

San Antonio Public Library Director's Report October, 2020

San Antonio Public Library's (SAPL) Latino Collection and Resource Center (LCRC) partnered with Texas Public Radio (TPR) during Hispanic Heritage Month for "Literary Moments" in an effort to share written works created by Latino artists.

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Ramiro Salazar held a Library Director Town Hall on October 2, 2020 via WebEx for all Library Staff Members. Library Administration accepted questions from Library Team Members leading up to the Town Hall as well as during the meeting. All questions were answered during the virtual Town Hall and a video was made available to Library Staff Members who could not participate live.

The San Antonio Public Library partnered with Artpace on the annual Chalk-it Up event in October 2020. As part of the partnership, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar participated in a virtual media event on October 5 with leaders from Artpace.

On October 6, Library Director Ramiro Salazar, Assistant Director Kathy Donellan and Assistant Director Dale McNeill met at the Memorial Branch Library on October 6 for a site visit in preparation for the scheduled community meeting to discuss the planned renovation as part of the 2017 Bond Program. The virtual community meeting for the Memorial Branch Library bond project took place on October 20 and included welcoming remarks by Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales as well as a presentation from project architect Geoff Edwards of Munoz and Company.

In coordination with City of San Antonio International Relations Office, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar and Public Services Administrator Haley Holmes met with Library Staff from Darmstadt, Germany to discuss library operations during COVID-19 emergency. Darmstadt, Germany is a Sister City to San Antonio. The international exchange took place on October 7, 2020.

On October 20, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar participated in a podcast organized by the Texas Library Association regarding library services during a pandemic.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar attended the Local Government Hispanic Network (LGHN) Annual Board Meeting on October 15. Mr. Salazar serves as a Board Member on LGHN.

Serving as Immediate Past President of the Public Library Association, Ramiro S. Salazar attended the Public Library Association Board Meeting on October 20.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar participated in a webinar entitled, "What's next for digital content in libraries" on October 27. The webinar focused on e-books and Ramiro joined a panel that included Lisa Rosenblum, Director of the King County Library System, Kelvin Watson, Director of the Broward County Libraries; and Kathy Zappitello, Executive Director of Conneaut Public Library.

On October 28, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar attended the virtual San Antonio Book Festival Update. The Book Festival is planning a virtual Book Festival in 2020.

MARKETING

Chalk It Up carries on in its 18th year drive-thru style

Chalk murals will be available to view at 10 different SAPL branches



- SAPL partnered with ArtPace for their 17th annual Chalk It Up! event this past weekend. The event picked up quite a bit of media coverage both leading up to and on the day of the event. For example, KSAT 12's Good Morning San Antonio show corresponded live from Central Library throughout the event on Saturday.
- KENS 5 aired a feature story on the Library's reopening plans. SAPL Assistant Director, Dale McNeill participated in an interview for this piece.
- The San Antonio Report published an article about various resources available to students and highlighted San Antonio Public Library's free Wi-Fi and computer usage.
- SAPL was mentioned in a new podcast, Libraries Transform Texas, produced by the Texas Library Association in which SAPL Librarian, Jeannette Davies, interviewed Lisa Kulka, the Director of Libraries and Instructional Materials at NISD.
- The San Antonio Report published a feature story on San Antonio Public Library moving into Phase 3 of reopening. SAPL Public Services Administrator, Haley Holmes, participated in an interview for this story.

- Mayor Ron Nirenberg and Texas State Representative, Trey Martinez Fischer, shared the announcement of Phase 3 Library reopening services on their Twitter accounts.
- District 3 Councilwoman Rebecca Viagran and District 8 Councilman Manny Pelaez shared the announcement of Phase 3 Library reopening services on their Twitter and Facebook accounts.
- KSAT 12 aired a segment on their newscast and online that featured the LCRC and Senior Planet event series honoring Dia de los Muertos.
- The San Antonio Express News published an article in their print edition on page A19 and online that highlights the voter guides that SAPL is providing to voters. Ramiro is mentioned in the article.
- News 4 WOAI spoke to Dale McNeill about the Memorial Bond Project in a story about the City's ongoing Bond Projects.
- KENS 5 aired a highlight about Mariachis serenading voters in line at the polls in varying election sites during early voting. They mentioned Las Palmas and Cortez libraries in the segment.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:

- SAPL's social media generated 255,205 impressions
- SAPL's social media following base grew by 276 new fans
- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts 10,768 times.

Social Media statistics for the month:

- Twitter: 5,313 followers
- Facebook: 20,853 fans
- Instagram: 6,531 followers

Graphics

The graphics team created publicity materials for a variety of programs and events during this reporting period, including San Pedro's 90th Anniversary, the 2020 election campaign, Luminara's artist exhibit, Native American Heritage Month, the addition computer services provided as part of the Library's Phase 3 reopening, and a StoryWalk outdoor story exhibit at Cortez.

DIGITAL SERVICES

Throughout the month of October, Digital Services Coordinator Adam Spana led weekly meetings with the Technology subgroup of the Library Future Workgroup.

On October 7, Mr. Spana, along with Digital Services Supervisor Rolf Laun and Digital Services Analyst Tricia Masterson, met with Public Services Administrator Cheryl Sheehan and a team of Public Services employees to discuss how Digital Services could aid them with providing readers' advisory services using the Library's portfolio of online tools.

On October 8, Mr. Spana met with ITSD project manager Bryan Henry to help plan for migration of the Library's email accounts to the Microsoft Office 365 cloud.

Ms. Masterson and Digital Library Services Assistant Christina Hess attended many of the sessions presented in the Thriving Through Change 2020 Virtual Conference that took place from October 21 - 23.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Little Read Wagon (LRW) staff presented another in the 2020-2021 early childhood teacher training series "More Mirrors, Windows and Doors: A Workshop for Early Childhood Educators." This year's training includes a recorded presentation by Dr. Toni Sturdivant titled "Play, Literacy and Diversity." A total of 18 teachers were in attendance and rated the training highly.

Clair Larkin presented two Storytimes over Zoom to children at the Navarro Learning Center, a childcare center for San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) school age parents. Ms. Larkin read books, sang songs and played games with children virtually. One child requested to sing "Roly Poly" multiple times and all the children began playing with variations of the accompanying gestures. It was evident that a virtual Storytime can be highly interactive. Ms. Larkin also met with SAISD parents of those same children to talk about early literacy, the five practices and library resources over Zoom. Ms. Larkin coordinated with the social workers at Cooper Academy at Navarro to distribute books, totes, and other items for parents to use at home with their children.

Julia Lazarin discussed early literacy with parents at John Glenn Elementary School in the Northside Independent School District. Ms. Lazarin connected parents to library resources and support available during these challenging times. Additionally, Ms. Lazarin compiled a kit consisting of a bedtime routine chart, accompanying accessories, and a bedtime book for families to use at home which she then delivered to the school for parent pick up. These programs illustrate the multitude of adaptations that LRW staff continue to make during this pandemic to continue building relationships and strengthening early literacy skills within the community.



CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

The San Antonio Food Bank continued the Sow Healthy kids gardening series. Topics for the month included the plant water cycle, garden bugs, transplants and recycled pots, and weeds and diseases.

Live online program offerings and attendance are growing, with children's librarians working together to present 37 programs in October. The forensics program presented by Valerie Carroll, Braulia Carrillo, and Jacqueline Gonzalez was particularly well and enthusiastically attended. Kristin Yourdon, Leslie Elsasser, Carrie Vance, and Jasmin Salinas worked together to host a Halloween party via Zoom. Pre-recorded programs are also getting plenty of asynchronous views. Featured pre-recorded programs in October were Grow Your Own Salt Crystals, Nature Journals, and a playlist of Halloween stories.



Coordinator of Children's Services, Cresencia Huff worked with a team of Women's Leadership Mentoring Program participants to provide production support for the Thriving Through Change Virtual Conference. The conference was open to all City of San Antonio employees, included several sessions over the course of three half-days, and was the culminating project for the 2020 cohort.

The Spurs Give What'cha Reading Challenge began October 19 and continues through December 2. While participating children are encouraged to read anything of interest to them, each month the San Antonio Public Library develops and shares suggested reading lists related to NBA Cares initiatives.

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 October.

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 weekly virtual teen programs on Discord and shared information, resources, activities, and other content for/by teens on Instagram. Highlights include a month-long art challenge (with daily art prompts created by a teen volunteer); a collaborative program with Pride Center San Antonio, as well as book lists and additional resources, in celebration of LGBTQ History Month, National Coming Out Day, and International Pronouns Day; a Halloween Costume Contest; and a new program ("Jam Club") for teens with an interest in learning/playing music.

For the 210teenlibrary Instagram page, Regina Almanza (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) has been creating graphics and videos for posts and stories, including teen interest content, celebratory items, booklists. Maintaining teen volunteer contact has been a priority, and receiving teen-created content from them is a plus.

JD Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) continued his virtual programming for teens, but moved the programming to Discord, since there is a thriving teen presence there. The new music program is called Jam Club, and JD talks with teens about music and demonstrates playing guitar and/or keyboards with teens that have instruments.

Ciana Flores (Library assistant, Teen Library @ Central) continues to engage with 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 continues to take part in the Instagram Live episodes in the music series as well as other IGTV videos with Teen Library staff. Ciana is also a part of the Teen Services Discord team and interacts with the teens on Discord to create a “virtual teen library” space. Teen Services began offering a 3D printing request service for teens on the Discord server, and Ciana responds to the requests from teens. She prints and sends the requested item out to the teens’ preferred library branch for pick up. During the reporting period, Ciana engaged the teens on Discord in a Halloween costume contest, where they posted a picture of their costumes, then voted on their favorite one. The winners received a 3D printed trophy, which they could pick up at their library location. Ciana also records and submits all monthly statistics associated with the 210teenlibrary Instagram account.

Amisarahi Sarabia (SAPL’s Teen Outreach Specialist) developed Instagram templates and hosted “Quarantunes” every Monday and Wednesday of the month on the @210teenlibrary Instagram account. Teens submitted their favorite songs from a question posted on Instagram stories and their songs get added to a weekly Spotify playlist for them to hear.

System-wide Support—Amisarahi Sarabia assisted the Young Pegasus poetry competition team leaders, and continued to assist SAPL Marketing with several editing videos that included two-minute book reviews and five “Fright Night” series videos.

Fiesta Youth Partnership—To show their continued support of Teen Services at the San Antonio Public Library, Fiesta Youth (San Antonio’s premier LGBTQ+ non-profit youth organization for youth and their allies) donated funds to the Teen Library @ Central in order to purchase more LGBTQ+ young adult books for the collection. Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) worked with David Laidacker (Board President, Fiesta Youth); Teen Pride Workgroup members Chris Castillo (Teen Services Librarian, Great Northwest), Dacari Lambert (Teen Services Librarian, Schaefer), and Shannan Prukop (Teen Services Librarian, Johnston); and Nohemi Lopez-Rosdahl (Collection Development Librarian, Central) to create a list of potential titles to purchase. Loaiza and Lopez-Rosdahl are now in the stages of finalizing the list of titles.

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 Workgroup. Kathleen Fordyce (Manager, Teen Library @ Central) continues to serve as a member of the Staff Competencies and Organizational Structure Subcommittee for the Future State of SAPL Workgroup. She also continued serving on the Incident Reporting System workgroup. Kathleen continues to attend weekly Central Public Service Managers meetings and leads weekly meetings with her Teen Library staff. Matthew Loaiza continues to serve as a member of the Spaces Subcommittee for the Future State of SAPL Workgroup. Loaiza is focusing on researching virtual spaces, adaptable/flexible physical spaces, and hybrid (virtual/physical) spaces. 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. As a Steering Committee member, Loaiza mentors this year’s Education Action Team.

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

The Library's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month continued in October. Highlights of activities included in this celebration included several special editions of the ongoing Noon Time Helping online cooking series. Segments of this series that the Library hosted in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month included a program on veggie tacos that featured Rebel Mariposa founder, chef and owner of La Botanica restaurant, and two sessions that covered a variety of topics related to cooking in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. The Latino Collection and Resource Center also hosted several online programs, including a writing workshop facilitated by Carolina Hinojosa-Cisneros and an online tour of the Day of the Dead Exhibition at the National Museum of Mexican Art in Chicago, IL. The Library's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month wrapped up on October 15th.

In honor of Día de los Muertos, a holiday in the Latinx culture where families welcome back the souls of their deceased relatives for a brief reunion that includes food, drink and celebration, the Latino Collection and Resource Center partnered with Senior Planet for a week of special events focusing on the cultural significance of Día de los Muertos. Programs hosted as part of this series included an overview of the Day of the Dead, a workshop on creating ofrenda altars, and a virtual cooking class on making pan de muerto. All programs in the series were specifically planned for individuals ages 60+ to help them learn about Día de los Muertos and to offer strategies to combat isolation experienced by individuals in this age group. Senior Planet aims to help seniors learn new skills, save money, get in shape, and make new friends.

The Library partnered with the San Antonio Black International Film Festival to present the festival online from October 14. The San Antonio Black International Film Festival is pleased to welcome filmmakers, movie enthusiasts, industry professionals and audiences world-wide to SABIFF 2020. Due to the COVID19 pandemic, our second annual festival will continue virtually in celebration of presenting movies by-for-&-about diverse Black perspectives, genres and images from across the globe. The closing awards ceremony on October 4th was hosted from Carver Library. The Library also created an online webpage to showcase the various films presented during the festival, as well as items in the Library's collection related to Black Cinema. The Library values its partnership with SABIFF to make the community aware of the contributions of Black Cinema, and looks forward to this partnership continuing.

From October 21-30, the Library partnered with Luminaria Artist Foundation for its fall Works In Process Series. Through this partnership, the Library highlighted the visual poetry of Octavio Quintanilla and his Frontextos series. The Library and Luminaria presented Mr. Quintanilla's work in three ways: an online exhibition of Frontextos (which can be found at guides.mysapl.org/frontextos/), a series of three postcards featuring Frontextos that were available at all San Antonio Public Library locations and distributed through contact free pickup, and an online event on October 29th featuring Mr. Quintanilla and moderated by poet Jim LaVilla-Havelin. Roughly 40 individuals attended this online event, with a steady stream of positive comments. The most impactful comment was that of a fifth grade student who was inspired by Octavio Quintanilla's work and process. The online exhibition was viewed 784 times from October 20-30. The Library was pleased to have the opportunity to partner with Luminaria Artist Foundation to give the community an opportunity to experience the work of local artists like Octavio Quintanilla.

Adult services staff offered a variety of activities and online content to give adults the opportunity to celebrate Halloween. These activities included a series of videos called Fright Night that highlighted sites in San Antonio reported to be haunted (such as Victoria's Black Swan Inn), a scavenger hunt that invited the community to find items such as a Jack-O-Lantern, a black cat, and a spooky inflatable yard decoration and then submit their photos of these items for a chance to win prizes, and a Haunting in SA

digital zine featuring local spooky sites. These activities allowed adults in San Antonio to celebrate Halloween in a new way.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN @ CENTRAL

Central Children's staff played a key role in system-wide Halloween celebrations this month. Librarian Olivia Escovedo and Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin each presented special Halloween Storytime premieres on the Library's YouTube page. Ms. Escovedo helped edit all of the other children's Halloween videos as well.

Ms. Seglin and Librarian Ashley Stubbs were very active in online children's programming, each participating in and hosting live weekly Storytimes, after which they interacted with the children in breakout sessions. Ms. Seglin plays an important role in scheduling and managing the registration for all Storytime programs. This ongoing task represents a large amount of work. Ms. Stubbs and Ms. Seglin also each co-hosted SOW Healthy programs this month. Ms. Seglin also participated in two Toddler Time programs.

Ms. Stubbs continued her work on the Tiny Tots and Storytime teams by creating book recommendations for their LibGuide.

Ms. Seglin helped develop and assemble Take & Make craft kits for distribution to families at Central in November and December.

Librarian Olivia Escovedo provided outreach service with a special live Zoom Storytime for children at Green Acres Childcare Center, while Ms. Stubbs continued delivering bags of books to Central Christian Day School, in support of their curriculum.

Ms. Stubbs and Manager Kate Simpson continued to contribute images of their children engaged in play experiences for the Play & Learn video series on the Library's website. They also each created Halloween and Día de los Muertos themed Take & Make kits for distribution to Central Library families.

REFERENCE

Reference librarians continue to host a variety of online programming options this October, including Mario Kart, the Halloween Horror Hunt, Chair Yoga, and other safe and fun options for mental and physical health of customers.

The Reference department has begun extensive collections work on our non-fiction resources in order to make them more accessible to customers when access is resumed. This included a complete revitalization of our biography collection to sort the items by whom the biography is on in order to provide better access to the collection.

Online reference interactions with the library continue to hold record levels since the pandemic period has begun. The Reference team handled more than 600 fully digital reference interactions. The chat reference service will be expanded to 6 days a week beginning November 4th.

LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

The Library's celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month continued in October. Highlights of activities included in this celebration included several special editions of the ongoing Noon Time Helping online cooking series. Latino Collection and Resource Center Program Manager Emma Hernandez supported the presentation of a program on veggie tacos that featured Rebel Mariposa founder, chef and owner of La Botanica restaurant.

The Latino Collection & Resource Center continued its partnership with Texas Public Radio through the *Literary Moments* initiative, an effort to share written works created by Latinx artists. Featured authors from the Latino Collection were able to read their works for broadcast during Morning Edition, as well as promotion across TPR's social media channels. Program Manager Emma Hernandez was also invited to film a promotional video as part of TPR's pledge drive, detailing the development of this partnership and how featured authors were selected.

On Saturday, October 3rd the Latino Collection and Resource Center presented 'Writing As Limpia' a writing workshop with Carolina Hinojosa-Cisneros. During this workshop, conducted a self-limpia by writing to dislodge one or several of the 13 aires that ail them. Carolina Hinojosa-Cisneros is a Tejana, Chicana, and Mujerista from San Antonio, Texas. She is a columnist for Sojourners magazine, contributor to The On Being Project. She is the poetry co-editor of The Journal of Latina Critical Feminism and is a board member of Arts Religion Culture (ARC). She is the author of *Becoming Coztototl* published by Flowersong Books and is the recipient of the 2019 Rubem Alves Award in theopoetics.

On Tuesday, October 6th Program Manager Emma Hernandez attended the webinar 'Creating Exhibits in Response to Current Events' presented by Melissa Huber from Humanities Texas. This session provided practical guidance for developing highly-accessible traveling exhibits that can accommodate both museums and non-traditional venues.

On Saturday, October 10th, the Latino Collection and Resource Center presented a virtual field trip to Chicago's National Museum of Mexican Art. This tour focused on the *Solo Un Poco Aqui* exhibit, an annual Day of the Dead exhibit that focused it's 2020 featured works on those lost during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Wednesday, Oct 14th Program Manager Emma Hernandez partnered with AARP of Texas to present a virtual crafting session on AARP's Facebook Live. This crafting session gave step by step instructions for creating a nicho using household materials. To date, the video has received over 10,000 views.

As part of the City of San Antonio's Women's Leadership Mentoring Program, Program Manager Emma Hernandez served as Programming Committee Chair to lead the presentation of a three-day virtual conference. This conference offered a keynote address by Woman of the Year and CEO of CPS Energy Paula Gold-Williams, as well as sessions by former City Manager Sheryl Sculley, Leon Valley City Manager Kelly Kuenstler and many more. Over 400 city staff registered for the event and resulted in over 1,000 hours in training development for city staff.

Program Manager Emma Hernandez developed a partnership with Senior Planet, an organization that supports seniors in learning computer basics, to present a full week of Day of the Dead programming. From October 26th through November 2nd, participants were able to engage in learning about Day of the Dead and creating their own *ofrendas* through virtual crafting sessions, cooking classes and presentations from

subject experts. These events featured fireside chats with San Antonio City Councilpersons Rebecca Viagran (D3), Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia (D4), Melissa Cabello Havrda (D6), Manny Pelaez (D8) and Clayton Perry (D10). This program series welcomed an average of 35 attendees per session and served to support Seniors experiencing social isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic. This partnership garnered attention from local media sources and was featured on KSAT 12 on October 28th.

Program Manager Emma Hernandez presented to Bonham Academy's Mexican American Studies afterschool club on October 27, discussing the topic of Nichos, a popular Mexican art form, and their relation to Day of the Dead.

TEXANA/ GENEALOGY

Librarian I Sylvia Reyna provided a live, virtual presentation titled "The Secret Lives of Cemeteries: Methods in Conducting Cemetery Research" for UTSA library staff on October 21. The presentation highlighted religious, ethnic, fraternal, memorial, military, and municipal cemeteries located in San Antonio's historic east side. She examined a veritable cornucopia of clues one can gather from inspecting tombstones. Evidence of ancestral relationships, dates of birth and death, marital status, religious affiliation, occupations and hobbies are just a few of the tidbits that can be gleaned from our ancestors' places of rest.

Deborah Countess, Librarian II, was invited to record a virtual genealogy presentation for 6th and 7th grade students at Temple Beth-El for their review on October 25. The program covered the basic first steps of how to get started researching your family history and how to use genealogy databases available through the Library's website.

Matt De Waelsche, Librarian II, finished reprocessing and updating the archives of the San Antonio Symphony Society. Occupying approximately 100 linear feet, the collection is one of the largest in the SAPL archives and includes marketing materials, programs, photographs, and scrapbooks from the San Antonio Symphony dating from 1939-1999.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

Bazan branch Children's librarian Hope Sonnen delivered board books to three Avance Early Head Start centers in October. The centers were excited to start receiving books again to share with their students.

Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia worked with Library Assistant Stephanie Perez from Pan American to co-host a Halloween themed Animal Crossing Obstacle Course program towards the end of October. All ages were welcomed and joined competitive obstacle course runs with an opportunity to win in game prizes. This was a collaboration within the eSports committee. Bazan library branch received twenty-five Take & Make kits from Teen Services to distribute to teens during curbside hours throughout the month. In addition, Georgina has been working with Teen Librarian Dacari Lambert to continue working on an article submission for the Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults due at the end of November.

Training Officer Emily Flores continued to teach the following classes virtually: Conversational English as a Second Language, Civics English as a Second Language, Advanced English as a Second Language, and Citizenship English as a Second Language. Long-time volunteer Karen Wyatt led the English as a Second Language Book Club and Emily facilitated.

The Bazan branch *Coloring for Grown-Ups* group, hosted by Library Assistant Enedina Prater, gathered online the first Wednesday of the month and enjoyed Halloween themed coloring books and coloring sheets. It was festive time with excellent company.

Ms. Prater also hosted *The Bad Girls Book Club* in October. The group read *The Demon Lover* by Juliet Dark, book one of a trilogy. The book, a Victorian gothic romance, fit in perfectly with the Halloween season. Although a very different book from what the group usually selects, it was much enjoyed nonetheless. The Bazan Virtual Book Club also met to discuss the thriller, *The Wives* by Tarryn Fisher.

BROOK HOLLOW

Brook Hollow Library served as a busy early voting location from October 13 to October 30 for the 2020 Joint General Election. Branch staff worked together to ensure that Contact Free Pick-Up service continued to run smoothly during the voting period while supporting the polling site by answering informational questions regarding the voting process and hours of operation. During October over 23,000 people voted at Brook Hollow Library.

In October, Library Assistant Jennifer Olivarez and Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas put together over 225 craft kits for Brook Hollow families to pick up when receiving their contact-free holds. The craft kits have been in high demand at Brook Hollow and received positive feedback from families. Throughout the month Ms. Salinas continued to help with system-wide, virtual Children's Services programming including serving as the main host for the *SOW Healthy* program in October. The *SOW Healthy* program is in partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank and focuses on teaching school-aged children about how plants grow to become food for the table. During October Ms. Salinas helped to co-host Halloween festivities including the *Landa Boo* online dance party with Children's Librarians Robin Alcorta (Landa) and Tiffany Durham (Johnston) and an online *Halloween Zoom Party* for families on October 31. Ms. Salinas, along with Children's Librarians Carrie Vance (Igo), Kristin Yourdon (Cody), and Leslie Elsasser (Schaefer), created a virtual Halloween party with games, dancing, and stories. Ms. Salinas also wrote a children's book review for the San Antonio Public Library's blog and helped to edit three children's programming videos released in October for the Library's YouTube channel.

Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot had a productive month in the digital space joining the SAPL Teen Discord channel and interacting with teens, while also maintaining the mysaplteens Bibliocommons lists. Ms. Pouliot worked with the list making team to upload new book lists celebrating National Coming Out Day, LGBTQ+ History, and Hispanic Heritage. The lists, curated by teen librarians, are timely and are compiled with the hope that they will aid patrons in easily finding books on relevant topics. Ms. Pouliot has the honor of celebrating her five-year work anniversary with SAPL this month and she is looking forward to many more great years here!

Adult Services Librarian Marco De Leon co-hosted the first meeting of the new *Sci-fi/Fantasy Book Club* that had its first meeting at the beginning of the month. The meeting was held to determine the permanent day and time for all future meetings and how the genres (Sci-fi & Fantasy) would alternate by month for the upcoming year. The book club is taking up the challenge of increasing the number of group

members in the face of COVID-19 restrictions and are determined to make the book group a great success.

In early October Mr. De Leon was able to host the triumphant return of the long-standing Spanish literature book group *La Tertulia*. After a months-long hiatus due to COVID-19 restrictions, the group was finally able to meet once again via Zoom hosted by Mr. De Leon. The group discussed the book *Mariposa* by Yusra Mardini. The book entails the struggles of a refugee that rose above the obstacles that refugees face to become an Olympic swimmer. Members of *La Tertulia*, who arrived to the U.S. as refugees, also discussed the struggles they faced as refugees. The *Tertulianos*, as they call themselves, are looking forward to meeting virtually on a monthly basis.

At the end of the month, Mr. De Leon co-hosted a virtual program long in the making based on the popular app-based game called *Spyfall*. *Spyfall* is a virtual game where a group of players are given roles at a specific location and one of the group members is given the role as the Spy of the group. The members of the group are tasked to figure out who the Spy is and the Spy is tasked to figure out exactly where the group is. The game is played by rounds and each round lasts 8 minutes. The Spy wins points by figuring out the location of the group and the other players can win the round and score points by figuring out who the Spy in the group is. It's a game of wits and deception and the time just flies by as everyone is having fun.

CARVER

DL Grant attended the Day of Dialogue Virtual Conference hosted by School Library Journal and Library Journal on October 15. Sessions included *Beyond Just the Facts: Noteworthy Nonfiction* which addressed such issues as diversity and social justice. Artists and illustrators included Karyn Parsons, *Flying Free: How Bessie Coleman's Dreams Took Flight*; Don Tate, *William Still and His Freedom Stories: The Father of the Underground Railroad*; and Jamia Wilson, *This Book Is Feminist: An Intersectional Primer for Feminists in Training*.

Carver Branch was one 10 SAPL locations that participated in the annual "Chalk It Up!" art event produced by ArtPace, on Saturday, October 10. Artists were invited to the locations to create chalk murals in designated parking spaces.

Take & Make craft activities continued to be successful in October. Virtual Storytime with St. Phillips Child Development Center attracted 13 adults and 7 children. The session featured a farm theme. Children and their parents laughed as they made sounds of farm animals and sang.

CODY

The Cody Branch served as an early voting location from Oct 13 – 31 for the 2020 Joint General Election, where just over 16,000 people cast their votes. On their way out of the meeting room, many voters commented on how much they missed visiting the library and commended staff for continuing services during the pandemic.

Cody's Wellness Liaison, Luanne Bloom, began weekly wellness activities for staff. To help relieve stress, we practiced breathing exercises, learned some new stretches, and played the Whataburger version of Lotería.

Children's Librarian Kristin Yourdon co-hosted several online, virtual programming events, including the Adventurer's Book Club meeting on October 24, where children discussed the Bluebonnet nominee *Caterpillar Summer* by Gillian McDunn. Yourdon co-hosted two live virtual programs on Halloween: a flannel story about a mouse that carves a pumpkin during a Storytime Online program and lead a live scavenger hunt during the Halloween Zoom Party. A booktalk that Yourdon created to share a few favorite picture books about dinosaurs was featured on KLRN's Camp TV resource list..

Children who visited the branch during the week of Halloween encountered a couple of surprises. On Tuesday, October 27, children were surprised with a special Pumpkin Painting Take & Make kit. Each kit contained a live mini pumpkin, paint, and a paintbrush. On Thursday, October 29, Yourdon and Library Assistant Haly LeFlore put up a small spooky walk at the branch, consisting of large cardboard books that were made to look like children's classic and favorite novels, as well as some creepy classics such as *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelly. Each book featured a creepy element emerging from the book. For example, the *Snow White* book had a replica of the poisoned apple dangling on a string on the front cover.



Teen Librarian Amy Rae Weaver worked with other Teen Services Librarians and Liaisons across the system to provide useful information and entertainment for teens. In addition to providing Cody teens with Take & Make crafts to celebrate Día de los Muertos, she helped create several Bibliocommons book lists that were posted on the SAPL Teens Bibliocommons account and promoted on the 210teenlibrary Instagram.

Library Assistant Angela Olivarez and Adult Services Librarian Marcella McGowan created an adult craft to go, t-shirts with bleach pens. McGowan attended many professional development webinars on topics such as being adaptable, self advocacy, and confronting white nationalism and continued her work on virtual programming for adults.

COLLINS GARDEN



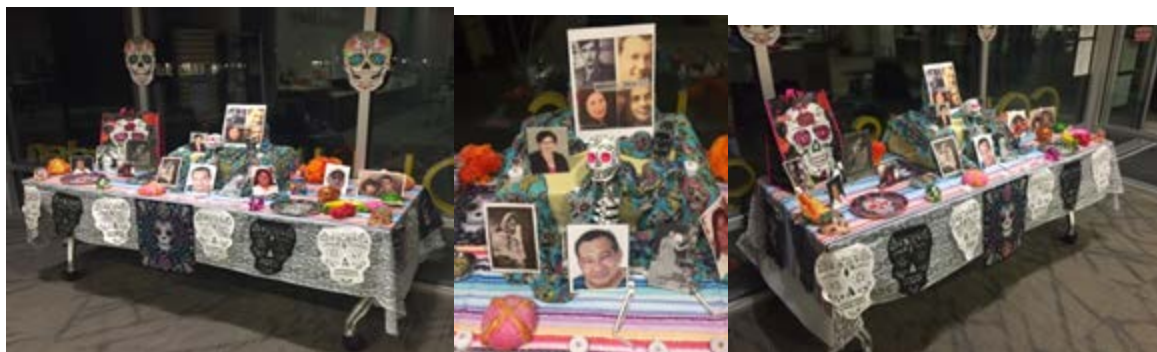
Collins Garden Library (CGL) hosted Bexar County Election Department Early Voting beginning October 13, 2020 thru October 30, 2020 and on Election Day, November 3, 2020. Bexar County 2020 Presidential Election Voting was extended three weeks due to the COVID19 Pandemic. On the last day of Early Voting and on Election Day Mariachis entertained voters standing in line. During Early Voting and on Election Day more than 7,000 Bexar County residents voted at CGL.

CGL Manager Jeannette Davies, as a member of the Texas Library Association (TLA) Public Relations Committee, was the first to launch TLA's First Libraries Transform Texas Podcast featuring Lisa Kulka with NISD who manages the school district's librarians. The December Podcast features SAPL Lib Dir Ramiro Salazar along with SAPL PSAs Haley Holmes and Cheryl Sheehan discussing SAPL's response to the COVID19 Pandemic. Davies continues to participate in Toastmasters & hosts SAPL's Noon Time Helping of Cooking on Thursdays at noon. In October Hispanic Heritage Month was on the menu and Thanksgiving is on the Menu in November. Library patrons sign up online to see what's cooking in SAPL's virtual kitchen. Davies also made a cameo appearance in the city's *Dancing with Heroes* tribute to frontline workers partly filmed at Collins Garden Library.

Library Assistant Carlos Loera co-hosts SAPL's Noon Time Helping of Cooking and October 10 hosted an online poetry event with Voices Cosmos highlighting local San Antonio poets.

Children's Librarian Gina Brudi and Teen Librarian Daniella Toll continue to participate in system-wide Make/Take craft coordination and online Storytimes and games for teens.

CGL employees Carlos Loera, library assistant, and Greg Rendon, circulation attendant, have been deployed to the COSA Housing Department since August 2020 to process housing assistance applications.



Each year SAPL Employees at Collins Garden Library create a Day of the Dead Display in honor of their loved ones and to remind, honor and educate the public about this important holiday in Hispanic culture.



On Halloween, CGL began a new program entitled Books Alive. Library Aide Denise Talamantez works with the branch manager each week to pair books with humans to give them the appearance of coming alive. This is an effort to encourage circulation.

CORTEZ

The Branch was an early voting and election day site for the first time in many years. The staff coped very well with the logistics and extra hours and did a great job with patriotic displays and decorations as well. The layout of the Branch made it easy to allow for the steady flow of voters while maintaining social distancing and regular library activities.

Cortez patrons continued to enjoy the Story Walk featuring the book “All Around Us”. The display will find a new home at Collins Garden in November.

The Branch was selected for the “Chalk It Up” drive-through event on October 3rd. Fifty patrons came by to look at a rendering of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and a second work referencing social protest.

In cooperation with the Parks Department and as a continuation of the Nature Smart Libraries initiative the library distributed “seed balls” of wildflower seed and information about wildflowers to patrons throughout the month.

The staff who worked on Halloween dressed as Beetle Beatles and gave out gift bags to the few patrons who came by that day. Throughout the month the window display in the lobby featured a “Monster Garden” of clay figures and books to celebrate the season.

Cortez staff were made aware of the passing of Irma Nicolas who is the daughter of Raoul Cortez for whom the library is named, and a legend in Spanish broadcasting herself. The Branch was named as a potential beneficiary of family and memorial gifts.

Children

In the month of October, Nicole Cubillas, Children's Librarian, promoted seed balls for October's Nature Smart Libraries program to be distributed at the Cortez and Carver branches. She helped prepare the Trumba listing for November's Young Writers Program for the National Novel Writing Month program, which will help connect young writers as they work on a creative writing product. She assembled the October Children's take-and-make activity which was chalk coloring on corn husks. She also prepared Halloween take-and-make packets with glitter spiderwebs, plastic spiders and other goodies in lieu of a Halloween party at the branch.

Teens

The Take & Make kits have been going quite well. Central has been sending 25 kits out each month and Jo Ann Paredes the Cortez teen liaison has also been doing ten kits a week to hand out. For the month of October fifty-five (55) kits went out.

Adults

Craft assignment emails continue to go out to the Cortez faithful. Patrons have expressed missing the face to face classes and look forward to when they can come back to the library. For the month of October, the crafts were: Terra Cotta Porch Décor and Mosaics. Adult Services Librarian Angela Morrow took the lead on an upcoming programming series for NaNoWriMo: SAPL's "Story Chains" which begin at the start of November. For more information, check out the LibGuide guides.mysapl.org/nanowrimo. Angela is also working with the Future of SAPL group and has been focusing on team engagement activities.

ENCINO

Librarian Ann Laird had a busy month between children's services, adult services, and election season! Ann attended several meetings this month including an adult services craft committee meeting, meetings regarding Encino's 5th anniversary, and a meeting about Encino's playground plans. Ann also recorded *There Was an Old Mummy Who Swallowed a Spider* by Jennifer Ward as part of a series of Halloween stories performed by SAPL's Children's Librarians.

Librarian Katy Dillard has been participating with the Children's Librarians' Take & Make committee. Katy has been primarily responsible for creating the weekly Take & Make kits that have been given out at Encino. Encino has been providing 30 Take & Make kits a week to the children of our community.

Teen Services Librarian Heather Swindell distributed the Teen Library's Dia de los Muertos lantern craft kit for the month of October and created a variety of themed book lists in Bibliocommons to promote collections to patrons online. She also staffed the branch on Mondays during early voting.

Encino Branch Library served as an Early Voting and Voting Day site for Bexar County elections and was the 3rd busiest library location in the city. Encino would like to thank Central Reference Manager Samantha Gordano for her professionalism as she filled in to close both Mondays of early voting, staying until 10PM on October 26.

On October, 13, Encino moved the contact-free holds pick up location from the front of the library to their unique feature--the drive thru. Patrons have responded positively to the new pick up location and appreciate the efficiency of the drive thru.

FOREST HILLS

Forest Hills Branch Library continues to offer interim service while undergoing renovations funded by the City of San Antonio's 2017-2022 Bond Program. Renovations are expected to continue through January 2021. Contact-Free Pickup service for holds and outdoor Wi-Fi access continue to be offered with adjusted hours. Book drops are also available.

Staff who remained on site to offer interim service have witnessed the progress of work being completed. They are surprised at how different the branch already looks after only a month of work. New paint colors have already given a new life to the facility. The sounds of hammers and drills fills the space and the crews work steadily to transform the space.

Branch Manager Mary Naylor hosted a Zoom Book Club for the Doris Griffin Senior Center. The participants logged into the meeting from the safety of their own homes. They were excited to see faces of the book club members that they have not seen since the last meeting in February 2020. Many new faces also joined the group. For the next month the group will be reading *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes, which is a story of pack horse librarians in a rural Kentucky mining town.

Children's Library Ana Menchaca read for Telecuentos. She read *Sonadores* by Yuyi Morales. This service allows children to call in, with their parent's assistance, to listen to a prerecorded story read by a children's librarian. In the midst of a COVID pandemic, this no-contact service is a valuable one to parents and their small children.

On October 2nd, Ms. Menchaca participated in a zoom Storytime/information hour with the 5th grade class of Glen Oaks Elementary School. Ms. Menchaca spoke with the children about the virtual and web based services that the San Antonio Public Library is offering. She also read "Bad Seed" by Jory John to the entire 5th grade class. The next week, Ms. Menchaca did the same for the 4th grade class. Ms. Menchaca really enjoyed being able to share a story with the children of the 4th and 5th grade of Glen Oaks.

Ms. Menchaca was very happy to participate in a parental informational zoom meeting that was hosted by PCI, Head Start. Ms. Menchaca was there to share information about the web based services and about curbside services that SAPL is offering at the moment.

Zoom Storytime is a success so far and Ms. Menchaca is happy and eager to participate. She, along with her fellow children's librarians, are reading and singing songs with children via Zoom. The October 31st Storytime was great and Ms. Menchaca read *Birdie's Happiest Halloween*, by Sujean Rim. Ms. Menchaca was very happy to have had the opportunity to speak with kids and parents.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Great Northwest Branch Library staff sent out several digital activity kits to families this month. Library assistant Christian Aldana made handouts for babies each week, which included suggested book titles, a lap-sit song and a sensory game that they could make at home. Misty Gassaway, a long-time volunteer, has made the handouts for the tweens which included anecdotal connections to encourage kids to read.

She gave several book reviews and conversational games to play with the family each week. Circulation attendant Shayla Morales provided a handout based on a fractured folktale Ninja Red Riding Hood and encouraged the kids and their families to make their own story of tricks and surprises. Ms. Morales also put together all of the craft packets for the month.

During October, Teen librarian Chris Castillo hosted five virtual programs on the 210teenlibrary Discord server, including Teen Time and a couple of spooky movie screenings.

During Teen Time, The Pride Center San Antonio collaborated on an informal presentation of pronouns, inclusivity, and sensitivity toward gender expression. Teens expressed gratitude to Community Empowerment Coordinators Lex Loro, Erica Alcocer, and their Teen Intern Elliott for sharing their knowledge and resources for LGBTQ+ young adults and allies.

Teens participated in the planning and implementation of ongoing gaming, scholarly discussions, shared their creative expression in Artpace's Chalk It Up, and also had unpredictable intercommunications with a newly installed artificial intelligence bot. Teens continued to utilize new and complimentary 3D printing services. Teen Moderators on Discord demonstrated their identity-building opportunities as leaders. At the branch, teens collected DIY take-home craft kits associated with the Day of the Dead, Dia de Los Muertos.

Assistant manager and Adult Services librarian Stephanie Vazquez prepared Adult Take & Make Halloween craft kits for contact-free distribution to adult patrons in October. The kits included Halloween Origami and Halloween Bookmarks. Ms. Vazquez created an online crafting video for the MYSAPL Adult Virtual Programming Youtube channel titled "Embroidery for the non-crafty crafter." The video is a how-to guide on embroidery that is easy enough for those who may not consider themselves crafty.

GUERRA

Guerra Branch Library proudly served as an Early Voting with over 10,000 voters casting their ballots from October 13 to October 30. The Guerra Branch Library hosted the ArtPace "Chalk It Up!" event on October 10. Two local artists, Katarina Guzman and Xavier Gilmore, created original designs in chalk on pavement capturing the 2020 theme: community

Branch Manager Monica Garza Bustillo transferred from Johnston Branch Library at the end of the month with exciting plans to start Phase 3 services including Managed Computer Appointments (November 4) and all day Contact Free Holds Pick up. Ms. Bustillo attended the Library Journal Summit: What's Next? Public Libraries Adapt to the New Abnormal on October 6 and the American Library Association's Getting Through This Together: A Community-Based Archival Collaboration on October 7. Ms. Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club's virtual discussion of *Mexican Gothic* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia and *The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires* by Grady Hendrix on October 21.

Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson completed all mandatory SAPL and COSA training. She attended her weekly check in meetings and collaborated with her work groups and Teams members to provide virtual program options. Ms. Richardson added weekly program offerings from the group to the preschool LibGuide and updated the Early Literacy Tips page of the guide. She presented stories, rhymes and songs at Toddler Time Online on October 7 and October 21. Two of her Tiny Tots songs and rhymes videos premiered on SAPL's YouTube channel. On October 1 and 14, she co-hosted "Sow Healthy – Garden to table". This series of programs is facilitated by The SA Food Bank and puts children in contact

with real foods by learning how to grow fruits and vegetables. On October 1, Ms. Richardson participated in a Webinar facilitated by Early Childhood Investigations – Unpacking the Pyramid Model: A Practical Guide to Social Emotional Learning. On October 15, she attended SLJ Day of Dialog. She curated six programs – three for Toddler Time and three for Storytime. She designed and created 25 Halloween Take & Make Crafts kits for children – Halloween popsicle stick puppets and tissue paper candy corn decorating. She designed and created 72 Fall Craft Kits - puzzle tree activity. She also designed and created 30 Thanksgiving Day craft kits – Tissue paper turkeys. Ms. Richardson attended two sessions of the Women's Mentoring Program: October 22 – Kelly Kuenstler/ City Manager, Leon Valley and October 23 – Laura Mayes and Mae Escobar/ Communicating through Crisis.

Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry attended the Teen Services, ESports Committee, Makers Faire, Future of the Library, and San Antonio Public Library Toastmasters meetings. Mr. Mayberry is enrolled in the Core Initiative , Management Training Course offered by CoSA. He was the moderator for the ESports Committee's panel discussion entitled "ESports [Leagues](#)." Ms. Mayberry produced three Tuned In Podcast episodes for the ESports Series.

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson, assisted the Willie Cortez Senior Center in preparing and distributing meals for senior citizens on October 1. He presented a trivia game for those senior citizens on October 6, outside in a pavilion for the first time. Ms. Jackson's questions emphasized COVID 19 as well as Halloween. He assisted the Willie Cortez Senior Center again on October 15. He recorded *Cosita linda* (Little beauty) by Anthony Brown on October 20 for the Dial-a-Story in Spanish. Ms. Jackson assisted the senior center a third time on October 22. He recorded his second story, *Mi gran amigo* (My huge friend) by Eric Battut, on October 23.

IGO

On the 28th of October, adult services librarian Gamini Haluwana co-hosted a wellness program virtually. City's wellness trainer Keith Thibodeaux conducted the program titled "Women's Way to Wellness" During the program Keith discussed topics such as when to have appropriate screenings and immunizations, women's top health concerns, daily steps to good health, and various health resources. Customers liked the program and 7 people attended the event.

Igo Mystery Book Club was reading *The Chain* by Adrian McKinty. They met virtually via Zoom. 16 readers attended the book club. Adult Services Librarian, Gamini Haluwana continues to host the weekly medication program and more than 20 people attended through the month.

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance continues to co-present Baby Time Online – Live with children's librarians Jasmin Salinas, Robin Alcorta, Jane Miller and Tiffany Durham. Attendees still report they are grateful for the virtual event. Ms. Vance has also continued with the Toddler Time Online – Live with children's librarians across the system. Attendance for this has been steadily increasing and customers are really having fun with all the opportunities to talk, sing, read, write and play as well as interact with the librarians and one another. On October 31, Ms. Vance co-presented a virtual Halloween Party with children's librarians Jasmin Salinas, Kristin Yourdon, and Leslie Elsasser. Young attendees participated in several activities to include some silly dancing, stick-puppet rhyme, spooky story, scavenger hunt and costume parade. A fun time was had by all.

Ms. Vance also facilitates The Stitchery, which still meets on Sunday afternoons virtually with a good following. Members have for the most part been continuing with various knit and crochet projects. The virtual format is allowing members to work on projects they normally wouldn't bring to an in-person

program. One member is doing a lot of quilting and another has started her dressmaking journey. The group enjoyed seeing several finished projects this month to include a Star-Wars themed handsewn costume, and one member's first completed hat. The group continues also with book recommendations and so many are reading the recommended books that members are now discussing.

JOHNSTON

Johnston hosted 10,132 voters during Early Voting for the 2020 Joint General Election, an increase of 25.6% over the 2016 Joint General Election. Johnston bid a fond farewell to Branch Manager Monica Garza Bustillo who is now Branch Manager at Guerra. Johnston welcomed Adult Services Librarian Cristine Mitchamore back to the position of Interim Branch Manager.

Adult Services Librarian Cristine Mitchamore continued generating and moderating book discussions on the library's GoodReads site.

Teen librarian Shannan Prukop continued running the Tryday Friday program on the teen Discord server, including encouraging a teen to step up and lead a game themselves, helping the teen learn leadership skills as well as planning and implementation. Mx. Prukop contributed to several BiblioCommons book lists for the Teens@SAPL account along with the rest of the booklist Team, as well as continuing work with the SAPL Goodreads group, creating discussion posts for the SAPL Goodreads account. In addition to developing the December teen Take & Make kit that will be distributed system-wide, Mx. Prukop helped assemble the November kits curated by Daniella Toll.

Children's Librarian Tiffany Durham was busy providing programming and resources for the community. Miss Tiffany continued to plan and provide content for Play & Learn and Dial a Story Working Groups, host the Baby Time Online each Friday morning at 10:00, and host/present for Storytime Online. This past month she was also able to participate as a back-up host dressed as Ms. Frizzle for the Landa Boo on October 28th. Miss Tiffany provided a supplement Take & Make Kit with sidewalk chalk and painters tape for patrons to create grid style chalk works of art. She is actively preparing supplemental Take & Makes for next month's Masklaces, a beaded lanyard for patrons to clip onto their masks. For professional development Miss Tiffany attended the SAPL training for Phase III and the School of Library Journal Day of Dialog on October 15th.

Library Assistant Elsy Jackson is a regular contributor to *Telecuentos* (*Dial-a-Story* in English) and recorded *Juan Bobo busca trabajo* by Marisa Montes on October 13 and *El secreto del abuelo Oso* by Pedro Mañas and Zuzanna Celej on October 15. Ms. Jackson continued work on translating the Book Bundle Activities sheets into Spanish for Children's Services.

LANDA

Children

Children's librarian Robin Alcorta dropped off books to UPCC. They are doing a study on Pets! Children's librarian Robin Alcorta prepared 200 make & take to hand out to the Landa community. There were 36 children in attendance to the first virtual dance party with Dj Axe6.

Teens

Landa Teens celebrated the first virtual Landa Boo with at-home-DIY pumpkin decorating kits! They were encouraged to show-off their creativity by memeing their pumpkins or turning them into their favorite creators and sharing on SAPL's 210Teen Instagram page.

Adults

The three ongoing Landa book clubs met via Zoom during the month of October. The book club at The Village at the Incarnate Word enjoyed *Glass Houses* by popular Canadian author Louise Penny. This group gathers (with masks and socially-distanced!) in the activity room at The Village. Activities Director Nellyvette Gonzalez-Martinez coordinates with Landa Adult Services librarian Karen Sebesta in order to make this service possible for the residents.

Reader's Ink read Jon Meacham's *Soul of America*, an in-depth historical account about American presidents and other heroes who made courageous decisions in difficult times. The Mystery Book Club read *Celine* by Peter Heller, a book with an intricate plot and well-developed characters. The group enjoyed it so much that they requested more titles by that author. Jeff Sullivan with Sixth Sense Paranormal conducted an on-site Zoom program at Landa on Tuesday, October 27 as the adult component of Landa Boo. Registration was brisk and the program will be repeated in November.

LAS PALMAS

Children's Librarian Valerie Shelley distributed over eighty Take & Make craft kits to children systemwide. She continues to work on Storytime, and the Babies and Toddlers Committees making curated activities for the internet programming offered to the public and participating in the Online Toddler Time live programs. Another one of her curated programs went up on the internet entitled "Voting" on the day Early Voting began.

Teen Librarian Connie Hejl continues her work with Random Fandom Teen, and the Speak Geek virtual program, which this month celebrated the TV show Supernatural. She also moderated a Jeopardy game at the beginning of the program.

MAVERICK

Maverick continues to serve the public with contactless curbside service. Despite the COVID-19 environment, Maverick hosted over 19,000 voters during the election season. During the first days of early voting, the long line wrapped around the library building. Considering the large crowds and many campaign organizations, the election process moved smoothly. Especially with the aide and presence of security on site, the election operation remained successful. As the election season began winding down, the line began to shorten towards the end. With proper planning and cooperation from the reference team, the presiding judges opened on time and completed their daily tasks at the end of the day.

Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts, assisted with opening the Maverick Branch during Early Voting for 7 shifts during the reporting period. Ms. Roberts read "How To Scare a Ghost" for Dial-A-Story on October 19. She also assembled 50 Take & Make for October kits (a system-wide craft) for Maverick. Ms. Roberts wishes to thank all the staff doing curbside service for promoting and distributing the kits!

Meetings and training opportunities dominated the reporting period. Ms. Roberts attended 2 children's meetings on October 8 and October 21. She attended training for the library's Phase 3 Training on October 2. Ms. Roberts also attended KABA Time Clock training on October 28.

Maverick Teens interacted with one another on Tuesday evenings through Zoom, sharing experiences and playing games together. One Teen suggested playing Code Names online and the first week was so hilarious that it has become a new favorite. They misunderstood the object of the game initially and Library Assistant Bleichwehl's 'blue team' rapidly lost 4 games in a row due to inadvertently guessing the 'red team's' code names. The actual object is to discover one's *own* team's code names. One teen recommended Renegades by Marissa Meyer to Bleichwehl and they discussed their favorite characters. This Teen stated, "this is where I get together with friends, once a week, and it's enough for me."

McCRELESS

Circulation Attendants Maria C. Hernandez (Krys) and Lilliana Aguilar recorded their contributions to the Telecuentos. Maria Krys read *Los calzoncillos maleficos* by Aaron Reynolds on October 6th; and Lilliana Aguilar read *No lleves tu dragon al recreo* by Julie Gassman.

Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales hosted a Pokémon Go edition of Speak Geek with an attendance of 10 people on October 13th. He also attended the online class Interpersonal Skills offered by COSA , and a special Change Management call concerning Symphony as well. Mr. Gonzales helped the San Antonio Library's pop culture committee by entering the Great Fall Quest into Trumba for them.

Librarian DeBow and Library Assistant Al Chavez worked on an Adult Take & Make kit: Metal Working Art created by Mr. Chavez. Patrons were provided with materials, patterns, instructions and a link to a SAPL Crafting Channel video of a demonstration of easy Repousse' Metal working. Repousse' is a technique of hammering and chasing metal with designs. This easy to do craft simplifies these techniques for a fun D.I.Y. project.

Librarian DeBow attended the Teen Services monthly meeting and the Adult Services bi-monthly Check-ins. DeBow contributed to the making of teen-centered, annotated BiblioCommons list for National Coming Out Day and LGBTQ History month. In addition to attending the OHU Wellness program, DeBow also attended the system-wide Phase 3 training, the Virtual Town Hall and the Pokemon Go! edition of Geek Speak. Librarian DeBow spent more time at the branch this month to assist in early voting and the final packing up of the branch in anticipation of the start of renovations.

Librarian Yamada-Lokensgard attended the monthly Security Awareness training, the Adult Services bi-monthly check-ins, the Phase 3 Library Services training, and the online COSA class "Time Management". She continues working on creating craft video demos and adult Takes and Makes for the branch.

MEMORIAL

Memorial Branch Library served as an Early Voting site for 2 weeks prior to Election Day. On Election Day the branch served as the election site for the community to cast their votes.

In addition to the kits provided by the different age-based groups at Central Library, Memorial Library Aide Guadalupe (Lupe) Pinales assisted by Library Aide Pristina Pinales created weekly Take & Make kits for

Memorial Branch Library's Adults and Children. She also designed, made, and installed Halloween decorations for the exterior of the branch. Lupe devised signs directing patrons to the appropriate doors (one for voters and one for contact-free pickup) during Early Voting and Election Day. She made sure all bags used for contact-free pickup had flyers and bookmarks promoting the services and programs of both San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) and Memorial Branch Library.

Circulation Attendant (CA) Michelangelo Sosa functions as the Teen Liaison for Memorial Branch Library. Assisted by fellow CA Adam Capelo and Library Aides Lupe and Pristina Pinales, Michelangelo devised and assembled October's Bag o' Teen Time for Memorial's Teens. The bag consisted of four craft ideas, instructions, and supplies. Fifteen of those kits were given away, in addition to 25 different kits provided by Central Teens. Michelangelo continued to promote Memorial on social media, with an increased number of posts each receiving an increasing number of views, indicating a regular group of users eager to keep up with what is going on at Memorial. Michelangelo also produced multiple flyers and graphics promoting the offerings and services of the library.

In addition to his assistance with decorating the exterior of the branch for Halloween, CA Adam Capelo was integral in the development of the Bag o' Teen Time. He made samples of two of the crafts, taking photos as he went, and wrote out instructions.

Children's Librarian Christine Deffendall recorded for San Antonio Public Library's (SAPL) Dial-a-Story October 2 and 30. She recorded *Happy in Our Skin*, by Fran Manushkin, illustrated by Lauren Tobia, and *Pumpkin Eye*, by Denise Fleming. She hosted the first-ever Storytime Online, Saturday, October 3. she monitored the chat, and created breakout rooms in which participants could meet with librarians for an informal interaction. She also participated in the October 10 Storytime Online by reading *Turtle's Penguin Day*, by Valeri Gorbachev. On October 7, she read *Mine!*, by Sue Heap, and taught participants ASL signs (talk, sing, read, write, play, grow, learn, daily) to a song which promotes the five practices which support early literacy development, as laid out by Every Child Ready to Read, 2nd Edition. For the Toddler Times on October 14 and 21, she co-hosted and led the opening and closing songs. Christine recorded two picture book readings for SAPL's YouTube channel for the Halloween season. *Just a Minute*, by Yuyi Morales. Christine contributed to the Children's Services Blog on October 27 by writing a review of the book, *An A-Z of Monsters and Magical Beings*, written by Aidan Onn and illustrated by Rob Hodgson.

MISSION

Mission Branch Library was a hosting site for Early Voting. This year, instead of the traditional 2 weeks, Early Voting was held for 3 weeks. Hours were also extended during the last week until 10 PM for Early Voting.

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 of all ages during Contact-Free Pick Up hours.

Teen Services Librarian, Cindy Cruz, continues to host the virtual book club on the Teen Library's Discord Server. Ms. Cruz, along with two teen volunteers, focused on scary stories for the month of October.

Library Circulation Attendant, Briana Rangel, hosted a virtual gaming program with the eSports Committee she is on. 11 participants played Smash Bros Ultimate online competitively while remaining safe at home. Ms. Rangel has also reached out to the community about starting a pen pal program and has received interest; she is also working with Pan American Branch Library staff to see if that community would be interested in the program as well.

Library Assistants, Jessica Viera and Mari Castellano created Take & Make Crafts for Adults for adult library users. Ms. Viera made a Sunflower Mosaic Take & Make for adults.

Adult Services Librarian, Kassandra Vela-Laosa, continues to work with the Crafting Live Streaming Committee. On October 23rd, she hosted a live instructional Zoom program featuring how to make an Origami Cat.

PAN AMERICAN

During the month of October, Library assistant Cassie Garza worked together with a teen volunteer to create a list of possible Take & Make for teens. The teen volunteer created a spreadsheet that provided pros and cons for each month's teen Take & Make, supply list and other points to consider about each Take & Make idea. Ms. Garza will begin incorporating the teen volunteer's Take & Make ideas for November.

Ms. Garza also recorded and moderated an eSports panelist discussion video for the eSports leagues located in San Antonio. This recording brought to light the various eSports venues and eSports leagues that call San Antonio home. One unique league is a veteran league that uses VFW as a home base.

Ms. Garza has continued to maintain contact with local school librarians in Pan American's service area. In October, Ms. Garza conducted a school visit at Leal MS which included dropping off various Take & Makes and coordinating with the school librarian about a Latinx book club.

Adult Services Librarian, Adrian Leal, organized a "Baby Yoda" Make and Take for our patrons, to celebrate the premier of the show The Mandalorian. Mr. Leal also created several Halloween themed Take & Makes for the patrons. Halloween Confetti bookmarks, sugar skull acetate paper and haunted house foam signs were the crafts created for October.

Mr. Leal continues to work with Monty Holcomb for a virtual chess program. Patrons challenge the librarians to chess matches as they discuss different strategies and moves.

Mr. Leal along with Librarian, Marco De Leon, held the first virtual Spyfall Program. It went off without a hitch. Those patrons that participated really enjoyed the program. The two-hour program flew by. Most of them wanted an early heads up for the next Spyfall Program.

Library Assistant Stephanie Perez hosted an Animal Crossing party on the SAPL Animal Crossing island. Patrons were given a Dodo Code and invited to run an obstacle course, spin wheel for prizes and explore the island.

PARMAN

Early voting was in full swing again this October and despite some challenges it was a relatively smooth and peaceful process this year. Through staff's professionalism and the judges' experience the library's daily operations along with functioning as a voting site was seamless. Due to Parman Library's past high volume of voters and school's no longer being an option as a voting site Bexar County had the foresight to open the Alzafar Shrine voting site which alleviated much of the traffic making voting in this community easier. After the voting the election judges came back with a box of fresh baked cookies from the best bakery in Stone Oak to show their appreciation to the Parman staff.

In October the Parman Library had the special pleasure to host ArtPace artists Madison Cowles Serna and Jasmeet Kaur who created an incredible mural in the branch's parking lot. The final result created a spectacular drive-thru art exhibit that patrons could enjoy from their cars. These types of events are important now more than ever as it brings the community closer, even if it's just from their cars, while keeping everyone safe.

In adult services at Parman, Librarian Monty Holcomb continued to play the king's game online with a live audience.

In October, Parman Staff put together the annual Spooky Walk. The coronavirus pandemic has changed a lot in our lives, so Parman Halloween celebration looked different this year as well. Keeping COVID safety in mind the trail behind the library has been decorated and available for public daily in October giving the visitors the opportunity to experience Halloween at their own pace in a safe, familiar environment.

Teague continues to co-host SOW Healthy with the San Antonio Food Bank and enjoys helping children understand how gardening creates a positive impact on growing healthy foods and how healthy foods benefit our bodies. This month Teague also debuted a virtual Tween program all about the great outdoors! In addition to an instructional video she created about making nature journals, the program included a LibGuide with information about geocaching, camping, outdoor games and star gazing. Teague continued her work on the tween LibGuide as co-lead of the group and debuted a new book talk for the book *Prairie Lotus* by Linda Sue Park on October 8 and a second book talk featuring the book *The Strangers* by Margaret Peterson Haddix.

Children's Librarian Lisa Taylor debuted two SAPL Storytime read aloud recordings on SAPL's YouTube channel. One on October 6, *Hungry Hen* by Richard Waring, included clips of her family's chicks growing up, and a second read aloud, *Eek! Halloween* by Sandra Boynton, debuted on October 9th, and showed her chickens decorating their coop for Halloween. In an effort to provide some virtual Halloween fun for SAPL patrons, Lisa solicited and co-edited spooky read-alouds from fellow Children's librarians, working with Marketing to schedule the premieres throughout October. Together with several librarians from the Storytime Work Group she presented a Live Storytime Zoom program on October 3rd and October 17th.

POTRANCO

Teen Librarian, Jenny Borrero, has been assisting with moderating the Teen Discord server. This server is a virtual teen space where online programming is held. Teens can participate in daily programs, chat rooms and place 3D printer orders. Ms. Borrero will begin taking orders for the button maker to make homemade buttons for teens.

Ms. Borrero has also made Take & Make crafts for the teens. Twenty Five kits were taken by the Potranco teens in October. Ms. Borrero has also begun revamping the teen space, so it will be ready for teens when the library reopens to the public.

Children's Librarian Jacqueline Gonzales created Take & Make crafts for the young patrons of Potranco Library. The paper owl craft was made of various color construction paper cut in different shapes and sequins. Children were instructed to paste them to an owl cutout.

Ms. Gonzales worked with the STEAM workgroup to create a program that teaches children to grow crystals overnight. Ms. Gonzales gives instructions on how to use Epsom salt, hot water and small objects to create the crystals of all shapes.

Library Assistant Lisa Leandro continues the virtual coloring program. Her regular attendees sit around and chat while coloring mandalas and other intricate and creative coloring sheets. The patrons in attendance use this virtual coloring hour as a time to catch up with Ms. Leandro and stay connected to the Potranco Branch.

Ms. Leandro continues to receive submissions for the virtual edition of the Pooch Parade. Patrons have been sending in pictures of their 4 legged friends, all dressed up and ready to be stars of the show.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Children's Librarian Lucy Humphrey created five different Fall, Halloween, and Día de los Muertos-themed Take & Make craft kits for toddlers and school age children, giving away a total of 154 kits. The kits generated positive community feedback including one patron's request for ten kits to deliver as friends' Halloween treats. Ms. Humphrey also hosted the branch's monthly *Tween Book Club*. October's selection was *Small Spaces* and participants absolutely loved this spooky selection. Ms. Humphrey created a marble maze activity kit to tie in with the book's theme, and tweens shared their creations. Additionally, Ms. Humphrey and Library Assistant Destiny Saenz-Taplin organized a Day of the Dead altar, bringing staff together to remember their departed loved ones.



Pruitt Teen Services conducted one virtual program in October. The *Teentober* event featured virtual puzzle gaming. Five teens attended and their feedback was enthusiastic. Teen Librarian Sheri Watkins continued outreach with Lopez Middle School, cohosting *Manga Club* with the school's librarian. In recognition of *Pronoun Day*, Pruitt Teen Services reached out to the Pride Club at Roosevelt High School and made members their own pronoun-themed buttons along with providing information regarding SAPL resources of interest to the teen LGBTQ community. Teen Services also distributed 61 Take & Make craft kits.



Adult Services conducted two virtual events in October. The *TGIF Book Club* met and discussed *Crazy Rich Asians*. (“...that’s why I come to our book club, to read things I’d NEVER pick out myself!” one of the participants noted.) Combined Molly Pruitt and Potranco staff hosted the weekly Adult Virtual Coloring program, featured in the “Top Selections for Adults & Seniors at SAPL” e-newsletter for adult services. Additionally, Adult Services Librarian Paula Opiela assisted with assembly of 1500 Halloween Bookmark SAPL-wide Take & Make kits. Pruitt Adult Services distributed 90 Adult Take & Make kits. Ms. Opiela and Adult Services assistant Catrina Grivich, Bexar county Volunteer Deputy registrars, submitted completed voter registration forms for patrons. Ms. Grivich also developed Halloween graphics for the SAPL site.



Pruitt branch continued to provide community outreach heralding Family Chess Night’s return by handing out chess sets, flyers with links to access Pruitt- and Roosevelt-based virtual chess rooms, and meals curbside.

SAN PEDRO

Branch staff began work with the SAPL Marketing Department on the library’s 90th anniversary celebration, including the production of a short video featuring the architect who renovated the building in 2007.

The branch distributed Take & Make kits for all age groups - Children (Fall Take & Make with corn husks and chalk), Teens (assorted kits) and Adults (Halloween Bookmark).

Children’s Librarian Karen Braeuler participated as a co-host in several virtual programs for families. “Adventurers Book Club” is a virtual book discussion group for school age kids. This month, the featured books were “Ghost Attack” by David Lubar and “Caterpillar Summer,” a Bluebonnet nominated book. Other programs included: “SOW Healthy” sponsored by the San Antonio Food Bank and “Toddler Time Online” for ages 1 ½ to 3 and their caregivers. The branch association with nearby daycare Lil Munchkins continued this month with a delivery of books for ages newborn to middle school.

Adult Services Librarian Diana Starrett was part of the “Noon Time Helping of All Culinary Things” via Zoom. The episode was Making Doggie Biscuits at Home.

SCHAEFER

Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser was involved in a variety of programs during the month of October. She is a member of the Storytime work group, and the group started Storytime Online weekly during the month of October. Leslie participated in Storytime Online on Oct. 17 and 31.

Since in-house library programming isn't happening currently and libraries couldn't have Halloween parties, Leslie, along with Children's Librarians from Brook Hollow, Cody and Igo, presented a Halloween Party on Zoom. There were a variety of activities including a costume parade, scavenger hunt, dance party and Storytime!

Leslie started doing a Zoom outreach to the pre-k kids at the Evelyn King PCI on Oct. 28 by presenting a Halloween Storytime. She used to visit the center monthly before the pandemic, and now she'll read to the kids monthly on Zoom.

Leslie is a member of the Salado Elementary School's Site Based Committee, which she was invited to join last year. Last year the group met at the school, and this year the group is meeting virtually and had its first meeting of the school year on Oct. 28.

In the month of October, 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 fall programming. Dacari is currently working alongside a teen services colleague on a research paper that they plan to submit for possible publication. Dacari continues work with the Teen Equity workgroup to understand and recommend ways in which teen services can offer equitable services to teens.

The week of October 12th, Library Assistant BlancaSilvia Hernandez submitted Schaefer's "I ♥ Vinyl (Digital Edition)" bi-weekly program for adults and seniors.

The program was a Walking Playlist for patrons to use to warm up, walk and cool down.

16 patrons clicked on the playlist to enjoy the music and 16 patrons clicked on the bibliocommons list to browse SAPL's collection of related items.

The week of October 26th, Library Assistant BlancaSilvia Hernandez submitted Schaefer's "I ♥ Vinyl (Digital Edition)" bi-weekly program for adults and seniors.

The program playlist was Karaoke themed.

7 patrons clicked on the playlist to enjoy the music and 9 patrons clicked on the bibliocommons list to browse SAPL's collection of related items.

On Thursday, October 8, Librarian Maria Adams co-facilitated the Film Noir Film club with Training Officer, Daniel Gomez. The group of five attendees met online to discuss the film, The Roaring Twenties, starring James Cagney and Humphrey Bogart.

Librarian Maria Adams and Library Assistant Blanca Silvia Hernandez worked with other committee members to produce programs for the Halloween Annual Initiative. Maria and Blanca crated a video highlighting the Bexar county park, Hot Wells, documenting its history and included information about the haunted sightings that have been spoken of at this location. This project was part of a series of videos

released on the library's YouTube channel. The series was called, Fright Night, and featured on the Hauntbrary 2020 LibGuide.

SEMMEs

In collaboration with other SAPL children's librarians, Ms. Randi presented stories, songs and fingerplays for Toddler Time Online Live on October 14 and October 28. For the October 28th program, the children enjoyed her reading of *Across the Stream* by Mirra Ginsburg, pictures by Nancy Tafuri. She also sang and played the song "Little Drops of Water" on the guitar and led the children in the fingerplay "One Little, Two Little, Three Little Chickens". She presented stories, songs and fingerplays for Storytime Online Live for October 3 and October 24. For the October 24th program, she read *Lizard's Song* by George Shannon, illus. by José Aruego and Ariane Dewey, and sang and played her rendition of the poem "The Iguana" by Douglas Florian on her guitar.

During the pandemic, SAPL's Dial-a-Story telephone line has been getting many more calls than it ever has before! On October 6, Ms. Randi recorded *The Best Sukkot Pumpkin Ever* by Laya Steinberg, illus. by Colleen M. Madden. For the Hallowe'en season, Ms. Randi recorded *The Dancing Skeleton* by Cynthia C. DeFelice, illus. by Robert Andrew Parker, on the line on October 27.

On October 29, Ms. Randi co-hosted Sow Healthy, a children's gardening/nutrition program that is a partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank. On October 31, she co-hosted the not-so-scary Halloween Storytime Online Live.

Throughout the month of October, Semmes offered a Take & Make kit featuring Corn Husk Art. For online, curated programming, on October 20, Ms. Randi premiered a Storytime for *The Best Pet of All* by David LaRochelle, illus. by Hanako Wakiyama. For pre-recorded video programming for preschoolers, Ms. Randi recorded a reading of *It's a Tiger* by David LaRochelle, illus. by Jeremy Tankard, and sang and played her rendition of the poem "Jim-Jam Pyjamas" by Gina Wilson on the guitar. She also presented the action rhyme "The Tiger". This video will premiere on SAPL's YouTube channel on November 3.

Children's Librarian I, Valerie Carroll, presented the Solve A Mystery Zoom program on October 24th and had 33 kids in attendance. Valerie and the children used basic forensic science skills to successfully catch the culprit. Valerie also added some simple forensics experiments to try at home to the STEAM page of the School Age LibGuide.

Valerie also played a smaller supporting role in other Children's Services including co-hosting Monica Huerta's Marvel Trivia program on Zoom on October 3rd, and co-hosting two sessions of the SOW Healthy Garden-to-Table virtual program series on October 7th.

Valerie updated the STEAM page of the School Age LibGuide on October 10th to include Jacqueline Gonzales' Salt Crystal demonstration. Patrons across San Antonio could register for supplies to follow along with once the video was posted, or they could use what they had at home to make crystals. Nine families registered for supplies, and the cross-posted YouTube video has received 45 views as of November 7th.

The Semmes Branch Library hosted Early Voting from October 13th through October 30th. Branch staff answered many general questions about voting during the three weeks of Early Voting. Over 19,000 people voted at Semmes during Early Voting.

THOUSAND OAKS

The Thousand Oaks Library hosted Early Voting with more than 11,900 voters casting their votes.

Children's Librarian Lea Ann McDonald continued to work with the Take & Make Team to facilitate system-wide support for the Winter 2020 kits. At the branch level, the Take & Make Kits have been successful and Ms. Lea Ann created an additional Make a Monster Halloween-themed kit – all of which were given away. The kit was funded by the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library and contained play dough and other items to make a monster at home.

Ms. Lea Ann has led the Take & Make System-wide team for the past 6 months and will continue to do so. This team creates online content for the Storytime and Art & Maker Work groups that post videos on the MySAPL YouTube channel.

Ms. Lea Ann started up a new work group that will create online programs using robots to teach children the basics of coding.

Ms. Lea Ann continued to connect with parents and caregivers, via phone calls and email to pull requested materials and reader's advisory as well as reaching out to local preschools, schools and daycares to offer Zoom Storytimes or book pulls to their families.

Ms. Lea Ann is transferring to the Encino Library next month to begin a new adventure!

Assistant Branch Manager Brooke Mjolsness, at the request of workgroup members, served as chat moderator for cooking programs entitled Noon Time Helping of ... on October 1 and 15. The program series is offered weekly and covers various recipes and kitchen topics.

Ms. Mjolsness co-hosted a virtual Ayurveda program on October 7. This month's topic was Emotional Freedom. The program had 33 attendees and continues to grow with people attending from other countries, including the UK and India.

On October 9, Ms. Mjolsness co-hosted a virtual Beginner's Chair Yoga program. The Chair Yoga series has seen a steady increase in attendance over the past few months and continues to grow.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

Tobin Library at Oakwell hosted Early Voting from October 13 – October 30, 2020. Turnout was extremely heavy with over 18,159 voters which was a 33% increase over the 2016 early vote election. Librarian, Barbaraella Frazier, made signs that marketed *SAPL is Here For You* so voters could see what library events and services were being offered while waiting in line. Librarian, Karah Garcia and Circulation Attendant, Melissa Carroll came up with the idea to have some selfie photo stops for voters with one of them pictured below.



In partnership with ArtPace, artists created works of art on the parking lot with Chalk It Up @ San Antonio Public Library. Over 60 cars drove by to see the beautiful art created by artists in the morning on October 10.

Librarian, Tracey Knouse, helped with the distribution of Ask Me buttons to wear as part of Operation Transformation's team. To show staff are available and here to help, buttons were designed by Giselle Weyte in Marketing with various phrases like: Ask me... I'm happy to help or Ask me... I know things. All staff are receiving the buttons as a reminder that both external and internal customer service are important.

Staff have continued to appreciate Director Ramiro Salazar's weekly video messages. All agreed the Halloween video on October 30 was the best with Mr. Salazar as Dracula.

In preparation for Phase 3, on October 30, tapestries of dinosaurs, Harry Potter's Forbidden Forest and an ocean with dolphins and bright colored fish were hung between shelves to prevent access to the collection during public computer appointments. The tapestries were purchased for nominal amounts due to the generosity of The Friends of Tobin Library at Oakwell.

WESTFALL

Children's librarian, Imelda Merino, participated in three different projects within the Art & Maker Group. Imelda came up with a couple of easy costume ideas that kids could use for Halloween that were featured in a video called "I Can Be Anything". Several people contributed to this video. Imelda also contributed to the "Explore Sounds" video. Throughout the month of October, she has been working on a project called "Small Worlds" that explores easy, fun ways that kids can create an imaginary world. The video for this has not been completed yet, but will premiere in November. As part of the Storytime Work Group, Imelda participated in her first Zoom "Storytime Online", sharing a couple of songs and a rhyme as part of a longer program.

This month LEARN appointments continued at the Westfall branch. The Training Officer, Michelle Rickman, was able to help in small ways, such as allowing computer time to complete lengthy job assessments, and big ways, like ensuring an online application for permanent residency went through.

Work continued behind the scenes as well, preparing for Phase 3 and the Enhanced Library Card, learning at the virtual Women's Leadership Conference, and partnering with a trusted volunteer to create ESL content.

Westfall's library aide, Cristian Ortiz, with the support of his supervisor, Librarian II, Angelina Cortes, created and filmed a promo video for National Novel Writing Month, which is on San Antonio Public Library's YouTube channel, as well as reader's advisory films called, "In the Stacks" which features a library staff member walking through the stacks discussing their favorite materials on the shelf.

Along with preparing for her interim role as Branch Manager, Adult services librarian, Angelina Cortes, has been working with the Book groups adult services program on preparation and planning for the community story chain and National novel writing month happening in November.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY KEY INDICATORS

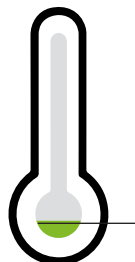
OCTOBER 2020

FY 2021

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

COVID-19 greatly impacted Library service levels in FY2020 and is projected to continue to impact through FY2021.

CIRCULATION: GOAL



4,745,519
TOTAL FY GOAL

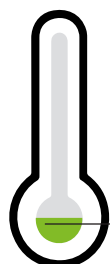
FYTD GOAL: 350,217

CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR 2021



413,289
ITEMS
BORROWED

LIBRARY VISITS: GOAL



1,794,701
TOTAL FY GOAL

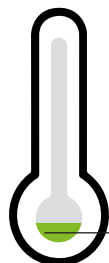
FYTD GOAL: 261,000

LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2021



288,450
VISITS

DIGITAL ACCESS: GOAL



953,237
TOTAL FY GOAL

FYTD GOAL: 71,760

DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR 2021



1,160
COMPUTER
HOURS



84,555
HOURS OF
WI-FI USE

85,715

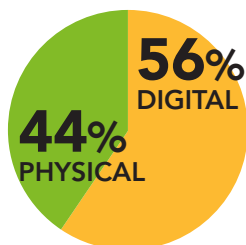
TOTAL HOURS OF
COMPUTER & WI-FI USE

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

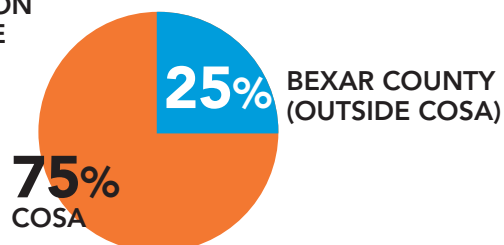
OCTOBER 2020 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2021

CIRCULATION
BY TYPE



CIRCULATION
BY SERVICE
AREA



VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2021



141,933
MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

79,620
MYSAPL
APP SESSIONS

127,606
OVERDRIVE
SITE VISITS

255,205
SOCIAL MEDIA
IMPRESSIONS

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2021



2,519
TOTAL ATTENDANCE

666
ADULT PROGRAMS

227
TEEN PROGRAMS

1,626
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

35 PROGRAM VIDEOS UPLOADED

5,155 PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS

OCTOBER MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

Misinformation

in the 21st Century
online program series

Join SAPL Librarians
as they discuss trends in
misinformation. Each session
will cover a different topic,
including propaganda, hoaxes
and health information.

Monday, October 12
and October 19
7-8 p.m.

Registration required.

Tuesday, October 13
6:30-7:30 p.m.

**SPEAK
GEEK**
at San Antonio Public Library

Join us for a special Pokemon Go edition on Speak Geek.
Registration is required.

SAPL's Noon Time Helping

COOKING SERIES

**HISPANIC
HERITAGE
MONTH**

Thursday
October 8 and 15
12-1 p.m.

HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS at SAPL!

SAN ANTONIO
PUBLIC LIBRARY

San Antonio Public Library

October 2020 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	226	311	3,396	175	3,221
Brook Hollow	10,166	25,657	2,213	0	2,213
Carver	637	436	2,084	112	1,972
Central	4,932	6,972	15,245	0	15,245
Cody	12,170	18,793	2,739	0	2,739
Collins Garden	938	7,767	2,867	144	2,723
Cortez	766	6,810	2,246	91	2,155
Encino	6,490	23,858	2,834	0	2,834
Forest Hills	1,111	270	1,549	0	1,549
Great Northwest	8,911	23,475	2,750	0	2,750
Guerra	1,796	10,250	3,169	0	3,169
Igo	12,355	25,164	3,692	0	3,692
Johnston	1,962	10,646	2,143	95	2,047
Landa	4,496	1,017	1,192	0	1,192
Las Palmas	542	8,415	2,319	0	2,319
Maverick	8,087	20,594	2,701	0	2,701
McCreless	1,800	559	1,844	0	1,844
Memorial	1,109	8,860	2,612	0	2,612
Mission	1,973	10,356	649	147	501
Pan American	813	168	1,163	77	1,085
Parman	11,441	18,804	2,031	0	2,031
Potranco	5,418	1,009	6,126	0	6,126
Pruitt	1,465	263	912	0	912
San Pedro	738	168	1,377	0	1,377
Schaefer	1,928	3,384	2,872	102	2,770
Semmes	7,358	20,952	2,427	0	2,427
Thousand Oaks	2,369	12,454	3,049	0	3,049
Tobin	6,556	19,948	1,669	0	1,669
Westfall	2,966	1,090	5,747	216	5,531
Kampmann Library Portal	0	0	98	N/A	98
Interlibrary Loan Lending	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	61,041	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	230,729	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	413,289	288,450	85,715	1,160	84,555

Circulation includes Physical, Digital and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt

San Antonio Public Library

October 2020 Programs and Attendance

Location	Total Live	Number of Programs			Total Live Program	Adult Program	Teen Program	Children's Program
	Programs	Adult	Teen	Children's	Attendance	Attendance	Attendance	Attendance
Bazan	22	22	0	0	127	127	0	0
Brook Hollow	1	1	0	0	13	13	0	0
Carver	1	0	0	1	40	0	0	40
Central	7	6	0	1	91	81	0	10
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	4	1	0	3	125	10	0	115
Great Northwest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guerra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Igo	8	8	0	0	49	49	0	0
Johnston	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Landa	7	4	1	2	500	34	22	444
Las Palmas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maverick	4	0	4	0	16	0	16	0
McCreless	1	1	0	0	10	10	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	12	2	0	10	182	4	0	178
Potranco	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pruitt	6	2	2	2	113	54	32	27
San Pedro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schaefer	2	1	0	1	9	1	0	8
Semmes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thousand Oaks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tobin	0	0	0	0	0	0	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	5	0	0	5	40	0	0	40
System	93	25	31	37	1,204	283	157	764
TOTAL	173	73	38	62	2,519	666	227	1,626

System includes live virtual programming by systemwide teams.

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures

FY 21: Forest Hills Oct 1-Jan 11, McCreless Nov 2-Mar 2

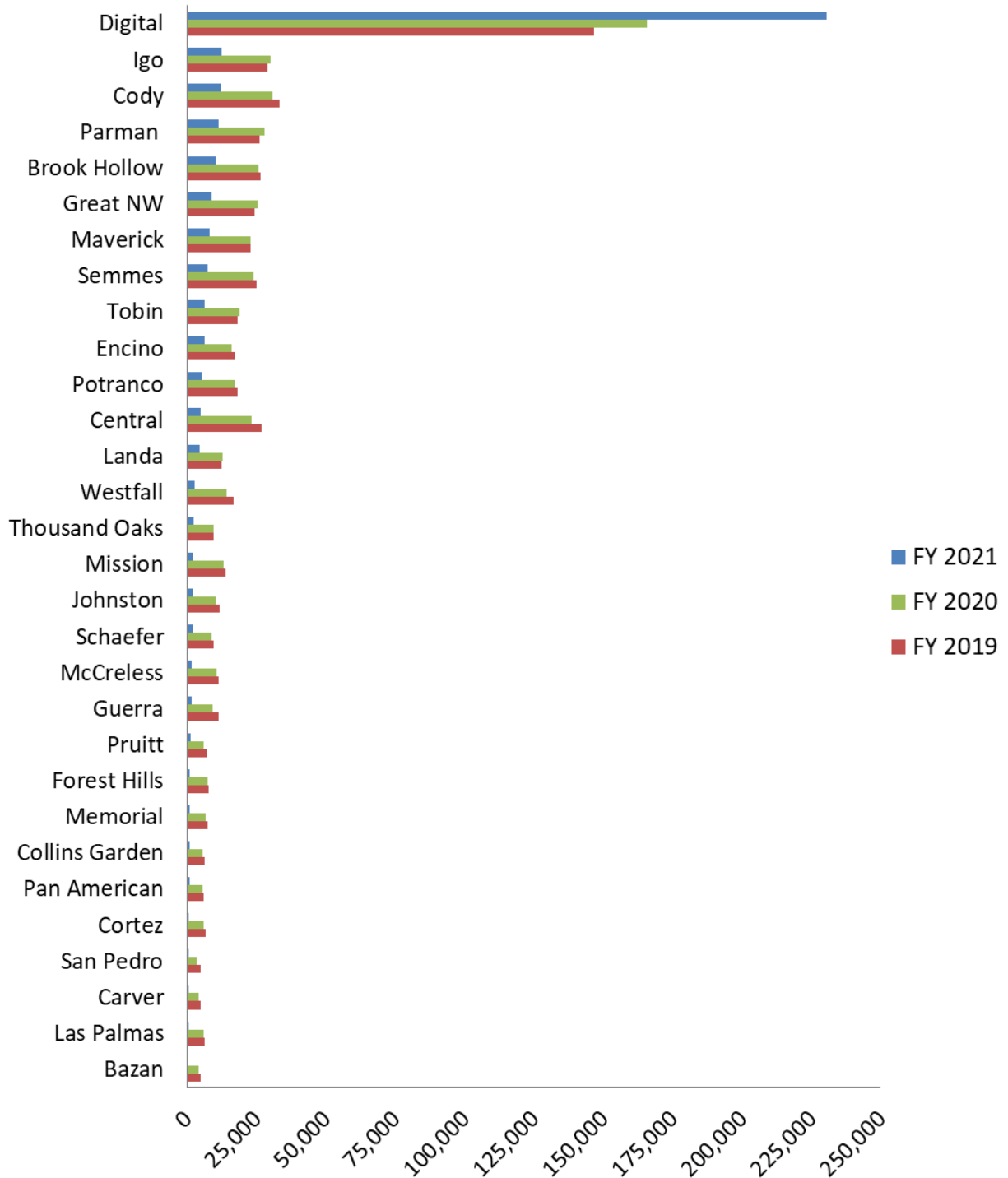
FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Jun 1, **All physical locations Mar 14 through Jun 15 due to COVID-19**, Pruitt Jun 30-Jul 13, Forest Hills Sep 29-30

FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm, Great Northwest Apr 15-May 5, Semmes May 1-26

11/18/2020

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Oct 2020



Location Closures

FY 21: Forest Hills Oct 1-Jan 11, McCreless Nov 2-Mar 2

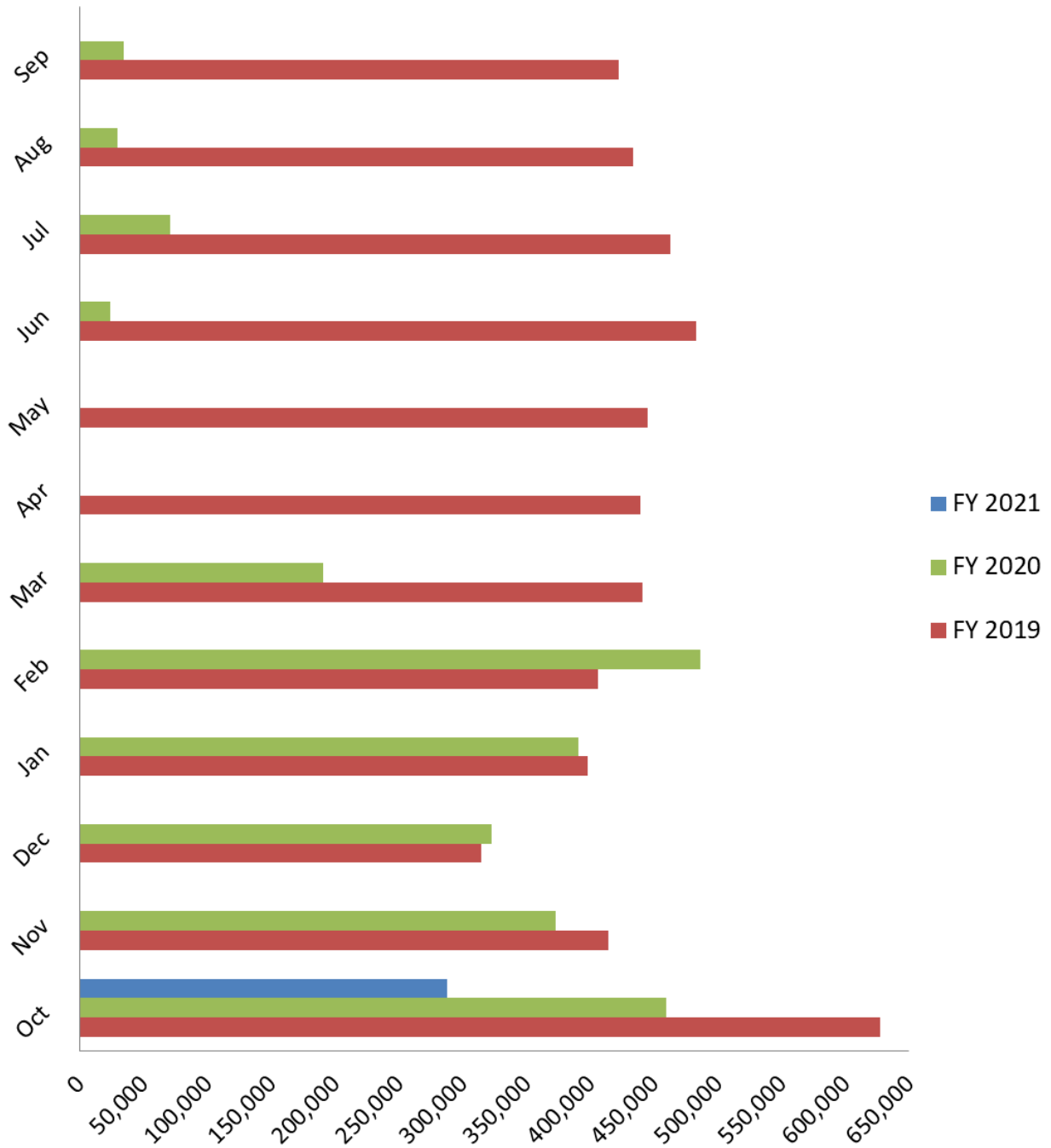
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11/18/2020

San Antonio Public Library

Visits



Location Closures

FY 21: Forest Hills Oct 1-Jan 11, McCreless Nov 2-Mar 2

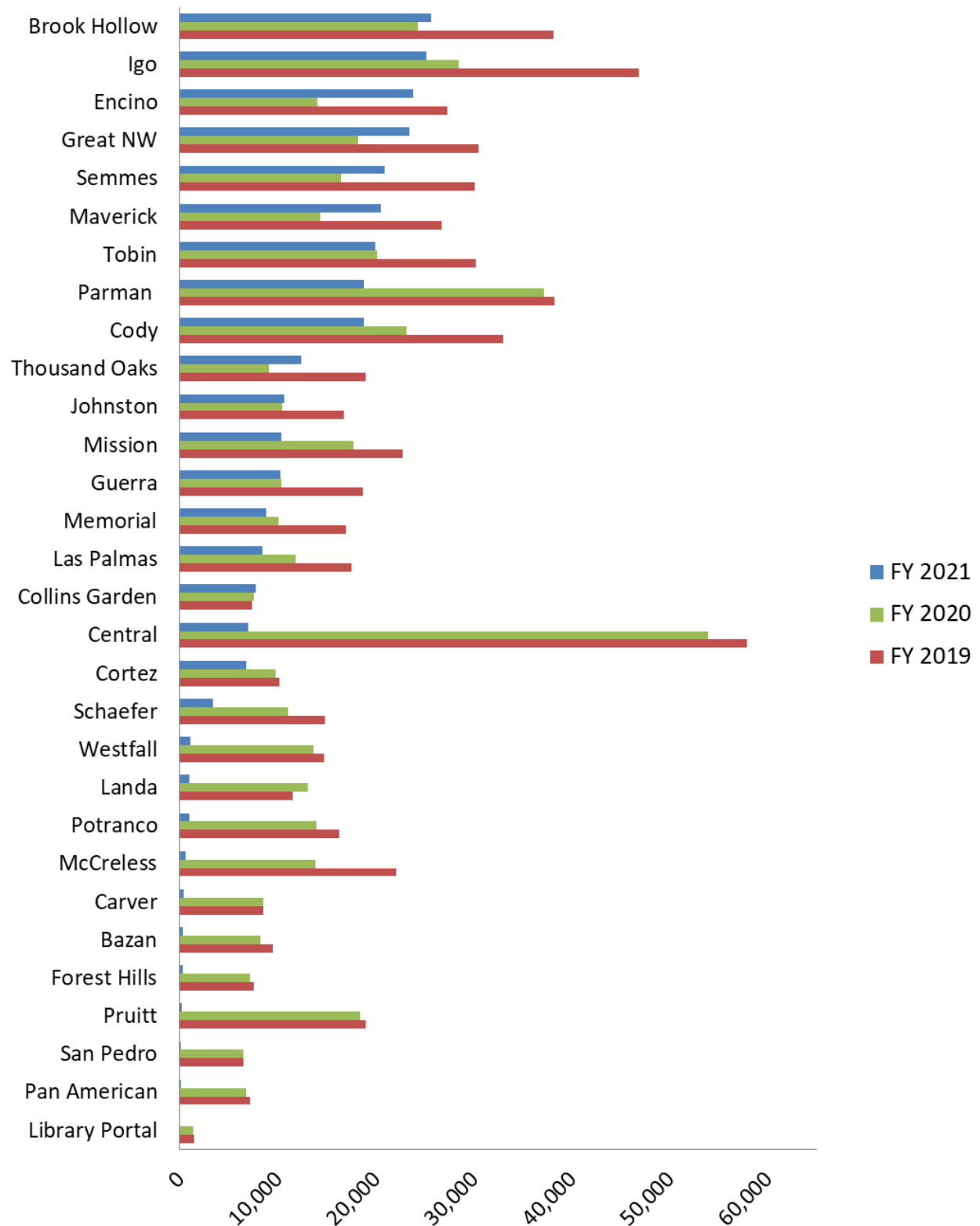
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11/18/2020

San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Oct 2020



Location Closures

FY 21: Forest Hills Oct 1-Jan 11, McCreless Nov 2-Mar 2

FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Jun 1, **All physical locations Mar 14 through Jun 15 due to COVID-19**, Pruitt Jun 30-Jul 13, Forest Hills Sep 29-30

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

11/18/2020

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

Location Closures

FY 21: Forest Hills Oct 1-Jan 11, McCreless Nov 2-Mar 2

FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Jun 1, **All physical locations Mar 14 through Jun 15 due to COVID-19**, Pruitt Jun 30-Jul 13, Forest Hills Sep 29-30

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11/18/2020