



Young patrons create street-art style pieces at Potranco Branch Library's Concrete Canvas event on June 3, 2023.

## San Antonio Public Library Director's Report

June 2023

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# DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

*The following is a summary of notable activities during the month of June related to the Library Director's professional involvement and his engagement with San Antonio Public Library stakeholders.*

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar virtually attended the Local Government Hispanic Network Board of Directors Monthly Meeting on June 2, 2023.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar attended the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Board meeting on June 4, 2023. Director Salazar presented the results of the Future of SAPL/FoSAPL Partnership Assessment Study and addressed questions from the attendees.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar attended the Library's FY 2024 Capital Budget Development meetings on June 8, and June 13, 2023.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar met with Assistant City Manager David McCary, Library Board of Trustees Vice Chair Juspreet Kaur, and Bexar County staff to discuss the new Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County for Library Services on June 9, 2023.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar met with the Office of Management and Budget to discuss the Library's FY 2024 Budget on June 14, 2023.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar met with the City Manager and the Office of Management and Budget to discuss the Library's FY 2024 Budget Review on June 20, 2023.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar attended the CoSA Black and African American Employee Affinity Group Mentorship Graduation on June 20, 2023. The Library department had two graduates in the mentor program.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar virtually attended the National Museum and Library Science Board new member orientation on June 29, 2023.

# COMMUNICATIONS

The Summer with SAPL Kickoff, information about summer programming, information about cooling centers, and the ELLA Awards were the main subjects of media coverage and marketing initiatives for San Antonio Public Library in June. These stories garnered significant media attention and led to well-attended programs all month long. The Communications Team also began developing campaigns to announce the rollout of new read-along collection items in the collection and the July 4 holiday closure messaging.

## Media Highlights

- June 1 - KSAT 12 highlighted two San Antonio Public Library children's programs happening on Thursday, June 1 in their morning show. They mentioned the programs as something for kids to do now that school is out for the summer.
- June 1 - KSAT 12 published an article on Summer with SAPL kicking off in San Antonio.
- June 2 - TPR aired a promotion of Summer with SAPL.
- June 5 - KENS 5 shared a recap of the Summer with SAPL Kickoff in their Morning Jolt segment of Great Day SA on Tuesday morning.
- June 6 - KSAT 12 shared times of children's programs happening at San Antonio Public Libraries on their Wednesday morning broadcast.
- June 9 - The San Antonio Report included Landa Branch Library's playground in an article about ways to keep kids entertained throughout the summer.
- June 13 - KSAT 12 aired a feature segment on Metro Health's Viva Health healthy eating program. They mentioned that the program takes place at multiple locations across the city including Cortez Branch Library.
- June 16 - KSAT 12 shared information on cooling centers open on Juneteenth and mentioned four San Antonio Public Library locations open.
- June 20 - KSAT 12 aired an interview featuring Summer with SAPL information yesterday. Children's Services Librarian Linda Lopez participated in the interview as a SAPL representative. This was originally filmed on Tuesday, June 13 but didn't air until Tuesday, June 20 due to a special report that took place on the day of filming.
- June 28 - KSAT 12 highlighted two Summer with SAPL programs happening on Wednesday, June 28.
- June 29 - TPR highlighted SAPL's Virtual Live Trivial in their community events calendar.

## Social Media metrics overview for June 2023:

- SAPL's social media generated **421,518** impressions
- SAPL's social media following base grew by **536** new fans
- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts **18,062** times.

## Social Media growth for June 2023:

- Twitter: **36** followers
- Facebook: **217** followers
- Instagram: **283** followers

## YouTube statistics for June 2023:

- Subscribers: **32**
- Impressions: **60,411**
- Total Views: **6,035**
- Videos published: **1**

## Graphics

The Graphics Team created publicity materials for a variety of programs and events during this reporting period, including Summer with SAPL, the ELLA Awards, Texana Interim Service and Pride Month, as well as social media and other promotions for branch events.

# DIGITAL SERVICES

On June 6, Digital Services Coordinator Adam Spana and Library Services Administrator Adam Zaby met with ITSD Business Relationship Manager Cynthia Ramirez to draft a business services overview for two systems (online registration and renewal & digital asset management) in preparation for FY24 budget requests.

On June 29, Mr. Spana convened a meeting with Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun, Access Services Manager Sarah Linley, ITSD Business Relationship Manager Cynthia Ramirez to improve workflows associated with ILS records of laptops for public use and annual laptop replacements.

# LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

On June 1, historian, author, and ASU professor Eduardo Pagán virtually presented his book, *Murder at the Sleepy Lagoon*, to 11 of our library patrons. His book explores the social history of the Zoot Suit Riots, and the program took place on the 80th anniversary of these events.

June 3, the LCRC participated in community outreach at Potranco's, Concrete Canvas event. LCRC engaged with 98 people, passing out SAPL merch, while sharing SAPL & LCRC resources and services with the community.



# LITTLE READ WAGON

Summer means play for the Little Read Wagon (LRW) team. During the month of June, staff hosted 12 play events enjoyed by 1,890 community members. Staff were busy with the planning, material preparation and clean up, along with planning for the upcoming school year.

LRW staff installed a large-scale, temporary play experience on the first Saturday of June outside the San Pedro Branch Library. Shaded by the huge Live Oak trees, families constructed with big blue blocks, engineered with ramps, tinkered with loose parts, experimented with channeling water, dug in the sand, and created art. San Pedro Branch was chosen because of the large trees that provide deep shade all day long, and for its central location with easy access from around the San Antonio area.

There are two weekly outdoor play events for the summer. On Wednesdays at Martin Luther King Park LRW staff set up a Play Lab near a pavilion closest to the splash pad. Materials are edited to provide immersive play experiences for children. In June, children have explored messy materials like coffee dirt, shaving cream, slime, kinetic sand, and paint, as well as cardboard, big blue blocks, obstacle courses, balls, hula hoops, and wobble bowls. The event begins at 10:00 am and ends at 12:00 pm, unless heat advisories indicate adverse effects of being outside at noon. Martin Luther King Park is well shaded and located on the east side of San Antonio, in a community where family play activities are not widely available.

On Thursdays, staff visit Pearsall Park for the Water Play Lab. Materials are set out for children to borrow and return. All the materials are for use in the splash pad. Items available include collapsible silicone buckets (so they do not break), stacking cups, jugs, spray bottles, sponges, colorful balls that absorb water, and umbrellas. A tuff tray filled with water and small silicone suction cup toys provide a different sort of water play. Pearsall Park is located in the southwest side of San Antonio and is heavily traveled by families looking to cool down and play in the water. LRW staff had planned two shifts so that families could access materials from about 10:00 am until 2:00 pm, but the record-breaking heat indexes have forced staff to end at 12:00 pm.

LRW staff are working with City of San Antonio Parks and Recreation staff to host a Tuesday evening, indoor play event. This is the first Let's Play held at an air-conditioned community center hosted with Parks staff. Each week, LRW staff arrive to train two new Parks staffers (who rotate through each week so that the entire staff group can experience the event) in free play and interacting with families with young children. Families play, each child chooses a book to take home, and the library provides a substantial snack pack since the event runs from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The Palm Heights Recreation Center is located off Nogalitos Street, near the Collins Garden Branch Library. Let's Play! Family Nights will take place Tuesday evenings through August 1.



# CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

June was packed with Summer with SAPL activities. Library locations welcomed large crowds of children and accompanying adults to regular weekly offerings as well as featured guest events. Professor Universe kicked off the series with high-energy and informative shows at the Pruitt, Cody, Johnston, and Memorial libraries. Perennial guests Richard Blake, Happy Tails, and Opera San Antonio returned with multiple appearances. BK Bones made her San Antonio Public Library debut with her show about what makes a dinosaur a dinosaur.

Children across San Antonio have been adding their paleta cards, paper chains, dot stickers, and more to collaborative displays. The cards include delightful drawings and statements about how the children plan to spend their Summer with SAPL. Several locations also have been participating in letter exchanges, giving children opportunities to share their experiences and perspectives with peers who visit other library locations.

On June 20, two community members were recognized with Excellence in Library Leadership and Advocacy awards for their contributions to SAPL and particularly children's services. Lisa Kulka was recognized for her role in bringing the vision of Public Library Connect, a partnership between public libraries and schools via Overdrive, to fruition. San Antonio Philharmonic was recognized for several years of bringing professional musicians to SAPL locations.

Coordinator of Children's Services, Cresencia Huff, attended the annual conference of the American Library Association, June 23-27. Ms. Huff presented alongside Elsie Purcell (Hondo Public Library) and staff from the Space Science Institute. The session, "Procrastinator's Guide to the Solar Eclipse" was packed with librarians who arrived early for the 9:00AM program. Ms. Huff and Ms. Purcell also took turns fielding questions at the Space Science Institute booth on the exhibit floor and attended several informative education sessions.



# TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

**Virtual Teen Programs and Activities** – The 210teenlibrary Discord workgroup, led by Matthew Loaiza (Teen Services Librarian II / Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) and consisting of Teen Services Librarians and Liaisons from around the system collaborated with virtual teen volunteers ("Teen Mods") to host weekly virtual teen activities ("clubs") on Discord ("the server") and provide meaningful peer-to-peer connections. With the start of Teen Summer, clubs moved to earlier times as requested by teens and two clubs returned by popular demand – Bookworms (a book discussion club) and Tryday Friday (a tabletop gaming club). Additionally, a new writing club launched on the server as well as a design contest to recreate the server's mascot (a turtle named Mentions). Teens continued to request new channels that were relevant to their interests, attended clubs and additional activities, and made meaningful

connections with their peers through conversations throughout the day. Teens on the server also worked together to plan this year's Teen Summer Bash in July.

**Virtual Teen Content and Resources** – The 210teenlibrary Instagram workgroup, led by Matthew Loaiza and consisting of Amisahari Sarabia (Teen Services Outreach Specialist, Teen Library @ Central), Ciana Flores (Teen Services Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central), and Regina Almanza (Teen Services Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) shared information, resources, activities, and other content for teens on Instagram, created by teen volunteers and Teen Services staff. During the reporting period, teens and teen volunteers provided book reviews and book displays; showcased popular food demos including a hot Cheeto salad, iced strawberry milk, and cherry limeade; highlighted the Teen Pride Party held at the Teen Library; and shared informational content and daily celebrations through Stories.

**Teen Summer** – Teen Summer 2023 kicked off on June 1. Teens were invited to visit their nearest library location to pick up their official Teen Summer 2023 t-shirt, designed by teen artist Percy, and participate in weekly summer activities in-person and/or online on the Teen Services Discord server.

**Pride Month** – Teen Services hosted a Pride party on June 10 in the Teen Library at Central. Members of the Teen Pride workgroup facilitated the event for teens, including Shannan Prukop (Teen Services Librarian II / Assistant Manager, Forest Hills Branch), Dacari Lambert (Teen Services Librarian I, Schaefer Branch), Lisa Puchot (Teen Services Librarian I, Great Northwest Branch), Lauren Hime (Teen Services Librarian I, Pruitt Branch), and Michael Harle (Teen Services Librarian I, Encino Branch). Teen volunteers decorated the Teen Library to give it a Pride flair, and during the party teens made rainbow waffles and pancakes, made their own Pride stickers, and built their own Pride bookstacks to create a keychain, earrings or a necklace.

**Pictures below:** Teen at Teen Pride Party; Teen Pride Party giveaways; teen-created book display:



**Professional Development** – On June 14, Communications at the San Antonio Public Library asked Matthew Loaiza to represent Teen Services during a TVSA interview to provide details about Teen Summer 2023. On June 20, Loaiza attended the ELLA Awards to recognize Fiesta Youth's work in providing safe spaces for LGBTQ+ teens in San Antonio, as well as for their continued partnership with Teen Services at the San Antonio Public Library.

# ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

On June 1, historian, author, and ASU professor Eduardo Pagán virtually presented his book, *Murder at the Sleepy Lagoon*, to 11 of our library patrons. His book explores the social history of the Zoot Suit Riots and the program took place on the 80th anniversary of these events.

Potranco Library hosted *Concrete Canvas: The Art and Rhythm of Street Culture* on the first Saturday evening in June. This event featured break dancers, street artists and DJ Nova Soul entertained the crowd. The evening ended with a performance by Los Angeles rapper Vel Nine. The program showcased the positive impact street culture can have on the community. Inviting a rapper, street artists and break dancers gave the community a new and refreshing view of library programs.

The Library celebrated throughout the month of June. Events that occurred during the month included two sessions of a program called *Fashion with Pride* at Cody, with attendees learning sewing machine basics and simple ways to upcycle clothes for personal expression with local fashion designer Lorena Auguste. UTSA Assistant Archivist and LGBTQIA+ historian Melissa Gohlke presented at Cody on San Antonio's *History of Gender Diversity in Trans Temporal* on June 22. Several locations (including Thousand Oaks, Forest Hills and Cody) hosted *Tabletop Gaymer Night*, which offers individuals who identify as LGBTQIA+ to play tabletop games and socialize in a safe space. Finally, the library hosted another session of *Gender Transitioning Know Your Rights*, which provides information about the resources available to individuals seeking to affirm their legal name and gender marker. This session, which occurred via Zoom and was presented by staff from St. Mary's School of Law Pro Bono Program and Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, also provided individuals the opportunity to ask questions about the process of seeking a legal gender transition.

During the month of June, the Library celebrated Juneteenth through events at many library locations. Highlights include an event at Carver Branch Library on June 10<sup>th</sup>. The event included a panel discussion and the return of the popular Nias and Beverly Harris Africana Collection, featuring sculpture and carved images imported primarily from Ghana. Additionally, beginning June 15<sup>th</sup> and running through July 25<sup>th</sup>. Parman Branch Library is hosting an exhibit from renowned artist John Coleman. . Coleman's art depicts daily African American life throughout history such as during the events of Juneteenth and in the time of the Harlem Renaissance. Finally, on June 17<sup>th</sup>, Guerra Branch Library hosted the musical group Cox Family Singers. This group performed songs of liberty in celebration of Juneteenth.

Summer with SAPL for Adults kicked off during the month of June. Coordinator of Services to Adults Morgan Yoshimura and Adult Services Librarian II Ann Laird (Encino) were present at the kickoff at Central Library on May 31<sup>st</sup>. These two staff members provided information about this year's program and demonstrated two craft opportunities – decoupage seashells and paper quilling – that would be available to adults at various locations throughout the summer. To participate in Summer with SAPL, adults can visit any library location. They will receive a San Antonio Public Library branded stylus pen OR Summer with SAPL limited edition button (both available while supplies last), as well as a paleta card to share their goal for the summer. Goals can include reading or listening to books participating in library activities, or participating in activities that the library has inspired them to learn more about. Adults are encouraged to give their paleta goal card to library staff so that it can be displayed for everyone to see, and to return to the library when they complete their goal so that Library staff can celebrate with them. Adults are also invited to participate in Flamingo Bingo again this year, which provides a number of tasks related to libraries and reading for individuals to complete. When they complete enough tasks to achieve a bingo, they can return to the library to receive a flamingo related prize.

# **OLDER ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

A Speed Friending for Older Adults program was held on Monday, June 26 at Great Northwest, facilitated by Library Assistant Donna Borel. Five library patrons attended the June event and enjoyed refreshments and asking and answering funny and interesting questions designed to help the group become acquainted quickly. What started out as one-on-one conversations turned into a friendly group discussion. The group expressed interest in more Speed Friending events in the future.

In June, the library hosted a workshop by AARP on their SmartDriverTEK program at three library locations (Bazan, Potranco and Igo). Individuals who attended these sessions learned about the latest vehicle safety technologies, and how to use them. These sessions also helped attendees recognize how these technologies might enhance their driving safety and extend their safe driving years.

# CENTRAL LIBRARY

## CHILDREN'S LIBRARY



The Mayor's Summer Reading Club kicked off at the Children's Library at Central with a press conference in the Story Room. Families and stakeholders listened to Mayor Ron Nirenberg give inspiring remarks about the reading program and the San Antonio Public Library, then enjoyed a sampling of the activities for adults, teens and children that the Library planned to offer this summer.

### **San Antonio Public Library to offer multiple programs this summer, bring in several guests**

Children's activities include art, STEM work and robotics, coordinators say



Throughout the month of June, families streamed into the Children's Library at Central, many for the first time since the space reopened after the transformative renovation. Several summer camp groups visited as well. All agreed the new space was a lot of fun and most families left with large armloads of books! Participation in the Mayor's Summer Reading Club was enthusiastic as well. By the end of June, nearly 1,000 children had received free books from the Children's Library. Children contributed their messages on hundreds of paletas cards that adorned the large wall in the Play Area.

The first two Saturdays of June brought exciting performers to the Children's Library. Over 100 people attended each event: Illusions by Blake and Once in a Wild.

Manager Kate Simpson appeared on KSAT TV promoting the newly renovated Children's Library at Central and the Mayor's Summer Reading Club. She shared some of the features of the new space and how they relate to the mission of supporting children's learning through play.

Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin and Librarians Ashley Stubbs and Melissa Fulmer presented weekly programs in a unique collaborative model in which each librarian took the lead over a program series, and the others took turns assisting in developing and presenting the events. This structure provided support and growth opportunities for all involved as they learned from each other and tried new ideas.

Ms. Seglin was the lead librarian for the weekly Family Story Time series. This program has developed a core group of regularly attending families, who have looked forward to participating in interactive songs,

readings and activities, as well as making new friends. Ms. Seglin also took the lead on the bi-weekly Let's Move! programs. These programs focused on dance, yoga poses, and obstacle course play.

Ms. Stubbs led weekly Tween Time programs, with assistance from the other librarians, in which kids engaged in activities with a different theme each week. The first week they explored robots, such as Botley and Ozobot, as well as circuit sets. The next week they got creative with yarn, pipe cleaners, and foil and decorated key chains with fabric paint. The third week was game-themed, with different board game available for kids to play. The last Tween Time of the month featured a special showing of The Super Mario Bros. movie, complete with popcorn!

Ms. Stubbs also pioneered a new feature at the Children's Library this summer – the Tween Zine! During Tween Time, children submitted their artwork or poems to the mini magazine, which she compiled, printed and distributed in the tween area of the Children's Library. She has given these older kids ownership of the library with this innovative approach. It has been very well received.

Ms. Fulmer led the Let's Create! program, along with assistance from Ms. Seglin and Ms. Stubbs. In each week's program, children got to sample a variety of artistic mediums, such as clay sculpture, painting, paper collage, chalk art, pencil drawing and salt painting. This program has maintained an impressive attendance throughout the month.

Ms. Seglin assisted librarians at other locations several times in June. She helped to set up and clean up and interacted with families during the Encino Branch Library's huge bubble-themed Summer Kick Off Party. She also led a Let's Move! program and the San Pedro Branch Library in the absence of the children's librarian.

Ms. Fulmer continued to contribute to virtual programming for children in June. She led children in an art activity for two sessions of Art Club Online. She also participated in Baby Time Online every week. Both she and Ms. Stubbs recorded a story each for the Library's Dial-A-Story service as well.

Children's Library staff continued to develop outreach connections with area childcare centers and schools. Ms. Stubbs visited Central Christian Day School twice and presented story times to children and brought books for the teachers. Ms. Seglin shared stories and songs with children at Madison Square Child Development Center and delivered library books in support of their curriculum. She also began visiting the CreativKids camp at Temple Beth-El, where she shared songs and stories twice in June. Ms. Simpson delivered books to two classrooms at the Discovery School in support of their summer program.

## **TEEN LIBRARY**

Kathleen Fordyce (Manager, Teen Library @ Central) and Connie Hejl (Teen Services Librarian I, Tobin Branch) host the "Random Fandom" club Thursdays on Discord, in which teens engage in discussions about fandoms that interest them and stream their favorite anime or pop culture shows. Kathleen also leads the 2023 Teen Summer workgroup.

Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager) continues to lead the 210teenlibrary Discord and Instagram workgroups. He also joins Daniella Toll (Assistant Manager / Teen Services Librarian II, Collins Garden Branch) for "Teen Time" every Friday on the Discord server.

Rosalie Barrera (Librarian I) joins Cassie Garza (Teen Librarian II / Assistant Manager, Bazan Branch) on Tuesdays to help to facilitate the weekly "Gaming Club" on Discord, in which teens enthusiastically stream, play, and discuss video games. Rosalie continues to support and engage with teens as they explore and activate the Teen Library as their own space to serve their needs, such as studying, crafting, gaming, or gathering with friends.

At the beginning of the reporting period, Rosalie and Grace Holt (Teen Librarian II / Assistant Manager, Brook Hollow Branch) visited San Antonio Positive Solutions Charter School for an outreach opportunity. Rosalie provided two presentations to share information about Teen Summer and the Teen Library at Central. After each presentation, teens were invited to participate in a button-making activity. Many teens expressed great interest in learning more about teen volunteer opportunities at the library.

During the reporting period, the Teen Library at Central welcomed three teen interns from the Family Service Association (FSA) Summer Internship Program. The FSA summer internship program provides paid, part-time internships for local middle and high school students to build career opportunities and goals. Rosalie is the direct supervisor to the FSA teen interns who will be working their internships at the Teen Library from June 19-August 4. The interns will gain real-world work experience at the Teen Library by completing job tasks such as shelving, sharing their art for displays, planning and implementing weekly activities for their peers, and contributing to creating a safe and welcoming environment for other teens to experience the Teen Library.

Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): The first day of Teen Summer coincided with the last day of school, so teens received their official TS23 t-shirt before beginning the first official Teen Summer Tuesday activity: making a teen-created dish they called meatball sub toasts. On Tuesdays, teens participate in events they suggested, based on social media videos seen, something new to try, or past activities done here they would like to repeat. These activities allow them the chance to pick up a new skill, taste a new food, or show their peers tips and tricks. Activities have highlighted general teen interest and celebrations, such as celebrating Pride Month, summer, and new foods. Teens made rainbow pancakes, mini pizzas using a simple two-ingredient dough, rainbow frosting swirl cupcakes, cloud drinks, fresh strawberry lemonade, and various crafts. One teen, attending summer school, recently tasted broccoli cheddar soup for the first time on campus and wondered if it could be made here. Supplies were bought and while that particular teen arrived late, others also had a new experience making and tasting this dish. The verdict was mixed, but the teamwork displayed was fantastic. Summer interns, current and new teen volunteers have been finding ways to participate actively in Teen Tuesday occurrences. The results have been precious, and a Shark Party is in the works. Pictures and videos from activity times can be found on the @210teenlibrary Instagram page.

An anecdote from Regina: As Teen Library staff member Regina Almanza was walking back into the Central Library from lunch, a teen waved to her as the teen and her mom were walking out of the building. Regina greeted the teen—Gabby, a “regular” in the Teen Library—and the mother stopped and asked, “Are you Regina?” Regina replied, “Yes,” and the mother shook her hand and proceeded to tell her that Gabby has mentioned her before when talking about the Library. The mom said, “Thank you for providing a place for them [teens] to go to.” Regina replied, “Of course, it’s what we are here for.” The mom also mentioned that she appreciated that with the teen space, they have other caring adults in their lives and how important that was. She said she was glad to be able to place the name with the face.

**Pictures below** – Teen on the first day of Teen Summer 2023; teen at rainbow cupcake day; teen summer intern at work; teen summer interns and volunteers enjoying lemonade they made:



Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT) continues to engage with teens both in the Teen Library and via the 210teenlibrary Instagram page. She is responsible for the 3D printing requests from teens on the Discord server. Ciana prints and sends the requested item out to the teens' preferred library branch for pick up.

Amisarahi Sarabia (SAPL's Teen Outreach Specialist / Library Assistant) assists in the Teen Library, in addition to the off-site delivery of library services she conducts in the community. Amisarahi hosts Music Mondays on the 210teenlibrary Discord server in which teens stream their favorite songs and artists while chatting with friends on the server.

# INFORMATION SERVICES

For Juneteenth, Melissa Gomez and Stacey Martinez created a display highlighting works from the African American community to celebrate black culture. The display items consisted of works by prominent black authors, inspirational media and accounts of significant moments in history.



On June 16, 2023, Jordan Torres, Arland Schnacker, and Carver Staff Shauna Mendoza participated in an Audie L Murphy VA Medical Center outreach. Staff discussed San Antonio Public Library (SAPL), SAPL Cards, the Libby app, library programs, and the Central Library Art Walk. Staff were able to network with other organizations to find mental health, wellness, and community resources for our veteran patrons to better serve them. This program was a success and SAPL was asked to participate in their next event.



On June 17, Arland Schnacker hosted his "The Beat the Heat program" involving DIY Emergency AC Units. The program consisted of a PowerPoint presentation and a hands-on demonstration where patrons assisted the instructor in building the AC.

On June 20, Bettina Hernandez from Information Services and Jennifer Tristan from Great Northwest hosted an outreach table at Movies by Moonlight held at Travis Park. They spoke to roughly 25 patrons and informed them of library services and programs.

On June 29, Sally Bauer and Morgan Yoshimura hosted: Gender Transitioning: Know Your Rights. This Zoom session was an informational webinar letting the community know about the resources available to individuals seeking to affirm their legal name and gender marker. Staff explored where and how to obtain the documents needed to complete the process and services that are offered, as well as answering questions about the process.

On June 30th Librarian Patricia Perez participated at an outreach event at District 5 Senior Center. Information about ebooks and upcoming events was presented to twenty-seven seniors.

For the International Day of Yoga celebration, Pannaga Prasad arranged system-wide yoga programs on various aspects of yoga. Programs were hosted at Collins Garden on June 17, Cortez on June 20, Parman on June 20, Igo on June 21, Cody on June 21, San Pedro on June 23 and Johnston on June 24th. These programs were offered by Idoyogasa Organization yoga teachers.

On June 22, Sarah De La Rosa and Pannaga Prasad offered an in-person program entitled Yoga at Central Library: 9th International Day of Yoga celebration in conjunction with Idoyogasa organization of San Antonio, Texas. It was offered by Sarah De La Rosa, Registered Yoga Teacher. The attendees learned beginner friendly yoga. Mats were provided for class practice.

On June 24, a Chair Yoga virtual class was offered by Pannaga Prasad and Patricia Perez over the Library Zoom platform. It was presented by Ashley Ludwick, a professional Yoga Instructor. The instructor taught chair yoga in a fun-filled way, offering options for seated postures, standing with chair support,

connecting within, and find inner peace through breathing exercise techniques.

A yoga themed display provided patrons with DVD and book selections in both English and Spanish to accompany the International Yoga programming



## LEARN AT CENTRAL

Learn at Central continues to build a welcoming community to adult learners. Our focus is to empower our patrons to build skills in computer training, job search/support and other digital literacy and community navigation topics that revolve around social services. During the month of June, Learn at Central reached out to the Rehabarama Program as well as Opportunity Home to gain insight in their application processes in order to assist with the influx of patron applications that are coming to Learn. Also, during the month of June, Daniel Gonzalez hosted Empowerhouse's digital inclusion team to sit in on one of the Learn Center's 'Intro to Computer' classes. The 'Intro to Computers' class happens every Wednesday evening at Central and is offered in both Spanish and English languages.

June wrapped up our iPad Tutorial class as well as our Civis Citizenship class.

Learn at Central's Librarian II and Supervisor of Learn, Angelina Cortes, is currently being trained in Trauma-Informed Librarianship and has taken trainings through nlm.gov, and UTSA's School of Social Work Clinical Assistant Professor, Patrick Lloyd, whom she will meet with in July about hosting a future workshop on such topics system-wide.

# TEXANA/ GENEALOGY



Texana/Genealogy staff pose with retiring Librarian Matt De Waelsche (center) and Library Director Ramiro Salazar.

In celebration of Juneteenth, Librarian Sylvia Reyna was invited to present the family history class *Discovering Your African American Genealogy* at Memorial Library on June 13. Ms. Reyna reviewed resources and research techniques specific to patrons of African American descent.

Librarian Andy Crews presented a class June 21 on *Using Census Records in Genealogy Research* at the Lion's Field Senior and Adult Center. He also led an online *Beginning Genealogy* class on June 26. The presentation covered how to start researching in historical records and where to look for important clues to help on the journey to finding your family's history.

On June 27, Texana and Central Library staff celebrated with Librarian Matt De Waelsche, along with his family and friends, his retirement from the city after 27 years of service. In perhaps his most significant role, Mr. De Waelsche served as caretaker for the Library's *African American Funeral Programs of San Antonio* collection, seeking out donations as well as updating the department's records and coordinating the digitization of the programs with the University of North Texas's *Portal to Texas History*. He enjoyed making community connections, working with patrons, and was always eager to assist with the simplest or most difficult of projects. His enthusiasm and quirky sense of humor will be missed.



This month Texana staff completed packing the Library's Texana/Genealogy special collections to prepare items for off-site storage during the 6th floor renovations. Staff reached a milestone when the very last book from the vault was pulled from the shelf and packed mid-June. A total of 223 pallets of collections were packed, which included 20 pallets of materials that had been stored at the City's Municipal Archives and Records storage facility (MAR). In addition to packing, staff organized a curated and "limited" selection of special collections that will be available to researchers through a temporary interim space located on the first floor of Central Library.



Texana staff packing collections at the City's Municipal Archives and Records storage facility.

# BRANCH LOCATIONS

## BAZAN

*Summer with SAPL* got off to a great start at Bazan! Many children visited the branch and received a free book and decorated a colorful paleta to display. Children's librarian Hope Sonnen led popular craft activities that included painting with spices and artwork with chalk. The *Happy Tails* program on June 21 was a big hit and everyone enjoyed meeting and learning about exotic animals such as a Kinkajou, Ring-Tailed Lemur, Coatimundi, Patagonian Cavy and a Ball Python.



Assistant Manager and Teen librarian Cassie Garza hosted the BTS craft club at Bazan for the first time and the group fell in love with Bazan's meeting room. A mix of new patrons and die-hard regulars attended June's meetup. The group listened to a 3-hour long playlist of new BTS songs while they crafted. The highlight of the meeting was a washi-tape photo card craft in which one of the members shared her mountain of washi tape with the group.



Ms. Garza welcomed a teen summer intern through a partnership between COSA and the Family Services organization. Syriah Sanchez began her internship at Bazan on June 25 and quickly began working on several small- to large-scale library projects.

Ms. Garza hosted a group of teens from the local Boys and Girls club. Intern Syriah Sanchez assisted with showing the group how to make Marvel themed perler bead crafts. The group also made some air-dry clay creations with the supplies provided. Each teen was given a Teen Summer t-shirt, pin-back buttons, free comics and a free book!

The Bazan branch served as a COSA cooling center on the Juneteenth holiday. Ms. Garza volunteered to serve as the LIC and was assisted by Jessica Zurita and Mark Loiselle from Administration. The library saw many people come and cool off in the library's meeting room while watching movies and perusing periodicals.

The Bad Girls Book Club (BGBC), led by Library Assistant Enedina Prater, celebrated 5 years at SAPL! The romance book group had several new members who attended the meeting and were very active in the group. In celebration of Pride Month, the BGBC read *Delilah Green Doesn't Care* by Ashley Herring Blake. It is the first book of the Bright Falls series and the entire group loved the story. BGBC have several members who are part of the LGBTQ+, and felt this book resonated with them in many ways.

The group especially appreciated the readers guide and quiz which were included in the book. The group looked forward to continuing the series and discussed the wish to include more LGBTQ+ books in 2024.

The Learn center continued with a steady stream of individual helps sessions in June covering computer skills, resume building, job search, job applications and personal devices. Training Officer Carlos Loera presented a full slate of classes and activities including citizenship test preparation classes, English as a Second Language classes, *Painting for Senior Adults*, *Adult Coloring Class How to use the iPad* and *Coffee and a Movie* for seniors. Paintings created by the students in the *Painting for Senior Adults* were displayed as a part of rotating exhibition at Bazan. Mr. Loera also hosted a *Voces Cóslicas* poetry workshop in June. *Voces Cóslicas*, which meets regularly at the Bazan library, is a literary nonprofit established to share poetry and prose, generate ideas, promote literature, and encourage fledgling writers and artists.

# BROOK HOLLOW



Brook Hollow Library (BHL) closed to the public for HVAC work in late April. Library service has continued since that time @ COSA's Walker Ranch Senior Center (WRSC), M-F with limited service, where BHL staff served 60-70 patrons per day. BHL Manager Jeannette Davies, PSA Jake Odland & BHL Librarian 1 Marco De Leon did the leg work to arrange BHL's temp library service @ WRSC, 835 W. Rhapsody Dr., 78216. WRSC temp library service hours are Mon & Tues, 1-8 pm; Wed & Thurs, 1-6 pm & Fridays, 1-4 pm. In June, WRSC served 1,400 library patrons.

The BHL Team serving @ WRSC received accolades from WRSC Manager Lupita Perez for providing quality customer service to library patrons, especially seniors, and developing a strong working relationship with the WRSC Team. Additionally, the BHL Team received a COSA SAPL ENCORE card for their commitment to teamwork, professionalism, and flexibility.

"Kudos BHL/Walker Ranch Senior Center (WRSC) crew for providing quality, record-breaking, customer service, EXCELLENT, SECOND-to-NONE, TEAMWORK & staffing flexibility. COSA/WRSC staff compliment the SAPL/BHL Team on a regular basis and a dynamic, working relationship has evolved. BHL/WRSC Team's professionalism is a shining example re: CORE VALUES OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO!"



Welcome to Librarian Grace Holt who joined the Brook Hollow Library Team as assistant manager and teen librarian in May. Holt worked as a library services assistant and student worker supervisor at University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) Libraries and as an intern at Palo Alto College's Ozuna Library. Holt joined the Central and Carver Library Teams during BHL's closure. June marked the start of SAPL's Teen Summer and the Library; Holt distributed Teen T-Shirts and Buttons for Teen Summer. Teens can visit different branches to collect all ten buttons, each designed by teens on the 210teenlibrary Discord. Holt also contributed to five online Teen Times on the 210teenlibrary Discord server.

Additionally, Holt joined Teen Librarian Rosalie Barrera (Central) at Positive Solutions Charter School where teens learned about the library's services and volunteer opportunities as well as engaged in a button making activity. While Holt served at Carver Branch Library, seven teens from the Boys and Girls Club visited the library where they enjoyed painting and making crafts.

Adult Services Librarian Marco De Leon conducted four of BHL Book Club meetings off site and @ WRSC during the library's closure. BHL's Mystery Book Club met June 1, six members read *Just Make Believe* by Maggie Robinson. Ten members of the La Tertulia Book Club read *Los Minutos Negros* by Martin Solares and met June 10 to discuss it. BHL Tuesday Evening and Walker Ranch Senior Center (WRSC) Book Clubs met at WRSC. The Tuesday Evening Book Club read *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky, six readers attended. The WRSC Book Club met June 15 when 23 people attended to discuss *The Paris Library* by Janet Skeslien.

BHL Children's Librarian Amanda Neace contributed to two Art Club Online and four Family Story Time Online programs in the month of June. Additionally, Neace hosted three story times at Blossom Park, Walker Ranch Historic Landmark Park, and McAllister Park. This allowed 150 children and adults to participate in summer reading even while BHL is closed for HVAC renovations.

While BHL was closed for HVAC replacement, BHL Assistant Elissa Vura assisted at Landa Library, facilitating the popular Let's Build: Legos and More program every Friday and assisted Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas with more than 40 children's summer programs. Vura received an EnCORE card for her dedication to teamwork and professionalism.



BHL Manager Davies, host of Noon Time Helping of Cooking in SAPL's Virtual Kitchen, demonstrated how to carve a watermelon cake @ WRSC's May birthday celebration and made a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Smore's Dip for the June celebration. Once a month Davies participates in WRSC's senior birthday event and serves up a recipe, along with library information. WRSC serves more than 200 seniors lunch Monday-Friday.

Davies attended SAPL/PR/FOSAPL's ELLA Awards at the Central Library. During the pandemic, Davies nominated Pan American Library Teen Patron Nancy Rodriguez who won an ELLA Award for leading a team of teens as president of the Friends of Pan American Library.



During a June vacation in France/Netherlands this summer Davies visited libraries (bibliothèques) and Free Little Libraries in Lyon, Paris, and Amsterdam.

## CARVER

Nearly 50 people gathered here on Saturday, June 10 to celebrate Juneteenth. The event included a panel discussion and the return of the popular Nias and Beverly Harris Africana Collection, featuring sculpture and carved images imported primarily from Ghana. The collection filled two brand new display cases gifted by the Friends of Carver Library. The Friends' generosity also included a mounted digital display frame which was also presented at the celebration. The branch received positive reviews from guests who were amazed as they witnessed the long history of their Carver Branch portrayed in a series of images. After the celebration, Branch Manager DL Grant Jr. decided to keep the digital frame in place for visitors to enjoy the presentation whenever they stop in.

In observance of Pride Month, the staff highlighted a collection of materials with LGBTQ themes.

During June, the branch also debuted a nutrition class which occurs each Wednesday at 10 a.m. prior to the weekly chair yoga class. Nutrition classes are offered by a partnership with Viva Health, a community nutrition education resource hub for Metro Health Public Health Professionals, the City of San Antonio, and Bexar County.

On Sunday, June 25 the branch and San Antonio Black International Film Festival (SABIFF) hosted a screening of *We Paid, Let Us In!*, the story of Chicago hip-hop duo Abstract Mindset. The event was held in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of hip-hop music.

The City of San Antonio and the Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid hosted a free in-person workshop here with legal experts who helped visitors understand their rights as renters' and rental laws. Staff were available afterward for those needed additional information.

## Teens

The Teen Area at Carver continued to have spaces available for teens to express themselves. In June, seven teens from the Boys & Girls Club visited the library where they enjoyed painting and making crafts.



Pictured: teens from the Boys & Girls Club showing off the art they created at the library.

## Children's

As June kicked off Summer programming, the Children's Librarian Lisa Ramirez began introducing the Summer Reading Program to all patrons visiting the library. Various activities shared during the month include a story time weekly where children listen to a book read aloud, sing songs, and move to various dance and movement activities like parachute play. Ms. Ramirez has also hosted various activities for school age children including Tween Time where tweens choose to play a fun board game during this time. Ms. Ramirez also hosted a weekly Let's Create: Come and Go Craft activity where children created their own craft. On June 15th, the Boys and Girls club visited Carver branch library for a variety of activities and participated in the Summer Reading Program. On Thursday, June 22nd, the Carver branch library hosted the magician program "Illusions by Blake" to a captivated audience.





Training Officer, Shauna Mendoza continues her weekly classes with enthusiastic participation: Computer Training on Monday – Friday from 1pm-6pm; Crochet & Knitting Club every Tuesday from 1:30pm – 3:30pm; Smart Phone and Personal Device Training on Wednesdays from 10 am-11:30am; Introduction to Computers on Fridays from 10 am-11:30am.



Shauna also continued to be involved in the community with the following events and locations:

**Claude Black Community Center** Shauna continues visiting the community center where she has formed meaningful resource relations and goes where her patrons are to either say “hello” and/or introduce new patrons to the services Learn @ SAPL at Carver provides



**District 2 Senior Center and Wheatley Senior Center** residents played Emoji Bingo with training Officer Shauna Mendoza and getting information about library events and the Libby App.



**Youth Center of Texas, Corazon Ministry Day Center, VA Resource and Job Fair**

**Concrete Canvas**



**Bigger Than Texas Pride Parade**



## CODY

A whole new lineup of children's programming was introduced at the Cody Library this month, by Children's Librarian Kristin Yourdon. Twice per week the branch hosted new programs called Babies Explore and Littles Explore. These programs are child-led play-based programs designed to allow children to learn through self-discovery and play. A favorite program was our water play day. Children played with a water sensory bin with a teapot, cups, dishes, and jumbo droppers. In another water sensory bin children washed animals using sponges. At the art station kids dipped chalk in water and drew with them on black paper. There were a variety of other play materials and books to explore as well.

Another new program, the Saturday Morning Playdate, was held every Saturday morning in the children's area. During this program, families gather to play with toys, board games, STEM materials, and craft supplies. This is a great opportunity for children and families to meet one another and play together. During one program a child decided to use the puppets to put on an impromptu puppet show!

Every Thursday, the branch hosted a family event. Professor Universe visited the library on June 1 with an informational and entertaining show about germs. On June 8, families gathered to take part in our Family STEM Challenge. Children learned about electrical circuits by playing with squishy circuits, experimented with a couple robots, made and tested paper airplanes, built boats to see which design could hold the most marbles, and built structures out of Straws & Connectors and Brain Flakes. On June 15, families gathered to watch the DC League of Super-Pets movie and make their own superhero capes.

On June 22, Happy Tails visited the branch to show off and teach children about different exotic animals including a hedgehog, a porcupine, an alpaca, a cavy, and a ball python. On June 29, families gathered for the Family Pokémon Celebration. During this program children made their own Pokémon headbands, poké balls, and Charmander crafts. They also played a game where they had to catch Pokémon and a game where they had to guess the Pokémon by their silhouette.



Cody has received an overwhelming amount of interest for volunteering this summer. Currently, teen volunteers are running two teen programs a week and have plans to implement more soon. While attendance for Teen programming has gone down in the summer, enthusiasm has gone up!

Adult Services Librarian II Michael Dunbar-Rodney worked on queer focused programming as part of the Queer Committee and Pride annual initiative group. Notable events include the release of the InQUEERIES podcast, completion of the Big Pride Zine, and the Pride book display. The glass display case featured archival materials from UTSA Assistant Archivist and queer historian Melissa Gohlke on the gender diverse history of San Antonio. Fashion with Pride was offered twice at Cody, with attendees learning sewing machine basics and simple ways to upcycle clothes for personal expression with local fashion designer Lorena Auguste. Melissa Gohlke also presented on San Antonio's History of Gender Diversity in Trans Temporal on June 22. More than once, patrons expressed gratitude that the library held these programs for the community and asked that such programming continue beyond Pride Month. Tabletop Gaymer Night continues to be well attended.

Displays at Cody included a Texas Authors table, created by Library Aide Delina Yirgaalem, and a DVD display of Pride titles, maintained by Circulation staff member Savannah Barmore.

On June 20, Circulation Attendant Maria Treviño facilitated the second Art for Wellness event for Pride Month, called Be Artful, Be Mindful, Be Proud. The program promotes art as a therapeutic tool for mental wellness and provides a safe space for community engagement. Be Artful, Be Mindful will be transitioning into a monthly program beginning August 1, due to popular demand.

## **COLLINS GARDEN**

### **Adults**

Summer with SAPL at the Collins Garden branch started with a series of Classic Family Films. Every Saturday during the month of June, Adult Services Librarian Rosa Villa screened a film from her Summer Classic Family Films lineup. On June 15, she screened the movie Selma in recognition of Juneteenth.

In celebration of the 9th International Day of Yoga, Collins Garden Library hosted iDoYoga of San Antonio. On June 17, Instructor Adiba Twigg conducted a free community Mindful Yoga Stretch class.

On June 20, Ms. Villa hosted a Mason Jar Fabric Vases craft for all ages. Patrons enjoyed the opportunity to create and take home their DIY vases. Everyone provided positive feedback about the event.

The Collins Garden Book Club, hosted by Ms. Villa met on June 21 and discussed the novel *The Paris Apartment* by Lucy Foley.



On June 15 and June 27, Ms. Villa's outreach efforts took her to the San Antonio Orchid Society and the Impacto Community Center respectively. On both occasions, she presented on Seed Mosaics and shared with attendees the process of using seeds and rice to create art. She also shared information on library services and upcoming programs at the branch. Library Aide Vickie Pena assisted with the seed mosaic activity at Impacto Community Center.

During the month of June, Ms. Villa mounted the following displays: Pride (Collection Development curated), Tina Turner: her life and Music, Summer Movies for the Whole Family, Cool Beach Reads and International Day of Yoga.

### **Teens**

Teen programming continued every Tuesday afternoon during the month with teens enjoying the opportunity to engage with various art mediums and board games. Along with a summer teen volunteer, Ms. Toll created an ocean wall in the Children's Area and children were invited to decorate fishes to add to the scene.

### **Children**

In celebration of Summer with SAPL all children who visited the library received a free book to keep and were invited to create artwork of their favorite paleta for the white board in the Childrens' area.



The branch hosted Happy Tails on June 14 where children and adults learned about and saw live exotic animals such as the wallaby and the coatimundi. On June 15 over 50 children from Learning with Grace visited the Collins Garden Library where they embarked on a library scavenger hunt and listened to stories and songs presented by Ms. Brudi. On June 27 Illusions by Blake performed his magic show and wowed a crowd of over 70 attendees.

The summer attendance was robust for the June weekly Lego Club and Preschool Storytime programs. Ms. Brudi hosted two Let's Build: Blocks and More and two Let's Create: Art Time programs. She continued with her collaborative work in Baby Time Online and she attended a family event at Palms Height Parks and Recreation Center on June 27 with staff from Little Read Wagon. She mounted a Funny Books display in the juvenile area.

Ms. Brudi attended the Excellence in Library Leadership and Advocacy (ELLA) Awards on June 20 at the Central Library which acknowledged the contribution of individuals who gave their time and talents to the San Antonio Public Library. She nominated a contributor to adult programming at the Collins Garden Branch for sharing her skills with the community in jewelry making while providing her own beads and supplies. Teen Services Librarian Daniella Toll also attended and nominated teen library Discord Moderators.

# CORTEZ

In June, the Cortez Library kicked off the start Summer Reading with a Star Wars day of activities. The library invited families to come play carnival-style games such as *Feed Frogs to Jabba* and *Pin the Hair Buns on Leia* or take pictures in front of a Star Wars backdrop as they came to sign up for Summer Reading. Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez thought up many of the activities and many members of the Cortez staff pitched in to make the day great fun. Royal Public Schools and League of Women Voters hosted information tables for the community on June seventh. On Juneteenth, Cortez was one of four library locations selected to serve as cooling center. Branch Manager Angela Morrow and Teen Librarian Heather Swindell from Westfall provided cooling services and diversions for 22 persons and 4 dogs who showed up for cooling services.



## Adults

Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez hosted a rock decorating program on June 18. Titled *Mandala Rocks*, Madeline and 18 attendees populated the 'Cortez Rocks' Garden with beautiful rocks while learning the meditative and relaxing practice of mandala painting. In honor of International Day of Yoga, two beginner friendly yoga classes were offered. Yoga Instructor Stacie Orsagh offered a *Slow Your Roll* class, teaching stress-relief and tension release techniques. Yoga instructor Tiffany Caliste lead *Freedom of Spirit Yoga* and centered on the freedom of movement and the emancipation of mind through Yoga. This month's Metro Health's Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Cooking class learned how to make Watermelon Pizza. Lead by Vince Escobedo from Metro Health, the class featured whole slices of watermelon topped with Greek yogurt, berries, fresh mint, and granola; a fresh and healthy alternative to sugary desserts. Library Assistant Jo Ann Paredes hosted three Getting Crafty craft classes in the month of June that consisted of crocheting placemats and coasters, using crochet needles, looms, and a loom machine.



## Childrens

June was an exciting month for Cortez Children! Story Time with Miss Linda began as a regular program Thursdays at 10:30AM and several pop-up kid's art events took place as patrons came in and got to know Cortez's New Children's Librarian, Linda Childs. Public television station KLRN visited the branch for *CyberChase Mobile Adventures*, enjoyed by 30 attendees. At the end of the month, 72 attendees came to enjoy singing pirates and scenes from *Hansel and Gretel* and *Pirates of Penzance* as Explore Opera San Antonio descended upon the Cortez Library as part of Summer with SAPL's Explore Opera for Kids event. The event was a great time for all, an honorary junior pirate was chosen and gifted with an eyepatch while Children's Librarian Miss Linda fitted the young pirates in attendance with personalized pirate bandanas.



# ENCINO

## Children's

Encino's Children's department started the summer off with an outdoor party featuring Big Time Bubbles. Kids and parents alike had fun playing in water, bubbles and dancing to the music.

After a two-week programming break in May, we were excited to bring back Baby Time & Story Time. We've enjoyed having lots of visitors from Brook Hollow join us along with the regular crowd and new library members.

Due to popular demand, we decided to have a weekly rotation of LEGOs & Blocks, and Playdough, Straws & Connectors. Each Thursday, kids have been able to get out of the heat and come play, build, and learn using these tools. We have also been lucky to have Chrissy from Parks and Recreation visit every Friday morning to lead the kids in Yoga.

Encino's Tweens have had the opportunity to explore using new mediums and methods in our weekly art projects. So far they have learned to make tie dye scrunchies, earrings, repurposed book art, and abstract watercolor with Sharpie designs. It has been fun to see the students learn as they explore these new projects.

Each Wednesday this summer we have featured either a special program or art project for elementary kids. Students really enjoyed learning about dinosaurs and fossils from BK Bones and seeing all sorts of live animals from Happy Tails. Our art projects so far have featured watercolor bookmarks, sock monsters and clay fossils.

Encino Branch's "Read to a Dog" program continues to be a success every second and fourth Tuesday. Dorothy the dog comes ready to listen to stories read by the children, and the children enjoy reading and bonding with Dorothy.

Catered to working parents, "Swing in for a Story" grows in success every Sunday morning at 11 am. Children listen to a story, participate in a song with a dance, and then go outside to the playground. While outside, Librarian I Krystal Owen also provides outdoor-friendly toys and/or a craft to make if desired. This month the children participated in a celebration of summer months, a special Father's Day program, and played with chalk, jump rope, frisbees, and bubbles!

### **Teens**

For the month of June, Teen Librarian Michael Harle observed that the teen patrons and volunteers of Encino continue their dedication to the space, but are lacking in direction. Michael spent the month surveying his Encino co-workers and gathering information from his teen service peers to develop a new orientation/re-orientation for teens, aiming to increase their confidence in shelving, asking questions, and understanding the expectations of the space. These trainings will go into effect in July, with all teen volunteers (current and new) expected to attend.

Teen Time at Encino continues to be well-attended, and one regular teen volunteer has expressed interest in adding a similar program on Monday evenings, which Michael will work with them to develop in August. Michael also continues to assist with teen events throughout the system, including the Pride Party at Central, Bookworms on Discord, and the upcoming SanJapan event in September.

### **Adult**

Encino Adults have had three Summer crafting opportunities this month. On June 5 Librarian Ann Laird led a group in creating mini Pom Pom Cacti. On June 12 patrons enjoyed making colorful tassel keychains, and on June 26 we created Coastal Coasters with mason jar lids, pebbles, and seashells!

Encino has also hosted a Summer Movie Series, showing a different Summer themed movie each week. So far, there have been showings of *Hotel Transylvania 3*, *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, and *Luca*. It has been a great opportunity for the patrons to beat the Summer heat, and enjoy a light snack.

Ann Laird has continued her outreach series with Franklin Park Assisted Living. Each month she has been going to Franklin Park to do an "author talk" featuring a different author each month. June's featured author was David Baldacci.

Ann has also been working with the "Getting Ahead" workgroup as part of SAPL's strategic planning work.

## **FOREST HILLS**

Branch Manager Mary Naylor visited the Doris Griffin Senior Center to host the monthly book club. The group discussed *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. One of the group members celebrated her birthday by bringing sweets for the group to share.

Teen Librarian Shannan Prukop started a weekly program in June for the summer called Family Movie Matinee to give families a way to beat the heat on Friday afternoons, with varied attendance week to week. Their weekly Teen Time program moved up to 4:00 for the summer to accommodate teens being out of school and reflect the children's program Lego Time; a regular group of teens has attended, hanging out and engaging in decision making and activities each week. Forest Hills was honored to host the monthly Teen Services meeting, giving Teen Services staff an opportunity to see the building and changes made in the renovations. The podcast project Mx. Prukop had been building along with Dacari

Lambert, Lisa Puchot, and Michael Dunbar-Rodney went live in June; the team is excited to continue recording and releasing episodes. In the virtual space, Mx. Prukop continued running their weekly Dungeons and Dragons club on the 210teenlibrary Discord server, with new teens joining and regular attendees helping them learn the ropes. They were also excited to help with the return of Tryday Friday, a club from the early days of the Discord server, this time teen-lead. It's still in its early days, but with teen investment, it's building interest and teaching teens critical thinking skills and cooperation.

Children's Librarian Ana Menchaca hosted weekly Story Time, Kids Time, Tween Book Club, and Lego Time throughout the month of June, as well as a bilingual Storytime with the theme of food. Kids and parents have enjoyed the activities so far. Some programs of particular note include Once in A Wild's visit; children and parents were thrilled to learn so many facts about the animals they brought coupled with the opportunity to see them up close, and families roared with laughter in the program "Minute to Win It." Ms. Menchaca set up several stations with different challenging games, including one table with plastic cups filled with various amounts of water; children had to look under the cups to find stickers without spilling any water. Another table had Pictionary, with various degrees of difficulty. She also continued to participate in virtual programming, helping with both Virtual Family Story Time and Virtual Baby Time. Ms. Menchaca contributed blog entries for the children's page, writing about the juvenile graphic novel "Miss Quinces" and the juvenile fiction book "The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams." She also contributed to telecuentos with the story "Estas Lista Para Jugar Afuera?" by Mo Willems. Also, Schafer Library and Forest Hills Library have become Pen Pals. Children from both branches are writing letters to the other branch; the letters from the children of Schafer Library are displayed in the Children's Area.

Library Assistant Shy Axelrod continued leading the Forest Hills Scrabble Club which met twice this month. They discovered the actual rules for how to win and had a good laugh about that, and are looking forward to the group continuing to grow as they like the competition and the conversations that come with more people involved. In addition, Ms. Axelrod, with support from the Pride Committee, acts as a new host of the Gaymer tabletop night, on the last Saturday of each month. A game of Scrabble as well as a game of Uno were played to great cheer. She also hosts a **BYOB** book club on the second Saturday of the month; June's theme was to read a book by an author you've never read before. A wonderful conversation about the different books ensued.

## GREAT NORTHWEST

Great Northwest Library has begun their summer programs with the kids. Six programs have been provided for preschool through middle school age children each week. The afternoon programs have been much appreciated by the families who enjoy a fun reprieve from the heat. Irwin, a volunteer, built a cardboard pirate ship to ride above the aquarium this summer. The families appreciated the decoration.

Opera San Antonio came on Saturday, June 17 to entertain the community and show kids how fun the opera can be. Over 100 people were in attendance.

In celebration of Pride Month, teens systemwide planned and implemented Pride events all throughout San Antonio Public Library, including a Teen Pride party at Central Library, hosted by the Pride workgroup in Teen Services. This yearly event is spearheaded by the 210 Teen Library Discord server, an online forum, where teens can connect, join online clubs and activities, and help plan events such as the Pride party using an online survey. This year teens voted on food and activities, which included rainbow pancakes, jewelry making, creating a custom polymer clay library book, and they even made their own party playlist! Meanwhile at Great Northwest Library, teen volunteer Benjamin Rodriguez curated a Teen LGBTQ+ Booklist, which can be found online at SAPL Bibliocommons, once again made by a teen, for teens!

Teens also helped curate a book display for their branch and made bookmarks representing each LGBTQ+ flag for the teen space. Great Northwest teens and teen volunteers meet up every month to plan and implement all teen time events, including voting on four LGBTQ+ movies to watch every Tuesday in June. They also planned a Boba Tea class and decided to make rainbow pancakes on the last Tuesday

of Pride Month for those teens who could not make it to the party at Central Library. Bravo to all the teens systemwide who created a safe space for everyone to enjoy, the kindness, positive energy, and sense of humor did not go unnoticed.



Great Northwest Library participated in the Juneteenth Film Series. On June 12 the branch held a screening of the documentary film Summer of Soul about the 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival.

On June 17 Great Northwest Library hosted the Library Bee quilting group where older adults and adults can meet once a month to work on quilting projects and learn new quilting skills.

Library Assistant LC Keefe hosted the Potpourri Book Club on June 24 for a discussion of the historical fiction book The Stars Are Fire by Anita Shreve. The 10 attendees enjoyed the discussion and also made plans for a future book selection. They plan to read and discuss Queen Bee by Dorothea Benton Frank in July.

A Speed Friending for Older Adults program was held on Monday, June 26. The first Speed Friending for Older Adults was hosted by Sylvia Reyna and Debbie Countess and held at Great Northwest in May for Older Americans Month. Five library patrons attended the June event and enjoyed refreshments and asking and answering funny and interesting questions designed to help the group become acquainted quickly. What started out as one-on-one conversations turned into a friendly group discussion. The group expressed interest in more Speed Friending events in the future.

In Library Assistant Jenn Tristan's Cut & Glue Collage program on June 10, eight new participants worked in their collage notebooks and chatted about creative interests and projects.

Ms. Tristan held an Encanto Sing-Along program on June 17 where 14 attendees watched and sang along to Encanto.



# GUERRA

Children's Librarian Linda Lopez held a Summer With SAPL kick off on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Children were able to paint rocks, play in bubbles, and pick up their free book. She continues to host her weekly programs: Toddler Story Time, Lego Club, and Tween Time. They all continue to be well attended, and fun for everyone. Guerra hosted paleontologist BK Bones mid-June. This program was popular, and highly attended by the community. Children and their families learned facts about dinosaurs, and animals we thought were dinosaurs, but aren't... pterodactyls! Linda also went on SA Live, and talked about all the wonderful things that SAPL has to offer this summer, and the importance of making memories, helping children learn, create, and develop. This moment matters!



Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson recorded *¡Que aburrimiento! (I am so bored!)* by Henrike Wilson, on June 2 for Dial-a-Story in Spanish. On June 12, he invited Crystal Mendez, historian for the San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum, to speak about Juneteenth. He also invited the Cox Family Singers to sing songs on the topic of freedom on June 17. He moderated the Spanish book club, Club de Lectura, on June 29. They discussed two books about the life of former Mexican general and president Lázaro Cárdenas, *Tierra roja* (red earth) by Pedro Angel Palou as well as *Lazaro Cardenas: Mexican democrat* by William Cameron Townsend. The next day, June 30, Stephen presented a trivia game at the Willie Cortez senior center which emphasized questions on folktales and identifying neighborhood businesses.



Teen Librarian, Bek Corley, facilitated Guerra's weekly Teen Club in collaboration with teen volunteers. The teens welcomed new peers each week! They created Kawaii clay sculptures, continued collaborating on a shared graphic novel, gamed and chatted about their summers.

## IGO

Adult Services librarian Gamini Haluwana coordinated a library program at Igo Branch Library for senior citizens in the month of June. The name of the program was "Smart DriverTEK" which keeps drivers in the know about the latest vehicle safety technologies, and how to use them. From lane departure warnings and smart headlights to blind-spot detection systems and more, the workshop helps drivers recognize how these technologies might enhance their driving safety and extend their safe driving years. Attendees were given a vehicle technology checklist, which will offer guidance on desired technologies when shopping for a new car, or what features may already be in their car. Developed jointly by AARP Driver Safety and The Hartford, this 90-minute workshop offered a dynamic environment to learn how new, high-tech features in cars today can help make driving safer and easier. Eight senior citizens attended the program.

Teen librarian Annie Calonico hosted this month's Better Read Than Dead book club, a group that meets monthly to discuss their chosen horror or true crime book. The group continues to grow, and this month engaged in a lively discussion of *Her Body and Other Parties* by Carmen Maria Machado.

Igo's teen regulars have continued to meet up weekly in Teen Time to hang out, play Catan and other games, and work on craft projects. New teens have joined the group and worked with the regulars and teen librarian, Annie Calonico, to plan activities and get materials for future Teen Times. Giving teens control over what activities they engage with gives them agency and ownership over the time and space meant for them, helping connect them to the library and increase their sense of belonging.

Circulation attendant Morghann Patterson organized the Entangled Life Book Club, securing guest speaker Dr. Carter Keairns, who spoke at length about geology and garnered in new members to the library. The group has kept a steady stream of regulars as well as attracting new people each month, and it grows every meeting. He also assisted with Tween Time, where they participated in such activities as minute to win it games, indoor snowball fights, and numerous games of Uno.

# JOHNSTON

Johnston branch hosted the mobile market, *Mercado por tu Corazon*, on June 13<sup>th</sup> as part of the American Heart Association's partnership with the library to provide the opportunity to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables to residents.

On June 9 and 23, Assistant Manager Adult Service librarian Cris Yamada challenged patrons taste buds with two salads during *Not Your Every Day Salad Program* program. First was the Middle Eastern salad tabbouleh, and then Japanese salad harusame. On June 10 during the Adult Craft Time, patrons learn how to use different types of glass containers to make succulent terrariums. On June 27<sup>th</sup>, families enjoyed playing board games, and having healthy snacks during Family Game Night. Circulation attendant Vida Leal Salas hosted the Johnston No-pressure Book Club on Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> where participants gathered to talk about the books they have been reading for the month of June.



Children's Library Jackie Gonzales held *Family Story Time* every Thursday, where she sang songs, told rhymes, and read stories to children and families. The program was geared towards preschool children. The stories consisted of picture books suitable for early literacy. A few stories shared included: *Missing Chalk Drawings*, by Richard Byrne, *Number One Sam*, by Greg Pizzoli, and *If You Were a Panda Bear*, by Wendell and Florence Minor. Popular songs and rhymes shared included: *Days of the Week*; *Ten Little Fingers*; *If Your Happy and You Know It*; *Tiny Tim*; *Slippery Fish*; *Row, Row, Row, Your Boat*, and more. A simple craft was provided at the end of each Story Time where children and their caregiver(s) could work on something. Ms. Gonzales offered *Let's Create: Maker's Club* every Thursday afternoon which started with an art prompt for school age children and their families. Children were invited to follow the prompt or create another project with any materials provided. Prompts included: paper octopus; paper paleta; popsicle stick butterfly, and more. Children were encouraged to be creative and to challenge themselves with the materials provided. In June Ms. Gonzales re-launched *Lego Time* Wednesdays at 4pm. Children were given free build time and then challenges that they could do alone or with a partner. Projects created were displayed until the next Lego Time. Ms. Gonzales visited La Petite Academy on Wurzbach for *Story Time* on June 27. She told stories, sang songs, and did rhymes with the children. Ms. Gonzales created a craft area incorporating the Summer with SAPL theme by decorating a cart as a paleta truck where children could decorate their own paleta for staff to display. On June 2 Johnston hosted a Summer with SAPL special guest--Professor Universe--who put on a show for kids and families. Professor Universe taught the children about the immune system and how germs worked.

Library Assistant Ana Pina facilitated in-person Teen Time on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> and Friday 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>. The teens assisted in programming for Teen Time such as making stickers and buttons, playing board games, sharing music, and creating their own artwork on small canvases and on butcher paper.

LEARN's Training Officer, Marcella McGowan, presented *Civics for Citizenship* on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. She hosted Sunday's *Intro to Word* on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>. The Learn area had 22 patrons accessing the Center this month.

# LANDA

June children's programming at Landa was extremely successful and busy! Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas offered more than forty in-person programs for children with over 1,800 people in attendance all month long. By the end of June, 650 children participated in the Summer with SAPL program, and more than 680 books were given away to children under the age of 13.

Landa Library's most popular program in June brought in an attendance of 300 and was paid for by the Friends of Landa Library. The event was an animal meet and greet hosted by Once in a Wild. Outdoor Family Story Time drew in over 100 people multiple times, as kids sang, listened to a story, and played with various activities.

Several school groups came to Landa Library to play on the playground and tour the branch. Most of the students had never been to Landa and were amazed that such a place existed.

Tweens (aged nine to 12 years) continued to come every week in June to create art, play with robots, challenge themselves with games, and make new friends. One of the tweens was a foreign exchange student and really came out of her shell while participating in the program. She has joined up with several of the other regular Tween Time attendees.

June was the month for Teen Volunteers. They were an integral part of the teen space design and activities. They led events, created book displays, and helped around the library. Each young adult brought their own unique talents and interests. Teen Librarian Stephanie Thomas-Rosen provided them with a positive, interactive library experience. The teens kept coming! They started to attend Saturday Teen Time weekly. Teens celebrated Pride month with a special display and book selection that highlighted the diversity of our YA collection.

For adults at Landa Library, books and storytelling were the themes of the month! Adult Librarian Robin Alcorta participated in outreach with The Village at Incarnate Word. The group read *The Kitchen Front* by Jennifer Ryan and loved it! They loved it so much they wanted to read another book by the same author.

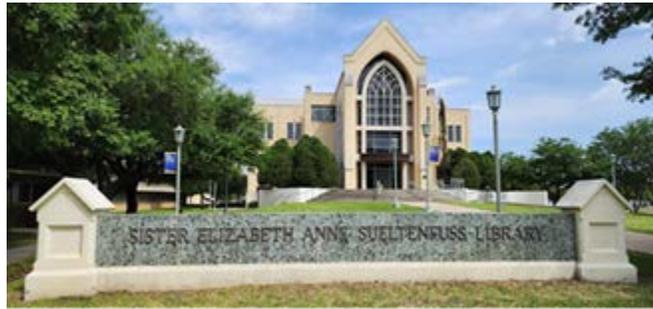
Mystery Book Club members read *The Cloisters* by Katy Hays. The group was very divided on how well they liked the book, but it created so much wonderful conversation. There was a lot of discussion about tarot and "gobbledy gook", as one member so plainly stated.

Readers Ink members had an incredible June discussion on *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson. The book was selected in honor of Juneteenth. The members loved Isabel's writing. The content was quite heavy for most of them. Several members renewed their copies so they could continue reading the book.

Summer Storytelling with the San Antonio Storytellers Association was a hit! Patrons enjoyed ghost stories and stories about the past as well as had a lot of questions about the art of storytelling.

# LAS PALMAS

Las Palmas Branch Library closed its doors for renovations as of Monday, March 20, 2023. Interim services for Las Palmas Branch Library are located at Our Lady of the Lake University's Sueltenfuss Library (411 SW 24th St., San Antonio, TX 78207).



(San Antonio Public Library-Communications Department, 2023)

Interim services site updated their hours of operation for the summer effective May 15-Aug 4:

- Monday - Thursday | 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Friday\* | 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday | 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*\*Friday business hours will be 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on the following dates:*

- May 26 | June 9 | June 16 | June 30 | July 14 | July 28 | August 4



*Summer with SAPL* kicked off in June, and several community members, university students and staff participated by picking out a free book to start their summer reading goals.

On June 14, Branch Manager, Lily Pérez visited with the YWCA Summer Camp attendees (ages 4-12) and then again on June 23 with the Calderon Boys & Girls Club Summer Camp attendees (ages 8-12) to hand out *Summer with SAPL* calendar of events, bookmarks, and free books.

YWCA had 90 participants, while the Calderon Boys & Girls Club had 30 participants. The children were very excited and immediately started reading their books and asking excellent questions about the library.

# MAVERICK

SAPL's Summer Reading annual event at Maverick has launched off to a great start. Many of Maverick's customers have been eager to learn more about this summer program and have been receiving an array of SAPL gifts. For instance, every child has been receiving a gift book of their choice, teenagers have been receiving a summer t-shirt and for adults, a stylus pen along with a decorative SAPL pin. Maverick's monthly adults programs also were in full swing during the reporting period. For instance, the Mah Jongg group met twice. The Lady Mav's Book Club and the Ladies Choice Book Club also met for their monthly meeting. The geo-caching group and the poetry group also gathered in June. Maverick Library hosted the Run-Off Election site for the district 7 council election. Reference Staff did an outstanding job coordinating the opening and closing schedules for the presiding election judges during Early Voting and for Election Day. For instance, Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts, opened for voting on June 5 and on Election Day, June 10.

As of this writing, 757 children have signed up for Summer with SAPL at Maverick. The children are excited to receive free books when they come to the library! Our community bulletin board on our window is crowded with lots of paper chains; each link representing books that children have listened to or read. In addition, the pop-out paletas have been quite the hit and the walls of the children's area are covered with them, sharing what the kids are doing this summer!

Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts has observed many more children and families in the library this summer. She continues to conduct Baby Time, Toddler Time and Story Time, and Lego Time, plus 2 Let's Create programs in June. In addition, paleontologist BK Bones came to Maverick on June 13 and had 104 attendees learning about dinosaurs and Spikey Mikey the Magician had 96 attendees. Ms. Roberts wishes to thank the Friends of the Maverick Library for helping sponsor Spikey Mikey and a very popular and well attended Gerald and Piggie puppet show, conducted by Maverick staff, on June 17.

Ms. Roberts read "Big Truck Day" by Roseanne Parry for Dial-A-Story on June 23. She curated another storytime on June 11 using the book "In the Small, Small Pond" by Denise Fleming, for the Tiny Tots website. In addition, Ms. Roberts attended an Ergonomic Safety Training during the reporting period.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl and Circulation Clerk Taylur Loera assisted Maverick's Teens plans by preparing equipment and supplies for their activities. Teen Time at Maverick was full of Pride in June. A Teen volunteer created and assembled the display in the Young Adult collection (photo below) and Teen volunteers planned, made and noshed on Rainbow Fruit K-bobs, Rainbow Snack Mix, and Rainbow S'mores. Teens and staff said a bittersweet goodbye to a longtime Teen Volunteer who had turned 19 and graduated from high school, and welcomed 5 new Teens, whom Library Assistant Bleichwehl had the opportunity to invite while distributing Teen Summer at SAPL t-shirts.

The Teen Library Leadership Committee (TLLC) began meeting on Saturdays again to prepare for their End of Summer Party, which will be held on the last Tuesday of July before the Branch closes for renovations. Volunteers agreed that the directional sign they put out on Tuesday evenings needed to be refreshed, so they began that makeover and then Teen Time attendees completed it during on a Tuesday evening. In addition to that creative endeavor, Teens crafted with beads, made Shrinky Dinks, and lots of Pride buttons. Teens that enjoy being more physically active played table tennis and Beat Saber on the PlayStation VR.



## McCRELESS

On June 15 Joe McDermott performed in the McCreless meeting room. He was very engaging with both kids and the adults. The kids sang and danced along with him, and the adults enjoyed his humor. On June 22 & 29, our new Children's Librarian II Paula Lenington began a Family Story time which will be reoccurring every Thursday. The kids sang songs, listened to a story, and had an engaging time playing and building with blocks. Every Tuesday of the month, Kids came to build and play with Legos. They did a good job using their imagination to create all sorts of projects. On June 27<sup>th</sup>, Paula went to Blossom Park recreation center to meet with the summer youth camp. She took books and Summer Reading bookmarks to give away. They discussed the many opportunities the Public Library has to check out various items and participate in some great activities all year long and that everything is free.



Every Tuesday night (from 5:30-7:30) Daniela Moreno, Teen Services Librarian at McCreless, facilitated weekly programs for teens aged 13 to 18 in the teen space. Teens decided the activities they did for the following week while at the program, so they were consistently able to decide what they wanted to do. With the help of circulation attendant Sarina Hackworth, materials that were needed were prepared before the start of the program.

On Tuesday June 13th, Daniela Moreno and circulation attendant Sarina Hackworth worked on an event for teens to celebrate National Chamoy Day. Some teens were in the teen room early and helped in the setting up process on the day of the event. Teens' participation in the planning and implementation of this program fostered creativity, teamwork and socializing with new teens that attended. At this program, they also decided what they wanted to do for the following week.



Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales created a Summer Movie Series for McCreless Library for families and all ages to come in from the summer heat and enjoy a movie, popcorn, and refreshments. McCreless Library had great turn out with a mixture of 109 adults, teens, and children in attendance. Mr. Gonzales also presented another Movie Night at McCreless called Shazam Fury of the Gods with over 28 in attendance. Patrons raved about how they loved the movies and wanted more information on when the next movie was coming. Library Assistant Gonzales also received multiple Encore Awards on his work helping patrons with computer help as well as reference help. McCreless Library had a wonderful new children's librarian join their team, Paula Lenington. Library Assistant Gonzales helped her with program ideas and Symphony ILS help as well.



The McCreless Branch Library hosted two craft programs. Our visiting Librarian Nicole San Martin organized and hosted the Adult Craft Club, where patrons bring in their own projects and craft together, swap tips, and chat. The second, a Summer with SAPL event, featured the art of quilling – rolled paper art.



LEARN Training Officers Lodie Mueller and Christina Flores participated in three Peer Presentations by fellow Training Officers: Daniel González presented on Conflict Management & Critical Reflection, Lodie shared “Lodie’s Classes—the Inside Scoop”, and Daniel Gómez presented to our Learn Huddle about his updates to our “Welcome to Computers” course. Lodie assisted Carver’s Training Officer Shauna Mendoza in an LEARN Outreach Event at District 2’s Senior Center, and Christina and Lodie are exploring opportunities for their own Outreach events to promote the McCreless LEARN program. In spite of extreme heat and summer travels, the McCreless English class is still a hit, with 49 patrons attending in June. McCreless Learn had 84 June walk-in sessions, with resume-building, job applications, Computer Skills Training, and English language support continuing to be the Learn services most in demand.

This June McCreless hosted Viva Health!, a program presented by Juana Gonzalez of Metro Health. This 7-week workshop discusses tactics to foster better nutrition and increase physical activity. The group met on June 5, June 12, and June 26 and will continue Mondays into July. On June 18, Adult Services Librarian Vicky Villalobos held Queer Crafternoon at McCreless Branch. Patrons are invited to craft and display their creativity in a safe space while listening to stories with queer-centered storylines or queer characters. This month’s audio selection was Chef’s Kiss by TJ Alexander. On June 22, McCreless Branch hosted the San Antonio Storytellers for Storytelling for Adults, one of this year’s Summer With SAPL’s system-wide programs. Storytellers Mark Babino and Mary Grace Ketner delighted patrons with

their craft and shared their knowledge on the art of storytelling. Adult Services Librarian Vicky Villalobos joined Librarian Brook Mjolsness and Adult Services Coordinator Morgan Yoshimura for June's SAPL Live Trivia. The program was held on June 30 where nine teams competed for first place and bragging rights.

## MEMORIAL

Memorial Branch Library staff seemed to be competing for the title of Best Employee Ever as they garnered multiple EnCORE recognition cards during the month of June. Leading the pack was Learn Officer Daniel Gómez with four cards. Close on his heels was Circulation Attendant Adam Capelo with three. Adult Services Librarian Freddy Hudson, Library Assistant Rene Leija, Circulation Attendants Michelangelo Sosa and Darlene Lopez, and Library Aide Lupe Pinales were each presented with EnCORE cards by patrons whose lives they touched.

The branch was thrilled to host Professor Universe (aka Dallas Akins) to kick off the branch's Summer with SAPL events. Because the meeting room was occupied by a Bexar County Elections team for the City Council election runoff, Professor Universe and about 70 of his newest friends were crammed into and overflowing the Children's Room. Even with the crowded conditions, an attendee wrote the following in an email to Branch Manager Christine Deffendall, "This was the best children's program of any kind I have ever seen...If there is any question about whether to bring Professor Universe back for summer or winter holiday programs, allow me to answer that with a resounding "yes, please". I would like to see every library in the SAPL system host at least one (maybe more) Professor Universe program."



Memorial Branch Library also hosted a mobile testing clinic from the City of San Antonio's (COSA) Metro Health Department.

In addition to her Branch Manager duties, Christine Deffendall continued functioning as the branch's Children's Librarian. She conducted Preschool Story Times, facilitated LEGO Club (alternating with Adult Services Librarian Freddy Hudson), and led the weekly Summer with SAPL Kids Time activities. A particular hit was "Squishy Circuits," a kit which allows even very young children to safely learn how electric/electronic circuits work with hands-on experimentation. Circulation Attendant Michelangelo Sosa was an invaluable assistant with the activity.



A smaller group enjoyed using “Cubelets,” a cube-based robotics activity. Library Assistant Rene Leija was instrumental in the success of the session, having previously learned how to use the devices when he assisted with a Tween Time at the Igo Branch Library.



Christine conducted two outreaches during June. Just before school ended for the summer, she visited the Southwest Preparatory Academy and spoke to several dozen students in First through Fourth grades. On June 29, she was invited to speak about library services to a group of families at Project Transformation.

During the month of June, Christine worked with Children's Services Coordinator Cresencia Huff and Pan American Branch Manager Barbaraella Frazier to interview and submit recommendations for new Children's Librarians at both Memorial and Pan American.

In addition to facilitating the branch's monthly Scrabble gathering, Adult Services Librarian Freddy Hudson coordinated two programs to commemorate Juneteenth. He arranged a showing of the film *Fruitvale Station* and arranged a visit from Sylvia Reyna of the Texana Department at the Central Library to discuss African American genealogy. Attendees at the latter learned of various resources for uncovering their lineage.

Teen Liaison (and Circulation Attendant) Michelangelo Sosa facilitated weekly programs for teens in the teen space with a focus on flexible seating arrangements for the summer. This month teens participated in Teen Time and invited friends to come to the activity and enjoy some relaxing moments on the couch while strengthening bonds. This month teens have been creating a Dungeons & Dragons scenario, creating perler bead art and jewelry, plushies. Teens' involvement in summer activities has fostered creativity and teamwork and has driven them to start feeling ownership over their local library and the spaces they can inhabit.

He also created a branch calendar for the Memorial Library Facebook group. Engagement with the group members has increased and has led to more group participation and turnout for Memorial Branch activities. In another effort to drive attendance and engagement, Michelangelo created a custom PowerPoint template for the SCALA advertisement player based on a SAPL Communications template for staff to create and publish event flyers that will fit the full resolution of the screen.

Michelangelo initiated a meeting with Learn Officer Daniel Gómez, Branch Manager Christine Deffendall, and Learn at SAPL Coordinator Michele Rickman to discuss the possibility of future collaborations between the Learn Center and Teen Services at Memorial.

Circulation Attendant Adam Capelo lent his services to help the Forest Hills Branch Library when they were short-staffed on two separate occasions during June. He also assisted Library Aide Lupe Pinales in her decorating efforts around the branch. Adam and Library Assistant Rene Leija had a memorable lunch with a patron who was thanking them for all their assistance to him in using the branch's computers. They helped him proofread letters, solve email issues, and taught him how to use Microsoft Word to make flyers.

The Basics of Loom Knitting and Jewelry Making for Beginners classes taught by Library Aide Lupe Pinales continue to grow. The classes have become so large that other staff members, particularly Michelangelo Sosa and Adam Capelo, have pitched in to assist. Some participants have become so enthusiastic that they have purchased their own tools and materials.



Circulation Attendant Darlene Lopez (on loan from the Las Palmas Branch Library during its renovation) created book bundles—and the signage to promote them—from the Juvenile Easy collection to celebrate Father's Day and Summer Fun. Darlene also worked with Library Aide Lupe Pinales on decorations for the branch.

Learn @ SAPL Training Officer Daniel Gómez continues to hold weekly classes in Spanish and English as a Second Language (ESL) for ten and nine students, respectively. Several of the ESL students have thanked Daniel specifically for his teaching of pronunciation, as other instructors they've had have not provided that guidance. He also conducts Welcome to Computers sessions three times a week. During June, two computer students completed the Basic Computers course and received Certificates of Completion. One of the students confided to Daniel that it was hard asking for help with the computer at work, but thanks to the classes, she no longer feels the need to ask at all.



The Learn Center also hosts weekly meetings of an Advanced ESL Book Club (led by volunteer Karen Wyatt) and a Language Exchange for ESL and Spanish students to learn from each other (the exchange is led by volunteers Emily Bain and Rose Marie Nazir).

## MISSION

June started off with a Summer Kick-Off party for all ages. Children, teens, and adults had the opportunity to participate in fun activities and to cool off with a sweet treat! Paletas from El Paraiso paletas were provided to the public on the library's patio. The event had 68 people attending.

On June 12th, Illusions with Blake, part of the Summer with SAPL program series, presented at Mission. It was a hit and close to 300 people came to see the program. A weekly Kid's Time on Tuesday afternoons has also been happening at Mission with various games and activities for school-age children.

Every other Saturday, a Community Health Worker from Healthy Neighborhoods will be hosting Yoga for Kids at Mission Library as a way to encourage a unique form of health for children of the community.

Teens continued to claim their free summer t-shirts. Teens also participated in many gaming activities during the reporting period. Teens played on the Nintendo Switch and chose the WiiU for some retro gaming. Teens created sand art, painted rocks, and made buttons. Teens also made nachos and homemade brownie bites during the weekly Teen Club night.

Librarian, Cindy Cruz, also hosted several groups to the library and Teen Space for the month of June. The Boys and Girls Club, Seton Hall, and Greg Garcia Early College Intermediate school all worked with Cindy to facilitate visits and to find out about all the resources (and summer fun) the library has to offer.

Beginning in June, the office of U.S. Congressman Henry Cuellar has begun having monthly open office hours for the public in Mission's meeting room.

# PAN AMERICAN

During June, Teen Librarian Gladys Nunez and Pan American teens enjoyed making perler bead crafts, playing online games, watching YouTube videos, listening to music, and getting to know new teens. Three book displays were created for the month of June including one for Pride Month, another centered on magic books, and the third one about YA crime books. All three proved to be popular with Pan American teen patrons as several items were checked out from each display. One new teen to the branch excitedly submitted a volunteer application and is awaiting approval to start volunteering with the Branch. Teens were grateful to receive a free summer t-shirt and button and are looking forward to next year's design.

June was a fun month for Children's Services. On June 22<sup>nd</sup> Pan American hosted Illusions By Blake. Children enjoyed the magic and also stayed to sign up for Summer Reading. Pan American gave out more than 100 books in one day. Mr. Blake did a presentation in the meeting room and went out into the Branch and demonstrated close-up magic to eager children.



In addition to Summer Reading, Library Assistant Kaylee Avila started up a Lego Club which is attended by school age children. Pan American had fun with creating Summer Reading Displays as well as displays celebrating June 19<sup>th</sup> and Father Day.



Pan American's Circulation Attendant Deborah Blancas and Library Assistant Kaylee Avila arranged a display in celebration of Pride Month. The display includes a selection of DVD's and Blu-rays while also highlighting a couple documentaries and Spanish films. It features titles such as *Call Me by Your Name*, *Portrait of a Lady on Fire*, *Loving Highsmith*, and *The Strong Ones (Los Fuertes)*.



Adult Services Librarian, Adrian Leal, organized two books displays supporting June Monthly Initiatives. The first display focused on Juneteenth and the second on Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month. Both displays were consistently browsed, and the books were checked out.

Librarian Leal held his bi-weekly Older Adults Program entitled "Game Time for Older Adults". The program is geared toward patrons 60 years and older. Allowing them the opportunity to stop by the branch, be in a comfortable environment and enjoy playing an assortment of games.

Mr. Leal held his bi-weekly "Puzzle Time" program. This program is geared toward adults aged eighteen and over. Giving them a place to work collaboratively or individually on an assortment of available puzzles.

Meditation classes continue to be held at the branch. Classes are free and open to all adults. Classes are held every Saturday from 10:15 to 11:15 in the Pan American Library Meeting Room.

# PARMAN



In honor of Juneteenth Parman Library's gallery featured works from artist John A. Coleman, an artist known for creating African American art with distinctive vibrant colors and very narrative styles. Mr. Coleman is the co-founder of the San Antonio Ethnic Art Society and his works have been featured in books, magazines, local newspapers and several famous museums in the United States. Coleman's art depicts daily African American life throughout history such as during the events of Juneteenth and in the time of the Harlem Renaissance. Coleman's art works featured at Parman include Barber Shop, Juneteenth, Slave Preacher, and Freedom of Joy. Parman library was truly honored and proud to have Mr. Coleman's art featured at Parman gallery especially during the week of Juneteenth this year.

The branch was jam-packed with paletas in June! Summer with SAPL greets Parman guests with giant paletas along the front windows of the library, and smaller paletas, decorated by children, adorn the bookshelves in the children's area. To date, over 2000 of these paper frozen treats have been made by Parman patrons! After making a paleta, children selected their free summer book! Young patrons have been excited to add a new book to their home library. To go along with our paleta theme, a paleta scavenger hunt was posted around the library and almost 500 participants searched for paletas to find out what a paleta said to his friend ("Have a Cool Summer!").

To celebrate the start of summer, Big Time Bubbles returned for a fantastic foam party where children and parents alike frolicked in the bubbles. Joe McDermott entertained patrons with his funny songs and delighted the children by squirting them with a water gun. Other special summer programming included a collaborative art activity where participants created beautiful flowers to add to a community vase. It's so fun to see kids working together to create a piece of art. Miss Lisa and Miss Teague also offered Let's Build, a time for children to stop by Parman and play with boxes, blocks and other building implements. Everyone had a great time building together!

Cuentos y Canciones with Veronica Yau continues to grow, and attendees love the story time and theme related crafts. Several of the English-speaking families that attend Cuentos y Canciones have learned the Spanish songs. Everybody loved singing “Muevo Mis Panielos” while they played with scarves during the song. During Baby Story Time, participants sat in a giant circle so all the babies could see each other. It was a lot of fun to see what each baby did and how they reacted to the rhymes, bounces, and songs.

Miss Lisa’s Family Story Time attendees really appreciated the open playtime after story time, especially since it was so hot.

The school-aged set has been very creative! Creator Club was packed with kids itching to make, create and play! The makerspace was a favorite event among attendees. Some kids made creatures, while other kids built rockets or made underwater scenes. Our makers loved using found materials to construct entirely new creations! Tweens loved making buttons on the button maker, melting beads and painting. There were some fierce games of air hockey and foosball.

The first month of summer has seen many teens apply to volunteer at the Parman Branch. Teen Librarian Zachary Woolston worked to process, schedule, and train dozens of teen applicants. Many of the new volunteers assisted with the children’s “create a paleta” craft! Parman Teens also enjoyed a variety of Teen Time activities, with a return of the popular NERF Battle program kicking off the summer.

## POTRANCO

Potranco Library hosted Concrete Canvas: The Art and Rhythm of Street Culture on the first Saturday evening in June. The YMCA allowed use of their pavilion where break dancers, street artists and DJ Nova Soul entertained the crowd. Colton Valentine, a local street artist, had a workshop for the kids and taught them how to use spray paint to express themselves on canvas.

The event was capped by a performance by Los Angeles rapper Vel Nine. The program showcased the positive impact street culture can have on the community. Inviting a rapper, street artists and break dancers gave the community a new and refreshing view of library programs. Many in attendance were fans of Vel Nine and simply came to see a performance but left with a positive experience at a San Antonio Public Library.



Potranco Adult Services participated in Pride Month by showing two LGBTQ+ themed movies, Pariah on June 4, and Kajillionaire on June 25, as well as curating a vibrant book display with books from Collection Development. In honor of Juneteenth, Librarian Zeig showed the movie Summer of Soul on June 11. Librarian Zeig hosted the American Association of Retired People (AARP) workshop Smart DriverTek on

June 20 for older adults. The program focused on using the newest available vehicle safety features to improve driver safety. Librarian Zeig welcomed back Metro Health instructor Melissa Gonzales to begin a new seven-week series of the diabetes prevention program Viva Health. The new cycle began on June 8 and has 11 regular attendees.

Librarian Zeig held three book clubs this month. The morning and evening versions of Shelf Indulgence, on June 13 and 27 respectively, were both well-attended. This month's book was Brazen by Julia Haart. Librarian Zeig's Sunday cookbook club on June 18 had a nice turnout. Participants shared samples of African American culinary creations in recognition of Juneteenth. The collard greens and Charleston Chewies were a big hit. The July meeting will be picnic themed. Librarian Zeig and Circulation Attendant Laura Villalpano continue to host Dreaded Threads on Monday evenings and have been pleased to see many new faces.

Librarian Zeig attended the first Texas Library Association (TLA) Conference Planning Committee meeting virtually via Zoom on June 15 and will be heading to Austin next month to help finalize conference program offerings. Librarian Zeig is proud to be a member of the committee this year as the 2024 annual conference will be held in April in San Antonio. Librarian Zeig also virtually attended the TLA roundtable meeting for Programming for Adults to see what discussions are taking place in the world of adult program planning across Texas.

Children's programming was in full swing for Summer in June. Potranco kicked off Summer with Dino Day celebrating National Dinosaur Day and the 30th anniversary of the Jurassic Park film. Potranco hosted 2 STEM/Robot sessions with great success and attendance. The kids played with robots, magna tiles, collaborated with each other to make Cubelet Robots do certain tasks, as well as make a working robot car, etc. Once in a Wild visited Potranco and was met with a packed house and taught us all about owls, rabbits, snakes, and possums.

The Air Force Band of the West took us on a musical trip through the world and had kids marching along and creating oral stories through music. Our Story Times have been filled with fun and imagination, from using colored ribbons to dance to using some yoga poses to help us shake out our wiggles when needed. Kids time, has been well received by the community and is attended by more than 25 kids on a weekly basis.

Kids time has had our little patrons make rainbow art, DIY their own dinosaurs, and create air clay sculptures.

Lastly, our Tween Time has been going amazingly well with a regular group of tweens coming in to hangout and craft, making/designing buttons, bookmarks, pearler bead art and even some pottery.



## PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

In June, Pruitt's Children's Services was excited to kick off *Summer with SAPL* by hosting *Professor Universe* and his highly interactive, one-person comedic science show for children, where attendees learned about the organs and cells of the immune system. Children's Services Librarian Lucy Cisneros, also hosted a *Tweens Create: Handmade Soap* program, where participants were invited to choose their own soap mold, scent, and color to create their very own, personalized soap. The branch also hosted two STEM based programs, a *STEAM Robots* program, where participants learned some coding basics using Meeperbots and Sphero and a *Let's Build: Ready, Set, LEGO* where participants had fun building with LEGO bricks and completing challenges.

The branch also hosted its regularly scheduled *Toddler Story Time*, *Let's Build*, *Children's Yoga*, and *Tween Yoga* weekly programs. These programs focused on celebrating Father's Day and the Summer season. Toddlers made and decorated sun visors while yoga participants were invited to practice mindfulness while eating, using a mandarin to explore all the senses while enjoying a healthy snack.





Teen Services Librarian Lauren Hime helped the Pruitt teen patrons stay cool and entertained during their first month of Teen Summer with SAPL. During *Teen Time*, teens interested in video games challenged each other in Super Smash Bros. tournaments on the Nintendo Switch. Teens explored their artistic creativity through Perler beads. Teens revisited classic tabletop board games, including Monopoly, and collaborated to complete puzzles.

Teens were eager to join the *Learn-to-Play Dungeons and Dragons* series and were grateful for this new addition to the branch's summer activity schedule. Novice D&D teen players had a blast as they worked their way into more advanced roleplaying and combat techniques, with impressive levels of imagination and creativity.

Lauren worked with Teen Services Pride Workgroup colleagues alongside teen volunteers to plan and host *Teen Pride Party* at the Teen Library at Central.

New teen faces attended Rackspace-sponsored *Family Chess*. Players of all skill levels engaged in friendly competition and made new acquaintances along the way!



Adult Services Librarian Paula Opiela facilitated *Adult Virtual Coloring* group which gathered via Zoom. Participants chatted about celebrated holidays such as National Pink Flamingo Day. The *Historical Book Club* talked about the ideas of family and losing one's home after reading *A Long Petal of the Sea*. At *Adult Craft Time*, patrons enjoyed San Antonio Public Library's Shell Decoupage craft.

*Special Needs Adult Program* patrons read along with *Seashells: More Than a Home* and created bean mosaics of shells and colored sea scenes.

The branch held a write-in Juneteenth trivia contest, where a pleased patron won a copy of *On Juneteenth*.

*Family and Teen Chess reconvened on Tuesday evenings.*



Branch Manager Chris Castillo joined librarian colleagues Dacari Lambert, Lisa Puchot, Shannan Prukop, and Michael Dunbar-Rodney, as the inaugural guest of San Antonio Public Library's inQUEERies Podcast, which went live in June.



## **SAN PEDRO**

The San Pedro Branch Library provided a variety of programs and services during the month of May. Programs for children, teen and adults were offered either weekly or once per month.

Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler continued outreach programming at Respite Children's Daycare. The children participated in a program of singing, reading and rhyme.

Summer Reading got off to a great start at San Pedro with the popular book giveaway and special programs for kids. Some of the special programs included: Let's Move, STEAM Robots, Tween Book

Chat, Let's Build: Construction, Happy Tails Animal program, and Let's Game: Minute to Win It. Baby Story Time became a weekly program which was well attended mostly by first time parents.



The branch continued service to Chandler Estates Senior Living residents with a monthly book club that is growing. In June the seniors met and discussed "The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo" by Taylor Jenkins Reid.

The San Pedro Branch continued to provide the community an opportunity to play chess together. The matches were 30-minute time control for each side with an entire game of 1 hour. Additionally, the branch continued to host "Yarn Over to San Pedro" where the public could knit and crochet different projects. Needle crafters of all kinds were welcomed and invited to bring their own project to work on. Beginners were welcomed as well. Once you get started, we'll have you hooked!

June's Film Virtuosity: A Reflection of Art, was a double feature with The Art of Dying directed by Justin Rodriguez and Liliith directed by Danny Geraldo Martinez. Both films were shot right here in San Antonio and have been making their rounds in the festival circuits over the last year. Both filmmakers were in attendance to talk about their films and their experiences of charging into the fray of cinema.

In observance of International Day of Yoga, the San Pedro Branch offered a free Yoga class. The instructor was Amanda Millette and included a gentle flow class, incorporating standing postures for balance, strength, and focus, along with grounding movements to achieve a well-rounded practice. It was an open style teaching for all bodies, abilities, and experience.

## SCHAEFER

In June, Dacari Lambert, Teen Services Librarian at Schaefer Branch Library facilitated weekly Teen Time alongside three teen volunteers. During Teen Time, teens engaged in peer led programming that consisted of: Just Dance competitions, arts and crafts, and cooking demonstrations. A long-time Schaefer teen volunteer hosted their own program: Learn Character Design: a hands-on learning experience, which was well received by patrons. Dacari worked with colleague Ami Sarabia to host Music Mondays, weekly, on the 210 Teen Library Discord Server. Additionally, Dacari worked with Teen Services Pride

Workgroup colleagues + teen volunteers to plan and host a Teen Pride party at central library, which had a turnout of 35 teens.

For Branch programs, Dacari worked alongside Adult Services Librarian, Daniel Garcia, to host Mercado por tu Corazon and Metro Health's STI/STD mobile clinic, both receiving outstanding feedback from the community. Additionally, Dacari worked with the SAPL Pride planning committee to host two movie screenings at Schaefer, to celebrate LGBTQ pride. For systemwide efforts, Dacari worked with colleagues Shannan Prukop, Lisa Puchot, Michael Dunbar-Rodney, Daniel Garcia, and Jason Futrell to launch InQUEERies: a queer themed SAPL podcast which centers creative folks and explorations in their work and how it intersects with our work as librarians.



On June 8, 2023, the Adult Services librarian, Dan Garcia, hosted the monthly "Cooking Around the World" program presented by the San Antonio Food Bank's Nutrition Education Coordinator, Brittany Hernandez; this month's recipe came from Jamaica. On June 11, 2023, the Adult Services Librarian hosted the inaugural session of the new monthly program: "Chess+Checkers+Dominoes", a drop-in, family-friendly program for gaming and socializing.

On June 15, 2023, the Schaefer branch library hosted a Chinese cultural program, titled: "Experience the Dragon: The History and Culture of China", hosted by Dr. Yaping Zhang; this program drew over 300 members of the Schaefer community.

On June 18, 2023, Dan hosted the monthly Board Game Social program for adults and older adults. On June 26, 2023, the Adult Services Librarian hosted the inaugural Schaefer Listener's Club program; a music club similar to a book club but utilizing the Schaefer branch library's vinyl LP collection.

Schaefer's children's librarian Leslie Elsasser scheduled nearly 30 programs for children of all ages in June. For the preschool children, Baby Time and Outdoor Family Story Time took place each week. School-age children attended Minute to Win it Games, Let's Build: Blocks & More, Let's Build: LEGO Time, Let's Create: Art Time, Let's Explore: Come & Go Playdough, Yard Games Inside, Children' Video Games, Read to a Dog, Let's Move: Yoga & More and Let's Create: Come & Go Art. The variety of programs appealed to the many interests of the children at Schaefer while some children attended all of them! Two special featured guest presenters had programs during the month: on June 8 Once in a Wild showcased five different animals, and more than 200 children and their families attended the program. Master naturalist Tom Kinsey visited Schaefer on June 22 and brought animals for enthusiastic children to see.

Schaefer's popular summer scavenger hunt started on June 1. Replicas of the Summer with SAPL paletas are hidden in a different spot each day for children to find! Children love looking for them each time they visit!

By the end of June, more than 600 children selected free summer books. When they select a book, they also receive a paleta made from colorful construction paper to decorate and then hang on a wall in the children's area. They also can draw or write about their summer vacations on the paleta card, which are then taped to the service desk.

Schaefer and Forest Hills paired up this year for a new Library Letters pen pal program. Children at Schaefer wrote letters for Leslie to send to Forest Hills. When she received the letters from the children at Forest Hills, she posted them on the wall in the children's area. Library Letters will continue through July.

Library Assistant Blanca Silvia Hernandez hosted Schaefer's coloring program where patrons relaxed while listening to LPs and colored in zentangle themed drawings and precut jigsaw puzzles.

Blanca assisted Branch Manager Maria Adams with her Sewing for Beginners Adult program, where patrons learned how to use a sewing machine. Everyone completed a fabric bookmark and got to take the pattern and some fabric home to get some more practice. She also assisted Children's Librarian Elsasser with the monthly children's programs and special summer programs where the children were excited to see all the animals, were eager to practice yoga, balance and calm and had fun creating beautiful artwork with all kinds of paint, including popsicle paints and shaving cream.

Blanca also published a catalog list of popular titles for Schaefer's I ♥ Vinyl (Digital Edition) monthly program and created a sewing themed book display and a Psychological thrillers book display.

Library Assistant Isaai Ortega created a sci-fi themed book display for the month of June. The display featured a variety of media including books, movies, and graphic novels, to appeal to different interests and preferences.

## SEMMES

Semmes Adult Services continued to engage the public throughout the month of June, adding two Tai Ji classes every Sunday, in addition to the weekly yoga classes. Weekly Table Tennis, Chess, Mario Kart, and a family game time each Friday morning encourage public participation, and the monthly book club run by Library Assistant Markeico Deuser has grown steadily since its introduction.

The teens at Teen Time on Tuesdays are taking a more active planning role. In June, they have requested supplies like duct tape and felt to show each other how to make pouches, helped each other learn how to play video games like Minecraft and Super Smash Bros, or brought in hobbies and collections from home to show off and trade with the group. A Mario Karts Tournament for teens, led by Library Aide Anthony Islas, will run on Sundays throughout the summer, and teens have enjoyed the preliminary rounds of the tournament in June.

With school out, Tween Time on Wednesdays has seen an increase of tweens attending. They have enjoyed making friendship bracelets, crafting Perler Bead creations, interacting with Sphero robots, playing board games, and playing Ping Pong.

Semmes hosted Opera San Antonio on June 26th as part of the Summer with SAPL special programming. 48 children and 32 adults attended. Representatives from Opera San Antonio performed

selections from Hansel and Gretel and Pirates of Penzance and taught the crowd about different ways that composers can be inspired to write operas.

School-age summer programs are on Monday evenings at 5:30PM. In June, kids created crafts with unexpected materials (like cotton swabs instead of paintbrushes or frozen paint and tea bags to paint with) in Let's Create: Process Art. Kids were also encouraged to move, stretch, and be active in Let's Move!

Let's Create: Process Art photos:



Opera photos:



Semmes's early literacy programs were well-attended in June. For Preschool Story Time, 200 children and 145 of their grownups enjoyed stories, songs, rhymes, and child-lead free play time. For Toddler Story Time, 133 children and 124 of their grownups enjoyed stories, shaker songs, fingerplays, action

rhymes, drum songs and child-lead free play time. For Baby Story Time, 65 babies, accompanied by 91 of their grownups enjoyed lifting and bouncing rhymes a board book read aloud, and free playtime.

Ms. Randi recorded a story on the Dial-a-Story line on June 6 and 16. She presented the opening songs and story & songs for Family Story Time Online on June 28. Her curated story time for toddlers premiered on the SAPL website on June 26.

## THOUSAND OAKS

Assistant Branch Manager Brooke Mjolsness hosted in-person Tai Chi classes led by certified instructor Debra Cox on June 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. She hosted in-person Yoga Class programs led by instructors from the Parks and Recreation Department on June 6, 13, 20 and 27. She served as co-host and chat moderator for the virtual Film Noir Movie Club on June 13. After the movie screening, attendees participate in a lively discussion using questions provided by the host. In celebration of Juneteenth National Independence Day, Ms. Mjolsness hosted a movie screening of *Hidden Figures* on June 17. On June 27, she held the in-person Classic Movie Showing program. Attendees watched *The Night of the Hunter* and participated in a discussion. On June 28, she hosted the program *Hidden from History: Exploring San Antonio's LGBTQ Past* presented by Melissa Gohlke from UTSA Libraries Special Collections. On June 30, she served as Master of Ceremonies for the virtual SAPL Live Trivia program.

Children's Librarian Cheryl Penick served as co-host for virtual Baby Time programs on June 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. She held in-person programs for Let's Create!: Arts & Crafts Friday, and hosted Read to a Dog programs on June 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. She held in-person Let's Move!: Music & Movement programs on June 3, 10, 17 and 24. Ms. Penick served as co-host for a virtual Toddler Time program on June 9. On June 24, she hosted the program Summer with SAPL: Explore Opera for Kids! She represented SAPL at an outreach event at Project Rio's Family Engagement Night on June 29. She created a book display in celebration of Juneteenth National Independence Day and assembled themed book bundles for families to check-out.



Librarian Kimberly King held in-person Teen Time programs on June 5, 12 and 26. She held an in-person Thursday Book Club program on June 8. Participants discussed *Wrong Place, Wrong Time* by Gilliam McAllister. She facilitated an outreach book group at the Northeast Senior Center on June 28. Attendees discussed *Every Fifteen Minutes* by Lisa Scottoline. Ms. King created a book display highlighting young adult titles in celebration of LGBTQIA+ Pride Month.

Library Assistant Mari Carmen Castellano held a Tabletop Gaymer Night program on June 18. She held an Adult Craft Time program on June 21 at which participants created zines. She created book displays for Beach Breeze and Summer Reads, and Summer Staff Picks.



## TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

Teen Librarian, Connie Hejl, attended Northwood Presbyterian Day Care on Saturday June 10 to offer information about Summer Reading and special programs at Tobin. In addition, Ms. Hejl impressively hosts an on-line Random Fan Club for teens weekly on Thursdays with loyal attendance each program.

On June 12, Circulation Attendant, Sabrina Longoria, hosted a special Pride Craft. Attendees created some unique Pride bracelets.

Tobin welcomed Children's Librarian, Lisa Ramirez, from Carver Branch in June. Ms. Ramirez was in time to help host Tobin's Summer Fun Day on June 17. Nearly 200 folks enjoyed balloon art, bubbles, crafts, face painting and drumming with Tambo Rhythms. Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell funded these activities and performers while they also hosted a small Flash Sale of books, DVDs and a few vinyl records.



# WESTFALL

Westfall Library is collaborating with NEISD for a program that provides free meals to children ages 18 and under in the months of June and July. In the month of June, over 400 meals were served.

Machaia McClenny, Branch Manager at Westfall, showed the movie *Deep in the Heart* in celebration of World Environment Day on June 5. This movie is narrated by Matthew McConaughey and shows beautiful footage of wildlife all over Texas to inspire viewers to preserve and protect endangered and threatened species in Texas. Machaia is also participating in the Summer with SAPL programs for adults. She created a movie series called "Summer Movies: See the Prequel Before the Sequel," which helps patrons catch-up with the previous movie before they watch new summer blockbusters. Machaia also spent the \$200 provided for wellness to buy snacks for the staff that will be shared every Wednesday.

In June of 2023, Children's Librarian Imelda Merino planned and presented four Preschool Story Times, four Family Story Times, and five school-age programs, that included both art and building activities. Ms. Merino also participated in two Art Club Online programs, sharing an alphabet drawing game and an easy puppet making activity. On Tuesday, June 13, Westfall hosted "Happy Tails Entertainment". A crowd of over 70 people enjoyed seeing a variety of animals up close. Animals included were an African porcupine, a wallaby, a kinkajou, a hedgehog, a coatimundi, a tortoise, and a macaw. Kids were also offered a free book as part of Kids Summer with SAPL. In June, a total of 208 books were given away. The transitioning of the Award books into the general collection was largely completed, and the weeding of all read-alongs was also accomplished.



Heather, the Teen Librarian at Westfall, partnered with the branch's teen volunteers to offer more activities at the branch for Teen Summer. The teen-designed summer t-shirt has been very popular. New teens have been coming to the branch for the free summer meals services provided by NEISD and stayed to ask about summer activities and receive their summer t-shirts. Teen volunteers have led Teen Time, an asynchronous Teen Writers Circle/Writing Club on Discord, and a bi-weekly Teen Movie Matinee program, where they suggest movies to watch and then voted on the list of titles to determine what movie is shown. Some new teens have started becoming regulars at Teen Time, due in no small part to an outgoing and friendly teen volunteer leading the program who makes sure to include new teens

by striking up conversations. This has resulted in a welcoming environment for shy teens to get to know each other and begin building new friendships in Teen Space, and creative opportunities to invent new games with existing supplies.

For the month of June, the Westfall Learn Center continued to gain new patrons seeking assistance with computer training, job searching, resume building, and other tasks whether on the computer or tablet. Many of the returning patrons continued to seek assistance with daily practice on their typing skills and internet navigation. With programming, the Learn center continued to provide the weekly iPad instructional classes and offered Smart Device training on Fridays. Overall, the learn center at Westfall averaged about 5 patrons per day in the month of June.

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

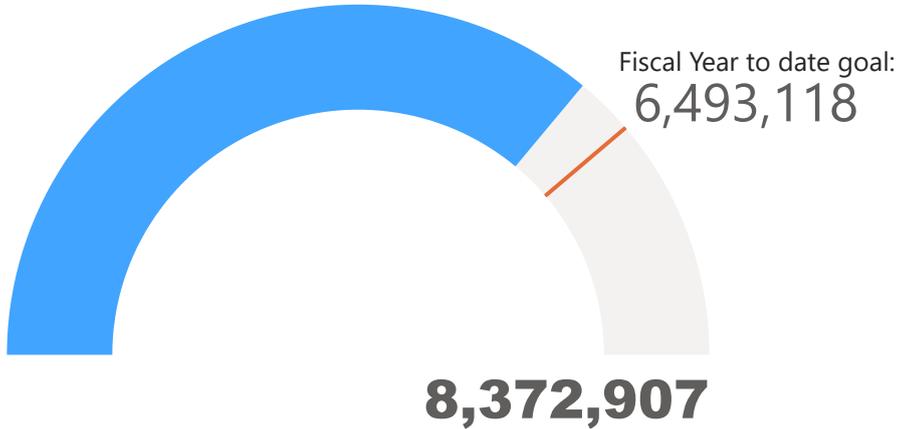
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY  
KEY INDICATORS

June 2023  
FY 2023

COVID-19 has greatly affected overall Library service usage in FY 2020 and FY 2021. Performance goals for FY 2022 and FY 2023 were adjusted accordingly.

Circulation: Goal

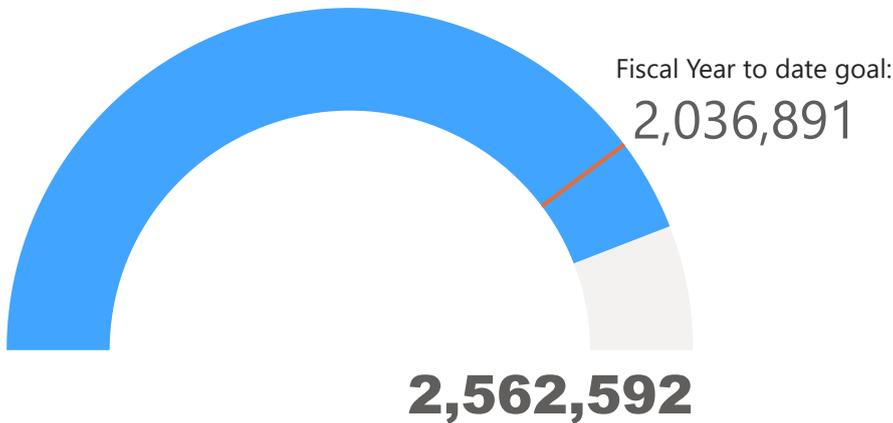
FY 2023 to date Items Borrowed



6,036,675  
(-7.03%)  
Circulation

Visits: Goal

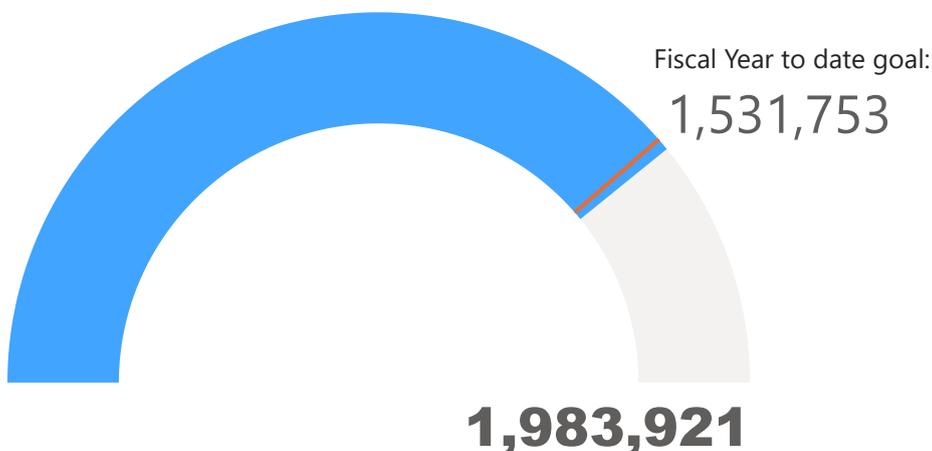
FY 2023 to date Library Visits



2,260,447  
(+10.98%)  
Visits

Digital Access: Goal

FY 2023 to date Digital Access



192,110  
Hours of Computer Use



1,360,865  
Hours of Wi-Fi Use

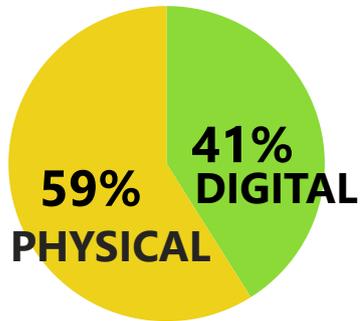
1,552,975  
(+1.39%)  
Hours of Technology Use

# SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

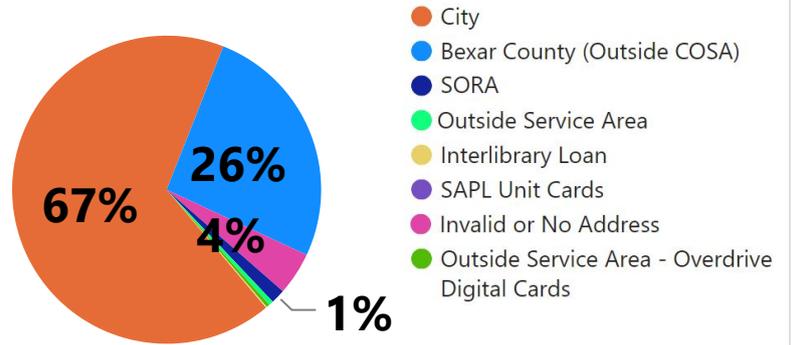
## June 2023 (CONTINUED)

### USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2023

CIRCULATION BY TYPE



CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA



### VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2023



1,242,979  
MYSAPL.ORG  
VISITS

16,871  
MYSAPL  
APP DOWNLOADS

463,235  
OVERDRIVE  
SITE VISITS

2,495,808  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
IMPRESSIONS

### PROGRAMS & ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2023

Total	Early Literacy (0-5)	School Age (6-12)	Teens (13-18)	Adults (19+)	Older Adults (60+)	General Interest*
7,882 programs	1,981 programs	1,598 programs	1,993 programs	1,724 programs	307 programs	279 programs
153,861 attendance	57,673 attendance	50,425 attendance	17,953 attendance	16,207 attendance	3,220 attendance	8,383 attendance

\*General Interest Programs are not targeted to one age group and/or are targeted for two or more age groups

35 PROGRAM VIDEOS UPLOADED

32,239 PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS

### JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

**Fourth of July Book List**

RED WHITE AND BOOM!  
ELOTE AND THE BIG PARADE  
PAPER CRAFTS FOR THE 4TH OF JULY

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

**PRIDE MONTH**

**PRIDE FASHION WITH PRIDE**

AT CODY BRANCH LIBRARY

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

MELANEYES MEDIA

**UNDERSTANDING JUNETEENTH**

A HISTORY OF EMANCIPATION

Tuesday, June 6, 6PM

Central Library

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

**MURDER AT THE SLEEPY LAGOON**

A Conversation with **EDUARDO PAGÁN** on the 80th Anniversary of the Zoot Suit Riots

Presented on Zoom

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

# San Antonio Public Library

## June 2023 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Technology Actuals	Computer Hours	Wi-Fi Hours of Use
<b>Bazan</b>	2,796	6,226	6,542	1,569	4,974
<b>Brook Hollow</b>	7,637	1,384	273	1	272
<b>Carver</b>	2,509	6,107	3,744	857	2,887
<b>Central</b>	28,132	22,942	36,032	6,291	29,741
<b>Cody</b>	34,138	14,115	10,619	1,325	9,294
<b>Collins Garden</b>	3,841	4,414	3,885	690	3,195
<b>Cortez</b>	4,191	5,969	2,433	466	1,967
<b>Digital</b>	289,642	0	0	0	0
<b>Encino</b>	26,407	12,731	6,191	257	5,933
<b>Forest Hills</b>	5,842	4,047	2,670	216	2,454
<b>Great Northwest</b>	30,790	12,881	6,633	626	6,008
<b>Guerra</b>	6,705	5,801	4,308	567	3,741
<b>Igo</b>	40,739	17,596	8,973	795	8,178
<b>Interlibrary Loan</b>	1,451	0	0	0	0
<b>Johnston</b>	8,775	5,471	2,759	459	2,301
<b>Kampmann</b>	0	339	158	0	158
<b>Landa</b>	18,602	12,640	4,161	287	3,874
<b>Las Palmas</b>	559	48	368	0	368
<b>Maverick</b>	27,726	12,987	5,551	729	4,822
<b>McCreless</b>	7,286	3,951	6,567	1,234	5,333
<b>Memorial</b>	4,780	8,976	5,141	930	4,211
<b>Mission</b>	10,445	10,455	6,361	772	5,588
<b>Pan American</b>	3,894	3,463	2,547	378	2,169
<b>Parman</b>	38,393	20,474	6,831	254	6,577
<b>Potranco</b>	19,391	11,161	18,528	607	17,920
<b>Pruitt</b>	4,517	4,293	2,447	12	2,435
<b>San Pedro</b>	2,578	4,502	5,101	549	4,552
<b>Schaefer</b>	9,190	9,510	5,208	411	4,797
<b>Semmes</b>	27,821	10,993	7,809	1,114	6,695
<b>System</b>	33,918	0	0	0	0
<b>Thousand Oaks</b>	9,592	6,835	5,695	820	4,875
<b>Tobin</b>	17,792	8,751	4,229	732	3,497
<b>Westfall</b>	9,527	7,047	6,612	1,162	5,450
<b>Total</b>	<b>739,606</b>	<b>256,101</b>	<b>188,378</b>	<b>24,108</b>	<b>164,269</b>

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

# San Antonio Public Library Programs

## June 2023

Location	Early Literacy Programs (0-5)	School Age Programs (6-12)	Teen Programs (13-18)	Adult Programs (19+)	Older Adults Programs (60+)	General Interest Programs*	Total
Bazan	0	10	0	8	4	0	22
Brook Hollow	3	0	0	0	1	0	4
Carver	0	3	0	9	1	7	20
Central	11	12	64	3	1	4	95
Cody	23	11	9	15	0	1	59
Collins Garden	5	11	4	6	0	7	33
Cortez	8	9	1	5	0	3	26
Encino	17	17	4	10	5	2	55
Forest Hills	5	12	4	0	1	5	27
Great Northwest	7	14	5	2	1	1	30
Guerra	5	8	3	2	1	2	21
Igo	16	9	3	12	0	1	41
Johnston	6	10	3	9	0	2	30
Landa	27	17	1	1	0	0	46
Las Palmas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Read Wagon	11	0	0	0	0	1	12
Maverick	12	9	5	3	1	0	30
McCreless	1	2	3	22	0	2	30
Memorial	4	10	3	37	1	1	56
Mission	10	7	7	6	0	7	37
Pan American	0	3	3	4	1	0	11
Parman	16	12	4	1	5	2	40
Potranco	4	12	4	14	1	4	39
Pruitt	4	5	11	2	0	2	24
San Pedro	3	12	0	2	2	2	21
Schaefer	8	19	5	4	0	14	50
Semmes	14	15	7	2	0	5	43
System	9	2	31	5	0	3	50
Thousand Oaks	4	11	3	15	1	0	34
Tobin	3	9	5	12	4	4	37
Westfall	4	10	10	2	5	0	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>1,054</b>

\*General Interest Programs are not targeted to one age group and/or are targeted for two or more age groups

# San Antonio Public Library Program Attendance

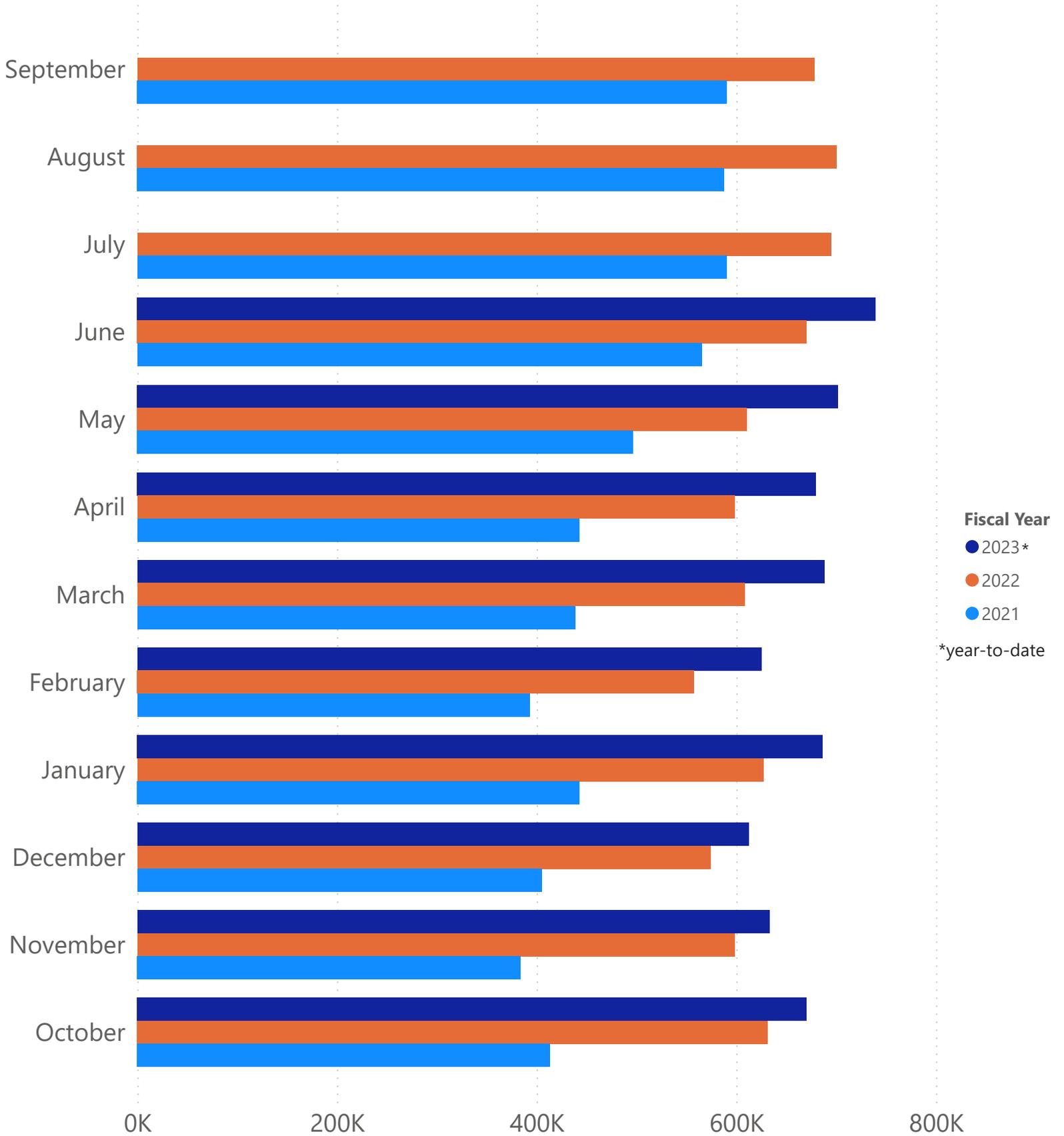
## June 2023

Location	Early Literacy Attendance (0-5)	School Age Attendance (6-12)	Teen Attendance (13-18)	Adult Attendance (19+)	Older Adults Attendance (60+)	General Interest Attendance*	Total
Bazan	0	226	0	85	17	0	328
Brook Hollow	150	0	0	0	240	0	390
Carver	0	79	0	50	80	47	256
Central	236	507	384	196	0	28	1,351
Cody	737	591	66	115	0	6	1,515
Collins Garden	88	388	12	31	0	70	589
Cortez	184	235	3	41	0	12	475
Encino	578	1,048	44	46	40	40	1,796
Forest Hills	89	363	8	0	5	28	493
Great Northwest	442	762	41	15	5	14	1,279
Guerra	159	184	9	9	22	54	437
Igo	1,156	345	14	112	0	15	1,642
Johnston	210	283	9	8	0	11	521
Landa	1,052	780	3	5	0	0	1,840
Las Palmas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Read Wagon	1,853	0	0	0	0	37	1,890
Maverick	600	802	44	36	1	0	1,483
McCresless	70	60	22	83	0	56	291
Memorial	50	213	12	177	2	36	490
Mission	243	427	59	59	0	128	916
Pan American	0	127	6	17	1	0	151
Parman	724	3,320	30	5	64	44	4,187
Potranco	141	504	10	85	9	398	1,147
Pruitt	35	153	54	15	0	17	274
San Pedro	32	284	0	23	13	10	362
Schaefer	218	881	43	27	0	156	1,325
Semmes	778	411	47	13	0	72	1,321
System	93	29	183	45	0	21	371
Thousand Oaks	45	213	6	89	13	0	366
Tobin	46	385	9	105	45	300	890
Westfall	25	168	29	10	10	0	242
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,034</b>	<b>13,768</b>	<b>1,147</b>	<b>1,502</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>28,618</b>

\*General Interest Programs are not targeted to one age group and/or are targeted for two or more age groups

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation

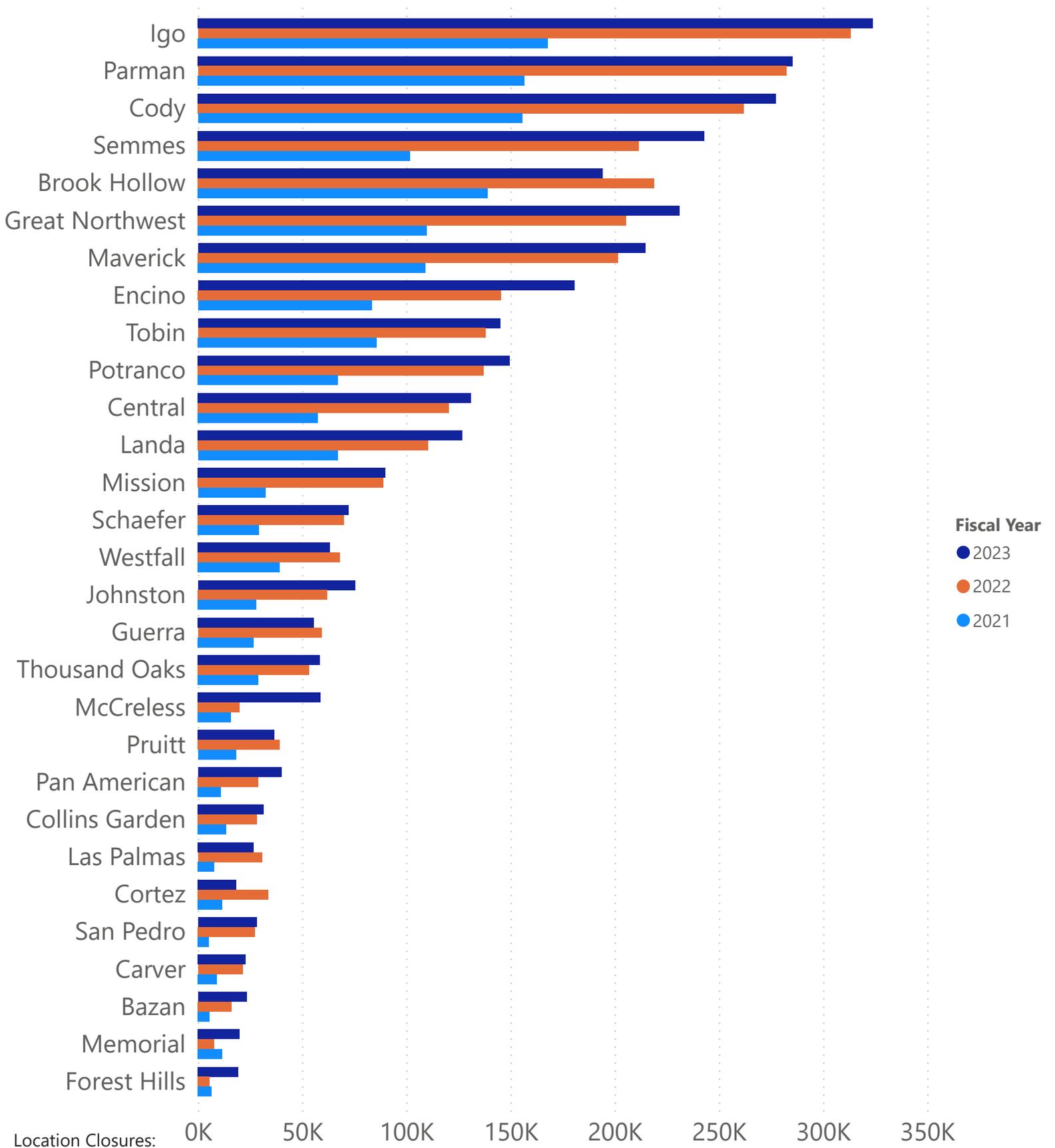


### Location Closures:

FY 23: Forest Hills Oct 1-March 18, Memorial Oct 1 - Feb 24, Westfall Oct 1 - Nov 29, Cortez Oct 1 - Feb 13, Las Palmas March 20 - TBD, Brook Hollow April 24- TBD  
FY 22: Forest Hills Oct 1-Sep 30, McCreless Oct 1-Apr 15, Memorial Oct 1 - Sep 30, Westfall Mar 28 - Sep 30, Bazan April 11-June 4, Cortez Sept 6 - Sep 30  
FY 21: Forest Hills Oct 1-Jan 12, McCreless Nov 2-Sep 30, San Pedro Dec 2-May 4, Forest Hills Feb 15-Sep 30, Memorial Mar 2-Sep 30

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - June 2023

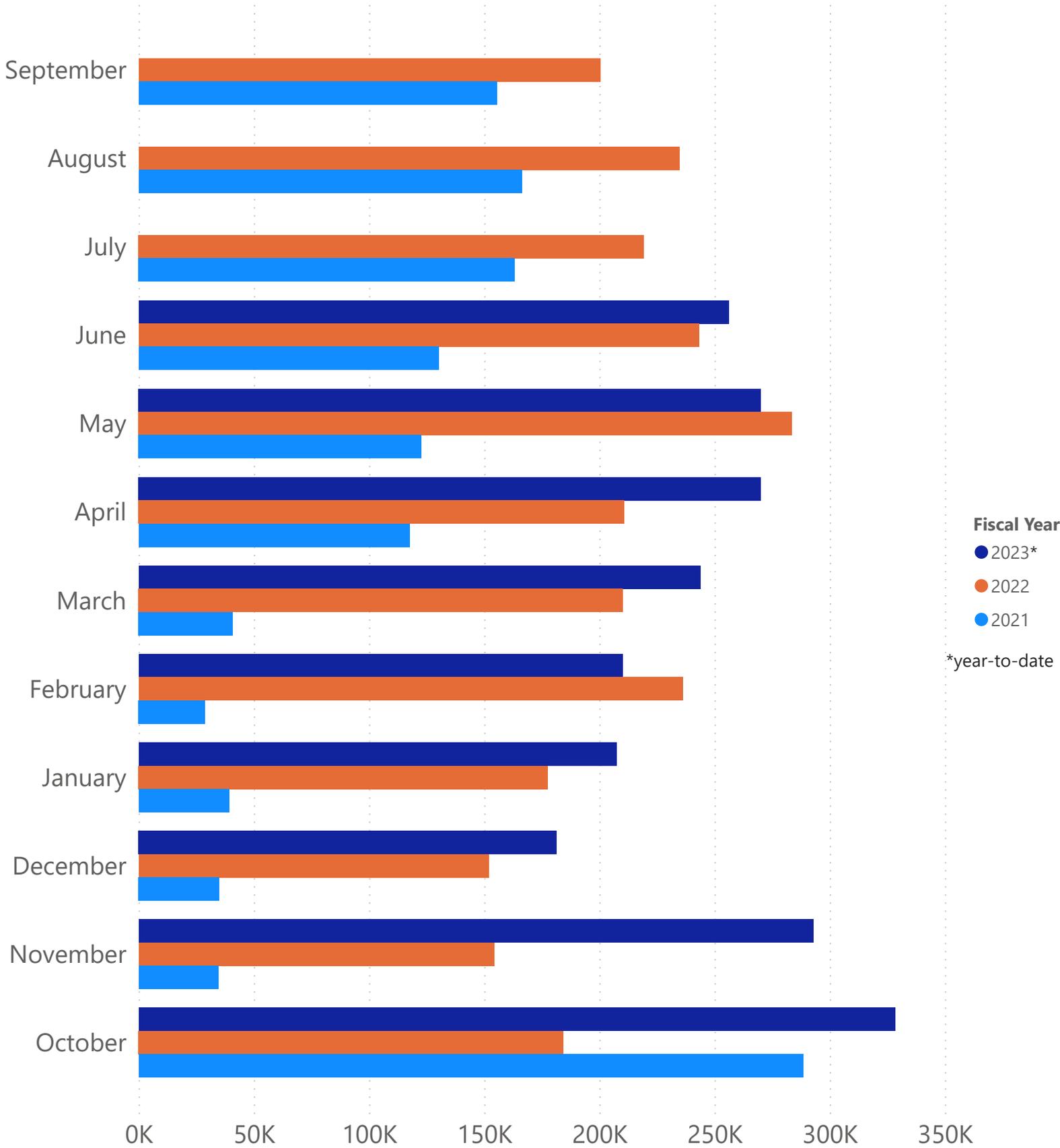


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# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits

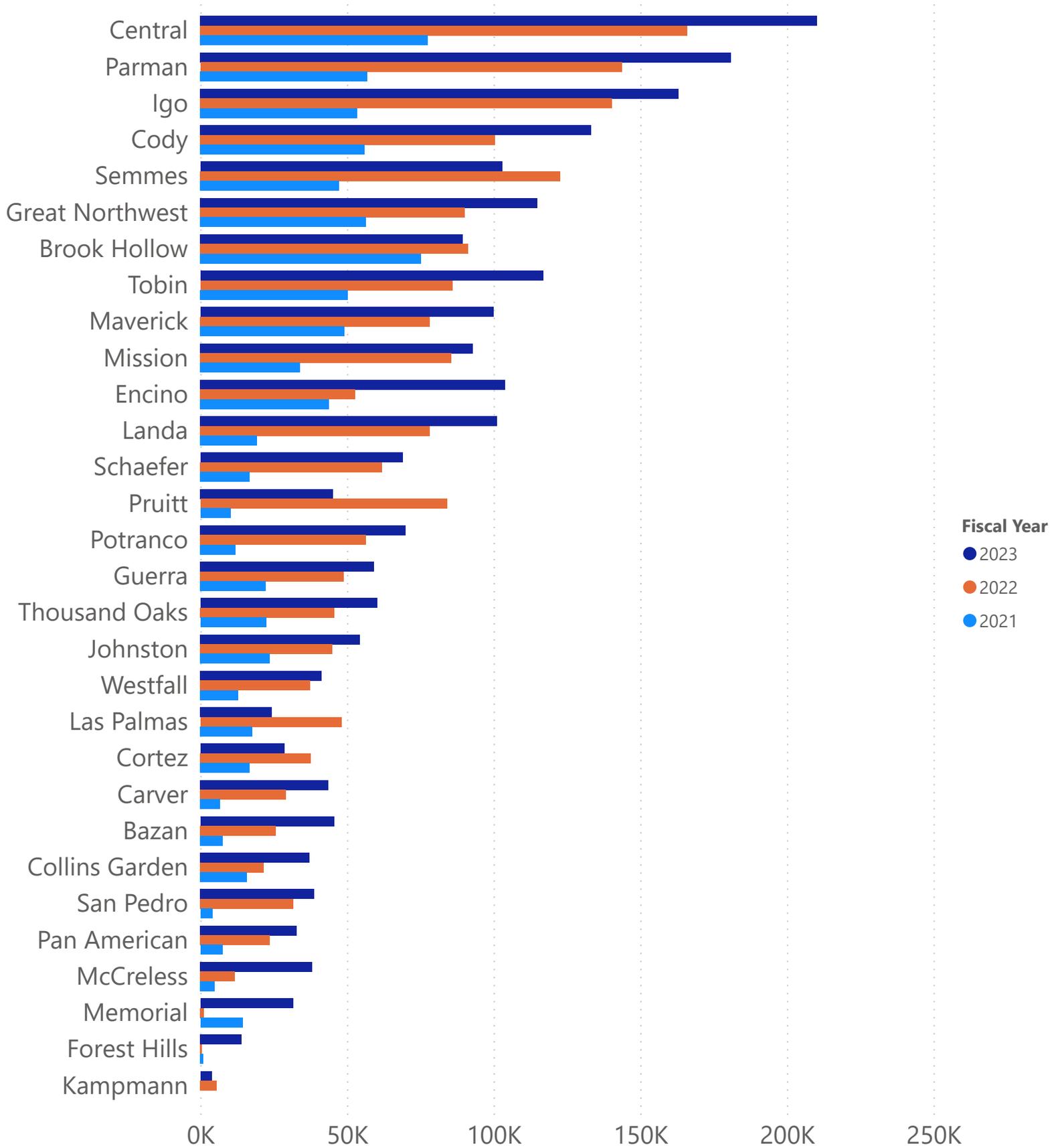


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# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - June 2023

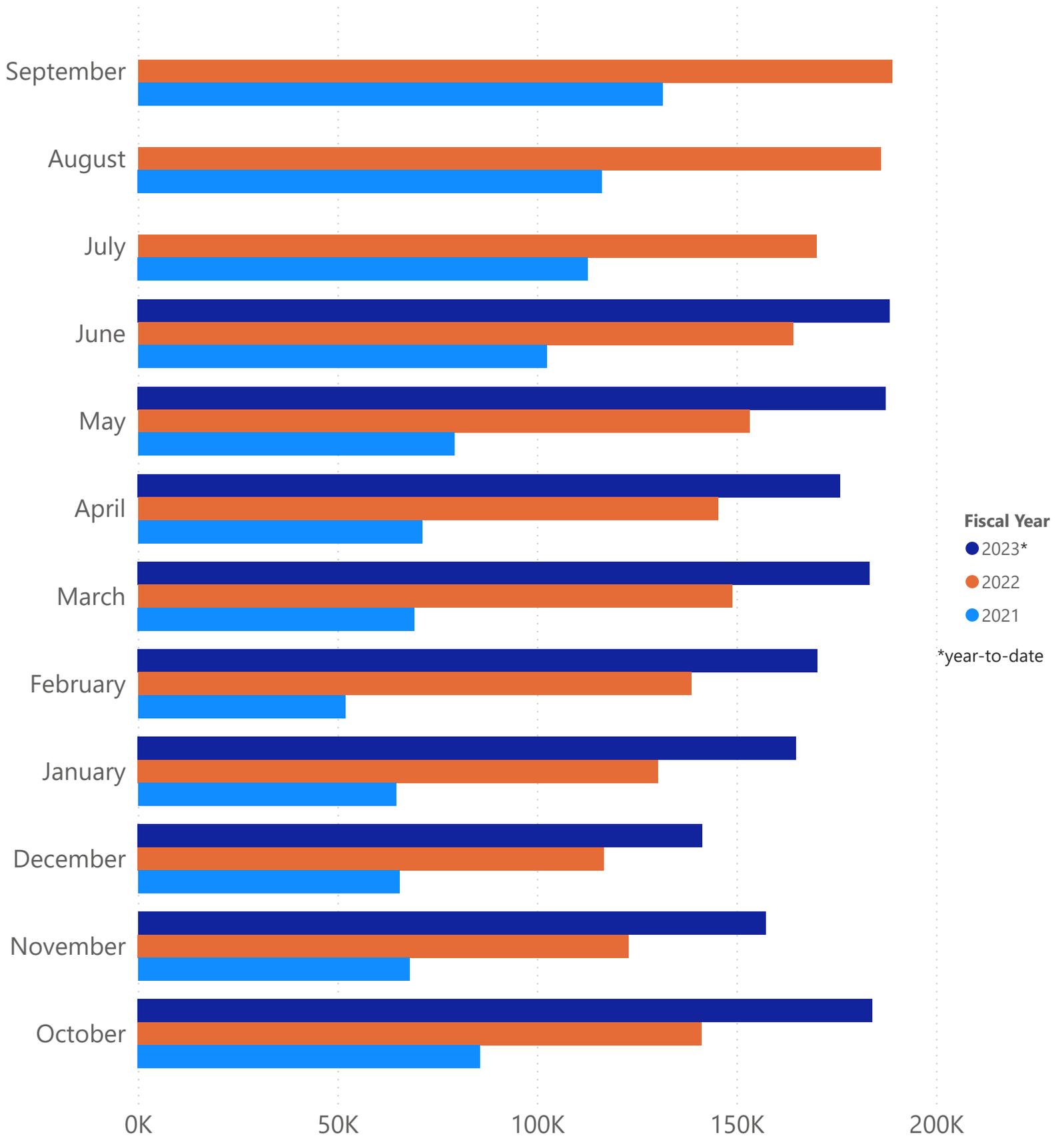


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# San Antonio Public Library

## Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use



**Location Closures:**

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# APPENDIX

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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