



# DIRECTOR'S OFFICE



On November 4, the San Antonio Public Library and the YMCA celebrated the successful grand opening of the new Potranco Library and YMCA with about 1,000 members of the community. Mayor Ivy Taylor was joined by Councilman Ray Lopez and representatives from the YMCA to celebrate as well as to thank the Mays Family Foundation and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation for their support of this facility. The co-location of a library with a YMCA demonstrates an innovative approach to serving the community. The library currently features an innovative laptop dispenser and will soon also house a material holds locker and a materials “Redbox” style dispenser. The library had about 2600 people walk through their doors on Friday and stayed open until 9pm.



Library Director Ramiro Salazar accepted an invitation from the Urban Libraries Council and the Institute of Museum and Library Services to participate in a National Forum on *Closing the Opportunity Gap for Early Readers* on December 1 and 2, 2016 in Washington D.C. This unique opportunity to co-convene a select group of leaders from public school systems, public library systems and other national thought leaders to explore a critical education issue: *how to ensure that low-income, struggling readers in K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade are accessing reading support services available via the public library.* Three areas of discussion included:

- Library literacy services most needed to help K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students get back on track and stay on track with grade-level reading curriculum.
- Key obstacles for public libraries to reach and engage low-income students.
- Recommendations and strategies for building stronger library-school-community partnerships to improve the reading achievement of low-income K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders, building on the foundations established via the ConnectED Library Challenge.

The result of the forum will be a call-to-action publication to be released in the early part of 2017.

This forum was supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and includes Council of the Great City Schools as a partner organization and will provide for support travel expenses for this forum.



Nineteen (19) Library locations served as Early Voting and/or Election Day voting site for the 2016 General Election. A voter wrote a Thank You note to the staff at the Thousand Oaks Branch Library: “Thank you, Library People! When I came to vote yesterday using my walker, you all were so helpful and friendly. I’m so used to navigating on my own, I never expected help, but all of you were so friendly. I need to come and get a library card – I have a list of ‘to read’ books and I’m tired of buying books!”

In anticipation of a high voter-turnout, the Library maximized staffing levels to ensure an increased staff presence on site at voting locations. The Library followed the Board Policy regulating campaign signage which includes:

- Three single signs, per measure or candidate may be erected.
- Signs may be no larger than 48” wide and 24” tall affixed to a stake no taller than 3’.
- Signs may only be erected within the area designated by the Library location manager and may be adjusted from time to time.

- No sign may be erected prior to the day an Early Voting Period begins
- All signs must be removed the day following the Voting Period.
  - Signs may remain in place between the end of Early Voting and Election Day if the location is an Election Day voting site.
  - In the event of a Runoff, all signs will be removed for the interim period.



The opening of the District 7 Digital Field Office collocated at the Maverick Branch Library is scheduled for October 21, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. The Library is in close coordination with Councilman Medina's Office as well as Chris Callanen to plan the grand opening event. The brief program includes remarks by Councilman Medina; Paul Stahl, Library Board Chair and District 7 Library appointee and Kathy Donellan, Assistant Library Director. The Digital Field Office consists of three spaces, one secure space for Council Office Staff, another equipped with tables for staff to work collaboratively and a third as a conference room space equipped with tele/video-conference capability to allow video chats with constituents. The Digital Field Office will have limited hours thus allowing for two of the spaces to be available to the public when not in use by the Council Office.



The San Antonio Public Library Foundation (SAPLF) announced their annual gift to the San Antonio Public Library, which totaled just over \$1 million, at its 16<sup>th</sup> annual "Board Builder" luncheon. SAPLF Board Chair Shannon Murphy and SAPLF President Tracey Ramsey Bennett presented a ceremonial check to Library Director Ramiro Salazar and Jean Brady, Immediate Past Chair of the San Antonio Public Library Board of Trustees. The \$1 million gift is designated to different initiatives within the San Antonio Public Library System including educational outreach, children's programming, individual branch library programs, new technology within the Library system, the Latino Collection, Texana and the Mayor's Summer Reading Club. This gift will also support the newly opened Potranco Branch Library and the Schaefer Branch Library, which is under construction.



The Board of the Briscoe Museum announced Michael Duchemin (pronounced Du-Shay-Min) has been selected as the Museum's new CEO and President. Duchemin has more than 30 years of experience in the art history world – from museum operations to curatorial collections management. Prior to his appointment to the Briscoe Museum, he served as executive director of the CM Russell Museum in Great Falls, Montana. Before his work in Montana, Duchemin held a senior curator position at Autry Museum of Western Heritage and was executive director of the Chinese American Museum in Los Angeles.

Additionally, the Briscoe Museum appointed Elizabeth Jackson as the new Vice President. Both Duchemin and Jackson begin their new roles on February 6, 2017.

The City, through the Library, is in the early years of a forty (40) year lease of the Herzberg Building in which the Briscoe Western Art Museum resides. Additionally, the Library operates the Kampmann Library Portal, a 900 sq ft public library outlet within the Museum. Library Director Ramiro Salazar will meet with the Interim Director once he assumes his post to continue to strengthen the Library's partnership with the Briscoe.

 Sixteen (16) Library Staff Members were recognized for their 20+ years of service to the City of San Antonio and the Library during a special reception on Tuesday, November 29, 2016. As part of an Organizational Health initiative, each year, the Library celebrates employees who complete 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years of service with a reception. During the Reception, the Library Director presents each employee with a memento commemorating their service. The honorees' family and supervisor are also invited to the reception. Library Trustees Paul Stahl (Chair), Linda Nairn (Vice Chair) and Loyce Ince (Secretary) attended the event. Dennis Martinez, Library Foundation Board Member, attended the event representing the Library Foundation.

## MARKETING

 The Marketing team organized and hosted a successful grand opening of the District 7 Digital Field and Community Engagement Office & Collaborate Space at Maverick Branch Library. Councilman Medina was in attendance and spoke to a large crowd of patrons and community partners.

  Marketing offered event and promotional support for Rock the Plaza at Central Library and participated in the planning and promotion of the Mayor's Book Club closing event on December 8. The team also prepared materials for the December newsletter, the 2017 Fiesta medal, Bond support collateral, 2016 SAPL holiday card, Multicultural Winter Festival materials, Homebound Brochure-English/Spanish, Schaefer panels as well as many programs across the system.

  The Marketing team launched the San Antonio Public Library's newest social media channel on Snapchat at a Harry Potter themed Library Social Soiree on Friday, October 28.

 The team organized and produced a large celebration for the opening of Potranco Branch Library and Mays Family YMCA at Potranco on November 4. The event received a large amount of media attention including coverage in the Rivard Report, the Express-News, SA Live on KSAT 12 and a live onsite filming on "Where's Cleto?" on KENS 5.

 The SAPL Street Team visited the community throughout the reporting period including Henry B. Gonzalez Coffee with the Principal, Rodriguez Elementary Career Day, Food Bank "Welloween" event, and the Edgewood Safety Fair

Overall, SAPL received 241 media mentions during the reporting period.

Social Media statistics for the month:

1. Facebook: 12,592 page likes
2. Twitter: 3,486 followers
3. Pinterest: 72 followers
4. Instagram: 1,412 followers
5. Youtube: 148 subscribers
6. Snapchat:

Library Social Soiree- Views: 600 views and 26 uses

Potranco Grand Opening- 549 views and 29 uses

Rock the Plaza: Views: 83 views and 5 uses

## DIGITAL SERVICES



Sarah Carolan has been hosting a “*What are LibGuides? – a Basic Introduction*” class to assist staff in learning the new LibGuides 2.0 platform. LibGuides contain information, resources and links relevant to subjects or general topics. Library staff create subject guides as a one stop resource for library users.



On November 7, the Digital Services team took part in a pilot project related to Google Drive to learn how to collaborate information more efficiently within the department.



Digital Services has been providing assistance to patrons with general questions related to the Wi-Fi Hotspot pilot program.



On November 12, Tricia Masterson joined the Digital Services team as Digital Library Services Analyst. Ms. Masterson was previously a Librarian 1 in the Central Reference unit.

## LITTLE READ WAGON



### Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents

Little Read Wagon completed the Free Family Fun workshop series at the Tynan and Knox early childhood centers. Attendance at Knox was especially good with an average of 17 parents participating in each of the four workshops. An average of six parents attended the workshop series at Tynan. The reading tent activities offered at dismissal time were well-attended at both locations.

In addition to the series, parent workshops were offered at Forbes, Rayburn, Benavides, Hutchins, Gillette, Armstrong, Highland Hills, Schenck, Burke, Meadow Village, and Gilbert elementary schools. November is literacy month for all Head Start and Early Head Start centers operated by Parent Child Incorporated. Little Read Wagon was able to send a representative to the following sites: Imperial, Fenfiled, West Hutchins, Pearsall, Evelyn King, Adelina Fritz, and Diversity.



### Services to Teen Parents

Corinne Sanchez and Clair Larkin served teen parents at MacArthur, Marshall, Holmes, Warren, Harlandale, McCollum, Tejada, Lee, John Jay, Burbank, Churchill, and Jefferson high schools. Jefferson and Burbank are the first San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) high schools to be served this year. District staff are adjusting to new campus assignments and block scheduling. More visits will be scheduled as soon as possible.



### **Outreach Story Time Programs**

Story time programs were offered at Seton Home, Ella Austin, Healy Murphy, Nurturing Hearts, Tynan, and Navarro early learning centers. Elizabeth Huber also spent a day at the Alamo City Comic Con where she presented several story time programs to families who wanted to take a break from the exhibit floor.



### **Play & Learn**

The Play & Learn series at Northridge Park concluded on November 15. Several families personally thanked Little Read Wagon staff for offering the program. The final event was attended by 40 children and their parents.



### **Community Events**

Ms. Huber represented the library at South San Independent School District's community night. Julia Lazarin had a library information table at the October 22 Baby Buggy Walk. Ms. Lazarin also attended literacy night at Woodlawn Hills Elementary. At literacy night at Pre-K 4SA North, Cresencia Huff offered library information and a "save the date" flyer for the parent workshop series coming in January. Jeannette Davies (Collins Garden) joined Mrs. Huff at Collins Garden Elementary for Careers on Wheels Day.



### **Professional Development**

Mrs. Huff attended the Bexar County Adult Detention Center's annual volunteer training and recognition day. Training included safety and security procedures, and the Prison Rape Elimination Act.

## **CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)**



Children's Coordinator, Viki Ash, returned to work on Tuesday, November 8 after a two month absence on short-term disability. Fortunately, the children's librarians carried on beautifully in her absence hosting a variety of special programs including:

- World Octopus Day (October 6 - 8)
- Halloween Parties (October 24 - 31)
- World Jellyfish Day (November 3 - 5).
- 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parties for *Make Way for Ducklings* (November 14 – 19)
- Family Science Time: Gravity (October 14 - December 17)
- Play & Learn: All About Pets (October 14 – Decemer 17)



Planning for 2017 is well underway with Winter Holiday Parties, Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day, Black History Month and Valentine’s Day festivities coming up most quickly.



In addition to all this programming, the children’s librarians are vigilant in the maintenance of the juvenile book and media collections. With the help of colleagues in the Collection Development Department, staff is currently weeding the juvenile geography shelves (J 900 – J 919) and acquiring additional copies of the Texas Bluebonnet Award nominees for the 2017-18 school year.

## TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)



### Off-Site Service

Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor continued the partnership with the Boys and Girls Club Teen Center to encourage a great musical presence in their teen programming, leading up to a jam session at the end of October. Teens took part in making their own mix tape, learning about music through the ages, and then composing their own songs to perform before their fellow peers.

During the reporting period, Adam established a partnership with Davis Middle School that will bring gaming systems as well as a youth development program to 13-14 year olds at the school. The partnership will commence in December and will include 10-12 students every other week.

Adam is taking over a relationship forged with the Bexar County Juvenile Detention Center and will be visiting the teens in transition of the court system for an hour every other week. He is working diligently to facilitate a conversation on how to transform a violent or negative path into a nonviolent and positive one through writing. Utilizing powerful figures like Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela, Adam has been able to open up the teens to expression around difficult subjects, and helped them to imagine a brighter path for their life once they leave. Teens wrote letters to their future self, which they received upon their departure.

Adam will also be engaged with Krier Probation Center in creating a Teen Book Club, as well as designing a program that will help teens phasing out of the probation center's program to enter society as a healthy and active citizen. The partnership will focus on the book club for two months, and in the third month, the specialist will focus on how to utilize library resources, sign teens up for library cards, and offer them a tour of their local library branch. The leaders at both institutions are very excited for the potential this partnership has, and the impact this can have on their teens, both inside their programs and on the outside.



### **System-wide Support**

Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor continued providing teen programming support for the Encino Library by leading arts and craft-based sessions with a musical element, hosting a Halloween party with scary stories, cake pops, and costumes, and hosting a Thanksgiving get together involving Turkey Day Trivia and Gratitude cards made in a coloring session. Attendance has remained consistent over the past several months, with new teens entering the space and staying for subsequent Teen Nights.

All of the teens feel comfortable and contribute to a vibrant culture every Wednesday evening.



### **Rock the Plaza**

Teen Library @ Central Library Assistant J.D Elizondo planned and hosted the Library's second Rock the Plaza concert on Saturday, November 12 at the Central Library. It was a great success, with over 350 people in attendance throughout the concert. The participating teens were able to share their awesome talents with their peers, as well as the general public. A couple of the standout performers were Marina Garcia and NESAs student Dominique. Marina has recently garnered national attention due to a viral video of her singing an impromptu rendition of the National Anthem before a Holmes High School volleyball game. Marina demonstrated great stage presence at Rock the Plaza, in addition to a great voice. Dominique recently started coming to Teen Library's Eclectic Electric program on Mondays. She displayed great vocal prowess as well as considerable guitar and keyboard skills. J.D. accompanied Dominique on guitar for one song, at her request. Teen Services Librarians Cindy Cruz (Schaefer Library) and Julia Pouliot (Encino Library) and Central Library Assistants Adolph Lopez, Alejandro Aguilar and Ciana Flores were invaluable to J.D. in the planning, preparation and execution of the event. The Library's partners for the event were the San Antonio Music Academy, Take Note (the teen band from Parks and Recreation), and the San Antonio School for Inquiry and Creativity.



### **P-20 Summit**

Public Service Manager for Teens Jennifer Velasquez is a member of the planning committee the 2017 P-20 Summit on Parent Engagement and attended a planning meeting in late October. The Institute for P-20 Initiatives at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) has spearheaded the annual Parent Engagement Summit. The Summit is focused on strategies aimed at providing high school, college, and career preparatory resources to students and their families. The summit will take place at UTSA in March 2017.



### **Region-20 / Fox Tech High School new campuses/ new libraries**

Public Service Manager for Teens Jennifer Velasquez, in cooperation with ESC- 20 (Region 20), is assisting Fox Tech High school with reimagining their library space to meet the needs of an evolving student population. She is also assisting in a strategic plan for the library that will address a host of new student needs and academic expectations. Fox Tech High School is now home for the Advanced Learning Academy and, beginning next year, will also house a technology academy.



### **Inspire U**

Staff involved in the Inspire U Workplace Mentoring Program (part of SA2020) met with their “littles” for lunch in the Teen Library @ Central on October 24. Bigs and Littles had lunch together and enjoyed catching up with each other. The teens are now in their senior year, so this is the last year they will be meeting monthly with their mentors.



### **San Antonio Food Bank**

As a requirement of the Kids Café afterschool snack program, a Teen Library staff member must attend a monthly nutrition lesson at the Food Bank and provide at least one nutrition lesson for the teens per month. Library Assistant Regina Almanza attends the lessons and incorporates what she learns into her weekly teen library programming on Thursdays.



### **Tales on the Terrace**

The North East School for the Arts held its *Tales on the Terrace* event on the Central Library's third floor east terrace on October 19. The event featured Northeast School of the Arts (NESA) teens reciting their own poetry and short stories, all of which were haunting in nature. The event was a partnership between NESA and the Teen Library @ Central, with J.D. Elizondo serving as the library's liaison. Over 75 guests attended.



### **StyleLush Television Donation of \$250**

The Teen Library @ Central was the beneficiary of a donation from Style Lush Television. As part of the organization's annual San Antonio Fashion Awards, Style Lush Television granted 10% of their largest donation to the Teen Library. The \$250 dollars will be used to defray arts and craft supplies for an upcoming sewing/arts program.



### **Young Adult Library Services Association Annual Symposium**

Public Service Manager for Teens Jennifer Velasquez attended the Young Adult Library Services Association Annual Symposium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (November 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>).

Jennifer presented as part of a half-day preconference called "The Participatory Library: Partnering with Teens to Design Library Learning Experiences" which was attended by approximately 80 teen librarians from around the country and Canada. Presenting along with Jennifer Velasquez was Dr. Jason Yip of the University of Washington's iSchool, Juan Rubio, Digital Media Program Manager at Seattle Public Library, and Linda Braun, past-president of YALSA.

Teen Services is proud to announce Kathleen Fordyce's promotion to Librarian III, Manager of the Teen Library @ Central. Kathleen joined the staff of SAPL in 2001 after earning her MLIS from The University of Texas at Austin. She became Assistant Manager in the Teen Services Department in 2005. Kathleen is uniquely experienced to take the helm of the high-profile Teen Library @ Central – a teen space which has been internationally recognized as a model program for high school-aged teens since its opening in May of 2015.

The Teen Librarians held their monthly meeting at Westfall branch library on October 17th. Megan Stanley, Teen Librarian I, discussed no-cost/low-cost efforts to improve the Westfall teen area. The meeting focused on an exploration of the ways teens use the respective locations of the ten (current) branches that have teen librarians on staff.

The Teen Librarians and Teen Liaisons held their regular meeting in the Teen Library at Central on November 9. The groups split up during the meeting to discuss different teen services initiatives and make action plans and set deadlines.

Teen Library Manager Kathleen Fordyce attended the Manager's Retreat at Phil Hardberger Park on November 1.

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



Organized by Adult Services Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse (Tobin Library at Oakwell), twenty-three San Antonio Public Library staff members from throughout the system hosted a booth for three days at the Alamo City Comin Con 2016. Over 85,000 people attended the Con this year held at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. The Library's booth had various activities for all ages including a green screen photo opportunity, wand making craft, reading area, and story times. A coloring wall was also provided by Blue Star Coloring. One of the most popular features of the Library's area was a life sized Tardis borrowed from the Encino Branch. Over 120 people took pictures with the Tardis every hour.



The Central Library hosted a program by Chef Adán Medrano, author of the award winning cookbook "Truly Texas Mexican: A Native Culinary Heritage in Recipes." Medrano demonstrated authentic cooking techniques for: cleaning spines from cactus, seeding and de-veining chiles, and how to make "masa." He also cooked several holiday recipes, allowing attendees to taste some of the dishes. The program was arranged by Adult Services Librarian Sandra Griffin.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY

### CHILDREN'S



#### Children's Programming:

Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin and Librarians Julia Pouliot and Robin Alcorta presented an array of engaging programs for families with young children this month at their weekly *Play & Learn* and *Toddler Time* programs. A farm-themed *Play & Learn* was a hit with families as toddlers enjoyed learning play with a barnyard full of farm animal puppets, an egg hatching station, a barnyard toss game and a create-your-own cowboy/cowgirl hat to wear home. Another crowd-pleasing theme was construction. This program featured the fine motor activity of hammering golf tees into Styrofoam, as well as sensory sand digging play, and engineering with blocks and playdough, all enjoyed while wearing kid-sized bright orange vests and hard hats! The *Toddler Time* highlighting monkeys was also a family favorite this month. Children played with monkey puppets, crawled through a jungle tunnel, made tissue paper banana collages, and enjoyed the sensory experience of mashing banana scented yellow playdough.

Other early childhood events this month focused on seasonal themes. In celebration of fall and Halloween, *Play & Learn* families frolicked in a paper hay pile, made a jack o' lantern to add to the collaborative pumpkin patch, and played with pumpkin-spiced playdough. Autumnal fun continued with spooky stories, cardboard box monster toss games, and sorting activities in a sensory bin made up of black beans and orange buttons. One *Toddler Time* program highlighted Election Day, complete with a

toddler sized cardboard box voting booth in which children voted for their favorite crayon color. Parents and children donned paper hats and dressed up as George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. The event was rounded out with an “I Voted” badge craft activity and sensory play with red, white and blue glittery playdough. Families celebrated Thanksgiving this month with an elaborate *Play & Learn* made up of extravagant kitchen and cooking imaginative play activities, complete with playdough dessert baking and a plastic food feast.

Special events rounded out the programs for toddlers and preschoolers at Central Library. The Librarians presented the system-wide *Play & Learn* “All About Pets” kit one week during which children delighted in the veterinary imaginative play station and wore lab coats and stethoscopes to diagnose and treat pet puppets. Families engaged together while playing with the pet washing station, a flannel board featuring the featured story, *Bark, George*, and made “dog bones” with playdough made from oats. In highlighting *Texas Recycles Day*, Central Children’s staff partnered with the COSA Solid Waste Department to present a *Play & Learn* program focused on recycling. Toddlers used a recycling truck made from a cardboard box for imaginative play experiences and expressed themselves creatively by painting on a giant newspaper canvas. Parents also helped their children learn to sort recyclables into the appropriate bins.

The entire Central Children’s team worked together to host a successful *Halloween Party*. Ms. Seglin coordinated the group’s efforts this year. Library Assistants Judith Slaughter and Mary Elizabeth Fernandez created clever, eye-catching Halloween decorations for the Story Room which evoked a very festive atmosphere. Families made cotton ball ghost crafts, frightening monsters from recyclable materials, and wacky Halloween hats to wear. Children enjoyed games of skills such as monster bean bag toss, and a “mystery box” guessing game, all while sampling their treat bags of candy and stickers. The boisterous costume parade around the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor was the culmination of the entertaining party.

Families enjoyed more all-ages fun this month with *Family Fun* programming led by Ms. Alcorta and Ms. Pouliot. Participants explored the concept of community, listening to stories about life in a city, and designing their own dream house using envelopes. Their creations were placed together on butcher paper to create a neighborhood scene. Afterwards, the architecture theme was extended with LEGOs and building block play. The event was such a delight that one parent reported, “I think the parents had as much fun as the kids!” Nature was a focus the following week, when families enjoyed stories all about owls. Again using recycled materials, the children crafted owl figures from paper towel tubes and construction paper.

Family Fun programming also centered on holiday themes this month. In honor of El Día de los Muertos, children listened to bilingual stories and watched a short video about the traditions associated with the holiday. Families were inspired by a slideshow of sugar skulls to make their own *calaveras* from paper plates. Manager Kate Simpson led a Thanksgiving story time in which she shared funny stories about

food fiascos and all shared stories of thankfulness. Children then created paper crowns decorated with their Thanksgiving thoughts and engaged in pretend play at the “grocery store.”



#### Outreach & Tours:

Several groups used the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor juvenile collection for coordinated research visits in November. The groups were as diverse as students from Heritage and Legacy Middle Schools working on history fair projects, adult students from the Family Service Association exploring material for preschoolers, and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from the neighboring Advanced Learning Academy investigating current event topics of interest. In each case, Central Children’s staff worked closely with the group leaders to orient students to the collection, highlight subject areas or pull books specific to their projects.

More in-depth tours of the Central Library were led by Ms. Alcorta, Ms. Pouliot and Ms. Simpson. Students from Southwest Preparatory School were introduced to the library, with a special focus placed on fiction genres. At the conclusion of the tour, the students used their new understanding of the collection to pick out a chapter book in line with their interests for a book report project. The reader’s advisory slant of this visit emphasized this often overlooked service by children’s librarians. A group of homeschooled students enjoyed a tailored visit to the library with a special focus on age specific collections and programming. Because the group was made up of all ages, the librarians took care to present something for each age group, including a coordinated visit with the Teen Library for the older students. Girl Scout Troop 2201 and their parents visited the Central Library on El Día de los Muertos for a story time and art activity. The evening event introduced families to the resources available at the Central Library and highlighted the cultural holiday with an examination of the altar honoring Henry B. Gonzalez in the lobby, and stories and creative expression through a *calavera* mask activity.

Ms. Pouliot sparked creativity at an outreach visit to the neighboring Advanced Learning Academy at their *Fine Arts Fest*. While sharing library resources with the students in attendance and welcoming families to the weekend programming offered at the Central Library, she facilitated a collaborative mosaic art project, which highlighted the creative activities available at the library. Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez represented the Central Children’s Department at the *Alamo City Comic Con*. Throughout the day she held impromptu story times for the children who stopped by SAPL’s booth at the event, delighting weary families who relished the chance to relax and enjoy a good story.

Central Children’s Department staff continued their outreach visits to Green Acres Childcare Center Madison Square Child Development Center and Central Christian Church Childcare Center as well.

The Central Children’s department was honored to receive a service visit from members of the Eva’s Heroes organization in November. The group provided invaluable assistance by cleaning some of the

most heavily used materials in the juvenile collection – board books and picture books. They also contributed to a banner listing thoughts of gratitude for the Thanksgiving season.



#### Professional Development & Team Building:

A coordinated collection management project targeting the juvenile non-fiction collection was initiated by Ms. Seglin and Ms. Simpson this month. The Central Children’s team collaborated to the large scale project which remains ongoing.

Ms. Simpson attended the SAPL Manager’s Retreat and came away with a renewed sense of purpose and a variety of new ideas to implement at the Central Children’s department.

Ms. Alcorta and Ms. Seglin collaborated with the Reference department staff to produce the Día de los Muertos altar honoring Henry B. Gonzalez in the lobby.

Central Department staff held a small gathering to bid fond farewells to Ms. Pouliot who was selected for the Librarian I Teens at Encino and Ms. Alcorta who was promoted to Librarian II Childrens at Potranco. Everyone is excited for their new opportunities but will miss them very much.

## TEENS



**Mondays with JD Elizondo (Library Assistant):** During the reporting period, JD facilitated Eclectic Electric music programming. The Teen Library Haunted House is an annual event, planned by JD and teens at Central, that provides teens the opportunity to design, create, and be an actor/”scarer” during the last week of October. The program is intended primarily for a teen audience, but families are welcome to attend as well. This will be the fifth year the Haunted House has been inducing fantastic scares in people. JD is currently working with teens from Eclectic on a holiday recital “Jingle Jam” planned for December 10.



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



**Wednesdays with Kathleen Fordyce (Librarian II):** On Wednesdays, teens pick their favorite video or board game and engage in friendly competition with their peers. During the reporting period, teens have enjoyed playing the WiiU and PS4 games, as well as board games like Chess, Jenga and Apples to Apples. Teens also brought out the ping pong table a few times to get some exercise and show their skills.



Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Teens engaged in activities that allowed them to express themselves creatively, learn nutritional facts, and celebrate a couple of teen favorite fall holidays. Encouraged by staff, teens suggest and plan activities they wish to do at their library. They suggest ideas that play up their strengths or their interest in a certain craft or things they might have seen made online. Teens took various shaped candies to create monster cupcakes. Teens also shaped sushi rice into circular shapes and then used cut pieces of *nori*, roasted seaweed sheets, to create monster sushi. Carving pumpkins is a Halloween tradition at Teen Library, but this year, teens used cantaloupe, watermelon, apples and oranges to carve jack-o'-lantern faces. Afterwards, they used the fruit to create healthy and fresh fruit skewers. Afterwards, they used a variety of juices to create a blood punch. To celebrate Dia de los Muertos, teens covered apples in caramels or white chocolate, then used a variety of frostings to create *calavera* faces to make sugar skull apples. Afterwards, they used tissue paper and Mod-Podge to cover a clean glass jar to make votive holders. Some teens had an introduction to a new vegetable, the eggplant. Teens baked it, then added cheese, tomato sauce, and spinach to create a light and healthy snack, which they enjoyed while watching a mini-movie marathon. Using *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World*, the night's movie selection, a movie filled with video and comic references, as inspiration, teens created beadsprites of their favorite characters and then used peanut butter balls dipped in chocolate to dress up as a classic Mario character, the bob-omb. Every Thursday night, as well, in a non-competitive environment, teens played video games. Pictures from Thursday programs as well as other Teen Library and system-wide programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary>. Some nights, photos and mini-videos are also posted to Teen Library's Instagram account: <https://instagram.com/210teenlibrary>.



### Tours and Groups

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

A class at the Advanced Learning Academy reserved the computers in the Teen Library for research on October 19.

Groups of East Central ISD students from Heritage Middle School visited the Central Library on October 18, 19 and 20 to receive a tour of the library, become acquainted with library resources, and to do research for their upcoming History Fair Projects. The Teen Library and the Children's Department coordinated these visits. Over 75 East Central ISD students from Legacy Middle School visited the Central Library on October 27<sup>th</sup> for the same purpose, and the visit was again collaboration between the Teen Library and the Children's Department. In addition, Librarian II Matt DeWaelsche

(Texana/Genealogy) graciously offered to speak to the students about what the judges look for when presenting at History Fairs. Matt had previously been a judge.

Juniors in an AP English class from Providence High School made their annual visit to the Teen Library @ Central for a tour and catalog/database instruction on October 28.

On November 8, J.D. Elizondo helped to coordinate 240 band students from Cedar Springs, TX by accommodating them with several spaces within the Central Library to study while they were in town for a band competition.

Eighth-graders from Keystone School received a tour of the library and catalog and database instruction on November 8. In addition, Kathleen Fordyce showed the group a series of book trailers on the Teen Library's Mondopad to pique their interest in reading.

## REFERENCE



The annual Knit Out & Crochet, Too! event took place on Saturday, October 15. Those in attendance included teens, dads with their children, and seniors. All ages were represented. Lessons from experts were available the entire event. Volunteers helped beginners learn the basics and help was given to those who brought in their own special projects.



On October 31, on behalf of the the Marie Swartz Art Resource Center (MSARC) Academic & Art Research Committee, Daniel Gonzalez and Auriel Pinales delivered an academic research workshop for the Southwest School of Art BFA Program. The workshop was titled: *The nuts and bolts of research: Selecting and narrowing a topic*. Students attending are from the ENGL 1301: College Writing/English Composition class. On November 21, Daniel and Auriel delivered a follow up workshop covering annotated bibliographies. Eleven students benefitted from these great programs. A special note is that Auriel is a PT Library Aide in the Central Shelving Department and is learning more about the job roles of a library assistant through her collaboration with the Reference Department and mentoring from Reference team members.



Daniel Gonzalez from Reference and the SAPL Arts & Culture Committee welcomed author Adan Medrano to speak about Texas Mexican history and cuisine. From excerpts in his book *Truly Texas Mexican : a native culinary heritage in recipes*, Mr. Medrano gave a presentation including cooking demonstration and tasting for attendees. Held in the city's LaunchSA space, pre-order tickets were sold out and there was a slight overflow of attendants. The publisher sold their entire inventory and requests were made for more purchases and further events. This book is available in both the circulating and Latino collections of SAPL.



Reference and Texana Librarians Maria Hernandez and Sylvia Reyna partnered together and now that a cooler season has approached are reoffering Central Within Reach Tours. These two tours are focused on different aspects of the Riverwalk – history and art. The tours begin in the Texana area of the library where tour group attendees learn about the resources available to them at the library. They then receive a guided two hour tour of the Riverwalk from the library staff as they learn about the special local wonder. These tours continue to max out on attendance and receive excellent and outstanding praise. The collaboration efforts between Reference and Texana produce wonderful experts on all subjects for the attendees to question and learn from.



On November 13, Reference Librarian Pannaga Prasad organized and hosted the Diwali: Festival of Lights program. The program is a classical cultural dance performance and it took place in the Central Library Gallery. There were 70 adults, 4 teens and 28 children with a total of 102 attendees. The audience enjoyed watching the performance and liked the details given before the dance performance. Attendees expressed they were very interested in the culture, rhythm and coordination of different dances and the various dresses and the apparel worn. Ms. Prasad also helped plan and present this program at three other branches.



On November 20, “The Extraordinary Stories of (local) People of Color – Why They Matter” was presented by an instructor from University of Texas at San Antonio. The presenter talked about how to write stories along with the PowerPoint presentation and illustration.

## TEXANA/GENEALOGY



Deborah Countess hosted a genealogy program on adoption research presented by Connie Gray (Texas Adoptees Rights). The October 18 presentation focused on the history of adoption and resources available for those researching their birth history. Thanks to the San Antonio Public Library Foundation for sponsoring this event.



Staff led two Beginning Genealogy programs this reporting period: on October 22, Sylvia Reyna conducted a class at the Carver Library and on October 29, Ms. Countess instructed a group at the Central Library.



Texana’s monthly genealogy computer class held on November 1 dealt with online map resources. Ms. Reyna discussed various websites that offer free digitized maps and how the information they provide can be useful to family history researchers.



Ms. Reyna was invited by the Council of Research Academic Libraries (CORAL) to participate in their November 3 meeting presenting background information on the Texana/Genealogy division, “PechaKucha” style (showing 20 slides for 20 seconds each).



For Native American History Month, Ms. Reyna invited Texas A&M University Anthropology professor Dr. Alston Thoms to speak about the indigenous people that lived in this area over the past several thousand years. The November 5 lecture entitled “Short History of Native San Antonio and Vicinity,” discussed the background and structure of the many Native American “bands” living in this region. Thanks to the San Antonio Public Library Foundation who also sponsored this program.



On Monday, November 7, Texana Staff, with the assistance of Interim Manager Ashlee Chavez and Public Services Administrator Ruth Chiego, held a Team Building event focusing on shifting collections and making room in the Vault for items in need of special temperature and humidity control.



The Texana room was featured in a story by Spectrum Cable News for their “Local Wonders” segment. Taped on November 17, it included some of the more unique items held by SAPL and an interview with staff member Matt DeWaelsche.



Ms. Reyna took part in Glen Oaks Elementary School’s Career Day November 18, giving presentations to four classes on what it means to be an historian and family history librarian.

## BRANCH LOCATIONS

### BAZAN



Training Officer Emily Sauer Flores and Children’s Librarian Hope Sonnen attended the annual Barrio Boo Halloween event held at the Guadalupe Plaza and promoted the library’s offerings. Attendance was phenomenal and young and old alike were interested in Bazan’s happenings.



In November, Mrs. Sauer Flores attended the Barrio Network meeting at the Parent Resource Center at Lanier High School. The Barrio Network focuses on coordinating social service efforts to maximize community impact and respond to unmet community needs.



The Bazan Learn Center ESL classes continued to grow and, as an extension of the ESL book club, a more advanced ESL book club was formed, led by Mrs. Sauer Flores. The first title students read was “Who is Malala?”



Children’s Librarian Hope Sonnen continued weekly in-house programs and outreach to area elementary schools where she facilitated book clubs. She recently added the American Sunrise Center, an after school program that helps at-risk students in San Antonio's most economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, as an outreach location where she delivered books and presented story time. Ms. Sonnen also attended the Principal’s Coffee at Barkley Ruiz Elementary School where she talked with parents about library programs and resources.



Adult Services Librarian Maria Gonzales promoted Bazan’s movie collection by facilitating a “Creepy Movie” day to coincide with Halloween. Ms. Gonzales facilitated an outreach literacy group with West End Park Senior Center where she met and read to residents. The literacy group was enthusiastic and more visits were scheduled. In the spirit of the holiday season, Ms.Gonzales presented Bazan’s first annual Cookie Exchange program. Delicious cookies and recipes were shared to the delight of everyone in attendance.

## BROOK HOLLOW

Staff members are excited to welcome manager Heidi Novotny to Brook Hollow. Heidi comes to the branch from her previous position as manager of Landa Library and has worked in several branches throughout the system, including Cody and Collins Garden. Welcome aboard, Heidi!



Brook Hollow continued to be a very popular location for early voting, serving 22,568 community members. The branch also served as a polling place on Election Day.



On November 9, Children’s Librarian Rachael Barrera visited 5 classrooms at Rhapsody Head Start for her monthly outreach. The theme of the story times was “food” in honor of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Weekly programs continued to be popular, despite the limited parking due to early voting and Election Day.



On November 2, Brook Hollow hosted the San Antonio Storytellers Association. The Storytellers have been regular presenters at Brook Hollow for several years, and their programs always attract

enthusiastic audiences. Attendees who wish to participate in the fun and tell a story are always welcome to do so.



Brook Hollow staff members continue to entice patrons with a wide range of displays. Currently, patrons can browse displays featuring National Novel Writing Month, unusual holidays in November, and a variety of materials on the theme of pie.



Teen Time programs and Teen Library Leadership Council meetings continued at the branch this month. The Teen Library Leadership Council takes an active role in planning each Teen Time. Teens at Teen Time carved pumpkins, played video games, tested their hand-eye coordination with perler bead projects, and honed their debate skills with the game “Superfight!”

## CARVER



The library hosted such programs as *Making the Law*, which helped people to understand the political election process in the U.S. and *Beginning Genealogy*. The weekly Tai Chi program hit a peak attendance of 18 during the early part of November. The highlight event was the *College Fair* on Saturday, October 22, which paired the Learn Center and community partners to promote education and learning. The event attracted over 100 people eager to learn about the college experience and how furthering their education could benefit their lives. Recruiters included UT-Austin, Trinity University, University of the Incarnate Word, Our lady of the Lake University, Texas State University, Prairie View A&M University, and UTSA, to name a few.



Branch Manager DL Grant Jr. conducted outreach at the Phillis Wheatley High School Alumni Association, where he updated attendees on services at the branch and upcoming events. The main feature of his presentation centered on SAPL’s emphasis on growth through continuing education. Many were able to see how the library’s Learn Centers could help them to thrive even though they have been away from formal education for many years.



Carver celebrated National Friends of the Library Week by treating its Friends organization to a buffet dinner served at the branch on Friday, October 21.



The Wi-Fi Hotspot Program is going well at Carver. Learn Center Training Officer Jeanne Johnson reported nearly all of the Carver allotments have been circulated. Since the program launched, the branch has received very positive responses from patrons utilizing the program. She added that a

college student who visits often uses the hotspot device and has remarked that it has made a huge difference in her studies.



Assistant Branch Manager Monty Holcomb hosted seven Teen Time events with the Wii, and five Chess Events. Mr. Holcomb also continued the Mayor's Book Club group at the District 2 Senior Center session and during this period facilitated five book club meetings. Mr. Holcomb has helped facilitate the "Caring for Aging Parents" program series (four events this period, eight events total thus far) and the "Finance Awareness" series (one event this period, four events total thus far). In addition, he coordinated and facilitated a Native American/African American Storytelling Event.

## CODY



The *BYOD! Minecraft Club* met on November 2. New players were introduced, children's librarian Sheila Acosta gave all players a task, and the race was on to be the most creative!



During *Tween Time*, children competed in a bubble gum blowing contest on November 7. In addition to other creative activities, tweens were asked to continually chew and blow bubbles throughout the program so that the biggest and largest bubbles could be noted and measured. Sheila said this was one activity most tweens took very seriously. They did the measuring and recording on the white board.



One of the pre-kinder classes from the Pineapple School visited Cody Library on November 9 as a culminating activity to their study of libraries. Sheila provided a library scavenger hunt for the children to do, and library assistant Luanne Bloom gave the class a tour of the children's resources prior to their hunt.



*Tween Time* participants teamed up for such skill events as Frisbee throwing and putting buttons in a cup using chopsticks on November 14.



The *BRC - Beginning Readers Club* met on November 16 to share their latest books and peruse some of the new beginning reader series that Sheila introduced to them. Afterwards they created their own mini-books of "thanks" for their parents and grandparents for Thanksgiving.



The *Tween Book Club* met on November 17 to discuss their latest book selection: *Framed! A T.O.A.S.T.\* Mystery* by James Ponti. After a thorough discussion of the book, tweens played a game of Memory and tested their mastery at remembering details. They asked Sheila if they could play this twice!

 Children enjoyed holiday *Come and Go Crafts* on November 22 and 23. A variety of crafts were available and families enjoyed gathering at the tables in the children's area to work on these.

 The *Thanksgiving Arts and Crafts* event on November 22 was a popular one with patrons of all ages. Both children and adults created some items to present at family gatherings over the holiday.

 During the month of November, Sheila visited the Kids Campus, Discovery World Childcare, the Pineapple School and Chabad Gan-Gani.

 Teens enjoyed a *Haunted House Fest* on October 18 when they walked through a haunted hallway, painted pumpkins, and played spooky games.

 During the October 25 *Teen Time*, teens constructed and decorated Haunted Gingerbread houses with all-edible materials

 Teens celebrated Dia de los Muertos on November 1 by drawing sugar skulls onto cookies with icing.

 On Election Day, November 8, teens held a mock election and watched political spoof videos.

 To celebrate Thanksgiving, teens made turkey figures out of cookies during the November 15 *Teen Time*.

 On November 22, teens wrote what they were thankful for this year on paper strips and turned the paper strips into DIY pumpkins.

 Library Assistant Debbie Bender pulled out all of the stops on October 22 for Cody Library's annual *Bracken Bat Cave* event conducted in partnership with Texas-based Bat Conversation International.

 Librarian Adam Spana continued his monthly outreach to residents of the Adante Senior Living community on November 16, where the book club discussed Mary Ann Shaffer's *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*.

 On November 19, UTSA instructor Thomas Porter conducted a memoir writing workshop in conjunction with the Mayor's Book Club.



Wednesday afternoons in November, Stephen Baird, certified healthcare navigator with Daughters of Charity Services – San Antonio, provided assistance with ACA health insurance enrollment.

## COLLINS GARDEN



Collins Garden Library was a 2016 Presidential Election Day Precinct and hosted Bexar County Election Department Early Voting Monday, October 24 through Friday, Nov. 4. Staff/Manager worked with PSA Kate Gray and Bexar County Election Department judges to ensure set-up/early opening, late closing times. After voting many patrons took selfies with the Library's Feed Your Freedom cutout and selfies were posted on SAPL's Facebook page and other social media. Prior to the election registration deadline, the library hosted two early voter registration drives with the help of Alamo Barrio Democracy Project – Ignite the Vote. Thirty-seven people were registered.



Collins Garden Library Branch Manager Jeannette Davies and Assistant Manager Jerry Madrigal met with Friends of the Collins Garden Library twice in October to finalize organization of the group. Elected officers 10/25/16/, submitted Bylaws to be approved by the overall Friends Group and will be on the agenda 11/20/16. Out-of-the-box fund-raising ideas were discussed with board members. Worked with C.G. Friends Treasurer Patricia to create a "We are Thankful for our Library Friends" display where the Day of the Dead Display was located. Next Friends meeting scheduled for 11/22/16. Manager/assistant manager attended respective SAPL retreats at Hardberger Park Urban Ecological Center.



Friday, November 18, the branch manager, along with SAPL Little Read Wagon, attended Career Day at Collins Garden Elementary School and shared career and library information with nearly 550 students, teachers and staff.



Collins Garden Library Branch Manager Jeannette Davies attended District 5 Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales staff meeting with PSA Elma Nieto-Rodriguez at the councilwoman's field office in the Las Palmas area. Discussion featured future projects including Holiday Village December 10 and greater involvement in the Back-to-School Back Pack Drive next fall. Jeannette/Elma met the councilwoman's chief of staff and publicity manager.



The branch received many compliments from patrons, staff, and the library director regarding the Day of the Dead display honoring Collins Garden community activist Choco Meza. Lead by Circ. Attendant Enedina Prater, the Collins Garden Library team worked with the District 5 team to create a dynamic display. Telemundo TV interviewed District 5 Office Manager Dora who explained the items

displayed on the altar. Other displays during this time period include Halloween, with a witch smashing into a tree in the children's department; Breast Cancer Awareness created by Jessica Salas in honor of her aunt; red, white, blue patriotic honoring US presidents; Thanksgiving cooking; and Thank You for Our Friends of the Library.



Collins Garden initiated Study Room Mondays, a weekly dedicated study time to provide a quiet place for students/patrons to do their work for school and careers, and Coffee and a Movie program for senior citizens to enjoy a featured movie once a month from the Golden Age of Mexican Cinema.



Collins Garden hosted a basic photography class covering basic photography techniques for taking pictures, using backgrounds, filters and other effects for use with a mobile phone or a digital camera. Eight adults were in attendance.



Medicare early enrollment was provided through a partnership with the library and WellMed. UTHSCSA, in partnership with the branch library, continues its chronic pain study in an effort to address individuals seeking alternatives to medication in dealing with pain stemming from illness or injury. UTHSCSA's pain study addresses the country's opioid epidemic.



Collins Garden Library, in partnership with a community poetry group Voces Cosmicas, presented a writing workshop hosted by local poet/educator Fernando Esteban Flores who utilizes the MondoPad for critiquing submitted works.



The Teen program, hosted by library assistant Carlos Loera, is holding steady and averaging 7-10 teens a week making crafts and exploring video gaming.



Children's Librarian Gina Brudi visited Knox Early Children Education Center and presented 8 story times, with 120 youth outreach books delivered to the classrooms for their use during the month. The Family Fun Halloween Party was a big hit with costumes ranging from Scooby Doo to Batgirl. Over 20 children listened to spooky stories and made bat crafts. Ms. Brudi visited Kelly Elementary and read *The Dancing Skeleton* to over 75 children at their Halloween assembly celebration. To celebrate Jellyfish Day on November 5, children created a jellyfish craft and learned about this mysterious creature.



I-Cycle, in partnership with the library, offers a monthly bicycle repair class for all ages. After completing the course, the 17 class attendants received a certificate and a small gift.



Mary Valdez and her beautiful Golden retriever Foxie continue to help kids become more comfortable with reading. Their bi-weekly visit has an attendance average of 20 people.



Collins Garden Library hosts a monthly matinee movie series for teens and children averaging an attendance of 35. The library also hosted a family movie during Thanksgiving break.

## CORTEZ

Cortez Branch welcomes part-time Circulation Attendant Raquel Rodriguez on board. Raquel brings a wealth of experience to her new position with SAPL from the library at the Alamo College system.



### Story Time (Kathy Armbruster)

Story Time continues on Mondays at 10 a.m. Six sessions were held during this reporting period with such themes as monsters, Halloween, jellyfish and jam, a 75<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for *Make Way for Ducklings*, Thanksgiving stories and songs, and pets. Twenty two children and 20 adults attended.



### Baby Time (Kathy Armbruster)

Baby Time follows the Story Time program on Mondays at 11:15 a.m. Six sessions have been held with a program of rhymes, songs, and time for books and toys. Fifteen children and 11 adults attended and new families join in all the time.



### Family Fun (Kathy Armbruster)

Family Fun sessions were held on Mondays at 4 p.m. in October and at 3:30 p.m. in November. Six sessions were offered during the reporting period and included such themes as monsters, Halloween trick or treating, jellyfish and jam, and a celebration for *Make Way for Ducklings* as well as Thanksgiving stories and crafts. Total attendance was 23 children and 13 adults.



### Tween Time (Kathy Armbruster)

Tweens continue to seek out the library on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Video games are always offered but lately board games – most notably – TWISTER! and several craft activities have proven to be a hit. Activities for Halloween, Dia de los Muertos and creating slime have brought 9 to 12 year olds to the library for some fun! Branch Manager Cammie Brantley offered a game of Thanksgiving Bingo with candy gumdrops as card markers and the food challenge for the month was learning to use chopsticks to eat a

variety of foods – from pretzels to the smallest of NERD candies! Five sessions were held during the reporting period with a total attendance of 44 tweens and 5 adults.



**Halloween Party** (Kathy Armbruster) was held during a Wednesday afternoon in place of a Tween Time session. Crafts, snacks and games were offered. Vicente Escobedo (Community Health) set up an obstacle course on the lawn and enticed a few young ghouls and vampires to run their way through the challenging course. Healthy snacks and not-so-healthy snacks were offered. Fifty two children and 21 adults attended.



**Trick or Treating at Cortez** (Cortez Staff) – the entire Cortez staff got into the spirit of Halloween by dressing as characters from *The Wizard of Oz*. Children who approached the service desks looking for a sweet treat were not disappointed as the Wicked Witch of the West, the Cowardly Lion, Dorothy, the Tin Man, and the Scarecrow handed out Halloween goodies.



**Mini Monster Meet** (Kathy Armbruster)

Since the monthly Monster Meet elicits much attention from the younger set, a pint-sized version of this program was offered on October 29. Six children and 3 adults attended a showing of the scary movie “Monster House” to help celebrate Halloween. Popcorn, snacks and lemonade were served.



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

Offered on Saturdays from 2 – 4 p.m., Come and Go Crafts is slowly catching on at Cortez. This passive program has been offered 6 times during the reporting period and has been enjoyed by 52 children and 12 adults. Craft activities for Halloween, jellyfish day, *Make Way for Ducklings* and Thanksgiving offer children a way to express themselves and work on fine motor skills at the same time. Volunteer Marisa Torres has agreed to help out on Saturdays to help children complete the craft activity (without too much added mess!).



**Read to a Dog** (Mary Valdez and Foxie)

Twice each month, Mary Valdez brings her golden retriever Foxie to the Cortez library. Mary teaches children how to approach a dog for the first time and then helps them get comfortable reading stories to Foxie.



**Dial a Story** (Kathy Armbruster)

Kathy recorded *The Best Pet of All* for SAPL's Dial a Story on October 17. She signed up to read other stories throughout the year.



**In-House Special Visits – Brighton ECA and Palo Alto PreK** (Kathy Armbruster) Both Palo Alto Elementary School PreK and Brighton ECA visited the library for a tour and info session on using the library. Several teachers and parents left with information on how to obtain a library card and the importance of reading aloud to children.



**Outreach Visit to Price Elementary School – Reading Night – November 16, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.** Price Elementary School librarian Pamela Diaz asked for a representative to attend the Reading Night held in the early evening on November 16. Students and their parents played various literacy games and many walked away with SAPL maps, library card application forms, Potranco and Schaefer bookmarks and new SAPL pencils.



**Teen Time** (JoAnn Paredes)

Cortez teen program had a great turn out for this time period. There were five programs with an attendance of 106. The teens are passing on the word about teen time and bringing in new faces.



**Adult Coloring** (Michelle Ricondo)

Adult Coloring @ Cortez continues to be popular at Cortez and the numbers continue to grow. Four sessions were held during this reporting period with a total attendance of 35.



**Creative Writing Group** (Michelle Ricondo)

The Cortez Writers Group has continued to attract a small cadre of dedicated writers since its inception on July 2016. There were 4 sessions held during this reporting period with total attendance of 13.



**Getting Crafty Program** (JoAnn Paredes)

During this reporting period, there were five classes with a total attendance of 47. On October 17 and 24 the class worked on Dia de los Muertos crafts, which were instructed by Angel Montoya. Mrs. Montoya is a regular craft class attendee. On November 7 and 14, the class made paper wreaths out of donated out-of-date encyclopedias.



**Monster Meet** (Madeline Vasquez)

On November 12, 11 horror fans got together to enjoy “Lights Out”. Monster Meet is a program developed and coordinated by Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez, who brings her love of the horror genre to the community at Cortez.



**Cortez Film Club** (Derek Austin, Volunteer with assistance from Madeline Vasquez)

The Cortez Film Club met on October 22 to enjoy the film “Maximum Overdrive” as their Halloween treat. Eleven movie fans attended the event. “Monty Python and the Holy Grail” was viewed on November 19. Three movie fans attended.



**Sixth Sense Paranormal Group** (Michelle Ricondo) met on November 1 at 6:30 p.m. On the Day of the Dead, the ghost hunters returned to talk about their new investigations. Fifteen adults attended.



**Community Partnerships**

Cortez played host to several community groups offering workshops and information tables over this reporting period.



AARP held a session for caregivers on November 6<sup>th</sup>.



The Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio provide information twice each week during the month of October to help navigate the enrollment process for the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid/CHIP.



Mayor Ivy Taylor came to the branch on November 22 as part of the “Meet the Mayor” series. She toured the Branch and met with several interested citizens.

## ENCINO



Encino early voting brought 9,111 people to the library and several of them discovered Encino branch for the first time. Many took the opportunity to apply for the library card and tour the library.



The Friends of the Encino Library had their meeting on November 14, attended by Keri Moczygemba and three officers. Due to the changes within the Encino Friends group the winter book sale was postponed.



In the reporting period adult services librarian Barbara Kwiatkowski brought several programs to Encino. One of them was presented by the master of the Chinese tea ceremony from UTSA. Participants learned 4,000 years of history of the drink and how Chinese tea culture has influenced the economics of the west, and how the western response to tea changed the economics and tea culture in China. They also had the opportunity to taste different type of Chinese tea and practice the preparation of the tea in the traditional way.



The Chinese opera singer Ms. Liangwen Clair Chen gave her final performance on October 17. This time she sang western arias from Puccini's La Boheme, Mozart's Don Giovanni, Cosi Fan Tutte, and Phantom of the Opera among others. The last performance was enjoyed as much as the previous one. A total of 95 people came to Encino to hear this talented singer.



Barbara Kwiatkowski presented several seasonal programs as a part of continuously very well attended Encino Create University. One of the more challenging projects was a 3D pumpkin carved out of recycled books. On Halloween night, participants learned about Tsantsa - the art of head shrinking and had the opportunity to make their own version of it.



On Wednesdays, Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor continued responsibilities as Teen Liaison at Encino by leading arts and craft based sessions, hosting a Halloween party with scary stories, cake pops and costumes, and hosting a Thanksgiving get together involving Turkey Day Trivia and gratitude cards made in a coloring session. The numbers have remained consistent over the past several months, with new teens entering the space and staying for subsequent Teen Nights. All of the teens feel comfortable and contribute to a vibrant culture every Wednesday evening.



Ashley Stubbs continued to host the Teen Anime Club on Mondays. Participants enjoyed watching various anime, drawing, and creating art with the air clay. Teens also decorated the wall in the children's area.



On November 14th Encino welcomed its new Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot. In her first week in Encino, Julia embraced her new surroundings and job duties learning the ins and outs of the library and the dedicated teen space. She has made an effort to connect with our teens by writing a welcome note on our dry erase wall featuring her favorite things and asking teens to respond with their own greetings and introductions. Julia has also spent some time in the young adult collection, moving the express books to a cart, shifting books, and pulling duplicates from the shelves. In her short time here, Julia has also cleaned and organized the teen space's closet, and began planning for teen programming which she will begin to present in December. Encino team is happy to have her here.



Children’s Librarian Nicki Weaver continued to present very well attended story time for babies, toddlers and preschoolers. The introduction of rhythm sticks was very successful. At each story time the children made a craft that was also in keeping with the theme.



In lieu of a Halloween party, the children’s librarian presented a Play and Learn which featured activities that promoted early learning as well as preschool readiness. The activities included Measure the Pumpkin, shape matching, threading, playdough, and “Pumpkin Chuckin” to name a few. Eighty one children and their parents attended.



During the Kid’s Time, kids and parents were on hand to work on art projects that included water colors, and constructing cars from Popsicle sticks. A science program had children investigating optical illusions, and a healthy eating program introduced make-ahead oatmeal. Activities were STEAM based and accommodations were made according to the age of the participants.



Lego Club continues to be well attended. Parent involvement was encouraged, and STEM -related challenges were issued, accepted, and completed.



Monthly Encino Adult Book Club lead by Ellen Leland discussed Emily St. John Mandel’s best-selling fourth novel *Station Eleven*. Normally, the group enjoys small refreshments based on the food served in the book or at least from the country of setting, but as there wasn’t much cuisine 20 years after the “Georgia flu,” pumpkin spice bonbons and biscotti were shared. Going to see movies adapted from books has now become almost a monthly get-together for club members, too.

## FOREST HILLS



The Forest Hills annual STEM event was held on October 22. The event featured the science of Botany. Adult Services Librarian Sandra Griffin was the lead on this project and did a beautiful job of coordinating the numerous organizations which featured interactive information tables covering topics such as beekeeping, herbal teas, hydroponics, and medicinal plants. Parks and Recreation hosted a tree adoption event and planted 5 crepe myrtles. The event was well attended by over 200 individuals.



A number of events designed for seniors were hosted during the month of November. On November 2, Medicare Enrollment was offered at the branch by The Alamo Area Council of Government (AACOG) Agency on Aging. This is a vital service provided by the agency which has been hosted for more than 4 years in a row at Forest Hills Branch Library.



On November 5, the American Association for Retired Persons (AARP) offered Tech Training for Seniors. The trainings covered topics such as Facebook privacy, smart phones, and other useful tips for seniors trying to learn new technologies.



Ms. Naylor visited the Dorris Griffin Senior Center on November 15 to host a Recipe Exchange using a selection of cook books from the Library's collection. The patrons of the center were very excited about this event and asked for a repeat in the near future.



Branch Manager Mary Naylor spoke at the Inspiration Hills Neighborhood Association meeting on November 7. Ms. Naylor discussed the Forest Hills Friends Group and invited members of the neighborhood association to join. Everyone in attendance expressed interest in joining to support the group. Ms. Naylor will be visiting this group at regular interval to share information regarding the library.



On November 21, the San Antonio Food Bank's Mobile Mercado made a stop at the Forest Hills Branch. The Mobile Mercado is a combination mobile mini-grocery store and a healthy food truck with a main focus to increase the access to healthy food with an emphasis on seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables.



As the Forest Hills Branch is waiting to fill the Children's Librarian vacancy, Children's librarians from across the system demonstrated teamwork as they volunteered to travel to Forest Hills to host the Children's Story Time and Family Fun on Tuesdays. Forest Hills staff contributed to the Come and Go Craft time on Fridays. Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson represented the San Antonio Public Library at a PTA/Resource Fair at Colby Glass Elementary on November 10. Then on November 21, he recorded a dial-a-story book in Spanish, *Hansel y Gretel* by J. and W. Grimm, adapted by Elisabet Abeyà and translated from Catalan to Spanish by Jesús Ballaz.

## GREAT NORTHWEST



During the fall semester, Great Northwest Library hosted Ms. Perez, a library practicum student earning her Master's degree in Information Science at the University of North Texas and Mr. Howard, an Alamo College work study student. While at Great Northwest, both students gained work experience and learned about library services with hands on experience serving the public.



Great Northwest Library was an early voting polling site, and over 17,000 people voted at the branch. On Election Day, staff helped many patrons find their registration status and polling site. Early Voting went very smoothly thanks to the efforts of staff and the hard-working Bexar County Elections officials.



Great Northwest Library has had quite a variety of activities for the younger ones this last month. During the third week of October, the Color Club explored the color black. The children and their families dressed up in black, played with spiders on the floor, on their knees and necks; painted with black paint and explored all kinds of things in their black sensory boxes. The ABC Explorers discovered exciting and wonderful books about Australia. On early release day, all school-age kids were invited to explore the rainforest and some of its animals. Some observers were overheard debating if the parents or the kids were having the most fun.



The fourth week of October was filled with a week of costume parades! Each parade had over 100 participants. There was the thrill of excitement filling the air. For many children, this was their very first time to get the opportunity to dress up. One family came all the way from China. The families visited stations throughout the library to say “Trick or Treat” for some treats from staff and volunteers.



The first and second weeks of November, Kimberly Wygant and Karen Davis generously filled in with the children’s programs while children’s librarian Cari Raley was on vacation. The families were very thankful that they had something fun for the kids during that time.



The Timberwilde Elementary School Children’s Choir performed several songs in honor of Veterans Day on November 10.



The third and fourth weeks of November were filled with happy laughter and many different kinds of turkey crafts to celebrate the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.



On Halloween the Great Northwest Library hosted a Trick or Treat night at the library. Community members signed up to decorate a table and give out candy to families who came to trick or treat at the library.



A representative from the Daughter of Charity has been visiting the branch to assist patrons with open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act.



*The House of the Spirits* by Isabel Allende was discussed on Monday, October 17 at the Alicia Trevino Senior Center.



Adult Services librarian Cindy Moreno moderated a lively book discussion on *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd on Monday, November 14. The group also stayed to watch the movie.



On November 16, the program *Indigenous People of San Antonio* was presented by Park Ranger Anna Martinez-Amos of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park where attendees learned about Native Americans and the historical San Antonio Missions with a video and question-and-answer session.



Great Northwest Teen Writer's Guild met on October 17 and November 21 for their monthly meetings. Teens with an interest in writing meet once a month to create and share their work with other teen writers. During October and November the guild focused on Horror writing and prepared for National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) in November.



The Great Northwest Library hosted a Super Smash Bros Mini Tournament on October 22 where teens could compete for first place. Teens used Challonge.com to register players for a double elimination tournament and tracked their progress using the websites online bracket system. Teens also created the game rules and stage list for players to abide by.



Great Northwest Teen Services librarian Stephanie Vazquez visited the school library at Brennan High School on October 26 to provide a teen program to the students during their lunch period. This popular event is in collaboration with the Brennan High School Librarian Hugues Caby and is a way for the branch to reach out to teens in their environment. Ms. Vazquez also met with Elaine Torres, the College Readiness Counselor at Taft High School, to provide information about library services for teens preparing for college including Live Homework Help, Learning Express Library, and volunteer opportunities at the library.



Teens learned to make *Huichol* yarn art and also had the opportunity to create some Halloween pixel art during the *No Experience Needed Art* program held on October 24. The Teen Craft Night on November 7 celebrated Thanksgiving with a Charlie Brown themed meal and crafts. A monthly Teen Anime Night was held on November 14 and celebrates a love of Anime and Manga. During Anime Night teens learned how to make Japanese onigiri rice balls and created some origami animals.



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

## GUERRA



The branch hosted early voting (October 24 through November 4) and Election Day (November 8). Voting activity doubled or tripled the expected daily visitor count. An all-staff/Thanksgiving meeting

was held on November 22. At the end of the reporting period, Iris Bobren-Diaz accepted a promotion to Part Time Library Assistant (the good news) at the Westfall Branch (the less than good news).



On November 15, Branch Manager Dexter Katzman presented information and answered questions from about 200 new employees about the Service Employees International Union and its participation as a key member of the Employee Management Committee. Dexter provided music and literature outreach to the Careplex Adult Daycare Center on November 9, 16, and 23.



Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard announced her decision to resign; she will be relocating to Brazil in mid-December. Patrons and staff will miss her and wish her and her family the best in South America.



Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson planned and presented five toddler times, five story times and one Halloween themed Kids' time, where school aged children enjoyed a Halloween story, crafts and candy. Arlene hosted two Lego Clubs on October 18 and November 15. School aged children read to Foxy on October 27 and November 10 during the

bi-weekly Read to a Dog program. On October 29 and 30 Arlene hosted all day Halloween Come & Go crafts. Families enjoyed creating mummies, jack-o-lanterns and coloring haunted houses by numbers. On November 9 she hosted the Fall Play & Learn program – Pets. On November 17 she participated in a TexShare Webinar--Supporting Homeschoolers: Session One. On November 18, Arlene attended career Day at Cable Elementary School and presented to five first grade classes about her career.



Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson moderated Club de Lectura, a book club in Spanish, on October 27. The participants discussed *Caramelo, o puro cuento* (Candy or just a story) but published in English titled *Caramelo* by Sandra Cisneros. He conducted a trivia game at the Willie Cortez Senior Center on November 4. Stephen moderated another book club whose participants discussed *Oscar y las mujeres* (Oscar and the women) by Santiago Roncagliolo on November 17. Except for the programs noted, he continued his temporary assignment at Forest Hills.



Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on October 20, and November 3 and 10. The Teens watched the movie, *Now you See me 2* on 11/17 and had refreshments supplied by the Friends of the Guerra Library. He participated in an outreach to Brennan High School with Stephanie Vazquez, Teen Librarian/Great Northwest on October 26. 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 150 students participated.

# IGO



Carolyn Bradley from Central has continued to help cover Igo's story times on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are very grateful for her assistance.



Igo's Lego club continues to have good attendance and children enjoy having their creations shown on the branch TV. During November, the club themes were veterans and Thanksgiving.



Teen Services Librarian Marco DeLeon continued his weekly Teen program which continues to have good attendance. The Teen Leadership Council has been busily preparing for Winterfest, which will take place at Igo on December 10<sup>th</sup>.



The members of Igo's poetry club, PoeTree, met on November 7 and November 21, while the Mystery Club discussed *Strip Search* on November 9.



On November 15, genealogist Allene Mandry presented "Migration Trails of Our Ancestors" to the Igo Genealogy Club.



On November 16, the Red Earth Writers presented a talk about Oklahoma City's writing program.



The Igo Elderberries program meeting for November 2 was changed from the "2016 Election—What's at Stake" (Speaker Dr. Charles Cotrell cancelled) to The Electoral College, a PowerPoint presentation given by Marco de Leon.



The annual Thanksgiving Potluck Luncheon was held on November 18 with Elderberries enjoying good food, music provided by the Pickin' and Grinnin' Band, and a Fashion Style Show for the 50+. Outfits were provided by the Dress Barn and modeled by 12 Elderberries.

# JOHNSTON



Johnston hosted early voting in its meeting room from October 24 through November 4. As with other polling sites, a record number of voters visited the polls during the early voting period. The branch meeting room also hosted several HOA meetings during the reporting period.



On Thursday, October 20, Children's Librarian Beverly Wrigglesworth went to Brook Hollow branch to fill in during Baby Time and Toddler Time program. Mrs. Wrigglesworth posted an entry for the Kids Page blog, which appeared on October 31. She blogged about the book *School of the Dead* by Avi. On Thursday, November 3, Beverly Wrigglesworth visited the PCI at Southwest High School to read to the toddlers and deliver books for the classrooms.



Baby Time continues to be well received from the Johnston community, with an average of 25 during the reporting period. Themes for Story Time included foxes, halloween, bears, hippos, and Thanksgiving. On November 8, Baby Time and Story Time were combined for the well-received Play & Learn kit "Pets." Family Fun themes during the reporting period included gravity, Halloween, bears, LEGOs, hippos, and Thanksgiving.



During the reporting period, Library Assistant Nicole Garza hosted 9 teen programs with a total attendance of 94. October teen programs were adjusted to accommodate early voting in the meeting room by setting up several video game systems in the teen area. The media setup was extremely enticing and our teen group increased in size during the two week period. Several teens brought personal gaming systems and shared with the other teens. October also kicked off the creation of a teen led Anime and Manga Club, held twice monthly. The club's first meeting was deemed a success! The group decided to make reverse tie dye shirts using bleach and rubber bands. The end results were surprisingly well done for several of the teens' first experience using a tie dye method. November programs focused on artistic expression as well as science-based discovery activities. Teens decorated sugar skulls and displayed their finished works of art in the teen area. Teens also experimented with creating unique bouncy balls. The activity used household items and took less than 5 minutes to complete. The teen group made over 15 bouncy balls among themselves. Teens learned new recipes during November's cooking demo. Each recipe had less than two ingredients and were devoured in seconds. Ms. Garza also represented SAPL at Alamo City Comic Con, where she lured visitors to the booth and demonstrated the craft activities for participants.



Adult Services Librarian Monica Bustillo led a lively discussion with the Athena Readers Book Club on October 19. Just in time for the feature film release, the group discussed *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs. Mrs. Bustillo held the monthly Adult Coloring event on November 10. This soothing activity takes place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at Johnston. Mrs. Bustillo hosted herpetologist Blaine Eaton of the South Texas Herpetology Association on November 12. Mr. Eaton presented information on which snakes to avoid and which snakes to keep around. For the November meeting of the Athena Readers Book Club, Mrs. Bustillo led a discussion of *Before the Fall* by Noah Hawley. Attendees enjoyed refreshments, literary discussion, and planning for future book club meetings.



Library Assistant Elsy Jackson held the monthly Club de Lectura on November 14. She also serves as a regular contributor to Telecuentos (Dial-a-Story in Spanish), and she recorded a children’s book for the week of November 14.



The branch hosted a presentation of the Diwali Festival of Lights on November 19. Two performers led the large audience through beautiful and symbolic dances.



Librarian Monica Bustillo attended the Texas Library Association District 10 Conference on October 22 at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin. The conference included a live interview with award winning author David Liss by TPR personality David Martin Davies.

## LANDA



October wrapped up with an exciting collaboration of Landa Teens contributing to the first annual Landa Boo Halloween Party for young children and families. The teens helped create decorations and volunteered at the event at various booths assisting community children in games and crafts.



November had the teens and Teen Liaison R. Corley cooking once more – just in time to show off some talent for Thanksgiving – dessert anyone? On the horizon is a special Mayors Book Club program discussing current issues and ideals of identity where art and discussion will be incorporated to create safe spaces for important discussions.



Additionally, Landa’s Homework Hangout is still strongly attended by students in middle and high school grades. The space has continued to be a sought after service!



Landa adult programming is well into fall activities with several exciting programs in both October and November. William Glenn, reference librarian from UTSA, shared his love of the talents of Frank Sinatra and Antonio Carlos Jobim with “Sinatra and Jobim: A Collaboration of Musical Greats.” The following week, the University of the Incarnate Word Theatre Department presented a Readers’ Theatre production, “More Memories of World War II,” a production which combined personal recollections of local WWII survivors with music of the era. In November, Landa observed Native American Heritage Month when Park Ranger Anna Martinez-Amos brought her expertise on the “Indigenous People of San Antonio.” All of these programs were highly-received and Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta is in the planning stages to bring each of them back.



The monthly book clubs continue to meet and discuss (sometimes with great animation) such titles as Robert Parker's thriller *Painted Ladies* and Fannie Flagg's *The All-Girl's Filling Station's Last Reunion*. Karen's outreach programs at The Village at the Incarnate Word and Kenwood Senior Center continue to have regular and enthusiastic attendees.



Landa staff and customers said good-bye to Manager Heidi Novotny who departed to become manager at the Brook Hollow Branch. Jamie Flowers is temporarily on loan from Semmes Branch.

## LAS PALMAS



The fall season began with Bilingual Storytime. Preschoolers listened to stories about apples and pumpkins. Preschoolers' crafts included decorating pumpkins displayed in the library children's area. Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez presented four Bilingual Storytime programs and a Family Fun Halloween Party Storytime. One family especially thanked the presenter for her animated presentation that engaged their four-year-old son.



On October 28, Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez participated in the Pre-K Jubilee at the Jose Cardenas Head Start Facility, which featured a paper bag costume parade and included community resources available to parents. Ms. Perez answered questions about San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) services and how to obtain library cards at an information table. Parents were informed about the benefits of having a San Antonio Public Library card including access to Homework Help. Twenty-five visitors discussed information needs at the SAPL table, which was visible to over 300 attendees.



On November 2nd, the Las Palmas library hosted its first collaborative program with the Friends of the Las Palmas Library for Dia de los Muertos alongside the YWCA, Our Lady of the Lake University, MetroHealth, and the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center. About 150 locals came by to decorate calaveras, make crafts, play games, and learn more about this traditional Mexican holiday.



On October 19, the Adult Book Club discussed two romantic comedy novels: *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen (1813) and *Unleashing Mr. Darcy* by Teri Wilson (2013), an adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice*. The group enjoyed the contemporary version of *Pride and Prejudice*, using the theme of elite British and American dog shows and pedigree breeding as a backdrop for this romantic comedy. They did not like the more dense language of the classic story as told by Austen, however.



Las Palmas Library hosted a Veterans Day Celebration “Honoring Our Own” on November 9<sup>th</sup>, sponsored by Friends of the Las Palmas Library. About 90 attendees listened to presentations and awards honoring all veterans, with special recognition given to those who served in World War II and Korea. The Jr ROTC Color Guard from Gus Garcia Middle School opened the event, also serving as host/hostesses. Speakers included Colonel Gil Coronado, USAF (Retired), Former Director of the Selective Service System, and Mario Longoria, PhD, Military Historian. The presentations’ historical details, and the bountiful reception provided by the Friends that followed, were appreciated by the community, including customers who came to use library computers, but ended up listening to the speakers. Many in the community personally thanked the library and the Friends group for hosting such an event.

## MAVERICK



Children’s Librarian Ms. Roberts conducted 4 Halloween story times. On October 26 and October 31, children came dressed like pirates, mermaids, Pet Pals and more and paraded around the library. Patrons, early voters, and staff were greatly entertained! Ms. Roberts even dressed up as a “Super Librarian” both days.



On November 21, 66 children and parents attended the Pets Play & Learn. Ms. Roberts was on the committee that planned this fall Play & Learn. Feedback from other branches and Maverick participants agreed that it was a hit! Thank you to Annette Roberts (Ms. Roberts’ mom, and a former kindergarten teacher) for assisting her with the early literacy stations.



On November 8, Children’s Librarian Amy Roberts met with the Bluebonnet Bloggers afterschool club at Nichols Elementary. The group had a lively discussion about the book *Poems In the Attic* which is the third out of the five books they will read before voting for their favorite book in January. Other outreach to schools included participating in Career Day at Brauchle Elementary on November 18. Ms. Roberts talked to 105 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. Ms. Roberts also attended FLSA training at Encino Library on November 17.



Maverick staff hosted Early Voting and Voting during the reporting period while maintaining our normal programming and hosting five HOA’s. Staff was also able to partner with the Daughters of Charity Services to advertise the upcoming Affordable Care Act enrollment.

## McCRELESS



On October 17, McCreless hosted the Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union, who offered a class on Credit (including advantages and disadvantages of credit, credit terminology, the real cost of credit and why credit history is so important). Once early voting and election day passed, MCC's adult programming began to ramp up again. On November 12, our How to Make a Dreamcatcher program was well attended and participants stayed after the program had officially ended to talk with the presenter, who had also brought in other Native American art and clothing to discuss with the group. The Esperanza Center hosted a Paper Flower Crafting class on November 19. The Center supplied each participant with craft materials and from patterns. They each created three flowers to take home.



Teen programming at McCreless Library included video gaming and making caramel apple treats in October to celebrate the fall season. Teens also prepared for Dia de los Muertos by decorating sugar skulls for the holiday and created some Halloween inspired pixel art. On November 2<sup>nd</sup> teens used their creativity to make yarn art inspired by Huichol yarn paintings. Teens also celebrated Thanksgiving with a Charlie Brown themed night of food, fun, crafts, and video games on November 9<sup>th</sup>. On November 16<sup>th</sup> teens learned how to make Japanese onigiri rice balls and created origami animals.



On October 31<sup>st</sup>, the branch hosted a Halloween party; approximately 20 children and their families joined us for stories, crafts, and treats. Then on November 5<sup>th</sup>, the branch offered a Come and Go craft for Jellyfish Day and 44 children stopped by throughout the day to make their own jellyfish.



Also on October 31, McCreless staff member Ana Menchaca went to Ball Academy to participate in the school's Halloween parade and asked the children questions about their costume and a book that was related to their costume.



Branch staff created an inviting display featuring rock music. Staff paired a music CD by well-known musicians or music groups with a book by or about that artist. Staff have been continually restocking this display!



Library Assistant Ana Menchaca has been selected to fill McCreless's vacant Librarian I position (Adult Services – Teen Liaison). Branch staff appreciate the help of Stephanie Vazquez from Great Northwest, who subbed at McCreless while this vacancy was being filled.

## MEMORIAL



On Saturday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>, Memorial held a consumer related program on how to save money on insurance. The event was conducted by insurance professionals, Mr. Jaime Garcia, and John Plent of the

Texas Department of Insurance. The workshop covered beneficial insider facts on various types of insurance, e.g. auto, liability and home owners. The two professionals mentioned resources, such as the Consumer Bill of Rights, which covers Homeowners, Auto, Credit and Unemployment Insurance. The Texas Dept. of Insurance also has tools on their website, which allow consumers to look up company profiles and agents. Some patrons who attended the event drove from across town to listen to what the two professionals had to say about saving money and protecting their rights.



For Halloween, Memorial invited the Sixth Sense Paranormal group; an organization that has conducted programs at many SAPL libraries. The group is a favorite among patrons, who attend the presentation every year. Approximately 25 people attended this year's event, which was held in our teen section due to early voting. The group presents findings from their ghostly investigations. With PowerPoint slides, which include sound and video, patrons were captivated by their work. The event was held on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 p.m.



Memorial hosted one of the Mayor's Book Club events on Saturday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>. UTSA professor Thomas Porter met with a group of patrons who discussed their stories and writings. The patrons shared insightful tales of their experiences growing up and their cultural heritage. With Professor Porter, and other UTSA staff from previous events, the book club provides guidance for writing and an avenue for self-expression.



Ernesto S. Rios, a COSA employee, is exhibiting his photography work at Memorial. His photos, which are black and white prints, depict scenes from San Antonio events. The current show features the Cesar Chavez march last March. Photos include renowned San Antonians such as Mayor Taylor, local political leaders, musicians, and students from local schools. The exhibit appears to be drawing interest from our patrons.



Memorial is preparing to host the Diwali: Festival of Lights on Sunday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>. The dancers have performed at Memorial on previous occasions. Patrons enjoy learning about the Indian culture, music and dance.



This reporting period Memorial teens continued to make fun Halloween goodies. They made some deviled eggs and then decorated them like eyeballs, spiders and other creepy cute things. Teens also celebrated Dia de Los Muertos by painting real sugar skulls. Thanks to the friends of Memorial library, teens now have a display case for displaying their art work each week. The sugar skulls are now on display in the Memorial Teen Corner.



Memorial Branch Children's Department began a daycare outreach during November. Children's Librarian Christine Deffendall performs three programs each week for more than thirty children at the World of Knowledge Early Learning Center. Outreach to local elementary schools included a PTA meeting and a Literacy Night, reaching more than one hundred people between the two events. Christine also assisted with Toddler and Preschool Story Times at Thousand Oaks Branch Library and a Family Fun event at Forest Hills.

## MISSION



The children's department had fun baby times and toddler times and many new families attended. Lego club is now a regular event alternating with Read to a Dog and attracts many families with children.



Special events were an Octopus Day come and go craft and our annual Kids Halloween Party. Around 75 kids and their adults arrived on Halloween day in costume for games, crafts, activities, and candy too, of course.



Mission hosted the first annual Story Tellebration on November 12. This event from the San Antonio Storytellers Association featured story telling for kids, adults and the whole family at various spots in and outside the library. The stories were of all types; folk tales, funny stories, spooky tales and more and lasted from 2 – 6 p.m. Mission provided a craft table for the children in between tales. The program was very well attended.



Teens at Mission Library enjoyed several parties and celebrations for the reporting period which included a well- attended Halloween party, movie night, and minute to win it challenges.



Librarian Cindy Cruz visited with parents and students at two outreaches during the reporting period. Cindy visited the Young Men's Leadership Academy for their Literacy Night event. She brought the Cubelets robotics kit for students to try out and discussed with parents the resources available through the library's collections. Cindy also went to Harlandale's STEM Magnet High School and gave a presentation to students and parents on Live Homework Help –available through the SAPL website.



In addition, Cindy assisted at the Rock the Plaza event at Central Library which showcased the musical talents of teens from across San Antonio.



Librarian Oscar Gonzalez participated in this year Comic-Con event and as usual there were very big crowds. Library volunteers were able to promote the San Antonio Public Library and offered crafts and picture taking to participants.



Mission Library started hosting volunteers for the Affordable Care Act signup. They also held a Day of the Day craft hosted by the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center and a memoir writing session as part of the Mayor's Book Club presented by UTSA instructor Thomas Porter.



The branch partnered with the City's Metropolitan Health District and had a *Healthy Start South Fall Festival* in the courtyard and it was very well attended by the community. The Library also participated in the all day *Mission Marquee Holiday Market* event, also a great success.



Mission Library was a site for early voting for this reporting period.

## PAN AMERICAN



In October the Pan American Branch staff welcomed new Assistant Branch Manager Romeo Rosales. Mr. Rosales joins the Pan American team from the Pharr Memorial Library where he was the Reference Department Supervisor. Mr. Rosales is not only an experienced librarian but also a published writer and public speaker on a variety of library related topics. Mr. Rosales brings to the Pan American team knowledge and experiences that will benefit the community. As a new employee, Mr. Rosales attended orientation at Central as well as varies COSA required trainings to help him succeed at the San Antonio Public Library System.



During the reporting period, Library Assistant Lisa Leandro and Children's Librarian Gladis Martinez worked hard to rearrange the young adult and Spanish Language collections at the branch. To help way-finding and improve access to materials, the Spanish collection was moved to the front section of the branch next to the computers. In order to give teens more space and privacy, the young adult collection was moved to the back half of the branch. Both Ms. Leandro and Ms. Martinez created displays to showcase new books as well as seasonal materials of interest.



For the health and well being of the adult community at Pan American, the branch continued to offer exercise classes such as Tai Chi Easy and Gentle Stretch Yoga. Also during the month the branch hosted the Bexar Area Agency on Aging to assist patrons with enrollment in Medicare. Additionally, the branch explored opporunities to help the community navigate the Affordable Care Act open enrollment process.



Pan American hosted teen time every Wednesday night, where teens got the opportunity to participate in a variety of crafts and activities. During Dia De Los Muertos, young adults made sugar skulls as well as “frankentoy” for Halloween. Lisa Leandro continued to hold a weekly Anime Club, where teens watched a variety of anime cartoons and learned more about Japanese culture.



November was National Novel Writing Month or NaNoWriMo. During the month, Pan American hosted weekly times where patrons could get together to write and discuss the writing process. The program was so popular that it grew into a weekly writers club, where attendees can share their experiences as well as help their fellow aspiring novelists.



Children’s services were busy at Pan American during the reporting period. Children’s Librarian Gladis Martinez held a variety of programs for children and their family. Some included a Pokemon Party, where kids got to hunt for Pokemon, partake in a fun craft, as well as watch videos. To celebrate Halloween, the branch held a Trunk or Treat for the community. Children and parents had a chance to get some treats as well as participate in fun activities. The Pan American Friends helped pass out popcorn and other snacks for the children. Additionally, Foxie the READ dog visited the branch and listened to children read stories. Finally, Ms. Martinez continued to visit area day cares, Head Starts, and elementary schools for story time and to promote library services available to the community.

## PARMAN



Parman Branch Library held its fifth annual Halloween Carnival and Spooky Walk on Tuesday, October 25. Over 1,800 patrons came out to celebrate with us. The Spooky Walk rooms included: an alien encounter planned by Interim Branch Manager Tim Johnson; a creepy carnival planned by Circulation Attendant Cara Sifuentes, complete with a life-sized Jack-in-the-Box featuring Library Assistant Eva Banda; a classic monster jail planned by Circulation Attendant Melissa Moser; and a witch’s room planned by Johnston Manager Haley Holmes. The carnival had two additional games including a new Plinko game handcrafted by Children’s Librarian Carrie Vance. Participants also enjoyed the puppet show that was scripted and directed by Circulation Attendant Allison Villarreal. Teen Services Librarian Marisa DeBow coordinated over 40 volunteers from Reagan High School, which allowed the whole event to proceed without a hitch.



Interim Branch Manager Tim Johnson hosted two programs during the reporting period including working with Cresencia Huff and Gamini Haluwana to bring Central’s Ukulele Club to Parman. The *Escape the Earth Book Club* discussed *Green Mars*, the second book in Kim Stanley Robinson’s award-

winning trilogy. He also facilitated book clubs for Independence Village and The Laurels, both senior communities. On November 12, Mr. Johnson moved to Igo to serve as Manager.

## POTRANCO



Potranco Branch Library welcomed their new Children's Librarian, Robin Alcorta. Robin has worked at Central for the past year. She also has SAPL branch experience at Encino. During late November, Children's Librarian Robin Alcorta hosted two successful pop-up programs. The children responded well to the Lego's program. Children and parents alike enjoyed Robin's "homemade" playdough pop-up program.



Teen Librarian Daniella Toll hosted the first Potranco "Meet & Greet" for teens in the community on November 7th. This was an informal Teen Time where Daniella gathered information on what the teens enjoyed doing. Teens talked and played games and shared lots of information that will be used to design programs.



Adult Services Librarian Matthew Loaiza assisted ITSD and various vendors such as 3M during the installation of new technologies in the branch. The Potranco team was trained on the new laptop dispenser from Laptops Anytime. This technology allows patrons to handle their own laptop checkout using a self-serve model.



Potranco Branch manager Cindy Pope was interviewed on November 3 for Fox's "Where's Cleto" morning segment. Pope spoke with the journalist about the technology that will be available to the new Potranco Branch. Later that day Pope and Assistant Branch Manager Matthew Loaiza shared the branch's many great features with journalist Jennifer Struski from KSAT 12 during a "sneak peek" filming of the Potranco Branch Library and the YMCA.



On November 4<sup>th</sup> the Potranco Branch hosted as many as 2,300 people during the grand opening. In attendance were Mayor Ivy Taylor, Councilman Ray Lopez, SAPL Board Member Lora Eckler, various SAPL Foundation members, and SAPL Director Ramiro Salazar. Patrons played games, made green-screen pictures, and were able to check out materials.



On Saturday November 12, Branch Manager Cindy Pope was interviewed by Renee Santos from Fox San Antonio. Santos was filming a news piece on the expansion on the west side of San Antonio called "Far West Side projected to grow through the course of a decade". Pope commented on the Library's goals to ensure family programming was a top priority response to the Potranco Community.

# PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Children visiting the Pruitt Library have been treated to a variety of fun and informative programs.



During “Pets at the Vet” play and learn toddlers, parents, and caregivers participated in activities including bathing pets, sorting dog bones, feeding pets, singing, and reading about pets.



Babies and toddlers attended the Second Annual Halloween Party and Costume Parade. Children had a fantastic time trick-or-treating around the library, playing games, listening to Halloween stories, and making some awesome crafts.



Children’s Librarian Cynthia Saenz attended the Fall Carnival at Walzem Elementary informing parents, children, and staff members about San Antonio Public Library resources and programs offered at Pruitt Library. Families expressed interest in visiting the library in the future and attending adult, teen, and children’s events.

Tween programs continue to grow in popularity.



The Gaming Club always attracts a crowd. Children enjoy snacks, gaming, and a related craft. This month’s themes included Harry Potter and Minecraft.



The Family Circle Book Club recently discussed the popular title *Zebra Forest* written by Adina Gewirtz. Parents welcomed the opportunity to enjoy a shared literary experience with their child.



Children attending the monthly SPARK Science Program where they studied properties of motion as they listened to a reading of *Move It!: Motion, Forces, and You* written by Adrienne Mason. They also performed some exciting experiments. Attendees are looking forward to the next meeting where they will learn about the rock cycle.

Kids participated in the 75<sup>th</sup> celebration of *Make Way for Ducklings*, the popular children’s book and 1942 Caldecott Medal recipient.



Children listened to the story, made a “duck in a pond” paper plate craft, and were shown an image of the mother duck and her eight ducklings statue located in Boston.



Teen volunteers were instrumental in helping the children's librarian prepare for Come & Go crafts. They not only helped prepare the materials but also manned the station, kept supplies on hand, and helped any children who needed assistance.



During the Teen Library Leadership Committee meeting on Wednesday, November 2, the teens made plans to host The Hour of Code during student lunches on Thursday, December 8.



A Roosevelt High School student is hosting the Teen National Novel Writing Month group in the library. Students are challenged nation-wide to write a novel, or at least 5,000 words, during the month of November. The group met two Tuesdays in October to plan and bounce ideas off of each other. They start their word count on the first day of November and work hard on their novels through November 30.



Family Chess Nights in October and November were attended by 50 to 70 patrons who enjoyed playing chess and eating a delicious catered meal provided by Rackspace Foundation. Through friendly chess games, patrons are improving their thinking skills. Many Family Chess Night attendees have signed up for the upcoming Rackspace Chess Tournament to be held at Pruitt on December 11.



Teen volunteers continue to help librarians and library assistants serve dinner on Family Chess Nights. In doing so, these teens continue to help build and strengthen ties between the Pruitt Library and Roosevelt High School community.



The Core value that shined through in the teen programming in October and November was professionalism. Rae Downen, Pruitt's Teen Librarian, is very proud of the volunteers, and lately many adults, including both staff and patrons, have let it be known how impressed they are with the teens' dedication to the tasks set before them.



The TGIF Adult Book club read *Ender's Game* last month. This science fiction novel won both the Hugo and Nebula Awards. Although science fiction is not the club members' favorite genre, several of them have expressed an interest in trying new things. Whatever the book, the discussion is always lively and thought-provoking.



Tuesday night Zumba classes continue to rev up and inspire participants to improve their physical fitness. Zumba combines upbeat music and a variety of dance routines that keep Pruitt patrons returning for more.

# SAN PEDRO



Children's Librarian Betsy Dalton presented monthly story times to children at Educare Child Care Center (two classes), Laurel Heights Weekday School, and Monte Vista Montessori (two classes). Fifteen to twenty books were also delivered to each child care/preschool class for their use during the month. She also presented a monthly story time to a group of children at Respite Care's shelter and story times to two combined classes at Respite Care Child Care.



The Minecraft Monday Club is continuing throughout the school year. Kids Time is on Wednesday (with the first Wednesday of the month being the very popular LEGO Club). Baby Time is held on Mondays, with the new Toddler Time following immediately afterwards, allowing parents the time to socialize and chat between the programs.



Bags of books on various themes requested by teachers at Bonham Academy, Kipp Poder, Laurel Heights Weekday School, and Monte Vista Montessori were also delivered.



During this period Ms. Dalton facilitated the following book clubs which took place at the respective schools: the Hawthorne Academy third, fourth, and fifth grade book clubs; the Cotton ES 5<sup>th</sup> grade book club; the Beacon Hill AC 5<sup>th</sup> grade book club; the Montessori Monte Vista younger and older book clubs; and the St Anthony's 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade book clubs.

National Jellyfish Day was celebrated on November 5. The children watched jellyfish in action on the iPad and made a jellyfish to take home.



On November 13, a Play and Learn early literacy event was held at San Pedro for young children and their parents. The topic was pets at the vet and one of the very popular stations was the dramatic play area where the children pretended to be vets at a veterinary clinic taking care of some very sick animals!

Carmen Roja set up a book display for Diabetes Awareness Month in November.

Volunteer Rudy Lopez created bulletin boards for the children's and Teen Space bulletin boards.

The Friends of San Pedro Library had their bi-monthly meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 1. Topics on the agenda included a discussion of a branch specific logo, which is still in design mode. The Friends will be hosting a book sale on Saturday, Dec. 3.

# SEMMEES



Early Voting was the big headliner for the month and even though the numbers were in the thousands every day, operations ran smoothly and the overall mood was pleasant. A big thanks goes to the Library Staff as well as to the Election Judges for always working so well together. They make the experience a congenial one.



Ms. Randi hosted a *Make Way for Ducklings* Tea that was very well attended and very well received. Twice! The room full of children and caregivers all sat very properly, sipping their tea and eating their treats while listening to stories. And everybody loved the cookies with the *Make Way for Ducklings* book image printed in icing. Afterwards, everyone got a little crazier and enjoyed crafts and activities, parts of which were done on the patio on a beautiful fall day. Ms. Randi also presented a Play and Learn on October 20<sup>th</sup> called *All About Pets* that was fun and popular. All other story times at the branch continue to be crowd-pleasing and loved, including Outreach at KinderCare.



Jorge Chavez, manager of the new Schaefer branch, brought some of his staff to Semmes to observe branch workflow. The staff area at the two branches is similar, so to see operations “in action” should help once Schaefer is open for business. What a great idea!



The Quarterly Meeting of the Friends of San Antonio Public Library was held at Semmes on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The staff always enjoy being able to host this important meeting.

# THOUSAND OAKS



Children at Thousand Oaks have enjoyed Story Times and Toddler Times by several guest librarians, Jodi Miller from Carver, Christine Deffendall from Memorial, and Carrie Vance from Parman. Topics the kids have experienced are Halloween, hats, and Thanksgiving. Children, parents, and staff are anxiously awaiting a new Children’s Librarian.



Thousand Oaks Teens enjoyed making zoetropes. Zoetropes are one of several pre-film animation devices that produce the illusion of motion by displaying a sequence of drawings or photographs showing progressive phases of that motion. Teen programming at the branch is always changing because the teens are in charge of their programs. Frequently one will find teens reading manga on a tablet, coloring intricate designs, playing board games, engaging each other in video games,

and creating art. During December, the teens created pancake art, board games, a costume contest, and had two birthday celebrations. One of the most exciting outcomes is teens interacting with each other. This time is set aside for them to be able to express their creativity and practice their ability to lead other teens in activities. An exciting part of this month's teen program is the introduction of Theresa Ybarra as the Librarian I in charge of the teen program. She has been involved with teen activities for the past two months as Steven Barrera has taken on the task of Librarian II in charge of adult services.



The October selection for the Northeast Senior Center Book Club was *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George. Several readers commented on the book's slow beginning, but appreciated the author's descriptive writing, giving high praise to the tango scene in particular. While some readers saw the selection as "chick lit", others appreciated the story and characters, with many wishing to meet men such as Jean Perdu. November's selection for the senior book club was Lisa Genova's *Still Alice*, the story of a woman's struggle to deal with early onset Alzheimer's.



For the month of October, the Thousand Oaks Thursday Book Group read *Rosemary: the Hidden Kennedy Daughter* by Kate Clifford Larson. A lively discussion was had by all, as fellow book lovers explored the misfortune of Rosemary's lobotomy. Many in the group recounted their knowledge of various members of the Kennedy family, but most were unaware of Rosemary Kennedy, "the hidden daughter," and the obscurities of her life style. During the discussion, hot tea, fresh lemonade and a homemade apple pie were consumed by all in attendance. Many in the book group departed from the meeting chattering away, while making their way to the checkout counter.



The Thousand Oaks Thursday Book Group was in full swing for November. The participants began the discussion by watching an episode of Kate Andersen Brower discussing her book *The Residence: Inside the Private World of The White House* on C-Span via the Nixon Library. All of the group members thoroughly enjoyed the book, and an animated discourse supervened involving everyone's favorite excerpt from the book. One contributor brought some pictures of the interior of the White House which she shared with the group. A homemade blueberry Bundt cake with lemon icing, and freshly squeezed lemonade, rounded out the discussion.

## TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL



Similar to other sites, Tobin at Oakwell saw heavy turnout for Early Voting from October 24 through November 4. The addition of Thousand Oaks as a new early voting site helped alleviate the long wait times and parking problems from past elections. Remarkably, still over 13,800 folks voted at the branch for this election.



Children’s Librarian Karen Braeuler had a sizable crowd of tweens make funky spiders out of yarn in anticipation of Halloween on October 18. Toddlers, young children and even babies continued the Halloween and fall theme on October 26 – 28 with costume parading through the building for goodies contributed by employees. Ms. Braeuler was invited to attend the Academic Building Dedication and Open House at Garner Middle School to see the extensive two story classroom addition. At Literacy Night at Northwood Elementary, Ms. Braeuler read scary stories to over 40 kids and parents then let them share some of their own stories. On November 16, Ms. Braeuler hosted a table at Oak Grove Elementary Literacy Night where kids made crafts and she shared library services with both parents and children.

Ms. Braeuler created and hosted a special Tween Time coinciding with Jeff Kinney’s newest book *Diary of a Wimpy Kid - Double Down*. Trivia and bingo fun activities relating to everybody’s favorite middle schoolers Greg, Rowley and the gang were held. A viewing of a video from author Jeff Kinney was featured along with refreshments as well.



Assistant Manager Rhonda Woolhouse did an exceptional job as the lead planner and coordinator for all activities for San Antonio Public Library’s booth at the Alamo City Comic Con held at the Convention Center. The event features talent from comic book artists, writers and publishers, along with many actors from favorite movie, television, and pop culture. A significant number of visitors to the Con show up in full costume and posed for photos with the celebs and writers. SAPL’s booth included Dr. Who’s Tardis, a replica of a 1960’s London police box courtesy of Encino Branch Library. The Tardis averaged an incredible 120 photos per hour during the event. Ms. Woolhouse created the schedule for various staff to work the booth which hosted 18 story times and provided a craft where 1,736 wands were made by attendees. Statistics were apportioned between all SAPL staff that helped with the event so Tobin at Oakwell was credited with 5,785 people as an outreach event over four days October 27 – 30. Total attendance at the booth was an astounding 42,500 visitors.



The Tobin’s Writer’s Group held a very successful write-in day in conjunction with San Antonio Writers Guild on November 12. Over 30 authors of all ages, genres and writing categories enjoyed the opportunity to share ideas with a dedicated time and location to write for the day. The group has an impressive fourteen to twenty writers attend their twice monthly meetings. The branch hosted its first Diwali: Festival of Lights on November 15. This event celebrates Indian culture and combines music, dance and storytelling with performances in full costumes with bells on hands and feet while performing. The group, Voices De La Luna, met at the branch for its first monthly poetry writer’s workshop on November 15 with good attendance.



Ms. Elvia Ramos continues hosting teen programs where gaming remains very popular. STEM ideas have been incorporated with about a dozen teens making crafts like a floating ball in mid- air using

a handmade straw. In November, a group of 14 teens enjoyed coloring similar to the adult monthly coloring program offered at the branch.



Thanks to prudent management of SAPL's fiscal resources, staff were able to replace six wooden stools they had been using at service desks with six new chairs. Soudabeh Arvin attended the basic and advanced City of San Antonio Business Writing courses to enhance her professional correspondence skills. Branch personnel continue to help other location's staffing needs like Soudabeh Arvin at Parman's Spooky Walk, Ms. Ramos helping at Westfall's Halloween event and rotating circulation assistance to Brookhollow through the month of October, and Librarian Braeuler at Forest Hills for story time. Manager Tracey Knouse participated in the Library Leadership Retreat in October at Hardeberger Park where strategies were devised and ideas generated for success in future endeavors.



The Drama, Death and Daring Book Club met on October 20 with a good sized group discussing Homer's *Odyssey* and exploring the travels and meaning in this classic title. Paula McLain's *Circling the Sun* was discussed by the Interesting Book Club for November's selection. The fictional story tells the extraordinary adventures of a woman aviator in 1920's Kenya.



Special features of the collection this period have been "Leaf through a good book" (for fall), Veteran's Day in the kids' area, and Diabetes Awareness month with English and Spanish selections, Native American Month, and Thanksgiving books and featured movies.

## WESTFALL



Ghouls, goblins, super heroes, princesses and witches roamed Westfall Branch Library's parking lot on October 23 as the library co-sponsored the Fourth Annual LGBTQ+ Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat with The Center-Pride Center of San Antonio, Human Rights Campaign San Antonio, PFLAG San Antonio and Fiesta Youth.



A record number of trunks signed up this year and members of the San Antonio Police Department joined the activities for the first time. Heroes Inflatables set up a bouncy house and the Tasty Sweets Treats Truck was here.



Library staff set up a come-and-go craft in the meeting room, which had been decorated by library aides Ashley Cortinez and Jackie Salas. About 60 people stopped by to make chenille stem spiders.



Robert Salcido Jr., executive director and board chair of The Center-Pride Center of San Antonio, in an email after the event, wrote: "It is amazing to see how much this event has grown over the last four years. We couldn't have a successful event without our partners, community organizations, businesses and community members who take the time to decorate their trunk and engage with those that attend our events. Lastly, thank you to our volunteers as well as (branch manager) Sherrie Hardin and all the staff at Westfall Branch Library."



In keeping with the spirit of the season, Ms. Hardin helped out at Parman Library at Stone Oak during the Spooky Walk. Children's Librarian Imelda Merino hosted a Halloween Party on Oct. 29 that was attended by 27 people.



Mrs. Merino also participated in Arnold Elementary School's Literacy Night and met with the Wilson Elementary School librarian to discuss collaborations that will result in more students using the public library. Mrs. Merino represented the library at the Healthy Start PreK4SA Fall Festival. In demonstrating teamwork, Mrs. Merino filled in at Forest Hills Library to help out during a staff shortage.



Michelle Rickman, Learn Center training officer, helped with Carver Library's College Fair. Westfall's Learn Center provided one-on-one training to 325 people during October and held five classes attended by 21 people.

Ms. Hardin worked with several other managers to create a Libguide for branch managers, LICs and department heads. She also facilitated discussions of Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall* and Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale* for the Third Thursday Book Discussion Group.



Assistant Branch Manager Jernell Williams led the Stranger Than Fiction Book Discussion Group in talks about *H is for Hawk* by Helen Macdonald and Erik Larson.



Teen Librarian Megan Stanley has regenerated the branch's teen program, with an average of 12 teens coming to Teen Time each week. They cook, play video games, make crafts or just do their homework. Ms. Stanley also has worked to create a space within the library to feature young adult items and to give teen patrons a comfortable place to hang out.

# San Antonio Public Library October 2016 Usage

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	5,655	9,877	9,297	2,337	6,960
Brook Hollow	25,592	35,711	6,195	1,556	4,640
Carver	5,226	11,708	6,567	1,770	4,796
Central	29,453	64,817	50,159	12,754	37,404
Cody	35,858	35,175	8,187	1,646	6,540
Collins Garden	7,656	15,298	9,453	2,096	7,357
Cortez	6,638	12,122	6,139	1,811	4,328
Encino	19,797	29,274	4,961	374	4,586
Forest Hills	8,071	9,067	4,533	1,347	3,186
Great Northwest	32,770	33,267	7,339	1,765	5,574
Guerra	14,535	21,803	6,579	2,243	4,336
Igo	27,439	32,676	7,839	1,258	6,581
Johnston	13,132	21,262	6,383	1,555	4,829
Landa	12,657	12,938	3,110	876	2,233
Las Palmas	6,804	19,777	6,709	1,904	4,805
Maverick	26,422	25,082	7,357	2,231	5,126
McCreless	13,222	21,602	7,261	1,842	5,418
Memorial	7,415	17,431	7,282	1,882	5,400
Mission	13,963	24,195	10,050	2,744	7,306
Pan American	7,876	8,976	4,929	1,593	3,336
Parman	27,901	39,309	6,807	854	5,953
Potranco	0	0	1,554	0	1,554
Pruitt	7,733	22,600	6,154	1,572	4,582
San Pedro	4,267	7,526	4,529	743	3,786
Schaefer	0	0	0	0	0
Semmes	25,603	25,554	7,079	2,125	4,954
Thousand Oaks	11,162	19,592	5,973	1,252	4,722
Tobin	18,763	29,042	5,532	1,565	3,967
Westfall	17,407	15,784	8,398	2,377	6,021
Kampmann Library Portal	N/A	2,019	1,288	N/A	1,288
Interlibrary Loan Lending	772	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	85,406	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	102,619	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>621,814</b>	<b>623,484</b>	<b>227,643</b>	<b>56,073</b>	<b>171,570</b>

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

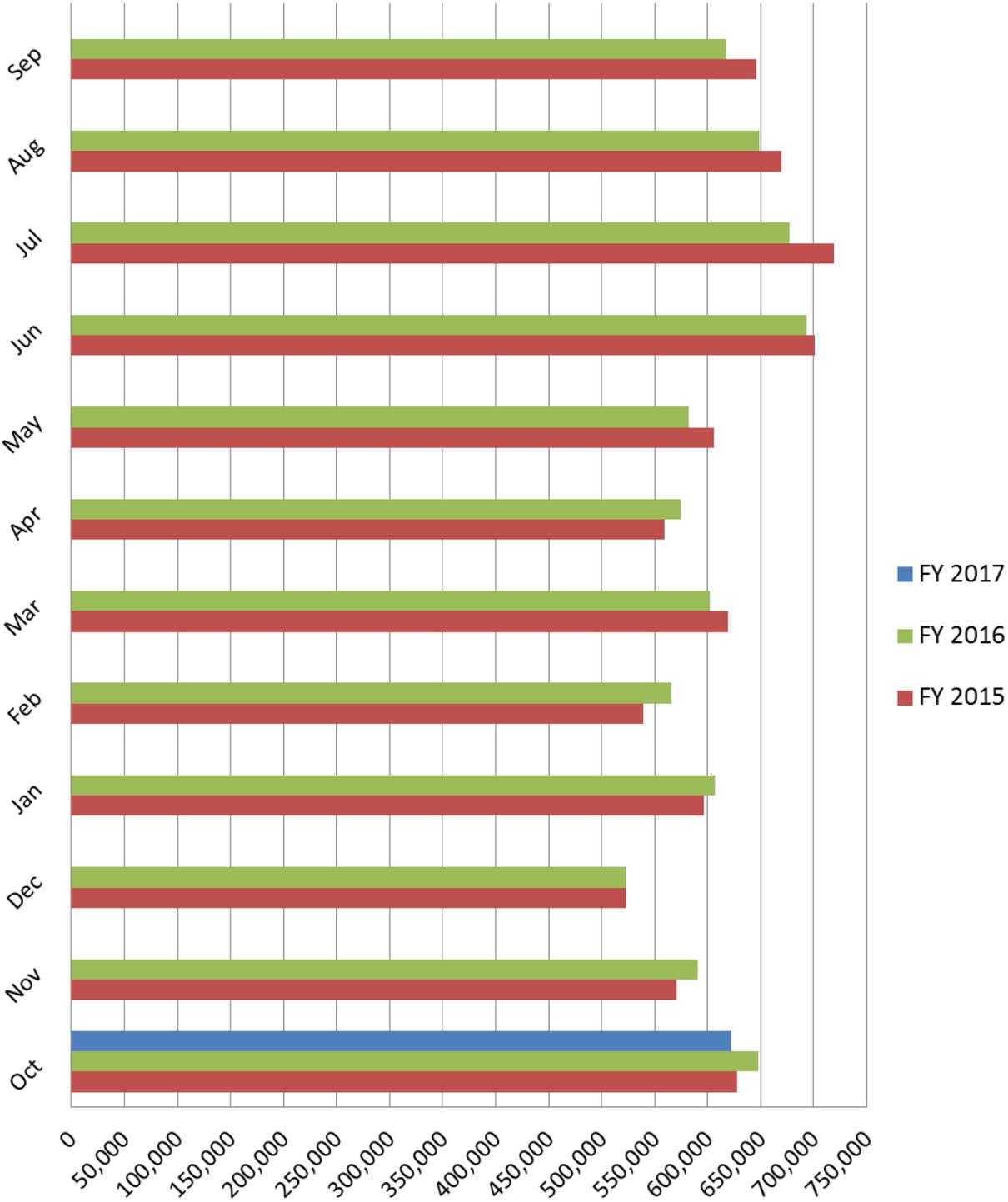
# San Antonio Public Library

## October 2016 Programs and Attendance

Location	Total Programs	Number of Programs			Total Program Attendance	Attendance		
		Adult	Teen	Children's		Adult Programs	Teen Programs	Children's Programs
Bazan	75	33	13	29	701	336	42	323
Brook Hollow	50	10	8	32	966	97	40	829
Carver	51	26	6	19	920	593	28	299
Central	184	26	113	45	4,334	641	2,465	1,228
Cody	46	7	5	34	1,395	71	77	1,247
Collins Garden	26	3	4	19	633	83	49	501
Cortez	126	96	5	25	647	264	85	298
Encino	84	32	9	43	5,192	2,708	52	2,432
Forest Hills	27	14	2	11	509	320	25	164
Great Northwest	35	15	6	14	1,917	186	167	1,564
Guerra	34	11	6	17	764	171	196	397
Igo	76	16	38	22	1,568	166	449	953
Johnston	31	10	8	13	2,031	1,543	172	316
Landa	58	7	14	37	1,748	55	111	1,582
Las Palmas	35	14	9	12	5,083	246	4,720	117
Maverick	35	6	5	24	711	46	55	610
McCreless	17	2	4	11	381	6	22	353
Memorial	26	7	3	16	400	172	13	215
Mission	58	24	10	24	970	271	204	495
Pan American	86	15	5	66	1,735	352	11	1,372
Parman	105	39	7	59	4,704	608	1,234	2,862
Potranco	4	4	0	0	4,700	4,700	0	0
Pruitt	60	11	25	24	1,923	265	865	793
San Pedro	39	0	0	39	361	0	0	361
Schaefer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Semmes	47	3	7	37	793	8	63	722
Thousand Oaks	28	6	4	18	1,555	1,270	49	236
Tobin	50	14	4	32	6,965	5,959	52	954
Westfall	35	8	5	22	473	43	97	333
Kampmann Library Portal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Read Wagon	74	N/A	N/A	74	1,850	N/A	N/A	1,850
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,601</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>55,929</b>	<b>21,180</b>	<b>11,343</b>	<b>23,406</b>

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation



Location Closures

FY 17:

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

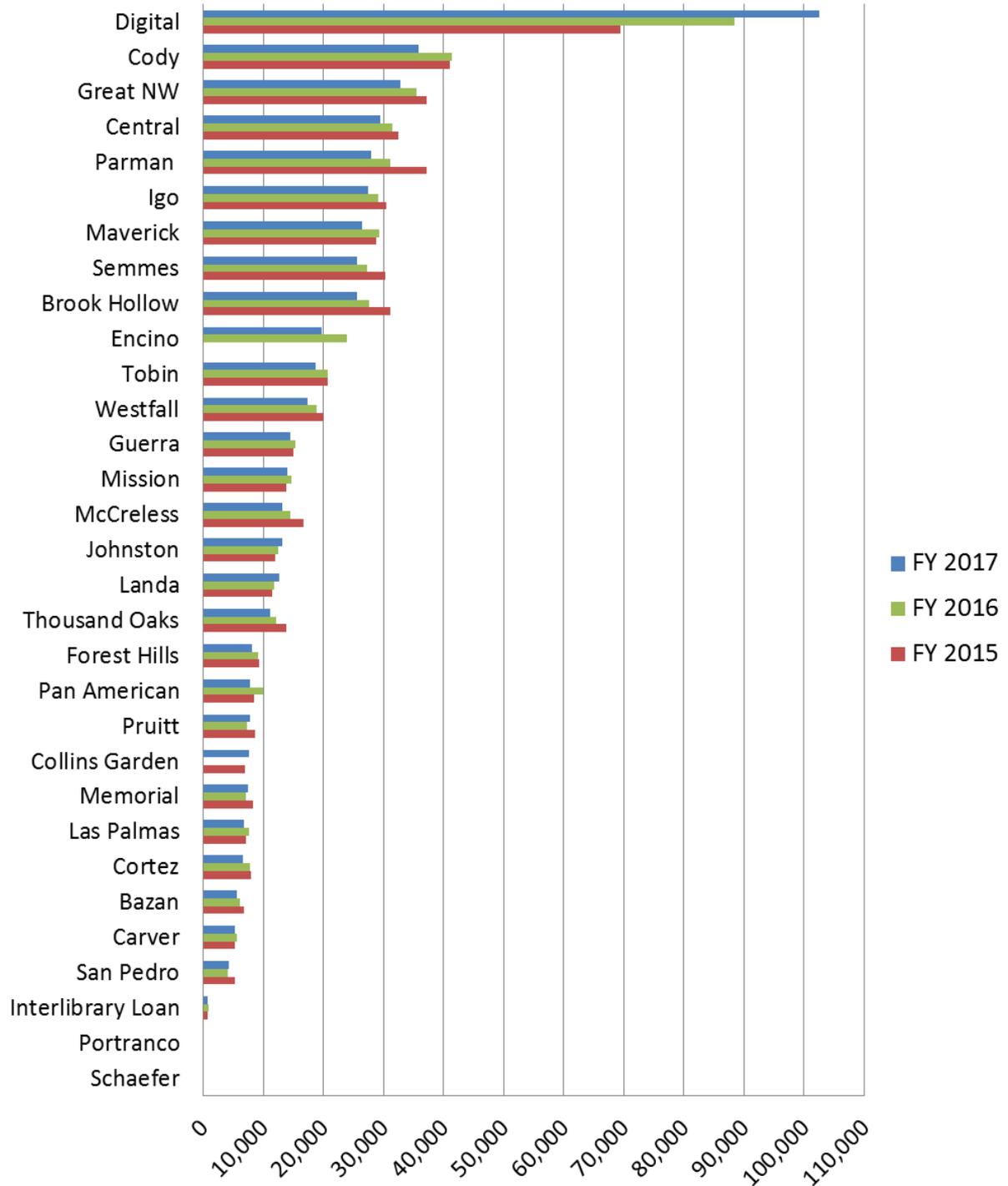
FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, \* Opening: Encino April 30

\* Openings: Potranco Nov 4

11/30/2016

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Oct



Location Closures

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FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

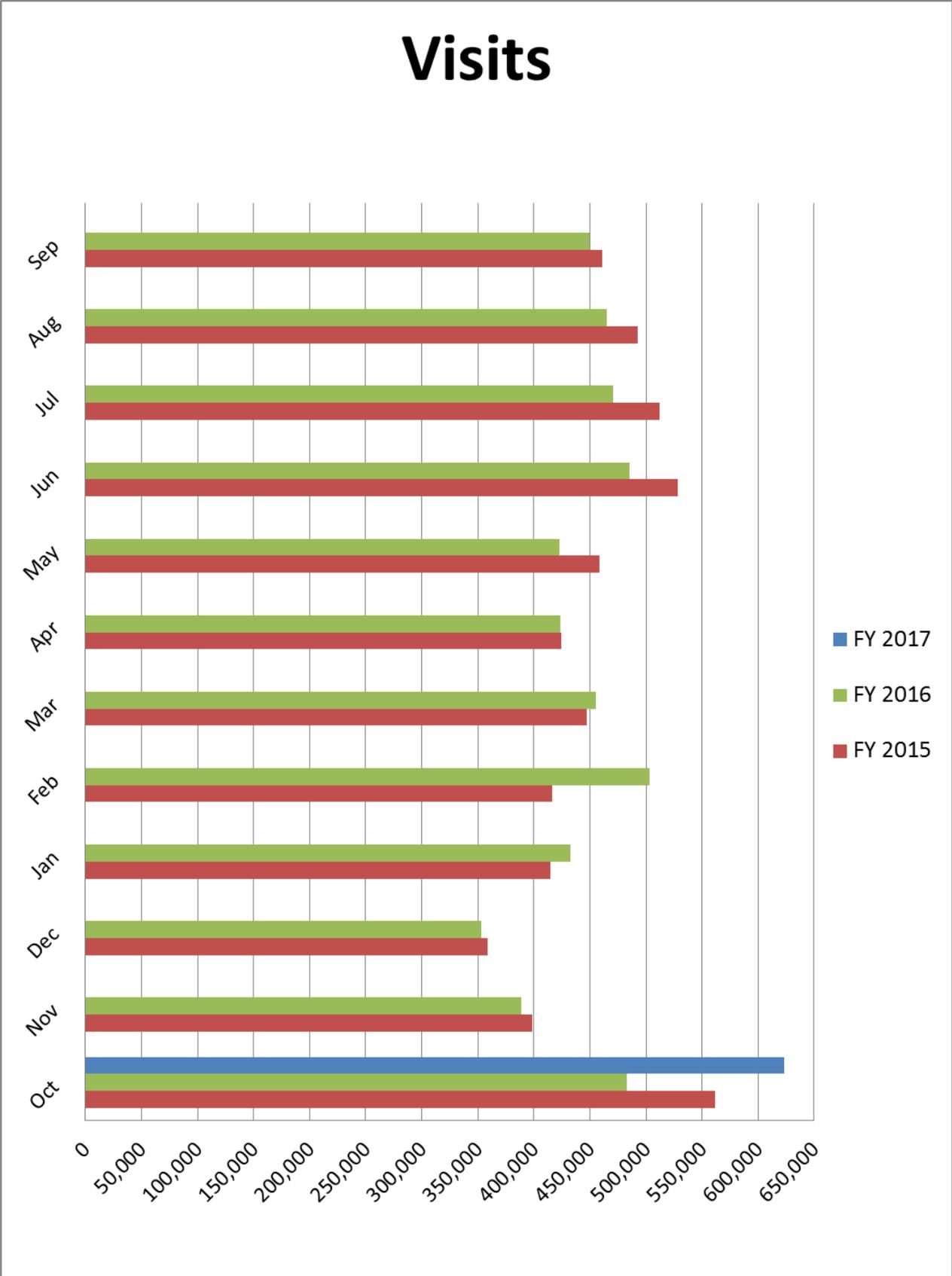
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11/30/2016

# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits



Location Closures

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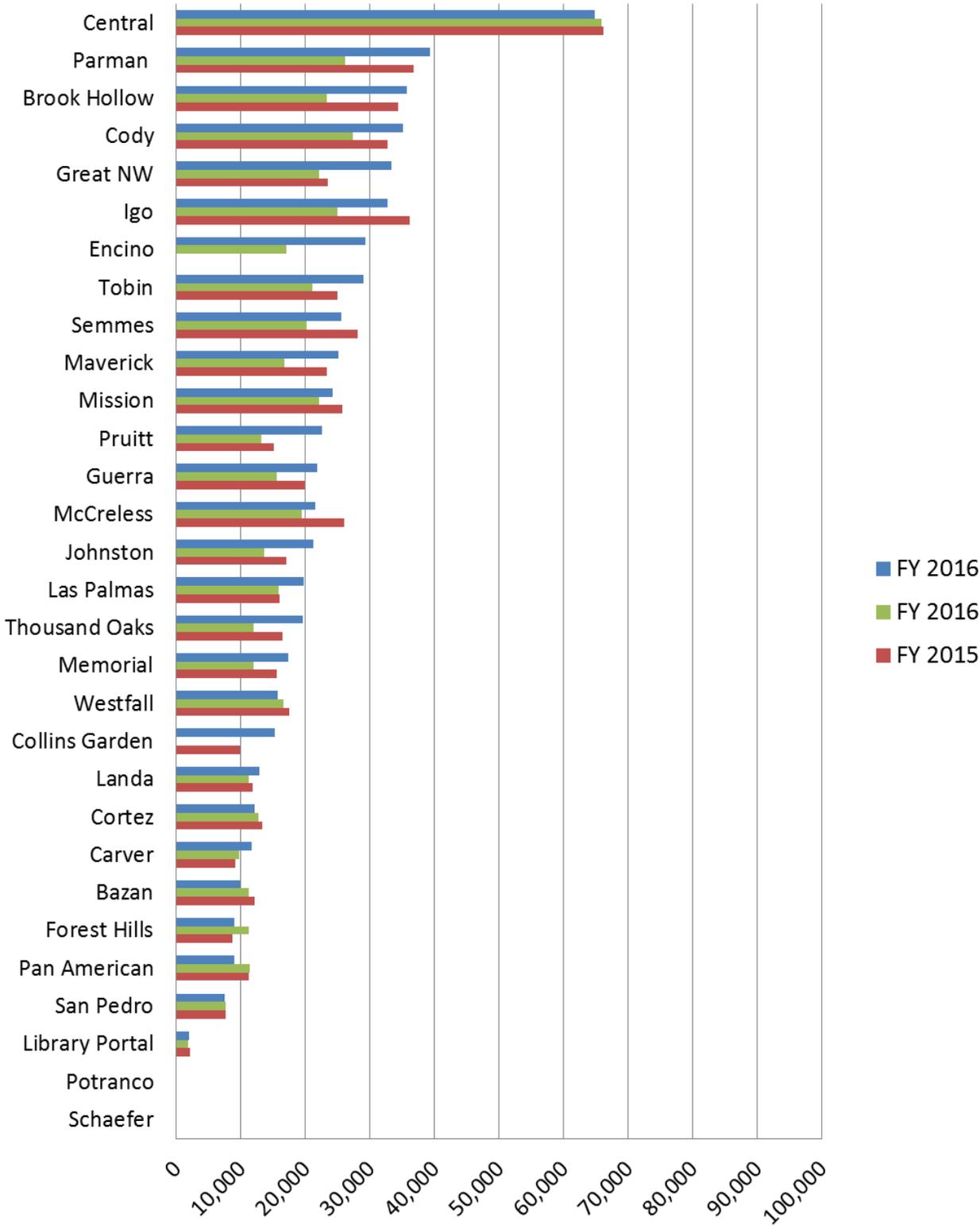
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# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Oct



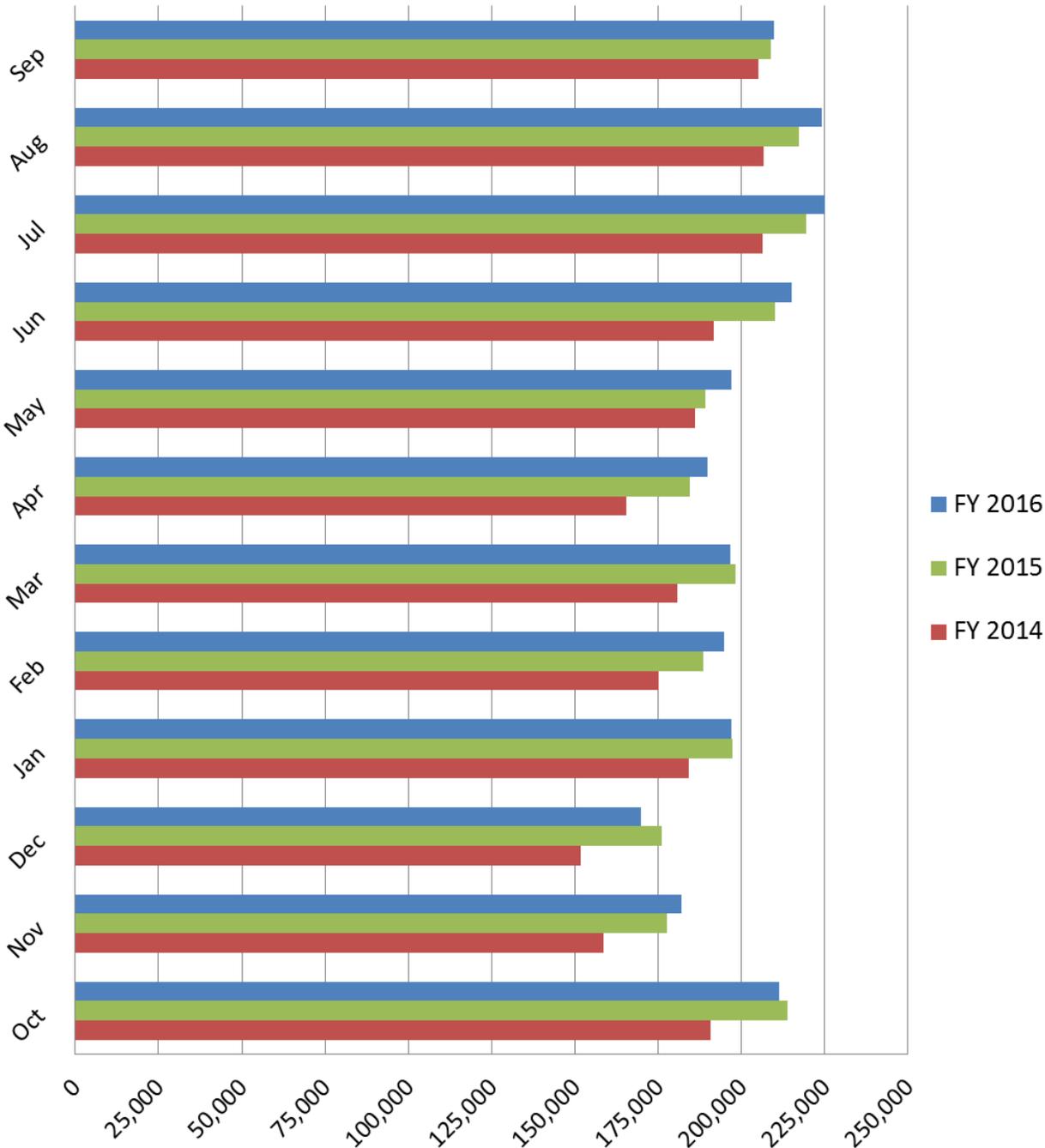
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11/30/2016

# 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 17:

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

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

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11/30/2016