



## San Antonio Public Library Director's Report June 2021

San Antonio Public Library's (SAPL) began its annual Summer Reading Program at the beginning of June. This year's theme, Summer With SAPL, has various programs and activities for all ages through the end of August.

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# DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar serves on the Board of the Local Government Hispanic Network (LGHN) and participated in a Board Meeting on June 11, 2021. Mr. Salazar continues to work on the possibility of a San Antonio Chapter of LGHN.

On June 16, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar met with San Antonio Book Festival Executive Director, Lilly Gonzales regarding plans for the 2022 event.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar participated in the San Antonio Public Library Foundation's Executive Committee meeting on June 16 and provided an update on the Library as well as an update on projects and initiatives funded by the Foundation.

On June 23, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar and members of the Library's Administrative Team met with the consulting team focused on the Library's Community Needs Assessment. The assessment has resumed, after pausing during the pandemic as services and needs for both the Library and patrons adjusted accordingly based on a COVID-19 environment.

# MARKETING



- Multiple television outlets reported on SAPL's 2021 Summer Reading Program highlighting the various ways patrons of all ages can get involved.
- San Antonio Magazine featured SAPL's Summer Reading Program in their "What to do in San Antonio" column.
- The Express News published an op-ed by Cary Marriott about libraries and fines. The author positively highlights SAPL's fine-free approach throughout the pandemic while outlining the negative impact fines have on lower income community members.

- KSAT 12 featured a segment on SAPL's Teen Summer program that included an interview with Teen Services Coordinator, Matthew Loaiza. They also published an article online. They mentioned that they'll be sharing how children can participate in SAPL's Summer Reading Program tomorrow.
- KSAT 12 aired their feature story on SAPL's Summer Reading Program for children. Cresencia Huff was interviewed for this segment.
- KSAT 12 aired a feature on SAPL's Summer Reading Program for Adults. This was the result of an interview with Morgan last week. There should be a feature on Children's and Teen's as well which I will share as they arise.
- KSAT 12 aired multiple feature segments on SAPL's "Show Us Your Chanclas" promotion. Multiple outlets also highlighted the contest.

**Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:**

- SAPL's social media generated 377,125 impressions
- SAPL's social media following base grew by 188 new fans
- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts 8,916 times.

**Social Media statistics for the month:**

- Twitter: 5,592 followers
- Facebook: 21,161 followers
- Instagram: 7,232 followers

**Graphics**

The Graphics Team created publicity materials for a variety of programs and events during this reporting period, including materials for Juneteenth, Summer Reading events, materials to promote SAPL's partnership with Opera SA, service updates, Pride Month, and Back-to-School resources.

## DIGITAL SERVICES

Starting June 17th, the Digital Library Services Assistants Christina Hess, Michael Sheehan, and Daniel Garcia reopened the Kampmann Portal at the Briscoe Western Art Museum. The Portal is now open for operation 3 days a week.

On June 21, Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun attended SirisDynix's BLUEcloud Analytics - Advanced Analytics online training. The course explored additional methods to enhance reports designed using the BLUEcloud Analytics system.

On June 28, Coordinator of Digital Services Adam Spana met with the employee scheduling software project team to see a demonstration of the Snap Schedule platform.

On June 29, Mr. Spana, along with his counterparts from other COSA departments, attended a meeting of ITSD's IT Customer Advisory Board. The advisory board provided feedback and suggestions to ITSD on improvements to its customer-facing support site and service processes.

During the month of June, the Digital Services - Info Team had 285 active users, 88 new posts, and 595 replies. The Digital Services - Info Team was created by the Digital Services team, using the City's Office 365 solution, to create a new way for Library staff to stay informed about changes to Library systems and to receive help addressing questions and issues.

Also, during the month of June, the Digital Services team responded to 524 Ask-a-Librarian tickets and conducted 323 chat sessions with Library staff.

## **LITTLE READ WAGON**

As the 2020-2021 San Antonio Independent School District year drew to a close in mid-June, Little Read Wagon (LRW) hosted two Story Times for children at the Navarro Learning Center. Eva Banda presented bilingual books, songs and rhymes. Clair Larkin presented books, songs and rhymes in English. Ms. Banda and Ms. Larkin look forward to continuing the relationship with Navarro once the new school year begins.

LRW staff began a series of pop-ups at city parks in June. Staff greet families visiting parks and vary the times and days of the visits including in the evenings and on weekends. Each child gets to select a book, and is signed up for the Summer at SAPL while adults are given information on library services. Staff visited 12 parks in June and used a new red wagon with baskets of books to draw interest.

Julia Lazarin visited Pre-K 4 SA families as they informally gathered at Pearsall Park. Ms. Lazarin gave each child a book, offered Summer at SAPL sign-up and provided families with library information. There will be two more opportunities to nurture the Pre-K 4 SA partnership this summer ahead of the 2021-2022 school year.

Megan Cruz virtually visited with children attending a summer program at Little Oaks Discovery School. Ms. Cruz read books and sang songs with the children. These visits continue through the summer.

## **CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

The month of June was busy with summer reading program work. Children's librarians supported their location-specific teams in registering children 0-12 for the program, which is truly an effort of the entire staff. Children were delighted to receive a new book to start off the summer and set their own reading and activity goals. Children's librarians also continued presenting online programs and co-hosting special guests. In June our special guests were 1 2 3 Andres, DJ Axe6, Matt Sandbank Shadow Factory, Dinosaur George, Once Upon a Wild, Xelena Gonzalez, and the Astonishing Mr. Pitts. Cresencia Huff was interviewed for a KSAT feature on the Summer with SAPL program, which aired later in the month.

The San Antonio Food Bank offered the first in a short summer series of new programs. Cooking Around the World shares recipes and culture with tweens. June's class focused on Mexico and participants began the class with a physical warm-up, including pretending to run to get on an airplane and then "fly" to Mexico with their arms. The other class is Nibble with Willow, a curriculum for children 3-5 and their trusted adults. The program features a sweet bunny puppet and a focus on seasonal foods with very simple to prepare recipes.

Ms. Huff and Jennifer Velasquez (Coordinator of Teen Library Services) finished meeting with a panel of judges to select poems for the Young Pegasus Poetry Competition. The selection process ultimately went

smoothly in spite of initial issues with technology. The panel of experienced judges were very happy to do the Young Pegasus work together.



## 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 June.*

**Virtual Teen Programs and Activities** — The 210teenlibrary Discord workgroup, led by Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) and consisting of Teen Services Librarians and Liaisons from around the system, worked with off-site teen volunteers (“Teen Mods”) to host eight weekly virtual teen programs on Discord (“the server”) along with additional activities and events. Teen Summer 2021 brought many new activities, events, and services to the server, including a celebration of graduating seniors, an additional campaign of Dungeons & Dragons, a new magnet/sticker making service, and Teen Pride events for Pride Month. Teens also suggested a variety of new channels, including channels for discussing anime, cartoons, movies, coding/programming, plants and gardening, and creating/sharing Picrew art. Overall, teens and Teen Mods continue to use the server as a place to connect with new friends, share their interests, express their identities, and create a positive and inclusive space for all teens.

For the 210teenlibrary Instagram page, Regina Almanza (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) has been creating graphics and videos for posts and stories. These items include teen interest content, young adult fiction books, and highlight general library services. Regina will also evaluate and brand teen-created content for posting as well. Regina presented an Instagram Live program with the 210teenlibrary Instagram workgroup featuring rainbow-themed crafts and foods in celebration of Pride Month. Questions and interactions with teens during that segment showed an interest in the library’s back to full service and the demo.

JD Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) continues to assist in TelRef at Central on Thursdays and at Igo Library twice a week. He began bringing a music programming component to Igo as an adjunct to the Teen Time there, hosted by Laura Herman (Teen Services Librarian).

Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT, 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 participate in Instagram Live videos with Teen Library staff. Ciana has continued to respond to the 3D printing requests from teens on the Discord server. She prints and sends the requested item out to the teens' preferred library branch for pick up. Ciana also records and submits all monthly statistics associated with the 210teenlibrary Instagram account.

Amisarahi Sarabia (SAPL's Teen Outreach Specialist) shares teen-created Spotify playlists on the 210teenlibrary Instagram account weekly and creates weekly Instagram Spotify questions with which teens interact. Amisarahi also joins Matthew to host Music Mondays on the 210teenlibrary Discord server in which teens stream their favorite songs and artists while chatting with friends on the server.

Kathleen Fordyce (Manager, Teen Library @ Central) joins Connie Hejl (Teen Services Librarian, Las Palmas) Thursdays on Discord to host the "Random Fandom" club, where teens engage in discussions about different fandoms that interest them and stream their favorite anime shows. Kathleen also continues to serve as a member of the Teen Summer workgroup, the Teen Services Discord team, and the YA Nonfiction workgroup.

**Virtual Teen Content and Resources** — The 210teenlibrary Instagram workgroup, led by Matthew Loaiza and consisting of Amisarahi Sarabia, Ciana Flores, and Regina Almanza, shared information, resources, activities, and other content for teens on Instagram, created by off-site teen volunteers and Teen Services staff. Highlights from the reporting period include a variety of posts and Stories related to Juneteenth and Pride Month, a celebration of graduating seniors, a long manga series booklist, and several recipe posts. Additionally, Edward Mayberry (Teen Services Liaison, Guerra) and Jenny Borrero (Teen Services Librarian, Potranco) collaborated with the workgroup to highlight the June herb gardening kit for Teen Summer 2021 with food demo featuring salsa, led by Thomas (a teen volunteer).

**Teen Pride** – The Teen Pride workgroup, led by Matthew Loaiza and consisting of Chris Castillo (Teen Services Librarian, Great Northwest), Dacari Lambert (Teen Services Librarian, Schaefer) and Shannan Prukop (Teen Services Librarian, Johnston), collaborated with the 210teenlibrary Discord workgroup and the 210teenlibrary Instagram workgroup to provide a series of five virtual Teen Pride events during the month of June on the 210teenlibrary Discord server, as well as several Teen Pride posts and content on the 210teenlibrary Instagram account. Teens from the 210teenlibrary Discord server also provided artwork that was featured in Teen Services' video for Pride San Antonio's Virtual Pride Parade as well as in a Teen Pride artwork showcase on Instagram. Teen Services was invited by the Pride Center San Antonio to participate in a youth Pride event at the D.R. Semmes Family YMCA in June. Kathleen Fordyce and Shannan Prukop attended and spoke with teens and their families about teen programs and resources available at SAPL.

**Virtual Summer Interns** – Teen Services at the San Antonio Public Library continued its participation in the Family Service's Paid Summer Internship Program for students 14 to 17 years old by hosting two virtual interns, supervised by Matthew Loaiza. This year's interns are contributing to the Teen Summer 2021 program by serving as summer interns on the 210teenlibrary Discord server, assisting with virtual clubs and activities on the server, and creating content for the 210teenlibrary Instagram account.

**Systemwide Support** – On June 9, Matthew Loaiza participated in an interview with KSAT 12 to discuss Teen Summer 2021, highlighting the Teen Summer 2021 t-shirt designed by Rosie G. (a local teen artist), the June and July Teen Summer kits, and virtual summer activities for teens on Discord and Instagram. On June 15, Loaiza attended Parks & Recreation's Movies by Moonlight event with Regina Villalobos-Perez (Marketing Specialist) to provide information about the San Antonio Public Library's summer programs for children, teens, and adults.

## ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

June was a busy month in Adult Services as it included the kick off of Summer with SAPL for Adults as well as two annual celebrations. Highlights from June are as follows:

Adult Services celebrated Pride Month throughout the month of June to highlight the LGBTQ+ community. The Library offered 3 online programs as well as a Take-and-Make available at all locations. The first online program was a collaboration with the LGBTQ+ Archive at UTSA. Archivist Melissa Gohlke presented information for both the UTSA Community and the general public about the history of Pride Month celebrations in San Antonio. The second online program was a panel discussion with local drag kings and queens. The panelists discussed the drag scene in San Antonio, the differences in experiences of drag kings vs drag queens, the ways that drag kings and queens are involved in issues of social justice, and how to get involved with the drag scene. The final online program presented by the Library for Pride month was a panel discussion of various organizations in San Antonio that serve the LGBTQ+ community. Organizations that participated in this program included the Pride Center, San Antonio Gender Association, Thrive Youth Center, Queer Diaries, Para Mi Gente, and others. This event was a chance for participants to learn about each organization and the services that they provide, and included a mini Zoom exhibition hall where participants could move between the breakout rooms of the Zoom session to meet each organization. Finally, a Take-and-Make kit was offered at all locations. This kit provided the supplies for community members to make a rainbow keychain. Included with the kit is a bingo challenge activity for individuals to complete activities such as read a book by an LGBTQ+ author, add preferred pronouns to their email signature, learn about LGBTQ+ history, and many others.

Also in June, the Library celebrated Juneteenth by offering two online programs. The first was a panel discussion featuring local experts with in-depth knowledge of this holiday. Panelists included Byron Miller from the San Antonio Juneteenth Commission, Claudia Espinoza from the San Antonio African American Community Archive, and Cary Clack from the Express News. The panel was moderated by Dr. Carolyn Tubbs from St. Mary's University. The panelists discussed the history of the Juneteenth holiday and how it continues to be relevant today. The second online program offered by the Library in celebration of Juneteenth was a presentation by author Annette Gordon-Reed, author of *On Juneteenth*. Angela Ards, a Dallas native who is a journalist and an associate professor of English at Boston College, moderated the discussion as Ms. Gordon-Reed spoke about her book that provides a historian's view of the country's long road to Juneteenth, recounting both its origins in Texas and the enormous hardships that African-Americans have endured in the century since, from Reconstruction through Jim Crow and beyond.

Summer with SAPL for Adults launched on June 1st. Community Members are invited to stop by any Library location to pick up a Goals for Your Soles Chancía Tracker and a Summer with SAPL button. Participants are then invited to use the Goal Tracker to record their goal and their progress toward that goal. Goals could include reading or listening to books (including books they read to or listen with others), participating in library activities, or participating in activities that the library has inspired them to learn more about. When they complete their goal, they can return to a Library location so that staff can celebrate with them and provide them with a Summer with SAPL Limited edition mason jar. So far, roughly 1500 adults are participating in Summer with SAPL for Adults.



# CENTRAL LIBRARY

## CHILDREN @ CENTRAL



The *Summer with SAPL* children's summer reading program began in June. Manager Kate Simpson coordinated with Central Circulation and Teen Library staff to create a meaningful summer reading experience for families who visited Central Library to use the contact free pickup service. Children's staff took turns working with Circulation staff to sign up children for the summer reading program, so they could connect with a children's librarian, get book suggestions, and be celebrated for participating the program. When the Teen Library began handing out free lunches for children in June, Children's staff paired up with them to promote summer reading and connect with those families as well.

Librarian Ashley Stubbs represented the Central Library at an in-person outreach event for the first time since the pandemic began. She shared information about the Library and the summer reading program with families attending the Travis Park Movies by Moonlight event.

Ms. Seglin, Ms. Stubbs and Ms. Escovedo were very active in online Story Times. Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin presented a total of 6 live virtual Toddler Time and Story Time programs. Her Early Bird Story Time video premiered on the Library's YouTube channel as well. Ms. Seglin participated in a special LEGO Club virtual program as part of the summer reading series of events.

Ms. Stubbs presented several live online Story Time programs and co-hosted the Nibbles with Willow online program in partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank. She supported the Tiny Tots weekly program by maintaining their "Books We Love" section of the LibGuide and their curated online programs.

Librarian Olivia Escovedo participated in the live online Story Time program as well. She has become a core member of the group of children's librarians facilitating the new Among Us video game program for tweens. Ms. Escovedo also recorded two stories for the Dial A Story telephone service.

Ms. Escovedo has been lending a hand at the Cortez and Pan American Branch Libraries. She set up all of the children's summer reading material for that location.

Central Children's staff continued to develop outreach connections with area child care centers. Ms. Seglin held a live virtual Story Time for children at Madison Square Child Development Center and

delivered them books in support of their curriculum. Ms. Stubbs made similar book deliveries to Central Christian Day School.

## REFERENCE

June saw the retirement of Martha Loewen after 30 years of service at SAPL. Martha was an integral part of the Reference team and served as Assistant Reference Manager and Interim Reference Manager when called upon. Her wealth of knowledge and mentorship will be greatly missed and it is hoped she enjoys her well-earned retirement.

Several employees attended the "Groundwater Approach: An Introduction to Racial Equity & Systemic Racism" seminar presented by the Racial Equity Institute and hosted by the Office of Equity. The training presented on racial inequities present across various systems and institutions and used data to show how racism is structural. A summary of this information was later presented to Reference staff and staff were encouraged to attend future trainings. Several employees also attended Library 2.0's "Reinventing Libraries for a Post-COVID World," with Librarian I Lorin Flores presenting on engaging adult gamers during the pandemic year.

The Reference Department continued to work on weeding the Reference collection in preparation for the upcoming bond project. Central continues to see patrons coming in to use the computers, and has had many patrons praise the fact that they no longer need appointments or have strict time limits.

In the month of June Central staff assisted 180 patrons through our Libchat platform. The average rate of satisfaction was nearly 97% with many patrons choosing to leave personalized kudos for our staff. Patrons appreciated staffs "prompt assistance", "friendly demeanor", and general knowledge and customer service.



On Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) provided patrons with a program through Zoom called Experiencing Good Energy Flow with Chi Kung and Tai Chi presented by Nameer Kirma from Good Spirit Tai Chi Chu'an and hosted by Diana Starrett from San Pedro Library and co-hosted by Jordan Torres from Central Reference. In this program participants could follow along with the presenter as they demonstrated how the slow movements of Chi Kung and Tai Chi could help improve your posture, breathing, and mindset. Along with those benefits the movements also provide an experience of reduced tension and stress; as well as assist in gaining muscle tone. The program has been provided by the Health and Fitness Workgroup from SAPL Adult Services in repeat over the past months with participants being very enthusiastic and enjoying the presenter's demonstrations; which reflect in lively discussions in the question and answering segment of the program.

On June 9, Pannaga Prasad organized and hosted an online session entitled "Discover Self-Care Through Ayurveda Part 6: Yoga for your Mind/Body Type" with Brooke, Mjolsness. The session was presented by Maggie Grueskin, an Ayurvedic Yoga Specialist, Chopra Center Perfect Health Certified Instructor, Diplomate in Logotherapy. There were 56 registrations, and 25 attended the session. Attendees came from near and far with a few from Houston, Canada and India. In this session the presenter talked about the benefits of yoga, top 10 reasons to practice yoga, and the common forms of yoga styles. The instructor brought in a few yoga teachers for the session. They talked about what inspired them to become yoga practitioners after having experienced tremendous benefits when they were facing issues within their lifestyle. Attendees expressed many thanks at the conclusion of the program.

On June 11, Pannaga Prasad organized and hosted an online session entitled "Beginner's Chair Yoga Class" with Brooke, Mjolsness. There were 31 registrations and 10 attended the session. It was presented by Dr. Nayak, a yoga instructor from Idoyogasa organization. The instructor taught inhale-exhale, finger stretching and four-square breathing exercise. Attendees found the session to be very informative and inquired at the conclusion as to when they could attend another session.

On Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, Lorin Flores and Yanel Cepeda co-presented *Engaging Adult Gamers During the Pandemic Year* along with main presenter Edward Mayberry at the Library 2.021 Reinventing Libraries for a Post COVID World online conference. Approximately 60 persons attended.

On Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the San Antonio Public Library hosted a virtual panel of local drag performers on Zoom. The Pride Month program, organized by Adult Services librarian, Michael Dunbar-Rodney, featured drag queens Aysia Rawzé and Miss Taint as well as local drag kings Gacho Marx, Pancho Panza, and SirGio who are part of the San Antonio Latinx troupe, Los Mentirosos. The panelists discussed a range of topics from their personal journey into drag to the San Antonio drag scene to the barriers faced by performers of color and the deference shown to drag queens over drag kings. The program was recorded, and once editing is complete, will be posted to SAPL's YouTube channel. Michael was assisted during the program by Victoria Villalobos, Sally Bauer, and LGBTQ+ Committee members, Monica Huerta and Marisa Debow. There were 14 attendees out of the 29 who registered to attend the program.

On June 25, Pannaga Prasad organized and hosted an online session entitled "Beginner's Chair Yoga Class" with Brooke, Mjolsness. It was presented by Kristen Baggett, a yoga instructor from the Idoyogasa organization. There were 27 registrations and 11 attended the session. In this session, the instructor taught breathing, shoulder exercise and rolling neck, shoulders, knees, ankles, wrists exercise while sitting on the chair. She also taught an inhale-exhale exercise while standing in a warrior posture

and a stretching exercise. Instructor introduced 4,7, 8 breathing exercises as a good practice for someone undergoing stress. Participants commented many thanks and especially appreciated the balance practice.

On Tuesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, the San Antonio Public Library hosted a mini-exhibition and panel on Zoom featuring local queer organizations. This Pride Month program, organized by Adult Services librarian, Michael Dunbar-Rodney, showcased several San Antonio queer organizations that provide aid to the community. The program started off with a virtual exhibition hall using Zoom breakout rooms. Each organization had its own breakout room with representatives, and attendees could move from room to room and speak with members of the organization and learn about their mission and resources. For the final hour, the breakout rooms were closed and attendees brought to the main Zoom room for the panel itself. Panelists engaged in discussing the needs and challenges facing LGBTQ+ people seeking aid, differences between services from grassroots organizations and established channels, and how organizations can work together to fill gaps in service. Organizations that participated were as follows: Pride Center of San Antonio, San Antonio Gender Association, Queer Diaries SA, Jovita Idar Little Free Pantry & Fridge, Yanawana Herbolarios, Para Mi Gente, and Thrive Youth Center. The Program was recorded and once editing is complete, will be posted to SAPL's YouTube channel. Michale was assisted during the program by Sally Bauer, Morgan Yoshimura, Destiny Saenz-Taplin, Angelina Cortes, Blanca Hernandez, Brooke Mjolsness, Cynthia DeLeon, and Cristine Mitchamore. There were 16 attendees out of the 40 who registered to attend.

On Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup> -Sally Bauer moderated a program called Blood Pressure Basics. The program was presented by Keith Thibodeaux- One of the City of San Antonio Health and Wellness consultants. Keith covered: risk factors, how to improve your blood pressure, and various wellness resources, how to improve your blood pressure and various wellness resources. 16 people attended the program and were very lively asking Keith many questions.

In June, Librarian Vicky Villalobos from Central Reference with the Pop Culture Committee wrapped up the Fandom Marathon which began at the end of May. Patrons participated in a virtual marathon where they could run, bike, walk, or use any measurable forward movement to get them to the finish line. Milestone miles were rewarded with buttons from notable fandoms like Lord of the Rings, Marvel and DC, Doctor Who, and Pokemon and could be picked-up at specified branches. And patrons who completed the marathon could collect their medals from Central Library.

Vicky Villalobos, Julia Selwyn and Michelle Villareal presented an Anti-Harassment training for employees to Laura Villanueva, San Antonio Public Library's (SAPL) training officer, in hopes to include it as a New Employee Orientation supplemental training. Laura's feedback was encouraging and extremely beneficial. The group plans for this training to encourage active and impacting changes system wide to ensure safety and security to SAPL employees and patrons.

Reference Librarian Dexter Katzman continued reviewing and arranging the Plant Patents. While in TelRef, he answered a call from a staff member with the Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES). The staff member asked if SAPL staff could provide zoom training in both English and Spanish for staff and clients. Two Training Officers--Marcella McGowan (Johnston) and Daniel Gomez (Carver)--agreed to help with this project. RAICES has asked for a first class in August.

# LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

Emily Flores, Interim Manager, continues to teach three classes a week: Conversational English as a Second Language (ESL), Civics ESL, Advanced ESL and co-teach the ESL Book Club. On June 10, in collaboration with the Mexican American Civil Rights Institute (MACRI), SAPL co-hosted author Guadalupe Garcia McCall and Emeritus Professor of Chicano Studies at California State University Los Angeles Francisco Balderrama. The presentation covered the book "All the Stars Denied" and discussed the Repatriation Act and the forced deportation of Mexican-Americans during the Great Depression. With well over 500 views on Facebook, the presentation was of great interest to the community.

## TEXANA/ GENEALOGY

Librarian I Andy Crews and Librarian II Matt De Waelsche participated in this year's systemwide Juneteenth Celebration programming initiative working to coordinate a virtual panel discussion on the history of Juneteenth in San Antonio. Panelists for the June 15<sup>th</sup> program included the Commissioner of the San Antonio Juneteenth Association, Byron Miller, and local journalist Cary Clack. Mr. Crews also compiled current information about the celebration on the "Celebrate Juneteenth" LibGuide and created a short video titled "Juneteenth Library Resources," which featured archival materials from Texana's *Juneteenth Freedom Coalition, Inc., Printed Materials and Photograph Albums* collection.

On June 26, Librarian II Deborah Countess hosted the first class in a two-part genealogy series on using the FamilySearch.org website to locate digitized historical records. "Finding Your Past Using FamilySearch (Part 1): Getting Started" went over how to navigate this complex site and gain quick access to the record collections. How to effectively browse records that aren't indexed was also discussed.

Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson completed an extensive, box-level inventory of archival special collections in the Texana/Genealogy Vault, a project initiated in October 2020. The inventory involved barcoding all archival boxes and developing a spreadsheet to identify box label descriptions, collection sizes and storage locations. As of June 30, the boxed archival collections occupied 1,854 unique containers spanning a total of 1115.32 cubic feet.

## BRANCH LOCATIONS

### BAZAN

The Bazan branch staff was busy in June welcoming customers and registering them for the Summer Reading Programs. Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen reported a high volume of children eager to register and excited to receive a free book. Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia returned from maternity leave and kicked off summer reading by greeting visiting teens at Bazan with a craft and a free t-shirt along with information on how to get involved with online programming on Discord. Take-and-Make crafts were popular with adults who were encouraged to participate in Summer with SALP.

The start of summer also saw the return of the Summer Food Service Program at Bazan. "Grab-and-go lunches" delivered to the branch by the San Antonio Food Bank were made available for teens and

children eighteen and younger every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 12pm to 1pm. Turnout for the program was good.

Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia returned as the Gaming Club host on the 210Teens Discord server, teaming up with Teen Liaison Cassie Garza. Gaming Club saw several teens streaming multiple video games including Minecraft, Rocket League, Friday Night Funkin' and more. This gave spectating teens an opportunity to view the many genres of video gaming while chatting about video game related topics. June saw a high interest in Minecraft, so a dedicated channel for the game was created on Discord to discuss and play the game. The community aspect of gaming was apparent as teens shared tips on how to run commands and games on Java, video game recommendations and their experience with different consoles as well as with PC builds. The current "Teen Mod" (teenager in charge of moderating the gaming server), was very involved with the ongoing conversations and carried on a great rapport with participants, often sharing his own gaming ideas and his personal experience building a gaming PC.

## BROOK HOLLOW

Brook Hollow hosted the final day of early voting as well as election day on June 5<sup>th</sup> for the San Antonio run-off election. Over 1,400 community members came to the library to vote on those two days.

Brook Hollow served as a cooling center on Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup> with Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas and Circulation Attendant Teresa Smith stepping up and coming in on a holiday weekend. All of the staff thanks them for their service.

In conjunction with Giselle Weyte from SAPL's Marketing department, Brook Hollow now has dedicated signage on its tv digital display highlighting the mystery book club, La Tertulia Spanish language book club, and teen summer clubs on Discord. The staff is excited to use this tool to promote our branch programming going forward.

Brook Hollow continues to see an influx of patrons coming into the branch for computer use and to stock up on items for their summer holidays. Starting June 1<sup>st</sup> the SAPL summer program has also drawn many patrons to the branch. Brook Hollow librarians set up a sign-up table in the front of the library, leading many families and individuals to participate in our summer programming with new engagement happening with each age-based program on a daily basis.

Summer kicked off at Brook Hollow in June with over 400 children signing up for Summer with SAPL. Brook Hollow branch also gave out almost 420 Maker kits to families in the month of June. Thirty-six of those kits were funded by the Brook Hollow Friends of the library and included supplies for children to get outside and make giant bubbles.

Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas continued to help facilitate ongoing online children's programming including: Baby Time, Game Time, Read to a Dog, and Among Us. She also co-hosted special summer programs including Nibble with Willow and Cooking Around the World that both partnered with the San Antonio Food Bank and Shadow Factory Puppets with Matt Sandbanks. Multiple families also continue to enjoy the Story Walk put up outside the branch for the entire month of June.

Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot continues to serve as interim manager of Brook Hollow. Ms. Pouliot attended the branch managers meeting, library leadership team meeting, and the Snap schedule task and schedule development meeting. Ms. Pouliot also continues to work as a liaison to the Brook Hollow Friends of the Library and has been in talks with the Friends president about the future of book donations at the branch.

In her work as the teen summer committee lead, Ms. Pouliot worked with the marketing department to order more teen summer t-shirts for distribution around the system. At the teen librarian meeting in June, Miss Pouliot advocated for using the giving out of shirts as a way to start conversations and form lines of communication with teens in their respective libraries, which is especially vital as the teen services department once again starts in-person programming soon.

Marco De Leon, Brook Hollow's Adult Services Librarian, continued to co-host two very popular virtual programs, Among Us and Spyfall, where the maximum number of patrons registered for the online events. Among Us was hosted twice in June and Mr. De Leon and his co-host are planning on an expansion of the gaming program.

Mr. De Leon also hosted the Mystery Book Club and the La Tertulia Spanish Book Club via Zoom. The Mystery Book Club had 7 people in attendance and La Tertulia had 12 people in attendance. Both book clubs are looking forward to meeting in person starting in July.

Mr. De Leon continued to co-host the Science-Fiction and Fantasy Book Club that held its last virtual meeting via Zoom as the book club will be shifting to a hybrid function starting in July.

## CARVER

Carver Branch Library Children's librarian Braulia Carrillo resigned in June, leaving behind a legacy. During her 3-year tenure at the branch, she made many friends – dozens of youngsters and their families and area daycare centers who grew accustomed to her lively Story Times and amazing crafts. Those families and daycare centers, however, continued reaching out to the branch, involving their youngsters in the summer reading program. Meantime, the branch welcomed Maria L. Adams of the Schaefer Branch, who stepped in to help at the branch.

The LEARN Center saw an increase in use since the previous month, when in-person services resumed. During June, one patron began the Digital Inclusion program which offers computer skills leading to a certificate. She has visited steadily once a week. Another patron came in for email training sessions. Three others came in to update their resumes. A senior citizen user has been coming in to learn how to use his new laptop. Several patrons came in for help with government services.

The LEARN Spanish course, which began in May, continued, with Part 1 and Part 2 being offered weekly. Thirteen patrons participate in this course. By request, a course in conversational Spanish began on Saturday mornings. Ten patrons have signed up. All of the Spanish classes are being presented via Zoom.

Afternoons were reserved for patrons needing one-on-one assistance. Appointments are recommended so that the Training Officer Daniel Gomez can dedicate his full attention to each patron needing help.

Mr. Gomez has continued to host the Film Noir Club, which meets monthly online. June's selection was Alfred Hitchcock's *Shadow of a Doubt*. About 10 patrons participate regularly.

## CODY

Staff at the Cody Branch Library have been signing up summer readers of all ages throughout June. Many young readers were especially happy to receive their free book at the start of the program. All ages have been enjoying the many Take-and-Make kits provided by the aged based services staff.

Library Assistant Luanne Bloom continues to engage staff in Wellness sessions, getting staff involved in activities to relieve stress, get more steps in, and an introduction to meditation. Cody staff also had fun with a team building exercise, led by library assistant Angela Olivarez and librarian Marcella McGowan.

New storage cabinets and furniture for the staff break room, purchased by the Cody Friends Group, were delivered June 16 and have already made a significant difference at the branch. After removing existing shelving to accommodate the cabinets, a network port and electrical outlet were discovered, allowing the creation of a new staff workstation.

Children's Librarian Kristin Yourdon helped with several online programs in June. On June 3<sup>rd</sup> Yourdon helped preschoolers practice their counting skills while reading *Five Fuzzy Chicks* by Diana Murray and singing the Five Little Ducks songs during *Story Time Online*. On June 9<sup>th</sup> Yourdon moderated the *Once in a Wild* special summer event. During *Art Club Online* on June 10<sup>th</sup> Yourdon showed attendees several famous paintings of various styles and asked them to share their opinions. On June 17<sup>th</sup> Yourdon hosted *Story Time Online*. Finally, on June 30<sup>th</sup> Yourdon moderated the *Astonishing Mr. Pitts* special summer event.

At the branch, Yourdon set out a *Name that Character* game for children to play passively. Yourdon made several felt renderings of popular picture book characters and put them up in the branch's display case. To play, children wrote down the names of the characters and then showed their answer sheet at the Reference Desk to get a small prize.

Take-and-Make craft kits remained extremely popular at the branch. Yourdon and Library Assistant Haly LeFlore put together several kits to keep up with the demand, including collage, fiesta flower, crayon rubbing, tissue paper, and contact paper sun catcher kits.

Teen Librarian Amy Rae Weaver provided engagement opportunities for Cody teens and adults throughout the month of June. While Adult Services Librarian Marcella McGowan is serving as the Interim Training Officer at the Johnston Library, Amy has taken over the management of Cody's Library Aides and is also assisting with the Adult Summer with SAPL program. Amy Rae will continue to manage these tasks in addition to her work as a Teen Services Librarian, which has included enrolling dozens of teens in the Summer Program, creating new activity kits that teach teens how to make miniature catapults, and recruiting offsite volunteers through one-on-one conversations. On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, she also led a meeting with the Young Adult Nonfiction workgroup, where they discussed the coordination of physical relabeling of Young Adult nonfiction titles across the SAPL system. She will train Teen Services staff in completing this step of the Young Adult Nonfiction project in July.

## COLLINS GARDEN

**Collins Garden Library (CGL)** hosted the final day of early voting as well as election day on June 5<sup>th</sup> for the San Antonio runoff election. CGL served as a cooling center during the Juneteenth Holiday Weekend. CGL is administering the SAPL Summer Reading Program to patrons of all ages.

In June, Children's Librarian, Gina Brudi, served library families and teachers with Make and Take Kits and Reader's Advisory. As part of the Babies and Toddlers Committee, Brudi engaged children during Toddler Time via Zoom and presented 6 virtual Story Times to 15 classrooms at Knox Early Childhood Education Center. Brudi also filmed a short Tiny Tots video available on the SAPL YouTube channel demonstrating *A Rum Pum Pum* and *Two Little Bats*. Brudi also facilitated the CGL monthly Adult Book Club via Zoom. the group read *The Splendid and the Vile* by Erik Larson



Teen Services Librarian Daniella Toll assisted in hosting 5 teen D&D programs on the 210teenlibrary Discord server, encouraging teens to use creative storytelling skills to collaborate and problem solve in each week's adventure. She assisted in onboarding a new teen volunteer who started running their own D&D campaign on the 210teenlibrary Discord server, as well as communicating with 25 prospective teen volunteers through Volunteer Match and process application paperwork for 15 teens. Toll also helped distribute 5 graduation kits for teens who were graduating from high school this year. Many of the young people didn't get to say "goodbye" to their local teen services librarian, but for the ones who responded to the survey on Discord, got to pick up a free Advance Reader YA book copy, some snacks, pencils, earbuds, along with handwritten notes from the 210teenlibrary Discord workgroup staff and the teen summer T-shirt. The Collins Garden library started serving free lunches for children and teens on June 22nd. The Collins Garden staff distributed 30 summer t-shirts and 54 kits.

Effective Saturday, July 24, Jeannette Davies, Collins Garden Branch Manager, will transfer to Brook Hollow to become the Branch Manager. Davies began her career at SAPL in 2015 as the Branch Manager at the Memorial Library and has been at the Collins Garden Library since March 2016. Before moving to San Antonio, Davies worked as a publicist and librarian for the Las Vegas – Clark County Library District and as the Director of Library Services at Presentation College in South Dakota. Davies is very active in the Texas Library Association and hosts an online cooking program for SAPL. Daniella Toll, Librarian II (Teen Librarian) at Collins Garden and 6-year employee of the San Antonio Public Library, will assume the role of Interim Branch Manager at Collins Garden Branch Library.

## **CORTEZ**

### **Manager and All Staff**

The Branch continues to partner with the Parks Department to share Nature Smart Library activities. This month the Branch had kits on growing seeds with an additional art component and enough kits were provided that the extras were shared with Collins Garden Branch.

Branch Manager Cammie Brantley ordered several of the "Binge Box" DVD collections and created an eye-catching display to promote them and they are circulating well.

All staff are keeping up with COSA mandated training including security, climate change and ethics.

The Branch has welcomed Olivia Escobedo Librarian I from the Central Children's Department who is coming one day a week to help with staffing and to get experience in a Branch Library.

### **Children**

A variety of staff are filling in for the lack of a Children's Librarian. They are enthusiastically registering kids, giving out books and encouraging everyone to return. The staff brought the Manager's ideas to life by creating a Scavenger Hunt with Summer Reading icons, an "I Spy" display which incorporates staff photos, and a "Where's Waldo" exhibit. All of these activities keep children enjoying the library while keeping socially distanced. There has also been an effort to show most of the large events, such as Dinosaur George, on the Mondopad. Over 100 children were registered in June.

### **Adults**

Craft assignments from Library Assistant Jo Ann Paredes continued going out via email for the first three weeks of the month. Those crafts included: Homemade Soap, Homemade Body Scrubs and DIY Letter Board. On June 30 she resumed in-person craft classes on Wednesday mornings. There were four patrons in attendance and it was so great to see old friends again. This month Adult Services Librarian Angela Morrow assembled and helped distribute the Take-and-Make bundles for Children's Services'

“Children Celebrate Summer at SAPL” and Adult Services’ “Pride”, as well as coordinated and hosted a “Summer Reading Kickoff” with popsicles and prizes for Summer Reading signups. She set up the newest story walk at Cortez, “Flutter and Hum: Animal Poems”, with help from another member of staff. The “Do You Haiku” event which she co-hosted virtually was a success, with great feedback from attendees. Under Angela’s direction, new and exciting displays went up at Cortez, including “Disney and Travel” and “Bluebonnets [Award Books] You Can Pick” for patrons and children to peruse while in the branch. In-person programming is starting slowly with more planned for July.

## **Teens**

Teen Summer Reading is in full gear. Twenty-eight t-shirts and thirty-one Take-and-Make kits have been given out. Photos were taken of some of the teens when they received their shirts.

# **ENCINO**

June kicked off strong at Encino! We saw over 100 Encino adults sign up for the Summer with SAPL program. Adults also continued to enjoy several branch level crafts, including rainbow friendship bracelet kits for Pride month, a mini flower pot citronella candle craft, and a DIY after sun spray Take-and-Make activity.

Adult Services Librarian Ann Laird created videos to promote the system-wide adult Summer crafts – mini-macramé plant hangers, and watermelon coasters. Ms. Laird also created a video that was posted on the SAPL YouTube channel demonstrating how to make a Pride bracelet.

Encino also shared the latest installment of their popular “Spice is Right” program. June’s spice was a Jerk seasoning rub. Positive feedback was received through the Friends of Encino Facebook page by one of Encino’s patrons who has been enjoying the different spices that have been shared.

Encino kicked off Children’s Summer Reading program on June 1st. As of June 30th, the branch signed up over 450 children! Children’s Librarian Lea Ann McDonald set up one of the system-wide Story Walks outdoors for patrons to enjoy. On June 24th, Ms. McDonald created and facilitated an Art Club Online Program. This program featured a Japanese Artist who creates lifelike paintings on smooth rocks. The program encouraged children to create art works from items found in nature.

Encino Take-and-Make weekly Kits are still wildly popular and this month’s selection included: For young Children- “Make a Camping Scene,” “Fireflies in a Jar,” “Message in a Bottle/Beach Art,” and for Tweens: “Paint a Wooden Snake.”

Ms. McDonald facilitated several Passive Outreach opportunities for a local daycare, school and a group of special needs students to come to Encino, sign up for Summer Reading and offer to-go kits and materials to promote Children’s resources at the library. Another passive Children’s program enjoyed by over 100 children in June is the Summer with SAPL Scavenger hunt.

The Children’s department is very busy with high traffic and materials being checked out. Encino staff is working diligently to maintain appealing books on display and continually shifting to keep the department looking great.

Part Time Librarian Katherine Dillard requested the opportunity to work with Encino teens and moved into the role of branch Teen Liaison. She is looking forward to offering teen programming on Tuesday evenings in August when we begin offering weekly programs. For now, Ms. Dillard worked to display teen library information in the Teen Room and collaborated with a Library Aide to brainstorm ideas and set up

a passive program in the Teen area for an Origami Bookmark. More passive programming ideas have been planned.

The branch is also fortunate to be the weekly meeting place for a group of 8-10 teens that spend roughly 6 hours in the teen room, visiting and role playing. The teens also requested a teen group from the library when we open up teen programming again.

Teen Summer Reading was very successful in the month of June and the branch gave out all of the Teen shirts within a week. The teen kits were also successful and ran out within the first 2 hours of the day they are offered.

## FOREST HILLS

On June 2nd, Mr. Menchaca joined Megan and Julia from Little Read Wagon at Woodlawn Park to connect with families. Ms. Menchaca signed up children for summer reading; she spoke to community members to let them know that the library is available. Ms. Menchaca participated in two Story Times; everyone had a lot of fun. Sometimes it is not clear who has more fun, the librarians or the children. Ms. Menchaca wrote her first blog for the SAPL children's page. Ms. Menchaca reviewed the upper-grade book "Everything Sad is Untrue" by Daniel Nayeri. Ms. Menchaca wrote a curated Story Time to share with families. She did one in English and a different one in Spanish.

Branch Manager Mary Naylor hosted a virtual book club for the Doris Griffin Senior Center on June 21. She followed up with an in person visit to the center the following week. Many of the center's members remain virtual participants, but the number of in person visitors is increasing. Ms. Naylor discussed ways in which to offer library services to these members with the director of the center.

On June 26th Forest Hills had a Summer Reading event in the parking lot. Children and families were encouraged given the opportunity to sign-up for summer reading and touch base with the Forest Hills librarians.

## GREAT NORTHWEST

The Explorers@Home visited Japan this month. Children's librarian Cari Raley created activity kits with guides exploring Japan. Families made bento boxes, cucumber sushi, yakitori, mini Koinobori (carp streamers), cherry blossom trees and Kokeshi dolls. The Explorers@Home group grew from over 40 families to over 100 this month! Ms. Cari Raley sent over 300 digital activity guides to families to work on together at home and over 500 children have signed up for the Summer Library Club!

During June, Teen librarian Chris Castillo facilitated five virtual Teen Time programs on the San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) 210teenlibrary Discord server. Teens devised and implemented gaming, shared original artworks, music, memes, short stories, and discussed books and other media. Teens demonstrated masterful ownership over their virtual space. Teens requested the addition of new Discord server channels including #movies, #plants-gardening, and a space to share illustrated, customized, self-portraits called #picrews. Teens utilized 3D prints and custom button services for pickup at the branch. Teens submitted virtual volunteer applications and are eager to contribute to this opportunity. As part of the Teen Summer at SAPL incentives, teens collected herb growing kits. Teens collected all supplies of teen summer t-shirts designed by teen artist Rosie Ganske. Based on demand, this system-wide t-shirt "sellout" prompted a reorder of t-shirts for July.

As part of the Teen Pride workgroup, Chris Castillo facilitated a special edition of Teen Time celebrating the poet, artist, and LGBTQIA+ rights advocate Alok Vaid-Menon. During the presentation “Beyond the Gender Binary,” the 210teenlibrary Discord server teens commented that Alok’s poetry was “interesting,” “really deep,” and that the quote “we aren’t broken – the world is,” resonated most with them. Teens offered LGBTQIA+ YouTube channels and Teen staff mentioned resources like the Trevor Project available to them. Advanced readers’ copies of Vaid-Menon’s book will be given away.

Adult Services librarian Stephanie Vazquez worked on the Fiesta San Antonio committee and created the SAPL Craft Demo YouTube video on making a Fiesta Wreath posted on June 14. Ms. Vazquez also created the Take-and-Make Fiesta Wreath craft kits that were distributed at the Great Northwest Library, Pan American Library, Thousand Oaks Library, and Mission Library.

Library assistant Kathleen Marascio continues to plan and record videos on gardening, crafts, and cooking such as flower preservation and cooking demos. Ms. Marascio hosted the online poetry program “Do You Dare Haiku?: Tour with us, poetic art and Japanese Haiku” workshop on June 23.

Library assistant Donna Borel created and gave out 70 Take-and-Make packets for patrons to explore City parks and trails, odd attractions around SA and challenges such as “See how many SAPL libraries you can visit this summer” and a photography Bingo challenge. Ms. Borel also created a June Fiesta Display with Ms. Vazquez’s Take-and-Make wreath and Fiesta banners featuring books on Fiesta history, cookbooks for parties, and new books with Fiesta colors.

## GUERRA

Guerra Branch Library kicked off summer reading with a fun visit by a T-Rex June 5. From June 18 to June 20, Guerra Branch Library served as a Cooling Center during the Juneteenth holiday weekend. Guerra staff held a book club meeting on June 12 to discuss *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. The next title is Jim Butcher’s *Stormfront* which is the first of the Dresden Files series for the July 31st meeting.

Branch Manager Monica Bustillo continues to attend and support the City of San Antonio Toastmasters group which meets weekly Friday at

2 pm. On June 14, Ms. Bustillo attended the COSA Training session for Motivating others which is offered in partnership with Alamo Community Colleges. On June 16, Ms Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion of *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley. On June 22, Ms. Bustillo attended the Adult Library Marketing Association (ALMA) Book Buzz. Ms. Bustillo attended the Beginner’s Chair Yoga session on June 25.

Children’s Librarian Arlene Richardson began Summer Library Club registrations on June 1. She added weekly program offerings - videos and curated programs from her Toddler Time work group to the preschool LibGuide. Ms. Richardson participated in the following June programs for children: June 4 – Read to a Dog, June 5 – Summer Library Club Kick Off - 123 Andres, June 8 – Summer Library Club Lego Time, June 22- Game Time: Summer Olympics Edition, June 16 and 30 -Toddler Time Online Live. Ms. Richardson curated two Story Time programs for her Story Time workgroup. She designed and



installed a Summer Olympics display highlighting the history of the games and the world's greatest Olympians.

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson recorded *La manta azul del conejito* (*Little rabbit's blue blanket*) by Tatyana Feeney on June 8. Next, he recorded *El caballero que no quería luchar!* (*The knight who wouldn't fight!*) by Helen Docherty for Dial-a-Story in Spanish on June 15. He then recorded *El jardinero nocturno* (*The night gardener*) by the Fan brothers on June 18. On June 25, he presented the library trivia game at the Willie Cortez Senior Center. In this game he emphasized questions on Father's Day as well as folktales.

Library Assistant, Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry attended the Teen Services, Esports Committee and preparation meetings for the Library 2.0 Mini Conference "*Engaging Adult Gamers during the Pandemic Year*" presentation with Lorin Flores and Yanel Cepeda (reference). Edward served as the facilitator for the Teen Library Instagram Live Herb Garden Kit with Thomas Reyna on June 16. On Thursday, June 17th, Lorin Flores and Yanel Cepeda co-presented *Engaging Adult Gamers During the Pandemic Year* along with main presenter Edward Mayberry at the Library 2.021 Reinventing Libraries for a Post COVID World online conference. Approximately 60 persons attended.

## IGO

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance continues to present and assist with both Baby Time Online - Live and Toddler Time Online - Live with a team of children's librarians across the system. Ms. Vance also makes the resource sheet which is sent to families so that they can follow along with the program and continue to read, write, talk, play, and sing with their children even after the programs are done.

Ms. Vance continues to host The Stitchery. Most June meetings were still over the Zoom platform. Most members were tired of this format, and attendance was on a steady decline. On Saturday, June 26, there was quite the excitement as four members of The Igo Stitchery returned for this inaugural event. The group was reunited with two members who had not been able to connect via the Zoom platform, so there was a lot of catching up to do, with stitching and projects, and also with personal news. There were also some happy tears. The group looks forward to many more in person meetings and is excited about what the year may hold.

The teen services librarian, Laura Herman assists with two weekly Dungeons and Dragons programs online. One program is completely run by the teens, they have created the storyline and handle the player's questions. The teen gardening craft kits for June were all distributed during the first two weeks.

Library Assistant Russelyn Henson-Meyer arranged a romance readers' book club on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June. That was the first online meeting with the group after COVID-19 library closure. All attendees enjoyed discussing the book and they will meet in person starting from the month of July 2021.

Adult Services Librarian, Gamini Haluwana arranged a wellness presentation for the public on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June. The topic of the presentation was "Understanding menopause in the workplace" Fourteen people joined this online program and they were able to explore current evidence in relation to menopause as a growing occupational health concern. The speaker was explaining the range of common symptoms and triggers of menopause. The attendees were also able to discover strategies to support colleagues working through menopause.

## JOHNSTON

On June 7 Johnston welcomed Marcella McGowan as Interim Training Officer, on loan from Cody Branch Library. Johnston hosted its second popup vaccine clinic by San Antonio Metropolitan Health on June 16. Thirteen people received a shot of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine. On June 19, Cristine Mitchamore officially started as Johnston's new Branch Manager. Mx. Mitchamore had been Johnston's Interim Branch Manager since October 2020. On June 19, Johnston operated as a Cooling Center, staffed by Children's Librarian Tiffany Durham and Circulation Attendant Raquel Gonzales. Circulation Attendant Vida Salas created book bundles to highlight themes and increase interest in the Juvenile collection, such as a group of books about "Cooking and Baking." Library Aide Cynthia Blancas created new displays for Johnston's Board Books selections and Johnston's Spanish-language collection.

Teen Librarian Shannan Prukop agreed to be one of the branches giving out Food Bank lunches this summer, starting on June 22nd. They attended the NYC Youth Pride x Pride Center event on June 26th with Kathleen Fordyce, representing the Teen Library and handing out Pride flag and pronoun buttons while promoting library services to attending teens. They also led the June Speak Geek program on June 29th, discussing anime and manga from the 1990s. Mx. Prukop created activity kits for Johnston teens of rainbow beaded bracelets once the kits sent to all libraries ran out and teens were looking for more activities. They continued running the Tryday Friday program on the 210teenlibrary Discord server, encouraging teens to improvise and work collaboratively to solve problems presented in games. In June, Johnston staff gave out 21 shirts and 53 activity kits to area teens for Summer Reading.

Children's Librarian Tiffany Durham for June co-hosted the following programs on Zoom; Baby Time-Live Online and the bi-weekly Game Time Live. She recorded one story for the very popular and ongoing Dial-A-Story program and this month she delivered the new Summer Play Prompts during the recording. As part of Summer Library Programming Miss Tiffany participated in the planning and implementation of Summer Games Game Time on Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> on Zoom. The Olympic themed Game Time included physical, artistic and brain games and it was considered by all that attended a gold-medal event. Miss Tiffany led several meeting and practice sessions for the system-wide Summerfest scheduled for July 31st. Miss Tiffany this month worked to sign-up patrons for Summer Library Club and made a fun window display ready for July and Summer Reading Completers. In addition to system-wide Take-and-Make Kits she and circulation staff created and started to distribute branch specific Summer with SAPL Take-and-Make Kits with the theme of rainbows and will continue distribution in July. Take-and-Makes were a highlight for many young patrons, who were excited with each new kit. Miss Tiffany loved the fun bustle of the start of summer.

Marcella McGowan partnered with Mrs. Evelyn Green, Nutrition Education Assistant from the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program to host a six week series entitled "Healthy Bites, Healthy Moves." This virtual program is taking place on Wednesdays from 2-3pm and began on June 23 with 14 candidates participating. One of the registered participants lives in Vancouver, Washington! Ms. McGowan has assisted several patrons at the Learn center from resume creation to assisting with Social Security benefits.

## LANDA

Landa staff were pleased to see numerous families sign up for the summer reading program. The staff has been keeping pace with statistics from previous years. Children's Librarian Robin Alcorta hand selected the books to be given away at sign up. Nothing but compliments and tons of smiles have been received.

Children's Librarian Robin Alcorta shared a butterfly-themed Story Time with KLRN online patrons.

Children's Librarian Robin Alcorta led kids at Art Club Online in experimenting with salt painting. They were introduced to different techniques.

Landa teens engaged with their library this month by joining virtual teen programs and visiting the branch to pick up holds, summer reading DIY Planter Kits and the phenomenal, teen-designed Teen Summer t-shirt. Over two dozen teens visited in-person this month with several submitting volunteer applications, too! Library Assistant and Teen Liaison Rebekah Corley continued to meet with Teen Services colleagues to keep connected and discuss future programming, volunteering and outreach opportunities. Ms. Corley created a Pride display in the Teen Area to be shared alongside other branches in a 210teenlibrary Instagram story as well book bundles by request for teens stopping by Landa.

Landa's adult book clubs are gradually starting to meet in person. The book club at The Village at the Incarnate Word met face-to-face for the first time in over a year on the first Wednesday in June. They discussed the autobiography written by Alex Trebek shortly before his death, *And the Answer Is . . . Reflections on My Life*.

Reader's Ink, which meets the second Tuesday of the month, was just a few days shy of being able to meet in person. Their last Zoom meeting was a discussion of *A Man Called Ove*, a translation from Swedish by author Fredrick Backman. The story concerns a widower who is contemplating suicide because he feels a great emptiness. Of course, the story has a happy ending with Ove finding meaning in life.

The Mystery Book Club met face-to-face and a good many of the original group was back, plus at least one new member. They discussed *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis, a story about a woman who discovers she is not who she thought she was as she also discovers some uncomfortable truths about her family.

In addition to leading the book clubs, Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta is also involved with the Health and Wellness Cooking Subgroup, creating bibliographies to go with their live presentations.

## LAS PALMAS

Children have been signing up for Summer with SAPL and receiving their free books. The library had over 120 children sign up in June. Valerie Shelley, Children's librarian, had fun filling up the book shelves from the order she had made in May. Young readers also enjoyed reading to dogs during the Read to a Dog program. The online program, scheduled twice monthly, filled up for each event as soon as registration opened.

Take-and-Make kits from the children's department continue to be developed and handed out. The children looked forward to creating things with the materials given. The Friends of the Library for Las Palmas have also donated puzzles which were passed out to children visiting the library. They brought a treasure chest with various toys in it for the children to choose one during their visit. The children enjoyed choosing their gift.

Toddler Story Time continues to be a successful program. Valerie assists with the opening songs and rhymes or sings the closing songs for the Zoom delivered program.

At the end of June teens from the YWCA visited the library to play video games, do crafts, and check out books. The library signed up 28 teens for summer reading and gave away most of our June crafts. Teen Services Librarian Connie Hejl is setting a regular in-person Teen Time for the rest of the summer.

# MAVERICK

Maverick is in swing with Summer Reading! In just the first month, countless children, teens and adults signed up to join the annual Summer program. Despite the challenges from the first half of the year, it is inspiring to see many enthusiastic readers taking part in the summer reading program. It is satisfying knowing many from the community are delighted to have the library being part of their summer.

As of this writing, 404 children have signed up for the summer reading program at Maverick. They have been excited to receive books when they register. All 150 of our June Take-and-Makes were gone by Saturday, June 5!

Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts, read for Dial-A-Story on June 7. She chose the book, "Louis" by Tom Lichtenfield. She curated another Story Time, using the book "Mouse's First Summer" for the Tiny Tots website. On June 22, 11 kids and 5 adults visited the branch from La Petite Academy. Ms. Roberts gave them a tour, signed the kids up for the summer reading program, and read them a new book called "Toasty" about a piece of toast that thinks he/she is a dog.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl facilitated Zoom Teen Times, assisted by Library Aid Sarina Hackworth and two Teen Volunteers. Teens recommended several books including 'everything' written by author Leigh Bardugo, House of Song and Sorrow by Jaida Jones, and the Illuminae and Bronze Horseman series.

A Teen recommended a new game, Gartic Phone, a hybrid of the telephone game and drawing, which she had discovered online. It's a collaborative game with hilarious results which they chose to play the entire month long. Another highlight in June was that one Teen's older brother, and former Teen Time attendee, made a brief guest appearance as he was at home and on leave having completed his first year in the U. S. Navy.

# McCRELESS

McCreless Branch Library kicked off summer reading in spite of the ongoing renovation and limited service hours. Several patrons have been taking advantage of the computer and printing options available and staff have signed up several families for Summer Reading. Branch Manager, Emerson Stanley has been serving as Interim Reference Manager at the Central library alongside their duties at McCreless.

Adult Services Librarian Cristiane Yamada Lokensgard attended the following trainings: "Introduction to racial equity" conducted by Race Equity Institute, offered by the City of San Antonio Office of Equity; "COSA recruitment process and NEOGOV"; "Mirrors, windows and doors for young children" offered by the Little Red Wagon; "Snap schedule task and schedule development"; and BLUEcloud Analytics. Ms. Yamada as a member of the Juneteenth Annual Initiative assisted with the organization of the program "Panel Discussion: Juneteenth – Past, Present and Future. She also co-hosted the event.

Teen Librarian, Marisa DeBow, attended several trainings, conference talks and podcasts including "Introduction to racial equity", "Library 2.021: Reinventing libraries for a post-COVID world", "Libraries transform Texas: Summer Reading! Connecting with children during summer break", "Young adult nonfiction collection development practices in one public library system" and "BLUEcloud Analytics". DeBow also helped moderate the Pride program: Werk the Stacks Drag panel.



Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales created and hosted the pre-recorded program “What’s Poppin’ in SAPL Movies & TV” which reviews upcoming media recently acquired by the Library. During the same video, he provided a tutorial on how to use the catalog and Wowbrary. Mr. Gonzales also hosted the program “Cinema Terrible”, and co-hosted with Laura Villanueva the “Symphony training: User Registration”. The class intended to train staff on the basics of creating accounts. Besides that, Mr. Gonzales continues to attend and offer his input during the monthly meetings of the following committees: Pop Culture Committee, Symphony Fiscal Committee, and Circulation Policy Committee.

Circulation Attendant Linda Rodriguez attended the “Symphony Training: User Registration” on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## MEMORIAL

As the expansion and reconstruction continues to move forward at the branch, the progress is evident as patrons enter the parking area. All the sidewalk from the front and the Westside of the building have been removed. The front entrance has also been removed and is boarded up to ensure security. Several trees had to be removed as the plans moved forward.

Library on the Go, the literacy caravan continues to be used by staff to provide public services as a mini library to the community of Westside San Antonio. Patrons continue to request curbside services. The Book Drop continues to be available for return items and WI-FI services for limited hours continue in several parking slots.

Children’s librarian Christine Deffendall visited with 97 Kinder, First, and Second Grade students in eight Roosevelt Elementary school classes June 8 during a Career Day event. Mrs. Deffendall reviewed the book, *Grace Banker and her Hello Girls Answer the Call*, written by Claudia Friddell and illustrated by Elizabeth Baddeley, for the June 18 Children’s Blog. She also reviewed *Sakamoto’s Swim Club*, written by Julie Abery and illustrated by Chris Sasaki, for the June 29 blog. Mrs. Deffendall assists in the role of liaison between the renovation contractors and branch staff.

Branch manager Maria Gonzales ensures all operations flow smoothly from the continuation of curbside services to renovation and construction services. She meets with SAPL administration, Kencon project manager, construction superintendent and Munoz architects every Tuesday.

Adult services librarian Freddy Munoz developed a video on making cascarones for the Adult Services Fiesta initiative.

Mr. Hudson created a LibGuide on the history of Fiesta with related activities for home activities and photos of Fiesta medals.

## MISSION

Summer Reading has been received well at Mission Library. 181 children have signed up at the time of this writing for Summer Reading, 11 of which have finished. 36 Teens have completed their Summer Reading goals and adults continue to sign up as well and claim the SAPL mason jar prize.

New District 3 Councilwoman Phyllis Viagran had a Paletas and Priorities in person community meeting in the Mission Balthasar Courtyard that was very well attended by members of the district. The councilwoman introduced herself and discussed her plans in her new role, as well as thanking Mission Branch Library manager Oscar Gonzalez for accommodating the meeting.

Mission Branch Library started its in-person programming with a weekly Yoga class and a Table Tennis program for adults and seniors. Jane Miller, Children's Librarian, continues to host virtual Story Times for online families. Mari Castellano, Library Assistant (PT), with the help of Stephanie Perez, Library Assistant (PT), from Pan American Library, hosted a unique hybrid program in which participants brought their own Nintendo Switch game console to the library and played the game, Animal Crossing, virtually, but yet together online.

Mission staff continue to create unique and one-of-a-kind Take Make kits for library visitors and curbside customers as well as offering the SAPL system-wide kits for each of the service-age groups. One kit this month made by Library Assistant (PT) Jessica Viera, was a whimsical Tree Mosaic Kit. As in months before, Megan Feeley, Circulation Attendant, continues to make her popular K-Pop Journaling Kits as well as her Adult Journaling Kits.

## PAN AMERICAN

In June, the Pan American Branch Library continued to provide walk-in computer access, browsing, and inside use of the library space. Customers were again happy to find out that they could again enjoy the libraries and take advantage of all services that were reduced for nearly 15 months. Pan American Branch staff were excited and glad to see all the smiling faces coming through the door.

On June 11<sup>th</sup>, Adult Services Librarian Adrian Leal held a virtual Spyfall gaming session. This session was at full capacity. Participants provided awesome feedback and gave their appreciation for SAPL still having virtual programming. Additionally, Mr. Leal continued to team up with Monty Holcomb from the Parman Branch Library to host a monthly virtual chess match.

During the month of June, library assistant Cassie Garza began hosting teen time programming in-person. There were three in-person teen times held at Pan American Library. Teens were able to create shrinky dink keychains and charms, pin back buttons and learn how to turn their art into magnets. Teens were also able to assist with selecting and planning future teen times at Pan Am.

Children's services librarian Olivia Escovedo began organizing materials for the SAPL Summer Reading Club at Pan American. Ms. Escovedo prepared the signup sheets and arranged the prize book cart for the kick off of the summer program. Additionally, she worked to get the Summer Take-and-Make kits ready for children and families who stop by the branch.

# PARMAN



Parman library brought something new to its patrons in the month of June with the introduction/installation of stationary bikes. The Ride and Read at Parman initiative was created by the branch manager Barbara Kwiatkowski and was sponsored by the San Antonio Baptist Health System through a grant secured by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation. The program is designed for patrons to read while they ride as each bike is equipped with a table to hold the books, iPads or laptops. The bikes are becoming very popular, especially on rainy or very humid \hot summer days. The feedback has been positive and you can always find more than one Parman patron cycling while reading the daily newspaper or latest book.

A grand adventure has begun at the Parman library where people of all ages sign up for summer reading and have been given a quest of the utmost importance: To finish their goals before the summer's end. June means the beginning of Summer with SAPL! Parman patrons were especially excited this summer to join as it signaled a restoration of normalcy after the COVID restrictions of last year and patrons of all ages highly anticipated the summer program.

Within the first few days of SAPL's Summer Reading Program at Parman all of the teen prizes were claimed. SAPL provided 72 gardening kits for teens picked up in the first two weeks of June, and due to the huge demand Parman branch provided 100 additional crafts for teens. Total 172 crafts were picked up by teens at Parman. Several teens also inquired about possibilities of in person programming and volunteering.

In June 811 children registered at Parman for SRP. Kids were excited to find their own special book to take home. SAPL provided 230 craft kits for the month of June that were quickly distributed. Parman also provided materials for kids to make Pom Pom Poppers—where a cup and a balloon were used to shoot a pom pom into the air. Seventy-five of these kits were picked up in June.

Children's librarian Lisa Taylor decorated the building with grass skirts and oversized pineapples, paletas and watermelons. Together with Barbara Kwiatkowski and Teague Shosh they set up the photo -op as well.

Our children's librarian Teague was excited to host the first Lego Club Online event in early June. Kids participated in various building challenges and then shared their work in breakout rooms. The team

received permission to publish several pictures from the event on social media and kids were excited to see their creations shared online. She also co-hosted the online June Adventurer's Book Club meeting and created a new LibGuide for Parman's latest StoryWalk. Teague joined the team of Children's Services librarians who publish book reviews to the website and published her first post in mid-June.

Parman library celebrated Pride month by lining its walls with pride flags, rainbow art, and several book displays. New to the décor this year is a rainbow-colored butterfly art installation created by Melissa Moser and Kristie Rosado- Rivera that is made up of more than 100 plastic butterflies. Each one was painstakingly adhered to the wall to make one giant rainbow-colored butterfly. Patrons had the pleasure of viewing these decorations through the building's large main windows as they walked up to the entrance of the library. Each section of the library had a display of LGBTQ+ books geared towards their respective audiences for people to browse. The staff donned rainbow-colored masks and took a group photo in front of the installation in celebration of Pride month.

Parman was able to use its meeting rooms for programming for the first time since COVID restrictions were lifted. This meant welcoming back the Alamo Area Woodcarvers and the Yarnies, a crochet and knitting club. Both clubs kept in touch with the manager throughout the COVID adjustments time, waiting impatiently for the opportunity to come back. Both groups are long-time established clubs that called Parman their crafting home away from home for many years. Members of these groups were delighted to be able to begin meeting once again at the library and having the ability to invite new people to join their group.

All virtual programs conducted by Parman librarians continued in June as normal.

## POTRANCO

Adult Services Librarian Monica Huerta led Potranco's Pride month decorating extravaganza which included LGBTQ+ centered displays. A member of the LGBTQ+ Committee, Monica also assisted in co-hosting a drag panel over Zoom and was one of the architects behind June's adult Take-and-Makes.

In an effort to engage in outreach with their YMCA neighbors, Miss Huerta and Branch Manager Steven Barrera, attended an ice-cream social where they signed families up for the summer reading program.

Monica continues to co-host a Spanish conversational program with Carver Branch's Training Officer, Daniel Gomez, bi-weekly on Saturdays. Her monthly "Sci-Fi & Fantasy Book Club" discussed the book *Lock-In* by John Scalzi over Zoom. Finally, being that Potranco Branch Library is one of the libraries that are to provide in person programming, Monica hosted her first three in-person "Mindfulness Meditation" programs.

Teen Librarian Jenny Borrero put a fun passive program on for Teens throughout the month of June. She asked the question "Which ice cream flavor is better: Chocolate or Vanilla?" After receiving close to 30 responses, chocolate was the overall winner with vanilla not too far behind. One patron left a note on their choice saying, "The library rocks!"

Teen Librarian Jenny Borrero led the Discord program for Bookworms along with Teen Librarian Heather Swindell. The group read "My First Free Summer" by Julia Alvarez. The teen attendees gave great responses and insight about the story. They also suggested book titles for a poll to be voted on for a July book.

Library Assistant Lisa Leandro hosted “Daddy’s and Donuts”. Lisa setup on the patio and handed donuts to fathers that passed through, in honor of Father’s Day. Over a dozen-and-a-half donuts were handed to dads.

Lisa continues to host adult coloring. Fifteen people joined virtually to sit and color with the other regulars of the group. One of the members, a senior who suffers from dementia, was told by her doctor that the coloring and activities can help with her illness. She wrote a lovely note to Lisa stating her gratitude. Her is an excerpt:

*“Due to the closing, I joined the SAPL Adult Virtual Coloring class. Recently I have met a new friend who moderates the SAPL Zoom coloring class. We discuss art and poetry, what’s going on in the city, and problems with computer programs. The coloring class is so easy it is like taking a mini vacation from daily concerns and responsibility. The hardest choice is “shall I use a yellow pencil or an orange pencil?”*

At long last, the Potranco Writers Group (triumphantly!) returned to its twice-monthly format. Circulation Attendant Paschal Booker hosted the first meeting and saw the return of four former and three new participants. After introductions, the group launched into workshopping a historical novel excerpt, an evolving sci-fi short story, and a poem. Participants new and old established good camaraderie and offered valuable feedback on all the pieces under review. A good beginning to our relaunching.

## PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Pruitt’s Children’s Services celebrated the kickoff of the *Summer Reading Club*, signing up 157 children and giving away 228 summer-themed crafts, including clothespin sharks, paper plate sand dollars, and June’s *Take-and-Make* kits from SAPL’s Children’s Services. Children’s Librarian Lucy Cisneros and Library Assistant Sheran Awe facilitated three outreach events in June, providing *Summer with SAPL* information to a total of 65 children. The *Page-Turners Tween Book Club* met virtually and talked about their June selection, *Turning Point* by Paula Chase. The participants enjoyed discussing prejudice, friendship, and the diverse representations of teenage life described in the story.



Teen Services gave out 74 *Take-and-Make* craft kits in June, including painted seashells and fathers’ appreciation canvas crafts. Teen Librarian Assistant Destiny Saenz-Taplin co-hosted the Adult Services’ *Queer Organizations of San Antonio: Panel Discussion* and assembled a Pride display in the branch’s shared adult and teen areas. Teen Services Librarian Sheri Watkins hosted *Juneteenth Trivia On-Line* with support from Adult Services Librarian Paula Opiela as part of the branch’s Juneteenth celebration. Teen and adult participants enjoyed this fast-moving Kahoot! – based program.



Adult Services also distributed 74 *Take-and-Make* craft kits, including a Retro Craft Stick Trivet craft. Librarian Paula Opiela and Library Assistant Catrina Grivich hosted the *TGIF Book Club*, with remote and in-person patrons discussing Bill Bryson's *A Walk In the Woods*. Participants enjoyed the book but showed real enthusiasm for having both venues open to them: "Thank you so much for arranging this for us" / "I'm so grateful that you're offering this here again" / "So glad I have this available remotely". Special needs adults visited Pruitt briefly to pick up Jellyfish *Take-and-Make* craft kits, and then later in June returned to the library for an in-house program with a reading of Peter Raymundo's *I Am Not a Fish!* and a sea-themed craft.



## SAN PEDRO

In June, the San Pedro Branch Library continued to provide walk-in computer access, browsing, and inside use of the library space. Customers were again happy to find out that they could again enjoy the libraries and take advantage of all services that were reduced for nearly 15 months. San Pedro Branch staff were excited and glad to see all the smiling faces coming through the door.

The Children's Summer Reading Club was well received in the community with nearly 100 kids registering and receiving complimentary books. The branch started outreach again to 2 early childhood centers, Lil Munchkins and Wooden Horse, supplying information about summer reading and vouchers for the book giveaway. Outreach to the San Pedro Pool was in the form of signage to be displayed while the pool is open on weekends. Another outreach was a virtual field trip via Zoom for three separate 4<sup>th</sup>-grade classes at nearby Cotton Elementary in the SAISD. Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler explained how the public library works, about San Pedro Park and its fabulous trees and shared about the Summer Reading Club. The branch displayed the StoryWalk® Book Fiesta, along the front walk for families to read while being outdoors. Mrs. Braeuler hosted the Adventures Book Club discussion for kids via Zoom, talking about the book *A Wolf Called Wander*. It was the first time a free paperback copy of the book was given to each child registered for the program. Take-and-Make kits for kids were popular giveaways at the front desk. The branch also saw a growth in the number of families stopping in due to the closure of Central. Thanks to the Central crew for sending them!

## SCHAEFER

With patrons back in the building, Schaefer's summer is picking up and kids and their families are ready to Celebrate Summer with SAPL! More than 300 kids signed up at Schaefer for the Summer Library Club in June and received their free book!

Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser participated in many different programs during the month. Two summer kick-off events took place on Zoom on June 5, and Leslie participated in the two programs as host. 123 Andres performed in the morning for younger kids and DJAXE6 played music for a dance party for school-aged kids in the afternoon. On June 8, she planned a LEGO program on Zoom with three other children's librarians. This LEGO program was the first of four special summer Tuesday Zoom programs that Leslie and the summer programming workgroup planned. More than 40 kids participated and had a great time building during the program. Leslie also participated in the second Tuesday Zoom program on June 22 -- Game Time: Summer Games. The children's librarians hosting the program each lead a game for the kids, and Leslie had the kids play Simon Says with an Olympic sport theme. On June 3, she was the host for Story Time online and on June 17, she was a presenter and had the kids do a scavenger hunt and then sing the *Hokey Pokey*. She was also involved in Read to a Dog on June 4 and 25, and listened to kids practice their reading skills with therapy dogs. On June 23, she visited the Evelyn King PCI through Zoom and read outer space books and sang space songs with the pre-k kids.

In June 2021, Dacari Lambert, Teen Librarian at Schaefer Branch Library helped facilitate the weekly Teen Time Discord club with colleague, Chris Castillo. Dacari continued to work with the Teen Pride workgroup. For the last teen pride event for the month, Dacari helped facilitate a teen requested event with colleague Chris Castillo, about living beyond the gender binary. Dacari is working with a group of Teen Librarians planning a teen Summer Bash to close out the summer. In the branch, Dacari created a book display to celebrate PRIDE across all the age groups. Additionally, Dacari helped Library Assistant Blanca Hernandez with a Juneteenth display.





Library Assistant BlancaSilvia Hernandez:

Published a Fiesta themed playlist and a curated catalog list for Schaefer's I ♥ Vinyl (Digital Edition) program. Schaefer staff contributed their favorite songs to share with patrons.

Hosted the monthly Schaefer Virtual Craft program. Patrons decorated a pencil case with pre-stamped designs free and hand templates. Everyone had a crafty good time. Several crafters submitted a photo of their work.

Hosted the Schaefer Skimmer Book Club's first hybrid meeting at the Schaefer Branch. Participants met in person and joined using the Zoom platform. The group discussed the book *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins,



Moderated a breakout room session for Librarian Michael Dunbar-Rodney's zoom program "Queer Organizations of San Antonio: Panel Discussion." Patrons dropped in to visit with the organization Para Mi Gente to learn how the organization helps and how they could contribute, participate and offer referrals. Great connections were made, and patrons left with resources for follow-up.

During Juneteenth, Librarian Dacari Lambert and I created a Juneteenth display to feature our relevant materials for patrons to browse through. We also created a Book to Movie Display this month for patrons' enjoyment.

The June Film Noir Movie club, led by Training Officer, Daniel Gomez discussed the film, *Spellbound* (1945). Librarian Maria Adams facilitated the registrations of patrons and sent zoom instructions to access the online program.

Schaefer Skimmers book club was held on Tuesday, June 22. The group was offered the option to meet in person and also via Zoom. The group discussed, *American Dirt*, by Jeanine Cummins.

Librarian Maria Adams co-hosted another round of SAPL Live Trivia with fellow librarians Brooke Mjolsness and Morgan Yoshimura on Friday, June 25th.

## SEMMEs

With the start of the Summer Library Club and special summer programming and the continuation of regular online programming, June was a busy month for children's programming at Semmes Branch Library. Ms. Randi hosted Toddler Time Online Live on June 9 and hosted and presented the opening songs on June 16. She hosted Story Time Online Live on June 10. She sang "The Gum Song", playing her guitar and lead the children in the action song, "Sticky, Sticky, Sticky Bubblegum". That was great fun! She recorded on the Dial-a-Story line several times this month—June 1 was *Juba This, Juba That* by Helaine Becker; June 18 was *What Grew in Larry's Garden* by Laura Alary; June 25 was *Tiptoe Tapirs* by Han-min Kim and June 29 was *Three Blind Mice Team Up with Three Little Pigs* by Paul Harrison. Ms. Randi co-hosted two special summer online programs—June 16, Shadow Factory with Matt Sandbank and June 23, Poetry and Poses—Xelena Gonzalez. She also hosted Read to a Dog on June 4 and provided technical support for Read to a Dog on June 25. She pre-recorded a video (to premiere on SAPL's YouTube channel in July) of several bouncing rhymes for caregivers to do with their toddlers.

Librarian Valerie Carroll hosted a number of virtual programs for tweens and teens. She co-hosted Among Us for Tweens on June 4th and June 25th. On June 5th the My SAPL STEAM: Sink or Float video premiered on YouTube. It has 29 views to date. It was created in conjunction with the STEAM workgroup's Ocean activities curated content post on the School Age LibGuide. June 9 Ms Carroll - co-hosted the Summer Library Club online program for Once in A Wild, acted as the Q&A moderator for the host. On June 30 she co-hosted the Summer Library Club online program for The Astonishing Mr. Pitts.

The resumption of in-person programming has reinvigorated Semmes Library. Two programs began in June; by-appointment computer tutoring, and Libraries and Labyrinths, a weekly game of Dungeons and Dragons available to teens and adults, both under the aegis of Adult Services Librarian Mark Hall.

Effective June 26, 2021, Branch Manager Jamie Flowers filled the position of Collection Development Supervisor. Mary Naylor, manager of the Forest Hills Branch Library, assumed the role of interim Branch Manager of Semmes Library effective June 26.

# THOUSAND OAKS

Assistant Branch Manager Brooke Mjolsness was co-host and chat moderator for the popular self-care program Ayurveda on June 9. The main host Maggie Grueskin led the presentation. Ayurveda is held on the second Wednesday of every month.

On June 10, Ms. Mjolsness served as chat moderator for the Noon Time Helping of Cooking program. The program series is offered bi-weekly on Thursday afternoons and covers various recipes and kitchen topics.

The Film Noir Club program was held on June 10. This monthly discussion group watches a predetermined film noir movie and encourages a lively talk with engaging questions provided by the host. Ms. Mjolsness served as chat moderator.

Ms. Mjolsness co-hosted virtual Beginner's Chair Yoga programs on June 11 and 25. The chair yoga series has a dedicated following and is held the second and fourth Fridays of every month.

On June 25, Ms. Mjolsness was the Master of Ceremonies for the SAPL Live Trivia program, a popular program that is held the last Friday of every month.

A Queer Organization Panel was offered on June 29 for Pride Month. Local LGBTQ+ organizations came together for a discussion on events and concerns in the community. Ms. Mjolsness helped moderate one of the Zoom breakout sessions with the San Antonio Gender Association organization.

Adult Services Librarian and Teen Liaison Kimberly King continued attending online trainings and webinars. She attended the meetings for Teen Services, Volunteer Liaisons, and Pop Culture.

Ms. King ensured the Take-and-Make craft kits for June were available for distribution to patrons. She created a new book display for teens with the theme "Your Literary BFFs!"

Ms. King continued collaborating on the Teen Booklists Workgroup. She worked on annotating the "Great Outdoors" booklist in preparation for upcoming programming.

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# TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

Children's Librarian, Barbaraella Frazier, co-hosted Read to a Dog twice this month as well as Dinosaur George. Dinosaur George is still extremely popular virtually with 200 attendees for one of his sessions. Ms. Frazier featured Jane Cabrera's *Row, Row, Row Your Boat* for June's Story-Walk. She received several compliments including some visitors who want to incorporate the idea at a pre-school and daycare.

In June, 282 children signed up for Summer Reading. Each child receives a free book upon enrollment with this year's summer program. This change has been exciting with kids and families, compared to the free book with completion in past years.

The 28 Teen Summer Reading T-Shirts were given away the first week of June. Similarly, within ten days all of the June Take-and-Make planting seeds were gone. Teen Librarian, Karah Garcia, resourcefully

designed a craft using a clothespin for keeping earphones and these were appreciated and picked up by many.

Library Assistant, Andrew Charltonjones, assisted Patron Ruby with her resume and uploaded it for a job application. Ruby attended a Job Fair the next day and was hired on the spot. Impressively, the employer highly recommended she apply for a higher position in Human Resources. So, the patron returned to Tobin to thank Mr. Charltonjones and to apply for the second position.

Staff changes included saying goodbye to Circulation Attendant, Melissa Carroll, who returned to Landa after working at Tobin since January 2020. Ms. Carroll was a huge asset with curbside services and voting. On June 15, the branch welcomed Circulation Attendant Lauren Jennings back from Neighborhood Services where she has been deployed since May 2020. Ms. Jennings processed thousands of applications for San Antonio residents needing housing assistance during the pandemic.

Tobin at Oakwell's community has really embraced the new Binge Box DVD sets Collection Development recently added. A central display generates lots of circulation with the DVD sets that contain four to six movies related by a theme or actor or actress. The clever titles like *Don't Mess with Denzel*, *Hole in One* and *The Strength of Women* spark interest and check-outs as well.



# WESTFALL

Westfall's teen volunteers hosted their last Bookworms book club meeting on Discord before graduating at the end of May. The teens have been enthusiastic about being able to come to the library and reasserting their ownership of the teen space again. They are enjoying the eco-friendly herb planting activity kits, t-shirts, and Discord programming for Teen Summer.

LEARN continued to offer in-person services using a walk-in model. Though we have not returned to pre-pandemic numbers, patron visits did rise in the month of June. We even had a handful of students begin the Digital Certificate program, and one student who completed his course already due to dedicated attendance.

The Children's Librarian and staff have been busy registering children for the "Summer at SAPL" summer reading program. Children and parents have been thrilled to receive a brand-new book at the beginning of the program. Staff have also been distributing Snack-Paks and the accompanying books to families that have children ages 4 through 18. This is a program sponsored by the Snack Pak 4 Kids organization, the San Antonio Public Library Foundation and the San Antonio Public Library. This has added to the fun!

The Children's Librarian created a "Space Adventures" BiblioCommons Book List as part of a collaborative project with KLRN, and shared a story as part of their online Zoom program about space which took place on June 28<sup>th</sup>. The Children's Librarian also hosted a Story Time Online program on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Children and their families have also enjoyed the "Take-and-Make" craft kits that have been created by a committee of children's librarians and distributed to all of the branches.

# PERFORMANCE MEASURES

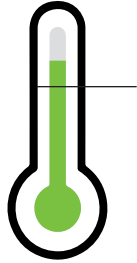
## SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY KEY INDICATORS

COVID-19 has greatly affected overall Library usage in FY 2020 and FY 2021. FY 2021 performance goals were adjusted accordingly.

# JUNE 2021

FY 2021

### CIRCULATION: GOAL



**4,745,519**  
TOTAL FY GOAL

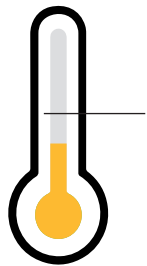
FYTD GOAL: 3,374,830

### CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR 2021



**3,981,199**  
ITEMS BORROWED

### LIBRARY VISITS: GOAL



**1,794,701**  
TOTAL FY GOAL

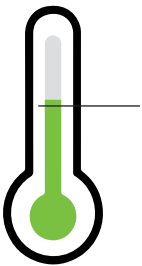
FYTD GOAL: 1,116,375

### LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2021



**837,406**  
VISITS

### DIGITAL ACCESS: GOAL



**953,237**  
TOTAL FY GOAL

FYTD GOAL: 643,405

### DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR 2021



**23,470**  
COMPUTER  
HOURS



**634,677**  
HOURS OF  
WI-FI USE

**658,146**

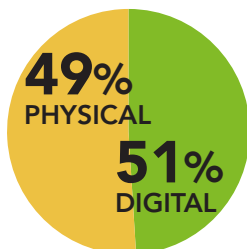
TOTAL HOURS OF  
COMPUTER & WI-FI USE

# SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

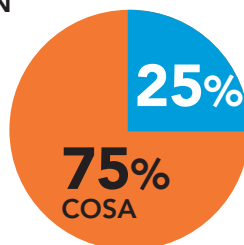
## JUNE 2021 (CONTINUED)

### USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2021

CIRCULATION  
BY TYPE



CIRCULATION  
BY SERVICE  
AREA



BEXAR COUNTY  
(OUTSIDE COSA)

75%  
COSA

### VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2021



**983,352**

MYSAPL.ORG  
VISITS

**622,299**

MYSAPL  
APP SESSIONS

**1,081,929**

OVERDRIVE  
SITE VISITS

**2,905,081**

SOCIAL MEDIA  
IMPRESSIONS

### PROGRAMS & ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2021

**1,482**

TOTAL PROGRAMS

**620**

ADULT PROGRAMS

**386**

TEEN PROGRAMS

**476**

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

**22,571**

TOTAL ATTENDANCE

**5,927**

ADULT ATTENDANCE

**3,200**

TEEN ATTENDANCE

**13,444**

CHILDREN'S ATTENDANCE

**271** PROGRAM VIDEOS UPLOADED

**34,782** PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS

### JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

**Summer with SAPL**  
for all ages

Verano con SAPL para todas las edades. ¡Todo el Verano!

**All Summer Long!**

[mysapl.org/arp](http://mysapl.org/arp)

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Program in Partnership with SA Food Bank

**Cooking Around the World**

Saturdays, June 26 and July 24  
1 - 2 PM

Children ages 9-12 are invited to learn about foods and cultures from different parts of the world.

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

**juneteenth**  
CELEBRATE FREEDOM

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

**PRIDE MONTH**

**QUEER ORGANIZATIONS OF SAN ANTONIO**

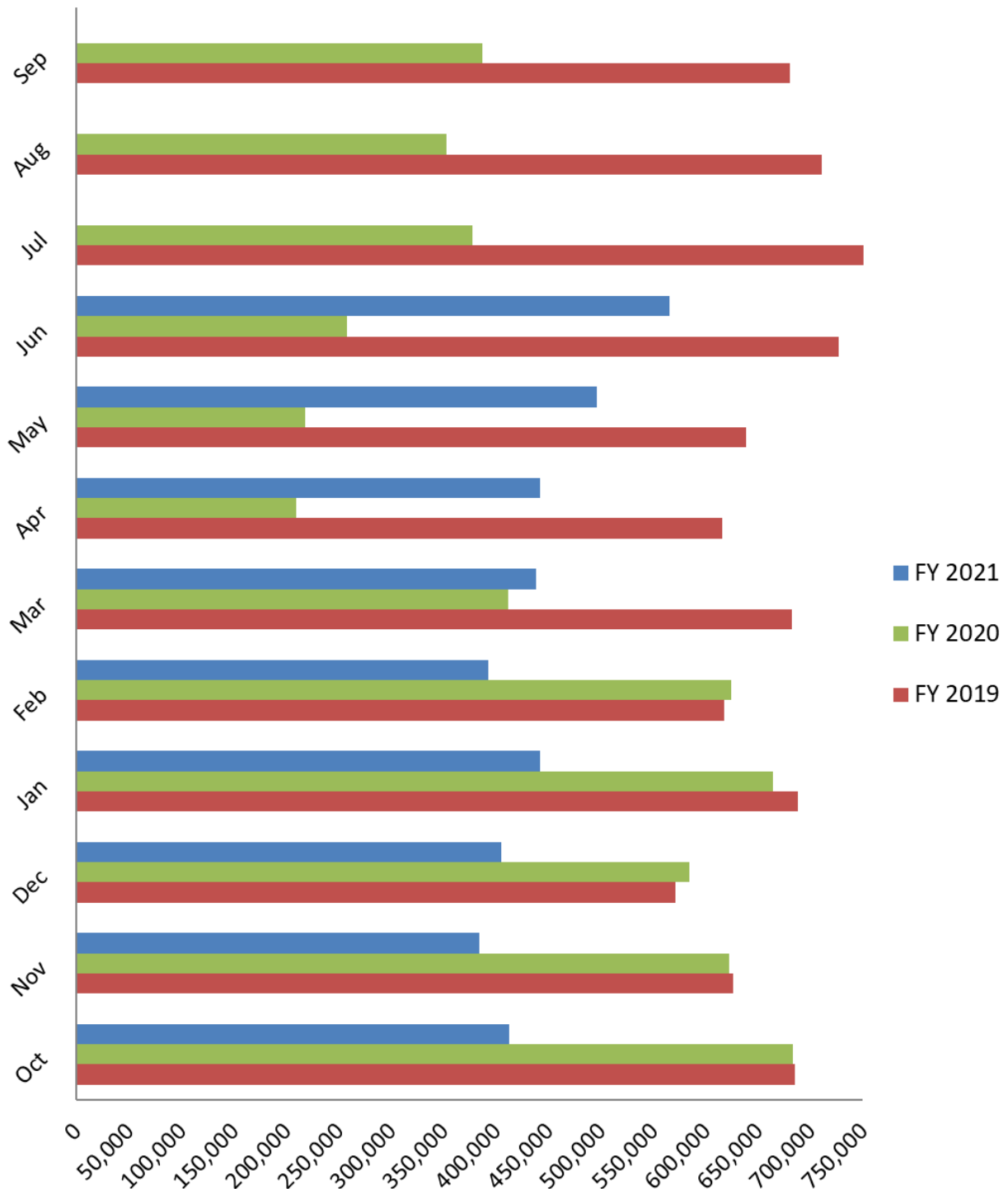
Tuesday • June 29 • 6:30PM - 8 PM  
Registration required.

Join us for this panel discussion featuring:  
Pride Center San Antonio  
San Antonio Gender Association  
Para Mi Gente  
and many others!

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation



Location Closures

FY 21: Forest Hills Oct 1-Jan 12, McCreless Nov 2-TBD, San Pedro Dec 2-May 4, Forest Hills Feb 15-TBD, Memorial Mar 2-TBD

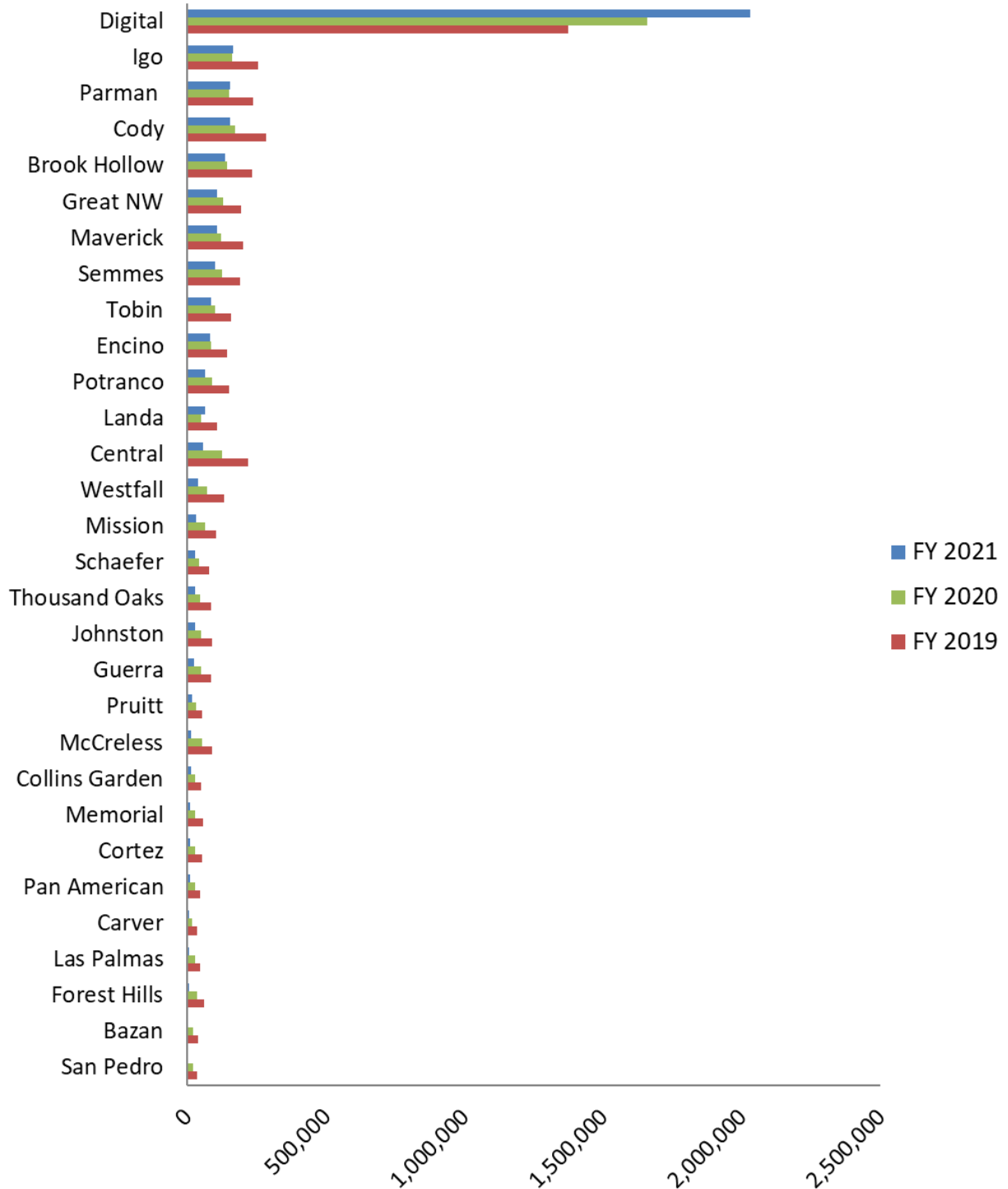
FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Jun 1, **All physical locations Mar 14 through Jun 15 due to COVID-19**, Pruitt Jun 30-Jul 13, Forest Hills Sep 29-30

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

7/20/2021

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - June 2021



Location Closures

7/20/2021

FY 21: Forest Hills Oct 1-Jan 12, McCreless Nov 2-TBD, San Pedro Dec 2-May 4, Forest Hills Feb 15-TBD, Memorial Mar 2-TBD

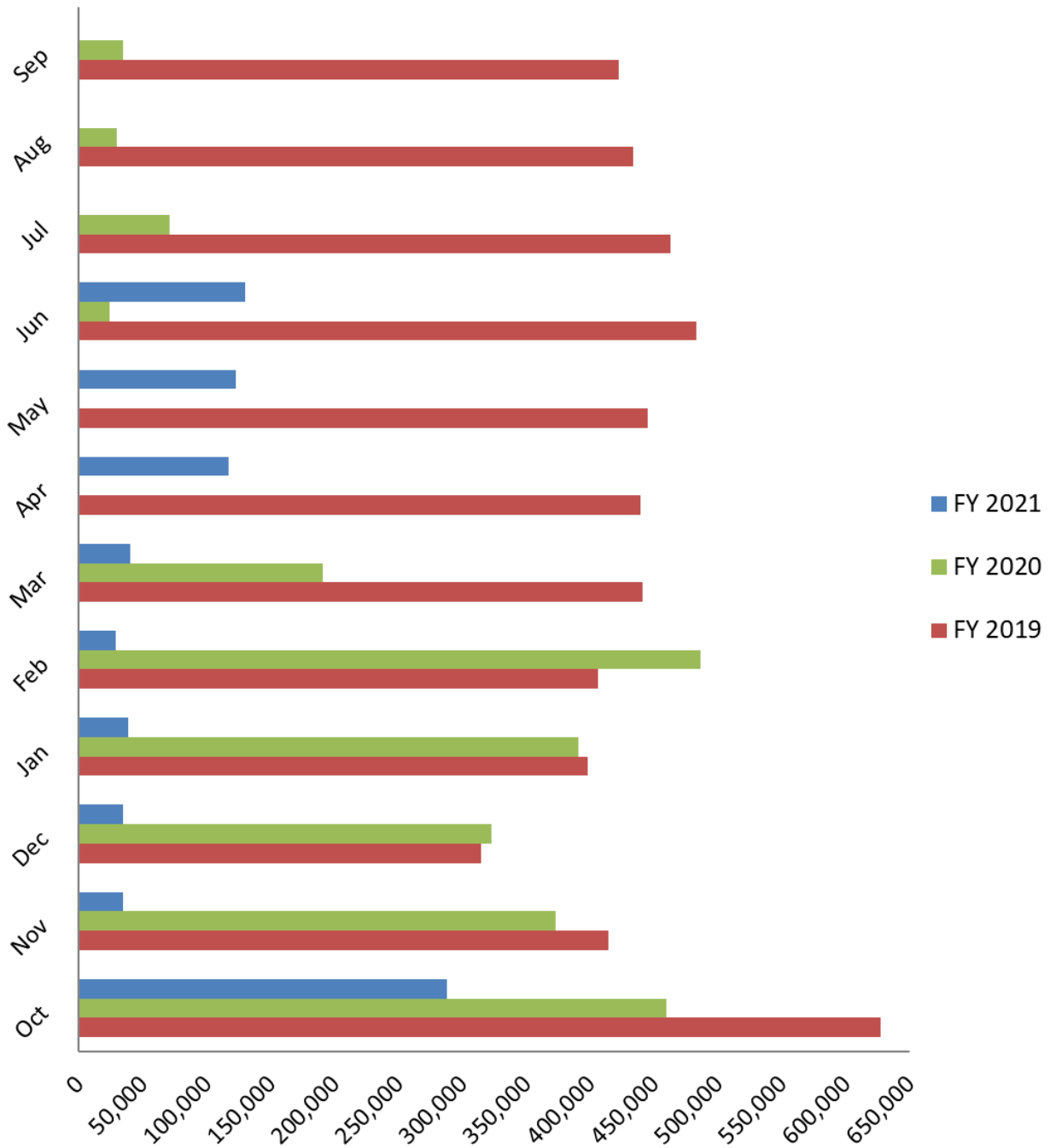
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# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits



Location Closures

7/20/2021

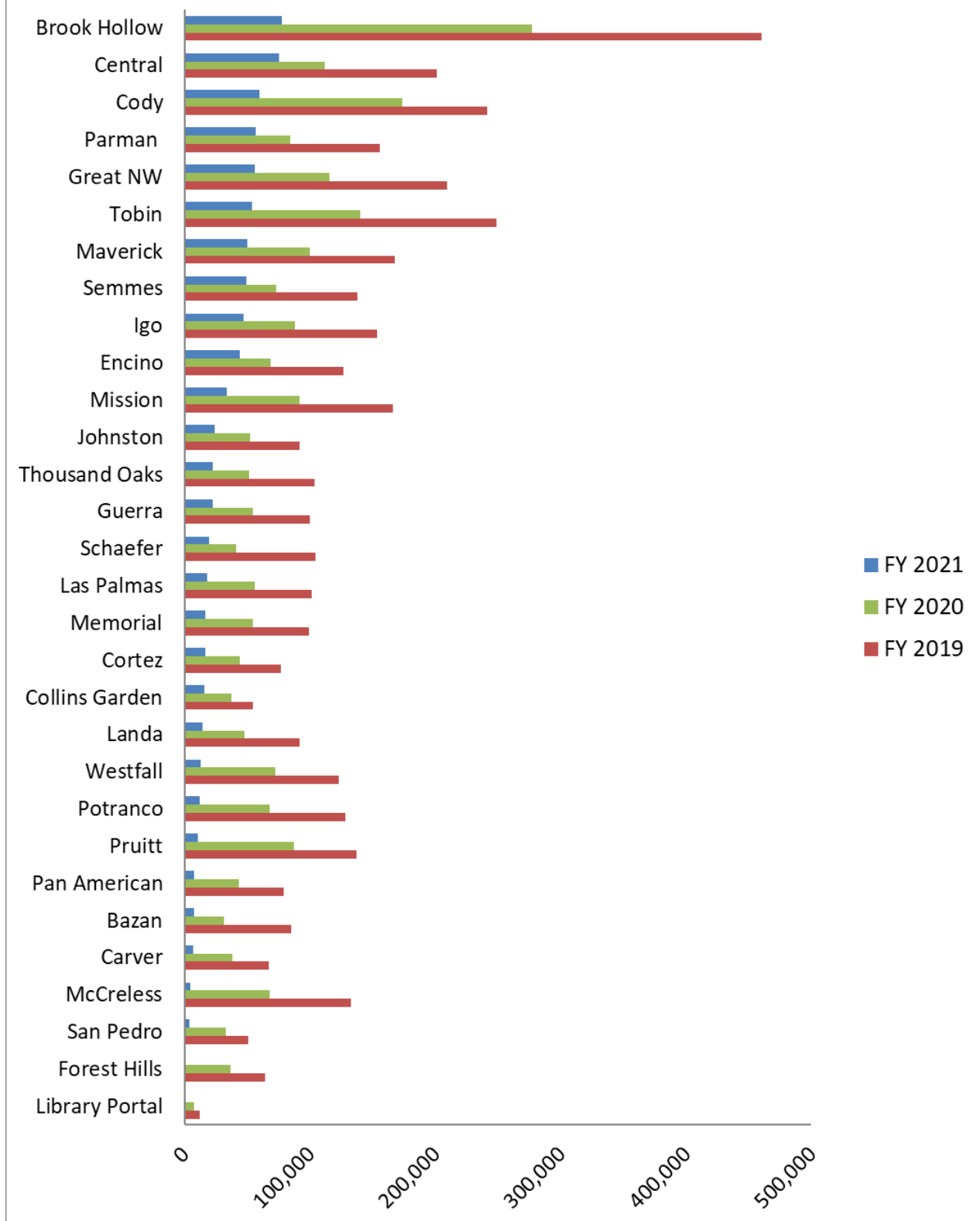
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# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - June 2021



Location Closures

7/20/2021

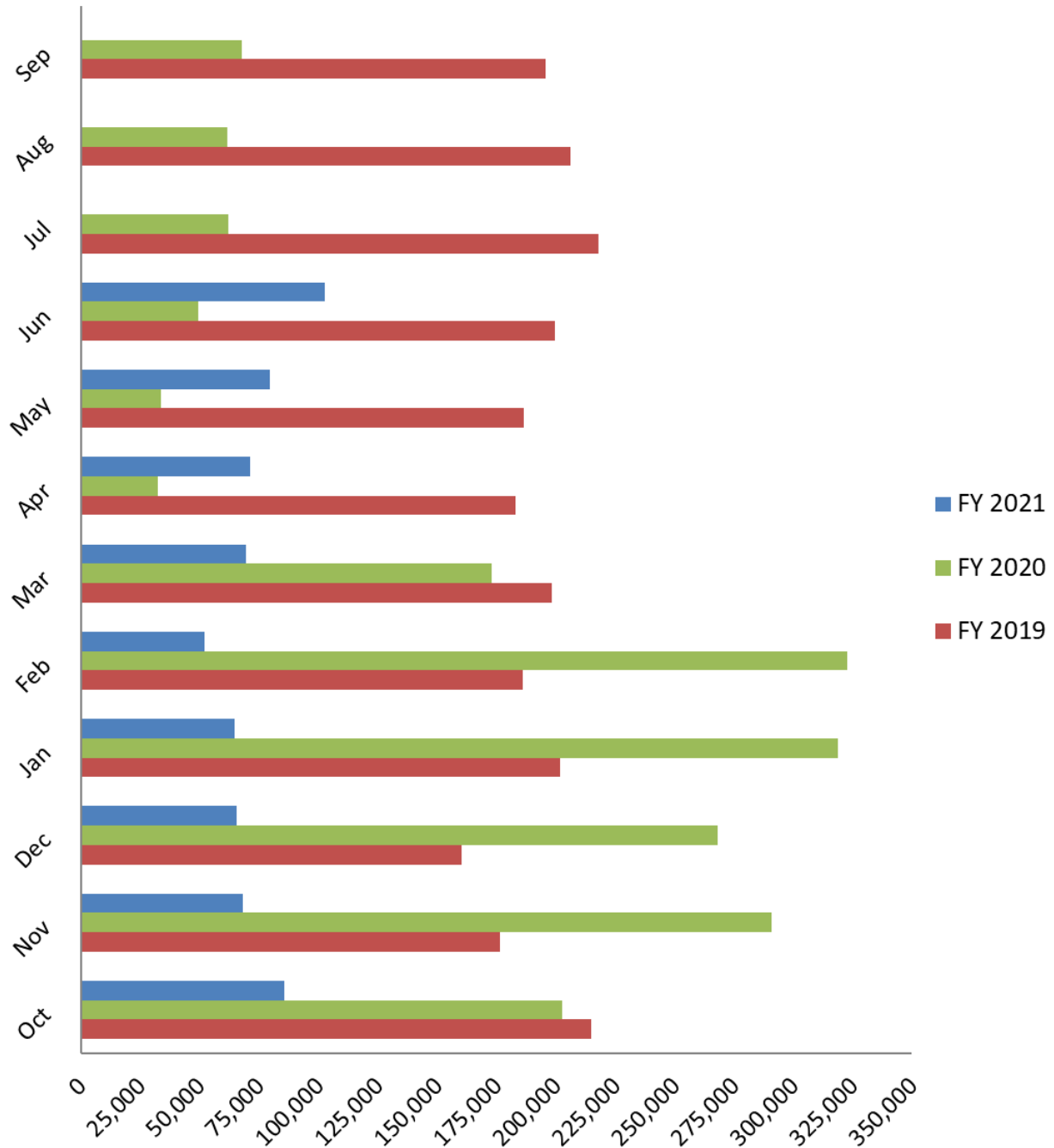
FY 21: Forest Hills Oct 1-Jan 12, McCreless Nov 2-TBD, San Pedro Dec 2-May 4, Forest Hills Feb 15-TBD, Memorial Mar 2-TBD

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

# 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 12, McCreless Nov 2-TBD, San Pedro Dec 2-May 4, Forest Hills Feb 15-TBD, Memorial Mar 2-TBD

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

7/20/2021

# San Antonio Public Library

## June 2021 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	1,459	2,429	2,494	488	2,006
Brook Hollow	25,662	7,796	3,212	396	2,816
Carver	1,897	2,000	2,016	292	1,725
Central	6,016	11,216	15,827	682	15,145
Cody	27,246	7,554	4,472	348	4,124
Collins Garden	2,546	2,144	2,208	268	1,940
Cortez	2,455	2,874	2,507	211	2,296
Encino	17,038	3,792	3,774	90	3,685
Forest Hills	0	9	0	0	0
Great Northwest	22,606	10,076	4,368	223	4,145
Guerra	5,964	2,971	2,757	317	2,441
Igo	32,955	12,546	5,895	200	5,695
Johnston	5,539	3,040	1,890	305	1,586
Landa	13,116	5,725	2,004	192	1,812
Las Palmas	1,888	3,360	2,650	276	2,374
Maverick	22,837	5,651	3,730	329	3,401
McCreless	1,689	933	1,256	0	1,256
Memorial	1,047	188	0	0	0
Mission	7,291	6,716	3,817	552	3,266
Pan American	2,363	1,997	1,451	166	1,285
Parman	32,460	11,427	3,616	134	3,483
Potranco	13,164	2,048	10,263	269	9,994
Pruitt	3,238	2,931	871	87	784
San Pedro	1,985	1,820	1,372	161	1,210
Schaefer	6,858	2,274	4,035	325	3,711
Semmes	18,607	6,083	4,582	365	4,217
Thousand Oaks	5,032	2,732	1,928	152	1,777
Tobin	15,182	5,082	1,892	324	1,568
Westfall	7,938	2,868	7,424	522	6,902
Kampmann Library Portal	0	0	116	0	116
Interlibrary Loan	1,176	0	0	0	0
Online/Phone Renewal	42,569	0	0	0	0
Digital	215,645	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>565,468</b>	<b>130,282</b>	<b>102,430</b>	<b>7,671</b>	<b>94,759</b>

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

# San Antonio Public Library

## June 2021 Programs and Attendance

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, programs are developed with a system wide approach and not by location.**

Location	Total Live Programs	Number of Programs			Total Live Program Attendance	Adult Program Attendance	Teen Program Attendance	Children's Program Attendance
		Adult	Teen	Children's				
Bazan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brook Hollow	2	2	0	0	20	20	0	0
Carver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central	17	15	0	2	117	91	0	26
Cody	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Collins Garden	7	1	0	6	430	5	0	425
Cortez	1	1	0	0	4	4	0	0
Encino	9	3	1	5	131	26	10	95
Forest Hills	3	2	0	0	14	11	0	3
Great Northwest	1	1	0	0	3	3	0	0
Guerra	2	2	0	0	20	20	0	0
Igo	5	5	0	0	20	20	0	0
Johnston	1	1	0	0	12	12	0	0
Landa	3	3	0	0	23	23	0	0
Las Palmas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maverick	6	0	5	1	36	0	20	16
McCreless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Memorial	5	5	0	0	4	4	0	0
Mission	5	4	1	0	57	49	8	0
Pan American	3	0	3	0	16	0	16	0
Parman	4	4	0	0	21	21	0	0
Potranco	5	4	0	1	145	55	0	90
Pruitt	17	7	4	6	136	36	20	80
San Pedro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schaefer	3	2	0	1	31	18	0	13
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	1	1	0	0	38	38	0	0
Kampmann Portal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Read Wagon	16	0	0	16	198	0	0	198
System	79	14	34	31	1,959	170	337	1,452
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>3,434</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>2,398</b>

# APPENDIX

**BiblioCommons** – Front end interactive catalog and web service developer for San Antonio Public Library.

**Dial-a-Story** – A free service which allows patrons to call San Antonio Public Library to have a children's book read to a child over the phone.

**Esports** – Video-gaming competitions over a variety of game titles

**LibGuide** – Individual pages or guides created through San Antonio Public Library's LibWizard system.

**LibWizard** – San Antonio Public Library's content management system used to curate knowledge and share information, organize programs and subject-specific resources.

**MobilCirc** – Mobile application provided through SirsiDynix for Android, and iOS. Allows users to check out items, register users, process holds, and perform inventory.

**SirsiDynix Symphony** – San Antonio Public Library's integrated library system.

**STEAM** - Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics

**Take-and-Make** – Crafts prepared for patrons by San Antonio Public Library librarians and distributed at various branches.

**Trumba** – San Antonio Public Library's events calendar.

**Webex** – Videoconferencing application used by San Antonio Public Library.