

# Read-alongs read out loud!

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San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) rolled out a collection of new, easier to use read along devices throughout the SAPL system.

## San Antonio Public Library Director's Report

July 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 met with San Antonio Public Library Foundation Executive Director Amy Hone on July 10 and 24, 2023.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar and staff briefed District 1 Councilmember Sukh Kaur on the Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County for Library Services on July 12, 2023.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar attended the National Museum and Library Services Board meeting in Washington, DC from July 16 to 19, 2023. At this meeting, Director Salazar received his certificate for his appointment to the IMLS board.

# COMMUNICATIONS

The Texana Bond Project, information about cooling centers, the Brook Hollow Branch Reopening, and programming at San Antonio Public Libraries were the main subjects of media coverage and marketing initiatives for San Antonio Public Library in July. These stories garnered significant media attention and led to well-attended programs all month long. The Communications Team also began developing campaigns to inform the public on the Great Northwest and Maverick Branch closures, Back to School resources, All-Staff Inservice, and others.

## Media Highlights

- July 6 - TPR aired information about the Texana renovation project.
- July 6 - TPR highlighted SAPL's children's programming happening at Thousand Oaks Branch.
- July 6 - TPR aired a feature segment with details about the Texana renovation project.
- July 6 - TPR aired information about SAPL's new read-along collection items.
- July 7 - KSAT 12 highlighted SAPL's Read to a Dog and Karaoke programs in their 9 a.m. and 12 noon broadcasts.
- July 7 - KSAT 12 published an online article detailing the Texana renovation project.
- July 10 - San Antonio Magazine highlighted San Antonio Public Library's Baby Story Time and Family Story Time in a piece about where to go for Story Time in San Antonio.
- July 16 - KENS 5 visited Semmes branch and reported on the Mario Kart tournament which takes place on Sundays.
- July 18 - KSAT 12 highlighted SAPL's summer programming at Central Library and Mission Branch Library.
- July 21 - KSAT 12 highlighted Let's Build at Landa Branch and Let's Create at Thousand Oaks Branch in their morning broadcast.
- July 24 - KSAT 12 highlighted Pollinating Texas happening at Mission Branch and Winter in July at Cortez Branch.
- July 25 - TPR aired a calendar listing of SAPL's Live Virtual Trivia.
- July 29 - KENS 5 reported on the reopening of Brook Hollow Branch Library.

## Social Media metrics overview for July 2023:

- SAPL's social media generated **392,922** impressions
  - SAPL's social media following base grew by **838** new fans
  - Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts **25,760** times.



### **Social Media growth for July 2023:**

- Twitter: **-17** followers
- Facebook: **582** followers
- Instagram: **273** followers

### **YouTube statistics for July 2023:**

- Subscribers: **16**
- Impressions: **40,784**
- Total Views: **3,571**
- Videos published: **0**

## **DIGITAL SERVICES**

On July 5, Digital Services Coordinator Adam Spana met with Teen Library Manager Kathleen Fordyce and Teen Librarian Matthew Loaiza to discuss the requirements for a PC to replace a gaming/VR PC.

On July 6, Mr. Spana, along with Library Services Administrator Adam Zaby and Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun, attended a demonstration by BiblioCommons to check out potential new offerings for the Library's catalog.

That same afternoon, Mr. Spana, Mr. Zaby and Mr. Laun attended a product demonstration from the Sirsi Dynix sales team to help better understand the full scope of products in the vendor's catalog.

On July 11, Mr. Spana attended the project kickoff for the RFID equipment refresh effort.

On July 12, Mr. Spana convened a meeting with members of the ITSD web team to scope out a renewed service level agreement in terms of supporting the internally developed suggest-a-purchase web application.

On July 12, Mr. Spana attended the inaugural meeting of the Library/ITSD Application Support team. The series of meetings were convened at the request of Library leadership in order to foster better communication and support of the Symphony ILS and Pharos print management system.

On July 12, Mr. Spana attended a meeting led by Special Projects Manager Ray Fraga in order to fully describe issues associated with installation of digital signage players at some branch locations and identify a solution to fix the issues.

Throughout the month of July, Mr. Laun assisted ITSD's efforts to upgrade the Library Windows server infrastructure to newer versions of the operating software.

# LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

On July 22, in collaboration with the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center's Latino Bookstore, the LCRC hosted author Reyna Grande and UTSA professor Omar Valerio-Jimenez, as part of The Texas Author Series 2023. Author Reyna Grande discussed her historical fiction novel, *The Ballad of Love and Glory*, also celebrating the paperback version release. Omar Valerio-Jimenez lectured on the history and legacy of the Texas Rangers, supporting historical facts, as presented in Reyna's novel. 42 patrons were in attendance.



## LITTLE READ WAGON

Little Read Wagon (LRW) staff continued to offer outdoor summer play events despite the record-breaking heat during the month of July. Extreme temperatures definitely had an impact on attendance numbers, with some families sharing that it was too hot to be outdoors even for native San Antonians. However, staff did continue to see families at the outdoor events throughout July, where children explored a variety of materials.

At San Pedro Springs Park, staff hosted families on Saturday morning, July 1 outside the San Pedro Branch Library under the deep shade of the live oak trees. Families played outside and then walked over to the San Pedro Springs pool to cool off as staff packed up. Children experimented with the movement of water through tubes, bottles, and funnels at the water wall. All ages were immersed at the bubble table. The perfect weather conditions yielded giant bubbles created with untraditional bubble tools like PVC pipe connectors, yarn wrapped metal circles, plastic grids, and embroidery stitching canvas.

Under the pecan trees at Martin Luther King Park, the weekly Play Lab series had a steady group of families who visited to play with LRW and then cool off in the nearby splash pad. Children engaged in sensory play with play dough, slime, kinetic sand, water, and paint. The children's favorite new tool this summer was the old-fashioned eggbeaters, they were used to mix many interesting concoctions. PreK-4 SA staff joined the LRW team to provide information on their school once during the month.

The Water Play Lab at Pearsall Park's Splash Pad wrapped successfully. LRW staff provided simple play materials for children to borrow, play with and return. Families were happy to discover and use the water toys. Pre-K 4 SA staff joined LRW staff once during the month at Pearsall to pass out information.

Let's Play at Palm Heights Community Center continued through July. As the event was indoors, LRW staff continued to host the event through August 1. This pilot partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department was well received by families and Parks staff. Both departments hope to continue the partnership into the fall with another indoor play series.

Once outdoor play events concluded on July 21, LRW staff began preparing for the 2023-2024 school year by cleaning or repairing materials and preparing supplies for workshops and make-and-takes. Staff also began researching and preparing early childhood presentations scheduled for August. Julia Lazarin, Megan Cruz and Eva Banda completed their strategic plan workgroup assignments.



## CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) again participated in the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration at Woodlawn Lake. Cresencia Huff (Coordinator of Children's Services), Julia Lazarin (Little Read Wagon), Randi Jones (Semmes), and Amanda Neace (Brook Hollow) teamed up to bring an assortment of activities to the family activity pavilion. People of all ages joined in the fun of building with LEGO, Straws and Connectors, KEVA Planks, and MagnaTiles. Giant Jenga and Giant Connect Four were also available for people who preferred games. The ever-popular prize wheel drew a couple hundred happy winners to pick up SAPL swag items.

Summer with SAPL continued with featured guest visits from several community partners. Children designed their own museum exhibit space using small pizza boxes and a variety of craft supplies when San Antonio Museum of Art brought a "Museum in a Box" program to multiple locations. The Witte shared about Texas pollinators with children who made embossed bookmarks related to the theme. The DoSeum

offered a constellation making activity with tin foil and flashlights. Rangers from the Missions National Historic Park presented on local predators and prey. Natural Areas educators from City of San Antonio Parks presented on Texas trees and arthropods. Spare Parts art educators facilitated a Matisse-style paper art activity for children. All of these were in addition to the regular weekly activities presented by SAPL Children's Librarians.



## 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 Teen Summer in full swing, teens continued to participate in a variety of activities on the server—including new tabletop games, sharing of art and writing pieces, music and concert discussions, and upcoming movie releases. Two teen volunteers organized a “worm design” contest for the server, and two other teen volunteers began hosting a new weekly club called “LGBTQ+You,” a club for queer teens and allies to discuss queer and other topics. Both activities were completely teen-led from development to implementation as responses to interests and discussions from other teens on the server.

**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 celebrated Ice Cream Day, shared a “Empower Women” book display, demoed how to make seed bombs, and hosted a Shark Party during Shark Week. Additional informational content and daily celebrations were shared through Stories.

**Teen Summer** – Teen Summer Bash 2023 took place in the Teen Library @ Central on July 15. Teens on the Discord server voted in a poll on the date and time for the party and also planned the activities from creation to implementation. There were plush worms available for teens to pick up to decorate for the Discord “Worm Contest” spearheaded by two teen volunteers. Another teen made a cake in the shape of a worm, made of cupcakes. Teens played an “in real life” Among Us game in the Teen Library. Teens also played video games, sang Karaoke, made buttons, and enjoyed pizza. Thanks to Michael Harle (Teen Services Librarian I, Encino Branch) and Grace Holt (Teen Services Librarian II / Assistant Manager, Brook Hollow Branch) for helping to facilitate the party, along with Teen Library staff.

**Professional Development** – On July 6, Matthew Loaiza assisted with an interview panel for a Teen Services Librarian II position. On July 19, Loaiza attended a meeting with other City of San Antonio departments to discuss the Mayor's Youth Engagement Council on Climate Initiatives and other City



youth-serving programs; Loaiza shared information about how Teen Services at the San Antonio Public Library provides library services for teens (ages 13 to 18) throughout the city.

**Pictures below:** Instagram Story question created by teen FSA intern Yesenia; part of Summer Youth Worker Leslie's "Empower Women" book display featuring Barbie, posted on Instagram; Teen Summer t-shirts!



## ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

In July, the Library launched Dig It!, a two-month series in partnership with Bexar County Master Gardeners. Throughout July and August, 19 Library locations will host sessions presented by expert gardeners. These sessions will provide information on summer gardening topics such as Surviving the Summer Heat, Pollinator Gardening, and a Beginner's Guide to Gardening in South Texas. At many of the sessions in July, Master Gardeners brought plants along for participants to take home. Photos from the July 23<sup>rd</sup> session on Pollinator Gardening at Thousand Oaks are below:



Another series of programs offered in July was Storytelling for Adults, presented by San Antonio Storytelling Association. The six sessions of this program – four of which were hosted in July – provided

participants with the opportunity to hear fantastic legends and tales as well as tips on carrying on this tradition and sharing this timeless art.

On July 22, in collaboration with the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center's Latino Bookstore, the LCRC hosted author Reyna Grande and UTSA professor Omar Valerio-Jimenez, as part of The Texas Author Series 2023. Author Reyna Grande discussed her historical fiction novel, *The Ballad of Love and Glory*, also celebrating the paperback version release. Omar Valerio-Jimenez lectured on the history and legacy of the Texas Rangers, supporting historical facts, as presented in Reyna's novel. 42 patrons were in attendance.

On July 28, the library hosted a session of its monthly online program SAPL Live Trivia. This program, which has been offered monthly since May 2020, continues to be successful. July's session saw many new teams joining the challenge to test their knowledge of five topics including 1970s TV shows, classic cars and junk food. A total of 20 teams and 48 participants joined this month's session. SAPL Live Trivia is hosted online the last Friday of every month from 7-8:30. Staff involved in presenting this monthly program include Brooke Mjolsness (Librarian II, Thousand Oaks), Vicky Villalobos (Librarian II, McCreless), Dan Garcia (Librarian II, Schaefer) and Morgan Yoshimura (Coordinator of Services to Adults)

## OLDER ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

In July, the library hosted four sessions on a variety of technology related topics for older adults that were presented by Senior Planet, a program of AARP. At Thousand Oaks, participants had the opportunity to participate in sessions on the topics of intro to selling online and smartphone photography. At McCreless, participants learned about shopping online and graphic design tools. The Library plans to continue hosting sessions offered by Senior Planet to expand its offering of technology sessions that specifically benefit older adults.

Many library locations host ongoing opportunities for older adults to remain healthy by engaging in low impact fitness classes. Opportunities include Tai Chi at Encino, Mission, Tobin Branch Libraries, Cardio Fit and Yoga at Parman Branch Library, Meditation at Pan American Branch Library, and Yoga at Thousand Oaks and Carver Branch Libraries. These sessions allow older adults to continue to maintain their health in a way that is specifically designed for this age group.

# CENTRAL LIBRARY

## CHILDREN'S LIBRARY



*Library staff explore children's contributions to the "Summer with SAPL" paleta wall at Central.*

A very successful *Summer with SAPL* ended on July 31 with a wall full of paleta cards, and over 1,250 books given out to children. The first summer after renovations proved the new Children's Library to be a big hit with families, many of whom returned week after week to play, read and connect with new friends.

Driven by Librarian Melissa Fulmer's advocacy for a more welcoming environment for neurodiverse children, the Children's Library began weekly Sensory Friendly Calm Hours on Thursdays from 10:00 am -12:00 pm. It has been open to children of all ages and abilities who benefit from a quieter, more relaxed library environment. Staff made thoughtful adjustments to the play area space to ensure a sensory-friendly atmosphere.



*Learning with Grace Field Trip to the Children's Library at Central*

Children from the Learning with Grace summer program visited the Children's Library for a field trip in late July. Manager Kate Simpson led the group of 20 tweens on a tour of the art on display in the library, then



Librarian Ashley Stubbs welcomed them into the Story Room for an open-ended art activity. The suncatchers they created decorated the Story Room for the rest of the summer.

Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin, Ms. Stubbs and Ms. Fulmer presented weekly programs in their successful 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.



#### *Family Story Time at the Children's Library at Central*

Ms. Seglin was the lead librarian for the weekly Family Story Time series. The most memorable program in July centered around the book *Tumble*. A sensory bin of foraged items and other loose nature parts was a big hit with the kids. In other sessions, young children learned about animal tracks by making prints of plastic animals in playdough. The final Family Story Time of the summer was a raucous, joyous affair as the librarians brought out an array of instruments for the children to explore.

Ms. Seglin also took the lead on the bi-weekly Let's Move! programs. Kids really enjoyed the interactive beach yoga poses and rhythm sticks and of course "The Floor is Lava!" game. The librarians incorporated calming exercises along with the sensory experience of dimmed lighting and an essential oil diffuser.





*Tween Time at the Children's Library*

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. July was a wonderfully messy month! Tweens made clay sculptures and marbled paper art using shaving cream. They also made stress balls using balloons, cornstarch & essential oils, as well as key chains using fabric paints or colorful pens and designed their own magnets. They had a space to be creative and work on different forms of art, or a space to just hang out and relax while reading a book.



*Let's Create! at the Children's Library at Central*

Ms. Fulmer led the Let's Create! program, along with assistance from Ms. Seglin and Ms. Stubbs. Children tried their hand at special art techniques like Styrofoam printing, paper quilling, and mixed-media collage.

Ms. Fulmer and Ms. Stubbs continued to contribute to virtual programming for children in July. Ms. Fulmer led children in an art activity for two sessions of Art Club Online and participated in Baby Time Online several times as well. Ms. Stubbs recorded two stories for the Dial-A-Story service.

Children's Library staff continued to develop outreach connections with area childcare centers and schools. Ms. Stubbs visited Central Christian Day School where she 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 visited the CreativKids camp at Temple Beth-El, where she shared songs and stories. Ms. Simpson delivered books to two classrooms at the Discovery School in support of their summer program.

The team at the Children's Library shared a bittersweet gathering one morning in late July to wish Melissa Fulmer well as she moves on to be the Children's Librarian II at the Memorial Branch Library. The team will miss her greatly but is very happy for her well-deserved promotion. She began her transition by assisting with the last LEGO Club program at Memorial in July.

## 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 (Teen Services Librarian II / Assistant Manager, Collins Garden Branch) for "Teen Time" every Friday on the Discord server.

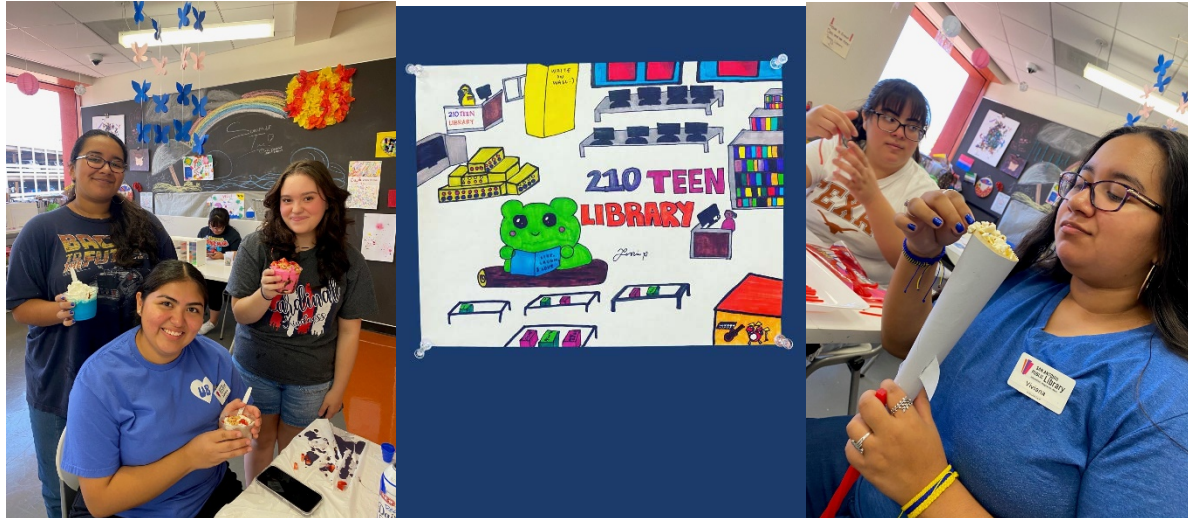
Rosalie Barrera (Librarian I) joins Cassie Garza (Teen Librarian II / Assistant Manager, Bazan Branch) on Tuesday afternoons to help to facilitate the weekly "Gaming Club" on Discord, in which teens enthusiastically stream, play, and discuss video games. Rosalie continues to support and engage with teens 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.

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, creating book displays and signage, curating book lists, sharing their art in the Teen Library, and contributing to create a safe and welcoming environment for other teens to experience the Teen Library.

Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): July saw the continuation of Teen Summer Tuesday activities that highlighted general teen interest and celebrations, such as celebrating Shark Week, National Ice Cream Month, and new foods. Suggesting, participating, and leading, these activities allow teens the chance to pick up a new skill, or show their peers tips and tricks. Teens made ice cream, using a method that involved science, physical energy, and creativity. With ice cube and salt, teens created their own freezing containers in which to freeze a dairy mixture to make ice cream. They topped off their concoctions with fresh fruits. Teens also took a tricky technique and did wonderful work making fresh Vietnamese spring rolls and used an air fryer to create quick and easy pizza pockets. Summer interns, current and new teen volunteers have been finding ways to participate actively in Teen Tuesday occurrences. At the end of Adrianna's internship, she and teen volunteer Skylar produced a Taco Thursday with a Taylor Swift spin. Teen volunteer Viviana spearheaded and planned a shark party for Shark Week, featuring a shark movie BINGO she created and printed, a blue shark drink, shark popcorn bowls, and movies. The results were stellar and culminated in a team effort and without prompt, Viviana wrote thank you cards to her fellow

volunteer peers. Teen volunteers and interns also produced picture layouts, story ideas, and videos such as Esteban's demo on making Sorting Hat savory pastries for Harry Potter's birthday. Pictures and videos from program times can be found on the @210teenlibrary Instagram page.

**Pictures below** – Ice Cream Day in the Teen Library; Art posted in the Teen Library and created by Summer Youth Worker Leslie; Leslie and Shark Party planner Viviana



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

Librarian Arland Schnacker and Valerie Saucedo, in collaboration with Library Assistant Rachel Reyes, created an eye-catching July 4th Display.



On July 7 and 14, Library Assistant J.D. Elizondo attended a meeting and co-hosted for the Escape the Earth Podcast. During July J.D. worked with the Strategic Planning Committee - Dynamic Spaces. J.D. contributed to the group's presentation video with voice over and assisting with extra footage of "Smarty".

J.D. Elizondo and Valerie Saucedo hosted the Creative Collective on July 8 and 22. Patrons showcased and collaborated live art via music., poetry and comedy. A couple from Monterey Mexico were visiting the library for the first time and commented about the Creative Collective "It's not just good what you are doing here, but amazing."

On July 10, 17, and 24 from 1-3pm, Information Services hosted St Mary's University's School of Law's Housing Rights program. Patrons could to ask questions about any concerns they may be having regarding their housing. The law students helped 26 patrons pro bono (free of charge).

Librarian Christina Montero invited CPS Energy Casa Verde to do an information table on July 12, promoting the Casa Verde Weatherization program to the public.



Library Assistant J.D. Elizondo and Librarian Patricia Perez kicked off their Bilingual Spanish - English conversational program on July 18 and it was well-received by the group.



On July 25, Library Assistant Bettina Hernandez hosted the Fallen Kingdom movie in the Central Library auditorium. There were 13 patrons in attendance.



Patricia Perez visited the Commander's House Adult and Senior Center on July 26. Ms. Perez provided information about SAPL services and assistance with mobile devices. Ms. Perez spoke with 32 residents.



On July 29, SAPL hosted "Standup for Kids" which is a national organization that helps unhoused patrons or at risk patrons aged 13-25yrs. This organization provided resources for food, jobs, bills, clothes, etc. This organization helped 5 patrons with resources.

On July 29, a Chair Yoga Class was offered by Librarians Patricia Perez and Pannaga Prasad over the Library Zoom virtual platform. The class was presented by Ashley Ludwick, a professional Yoga Instructor with the Idoyogasa organization. The instructor taught chair yoga in a fun-filled way to connect within and find inner peace. A patron commented that they enjoyed the class.



# LEARN AT CENTRAL

Learn at Central assisted 442 patrons for the month of July. Learn at Central Training Officers Denise Cadena and Daniel Gonzalez extended their “Intro to Computers” class and have an average of 4 patrons per weekly session. One patron reported that the Training Officers were able to help with each element of the job process and it resulted in getting the patron a job within days. The Training Officers were able to then help the patron with the onboarding process. Daniel and Denise will be presenting a monthly workshop on ‘Employment Retention’ in late August. In addition, both Training Officers visited BiblioTechEdu’s space to gain insight into wayfinding and design ideas for the future of Learn at Central. Lastly, Learn at Central 5<sup>th</sup> floor has piloted a public phone for patron use. The phone averages 200 patrons per month since it was implemented in May of this year.

# TEXANA/ GENEALOGY



July marked the first month of walk-in public service for the Texana/Genealogy Department in the temporary first-floor service point across from the main circulation desk. Patrons expressed satisfaction with the department’s reopening and having the ability to access available resources to support their research. Staff answered a total of 1191 reference questions, which was the highest monthly number to date for this fiscal year.

Librarian Andy Crews led a beginning genealogy class on July 15 at the Mission Library. He went over 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 July 24, Librarian Deborah Countess hosted an online class dealing with house history research and the free resources available online that can assist in uncovering information. *House History: A Case Study*, examined the “genealogy” of a home located on East Elmira Street using Bexar County deed records, city directories, Sanborn maps and digitized newspaper articles. Ms. Countess went through the process step-by-step, discussing which resources to use based on what was already known about the home.

Librarian Sylvia Reyna conducted the class *ABC’s of Genealogy* at the Central Library on July 26. She went over the fundamentals for starting your family history research as well as the basic resources that can help launch someone on a rewarding journey.

# BRANCH LOCATIONS

## BAZAN

Children's librarian Hope Sonnen continued the *Lego's Club* and *Let's Build: Blocks and More* programs in July. She reported a good turnout for both popular programs. Bazan hosted the DoSeum's *Summer with SAPL STEM* program on July 19. Children were introduced to an activity related to science and space which involved having them draw their own constellation with sharpies and star stickers, poking holes with giant safety pins in foil and using a flashlight to illuminate their "night sky". Everyone had a great time learning and being creative.



Assistant Manager and teen librarian Cassie Garza continued to host the BTS (Korean pop music group) craft club at the Bazan library. The group listened to new music from Jung Kook and used washi tape to decorate photo card holders. One member of the group did an experiment using glass tile pieces to make a mosaic tile coaster. The coaster came out wonderfully and will be the craft theme for the next meeting.



Ms. Garza with the assistance of Teen Librarian Barrera with teen services continued to host the 210 Teen Library Discord Gaming club where teens streamed game play of Smash Ultimate and Minecraft.

The highlight of the month was several teens mentioned in voice chat that they had a blast attending the teen summer bash at Central library where they were able to meet each other in person.

Ms. Garza hosted the Boys and Girls club for a library visit. The group had a good number of teens, and they were able to get free teen summer t-shirts. Ms. Garza had a selection of free books, comics, and other library summer swag to share with them.

Ms. Garza mentored the Family Services teen summer intern Syriah Sanchez during her assignment at Bazan. Ms. Sanchez worked on shifting several areas of the library to make room for new library items and along with other teen volunteers designed, created and implemented an ongoing escape room in the Bazan library teen space.

*The Bad Girls Book Club*, which was renamed the *Bad Girls Romance Book Club* to emphasize the romance genre focus of the club, met in July to discuss *Ship Wrecked* by Olivia Dade, book three of the Spoiler Alert series. The author, Ms. Dade also complimented the book club flyer which she saw posted on the social media. The group enjoyed the book and the entire series.

The *Bazan Book Club* also gathered to discuss *Survive the Night* by Riley Sager. The group is no stranger to reading thrillers and they really enjoyed all the twists and turns that came with this read. The group plans on adding another one of Riley Sagers books to the reading list for 2024. Both book clubs are hosted by Library Assistant Enedina Prater.

July was the first meeting at Bazan of the Swiftie group, a Taylor Swift fan club. The group, which was hosted by Library Assistant Enedina Prater, gathered to make Taylor Swift buttons and also made plans for a sing along at their next meet up.

The Ink Slayers, Bazan's new writing group, led by Library Assistant Enedina Prater, had its inaugural meeting in July. Writers of all levels and experience talked about their projects and participated in several writing exercises. The group was able to get some work completed through writing sprints and had an opportunity to share their work with each other afterwards.

The Learn Center at Bazan assisted many customers in July with one-on-one helps sessions that covered computer skills learning, resume building, job search, job applications, Canva and personal devices. Training Officer Carlos Loera presented *English as a Second Language* classes, with an open ongoing enrollment, *Painting for Senior Adults*, *Adult Coloring* and *Coffee and a Movie* for seniors.

## BROOK HOLLOW





SAPL's Mascot Smarty (Pants) and the **Brook Hollow Library (BHL) Team (above)** reopened the library Saturday, July 29, after it was closed at the end of April for HVAC work. Patrons were welcomed back with a bit of soft fanfare including, bookmarks with SAPL's Smarty jumping up and down! The San Pedro Hills Women's Club unveiled a painting of the BHL that was commissioned by the club in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Reigning president Maureen Lancaster, COSA District 9 Councilman John Courage, an avid library supporter, was on hand along with Artist Virginia Lukefahr. Lukefahr engaged the audience with stories of the models in the painting. A mother and her sons, featured in the painting, were delighted to participate in the reopening event and a female patron wore the same dress as she did in the painting.

BHL closed to the public for HVAC work in late April. Library service continued @ 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 were Mon & Tues, 1-8 pm; Wed & Thurs, 1-6 pm & Fridays, 1-4 pm. In July BHL served

1,500 patrons at the WRSC. 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.

BHL Assistant Manager/Teen Librarian Grace Holt continued to join Central and Carver Libraries during BHL's closure. On July 15th, Holt helped facilitate activities at the Teen Summer Bash at Central Library where teens enjoyed making buttons, eating pizza, and playing in real life (irl) *Among Us*. Holt also contributed to four online Teen Times on the 210teenlibrary Discord server in the month of July as well as to the Write and Create Clubs on Discord. She helped prepare for Brook Hollow Library's reopening on July 29th. The Teen Area at BHL makes space available for teens to express themselves.

Adult Services Librarian Marco De Leon conducted four of BHL's Book Club meetings off site and @ WRSC during the library's closure. BHL's Mystery Book Club met July 6, eight members read *The Binding Room* by Nadine Matheson. Nine members of the La Tertulia Book Club read *Reina Roja* by Juan Gomez Jurado and met July 8 to discuss it. BHL Tuesday Evening and Walker Ranch Senior Center (WRSC) Book Clubs met at WRSC in July. The Tuesday Evening Book Club read *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley; 11 readers attended. The WRSC Book Club met July 20 with 24 people attending to discuss *The Paris Library* by Janet Skeslien.

BHL Children's Librarian Amanda Neace started the month of July assisting the SAPL Children's Department and Little Read Wagon at the Independence Day festivities at Woodlawn Park. Neace also contributed to coordinating three Family Story Time Online programs. Neace completed her work with SAPL's Dynamic Space Strategic Plan Work Group. She concluded the month assisting the BHL Team reopen the library July 29, 2023, by providing crafts and activities in the children's space.

BHL Library Assistant Elissa Vura along with Librarian Tim Johnson (Igo) and Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez (Central - Childrens) hosted the Escape the Earth podcast—a monthly sci-fi and fantasy book discussion. The July episode, discussing *Rosewater* by Tade Thompson, has received over 66 plays to date. The Escape the Earth podcast is available on Soundcloud under the San Antonio Public Library Podcast TunedIn Channel. Vura also continued to serve library patrons at the Landa Library while BHL was closed for HVAC replacement, facilitating the popular Let's Build: Legos and More program on Fridays and assisting Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas with programming for ages 0-8.



BHL Manager with WRSC Member Reggie Dirmerger

BHL Manager Jeannette Davies spearheaded the closure of BHL's temporary location @ Walker Ranch Senior Center (WRSC) and the reopening of the "cool" BHL. Davies, host of Noon Time Helping of Cooking in SAPL's Virtual Kitchen, demonstrated how to create healthy summer "bug-looking" snacks @ WRSC's July birthday 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 serves as the Chairperson of the Texas Library Association's (TLA) PR Committee and is in process of recording a podcast for ALA's October Banned Book Week, October 1-7, 2023. The committee also judges the TLA's Branding Iron Awards for Library Excellence.

## CARVER

A series of weekly nutrition classes aimed at fighting diabetes launched at Carver in July. The classes were made available through a partnership with Viva Health. Attendees of chair yoga consider the classes a welcome complement to the weekly workout which takes place immediately afterward.

The Shiloh Holy Royal Arch Chapter No. 16 held an off-site book drive and donated the materials they had collected to Carver Branch on Friday, July 14. They have made the donation an annual occurrence. This year marked their third gift.



The HBCU Send-off was held on Sunday, July 9 to honor the legacy of historically Black Colleges and Universities and offer support to students in the area attending such an institution. In addition to college recruiters and HBCU alumni, the event attracted many young people who were experiencing Carver Branch for the first time. The event included a photo booth and a dance party for teens. About 200 people were in attendance.



On July 11, the branch welcomed the Lemonade Circle, a leadership organization whose mission is to promote leadership to girls of color in grades 6 through 12. A partnership that developed afforded the branch to promote awareness of its Teen Room and to help the young women Carver can serve as a resource they can turn to for information and resources. Their use of "Lemonade" in their name reminds them to look beyond adversity and see how they might see it as a positive.



## LEARN

The total amount of patrons who entered the Learn Center was 178. Learn at Carver welcomed 30 new patrons seeking computer and job preparation training and continued to support 100 patrons with their computer training needs. The most popular program during the month of July besides computer skills continues to be job searching and resume building. 11 Learn patrons who came into the Learn center have been employed because of the services provided like resume building, job searching, interviewing skills, and finally onboarding paperwork for employment.

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 continues to be involved in the community with the following events and locations: Claude Black Community Center, District 2 Senior Center, Youth Center of Texas, and the Frank Garrett Multi-Purpose Community Center.

## CODY

Children and families had a blast playing at the Cody Library this month, with Children's Librarian Kristin Yourdon! The branch continued to focus on offering free-play programs for young children and families. Children especially enjoyed building with all kinds of materials during Babies Explore and Littles Explore on July 12. Items set out to explore on that day were magnet tiles, Duplos, nature blocks, foam blocks, and animal stackers. During the weekly Saturday Morning Play Date, children especially enjoyed practicing animal noises as they played with animal toys.

Family Movie Crafternoon programs this month included Toy Story and The Bad Guys. Families gathered to make collage dioramas of an art gallery with the San Antonio Museum of Art staff on July 13. This was a favorite program of many attendees, and the children made incredible pieces.



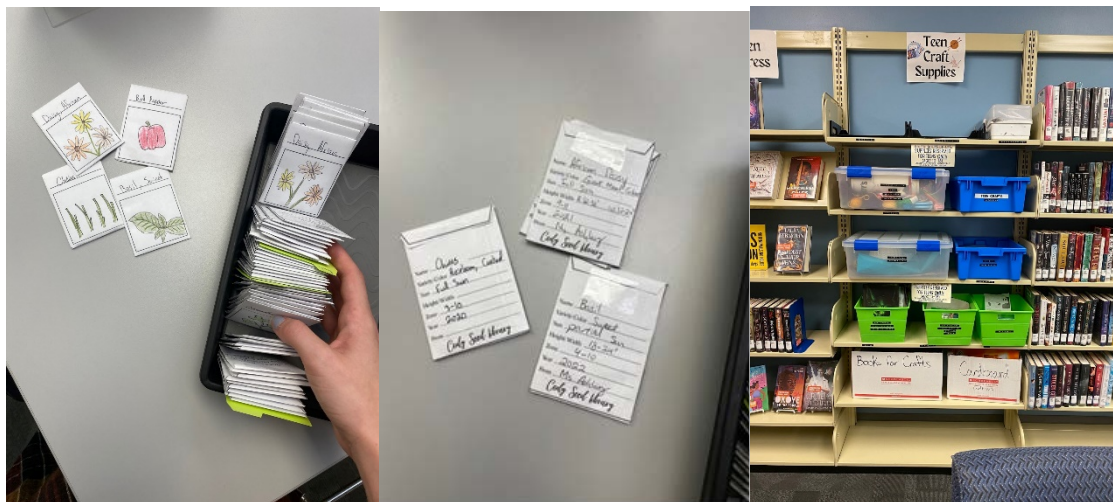
Lego Club and Art Club remain popular programs at the branch. A favorite activity at Art Club was our collaborative art program. Tables were covered in butcher paper and children could choose what material they would like to draw with. It was incredible to see children working together to make some awesome artwork.

Finally, the branch hosted a Summer Celebration on July 27th to celebrate an incredible summer! Children and families competed in challenges, created artwork with colored popsicles, and created summer mosaics.

The Cody Library has had a fantastic month for Teen Services with two weekly programs for teens and a record number of teen volunteers for the year! Teens have taken over program planning as well as displays in the teen space to really make their mark on the library.

Additionally, we received a huge donation of craft supplies giving us wonderful opportunities for future programming. The teens have loved utilizing the new painting supplies and metallic art pens the most. With this donation we have also expanded the passive programming bins to always allow teen arts and crafts, rather than just during scheduled programming. For those we have seen the most use in crocheting and other yarn crafts.

Finally, we have begun the process of creating a seed library with donated supplies. Volunteers have worked to research and label seed donations with care instructions as well as show off their art skills on the front of the seed packets.



Library Aide Caleb Blount presented a program on microgreens for adults on July 25. Microgreens are an easy to grow source of nutritious food. In the G.R.O.W. Together program, participants learn why and how to grow this nutrient dense food in their own homes! The presentation was followed by a hands-on opportunity to make their own microgreens growing container.

## COLLINS GARDEN

The Collins Garden branch saw an increase in all program attendance during this reporting period. Due to increased attendance, programs had to be accommodated in larger spaces.

### Adults

Adult Services Librarian Rosa Villa hosted two events at the Impacto Community Center. On July 11 she hosted a Lotería game night, and on July 25 she hosted a Rock Painting activity for members of the community. On July 13, she planned and hosted a Decoupage Seashells craft as part of her Summer with SAPL for Adults program lineup. This program was well attended with positive feedback from attendees. On July 18, she hosted another crafting program: Tile Art – another well attended program with positive feedback from patrons.

On July 19, Ms. Villa led the Collins Garden Book Club in their discussion of the novel *A Flicker in the Dark* by Stacy Willingham.

On July 31, to wrap-up Summer with SAPL at the branch, Ms. Villa and Children's Librarian Gina Brudi coordinated a family event. Families were invited to stay cool, enjoy the Super Mario Movie and make cube crafts based on the movie characters.

Ms. Villa created a National Ice Cream month and a Barbecue display.

During the month, adults continued to participate in passive programming activities: jigsaw puzzles, crosswords, wordsearches, adult coloring and other brain booster activities.



## Teens

Teen programming continued every Tuesday afternoon. Teens continued to enjoy self-directed activities: board games, art, origami, and painting. In the absence of Teen Librarian Daniella Toll, Librarian Ami Sarabia visited the branch and engaged with teens in the teen space while they hung out and created.

## Children

Summer with SAPL took Children's Librarian Gina Brudi to the Palm Heights Parks Summer Youth Camp where she presented stories and songs and children received a free book. On July 12<sup>th</sup> she visited Little Wonderland Learning Center and engaged children with songs and stories.

The weekly Lego Club and the Preschool Story Time programs were popular with families this summer and the branch saw an increase in programs attendance.

During Summer with SAPL, Ms. Brudi hosted three Let's Build: Blocks and More programs, two Let's Create: Art Time and one Minute to Win It program for children.

On July 18 the branch hosted a Park Ranger from the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park. The presenter spoke to children about animals that live among us in Texas. She taught the audience the sign language for each animal and brought pelts for children to view and touch.

Ms. Brudi continued her collaborative work in Baby Time and Family Story Time Online. The paleta artwork that children were invited to create on the whiteboard in the Children's area continued to be very popular through July.

Ms. Brudi mounted a *Miss Gina's Favorite* book display and a *Read-Along Read out Loud!* Book display in the children's area.



## CORTEZ

The month of July brought Cortez Library's busiest day of the year, spurred on by the *Predators & Prey* Summer Program, Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> had a door count of 1415, slightly shy of last year's record of over 1600. Since becoming fully staffed in May, Cortez staff have been delighted to see a steady influx of regular patrons coming to enjoy their programming and services. Branch Manager Angela Morrow with assistance from Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez began a new series of programs, *Name that Tune*: where patrons can engage in friendly competition to identify a themed set of playlists and be declared the 'Name that Tune Champion' for the week. The community reception was positive. Ms. Morrow held an all-staff meeting in July, during which four staff members birthdays were celebrated with a potluck arranged by Adult Librarian and Wellness Liaison Melissa Carroll. Library Assistant Jo Ann Paredes's craft class *Getting Crafty* was held four times in July, one of which was guest-hosted with short notice by Ms. Vasquez in a great display of teamwork. The crafts offered for July were canvas painting, sunflower dream catchers, and diamond painting. In another show of amazing teamwork, Library Aide Esmeralda Staudt jumped in to offer a fabulous Story Time (with the voices and singing!) when Ms. Childs lost her voice and could not read. She received an EnCore card from Ms. Childs. Ms. Staudt lent her spectacular story-reading skills to Dial-a-Story, reading in both English and Spanish on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Several organizations offered community information tables throughout July, including Royal Public Schools, Metro Health, Metro Health Immunizations, and the League of Women Voters. The Friends of Cortez Library met on July 25<sup>th</sup> and is still seeking members to form a quorum. The Friends of Cortez Library and staff adopted a young, orphaned rooster who lives in the field beside the building as their mascot. The rooster, Rudy, eagerly greets staff outside the library every morning and evening.





June's Adult programs were appreciated by many patrons while escaping summer heat, learning new things, and visiting with new friends. *Healthy Neighborhoods* cooking program was a big hit, attended by 19 community members of all ages. Led by Metro Health's Vince Escobedo, the Healthy Cooking class learned how to make pomegranate kale salad two different ways. For a few, this was their first time trying new ingredients like pomegranate seeds and garbanzo beans for a homemade salad and vinaigrette salad dressings. Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez reignited her movie program for horror fans; *Monster Meet*. Now monthly and on a Saturday afternoon, 10 patrons enjoyed a comedy horror film about a crazy bear while relaxing in the air-conditioned meeting room with snacks. San Antonio Public Library Adult Services sponsored a summer-themed crafting session led by Circulation Attendant Brenda Sanchez. Patrons learned the art technique of decoupage and used it to decorate seashells. Adult Services Librarian Melissa curated several fantastic book displays which boosted circulation on popular topics including Barbie, Book Tok, and the Great Outdoors. She was happy to showcase her mother's Barbie and Barbie case from the 1960's and many patrons mentioned the happy nostalgia it evoked.

Library Assistant Jo Ann Paredes hosted two *Teen Time* drop-ins in the month of July, with 3 teens attending. One session enjoyed painting tiny Converse sneakers, another worked on crochet projects.





For the second Summer Reading Program event, Cortez Library hosted the National Parks Service for *Predators and Prey*, a look at native Texas predator and prey animals throughout history. Park Ranger Quazi brought pelts so that the children and their adults could learn what animals have lived in the Central Texas area over the centuries. Ranger Quazi brought an atlatl, an ancient hunting tool, to show how early humans were able to take down such large prey despite being slower, weaker, or smaller than the other animal. The program was a hit; 88 children and adults had a fantastic time! Cortez Library celebrated two other big events this July: the 54th anniversary of the first moon landing by the Apollo 11 astronauts and a festive program, *Winter in July*. The lunar landing was celebrated with a special moon-themed Story Time! Children and their adults read stories by and about real astronauts, then made their own moon and star art. At *Winter in July*, families were invited to a variety of reindeer games, such as building ski slopes, gingerbread houses, and playing with fake snow. Children's Librarian Ms. Childs visited South San Community Center to speak with the summer youth camp attendees there. Ms. Childs continued to host weekly programs which are an established hit, Legos on Wednesdays afternoon with 52 monthly attendees and various craft classes for small groups.

## ENCINO

Adults:

Throughout the month of July all ages got to enjoy the Summer Movie series on Sunday afternoons. Movies for July included Lilo & Stitch, Teen Beach Movie, and Scooby Doo: Curse of the Lake Monster. Light snacks and beverages were provided by Encino Friends of the Library.

Adults had a few opportunities to be crafty at Encino in July. On July 3, Encino hosted a Decoupage Seashell workshop – this was a systemwide craft offering for adults over the Summer. Adult librarian Ann Laird also hosted two more craft workshops that were well received – Mini Citronella Candles and Polymer Clay Fun. At the citronella candle program, on July 10, adults got to paint a mini terracotta pot, mix essential oils with soy wax, and make their own mosquito repelling candles. At the Polymer Clay Fun program, on July 31, patrons got to design their own pieces to then bake and take home – we saw lots of creativity at this program!

Encino was also pleased to host Margaret Hammond, a certified nutritionist, to give a program called "Healthy Summer Habits." At this program Ms. Hammond talked about different ways to stay hydrated and healthy during the Summer. She also shared some recipes for Summer meals and snacks.

Ann Laird continued her outreach series to Franklin Park Assisted Living on July 6. Each month, Ann has gone to talk about a specific author and their body of works. July's featured author was David Baldacci. Ms. Laird also worked with Franklin Park staff to curate a title for their in-house book club, reserved the books, and delivered the to the center.

#### Teens:

For the month of July, Teen Librarian I Michael Harle led the first two orientation/re-orientation sessions for volunteers, which all of Encino's teen volunteers (new and current) are required to attend. In addition to the base expectations for SAPL volunteers, teens are trained in workforce development skills for libraries, with an emphasis on shelving, workplace etiquette, and practicing curiosity, independence, and empathy. Teen volunteers continue to lead their weekly Teen Time group with consistently strong attendance. Michael also staffed the teen volunteer led Summer Bash at the Central Library and continued co-hosting Bookworms on Discord. He is currently leading collaborative efforts with staff across the system in preparation for the San Japan Reading Room outreach in September.

#### Children's:

Encino Branch's "Read to a Dog" program boomed over the summer! Dorothy the dog comes ready to listen to stories read by the children, and the children enjoy reading and petting Dorothy. Program attendance numbers doubled in July, and the branch is hopeful that this increase will continue when the program resumes in September.



Patron attendance also increased in July for "Swing in for a Story", offered Sunday mornings at 11am. Children listen to a story read by Children's Librarian Krystal Owen. After, the children participate in a song with a dance, then go outside to play together on the playground. While outside, Ms. Owen also provides outdoor-friendly toys and/or a craft to make if desired. This month the children participated in a celebration of 4<sup>th</sup> of July, discussed overcoming fear, and played with chalk, jump rope, frisbees, and bubbles. Due to conflicts in program schedules, July was the last month for "Swing in for a Story" on Sunday mornings. However, due to its success, Ms. Owen hopes to resume "Swing in for a Story" at an alternate time in September.

# FOREST HILLS

Patrons of all ages were invited to participate in Geocaching 101. Presenter Brenda Mark provided basic information on how to get started with geocaching. A geocache is located at Forest Hills and can be located by members of the public using geocaching apps. The Forest Hills Scrabble Club met up twice in July, during which they discovered there are multiple ways to play Scrabble, to the delight and confusion of members. In addition, Forest Hills with support from the Pride Committee acts as a host of the Gaymer Tabletop Night. During this month's program, Library Assistant Shy Axelrod was summarily beaten in a game of Scrabble. Ms. Axelrod also hosts a **BYOB** Book Club; June's theme involved books about finding independence. A lively conversation ensued discussing the wide range of possibilities within the theme, what independence means, and how it can be different for each person.

As part of summer programming, Teen Librarian Shannan Prukop continued the weekly Family Movie Matinee program, encouraging families to enjoy movies in the air conditioning on Friday afternoons. They also created a family scavenger hunt, to give children and their families an activity to explore in the library, using materials from the branch's re-opening. Along with Dacari Lambert, Lisa Puchot, and Michael Dunbar-Rodney, Mx. Prukop continued work on the new Inqueeries podcast, recording episodes and maintaining the LibGuide. Their weekly Teen Time at Forest Hills turned to gaming, with teens working together to learn video games they hadn't played before. On the 210teenlibrary Discord server, Mx. Prukop's work with the weekly Dungeons and Dragons club continued, with teens stepping in to lead sessions and working together to decide facets of the world and solve puzzles.

Children's summer programming continued during the month of July at Forest Hills, with Children's Librarian Ana Menchaca hosting weekly Story Time, Kids Time, Tween Book Club, and Lego Time throughout the month of July, as well as a bilingual Story Time. Some programs of particular note included visits with Mr. Kinsey and Predators and Prey; children and parents were thrilled to learn so many facts about animals. Mrs. Menchaca 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. The pen pal program with Schafer Library and Forest Hills Library continued. Letters from children at Schafer Library are now displayed in the Forest Hills Children's Area.

# GREAT NORTHWEST

July was a month for families to come into the Great Northwest Branch Library and cool off in the afternoons while hearing great stories and making crafts together with Children's Librarian Cari Raley. Several families were very appreciative of the time. It gave the grownups a chance to keep their hands busy and their ears open to listen to all the stories their children were sharing. Many of the children used the crafts they made for gift giving. Other children spent their time drawing and coloring. Being at Great Northwest Branch Library was a great way to spend the hot afternoons in July. Many thanks to volunteers Misty, Irwin and Renee and library staff Shayla, Melanie, and Rosie for helping make the children's programs the best this summer.

The branch hosted Teen Time events which were planned and implemented by GNW teens for July. This July the group celebrated the summer break by implementing fun projects for the summer which included a *Seed Bomb Project I & II*. This project, like the Ramen cooking class, took multiple weeks to prepare but it was quite successful. The project was planned and implemented by one of San Antonio Public Library's most active volunteers. They share all the events the group has at GNW on Discord and on the 210 SAPL Instagram, which has brought new members to both GNW and Central Library. The method of teen empowerment holds true to its word as the *Seed Bomb program* was planned and taught by a teen, and each group member discussed proper measurements based on the native seeds that were provided by the library. The volunteers also shared resources and You Tube videos on how to create your own seed bombs at home and discussed the ingredients list in detail.

The teens worked together to create over forty seed bombs, a form of guerrilla gardening to help repopulate the dry landscape found around the city and parking lots. Each seed bomb takes one week to dry to start the second part of the gardening process, so the teens met up a week later to complete the process and enjoyed seeing their plants sprout seedlings. The branch also hosted a Summer Party and a local chocolate shoppe donated an outdoor canopy for the day so the teens could enjoy some fun water games outside with fresh watermelon, sugar-free beverages and popsicles donated by the Friends of the Great Northwest Branch Library. Here at GNW the group tries to re-create some events like those at Central for teens who don't have transportation to attend the Pride and Summer parties SAPL has hosted downtown, so the teens who couldn't make it can enjoy a party at their home location. The thoughtfulness and empathy of each volunteer both for the community and the environment does not go unnoticed. The group ended the month of July with a GNW clean-up where volunteers assisted with archiving the teen artwork on the walls and saved every post-it note, drawing and paper mâché' mask to prepare for the upcoming closure.

On July 3 and July 31 Adult Service Librarian Stephanie Vazquez hosted the Adult Summer Craft program. Adults in the community were invited to learn how to make decorative decoupaged seashells and a paper quilling craft.

On July 15 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.

Great Northwest Library participated in the *Dig It! Gardening Series* presented by the Bexar County Master Gardeners on July 17. Presenter Karen Gardener gave an educational introduction on finding plants that thrive for the home and garden.

On July 22 the *Potpourri Book Club* met for a lively discussion on the July book selection *Queen Bee* by Dorothea Benton Frank.

The Great Northwest Library hosted a *Summer Movie Night* on July 24. Adults in the community were invited for a screening of the movie *The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent*.

Library Assistant Jenn Tristan's *Cut & Glue Collage Program* met on July 1. Ms. Tristan hosted a *Movie Sing-Along Event* for the movie *Sister Act 2* on July 22.

## GUERRA

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson recorded *La biblioteca nocturna (The midnight library)* by Kazuno Kohara, on July 4 for Dial-a-Story in Spanish. On July 8, he assisted Bill Swantner, master gardener, with his presentation titled Texas Superstars, a presentation about plants that are most suited to south central Texas. He moderated the Spanish book club, Club de Lectura, on July 27. They discussed *El túnel (The tunnel)* by Ernesto Sábato. The literary work is a psychological analysis of the main character which the author wrote from an existentialist philosophical viewpoint. The next day, July 28, Stephen presented a trivia game at the Willie Cortez senior center which emphasized questions on our Independence Day. That same day, Stephen also recorded *No hay nada más chistoso que leer con un oso (Bears make the best reading buddies)* by Carmin Oliver.

Children's Librarian, Linda Lopez, was busy in July with her continued programs, special presentation from Parks and Rec, and helping with outreach. Her Toddler Time Story Time continues to be well attended. The kids and their families enjoy singing, rhyming, dancing, and listening to stories. Lego Club also draws a crowd. The kids are able to let their creative juices flow, and build amazing things with the library provided Legos. Tween Time continues to be a place where the tweens can hang out with peers, craft, watch movies, and create! Linda also helped Lisa from Potranco with an outreach at the Yates Community Center. There, they gave out books, read stories, and helped the kids decorate paletas for the summer. Also, the bat bulletin board continues to be amazing, thanks to my circulation team, and library aide team!





## IGO

Igo Library Branch Manager Tim Johnson coordinated the Dollars and Sense discussion group on Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup>. The group is dedicated to the study of economics, finance, and investing. July's selection was Thomas Ramage's *The Global Economy as You've Never Seen It*. The book uses infographics to provide an in depth look at the economy from multiple levels from the individual all the way up to the entire planet. 11 members attended. Mr. Johnson also hosted the Igo Mystery Book Group, which met on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Twelve members participated in discussion of *The Christie Affair* by Nina de Gramont. Mr. Johnson continues to cohost SAPL's Escape the Earth podcast with J. D. Elizondo (Central Reference), Mary Elizabeth Fernandez (Central Children's) and Elissa Vura (Brook Hollow). The most recent episode is a discussion of Tade Thompson's *Rosewater*.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Igo Adult Services Librarian Gamini Haluwana coordinated the popular Storytelling for Adults program. A member of the San Antonio Storytellers Association visited and used audience interaction, humor, and a variety of other techniques to regale attendees with some tall tales.

July was another busy month for Igo Children's Librarian Carrie Vance and Library Services Specialist Mikala Thomas. Regular programs continue to be very well attended. Many families reported that the library has been their "sanctuary" or the "thing that saved them" this summer from both the heat and boredom. In addition to regular programs, the branch hosted some extra activities like Process Art, Minute-to-Win-It Games, and the highly complimented Cardboard Construction program on July 19. The boxes from the new book trucks, the Scholastic boxes from the Mayor's Summer Reading Club and a host of other boxes from Ms. Vance's garage including a giant freezer box were on hand for the kids to turn into whatever they wanted. Tools provided included cardboard saws loaned from Little Read Wagon, masking tape, newspaper tubes, paint sticks, and newspaper tubes. As expected, the room was quickly filled with an assortment of houses and cars, two libraries, a unicorn, a police car and jail, and a robot costume. Families left asking when the branch will be hosting this program again.

Ms. Vance and Ms. Thomas visited the Little Oaks Discovery School for the second summer outreach on July 7. 20 children enjoyed listening to three books read by both Ms. Vance and Ms. Thomas and singing and dancing to some extremely silly songs like "A Douglas Fir".



Igo Teen librarian Annie Calonico hosted this month's Better Read Than Dead book club, which meets to discuss a chosen horror or true crime each month. Our group continues to add new members, and this month engaged in a spirited discussion of *Devolution: A Firsthand Account of the Rainier Sasquatch Massacre* by Max Brooks, which also included a debate on whether we thought sasquatches might possibly exist. We did not come to a definitive conclusion.

Teen Time regulars continue to work with our teen volunteer and teen librarian, Annie Calonico, to plan activities for Teen Time, where they hang out, play games, do crafts, and socialize. Teen regulars continue to welcome newcomers and make new friends. Giving teens control over what they choose to do and encouraging them to plan activities gives them increased agency and ownership over their time and space at the library, increasing their sense of belonging and strengthening their connection to the library.

## JOHNSTON



Johnston branch welcomed Ana Pina, former Part-Time Library Assistant, to her new position as Johnston's Teen Librarian. Johnston hosted the mobile market, *Mercado por tu Corazon*, on July 11<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. Johnston hosted *Dig it! Surviving the Summer Heat* on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Bexar County Master Gardner Bill Swantner identified local native and adapted plants, answered questions and provided information on growing plants here in South Texas.

Adult Services Librarian Cris Yamada-Lokensgard worked with a Johnston Friends member to host four Adult Craft Club meetings where patrons learned different craft techniques such as decoupage, paper quilling and journaling.



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. Stories shared included: *How Kind!* by Mary Murphy, *When Pigs Fly* by James Burks and *Wombat* by Philip Bunting. A simple craft was provided at the end of each *Story Time*. Children who wished to opt out of doing the craft were provided toys to play with. Ms. Gonzales also incorporated musical shakers, scarves, puppets, bubbles, props, and a felt board to help engage with children. Ms. Gonzales hosted *Let's Create: Maker's Club* every Thursday 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.



*Lego Time* occurred on 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*. The San Antonio Missions National Historical Park presented *Predators versus Prey* on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Park rangers provided insight on the difference between predators and prey. Their display of animal pelts demonstrated whether the animal was once a predator or prey.

Teen Librarian Ana Pina facilitated in-person Teen Time each Monday. Teens helped select and plan weekly activities throughout the month which included making Mangonadas, Brazilian Limeade and a Cooking Around the World Demo by San Antonio Food Bank chef Brittany Hernandez. Ms. Pina hosted the *Johnston No-pressure Book Club* on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> where participants gathered to talk about the books they had been reading.

LEARN's Training Officer, Marcella McGowan, provided the following programs: July 5th, 12th, and 19th she presented Civics for Citizenship. She also hosted Sunday's Intro to Word on July 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th. The Learn area had 38 patrons accessing the Center this month.

## LANDA

Summer with SAPL continued in July at Landa Branch with some featured guests. The DoSeum came out to present facts about stars. Children created their own constellations in various mediums. The Friends of Landa Library provided families at Landa with the opportunity to see paleontologist BK Bones and learn about dinosaurs!

In July, Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas continued offering Baby Story Time twice a week. Parents, caregivers, and grandparents attended with their little ones, and they often outnumbered the babies in the room as the whole family sang and played together. Landa Library's Toddler Time program continued to grow in attendance from the first week of the program until the last one of July. One regular young toddler began to learn all the songs and started acting out the motions of them during this program. Several parents commented that they really enjoyed the toddler-specific program and asked that it be continued. It will be included in Landa's fall programming lineup. In Preschool Story Time, children and their grownups did ice painting, process art, and sensory painting with spices and tea after reading and talking about books throughout July. Outdoor Family Story Time came indoors a couple of times due to the heat, but families still enjoyed playing outdoors with water and sand sensory bins and process art projects.

Every Friday, Library Assistant Elissa Vura led a Lego Bricks and more program that allowed children to build something to display every week. Children's Librarian Salinas visited University Presbyterian Childcare Center (UPCC) to read stories to six early literacy classrooms. UPCC camp students visited Landa twice in July to create art, build with Legos, and check out books.

In July, Adult Services Librarian Robin Alcorta arranged for Fitness by Dave. Dave offered exercise for the body and mind for seniors.

Book club members at The Village read *Thursday Murder Club* and loved it! It reminded them of their own life and the book club they attend every month just like in the book.

Reader's Ink book club members read *The Kitchen Front*. One member even baked scones for the group from a recipe in the book. The group listened to the song from the book while enjoying the scones WWI. Mystery Book Club read *The Woman in the Library*.

Adult Services Librarian Alcorta hosted a beginner needle felting program. It was offered as a summer craft program for adults. Patrons traveled from all over town to try their hand at making their own earrings.

## 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).

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: July 14 | July 28



(San Antonio Public Library-Communications Department, 2023)



SAPL's Summer Reading Program ended on July 31, and despite the fact that Las Palmas is offering limited services at this time, a *Summer with SAPL* hanging display was filled with paleta cards. A huge thanks to Children's Librarian, Randi Jones who visited children attending summer camp at the Cuellar Community Center, on behalf of Las Palmas Library. This summer over 300 books were given away to adults, teens, and children collectively, along with the popular *Summer with SAPL* collectable paleta bookmarks, pens, stickers, and t-shirts!

On July 22<sup>nd</sup> Las Palmas welcomed Amisarahi (Ami) Sarabia, former SAPL's Teen Outreach Specialist / Library Assistant, to her new position as the Las Palmas Teen Librarian.



## MAVERICK

SAPL's Summer Reading program ended very well at Maverick. Many children received a gift book of their choice, teenagers received a summer t-shirt and many adults were happy to receive a stylus pen prize. Maverick's monthly adults programs had great attendance in July. 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. During July, staff began informing customers of the upcoming renovation and branch closure in August and September.

As of July 31, Maverick Library had 1055 children registered for the summer reading club! Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts, wishes to thank the Maverick staff for helping to promote Summer at SAPL with the kids! Ms. Roberts, was pleasantly surprised at the amazing turnout of kids and parents at children's programs in July! She had 924 people attend 19 programs! On July 18, Mr. Claude came to present a "STEM With the DoSeum" program with 30 kids and 17 parents in attendance. Kids enjoyed sharing their constellation stories! Bartholomew the French Bulldog and his owner, Mellisa DeThorne, visited Maverick on July 22 to listen to 4 very enthusiastic children at our Read to a Dog program.

The Children's Librarian worked with Maverick staff to test out 85 of the new Juvenile Read-Alongs before they were put on the shelves. The new format is proving very popular at Maverick! Ms. Roberts also weeded the Juvenile Oversize books, Juvenile Biographies and Juvenile Easys. She read "Best Day Ever!" by Marilyn Singer for Dial-A-Story on July 21. Ms. Roberts participated in LibChat on July 7 and July 21. Finally, she attended a children's librarians meeting on July 25.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl and Circulation Clerk Taylur Loera assisted Maverick's Teens' plans by preparing equipment and supplies for their activities. The Teen Library Leadership Committee (TLLC) planned the activities for the July programs back in June. Volunteers chose knitting and crocheting as a craft and two of the Teen Volunteers were prepared to teach interested Teens how to do so, each having learned from their grandmothers. One TLLC member recommended a movie night, and they selected the newest Jurassic Park film. During the movie, some newer attendees requested use of the PS4 VR for the following week, and they were able to try VR for their first time. They thoroughly enjoyed their session, evidenced by their uproarious laughter both at and with each other. In July,

Maverick Teens used up leftover snack supplies and made dirt cups – a pudding, cream cheese and cool whip confection topped with crushed Oreos and gummi worms, as well as pancakes and grilled cheese. During the evening of the pancake snack, a good-hearted debate ensued on the best method for mixing the batter and they experimented with adding strawberry syrup to the chocolate chip pancake while it was frying. The TLLC Volunteers acted as both leaders and participants as they welcomed newer Teens and shared the cooking and conversation with them.

The Teen Library Leadership Committee met on three Saturdays during July, planning the End of Summer Party on July 25<sup>th</sup>, before the Branch closed for renovations. The TLLC planned all the games, created a point system and scorecard for the games, a floor plan for the evening of the party, and assigned TLLC Volunteers each to a station for scoring and monitoring the games. Teens brought material and Bleichwehl provided thread and beans so the volunteers could make bean bags for Bean Bag Tic Tac Toe, a sewing activity that lasted all three Saturdays. At the End of Summer Party, Teens played Table Tennis, Bean Bag Tic Tac Toe, Corn Hole, Jenga and Try not to Laugh. Friends of the Library donated pizza, soda and Drumsticks (ice cream). The Teen-made bean bags did not withstand the pressure of Tic, Tac, Toe. Fortunately, LA Bleichwehl had requested use of borrowed bean bags from other branches and the bean bags on loan from Teen Librarian I Annie Calónico of Igo and Westfall Childrens Librarian II Merino saved the game. Teens reluctantly said farewell to newly promoted Library Assistant Taylur Loera and wished her well in her new position at Great Northwest Branch.

## McCRELESS



It's so exciting when Learn Training Officers glimpse the impact of accompanying Learn patrons! A young man came by recently to thank Christina because he was granted an internship after submitting the resume they had worked on together. Another patron who regularly attends our "Yoga Tuesdays at McCreless" commented, "I love this class so much—it's a highlight of my week. Please don't let anyone discontinue it even if we're small!" July was a big month for the English class that began last summer. We had a fun celebration for the 4th of July with PowerPoint, quizzes, and a fruit "pizza" that looked like the American flag. The two Saturdays with the highest ESL attendance ever also occurred this month, with 20 and then 22 students. "Dynamic Duo" Christina and Lodie conducted their first McCreless Learn Outreach event for staff and residents at the Texas Center for Infectious Disease. It sparked interest in Learn's individualized computer training as well as the English and Civics Education classes. One resident already came to get an Enhanced Library Card in response to the Learn presentation.

Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales continued the Summer Movie Series for McCreless Library for people of all ages to come in from the summer heat and enjoy a movie, popcorn, and refreshments. McCreless had over 114 in attendance and many happy faces for these events.



Mr. Gonzales also assisted the Children's Librarian Paula Lenington by presenting a program called "Arthropods" with San Antonio Parks and Recreation. Children and their parents came and enjoyed an excellent presentation by David Jimenez. They observed and made their own arthropod artwork with pastels and construction paper.



Library Assistant Gonzales also helped with this year's Summer Bash by assisting in making popcorn, handing out paletas, and building the tents for the children's librarian outside. Mr. Gonzales also received an excellent review for his presentation on San Antonio Public Library services for older adults at San Antonio Oasis Center. There were over 20 older adults in attendance. Joseph also presented John Wick 4 for Movie Night @ McCreless with over 20 adults in attendance.

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. Some examples of these activities are playing with the Nintendo Switch, creating art with the materials provided, making buttons, etc. With the help of Circulation Attendant Sarina Hackworth, materials that were needed were prepared before the start of the program.

At the close of our 2023 Summer Program, on July 22, McCreless held a Summer Bash full of fun activities for patrons of all ages. Close to 200 patrons enjoyed paletas, "bolis", and popcorn while exploring the library and activities for the day. Patrons loved the outside activities like the bubble station, sidewalk art,



and the delicious food from the food trucks on site. In addition to the paletas, activities were donated by the Friends of McCreless Branch Library and manned by our fantastic staff and included balloon animals and temporary tattoos.







McCreless hosted Viva Health!, a program presented by Juana Gonzalez of Metro Health. This concluded a 7-week workshop that discussed tactics to foster better nutrition and increase physical activity. The group met on July 3 and July 10 and found it so beneficial they made plans to continue supporting one another outside the program.



McCreless also hosted two classes in July Older Adults Technology Services (OATS) from the AARP Senior Planet classes: "Online Shopping", and "Graphic Design Tools", where patrons learned to use technology in this digital landscape. The classes were led by District 3 Councilwoman Phyllis Viagran.

Adult Services Librarian Vicky Villalobos hosted Queer Crafternoon at McCreless Branch on July 16. Patrons are invited to craft and display their creativity in a safe space while listening to stories with queer-centered storylines or queer characters. Librarian Villalobos also held a Summer with SAPL program for Adults where participants created a beach in a bottle, and she initiated a new program for Older Adults to socialize. The program's fluid title "Coffee, Crosswords, & Chisme" invites Older Adults to work through puzzles and discuss current topics. The program was held on July 12 and July 26, and, with the support of the Friends of McCreless Branch Library, will be meeting every Wednesday morning.

Adult Services Librarian Vicky Villalobos joined Librarian Brook Mjolsness and Adult Services Coordinator Morgan Yoshimura for July's SAPL Live Trivia. The virtual program was held on July 28, where 20 teams competed for first place and bragging rights.

## MEMORIAL

In July, Memorial Branch Library hosted the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) as they began a structured, eight-week course called Family to Family. This course is open to family members, friends, and caregivers of those with mental illness. The program aims to help attendees learn how to support their loved ones who have mental illness, while also taking care of themselves.

The branch was also pleased to offer a veterans' legal clinic, with free services provided by the San Antonio Legal Services Association (SALSA).

Adult Services Librarian Freddy Hudson established a Magazine Exchange in the lobby, and it has proved hugely popular. Freddy also conducted two different craft programs for the month, each focusing on a different skill. In the first, participants were provided with a seashell and materials with which to decorate them using a decoupage technique. In the second activity, participants learned about paper quilling.

Children's activities during July included a visit by park rangers from the San Antonio Missions National Historic Park. The rangers drew an audience of over 50 participants as they spoke about the *Predators and Prey* of the park. They brought an array of pelts preserved from animals which had died from natural causes. Audience members were able to touch the pelts, which included a rabbit, a squirrel, a fox, and even a black bear.





On another afternoon, children also had the opportunity to experiment with controlling miniature robots, called MeeperBots, which the branch borrowed from the Central Library. The bots could be driven manually (which was the participants preferred method) or programmed to perform a series of moves.

In the Learn Center, Training Officer Daniel Gomez continued to provide both Spanish, English, and computer classes. In addition, he assisted an older adult patron over the course of several visits to renew her license as a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN). This was a technically complex process, and the grateful patron brought Daniel a card and a small gift as a token of gratitude.

In July, the branch acquired its very own pirate octopus, designed, constructed, and installed by Library Aide, Lupe Pinales. Lupe was assisted by several staff members and teen volunteers in the cutting out and assembling of the many pieces.



## MISSION

Mission Library finished the Kids Summer at SAPL with a bang, distributing more than 600 books to local kids.

Every other Saturday in July, a Community Health Worker from Healthy Neighborhoods hosted Yoga for Kids at Mission Library to encourage a unique form of health for children of the community.

Teens participated in many gaming activities during the reporting period. Teens played on the Nintendo Switch and chose the Wii U for some retro gaming and participated in weekly Teen Club night.

The office of U.S. Congressman Henry Cuellar continues to have a Constituent Service Meeting at Mission Branch Library every second Monday of the month.

## PAN AMERICAN

Pan American had a successful Summer Reading program and gave away 360 books to children. Pan American also signed up dozens of Teens and was able to give away all the button and t-shirts set aside for Teen patrons. As part of Summer programming, children at Pan American learned about all the different ways pollination happens in Texas with a presentation from the Witte Museum.



During Teen Time this month, Teen Librarian Gladys Nunez set up the branch's new PS5 so teens could play on it. The branch was able to purchase two games and two extra controllers. One teen mentioned how cool it was the branch had a PS5 as he does not have one at home and he enjoyed playing Hogwarts Legacy. Two book displays were created for the month of July including "Eye Catching Reads"



and “Are You Hungry for a Good Book?”. The latter featured fiction and nonfiction items about food and proved to be popular with Pan Am teen patrons as several items were checked out from each display. One new teen to the branch excitedly submitted a volunteer application as she was interested in volunteering for Teen Time.

Librarian Adrian Leal held his biweekly Adult Puzzle Time Program. This program is created to allow Adult Patrons the opportunity to relax while choosing from an assortment and types of puzzles to complete.

Mr. Leal also held his Older Adult Game Time Program. This program is geared towards Older Adult Patrons, allowing them the opportunity to have some fun choosing from an assortment of games to play or just simply an area to relax and stay cool on a hot day.

Mediation Classes took place at the Branch. These classes are free and open to the public who want to learn more about the benefits of meditating. Please note these classes will be taking a break in August and will return to the Pan American Branch Library on September 9th.

On July 8th, the Cancer Support Group held a session. These sessions are free and open to all community members that have been directly or indirectly impacted by Cancer. This support group meets once a month in the Meeting Room at the Pan American Branch Library.

On July 22nd, in partnership with the Bexar County Master Gardeners, the Branch hosted “Dig It! Surviving the Summer Heat” Program. This program presented practical solutions to keeping your greenery flourishing in the Texas heat.

## PARMAN



The Wizard's Festival, which took place in July at the Parman Library, is a magical extravaganza that marks the end of every summer at the branch. Every year staff comes up with new and creative ideas to bring something amazing to patrons and this year they out did themselves. Patrons were invited into the Wizarding world for a full two hours where they could make potted mandrakes with Children's Librarians Lisa and Teague, take a runes class with Teen Librarian Zachary Woolston, play wizard's chess with Ron Weasley (cosplayed by Library Assistant Laramie Montgomery), enter Olivander's wand shop with Library Assistant Melissa Moser to receive their wands, and they could visit real snakes, frogs, beetles, owls, and all manner magical creatures! Other staff members dressed the part of witches and wizards to make the event as immersive as possible. Many patrons remarked how they loved yearly event and had so much fun exploring all the rooms and activities throughout the library.

Parman's Ukrainian Cultural Club met in July and discussed how Ukraine functioned as the "breadbasket of Europe." The children who attended the club learned about wheat, flour, and baking through a Ukrainian folktale about two little mice and a rooster. The adults in the group talked about Ukrainian baking traditions with Olena Pashina, owner of Pashina bakery. Parman's Ukrainian cultural club was requested by the Ukrainian Club of San Antonio, and it was possible since the Parman manager is not only able to communicate with the presenters and guests, but also has in-depth knowledge of the culture. Anyone who wants to practice their Ukrainian language skills and learn more about Ukraine culture are welcome to join.

Parman's newest program, the Polish Language and Culture Club met this July. The club was created at the request of the Polish community in San Antonio. The club is for all ages and open to all who would like to learn about the culture or improve their language skills. The club celebrates Polish language, culture, and history. 32 people joined the second meeting. Meetings like this bring communities together and Parman is very happy to be able to accommodate them.

Storyteller extraordinaire Sue Kuentz, member of San Antonio Storytellers, visited the Parman library in July to perform for patrons. Sue is an Air Force Brat who grew up all over the world and wound up in San Antonio where she taught elementary school for 32 years. She regaled the audience with folktales and legends imbued with her own life experiences and ended the program with a lesson on how to become a better storyteller. Patrons commented on how most did not know San Antonio had its own storytelling organization and how they wanted to learn more about the art.

The Bexar County Master Gardeners visited the Parman library this past July and presented a program series called "Dig it up!" The program centered on best practices for Texas gardeners especially during the hot summer months. Patrons were encouraged to ask questions, and many commented how much they learned. The library hopes to collaborate with Bexar County Master Gardeners organization for future programs.



Summer fun continued in July with several special visitors. Hundreds of patrons braved the heat for a chance to grab a popsicle and mingle with some rare animals from Happy Tails. Kids were able to pet rabbits, wallabies, an alpaca, and a tortoise before heading into the library to cool off. Illusions by Blake wowed audiences with his confounding magic tricks (he even floated a girl without any support), and Spare Parts led two fun classes about Henri Matisse where children learned to draw with scissors.

Many kids enjoyed a new scavenger hunt. Children were also challenged to create their own food truck, decide what to sell, and name it on an inventive coloring page. When Summer with SAPL wrapped up, over 1,700 kids had been served at Parman with a whopping 1,661 receiving a free book!

Story Times continued throughout the summer. In July the babies heard books about animals sounds. The babies and adults copied the sounds and learned that animal sounds bridge the gap between infant babbling and saying words. The family Story Time groups listened to interactive books and participated in repeated phrases and doing the actions named in the books. Reading is a very active experience in Story Time. It keeps little ones engaged and brings books to life. Cuentos y Canciones did lots of crafts in July. The favorite craft was creating a sun and rainbow with tissue paper.



Miss Teague's Creators had a great time creating creatures out of pool noodles and building structures with marshmallows and toothpicks. The Tweens continued to enjoy using the foosball and air hockey tables and had fun making buttons, melting fuse beads, creating black-out poetry and making marble paintings with shaving cream and food coloring!

## POTRANCO

Potranco celebrated Independence Day by showing the 1996 classic *Independence Day* on July 2. Librarian Zeig and Metro Health instructor Melissa Gonzales completed their seven-week series of Viva Health, a diabetes prevention program. All attendees that were present for at least four classes were given \$20 HEB gift cards from Metro Health. Librarian Zeig hosted a decoupage shells craft as part of Summer with SAPL. Patrons enjoyed making beautifully decorated shells. On July 19, Librarian Zeig had an opportunity to do an outreach with Silver Sneakers, older adults, members at the YMCA as part of their monthly celebration meet-up. She made decoupage shells with those participants as well. Some members had their grandchildren with them, so it became a beautiful inter-generational activity that was enjoyed by all. On July 23, Master Gardner Candy Roach came to Potranco to present: Texas: It's a Whole 'Nother County as part of the Dig It! garden series. Participants learned a great deal about the soils that make up San Antonio and what grows best in them. Participants also received a free plant courtesy of Ms. Roach.

Librarian Zeig held three book clubs this month. The morning and evening versions of Shelf Indulgence, on July 18 and 25 respectively, were both well-attended. This month's book was *The Displacements* by Bruce Holsinger. Librarian Zeig's Sunday cookbook club on July 16 had a nice turnout. Participants shared samples of picnic side dishes. The fresh corn and avocado salad was a big hit! 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 Texas Library Association (TLA) Governance Training workshop as part of the 2024 Conference Planning Committee. Committee members finalized conference program offerings and began to work in their conference planning subgroups. Librarian Zeig also had an opportunity to hear about the different bills concerning libraries that are working their way through the state and the impact that HB900 will have on school libraries.

Potranco hosted STEM with the Doseum and it was a success! Young patrons learned about constellations and the solar system. Librarian Leandro's Story Times have been seeing amazing numbers! Children have been learning to implement instruments and other props in Story Time adventures. Needless to say, the kids love making noise and playing with scarves and the rainbow parachute. Kids Time and Tween Time attendance has been wonderful! The theme for the month of July was ART. Each program session introduced a different form of art and then the children were able to try their hand at it. Many children had their own take on the art style, and a few decided to try blending different art styles together to create their own masterpieces. Lego Time is always a favorite here at Potranco and July was no different. We were able to display our Master Builder's creations in the library for other patrons to enjoy. It brought along new interest to our Lego Time and many compliments for our Legos on display. Librarian Leandro is proud to report that 570 books were given out to children this summer as part of Summer With SAPL!

In July, Librarians Leandro and Lopez (Guerra) had the opportunity to visit Yates Community Center to do a Story Time and craft with the kids attending summer camp.

Potranco reintroduced Teen Time this month with Library Assistant Geanna Takajasi. Teen Time is held on Tuesday evenings and is slowly building a following. Potranco's new Teen Librarian will be joining their



team at the end of August. Library Assistant Takajasi has been regularly providing weekly assistance to the Tobin Library while they are experiencing staffing shortages.







## PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

July was a busy month for Pruitt's Children's Services. In addition to hosting its regularly scheduled *Toddler Story Time*, *Children's Yoga*, and *Tween Yoga* weekly programs, the branch also hosted a *STEM with the DoSeum* program that taught children about stars and constellations with hands-on activities and a lovely read aloud about constellations.

The branch offered a *Tweens Create: Sharpie Tie Dye* program, where tween participants were invited to create their own unique tie-dye bandanas and hair scrunchies using sharpies and isopropyl alcohol.

The branch's regularly scheduled programs focused on celebrating the summer season and a new program was introduced for the branch's early childhood patrons: *Sensory Play Time*. Toddlers and preschoolers were given the opportunity to explore their world and enhance their fine motor skills, socialization, and imagination through a variety of sensory and tactile experiences.





Teen Services Librarian Lauren Hime encouraged Pruitt teen patrons to lead the way as Teen Summer began to wind down at the end of July. Fresh faces came to hang out during Teen Time and enjoyed competing for the first place Mario Kart trophy on the branch's Nintendo Switch. Teens took ownership of their library and beat the summer heat by hanging out at the branch with friends, making drawings, solving puzzles, and watching movies.

The *Indie D&D* group took advantage of the long July days to lengthen their campaign time and camped out for hours at a time and developed their characters and delved further into their story. Much fun and many snacks were had by all!

Teens in the *Learn-to-Play Dungeons and Dragons* group flexed their new skills during two sessions created and hosted by teen DM Sophia, who led this intrepid group of explorers through a dungeon complete with exquisitely painted minis and a riveting story (with lots of laughs along the way.)

*Rackspace-sponsored Teen and Family Chess ended this month and will resume in September.* The branch and community look forward to a new year of our Chess programming, new teen activities, and even more teen leadership at the branch.



The Pruitt *Quilting* social group tied up for the summer. *Adult Virtual Coloring* continued on Friday afternoons, with patrons coloring and visiting over the internet. Pruitt patrons turned out for the *Dig It!* Master Gardener presentation: Container Gardening, where good questions were rewarded with prizes of south-Texas-friendly container plants.

*Special Needs Adult Programming (SNAP)* patrons read *Our Tree Named Steve* and made simple potted succulents. Other patrons got creative with *Adult Craft Time: Felt Succulent*, finding unexpected ways to incorporate cute critters into their potted plants.





## SAN PEDRO

The San Pedro Branch Library provided a variety of programs and services during the month of July. Programs for children, teen and adults were offered either weekly or once per month. Additionally, the branch started passive adult coloring program for patrons to take a mental and creative break during the hot days of summer.

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

Baby Story Time at San Pedro continued every Saturday morning with increasing attendance. New parents and their children were able to socialize while enjoying a good story and activity.

Branch programming for school aged kids included learning how to run robots with ipads, a visit from the Witte Museum for "Pollinating Texas," and a student led Tween Book Chat for kids who love books. Ms. Braeuler led an outreach Story Time and book distribution at Melendrez Center Summer Youth Program for 32 campers.

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

In July, 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!

July's Film Virtuosity: A Reflection of Art showcased the work of local filmmaker and artist Cedric Thomas Smith. A local San Antonio writer and director, Mr. Smith has been making waves in the industry with his artistic talents and his eye for pristine filmmaking and storytelling. The event featured two of his films, the heartbreaking story 'Hollowed' and a moving piece called 'Retirement Day'. In addition, Mr. Smith gave an exclusive special sneak peek of his upcoming feature 'Losing Lalo', which just wrapped filming in San Angelo, TX last month.

## SCHAEFER

Schaefer's children's librarian Leslie Elsasser scheduled nearly 27 programs for kids of all ages in July. For the preschool kids, 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, Kids' Video Games, Read to a Dog, Let's Move: Yoga & More and Let's Create: Come & Go Art and Robot Roundup. The variety of programs appealed to the many interests of the children at Schaefer while some kids attended all of them! Two special featured guests presenters had programs during the month: on July 13 David G. from Friedrich Wilderness Park spoke about Texas trees and offered an activity for patrons to make their own Tree Leaf Guide poster. A Park Ranger from San Antonio Missions National Historical Park visited Schaefer on July 27 to discuss ancient hunting tools, and provided a demonstration on how the atlatl was used.

Schaefer's popular summer scavenger hunt ended on July 31. Kids loved looking for them each time they visited Schaefer.

By the end of July, more than 1,009 books were given out to children this Summer!

Schaefer and Forest Hills paired up this year for a new Library Letters pen pal program. Kids at Schaefer wrote letters for Leslie to send to Forest Hills. When she received the letters from the kids at Forest Hills, she posted them on the wall in the kids area. Library Letters wrapped up at the end of July.

Branch manager, Maria Adams presented a beginning sewing class to adult patrons. This month's project was to sew a lavender sachet. Library Assistant, Blanca Silvia Hernandez, assisted with the program by providing hands on instruction to patrons.

On July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Schaefer branch library hosted a Master Gardeners program, titled: "Dig It! Pollinator Gardening", hosted by Bexar County Master Gardener Liana Benavides. This program allowed participants from the Schaefer community to discover plants that keep pollinators fed and support a thriving ecosystem year-round!

Library Assistant Blanca Silvia Hernandez, hosted Schaefer's Family Crafting program on Sunday, July 2nd. Patrons enjoyed creating a Tape Resist piece of art with masking tape and watercolors. They also appreciated that we offered indoor activities for families during this hot 4th of July weekend.

Schaefer's Adult Crafting program was held on Tuesday, July 11th and Thursday, July 13th. Patrons had fun learning to decoupage seashells and got to take home their finished projects.

Blanca assisted Librarian Adams with her Sewing for Beginners Adult program, where patrons learned how to use a sewing machine while making lavender sachets.



Blanca also assisted Children's Librarian Elsasser with the monthly children's programs and special summer programs where the children were had fun learning about Texas Trees and making leaf impressions. They were also excited to try their hand at throwing the Atlatl with the Park Ranger's guidance.

She also published a catalog list of popular titles for Schaefer's I ♥ Vinyl (Digital Edition) monthly program and created an Aurora Borealis themed book display in recognition of the Northern Lights being visible in July of this year. Lastly, she created a Physical Fitness book display in honor of Schaefer's Cardio Dance classes starting up.

On July 9, 2023, the Adult Services Librarian hosted the monthly program, "Chess+Checkers+Dominoes", a family-oriented gaming program.

On July 23, 2023, the Adult Services Librarian hosted the monthly "Board Game Social" program, an adult oriented gaming program that focuses on socializing, and more sophisticated and complex board games which appeal to an adult audience.

On August 24, 2023, the Adult Services Librarian hosted the "Schaefer Listener's Club", which uses Schaefer's vinyl LP collection for a book club-like discussion.

On August 31, 2023, the Adult Services Librarian coordinated a new monthly health and fitness program at Schaefer: "Cardio-Dance Class", which features a moderate dance workout led by a Schaefer community member.

In July, 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.

Dacari worked with colleague Ami Sarabia to host Music Mondays, weekly, on the 210 Teen Library Discord Server. Dacari worked alongside Adult Services Librarian, Daniel Garcia, to host Mercado por tu Corazon and Metro Health's STI/STD mobile clinic, and the American Heart Association's educational sessions, which received outstanding feedback from the community.

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.

## SEMMEs

Semmes Adult Services offers programs on Tai Ji, Table Tennis, and Chess, with patron demand creating an Adult Mario Kart program, following the Teen Mario Kart tournament. The Shelf Obsessed Book club, and Hula Hooping programs, led by staff, were also popular, with several regular attendees.

Weekly Teen Time continued on Tuesdays with teens happy to share their interests with one another. In July, teens crafted artwork with clay, Perler beads, and paint. They also made wearable buttons with the button press.

The 9-12 year olds who attend Tween Time brought games from home to share with their friends, made friendship bracelets, and had a ping pong tournament.

Summer offerings for kids also included Indoor Game Time on Friday mornings, Read to a Dog and Lego Time on alternating Mondays, an Easel Time art program on Saturdays, Preschool Story Time on Wednesdays, Baby Time and Toddler Time on Thursdays, and Kids Time on Monday evenings. At Kids

Time, children and their families enjoyed playing with and learning how to code robots, a Let's Build construction-based program, nature-based process art, a kids' book chat, and a Minute to Win It style game time.

Semmes Library also hosted the Witte Museum on July 17<sup>th</sup>. 30 children and their families learned about different pollinators in Texas and their role in helping plants grow.

## THOUSAND OAKS

The Thousand Oaks Library hosted a Summer Storytelling for Adults program on July 8. Members of the San Antonio Storytellers Association shared their craft of oral storytelling with fantastic legends and tales, and shared tips on carrying on this tradition and timeless art. Also on July 8, a Let's Create!: San Antonio Museum of Art (SAMA) program was held. Participants made their own "Museum in a Box" with educators from SAMA.

Assistant Branch Manager Brooke Mjolsness hosted two in-person programs taught by instructors from Older Adults Technology Services - Intro to Selling Online on July 5, and Smartphone Cameras: Beyond Photography on July 19. She hosted in-person Tai Chi classes led by certified instructor Debra Cox on July 6, 13 and 27. Ms. Mjolsness served as co-host and chat moderator for the virtual Film Noir Movie Club on July 11. She hosted an in-person Yoga Class program led by an instructor from the Parks and Recreation Department on July 18. On July 28, 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 July 7, 14, 19 and 27. She held in-person programs for Let's Create!: Arts & Crafts Friday, and hosted Read to a Dog programs on July 7, 14, 21 and 27. She held in-person Let's Move!: Music & Movement programs on July 8, 15, 22 and 28. Ms. Penick served as co-host for a virtual Toddler Time program on July 12. On July 15, she hosted two sessions of the Summer with SAPL: Art with Spare Parts program. On July 19, she hosted the Summer with SAPL: Story Time and Book Giveaway program. She represented SAPL at Project Rio outreach events and assembled themed book bundles for families to check-out.



Summer with SAPL: Art with Spare Parts on July 15, 2023

Librarian Kimberly King held in-person Teen Time programs on July 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. She held an in-person Thursday Book Club program on July 13. Participants discussed *The Immortalists* by Chloe Benjamin. She facilitated an outreach book group at the Northeast Senior Center on July 23. Attendees discussed *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn. Ms. King created a book display highlighting young adult action and adventure titles in celebration of Boredom Awareness Month.

Library Assistant Mari Carmen Castellano held a Tabletop Gaymer Night program on July 16. She held an Adult Craft Time program on July 19 at which participants decorated seashells. On July 23, she held a Plant Swap program and hosted a Dig It!: Pollinator Gardening program. Ms. Castellano hosted two programs on July 25: an in-person Yoga Class led by an instructor from the Parks and Recreation

Department, and a Classic Movie Showing of the movie Rififi. On July 26, she hosted a virtual Mario Kart program.



## TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

In July the Tobin at Oakwell library celebrated the retirement of manager Tracey Knouse with a luncheon to recognize her years of service to the San Antonio Public Library system. Staff from across the system, the Tobin Friends, and many patrons stopped by to say happy retirement and wish her well on her upcoming travels.



Summer with SAPL continued with several children's programs such as the 'Minute to Win It' games held by children's librarian Lisa Ramirez where families could try a variety of fun and challenging games. Lisa also presented a robotics program that taught children to code robots to complete an obstacle course challenge or code Artie Robots for drawing. The Art with Spare Parts Program, inspired by Matisse cut-outs, taught children how to draw with scissors. Lisa also visited the Parks and Recreation Summer Program at Hamilton with Thousand Oaks Librarian Cheryl Penick for free book giveaway.



Weekly preschool Story Time with children's Librarian Kara Baily was held every Thursday morning and Lego time occurred every other Thursday afternoon. Read to a Dog occurred on alternating Thursdays with therapy dog Toby having as much fun as the kids.





The Tobin Teen Summer program happened every Wednesday. Teens stayed cool and had fun playing games and making crafts such as shrinky-dinks and spiral chandeliers. Teen volunteers assisted with the program, as well as helping at the branch by pulling router.

Tai Chi and Tea is still proving very popular. Adults and seniors enjoy the weekly stretching and moving, as well as the social interaction while drinking their tea. The monthly Tobin Writer's Circle has been sharing stories of mystery, romance, and adventure and giving each other advice on ways to improve their storytelling. And the Sit and Stitch group worked on blankets and scarves while trying to decide what to make for holiday gifts this year.

In July there was also a program for adults called El Cameron: A Musical History. Anthony Prater discussed the history of the Bexar County jail and Clemente Apolinar, the last man hanged there. Patrons enjoyed listening to music written by Mr. Prater relating to the events.

## WESTFALL

Westfall Library collaborated with NEISD for a program that provides free meals to children ages 18 and under in the months of June and July. This summer 620 meals were served to children and teens in the community. Furthermore, the branch hosted a PSA visit where 10 of the 14 staff members at Westfall had an opportunity to have an open forum with several administrators from Central.

Machaia, Branch Manager at Westfall, completed her Summer Movies: See the Prequel Before the Sequel program by showing Mission Impossible and Dunkirk before their follow-ups in theaters. She also hosted the Bexar County Master Gardeners in the SAPL Summer adult program "Dig it!" in which the master gardener spoke to the community about growing herbs. Finally, she began her Classic Movie Monday series on July 31 by showing North by Northwest. She will show a classic movie every last Monday of the month through November.

Monty Holcomb, Adult Services Librarian at Westfall, started a weekly chess program that is for all ages, giving the community an opportunity to play and/or learn informal chess games. In the program, Mr. Holcomb helps to facilitate game play flow among the players and gives assistance (including lessons) as needed depending on the needs of those attending. The program has started with light attendance, but it will most likely grow as the community becomes more aware of the program. In addition, Mr. Holcomb addressed staff concerns about possible DVD Reader theft by coming up with a solution to address it. Additionally, in the process, he, along with other members of the Westfall staff, discovered that a computer pad was not able to enable tags properly. Mr. Holcomb also helped assisted Carver Library on seven different days throughout the month of July, serving as both an emergency LIC and a frontline staff member for the entire day on each occasion.

In July, Children's Librarian Imelda Merino planned and presented four Preschool Story Times. She also planned and presented four Family Story Times. Westfall Library hosted a presentation for kids about Texas Trees. This was presented by Mr. David Goree who works at the Friedrich Wilderness Park. Mr. Goree talked about several of the common trees here in San Antonio, showing examples of the leaves, and giving a lot of interesting background information on them. Afterwards, kids had fun making a leaf identification chart by creating crayon rubbings of all of the leaf samples. Ms. Merino also participated in two Art Club Online sessions.

Heather, the Teen Services Librarian at Westfall, continued to work with teen volunteers to have additional activities for summer. The teen volunteers developed and led a hybrid writing club that offered both in-person attendance at the branch and online space via the 210TeenLibrary Discord server and a Teen Movie Matinee where the teens suggested movie titles and then voted on the one to watch. They also continued to lead Teen Time, creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for their peers to

design their own experience in the library and allow teens with limited social opportunities to interact with others their own age.

In the month of July, the Learn Center at Westfall continued to see an increase in walk-in patrons seeking service anywhere from computer training to resume building. We do also continue to receive a variety of patrons of which Westfall is not necessarily their home library branch but have come here to seek out the learn services. Of those groups, we continue to welcome several senior patrons who are getting to know how to use the computer for the first time. During the month, Learn partnered up with the children's librarian from Landa to participate in the resource fair at SAMM Ministries at the Blanco location. The Training Officer was able to speak to about 30 residents and advise them of both adult and children's programs at Westfall and Landa libraries. The Learn Center at Westfall also continues to offer weekly technology classes.

## **PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

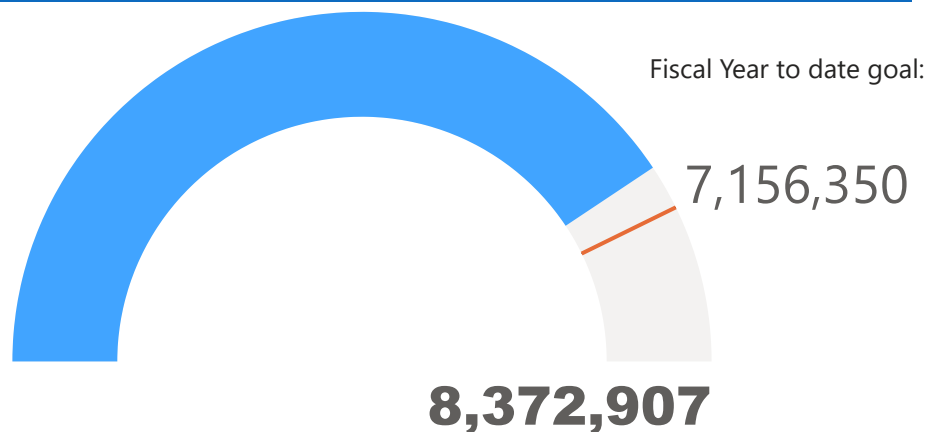
# SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

## KEY INDICATORS

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.

July 2023  
FY 2023

### Circulation: Goal

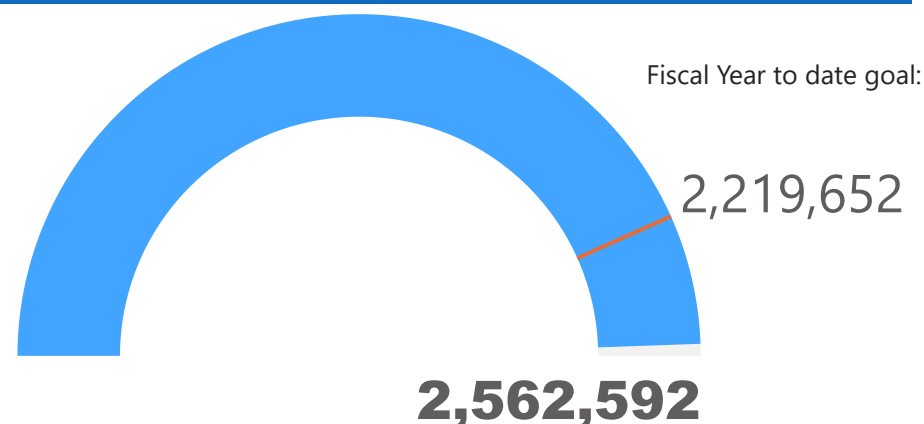


### FY 2023 to date Items Borrowed



**6,806,743**  
(-4.89%)  
Circulation

### Visits: Goal

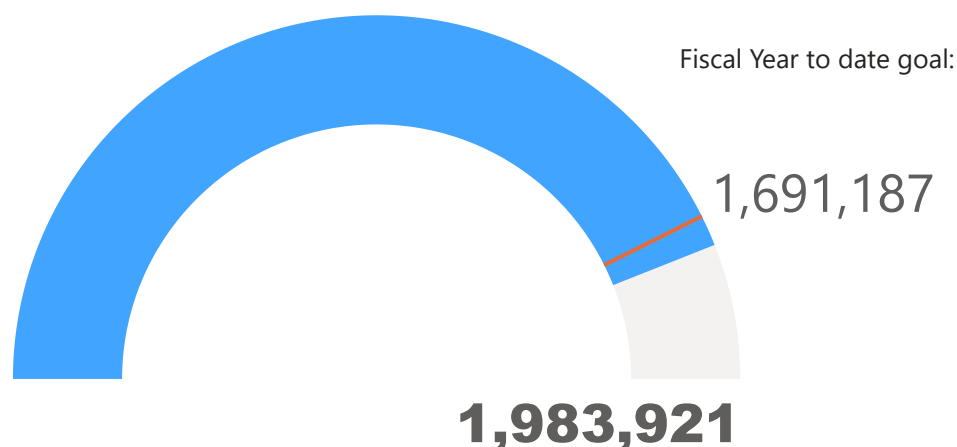


### FY 2023 to date Library Visits



**2,533,950**  
(+14.16%)  
Visits

### Digital Access: Goal



### FY 2023 to date Digital Access



**218,030**  
Hours of Computer Use



**1,527,511**  
Hours of Wi-Fi Use

**1,745,541**  
(+3.21%)  
Hours of Technology Use

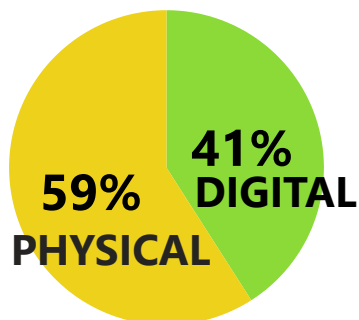


# SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

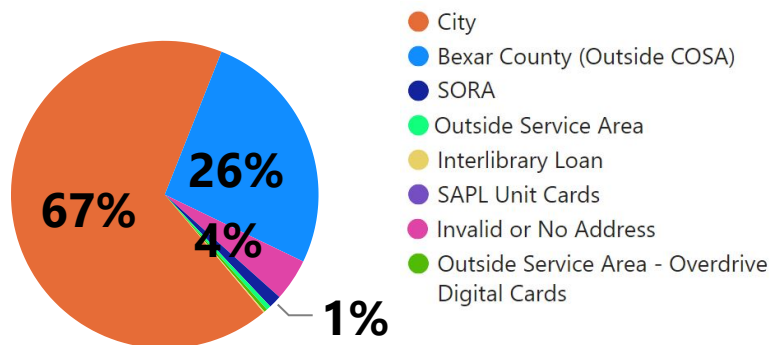
## July 2023 (CONTINUED)

### USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2023

#### CIRCULATION BY TYPE



#### CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA



### VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2023



1,414,678  
MYSAPL.ORG  
VISITS

18,780  
MYSAPL  
APP DOWNLOADS

493,616  
OVERDRIVE  
SITE VISITS

2,888,730  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
IMPRESSIONS

### PROGRAMS & ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2023

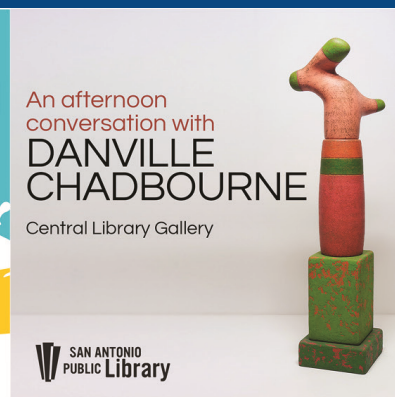
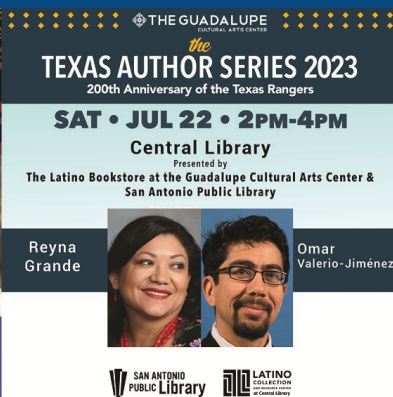
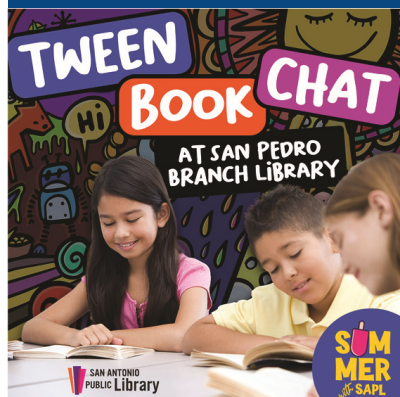
Total	Early Literacy (0-5)	School Age (6-12)	Teens (13-18)	Adults (19+)	Older Adults (60+)	General Interest*
8,954 programs	2,225 programs	1,887 programs	2,183 programs	1,951 programs	361 programs	347 programs
176,298 attendance	66,077 attendance	58,975 attendance	19,024 attendance	17,978 attendance	3,829 attendance	10,415 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

35,810 PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS

### JULY HIGHLIGHTS



# San Antonio Public Library

## July 2023 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Technology Actuals	Computer Hours	Wi-Fi Hours of Use
<b>Bazan</b>	2,471	5,543	5,865	1,079	4,786
<b>Brook Hollow</b>	7,407	0	721	46	675
<b>Carver</b>	2,473	5,258	3,877	998	2,879
<b>Central</b>	31,022	24,905	35,203	6,945	28,258
<b>Cody</b>	34,744	14,066	10,581	1,326	9,254
<b>Collins Garden</b>	3,807	4,537	4,258	646	3,612
<b>Cortez</b>	4,021	7,034	3,293	619	2,674
<b>Digital</b>	308,432	0	0	0	0
<b>Encino</b>	26,090	11,145	5,316	228	5,088
<b>Forest Hills</b>	6,645	3,906	2,392	237	2,156
<b>Great Northwest</b>	31,405	12,879	7,181	655	6,526
<b>Guerra</b>	7,027	5,545	4,348	600	3,748
<b>Igo</b>	41,393	17,252	9,784	828	8,956
<b>Interlibrary Loan</b>	1,196	0	0	0	0
<b>Johnston</b>	8,843	5,596	3,153	620	2,533
<b>Kampmann</b>	0	499	294	0	294
<b>Landa</b>	19,217	9,801	4,180	412	3,768
<b>Las Palmas</b>	373	62	92	0	92
<b>Maverick</b>	27,700	9,698	5,871	772	5,099
<b>McCreless</b>	8,062	4,009	6,518	1,363	5,155
<b>Memorial</b>	4,853	6,850	5,365	965	4,400
<b>Mission</b>	10,455	9,618	6,588	928	5,660
<b>Pan American</b>	3,752	3,501	2,755	419	2,336
<b>Parman</b>	38,408	18,694	7,501	370	7,130
<b>Potranco</b>	19,164	10,773	17,090	525	16,565
<b>Pruitt</b>	4,754	4,554	2,282	200	2,082
<b>San Pedro</b>	2,792	4,548	5,615	496	5,120
<b>Schaefer</b>	9,712	9,208	5,601	421	5,180
<b>Semmes</b>	28,422	11,707	9,145	1,442	7,703
<b>System</b>	36,693	0	0	0	0
<b>Thousand Oaks</b>	10,640	7,273	5,668	757	4,911
<b>Tobin</b>	18,393	8,499	4,967	753	4,215
<b>Westfall</b>	9,702	7,360	7,062	1,271	5,791
<b>Total</b>	<b>770,068</b>	<b>244,312</b>	<b>192,566</b>	<b>25,920</b>	<b>166,645</b>

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

# San Antonio Public Library Programs

## July 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	3	3	0	16
Brook Hollow	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Carver	1	1	0	14	1	0	17
Central	11	12	57	8	0	3	91
Cody	21	8	8	14	0	0	51
Collins Garden	6	15	0	1	0	8	30
Cortez	6	10	2	9	0	1	28
Encino	20	13	2	10	6	3	54
Forest Hills	4	12	3	0	0	5	24
Great Northwest	8	16	4	5	2	0	35
Guerra	4	7	3	2	12	0	28
Igo	15	10	5	9	0	0	39
Johnston	2	9	5	6	0	1	23
Landa	25	17	8	1	0	0	51
Las Palmas	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Little Read Wagon	10	0	0	0	0	1	11
Maverick	12	7	6	3	0	0	28
McCreless	3	5	2	16	2	3	31
Memorial	4	9	1	33	1	3	51
Mission	8	9	4	13	0	10	44
Pan American	0	4	2	5	1	0	12
Parman	18	12	3	9	6	3	51
Potranco	3	8	1	13	1	0	26
Pruitt	8	12	7	4	0	3	34
San Pedro	9	8	0	4	1	0	22
Schaefer	7	23	3	9	1	13	56
Semmes	12	18	7	6	0	8	51
System	6	3	32	8	0	0	49
Thousand Oaks	5	11	5	11	3	1	36
Tobin	4	9	6	9	4	1	33
Westfall	5	9	11	2	6	1	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>1,061</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

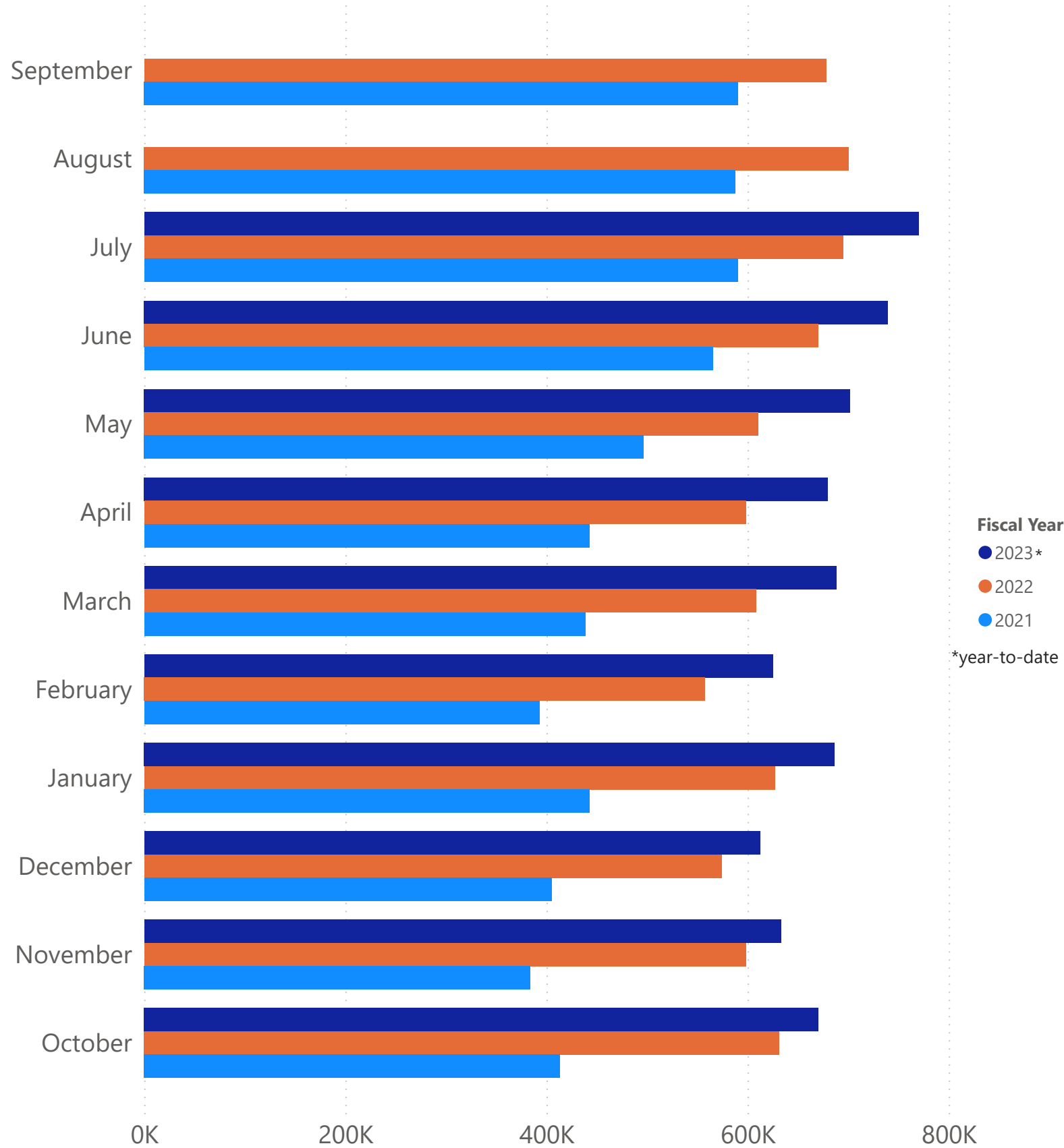
## July 2023

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
<b>Bazan</b>	0	86	0	18	13	0	117
<b>Brook Hollow</b>	0	0	0	0	261	0	261
<b>Carver</b>	15	34	0	89	80	0	218
<b>Central</b>	231	248	331	116	0	30	956
<b>Cody</b>	640	287	44	119	0	0	1,090
<b>Collins Garden</b>	98	287	0	4	0	142	531
<b>Cortez</b>	85	237	3	124	0	15	464
<b>Encino</b>	638	586	23	61	49	22	1,379
<b>Forest Hills</b>	70	140	9	0	0	43	262
<b>Great Northwest</b>	422	720	41	30	10	0	1,223
<b>Guerra</b>	121	121	2	13	23	0	280
<b>Igo</b>	1,018	469	39	81	0	0	1,607
<b>Johnston</b>	57	185	24	14	0	14	294
<b>Landa</b>	895	403	57	8	0	0	1,363
<b>Las Palmas</b>	0	20	0	0	0	0	20
<b>Little Read Wagon</b>	957	0	0	0	0	253	1,210
<b>Maverick</b>	594	330	38	35	0	0	997
<b>McCreless</b>	24	140	12	109	5	384	674
<b>Memorial</b>	35	172	3	215	2	32	459
<b>Mission</b>	162	181	22	130	0	85	580
<b>Pan American</b>	0	49	2	37	0	0	88
<b>Parman</b>	756	1,671	35	73	55	692	3,282
<b>Potranco</b>	154	208	1	88	30	0	481
<b>Pruitt</b>	98	181	29	59	0	27	394
<b>San Pedro</b>	109	144	0	29	8	0	290
<b>Schaefer</b>	199	575	9	28	6	51	868
<b>Semmes</b>	536	421	46	39	0	217	1,259
<b>System</b>	39	62	205	86	0	0	392
<b>Thousand Oaks</b>	58	320	20	86	20	20	524
<b>Tobin</b>	38	132	19	64	40	4	297
<b>Westfall</b>	26	101	47	16	7	1	198
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,075</b>	<b>8,510</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>1,771</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>2,032</b>	<b>22,058</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

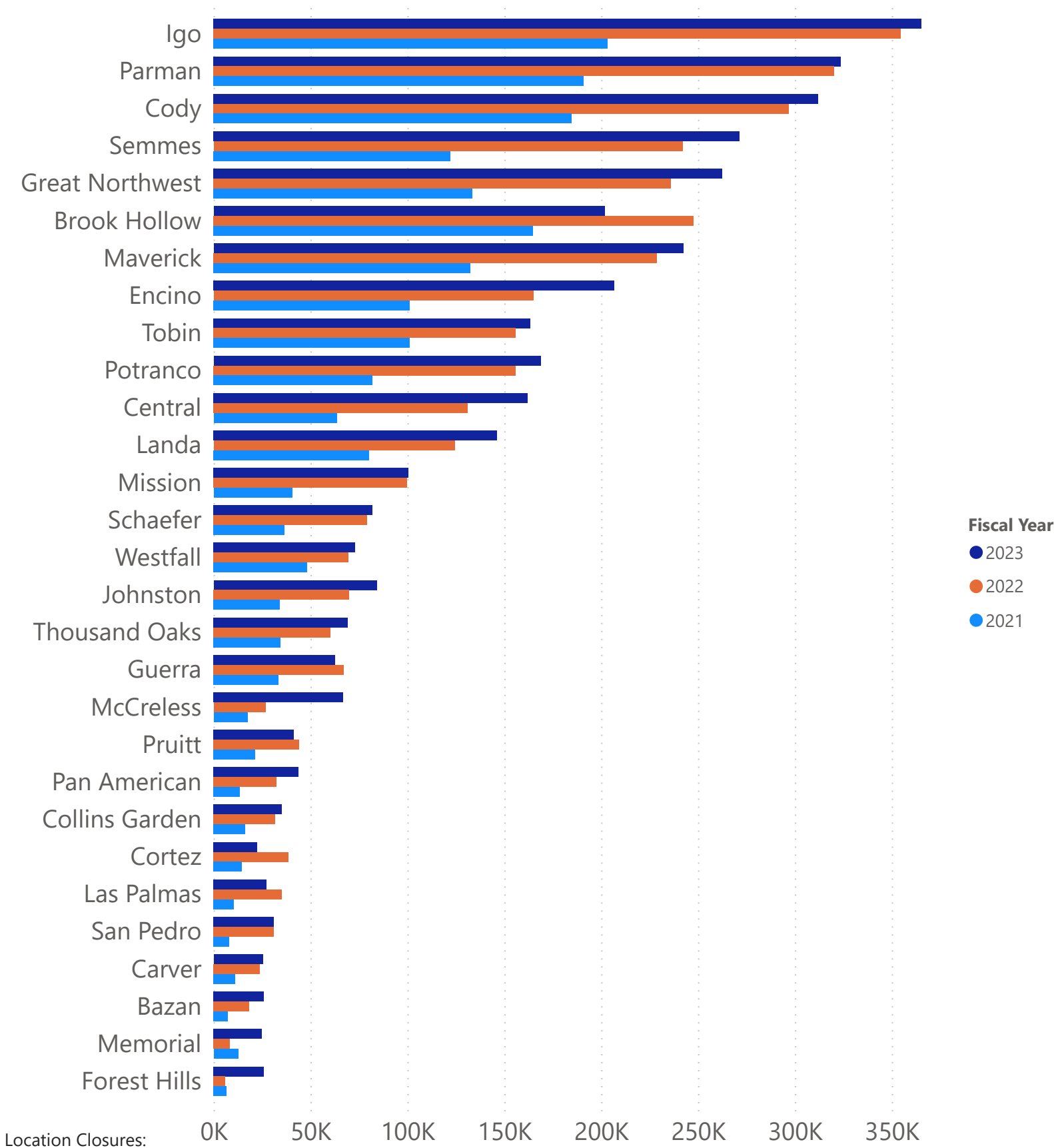


Location Closures:

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San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - July 2023

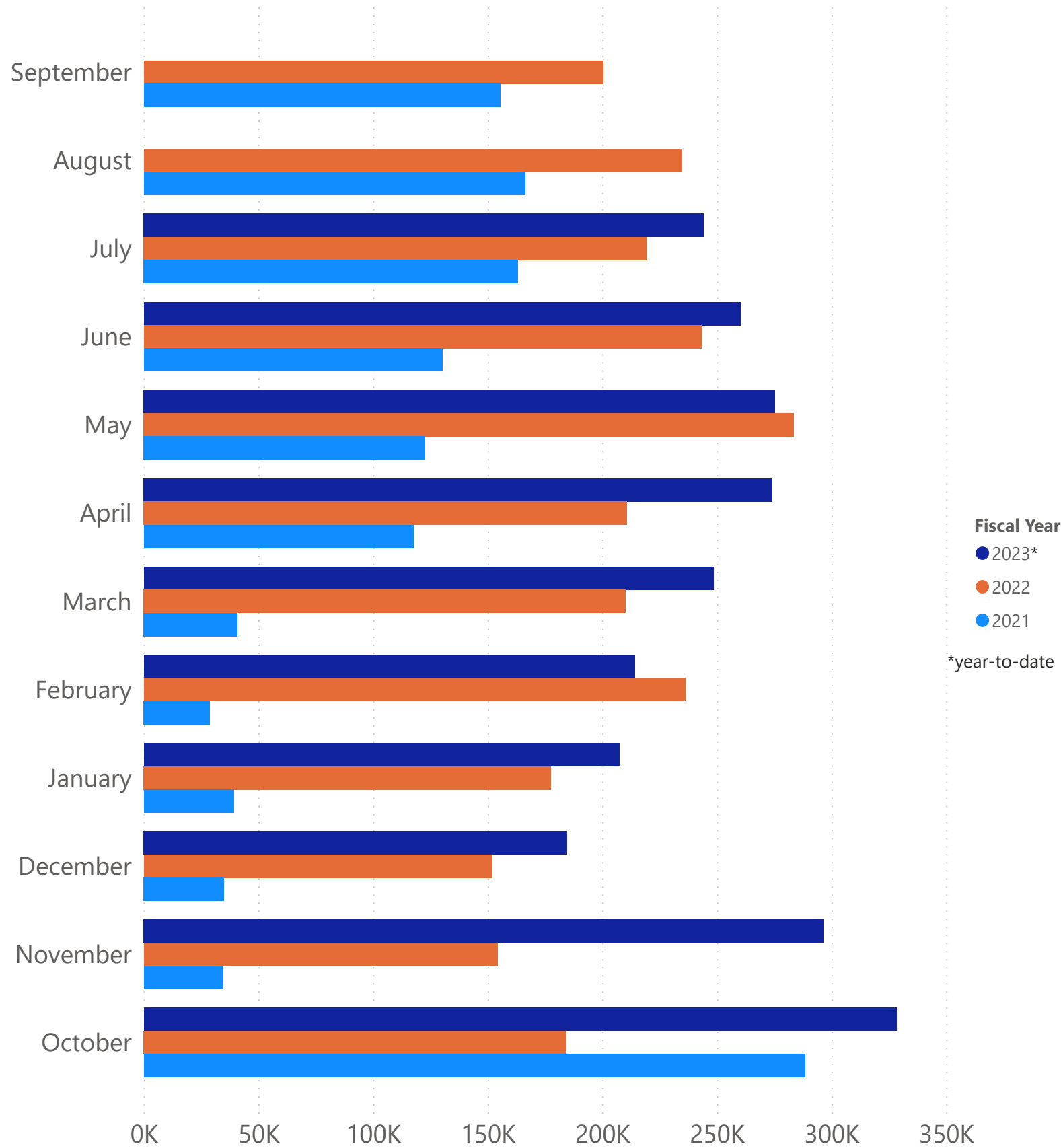


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# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits

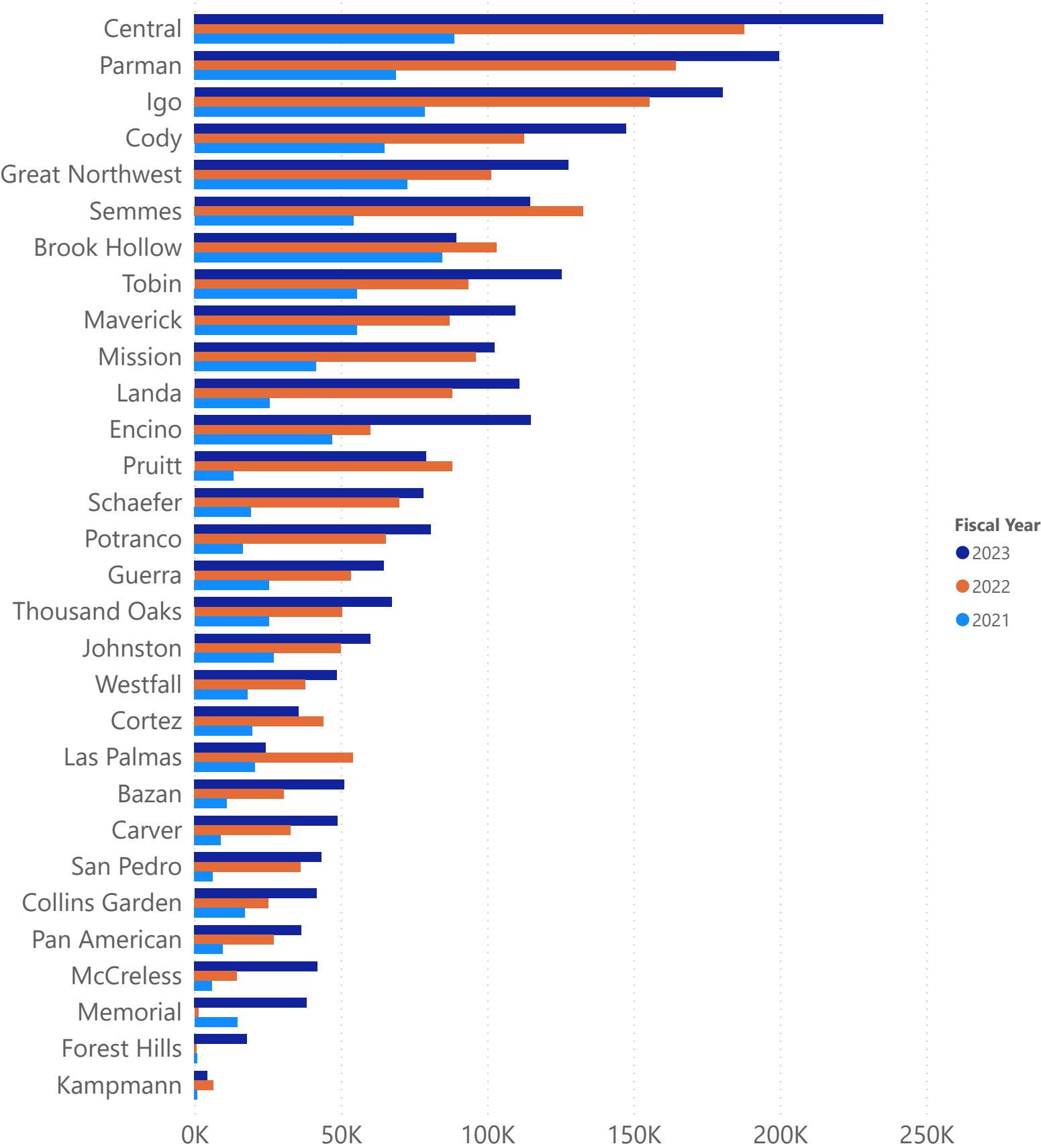


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San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - July 2023

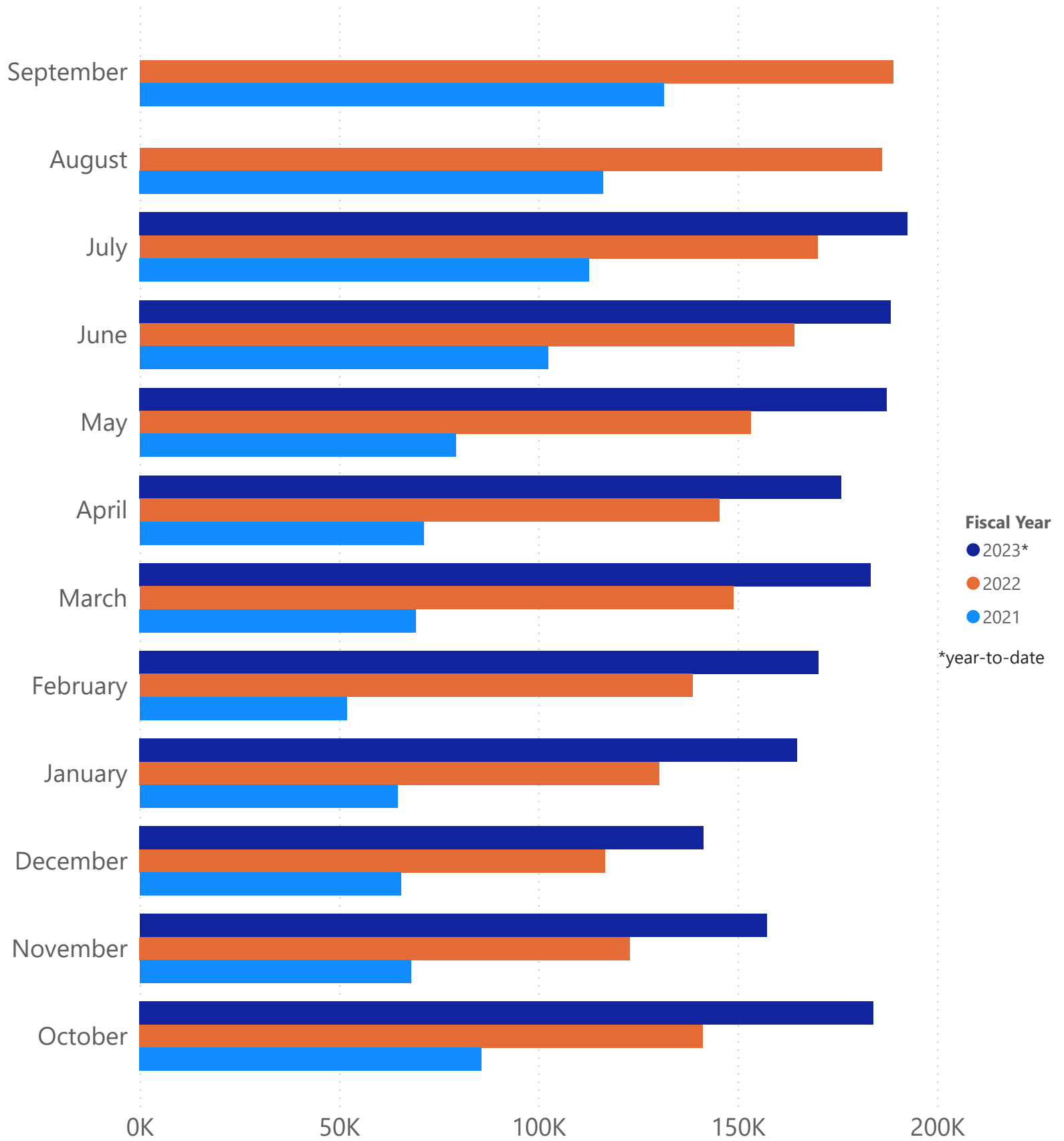


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FY 21: Forest Hills Oct 1-Jan 12, McCreless Nov 2-Sep 30, San Pedro Dec 2-May 4, Forest Hills Feb 15-Sep 30, Memorial Mar 2-Sep 30

# San Antonio Public Library

## Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use



### Location Closures:

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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

# 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.