



San Antonio Public Library Director's Report November - December 2021

San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) announced Central Library's \$3 million renovation project as part of the City of San Antonio's 2017-2022 Bond Program. Work includes interior updates and a fresh coat of paint to the exterior to restore the Library's original red hue.

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar and Assistant Directors Kathy Donellan and Dale McNeill attended the Public Facilities Community bond meeting on November 4, 2021 and November 18, 2021, December 9, 2021.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar attended the monthly board meeting of the Local Government Hispanic Network (LGHN) on November 5 and December 3. Mr. Salazar serves as a board member to the organization.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar and Assistant Director Dale McNeill attended a meet and greet hosted by the Friends of the Las Palmas Branch Library for new District 5 Library Trustee N. Jeremy Landin on November 6. Later that day, he attended the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Arts and Letters Award Ceremony at the Mission Branch Library.

On November 7, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar, Assistant Directors Kathy Donellan and Dale McNeill attended the City of San Antonio Years of Service event at the San Antonio Zoo to celebrate Library employees reaching major employment anniversary milestones.

Mr. Salazar attended the San Antonio Public Library Foundation's Board Meeting at the Central Library on November 17. He delivered a report regarding Library operations.

On November 19, Mr. Salazar met with representatives from SOMOS Cultura y Mas, a grassroots organization, to discuss possible partnerships between SOMOS and the Library's Latino Collection and Resource Center.

As former President of the Public Library Association, Mr. Salazar serves as the Chair of the 2022 Nominating Committee. The committee met on December 6 and 13, 2021.

Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar met with Dr. Tomas Ybarra y Frausto, advisor to the Latino Collection and Resource Center (LCRC) on December 14, 2021 to provide an update regarding the LCRC and future planning.

In preparation for the live segment for the American Library Association's virtual Lib Learn X event, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar met with leadership from the American Library Association on December 17.

MARKETING



- TPR aired an advertisement promoting SAPL's author event with Sandra Cisneros which will take place on November 15 at 6 p.m.
- TPR aired a clip promoting the Native American Heritage Month event happening on November 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Semmes Branch Library.
- The Express News published a highlight about the Friends of SAPL Arts and Letters Awards.
- KSAT 12's SA Live hosted SAPL Librarian Jeannette Davies for a live feature segment in promotion of SAPL's Noon Time Helping of Cooking program, SAPL's Collection, and more.
- News 4 San Antonio published an online article and link to an interview with Sandra Cisneros in promotion of SAPL's live, online event, "An Evening with Sandra Cisneros". The video segment also aired on News 4 WOAI's broadcasts multiple times as well as on Fox San Antonio, KABB.
- News 4 WOAI aired a feature segment on the Roy Maas Youth Alternatives & Corazon Ministries Share the Warmth Coat Drive and mentioned multiple SAPL locations as drop-off sites.
- The Daily News published a feature article on the possible positive changes to NYPL services as their local government experiences a shift. They mention that NYPL is still not open as many hours as other public library systems including SAPL.
- News 4 WOAI aired a feature segment on Memorial's 40th Anniversary in their 6 p.m. broadcast Wednesday evening.
- Spectrum ran a story on NEISD's decision to pull 400 books from their collection. Dale McNeill, SAPL's Assistant Director for Public Services was interviewed for this segment which aired 13 times.
- KSAT 12 shared information about holiday programming at SAPL.
- KLBJAM, an Austin-based radio station, reported that San Marcos Public Library is adopting an enhanced library card that can be used as a form of identification. They mention SAPL as the first system in the state to implement this type of card.
- KENS 5 published an article about Central Library's repainting project.
- The San Antonio Express News published a feature story about Central Library's repainting project in their Thursday print edition on the second page. They included a tease of the story on the front page of the newspaper. This story was also published on their website on Tuesday and includes an interview with San Antonio Public Library's Public Services Administrator for Central Library, Haley Holmes.
- KENS 5 published this piece featuring SAPL's online Baby Time program and Dial-a-Story . They highlight the Library's new hours of service in the article as well. The information obtained was gathered from a SAPL social media post.
- KSAT 12 highlighted SAPL's ongoing holiday programming on their Friday midday newscast.
- My San Antonio published an online article about the Central renovation projects.
- KSAT 12 picked up the Central renovations release and published an online story this morning about the ongoing projects.

- KSAT 12's SA Live featured SAPL Librarian Miranda Reyes who presented a crochet demonstration in promotion of the Potranco Branch Library Program, Dreaded Threads, and the SAPL Wall of Warmth initiative.
- News 4 WOAI and Fox San Antonio aired an interview with Dale McNeill, SAPL Assistant Director of Public Services, as part of a story on the ongoing reviews of children's books in school libraries and other small library systems in Texas.
- The Express News published an article on "Get Connected," the Library's partnership with the Food Bank, Feeding Texas, and Google Fiber. This article was published online and also featured on the first page of Wednesday's Metro section in the print edition of the Express News.
- Quartz, an online, international news organization, published an article on the most popular library books of 2021. The author was in communication with SAPL Marketing over the past few weeks. The Marketing team worked with Troy Hoyles to obtain the information provided in the graphic included in this article as well as overall numbers on SAPL's circulation throughout the year.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:

- SAPL's social media generated 800,726 impressions
- SAPL's social media following base grew by 404 new fans
- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts 21,173 times.

Social Media statistics for the month(s):

- Twitter: 5,982 followers
- Facebook: 21,385 followers
- Instagram: 7,672 followers

Graphics

The Graphics Team created publicity materials for a variety of programs and events during this reporting period, including graphics for the Holocaust Learn & Remember series, Sergio Troncoso author visit, Young Pegasus, and the Memorial anniversary exhibit, as well as social media and other promotion for branch events.

DIGITAL SERVICES

On November 2 - 4, Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun, Digital Library Services Analyst Tricia Masterson, Digital Library Services Specialist Brian Douglass and Digital Library Services Assistant Christina Hess, attended the SirsiDynix Connection 2021 online conference. The conference featured presentations on overall ILS trends, new SirsiDynix products, and examples of solutions and innovations created by other library systems.

On November 17, Digital Library Services Coordinator Adam Spana, Mr. Laun, Collection Strategist Troy Hoyles, Collection Development Supervisor Jamie Flowers, Catalog Services Supervisor Katie Enright, and Coordinator of Technical Services Heidi Novotny met to discuss the logistics of creating a "Display" collection within the integrated library system. This would allow Collection Development to send out groups of seasonal materials to the branches to meet the increased demand for those items.

On November 10, Mr. Laun, Library Services Administrator Ron Suszek and Ms. Novotny met to discuss ways to improve the process for billing for lost Interlibrary Loan items. Several options were discussed and implemented in order to increase the accuracy and efficiency of the current process.

In November, Mr. Spana, Mr. Laun and Digital Library Services Assistant Michael Sheehan coordinated with Mr. Hoyles, ITSD Senior Web Design Analyst Glenn Parker and ITSD Computer Systems Administrator Engineer Russell Hendrix to implement public online access to the Wall Street Journal digital edition.

On December 13, Ms. Masterson, Mr. Spana, Mr. Laun, Mr. Douglass, along with Special Projects Manager Ray Fraga and ITSD Project Manager Aaron Bandstra worked through the final implementation of the Library's new incident reporting system, Omnigo.

On December 8, Mr. Spana and Adult Services Coordinator Morgan Yoshimura met with representatives from Municipal Courts and ITSD to conduct a site survey and discuss the logistics of launching kiosks featuring access to COSA services.

The Digital Services Info Team now numbers 323 users and had 90 posts over the last 30 days, along with 703 replies, 131 mentions, 624 reactions. The Digital Services team responded to 271 internal chat requests and 497 tickets from staff during the months of November and December.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Little Read Wagon (LRW) staff continued to see a large increase in requests for programs in November and December. Since this increase coincided with a reduced COVID-19 transmission rate some of the requests were for in-person events. LRW staff were delighted to reconnect with adult caregivers face-to-face and to see children at outdoor play zones. Virtual presentations of parent workshops and early childhood trainings continued throughout both months. LRW hosted 35 events, interacted with 685 people and impacted the lives of at least 574 young children in November and December alone.

LRW modified the 2021-2022 early childhood virtual teacher training in an effort to be more transparent about the information it imparts. The new title is "Early Literacy, Relationships and Resources for Resilience" and staff discuss Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES), trauma informed care and how strong connections with the library community can mitigate those ACES. LRW staff highlight library services with videos of branch libraries, by inviting the branch children's librarian to guest star, with a video of a child checking out books, a video for Spanish speakers, and a video invitation to use LEARN services. These videos have been incredibly helpful at all LRW outreach events as we now have more tools to show and not simply tell about library services. November's featured branch was Carver and LRW staff followed the Saturday training with an outdoor play experience at the branch a week later. December's featured branch was Johnston and though we had to reschedule the training portion and alter plans for play because of bad weather, the positive connections made with the families present was worth the effort.

Julia Lazarin hosted bedtime routine workshops for Head Start and Avance families at 20 locations throughout the county and delivered 291 bedtime routine chart kits, books and library information including the LRW playground map scavenger hunt. Highlights included two visits each to IDEA Brackenridge, a new location for LRW, and Arnold Elementary, which had 111 parents turn out. Gonzalez and Carroll Early Childhood Education Centers invited Ms. Lazarin to their respective Literacy Night events where she distributed playdough recipes and the dry ingredients to make it. Ms. Lazarin also

staffed the library's table at Metro Health's Baby Buggy Walk at Woodlawn Lake. Event goers were invited to write or draw personal messages to attach to a string for a collaborative art memorial.

Megan Cruz visited teen parents at Southwest High School, Sam Houston High School, Texas Can, Highlands High School and at San Antonio Independent School District's homebound program for mothers who recently delivered their babies. Along with Ms. Lazarin, Ms. Cruz participated in Metro Health's Baby Buggy Walk.

Eva Banda hosted Spanish/Bilingual events for Arnold Elementary Head Start, Huppertz Elementary, Maverick Elementary and Neal Elementary. Ms. Banda presented four bilingual Story Times to children at SAISD's Navarro Learning Center with holiday themes.

Clair Larkin twice visited Casa Mia, a transitional living home for mothers and their children, once with Ms. Lazarin. Ms. Larkin also presented parent workshops to SAISD homebound, Meadowood and Avance groups. She interviewed and selected candidates for three vacant LRW positions. Ms. Larkin completed a year with the Women's Leadership Mentoring Program (WLMP) by presenting the group project to City of San Antonio executive leadership. Alongside two WLMP colleagues, Ms. Larkin presented a succession planning toolkit and recommendations for a strategy to implement the plan city wide.



LRW Play Zone at Carver Branch

CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

The children's services team represented the San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) at two major outdoor outreach events: Trails and Trees Arbor Day Celebration at Eisenhower Park and La Gran Tamalada at Market Square. At the Arbor Day event, hosted by the Department of Parks and Recreation, Shannon Seglin (Central) and Cresencia Huff featured a temporary StoryWalk® installation of the picture book *Wonder Walkers* by Micha Archer. At Market Square the SAPL booth included sidewalk chalk and an invitation to decorate a construction paper shape for a collaborative garland. Angelina Cortes (Westfall/Central), Karen Braeuler (San Pedro), and Randi Jones (Semmes) joined Ms. Huff throughout the two-day event at Market Square. At both events, staff distributed a delightful nature scavenger hunt with a map of SAPL locations with parks and playgrounds. The handout was created by the Little Read Wagon team.

Children's Librarians Kristin Yourdon (Cody) and Robin Alcorta (Landa), with some input from Ms. Huff, presented a session on SAPL resources at the Education Service Center, Region 20, Learning and Libraries Conference. School librarians from around the region attended.

Multiple locations offered outdoor programs for children: Johnston, Landa, San Pedro, Carver, Encino, and Cortez. The programs varied from a focus on yoga to bubbles. Some were offered once and others on a biweekly schedule. Children's services team members worked collaboratively on the effort to offer some form of in-person programs for children in a low-risk outdoor environment.

December 8, 2021 the children's services team had an in-person meeting at Central Library. Viki Ash, former Coordinator of Children's Services, joined the group to share about the Book Quilt project and the opportunity to borrow quilts for display. Assistant Director for Public Service, Dale McNeill, dropped in to encourage the group and thank them for their ongoing excellent work. Several work groups gave reports. Kate Simpson (Central) and Leslie Elsasser (Schaefer), with support from several colleagues, have been working on plans for the summer and made a report. The STEAM work group shared outdoor programming ideas with a STEAM emphasis. Ms. Alcorta and Jasmin Salinas (Brook Hollow) shared about the outdoor programming efforts at Landa. Children's librarians had a chance to try out the new Artie robots and peruse new release books from Harper Collins.

Over the winter break, several SAPL locations distributed Snack Paks and gently used books to children and teens. The distributions were the result of a partnership with Snack Paks for Kids SA and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation. Locations with an equity score of 6 or higher were given 30-40 Snack Paks, drawstring bags, and donated books from Literati. Several Parks and Recreation Department community centers also participated in the project. Families and children expressed their gratitude to the staff who distributed the supplies.

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 continued to use the server as a place to hang out, attend virtual library clubs, and share their artwork, book and media recommendations, comments on current events, favorite songs, and more. Over the past two months, one teen has continuously shared the development of his video game with the server, and he often seeks feedback from teens on the server to further enhance his game. Another teen offered to run a few tabletop roleplaying sessions on the server as special clubs during the winter break, with a separate teen also planning to run an additional Dungeons & Dragons campaign on the server in the near future. Several teens also expressed their thoughts regarding recent book challenges and the public health situation, leading to thoughtful and meaningful discussions between teens and their peers on 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 and highlight celebratory events, such as booklists, and including filming a recipe post for Fall featuring teen volunteer Kaylee. Regina will also evaluate teen-created content for posting as well. During the reporting period, Regina provided teens the opportunity to suggest and/or join in for a variety of activities, including an easy Saturday afternoon food craft making turkey-shaped apple tarts, after-school crafts such as creating perler bead art, and setting out items for teens to create their own ornaments to decorate the department's holiday tree. In accordance with the San Antonio Food Bank partnership, Regina presented a nutritional lesson with a taste test involving pumpkin. 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. 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 also joins Julia Pouliot (Assistant Manager/Teen Services Librarian II, Brook Hollow) to 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 SAPL Incident Reporting Database committee, Teen Services Discord team, and the YA Nonfiction workgroup. She also began serving on the SAPL Emergency and Urgent Communication Project 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 showcased how to make several dishes for the holidays, including pumpkin bisque, Brussels sprouts, hot chocolate spoons, and pecan pie. Teen volunteers also created content for Instagram Stories including daily celebrates (such as "Origami Day," "Dewey Decimal System Day," and "National Cupcake Day"), Spotify playlists (such as "Sad Vibes" and "Breakup Playlist"), and teens responded to interactive Stories that featured library-related content such as the record collection at Central and the current painting renovation of the Central Library. Teen Services staff also contributed additional content, including a collection development statement as a response to recent book challenges that featured comments from teens on the 210teenlibrary Discord server and Instagram account.

Fiesta Youth Partnership

On December 4, Matthew Loaiza represented the Teen Pride workgroup at Fiesta Youth's AIDS Memorial Quilt Display and Community Fair. During the event, Loaiza shared relevant information about library services with teens and their families as well as with other attendees; Loaiza also spoke about the unique partnership between the San Antonio Public Library and Fiesta Youth, including Fiesta Youth's most recent donation to acquire more fiction and nonfiction books for teens that celebrate and honor the LGBTQ+ community.

Systemwide Support

During the reporting period, Matthew Loaiza assisted Marketing and Little Read Wagon by serving as an interview panelist for positions within both departments.

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

In November, the Library recognized Native American Heritage Month, which strives to pay tribute to the rich ancestry and traditions of Native Americans. This year, the library offered a variety of programs and online content to honor this annual event. Three in person presentations were made available to the public. Two of these presentations were titled *Native Americans of the Missions and the San Antonio Area*, which discussed the evolutionary history of the Native American groups that built the Missions and that have inhabited the areas around San Antonio for thousands of years. The third presentation was titled *First People of San Antonio* and was presented by Sylvia Reyna from Texana. Ms. Reyna shared the history of the thriving community of indigenous people living in San Antonio that inhabited the area long before the Spanish soldiers and the Canary Islanders settled. In addition to these presentations, online curated content in the form of book lists and a video book review of the book *House Made of Dawn* by N. Scott Momaday were shared with the community.

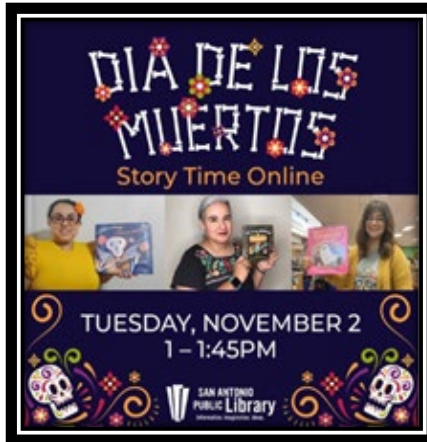
On November 9, Pruitt at Roosevelt library hosted a program in honor of Veteran's Day. The program featured Dr. Joseph Milligan, a retired Colonel from the United States Air Force. Dr. Milligan spoke about his experiences of nearly 6 years as a Prisoner of War during the Vietnam War, spent at Hanoi Hilton. All those in attendance found that Dr. Milligan's story was very engaging and stayed after the end of the program to continue asking him questions about his experiences.

In December, Adult Services staff offered a variety of programs in celebration of the winter holidays. A highlight was an Introduction to Calligraphy program offered online on December 11th. Community members who registered were able to receive calligraphy supplies (that they could pick up from their preferred branch library). This event was very popular and filled up within an hour of being featured in a weekly e-newsletter of programs for adults. For those that could not attend, the program was recorded and posted to YouTube.

Members of the Library's Zine Committee (Michael Dunbar-Rodney, Heather Ferguson, Brianna Glass, Jordan Torres, Regina Villalobos-Perez, and Morgan Yoshimura) collaborated with community members and SAPL Graphic Designer Aurora Balderas to create and publish the Big Read Zine 2021. This third edition of the Library's annual zine publication was titled *Big Read Zine 2021 Issue 3: New is Normal* and features creative works from our community that showcase what the new normal looks like in the wake of the pandemic. Works that visualize what has changed (or not changed) were encouraged. There were a total of 29 contributions to the Zine, with the oldest submitter that the committee is aware of being 68 years old (the Big Read Zine being her first official publication). A total of 255 copies were produced and a public release event was held on December 11 at Confluence Park in conjunction with the San Antonio River Foundation's *North Pole Nopal* community holiday market.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN @ CENTRAL



Central Children's department staff were thrilled to partner with the neighboring Southwest School of Art to present to 5th grade students from three different elementary schools during their "Kids Initiating Design Solutions" architecture program. The department has been involved with this program for many years, and it was exciting to start it up again after the pandemic pause. Manager Kate Simpson spoke to the group of 60 students and shared information about the process of working with Marmon Mok architects to develop the Bond Project renovation plans for the children's floor at Central Library. Afterwards, the students broke into smaller groups and visited the Central Library Plaza for a series of outdoor presentations by Ms. Simpson and Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin about the architectural design of the Central Library and its architect, Ricardo Legorreta.

A new Children's Librarian I joined Central Children's in November. The group has been excited to welcome Melissa Fulmer onto the team!

Ms. Simpson and Library Assistant Judith Slaughter shared library information at Smith Elementary School, connecting with over 150 students and parents. Since the outreach visit was close to Thanksgiving, they invited families to contribute to a "thankfulness tree" collaborative art project, which was later displayed in the Central Library interim service space. Ms. Seglin represented the Library at the Texas Arbor Day at Eisenhower Park event and shared library resources with 65 people.

Ms. Seglin worked with other Children's Librarians around the system to present two outdoor programs for children, one at Encino Branch Library and another at the Cortez Branch Library.

Ms. Seglin and Librarian I Ashley Stubbs were very active in virtual programming throughout November and December. Ms. Seglin presented four Toddler Time and two Story Time programs. She also participated in a virtual LEGO Club program and a special "Thank You" program for the Thanksgiving holiday. Ms. Stubbs presented four live online Story Time programs as well. She supported the Tiny Tots and Story Time weekly programs by maintaining their "Books We Love" section of the LibGuide with a total of 12 curated online programs. She recorded two Dial-A-Story readings as well.

Ms. Stubbs worked closely with colleagues to develop a live virtual program for children about the Día de los Muertos holiday. They presented a thoughtful and fun celebration of this holiday that is so important to the San Antonio community.

Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez joined the Escape the Earth podcast team and cohosted two lively discussions. One focused on *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir and in the other session, they speculated on the new Wheel of Time TV series as compared to the book, the *Eye of the World* by Robert Jordan. The podcasts can be found on Soundcloud on San Antonio Public Library's Podcast TunedIn Channel.

Central Children's staff continued to develop outreach connections with area child care centers. Ms. Seglin held two live virtual Story Times 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, and also held two special outdoor Story Times for the children there.

TEEN LIBRARY

The Teen Library is accessible to teens and for safety reasons during construction, Teen Library staff are accompanying teens from the first floor up to the third floor. 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, used guitars and keyboards, and used the 3D printer to bring their designs to life. Teen Library staff serves free snacks from the SA Food Bank during afterschool hours to teens in the space.

Teen volunteers, Jenna and Angel, decorated the Teen Library for the holidays. They put up the department's holiday tree—ornaments and all—and added garlands and lights all around the space to make the area feel festive. Below are pictures of the tree being decorated, teens making quesadillas and teen-created dry erase art on the yellow display wall in the Teen Library.



REFERENCE

During November, Julia Selwyn and Michelle Villarreal created the Safety and Security LibGuide with system-wide policies, documents and trainings to enhance staff knowledge and safety. Additional materials were provided by the SAPL Safety and Security Committee. Included in the LibGuide are Omnigo training for Employees and Supervisors, Security training for Facilities, and Mobile Phone Resources, with more training materials to follow in 2022.

On Tuesday, November 9th, Friday, November 12th, and Tuesday November 30th - Michael Dunbar-Rodney trained a total of 25 library employees across the system on using OverDrive Marketplace to provide end-user support for patrons. These library staff are now able to merge user accounts, change holds, and reset download links for patrons taking advantage of our digital holdings.

Bettina Hernandez had a Serials training at the Landa Library on November 13th. Bettina went to the branch and instructed Serials staff on checking in materials, entering prices for magazines, and correcting errors.

On Wednesday, November 17th, Sally Bauer and Keith Thibodeaux of Blue Cross/Blue Shield presented a program called Understanding Burnout. Keith discussed: what is burnout, causes and risk factors, symptoms and tips for prevention, and lifestyle improvements.

On November 10th, Pannaga Prasad and Brooke Mjolsness offered a virtual session entitled Discover Self-Care Through Ayurveda - Session 11: Cultivating Gratitude & Grace for the Holidays. The session was presented by Maggie Grueskin, Ayurvedic Yoga Specialist.

On November 12th and 19th and December 10th and 17th, Pannaga Prasad and Brooke Mjolsness offered a virtual session entitled Beginner's Chair Yoga Class. The session was presented by a Professional Yoga Instructor from the Idoयोग organization.

On November 13th and December 11th, Pannaga Prasad and Diana Starrett offered a virtual session entitled How Women and Men can Maintain Healthy Skin Through Use of Skincare Products. The session was presented by Guadalupe Cavzos, Independent Beauty Consultant from Mary Kay & Monique Pedroza, Independent Skin Care Consultant from Rodan +Fields.

On November 17th, Pannaga Prasad and Jordan Torres offered a virtual session entitled Classical Dance Performance: Diwali Festival. The session was offered by Kaveri Natya Yoga Dance group.

For the month of December, Angelina M. Cortes, Central's Adult Service Librarian was part of the Get Connected program through the San Antonio Food Bank (SAFB) Digital Inclusion initiative. This was the first part of the SAFB Digital Inclusion implementation that took place on December 9th. Angelina taught the Northstar Digital Literacy Computer Basics class to 20 individuals. She was assisted by several SAPL colleagues, including Marcel Martinez Alvarez, who presented the Northstar curriculum in Spanish to three individuals at that time.

On December 9th, Angelina participated in the Gran Tamalada in the Historic Market Square, assisting the Children's Services department in distributing free children's books in the SAPL branded Paleta cart. During her participation, she distributed over 60 items to over 40 different families.

Additionally, Angelina along with her colleague, Lodie Mueller, continued her involvement with the iPad Senior Center orientation and class. She assisted by conducting outreach at the Willie M. Cortes Senior Center beforehand, receiving full registration for the event, and then returned on December 14th to the Senior Center to teach seniors how to use the iPad as well as SAPL electronic resources.

Victoria Villalobos, Rhonda Woolhouse and Cynthia de Leon hosted the online program An Introduction to Calligraphy on Saturday Dec 11th. The calligraphy class was part of the SAPL Winter Holidays Initiative. A LibGuide was created to facilitate accessing Winter Holidays programs and resources.

On December 8th, Pannaga Prasad and Brooke Mjolsness offered an online session Discover Self-Care Through Ayurveda - Session 12 Upward Spiral Living: States and Stages of Wellbeing. It was presented by Maggie Grueskin, Ayurvedic Yoga Specialist. This session reflected on this past year, focusing on what went well, on what needs work and learning ways to customize individual paths in an upward-spiraling wellness journey.

On December 16th, Pannaga Prasad from and Jordan Torres offered an online session “Classical Dance Performance: Bharatanatyam” as an art and culture theme. It was presented by the Kaveri Natya Yoga dance group. They performed three professional dances along with a demonstration based on the story.

LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

The LCRC offered a robust calendar of programs during the last quarter of 2021. In November, the Sandra Cisneros “Te Recuerdo Martita” event, held in-person in the LCRC and hosted by SAPL Director Ramiro Salazar, had a virtual attendance of 350 individuals and was moderated by noted author JP Santos. Participants had the opportunity to purchase a signed copy of “Te Recuerdo Martita,” which was organized in coordination with The Twig.

Interim Program Manager Emily Flores organized the “Silencing Biases in Leadership” panel program, an authors’ talk moderated by Elma Nieto and featuring local academics. A few short days later, the “Nepantla Familias” program moderated by Texas Institute of Letters President Sergio Troncoso featured three noted authors and academics from across the country. Also in November, Tafolla Middle Schoolers participated in an LCRC book club with author Rebecca Balcarcel and her book “The Other Half of Happy.” Students received their own copy of the book and, in appreciation for their participation, Balcarcel sent signed bookplates for students after the meeting. In early December, the LCRC offered “Writing With: The Art of Translation” with Mexico City-based translator and interpreter Robin Myers. Finally, Flores assembled 300 Take-and-Make corn husk doll activity kits with assistance from the Children’s Department for “La gran tamalada” event.

Flores began citizenship classes at the Mission Branch Library in November. The classes will continue through February. In early December and in coordination with the World Heritage Office, Flores and Central Library Assistant Brianna Glass designed an interactive exhibit to highlight the region’s culinary traditions, in celebration of the city’s UNESCO designation as a “City of Gastronomy.”

Interim Program Director Emily Flores presented “Continuing the Conversation: Virtual Civics Discussion Groups for English Language Learners” with volunteer Karen Wyatt at the national Reforma Conference. The presentation, which was well-received, covered the academic foundations and methodologies

employed in the pair's virtual classes, which have been meeting continuously since March 2020 and include English as a Second Language (ESL) Civics, Conversation, Book Club and advanced language instruction.

TEXANA/ GENEALOGY

Celebrating Native American History month, Librarian I Sylvia Reyna presented an in-person discussion on the Indigenous Cultures of Bexar County at Landa Library on November 14. Beginning with prehistoric archeological remains, she addressed the prevailing local Native American historical cultures and ended with the remaining descendants of our area. Additionally, she was also invited by the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) Libraries to present this program virtually for UTSA librarians on November 17.

Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson was invited by the Trinity University Archivist and Records Manager to participate in the panel discussion Trinity University Archives Student Advocates (TUASA) Archives Webinar. The University hosted this virtual information session on November 17 for TUASA to learn about the field of archives and the personal experiences of professionals working with archival collections.

On November 20, Librarian II Deborah Countess presented a virtual program on the library version of the genealogy database Ancestry.com. She explained how Ancestry Library Edition is organized, how it differs from the commercial product and the most productive search strategies to use for researching family history records.

Ms. Reyna was invited to participate in the 2021 Westside History Symposium: In Memory of the 1921 Flood on November 20. To commemorate the 100-year Anniversary of the disastrous 1921 flood that devastated the San Antonio's west side, Ms. Reyna led an in-person tour of graves at San Fernando Cemetery #1 where some of the flood victims are buried.

On November 23, the Texana department received a large donation of maps from Eckmann Groll, Inc., a local real estate appraisal and consulting firm that specializes in multi-parcel projects for various government entities. The map collection includes 115 Texas county maps showing property ownership, as well as 2 block maps of San Antonio, TX and suburbs (1973, 1976).

Librarian I Andy Crews visited the Advanced Learning Academy (ALA) on the campus of Fox Tech High School on November 30 to speak with two groups of 7th grade students. Working on a Project-based learning (PBL) approach involving the Alamo, the students researched whose stories are most often highlighted from this iconic structure and why. Their project focused on how to accurately tell the story of the Alamo, which students then presented to the staff at the mission. Mr. Crews discussed primary resources available from that time period and instructed students on how to utilize the Library's catalog and database collection for conducting research.

On December 3, the San Antonio Express-News published an article by Vincent Davis highlighting the Library's collection of African-American funeral programs. The digitized collection recently surpassed 1 million total online uses through the Portal to Texas History, hosted by the University of North Texas.

Mr. Crews presented a new virtual genealogy class on December 11 entitled, Finding and Researching Naturalization Records. The class demonstrated how and where to find these historical records and gave examples of the genealogical information that can be found in them.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

Staff received positive comments from customers after a recent furniture replacement project. New chairs, tables, catalog stations and computer desks were only part of the change. Staff took the opportunity to create a much more accessible and logical floor layout by moving service points and shelving. The Children's area was also expanded and the Learn Center was relocated adjacent to the Adult Service area. New book displays were well received.

Both Children's and Adult Take-and-Makes continued to be popular. Many customers made a point to ask for them each time they visited or even made a special trip to the library to ask if a new one was available.

The Bazan Learn Center saw lots of activity in both November and December. Many customers sought extensive assistance applying for jobs and other services. Joseph Gonzales, McCreless Library Assistant, continued as Interim Training Officer at Bazan and has been a great help.

Teen Librarian Georgina Garcia led *Gaming Club* every Saturday alongside Teen Librarian Cassie Garza. *Gaming Club* has seen great retention numbers from teenagers that are now hyping the club and making announcements on the 210TeenLibrary Discord server that they are "anxiously waiting for gaming club to start" and streaming games leading up to *Gaming Club*. The teens enthusiasm for the club has garnered a strong bond amongst each other which lends to a high level of respect and value for each participant. On one of the November meets, a teenager suggested to the group if a phone friendly game could be played since he was away and didn't have access to his PC. The group agreed and the traveling teen was able to successfully participate for the entirety of the two-hour program.

To celebrate the teens efforts throughout the year, Teen Librarian Georgina and Cassie created the *End of Year Gaming Club Awards 2021* for teens to vote on various *Gaming Club* related activities, personalities, and games. The polls went up on December 18 and results will be shared with the teens on the first *Gaming Club* of 2022. *Gaming Club* has seen a transformation from its inception in 2020. The teens have created a positive gaming culture for the server and have made it inclusive for non-gamer teens. Credit is shared between the club's Club Assistant/Teen Moderator with his welcoming demeanor and his leadership, and the group as a whole for creating a fun safe gaming space for all teens.

Apart from teen services, Ms. Garcia co-lead another *Animal Crossing Obstacle Course* program in December with Library Assistant Mari Castellon from Mission, which was hosted via Zoom. The program is part of a quarterly program series from the Esports committee.

BROOK HOLLOW

Brook Hollow Library Director's Report

Kudos to BHL employees Elissa Vura, library assistant, and Teresa Smith, circulation attendant who both recently received complimentary ENCORE cards from library patrons. A patron commented: I was at the Brooke Hollow Library on 1/7/22 and I wanted to thank a librarian there. Her name was Elissa and she was near the children's section. My daughter wanted a *Wimpy Kid* book, but there weren't any she hadn't

read. Elissa recommended the *Dorky Diaries* series. My daughter hasn't put the book down since she got home. She struggles with reading, and it's hard for her to try new things, so I really wanted to thank the librarian for suggesting this new series. Library Patron Irina Borissova wrote that BHL offers a very good collection of DVDs; a clean, well-organized library and a professional staff, especially Circulation Attendant Teresa Smith who is always very helpful. Both of their actions exemplify their commitment to the City of San Antonio's CORE values of Teamwork; Integrity; Innovation and Professionalism.

Brook Hollow Library (BHL) Manager Jeannette Davies hosted Noon Time Helping of Cooking in SAPL's Virtual Kitchen in November and December featuring holidays cuisines. Davies appeared on SA LIVE TV to demonstrate her Loco Jalapeño Cranberry Sauce recipe. Check out bi-monthly, online cooking show: Noon Time Helping of Cooking in SAPL's Virtual Kitchen. Next show is January 27, 2022, Noon, Southern Cooking in honor of MKL, Jr. Day. Sign-up <https://www.mysapl.org/Events-News/Events-Calendar>

Additionally, an article Davies wrote about Noon Time Helping of Cooking in SAPL's Virtual Kitchen was published in the 2021 Autumn Issue of Edible San Antonio.

https://issuu.com/digitalpublish/docs/edible_san_antonio_autumn_2021?fr=sYmE2MDE0MjU1NDc

Adults: During the months of November and December 2021, Brook Hollow Library Adult Services Librarian Marco De Leon hosted four virtual *Among Us* and 2 *Spyfall* programs with maximum registrations. Several attendees who accessed the programs from out of state expressed how much they appreciate the opportunity to access the programs virtually. De Leon hosted the BHL Mystery Book Club, the group read *One By One* by Ruth Ware and *Redeemer* by Jo Nesbo. De Leon also hosted the La Tertulia Book Club that discussed *El Secreto de la Casa del Rio* by Sarah Lark and *Liberacion* by Imogen Kealey. As the designated Spanish-speaking staff member at BHL, De Leon attended the virtual Reforma National Conference and explored methods of reaching Spanish-speaking patrons and highlighting the need for more inclusivity of Spanish literature within library collections.

Children: In November, Brook Hollow Library staff created a fall leaf Take-and-Make kit for families to enjoy. Staff also created a dinosaur scavenger hunt to tie into a the November book display in the Children's Area. In the second half of November, staff created a children's book display featuring Indigenous authors. In December, Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas created a polar animal scavenger hunt and also an interactive bulletin board space where families were asked to share a story or image to complete the phrase "I Love When My Family." Several families contributed images of fun traditions that they enjoy together. Salinas also continued with monthly online programs including Read to a Dog Online, Lego Club Online, Cooking Around the World, Tweens Play Among Us, and Baby Time Online. In November and December Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas partnered with Children's Librarian Robin Alcorta at Landa Library to co-present outdoor, in-person family Story Times. Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas also presented a virtual Story Time for a Pre-K for SA classroom in December.

Teens: In November, BHL Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot began hosting in-person Teen Time for the first time since the closure. A steady group of teens came to make crafts, play video games, and spend time hanging out in the meeting room. Pouliot encouraged teens to participate in planning future programs with suggestions for craft projects and activities. Pouliot continues to co-host Music Mondays on the 210TeenLibrary Discord. Teens met virtually every Monday during November and December to share their favorite music and talk about subjects ranging from their holiday plans to their favorite chocolate combinations. One teen also uses the time to stream their continued progress on a mini-golf game, even coding the game live for other teens to see. Pouliot created young adult book displays with the themes of Survival Stories and Travel Stories in November and December respectively. Pouliot also helped launch a LibGuide with fellow teen services staff entitled Book Challenge Response in an effort to inform teens and

their families about book challenges that have been in the news lately. The LibGuide has a lot of resources and book lists centering on this heated topic.

CARVER

Carver Library participated in the winter Snack Pak program as part of the partnership with the Library Foundation and Snack Pak for Kids, distributing bags of food and free books to area children and teens.

Aide Laura Alvarez joined the Carver Library team in December as a new hire. The team is excited to have her join, and has already proven her ability to catch on to duties and find opportunities around the branch.

Aide Rebecca Vasquez and Teen Librarian Shannan Prukop worked together to build the branch's main display to highlight books by and about Native peoples in November for Native American Heritage month, then the various winter holidays and ways to make and give gifts in December. Aide Laura Alvarez changed and updated displays in the children's area to reflect current celebrations for November and December as well.

Mx. Prukop continued leading the virtual Dungeons & Dragons program on the 210TeenLibrary Discord server, encouraging teens to take their own leadership of the narrative they are all building together and solve problems with creative thinking. They also continued work as part of the Pop Madness workgroup planning the next event, and took over as head of the Young Adult Non Fiction (YANF) workgroup in December with Amy Rae Weaver's leaving SAPL to pursue new opportunities. In light of Carver's lacking an adult and children's librarian, Mx. Prukop has been assembling Take-and-Make kits for both age groups and setting them up in the branch for patrons. They have also worked on a continuing project to update and ensure the collection at Carver is accessible and current for patrons by inventorying items, sending out those that aren't circulating, and rearranging shelving as needed.

On December 2, 2021 CPS Energy and Metro Health partnered with the branch for a wellness fair to administer free flu shots and free Pfizer, J&J and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines. Community organizations were also on hand to provide information, wellness facts and options available to help people stay safe during the pandemic. CPS Energy team members discussed electric and natural gas safety tips, and community programs for energy bill assistance. According to a spokesman for Metro Health, 148 people received a shot.

After taking a break for the winter holidays, the chair yoga class for seniors resumed.

CODY

The holiday season of November thru December 2021 was full of visiting families and regulars sharing wishes of joy and gifts of chocolate and sweets with staff. The Second Annual Cody "Crockpotluck" luncheon was held on December 14 and staff enjoyed a second luncheon, provided by the Cody Friends, on December 28.

The branch marked the passing of its namesake, Ed Cody, on November 18 with a small memorial at the branch. Patrons were able to leave notes of thanks to Mr Cody and his family.

The branch also said goodbye to a couple of staff members in December. Edgar Velasquez Reynald, who transferred to Johnston with a promotion, and librarian Amy Rae Weaver, who returned to Wisconsin. Cody staff welcomed Children's Librarian Nicole San Martin, McCreless's new hire, on loan until her branch reopens.

On November 2, Wellness Liaison Luanne Bloom facilitated a wellness session on laughter yoga, with a TED talk called Happier in 5 Minutes and laughter exercises, followed by a discussion on the benefits of laughter in our lives. On November 16, our wellness focus was having an attitude of gratitude, with suggestions to incorporate gratitude into our daily routine.

In November, librarian Amy Rae Weaver helped adults enjoy several different Take-and-Make crafts, including DIY stress balls and watercolor resist paintings. Bexar County Community Health Collaborative was onsite to provide Cody patrons with opportunities to sign up for health insurance.

On November 2nd, teens at Cody created DIY stickers based on instructions from TikTok. Teens enjoyed themselves so much that they requested to take additional supplies home with them to make more stickers throughout the week! On November 23rd, teens played an intense game of Unstable Unicorns, a favorite card game from before the pandemic; attendees taught the game to newcomers and got to know each other over the course of the afternoon.

Children's Librarian Kristin Yourdon helped with virtual programs during the month of November. Yourdon presented during the Adventurer's Book Club on Saturday, November 13th. During this program participants discussed the book *Schooled* by Gordon Korman. Children also listened and responded to some of the music mentioned in the book and tried out a bit of tai chi, which the protagonist often practiced in the book.

During Story Time Online on November 18th Yourdon read *Grandma's Tiny House* by JaNay Brown-Wood and sang the color song, which allowed children to practice recognizing colors, and the Bananas Unite song which Yourdon used to introduce and define a few new vocabulary words, husk and shuck.

Yourdon presented during the ESC-20 Learning and Libraries Virtual Conference on November 12th, on the databases that SAPL offers to those who have a library card. As the attendees were school librarians and teachers, Yourdon highlighted the databases that are most useful for student research, such as Explora, Opposing Viewpoints in Context, and Brainfuse.

Yourdon and Library Assistant Haly LeFlore continued to offer new weekly scavenger hunts during November and December, including a Sports scavenger hunt, Knights & Castles, Picture Book Character, Holiday Plate, and Arctic Animals. These scavenger hunts are very popular with our youngest patrons and give them a chance to explore the library and practice early literary skills such as reading, writing, and play. Staff particularly enjoyed the Christmas themed hunt, where children had to give their best "Ho Ho Ho" Santa impression to finish the hunt.

Yourdon also created Take-and-Make kits for children. One kit gave children the chance to create their own gratitude pumpkins. Children were given the materials and instructions to create a paper strip pumpkin and were encouraged to write one thing that they were thankful for on each strip of paper. Take-and-Make kits for children in December included a gingerbread man collage kit and a crayon resist ornament kit.

During the month of December, Yourdon hosted Story Time Online on the 23rd and 30th, which featured several action songs that got the children up and moving in between stories.

Yourdon and Library Assistant Haly LeFlore put together a Winter scavenger hunt. Children had to follow a maze of snowmen on the floor and find objects as they went. The maze stayed up for a few weeks, but each week children had to find different objects hidden along the way, such as candy canes, the next week they had to find sad snowmen, and the last week children had to find presents.

COLLINS GARDEN

The Collins Garden Branch participated in the Winter edition of the Snack Paks program. Snack Paks for Kids and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation provided Snack Paks to share with children and teens in the community. Donated books acquired by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation were also distributed along with the snack paks.

Teen Services Librarian Daniella Toll hosted Teen Time on November 17 and 24. Toll assisted in the weekly teen book club, “Bookworms,” on the 210teenlibrary Discord server on November 20 and 27. She attended Career Day at Harris Middle School, and spoke to students about the Libby app, the library’s new fine-free policy, library programs and clubs, resources available to them through the library’s Homework Help and she led the classrooms through the process of getting temporary library cards. On December 5th, teens had a session of board games and discussed testing preparations at their respective schools. On December 12, teens enjoyed ping pong. Toll hosted the 210teenlibrary’s Discord server book club on December 4, and assisted Ms. Heather Swindell in hosting the club on December 18. Teens compared books they were planning to read over the holiday, discussed a short story about a woman’s conflicting feelings over suddenly becoming widowed, and the cultural implications of marriage and divorce in different periods of time. Toll ran a one-shot for the D&D campaign on December 29. Teens used creativity and teamwork to open doors, avoid traps, and work together to move supplies through tight spaces while seeking a magical item for a friend.

As a member of the Tiny Tots work group, Children’s Librarian Gina Brudi engaged toddlers and babies via Zoom with books, rhymes and songs. She continued her online Story Time outreach with Knox Early Childhood Education Center. On November 17, she filmed a flannel board rhyme video - “Five Little Snowman” for the SAPL YouTube channel. She serves as co-chair of the Summer Reading 2022 performers selection committee and met with committee members to discuss performer options. In December, she mounted a winter book display in the Juvenile area. Ms. Brudi facilitated the monthly Collins Garden Adult Book Club. In November, the group discussed *The Four Winds* and in December, *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue*. In her role as branch Wellness Liaison, she shared an article on doing wall sits.

During the reporting period, Library Assistant Carlos Loera co-hosted two presentations of Noon Time Cooking: November 18 - Noon Time Helping of Thanksgiving and on December 9, Noon Time Helping of Xmas. He hosted two sessions of Coffee and a Movie at the branch on November 12 and December 10 respectively.

CORTEZ

Branch

Staff at Cortez Library helped created and distribute two Take-and-Make crafts for the month of November; a Pilgrim Boy and Turkey Headband. Teambuilding events have restarted every Tuesday and Cortez staff members are excited to spend time together doing wellness and betterment activities.

Cortez was a voting site for the Constitutional Amendment balloting on Election Day.

Book displays for the month included: Kindness (with staff and public contributing kind thoughts), Good Soup, Slow Cooking, The Doors and Jim Morrison, Pride (Teens), Native American stories, Bedtime Books. Displays for December included: Cozy Up with a Mystery, Baby It's Cold Outside (Romance), Handmade Gifts, and Cold Weather Animals and Jungle Books (Children's).

Due to a retirement, Cortez branch welcomed Interim Manager Cate Prazak to the branch for the month of December. Angela Morrow will become the new Branch Manager for Cortez Library beginning in January 2022. Ms. Morrow was previously the Branch Manager for Westfall Library and the Adult Services Librarian for Cortez Library from early 2020-2021.

Adults

Library Assistant Jo Ann Paredes continues to meet weekly for "Getting Crafty" on Wednesday mornings and class has been doing well; the average attendance is seven patrons. For the month of November, the crafts included: fall apron painting, pumpkin place cards, mason jar centerpieces, and rock painting.

Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez continues her weekly "COAST" program on Tuesday nights. Patrons color, watch movies, and play games. Madeline also hosted "Monster Meet" on November 14 with a screening of *A Quiet Place II* and on December 12 for *Windchill*.

In November, Adult Services Librarian Vicky Villalobos helped distribute a "Dancing Princesses" craft. She created a book display inspired by the "good soup" meme. Vicky assists in the continuation of trivia events for both COSA staff and the public with different themes involving quite a bit of research every month.

In December, Vicky joined Cynthia de Leon and Rhonda Woolhouse on the Winter Holidays Committee. In addition to a "Clothespin Snowman" Take-and-Make and a LibGuide with booklists and information about winter holidays around the world, the team held an Intro to Calligraphy program on December 11 with Leslie Winakur of The San Antonio Calligraphers' Guild. The program had immediate interest from patrons and a recording of the program was posted on the Library's YouTube channel as well as the Winter Holidays LibGuide. Cortez Adult Services had two Take-and-Makes for December, "Fall Foliage" and "Pom Pom Coasters" as well as the Winter Committee's Take-and-Make. Lastly, Vicky is in the planning stages to bring a Korean Pop ("K-Pop") monthly event to appreciate and enhance interest in the art, music and culture of South Korea.

Teens

Teen time resumed with in-person programming. Although there has been a delay in teens coming back, the events are advertised and ready. Surrounding school librarians were sent an email of the teen flier in hopes that it will be posted at the schools. One teen arrived and spoke with the Teen Liaison about deciding on what colleges to apply for and what steps to take.

Childrens

In November, Children's Librarian Olivia Escovedo took part in several programs. She helped with an outdoor kid's program at Encino library; this was one of the first in-person programs the library has done since March 2020. Several librarians helped to put this program together and ten families attended the program. Olivia also took part in two Story Time online programs; the first was a special Day of the Dead online program where the librarians spoke about the holiday and read books and sang songs; the second

was a Fall program. Olivia helped lead an *Among Us* program for tweens that takes place every other Friday. For outreach, Olivia attended a language arts night at Bob Hope Elementary where she interacted with families and spoke to them about library services. Lastly, she read two dial-a-story books one in Spanish and one in English.

In December, Children's librarian Olivia Escovedo took part in several programs; she organized the winter outdoor program for Cortez. Three other librarians came to help with the program; putting together five stations that were winter themed. Three families came to enjoy the program. Olivia took part in two Story Time online programs. Both programs were winter themed. The librarians read winter books and sang songs. Olivia took part in the two Gametime Live programs, where the librarians play different games with children online. Also, in December, Olivia and two other librarians started to prepare for Summer Reading. Olivia is a part of the social media group that will create content for Summer Reading.

ENCINO

Children's

On November 4 Children's Librarian Lea Ann McDonald, along with Librarians Shannon Seglin, Karen Braueler, Jackie Gonzalez presented an outdoor Nature Play & Learn. The event was well attended and children and their adults enjoyed the four activities as well as an interactive Story Time with rhymes, songs and rhythm. Lea Ann is mentoring Jackie Gonzalez and this was their first project.

Lea Ann also restarted outreach efforts to local preschools near Encino, visiting Country Kids Academy on November 17 where she performed 2 Story Times to approximately 60 children. In December, Lea Ann performed outreach again to Country Kids Academy on December 15, where she presented two interactive Story Times to two classrooms for 60 children. She then widened her outreach circle to include Lily Pad Farm School on December 17, when she presented two interactive Story Times for two classrooms of 50 children.

December 1st ushered in the Artic Animals Scavenger Hunt and on December 9, Lea Ann created and presented with assistance from Librarians Shannon Seglin and Valerie Carroll, an outdoor Children's program "Animals in Winter." Children and their adults participated in crafts, songs, dancing, Story Time and painting with balloons together.

Teens

Encino Teen Services recommenced in-person programming this month with Katy Dillard, the Teen Liaison, facilitating the program. The Teen Club @Encino began early November and met weekly on Tuesday evenings. Encino Teens skillfully chose and led the crafts and activities at each of the meetings. The crafts chosen included decorating miniature sneaker keychains and Origami. Activities included playing Scrabble and Monopoly, crosswords and word finds, drawing/decorating the Teen dry erase wall, and listening to Anime music. The Teen's meaningful participation and creative expression fostered a sense of ownership to the Encino Teen Space. In December, Encino welcomed new Teen Services Librarian Ivan Martinez. He worked with Teen Liaison Katy Dillard to offer Teen Club on Tuesdays, the Ornament Take-and-Make, "What is It?" Wall Activity and the "Where is Waldo?" Passive Activity.

Adults

Encino hosted two in-person crafting programs in November facilitated by Adult Services Librarian Ann Laird. The first one was "Practical Crafting: Alcohol Ink Breakfast Set" during which patrons got to learn

an alcohol ink technique to uniquely decorate both a bowl and a mug to take home. The second program, "Tulle Turkey Wreaths," instructed patrons to make a colorful wreath that resembled a friendly turkey to decorate their home with for Thanksgiving.

Encino also hosted San Antonio native and author, Gil Dominguez, on November 15. Mr. Dominguez gave a fascinating presentation called "This was San Antonio" that featured many historical buildings and places around the Alamo City.

During the month of December, Encino patrons were able to enjoy both in-person programming and Take-and-Make kits. Adult Services Librarian Ann Laird hosted a series of in-person craft programs titled "Crafts for Gifting," which featured a different craft project each week for three weeks. Patrons had the opportunity to make mini-snow globe necklaces, Mason jar lid ornaments, and snowy lanterns. A stand-alone program teaching patrons how to make giant snowflakes out of paper bags was offered as well. Kist to make Caramel Mocha "Bombs" and a clothespin snowflake ornament rounded out the branch level Take-and-Make kits for December. Encino also wrapped up the popular "Spice is Right" year-long program with a kit featuring star anise.

FOREST HILLS

Community Center

The Gilbert Garza Community Center has seen an increase in patrons visiting the library. People have been coming to see what is offered, as well as pick up their holds and browse the small collection. One child saw that the new copy of Diary of a Wimpy Kid was available and they grabbed the book and sat down on the floor to read. When their parent came to pick them up the child was able to check out the book and staff could explain to the parent what is offered. They hadn't been aware of the offerings, and they have since been back to check out more items. The librarians take note of what gets checked out so that they can request more popular titles. The library distributed snack packs and prize books to the children and teens during the center's Day Camp during the winter holiday.

Children Services

Ms. Menchaca attended outreach at Linton Elementary, Esparaza Elementary and Carson Elementary. She spoke to parents about the benefits offered by the public library for the entire family. She was also able to speak with three kinder classes about what librarians do and how to become one for both school's Career Day. Ms. Menchaca spoke at a Parent's Night for PCI, A Place for Life Day Care. She was able to speak with parents on the importance of developing early literacy skills and how the public library can assist them.

Ms. Menchaca keeps SAPL's weekly online Story Time and baby-time engaging and informative. In celebration of Dia De Los Muertos, Ms. Menchaca read a book and spoke about the history and traditions of the holiday. A special Story Time was held that focused on being Kind and Thankful, which both the children and their grown-ups enjoyed. Ms. Menchaca was very happy to present a curated Story Time in English and Spanish. In English, she wrote a curated Story Time for "Smart Cookie" by Jory John and in Spanish, "No Dejes Que La Paloma conduzca el autobús" by Mo Willems.

Teen Services

Ms. Herman attended an outreach at Holmes High School. She spoke with about 150 teens in the school library and talked about the library, how to volunteer, and how to look for library jobs, as well as databases such as Brainfuse for homework assistance.

Teens on the Discord server can request buttons, magnets and stickers to be sent to their desired location with an image that they share on the platform, which Ms. Herman makes and then sends to their location.

The new YA Teen Express has been popular and teens have been checking out the new books.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Great Northwest Branch Library Children's Librarian Cari Raley sent the Explorers@Home to visit France in November. The Explorers recreated the Eiffel Tower through dot art and Monet's Water Lilies using paper plates, cupcake liners, and paint. They also explored the Stone Soup folktale.

In December, the Explorers went to Norway. They observed the Northern Lights and drew some great pictures of them. The second week, they enjoyed the Norwegian folktale of the Three Billy Goats Gruff. They read the classic tale and then read a few "fractured fairytales" of the Billy Goats. After that, they enacted a fractured version for themselves by trying different materials to make a raft or boat in which the Billy Goats could get across the river without bothering the troll. They also learned about the Norwegian money Kroner, reindeer, and the Fjord Horse. They also cooked up some yummy Norwegian rice porridge to share with their families.

During November, Teen Librarian Chris Castillo facilitated four virtual Teen programs on the 210teenlibrary Discord server. In Create Club, teens shared their progress of creating video games from scratch. They demonstrate original scripting, coding, music, art, programming, user interface, and getting feedback from other teens. Teens shared information on original chamber music and theater performances they're involved with. Teens encourage each other's creative expression throughout the server, not solely exclusive to Create Club.

During December, Teen Librarian Chris Castillo facilitated four Create Club virtual teen programs on the 210teenlibrary Discord server. Teens shared the creation and development of video game programming, their YouTube channels, illustrations, original music, and fiber-based art. Teens continue to develop and share their creative voices through video game, graphic novel, and jewelry mediums.

Teens suggested Discord server improvements including new channels Question of the Day, Nostalgia Blast, Sports, and Programming VC (voice chat). Teens requested free 3d printing, custom buttons, and magnets services, and picked them up from the branch.

Adult Services Librarian created and distributed Thanksgiving gratitude journal and craft Take-and-Make kits for November. Ms. Vazquez also planned and implemented a Paper Holly Wreath craft program on December 7. Participants had the opportunity to visit the library and attend the program in person or pick up a kit to take home. Great Northwest also distributed the Winter Holiday Take-and-Make craft kit in December. 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 assistants Donna Borel and Jenn Tristan created displays and a resource guide to recognize Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. Ms. Tristan created footprints throughout the libraries with statistics and facts about homelessness to bring awareness to the issue. Ms. Borel created a display with items like toiletries, warm clothes, and other items and the message "Don't take these things for granted."



GUERRA

Guerra Branch Library served as a Voting site November 2. Guerra welcomed an internal promotion from Library Aide PT to Circulation Attendant PT for Laura Ocasio on December 18. Staff enjoyed a Thanksgiving celebration lunch provided by Branch Manager Monica Bustillo on Tuesday November 16. For the Winter Holidays, staff collaborated on a potluck meal for Tuesday December 14 which was organized by Teen Librarian/Assistant Manager Bek Corley. As a part of the Library Foundation and Snack Paks for Kids partnership, Guerra participated in the winter Snack Pak



program, distributing food and books to community families, children and teens. The program and staff received much praise and appreciation from Guerra families.

Branch Manager Monica Bustillo continues her participation in the City of San Antonio Toastmasters club weekly on Wednesday at 2 pm and the Southwest Research Institutes Slick Talkers Toastmasters club every other Friday. On November 10, Ms. Bustillo attended the Library Journal and School Library Journal fifth annual LibraryCon Live! Day-long celebration of fandom lit. Ms. Bustillo continues her monthly Athena Readers Book Club which met on November 15 to discuss Emily St. John Mandel's *The Glass Hotel* on November 15 and Stephen King's *11/23/1963* on December 20. On December 9 Ms. Bustillo attended Penguin Random House Winter Book & Author Festival.

Bek Corley joined Guerra's team in November as Teen Librarian and Assistant Manager. She was warmly welcomed and thoroughly impressed by the camaraderie and creativity of all staff, who while without both a Children's and Teen librarian, had been enthusiastically and effectively promoting all ages programming and services, providing Take-and-Makes and creating engaging displays throughout the branch. In December, Ms. Corley began working on refreshing the YA collection and joined the Teen Discord workgroup, thrilled to work with the existing group of dynamic staff leading current and teen-centered programs. While preparing for the re-launch of Guerra's in-person teen programming, Ms. Corley assisted two Discord programs, Bookworms and D&D, and helped facilitate Maverick's in-person Teen Times on 12/21 and 12/28.

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson presented the Library Trivia Game at the Willie Cortez Senior Center on November 18. This month many of the questions dealt with Thanksgiving Day. He also introduced his mother who was a former president of a local chapter of the Descendants of the Mayflower. Following this presentation, Lodie Mueller and Angelina Cortez promoted the Older Adults Device Lending Program which will begin at that senior center on December 14. Later, that same day he moderated the Spanish book club, Club de Lectura. They discussed *La hija de la chuparrosa (The hummingbird's daughter)* by Luiz Alberto Urrea. This is a historical fiction book that brought out the plight of the Yaqui natives in the states of Sonora and Chihuahua when Porfirio Diaz expropriated their lands by force and delves into the lives of those who rebelled. On December 10 he recorded *No puedo dormir (I can't sleep)* by Gracia Iglesias for Dial-a-Story in Spanish. Four days later, he recorded *El Sheriff Otto (Otto the Sheriff)* by Sam G. C. on December 14. That same day he presented a library trivia game at the Willie Cortez Senior Center. This month he emphasized questions on Christmas celebrations and Christmas movies. Two days later, he moderated the Club de Lectura discussion of *La tregua (The truce)* by Uruguayan writer and poet Mario Benedetti. He wrote this book in a diary format covering his personal struggles with retiring, loss of his spouse and engaging his children. One popular saying of his is: "in life you have to avoid three geometric figures – vicious circles, love triangles and square minds."

IGO

Bexar County Joint Amendment, General, Special and Bond Election was held on November 2, 2021 at Igo library. 714 people voted on the voting day and 1195 people voted in the early voting period.

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance continues to co-facilitate Baby and Toddler Time Online – Live with librarians across the system. Ms. Vance also puts the rhymes and songs used each week into a PDF file that is shared with families. At least one family has shared that they use these on the wall to sing to babies during changing times.

Ms. Vance continues to host the Igo Stitchery on Sunday afternoons. Attendees enjoyed showing off their completed projects that they intended to give over the holidays. Over the past year, some members worked on red scarves for the Red Scarf Project with the Foster Care to Success organization. This program collects red scarves that will be included in February gift baskets to young adults attending college who aged out of the foster care system. Five scarves were donated this year. The group also made a donation of 4 handcrafted blankets to the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. This organization helps the Lakota families in the area who, according to the organization, experience some of the deepest poverty in the nation and have a life expectancy of 47-50 years.

Mrs Irene Scharf arranged the newsletter for Elderberries in the month of December which focused on "The Best of 2021" featuring Best Books lists, Best Movies, Nobel Prizes, and Holiday Lights capes in San Antonio. This newsletter was emailed to 150 Elderberries email subscribers. Mrs Scharf also attended a program called "Austin UP", a virtual program on Senior Services on the 7th of December 7, 2021.

Adult services librarian, Gamini Haluwana and the circulation attendant Erik Lumpkin Joined Twitch with JD Alizondo and Lorin Flores for the first episode of the SAPL Variety Show. Gamini and Erick sang a Christmas song for this online variety show. The show is available to view on SAPL YouTube channel.

The Igo Library Afternoon Book Club regrouped for the first time back at the Igo Library on December 14th for their annual holiday gathering. Merriment was had as each member recited one of their favorite poems and refreshments were enjoyed by all. The group also made their book selections for 2022 with an emphasis to discuss the author as a creative (a fun twist) as well as the books. The book group is holding strong at a steady twelve members and Library Assistant Cara Sifuentes is the staff contact.

JOHNSTON

More than 320 voters cast their ballot at Johnston on Election Day, November 2. Johnston Branch welcomed a new Teen Librarian, Cassie Garza, on November 20. Ms. Garza came from Pan American, where she served as a Library Assistant. Edgar Velazquez Reynald joined Johnston as a Part-Time Library Assistant on Saturday, December 18. Mr. Reynald comes to Johnston from Cody Branch's team where he served as a Library Aide.

Branch Manager Cristine Mitchamore organized Johnston's "Wall of Warmth" for the second year. Beginning in November 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 Bubbles at the Playground, an outdoor program at the Sun Valley Playground next to Johnston. This family-friendly program promoted gross motor-skills, and social interaction, as well as singing, reading, dancing and playing. Miss Tiffany continued her work as the co-lead of the Tiny Tot Work Group, member of the Take-and-Make Workshop and the Summer Reading Programming Group. Miss Tiffany hosted and presented at Toddler Time Online on Wednesdays, recorded stories for Dial-a-Story, and presented online at Baby Time, Read to a Dog, Art Club, Lego Club and Game Time. The system-wide and supplement Take-and-Make Kits continued to be a wonderful resource to the community. One of the December supplemental kits contained a star banner, small pot of paint and a paper bag. The instructions encouraged the child to paint the banner on top of the paper bag in order to create a gift and gift bag that could be given to a loved one. On Saturday, December 18th the Little Read Wagon (LRW) hosted a Play Workshop at Johnston, the program was originally scheduled for

the playground but due to rain LRW and Miss Tiffany moved the program inside. Families were able to interact with one another and the children explored light and prisms using light boards, magnatiles and colored acrylic pegs.

Training Officer, Marcella McGowan, continued accepting drop-in appointments for the LEARN center. The Learn center hosted several table programs, including a representative from University Health with a table for information on COVID 19 vaccine on November 9th. On November 29 and 30 representatives from Health Collaborative set up a table for patrons to inquire about 2022 enrollment for Medicaid and CHIP programs. Ms. McGowan assisted with the Older Adults iPad Device program at Cortez Senior Center. Ms. McGowan completed her participation in the Innovation Academy with focus on User Centered Design and Data Analytics and, on December 17, presented her final project for the Innovation Academy to members of library and city administration.

Teen Librarian Cassie Garza co-hosted almost every the Gaming Club on the teen services Discord server Saturday afternoons in both November and December. Teens from all over San Antonio log on virtually to discuss gaming, stream their favorite games and play games as a group. Recently the group has been sharing their own gaming trivia and challenging other members on their gaming knowledge. Ms. Garza has leading the SAPL Esports committee planning for Mario Day 2022. The event will once again be an all-virtual event and will include a cosplay element to the activities planned for the day as well as a virtual trivia that fans of the Super Mario series would enjoy. Ms. Garza has also maintained contact with local school librarians. Leal Middle School librarian Regina Aguilar has agreed to post all SAPL teen digital flyers and SAPL service information on the school's weekly blog. Ms. Garza has been visiting Leal MS once a month to promote teen programming and host virtual reality gaming and gaming on the Nintendo Switch for students.

LANDA

Landa had a series of staffing changes in November and December. Children's Librarian Melissa Fulmer joined the Landa team. Her home location will be Central Children's. She will be training with the Landa Team until Central renovations are complete. Circulation Attendant Melissa Carroll accepted a well-earned promotion to Teen Librarian I. She moved to the Tobin Branch Library. Teen Librarian Marisa DeBow joined the Landa team for a temporary move. Marisa's home location is McCreless Branch Library. Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta retired after 13 years with SAPL. The Landa team has been extremely supportive during all the changes.

Children's Librarian Robin Alcorta participated as host and led programs together with Children's Librarian colleagues in Read to a Dog, Lego Club, Game Time, Story Time, and Among Us.

Children's Librarian Robin Alcorta led Art Club along with Children's Librarians Jasmin Salinas, Tiffany Durham, and Melissa Fulmer, by incorporating the system wide Take-and-Make crafts "torn Paper art" and "Tea bag Art." The kids had a blast exploring these mediums!

Librarians Alcorta and Salinas started an outdoor Story Time during the month of December. Children listened to stories, did exercises, and had bubble dance parties during this time. The groups were relatively small, but very energetic and engaged. The program was promoted in-house, and shared with the Landa stakeholder groups.

Librarians Cresencia Huff, Kristin Yourdan, and Robin Alcorta presented at an online conference called "Learning and Libraries" about SAPL library resources.

Landa's three adult book clubs continued to thrive!

With the upcoming (and eventual) retirement of Adult Librarian Karen Sebesta, the Village at Incarnate Word book club was shared with the San Pedro Branch Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler. Librarian Braeuler visited the Village in November and December with Librarian Sebesta. In January, Librarian Braeuler would take over the outreach book club. The selections for the book club that meets at The Village at the Incarnate Word were *The Tale Teller* by (the always popular) Anne Hillerman and *Mistletoe Murder* by P.D. James.

Reader's Ink Book Club *How the Word is Passed* by Clint Smith and *Deck the Hounds* by David Rosenfelt. *How the Word is Passed* was an interesting story about how the story of slavery is shared in different parts of the country. Clint Smith visited a wide range of historical sites to talk with the local communities. Perhaps one of the most interesting and heart-wrenching locations he visited was Angola Prison.

The Mystery Book Club read *Squeeze Me* by Carl Hiassen and *19th Christmas* by James Patterson.

Branch Manager Kiyanna Stephens worked diligently to maximize space within the Branch. She spent time in the collection, shifting and weeding, in order to create Landa's first Teen Space!

LAS PALMAS

Children's Librarian Valerie Shelley continues to offer Read to a Dog and Toddler Time online programs to children.

The Las Palmas Branch hosted a Thanksgiving program where staff prepared crafts and treats for the attendees. December brought a Children Around the World and Santas Around the World program for children and their families to enjoy traditions from other places. Santa Claus made an appearance, and crafts and goodies were available for the participants.

The Las Palmas Branch Library served as a voting site for the November 2, 2021 Joint Constitutional Amendment, General, Special, and Bond Election.

November 3rd and 4th, Las Palmas staff members Lily Pérez & Elvia Ramos participated in a two-day train-the-trainer digital session. Instruction was delivered virtually by the staff at the San Antonio Museum of Science and Technology (SAMSAT), using the curriculum provided by NorthStar Digital Literacy, whose mission is to share the power of learning through education, community building, and advocacy. Staff intends to use this training to offer a Digital Literacy Certificate to participants who pass a proctored assessment on the following subjects: Basic Computer Skills | Internet Basics | Using Email | Microsoft Word.

On November 24, 2021, Las Palmas staff member Lily Pérez set up a table for the non-profit organization called, "ChildSafe" a children's advocacy center to provide resources, and answer questions from the community. ChildSafe is scheduled to return every 4th Wednesday of the month.

Teen Librarian Connie Hejl collaborated with Oscar and Vicky Villalobos on Speak Geeks in November and December. She also continued her work with the Discord workgroup and sub-workgroup, Pop Madness, and San Japan. Connie has also updated the Speak Geek LibGuide to add a page on What's Poppin', a library YouTube series on movies and books.

MAVERICK

Maverick Library hosted the Bexar County Election Department for Election Day on November 2. While Ms. Amy Roberts opened the branch for Election Day, Jef Martin closed the branch. The Chess Club and Mah Jongg group continued meeting in November and December. Maverick provided Winter Holiday - Clothespin/Snowman Take-and-Make Kits for adults. Within a few days, all of the Winter kits were claimed.

Children's Librarian II, Amy Roberts, spent quite a bit of the reporting period weeding the grubby items out of the children's collection. This included Juvenile Fiction, Juvenile Graphic Novels, and Juvenile Non-Fiction starting in the drawing area and finishing in Esports area.

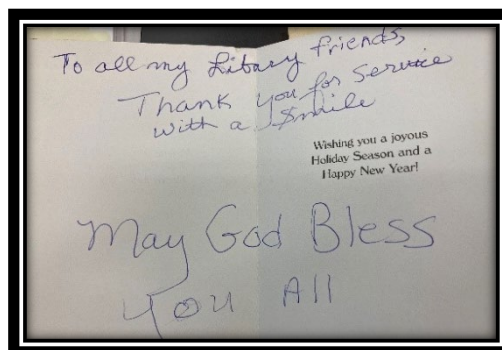
Ms. Roberts also did work for her children's services committees. She went to publisher's websites and found out that many had extended their permissions to March 2022 or June 2022 for recorded readings to remain up on YouTube. This pertains to several of the SAPL recorded children's librarian's videos on YouTube and can help determine which books/publishers they can share with children online. Ms. Roberts completed 3 curated Story Times for the Tiny Tots Committee; Turkey Trouble by Silvano on November 1 and Turkey Tots by George Shannon on November 15 and The First Day of Winter by Denise Fleming on December 13. She also read Turkey Trouble for Dial-A-Story on November 23.

The children's librarian had many other duties during the reporting period. She wrote and presented annual evaluations (EPE's) for 2 PT Circulation Attendants and 1 PT Library Assistant in November. Ms. Roberts assembled 75 Take-and-Make kits for kids in November and created and assembled 45 Take-and-Make kits for kids in December. She thanks the Maverick staff for helping distribute all the crafts! Ms. Roberts received the 2022 Book Lists from both the Lady Mav's Monday Book Group and the Ladies' Choice Book Group and ordered their January selections. She attended Children's Librarian Meetings on November 10 and December 8. Ms. Roberts completed Security Awareness Training on November 21 and December 6. She also completed Ethics Training on December 9. Finally, on December 20, Ms. Roberts represented Maverick Branch at District 7 Councilwoman, Ana Sandoval's Christmas tree decorating event at Nani Falcone Park across the street from Maverick. Ms. Sandoval's event then moved to the Maverick Library with Santa, a mariachi band and tamales and pastries for all.

In November Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl, assisted by Library Aide Taylur Loera, facilitated Teen Time on Tuesday evenings. Teens selected a diverse array of activities from a list of options each week, planning for the following week. They competed at Table Tennis, Mario Smash Brothers and Jenga; they created buttons, Perler bead designs, a Jenga castle and acrylic paintings. The group expressed interest in making Dalgona, a Korean candy featured in the Squid Games Netflix series, and tested a recipe for it, with some degree of success. They concluded that they needed more dedication to the stirring and concentration keeping the pan on the heat source.

With the addition of new Teen volunteers, the Teen Library Leadership Council (TLLC) is taking on new dimension. The group met on November 27th to plan all of the December activities knowing that Bleichwehl would be on vacation for two weeks. Teens planned and executed one holiday craft and scheduled cooperative, large group games, and watched a holiday movie. Teen Librarian Bek Corley graciously volunteered to facilitate for the two weeks while Bleichwehl was on vacation and was assisted by Library Aide Taylur Loera.

McCRELESS



During November and December, McCreless patrons have continued to come to the Southside Lions Community Center to pick up their holds and check out some of the newest and popular items from our Express Collection. The soccer and dance displays are still popular among children who come to attend classes.

In addition to our regular displays, circulation attendant Krys Hernandez created a Winter display with books and movies celebrating the holidays. She made a lot of snowflakes in blue and white paper. Some of the snowflakes were also used to decorate the Christmas tree at the Community Center. Families have been enjoying checking out Christmas movies and books to spend the holidays with their loved ones.

Krys Hernandez and Assistant Manager Cristiane Yamada Lokensgard also collaborated with Southside Lions Community Center redecorating their community boards to reflect the new year approach.

McCreless Training Officer Lodie Mueller continues floating to all four existing LEARN Centers, providing coverage and assistance as needed. In December, she participated in an iPad distribution event at Cortez Senior Center as part of SAPL's Older Adults Device Lending Project. She also participated in a Digital Literacy Training and outreach event at the San Antonio Food Bank, assisting in the class for Spanish-only Food Bank patrons. The Food Bank is partnering with SAPL, Google Fiber, and Feeding Texas to facilitate digital literacy among Food Bank patrons. This was the first of several ongoing events, which remain to be scheduled.

We also received a heartwarming Christmas card from one of our regular patrons

MEMORIAL

On December 8th the branch celebrated 40 years of providing library and information services to the community. SAPL Marketing specialist Regina Perez coordinated activities with adult services librarian Freddy Hudson and branch manager Maria Gonzales by conducting research on the history of the branch. The research was compiled to produce historic life size panels depicting various events the community participated in during the 40 years of existence. These colorful panels were placed on sturdy stakes around the grassy grounds of the branch. Colorful helium filled balloons and creative Take-and-Makes were distributed to community members as they stopped by to view the panels or pick up their curbside requests. Friends officers of the branch attended the viewing of the panels and were very pleased with the results.

Adult Services librarian Freddy Hudson and Library assistant Rene Leija completed a movies cookbook for their adult services workgroup. This cookbook has recipes inspired by popular and classic films. The cookbook is posted on two LibGuides: Cooking and Speak Geek. It was also featured on SAPL Facebook and the *What's Poppin'* YouTube series.

On December 14, Mr. Hudson assisted at an iPad lending program in the Cortez Senior Center. This is a new SAPL initiative that loans iPads to patrons 60 and older. This initiative is to offer digital inclusion to all community members and to assist them in learning how to manipulate the devices. Mr. Hudson checked in the patrons, while other library staff distributed the iPads or conducted a brief orientation

Children's Librarian Christine Deffendall contributed to the Children's Services Blog on December 7 with a review of *Abner & Ian Get Right-Side Up*, by Dave Eggers.

MISSION

The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library annual *Arts & Letters Awards* was held at Mission Library on Saturday, November 6th. The awards are to recognize and celebrate achievement by individuals who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in the arts and letters. The awards this year went to Margaret Mitchell, Octavio Quintanilla, and Sabine Senft.

On Wednesday, December 15th from 10:00 - 6:00 PM, the Neighborhood & Housing Services Department held an event for the pre-selected public to bring in documentation to complete housing applications.

Amanda Flores, Library Assistant and Cindy Cruz, Teen Services Librarian, helped facilitate a Basic Computer Class at the San Antonio Food Bank on December 16th. Ms. Flores and Ms. Cruz (as part of the Digital Inclusion work group) assisted adult members of the community in learning the basics of navigating websites and learning basic computer skills.

Mission Library hosted 10 programs for teens during November and December. Teen Club (a crafting and gaming program) and KPop Club hosted a total of 78 teens during this time. Teen Services Librarian Cindy Cruz, visited with students and teachers at CAST Med High School in December. Cindy presented information on resources and tutoring available through the library's website. She also brought library cards and brochures to the campus. It was estimated that 200 students and teachers took part in the virtual part of the presentation.

Snack Pak for Kids and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation sent Mission Library 40 Snack Paks to share with children and teens in the community. Library and Parks and Recreation locations with a neighborhood equity score of 6 or higher received these Snack Paks. Additionally, donated books were also sent to be offered to the youth as well.

In observation of Native American Month, Mission Library hosted well-known speaker, Mickey Killian. On Saturday, November 20th, Mr. Killian hosted a presentation, *Native Americans of the Missions and the San Antonio Area*.

On December 9th, a senior at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, arranged with library staff to come to Mission Library to interview staff for a series she is producing about stimulating reading in our community and how COVID-19 has impacted public libraries.

The last Farmer's & Artisan Markets event of the year was on Saturday, November 20th. Library Aide (PT) Perla Campos, represented Mission Branch Library at the event with a table set up to inform the public about library services.

The *Movies at Mission* movie-screening program hosted by Library Assistant (PT), Jessica Viera, kicked off this month with *The Last of the Mohicans* on Thursday, November 18th.

Take-and-Make kits continue to be provided for all age groups of the community by Mission Library's staff, in particular Megan Feeley, Circulation Attendant who made Children's Mitten Take-and-Makes for December and who also regularly makes Teen KPop Take-and-Makes and Adult Journaling Take-and-Make kits throughout the year. Library Assistant (PT) Mari Castellano made a 3D Snowflake Take-and-Make, and Adult Services Librarian, Kassandra Vela-Laosa made a Gift Bow Origami Take-and-Make kit as well.

PAN AMERICAN

Children's – In November, the Pan American Branch Library distributed 150 Take-and-Make craft kits for children. Kits were pre-assembled by staff with images, instructions, and materials so children could create their very own project in-house and/or at home. The branch also held a children's scavenger hunt where children could search for images throughout the library and earn a prize.

Children's Librarian Jacqueline Gonzales did an outreach at La Petite Academy, where she held a Story Time and read to 34 children and 7 adults. Thirty-five Take-and-Make kits were created and distributed, and several books were read. Mrs. Gonzales also helped facilitate two Game Time Live programs that are offered for children online. This is a systemwide program where Children's Librarians from across the city host the program online for children to log on and participate in fun and cheerful games.

For the month of December, the branch handed out 100 Take-and-Make kits for children. Branch patrons absolutely love these kits and look forward to future Take-and-Make kits that Children's Librarian Jacqueline Gonzales creates. Mrs. Gonzales did an outreach, where she held a Story Time and read for children and adults. She read several books and gave out 30 paper plate holiday wreath Take-and-Make kits. She continues to help facilitate the Game Time Live programs that are offered for children online. She also created a new scavenger hunt for children to participate in.

Throughout the month of December, the Pan American Branch Library provided 40 Snack Pak for Kids. These were generously donated to us along with books from Snack Pack for Kids and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation.

Teens - During November, Teen Liaison Linda Rodriguez created engaging activities for teens to participate in during Teen Time. Each Teen Time had a different activity for teens to participate in, such as making Origami holiday decorations. In December, Ms. Rodriguez organized an assortment of activities and crafts for branch teens. Teens worked on making acrylic glass art, which turned into a continuous weekly craft. The teens really enjoyed participating in this craft.

Adults – During the month of November and December, Library Assistant Stephanie Perez held her bi-monthly Virtual Sketchbook & Journaling Program. The focus for this program is for participants to explore, to encourage, and to showcase their creativity.

In November, as part of Native American Heritage Month, the branch hosted a presentation by Mr. Mickey Killian, entitled "Native Americans of the Missions and the San Antonio Area". The presentation was very informative and well received by attendees.

In November, Adult Services Librarian Adrian Leal organized several branch specific Take-and-Makes. The branch distributed around 40 Take-and-Make kits for Adults. Mr. Leal also assisted in facilitating 3 virtual gaming programs in November and December. One of the virtual programs, Spyfall, had participants from Pennsylvania and Colorado. These participants got a sample of what the San Antonio Public Library has to offer, without having to be in San Antonio. They were very appreciative of our virtual program being open to them. In December, Mr. Leal also offered a new adult program, Puzzle Time. Patrons who participated were able to put their puzzle together while listening to some music and/or chatting with other participants. Puzzles were provided and participants were able to simply relax, while doing their very own puzzle. Mr. Leal also organized a couple of holiday themed Take-and-Makes for Adult Patrons.

PARMAN

General election day this past November was an exciting one at the Parman Library. The branch was the second most visited site in the city. The parking was full and everyone seemed to be in good spirits. Staff directed patrons to the voting room as needed, answering questions as best they could and telling them where to find resources. In fact, voting judges were so grateful for their help they gifted the staff with cookies from the Texas Cookie Co. Staff were overjoyed at the gigantic homemade cookies and so thankful to the judges for their continued kindness.

The annual Friends of the Parman Library book sale took place in November this year and it was met with great success. This is the first book sale the Friends have had since COVID restrictions were lifted and many were unsure if anyone would want to come out to shop the book sale. It was quickly apparent that there was no need to worry on the first day when people began lining up, waiting to shop. Friends President Leslie Burns commented that the book sale was rousing success and one of the best sales they have ever held.

The Friends of the Parman Library celebrated all the hard work staff had done throughout the year with a grand holiday party. The Friends decorated the breakroom, provided lunch and made all kinds of sweets from cookies to pie. Each staff member received a personalized thank you note with a goodie bag. When staff entered the break room for their holiday surprise there were smiles and joy all around. Staff were so appreciative there was talk of what the Friends had planned for next year.

The holiday spirit was alive and well this year at the Parman Library. Staff decorated the library with trees, stockings, tinsel, dreidels, and even created a mock fireplace out of the self-checkout stations. It was a pure delight to see and patrons commented how festive the library looked this year. The decorations did not stop when you walked out of the library either. Outside there were inflatables and of course the trail was all lit up for Winter Walk.

Nia Meissler and Vickie Pena - two PT employees at Parman celebrated their work anniversary and were presented by the Parman manager with flowers, chocolates and wishes of many more happy years with SAPL.



Manager Barbara Kwiatkowski created and maintains the partnership with other city departments and local community organizations, and all in-person partnership adult programs have continued in the reporting period: yoga, cardio work-out, woodworking and knitting. All 4 programs had been popular before the pandemic shutdown and although the numbers have decreased slightly due to concern over the new variants, the fact that the programs continue to maintain reasonable turnouts demonstrates the genuine sense of loyalty that the community feels towards these programs.



Manager Barbara Kwiatkowski worked with the local artist, Margie Finer which resulted with a new art displayed in the Parman gallery. Many members of the community came to the reception to celebrate Margi, and her talent. They've learned about her inspiration and fascination with "Cowboys." All guests were in for a treat, when a member of the South Texas Buffalo Soldiers Association, depicted in one of Margie's paintings stopped by, shared his story and posed for the pictures.

During the month of November, Monty Holcomb, adult librarian, served on the Adult Services Native American Heritage Month committee and created an online Native American Book Review of the novel, House Made of Dawn, which was linked to this site and featured on SAPL's YouTube channel.



Parman Library welcomed their new Teen Librarian, Gladys Nunez, Gladys comes from Bibliotech and is excited about working with her new teens at Parman.

Children's librarian Teague Shosh, invited all children visiting Parman library to celebrate Dinovember with a special children's display of books about dinosaurs and a scavenger hunt with a special message, "Be a Read-a-saurus." The children solved the puzzle using a map of the children's area (created by Children's Librarian Lisa Taylor) as a way to find the letters hidden among the bookshelves. Those that finished were able to turn in their name for a chance to win a free book donated by the Friends' of Parman Library.

Over 270 children enjoyed the scavenger hunt prepared by children's librarian Lisa Taylor. Other passive programming options included the November StoryWalk® featuring the annual favorite Porcupine's Pie by Laura Renauld, the SAPL Take-and-Make offering (100), and Parman's 75 Maker Challenge Take-and-Makes. The third-grade classes from Wilderness Oak Elementary School came for a library visit. The students enjoyed the scavenger hunt and then checked out books.

In December Lisa Taylor, children's librarian planned and oversaw several different types of children's service for the Parman community: including scavenger hunts, Take-and-Makes, and a Gingerbread Ugly Sweater contest, as well as an in person outdoor Story Time. All programs were received by patrons with smiles and appreciation.

Lisa continued to help with SAPL GAME TIME LIVE on Zoom for early elementary children. She also helped out with Toddler Time Online, reading Eric Carle's classic From Head to Toe. Both children and parents got into it by acting out each page. Helping with SAPL-wide programming, Lisa continued as Co-Lead for the Children's Services Editing Work Group.

Teague helped host SAPL's Lego Club Online. Kids loved participating in building challenges and sharing their creations with the group. Teague also created a giant hot cocoa mug for a cozy winter display highlighting cold weather and upcoming holidays. She also created an outline of activities for the return of in-person school-age programming.

POTRANCO

In November, Potranco Branch Library celebrated its 5th Anniversary. Along with some virtual options, patrons were invited to enjoy popcorn and snacks provided by SAPL Marketing department. The branch had a selfie station and Take-and-Make kits.

As a part of the anniversary celebration, Potranco Branch hosted their annual Pooch Parade. Over 40 patrons were in attendance to watch about a dozen dogs parade around in their best costumes. The winners received a prize package provided by the Potranco Friends of the Library.

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.

Adult services Monica Huerta continues to host Meditation Minis, every Tuesday at 12:05pm. These 15-minute meditation sessions are perfect for the patron on the go. The program starts with breathing exercises and ends with a guided meditation.



Thursday Threads was hosted on the first and third Thursday of November by Monica Huerta. The patrons celebrated the autumn by embroidering a fall design. Thursday Threads took a break in programming for December but is set to return this coming year.

Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book club meets the second Tuesday of the Month. The November and December groups led lively discussions about *The Shadow of What was Lost* by James Islington. The book covered both the November and December meetings, due to the length of the novel.

Ms. Huerta set up a community ofrenda for Dia de los Muertos. Patrons and staff were encouraged to share pictures of their loved ones. The ofrenda was up from Mid-October to just after Dia de los Muertos.

The Potranco Book Club and the Café con Libros are meeting regularly and well attended. The groups appreciate the variety of book clubs offered at Potranco. Charice, a regular Potranco Book Club member, left a note, "Thank you so much! Reading the books, you chose has been my life line and sanity. ♡"



PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS



Pruitt's Children's Services celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday in November and December's winter holidays with displays and children's and toddler's Take-and-Make craft kits created by the branch's librarian and library assistant. The Page-Turners Book Club met virtually in November and discussed the selection *Dead Voices* by Katherine Arden, which was picked by a dedicated book club member. School age patrons participated in several passive programs in the Kids' Zone, giving them the chance to connect with the collection and participate safely in library programming. Children and their parents completed a Turkey Scavenger Hunt in November and a Cozy Critter Scavenger Hunt in December. A combined total of 161 patrons participated. Patrons were also offered a variety of season themed come and go crafts.

Teen Services experienced Fall fun and festivities including an unforgettable individually wrapped feast in the spirit of Charlie Brown and the Peanuts during November 2021.



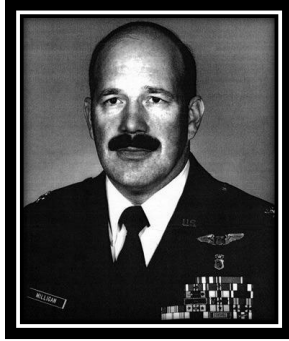
During December, Pruitt Teen Services participated in Code.org's annual Hour of Code, where young people are given an opportunity to create simple code, so they see the relevance of coding skills in today's world.

Teens had fun at a Teen Ornament Making Party. Teen Services also started a new program, Music Mondays Live, where participants discuss, explore, and create music from multiple sources and genres.



Adult Services continued the TGIF Book Club with Another Brooklyn and The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency, and the Saturday Book Club selection of Heart Berries. Special Needs Adult Programming (SNAP) met and read Sophie's Squash, The Story of Inkdrop, Snowflake/ The Story of Snowflake and Inkdrop, and created a turkey craft and a snowflake craft. Adult Virtual Coloring on Fridays continued, co-hosted between Adult Services Librarian Paula Opiela and Potranco staff member Lisa Leandro. Librarian Paula also contributed a Beaded Charm Suncatcher adult craft video to the mysapl YouTube channel for the Adult Crafting workgroup.





Pruitt Branch hosted Coffee with the Colonel featuring Col. Joseph Milligan, who spoke about his experiences as a pilot and as a POW for almost six years during the Vietnam war. Mrs. Molly Pruitt also came to the presentation and visited with staff and patrons, presenting the branch with a generous check towards library programming.



The branch also continued participation in the Wall of Warmth program along with Central, Johnston, and Potranco. At the end of December, Pruitt had 51 items donated, and 29 taken. The program is planned to continue through the end of February.

SAN PEDRO

Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler participated in systemwide programming by presenting in 6 live Toddler Times and 2 Dial a Stories. She collaborated with the United Way Read to Succeed program by presenting a book and comprehension discussion to 2nd grade classes for 2 half hour sessions for a total of 46 children. Ms. Braeuler wrote curated Toddler Time for the children's book, Polar Bear's Underwear. This is posted to the SAPL public LibGuide for parents to use with their children.

Staff made original Take-and-Make packets "Winter Landscape Process Art" for children.

The branch distributed 30 Snack Paks from the SA Public Library Foundation and Snack Pak for Kids organization during the winter holiday weeks, and let children have their choice of a free book from donations from Children's Services.

Branch staff assisted with the Market Square December weekend program "Gran Tamalada," by helping staff a SAPL table. Over 100 people stopped by each day.

New section markers placed in the Children's area help direct kids to high interest areas such as: Dinosaurs, Pets, Fairy Tales and more.

Karen Braeuler and Nathaniel Laubner continued to work on the internal "Libraries and Homelessness" staff committee. This month's activities included presenting to the LLT, and preparing reference and training materials for staff to use in the coming year.

SCHAEFER

During November and December, Schaefer's Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser continued presenting a variety of children's programs on Zoom. She participated in Story Time, LEGO Club, Read to a Dog, Game Time and the Adventurers Book Club. She presents these programs with small teams of other children's librarians regularly. She is also a member of the COSA Toastmasters group, which meets weekly. Leslie is also the co-lead of the Summer committee that is working hard on planning for the upcoming 2022 summer. She leads two small workgroups that are a part of the summer committee – Programs and Booklists. For the winter months at Schaefer, children are invited to decorate a paper mitten or another winter-themed item with crayons to hang on the winter display in the children's area.

Library Assistant BlancaSilvia Hernandez published a Spotify playlist of LPs Coming Soon to the branch with a complementary BiblioCommons list in November and a Winter Holiday themed Spotify Playlist with a complementary BiblioCommons list in December for Schaefer's I ♥ Vinyl (Digital Edition) monthly program.

She created a World Kindness Day display that highlighted SAPL's materials and included coloring pages and bookmarks. It featured Schaefer's "Be Kind to Yourself" Take-and-Make, where patrons received a mug, individually wrapped tea bags, bookmarks to color and a fidget ring. Patrons expressed surprised delight and appreciation for these Take-and-Makes.

In November, she hosted the monthly Schaefer Virtual Craft program; where patrons painted and assembled a Mini Terracotta Planter Mobile. They each created a uniquely themed mobile. One patron made three separate Christmas ornaments out of the Mini Terracotta planters. A patron commented "Thanks again for giving us such a positive outlet during this stressful pandemic." Photos of their completed mobiles are attached.

For the month of November and December, Dacari Lambert, Teen Service Librarian at Schaefer Branch Library assisted in hosting Create Club on the Teen Services discord channel. Additionally, Dacari helped support branch level initiatives to engage the community and support material circulation.





SEMMES

Ms. Valerie continued to co-host the Tweens Play Among Us program on November 5, November 19, December 3, and December 17. Ms. Valerie has also been involved with in-person children's programming again. On December 9, she participated in the Winter Animals outdoor program at Encino where she presented a rhyme and led the group in moving like different winter animals. On December 27, Ms. Valerie hosted a field trip at Semmes with an outdoor Story Time on the patio. Teen Time started again on November 9 and is held on Tuesdays from 5-6. Ms. Valerie has continued to see interaction with the Teen Q&A box as she regularly changes the prompts for it – the “outer space or under the sea?” poll received 8 responses within 2 weeks; “share a positive message or something your thankful for” received 11 interactions within 3 weeks; and the question “what is your favorite thing about winter” has seen 12 interaction in 3 weeks. Ms. Valerie continued to create craft kits for children and teens at Semmes, with 58 teen craft kits (including gratitude jars and design your own comic kits) and 292 children's craft kits (including a latke flipping game, a craft stick tower challenge, design your own comic kits, and New Year's Eve glasses) distributed.

November and December were both busy months for Ms. Randi with her continued participation in online children's programming and recordings for the Dial-A-Story telephone line.

She provided tech support for Read to A Dog on November 2 and November 16. She hosted Toddler Time Online Live on November 3 and November 24. She hosted Story Time Online Live on November 18. She presented songs and rhymes for a special online Story Time titled, "Say Thank You" on November 9. She provided a curated toddler time program for Red House Tree House Little Bitty Brown Mouse by Jane Godwin which premiered on mysapl.org on November 29. She provided a curated Story Time program for All Right Already! A Snowy Story by Jory John which premiered on mysapl.org on November 30. She did recordings for the Dial-A-Story line on November 9 for Chufki Rabbit's Big, Bad Bellyache: A Trickster Tale by Greg Rodgers and on November 19 for Jerry Pinkney's version of Puss in Boots. On November 26 and November 30, she recorded "What Herschel's Father Did" and "Potatoes!", two stories from The Adventures of Hershel of Ostropol, retold by Eric A. Kimmel.

In December, she provided tech support for Read to a Dog on December 14. She hosted Toddler Time Online Live on December 1. She presented opening songs for that program on December 15 and presented a story and songs on December 29. She hosted Story Time Online Live on December 9 and December 30. She read one of the stories and lead the children in some songs for that program on December 16 (Z is for Moose by Kelly Bingham, "Fred the Moose") and on December 23 (The Little Tree that Would Not Share by Nicoletta Costa, "The Giving Tree" by Charlotte Diamond). She recorded several stories for the Dial-A-Story line this month—on December 10, "The Miracle" from The Adventures of Hershel of Ostropol, retold by Eric A. Kimmel; on December 21 and 28, "The Sweetest Song" and "The Blue Coat" both from The Story Tree by Hugh Lupton and Sophie Fatus and on December 28, Crow Boy by Taro Yashima.

THOUSAND OAKS

Assistant Branch Manager Brooke Mjolsness was co-host and chat moderator for the popular self-care program Ayurveda on November 10, and December 8. The main host Maggie Grueskin led the Ayurveda presentation. Ms. Mjolsness co-hosted a virtual Beginner's Chair Yoga program on November 12 and 19; and December 10 and 17.

Ms. Mjolsness served as chat moderator for the Noon Time Helping of Cooking program on November 18; and December 2 and 9. The program series covers various recipes and kitchen topics. The Film Noir Club program was held on November 18, and December 9. This monthly discussion group watches a predetermined film noir movie and encourages a lively talk with engaging questions provided by the host. Ms. Mjolsness served as co-host and chat moderator.

On December 3, Ms. Mjolsness was the Master of Ceremonies for the Staff Trivia program. She served as Master of Ceremonies for a SAPL Live Trivia program on December 10. Ms. Mjolsness facilitated a movie program on December 18. The audience watched *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*. Refreshments were provided by the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library. She held an outreach book group at the Northeast Senior Center on December 22. Participants discussed *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah.



Children’s Librarian Cheryl Penick joined the Thousand Oaks team in October 2021. During November and December, she completed all required training sessions, and attended the monthly meetings for Children’s Services. Ms. Penick met with Coordinator of Children’s Services Cresencia Huff and a small group of children’s librarians to explore the possibility of joining Family Place Libraries, a nationwide program that uses specially designed spaces with interactive materials for very young children and their parents.

Ms. Penick assembled 110 Take-and-Make craft kits for distribution to patrons – 50 Torn Art kits, and 60 Snowman activity kits. With assistance from Circulation Attendant Rosa Villa, she created two bulletin board displays themed for fall and winter to encourage cozy reading, and adventure. She assembled themed book bundles for children.

Librarian Kimberly King attended the Change Management, Pop Madness, Pop Culture, and Teen Services meetings. She created a “Fall into A Good Book” book display, and an interactive activity which encouraged teens to vote for their favorite Thanksgiving side dish. Ms. King held Teen Time programs on November 4 and 18. She facilitated an outreach book group at the Northeast Senior Center on November 24. The book group participants discussed *Educated* by Tara Westover.

Library Assistant Edward Mayberry attended an Esports meeting on November 1. On November 12, his Heroes Donate podcast was published. The podcast featured guest speakers Mario Cano (transplant recipient), and Jennifer Milton (Clinical Assistant Professor and the Chief Administrative Officer at the University Health Transplant Institute and the University of Texas Health San Antonio). Mr. Mayberry held Teen Time programs on December 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. On December 10, his podcast Racial (In)Justice - An Introductory Discussion was published.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

After very low turnout during Early Voting in October, Election Day on November 2 had 669 voters which produced some lengthy lines and wait times.

Barbaraella Frazier, Children’s Librarian, attended Northwood’s Elementary Literacy Night on November 4 to share library resources. In addition, Ms. Frazier and Circulation Attendant, Lilliana Aguilar, ventured to Regency Place Elementary “Knight” on November 30 to conduct a similar outreach event. Combined these two events had 269 parents and kids attend.

The branch was one of eight branches partnering with the City of San Antonio's Department of Human Services for Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (November 13-21). A special display included posters, flyers, books and media on homelessness along with San Antonio's Community Resource Directory (SACRED) bookmarks. Manager, Tracey Knouse, serves on the library's Committee on Homelessness and continues to offer resources from this group like Mini-Zines created by committee members, Brianna Glass and Heather Ferguson.

Teen Librarian, Marisa Debow surveyed teens for activity suggestions and preferred dates and times for programs. Based on that feedback, Ms. Debow held Teen Time in person on November 29 with innovative button making and an Oculus Quest, an on-line gaming headset. November's Teen Create Kits of glitter slime were snatched up quickly just like the hundreds of children's Take-and-Make craft each month.

The branch welcomed promoted employee, Melissa Carroll, as new Teen Librarian on December 4. Sadly Ms. Debow was deployed to Landa at the same time. Tobin's team will miss her high energy and innovative ideas. Library Assistant, Andrew Charlton Jones, hosted the first in person Dungeon and Dragon program on December 7 to a small group of teens.

Thanks to the generosity of Tobin's Friends, Ms. Carroll was able to broadcast music outside with a new speaker system purchase. Garner Middle School students enjoyed listening to tunes while getting creative with sidewalk chalk art for all visitors to see near the entrance.



WESTFALL

Throughout November and December, Westfall staff decorated the interior of the building with lights and wreaths to celebrate the winter holidays. The meeting room hosted several community events, provided by CPS Energy and Bexar County Community Health Collaborative independent of one another, to provide money-saving assistance and free resources to members of the community, respectively. These are ongoing outreach events with the community and are appreciated by those who utilize the service. Additionally, Westfall was asked and agreed to serve as a location assisting the City Council District One "Share the Warmth" Coat Drive by hosting a beautifully decorated drop off at the entrance where

individuals could donate gently used coats or other warm clothing to be distributed later by Council staff. The Westfall community was generous, filling the large drop box many times over. This event was covered by the local news and received positive attention.

Adult Services distributed Take-and-Makes to the community in December, a do-it-yourself clothespin snowman, which were all quickly claimed. Westfall's former Adult Services Librarian, Angelina Cortes, and Westfall Library Assistant Marcel Martinez Alvarez assisted during the Digital Literacy event hosted by San Antonio Food Bank, Feeding Texas, Google Fiber, and San Antonio Public Library in December. The event received local news coverage and impacted the community positively. Finally, Westfall prepared to host the upcoming Holocaust Learn and Remember Exhibit, put together by members of the Adult Services Committee.

During the month of November, Angelina Cortes, Westfall's former Adult Services Librarian, continued and finished her Northstar Digital Literacy certification. Angelina, along with 6 other SAPL staff, are now certified to teach digital and computer literacy (DI/CL) classes. This group, known as "Learn Liaisons," are preparing for their partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank to teach DI/CL skills to clients receiving free laptops in December and throughout the rest of 2022.

Additionally, Angelina continues to work on recruiting Seniors for the iPad Device Lending program. She, along with a Training Officer, went to City Council District Four's Senior Center to promote the project. They will be headed back to the center to teach digital literacy skills to registrants in mid-December.

Heather Swindell, Teen Services Librarian at Westfall, resumed the weekly Teen Time program and outreach activities in the community. Teens enjoyed personalizing sneaker keychains with new fabric markers and used book stencil cut outs to promote their favorite books and decorate the Teen Space in the branch. Teens regularly use the Teen Space for group or individual study sessions. The Express and circulating manga collections continue to be particularly popular as new titles relevant to the teens' interests are added.

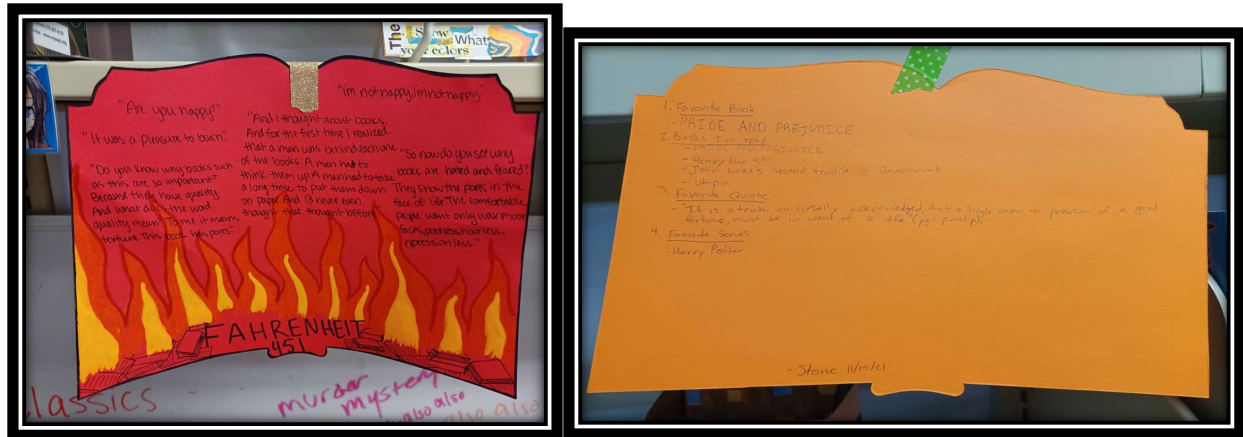
Ms. Swindell attended an outreach event at Jefferson High School. She distributed information about library resources and spoke with 60 people – students, parents, and school employees – about the library's current services and hours, as well as the move to Fines Free for all ages.

In November, Children's Librarian Imelda Merino added six curated "Story Time at Home" programs that had been prepared by other children's librarians to the Preschool LibGuide as well as three Read Aloud videos. Ms. Merino, with the help of her son, created a video of herself reading the book *Winter is for Snow* by Robert Neubecker. This was submitted for editing and will be added to the Preschool LibGuide on December 7. In December, Ms. Merino added seven curated Story Time programs that had been prepared by other children's librarians to the Preschool LibGuide.

In November, Ms. Merino participated in two Story Time Online programs, sharing songs and rhymes with preschoolers. One of the programs focused on the theme of "Saying Thank You". She participated in a Story Time Online program on December 2, sharing a song and rhymes for preschoolers.

Ms. Merino was invited to a Principal's Coffee at Arnold Elementary on November 18. Teachers presented ways for parents to help their children with reading, and Ms. Merino was able to share San Antonio Public Library resources that would help with families as well.

Ms. Merino also helped to distribute "Snack Paks" and books to children ages 4 to 18. These were provided by the nonprofit organization called Snack Paks 4 Kids, whose goal is to "provide students with reliable, nutritious food over the weekend, so they can succeed in school."



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.

November 2021

FY 2022

Circulation: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

1,033,180



6,480,996

FY 2022 to date Items Borrowed



1,229,306✓

(+18.98%)
Circulation

Visits: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

477,492



0

2,466,449

FY 2022 to date Library Visits



338,717!

(-29.06%)
Visits

Digital Access: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

195,550



0

1,163,101

FY 2022 to date Digital Access



26,554

Hours of Computer Use



237,687

Hours of WI-FI Use

264,241✓

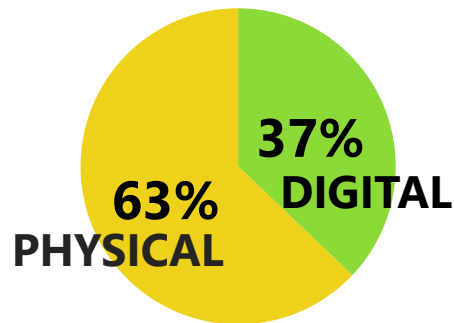
(+35.13%)
Hours of Technology
47

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

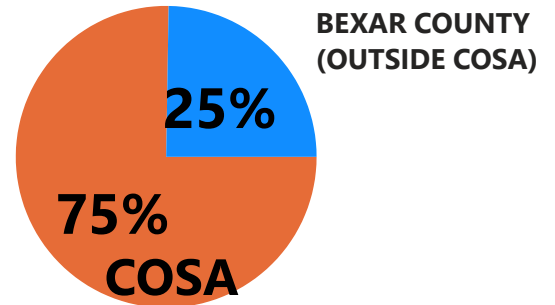
NOVEMBER 2021 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2022

CIRCULATION BY TYPE



CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA



VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2022



220,104
MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

3,321
MYSAPL
APP DOWNLOADS*

211,809
OVERDRIVE
SITE VISITS

735,587
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

674
TOTAL PROGRAMS

288
ADULT PROGRAMS

230
TEEN PROGRAMS

156
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

15,652
TOTAL ATTENDANCE

4,115
ADULT ATTENDANCE

2,363
TEEN ATTENDANCE

9,174
CHILDREN'S ATTENDANCE

28 PROGRAM VIDEOS UPLOADED

5,174 PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

MOVIE SHOWING

NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION

Saturday, December 18
3-5 p.m.
Thousand Oaks Branch Library

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Art Club Online

Thursday, December 9 • 4:30PM
Presented on Zoom

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Holidays
at SAPL

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Program in Partnership with SA Food Bank

Cooking Around the World France

Saturday, December 11 • 1 - 2 PM

Children ages 9-12 are invited to learn about foods and cultures from different parts of the world.

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY FOOD BANK

San Antonio Public Library

November 2021 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-fi Use	Computer Hours of Use	Wi-Fi Hours of Use
Bazan	2,154	3,284	3,669	582	3,087
Brook Hollow	24,225	9,561	4,103	356	3,747
Carver	2,373	2,843	2,550	375	2,175
Central	21,586	10,816	15,176	1,689	13,487
Cody	27,374	8,288	5,543	578	4,965
Collins Garden	3,216	1,007	4,178	423	3,755
Cortez	3,532	3,418	2,416	280	2,136
Digital	224,159	0	0	0	0
Encino	15,234	2,056	4,375	225	4,150
Forest Hills	933	58	11	0	11
Great Northwest	21,408	7,015	5,048	379	4,669
Guerra	6,401	3,740	3,590	341	3,249
Igo	32,521	10,083	8,063	515	7,548
Interlibrary Loan	1,057	0	0	0	0
Johnston	6,432	4,065	2,472	465	2,007
Kampmann	0	0	184	0	184
Landa	12,988	7,309	2,807	284	2,523
Las Palmas	3,442	3,616	3,430	535	2,895
Maverick	21,767	6,667	3,930	404	3,526
McCreless	1,655	112	638	0	638
Memorial	1,122	122	0	0	0
Mission	10,059	7,354	4,746	841	3,905
Pan American	2,889	2,281	1,471	201	1,270
Parman	30,279	14,077	6,395	233	6,162
Potranco	14,906	5,017	9,600	297	9,303
Pruitt	4,643	9,587	4,054	140	3,914
San Pedro	2,939	2,730	3,004	495	2,509
Schaefer	7,819	5,086	3,780	348	3,432
Semmes	21,057	8,676	5,901	537	5,364
System	39,228	0	0	0	0
Thousand Oaks	5,698	3,328	2,789	274	2,515
Tobin	14,824	6,390	3,249	547	2,702
Westfall	10,267	5,686	5,835	1,097	4,738
Total	598,187	154,272	123,007	12,441	110,566

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

San Antonio Public Library

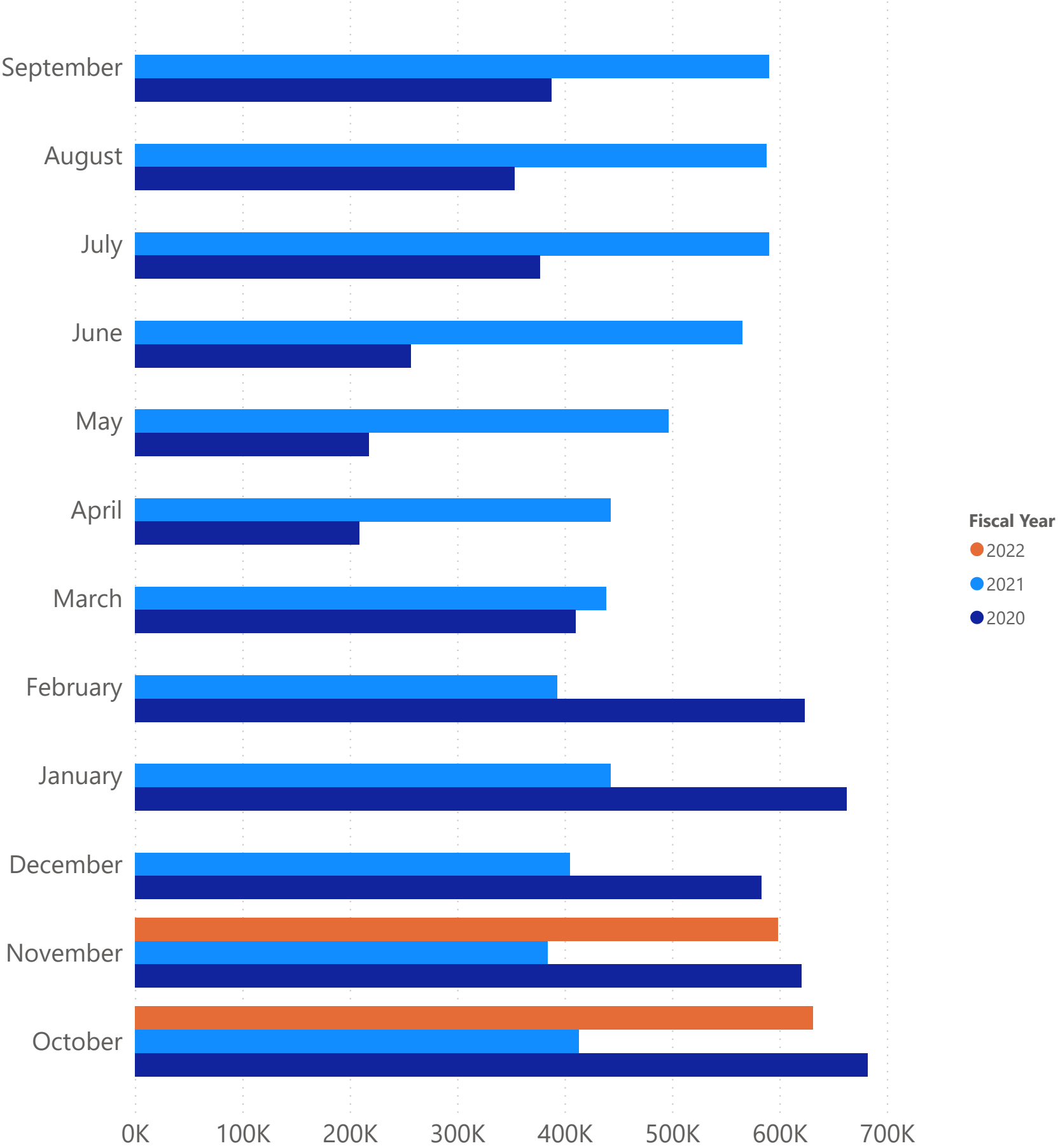
November 2021 Programs & Attendance

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	0	0	1	1	0	0	12	12
Brook Hollow	2	3	3	8	18	11	122	151
Carver	0	0	1	1	0	0	50	50
Central	20	44	5	69	533	160	270	963
Cody	5	5	0	10	25	4	0	29
Collins Garden	3	3	3	9	94	35	369	498
Cortez	10	2	1	13	44	1	26	71
Encino	16	0	0	16	80	0	0	80
Forest Hills	0	1	4	5	0	150	280	430
Great Northwest	1	0	0	1	8	0	0	8
Guerra	2	0	0	2	36	0	0	36
Igo	6	0	0	6	38	0	0	38
Johnston	0	0	2	2	0	0	17	17
Landa	4	4	1	9	50	0	5	55
Las Palmas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Read Wagon	0	0	20	20	0	0	345	345
Maverick	9	5	0	14	53	60	0	113
McCreless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Memorial	1	0	0	1	10	0	0	10
Mission	15	5	0	20	172	36	0	208
Pan American	3	7	1	11	18	196	34	248
Parman	15	0	5	20	108	0	928	1,036
Potranco	7	0	0	7	30	0	0	30
Pruitt	12	12	4	28	124	198	101	423
San Pedro	0	0	2	2	0	0	48	48
Schaefer	2	0	0	2	13	0	0	13
Semmes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
System	9	28	20	57	89	150	484	723
Thousand Oaks	1	2	0	3	3	0	0	3
Tobin	0	0	2	2	0	0	75	75
Westfall	0	6	2	8	0	59	72	131
Total	143	127	77	347	1,546	1,060	3,238	5,844

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation

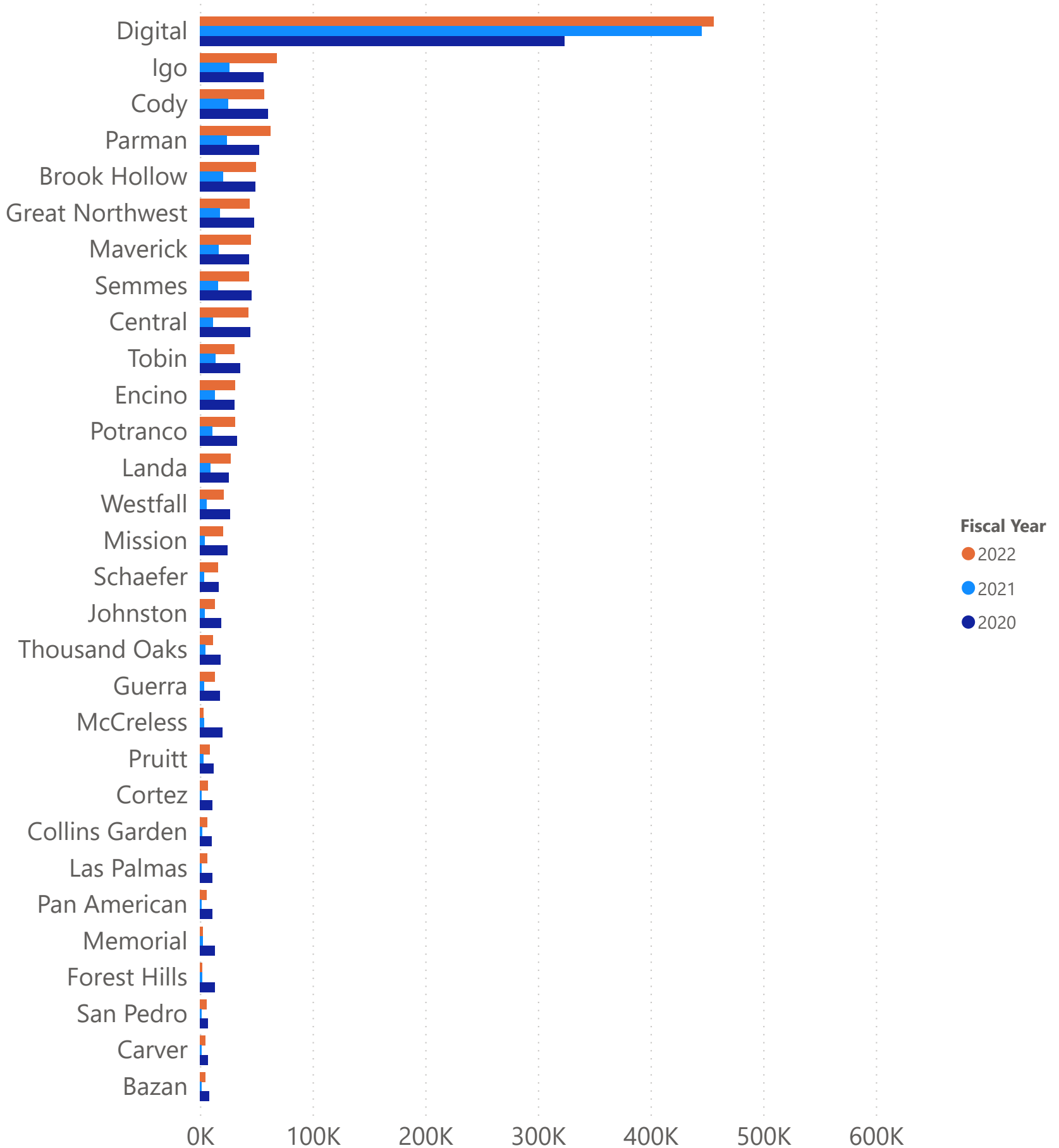


Location Closures:

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 - November 2021



Location Closures:

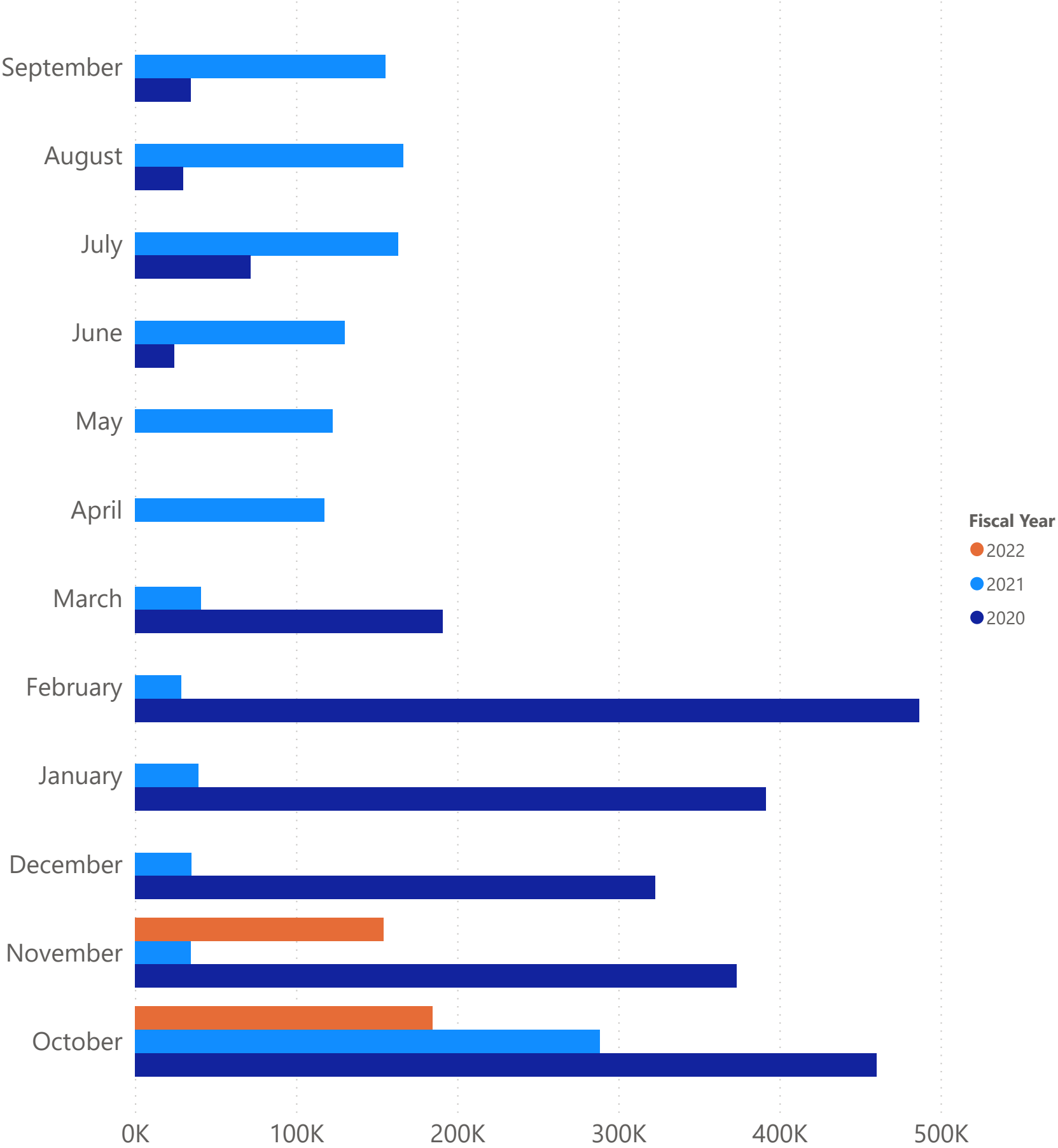
FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-TBD, McCreless Oct 1-TBD, Memorial Oct 1 - TBD

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

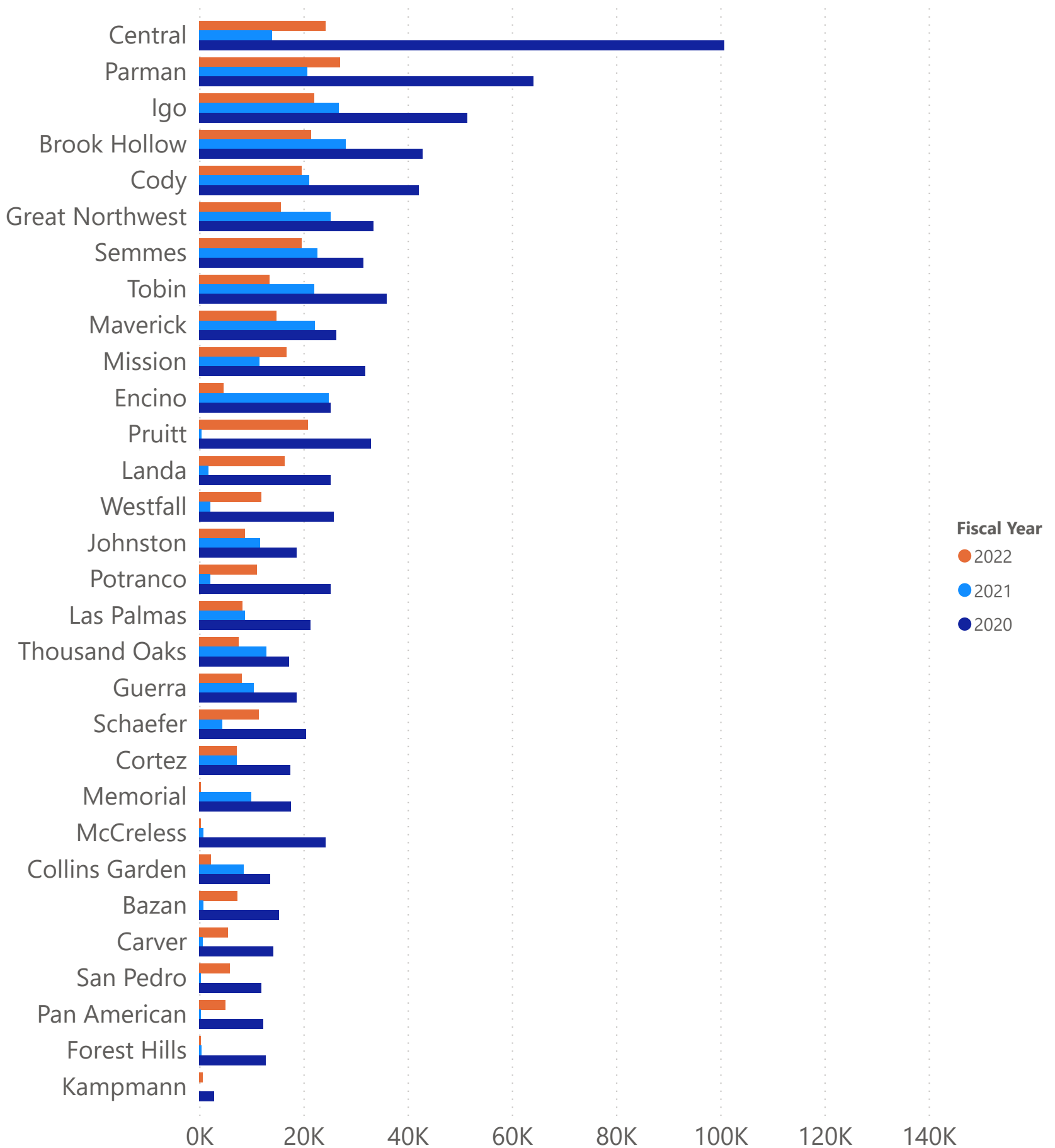
Visits



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

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - November 2021



Location Closures:

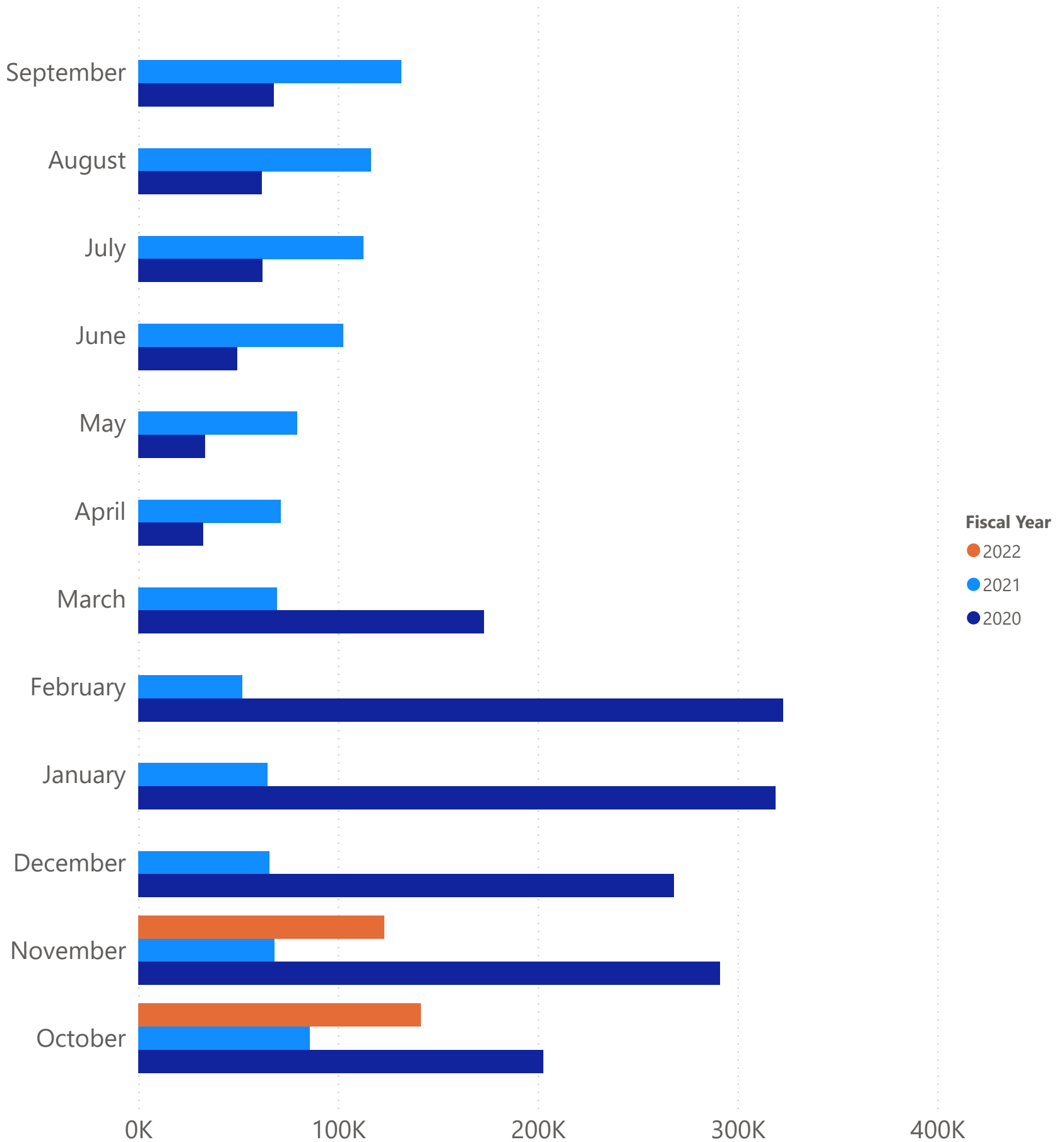
FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-TBD, McCreless Oct 1-TBD, Memorial Oct 1 - TBD

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:

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

KEY INDICATORS

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

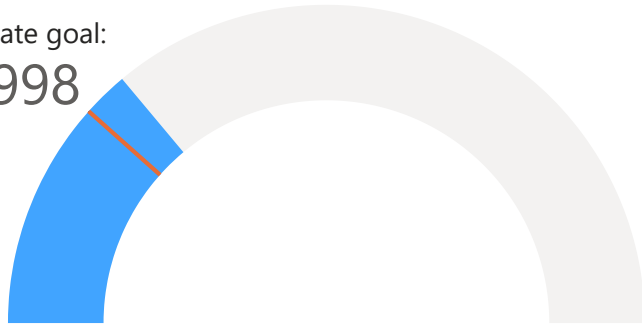
December 2021

FY 2022

Circulation: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

1,501,998



6,480,996

FY 2022 to date Items Borrowed



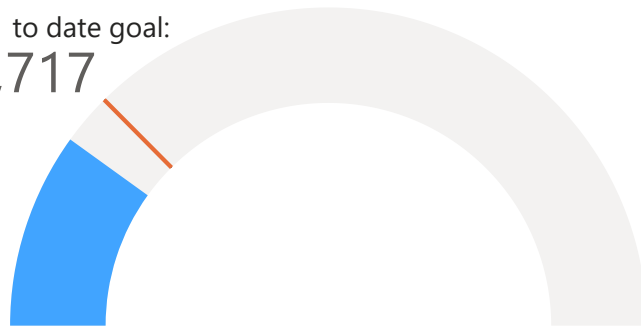
1,803,440✓

(+20.07%)
Circulation

Visits: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

619,717



0

2,466,449

FY 2022 to date Library Visits



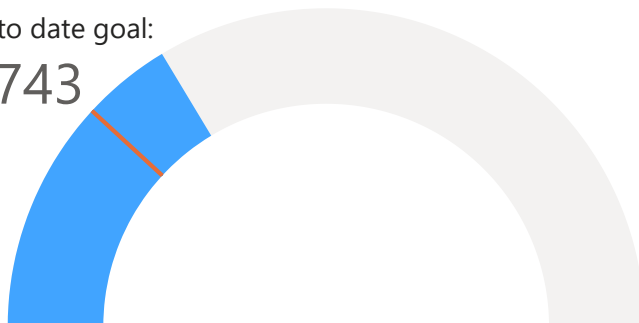
490,632!

(-20.83%)
Visits

Digital Access: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

275,743



0

1,163,101

FY 2022 to date Digital Access



38,897

Hours of Computer Use



342,050

Hours of WI-FI Use

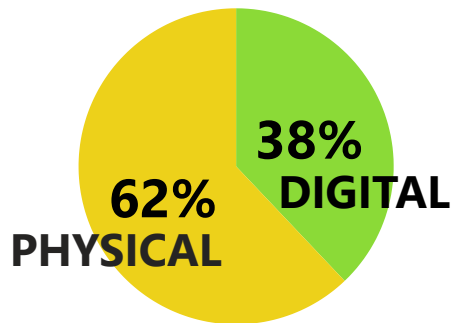
380,947✓

(+38.15%)
Hours of Technology

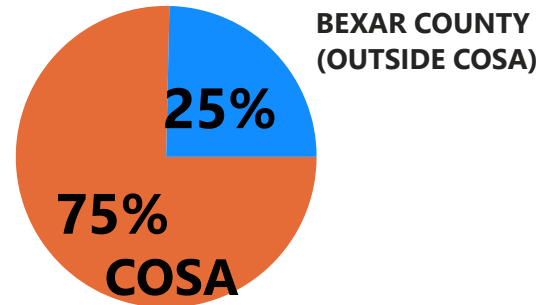
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS DECEMBER 2021 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2022

CIRCULATION BY TYPE



CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA



VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2022



316,506
MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

5,025
MYSAPL
APP DOWNLOADS*

313,691
OVERDRIVE
SITE VISITS

1,536,313
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

1,003
TOTAL PROGRAMS

428
ADULT PROGRAMS

341
TEEN PROGRAMS

234
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

20,175
TOTAL ATTENDANCE

5,120
ADULT ATTENDANCE

3,340
TEEN ATTENDANCE

11,715
CHILDREN'S ATTENDANCE

38 PROGRAM VIDEOS UPLOADED

7,236 PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

MOVIE SHOWING

NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION

Saturday, December 18
3-5 p.m.
Thousand Oaks Branch Library

Art Club Online

Thursday, December 9 • 4:30PM
Presented on Zoom

Holidays at SAPL

Program in Partnership with SA Food Bank

Cooking Around the World France

Saturday, December 11 • 1 - 2 PM

Children ages 9-12 are invited to learn about foods and cultures from different parts of the world.

San Antonio Public Library

December 2021 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-fi Use	Computer Hours of Use	Wi-Fi Hours of Use
Bazan	1,996	3,357	3,354	598	2,756
Brook Hollow	22,422	8,521	3,593	418	3,175
Carver	2,258	2,760	2,021	340	1,681
Central	17,470	19,224	15,852	1,968	13,884
Cody	26,636	7,966	5,461	430	5,031
Collins Garden	3,136	1,052	4,059	363	3,696
Cortez	3,502	3,059	2,178	328	1,850
Digital	227,546	0	0	0	0
Encino	13,540	1,814	3,873	259	3,614
Forest Hills	748	77	14	0	14
Great Northwest	20,223	6,921	4,584	404	4,180
Guerra	6,188	3,322	3,684	360	3,324
Igo	30,523	10,715	7,320	482	6,838
Interlibrary Loan	1,088	0	0	0	0
Johnston	5,995	3,451	2,509	375	2,134
Kampmann	0	575	160	0	160
Landa	11,786	6,489	2,344	240	2,104
Las Palmas	3,140	3,550	3,399	515	2,884
Maverick	20,225	5,328	4,137	413	3,724
McCreless	1,146	122	604	0	604
Memorial	931	138	0	0	0
Mission	9,214	7,173	4,803	745	4,058
Pan American	3,136	2,264	1,281	261	1,020
Parman	28,766	12,891	5,043	202	4,841
Potranco	13,538	4,333	9,231	324	8,907
Pruitt	4,079	6,937	3,222	107	3,115
San Pedro	2,619	2,637	3,349	594	2,755
Schaefer	6,519	4,156	3,038	343	2,695
Semmes	20,379	8,200	6,435	522	5,913
System	36,457	0	0	0	0
Thousand Oaks	5,195	3,089	2,651	279	2,372
Tobin	14,148	6,021	2,697	382	2,315
Westfall	9,585	5,773	5,810	1,091	4,719
Total	574,134	151,915	116,706	12,343	104,363

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

San Antonio Public Library

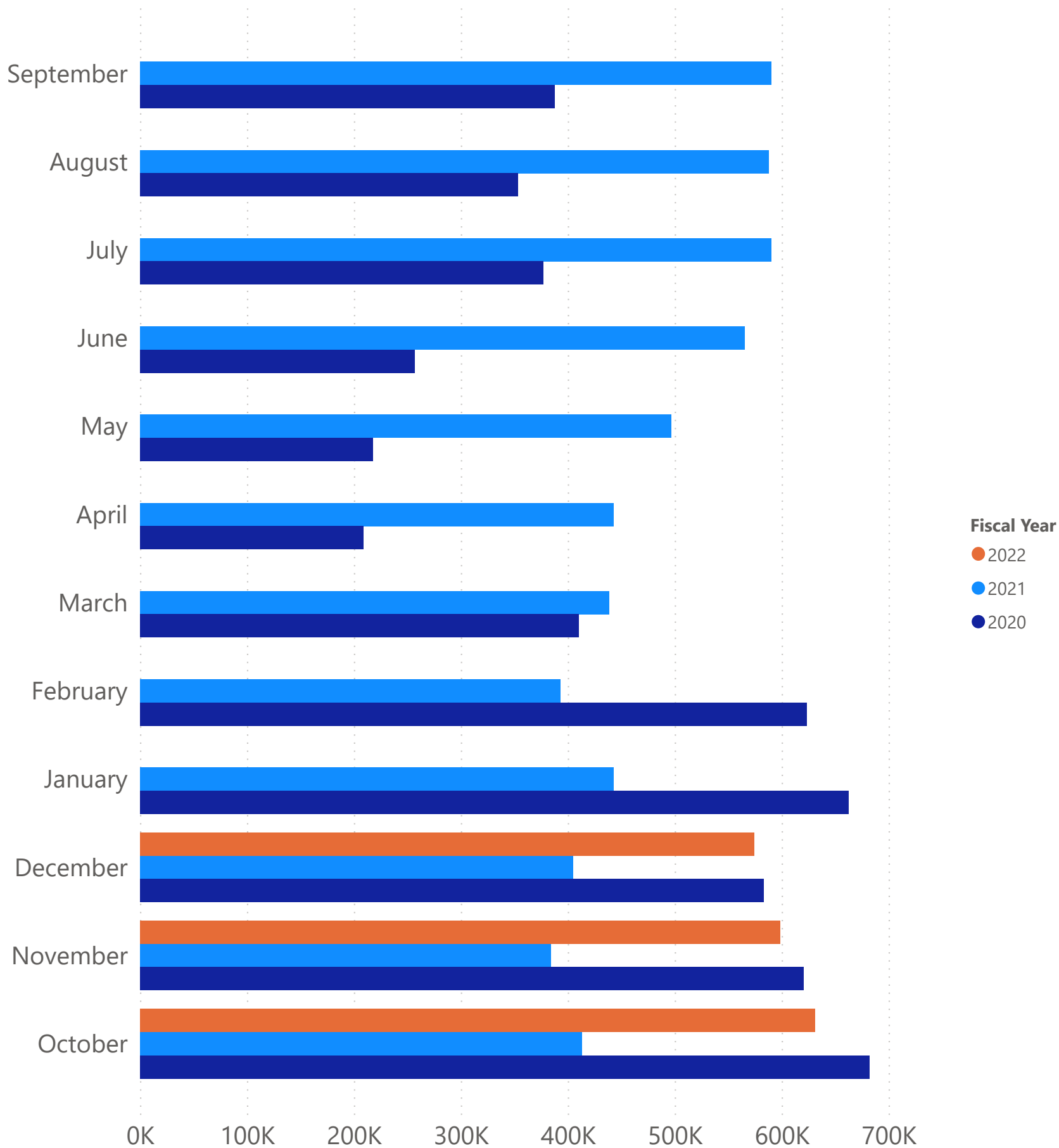
December 2021 Programs & Attendance

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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brook Hollow	2	3	4	9	0	6	37	43
Carver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central	5	28	6	39	21	217	139	377
Cody	5	0	0	5	24	0	0	24
Collins Garden	2	2	2	6	13	7	239	259
Cortez	9	3	1	13	52	0	3	55
Encino	17	0	0	17	101	0	0	101
Forest Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Northwest	3	0	0	3	11	0	0	11
Guerra	4	0	0	4	41	0	0	41
Igo	7	0	0	7	53	0	0	53
Johnston	0	1	1	2	0	50	23	73
Landa	4	4	3	11	29	0	45	74
Las Palmas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Read Wagon	0	0	15	15	0	0	340	340
Maverick	3	4	0	7	11	33	0	44
McCreless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Memorial	1	0	0	1	40	0	0	40
Mission	17	5	0	22	157	235	0	392
Pan American	3	4	1	8	11	13	37	61
Parman	19	0	7	26	187	0	786	973
Potranco	10	0	0	10	25	0	0	25
Pruitt	11	17	12	40	66	169	103	338
San Pedro	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Schaefer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Semmes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
System	10	30	24	64	104	171	760	1,035
Thousand Oaks	2	5	0	7	7	0	0	7
Tobin	2	4	2	8	12	16	29	57
Westfall	2	1	0	3	40	60	0	100
Total	140	111	78	329	1,005	977	2,541	4,523

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures:

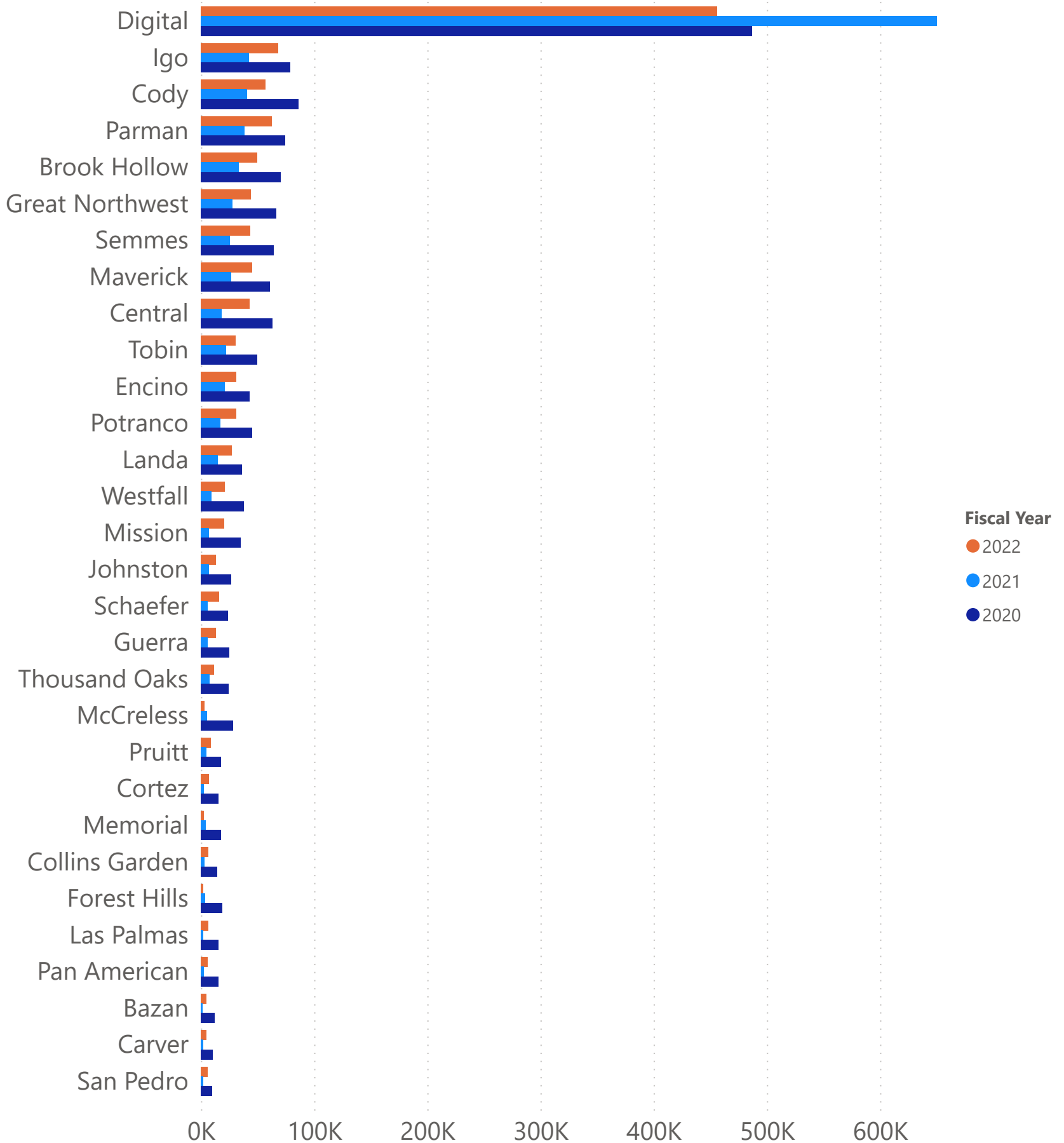
FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-TBD, McCreless Oct 1-TBD, Memorial Oct 1 - TBD

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 - December 2021



Location Closures:

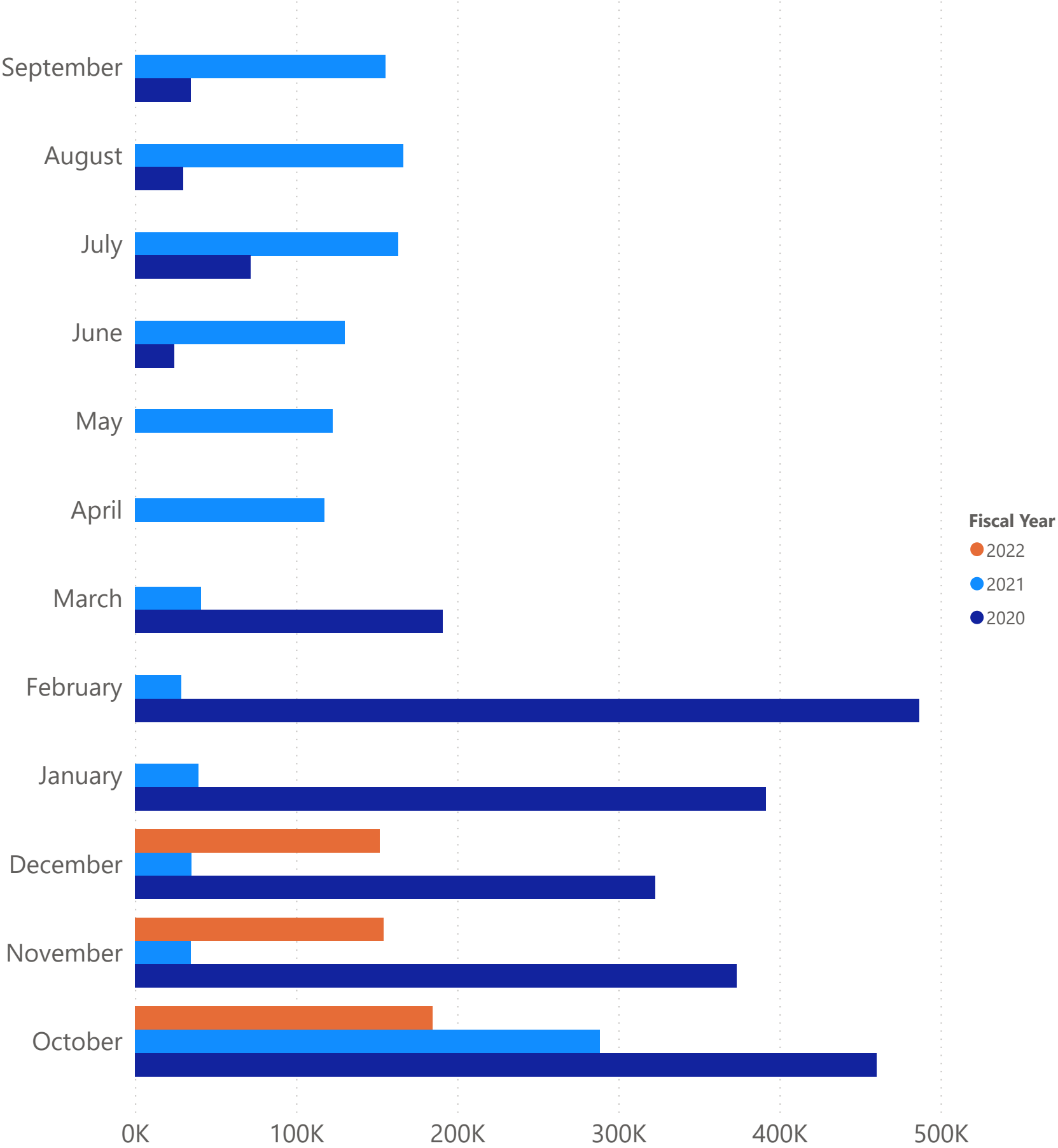
FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-TBD, McCreless Oct 1-TBD, Memorial Oct 1 - TBD

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San Antonio Public Library

Visits

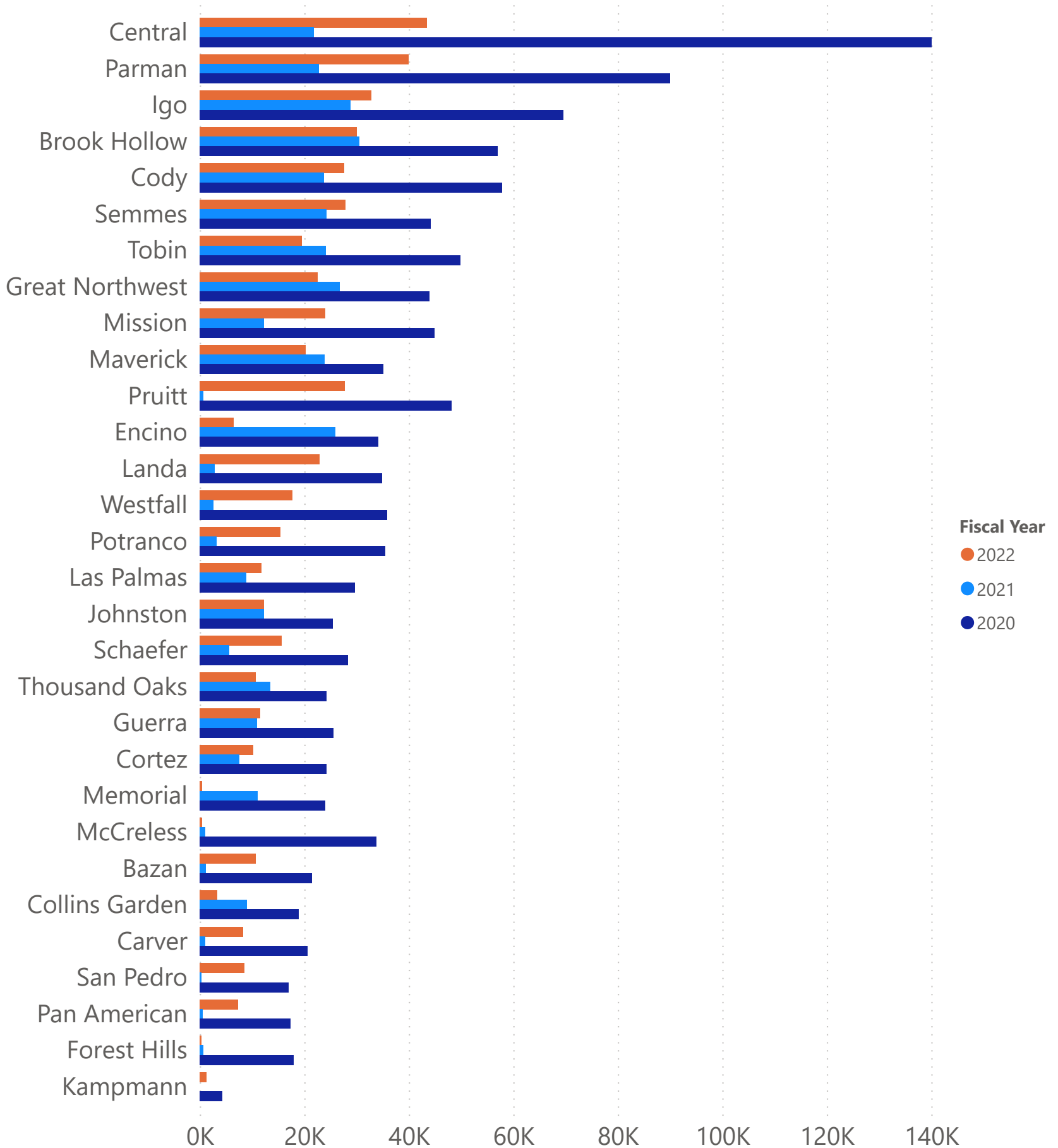


Location Closures:

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San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - December 2021



Location Closures:

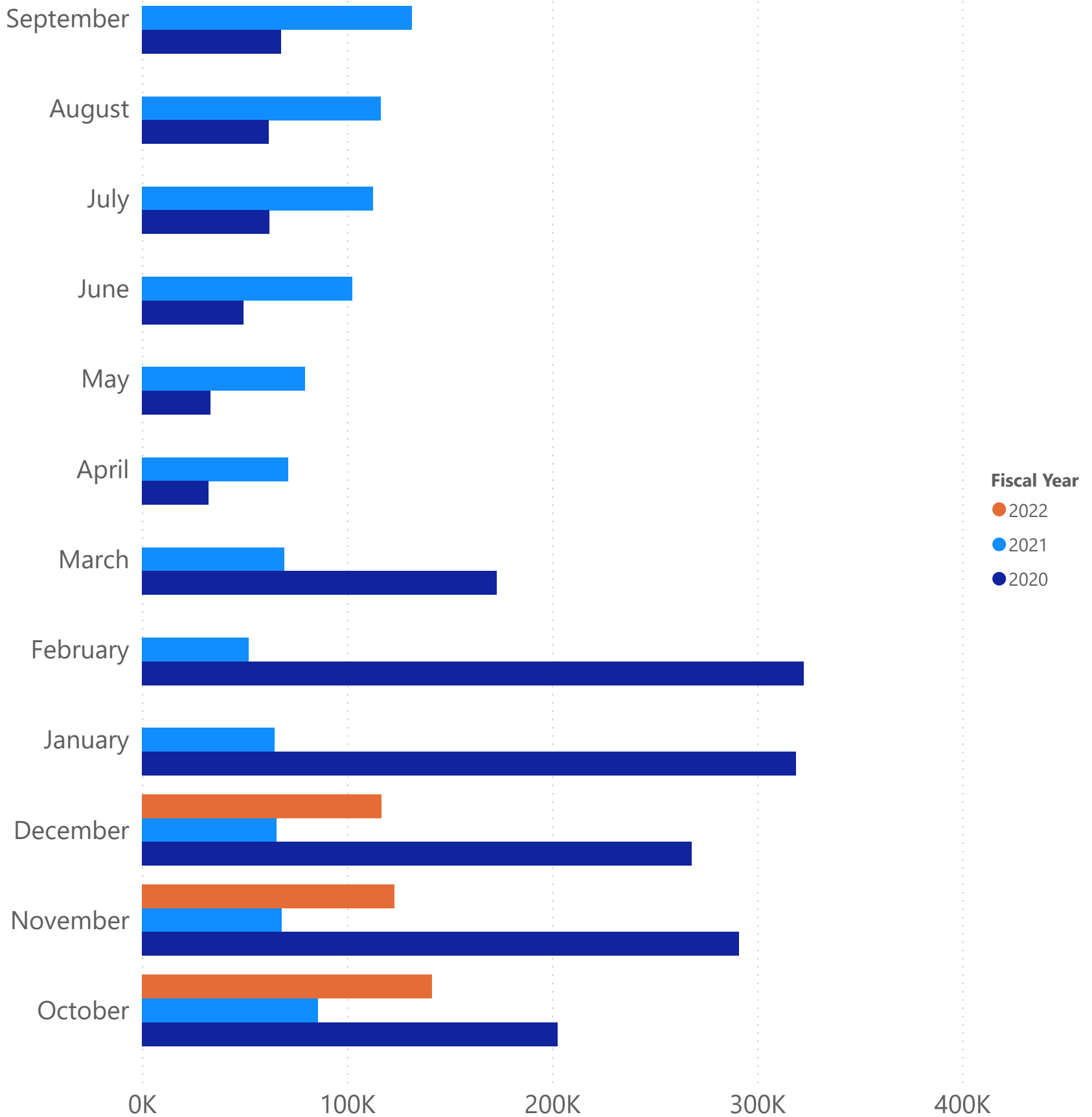
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San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use



Location Closures:

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APPENDIX

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

STEAM - Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics

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

Trumba – San Antonio Public Library's events calendar.

Webex – Videoconferencing application used by San Antonio Public Library.