

San Antonio Public Library Director's Report August, 2020

San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) upgraded their Integrated Library System (ILS) during the month of August. The new system, which allows for improved notifications for holds and account information, enhanced access to online resources and services, and improved catalogue descriptions and details went live on August 25.

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

On Saturday, August 1, 2020, Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with City Manager Erik Walsh about the proposed budget for the Library Department. As part of the budget development process, Mr. Salazar met with Paul Stahl, Board Chair and Maria Villagomez, Deputy City Manager and Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager regarding the proposed budget for the Library. Related to the budget development, Library Executives, Ramiro Salazar, Library Director; Kathy Donellan, Assistant Director; and Dale McNeill, Assistant Director monitored the SA Speak Up: City Council District Budget Townhall Meetings.

Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with Dr. Sarah Zenaida Gould, director of the Mexican American Civil Rights Institute at the Our Lady of the Lake University on August 4 regarding possible partnerships opportunities.

On August 5, Library Director Ramiro Salazar visited San Pedro Branch Library to congratulate the staff on the 90th anniversary of the San Pedro Branch Library.

As part of the City's Return to Work working groups, Library Director Ramiro Salazar participated in the City's Building Maintenance and Hygiene working group on August 6.

On August 7, Library Director Ramiro Salazar participated in a Board Meeting for the Local Government Hispanic Network (LGHN). Mr. Salazar is on the Board of LGHN.

On August 25, Library Director met with author Kerstin Hau virtually to accept a book donation for the San Antonio Public Library. Ms. Hau is from Darmstadt, Germany, a Sister City to the City of San Antonio. Shahrzad Dowlathshahi, Chief Protocol Officer, facilitated the scheduling of the virtual meeting.

MARKETING

Top media hits this past month:

- The Rivard Report published an article about the League of United Latin American Citizens push to remind people to participate in the 2020 Census. They mentioned Las Palmas Branch Library in the article.
- A local newsletter, Local Community News, published an article featuring SAPL and the efforts being made to serve the community through the Contact-Free Pickup service.
- KSAT 12 highlighted San Antonio Public Library in a segment they did about National Book Lovers Day. They mentioned how patrons can utilize SAPL services during the pandemic.
- Reform Austin published an article about libraries adapting services going into the coming semester. SAPL Assistant Director, Dale McNeill participated in an interview for this piece.
- The San Antonio Express News included the system upgrade announcement as well as announcements for the "Conversation with Sheryl Sculley" event and "Sit with It" events in their community calendar "The Light" in their August 12 print edition.

- Multiple outlets reported on San Antonio Public Library's partnership with local ISDs to provide students with access to the digital collection through the Sora app.
- Various media outlets highlighted SAPL's Back-to-School resources for students and parents.
- Multiple outlets highlighted SAPL's co-hosted event with the San Antonio Public Library Foundation and the San Antonio Book Festival, "A Conversation with Sheryl Sculley " in their community calendars.
- News 4 WOAI and Fox San Antonio both aired a feature story on SAPL's Homework Help resource. For the segment, they interviewed Cresencia Huff, Coordinator of Children's Services. They also highlighted Wi-Fi availability outside all SAPL branches in the story. This segment aired multiple times across both stations. Reporter Emily Olson shared the segment to Twitter and SAPL re-shared.
- Univision aired a feature story on the resources available to students returning to school in their evening news. They highlighted Homework Help in English and Spanish as well as the availability of Wi-Fi at SAPL locations. Ramiro participated in an interview for this piece.
- WOAI's San Antonio Living morning show highlighted SAPL's Homework Help and Wi-Fi outside all locations.
- SA Current highlighted the San Antonio Public Library as a good place to find resources for students heading back-to-school. The article mentioned that this school year restart will be different from others while providing information on how students can access free homework help, the Sora app, FAFSA assistance, and more.
- Publishers Weekly published an article about low-tech programming opportunities libraries around the country are offering to engage children and families. They highlighted SAPL's Dial-a-Story program and quoted Cresencia Huff, SAPL Coordinator of Children's Services, for the piece.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:

- SAPL's social media generated 475,575 impressions
- SAPL's social media following base grew by 462 new fans
- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts 25,533 times.

Social Media statistics for the month:

- Twitter: 5,273 followers
- Facebook: 20,615 fans
- Instagram: 6,250 followers

Graphics

The Graphics team created publicity materials for a variety of programs and events during this reporting period, including back to school promotions, the 2020 Voter Registration/Voting Campaign, Hispanic Heritage Month, National Library Card Sign-up Month, the StoryWalk installation at Cortez Branch Library, and 2017 Bond projects at Forest Hills and McCreless branches. In addition, the team continues to create

graphics to promote online programs and foster SAPL's engagement with the community via social media.

DIGITAL SERVICES

August 25 - August 30, the Digital Services team - Digital Library Services Coordinator Adam Spana, Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun, Digital Library Services Analyst Tricia Masterson, Digital Library Services Specialist Brian Douglass and Digital Library Services Assistants Daniel Garcia, Christina Hess and Michael Sheehan, helped launch the Library's new integrated library system, Symphony. The team engaged with staff in over a hundred separate chat sessions, 70 plus service tickets, and 119 separate Microsoft Team threads in order to answer questions, provide guidance on outstanding issues, and assist with corrections and revisions. At the same time the team also worked with the system's vendor, SirsiDynix, ITSD and other third party vendors like BiblioCommons, to report problems, address data issues and continue fine tuning the system for the Library's use.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Little Read Wagon (LRW) staff worked to finalize the 2020-2021 early childhood teacher training "More Mirrors, Windows and Doors: A Workshop for Early Childhood Educators." The change from in-person workshops to virtual presentation requires a different sort of preparation, including becoming familiar with the nuances of the virtual platform and the related change in presentation style. The LRW staff is committed to presenting the same quality of presentation that they are able to during in-person sessions despite the challenges of the current situation.

Clair Larkin presented an "Early Literacy Essentials" training online to eight early childhood professionals at the San Antonio Independent School District. Megan Cruz assisted with answering questions and providing ideas for sensory materials that are low-cost, can be easily obtained and do not require much sanitizing, a need that many childcare centers across the country are encountering. Ms. Larkin delivered materials and books to the center prior to the training.

LRW staff continue to work on system-wide initiatives in their various Children's Services work groups. Julia Lazarin edits and creates videos for a number of committees, while also chairing the Art & Maker group. Eva Banda recorded a Dial-A-Story in Spanish. Preliminary discussions with school district and early childhood center contacts are underway to develop creative ways to continue delivering vital early literacy messages throughout San Antonio.

CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Summer Reading: SummerFest went online August 1 with a Facebook premiere dance party by Uncle Jumbo, a class about viruses by Jr. Doctor, and a Professor Universe watch party. Children were encouraged to pick up prize books through August 31.

Carolyn D. Flores made a special presentation for children about her work as an author and illustrator. The presentation included a tour of her studio and read aloud of the first book she wrote when she was in second grade. Children were eager to share their own writing and drawing with her and other attendees.

Opera San Antonio concluded the Explore Opera for Kids video series on August 7. The recordings included the history of opera, musical theater, and connections to children's literature. Each video premiere was immediately followed by a live Q&A via Zoom. Children and their trusted adults had the opportunity to ask questions of the artists and staff.

The San Antonio Food Bank concluded the Kids in the Kitchen series. Registration for the Sow Healthy gardening series opened and was at capacity in a few days. Sow Healthy includes eight weekly classes and will be offered in four cohorts.

Live Online Programs: The children's services team continued to refine the **Baby Time Online** program and encouraged other team members in their preparations to launch **Toddler Time Online** and **Storytime Online**. These programs will debut in September and October. Attendance decreased for the **Adventurers Book Club** most likely due to the start of the school year.

Fall work groups began meeting and planning everything from curated to live programs and Take & Make kits. The STEAM and Art & Maker work groups will collaborate with the Take & Create group to develop a couple kits. Work groups will continue to develop as pandemic and working conditions change.

David Cooksey joined the children's services team at their August 13 check-in meeting. He presented on the **Overdrive Public Library Connect** project. Since then, children's librarians have been including the project in their outreach to area school librarians.

Professional learning: Six children's librarians attended an online workshop presented by Texas Children in Nature. The workshop included ideas for bring early childhood and elementary activities outdoors. Children's services team members continuously share webinars and articles with each other in the Professional Learning channel on Teams. In September, Toni Sturdivant, Ph.D. will present a workshop on anti-bias literature for children.

TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE) / TEEN LIBRARY @ CENTRAL

Due to the library closure, the Teen Library @ Central staff continued to work on a variety of projects and tasks that had system-wide impacts during the month of August.

Virtual Teen Programs and Activities—The 210teenlibrary Discord and Instagram workgroups, led by Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) and consisting of Teen Services Librarians and Liaisons from around the system, facilitated 25 virtual teen programs with a total of 142 teens in attendance for August. The majority of these programs were led by virtual teen volunteers and incorporated teen-requested activities, such as Dungeons & Dragons campaigns, book discussions, and cooperative and competitive gaming.

For the 210teenlibrary Instagram page, Regina Almanza (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) created a variety of graphics including: a monthly calendar for Teen Fall programs, a celebration of the 100th anniversary of women's constitutional right to vote with related Young Adult books, information on SAPL's Homework Help services, general teen interest content, and evaluating and posting teen-created content.

JD Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) continued his virtual programming for teens with Studio Time on Instagram LIVE on Saturdays. During these weekly events, JD discusses and demonstrates playing guitar, keyboard and music theory while he is in the Teen Library's music studio.

Ciana Flores (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) continues to engage with the teens via the 210teenlibrary Instagram page. Ciana takes both teen and staff content and presents it as posts and stories, as well as creating indirect programming. She has contributed to the Saturday Instagram Live episodes and IGTV videos as a co-host as well as camera operator. Ciana has become a part of the Teen Services Discord team and is searching for new ways to interact with the teens and create a virtual "Teen Library" feel. Ciana also records and submits all monthly statistics associated with the 210teenlibrary Instagram account.

On Monday and Wednesday afternoons, Amisarahi Sarabia (SAPL's Teen Outreach Specialist) hosts "Quarantunes," an Instagram challenge where teens submit their favorite tunes to the 210teenlibrary account, and then Amisarahi and Matthew Loaiza create a Spotify playlist at the end of the week. In addition, Amisarahi developed Instagram highlight templates that were shared on the 210teenlibrary Instagram for Teen Services librarians to use for virtual outreach. She also created Instagram story templates that teens filled out and interacted with.

Teen Summer 2020 — Using statistics from June and July 2020 (collected by staff around the system) as well as different insights/interactions from virtual platforms, Matthew Loaiza created an in depth report of Teen Summer 2020 statistics. This report includes distribution information for Teen Take & Make Craft Kits and Teen Summer T-Shirts as well as the growth of the 210teenlibrary Instagram account and Discord server.

System-wide Support—Teen Library @ Central staff participated in the SAPL video, "If you wanna be a library lover," promoting SAPL services. Amisarahi Sarabia continued to assist SAPL Marketing during the reporting period by editing several Adult Services videos, including cooking and craft demos.

Professional Development— Jennifer Velásquez (Coordinator of Teen Services) continued to lead monthly virtual meetings with the Teen Services librarians and liaisons. Jennifer also serves as a member of the steering committee for the Future State of SAPL. Kathleen Fordyce (Manager, Teen Library @ Central) is a member of the Staff Competencies and Organizational Structure Subcommittee for the Future State of SAPL committee. She also continued serving on the MakerFaire SA and the Incident Reporting System workgroups. Matthew Loaiza is a member of the Spaces Subcommittee for the Future State of SAPL Workgroup. Matthew Loaiza continues to serve as a member of the 2020 Alexander Briseño Leadership Development Program Steering Committee for the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

The week of August 10th, Librarian Vicky Villalobos of Central Reference hosted San Antonio organization Developing Cultural Dialogue in "Sit with It: A Toolkit for Having Tough Talks" a series of programs focused on race, relationships, and communication. Joined by Coordinator of Adult Services Morgan Yoshimura, Latino Collection and Resource Center Program Manager Emma Hernandez, Texana Librarian and Archivist Sylvia Reyna, and Central Reference Librarian Michael Dunbar-Rodney, SAPL staff fostered a place for open dialogue for patrons of the San Antonio Public Library to discuss the history of race in San Antonio, the Black Lives Matter movement, and how racism and social justice impacts us all.

On August 20th, the Library partnered with the San Antonio Book Festival and San Antonio Public Library Foundation hosted “A Conversation with Former City Manager Sheryl Sculley.” This event was moderated by Rey Saldaña, former City Council member. Mr. Saldaña and Ms. Sculley discussed Ms. Sculley’s book *Greedy Bastards: One City’s Texas Size Struggle to Avoid A Financial Crisis*. Ms. Sculley shared her experiences about negotiating with San Antonio’s police and fire unions, and answered questions submitted by the public. Over 200 community members joined in on the event to get to know this notable figure in recent San Antonio history. It was an enlightening evening for all who attended!

Summer Reading for adults for 2020 officially wrapped up on August 31st. Throughout the summer, adults had a chance to participate in a variety of programs and activities that helped them to imagine a world of possibilities. Adult services staff offered programs throughout the summer on the topics of crafts, gaming, job search, self-sufficiency, and health and fitness. Other activities offered throughout the summer included two ‘make and take’ craft kits, virtual escape rooms, YouTube videos on a variety of topics, and a Good Reads discussion group. Adults could earn a prize of an Imagine branded notebook and voucher for a free book provided by the Friends of San Antonio Public Library by reading or listening to 8 books, participating in eight library activities, or a combination of the two. The public’s response to the various activities offered throughout the summer was overwhelmingly positive.

On August 3rd, the Library hosted a session of Computer Basics online, facilitated by Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales. Participants received an introduction to the basics of using a computer including topics such as the difference between hardware and software, differences between a laptop and a desktop, how to use a keyboard and mouse to navigate a computer, and tutorials to practice the various skills and concepts taught in the class. Participants were appreciative of the opportunity to get started on their path to learning to use technology.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN @ CENTRAL

The Central Children’s team continued to present live virtual Storytimes in August Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin, Librarians Ashley Stubbs and Olivia Escovedo each presented weekly Storytimes for small audiences of families, with Library Assistants Judith Slaughter, Mary Elizabeth Fernandez and Ana Sandoval hosting the events.

Ms. Seglin had two Storytime videos premiere online, one featuring the book *Stop Snoring, Bernard* and the other, *Mad, Mad Bear*. The latter was promoted on Facebook live and had over 500 views.

Ms. Seglin also participated in a panel for the Library’s podcast. The focus was virtual programming for different age groups. She and Teen and Adult Librarians discussed how their jobs have changed since the pandemic and speculated about the future of library programs.

Ms. Stubbs restarted the long-standing outreach relationship with Central Christian Day School, delivering them bags of books in support of their curriculum.

Ms. Stubbs continued her work on the Tiny Tots Children’s Services Committee by creating book recommendations for their LibGuide on the Library’s website. She also created curated programs for the Storytime page on the Library’s website. Ms. Escovedo continued her vital role of editing Storytime videos

for the Library's YouTube page. Ms. Stubbs and Ms. Simpson continued to contribute images of their children engaged in play experiences for the Play & Learn video series on the Library's website.

REFERENCE

The central reference team had a banner month for online interactions and services, largely to help facilitate the ILS migration. Over 1000 separate digital transactions for assistance were completed this month, along with several thousand phone assistance sessions.

Central hosted another slam poetry workshop led by local, published slam poet, Chibbi Orduña. There were 11 attendees. Participants were taught the basics of slam poetry and were walked through the construction of an ode, a poem celebrating a person, place, or thing. Those who felt comfortable shared their work and received feedback.

On August 25th, the central library hosted a classical Bharatanatyam dance performance online. The team also hosted several chair yoga sessions online throughout the month.

LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

On Saturday, August 1, 2020 the Latino Collection and Resource Center (LCRC) hosted its final session of *Altar-ing: A Latinx Memoir Workshop Series with Bonnie Cisneros*. This workshop led participants through an excavation of family histories, dreams, recipes, biographies and more to compose their own *autohistoria-teoria*, or autoethnography, in the form of a three-tiered altar. The virtual program welcomed 35 participants. These community members will submit their final projects, to be compiled into a digital zine and released during Hispanic Heritage Month.

LCRC Program Manager Emma Hernandez attended a two-week Digital Inclusion Fellowship orientation program from August 3-14th. The Digital Inclusion Fellowship helps nonprofits get their communities online, empowering them to meet their social, economic, and civic needs. Fellows work with their organizations to provide programming to their communities aimed at building technology skills and identifying avenues for access. This is the second time Emma Hernandez has been selected as a Digital Inclusion Fellow.

On Monday, August 10, 2020 LCRC Program Manager Emma Hernandez guest moderated "Sit with It: A Toolkit for Having Tough Talks" a series of programs focused on race, relationships, and communication. The first session, 'Latinx and Whiteness' discussed topics of the intersection between race and ethnicity. The program was developed by Coordinator of Adult Services Morgan Yoshimura, Texana Librarian and Archivist Sylvia Reyna, and Central Reference Librarians Victoria Villalobos & Michael Dunbar-Rodney. SAPL staff fostered a place for open dialogue for patrons of the San Antonio Public Library to discuss the history of race in San Antonio, the Black Lives Matter movement, and how racism and social justice impacts us all.

TEXANA/ GENEALOGY

Texana/Genealogy staff continued to remotely assist researchers during the Central Library's extended closure. Online Local History and Genealogy reference statistics for August were up again, an 11% increase from July, with a total of 111 LibAnswer tickets being facilitated in August. Overall, Texana staff conducted 137 remote research inquiries this period, more than double that same number in May.

Masters of Library Science student Jamie Lopez concluded her summer internship with the completion of transcription work for seven audio recordings from the 1998 meetings of the Westerners Southwest Vaqueros Corral and the publication of a new archival finding aid for the Southwest Vaqueros Collection. The finding aid is available online via the Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO) portal hosted by the University of Texas at Austin.

The new finding aids uploaded to TARO in August include:

- Guide to the Records of the Any Baby Can Alliance
- Guide to the Southwest Vaqueros Collection
- Guide to the Albert Curtis Manuscript: Fabulous San Antonio
- Guide to the Edward Everett Davis Manuscript: The White Scourge

Library Assistant Clarissa Chavira, Librarians Sylvia Reyna and Deborah Countess as well as Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson, attended the Texas State Genealogical Society's 2020 Virtual Conference held on August 7 & 8. The two-day event covered a vast array of topics including: Researching World War II Ancestors; Collateral Kin: Indirect Routes to Direct Ancestors; Problem Solving with DNA; and Immigration Records for Your Mexican Ancestor.

On August 10, the family of former Trinity University Professor Donald E. Everett donated an assortment of items from his personal library. In addition to a large assortment of Texas and southern history books, other items in the collection included San Antonio photos from the 19th and early 20th century; a photo album belonging to Frank H. Bushick; and a mesquite block paver that is an example of the early wood blocks used for paving local streets in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Librarians Matt De Waelsche and Andy Crews recorded a virtual video presentation on using the Texas Death Index and Social Security Death Index in genealogical research. The video has been shared with the public on the Library's YouTube channel.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia created *Take & Make kits* for teens in the community to pick up during curbside hours. Pom Pom Bookmarks were the August craft for the kits. Ms. Garcia collaborated with a group of Teen and Adult Services librarians to plan a *Harry Potter Take & Make* kit for September. To prepare for this idea, the group of librarians involved in this project supplied each other with materials that will make the event successful. Georgina worked on making a [Harry Potter LibGuide](#) that launched on

August 30 to supplement the *HP Take & Make kits*. The LibGuide contains craft instructions for each participating House (branch) along with reading suggestions, recipes, and fun crafts to do at home.

In addition, Ms. Garcia, a member of the SAPL eSports committee, teamed up with all committee members to plan out a September craft to celebrate National Video Game Day. Georgina along with Library Assistant Stephanie Perez have been collecting resources on Nintendo's Animal Crossing New Horizon(ACNH) to create an obstacle course open to the public at the end of September. With the eSports committee, Georgina along with Edward Mayberry and Cassie Garza, hosted a panel discussion on *Diversity with eSports*, as well as recorded a podcast episode titled *Future of eSports*.

Ms. Garcia has also been working with a team of Teen Librarians (Karah Garcia, Dacari Lambert, Amy Rae Weaver, and Sheri Watkins) researching ways to improve equity with teen services. Topics of discussion and research are: Redefining the teen space, what the teen voice is, and how to be equitable in a pandemic. This workgroup come together towards the end of summer and has been meeting every other week.

Training Officer Emily Flores continued to teach the following classes virtually: Conversational English as a Second Language, Advanced English as a Second Language and, Advanced English as a Second Language Book Club and English as a Second Language Book Club. During the month of August, she began teaching a Citizenship ESL class as well One of Emily's long-time volunteers, Karen Wyatt, has continued to volunteer virtually and assists in the ESL classes.

Beginning the first week of September, Emily will be teaching a Civics ESL discussion group to allow more advanced ESL students the opportunity to analyze and discuss current events. The English as a Second Language Conversation Group covered the following topics during the month of August: Civil Rights, Gender-based Violence, Community and Disinformation Campaigns

Library Assistant Enedina Prater held a Coloring for Grown-Ups program via Zoom in the beginning of August. Several customers who attended this Bazan program in person reunited online and were able to catch up with each other in addition to sharing their projects, old and new.

BROOK HOLLOW

This month with the ongoing demand for SAPL's curbside service, our circulation staff, who received an encore recognition for their hard work from Branch Manager Heidi Novotny, have been adjusting to helping patrons in our new integrated library system (ILS) and sharing their system knowledge with each other regularly. Staff made a concerted effort to promote the final month of the Mayor's Summer Reading Program handing out the final Take & Make crafts for all age groups and awarding prizes to finishers of the program. Brook Hollow's patron community read prolifically this summer, with over 300 children picking up their prize books, 12 teens picking up their t-shirts, and 50 adults going home with a new journal for completing their respective Summer Reading Program requirements.

Throughout August, Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas continued to provide services for children at a system-wide level and at Brook Hollow. Ms. Salinas along with three other children librarians offers Baby Time Online for caregivers and young children weekly through Zoom. Caregivers continue to provide positive feedback and express their gratitude for online programming. Ms. Salinas also co-hosted the Kids in the Kitchen online program that partners the library with the San Antonio Food Bank on Thursday mornings in August. At Brook Hollow, Ms. Salinas also continues to promote a Maker Kit with open-ended, process art activities for children in August. Additionally, the Summer Reading program finished in

August, and the Brook Hollow staff made every effort to distribute summer reading prize books to children that expressed completion of the program. Ms. Salinas also attended the Children in Nature virtual conference that promoted ways to take learning and programming outdoors. Ms. Salinas also continues to weekly edit more children's videos for the San Antonio Public Library's YouTube channel and write book reviews for the Children Service's blog.

Teen Librarian Julia finished her time as head of the Teen Summer program with a call for feedback from teen librarians and liaisons across the city in the form of a survey. The results were very positive with participants praising the flexibility and diverse offerings of both programs and craft kits offered to teens this summer. Ms. Pouliot and her team consider this feedback vital to their process of creatively and equitably bringing this program to teens in our community. While this year's program was different in many ways, it proved to be successful and engaging. Ms. Pouliot sincerely thanks all the staff that was involved in planning the program and especially thanks those who took the time to host one or multiple programs for our many teen participants.

Ms. Pouliot has been continuing her committee work this month with a stop at the Central Library to help pack Take & Make craft kits to promote Maker Faire happening later in September. Ms. Pouliot and the Maker Faire team invite you to participate digitally through Facebook on September, 26th from 11AM to 1PM as makers from around San Antonio showcase their skills.

Brook Hollow's Adult Services Librarian Marco De Leon has been working this reporting period to bring two virtual programs to the fold, a Dungeons & Dragons role playing game that will be played live over a social platform, and an interactive game called Spyfall where people have to guess who is the spy within the group while the spy tries to figure at what specific location the group is before the clock runs out. Both programs are scheduled to launch during the first half of October.

Mr. De Leon has also spent time creating a reader's advisory spreadsheet that is designed to help the branch's reference staff offer titles to patrons who call in requesting suggestions by genre and popularity. Finally, Mr. De Leon completed a much needed document listing the businesses located in the community that offer printing and internet services for patrons that need this service while our branch is closed to visitors. Both of these reference contributions have already been heavily used by fellow Brook Hollow staff members.

CARVER

The Adult Services Take & Makes proved to be a summer success. Patrons were pleasantly surprised when they received the mug art craft activity. Twenty-five mugs were given. Perhaps the most memorable outcome involved a regular Carver patron who received the supplies along with her hold items. Only after arriving back home did she realize the craft supplies were in her bag. She was surprised and happy to have received the mug and supplies. She said that staff made her day and thanked them repeatedly.

Texas Health and Human Services and the U.S. Center for Disease Control provided information on mosquito-borne illnesses. Awareness and prevention via pamphlets, stickers, magnets and other flyers were disseminated during contact free pick-up to promote community safety.

Children's Librarian Braulia Carrillo resumed outreach services with a new format -- Zoom. She used the platform for Storytime with the St. Philip's College Child Development Center. About 20 participants joined her for the first live Storytime session.

A system wide outage could not dampen the outlook of a Carver customer who arrived for a computer reservation only to realize the service was unavailable. He had driven from another part of the city. He only asked to use the public men's room before heading out. He said that Carver was a nice library and that he'd be back again. He added that the men's restroom was the cleanest he'd seen for a public restroom. He said to tell our custodian how clean and nice smelling it was.

CODY

August 2020 at the Ed Cody Branch Library saw the return of Children's Librarian Kristin Yourdon, the launch of Symphony, and several notes of thanks for the community for providing access to library material through the contact free pick up service.

Children's Librarian Kristin Yourdon hosted a virtual book club meeting for children on August 15th. During this meeting, children discussed Bluebonnet nominee *Nightbooks* by J.A. White, learned how to make a notebook out of a single sheet of paper, and read a portion of a short story that they had written prior to the club meeting. Yourdon also continued to work on the Art & Maker, Storytime, Virtual Book Club, and Future of the Library - Programming and Public Services workgroups.

Teen Librarian Amy Rae Weaver worked with colleagues across the San Antonio Public Library system to create opportunities for teens to experience the library during its closure. She provided Take & Make crafts for teens to pick up from the library, including paper rosettes to celebrate women's suffrage and DIY fortune tellers. To further support the City of San Antonio's 100 Years of Women Voting SA celebration, she and colleagues created several recommendation lists of relevant fiction, nonfiction, and online resources. In promotion of Maker Faire SA, she created animated GIFs that gave teens a sneak preview of the festivities.

Adult Services librarian Marcella McGowan attended the first COSA Black and African American Employee Affinity Group, submitted a book review for *Enemies in Love*, and continued working with colleagues on online programming.

Circulation Attendant David Guzman and Library Assistant Roxanne Macias continue their deployment with the City's Neighborhood & Housing Services Department helping to process housing assistance applications.

COLLINS GARDEN



Collins Garden Library continues to provide library services to the community via Non-Contact Pick-Up Service and limited computer appointments. Teen Services Librarian Daniella Toll has been actively working with SAPL's Teen Services Department to coordinate the San Antonio Maker Faire September 26th.

Two Collins Garden Library Team members are deployed part-time to serve in the city's housing department processing housing assistance applications. Library Assistant Carlos Loera and CGL Branch Manager Jeannette Davies provide online virtual programming for adults in the form of SAPL's Noon Time Helping of Cooking Thursday afternoons at Noon and have developed programs for SAPL's Hispanic Heritage Month. Cooking demonstrations are available via SAPL YouTube channel.

Children Librarian Gina Brudi filmed a Tiny Tots video on birds which will be featured on the SAPL YouTube channel in the upcoming months. Brudi also hosted an online Zoom book discussion group featuring *The Godfather* by Mario Puzo.

CORTEZ

Branch staff have kept their spirits high with a variety of team-building activities every Thursday. This month in addition to almost daily exercise sessions the staff decorated their picnic table with positive affirmations, made mock magazine covers, created beaded suncatchers, and did a simple weaving craft.

Branch Manager Cammie Brantley led Branch staff through the change to Symphony from Millennium. It was the fourth conversion project in her career so she knew there would be "hiccups" and frustrations. She is happy to report that while everyone is very much still learning that things are getting easier.

Adult Services Librarian Angela Morrow has been doing virtual programming and working with the Future of SAPL Collection Team through the month of August. Her craft video "Polymer Clay 2 Ways" for the Adult Services Craft Workgroup was featured in the August Monthly newsletter and through YouTube has garnered over 150 views. Cortez's Monster Meet is actively soliciting new clay monsters from the public to add to their indoor Monster Garden.

Children's Services Librarian Nicole Cubillas began planning fall/winter tween programming over Teams. She also began planning the NaNoWriMo Young Writers Program in collaboration with Christine Deffendall from Memorial Branch.

Teen Services Liaison Library Assistant Jo Ann Paredes reports that for Teen Time although it is necessary to do things in a different way that teens have been very active in picking up "Take & Make" craft kits. Cortez handed out seventy (70) kits this summer and nine (9) t-shirts. Jo Ann also created more kits on her own to hand out through the beginning of November. The "Getting Crafty" craft assignment emails are still going out. For the month of August the crafts were: t-shirt embroidery, planting ideas and Fall apron painting.

Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez used her artistic abilities to freshen up bulletin boards and displays. Currently there are very few users other than staff that get to see her efforts but it is a morale booster in any event.

ENCINO

Encino children have enjoyed picking up Take & Make crafts from the library weekly on Tuesdays. Librarians Ann Laird and Katy Dillard have worked on creating a different craft for each week and give away 30 crafts each Tuesday via the contactless pickup table.

Children's Librarian Ann Laird, as of August 22nd, has transferred into the position of Assistant Manager / Adult Services Librarian at Encino. She will continue to support children's services at Encino until a new children's librarian is hired. She has also jumped right in to adult services and signed up for the crafts and services to seniors committees.

Teen Services Librarian Heather Swindell has handed out the August teen craft kits compiled by the Teen Library at Central and given out the summer reading prize t-shirts to teen patrons. She also worked with other TS Librarians to create voting-themed book and resource lists, which were posted to Bibliocommons.

FOREST HILLS

Forest Hills continued serving the community through the no-contact pickup service. While the patrons miss their regular routines, they successfully learned the new procedures and have made the best of our new normal. Staff have also honed the process and work together to deliver seamless service. The lunch time hours are especially busy as patrons come out to pick up their requested holds.

Summer Reading at Forest Hills officially ended on the last day of August. Patrons of all ages enjoyed the Take & Make kits offered throughout the summer. The prizes for adults, children, and teens were very much appreciated by the recipients. Juvenile readers were pleased by the selection of their prize books by the library staff.

The Forest Hills team welcomed the new integrated library system on August 24th. Preparations for launch day included numerous training sessions for all staff. The team worked together to make the transition a successful one.

Forest Hills Branch is preparing for the upcoming closure at the end of September. Staff have been busy preparing the collection, clearing out materials, and making other necessary preparations. The community has been anxiously awaiting the closure and communication will be shared with all stakeholders in September regarding specific dates of closure.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Great Northwest Branch Library's Children's Librarian Cari Raley began her digital Take & Make packets in August. There are different packets for each week available for different age ranges. If patrons are unable to print out the packets at home, Ms. Raley also has physical Take & Make packets available for pick up at the branch along with book bundles. Ms. Raley is seeing interest in this resource grow every day! Ms. Raley also completed a video for tweens on how to make a marble run that is now in the editing process.



Throughout August, Teen Librarian Chris Castillo hosted virtual Teen Time on the 210teenlibrary Discord server. Teens attended the library's growing online community and responsively discussed topics regarding the Covid19 pandemic, gaming, returning to school in various capacities, art and graphic design, and promoted mental health and wellbeing. Teen Moderators on Discord have emerged as positive, identity-building opportunities. Teens self-initiated spontaneous, unscheduled activities online. Teens continued to collect their Summer Reading Program prizes and take-home DIY craft kits. Teens participated in an Open Call by submitting original artworks for future online exhibition.

Library assistant Kathleen Marascio planned and led the SAPL Spelling Bee. The online tournament challenged contestants to spell third through fifth grade level words on Zoom. Ms. Marascio's baking video SAPL Cooking Demos: Lemon Poppy Seed Cake was posted on the San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) YouTube page and she is working on another addition to the series.

Adult Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez reached out to patrons via the Remind app to inform patrons about summer reading Take & Make craft kits and Summer Reading Program prizes. She prepared Take & Make mug marbling craft kits for contact free distribution to adult patrons in August and September. Ms. Vazquez continues to work with the ESports Committee and the Adult Gaming workgroup to plan future virtual and Take & Make programs.

GUERRA

The Guerra Library continued providing contact-free pick up services. Patrons enjoyed the Take & Make kits for children, teens and adults. Employees participated in a fun "Where's Waldo?" team building activity in which Library Aide Santos Jimenez cleverly hid images of Waldo throughout the library. There were a total of 37 Waldo images for employees to find.

Interim Branch Manager Jernell Williams continued attending the check-in meetings for the adult programming and branch manager teams. On August 6, she attended the City Manager Town Hall webinar. On August 10, she attended training for Symphony, the new Integrated Library System (ILS) used to manage items owned, orders made, and materials borrowed. She attended the ILS Migration Preparedness meeting on August 11. Additionally, she completed online training on August 11, 15, 19, 25 and 28. The topics were Microsoft 365: Forms, Security Awareness Training, Eating Your Way to Wellness, Microsoft 365: Power Apps, and the Kaba Time Clock System. Ms. Williams attended the City of San Antonio Black & African American Employees Affinity Group webinar on August 14. This group is committed to embracing differences, improving processes, and creating an environment where opportunities are equitable and exist across the organization. She attended the San Antonio Public Library Virtual Board of Trustees meeting on August 26, and the Library Leadership Team meeting on August 27.

Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson attended weekly check-in meetings and collaborated with work groups on Microsoft Teams to provide virtual programming options. She added weekly program offerings from the group to the *Preschool* LibGuide and continued to update the "Early Literacy Tips" page on the LibGuide. On August 5, she co-hosted a virtual writing workshop for children 5 -12 years old, where author Carolyn Dee Flores shared her experiences and provided inspiration for writing and bookmaking. Ms. Richardson attended the City Manager Town Hall webinar on August 6. On August 13, she co-hosted The San Antonio Food Bank's Kids in the Kitchen interactive class. On August 14, she attended Microsoft 365: Forms training. She completed training for Symphony and August Security Awareness. She listened to two Open Book webcasts "Curbside Library Services that Delight" and "Reaching Patrons with Take-Home Programs." Ms. Richardson remained in contact with six outreach locations. She worked with them

throughout the summer and registered 401 children for the Summer Reading Program 2020. One hundred percent of children who registered completed the program. Children 0 - 6 years old received book vouchers and certificates. Children 7 - 12 years old received selected book prizes and certificates. With the assistance of the Library Aides, she created 35 Take & Make kits for children 6 –12 years old.

Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson assisted the Willie Cortez Senior Center in preparing and distributing meals for senior citizens on August 20. On August 21, he recorded El gran, gran, GRAN dinosaurio (The really, really, really big dinosaur) by Richard Byrne for Dial-a-Story in Spanish.

Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry continued attended the Teen Services, ESports Committee, Makers Faire, Future of the Library, and San Antonio Public Library Toastmasters meetings. He was the moderator for the ESports Committee's panel discussions entitled "ESports and Diversity," and "Future of ESports." Mr. Mayberry recorded two podcast episodes. On August 6, he attended the City Manager Town Hall webinar. On August 14, he attended the City of San Antonio Black & African American Employees Affinity Group webinar.

IGO

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance continued collaborating with children's librarians Jasmin Salinas, Robin Alcorta, and Tiffany Durham in presenting the new Baby Time Online program. Attendance is lower than what in-house programming was, but it has been well-received and there have been regular attendees through the month of August. Participants and librarians are enjoying all that Baby Time is known for: singing, talking, playing, reading and writing activities that are geared for infants through confident walkers. Ms. Vance also began collaborating on another team in the planning stages for bringing Toddler Time Online soon.

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance still facilitates The Stitchery via Zoom every Sunday afternoon. Attendance is good, with an average of 7 fiber enthusiasts each week, and participants come from all parts of the city and some from out of state. This has proven to be an advantage to the virtual format. Participants have enjoyed being able to connect with one another and share their projects both finished and in progress. Projects vary widely from baby blankets and toys to sweaters and socks.

Igo Elderberries had 4 online meetings in August. They had a discussion on Childhood Memoirs and 10 people attended for that program. The second meeting was on August 13 and it was a presentation by Writer Laura Glueck, "Using Mind, Body and Soul to Focus Your Life Writing". Another presentation by Writer Laura Glueck on "Sharing your Soul" was presented online and 7 people attended that program.

In August, the teen services librarian Laura Herman hosted a Dungeons and Dragons meeting through Discord. Four teens attended and it is completely run by the teens.

On August 19, Keith Thibodeaux, City of San Antonio's Health and Wellness expert presented a Wellness program on "If You Don't Snooze You Lose. During the program Keith discussed the importance of sleep, common sleep disorders, and tips for a better sleep. Adult Service Librarian Gamini Haluwana co-moderated the program.

JOHNSTON

Johnston Branch Library welcomed the start of the new Symphony Integrated System as a team ready to take on new challenges to serve our community. Johnston continued limited Contact Free Curbside

Pickup and Computer appointment services daily. Branch Manager Monica Bustillo returned from her leave on August 18.

Assistant Manager Cristine Mitchamore completed her term as Interim Branch Manager and Johnston welcomed back Branch Manager Monica Garza Bustillo. Ms. Mitchamore continued moderating and prompting discussions of literature and themes in the library's GoodReads group. Ms. Mitchamore attended additional training on Symphony. Ms. Mitchamore attended training on the Office 365 tool Forms.

Teen Librarian Shannan Prukop continued leading the Tryday Friday program through the Teen Services Discord server, using different tabletop roleplaying games to encourage flexible thinking and problem solving. As part of the First Day of Hogwarts group, she helped contribute ideas and build kits to distribute starting in September for interested community members, emphasizing the equality of the wizarding world. She also gave a book talk for her Teen Services peers during the monthly meeting, and helped contribute to teen book lists for BiblioCommons on voting and voting rights.

Children's Librarian, Miss Tiffany, continued to engage with library families through online programming and during contact-free pickups providing craft kits, book bundle activity sheets and book recommendations. With the conclusion of the Summer Reading Program (SRP) she presented prize books, completion certificates and bags of sidewalk chalk to Finishers and even created Upcycling Paper Craft Take & Make Kits using the remaining SRP logs and certificates to be distributed in September. Miss Tiffany's work in the Storytime and Play & Learn Work Groups kept her engaged with the other SAPL Children's Services Librarians and with the needs of the community. She hosted the regular Friday morning Children's Services Zoom Program, Baby Time Online, and started planning for the upcoming Storytime Program for Zoom. For professional development Miss Tiffany continues to research and learn from Project Ready's Reimagining Equity and Access for Diverse Youth.

Library Assistant, Elsy Jackson attended an online training class: Symphony Training in 5 Parts on August 20, 2020 and also watched and took the quizzes for the Security Awareness Training modules: Vishing - Gone Vishing and Stolen Laptop – Go Grande. Ms. Jackson also contributed by translating the Book Bundle Activities Sheets into Spanish. She serves as a regular contributor to Telecuentos (Dial-a-Story in English), and she recorded one children's book on August 18: Rosa Pionera, Ingeniera by Andrea Beaty. She also continues serving the community with the library services.

LANDA

Children - Hosted a Summerfest Professor Universe Watch Party with Leslie from Schaeffer on zoom. The group watched Professor Universe short videos and did a poll about each video with the kids. They loved it!

Baby time online with Jasmin (Brook Hollow), Tiffany (Johnston), and Carrie (Igo) is a success. It is so great to sing songs and rhymes and read a story with the little ones! We offer early literacy tips and after the program gather into smaller break out rooms to get to know the families.

Teens - Landa Teens continued to pick up Take & Make kits and teen t shirts as summer wrapped up. Library Assistant and Teen Liaison Rebekah Corley attended the Teen Services monthly meeting to keep connected with colleagues and discuss future programming and services. Ms. Corley contacted local middle grade and high schools for outreach and service opportunities. Ms. Corley was also designated a "Symphony Super-User" with her Landa coworker Greg Cruz and the two worked with the branch team to support the ILS transition.

Adult - Adult Services Librarian, Karen Sebesta, is meeting her three book clubs online through the Zoom format. These include Reader's Ink, Landa Mystery Book Club, and the book club outreach for The Village at the Incarnate Word.

In addition, Karen has partnered with the San Antonio Food Bank in the "Viva Bien! Live Well With Diabetes" series. This series continues through mid-September.

Adults enjoyed the take-and-make marble mug craft! And by the end of August, all of the journals had been given to Landa's adult readers.

LAS PALMAS

Valerie Shelley, Children's Librarian, has worked on the Storytime and the Babies and Toddlers Committees making curated activities for the internet programming offered to the public. She also finished Summer Reading giving out awards to those children who finished the program. Twenty-seven children finished. She also packaged materials to make the SAPL system-wide Take & Make craft kits. Fourteen kits were passed out to children.

Teen crafts have continued to be popular at Las Palmas. The branch gave out 83 craft kits over the summer. Teen Services Librarian Connie Hejl oversees the weekly online teen anime club (renamed Random Fandom) where teens can talk about their favorite movies, tv shows, anime and whatever else they are into.

MAVERICK

On the final day in August, Maverick ended its 2020 Summer Reading. Although unable to celebrate in the usual fashion, Maverick readers enjoyed many of the popular "Take & Make Kits" and the Notebook/Pen kits for reading during the summer! In August, the Maverick Team welcomed Symphony, SAPL's new integrated library system! With months preparing for this new transition, Maverick staff worked diligently together solving and learning the many new features. Maverick continues serving the community through the contactless curb service. Many customers have eagerly expressed interest in the library returning to normal; yet, so many customers are pleased knowing SAPL is open.

During the reporting period, kids continued to turn in their summer reading logs and picked up their book prizes. It was a pleasant surprise, during this not so normal summer, that 156 kids completed the program at Maverick!

Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts, had meetings and trainings during the reporting period. She attended 2 children's librarians meetings on August 13 and August 27. In addition, she attended a Tiny Tots committee meeting via Zoom that focuses on programming and activities for children ages 0-3. Since the library acquired a new ILS, Symphony, Ms. Roberts attended trainings on August 15 and on August 21 to learn about this important software instrumental to her job.

Maverick's Zoom Teen meeting is faithfully attended by three Teens, one of whom is a volunteer, and other Teens occasionally pop in as well. Volunteers continue to earn Volunteer hours by recommending Take & Make craft ideas and the Teens are giving informal book talks, recommending music and media to one another. Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl coordinated with Mavericks Friends of the Library, who continue to generously purchase craft supplies for the Take & Make kits.

McCRELESS

Librarian Yamada Lokensgard created a video on how to make mini notebooks from cereal boxes, and premiered on August 18th. Based on that craft demo, she created paper instructions to go with a branch Take & Make in September. Ms. Yamada also completed the Symphony training and the Security Awareness training for August.

Librarian DeBow has contributed to several book lists for teens, including a “Votes for All” list of books and resources for teens about voting. Librarian DeBow has also been in contact with Highlands High School and Jubilee Academy with information about library services to teens and to brainstorm ideas for future outreach. Librarian DeBow began working two days a week at the branch and has been instrumental in organizing and packing up supplies in anticipation for the upcoming major renovation. In addition, DeBow has created several Take & Make kits for teens and helped Emma Hernandez put together the Adult Services Hispanic Heritage Month Take & Makes. DeBow has also served as LIC while Manager Megan Stanley juggles her duties between McCreless and San Pedro branches. Along with all the SAPL staff members, DeBow has been preparing for the ILS switch to Symphony by attending training and completing training questions.



MEMORIAL

Children's - For the August 11 Dial-a-Story, Children's Librarian Christine Deffendall recorded *The Red Hen*, by Rebecca Emberly and Ed Emberly.

For the August 28 Dial-a-Story, Mrs. Deffendall recorded *Henry and Bea*, by Jessixa Bagley.

She also reviewed the book *The Land of Roar*, for the Children's Services Blog on August 18.

Mrs. Deffendall began planning virtual programs with both the Toddler Time work group and the Preschool Storytime workgroup. She will read and sing for at least one Zoom-based Toddler Time in September, and play the role of host for a Zoom-based Storytime in October.

Teens - Circulation Attendant and Teen services liaison Michelangelo Sosa has maintained contact with the English Dept. at Holy Cross High School and KIPP Academy about the resources available to them through the San Antonio Public Library for staff and for students as they prepare for the school year.

Mr. Sosa initiated work with a colleague to leverage the LibGuides to work for the branch at the branch level. The pair started experimenting with SEO (Search Engine Optimization) settings and a more

advanced User Interface to give patrons an improved browsing experience. Information is delivered to patrons in a user friendly method that would increase engagement, presence and awareness of the branch's events and contact-free programs for the community.

Memorial Branch's Facebook group is maintained by Mr. Sosa and through this avenue he continually interacts with and engages patrons. The combination of social media efforts by the branch will maintain the branch's status as a pillar in the community even if patrons do not enter the branch physically.

Facebook Group, and physical flyers though curbside checkout service make the community aware of the fact that the branch has Voter Registration Applications and Application for Ballot by Mail available along with the election deadlines approaching in October and November. We want the community to not feel so estranged to the election process, and to answer as many questions as possible prior to the early voting and Election Day periods.

MISSION

Mission Branch Library continues to be one of the 9 locations at which the public can use the computers by appointment, and in addition, offers Contact-Free Pick Up the other part of the day.

Mission Branch Library continues to give away many Take & Make kits to customers during Contact-Free Pick Up hours. Library Assistant Jessica Viera and Mari Castellano continue to make various Adult Take & Make kits; Ms. Castellano has been working with the ESports Committee on National Video Game Day to make Take & Makes for that event as well. System-wide Children's and Adult Take & Make kits were also distributed. A total of 50 Children's kits were given out. A variety of Teen Take & Make kits were also given out throughout the month.

Adult Services Librarian Kassandra Vela-Laosa, continues to work with the Crafting Live Streaming Committee. She created a craft video for a Pet Cooling Blanket that premiered on San Antonio Public Library's YouTube channel on August 14th and featured in SAPL's first edition of an e-newsletter specifically featuring programs for adults. The video received about 250 views.

Mission said farewell to Teen Librarian Emily Young who found a job in her home state of Utah and welcomed back Teen Librarian Cynthia Cruz who in years past had been the Teen Librarian at Mission.

PAN AMERICAN

Children's Librarian Monica Huerta's "All Things Tween" LibGuide has received 353 individual views for the month of August 2020. Monica and her work group released their first recorded virtual program where customers were given the option to pick up a supply kit at their nearest library. The team wished to increase interactivity by combining virtual programming with supplies to follow along with at home.

Ms. Huerta put together Take & Make crafts to be offered to young customers during curbside service. In an effort to bring her joy of reading to more children, Monica hosted her first book club session with the Adventurers Book Club, a virtual book club created by a fellow Children's Librarian.

Additionally, Ms. Huerta has contributed to a colleague's program "1st Day at Hogwarts," which has been highly popular.

Library assistant Cassie Garza created a teen time program in a box for Pan American teens. The box of programs contained an activity for each week of August. The crafts and activities were projects the teens at Pan American had done before and some news ideas were included as well. All supplies for the crafts and activities were provided inside the box. All kits were handed out by the end of the month.

Ms. Garza also recorded, moderated and edited three videos for the Esport panelist discussion series. The recordings each had different speakers and touched upon various topics related to ESports and the local ESports community found within San Antonio.

Ms. Garza assisted as a moderator for two recordings for the SAPL Podcast group. The recordings were follow ups to the ESports panelist discussions. The topics discussed were the future of ESports in San Antonio and diversity in ESports.

Ms. Garza assisted Kathleen Marascio, library assistant at Great Northwest Library and Stephanie Vazquez, Assistant manager at Great Northwest Library with a virtual spelling bee. The virtual spelling bee consisted of words from 3rd, 4th and 5th grade levels. People of all ages were invited to participate. Participants had to register for the event to either be a contestant or spectator. This program used Zoom to video chat between library staff and participants.

Adult Services Librarian Adrian Leal created several Take & Makes for the adults of Pan American Branch. A crinkled tropical fish craft and marble mug kit were two of the take home projects. Each kit comes with all the crafts and instructions for patrons.

Mr. Leal also assisted with the coordination, planning and presentation of the Live Online Chess Game. Patrons are invited to login and challenge a librarian at a game of chess. Those that are not playing can spectate while discussing strategies and other game tips.

PARMAN

In the month of August we completed SRP, but the main event was unveiling the highly anticipated new ILS Symphony. The Parman team acclimated well to the new system and made sure that patrons receive the best customer service as before, and DS is alerted about any little quirks discovered along the way.

During the unexpected outage that most of the system experienced, Parman staff was happy to handle the unexpected high volume of calls from frustrated patrons, serving their needs and explaining the situation.

The introduction of the new punching system KABA IVR brought the team together to help each other to not miss the punch (clock punch).

Parman Library Aides, under the guidance of the branch manager, undertook a massive, but necessary shifting process. In order to provide more space and shelving to meet the new demands and start to prepare for the future New Normal of the hold shelf, Parman Aides shelved and re-shelved hundreds of books without disruption to library services in a very timely manner. It was quite a feat. Facility helped to rearrange the shelving units. Extensive weeding of the adult collection, at the beginning of the month, had laid the ground for these moves.

As the Mayor's Summer Reading Program wound down in August, Parman had another big group of finishers who claimed their reading prize books. In lieu of "in-person" programming Lisa Taylor and

Teague Shosh are still working with the Children's Services librarians to create virtual content. Lisa continues as a Co-Lead of the Video Editing Team. She edited several videos from the Storytime work group and continues to review the editing of the SAPL YouTube videos produced by the children's librarians. She worked with Marketing to schedule YouTube Premieres for the various Children's Services work groups. Together with several librarians from the Storytime Work Group she is preparing to do Live Storytime Zoom programs in early October.

Teague has stepped up as co-chair of the Tween committee and, in addition to making sure the LibGuide content was frequently updated, worked with her team to plan tween programming for the remainder of the year. The Kids in the Kitchen program with the San Antonio Food Bank officially ended on August 6, but due to popular demand the first two classes were repeated for those who might have missed them when they were originally hosted. She also contributed to the Here for You LibGuide by locating and adding back-to-school resources from the library collection for kids, and joined the STEM team where she is collaborating on fall projects.

Many Adult Summer Reading Prizes were claimed by Parman patrons in August. The Adult Summer Reading Prize was a fancy notebook and pen and it was nice to see that most of the prize winners were delighted with their award. Mr. Holcomb has continued to maintain the re-established connections with several Adult Book Groups that had been active prior to the close downs in March. Mr. Holcomb continues to do his best to fulfill their expected book requests in a very timely fashion considering the circumstances.

POTRANCO

Potranco Branch Library has continued to provide top-notch Contact-Free Service. Patrons of the library are very appreciative of our service and continue to steadily use the library.

Library Assistant Lisa Leandro hosted virtual adult coloring. Those in attendance spend the hour chatting while coloring. For some, this is their social time during the pandemic.

Potranco's I Heart Vinyl program brought in over 15 visitors to our Playlists. Every two weeks, a playlist is curated by Potranco staff and uploaded to Spotify. Musicals and Movie Soundtracks was the most recent theme of the I Heart Vinyl program.

Potranco Branch Library entered a partnership with the YMCA by providing 10 laptops for use in their E-Learning Environment. This program provides computers and high speed internet for families that do not have access to technology at home. Students use these devices in the building to access their online courses.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Children's Librarian Lucy Humphrey has selected a book for the new Virtual Kids Book Club for tweens. The librarian and library assistant created more "Take & Make" crafts for the month of August. They are currently planning more take and crafts and brainstorming new virtual event ideas for September.

Teen world for the month of August began with teen summer reading shirts for our winners! Our Take & Makes included card making with string art created with yarn and sparkled pipe cleaners. We created San

Antonio map magnets, provided chalk art, gave out holographic instructions to use with your phone, and beaded bracelet kits to create personalized jewelry.

Library Assistant Catrina Grivich has had the pleasure of creating amazing crafts to give to our adult public patrons. Many patrons expressed their gratitude as they have enjoyed assembling them for themselves but especially engaging in quality time with their family. We are looking forward to our first Virtual Book Club on September 25th with our new Adult Services Librarian.

SAN PEDRO

San Pedro Library offered another round of Take & Make crafts for children – this time, two types of finger puppets. As our Summer Reading Program came to a close, staff continued to make things special for finishers with personal congratulations at the door and the opportunity to emblazon their names in chalk on the sidewalk.

Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler worked with the school librarian at St. Anthony's Catholic School to get access for the students to the SORA app through Overdrive connecting them with the SAPL collection. The branch continues its service to the nearby early childhood center Lil Munchkins, by dropping off a bundle of books each month and awarding 10 kids for completing the Summer Reading Program.

Branch staff put out the word on our windows with a colorful display that we have what they need to register to vote!

On



August 5, 1930 the San Pedro Park Branch Library first opened its doors to the public. Even though the pandemic has limited celebrations, the staff could not let the special occasion pass without some fanfare. Staff enjoyed cake and “bubbly” while listening to music of the 1930s with our special guest!

SCHAEFER

Summer Reading programming concluded at the end of July, and even though this year's Summer Reading looked a bit different than past summers, a SummerFest celebration took place on Aug. 1. Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser co-hosted a watch party on Zoom for a series of Professor Universe videos, which were videos about science. She and Robin from Landa played a video and then chatted and gave the participants poll questions. The audience enjoyed the videos and especially liked answering

the questions. The Mayor's Summer Reading club finished at the end of August, and around 100 Schaefer readers received a free book for reading during the summer.

Children's Librarians participated in Children in Nature on Aug. 13, a professional development opportunity available online that provided outside activity suggestions to people who work with kids.

In the month of August, Dacari Lambert, the Teen Librarian for Schaefer Branch Library worked closely alongside the adult and children's services librarian's to create and distribute family crafts, as well as appropriate age-based crafts for summer reading and programming. Dacari created 24 back to school craft bags for teens with information about homework help, digital services, computer access, and fall virtual programming. Dacari spent a significant amount of time focusing in on work for the Teen Equity workgroup which is focusing efforts on how to continue to provide and improve services offered to teens during the partial closure of SAPL.

On Sunday, August 30th, Library Assistant BlancaSilvia Hernandez posted Schaefer's first online program of the new bi-weekly "I ♥ Vinyl (Digital Edition)" program for adults and seniors. The first program was Beatles themed. 23 patrons clicked on the playlist and 19 patrons clicked on the bibliocommons list to browse SAPL's collection of related items

The Schaefer Library Skimmer's Book Club met via Zoom on Tuesday Aug 25th. The book discussion was moderated by Library Assistant Julie Ernst, this month's selection was What Happened that Night by Sandra Block, a riveting account of a most heinous crime committed on the grounds of one of America's most hallowed and revered institution of higher learning. The book discussion was lively and the participants enjoyed the camaraderie, they thanked us for continuing the book club during this pandemic.

SEMMEs

Semmes Library welcomed a new Assistant Manager, Mark Hall, recently of Encino Library. While the first month is always full of learning new things and new procedures for the branch, Mark's experience with both SAPL and Symphony ensured that he fit in quickly, providing on-site instruction and best practices tips for working with the new ILS. We are looking forward to seeing more of his work, and enjoying the fruits of his expertise, in the coming months.

Children's Librarian Valerie Carroll made 46 Take & Make craft kits for the branch this month. The crafts focused on Process Art. Process Art is art that is child-directed, choice-driven, and celebrates the experience of discovery. Various supplies such as contact paper, tissue paper, feathers, craft sticks and beads were provided. Families love the craft kits and are grateful that the library is providing these for the public.

All Semmes staff members are enjoying learning the new ILS, Symphony. It has been an exciting few weeks with staff discovering new ways to use the ILS to best serve library customers.

THOUSAND OAKS

Children's Librarian- Lea Ann McDonald created a series of three Storytime videos—Mindfulness for Children. They will be promoted through Marketing and will air on the SAPL YouTube channel each week in September. Each video focuses on how to positively process and work with strong feelings, encouraging parents and children to develop strategies to stay calm and centered.

Due to the success of the Kids Time To-Go Kits, the Children's librarians unanimously decided to continue this idea for fall on a monthly basis system-wide. Ms. Lea Ann is leading this new work group-- Take & Create. This group is also collaborating with other work groups to create interrelated video content and process art kits. In September the Take & Create group will assemble the materials to be sent to each branch.

At the branch level, Children's continues to be attentive to our patrons needs by creating book bundles, selecting books for parents and children and promoting Summer Reading logs and prizes.

Librarian Kimberly King attended the monthly meeting with the Teen Team to keep informed about things going on in the Teen Library. Ms. King made sure the summer Take & Make crafts were stocked every week during the summer months and made some additional ones when the premade selections ran out. She also attended a few webinars on teenagers and library usage.

On August 5, Ms. Mjolsness co-hosted a virtual Ayurveda program; this month's topic was Food as Medicine. The program had approximately 28 attendees and engagement during the program was high.

Ms. Mjolsness co-hosted virtual beginner's chair yoga programs on August 14 and 28. The chair yoga series has seen a steady increase in attendance over the past few months and continues to grow.

At the request of workgroup members, Ms. Mjolsness served as chat moderator for cooking programs called Noon Time Helping of ... hosted on August 13, 15, 20 and 27. The program series is hosted weekly and covers various recipes and kitchen topics.

August 28 saw the fourth SAPL Live Trivia program with Ms. Mjolsness acting as Master of Ceremonies. The popular program is held monthly and continues to grow quickly in attendance.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

Tobin Library at Oakwell branch finished the Summer Reading programs with Take & Make crafts for all ages. Kids enjoyed summer bloom and cool treats crafts in August created by various staff. Lots of adults received the nice San Antonio Public Library journal give away prize as these ran out before the end of the month. Similarly, nearly all of the teen T-shirts were shared and enjoyed by teens.

Branch personnel all completed the Symphony training and adjusted very well to the new Integrated Library System when the migration took place. Staff have shared positive comments about the many enhancements as well as adjustments made for some unanticipated challenges.

Assistant Manager, Rhonda Woolhouse, hosted a new program as part of the Adult Services Pop Culture sub-committee called Speak Geek. The program was promoted with flyers given out in curbside bags that included bubble wrap for stress relief and to invite folks to the on-line event. People chat online about topics like movies, TV, anime, gaming, and anything pop culture. Plans are being made for guests in future sessions.

Children's Librarian, Barbaraella Frazier, serves as Wellness Ambassador for both Tobin and Pan Am. She provided a Take & Make painting craft for all employees to enjoy this month.

Curbside services continue to be very popular and appreciated by the many Tobin patrons utilizing this service, some with several visits to Tobin in a week.

WESTFALL

In August, the Westfall Branch Library continued to provide “contact free” pickup of library materials for the community. Additionally, the branch continued to offer public computer access by appointment. Computer access is still very much needed in the community and all computer appointment times are booked every day. Like last month, the Westfall branch served as a community cooling center during public service hours in a limited capacity. Residents were welcomed to seek relief from the South Texas heat this summer at the library. While no in person library services could be provide, WI-FI access was still available.

Children’s Librarian, Imelda Merino has been in communication with a teacher at Colonial Hills Elementary who was thrilled to find out that SAPL’s digital library collection was available to her students through Overdrive’s “Public Library Connect” program.

Ms. Merino reported she and her colleagues have been busy updating the “SAPL is Here for You” LibGuide. The guide also included new and updated resources for the “Supporting Parents and Caregivers” and “School Help” pages. A special section on children’s mental health under the “Support for Parents and Caregivers” page also included websites and recommended books.

Adult Services Librarian, Angelina Cortes, joined the SAPL Books and Literary programming group and is developing ideas for Story Chains and/or Socrates Café virtual meet-ups. LEARN@SAPL Training Officer, Michelle Rickman and Angelina began working on ESL story chains that can be done virtually in an attempt to sustain the ESL student community at Westfall prior to COVID-19 pandemic.

Westfall teen volunteers continue to host a weekly Virtual Book Club on the 210 Teen Library Discord Server called “Bookworms.” Book club teens completed their reading and discussion of “Fahrenheit 451.” They voted to read “Murder on the Orient Express” as their next selection. Along with the reading of novels and discussions, teens also participate in word searches, Jeopardy-style trivia games, and murder mystery games.

August 28th was the last day at the Westfall Branch for Teen Librarian, Cynthia Cruz. Cynthia will be transferring to the Mission Branch Library on the Southside. The staff at Westfall will be missed and enjoyed their time working with her. Farewell and good luck Cindy!

In August the LEARN Line at the Westfall Branch Library was able to help several patrons in tricky situations. One patron came back to the branch to renew his food handler’s certificate just as he did two years ago. Through many phone conversations, several computer appointments, and a coordinated effort between on-site branch staff, he was finally successful. Another patron called in to learn about appealing his unemployment benefits denial. He had been unsuccessful elsewhere, both in explaining what he needed to do and finding assistance. The Training Officer, Michelle Rickman was able to locate an appropriate form through the Texas Workforce Commission, and then coordinate the printing and pick-up between staff and patrons.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY KEY INDICATORS

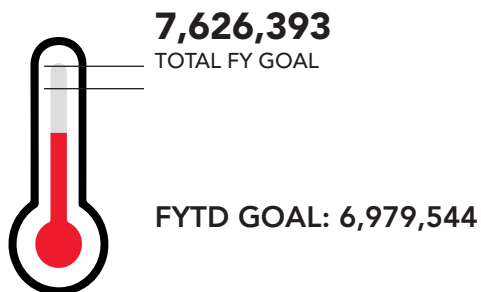
Presented below are key indicators that align with the Library's Strategic Plan.

AUGUST 2020

Note:

Physical library locations were closed for COVID-19 from March 14 - June 15, 2020. FY 2020

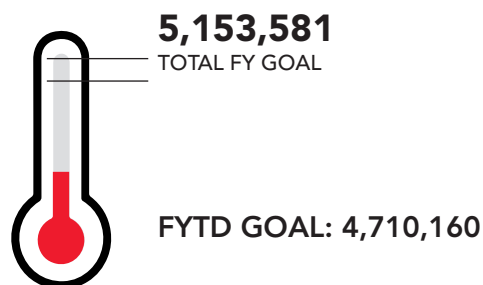
CIRCULATION: GOAL



CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR 2020



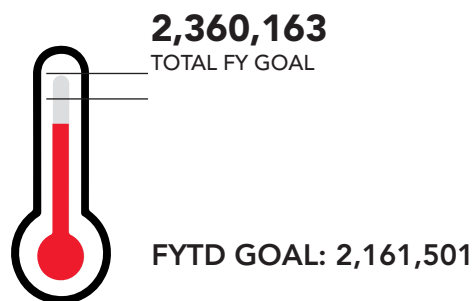
LIBRARY VISITS: GOAL



LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2020



DIGITAL ACCESS: GOAL



DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR 2020



1,815,398

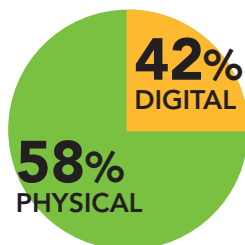
TOTAL HOURS OF
COMPUTER & WI-FI USE

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

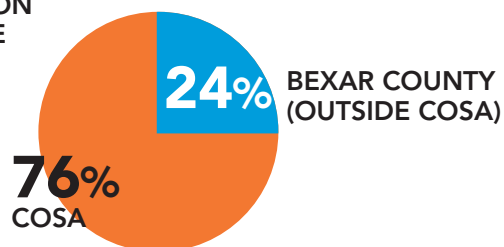
AUGUST 2020 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2020

CIRCULATION
BY TYPE



CIRCULATION
BY SERVICE
AREA



VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2020



1,674,580
MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

935,240
MYSAPL
APP SESSIONS

1,403,710
OVERDRIVE
SITE VISITS

4,960,198
SOCIAL MEDIA
IMPRESSIONS

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2020



152,248
TOTAL ATTENDANCE

26,199
ADULT PROGRAMS

23,175
TEEN PROGRAMS

102,874
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

145 PROGRAM VIDEOS UPLOADED

22,962 PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS

AUGUST MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS



**HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED
THE SORA APP BY OVERDRIVE?**

If you're a student at one of the participating school districts, you get unlimited access to:

- SAPL's Digital Collection without a library card!
- Popular and school approved reading lists.

Partnership possible thanks to OverDrive Education.



SAN ANTONIO
PUBLIC LIBRARY

OverDrive

@mysapl

eBooks for all

You can check out eBooks from our Digital Library, even if you have fines or fees on your card.



@mysapl

SAN ANTONIO
PUBLIC LIBRARY

HOORAY!
UPGRADES ARE NOW COMPLETE!



SAN ANTONIO
PUBLIC LIBRARY

@mysapl

Tuesday, August 25
6:30-7:30 p.m.



**SPEAK
GEEK**
at San Antonio Public Library

Join us for a new monthly program on the last Tuesday of each month where we'll discuss all your favorite fandoms and all things geek!
Registration is required.

San Antonio Public Library

August 2020 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	252	299	3,351	144	3,207
Brook Hollow	8,012	2,229	956	0	956
Carver	417	307	1,822	93	1,729
Central	3,612	5,970	11,266	0	11,266
Cody	8,445	2,190	1,583	0	1,583
Collins Garden	715	616	2,472	63	2,409
Cortez	686	278	1,927	75	1,852
Encino	4,863	1,071	2,060	0	2,060
Forest Hills	1,213	217	1,052	0	1,052
Great Northwest	6,278	644	2,041	0	2,041
Guerra	1,432	350	1,487	0	1,487
Igo	10,097	1,566	2,155	0	2,155
Johnston	1,624	670	1,143	94	1,049
Landa	3,194	872	822	0	822
Las Palmas	383	102	1,579	0	1,579
Maverick	5,910	1,423	1,438	0	1,438
McCreless	1,524	445	1,047	0	1,047
Memorial	776	486	1,366	0	1,366
Mission	1,735	739	1,213	125	1,087
Pan American	735	300	1,158	51	1,107
Parman	8,858	1,779	696	0	696
Potranco	3,360	716	6,588	0	6,588
Pruitt	1,158	220	546	0	546
San Pedro	649	147	960	0	960
Schaefer	1,451	1,494	1,866	106	1,760
Semmes	6,149	1,355	1,856	0	1,856
Thousand Oaks	1,830	528	1,830	0	1,830
Tobin	5,203	1,302	1,170	0	1,170
Westfall	2,257	849	4,214	162	4,052
Kampmann Library Portal	0	0	107	N/A	107
Interlibrary Loan Lending	131	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	34,810	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	225,839	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	353,598	29,164	61,772	914	60,858

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

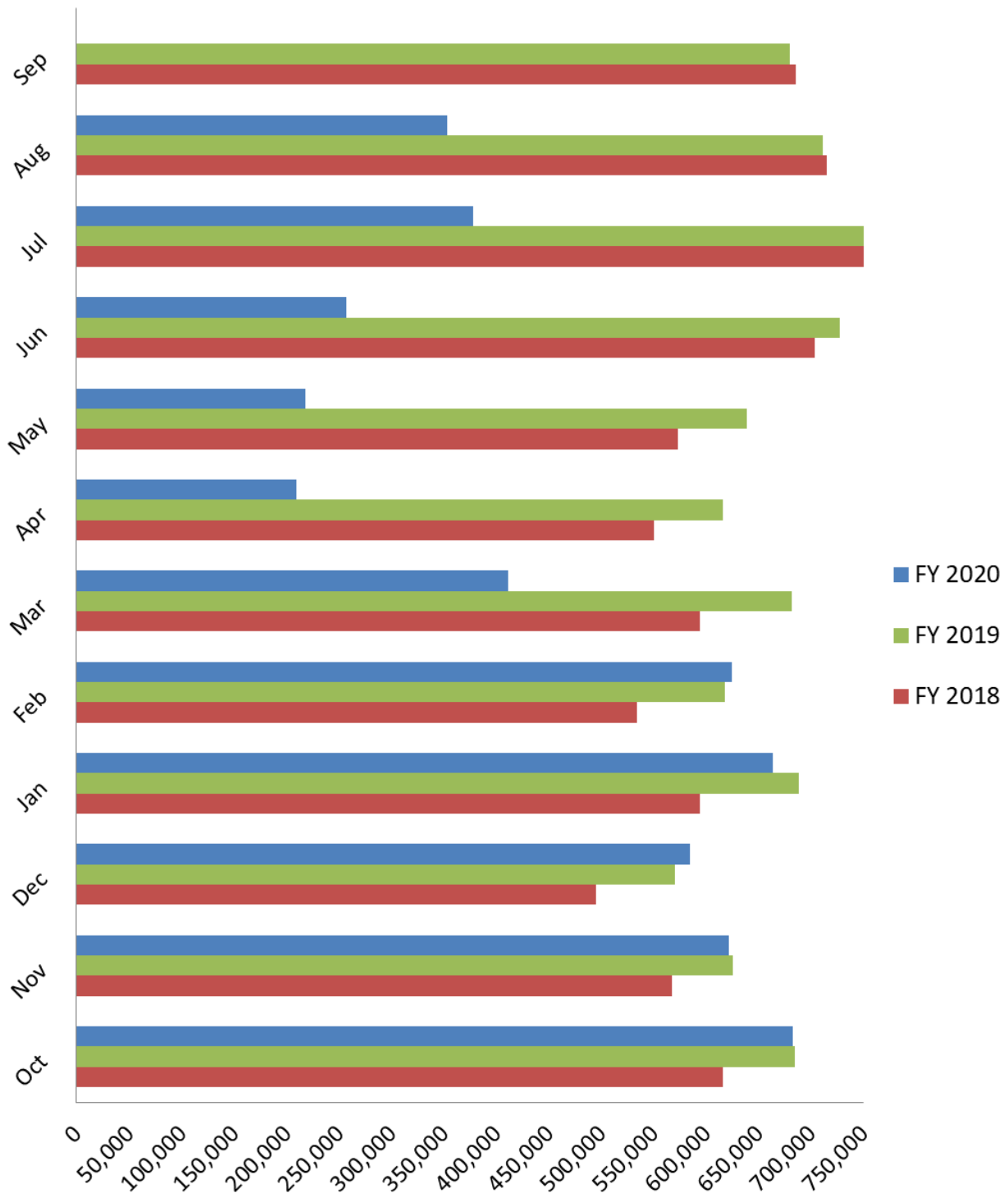
San Antonio Public Library

August 2020 Programs and Attendance

Location	Total Live Programs	Number of Programs			Total Live Program Attendance	Adult Program Attendance	Teen Program Attendance	Children's Program Attendance
		Adult	Teen	Children's				
Bazan	18	18	0	0	140	140	0	0
Brook Hollow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central	56	8	26	22	771	112	153	506
Cody	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Collins Garden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cortez	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encino	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forest Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Northwest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guerra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Igo	14	13	1	0	101	97	4	0
Johnston	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Landa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Las Palmas	28	12	5	11	28	12	5	11
Maverick	4	0	4	0	14	0	14	0
McCreless	1	1	0	0	8	8	0	0
Memorial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pan American	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parman	5	2	0	3	53	6	0	47
Potranco	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pruitt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Pedro	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schaefer	7	3	0	4	207	73	0	134
Semmes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thousand Oaks	8	8	0	0	71	71	0	0
Tobin	2	2	0	0	29	29	0	0
Westfall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kampmann Library Portal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Read Wagon	1	N/A	N/A	1	8	N/A	N/A	8
TOTAL	146	69	36	41	1,430	548	176	706

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures

09/17/2020

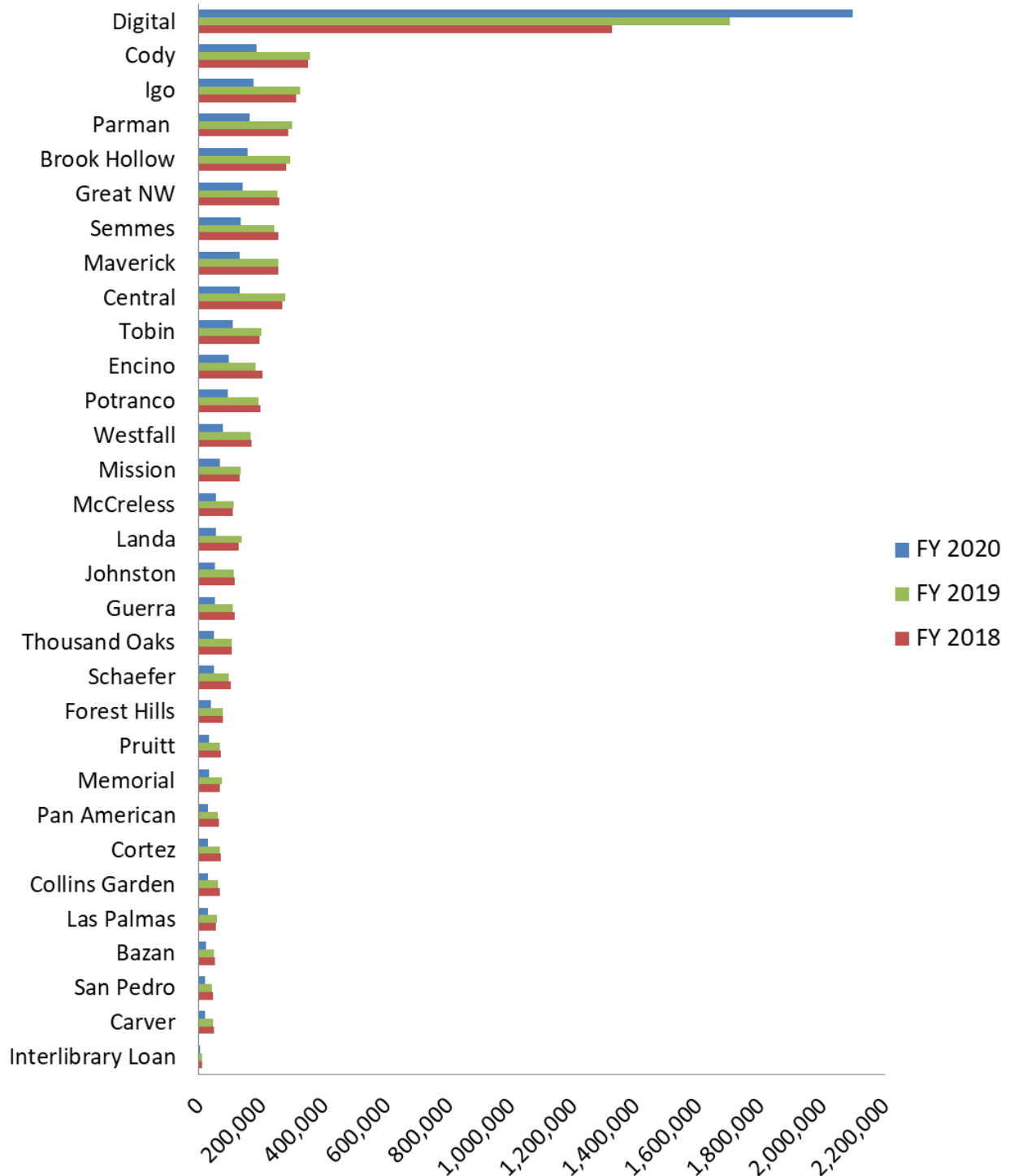
FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Jun 1, **All physical locations from Mar 14 through Jun 15 due to COVID-19**, Pruitt Jun 30-Jul 13

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

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Aug 2020



Location Closures

09/17/2020

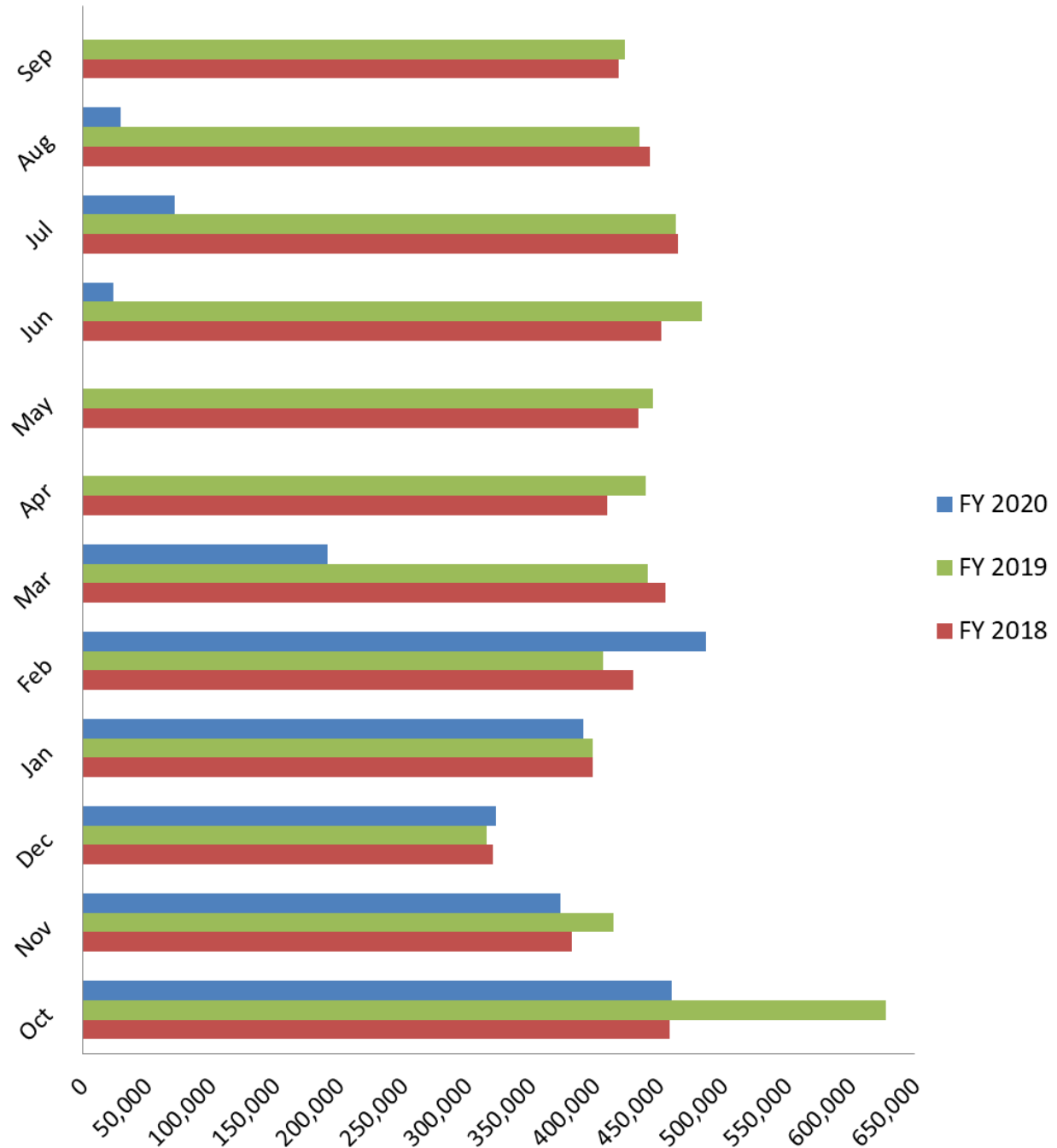
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San Antonio Public Library

Visits



Location Closures

09/17/2020

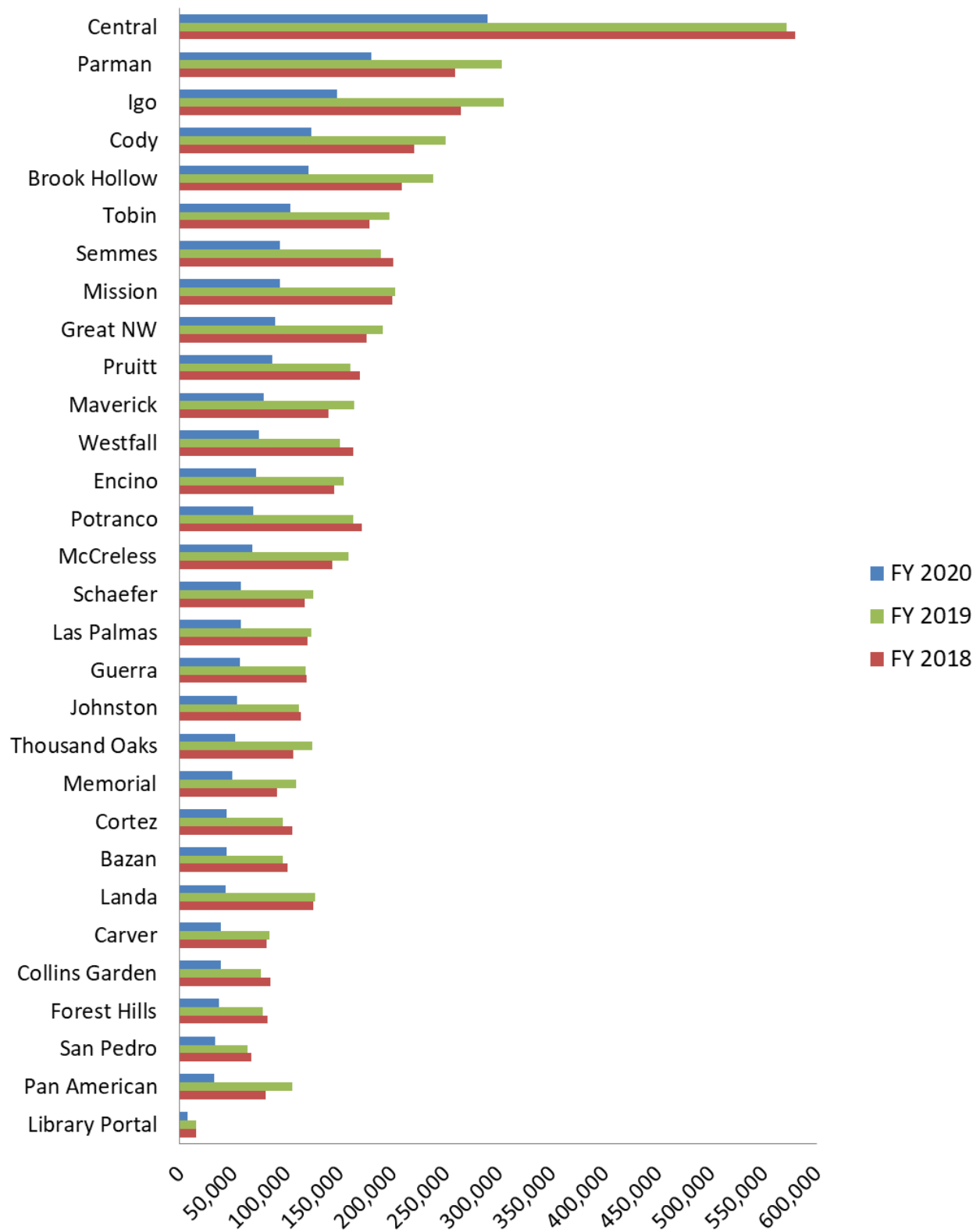
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San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Aug 2020



Location Closures

09/17/2020

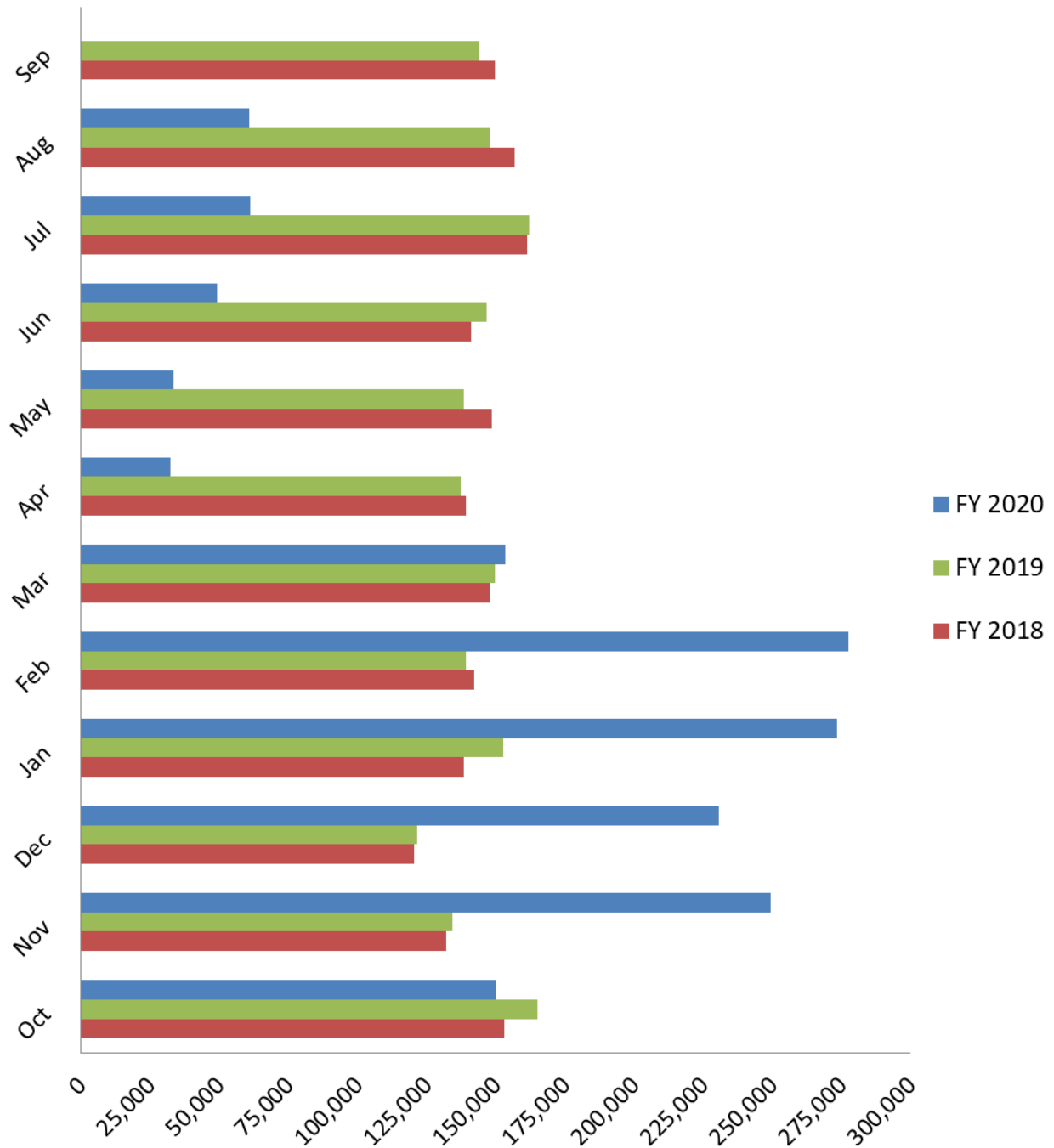
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San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Wi-Fi Use



Location Closures

09/17/2020

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