This craft was a perfect introduction to sewing.

Julie Ernst, Library Assistant P/T, hosted the Schaefer Adult Book Club. This month's selection was Anthony Horowitz's mystery "Magpie Murders", this book within a book was well received and made for a lively and fun book discussion.

On Sunday, Jan. 19th, Library Assistant BlancaSilvia Hernandez hosted the 1st program of the new monthly Make & Go Craft Program for families. Patrons decorated heart magnets with acrylic paint, sharpie markers, glitter, sequins and all sorts of bling. Patrons enjoyed making the craft, socializing and relaxing. patrons wrote what they liked most was "All the Valentine's crafts," "Friendly presenter and attendees" and "The presenter is so kind & friendly and crafting is so relaxing."

SEMMES

Continuing the partnership the branch has with Blue Star Contemporary, new art from the MOSAIC Student Artist Program was installed in late January. Artist in Residence Alex Rubio held a reception at the branch on Tuesday, January 21 to celebrate the opening of the new collection. Blue Star Contemporary's MOSAIC Student Artist Program is open to high school students who are interested in developing their professional artistic skills and careers in the arts. The after-school program is a combination of studio practice and exposure to the business side of art and arts administration. Concurrent with BSC's exhibitions, MOSAIC students present rotating exhibitions of their work to showcase what they are learning in the studio, and gain professional knowledge of fabrication, production, and curation of contemporary art exhibitions.

The monthly Pokémon Go program continues to be popular with people of all ages. On Sunday, January 19th, over 100 people stopped by the branch's programming table to paint a Pokémon themed rock, pick up a free Pokémon badge, take advantage of the provided charging station for their phone, and/or get a free bottle of water.

THOUSAND OAKS

Children's Programs resumed the week of January 8 with a Movie night for Family Fun. Children and families enjoyed the JUMP -themed Toddler and Story Times full of locomotor activities and stories. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. week was celebrated with programs centered on activities about planting seeds of peace.

For Chinese Lunar New Year, Family Fun program "Appreciated a Dragon," learning about the holiday and dragons from around the world and creating Chinese dragon puppets Family fun Board Game program created a stress free interactive way for families to engage. Young children and their adults attending This is Not a Box/ Story and Toddler Time allowed children to use their imaginations to create things out of boxes!

Ms. Lea Ann attended the Starting out Wild Professional development training at Hardberger Park on January 24. The training focused on ways to incorporate nature themes into children's library programming.

The teens had a very creative January! Hosted by Librarian Kimberly King, Teen Time on Wednesday evenings had a surge of energy as the New Year progressed. The first meeting had the teens pretending to be mad scientists as they made two types of slime. In another session, they decorated their hands and arms with henna to make impermanent tattoos while listening to country music. During the next meeting, one group played Jenga and another made key jewelry. At the final gathering for the month, the teens continued to stretch their artistic muscle by continuing to make jewelry while listening to classic rock.

On January 13, guest presenter Ms. Reichman spoke of four case studies about women who survived the Holocaust, either in concentration camps, in the ghetto, or in hiding. The presentation included historical photos and ended with a question and answer portion.

Librarian Kimberly King facilitated the North East Senior Center book club in January. The selection was the romantic thriller *The Obsession* by Nora Roberts. Participants got into very spirited discussions on some of the themes of the book which included forgiveness and childhood trauma. They all agreed that the book was a great fast paced read!

The Thursday Book Group read Amor Towle's *A Gentleman in Moscow*. It gives an account of Count Alexander Rostov and his thirty year imprisonment at the Metropol Hotel in Moscow. The book started a lively discussion about the Russian revolution during the beginning of the 1900's. Many of the members enjoyed the author's writing style and subject matter.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

With Landa Library's closure, the branch received three employees: Library Aides, Alysha Huff and Carye Bye and Circulation Attendant, Melissa Carroll. They all have been nice additions to Tobin's team and enjoyed participating in staff Crazy Socks Daze on January 22 and 23.

On January 21, Authors, Becky Hoag and Jeanette Pierce, presented at Tobin as part of Our Voices, Our Lives: San Antonio Women of the Holocaust Remembered. The two recorded interviews of survivor experiences into their book and shared some of San Antonio's survivor's accounts.

The branch partnered with the League of Women Voters and U.S. Census several times this month to register voters and provide information on upcoming elections. The Census workers solicit candidates for employment in the upcoming Census with well paid jobs.

Teen Librarian, Karah Garcia, along with a rotation of branch staff, continue planning and introducing a variety of activities to engage teens and Garner Middle School students after school. STEAM endeavors included painting book ends for the Young Adult collection, paper airplane competitions, melted crayon art with Wii gaming remaining popular. Library Assistant, Andrew Charltonjones, facilitates the role playing game, Dungeons and Dragons, with a dozen to fifteen teens attending weekly. The Friends of Tobin Library at Oakwell generously funded purchasing some new die and containers, along with a map for the group.

Barbaraella Frazier, Children's Librarian, conducted outreach at Oak Grove Elementary at STEM night on January 16 and engaged children with straw and connector building. On January 30, Ms. Frazier helped at Mary Lou Hartman Elementary's Literacy Night. She discussed library services and helped kids decorate a dragon egg for a craft.

As part of Dream Week on January 21, a representative from Eco Center hosted a resource table with information on sustainability and water conservation. Packages of free seeds were given out to promote gardening and landscaping.

WESTFALL

During January, 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. Starting in the New Year, The Westfall branch in partnership with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society began hosting weekly gentle adaptive yoga for MS. The program is free and open to those with MS and caretakers. The instructor, Cheryl Alexander has been teaching and practicing yoga since 1974. Having the class at the branch has allowed for better building access and greater participation from the community.

Starting on January 21st, the Westfall Branch began hosting the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The program offers free tax preparation services for income of \$55,000 or less to residents in San Antonio. Tax returns are prepared by trained and certified volunteers. VITA volunteers received 20 hours of training and must pass an IRS approved exam in order to prepare and submit tax returns for the public.

Teen Services Librarian, Cindy Cruz, hosted Teen Time programs that included a healthy cooking class, a DIY Squishy program, and a Book Café event. The cooking class encouraged teens to work collaboratively in small groups to learn how to follow a recipe. Teens also got creative when they decorated and customized their own squishy (small soft foam toys) that also help release stress. Lastly, teens participated in the positive environment of Book Café—a program that creates a coffee house style atmosphere within the library. High school tutors continue to work with children and adolescents in the Westfall teen space every Saturday afternoon. Tutors also decorated their Teen Space for the Valentine’s Day holiday.

During the reporting period, Children’s Librarian, Imelda Merino, visited daycares in the service areas and brought the children a variety of books to read. Additionally, Ms. Merino held weekly children’s programs such as story time, kids and toddler times. The programs consisted of some stories and fun activities to wrap up the day.

The Westfall Branch Library continued to host the “Stranger than Fiction” and “Third Thursday” book clubs. Books read this month included “Alias Grace” by Margaret Atwood and “The Second Mountain” by David Brooks. Both book clubs draw small but dedicated groups that enjoy discussing the themes of the books as well as other issues of the day.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

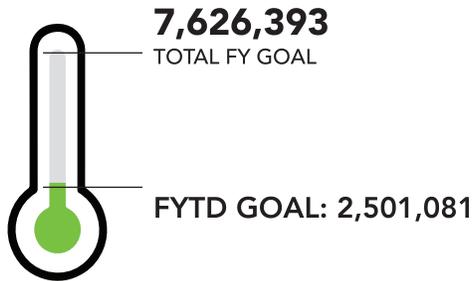
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY KEY INDICATORS

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

JANUARY 2020

FY 2020

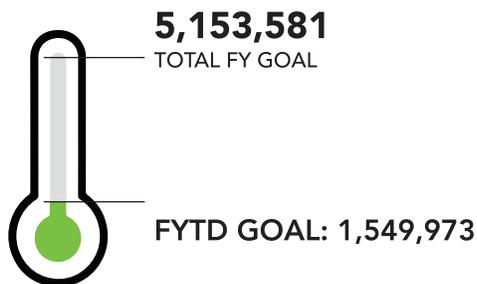
CIRCULATION: GOAL



CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR 2020



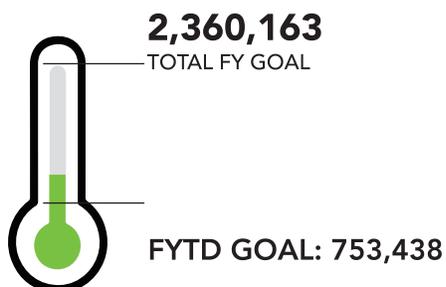
LIBRARY VISITS: GOAL



LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2020



DIGITAL ACCESS: GOAL



DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR 2020



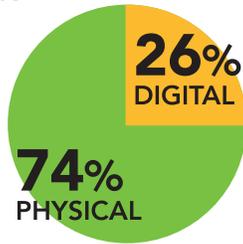
1,080,737

TOTAL HOURS OF
COMPUTER & WI-FI USE

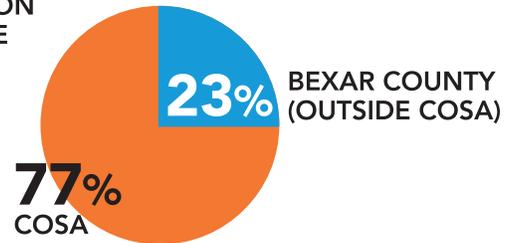
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS JANUARY 2020 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2020

CIRCULATION
BY TYPE



CIRCULATION
BY SERVICE
AREA



VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2020



758,244
MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

429,613
MYSAPL
APP SESSIONS

435,744
OVERDRIVE
SITE VISITS

1,533,802
SOCIAL MEDIA
IMPRESSIONS

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2020



102,421
TOTAL ATTENDANCE

18,734
ADULT PROGRAMS

14,952
TEEN PROGRAMS

68,735
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

JANUARY MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS



DreamWeek at Tobin



Letters to Sala at Johnston

San Antonio Public Library January 2020 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	4,484	8,081	9,429	1,473	7,956
Brook Hollow	27,455	18,082	10,818	1,263	9,555
Carver	3,797	7,188	5,934	1,177	4,757
Central	24,316	51,383	71,079	11,254	59,825
Cody	32,028	19,907	13,528	1,314	12,214
Collins Garden	5,048	5,879	7,741	1,310	6,431
Cortez	4,983	8,260	5,426	903	4,524
Encino	16,706	11,324	7,322	422	6,900
Forest Hills	6,805	6,492	5,693	893	4,800
Great Northwest	23,455	13,918	9,814	1,465	8,348
Guerra	10,044	8,952	9,353	1,847	7,506
Igo	29,448	23,125	13,537	1,216	12,322
Johnston	9,117	8,787	6,696	1,287	5,409
Landa	6,926	4,802	1,905	208	1,697
Las Palmas	5,221	9,510	7,031	1,602	5,429
Maverick	22,156	11,189	9,263	1,525	7,739
McCreless	9,697	12,037	8,240	1,435	6,805
Memorial	5,241	7,889	6,519	997	5,522
Mission	12,415	17,309	11,777	2,155	9,622
Pan American	5,250	5,723	4,698	977	3,721
Parman	26,635	29,691	8,702	531	8,171
Potranco	17,319	12,293	26,718	930	25,788
Pruitt	5,493	17,076	5,095	876	4,219
San Pedro	3,912	6,510	4,165	546	3,618
Schaefer	8,576	9,959	9,048	954	8,094
Semmes	22,911	15,185	10,521	1,687	8,834
Thousand Oaks	7,797	8,890	8,254	1,106	7,148
Tobin	18,405	17,186	8,695	1,607	7,088
Westfall	14,344	13,450	11,389	2,409	8,981
Kampmann Library Portal	N/A	1,255	426	N/A	426
Interlibrary Loan Lending	686	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	96,302	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	177,292	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	664,264	391,332	318,815	45,367	273,449

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

San Antonio Public Library

January 2020 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	49	30	2	17	391	231	78	82
Brook Hollow	56	7	4	45	1,954	74	38	1,842
Carver	34	17	9	8	419	186	63	170
Central	111	11	73	27	1,241	104	612	525
Cody	51	11	13	27	994	164	142	688
Collins Garden	41	4	6	31	464	18	60	386
Cortez	38	17	5	16	264	95	17	152
Encino	63	14	7	42	1,037	95	23	919
Forest Hills	42	20	4	18	331	116	12	203
Great Northwest	26	11	4	11	969	119	129	721
Guerra	33	7	4	22	469	90	33	346
Igo	65	24	13	28	1,713	253	132	1,328
Johnston	25	7	4	14	383	75	19	289
Landa	14	4	3	7	333	35	12	286
Las Palmas	48	31	5	12	721	559	71	91
Maverick	34	10	6	18	790	68	88	634
McCreless	36	8	10	18	351	49	74	228
Memorial	34	15	3	16	255	115	30	110
Mission	54	29	8	17	859	448	33	378
Pan American	38	23	8	7	451	303	86	62
Parman	73	34	3	36	1,604	418	30	1,156
Potranco	16	8	0	8	237	57	0	180
Pruitt	59	20	20	19	699	62	278	359
San Pedro	34	7	0	27	333	60	0	273
Schaefer	44	18	4	22	606	137	33	436
Semmes	58	19	10	29	860	178	83	599
Thousand Oaks	22	2	4	16	342	13	30	299
Tobin	59	8	15	36	1,815	86	572	1,157
Westfall	46	17	8	21	322	109	26	187
Kampmann Library Portal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Read Wagon	20	N/A	N/A	20	570	N/A	N/A	570
TOTAL	1,322	433	255	634	21,777	4,317	2,804	14,656

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation

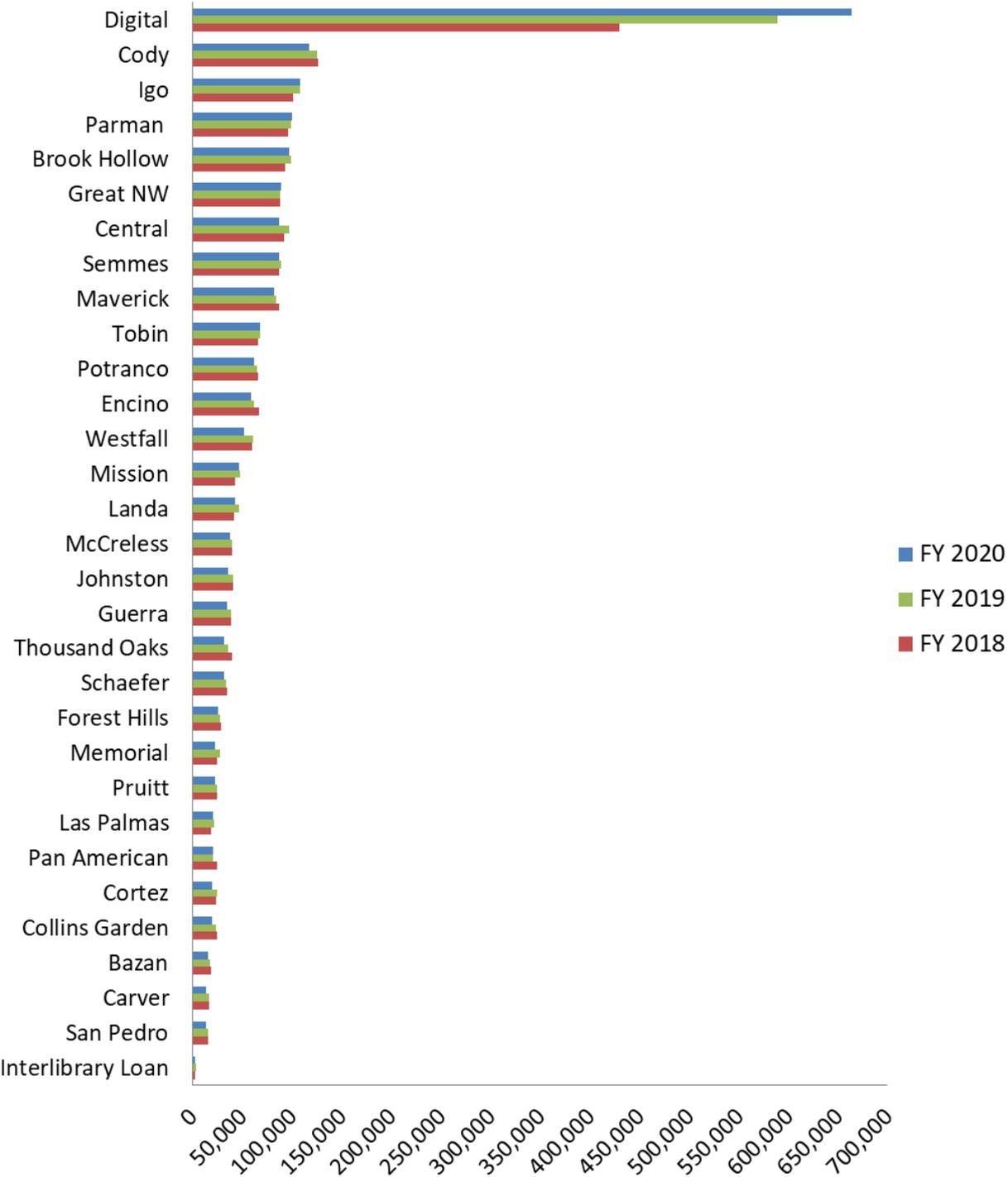


Location Closures
 FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Apr 20
 FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm, Great Northwest Apr15-May 5, Semmes May 1-26
 FY 18: Central Oct 28 at 3pm, SAPL System Jan 16-Weather, Staff Transformation Day-Feb 19, Cody May 3-13, Pan American Jun 18-Jul 3 & Sep 24-30, Thousand Oaks Jun 25-Jul 5

02/19/2020

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Jan 2020

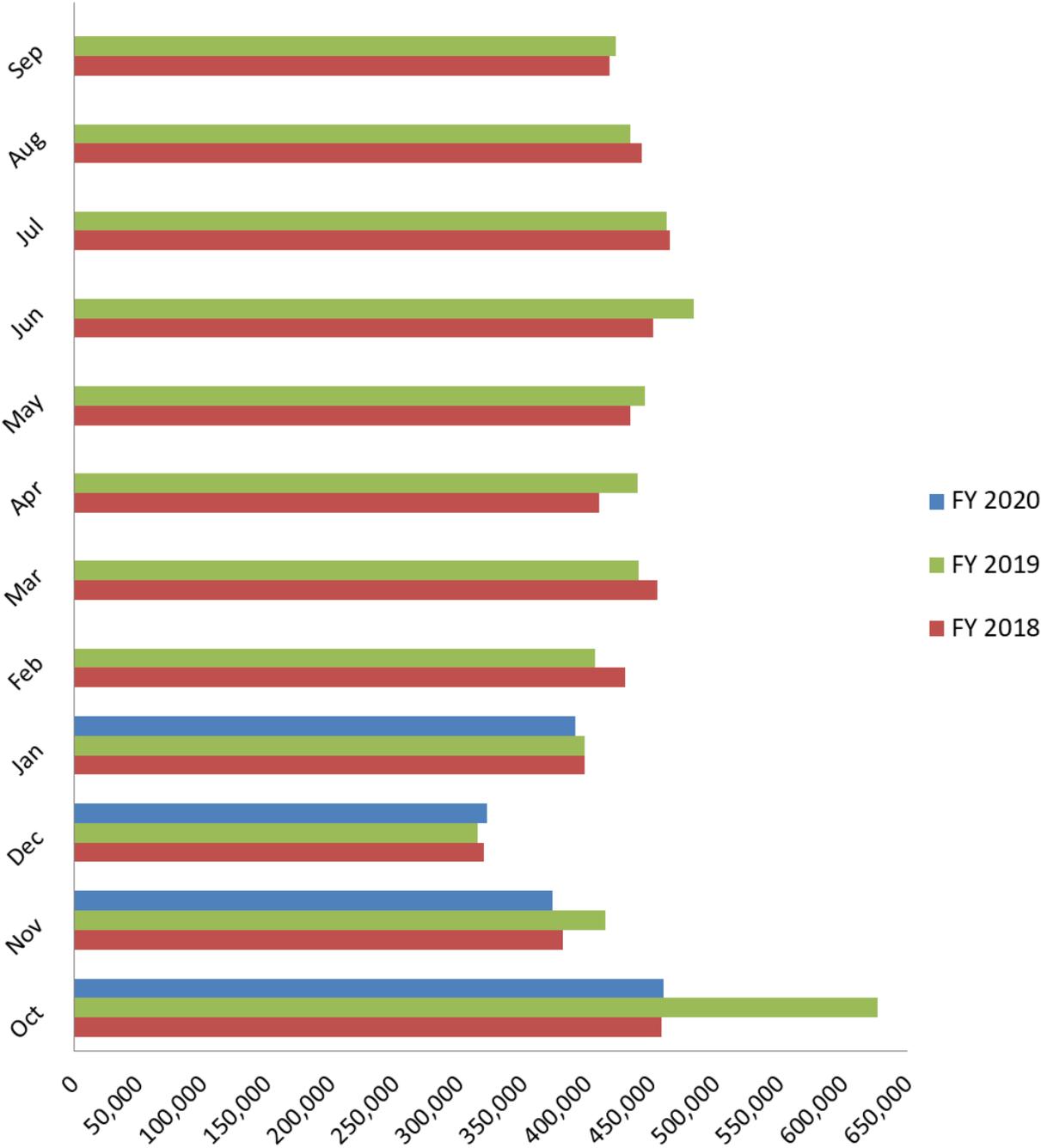


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02/19/2020

San Antonio Public Library

Visits

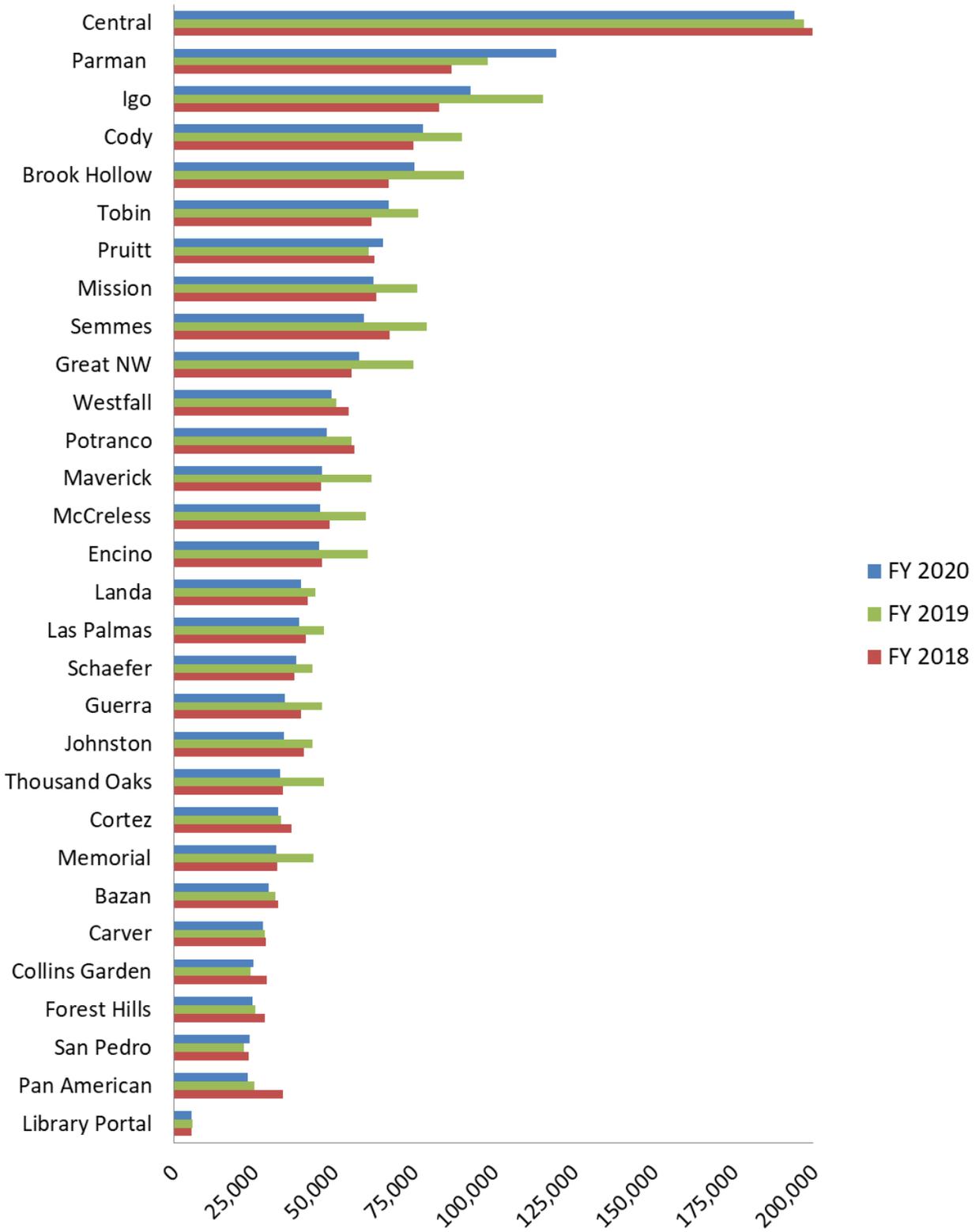


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San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Jan 2020



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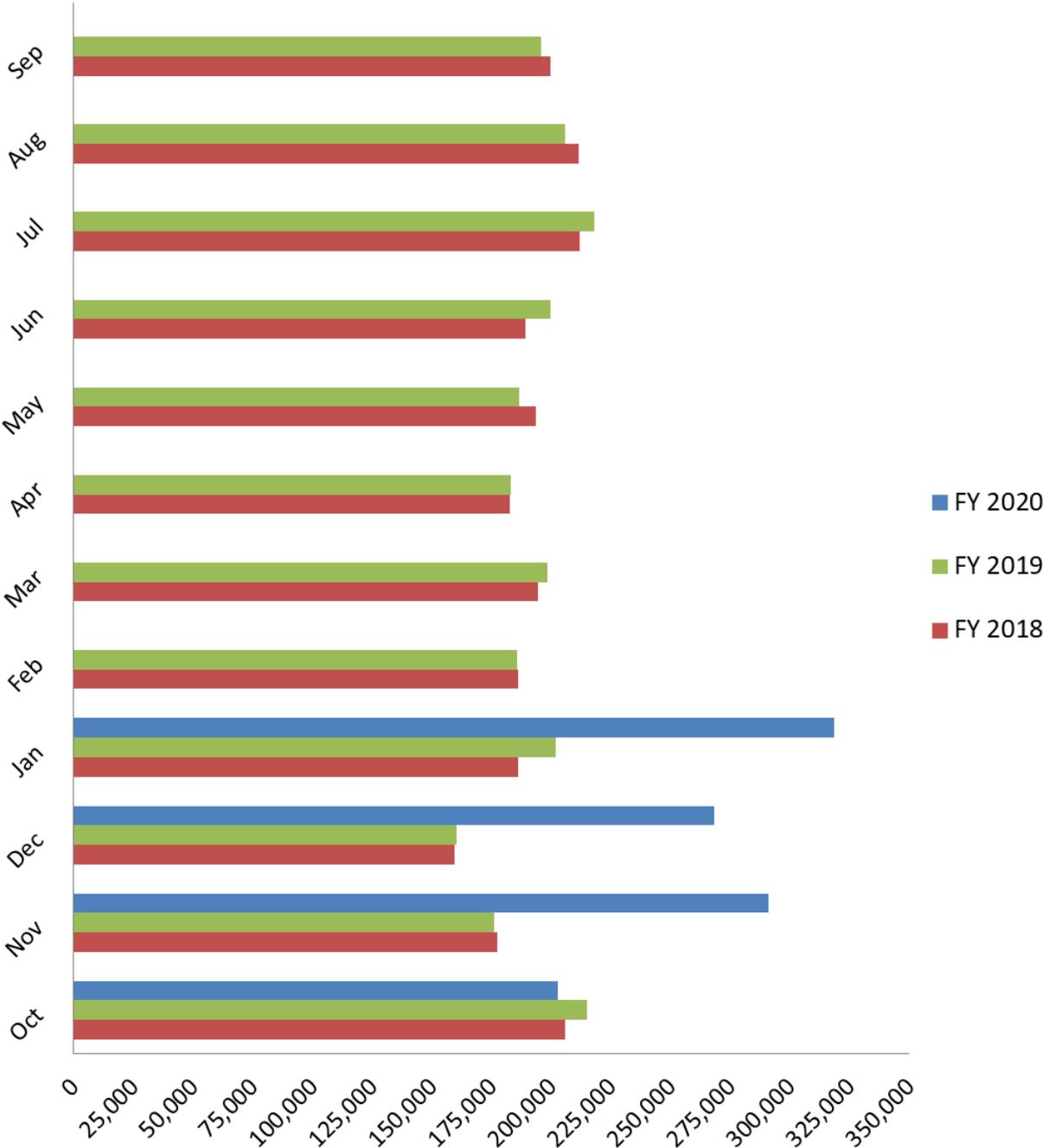
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02/19/2020

San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use



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

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

2) Beginning October 31, 2019 - change in "User Idle Timeout" for Wi-Fi from 45 minutes to 4 hours

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