

San Antonio Public Library Director's Report

March 2024



Star Trek cosplayers attend Pop Madness 2024 on March 9 at Central Library.

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DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

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

Interim Library Director Kathy Donellan attended Book Appetit Literary Feast on March 6, 2024 at the Witte Museum.

Interim Library Director Kathy Donellan attended the San Antonio Public Library Foundation Board meeting at the Carver Branch Library on March 20, 2024.

Interim Library Director Kathy Donellan and Library Board of Trustees Board Chair Juspreet Kaur held a new Trustee orientation for Mary Ann Valdez Hernandez, the new District 5 Trustee on March 21, 2024.

Interim Library Director Kathy Donellan attended Brook Hollow Branch Friends of the Library dinner on March 21, 2024.

Interim Library Director Kathy Donellan attended Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Board meeting on March 24, 2024 at the Encino Branch Library.

COMMUNICATIONS

In March, SAPL Communications primarily promoted the Get Eclipse Ready program series, Women's History Month, and Pop Madness. The team also announced the 2024 SAPL Fiesta Medal to great fanfare and warm reception across SAPL's social media channels. SAPL's social media accounts crossed 50,000 combined followers for the first time.

Social Media metrics overview for March 2024:

- SAPL's social media generated **235,965** impressions
- SAPL's social media following base grew by **752** new fans
- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts **10,664** times.

Social Media growth for March 2024:

- X: **15** followers
- Facebook: **125** followers
- Instagram: **612** followers

YouTube statistics for March 2024:

- Subscribers: **2**
- Impressions: **23,460**
- Total Views: **2,224**
- Videos published: 0

Graphics

The Graphics Team created publicity materials for a variety of programs and events during this reporting period, including Summer Reading, National Poetry Month, and the Young Pegasus poetry anthology, as well as branch updates, social media, and other promotions for branch events.

DIGITAL SERVICES

On March 6, Coordinator of Digital Service Adam Spana and Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun, refreshed the Libby/OverDrive kiosk at the Christus Children's Hospital. The kiosk is a joint effort between SAPL and the hospital to provide access to downloadable materials for patients and their families at the hospital. The refresh of the kiosk integrated the new Libby/OverDrive Showcase, a self-updating listing of downloadable materials available through SAPL's collection.

During the Month of March, Mr. Spana, Mr. Laun and Digital Library Services Analyst Tricia Masterson, along with members of the City's ITSD team, began discussing final plans for the updating of two of the Library's major systems, Pharos (computer management and printing) and Symphony (integrated library system). Due to the complexity and importance of these systems, this is an ongoing process, but will result in upgrades first to the Pharos system and then to Symphony.

Also, during the month of March, Mr. Spana, Mr. Laun, Ms. Masterson, and Digital Library Services Assistant Christina Hess, worked along with members of the City's ITSD team and vendor Bibliotheca to begin closing out the RFD Refresh project. While mostly completed, the team continues to work on resolving the remaining, outstanding issues.

On March 9, Mr. Laun participated as a volunteer during the Library's Pop Madness conference. Mr. Laun helped oversee the gaming area where conference goers could play either video or boards games from the Library's collection.

On March 26, Mr. Spana, Mr. Laun, Ms. Masterson, and Ms. Hess along with other Library staff and members of the City's ITSD team, met to kick-off the Online Registration Project, part of the Library's IT Roadmap. The goal of the project is to identify and implement an online solution that allows patrons to be approved for a new library card or to renew their existing card without having to physically travel to a library location.

LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

On March 2, in honor of Women's History Month, the LCRC hosted a film screening in collaboration with Monte Video & MACRI in Central Library's auditorium. The film was titled *Breaking the News*. Director of the film and San Antonio native Chelsea Hernandez was present for a Q & A moderated by journalist Elaine Alaya.



On March 16, the LCRC hosted an author talk & plática featuring the book *Raza Schools*, with author Dr. Jesús Jesse Esparza. The book *Raza Schools* documents the educational history of Del Rio, TX. Dr. Esparza presented an overview of the book, followed by a panel discussion moderated by Bob Rivard. The panel consisted of folks who experienced this history firsthand as students or educators and are featured in the book.



On March 23, the LCRC hosted a bilingual storytelling session presented by Blanca Reyna titled, *Eclipses in Meso America*. Blanca shared the Meso American version of the legend, *The Rabbit in The Moon*. Attendees of this event received eclipse glasses.



On March 27, LCRC program manager Sarah De La Rosa provided a guided tour of Central Library for the Legoretta Firm's Director of Public Relations, Raquel Gonzalez Canales.

On March 30, in honor of Cesar Chavez day, the LCRC sponsored a film screening of the film Cesar Chavez, at Molly Pruitt Library.

LITTLE READ WAGON

During March the team hosted the last program in a series of Let's Play! events at the Cortez Branch Library. It was a warm, sunny day and children and families delighted in painting, playing with straw and child-sized wheelbarrows, and blowing bubbles.

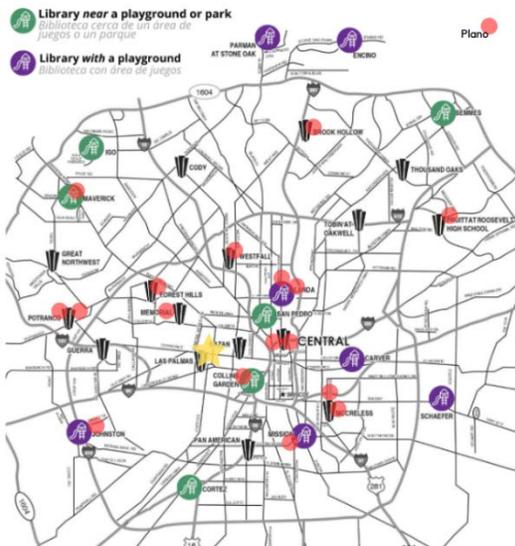
During spring break, the team offered Let's Play! events at Elmendorf Lake Park and Hardberger Park. As always, both programs were packed with many opportunities for children to build connections in their brains, with their caregivers, and with other children through play.



During both of these programs the team began speaking to each family who attended the program to get a sense of which library is closest to their home. This will allow the team to evaluate whether moving around to different areas of town actually changes who comes to the programs. It will allow the team to see if they're actually reaching the people who live in the surrounding area of the park or library or if people are traveling from a distance to get to the program.

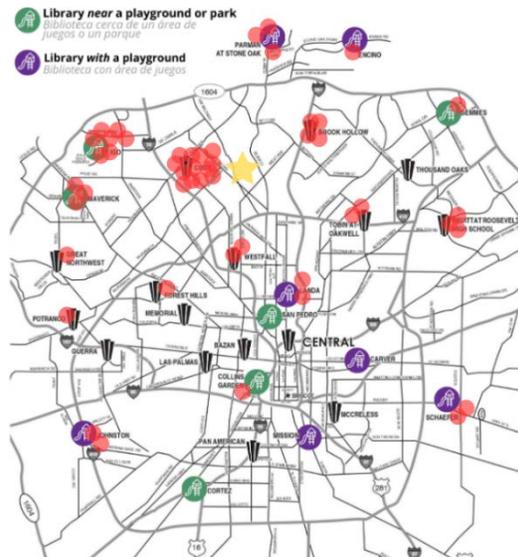
- ★ Let's Play at Elmendorf Lake Park!
- Which library is nearest your family's home?

Spring Break, Tues., 3/12/24, 10-12 a.m., mostly cloudy, today's high: 73°



- ★ Let's Play at Hardberger Park!
- Which library is nearest your family's home?

Spring Break, Thurs., 3/14/24, 10-12 a.m., mostly cloudy, today's high: 73°



The team began a series of Let's Play events at the Mission Branch Library at the end of March. This series will run through mid-May.

CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Trinity University donated to SAPL a scale model of the solar system, currently on display at Central Library, and nine solar system model boxes for use in programming for all ages. Professors Barnett and Bleamaster delivered the boxes during a Children's Services meeting. Children's librarians eagerly explored the boxes and discussed ways to use them.



In partnership with City of San Antonio Department of Human Services, Head Start, San Antonio Public Library hosted a Family Music Festival. The festival was held at Rosedale Park on March 23, 2024. Three groups performed for the festival: Within, TamboRhythms, and Real IQ.

Community organizations shared activities for children and information for families. The festival drew more than 330 families.



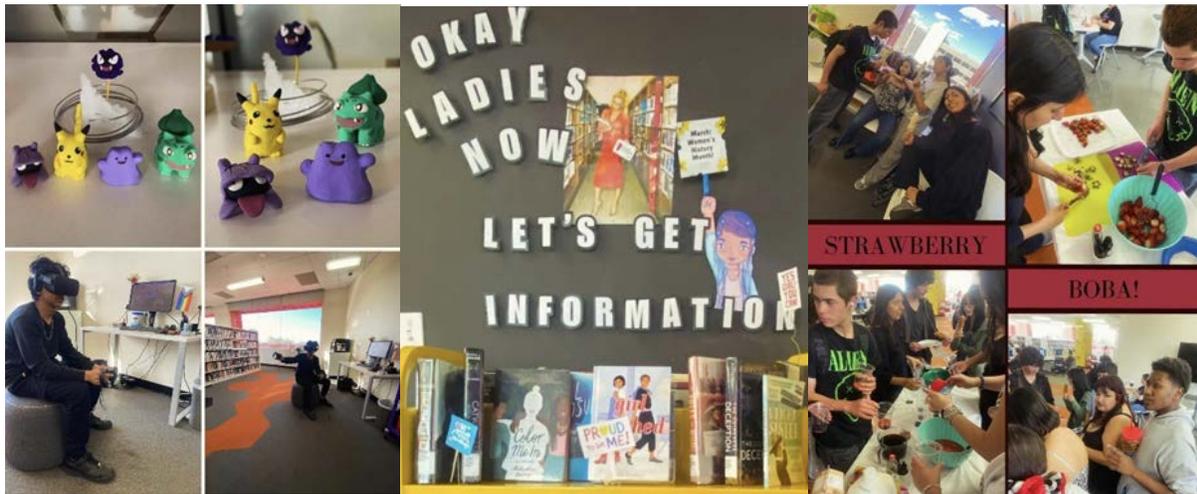
TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Virtual Teen Programs and Activities – The Virtual Teen Services workgroup—led by Matthew Loaiza (Teen Services Librarian II / Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) and consisting of Teen Services Librarians and Liaisons from around the system—continued to collaborate with virtual teen volunteers (“Teen Mods” and “Club Assistants”) to offer weekly virtual activities (“clubs”) on the 210teenlibrary Discord Server (“the server”). Teens made meaningful connections with their peers while sharing new sketches and artwork, listening to their favorite music, streaming Roblox games, discussing what they’re reading, telling jokes, speculating about this year’s Fiesta medal design for the library, and more. Teen Mods also assisted in troubleshooting a variety of server features and served as leaders and positive role models during teen interactions on the server.

Virtual Teen Content and Resources – The 210teenlibrary Instagram workgroup, led by Matthew Loaiza and consisting of Ami Sarabia (Teen Services Librarian, Las Palmas), Ciana Flores (Teen Services Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central), and Regina Almanza (Teen Services Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central), shared information, resources, activities, and other content for teens on Instagram, created by teen volunteers and Teen Services staff. During the reporting period, teen volunteers and Teen Services staff shared posts and Stories with a variety of information. Post content included crispy tacos, 3D prints, clay figurines, pork dumplings, and displays for Women’s History Month and Astronomy-related titles. Story content included interactive questions (such as current reads, favorite cereals, thoughts on AI generated images, and the best spring food) as well as daily celebrations (such as National Snack Day, World Introvert Day, International Goof-Off Day, and Mermaid Day).

Professional Development – During the reporting period, Matthew Loaiza assisted with an interview panel for a Library Assistant (PT) position. In addition, Rosalie Barrera (Teen Services Librarian I, Teen Library @ Central) assisted the Department of Human Services by participating in the City of San Antonio Ambassador Summer Internship Program Applicant Review Panel.

Pictures below – 210teenlibrary Instagram posts consisting of clay figurines made by teens and virtual reality gaming at the library, Women’s History Month book display, and teens making strawberry boba:



ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

On Saturday March 9, the Library’s annual pop culture event Pop Madness was hosted at Central Library. Highlights this year included an increase in participants in the cosplay contest (in both adult and teen categories), many well attended panel presentations including cosplay sewing 101 and tarot, and an area dedicated to local filmmakers. As in past years, two escape rooms were offered and had a line of folks waiting all day. Also, the Pokemon arena with activities such as Battle League and Pokemon Lotteria attracted interest all day. Approximately 1750 people attended Pop Madness this year.

In March, the Library celebrated Women’s History Month. On March 7, the Library partnered with Empower House to host a conversation circle. Conversation circles provide women the opportunity to come together to share their experiences, insights, and advice, celebrating the resilience of women in our community. Additionally, Texana hosted Dr. Gloria V. Gonzales and Dr. Sylvia Mendoza to share their research projects that center the experiences and knowledges of Chicanas/x. Finally, a variety of library locations hosted showing of movies that featured women in significant roles or portrayed significant historical events involving women.

On March 16, the LCRC hosted an author talk & plática featuring the book Raza Schools, with author Dr. Jesús Jesse Esparza. The book Raza Schools documents the educational history of Del Rio, TX. Dr. Esparza presented an overview of the book, followed by a panel discussion moderated by Bob Rivard. The panel consisted of folks who experienced this history firsthand as students or educators and are featured in the book.

Learn at SAPL received over 900 patron visits and assisted during over 1,100 hours of public computer use. Learn staff hosted over 60 programs across seven operational service centers.

March saw the official reopening of Learn at Johnston for public service, following a staffing change. Learn at Johnston is already seeing an uptick in patron visits due to the proactive efforts of Training Officer Shauna Mendoza.

Special events this month included the second offering of “ASL Basics” coordinated by Adult Education Program Manager Michelle Rickman. Language Equity Access, Advocacy & Advancement for the Deaf Enterprise (LEAD Enterprise) presented to a full house of 20 engaged patrons at Memorial Library.



LEAD Enterprise presenter Melissa Escamilla signs ASL vocabulary for beginners at Memorial Library

Also at Memorial Library, Training Officer Daniel Gomez hosted a special award ceremony for his “Welcome to Computers” program finishers. Students expressed their gratitude for the Learn at SAPL program and the opportunity to learn (and continue to learn) with Daniel. Refreshments were provided by the new HEB partnership.

OLDER ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Collins Garden hosted two sessions presented by Older Adults Technology Services (a program of AARP) to introduce older adults to technology. Both sessions covered a variety of topics related to individuals protecting their privacy online. This session was presented twice – once in English and once in Spanish.

Tobin Library hosted a session presented by the Alamo Area Round and Square Dance Association. Participants learned about square dancing and also were treated to a demonstration by members of the association.

Texana Librarians Debbie Countess and Sylvia Reyna hosted a session of lotteria for older adults at Central on March 22. Large print lotteria cards were used and participants enjoyed playing many rounds while socializing with their neighbors

GET ECLIPSE READY – ALL AGES (SYSTEM-WIDE)

From March 4-24, a variety of Library locations hosted programs in preparation for the April 8 total eclipse. Library staff facilitated programs including star and constellation crafts, eclipse crafting fun, and storytime. Some locations also hosted presentations by local experts, including Dr. Angela Speck from UTSA and staff from Southwest Research Institute. Some sessions were geared towards adults while other sessions with experts were presented in such a way to be accessible to families with children.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY



Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez and Librarian Ashley Palacios coordinated planning the Children's Activities for Pop Madness. They collaborated over the course of the entire year leading up to the event to develop the activities and book the special guests. Their hard work paid off with a very successful array of activities for children during Pop Madness. Librarian Shannon Seglin led a Superhero yoga with Smarty, the library's mascot. The Cosplay group HAVOC held a game session with children and Samantha M. Clark, author of Gemstone Dragons, read selections from her book and led a dragon craft. San Antonio Parks and Recreation attended with a table of activities and Classical Music Institute had an instrument petting zoo and activity table. Ms. Fernandez and Ms. Palacios also created a photo op, come & go craft and scavenger hunt for families to enjoy. Ms. Palacios developed an exciting escape room for children called Realm of the Gods. They both led the kids in a fun parade for to show off their cosplay and costumes.

The Children's Library at Central hosted an afterschool visit of families from nearby Herff and Douglass Elementary Schools. The Introduction to the Library event was arranged by Manager Kate Simpson and featured an appearance by Smarty and a library scavenger hunt!



Librarian Ashley Palacios created popular Tween Time programs for her devoted group of regulars. Assisted by Ms. Fernandez, the tweens celebrated the upcoming eclipse by creating galaxy slime! They also created paper eclipses using circle cutouts, black paper, and chalk, and their own constellations using glow in the dark stars, black paper, and colored chalk. They used white construction paper, various colors of paint and placed them into a salad spinner to make galaxy spin art. They engaged in a great, informative discussion about the eclipse and received eclipse glasses to take home. Librarian Madeline Nezat lent a hand for the special Terrace Tween Time where they crafted smores and used solar ovens made from pizza boxes. The tweens also played with a portable basketball net and hula hoops. For the final tween time this month Library Assistant Judith Slaughter assisted during the spring break movie, Journey to the Center of the Earth. The tweens munched on popcorn and pretzels and hung out in cozy seating made up of a carpet, mats and a pop-up tent.

Family Story Time continued to be a joint effort organized by Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin in collaboration with Ms. Palacios and Librarian Madeline Nezat. They centered the programs around the books, The Jellybean Tree, Journey to the Moon, and Cat Secrets. Play for these programs ranged from playdough with cookie cutters, foam shapes and stamps to sheep cut on contact paper where the kids could add cotton balls. Trucks, food, and various puppets were also added into the play mix. They celebrated the upcoming eclipse with asteroid/moon rock toss, and a solar system display featuring flashlights and a 3D model of planets.



Ms. Madeline Nezat presented Sensory Friendly Playtime as more and more regular patrons return every week, including an occupational therapist and her clients, children who are neurodivergent, and both children and parents seeking socialization and positive sensory experiences for toddlers with growing minds. Ms. Nezat helped plan and execute a tour for children from Carroll Early Childhood Education Center that focuses on educating and supporting children who are neurodivergent. Anticipating the needs of the students, Ms. Nezat led a tour for the children and finished with a story time and a sensory centered play session.

Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez cohosted the Escape the Earth podcast with Tim Johnson (Igo) Elissa Vura (Brook Hollow), and JD Elizondo (Information Services at Central). The Escape the Earth crew discussed the book *The Stars Undying* by Emery Robin. The Escape the Earth podcast can be found on Soundcloud on SAPL's Podcast TunedIn Channel.

Children's Library staff continued to develop outreach connections with area childcare centers and schools. Ms. Palacios visited Central Christian Day School, where she presented story times to children and brought books for the teachers to use in class. Ms. Palacios also recorded a story for the Dial A Story service. Ms. Seglin visited Madison Square Child Development Center where she shared stories and songs with two classes and delivered library books in support of their curriculum. Ms. Simpson delivered books for all 5 grades of children at Discovery School. She also initiated a new relationship with the Tohuí School to deliver them Spanish books for the children's language development. The books were selected by Library Assistant Ana Sandoval.

TEEN LIBRARY

Kathleen Fordyce (Manager, Teen Library @ Central) and Connie Hejl (Teen Services Librarian I, Tobin) host the "Random Fandom" club Thursdays on Discord, in which teens engage in discussions about fandoms that interest them and stream their favorite anime or pop culture shows. Kathleen also serves on the 2024 Teen Summer, Virtual Teen Services, and Young Pegasus workgroups.

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

Rosalie Barrera (Librarian I) continues to engage with teens as they explore and activate the Teen Library as their own space to serve their needs, such as studying, crafting, gaming, or gathering with friends. Rosalie supports and interacts with teens on the 210teenlibrary Discord server every Tuesday by chatting with them and answering questions they may have about the library and Teen Services.

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

Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Teen Tuesday after-school activities at the Teen Library highlight general teen interest and celebrations, such as celebrating Spring, bringing back old favorites, learning new cooking techniques, and satisfying curiosities. By suggesting, participating, and leading these activities, teens have the chance to pick up a new skill, or show their peers tips and tricks. By request, teens made crispy tacos, steamed dumplings, tomato soup, and grilled cheese sandwiches. A new cooking process presented itself when teens learned to make Korean corn dogs, a popular street food. Along with the assistance of Teen Library intern and TWU library practicum student Sarah, teens also had all the ingredients to pair their corn dog with a strawberry boba tea. Teens also had an onigiri session during the Library's Pop Madness event. Teens used perler beads, coloring sheets, the bracelet beads box and various other craft items to get creative after school and on the weekends. Pictures and videos from activity times can be found on the @210teenlibrary Instagram page.

Pictures below – Teen Tuesday cooking activities and teens hanging out in the Teen Library:



INFORMATION SERVICES

Arland Schnacker assisted Julia Selwyn with Central Libraries' eclipse display. The "Get Eclipse Ready" display promoted San Antonio Public Library astronomy and space collection, NASA resources, and SAPL system-wide programming.



On March 13, Michael Dunbar-Rodney along with Daniel Garcia, Dacari Lambert, and Lisa Puchot, tabled at the San Antonio stop for the Rainbow Book Bus in partnership with THRIVE Youth Center. The bus toured the country promoting LGBTQIA+ literature, and at the event they had local queer authors and free books for the public. The library table had 200 attendees visit for resources.

On March 15 from 4:30-5:30 Pannaga Prasad, Cynthia de Leon and Arland Schnacker hosted a Get Eclipse Ready Program at Central Library with Dr. Angela Speck from UTSA. Dr. Speck, a well-known science educator, delivered an engaging presentation. Dr. Speck explained why eclipses happen, discussed eclipse logistics, and provided information on how to view the eclipse safely. More than 95 eclipse glasses with handouts were distributed to program attendees.



On March 17, Michael Dunbar-Rodney hosted the Queer Crafternoon program at the Central Library. The recurring social program is a safe space for queer patrons to come engage in a craft of their choice while listening to queer themed podcasts or books.

On Tue Mar 26, David Gallin-Parisi was one of the panelists discussing the topic of banned books in public libraries, school libraries, and the current shifting climate. The panel was hosted by Northwest Vista College and titled: Silencing Voices: The Impact of Banning Books in Libraries. Troy Hoyles from Collection Development was also on the panel discussion.

On March 29, 2024, the San Antonio Food Bank (SAFB) was hosted by Jordan Torres (Central Information Services) to assist patrons with SNAP applications and other food-related programs/services. During their visit, the SAFB representative helped patrons apply for benefits. We look forward to continuing this monthly service with hopes of expanding into other food scarcity assistance.

SAPL also hosted the "StandUp for kids" information table on March 30 from 12-2pm.

LEARN AT CENTRAL

Learn at Central had several success stories this month. One of Learn's now regular patrons came in for the first time without ever having used a mobile device. He is now able to navigate his Android tablet and order groceries via the Walmart app. Two Learn patrons who staff assisted in finding employment returned to visit the Learn team this month. Gilbert works for the Baptist Health system and came in for assistance in completing an application for a job promotion. Juan, after months of trying to get into the Frost Bank system, was able to gain employment at USAA. After his six weeks of training, he came by to visit the team and let staff know how much he is enjoying his new role.

Denise Cadena, Training Officer at Learn at Central, continued to offer the Tech Time class every Friday at 10 am. During Tech Time staff provide individualized, student-led learning opportunities. In the month of March, the class served 12 patrons. Library assistant Francisco Rodriguez and Manager Cate Prazak joined the class to assist occasionally and helped patrons with technology questions and their personal devices.

Training Officer Daniel González and Learn Library Assistant Brianna Glass taught four Bilingual Computers y Creative Learning classes for the month of March. They assisted 10 patrons with Microsoft apps, keyboard shortcuts, and email terms.

Brianna's art zine and companion zine explaining her art piece were displayed for the Texana program: Prostitution Permissions and Restrictions in San Antonio Bawdy Houses: A research presentation by Jennifer Cain, M.A. She also assisted Librarian Arland Schnacker with his Veteran Phone Directory zine, which will also be used in his upcoming San Antonio Public Library system wide Veteran Resource Training.

Manager Cate Prazak assisted at a resource fair that Kaylee Avila and Lisa Puchot, members of SAPL's Queer Committee, helped organize for Transgender Day of Visibility. The resource fair was held in the Pup's Pizza parking lot after the annual March of Us on March 30. Staff shared SAPL resources and answered questions about the Library for attendees at the resource fair.

TEXANA/ GENEALOGY



In celebration of Women's History Month (WHM), Librarian Lucy Agado coordinated and hosted two programs as part of the committee working on this library initiative. The first program, Our Stories: A Conversation, took place on March 7, led by Laura Rhodes of Empower House. The second program, Tejana/Chicana Mexican American Studies Profesoras: Centering Chicanas/x

in Research, involved Drs. Sylvia Mendoza and Gloria Vasquez Gonzales from the University of Texas at San Antonio and was held on March 22.



On March 23, two other staff organized WHM events were held. Ms. Reyna hosted a presentation by Dr. Amy Porter from Texas A&M University San Antonio on Women's Lives and Women's Wills in Colonial Spanish San Antonio and Library Assistant Kaylee Avila coordinated a lecture and discussion with San Antonio College Professor Jennifer Cain titled Prostitution Permissions and Restrictions in San Antonio Bawdy Houses.

Librarian Andy Crews gave an online beginning genealogy presentation to staff on March 6 in cooperation with the Organizational Health Unit. Ms. Agado also presented two beginning genealogy classes, one at Semmes Library on March 16 and the other at Westfall Library on March 20. Mr. Crews went on to present the class Using Census Records in Genealogy Research at Landa Library on March 26.



On March 9, Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson and Ms. Avila coordinated a zine-making activity facilitated by members of SAPL's Zine Committee during the Pop Madness event held at the Central Library.

Librarian Deborah Countess led an online staff training on March 14 using the Newspaper Archive database. The database covers digitized newspapers from around the world and has a very good collection of historic San Antonio newspapers available for searching and browsing.



In celebration of Texas History Month on March 16, Sylvia Reyna invited Dr. Carlos Varela from the Texas General Land Office (GLO) Archives to talk about the history of Spanish and Mexican Land Grants. Special attention was given to the GLO's resources, digital finding aids and various research tools that are also useful when conducting genealogical research.

Ms. Reyna led an outreach event at the Morningside Chandler Estate, an independent living senior community on March 20. She provided informational library brochures and giveaways in addition to answering questions from residents about what the library has to offer. SAPL was one of approximately 15 vendors participating in the event.



Ms. Countess and Ms. Reyna hosted a Loteria game in the LCRC on March 22 targeted to older adults. A dozen rounds were played utilizing extra-large game boards. The small prizes were a big hit.



For Transgender Day of Visibility, Ms. Avila and Teen Librarian Lisa Puchot, members of SAPL's Queer Committee, helped organize and table at a resource fair in the Pup's Pizza parking lot after the annual March of Us held March 30.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

Bazan Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen was active in March performing outreach at several school events. She participated in the Irving Dual Language Academy Literacy Night and DeZavala Elementary Academic Night/Literacy Night where she shared information about library programs and resources with families and offered a butterfly arts craft for children.

Ms. Sonnen was also invited to host a table at a Parent University at Jubilee Lake View University Prep school. Ms. Sonnen talked with attendees about the many free resources that they could easily access on the San Antonio Public Library website. They also enjoyed learning about the programs offered for all ages.



Bazan library hosted two Get Eclipse Ready @ SAPL events in March. Assistant Manager and Teen librarian Cassie Garza provided an overview of the April 8 eclipse and eclipse safety and both she and Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen led participants in making UV activated slime, Solar Eclipse chalk art and paint with UV activated paint. A second event featured eclipse expert and UTSA Professor and Department Chair of Physics and Astronomy, Angela Speck, who provided a fascinating explanation of this once-in-a-lifetime phenomenon.



Assistant Manager and Teen librarian Cassie Garza fashioned a space for teens to curate their time at Bazan library through regular teen time events. Teens played video games and listened to music in the teen space during ongoing teen time activities. The group also decorated cascarones and made perler beads of their favorite anime characters.

Ms. Garza assisted with hosting the 210 Teen Library Discord Gaming club. Teens shared some cool video games they were playing. One teen shared a mashup game of Mario 64 and Sonic Frontiers and although there were some in-game glitches the gameplay was fun.



Ms. Garza hosted the ongoing BTS Craft Club. The group celebrated one year of meeting at the library. Participants made buttons, bookmarks, bracelets and other BTS related crafts. Several new members joined the group and were made aware of the activities through flyers posted inside the library.



Ms. Garza assisted with Pop Madness at the Pokémon trading card area. The tables were packed with people wanting to trade their Pokémon cards.

The Bad Girls Romance Book Club facilitated by Library Assistant Enedina Prater met via Zoom in March. The group enjoyed the B.Y.O.B or Bring Your Own Book discussion format which was introduced for the first time at the January meeting. Each person was allowed to share their favorite novel, writer, or romance genre. The group had fun listening to each other's love of romance writing, especially hearing from new members.

The Ink Slayers Writers Group met off-site in March at a neighborhood coffee shop, Shotgun Roasters House, and the meetings were billed as "Sundays at Shotgun." The group enjoyed the vibe, ambiance, and energy of the space and all agreed that the coffee and the atmosphere

were very conducive to writing. The Ink Slayers Writers Group of Bazan Library is approaching its one-year anniversary this summer!

The 210 Swifties fan club set up space at Pop Madness to promote all the upcoming Swiftie events to fans of Taylor Swift. The group meets regularly at the Bazan branch and supports other branch programs.



The Learn Center at Bazan was busy assisting customers in March. The sessions covered computer skills, resume building, job search, job applications and using personal devices. ESL (English as a Second Language) classes were offered on Tuesday evenings by the Bazan Learn Center. Training Officer Carlos Loera also led painting classes for senior adults twice a month. The works by these very talented artists continued to be exhibited in the library for all to enjoy. Coffee and a Movie for Senior adults on the first Friday of the month and Coloring for Adults was offered every third Friday.

BROOK HOLLOW



Selrico employees, present, past, Russ and Adolpho, left; BHL Assistant Manager Grace Holt & husband, center, BHL Manager Jeannette Davies and FOBHL Treasurer Beth Crabb @ The FOBHL Staff Appreciation Dinner in March.

Brook Hollow Library (BHL) hosted Bexar County Election Department's Early Voting February 20 – March 1, 2024, and Election Day, Tuesday, March 5, 2024. Nearly 5,000 Bexar County

Residents voted at BHL during the voting cycle. Bexar County Election Judge Marilyn Jowdy who oversees voting at BHL complimented the BHL Team for “Excellent support to Elections team! Doors opened timely, Wonderful to work with Jeannette and her Team!”

Spicy enchiladas were on the menu @ Casa Sol Restaurant March 21, 2024, when the BHL Team was honored by the Friends of Brook Hollow Library (FOBHL) with a BHL Staff Appreciation Dinner. 32 Friends, BHL staff and guests attended including, special guests COSA District 9 Councilperson John Courage; SAPL Interim Library Director, Kathy Donellan; SAPL Board of Trustee Marcie and President of the San Pedro Hills Women’s Club Maureen Landcaster. Special thanks for FOBHL President Pat Bjornson and Beth Crabb who coordinated the event.

BHL Manager Jeannette Davies continues to record Libraries Transform Lives Podcasts for the Texas Library Association (TLA) as chairperson of the association’s public relations committee. Listen to her conversation with Executive Director of the Literacy Coalition of the Permian Basin John Trischitti III, MLS, who discusses literacy and illiteracy in Texas. TLA Libraries Transform Texas Podcasts can be found on the TLA website under the Libraries Transform Texas tab. Davies continued senior outreach to the Walker Ranch Senior Center (WRSC) in March during BHL’s monthly Library Hour. Davies worked with SAPL Adult Services Coordinator Morgan Yoshimura to coordinate with WRSC staff online streaming for the Solar Eclipse and eclipse glasses for seniors.

Davies attended the memorial service, March 23, 2024, for Texas Public Radio’s (TPR) President and CEO Joyce Slocum at the Irma and Emilio Nicolas Media Center, TPR’s headquarters, part of the San Pedro Creek redevelopment. Davies served on TPR’s Community Advisory Board.

Adult Services Librarian Marco De Leon coordinated BHL’s March book clubs including, The Mystery Book Club 3/7/24 with eight attendees who read Miracle Creek by Angie Kim. Tuesday Evening Book Club 3/12/24 with eight attendees who read The Four Winds by Kristian Hannah. La Tertulia Book Club met 3/9/24 with 12 readers who read Fortuna by Hernan Diaz and the WRSC Book Club met at WRSC 3/20/24 with 32 attendees who read Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmas.

In March, BHL Children’s Librarian Catherine Robbins continued BHL programs including, Let’s Build: Creative building with LEGOs on Monday afternoons; Pajama Storytimes: Listening to and performing soothing stories, songs, and other activities for children on Tuesday evenings; Tweens Create: older kids and preteens get a chance to explore with slime, clay, and other creative outlets on Wednesdays; Family Storytime: Listening to and performing stories and songs on Thursday mornings; and Read to a Dog: Therapy dogs visit the library and children read to them on Friday afternoons.

BHL Teen Librarian/Assistant Manager Grace Holt facilitated Teen Time on Tuesday evenings throughout March, where teens engaged in activities, they chose like painting, repurposing cereal boxes, and making art with perler beads. Teen volunteers @ BHL help prep for Teen Time each week. They also create new book displays each week, including a Strong Female Leads and Spring Reads book display. Holt joined BHL Library Assistant Elissa Vura for Teen Gaming Club on Thursdays, where teens began a Dungeons and Dragons campaign. The BHL Teen Area continues to make space available for teens to express themselves. Holt also

continued to help facilitate the weekly Dungeons and Dragons Club on the 210teenlibrary Discord server, where teens use their imagination, think strategically, and work together as a team during their Dungeons and Dragons campaign. Holt leads SAPL's Teen Summer Workgroup as they continued planning Teen Summer.

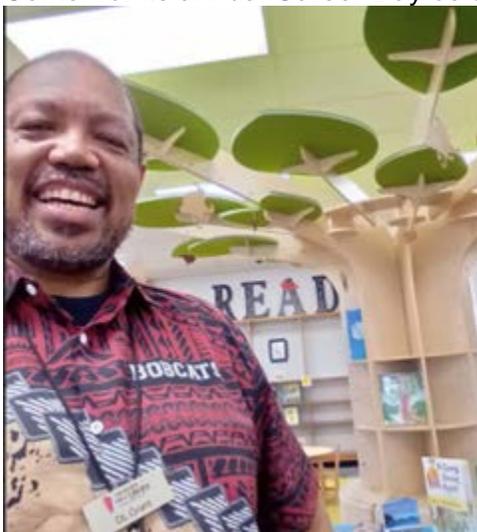
BHL Library Assistant Elissa Vura along with Librarian Tim Johnson (Potranco), Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez (Central - Childrens), and J.D. Elizondo (Central - Information Services) hosted the Escape the Earth podcast—a monthly sci-fi and fantasy book discussion. The March episode features *The Stars Undying* by Emery Robin and has received 79 views to date. The Escape the Earth crew was also in attendance at SAPL's Pop Madness event, an annual pop culture convention at the Central Library, where they promoted the podcast and interviewed visitors about their favorite sci-fi and fantasy works. Interviewees will be featured on a special episode of the show. The Escape the Earth podcast is available on Soundcloud under the San Antonio Public Library Podcast TunedIn Channel.

Teen Gaming @ BHL, a weekly program for teens ages 13-18, is facilitated by Vura. The program offers teens the opportunity for positive social interaction with their peers and exploration of their interests in all thing's tabletop and video game related. This month saw the advent of a Dungeons and Dragons campaign led by Dungeon Master and Teen Librarian Grace Holt. Teens have been deeply engaged in this activity, sketching out their characters and spontaneously acting out parts of the story. Regular teen patrons also continued to build community, attending SAPL's Pop Madness together and cosplaying video game characters at the event.

CARVER

Mercado Por Tu Corazón's mobile market was back providing fresh fruits and vegetables. Forty-five customers were attracted to the broad array of selections.

D.L. Grant, manager, accepted an invitation to visit Henry Carroll Early Childhood Education Center for its annual Career Day celebration.



The Prudence L. Curry Writers' Series featured award-winning poets Joshua Robbins of the University of the Incarnate Word and J. Bruce Fuller of Sam Houston State University who read from their collections on Sunday, March 17.



On Thursday, March 21 the Carver Page Turners book discussion group met to discuss *Up Home* by Ruth Simmons, former president of Prairie View A & M University, an institution that many community members here claim as their alma mater. The discussion was robust as members learned about Simmons' life growing up as an impoverished sharecropper's daughter in rural East Texas and attending segregated public schools, before earning a Doctor of Philosophy degree and assuming the office of president at Smith College and later Brown University.

Women's History Month here included a display of inspiring book titles that celebrate the contributions of women. In addition, the San Antonio Black International Film Festival (SABIFF) presented a March 24th film viewing, *Chisholm '72 - Unbought and Unbossed*, which explores the life of the late politician Shirley Chisholm and detailed her historic run for president. As a bonus for the Carver audience, SABIFF founder Ada Babineaux shared a prerecorded interview with the film's director Shola Lynch that allowed them a behind the scenes perspective of the production and what it was like working with Chisholm to learn her story.

Learn at SAPL - Carver

For the month of March, it was out with the old. Learn Training Officer Marcel Alvarez began evaluating Carver Library's Wall of Warmth winterwear arrangement and wound it down as warmer temperatures set in. He freed up space for efficiency and arranged to share leftover items with Corazon Ministries.

Several LEARN users needed job support resources, which Mr. Alvarez provided. He determined that resume building skills were in high demand here. He also devised a resume building offering that could be shared with teens who would be seeking summer job opportunities in the coming weeks. Marcel continued holding mobile devices. In addition, he partnered with Johnston Training Officer Shauna Mendoza to further develop an Introduction to Computers class. Mr. Alvarez partnered again with Ms. Mendoza during March, this time for an outreach visit to Harper Ministries.

Ralph Jarzombek was glad to see that Laura Alvarez, a library aide at the library, took the initiative to create a new decoration for the bulletin board in the Children's area of the library. It has a spring theme with letters that say "Spring is in the air" hanging from small clothes pins and beautifully crafted flowers she made from construction paper. Mr. Jarzombek thought it was something that needed to be appreciated by more people than just the people who came to the library, so he made sure to include a picture (see below). And while it's nice to see as a picture, to get the full impact, you really need to come to the library and see it in person!

Mr. Jarzombek attended a Literacy and Math Night at Smith Elementary School on March 5th and brought Magna-Tiles and Straws and Connectors for the students to explore. A table was set up with a City of San Antonio Public Library tablecloth, and Mr. Jarzombek put together some starter projects of Magna-Tiles and Straws and Connectors to give the students some ideas for projects they could create for themselves. He was amazed at some of the structures the students created, and he even took pictures of a couple of projects that were especially noteworthy (see below).

Mr. Jarzombek was approached by phone to do Story Time by a couple of organizations that wanted to host events during Spring Break week – he went to Miller CDC on March 14th and to Davis-Scott YMCA on March 15th.

A "Fit for a Princess" program was held at the library on March 30th, which was established by Claudette Cochrane, a longtime patron of the library. It is an annual program done in memory of her daughter who created the program. The program consists of five rotating stations that emphasize character building, fitness, personal hygiene, manners, and etiquette. There were many young girls who attended the event, and Mr. Jarzombek helped Mrs. Cochrane from start to finish. Probably the highlight of the event for Mr. Jarzombek was the donation of five books to the library collection – he has already entered three of the books into the collection and are on display in the Children's area of the library (see below).





For the month of March, Teen Services at Carver grew with our first official Teen Volunteer, Paula Rios. Rios was a longtime patron identified by Teen Librarian, Michael Harle, as a strong candidate for volunteer work. She is already comfortable interacting with other teens and staff and has successfully identified another teen, Alex Ramos, who is interested in volunteering with Carver; Ramos applied the same day they met Rios. The two of them worked together to design a flyer for Teen Time, which is now being displayed throughout the library.



Because Harle and Sam Houston Librarian, Ms. Branford, had to reschedule this month's outreach, Harle



instead turned his attention towards assisting previous mentee and current Igo Teen Librarian, Esperanza Meekins, with outreach at Brandeis High, bringing along Library Aide, Sarah Garza, to assist. Harle and Garza brought extra LEGO bricks, assisted with setup, and interacted with teen visitors to the school library.



CODY

On March 15th, Adult Services Librarian Adrian Leal hosted a Get Eclipse Ready! Program in preparation for the upcoming solar eclipse. The presentation was given by Professor Angela

Speck from the University of Texas at San Antonio and was received very well by the 60 attendees, with many commenting how terrific and organized the event was.



Circulation Attendant Maria Treviño continues to offer First Friday Art for Seniors monthly. This month, they explored the art of Sister Mary Corita and pop art/printmaking of the 1960s. Participants were encouraged to upcycle materials to make their own stamps and practiced different print making techniques. The topics for mental wellness discussed were learning a new skill, the importance of expressing oneself, and the importance of 90 minutes sessions for optimum concentration.

The Teens at the Cody Library continue to be an active group who utilize library materials to craft, exercise, study, and socialize with their peers. This month, the teens unearthed Cody's PlayStation2 and showed off their DanceDanceRevolution skills as a break from the JustDance game they enjoy on the switch. Teens also enjoyed cooking, making things like pasta (from scratch!), smores, and fancy spring lemonade.

This month Teen Librarian Ashley Frost introduced a teen homeschool programming. This has led to a great turn out for teens from across San Antonio for lessons on cooking, sewing, gardening, and more! We will continue to provide this new teen program for our community in the coming months.





Children's Librarian Cari Raley presented the children's homeschool nature club, featuring winter birds in the month of March. In the four weeks, they water colored a cardinal couple, built barn owl glasses to experience how they see, made pop-up bird cards (a game to guess which bird lives in each nesting area), weaved their own nest and had an egg hunt to fill their nest.

The Storybook Club has been a great place for kids and their grownups to experience a sense of community. We have families that walk here to attend. A few others have a family car and rearrange work to attend. A few dads are seen at the tables working while their family is attending the program. It has been such a pleasure to see these dads' faces light up as their child runs over to show him something they had made. They have repeatedly talked to the staff about how thankful they are to Cody Library for the valuable experiences they have received.

ABC Club experiences learning through many kinds of play. The four weeks included Transportation, Underground, Vacation and Weather. The families have pretended to be on vacation camping with a tent, campfire and woosy animals. They fished on their boats for letters and became trains and drove around the library. The library has also collaborated with the Locke Hill Elementary School on having toddler time at their library this month.

COLLINS GARDEN

On March 21, 2024, Adult Services Librarian Rosa Villa hosted the Collins Garden Book Club, which discussed Judy Batalion's novel *The Light of Days*.

In honor of Women's History Month, Ms. Villa mounted the Collection Development's curated Women's History book display. On March 10, she screened the movie *Steel Magnolias*, which was intended to complement the Collection Development's Women History display. She also mounted a Nutrition Month display.

For this month, Adult Librarian Rosa Villa hosted an Adult Paint by Numbers class on Sundays where patrons relax and color at their own pace. On March 19, Ms. Villa also hosted a DIY Sock Bunny craft, where patrons made sock bunnies for Easter.

Ms. Villa partnered with Children's Librarian Gina Brudi and Teen Librarian Daniella Toll for the Get Eclipse Ready at Collins Garden program on March 16. Amateur astronomers Anne Adkins and Robert Reeves and undergraduate student Angelica Alvis presented information about the eclipse and safety tips. Patrons could also use telescopes and sun spotters to view the sun.



Adult Librarian Rosa Villa and Children Librarian Gina Brudi partnered a Cascarónes Party on March 23 for families to celebrate spring/Easter. Families played games, created sock bunnies, and colored eggs.

Teen Services Librarian Daniella Toll onboarded a new teen volunteer, who assisted with the Cascarones Bash event on March 23rd, and assisted Ms. Toll in starting a rock garden in the

Teen Area. Weekly Teen Club consisted of teens choosing to paint, using iPad to connect to the Bluetooth speaker, and listening to Spotify while painting.



At another Teen services program teens came into the library and were very excited when they were given the option to pick an activity for Teen Club. It seemed like some of the games were nostalgic from their childhood. Teens welcomed other peers into the space, and started playing together, and rested for a few minutes on their way home from school. Ms. Toll also assisted Matthew Loaiza with the weekly Teen Time on Discord, where Teen Mods helped start conversations where teens could share about their week. Ms. Toll met over Zoom with a few teens who had valuable suggestions in improving some public-facing webpages geared for teens.

On March 29th the Collins Garden Library staff participated in the Easter Event hosted by HEB in our parking lot with a craft table for families. For the reporting period Children's Librarian, Gina Brudi presented three Lego Club, four Preschool Storytime, two Let Create: Art Time and one Let's Build Blocks and More programs. She continued her monthly visits with books and songs to Knox Early Literacy Center, Little Wonderland, and the preschool classrooms at Collins Garden Elementary. In celebration of Women's History Month, she mounted a book display. In the children's area artwork was taped on the whiteboard celebrating St. Patrick's Day and the upcoming eclipse.



In addition, on March 26, 2024, Teen Services Librarian Daniella Toll and Children's Librarian Gina Brudi hosted a WiiU gaming event for older children.

CORTEZ

March was an eventful month for Cortez Library.

Adult Services Librarian Melissa Carroll hosted the Nothing Fancy Book Club, a group for book lovers to talk about what they've been reading (or not reading) in a relaxed space. This month's reading suggestions were related to each other, revolving around the same themes and the same play: *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett and the play *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder. Cortez Crochet Club continues to grow with new and returning members each week. Patrons are enjoying learning new tips and techniques and seeing everyone's projects progress. This month, a few participants were excited to learn how to make amigurumi chickens. Metro Health's Diabetes Prevention & Control Group offered four more Diabetes Prevention workshops (Prevent T2) for patrons with prediabetes or another chronic disease. Senior Planet and Older Adults Technology Services (OATS) from AARP offered two workshops this month: "Introduction to Estate Planning" and "Introduction to Artificial Intelligence".

In addition, AARP hosted another technology class for patrons over 50, "Listening to Podcasts". Both partner organizations focus on helping older adults with technology. The Healthy Neighborhoods cooking program, led by Metro Health's Vince Escobedo, featured basil green goddess dressing this month. Patrons loved tasting how different ingredients altered the taste of the recipe. Everyone went home inspired to try healthier cooking at home. Branch Manager Morrow with Children's Librarian Linda Childs continue to host Name that Tune on Monday evenings. Morrow is also attending Innovation Academy for the Cohort 9, working on a project presentation for the benefit of San Antonio Public Library.

Library Assistant Jo Ann Paredes' Getting Crafty class continues into its tenth year. March crafts consisted of Basket weaving, DIY Shamrock Wreath, and String Easter eggs. There were twenty-three participants this month.

March was also a busy month for Cortez children! Not only did the regularly scheduled activities draw crowds, but Spring Break meant that more families than usual were at the library looking for things to do. Four times the expected number of participants showed up for the galactic slime making ahead of the eclipse! Librarian Childs, despite her paranoia in picking up extra supplies, still ran out of supplies for the people who showed up and had to find an acceptable alternate activity on the fly. Despite the initial heartbreak of a few patrons, everyone still had a fantastic time making and playing with the color changing slime (and alternate)! Students from Trinity University gave an informative lecture to help patrons "Get Eclipse Ready!" showing a 3-D model of our universe and how to safely view the eclipse.

March was also a month with a fair amount of outreach. Many schools had career days, so Children's Librarian Linda Childs answered kids' questions about what librarians do, what the best part of the job is, and how long it takes to become a Master of Information and Library Science. Additionally, Librarian Childs got to take part in the Medina River Natural Area's first ever Spring Festival and tell patrons, both current and future, about the field guides and plant books at the library to help identify the plants, animals, and birds they found on their outdoor adventures.

ENCINO

Childrens

Encino children have continued our regular twice weekly Story Times and weekly Baby Times where caregivers have made close connections and continue to welcome new visitors.

During Spring Break, tweens had the opportunity to come design their own personalized keychains. Later in the week children of all ages designed and put together paper chain pythons. Children also had a couple of opportunities to build with LEGOs. One LEGO program encouraged children to create animal habitats as if they were in a zoo and there were several really creative designs.

Kids enjoyed exploring our sensory playtime. There were two clear favorite stations this month, Shadow Puppets and Sorting. At each station, children worked together to add a narrative to their play as they told stories and played pretend to their heart's content.

Teens

Encino teens have been led by our teen library aide Kelli Pyles while we await our next Teen Librarian. Each week the kids come up with different activities and they always have a nice big group hanging out together. They have also continued their weekly Monday Art program led by volunteer Aubry Warmke where the students enjoy hanging out and working on different projects together.

Adults

Librarian Ann Laird continued her visits to Franklin Park assisted living center in March, bringing the residents a presentation about author Jonathan Kellerman. In honor of Women's History Month, Encino held a screening of the movie Hidden Figures on March 17. This screening was part of a systemwide Women's History film series. The adult craft series at Encino, "Get Craftin'" continued on March 25 with an opportunity for patrons to make their own beaded bracelets. There were several types of beading materials available, and patrons really enjoyed being creative and making their own jewelry!

Encino also hosted three all ages programs during March. Ann Laird hosts a monthly all ages craft program called "Sunday Funday." On March 10, Sunday Funday participants got the opportunity to learn how to make a bear or bunny out of a washcloth and rubber bands! Families had a great time at the "Mystery Pop Tart Tasting" program on March 11. Participants got samples of different flavors of Pop Tarts, wrote down what flavors they guessed they might be, then checked their answers. The trickiest flavor was banana bread flavored Pop Tarts! On March 19 Encino hosted over 40 fans of Taylor Swift to make "Swiftie Bracelets"! Participants enjoyed spelling the names of their favorite songs, and accenting the letters with lots of colorful beads!

FOREST HILLS

The Forest Hills branch was honored to host another informational program about the upcoming eclipse on March 23rd; a subject matter expert presented on the various myths and facts about eclipses and gave attendees the opportunity to ask questions, entertaining and educating the 25 attendees. Many patrons thanked staff afterwards, appreciating the opportunity to learn more about this astronomical event.

The Alamo City Writer's Guild began meeting regularly at Forest Hills Library in the month of March. The group of writers meets bi-weekly to discuss writing projects, provide feedback to members, and otherwise support each other in their writing pursuits.

Branch Manager Mary Naylor hosted the monthly book club at the Doris Griffin Senior Center. This month, the book club discussed Pineapple Street by Jenny Jackson. She also continued to host the Craft and Chat Club, which met twice in the month of March. The crafters have been working on tackling two crochet projects under the direction of Mrs. Naylor. They have made great progress toward completing a washcloth for beginners, and a more advanced triangle scarf project. The group looks forward to completing these projects and taking the skills they have gained on to more complex crochet patterns.

Children's Services Librarian Ana Menchaca continued her monthly outreach visits, going to A Place for Life and Head Start. She read stories and sang songs with four classes of preschoolers and checked out books to each classroom. Ms. Menchaca was invited to attend Villarreal Elementary School to celebrate Read Across America, where she read to a classroom and answered questions about the library.

For the Children's Services initiatives, Ms. Menchaca read and wrote about the graphic novel "The Moth Keeper" for the Children's blog and curated a diverse and annotated reading list for

various ages about folktales for the Mayor's Summer Reading Club. She also assisted with creating a book list for the website that focused on poetry.

In the Forest Hills branch, Ms. Menchaca continued her weekly Story time, Kids Time, Lego Time, Baby Time, and Bilingual Story time programs. March included a special Kids Time celebrating "Something on a Stick Day," which was a hit! Children and their caregivers made monsters and floral bookmarks out of Popsicle sticks.

Teen Services Librarian Shannan Prukop helped run the anime area and cosplay contest at Pop Madness on March 9th. They helped manage the tile decoupage and origami crafts as well as checking in on the panels going on in the LCRC space throughout the day. For the cosplay contest, they helped guide contestants into the backstage area and let them know what to expect when getting on stage, as well as emceeing the contest itself. It's always exciting to see how the contestants show off their costumes on stage and see them get their awards.

In the branch, Mx. Prukop continued their weekly Teen Time program, with teens working together to decorate take & make kit envelopes, sharing their favorite anime, and sharing life updates with each other. On the 210teenlibrary Discord server, Mx. Prukop continued leading the weekly Dungeons & Dragons Club, during which teens sharpen their critical thinking skills and develop social skills of collaborative storytelling and conflict resolution as their characters continue the fantasy adventure to save the world from the threat of Tiamat.

Library Assistant Shy Axelrod continued hosting the monthly Bring Your Own Book Club and Gaymer Night tabletop gaming program, with readers sharing books relating to nutrition this month in the book club. Gaymer Night had several new faces this month, and players had a great time trying out the various games available while chatting.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Tuesday afternoon is Story Time at Great Northwest. Children and their grownups listen to stories and enjoy simple, shared activities. It was a time for families to have fun together while developing early literacy skills and fostering curiosity. On Wednesday mornings the library hosted Family Play Time for children ages 5 and younger. Families with young children visited the library to enjoy come-and-go style play time activities. Thursday afternoon Baby Time program is a big hit with our littlest patrons and their grownups. Fridays were full of fun for kids. During Toddler Time children ages 18 months to 3 years old actively participated in stories, music, and movement to enhance their social, emotional, and language development. On Friday afternoon the library hosted the Let's Create Maker's Club for kids ages 6 to 12 years old. Kids expressed themselves with creative, self-directed art activities. During the Let's Build on March 30 a few families collaborated to build an enormous castle!



The Great Northwest Library hosted Teen Time on Tuesday evenings in March. Each program was planned and implemented by Great Northwest teen volunteers and attendees! This month was very special. Teens hosted their very first Mystery Dinner Theatre and it was a complete success! This was the first event in a series the teens planned, and each event will have a different theme and set of characters. This month's theme was a murder at the space station, we had patrons and colleagues donate costumes, décor, and props for a day which included a few Jedi costumes, and light sabers and each teen brought their own acting skills to the table! The teens stayed in character the entire time, ad-lib the scripts provided and were laughing the entire time. The teens had country accents, German, robot ones, and so much more, everyone had a great time. Thanks to HEB gift and my teen volunteer Benjamin, the Mystery Dinner Theatre was a success. Library Aide Alfredo Ortega assisted and helped with the event and was our impromptu stage director. Alfredo helped me unveil the murder victim, and gave out trophies for best costume, actor, and detective awards! Great Northwest also hosted San Antonio Public Library's first Young Adult Queer Social where LGBTQ+ teens from all over San Antonio can meet up, hang out, and participate in fun arts and crafts activities.



The Great Northwest Potpourri Book Club met on March 16 to discuss *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett. The book club meets once a month to discuss a book from a different genre each month. On March 23 Great Northwest Library hosted a Jazz Performance by Northwest Vista College student Ethan Aguilar. The Video Gaming Club meets every Saturday afternoon and is for all ages. Participants meet up to play a variety of video games every month at the library. Great Northwest Library staff celebrated the total eclipse by creating an eclipse themed Scavenger Hunt. During the month of April patrons could hunt around the library looking for clues to complete the Scavenger Hunt. On March 16 Great Northwest Library hosted the Library Bee quilting group where older adults and adults can meet once a month to work on quilting projects and learn new quilting skills. The library celebrated Women's History Month by holding a screening of the film *She Said*. The film is based on the true story of New York Times reporters Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey's investigation into the sexual harassment allegations against Hollywood heavyweight Harvey Weinstein.

GUERRA

The Guerra branch continued to host the VITA free tax return preparation for qualifying taxpayers.

Children's Librarian, Linda Lopez, continued her weekly programs for the month. Every Wednesday she hosted Toddler Story Time, and Lego Club. Toddler Story Time continues to be a well-attended program where toddlers and their grown-ups enjoy dancing, rhyming, playing, and stories. Children and their families who attended Lego club enjoyed building creations and challenged each other with Lego challenge cards. All Lego creations were displayed at the branch during the week. Tween time on Thursday afternoons saw a small group of Tweens as they continued to work on Perler bead creations. Saturday's Let's Create – Art is a fun new

addition to the programming lineup where children and their families displayed their creativity through self-directed art.

On March 6, Ms. Lopez joined her colleague from the Potranco location for an outreach event at Lieck Elementary. At this STREAM event, she interacted with over 100 families and shared about all services offered by the San Antonio Public Library. On March 8, she attended Adams Hill Elementary's Career Day and shared with classroom about Librarian careers. On March 9th, Ms. Lopez volunteered at SAPL's Pop Madness at Central Library where she assisted with yoga for children and the children's escape room.

On March 28, she hosted a group of John Jay High School juniors who are interested in pursuing careers in early literacy. She discussed the importance of early childhood literacy, careers in early childhood education, careers as a children's librarian, and shared children's programming planning resources.

Teen Librarian Bek Corley facilitated the weekly Teen Club which welcomed three new teens this month! The group chose to hang out to get to know each other, chat about DnD, make buttons and complete puzzles.

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson facilitated weekly Spanish/English conversation hour. This month, the group practiced topics including shoes, clothing, and vegetables. He recorded *La cerca* (The fence) by Alfredo Soderguit for Dial-a-Story in Spanish. On March 1, he moderated a book discussion group, Club de Lectura, both face-to-face and via Zoom. They discussed *La Bibliotecaria de Saint Malo* (The librarian of Saint Malo) by Mario Escobar on March 28. The next day, March 29, Stephen's outreach efforts took him to the Willie Cortez Senior Center where he held a trivia game which focused on questions about survival stories and Saint Patrick's Day.

Adults and seniors participated in passive programming activities provided at the branch: jigsaw puzzles, crossword puzzles, word searches and adult coloring.

IGO

On March 13, 2024, Morghann Patterson hosted an event at the Igo Library - the Entangled Life Book Club. A standout feature of this gathering was the presence of Patrick McGuire, a member of the Native Plant Society. Patrick shared his profound knowledge of native plant life, captivating participants in a thought-provoking discussion that illuminated the intricate ecosystems surrounding us. Following the exchange, Patrick graciously led the group on an immersive nature walk, allowing us to marvel at the beauty and complexity of our natural world firsthand. This event not only fostered a deep appreciation for native flora but also nurtured a stronger connection with nature among all attendees.

Moreover, the Igo Library witnessed a notable increase in activity due to its engagement in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. This vital community service extended free

tax aid to numerous individuals, catering to a diverse range of taxpayers. The program's substantial participation underscores the community's reliance on and gratitude for such accessible assistance in managing their tax affairs.

Additionally, the Igo branch played a pivotal role during the early voting period and the Joint Primary Election Day, serving as a vital polling location. It saw a significant turnout of voters exercising their democratic rights. The library staff adeptly managed the influx of voters, ensuring a seamless and organized voting process for all participants.

These endeavors reaffirm the library's steadfast commitment to actively engage with the community and deliver essential services that cater to diverse needs. The success of both the VITA program and the library's involvement in the electoral process underscores its pivotal role as a nexus for civic engagement and support within our local community.

JOHNSTON

On March 29 Johnston hosted the San Antonio Legal Services Association who conducted a Veterans Legal Clinic—assisting veterans who qualify financially for the service.

Librarian Cris Yamada conducted the Adult Craft Club on March 16. Patrons enjoyed decorating clay pots with Frida Kahlo theme and the Journaling group used the same theme to decorate their journal pages. Ms. Yamada organized the event Get Eclipse Ready at Johnston on March 19 and handed out eclipse glasses to patrons who came to watch safety videos. She represented the San Antonio Public Library in two Health Fairs at the retirement centers Blue Sky of Texas West and East on March 26.



Children's Librarian Jackie Gonzales held Family Story Times every Thursday. Ms. Gonzales sang songs, told rhymes, and read stories to children and their caregivers. Targeted for preschool age children, families were encouraged to come and listen, learn, play, and sing along. Within the program, the children's librarian ensured to incorporate the five building blocks for early literacy: sing, talk, read, write, and play. Stories shared included *The Wind May Blow* by Sasha Quinton and *Horrible Bear!* by Ame Dyckman. A simple craft was provided at the end of each Story Time where children and their caregiver(s) could work on something. Children

who wished to opt out of doing the craft were provided toys to play with. Ms. Gonzales offered Let's Create: Come and Go Art every Thursday afternoon. Children were invited to follow the prompt or create another project with any materials provided. Prompts included: a paper plate moon and a paper plate butterfly. Children were encouraged to be creative and to challenge themselves with the materials provided. Lego Time was held on Wednesdays at 4pm. Children were given free build time and then challenges that they could do alone or with a partner.

Projects created were then displayed until the next Lego Time. Ms. Gonzales visited La Petite Academy on Wurzbach on March 12 and provided Story Time. She also visited Alan B Shepard Middle School on March 5 for their district wide Career Day. Ms. Gonzales had a table where she provided information to all the 2nd graders in the district. Another outreach she did was for Hidden Cove STEAM Academy on March 8. This outreach was for their Career Day where she provided information about the library to children. She also visited Sun Valley Elementary for their Comic Con on March 8 where she had a table to provide information about the library.



Teen Librarian Ana Piña facilitated in-person Teen Time every Monday night of the month. Teens assisted in selecting and planning weekly activities throughout the month which included learning how to play cards against humanity, sharing musical interests, and various other board games. Ms. Piña also hosted the Johnston No-pressure Book Club on Sunday, March 17th where participants gathered to talk about the books they have been reading for the month of March. Notable titles were Sorry I'm Late I Didn't Want to Come by Jessica Pan and Erasure by Percival Everett.

When I first came to Learn at Johnston,

I wanted to:

Learn more about how to use the computer and find a good job.

Now I:

can use the computer with very little help. I know how to log on and get into my email. I have also written a resume to look for jobs online. I was able to conduct an interview online which led to a job offer, meaning am now employed. I appreciate having this center available for me help when I need it. Before I learned about center, I was unsure of how I was going to get anything done. Thank you.

In the future I would like to:

learn more about using the computer. For example, how to use Microsoft Word, how to use the internet to help simplify my life.

G. Velasco
March 2024



In March, the Johnston Learn Center served a total of 49 patrons--18 were new patrons seeking computer and job preparation training and 31 received ongoing support for improving their computer skills. Johnston's Training Officer, Shauna Mendoza, began a testimonial wall to showcase patrons who have reached their goals. The first testimonial features a patron who sought job searching assistance and has since secured employment with the support of the Learn Center. Ms. Mendoza attended the Springvale Homeowners Association meeting on March 26 and the Harper's Chapel

Community Resource event on March 27.

LANDA

Children

Over 1,300 people attended the 43 March story times, Lego, art, and tween programs presented by Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas at Landa Library.

In March, Ms. Salinas also visited several nearby early literacy childcare centers and provided almost 200 students with story times at their schools. The San Antonio Pride Center invited SAPL Children's Librarians to participate in the National Day of Reading: A Celebration of Stories Supporting Transgender and Non-Binary Youth. Ms. Salinas along with two other librarians attended. The San Antonio Pride Center invited the San Antonio Public Library to their Spring Health Festival. Ms. Salinas along with another Children's Librarian set up a fun interactive craft table for families that attended.

Ms. Salinas continued to help facilitate an Art Club Online program for children twice a month. Two scavenger hunts, a shape hopscotch course, a pretend play hot drinks center, a block table, and an art station continued to be really popular self-directed activities in Landa's Children's area.

Teens

Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Thomas-Rosen organized two weekly Teen Time programs, which are supported by library staff but run by the teens themselves. This month, outdoor activities remained a popular choice among the teens. They enjoyed spending time with each other, building relationships, and having fun, regardless of the specific activity they engaged in. Additionally, the teens added their personal touch to the space by creating artwork and leaving messages, which showcases their creativity and allowed them to take ownership of their environment.

Adults

In March, Landa adults prepared for the April eclipse. Adult Librarian Robin Alcorta hosted Get Eclipse Ready with Dr. Angela Speck. Dr. Speck shared information on how to safely view the eclipse. She held a Q&A afterwards.

Landa hosted a Texana team member this month. Andrew Crews presented Using Census Records in Genealogical Research. Mr. Crews shared his knowledge about the different kinds of information the census forms contain and how to use that information in your family research.

Librarian Alcorta conducted outreach at The Village at Incarnate Word. The book club read *The Marriage Portrait* by Maggie O'Farrell. The group was knowledgeable about the history and shared what each understood to be true.

Reader's Ink read *Crook Manifesto* by Colson Whitehead. The group enjoyed the novel but questioned what was the overall message.

Mystery Book Club read *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* by Agatha Christie. For many of the group, it was a rereading. They enjoyed talking about the book that started the trope of unreliable narrator.

LAS PALMAS

Las Palmas Branch Library is currently closed for renovations. Interim services for Las Palmas Branch Library are located at Our Lady of the Lake University's Sueltenfuss Library (411 SW 24th St., San Antonio, TX 78207).

Interim service site hours of operation:

Monday – Tuesday | 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday - Friday | 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday | 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



(San Antonio Public Library-Communications Department, 2023)

Las Palmas continues to be actively engaged with District 5 community members and organizations by participating in outreach events and programming.



On March 7, Adult Services Librarian Nicole San Martin represented Las Palmas Branch at the Humana Neighborhood Center Resource Fair where she signed up community members for library cards, and shared information about library programs and services. Later that month, SEAL scientist Dr. Cesare Grava gave a presentation on solar eclipses and viewing safety where eclipse glasses and pinhole projector kits were distributed to attendees.

On March 19, Branch Manager Lily Treviño Pérez contributed to San Antonio Public Library's Dial-A-Story (Telecuentos) service by reading, "No lleves tu Dragon a la Biblioteca" por Julie Gassman.



Throughout March, Teen Librarian Amisarahi (Ami) Sarabia continues to spearhead the Music Monday Discord Program, drawing in enthusiastic teens eager to share and listen to their favorite tunes spanning genres like Pop, Rock, and K-Pop. Amidst the music, participants also bond over conversations, discussing school events, and sharing updates about their lives.

MAVERICK

In the beginning of the month, Maverick welcomed the Bexar County Elections Department for the final day of Early Voting Primaries and for Election Day. The Reference Team worked together ensuring the Election Judges had access to the building and remained until voting ended for the day. In March, Maverick hosted The Lady Mav's Book Club, Ladies Choice Book Club, and the Poetry Club for their monthly gathering. For its third meeting of the year, Maverick hosted The Edge Writing Workshop presented by Poet, Dario Beniquez. The Mah Jongg Group also met twice in March. Maverick held its Spring Used Book Sale on March 23 & 24. Ben Longoria, Adult Services Librarian II, continued reviewing and weeding through the collection.

Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts, did a variety of tasks during this reporting period. She continued to weed Maverick Library's collection, focusing on duplicate Juvenile Easy's, Juvenile paperbacks, Juvenile Biography's and Juvenile Graphic Novels. Ms. Roberts presented Planning EPE's to 1 PT Circulation Attendant and 1 PT Library Assistant. In addition, she opened for Early Voting on March 1. Ms. Roberts participated in distributing eclipse glasses to members of the public starting on March 25.

Children's programming was plentiful in March! Ms. Roberts supported staff who had a "Piggie and Gerald" puppet show and craft program on March 16 for a lively and attentive audience. On March 30, Bartholomew the French Bulldog and his handler, Ms. DeThorne came for our popular "Read to A Dog" program. Eight children read to Bartholomew. In all, Ms. Roberts and Maverick had 12 Early Literacy programs with 428 attendees and 6 School Age programs with 224 attendees.

Ms. Roberts participated in several training courses and meetings during the reporting period. She took Security Awareness Training on March 13. She did Lib Chat on March 1, March 15, and March 29. Ms. Roberts attended the in-person Children's Librarians meeting on March 13.

Maverick Teen Volunteers led Teen Time activities on Tuesday evenings, aided by Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl. Button making made a comeback, with teens sending images for Bleichwehl to size and print out for the button maker on loan from Central Teen Services. Teens made buttons with pictures of themselves, their friends, and their pets. One Teen created a logo for his band and made buttons with the logo for his band mates. One week there was no planned craft, so Bleichwehl opened the craft cupboard, and a Teen Volunteer chose all sorts of paper crafting items to support the theme 'Spring.' A regularly attending Teen continues to bring

their guitar, and another often brings their sculpting clay, creating beautiful imaginary creatures. Teens competed at Uno, Taco Cat and on the PS4 consul, Beat Saber. Teens also went 'old school' and watched the movies Mean Girls and Labyrinth in March.

McCRELESS

Children's Librarian Paula Lenington lead a Family Story Time every Thursday in March. The kids sang songs, listened to a story and had an engaging time playing and building.



Every Tuesday of the month, kids came to build and play with Legos, they did a good job using their imagination to create.



The Children's Librarian also has a reoccurring crafting time called Creator Club. Anything can happen at creator club; it is only limited by your imagination.



On March 20th Paula Lenington had the opportunity to visit Kiddie Corner Learning Academy, and had the privilege to read stories, and sing songs with the kids. There were around 30 kids in attendance.



On two Sundays in March, Amy came with her dog Seamus for the Read to a Dog program. Kids took turns reading to Seamus to increase their reading fluency.



On the other two Sundays in March, Paula led a Family S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) program so families can explore these topics through stories and hands on activities. The focus was the total eclipse this month.



Paula Lenington was invited to Hutching Elementary for Literacy Night on March 6. She took Pokémon bookmarks to color and talked to families about getting library cards and all the online options they had available to them.



For Spring Break, Learning with Grace Childcare had a field trip to the library. We discussed the Eclipse and viewing safety, made spaceships, and handed out classes. There were about 45 kids in attendance.



Paula was able to Zoom with a kindergarten class in Michigan for March is Reading Month. Fun was had by all.



The Center for Health Care Services visited the library on March 7th with a group of 11 Adults who have special needs. Librarian Paula Lenington had a story/craft time with them where she read stories about space, talked about the eclipse, and did some crafts.

Every Tuesday night, Daniela Moreno, Teen Services Librarian, facilitated programs for teens aged 13 to 18 in the Teen space. Teens decided the activities they wanted to do for the following week. Some examples of these activities are playing with the Nintendo Switch, creating art with the materials provided, making buttons, etc.

On March 20th, Daniela Moreno assisted fellow Teen Librarian Heather Swindell at an outreach event at Edison High School. From 5:00-6:30 PM, Daniela and Heather spoke to teens and their families, guiding them to get library cards while promoting all the services the library has to offer, especially for teens.

The Adult Learn Center's "Civics for Citizenship" class has been studying the U.S. Naturalization Exam questions which pertain to the Civil War. For one lesson, students brought popcorn and drinks to accompany the feature film and reflection questions for "Harriet", which portrays the life of Harriet Tubman, the most famous conductor on the Underground Railroad. Students also enjoyed practicing reading aloud using the library book, If You Were a Kid in the Civil War, by Wil Mara. Such activities provide a context for the 100 questions students have to memorize, offering a framework on which to "hang" the questions, and genuine comprehension of the issues and events of U.S. history and government.

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, the ESL class initiated ANOTHER potluck. The students decided that all should wear green and bring a food that was either Irish or the color green. Fun foods included Irish Soda Bread, tostadas with guacamole, a rice dish chock-full of green beans, a tray with green apples, kiwi, and green grapes, celery with cottage cheese dip, sodas in green bottles, and more! Lodie curated 11 YouTube videos to watch while everyone ate, featuring the story of St. Patrick, the origins, traditions, and English vocabulary for St. Patrick's Day, Irish scenery, instrumental music, dancing, singing, and people speaking Irish Gaelic. Another video described the little-known story of "Los San Patricios", 800 Irish soldiers in the U.S. Army who were sent west to fight Mexico in the 1847 dispute over Texas. Suffering racist discrimination, anti-Catholic sentiment, and receiving poor wages, these 800 men formed their own regiment and switched their allegiance to fight for Mexico in the Mexican American War. 50 were captured by the U.S. and hanged as deserters, but are regarded as heroes both in Mexico and Ireland.

The "Yoga Tuesdays at McCreless" continues to grow in numbers and popularity. Up to 7 participants usually attend the class, with a delightfully wide age range from 30 to 80 years old. Numerous English and Spanish speakers take advantage of Learn services during walk-in hours, logging 114 computer sessions during March.



Adult Services Librarian Vicky Villalobos held McCreless' weekly Coffee, Crosswords & Chisme program for Older Adults. On Wednesday mornings, patrons enjoy a cup of coffee while they work on crosswords, Sudoku, and word finds as they discuss the latest celebrity "chisme". Vicky also held the monthly Queer Crafternoon program on March 17 where the selection was "One Last Stop" by Casey McQuiston. On March 29, Vicky joined Librarians Brook Mjolsness and Dan Garcia, and Adult Services Coordinator Morgan Yoshimura, for SAPL Live Trivia. Thirty players joined in the virtual program and competed for first place and bragging rights.

In March Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales presented "Selena" for Movie Night at McCreless celebrating Women's History Month. Mr. Gonzales also presented The Martian for McCreless Eclipse Ready program which included snacks, refreshments as well as eclipse glasses. Library Assistant Gonzales presented Wonka the movie for all ages during spring break. Families were able to come to McCreless and enjoy a family movie, popcorn, refreshments, and candy. Mr. Gonzales helped the Pop Madness committee by organizing the Pokémon Battle Arena section for the event. Everyone was able to participate in a craft, Pokémon Go battle tournament, card trading and a Pokémon Loteria game.

MEMORIAL

In addition to Memorial Branch Library's usual weekly and monthly programs and activities, some truly special events took place during the month of March. On March 9, the branch saw a good turnout for the Introduction to American Sign Language class, facilitated by LEAD Enterprise.



The branch also geared up for the April eclipse by hosting two separate events. Children's Librarian Melissa Fulmer introduced children to Eclipse Fun and Adult Services Librarian Freddy Hudson encouraged all to Get Eclipse Ready.

For Women's History Month, the branch showed the film *A League of Their Own*, and served snacks and drinks to the enthusiastic audience.

Learn Training Officer Daniel Gomez held an awards ceremony for Learn Center students who had completed various training programs over the previous few months. Food for the event was supplied through the use of the HEB gift card arranged by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation.



MISSION

Mission was a designated early voting and election day location for the joint Democratic-Republican primary election.

Beginning on March 25th, Mission began giving away eclipse glasses to the community on a first-come, first-served basis. The next day all glasses were given out.

The Fiber Artists of San Antonio created a work called "The Joy of Reading" which consists of book covers that will be temporarily displayed at Mission. It is a very creative piece depicting the covers of books using a variety of media.

Little Read Wagon had the first Let's Play at Mission Library outside in the enclosed courtyard on Wednesday March 27th. Children ages 0-5 are offered outdoor play activities. Children can problem solve, develop social & emotional skills and express themselves, all of which are essential to building healthy brains.

Several activities took place for Teens at Mission in March. Teens participated in weekly Crafternoon programs on Tuesdays where there are a variety of crafting materials available for teens to bring out their inner artist! Teens also play tabletop games and video games on the first two Saturdays of the month in a program called Ready, Set, Game! Teen volunteers facilitate this club and feel a sense of ownership in the program. In addition to the regular programming that takes place for teens, several special activities took place during Spring Break week. Megan Feeley, Mission Circulation Attendant, facilitated KPop, Anime, and Gaming programs which provided numerous opportunities for teens to gather and for volunteers to help out and earn service hours for school. Librarian, Cindy Cruz, also visited two outreach sites in March. Hot Wells Middle school invited her to speak to students and families at a school festival. Cindy also visited with teens at the Villa Coronado Resource Center which is run by COSA-Metro Health. Cindy and the teens painted on mini-canvases.

Adult Services Librarian Kassandra Vela-Laosa, partnered with Austin Typewriter Ink (ATI) from Austin, Texas, and on Saturday, March 2nd, 20 vintage typewriters were prepped with ink and paper and ready for anyone to jot down a poem, a few thoughts or even a letter. Many families attended, and for some young persons, it was a first introduction to this vintage technology. 15 people attended this unique event.

PAN AMERICAN

The Pan American Library had several displays throughout the month of March. Pan American's Circulation Attendant Deborah Blancas arranged a display highlighting Women's History Month. The display includes a variety of DVD and Blu-ray films. It features titles like Hidden Figures, The Woman King, and Women in WWII.



Library Assistant Linda Bauers created a display for Autism awareness which included books for people with Autism, representation of Autism in media and caring for people with Autism.



To welcome spring, Children's Librarian Rachel Forbes had a Come & Go craft where families could decorate paper eggs and do a bug-themed scavenger hunt. Ms. Forbes also set up a "Spring into a Good Book" book display. In addition to the Spring display, the Branch collaborated on a "I Survived" display" that included books from Lauren Tarshis, Alan Gratz, and several series such as the "You Choose" series and "Girls Survive."



Gladys Nunez, Teen Services Librarian, facilitated opportunities for teens at the Branch to share their creativity. Teen volunteers created two YA displays (as well as the flyers) for the month of February. One was titled "Fly into the New World" focusing on books set in space and the second one was titled "Into the Unknown" which included books from different genres. Both displays proved to be popular with patrons. Teens attended the Eclipse 2024 Teen Movie Night and watched the movie Arrival. It also gave them the opportunity to pick up eclipse glasses.

Teens from McCauley Christian Academy visited Pan American for a field trip. Their teacher wanted the teens to learn about the library and how to use the catalog and databases for their research projects. With the help of Teen Librarian Ami Sarabia, the students followed along on a short presentation about programming, resources, and how to search the catalog. After the presentation, the teens were given a tour of the library and logged into the public computers to see if they could find books for their projects. Each teen left with a goodie bag filled with pencils, pens, notepads, flyers, highlighters, and eclipse glasses.

In March the Pan American Library started a community puzzle for Adults. Several community members have worked together to complete multiple puzzles.



On March 8th, Children's Librarian Rachel Forbes attended Career Day at Hillcrest Elementary School with Children's Librarian Linda Childs and talked to students about working at a library. To promote her involvement in the Nature Smart work group, Ms. Forbes tabled the Medina River Natural Area Spring Festival with Ms. Childs. Families could come, learn about the library, and do a fun craft! For the reporting period she hosted four Story Times, four Lego Times, four Tween Times, and two Family Fun Times. One of the Family Fun Times and Story Times were dedicated to the upcoming Eclipse event where Ms. Forbes passed out Eclipse glasses. Ms.

Forbes also collaborated with Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser from Schaefer Library and hosted their last Sing and Stroll Story Time.



Ms. Forbes also had additional Come and Go crafts throughout the month. One included a craft to make a pot of gold followed by a rainbow.

PARMAN



March was a month of looking to the skies at the Parman Branch! Parman hosted again a Get Eclipse Ready! subject matter expert presentation. Dr. Angela Speck, chair of the UTSA department of Physics and Astronomy and Co-Chair of the American Astronomical Society Eclipse Task force presented to a crowd of over 80 patrons (adults) excited to learn about the upcoming total eclipse.

All 2600 eclipse glasses provided by Space Science Institute were distributed at Parman Branch in less than a week.



Basic SKYWARN® workshop at Parman was very well attended as well. Meeting room at Parman was filled with patrons (adults) eager to learn about severe weather specific to South Central Texas. This workshop prepared for weather and provided information on reporting severe weather to the local National Weather

Service Office. Presenter provided an overview on the science of severe weather (such as thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hail) and the safety concerns these storms cause. Patrons learned general safety rules for protecting themselves in severe weather situations just to be prepared.

Parman patrons interested in fitness were excited to join the newest wellness program in which Participants can learn the ancient arts of Qi Gong and Tai Chi. These well attended (mostly older adults), weekly classes led by certified instructor Catalina Gonzalez not only encourage fitness, but they also encourage mental well-being.



Embracing Diverse

Culture in San Antonio Series is getting more and more popular. Ukrainian Language and Culture Club focused this month on Ukrainian holiday of Masnytsia, which is celebrated for one week before Eater lent. During Masnytsia people do not eat meat, so many enjoy dairy based dishes using traditional Ukrainian cheese. Olha Varchuk, local chef demonstrated how to make traditional Ukrainian cheese and use it in a variety of traditional dishes.

Parman's monthly Indecisive Book Club saw great success in March. Led by Library Assistant Ms. Melissa, 14 patrons eagerly discussed "the Midnight Library" by Matt Haig. In March Parman also hosted the first meeting of the new Spanish Language Book Club created by library Aide Veronica Yau and new "Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club" presented by adult services librarian Mr. Zachary.



At Parman Library, teens (including teens volunteers) are led and guided by Teen Services Librarian Ms. Becky Hillmann. Teen volunteers' ingenuity and initiative shine through in the robotics camp they created, demonstrating remarkable leadership and teamwork skills. As mentors and instructors, they guide campers through engineering challenges, fostering collaboration and inspiring future engineers. Their dedication and enthusiasm are vital to the

camp's success, highlighting the impact of youth-driven initiatives in our community.



Additionally, during Teen

Time, teens engaged in a variety of activities such as baking, rock painting, gaming, air dry clay sculpting, and a friendly Lego competition. These activities not only inspired creativity but also encouraged socializing and personal development, creating an enriching environment for teens to unwind, learn, and bond with peers

March brought leprechauns to Parman. The children followed clues to find the leprechaun and his gold on St. Patrick's Day weekend. Each of the 78 children was able to pick a prize from the treasure chest!

The babies at Baby Story Time are growing up and learning so much. One of our regulars (a toddler now) took it upon herself to welcome the other babies and adults as they came in. She even pointed to the ticket basket to let them know where to put their tickets!

A favorite activity this month in Creator Club was learning how to create cardboard stamps with Miss Teague. After assembling the stamps with cardboard and hot glue, participants dipped their stamps in paint and created new masterpieces on paper. Parman's Creators also enjoyed crumpling up paper over and over again in a watercolor craft that resulted in beautiful, tie-dyed works of art.

Tweens used paint sample cards to make name garlands one week in Tween Time. Everyone enjoyed finding the colors that best reflected their personalities to spell out their names. Painting with marbles and using paint pens on rocks were other ways to express their creativity...and both activities were surprisingly mess-free! At the end of the month, tweens used cardboard boxes and Peep marshmallows to make dioramas. One participant made a pepperoni "Peepza" and another had her Peeps reading under a tree! Uno continues to be a favorite game among this group and is played weekly with much excitement.

POTRANCO

Potranco's Adult Services Librarian Dawn Zeig partnered with Melissa Gonzales of the Diabetes Prevention Unit of Metro Health and wrapped up their seven-week diabetes prevention program on March 5th. Participants expressed how much they enjoyed the series and are hopeful that we will hold additional workshops in the future.

Librarian Zeig continued to host Hormones and Hot Flashes on the last Sunday of the month. Patrons that are experiencing perimenopause or are in menopause are encouraged to come listen to a podcast, chat, and color. This month's podcast featured Pilates Teacher and Author, Kerrie-Anne Bradley, discussing "Pilates at Your Desk: How to Move More in Menopause".

Librarian Zeig held two book clubs this month. The morning and evening versions of Shelf Indulgence, on March 26th, discussed this month's book Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant by Curtis Chin. Next month's selection is Tom Lake by Ann Patchett. Librarian Zeig continues to host Dreaded Threads on Monday evenings and is delighted to have Circulation Attendant Tiffany Pineda assisting her. Dreaded Threads continues to be one of our best attended adult programs.

On Thursday, March 28th, Librarian Zeig and Branch Manager Tim Johnson hosted the San Antonio Chapter of the Silent Book Club. Readers filed in once the branch had closed to the public and engaged with each other as well as with library staff. For an hour, it was silent as the book club participants read their books. The event had a wonderful turnout of about 40 readers and Librarians Zeig and Johnson are hoping to schedule another one later this year. Silent Book Club San Antonio was founded this past July and Librarian Zeig learned about it from an article in the MYSA. Silent Book Club is a place for book lovers of all ages and genres. It's

premise is that rather than have a group read one single book, people come together with whatever book they may be reading at that time and sit at a designated place for an hour reading in total silence.

Librarian Zeig participated in an older adult outreach on March 29th at the Northeast Senior Center. The Senior Center held a resource fair for older adults. Participants expressed how much they enjoy the library and loved the stylus pens and notebooks that were given out on behalf of the San Antonio Public Library. Librarians Zeig and Mjolsness promoted library events taking place nearby and spoke to attendees about library offerings.

Chess! At Potranco continues to be very popular. Volunteer Chess Master David Pacheco III brought his skills and enthusiasm for the game to Potranco on March 2nd and the 30th.

The Potranco branch participated in Collection Development's Women's History Month book display for March and the offerings were heavily circulated.

Children's Librarian II Lisa Leandro participated in two outreach events in the month of March. There was one at Jordan Middle School and another at Leike elementary. Librarian Leandro also responsible for the escape room at Pop Madness. More than 65 attendees were able to successfully "escape." This month kids and tweens events included: making UV activated slime in preparation for the Eclipse and enjoyed a presentation on Pecos Bill and learned how to make Balloon Chupacabras with Mr. Mark from Twisty Art.

Sherry Ross, Teen Services Librarian at Potranco, facilitated weekly programs for teens aged 13 to 18, utilizing the library's "Create" space and the dedicated Teen Area. During the weekly Teen Time, teens enjoyed various activities. In honor of Women's History month, the teens suggested making hand-crafted donations to a local women's shelter, which they completed over several weeks. Teen Time activities encouraged creative expression and positive social interaction. Teen volunteers initiated two new teen programs in March, a teen book club and a young writer's group. These programs provided teens an opportunity to explore their literary interests and socialize with others around shared interests and the teen volunteers were able to practice leadership skills by facilitating the group activities. Sherry Ross continued to mentor a student from Stevens High School involved in an independent studies class, providing guidance as the student works towards her end of course project.

Sherry Ross also participated in a Dyslexia Resource Fair held by Great Hearts Western Hills, a nearby charter school. At this event, she shared information about the San Antonio Public Library, highlighting the resources that would be especially helpful for young readers with dyslexia.

In March, Library Circulation Attendant Paschal Booker continued to coordinate meetings for the Potranco Writers Group on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. Attendance numbers have continued to be a robust mix of new and longstanding participants. Writers are beginning to prepare items to be submitted for the 2024 Potranco Writers Group anthology. Deadline for submissions will be June 15, 2024.

Potranco Branch Manager Tim Johnson continued to cohost SAPL's Escape the Earth Sci-Fi and Fantasy podcast with Elissa Vura from Brookhollow and Mary Elizabeth Fernandez from Children's Services. March's episode feature discussion of Bethany Robbins' book *The Stars Undying*. Johnson also helped staff a table during Pop Madness where crew members spoke to well over a hundred attendees about the podcast.



PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

In March 2024, Pruitt's Children's Services kicked off Spring with engaging activities themed around gardens, rain, and bunnies in their Toddler Story Times and Sensory Play Times. The story sessions included songs and books highlighting themes of renewal and growth. During Sensory Play Time, children explored various sensory bins like a garden bin, dinosaur egg bin, frog pond water station, and a green-themed bin. They honed their fine motor and prewriting skills by decorating eggs and building colorful flower gardens.

The branch also resumed its Spring Session of Children's Yoga program with the return of their beloved instructor, Ms. Lissette. The March programs focused on stress management breathing techniques and new variations of sun salutations.

In total, Pruitt's Children's Services hosted twelve programs catering to early childhood and school-age children, with 176 members of the Pruitt community taking part.



March saw the continuation of Community Gardening at Pruitt! with specialist Misty Belmontez discussing water conservation techniques and teaching participants to create clay pot ollas.



At Adult Craft Time, patrons put their creativity to work and created amazing greeting cards.

A small but enthusiastic group came to the Movie Viewing of the film Cesar Chavez, which was presented with support from SAPL's Latino Collection & Resource Center.

On March 18, the branch began new service hours for Monday through Friday, curbside service only from 1PM to 4:30PM and full services 4:30PM to 9PM with Saturday & Sunday offering full services from 10AM to 6PM.

SAN PEDRO

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

In March, senior adults at the Chandler Senior Living Community discussed *The Last Thing He Told Me* by Lauren Dave, facilitated by Librarian Karen Braeuler.

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

Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler, continued Saturday morning Toddler Time and Baby Time. Attendance was strong and many families were appreciative for weekend programming. Everyone had a cozy time sharing the experience and socializing together.

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

On March 26th, the community was visited to take a walk in the park and learn more about San Pedro Springs Park. Hector Cardenas, President of the Friends of the San Pedro Springs Park took patrons on a journey to further explore the rich, cultural history of the park. The tour highlighted the history of the local people, activities, structures and of course, the Springs.



This month's Film Virtuosity: A Reflection Of Art celebrated one of San Antonio's most well-known and accomplished Woman filmmakers, Paulina Manseau, whose works have been shown on PBS and in several film festivals around San Antonio and South Texas.

The program opened with a student film from the NESA cinema department, after that the main features were presented which consisted of five short films, one of which Ms. Manseau was an actress in and the other four she wrote and directed. Ms. Paulina Manseau was in attendance to

discuss her process and inspirations as a filmmaker but more notably, as a woman filmmaker in the industry.

SCHAEFER

During the month of March, the Adult Services Librarian coordinated the on-going, weekly health and fitness program at Schaefer: "Cardio-Dance Class", which features a moderate dance workout led by a Schaefer community member. On March 9, 2024, the Adult Services Librarian hosted the Schaefer Listener's Club, a book club-like program with LP records instead of books. On March 10, 2024, the Adult Services Librarian hosted the monthly Board Game Social program, where participants play board games and socialize. On March 28, 2024, the Adult Services Librarian hosted a program presented by the San Antonio Food Bank promoting their CHEF program initiative to improve health and wellness in the San Antonio area.

Library Assistant, BlancaSilvia Hernandez, hosted a Family Crafting Program where patrons made Galaxy spinning art by pouring paint onto black cardstock and spinning it in a salad spinner. Cool galaxies were made! Adult Craft program participants used fabric markers to decorate can koozies, eye masks, ballcaps and pillowcases with stencils or by freehand. A Plant Swap was held where plant lovers came together to swap plants, cuttings and tips on how to help their plants grow. Blanca published a catalog list of popular titles for Schaefer's I ♥ Vinyl (Digital Edition) program. She worked with Librarian Dacari Lambert to create a birthday cake display celebrating Schaefer Branch turning 7 years old. Blanca also created a Gardening Book Display and featured it during the Plant Swap.

Schaefer's children's librarian Leslie Elsasser offered a variety of programs for kids of all ages during March. Baby Story Time and Outdoor Family Story Time took place weekly for the youngest of Schaefer's patrons. The final Story Time: Sing & Stroll also took place in March along the Schaefer trail. School-age kids had many programs they could attend: Let's Build: Blocks & More, Robot Roundup, Read to a Dog, Let's Build: LEGO Time and Let's Create: Come & Go Art.

On March 23, Library Assistant Isaai Ortega hosted a "Photography for Beginners" program. The program provided the opportunity for patrons to learn how to use a DSLR camera, and photography techniques. The program encompassed key topics such as adjusting the camera's aperture, managing shutter speed, manual focusing, and setting the camera's ISO.

In March, Dacari Lambert, Teen Services Librarian at Schaefer Branch Library facilitated weekly Teen Time alongside three teen volunteers. During Teen Time, teens engaged in peer led programming. In addition to regularly occurring teen programs, Dacari also worked with a longstanding community partner: East Central High School Art Department to host an Art Gallery event, featuring work from over 50 high school students. Dacari worked alongside Adult Services Librarian, Daniel Garcia, to host Mercado por tu Corazon, a reoccurring fresh produce market for the community. Dacari continued to work in partnership with the Vocational 18 program at East Central High School to host two groups of student volunteers on a weekly basis, to gain real world work experience.

For systemwide efforts, Dacari worked with colleagues Shannan Prukop, Lisa Puchot, Michael Dunbar-Rodney, Daniel Garcia to continue InQUEERies: a queer themed SAPL podcast. Dacari

continues with her efforts in the system-wide Queer committee which attended the Rainbow Book Bus event, which garnered hundreds of attendees. Dacari continues work with Teen Services committees: Virtual Teen Services, Teen Pride, and Professional Development.

SEMMEs

Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays were busy children's programming days at Semmes Branch Library in the month of March. On Mondays, school-age programming included two sessions of Read to a Dog attended by 14 children and 11 grownups and two sessions of Let's Build: LEGOs and More attended by 26 children and 18 adults. Wednesdays' Preschool Story Times were attended by 102 children and 80 grownups. Thursdays' Toddler Story Times were attended by 126 children and 97 grownups. Thursdays' Baby Story Times were attended by 59 babies and 61 grownups. Ms. Randi recorded a story on the Dial-a-Story line on March 1, 18, 24, and 29. Ms. Randi had the pleasure of manning a table of information on SAPL's collections and services at two Family Literacy Nights—Woodstone Elementary on March 5 and Crestview Elementary on March 7. Students and their families were invited to scan a QR code in a plexiglass display to get a temporary library card, if needed.

Teens attending Teen Time on Tuesdays still love to create with Perler beads. They are very interested in anything crafty and have enjoyed making wearable pins and magnetic buttons this month.

Tween Time on Wednesdays is well attended. Tweens experimented with a slime recipe to see how they could alter their slime, and they most enjoy talking to each other about hobbies while playing games or drawing together.

Semmes Library played host to more than one thousand voters during the month of March, including the tail end of early voting and Super Tuesday itself. Sunday morning Tai Ji maintains its dedicated attendees, as does the table tennis on Thursdays and Saturdays. This month, the Shelf Obsessed Book Club was joined by a Saturday afternoon family puzzle time, an Adult Gaming program, and a well-attended genealogy program from Texana's Lucia Agado.

THOUSAND OAKS

Assistant Branch Manager Brooke Mjolsness hosted Tai Chi classes led by certified instructor Debra Cox on March 7, 14 and 28. She hosted two programs taught by instructors from Senior Planet - Gardening Tech at a Glance on March 6, and Intro to Sleep Technologies on March 20. Ms. Mjolsness co-hosted the virtual Red Carpet Movie Club on March 12. Attendees watched an Oscar-winning movie and participated in a discussion. On March 19, she hosted a Get Eclipse Ready presentation led by Rick Varner from the Scobee Planetarium. On March 29, she represented the San Antonio Public Library at the Northeast Senior Center Resource Fair and served as Master of Ceremonies for the virtual SAPL Live Trivia program.

Children's Librarian Cheryl Penick held Let's Create: Arts & Crafts Friday programs on March 1, 8, 15 and 29. She held the Let's Move: Music & Movement program on March 7, 14, 21 and 28.

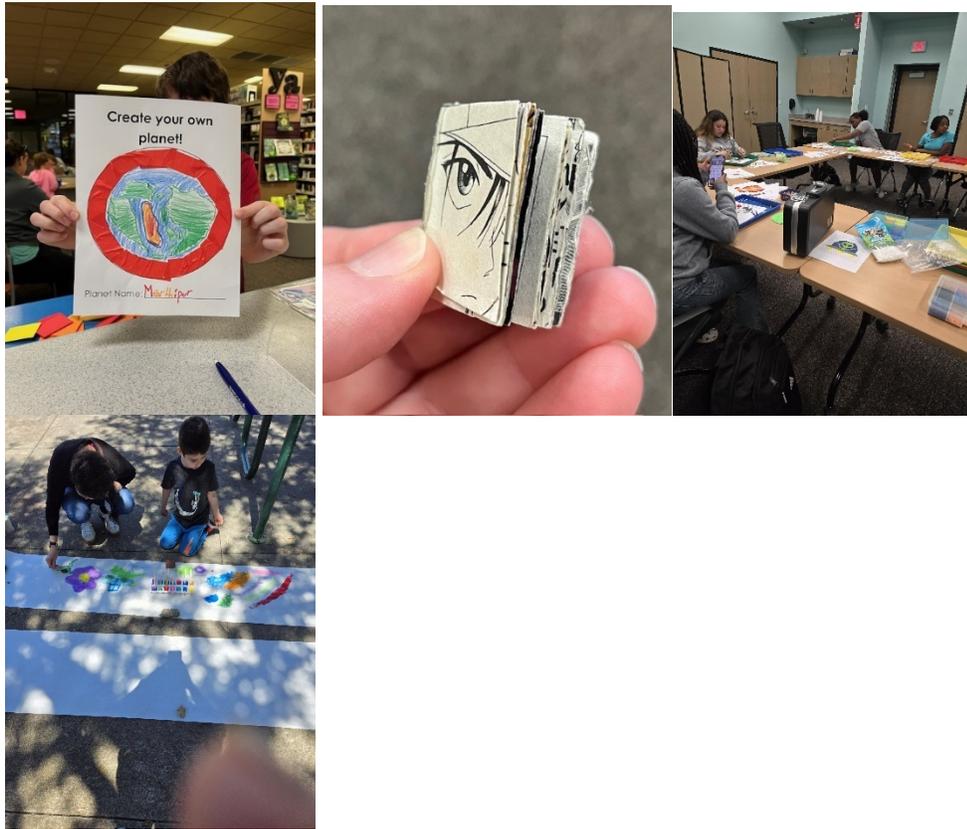
She held Baby Time programs on March 12 and 19. She assembled themed book bundles highlighting the juvenile collection and systemwide initiatives.

Librarian Kimberly King held Teen Time programs on March 4, 11, 18 and 25. She held an All Booked Up Book Club program on March 10. Participants discussed *Other Birds* by Sarah Addison Allen. She facilitated an outreach Senior Book Club program at the Northeast Senior Center on March 27. Participants discussed *The Good Sister* by Sally Hepworth. She created a young adult book display featuring reimaged takes on classic literature.

Library Assistant Mari Carmen Castellano created two book displays - Spring Gardening, and Artificial Intelligence. On March 5, she held a Super Smash Bros Free Play video game program. She held a Fiber Arts Community program on March 12. Participants worked on their needlecraft projects with other like-minded community members. Ms. Castellano held an Adult Craft Time program on March 20 at which participants made yarn art. She created a list for BiblioCommons, the online catalog: The Atlantic's Great American Novels.



TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL



Tobin Library at Oakwell coordinated with Bexar County Elections to host 1,834 voters in the month of March. Additionally, 1,500 eclipse glasses were distributed to the community at the branch. Community partners provided unique programming opportunities throughout the month, including the San Antonio Poets Association, the Tobin Writer's Circle, Interesting Book Club, and Medicare in a Nutshell. The Alamo Area Square Dance Association hosted their regular meeting and included a live dancing demonstration. The City of San Antonio department of Public Art hosted two tabling events at the library to share concepts for a new art installation in the neighborhood and gather community input.

Children's Librarians Lisa Ramirez and Kara Bailey hosted weekly Preschool Story Times and Family Story Times. Other regular programs during March included outdoor Play & Learn, Read to a Dog, LEGO Time, and After School Zones that are especially popular with Garner Middle School students next door. A favorite activity this month was a tiny book craft. Over spring break Branch Manager Amanda Neace hosted a weekend of Family Space Camp Challenges to celebrate the eclipse.

Teen Services Librarian Connie Hejl hosted weekly Teen Times and participated in Random Fandom programming on the teen discord server. Adults in the library had a variety of programming to choose from this month, including Geeks Assemble hosted by Hejl, Dungeons & Dragons hosted by Circulation Attendant Sabrina Longoria and Library Assistant David

Hazlett, plus Sit & Stitch crafting and weekly Tai Chi and Tea hosted by Adult Services Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse. Hejl and Woolhouse put a tremendous amount of care and planning into another successful Pop Madness at Central this year. This annual event included a cosplay contest, guest authors, and many local fandom groups ranging from Vikings to Swifties.

WESTFALL

The Branch Manager, Machaia McClenny, transitioned in March from a Wall of Warmth Sit and Stitch program to a general Sit and Stitch program every Monday. Ms. McClenny also completed “The Oscars Best Picture Movie Showing” series by showing Barbie. Ms. McClenny began a new monthly series called “From Book to Big Screen” by showing “To Kill a Mockingbird” and providing copies of the book and other related media. Ms. McClenny conducted interviews in March to hire a new library aide. She assisted Monty Holcomb in facilitating the gardening program with the Bexar County Master Gardeners. Finally, Ms. McClenny completed the SET 3 training on recruiting with City HR.



As part of the systemwide SAPL Eclipse program, Mr. Holcomb planned and coordinated with the Adult Services Coordinator to have an astronomer do a presentation at Westfall. Mr. Holcomb also planned and arranged for a “Come and Go” Eclipse program the following day. Mr. Holcomb collaborated and facilitated a program with Texana about genealogy. Mr. Holcomb also scheduled and arranged for a master gardener to return to Westfall to give another gardening-related presentation (“Starting a Home Spring Vegetable Garden”). Additionally, in honor of Women’s History Month, Mr. Holcomb showed the film “Hidden Figures.”. Meanwhile, Mr. Holcomb continued his ongoing Tai Chi program on a weekly basis, where he serves as the facilitator for patrons wanting to practice Tai Chi in a relaxed setting. The activities that are

provided in this program focus on Tai Chi that is done at an easy level, and so it is ideal for older adults. Furthermore, Mr. Holcomb has continued his weekly chess program that is for all ages, giving the community an opportunity to play and/or learn informal chess games. In the program, Mr. Holcomb helps to facilitate game play flow among the players and gives assistance (including lessons) as needed depending on the needs of those attending.

In March, Children's Librarian, Imelda Merino, planned and presented four Preschool Story Times, five Family Story Times, and four Thursday Crafts for Kids programs. The Discovery School first graders made one visit in March. Ms. Merino shared a story that involved the scientific method. Ms. Merino was invited to come to speak to the Arnold Elementary Student Council about the topic of "leadership". Ms. Merino assisted at the Art Club Online program on Tuesday, March 26th, presenting a hanging mobile craft made from a paper plate. Ongoing projects that the Children's Librarian worked on included adding books to seasonal booklists for children that are available on the library's website. Topics worked on included Women's History and Poetry. Ms. Merino also continued work on her Summer Booklist theme of "Kids Traveling". As the library aide supervisor, Ms. Merino conducted EPE Planning sessions with two library aides.

Heather, the Teen Librarian at Westfall, attended a Parent Night event at Edison High School. She answered questions, and students and their families were given information about SAPL services and upcoming activities. Teens in the community continue to show interest in volunteering with SAPL.

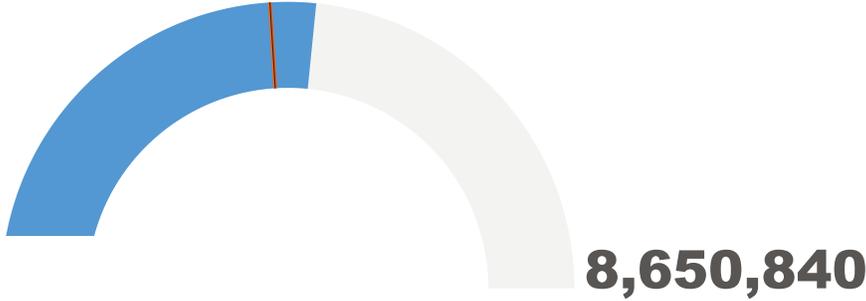
The Learn Center at Westfall has gained a regular group that attends the Wednesday morning Smartphone and Smart Device class. The Learn Center also continues to offer other weekly technology classes on Friday mornings. Some of these classes include introduction to mobile ordering apps, getting started with YouTube, and email basics. A variety of classes are being created based on patron feedback to focus on skills they are looking for including mobile apps, introduction to artificial intelligence apps, and other media apps that relate to their daily lives. There have been many patrons seeking assistance with obtaining their W-2's from their employers to file their tax returns.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Circulation: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

4,153,350



FY 2024 to date Items Borrowed



4,599,429

(+10.74%)
Circulation

Visits: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

1,492,997



FY 2024 to date Library Visits



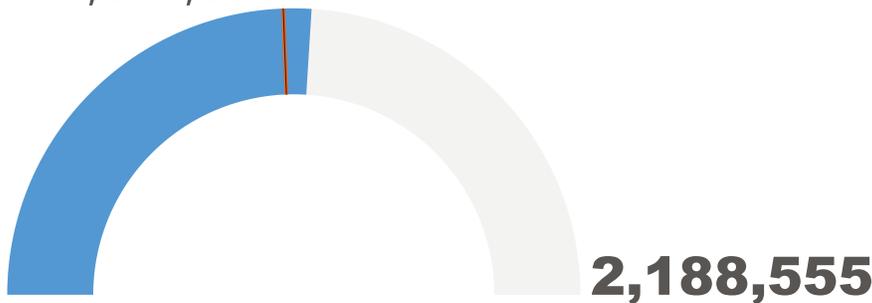
1,431,478

(-4.12%)
Visits

Digital Access: Goal

Fiscal Year to date goal:

1,068,559



FY 2024 to date Digital Access



142,183

Hours of Computer Use



995,365

Hours of Wi-Fi Use

1,137,548

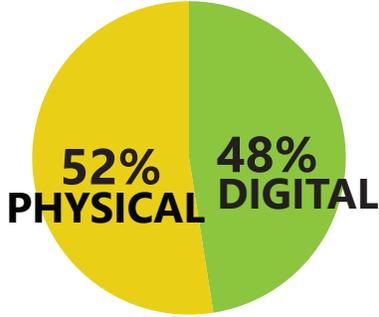
(+6.46%)
Hours of Technology Use

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS

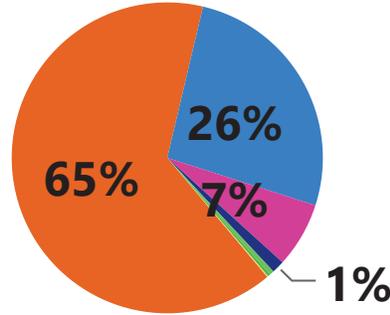
March 2024 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2024

CIRCULATION BY TYPE



CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA



- City 65%
- Bexar County (Outside COSA) 26%
- Invalid or No Address 7%
- SORA 1%
- Outside Service Area 0.5%
- Interlibrary Loan 0.1%
- Outside Service Area - Overdrive Digital Cards 0.3%
- SAPL Unit Cards 0.002%

VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2024



874,069
MYSAPL.ORG
VISITS

12,255
MYSAPL
APP DOWNLOADS

99,930
OVERDRIVE
UNIQUE USERS

1,324,937
SOCIAL MEDIA
IMPRESSIONS

PROGRAMS & ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2024

Total	Early Literacy (0-5)	School Age (6-12)	Teens (13-18)	Adults (19+)	Older Adults (60+)	General Interest*
5,918 programs	1,483 programs	1,179 programs	1,319 programs	1,317 programs	327 programs	293 programs
101,074 attendance	40,093 attendance	23,033 attendance	11,704 attendance	11,023 attendance	3,648 attendance	11,573 attendance

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

2 PROGRAM VIDEOS UPLOADED*

*Holocaust Learn & Remember and What's Poppin at SAPL Anime Favorites

120 PROGRAM VIDEO VIEWS**

**Total views from these two videos

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

ECLIPSES IN MESO AMERICA
Latino Collection and Resource Center at Central Library

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY | LATINO COLLECTION AND RESOURCE CENTER

FAMILY MUSIC FESTIVAL
Saturday, March 23 • 1-4pm
Rosedale Park

Introduction to Square Dancing
AT TOBIN LIBRARY

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY | HUMAN SERVICES | HEAD START

Children's Women's History Month Book List

MAE AMONG THE STARS | GOOD NIGHT GIRLS | 100 Inspiring Young Changemakers

SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

San Antonio Public Library

March 2024 Key Indicators

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Technology Actuals	Computer Hours	Wi-Fi Hours of Use
Bazan	2,947	7,089	6,609	1,470	5,139
Brook Hollow	23,752	10,607	5,532	709	4,823
Carver	2,678	3,687	2,791	756	2,035
Central	28,850	23,748	42,947	7,269	35,678
Cody	32,225	13,683	11,111	1,154	9,957
Collins Garden	3,509	4,616	3,650	440	3,210
Cortez	4,514	6,121	2,661	376	2,285
Digital	385,238	0	0	0	0
Encino	20,635	11,240	5,640	210	5,430
Forest Hills	4,680	2,438	2,717	280	2,437
Great Northwest	25,100	11,115	5,601	536	5,065
Guerra	5,495	8,649	4,971	505	4,466
Igo	39,081	25,462	11,626	859	10,767
Interlibrary Loan	1,443	0	0	0	0
Johnston	8,606	3,924	4,425	615	3,810
Kampmann	0	1,063	169	0	169
Landa	17,886	17,333	5,217	354	4,863
Las Palmas	263	74	255	0	255
Maverick	23,107	10,655	5,467	581	4,886
McCreless	7,053	5,068	5,946	1,331	4,615
Memorial	4,191	6,430	6,272	1,010	5,262
Mission	9,144	9,483	5,676	874	4,802
Pan American	3,394	2,362	2,168	404	1,764
Parman	30,530	16,240	7,471	271	7,200
Potranco	17,820	7,122	14,212	596	13,616
Pruitt	4,255	7,004	3,977	159	3,818
San Pedro	2,733	3,532	4,575	362	4,213
Schaefer	8,999	5,318	5,466	622	4,844
Semmes	25,263	9,852	7,802	1,095	6,707
System	34,043	0	0	0	0
Thousand Oaks	6,009	6,420	5,297	835	4,462
Tobin	15,919	8,641	4,771	845	3,926
Westfall	9,158	4,402	6,708	1,032	5,676
Total	808,520	253,378	201,730	25,550	176,180

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

San Antonio Public Library Programs

March 2024

Location	Early Literacy Programs (0-5)	School Age Programs (6-12)	Teen Programs (13-18)	Adult Programs (19+)	Older Adults Programs (60+)	General Interest Programs*	Total
Bazan	1	8	2	17	3	2	33
Brook Hollow	3	15	8	1	0	2	29
Carver	5	5	1	2	6	2	21
Central	11	5	70	21	1	6	114
Cody	9	12	23	8	1	0	53
Collins Garden	19	7	3	6	2	2	39
Cortez	4	13	0	23	4	1	45
Encino	11	6	5	4	7	3	36
Forest Hills	11	10	4	2	3	1	31
Great Northwest	15	10	4	2	1	5	37
Guerra	4	12	5	3	1	0	25
Igo	0	2	1	5	0	3	11
Johnston	4	11	4	2	0	1	22
Landa	28	15	7	4	0	0	54
Las Palmas	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Little Read Wagon	15	0	3	5	0	0	23
Maverick	12	6	4	5	0	0	27
McCreless	7	13	4	12	1	0	37
Memorial	6	29	0	34	1	1	71
Mission	8	4	13	15	9	3	52
Pan American	4	11	2	1	0	0	18
Parman	27	9	8	17	4	0	65
Potranco	4	3	7	9	0	1	24
Pruitt	9	3	1	3	0	2	18
San Pedro	9	5	0	6	1	1	22
Schaefer	9	12	5	5	0	2	33
Semmes	12	9	4	10	0	3	38
System	1	1	23	11	1	2	39
Thousand Oaks	5	5	0	7	5	0	22
Tobin	6	8	4	8	4	2	32
Westfall	7	8	4	11	7	4	41
Total	266	257	219	259	63	50	1,114

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

San Antonio Public Library Program Attendance

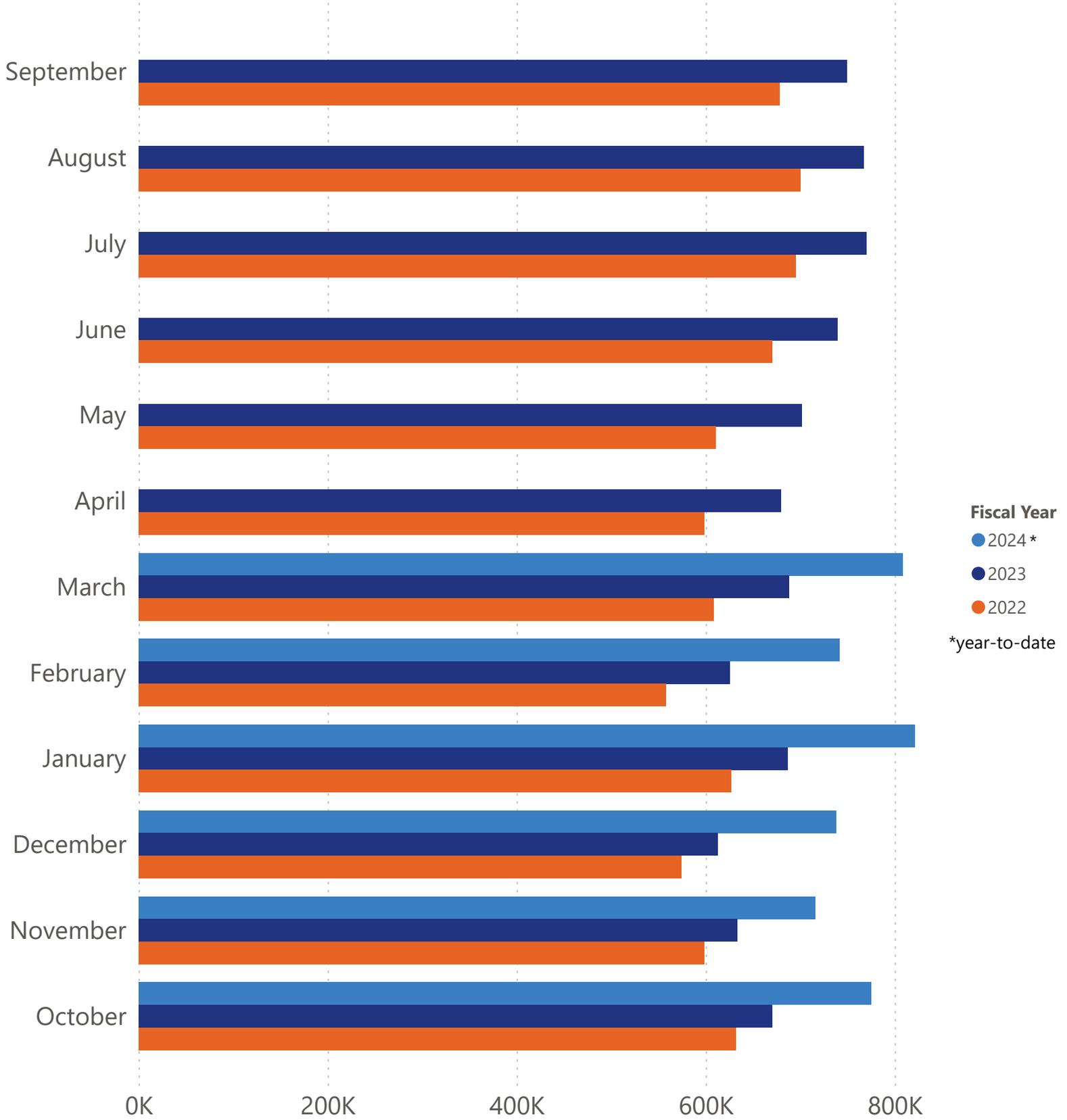
March 2024

Location	Early Literacy Attendance (0-5)	School Age Attendance (6-12)	Teen Attendance (13-18)	Adult Attendance (19+)	Older Adults Attendance (60+)	General Interest Attendance*	Total
Bazan	35	5	3	58	19	60	180
Brook Hollow	69	164	36	8	0	96	373
Carver	31	16	2	24	49	6	128
Central	254	36	385	319	3	258	1,255
Cody	457	245	279	126	9	0	1,116
Collins Garden	305	21	14	25	0	61	426
Cortez	52	678	0	133	30	21	914
Encino	458	170	58	26	51	107	870
Forest Hills	115	93	8	11	7	23	257
Great Northwest	584	431	32	7	3	87	1,144
Guerra	172	204	12	8	24	0	420
Igo	0	33	3	56	0	28	120
Johnston	179	1,789	23	15	0	28	2,034
Landa	984	379	70	67	0	0	1,500
Las Palmas	0	0	0	0	50	20	70
Little Read Wagon	832	0	18	123	0	0	973
Maverick	428	224	42	24	0	0	718
McCreless	67	195	14	84	2	0	362
Memorial	312	575	0	203	3	4	1,097
Mission	174	45	84	109	86	38	536
Pan American	26	293	8	5	0	0	332
Parman	1,259	667	232	305	55	0	2,518
Potranco	138	330	32	102	0	8	610
Pruitt	154	22	12	26	0	19	233
San Pedro	127	77	0	20	9	49	282
Schaefer	219	314	196	19	0	36	784
Semmes	525	139	18	65	0	40	787
System	490	2	103	93	5	168	861
Thousand Oaks	40	42	0	38	618	0	738
Tobin	28	149	17	71	38	16	319
Westfall	61	113	76	68	35	18	371
Total	8,575	7,451	1,777	2,238	1,096	1,191	22,328

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

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



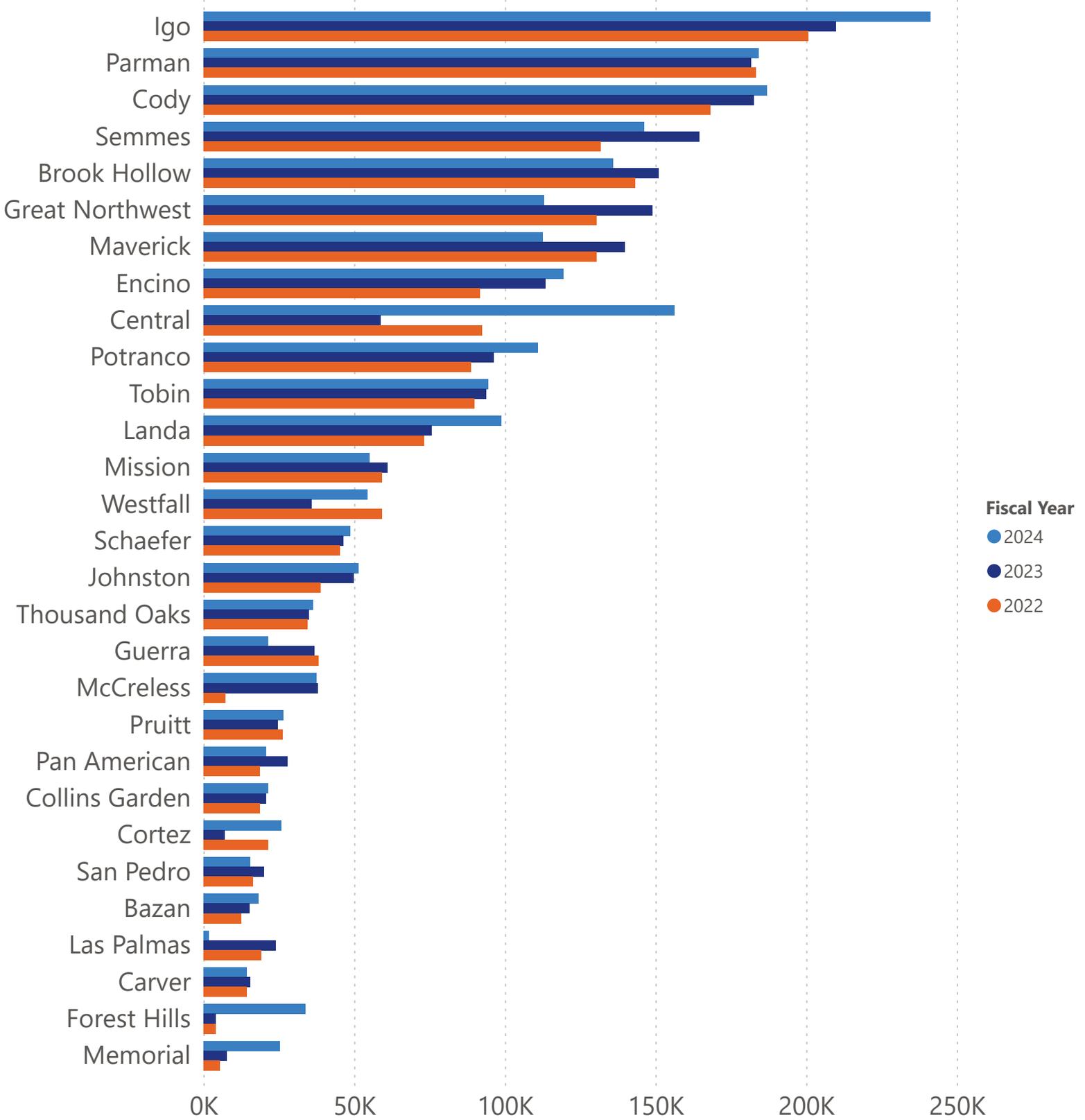
Fiscal Year
● 2024*
● 2023
● 2022
 *year-to-date

Location Closures:

FY24: Maverick Oct 1 - Oct 8, Great Northwest Oct 1 - Oct 15, Las Palmas Oct 1 - TBD, Guerra Oct 1 - Dec 3
 FY23: Forest Hills Oct 1-March 18, Memorial Oct 1 - Feb 24, Westfall Oct 1 - Nov 29, Cortez Oct 1 - Feb 13, Las Palmas March 20 - TBD, Brook Hollow April 24- July 29, Maverick Aug 1 - Sep 30, Great Northwest Aug 7 - Sep 30, Guerra Aug 21 - Sep 30
 FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-Sep 30, McCreless Oct 1-Apr 15, Memorial Oct 1 - Sep 30, Westfall Mar 28 - Sep 30, Bazan April 11-June 4, Cortez Sept 6 - Sep 30

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - March 2024

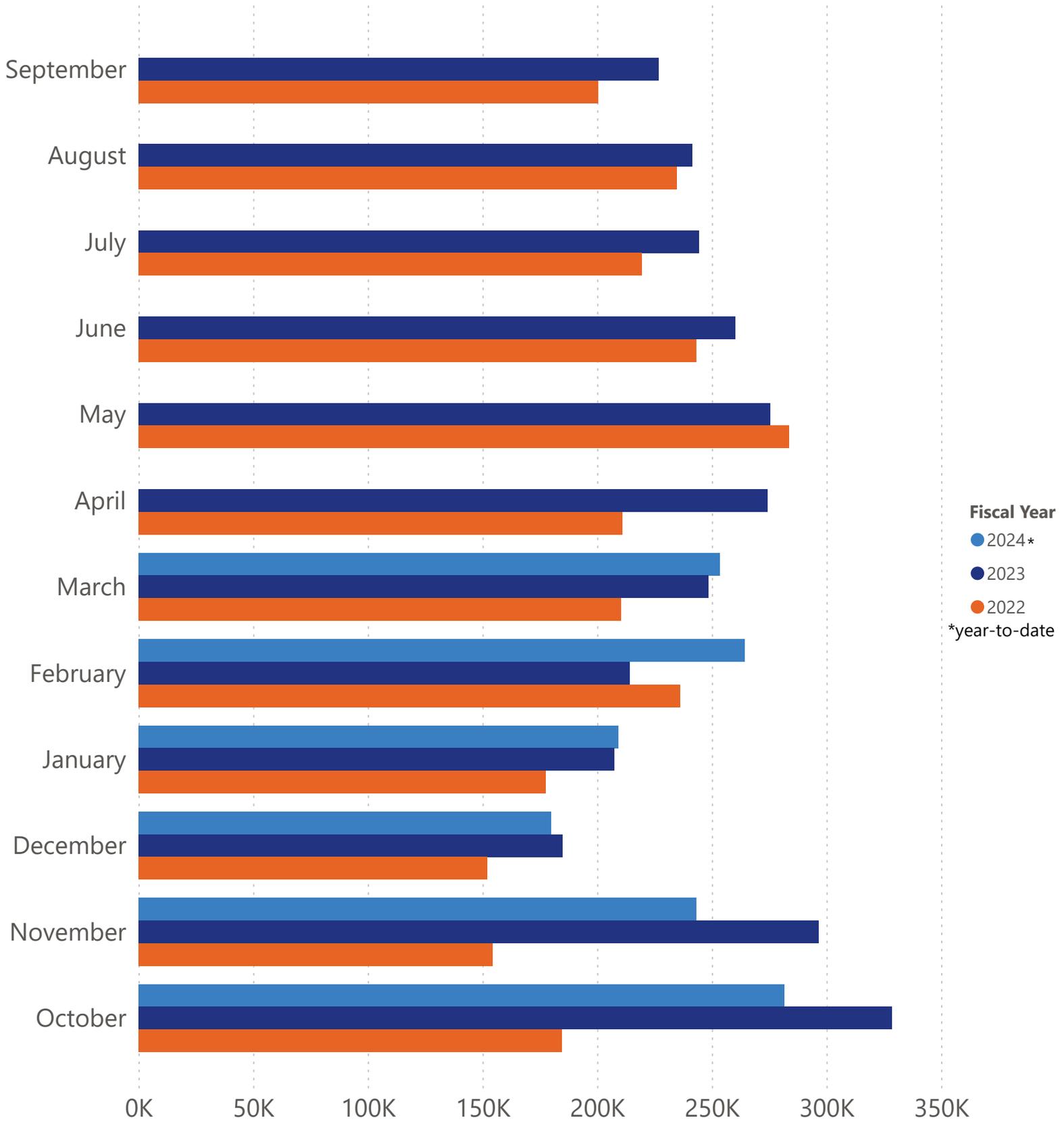


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 FY22: Forest Hills Oct 1-Sep 30, McCreless Oct 1-Apr 15, Memorial Oct 1 - Sep 30, Westfall Mar 28 - Sep 30, Bazan April 11-June 4, Cortez Sept 6 - Sep 30

San Antonio Public Library

Visits



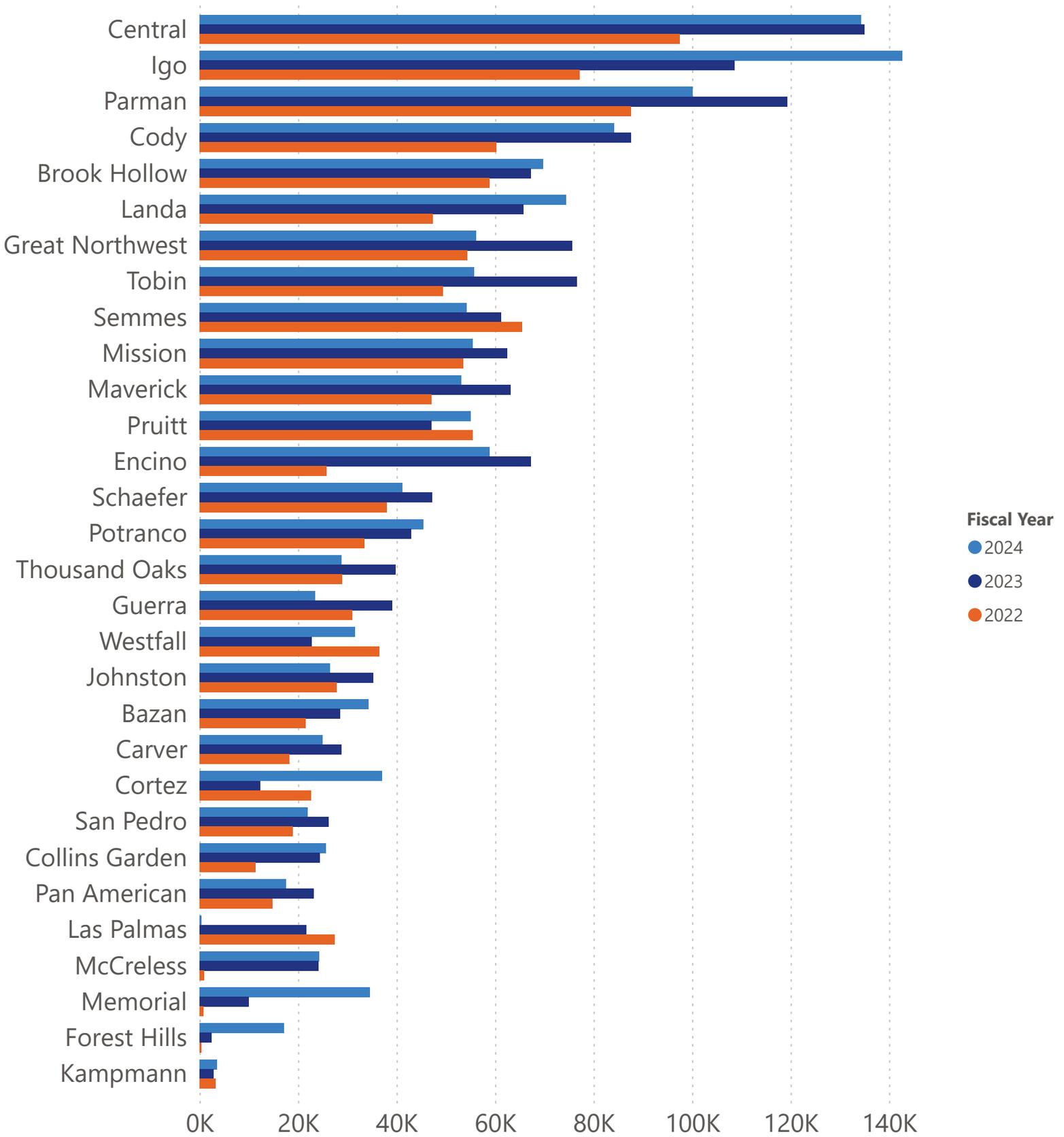
Fiscal Year
● 2024*
● 2023
● 2022
 *year-to-date

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San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - March 2024

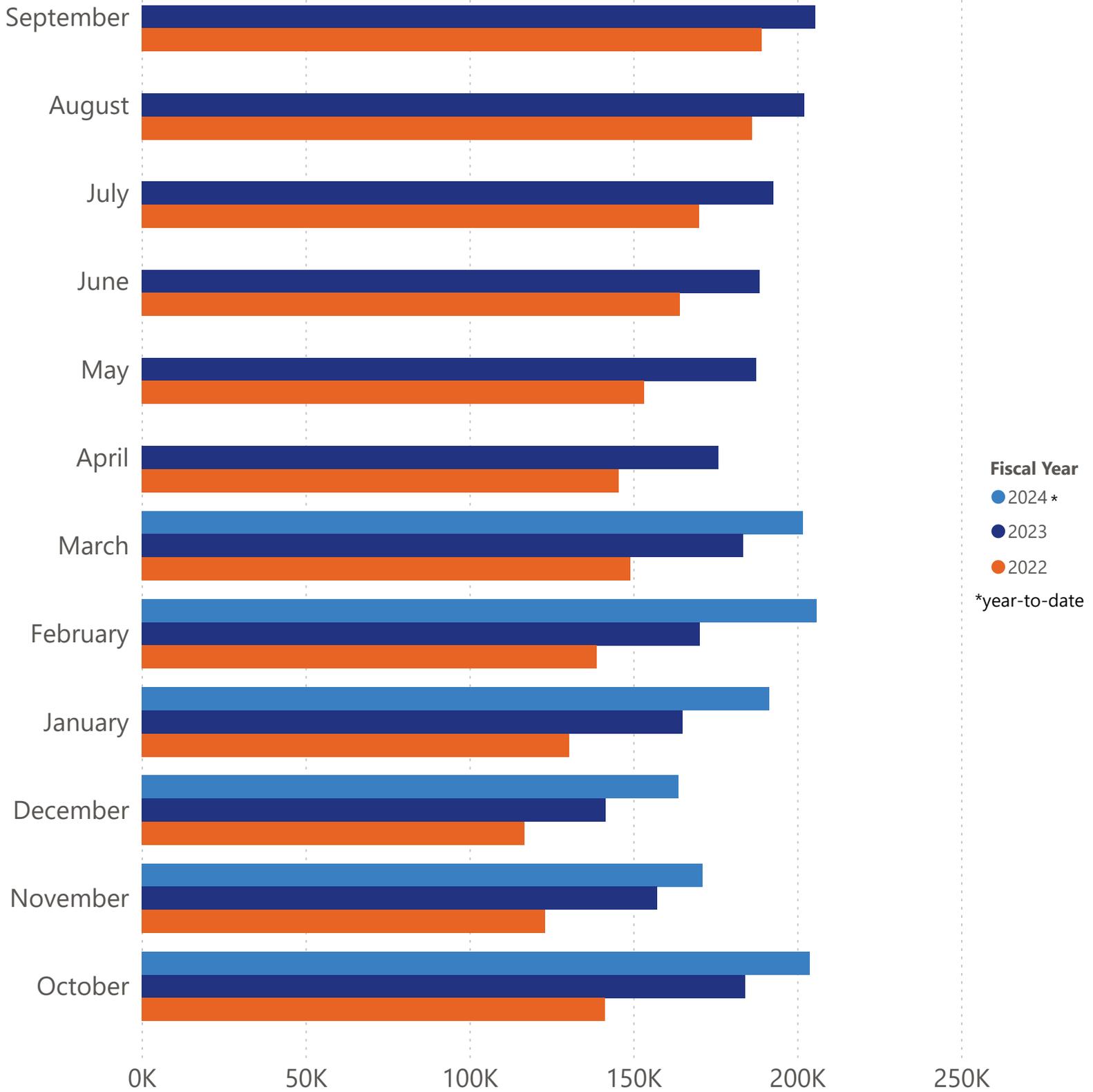


Fiscal Year
● 2024
● 2023
● 2022

Location Closures:

FY24: Maverick Oct 1 - Oct 8, Great Northwest Oct 1 - Oct 15, Las Palmas Oct 1 - TBD, Guerra Oct 1 - Dec 3
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San Antonio Public Library Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use



Fiscal Year
● 2024*
● 2023
● 2022
 *year-to-date

Location Closures:

FY24: Maverick Oct 1 - Oct 8, Great Northwest Oct 1 - Oct 15, Las Palmas Oct 1 - TBD, Guerra Oct 1 - Dec 3
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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.