



## San Antonio Public Library Director's Report September 2016

McCreless Branch Library 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

# DIRECTOR'S OFFICE



Mayor Taylor is partnering with the Library Department for another installment of the Mayor's Book Club. A kickoff event with Mayor Taylor is scheduled for October 11, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. at the Central Library. The selected book for the Fall Mayor's Book Club is The Fire This Time by Jesmyn Ward. The Community will be encouraged to read the book during the fall months. A closing event is scheduled for December 8, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Mission Branch Library. Mayor Taylor is expected to attend this event.



SA Reads has selected the Central Library as the venue for a press conference on October 13, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. The purpose of the conference will be to share success stories of the summer book drive and announce the holiday book drive. SA Reads has invited Congressman Joaquin Castro, Ramiro Salazar, a YMCA representative, and a FirstMark Credit Union representative to join Pamela Tolman to deliver remarks. The Library is a partner with SA Reads as book donation drop-off site during the annual SA Reads Book Drive.



The 2nd Annual San Antonio Fashion awards ceremony is scheduled for October 13, 2016 at 6 p.m. at the Will Naylor Smith River Walk Plaza at the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts. The San Antonio Fashion Awards is hosted by Style Lush TV and is an annual event recognizing the contributions made to the San Antonio fashion industry. Awards will be given for excellence in womenswear, menswear, retail, hair and makeup, styling, modeling, blogging and more. The Teen Library at the Central Library was chosen as the beneficiary for the 2nd annual San Antonio Fashion Awards- the donation amount is yet unknown. Candelaria Mendoza, Library Services Administrator will be in attendance during the award ceremony to accept the donation on behalf of the San Antonio Public Library. We understand, but we have not been able to confirm, that the Mayor and City Manager have been issued formal invitations.



Ramiro Salazar attended the August 25, 2016 ground breaking for the new YMCA, adjacent to the Mission Branch Library on Roosevelt Avenue.

# MARKETING



The key areas of focus for the Marketing team this month has been Hispanic Heritage Month and "Feed Your Freedom" campaigns. Both efforts involved multi-channel promotional efforts including press releases, social media, digital, printed collaterals and advertising. A press conference is scheduled for "Feed Your Freedom" on September 27 at 10 a.m. at Central Library. The speaking program will include San Antonio Public Library, Bexar County and League of Women Voters.



Looking ahead, the team is engaged with the preparation of promotional efforts for the Mayor's Book Club starting in October. We will also be hosting an event with the Library Foundation's First Edition group that raises awareness of our social media and web presence on October 28 at Central Library.



Marketing has been working with the Library Director's office to send a letter to each school reminding school administration that a Library card is a key back-to-school resource. Marketing has received calls from several schools, especially in SAISD. The team has provided Library card applications and school resource guides and has answered questions.



The Teen Arts Fest had more than 1,000 attendees. Marketing supported this event heavily through event support and promotional efforts.



The design team continues to work on signage and branding for Potranco Branch Library, Schaefer Branch Library and the District 7 Digital Field Office.



Budget Open Houses went very well with positive feedback and meaningful questions from the community. Marketing and management team members were in attendance at all five open houses to represent the Library.



The SAPL Street Team continues to be outside of the Library walls to promote the Library attending several events each week with community partners.

Overall, SAPL received 93 media mentions during the reporting period.

Social Media statistics for the month:

1. Facebook: 12,284 page likes
2. Twitter: 3,450 followers
3. Pinterest: 75 followers
4. Instagram: 1,270 followers
5. Youtube: 141 subscribers

## DIGITAL SERVICES



On September 22, Digital Services began finalizing the Millennium setup for the lending of mobile hotspots. Once the setup is complete the staff will be able check-out the mobile hotspot hardware to patrons at the four Learn at SAPL locations.

During the beginning of September, Ignacio Albarracin scheduled preparations for replacement of the digital cling at the Kampmann Library Portal. The old cling was removed and the wall patched and repainted in preparation for a new cling highlighting the San Antonio Missions. Final installation will begin the week of September 19.



Starting September 15, Christina Hess and Andrea Silva created a book display featuring the works of Ansel Adams to help highlight the Briscoe Western Art Museum's exhibition *Ansel Adams: Distance and Detail*.

## LITTLE READ WAGON



### Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents

Little Read Wagon has been busy scheduling parent workshops for the coming year. Workshops will begin September 22 and have been scheduled into February 2017. Julia Lazarin has already made

outreach visits to Pre-K 4 SA South where she greeted parents with library and voter registration information.



### Services to Teen Parents

Clair Larkin presented the first teen parent workshop of the school year at MacArthur High School. The parents were very excited about decorating tote bags and choosing which make-and-take activity they would do at the next visit.



### Outreach Story Time Programs

Regular monthly story time visits were offered at Seton Home, Healy Murphy, and Nurturing Hearts. The first visit of the school year was offered at Navarro Learning Center. Special one-time visits were made to Little Hearts Registered Home Child Care, Kelly Field Child Development Program, and World of Knowledge Learning Center.



### Play & Learn

Parks and Recreation has graciously approved the use of several parks as Play & Learn locations for the coming year. Little Read Wagon debuted an evening Play & Learn series at Millers Pond Park on September 6. The two programs offered so far have been very successful in including neighborhood families that coincidentally were on the playground, and younger siblings of children who were at softball practice.



### Workshops for Early Childhood Practitioners

On August 23 the Little Read Wagon team presented “Reading from the Heart” to an enthusiastic group of 40 early childhood teachers. The Tuesday morning workshop was offered at the request of St. Andrew’s Weekday School as part of their annual professional development week. Several teachers from other centers arranged to be away from their classrooms to participate in the workshop. Another 35 teachers attended the September 10 presentation of the same workshop. At both sessions teachers enjoyed perusing many great read-aloud books, gathering and sharing ideas for extending story time, and making their own home-made books for their classrooms. The workshop will be offered seven times in the coming school year. October’s workshop is already full.

Ms. Lazarin offered a session at the August 20 Early Childhood Training and Resource Fair (ECTRF). The day-long mini-conference was held at Northwest Vista College. She repeated the session at the September 10 ECTRF at San Antonio College.



Elizabeth Huber has joined the SAPL Arts and Culture Committee. Currently the committee is preparing for San Antonio Comic Con. Ms. Huber is contributing ideas for children’s activities at the booth that SAPL will have at the convention.

## CHILDREN’S (SYSTEM-WIDE)



Children Services staff have been working hard to accommodate requests to visit schools all around the City of San Antonio. They made visits to school open houses, PTA meetings, and several other community outreach events for back to school.



SAPL is also partnering with SAISD and encouraging parents and their students to register for a library card as September is Library Card Sign-Up month. Several branches have been coordinating with their schools to get cards to the students.

# TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)



## Off-Site Service

J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) performed outreach visits to several high schools, with an emphasis on the Teen Arts Fest coming up at the Central Library in September. J.D. spoke to students at the North East School for the Arts, Providence High School, St. Anthony Catholic High School, Fox Tech High School, The Henry Ford Academy, and Incarnate Word High School. J.D. also visited Brackenridge High School with Cynthia Cruz (Teen Services Librarian I, Mission Library).

Kathleen Fordyce (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) gave presentations during afterschool student/parent meetings at St. Anthony Catholic High School on three separate occasions during the reporting period. She presented on SAPL resources and programming for teens and signed up students and parents for library cards during the visits.

Kathleen Fordyce and Victoria Tijerina (Library Assistant/Teen Liaison, Memorial Library) visited Holy Cross School on September 15 to provide book talks to the high school students in the afterschool Book Club. Kathleen and Victoria returned to the school to provide book talks to the middle school students the following week.

Adam Tutor (Teen Outreach Specialist, Central Library) utilized equipment from NowCastSA to direct, film and produce a six and a half minute long Teen Services outreach video designed to show students the dynamic environment provided by the teen services librarians and liaisons at SAPL locations across the city. The video takes the anecdotes of the teens who attend Central and branches to showcase the many facets of the library, and how it has impacted their lives. The video also incorporates teen services librarians who share the Teen Services methodology and philosophy, as well as the library resources available for teens, such as databases and Live Homework Help. The video will be used by the Teen Service Librarians in their outreach efforts at schools and youth-serving organizations across the city, reaching thousands of teens through a new, exciting medium. Thanks to Caroline Mossier (Teen Services Librarian II, Brook Hollow Library), Matthew Loaiza (Teen Services Librarian I, Encino Library), and Cynthia Cruz (Teen Services Librarian I, Mission Library) for their assistance in the production of the video.



Adam Tutor co-facilitated outreach at Edison High School on September 14 with Megan Stanley (Teen Services Librarian I, Westfall Library). Megan and Adam presented to several classes during an all-day outreach visit. Adam led the outreach presentations to students on September 15 at Edison, utilizing the brand new SAPL Teen Services Outreach video for the first time in school outreach. Students were able to see the dynamic environments provided for teens at SAPL locations through the video, and gained a better understanding of what the libraries have to offer them socially and academically. The outreach also brought in over 150 applications for library cards.

Adam Tutor led database oriented outreach at KIPP University Prep School on September 16, working together with the school librarian (former Bazan teen liaison, Jennifer Martinez) and teachers to help their students understand how to navigate the library database system, and other online academic resources. Adam demonstrated the value of systems like EBSCO Host and other academic research systems for supporting their college-prep examinations and research papers. He also showed the SAPL Teen Services Outreach Video, and received over 75 new applications for library cards, which will be utilized especially for helping the students with their academic success at Kipp U-Prep.



## Teen Arts Fest

J.D Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) has been busy planning the second annual Teen Arts Fest, taking place in September at the Central Library. J.D. was aided by Teen Arts Fest committee members Georgina Salinas (Librarian I, McCreless Library), Cynthia Cruz (Teen Services Librarian I, Mission Library), Ciana Flores (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central), Adolph Lopez (Library Assistant, Central Reference), and Hondo Aguilar (Library Assistant, Central Reference). This year's Teen Arts Fest welcomes back the youth slam organization Fresh Ink, musicians from the San Antonio Music Academy and Eclectic Electric, and world renowned artist Alex Rubio. New this year will be the Providence Progression featuring a dance performance, artist Allison Valdivia, and The AM project doing DJ and Hip Hop Dance workshops. Various local schools and youth art organizations will feature their short films on display, as well as provide information and activity booths.



### **System-wide Support**

Adam Tutor (Teen Outreach Specialist at Central) co-facilitated teen programming at the Bazan Library alongside Michelangelo Sosa (Library Aide PT/Teen Liaison, Bazan Library), working with teens on the process of how to organize, produce, and direct your own video. Adam also worked with Michelangelo to edit the SAPL Teen Services Outreach video.

Adam Tutor provided teen programming support for the Encino Library, since former Encino Teen Services Librarian I Matthew Loaiza began transitioning to a new position. Adam helped to lead a successful transition with the teens. He facilitated arts and crafts activities with a musical element, helping teens create their own "mixtape" with an official album cover, curated song list, and complete with a CD that they created at home and gave to a friend at Teen Time. The numbers have remained consistent throughout the transition, and teens have had a blast during Encino's Teen Time.



### **Program Promotion**

On August 24, J.D. Elizondo taped an episode of the Library's Cover to Cover show to promote the upcoming Teen Arts Fest at the Central Library, as well as regular teen programming at Central and the branches.



### **Committee Work/Meetings**

The teen services librarian/liaison meeting took place in the Teen Library @ Central on September 14. The group discussed the 2016 Teen Summer Reading Program, viewed the new teen outreach video for presentations at schools, discussed outreach visits, and were presented with several workgroup opportunities for initiatives throughout the year.

J.D. Elizondo is a member of the Tri-Centennial Committee and participated in several committee meetings during the reporting period.

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



SAPL officially kicked off Hispanic Heritage Month on September 15<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is Latinos and Latinas in Public Service and the Legacy of Henry B. Gonzalez. SAPL is highlighting programs on civic engagement, arts and culture, as well as research. SAPL will have several programs highlighting Henry B. Gonzalez throughout the system with a featured program on September 28<sup>th</sup> with State Rep. Diego Bernal and Hon. Charles Gonzalez.

## **CENTRAL LIBRARY**

# CHILDREN'S



## Children's Programming

Librarians Robin Alcorta and Julia Pouliot planned and presented engaging *Play & Learn* programs in September. The young children enjoyed the Back to School pretend play with activities such as packing a backpack, filling a lunch tray with food from the "cafeteria," writing on the chalkboard, stamping their names in playdoh and even riding to school in the cardboard school bus!

The Transportation program was also a big hit with families, as children lathered cars and trucks with shaving cream and washed them in the car wash zone. Children's gross motor skills were developed when they crawled with their cars and trucks over the bubble wrap road the librarians created. Camping *Play & Learn* involved a lot of imaginative play with a child-sized tent, campfire, fishing pond, and Park Ranger dress up with vests and binoculars. The fun culminated with smores around the campfire, made from cardboard graham crackers, marshmallow cotton balls, and felt chocolate squares. Families enjoyed some fall gardening at the last *Play & Learn* of the month when they shopped in the pretend farmers market, planted artificial flowers and used celery stalks as stamps to create artwork. Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin, with assistance from Ms. Pouliot, led the Toddler Time fun this month. Ms. Seglin's boisterous songs and creative additions made these early childhood programs big hits with families. During Bathtime Toddler Time, she debuted a giant toothbrush she created and led children in a painting with toothbrushes activity. Another week, children enjoyed bedtime stories and lullabies, after which they tucked animal puppets into bed and played in a sensory bin filled with feathers and soft toys.

Squeals of delight were heard from the Story Room when toddlers frolicked in the paper leaf pile during the fall-themed program. They also enjoyed an imaginative play apple picking activity and the acorn sensory bin.

Ms. Alcorta and Ms. Pouliot made Central Library a weekend destination for families with their engaging Family Fun programs on Saturdays. Children of all ages participated in adding to a giant list of safari animals and played with wild animal puppets after story time one week. They also crafted their own animal habitats to take home from a variety of materials.

Kids had some out of this world fun during the space-themed program, in which they made galaxy watercolor paintings enhanced by a special salt effect. The event culminated with an "exploding stars" science experiment using baking soda, vinegar, and dish soap. Kids loved putting their hands in the foam and exploring the shapes they could make with the space foam. The theme of "future" allowed children to listen to stories about realizing their potential and future aspirations. Afterwards, they traced their bodies onto butcher paper and drew themselves dressed in the work clothes of their future occupation.

Ms. Alcorta, Ms. Pouliot and Ms. Seglin wrapped up their presentation of programs at Collins Garden and Memorial Branch Libraries this month, as the vacancies at those locations were filled. For their last programs, they made use of the Mondopad technology to display animated picture book adaptations and facilitate digital drawing activities. Puppets were also a favorite story time addition for children and librarians alike.



## Special Events & Displays:

Central Children's staff celebrated the end of a successful Summer Reading Program with a team-building luncheon courtesy of the San Antonio Public Library Foundation.

Inspired by SAPL's new logo and back to school marketing initiative, the team created larger than life school supplies to decorate the floor. Ms. Alcorta crafted giant crayons, oversized pencils and displayed a

huge library card provided by the Marketing Department. The team worked together to fill the display space with examples of “information, imagination and ideas” on large light bulb die cuts. Everything from dinosaurs to presidents to *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* was represented. Ms. Pouliot created a colorful crayon-themed picture book display to compliment the décor. Every Child Ready to Read principles were highlighted in a display decorated with tiny handmade books crafted by Library Assistant Ana Sandoval.



### **Outreach & Tours:**

Manager Kate Simpson and Ms. Pouliot introduced a group of parents from the *PreK4SA South* campus to the resources, art and programming at the Central Library. The parents enjoyed the informative tour and were thrilled by the Play & Learn program they observed.

Ms. Seglin, Ms. Simpson and Ms. Pouliot led a group of docents from the San Antonio Museum of Art (SAMA) on a tour of the Central Library’s art and architecture. The art educators were excited by the resources at the library and enjoyed the touring tactics demonstrated by Central Children’s staff. The visit was part of a reciprocal professional development relationship recently formed between the Central Children’s Department and the SAMA Guided Tours division. Future visits from SAMA staff are being planned.

Ms. Seglin and Ms. Pouliot continued their monthly visits to Madison Square Child Development Center and Central Christian Church Childcare Center.



### **Professional Development & System Wide Contribution:**

Ms. Simpson was selected to participate in the Library’s TriCentennial Steering Committee and attended the first meeting in August. She will lead the development of children’s programming for 2018, celebrating the city’s milestone.

Ms. Seglin was selected to serve as a mentor in the Library’s new *Mentorship Program* and attended the first group meeting this month.

The Central Children’s Department was delighted to host Christine Deffendall, the new Children’s Librarian for Memorial Library, for a day of training in September.

Ms. Alcorta presented her work on the Play & Learn Pets kit at the September Children’s Librarians Meeting. Her work was well received by the group and the librarians were excited to use the kits at their locations this fall.

## **TEENS**



**Mondays with JD Elizondo (Library Assistant):** During the reporting period, JD facilitated Eclectic Electric music programming. In addition, the annual haunted house at Central will take place again this year, and JD is currently facilitating the planning and development of the program by teens.



**Tuesdays with Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT):** During the reporting period, Ciana hosted Science & Tech Tuesdays, during which teens designed 3D models to print and printed models found online.



**Wednesdays with Kathleen Fordyce (Librarian II):** On Wednesdays, teens pick their favorite video or board game and engage in friendly competition with their peers. During the reporting period, teens have enjoyed playing the WiiU and PS4 games, as well as board games like Chess, Jenga and Apples to Apples.



Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Teens wrapped Teen Summer Thursdays with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual teen-planned Harry Potter Party. The event featured many Potter-inspired crafts such as chopstick wands, butterbeer, Golden Snitch cake pops, Hogwarts house shirts (such as Olivia’s “Always a Hufflepuff” shirt), and potion necklaces. Teens also played some Harry Potter board games and watched a series of movies.

For a back-to-school celebration, teens used biscuits, spaghetti sauce, pepperoni and cheeses to make biscuit pizzas. Having been inspired by her tasty creation, one teen realized that she wanted to see past recipes that were made at the Library, as they were quick, easy and tasty. Being as she is going away to college, she and the Library Assistant will be planning a “dorm food night” to take place before she graduates high school. Teens also decorated the “black wall,” using push pins arranged in a design, and then stretched yarn across them to create colorful and geometric designs.

Teens started September sweetly and in Swedish fashion by making *chokladboll*, using oatmeal, butter, milk, rolling them into balls and coating them with cocoa, coconut and sprinkles. Making rainbow grilled cheese and a bubble tea pencil sharpener; teens used YouTube to get trendy and creative.

To kickoff Hispanic Heritage Month, teens made a *masa* for *arepas*, a savory Venezuelan dish. They also realized they could use the *masa* to make corn tortillas, which they enjoyed tremendously. There were moments where novice tortilla makers received instruction from master tortilla makers. Teens also used sewing machines to make tote bags. After Thursday programs have concluded, in a non-competitive environment, teens played video games, as well as a selection of board games in the Teen Library area.

Pictures from Thursday programs as well as other Teen Library and system-wide programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary>. Some nights, photos and mini-videos are also posted to Teen Library’s Instagram account: <https://instagram.com/210teenlibrary>.



### Tours and Groups

Two community centers brought groups of teens to the Teen Library to use computers and participate in teen library programming. The Selena Center and the George Gervin Center made regular visits during the reporting period.

## REFERENCE



The ongoing Central Cinema program, which presents Hollywood movies every first and third Sunday of each month in the Central Auditorium, continued its streak of solid attendance. The final movie of the Central Cinema Summer Movie Series: *The Summer of Ford* on August 8 had an attendance of 59 people who enjoyed the pop culture phenomenon, *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*. Central Cinema returned to its regular bi-monthly format on August 21 with the action-comedy, *Keanu*, which brought in an audience of 31 people who shared much laughter. The laughter and joy continued on September 4 with the presentation of the comedy, *The Boss*, which brought in 36 people. The action-adventure movie, and summer blockbuster, *Marvel’s Captain America: Civil War*, shown on September 18, drew 47 people and played to a lot of audience excitement engendering much positive feedback from attendees.



September 15 was a statewide library program day entitled “Power Up at Your Library Day.” Governor of Texas Greg Abbott declared Thursday, September 15, 2016 as “Power Up at Your Library Day” and invited all Texas libraries to participate in the initiative to help promote technology, innovation, and creativity in their communities.

In response to this at the Central Library in the Reference Unit, the technology team hosted a Power Up at the Library program in the Connect Training area from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The format of the program was similar to Library Digital Help sessions hosted every Sunday. Members of the Reference team were on hand to help people get set up to use OverDrive, OneClickDigital, and Freegal.



Other unique programs offered this month included Prep Yourself to Score High on College Admission Tests and Explore Vegetarian Recipes: Veggie Curry with Green Beans, Cabbage, Peas and More.



New college students kept staff busy throughout the reporting period. Reference staff instructed three *Introduction to Databases and Research* classes to Wayland Baptist University for a total attendance of 53 students. As usual, the feedback from students was very positive and many of the students have been back to the library since seeking help for their research.

Reference staff also did two presentations for the Southwest School of Art students. First, the library was part of the new students' orientation day. All new students were issued a library card, shown how to access their online school accounts in the Connect Training Lab, and given a tour of the Marie Schwartz Art Resource Center and Central Library. An additional 16 students visited the library the following week for a basic research training class.

Central Reference's monthly programs continued to be popular and included Library Digital Help, the Ukulele Club, Science Fiction Book Club, Brain Games, Brighten Your Day: Adult Coloring, and Social Services for Veteran's Families Outreach. There was also a SCORE presentation on the topic of Business Strategies that Work.



Lastly, three customers in the Jobs and Small Business Center (JSBC) shared their special stories of success with us. One patron who was seeking a Goodwill Grant Writing position got his dream job. He appreciated staff's assistance with his resume and use of the JSBC scanner. He mentioned the free scanner was vital for his employment and was very appreciative of staff's help. The second patron had been a regular JSBC user for quite some time. He told us he had been hired by Subway and will now have enough funds to seek out his own apartment (he is currently homeless). A third patron had been diligently searching for a job and was hired as an accountant in New Orleans. He was very excited by his success and thanked staff for all of their help and assistance.

## TEXANA/GENEALOGY



To celebrate Brackenridge High School's 100th Anniversary, Sylvia Reyna and Deborah Countess curated a display containing many proud Eagle traditions. Yearbooks, school uniforms and other various memorabilia garnered over the past 100 years offer a colorful look back at the school's history. Thanks to Alumni Association President Mary Ann Spreen for the use of items from her personal collection.



On August 26, Ms. Reyna conducted two tours for the Southwest School of Art students, introducing them to a few of Texana's art-related special collection materials.

Ms. Reyna participated in the August 27, "Eighth Annual Historic Homeowner's Fair" at the Pearl Stable, hosted by the Office of Historic of Preservation. She distributed brochures and shared information about the different types of resources available for researching a house's history.



On August 28, Ms. Countess spoke to members of the Helotes Grey Forest Community on how to begin researching their family history. She also discussed the many genealogy resources available to them from their San Antonio Public Library.



Andy Crews conducted a class September 6 on using the online genealogy database “HeritageQuest.” Attendees were given pointers on research strategies as well as how to access this information from home.



Ms. Reyna and Matt De Waelsche attended the San Antonio Regional Archivist’s Meeting, September 16, held at St. Mary’s University.



Ms. Reyna attended the “Save Texas History Symposium” sponsored by the Texas General Land Office on September 17. This year’s symposium, held at the Menger Hotel, focused on the history of The Alamo and plans for its future.

## BRANCH LOCATIONS

### BAZAN



On Friday, August 19 and Tuesday, August 23, the Bazan Learn Center offered therapeutic painting classes to patrons. The artist Ukwanni Warumbe delighted students with his Immersion Art Therapy protocol instructional methodology, encouraging students to express themselves artistically. Feedback was quite positive and many students mentioned that they were planning to register to attend Mr. Warumbe’s workshops at Westfall in September.



On September 12, the Bazan Learn Center hosted a job fair along with Workforce Solutions Alamo. Nearly 90 job seekers attended and 13 different employers were in attendance. There was even a line at the door! Job seekers received one-on-one help registering with the Texas Workforce Commission and benefitted from a job seekers’ workshop led by Amparo Ybarra from Workforce Solutions Alamo. The event was covered on the local news and feedback from both employers and attendees was uniformly positive.



With the start of the new school year, Children’s Librarian Hope Sonnen resumed outreach to the Frank Garrett and Morales Head Start locations and to the World of Knowledge learning center. Family Fun, Lego’s and Come & Go crafts all saw good turnouts with the start of the school year. Ms. Sonnen also resumed three book clubs at Margil and Crockett elementary schools where she met with fourth graders.



The Bazan Branch hosted weekly Affordable Care Act assistance sessions for “lifestyle changes enrollees” in August and saw a steady stream of customer come with questions. The I Cycle Bike Safety and Repair program was presented on August 18 by Community First and was well attended.



Adult Services Librarian Maria Gonzales promoted library services and programs to the Barrio Outreach meeting of community organizers at Sidney Lanier High School and also visited the WIC program/office to share library information.

### BROOK HOLLOW



Children continued to turn in their Mayor's Summer Reading Club reading logs through the end of August, with a total of 930 children registered at the Brook Hollow Library branch, which well exceeded the previous years' registration numbers.

While children's programs took a short break at the beginning of the month, programming started back up on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. The branch added an additional weekly Baby Time program on Wednesdays at 1pm to accommodate the program's popularity and patron needs. Children's Librarian Kirsten Lorenzen (temporarily assigned from Semmes) conducts two Baby Times, a Story Time, and a Toddler Time each week.

Many staff members help out to make Come and Go Crafts happen every Thursday, including Library Assistant Cecilia Williamson, Library Aide Emily Winkler, and Circulation Attendant Kimberly King. The branch celebrated National Playdough Day with a Come and Go Crafts playdough activity for all ages on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

During Tween Time this month, Tweens explored aerodynamics and non-Newtonian fluids, cooperated to achieve success in a new board game, and enjoyed tasty snacks.



Book groups continue to be the most popular adult program at Brook Hollow. Six groups met this month and discussed titles that included *Far From the Maddening Crowd* by Thomas Hardy, *Mycroft Holmes* by Kareem Abdul-Jabar and Anna Waterhouse, *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline, *Jade Dragon Mountain* by Elsa Hart, *El Hombre que Amaba los Perros* by Leonardo Padura, and *Triangle* by David Von Drehle. Along with the wide selection of traditional book groups, Brook Hollow hosts a monthly Meetup group called Book Lovers. Attendees bring books to swap and discuss.



Teen Time programs and Teen Library Leadership Council meetings continued at the branch this month. The Teen Library Leadership Council takes an active role in planning each Teen Time. Teens at Teen Time played games, flew drones, and learned new craft-making skills together.



The Meet the Mayor event at Brook Hollow on August 29 was a success. Many community members came to meet Mayor Ivy Taylor and ask her questions, and they were engaged throughout the entire session.

## CARVER



On August 18<sup>th</sup>, the branch partnered with the Small Business Administration to offer The Small Business Workshop. Nine would-be entrepreneurs attended the two-hour class.



The Summer Food Program with the San Antonio Food Bank drew to a close on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Participation was steady. Due to the interest, Branch Manager DL Grant expects the program will continue yet another summer.



Mr. Grant conducted outreach at The DoSeum, utilizing an iPad to show parents and children the different ways to use their library cards to access useful SAPL services, such as live homework help.



Mr. Grant will also participate in SAPL's six-month mentor program as one of 10 mentors.

## CODY



On August 22, the first day of school, children's librarian Sheila Acosta welcomed tweens with an introduction to "speed gaming." Several board games were set up around the room, along with Legos and puzzles. The tweens had so many minutes to play at each table and then had to quickly move to another when time was called. Tweens said they enjoyed this because of the speed and variety.



Lego fans attended the first Lego Club of the new school year on August 30. Sheila said they were very excited about the theme: landmarks of San Antonio. Entries included the Doseum, the Mission San Jose, the Alamo, and the Botanical Gardens. All of these Lego creations were displayed in the library.



Early literacy outreach in August included Kids Campus, Discovery World Childcare Center, the Pineapple School, and Chabad Gan-Gani Pre-school.



The BRC-Beginning Readers Club met on September 1. The young readers were very eager to read chapters from their favorite books. In addition, members and parents broke up into small groups to play Story Cubes and Frozen Spot It games, both designed to help develop vocabulary and strengthen word skills.



Toddlers and pre-school children learned to collaborate at various play and learn centers set up for Duplo Day on September 2. Children could choose from Duplos, as well as large floor puzzles, building blocks, manipulative story books, and stacking toys.



Children enjoyed making "family trees" and creative cards for Grandparents' Day on September 6. Families had a choice of three stations which featured various crafts to make for grandparents.



Thirteen people attended the first Minecraft Club meeting of the new school year on September 7. Attendees included first-timers and regular members. Sheila reported that a couple of the new members were eager to know when the next meeting was going to be.



After a short introduction to pop artist Roy Lichtenstein, Sheila invited tweens to attempt pop art using Lichtenstein's method of coloring for Tween Time on September 12. Every tween submitted their artwork, which was displayed briefly. Sheila also announced the possibility of a Tween Art Fest for Cody tweens this year.



Cody families attended a celebration in honor of Roald Dahl's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 13. In addition to making crafts for stories like the *BFG* and the *Twits*, children were able to decorate and take birthday favors. They could also vote for their favorite Dahl books. Sheila served cookies and took pictures of the children posing with their very Dahl-like finished products.



Two Country Home Learning Centers visited Cody Library for Story Time on September 14 and September 16.



Approximately 78 people attended the National Playdough Day event on September 15. Children had fun creating insects, flowers, bunnies, bears, stars and space ships, and even Pokémon Go characters!



Sheila represented Cody Library at the Old Navy Safety Fair at Huebner Oaks Shopping Center on September 17. Sheila was asked to read children's stories related to safety.



On August 23, teens learned how to use various icing tools when they decorated cookies with emoji faces.



The last SA Youth Code Jam program of the series was held on August 25. Teens were able to apply all that they had learned during the previous seven classes into one project. They had the opportunity to create a music video using code that had multiple characters, multiple backgrounds, movement, sound, and dialogue.



Teens planned all of the activities for September during a Teen Library Leadership Council Meeting on August 30. Teens shared their ideas and voted on the ones they would like to implement.



On September 6, teens displayed their knowledge of *Harry Potter* as they once again competed in Houses to win the House Cup! Teens also watched a scary movie and analyzed the plot line, suspense, and various scenes of the movie afterwards.



On September 13, teens had the chance to learn sewing techniques and practice skills such as measuring, problem solving, and pre-planning during a program in which they were able to create their own plush characters.



Librarian Adam Spana continued his monthly outreach to residents of the Adante Senior Living community on August 17, where the book club discussed Anita Shreve's *Rescue*.



The Cody Library hosted a meeting of the Library Board on August 24.

## COLLINS GARDEN



September 15, 2016: Collins Garden Library welcomed Children's Librarian Gina Brudi, a 25-year SAPL veteran, who transferred from Las Palmas Library and thanked Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard who returned to Guerra Library after assisting the Collins Garden Branch Library Team from June - September 2016 during a Collins Garden Library Team Meeting. PSA Elma Nieto-Rodriguez attended and had a mini-meeting with manager Jeannette Davies. Kudos/Encore to Yamada-Lokensgard who was an instrumental member of the team assisting in all capacities and freed staff to conduct outreach, attend meetings, etc. Brudi's first program was Playdough Day Saturday with 17 children and eight adults. Brudi begins Lego Club this month and is working on the branch's collection development.



Special thanks to librarians from the Central Children's Department, who hosted a Friday weekly Kids time program, *Come & Go Crafts* and *Lego Club* throughout the summer.



Friends of the SAPL and the Collins Garden Library manager have coordinated a Tuesday, October 18, 7 p.m. meeting to re-establish the Friends of Collins Garden Library. Many patrons have expressed interest and the Collins Garden Library Team is looking forward to working with the new group's members when it is fully established.



Collins Garden Library hosted a Hispanic Heritage Month craft that celebrated the legacy of San Antonio Native Henry B. Gonzalez that was attended by eight people.



Collins Garden Library Assistant Manager Gerald Madrigal and Circulation Attendant Eenedina Prater participated in an outreach and library card sign-up event at SAISD Lowell Middle School, which was attended by 50 parents and staff. Prater is part of SAPL's new mentoring program and is interested in children's programming.



UTHSCSA, in partnership with Collins Garden Library, meets bi-monthly to conduct its chronic pain study to address individuals seeking alternatives to medication in dealing with pain stemming from illness or injury. UTHSCSA's pain study addresses the country's opioid epidemic.



Collins Garden Library, in partnership with a community poetry group Voces Cosmicas, presents a series of writing workshops hosted by local poet/educator Fernando Esteban Flores. He utilizes the MondoPad during weekly critiques. Attendance averages 7-10 participants per week.



Educator Mary Valdez and Foxie, a Golden Retriever therapy dog, continue to help kids become more comfortable with reading on Mondays at Collins Garden Library. Young people are welcome to sit with Roxie and practice reading in a non-judgmental environment. Foxie's bi-weekly visits average 20 young people and parents.



In Teen Services at Collins Garden Library, hosted by library assistant Carlos Loera, we average 7-10 teens a week making crafts, exploring, and playing new video games such as Pokémon Go. Loera conducted a Back-to-School outreach at Harris Middle School and talked to 200 attendees. In addition, Collins Garden Library also hosts a monthly matinee movie series for teens and children with an average attendance of 35.



Aetna and the Texas Kidney Foundation set-up a table in the library lobby and provided informational brochures re: WIC and other community health-associated services.



Collins Garden Library Manager Jeannette Davies attended the SAPL Tri-Centennial meeting and is conducting research on the history of libraries in San Antonio for a traveling exhibit. Davies also attended a TCI Press Conference coordinated by Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales in the Collins Garden Library Parking Lot; a Wellness Committee Meeting; Manager's Meeting at Guerra; Board Meeting at Central; and mentor meetings with PSA Kate Gray, including a tour of the new Schafer Library.

## CORTEZ



Cortez staff warmly welcomes Cammie Brantley as the permanent branch manager! The entire Cortez staff is pleased to have Cammie's guidance and expertise.



### Story Time (Kathy Armbruster)

Story Time was on hiatus for two weeks in this reporting period. It began again on August 22 and is still held concurrently with the adult crafting club. Sessions are held on Mondays, from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. in the meeting room. The crafting club occupies half of the space and Story Time is in the other half. Three

sessions were held during this reporting period with the participation of 18 children and 17 adults. Sessions on “Wheels on the bus,” “Apples,” and “Curious George” were held.



#### **Family Fun** (Kathy Armbruster)

Family Fun sessions are replacing the Kids Time summer sessions during the school year. Sessions are currently held on Tuesdays at 4 p.m., but due to staffing and scheduling a new slot on Mondays at 4 p.m. will begin in October. Four sessions were offered during the reporting period and included sessions on Welcome Back to School, Apples, Grandparents’ day and a celebration for Roald Dahl’s birthday. The first two sessions were not attended at all but word is getting out and the last two sessions brought in a total attendance of 9 children and 8 adults.



#### **Tween Time** (Kathy Armbruster)

Tween Time was also on a short break in August. Sessions began again on August 24 and continue to be held on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Video games continue to be popular and the extremely popular summer food challenge has been reduced to once a month. “Bobbing for Apples” was the challenge of the month with a few brave and hardy tweens dunking their heads for the prized apple! Tweens assisted in cooking the playdough needed for the special playdough day offered the next day. Four sessions were held during the reporting period with a total attendance of 22.



#### **Come and Go Crafts** (Kathy Armbruster)

Offered on Saturdays from 2 to 4 p.m., Come and Go Crafts is new for Cortez. This passive program has been offered four times to date and has been enjoyed by 35 children and eight adults.



#### **National Playdough Day** (Kathy Armbruster)

SAPL Children’s Librarians were asked if they’d be interested in participating in National Playdough Day and there was a resounding, “YES!” Cortez playdough enthusiasts squished and mashed on Thursday, September 15. This event was open to all. Twenty one children and four adults participated.



#### **Back to School Celebration** (Kathy Armbruster and Jo Ann Paredes)

An afternoon of back-to-school crafts and games, snacks and a balloon artist were offered at Cortez on Thursday, September 1 during the regular Teen Time slot. Thirty three children and 10 adults came into the meeting room to make a “homework time” door hanger, create a yarn apple decoration, and to relax with snacks after school. The balloon artistry of Annalis Wilson was fantastic and several children left with unique creations.



#### **Outreach Event – Back to School Night – Palo Alto Elementary School** (Kathy Armbruster)

Invited by Palo Alto Elementary School Librarian Dolores Rivas, Children’s Librarian Kathy Armbruster attended the back to school night on August 31 from 5 to 7 p.m. Approximately 30 students and their parents (30 adults) stopped by the SAPL table to greet Kathy and to pick up information about library cards, SAPL locations, bookmarks and Homework Help flyers.



#### **Teens Program** (JoAnn Paredes)

Cortez teen programs took a two week break to re-evaluate what is needed to make them more successful. With school starting August 22, the program went back into effect on August 25. There were 12 teens present at the start but thanks to teens recruiting other teens, attendance has steadily grown! There were 4 sessions in this reporting period with a total of 65 teens attending! Although many of the teens come from middle schools, many are regulars to the teen program.



#### **Adult Coloring** (Michelle Ricondo)

Adult Coloring @ Cortez continues to be popular and the numbers have doubled during the last two weeks in August! Four colorists met on August 16 and eight on August 30.



### **Creative Writing Group** (Michelle Ricondo)

The Cortez Writers Group has kept a small cadre of dedicated writers since its inception on July 2016, with six aspiring authors willing to share their creativity on August 23.

The dates and times for both adult coloring and the creative writers group changed to a weekly offering beginning on September 6. Adult Coloring and the Cortez Writers Group are now offered in the same room at staggered times on Tuesday evenings. The attendance for September 6 was nine in Adult Coloring and four in the Writers Group. On September 13, 10 people enjoyed the relaxing social atmosphere and five aspiring authors shared their writing.



### **Hispanic Heritage Month** (Michelle Ricondo)

Local artist Thelma Muraida installed her exhibit for Hispanic Heritage Month: Latino Artists on September 4 and the opening reception for the exhibit was held on September 8 with an attendance of 20 inquisitive patrons. Ms. Muraida stayed until closing to answer questions about her artwork.



### **Getting Crafty Program** (JoAnn Paredes)

The crafting group has been doing very well. During this report period, there were four classes with attendance of 41. For the month of August, the crafters were learning to cross-stitch. For September the class is making phone charging cradles and felt coasters.



### **Monster Meet** (Madeline Vasquez)

On September 10, 19 interested fans got together to view Stanley Kubrick's psychological horror favorite "The Shining". Monster Meet is a program developed and coordinated by Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez, who brings her love of the horror genre to the community at Cortez.

## ENCINO



Encino's Create University, organized by Adult Services Librarian Barbara Kwiatkowski, started the fall season with an exclusive performance by lauded Chinese opera singer Liangwen Chen. Ms. Chen, who was introduced by UTSA professor Weixing Ford, PhD., performed a compilation of *Chinese Folk Songs: History, Tradition and Genres* to a packed house. Due to popularity, Ms. Chen will return for a repeat and lengthier performance on October 17. Create University continues into September and October with a series of workshops on Chinese calligraphy, graciously presented by Professor Ying Li. These workshops will lead the participants through exercises to experience the creation of oracle bone script, the earliest known form of Chinese writing.



Encino's Older Adults Time has grown tremendously in popularity. The group has grown to over 30 people each month as Barbara Kwiatkowski guided them on an exploration of the Seven Wonders of the World. Machu Picchu was the grand finale destination on September 16, and the group looks forward to exploring the National Parks with the October meeting. Kwiatkowski continued monthly outreach programs to Emerald Oaks Retirement Community and Franklin Park Senior Living during the reporting period, and many residents from these communities were transported to Encino for the Older Adults Time. The outreach programs are tailored to the needs of the residents, and Barbara takes the time to conduct book talks, discuss current events, and give e-reader tutorials.

Sundays have been successful programming days with Encino Cinema and Fitness in the Park: American Tribal Style Bellydancing happening each afternoon. A family movie is featured each week, and many

parents take advantage of the event. ATS Bellydancing has been a welcome and non-traditional addition to the Saturday morning fitness classes, and it will continue through September.



Teens at Encino closed out the summer with a month of fun activities in August. The Teen Summer Club held their Goodbye Summer celebration on August 17, and the San Antonio Food Bank Chef made one final visit to the Teen Library Living Club on August 18. Each event filled the teen space with activities, food, and fun as the group readied themselves for back to school. With the departure of Librarian Matthew Loaiza to Potranco, teen programs have been tweaked to maintain momentum for the fall session. Children's Librarian Ashley Stubbs has stepped in to take over Teen Anime Club on Mondays and Library Services Specialist Adam Tutor visits each Wednesday for Teen Club.



Encino's monthly adult book club, Read It. Love It! Discuss It., has grown to be an entertaining and thoughtful group. Enthusiastically led by library aide Ellen Leland, this group gathers over themed refreshments and souvenirs to discuss the latest selection. *The Light Between Oceans* by M. L. Stedman was enjoyed so much that the group assembled (with tissues) for a movie outing once the feature film was released in September. The book club will meet again on September 28 to discuss *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore* by Robin Sloan.



The fall session of children's programming started August 24, and the programs are now in full swing. Toddler Time and Baby Time have both grown in attendance, and the two weekly sessions of Story Time are full of excited children. Kids Time continues each Tuesday at 4 p.m. with experiments, crafts, and activities for school-aged children; and Tween Time has been adjusted to a once-monthly special event. Wednesday afternoons continue to be a busy day at Encino with Read to a Dog, Lego Club, and Chess Club happening consecutively.



The Friends of Encino met on September 12 to discuss summer events and approve the FY2017 spending plan. The group happily discussed summer events at Encino and the success of the book cart, located in Encino's lounge area. Special thanks to the Friends for their weekly efforts at sorting donations, stocking the cart, and continuing fundraising efforts.

## FOREST HILLS



The artwork of Adriana Maria Garcia will be on exhibit at Forest Hills Library from September 7 - November 7, 2016. On September 7 the public was invited to a reception for the artist. Forest Hills is pleased to be hosting this artist's work, including illustrations from a soon- to- be published children's book.



Branch Manager Mary Naylor visited the Doris Griffin Senior Center on August 18 to lead the book club discussion of *The Age of Miracles* by Karen Thompson. Mrs. Naylor also spoke to the participants about membership in the Friends of the Forest Hills Branch group.



Four Family Fun programs were held during this time period. The Frankenstein Day Monster Dance celebration was a hit. Kids made Frankenstein monster puppets on a string and had them dance in the Monster Mash dance parade that followed.



Four Story Times were presented, two of which were bilingual. Everyone enjoyed the activities: stories, rhymes, songs, dance, crafts and playtime. Kids had an especially good time painting their ABCs with puffy paint and making shapes with playdough.



Four Come & Go Crafts were hosted. Children and their adults created school buses, Egyptian collars and took a do-it-yourself drawing lesson. .



Children's Librarian Kathleen Brown visited Children's Summit Daycare to present story times and exchange books for the teachers.

## GREAT NORTHWEST



The fall children's programs have begun with great excitement. The toddlers and their families have had lots of fun while learning about the colors of the rainbow during Color Club on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.



The older children started on their pretend trip around the world during ABC Club. The ABC Club has decided to go exploring. They began their trip by learning about immigrants with the book *All the Way to America* by Dan Yaccarino. Then, they stopped in the United States to enjoy Johnny Appleseed and how he traveled west and planted apples. The last program about the United States was all about the wonderful gift from France, the Statue of Liberty.



The school kids wanted to join in the fun and so on early release day, they were able to come and experience a North American marketplace featuring Canada, the United States, and Mexico. They were able to make a map of the continent and travel through it by making a craft featuring each country. Needless to say, Great Northwest Library patrons have checked out nearly all the books even remotely connected to these three fun countries.



The Great Northwest Thursday Book Group met on September 8 at 1 p.m. to discuss *Sarah's Key* by Tatiana De Rosnay and watched the movie. Cindy Moreno, Adult Services librarian, moderated the group. There were several new attendees to the program and some regulars. Cindy also met with the Alicia Trevino Senior Group to discuss the same title. The book group is growing considerably. The Saturday book group discussed *The Guernsey Literary Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer on September 10 at 10 a.m.



The Bexar County Master Gardeners presented Vines in San Antonio on Wednesday, September 14 at 6:30 p.m. The group is funded by the Adult Services funds. Customers who attended received plants and some brought their own plants to show to the group.



The monthly Essential Oils 101 course continues to be a popular program. On August 20, attendees learned how to use essential oils in food to promote a healthy lifestyle. On September 17, participants explored non-toxic alternatives for their skin.



Great Northwest Teen Writer's Guild met on August 15<sup>th</sup> for their monthly meeting. Teens with an interest in writing meet once a month to create and share their work with other teen writers. The writer's guild and teen volunteers also began preparing skits for the upcoming Enchanted Library program.



The No Experience Needed Art program gives teens the opportunity to try out different artistic techniques. In August teens learned about old school animation by making a flip book animation story. A monthly Teen Anime Night was held on September 12 and celebrates love of Anime and Manga. During Anime Night teens got a chance to sew together a felt plushy Pokèball to take home.



Computer Tutoring is held at the Great Northwest Library. A very knowledgeable volunteer tutor provides basic computer instructions and answers computer and technology related questions.

## GUERRA



The NISD Precious Minds New Connections program provided parent education, child care, and lunch on August 15, 22, and 29 and September 5 and 12. The NISD Early On parent education program held meetings on August 19 and 26 and September 2, 9, and 16. The Guerra Branch Friends met to discuss funding and reimbursement changes starting in October. The San Antonio Metro Health Screening bus provided diagnostic and educational services to community members on August 18 and 25 and September 1, 8, and 15. The branch hosted the managers meeting on September 1. The staff bid farewell to Circulation Attendant Corinna Reed.



Branch Manager Dexter Katzman presented music and literature outreach programs to the Careplex Adult Day Care Center on August 24 and 31 and September 7. On August 26, Dexter presented information about SEIU and the Employee Management Committee to about 125 recently-hired COSA staff. On August 27, Dexter staffed a table at District 6 Councilman Ray Lopez's Back to School/backpack distribution event at the Meadow Cliff Center. It was a well-attended event; information was shared with 85 members of the community. Caitlin Cowart had provided SAPL bags and pencils and all were distributed.



Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard continued her temporary assignment at the Collins Garden Branch Library.



Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson resumed children's programs on August 31. During the reporting period, she planned and presented three toddler times, three story times and three kids' times. School age children read to Foxy on September 15 during the bi-weekly read to a dog program. Arlene joined the international celebration of one of the world's best storytellers Roald Dahl; she celebrated his 100th birthday with a book display and activities for the children. On September 16, she visited Greatest Gifts Daycare and presented stories to two groups of toddlers.



Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson moderated the Club de Lectura on August 25; the group discussed *Echos of the War between Mexico and the United States (Ecos de la Guerra entre México y Estados Unidos)* by Krystyna Liburna as well as other books about this subject. On September 2, Steven presented a trivia game program at the Willie Cortez Senior Center using a game wheel provided by the Guerra Friends. He recorded for dial-a-story in Spanish *Vuela, vuela sorpresa (Fly, Fly Surprise)* by Meritxell Martí on September 12.



Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on August 8, 18, and 25 and September 8 and 15. The teens watched the movie *Men in Black 3* on September 1, with refreshments supplied by the Guerra Friends. The teens will help with the Guerra Friends book sale later in September.



Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl created slides for the display TV inviting interested persons to her Guerra Knits & Crochets! Program; there were seventeen participants at the inaugural weekly event on September 6. Mary Lou and Circulation Attendant Allison Fink created a Staff Picks Display with a focus on strong female protagonists.

## IGO



Children's Library Assistant Carolyn Bradley has continued to assist with children's programming by providing five weekly early literacy story times as well as the special program National Playdough Day.



Senior Circulation Attendant Joseph Gonzalez presented Lego Club. In celebration of the Olympics, he had the children make up and build a representation of their own sporting event.



On August 23, Teen Time was a bitter-sweet event. It was the last Teen Time for several of the Teens who had graduated and were going off to college for the fall. While attendance was low at the beginning of the school year, Teen Librarian Marco De Leon was happy to report that more and more teens are coming each week.



The eight members of Igo's poetry club, PoeTree, met on August 15.



On September 3, in celebration of the TV series' 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Igo Library, in partnership with the fan club *USS Bexar*, threw a *Star Trek* party, featuring crafts, games, treats and a display of memorabilia. Two special guests came to talk about the history and impact of the *Star Trek* franchise: publisher/writer R. Thomas McPherson and filmmaker/director/screenwriter Jack Trevino, who wrote for *Deep Space Nine* and *Star Trek: New Voyages*. Mr. Trevino also wrote the film *Star Trek: Of Gods and Men*. Forty-seven adults and children attended the program.



On September 7, the fifteen members of the Mystery Club discussed *Birthdays for the Dead*. Library aides David Lipsey, Judy Quijano and Ezell Powell have moved on to other opportunities and will be sorely missed.



On August 15, 19, and 22, the Beginner Yoga classes continued a series taught by Belinda Kovach, which began on August 1. Participants reported that they had benefitted so much from this exercise program that they would like to see it continued.



On September 1, the Igo Elderberries held a program on Aging and Longevity, presented by the UTHSCSA. Dr. Sara Espinoza, accompanied by two other staff members, discussed the clinical trials underway, in particular, the Frailty Studies. Guests expressed their interest in this topic with an hour-long Q & A. Following the presentation, a 100th birthday celebration was held for the Elderberries first Centenarian.



Grandparents Day was celebrated on September 11 with come & go crafts, certificates of appreciation, and other games and activities.



September 12 was the first of four *Hula Dance* classes with Tina and Al Negrete.

## JOHNSTON



Johnston Library's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary took place on August 20<sup>th</sup> and was coordinated by Assistant Manager Monica Bustillo. Over 100 community members attended including San Pedro Branch Manager (former Johnston manager) Diane Backhus, representatives from several Homeowners Associations and the District 6 Library Trustee Board Member Lora Devlon Eckler. The Parks & Rec Mobile Fit van was on

site and activities included library-related crafts, a teddy bear bookmark, and a bookworm reading a book. The crafts were planned by Children's Librarian Beverly Wigglesworth, and Library Aide Vida Salas assisted in manning the tables.



Ms. Bustillo also facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion of *The Girls* by Emma Cline and hosted two Friday Films including *The Jungle Book* and *Me Before You*. On September 8, the first Adult Coloring Program was held. The program will occur on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month.



Baby Times and Story Times at Johnston resumed on Tuesday, August 23. Story Time themes during this period were Apes/Monkeys, Australian Animals, Cats, and Cows. Family Fun also resumed the same day with the same Story Time themes. Children's Librarian Beverly Wigglesworth recorded *Monkey: a Trickster Tale* by Gerald McDermott for Dial-a-Story.



Library Assistant Nicole Garza has planned an exciting array of programs for Johnston's teens. They recently made puffy paint art, had a video game challenge, made pancake art, and participated in a Pokémon Go scavenger hunt. Ms. Garza also makes gym leader badges that the teens can earn each week. A group has shown particular interest in starting an Anime club so Ms. Garza is working with them to determine when the club will meet and what they hope to see happen.



Ms. Bustillo facilitated the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Batman Day on September 17. Activities included coloring, crafts, puzzles, movie viewings, free comic books, and snacks. The event was well attended with over 70 people participating.

## LANDA



Summer wrapped up at Landa Library with the completion of the Mayor's Summer Reading Club. This year, Landa had 744 children sign up as readers and listeners. Landa also had 305 children finish their reading logs and receive their prize book. This translates to 41% of the branch's Summer Reading participants completing their summer reading logs.



Children's programming at Landa got back into full swing on Tuesday, August 23 as Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas kicked off Fall Programs with Baby and Toddler programs back in their same 10 and 11 a.m. timeslots, respectively. Attendance continues to be high at both programs; with many new faces joining the weekly fall programs. Baby Time in particular has been having upwards of 30 babies attend each week with their caregivers; prompting an additional Baby Time to be offered each week starting in October. Storytime for ages 3 to 5 years began on Thursday, August 25 and continues to be a fun opportunity for older kids to listen to stories and dance along with some silly songs.



In September, Landa returned to hosting Lego Clubs and Minecraft clubs for school age children bimonthly. Several kids from the summer Lego Club returned and took up Ms. Salinas's Lego Challenge to build only using 2 x 2 bricks. Space ships, however, continue to be the favorite thing for Landa kids to build at Lego Club. The bimonthly Minecraft Builders Club began again in September with several new families joining in the Minecraft creative building fun. Library Assistant Rebekah Corley ran the program; challenging the kids to build a school house with a secret escape route.



Tween Time also continued in September at Landa with a gummy worm themed program and book talk about the *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*; a book that the branch's tween library patrons wanted to read.



On September 13, Ms. Salinas and Ms. Corley hosted a 100th anniversary birthday celebration for children's author Roald Dahl at Landa Library. Kids enjoyed some silly come and go style crafts like making their own *BFG* ears, a *Fantastic Mr. Fox* face, and Mr. Twit's beard. They also could draw their own dreams in a dream jar to add to our Dream wall. One family wrote to Ms. Salinas the following day to express that it was their "favorite Landa activity to date!" They also said: "What's more, we rushed to finish a chapter book tonight... so that we could start *The BFG*. On the first page alone, I think the kids must've gasped 10 times! We even let them stay up late so that we could all keep reading. How will we ever thank you for moments like that?! Your work is so crucial, and certainly vital to our little family. Thank you from the bottom of our (very silly!) hearts."



On Friday, September 16, Landa celebrated Play Dough Day throughout the afternoon with over 30 children attending. Homemade playdough, rolling pins, and cookie cutters were provided so that children could let their imaginations run wild as they got to have fun with play dough.



Landa Teens have been as dynamic as ever in their contributions towards programming and branch services. Five programs were facilitated by Library Assistant and Teen Liaison Rebekah Corley, which were led by teens and included a Back to School DIY School Supply night, the inaugural Gaming Night event, and a most collaborative undertaking of reimagining and decorating Landa's Teen Space.



Landa teen services also welcomed two new teen volunteers to the branch and is super excited at their interest and future contributions!



In addition, Ms. Corley had the fantastic experience of visiting two local middle and high schools to present on all of the awesome library services students may find at their local library. These experiences had the immediate results of excellent feedback, invitations to return, and the beginning of long lasting relationships with community students and education professionals.



Next on the horizon is implementing a brand new service - Homework Hangout – in collaboration with children's librarian Jasmin Salinas. They are incredibly excited to offer a dedicated homework space for students seeking independent study environments.



The adult programming at Landa concluded this year's summer reading program with 225 total participants. Beverly Mata-Herrera was the grand prize winner of the "goodie bag." In keeping with the Landa tradition of selecting Texas authors, this year's book selection was *Thyme of Death* by Susan Wittig Albert.



The Adult SRP had a spectacular ending with an author visit by Susan Wittig Albert on August 30. She told her story and the large group in attendance enjoyed every word. She is a delightful speaker.



Reader's Ink and the Mystery Book Club both read *Thyme of Death* in anticipation of Ms. Albert's visit. Members enjoyed it very much and several of them came to the program she presented. In early September, Reader's Ink member Jane Cavazos led a discussion of *The Boys in the Boat*.



Adult Librarian Karen Sebesta conducted two adult outreach programs. In August, the seniors at the Kenwood Senior Center did a door-hanger craft using colored pencils and self-stick foam

decorations. Karen also brought a selection of adult coloring handouts for them to do. During Karen's absence, Jane Cavazos assisted at The Village at the Incarnate Word retirement residence.



Karen also coordinates the volunteer program at Landa. She is pleased to announce that Teen Liaison Rebekah Corley will be assisting by helping recruit teen volunteers. The teens who volunteered over the summer months were outstanding. Some are continuing throughout the school year.

## LAS PALMAS



As of August 27<sup>th</sup>, Las Palmas Library registered 610 children for the Go Green Summer Reading Club with 91 children completing their log and receiving a free book.



After a programming pause, Children's Librarian Gina Brudi started up fall programming in full swing at the Las Palmas Library with a Family Fun back-to-school theme and lots of unique creations from the participants in the Lego Club.



On September 17<sup>th</sup>, Librarian II Samantha Gordano hosted "Playdough Day" in the main Las Palmas library building. Children of all ages (even those just young at heart) came to be creative, and all the parents and caregivers went home with the playdough recipe for themselves.



The "Computer Help Thursday's" class now includes personal device tutoring held by Librarian II Samantha Gordano.



On August 17<sup>th</sup> the Adult Book Club discussed: *The Wives of Los Alamos* (Novel) by Tara Shea Nesbit. The husbands were top scientists charged with the top secret mission of building the hydrogen bomb. The secret life was a burden to the women who felt isolated, bored and lonely. Eight members of the Book Club commented on the unusual writing style that took some getting used to as the author wrote the wives' points of view as a collective rather than personal individuation or any type of character development.



Librarian II Samantha Gordano conducted an informational session on the services available from the library for 34 teachers of the Edgewood ISD Fine Arts Academy on August 18<sup>th</sup>. The outreach resulted in several collaborative ideas for the school to work with the library to achieve mutual goals in the near future.



The Spanish and English Citizenship Summer semester has been ongoing and closed on September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, respectively. A new semester will begin soon with Academia América.

## MAVERICK



Maverick Branch hosted the Mayor on August 16, which was well received by our customers. Branch staff also made space available for three HOA's during this time. Maverick Branch hosted a presentation to enhance the value of one's home upon getting ready to sell. Additionally, the Branch hosted two book groups and two chess club opportunities.



Summer reading sign-ups and completions were finished on August 31. Maverick's final numbers for readers and listeners were 768 registered. Three hundred and seventy one children completed the program and received a free book.



During the reporting period, Ms. Roberts planned and conducted Preschool, Baby and Toddler Storytime. The first Lego club of the school year started on September 12. Ms. Roberts continued her partnership with Elizabeth Rush, Librarian at Nichols Elementary, with the Bluebonnet Bloggers. The 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> graders met on September 13 and will blog about the books they review. Also on September 13, she attended a PTA meeting at Nichols Elementary to promote the Bluebonnet Bloggers as an afterschool partnership and club.

## McCRELESS



Children's programming resumed at McCreless. Several fresh faces appeared at Story Time, as older children enter school and younger ones join in. They quickly learned the routine and like to join in the stories, calling out the names of the characters, or sharing crayons and markers.



The bulletin boards have been changed out, featuring new back to school themes. There are book displays to complement the bulletin boards and Live Homework Help bookmarks are offered to families with children in school.



Teen fall programming at McCreless Library kicked off late August after a brief hiatus. Teens come together each week to socialize and engage in weekly crafts and friendly competition with both gaming and Pokémon Go. Teen liaison Georgina set up two back to back art programs in early September to help promote the San Antonio Public Library's Teen Arts Fest, and encourage art submissions from the branch's teens. Georgina accompanied Teen Arts Fest committee leader JD Elizondo to visit Providence Catholic School to promote the event during outreach, as well as educate the school on teen volunteer opportunities and teen programming hosted at Central Library as well as their local library branch.



Georgina and Steven Barrera from Thousand Oaks Library teamed up to visit the Juvenile Detention Center to host a couple of programs and donate young adult books to the young girls.



McCreless celebrated its 50th anniversary on Sunday, August 21. It was well attended by patrons and city dignitaries, including District 3 Councilwoman Rebecca J. Viagran. Other activities included face painting, crafts, and rousing games of Twister. A local Boy Scout group also participated in a flag ceremony.



Children's Librarian Leigh Bedford is retiring after 23 years of service to SAPL.. Another librarian will be filling in for her, which will ensure a smooth transition for both staff and library users.

## MEMORIAL



Memorial Teens started the school year with some craft favorites. Teens recycled some magazines and made fun bubble magnets for their lockers. They used shrinky dinks to make some awesome personalized jewelry and keychains. Teens are super excited about the month of October and have

already begun planning some super creepy Halloween programs. Memorial's teens have also begun submitting their applications for volunteering in order to take a more active role in their library.



Big kids like to color too. On Tuesday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, from 6 - 7 p.m., adults enjoyed coloring unique designs from adult coloring books. The books include swirls, mandalas and other intricate designs. A special thanks to the Adult Programming Committee for supplying the kit. It included coloring pencils, sharpeners and the coloring books. Memorial plans to hold another event in October.



On Saturday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, Jaime Garcia, a local photo enthusiast, held a class on how to take pictures with a cell phone. His class covered topics such as how to create photo effects with simple house-hold items and other tools. He also discussed techniques for taking pictures using backgrounds and other basic skills.



For Hispanic Heritage, which runs from Sept. 15-Oct. 15, Memorial is featuring a photo print exhibit from local artist Chris Castillo. His works consist of photos printed in a cyanotype process. Cyanotypes were invented in the mid-1800's as a photographic technique that produces a cyan-blue print. Castillo's themes focus on landscapes and male figures from found photographs from a 1954 photo essay in National Geographic magazine. The altered image photos have attracted patrons to Memorial to view the exhibit.

## MISSION



As the start of the school year approached, Mission Children were treated to one last Libros and Legos program. The Lego building time was so popular this summer that it is being added as a regular program. Weekly Baby Time and Toddler Time resumed for the Fall Session and many new families have discovered Mission's story times and have joined the groups. The new Mondo Pad is being used enthusiastically by the Tweens for Video Games.



Teens at Mission Library participated in Back to School crafts, cupcake decorating, and making jewelry from craft sticks. Youth at Mission also enjoyed learning about cards and card dueling at the Play Pokemon! program that has moved to Sundays.



Teen Librarian Cindy Cruz assisted J. D. Elizondo from Teen Services at an outreach event at Brackenridge High School. They were able to discuss the upcoming Teen Arts Fest as well as Homework Help resources. Cindy, who is a member of the Teen Arts Fest Committee, assisted at the all-day event which provided information and art activities from the arts community of San Antonio.



Mission Library had its second Table Tennis Tournament on August 20<sup>th</sup> and was very well attended by the community, even the president of the Mission Library friends group was there as a spectator.



Librarian Oscar Gonzalez participated in the recording of the current Cover to Cover program to promote the *If Walls Could Talk* display at Mission Library and talked about its inception.



Mission Library kicked off its Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations on September 17<sup>th</sup> with a presentation by Eugene Rodriguez. Mr. Rodriguez is Henry B. Gonzalez biographer and in honor of 100 years of his birth, talked about the legacy of U.S. Representative Gonzalez in San Antonio and the nation.

# PAN AMERICAN



In the waning days of summer Pan American continued to host popular “Fitness in the Park” classes Gentle Stretch Yoga and Tai Chi. Many attendees participated in the Parks and Recreation “Fit Pass” program which encouraged San Antonio residents to attend fitness classes throughout the city for a chance to win cool prizes. Additionally, the branch partnered with the Metropolitan Health District to hold a six week Diabetes Prevention and Control workshop. Participants learned more about nutrition, exercise, relaxation and goal setting. As an added bonus, those who attended all six classes will receive a goody bag filled with items to help them manage their diabetes.



Ben Longoria, Adult Services Librarian, continued to visit the Normoyle Senior Center located in district 3. His twice monthly visits have proven to be very popular with an average of 40 people in attendance. Mr. Longoria has a variety of games for the seniors and everyone gets a prize at the end.



In September, Pan American welcomed new part time Library Assistant Carla Rodriguez to the team. Ms. Rodriguez brings a background in education to the branch and is currently a school librarian at Southside ISD. Ben Longoria from the Maverick Branch continues to serve as Assistant Manager at Pan American. A new Assistant Manager/Adult Services Librarian will be joining the branch soon.



To help the teens get back into the school spirit Lisa Leandro, Teen Liaison, hosted a “DIY” book covers program. Teens were given the opportunity to express themselves by creating decorative book covers with different materials of all colors and designs. Another fun teen time at the branch was “Pokemon Hunt” where teens had to search for specific Pokemon characters in order to win a prize. Finally, to celebrate Super Natural Day, Ms. Leandro had trivia games and crafts available for the teens at Pan American.



With summer winding down at the branch Gladis Martinez, Children’s Librarian, used the time to plan for fall programs while still maintaining a busy schedule. Ms. Martinez held weekly and monthly programs such as kids time, toddler time, Lego Club, and tween time. Additionally, our favorite canine friend Fokie the READ dog visited the branch to encourage children to read as well as learn how to properly approach a dog. Ms. Martinez plans to visit area elementary schools to help the children get settled into the new school year.

# PARMAN



Library Assistant Eva Banda started a new program, Bilingual Toddler Time. Toddlers and parents have learned about animals and shapes. Ms. Banda also does a bilingual story time for school aged children. The first meeting of this group explored colors.



Library Assistant Elissa Vura had a busy month with DIY U programs: Black Out Poetry, Simple Totes, and filled in for Branch Manager Haley Holmes for the End of Semester party. Ms. Vura has also been dedicated to planning and assisting in the orchestration of the Staff Art Show.



Teen Librarian I Marisa Debow attended outreach at Lopez Middle School where she talked to more than a hundred parents about library services. Ms. Debow manages Parman’s 22 volunteers and is a consistent contributor to the Teen blog. She assisted Library Aide Patricia Vanlandingham with her Portrait Earrings DIY program. Ms. Debow also was tremendously helpful with the End of Semester Party for DIY U.



Children’s Librarian II Carrie Vance, in addition to carrying out her very popular regular children’s programs, also hosted a Toddler Dance Party and Teddy Bear Sleep Over during the reporting period. Both were very successful.



Adult Services Librarian II Tim Johnson continued to manage a book club for the Laurels Assisted Living Center and to host Parman’s science fiction book group, *Escape the Earth*.

## PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS



Children attending Kids’ Time at the Pruitt Library have enjoyed stories and crafts incorporating themes such as back-to-school, sharks, Grandparent’s Day, and shapes. They listened intently to the reading of the popular children’s story, *Nugget and Fang* and got a kick out of Jean Reagan’s *How to Babysit a Grandpa*.



For the third year, Pruitt Library celebrated the official “Batman Day”. Families stopped by and made Batman masks, checked out the display of Batman books, and showed off their masks as they walked throughout the library.



Pruitt staff attended two outreach events at neighboring Montgomery Elementary School as they kicked off the school year. Branch Manager Dee Dee Davenport was present for “Meet the Teacher”, and Children’s Librarian Cynthia Saenz attended the first P.T.A. meeting. Parents, teachers, and students were provided with valuable information about events and resources of the San Antonio Public Library.



Of special interest were “Homework Help” and other databases available for academic use.



The Family Circle Book Club, attended by tweens and parents, recently discussed the popular selection, *Counting by 7’s*, written by Holly Sloan. All said they were engrossed as they read the book and were eager to find out the ending. Participants are looking forward to reading and discussing the next selection, *Ms. Bixby’s Last Day* by John Anderson.



Teen Services Librarian Rae Downen held three volunteer orientations attended by a record-setting 56 teens. Volunteers submitted an application and completed all eleven levels of a Dewey Decimal sorting game. The teens will assist with many activities’, including Kids’ Time crafts, by prepping materials, doing room setups, assisting kids with completing crafts, and helping with clean up. Volunteering in the library is an experience that teaches teens skills needed for workforce readiness, including how to plan ahead, interact with others, sign up for shifts and clock in and out.



Teens kicked off the school year with a new program called Mindful Mondays for Teens. Mindful Mondays is a program designed for teens and lead by school counselor Carrie Edmond from Ed White Middle School. Participants will learn how to maintain a moment-by-moment awareness of their thoughts, feelings, bodily sensations, and surrounding environment. They will also learn how to better use their brains when in stressful situations. Additional skills they will learn include reducing anxiety about taking a test and communicating effectively while interacting with peers. By practicing mindfulness, teens will be better prepared as they start the process of entering the workforce.



The Teen Library Leadership Committee met on Wednesday, September 7, and planned programs for Hispanic Heritage Month and upcoming Fandom Fury for September and October. They also planned a Halloween craft. Teens were assigned tasks to complete before the upcoming events, and they have been collaborating with each other and getting their work done with great enthusiasm.



Teen Chess kicked off on Thursday, September 15, with continued support from Rackspace, which provides the service of Chess Master Alex Weinberg. Domino's Vice President of Operations, Mr. Mike Bernal, continues to support Teen Chess by providing 10 pizzas each Thursday the branch hosts this event. As part of the Power Up at Your Library initiative, librarian Rae Downen used the library's 3D printer to print chess pieces, that when assembled, form a robot called a ChessBot. Participants' entered their names into a drawing to win the coveted Chessbot.



The TGIF Adult Book Club met in late August to discuss the Edgar Award winning mystery *Ordinary Grace*. The book was well received by all participants and led to a lively and thought-provoking discussion. Although the group reads a variety of types of books throughout the year, mysteries continue to be a favorite.



Family Chess Nights resumed on September 15 with nearly 50 patrons in attendance. This weekly event, sponsored by the Rackspace Foundation, is one of the Pruitt Library's most popular programs. Families enjoy a friendly game of chess, a catered dinner, and an advanced chess lesson taught by Chess Master Alex Weinberg.



The Pruitt branch offers English as a Second Language (ESL) classes on Tuesday evenings. Due to the popularity of this program, the branch plans to add an additional weekly class on Thursdays at noon, beginning the first week in October.



Special Needs Adult Programming (SNAP) activities focused on Hispanic Heritage this month. Participants listened to the story *A Gift of Gracias* by Julia Alvarez and enjoyed completing a craft. Since *A Gift of Gracias* is available digitally via OverDrive, librarian Dee Dee Davenport demonstrated OverDrive's dictionary feature to help the special needs patrons determine the meanings of some unknown words. The SNAP group was especially pleased that one of their peers had won Pruitt's Adult Summer Reading prize drawing and was awarded a beautiful swag bag filled with books, a San Antonio Public Library t-shirt and more.

## SAN PEDRO



In response to the changing demographics in the San Pedro Library service area, Children's fall programming was modified. The popular Minecraft Monday Club is continuing throughout the school year. Kids Time is on Wednesday (with the first Wednesday of the month being the very popular LEGO Club). Baby Time is held on Mondays, with the new Toddler Time following immediately afterwards; allowing parents the time to socialize and chat between the programs.



Ms. Dalton presented monthly story times to children at Educare Child Care Center (two classes) and Monte Vista Montessori (two classes). Fifteen books were also delivered to each child care class for their use during the month. She also presented a monthly story time to a new group of children at Respite Care's shelter, the only shelter in Texas for developmentally disabled children.



Ms. Dalton delivered bags of books on various themes requested by teachers at Bonham Academy, Kipp Poder, and Monte Vista Montessori. These included books on Hispanic Heritage, historical fiction, the human body, weather, and animal habitats.

National Playdough Day was celebrated on September 17. The children (and parents!) enjoyed squishing and squashing homemade playdough!



Branch Manager Diane Backhus (wearing her Teen Services hat) partnered with Rebekah Corley (Landa) and Megan Stanley (Westfall) to present homework help information to the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade students at St. Anthony's Catholic School. She also partnered with Megan Stanley to present Library Information to the freshman classes at Edison High School.

Greg Cruz, Circulation Attendant, received recognition for customer service and professionalism, as part of the city's CORE Values Employee Recognition Program. On Friday, Sept. 16, Assistant Director Dale McNeill presented him with a plaque and pins. He had been nominated by one of the branch's customers for his assistance with technology issues.

## SEMMEES



After a busy summer, the Semmes Children's Librarians took a much deserved break in August. All programming was on hold until school started back up on Monday, August 22. In addition to the regular Baby Times, Toddler Times and Story Times, staff added a new Family Fun program on Saturdays. This new program is starting strong, with 20 people attending the first program. Currently, the program is every other Saturday, with Ms. Randi Jones presenting the program. The program will move to every Saturday, when Kirsten Lorenzen returns to Semmes. She is currently assigned to Brook Hollow to help out during a staffing shortage.



Teen programming was a bit slow this summer, Semmes teens seemed to have other obligations, but things are looking up for the fall quarter. Teen Time at the branch has had a much better turnout since school started.



Thursday, September 15 was National Playdough day. Ms. Randi Jones had a special program highlighting all of the fun things you could create with playdough. Fifty five people attended this fun and interactive program.



The Friends of the Semmes Branch Library held their quarterly meeting on Wednesday, September 7. The Friends approved the FY 2017 spending plan presented by Branch Manager Jamie Flowers. Other business included setting the 2017 book sale dates and discussing setup of the upcoming October book sale.

## THOUSAND OAKS



Children's programs at Thousand Oaks resumed for the fall session the last week of August. To start the fall session, Story Time and Toddler Time participants have heard stories and sang songs about bicycles, squirrels, farm animals and monsters. For the first Come & Go Craft, kids made campfires out of construction paper. The first LEGO Time for fall took place Sept. 6, and the kids spent the hour enthusiastically building. Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser presented three programs at her monthly

outreach at a local daycare on September 14. Summer Reading 2016 ended on August 31. Thousand Oaks had a total of 494 children sign up. Approximately 214 children finished. The branch was so excited to see all the children reading during the summer.



Thousand Oaks Library hosted several teen events this past month. The teens chose to have a paper airplane throwing contest. Already eager for their winter break, they planned an indoor snowball fight. Thousand Oaks Library allows the teenagers to take a leadership role in their teen time events and continues to be a safe place for teenagers to be themselves. Steven Barrera, Teen Liaison, has been conducting outreach activities at the North East Academy of Creative Education, or ACE, facility twice a month.



The Thousand Oaks Book Group read the book *The Secret Keeper* by Kate Morton in the month of August. The story begins when Laurel, the protagonist, is shocked by the violent death of an unidentified stranger. Her mother violently stabs this intruder while Laurel watches in horror. The author kept the readers captivated by a plot filled with twists and turns. All the book club members that attended the discussion thoroughly enjoyed the book and expressed an interest in checking out some of Kate Morton's other books. The conversation was followed by light refreshments.



In an effort to combat the high summer temperatures, the Northeast Senior Center's August selection was *In the Kingdom of Ice* by Hampton Sides. The book tells the story of the USS Jeannette's quest for the North Pole in 1879. While some readers enjoyed the historical background given on major characters and the state of the country post-Civil War, others were more interested in the expedition itself. All the readers appreciated the extensive research the writer did that made for such a readable historical account.



Birth Certificates continue to be a popular service provided at the Thousand Oaks library. An average of 30 certificates is sold per day. During August the number increased to an average of 40 per day with a high of 50. The all-time record is 64, set on January 4, 2016.

## TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL



The branch is grateful to feature artist M. Guadalupe Marmolejo with her striking number of digitally manipulated photographs on display as part of Hispanic Heritage month. These abstract images derive from photos taken in Canada, Africa, Belize and Texas and are a nice addition with "color and juxtaposition" from Ms. Marmolejo.



With the start of school, George Gervin Academy kinder through 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes came to visit and tour the library September 6 – 10. For some of the children it was their first visit to a library and they now have cards to check out materials at future visits. Tween, Teen and Lego club all commenced with school starting and various reference staff hosted these events to get kids involved at the library.



Children's Librarian Karen Braeuler opted to continue come and go crafts through August and many families enjoyed the indoor activity on weekends. The crafts incorporate art and math theories with measuring and guessing quantities and lengths of materials when creating crafts to take home. Summer reading wrapped up for children at the end of August with solid participation from the branch's community.



Librarian Karen Braeuler partnered with Rebekah Corley from Landa for Central Market's Back to School Health Fair on August 20. Library services and schedule information was shared with visiting parents, kids and shoppers of all ages. Due to the popularity of coloring at the City of San Antonio's Northeast Senior Center, the twice monthly visits now focus on adult coloring with reference staff providing all materials and instructions. Trivia and memory games continue to be the highlight at Stonebrook Manor for senior outreach once a month.



Tobin at Oakwell's Writers Group has seen considerable growth and popularity with all ages. Recently one of the teen writers in the group, Katelyn Hannagan, had a poem published on the Teen Ink website. The editor was impressed and is considering publication in the print magazine as well.



Branch personnel have embraced COSA's teamwork value by helping periodically at other SAPL branches with staffing shortages – including Soudabeh Arvin to Landa, and April Martinez and Dianna Gamez to McCreless. More recently April Martinez is at Brook Hollow for an extended time. Similarly, Library Aides Kathleen Marascio and Adam Hawkins participated in a photo shoot with Pedro Reyes as part of the City's Risk Management upcoming preventive measures for injuries at work program.



The highlight this period was Tobin's Wizarding Wonders on September 17 celebrating the release of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*. Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse planned this event for months and partnered with UTSA's Quidditch team, San Antonio Botanical Center and Birds of Prey Conservancy. Over 900 people enjoyed seeing the live owls, learning Quidditch 101 and attending herbology, potion and charm classes. Harry Potter ties, wands and owl pillow boxes were made while enjoying Honeyduke's Sweet Shop snacks. The help from other SAPL librarians helped make the day manageable and quite fun.

## WESTFALL

This fall Westfall Branch Library has begun offering Toddler Time for youngsters aged 24 to 36 months. Several parents whose children have outgrown Baby Time requested that Miss Imelda add programs for their toddlers. The first session on September 7 drew nine children and nine parents.



Miss Imelda is back in full swing with StoryTime, BabyTime Family Fun and now Toddler Time each week. She also visited West Avenue Elementary School and Whittier Middle School to talk about library services and programming. Students from Discovery School, a nearby preschool, have resumed their visits. The class walks to the library and each child checks out one book. Miss Imelda reads them a story of two before they make their selections.



Teen Librarian Megan Stanley has been building the library's program and is working on establishing a welcoming space for teens. Megan also met with teachers at Jefferson High School and students at St. Anthony Catholic School to discuss the library.



District 1 Councilman Roberto Trevino and Police Chief William McManus used Westfall's meeting room to visit with a standing-room-only group of constituents to discuss concerns. Friends of Westfall Library hosted lunch to show the staff how much they are appreciated. Staff and members of the Friends group enjoyed sandwiches, salad, cookies and brownies from Jason's Deli. Manager Sherrie Hardin met with the Friends group to go over a list of items the Friends will purchase during the next fiscal year.



Learn Center Training Officer Michelle Dangler attended a seminar called Training for Job Success. The Learn Center is also hosting painting classes each Friday in September. Ukwanni

Warumbe is teaching stress relieving painting techniques to free the mind and immerse the learner in a creative atmosphere.



Metro Health held its series of Diabetes Self-Management classes at Westfall Library, and representatives from UT Health Science Center set up a table in the foyer to distribute literature on diseases and preventative care.



Librarian II Jernell Williams attended a COSA training session called Owing the Customer Experience. Ms. Williams also facilitated the Stranger Than Fiction Book Group, which read and discussed *The Big Burn: Teddy Roosevelt and the Fire that Saved America* by Timothy Egan. Ms. Hardin led the Third Thursday Book Discussion Group as members talked about *Lone Wolf* by Jodi Picoult. She also attended a webinar session at Central Library called How to Respond to a Security Incident in Your Library.

San Antonio Public Library  
Fiscal Year-to-Date Comparisons  
August 2016 (91.7% of FY Completed)

Performance Measures	FYTD 16	FYTD 15	% Chg	FY 16 Goal	% of Goal Achieved	FY 16 Status
Total Circulation	6,713,055	6,731,022	-0.3%	7,455,000	90.0%	⊖
- Physical Circulation	5,658,207	5,869,268	-3.6%	6,395,065	88.5%	⊖
- Digital Circulation	1,054,848	861,754	22.4%	1,059,935	99.5%	✓
Visits	4,882,222	5,013,187	-2.6%	5,493,000	88.9%	⊖
Program Attendance	312,878	320,275	-2.3%	350,890	89.2%	◇
- Adult's Program Attendance	59,118	52,272	13.1%	57,000	103.7%	✓
- Teen's Program Attendance	37,900	38,149	-0.7%	43,890	86.4%	⊖
- Children's Program Attendance	215,860	229,854	-6.1%	250,000	86.3%	⊖
Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use	2,202,405	2,172,070	1.4%	2,410,000	91.4%	✓
Website and App Visits	3,192,568	3,257,982	-2.0%	3,658,000	87.3%	⊖
Bexar County (Outside the City of San Antonio)			Customer Satisfaction*			
% of Circulation	FYTD 16	FYTD 15	2014	2012		
Total Circulation	20.8%	19.8%				
- Physical Circulation	19.7%	18.9%	96%	94%		
- Digital Circulation	26.7%	25.6%				

Goal Status ✓ = On Target   ◇ = Monitor   ⊖ = Not on Target

FY 16 Renovations/Closures: Collins Garden Oct 1 - Jan 12

FY 15 Renovations/Closures: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22 - Sep 30

FY 15 Openings: Encino opened April 30

\* From the Biennial City of San Antonio Community Survey

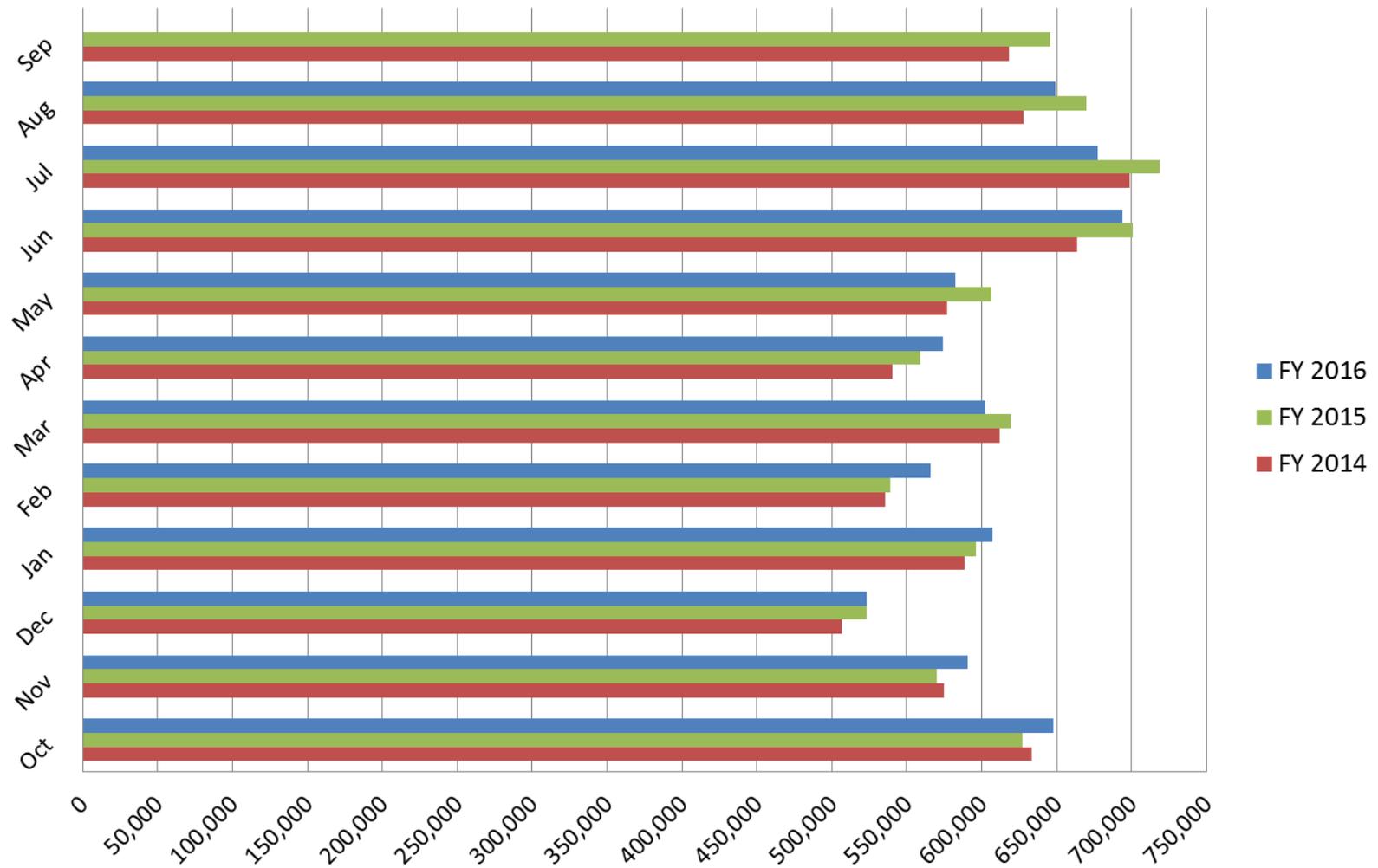
## San Antonio Public Library August 2016 Usage

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Total Programs	Number of Programs			Total Program Attendance	Attendance			Hours of Computer / Wi-Fi Use*	Computers - Hours of Use*	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
				Adult	Teen	Children's		Adult Programs	Teen Programs	Children's Programs			
Bazan	5,866	10,024	41	25	4	12	295	204	7	84	8,280	2,322	5,957
Brook Hollow	28,919	18,501	20	6	4	10	447	80	23	344	6,117	1,515	4,603
Carver	5,212	10,093	36	14	9	13	621	119	53	449	6,902	2,380	4,522
Central	31,022	69,139	153	19	81	53	4,226	1,958	904	1,364	52,209	15,081	37,128
Cody	39,518	22,311	31	7	7	17	704	127	37	540	7,696	1,746	5,950
Collins Garden	7,509	9,311	13	8	3	2	354	32	212	110	10,964	2,365	8,599
Cortez	6,679	12,040	118	105	2	11	392	261	19		6,335	2,018	4,318
Encino	22,142	15,241	63	32	13	18	983	401	155	427	3,914	503	3,412
Forest Hills	8,443	8,710	16	7	0	9	311	45	0	266	4,026	1,413	2,613
Great Northwest	35,005	21,544	18	12	4	2	323	84	19	220	7,572	2,163	5,410
Guerra	15,621	15,233	16	8	5	3	484	402	36	46	7,841	2,593	5,247
Igo	29,709	21,164	48	25	14	9	583	157	61	365	6,447	1,385	5,062
Johnston	12,835	14,182	20	7	5	8	538	327	75	136	7,012	1,904	5,108
Landa	12,837	10,953	20	6	6	8	524	72	95	357	2,675	852	1,822
Las Palmas	7,017	13,574	35	23	10	2	307	212	81	14	6,701	2,311	4,390
Maverick	27,478	14,817	10	7	3	0	83	69	14	0	7,669	2,521	5,148
McCreless	14,575	16,029	9	1	4	4	222	12	184	26	6,733	2,041	4,692
Memorial	7,306	11,501	7	2	3	2	69	43	9	17	6,694	2,118	4,576
Mission	14,902	24,860	62	27	13	22	2,224	364	1,358	502	10,723	3,045	7,677
Pan American	7,615	9,243	20	11	2	7	258	203	3	52	5,402	2,114	3,288
Parman	31,072	26,537	58	30	6	22	848	264	202	382	5,839	800	5,038
Pruitt	7,660	14,887	43	16	6	21	620	138	35	447	4,274	1,582	2,693
San Pedro	4,459	7,740	13	0	2	11	264	0	46	218	3,795	749	3,046
Semmes	26,656	21,252	31	5	8	18	531	21	52	458	7,817	2,576	5,240
Thousand Oaks	12,630	11,427	13	2	9	2	81	25	54	2	5,099	1,323	3,776
Tobin	20,162	16,035	32	16	1	15	444	135	7	302	5,771	1,849	3,922
Westfall	17,973	16,968	38	24	10	4	320	136	115	69	8,828	2,887	5,941
Kampmann Library Portal	N/A	1,680	0	0	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	672	N/A	672
Interlibrary Loan Lending	1,098	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	80,635	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	106,306	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>648,861</b>	<b>464,996</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>17,056</b>	<b>5,891</b>	<b>3,856</b>	<b>7,197</b>	<b>224,006</b>	<b>64,157</b>	<b>159,849</b>

Circulation includes Digital (Freegal, OneClick, Overdrive) and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

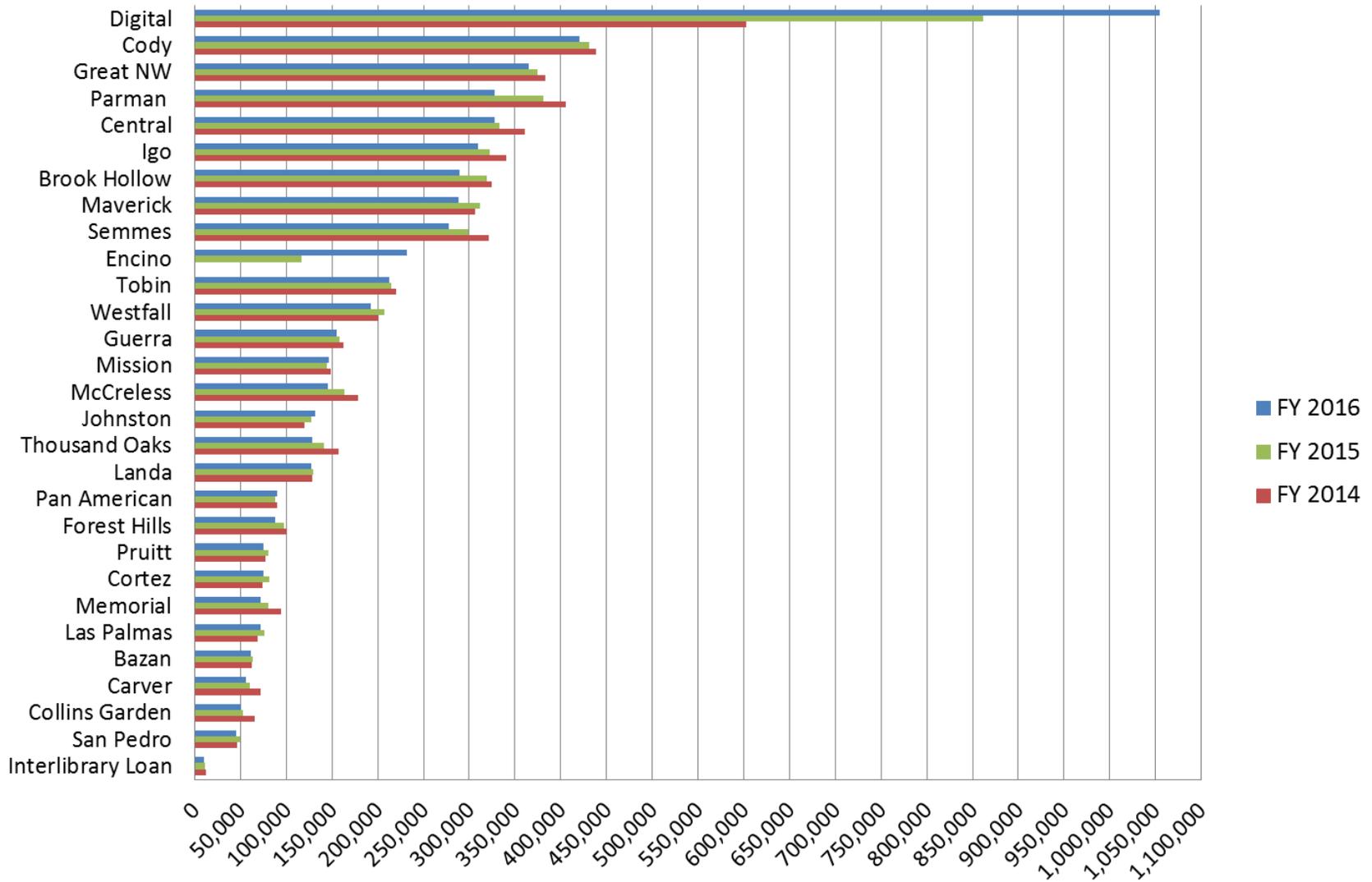
FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, \* Opening: Encino April 30

FY 14: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28-Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-Aug 31, Carver Sep 9-28

09/16/2016

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Aug



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

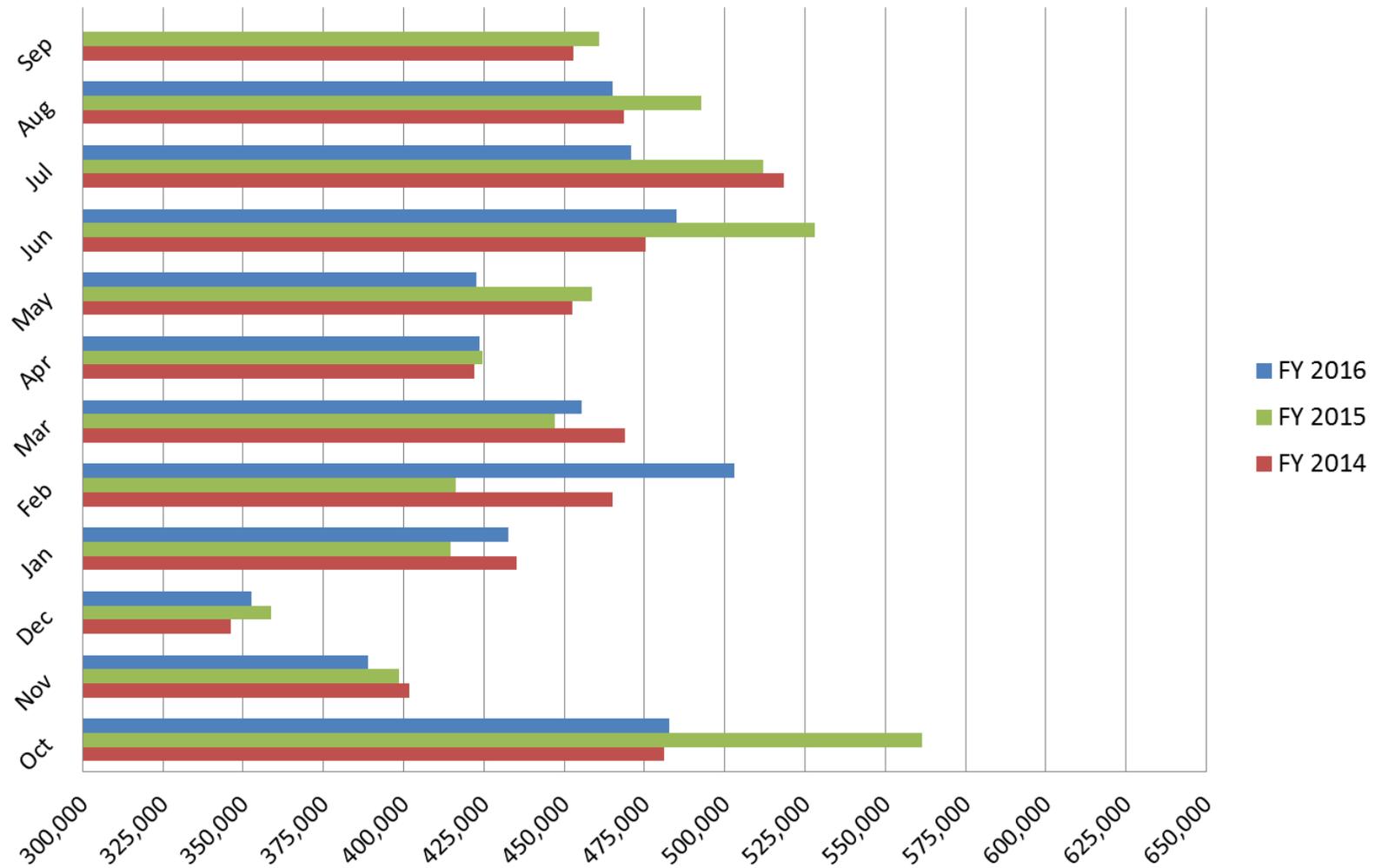
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09/16/2016

# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

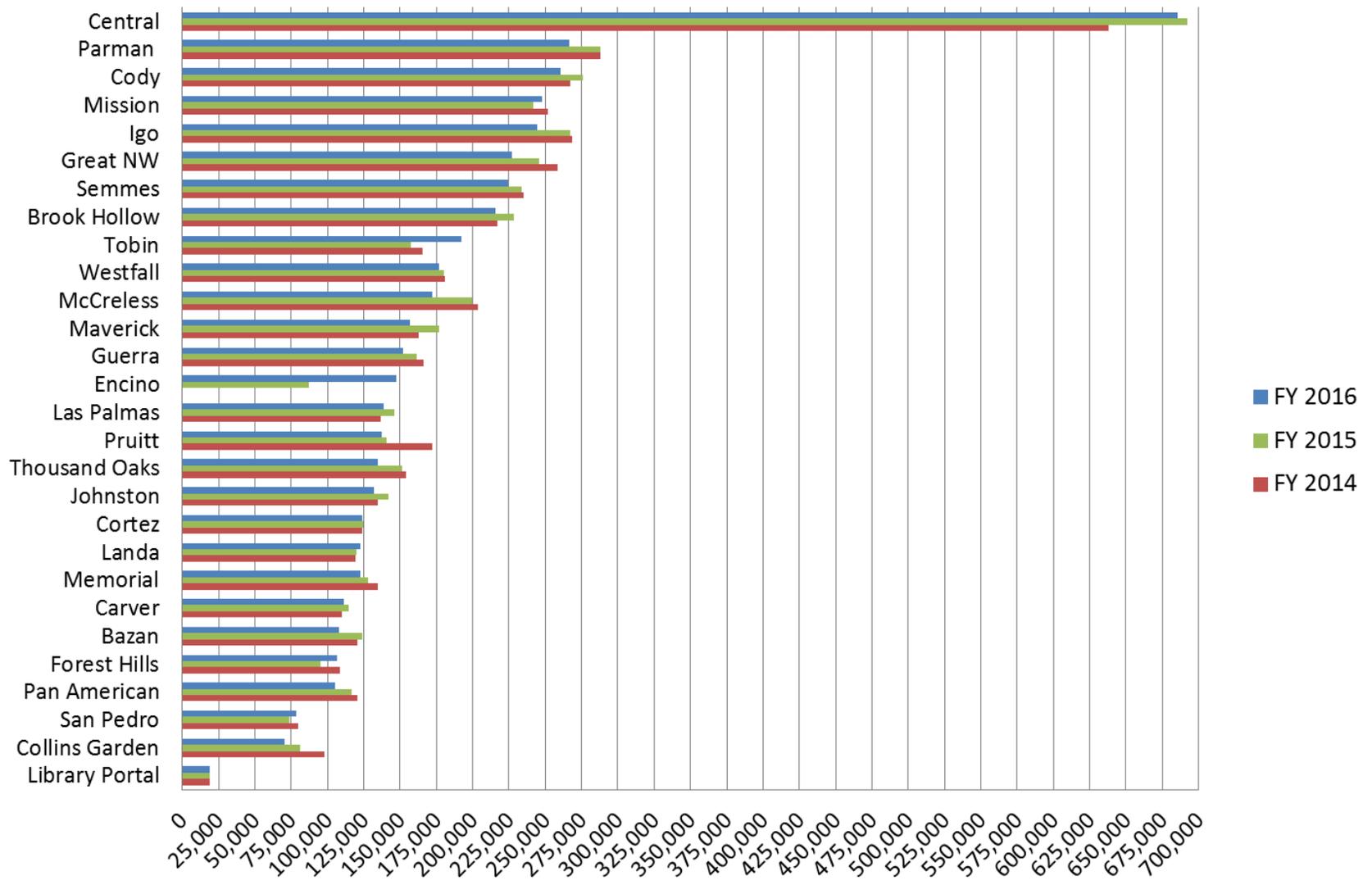
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FY 14: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28-Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-Aug 31, Carver Sep 9-28

09/16/2016

# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Aug



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

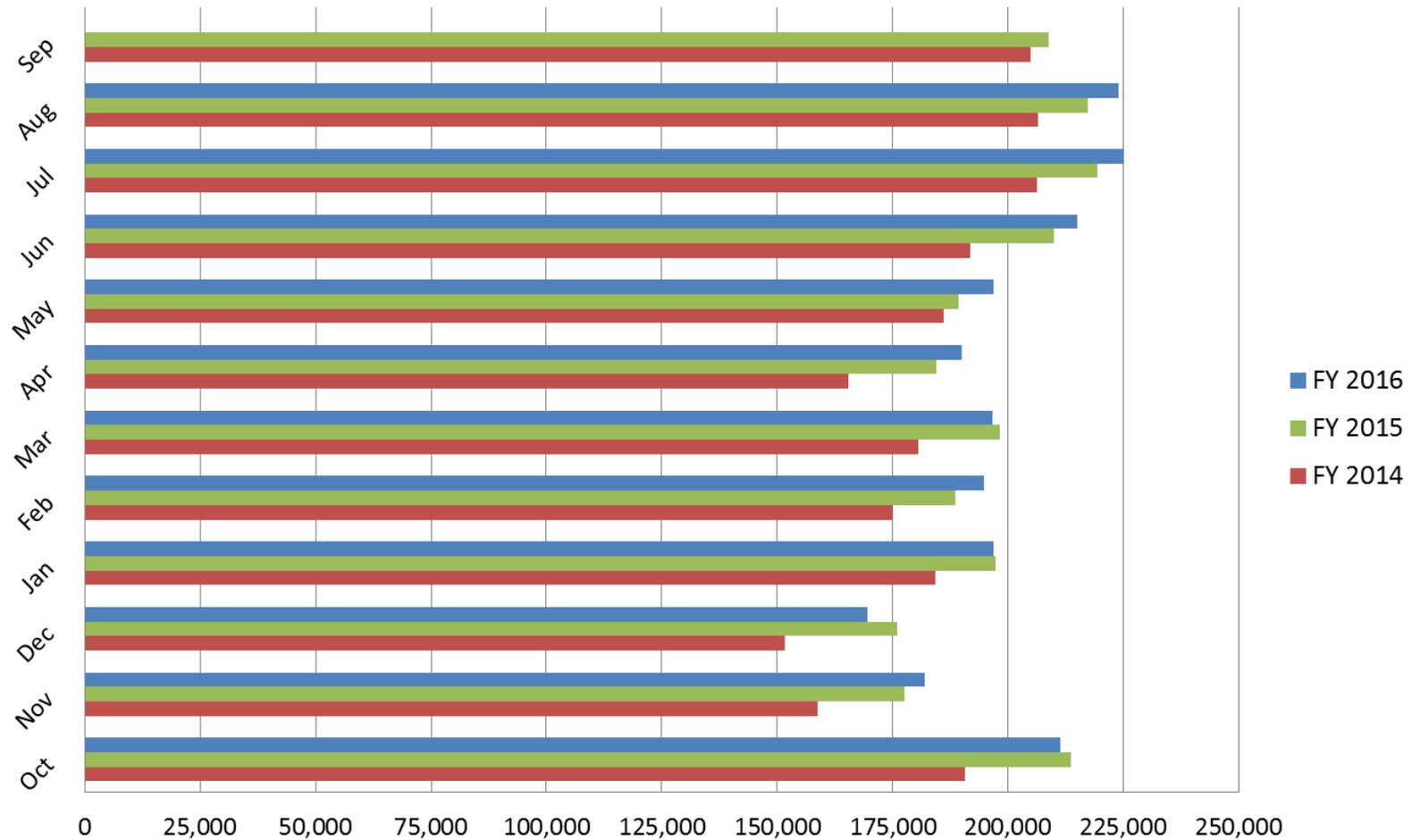
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# San Antonio Public Library

## Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use



\*Combined measure of Public Computers Hours of Use and Wi-Fi Hours of Use

Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, \* Opening: Encino April 30

FY 14: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28-Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-Aug 31, Carver Sep 9-28

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