



San Antonio Public Library Director's Report April 2022

San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) celebrated Landa Branch Library's 75th Anniversary on April 2, 2022 with day of family friendly activities.

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

On April 2, 2022 the Landa Branch Library celebrated its 75th anniversary with a speaking program at 10:00 am. Councilmember Bravo (D1), Library Trustee, Jean Brady (D1), and State Senator José Menéndez were a part of the speaking program. St. Anthony Catholic High School Color Guard presented the colors for the speaking program. The event was well received by the community and very successful with hundreds of people participating in the activities.

On April 16, 2022 the McCreless Branch Library had its "Grand Reopening" with a ribbon cutting and a speaking program. Councilmember Viagran (D3), San Antonio Library Board Chair, Paul Stahl, San Antonio Library Board Trustee Josie Martinez (D3), and Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar were a part of the speaking program.

On April 19, 2022, City Council Office District 5 held a Community Meeting. Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar in partnership with Public Works provided the community with a status report on the Memorial Branch Library renovation project including the completion timeline.

Library Director Ramiro Salazar attended Texas Library Association (TLA) Conference in Fort Worth, Texas from April 25 to April 28, 2022.

MARKETING

- March 28 - San Antonio Magazine highlighted SAPL's Texana and Genealogy department in an article about Fiesta.
- March 30 - TPR aired an advertisement promoting the Landa 75th Anniversary celebration.
- April 13 - My San Antonio and TPR reported on the reopening of McCreless Branch Library.
- April 15 - In an effort to reach more media outlets, SAPL Marketing offered a "media preview" of the updated McCreless Branch to multiple close media contacts. The preview proved successful with attendance by News 4 WOAI, SA Report, and My San Antonio.
- April 16 - All major news networks reported on the Grand Reopening of the McCreless Branch Library. KSAT and KENS featured an interview with SAPL Director, Ramiro S. Salazar.
- April 27 - TPR aired a feature story about a Mexican-American madam who challenged illegal fees on brothels in San Antonio in the 1880s. They spoke with and quote Debbie Countess from Texana toward the end of the piece.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:

- SAPL's social media generated 222,023 impressions
- SAPL's social media following base grew by 192 new fans

- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts 12,292 times.

Social Media statistics for the month(s):

- Twitter: 6,240 followers
- Facebook: 21,544 followers
- Instagram: 8,003 followers

YouTube statistics for the month(s):

- Subscribers: 1,352
- Impressions: 31,565
- Total Views: 2,041
- Videos published: 10

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 Pop Madness and Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, as well as social media and other promotion for branch events.

DIGITAL SERVICES

On April 1, Digital Services Coordinator Adam Spana met with colleagues from Public Services and Marketing to discuss tactics necessary to transition from interim offsite service to regular onsite service at the McCreless branch.

On April 4, Mr. Spana met with Assistant Director for Support Services Kathy Donellan, Library Services Administrator Ron Suszek, and Assistant to the Director Jessica Zurita to discuss updates to the Library's IT roadmap.

On April 4, Mr. Spana and Performance and Innovation Manager Randall Polasek met with colleagues from ITSD to determine tactics and pricing necessary to migrate the Library's on-premises Exchange environment to the cloud and to realigning Office 365 licenses under a new enterprise agreement with Microsoft.

On April 7, Mr. Spana, Mr. Suszek, Special Projects Manager Raymond Fraga, and Texana Manager Heather Ferguson met with representatives from LYRASIS, a vendor of digitization services, to plan for digitizing the Texana collection.

On April 20, Mr. Spana joined colleagues of the IT Customer Service Advisory Council to meet with ITSD CIO Craig Hopkins.

April 19 - 21, Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun attended the COSUGi online conference. COSUGi is the national customer user group for SirsiDynix. Presentations included product roadmaps, upcoming enhancements to existing products (including Symphony), and new services and systems.

On April 27, Mr. Laun met with Reference Staff and Organizational Manager Laura Villanueva to finalize details on providing system-wide training for the Ask-A-Librarian system. The rollout will give more library staff the knowledge needed to answer patron questions using the Library's online system.

On April 29, Mr. Spana met with library leadership to finalize tactics and pricing related to migrating the Library's on-premises Exchange environment to the cloud and to realigning Office 365 licenses under a new enterprise agreement with Microsoft.

LITTLE READ WAGON

April was a busy month, the Little Read Wagon (LRW) team had a full calendar with multiple weekend events. Highlights included celebrating the Week of the Young Child at Pre-K 4 SA Centers and the San Antonio Public Library/Department of Human Services (DHS), Head Start presentation of 123 Andres at Elmendorf Park. LRW staff interacted with over 1,600 people at 26 events throughout the city.

The Week of the Young Child was April 2-8. LRW staff created early literacy tools and made memories with families at all four Pre-K 4 SA centers, plus at their partner site at Gardendale Early Learning Program. Organized by Julia Lazarin, children and their grownups could enjoy sidewalk chalk and giant bubbles and were able to choose a book kit (a book and small item like a finger puppet and flashlights) to read in a reading tent. Families were also invited to make both bedtime routine charts and a glittery soothing sensory bottle while discussing the early literacy specific to each of their children. Families left happy and eager to use their new bedtime tools.

LRW staff set up reading tents at seven schools and community spaces. Northside Independent School District is an enthusiastic partner and invited LRW staff to participate at events throughout the district. Reading tents were set up at Raba, Linton, Meadow Village Head Start, Hoffman, Rhodes and Montgomery Elementary Schools plus at community events spaces. This collaboration has been welcomed by communities who did not know what services the library had to offer and were excited to learn more.

Another school district partnership with the San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) resulted in multiple April programs. Megan Cruz visited teen parents at Edison and Burbank High School. Eva Banda visited Sam Houston High School. Parents made gel boards and discussed how children develop writing skills or song books and discussed how singing helps children develop language mastery. Ms. Banda presented virtual bilingual Story Times to the Navarro Early Learning Center, an SAISD center for children of student parents. Melisa Hill and Shannon Seglin, children's librarian from Central Library, participated in the SAISD Health Fair at Carroll Elementary.

The final English language early childhood professional training of the 2021-2022 year was held in early April. LRW staff provided information on trauma informed care, protective factors and how the library is a partner in creating a resilient community. Participant feedback throughout the year has been positive with most teachers requesting more training opportunities. A Spanish language version is in development for presentation on a Saturday in June.

Let's Play at the Schaefer Branch Library and Earth Day with the Parks and Recreation Department took place on the same Saturday. LRW staff, alongside Leslie Elsasser, children's librarian at Schaefer, provided an opportunity to explore a variety of materials on the beautiful library grounds. At the same time Earth Day was celebrated as an official Fiesta event at Woodlawn Lake Park. Earth Day was an incredibly windy affair, the weather necessitated heavily modifying offered activities and it was challenging to keep materials from blowing completely away. Still Clair Larkin, Cresencia Huff, the children's services coordinator, and Karen Braeuler from San Pedro and Gina Brudi from Collins Garden managed to hold on down rugs and other items.

LRW staff joined DHS staff to present 123 Andres, a Grammy-winning bilingual musical duo, at the first Head Start recruitment fair. About 300 people joined the festivities at Elmendorf Park on a Sunday afternoon. LRW had loose parts on hand to create temporary art pieces, tools for making giant bubbles, provided information on children's services at the library and gave away Arte Kids books.

Ms. Lazarin and Ms. Larkin participated in the third annual San Antonio Parks Foundation's Outside for All event and interacted with well over 150 people. This event provided LRW with the opportunity to highlight all the play opportunities offered at parks throughout the community since 2014. Ms. Lazarin created a map to provide a visual story of LRW park events and a map to showcase that outdoor play happens at libraries too. In addition to an illuminating display of photographs and maps depicting outdoor play, children at the Japanese Tea Garden were offered a variety of materials to work with including water, sand, shells, tree cookies, rocks and other loose parts. As in every space LRW staff offer these materials, children of all ages (and adults) spent time creating and repeatedly came back to visit the tents. Panelists at the event included the Parks and Recreation Director who spoke with LRW staff about collaborating on future events at the parks.



CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Several locations promoted awareness by decorating and displaying Cardboard Kids provided by Child Safe, a local children's advocacy center. National Poetry Month was observed with the update and sharing of book lists featuring poetry and poets. April also marked the completion of selection of poems for the Young Pegasus anthology.

Parks and Recreation hosted an Earth Day celebration at Woodlawn Lake Park. Clair Larkin (Little Read Wagon) assembled a variety of activities for children and Karen Braeuler (San Pedro), Gina Brudi (Collins Garden), and Cresencia Huff (Coordinator of Children's Services) assisted in making the activities available. It was a very windy day under the lakeside pavilion, adding to the challenge of art activities. Nevertheless, the team interacted with quite a few children and families. The Parks and Recreation carpentry team installed the *Where Wonder Grows StoryWalk®* around the playground. Due to stormy weather, and possibly human activity, one angle iron sign and three story panels went missing and the StoryWalk® was removed after a few days.



On Sunday, April 24 Department of Human Services (DHS) Head Start collaborated with San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) children's services and Little Read Wagon to host a resource and registration fair at Elmendorf Lake Park. Grammy-winning bilingual duo 1 2 3 Andrés was the featured guest, sharing music and movement in Spanish and English. Avid fans of the pair travelled from as far as Austin to enjoy the show. The event included information and activity booths from many organizations including Metro Health, San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD),

and Edgewood Independent School District. Parks and Recreation provided 100 trees for distribution. San Antonio Water System provided very nice water bottles. The Little Read Wagon team offered bubbles, sidewalk chalk, and Arte Kids books thanks to the San Antonio Public Library Foundation. The Scooby Van set up a table with books for all ages. Planning for another event in 2023 will begin in May.

Ms. Huff made a presentation to SAISD World Languages and Dual Language teachers. She shared a list of books from the SAPL collection in Chinese, Japanese, Swahili, and French. She also demonstrated how to search the catalog, place holds, and access other resources via the SAPL website. The last week of April, Ms. Huff traveled to Fort Worth for the annual conference of the Texas Library Association (TLA). At the close of the conference Ms. Huff became the 2022-23 chair of TLA District 10. Planning for the fall District 10 meeting is underway.

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 engaged with their peers on the server by sharing a variety of their own creations (such as Minecraft builds, cookie recipes, and original music), discussing different movies and TV series, expressing their opinions about current events, and planning summer activities for the server and in-person at libraries. Through a collaboration between Teen Services Librarians at the San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) and teen-serving staff at the Austin Public Library (APL), teen volunteers from APL attended a session of the Music Mondays club to chat with SAPL teens and teen volunteers on the server and gain insight about how the server and clubs operate in order to advocate for a Discord server at their library system.

Rosalie Barrera (Librarian I, Teen Library @ Central) joined the Teen Library @ Central team during the reporting period and has quickly become acquainted with the Teen Library and the 210teenlibrary Discord server. Rosalie joins Chris Castillo (Teen Services Librarian I, Great Northwest) on Tuesdays to help facilitate the “Create Club” on Discord, in which teens share their current creations, completed projects, and new and favorite hobbies.

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 National Poetry Month. Regina also evaluates teen-created content for posting as well, including providing tools and supplies or editing needs for Instagram videos, such as ones presented by teen volunteers Jenna and Angel, who presented a short video to celebrate National Cinnamon Crescent Day and by teen volunteer Aidana, who demonstrated how to make a bread famous in her country, *borsok*.

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 food demos for National Cinnamon Crescent Day, Fiesta, DIY gummy bears, and churro cheesecake bars; a book display for Earth Day; Spotify playlists including popular classical songs and relaxing music; and informative Stories about a variety of topics. Teen Services staff also highlighted in-person programs and activities for teens, as well as several 3D print requests from teens.

Systemwide Support / Professional Development – During the reporting period, Matthew Loaiza served as an interview panelist for Teen Services Librarian II, Teen Services Librarian I, and Public Service Associate positions. Loaiza also coordinated a meeting between the Teen Pride workgroup and Michael Harle (Teen Program Specialist, Austin Public Library) to discuss potential opportunities for collaboration, and presented a guest lecture for the San Jose State University about the development, implementation, and continued success of the 210teenlibrary Discord Server.

Pictures below: teen volunteers shooting a video for Instagram



ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

In April, the San Antonio Public Library celebrated National Poetry Month. A variety of activities were hosted to celebrate the diversity of poetry. Highlights of the month included two in person programs presented by the Jazz Poets of San Antonio, which occurred at Bazan on April 2 and Las Palmas on April 19. During this program, participants had the opportunity to listen to the work of the Jazz Poets (who have been performing for over a decade) as well have their own poetry set to music improvised by the Jazz Poets. Another highlight of the month was two Poetry Circles that were hosted as in person programs at Parman on April 11th and at Central in the LCRC April 26th. These sessions gave participants an opportunity to share a poem they had written or been working on and receive feedback if they desired it. Finally, the Library offered an online opportunity as part of National Poetry Month. Chibbi Orduna led a two part poetry workshop titled My Words, My Mouth that was offered on April 19 and April 26th. This workshop series focused on incorporating more than one language into poetry. Participants also learned how incorporating a second language into their poetry enriches their work and allows a full range of self-expression.

The Library also celebrated Fiesta in April. To help members of the community get into the Fiesta spirit, a series of in person workshops on creating Papel Picado were hosted at various branch libraries throughout the city. Locations that hosted this workshop include Great Northwest, Cody, Semmes (who hosted the workshop on two dates), and Cortez. Participants were provided with step by step instructions on creating this iconic Fiesta paper craft made by cutting designs into tissue paper.

On April 1st, the Library hosted a program to provide information to individuals who are exploring transitioning genders in regards to the legal aspects of a gender transition. The program was facilitated by Claire Bow, a local attorney who specializes in assisting individuals with this process, as well as the St. Mary's Law School Pro Bono program. The program discussed resources available to individuals seeking to affirm their legal name and gender marker. The presenters also explained where and how to obtain the documents needed to complete the process, described the name and/or gender marker process and services that are offered.

OLDER ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Morgan Yoshimura, Coordinator of Services to Adults continues to work on forming a group of staff to develop and implement strategies to offer services and programs for older adults in a more strategic, intentional, and impactful way. Activities for this reporting period included contacting a group of library administrators who presented at the Public Library Association on services and programs for older adults. Ms. Yoshimura is working on scheduling this group to present to adult services staff. During April, staff with a particular interest in serving older adults were also busy organizing programming for Older Americans Month in May.

Highlights of programs for older adults this month include the following:

In April, the Library launched a four part online program series in partnership with UT Health's Caring for the Caregiver program. This series was focused on the national and local initiative called Dementia Friends. Dementia Friends is part of a global movement that is changing the way people think, act, and talk about dementia. As part of this series, the Library hosted two programs in April (with the series concluding in May). On April 21, an introductory session was facilitated by Jennifer Brackett, staff member with Caring for the Caregiver, that informed participants about the Dementia Friends initiative. Participants also learned what dementia is, what it's like to live with the disease, some tips for communicating with people who have dementia and the simple things you can do to support someone living with the disease. The second session in this series was presented by Dr. Kylie Meyer on April 28 and focused on planning for the future, and gave caregivers and family members the opportunity to discuss the importance of making a plan for the future, as well as some of the decisions you will need to make related to care, including advance care planning.

Every Wednesday from 12:30-3 pm, Encino Branch Library offers an opportunity called Hand Bee. This offers individuals a chance to get together with others that enjoy embroidery, crochet, knitting, quilting and other fabric or fiber arts. Participants simply bring the project that they are working on and enjoy connecting with others that share their creative interests.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN @ CENTRAL

Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin contributed a meaningful presentation about the Holocaust in partnership with the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio. She recorded a story reading and discussion that she developed entitled *Seeds of Remembrance*. Her presentation highlighted the tree in Anne Frank's courtyard and those growing all over the world from its seeds. She tailored her discussion of the Holocaust to a 5th grade audience. The presentation was shared with the Alamo Heights School District in partnership with the Museum.

Ms. Seglin also developed a Reader's Advisory training session which she presented to SAPL's Children's Librarians about books that describe the immigrant and refugee experience. This timely topic was not only very well researched and informative, but incredibly moving as well. The entire community of Children's Librarians shared their appreciation and kudos for her stellar presentation.

Librarian Melissa Fulmer partnered with Jasmin Salinas, Children's Librarian at the Landa Branch Library, to present outdoor Story Times twice in April. Their dynamic programs featured stories, songs and dance parties in the grass with a bubble machine! She also played an integral role in Landa Branch Library's 75th anniversary event, by creating an obstacle course, putting together craft kits, and helping at various craft stations.

Ms. Seglin, Librarian Ashley Stubbs and Ms. Fulmer together continued to be a driving force in virtual programming for children. Ms. Seglin presented three Toddler Time programs and one Story Time Live program. Ms. Stubbs presented several online Story Time Live programs, 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. Ms. Fulmer participated in three Baby Time Online programs and is making the "Sushi Baby" song her signature part of the program!

Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez cohosted the *Escape the Earth* podcast with Tim Johnson (Igo) and Elissa Vura (Brook Hollow). They discussed Carole Stivers' accidentally timely book, *The Mother Code*, in which a virus breaks out and a pandemic ensues.

Central Children's staff continued to develop outreach connections with area child care centers. Ms. Seglin delivered books in support of the curriculum at Madison Square Child Development Center and led a virtual Story Time for the students as well. 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.

Ms. Seglin partnered with the Little Read Wagon outreach division to share information about the library with families at Carroll Early Childhood Education Center as part of an SAISD Health Fair.

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. Regina Almanza (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) fulfilled the monthly Food Bank nutritional lesson requirement by providing items that are typically considered vegetables, but are actually fruits. Teens were able to make a “botanical fruit” salad with bell peppers, tomatoes, and cucumbers. To celebrate Fiesta, by teen request, teens made chicken on a stick. Teens also launched the use of the Teen Library’s new air fryer by making banana doughnuts.

Pictures below: teens participating in a banana doughnuts food craft; teens doing some major cooking, preparing chicken on a stick; teens in the music studio and using the Nintendo Switch



REFERENCE

On April 1st, Sally Bauer hosted the program: Gender Transitioning. This program was an informational webinar letting the community know about the resources available to individuals seeking to affirm their name and gender marker. The program also explained how to obtain the necessary documents to complete the process.

On April 6th, Library Assistant JD Elizondo did voice over work for a Children's Summer Reading promo. JD has been promoting outreach that focuses on what Adult Services has to offer patrons, including the Fiesta event Fredstock and an upcoming Super Fun Saturday event at Hemisfair Plaza.

On April 8th, Reference Supervisor David Gallin-Parisi and Library Assistants J.D. Elizondo and Brianna Glass promoted Central Reference and San Antonio Public Library's services and programs at the Fredstock Music Festival. Staff talked with music festival goers about future SAPL programs, handed out current Central Reference program flyers and zines, invited them to make a button, and encouraged them to spin SAPL's prize wheel. Many music festival goers were very excited to see SAPL's tent and Library Staff at this event.



On April 13, Pannaga Prasad and Brooke Mjolsness offered a virtual session entitled OptimizeU: Meaning and Joy Through Movement. The session was presented by Ayurvedic Yoga Specialist, Chopra Center Perfect Health Certified Instructor and guest speaker.

On April 14th- Sally Bauer, Brianna Glass, and Diana Starrett hosted a program in partnership with AARP called Texas Women Authors. Staff discussed women authors who hail from the Lone Star State- highlighting their works and accomplishments.

On April 23, Pannaga Prasad and Diana Starrett offered a virtual session entitled Vaisakhi Festival: Demonstration of Folk Dances of Punjab - Bhangra, Gidda, Arts & Crafts Exhibition, and more as Vaisakhi Adult Services Initiative. The session was presented by Sikh Center of San Antonio Group.

On April 29, Pannaga Prasad and Brooke Mjolsness offered a virtual session entitled Beginner's Chair Yoga Class. The session was presented by a Professional Yoga Instructor from the Idoyogasa organization.

On April 30, Pannaga Prasad and Diana Starrett offered a virtual session entitled How to maintain healthy skin through application of skin care products and achieve better skin result: Women and Men. The session was presented by independent Mary Kay and Rodan+ Fields beauty and skin care consultant.

Librarians Angelina Cortes, Matt DeWaelsche, Patricia Perez and Training Officers Michelle Rickman, and Shauna Mendoza visited the Doris Griffin Senior Center on April 4, 2022 for the iPad checkout event. Participants were provided with a basic overview of how to operate iPads. Participants were provided with one on one assistance for questions about iPad functions and operations and were provided with information about Learn @ SAPL Locations that were currently open. Total event participants were 12.

iPad Lending Program continues to be in demand. On April 20th, Librarians Angelina Cortes, Sylvia Reyna, Patricia Perez and Library Assistant Marcel Alvarez visited District 5 Senior Center Resource Fair. SAPL staff checked out iPads, provided hands-on assistance in basic instruction and operation of iPads. Total participants were 38.

On April 21, Librarians Angelina Cortes, Patricia Perez, Sarah De La Rosa and Library Assistant Marcel Alvarez presented Your Chromebook and you at the San Antonio Food Bank (SAFB). Participants were given an overview of basic operations using a Chromebook. **17 total** SAFB participants were given the Chromebooks to keep.

LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER



Dia del Nino event at the Plaza

The Latino Collection and Resource Center (LCRC) had a busy April, with numerous in-person, virtual, and outreach programs. Ms. Flores concluded her cycle of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and Advanced ESL Book Club on April 23.

Along with Sylvia Reyna of Texana, Ms. Flores co-hosted two events for National Poetry Month, with a presentation by Anthony the Poet and a Poetry Circle. The two-part poetry workshop led by San Antonio Poet Laureate Octavio Quintanilla had a tremendous turnout and participants expressed much appreciation for the program.

Also during the month of April, the 2020 International Latino Book Award winner Melissa Rivero presented her debut novel, "The Affairs of the Falcóns," in two separate book talks, one in English, and one in Spanish.

The Mendez v. Westminster program on April 13 represented a successful collaboration with the Mexican American Civil Rights Institute, with Emmy-award winning director Sandra Robbie and author Janice Munemitsu participating in a discussion after the screening of "Mendez v. Westminster: For All the Children." The event, held on the date of the 75th anniversary of the Mendez v. Westminster case, which desegregated California schools, had an impressive turnout.

As part of El Dia del Niño festivities, local chef and children's author Carño Cortez presented her book "Camila la Mágica" to SAISD Dual Language classrooms throughout the District. The program was hosted by Cresencia Huff and the students were provided with interactive worksheets to complete beforehand. Children's Librarian Esperanza Sonnen, Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia, and Ms. Flores participated in the Guadalupe Plaza's festivities to mark El Dia del Niño. As part of the event, sponsored by Somos, children made and illustrated books at SAPL's table.

TEXANA/ GENEALOGY



Texana staff members Sylvia Reyna and Clarissa Chavira at the History and Genealogy Day event at Mission San José on Saturday, April 30, 2022.

Through an ongoing commitment to the archival profession, Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson and Librarian Sylvia Reyna successfully recertified with the Academy of Certified Archivists. Archival certification, which lasts five years, is important for strengthening the integrity of the archival profession and ensures a standard of excellence in historical preservation and access to primary resources and collections.

On April 2, Librarian Deborah Countess led a new virtual genealogy class, "The 1950 Census is Out, Now What?" Genealogy enthusiasts were shown how they can find their families now on this "new" census, released to the public on April 1, before the name indexing is completed. Ms. Countess also went over how to use census record research to track down additional family history information.

Ms. Reyna also participated in the April 8 Battle of Flowers Parade along with other spirited library staff, pushing book carts, marching with the library banner and interacting with the crowd. The group received second place for their parade entry in this city-wide celebration.

Librarian Andy Crews presented a virtual beginning genealogy class on April 9. He went over how to get started researching one's genealogy by filling out pedigree charts and family group sheets and utilizing online resources such as Ancestry Library Edition, FamilySearch and NewspaperArchive.

In celebration of National Poetry Month, Ms. Reyna organized a variety of events across the system. She invited the lively "Jazz Poets of San Antonio" to present at Bazan Library on April 1 and Las Palmas

Library on April 19. Ms. Reyna also invited the animated “Anthony the Poet” for two presentations. The first event was held at Mission Library on April 11 and the second at the Central Library’s Latino Collection and Resource Center (LCRC) on April 23. Additionally, she hosted along with Emily Flores, a well-attended Poetry Circle in the LCRC on April 26.

On April 21, Ms. Reyna and Ms. Ferguson, together with other members of SAPL’s Libraries and Homelessness Committee, toured the Haven for Hope Campus in order to gain a better understanding of how the program functions and to better inform our patrons who may be experiencing homelessness.

The Texana/Genealogy department was invited to participate in the annual “History and Genealogy Day” at Mission San José on April 30. Ms. Reyna, along with Library Assistant Clarissa Chavira, staffed an outreach table to promote the department’s resources at the Central Library.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

While the Bazan branch was closed for improvements in April, interim library service was provided at the nearby San Antonio Natatorium. Children’s librarian Hope Sonne, and Circulation Attendant Sarah Chavarria were on hand to help customers retrieve holds, take returns, check out items from a min-collection and assist with other library services. Many Natatorium users were surprised and pleased to see us there and took it as an opportunity to get reacquainted with the library.

Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia and Teen Librarian Cassie Garza continued to facilitate *Gaming Club* on Discord. Both librarians offered teens an opportunity to share their wealth of knowledge with modding, deck building, lore, and more. The program continues to capture new audiences and bring back familiar faces (voices). This month captured some fun controversial gaming topics with the teens. Many were eager to share their opinions on game modding and whether it was considered cheating. Some teens rely on the facilitator’s expertise on video games to help them overcome a challenging section in a game, instead of using an online guide or YouTube walkthrough. Teens choosing librarians for help over other gaming resources speaks volumes of how much they value their Teen Librarians.

Ms. Garcia also provided several Take-and-Make kits to the Bazan interim library service location for Tafolla Middle school students and walk-ins to pick up, and she continued to encourage students to get a library card.

Bazan Children’s Librarian Hope Sonnen, Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia and LCRC Manager Emily Flores, represented SAPL at El Día De Los Niño’s celebration at the Guadalupe Plaza held on April 30, where they helped visitors create their own story book and bind it using techniques used by the ancient Aztecs.

The Bad Girls Book Club, led by Library Assistant Enedina Prater, met via zoom in April to discuss the last book of the *Diablo Lake* series, *Awakened* by Lauren Dane. The group began reading the series at the start of the year and had great time discussing all of them. The Virtual Bazan Book Club read book two of the *Practical Magic* series, *The Rules of Magic* by Alice Hoffman. The group loved book two as much as book one, *Practical Magic*.

BROOK HOLLOW

In April 2022, BHL hosted Bexar County Election Department's Early Voting Monday, April 25-May, 3, 2022 and Election Day, Saturday, May 7. BHL also hosts Bexar County Election Department's Runoff Election May 16-22 and election day Tuesday, May 24th.

BHL Aide Ofelia Vallejo and BHL Assistant Jennifer Olivarez participated in the Battle of the Flowers Parade on Fiesta San Jacinto Day, Friday, April 8, 2022. Vallejo and Olivarez marched the parade route with other SAPL employees pushing decorated book carts and banners to promote the library.

BHL Library Assistant Elissa Vura along with Librarian Tim Johnson (Igo) and Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez (Central – Children's) hosted the **Escape the Earth Podcast**--a monthly sci-fi and fantasy book discussion. The April episode on Carole Stiver's book *The Mother Code* has had over 100 plays. It can be found on Soundcloud on the San Antonio Public Library Podcast TunedIn Channel.

Adults: BHL Adult Services Librarian Marco De Leon continued to host the BHL Mystery Book and the La Tertulia Book Clubs in April. La Terulia Book Club read *Mujeres del alma mia* by Isabel Allende. 14 people attended. The Mystery Book Club group read *The Dry* by Jane Harper. Nine people attended.

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 in June 2022. Olivarez's creates the BHL's Children's Scavenger Hunt each month and worked with the BHL manager to feature the latest Flower 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 creates BHL's take/make kits for kids to take home and complete.

Teens: April saw the return of weekly in-person programs for teens ages 13 through 18 at Brook Hollow Library. Library Assistant Elissa Vura facilitated a number of teen-driven activities including video gaming and crafts. Area teens are rediscovering their local library as a welcoming place to hang out, meet other teens, and express themselves creatively.

BHL Branch Manager Jeannette Davies attended the SAPL Board of Trustees, Library Leadership and Children's Meetings in April. Davies hosted **Noon Time Helping of Cooking in SAPL's Virtual Kitchen** twice in April featuring springtime cooking of roasted peaches in time for Fredericksburg's peach harvest in May. See mysapl.org under the events tab to register for Noon Time Helping of Cooking in SAPL's Virtual Kitchen. All things TEXAS and BBQ are on the summer menu in June and July. Davies interviewed librarians from the Patrick Health Public Library (PHPL) in Boerne, Texas during the American Library Association's (ALA) National Library Week, April 3-9, as part for the Texas Library Association's (TLA)'s Libraries Transform Texas Podcast.

PHPL offers cake pans of various sizes for check out and celebrated its 75th 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. Davies is an active member of TLA's PR Committee.

CARVER

Carver staff participated in the monthly display bundles, celebrating National Poetry Month, with another display of juvenile works of poetry. The branch was also host to two Mercado por tu Corazon, offering discounted produce to residents, as well as a screening of the film Just a Ferry Ride to Freedom.

Teen Librarian Shannan Prukop updated the display in front of the teen room to books and comics about sports, and officially moved teen materials into the Teen Room. In their continuing work with the teen Dungeons and Dragons program on the 210TeenLibrary Discord server, Mx. Prukop encouraged one of the teen attendees to lead his own campaign, fostering teen leadership and initiative within the group. They also continued as one of the staff liaisons for Sunday Funday, assisting the teens running with logistics and resources. Mx. Prukop also joined several other Teen Services staff in assembling thank you gifts for teen volunteers at Collins Garden.

In April, Lisa Ramirez, joined the Carver Branch library as the new Children's Librarian. Ms. Ramirez welcomed the community to Carver by offering patrons with children visiting the library with "make and take" crafts. With the assistance of her branch manager D.L. Grant, former children's librarian Braulia Carrillo, and Children's Director Cresencia Huff, Ms. Ramirez reached out to several local schools and day care centers to plan for summer visits, outreach, and programs. Ms. Ramirez also observed several children's zoom lessons, getting to know the librarians who currently run those programs and signing up to co-host some of the children's zoom activities in the future.

In April, there were ninety-three individual sessions. The sessions covered computer skills, schoolwork, state benefit applications, and job searching. Eight patrons worked on creating resumes. Two patrons completed the Digital Inclusion program and received their certificates. Three patrons received Enhanced Library cards.

Weekly Learn Spanish classes continued online, taught by Daniel Gomez and weekly Learn English classes continued in person, taught by Shauna Mendoza.

CODY

April at the Cody Branch Library saw patrons visit to vote on bond proposals, make papel picado, share crafts with others, and of course, to gather information, explore ideas, and expand their imagination with library resources.

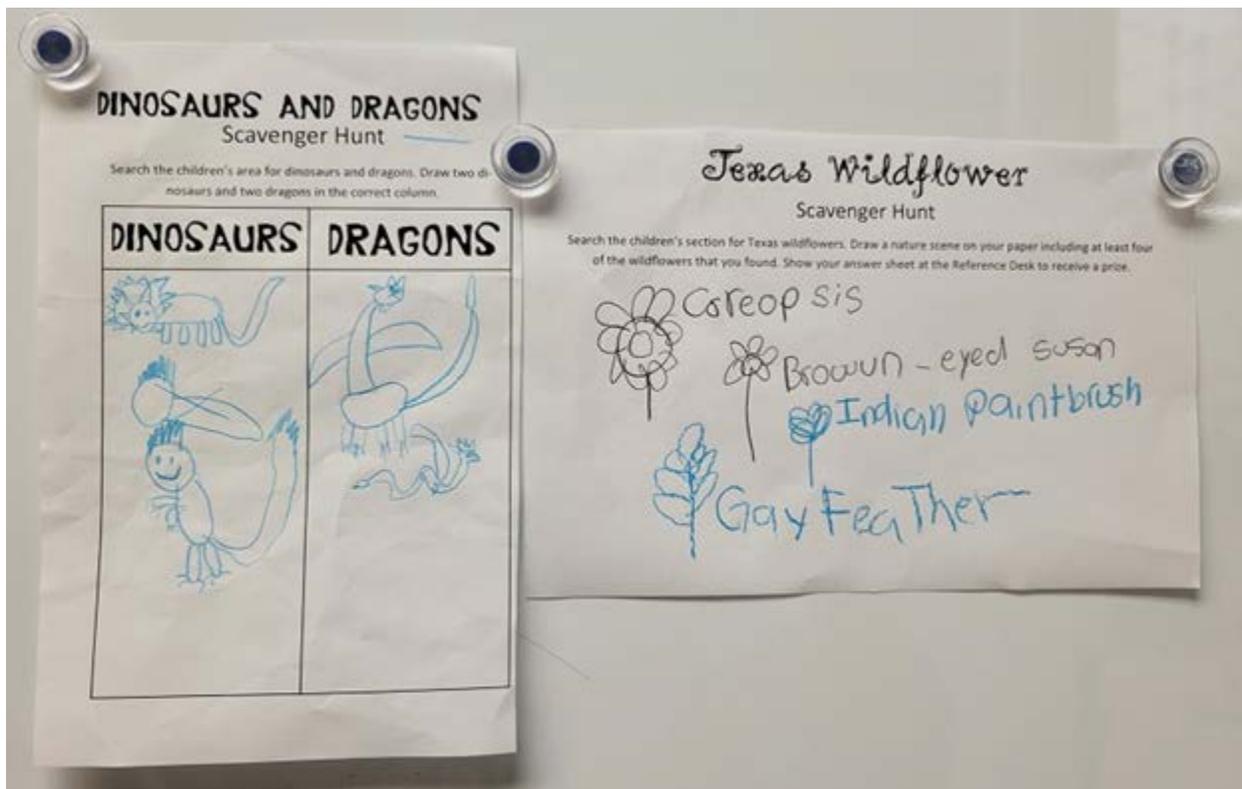
Library Assistants Luanne Bloom and Angela Olivarez brought Fiesta themed Wellness sessions to staff, featuring Fiesta pins and Loteria. Branch Manager Theresa Garza and library aide Monica Duncan led an adult crafting session on April 3, where participants learned to make papel picado. Library assistant Haly

LeFlore continues hosting Fiber Club on Monday evenings, giving participants a weekly appointment to work on projects and share their talents with others.



Children’s Librarian Kristin Yourdon participated in many programs in April, both online and in-person. On April 7th & 14th, Yourdon participated in the outdoor Story Time at the Landa Library. Yourdon read the book *The Rice in the Pot Goes Round and Round* by Wendy Wan Long Shang and sang a couple of active songs with the children. On April 12th, Yourdon held a Story Time at Hardberger Park, where she read the books *Owl Babies* by Martin Waddell and *Hooray for Birds* by Lucy Cousins. Afterwards, children had the chance to look at several nature artifacts, including some toads that the park’s education coordinator brought to the Story Time. On April 14, Yourdon co-hosted the Art Club Online program. Finally, on April 21st Yourdon hosted the Story Time Online program.

Yourdon and LeFlore continue to create weekly scavenger hunts for young visitors to the library to enjoy. On April Fool’s Day, Yourdon set out a prank scavenger hunt. The scavenger hunt told participants to find several flowers hidden in the children’s area, but at the end of the instructions it told participants that there wasn’t anything hidden, and that they should tell library staff that we didn’t trick them. Several participants were tricked, but there were a few clever ones who read all of the instructions first! During the first week of April the scavenger hunt was to find fish and draw at least five of the ones they found. During the second week, participants had to find eggs, lift the flap, and see what animals were hidden inside. They then had to figure out if that animal normally hatches out of an egg or not. During the third week, participants had to find dinosaurs and dragons and draw at least two of each on their paper. During the last week, participants had to find wildflowers and create a nature scene on their paper with at least five of the flowers that they found. Scavenger hunt pages are posted in the children’s area, for all to enjoy the work of our young artists.



Adult Services Librarian Michael Dunbar-Rodney presented to the TBLC Virtual Tech Conference, along with Lorin Flores (Central), on the potential uses of Twitch for library programming. He hosted the virtual Queer Crafternoon program on April 16 & 23, and organized a poetry workshop, My Words, My Tongue, led by local slam poet and performer, Chibbi Orduña, on April 19 and 26.

COLLINS GARDEN

The Collins Garden Book Club, met at the branch on April 22. Gina Brudi and the group discussed the novel *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes. The branch displayed a collection development curated National Poetry Month book bundle featuring distinct titles around the theme. On April 23, The branch hosted Voces Cosmicas: A Celebration of National Poetry Month, with poetry reading and a musical guest. This event was organized with the assistance of Voces Cosmicas and Library Assistant Carlos Loera who also shared poetry at the event.

Teen Librarian Daniella Toll planned and hosted weekly Teen Tuesday events. During these events, teens played Uno, ping pong, wits and wagers and other board games. They also spent some quiet time coloring. For some teens, it was their first-time enjoying events at the library and they were happy to make new friends. Ms. Toll is always exploring new and exciting and creative ways to engage the teens and welcomes feedback from them on events they would like to see at the library. She helped distribute teen volunteer thank you packages to all teens who gave of their time and assisted with SAPL events over the past year. She assisted Matthew Loaiza with the weekly Teen Time Club on the 210teenlibrary Discord server.

On April 7th, Children's Librarian Gina Brudi hosted "Let's Play at Collins Garden Library" in the outdoor space adjacent to the library. Children played with foam building materials, Unbelieva-Bowl rocking bowls and play dough. They created pictures with chalk and engaged in imaginative play. Children's Librarians Hope Sonnen and Ana Menchaca assisted with this event. At the end of the event, all participants were given cascarones in celebration of Fiesta. On April 14th, Collins Garden Elementary first-grade classrooms visited the Collins Garden Library on a field trip. Ms. Brudi read books to the groups and they all participated in a fun library scavenger hunt. Ms. Brudi's outreach efforts took her to Landa's 75th Anniversary outdoor event, Earth Day at Woodlawn Park and the Pre-K for SA Resource Event at their west side campus. She assisted at all three events. She continues her weekly Zoom Story Times with the classrooms at Knox Early Literacy Center and her work with SAPL Toddler and Baby Time Online Live. Ms. Brudi assisted at two outdoor Story Time events at the Igo Branch on April 21 and 28.

On April 15, Library Assistant Carlos Loera hosted Coffee & a Movie which featured an Academy Award winning movie. A discussion on the movie was held after the screening. He offered one Tech Tuesday event where patrons were invited to bring their devices and get any help they needed using them and accessing library materials. Families were invited to enjoy a game of Ping Pong on April 3.

CORTEZ

Cortez Library celebrated Poetry Month and hosted the Bexar County Elections for Early Voting during April. In addition to promoting the curated poetry-themed selections from Collection Development, Branch Manager Angela Morrow asked staff to create Collage Poetry from discarded magazines, which are currently on display at the branch. Angela attended the April Library Board of Directors Meeting virtually and helped coordinate panel interviews for the Temporary Library Assistant position which will be hired for the summer.

As a member of the Queer Committee, Librarian Vicky Villalobos worked with fellow committee members on the weekly Saturday crafting program Queer Crafternoon. Patrons are invited to flex their creativity in a safe space while listening to podcasts about the LGBTQIA+ experience and history. On April 16, Librarian Villalobos led the program as the group sampled "Food 4 Thot." On April 29, Librarian Vicky Villalobos participated as a moderator in April's SAPL Live Trivia with Librarian Brook Mjolsness and Adult Services Coordinator Morgan Yoshimura. Librarian Villalobos provided research for the British TV and Poetry categories.

Teen time has been slow at Cortez. Teens come in, but not at programming times. To help boost the excitement of wanting to come and hang out at Cortez, a new Teen Area has been designated and continues to be improved upon. The teens now have a corner lounge area with tables, chairs and mini couches. They will also have a Positive Vibes whiteboard where there will be positive notes on post-its and they will be asked to leave a positive note. Cortez would like to thank Teen Librarian Heather Swindell from Westfall for transferring their no-longer-used whiteboard for the benefit of our teens. The area has been blocked off for the teens during the hours that they are out of school, much to the enjoyment of those who are coming to use it.

In April, Children's Librarian Olivia Escovedo took part in one outreach program and read for two Dial-a-Story programs; one in English and one in Spanish. She read to a second-grade class online, *Need a Hug*, and asked the class comprehension questions after she finished reading the book. Next, she recorded a dial-a-story in Spanish and English for families to listen to when they call the dial-a-story number. In the library, she created an I Spy passive program for kids and families to do together. She put together a list of items for the kids to search for when doing the I spy. Lastly, she is helping with the Summer Reading committee as part of the social media group. The group met twice a month to prepare. She is working with two other librarians: Kristin Yourdon from Cody and Lisa Taylor from the Parman to create the summer reading promo video.

Crafting class has been steady. Center for Health Care Services continues to bring adults to attend the craft classes and the craft instructor Ms. Paredes continues to receive emails from new members who show interest in joining the group. April's crafts consisted of: Beach Bag, Beach Mat and two days of catching up on past crafts. Monster Meet continues their monthly monster-centric programs. In April, the 1987 movie *Monster Squad* was featured. Papel picado and Collage Poetry were held as crafting events for the public but did not receive traffic. Both will be attempted again at a different time.

Displays for the month of April included: Poetry Month Celebration, Reading with my "Peeps", and Killer Women.

ENCINO

Adults at Encino were excited for the return of the Paint @ Encino program. Adult services librarian Ann Laird hosted a full class of 14 students on April 4 to learn how to paint a "Cherry Blossom Moon" 16"x20" painting.

On April 16, Encino hosted Matt DeWaelsche from the Texana department. Mr. DeWaelsche presented a program on using census data for genealogy research. There was a specific focus on the recently released 1950 census data.

Encino also hosted an all ages program on the patio "Wildflower Seed Bombs" on April 18, in honor of Earth Day.

On April 14, Adult services librarian Ann Laird attended an all-day training to become "Mental Health First Aid" certified, and is now certified for 3 years.

Teen Services Librarian Ivan Martinez and Librarian Part Time Katy Dillard, facilitated passive and in person programming opportunities; performed outreach to Johnson High School, in addition also showcased displays for teens aged 13 to 18 in the teen space.

Teens planned and implemented some exciting activities such an interactive Maze, ongoing puzzle challenge, and a Book Review section.

Teens participated in the promotion of literacy through an April BookTok display. Teen Services displayed authors, literature and signage in a dedicated display area to celebrate Poetry Month.

SAPL Teen Services in collaboration with Haley Schmidt, Johnson High School librarian, coordinated and planned monthly visits to the Johnson HS library. April's visit was a success, with the Encino Teen team and students engaged in conversations and button making activities, along with a competitive Connect 4 challenge.

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 Uno to watching YANF meme reviews in YouTube and Anime in CrunchyRoll.

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

Encino Children's Department hosted ten in-person programs on the Encino Patio. These children's programs included: Nature Explorers, Lego Time, Story Time, and Game Time. Children and their caretakers were invited to participate in all of these events while enjoying the outdoor space.

Inside the Children's room, displays were created to reflect the current season. A nature inspired display was available for Spring materials along with a creative Book and Butterfly installation on one of the children's room walls. Another display area was created for the new Texas Bluebonnet Award titles.

FOREST HILLS

Adult Services/Community Center:

Branch Manager Mary Naylor hosted the monthly book club at the Doris Griffin Senior Center. Participants discussed *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd. The group enjoyed exploring themes of equality, justice, and humanity as they learned about the life of the Sarah Grimke. Through this fictionalized biographical account of her life as an early abolitionist and advocate for women's rights in South Carolina the group discovered a part of history of which few members were aware. During the meetings seniors are also given information regarding digital collections and how to place books on hold to be retrieved at their local branch.

Forest Hills Staff continue to offer interim services from the Gilbert Garza Community Center. Patrons have enjoyed the convenience of the location and are appreciative of the interim services offered while they await the reopening of the Forest Hills Branch location. Staff are looking forward to planning events and hope to expand hours at the location during the summer.

A display for Poetry Month was featured highlighting new and classic poetry texts.

Children's Services:

As she does every Friday, Ms. Menchaca participated in Baby Time. She either sings, reads, or helps with administrative tasks during the program. Baby Time is a weekly program that helps teach parents early literacy tips. She also helped facilitate Story Time as well as a Spanish Story Time each month. Ms.

Menchaca also hosted Lego Time where the children can engage in Lego challenges and talk to participants about their creations.

Ms. Menchaca hosted Proud To Be: Rainbow families. She, along with other children's librarians, were happy to read, sing, and create art with children and their families. She also participated in the Queer Committee meeting, which is already starting to plan for Pride Month.

Ms. Menchaca participated in the Grupo Bienvenidos to practice Spanish and help others practice Spanish. This is a group that will help improve patron services throughout the city.

Ms. Menchaca was happy to go to Collins Garden and help with outdoor play and learning. She helped set up the program and played with children during the event.

Teen Services:

Teen Services Librarian Laura Herman and Children's Librarian Ana Menchaca were able to represent the San Antonio Public Library at a Resource Fair at Pat Neff Middle School. This was a great opportunity to talk to the community and reach out to the children, teens and adults of the area. Many of the participants used to go to Forest Hills library and were not aware of the temporary location at the community center, they were glad to know they could utilize their library without having to drive very far.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Great Northwest Library kids have been traveling back in time when pirates ruled the seas with Children's Librarian Cari Raley. They have been reading the Magic Tree House Book Pirates Past Noon by Mary Pope Osborne. So far on their adventure they have designed their own pirate ship, learned a cool pirate song and gathered some pirate facts. The "trip" has yet another couple of adventures before it comes to a close. With Circulation Attendant Shayla Morales' help, the branch distributed 100 of the branch's Take-and-Makes, 75 of the system-wide Take-and-Makes, and 6 of the ABC Club activity kits.



In April, Teen Librarian Chris Castillo facilitated three Create Club virtual teen programs on the 210teenlibrary Discord server and three in-person Teen Times in the branch. Teens shared their creative pursuits across mediums and formats and supported and encouraged each other's creative practices. Teens are emboldened to try new activities and create in new platforms because they see other teens work and ask each other questions and build competencies. Teens continue to improve the Discord user experience.

In April, teens participated in-person for weekly Teen Time. Teens are open to steering Teen Services programming to ideate, plan, and execute summer programming. More than anything, teens are using Teen Time to make connections with peers beyond their schools. Teens submitted requests for free 3d printing, custom buttons, and magnets services, and picked them up from the branch.

Great Northwest Library hosted a Fiesta Papel Picado program for adults on April 1.

Representatives from the League of Women Voters visited the library on April 5 for a voter registration drive.

Great Northwest Library is partnering with the San Antonio Heartwarmers blanket making group to provide a program where patrons have the opportunity to help make blankets for rescue dogs. The group met on April 10.

On April 16 the library hosted the Library Bee quilting group where adults can meet once a month to work on quilting projects and learn new quilting skills.

Library assistant Jenn Tristan hosted recurring program Cut & Glue Crew on Saturday, April 9 with six in-person participants. Each person made collages using magazines and scrapbook paper in their own cut and glue books.

GUERRA



Guerra Branch Library hosted the very popular Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program or VITA every Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday till April 18. Guerra staff restarted the Staff Book Club and met April 21. On April 24 the Guerra Team enjoyed a very special Team Day of fun activities including games, gardening, coloring, discussion and sharing. Staff from Potranco Library arrived to assist with public

services while the team focused on goal setting, Summer Reading Program planning and camaraderie. The branch was also thrilled to welcome new team member and library aide, Cindy Garcia. Guerra Branch Library hosted Early Voting for the Uniform Bond and Local Elections from April 25 to May 3.

Branch Manager Monica Garza Bustillo attended the Texas Library Association's TALL Texans Round Table meeting April 5 as the new Chair-Elect. On April 7 Ms. Bustillo participated in the Penguin Random House Spring Book and Author Festival. Ms. Bustillo joined the SAPL team for the Battle of the Flowers Parade on April 7. On April 13 Ms. Bustillo attended the Health Wellness Seminar: Sleep Eight Feel Great. Ms. Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion of Ashley Winstead's *In My Dreams I Hold a Knife* on April 18. On April 28 Ms. Bustillo attended the Women's Leadership Mentorship Program event "Work-life Balance w/Dr. Tara Schwegler". On April 30 Ms. Bustillo and Library Assistant Roxanne Menchaca attended the Queer Crafternoon event.

Guerra welcomed back teens to their returning in-person Teen Club this month, fortunate to see a couple of teens who were previously regulars to the event! They shared ideas for future clubs and hung-out after club time, catching up and getting to know Guerra's new Teen Librarian, Bek Corley. In addition to facilitating Teen Club, Ms. Corley continued to co-host Music Mondays on the 210teenlibrary Discord server alongside Teen Library's Ami Sarabia where teens streamed and shared music while chatting with each other and often sharing the various projects they were working on. Ms. Corley also worked with teen volunteers who collaborated on a collage art station in the teen space for Poetry Month. Several pieces are now displayed, showcasing the teens' creativity and highlighting their ownership of the space.

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson, presented a trivia game at Willie Cortez Senior Center on April 1. He emphasized questions on St. Patrick and stories of survival under extreme circumstances. He recorded *Rosa pionera, ingeniera* (Rosie Revere, Engineer) by Andrea Beaty on April 15 for dial-a-story in Spanish. He moderated the Spanish book club Club de Lectura on April 21. They continued discussing *Las hijas del agua* (Water daughters) by Sandra Barneda. He presented another trivia game on April 29. This time he emphasized questions on the on-going Russo-Ukrainian War and on Easter.

IGO

Igo branch library was an early voting location for the Joint Constitutional Amendment, General, Special, Character and Bond Election in 2022. Early voting started on the 25th of April and 2738 people visited the library to vote during the early voting.

Adult & Senior Services

A collection of paintings depicting Ukrainian culture is still on display starting from the second week of April at Igo branch library. Ukrainian activists of San Antonio are supporting the event. They also arranged a movie showing on the 30th of April for the general public. 33 people joined to see the movie "Two Regimes: A Mother's Memoir of Wartime Survival" and there was a Q&A session after that. This session was very engaging and informative.

Igo Manager, Tim Johnson continues to co-host and produce SAPL's monthly Sci-Fi and Fantasy podcast with Elissa Vura from Brook Hollow and Mary Elizabeth Fernandez from Central Children's. Last month's episode focused on the book *The Mother Code* by Carole Stivers.

There were four book clubs in the month of April at Igo Branch Library. All four clubs were well attended. Mystery book club had invited the author Linda Castillo to their discussion of *Fallen* (Kate Burkholder #13). The author joined the club via Zoom and all attendees enjoyed the April meeting.

April's Elderberries Monthly Newsletter, *The Elderberry Vine*, was created by senior services coordinator of Igo branch library, Irene Scharf. The featured resources of the newsletter were about "National Poetry Month". It was emailed to 150 elderberries. Irene Scharf also created an exhibit of library materials for National Parks Week, April 16-24.

Teen Services

Teen volunteers at Igo helped to create a passive interactive display for National Poetry Month that encourages teens to submit poetry to be posted in the Teen Space. Having teen volunteers work on this with the teen librarian, Annie Calonico gave them ownership of the display and they provided valuable input on how to get teen buy-in for the poetry display. White-board markers were also added to the teen space at Igo with a sign encouraging them to decorate the windows of the space. This provided community teens an opportunity to express themselves creatively and linguistically in a shared space and increased their sense of ownership over the area, while also creating incredible art for the space.

Teen Time continued to draw more teens from the community and local high school, engaging them in a variety of activity options that included crafts, art supplies, video, board, and card games, as well as movies. The variety offered allowed teens to choose what they wanted to participate in and also gave them the opportunity to meet and socialize with other teens with similar interests. Annie Calonico, the Teen Librarian at Igo, has encouraged suggestions and requests from the teens in order to tailor Teen Time to their interests and needs, increasing teen ownership over the time and activities happening in Teen Time.

JOHNSTON

Johnston hosted Early Voting for the May 7 election. More than 360 voters cast their ballot at Johnston in April. Branch Manager Cristine Mitchamore continued to answer Reader's Advisory questions submitted to the library's online LibPicks.

Children's Librarian Tiffany Durham hosted the popular outdoor program Bubbles at the Sun Valley Playground on Thursday, April 7th and 21st. Miss Tiffany continued to host virtual programming for SAPL families including Toddler Time Online every Wednesday morning. Tuesday afternoons Miss Tiffany alternated between virtual Lego Club and Read-to-a-Dog. Thursday afternoons Miss Tiffany hosted a virtual Art Club. She was one of the librarians hosting Proud to Be Me, an online Story Time for Rainbow Families on the first Wednesday of the month.

Teen librarian Cassie Garza co-hosted a virtual video game program on the Teen Service Discord server every Saturday afternoon. Ms. Garza began facilitating in-person teen time at Johnston every Monday

evening. During Early Voting the meeting room is used by the voting officials and equipment; therefore teen time was being held in the teen space. This offered patrons a glimpse into how teens hangout during teen time at Johnston. In April, teens suggested playing Mario Kart 8 together, learning how to make rice balls or Onigiri and washi tape art.

Training Officer, Marcella McGowan, hosted "Pop Up Computer Class - Introduction to Keyboarding" on April 3, 10, 17 and 24. Ms. McGowan partnered with Goodwill Career Centers for two events. Career Readiness - Resume Workshop on April 12 had eight job seekers. Career Readiness - Mock Employer Interview Workshop on April 20 had 32 job seekers and 15 representatives from various HR organizations. The Learn area had 42 patrons access the Learn Center.

LANDA

April was a very busy month for Landa Branch. The Branch kicked off April with its 75th anniversary with a huge in-person event. The event included live music from the AM Project, TubaMeisters, and St. Anthony Catholic High School Mariachi Band. There were three Take-and-Make kits designed by Branch staff: stationery, fairy garden terrarium, and family painting. The stationery included a hand-drawn portrait of Mrs. Hannah Landa on seed paper. Activities on the day of the event included guided tours given by Branch Manager Kiyanna Stephens, a pop-up book sale hosted by the Landa Branch Friends, lawn games, refreshments, and a free play zone. The event brought in an attendance of close to 700 people.

To close out the month, the Friends of Landa Branch hosted a book sale that raised \$3,000 for Landa Branch programs and staff.

Children's

In April, Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas began Outdoor Story Time at Landa for children ages five and under, with a team of other Children's Librarians including Kristin Yourdon from Cody, Valerie Carroll from Semmes, Melissa Fulmer from Central Children's, Ana Menchaca from Forest Hills, and Jane Miller from Mission. Families have enjoyed the team format for the programs. One mother shared a video with Librarian Salinas of her son at home acting out the movements and singing a "Little Bunnies Sleeping" song which is his favorite.

Landa Library also hosted an in-person, outdoor Story Time for the Acorn School who visited on a field trip in April.

In addition to adding weekly outdoor Story Times, Librarian Salinas also participated in several online programs, including Proud to Be Me: Rainbow Families online, Lego Club online, Game Time online, and Art Club online, and Baby time online.

Librarian Salinas created and edited a song video to share on mySAPL's YouTube channel.

At the end of April Librarian Salinas attended an outreach at PreK for SA's West Campus to talk to families about getting library cards and upcoming Summer with SAPL programs.

Adults

As part of the ongoing celebration of Landa Library's 75th anniversary, Joan Miller was invited to share her knowledge about the Landa community garden. Patrons were able to ask questions and were even given a list of all the plants in the garden. Joan has been involved in the development and upkeep of the garden since its creation in 2008.

Paul Kinnison, retired architect and current Monte Vista resident, hosted a lecture on the history of the Monte Vista neighborhood. He gave a brief introduction and then patrons were encouraged to ask questions about their houses. Many were able to connect with one another and direct them to resources that had further information on the history of their homes. Paul has lived in Monte Vista since 1973 and has been very active in the preservation of the history of the area.

LAS PALMAS

From April 25-April 30, 2022, Las Palmas hosted Early Voting for the Bexar County Bond Elections; early voting continued through May 7, 2022.

The Las Palmas staff created a few book displays this month: "Poetry Month" with a bundle supplied by technical services and books within our own collection and "Get Your Paws on a Pet Book" showcasing pet books within our own collection. Las Palmas staff, Brenda Sanchez, participated in recording Spanish language stories for juveniles through the San Antonio Public Library Dial-a-Story program.



This month there were two Take-and-Make craft kits distributed at Las Palmas for children ages 2-12, and a Fiesta themed picture frame for adults.

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 April we met with 15 members of the community. Participants are quickly becoming regulars to the weekly program.

Las Palmas hosted "Monday Night Lights, Camera, Action: Mulan" managed by Adult Librarian Lily Perez and presented by Library Assistant Elvia Ramos, and Circulation Attendant Brenda Sanchez.

Teens: Teen Services Librarian Connie Hejl hosted the April Speak Geek, the online monthly program featuring geeky topics. This month's topic was Star Trek and celebrated "First Contact Day" or the day humans invented warp drive. Connie created a Jeopardy game for the event and the local Star Trek non-profit group the USS Bexar was in attendance. The discussion was mainly centered on the various Star Trek television shows new and old.

Children's: Children's librarian, Valerie Shelley continues to participate and collaborate with system-wide programming, such as Read to a Dog, and Toddler Time which involves reading a story book and singing closing songs. She also added Story Time and Lego Time to her online program schedule this month.

Valerie created an Egg Scavenger Hunt for the children and their caregivers. Las Palmas staff members, Elvia Ramos, Celicia De Los Santos, Darlene Lopez, and Brenda Sanchez worked with Valerie to make materials and assist with implementation of the program. There were 41 participants looking through the children areas of the library for decorated eggs on the shelves. This activity allowed for the participants to go into each area of the library where children's materials are located. Children and adults enjoyed finding the (paper) eggs and competing with themselves to see who could find all 20 of the eggs.

MAVERICK

Since the school year is just weeks away from ending, Maverick is gearing up for its annual Summer Reading Program. Adult Services Librarian has noticed some Overdrive customers having issues using the Overdrive app. Therefore, the librarian is showing users how to use the Libby app instead since the Overdrive app may be placed in retirement in the future. The Maverick Library hosted the Bexar County Elections Department during the final week of April for the Uniform Election. Throughout April, the librarians continued weeding through their designated collections.

Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts had a variety of tasks and projects during the reporting period. She finished weeding out the "grubbies" in the Juvenile Blu-Ray DVD's. Ms. Roberts helped her colleague, Jasmin Salinas, with children's activities outside at Landa Library's 75th Anniversary celebration on April 2. Ms. Roberts opened the branch for Early Voting on April 25, 26, 30. She created 60 "Take-and-Make" spring planting kits for the children. On April 12, Ms. Roberts did Dial-A-Story and read "Atticus Caticus". Ms. Roberts contacted a pet owner, whose dog has been trained for the "Read to A Dog" program that will be at Maverick in June and July. She also scheduled summer reading promotion in-person visits to schools with 3 schools in the Maverick area in May. Finally, on April 25, Ms. Roberts organized a large shipment of prize books from Scholastic for the kids summer reading program.

Ms. Roberts participated in many trainings and meetings during the reporting period. She attended COSA trainings such as Security Awareness Training on April 15 and Climate Change Training on April 26. In addition, she attended two children's librarian's meetings on April 13 and April 27.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl, assisted by Library Aide Taylur Loera, facilitated Teen Time on Tuesday evenings. Teens selected a diverse array of activities from a list of options each week and planned for the following week. Four new Teens from a home school group began attending and were excited to find an inclusive environment where they could compete at Uno, Battleship, Beat Saber or Mario Kart. The current assemblage appears to be most interested in interacting and building relationships. They continued their collaborative group sketchbook, initiated by one Teen in March. Each week it is checked out by a different Teen, then returned the following week at Teen Time when they share their art with the group.

McCRELESS

In the first half of April, the staff of the McCreless Branch continued the task of getting everything ready for the building's re-opening. The staff opened hundreds of boxes containing books, DVDs, office supplies, and many other items and placed their contents on shelves, inside cabinets, and in storage closets. These four weeks before the re-opening were filled with expectation, excitement, and lots of hard work. Although it seemed as though staff would never finish emptying boxes and organizing the branch, they persisted and got the job done on time by working as a team.

The grand re-opening ceremony on Saturday April 16 was a great success. Hundreds of visitors came to celebrate the long-awaited event, and they continue to visit and compliment the beautiful new branch. McCreless staff also participated in the reopening, introducing the various new spaces in the branch, as well as assisting with family activities that day.

The ceremony was a wonderful opportunity to introduce the new Learn Center to the community. Training officer Lodie continues to share about the services Learn offers as people stop by to see the exciting results of our renovation. So far, Learn at McCreless has served 34 patrons. Learn colleagues Shauna Mendoza and Carlos are joining Lodie to continue their training and to assist with patrons.



Children's Librarian Nicole San Martin spent the first part of April gearing up for the grand re-opening of the McCreless Branch Library by arranging the new children's areas, preparing the collection, and organizing supplies as well as familiarizing herself and staff with the new Everbright wall and its features. Also in honor of the grand reopening, she presented a virtual Story Time in which she read *The New LIBEARian* by Alison Donald. The children's area also showcased displays featuring books on Easter and Ramadan.

Teen Librarian Marisa DeBow spent the first part of the month arranging the Teen Space collection and supplies. Ms. DeBow also put together a family activity for the reopening day. She successfully facilitated two Teen Times in the new teen space with the return of several teens and the addition of two new teens. Time was spent catching up with each other, making pom poms, and playing Mario Kart on the Nintendo Switch.

Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales recorded another "What's Poppin' at SAPL: Superhero Favorites Edition," reviewing movies and tv shows that SAPL has to offer; during the same video Mr. Gonzales made an introduction to the SAPL May event "Pop Madness."

MEMORIAL

Construction and renovation design continue at the Memorial branch. The expansion is taking shape as the new lobby cement floor area is clearly visible from the parking area. Steel beams are being erected and they will connect the roof and walls to the existing structure.

Adult Services Librarian Freddy Hudson created flyers for the OATS Older Adults Technology Services. They were distributed at two outreach events on April 27th at the Cortez Senior Center and on April 28th at District 2 Senior Center. He created those flyers to promote the programs.

Children's Librarian Christine Deffendall was invited to participate in Roosevelt Elementary School's Dia de los Libros y Ninos celebration on April 28th. She interacted with approximately 123 children and 52 adults. She handed out bookmarks and flyers promoting library services. Mrs. Deffendall contributed to the Children's Services blog with a review of *The Magnificent Book of Dragons*. The book was written by Stella Caldwell and illustrated by Gonzalo Kenny.

Branch manager Maria Gonzales participated in an interview conducted by UT-Austin's IC Institute. The project is part of a research team working on a digital literacy project. Supported by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) the project is to assess digital literacy services Librarians offer as well as identifying barriers and expanding services and resources to the community. The report will be shared by TSLAC with Texas legislators and other stakeholders.

MISSION

Mission served as an early voting site for the uniform elections for Bexar County.

Mission concluded hosting the AARP's (American Association of Retired Persons) Tax-Aide program which offers free tax preparation assistance for seniors. The program took place all day, every Friday (except during Early Voting), until the end of the tax season.

On Saturday, April 23rd, the World Heritage Office had their Open House event which coincided nicely with Harlandale ISD's Cultural Arts Fair. The Cultural Arts Fair began as a parade at Harlandale High School and ended at the Mission Marquee Plaza, followed by the start of the Open House event in Mission's auditorium and courtyard. The Open House consisted of several other city departments sharing information about services offered. Among these, San Antonio Public Library was represented by Mission Library Intern, Christina Montero. The day saw more people than any event since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Children's Services:

Jane Miller, Children's Librarian, participated in an outreach event at Bellaire Elementary on April 26th. Ms. Miller also graciously assisted other Children's librarians at Landa Library for an outdoor Story Time on April 28th.

Teen Services:

Teens participated in 4 programs in April. Activities included a Papel Picado craft, Galaxy Cascarones, a Marshmallow catapult, and CD picture frames. In addition, teens got the opportunity to choose from a variety of craft materials to use for maker activities.

Teen Services Librarian, Cindy Cruz, provided outreach at two events during the reporting period. Cindy and two teen volunteers staffed an outreach table at the Mission Marquee's Farmer and Artisan market.

This was a new experience for the teens, but they enjoyed it and asked to help with the table again at a later date. One of the teen volunteers operates a small baking business during her free time. She was able to complete an application to become a vendor at the market where she will sell homemade cupcakes and cookies.

Cindy also participated in a Zoom meeting with librarians from Harlandale, Edgewood, and San Antonio ISD in preparation for the Book Battle Royal. This yearly event brings together students from around San Antonio to answer questions on award-winning books. Cindy and the school librarians collaborated to select comprehension questions for the event.

Cindy also visited with the community at the Harlandale Cultural Arts Festival. Many parents, teens, and school personnel were at the event where they received info on library services and picked up free comic books provided by the library.

Adult Services:

In observance of National Poetry month, Mission hosted a program coordinated by Sylvia Reyna from Texana in which three-time San Antonio Grand Slam Poetry Champion, Anthony the Poet, performed poetry.

Easy Tai Chi, a class primarily focused on seniors, resumed in April. The class had not been held since prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Easy Tai Chi is held weekly on Friday mornings.

A DIY-U Craft: Mini Piñata was another foray into the resuming of in-person programming in April. Library Assistant, Jessica Viera (PT), held the craft program in which participants made their own mini-piñata.

PAN AMERICAN



Children's:

Children's Librarian Jacqueline Gonzales completed one outreach for the month of April at La Petite Academy on Wurzbach. There she read *Bad Dog*, by Mike Boldt, sang songs, and told rhymes. The children danced and followed simple movements as they sang with the librarian, and giggled and laughed as they listened to the book she read. Children were given stickers and a Take-and-Make kit to do at the end of the program. This kit was to make a paper plate fish with sequin, torn paper, and colors.

At the branch, children were also provided the same Take-and-Make kit to create their very own fish craft at home. Thirty were distributed at the branch, and thirty at the outreach. In addition to the outreach for this month, the branch continued with a scavenger hunt for children to find hidden images throughout the children's section in the library. Those who found all the images were lucky enough to obtain a small prize. Twenty-five children participated in this game.

Jennifer Huizar, Library Aide for Pan American, created a superhero display for young readers to help prepare them for Superhero Day. Books ranged from Graphic Novels to board books. Many of the display books circulated as a result, and it helped the children in our community get excited to see many of their heroes in books.

Teen's:

Gladys Nunez, Teen Services Librarian, facilitated volunteer opportunities for teens at the Branch. One teen came back to volunteer after taking a break for a couple months and another was a brand-new volunteer who is excited to volunteer for Teen Time. Another two teens expressed interest and turned in applications for volunteering and said they can't wait to get started. During Teen Time this month, one activity had teens express their creativity by decorating their own pencil pouches with Sharpies which the teens said they'll be using for school. Teens became involved with the teen area and displaying their art and have started coming up with book display ideas. They also brainstormed activity ideas that will be implemented for Teen Time in May including puzzle and movie nights.

Adult's:

Library Assistant, Stephanie Perez, held her Virtual Sketchbook & Journaling Program. This is a virtual creative program using Zoom. There were two meetings in April and had a prompt for the participants. The dates for the program were on the 4th and 18th. The focus is on drawing and writing. The purpose is to bring people together and encourage people's creativity. This program is for adults only. Ms. Perez also organized a book display focusing on National Love Your Pet Day that was geared towards all ages. She also participated in personal development by taking a time management training course.

Interim Branch Manager, Adrian Leal, continues to hold the Puzzle Time bi-monthly program. The program offers an array of brain teasing puzzles and other games. The program is slowly gaining momentum as our patrons are becoming more and more comfortable with in person programs.

The branch continues to hold its weekly meditation classes. This class is greatly appreciated by those that attend. The classes are held each Saturday from 10:15-11:15am in the branch meeting room.

On April 2nd, the C.I.O.C. Cancer Support Group held its second monthly meeting. 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 April 22nd, in coordination with the American Heart Association (AHA), the branch hosted the "Mercado por Tu Corazon" mobile produce market. Once again, a fantastic selection of fresh produce was available for purchase. Many of our neighbors walk from their homes to see what the mobile market had to offer and to take advantage of the cooking, health and storing tips. We even had a couple of out-of-town customers that took advantage of this awesome event. All customers were amazed by the market and excited and appreciative of the \$10 off of their \$15 purchase coupon. The AHA provided the \$10 off coupons.

PARMAN



Parman received an outpouring of gratitude and support from the community when the branch featured a “Stand with Ukraine” display by its front entrance. The display was decorated in bright blues and yellows echoing the colors of Ukrainian flag and was filled with books written by Ukrainian authors. Every day since it went up people have stopped to admire it and comment how lovely it is. The display has meant something very profound to many in the community. So much so that a Parman patron, after seeing the display, thanked the staff with homemade Paska bread, a traditional Ukrainian bread. She told staff her grandparents were from the Ukraine, that she still had family in Kiev, and seeing the display made her so happy.

Voting, voting, voting! Parman was once again an early voting site and there was an uptick in visits to the library because of it. As always, it went smoothly and the judges were grateful to library staff for all their help.

The Friends of the Parman Library had their annual Spring book sale at the branch this April and it was a rousing success. People were lined up at the door waiting to shop the weekend sale with their totes, bags, and tubs. Kids and adults enjoyed the large selection of books the Friends had for sale. The books were organized by genre so it made it easier for patron to sift through the collection. Friends had worked since January planning this community event and it was a hit.

A new month means a new artist’s work is displayed in Parman’s art gallery. This month the gallery features artist Halah M. Shaheen. Ms. Shaheen is lifelong educator who began her career as an elementary teacher and has taught all age levels throughout her life. After her retirement in 2003 she decided to pursue art and the works featured at Parman were completed at Hindes Fine Art Gallery. They focus on the exploration of color using oils in still life, landscapes and paintings of animals.

Adult librarian Monty Holcomb created an online video for a poetry book review and he updated and maintained the National Poetry Month’s website.

Parman circulation attendant Jessica Mitchell hosted monthly in-person book club “Beyond the Book”. As in the previous month, the event was well-attended.



Getting into the spirit of Fiesta, young readers were encouraged to “Taco ‘Bout Reading” with a fun display. April’s lovely weather provided a great opportunity for Parman’s patrons to enjoy outdoor Story Times. Miss Lisa’s Stories & Bubbles continues to be a hit with preschoolers, many of whom are new to Story Time at the library. At the end of each Story Time, two bubble machines create a magical experience as the wind blows the bubbles around. One young patron commented, “I only come for the bubbles.”



Inside the library, over 260 kids went on a Rhyming Scavenger Hunt, matching rhyming words with pictures around the children’s area to the words and pictures on their scavenger hunt sheet. It was interesting to see how many children were familiar with rhymes, an important early literacy skills. Fostering creativity, this month’s 100 Take-and-Make crafts contained a single Peep with a prompt encouraging young patrons to create their own world for their Peep by writing a story or building a habitat for it. One of Parman’s families shared a picture of their Peep creations.

Parman teen services librarian Gladys Nunez facilitated opportunities for teen involvement with passive programming and book displays. One teen volunteer displayed the number of royalty themed books in the YA collection. Another teen volunteer helped make an interactive display prompting teens to answer the question of “What is your favorite movie at the moment?” as she was looking for movie recommendations. The teens continue to take ownership of the teen space while harnessing their creativity. The branch welcomed a new teen volunteer in late April who specifically was interested in helping out with Teen Time and taking charge of planning new activities for teens to have fun. This month during Teen Time, teens enjoyed making DIY stickers and mentioned they couldn’t wait to stick them on their binders for school. On another day, they decorated their own mini shoe keychains with sharpies which they will happily hang on their backpacks.

POTRANCO

Children’s Librarian, Dawn Zeig, is now actively participating in three virtual programs: Game Time, Toddler Time and Story Time along with several other San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) children’s librarians. Dawn assisted Librarian Tiffany Johnson at the Johnston branch for an outdoor Story Time. They read stories, sang, and danced against a bubble filled background.

Dawn presented her reading project on bedtime chapter books for young children at the Children's Services meeting on April 27. Her project focused on appropriate chapter books that could be appreciated by families with young children that yearn for something longer than a picture book. The April children's book displays promoted Poetry Month and Earth Day. 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.

Potranco Teen Time saw an increase in participation for April. During one of the themed Mondays, a new teen attended. At first, the teen was really shy. But, thirty minutes in, the teen was talking and asking other teens questions like what their favorite color was and what they liked to do.

Teen Librarian Jenny Borrero and Circulation Attendant Laura Villalpando attended YMCA's Teen Night on April 23. Jenny and Laura talked to the teens about Teen Time and the Teen Discord channel. Library information was also shared.

Potranco Branch Library continued to host Café con Libros, the Potranco Book Club and the Sci-Fi Fantasy Book clubs. These book clubs are hosted by Library Assistant Lisa Leandro and Adult Services Librarian Monica Huerta. Each one has a dedicated group of attendees that love the intimate discussions.

Lisa continues to host the consistently popular, Virtual Adult Coloring. This group meet every other Friday and enjoy catching up with each other and sharing their artwork.

Dreaded Threads is hosted by Circulation Attendant Miranda Reyes and Monica Huerta. Those in attendance share their crochet, stitching and knitting projects while listening to the latest episodes of popular True Crime podcasts. This program continues to grow each week and is a favorite among Potranco patrons.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Pruitt's Children's Services celebrated National Poetry Month, Earth Day, and the Spring season with book displays, crafts, and activities. Children's Librarian Lucy Cisneros and Library Assistant Sheran Awe created *Take-and-Make* craft kits for children and distributed system-wide Earth Day activity kits. School age and toddler patrons participated in a passive egg-hunt-themed Scavenger Hunt among the children's book displays. The branch's Kids' Zone received bright, improved child-size seating, which has been very popular with the youngest patrons.

The branch's *Page-Turners Book Club* met in person to discuss *Akata Witch* by Nnedi Okorafor. The group had a delightful time comparing the book to the Harry Potter series and exploring Nigerian culture by listening to Nigerian highlife music, creating African ceremonial masks, and eating Nigerian snacks.

Staff also decorated Cardboard Kids and put them in the branch's windows as part of the annual ChildSafe campaign to raise public awareness of abused and neglected children.



Although it began in March, Spring Break caused the *Pruitt Young Adult Literature Book Bracket*, known as March Madness, to run over into April. *The Concrete Rose* by Angie Thomas garnered the most votes becoming the YA Lit March Madness Champion. This reading promotion acquainted teens with several YA titles either by reading the entire selection or summaries made available by the staff.

Music Monday Live gave teens an opportunity to talk about, play, and explore music. Additionally, teens could put their critical thinking strategies to use while participating in *Teen Chess*. *Teen Cool Out and Color* granted teens more opportunities to express their creativity.



Adult services continued with *Virtual Coloring* co-hosted with Potranco, and adult book clubs discussed *Clock Dance*, *The Personal Librarian*, and *Outlawed*. The *Special Needs Adult Programming* group read along with *The Empty Pot* and created Chinese paper lanterns with paper butterflies.

The *Adult Sugar Scrub* program was a hit with participants who enjoyed the ease of the craft plus the personalization possibilities of scent and decoration.

Family Chess wrapped up its spring session on April 28th but will return with Chess Master Alex Weinberg in June.

SAN PEDRO

On April 2, the San Pedro Branch, with help from Central staff, hosted an information and activity table at the KLRN Kids Day in the Park at San Pedro Springs Park. Kids made bubble launchers and had a great time blowing bubbles across the park. Some 272 children and adults passed through the SAPL table.



Starting in April at the San Pedro Branch, Adult Services Librarian Diana Starrett launched the monthly program “Yarn Over to San Pedro” where people can knit and crochet various projects. Needle crafters of all kinds were welcomed and beginners too. The public was invited to bring their own projects to work on and discuss with others.

Ms. Starrett also assisted Central staff with the Vaisakhi Festival online program. Vaisakhi is a harvest festival of Punjab celebrated in April. The event was in partnership with the Sikh Center of San Antonio group who described the meaning of Vaisakhi and exhibit the unique arts and crafts from this area.

Finally, the San Pedro Branch welcomed new part-time circulation attendant Enrique Bocanegra to the team. Enrique brings a variety of experience to the branch and is currently a student at a local San Antonio University.

SCHAEFER

In April 2022, Dacari Lambert, Teen Librarian at Schaefer branch Library reconvened weekly in person Teen Time programming on Tuesday evenings. Dacari works with a teen volunteer to plan and hold space for all teen requested program activities. Dacari has been active with the Teen Summer Programming workgroup and Teen Pride workgroup to plan upcoming events for Summer and PRIDE. Dacari continues to work with teen volunteers at the branch, including an ongoing partnership with East Central High Schools Vocational program. Dacari remains an active member in the SAPL wide Employee Wellness Workgroup. This month, Dacari worked with Library Assistant Blanca Silva-Hernandez on a the poetry display.



On Saturday, April 23, Little Read Wagon had a Let's Play event at Schaefer. LRW staff brought a variety of fun outdoor play pieces and activities for children five years old and younger.



Kids and their families had fun playing all morning long with giant tires, huge foam blocks, playdough, water and chia seeds and more. Schaefer's children's librarian, Leslie Elsasser was able to talk to the families about Schaefer and promote upcoming summer activities. As a lead up to the event, Leslie presented information about children's services at Schaefer during a virtual LRW teacher training on Saturday, April 9.

During April, Leslie Elsasser participated in Story Time Online as a host twice and as a presenter once. This program takes place once a week on Zoom and is presented by a team of children's librarians. She leads the LEGO Club Online Zoom group, which had LEGO Club every other week. The kids get to build and share their creations with each other during the program. She also participated in Read to a Dog Online as a host and as a moderator in the breakout rooms where kids get the chance to practice their reading skills by reading to a therapy dog.

Adult Services Librarian II, Dan Garcia, hosted the monthly Schaefer Skimmers book club on Tuesday, April 19, 2022. The program was attended by six club members in person, and one additional member virtually via Zoom.

Dan participated in the Employee Well-Being workgroup, and volunteered to be a member of the Training sub-group where he contributed discussion and ideas to the group's proposal document.

On April 27 and April 28, Dan participated in the ACCD hosted class, Personal Development I & II.

Library Assistant BlancaSilvia Hernandez hosted the monthly Schaefer Virtual Craft program; where patrons painted ceramic glazed piggy banks. She published a catalog list of LPs currently trending for Schaefer's I ♥ Vinyl (Digital Edition) monthly program.



Blanca moderated the Dementia Friends and Planning for the Future online programs presented in partnership with UT Health San Antonio programs.

She also created Financial Literacy, Earth Day and National Grilled Cheese day

displays and assisted Librarian Dacari Lambert with Schaefer's National Poetry month display.

SEMMES

Children's programming for the 5 and under crowd continued in its online capacity at SAPL this month. Ms. Randi presented opening songs for Toddler Time Online on April 6 and presented songs and a story (*Lots of Dots* by Craig Frazier) for Toddler Time Online on April 20. She presented songs, rhymes and interactive activities for Story Time Online live on April 7, 14, and 28. She provided tech support for two sessions of Read to a Dog on April 5 and 19. She recorded stories for the Dial-A-Story line on April 5 ("The Tortoise and the Fox"), April 22 (*Little Chicken* by Margaret Wise Brown) and on April 29 (*It Could Always Be Worse* by Margot Zemach). Ms. Randi's curated program for *Rain* by Manya Stojic and her curated program for *Little White Rabbit* by Kevin Henkes both premiered on mysapl.org on April 25. On April 23, Ms. Randi and library assistant, Carolyn Bradley presented a readers theater play based on Tony Johnston's book *The Iguana Brothers: A Tale of Two Lizards*. Ms. Randi also read aloud George Shannon's *Lizard's Home* and lead the audience in a singalong. Children were invited to take home a craft project to make paper iguana hat. This program was Semmes's first in-person program since March 2020. It was held outdoors at the amphitheater in Comanche-Lookout Park. It was attended by 12 children and 8 adults.



In addition to weekly Teen Time programs, Ms. Valerie organized an asynchronous poetry activity in the Teen Area as part of National Poetry Month. All throughout April, teens had access to a variety of individual words cut out from magazines to rearrange into poems.

Ms. Valerie also hosted a virtual meeting of the Adventurer's Book Club on April 9th. Participants were encouraged to read any Choose Your Own Adventure Book ahead of time, and at the meeting the group read a Choose Your Own Adventure book together and voted on which path to take. On April 20th, Ms. Valerie debuted the new Artie 3000 robots from Children's Services in an outdoor program aimed at tweens. These robots can be coded to draw as they move around.



The Semmes Branch Library hosted a Plant Swap on April 29th. Patrons were invited to bring a plant to share with other plant enthusiasts. We had over 30 patrons participate! It was a multi-generational event where patrons enjoyed talking to each other about plants and sharing gardening tips.



THOUSAND OAKS

Assistant Branch Manager Brooke Mjolsness served as co-host and chat moderator for the Film Noir Movie Club program on April 12. 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 April 13. The main host Maggie Grueskin led the program which is held the second Wednesday of every month.

On April 29, 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.



Children's Librarian Cheryl Penick served as co-host for the Baby Time Online programs on April 1, 15, 22, and 29. Ms. Penick assembled 50 Take-and-Make "Real Quick Peel & Stick Chick" kits for distribution to patrons. She assembled themed book bundles for children with items for check-out in both English and Spanish. Planning for the Children's Services 2022 Summer Reading Program is underway. Paperback books to be given out at sign-up were received from Scholastic.

Librarian Kimberly King held Teen Time programs on April 4, 11, 18, and 25. On April 27, she facilitated an outreach book group at the Northeast Senior Center. The book group participants discussed *My Name is Lucy Barton* by Elizabeth Strout.

Ms. King created a "Dare to be Different" book display in the teen area highlighting unusual and/or under-the-radar reads. She created an interactive activity which encouraged teens to vote on their favorite cookie: Oreos or chocolate chip. Chocolate chip cookies were the clear winner.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

Teen Librarian, Melissa Carroll, continues as the lead for After School Zone weekly on Tuesday's with Garner Middle School Students. Activities this month incorporated LEGOs, board games, making Fiesta Flowers and a special Earth Day Origami challenge.

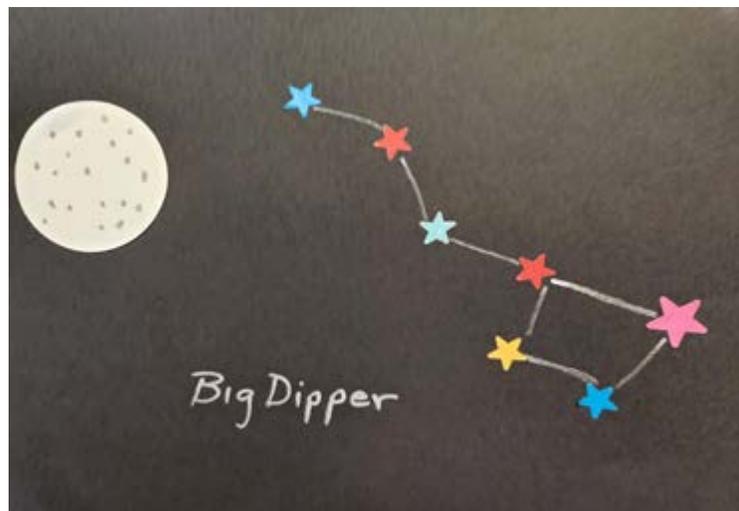
Tobin partnered with The League of Women Voters who set up a Voter's Table on April 9 in the afternoon. 34 individuals inquired on voting and registering for the upcoming election.

Twice a month the Sit and Stitch group meets to crochet, knit and just chat while working on projects. This program is hosted by Librarian, Rhonda Woolhouse, or Circulation Attendant, Sandra Ruiz.

Barbaraella Frazier, the branch's Children's Librarian hosted a virtual Story Time on April 14 as well as a Read To A Dog program this month. Ms. Frazier and Children's Librarian, Kara Bailey, presented their first live children's event with a Play and Learn outside on April 21. Library Assistant, Terry Verner and Ms. Bailey stay busy creating Take-and-Make crafts including April's Earth Day Flower, Dark Sky Night, Create a Bunny and Butterfly Puppets.

Librarian Manager, Tracey Knouse, toured the Haven for Hope campus with several members of San Antonio Public Library's (SAPL's) Homeless Committee on April 21. Potential for future outreach was explored along with receiving information about all the current services available at Haven.

Early Voting was moderate during April 25 – 30 for the upcoming City of San Antonio Bond Election, which included some SAPL renovations and improvements.



WESTFALL

In April, as part of the Story Time Work Group, Children’s Librarian Imelda Merino added five curated Story Time programs to the Preschool LibGuide. She created one of these with a “Rabbits” theme. The others were created by other children’s librarians. She helped add books to the Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Book List on the “SAPL is Here for You” LibGuide and continued work on the Summer Annotated Book Lists.

Ms. Merino was invited to a Parents meeting at Ridgeview Elementary which took place on April 27. Five primarily Spanish-speaking parents attended and the school librarian translated. Basic information about the library was shared, as well as information about the Summer at San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) program. The importance of reading, especially reading aloud, to children was also discussed. Parents learned some very simple, fun crafts that they could make with their children. Craft materials were made

available so that they could make the crafts themselves, and take home some materials for their kids. A future visit to the students is planned for a later date in May.

Teen Librarian Heather Swindell continues to connect with teens during Westfall's closure during the Saturday virtual program Teen Bookworms where teens can hang out and join a virtual book club on the 210teenlibrary Discord Server.

During the closure, branch staff are providing interim service at Granados Adult and Senior Center at 500 Freiling, Monday through Friday from 10 am to 5 pm. Staff are grateful to the Parks and Recreation staff for the warm welcome and space provided during this time.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Insert response here.

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.

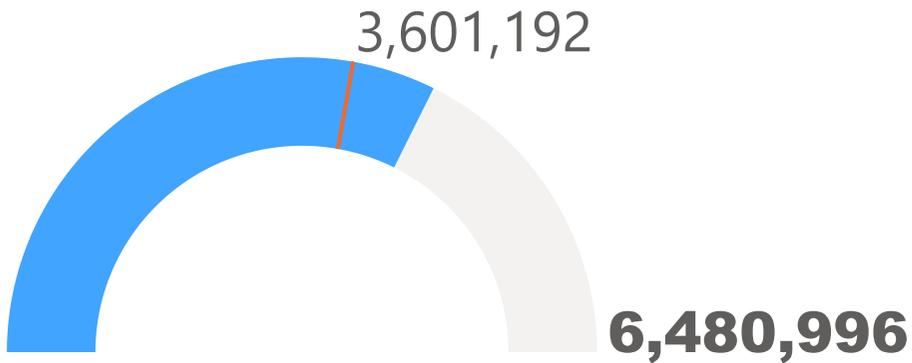
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY KEY INDICATORS

April 2022
FY 2022

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

Circulation: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:



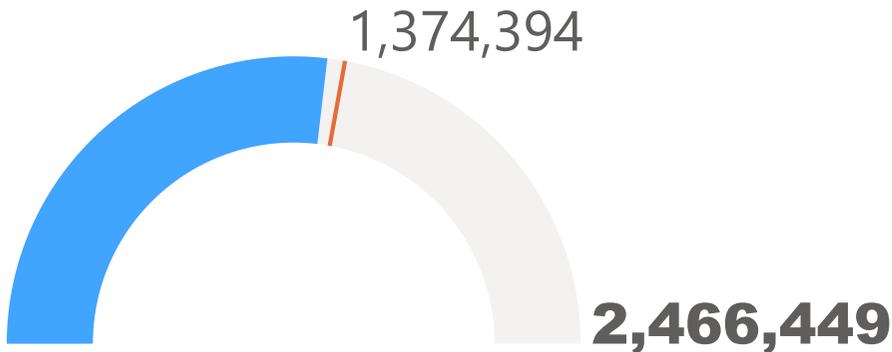
FY 2022 to date Items Borrowed



4,194,529 ✓
(+16.48%)
Circulation

Visits: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:



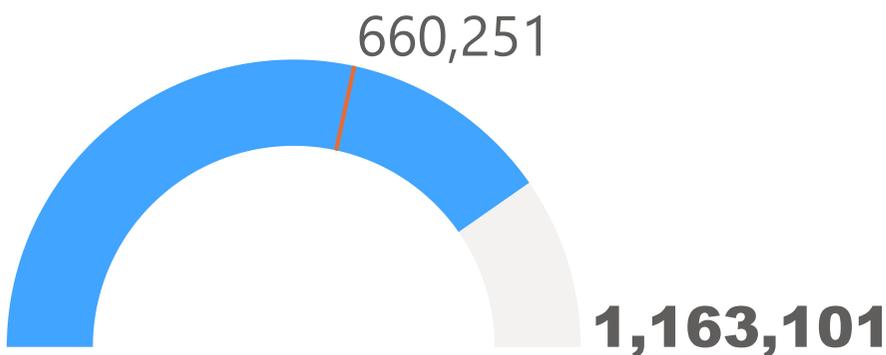
FY 2022 to date Library Visits



1,325,571 !
(-3.55%)
Visits

Digital Access: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:



FY 2022 to date Digital Access



95,373
Hours of Computer Use



842,489
Hours of WI-FI Use

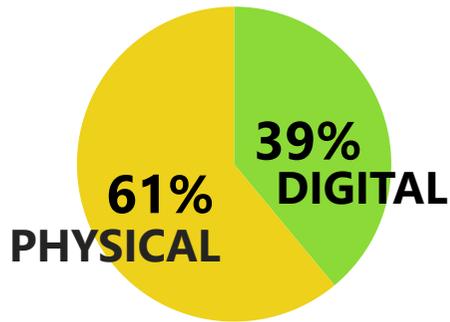
937,862 ✓
(+42.05%)
Hours of Technology

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

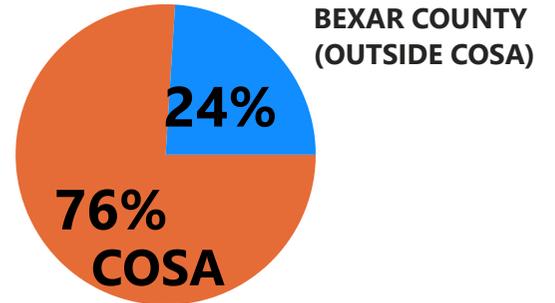
April 2022 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2022

CIRCULATION BY TYPE



CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA



VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2022



772,844
MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

11,723
MYSAPL
APP DOWNLOADS*

629,824
OVERDRIVE
SITE VISITS

3,370,382
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

2,561
TOTAL PROGRAMS

1,147
ADULT PROGRAMS

877
TEEN PROGRAMS

537
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

43,768
TOTAL ATTENDANCE

13,553
ADULT ATTENDANCE

7,373
TEEN ATTENDANCE

22,842
CHILDREN'S ATTENDANCE

88 PROGRAM VIDEOS UPLOADED

17,708 PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Connect WITH YOUR LIBRARY
NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK 2022

ANTHONY THE POET
AT MISSION BRANCH & CENTRAL LIBRARY
April 11 - Mission | 6-7 pm
April 23 - Central | 2-3 pm

ONLINE EVENT: LEARNING WITH CHEF CORTEZ
¡Camiña La Magica makes TAMALES!
FRIDAY, APRIL 29 1 - 2PM
For 1st to 3rd graders. Registration required.

To do list:
 find library books
 return library books
 borrow more library books!

San Antonio Public Library

April 2022 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-fi Use	Computer Hours of Use	Wi-Fi Hours of Use
Bazan	1,366	1,205	2,008	252	1,756
Brook Hollow	23,808	10,212	5,195	536	4,659
Carver	2,326	3,085	3,249	560	2,689
Central	8,919	18,070	17,858	1,430	16,428
Cody	29,886	12,067	9,347	1,153	8,194
Collins Garden	2,969	3,532	3,536	429	3,107
Cortez	3,715	4,231	2,402	327	2,075
Digital	233,996	0	0	0	0
Encino	16,098	6,630	4,882	193	4,689
Forest Hills	436	55	12	12	0
Great Northwest	23,208	10,001	5,562	459	5,103
Guerra	6,432	6,591	3,614	528	3,086
Igo	34,963	17,897	10,034	409	9,625
Interlibrary Loan	1,120	0	0	0	0
Johnston	6,965	4,935	3,374	574	2,800
Kampmann	0	818	227	0	227
Landa	11,989	10,837	4,117	378	3,739
Las Palmas	3,464	2,296	3,449	863	2,586
Maverick	22,529	8,829	5,985	699	5,286
McCreless	2,250	4,095	2,666	188	2,478
Memorial	855	140	9	9	0
Mission	9,751	9,493	5,021	699	4,322
Pan American	3,684	2,752	1,791	275	1,516
Parman	31,136	15,048	5,812	202	5,610
Potranco	14,932	6,008	14,346	415	13,931
Pruitt	4,423	14,659	4,528	160	4,368
San Pedro	3,491	3,821	4,819	548	4,271
Schaefer	7,801	6,580	4,256	362	3,894
Semmes	25,244	8,806	6,792	657	6,135
System	35,233	0	0	0	0
Thousand Oaks	6,089	6,827	4,574	420	4,154
Tobin	14,829	11,088	4,330	496	3,834
Westfall	4,215	257	1,552	0	1,552
Total	598,122	210,865	145,347	13,233	132,114

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

San Antonio Public Library

April 2022 Programs & Attendance

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some programs are developed with a system wide approach and others are developed by each location.

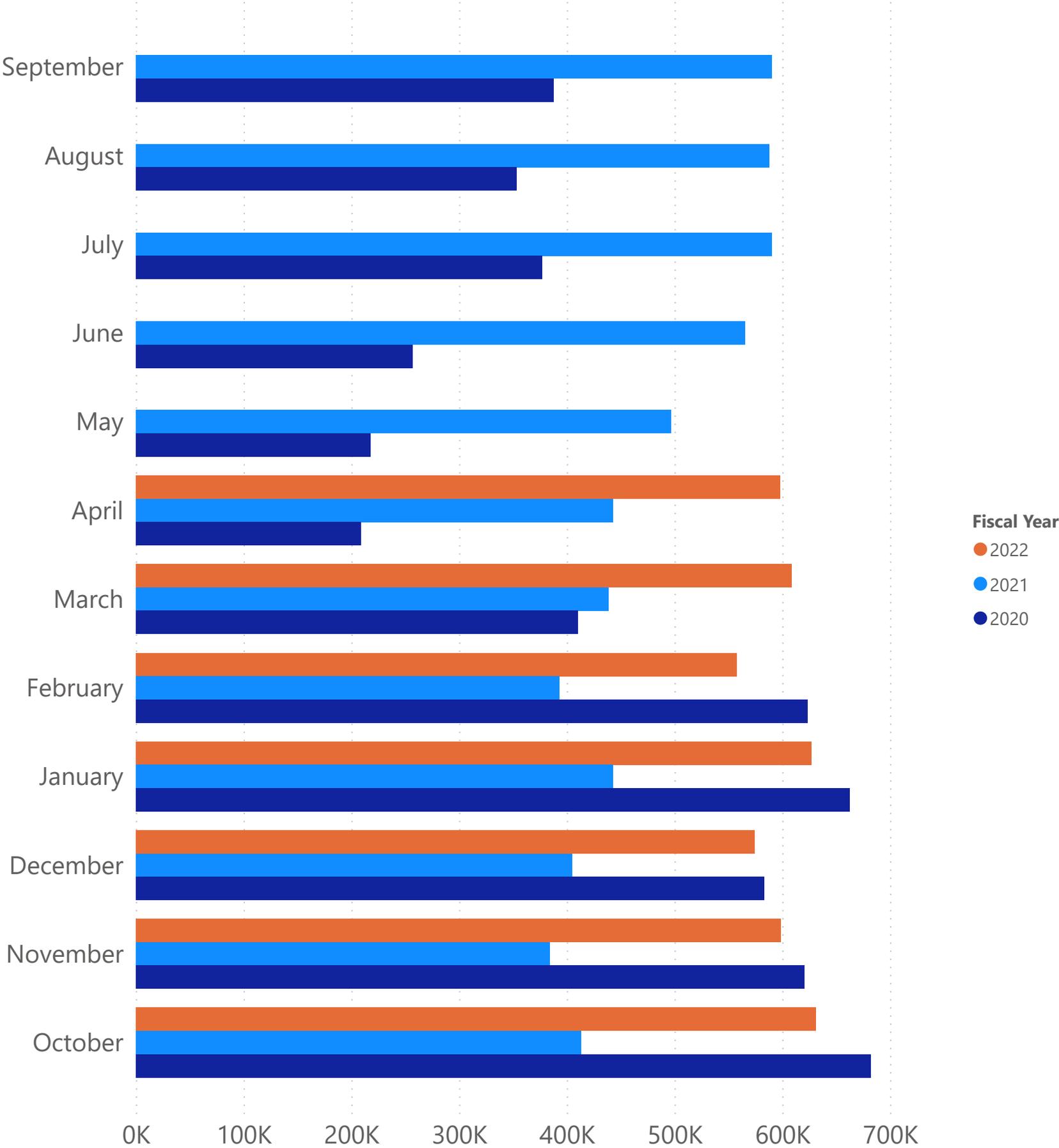
Location	Adult Programs	Teen Programs	Children's Programs	Total Programs	Adult Program Attendance	Teen Program Attendance	Children's Program Attendance	Total Program Attendance
Bazan	2	0	1	3	10	0	25	35
Brook Hollow	1	3	0	4	9	10	0	19
Carver	7	3	0	10	97	2	0	99
Central	34	63	2	99	1,572	391	26	1,989
Cody	7	0	3	10	54	0	38	92
Collins Garden	7	5	8	20	54	30	518	602
Cortez	6	4	0	10	26	0	0	26
Encino	12	5	10	27	71	55	138	264
Forest Hills	1	1	1	2	10	22	22	54
Great Northwest	4	4	0	8	22	4	0	26
Guerra	4	2	0	6	50	1	0	51
Igo	6	4	3	13	73	26	82	181
Johnston	6	4	2	12	58	16	81	155
Landa	6	4	8	18	142	1	858	1,001
Las Palmas	10	4	1	15	62	5	41	108
Little Read Wagon	0	0	26	26	0	0	1,615	1,615
Maverick	7	4	0	11	30	41	0	71
McCreless	0	3	0	3	0	8	0	8
Memorial	0	0	1	1	0	0	175	175
Mission	17	6	0	23	481	188	0	669
Pan American	8	4	1	13	69	2	33	104
Parman	5	4	4	13	26	5	360	391
Potranco	9	4	1	14	40	41	80	161
Pruitt	9	12	1	22	92	126	4	222
San Pedro	2	0	1	3	11	0	272	283
Schaefer	2	4	0	6	15	12	0	27
Semmes	6	4	5	15	53	14	65	132
System	11	33	27	71	664	202	390	1,256
Thousand Oaks	1	5	0	6	4	0	0	4
Tobin	2	4	3	9	9	35	66	110
Westfall	0	0	1	1	0	0	5	5
Total	192	193	109	494	3,804	1,237	4,894	9,935

Note:

Bazan, Forest Hills, Westfall, & Memorial: These buildings were closed in April, however these branches were able to hold one or more off-site events while closed.

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures:

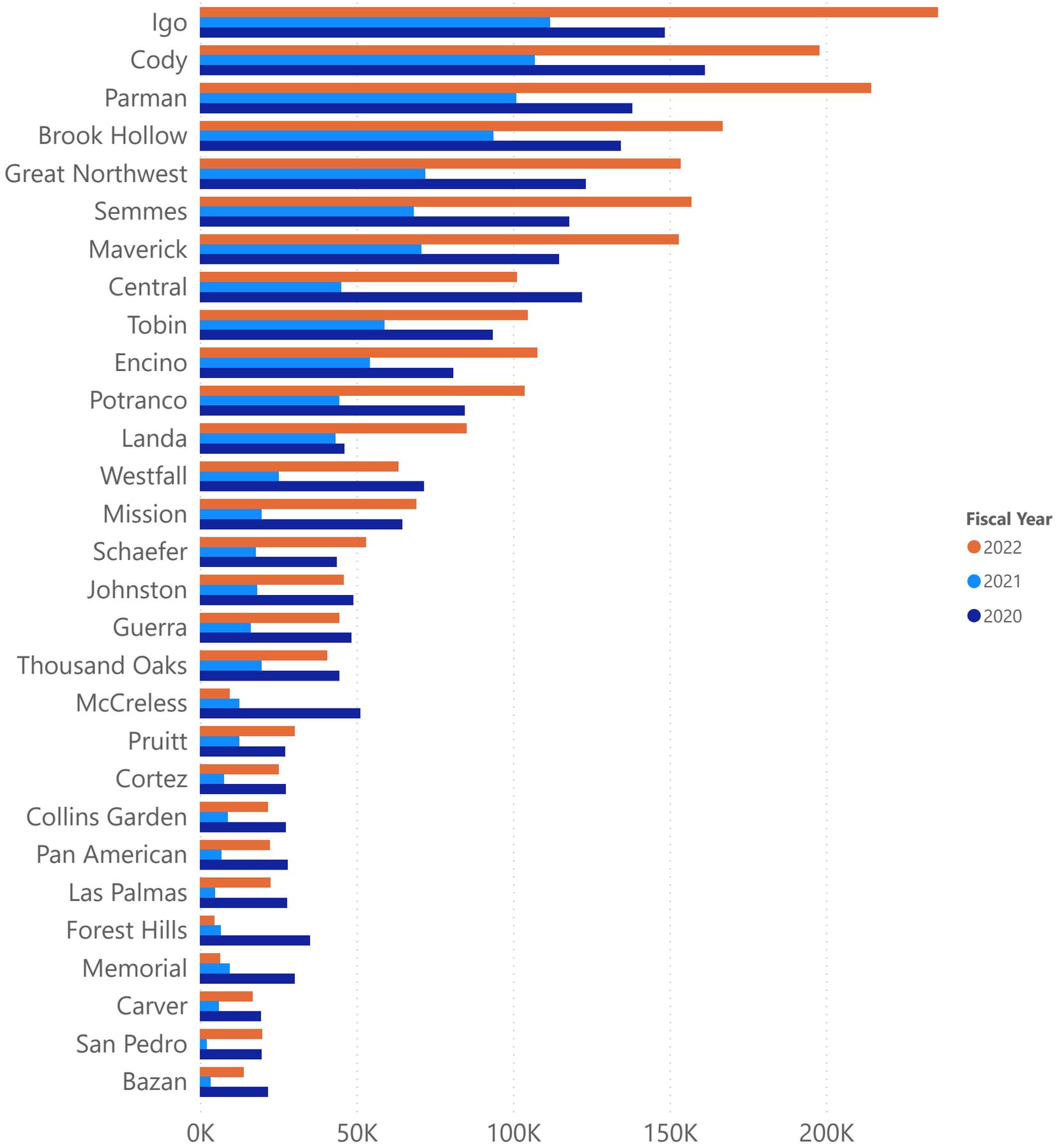
FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-TBD, McCreless Oct 1-Apr 15, Memorial Oct 1 - TBD

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

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

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - April 2022



Location Closures:

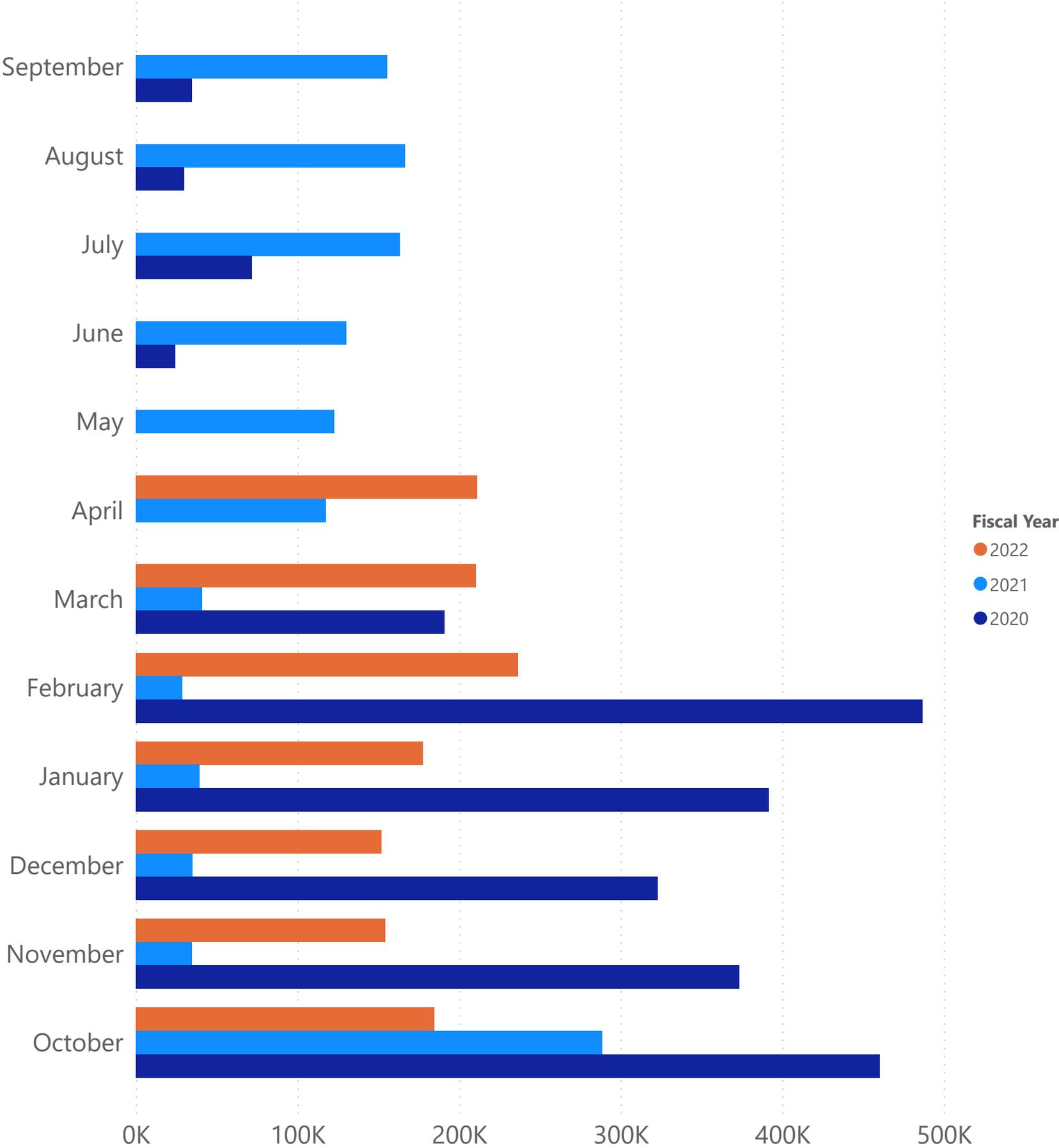
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San Antonio Public Library

Visits



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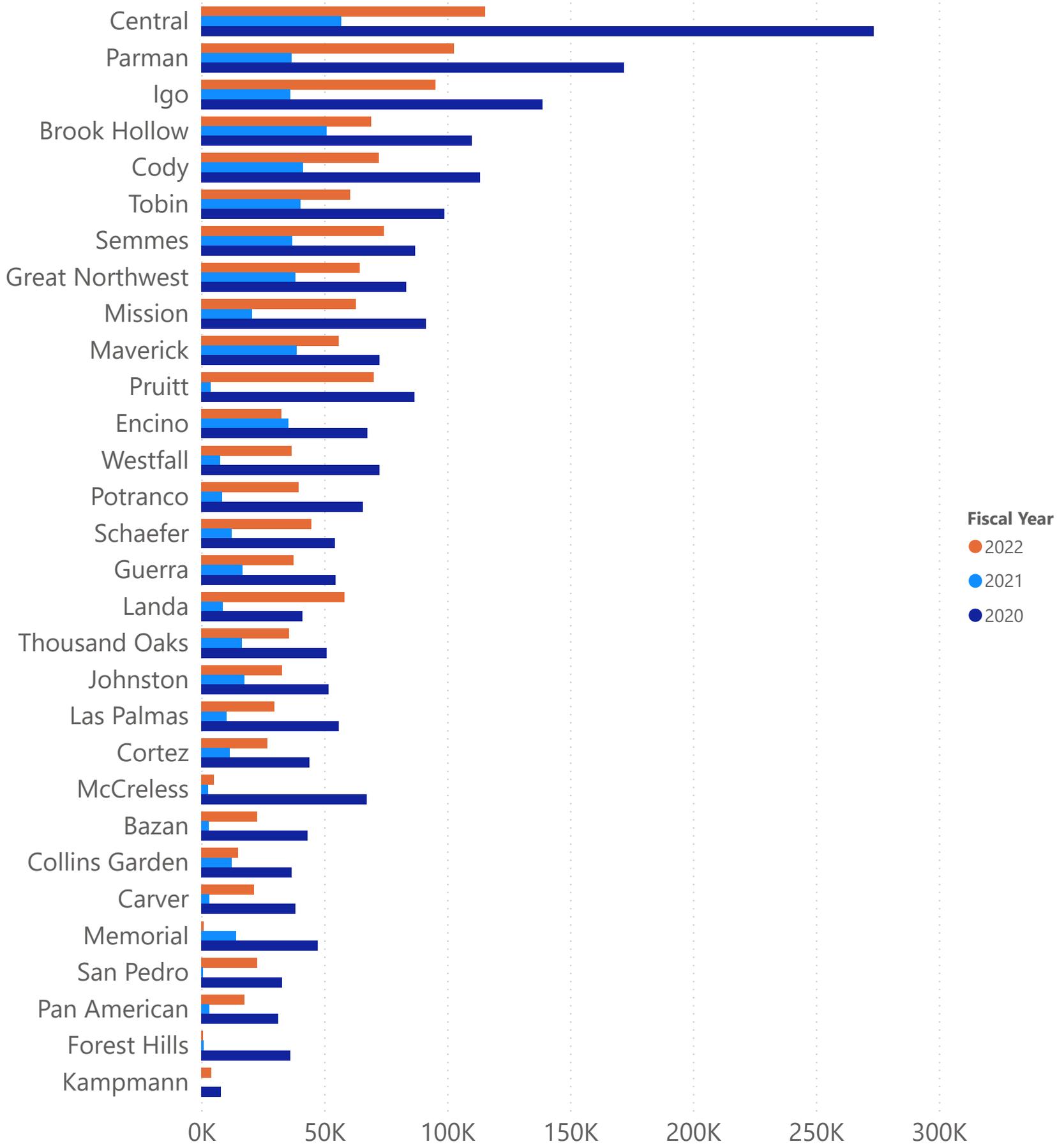
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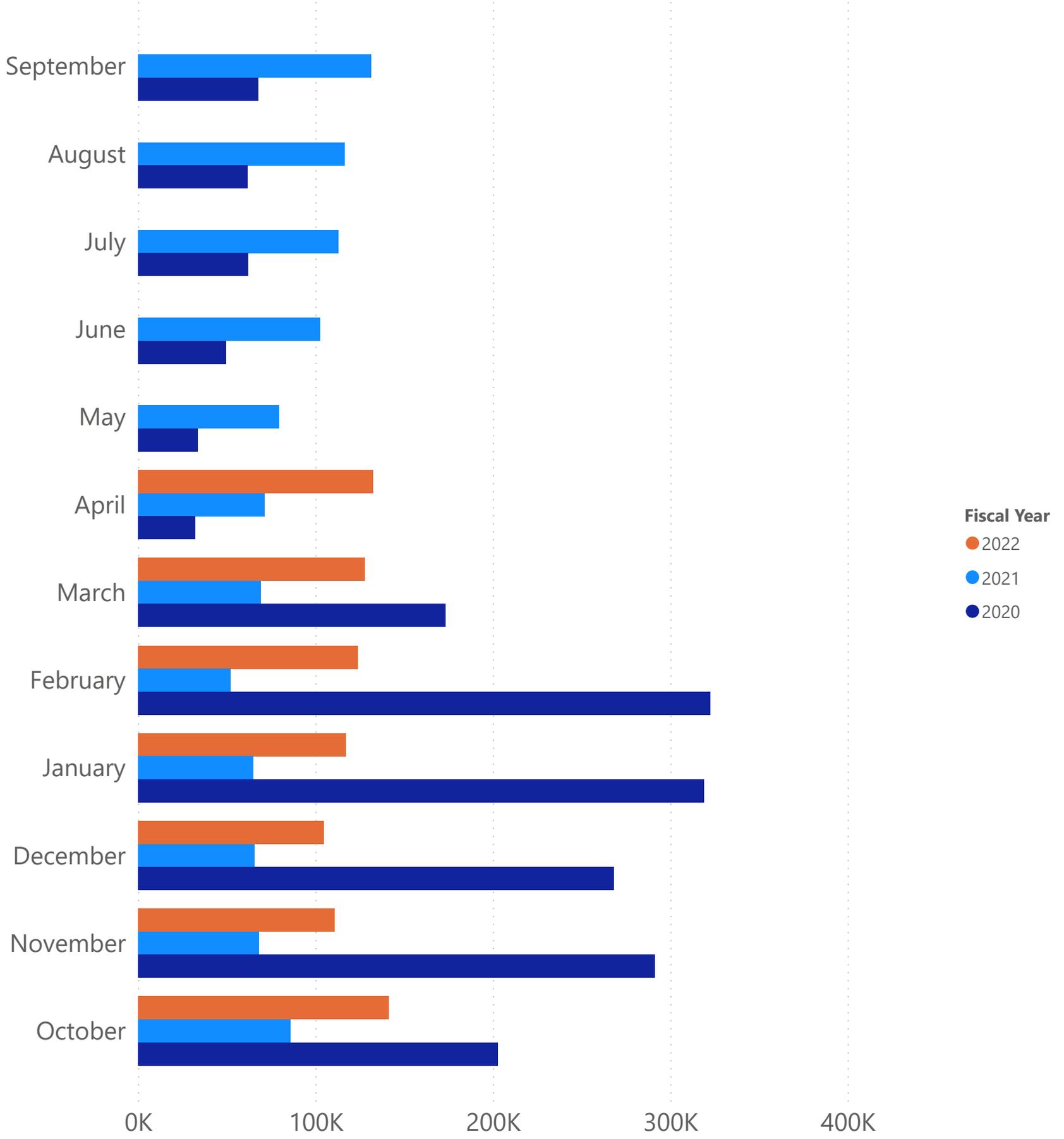
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San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use



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