Secretary Julian Castro discusses his newly released memoir *An Unlikely Journey: Waking Up from My American Dream* during a "Meet the Author" event at Central Library on November 16. Serving as moderator is State Representative Diego Bernal. Also pictured is Library Director Ramiro Salazar.

San Antonio Public Library Director’s Report
November 2018
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DIRECTOR’S OFFICE

On December 1, 2018, the Library hosted a Community Information Meeting at the Memorial Branch Library regarding the planned improvements related to the 2017 Bond Program. The project architect, Munoz & Co. facilitated the meeting that included over thirty members of the community in attendance who provided valuable feedback. City Council District 5 Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales attended the meeting and delivered remarks as part of the meeting.

For the November 6, 2018 Joint General, Special, Charter and Bond Election, seventeen Library locations are serving as Early Voting sites and sixteen Library locations served as Election Day voting sites. Early voting took place from October 22, 2018 through Friday, November 2, 2018 and Election Day on November 6, 2018. In total, 204,706 votes were cast in a Library location during Early Voting and Election Day. Public libraries continue to serve a vital role in civic engagement during the elections.

The San Antonio Public Library hosted an author reading and book talk event on November 2, 2018 featuring former Mayor and HUD Secretary Julian Castro at the Central Library to help introduce his new book to the community. The book, An Unlikely Journey, was released on Tuesday, October 6, 2018. State Representative Diego Bernal served as moderator for the event. The Library partnered with NowCastSA to livestream to discussion.

MARKETING

Top media hits for the past month:

- SAPL was mentioned over a dozen times related to Voter Registration Day. All television stations as well as radio outlets reported about Voter Registration Day.
- KENS5 and WOAI News 4 reported about the Uniform 300 Opening Reception at Central Library and participation branch exhibits.
- Library Director, Ramiro Salazar was featured in SAC Alumni Magazine
- San Antonio Magazine included the Library on The San Antonio Bucket List, 58 things every true San Antonio must do—at least once.

The design team has created materials to prepare for several programs, events and other design support: Staff Art Show materials, Yule Ball materials, Meet the Author/Artist: David Martin Davies and Hector Garza materials, Learn at SAPL Anthology, Meet the Author: Julian Castro materials, Catrina Ball signage, Art Sparks (Flyers, Digital Signage, invite, wall cling, name tags), Spooky Fiction Web Banner, Forensic Science (Flyers, Digital Signage, unique pencils, Pin buttons), Forest Hills 80s 30th Anniversary (Digital Signage, Flyers, Invite, unique pencil holder invite, badge pins), Friends Arts & Letters Award Poster, Every Child Ready to Read Brochure/Posters, Digital Inclusion— Facebook, digital invite and t-shirt w/quotes, Learn–Designed In Our Words Cover for Booklet, Invite Incubator Idea logos/web page, PageMarketers for RSS.

The team is currently planning for December Our Family Reads, Memorial and McCreless bond project community information meetings scheduled for December 1 and December 15, respectively.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:
Over 27,400 Facebook users were reached, related to SAPL content post during the reporting period.
There were 15,500 organic impressions on Twitter during the reporting period. (Organic impressions represent the number of unique people who saw your content.)
There was a total of 590 likes on Instagram this reporting period.
The number of organic impressions per Tweet increased by 117.8% during this reporting period.

Social Media statistics for the month:

1. Facebook: 16,697 page likes
2. Twitter: 4,573 followers
3. Instagram: 3,045 followers
4. Snapchat: 290 followers

DIGITAL SERVICES

Digital Library Services Assistant Andrea Silva coordinated the Digital Services partnership with the Organization Health Unit to provide a new opportunity for staff members to receive recognition for achievement, training and participation in sponsored events. Recognition comes by way of digital badges, added to a staff member’s profile on the staff web after reaching a milestone. The project was formally launched on the staff web on November 14.

Coordinator of Digital Services Ron Suzsek and Digital Library Services Tricia Masterson met with the Marine Corp Library Program Manager to discuss the San Antonio Public Library’s experience with the LibBox media dispenser.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parent—Little Read Wagon was especially busy during this reporting period. Family specialists from Northeast Independent School District took time last May to put Little Read Wagon presentations on their calendars for this year. Early literacy workshops were presented at the following elementary schools, with a few more scheduled in December and January: Serna, Windcrest, Olmos, Colonial Hills, Larkspur, and Royal Ridge.

School librarians in Southwest ISD also have been very deliberate about scheduling Little Read Wagon workshops. Staff visited Medio Creek, Hidden Cove, Big Country, and Spicewood Park elementary schools.

November is “Literacy Month” for Parent Child Incorporated. Little Read Wagon staff presented at parent meetings at these Head Start and Early Head Start centers: Place for Life, Southwest High School, West Hutchins, Hernandez, Lost Creek, Kindred, and Imperial.

More workshops were offered at Community Development Institute (Head Start), Pre-K 4SA West, Pre-K 4SA South, Oak Hills Terrace Elementary, Gonzales ECEC, Oak Meadow Elementary, Nelson ECEC, Carrillo Elementary, and Palo Alto Elementary.
Services to Pregnant and Parenting Teens—Northeast, Northside, Harlandale, and San Antonio independent school districts invited Little Read Wagon staff to the following campuses: Harlandale, LEE, Tejeda, Jefferson, Burbank, Brackenridge, Jay, Stevens, and Healy Murphy.

Outreach Story Time Programs—Navarro Early Childhood Center is one of few sites that receive continuous outreach story time service. Short-term story time service was offered at: World of Knowledge, St. John Bosco, and Inman Center.

Play & Learn—The Play & Learn series at Southside Lions Park concluded November 7 with yet another cloudy day. The weather throughout the series was mostly cloudy and damp. Many families chose to come out and play even when it was a bit chilly. The team hopes that the series at Northridge Park will benefit from more sunshine.

Reading Village—The Reading Village made a one-time stop at Olmos Elementary. Pre-K families were lined up in the hallway waiting to come out to enjoy the tents. The following early childhood centers had the Reading Village for four days each, Tuesday through Friday: Carroll, Tynan, and Nelson.

Workshops for Professionals—Elizabeth Huber presented a workshop on bilingual and Spanish picture books at the October 27 Voices for Children Early Childhood Training and Resource Fair at Northwest Vista College.

Building Connections—Little Read Wagon staff represented the San Antonio Public Library at the following community events: Baby Buggy Walk, Healthy Start East Baby Shower, South San ISD Community Family Night, Children’s Shelter Family Fun Night, Department of Family and Protective Services Kinship Celebration, and Trunk or Treat with Metro Health Healthy Start East.

Cindi Catlin, Director of University Presbyterian Children’s Center, offered Little Read Wagon staff a tour of the facility with emphasis on their nature based play areas. Cresencia Huff attended Ready Kid SA meeting focused on defining kindergarten readiness and preliminary results of the Early Development Instrument administered to kindergarten students throughout Bexar County. Clair Larkin made a brief presentation at the meeting of the Bexar County School Age Parenting Advisory Council. Ms. Larkin also attended the State of Texas Children 2018: San Antonio Kids Count Breakfast Briefing.

System-wide support—Julia Lazarin, Ms. Larkin, and Ms. Huff assisted with Landa Boo! by monitoring activities and bringing tables and other materials.

CHILDREN’S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Special Event: 123 Andrés—By far the most energetic event of the month occurred on October 21 at the Cortez Branch. Children’s musical duo 123 Andrés visited the branch for a Sunday afternoon family concert that had parents and grandparents singing and dancing along with their children in both English and Spanish.

This concert marked the third visit 123 Andrés
has made to San Antonio Public Library. Previous presentations occurred at Central (January 2017) and at Mission (September 2017). All three concerts were loads of fun -- in fact -- there were families at Cortez that mentioned that had enjoyed them all.

Special Event: Halloween Parties—Twenty-one library locations hosted children’s Halloween Parties between October 24 and October 31. These events featured stories that were not too scary, crafts that were not too tricky and treats that were not too sticky. To add to the fun, the Cody Branch set up their green screen and took photos of children in costume against Halloween backdrops – resulting in pictures that were a little bit sweet and a little bit scary!

TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Partnership/Fiesta Youth—Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) continued to meet and collaborate with Erica Alcocer (Youth Facilitator, Fiesta Youth) in regards to partnership programming between Teen Services at the San Antonio Public Library and Fiesta Youth. With programs already in place for the remainder of this year, Loaiza and Alcocer are currently exploring how to best offer continuous partnership programming throughout 2019 and beyond. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Alcocer was unable to provide sensitivity training for Teen Services staff during the October Teen Services meeting, but there are plans to offer the training in early 2019.

Off-Site Service—Several Teen Services Librarians and Liaisons staffed Northside ISD’s second annual NERDVANACON, an event dedicated to encouraging awareness and appreciation of the artistic and literary depth of anime, manga, and graphic art, and educating students about possible careers in these fields. Teen Services hosted multiple booths during the event: virtual reality experiences featuring the Oculus Rift and the Oculus Go; a Super Smash Bros. tournament with 32 participants; a button making station; a green screen photo op; and a cosplay repair station! Teens and their families were able to explore these technologies while also learning about teen programs, events, and services throughout the system. A special thanks goes out to Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central), Stephanie Vazquez (Teen Services Librarian, Great Northwest), Emily Young (Teen Services Librarian, Mission), Georgina Salinas (Assistant Manager/Teen Services Librarian, Bazan), Marisa DeBow (Teen Services Liaison, McCreless), Cassandra Garza (Teen Services Liaison, Pan American),
Mary Lou Bleichwehl (Teen Services Liaison, Maverick), Lisa Leandro (Teen Services Liaison, Potranco) and J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) for helping plan and staff the event.

**Off-Site Service**—Adam Tutor, Teen Outreach Specialist for the system, visited several high schools during the reporting period:

**Memorial HS – October 16**—Adam Tutor joined Memorial High School for a full week of day-long engagement and connection with teens from sophomores to seniors. This was a unique outreach, as it was the first time to display Teen Services’ new portable recording studio in a more formal setting, and offer a more hands-on approach to how to enjoy the SAPL’s vast resources for teens.

Adam did this by creating unique beats and songs via the program Garage Band, sharing it with teens, and then inviting them to contribute to the song with live instruments/vocals. Over the course of the visit, teens created their own songs using the keyboard, recorded an official theme song for Jefferson Library, and participated in a live improvised session including guitar, violin, and trombone. The music also got the teachers and librarian engaged and culminated in the whole library clapping along as if a true concert were underway.

**Whittier MS- October 22-24**—Adam joined Daniella Stoll (Teen Services Librarian I, Westfall Library) for a visit with 6th, 7th, and 8th graders at Whittier Middle School. After a full library presentation by Daniella sharing resources, volunteer opportunities, and more, Adam engaged with teens in the creation of music with Teen Services’ portable recording studio.

The highlight of the visit was witnessing a full live production with talented mariachi students, who collaborated with band members to perform a spontaneously beautiful piece of music. The feeling was that this moment would lead to a deeper connection and partnership with the public library.

**Harlandale HS - October 26**—Adam spent the lunch periods showcasing the unique aspects of Teen Services’ portable recording studio, inviting interested teens to step into “the booth” and create their own beats and music. Teens showed sincere interest, became energized by the possibilities available at the Teen Library @ Central, and inspired one another to the creative process.

**Off-Site Service**

Core4STEM @ Freeman Coliseum w/ San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce – November 6-7—Adam Tutor co-led a partnership with nonprofit San Antonio Sound Garden (SASG) to showcase the library’s recording studio as part of the SAHCC’s Core4STEM Day at Freeman Coliseum. An event that impacted more than a thousand teens over the two days, Core4STEM highlighted the cross-section of STEM with local industry.

Adam’s presentation alongside local musician and sound engineer Edwin Stephens, discussed the foundations of music, the fundamentals of production, and allowed middle school students the opportunity to engage hands-on with producing a song in less than an hour.

Teens were completely inspired by the process, and stepped fully into the creation, which resulted in several powerful songs that will be used by the SAHCC in their promo and recap videos for Core4STEM. The San Antonio Public Library was championed as a place for teens to continue their production work and create music, which caught the ears of aspiring young musicians and the school administration alike.
Girls Inc. – November 10—Adam’s presentation alongside local musician and sound engineer Edwin Stephens, discussed the foundations of music, the fundamentals of production, and allowed the teen girls of Girls Inc. to understand how the arts and STEM are connected.

Professional Development—Led by Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central), the Teen Services Convention & Outreach Workgroup met on November 14, 2018 to discuss the success of NERDVANACON, specifically focusing on the large-scale presence that Teen Services had at the event. The workgroup also discussed Teen Services’ upcoming presence at PokéFest SA, created a growing list of potential convention/outreach opportunities through May 2019, and discussed portable technologies and equipment that could potentially be purchased for future outreaches.

System-wide Support—During the reporting period, Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) served on interview panels for the Teen Outreach Specialist as well as the Senior Public Information Officer positions. Loaiza also assisted with the green screen photo op at Landa Branch Library’s Halloween event, “Landa Boo.”

System-wide Support—Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) was selected by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation to represent the Potranco Branch Library in an upcoming video. Loaiza sat down for an interview with John Phillip Santos (a freelance filmmaker, producer, journalist, author, Rhodes Scholar) to discuss the importance of the Foundation’s support for Potranco’s innovative technologies, such as the laptop dispenser and holds locker.

Programming—The annual Teen Arts Fest event took place at the Central Library on Saturday, November 3. J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) and Georgina Salinas (Teen Services Librarian II, Bazan Library) organized the event (in coordination with a committee comprised of teen librarians and liaisons from around the system).

J.D. and Georgina appeared on the SAPL podcast to promote Teen Arts Fest, and they visited several schools and youth-serving organizations during the reporting period, including: Taft High School, Marshall High School, Cornerstone Christian Schools, Brennan High School, East Central High School, the NISD Fine Arts Director, Artpace, and local artist Alex Rubio.

Staff Teambuilding Activity—The Teen Library staff enjoyed a lunch out together on October 19, followed by an Improv workshop led by Library Assistant J.D. Elizondo. The staff all had a great time during the activity, and the activity truly felt like a teambuilding exercise. Thanks to J.D. for volunteering to lead this activity and demonstrating his knowledge of this interesting and fun skill. Thanks also to Organizational Health for providing funds for this activity!

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

As part of the library’s Meet the Author Series, former San Antonio mayor and Secretary of Housing Julian Castro was interviewed about his new memoir “An Unlikely Journey” by State Representative Diego Bernal. Following the discussion, Castro signed copies of his book for attendees. The Library was honored to host Secretary Castro and to give members of the public an intimate experience with a local leading political figure.
The Adult Services librarians are currently planning a special after hours event to be hosted at the Central Library on December 8 from 6 to 9pm. The Harry Potter inspired Yule Ball will include music and dancing along with ballroom dance lessons. In addition, participants can make a wand, take part in an escape room, and spend time with magical creatures including live owls.

As part of the Shark Tank session at Staff Transformation Day, Carye Bye, Library Aide at the Central Library, proposed starting a Zine collection. Zines are self-published works of original content usually limited in production. A committee has been formed and met to discuss collecting zines for public use, staff training, and programming featuring zines and their creation. The Library was able to purchase some local zines at the San Anto Zine Fest held at Central Library in October.

The Re-Visionaries recently conducted a follow up survey to their initial 2017 Operation Transformation survey of staff. Members of the group held 45 meetings with staff encouraging them to give feedback and to take the survey. 435 staff members took the survey. The results are being tabulated and will be shared with staff in December. The group will also be rolling out a new system for staff to implement new ideas for their locations and the system. The Idea Incubator will be a place where proposals can be submitted and for all staff to see their coworkers ideas.

Coordinator of Services to Adult Haley Holmes represented the library at Gemini Ink’s annual Inkstravaganza Gala. This year celebrated Gemini Ink’s 25th anniversary. Ms. Holmes also attended the 2nd Digital Inclusion Summit which featured panel discussions about San Antonio’s digital divide and the future of digital inclusion in the City.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN’S

The highlight of the season was the successful Halloween Party, with over 140 attendees. Librarian Nicole Cubillas coordinated the large event, developed the activities, and delegated tasks so that the entire Central Children’s team came to play key roles in the experience. Families enjoyed a variety of Halloween-themed crafts, including spiders made from their own hand prints, wearable paper bat rings, and a collaborative spooky night sky collage. Each child received a treat bag of candy and enjoyed the special musical performance by a local group of Suzuki-trained violin students. The group featured children of all ages dressed in Halloween costumes while playing a variety of tunes to accompany the festivities. The group also led the Halloween costume parade. The fun continued with the spooky sensations of touching cooked spaghetti and other strange substances, and watching jack-o-lanterns erupt in a foaming, exothermic chemical reaction.

Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin presented engaging Play & Learn and Toddler Time programs this month. She shared the “Barnyard Buddies” Play & Learn kit that was being presented across the system. The “pig painting” activity using brown paint and sand was a big hit with the toddlers. Ms. Seglin created a lively transportation-themed program with toy cars of all kinds wheeling over “roads” made from felt and bubble wrap. Children experienced dramatic play with a large cardboard fire truck and school bus. Halloween was celebrated at Toddler Time with bean bags tossed into a pumpkin, tunnel play with monster puppets, and the gooey sensory experiences of green cooked spaghetti and slime. The
highlight of the event was costume parade which also included the participation of several disguised staff members from other work units, including library administration. Ms. Seglin featured the important toddler topic of potty training for one series of programs. After sharing stories like Polar Bear’s Underwear, she led the group in imaginative play with baby dolls in diapers, and using the cardboard washing machine to “wash” felt underwear and socks and hang them on a clothesline. Parents eagerly took home potty training books shared on display. The month wrapped up with jungle-themed programs. Children created miniature jungles with broccoli florets, green play dough and plastic jungle animals. They also contributed to a giant jungle collaborative collage using multi-colored die cuts and clippings from animal magazines.

Ms. Cubillas presented Bilingual Story Times to a preschool audience this month. She shared stories and songs with an autumn theme and encouraged children to “cook” their hand-made play dough tortillas and create a “stew” from plastic vegetables in a sensory bin. The highlight of the program was harvesting real cranberries, floating in a shallow kiddie pool. In celebration of Halloween, children played dress up with a variety of other costume options for dramatic play. After making play dough Halloween “cookies,” they played with green slime and a sensory bin full of plastic spiders and eyeballs. Ms. Cubillas highlighted the Día de los Muertos holiday with bilingual stories and a collaborative art activity that involved filling a tree with happy family memories written on paper leaves. Children also worked together to build a giant, floor-sized skeleton puzzle. Manager Kate Simpson and Program Manager for the Latino Collection and Resource Center Emma Hernández, collaborated to present a Bilingual Story Time about seasons. They took turns reading stories in Spanish and English and led the group in fishing for apples from a leaf-filled kiddie pool and making a fall wreath craft. For her Thanksgiving program, Ms. Cubillas introduced the sensory experience of play dough “pumpkin pie baking,” and a “Stuff the Turkey” toss game.

Librarian Lea Ann McDonald continued to create unique Family Fun experiences for families visiting on Saturdays. She featured African American artists with a slideshow of modern artists, illustrators, poets, authors and their works. Children then created a collage using mixed media materials and used it as inspiration for writing a poem. In the spirit of Halloween, Ms. McDonald created a program all about spiders. She led the group in a “Friend or Foe?” interactive guessing game about spiders and allowed children the opportunity to examine real spider specimens preserved in acrylic. A special STEM activity involved drawing spiders on foil with dry erase markers, adding water, and watching the drawings magically lift from the foil and “race” across the water. The families also enjoyed weaving spider webs from yarn. When presenting stories about animals that hibernate, children engaged in a cozy craft - making a bed for a bear, and a collaborative mural featuring animals and their hibernation places such as burrows and caves. Ms. McDonald highlighted the hobby of “collecting” by sharing all kinds of collections to inspire children to follow their interests and gain knowledge on subjects and learn skills like classification and observation. Staff also brought in their collections of coins, Fiesta medals, rocks and memorabilia. This was a fun team-building experience that also made for an enriching children’s program.

The Central Children’s department was excited to host a visit from over 40 families from PreK4SA centers across the city, in partnership with PreK4SA family engagement leaders. Ms. Simpson, Ms. McDonald and Library Assistant Ana Sandoval shared a variety of activities meant to introduce them to the library in fun ways. In addition to two story times presented by Ms. Simpson and Ms. McDonald, families enjoyed making hats decorated with paper fall leaves, engaging in imaginative play with forest animal puppets, contributing to a collaborative forest scene collage, hunting for hidden shapes in the picture book shelves, and reading together in the cozy tents in the “reading village.” The visit was shared on social media with family selfies taken under the Chihuly Fiesta Tower.
Ms. McDonald went to the Landa Branch Library to present Baby Time and Toddler Time. She incorporated music and movement, rhymes, lap bounce, and toy time with stories for the large group of families in attendance. She experienced important professional growth from presenting early childhood programs to a large audience.

Ms. Cubillas and Library Assistant Judith Slaughter visited Robert B. Green Elementary School to participate in their Career Day event. They shared “day in the life” stories with students about what it’s like to work at the Central Library.

Central Children’s department staff continued their monthly outreach visits. Ms. Seglin shared Halloween stories and songs with students in two classes at Madison Square Child Development Center, where she delivered several bags of books with seasonal themes in support of the school’s curriculum. Ms. Seglin initiated a new outreach relationship with the SA Youth Poplar Center where she delivered 5 sets of high interest books for various grade levels. Ms. Cubillas worked with administrators at Central Christian Childcare Center to select and deliver books for use in their classrooms. Ms. McDonald visited Green Acres Child Care Center where she shared stories and songs with the children. She also continued the new relationship with The Discovery School, delivering them another set of specially selected books relating to their lesson plans this month. Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez visited the San Antonio College Early Childhood Center and read Thanksgiving stories to two classes of children. She also dropped off books for the groups to enjoy all month.

Manager Kate Simpson attended an event at KLRN studios in the absence of Children’s Services Coordinator Viki Ash in support of a new PBS initiative, KLRN’s Learning Neighborhood. Representatives from an array of educational institutions and non-profit organizations spent the morning discussing the unique make-up of San Antonio and the challenges educators face in addressing needs of the city’s children. The results of these discussions will help inform the community involvement and programming for KLRN’s Learning Neighborhood.

TEENS

TEEN LIBRARY @ CENTRAL

Mondays with J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant): J.D. continued to facilitate Eclectic Electric music programming in the Teen Library’s recording studio. Teens are invited to play instruments for fun and/or for school practice and record their music if they wish. With J.D. facilitating, teens have been planning and creating the annual Teen Library Haunted House.

Tuesdays with Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager): The latest Nintendo Switch game to get all the attention is “Super Mario Party,” which brings tabletop gaming to the big screen. Full of friendly competition, teens are able to work together with their peers during select mini-games while also strategizing on how to grab first place in the end. Apart from the normal racing mode in “Mario Kart 8 Deluxe,” teens have also excitedly tackled the game’s “Battle Mode” which places players into opposing teams as they work through various tasks (such as collecting the most coins).
Apart from console gaming, teens are still fanatical with “Unstable Unicorns,” and new expansion packs only add to the madness. But a new type of animal has also taken the Teen Library @ Central by storm through an indie game titled “Exploding Kittens.” Whereas teens scramble to create an army of unicorns in “Unstable Unicorns,” the goal of “Exploding Kittens” is to avoid collecting an exploding kitten. Of course, after playing multiple rounds, teens quickly found out that this is easier said than done.

Teens are still requesting “Fortnite” programming, and Loaiza is actively working with Ron Suszek (Digital Services Coordinator) and Jennifer Velasquez (Coordinator of Teen Services) to make this a reality for future programs.

Dungeons & Dragons—The Dungeons & Dragons teen group at the Teen Library @ Central continues to meet every Sunday in hopes of becoming heroes at the end of their adventure.

- Wednesdays with Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT)—Every Wednesday evening, Ciana facilitates technology programming in the lab in the Teen Library to assist teens with designing 3D models to print and finding printed models online. She also facilitates use of the Oculus Rift, a Virtual Reality headset loaded with games for teens.

- Live @ Teen Central with Adam Tutor (3rd Wednesday of each month)—This program provides a behind the scenes look at local singer/songwriters, producers, and bands that are actively creating music as a part of their living. They are coming into the Teen Library’s professional recording studio to perform a live concert, share stories about their creative process, and engage with teens in an organic jam session or musical lesson. Teens will come away with new musical skills, practical resources for contributing to the creative program, and inspiration from top artists in our city.

- On October 17, Adam brought out local hip hop artist and music educator Rich YR to Teen Central for the latest edition of Live @ Teen Central. Rich YR brought with him powerful stories of growing up as a mariachi student in San Antonio, and discussed his transition into the SA music scene as a producer and hip hop artist. He carefully displayed the creative process live, and showcased one of his latest productions.

The highlight of the program was witnessing the interest he piqued in a budding hip hop teen, who even stepped up to practice his skills with Rich YR’s support. The educational moment was palpable, as the young man opened up his heart and mind to a new way of seeing his art, and even found a new teacher in Rich YR.

- Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant)—Teens engaged in craft times on Thursday nights at Teen Library, participating in activities that ranged from nutritional habits, fun with food, new hands-on skills, and peer-to-peer encouragement. Rounding out Halloween time, teens used pretzels and chocolate to make spider webs, then traced spiders from templates using chocolate. Using old glass jars, stones, sand, wire, tape and clay, teens created graveyard terrariums. One teen found a more practical use for her jar and sand, creating a new home for her pet scorpion, even making a water dish out of the clay.

- Fulfilling the nutrition lesson for October (for the San Antonio Food Bank’s sponsorship requirements), teens learned of a new way to create a flour-less crust for pizza, substituting riced cauliflower, shaping it and topping it with a variety of fresh and healthy toppings. One teen, having never
tasting cauliflower before, said he enjoyed it immensely, and with the familiarity of a teen favorite (pizza!), it was a smooth introduction.

In celebration of Fall and cooler weather and the approaching Thanksgiving holiday, teens joined in programs utilizing the sights and scents of the season. Using brownies, piping leaves out of frosting, acorns made out of Hershey’s Kisses and mini Nilla wafers, teens fashioned tree bark out of food.

Fulfilling the nutrition lesson for the month of November, teens made an infused water incorporating apples and cinnamon as a reminder that even in cold months, they still need to stay hydrated. While the flavors made a splash with some teens, others expected something different. Teens used pie crusts, sliced apples, and raisins to make mini apple pies, some shaping theirs as turkeys, feathering red and green apple slices and covering them with pieces to represent the turkey body. They then used pompom makers and beads to create pompom hedgehogs.

After most Thursday night food and craft times, teens request a gaming system, where they engage in some friendly competition. Pictures of Thursday night programs at Teen Library, as well as other fantastic system-wide teen programs, can be found at http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary and also http://www.instagram.com/210teenlibrary.

Tours and Groups

On October 29, several 7th and 8th grade classes from the MLK Academy visited the Central Library for a tour of Central and the Teen Library.

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

Classes from The Henry Ford Academy also made regular visits to the Teen Library to use computers for homework and research.

REFERENCE

To recognize and celebrate October’s theme of “community diversity” for Our Family Reads: The Mayor’s Book Club, Reference staff hosted The World of Origami: Experience Japanese Paper Art. A presenter from the East Asia Institute, UTSA demonstrated how to create origami flamingos and jack-o’-lanterns. Attendees enjoyed learning about different aspects of Japanese culture.

For an adult STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) event, Reference staff organized Stouts and STEM – the Science of Beer Making, a program that explored the history and chemistry of beer. Presenters from San Antonio Cerveceros, a local brewing club, explained the germination process and the difference between bacteria and yeast in the fermentation process. Attendees were introduced to yeast farming and the history of India Pale Ale (I.P.A.), a beer sent to British troops in India in the late eighteenth century.
Staff hosted a very well-attended screening of the movie, *Rampage*, a 2018 action/adventure starring Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson. The movie is based on a popular arcade video game from the 1980’s and elicited plenty of “ooo’s” and “ahhh’s” due to the many special effects, and a plot that kept the heroes in near constant peril.

Reference staff played an important role in the recent election cycle by providing pertinent information to old and new voters. Many stories can be shared, but one stands out as especially heartwarming. One customer, who was voting for the first time in fifty years, received a *League of Women Voters Guide* and was grateful for staff assistance in finding candidate information and her polling location on Election Day. While at the Central Library the customer also encouraged her daughter to vote for the first time.

A new display promoting and celebrating acts of kindness greets visitors as they enter the Library. Donna Borel (Library Assistant) was inspired to create the Display to honor World Kindness Day (November 13) and to highlight this form of positive activism. The display was decorated with free bookmarks and posters from the *Random Acts of Kindness Foundation* and enhanced with a selection of topically inspiring books. Ms. Borel encouraged community participation by providing paper “stars” for patrons to write their messages of kindness; these messages are posted on the display for all to see.

**LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER**

On Tuesday, October 16th the Latino Collection and Resource Center partnered with the San Antonio Cocktail Conference to present “Without Bats There’s No Tequila: Defending Agave and its Pollinators”. The presentation by Fran Hutchins of Bracken Cave was followed by a bat-friendly tequila tasting.

On Tuesday, October 17th the Latino Collection and Resource Center partnered with the San Antonio Cocktail Conference to present “De La Tierra a La Copa”, presented by Avión Tequila. Participants learned about the fascinating process behind their favorite tequilas.

On Saturday, October 20th the Latino Collection and Resource Center partnered with San Anto Zine Fest to present the second annual Zine Fest at Central Library. San Anto Zine Fest is dedicated to independently published media, zines, comics and alternative press. Not only is this a showcase of San Antonio’s creativity, it inspires others to create their own avenues for expression. There were 1030 attendees throughout the day and 90 vendors displaying their zines and zine related materials.

On Tuesday, October 23rd the Latino Collection and Resource Center partnered with San Antonio StartUp Week to present “Meet the Author: Lorenzo Gomez, III”. Author and Chairman at Geekdom Lorenzo Gomez, III was interviewed by State Representative Diego Bernal regarding his recent publication, ‘The Cilantro Diaries’. Both young and seasoned professionals enjoyed an inside look at accomplished business and political leaders’ journey to the top.

On Saturday, November 10th the Latino Collection and Resource Center partnered with the Texana/Genealogy unit to present “San Antonio Mission’s Cultural Landscape”. Archaeologists Sergio

TEXANA/ GENEALOGY

Andrew Crews (Librarian I) presented a Researching Military Records class on October 16 at the Igo Library for patrons with the Igo Genealogy Club.

On October 24 Matt DeWaelsche (Librarian II) presented a Beginning Genealogy class at the Cortez Library, he also led the same class at Cody Library on November 6.

Sylvia Reyna (Librarian I) participated at the Commander’s House annual Spooktacular Resource Fair (dressed as cowgirl), informing folks of SAPL’s Texana/Genealogy departmental resources on October 26.

On October 27 Sylvia Reyna led a Cemetery Tour of San Antonio’s historic San Fernando Cemetery No.1. The tour highlighted gravesites of some of the founding members of our City and informed attendees about the famous (and infamous) people buried there.

Librarians Deborah Countess and Sylvia Reyna participated in the State Association of Texas Pioneers 2018 Annual Meet Your Ancestor Exhibition at the Central Library on November 4. The program provided opportunities for attendees to learn about Texas ancestry through sharing family stories, photos, memorabilia, and period costumes.


BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

Children’s Librarian Hope Sonnen resumed book club programming at De Zavala Elementary School where she met with three fourth grade classes and three fifth grade classes. On October 29 Ms. Sonnen hosted a Halloween Party and was joined by children from the American Sunrise after school program. Everyone enjoyed the crafts, music, candy and fun.

On October 26, Training Officer Emily Flores participated in the Plaza Guadalupe Movie Night organized by the City of San Antonio Center City Development Office. The event included an early trick-or-treating before the movie showing and Mrs. Flores promoted library resources and events to attendees and their parents.
On October 30, Training Officer Emily Flores, along with Children’s Librarian Esperanza Sonnen and Library Aide Stephanie Perez, attended the Barrio Boo Fair at the Guadalupe Plaza. The event had a wonderful turnout and Bazan staff provided community members with information about library resources and upcoming events. Ms. Sonnen and Ms. Perez carried out crafts with children.

On November 8, Training Officer Emily Flores received a scholarship to attend the UMAST (Urban Management Association of South Texas) Conference held at the Witte Museum. This year’s theme was “Evolving Leadership.”

Training Officer Emily Flores attended the San Antonio Housing Authority Early Engagement Program Resource Fair held on the KIPP St. Anne’s Campus where she met with almost 100 people.

The Midnight Paranormal Society visited Bazan and presented three spooky programs in October. The group shared information about recent “ghost hunting” events which perfectly dovetailed with the Halloween season.

The Bad Girls Romance Book Club October book selection was *The Kiss Quotient* by Helen Hoang. Author Hoang was informed that her book had been selected to be read and she thanked the group for supporting her work and in addition supplied questions for the group to discuss. The group rated The Kidd Quotient five out of five hearts!

In celebration of The Day of the Dead, Bazan hosted a sugar skull workshop program. It was the second year that the program was presented at Bazan by the fabulous Angie Merla on behalf of the Esperanza Center. Over three dozen customers, including families who attended together, came to enjoy this informative event. Attendees decorated a premade sugar skulla to take home in addition to making several of their own. Several patrons returned from last year and expressed their hope to have this workshop become a yearly Bazan Branch tradition. We wish to thank the Bazan Friends Group for helping sponsor this program.

The Alamo City Browncoats meet at Bazan on Sunday November 25 with its regular members in attendance and always welcoming new members. They discussed future group and holiday activities to have during their next meet and geeks.

Library Assistant Enedina Prater attended outreach at Alamo City Comic Con in October. She was able to promote library services to over 500 people. She was also able to get local San Antonio actor Henry Thomas to pose with a SAPL library card to help promote how awesome the library is.

Late October was filled with exciting teen programs at Bazan. Once again, Gemini Ink hosted another *Teen Writing Workshop* offering teens the opportunity to expand their creative writing skills. Teen librarian Georgina Salinas hosted a Stranger Things themed escape room during the Halloween season. Teens were “trapped” in the upside down in search for the missing Eleven before time ran out. The experience was challenging yet fun. Several photos were uploaded to the 210Teen Flickr account. Early November offered the teens a hands-on food program. Teens worked in groups of 4 making rice krispie treats. Both teams were tasked to follow a recipe, facilitated by a couple of teen volunteers. This program emphasized the importance of teen volunteers who were empowered to take the lead and build teamwork.
Bazan has seen an increase number of teens in the teen space and Ms. Salinas took the opportunity to place board games in the space to encourage teens to extend their stay and fully enjoy the benefits of being a part of their local library branch.

Ms. Salinas assisted with the curation of the artwork submitted to this year’s Teen Arts Fest held on Saturday November 3, at Central Library. Ms. Salinas along with committee peers worked together to have a successful and well attended program. In addition, Georgina volunteered her time to help at Nerdvana Con. She managed the virtual reality booth which gave participants the opportunity to try out both the Oculus Rift and Oculus Go. Both VR consoles attracted many teens and kids.

BROOK HOLLOW

In October and through November, Brook Hollow branch continued their weekly Baby Time, Toddler Time, and Story Time programs geared towards Early Literacy ages of zero to five years. The weekly programs were led by Children’s Librarian Jasmin Salinas and celebrated books about weather, boats, autumn, and colors. Baby Time has received quite a bit of positive feedback from caregivers that are grateful to have a program that introduces their baby to other children their age and that focuses on creating a community outside of the home for their family. Toddler Time continues to thrive with the playtime after stories and songs with children really enjoying playing with blocks and things that go.

In October, for Halloween, Brook Hollow hosted a special Halloween Story Time party that partnered in part with the District 9 Councilman’s office. The City Councilmam’s office provided a family sized photo back drop and also passed out glow-in-the-dark sticks as treats. Children’s Librarian Jasmin Salinas led a monster themed storytime to kick off the Halloween party and then let the children play with play dough, participate in the obstacle course, create semi-spooky crafts, and play. In addition, Councilman John Courage, even read a story to the children half way through the program as the children enjoyed treats. Library Assistant Jennifer Olivarez helped set up the obstacle course and set out and clean up all the activities for the program. Library Assistant Elissa Vura and Library Aide Jillian Kimak added to the décor with festive pumpkins and costumes for the large paper animals on the wall. Almost one hundred children and adults joined us for the program and staff received several compliments for the addition of the obstacle course at the Halloween Party.

To kickoff November, Brook Hollow hosted the Our Family Reads Event celebrating American Democracy with Mayor Ron Nirenberg and Councilman John Courage. Councilman Courage read a story about democracy to the families that attended the event under the Brook Hollow Library Tree. While Ms. Salinas prepared all the crafts, Children’s Coordinator Viki Ash was on hand the day of the event as families played with patriotic colored playdough and made a paper plate star wreath. Every family that attended also had a chance to vote for their favorite book character to celebrate democracy. Pigeon created by Mo Willems was the Brook Hollow library’s favorite character. Library Assistant Jennifer Olivarez helped to set up all the activities and Library Aide Jillian Kimak created much of the décor for the event.

Brook Hollow’s after school children’s programs also continue weekly and include: Tween Time, Come & Go Crafts, and Read to a Dog. Tween Time could not be held in the meeting room during early voting, so Children’s Librarian Jasmin Salinas and Library Assistant Elissa Vura got creative and were able to successfully adapt the program to the children’s area of the library. During Tween Time, the kids
had the chance to build with straws and connectors. They broke into teams and built structures that ended up touching the ceiling. The kids had a blast and complained when the hour was up that we had to put everything away. The following week Ms. Vura led Tweens on Halloween in a glow-in-the-dark slime making party. The kids that attended each made two batches of slime to take home. Come and Go crafts attendance has increased as the weather has improved with several weeks themed to incorporate crafts all about monsters in October and Autumn in early November. Additionally, every Friday families continue to attend our Read to A Dog event and have some cuddle time with two extremely sweet therapy dogs that visit Brook Hollow weekly.

Brook Hollow continues to offer a bi-monthly Lego Club, but attendance remains low despite fun themes like building robots, boats, houses, and more. Several families have recently suggested that the time be moved to later in the afternoon so that children from other nearby schools have time to make it over for the event. Still, every time that Lego Club is offered new families join in the challenges and have fun building new things.

During October and November Ms. Salinas visited nearby preschool and childcare centers. At the end of October, Ms. Salinas went to Headstart Rhapsody and shared a few monster stories with the classes. One book was such a hit with a classroom that the teacher asked to keep it so that they could read it again. Also, in November, Ms. Salinas visited the nearby Kindercare and read to five different classrooms from ages 12 months up to 5 years. The children loved being read to and singing songs together.

The Brook Hollow Children’s Area featured book displays in October and November on Family, Monsters, Democracy, and Kindness. Each book display has only lasted about two weeks because so many of the books check out so quickly its been impossible to keep stocked. Also, the New Book display area created by Ms. Salinas has continuously been emptied by patrons and seems a popular addition.

During the reporting period, teens at Brook Hollow played video games. As ever, Super Smash Bros was a hit. Teens faced off, pitting their skills and characters against each other and engaging in good-natured bouts. Later, they played cooperatively to master Super Mario Bros U and rescue Princess Peach. Some had trouble slowing down to wait for their less proficient pals to catch up, causing those left behind to lose a life. Teen Services Librarian Caroline Mossing participated in Eisenhower Middle School’s event Ike’s Big Day, where in between touring fire trucks, jumping in bouncy castles, and snacking on pickles and pizza, teens and families learned about library programs and homework help services and engaged in a collaborative structure build at the library table.

On November 8, the Mystery Book Group met to discuss Louise Penny’s The Long Way Home. The group enjoyed a fun and interesting discussion and also welcomed two new members. They are looking forward to December’s meeting to discuss Agatha Christie’s The Murder of Roger Ackroyd.

Library Assistant Jennifer Olivarez led patrons in making a holiday mesh wreath on November 14. Attendees enjoyed the festive craft and were looking forward to creating their own at home to display on their front door.
Throughout October and November families, adults and teens attended weekly American Sign Language classes taught by honor students from MacArthur High Schools. The classes are open to all skill levels and no registration is required.

**CARVER**

Mr. Holcomb hosted five Chess Events which continue to be steadily attended by a variety of patrons. Mr. Holcomb also hosted five official Teen Time events with the Wii. Mr. Holcomb also continues to facilitate both the weekly Tai Chi program and Easy Yoga program, both of which consistently have high attendance rates. Mr. Holcomb continued to host the Book Club at the District 2 Senior Center, making five visits during this period. Mr. Holcomb also held a Native American film presentation in honor of Native American Heritage Month, and he facilitated the AACOG representative who made two visits to the branch during this time period.

**CODY**

Adult Services Librarian, Marcella L. McGowan, welcomed Officer Doug Greene from the SAPD as he presented for the first time at any SAPL the “Success Through Respect” program. Also from SAPD the Special Victims Unit – Victim Advocacy Office came to host a table of resources that was distributed to patrons.

Marcella L. McGowan visited Madison Estates and presented them with the first book club selection, *Anything is Possible*.

The Adante Senior Living book group has grown to be 14 members strong on a monthly basis.

Cody continued to host Wellmed and welcomed Dr. Belmonte.

Adult services hosted members from the Kaveri Natya Yoga studio as they presented “Dance is the hidden language of the soul.”

Cody hosted Tech Tuesday with Oculus Go theme Virtual Travel.

Adult Librarian Marcella McGowan hosted adult movie time. The featured film was *North by Northwest*.

Cody welcomed a representative from the City’s Disability Access office as they presented a class on Handicapped Etiquette.

Cody hosted Weave in Public at the library which had a huge turnout; approximately 40 patrons from all age groups interacted with this group.

Adult Services Librarian McGowan and the Cody branch are very pleased to partner with Primerica on a series of Financial Literacy workshops.
Cody has also started hosting several technology classes. Thus far the branch has featured Introduction to Email and Introduction to Computer Basics.

Teen Services Librarian Amy Rae Weaver worked with area teens to come up with Teen Time programs for the Cody Library.

Teen Gaming is a popular destination after school on Tuesdays, with an average of 15 teens coming by each week to socialize over card, board, and video games! Lately, teens have also tried their hands at slimy science experiments and minute-to-win-it games.

Teen Time, Cody’s evening programming for teens, draws dedicated attendees, who continued to make different kinds of Halloween decorations for the month of October.

Teen Halloween was a celebration of all things spooky. Teens were able to make jack-o-lanterns out of oranges and permanent markers, construct and paint skeleton statues, and design sugar skulls out of puffed rice treats, frosting, and sprinkles. Video games, card games, and chess rounded out the night!

Teens celebrated Diwali at Teen Time, preparing a simple treat of coconut ladoo and upcycling old CDs with creative rangoli designs.

The Cody Chess Club continues to bring players and observers of all ages into the library each Thursday for games and chess puzzles.

Local writers have been gathering at the Cody Library for National Novel Writing Month! The participants, who will be writing 50,000 words for NaNoWriMo, ate snacks, perused reference books, and used a combination of worksheets and computers to plan out characters and plotlines at October’s Plotting Party and got writing during the first of November’s Writing Parties.

Teen Services Librarian Amy Rae Weaver went to Clark High School with Adam Tutor to tell teens about programming at both the Cody Library and the Central Library. Teens then had the chance to create their own electronic music using a portable recording studio.

On October 15th tweens attended the Tween Time Escape Room program. Tweens had to solve puzzles and follow clues in order to find the hidden treats.

During the Come & Go Crafts program on October 18th children made their own monsters using a variety of craft materials. This process art program required children to use their creativity as there were no rules, no instructions, only a wide variety of craft items at their disposal.

Library Assistant Eva Banda introduced Cody Library Bilingual Story time. Bilingual Story Time is held weekly every Thursday at 12:15p.m. Attendance is increasing every week. Themes included ghost - fantasma slime, learning about pumpkins- calabazas and carving them out, building a scarecrow-espantapájaro, and painting a turkey - pavo. The parents have expressed appreciation for offering the community a bilingual story time.
The annual *Bat Program* was a great success again this year! Families gathered on October 20th to listen to Fran Hutchins, Director of Bracken Cave Reserve, speak about bats and what individuals can do to help the threatened species. Afterwards, children made bat headbands and egg carton bats.

On October 22nd tweens took part in the *Spooky Story Read-a-thon* during *Tween Time*. Tweens wrote their own spooky stories and read them aloud to the other tweens.

Kids participated in a *Kid’s Time – STEM Monster Mash* on October 24th. Children decorated balloons to look like monsters and had them self-inflate using baking soda and vinegar. This experiment taught children that when the substances are mixed together it produces carbon dioxide, which inflates the balloon. Children also learned how mixing tonic water and cornstarch can create a glow-in-the-dark non-Newtonian fluid. Finally, children made their own monster party hats with construction paper.

On October 25th Children’s Librarian Kristin Yourdon gave a small private school a tour of the library and talked to the students about library services.

Tweens participated in a *Tween STEM Club: Haunted Edible Architecture* challenge on October 29th. Tweens used graham crackers and royal icing to make a structurally sound piece of edible architecture, and then decorated their pieces with colored icing and candies.

Children’s Librarian Kristin Yourdon visited the Blue Roof School on October 31st to put on a Pete the Cat and Laura Numeroff Story Time for the preschool and toddler students.

Boo Parades happened at all of the weekly story times during the week of Halloween. Children dressed up in their costumes for *Baby Time*, *Toddler Time*, and *Story Time* that week. At the end of each program, children and parents paraded around the library.

The branch hosted a Halloween Party for families on October 31st. The favorite activity during the program was taking pictures with the green screen and loading a Halloween themed background onto their photo. Other activities that children participated in during this program were pumpkin golfing, spider ring toss, a roll a Frankenstein craft game, and making mummy piñatas out of paper rolls.

Families celebrated Día de los muertos on November 1st by making sugar skull masks at a *Come & Go Crafts* program.

Tweens learned how to make wax yarn sculptures during *Tween Time* on November 5th.

Children’s Librarian Kristin Yourdon visited Locke Hill Elementary School on November 6th to lead a writing club at the school. Children in the club learned how to develop characters and a setting for their stories. They also discussed the Young Pegasus contest and the Letters About Literature contest for which they will submit work.
Yourdon started a new Toddler, Two weekly program on November 7th. During the first meeting toddlers sang songs and read books about fruits and vegetables. Afterwards the toddlers played with plastic fruit and vegetables and made apple and bell pepper stamp art.

The Lego Club met on November 7th to build nature sets for the San Antonio Botanical Garden’s Lego Brick Build Challenge.

Yourdon visited Colonies North Elementary School on November 8th to give out information about library services at their literacy night and book fair.

Children learned all about farms and practiced some important gross and fine motor skills during a Play & Learn: Barnyard Buddies program on November 9th. Children especially enjoyed the dramatic play activities where they took eggs from the hen house to the farm house.

The second Toddler Two program at the Cody Library was all about Thanksgiving! Children sang songs, participated in finger plays, and listened to stories about the Thanksgiving meal. Afterwards they played with a sensory bin filled with cranberries and cards with Thanksgiving images printed on them. They also made chenille stick turkey footprints with paint on paper.

During Kid’s Time on November 14th kids participated in some Thanksgiving STEM and art activities. Kids competed in a challenge to create the tallest structure using cranberries and toothpicks, tried to make their own floating Mayflower boats and tested them to see how many marbles the boats would hold before sinking, learned how to make their own butter by shaking a mason jar filled with heavy whipping cream, and designed their own Thanksgiving placemats.

Children made sponge paint turkey feathers during a Come & Go Crafts program on November 15th.

COLLINS GARDEN

Adults

In October 2018, Collins Garden Library offered adult coloring as a stress reliever, Coffee and a Movie, featuring Mexican Cinema, including new releases and the classics, and Library Volunteer Rosemary Nino, the Beading Lady, made earrings with library patrons. Nearly 5-20 people attend these programs each month.

Children

Lego Club continues to be a popular program among children and parents at CGL. Sixty-one participants attended four Lego programs during this reporting period. Children’s Lego creations are displayed in the reference area of the library for the children, their families and the public to enjoy. Children’s Librarian, Gina Brudi hosted four in-house Family Fun programs including a special Halloween program with craft stations, candy and scary Halloween music. October 18 Brudi attended The Graebner
Elementary School’s parent event hosted by the third grade teachers. Brudi discussed library services and programs, including homework help in the form of Brainfuse, to nearly 50 parents. Brudi’s visit was featured in the school newsletter SMORE. In addition, Brudi continues her successful received early literacy services to Knox Early Childhood Education Center, reading to 14 classrooms and delivering 20 classroom book collections. November 15, the branch hosted a Barnyard Buddies: Play and Learn with various farm life activities for children to explore.

**Teens**

The weekly Teen Time program, hosted by Library Assistant Carlos Loera, averages 10 teens a week. Teens play Ping Pong, video games and create crafts.

**Other**

Collins Garden Library is continuing weekly Family Game Night with various board games and Ping Pong for all ages.

Tasha Martinez, new assistant manager at Collins Garden Library, began COSA new hire training in November and will join the CGL Team mid-month. Martinez hails from Baltimore, Maryland where she worked in public and academic libraries. Martinez’s addition to the branch will ease scheduling and programming.

CGL Branch Manager Jeannette Davies serves as Texas Library Association (TLA) District 10 Chair and spearheaded the organization’s recent successful conference at St. Mary’s University October 27, 2018. In lieu of a keynote speaker, TLA D10 chair and co-chair Jacob Sherman, UTSA Librarian, opted to have The Go Game create a gaming application for conference goers to answer trivia questions and upload photos of themselves exploring the St. Mary’s University’s campus to the Go Game website. Photos and information from the conference may be used to promote TLA. Davies received accolades from TLA staff and conference goers including, academic, public and school librarians from around the state, for thinking outside the box by incorporating the Go Game and the Ride for Reading, San Antonio organization into the conference. Ride for Reading, San Antonio is an organization of local bicyclists who collect donated books and deliver them to Title One schools. Conference goers each donated to book to this worthy cause.

The Collins Garden Neighborhood Association invited CGL Branch Manager Davies to discuss the library’s happenings at their November meeting. Davies highlighted the CGL/District 5 holiday tree lighting ceremony Tuesday, December 4 at 6:30 pm and invited the neighborhood association to join the Friends of Collins Garden Library.

**CORTEZ**

Branch Staff outdid themselves this year for Halloween with a full immersion Alice in Wonderland theme. Branch Manager Brantley was the Red Queen/Queen of Hearts and everyone participated and looked wonderful. The day included treats for the staff and candy for the kids.
Ms. Brantley was feted by the staff for Bosses’ Day October 16 with shared treats including her favorite blueberry pie and a nice card.

Beginning November 13 the Branch is hosting a food drive for pets and people. Ms. Brantley worked with ACS and the Food Bank to create a display and arrange for donations.

**Children’s Programs**

**Bilingual Baby Time (Angela O'Malley and Esmeralda Staudt)—**Mrs. O’Malley presented a series of bilingual rhymes and songs in both English and Spanish to babies and their parents. Throughout the storytime Mrs. O’Malley, with the help of Mrs. Staudt, helped to develop babies’ gross motor skills through cross-lateral movement, fine motor skills through fingerplays and worked on developing positive social interactions through play using scarves.

**Toddler Time (Angela O’Malley)—**Toddler storytime themes matched the weather with autumn leaves, pumpkins, owls, and bats. Children worked on counting to five, color matching, and predictions by figuring out which cave baby bat was hiding in, and developing fine motor skills through fingerplays and action rhymes. Toddlers also explored life on the farm with Barnyard Buddies Play and Learn where they explored using sensory play.

**Family Fun (Angela O’Malley)—**With Fall in the air, children made scarecrows and danced as Dingle Dangle Scarecrows. They made Barnyard Farm Bags to expand literacy activities to the car, allowing them to sing Old MacDonald at red lights. Mrs. O’Malley shared literacy tips with families by introducing them to flannel stories as they made their own version of Don’t Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late.

**Children’s Outreach (Angela O’Malley)—**Mrs. O’Malley attended the Fall Festival at the IDEA School and the STEM Night at Gillette Elementary to promote literacy and college preparedness to children and their parents. She engaged with the children using hands-on activities like Flexeez and Snap n’ Build connectors while talking about the various resources available to parents and children at the library.

**Teen Program**

**Teen Time (JoAnn Paredes)—**Little by little, teens are creeping back in. Word is getting out and teens are bringing in their friends. Video games seem to be number one with the male teens, while the young ladies are favoring the crafts.

**Adult Programs**

**COAST – Cortez Older Adult Social Time (Madeline Vasquez)—**Every Tuesday, staff member Madeline Vasquez leads Adult Coloring. This weekly community program features advanced coloring for adults, board games, puzzles and light refreshments.
Getting Crafty Program (JoAnn Paredes)—Cortez Crafters did some paper crafting by learning how to quill. They are also preparing for the holidays by making clay table card holders that resemble ears of corn.

Monster Meet (Madeline Vasquez)—A good-sized crowd was treated to the film “Night of the Creeps” on November 10. This monthly popular event brings regulars as well as new attendees who enjoy anything spooky, scary, or mysterious.

Adult Craft Time (Madeline Vasquez)—On November 6, staff member Madeline Vasquez taught patrons to create a simple, beautiful craft using basic supplies. Patrons made a turkey out of recycled books. Light refreshments were served.

STEAM for Adults: 3D Printing (Brooke Mjolsness)—On October 16, Eric Haddad from Dimensional Fidelity taught patrons how 3D printers work, where pre-made models can be found online, and he assisted patrons in preparing their very own model in the 3D printer software CURA. Cortez Library printed each patron’s project on their Jellybox 3D printer so each attendee could have their very own 3D print.

Healthy Cooking Class (Vince Escobedo, Metro Health)—On October 23, Vince Escobedo led the group in making healthy pancakes. Patrons helped prepare all the ingredients. After, Mr. Escobedo made the pancakes and passed out free samples to all attendees.

Beginning Genealogy—Matt DeWaelsche from the Texana Department led a Beginning Genealogy program on October 24. He showed patrons free library resources they could take advantage of to create their family tree.

Community Programs

Cortez Chess Club—David Pacheco continues to lead our weekly chess club. He enthusiastically teaches attendees of all ages about chess.

AARP Job Search Workshop—On October 26, patrons were shown how to improve their resume and cover letters, enhance their online presence, and they also learned important interview skills.

Small Business Workshop—On November 8, patrons learned accounting basics, the three most important financial statements in business accounting, and how they work together to provide a picture of a business’s financial position.

Special Movie Showing—In anticipation of the sequel, the original “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them” was shown on November 13. Light refreshments were served.

LEARN Center Activities (Melody Ayala)—LEARN@Cortez continues to have successful attendance for the citizenship class, as each student is preparing for a mock citizenship interview and test. Their confidence is stronger and they show great determination to be well-prepared. Class will be ending on December 20th.
Computer classes have been very engaging and have prompted students to request more specific topics that help them with daily life. Topics include: how to shop online, how to view daily news reports, how to check email and how to use the SAPL website.

ENCINO

Starting in October, children's librarian Ann Laird began a weekly outreach to Country Kids Academy. Ann visits their 3 and 4 year old classrooms weekly and presents a thematic storytime.

Encino hosted our first annual Boo Bash on October 29. It was well attended, and the kids enjoyed snacks, making crafts, playing games, and exploring spooky touch and feel boxes. Councilman Courage’s office donated snacks and brought a photo prop – and the councilman himself came by the program as well, posing for photos with staff and patrons.

On November 13 Encino Branch hosted a Tea Rex party, featuring the book Tea Rex by Molly Idle, and dinosaur themed crafts and snacks. Staff member Marcel Martinez Alvarez modeled the CORE value of teamwork when volunteered to don the T-Rex costume and tutu to entertain the attendees.

Encino Teens finished up their October and started November with lots of fun in the teen space. Anime Club, hosted four times throughout the period, continues to be a weekly outlet for teens to watch their favorite new and old anime shows on the big screen. The monthly Teen Board Gaming program led us back to our childhood with classics like Chutes and Ladders, Trouble, and Battleship. Teens delved into the Star Wars universe with a viewing of Solo: A Star Wars Story in our Teen Screen program. A new group of teens were drawn to the movie while their parents participated in early voting at the branch. To celebrate the Halloween holiday, teens painted calaveras and munched on candy in Teen Club while simultaneously watching tons of YouTube videos including some Bob Ross to get us in inspired to paint masterpieces.

Encino Library hosted Early Voting from October 22-November 2 and saw a sharp increase in the number of visitors and library cards issued during that time period. Over 14,000 people used Encino Library to early vote.

Encino Library partnered with the San Antonio Needlework Guild to bring the craft of embroidery to the public. The guild enjoys conversing with patrons as they watch them work and happily answer questions.

The Encino Read It. LoveIt! Discuss It. Adult Book Club continues to add new members to their ranks as they increased participation by 35% for the discussion of the novel Life After Life by Kate Atkinson.

Encino Library partnered with The San Antonio Invaders Group to offer a workshop covering the Invaders of Texas citizen scientist program, focusing on training citizen scientists to identify and report invasive plants. The workshop was well-attended and several attendees are looking forward to more workshops.
Forest Hills Branch hosted its 7th annual STEAM event on October 27. This STEAM for Adults event titled "A Series of Incriminating Events: Forensic Science" offered a series of lectures on three topics: Crime Investigation, Homicide Cases and Forensic Pathology. The speakers included Treise McDaniel, Crime Scene Investigator/Instructor from the Crime Scene Unit of the San Antonio Police Department; Frank Stubbs, Homicide Investigator with the Criminal Investigation Division of the Bexar County Sheriff's Department; and Dr. Kimberly Molina, a Forensic Pathologist and Chief Deputy Medical Examiner for Bexar County. Patrons filled the room to listen to these three presentations and were intrigued by the behind the scenes look at forensic science. They asked interesting questions and came away with a greater understanding and appreciation of criminal investigations.

To celebrate Dia de los Muertos, patrons were invited to decorate Calaveras on October 29. The decorative skulls made from sugar cane and decorated with icing, beads, and other trimmings are traditionally used by families to decorate their loved ones' ofrendas during Day of the Dead, or All Souls Day.

Mariachi Espuelas de Plata from the Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza performed on November 13. Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza celebrates the history, beauty and cultural impact of mariachi music. The annual festival includes concerts by world-renowned musicians, competitions, workshops and participants from across the U.S. The event titled The Evolution of Mariachi Music included a lecture regarding this history of mariachi music. Students from Christa McAuliffe Middle School were present to enjoy the experience.

In honor of Veteran’s Day, work by the Needlework Guild is currently on display. The delicate handwork depicts patriotic themes fitting to honoring those who have sacrificed to protect our freedoms. An Our Family Reads Military themed display also offers materials for checkout including books and DVDs.

A photographic print exhibit featuring artist Chis Castillo is currently on display at the Forest Hills Branch Library. This wall sized cyanotype stretches the length of the wall behind the public computer area. The warm blue hue of the fabric creates a nice contrast against the burgundy wall. Mr. Castillo is a local artist and currently serves as the Residency & Archives Associate at Artpace.

Ms. Menchaca continues to host her regular programs. She hosted Story Time, Kids Time, Lego Builders, and La Hora de Cuentos. Ms. Menchaca is starting to do more pop-up Come and Go Crafts when she notices that there are children in the library. She is leaving art supplies out so that children can create whatever they are inspired, thus encouraging creativity.

Ms. Menchaca hosted a Play and Learn, Barnyard Buddies, in which children learned about farm animals through books, songs, rhymes, and play. Ms. Menchaca helped develop this particular Play and Learn and was very pleased to be able to offer it to the patrons of Forest Hills. The attendees of this Play and Learn had a wonderful time at each station of the Play and Learn.

The Halloween Party that was hosted by Ms. Menchaca was a success; over 25 children attended the party. Several of the children who attended the party came in their Halloween costumes. Ms. Menchaca had candies, crafts, and games. The children particularly like the Pumpkin Guts Slime that Ms.
Menchaca made. Additionally, Ms. Menchaca read *We’re Going on a Ghost Hunt*, the children’s area of the library was decorated to reflect the *Ghost Hunt*.

Since autumn is in full swing, Ms. Menchaca decorated the children’s area with paper trees whose leaves are changing colors. Ms. Menchaca used recycles newspaper and painted leaves in green, yellow, brown, and red to decorate the children’s area and make it livelier. Several patrons have commented on how much they like the trees.

Teens Create continues in the Teen Area with passive art for teens to participate in. Colored pencils and complex coloring pages were available to commemorate Dia de los Muertos.

**GREAT NORTHWEST**

The children at Great Northwest Library have had a busy month. In *ABC Club* the little ones have explored the letters Hh (hats), Ii (insects), Jj (jungles) and Kk (the kitchen). The themes for the letters have been very exciting and interactive. There have been lots of active songs, stories and much pretending. During Halloween week, children dressed up and paraded around the library and visited trick-or-treat stations.

During the story time program *Camp Library*, the children explored books, such as *The Little Blue Truck* by Alice Shertle and *Very Busy Spider* by Eric Carle just to name a few. After listening to the story the children created different items to retell it in their own words to the special people in their lives. Some painted, some made hats, and others created books. It was a creative time for these families.

Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez worked together with teens in the community to plan and create teen programs for Great Northwest Library. Great Northwest teens planned *Teen Craft and Movie Nights* for the fall. On October 15 teens watched *The Addams Family* and made shrunken apple heads. On October 22 teens watched *The Addams Family Values* and made caramel apples. On October 29 teens watched *Hocus Pocus* and decorated pumpkins and made popcorn balls. Teens also planned a costume contest. Library staff acted as judges and gave out a variety of awards to the teens who participated. A *Best Overall* award was given out to a teen whose handmade possum costume wowed the judges. In November teens had the opportunity to learn how to make DIY lanterns.

Great Northwest teens meet every Wednesday afternoon for *Teen Video Gaming and Other Stuff*. Ms. Vazquez worked with teen gamers to provide a space for them to compete against other teens who share a common interest in gaming. Teens also had the opportunity to make a variety of crafts and art to display in the teen space at the library or to take home. In October and November teens had the opportunity to make origami, mosaic art, and clay models.

Great Northwest Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez visited the school library at Taft High School on October 18 and Nov 15 for outreach events where she provided teens the opportunity to sign up for library cards, make button crafts, and compete in a video game competition. On October 25 Ms. Vazquez visited the school library at Harlan High School for an outreach event where she and fellow teen services staff provided teens the opportunity to make button crafts and take green screen pictures. On November 10 Ms. Vazquez attended *Nerdvana Con* at Stevens High School with fellow teen services staff. Teens at the convention had the opportunity to make buttons, take green screen pictures, and compete in a video game tournament. Teen services staff partnered with the NISD *Nerdvana Con* committee to organize a Super Smash Bros video game tournament for the convention. Library staff helped facilitate and provided the equipment for the tournament.
Library Assistant Christina Martinez hosted a series of STEAM for Adults programs. On October 17 patrons learned the basics of wood burning. On October 24 families fashioned designs out of felt to create their own Halloween decorations. On November 14 Ms. Martinez demonstrated how to make Native American-style bracelets and earrings for beginners.

Adult Services Librarian, Cindy Moreno, moderated the Alicia Trevino Book & Movie Group on October 15. The participants discussed My Cousin Rachel by Daphne Du Maurier. There was an interesting discussion on gender expectations and gothic literature followed by a showing of the movie.

Ms. Moreno created a bulletin board in the Children’s area on books and resources about mindfulness for children.

The Great Northwest Library is currently hosting a Gift of Sight Memorial Quilt Blanket during November’s Eye Donor Month to help bring attention to the importance of eye banks, cornea donation and transplants, and donor registration. The quilt features photos commemorating local donors along with more information on how to become a donor hero.

GUERRA

The Guerra Chess Club met on October 19 and 26 and on November 8. Volunteer Ruben Lozano provided lessons, inspiration, and an opportunity for adults, teens, and children to learn about the game. Guerra was an early voting site--7,668 voters-- and an election day site--170 voters. The branch held its quarterly staff meeting on November 15; the Guerra Friends group provided the main dish and ten staff provided side dishes.

Branch Manager Dexter Katzman provided music and literature outreach to the Careplex Adult Day Center on Wednesdays—October 17, 24, and 31 and November 14. On November 7, he attended a Mentor/Mentee event and met with Cassandra Garza, Library Assistant/Pan American.

Assistant Branch Manager Jernell Williams held an adult coloring program on October 20. She held an outreach book group at the Virginia Gill Community Center on November 2; participants discussed Hiddensee by Gregory Maguire.

Children’s Librarian Arlene Richardson planned and presented five toddler times, five story times, two Lego Clubs, four Little Builders Duplo Clubs, and five Art Clubs. On October 26, Arlene conducted outreach at Greatest Gifts Childcare where she presented story time to two groups of toddlers. Arlene hosted the system-wide Children’s Librarians meeting at Guerra on November 8; the Guerra Friends provided refreshments. On October 27, 28, and 30, children and their grownups participated in Halloween Come and Go crafts where they created goofy pumpkin faces. They also enjoyed treats once they decorated the pumpkin on October 21; families enjoyed a lively concert by The Latin Grammy Award winning duo 1 2 3 Andres who had families dancing and singing in both Spanish and English.

Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson presented a Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson, presented the Guerra Library trivia game at the Willie Cortez Senior Center on October 19. He moderated the Club de Lectura on October 25. This group discussed Conquistadora by Esmeralda Santiago. He presented another trivia game at the same senior center on November 9; the program emphasized aviation history. He recorded the story “El ratón número cien” (The Rat Number 100) from the book Cuentos en un minuto (One Minute Stories) (edited by Ana Doblado) for Dial-a-Story in Spanish on November 12.
Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on October 18, 25 and November 1.

Library Assistant Roxanne Menchaca continues to work on patron-contested returns. She is able to resolve situations when a patron reports an item returned that still shows on the account. Roxanne has shared her process with other branch staff and makes sure that she works on these items as a priority project. She held her Knit & Crochet program on October 23.

Circulation Attendant Abella Lazalde-Jimenez, the branch Wellness Liaison, consulted with branch staff regarding the best way to spend the $100 allocation. Her choices—a new water pitcher with filters, ankle weights, and a scale—were well received by staff. She tracks steps for all participating staff; the current star with the most steps Library Aide Sabrina Cirilo.

IGO

Children’s Services

Weekly story times continued as scheduled.

Lego Club continues to be a success, well attended by school aged kids.

The Dark Knights Chess Club met on October 22.

Teen Services

Teen Time is scheduled for Wednesdays starting October 3 from 5-6pm. Teens will have the opportunity to connect with their peers, play games, make crafts, build with Legos or even study. Activities will be different each week.

A book club will meet the last Monday of the month and a book will be discussed each month.

On October 19, Igo hosted a Nerf Zombie Tag Night in which players who got “shot” were turned into zombies. Solving riddles gave the zombies a potion that would rehumanize them.

Adult Services

Every Sunday, the Writer’s Block writing group and the Stitchery Club met at Igo.

On October 16, the Afternoon Book Club discussed The Underground Railroad while Andy Crews of Texana/Genealogy shared with the Genealogy Club tips for researching military records.

On October 20, for the Mayor’s Book Club, a human library was held. Twenty human books were available for conversations about topics relating to diversity, the subject upon which District 8’s month
was centered. The Mayor and the District 8 Councilman spoke about the importance of reading. Seventy-two visitors attended.

On November 3, the Mottled Oysters Book Club met.

On November 5, the PoeTree Club met.

On November 7, the Mystery Club discussed *Magpie Murders*.

On November 14, Part 1 of a two-part class, Introduction to Fanfiction, met.

**Senior Services**

Beginning Hatha Yoga classes continued on Fridays.

**JOHNSTON**

Johnston Branch Library hosted Early Voting for the Midterm Elections from October 22 to November 2. Over 6,500 voters cast their ballots at Johnston in the two week period. Johnston’s Team welcomed a new Adult Services Librarian, Cristine Mitchamore on November 3. Cristine served at Central Reference for over 15 years.

Branch Manager Monica Bustillo and Library Assistant Elsy Jackson presented the final system-wide STEM initiative with a Star Wars Droids event on October 15. On October 17 Ms. Bustillo facilitated the Athena Reader’s Book Discussion of *The Fireman* by Joe Hill and on November 14 the book group discussed *There, There* by Tommy Orange. Ms. Bustillo organized and participated in the first of a new series of Zumba Classes on November 10. Zumba will be offered the 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 4\textsuperscript{th} Saturday of the month at 10 AM.

On November 1 Circulation Attendant Vida Salas presented a Day of the Dead sugar skull craft to over 20 patrons.

On November 1, Children’s Librarian Beverly Wrigglesworth delivered books to the Head Start and PCI classes at the Southwest High School location. She also read “Color” stories to the toddler class and “Library” stories to the Head Start class.

Fall programming continued at Johnston Library: Toddler themes included toys, opposites, Halloween, and Play & Learn: Farm Animals. Story Time themes included unicorns, dragons, Halloween, and Play & Learn: Farm Animals. The LEGO Club has had a very good attendance, averaging 13 attendees per week. In addition to LEGOs, children also have the opportunity to build with “Straws and Connectors,” “Playstix,” “Duplos,” “Brain Flakes,” foam blocks, and wooden blocks.

Library Assistant Elsy Jackson teaches a weekly class, *Conversational Spanish*. On Mondays, October 15, October 22, October 29, and November 5, members learned interactive lessons about *Usos de Por y Para/ Marcadores temporales* (Prepositions with time), *Viajar* (Traveling), *Prefijos and Sufijos* (Prefixes and Suffixes), and *Cuentos* (Short Stories) followed by sing-along Spanish songs and games, respectively. She also serves as a regular contributor to Telecuentos (Dial-a-Story in Spanish), she

Library Aide Cynthia Blancas coordinated the weekly Teen Time program on October 17, October 24, October 31, November 7 and November 14. Teens made buttons with the button maker, cookies in a cup, created felt crafts and made easy no make mini pies.

**LANDA**

**Children**

Much of October was dedicated to preparing for Landa’s third annual Halloween extravaganza, Landa Boo. The event brought out a crowd of about 200 people. The event was held on the grounds mostly, but did include activities inside the building. All three age based programmers worked together to create a very well attended and fun family event.

Landa Children’s librarian Robin Alcorta and Landa Branch Manager Kiyanna Stephens worked together with KGB Texas to bring a voting event to Landa. KGB Texas brought a program idea to Robin and Kiyanna and they worked together to create a Lego Club unlike any before. Children were invited to engage in civic responsibility by casting their votes for the next Mayor of Fun of LegoLand Discovery Center and Sea Life. Children also voted on a San Antonio landmark building that should be included in the skyline design when LegoLand opens. The two companies are coming to Rivercenter Mall in 2019. The voting event was the kickoff to introduce the companies to San Antonio. Also during the program, children were challenged to build something sea life related. They came up with sharks, aquariums, and more.

This month Landa hosted the Barnyard Buddies Play and Learn. Children listened to stories about farming and played at different farm-related stations. Children really enjoyed writing animal names in playdough and playing with farm animals in corn for sensory play.

The tweens at Landa had a blast this month making their own bouncy balls! Acting as a chemist, tween patron Margeaux mixed together simple ingredients including borax, cornstarch, water, and glue to make her own homemade bouncy ball. As experiments go, the first one didn’t come out as planned so she and Children’s librarian Robin Alcorta made another that was perfect in size and color!

During one of the STEAM Tuesdays this month, children experimented with pumpkin science. They measured pumpkins of all sizes and shapes and recorded the results. The group talked about the life cycle of a pumpkin. Then the children used the same pumpkins measured to paint.

**Teen**

Landa Teen programming continued to excite this month. Their volunteer program expanded to offer a new shift, giving the teens opportunity do “book stuff” and “teen club stuff” by request. Their after school study program brought in more students each week. Alongside Library Assistant and Teen Liaison, Rebekah Corley, the group dedicated most of the month to supporting Landa’s annual Halloween event, Landa Boo. They collaborated to create an elaborate but not-too-spoooky mad science
lab for younger attendees, led carnival games, and held a teen only hang out space, welcoming numerous visiting teens during the festivities to hang out and make crafts.

**Adult**

Landa Adult Programming had the privilege of hosting a cooking class with Chef & Food Writer Liz Pearson whose family are Landa patrons. Eleven participants used the official cooking kits owned by adult services. These kits contain everything (but the ingredients!) needed to cook a wide range of dishes. Chef Liz divided the group into six teams, each of who was assigned to do a Thanksgiving appetizer, side dish or dessert. Ingredients were specified by Chef Liz and purchased by Landa Adult Services librarian Karen Sebesta. Everyone in the group had a great time and learned something to use for their Thanksgiving dinners. The evaluation forms all indicated that participants want to have more events like this.

The three Landa book clubs are all going strong, with new members in each one including the club that meets at The Village at the Incarnate Word. This month, Reader’s Ink read *News of the World* by Paulette Giles—it is highly recommended. The members of the Village group read the classic *The Great Gatsby*, to mixed reviews. In late October, the Landa Mystery Club read the historical thriller, *The Alienist* which is set in late 19th century New York and with Theodore Roosevelt as a character. Because of the holiday in November, the Mystery Club met a week earlier than usual and their selection this time was *The Promise* by Robert Crais which re-introduces K-9 officer Scott James and his German Shepherd partner, Maggie. This is the second Crais mystery to feature Scott and Maggie—brought back due to popular demand after the two were introduced in *Suspect* (which this group has also read). Both are highly recommended.

Karen also has a community outreach program at the Kenwood Senior Center. This month, an enthusiastic group did adult coloring and made a Halloween spider craft.

The Landa volunteer program continues to grow. Volunteer responsibilities are shared between Teen Liaison Rebekah Corley and Karen Sebesta. Thanks to Rebekah’s creative “Drop-In Volunteering” program for teens, short-term opportunities have been made available to students. Landa is fortunate to have Michael Young, a Trinity student, as an intern through the Community Work Study program. Michael was also a Landa volunteer when he was a student at Alamo Heights this past year.

Karen also secured the performance services of Celtic musicians Jim and Maggie Fox for Landa Boo. They played outside on the playground to the delight of parents and children who enjoyed seeing the guitars, “fiddle,” and banjo in performance.

**LAS PALMAS**

Las Palmas had two *Play and Learn* programs at the end of October. The *Barnyard Buddies* Play and Learn included activities that promoted skills in math, art, literacy and the development of both fine and gross motor skills. Children sorted eggs, wrote animal names with play dough, did dramatic play in the sensory bin, and played a bean bag toss game.
On October 24, the Las Palmas Library celebrated Halloween with a carnival themed event that included games such as a ring toss, fishing game, clown hunt, duck fishing, and ping pong toss. Children could also make Halloween craft stick puppets or mandarin orange Jack-o'-Lanterns. The Library had a cotton candy machine and a popcorn marker to provide patrons with treats. Over 130 patrons attended the event.

In order to accommodate Early Voting, the Las Palmas Library held several events inside in the Children’s Area of the library instead of the Meeting Room. One of the events had families play board games during Family Fun. On another day, Family Fun had patrons construct towers using tinker toys, LEGOS, and crystal climbers.

Las Palmas Library celebrated Day of the Dead during the Metro Health Fall Festival on Friday November 2. Children’s Librarian Barbaraella Frazier promoted library events, programs, and resources at the Festival. Inside the library there was a showing of the film Coco and displays of books related to Day of the Dead.

The Las Palmas Library has continued to provide story-time for patrons throughout the Early Voting period. In addition to hearing a book, children learned by using song, movement, and play. In addition to the regular story-time, a bilingual story time is performed twice a month. This month Children’s Librarian Barbaraella Frazier and Library Assistant Elvia Ramos read the work of Mo Willems in both Spanish and English.

On Wednesday, November 14, the Las Palmas Library celebrated Thanksgiving—like Charlie Brown. Children and their families watched A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving and ate the same treats that Charlie Brown made for his friends: jellybeans, popcorn, pretzels and toast.

On October 24 Las Palmas held a multi-generational carnival style Halloween Party with games and crafts. Patrons of all ages enjoyed popcorn and cotton candy.

Adult Librarian II Rhonda Davila coordinated an art exhibit with Ernesto Rios, a fellow city employee. Mr. Rios works at Municipal Court and as a hobby takes photos of local San Antonio events. His work for the exhibit featured the annual Market Square El Dia de los Muertos/Day of the Dead parade. The exhibit runs from Oct. 21 to Nov. 25.

Adult Librarian II Rhonda Davila coordinated the visit of BiblioTech staff to Las Palmas to issue cards to patrons interested in their resources. The BiblioTech staff reported about 20 patrons visiting their information table on November 7.

Adult Librarian II Rhonda Davila coordinated a program where patrons listened to a selection of WNCYC’s Snap Judgment podcasts on Nov. 7. She played sessions of the “Spooked” podcast hosted by Glynn Washington, attracting eight patrons to the event who expressed interest in continuing the program. The Friends of Las Palmas provided light refreshments for the event.

MAVERICK

While the Ladies Choice Book Club met on October 20, the Lady Mavs Book Club met on Tuesday, November 13. With a tremendous voter turnout and high demand for parking space, Maverick staff did a
remarkable job making the election process operate smoothly and assisted the presiding judges along the way. All librarians coordinated to either open early or close late after each day. After early voting and Election Day concluded, the South Texas Role Playing Games Group resumed its weekly meeting on Sunday, November 11. The San Antonio Writers' Guild met twice at Maverick on Saturday October 20 and 27.

Saddlebrook Farms Homeowners Association met on November 8 and Sagewood Homeowners Association met on November 10. A basic Q&A Medicare / Medicaid program was hosted at Maverick on Wednesday October 17.

The Maverick Chess Club met on Monday, October 15 and 29.

With record voter turnout, and minimal parking, children and their caregivers still came to all 6 programs each week! On Halloween, Ms. Roberts had a costume parade with the babies and another one with toddlers. Also, another popular Gerald and Piggie puppet show was put on by Maverick staff to about 40 kids and caregivers on November 3! Thank you to Library Aides, Laura Lopez and Katy Camacho and Circulation Attendant, Eraani Perez for putting on a great performance! Thanks are also in order for the Maverick Friends who funded craft supplies and food.

Ms. Roberts read "I Am a Bat" for Dial-A-Story the week of October 21. She attended a Career Fair on Friday November 16 at Brauchle Elementary, speaking to Kinder - 2nd grade kids about being a children's librarian and shared books as well.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl facilitated four Teen Time programs during the reporting period, assisted by Library Aide Sarina Hackworth. Ms. Hackworth facilitated the fifth program by herself. Maverick Teens chose several fall and Halloween themed food and activities, including hot chocolate & apple cider while playing “Are You a Werewolf?” with Central Texas Werewolf Facilitator Jen Sweet, sharing scary stories with one another and making indoor S'mores. All the teens agreed that the 2 stories written and shared by our regular teens were the best stories heard that night.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl, former Circulation Manager Adrian Leal and NISD High School Librarian Pamela Walters coordinated efforts to get SAPL Library Cards to approximately 75 interested Marshall High School students. Bleichwehl coordinates with Ms. Walters to hold Outreach in the Marshall High School Library. Bleichwehl sets up the button maker (currently on loan from Central Teen Services), Ms. Walters promotes the event and verifies the addresses of the students’ applications, and Mr. Leal handles processing the applications, along with Central Circulation Staff. These coordinated efforts worked well, students were attracted to the button maker and learned about the resources available to them through SAPL membership.

McCRELESS

Children
Rozanna Bennett, Children’s Librarian, has been doing a weekly Toddler’s program. Each week hosts a different theme, and includes stories, songs and crafts. In October, Librarian Bennett had a Halloween Toddler Time where she and the toddlers dressed up and did trick or treating at the library.

Tween time (for 9-12 year olds) has also been added to the branch’s weekly activities, and staff are working on promoting this program to patrons who may be interested in it.

The branch also hosted a Halloween party for school ages that included various games and a scavenger hunt! It was a huge success with over 100 participating in the program.

Teens

McCreless teens planned a Halloween party since Teen Time fell on the same day. Teens in attendance came in costumes and good spirits. While the pumpkin carving was a fail, teens enjoyed decorating sugar skulls, making “mummies in a blanket”, playing Super Smash Brothers on the WiiU and Unstable Unicorns; their new favorite card game.

To celebrate upcoming Thanksgiving, teens wanted to make “Thanksgiving quesadillas”. After much discussion, it was decided to include turkey breast, jellied cranberries, stuffing and gravy. Librarian DeBow brought in cornbread and the teens learned how to make stuffing from scratch. Teens then constructed their quesadillas out of the ingredients.

Adults

On October 15th and November 5th, Library Assistant Al Chavez continued the McCreless Walking Club with new Daylight Savings hours (the program now begins at 4:45 pm). The branch had a turnout of 3 patrons at each session for the 2.5 mile walk and all enjoyed the cooler weather. This program will continue for December with the new hours.

On Nov 10th, the scrapbooking and art journaling class held its second session, which was facilitated by LA Chavez and Circulation Attendant Krys Hernandez. Scrapbook pages and art journaling pieces made with alcohol inks and photographic paper were made. A third class was scheduled for December 1st from 3 pm to 5 pm.

Other Branch Activities

Librarian DeBow attended NISD Nerdvana Con with other members from Teen Services. SAPL hosted a Super Smash Brothers gaming tournament, Cosplay Repair Station, Green Screen opportunities, button-making and demonstrated the Oculus Rift and Oculus Go to teens. This is the only school-sponsored Con event in the city and attendance was over 2,000.

MEMORIAL

Children’s’ Services
The “Barnyard Buddies” Play & Learn drew the participation of 32 children and adults, largely from the PreK-4SA program.

Woodlawn Hills Elementary School invited children’s Librarian Christine Deffendall to their Careers on Wheels event. She spoke with over 240 students and teachers, Tuesday, October 30.

Mrs. Deffendall met with two outreach specialists from UTSA to discuss strategies and ideas for growing outreach opportunities and general attendance at Memorial Library events.

Mrs. Deffendall attended the Re-visionaries meeting November 8.

Lyndon B. Johnson Elementary School invited Christine to their Literacy Night, Thursday, November 15, 2018.

Teen Services

Circulation attendant Michelangelo Sosa participated in the Teen Arts Fest where he was in charge of the video portion of the festival. The fest had dance, art, comedy and music all in one on the first floor of the Central Library. There were also 12 video submissions, with a total running time of just fewer than 90 minutes.

Mr. Sosa met with Edgewood ISD engineering students to engage in the Toltec project. Students proceeded to work on their prototype for the design phase of the project.

Adult Services

The branch hosted an exhibit entitled, “Outbreak: Epidemics in a Connected World,” in partnership with the American Society of Microbiology. It explored the connections between human, animal, and environmental health and how people around the world track down and respond to disease outbreaks.

The library did a 3D printer demonstration on October 24. Two presenters from Dimensional Fidelity facilitated the program. They brought some 3D printers, showcased their creations, and answered patron questions. Also, a SAPL 3D printer was used in the demonstration to entertain patrons.

The branch celebrated Halloween by having patrons decorate mason jars with such creepy things as pumpkins, bats, and haunted houses. Fifteen people enjoyed the fun and were especially a hit with kids.

The library offered patrons pan de muerto on Thursday, November 1, for Dia de los Muertos. Branch manager Maria Gonzales got two orders, and patrons devoured them. Those visiting the library for early voting especially enjoyed the treat.
On November 14, the branch kicked off a series of healthcare programs with an informational session about diabetes. Led by Dr. Mittal, participants learned about the causes and treatment and had the chance to ask questions.

Branch Services

The branch partnered with Bexar County Elections department to host Early Voting and Election Day functions. A significant amount of traffic was observed during that period. During the Early Voting period the branch had visitors that totaled 16,949 that came in to exercise their voting privileges.

To promote literature and an interest in authors that craft literature the branch has started promoting an honorary “Author of the Month” series. This month's selected author was Isabel Allende. A short biography and a photograph are on displayed accompanied with a collection of the author’s writings. The display has created an interest and patrons like to read about the authors’ publications.

Artwork by Karen Schaffenberger is currently on display. Her work consists of a variety of themes from different seasons to individual people. She has an extensive collection in watercolors, charcoal, oils, pastels and pencils. Her exhibit will be on display until the end of December.

To help control the stray cat population, the branch hosts the San Antonio Cat Coalition on Sundays. The group conducts Trap, Neuter, and Return (TNR) workshops to teach patrons how to catch the cats so they can undergo low-cost spay/neuter surgeries. The program is held on a regular basis at Memorial and is well attended.

TCI held a meeting at the branch meeting room to discuss ongoing projects.

The SA Guild and Stitch held their monthly craft meeting attracting patrons that are participating in different needlecraft projects.

Commemorating Native American month the branch created a book display with the different nations of Native Americans. The display was well received and patrons took the opportunity to check out those books.

During Early Voting circulation attendant Adam Capelo was kept busy by monitoring the campaign sign area and removing extensive signs in violation of the signage policy.

MISSION

Adults

Mission served as an early voting location in the recent general election. Also as part of the city’s Sportesfest program for employees the branch served as the location for the Chess Tournament and Table Tennis Tournament. For November Mission Branch observed the Ukrainian Genocide (Holodomor)
with a movie and an informational display provided by the Ukrainian Society of San Antonio. The Branch also celebrated Dia de Muertos in partnership with the Mission Marquee Plaza on November 2nd.

Mission offered two computer classes; one in English and one in Spanish. Mission hosted an English/Spanish Conversation Group on 10/2. It is the first of a monthly recurring program. In celebration of Native American History Month, Mission hosted a program, History of Native Americans of the Missions.

Teens

Teens enjoyed our Halloween Party at Mission Branch, playing games like candy corn toss and doughnut eating on a string. As the weather turned colder this month, teens warmed up with a hot chocolate bar during our Teen Cooking Class. Teens had fun creating their own hot chocolate flavors. Teens also enjoyed video gaming this month, as our Saturday Teen Video Game program drew in a steady number of participants coming in each Saturday during the month.

Children’s

Children enjoyed a very popular Halloween party on October 29th with fun games and activities for kids and parents alike. Also the branch participated in the KLRN fall festival at the Mission Marquee Plaza with a very popular Halloween craft for the kids. Members of the San Antonio Rock Art group had a very popular Trunk-or-Treat program giving candy and exchanging ‘Rock Art’ at the branch’s parking lot.

PAN AMERICAN

Pan American branch had an active October, hosting several programs and attending many outreach events all over the city. Pan American staff was present at Alamo City Comic Con, Teen Art Fest and many Elementary and Middle Schools around the community.

Pan American Branch was represented by Circulation Attendant Stephanie Tapia and Library Assistant Cassandra Garza at a First Friday event in San Antonio’s Southington. The event was Muertitos Fest, which celebrated Dia De Los Muertos. The Pan American table had 3D printed Sugar Skulls, button makers and other related crafts for those in attendance to enjoy.

The Children’s Lego Club is picking up participants. The Branch has had return participants and their families. The Come& Go craft had more participant than usual as many came for the artwork and the following Haunted House. Numbers doubled for the Haunted House. It was a huge success—just scary enough for the school age group.

Valerie Shelley, Children’s Librarian, continues to provide weekly Toddler and Story times for children in the community. Her latest theme of Work on Numbers was a big hit with those in attendance.

Outreach was held at several schools for Career Day, Literacy Nights and STEM Nights. Literacy Night participants broke codes to reveal a secret message. STEM Night participants used Straws and Connectors to build structures without having them fall down. Fun was had by all.
Ms. Shelley was able to attend a professional development regarding Picture Books and experienced the depth a book can go to when you really explore the pictures. It was quite enlightening.

Pan American Branch Library continues to host a weekly Qigong and Yoga classes. These are put on in partnership with the San Antonio Parks and Recreation.

Branch Manager Steven Barrera spent a morning at the Elivra Cisneros Senior Community Center hosting an adult coloring program. The seniors spent their time coloring mandala designs while listening to relaxing new age music.

Throughout the month of October and November, Ms. Garza participated in various school visits. Ms. Garza visited Leal and Kingsborough Middle Schools. Ms. Garza spoke with the students about activities planned at Pan American Library, as well as what is necessary to obtain library cards and materials.

On October 29, Ms. Garza attended a STEAM night hosted by McCollum High School. Ms. Garza arrived at the event with a button maker and Cubelets. Cubelets are robotic cubes which are equipped with different functions. Participants were able to play with cubelets and design their own buttons to turn into pin-back pins.

Ms. Garza assisted with a group of library personnel to staff an information table at the Alamo City Comic Convention. At the table library staff, set up a costume repair stations for convention participants as well as a comic book character bracelet craft.

On October 31, during the branch’s regular teen time the teen group hosted a haunted house. The haunted house was designed, created and staffed by the teen group. Pan American’s teens worked together to transform the branch’s meeting room into various different scary environments. The group designed a spider pit, bubble wrap maze, a bat cave and a glow in the dark spider pit.

On November 10, Ms. Garza was included in a group of SAPL teen librarians to host a gaming tournament at the Nerdvana Convention at Stevens High School. The tournament was a huge success and attracted numerous participants as well as spectators.

On November 14, Ms. Garza conducted a food demonstration for the Pan American teen group. The teens are familiar with rice balls. In this demonstration, teens elevated their rice ball making skills to the next level by adding different flavors to their rice balls.

Every month the Pan American Library hosts Pan Am Pix Flix, a movie screening where patrons decide which movie will be shown. This month, the theme was Halloween movies. Patrons voted for a screening of the movie “Hocus Pocus”. Pan Am staff provided popcorn, snacks and crafts related to the movie.
Pan American hosted the Pokémon champions group. The group is working on an ongoing tournament starting in January 2019. The group is currently hashing out the final details and will begin to include that information on future Trumba post on the mysapl.org website.

Library Assistant Elise Garcia hosted a Dia de los Muertos program. Ms. Garcia presented each attendee with a sugar skull made from sugar, flour and water, to be painted. Each patron was able to create their own sugar skulls and take them home. The movie Coco was shown with the craft program and Abuelita’s hot chocolate was served.

PARMAN

In the reporting period Friends of the Parman Library held annual Book Sale. After just first day some tables were cleared out of all books. New book bags with the Friends logo have been also offered for purchase.

Parman Branch was the Early Voting site and on Election Day. The number of people who voted early this month was “record-high” compared to the recent years. Due to the location of Parman’s Branch door count sensors, our daily numbers do not count - in patrons who are using only the side door. In the future Parman will be looking into this situation to make sure that all library users are counted.

This year Parman has done something that had never been done before. Hold the Spooky walk inside the library! Here is the reason why. Parman is the Early Voting site and since the manager anticipated much higher number of voters this year, she decided to have the program before the early voting. Early Voting gives the community the flexibility to vote when and where it's most convenient for them and Parman branch didn’t want to add to the traffic with this popular annual event. It also rained most of the 31 days in October and 10 days leading up to the event. To accommodate the rainy trail usually used for the ‘haunted walk’ portion of the event the manager decided to move the whole event indoors. This turned to be a good call since it heavily rained on Oct. 18th, the date of the program. The whole library was used to accommodate the very high patron turn out. The carnival games, photo opportunity and dance party were hosted in the meeting rooms, the crafts were at the reading tables, story time (Hansel and Gretel) happened every 30 min. in Ana’s Nook (the children’s area). The haunted walk became a haunted hallway with the Spooky Spider Walk, Dracula room and Dead Wedding taking place in the Teen area. Candy and treats were given out at circulation and reference desk as well as at each carnival game. Hopefully next year the weather will cooperate and the program can happen both inside and outside, but with hard work and a flexible staff it went off without a hitch and everyone is prepared for Spooky Walk inside or out! The number of participants was as high as last year and staff received very positive feedback from the community.

Parman Library paid a visit this Halloween to the residents of Franklin Centre at Stone Oak, a local facility that provides a supportive lifestyle to people with Alzheimer’s and memory issues. Branch manager, Barbara Kwiatkowski, treated the residents to a presentation on pumpkins and the history of pumpkin carving. After the presentation, the residents were invited to make paper flowers with Library Assistant Melissa Moser. As they worked they shared stories of their own pumpkin carving experiences.
and holidays past. The afternoon ended with plans for Parman staff’s next visit and what the residents would like to see at the library.

Parman patrons were transported FarEast to learn the ancient art of Calligraphy and its origins. Presenter explained the deep historical roots of the handwriting in countries such as China and Japan. After the presentation Ms. Oku handed out ink, large calligraphy brushes, and an endless supply of rice paper. Each person tried to recreate the delicate lines and strokes they had been taught just minutes beforehand, painting the rice paper in ink. To end the presentation branch manager, Barbara Kwiatkowski, served matcha tea and everyone got to go home with their creations. It’s a program the branch hopes to repeat in the future.

Ghouls and Goblins lurked about, as well as quite a few Star Wars characters, at the Halloween extravaganza at the new Children’s Hospital at Stone Oak. Marketing Director and the branch manager are working closely to meet the community needs. In this outreach event the Parman Library represented SAPL services, treating trick-or-treaters to the carnival game of Plinko and a special Halloween themed story time presented by Library Assistant, Melissa Moser. Branch manager, Barbara Kwiatkowski, talked to the participants about all the programs and services the library provides to the community.

Annual Paint the Parkway Pink is a Stone Oak community event, hosted by North Central Baptist Hospital and is part of the Baptist Breast Center. Barbara Kwiatkowski assisted by Leissa Kimball were representing SAPL, encouraging people to become library users and spreading the word about what San Antonio Public Libraries have to offer to our communities.

Early voting had a great effect on the regular weekly programming offered at Parman. Patrons were unable to find parking, or had to park and walk from other locations near the library. Programs started late and had lower attendance than normal. Families informed staff that they were going to avoid coming to programs or the library in general, until after the election since the parking lot was overwhelmed 12 hours a day.

The Parman children’s department provides fun, easy and informative STEAM based activities for early elementary school aged kids (5-8 years) to learn while playing during this hands on experiment time. This month the event provided children the opportunities to create colorful rain clouds in a jar, a bat craft, mosaic guitars, and a paper tower challenge. The tower challenge was engaging and exciting as children built three separate paper towers; one triangular, one squared and one circular. They were challenged to find out which shape of tower held the most amount of paperback books. As children began piling on their books, cheers broke out encouraging the participants’ success. During this month’s program, children also practiced their problem solving skills through use of snap circuits, building kits and assembly toys.

POTRANCO

Children and Tweens

Potranco library is fortunate enough to have a service dog come lend their ears to the children. Read to a Dog is an innovative program which allows reluctant readers, as well as poor readers to acquire an
interest in reading and improve their reading skills. Children’s librarian, Angela Bilbe, has noticed children become more eager to read, and more involved with selecting their reading materials. Reading to the dog has become a production for them, and it is evident that their confidence grows after every story performance. Bilbe has observed that because the children are comfortable reading to the dog, the program has greatly increased their reading fluency.

During the this past reporting period, Potranco Branch Library Tweens celebrated local Military Veterans. Tween Liaison Raquel Reyes had the idea to tribute these service men and women with a wall decorated especially for them. To make it extra special, Reyes engaged the Tween Time crew. Tween’s designed a display thanking our Veterans for their service and sacrifice. It was especially nice to thank Potranco Librarian Raishell Williams for her service in the Army. Mrs. Williams was so touched by the gesture and posed for pictures in front of their display and used the picture for her personal social media profile picture. Two regular users of Potranco Branch Library who happened to be veterans came in the branch the following Sunday. As library patron, Ms. Surprise, was reading the children's notes she commented she was “…almost moved to tears”.

Family

Potranco Branch Library hosted a Halloween themed Spooky Pooch Parade on November 3, 2018 for patrons and their canine friends. Library patrons brought their dogs dressed in costume to compete for prizes and fun. Adult Services Librarian Gamini Haluwana swears the dogs knew that all eyes were on them by the way they were prancing down the red carpet. There were three different categories of contest; Best Pooch Pal Costume Duo, Best Dressed Pooch and Most Star Studded Pooch.

Team Potranco worked together with eight volunteers to make this outside event a success. As many as 55 people attended the event. Many patrons commented their favorite part was master of ceremonies and Circulation Attendant Paschal Booker for his wonderful performance. Booker was “born ready” for jobs like this. In addition to having some scripting prepared, Booker ad-libbed plenty of jokes for onlookers. Circulation attendant Raquel Reyes had a craft for kids. Many patrons left asking if Potranco Branch Library would host the event again next year.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Pruitt Library hosted another successful Toddler’s Halloween Parade. Children and parents enjoyed stories, songs, crafts, and trick-or-treating throughout the library. Children came dressed in a variety of costumes, and patrons were thrilled to see the parade traveling throughout the library.

Children’s librarian Cynthia Saenz recently hosted the monthly meeting of the Family Circle Book Club. In attendance were tweens and parents. Participants enjoyed the discussion of the delightful, magical selection, *Molly and Pim and the Millions of Stars*. Children addressed important topics such as acceptance of those who are different and celebrating our differences. The group is looking forward to the next selection, *The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora*, a Pura Belpre Honor Book written by Pablo Cartaya.

The SPARK Science program kicked off its fourth year with a reading of *From Cow to Ice Cream* by Bertram Knight. With assistance from Roosevelt High School AVID students, children experimented and made delicious homemade ice cream using a variety of flavors and toppings.
The Pruitt Teens are continuing on with their regularly scheduled events. In November, the teens celebrated Thanksgiving like Charlie Brown and his crew. They were served popcorn, pretzels, jelly beans, and cocoa.

October marked the start of the Citizenship Class at Pruitt and the Wednesday night class has a fun group of eight women from Afghanistan and a group of six women from Mexico. The instructor and students are not just learning what it means to be and become a U.S. citizen, but they are learning about their neighbors. The Pruitt staff is proud of the Roosevelt High School LEO Club volunteers. They provide babysitting services for the women from Afghanistan, who without it could not go to the classes.

The adults at Pruitt are also getting their Ebru on. Ebru is the traditional art of Turkish water marbling. Nihal Sönmez is the artist who is guiding our patrons in the traditional Turkish art and the students are walking away with beautiful works of art.

The branch also hosted the STEAM Adult Lip Balm Workshop. The participants made two tubes of lip balm. They weighed the material, mixed the ingredients, and chose the color, flavor/scent, and level of sparkle and glitter. All left happy ready to kiss a loved one with their very soft and smooth lips.

SAN PEDRO

Outreach Story Time Programs—Ms. Dalton presented monthly story times to children at Monte Vista Montessori (two classes); Laurel Heights Weekday School (1 class); Will Smith Zoo Preschool (11 classes); and Respite Care Day Care (4 classes). Fifteen to twenty books were also delivered to each child care/preschool class for their use during the month. The teachers of those classes request thematic books for topics they will be discussing in their respective classes for the following month and are very appreciative of this enrichment to their curriculum.

Kids Time Programs—Minecraft Monday and LEGO® Club on Wednesdays continue.

Toddler Time Programs—This program continued during this reporting time with a small but very loyal group.

Outreach School Age Book Club—Ms. Dalton facilitates 7 book clubs at several neighborhood schools. These include Monte Vista Montessori (1 mixed ages class), St. Anthony’s School (3rd grade and 4th grade clubs), and 2 SAISD schools: Hawthorne Academy (4th grade and 5th grade clubs), and Twain Dual Academy (3rd grade and 4th grade clubs). She also assists the 6th and 7th grade teachers at Advanced Learning Academy by providing them on a monthly basis with thematic books.

Family Fun—Two Family Fun events were held during this reporting period. On October 28, the branch hosted a Halloween party for its young patrons; and on November 11, our youngest patrons enjoyed a Barnyard Play and Learn.

San Pedro Library partnered with the San Antonio Astronomy Society on Tuesday, October 30, to explore the night skies. Four members of the Association came with fantastic telescopes. Patrons were
able to see Mars and even the rings of Saturn. There was some cloud cover, but the twenty seven participants really enjoyed the program.

**SCHAEFER**

Library Assistant Sheridan Richardson presented the Saturday Movie “Woody Woodpecker” and hosted a fall picnic for patrons. Attendees got to snack on cotton candy made with the new machine from Adult Services, along with sandwiches, popcorn, and apple cider, and got to play games like bean bag toss, checkers, tic-tac-toe, and Jenga.

The Skimmers met October 22nd to discuss “Manhattan Beach” by Jennifer Egan. The book was not well-liked, but they welcomed two new members, bringing the club count to 10! The first Saturday Movie in November was “Scooby-Doo and the Gourmet Ghost”. Library Assistant Sheridan Richardson provided free popcorn, and guests brought their own snacks and blankets to camp out in Schaefer’s meeting room.

November’s Learn Computer Class was “Hobby Technology II”, a follow-up class to August’s “Learn Hobby Technology”. Library Assistant Sheridan Richardson borrowed snap circuit kits, a telescope, and Perler Beads from Adult Services, while Schaefer provided Kitables Drones and a sewing machine so patrons could explore a variety of casual technology. The Snap Circuit Kits and Perler Beads were the most popular activities, with patrons expressing interest in buying kits for themselves and family.

Every other Thursday afternoon, Schaefer hosts the Kid’s Gaming Program. School age children gather in the Mays Family Community Flex Space to play Wii U, and Nintendo Switch games in an environment which promotes teamwork, friendly competition, and social interaction. Library Assistant Mason Matthews offers instruction and mediation.

Two Saturdays each month at Schaefer Branch Library, Patrons gather for Zumba! Zumba Instructor, Angelica Guzman, leads an hour long session of enthusiastic dance to a lively soundtrack. Patrons shed stress and calories in the air conditioned comfort of the Mays Family Community Flex Space.

Monday & Wednesday evenings at Schaefer Branch Library, patrons can attended GED prep classes. ESC-20 (Region-20) provides instruction and materials for local adults in ten week course increments. Classes take place in the H.E.B Collaborate Space.

On October 20th 2018, patrons gathered at Schaefer Library’s H-E-B Collaborate Room to participate in a cooperative storytelling experience. For three hours, patrons designed characters and participated in a fantasy roleplaying game led by Library Assistant Mason Matthews.

The Halloween party for children and their families was Oct. 29 from 5 to 7 pm. For the second year in a row, there was a huge turnout of more than 600 people! All of the Schaefer staff participated and helped make the party a success. There were a variety of activities to entertain everyone – a haunted house, two crafts and a variety of games including pin the grin on the Pumpkin, a pumpkin ring toss, haunted robot bowling, a Frankenstein bean bag toss, video games and a Halloween obstacle course, created Library Assistant, Sara Ramirez, the course included a pumpkin walk, spider web challenge, caution tape maze, bat cave, and an immersive underwater adventure.
Children’s programming continues to have strong numbers. Story Time and Toddler Time participants have had programs on space, animal in the night, Halloween and turtles. Baby Time continues to grow and families are coming regularly to sing songs, listen to stories, play and make friends. LEGO Time participants use their creativity to build interesting creations each week that are then displayed in the library.

Children’s Librarian Leslie Elsasser went to the Evelyn King child care center Nov. 7 to read stories to two classrooms – the pre-k kids and the toddlers.

Library Assistant Sara Ramirez hosted two Science Time programs during the reporting period. On October 23, children played with the Sphero robots for fun with robot bowling. Children were also presented with an assortment of materials to create obstacle courses for the robots to travel through. On November 6, Science Time explored catapults. Children tested the difference between homemade catapults and a catapult mounted onto Dash, an educational robot. A variety of targets were set out for children to practice with the catapults. Children could also play with Bee Bots to learn introductory coding skills.

Teen Services Librarian, Cindy Cruz, visited Jubilee Academy on November 9th for their College and Career Resource Fair. The fair brought in 300 high school students looking for information on college and career readiness. Cindy spoke to many of these students about resources available through the library. She also visited STEM Early College High School and brought a DIY activity for students in the after school program. Lastly, as part of the Teen Arts Fest committee, Cindy worked with other members to facilitate the Teen Arts Fest. The event drew over 550 teens to this celebration of visual and performing arts.

Cindy provided volunteer opportunities for East Central’s Vocational Ed dept. These teens helped to decorate Schaefer’s Teen Space for Halloween during their bi-weekly visit. Many patrons remarked on how festive the teen space looked after their work.

Schaefer’s teen volunteers were actively involved in two of Schaefer’s all ages events. The STEM Monarch Butterfly program and Halloween party brought in a number of teen volunteers that helped with crafts and stations during the event. Teen volunteers received community service for their contributions.

Teen Time programs for the reporting period included a calavera project (made with the library 3D printer) in celebration of Hispanic Heritage month, a printmaking activity, and a Scavenger Hunt. Teens also created various paintings and sketches on mini canvases for their Mini Art Museum in the Teen Space.

On Monday, October 15 the Schaefer Library held our STEAM for Adults Program. Linda Plevak, a Librarian with Northeast Lakeview College, gave a presentation about the Monarch Butterfly annual migration through Texas. Afterwards, there was a seed bomb activity led by staff from Eco Centro with San Antonio College. The evening wrapped up with a hand sewn sugar skull felt craft, a 3-D printing demonstration, and a demonstration of an Oculus VR headset. Staff Cynthia Cruz, Sara Ramirez, and Maria Adams planned the STEAM program and were assisted by manager Jorge Chavez the night of the program.

Librarian Maria Adams created a maker kit for patrons to take home. The kit included all the pieces to make a felt catcat, instructions on how to assemble the cat, and all the sewing supplies needed for the
project were bundled into a bag for patrons to take home to learn the art of hand sewing. 10 kits were made and almost all have been handed out.

District 2 outreach continues with The Schaefer branch hosting programs at the senior center. Librarian Maria Adams hosted a device support program for seniors at the senior center on October 17.

On Saturday, November 10, Librarian Maria Adams held her first Adult Crafternoon for patrons ages 14 and up. This monthly program features make and take crafts and feature a different craft each month. This month crafters created a glitter mason jar lantern decorated for the upcoming holidays.

**SEMMES**

Early Voting was the main focus of the branch from Monday, October 22nd through Friday, November 2nd. Over 15,000 people voted at Semmes over the two week early voting period. The parking lot was always full and there was always a bit of a line, but the election officials were very efficient at keeping the line moving.

Because of the election using the meeting room, all library programming was held out in the main part of the branch. The Children’s Librarians held their story times near the patio, behind the reference desk. This new location gave the programs exposure to a different audience; it is always surprising to hear from customers who did not realize the many different types of programming the library offers.

A special Play and Learn program, “Barnyard Buddies”, took place on Saturday, October 27th. Children’s Librarian Randi Jones shared fun stories and activities about farm animals with children and their caregivers. All attendees had a fun time.

An additional Baby Time program is now being offered on Wednesday mornings. Children’s Librarian Brian Douglass has started offering Baby Time at 10:00 AM. Parents and babies can also come to Randi Jones’ Baby Time at 1:00 PM. Staff offer several Baby Times each week, so that more babies’ sleeping schedules can be accommodated.

For the third month in a row, Semmes staff offered programming for the monthly Pokémon Go Community Day on Saturday, November 10th. Even though it was a cold, windy day, about 100 people stopped by and participated in a craft activity, picked up a Pokémon themed button, had some free water or used our charging station to power up their mobile device. Special thanks to the Friends of the Semmes Branch Library for providing the water and the supplies for the craft and buttons.

On Saturday, November 3rd, District 10 Councilman Clayton Perry’s office hosted a 300 Celebration in Comanche Lookout Park as a kickoff to Native American Heritage Month. Attendees enjoyed tours through the park, demonstrations of Native American culture, food trucks and other fun activities. Native American craftsmen demonstrated basket making techniques on the Semmes patio during the event.

Technology volunteer, Daniel Gomez, visited the branch twice in November to teach some adult computing classes. Mr. Gomez taught an Introduction to Microsoft Word class and also conducted a
Resume Writing workshop. His class sizes were small, so he was able to give participants a great deal of individual attention.

Adult Services Librarian Megan Stanley organized a DIY Christmas greeting card workshop on Saturday, November 10th. Supplies were provided to make three homemade Christmas cards. Because of the success of this program, Ms. Stanley plans to provide other card making classes in the future.

THOUSAND OAKS

Semmes has loaned Randi Jones, their children’s librarian, to Thousand Oaks until a permanent children’s librarian can be located. Ms. Jones is conducting Toddler Time and Story Time. Branch staff in conjunction with the branch Friends group held a Halloween Party on October 31. Crafts, games, and treats were available.

The teens at Thousand Oaks enjoyed October. Their activities included YouTube anime music videos, constructing a chocolate cookie haunted house, watched a scary movie, ate their body weight in candy, watched Labyrinth, ate more candy, played Super Smash Bros, played board games, and listened to music. They are a busy group!

The Thursday Book Group read selections by David Sedaris. The group members had difficulty relating to this author and his anecdotes concerning life. Mr. Sedaris is considered a humorist however the members of the book group didn’t find his humor particularly funny. The members agreed that his writing style is good. They decided against doing another author study in the near future. They are looking forward to next month’s selection which is by Louise Penny.

This month’s selection for the North East Senior Center Book Club was Jesmyn Ward’s Sing, Unburied, Sing. While not an easy read, the book generated discussion about race, identity, poverty, parenting, and drug addiction. While several readers commented that they did not enjoy the book per se, they were all able to appreciate it as a fictional account of life in America that is very different from their own. Librarian Theresa Garza reminded readers that it was not necessary to finish a selection if they are not enjoying it, but they are always welcome to attend and tell us what they disliked.

On Oct 19, Librarian Theresa Garza represented the Library at the North East Senior Center Resource Fair. Over 200 seniors attended and learned about library resources, services, and programs. Of particular interest was the list of nearby library locations where people could go for early voting.

Librarian Theresa Garza introduced a new adult crafting program, Sunday Crafternoon, on Oct 21. This once a month crafting session for adults features quick and simple projects. Attendees made coasters and trivets from corkboard.

On Saturday Nov 10, Thousand Oaks hosted a geocaching program with a good turnout.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL
Early Voting had record turnout at Tobin at Oakwell, like most other branches. The first two days were extremely crowded but folks were patient with parking and the lines throughout Early Voting and on Election Day.

Adult Librarian and Assistant Manager, Rhonda Woolhouse, handled the set up and breakdown of San Antonio Public Library’s booth at Alamo City Comic Con on October 26 – 28. Ms. Woolhouse scheduled and trained all workers at the booth and arranged a craft area. Many celebrities posed for photos at the booth holding their SAPL library card. Library Assistant, Terry Verner, enjoyed working the event for her first time this year on October 28.

Ms. Woolhouse partnered with San Antonio Food Bank to host a healthy cooking class for adults on October 23. Participants watched and of course tasted the vegetarian chili and chocolate hummus that were prepared for the class.

On October 23, Cosplay ConFab started meeting again at Tobin at Oakwell. Participants can learn how to build a costume, basic sewing techniques and how to draw and design unique costumes.

National NaNoWriMo Month was celebrated on November 10 with The Tobin’s Writers and other budding authors spending much of the day brainstorming ideas and writing their latest works.

Children’s Librarian, Karen Braeuler, decorated the juvenile area with real pumpkins for fall and the reading castle became a bat house for Halloween. For the fall season, Ms. Braeuler presented an original passive program, Mr. Pumpkin head, similar to Mr. Potato Head. Kids match and stick Velcro eyes, nose and mouth to the pumpkin’s face.

A special Halloween Yoga Story Time was held on October 10. Then on Halloween, kids came in costume and paraded through the branch for Halloween party favors and snacks during Toddler and Story Time.

On November 7, a special Barnyard Buddies Play and Learn was held during Toddler and Story time. Ms. Braeuler and Librarian, Kimberly Wygant, helped kids five and under, along with their caretakers and parents, learn about cows, horses chickens, sheep and pigs. Through creative play and STEAM activities kids learn about farms and these animals.

Ms. Braeuler’s weekly and monthly programs - Toddler and Story Time, Baby Time and 1st Saturday Baby Time, Lego Club, Read to a Dog and Come and Go Crafts all day on weekends continue with very good attendance at all events.

Staff gladly welcomed Teen Librarian, Karah Garcia, who arrived to Tobin at Oakwell on October 22. Ms. Garcia comes from Austin Public Library and has a teaching background as well.

Ms. Garcia, along with other reference staff, rotate hosting After School Fun Time on school days since the pilot of this program revealed such positive results. Multiple simultaneous activities are offered to engage kids and teens at the library for one hour. Some recent activities have included painting book ends, perler beads, playing Frisbee outside, board games and ping pong.
Director, Ramiro Salazar, visited Tobin to present Library Assistant, Auriel Pinales with a quarterly Customer Service Award as part of the library’s and City’s recognition program. In addition, Manager Tracey Knouse received a quarterly award for Leadership and Professionalism. Both employees receive a framed certificate, pin and a day of leave.

WESTFALL

During the months of October and November, the Westfall Branch Library provided a variety of programs and services to the community. There were weekly programs for all ages and a wide range of topics. In addition to many events hosted at the branch, the staff was also able to offer off site services as well as outreach.

During the reporting period, Children’s Librarian, Imelda Merino, visited daycares in the service areas and brought the children a variety of books to read. Additionally, Ms. Merino held weekly children’s programs such as story time, kids and toddler times. The programs consisted of some stories and fun activities to wrap up the day.

On Fridays, the Westfall Branch continued to host students from the One for Autism Academy located in the neighborhood. The students visited the branch to check out library books as well as participate in an activity. Teen Librarian, Daniella Toll has been working with the students since the beginning of the school year.

Teen Librarian, Daniella Toll continued to host math tutoring on Saturdays from 1-3pm at Westfall. Three 10th and 11th grade volunteers from Health Careers help mostly middle school students with math up to algebra II. Additionally, the branch has Teen Time every Wednesday from 5-7pm, where young adults participate in fun activities and games.

On Fridays, the Westfall Branch continued to host students from the One for Autism Academy located in the neighborhood. The students visited the branch to check out library books as well as participate in an activity. Teen Librarian, Daniella Toll has been working with the students since the beginning of the school year.

On October 5th NaNoWriMo- National Novel Writing Month on October 5th, Westfall hosted a writer’s meetup group. The program allowed other aspiring writers to share ideas, their writing process and what inspires them.

According to the web, National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to creative writing.

On October 22nd the Westfall Branch Library hosted a “Mocktails” program for Halloween. Attendees were given a hands-on demonstrations and recipes for mocktails or non-alcoholic drinks to liven up their Halloween party. Drinks include candy corn punch and Halloween blood martini.

The Westfall Branch Library continued to host the “Stranger than Fiction” and “Third Thursday” book clubs. Books read this month included “Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right” by Arlie Russell Hochschild and “The Portable Veblen” by Elizabeth McKenzie. Both book clubs draw small but dedicated groups that enjoy discussing the themes of the books as well as other issues of the day.

In October and November, the Westfall Branch library continued to host the Central Texas Werewolves (CTW) for a night of the social deception game “Are You a Werewolf?” where people try to
deduce who is a werewolf preying on innocent villagers. After playing several round of Werewolf, they broke out the board games. One group played Black Orchestra, a group of World War II conspirators who try to defeat Hitler before being caught by the Gestapo. Another group tried to win the heart of the Princess Annette in Love Letter. Others attempted to vie for power of Waterdeep, the City of Splendors in The Lords of Waterdeep The CTW will be at the Westfall library every other Friday night throughout the end of summer and into the fall playing Werewolf and other board games.

The Westfall LEARN @ SAPL Center continued to be busy throughout the reporting period. Over 200 people have stopped by the center for drop-in assistance with resume writing, online job applications, and educational support. The English as a Second Language (ESL) class held every Saturday afternoon continued to be popular with the community and well attended. In October and November, the Westfall LEARN @ SAPL offered a variety of computer classes and one-one-one coaching that included: Microsoft Word, Excel, online searching, social media and email basics.

In November, the Westfall branch staff bid library aide Rachel Lewis farewell and good luck as she started a new position with SAPL. Ms. Lewis will be working as a Public Services Associate in Technical Services at the Central Library effective in November. The Westfall Branch staff will miss her and wishes her the best at the start of this new chapter.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES
Presented below are key indicators that align with the Library’s Strategic Plan.

**CIRCULATION: GOAL**
- **Total FY Goal:** 7,383,981
- **109% of FYTD Goal Met**

**CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR 2019**
- **684,996 Items Borrowed**

**LIBRARY VISITS: GOAL**
- **Total FY Goal:** 5,353,581
- **103% of FYTD Goal Met**

**LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2019**
- **627,397 Visits**

**DIGITAL ACCESS: GOAL**
- **Total FY Goal:** 2,353,104
- **102% of FYTD Goal Met**

**DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR 2019**
- **49,955 Computer Hours**
- **164,924 Hours of Wi-Fi Use**
- **214,879 Total Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use**
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS
OCTOBER 2018 (continued)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2019

CIRCULATION BY TYPE
- DIGITAL: 21%
- PHYSICAL: 79%

CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA
- COSA: 77%
- BEXAR COUNTY (OUTSIDE COSA): 23%

VIRTUAL VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2019

- MYSAPL.ORG VISITS: 228,146
- MYSAPL APP SESSIONS: 86,019
- SANANTONIO.OVERDRIVE.COM VISITS: 134,947

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2019

- TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 45,189
- ADULT PROGRAMS: 13,574
- TEEN PROGRAMS: 8,852
- CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS: 22,763

OCTOBER MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

30th Anniversary at Forest Hills
Zinefest at Central Library
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Circulation includes Digital (OneClick and Overdrive) and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt.
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San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures
FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm
FY 18: Central Oct 28 at 3pm, SAPL System Jan 16; Weather, Staff Transformation Day-Feb 19, Cody May 3-13, Pan American Jun 18-Jul 3 & Sep 24-30, Thousand Oaks Jun 25-Jul 5
FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16
* Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures

FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm
FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16 * Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures

2018:
- Central Oct 27 at 2pm

FY 17:
- Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16
- Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Oct 2018

- Central
- Igo
- Parman
- Brook Hollow
- Cody
- Great NW
- Tobin
- Semmes
- Encino
- Maverick
- Mission
- McCreless
- Pruitt
- Thousand Oaks
- Guerra
- Las Palmas
- Memorial
- Johnston
- Potranco
- Schaefer
- Westfall
- Landa
- Cortez
- Bazan
- Carver
- Forest Hills
- Collins Garden
- Pan American
- San Pedro
- Library Portal

Location Closures
FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm
FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16 * Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures
FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm
FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16
* Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25

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