

San Antonio Public Library Director's Report March 2022

San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) celebrated Schaefer Branch Library's 5th Anniversary on March 19, 2022 with an afternoon filled with family friendly activities.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	Administration	3
II.	Central Library	10
III.	Branch Libraries (Alphabetical)	15
IV.	Performance Measures	48
V.	APPENDIX	57

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar accepted an invitation from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to participate in the "Empowering Readers, Empowering Citizens" convening of various library leaders to generate new ideas and innovations promoting literacy development and reading practices from March 1 -March 2, 2022.

On March 7, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar and Assistant Library Director, Kathy Donellan, delivered an update regarding the Las Palmas Bond Project during a community meeting.

On March 19, 2022 the Schaefer Branch Library celebrated its 5th anniversary with a speaking program at 2:00 pm. Councilmember McKee Rodriguez, Library Trustee, JoAnn Harris (D2) and Assistant Library Director Dale McNeill were part of the program.

Library Director Ramiro Salazar attended Public Library Association (PLA) Conference in Portland, Oregon, from March 23 to March 25, 2022. He is the immediate past president.

MARKETING



- March 1 San Antonio Magazine listed SAPL as the best place for online learning in 2022.
- March 8 KENS 5 included SAPL's Mario Day events in their Morning Jolt segment of the March 8 morning news.

- March 9 KENS 5 aired a story about the measures TLA is taking against banning books. Dale
 McNeill, SAPL Assistant Director, was interviewed at Central Library for this piece which has
 appeared multiple times in KENS broadcasts between as well as in an online format.
- March 10 KENS 5 aired a feature story on TLA's efforts against banning books. The story featured an interview with SAPL Assistant Director, Dale McNeill.
- March 22 News 4 San Antonio, WOAI, included a feature story on the San Antonio Book Festival author lineup. The story aired during "Good Morning San Antonio" on Tuesday and featured an interview with Lily Gonzalez, Executive Director of the San Antonio Book Festival.
- March 30 TPR aired an advertisement promoting the Landa 75th Anniversary celebration taking place at Landa Library beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 2.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:

- SAPL's social media generated 314,397 impressions
- SAPL's social media following base grew by 210 new fans
- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts 8,055 times.

Social Media statistics for the month(s):

• Twitter: 6,193 followers

Facebook: 21,476 followers

• Instagram: 7,916 followers

YouTube statistics for the month(s):

Subscribers: 12

Impressions: 26,884

Total Views: 1985

Videos published: 12

Graphics

The Graphics Team created publicity materials for a variety of programs and events during this reporting period, including continuing work on graphics for the Summer with SAPL 2022 program and developing materials for McCreless Branch Library's Grand Reopening, Landa's 75th Anniversary, National Poetry Month, and LCRC author events, as well as social media and other promotion for branch events.

DIGITAL SERVICES

On March 8 and 25, Digital Services Coordinator Adam Spana and members of the Library's RFID project team met with colleagues from ITSD and Finance to refine requirements for the upcoming RFID solicitation.

On March 10, Mr. Spana convened a meeting between Library and ITSD leadership to resolve issues concerning provisioning new hires with email and Microsoft Teams access.

On March 14 and 23, Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun, Senior Management Analyst Andrea Silva, Library Services Administrator Ron Suszek, and Performance and Innovation Manager Randall Polasek met with representatives of Unique Management Systems to work on finalizing the re-initiation of the collection program.

On March 18 and 25, Mr.Spana, Digital Library Services Analyst Tricia Masterson, Mr. Polasek, Community and Public Relations Manager Scott Williams and Assistant to the Director Jessica Zurita met to discuss the replacement of the Customer Service Survey platform.

Mr. Laun attended the March 23, ORM Facility Coordinators Monthly Safety meeting.

On March 24, Mr. Laun, Mr. Spana, Mr. Suszek, and Department Fiscal Administrator Gabriella Rauschuber met with ITSD to discuss final steps in the decommissioning of the Millennium server.

On March 25, Mr. Spana attended a project orientation meeting for digitization, asset management and internet sharing of the Texana collections.

On March 28, the Digital Services Team implemented the necessary changes to online sites, the online catalog and the Symphony ILS to accommodate the Westfall closure.

Ms. Masterson attended the COSA training "Problem Solving Six Thinking Hats" on March 29 and 30.

LITTLE READ WAGON

As the most recent COVID-19 surge ebbed throughout March, Little Read Wagon (LRW) staff were able to more fully engage with families in-person. A total of 34 events were held and staff interacted with 1045 community members.

Let's Play at San Pedro Branch Library was a series of outdoor play events that occured over spring break. Since the school districts in San Antonio did not have the same spring break week this year, LRW staff presented three Let's Play events on a Thursday, a Saturday and a Wednesday. This was the first of LRW's large scale Play & Learn type offering since the last one was held over spring break in March 2020. Families who attended before the COVID-19 shut down returned with their (now older children) and brought younger siblings. One mother described attending this event again as "...healing to see everyone come together again..." as she introduced her youngest child to staff. Many said these events were the first time their little ones had been around other children. New families were thrilled when they were told that Let's Play at Schaefer Branch Library will take place on Saturday, April 23 and that these play events will be coming back regularly in May, June and July as long as health conditions permit gathering outdoors.

The first of a planned monthly play event was set up at the Mennonite Church on St. Mary's Street. The Mennonite Church hosts asylum seeking families with young children who have recently crossed the Mexico-United States border. While the families are staying at local hotels, they spend the day at the church which has recently renovated the outdoor play space, the kitchen, two rooms for providing child care and a large community room. Families who care for very young foster children or families who participate in St. Paul Lutheran's Child Development Center CARE Program are also invited.

Megan Cruz, Clair Larkin and Eva Banda hosted parent workshops at high schools in San Antonio Independent School District and at North East Independent School District. Each of the eight workshops gave student parents a chance to connect with library services and to create an early literacy tool to use with their young child.

Julia Lazarin and Ms. Banda coordinated multiple bilingual presentations in March. At AVANCE sites Ms. Lazarin presented four English bedtime routine workshops and Ms. Banda presented four Spanish bedtime routine chart workshops. Ms. Lazarin and Ms. Banda presented a bilingual Early Literacy Basics training to Latched staff, a local nonprofit that provides parent education and material support to families with children under the age of three years old.

Ms. Lazarin held seven Reading Tent events in conjunction with Northside Independent School District's early childhood program. The tents are eye-catching and families borrow kits that include a board book (English, Spanish or bilingual), a small puppet or toy and a flashlight. This is a perfect way to very succinctly demonstrate that early literacy experiences can be simple and fun.

LRW staff participated in two large community events. At a Latched outreach event LRW staff gave away 140 books and other resources to families in attendance. Ms. Larkin and Cresencia Huff attended the *Where Wonder Grows* book launch celebration. Award winning author and illustrator team Xelena Gonzales and Adriana Garcia gathered community groups at Confluence Park for a day of literacy activities and the unveiling of the newest SAPL StoryWalk® in coordination with the San Antonio River Foundation. LRW provided a hands-on play invitation with natural elements including tree cookies, rocks and smooth colored glass pieces.



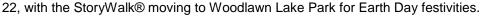
CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Spring break spanned two weeks this year, with some school districts taking their break March 7-11 and others March 14-18. As a result there were increased opportunities to host community events. Local public television station, KLRN, asked to bring costume character Martha the Talking Dog and activities to four library locations. The Schaefer, Landa, Pan American, and Igo branch libraries each hosted an event with assistance from children's librarians from other locations. Bubbles, sidewalk chalk, painting

with water, and a StoryWalk® were a hit with the children and families as well as the character, nature collage, and snack provided by KLRN.

The Little Read Wagon team worked with the San Pedro Branch Library to host three Let's Play! events during spring break. Children's services team members were invited to come help out or observe the events, gleaning ideas for open-ended, child-directed play activities they might offer at their respective locations. Families and staff all enjoyed the outdoor events and offered many positive comments on the opportunity.

San Antonio Museum of Art hosted a StoryWalk® installation of *Where Wonder Grows*, by Xelena Gonzalez and Adriana Garcia as part of their free Family Day activities. The installation then moved to Confluence Park for an event celebrating the long-awaited publication of the book on March 27. It will remain at Confluence Park through April





TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

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 weekly virtual teen programs ("clubs") on Discord ("the server") along with additional activities and events. Throughout the reporting period, teens used the server to stream video games, brainstorm cosplay ideas, share updates about creative projects, and chat about things going on in their lives. On March 6, a new club called "Sunday Funday" held its first meeting on the server; this club is led by three teen volunteers and welcomes all levels of tabletop roleplaying gamers to chat about and try new games.

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, such as polls and quizzes, and highlight celebratory events, such as Spring and National Craft Month. Regina will also evaluate teen-created content for posting as well, including providing tools and supplies for Instagram LIVE programs, such as one presented by teen volunteer Aidana, who presented the Russian and Kyrgyz alphabets, and another by teen volunteers Jenna and Angel who presented a fun cooking demo for MARIO Day.

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 and Bek Corley (Teen Services Librarian II Guerra) host Music Mondays on the 210teenlibrary Discord server in which teens stream their favorite songs and artists while chatting with friends on the server.

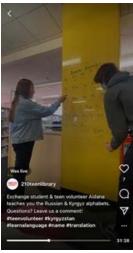
Kathleen Fordyce (Manager, Teen Library @ Central) joins Connie Hejl (Teen Services Librarian, Las Palmas) Thursdays on Discord to host the "Random Fandom" club, where teens engage in discussions about different fandoms that interest them and stream their favorite anime shows. Kathleen also continues to serve as a member of the Teen Services Discord team, Teen Summer workgroup, 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 teen volunteers and Teen Services staff. During the reporting period, teen volunteers and teens shared a variety of content including how to make a rainbow grilled cheese (for Mario Day) and an easy ice cream cake, a book display for Women's History Month, tile art, information about the Russian & Kyrgyz alphabets, and a simple paper hyacinth craft. Teen Services staff also shared content including how to make strawberry cheesecake bites and lucky charms strawberries as well as several interactive stories.

Professional Development – On March 24, the Teen Services Librarian II / IIIs group held their quarterly meeting with teen-serving library staff from Austin Public Library to discuss updates regarding teen programming, teen volunteers, Teen Summer, and Teen Pride. On March 31, Matthew Loaiza and Shannan Prukop (Assistant Manager / Teen Services Librarian, Carver) submitted their case study about the 210teenlibrary Discord server to *Computers in Libraries* magazine; Loaiza and Prukop were invited to submit this case study following their presentation about the 210teenlibrary Discord server at ALA's LibLearnX conference in January 2022.

Pictures below: teen-created daily celebrations content for Instagram; teen volunteer Aidana's LIVE program for Instagram





ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

In March, the Library celebrated Women's History Month, which commemorates and encourages the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history. The highlight of the Library's efforts to lift up the stories of women during the month was an exhibit hosted at the Mission Branch Library. The exhibit, called Makers Batch: Hidden Stories of the Women Artisans of San José Potteries was on exhibit at Mission Library from March 3rd - 31st, 2022. Much has been written about proprietress Ethel Harris and her San Antonio pottery and tile workshops as well as her head designer Fernando Ramos, but little is known about the women artisans behind the innovative operation. The exhibit portrayed the untold story of the creative women behind San José Potteries and highlights their contributions to the arts and crafts movement of San Antonio.

Also during the month of March, Ann Laird - Adult Services Librarian at Encino hosted a mini art show at the branch. During the first week of March, 84 kits were given out (the initial supply was distributed within a day, and Ms. Laird quickly ordered more kits, which also were distributed within a few days. Each kit contained a mini canvas with easel, paints, paintbrushes, and instructions. On the canvas, members of the community could express their creativity in a very open ended way. Individuals were instructed to bring their artworks back to Encino, to be displayed in the Mini Art Show. 41 artworks were brought back to the library. On March 28, Encino hosted the Mini Art Show Finale and reception which 30 people attended. This effort was a great way to invite the community to contribute to the library and demonstrate that the library is for the community





OLDER ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

The Library supports efforts to serve the specific needs of older adults at all library locations. Library staff are in the process of forming a work group to identify ways that the Library can be more strategic and intentional in offering programs and services for older adults. Several staff have already volunteered and initial guiding principles for the group's work have been drafted. Below are two highlights from efforts to serve older adults in the month of March:

Older Adults Device Lending Program - Phase II of this effort (which is funded by an ARPA grant through the Texas State Library and Archives) launched in March. Phase II's goal is to expand the program to all Comprehensive Senior Centers operated by the City of San Antonio's Department of Human Services. Events were held at the four remaining senior centers (Bob Ross - District 8, Doris Griffin - District 7, Alicia Trevino - District 6, Northeast - District 10) to inform older adults about the

program as well as sign them up to participate. Follow up events were then held at these same Senior Centers later in the month to check out iPads. Discussions will occur with the Department of Human Services to determine which of the Senior Centers have the greatest need and thus should be prioritized for additional visits to check out the iPads that are still available.

Igo Elderberries - In March, Library Assistant Irene Scharf featured Women's History Month in the enewsletter that she sends out to older adults who participate in the branch's Elderberries group. This group has been in existence for quite some time and offers a variety of opportunities for older adults. Ms. Scharf sends out a monthly e-newsletter with resources of interest focused on a different theme each month. For women's history month, the e-newsletter focused on women's efforts during World War II.

CENTRAL LIBRARY CHILDREN @ CENTRAL





SAPL Pop Madness: Movie Book Talk

Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez cohosted San Antonio Public Library's "Escape the Earth" podcast with Tim Johnson (Igo) and Elissa Vura (Brook Hollow). This month they discussed T.L. Huchu's *Library of the Dead*, a fun speculation on a post-apocalyptic Glasgow.

Ms. Fernandez and Librarian Ashley Stubbs recorded fun videos for families to watch as part of this year's Pop Madness virtual event. Their videos highlighted books which tied into the recent popular children's movies, *The Bad Guys* and *Turning Red*, and included links to book lists for further reading adventures.

Library Assistant Ana Sandoval and Ms. Fernandez represented the library at the KLRN Kids Day in the Park event at San Pedro Springs Park, in coordination with San Pedro Branch Library Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler.

Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin appeared in a special presentation to teachers with the Little Read Wagon department entitled Early Literacy, Relationships and Resources for Resilience. She shared information about the interim services offered at Central Library.

Ms. Seglin and Librarian I Ashley Stubbs were very active in virtual programming. Ms. Seglin presented two Toddler Time and two Story Time Live programs. She participated in a virtual LEGO Club as well.

Ms. Stubbs presented an online Story Time Live program, and supported the Tiny Tots and Story Time weekly programs by maintaining their "Books We Love" section of the LibGuide and made several curated programs.

Central Children's staff continued to develop outreach connections with area child care centers. Ms. Seglin delivered books in support of their curriculum at Madison Square Child Development Center. Ms. Stubbs and Manager Kate Simpson made similar book deliveries to Central Christian Day School and Discovery School, respectively. Ms. Stubbs also presented an outdoor Story Time for the children at Central Christian Day School.

TEEN LIBRARY

During the reporting period, teens used computers in the Teen Library, browsed the YA collection, used craft supplies to create, played video games with their peers, and used the 3D printer to bring their designs to life. Teen Library staff serve free snacks from the San Antonio Food Bank during after-school hours to teens in the space. Regina Almanza (Library Assistant) provided teens the opportunity to suggest and/or join in for a variety of activities, such as after-school crafts. During the reporting period, Regina fulfilled the Food Bank nutrition lesson requirement by providing fruits and sparkling water as a soda alternative, as well as providing materials and supplies for stand-alone crafts, like attempting "pour painting," and learning how to decoupage.

Pictures below: teens participating in a food craft; teen-created book display; teens playing the very popular attraction: ping pong.







REFERENCE

During the month of March, Librarian II and NTEN Digital Inclusion Fellow, Angelina M. Cortes organized and facilitated 8 visits to 4 different senior centers across Bexar County to outreach and promote the iPad Older Adults Lending Device Program. On March 30th, around a dozen individual SAPL staff members from across the system deployed to senior centers to conduct orientations on how to use the iPad and promote SAPL services to around 70 older adults. On March 23rd, Angelina was invited to be a guest speaker at the national Nonprofit Technology Conference (NTC) to speak about her work on building partnerships and creating a digital inclusion program in a non-profit setting. On March 24th, Angelina, along with Patrica Perez from Central library and Marcel Martinez Alvarez from Westfall library continued their work with the San Antonio Food Bank's 'Get Connected' program by teaching computer literacy classes. Angelina donated \$4,500 of her NTEN grant funds to assist in purchasing devices to give away for the "Get Connected" program. She continues to maintain a strong partnership with Feeding Texas to advocate for food accessibility and digital literacy. Her work and involvement with Feeding Texas's Program Manager, Elizabeth Endres, is recognized at a national level as being highly innovative as many food banks across the country do not offer a digital inclusion and computer literacy component to their services.

On March 14th, the Central Reference Unit welcomed David Gallin-Parisi as the new Librarian II. David was a former SAPL employee and was just recently a teacher. He set up a weekly agenda for the weekly staff meetings, which included an opener of "good things." This allowed staff to share anything good going on in their lives, at work, etcetera. He continues to gather information about staff birthdays and celebration preferences.

On March 4th, Librarian Sylvia Reyna and Library Assistants Francisco Rodriguez and Brianna Glass represented San Antonio Public Library at Haven for Hope's Community Resource Fair. Staff answered questions, handed out flyers and zines, and connected with many residents about the many resources SAPL has to offer! Additionally, Brianna Glass connected with a representative from Christian Assistance Ministry and they are hoping to start a Computer Class partnership with SAPL and CAM at The Guadalupe Community Center.

On March 22nd Library Assistant JD Elizondo and Librarian Lorin Flores interviewed Alana Castaneda, survivor of an Alamo Quarry gun shooting whose story gained much media attention for the upcoming episode of SAPL Variety. JD reached out to the organizers of Fredstock, a Fiesta event / concert at SAC and set up outreach for the event to be accompanied by Librarian David Gallin Parisi and Library Assistant Brianna Glass.

For the month of May, Reference Display team members Michelle Villarreal, Melissa Gomez and Stacey Martinez created a display to celebrate Women's History Month. A free zine was created by Michelle.





LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

During the month of March, Program Manager Emily Flores organized a Q and A Session with Immigration Liaison for the City of San Antonio, Tino Gallegos. The virtual session allowed current Citizenship class students to ask questions of an immigration attorney and they expressed much appreciation for the opportunity.

Ms. Flores also began to organize a systemwide Latino Collection and Resource Center working group. She continues to teach English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and co-teach an ESL Book Club.

TEXANA/ GENEALOGY



Texana staff members Heather Ferguson, Sylvia Reyna and Matt De Waelsche pose with the Spurs Coyote at the City's Mass Vaccination Clinic Closing Celebration at the Alamodome on Friday, March 25, 2022.

Librarian I Sylvia Reyna and Central Reference staff Brianna Glass and Francisco Rodriguez, members of the Libraries and Homelessness Committee, represented SAPL at the March 4 *Haven for Hope Community Resource Fair*. The trio provided information on the many library resources available to those experiencing homelessness.

On March 12, in celebration of Women's History Month and St. Patrick's Day, Ms. Reyna invited Brigidine Sister Teresa Cullen to speak at the Westfall Library on the life of Saint Brigid of Kildare, a fifth-century Irish woman who is the patroness saint of Ireland.

Librarian II Matt De Waelsche presented a beginning genealogy program at the Parman Library on March 12. Attendees were shown how the different library databases can be used in order to start researching their family history. Mr. De Waelsche was also invited to participate in the March 16 symposium *Piecing Together a Story of Courage: Civil Rights in San Antonio* sponsored by SAAAACAM and the San Antonio Conservation Society at the Mexican Cultural Institute. Mr. De Waelsche's panel discussion focused primarily on how to preserve family history materials.

As part of the Schaefer Library's 5th Anniversary celebration on March 19, Ms. Reyna and Librarian II Deborah Countess hosted the Texana department's "Origin of Family Names" table. Folks who stopped by learned about the origin and meaning of their last names and were given a commemorative surname certificate to take home.

Librarian I Andy Crews presented a virtual class on March 22 entitled "Using Newspaper Archive." Mr. Crews demonstrated how to utilize the library's subscription database *Access Newspaper Archive* to view and save digitized newspaper articles from around the world.

Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson, together with Ms. Reyna and Mr. De Waelsche attended the City's mass vaccination closing celebration at the Alamodome on Friday, March 25. COSA employees who worked or volunteered at the mass vaccination clinic were invited by the City Manager to enjoy tacos and music to celebrate the closing of the site. Operating for 15 continuous months, more than 226,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses were administered here.

Ms. Countess continued Texana's observance of Women's History Month with a March 26 virtual program on female genealogy. *The "Hidden" Side of Your Family Tree* discussed how to use civic and government documents created by family members, like children and siblings, in order to gather information on the maternal side of the family.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia and Teen Librarian Cassie Garza continued to facilitate *Gaming Club*. The program welcomed new teens eager to participate with streaming and sharing their video game experiences, among which several have taken a leadership role. A group of teens were busy building a Minecraft Realm for others on the server to play. This was an ongoing group effort among teens who dedicated hours on planning and building. Others led a stream and guided participants on the server with gaming walkthroughs, and another showcased their creativity by using 3D graphic design to create stickers and memes for the club.

Ms. Garcia visited Tafolla Middle School mid-March to visit with an English 8th grade class. Ms. Garcia shared a few book talks with students and ended each class with teens using the button maker to make their own custom-made buttons. The outreach was well received by both staff and students. Additionally, Ms. Garcia helped host a couple of programs celebrating MAR10 Day: Mario Party Party and Animal Crossing Mario Themed Party (online).

The Bazan Bad Girls Book Club, facilitated by Library Assistant Enedina Prater, met virtually in March to discuss book two of the Diablo Lake book series by Lauren Dane, *Diablo Lake: Protected.* The book club really enjoyed the read and looked forward to book three of the series they will be reading in April.

BROOK HOLLOW

In March 2022, BHL hosted Bexar County Election Day, Tuesday, March 1, 2022, on election day and during Bexar County Early Voting in February, 954 Bexar County Residents cast ballots at the Brook Hollow Library. Library Aide Ada Sapp was acknowledged and thanked by her peers/LICs and manager at BHL for her exceptional work clearing the very full library book drop following the Fiesta Holiday. Sapp made several trips to the book drop and tackled an on-shelf list that had more than 150 items. BHL Aides Juliet Cisneros and Lourdes Vazquez were quick to lend a hand, and their contribution was invaluable as well. Kudos to BHL Library Aides and LIC Marco De Leon for recognizing all their efforts. Librarians Mark Hall from the Semmes Library and Georgina Garcia from the Bazan Library, along with Marcel Martinez Alvarez from the Great Northwest Library, are temporarily assisting at the BHL. The BHL Team appreciates their support.

Adults: BHL Adult Services Librarian Marco De Leon continued to host the BHL Mystery Book and the La Tertulia Spanish Book Clubs in March.

Children: Brook Hollow Library Assistant Jennifer Olivarez continues to assist in the BHL's children's area while a new children's librarian is onboarded. Olivarez's creates the BHL's Children's Scavenger Hunt each month and worked with the BHL manager to feature the latest Butterfly Scavenger Hunt. The hunt is popular among BHL kids and families and offers an alternative to in-house children's programming at this time. Olivarez also created a spring Take/Make featuring seeds for kids to plant.

Teens: BHL Assistant Elissa Vura is serving as BHL's interim teen liaison until the teen11 librarian/assistant manager position is filled. Vura's created a line-up of active teen programs for April.

Manager News: Brook Hollow Library (BHL) Manager Jeannette Davies participated in two separate interview panels in March and April to interview candidates for the teen 11 librarian/assistant manager and children's librarian positions. After deliberations and reference checks, candidate selections have been made and COSA HR is completing the hiring process. The BHL manager attended the Friends of Brook Hollow Library (FOBHL) quarterly meeting in March and confirmed purchases of two new cell phone charging stations for the BHL adult and teen areas. The charging stations are a direct request from library patrons who asked for places to plug in their cell phones while working on the computers. The Friends also approved purchases of a table and chair for the awe computer in the children's department.



The manager also attended the SAPL library leadership, branch manager and children services meetings.

Davies hosted Noon Time Helping of Cooking in SAPL's Virtual Kitchen twice in March featuring Ides of March recipes and St. Patrick's Day Irish Soda Bread. (Sign-up https://www.mysapl.org/Events-News/Events-Calendar). Spring foods are on the menu in April including roasted peaches in time for Fredericksburg's peach harvest in May.

Davies interviewed librarians from the Patrick Heath Public Library PHPL in Boerne, Texas for the Texas Library Association's (TLA)'s Libraries Transform Texas Podcast during National Library Week, April 3-9, 2022. https://anchor.fm/texas-library-association. PHPL offers cake pans of various sizes for check out and celebrated its 70th birthday with a 50s cooking program attended by the manager featuring foods from the 50s including Elvis Presley's favorite sandwich of peanut butter, bananas and bacon.

CARVER

In celebration of Women's History month, Carver branch showcased materials that highlighted contributions made by women.

March also marked Carver's participation in the Mercardo por su Corazon program which, according to the San Antonio Community Resource Directory (SACRD) facilitates "access to fresh and healthy produce by setting up pop-up mobile mercados in local communities." The Mercado held at Carver on March 30th nearly sold out. Delighted customers said they looked forward to Carver's continued participation in the program.

Also, in March, Carver's new Training Officer, Shauna Mendoza, started her training. Mrs. Mendoza has an interest in teaching ESL, and kicked off an ESL class at the branch on Monday evenings. Mrs. Mendoza, a former EL Paso public school teacher, brings 15 years of experience to the branch.

The Carver LEARN Center recorded 139 individual sessions during March. According to statistics, visits to the center tripled from the previous month.

Additionally, seven individuals used the facility to write resumes and search for jobs. Eighteen others came in for computer training sessions. Many patrons sought help with urgent tasks, such as school projects, getting help with a personal device, printing documents, or applying for government assistance.

LEARN Instructor Daniel Gomez reported that nine patrons came in for an Enhanced Library Card, including one from California who was thrilled at the availability of such a form of ID. She sent LEARN staff a follow-up email, stating that she was able to obtain a job because of being able to present the Enhanced Library card to an employer.

Three Carver LEARN patrons reported they had found jobs in March. That month, the center also resumed online Spanish classes offered by Mr. Gomez.

Teen Librarian Shannan Prukop welcomed two new teen volunteers to Carver, who help with various tasks around the branch. They continued facilitating the Dungeons & Dragons weekly program on the 210teenlibrary Discord server, encouraging teens to collaborate and think creatively to solve challenges. They also became the primary staff member attached to a new teen-lead program on the Discord server called Sunday Funday, during which teens play other tabletop roleplaying games and work together to learn the game and teach each other how to play. Mx. Prukop attended an outreach to Fox Tech High School with the Teen Pride committee, where the group talked to 15 teens about the Discord server, Teen Pride initiatives, and how the teens of this school could help organize future events. Mx. Prukop also submitted an article with Matthew Loaiza based on the presentation given at LibLearnX to the Computers in Libraries magazine, to be published later this year.

CODY

As the door count continues to rise, March 2022 at the Cody Branch Library has been full of returning families, programming, and smiles. The branch served as a polling location for the March Primaries, serving over 900 voters. Community member Siegmundo Hirsch shared a photo exhibit entitled Doors/Puertas with the Cody community, in the glass display case near the indoor book drop.

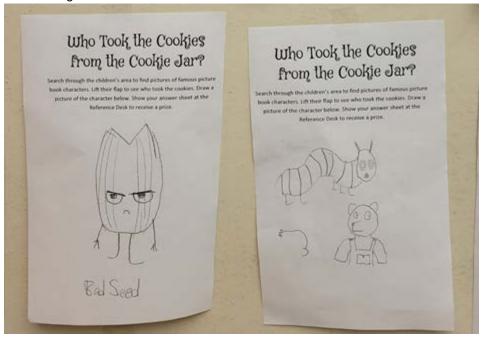
Staff learned new dance moves, including square dancing and aerobic moves, in March Wellness activities lead by library assistants Luanne Bloom and Angela Olivarez. Bloom and circulation attendant Maria Treviño visited the District 8 Bob Ross Senior Center to register members for library cards and check out iPads, on March 17 and 30. Library aides have been creating engaging displays, highlighting female authors for Women's History Month, and teen titles turned into feature films.

Children's Librarian Kristin Yourdon participated in a virtual outreach to a local elementary school. Yourdon read Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss over the morning announcements at Locke Hill Elementary on March 2nd for Read Across America, and participated in Career Day at the same school on March 11th. Yourdon read Lyric McKerrigan, Secret Librarian by Jacob Sager Weinstein, sang several songs with the students, and talked about her job as a Children's Librarian.

On March 3rd, Yourdon led a game during Art Club Online, where children drew circles, then had to use each circle to draw something completely different. The game continued with different shapes like squares and triangles. On March 9th, Yourdon led a letter scavenger hunt during Spring Break Family Fun, giving children letter prompts for them to find an object that started with that letter. On March 16th Yourdon participated in the second Spring Break Family Fun program. Yourdon led another scavenger

hunt, this one with questions like, find something that makes you happy and find something with wheels. Finally, on March 24th Yourdon presented during Story Time Online. Yourdon read Go, Green Gecko by Gay Hay and shared some information about green geckos. Then she sang a song about geckos with the children. Yourdon also helped host the Art Club Online, the Adventurer's Book Club, and the Cooking Around the World programs. On March 10th Yourdon provided program support to San Pedro's children's librarian at the Let's Play at San Pedro Springs Park program.

The branch continued to offer weekly scavenger hunts for children and families, including a Pokémon hunt, a Women's History Month crossword puzzle, fossil rubbings with crayons, and a particularly entertaining search for who stole the cookies. The cookie thieves were featured on the art wall:



On Saturdays during the month, Michael Dunbar-Rodney, Librarian II at the Cody Branch, hosted the Queer Crafternoon online program with fellow members of the San Antonio Public Library's Queer Committee. The program provides a safe space for members of the queer community to engage their creativity in order to foster community and self-care, while listening to podcasts and books from the library's collection that have queer centered storylines or characters.

COLLINS GARDEN



The Collins Garden Branch Library represented SAPL at the "Phenomenal Women, Take a Break Come & Celebrate!" International Women's Day event at the Impacto Community Center. Staff shared information about library resources and services with 107 participants. On March 26, the branch hosted a poetry event in tribute to Cesar Chavez. Poets included Jim LaVilla-Havelin, San Antonio poet and poetry editor for the San Antonio Express News as well as Voces Cosmicas; Alicia Zavala Galvan, Jacinto Jesus Cardona, Suzanne Green, Susana Nevarez-Marquez, Ed Cody, Arturo Mantecon, Carlos Carreon, Fernando Esteban Flores and Library Assistant Carlos Loera. Musical guest "Cloud Zen" provided entertainment for the afternoon.

Teen Services Librarian Daniella Toll resumed Teen Tuesdays for ages 13-18 on March 1. Teens were delighted to return to the branch and played trivia games, made tie-dye shirts, engaged with old friends and make new ones. They enjoyed talking about their pets, school and struggles trying to find opportunities to pursue their hobbies with like-minded people their age. Ms. Toll assisted Matthew Loaiza with the weekly Teen Time club on the 210teenlibrary Discord server.

Children's Librarian, Gina Brudi continued with Toddler and Baby Time Online - Live programs. She presented weekly Story Times to Knox Early Education Center via Zoom and read to 280 children during the reporting period. She also supplied the center with books on insects and plants for their classroom units. She participated in the Let's Play San Pedro Spring program as well as a KLRN event at Pan American Library. Both events included hands - on activities for young children.

On March 11, Library Assistant Carlos Loera hosted a Coffee & a Movie event, followed by a discussion. He facilitated weekly Tech Tuesday programs and hosted two Sunday Family Fun Ping Pong events. Adults explored their creativity at an Adult coloring program on March 16.

Staff distributed 25 system-wide Take-and-Make kits for children in the community as well as a spring break craft. These kits were created by Circulation Assistant Jessica Salas. Library Assistant Carlos Loera and circulation attendant Jessica Salas designed and mounted a "Spring into Reading" wall display.

CORTEZ

Cortez staff focused on improving their Spanish-speaking skills as a team goal for the month of March. Staff attempted daily conversations with each other and patrons and worked together to improve comprehension. Wellness Liaison Esmy Staudt challenged staff to either read a book or give up a vice to improve mental health. An interactive display, asking patrons to share their four-leaf clover wishes was put up at the front of the library for families to enjoy. Maria Trevino from Cody Library generously assisted Circulation for two days and shared a Take-and-Make idea for Origami Pokémon Bookmarks, which were a hit, and received an Encore card for her efforts. Cortez's Circulation Attendant Maddy Vasquez created an adult Take-and-Make, a Sunshine Turtle, made from popsicle sticks and colored yarn. Finally, Branch Manager Angela Morrow hosted a bi-monthly staff meeting, during which Jasmine Sanchez from Westfall library was welcomed to Cortez during Westfall's renovations. Staff were able to enjoy donuts, each other's company, perform icebreakers, compete in work-based trivia, and ask questions about workplace operations. Angela attended Metro Health's Healthy Neighborhood program, co-facilitated "A Guilded Tea Party" program, created the As Seen on Netflix display, and coordinated the creation of a Teen Space for Cortez with staff.

Adult Services

Adult Services Librarian Vicky Villalobos hosted a Healthy Cooking program with Metro Health's Healthy Neighborhood. Patrons who attended prepared and enjoyed a fresh fruit ceviche using jicama, strawberries, avocado, and melon. Participants tried new and healthy foods as they listened to the presentation.



On March 25, Librarian Vicky Villalobos participated as a moderator in March's SAPL Live Trivia alongside Librarian Brook Mjolsness and Adult Services Coordinator Morgan Yoshimura. Librarian Villalobos assisted Dan Garcia in providing research for the TikTok Trends category. More than twenty patrons logged in to play.

Vicky also hosted March's Speak Geek with Librarian Kimberly King. The focus of the program was John Hughes in celebration of the anniversary for the fictional detention date in 1984, *The Breakfast Club*. The group discussed Hughes' well-known teenage cult-classics as well as his lesser known involvement in other films and his working relationship with John Candy among other celebrities.

In-Branch Programming

On March 13, Circulation Attendant Maddy Vasquez held her monthly program Monster Meet with a screening of *Spiral*.

On March 21, in time for the season finale of HBOMax's popular new show, *The Gilded Age*, Maddy helped facilitate a program "A Gilded Tea Party" with Branch Manager Angela Morrow.

At the close of March, Maddy facilitated a papel picado program for the Adult Services Fiesta Committee.

Library Assistant Jo Ann Paredes continues to host her weekly crafts class, "Getty Crafty", which has been steady on attendance. The Center for Health Care Services regularly brings adults to attend. Jo Ann also received an email from the Direct Care Specialist Supervisor, Colleen Wentworth, saying their clients appreciate the crafts and are having the best time. This month's crafts: Seat Cushions, Pot Holders, Skillet Handle Covers, and stuffed seasonal Peeps Bunnies.

Teens

Teen Time in-person programming has returned. Although slow, more teens are returning to the branch each week. A designated Teen Space has been established at last at Cortez. Teens will be encouraged to decorate the area and have exclusive teen-only times for their comfort.

Childrens

Children's Librarian Olivia Escovedo took part in one outreach program, the United Way's Read to Succeed. She read *Dragon's Love Tacos* virtually to a third grade class, and followed with comprehension questions. Olivia also recorded a dial-a-story book in Spanish for families to enjoy. Currently, Olivia is helping the Summer Reading Committee as part of the Social Media Group to create online challenges for kids and families. Olivia has contacted the local bird sanctuary to help make an online bird scavenger hunt during Summer Reading.

Library Aide Esmy Staudt also lent her skill to dial-a-story, recording *Alan's Big, Scary Teeth* in Spanish. Esmy also performed the same book in English during the Cortez staff meeting; a delight for her coworkers.

Displays

Displays for the month of March included: Women's History Month, As Seen on Netflix, Clover Green Books for March, cookbooks, and Dinosaurs in Childrens.

ENCINO

Teen librarian Ivan Martinez and part time librarian Katy Dillard, in collaboration with Haley Schmidt, Johnson High School librarian, coordinated and planned monthly visits to the Johnson HS library. March's visit was a success, with the Teen librarian team and teens engaged in conversations and button making activities.

Encino Teens planned and implemented some exciting activities such an ongoing beautiful Mandala Wall, What is it? Activity and creative acrylic Teen Art, as well as participated in the promotion of literacy through a March *BookTok* display.

Librarians Martinez and Dillard also displayed authors, literature and signage in a dedicated display area to celebrate Women's History Month.

Encino Teens participated in the weekly program, Teen Club @ Encino on Tuesday nights 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Teens were involved in an array of activities, from playing board games to watching World Cupqualifying soccer matches.

Encino Teens' involvement in the planning and implementation of these programs fostered leadership, creative expression, meaningful participation and ownership of their teen space and library.

During the month of March, Encino conducted a very popular Mini Art Show program. During the first week of March, 84 kits were given out. Each kit contained a mini canvas with easel, paints, paintbrushes, and instructions. Patrons were instructed to bring their artworks back to Encino, to be displayed in the Mini Art Show. 41 artworks were brought back to the library. On March 28, Encino hosted the Mini Art Show Finale and reception which 30 people attended.

Librarian Ann Laird recorded a "Spring Chicks" craft video to be shared on the MySAPL YouTube channel.

On April 7, Ann Laird conducted an "Up" button art program, during which patrons used mixed media (including buttons) to create a likeness of a scene from the Pixar movie Up.

Stephanie Thomas-Rosen, an intern at Encino, created a homemade all-natural deodorant bar Take-and-Make kit that was distributed in March.

On March 30, Ann Laird distributed an all-ages April Fool's kit that contained materials to create a "hand-free cell phone holder", a "cordless hair dryer", and a "No. 2 pencil."

Encino Branch Library hosted Texas Woman's University practicum student Stephanie Thomas-Rosen as a student intern during March. She was a big help to the programming librarians and we look forward to working with her again in the future.

Encino Children's Librarian Lea Ann McDonald started Children's outdoor programming on the patio in March. Children and their adults enjoyed attending Sunday Lego Time and Game Time on Saturdays. Outdoor Story Time begins in April as well as a new program –Nature Explorers. This hand- on interactive program encourages children to learn about observing nature and will include helpful insects, Clouds and Animal Homes.

Lea Ann offered passive programs for children to express their artistry by creating a Diary of a Wimpy Kid book cover and a passive crayon rubbing table with various plant and flower plates to create original art works on their visit to the library.

Lea Ann is active in the online program Art Club online and continues to create engaging programming online each month as well as recorded Story Times for SAPL YouTube channel.

FOREST HILLS

The staff of the Forest Hills Branch Library continue to offer interim library services at the Gilbert Garza Community Center. Use of the library site has increased as more patrons have developed habits around visiting the alternate location. Holds have increased steadily, with regular and new patrons frequently requesting materials to retrieve. Books regarding women in history were displayed for Women's History Month in March.

<u>Adults</u>

Branch Manager Mary Naylor visited the Doris Griffin Senior Center for the monthly book club. The club discussed the book *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford. The book club members enjoyed the book tremendously. Many of them shared their own stories related to the Japanese Internment camps. For some in the group, this was the first they had really learned much about the camps. One member related her personal story of her brother being born in the Crystal City camp in Texas as her parents were workers on the grounds.

Childrens

Ms. Menchaca was happy to develop and offer a new program, "Proud to Be Me: Rainbow Story Time" for LGTBQ families. Ms. Menchaca, along with other children's librarians: read stories, played games, danced, and made art to have a safe space for families that identify as LGTBQ.

Every Friday Ms. Menchaca participated in Babytime. Ms. Menchaca has started to read and sings more songs in Spanish; parents have requested to hear more Spanish and she also curates a monthly Story Time in English and Spanish

Story Time continues to be available virtually in which children read with the librarians and sing songs. Ms. Menchaca has been happy to participate on most Thursdays. For St. Patrick's Day, Ms. Menchaca baked Soda Bread to show it to the kids; she also spoke to children about St. Patrick's Day traditions.

Teens

Teen services librarian Laura Herman visited Sul Ross Middle School and Holmes High School. She was able to talk to the students during their lunch breaks about the library and what kinds of things they were interested in. The students were able to make buttons, and one teen commented on the pride buttons that were available and was appreciative, because they didn't have a space where they could talk about pride topics at home. Ms. Herman was able to tell the teen about the teen library discord server, specifically the Rainbow Ballroom channel. This kind of outreach is a great way to connect with teens and create a dialogue with them, also showing them the library is an inclusive and supportive space.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Great Northwest Branch Library Children's Librarian Cari Raley sent out 56 activity guides and 60 craft packs to families this month. The families with elementary aged children "traveled" to Ancient Egypt with Jack and Annie in *Mummies in the Morning* by Mary Pope Osborne. They had the opportunity to mummify an orange, build a pyramid and draw their own mummy. With Circulation Attendant Shayla Morales' help, the branch distributed a total of 220 children's Take-and-Make packets this month: 180 of the branch's Take-and-Makes, 32 of the system-wide Take-and-Makes, and 8 of the ABC Club activity kits.

In March, Teen Librarian Chris Castillo facilitated 6 virtual teen programs on the 210teenlibrary Discord server including Teen Time and Create Club. Teens communicated updates on their original video game coding, how a teen produces music and gets their work in front of record labels, and supported and encouraged each other's creative practices. Teens submitted artwork for the Teen Summer and the Teen Library will showcase and feature teen artwork throughout the branches on buttons.

In March, teens regularly returned to the branch for in-person Teen Time. Teens cooperated with and challenged each other on vintage gaming consoles and requested a Playstation 5, should the future budget allow. Teens eagerly continue to steer Teen Services programming to ideate, plan, and execute summer programming. Teens suggested Discord server improvements to improve quality of life updates and new Teen Mods were ascended. Teens submitted requests for free 3d printing, custom buttons, and magnets services, and picked them up from the branch.

Mr. Castillo along with Teen Pride committee members Matthew Loaiza (Teen Services Librarian II, Central), Dacari Lambert (Teen Services Librarian I, Schaefer), and Shannan Prukop (Teen Services Librarian I, Johnston), collaborated with the GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) based at the Fox Tech High School Campus. Together, they promoted resources including the 210TeenLibrary Discord server and laid the foundation to plan a hybrid partnership virtual program for teens in May titled "Rainbow Films: Music Videos." Located in downtown San Antonio, Fox Tech is a public, tuition-free, college preparatory magnet high school specializing in medical science and law and public policy.

Library Assistant Kathleen Marascio authored and hosted the Mario Day Trivia contest for the online Mario Day 2022 celebration on March 10.

Great Northwest Library is partnering with the San Antonio Heartwarmers blanket making group to provide a monthly program where patrons have the opportunity to help make blankets for rescue dogs.

Great Northwest Library hosted the Texas Challenge Academy on March 15 to provide an information session about the Texas Challenge Academy free educational program to parents and students.



GUERRA

Guerra Branch Library hosted over 500 voters on March 1 for the Primary Election. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program or VITA continued every Friday - Monday till April 18th with great feedback from the community. Guerra staff reviewed and discussed Ryan J. Dowd's article "Top 10 Things Every Front Line Staff Employee Should Know About Homeless Patrons" on March 1.

Branch Manager Monica Garza Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion of Will Leitch's *How Lucky* on March 21. Ms. Bustillo attended the Ladies Take the Lead - A Women's History Month Panel and the School Library Journal's Spring Teen/YA Book Buzz on March 23. Since there was currently no Children's Librarian at Guerra, Ms. Bustillo attended the Children's Librarian Summer Reading Program meeting at Igo Branch Library on March 23. On March 28 Ms. Bustillo attended the AudioFile Magazine and Libro.fm's webinar "Most Anticipated Audiobooks of Spring 2022." Ms. Bustillo attended the City of San Antonio Women's Leadership Mentoring Program Coffee & Connections event March 29 at Municipal Plaza Room B.

Teen Services Librarian, Bek Corley continued to co-host Music Mondays on the 210teenlibrary Discord server alongside Teen Library's Ami Sarabia where teens shared music, art, game design and fantastic peer support. Ms. Corley was fortunate to meet Lackland ISD's librarian to share Teen Spring programming flyers and discuss future outreach and programming opportunities with SAPL. She also led an informal collection related training with Central reference staff.

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson gave a bilingual orientation about library services to a group of adults from Allen Elementary School on a field trip. He moderated the Spanish book club Club de Lectura on March 17. They discussed *Las hijas del agua* (Water daughters) by Sandra Barneda. This is a historical fiction book about a secret society (water daughters) who struggled for women's rights in 18th century Venice. This book fomented discussions on society and politics of Venice during the first Napoleanic War with a special focus on women's rights. On March 18, he recorded *No sin mi mantita* (*Not without my blankie*) by Amber Stuart for Dial-a-Story in Spanish.

IGO

On the 15th of Mrch, Igo Library partnered with KLRN for its first in-person event for children and families in two years, which generated a lot of excitement and a great turnout. Over 100 children came out to enjoy visits with Martha the Talking Dog, get free books and STEAM kits, and spend time under the large oak visiting, using sidewalk chalk, and painting with water. Children's Librarian Carrie Vance continues to work with other children's librarians to bring virtual programs to families across the city, including the Baby and Toddler Times. Ms. Vance also participated in the planning and execution of an exciting new program for LGBTQ families, Proud to Be Me: Rainbow Families on Wednesday, March 3. This program will meet virtually on the first Wednesday of the month for now. Feedback from participants was very positive.

Ms. Vance continues to host the Stitchery on Sunday afternoons with good attendance and great discussions. In addition to the normal knit, crochet, and hardanger chatter, the group enjoyed discussing The Wheel of Time series by Brian Sanderson again.

Annie Calonico, Teen Services Librarian at Igo, restarted Teen Time, bringing in teens from different backgrounds to participate in weekly programming that offered a variety of activity options. The variety, which included video, board, and card games as well as crafting and art options gave teens the opportunity to choose what they wanted to do, build new relationships with their peers, and participate in craft activities that allowed them to make something they could take with them that expresses their creativity and personal interests.

New teen volunteers joined Igo on weekends and evenings this month, giving them an opportunity to learn more about library operations and helping us to serve our community, which contributes to a greater sense of ownership and identification with the library for the teens. The Teen Express collection was moved from its former location to a more visible one within the Young Adult collection that has increased circulation of titles and made this part of the collection more accessible to teens and other patrons.

Igo Manager Tim Johnson continues to host, record, and edit San Antonio Public Library's Sci-Fi and Fantasy podcast *Escape the Earth*. In the most recent episode Mr. Johnson, along with co-hosts Elissa Vura and Mary Elizabeth Fernandez, discussed T.L. Huchu's Library of the Dead (because we're suckers for anything that has "Library" in the title). This particular segment of Tuned In averages about 100 plays a month and the group hopes to continue building an audience.

JOHNSTON



Johnston hosted more than 550 voters on March 1, Election Day for the Joint Primary. Johnston welcomed its new Assistant Manager/Adult Services librarian, Matthew Kleven, whose first day at Johnston was March 2. Children's Librarian Miss Tiffany received a handmade 'Thank you' card from some young patrons who regularly visit Johnston on March 17. The American Heart Association (AHA) has partnered with the library to provide communities with challenged access to grocery stores the opportunity to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables via Healthy Mobile Markets—Mercado por tu Corazon. Johnston hosted its first Mercado por tu Corazon market on Tuesday, March 8. The next market is planned for April 26.

Branch Manager Cristine Mitchamore continued to assist patrons with Reader's Advisory questions via the library's virtual LibPicks service.

Children's Librarian Tiffany Durham welcomed back families for Bubbles at the Sun Valley Playground. The family-friendly program was hosted on Thursday, March 17th and included play with bubble machines, parachute, sidewalk chalk, and stories and rhymes. This program will continue on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. Miss Tiffany and her bubble machines helped fellow librarian Jacqueline Gonzales with the Spring Break KLRN Play and Learn at Pan American. A grant from Region 20 encouraged Southwest ISD Pre-K families to meet their child's teacher for a literacy event. Miss Tiffany and staff hosted 15+ classrooms of families over the month of March. Visits included a presentation of library services, an invitation for play at the playground, signing up for new library cards, and a library scavenger hunt. As part of the Summer Reading Programming Working group Miss Tiffany presented summer school-aged programs at the Children's Services Meeting. Miss Tiffany continued to host virtual programming for SAPL families: Toddler Time Online on Wednesdays, Read-to-a-Dog and Lego Club on alternate Tuesdays, and Art Club and Game Time on alternate Thursdays. A new addition to the virtual children's programming was the Proud to Be Me Story Time for Rainbow Families. Miss Tiffany was part of the group to host the first virtual gathering which offered stories and art and Miss Tiffany led a scavenger hunt for families. The program was successful for all participants and staff in creating a safe environment for all participants.

Teen librarian Cassie Garza co-hosted the SAPL Teen services Gaming Club virtually on the SAPL Discord server. Teens showed off their gaming spying skills by playing Code Names online. Ms. Garza conducted a handful of virtual and in-person Super Mario video gaming experiences to celebrate Mario Day on March 10th with Esport committee members. Ms. Cassie--along with Kathleen Marascio and Edward Mayberry–hosted the first ever Super Mario virtual trivia. Participants were quizzed with 50 questions related to Super Mario. The final Mario Day event was a virtual obstacle course created by Mari Castellano on the Animal Crossing New Horizons switch game. Ms. Garza began facilitating in-person teen time at Johnston. During March Teens were able to design and create Sharpie coasters, Shrinky dink keychains, pin back buttons and experience virtual reality video gaming using the Oculus Quest

headset. Johnston teen volunteers have helped with setting up and demonstrating to teen participants how to do each of the planned activities.

LEARN Center Training Officer, Marcella McGowan, hosted Pop Up Computer Classes - Introduction to Mouse on March 6, 13, 20 and 27. The Learn area had 43 patrons access the Learn Center with topics ranging from basic computer and personal device instructions, to career suggestions and accessing city housing/rental assistance.

LANDA

The Landa Branch Team welcomed Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas. She transferred from the Brook Hollow Library.

CHILDREN

This month, Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas assisted with the first online Proud to be Me: Rainbow Families program for children and their grownups. Librarian Salinas was part of a team that included Children's Librarians Ana Menchaca at Forest Hills, Carrie Vance at Igo, Tiffany Durham at Johnston, and Megan Cruz from Little Read Wagon.

During Spring Break, Librarian Salinas assisted with several in-person outdoor programs including a Play & Learn program at San Pedro Park with Little Read Wagon, and two KLRN-sponsored family programs at Landa Library and Igo Library.

Throughout March, Librarian Salinas continued to facilitate online programming with Baby Time Online weekly, Art Club Online, Game Time Online, Read to a Dog Online, and Lego Club Online.

ADULTS

Circulation Attendant Amy Peppersack took over hosting the long-running Mystery Book Club. This month, the group read *The Girl Before* by JP Delaney. Nine attendees were present. Overall, readers liked the book. Discussion centered around the characters, their behavior, and the architecture and design of the 'fourth major character', the home in which the novel was set. These details in the writing helped make a lively discussion, as regardless of how readers felt individually about the book, they felt the details left much to discuss and debate.

Library Aide Liz Midkiff took over hosting Readers Ink Book Club. The group met on March 15, to discuss the book *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly. Most members were surprised by how much they learned from Shetterly's research, and expressed fascination with the political state of Virginia from the 40's to the 80's. Most members enjoyed being able to relate to the discussed figures, and thoroughly enjoyed the selection for that session. There was a fantastic turnout of seven members, up two or three attendees from the previous meeting!

TEENS

Teen programming started again this month with weekly Teen Time on Tuesdays at 5:30 pm. While Teen Librarian Marisa DeBow was with the Landa team, she hosted the program. Since this is a new beginning

for the program, there was only one participant throughout the month. However, the teen said they would be happy to come back again.

Passive programming took place in the (still) new Teen Space at the Branch. Teens took ownership of the space adding art and quotes to the dry erase wall in the room, as well as filling the space with laughter and conversation after school.

LAS PALMAS

The community was invited to attend an in-person, public meeting on March 7th, for the unveiling of the design for the renovation of the Las Palmas Branch Library, funded by the 2017 City of San Antonio Bond Program. Representatives from the San Antonio Public Library presented the final design for the renovation of Las Palmas Branch Library. The event was also live streamed and can be seen at https://www.YouTube.com/watch?v=Se2P7J53h34.

On March 1, 2022, Primary Election Day, Las Palmas hosted Bexar County Elections with 552 Bexar County Residents casting ballots.

The Las Palmas staff created a book display for Women's History Month with a bundle supplied by technical services and books within our own collection. Las Palmas staff also participated in recording Spanish language stories for juveniles through the San Antonio Public Library Dial-a-Story program.

Adults: Las Palmas hosted Technology Tuesday/Martes de Tecnología, a bilingual program managed by Adult Librarian Lily Perez that provides personalized assistance with basic tech needs every Tuesday of the Month. During March we met with 18 members of the community. Participants are quickly becoming regulars to the weekly program.



Las Palmas hosted "Tuesday Night Lights Camera and Action: Encanto" managed by Adult Librarian Lily Perez and Library Assistant Elvia Ramos, with 24 members attending. After the movie, and in line with the beautiful and colorful garden landscapes seen in the movie, staff provided a Gardening Activity for our participants to start their own garden, with contributions made by the Friends of the Las Palmas Library.



Teens: Teen Services Librarian Connie Hejl continued to help out with the Random Fandom Discord program where teens talked about various subjects like Minecraft Movie, Amphibia, Astrological Signs and Young Pegasus, among other topics.

Connie visited the area YMCA for Teen Night, and in keeping with the theme Building a Stronger Community, 13 teens cooked their own spaghetti dinner. Teen Volunteer Emerald Alaniz and Connie also taught YMCA teens how to play UNO Flip and other card games while others played the traditional game of Jenga. Priscilla Mercado, YMCA teen coordinator stated that there would be more teen night partnerships in the future.

Connie hosted the popular program, Teen Spring Break, with teens from the YWCA in attendance. Teens gathered to play video games, board games and made Perler Bead creations, and in-person Teen Time, a regularly scheduled program that meets every Tuesday with board games being the most popular activity.

Children's: Children's librarian, Valerie Shelley has collaborated with other San Antonio Public Libraries (SAPL) for online programs. Valerie actively participates in Toddler Time and Read to a Dog. Another online program she presented with other librarians for SAPL was a Spring Break Family Fun event

This month there were two Take-and-Make craft kits distributed at Las Palmas for children ages 2-12. Las Palmas hosted a Monday Movie Night planned by the Adult Librarian, Lily Perez. A Bubbles and Dance event was also held at the branch for children and their adult caregivers. This program was developed by Valerie.

Valerie participated in the Spring Break at the Library with KLRN and the Little Red Wagon (LRW) Let's Play at San Pedro Springs Park event. Both of these events were City-wide programs.



MAVERICK

While the Mah Jongg group continued to welcome new members in March, the Chess Club members met weekly as well. Maverick hosted the Bexar County Elections Office on March 1st for the Midterm Primary Election Day. Branch Manager, Jef Martin, opened for the presiding judges while Assistant Manager, Benjamin Longoria, closed. Throughout March, the librarians weeded through their designated collections.

Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts, had many programs during the reporting period. She created a curated Story Time for the Tiny Tots committee, "Mouse's First Spring" by Lauren Thompson on March 21. On March 15, she read "The Bedtime Book" by Todd Parr for Dial-A-Story. In addition, Ms. Roberts went to the Igo Library on March 15 to assist in an outdoor Spring Break event sponsored by KLRN and the library, focusing on literacy activities for kids 12 and under. Over 200 people attended the event! Ms. Roberts connected our Library School Intern, Lisa Villa, to other children's librarians in SAPL in order observe two outdoor programs during Spring Break. Finally, Ms. Roberts assembled 60 Take-and-Make Kids Crafts for a "Contrast Art" activity which were enjoyed by Maverick kids!

Ms. Roberts ordered multiple summer reading prize books from Scholastic that will be given out to kids starting June 1. Ms. Roberts sent in a picture of herself and also pictures of many quilts based on children's books that are inside the Maverick Library for the system-wide 2022 Summer Reading Program

video. Ms. Roberts participated in many trainings and meetings during the reporting period. She took Security Awareness Training on March 7 and P-Card Training on March 28. She attended Children's Librarians meetings on March 9 via WebEx and March 23rd in person at the Igo Branch. In addition, she attended the Town Hall Meeting conducted by the library and Assistant City Manager, David McCrary on March 10.

Maverick Teens were happy to return to face to face programming in March. Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl, assisted by Library Aide Taylur Loera, facilitated Teen Time on Tuesday evenings. The first week Teens spent time reconnecting with each other while coloring, and developed a plan for the next week's activities. During March Teens competed at Uno Flip and Mario Cart, but chose to play Pictionary as a group. One Teen initiated a collaborative sketchbook that offers artistic opportunities for the entire group. Each week it is checked out by a different Teen, then returned the following week at Teen Time and creations are shared with the group.

Teen Time provides an inclusive environment where Teens feel safe interacting. Evidence of positive Teen interactions came one evening as a newcomer shared that her reason for attending, and becoming a volunteer, was to create new opportunities for personal growth. She also shared the experience of her first job interview-she was somewhat disappointed that she did not get the job but other attendees commended her efforts toward personal development.

McCRELESS

During March, our patrons continued to come to the Southside Lions Community Center to pick up their items and check out our Express Collection. As they became aware of the Grand Reopening they got excited about going back to enjoy their home branch again.

Teen Librarian Marisa DeBow conducted outreach with fellow Teen Librarian Heather Swindoll at Edison High School for their Parents' Night. This was a great opportunity to meet parents and incoming freshmen and let them know about the many services SAPL offers. Marisa also developed a partnership with CAST MED High School Art department to display a collaborative mural in the teen area. Some of the students are active on the 210teenlibrary Discord channel and they are looking forward to the upcoming McCreless Branch reopening where they will be able to see the newly renovated teen area.

McCreless Training Officer Lodie Mueller has been floating amongst the first four Learn at SAPL Centers, gearing up with her Terrific Teammates for McCreless' Grand Reopening on April 16th! She is enormously excited to launch the first Learn at SAPL Center at the McCreless location, the 5th in San Antonio. Lodie also assisted María Treviño and Luanne Bloom with two iPad Lending events at the Bob Ross Center, as well as another GET CONNECTED computer class at the Food Bank. Lodie and the Learn Team extend an enthusiastic welcome to another new Training Officer, Carlos Loera, who will be serving our community at Bazan Branch Library.

MEMORIAL

Adult services librarian Freddy Hudson met with staff from other branches to develop programming in May for Older Americans Month and Digital Inclusion Month. So far, Mr. Hudson is planning a resume program and a program in collaboration with Older Adults Technology Services (OATS). Both programs are virtual on Zoom.

On March 30, Mr. Hudson worked with SAPL staff to checkout iPads at the Alicia Trevino Lopez Senior Center. He checked them out, while library staff gave patrons a tutorial on using them. The patrons were grateful for the opportunity to learn about iPads.

Children's Librarian Christine Deffendall continues to work on two series of puppet skits with fellow Children's Librarians Ana Menchaca (Forest Hills) and Randi Jones (Semmes). These skits will be recorded for the San Antonio Public Library's YouTube channel. The team met for a second rehearsal on March 25. Mrs. Deffendall is also part of the team producing the promotional video for the Summer Reading Program.

Circulation attendant Michelangelo Sosa consulted with Reference librarian Angelina Cortes to coordinate efforts for leading and teaching an adult education program for computer basics with a focus on Microsoft Excel. This program is accredited with Northstar Digital Literacy created by Literacy Minnesota, a program from Minnesota dedicated to adult literacy on a national scale. This program requires instructors to become accredited exam proctors. The result of this coordination when executed would be SAPL students from nearby districts being awarded with a certificate of completion in the respective subject, and can be used as an additional qualification when searching for jobs.

On March 30, Memorial staff celebrated the first anniversary of Library on the Go operations. Staff celebrated with cupcakes provided by children's librarian Christine Deffendall.

MISSION

In honor of women's history month, Makers Batch: Hidden Stories of the Women Artisans of San José Potteries was on exhibit at Mission Library from March 3rd - 31st, 2022. Much has been written about proprietress Ethel Harris and her San Antonio pottery and tile workshops as well as her head designer Fernando Ramos, but little is known about the women artisans behind the innovative operation. The exhibit portrayed the untold story of the creative women behind San José Potteries and highlights their contributions to the arts and crafts movement of San Antonio. Visitors were offered an intimate glimpse into the lives of artisans like Jesusa (Susie) Bustillos-Chavez, Maria Eufemia (Pema) Bustillos-Salinas, Carmen Bustillos-Chavez, Virginia Martinez- Bustillos, Dorothy Pacheco, and Emma Vignes-Dixon through a private compilation of photographs, heirlooms and hand-crafted creations as well as original furniture productions from San José Potteries. These precious items were generously loaned to the Mission Library from the personal collections of Susan Toomey Frost and the Anguiano, Mendoza, Bustillo, Salinas, Valdez and Villarreal families. Exhibit was curated by San Antonio's own Mission Crafts Chandlery. Marcie Anguiano, from the Friends of the Library, was the creative force behind this thoughtful exhibit.

Mission served as a Voting Day Site for the Joint Primary on March 1st. Lines were continuous and long that day and still many voters were in line well past the 7:00 PM closing hour. AARP continued to offer tax assistance for seniors by appointment every Friday throughout the month of March.

This month commenced the City of San Antonio World Heritage Office Mission Marquee Farmer's & Artisan Market's bi-monthly Saturday events. Fresh, locally-sourced foods, handmade crafts and products from local pop-up vendors, community resource information, demos and more can be found at these events which will continue through the fall. Librarian Cindy Cruz, Library Aide Perla Campos and intern Christina Montero represented Mission Library at the events and answered many questions about the library, including the most common one: how to get a library card.

Three Teen events were held in March. The programs included several activities. Teens participated in chalk art and wrote inspirational quotes in the library's courtyard. Teens also worked with shrink art and Perler beads to create magnets and keychains. In addition, teens created an Art Tile display in the teen area. This display coincided with Mission Library's Makers Batch display that also featured tile works of art. Teens created tiles with nature motifs as well as pop culture images like Hello Kitty. Furthermore, Teen Librarian, Cindy Cruz, and Library Assistant, Mari Castilleja, collaborated to bring poetry activities for the Viva Poesia event that took place at the Mission Marquee. The outreach activities were geared to children and teens and included Blackout poetry and a poetry creation station.

Mission continues to offer its ever-popular Table Tennis 3 times a week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The core group is composed mainly of seniors who have been attending the program for many years. However, it continues to attract new members of various ages who find the group led by Librarian Oscar González, a warm and welcoming environment for newcomers.

PAN AMERICAN

In early March, Pan American's Children's Librarian, Jacqueline Gonzales, held Story Time at La Petite Academy on Wurzbach. Her and the children read a handful of books and learned both the Hello and Goodbye song with simple sign language. Of the books read, *But the Bear Came Back*, by Tammi Sauer was the children's favorite. For this outreach, 60 Take-and-Make kits were made. The first 30 were of creating a rainbow with a pot of gold, and the other set of 30 were to create their very own Madi Gras mask. Colorful paper and cotton balls were the primary materials provided. In total the outreach consisted of 30 kids and 2 adults.

Children's Librarian, Jacqueline Gonzales, also participated in two additional outreach opportunities within the branch community. They were for the Adams Elementary Literary Night and the Rayburn Elementary Parent Literacy Info Session. Ms. Gonzales provided families at both events' information on SAPL services and Branch information. In total, there were 78 children and 68 families reached at the Adams Elementary event, and 15 adults and 1 child at Rayburn Elementary.



In addition, the Branch hosted both KLRN and PBS to provide the community with resources and activities to promote the importance of literacy and education. Martha, the PBS mascot, made an appearance and information from the San Antonio Foodbank was also dispersed. Children played with sidewalk chalk, painted with water, and enjoyed a story walk around the outdoor event. Free books were also given to all children that signed in. In total there were 34 children and 32 adults that attended.





Library Aide Jennifer Huizar organized several book displays in the Children's area with the theme of "Spring Time". The book displays and book bundles are a great way to showcase what the library has to offer to enhance and/or supplement a child's learning experience.

Linda Rodriguez, Teen Liaison for Pan American, provided a unique and fun time for branch teens. Welcoming them back after a couple of months with no programs due to COVID. Teens were tasked with creating their own yarn macramé and just having a chill and fun time during Teen Time.



Library Assistant Stephanie Perez continues to hold her adults only bi-monthly Virtual Sketchbook & Journaling Program. This is a virtual creative program using Zoom. Ms. Perez hosted two meetings in March. The focus of these programs is on drawing and writing. The purpose is to bring people together and encourage people's creativity.

Ms. Perez also created a branch book display that focused on Gardening. It featured a wide assortment of Gardening books for all ages. She also attended an outreach event at the Mexican Expo, where she helped people sign-up for library cards, talked about what SAPL has to offer and helped promote the library's upcoming book festival.

Interim Branch Manager and Adult Services Librarian, Adrian Leal, continues to hold his bi-monthly Puzzle Time for Adults. Patrons are enjoying the free and wide assortment of puzzles to construct. Also, appreciated is the opportunity to do something fun in a relaxing, and stress-free environment. Mr. Leal also organized a St. Patrick's Themed Take-and-Make for Pan American patrons, entitled the "Dancing Leprechaun Craft Kit". Branch Take-and-Makes are very popular with our patrons.



Meditation Classes continue to be held weekly at Pan American. Participants continue to enjoy this class offering every week. March also saw the return of the *Cancer Is One Cancer* (C.I.O.C.) Cancer Support Group. This group meets once a month at the Branch and provides an opportunity for the community to get support and talk to others who have been affected by cancer.

On March 8th, the branch hosted a program entitled "Understanding Your Property Appraisal". The presentation was delivered by the Bexar County Appraisal District. Participants were able to get a first-hand understanding of their property appraisal and the appeals process. B.C.A.D were outstanding in delivering their presentation and in their patience - answering any and all questions to the attendees satisfaction. B.C.A.D. also stayed several minutes at the end to provide more answers to some of the participants' questions. We had 15 attendees and all comments received were very appreciative of B.C.A.D. and the branch for offering the program.

On March 10th, in coordination with the American Heart Association, the branch hosted the "AHA Mercado por tu Corazón" mobile produce market. Fresh produce was available for the community to purchase at the branch. Many in this community took advantage of the quality selection of fresh produce available. We had many of our neighbors walk from their homes to see what the mobile market had to offer. While not only could the community purchase the produce, they could also receive some health tips, cooking tips and storage tips – how to keep produce fresh at home. Most visitors commented that they hoped the mobile market would return.







PARMAN



Parman turned green for St. Patrick's Day and employees celebrated by not only wearing green clothes but green wigs as well. There were green themed displays throughout the library that continued the fun of this festive holiday. A St. Patty's day Mickey and Minnie inflatable welcomed patrons at the front entrance and many people stopped to take their picture with the iconic pair decked out in all things green.

In the first week of March Parman library was a voting site for election day. As expected the turnout was high but it was run smoothly and efficiently by experienced team of judges. As usual, on days like this, there was an increased number of phone calls with directional questions that the Parman staff handled well as they are prepared for any influx of guests and patrons.

Satellite office hours are back at Parman with District 9 Councilman John Courage. The councilman has open hours where community members can turn to him with their questions and comments.

Corie Taylor, Parman circulation attendant, created several adult book displays, as always highly popular among Parman guests.

Jessica Mitchell hosted her monthly an in-person book club "Beyond the Book". As in the previous month, the event was well-attended and the manager received several positive comments from attendees.

Self-taught local artist Donna M. Marcum had her reception this March at the Parman Library art gallery. Her art was showcased for the spring season at Parman and the reception was a celebration of the featured pieces entitled an "Ode to Women!" Marcum's is known for her use of shapes and lines to form

whimsical masterpieces. Most of her work featured is acrylic paint with ink and markers interweaved. At the reception Marcum spoke about her work and career including her first show in North Carolina.

Children's librarians, Lisa and Teague, were overjoyed to offer several in-person, outdoor events at Parman this month! Story Time & Bubbles is bringing in new faces each week. Parents and children alike are full of excitement and enthusiasm as they dance, wiggle and listen to a story or two with Ms. Lisa.



Over spring break, Lisa and Teague provided chalk one afternoon for children to create pictures outside. The kids created colorful masterpieces that brought smiles to all for many days after the event. Another day, kids learned how to make gliders and paper airplanes and had the best time seeing whose creation could go further or stay in the air longest. Parman is grateful for the beautiful weather that has allowed our outdoor programming to resume. Parman children's librarians as usually, provided several activities like special Mardi Gras Mask craft picked up by 75 children and passive program "Parman I Spy" enjoyed by many patrons of all ages.

POTRANCO

March seemed to fly in and out as swiftly as the Spring winds.

Library Assistant Lisa Leandro and Adult Services Librarian Monica Huerta continue to host the Café Con Libros book club. This book club focuses on books by LGBTQ+ and Authors of Color. The group really enjoys the discussions, one member drives from the Southeast Side in order to attend monthly. This month they read "Under the Whispering Door".

Ms. Leandro also hosts the Potranco Book Club. Many of the members of the Café con Libros book club also attend the month Potranco Book Club. This month they read Crying in H Mart.

Adult Virtual Coloring continues to be hosted by Ms. Leandro. The popularity of the program is amazing. There is a dedicated group of 7-10 participants every week. The regularity of their attendance is impressive. Two of the regular patrons have penciled the program into their weekly work from home routine.

Children's Librarian, Dawn Zeig, has been actively participating in two virtual programs: Game Time and Toddler Time along with several other San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) children's librarians. Game Time consists of bringing four to five interactive fun games to City children geared towards grades

kindergarten through third. Toddler Time is an interactive Story Time that includes a myriad of songs and rhymes that encourage active participation between children and their adult caregivers.

Ms. Zeig participated in an outreach with a first grade at Van Raub Elementary School for Read Across America Day. She read two stories to the class, providing an activity packet and distributing SAPL bookmarks and magnets to students and staff.

Ms. Zeig helped out at the Pan-American and Igo branches for the special spring break KLRN events.

The March children's book displays promoted spring and Women's History Month. The April Take-and-Make craft is Seed Paper. Children will draw messages about Earth and plant their messages in the ground to grow wildflowers.

Teen Librarian Jenny Borrero and Circulation Attendant Miranda Reyes attended an outreach at Stevens High School on March 1 for their Family Festival. Seventeen teens received teen time flyers while some signed up for a library card. Jenny attended another outreach at Warren High School on March 28 for their Spring Festival with Circulation Attendant Vivianna Roldan. They talked to over 70 people while handing out flyers.

Teen Time returned on March 21. One of Potranco's teen volunteers taught other teens how to crochet. The same teens returned the following week. Teen Librarian Jenny Borrero also worked with the teen volunteer on setting up an activity schedule for each teen time throughout the month.

Bookworms added another teen club assistant. Both assistants are starting to collaborate on choosing what to read each week as well as come up with a question of the day. un buttons and information about the library.

Adult Services Librarian Monica Huerta and Ms. Reyes hosted the weekly Dreaded Threads program. The program listens to true crime podcasts while working on their crocheting, knitting and other craft projects. The group has been steadily growing since the return to in-person programming.

Ms. Huerta hosts the Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club. In March, the group read "She Who Became the Sun".

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Pruitt's Children's Services honored Women's History Month with book displays and passive activities. The advent of the spring season program, "Hats off to Reading", and St. Patrick's Day were also celebrated with displays and crafts. Take-and-Make craft kits for children and toddlers were created by librarian Lucy Cisneros and library assistant Sheran Awe. Pruitt staff also distributed the system-wide activity created by the amazing Take-and-Make Committee.

The branch's *Page-Turners Book Club* met virtually for a book chat on the <u>Throne of Glass</u> book series and compared it to <u>A Court of Thorns and Roses</u>, both by Sarah J. Maas. Former members returned select the next book, <u>Akata Witch</u> by Nnedi Okorafor.

School age and toddler patrons participated in a passive Women's History Month-themed Scavenger Hunt combined with book displays in the Kids' Zone, giving them a chance to explore famous women and their contributions.







Pruitt Teen Services held a Chopstick Challenge during March *Anime & Manga Club* programming. As manga and anime have origins in the far East, this activity provided club members with a fun means of connecting with practices from another culture.

Pruitt Teens also took part in a financial literacy class allowing them to explore activities designed to assist them with identifying the pitfalls and purposes of credit and debt.

The teens again partnered with Roosevelt High School Culinary for the creation of St Patrick's Day Cookie Decorating Kits. Teen culinary students baked the cookies, chose the decorations, then packed and delivered the cookie decoration kits to Pruitt Library. Pruitt teens used 60 Take-and-Make Craft kits to express their creativity.









All three of Pruitt's adult book clubs met both in-person and via Zoom. Patrons discussed <u>The House of Broken Angels</u>, <u>The Keeper of Lost Things</u>, and <u>How We Fight for Our Lives</u>.

Adult Services held an in-person craft program to create floral votive holders. Adult Virtual Coloring continued, co-hosted by Pruitt and Potranco staff.

Special Needs Adult Programming (SNAP) met and listened to Wanda Sykes' reading of <u>The Case of the Missing Carrot Cake</u> followed by making decorated Easter egg magnets.

Family Chess continued, with the live-streamed lessons with Chess Master Alex Weinberg being opened to on-line participants as well as patrons in the library classroom.

SAN PEDRO

The San Pedro Branch Library hosted Little Red Wagon's play event for three dates during spring break. About 30 kids and 40 adults participated each day.

Children's librarian Karen Braeuler presented for Toddler Time Online programs and read <u>Rainbow Fish</u> for the Dial A Story program.



SCHAEFER

Schaefer Library celebrated five years of service to the community with a celebration on Saturday, March 19 from 2 to 4pm. Leslie Elsasser planned a variety of events for kids and families, but all staff members helped out to make the event a success. Outside in the playground area, kids could draw with sidewalk chalk; Dan Garcia and Kaila Martinez were at the yard game station where people could play cornhole and giant Connect 4. Kids also had the unique opportunity to paint on the windows and Dacari Lambert and Leslie Elsasser handed out paint for window painting as well as rock painting. Painting turned out to be very popular and all of the windows were painted, and the painted rocks were added to the rock garden. Other activities included craft stick art led by Lisa Puchot and a birthday cake ring toss led by Monica Macias. Families could enjoy cupcakes and received gift bags. Members of San Antonio Public Library's Administration spoke as well as community dignitaries and Sam Schaefer. Texana came to do a name history for families. A festive selfie station was created in the meeting room by Maria Adams for families to snap pictures of the fun day. Maria also passed out the cupcakes and gift bags. Schaefer Friends group members came to volunteer, and Christina Cardenas, Alma Bruno, Daniela Mendez and Blanca Hernandez worked at the service desk. Blanca also created a playlist of music that was popular when the library opened in 2017 to play on the speakers outside during the party. She also chose LPs to play on the record player inside during the party. Ashley Aniol was the aide that day to keep up with the book drop and shelving. Prior to the party Monica Macias, Christina Cardenas and Leslie Elsasser were honored by the Schaefer Friends group and were given a special plague recognizing them for working at Schaefer for all five years.



Schaefer Library had its first children's program at the library in two years on March 10 when KLRN partnered with the library. More than 100 children and adults came to play outside. Kids could participate in a variety of activities like bubbles, sidewalk chalk water paint – and more! Martha the Dog from the show *Martha Speaks* made a special appearance as well. Leslie Elsasser, Cresencia Huff, Carrie Vance, Lucy Humphrey and KLRN staff hosted the event.

Schaefer's children's librarian Leslie Elsasser participated in many programs on Zoom during March. She was the host for Story Time Live twice and was also a presenter once. Story Time on Zoom takes place every Thursday morning. Two special Spring Break Story Time programs took place on March 9 and 16 in addition to the regularly scheduled programs, and Leslie was the host and help plan these events. Leslie is a member of the Read to a Dog group and the program takes place twice a month on Tuesday afternoons. Kids can practice their reading skills by reading to a dog in a breakout room. Leslie monitored a breakout rooms during the March programs. Leslie is the lead of the LEGO Club Online program, which is every other Tuesday afternoon. The kids are given challenges of what to build and have the opportunity to free build and share what they've built with the group.

Leslie Elsasser is a member of the COSA Toastmasters group, which met every Wednesday through the end of March.

At the children's librarians meeting on March 23 at Igo, the Summer at SAPL programming workgroup presented the program plans for June and July. The plans are to bring back in-person programming for school-age children at the branches. Leslie Elsasser was the lead of the programming workgroup, which met weekly for many months to plan the summer events.

Library Assistant BlancaSilvia Hernandez hosted the monthly Schaefer Virtual Craft program; where patrons created papel picado and 3D Mexican stars. Patrons used the papel picado to make banners to decorate their houses. Viva Fiesta!

Blanca reated a Schaefer 5th Anniversary themed playlist for the celebration. It was played over the outdoor speakers while patrons enjoyed the yard games and activities in the two hour celebration. She also published a complimentary themed catalog list for Schaefer's I \bigcirc Vinyl (Digital Edition) monthly program. The list of LPs and CDs annotated the songs that were trending during the week of Schaefer Branch Library's opening in March 2017.

Blanca also created a Cesar Chavez display and co-created a Women's History Month Display with Teen Librarian Dacari Lambert, featuring unique bookmarks that she made.





Adult Services Librarian II, Dan Garcia, hosted the monthly Schaefer Skimmers book club on Tuesday, March 15, 2022. The program was attended by two club members in person, and one additional member virtually via Zoom.

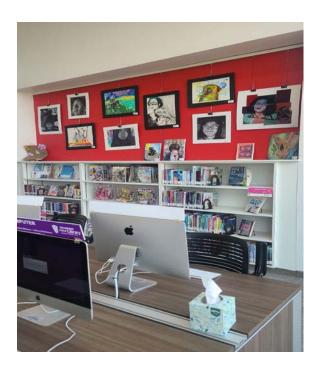
On Wednesday, March 16, 2022, Dan visited the District 2 Senior Center and met with Senior Center Manager, Blanca Cook, to tour the center and discuss establishing a book group and other programming opportunities in partnership with the Senior Center.

Dan joined the Employee Well-Being workgroup, attended the first meeting on March 30, and has actively participated in and contributed to the workgroup discussion.

In March 2022, Dacari Lambert, Teen Librarian at Schaefer branch Library helped facilitate the weekly Create Club with colleague Chris Castillo, on the 210TeenLibrary Discord server. Dacari is working with the Teen Summer workgroup to plan services for San Antonio teens for this upcoming summer. Dacari continues to work with Teen Services colleagues to meet the needs of teens across San Antonio with modified services and programming. Dacari worked with the Teen Pride Workgroup to conduct outreach to the Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) club at the Advanced Learning Academy at Fox Tech, to work on planning upcoming teen pride events.

Dacari continues to work with teen volunteers at her branch, with a total of 7 active volunteers for the month, including the Vocational group from East Central High School.

Dacari reinstated a former partnership with the East Central High School Art Department, displaying teen art on rotation in the teen space.



Dacari joined the Employee Wellness workgroup and has been an active participant in group discussions and ongoing meetings. Dacari curated a vinyl request box for patrons to engage with at the branch. Additionally, Dacari helped colleague Blanca Silva-Hernandez with book displays and take away bookmarks for Women's History Month and Spring.







SEMMES

March 2022 was a busy month for children's services at Semmes Branch Library.

Ms. Randi continued to present and host for San Antonio Public Library's Toddler Time Online Live program. She provided the opening songs and rhymes on March 16, hosted the program on March 23 and read *Gray Rabbit's Favorite Things* by Alan Baker and presented some songs on March 30. For the Story Time Online Live program, she read *Wolfie the Bunny* by Ame Dyckman and presented some songs on March 3, presented a puppet show she wrote based on the book *Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?* by Bill Martin, Jr. and sang a name song that included all of the childrens' first names on March 17 and hosted the program on March 24. She provided tech support for Read to a Dog Online on March 8 and 22. Her Tiny Tots video of *Big Fat Hen* by Keith Baker premiered on SAPL's YouTube channel on March 15. Ms. Randi's curated Story Time for toddlers for the book, *Higher! Higher!* by Leslie Patricelli premiered on SAPL's website on March 28. Her curated Story Time for preschoolers for the book, *The Tortoise and the Hare* by Janet Stevens premiered also on March 28. Ms. Randi recorded for the Dial-A-Story line on March 11 (*Clever Beatrice* by Margaret Willey) and on March 18 ("The Farmer's Fun-loving Daughter" from *More Ready-to-Tell Tales from Around the World*, edited by David Holt and Bill Mooney). On March 25, Ms. Randi and Ms. Cheryl Penick (Thousand Oaks Branch Library), staffed a public library information table at the School of Science and Technology—Alamo's Multicultural Fair.

Approximately 100 students and their parents stopped by to get information on library services and upcoming library events.

Ms. Valerie was excited to start hosting Teen Time again on Tuesdays beginning on March 8th. So far teens have designed fairy garden terrariums and met new friends over board games. Valerie also ran a Manga March Madness bracket in the Teen Area throughout March. Teens could vote for which manga titles they wanted to move to the next bracket each week. With an average of 8-9 votes per week, the teens voted for *Demon Slayer* as their favorite manga.



Semmes held two adult programming sessions creating: Papel Picado for Beginners: one on a weekday evening and one on a weekend morning. The participants were all novices but by looking at their creations that could be questioned! By the end of the session, other patrons peeking into the flex room and the class participants were asking if Semmes held crafting programs weekly.

THOUSAND OAKS

Assistant Branch Manager Brooke Mjolsness hosted the Film Noir Movie Club program on March 8. This virtual monthly discussion group watches a film noir movie and encourages a lively talk with engaging questions. Ms. Mjolsness was co-host and chat moderator for the virtual self-care OptimizeU program on March 9. The main host Maggie Grueskin led the program which is held the second Wednesday of every month.

On March 17, Ms. Mjolsness served as chat moderator for the Noon Time Helping cooking program. The program series covers various recipes and kitchen topics. She participated in staffing an information table at the District 10 Fiesta event on March 22.

On March 25, Ms. Mjolsness co-hosted a virtual Beginner's Chair Yoga program, and served as Master of Ceremonies for the virtual SAPL Live Trivia program. These programs are held the last Friday of every month. On March 30, she facilitated an outreach visit to the Northeast Senior Center where she checked out iPads and answered questions about the Device Lending Program for Older Adults.



Children's Librarian Cheryl Penick served as co-host for the Baby Time Online programs on March 4, 11, 18, and 25. She staffed an information table with colleague Randi Jones (Semmes) for Multicultural Night at the School of Science and Technology - Alamo on March 28.

Ms. Penick assembled 50 Take-and-Make contrast art kits for distribution to patrons. She created a "Keep Your Imagination Blooming" bulletin board with Cricut lettering courtesy of Circulation Assistant Rosa Villa. She assembled themed book bundles for children with items for check-out in both English and Spanish.

Librarian Kimberly King held Teen Time programs on March 7, 14, 21, and 28. She facilitated an outreach visit to the Northeast Senior Center on March 17 where she informed customers about the Device Lending Program for Older Adults. On March 23, she facilitated an outreach book group at the Northeast Senior Center. The book group participants discussed *Last Summer at the Golden Hotel* by Elyssa Friedland. On March 29, she co-hosted a Speak Geek virtual program for teens.

Ms. King created a "Fearless Females" book display to celebrate Women's History Month. She created an interactive activity which encouraged teens to respond to the question "What is your favorite noodle dish?" in celebration of National Noodle Month.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

Children's Librarian, Barbaraella Frazier continues co-hosting the virtual Cooking Around the World program each month. Morocco was highlighted by demonstrating a Moroccan couscous dish on March 19.

Assistant Manager, Rhonda Woolhouse, adapted Pop Madness this year into two events: one virtual on March 5 and an upcoming in-person extravaganza at Igo on May 28. The virtual event featured Author Julia Quinn, writer of the Bridgerton romance series. Ms. Quinn was interviewed live by fellow romance author, Jeffe Kennedy. Quinn's series has been adapted into a Netflix television series. This interview is available for viewing on San Antonio Public Library's (SAPL) website.

Melissa Carroll, Tobin's Teen Librarian, partnered with Thousand Oak's Librarian, Brooke Mjolsness, to host a SAPL table at Councilman Perry's Fiesta event on March 22. SAPL.

Ms. Carroll provided a tour and presentation to 12 local school librarians on March 23. The group has started meeting in person again and visits libraries to learn about services and trends in Bexar County libraries.

Library Assistant, Terry Verner, and Children's Librarian, Kara Bailey, stay busy each month preparing Take-and-Make crafts to meet the very high demand by the community. Bee Bookmarks and Fiesta Flowers were just some of the 550+ kits given out for kids and families to enjoy creating at home.





Tobin's Wellness Ambassador, Ms. Carroll, engaged staff in a team building exercise by letting them assemble a detailed lively puzzle during the month with the finished design pictured below.



WESTFALL

In March, Westfall's Children's Librarian Imelda Merino added six curated Story Time programs to the Preschool 0 - 5 LibGuide that were prepared by other children's librarians. One entry was added to the "Short and Sweet" suggestion box in the "Creative Ideas for the Whole Family" tab of the "SAPL is Here for You" LibGuide. As part of the Story Time Work Group, Ms. Merino participated in two Story Time Online programs, contributing a story and songs for one, and songs and fingerplays for the other. As a member of the Art and Maker Team, she participated in an Art Club Online program, sharing some simple paper weaving craft ideas.

Students from George Gervin Academy came to visit Westfall on two occasions to check out books. Each group had about 11 students.

Ms. Merino attended an outreach event at Jackson Keller Elementary on March 1. The literacy event celebrated National Read Across America Day. Information about the library was made available and a simple craft was offered. Twenty-four children and eighteen adults participated.

Heather Swindell, the Teen Services Librarian at Westfall, attended Parent Night at Edison High School and reconnected with several teens who had regularly come to the library with their families as children. Several teens got their first library cards, and others talked about how much they used to love coming to the library and wanted to start going again. Teens who are already regular library users are sad to lose access to the library and Teen Space during the remodel, but are looking forward to coming back and seeing the updates after the branch reopens. A large whiteboard is being purchased for the Teen Space for the teens to have more room to create and share their art, poetry, and other content with their peers.

Westfall Branch Library hosted several visits from the San Antonio Education Partnership. One of their College Access and Success Advisors staffed a table to educate library users about their Upgrade program for adult students returning to higher education.

Westfall Branch Library hosted the program *Celebrate Women and the Irish Culture* with Sister Mary Teresa Cullen who discussed the life of Brigid of Kildare.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY **KEY INDICATORS**

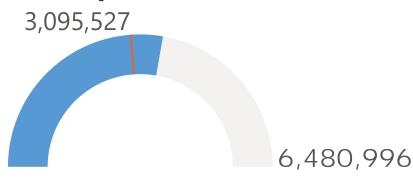
COVID-19 has greatly affected overall Library service usage in FY 2020 and FY 2021. FY 2022 performance goals were adjusted accordingly.

March 2022 **FY 2022**

Circulation: Goal

FY 2022 to date Items Borrowed

Fiscal Year to date goal:



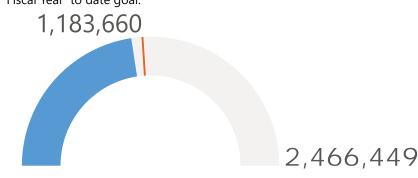


3,596,407°

Visits: Goal

FY 2022 to date Library Visits

Fiscal Year to date goal:





1,114,706

Digital Access: Goal

FY 2022 to date Digital Access





81,451 Hours of Computer Use



710,376

Hours of WI-FI Use

791,827~ (+39.22%)

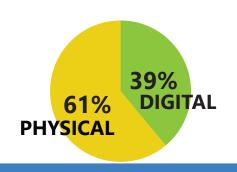
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

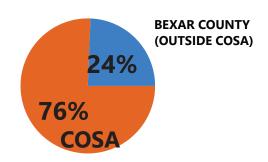
March 2022 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2022

CIRCULATION BY TYPE

CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA





VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2022



10,186 **APP DOWNLOADS***

OVERDRIVE SITE VISITS

529,007 3,148,308 **SOCIAL MEDIA**

IMPRESSIONS

* As of 11-2021, App Sessions data is no longer available and was changed to measure App Downloads

PROGRAMS & ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2022

2,066

954

684 **TEEN PROGRAMS** 428

ADULT PROGRAMS

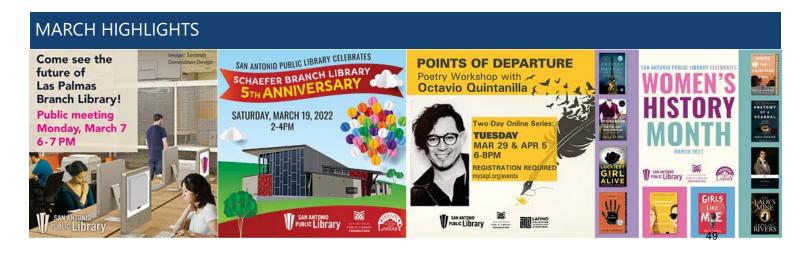
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

33,833

9,749 **ADULT ATTENDANCE** 6,136 **TEEN ATTENDANCE** 17,948 **CHILDREN'S ATTENDANCE**

78 PROGRAM VIDEOS UPLOADED

15,667 PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS



San Antonio Public Library March 2022 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-fi Use	Computer Hours of Use	Wi-Fi Hours of Use	
Bazan	2,154	4,054	3,272	830	2,442	
Brook Hollow	23,475	9,484	10,244	547	9,697	
Carver	2,746	3,447	3,163	521	2,642	
Central	9,284	19,477	18,031	2,403	15,628	
Cody	27,891	9,459	7,668	769	6,899	
Collins Garden	2,856	4,328	1,643	442	1,201	
Cortez	3,735	4,180	2,576	376	2,200	
Digital	241,193	0	0	0	0	
Encino	15,731	6,464	3,568	159	3,409	
Forest Hills	470	69	0	0	0	
Great Northwest	22,760	10,113	5,332	470	4,862	
Guerra	6,716	6,725	3,254	482	2,772	
lgo	34,691	14,708	8,599	516	8,083	
Interlibrary Loan	1,253	0	0	0	0	
Johnston	6,862	5,375	3,183	507	2,676	
Kampmann	0	855	199	0	199	
Landa	11,215	9,723	3,686	334	3,352	
Las Palmas	3,134	4,662	3,710	752	2,958	
Maverick	21,763	8,037	4,515	619	3,896	
McCreless	684	155	1,123	0	1,123	
Memorial	675	138	0	0	0	
Mission	10,346	9,930	5,366	794	4,572	
Pan American	3,280	2,628	1,539	314	1,225	
Parman	31,754	15,591	6,152	256	5,896	
Potranco	15,361	6,500	14,456	427	14,029	
Pruitt	4,431	9,161	4,597	173	4,424	
San Pedro	2,965	3,751	2,158	600	1,558	
Schaefer	7,415	8,521	4,188	321	3,867	
Semmes	23,947	9,574	6,558	640	5,918	
System	39,128	0	0	0	0	
Thousand Oaks	5,686	7,592	4,166	387	3,779	
Tobin	14,936	9,213	3,884	468	3,416	
Westfall	9,767	6,346	6,057	1,073	4,984	
Total	608,304	210,260	142,887	15,180	127,707	

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

San Antonio Public Library March 2022 Programs & Attendance

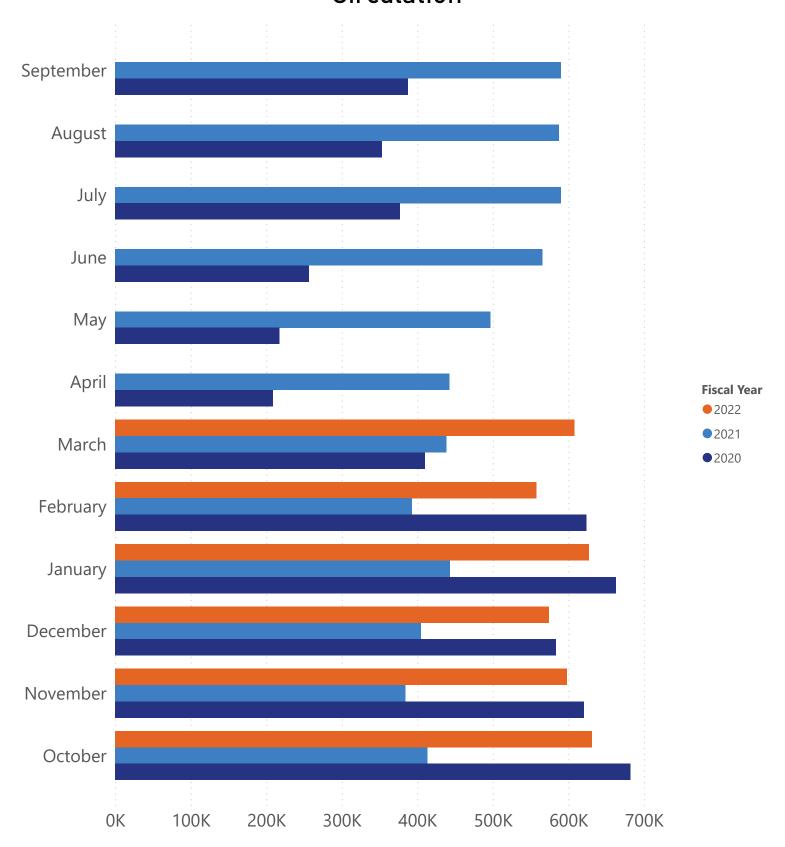
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, programs are developed with a system wide approach and not by location.

Location	Adult Programs	Teen Programs	Children's Programs	Total Programs	Adult Program Attendance	Teen Program Attendance	Children's Program Attendance	Total Program Attendance
Bazan	1	1	0	2	5	125	0	130
Brook Hollow	1	5	0	6	5	23	0	28
Carver	12	5	0	17	169	16	0	185
Central	7	52	1	60	47	215	10	272
Cody	10	0	0	10	118	0	0	118
Collins Garden	11	4	4	19	169	17	289	475
Cortez	8	2	0	10	40	2	0	42
Encino	15	0	0	15	65	0	0	65
Forest Hills	1	2	0	3	10	180	0	190
Great Northwest	1	4	0	5	15	22	0	37
Guerra	2	0	0	2	15	0	0	15
Igo	6	4	0	10	49	18	0	67
Johnston	0	0	4	4	0	0	110	110
Landa	3	3	2	8	9	0	66	75
Las Palmas	11	6	9	26	33	45	131	209
Little Read Wagon	0	0	34	34	0	0	1,045	1,045
Maverick	10	5	0	15	42	43	0	85
McCreless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Memorial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mission	14	4	0	18	190	22	0	212
Pan American	9	0	4	13	86	0	193	279
Parman	6	4	7	17	33	4	279	316
Potranco	8	3	0	11	31	86	0	117
Pruitt	8	17	2	27	48	231	5	284
San Pedro	1	0	0	1	6	0	0	6
Schaefer	2	1	1	4	12	15	110	137
Semmes	4	4	1	9	16	6	100	122
System	7	36	25	68	53	189	518	760
Thousand Oaks	3	4	0	7	111	0	0	111
Tobin	4	2	2	8	98	33	47	178
Westfall	7	4	1	12	38	46	42	126
Total	172	172	97	441	1,513	1,338	2,945	5,796

Note:

Forest Hills: Library building is closed but branch was able to hold three off-site events this month Memorial and McCreless: Buildings are closed; no events.

San Antonio Public Library Circulation



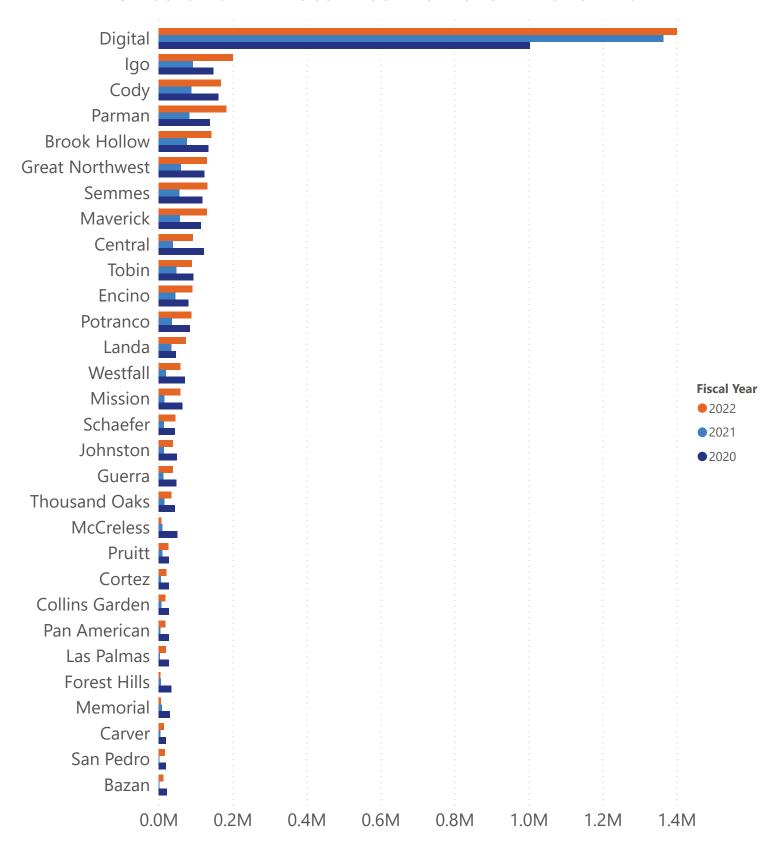
Location Closures:

FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-TBD, McCreless Oct 1-Apr 15, Memorial Oct 1 - TBD

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

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - March 2022



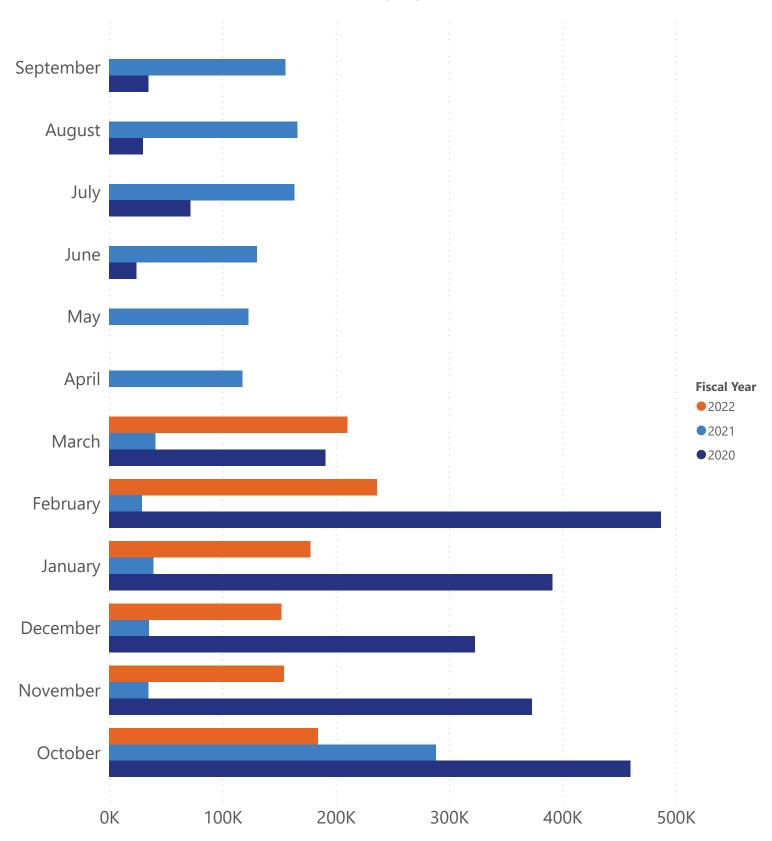
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San Antonio Public Library

Visits



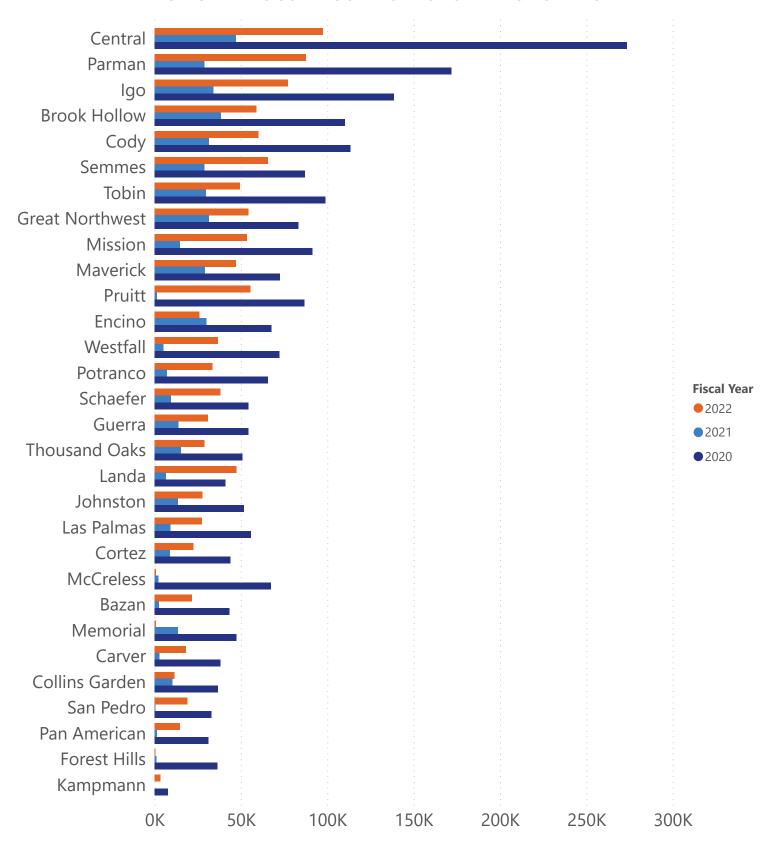
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San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - March 2022

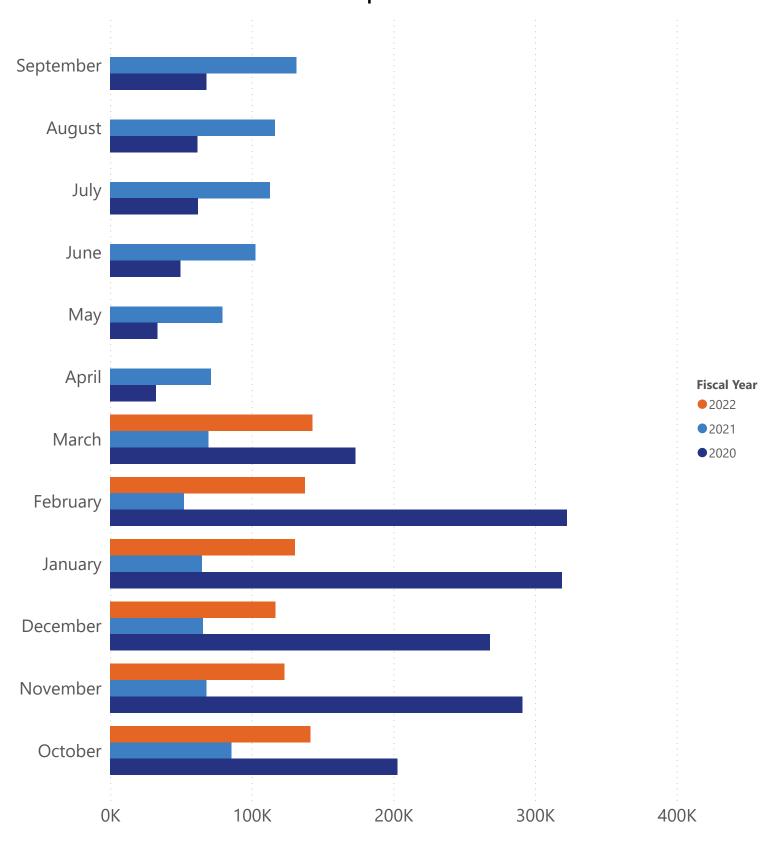


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San Antonio Public Library Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use



Location Closures:

FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-TBD, McCreless Oct 1-Apr 15, Memorial Oct 1 - TBD

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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.