



San Antonio Public Library

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Library Director Ramiro Salazar represented City of San Antonio at Sister City event in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Ramiro Salazar was the City of San Antonio's official representative at the Inauguration of Kaohsiung's new Main Public Library (Taiwan) on November 13, 2014. As our Sister City, officials of Kaohsiung also invited Ramiro to deliver a presentation at their International Library Conference, "Flipped Libraries: International Conference on new Paradigms in Space and Services of Public Libraries". The conference took place from November 10 to November 17.

On November 16, Assistant Library Director Kathy Donellan attended the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Board Meeting at the Las Palmas Branch Library. Ms. Donellan delivered a report about the Library and responded to questions from the Friends of San Antonio Public Library Board.

The Fall 2014 Mayor's Book Club concluded on November 18 with the a book club discussion with Mayor Ivy Taylor and a panel of guests for Rocket Boys. The event was well attended.

On November 19, Library Director Ramiro Salazar attended the San Antonio Public Library Foundation's Annual Board Meeting. Mr. Salazar provided a briefing on his trip to San Antonio's Sister City, Kaohsiung, Twain.

Library Director Ramiro Salazar accepted an invitation to serve on the President's Advisory Committee for incoming American Libraries Association President, Sari Freedman. He participated in a committee conference call on November 25.

On December 1, Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with Friends of the San Antonio Public Library President Linda Arronge to discuss Library issues.

As part of the continued development of the Latino Collection, Library Director Ramiro Salazar and San Antonio Public Library Foundation's Latino Leadership for the Library Committee Chair Jordan Vexler met with Dr. Tomas Ybarra y Frausto and Dudley Brooks. Dr. Ybarra y Frausto donated from his personal collection a significant number of titles to Library's Latino Collection.

On January 7, City representatives, Gloria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager; Ramiro Salazar, Library Director; Dale McNeill, Assistant Director; and Ignacio Albarracin, Digital Services Manager, met with representatives from Bexar County regarding the Interlocal Agreement for Library Services with Bexar County. Bexar County representatives include Seth Mitchell, Assistant to the County Manager; Marcie Trevino-Ripper, Chief of Staff to Bexar County Judge Wolff; and Laura Cole, Chief Operating Officer of BiblioTech. The Workgroup will continue to meet in Spring 2015 regarding the Library services in Bexar County and the ILA for FY2016 and beyond.

On January 12, Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with Briscoe National Western Art Museum Director Dr. Tom Livesay regarding the partnership and the Library Portal, located at the museum.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Working with the San Antonio Symphony's Education Director Jeremy Brimhall, SAPL has developed a new and exciting set of programs that kicked off on January 10. During the spring and winter months, a symphony musician will visit each library location for a lively Saturday afternoon introduction to one of the instruments of the orchestra and the music literature in which that instrument is featured. Among the musicians scheduled are several different violinists, a cellist, a trombonist, an oboist, and a flutist. To date, these programs have been well received by families in attendance. Sincere thanks to Mr. Brimhall for facilitating these programs and for securing funding to underwrite the endeavor.

In December, seventeen branches hosted holiday gatherings that the children's librarians joyfully refer to as SAPL's "Jingle Bell Jubilee." Funded by the Friends of the Library, these programs featured holiday stories, crafts and treats and drew a total attendance of 905 (an average of just over 50 attendees per

program.)

Plans are well underway for spring and summer programs at the libraries. The theme of this year's summer reading club is "Every Hero Has a Story." Children's staff is looking forward to featuring not only superheroes (always popular with the kids) but also animal heroes, community heroes, family heroes and fairy tale heroes. Ruth Chiego (Central Children's Dept.) is once again leading the development of "Kids Time" program plans while Viki Ash (Children's Coordinator) is scheduling summer performers, working with the Marketing Department on promotional materials and assisting the SAPL Foundation in their efforts to secure funding.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents

On December 3 and 10 Julia Lazarin and Liliana Ornelas offered a very well-attended series of Every Child Ready to Read workshops at the Burluson Head Start center. Each workshop topic was offered in English and Spanish: Big Dreams, More than a Meal, Going Places and Watch This!

Cresencia Huff presented a bilingual workshop for parents at the Mission Branch Library on the evening of December 4. Jane Miller and Ms. Lazarin entertained the children of workshop participants while parents discussed opportunities to build pre-reading skills while traveling or running errands with their children. Participants also made an alphabet wheel game to encourage finding letters in the environment.

Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Teen Parents

Xelena Gonzalez and Corinne Sanchez have made visits to Navarro Academy, Pickett Academy, and John Jay, Edison, Jefferson, East Central, Brackenridge, Roosevelt, Judson, Stevens, Burbank, McCullom and Highlands high schools. At each visit teen parents receive an overview of Every Child Ready to Read with special emphasis on one or more of the pre-reading practices (talking, singing, reading, writing and playing) and the opportunity to make a tool to use with their children. Teen parents have enjoyed making song books or finger puppets during these visits.

Ms. Sanchez, Ms. Gonzalez and Elizabeth Huber completed volunteer orientation and continued the processing required for a new project with Seton Home, a residence for teen parents. The project will include training for staff and residents, story time for children, and Play & Learn for residents and their children.

Library Promotion

Ms. Huff visited Longfellow Middle School and spoke to three classes about her work at the San Antonio Public Library as well as her academic preparation and career path. The classes were 6th, 7th and 8th grade students in the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program. AVID is designed to support students who may be the first in their families to attend college by teaching additional study skills and strategies, providing information about a variety of professions, and taking students to visit colleges and universities.

Play & Learn

Jodi Miller, from the Carver Branch Library, joined Ms. Huff at the Carmelite Learning Center to offer a Play & Learn activity and library information as part of the center's Literacy Night. Parents and their children visited the library's area as well as several activity stations facilitated by center staff. A "Counting Sheep" Play & Learn was offered at Fairchild Park. However, no one attended. The cold and wet weather undoubtedly contributed to the lack of attendance.

In January Little Read Wagon began Play & Learn programs at the South San Community Center and Claude Black Center. Both locations are new Play & Learn sites. The Quintana Road Neighborhood Association and Eastside Promise Neighborhood have provided some assistance in sharing the events with area residents.

TEEN SERVICES (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Off-Site Service

Caroline Mossing (Teen Services Librarian I – Central) visited White Middle School on December 2, presenting a teen-created video about Teen Services and library resources and leading a session to demonstrate Tutor.com's Live Homework Help to teachers and administrators.

On December 6, Kathleen Fordyce (Teen Services Librarian II – Central) and Barbara Kwiatkowski (Teen Services Librarian I – Igo) staffed a booth at the 2014 Winterfest in Helotes. Thousands of people attended the event, and Kathleen and Barbara spoke to attendees about library services and resources and promoted the upcoming Igo Multicultural Winter Festival.

Kathleen also made several visits to the Academy of Creative Education during the reporting period to speak to students during their Orientation about the resources and services the Library offers for teens. At the end of the presentations, the students applied for library cards.

On December 10, Kathleen and Marco De Leon (Teen Services Librarian I – Las Palmas) staffed a table at Rhodes Middle School for a Family Literacy Night. Kathleen and Marco signed up teens for library cards and spoke to students and their parents about the resources the library offers, including Live Homework Help.

Partnerships

San Antonio Food Bank

Continuing its long partnership with the Food Bank, Teen Services started its annual Kids Café afterschool snack program on December 1 at the Central Library. This year, staff in Teen Services will pick up the snacks at Haven for Hope on a weekly basis to serve to teens at Central after school Monday through Thursday. As a requirement of the program, Teen Services staff must attend a monthly nutrition lesson at the Food Bank and provide at least one nutrition lesson for the teens per month.

Inspire U

Staff involved in the Inspire U Workplace Mentoring Program through Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Texas (part of SA2020), met with their "littles" in the Central Library Auditorium on November 17 and December 15 for their monthly lunches. During the December lunch, Bigs continued the annual holiday tradition of giving their Littles personalized stockings filled with goodies. Kathleen Fordyce continues to serve as the liaison for this program.

ArtPace and Southwest School of Art (SSA)

JD Elizondo (Teen Services Library Assistant – Central) continued to work with ArtPace and the SSA on the upcoming Teen Art Collaborative, which is scheduled to take place in November.

Programming

JD Elizondo has been planning the second annual Rock the Plaza concert, which will take place on the Central Library Plaza on March 21. JD is in discussion with several teen bands about playing the concert.

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

Marketing continued working on its ongoing projects including planning for the Central Library's 20th anniversary, branding projects for Black History Month programs and the special lecture by Donna Brazile, CNN Political Analyst.

Graphics

Ana and Giselle continued to develop new digital library wallpapers for five park locations and the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. They also worked on Mayor's Book Club spring materials and the Donna Brazile lecture promotional materials.

LEARN at SAPL has been a strong program and some of the promotional materials needed to be updated.

Additional projects include retirement plaques and special requests.

Public Relations

Secured and facilitated a segment on KSAT 12's morning show SA Live to promote early literacy resources and programs at SAPL.

Secured and facilitated a segment on KENS 5's morning show Great Day SA to promote the Igo Multicultural Winter Festival.

Marcie represented SAPL on KENS 5 Sunday morning news to promote holiday events and programs at SAPL.

Marcie also facilitated a phone interview with Library Director Ramiro Salazar and the Library Journal to discuss the City/County Interlocal Agreement.

Conducted outreach at the San Antonio International Airport to promote the Digital Library kiosk
Produced and distributed Press Releases for Branch programs at: Central, Igo, Landa, Memorial, Mission and Pruitt branch libraries as well as Texana/Genealogy.

SAPL received 169 mentions in media.

Social Media & Special Projects

Joseph continued to promote SAPL programs across all social media components. He also worked on several ongoing projects including preparations for the expanded Latino Collection space and the Holocaust Remembrance programs.

To date, SAPL has 8,099 followers, Twitter has 2,356.



CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

In December the Children's Department held their first ever Holiday Cookie Decorating Party. It was a huge success. Each child was given plain cookies, icing, and a variety of candy and sprinkle toppings to decorate as they wished. The activity followed stories about the holidays and baking treats. The team also held their annual Jingle Bell Jubilee. A variety of seasonal-themed crafts, games, and a jingle bell parade gave over 130 children and their families the opportunity for some festive holiday fun!

January began a new session of Play and Learns for and Amy Lewis (Librarian I) is leading the weekly meetings. The season started with a "green" theme featuring frogs, lily pads, and dinosaurs, complete with play dough, and rice sensory bins.

DreamWeek in the Central Children's Department highlighted San Antonio's annual Martin Luther King March and Kate Simpson (Librarian II) encouraged families to participate. She read stories about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s inspirational life, screened a slideshow demonstrating the grand scope of the city's annual march, provided information about attending the march and led the families around the floor on their own mini-march to give them a taste of what to expect during Monday's observances. Families also contemplated Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s message of peace while contributing their own dreams to the collaborative artwork during a three day Come & Go Craft. Parents and children decorated paper clouds with their hopes and dreams and added them to the "I Have A Dream" banner on display.

The Central Children's Department is thrilled to partner with Collection Development Department's Nohemi Lopez Rosdahl in offering Bilingual Story Times every first and third Tuesday of the month. The first Bilingual Story Time was a great success. Children enjoyed learning numbers in Spanish from Ms. Rosdahl while listening to bilingual stories. The families in attendance then worked together on a craft project and practiced the Spanish words they learned in casual conversation.

Ms. Simpson led the first graders from Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran School on a tour of the art and resources at the Central Library. The children were full of excitement and questions about the "Big Enchilada" library. After story time and a tour through the Children's Floor, many children expressed their desire to return with their parents for more fun and stories at the library. The staff has already seen several of these children return!

Ms. Simpson held several Family Funs that focused on the cold weather and time spent with family around the holidays. In two separate winter-themed Family Funs, Simpson read stories about snow and staying cozy in the cold, after which the kids made snowy bear cave dioramas and cozy house collages. The families also had fun playing with arctic animal puppets against an icy slideshow and warmed up with a spirited "snowball" fight using wads of scrap paper.

Jasmin Salinas (Librarian I) visited the Central Christian Childcare center to sing songs, read short stories, and have fun with the youngest classrooms. The outreach visit started with some play time with the babies that introduced them to new sounds and ended with early literacy programming for two year olds that had the children listening to fun books and singing silly songs. December also kicked off with a visit by their Pre-Kindergarten classroom to the library for a wintery themed story time. Ms. Salinas also visited Green Acres Child Care Center classrooms where the kids really enjoyed listening to the silliest books and movement songs for a visit that was filled with fun and stories. Toddler Time with Ms. Salinas continued with a bilingual Toddler Time based on the "Counting Ovejas" Play and Learn program. Toddlers were exposed to some new Spanish words and had fun painting sheep. After a short winter break, Toddler Time with Ms. Salinas has continued focusing on fun finger plays, interactive stories, and classic songs and nursery rhymes.

Manager Ruth Chiego continued to work with SA Youth, The Children's Shelters (St. Mary's and Woodlawn), and organizations such as Girls, Inc. and Bright Futures to provide special holiday programming to at-risk children and their families. Well over 500 children and their families were reached this year. Ms. Chiego continues to lead the Children's team as they prepare for upcoming events and initiatives. A big upcoming conference for the professionals and caregivers that work with special needs children in Region 20 will occur in February. Currently the team is working to prepare materials for their presentation at this TAPPetry Conference. The group will share "Sensory Story Time" ideas.

The Children's Summer Reading Committee, chaired by Ms. Chiego, is currently working on school age programming to be used system wide. The committee includes Amy Lewis, Gina Brudi (Librarian II, Las Palmas), Carol Collins (Librarian II, Pan American), and Kathleen Brown (Librarian II, McCreless). The theme "Every Hero Has A Story" will be used to bring a variety of subjects to life for children as the

librarians will not only read stories, but will do hands-on science, technology, engineering and/or math (STEAM) related activities to illustrate concepts in a much more holistic manner. Crafts, of course, will still be a part of the summer fun, but many other hands-on opportunities to explore these important curriculum focused areas will be abundant.

The Library Assistants for the Department have been working tirelessly on a variety of projects. Judith Slaughter has been working on analyzing several collections for use and condition and is preparing the children's magazines for a new year. Mary Elizabeth Fernandez collates a variety of Departmental statistics and continues to work away at the large nonfiction section. Dawn Guest works on the Spanish Collections spread throughout the third floor. Lately she has relished the opportunity to create bundles of new Spanish picture books to highlight the items just added to SAPL's collections. Visitors have been snatching them up to check out.

DIGITAL SERVICES

On December 15, Rolf Laun and Sarah Carolan presented a new staff training, Basic Create Lists. Ms. Carolan also completed updating the Children's iPads, installing new apps and updating the OS. In early January, Sierra Mendez completed a new handout for use at the Kampmann Library portal, entitled 210 W. Market St.: A History. Also at the beginning of the month, Digital Services staff updated the online databases, retiring OneClick Digital and Economía y Negocios and upgrading the existing service for Fuente Académica to Fuente Académica Premier.

REFERENCE

The 'Technology Questions Answered' (TQA) sessions continue into the New Year. Tricia Masterson, Blanca Hernandez, Maria Hernandez, Adolph Lopez, and Dan Garcia provide one-on-one assistance on Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. On Thursday evenings, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Lily Perez and Bettina Hernandez continue to provide support to Spanish speakers in the 'Foro Abierto de Tecnologia' series.

For Cinema Central, the Sunday film series, Ms. Masterson, Ms. Hernandez (Blanca) and Mr. Garcia hosted well-attended movies including "Jersey Boys" and "Edge of Tomorrow" starring Tom Cruise.

On December 6, Cindy de Leon hosted "To the People of North Korea". The program included a short film and a Question and Answer session with interns from Liberty in North Korea (LiNK).

Michelle Hill returned on November 20 to present her penultimate class in the 'ArtSmart' series, "Medieval Art from 500 to 1000"; "Medieval Art from 1000 to 1450" was the topic of the final class on December 18. Ms. Hill presented lively lectures that encouraged participation.

Cristine Mitchamore taught two Database classes (December 2 and December 4) to the adult students from Wayland Baptist University (WBU).

On December 14 Pannaga Prasad and Ms. de Leon presented the first class in a new series, 'Explore Asia: Vegetarian Recipe'. Ms. Prasad reviewed a recipe for Lemon Pickles, introducing the class to new and unfamiliar ingredients.

Julia Selwyn coordinated Deer Oaks trainings for Reference (and other Departments) with Jennifer Moody and Ms. Masterson. The first topic, "Coping with Stress & Change" was presented on January 13 by Counselor Callie Carr.

Texana's Sylvia Reyna used staff photos from the January, 1985 "Big Snow" to create a magical Winter Display on the Sixth Floor at Central. Ms. Reyna was invited to attend a December 8 workshop, "Advocating for Archives" in Austin. On January 6, Ms. Reyna began the New Year with the popular class, "Online Map Resources for Genealogists". Deborah Countess presented "Trimming Your Ancestor Tree"

on December 2 to an enthusiastic crowd preparing for family gatherings during the Holidays. On January 17, Ms. Countess arranged Frank Faulkner's presentation of "In Small Things Remembered: Art, Archaeology and Ancestors". Mr. Faulkner's class aimed to increase understanding of earlier generations.

TEEN SERVICES

Mondays with JD Elizondo (Library Assistant): JD continued his weekly Eclectic Electric program, in which teens learn to play guitar and/or keyboards. Teens can also teach their peers to play. After the music ends, teens engage in different weekly craft projects. On January 12, the teens experimented with a magic kit, which really brought out their showmanship.

Tuesdays with Caroline Mossing (Librarian I): During the reporting period, Caroline hosted Science and Tech Tuesdays. Teens created electronic circuits and gadgets using LittleBits electronic modules, designed and printed holiday-themed three dimensional ornaments, and experimented and drew with 3Doodler pens. Teens also designed symmetrical snowflakes, and some even added copper tape and LEDs to illuminate them. Using a browser-based application, teens chibi-fied themselves and others. Teens elected to create art from perler beads, dabble in magic, and practice tunes on the musical instruments. Additionally, teens used Audacity audio-editing software and a USB microphone to record voices and experiment with audio effects.

Wednesdays with Kathleen Fordyce (Librarian II): On Wednesday nights, teens pick their favorite video or board game and engage in friendly competition with their peers. In addition, teens have the opportunity to express their creative side by participating in craft or art projects of their choosing. Teens have asked for more board games to be purchased, so Kathleen will work getting the teens what they want.

Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Peer interaction and encouragement, creative expression and friendly competition rank high on Thursday nights. During this reporting period, teens made some tasty and experimental snacks. Teens took S'mores ingredients and wrapped them in pie crust to make Pop Tarts. December was a month of teen-suggested activities. Teens chose to celebrate National Cookie Day by making maple bacon cookies. Teens experimented by making chocolate covered bacon. Without a doubt, many teens loved their bacon creations. For Batman movie night, teens made chocolate cakes in a mug, Batman masks and buttons. In January, winter took focus. Using sushi rice and vegetables, teens created rice snowmen. Using a hot glue gun and a plastic sheet covered lightly in soap, teens traced snowflake templates that when dry were applied to the frosty wall that Teen Services volunteer Angelica decorated, creating and drawing out a video game-based theme for winter. Teens also used wire and stained glass paints, that when dry, they will be able to manipulate into shaped sculptures. Afterwards, in a non-competitive environment, teens played video games such as Brawl on the new WiiU and various games for the Xbox. Pictures from Thursday programs as well as system-wide programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary>.

Special Saturday programs: On November 16, Blue Star artist Alex Rubio held a tile mosaic workshop in which the teens learned how to make their own mosaic art pieces. On January 17, Caroline Mossing facilitated a nutrition demo involving honey lemon glazed carrots, utilizing leftover carrots from Teen Services Kids Café program.

Tours and Groups

On November 17, several creative writing classes from the Henry Ford Academy reserved the computers in Teen Services for research. On January 14, students from Legacy Christian Academy received a tour of the library and reserved the computers in Teen Services for research on careers.



BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

The Bazan Branch welcomed a presentation by Mariachi singer Vanessa C. Alonso on November 19. Ms. Alonso captivated the audience with a moving performance of Mariachi standards. Ms. Alonso was in town to celebrate the 20th annual mariachi Vargas extravaganza.

Continuing a District 5 tradition, Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales, lit up the night with a Holiday Tree Lighting on December 3. Customers, friends and family joined to experience the lights, and partake of warm refreshments on a chilly evening. The Lanier H.S choir continued the holiday cheer at Bazan on December 17 when they entertained library customers and staff with Christmas carols. Afterwards, the choir was treated by staff to cookies and cocoa as thanks for their performance.

A number of community resource programs were offered at Bazan. Registered navigators from HealthCare Marketplace provided one-on-one help to customers who wanted to register for health insurance, the Metro Health Department provided free blood testing for STD/AIDS, and on January 17 two financial seminars were held for families and seniors concerning retirement and planning for college.

Bazan Branch Children's librarian, Hope Sonnen, hosted a counting sheep Play & Learn activity in December. A small group attended but the children and caretakers both enjoyed the activities. Ms. Sonnen continued her monthly Book Club at three elementary schools where students enjoyed having her bring books for book discussions. Ms. Sonnen attended the Growing Up Wild Workshop where the group learned how to build children's awareness about nature and to explore wildlife in and around their community. A curriculum activity guide was provided for use in Family Fun activities. Ms. Sonnen was asked to participate in the Bluebonnet Contest at Roy Cisneros Elem. She read *Liar & Spy* and then wrote up 20 questions that would be used in the contest.

BROOK HOLLOW

Brook Hollow hosted two fun-filled children's holiday events: The Jingle Bell Jubilee Play and Learn on December 4 was a huge success. The 97 participants played Snowman Bowling, went "ice fishing", and enjoyed decorating cookies, among other activities.

On December 9, Children's Librarian Rachael Barrera appeared on KSAT's program, SA Live, to promote SAPL's early literacy programs throughout the city, particularly Jingle Bell Jubilee Celebrations. She was joined by local toddler, Mariah and her mother, Maria, to demonstrate "Snow Man Bowling."

On December 19, our Jingle Ball Dance Party attracted 56 people. Children ages 5 and under were invited to dance the morning away to popular seasonal songs. The big hit of the day was playing with Brook Hollow's recently purchased 20-ft. parachute!

January's Play and Learn on January 8 was themed around the book, *My Blue is Happy*. Most of the activities were color and emotion themed. We had a record-breaking number of participants (not including the special-event Jingle Bell Jubilee Play and Learn), at 77 people.

Preschool Story Time also enjoyed a record breaking attendance number on January 15 with 77 attendants.

All story times continue to be extremely popular. In January, Brook Hollow added a second Baby Time on Wednesday afternoons to the weekly schedule because of large crowds at the Thursday morning Baby Time.

On Saturday, January 17, Violinist Aimee Toomes from the San Antonio Symphony came to present a program to children and families about classical music and the symphony as part of the Symphony at SAPL series. The music was beautiful and the kids (and adults) had lots of great questions. The audience included District 9 Councilman Joe Krier and former State Senator Cyndi Krier.

Families visiting the children's area enjoyed a bulletin board display featuring Brook Hollow's fan-favorite book character Pete the Cat, delivering presents down a chimney.

Patrons and staff alike got into the holiday spirit at Brook Hollow. On December 20 patrons were invited to celebrate the season and Jane Austen's birthday with traditional British parlor games and teatime munchies. Branch staff gathered after hours on December 9 for a holiday pot luck, including pizza donated by administration as a reward for meeting the branch's circulation goals for 4 months running.

Brook Hollow's many community partnerships continued, with librarian Tapley Trudell attending the annual holiday luncheon of the San Pedro Hills Women's Club, and the branch hosting programs from the San Antonio Book Lovers Association and the San Antonio Storytellers Association. Eleven book discussions were held between November 16 and January 17, on titles ranging from Winter's Tale by Mark Helprin to Sense & Sensibility by Joanna Trollope.

CARVER

DL Grant received the Buffalo Soldiers Appreciation Certificate for outstanding support of the Bexar County Buffalo Soldiers Association, Inc. The award was presented at the organization's annual Appreciation Ceremony and Banquet. Each year, the branch works with the organization to promote the history of the Buffalo Soldiers and their legacy through displays and by serving as host for the yearly Buffalo Soldiers appreciation month.

In December, Children's Librarian Jodi Miller continued strengthening ties within the Carver Branch service area, focusing on new schools and neighborhood organizations. One of the branch's newest partners is HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters). At their Christmas celebration, she promoted children's services parents and guests. Ms. Miller also represented the branch at the Claude W. Black Community Center's annual Christmas fair and toy giveaway. Dozens of families streamed by the SAPL booth she set up and she met with each one, helping them to appreciate the many services their local library offers.

Jeanne Johnson has joined the staff of Carver Branch. She will serve as the branch's adult basic education instructor. Ms. Johnson hit the ground running, meeting with community advocates, teachers and stakeholders in an effort to promote the new feature of San Antonio Public Library.

A Carver teen was the lucky winner in a holiday drawing last month by the Friends of Carver Branch. Stacy Robinson rode away with a shiny new bicycle that her parents said would help her get to school.

The branch celebrated Dream Week in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with an art exhibition by painter Guy Sheppard, a native of San Antonio, now based in Houston. The event was featured on TV by KSAT 12 News. The two-day celebration culminated in a special discourse delivered by education advocate Dr. Mateen Diop, author of Inner City Schools Still Work.

CODY

During the month of November Cody Library had the pleasure of exhibiting artwork by first and second graders from Rhodes Elementary School. Art teacher Andrew Fothergill presented over 40 pieces that were displayed in the children's area.

Students in grades 2 through 4 received information about the annual Young Pegasus Poetry Contest when Sheila Acosta, Children's Librarian, visited Rhodes Elementary School on November 18. Last year three Rhodes Elementary students had their poems selected for publication after Sheila encouraged the students to enter the contest.

Both new and old members of the Beginner Readers' Club met on November 19. After each of the children presented their books to the group, Sheila had them play a dice word game created from paper dice from which the young readers had to randomly create short sentences. Sheila introduced brand new beginning reader books for the children to check out and served refreshments. The children also wrote a quick review of their books on a pumpkin craft which were posted in the beginning reader section.

Jackson Keller Elementary School invited Children's Librarian Sheila Acosta to attend their Parent Literacy Night on November 19. Both Sheila and Adam Spana attended the event and spoke to over 100 people about SAPL programs, digital services and library card applications.

A number of children, toddlers and parents attended the Duplo Day on November 21. Several stations of Duplo bricks, and building blocks were set up around the room. The children had a great time playing, making friends, and learning how to share. Sheila said parents were asking about scheduling more Duplo Days.

For Thanksgiving, Cody families had a fun time making Pilgrim hats, turkey bookmarks, "Thankful trees", Native American headbands, and decorative Thanksgiving cards on November 21. Tweens assisted Sheila with winter decorations for the children's area on November 24 by creating snowflakes and Christmas tree ornaments.

On November 25, Lego Club enthusiasts eagerly created Lego exhibits that demonstrated items they were thankful for. Children worked in teams, and proudly explained their final products. Sheila exhibited all of the Lego "thankful" creations in the New Book area.

Sixth grade students from Hobby Middle School had their artwork exhibited at Cody Library during December. Artwork included self-portraits and artistic expressions of ways to make a difference in the world today. Art teacher is Jeremy Nemeec.

On December 5, about 50 Cody parents and toddlers participated in the special Play and Learn - Counting Sheep/Contando Ovejas. This program builds early literacy skills in the areas of talking, singing, reading, writing and playing. Children enjoyed numerous activities in both English and Spanish. Pajama-clad children and their parents attended Cody's annual Jingle Bell Jubilee on December 11. In addition to several holiday stories read by Sheila, participants were treated to a variety of winter crafts and a Christmas sing-along. Special guests included Libro the Lion, portrayed by Circulation Attendant David Guzman and assisted by Circulation Attendant Joe Oliva. Santa and Mrs. Claus were also on hand to visit with the children. Refreshments were served to everyone in attendance.

Holiday-themed Lego constructions were planned and designed by several groups of students for Lego Club on December 16. All of the festive Lego creations were exhibited in the library.

Reindeer, snowmen, tree ornaments and holiday wreaths highlighted the Winter Holiday Crafts event held on December 18 for Cody families.

Another Duplo Day event was held on January 9. Children under the age of five enjoyed visiting and playing with one another at the various centers around the room. The centers included floor puzzles, building blocks and, of course, Duplo bricks. Parents exclaimed it was the perfect event for the cold weather day.

On January 15 the Beginner Readers Club members met, and used iPads to re-create scenes from their most recent books they had read. After they shared their digital scenes with one another, they played a guessing word game, and then Sheila provided materials to make a Frozen bookmark to take with them. Sheila visited the Chabad Gan-Gani Pre-school, Discovery World daycare, Kids Campus day care and the Pineapple Bi-lingual School for Early Literacy in both November and December.

Tweens were kept busy in December with several food crafts such as a cookie decorating contest, and edible Christmas trees that they decorated, as well as team games involving charades on winter themes and tongue twisters.

In the month of November and most of December, Teen Time focused on gaming. Teens played video games on the Wii and board games. Teens also explored apps such as Instagram on the iPad. In mid-December Kristin Yourdon, Cody's new Teen Librarian, began offering a variety of programs to grow participation in Teen Time. With Kristin's help, teen planned a Holiday Party for December 16. At the party, teens created ornaments with Perler beads and enjoyed a variety of refreshments. The teens had a great time and produced some really creative pieces. On January 6, Kristin provided a variety of art materials for teens to create their own art. Teens made cards, drew pictures, and expressed themselves through a variety of ways. On January 13, Kristin helped the Teens make candy sushi with rice cereal treats. Twenty teens enthusiastically created their "sushi." Afterwards teens played a spontaneous game of charades, followed by a game of Apples to Apples. Many had so much fun that they didn't want to leave.

In December, Adam coordinated with Affordable Care Act Navigator Norma Castillo to provide insurance enrollment advice and assistance for the community on Saturdays and Sundays through the enrollment period ending in mid-February.

Cody staff with their usual aplomb welcomed extra visitors during the early voting runoff election for state senator and representative at the end of December.

In January, Adam and Library Assistant Kimberly Ammerman helped promote the Dream Week summit with a book display celebrating the life and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.. With the assistance of Library Aide Eraani Perez, a special "My Dream Is..." community-participation exhibit was created. Library customers were encouraged to share their dreams of equal rights for all which were then displayed in the library.

Cody staff, old hands at the logistics of managing crowds, spent part of January in preparation for hosting the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which will be available 5 days a week January 20 through April 15.

COLLINS GARDEN

The San Antonio Symphony event on Saturday, January 10th was well attended. There were 14 children and 4 adults who enjoyed the classical music selections of violinist Laura Scalzo. She also demonstrated how to play the instrument and answered questions about music and being a professional musician.

Outreach visits continue to be well-received at surrounding schools and daycares. Because of the holidays, some visits were re-scheduled but the kids enjoyed having a surprise visit from Leigh Bedford, branch Children's Librarian.

Due to the creative efforts of CA Jessica Salas, the entire juvenile area is decorated with a snowy theme for the winter holidays. Snowflakes hung from the ceiling, the bulletin board featured penguins and skating, and there were paper streamers in winter colors of ice blue and snow white.

The entire branch collection is being evaluated, with out-of-date titles being removed and replaced with newer titles. Additionally, dusty book reports are being run to ensure the collection answers the customers' needs and interests. Books with poor circulation are being removed, and subject areas with higher circulation are being expanded and strengthened.

Mary Perez received a complement from a regular customer concerning her efforts to float new materials to the branch by requesting new titles with proven appeal to customers in the Collins Garden service area.

A mother reported to staff that she is very grateful for the Homework Helper database site, which she uses on a regular basis to help her children with their school assignments.

CORTEZ

On November 18, Cortez Library received a visit from Vanessa Cerda-Alonzo, winner of the 1999 Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza. Patrons of the branch enjoyed hearing tales of Ms. Cerda-Alonzo's travels throughout her career. The audience participated in a question and answer session and 11 patrons were treated to a performance of 3 songs.

Melody Vega, Training Officer for the branch's Learn @ SAPL center, joined the branch in December. Ms. Vega has been spreading the word about the free services such as job assistance, test help, ESL practice, and more that are now available at the Learn center.

Cortez Library, in partnership with Academia America, will offer citizenship classes starting in February. At the completion of the 10-week course, students will be able to enroll in an advanced course which may qualify them for low-cost assistance with their naturalization application.

The branch continues to offer Affordable Care Act assistance on Tuesdays from 2 to 6 pm. A certified Navigator from Med Team, Inc. is available to help patrons find a health plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace. At some sessions a representative from Aetna Better Health will also be available to provide information about CHIP and Medicaid.

On January 16, April and Charles Mier presented the program Clean Green, in which they taught patrons how to clean using non-toxic supplies. The Miers will return on January 22 with the program Nutrition 101 and will share recipes and ways to promote good health through food.

The branch thanks the Friends of the Cortez Library for providing a holiday dinner for the staff and their family and friends on December 13.

Children's librarian Connie Hejl's Jingle Bell Jubilee was full of wintry fun as children made holiday crafts. Story time continues every Wednesday at 11 am, Game Time is at 3:30 on Wednesdays and Family Fun is every Tuesday at 4 pm.

The Gettin' Crafty Cortez Crafters' Group continues to be a popular program to make interesting creations and socialize. The crafters have been busy making table runners and ornaments and are now tackling crochet.

The Once upon a Crime Book Club continues this month with a discussion of the Laci Peterson case.

The English as a Second Language continues weekly on Saturday mornings with loyal attendees.

Teen Time continues to offer a place for teens to hang out with friends, play video games, and grab some snacks. Thanks to the Friends of the Cortez Library for refreshments.

Zombie Meet with Madeline Vasquez continues to be a popular program on the second Saturday of the month. They always welcome new members to join their zombie survival team.

FOREST HILLS

Children's Librarian Valerie Shelley promoted the Pegasus poetry contest throughout November and December. On November 21 fifth graders from Forest Hills neighbor Villarreal Elementary School were given tours. On December 5, Ms. Shelley presented information about early literacy to students at Holmes High School.

Forest Hills patrons were treated to numerous activities and celebrations during the holidays. Musical guests included the Villarreal Elementary School choir, the Trinity Arabellas, and the Trinity Brass Quintet. Monday evenings in December featured family films with fresh popped corn. Children enjoyed the Jingle Bell Jubilee on December 22.

Artpace continues to bring in young artists to participate in learning contemporary artisan skills.

Ms. Shelley continued her outreach to local childcare centers through book delivery and story time on a monthly basis.

Branch Manager Mary Naylor continues to support the Bob Ross Senior center book club with visits every 3rd Wednesday of the Month. The book club read Rocket Boys for the Mayor's Book Club in November. For December they chose to a Book Kit from the library for To Kill a Mocking Bird by Harper Lee. Mrs. Naylor initiated contacted with the new District 7 Dorris Griffin Senior Center and has established support for a book club at that location as well. For the inaugural book, the group will read Ines of My Soul by Isabel Allende.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Adult Programs

Great Northwest celebrated with a Fall Festival on Tuesday, November 25. The music group Nicole and Jorge played their acoustic music which was enjoyed by all ages.

The Great Northwest Book Club met on Jan. 15 to discuss The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho. They did not have a meeting in December.

The Alicia Trevino Senior Center Book Club met on Jan. 12 to discuss Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail by Cheryl Strayed. They discussed The Alchemist on December 8.

The Friends of the Great Northwest Library held a very successful book sale in November. They saw an increase in revenue from the previous book sales.

The Friends of the Great Northwest Library hosted a Holiday staff party that included branch volunteers. They also funded some much needed holiday decorations for the branch.

Children's Programs

Library assistant Theresa Bader visited the Burke Elementary Head Start to share information with parents about services and programs SAPL and the branch offers.

Lil' Peas and Sprouts toddlers and preschoolers enjoyed singing songs and listening to stories during November and December outreach. Many show their excitement when it is time for outreach story time by happily singing out the "the library lady is here!"

The tween book club is having some great book discussions. *City of Ember* was the book of choice for December. A discussion of what disaster might have lead the Builders create the City of Ember raised concerns and discussion about current world problems and events.

On Tuesday, November 25th, Great Northwest hosted an all library festival. From 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., the children celebrated with turkeys. They enjoyed making turkey headbands, playdough turkeys, and turkey bag puppets and ended with turkey paintings. There were 148 in attendance.

In December, the children explored the letters I and J, focusing particular attention to ladybugs and insects. There were eight buggy programs during the month with 479 in attendance.

The library hosted three Holiday programs which included a photo booth with props. The children crafted a holiday book to take home and painted their own Christmas tree. There was a total of 190 in attendance.

January has been an exciting month for the little ones. There have been eight programs this month with a total of 487 in attendance. The focus has been on the Letters H and K. The toddlers loved the Hiding and Finding program, with many stories, songs and hide-and-seek games of all sorts. Kites were a big hit with the storytime (ABC Club). The stories encouraged much interaction and they danced with their kites to "Let's Go Fly a Kite". Many new faces have come to the library story times this month.

Children's Librarian Cari Raley attended a Career Day at Northwest Crossing Elementary where she spoke to children about her career as a Librarian.

Teen Programs

The Teen Librarian, Stephanie Vazquez, provides a weekly video gaming programs for Teens every Wednesday and during our Fall Fest in November there were games and crafts for Teens, including video games, making book page turkeys, and bowling.

She visited the Brennan High School Library and conducted a teen video gaming program during their lunch period. During her visit she also talked to students about SAPL's Learning Express Library and SAT/ACT test help.

Ms. Vazquez provided a College Test Preparation Resources program where teens can learn about all the resources the library has to help them prepare for college entrance exams.

GUERRA

Magdalena Alvarado, ACA Navigator, provided weekly assistance on December 4, 11, 18, and January 8 and 15 from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The branch was an early voting (December 29-31 and January 2) and Election Day site (January 6).

Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard facilitated the Thursday Evening Book Club on December 11; participants discussed *The Lighthouse* by P. D. James.

Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson-Gibbs planned and presented 20 in-house programs: 6 Kids Times, 7 Toddler Times, and 7 Story Times. Young readers enjoyed the opportunity to read to a dog on January 8. She presented a special Play and Learn program on November 21--Counting Sheep. On December 16, she presented a special family holiday program--Jingle Bell Jubilee. Children and their care-givers enjoyed Christmas stories, music, treats and crafts. On December 12, Arlene visited the Greatest Gifts Daycare where she presented story time to 40 toddlers. On January 16, she visited the Marbach Christian Church Daycare where she presented story time to 45 toddlers. She designed and installed a Juvenile Christmas display, a Winter Book display, and a Martin Luther King, Jr display.

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson visited the Willie Cortez Senior Center on November 20 where he gave a book talk about *Rocket Boys*. Later that same day, he moderated the Club de Lectura (Spanish

language book club) discussion of *La conquista* (The conquest) by Yxta Maya Murray. He attended the quarterly volunteer liaison meeting on December 9. On December 18 he moderated the discussion of *Toda la verdad* (The whole truth) by David Baldacci.

Edward Mayberry, Teen Liaison held Game-Ra sessions on November 20, December 4, 11, and 18, and January 8 and 15. The friends of Guerra supplied hot dogs and chips for the Game-Ra session for the last December get-together. He participated in an outreach to Brennan High School with Stephanie Vazquez, Teen Librarian/Great Northwest on December 17. The program included a Teen Services video, information about upcoming workshops for college preparation, and the opportunity for the students to play video games; over 100 students participated.

IGO

Children's Services

The Igo Branch Library kept children and families entertained and enriched this fall and throughout the holiday season with wide variety of children's programs. For this reporting period, children's service staff presented 41 programs serving over 2,079 children and their caregivers.

In addition to the library's regular early literacy story times, monthly Discovery Time, and Tuesday afternoon programs for school aged children, children's staff was delighted to host the Brandeis High School Choir for the annual holiday concert at the library. This year's Jingle Bell Jubilee, under the direction of choir director, Rebecca Dawson, featured many traditional, and much loved seasonal music. Following the concert, guests were invited stay for cookies, punch, and crafts.

As programming resumes for 2015, patrons may note the addition of Toddler Time on Tuesdays at 11:15am to meet the high demand for enrichment and literacy activities for younger toddlers. Toddler Times, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:15am, are story times geared to the development level of children from 18 to 24 months. Both sessions include play and learn activities following the traditional story time activity encourage the social-emotional development of young guest and to share ideas for developmentally appropriate early learning activities with parents/caregivers.

To better serve busy families wishing to enjoy art and crafts at the library, Come and Go Crafts will be offered all day on Fridays each week for children of all ages. This is a free activity and all art materials will be made available on a craft cart in the children's area of the library. The Igo Branch Library is striving to be the place for great books, engaging programs, and family friendly crafts designed to enrich the library experience and inspire lifelong learning.

Teen Services

One of the highlights of the Igo Teen programs in this time period was "The Hour of Code - the World's Largest Learning Event." The Igo teen services joined over 20 million others in the worldwide initiative which runs concurrently with Computer Science Education Week. 28 participants loved the game-like, self-directed tutorials which introduced computer science skills such as drag-and-drop programming, creative problem solving, sequencing and patterns, and basic algorithms. They enjoyed the video tips from notables such as Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg, and personalities including Chris Bosh and Ashton Kutcher. Attendees were completely impressed with the fact that they could manipulate parts of the game. They were working in collaborative teams, challenging themselves to move characters through mazes, while also learning basic computer programming and coding. Participants enjoyed the experience and asked for more classes like this. These requests inspired Igo Teen Leaders to create a mini MEGA Camp in the year 2015, which will continue to introduce basic coding, programming, and technology to our community.

The second highlight of this holiday season was the 4th Annual Multicultural Winter Festival. 45 Igo Teen Volunteers led by Teen Services Librarian, Barbara Kwiatkowski, planned and prepared the entire event. Teen volunteers represented 24 different countries and each culture was presented through information, displays, sample food and costumes. Teen Volunteers also provided music for the event with singing

quartet, drummers and string duo (violin and cello). Over 500 visitors attended the event and there were extremely positive reviews from those who came to enjoy the festivities.

Adult Services

On December 8, the Texas Lego Users Group showed adults that Legos aren't just for children. On December 16, the Afternoon Book Club made plans for the upcoming year, while the Genealogy Club held a potluck lunch and a "show and tell" with family heirlooms. On December 20, Ramona Lucius and Jessica Ramos represented SAPL at the Feast of Sharing, attended by 18,000. They spoke about library services to more than 200 people and issued 118 new library cards. On January 5 and 12, Ms. Lucius taught parents how to use Texshare resources to help their children with homework. The South Texas Blood & Tissue Center's bloodmobile came to Igo on January 10 to take donations.

The Igo Elderberries held its 3rd annual Thanksgiving Potluck Luncheon on November 21. 65 people enjoyed the feast of food, camaraderie, and musical entertainment by the Pickin' & Grinnin' Band. On December 4, the Igo Elderberries hosted a workshop on "Birds and Birding." Tom and Patsy Inglet taught 19 participants how to systematically identify birds using bird calls, shadow outlines, and birding tools, and also how to properly use binoculars. They will return in May for a bird identification outing in the neighboring Bonnie Conner Park. On January 8, Dr. Fred Olin, a semi-retired orthopedic surgeon, gave a presentation on hip and knee replacements. The 15 attendees, including a Chinese professor from Trinity University, a stem-cell researcher, a retired military nurse, and others were actively engaged in discussing this topic.

An open studio violin recital from the Little Star Suzuki Talent Educational Group was performed for a crowd of over 100 people on December 13 with violinists ranging in age from as young as four to older teens.

eReader and Tablet Tech Help programs continued throughout the reporting period, seeing a spike in numbers after the holidays were over. Many interested attendees received new devices as gifts and are learning how to take advantage of the library's offerings with these one-on-one tutoring sessions held with experienced staff members.

Councilmember Nirenberg held a community town hall meeting at the branch on December 13, where Igo Branch Manager, Ashlee Chavez, gave a short presentation on library services and offerings to the interested group of constituents.

January was also the beginning of several new programs and partnerships geared towards adults at the Igo Branch. The newly formed San Antonio Novelists are now meeting on the first Sunday of every month and will discuss different aspects of the publishing business with the goal of helping new and established writers. In January they met and discussed the first steps to take after the completion of writing a novel.

The Options Trading Club began meeting in January as well and will be meeting on the second Monday of each month moving forward. This group discusses strategies for trading options along with relevant and useful resources the library offers to help in this endeavor. They discuss their mistakes and successes and try to educate themselves on how to best invest their funds.

The San Antonio Romance Authors also entered into a partnership with the Igo Branch Library offering fantastic monthly panels available to the general public. In January, bestselling young adult author, Jordan Dane, presented information on plotting and structure to a crowd of over 50 people.

Another new partnership included working collaboratively with registered yoga teacher, Lisa Phillips, to offer free beginner level yoga classes to the public throughout the month of January.

Affordable Care Act Enrollment Assistance is ongoing each week all day on Wednesdays.

JOHNSTON

The branch had a very busy and festive holiday season with programs, themed story times, displays, and passive programming.

On December 20, Librarian II, Monica Bustillo, and Library Aide, Daniel Blancas, organized a holiday movie showing of *Elf*. Snacks were served, including spaghetti with maple syrup and candy! Also, throughout the month of December, patrons could take a “sELFie with Santa.” The library set up a photo-booth-like display with an inflatable Santa and encouraged patrons to email their photos for upload to the library’s Flickr account. Photos were also printed out and hung up around the branch.

Besides the holidays, the Johnston Library was busy helping patrons connect to healthcare options. On Monday, December 1, the library hosted the Bexar Area Agency on Aging for Medicare Open Enrollment which provided assistance to many people. The branch also hosts an Affordable Care Act navigator and a coordinator for Children’s Medicaid every Monday.

Johnston Library also hosted two sessions of the Athena Readers Book Club. In November, Branch Manager, Heather Muller, facilitated discussion of the Mayor’s Book Club selection *Rocket Boys* and in December, Ms. Bustillo led a discussion about Liane Moriarty’s *The Husband’s Secret*.

October and November saw circulation increases of almost 2% over the corresponding months last year. The branch has done targeted displays and has kept up with weeding/cleaning the stacks to appeal to patrons. In the month of December, Ms. Bustillo donated many books she has received as a member of the Texas Library Association Lariat committee. The books were wrapped as presents and used to build an eye-catching “book tree.” Ms. Bustillo created signs and advertised a circulation special where patrons could pick a free book if they checked out 10 books. It worked! For the month of December, Johnston’s circulation was up almost 16%.

Besides Tuesday’s regularly scheduled Baby Time, Story Time and Family Time, Children’s Librarian, Beverly Wrigglesworth, also hosted a Jingle Bell Jubilee that drew 16 children and their parents to listen to stories, sing songs, and make a variety of seasonal crafts.

Mrs. Wrigglesworth visited Nurturing Hearts Learning Center in December and January to read stories to the children and to leave a collection of books for the center’s use. Mrs. Wrigglesworth also recorded *The Animals’ Santa* by Jan Brett for Dial-a-Story.

Teen Liaison, Ms. Martinez, hosted regular Wednesday teen programming. Over this reporting period, the teens learned how to make pizza, made holiday wreaths, took “sELFies with Santa,” used the computer lab, played Xbox, and watched movies.

Ms. Martinez also facilitated the creation of manga book club for the teens.

Adult Services Librarian, Ms. Bustillo, attended several Supervisor Excellence Training Modules offered by the City of San Antonio. She also attended the newly formed Live Smart, Learn Well Adult Programming Committee in December.

Ms. Bustillo began a new position as supervisor for the Library Aides. She worked on a formalized weeding/shelf reading schedule and met with the Library Aides to create goals for their annual Employee Performance Evaluations.

Ms. Bustillo volunteered during the Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon at the City of San Antonio Government Rocks water station on December 7.

On December 12, Ms. Bustillo traveled to the Texas Library Association office to vote on titles for the 2014 Texas Library Association Lariat Reading List which awards Best in Adult Fiction for the year. Ms. Bustillo is now the Chair of the Lariat Committee for the 2015 list.

LANDA

Children's Librarian Clair Larkin's holiday season began by selecting and weeding Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanza books for display on a designated cart, and saw about 99% of them circulate! Post-holiday weeding has begun and in-house displays feature Martin Luther King Jr., though very few are left. Colleagues at other branches helpfully sent crates of picture books in an effort to fill Landa's Easy book shelves. Landa staff is hoping to see higher circulation statistics as a result.

Attendance at weekly early literacy programs remained consistent for November and December; attendance has surged in the new year, packing the meeting room. Kayleigh Miller from the San Antonio Symphony joined Clair for a special musical Toddler Time of books, music and dancing. Landa's school age and family programs had excellent turn out, particularly at Landa Lab, where patrons compared and contrasted South Texas "snow" made from shaving cream and baking soda or cornstarch. Children and their grownups oohed and ahhed to feel the chemical reaction turn the shaving cream/baking soda mixture cold. Lego Club is popular, particularly with visitors who exclaim over the children's creations on display on top of the bookshelves. Come & Go Crafts highlight process art, allowing children the chance to experiment with materials and tools they might not have access to at home. December's craft featured snowman and tree die cuts, cotton balls and cardboard tubes. January's craft was tape resist art. Clair also serves on the Literacy Committee, currently helping to prepare a LibGuide on contemporary African American authors for Black History Month.

Clair visited University Presbyterian Childcare Center each month and presented a total of nine story times during this time period. Clair also visited Wilshire Elementary, NEISD. She spoke to parents and teachers about SAPL's array of digital services and discussed another visit to reach a wider audience. The audience was very impressed with SAPL offerings. Clair had in-house conversations with over a dozen parents and teachers to highlight BookFlix and narrated eBooks through OverDrive which has resulted in positive feedback about using the resources at home and in the classroom.

Teens at Landa were busy creating, maintaining and experimenting with programming through the holidays and into the New Year. The hardworking Landa Teen Library Leadership Council (TLLC) voted to take two weeks off from meeting and for their tutoring program. They contacted the parents ahead of time and emailed a reminder to each other. On January 4 the Teen Leaders started 2015 with a Science Demonstration Live! for Young Children, three-part science demonstration series (1/4/15 Cells, 2/1/14 DNA, 3/1/15 Atoms). The teens used the science curriculum materials from Lakeshore to enhance their program. The tutoring program received great reviews from parents over the holidays such as, "Ms. Mattie (teen tutor) seems to be doing an awesome job and knows so much that I think she is the best fit for my expectations of whom Rehan should work with. I hope that he is able to continue to be with her because she is very knowledgeable and professional."

Teens love to create library programming. TLLC members, Hana K. and Brigitte D., worked together in person and over the phone for the January 7 Teen Health and Wellness Fair. Hana K. worked with Bea Canales, Landa Teen Liaison, to look for an event date and time, contacted other teens on the TLLC and the Mayor's Fitness Youth Council. Hana did a video blog <http://goo.gl/P8gKdO> about teens' health and wellness and Brigitte helped record and take pictures of the program.

Teen Leader, Rubi J., leader of the Landa International Teen Club, worked together with Bea Canales and Martha Henry, City International Relations coordinator to find pen pals in Chennai, India through "Anuja", our Chennai Sister City organizations in San Antonio. She wrote introductions to several individuals which resulted with a contact, Usha Venkat, from San Antonio College who introduced us with a high school teacher in Chennai. Rubi learned how to network through individuals from different organizations.

Adult Programming at Landa got off on a musical note with a return appearance of the acoustic sounds of Steve Sellers and Don Hymel. The performance included blues, soft rock, folk and Gospel sounds with well-known as well as original selections both sung and instrumental. Sellers and Hymel use traditional and twelve-string guitar as well as ukulele and mandolin for accompaniment. The glowing comments on the evaluation forms indicate that the appreciative audience wants to have them back again.

Regular adult programs continue to attract both new and faithful members. The Seniors' Mystery Book Club enjoyed Andrew Greeley's *The Archbishop in Andalusia* (a Blackie Ryan mystery) in November and the cozy Christmas Carol Murder by Leslie Meier as a holiday selection. Reader's Ink, which meets the first Saturday of the month, continues to add members. Their December book was *The Big Cat Nap*, the 20th anniversary Mrs. Murphy mystery by Rita Mae Brown and the nostalgic *A Red Bird Christmas* by Fannie Flagg.

Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta has been screening little-known classic movies to the delight of the regular and new viewers at Landa's monthly Silver Screens Classics. December's selection was the 1938 screen adaptation of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* with Reginald Owen as Ebenezer Scrooge; in January, the group viewed the original *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* (1941) starring Robert Montgomery and Carole Lombard, one of the last movies she made before her death in an airplane crash.

At this time, Karen is putting together a series of March Mondays @ Landa programs featuring some exciting guest presenters.

LAS PALMAS

Branch Manager Tim Johnson hosted two book club meetings during the reporting period. In November the group met and discussed Louise Erdrich's *The Round House*. This selection was chosen in recognition of Native American Heritage Month. The story is part coming of age, part mystery, part revenge, and part political doctrine. Michael Koryta's *So Cold the River* was December's selection and proved to be an engaging murder mystery incorporating many supernatural elements. The five members of the December meeting enjoyed some traditional south Texas Christmas foods (tamales, chili con carne, beans, and rice followed by pan dulce) while discussing the merits of the book. Mr. Johnson also orchestrates a regular chess program which meets every Monday evening. Members can work on chess puzzles, read on tactics and strategy, or just play. Also in November, Mr. Johnson coordinated with the Celebrate Diversity committee to host Vanessa Alonzo's presentation about her experience with Mariachi Vargas. Ten people sat in rapt attention as Ms. Alonzo demonstrated her singing ability.

Children's Librarian Gina Brudi continued to deliver classroom collections and present story times at Madonna, Good Samaritan, and Avance literacy centers throughout the reporting period. In-house programs such as Family Fun and the Lego Club remained popular as well. Ms. Brudi and circulation attendant Patricia Perez presented a successful Play and Learn program based on the book *Counting Ovejas* by Sarah Weeks. Activities included a sheep flannel board and Play-Doh. Courtesy of the Friends of the Las Palmas Library children attending Las Palmas Jingle Bell Jubilee decorated Christmas cookies and took home a holiday giveaway bag. Ms. Brudi also attended literacy night at Rodriguez Elementary and spoke to children and their parents about library services.

Teen Librarian Marco De Leon has continued with his weekly teen program, The Super cool Awesome Teen Gaming Block 3000, on Wednesday nights where teens get to choose their entertainment, whether it be video games, board games, or movies. He also found relative success with The UnHomework Hour that he ran from Wednesdays to Fridays from 4:00 to 5:30. The partnership he established with St. PJ's, a local children's home, thrived as they continued to visit the library on the Thursday session of The UnHomework Hour so that the teens from St. PJ's could get assistance with their school work. Mr. De Leon performed some outreach by visiting KIPP Un Mundo Dual Language Academy, JFK High School, Brentwood Middle School, and the Christian Academy of San Antonio (CASA). Mr. De Leon was able to speak to the school librarians and take the first steps in establishing a working relationship with said librarians. Mr. De Leon, accompanied by Teen Service's Kathleen Fordyce, was also able to attend

Family Literacy Night at Rhodes Middle School on the 10th of December where SAPL and Las Palmas Library were featured and represented.

Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez continued to present Bilingual Story Time events. November favorites included: *Hojas Vienen*, *Hojas Van* and *My First Thanksgiving*. The children enjoyed creating fall wreaths and turkey hats. The program finished out the year with a holiday celebration featuring Christmas stories and songs, a gingerbread paper garland craft, and decorating cookies. The Las Palmas teen group decorated giveaway bags supplied by the Friends of the Las Palmas library. These bags were filled with children's books and distributed at the final program of the year.

MAVERICK

During the reporting period, Maverick was a bustling place. The Ladies' Book Club had 16 attendees at its November 22 meeting. On December 12-14, a holiday festival took place. Maverick received a new Christmas tree and community members helped to make ornaments to decorate it. On December 13, the Fiesta Flutes, a flute choir, played holiday music for 72 people. In addition, pet adoptions and a puppet show were other popular events. Tuesday night Teen Time, conducted by Library Assistant Lucy Villa, also contributed homemade ornaments as well. On January 3, Jorge and Nicole played acoustic guitar and sang to 50 patrons. Children came and listened to a viola player from the San Antonio Symphony on Saturday, January 17.

Some outreach also occurred during this time period. On November 18 and December 16, Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts did story times for toddlers and preschoolers at Lil' Peas and Sprouts Daycare. On January 5, Librarian II, Ben Longoria, went to Fernandez Elementary to talk to 14 Head Start students and parents about the library. and Ms. Roberts also attended a literacy fair at Braun Station Elementary and talked about the library and its resources on January 13.

In other news, Mr. Longoria and Ms. Roberts completed their supervisor training in December. Temporary Circulation Attendants, Erik Lumpkin and Elise Garcia went to Cash Handling Training in December. The branch was an early voting site from the end of December into January and an Election Day site on January 6. Thank you to those who came in early and stayed late. Due to some fun displays, book bundles, "Blind Date with a Book", and excellent customer service, the branch had a 105% increase in its circulation in December!

McCRELESS

Rockets, penguins, Thanksgiving, mathematics, and art were topics for some of the seven Story Times presented during this period. The children created fish bowls, turkeys, puppets and quilts, among other projects. They also enjoyed play time, music and movement, rhymes and songs.

Seven Family Fun events were also held, including the Jingle Bell Jubilee Holiday Party, which was lots of fun, especially the Jingle Bell band finale. The branch would like to thank the Friends of McCreless for their generous support of this event! Children and parents made Jingle Bell shakers, ornaments and wall hangings for the holidays. Other Family Fun topics included rockets and constellations. A New Year's Bingo game was a big hit, as well.

A Saturday tour for a group of second grade students and their parents was conducted with many of the students getting their first library card.

Our movie time offerings for December and January were Muppets Most Wanted and Malificent. We had a total of 14 patrons at the events.

The Adult Book Club met three times during this reporting period and Manager Cammie Brantley who is the organizer of the group is happy to announce that attendance is consistently higher than in any other period of the club's history.

The branch was a voting site for the Special Elections in December and despite the holidays and the late notice everything went smoothly. Ms. Brantley was very grateful for the assistance of members of the Administrative Team in covering all of the additional hours.

Both Ms. Brantley and Adult Services Librarian Tina Hudec completed the "COSA 11.5" training to help the Library meet its goals in the "Edge" initiative. They look forward to sharing new skills with both patrons and other staff members.

MEMORIAL

Families at the Memorial branch library celebrated the holiday season with the annual Jingle Bell Jubilee celebration and by making wonderful crafts and listening to stories and music. Kids of all ages had an awesome time making various holiday crafts during Family Fun and Come and Go Craft Time. Story time was also enjoyed by kids throughout the holiday season with festive activities. Children's Librarian, Trina Smith, was invited for the second year in a row to serve as the head judge for the local Scripps' Spelling Bee, which was held at Roosevelt Elementary School. She was also invited to develop the questions for the Edgewood ISD Annual Texas Bluebonnet Book Award Competition.

The Memorial branch provided Affordable Care Act (ACA) Assistance as the enrollment period opened. Customers were able to speak to ACA Navigator to have their questions and concerns addressed. The free service was provided by SRA International who provided bilingual staff. The branch also hosted a presentation from Enroll SA, entitled "Understanding the Health Insurance Marketplace," which was held on January 15 and provided ACA insurance literacy.

The branch also served as an Early Voting site for the recent special election to fill a vacant State House and Senate seat.

MISSION

Adult Programs

Entries for this period for adult services include new partnerships one with the Department of Parks and Recreation as part of its Fitness in the Park program Mission Library patrons are enjoying Yoga classes and Cycle Circuit classes. The second, providing meeting space for the San Antonio Film Community. Because of its popularity, table tennis for adults program now takes place three times a week Other programs include; Silver Screens movie and weekly chess club.

Other continuing partnership includes; the Affordable Care Act enrollment and Familias en Acción. Academia America finished its fall citizenship classes on December 19.

Children's Programs

Two highlights for Mission children and families during the past couple months were a special Play and Learn and the annual Jingle Bell Jubilee. The Play and Learn, called Counting Sheep / Contando ovejas, was a lot of fun and over 50 kids and their adults had a great time at the Jingle Bell Jubilee, making ornaments, snacking, and playing games to the tune of Christmas songs.

Mission staff had the opportunity to attend a very inspiring literacy fair at Legacy Middle School. Over 500 attended and many visited The Mission Library table to receive information and get library cards. The material provided by the marketing department describing the library's digital offerings and it was very well received. When presented to families pondering the merits of a SAPL card in comparison to a Bibliotech card (their table was next to Mission's), many were impressed at the number and variety of digital resources that SAPL offers patrons. The Branch gained some new members and renewed interest from long time library users.

Teen Programs

Mission Teen Services had a total of 27 programs with 375 in attendance for the reporting period. The Teen Librarian also visited three school campuses for outreach visits reaching a total of 200 students, educators, and parents.

Teens at Mission participated in a variety of creative activities which included printmaking, cooking, movie nights, and various art activities. Mission teens focused on creating many items for gift-giving throughout the holiday season. Gaming activities which included Dungeons and Dragons, YuGiOh, board games, and video gaming continue to be a draw for teens at the branch. In addition, teen volunteers contributed service hours by helping other teens with homework and assisting with programming and displays.

PAN AMERICAN

On November 24 the Pan American Branch Library welcomed new Adult Services Librarian Cindy Pope. Ms. Pope previously worked at the New Castle Henry County Public Library in Indiana and the Fort Worth Public Library System. In addition to her duties as Adult Services Librarian, Ms. Pope will also serve as the assistant manager at the branch. Ms. Pope looks forward to developing new and exciting programs for the Pan American community.

Children's Services Librarian Carol Collins visited the Alamo Leadership Academy on January 8 and gave a presentation highlighting SAPL online resources to third and fourth graders. The children were preparing to do a research project. Ms. Collins also delivered SAPL books on Texas Native Americans and early colonists to a fourth grade class that did not have any Texas history text books. On January 14 Ms. Collins and Viki Ash promoted SAPL services and offered a craft activity to 65 people at the Harlandale ISD Literacy Night.

In December and January, Ms. Collins continued monthly visits to six childcare centers in the Pan American services area. Additionally, children were given the opportunity to make New Year's Eve party hats on December 30.

The Branch also held a variety of programs for teens during the months of December and January in conjunction with the holiday season. Teen Liaison, Angela Olivarez held a total of seven programs that included a holiday scavenger hunt, Mexican bingo, movie night, ornament making, gaming, and "selfie" bookmarks. All of these activities gave the teens the opportunity to be creative and to socialize with their peers.

PARMAN

Many community groups continue to meet at Parman Library. Meetings were held by several home owner's associations including Stone Oak Meadows, Promontory Pointe, Remington Heights, Mesa Verde, and Gracestone Country Estates. The Wilderness Oak Alliance and the Wilderness Oak Elementary PTA also held meetings at Parman.

The DIY U (Do It Yourself University) Fall semester concluded with the final drawing class (working with value) in a series taught by Circulation Attendant Elissa Vura, a mosaics class presented by Librarian II Amy Miller, and a two part intermediate woodcarving class taught by members of the Alamo Area Woodcarvers. Branch Manager Haley Holmes planned the end of semester party and provided materials for three craft projects including quilled holiday tags, snow globes, and painted ornaments. The staff received positive feedback about all of the classes and has begun planning the Spring 2015 semester.

The Parman Library's 2nd Annual Winter Walk opened on December 1 and was lit until 8pm each night in December. Donations from the Friends of the Parman Library and Dan Parman allowed staff to purchase more lights and to create more scenes along the trail. Brad Parman provided funding for a banner to

advertise the walk near the library's entrance. Next year's goal is to have the trail lit from beginning to end.

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance held another successful Jingle Bell Jubilee with lots of fun interactive activities. She was aided by Library Assistant Robin Alcorta, Teen Librarian Marisa DeBow, and Library Assistant Eva Banda. Las Palmas Branch Manager Tim Johnson was kind enough to make the trip over to play Santa Claus to the delight of attendees. Ms. Vance also found time in December to perform outreach at the Blue Roof School at St. Andrews.

PRUITT

The Molly Pruitt adult patrons had an active and fun holiday season. The branch hosted a *Dr. Who* Christmas party. Seventeen participants showed their *Dr. Who* spirit and watched this year's *Dr. Who's Christmas Special*. The Rack & File Chess Tournament hosted by the branch and sponsored by Rackspace had an attendance of 86 people. The next chess tournament will be held in May. This is the fifth year this program has been in existence. Adults can join one of the branch's two book clubs, exercise at the free Zumba class, and hone their chess skills each week.

Pruitt Teens have participated in the annual Charlie Brown Thanksgiving feast. While viewing the holiday classic, teens feast upon pretzels, jelly beans, popcorn, toast, and hot chocolate. For Christmas the young adults sang along to Christmas classics past and present. They also participated in the Young Pegasus Poetry contest held each year by the San Antonio Public Library. The teens also had an opportunity to celebrate Christmas in *Dr. Who* style at their viewing party.

The kids at Pruitt were delighted to have their pictures taken with Santa, create holiday style crafts, and enjoy punch and cookies at the annual Santa Fest. Younger children were treated to a holiday inspired Jingle Bell Jubilee where they jingled their bells and sang holiday songs. A New Year's Movie Matinee Pajama party was held by the branch on Friday, January 2. The kids anticipated going back to school to rest up from all the holiday fun.

SAN PEDRO

San Pedro's circulation increased dramatically (over 30%) the month of December over December, 2013! Staff believes this is a direct result of the total reorganization and weeding of the adult section and some revision to the children's section to make items more accessible and attractive. Ms. Dalton, children's librarian, moved Adult New Books and the Express Collection to especially high visibility areas. Manager Backhus sent the languishing large print collection to collection development for reallocation and Lucia Silva in collection development sent all new (to San Pedro) large print books to San Pedro. Backhus and Dalton weeded strenuously the entire adult collection so that what was on the shelves was attractive and popular to the San Pedro adult patrons. With the greatly appreciated help from Ana Sandoval, circulation attendant who is fluent in Spanish, the entire adult Spanish collection was also weeded and items ordered to replenish the stock. The net result was a wonderful increase in circulation!

Children's Librarian Betsy Dalton presented monthly story times to children at Educare Child Care Center (two classes), Monte Vista Montessori (two classes), Learning Center Child Care Center (2 classes), and Respite Care Day Care (2 groups – 5 combined classes). Fifteen books were also delivered to each child care class for their use during the month.

On December 3 and January 7 a group of children enjoyed creating with LEGOs and DUPLOs on LEGO day at the Library.

Ms. Dalton presents a weekly Kids Time for Kindergarten through 5th grade students.

A Family Fun event celebrating the holidays was held December 14.

During this period, Ms Betsy facilitated the December and January meetings of the Great Hearts 4th grade book club. A new member has joined the book club each month!

During this period, Ms. Dalton facilitated monthly books discussions at Montevista Montessori (4th) and Hawthorne Academy (4th and 5th grade) book clubs. The book clubs have 12 members each. The book clubs meet during the students' lunch period in the school library where the books read the previous month are discussed.

Monte Vista Montessori brings approximately 50 students weekly to the library. These students range in age from eight to thirteen, grades 2 through 8. When the classes come to the library, the Children's Librarian spends approximately thirty minutes with the students, suggesting books and helping them navigate the Dewey Decimal system, place holds, use the catalog and databases, and locate materials.

In December, Ms. Dalton attended the Create Lists class at Central Library to facilitate her holdings editor tasks.

Betsy serves on the Committee of Thinkers subcommittee, the iPad subcommittee and the Science Committee of children's librarians.

SEMMESES

On November 20, Semmes held an Elephant & Piggie Play and Learn and Tea Party. Approximately 45 kids and 25 adults participated in literacy related activities and crafts that featured the beloved series by Mo Willems. Cookies and juice were provided by the Friends of the Semmes Library and were served in real tea cups. Randi Jones and Shannon Seglin worked together to create age appropriate activities and crafts for the event. The Semmes Friends also purchased some new learning toys for the party that will also be used for regular story times.

The branch hosted the "Meet the Mayor" program with Mayor Ivy Taylor on December 9. Several citizens turned out in the cold weather to have the chance to speak directly with the Mayor about their issues and concerns. A few of the attendees thought they were attending a lecture by the Mayor and were pleasantly surprised that it was actually a face to face meeting with the Mayor. A representative from the 311 Call Center was also in attendance to help residents with various City requests.

The Friends of the Semmes Branch Library beautifully decorated the branch for the Winter Holiday season. Staff members Indarani Phillip and Margaret Timm designed wonderful book displays that highlighted all of the holidays celebrated in December.

Semmes staff members celebrated the holidays by having an all-day potluck on December 16. Instead of doing a gift exchange between staff members, everyone was encouraged to bring a new toy to be donated to children in need. All donated toys were given to a local Children's hospital.

THOUSAND OAKS

Children's Activities

A variety of fun children's programs took place the past couple of months, such as Toddler Time, Story Time, Lego Time and Come and Go Crafts. Two special events also took place before the new year. On November 26, Thousand Oaks had the Counting Sheep/Contando Ovejas Play and Learn program for kids five and younger. On Dec. 15, kids of all ages came to the Jingle Bell Jubilee and made crafts, played games and drank hot chocolate.

Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser continued her monthly outreach to the Little Engine Learning Center in December and January.

Teen Time

During this time, six teen programs were held, totaling 44 in attendance.

The programs included a popular movie release celebration which resulted in several returning teens and families, a teen coordinated holiday party, and the establishment of a recurring teen gaming night.

On Wednesday November 19, a *Mockingjay* movie opening event was held at the branch. A number of crafts and games were offered, as were some tasty treats. Total attendance for the event was 47, making it a successful venture for a Wednesday evening!

Book Groups

The Monday Night Book Group met on December 1 to discuss *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs. Everyone enjoyed the book and found that the photos, while creepy, did contribute to the reading experience.

On January 5, the first meeting of the revamped Monday Night Book Group met. Now called the MnM Group (Monday Night Multimedia), the discussion covered movies, music, current events, and the suggested reading of *I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai. The book was an interesting look at a different culture, and it was decided that the third Hobbit movie, *The Battle of Five Armies*, was the best in the series.

The Thursday Afternoon Book Club met twice during the reporting period, with ample discussion and enjoyment both times. On November 21, the group discussed *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson. The consensus was that, in the words of a participant, "it was a good one." On December 18, *Chaperone* by Laura Moriarty was on the docket with the club. The group absolutely love this one, even though Club Leader (and Circulation Attendant) Brenda Ramos was not so sure. Still, with plenty of yummy refreshments and lively conversation, the Thursday Afternoon Book Club continues to be a success.

Programming/Events/Outreach

The Friends of Thousand Oaks held their winter book sale on December 6, and even with inclement weather afoot, sales were brisk. It cannot be understated how important the group is to Thousand Oaks, so the branch is quite pleased when a successful sale is held.

The Whedonists met on December 7. There were 10 people and they watched Josh Whedon-related TV and movies

The inaugural Gaming for Adults group met on December 8. The group is open to any adult who is interested in learning how to play (or know how to play) board/card/role-playing games that are geared towards adults. The group also met on January 12, and plan on similar gatherings on the second Monday of each month.

The branch hosted a Chess Tournament on January 10, with trophies and ribbons for the top four finishers in three separate categories.

Branch Manager Troy Hoyles, along with a Tobin @ Oakwell staff member, was at the NE Senior Center on January 14, hosting a lively Trivia Time Challenge. A rather feisty bunch of seniors were on hand for this one, and it was a highly enjoyable outreach event .

TOBIN AT OAKWELL

Tobin Library at Oakwell was the sole library Early Voting Site for City Council District 2's election with light turnout during the December run-off dates. The River City Ringers held a lovely performance at Tobin for the holiday season on December 7 where over 50 adults and kids enjoyed refreshments and snacks and made festive holiday crafts. Affordable Care Act sign-up commenced with Navigator assistance in December and has continued twice weekly at night with steady attendance at Tobin also.

Tobin Library had several staffing changes during this period. The branch said farewell to children's librarian, Ariel Cummins in November, but gladly welcomed two new library aides, Soudabeh Arvin and Jon Atkinson. In addition, new librarian, Matthew Loaiza, started in January after relocating back to Texas from Seattle, Washington. M. Loaiza is helping customers with reference questions, digital devices as well as planning and presenting Teen Programming.

Several librarians from other locations assisted with Tobin's Children's programming through the winter break including, Clair Larkin from Landa and branch coordinator, Joel Bangilan. Shannon Seglin, from Semmes branch has graciously been filling in for Toddler Time until the vacancy can be filled in the coming months. Other team members are being clever with Come and Go crafts related to specific authors and series, Lego group building and teen and tween activities.

Special displays this period highlighted family movies, Mysteries and Detectives, Martin Luther King Dream Week, Yoga and exploring all things British. Many thanks go to the Tobin Library at Oakwell's Friends group which funded the purchase of six new book carts to replace some dated older wood carts which brightly match the building's color scheme.

WESTFALL

Imelda Merino, children's librarian at Westfall Branch Library, has stayed busy conducting outreach visits to area schools and day care facilities. Miss Imelda met with 70 students during two visits to Arnold Elementary School. She also handed out library flyers and talked with parents and students at Wilson Elementary School's fall carnival. A group of fourth-grade students from West Avenue Elementary School talked with Miss Imelda about library services. She also spoke to a number of parents of Head Start students in addition to her regular visits with Discovery School students and children at Kindercare.

The Learn Center at Westfall hosted an open house in mid-November to formally open the adult education site. A number of classes are held each month, including English as a Second Language Conversation, ESL Game Night, Excel, Basic Computer Skills, Microsoft Office, GED Math and GED Writing.

Manager Sherrie Hardin was able to make one patron's day by referring her to the Learn Center. A woman had asked to use a computer, but did not have a library card. Unfortunately her identification was expired, so she couldn't get a new library card. She became very upset and tearful. "I'm never going to get a job." Sherrie told about the Learn Center, where she did not need a library card to use a computer for a job search. She listened to the explanation, calmed down and was very grateful to know of the service.

Westfall also has been "one of the busiest" sites for Affordable Healthcare Act navigators, so much so that navigators scheduled additional sessions.

Librarian I Karen Sagun is on the Mayor's Book Club Committee and is working to develop programming to enhance the spring title.

STATS

San Antonio Public Library
Fiscal Year-to-Date Comparisons
Nov 2014 (16.7% of FY Completed)

Performance Measures	FYTD 15	FYTD 14	% Chg	FY 15 Goal	% of Goal Achieved	FY 15 Status
Total Circulation	1,197,780	1,207,933	-0.8%	7,313,500	16.4%	✓
- Physical Circulation	1,061,441	1,120,310	-5.3%	6,471,500	16.4%	✓
- Digital Circulation	136,339	87,623	55.6%	842,000	16.2%	✓
Visits	960,146	883,184	8.7%	5,390,000	17.8%	✓
Program Attendance	54,844	56,327	-2.6%	302,450	18.1%	✓
- Adult's Program Attendance	8,435	5,412	55.9%	39,000	21.6%	✓
- Teen's Program Attendance	7,944	9,790	-18.9%	43,450	18.3%	✓
- Children's Program Attendance	38,465	41,125	-6.5%	219,000	17.6%	✓
Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use	391,385	349,453	12.0%	2,202,000	17.8%	✓
Website Visits	545,642	613,492	-11.1%	3,400,000	16.0%	✓
Bexar County (Outside the City of San Antonio)			Customer Satisfaction*			
% of Circulation	FYTD 15	FYTD 14	2014	2012		
Total Circulation	19.0%	18.7%				
- Physical Circulation	18.2%	18.2%	96%	94%		
- Digital Circulation	25.1%	24.8%				

Goal Status ✓ = On Target ◆ = Monitor ⓧ = Not on Target

FYTD 15 Renovations/Closures:

FY 14 Renovation/Closures: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28-Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-31, Carver Sep 2-28

* From the Biennial City of San Antonio Community Survey

San Antonio Public Library November 2014 Usage

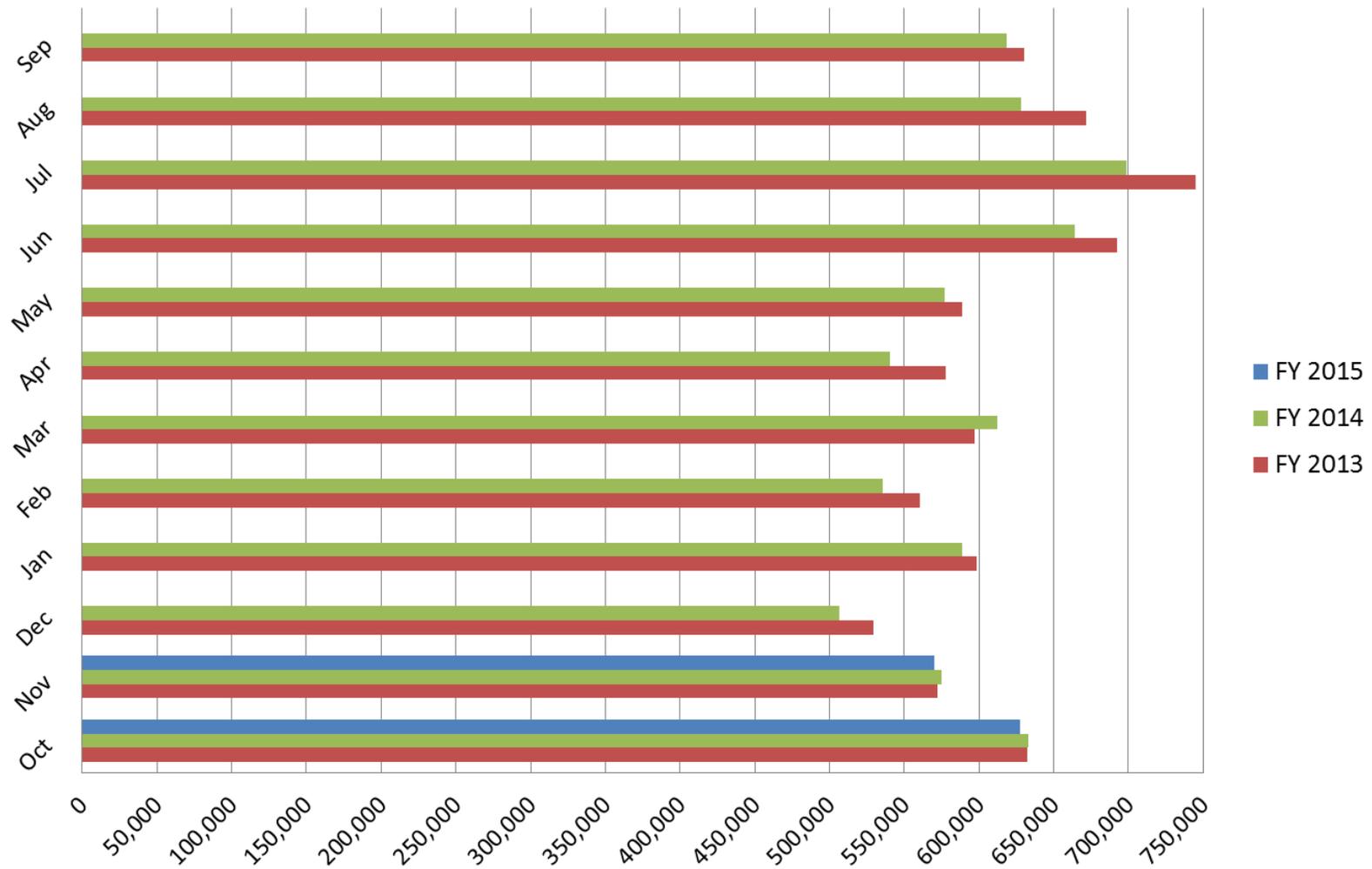
Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Total Programs	Number of Programs			Total Program Attendance	Attendance			Hours of Computer / Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
				Adult	Teen	Children's		Adult Programs	Teen Programs	Children's Programs			
Bazan	5,751	9,022	27	3	4	20	430	36	7	387	7,173	1,773	5,400
Brook Hollow	27,444	17,410	42	14	4	24	884	242	2	640	5,662	1,454	4,208
Carver	5,278	8,822	31	11	2	18	915	75	6	834	4,423	1,833	2,590
Central	29,029	55,134	221	24	94	103	3,934	996	890	2,048	41,670	14,081	27,590
Cody	37,661	20,712	45	6	4	35	1,323	48	7	1,268	5,541	1,544	3,996
Collins Garden	5,810	7,711	11	4	0	7	76	8	0	68	4,099	1,278	2,820
Cortez	6,723	10,298	26	7	3	16	561	55	11	495	4,935	1,644	3,291
Encino*		0									0		
Forest Hills	8,652	7,312	48	10	4	34	1,097	74	0	1,023	3,445	1,222	2,223
Great Northwest	33,884	20,908	26	7	4	15	981	72	11	898	7,191	2,170	5,021
Guerra	13,577	12,226	24	6	3	15	455	70	8	377	6,617	2,222	4,395
Igo	27,572	21,761	43	11	8	24	1,522	149	153	1,220	5,078	1,466	3,612
Johnston	10,377	12,127	26	3	4	19	586	12	47	527	5,325	1,436	3,889
Landa	10,777	9,657	39	5	14	20	691	26	148	517	1,669	809	861
Las Palmas	6,451	11,732	38	7	5	26	315	77	9	229	6,496	2,043	4,453
Maverick	26,156	14,077	27	3	5	19	771	59	19	693	6,092	2,162	3,931
McCreless	14,739	16,059	16	5	3	8	179	25	28	126	5,801	1,921	3,881
Memorial	6,761	10,499	16	3	1	12	228	19	14	195	6,445	2,020	4,426
Mission	12,364	19,032	60	24	15	21	1,186	294	359	533	9,463	3,237	6,226
Pan American	7,298	9,133	45	14	4	27	545	150	24	371	5,156	2,244	2,912
Parman	33,449	24,947	76	23	3	50	1,421	222	25	1,174	4,002	704	3,298
Pruitt	7,189	10,981	58	12	23	23	1,140	312	322	506	4,988	1,461	3,527
San Pedro	3,997	6,001	23	4	0	19	225	2	0	223	1,951	647	1,304
Semmes	25,601	17,730	47	4	6	37	868	8	42	818	6,553	2,414	4,139
Thousand Oaks	12,471	11,837	27	9	3	15	317	80	19	218	5,412	1,265	4,147
Tobin	18,202	16,830	46	13	4	29	943	142	146	655	4,687	1,760	2,927
Westfall	18,310	14,890	22	3	0	19	399	140	0	259	7,271	2,040	5,232
Library Portal	N/A	1,658	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	535	N/A	535
Interlibrary Loan Lending	745	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	87,088	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	66,960	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	570,316	398,506	1,109	235	220	654	21,992	3,393	2,297	16,302	177,680	56,849	120,831

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

* Encino projected opening April 30,2015

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures

FY 15:

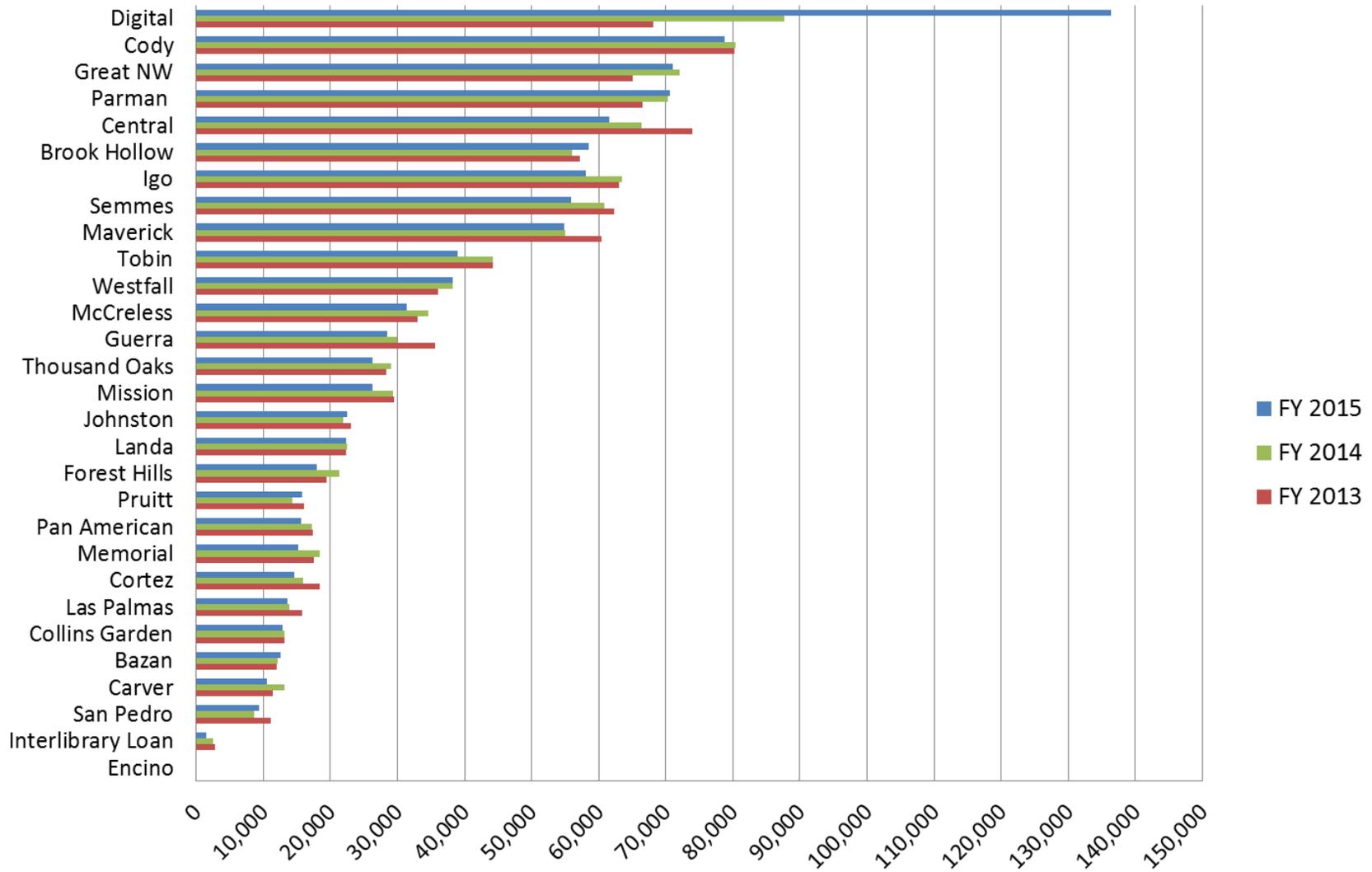
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FY 13: Forest Hills Dec 3–16, Thousand Oaks Jan 21–Feb 3, Brook Hollow Feb 25-Mar 15, Guerra Aug 5-25, Johnston Aug 5-Sep 22

01/16/2015

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Nov



Location Closures

FY 15:

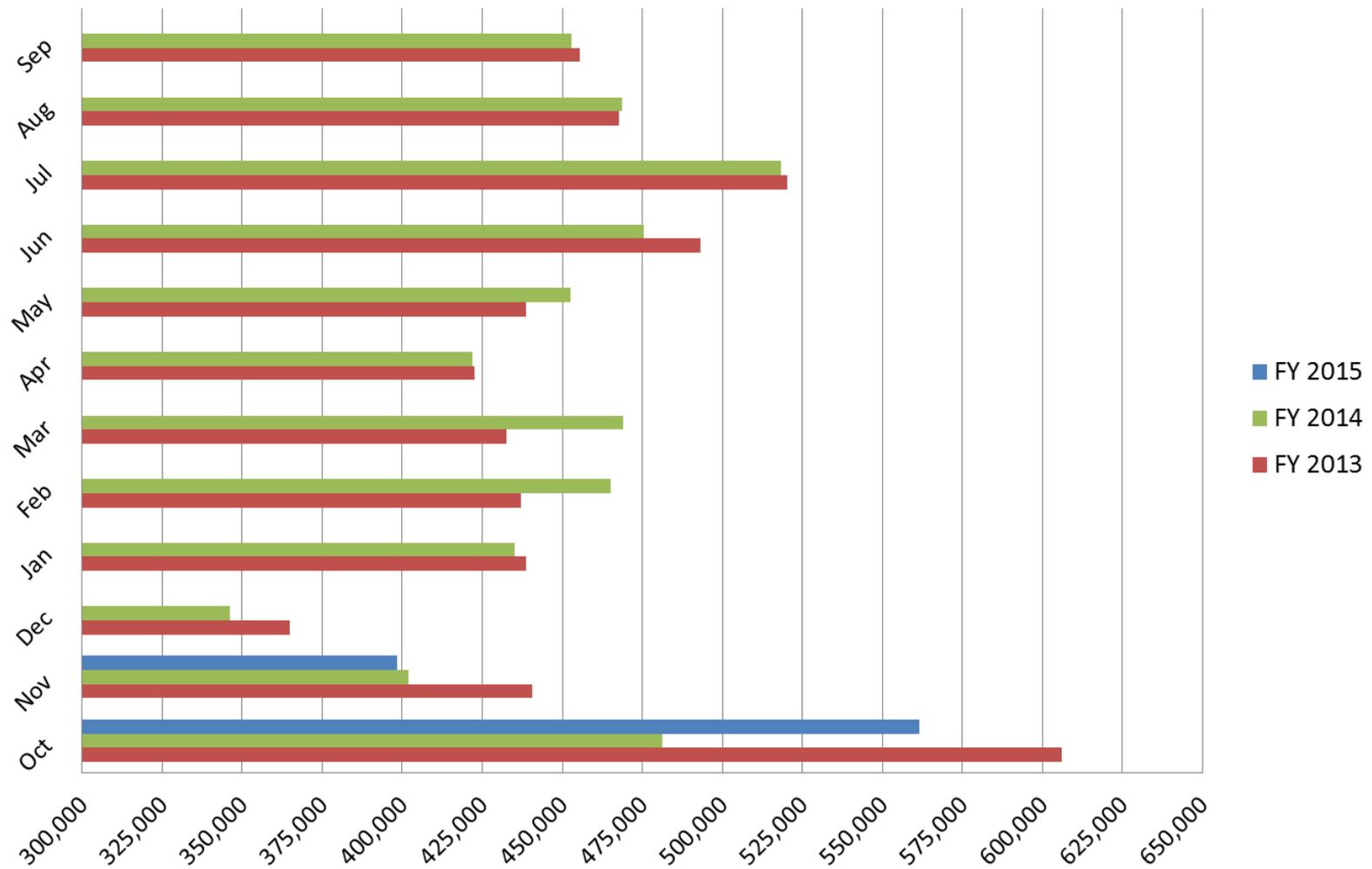
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01/16/2015

San Antonio Public Library

Visits



Location Closures

FY 15:

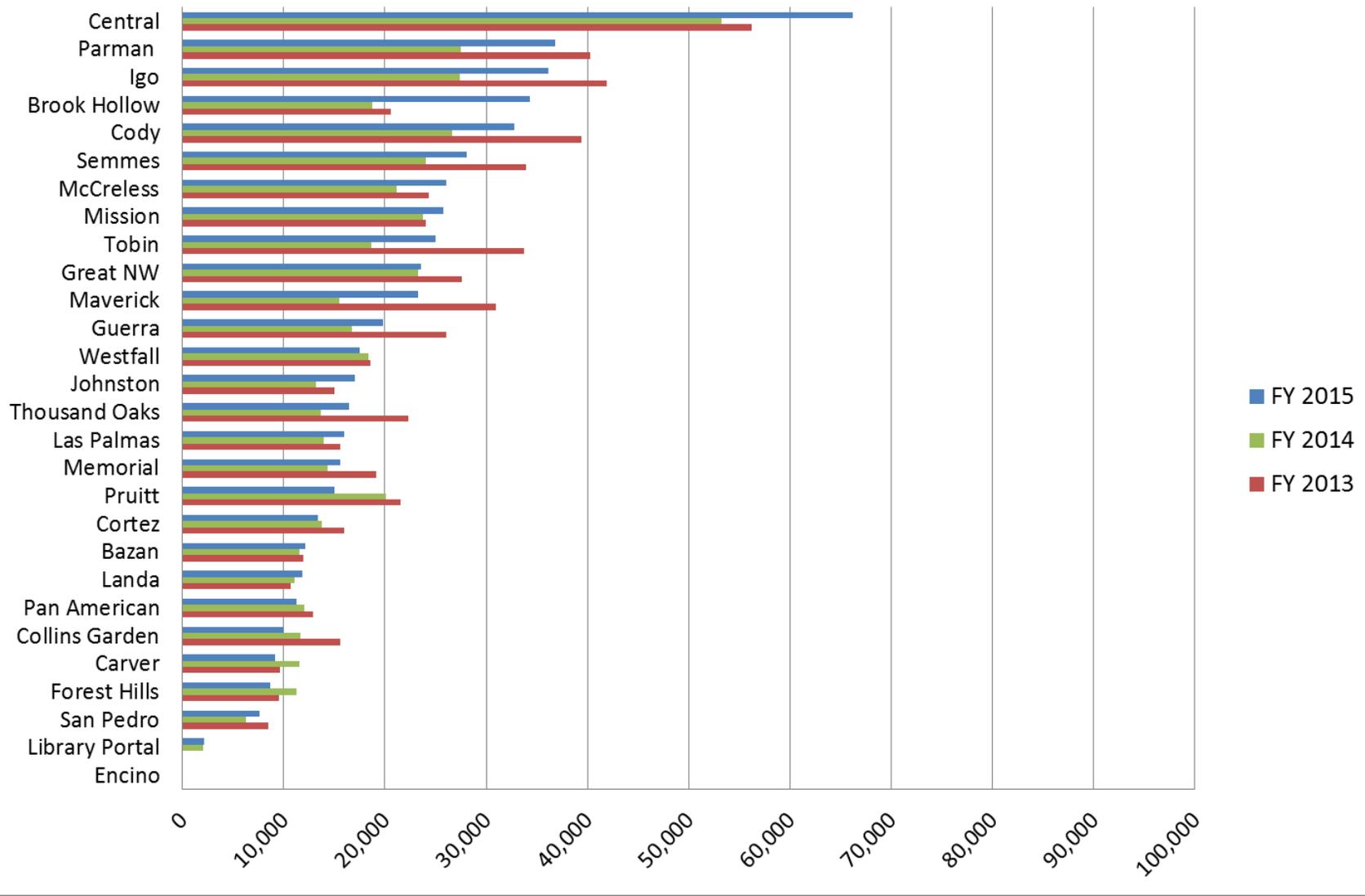
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01/16/2015

San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Nov



Location Closures

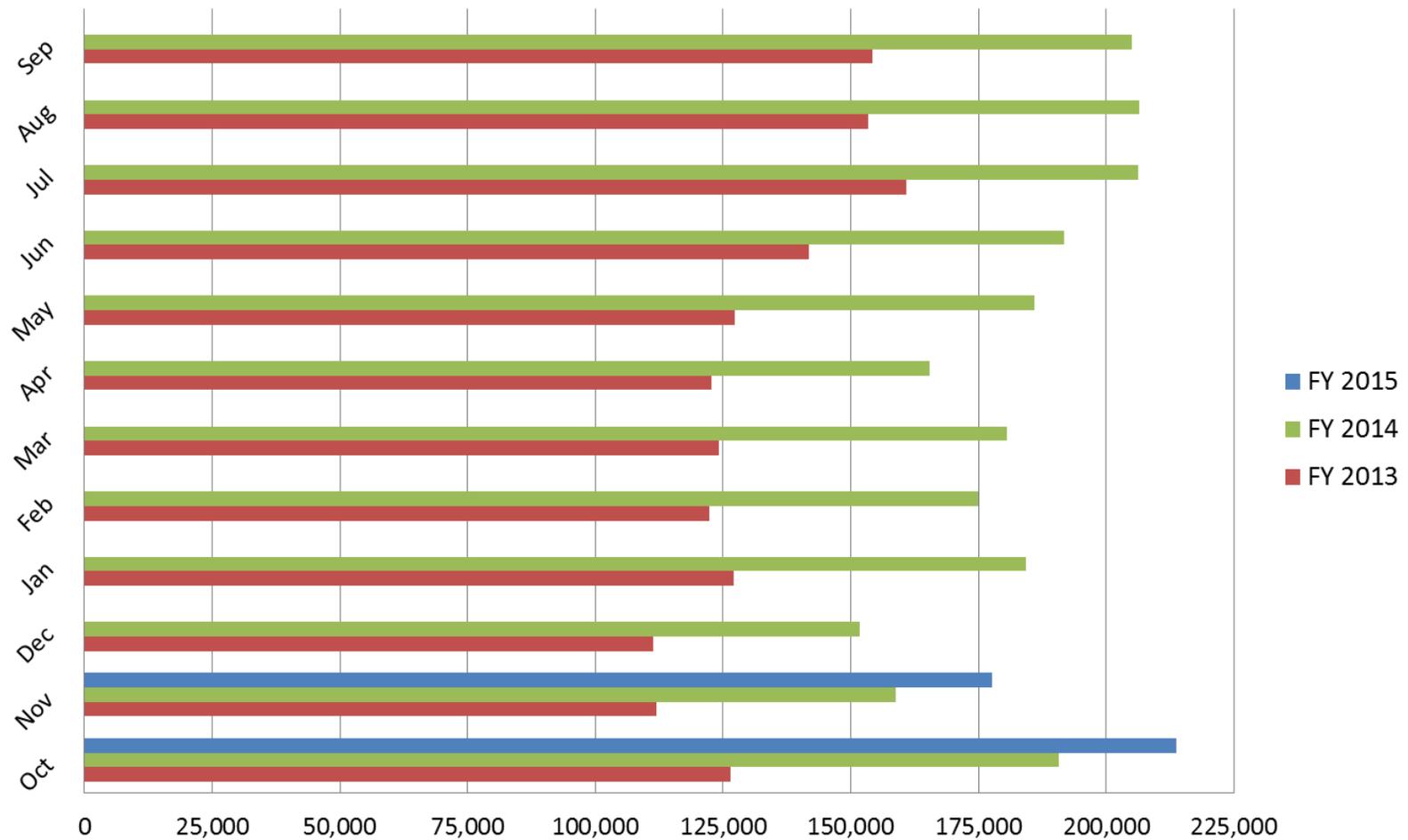
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San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use



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

Location Closures

FY 15:

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

FY 13: Forest Hills Dec 3–16, Thousand Oaks Jan 21–Feb 3, Brook Hollow Feb 25-Mar 15, Guerra Aug 5-25, Johnston Aug 5-Sep 22

01/16/2015

San Antonio Public Library
Fiscal Year-to-Date Comparisons
Dec 2014 (25% of FY Completed)

Performance Measures	FYTD 15	FYTD 14	% Chg	FY 15 Goal	% of Goal Achieved	FY 15 Status
Total Circulation	1,721,217	1,714,496	0.4%	7,313,500	23.5%	✓
- Physical Circulation	1,514,195	1,580,880	-4.2%	6,471,500	23.4%	✓
- Digital Circulation	207,022	133,616	54.9%	842,000	24.6%	✓
Visits	1,319,017	1,229,222	7.3%	5,390,000	24.5%	✓
Program Attendance	76,784	72,426	6.0%	302,450	25.4%	✓
- Adult's Program Attendance	11,344	7,721	46.9%	39,000	29.1%	✓
- Teen's Program Attendance	14,384	12,195	17.9%	43,450	33.1%	✓
- Children's Program Attendance	51,056	52,510	-2.8%	219,000	23.3%	✓
Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use	567,324	501,168	13.2%	2,202,000	25.8%	✓
Website Visits	793,791	881,879	-10.0%	3,400,000	23.3%	✓
Bexar County (Outside the City of San Antonio)			Customer Satisfaction*			
% of Circulation	FYTD 15	FYTD 14	2014	2012		
Total Circulation	19.0%	18.7%				
- Physical Circulation	18.2%	18.2%	96%	94%		
- Digital Circulation	25.1%	24.6%				

Goal Status  = On Target  = Monitor  = Not on Target

FYTD 15 Renovations/Closures:

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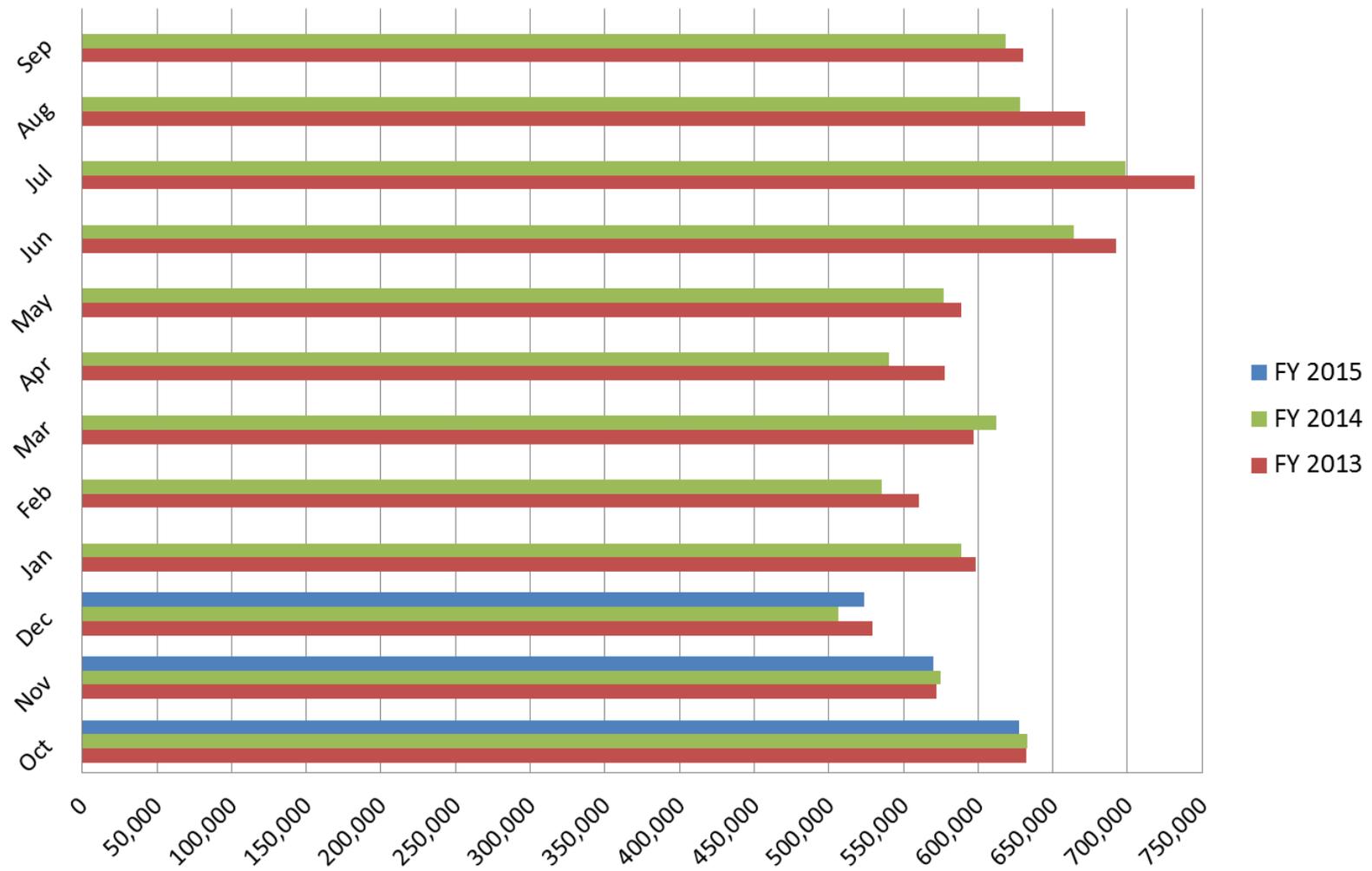
Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Total Programs	Number of Programs			Total Program Attendance	Attendance			Hours of Computer / Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
				Adult	Teen	Children's		Adult Programs	Teen Programs	Children's Programs			
Bazan	4,960	9,082	22	5	3	14	315	210	6	99	6,671	1,913	4,759
Brook Hollow	24,530	15,018	33	11	3	19	941	133	5	803	5,337	1,248	4,089
Carver	5,206	8,922	30	5	1	24	570	105	30	435	4,666	1,704	2,962
Central	25,673	53,704	249	23	112	114	7,159	635	4,218	2,306	44,325	14,213	30,112
Cody	33,411	19,941	31	3	3	25	1,103	66	12	1,025	5,816	1,442	4,373
Collins Garden	5,429	7,477	14	3	0	11	145	10	0	135	4,106	1,320	2,785
Cortez	6,019	10,161	25	6	3	16	623	37	24	562	5,148	1,663	3,485
Encino*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forest Hills	7,824	6,188	38	9	2	27	313	97	0	216	3,392	1,170	2,221
Great Northwest	27,064	19,115	26	7	4	15	935	98	115	722	6,343	2,041	4,301
Guerra	12,376	10,522	24	7	4	13	341	21	109	211	6,131	2,106	4,025
Igo	23,453	17,716	40	12	10	18	2,074	308	911	855	5,467	1,330	4,137
Johnston	9,733	9,863	18	3	3	12	170	34	38	98	5,907	1,326	4,582
Landa	9,132	9,299	31	5	8	18	589	26	77	486	1,601	780	821
Las Palmas	5,502	11,624	32	2	3	27	338	35	17	286	6,655	1,913	4,742
Maverick	22,864	11,729	24	1	6	17	534	72	24	438	5,498	1,922	3,576
McCreless	12,893	15,175	9	2	1	6	88	9	9	70	5,537	1,804	3,733
Memorial	6,596	9,453	19	6	4	9	222	24	46	152	6,004	1,922	4,082
Mission	10,444	17,536	58	22	14	22	790	217	213	360	8,658	2,892	5,766
Pan American	6,380	8,918	41	12	4	25	383	126	19	238	5,135	2,191	2,944
Parman	28,554	19,527	62	16	5	41	1,230	131	43	1,056	4,162	879	3,284
Pruitt	6,323	10,942	50	17	15	18	1,068	242	353	473	5,189	1,468	3,722
San Pedro	4,109	5,605	25	6	0	19	209	14		195	1,849	599	1,251
Semmes	22,734	15,120	39	3	7	29	594	8	45	541	5,898	2,141	3,757
Thousand Oaks	10,893	10,219	26	9	3	14	284	29	20	235	5,047	1,158	3,889
Tobin	16,562	11,181	35	14	3	18	618	109	71	438	4,134	1,571	2,563
Westfall	16,908	13,189	42	26	1	15	304	113	35	156	6,771	2,041	4,730
Library Portal	N/A	1,645	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	493	N/A	493
Interlibrary Loan Lending	902	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	86,280	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	70,683	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	523,437	358,871	1,042	235	222	585	21,940	2,909	6,440	12,591	175,939	54,757	121,182

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

* Encino projected opening April 30,2015

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures

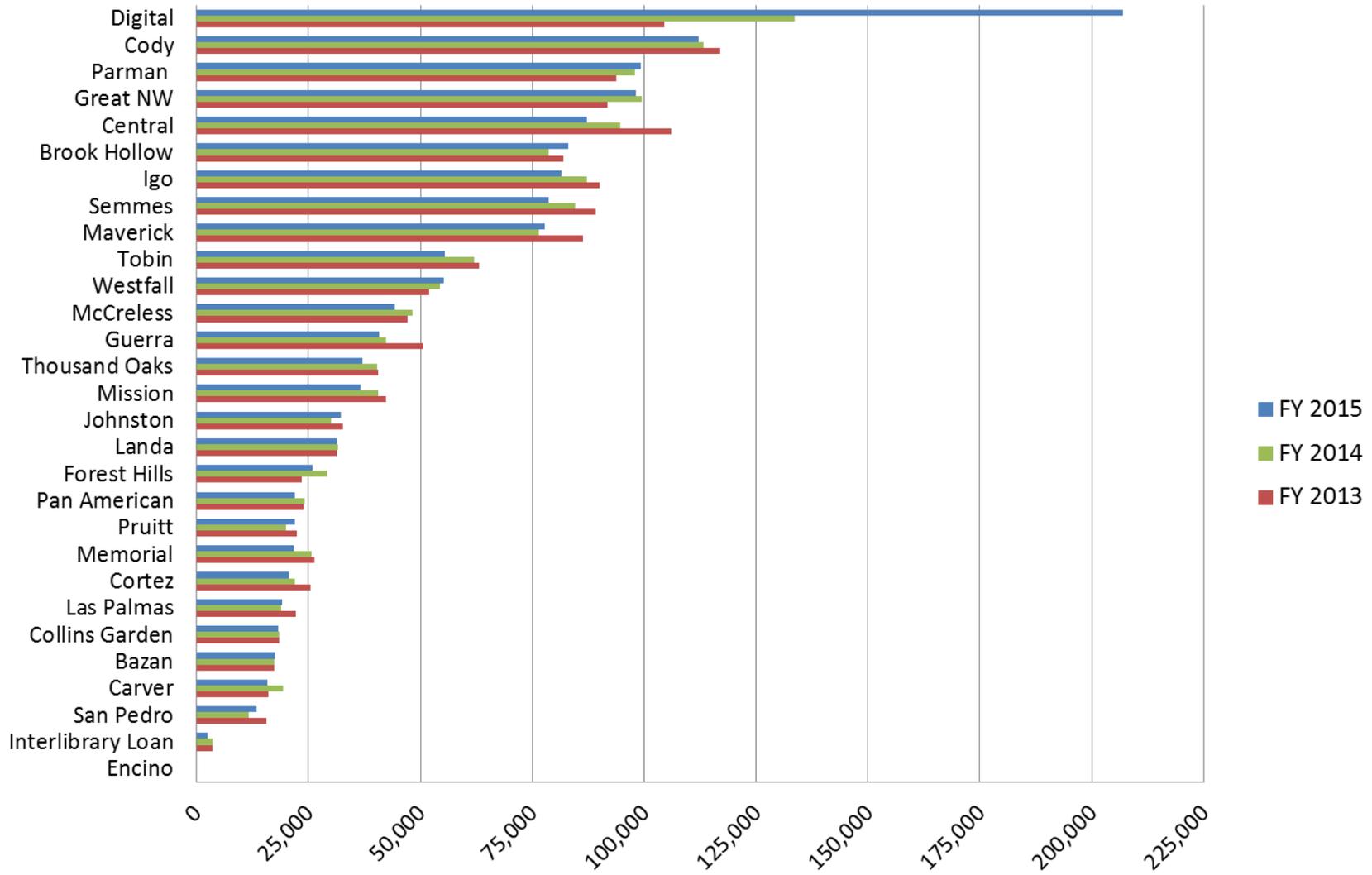
FY 15:

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

FY 13: Forest Hills Dec 3–16, Thousand Oaks Jan 21–Feb 3, Brook Hollow Feb 25-Mar 15, Guerra Aug 5-25, Johnston Aug 5-Sep 22

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Dec



Location Closures

FY 15:

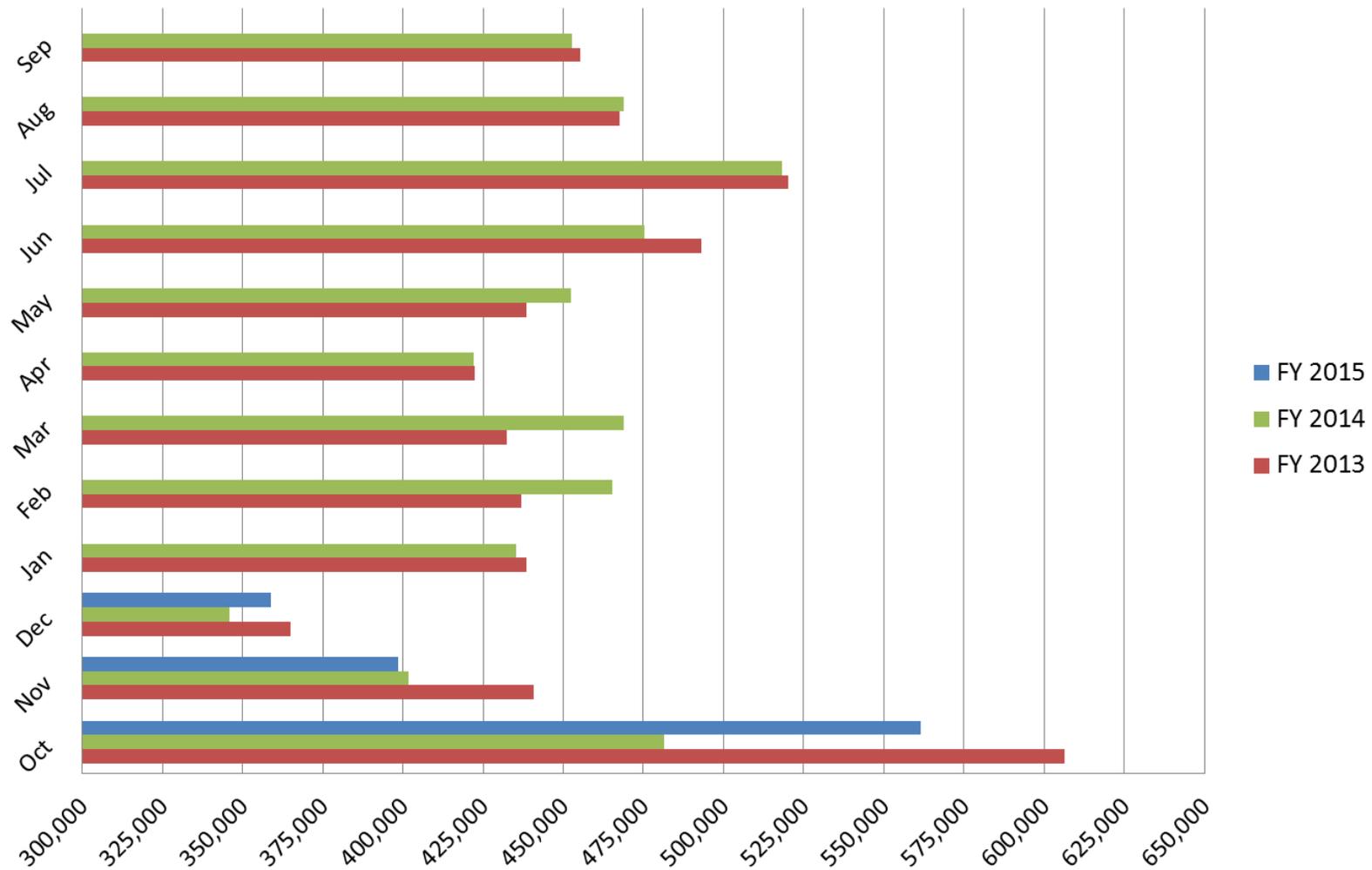
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01/20/2015

San Antonio Public Library

Visits



Location Closures

FY 15:

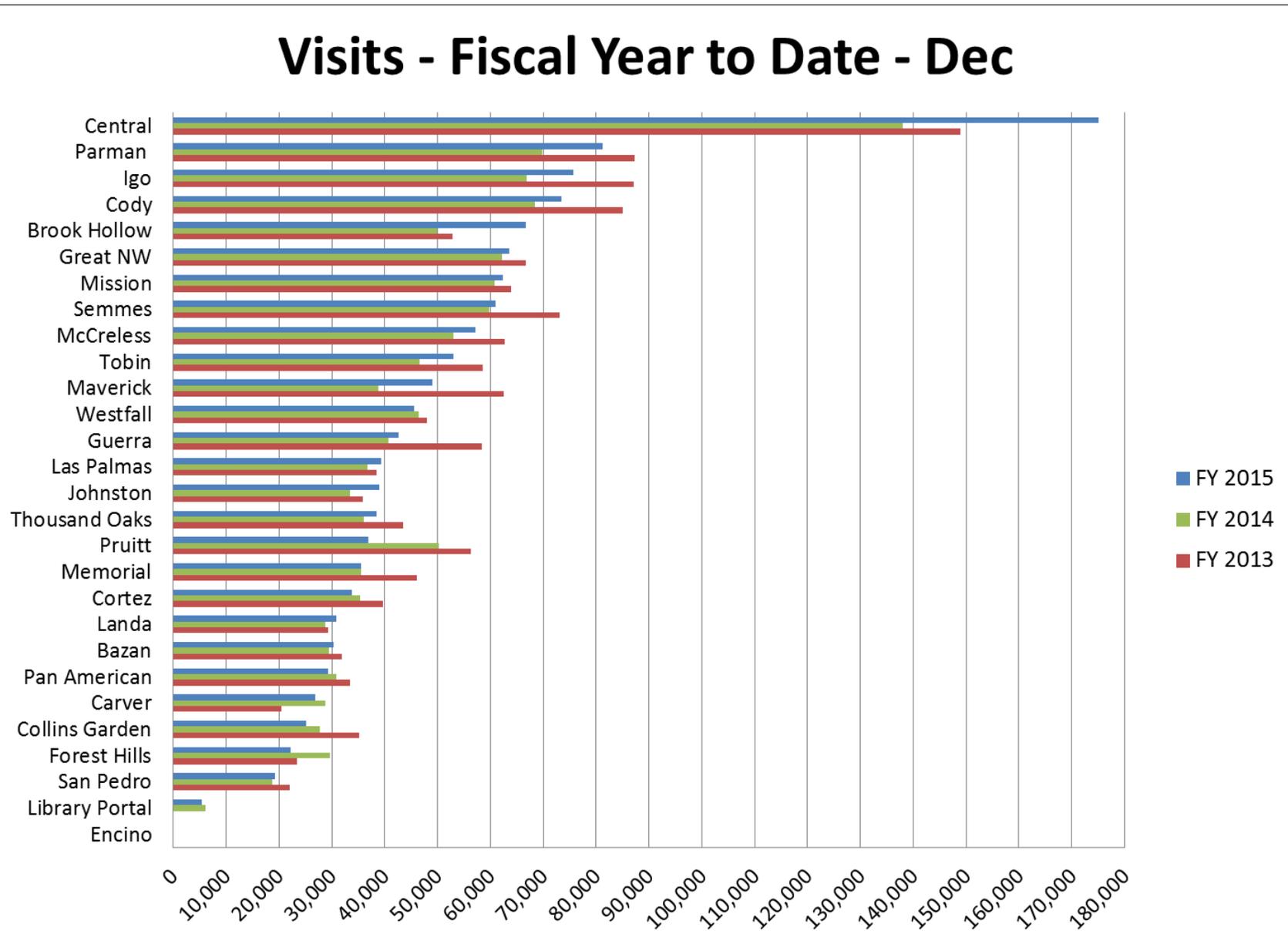
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San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Dec



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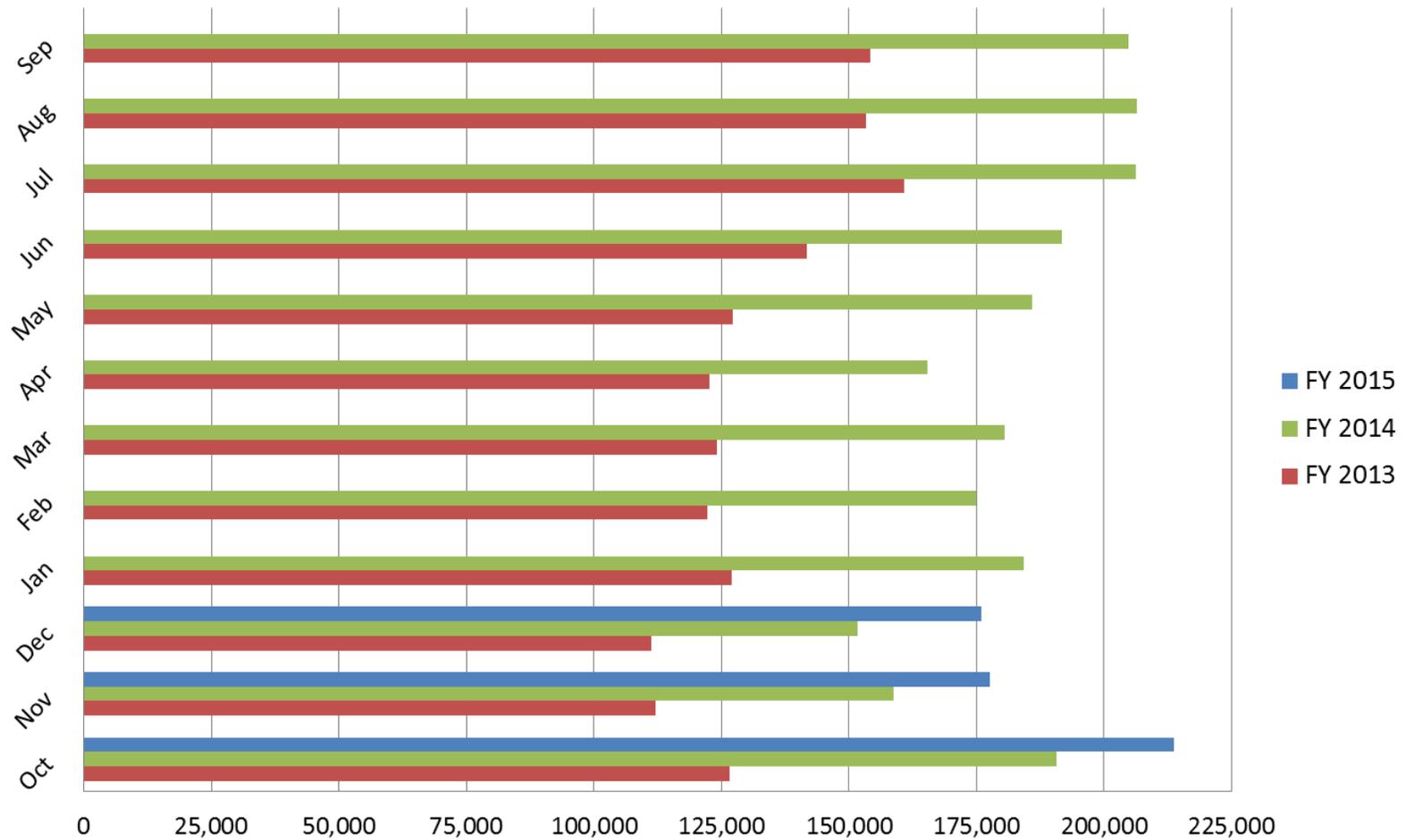
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01/20/2015

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

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01/20/2015