San Antonio Public Library celebrated Central Library’s 25th Anniversary with a virtual celebration from May 20 - 23. The celebration included live trivia, an enchilada cooking tutorial, a grand shoebox parade, and more.
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DIRECTOR’S OFFICE

The Library continued offering digital resources and services while library locations were closed to the public.

- Digital Collection (books, magazines, movies, audio)
- Book suggestions
- Virtual Programming
- Virtual Field Trips
- School Help
- Databases
- Adult Learning

On June 16, 2020, SAPL began offering Contact-Free Pickup of reserved materials at twenty-nine (29) library locations. Additionally, at nine (9) of the twenty-nine (29) library locations, the Library began offering appointment-based access to public computers to serve those communities with the greatest need for this type of service.

To better serve the community in a COVID-19 environment, the Library developed a phased approach to expanded library services. This phased service will ensure that priority is given to the public’s health by incorporating protocols and guidelines recommended by local and national health authorities.

Library Director Ramiro Salazar is meeting regularly with the directors of major Texas Public Libraries regarding public library services in a COVID-19 environment as well as reopening strategies.

Since March 2020, Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar participated in approximately thirty (30) interviews with local and national media outlets to include Good Morning America, The Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, National Public Radio and USA Today regarding public libraries in a COVID-19 environment.

MARKETING

- KSAT 12 published a story including a video interview with Dale highlighting SAPL’s digital offerings.

- Various Media outlets highlighted Central Library’s 25th Anniversary virtual celebrations happening across SAPL social media.
- KSAT 12 News aired a segment about eBooks and highlighted the San Antonio Public Library throughout the segment.

- Yahoo Entertainment featured SAPL and an interview with you in an article published about libraries becoming increasingly more digital due to the coronavirus.

- KSAT 12 published an article about activities for kids and highlighted SAPL as a place for virtual activities including sing-alongs, storytimes, and homework help.

- KENS 5 published a feature highlighting SAPL’s virtual celebration for Central’s 25th Anniversary and outlining the schedule of events.

- The New York Times published a response Ramiro wrote to an article titled “An Online Lifeline Can Be Out of Reach” which was published in the Business section on May 22, 2020

**Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:**

- SAPL’s social media generated 358,510 impressions
- SAPL’s social media following base grew by 528 new fans
- Content shared across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram contributed to users engaging with our posts 18,503 times.

**Social Media statistics for the month:**

- Twitter: 5,164 followers
- Facebook: 19,912 fans
- Instagram: 5,719 followers

**Graphics**

The Graphics Team created publicity materials for a variety of programs and events during this reporting period, including signs, print materials, Express-News ads and social media graphics to promote Contact-Free Pickup and public computer availability, as well as continuing to produce materials for Summer Reading and virtual programming.

**DIGITAL SERVICES**

On May 22, Digital Services Coordinator Adam Spana attended the inaugural meeting of the Future of Libraries workgroup. The group was established by Library Services Administrator Ron Suszek to determine how library services will need to evolve in order to adapt to a post-pandemic environment.

Digital Library Services Analyst Tricia Masterson and Digital Library Services Assistant Dan Garcia participated in the Virtual Launch, testing, and feedback of the pilot Idea Portal concept from the COSA - Office of Innovation, and continue to provide testing and feedback to further development and help move the project to its next phase.
Ms. Masterson played an integral role in the Reference Chat test pilot project by facilitating and coordinating necessary testing, designing the chat interface widget, and by making the chat portal available to the public.

Digital Library Services Assistant Michael Sheehan coordinated with COSA-ITSD in preparation for the implementation and launch of the EZProxy server meant to make access to library online resources easier and more consistent for the library's community of users.

Digital Library Services Specialist Brian Douglass was primary writer and point person for San Antonio Public Library's CARES Grant application which will help fund the library's COVID-19 response including expanding Wi-Fi access and retrofitting vehicles to provide mobile hotspots for underserved parts of our community.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Little Read Wagon staff expanded their virtual trainings to present their first early childhood teacher training live on Zoom. The training was the final in the fiscal year 2020 series titled "Make Way for Play." It was a learning experience for early childhood teachers and library staff alike as we plan which platform to use for virtual trainings in 2021.

Julia Lazarin presented the workshop “Early Literacy Basics” to internal staff. It is the first of three training modules developed for training military library personnel at bases across the world. Clair Larkin and Tiffany Durham collaborated on "Planning for Story Time Success" the second of the training modules and they jointly presented to a group of internal staff. Both modules are now part of a series for training new children’s librarians and those library staffers who might be filling in at a branch story time. The modules can be found online as a staff LibGuide.

With the end of the school year, Ms. Larkin met virtually to say goodbye to SAISD and NEISD students and staff. These students and staff are part of the teen parent groups that first met in person earlier in the school year. Plans are in development for new types of service models for the upcoming 2021 school year and Little Read Wagon staff has been asked to be part of the districts’ school age parent programs next year.

Ms. Lazarin, Eva Banda and Ms. Larkin serve on various committees to support system-wide Children’s Services. Ms. Lazarin is perfecting editing techniques by creating a number of children’s services videos that regularly premiere on YouTube as part of the Children’s Services Editing committee. These videos provide virtual programs for children ranging from infants through twelve year olds. Ms. Lazarin also serves as the co-chair of the Art & Maker Group. Ms. Banda serves on the Play & Learn committee alongside Ms. Lazarin while Ms. Larkin co-chairs that committee. Ms. Larkin also is on the Babies & Toddlers committee and the Virtual Guest Presenter committee. These committees are in addition to planning future Little Read Wagon outreach and envisioning what that might look like given current events.

CHILDREN’S (SYSTEM-WIDE)
The Children's Services team has been very busy providing services throughout the closure. In May the team produced dozens of videos for asynchronous programming, making the read alouds, songs, book talks, and activities available at the convenience of the children and their caregivers. The team also put together curated programs with books, songs, and extension activities for children to do at home.

**Summer Reading:** Preparations for summer reading began in October, were almost finalized, and then were re-worked due to COVID-19. The major shift from in-person to online was challenging at first, but has become more comfortable as staff familiarize themselves with the different platforms and options. Children still have many opportunities to do activities related to the Imagine theme. The Kids Time programs are posted to the School Age virtual programming LibGuide each week and include an instructional video with book talks and activities. Materials for the activities are available for pick-up from each library location. For patrons who choose not to pick up the kit, the materials are generally common items that may be found in the home. Different kits will be distributed in June and July.

**Professional Learning:** At the request of library colleagues at Fort Sam Houston, several Children’s Services team members worked together to develop a three-part webinar series about basic story time presentation skills. The series was to be shared with military library staff worldwide, but has been postponed due to the pandemic. Instead, the team shared the training with SAPL back-up story time presenters. Julia Lazarin, Clair Larkin, Tiffany Durham, Carrie Vance, and Jasmin Salinas presented the training, with additional support and input from Arlene Richardson, Angela O’Malley, Robin Alcorta, Megan Cruz, and Eva Banda.

Coordinator of Children’s Services, Cresencia Huff, met weekly with the Children’s Services team via Zoom and more frequently with smaller groups of the team to work on exploring different online platforms, creating and revising LibGuides to feature programs for children, and revising schedules and expectations for special summer performers. Ms. Huff made a virtual outreach visit to Morrill Elementary to promote the summer reading program. She also participated in several conversations with peers at the Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, and Harris County public libraries about how each system is navigating summer reading. With assistance from Kate Simpson, Ms. Huff developed an Overdrive curated collection to support the Spurs Give Summer Reading Challenge. The Challenge will run June 15-July 13, and SAPL is supporting it with a LibGuide, Overdrive collection, and social media promotion.

**TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE) / TEEN LIBRARY @ CENTRAL**

Due to the library closure, the Teen Library @ Central staff continued to work on a variety of projects and tasks that had system-wide impacts during the month of May.

**Virtual Teen Programs and Activities**—Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) leads two workgroups that facilitate virtual teen programs: the 210teenlibrary Instagram workgroup and the 210teenlibrary Discord workgroup. Loaiza worked with group members to continue offering virtual teen programs throughout May while also creating a robust schedule of virtual teen programs for the summer.
For the 210teenlibrary Instagram page, Regina Almanza (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) has been creating graphics for posts and stories promoting Teen Services’ Tuesday and Thursday LIVE programs, general teen interest content, and evaluating and posting teen volunteer-created content.

JD Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) created virtual music instruction videos for teens that were posted on the 210teenlibrary Instagram account. He will begin presenting Instagram Live videos from the music studio in the Teen Library in June to engage teens in music programs. During the reporting period, JD also met virtually with Ernie Ramirez, Supervisor of the Carver Community Cultural Center, to discuss partnering for teen programming.

Ciana Flores (Library assistant PT, Teen Library @ Central) continues to take staff and teen content and present it on the 210teenlibrary Instagram story and feed, as well as create and post indirect programming. For example, Ciana develops questions for teens on the 210teenlibrary Instagram to keep them connected and engaged with their library. She consistently searches for content that the teens in the community express interest in to ensure Teen Services responds to their interests and needs. Ciana also records and reports all monthly Instagram statistics.

Amisarahi Sarabia (SAPL’s Teen Outreach Specialist) created several 210teenlibrary Instagram posts and stories. She created a May the Fourth post for Star Wars Day, a “congratulations” post for graduating seniors, and a Black Lives Matter post. She also shared posts on Instagram stories about the Black Lives Matter movement and Pride. Every Monday and Wednesday afternoon Amisarahi hosts “Quarantunes,” an Instagram challenge where teens submit their favorite tunes to the 210teenlibrary account and a Spotify playlist is then created at the end of the week.

**Teen Pride**—Matthew Loaiza leads the Teen Pride workgroup and continues to plan virtual teen programs for Pride Month in June with Gideon Del Rio (Youth Facilitator, Fiesta Youth) and the group members. The workgroup is also identifying other ways to engage with teens during Pride Month on the 210teenlibrary Instagram.

**System-wide Support**—Amisarahi Sarabia continued to assist SAPL Marketing during the reporting period by editing videos, such as Central Library’s 25th Anniversary enchilada video and several Adult Services book review videos and tutorials.

Matthew Loaiza contributed to the Teen Summer 2020 LibGuide and also frequently met with the Teen Summer workgroup to finalize plans for Teen Summer 2020. Loaiza also provided workgroup updates to the Teen Services group during weekly meetings.

Ciana Flores has been working onsite in the Teen Library @ Central daily helping Central Administration and staff to stay connected via WebEx meetings by updating and ensuring Ipads are up to date or compatible with the WebEx app. Ciana also participated in the Central Library’s 25th Anniversary highlight video, where she spoke about the Teen Library and what is available for teens.

During the reporting period, JD Elizondo contributed to two SAPL Tuned In podcast episodes: Meet the Podcasters Part 2, and he interviewed Teen Library Manager, Kathleen Fordyce, for the Central Library’s 25th Anniversary episode.

**Professional Development**—Jennifer Velásquez (Coordinator of Teen Services) continued to lead weekly virtual meetings in May with the Teen Services librarians and liaisons to discuss updates on the
various projects and initiatives teams are working on from home, in addition to the Teen Summer Reading Program.

Kathleen Fordyce (Manager, Teen Library @ Central) continued serving on a system-wide Teen Services workgroup developing a revision of suspension guidelines for minors. She also continued to serve on the SAPL Talent Modernization Study committee and the Incident Reporting System workgroup. In addition, she continued to attend weekly Central Public Service Managers meetings.

The Teen Library @ Central staff has met Monday through Thursday every week on Microsoft Teams to stay connected and update each other on the tasks and projects they are all working on.

**ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

Throughout the month of May, Adult Services staff worked diligently to develop and facilitate virtual programs to keep the community engaged. Highlights of virtual program efforts are described in more detail below.

On May 14th, Lorin Flores from Central Reference offered a live tutorial on face mask making through SAPL’s YouTube channel. Ms. Flores demonstrated step by step how to create masks that are both comfortable and provide necessary protection against COVID-19. Participants in the virtual workshop were engaged and commented how easy it was to follow along with Ms. Flores’ instructions. The workshop continues to be available for viewing on SAPL’s YouTube channel for those that were not able to tune in to the livestream.

On May 29th, four SAPL staff (Brooke Mjolsness from Thousand Oaks, Maria Adams from Schaefer, Vicky Villalobs from Central Reference, and Morgan Yoshimura, Coordinator of Services to Adults) offered a virtual SAPL Live Trivia Event. Teams registered ahead of time to participate in this event via Zoom. Trivia categories included books, Disney, Marvel/DC and San Antonio/SAPL. Seven teams participate, with a total of 20 people attending the virtual event. The event came to a dramatic end with 3 teams tying for second place. Participants had very positive comments about the event, with one participant stating that the event gave her and her spouse an opportunity for a “quarentine date night.” The group is working on plans to offer another SAPL Live Trivia event in June.

Several virtual programs were offered in May that staff intend to offer on an ongoing basis. These programs include virtual Mario Kart 8 Tournaments, virtual chess games (in which the audience plays collectively against a San Antonio Public Library librarian), and Chair Yoga offered by IDoYogaSanAntonio. By offering ongoing virtual programs, Adult Services staff plan to build an engaged audience for these programs.

A group of roughly twelve staff from various branches and aged based services resurrected the Library’s GoodReads discussion group in May. The staff working on this effort work collaboratively to brainstorm discussion posts, and have been offering three discussion topics per week. Popular discussion topics in May included habits and preferences related to e-books, mysteries, and memoirs. Plans for discussion topics in June include summer reads, LGBTQ+ titles, and books on the topics of racism and social justice.
The highlight for the Central Children’s department was celebrating the Central Library’s 25th anniversary. Manager Kate Simpson filmed a virtual field trip to Central Library for children to enjoy as part of the celebration. Librarian Olivia Escovedo did the camerawork and video editing, which included incorporating the gorgeous photography of the Central Library exterior shot by Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez. Ms. Simpson and Ms. Fernandez participated in a SAPL Tuned In podcast about the 25th Anniversary. They were interviewed about the history of the Central Children’s department, including how it has changed over the years and plans for the future.

The Children’s Librarians continued to maintain their connection to the families who visited Central Library through the resource sheet they created and emailed to parents twice a week. Ms. Escovedo, Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin and Librarian Ashley Stubbs collaborated to produce these highly engaging messages along different themes. Each info sheet highlighted SAPL’s digital offerings, early literacy tips for parents at home with their children, story, song and rhyme videos, and info about the Central Children’s team to help foster connection.

Children’s Librarians also contributed significant work to SAPL’s virtual public service in May. Ms. Escovedo served as co-chair of the Editing Committee. She coordinated the submission and editing process for Children’s Librarians’ story time videos. She also spent countless hours editing their submissions and working with the Marketing department to meet their standards and deadlines for posting. Ms. Escovedo also served on the Kids Time Programming Committee. She filmed and edited the special videos as part of the Mayor’s Summer Reading Program. She also helped prepare the craft kits in support of the virtual programming, for distribution to all library locations. Ms. Escovedo recorded a story reading for the Dial A Story service as well.

Ms. Seglin co-chaired the Story Time Committee, which developed virtual programs for a preschool audience on SAPL’s website. She spent much of her time researching best practices and copyright restrictions in order to ensure the videos followed publishers’ protocols for online readings. She coordinated with other committees to develop book bundle plans for Phase 2 of reopening as well.

Librarian Ashley Stubbs served as a key member of both the Tiny Tots Committee and the Play & Learn Committee. She produced many curated programs for SAPL’s We’re Here For You section of the website and developed book bundle lists for use during the contact free pickup phase of service in June. Ms. Stubbs contributed weekly content to the Play & Learn Committee’s work as well.

Ms. Simpson co-chaired the Play & Learn Committee, providing support to the process of creating weekly videos guiding parents through using household items for their young ones’ early literacy play. Ms. Stubbs and Ms. Simpson each submitted images and videos of their own toddler daughters engaging in play with the various around-the-house themes highlighted each week, such as Water, Laundry Baskets, Kitchen and Outside.

Ms. Simpson selected high interest paperback books of all reading levels for purchase as prize books for completion of the Mayor’s Summer Reading Program. She also assisted the Coordinator of Children’s Services in recommending titles for the Spurs Give Summer Reading Challenge.
REFERENCE

The Central Reference team worked this month to prepare the launch of our online chat reference service in the month of June. Working with Digital Services and Administration, a team of 15 reference members will be running this pilot program. It will be evaluated at the end of summer for possible expansion.

Central Reference has made great efforts to cover digital programming this May, including a streaming mask-making course, lessons for staff on how to use various streaming platforms, and Mario Kart tournaments. The Reference team has been working extensively to keep up with communication efforts with the public during the library’s closure period. As we enter phase 2 of the reopening process, Reference will be expanding phone service hours in addition to adding chat reference services. The department continues to see record number of LibAnswers queries.

LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

During the reporting period LCRC Program Manager Emma Hernandez continued to support local COVID-19 emergency response by staffing the MetroHealth department’s COVID-19 hotline through May 18, 2020. Emma also volunteered on May 27, 2020 for the City of San Antonio’s ‘Greater. SAfer. Together. Supply Pickup Day’ that distributed critical personal protective equipment to over 5,000 area businesses.

LCRC Program Manager Emma Hernandez worked both in front of the camera and behind the scenes to support the Central Library’s 25th Anniversary virtual celebration. Emma filmed a video segment welcoming patrons to the Latino Collection and Resource Center’s offerings for use in a virtual tour. As lead of the Zine Committee, Emma also worked to accept submissions to SAPL’s ‘Big Read Zine’, designed the digital zine and made it available to the public as a ‘gift’ to library users.

Ms. Hernandez continues to meet regularly in a virtual capacity with the Zine Committee, the Citywide Equity Committee and participating in the Women’s Leadership Mentorship Program.

TEXANA/ GENEALOGY

On May 26 Texana welcomed graduate intern Jamie (Barrett) Lopez from The University of North Texas. Mrs. Lopez is currently enrolled in UNT’s online Library Science master’s program and has prior experience working at SAPL. During 2016-2018, Jamie worked at the Encino Branch Library as a Library Circulation attendant. Jamie’s practicum will be conducted remotely under the supervision and guidance of Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson. During the Summer Semester Jamie will learn about the role of the Texana/Genealogy Department in the Library, as well as in the overall community. As part of her learning objectives, she will gain experience with transcribing oral history audio recordings and creating an archival finding aid.
Librarian I Sylvia Reyna continued to develop her virtual cemetery tour series. The second virtual tour of San Fernando Cemetery #1 highlights the many accomplishments of Jose Antonio Navarro, a native-born San Antonian who was a Texas statesman, rancher and merchant.

Texana/Genealogy staff worked behind the scenes on various projects to support the Central Library’s 25th Anniversary virtual celebration. Librarian Andy Crews digitized archival videocassettes featuring historic footage from the Central Library’s earliest beginnings, including the 1993 Ground Breaking, 1994 Construction Phase, and 1995 Grand Opening & Magical Book Parade Celebration. By digitizing these videos, the footage will be preserved for future generations to enjoy. Portions of these recordings were highlighted in the Library’s commemorative video Celebrating Central Library’s 25th Anniversary Then and Now. This new video included a virtual tour of the Texana/Genealogy Department led by Ms. Ferguson.

Library Assistant Clarissa Chavira and Librarian Deborah Countess, along with Ms. Reyna and Ms. Ferguson, each created shoebox floats that were featured in the 25th Anniversary Grand Shoebox Parade. Ms. Countess also worked on the 25th Anniversary committee and researched fun facts that were used to create the Library’s Live Trivia Event. Ms. Ferguson served on the Zine Committee that contributed to the virtual celebrations with the launch of the Library’s Zine Collection and digital publication release of SAPL’s Big Read Zine Stays at Home: Quaranzine Edition, which included artwork submitted by our community.

Librarian Matt Dewaelsche and Ms. Reyna created 25th Anniversary displays in the Texana/Genealogy Department featuring archival materials and related ephemera highlighting the Central Library’s 1995 Grand Opening Celebrations.

Ms. Ferguson continued to meet regularly in a virtual capacity with the Texana Bond Committee. The preliminary schematic design drawings for the 6th floor renovation project were finalized at the end of May and construction is slated to begin in early 2021.

CIRCULATION

While the majority of SAPL employees have been working remotely, the staff at Central Circulation has been working diligently in house to meet the demands and needs of the community and the Central staff. Sr. Circulation Attendant, Christine Salas, has been answering up to 100 questions per week online assisting customers navigate a new way for some to obtain services. For Cynthia Vasquez and Rebecca Martinez, they continue to serve the community by assisting as many as people as possible with their housing situations. Their service is made possible through our collaborative work with the Neighborhood Housing Services department.

As we all learn new skills working in a new environment many of the staff have also been assisting in keeping all of the staff and visitors safe. Raquel Reyes, Guadalupe Salinas and Susan Genera have taken a pivotal role in our building by conducting health screenings and taking temperatures of all those who enter the facility. Their experiences have been shared with leadership to help guide the development of training materials and conversations for all staff to learn from. Rosa Sanchez, Valerie Juarez and Jennifer Michaelson have also been able to
keep open communications with our customers by taking calls and answering a variety of questions during our facility closures and letting customers know staff are still available to them. Together, the team has continued to embrace new tasks while completing many of their routine tasks that include shelving over 250 items in the past month, assisting with password resets, reviewing account information, and giving the citizens of San Antonio confidence that we are not assessing any late fees to assist everyone in the middle of this pandemic. This team has truly exemplified the city’s Core Values of Teamwork and Professionalism and all of their work and dedication is appreciated.

**BRANCH LOCATIONS**

**BAZAN**

Training Officer Emily Flores continued virtual classes for Conversational English as a Second Language, Advanced English as a Second Language, English as a Second Language Book Club and Advanced English as a Second Language Book Club. One of Emily's long-time volunteers, Karen Wyatt, continued to volunteer virtually and assists in the class with student technology and vocabulary needs. New students continued to join the group based on recommendations from current students, including a student in Arizona. Students expressed gratitude for the continuity of their classes and the opportunity to continue learning and forming part of a community during this difficult time. A student from Japan who enjoys karaoke suggested a virtual karaoke group, which students were enthusiastic about exploring.

The English as a Second Language Conversation Group followed a new format, with students co-hosting weekly discussions in the context of their home countries. During the month of May, student-led discussions covered the health system in Colombia, traditions in Turkey, racism in Mexico and gender Roles in Panama.

Bazan’s PaperLove Club journaling program, led by Library Assistant Enedina Prater met bi-weekly in May via Zoom to discuss all things paper! This included writing snail mail, planning and journaling, collecting stationary, and discussing related topics while tending to their journal and planners. The group met twice and had a great time continuing the program.

The Bad Girls Book Club met in May to discuss The Right Swipe by Alisha Rai. The group really enjoyed the modern romance novel which included themes such as the Me Too Movement and dating using relationship apps. The attendees hope to continue reading the rest of the series.

Library Assistant Enedina also started a virtual writing program with several authors in the romance community and the group planned to continue the program throughout the summer.

Teen librarian Georgina Garcia hosted a couple of live programs on the @210TeenLibrary Instagram for Teen Services. Ms. Garcia hosted a cooking demo on how to make banana bread, and a craft on how to make your own pom pom bookmark. Ms. Garcia also worked on the Virtual Summer in the City library guide for city departments, to include the library, to use as a space to promote online programming this summer. Georgina contributed to the What To Read page on the Teen Summer Reading library guide
Children’s Librarian Hope Sonnen kept busy in Mya with webinars, meetings, and preparing programs for the summer reading.

**BROOK HOLLOW**

In May 2020, Children’s Librarian Jasmin Salinas continued to provide children’s programming for our community by editing video content on the mysapl YouTube channel that features San Antonio Public children’s librarians sharing songs, stories, activities, and book talks. Five of the videos she worked on in May are currently available to be viewed by the public and already have a combined 245 views. Ms. Salinas also partnered with Children’s Librarian Robin Alcorta to edit video content featuring nature through children’s songs, stories, and activities and was shared with the Landa Gardens Conservancy.

Ms. Salinas co-leads the children’s work group Tiny Tots that focuses on creating video, web, and print content for babies and toddlers that share early literacy best practices, songs, stories, and activity ideas. Throughout May, Tiny Tots released weekly video content of songs and rhymes for parents and caregivers to share with their children. Ms. Salinas oversaw all video creation and editing for Tiny Tots.

At the beginning of May, she also partnered with Children’s Librarian Carrie Vance to provide a virtual training for library staff on story time best practices. It was the last in a three part series focused on helping people new to facilitating story time. Ms. Salinas and Ms. Vance received several compliments and overall positive feedback from staff who described their presentation as being really practical and helpful.

Ms. Salinas also continued her own professional development with various webinars and presentations that involved children’s services from early literacy information to programming for tweens, children ages nine to twelve.

Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot continues to lead the Teen Summer Reading workgroup despite the closure of library buildings. She and her team are offering a robust calendar of digital programs and content for teens to engage with and enjoy throughout the summer. In addition to the digital offerings, the team has been busy sourcing and constructing Take & Make crafts which will be featured at all library branches for teens to pick up. Ms. Pouliot starred in another Instagram Live video this month, this time a craft demonstration featuring clay drip painted flower pots. Ms. Pouliot has also continued her professional development while working from home through participating in relevant webinars and weekly meetings with her colleagues.

**CARVER**

Some of the most fun Carver Branch staff has had since transitioning into work-from-home mode is participating in the Shoebox Float activity. Members of the team came up with a 1960’s Volkswagen van, decorated with each staff member’s emoji. They had fun throwing out ideas for the concept and sharing pictures of a float. Children’s Librarian Braulia Carrillo took the initiative to put the concept together. Everyone was very proud of the effort.

On behalf of the Carver Branch, Braulia Carrillo submitted a family recipe for the SAPL cookbook.
CODY

Teen Librarian Amy Rae Weaver collaborated with teen librarians and liaisons from across SAPL to create programming and engagement opportunities for patrons across social media platforms such as Instagram, Discord, and GoodReads. With the Teen Tabletop workgroup, she helped research and test games for teen use and built out simple websites to help teens keep track of characters. She worked with colleagues on the Teen Summer Program workgroup to solidify plans for upcoming summer events and helped write and edit the Teen Summer Program LibGuide. She took part in the creation of a May the Fourth LibGuide providing crafts, snacks, book recommendations, and more for Star Wars fans. Amy Rae also helped write and edit an LGBTQ+ LibGuide for patron use.

Adult Services Librarian Marcella McGowan assisted with the creation of the adult come and go crafts for all libraries. McGowan continues to learn and experiment with video editing to provide virtual programming. Upcoming virtual programs include using Glassdoor.com to find a job.

Cody staff has answered the call to help other city departments: Brenda Sanchez has been helping contact people with COVID testing results with STRAC; David Guzman has been helping process housing assistance applications for NHSD; and Joe Michael Oliva has been assisting with child care applications for DHS. Edgar Reynald has also been deployed to help deliver meals to seniors with DHS. On May 27th, Mary Carmen Guzman Kopado, Joshua Miranda, Edgar Reynald, and Cathy Trejo helped COSA distribute PPE to small business owners at the Alamodome.

COLLINS GARDEN

Members of the Collins Garden Library Team worked from home, onsite at another library or were deployed in another department during the COVID19 COSA/SAPL Emergency Stay at Home Orders. Assistant Manager Daniella Toll, Children’s Librarian Gina Brudi and Library Assistant Carlos Loera worked remotely from home. Circulation attendants, Jessica Salas and Charlotte Espinoza, were deployed to the COSA Housing Department to assist with emergency housing applications. Part-time Circulation Attendant Beatriz Galindo and Library aides Denise Talamanza and Janie Cruz were on administrative leave.

CGL Branch Manager Jeannettee Davies began the COVID19 COSA Work From Home Order working from home, along with the rest of the team, during April and May Davies relocated to the Igo Library for the duration of the orders until returning to CGL per SAPL/COSA return to work out of her apartment in LaCantera, along with the rest of the CGL Team working remotely from their homes. In May, Davies relocated to the Igo Library and continued to work from the Igo Library for the duration of the order and returned to the Collins Garden Library June 8, 2020. Library Assistant Carlos Loera and Branch Manager Davies have been actively involved with the SAPL Adult Services Department in the SAPL All Things Culinary workgroup, a subgroup of SAPL’s Health and Nutrition workgroup. The group has been busy recording cooking demonstrations, providing recipes and a bibliographies of SAPL’s digital cookbooks and other cooking resources via Overdrive/Libby. Davies, along with assistance from the subgroup including Loera, Karen Sebesta from Landa Library and Gamini Haluwana from the Igo Library, recorded a cooking demo of red enchiladas in honor of the SAPL CEN Library’s 25th Anniversary Celebration; a How to Make Avocado Toast zoom program for the public with 10 participants. The group is working on additional cooking demos including, Trifle for Pride Month; Healthy Salads and All things Dessert.
Children’s Librarian Gina Brudi has been working with the SAPL Children’s Department to record and produce virtual storytimes for children found on SAPL’s YouTube Channel and on the library’s website re: SAPL’s Here for You resource guide.

Teens virtually attended SAPL Teen Tabletop gaming sessions May 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th and were very engaged in strategizing Dungeons and Dragons. Teens learned to work together as a cohesive team in forming their mission. Teen Services Librarian Daniella Toll worked with other members of the workgroup to brainstorm how to make the program welcoming to teens with easier access. Part of the discussion involved how the teen presence in Discord needed to be dominated by teens. Initially, the program was DMed by SAPL staff, but eventually the goal is to have teens lead in this capacity. The more teen-led the program is, the more teens feel like they have a role and a voice in the library and are more likely to participate, as well as find leadership-enriching experiences. The opportunity for a teen to serve as a Dungeon Master volunteer also gives teens positive identity formation with a sense of purpose, and an understanding that they do have control over circumstances in their life. The Teen Tabletop workgroup also decided to start an additional teen program online on Fridays, for teens who are interested in other role play games, but not particularly Dungeons and Dragons.

As part of the Teen Summer workgroup, Toll helped with the rethinking of the Teen Summer Program to an online format. The consensus was to allow teens to earn their summer prize on the honor system. To avoid multiple people handling registration forms and logs, the teens can either attend one of the Tuesday- Saturday teen library programs on Instagram Live and Discord, read a book, do a take and make craft or complete an Instagram challenge from SAPL.

**CORTEZ**

While the Branch staff were working from home during the month of May there were still accomplishments worth noting.

Adult Services Librarian Angela Morrow created a third “escape room” that was shared on SAPL Facebook. She also kept busy with virtual meetings and webinars as well as creating and teaching crafts for Adult Summer Reading “take and make” kits and the SAPL Here4U LibGuide.

Children’s Librarian Nicole Cubillas was busy helping Children’s Services with their LibGuides as well as preparing for programming through the end of the year. She also produced a video on making “slime” and prepared for the Children’s Summer Reading activities.

Library Assistant Jo Ann Paredes kept up with her regular duties remotely but also spent a lot of time making masks to help out friends and family during the COVID crisis. Jo Ann made around 400 masks during the quarantine period for staff. She also maintained contact with her Monday Morning “Getting Crafty” group and gave them creative assignments to do.

Branch Manager Cammie Brantley was at the Central Library during the month of May. When not attending virtual meetings or workshops she finished weeding the Mystery collection. She was also called upon to help with the digital temperature checking of employees entering Central Library. She spent a few days at the Branch helping get ready by working with contractors and the Facilities team.

Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez was deployed to the Housing Department where she has helped the community by making phone calls to residents.
Three staff members, Raquel Rodriguez, Esmy Staudt and Vanezza Garcia, all spent time at the Alamodome event to help COSA distribute PPE to business owners.

All of the staff have kept up with daily messages from Ms. Brantley and have explored a long list of self-help, remote working, crafting, and other interesting links she has shared. The entire staff are really looking forward to seeing work friends and customers again soon.

ENCINO

In the month of May Children’s Librarian Ann Laird was busy creating video content for virtual programming. Ann filmed three “Imagine, Make, and Create” videos which will be shared over the Summer. All videos this work group have made are focused on making crafts with items children may already have at home. The three videos Ann made featured three crafts each using drinking straws, cupcake liners, or cardboard tubes as a base of the craft.

Ann also worked on the SAPL Here for You LibGuide, adding more content to areas such as Virtual Tours, and Creative Ideas for the Whole Family.

Encino Adult Services Librarian Mark Hall worked with the Goodreads team to invigorate San Antonio Public Library’s presence on Goodreads. The extensive training undertaken during work from home inspired a suggestion to the Idea Incubator to improve staff training by encouraging continual, community, engagement among staff.

Heather, the Teen Services Librarian at Encino, used current events and national celebrations to create themed lists of items relevant to public interest from SAPL’s digital collection, with a focus on the Young Adult collection, to promote both recent releases and older titles to patrons.

FOREST HILLS

The Forest Hills Branch Library staff worked through the month of May to prepare for the reopening of services. Working remotely has provided the opportunity for staff to pursue professional development in the areas of tech training, customer service, and programming.

Children’s Librarian Ana Menchaca welcomed a new addition to her family with the birth of a son on May 6. She will be on maternity leave until late July. Before her departure Mrs. Menchaca worked on preparing the staff with plans for the delivery of the Summer Reading Program.

Adult Services Librarian Sandra Griffin maintained communication with upcoming program providers to ensure that they were up to date with information regarding the phased reopening plans of the library. She also participated in the Adult Services Craft Committee. Ms. Griffin learned a lot about the ins and outs of offering virtual programs and was excited to pursue this avenue for offering programs during the Covid Crisis.

Circulation Attendant Patricia Toledo was deployed to the Human Services Department (DHS) assisting in the Child Care Services division. She enjoyed her time learning new skills and working environment.
Great Northwest Branch Library is sad to announce the departure of two valued staff members. Library assistant Veronica Buendia will be leaving to spend more time with her family and will be missed. Teen librarian Desmond London will be moving on to a new role at Harris County Public Library. While the branch is sorry to see him go, staff wish him well in this exciting new opportunity.

Great Northwest children’s librarian Cari Raley has been creating *ABC Club @ Home* programs which give adults tools to engage with their children in Storytime type activities at home with links to online books and activities. She has also been working on videos and ideas for both the Tween and Steam Committees to publish on the SAPL website. She has helped with the All Things Tween programs including *All About Robots* and *Spies, Mysteries and More*.

May was an interesting and exciting month for Teen Services. Teen librarian Desmond London continued to work on a response plan for teen incidents in the library and presented a draft for review. Mr. London and fellow teen librarians and liaisons focused on preparing for summer reading programming creating a new protocol for future services. As branches begin to enter the next phase of reopening, there have been several discussions regarding safety while still allowing teens a dedicated space in the midst of the new reality for public spaces.

Library assistant Kathleen Marascio is working on a three-part video series on herb gardening. The first two installments explain which herbs are best to grow in this region and how to dry and store fresh garden herbs. Ms. Marascio is developing another video series on various aspects of baking. She participated in the SAPL Zine project and SAPL Cookbook project. She has been attending webinars to learn more about effective virtual programming and learning new tech skills.

Library assistant Donna Borel kept staff engaged while working at home with daily questions and challenges. Ms. Borel has been attending webinars and trainings on dealing with workplace issues and customer service as well as gaining new computer skills.

Assistant manager Stephanie Vazquez worked with the Adult Summer Reading Committee to provide online programs. She coordinated with the San Antonio Food Bank to partner together for an online program for the summer. Ms. Vazquez is working with the Adult Gaming Workgroup and planning for future programs including an E-sports panel discussion, *Super Mario Maker Online Challenge*, and a *SAPL Gaming & E-Sports Podcast* to promote library programming. Ms. Vazquez communicated with local gaming organizations to coordinate programs and set up partnerships with Alamo City E-Leagues, Greater Gaming Society of San Antonio, Texas A&M San Antonio, and St. Mary’s University.

Guerra

During the month of May, Guerra Branch Library employees worked remotely, or were deployed to work in other City departments. Librarians and Library Assistants continued working remotely. Circulation Attendant Abella Lazalde-Jimenez was deployed to the Human Services Department (DHS) assisting in the Child Care Services division. Circulation Attendant David Alvarez was deployed to the Neighborhood & Housing Services Department (NHSD) assisting with housing applications. On May 27, Circulation Attendants, Allison Fink and Rebecca Hernandez, and Library Aides, Vanessa Pena, Laura Ocasio and...
Yamilex Rosales, worked at the Alamodome distributing personal protective equipment to small business owners.

Interim Branch Manager Jernell Williams participated in online learning opportunities which focused on customer service, community programming, managing personnel, and technology training. She attended the Branch Managers meeting hosted in WebEx on May 7. She completed online training courses on May 11, 27 and 29. She attended Adult Services meetings hosted by Morgan Yoshimura on May 14, 21 and 28. Ms. Williams attended the City Manager Town Hall seminar hosted in WebEx on May 22. She attended the SAPL Virtual Board Meeting on May 27. She attended the Library Leadership Team meeting on May 29. She monitored City Council meetings weekly. She communicated with staff by email, phone and text.

Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson attended meetings, trainings, webinars and conferences. She participated in the weekly Children's Librarians meetings hosted by the Coordinator of Children's Services. She participated in weekly Group meetings and Group Leads meetings. She attended virtual training courses on May 4, 11 and 12. She attended webinars on May 13, 18 and 19. On May 22, she attended the City Manager Town Hall seminar. On May 27, she attended the mini-conference School Library Journal Day of Dialog Virtual Event. Ms. Richardson continued to collaborate with the children's services team to provide virtual program options and update the preschoolers LibGuide. She communicated with the directors at seven outreach locations about the Summer Reading program for children. All seven locations expressed interest in participating in the Summer Reading program. She curated five programs for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers. She produced five felt board video recordings for possible program offerings. She checked in with the Guerra Library Aides weekly.

Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson recorded two books in Spanish for Dial-a-Story. He recorded Tu no me vas a cree (It's incredible) by Jaime Blume on May 11 and Hombre mosca y los extraterrestres (Fly Guy and the alienzz) by Tedd Arnold on May 14. On May 16, he worked with Elsy Jackson, Library Assistant from Johnston, to construct a shoebox float in celebration of the Central Library's 25th anniversary.

Circulation Attendant Abella Lazalde-Jimenez recorded the following books in Spanish for Dial-a-Story: El Leon y el ratón by Aesop, El Ratón de campo y el ratón de la ciudad by Aesop, Soñadores by Yuyi Morales, and El Gato ensombrerado by Dr. Seuss.

IGO

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance recorded three videos for Tiny Tots on the Library's YouTube channel. Two aired during May. These included a short song called "Mr. Turkey and Mr. Duck" and a longer one about trains. The third video is about swaying and balance and is due to air in June. At the beginning of May, she also partnered with Children's Librarian Jasmin Salinas to provide a virtual training for library staff on story time best practices. It was the last in a three part series focused on helping people new to facilitating story time. Ms. Vance and Ms. Salinas received several compliments and overall positive feedback from staff who described their presentation as being really practical and helpful.

Ms. Vance also coordinated meetings with members of the Igo Stitchery via Zoom on Sundays. An average of 5 members attended. Members are truly grateful for the opportunity to see one another virtually. Members of the group have been cleaning out their homes, and have been hosting a virtual swap of materials where they show or describe unwanted crafting supplies during the meetings and
others claim items they are interested in. Some members have met to make physical exchanges, and other items are being held for when people feel ready to venture out. Nearly every one has participated in this virtual exchange. Members have also enjoyed the opportunity to show their finished projects. The group continues to help each other with learning new techniques through video links and everyone pitches in for pattern assistance.

The teen librarian, Laura Herman did a live cooking demo on the teen services Instagram where she demonstrated how to make stovetop popcorn. Viewers could watch and comment or ask questions during the live video.

Adult Services Librarian, Gamini Haluwana hosted two virtual programs in the month of May. He and Pannaga Prasad hosted Bharatanatyam, Indian dancing group, virtually in celebration of Asian Pacific American Month. 10 people attended. Gamini Haluwana and Jeannette Davis presented a virtual program for the public on “How to make Avocado Toast.” Five people attended.

Irene Scharf of Igo branch library created the May newsletter for the Elderberries group. This issue honored Older American Month.

JOHNSTON

Adult Services Librarian Cristine Mitchamore created multiple curated lists for the online catalog providing patrons reading suggestions based on themes and reader interests as well as posts and content for SAPL Goodreads–providing patrons a chance to virtually discuss books and reading. Ms. Mitchamore created two Overdrive curated lists for use on SAPL’s Overdrive website providing suggestions that include ebooks and audiobooks. Ms. Mitchamore continued pursuing professional development in Reader’s Advisory and personnel management.

Teen librarian Shannan Prukop, as part of the Teen Pride work group, helped develop content ideas for the 210teenlibrary Instagram during Pride month, and created a list of comics and manga for Pride month to add to the Teen Comics LibGuide to help provide visibility for LGBTQ+ teens looking for materials and reading relating to their own experiences. She created a digital escape room for teens to challenge their critical thinking skills, and lead game sessions in Discord for teens interested in learning how to play D&D, which teaches teens social skills and helps reinforce math skills, as well as encourage creative thinking. She helped generate content for the SAPL Goodreads, giving members of that group space to connect digitally.

Children’s Services Librarian Tiffany Durham worked as the co-chair for Story Time Working Group which created Story time Videos, Curated Story Times and Book Bundles. She is also on the Tween Working Group and began developing a drumming and a slime program. Miss Tiffany also joined the Play and Learn Working Group and provided photos and videos for the play prompt videos. Miss Tiffany along with Clair Larkin created and delivered a webinar on Planning for Story Time Success. The webinar was researched and designed to instruct library staff with limited experience of delivering thoughtful, educational and fun story times. It highlighted the joys of playing and learning through children’s books. Miss Tiffany also continued to be a learner herself attending many webinars on Early Literacy, Customer Service and Equity and Diversity Training. She also started an extensive training Supercharged Storytime for All by the OCLC and Institute of Museum and Library Services. She was in contact with many of the local school librarians to promote the 2020 Summer Reading Program and other online services provided by SAPL.
Library Assistant Elsy Jackson serves as a regular contributor to Telecuentos (Dial-a-Story in English), and she recorded two children’s books for the week of May 4, 2020, *Eric no juega* by Christianne C. Jones and May 7, *Dragones y tacos* by Adam Rubin. On May 15, Ms. Jackson worked with Librarian Stephen Jackson of Guerra in preparing a Shoebox Float celebrating the Central Library’s 25th Anniversary Virtual Parade. Ms. Jackson also attended webinars related to how to serve the needs of our communities in times of crisis as well as how to handle challenging patrons and completed virtual training courses to improve her computer skills.

Circulation Attendants Raquel Gonzales and Vida Salas assisted the Neighborhood and Housing Services Department with data entry and processing application forms.

**LANDA**

Several Landa team members gladly accepted the call for teamwork by working with various City departments. Circulation attendants Melissa Carroll and Guadalupe Gallego-Rodriguez worked with DHS in reviewing child care applications. Library aide Alysha Huff worked with DHS and prepared boxes of food for senior centers. Circulation Attendant Abiel Rodriguez participated in the PPE distribution event at the Alamodome. Library Assistant Rebekah Corley finished up her time with Metro Health as a hotline operator.

Librarians Robin Alcorta and Karen Sebesta coordinated their schedules to allow KAir Corporation access to the building to continue working on the HVAC repair project.

Branch manager Kiyanna Stephens continued to work remotely, providing assistance and updates to all the Landa staff. At the end of the month, Manager Stephens accepted a dual manager role. She is now interim manager of San Pedro Branch Library.

While working at the Branch, Children’s Librarian Robin Alcorta prepared a series of videos for May Month. May Month is an annual celebration of the work that the Landa Gardens Conservancy does for the community. Librarian Alcorta continued working with the numerous children’s programming committees she is a part of to provide quality virtual programming to library users.

**LAS PALMAS**

Las Palmas Staff work-from-home activities worth noting include contributions made to the Teen Services LibGuide by Teen Librarian Connie Hejl, as well as her continuous engagement with teens online playing Dungeons & Dragons and other activities. In addition to the regular online meetings and timekeeping activities, Branch Manager Jose Ruiz-Alvarez actively participated in virtual meetings related to the Las Palmas 2017 Bond Project, which has made great progress in the last few months toward our renovation goals.

**MAVERICK**

While slowing the spread of COVID-19, reference staff continued to work remotely and other SAPL staff deployed to assist at various city departments. After completing his interim assignment at San Pedro, Branch Manager, Jef Martin, returned to Maverick Library preparing to re-open the branch. Ben Longoria continued working remotely by attending webinars, virtual meetings and assisting staff.
Sara Howdyshell and Eraani Perez assisted the Neighborhood and Housing Services Department with data entry and processing application forms. In late May, Don Peterson and Taylur Loera, PT library aides, were deployed to the Department of Human Services where they distributed food to those in need. The deployed staff effort played an important part of ensuring the safety and security of many fellow San Antonio neighbors during this time of need.

All the Maverick librarians returned at the branch during the week of May 18-May 22 so that maintenance of the building was being completed in preparation for the upcoming contact-free pick-up service.

As the library continued to be closed, Children’s Librarian, Amy Roberts, busy remote working from home. Ms. Roberts created a few curated storytimes that were geared toward babies and toddlers. Some of them are already on the Tiny Tots Libguide/Kids Page. She also created a few book bundle theme sheets for babies and toddlers for when the branch is open for curbside service. Ms. Roberts attended several webinars, but her favorites were “Safety Tips for Opening Libraries During COVID-19” on May 8 and “School Library Journal’s Day of Dialog” on May 28.

Ms. Roberts continued to attend weekly children’s librarians meetings via Zoom on Thursdays in May. In addition, she attended weekly Tiny Tots Committee meetings via Microsoft Teams. Along with Gina Brudi from Collins Garden, Ms. Roberts attended a meeting of the Storytime committee to discuss publishers and copyright relating to our online platform.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl promoted the Digital Collection and virtual Teen Services on Instagram and Discord to Maverick Teens through Remind messaging service. Maverick Teens met virtually on Tuesday evenings on Zoom; the group spent about half of their time together chatting and sharing their experiences and used the remainder of their time playing Google Feud or other online community games.

**McCRELESS**

Librarian DeBow attended “Story Time Basics” and “Story Time Best Practices” training presented by Children’s Services. In addition, Librarian DeBow attended several informative webinars concerning COVID-19, mental health, & Libraries during the pandemic.

Librarian DeBow worked with other Teen Librarians and Liaisons to develop guidelines for virtual volunteering, update the Volunteer Handbook and the Volunteer Liaison Handbook

Librarian DeBow participated in celebrating Central’s 25th anniversary by making a float for the virtual parade. DeBow also submitted a recipe for eggrolls and a recipe for lasagna for the SAPL cookbook.

Librarian DeBow participated in the “Take and Make” Adult Services work group to create system-wide “take and makes” for the summer.

Librarian DeBow connected a McCreless teen with Teen Services early after the closure and the teen has continued to be involved with virtual programming. She is now a Teen Moderator and Dungeon Master for the Teen D&D group on Discord.

Librarian DeBow attended SAPL Town Hall meeting with Library Director, Ramiro Salazar
MEMORIAL

Children’s

Children’s Librarian Christine Deffendall virtually recorded the Summer Reading Club on the You Tube channel. She describes how the program will function from home and as it differs from previous Summer Reading Programs.

Mrs. Deffendall also wrote and recorded a puppet show, “Caperucita Roja”, for the Virtual Kids Time, to be premiered on SAPL’s YouTube channel in late June. Both Mrs. Deffendall and Randi Jones from Semmes acted as the puppeteers and voice actors.

As part of a team she worked with other children’s librarians to pack crates with Kids Time Take & Make craft materials to be sent to the branches. Four crafts were packaged together for disbursement. They include a craft-stick catapult, a fox mask, a paper yeti decorated with pom-poms and cotton balls, and a wolf made from a collage of newspaper clippings. Also included in the packet were instructions, a Mayor’s Summer Reading Club reading log, and a bookmark.

To stay connected to school age children in a virtual world, Mrs. Deffendall attended a virtual conference, “School Library Journal: Day of Dialog”, on May 27.

Library Aide Guadalupe Pinales created and submitted a float to the parade celebrating SAPL 25 year anniversary. The theme of the float were the San Antonio Spurs, Fiesta San Antonio and SAPL mascot SMARTY as a backdrop to the Central Library building.

Adult Services

Adult services librarian Freddy continues to help with virtual programming during the closure. He had a video book review posted to the SAPL YouTube channel titled Born Standing Up by Steve Martin. Martine chronicles his rise as a stand-up comedian and discusses his most famous gags.

Mr. Hudson also had three BiblioCommons lists posted to the Here4U libguide. The three lists are “Historical Fiction for download” https://mysapl.bibliocommons.com/list/share/1369989147/1635171579

“Gentle Reads for Download”, https://mysapl.bibliocommons.com/list/share/1369989147/1631804509),

“Finding your Happy Place” https://mysapl.bibliocommons.com/list/share/1369989147/1630296259),

All the listed titles are available in Overdrive.

Mr. Hudson has been collaborating with John Horton, a library volunteer, to offer a program on resumes via Zoom. That program is scheduled for June 25.

- Freddy has been familiarizing himself with various SAPL resources. Notably, he has been using Universal Class to better understand how it benefits patrons.

MISSION

Teen Services Librarian Emily Young worked alongside the Teen Summer Reading Committee to prepare Take-and-Make crafts that could be distributed upon reopening. Librarian Young also assisted in the creation of a Library Code of Conduct for Teens as well as other documents discussing the suspension of
minors. Additionally, Librarian Young assisted in the creation of the Teen Summer 2002 LibGuide including links to outside sources that teens can browse in their free time during the summer.

Adult Services Librarian Kassandra Vela-Laosa continued to work with the Virtual Crafting Live Streaming Programming committee that will produce instructional videos on crafts to be hosted as live streaming library programs. She created a video tutorial for a fabric bookmark which will be presented on the library’s YouTube channel on July 26th.

Ms. Vela-Laosa, as well as Library Assistant Jessica Viera and Library Assistant Mari Castellano, began work on another committee, the Program in a Bag Take and Makes for Adults. Additionally, Ms. Viera and Ms. Castellano, have each created branch-specific Take and Makes for Adults for Mission’s customers.

**PAN AMERICAN**

During the month of May, Library assistant Cassie Garza hosted five individual virtual teen times for Pan American library. Teens attended these virtual teen times online which included discussed topics of video gaming, school, arts and crafts and mental wellness. The teens worked together to compile a Pride month reading list that included graphic novels that discussed or mentioned LGBTQIP2SAA characters and topics.

Ms. Garza also incorporated the use of virtual volunteers for the Pan American library. Virtual volunteers at Pan American library assist with virtual programming and information gathering for librarians. Future virtual volunteering tasks will include transcribing library recordings as well as digital note taking for panel discussions.

Ms. Garza created the Revenge of the Sith libguide in recognition of popular villains of the Star Wars universe. The libguide is the first of its kind as it showcases SAPL library items that focus on villains. Ms. Garza provided information and crafts that also highlighted all the baddies of the universe.

Ms. Garza reached out to the Leal middle school librarian and shared summer reading and teen virtual programming information. The middle school librarian shared the information with her district librarian group on their library pages. Ms. Garza also communicated with Metro Health department to obtain information pamphlets to share with Pan American patrons.

Adult Services Librarian Adrian Leal created some make and take bags for patrons. The bags consisted of an arts and craft project that our patrons can easily and safely put together at home.

Adrian Leal has worked with other librarians to provide virtual gaming programming. Mr. Leal has contributed to the virtual chess program and the Mario Kart tournaments.

Children’s Librarian Monica Huerta recorded book talks to be shared on Youtube. She reviewed Howl’s Moving Castle by Diana Wynne Jones and The Bridge Home by Padma Venkatraman. Monica has also created several make and takes for Pan American patrons.

**PARMAN**

In the spirit of teamwork all FT Circulation Attendants and PT Library Aide from Parman continued to serve the San Antonio community by helping the City’s Neighborhood Housing Services Department in processing the flood of housing applications that they are receiving.

Chess is a vital part of the culture at Parman. Monty Holcomb re-designed Parman’s adult chess program in order to provide the adult chess program in an online format for the public. In the reporting period
Monty Holcomb conducted two special interactive chess games. The program titled “Live Online Chess Game: Librarian vs. Audience” brings public and librarians together in a royal game of chess. Which means in this live chess game our patrons - skilled chess players, collectively played against Mr. Holcomb. It was a draw by mutual agreement.

In May Mr. Holcomb also submitted another pre-recorded video book review. This month he talks about the novel White Fire, which is a mystery/thriller collaboration between the two authors Lee Child and Douglas Preston. What was unique in that it intertwines itself with an interesting take on Sir Conan Doyle and one of his more obscure Sherlock Holmes stories. The review is available for patrons on SAPL’s YouTube channel.

Lisa Taylor continued to co-lead the video editing team working with SAPL Marketing to post new Children's content to the SAPL YouTube channel and the Children’s Services’ libguides. In addition to this Lisa also recorded another absolutely amazing story time – this time from her chicken coop with a lot of special guests. This video is available on SAPL YouTube channel and to view it now you can click here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1R2uNp_hybcF7A6kQucrO117aRqvOpihi/view?usp=drivesdk

Children’s Librarians Lisa Taylor and Teague Shosh have continued to work with the Children’s Services Team to create videos and content for SAPL’s YouTube Channel. They have collaborated with the other children’s librarians to develop passive programming ideas for the Summer Reading Program when the branches reopen for contact free book delivery.

Teague Shosh submitted two new book talks for publication on the Tween Lib Guide and SAPL YouTube channel. She also continued working with the Tween group to update its lib guide and create new virtual content.

Chris, Teen Services Librarian at Parman, facilitated an Instagram Live program for teens aged 13 to 18 as part of the newly deployed online programming for teens presenting live cooking demo. New opportunities for virtual volunteering are on the horizon and teens are eager and excited to forge into this new frontier.

All Parman remotely working staff have continued to participate in, organized by the manager, Barbara Kwiatkowski, weekly Meditation classes, weekly meetings and phone consultations and exchanges of links and ideas on Teams. They also seek out professional development opportunities through webinars and articles.

Manager Barbara Kwiatkowski and Monty Holcomb both returned to Parman Library for a few days to review and address the current condition and maintenance needs for the branch.

POTRANCO

Children’s Librarian Kristin Yourdon created content for craft demonstration videos and for Summer Reading Kid’s Time programming. Kristin worked on several committees, including the Kid’s Time Committee to transform summer reading programs for kids into online virtual programs, the Art & Maker committee to come up with a list of easy crafts that use household items, and the Storytime Committee to create Book Bundles with songs, rhymes and activities.
Library Assistant Lisa Leandro created a playlist on Spotify for Potranco patrons. They can now enjoy Potrano’s Vinyl Sundays wherever they go. The staff curated a list based on vinyl records that are in the collection.

**PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS**

During the month of May Children’s Services at Molly Pruitt Library has contributed to the group effort of providing virtual programming for SAPL patrons by collaborating in the Art & Maker, STEAM, and Video Editing work groups. The branch’s children’s librarian contributed to the editing of STEAM, Imagine, Make and Create, and Songs and Rhymes videos which have been shared on SAPL’s YouTube channel as well as the SAPL is Here for You! Children’s LibGuide. Pruitt’s Children’s librarian also presented three virtual STEAM outreach presentations and one virtual read-aloud during the COVID-19 closure at Windcrest Day School, Spicewood Park Elementary and Blessed Sacrament School and also kept the North East ISD Roosevelt cluster schools informed of upcoming Summer Reading Program and virtual programming opportunities.

Pruitt Teen Services hosted 4 virtual events during the public library closings in May. Three were Foodie Friday events. One was an Instagram Live event which took place on the SAPL Teen Services Instagram account. Additionally, we performed outreach at Roosevelt High school congratulating the Senior Class of 2020 as they picked up graduation caps and gowns on campus.

While we wait for a new adult services librarian, Library Assistants Sheran Awe and Catrina Grivich created a wonderful tour of 6 countries for Asian And Pacific Islander American Heritage Month.

The Pruitt Team has been excited to be back in the building and getting ready to serve our patrons. We have made additional make and takes for all ages and abilities. We have lots of learning, lots of reading, and lots of anticipation, but we are ready to help our library patrons during the COVID 19 crisis.

**SAN PEDRO**

San Pedro staff continued preparing for the imminent phased in services. Adult Services Librarian Diana Starrett assisted with Adult Take and Make craft projects by designing and sorting out supplies to the branches. She had fun making origami boxes and weaving coasters as suggested crafts. Librarian Starrett also transcribed the two most recent SAPL podcast episodes: Meet the Podcasters Parts One and Two. Librarian Starrett participated in professional development opportunities by learning more about virtual meetings through Zoom, advanced training on Excel, and library programming during the pandemic.

Children’s Services Librarian Karen Braeuler assisted with recording and editing “Kids Time” episodes and other children’s segments which will run on the SAPL YouTube channel in the summer. Librarian Braeuler worked on developing a children’s online summer book club. She also communicated outreach to area schools including information about summer reading. Librarian Braeuler participated in professional development opportunities including an enlightening conference by School Library Journal “Day of Dialog,” which focused on discourse from authors on the depiction of race, nationality and ethnicity in their literature.

San Pedro Branch staff welcomed Interim Branch Manager Kiyanna Stephens, who will also continue serving as Branch Manager at Landa Branch Library.
SCHAEFER

Children’s Librarian Leslie Elsasser worked on a variety of projects at home. She is the lead for the SAPL is Here for You libguide and continually added content for children while they’re staying at home. She is also on the Summer Reading programming committee and adapted her program in order for kids to be able to participate at home. She writes blogs for the children’s services page of mysapl.org and continued that while at home.

She also joined a number of professional development webinars on many different topics including information about COVID-19, mental health and wellness, new books being released for kids, and virtual programming.

During the month of May, Dacari Lambert, the Teen Librarian for Schaefer Branch focused the majority of her time on 2 workgroups: IR/Suspension Guidelines workgroup and the LGBTQIA Teen Services workgroup. For the IR/Suspension guidelines group she worked on finalizing new IR procedures for minor’s proposal, as well as supporting group efforts to rework suspension guidelines and justification for reworking these documents. For the LGBTQIA Teen Services workgroup she worked on planning pride programming for the month of June. She also crafted activities for the 210teenlibrary Instagram and helped to plan programming partnerships with Fiesta Youth to celebrate PRIDE.

Librarian Maria Adams and Library Assistant BlancaSilvia Hernandez created a video tutorial for Brainfuse JobNow live resume expert service. The video will be published on the library’s YouTube site and included on the SAPL is Here for You libguide. Librarian Maria Adams assisted with creating trivia questions for the SAPL Live Trivia program held on Friday, May 29th. A total of 20 people participated in the program. The trivia team, Morgan Yoshimura, Vicky Villalobos, Brooke Mjolsness, and Dexter Katzman, are working to present another trivia night on June 26th.

SEMMES

To serve children and their caregivers during the library’s closing to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Children’s Librarian, Ms. Randi Jones spent the month of May recording virtual programming for future appearances on SAPL’s “Here For You” channel. For babies and toddlers, she recorded two videos—one of the bilingual fingerplay “Los Pollitos” with book recommendation Buenas Noches Mis Pollitos/Good Night My Little Chicks by Karen Sharp Foster, the second of the nursery rhyme/song “Chook Chook” on guitar, felt board and as a fingerplay with book recommendation Chickens by Julie Murray. Also for babies and toddlers, she wrote a curated story time for The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry and the Big Hungry Bear by Audrey Wood, illustrated by Don Wood.

For preschoolers, Ms. Randi recorded two videos—one for the action song “A Rum Sum Sum” with book recommendation Jonathan and His Mommy by Irene Smalls, illustrated by Michael Hays and the other for the song “Rockin’ Robin”, two fingerplays on birds, and book recommendations Birds by Kevin Henkes, illustrated by Laura Dronzek, Every Day Birds by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater, illustrated by Dylan Metrano and Bird Eggs by Helen Frost. Also for preschoolers, she wrote two curated programs—one for Bee-Bim Bop by Linda Sue Park, illustrated by Ho Baek Lee and one for White is for Blueberry by George Shannon, illustrated by Laura Dronzek.

Ms. Randi also recorded two segments of Kids Time at Home to premiere on SAPL’s “Here for You” channel in June and July for the Summer Reading Program. The first segment premieres on June 10 and
is on Mythological Creatures from Around the World. The second segment premieres on July 22 and is on Fractured Fairy Tales. Each segment includes a brief information/discussion session, book recommendations and instructions for a craft project on the topic.

Children’s Librarian, Valerie Carroll’s Puppets and Marionettes virtual program went live on the Tween LibGuide on May 14th. The program included e-books available on Overdrive, short YouTube videos on puppets, and a craft on making your own marionette using supplies found at home.

Ms. Carroll also created a video demonstration of a chromatography project for the Children’s Services’ STEAM group. The video demonstrates how water can dissolve and separate ink pigments to expose the different colors that make up a marker and encourages children to try the experiment at home. It was posted on the mysapl YouTube account on May 16.

Ms. Carroll also began working on a Fairy themed virtual program for the Tween LibGuide. The program won’t premiere until August. Program activities focus on exploring the outdoors and creating with nature.

THOUSAND OAKS

During the month of May, Ms. McDonald continued to lead the Kids Time Committee to convert all of the Summer Reading Kids Time programs to an online format which included creating teams to film and edit nine videos at multiple library locations to produce high quality online content.

To promote Kids Time in a cohesive manner, Ms. McDonald’s team worked with the marketing team to develop intro slides with the SRP and Kids Time at Home logo. These programs will be premiered once a week in June and July on mysapl.org and YouTube.

Ms. McDonald along with several Kids Time team members, met at Central Library to assemble and place into crates all the Summer reading logs, bookmarks and craft materials for all 28 branches. Ms. McDonald also created printed instructions to add into the Kids Time to Go Craft kits.

Ms. McDonald developed and filmed two segments for the Art and Maker Group that will be aired on mysapl.org.
- Mondrian/Abstract Art
- Matisse/Paper Cutting Art

Librarian Kimberly King attended weekly meetings with the Teen Team to keep informed about things going on in the Teen Library. Ms. King also created a virtual escape room -- Retronaut Escape Room -- that is to be included in the handout for Summer Reading.

On May 22, staff member Brooke Mjolsness co-led a virtual Beginner’s Chair Yoga program with fellow Central Librarian Pannaga Prasad and professional yoga instructor Shari Gaiennie from IDoYogaSanAntonio Org. Attendees followed Mrs. Gaiennie’s poses for a full body stretch and reported it was a relaxing program they enjoyed from the comfort of home.

Ms. Mjolsness and fellow Central librarian Lorin Flores led a live virtual trivia program for the Central Library’s Anniversary on May 23. Ms. Flores led the YouTube stream with questions while Ms. Mjolsness acted as chat moderator. Attendees commented they really enjoyed the event.

On May 29, Ms. Mjolsness and fellow librarians Maria Adams, Morgan Yoshimura and Vicky Villalobos co-led a virtual live trivia program. Questions were about popular categories of pop-culture. Ms. Mjolsness
acted as MC while Mrs. Adams, Mrs.Yoshimura and Ms. Villalobos were chat moderators. The program was a great success

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

Tobin Library at Oakwell has a number of personnel working from home as well as helping with virtual programs. Assistant Manager, Rhonda Woolhouse, designed instruction sheets for four crafts she created for adults to Take and Make this summer. Ms. Woolhouse is actively participating on the Texas Library Association’s Conference planning committee for this event to be held in San Antonio in April 2021 (possibly virtual).

On May 27, Circulation Attendant, Gabriella Manzanares, and Library Aide, Catherine Tschoepe, assisted with handing out PPE at the Alamo Dome as the City aided over 5000 small business owners that day.

Children's Librarian, Barbaraella Frazier, chairs the children's STEAM committee for virtual programs incorporating science, technology, engineering, art and math. Ms. Frazier compiled a Leaf Identification Guide, Rock Art and Lego Boat Challenge for some of these activities at home. In addition, Ms. Frazier has been a real asset developing the children’s page on the SAPL website for a Library Guide with links to various resources and virtual programming.

Ms. Frazier, along with Library Assistants, Terry Verner and Andrew Charltonjones, continue adding comments and reviews to SAPL’s online Goodreads page.

Teen Librarian, Karah Garcia, has diligently been researching and drafting teen incident reporting and suspension guidelines. Teen Librarians, Dacari Lambert from Schaefer and Desmond London from Great Northwest are pursuing this project with Ms. Garcia. The proposal will include restorative practices and conflict management based on their national public library analysis.

WESTFALL

Even though the Westfall Branch was closed to the public, there was still some activity happening behind the scenes. Branch staff have been working hard to prepare the building and collection for when services resume in June. Additionally, the age based services librarian have been be planning and preparing for this year’s summer reading program. While all in-person programs and activities will not happen this summer, staff are still planning to have “take and make” activities and crafts for all ages during summer reading.

Children’s Librarian, Imelda Merino, continued to post content to the “SAPL is Here for You” Libguide, a one stop source of information on virtual library services available to the public. Imelda also worked on creating and assembling a variety of “take and make” activities for families related to this year’s summer reading program. A variety of kits will be available throughout the summer and will change often. Families can pick up these packs during “contact-free” service hours.

Teen Librarian, Cindy Cruz, reached out to local campuses to relay information on virtual teen programs and the upcoming summer program. Cindy was able to make an important connection with the Young Women’s Leadership Academy and provide the librarian with requested materials. In addition, Project Worth’s program health specialist invited Cindy to speak to Teen Ambassadors in an upcoming Zoom meeting about library services. During the reporting period, a teen volunteer brought Westfall 60 face masks that she wanted to donate to staff. The volunteer expressed how much she and her fellow
volunteers like volunteering at Westfall and wanted to show her appreciation through the donation of the masks.

Adult services librarian, Angelina Cortes, continues to work on the Self-Sufficiency virtual programming group. The group is focused on DIY topics that one can do while at home during this time frame, such as negotiating with creditors, learning the basics of composting to learning how to ethically forage around San Antonio. In addition, she has been working on learning how Zoom, Swivl, and Youtube Live streaming differ from desktop app to mobile app and via browser mode. In addition, Angelina attended #LIBREV(olution) an all-day conference on May 4th which discussed the transformation of libraries and how they will play a crucial role in assisting and healing communities throughout these uncertain times.

Even though patron may not be able to visit Westfall, LEARN at SAPL staff are finding ways to still provide services. Training Officer, Michelle Rickman reports that she is working on ways to virtually assist customers with resumes and online job applications. Additionally, LEARN at SAPL staff have also been working on creating resources guides to be available to the community once library services resume.

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

**CIRCULATION: GOAL**

- **Total FY Goal:** 7,626,393
- **FYTD Goal:** 4,896,992

**CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR 2020**

- **Items Borrowed:** 4,020,832

**LIBRARY VISITS: GOAL**

- **Total FY Goal:** 5,153,581
- **FYTD Goal:** 3,329,141

**LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2020**

- **Visits:** 2,225,213

**DIGITAL ACCESS: GOAL**

- **Total FY Goal:** 2,360,163
- **FYTD Goal:** 1,528,498

**DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR 2020**

- **Computer Hours:** 241,845
- **Hours of Wi-Fi Use:** 1,400,293
- **Total Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use:** 1,642,137

**Note:** Physical library locations were closed for COVID-19 March 14 - June 15, 2020.
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS
MAY 2020 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2020

CIRCULATION BY TYPE

- 36% DIGITAL
- 64% PHYSICAL

CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA

- 23% BEXAR COUNTY (OUTSIDE COSA)
- 77% COSA

VIRTUAL: FISCAL YEAR 2020

- 1,275,459 MYSAPL.ORG VISITS
- 689,927 MYSAPL APP SESSIONS
- 967,934 OVERDRIVE SITE VISITS
- 3,831,843 SOCIAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2020

- 143,677 TOTAL ATTENDANCE
- 24,671 ADULT PROGRAMS
- 21,886 TEEN PROGRAMS
- 97,120 CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

MAY MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

Join us for a Virtual Celebration of Central’s 25th Anniversary!
Saturday, May 23 | 9am-2pm

Explore the complete digital collection of eBooks, eAudiobooks and streaming video

In a galaxy not so far away...
## San Antonio Public Library
### May 2020 Key Indicators

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<th>Location</th>
<th>Total Circulation</th>
<th>Visits</th>
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Circulation includes Digital (OneClick and Overdrive) and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt.
## San Antonio Public Library
### May 2020 Programs and Attendance

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**TOTAL**             | **55**        | **24 26 5**       | **324**                  | **121**                  | **171**                 | **32**                         |
Location Closures
FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Jun 1, All physical locations from Mar 14 through Jun 15 due to COVID-19.
FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm, Great Northwest Apr 15-May 5, Semmes May 1-26
San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - May 2020

Location Closures
FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Jun 1. All physical locations from Mar 14 through Jun 15 due to COVID-19.
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San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures
FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Jun 1. All physical locations from Mar 14 through Jun 15 due to COVID-19.
FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm, Great Northwest Apr 15-May 5, Semmes May 1-26
San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - May 2020

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

0 50,000 100,000 150,000 200,000 250,000 300,000 350,000 400,000 450,000

FY 2020
FY 2019
FY 2018

Location Closures
FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Jun 1, All physical locations from Mar 14 through Jun 15 due to COVID-19.
FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm, Great Northwest Apr 15-May 5, Semmes May 1-26

06/17/2020
San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use

*Combined measure of Public Computers Hours of Use and Wi-Fi Hours of Use
1) Beginning December 12, 2018 - unlimited time on public computers when no one is waiting
2) Beginning October 31, 2019 - change in "User Idle Timeout" for Wi-Fi from 45 minutes to 4 hours

Location Closures
FY 20: Central Oct 26 at 1pm, Landa Jan 13-Jun 1. All physical locations from Mar 14 through Jun 15 due to COVID-19.
FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm, Great Northwest Apr 15-May 5, Semmes May 1-26

06/17/2020