



San Antonio Public Library Director's Report February 2022

San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) launched a system-wide “Blind Date with a Book” campaign for Library Lovers Month. Library staff at all participating locations handpicked a variety of books, wrapped and displayed them for patrons to select without seeing the title.

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

During the first week of February 2022, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar visited each library location to meet with library staff members.

On February 9, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar participated in a virtual panel discussion hosted by Baker and Taylor entitled *Dismantling Racial Inequity in the Workplace and Diversity in Collection Management Webinar*.

As a member of the Public Library Sector of the International Federation of Library Associations, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar participated in a planning meeting on February 23 for a Spanish-language workshop focuses on mental health wellbeing of library employees.

On February 24, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar delivered a presentation to the City Council's Community Health, Environment, and Culture Committee Meeting.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar met with Friends of the Library President John Costello on February 25 to discuss the partnership.

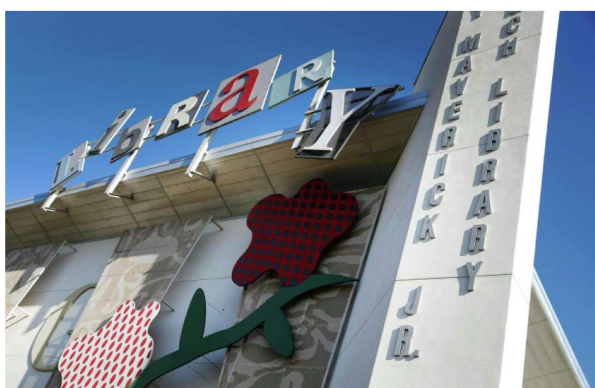


OPINION // COMMENTARY

Commentary: Protecting access and the freedom to read

Ramiro S. Salazar and Paul Stahl, For the Express-News

Feb. 23, 2022 | Updated: Feb. 23, 2022 12:34 p.m.



- News 4 WOAI and KABB aired a segment on SAPL's Blind Date with a Book campaign. The TV segment has aired multiple times.
- News 4 WOAI published an online article on SAPL's Blind Date with a Book campaign.
- The San Antonio Current highlighted the Julia Quinn author event which will take place on March 5 as part of Pop Madness.

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- TPR aired a feature story by Jack Morgan on the history of the design of Central Library. The story was also published as an online story on TPR's website.
- KENS 5 re-aired a story which originally aired last year about the 1921 flood. They mention the archives from SAPL's Texana & Genealogy.
- The San Antonio Express-News published an Op Ed on the freedom to read authored by Ramiro S. Salazar, SAPL Director, and Paul Stahl, SAPL Board Chair. The article appeared online as well as on page A11 in Thursday's print edition.
- The San Antonio Express News published an article online and on page A3 in Tuesday's print paper featuring SAPL's Enhanced Library Card. Dale was interviewed for this piece.
- TPR re-aired a feature story by Jack Morgan on the history of the design of Central Library. The story was also published as an online story on TPR's website.
- WOAI showed a live shot outside Cody Branch Library on election day.
- San Antonio Magazine listed SAPL as the best place for online learning in 2022.
- The SA Current included a highlight on the San Antonio African American Book Festival at Carver Branch Library.
- KSAT 12 highlighted SAPL and Texana in a story about the Bexar County Black History Series. Texana's Heather Ferguson is the SAPL representative for this program.
- The SA Current published an online article about the return of the SA Book Festival to Central Library.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:

- SAPL's social media generated 664,032 impressions
- SAPL's social media following base grew by 208 new fans
- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts 7,251 times.

Social Media statistics for the month(s):

- Twitter: 6,140 followers
- Facebook: 21,427 followers
- Instagram: 7,816 followers

YouTube statistics for the month(s):

- Subscribers: 1,198
- Impressions: 30,642
- Total Views: 2,616

- Videos published: 14

Graphics

The Graphics Team created publicity materials for a variety of programs and events during this reporting period, including graphics for the Summer with SAPL 2022 program, Schaefer's 5th Anniversary, Landa's 75th Anniversary, Blind Date with a Book, and Women's History Month, as well as social media and other promotion for branch events.

DIGITAL SERVICES

On February 9, Digital Services Coordinator Adam Spana participated in a Change Management call and presented an overview of website navigation changes accompanying the rollout of the print online portal.

On February 15, Mr. Spana joined Library colleagues and ITSD Business Relationship Manager Julian Harris to diagnose and address issues using WebEx video over SAPL Wi-Fi.

On February 17, Mr. Spana met with Library Services Administrator Ron Suszek, representatives from ITSD and representatives from Sirsi Dynix to plan for a migration of the Symphony server to a new ITSD data center and for an upgrade to the Symphony ILS software.

On February 24, Mr. Spana, at the direction of Assistant Director for Support Services Kathy Donellan, convened a meeting between Library and ITSD leadership to address ongoing issues with provisioning new hires with email and Office365 access.

LITTLE READ WAGON

February is about celebrating Baby Day for the Little Read Wagon (LRW) team. For the third year in a row, LRW participated in the statewide event organized by First3Years, an advocacy and education group based in Austin. Like last year, health conditions were not favorable for hosting an in-person event. The good news is this means that once again Baby Day turned into a week-long virtual celebration of the youngest members of our community. LRW presented three workshops and coordinated with children's librarians to host one extra Toddler Time and two extra Baby Time online events in addition to their regular weekday programs. Baby Day highlights the importance of the first three years of a child's life and the week-long online event brings together presentations by organizations from across Texas and participants from both the United States and abroad.

Megan Cruz and Julia Lazarin presented a 6:00 pm session for early childhood educators called Mirrors, Windows and Doors: Diversity in Early Childhood Classrooms. Ms. Lazarin and Clair Larkin presented to parents on Mirrors, Windows & Doors: Creating Home Libraries for Children to See Themselves Reflected in the Books They Read. Eva Banda also presented to parents in Spanish, Espejos, ventanas y puertas: Crear bibliotecas en casa para que los niños se vean reflejados en los libros que leen. Each session was presented live, had many attendees and is available as a recording through First3Years.

The monthly early childhood teacher training was held on February 12. The special guest was children's librarian Oliva Escovedo and highlighted the Cortez Library Branch. After talking about what she loves about being a librarian, Ms. Escovedo shared her favorite new bilingual picture books with participants

and invited them to visit her at Cortez. Follow-up evaluations show that teachers are excited to learn about library services they never knew existed.

Ms. Lazarin was invited to several Northside Independent School District campuses and proposed setting up reading villages outdoors in lieu of in-person visits or virtual workshops. At the reading villages, families enjoy a literacy activity and all pandemic precautions are observed. This proved very popular at campuses and requests have come in from schools without early childhood classrooms as well.

LRW staff have begun working more closely with Latched, a local nonprofit that provides parent education and material support. Ms. Lazarin and Ms. Cruz visited their Walzem location for an outdoor event and saw 189 children plus their adult caregivers. LRW staff have a scheduled visit to the Latched offices to provide their staff training in early literacy and a better understanding of library resources. Eventually LRW staff plan to offer parent workshops as well.

LRW staff continue learning about trauma informed care and building community resilience. Ms. Lazarin participated in the first San Antonio Metro Health's Trauma Informed Mentor Training and Ms. Larkin joined the second group. LRW staff participated in a Texas State Library and Archives Commission presentation titled Adverse Childhood Experiences and the Library: An Introduction to Trauma-Informed Library Service. Ms. Larkin and Ms. Lazarin continue to advocate for the library to become the first trauma informed certified library system in the country.

CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)



The Children's Services Team had two major projects and some special events this month. February 2 was World Read Aloud Day. The team decided to create a video read aloud of Jacqueline Woodson and Rafael López's book *The Day You Begin*. Several children's librarians appeared in the video encouraging children and adults to read and share stories with each other.

The Little Read Wagon and Tiny Tots teams presented multiple sessions as part of the state-wide Baby Day celebration hosted by First 3 Years, a non-profit organization advocating for the importance of brain development and healthy relationships in the first three years of life. From February 6-12 parents and caregivers had opportunities to log on to live and pre-recorded events including early literacy workshops and Baby Time and Toddler Time programs. A total of eight sessions were presented by San Antonio Public Library staff.

Author Varian Johnson made a virtual visit on February 12. Mr. Johnson shared about his life as a reader and writer. He also shared about his initial work as a civil engineer, including designing at least one bridge in San Antonio.

The team continued work on the reader's advisory project with presentations on bilingual and code switching books by Olivia Escovedo (Cortez) and toddler read aloud books by Randi Jones (Semmes) and Amy Roberts (Maverick).

TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Virtual Teen Programs and Activities – The 210teenlibrary Discord workgroup, led by Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) and consisting of Teen Services Librarians and Liaisons from around the system, worked with off-site teen volunteers (“Teen Mods”) to host weekly virtual teen programs (“clubs”) on Discord (“the server”) along with additional activities and events. Throughout the reporting period, teens used the server to chat about a Teen Mod’s hope that the San Antonio Public Library establishes an Esports league, with him serving as a coach; shows like *Amphibia* and *Gravity Falls* and games like *Pokémon Legends: Arceus* and *Minecraft*; Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech; new music; and several other topics related to their interests. During a Teen Mod meeting, current Teen Mods nominated three new teens on the server to potentially join the Teen Mod team, based on their meaningful interactions and contributions to the server.

For the 210teenlibrary Instagram page, Regina Almanza (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) has been creating graphics and videos for posts and stories. These items include teen interest content, such as polls and quizzes, and highlight celebratory events, such as Black History Month. Regina will also evaluate teen-created content for posting as well, including providing tools and supplies for teen volunteer Aidana’s basket-making craft tutorial. Pictures from these programs can be found at <http://www.instagram.com/210teenlibrary>.

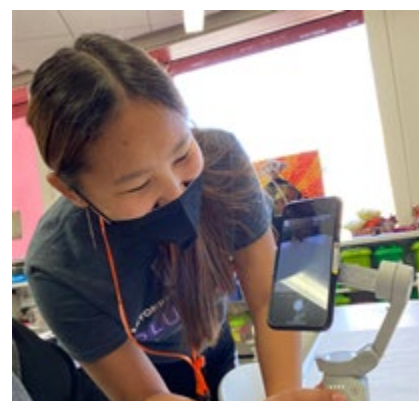
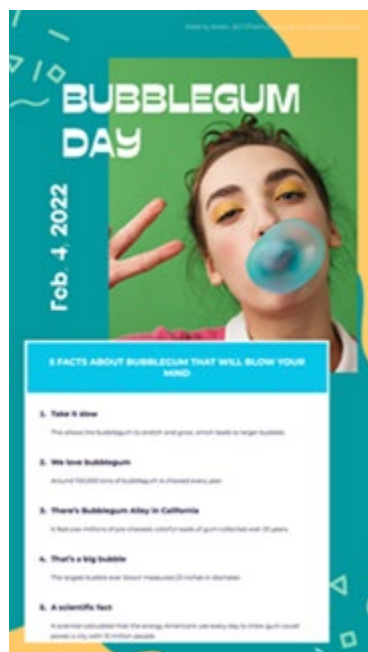
Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT, Teen Library @ Central) continues to engage with teens via the 210teenlibrary Instagram page. Ciana takes both teen and staff content and presents it as posts and stories, as well as creating indirect programming. She continues to participate in Instagram Live videos with Teen Library staff. Ciana has continued to respond to the 3D printing requests from teens on the Discord server. She prints and sends the requested item out to the teens’ preferred library branch for pick up. Ciana also records and submits all monthly statistics associated with the 210teenlibrary Instagram account.

Amisarahi Sarabia (SAPL’s Teen Outreach Specialist) shares teen-created Spotify playlists on the 210teenlibrary Instagram account weekly and creates weekly Instagram Spotify questions with which teens interact. Amisarahi and Bek Corley (Teen Services Librarian II Guerra) host Music Mondays on the 210teenlibrary Discord server in which teens stream their favorite songs and artists while chatting with friends on the server.

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

Virtual Teen Content and Resources – The 210teenlibrary Instagram workgroup, led by Matthew Loaiza and consisting of Amisarahi Sarabia, Ciana Flores, and Regina Almanza, shared information, resources, activities, and other content for teens on Instagram, created by teen volunteers and Teen Services staff. During the reporting period, teen volunteers and teens shared a variety of content including a book display featuring YA Romance by Black Authors; a craft demo on how to make a paper basket; a celebration of the Lunar New Year; a playlist featuring music perfect for picnics; and photos of a chocolate-dipped potato chip food experiment. Teen Services staff also continued to promote the 2022 Young Pegasus Competition, the Teen Summer 2022 T-shirt Call for Art, and several interactive stories including one about teens’ favorite library location.

Pictures: teen-created daily celebrations content for Instagram; teen volunteers Jenna & Angel's book display for Instagram; teen volunteer Aidana setting up to record a demo



ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Throughout the month of February, the San Antonio Public Library celebrated Black History Month. This year, a total of five programs on a variety of topics were hosted to reflect on the past, look ahead to the future, and share and learn about Black stories and history. Programs that were hosted during the month included an author presentation featuring romance author Tiff Smitty discussing her book *Be My Peace*, a presentation by Carver Branch Manager DL Grant on the intersection of gentrification of historically African American spaces and the preservation of cultural legacy and heritage, a Black History Trivia program that tested participants knowledge of Black History, a presentation by Texana Librarian Matt DeWalsche on Texana's African American Funeral Program collection (a collection of over 4500 donated funeral programs, many of which have been scanned and are available online through the Portal to Texas History), and a discussion of the film *A Raisin in the Sun*. Participants of all programs commented on the variety of opportunities to recognize the rich history and contributions of African Americans.

On February 28th, library staff members presented another computer class in partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank. Six library staff members gave participants - who all are recipients of the Food Bank services - an introduction to using a computer. Both a session in English and a session in Spanish were presented, with a total of twenty five attendees participating in the sessions. Angelina Cortes is the lead for this partnership and will continue to coordinate these sessions as the Food Bank communicates the need for them.

In February, the San Antonio Public Library launched a new weekly online program called Queer Crafternoon. This program, which is hosted weekly on Saturdays from 2-3 pm, is designed to be a safe

space for the LGBTQIA+ community. Individuals are invited to listen to stories as they explore their creativity. Each week, a selection of an audiobook or podcast that has a queer-centered storyline and/or queer characters is featured. Participants listen along and explore their creative endeavor - whatever that might be (such as painting with pastels, doodling, fiber arts, sewing, writing). The program is slowly growing a core audience, with a few folks joining in to each session)

Older Adults - A program of highlight for February that is specifically targeted at Older Adults is the Coffee and A Movie Program that is hosted each month at Collins Gardens Branch Library. This program is offered the 2nd Friday of each month from 10:30 am -12:30 pm Through this program, Library Assistant Carlos Loera offers older adults an opportunity to view a classic film and discuss it afterward in a casual, informal, comfortable environment. Participants have the opportunity to form community around a common interest in a welcoming and inclusive way.

CENTRAL LIBRARY



Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin and Librarian I Ashley Stubbs were very active in virtual programming. Ms. Seglin presented two Toddler Time and two Story Time Live programs. She participated in a virtual LEGO Club as well. She assisted with the virtual Baby Day Celebration during a virtual Toddler Time in which she read *Mad, Mad Bear* by Kimberly Gee. Ms. Seglin was also a presenter in the special I Heart Story Time virtual session celebrating Valentine's Day.

Ms. Stubbs presented two online Story Time Live programs. She supported the Tiny Tots and Story Time weekly programs by maintaining their "Books We Love" section of the LibGuide and made several curated programs. Her Valentine's Day videos for children were featured heavily on the San Antonio Public Library's Facebook page. She also recorded a story for the Dial-A-Story service.

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

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

Ms. Stubbs initiated a new interactive display in the Central Library interim service space celebrating the Valentine's Day holiday all month. Families were invited to share something they loved on a paper heart and add it to the larger display.

TEEN LIBRARY

During the reporting period, teens used computers in the Teen Library, browsed the YA collection, used craft supplies to create, played video games with their peers, and used the 3D printer to bring their designs to life. Teen Library staff serve free snacks from the San Antonio Food Bank during after-school hours to teens in the space. Regina Almanza (Library Assistant) provided teens the opportunity to suggest and/or join in for a variety of activities, such as after-school crafts of printed paper crafts and drawing and making stickers. In accordance with the SA Food Bank partnership, Regina fulfilled the Food Bank nutrition lesson requirement in a mashup of Valentine's Day and beets, with a heart-shaped beet taste test. She also provided materials and supplies for stand-alone crafts, like making lucky bracelets for Chinese New Year and an impromptu chocolate-dipped potato chip food craft. Pictures from these programs can be found at <http://www.instagram.com/210teenlibrary>.

A group of teens who use the recording studio for their band are working with Teen Library staff to refresh the instruments, equipment, and additional aspects of the space to make it more useful and relevant to their current needs and for other teens.

Pictures: teens participating in a food craft; the chocolate-dipped potato chip



REFERENCE

On Saturday February 5th Library Assistant JD Elizondo held the second Basic Improv live program teaching beginners the basics of improv and its life skills applications.

On Tuesday February 15th JD and Librarian Lorin Flores hosted the 3rd episode of SAPL Variety with guest San Antonio Poet Laureate Andrea "Vocab" Sanderson. JD made the related book display "Funny Business" featuring books on comedians, stand up and improv for the month of February.

Reference Librarian Sally Bauer and COSA health expert Keith Thibodeaux presented the program: "Healthy Heart Healthy You" on February 27th at 2:00 PM on Zoom.

Lorin Flores and Edward Mayberry streamed "Lorin & Edward Play a Game" on Twitch on March 2nd at 7pm. Featured games were "Counter Strike: Global Offensive" and the Virtual Reality Game demo "Warplanes: WWi-Fighters".

On February 28th, Angelina Cortes, Cynthia Cruz, Patricia Perez, Marcel Alvarez, Joseph Gonzales, and Lodie Mueller presented Computer Basics/Computación Básica in English and Spanish at the San Antonio Food Bank. Twenty five attendees were provided with an overview of basic computer operations and hands-on practice.

Reference created several eye-catching physical displays during February, including a Blind Date with a Book, Black History Month, Heart Month, and Football, and curated several targeted online Bibliocommons lists including Breaking Up is Hard to Do, and Celebrating Black Artists, Musicians, and Authors.



LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

Program Manager Emily Flores continued to work with the Mexican-American Civil Rights Institute on programming related to the 75th anniversary of the landmark Mendez vs. Westminster desegregation case. As part of the programming, Flores spoke with Emmy award-winning Director Sandra Robbie to propose including her documentary “Mendez vs. Westminster: For All the Children.” Ms. Robbie enthusiastically accepted the request and will be participating in the event, along with author Janice Munemitsu, who appears in the documentary and is the author of “The Kindness of Color.”

The LCRC space has been in frequent use with the return to in-person programming at the Central Library, including for high-profile events such as site visits from the Mexican Consulate. Ruben Minutti-Zanatta, the Mexican Consul General in San Antonio, along with Consular staff, presented Library Director Ramiro Salazar with an extensive set of textbooks and workbooks from the K-12 Mexican Secretary of Education curriculum. During the month of February, Flores worked with Reference staff to streamline the sign-in process and room use guidelines for LCRC study rooms and present updated information for public use.

TEXANA/ GENEALOGY



Bexar County History Research and Resource Event, February 21, 2022. (Presenters, L to R: Heather Ferguson, Special Collections Manager SAPL; David C. Carlson, Archivist Bexar County Spanish Archives; Lucy Adame-Clark, Bexar County Clerk; Deborah Omowale Jarmon, CEO/Director SAAACAM; Tommy Calvert, Bexar County Commissioner for Precinct 4; and Kenneth Stewart, Archivist SAAACAM)

The Library's Texana/Genealogy Department and the San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum (SAAACAM) were invited to participate with Bexar County Clerk, Lucy Adame-Clarke in a History Resource event on February 21. The Black History Month research & resource sharing event was hosted by the Bexar County Clerk at the Bexar County Spanish Archives. The event was free, open to the public, and offered a hybrid in-person/virtual format for those who could not attend in-person.

Presentations were live streamed online by KSAT News as well as SAAACAM's Facebook page. Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson promoted resources available through SAPL's website such as the Ask-a-Librarian feature where patrons can submit questions online and connect with subject specialists to assist with Genealogy or Texana/local history research. Ms. Ferguson also highlighted the Library's "Guide for African American Resources" where SAPL Librarians have pulled together a wealth of information to promote books, events, websites, and other resources about African American history, not only in the state of Texas, but around the country. In addition to Guides, online databases for genealogy research were also highlighted.

Librarian I Andy Crews presented an online Beginning Genealogy presentation on February 12. The class was promoted in the Adult Services e-newsletter and led to 50 registrants. How to begin researching family history and the resources available to help answer questions about ancestors' lives were discussed. Mr. Crews also served on the Black History Month committee and helped to promote the initiative by updating the Library's Guide for African American Resources with an events calendar, downloadable activities and a "History of Desegregation in San Antonio" page. On February 22, he hosted a movie discussion about Lorraine Hansberry's "A Raisin in the Sun."

Librarian II Matt De Waelsche presented three programs in February. On February 17 Mr. De Waelsche was the guest speaker for the monthly meeting of the Sons of the Republic of Texas Heritage Society and presented about the Texana/Genealogy Department. He organized a Black History Month program at the Carver Branch on February 19 to promote the department's African-American Funeral Program Collection. On February 22 he presented an online class with instructions on using the Library's database HeritageQuest Online, which is used for genealogical research.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia and Teen Librarian Cassie Garza continued to facilitate the *Gaming Club* program in May. Meaningful teen participation was highlighted when teens teamed up to assist an attendee decipher puzzles in binary code. Teens were quick to respond and were keen to provide guidance as they watched the ongoing video game stream. Additionally, the program's club assistant shared his experience as a professional gamer and expressed interest in running and coaching an esports league with the San Antonio Public Library. The teen has experience coaching amateur gamers improve their gaming skills on the server. As the server continues to grow, new teens visit the program and are quick to get acclimated. Teens ease into streaming and discussing video game topics with each other. A more recent trend saw teens sharing their own gaming space with the group.

Ms. Garcia also stopped by Tafolla Middle School to drop off flyers and promote Young Pegasus, and scheduled a couple of outreach visits for March.

Library Assistant, Enedina Prater, hosted the *Bad Girls Book Club* twice in February. The group had an impromptu book club discussion when several members of the book club unexpectedly had some downtime due to the recent severe winter weather. Since the book club had been on hiatus since November, it was a great time to get caught up via video chat while cozied up with a hot beverage of choice and discuss a book that the group had previously read but not yet chatted about.

The group met again on their originally scheduled program date and discussed book one of a paranormal/supernatural romance series by Lauren Dane, entitled *Diablo Lake: Moonstruck*. The *Bad Girls* LOVED the book even though they usually do not read many in this subgenre, but do look forward to reading more.

BROOK HOLLOW Library

During the month of February 2022, Brook Hollow Library (BHL) hosted Bexar County Elections February 14-25, 2022 and on Election Day, Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 954 Bexar County Residents cast ballots at the BHL. Former BHL Assistant Manager and Teen Services Librarian Julia Pouliot Petit resigned from her position in February, moved to Tampa, Florida and accepted a position with the Hillsborough County Public Library Cooperative. The position has been posted and interviews to fill the role begin this month.

Adults: BHL Adult Services Librarian Marco De Leon continued to host the BHL Mystery Book Club featuring *Who's Sorry Now?* by Maggie Robinson. Due to the COVID19 Omicron Surge, the La Tertulia Spanish Book Club requested De Leon to host the meeting via Zoom, where *Mas Alla Del Invierno* by Isabel Allende was discussed.

Children: Brook Hollow Library celebrated Black History Month in February with a children's book display featuring Black authors and illustrators. Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas created an interactive display for families to add "Books we Love" to a display area. Salinas and Library Assistant Jennifer Olivarez updated their interactive display area to prompt children to share their artwork or story when given the prompt "One Day I want...". Multiple families engaged with the display, but the staff's favorite was from one little girl who wanted to "play with a shark". She was very clear that she did not want to swim with the shark, but play. Olivarez also created a "Red Things" BHL Scavenger Hunt for families to enjoy together all month. Library Assistants Elissa Vura and Olivarez designed and assembled a Cards and Stationary Take-and-Make Kit for Brook Hollow Library families to enjoy at home. Salinas presented multiple online children's programs throughout February including: Lego Club Online; Read to a Dog Online; Game Time Online; Art Club Online; and Cooking Around the World with the San Antonio Food Bank. Salinas was part of the SAPL Baby Time Online Team who participated in Baby Day with First3Years that celebrated children ages zero to three years old. Baby Time Online programs were streamed across the state of Texas (and internationally) as part of a virtual week-long celebration of Baby Day.

Manager News: Brook Hollow Library (BHL) Manager Jeannette Davies hosted Noon Time Helping of Cooking in SAPL's Virtual Kitchen twice in February highlighting St. Valentine's Day treats and U.S. Presidential recipes in honor of President's Day. Participants learned how to make mini-bundt cakes and all about what the U.S. Presidents and their families liked to eat. (Sign-up via SAPL website under events. <https://www.mysapl.org/Events-News/Events-Calendar>) Davies aided the Friends of Brook Hollow Library (FOBHL) with February's Blind Date with a Book Sale and to prep for their successful Saturday, March 4,

2022, FOBHL Pop-Up Book Sale. Davies continues to meet with the Texas Library Association's (TLA)'s Libraries Transform Texas Podcast Team and is in the process of interviewing guests for National Library Week, April 3-9, 2022. (Stay tuned.) <https://anchor.fm/texas-library-association>

CARVER

The Carver branch participated in the Blind Date with a Book and Black History Month initiatives, with aides Rebecca Vasquez and Laura Alvarez assisting with setting them up. Ms. Alvarez also decorated the endcaps of the juvenile fiction shelves with images of notable people in black history.

In February, the Carver Training Officer, Daniel Gomez took a leave during which new Training Officer, Lodie Mueller, stepped in to cover the Carver LEARN Center. Ms. Mueller did a terrific job with covering the center. There were several compliments given by patrons. Ms. Mueller had been in training and was ready to step in to help patrons with their various needs.

LEARN offered 37 individual sessions in February. However, there were fewer visits to the center in February than in previous months, most likely due to the inclement weather.

Five individuals used the center to write resumes and search for jobs. Three individuals came in for computer training sessions. Most patrons came in for help with urgent tasks, such as school projects, or how to use a function on their phone.

The February LEARN Spanish online classes were postponed until March (due to Training Officer, Daniel Gomez, being out on leave).

On February 14, Branch Manager DL Grant visited Texas A&M University at San Antonio, where he discussed research methods and historical facts about the East Side community with history majors studying the legacy of African American businesses listed in *The Negro Travelers' Green Book*, which was published from 1936 to the mid-1960s to help African American motorists finding lodging and other accommodations in the era of Jim Crow segregation. The students' research was expected to generate historical markers for these historic spaces.

On February 18, Mr. Grant shared the history of Carver Branch and African American cultural heritage in San Antonio with local ministers through an initiative with the H.E. B. Foundation to foster community engagement and cultural awareness.

In honor of Black History Month, the branch hosted a discussion of SAPL's African American Funeral Program Collection led by Texana librarian/archivist Matt DeWaelsche. Audience members brought funeral programs to donate to the collection, which has grown to nearly 5000 since it began in 2005.

Teen Librarian Shannan Prukop added to this with a display in front of the teen room of books by black authors and on top of the indoor book return with juvenile biographies. They welcomed two teen volunteers to Carver, helping them learn the branch and tasks available and encouraging interest in coming up with new and fun ideas for the branch. Mx. Prukop, with Matthew Loaiza, also started on a case study article for Computers in Libraries based on the presentation they gave at LibLearnX in January. Throughout February, they continued running the Dungeons and Dragons (D&D) program on

the 210teenlibrary Discord server, with an emphasis on teens taking an active role in creating the story and encouraging them to run their own D&D stories, including the creative thinking of creating custom settings and other details for those stories. They also assisted teens on the Discord server with creating a new program based on the previous Tryday Friday program, except this one is entirely teen-lead with library staff present to help as needed.

CODY

The Cody branch library welcomed several new library aides to the team in February 2022. The branch is now very close to being fully staffed and many new shifting projects have begun. Cody served as an early voting polling site for the Joint Primary for the Democratic and Republican Parties from February 14 – 25, where almost 4300 voters cast their ballots. Book clubs, film clubs, and fiber clubs continue to meet and staff is looking forward to the return of programming. Patrons enjoyed several special displays in February, including Blind Date with a Book and Black History Month displays for all ages.

Children's Librarian Kristin Yourdon participated in several online virtual programs in February. For Art Club Online on February 3, Yourdon instructed the children to close their eyes and draw a squiggle on their paper. Then they were to use the squiggle to draw and develop what they saw within the squiggle, encouraging children to use abstract thinking skills. Yourdon co-hosted the author visit with Varian Johnson on February 12th. Yourdon introduced Mr. Johnson to the participants and helped to monitor the meeting.

Yourdon hosted Story Time Online on February 17, welcoming families to the Story Time and monitoring the chat. Later that day, Yourdon presented during Art Club Online, where she taught children about African American painter Alma Thomas and shared images of some of her famous work. Children were then instructed to paint a picture that imitated her style. On February 24, Yourdon presented during Story Time Online, with the book Saturday by Oge Mora and sang the active song "My Thumbs are Starting to wiggle."

The branch continued to host weekly scavenger hunts in February. Yourdon created a Winter Olympics themed scavenger hunt for the first week. Three Olympic sports were set out in the children's area, including a pretend skating rink where children could pretend to figure skate, a ski jump, where children could jump from the starting line and see how far they could go, and the slalom, where children had to follow tape lines on the floor to avoid the flags. Along the way, children had to find the Olympic rings hidden throughout the children's area and color them in order on their papers.

Yourdon created a Valentine's Day scavenger hunt for the second week. Children had to search for the paper conversation hearts that were on their bingo card and find five in a row. Library Assistant Haly LeFlore created a Black History Month scavenger hunt for the third week. Children had to fill in a crossword puzzle by searching the children's area to find the answers to several clues about notable African Americans throughout history. Finally, LeFlore created a Butterfly Identification game to set out during the last week of February. Children had to match the butterflies on their paper to the ones that were hung up in the children's area. Children had to label each butterfly correctly to get a prize.

COLLINS GARDEN

For the month of February, The Collins Garden branch displayed a collection development curated Black History Month book bundle featuring 20 distinct titles around the theme. For the branch's "*Blind date with a book*" display, Children's Librarian Gina Brudi assisted Branch manager Arlene Richardson with a diverse selection of books and patrons were encouraged to find the perfect literary companion and discover new genres, authors and series. The Collins Garden Book Club read the novel *When No One is Watching* by Alyssa Cole. The group met with host Gina Brudi on February 18 and discussed gentrification past and present.

On February 10th, Children's Librarian Gina Brudi attended the "Share the Love of Reading" event at Knox Early Education Center. She read *The Wonderful Book* by Leonid Gore and led the children in songs and rhymes and spoke to parents about library services. During the reporting period, she presented four Story Times to the center via Zoom, reading to a total of 380 children and supplied library books on farms for each teaching unit. She continues to engage our youngest patrons in Toddler Time and Baby Time online and she participated in the fourth annual Baby Day celebrations with additional virtual Story Times for babies and toddlers. For the month of February, the branch distributed 25 "Let's Paint" take-and-make craft kits for children.

Teen Services Librarian Daniella Toll assisted Matthew Loaiza with the Teen Time clubs on the 210teenlibrary Discord server. Teens shared about their weeks: health, clubs, grades and new volunteer opportunities. The group supported and encouraged each other. Ms. Toll worked with Shannan Prukop and Matthew Loaiza on the 210teenlibrary server to encourage teens who were interested in adding a new club to the server on Sundays. These three young people felt empowered to make decisions and felt supported by library staff, so they jumped in and worked out the logistics. They named the Club Sunday Funday, and worked well as a group. They decided who should be the Game Master, supported each other and demonstrated excellent teamwork and conflict resolution.

Library Assistant Carlos Loera hosted four programs during the reporting period: On February 11, seniors enjoyed coffee and a classic movie. On February 16, the adult coloring program invited adults to show their creativity through coloring and relax while listening to classical music. On February 22, Mr. Loera assisted patrons with technology questions during the Tech Tuesday program. Family Ping Pong on February 20 saw families spend time together while developing ping pong skills.

CORTEZ

Cortez Library was an early voting location for much of February. Staff celebrated the month by creating displays to celebrate Love and Kindness. Blind Date with a Book, a Make-Your-Own Valentine station, "Gal-entines Day", and book bundles about how to show love to others were appreciated by many patrons. A new display featuring upcoming book-to-movie titles also received many compliments. Cortez staff celebrated the promotion of Part-Time Circulation Attendant Vanezza Garcia to Full-Time Circulation Attendant at Landa Library with a lunch in her honor. She will be missed at Cortez and staff wish her great success. Wellness Liaison for Cortez, Esmeralda "Esmey" Staudt challenged staff to a month of squats, which many attempted, but only one person completed.

Branch Manager Angela Morrow is working on creating a designated Teen Space in the Cortez library to encourage young people to visit and stay in the library. Additionally, Angela coordinated interviews for four branches to fill the vacant positions of Part-Time Circulation Attendant. Angela also assisted in working at Johnston for half a day and closing the branch during Early Voting to assist the nearby branch with a staff shortage. To encourage staff programming, Angela attended and participated in the February 25th *SAPL Live Trivia*, partially hosted by Adult Services Librarian Vicky Villalobos.

Adults

As a member of the LGBTQIA+ Committee, Adult Services Librarian Vicky Villalobos worked with fellow committee members Monica Huerta and Michael Dunbar-Rodney to establish a weekly Saturday crafting program called *Queer Crafternoon*. Patrons are invited to flex their creativity in a safe space while listening to podcasts and book excerpts from queer writers or about the LGBTQIA+ experience and history.

In cooperation with Brook Mjolsness and Morgan Yoshimura, Vicky participated in February's *SAPL Live Trivia*. The event was held on February 25, and Librarian Villalobos provided research for the Funny Valentine category as well as the Olympics category. Thirty-two people participated in the program and enjoyed the music and trivia.

Circulation Attendant Madeline "Maddy" Vasquez held her monthly program *Monster Meet* with a screening of *Love at First Bite*. Maddy also hosted her weekly program for older adults, *COAST*, where patrons played games and held lively conversations.

Teen

Teen time in-person programming has been put on hold for the month of February or until further notice.

Teen Liaison Jo Ann Paredes hosted her weekly program *Getting Crafty*, which welcomed students from the Center for Health Care Services. Several older adult regulars to this program have not returned in person but are being emailed craft assignments, completing them at home and sharing their progress via email. Crafts for February consisted of: Dream Catcher, Clay Pot Gumball, Hot Glue Art, and Wooden Tissue Box.

Children

Children's Librarian Olivia Escovedo helped out with three programs. She took part in the *Read Across America* program with the United Way; read a bilingual book to a class of third graders online. Olivia took part in *Story Time Online*, reading a story about living in a big city to the kids, then sang songs about city life. Also, she helped Little Read Wagon with their online teacher program; speaking to a group of teachers about being a Children's Librarian and the resources the library provides for families. She, along with Library Aide Esmey Staudt read for Dial-a-Story several times in both English and Spanish.

ENCINO

On February 7, Encino hosted a Galentine's Day program during which participants watched the Galentine's episodes of Parks & Recreation, snacked on heart shaped waffles and sparkling cider, and

made a succulent planter craft. During early voting, Encino's Hand Bee relocated to the collaborative space and continued to enjoy their weekly meetings.

Encino hosted a representative from Upgrade, promoting programs for adults returning to college, on February 15.

Adult Services Librarian, Ann Laird, recorded a video on how to make homemade dishwasher tablets. This video was shared on the My SAPL YouTube channel on February 4 and has received over 200 views.

Teen Services at Encino:

Teen services displayed a curated collection of YA non-fiction and fiction authors celebrating Black History Month.

Teen librarians at Encino facilitated passive programming opportunities and displays for teens aged 13 to 18 in the teen space.

Teens planned and implemented some exciting activities such as an ongoing beautiful Mandala Wall and creative acrylic Teen Art. Teen services promoted and encouraged meaningful participation through "Make & Takes" such as Blind Date with a Book, Young Pegasus kit and Share your Care Card Kit.

Teens participated in the promotion of literacy through a February *BookTok* display. Teen services displayed a curated collection of YA non-fiction and fiction authors celebrating Black History Month.

In addition, Teen Services curated and displayed a collection of College Resources.

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

Encino Library was a popular early voting location for the 2022 primary election with a total of 4,105 voters braving the cold weather.

Encino patrons are watching the construction of the playground and are excited about the equipment being installed.

FOREST HILLS

Branch Manager Mary Naylor hosted the monthly book club at the Doris Griffin Senior Center. Participants discussed *Apples Never Fall* by Liane Moriarty. The group has added new members in the last month as more people are venturing into public spaces again. During the meetings, seniors are also given information regarding digital collections and how to place books on hold to be retrieved at their local branch.

Forest Hills Staff continues to offer interim services from the Gilbert Garza Community Center. Patrons enjoy the convenience of the location and are appreciative of the interim services offered while they await the reopening of the Forest Hills Branch location.

A display for Black History Month featured classic texts by black authors such as Toni Morrison's *BeLoved*, biographies of important figures in black history, as well as non-fiction writings on race was featured in the month of February.

Childrens

As she always does, Ms. Menchaca was happy to create a curated Story Time in English and Spanish. Curated Story Times are a wonderful way for parents to get ideas and support with reading and early literacy tips. She also helped facilitate a Lego Time for school aged children.

Along with Ms. Jones and Ms. Deffendall, Ms. Menchaca is developing some videos for the library web page that will teach children: letters, numbers, and colors. The videos are going to be bilingual.

Teens

Teen Services Librarian Laura Herman assisted with Librarypalooza on February 26. She was able to meet with teens and children all around the city and state. There were lots of Pride stickers, buttons and bookmarks which the participants went out of their way to thank library staff for. They said things like that wouldn't be allowed at their school and they were thankful the library was providing it. This was a powerful way to show how inclusive and supportive the San Antonio Public Library is of the community.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Children's Librarian Cari Raley and the Time Chasers have had a total of 20 different families that have participated in the activities. In February, the families explored the Middle Ages, featuring the Magic Tree House book *Knight at Dawn* by Mary Pope Osborne. The knights-in-training made swords and shields for their quest. During the quest, they had to work out the ten clues that would rescue the kidnapped princess and recover the lost treasure. For their reward, they were given full knighthood and the supplies to build their own castle. Great Northwest Library put together 30 information kits for the Northside Independent School District Education Center to give out to families with information about the library.

During February, Teen Librarian Chris Castillo facilitated four Create Club virtual teen programs on the 210teenlibrary Discord server. Teens shared updates and developments of their original video games, virtual visual art compositions, their YouTube channels, analog fiber arts, music compositions, and many other artists' expressions. Teens were encouraged to submit artwork for consideration to be printed on the Teen Summer t-shirts. The Teen Library received quality submissions and the competitive quality of the work is to be commended. The Teen Library looks for continual ways to showcase and feature teen artwork throughout its distribution channels.

Teens continue to work alongside with Teen Services to brainstorm, plan, and execute summer programming. Teens freely gave their opinions and requests for the Teen Summer vision. Teens suggested Discord server improvements to improve the quality of life for teens, and new Teen Mods were nominated, or ascended, as the Teen jargon calls it. Teens submitted requests for free 3d printing, custom buttons, and magnets services, and picked them up from the branch.

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

Library Assistant LC Keefe created Take-and-Makes celebrating the Lunar New Year. Library Assistant Donna Borel created Random Acts of Kindness Take-and-Makes. The February book display “Isn’t It...Romantic?” by Library Assistant Kathleen Marascio spotlighted some of the unconventional and infamous couples in history like Bonnie and Clyde, Antony and Cleopatra, Alice Jessie Mitchell and Freda Ward, and more.

GUERRA

Guerra Branch Library continues to host the very popular Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program every Friday through Monday. From February 14 till February 25, Guerra Branch Library proudly served as an Early Voting Election site with over 2,000 voters casting their ballots in the Barrera Meeting Room. The use of Guerra Branch Library’s small meeting room continues to increase as more small groups gather for studying sessions, D&D gaming and work collaborations supporting other COSA departments. Guerra staff welcomed a new PT Circulation Attendant, Shenina Delfin who has been a wonderful addition to the SAPL system.

Branch Manager Monica Garza Bustillo attended the Penguin Random House Morning Book Buzz and the Transitioning to Libby: Tips for winding down the OverDrive app webinars on February 2. Ms. Bustillo continued her active participation in the COSA Toastmasters group which meets every Wednesday at 2 pm and renewed her membership in the Southwest Research Center’s 30 year old Toastmasters group: Slick Talkers. On February 10, Ms. Bustillo attended the Library Lunch and Learn series where Victor E. Simmons Jr. from Fulton County Library System shared his unique experiences and perspective on the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History. On February 14 Ms. Bustillo attended The Power of Radical Self-Care presentation with Senior Wellness Analyst Judith Monterrosa at COSA’s Human Resources department. On February 21 Ms. Bustillo facilitated the virtual Athena Readers Book Club meeting to discuss Matt Haig’s *The Midnight Library*. Ms. Bustillo began her participation in the Women’s Leadership Mentoring Program on February 25 with a speed dating exercise to pair up mentors and mentees in the virtual environment.

Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson recorded *Mi gran amigo* (My good friend, *literally* My great friend) by Eric Battut for Dial-a-Story in Spanish on February 11. He moderated the Spanish book club Club de Lectura on February 17. They discussed *El cartero de Neruda* (*Neruda’s mailman*) by Antonio Skármeta. This discussion led to the social and economic situation that led to the military overthrow of Salvador Allende. On February 25 he presented the library trivia game at the Willie Cortez Senior Center. This month he emphasized questions on Valentine’s Day and identifying local restaurants.

Teen Services Librarian Bek Corley continued to co-host Music Mondays on the 210teenlibrary Discord server alongside Teen Library’s Ami Sarabia where teens shared music, art and encouragement for those finishing up big school projects before their Spring Break. She visited John Jay H.S. and Jubilee Westwood to drop off Young Pegasus and SAPL Teen Discord program info and was invited to return to share more with teens in the near future.

Ms. Corley supported her SAPL colleagues at this year’s Librarypalooza where the group was fortunate to engage with teens and families from across the city. Teens were super excited to make buttons that

celebrated their identities and fandoms and chat with SAPL staff about their interests, authors and even visiting their libraries.

Guerra teen volunteers continued to enrich and take ownership of their teen area this month with displays- their version of Blind Date with a Book which included coded hints designed on the cover by one volunteer, a large sleeping dragon nestling SF manga hand- drawn by another, and a black-out poetry station where teens shared their creation by posting in the teen area.

IGO

Teen volunteers at Igo were given control over the Blind Date with a Book display in our teen space, covering books and adding clues and illustrations on the book covers to increase their visibility and appeal. Having the teen volunteers work on this gave them increased ownership of the teen collection, provided an outlet for their creativity, and increased circulation of the Blind Date books from the Young Adult collection.

Annie Calonico, Teen Services Librarian at Igo, worked with the Northside ISD O'Connor High School librarian to coordinate the presence of San Antonio Public Library (SAPL)'s Teen Services at their 10th Annual LibraryPalooza event on February 26th. This event gave area teens in attendance the opportunity to interact with teen librarians from SAPL, make buttons to wear that expressed their personal identities and interests, and learn about what SAPL offers to our teen customers.

Senior Services coordinator Irene Scharf created the February 2022 newsletter for 150 seniors. The Resource theme that they selected was about the 2022 Winter Olympics In Beijing, China.

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance continues to assist with the Baby Time and Toddler Time Online – Live programs. 100 Take & Create painting kits were happily picked up by Igo families. A young customer provided Ms. Vance with interesting feedback about the dragon on the bulletin board stating that she was afraid of it at first, but had since decided it was a friend. She also let Ms. Vance know that she would rather see a unicorn or mermaid cake on display. With the help of Library Aide Antoinette Rosalez, the hope is that this young customer will be quite satisfied with the new display, even though it does not feature the requested mermaid cake. While changing the displays, another young customer told Ms. Rosalez how sad she was to see the old display come down, so Ms. Rosalez sent the retiring dragon home with her. Unfortunately, staff neglected to take a photograph before its departure.



Children's Librarian Carrie Vance continues to host the Igo Stitchery on Sundays. Attendance has been steady. Members continue to help one another improve skills and techniques.

JOHNSTON



Johnston hosted Early Voting from February 14 to February 20 and February 22 to February 25. Almost 2,000 voters participated in the Primary Elections at Johnston.

Branch Manager Cristine Mitchamore maintained Johnston's "Wall of Warmth", overseeing an increase in the number of items donated and claimed in February versus January. November through February the "Wall of Warmth" allows Neighbors to help Neighbors by creating an area for donations of hats, carves, gloves and more. The "Wall of Warmth" encourages patrons to, "Take what you need or donate what you can."

Children's Librarian Tiffany Durham continued to host virtual programming for SAPL families: Toddler Time Online on Wednesdays, Read-to-a-Dog and Lego Club on alternate Tuesdays, and Art Club and Game Time on alternate Thursdays. Miss Tiffany served as a substitute presenter for Baby Time. She continued her work as the co-lead to the Tiny Tots Work Group and as a member of the Children Services Work Groups for Take and Create and the Summer Reading Programming. The system-wide supplement Take and Create Kits continued to be a wonderful resource to the community. Miss Tiffany has been planning several exciting kits for the next upcoming months. At Sky Harbour Elementary's invitation—and in collaboration with Cortez Branch Library—Miss Tiffany and Olivia Escovedo presented an information session to parents with students at Sky Harbour Elementary about SAPL locations, how to get a card, fine free program, the different collections, putting items on hold, computer and printing services and

programming options. The parents were engaged and Miss Tiffany and Ms. Escovedo were hopeful to see the participants in the library.

Teen librarian Cassie Garza co-hosted the Gaming Club on the teen services Discord server every Saturday afternoon. Several of the teens have been creating content for the library's Minecraft server-- building, planning, and organizing the server for teen visitors. Ms. Garza has been the lead for the SAPL Esports committee's Mario Day celebrations. Mario Trivia and the Mario Day Animal Crossing programs will be all virtual and are planned for the week of March 12th. Ms. Garza worked with teen volunteers to create and plan upcoming in-person teen programming for Johnston.

LEARN Center Training Officer, Marcella McGowan, hosted several Black History Programs including "Towards a Certain Future: Preserving African American Cultural Memory" with Texana Librarian Andy Crews on 2/15. On 2/17 Ms. McGowan co-hosted a Black History Trivia event with Training Officer Michelle Rickman. Ms. McGowan worked with staff from multiple branches to host "Winter Emergency Preparedness" with guest speakers from the San Antonio Office of Emergency Management on 2/22. The Learn area had 37 patrons accessing the Learn Center. Topics of these sessions ranged from Impact Texas access, computer skills, resumes, online researching, Digital Certifications, Enhanced Library Cards, and several sessions on moving video files.

LANDA

The Landa team welcomed another new staff member to the Branch. Vanezza Garcia transferred to Landa from Cortez.

Librarian Robin Alcorta transferred into the Adult Librarian/Assistant Branch Manager role this month. She participated in Readers Ink Book Club in February.

Circulation Attendant Amy Peppersack took over the Mystery Book Club this month. The Club read *Eight Perfect Murders* by Peter Swanson. There was a solid showing of 12 patrons who braved the cold to come to the meeting. The discussion was spirited, and the consensus was that most of the readers enjoyed the book and were surprised by the twists and ending. They were happy to hear that the club would continue after Adult Librarian Karen Sebesta's retirement.

Landa Branch Library continued to be a popular location for activity. A handful of families hosted birthday parties on the grounds. Photography sessions and general grounds use filled the air with laughter and joy, even through the winter weather.

LAS PALMAS

Children's librarian Valerie Shelley actively participated in Toddler Time and Read to a Dog. This month 77 people attended one of the two online Toddler Times and 24 participated in one of the Read to a Dog online programs. Take and Make craft materials continue to be popular.

Valerie also participated in the World Read Aloud event which was a pre-recorded video of several librarians reading different parts of *The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson. If you have not seen it yet, the link is: <https://youtu.be/3mR2vltS1c>

Teen Services Librarian Connie Hejl continued to help out with the Random Fandom Discord program, where teens talked about everything from favorite vegetables to a new mini golf video game being

developed by one of them. Several people in the program gave positive feedback on the game. She is also coordinating with the teens for the summer t-shirt design competition and the Young Pegasus program. She provided butcher paper covered tables and markers for teens to express themselves by creating art.

Las Palmas hosted Technology Tuesday/Martes de Tecnología, a bilingual program managed by Adult Librarian Lily Perez that provides personalized assistance with basic tech needs every Tuesday of the Month. During February we met with 15 members of the community.

The Las Palmas staff created a book display for Black History Month with a bundle supplied by technical services and books within our own collection. In addition, the staff created a book display for the "Blind Date with a Book" Campaign for Library Lover's Month.

From February 14-25th Las Palmas was a site for Early Voting. Las Palmas staff also participated in recording Spanish language stories for juveniles through the San Antonio Public Library Dial-a-Story program.

MAVERICK

The Mah Jongg group met twice in February as it continued to welcome new members. As the covid cases continued to decline, the Chess Club members resumed gathering on Saturdays. Early Voting took place during the reporting period. The Maverick Reference staff did an outstanding job coordinating together on the opening and closing procedures during early voting. Throughout the month, the librarians weeded through their designated collections.

Ms. Roberts took part in programs and activities for kids in February. She appeared in a video for World Read Aloud Day, reading the book "The Day We Began" with other fellow SAPL children's librarians on February 2. She prepared 75 Take and Create "Let's Paint" kits for kids. Ms. Roberts thanks the circulation staff for promoting these kits! Ms. Roberts read "Mouse's First Valentine" for Dial-A-Story on February 11.

During the February 23 Children's Librarian's meeting, Ms. Roberts, along with Children's Librarian Randi Jones from Semmes Branch, presented exemplary "Toddler Read-Alouds" to their colleagues as part of a larger Reader's Advisory project. Children's Librarians are picking different genres and levels of books to share not only with their colleagues, but also provide lists/spreadsheets for their fellow library staff when the children's librarian is unavailable or off that day.

Ms. Roberts attended a few meetings and training sessions during the reporting period. She attended the children's librarian's meetings on February 9 and February 23. On February 7, she completed the monthly Security Awareness training. On February 22, she attended an online training from the Texas State Library called "Adverse Children's Experiences in the Library: An Introduction to Trauma-Informed Library Service".

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl, assisted by Library Aide Taylur Loera, provided virtual space for Teen Time on Zoom. Teens collaboratively solved Wordle each week, competed in the on-line version of Code Names, and played Skribbl.io. One of the teens, with Bleichwehl's permission, invited her high school aged cousin from California, from whom Maverick Teens learned about the competitive sport of

Orienteering. Maverick Teens valued her interest in, and were inquisitive about, this sport of navigating with map and compass across rough and unfamiliar terrain. Teens commiserate about exams and were heartened to learn from Loera that the SAT exams will be shorter and go virtual in 2024. Teens continue to build relationships and expand interests as evidenced with one Teen beginning a book series recommended by another, thereby branching out into a new genre.

McCRELESS



February was a busy month at the Southside Lions Community Center with elections taking place in that location. Several patrons came to the library table to talk to staff and ask about library services, and to get an update of the branch opening. New library cards were issued, as well as replacement ones.

Patrons were thrilled with the DVD Express Collection, and the book cart display. Since Spring season is approaching, Circulation Attendant Kryz Hernandez created a new display featuring spring colors, and flowers. She also used the papel picado technique to spell the word "library". The display included Children's books celebrating the new season, and material for adults for gardening and cooking.

McCreless Training Officer Lodie Mueller continues to work at all four LEARN Centers, assisting Training Officers in serving patrons and covering the Centers when Training Officers are absent. She also assisted Angelina Cortes, Patricia Perez, Joseph Gonzalez and Marcel Alvarez at the third GET CONNECTED computer class at the Food Bank. Ms. Lodie and Emily Flores completed the 15-week Citizenship Class offered at Mission Branch Library on Saturday, February 26th. Lodie and the LEARN Team are delighted to welcome Shauna Mendoza, who will be the Training Officer at Carver's LEARN Center. This means Lodie is no longer the LEARN Team's "newest kid on the block!"

At the end of February, McCreless staff wished farewell to Circulation Attendant Kryz Hernandez on her new career at St. Mary's University.

MEMORIAL

Children's Librarian Christine Deffendall initiated projects to write and perform two series of puppet skits with fellow Children's Librarians Ana Menchaca from Forest Hills branch library and Randi Jones from Semmes branch library. These skits will be recorded for the San Antonio Public Library's YouTube channel. Their first rehearsal was February 8.

Library manager Maria Gonzales visited Schaefer and Potranco branch libraries to learn the operations of the laptop self-checkout stations. After consulting with Potranco branch manager Steven Barrera on location, power and data sources requirements for the laptop self-checkout stations, Mrs. Gonzales reviewed Memorial design documents to ensure all protocols were on schedule. She also reviewed signage for glass doors and walls. Interior walls and doors for the branch once in place will be reviewed for needed information and signage.

MISSION

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

Mission began in February as a hosting site for the AARP's (American Association of Retired Persons) Tax-Aide program which offers free tax preparation assistance for seniors. The program takes place all day, every Friday (except during Early Voting), until the end of the tax season. Seniors make appointments via their website or by visiting the reference desk at the library and asking a staff member to make an appointment for them.

Library Assistant Mari Castellano tested re-entry into Adult Programming with a DIY-U Adult Craft: Paper Rosettes on Friday, February 25th, it was well-received and several patrons attended the program and made their own paper rosette creations.

In February, Mission welcomed the assistance of a local student intern doing her practicum to earn her Master's of Library and Information Science. She has caught on quickly and is learning the different service aspects of working in a public library setting. She will continue at Mission until the end of April, for a total of 120 hours.

Mission Branch Library continued to welcome Teen Volunteers in February. Mission had 8 volunteers who contributed 30 hours.

Teen Services Librarian, Cindy Cruz, assisted at a Basic Computer Class at the Food Bank on Thursday, February 24th. Cindy assisted other members of the Digital Inclusion workgroup for the class.

On Friday, February 11th, Librarian Oscar González participated as a judge in the NCFCA (National Christian Forensics and Communications Association) event, a non-profit speech and debate league for high-school students.

PAN AMERICAN

The Pan American Branch Library is happy to welcome two new part time Circulation Attendants, Gracie Rendon and Monica Suarez. Both are very familiar with the SAPL system. The branch is closer to being fully staffed. We are extremely happy to report that Pan American is seeing more of its regulars return, as our patrons are becoming more comfortable as Covid-19 numbers continue to go down.



The Pan American Branch Library updated their public display banners within the Children's Area to welcome in Springtime. Each of the art pieces on these displays were handcrafted or hand-drawn by Pan American Staff. Children's Librarian Jacqueline Gonzales and Circulation Attendants Linda Rodriguez, Guadalupe Rodriguez, Deborah Blancas all contributed to these displays.

Library Aide, Jennifer Huizar, arranged Valentines and Black History Month book bundles for children, she also updated the Media "Staff Picks" – this is a public display that showcases to our patrons' movie suggestions from staff.

The branch also participated in the Blind Date with a Book and Black History Month monthly book displays.

Children's Librarian Jacqueline Gonzales distributed thirty love-bird paper plate crafts to children at La Petite Academy on Wurzbach for an outreach event. She also presented a Story Time to the children where several books and songs were read and performed. Total children at this outreach were thirty.



Ms. Gonzales created another scavenger hunt for children to participate in. Thirteen children participated in February's Hunt.

Library Assistant, Stephanie Perez, continues to host her virtual sketchbook & journaling programs. This is a virtual creative program using Zoom. There was one meeting in February and had a prompt for the participants. The date for the program was on the 21st. The focus is on drawing and writing. The purpose is to bring people together and encourage people's creativity. This program is for adults only. Ms. Perez also created the Mario Day – Cosplay and Fanworks showcase, as part of Mario Day events, where the esports committee patrons can have their creativity featured online. Patrons are able to submit images online of their creations through the LibGuide.

Adult Services Librarian, Adrian Leal, hosted two "Puzzle Times" for the month. Patrons are able to come in and put together a puzzle of their choosing, while listening to some music and just hanging out and relaxing. Puzzles are provided to our patrons free of charge.

The Branch continues to host its Mediation program. Participants are quickly becoming regulars to the weekly program.

PARMAN

Early Voting season was in full swing at the Parman library again this February. There were long lines and a full parking lot but everyone seemed to be in good spirits about the prospect of participating in their local elections. The turnout brought many new people to the library and kept the circulation staff busy making new cards. It was a wonderful two weeks and was reminiscent of the days before COVID.



To celebrate Black History Month, Cori Taylor, Parman Circulation Attendant, engaged the whole community in creating an interactive mural which when finished featured iconic African -American figures from history. The mural is on display for all to see and enjoy.

Corie also created several book displays to celebrate all the important events and holidays that take place in the month of February.



Parman Circulation Attendant, Jessica Mitchel, held her first in-person adult fiction book club called "Beyond the Book ". The participants discussed "The last thing he told me " by Laura Dave. Book Club members were excited to meet in person in the library and look forward to the next meeting.



Parman staff wanted to make Valentine's day special for their neighbors who reside at The Landing at Stone Oak. Branch manager Barbara Kwiatkowski came up with an idea of creating postcards and bookmarks showing Parman Staff appreciation for them. Postcards were handmade with love by Library Aide Kristie Rosado-Rivera and included the warmest regards from the entire Parman staff. On the holiday Branch Manager Barbara K. and Library Assistant Melissa Moser hand delivered the special cards to the residents. Each postcard included a note of love, SAPL bookmarks, and SAPL informational flyers. Along

with the postcards The Friends of the Parman Library also sent along four bags of free romance novels. When staff arrived, several residents remembered them from past programming and welcomed them back. The residents were overjoyed by the surprise visit and loved their new books. Staff left with the promise to visit again in the future.

Children's visits to the library are on the rise. Hundreds of crafts prepared by children's librarians Lisa Taylor and Teague Shosh have been picked up and participation in passive programming is very high. In honor of Valentine's Day, Children's librarians, Lisa and Teague, asked children to find 10 hearts that were hiding in the children's area. For those that wanted more of a challenge, the letters on each heart could be unscrambled to reveal a secret Valentine message. All completers were awarded a sticker for their efforts.



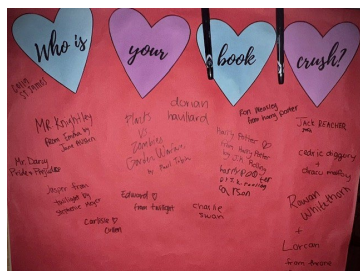
Librarian Teague Shosh created a display of past Bluebonnet Award Nominees. It has been the fastest moving tween display since the libraries opened up to patrons last year. Highlighting a forest animal display, a tree grew up out of Parman's front display table! Children loved looking at the burrowing animals under the tree as they picked out their next read.

Out on the trail, walkers enjoyed Parman's StoryWalk® selection, Daddy Honk Honk! by Rosalinde Bonnet. This story features a family love story about an arctic fox that adopts a baby goose. Patrons responded to the book with comments, "Very nice," "We loved this book!" and "We love the book walks!!!!"

World Read Aloud Day was celebrated on February 2nd with a collaborative read aloud video that was initiated and organized by Librarian Lisa Taylor for SAPL. Many SAPL children's librarians read parts of Jacqueline Woodson's

The Day You Begin, a beautiful story that highlights differences, acceptance and reading. The Children's Video Editing Workgroup put all the clips together to make an intriguing read-aloud experience.

Parman teen services librarian Gladys Nunez facilitated opportunities for teens to foster their creativity and continue taking an interest and ownership in the teen space. This month, teens planned and executed interactive displays for the teen area including one where teens shared a special quote that has stayed with them. Teens planned ideas for more interactive displays as well as creating their own book displays. They demonstrated teamwork by deciding who was going to do which display and when. Teens also helped to implement activities for programming including game nights, button making, and craft activities including perler bead art. One of the very popular, interactive displays prepared by PARman teens was for Valentine's Day. Teens had the chance to add a sticky-note to an interactive board that asked, "Who is your book crush?"



POTRANCO

Children's Librarian, Dawn Zeig, has been actively participating in two virtual programs: Game Time and Toddler Time along with several other San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) children's librarians. Game Time consists of bringing four to five interactive fun games to City children geared towards grades kindergarten through third. Toddler Time is an interactive Story Time that includes a myriad of songs and rhymes that encourage active participation between children and their adult caregivers.

Dawn participated in an additional special virtual toddler Story Time program this month in honor of Texas's Baby Day.

Children's book displays this month highlighted the Lunar New Year and Black History Month. The February Take-and-Make craft was Tie-Dye Coffee Filters. The idea was for Children to draw on the coffee filters with the included markers and then drip water on them to see what colors they would turn.

Teen Librarian Jenny Borrero returned from maternity leave (Congrats Jenny!) and continued to moderate the teen Discord program, Bookworms. Bookworms had a couple of new teens attend. Bookworms' teen moderator continues to lead the program with great selections to read and discuss.

Library Assistant Lisa Leandro hosts the Potranco Book Club. The book club is in a hybrid model, meeting both on zoom and in person. The book club saw 3 new faces this month. The group read and discussed "In Five Years" by Rebecca Serle.

Lisa also hosts a weekly virtual coloring program. The program is averaging 6 people per week. The folks in attendance have been regulars of this program since the inception. They still really enjoy the virtual model, since they can attend at home and still socialize with peers.

Lisa and Adult Services Librarian Monica Huerta co-host the monthly "Café con Libros" book club. Each month they read a book by a LGBTQ+ or Person of Color author. This month they read and discussed

“Hola Papi” by John Paul Brammer. The group enjoy coffee and snacks while engaging in their book discussion.

Adult Services Librarian Monica Huerta and Circulation Attendant Miranda Reyes continue to offer their weekly Dreaded Threads program where patrons are encouraged to bring any crafting project to work on while listening to true crime podcasts. Omicron has put a dent in the regular attendance. The program started strong with 5 patrons but trickled down to 1 loyal regular, who attended virtually every week. Hopefully, with the omicron wave behind us, the program will see a steady rise of in-person participation.

Monica’s Sci Fi / Fantasy Book Club continues meeting on the second Tuesday of the month. The book read for the month of February was Gideon the Ninth by Tamsyn Muir.

Monica set up a Martin Luther King and Black History month book display in honor of each respective holiday and awareness month. Monica participated in the Blind Date with a Book initiative and has had great success by adding quotes and teasers in colorful lettering on the book covers.

Monica continues to participate in the LGBTQ+ Committee and the virtual program Queer Crafternoon, which she pitched to the committee this year.

Finally, the Wall of Warmth has concluded for the year. The Wall of Warmth is a program that allows the community to donate cold weather clothing items, whether purchased or handmade. The items are hung on the wall in the library and those that need them are allowed to take what they need to keep warm. There were 382 items donated and 304 items taken. Donations saw a 447% increase and items taken by the community saw a 429% increase from the first year to year 3. A handful of the leftover donations will be held to kick start next winter, the rest will be donated to a local charity.

For perspective:

Winter Years	Donated	Taken	Branches Participated
Year 1 (2019-2020)	64	56	PO
Year 2 (2020-2021)	63	60	PO, JHN, MISS
Year 3 (2021-2022)	382	304	PO, Pruitt, JHN, CEN

Circulation Attendant Pat Booker hosts a bi-weekly writer’s group. Participants bring in their writing samples and have the group discuss the writing and give positive feedback and suggestions. This is a very active group with a regular group of 5-10 writer’s in attendance for every program.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

February’s focus for Pruitt’s Children’s Services was about honoring Black History Month with book displays and passive activities. Lunar New Year, World Read Aloud Day, Groundhog Day, and Valentine’s Day were also celebrated with displays and crafts. Take-and-Make craft kits for children and toddlers were created by the branch’s librarian Lucy Cisneros and library assistant Sheran Awe. The branch’s *Page-Turners Book Club* met virtually in February and discussed the YA book *From Blood and Ash* by Jennifer L. Armentrout, picked by a dedicated book club member who has graduated to Young

Adult selections. Discussion was lively and engaging and participants looked forward to reading the entire series. School age and toddler patrons gleefully participated in a passive Valentine's Day-themed *Scavenger Hunt* program in the Kids' Zone, giving them the chance to connect with the collection and participate safely in library programming.



Pruitt Teen Services and Roosevelt High School Culinary Students partnered to create Valentines' Day Cookie Decorating Kits. Teen culinary students baked the cookies, chose the decorations, then packed, and delivered the cookie decoration kits to Pruitt Library. By providing these kits to their Pruitt teen patron peers, the culinary students fostered creativity, enhanced positive relationships between Roosevelt High School and the local teen community, and engaged teen interest in other services provided by the library.



Distribution of another 79 Take-and-Make Craft kits to Pruitt teens allowed for additional opportunities for teens to express their creativity.

Adult Services' *TGIF Book Club* discussed *The Secrets We Kept*, the *Saturday Book Club* discussed *The Giver of Stars*, and a new book club opened: the *Varied Voices Book Club* met for the first time and discussed *Another Brooklyn*. Adult Take-and-Make Crafts included swing Valentines and Molly Pruitt stained-glass-style bookmarks. *Special Needs Adult Programming* continued with a reading of *Trombone Shorty* and a Mardi Gras mask craft.

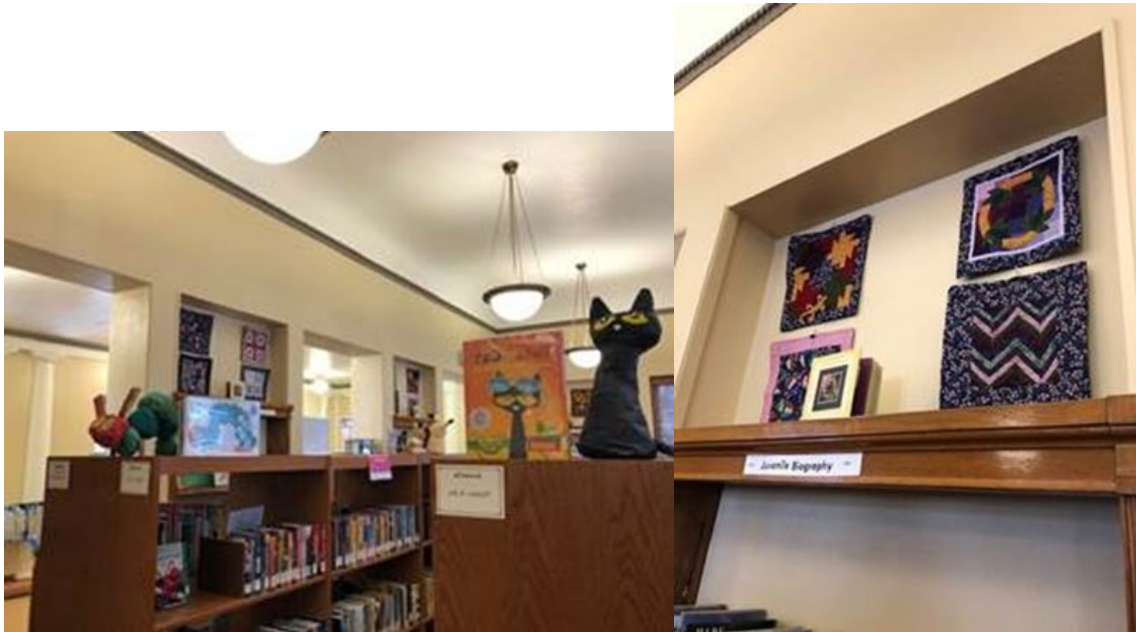


Librarian Rachel Downen led the *Pruitt Amigurumi* class in the completion of an amigurumi bookmark. Librarian Paula Opiela assisted with a *Winter Emergency Preparedness* program hosted by Johnson's branch librarian Marcella McGowan and held in collaboration with the San Antonio Fire Department. Lastly, Pruitt branch staff wrapped up being a participating branch in the *Wall of Warmth* initiative, with 89 donations and 85 items distributed.

SAN PEDRO

San Pedro Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler presented with other children's librarians for 2 Toddler Time Online programs and the statewide Baby Day online programming. She presented a rodeo story "Sing a Lullaby with a Brave Cowboy" for the SAPL Dial a Story phone line. Area school librarians and administrators were kept abreast of library happenings for children via a monthly email.

The branch hosted 2 art exhibits highlighting storybooks during the month. Advanced Learning Academy elementary students exhibited their papier mâché storybook characters. 10 different characters adorned the shelf tops, each aligned with one of their books. The other exhibit, was a grouping of quilts from the San Antonio Quilt Guild. They comprised a portion of the group's "Storybooks and Quilts To Go" Project intended for children to see and understand what a quilt is and appreciate it as an object of art.



Ms. Braeuler also facilitated the monthly senior adult book club at the Village of the Incarnate Word. Despite the icy day, the book club went on via Zoom with 8 happy participants who discussed the book *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean.

The branch participated in Parks and Recreation's Ribbon Cutting ceremony for the adjacent addition to San Pedro Park, which included the addition of trees, a lighted walkway, new green space and a new parking lot for the branch. State Representative Diego Bernal, District 1 city councilman Mario Bravo and Friends of San Pedro Springs Park Hector Cardenas were on hand for the festivities, along with SAPL's Smarty.



SCHAEFER

Throughout the month of February, Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser continued to participate in a variety of children's programs that took place on Zoom. She was a member of groups of librarians that presented Story Time, LEGO Club and Read to a Dog. As a co-leader of the Summer at SAPL children's committee, she attends multiple meetings a week to prepare for the upcoming summer. She is also a member of COSA Toastmasters and attended the group's Wednesday meetings. Library Aides Kaila Martinez and Monica Macias created a Valentine's Day display in the children's area, and kids were invited to draw or write about something love on a heart to add to the display. A Black History Month children's book display was up all month in the children's area.

Teen Services Librarian, Dacari Lambert, helped facilitate the weekly Create club with colleague Chris Castillo, via the 210TeenLibrary Discord server. Dacari is working with the Teen Summer workgroup to plan services for San Antonio teens for this upcoming summer. Dacari continues to work with Teen Services colleagues to meet the needs of teens across San Antonio with modified services and programming. Dacari continues to work with the Teen Pride workgroup, as a founding member, in its third official year of planning and supporting teen led pride related programming for teens. In Addition, Dacari is working with esteemed colleague Chris Castillo to help teens on discord plan a highly requested virtual teen talent show event this summer. In the branch, Dacari contributed to successful displays. For Black History Month and Valentine's Day, Dacari partnered with Library Assistant Blanca Silva-Hernandez to create two robust displays, including a variety of bookmarks for patrons to take. In total, the branch provided the community with over 200 bookmarks.

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

Library Assistant BlancaSilvia Hernandez moderated Librarian Marcella McGowan's Afternoon Conversations with Tiff Zoom program, where author Tiff Smitty discussed her newest book, *Be My Peace*. Patrons also had the chance to ask questions and get insight into her inspiration and creative process. She hosted the monthly Schaefer Virtual Craft program; where patrons created Pressed Flower Bookmarks. Patron's chose from a variety of pressed flower and greenery options to design their bookmarks. We even had one of our regulars join in during her vacation. She also published a Winter Olympian themed Bibliocommons catalog list for Schaefer's I ♥ Vinyl (Digital Edition) monthly program. The list of LPs and CDs annotated the songs that Winter Olympians played to hype themselves up or to drown out the din around them.



SEMMES

Semmes Branch Library had a productive month, in no small part due to the large number of voters for a primary. 1,255 people came to Semmes Library to vote in the primary, which also helped fuel attendance at two library programs; the on-going Chess Club saw new membership, and Semmes Library's partnership with the Bexar County Appraisal District to inform patrons about their options regarding property taxes was well-attended.

Ms. Randi, a children's librarian at the Semmes Branch Library, continued to participate in San Antonio Public Library's online children's programming offerings for the month of February. She provided tech support to dog handlers for two Read to a Dog sessions on February 8 and February 22. She provided the opening songs for Toddler Time Online Live on February 9 and February 23. For San Antonio Public Library's Baby Day on February 9, she provided the closing songs for the Toddler Time Online session. She hosted Story Time Online Live on February 10 and February 24. She provided the opening fingerplays and first story (Max and Bird by Ed Vere) for that program on February 3. She provided songs and rhymes for it on February 17. Her reading of Ready for Anything by Keiko Kasza premiered on the SAPL YouTube channel on February 15. Her curated Story Time for Wolfie the Bunny by Ame Dyckman premiered on mysapl.org on February 22. Her curated toddler time for Daytime Nighttime by William Low premiered on mysapl.org on February 28. On February 12, Ms. Randi co-hosted the monthly session of Adventurers Book Club, for which author Varian Johnson was the guest.

Despite not being able to host in-person Teen Times at the branch in February, Ms. Valerie saw sustained interaction in the teen area with 19 responses to the Teen Q&A Box question "What is the best flavor of cake?" Ms. Valerie also continued her work with the STEAM workgroup, conducting preliminary planning for using robots in children's programs.

THOUSAND OAKS

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

On February 25, Ms. Mjolsness co-hosted a virtual Beginner's Chair Yoga program, and served as Master of Ceremonies for the virtual SAPL Live Trivia program. These programs are held on the last Friday of every month.



Children's Librarian Cheryl Penick attended the monthly meetings for Children's Services, and Baby Time Planning. She joined the Baby Time virtual Story Time team. She served as co-host for the Baby Time Online programs held on February 11, 18, and 25.

Ms. Penick assembled 50 Take-and-Make pointillism craft kits for distribution to patrons. With Cricut lettering assistance from Circulation Attendant Rosa Villa, she created a bulletin board display themed for Sweethearts candy. She assembled themed book bundles for children with items for check-out in both English and Spanish.

Librarian Kimberly King attended the Pop Madness, Pop Culture, Teen Services, and Change Management Call meetings. She created a “What is Love?” book display, and an interactive activity which encouraged teens to respond to the question “What do you love?” Ms. King facilitated an outreach book group at the Northeast Senior Center on February 23. The book group participants discussed *Falling* by T. J. Newman.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

Tobin at Oakwell Branch hosted Early Voting February 14 – 25 for the Texas Primary Election. The first week lines were short with light turnout but the second week there was heavy turnout with long waits especially the last two days.

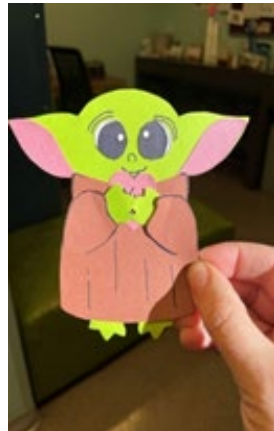
Friends of Tobin at Oakwell Library held a Clearance Sale during voting for items that had been sitting during the pandemic. All items were \$1. Voters and library users enjoyed browsing and purchasing materials that included books as well as DVD’s and CD’s. Special thanks to new Tobin Friend’s volunteers Pat DePasquale and Karen Sebesta who sorted materials to sell and assembled bags of paperbacks for \$1. Librarians Rhonda Woolhouse, Tracey Knouse, Barbaraella Frazier and Melissa Carroll all assisted in helping this sale happen with strategizing for logistics and placement of materials for sale while voting was happening. Consequently, Tobin at Oakwell is once again accepting donations for on-going sales in the Friends’ Book Nook in the foyer.

Library user Mary H. visited Tobin after a number of years, as she now lives in Boerne. She suggested a juvenile title for purchase, which Library Assistant Terry Verner submitted. Ms. Mary “recalls several juvenile books she borrowed for her daughter back in the day and loves the changes in the branch! “

Barbaraella Frazier, Children’s Librarian, continues to enthusiastically host Read to a Dog twice monthly. Ms. Frazier energetically participates on the committee planning and finalizing performers and activities for the library’s upcoming Children’s Summer Reading Program.

The branch partnered with Upgrade twice this period as part of San Antonio’s Education Partnership. This group hosted a table to reach out to adult students to assist with their completion of educational goals. In response to the pandemic, Upgrade received a grant to focus on reskilling and upskilling San Antonio’s workforce in the city’s top industries.

Teen Librarian, Melissa Carroll, offered a passive craft for teens for Valentine’s Day with a clever Baby Yoda “Grogu”. Thanks to Central Children’s, the branch has some new art in the Juvenile area.



WESTFALL

Library Assistant Marcel Martinez Alvarez assisted with the digital inclusion program *Get Connected!* at the San Antonio Food Bank to assist community members with computer instruction and internet access.

Teen Librarian Heather Swindell has been working to adapt the branch's Teen Space by finding resources for a larger whiteboard to be purchased after the deferred maintenance project is completed. The teens love to draw and leave notes on the existing board requesting specific characters or designs. They share their work with other teens by uploading photos on the Teen Library's Discord server, integrating their on-site library experience with the Discord virtual library space.

In February, Children's Librarian Imelda Merino added six curated Story Time programs to the "Preschool 0-5" LibGuide. Five of the programs were created by other children's librarians, and one was created by Ms. Merino.

On two Fridays, Ms. Merino assisted students and teachers from Gervin Academy who visited the library on a regular basis.

Ms. Merino contributed to two children's book lists that are found on the "SAPL is Here for You" LibGuide: Black History Month and Women's History Month. As part of the Children's Book Award committee, she updated the subpage for the Batchelder Award on the "Children's Award Books" LibGuide. She continues to work on several annotated book lists that she is preparing for the summer.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

KEY INDICATORS

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

February 2022

FY 2022

Circulation: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

2,548,712



FY 2022 to date Items Borrowed



2,988,103✓

(+17.24%)
Circulation

Visits: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

984,008



FY 2022 to date Library Visits



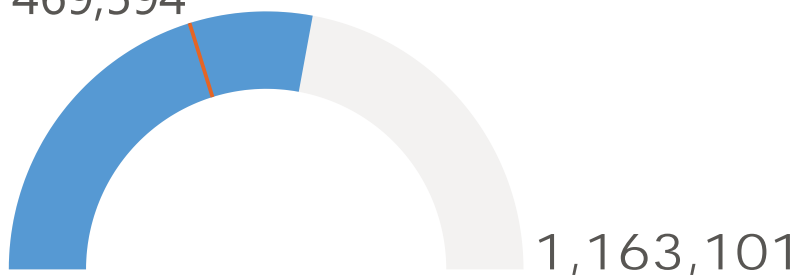
904,446!

(-8.09%)
Visits

Digital Access: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

469,594



FY 2022 to date Digital Access



66,271

Hours of Computer Use



582,669

Hours of WI-FI Use

648,940✓

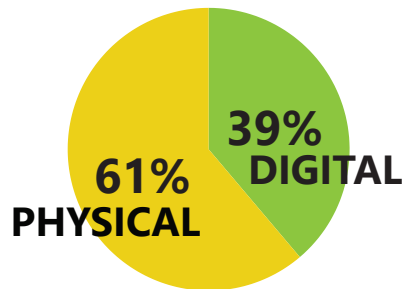
(+38.19%)
Hours of Technology

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

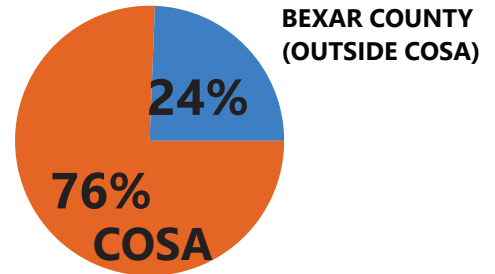
February 2022 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2022

CIRCULATION BY TYPE



CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA



VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2022



543,118
MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

8,498
MYSAPL
APP DOWNLOADS*

428,396
OVERDRIVE
SITE VISITS

2,833,778
SOCIAL MEDIA
IMPRESSIONS

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

PROGRAMS & ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2022

1,625
TOTAL PROGRAMS

782
ADULT PROGRAMS

512
TEEN PROGRAMS

331
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

28,037
TOTAL ATTENDANCE

8,236
ADULT ATTENDANCE

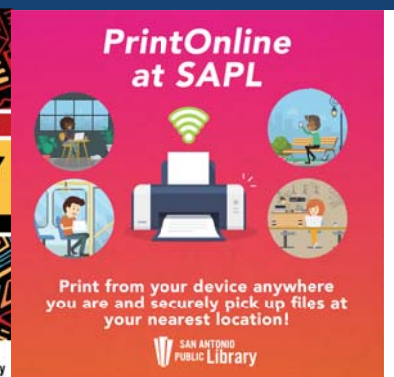
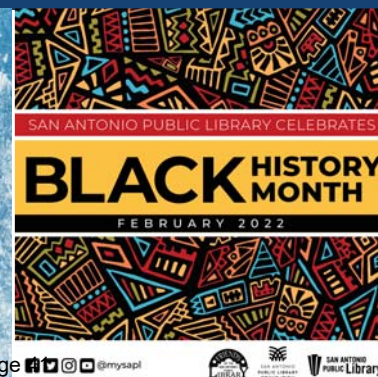
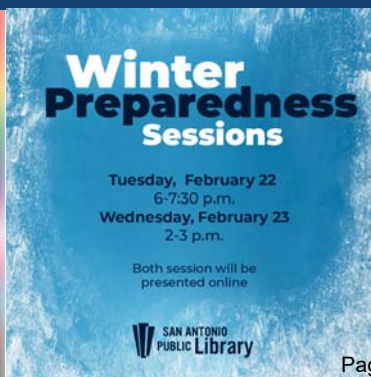
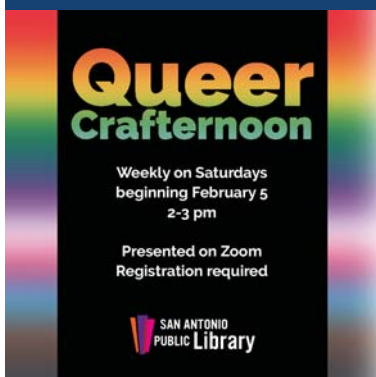
4,798
TEEN ATTENDANCE

15,003
CHILDREN'S ATTENDANCE

66 PROGRAM VIDEOS UPLOADED

13,191 PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS



San Antonio Public Library

February 2022 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-fi Use	Computer Hours of Use	Wi-Fi Hours of Use
Bazan	1,804	3,383	3,271	636	2,635
Brook Hollow	22,294	9,452	4,569	512	4,057
Carver	2,137	3,562	3,041	503	2,538
Central	8,447	16,108	16,983	2,356	14,627
Cody	26,192	13,851	6,816	588	6,228
Collins Garden	2,763	2,308	4,156	484	3,672
Cortez	3,301	4,662	2,624	460	2,164
Digital	222,521	0	0	0	0
Encino	15,151	10,730	3,548	139	3,409
Forest Hills	435	56	0	0	0
Great Northwest	20,659	13,577	4,703	455	4,248
Guerra	5,951	8,675	4,377	451	3,926
Igo	32,243	18,131	8,417	499	7,918
Interlibrary Loan	1,149	0	0	0	0
Johnston	6,268	6,408	3,257	479	2,778
Kampmann	0	615	118	0	118
Landa	10,721	7,149	3,183	287	2,896
Las Palmas	2,776	6,772	3,918	583	3,335
Maverick	20,371	12,515	5,120	498	4,622
McCreless	727	149	708	0	708
Memorial	640	123	0	0	0
Mission	9,317	11,802	5,393	748	4,645
Pan American	3,032	2,394	1,582	251	1,331
Parman	28,473	19,004	5,746	189	5,557
Potranco	13,681	5,663	12,223	417	11,806
Pruitt	3,887	9,048	5,234	144	5,090
San Pedro	2,497	3,429	4,248	523	3,725
Schaefer	6,957	8,419	3,737	267	3,470
Semmes	21,174	12,300	6,116	501	5,615
System	33,108	0	0	0	0
Thousand Oaks	5,669	6,486	4,373	348	4,025
Tobin	14,394	13,301	3,642	464	3,178
Westfall	8,761	6,160	6,546	1,074	5,472
Total	557,500	236,232	137,649	13,856	123,793

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

San Antonio Public Library

February 2022 Programs & Attendance

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

Location	Adult Programs	Teen Programs	Children's Programs	Total Programs	Adult Program Attendance	Teen Program Attendance	Children's Program Attendance	Total Program Attendance
Bazan	2	0	0	2	6	0	0	6
Brook Hollow	2	0	0	2	14	0	0	14
Carver	18	0	1	19	255	0	60	315
Central	12	47	1	60	79	159	16	254
Cody	5	0	0	5	15	0	0	15
Collins Garden	4	0	5	9	19	0	372	391
Cortez	8	0	0	8	56	0	0	56
Encino	9	0	1	10	37	0	50	87
Forest Hills	1	1	0	2	10	150	0	160
Great Northwest	1	0	0	1	15	0	0	15
Guerra	3	1	0	4	27	150	0	177
Igo	7	1	0	8	57	150	0	207
Johnston	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	4
Landa	2	0	0	2	17	0	0	17
Las Palmas	5	0	0	5	5	0	0	5
Little Read Wagon	0	0	9	9	0	0	488	488
Maverick	4	1	0	5	24	150	0	174
McCreless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Memorial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mission	17	0	0	17	142	0	0	142
Pan American	4	0	1	5	9	0	33	42
Parman	16	1	0	17	175	46	0	221
Potranco	2	1	0	3	12	11	0	23
Pruitt	10	8	4	22	53	47	8	108
San Pedro	2	0	1	3	25	0	31	56
Schaefer	2	0	0	2	8	0	0	8
Semmes	4	0	0	4	25	0	0	25
System	11	28	24	63	103	177	568	848
Thousand Oaks	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	3
Tobin	3	1	0	4	14	27	0	41
Westfall	4	0	0	4	20	0	0	20
Total	159	90	48	297	1,225	1,067	1,630	3,922

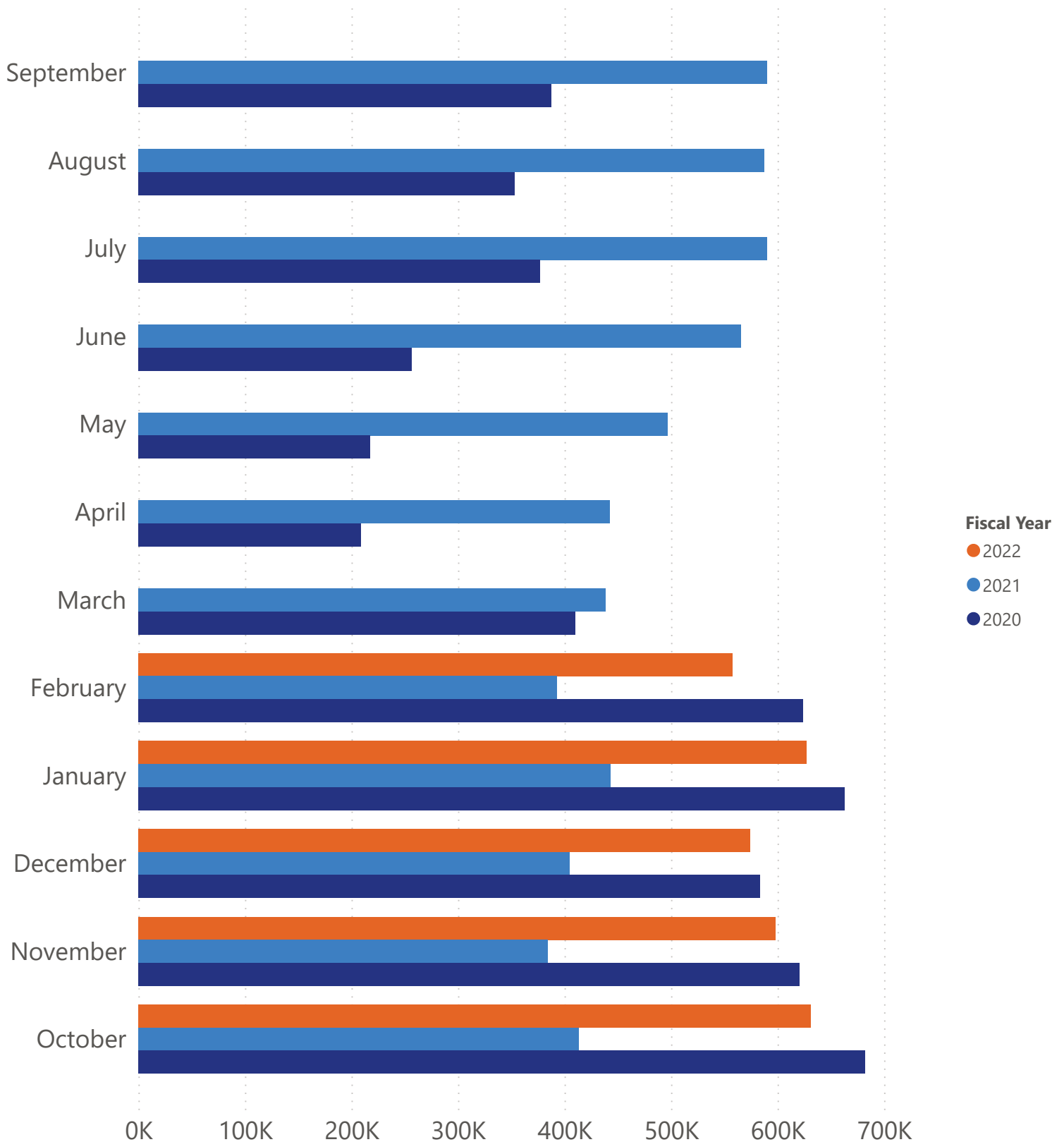
Note:

Forest Hills: Library building is closed but branch was able to hold two off-site events this month

Memorial and McCreless: Buildings are closed; no events.

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures:

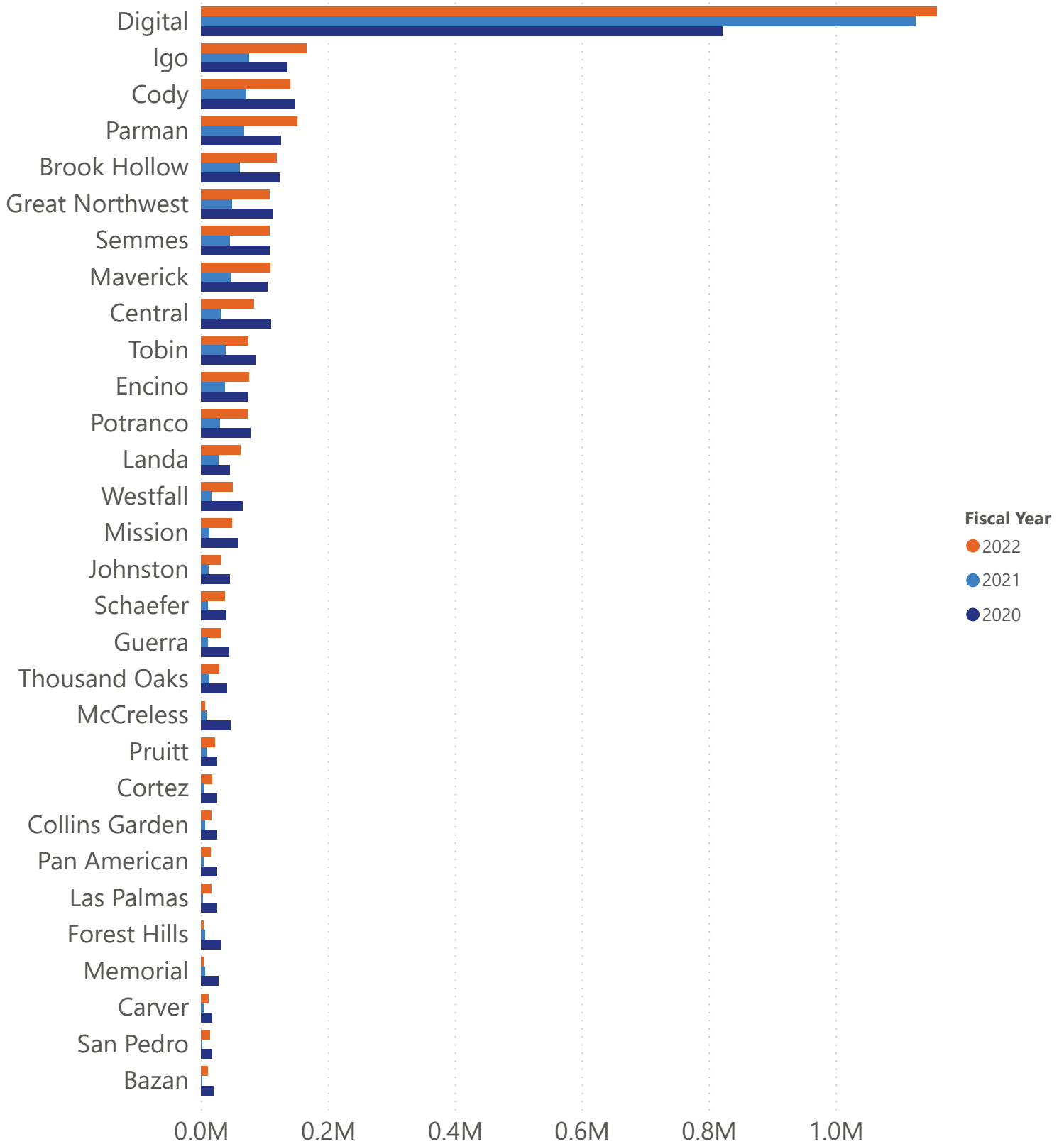
FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-TBD, McCreless Oct 1-TBD, Memorial Oct 1 - TBD

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

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

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - February 2022



Location Closures:

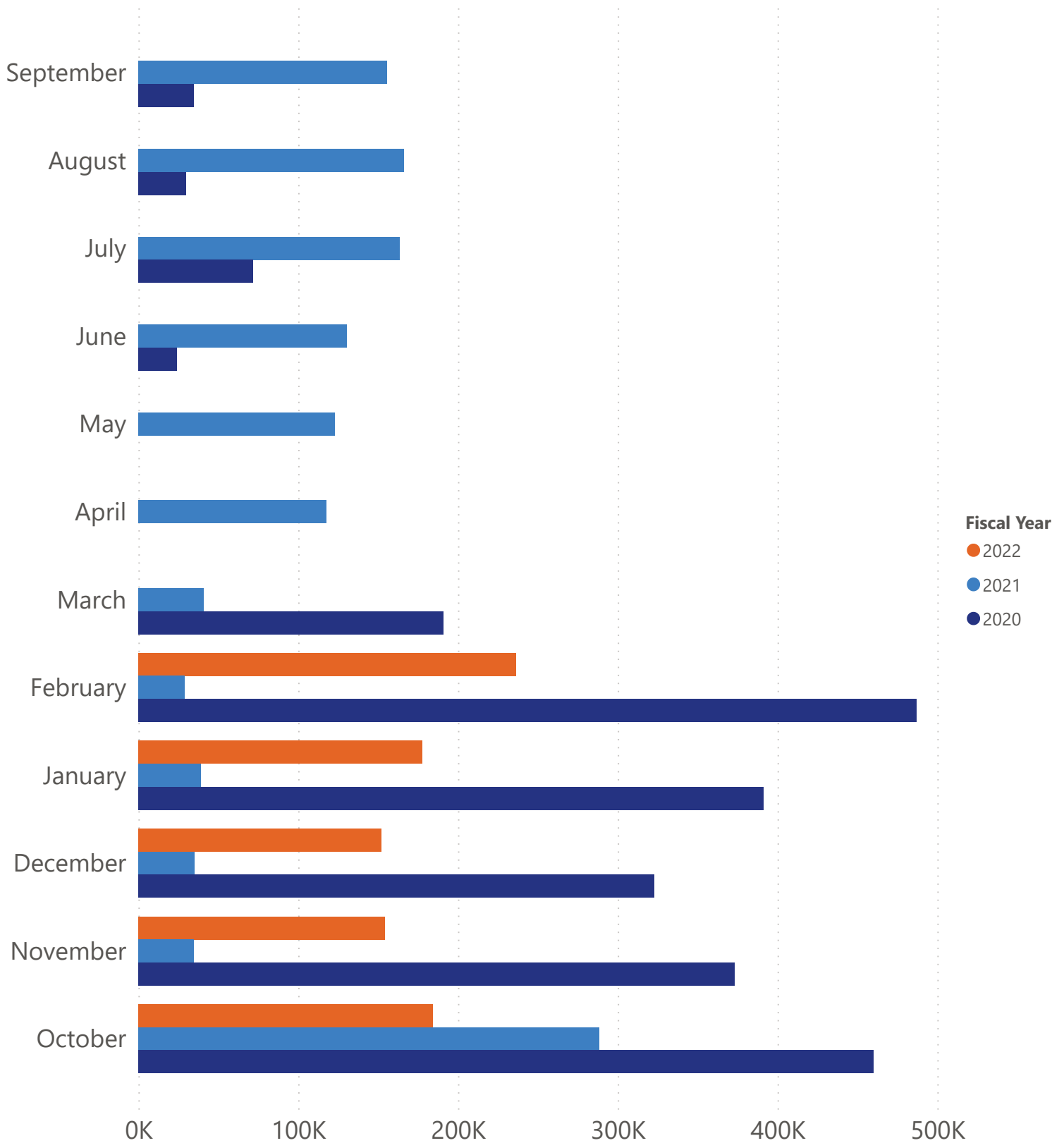
FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-TBD, McCreless Oct 1-TBD, Memorial Oct 1 - TBD

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San Antonio Public Library

Visits



Location Closures:

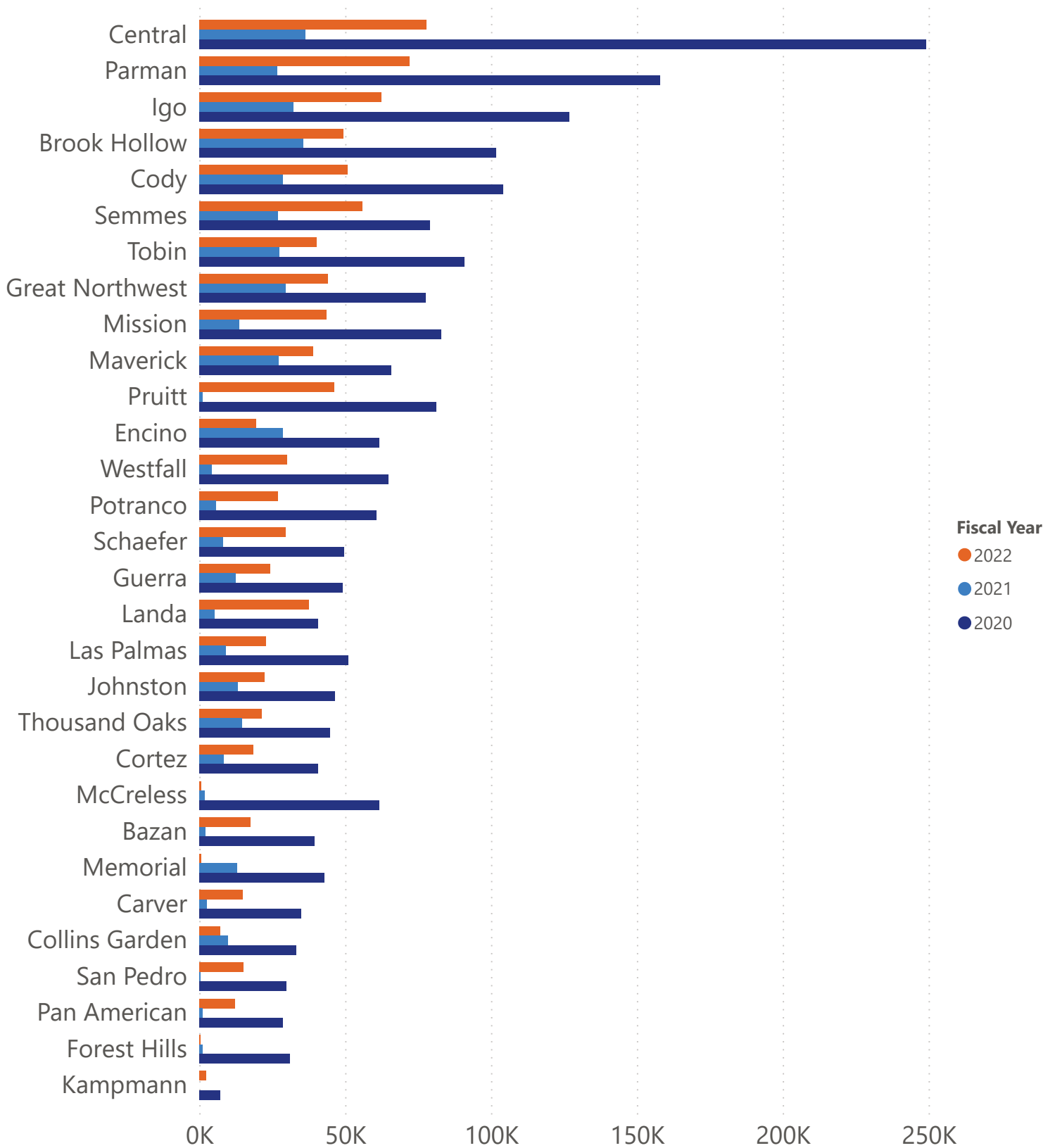
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San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - February 2022



Location Closures:

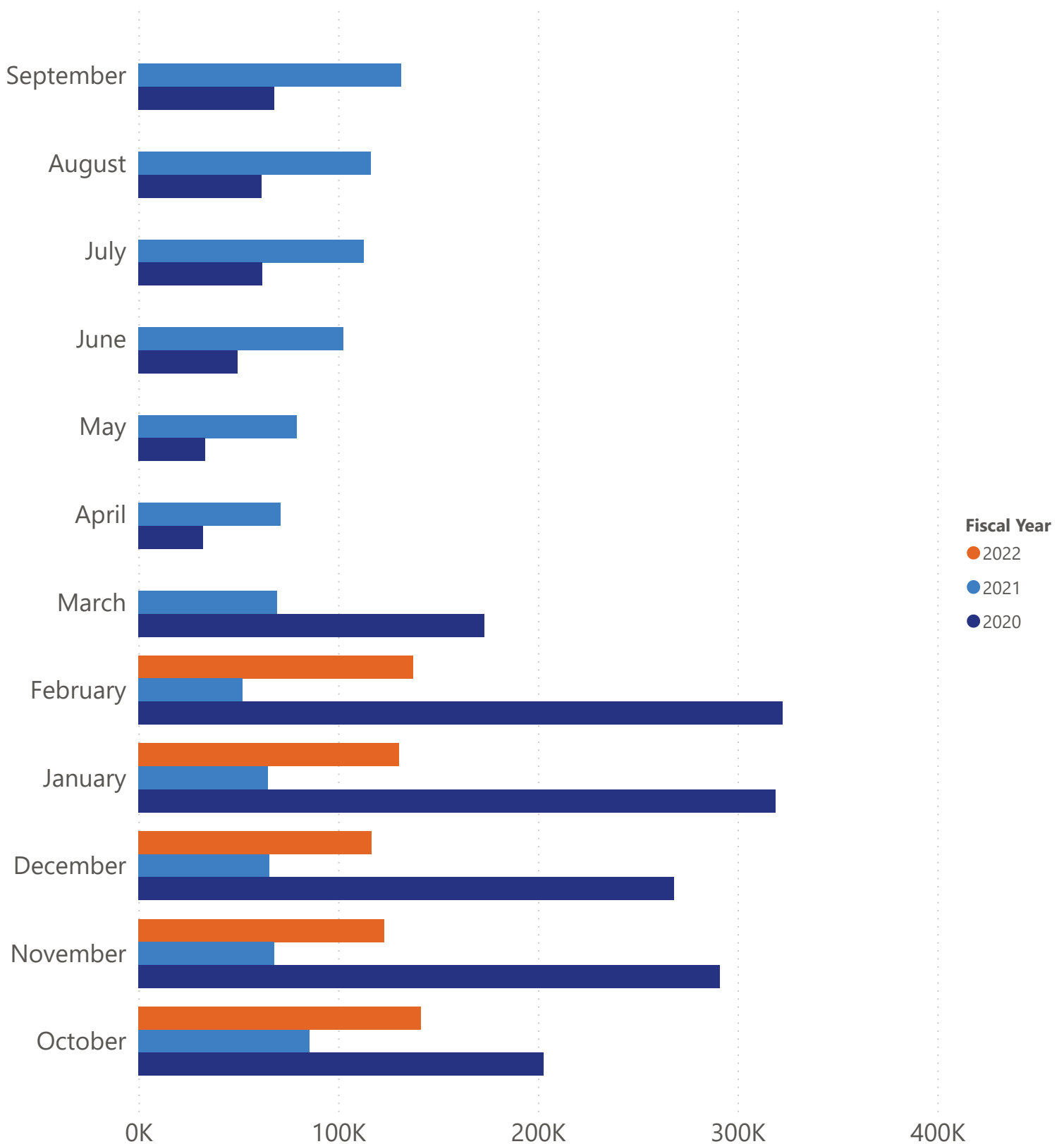
FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-TBD, McCreless Oct 1-TBD, Memorial Oct 1 - TBD

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

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

San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use



Location Closures:

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APPENDIX

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

STEAM - Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics

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

Trumba – San Antonio Public Library's events calendar.

Webex – Videoconferencing application used by San Antonio Public Library.