

Wilmette Public Library Director's Report – September 16, 2025

Library Activities for August-September 2025

Anthony Auston, Director

Summer Reading 2025 In Review

(Youth Services Manager Andrea Vaughn Johnson and Adult Services Manager Cathleen Blair)

As part of our strategic plan goal to develop and present valuable, outcome-oriented programs and events, the library hosted its annual Summer Reading Clubs for readers of all ages with dozens of associated fun and engaging programs and events this summer. This year's program was once again a popular draw, with hundreds actively participating in logging their reading, sharing their stories, and joining friends and neighbors at events throughout the season. Generously supported by the Friends of the Wilmette Public Library, the series featured entertainment and prizes for all ages including a free book of their choice for all finishers. Visit our website for more details about the clubs and associated programs and events: <https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/summer-reading-club>

Beginning in May and June, Youth Services staff visited nine schools to give Summer Reading Club presentations to 3,864 students and educators. School engagement librarian Eti Berland prepared and led the visits supported by Youth Services staff and Digital & Maker Services librarian Janet Piehl.

Students experienced engaging and inspiring presentations about the power of reading and how to participate in library programs. Based on this summer's Level Up theme, librarians encouraged students to think about their own personal goals for growing this summer – and make expanding their connection with the library part of their plans. We are grateful for the partnership of our local school districts, Wilmette Public Schools District 39, Avoca School District 37, Kenilworth School District 38, St. Francis Xavier, our other school partners, and the school librarians who arranged the visits, hosted public library staff, and ensured positive experiences for everyone.

We celebrated the start of summer with our Summer Reading Club Kick-off Party, which was held on the library lawn last Saturday, June 14. Over 300 eager and excited patrons showed up for our all ages programs on the lawn, including Mr. Scott's Giant Bubble Show and a rockin' performance from the Jolly Ringwalds – complete with delicious Kona Ice to keep it cool. Over 100 patrons made their way through the Studio over the course of just 2 hours to create and make with fun drop-in activities there.

Throughout the summer, patrons of all ages participated in the main event of the program: reading!

669 children ages 1 to 15 participated in the program, completing at least one reading log and claiming a prize book. 177 of those went on to complete a second reading log. 846 prize books were awarded, thanks to the Friends of the Library.

Youth Reported Completions	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Summer Reading Log 1	669	700	626	561	736	506	951
Summer Reading Log 2	177	131	225	170	255	n/a	401

Participation in Teen Summer Reading Club (grades 9-12, with option for 8th grade students as alternate to Youth Club), jumped an impressive 115% percent. Engagement with overscheduled older teens is an ongoing challenge for all libraries, but the combination of an inviting theme, customizable paths to completion, and high-energy advocacy from Teen Services Librarian Krista Hutley contributed to our highest (non-lockdown era) participation in at least eight years.

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Teen Reported Completions	41	19	20	25+	30*	58*	21

With 201 total submissions, Adult Summer Reading Club participation not only posted a 33% increase over last year but also the highest in recent reporting history. In person submissions numbered 161, and 40 completions were submitted online.

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Adult Reported Completions	201	151	154	130	76+* [incomplete data]	165*	150

This year, Adult Services piloted an extra opportunity for participants to lean into the "Level-Up" theme. Readers were invited to read a book from one of several staff-curated bookmarks, organized by reader appeal. After reporting completion of one of the featured titles, they were rewarded with a gift card from Central Station Coffee in Wilmette. We had an outstanding response to an inaugural year, one that far exceeded expectations: 32 gift cards were earned by eager readers! A few opted to participate more than once, and we learned that there is genuine interest in reading challenges, an insight which is adding energy to planning for a future year-round reading challenge.

Librarian Rachel Rothe curated a representative sampling of submitted completions to spotlight in an online advisory spotlight:



The 2025 Summer Reading Club has officially come to a close and we have loved seeing the hundreds of books that participants enjoyed throughout the summer months. Some titles were community favorites, showing up again and again, while others may have been read by fewer people but sparked just as much excitement in their readers. Enjoy this list containing a sampling of both and find your next favorite read!

<https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/posts/books-your-neighbors-read-and-enjoyed-summer>

For this year's Summer Reading Club theme tie-in discussion of *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin, Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia and Librarian Rachel Rothe welcomed 10 participants, many of whom were new faces to library-held book groups. Those present contributed to a lively discussion on the nature and complexities of gaming, creativity, friendship, and much more, and the overall success was a testament to library-supported engagement in book culture, as well as the joys of social reading experiences.

End of Summer Celebration

Our annual end-of-summer celebration was held on the evening of Friday, August 15 and was attended by over 100 people. Families were invited to picnic and enjoy a concert on the lawn with Little Miss Kim and free shaved ice from the Kona Ice truck.



Summer Reading Club Volunteers



As reading ambassadors, our 46 teen volunteers staffed our Summer Reading Club booth, checking in children and tweens throughout the summer, celebrating their accomplishments, and helping them get their prize books. With over 350 booth shifts for teens to staff, our teens demonstrated their commitment to service, passion for reading, and encouragement for lifelong learning. For the first time, this program was co-managed by Teen Librarian Krista Hutley and School Engagement Librarian Eti Berland (who managed the program the last 2 years). Leveraging Krista's expertise to support and connect with teens was vital to managing this teen program. The teens also helped with programs such as our Summer Reading Club Kick-off Party, Stuffed Animal Camp Out, Toddler Explorers, an author visit with Dahlia Richards, Wings of Fire Club, and more! We were also supported by two adult volunteers, longtime Summer

Reading Club Assistant Susan Zonia and the Friends of the Wilmette Public Library President Cecilia Clark, who helped manage the data entry for our Summer Reading Club logs and staff the booth during busy times. Their help was invaluable!

For the first time, the teen volunteers were also given a volunteer appreciation party that included an ice cream buffet, video games, tabletop gaming, and more. They were also given gift certificates from Books Down Under as a thank you gift.

Krista, Eti, and Digital & Maker Services Librarian Janet Piehl collaborated on a blog post celebrating and amplifying the hard work our volunteers put into leveling up our summer reading program (<https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/posts/volunteers-inspire-library-joy>). As they wrote, "Our volunteers help people feel celebrated, empowered, and capable of taking on new challenges and reading goals. We wouldn't have such a successful summer reading program without them! You can count the incredible statistics about our summer volunteers and the impact they have made on our community. But the amount of library joy they inspired by celebrating kids' reading lives and helping patrons make their project dreams come true? That's priceless."

One of our volunteers, Anisha, shared this feedback about her experience volunteering: "I was able to connect with a family who only spoke Spanish using my Spanish and I thought it was a really cool moment where I made another family feel welcomed and included."



Welcome Desk & Shelving (Manager Patsy deVuono)

The library saw 21,983 visitors in August, averaging over 709 unique users each day.

The Welcome Desk answered 356 phone calls in August. 216 were direct transfers, 6 were directional, and 134 were reference questions. As always, the opening hours of the library are the busiest times of the day.

Welcoming patrons in person is a big part of the job at the Welcome Desk. People are very invested in who is sitting there and even vocal when their favorite staff is away. We answered many questions for them; in August there were 408 directional questions answered. There were also 426 Reference questions that we helped answer.

Each morning, we empty the blue ILL bins onto the AMH. In August we emptied 271 bins. Not everything goes on the AMH directly, many items have notes or paperwork – those go right to the exceptions cart. We also do not put CDs or the JE paperbacks through the machine as they are too light to be read.

This August 55,176 items were sent through the AMH. Of those 21,345 were exceptions. Once they are sent to the correct bins, we empty the items onto large carts and then sort onto the smaller carts that we use to shelve.

Of special note, on September 3, the day the system came up after Vernon Area Library joined our consortium, we sent 10,901 items through the AMH. 2,654 of those were exceptions. An average Wednesday is around 2,000 materials. It was a busy day!

While we were reading the shelves in the Youth Department, we were also pulling books with labels that could not be read. That more than doubled the amount of mending we sent out in August. There were 430 items this month, at least half of them were children's books.

There were 26 discs in need of cleaning in August. I am sad to say that even after we clean them some are still scratched up and may need to go to the selectors to decide their fate. In August, we charged 349 WonderBooks and Vox Books.

The Media Room was read and straightened by our shelving team this month. The shelves have also been consolidated. The CD audiobooks have also been condensed, as well as the music CDs. I am working with Cathleen to come up with a final decision on the number of items that will be moved to the future media space.

Shelver Michael Mah is working on updating Stack Map. He has finished the lower level and the first floor. The Youth Department is more of a challenge, but he is collaborating with our Stack Map representative to work through the issues.

We have been reading and straightening the shelves in the Youth Department. All of the various areas are done except for picture books, which can only be worked on at certain times of the day. There are at least 36 separate areas in the youth department, some of those have separate fiction and non-fiction titles. We try to keep up with all the different labels and where they are shelved, but mistakes do get made. Reading the shelves is very helpful. It shows where the problem areas are and what we should do to fix them from continuing to happen.

Collections / Technical Services (Assistant Manager Shanti D'Costa)

In service of the Collection Revitalization Project, Cataloging Librarian Carly Stauss updated call numbers and locations for the remaining carts of travel hub books, as well as updating records for college and test preparation books (which were changed from teen nonfiction to adult nonfiction collections).

Additionally, Carly continued to update and create instructions in Technical Services team documents, reflecting changes to a range of collections, discontinuations/changes to prefixes and locations for staff and special reference books.

Technical Services Assistant Emma Standard created instructions for checking-in Youth periodicals and circulating and non-circulating business periodicals and updated instructions for checking-in circulating and non-circulating adult periodicals.

Acquisitions Assistant Megan Brown updated instructions for checking-in circulating and non-circulating adult periodicals.

Processing Assistant Laura Krimsin-Morales evaluated, recommended, and purchased updated tools for mending books, watched instructional videos on mending for beginners, and reached out to Youth Services Assistant and mending partner Diane dos Santos to assist with more advanced mending, such as reattaching loose pages.

Assistant Manager Shanti D'Costa worked with our B&T continuations' rep and Local History and Genealogy Librarian Eva Johnson on backordered travel books; ran reports for Eva based on feedback from B&T, worked on cancelling travel books, and worked with other vendors to acquire the backordered travel books.

It's been a little over a month since the TS team has been operating without the direct supervision of a TS Manager. Staff have continued to collaborate, ensuring that all holds and other popular titles are being fulfilled in a timely manner. We have completed extensive cross-training within the team and job responsibilities, thus making sure that we have at least one backup for each task. Everyone on the team has been more than cooperative and have been willing to step up and take on additional responsibilities.

Digital Collections (Digital & Maker Services Manager Lauren Kelly)

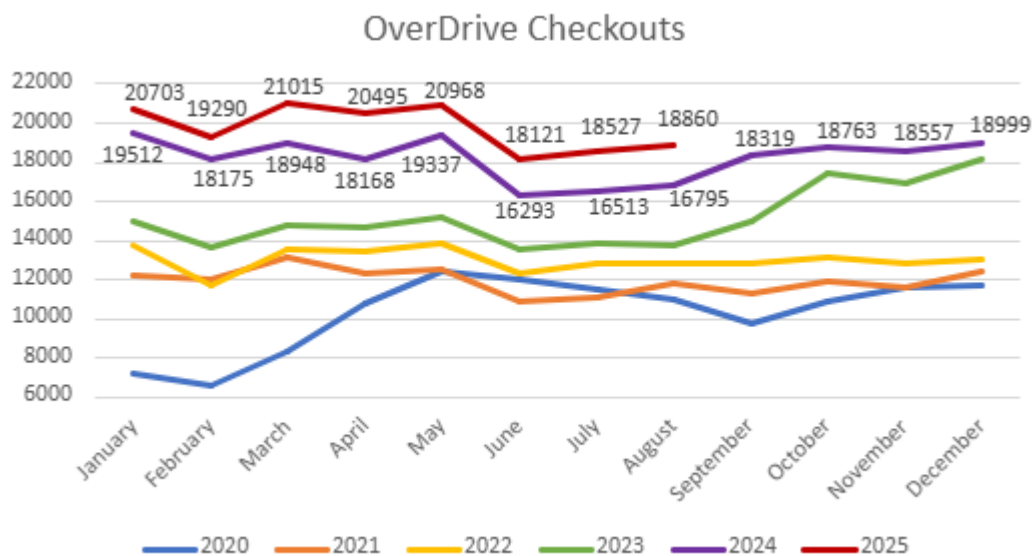
DMS has continued using the cost-per-circ model on OverDrive to fill patron holds without having to buy a metered access license, which are usually quite expensive and are limited to one checkout at a time.

- Highlight: Purchased CPC license for a newly released audiobook edition of *The Housemaid* by Freida McFadden and kept it live for about 3 weeks, leading to 31 checkouts. This usage cost the library just under \$90, whereas a single One-Copy-One-User license for the title costs \$84.99 and it would take 18 months of constant circulation for that license to achieve 31 checkouts (assuming no early returns).

Digital Collections Highlights

- Hoopla saw its highest usage ever for the second month in a row, at 1,824 borrows.
- OverDrive audiobooks and magazines both had record circulation this month.
- Of the 69 patrons who reserved passes to local attractions through Explore More Illinois, 58 of them got free admission to Gillson Swimming Beach.

OverDrive



- 18,860 checkouts
 - 8,504 eBooks (45.1%)
 - 7,101 digital audiobooks (37.7%)
 - 3,255 digital magazines (17.3%)

Top eBook titles by checkout:

1. Great Big Beautiful Life by Emily Henry – 60
2. The Wedding People by Alison Espach – 42
3. Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid – 40
4. The Let Them Theory by Mel Robbins – 37

5. My Friends by Fredrik Backman – 33
6. These Summer Storms by Sarah MacLean – 32

Top digital audio titles by checkout:

1. Great Big Beautiful Life by Emily Henry – 62
2. The Housemaid by Freida McFadden - 34
3. Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid – 32
4. The Wedding People by Alison Espach – 32
5. My Friends by Fredrik Backman – 32
6. The Women by Kristin Hannah – 31

The most popular magazines:

1. The New Yorker – 606
2. The Week Magazine – 175
3. Us Weekly – 141
4. Guardian Weekly – 136

Learn more about our OverDrive/Libby digital collections on our website:

<https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/databases/digital-library-illinois>

Circulation (Manager Matthew Hoffman)

We welcomed 144 new cardholders in August.

Circulation prepared for offline mode with Vernon Area Library joining CCS. The migration started on August 29 and was completed without any issues on September 2.

We participated in the quarterly RAILS delivery count from August 25 through August 29.

ILL Coordinator Amy Jung reported the addition of a new book club: LITHappens. ILL has also received additional help from Adult Services with the creation of a shared inbox that AS is now using. AS librarians Rachel Garcia and Rachel Rothe have been taking an active role in the maintenance of Book Club requests and have been in close communication with ILL.

CVI, along with Tim Brzny from Park Ridge Public Library, assisted us in fixing a printing issue. They were able to update our 'screwdriver' app on the front desk stations. This app allows Polaris to connect to our printers. In addition, Christine Hightower in IT helped resolve an issue with Microsoft 365 apps, which had prevented Matthew from using Mark's first floor computer.

We assisted Eti Berland in updating our school data report, which now includes several sub-accounts associated with the schools. We will be able to gather the school checkout stats as well as see which teacher accounts at the schools are checking materials out. We also created a new account: Marie Murphy Digital.

On August 27, Circulation Assistant Heather Douek assisted Eti Berland at the Avoca West Open House. We're always happy to see Circ staff participate in outreach events for the library.

We have new stickers, not only for outreach but for our Library of Things collection. The stickers remind patrons to return these special materials to the front desk.

Finally, the Community Engagement Committee (CEC), chaired by Matthew Hoffman, welcomed special guest Alice Chow of the Human Relations Commission (HRC) to our August meeting. This was a productive and enlightening meeting that shed light on some of the ways we are inter-connected. Alice was particularly impressed with Wilmette's "Let's Learn Together" initiative. We discussed ways both groups can cross-promote each other's programs. Commissioner Chow invited CEC representatives to join her at the September HRC Meeting.

Current and Past Physical Circulation by Fiscal Year

	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026
July	59,462	59,742	60,736	58,994	58,004
Aug	21,368	59,932	62,545	56,891	52,109
Sept	64,184	53,587	49,229	44,457	
Oct	50,538	53,994	55,226	59,304	
Nov	53,720	54,850	52,926	53,810	
Dec	51,141	51,452	53,499	51,956	
Jan	53,798	57,424	56,360	55,437	
Feb	49,767	52,127	54,534	51,350	
March	55,073	61,616	58,430	55,098	
April	53,537	54,517	54,773	52,102	
May	51,235	53,990	51,671	51,007	
June	55,012	56,630	56,941	54,569	
Total YTD	618,835	669,861	666,870	644,975	110,113

Wilmette Public Library Monthly Statistics as a Whole For 8/2025	
Total Checkins	28,999
Checkout Stations	16,891
Leap Checkout and Renewal	9,062
Total Checkouts	25,962
Auto-renewal	25,237
Power PAC Renewal	380
Leap Checkout and Renewal	137
Checkout Stations	151
Total Renewals	26,147
Number of your Library's items checked out system-wide	25,705
Holds Placed through your interface	5,249
Holds placed for/by your patrons	5,893
Holds Held	6,447
Holds Checked out	5,454
Holds Cancelled	1,212
Holds Unclaimed	934
Number Of Items Currently Out	31,678
Unexpired Patrons on file	18,044

Wilmette Public Library 24/7 Pickup Lockers Monthly Statistics For 8/2025	
Total Checkouts	224
Wilmette Cardholder	72
CCS and/or Reciprocal Borrower Cardholder	20
Holds Held	233
Holds Unclaimed	15

Adult and Teen Services (Manager Cathleen Blair)

Progress on Goals

Digitize, preserve, and enhance access to rare and unique local history resources.

A new comment was added to a previous Facebook post about the Voices of Wilmette Oral History Project. The comment [pictured below] is from Jason Graney and reads, "My great grandfather was the first town Doctor of Wilmette, Byron Cyrennus Stolp MD. Our family was deeply moved to hear an early 1960s version of this project where an elder townspeople told a story of first meeting him at the town's train station. He said my grandfather charged a dollar for an office call back then... Thanks for keeping history alive."

The library does indeed have cassette recordings from the 1970s that were not only digitized and made available on our local history website but also partnered with fully searchable transcripts. Eva deduced that Jason searched for his great-grandfather's name and discovered the mention of him in our oral history recording, leading him and his family to this extraordinary resource. In her words, "It's easy to forget that our daily lives now will someday be a part of history, and it's important to record personal and local memories, so that 50 years later they can be discovered and remembered."



Revitalize and reimagine the first floor and lower level of the library.

After achieving success in right-sizing Lower Level collections in service to the Collection Revitalization Project, librarians are now focusing their efforts on First Floor collections pending relocation. In addition to weekly collection maintenance tasks, Senior Services Librarian Jillian McKeown, one of our AV specialists, is delving into multiple item and usage reports to determine which media items remain viable and of value to the Wilmette community. This will ensure that valuable time, space, and effort is not squandered on moving outdated or damaged holdings; these measures also support more accurate planning for future success.

Prepare staff with professional development resources and leadership opportunities and support individual paths for career growth.

Adult Services librarians Rachel Garcia, Rachel Rothe, and EvaAnne Johnson each met privately with a prospective graduate school student to offer perspectives on library school experiences and professional career paths.

This month we finalized plans to welcome a practicum student from the College of DuPage to Wilmette Public Library for the semester. Melissa Whitley will be working with Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia to gain valuable experience in the field. She will engage in orientations, shadow a variety of operations, and perform hands-on work with several departments in the library based on her interests and goals, including experiences in book discussions, library outreach, and technical services.

Genealogy and Local History Librarian EvaAnne Johnson contributed to a highly productive RAILS Learning Lab session, “Creating Community through Genealogy and Local History Services”. Participants brainstormed approaches to make family history more relevant and inclusive, especially to younger generations, and they were challenged to explore potential topics of contemporary history from the last 50 years. Among Eva’s promising ideas are the history of hardcore punk music in Chicagoland (already in the works!), John Hughes movie sets, the evolution of Eden’s Plaza, and the history of the condominiums on the lakefront.

At his own initiative, Business Librarian John Amundsen undertook a refresher notary training course specifically for Illinois to keep his knowledge of applicable statutes, practices, and regulations at highest currency. The State of Illinois only recently implemented a formal, state-specific training and examination requirement for new notaries, well past John’s initial appointment, and it speaks to his dedication that he sought this opportunity before it was mandated as part of a later term renewal.

Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia and Librarian Rachel Rothe completed advanced training on facilitating department book group services in partnership with ILL partner staff. Almost immediately after being vested in their new roles, they were placed in

position to address multiple complex inquiries, and they each nimbly demonstrated what an asset they will be to the service.

Explore and facilitate opportunities to grow and strengthen strategic partnerships.

In support of New Trier student Marie M's Girl Scout Gold Award Project, Teen Services Librarian Krista Hutley partnered to establish the first two meetings of what will become a New Trier High School teen advisory board to public libraries. Current stage activities include promotion, recruitment, and coordinating communication with staff at Winnetka Public Library and Glencoe Public Library.

Additional Spotlight Activities

Public Desk Service

Adult Services staff answered 2813 questions in August, reflecting the expected modest dip in demand for reference service during transition from summer recreation to early days of school year. Collection assistance rose to comprise 47% of interactions, reference inquiries contributed 27%, and 18% of transactions were in service of study room facilitation.

Teen Services

Teen Services Librarian Krista Hutley and School Engagement Coordinator Eti Berland innovated a successful Teen Volunteer Appreciation Party, in which the hard work of high school summer volunteers was celebrated with an ice cream sundae bar, games, and activities.

Collection and Advisory Services

Department display coordinators exercise great creativity in framing collection spotlights in ways that capture the spontaneous interest of visitors. This month's features boasted a range including Booker Prize Winners, Maternal Horror, Epistolary Novels, and Action Films in August. In addition to a successful celebration of Women in Translation Month, we also took the opportunity of Read a Romance Month to launch a new split-level display in the Fiction area.



Additional program details and statistics are appended to this report.

Youth Services (Manager Andrea Vaughn Johnson)

Youth Services Programs

In addition to all of the activities associated with Summer Reading Clubs, Youth Services presented dozens of additional programs this month.

Mother Goose pop-up program

Three dozen preschoolers and their grownups were entertained by Mother Goose, who mysteriously swooped in to share her many rhymes and then exited in an Uber.



Toddler Explorers

Youth Services Librarian Jennifer Lee presented a special program, Toddler Explorers, which drew over 99 toddlers and adults. Participants explored several sensory play stations. Lots of families shared with gratitude:

- “Thank you so much for having this program! It was really fun!”
- “I’ve been to a sensory program in another location, and I was so excited to see the library is doing this program!”
- “Thank you so much! It was wonderful!”



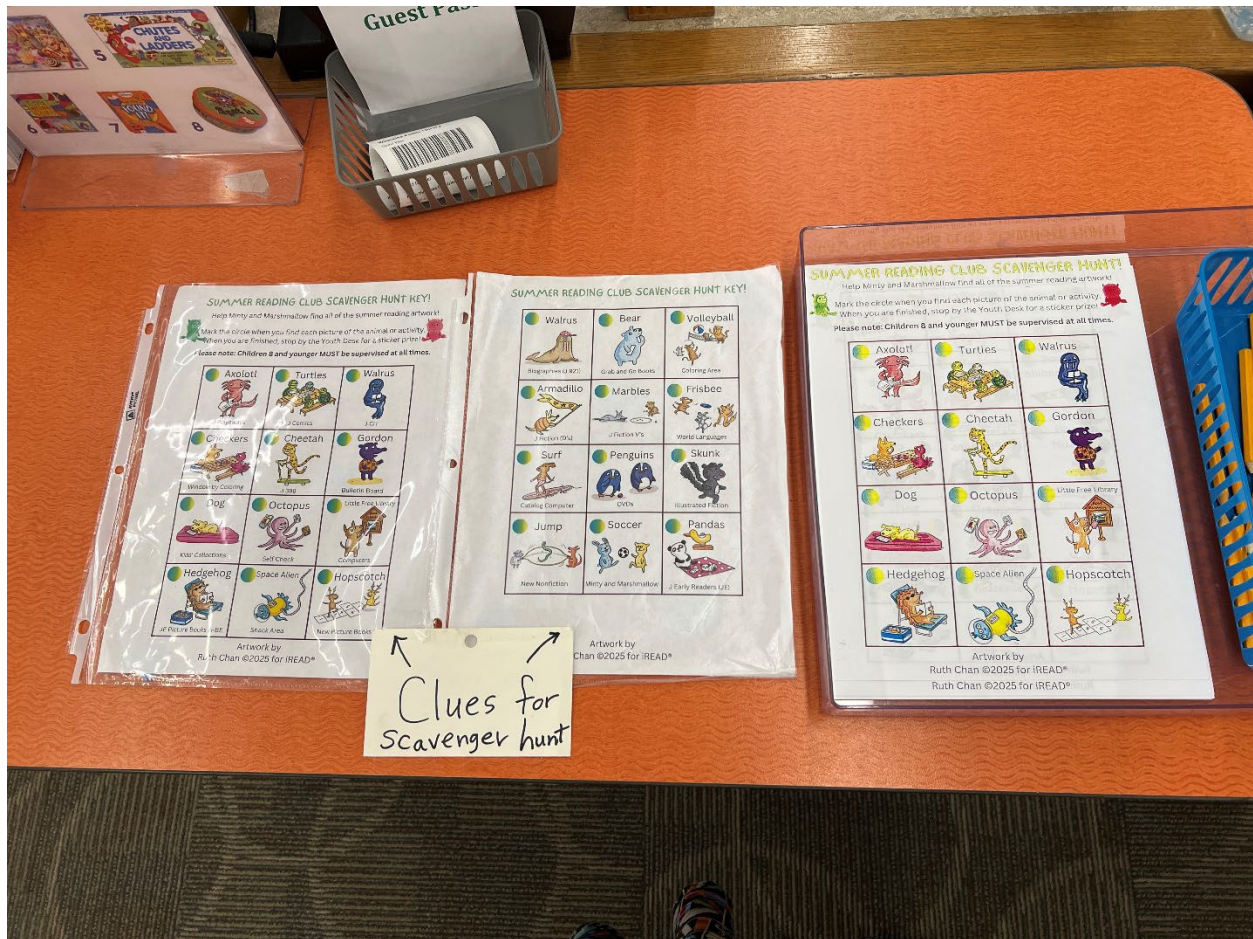
Stick Together Poster Activity

Many children participated in our mystery poster passive program through the month. Hundreds of pixel stickers were applied to reveal the image, a hedgehog reading a book!



Scavenger Hunt

Our highly anticipated scavenger hunt returned with the Summer Reading Club theme, using art from the iRead's Summer 2025: Level Up at Your Library featured illustrator, Ruth Chan. Children and caregivers explored different collections on the second floor, expanding their knowledge of library resources while finding the different images.



Games Collection

Our in-house board game collection continues to engage patrons. 42 games were borrowed for play in the library in August.

Nursery Rhyme Obstacle Course

Our Nursery Rhyme Obstacle Course program on August 5 attracted an even 100 visitors ranging in age from 2-7 and resulted in some charming interactions among the kids. One went through the “Bear Hunt” tunnel roaring like a bear, which frightened another child. So he walked over to her and assured her, “I’m not a real bear!” She smiled and made her way through the challenges.



Outreach

WPL is a regular destination for the NSSRA’s Enhanced Lifestyles for Adults program. Community Engagement Librarian Sarah Jo Zaharako hosted three visits this month for a campfire-inspired program that included stories about the great outdoors, campfire songs, a soundtrack of crickets, and even cardboard marshmallows.



School Outreach

Back to school season means resuming library services to our school partners. Our youth services staff is hard at work reconnecting with local districts and helping inform them about the materials, resources, and services available to them.

This year, inspired by the District 39 teacher meetings the library hosted last year, School Engagement Librarian Eti Berland recorded her slideshow presentation that provides an overview of the WPL library resources and services that teachers can view at their convenience. It can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/WPL-TeacherResources>.

School Outreach Events

School Engagement Librarian Eti Berland attended the Avoca West Parent-Teacher Council Ice Cream Social on August 22, sharing library resources, information, and giveaways with kids and families. For the first time, the library was invited to Avoca West's Open House on August 27, which Eti attended along with Heather Douek from the Circulation Department. On August 28, Eti and Teen Librarian Krista Hutley attended Joseph Sears School's Family Fun Day, their annual celebration on the first day of school. Afterwards, Eti attended Marie Murphy's Open House.



Teacher Bags

We provided 3 bags for our Teacher Pick-up Spot at the Welcome Desk in August. As school resumes, we expect teachers to resume using the Teacher Resource Bag Pick-up Service, now in its second year.

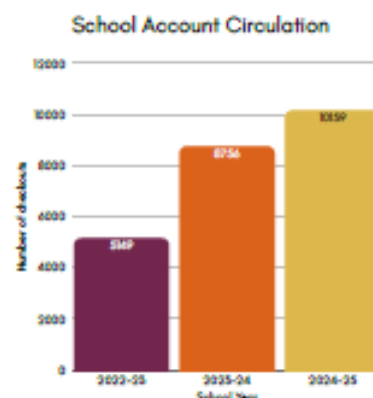
School Partnerships Infographic

Youth Services has created an infographic, appended to this report, that explores the library's school partnerships in the 2024-2025 school year. It includes data about the library's impact as well as narrative feedback from community partners.



Digital Learning Resources Increased Usage after Dec/Jan D39 Teacher Staff Meetings

Database	Dec 24	Jan 25
World Book	45	907
Pebblego and Pebble Go Next	74	1806
Encyclopedia Britannica	80	788
Facts on File	25	135



Book Displays

For the month of August, staff displayed novels, non-fiction, and picture books about friendship and school.

Special projects

Community Engagement Librarian Sarah Jo Zaharako co-organized an unconference called *Stronger Together – Networking Toward More Accessible Libraries*, which took place on August 29th at Arlington Heights Memorial Library. Part of the LACONI professional development series, the event included sessions on accessible spaces, neurodiverse affirming programs, adaptive technology, and inclusive hiring practices.



Any additional comments, news, patron feedback, or other items to share

"Oh my gosh. This is going to be the best library day again!!" - Small patron after her grownup told her they were checking out 27 books.

From building epic towers in our Imagination Playground, sharing a read aloud, sitting and reading, playing tabletop games, exploring our scavenger hunt, making Minty and Marshmallow fan art, and checking in for Summer Reading Club, our community enjoys their visits to the library in so many ways!

Additional program details and statistics are appended to this report.



Digital & Maker Services (Manager Lauren Kelly)

Programs

Digital & Maker Services Librarian Janet Piehl ran the Maker Garden in August, with the theme of “Connect the Dots,” using acrylic pegs and pegboard of different sizes and shapes. The pegs resemble giant Lite Brites and they fit into the larger pegboards; they are repurposed from the Youth Services light table. The smaller pegboards are holders for test tubes or nails. Patrons are invited to tool around with the dot-like components. The installation is a nod to [International Dot Day](#), which celebrates creativity, courage, and collaboration, and occurs on or around September 15ish.



Program Highlights

- This month Digital Services Assistant Alex Barzallo ran a massively popular program, Intro to Chat GPT, on August 29th. There were 30 patrons registered and 21 on the wait list, with 29 attending. The class covered brainstorming, summarizing, learning/studying, effective prompting, and responsible use. Those who attended were highly engaged, and Alex received positive feedback from multiple participants who found the material clear, practical, and easy to understand. Since this program was a big hit, he may run this class again in the next programming cycle.
- This month Digital & Maker Services Assistant Manager Lydia Hanchett led the “Down With Paywalls” program, which led patrons through our library’s digital magazine and newspaper offerings and how to access them. She had 17 of 20 patrons attend, and many of them had great questions.

Program Updates

- The DMS Team met as a group to prepare for the winter program cycle (November / December) and solidified our slate of offerings for this month. As always, we offer a mix of Maker, Digital Literacy, Online Resources, Gaming, and Coding programs for all ages.

The Studio

In August the Studio team had 426 interactions in the space, which is lower than normal due to our week-long closure from 8/18-24.

Studio Projects and Patron Stories

- A patron came in to create swag for her son’s L-themed birthday party. She used AI to design an L image for a t-shirt, then came to the Studio to cut it out and heat press it on to a t-shirt. She also made buttons. The plan for the party was to ride the train down to Maggie Daley park to play, then ride home. The next week, the patron stopped to tell

me that the party was exhausting but great fun.

- A patron designed buttons featuring book fan art.
- A pair of siblings came to the Studio to make stickers after attending a Labelpalooza session. They made some great multicolored layered vinyl stickers!



- A first-time patron visited to ask about designing 3D printed objects. He was specifically interested in creating an accessory for a mandolin, analogous to a shoulder rest for a fiddle. Sounds as though he'll be back!
- A patron used the Hatch Embroidery software to digitize an old record store logo.
- A patron designed buttons with book fan art using ChatGPT.
- Overheard in the Studio: "I want to come here all the time, without my kids!"

Studio Updates

- The Studio was closed from August 18-24 for our annual "Re-Energizing Recess." During the closure we completed many tasks!
 - Worked with IT to install two new printers and network the Studio laptops to be able to print to them directly
 - Worked with IT to install an ad blocker on the laptops due to issues with popups on 3D printing sites
 - Janet, Lydia, and Lauren visited the Singer Factory Distributor store in Chicago and traded in our old embroidery machine for a much better model. Lydia also

participated in a 1 hour operator lesson with the store. We hope to deploy the new machine in early October.

- Lydia Hanchett ran a mock sewing class to prepare for running them for patrons this winter. Doug McGillivray, Annie Blackie, and Lauren Kelly participated. We all made beautiful felt hats!
- Refreshed the displays around the space, removing Summer Reading and instead putting up objects that relate to autumn and the upcoming spooky season (spearheaded by Lydia Hanchett and Doug McGillivray).
- Worked with Facilities on deep cleaning – dusting, cleaning tables, and washing carpet. Staff also vacuumed and dusted out the 3D printer enclosures and sewing machines / serger
- Machine maintenance – scissors were sharpened and 3D Printers and button makers were greased.
- We wrapped up work with summer teen volunteers this month. Janet trained one volunteer early in the month, bringing our total to 10 volunteers. The volunteers worked 127 hours in the Studio and at DMS programs. Janet wrote them letters documenting their time and work and made them thank-you cards containing gift cards to Books Down Under. Kudos to Krista and Eti for organizing a volunteer appreciation party, which Lauren attended on the Studio's behalf.
- Ethan attended the Play Make Learn conference in Madison, Wisconsin from August 20-22. The theme that emerged for him across the multiple sessions he attended was large scale collaborative projects with kids. He attended one session with the head of The Madison Children's Museum maker space about doing collaborative projects with kids using cardboard. Every year they make a big cardboard sculpture, and they brought one to show off (pictured).



- Digital Services Assistant Annie Blackie began brainstorming how we can offer knitting / crochet / embroidery kits in the Studio. She researched what other area libraries offered and considered how to implement this in our space.
- Lauren Kelly initiated work on a new flyer showcasing Dewey numbers for various

crafting topics in our physical collection. This “Crafting Resources” flyer will be available in the Studio to connect patrons to print book on topics such as knitting, sewing, mending, paper craft, and more. Lauren worked with Senior Services Librarian Jillian McKeown and Genealogy & Local History Librarian EvaAnne Johnson to confirm the topics and call numbers.

- Janet finished a deployed a new Studio project for making water bottle stickers using the Silhouette Cameo. “Projects” are things patrons can do in the Studio if they didn’t come in with an idea beforehand. We provide the materials and instructions, and they can leave with a finished product.

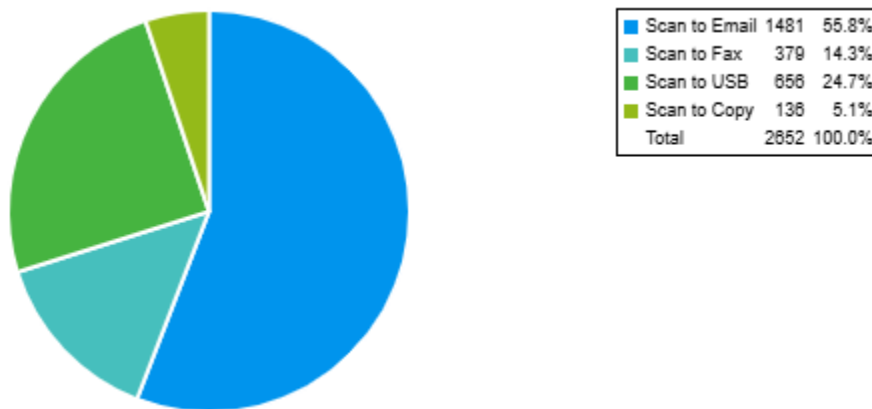
3D Printing

August Patron Prints: 80

Technology Desk + DMS Department

Updates

- In August DMS Staff had 754 interactions at the Technology Desk. Help topics included: creating and verifying a NextDoor profile, digitizing 8mm film, sending files from an email over text, printing a screenshot, formatting a word document to be landscape, and more.
- In August 2652 pages were scanned at the Scan Station.



- The TBS computer management system also allows for usage reports. In August we had 1717 computer sessions (all locations), a record number! Last fiscal year the average was 1503 sessions.
- Lydia Hanchett and Finn Dos Santos continued to facilitate the rollout of new board games, yard games, and technology for the Library of Things.
- Lydia Hanchett was appointed head of the Library of Things working group, in the wake of the departure of Technical Services Manager Jessica Thomson.
- Finn Dos Santos began an inventory of the contents of the Library of Things cabinet in Technical Services and will be creating a spreadsheet in the LoT SharePoint.

- Finn is also working to improve the labeling of Library of Things items with durable waterproof stickers as well as adding ones that instruct patrons to return the item to the Circulation Desk as opposed to dropping it in a materials drop box.
- Ethan Herdrich is working on updating the audio cassette digitization tutorial since the Audacity software updated and our guide is outdated.
- Lydia Hanchett created and applied additional labeling to the recently deployed device chargers to encourage patrons to return chargers when they're done using them, including a 3D printed tag that deters attrition.

Patron Stories

- This month Ethan assisted a patron who needed assistance with transferring the files onto their own flash drive. After he finished helping the patron gave Ethan a high five.

Additional program details and statistics are appended to this report.



Communications and Events (Manager Sarah Beth Brown)

August Programming

Programming coordinator Jennifer Bartel put together a dynamic mix of live performances, educational lectures, wellness experiences, and virtual travel this August. With strong attendance and enthusiastic feedback, these programs reflect our continued commitment to community engagement, cultural enrichment, and lifelong learning.

Northbrook Public Library Youth Solo Competition Winners

In collaboration with Northbrook Public Library, we were pleased to present a special performance featuring winners of their annual student competition. This year's talented musicians were violinist Alison Chung and pianist Robert Tang. While many attendees were friends and family, the program drew a diverse audience, including regular patrons and families who joined spontaneously while in the building. The event offered a meaningful opportunity for young children to be inspired by older students performing on their instruments at a high level.

Peaceful Sound Bath Meditation

We hosted a calming and immersive sound bath meditation led by musician and sound healer Preston Klik. The event filled the auditorium with participants relaxing on yoga mats or seated in chairs, enjoying the therapeutic sounds of ocean gongs, Native flutes, crystal bowls, handpans, chimes, and more. The inclusive environment fostered a deep sense of calm and connection.

Virtual Program Highlights

Silent Heroes: Resistance Movement in Nazi Germany

German historian Anette Isaacs returned to share powerful stories of courage and resistance in Nazi Germany. Focusing on figures such as Sophie and Hans Scholl, Georg Elser, Baron von Stauffenberg, and the women of Rosenstrasse, Anette illuminated the bravery of those who stood against fascism. Patron feedback, collected via Zoom survey, included, "Engaging, thoughtful, and clearly knowledgeable... made history come to life," and "More programs about ordinary people resisting fascism, being upstanders, and fighting for what's right."

Chicago Links to the R.M.S. Titanic Disaster

Historian and former criminal investigator Ray Johnson explored the little-known connections between the R.M.S. Titanic and the Chicago area. The program was scheduled in response to community interest in local history, and captivated attendees with a blend of factual storytelling and light shed on some common myths.

Armchair Travel: Yucatán, Mexico with Jeff Klapes

Back by popular demand, "traveling librarian" Jeff Klapes guided us through Merida and the Yucatán Peninsula showcasing rich Mayan history, vibrant architecture, and cultural treasures off the beaten path. Patron feedback included, "This was absolutely perfect!," and "Evening time was convenient, and I appreciate having both in-person and virtual options."

In addition to wrapping up our summer programming season, Jennifer dedicated time to preparing for fall offerings. This included program scheduling, data collection, and interdepartmental coordination.

August Communications

We had two primary communications priorities in August: the completion and publication of the September/October newsletter, and preparations for the asbestos abatement project, which began in early September.

The newsletter, which went to all homes in Wilmette the last week of the month, had a number of promotional priorities this issue. It featured a large promotional push in support of Library Card Sign-up month, a reminder to patrons to download our new app, and an overview of the fall library construction project. Additionally, we highlighted programs from all four of our programming departments, and featured a great booklist on Library Love from our AS librarians to celebrate Library Card Sign-up Month.



The 2025 asbestos abatement, while not a huge project in and of itself, is a key transition in the larger collection reorganization project, and we took great care to ensure it communicated appropriately to patrons. Communications & Events manager Sarah Beth Brown created a post on our website that will be updated throughout the project as needed, and worked with Anthony to create communications about the asbestos removal itself. Signs were created as needed to indicate closure information to patrons and staff, and will continue to be updated throughout the period of work. In addition to these concrete tasks, Sarah Beth and the rest of the project team spent a good portion of the month ideating and getting ready for the next phases of the collection project.

In addition to this work, Sarah Beth prepared for several long term goals for this year, including a signage audit and updating the style guide to ensure it suits the way we work now.

The communications team have all been involved in the above projects, but graphic designer Sarah Rose and content coordinator Lydia Fair were also busy with a range of other projects.

Sarah's projects included:

- Ordered replacements for our popular custom vinyl stickers and created a new sticker design that will debut at The Block Party and will be used during Library Card Sign Up Month and beyond
- Worked with Janet on reimagining and updating the instructions for the button maker in The Studio
- Updated and produced items for The Studio including closure signage for the break
- Created new posters for display in the vestibule and the bulletin board
- Researched and assisted in planning for new compliance signs for the vestibule
- Ordered new registration cards for Circulation
- Met with Lydia in DMS to discuss signage and graphic plans for the Library of Things
- Created an updated sign for our patron EV charging spot
- Updated our Mobile Printing handout for DMS
- Provided graphics, files, and design consulting as needed across departments



Content Coordinator Lydia also managed a good number of projects this past month:

- Sent weekly e-newsletters, biweekly Youth Services family e-news, and an August RA email in collaboration with Rachel Rothe on 8/12
- During the final weeks of Summer Reading, shared posts encouraging turning in reading logs & collecting prize books, a spotlight on summer volunteers, and a reel to wrap it all up.
- Additional promotional highlights included themed displays & booklists and library news: The Studio break, CCS service update, and the collections revitalization project. I also focused on timely pop culture tie-ins to Broadway music on hoopla and Taylor Swift items in our collection.
- A 2023 Facebook post linking to *Voices of Wilmette: An Oral History Project* received this comment on 8/28, "My great grandfather was the first town Doctor of Wilmette, Byron Cyrennus Stolp. Our family was deeply moved to hear an early 1960's version of this project where an elder towns person told a story of first meeting him at the town's train station. He said my grandfather charged a dollar for an office call back then...Thanks for keeping history alive."
- Updated the Hispanic Heritage Month webpage
- Designed new digital slides for The Studio
- Shared September book groups with The Book Stall
- Published 4 posts to the staff blog.
- Ongoing: organized and tagged photos on Google Drive and the staff shared drive.

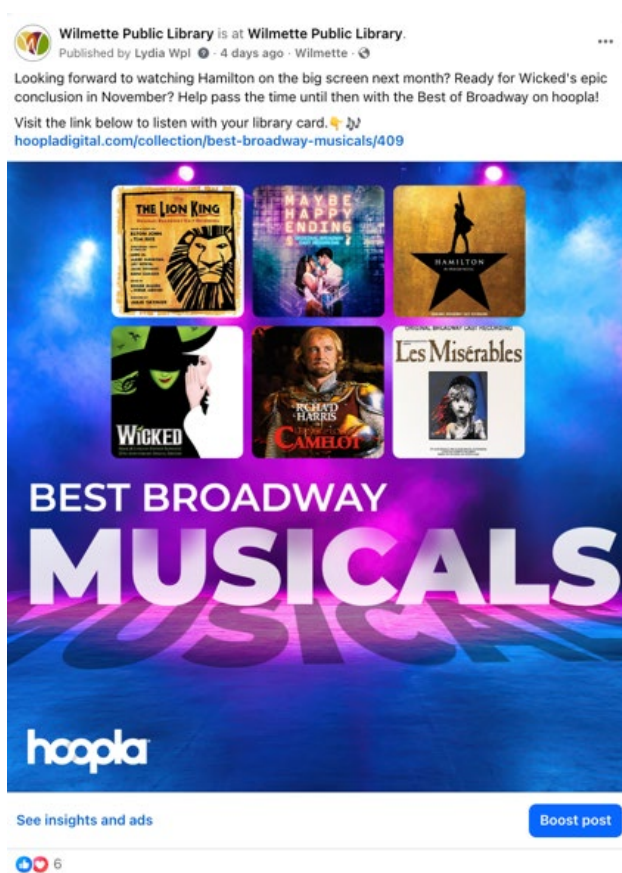
Email, Social Media, and Communications

Email newsletter statistics from August:

- 91,238 sends
- 1,778 clicks

Over the summer we have resumed sending a recommended reads newsletter in conjunction with Adult Services, and it has both increased our newsletter engagement and provided a welcome outlet for our popular readers advisory services. The most popular title clicked in the August RA newsletter was *A Dog in Georgia*, by Lauren Grodstein.

A few of our more popular posts from August:



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- <https://www.instagram.com/wilmettelibrary/>



wilmettelibrary
Wilmette Public Library

wilmettelibrary Today is the last day of our Summer Reading Clubs! Be sure to bring in your completed reading log to receive a prize book. 📖 🎁 🌟

Thank you to everyone who read with us this summer and a special thanks to the amazing volunteers who made our youth Summer Reading Club possible!

To learn more about our volunteer program, visit our blog.
[#levelupatyourlibrary](#)

View insights Boost post

👍👍👍 Liked by wilmettelibraryteens and 27 others
August 15

Add a comment... Post

Wilmette Public Library is at Wilmette Public Library.
Published by Lydia Wpl · 2 days ago · Wilmette · 🌐

The CCS library network is growing! We're excited to welcome Vernon Area Public Library to our consortium. From Thursday, August 28 at 9pm through Tuesday, September 2, our online services will be limited as "thousands" of items are added to the catalog.

Please bring your library card with you when you visit the library during this time. 📖

Learn More: <http://wilmettelibrary.info/.../services-limited-august...>

Service Update

Wilmette Public Library

See insights and ads Boost post

Indian Trails Public Library District and 11 others

Wilmette Public Library is at Wilmette Public Library.
August 19 at 4:00 PM · Wilmette · 🌐

As we close out an awesome summer at the library, let's take a look back at the fun we had in our Summer Reading Clubs! 📖 🎁 🌟 [#levelupatyourlibrary](#)

Boost this post to get more reach for Wilmette Public Library. Boost post

👍👍👍 21 3 comments 1 share

Like Comment Share

View more comments

Wilmette Park District
Amazing! 🌟

Information Technology (Manager Michael Pocrnich)

During the closure of the Studio the week of August 18, a new color LaserJet printer and a new inkjet printer were both installed by CVI. IT and DMS staff worked with CVI to test printing on the new printers. Both staff and patrons appreciate being able to print directly from the Studio laptops now, which was not possible with the old printers.

IT Assistant Christine Hightower put together SharePoint and OneDrive training tailored for the Technical Services department to help them enhance working on collaborative documents within the department. The staff in the Technical Services department praised Christine's training as outstanding and noted that they will be able to better utilize SharePoint and OneDrive for collaborative document sharing now.

Facilities and Safety (Manager Marcos Levy)

Planning and coordination continued for the September revitalization project work in the north room of the lower level. With the collections reorganized and unified on the south side of the building, the north room is now prepared for its contract work. Shelving was demoed and stored in August in preparation for the carpet removal and asbestos abatement work, which began on September 8. The north room space will remain closed through early October, and re-open following the subsequent painting and re-carpeting of the space. Information about the 2025 Asbestos Abatement Project has been added to the Projects and Initiatives section of our website (<https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/2025-asbestos-abatement>), while updates to affected operations (including redirection for material donations to the Friends of the Library Books Down Under shop) are included on a slide on the library's home page and a dedicated info page (<https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/posts/collections-move>)



Human Resources (Manager Michael Boone)

Recruiting Activities & Personnel

TS Manager

After the TS Manager position posting closed, we received eight applications. From those, we identified candidates who met the qualifications we were seeking and proceeded with prescreening. Based on that process, we've scheduled interviews with candidates we are considering moving forward with. Members of the TS department have been selected to participate on the interview panel for the first round.

3rd Quarter Anniversaries:

The Hospitality Committee coordinated an Ice Cream Sundae bar for staff on Thursday, August 28 celebrating 3rd quarter work anniversaries. We provided ice cream from Homer's, a local and legendary ice cream establishment, and also provided several toppings to choose from. We thought this would be a nice way to celebrate the accomplishments of our dedicated staff and also celebrate the end of summer activities.

Special projects

Healthcare Renewal for 2026

On August 11, HR Manager Michael Boone attended the Wellness Insurance Network (WIN) board meeting and the following member services meeting regarding our 2026 healthcare renewals. During the meeting we were informed that based on current claims experience and the broader trend of rising healthcare costs industry-wide, our 2026 renewal rates will be:

- 18% increase for medical premiums
- 5% increase for dental premiums

We were told that the initial rate for medical came in at 22%, but after modifications to some of the plan provisions and the elimination of a new alternative cost-saving plan, Zero Card, they were able to get the rate down by 4%. This increase for the medical is primarily driven by higher-than-expected plan utilization and continued inflationary pressures in the healthcare sector. While this trend is consistent with what many organizations are experiencing, we understand the importance of managing these costs carefully.

Some plan changes noted:

- \$500 increase in deductibles
- Office co-pay changes
- Formulary changes to some drugs that will eliminate high-cost brands and generics. All drugs identified have alternatives, and all members impacted will be notified by WIN.
- Elimination of most prescribed weight-loss drugs
- Elimination of the Zero card

2026 Open Enrollment is scheduled for November 3 – 14, 2025

Paylocity Update:

We've been hard at work preparing for the launch of our new HR and payroll system, Paylocity. Director Anthony Auston, Finance Manager Sandra Discepolo, HR Manager Michael Boone, and Finance Assistant Marti Bellefontaine have been actively participating in training sessions and implementation meetings to ensure a successful rollout.

All staff have registered in the new system and begun completing their assigned trainings on timesheet submission and time-off requests.

However, due to some system inconsistencies and the need for additional training, we've made the decision to postpone the original September 14 launch date by approximately one month. While a new launch date has not yet been finalized, we are working closely with our contacts at Paylocity to ensure a smooth and successful transition.

Staff Work Anniversaries in August

Name	Dept	Date of Hire	Service Years
Patsy de Vuono	Shelving	8/24/1994	31
Jim Kaspari	Facilities & Safety	8/28/2001	24
Al Frumkin	Facilities & Safety	8/07/2001	24
Joan Blecher	Adult Services	8/29/2006	19
June Bowe	Circulation	8/29/2011	14
Christine Hightower	IT	8/26/2011	14
Jill McKeown	Adult Services	8/21/2012	13
Ted Remus	Adult Services	8/29/2014	11
Jamie Helsin	Circulation	8/17/2022	3
Reenie Ruckdaeschel	Youth Services	8/10/2023	2

Select Staff Meetings & Workshops

Staff regularly attend conferences and developmental webinars, and are actively cultivating new skills through dozens of programs and workshops on a diverse range of topics, including:

8/4: Public Service Managers Meeting

8/4: Unpacking Ableism and Embracing Disability Identity, ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services (Eti Berland)

8/5: Collection Revitalization Team Meeting

8/6: Electronic Content Consortium Executive Committee monthly meeting (Lauren Kelly)

8/6: Library of Things Working Group monthly meeting

8/7: Leadership Team Meeting

8/8: Girl Scout Gold Award mentorship (Krista Hutley)

8/12: All Staff Meeting

8/12: Leadership Peer Advisory (Michael Pocrnich)

8/12: RAILS Conveners Group (Jillian McKeown)
8/13: CCS Governing Board: Discovery Layer Presentations (Anthony Auston, Cathleen Blair)
8/13: NSSRA Summer Bash, Northern Suburban Special Recreation Association (Sarah Jo Zaharako)
8/14: Community Engagement Committee
8/14: The Possible Future of Education: An Invitation to Radically Dream, Facing History and Ourselves (Diane dos Santos)
8/18: Presenter Collaboration: New Trier student Kaitlyn F. (Krista Hutley)
8/18: Public Service Managers Meeting
8/20: Presenter Collaboration: Lucas Vlatkovich (John Amundsen)
8/21: Accessibility Networking Group meeting (Sarah Jo Zaharako)
8/21: IDEA Committee Meeting
8/21: ILL/Tech meeting at CCS (Amy Jung, Megan Noone)
8/21: Play Make Learn Conference, UW-Madison School of Education (Jennifer Lee)
8/27: Narcan/Naloxone Training
8/27: Practicum Introductory Meeting (Cathleen Blair, Rachel Garcia)
8/27: Presenter Collaboration: Lora Amigo, proprietor of Pink Couch Books (Krista Hutley)
8/28: Family Fun Day outreach, Joseph Sears School (Krista Hutley)
8/28: Person In Charge Monthly Meeting
8/29: Stronger Together: Networking Toward More Inclusive Libraries, LACONI (Sarah Jo Zaharako)

Attachments

- August circulation statistics by item and material collections
- August online resource statistics by title and category
- August program statistics

August 2025 Program Statistics

Dept	Staff	Title	Virtual ?	Date	Time	Reg	Attend
AS	Jillian McKeown	Ageless Grace Chair Exercise Class	No	8/8/25	11:00 AM	Yes	23
AS	Jillian McKeown	AARP Smart Driver Course: Stay Safe and Save	No	8/11/25	9:30 AM	Yes	19
AS	Jillian McKeown	Dementia Caregiver Support Group (Virtual)	Yes	8/11/25	7:00 PM	Yes	12
AS	Jillian McKeown	AARP Smart Driver Course: Stay Safe and Save	No	8/14/25	9:30 AM	Yes	19
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Chicago Links to the R.M.S. Titanic Disaster (Virtual)	Yes	8/4/25	7:00 PM	Yes	40
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Armchair Travels	No	8/7/25	1:00 PM	No	16
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Peaceful Sound Bath Meditation	No	8/8/25	2:00 PM	Yes	35
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Northbrook Public Library Youth Solo Competition Winners	No	8/10/25	2:00 PM	No	40
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Silent Heroes: Resistance Movement in Nazi Germany (Virtual)	Yes	8/12/25	7:00 PM	Yes	47
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Yucatan, Mexico (Virtual)	Yes	8/18/25	7:00 PM	Yes	41
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Wilmette Walk & Talk	No	8/19/25	9:30 AM	No	0
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Armchair Travels	No	8/21/25	1:00 PM	No	5
DMS	Ethan Herdrich	Mario Kart 8 Switch Tournament	No	8/1/25	4:00 PM	Yes	50
DMS	Doug McGillivray	Code a Snake Game in Scratch	No	8/5/25	5:30 PM	Yes	6
DMS	Janet Piehl	Labelpalooza	No	8/6/25	10:00 AM	Yes	2
DMS	Janet Piehl	Labelpalooza	No	8/6/25	10:30 AM	Yes	5
DMS	Janet Piehl	Labelpalooza	No	8/6/25	11:00 AM	Yes	4
DMS	Ethan Herdrich	Nintendo Switch Vinyl Stickers	No	8/13/25	5:30 PM	Yes	0
DMS	Molly French	Microsoft Word Basics	No	8/14/25	6:00 PM	Yes	5
DMS	Ethan Herdrich	Minecraft Club	No	8/18/25	4:30 PM	Yes	6
DMS	Lauren Kelly	Down with Paywalls: Digital Magazines & Newspapers	No	8/20/25	6:00 PM	Yes	17
DMS	Janet Piehl	Making Connections: Sewing and Embroidery	No	8/25/25	6:30 PM	Yes	8
DMS	Alejandro Barzallo	Intro to ChatGPT (Virtual)	Yes	8/29/25	5:00 PM	Yes	29
TEEN	Krista Hutley	Uno Tournament	No	8/6/25	4:00 PM	Yes	6
TEEN	Krista Hutley	Teen Take & Make: Taro Bubble Tea (Take-Home Kit)	No	8/8/25	12:00 AM	Yes	34
TEEN	Krista Hutley	Dungeons & Dragons Summer of Adventure	No	8/14/25	3:00 PM	Yes	9
YS	Jennifer Lee	Toddler Explorers	No	8/1/25	10:30 AM	No	99
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Nursery Rhyme Obstacle Course	No	8/6/25	9:30 AM	No	100
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	How to Meet Friends at a New School	No	8/12/25	5:30 PM	Yes	18
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Wiggleworms Party!	No	8/13/25	10:00 AM	No	153
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Spanish-English Bilingual Storytime	No	8/13/25	4:30 PM	No	18
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	The Mighty Pawns Chess Club	No	8/14/25	6:30 PM	No	7
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Summer Reading Celebration with Little Miss Ann	No	8/15/25	6:00 PM	No	105
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Storytime in Mandarin Chinese	No	8/16/25	10:00 AM	No	8
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Lego Club	No	8/22/25	4:00 PM	Yes	14
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Mother Goose	No	8/5/25	10:00 AM	No	35
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	No	8/14/25	9:30 AM	No	12
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	No	8/15/25	9:30 AM	No	25
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	No	8/18/25	9:30 AM	No	40
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	No	8/19/25	9:30 AM	No	55
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	No	8/20/25	9:30 AM	No	30
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	No	8/21/25	9:30 AM	No	26

August 2025 Program Statistics

YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	No	8/22/25	9:30 AM	No	30
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	No	8/25/25	9:30 AM	No	15
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Hibbard Park StoryWalk	No	8/1/25			360
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Vattmann Park StoryWalk	No	8/1/25			360
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Stick Together poster	No	8/1/25			100
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Blue Blocks	No	8/7/25	9:30 AM		100
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Blue Blocks	No	8/8/25	9:30 AM		100
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Blue Blocks	No	8/9/25	9:30 AM		50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Blue Blocks	No	8/10/25	9:30 AM		50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Blue Blocks	No	8/11/25	9:30 AM		100
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Blue Blocks	No	8/12/25	9:30 AM		50

09/04/2025

**Wilmette Public Library District
Activity At Wilmette Library Stations
Monthly Statistics For 08/2025**

Collection	Material Type	Number Of Items	Local Charges	Local Renewals	Total	Total + Lender	CCS ILL Lender	CCS ILL Borrower	Ratio
Fiction	Book	36,613	3,063	2,865	5,928	6,466	538	710	0.16
Fiction	Book Hot	684	877	1	878	878	0	0	1.28
Fiction	Book New	1,614	1,125	534	1,659	1,958	299	198	1.03
Fiction	CD	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Fiction	DVD	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Fiction	Large Print	4,382	264	261	525	617	92	46	0.12
Fiction	Large Print New	359	118	72	190	273	83	18	0.53
Magazines	Magazine	2,084	192	493	685	685	0	0	0.33
Magazines	Magazine New	124	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Magazines	Microform	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Magazines	Newspaper	1,019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Multimedia	Blu-ray	1,346	172	146	318	373	55	81	0.24
Multimedia	Blu-ray New	87	111	3	114	123	9	10	1.31
Multimedia	Book	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0.50
Multimedia	Boxset	0	12	5	17	17	0	12	0.00
Multimedia	Boxset New	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Multimedia	CD	6,841	345	223	568	712	144	94	0.08
Multimedia	CD Audiobook	2,711	141	123	264	290	26	22	0.10
Multimedia	CD Audiobook New	157	61	37	98	122	24	5	0.62
Multimedia	CD New	231	61	39	100	128	28	5	0.43
Multimedia	DVD	9,451	1,283	841	2,124	2,358	234	257	0.22
Multimedia	DVD New	210	206	28	234	240	6	17	1.11
Multimedia	Playaway	628	45	60	105	114	9	4	0.17
Multimedia	Playaway Audio New	45	14	17	31	35	4	0	0.69
Multimedia	VHS	148	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Multimedia	Videogame	210	27	60	87	89	2	9	0.41
Multimedia	Videogame New	24	10	3	13	13	0	0	0.54
Nonfiction	Book	43,730	2,501	3,812	6,313	6,839	526	690	0.14
Nonfiction	Book Hot	243	236	0	236	236	0	0	0.97
Nonfiction	Book New	1,519	620	509	1,129	1,353	224	138	0.74
Nonfiction	Large Print	862	59	65	124	133	9	9	0.14
Nonfiction	Large Print New	55	9	10	19	29	10	3	0.35
Nonfiction	Scores / sheet music	0	4	4	8	8	0	4	0.00
Online	eAudiobook	67,993	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	eBook	94,588	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	eMagazine	5,944	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	Online Resource	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Other	AV equipment	4	14	0	14	14	0	0	3.50
Other	Bag	542	282	295	577	577	0	0	1.06
Other	ILL Material	0	47	2	49	49	0	0	0.00
Other	Mobile Hotspot	20	33	1	34	34	0	0	1.70
Other	Other	28	345	2	347	347	0	0	12.39
Other	Scores / sheet music	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0.00
Other	Special Collection	152	101	0	101	101	0	0	0.66
Teen Fiction	Book	2,553	334	503	837	872	35	95	0.33
Teen Fiction	Book Hot	6	3	0	3	3	0	0	0.50
Teen Fiction	Book New	165	41	54	95	99	4	7	0.58
Teen Fiction	Large Print	0	1	7	8	8	0	1	0.00
Teen Multimedia	Blu-ray	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	0.00
Teen Multimedia	Blu-ray New	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Teen Multimedia	CD Audiobook	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Teen Multimedia	Playaway	1	2	1	3	3	0	2	3.00
Teen Multimedia	Videogame	93	9	16	25	28	3	0	0.27
Teen Multimedia	Videogame New	18	5	0	5	7	2	0	0.28
Teen Nonfiction	Book	231	32	75	107	112	5	17	0.46
Teen Nonfiction	Book New	7	1	6	7	8	1	1	1.00
Teen Online	eAudiobook	1,086	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Teen Online	eBook	1,817	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Fiction	Book	38,979	9,253	10,677	19,930	20,353	423	618	0.51
Youth Fiction	Book New	1,226	730	584	1,314	1,371	57	45	1.07

Youth Fiction	Large Print	175	20	56	76	78	2	1	0.43
Youth Fiction	Seasonal Book	2,077	71	0	71	71	0	1	0.03
Youth Magazines	Magazine	806	63	168	231	231	0	0	0.29
Youth Multimedia	Blu-ray	195	34	40	74	76	2	2	0.38
Youth Multimedia	Blu-ray New	12	11	0	11	11	0	0	0.92
Youth Multimedia	Book	30	3	4	7	7	0	0	0.23
Youth Multimedia	CD	342	33	17	50	53	3	1	0.15
Youth Multimedia	CD Audiobook	407	27	31	58	66	8	3	0.14
Youth Multimedia	DVD	1,427	281	310	591	606	15	27	0.41
Youth Multimedia	DVD New	50	26	0	26	27	1	0	0.52
Youth Multimedia	MP3 Audiobook	0	3	1	4	4	0	3	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Multimedia Kit	0	1	3	4	4	0	1	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Other	0	0	4	4	4	0	0	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Other Audiobook	0	2	2	4	4	0	2	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Playaway	1,322	322	413	735	752	17	5	0.56
Youth Multimedia	Playaway Audio Hot	0	3	0	3	3	0	3	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Seasonal AV	127	9	0	9	9	0	0	0.07
Youth Multimedia	Videogame	818	303	311	614	627	13	17	0.75
Youth Multimedia	Videogame New	129	96	11	107	121	14	0	0.83
Youth Nonfiction	Book	15,154	1,680	2,186	3,866	4,002	136	133	0.26
Youth Nonfiction	Book New	398	163	149	312	319	7	7	0.78
Youth Nonfiction	Large Print	7	1	1	2	2	0	0	0.29
Youth Nonfiction	Seasonal Book	195	8	0	8	8	0	0	0.04
Youth Online	eAudiobook	1,532	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Online	eBook	2,897	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Online	Online Resource	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Other	Kit	11	5	0	5	5	0	0	0.45
Youth Other	Other Audiobook	0	2	1	3	3	0	2	0.00
Youth Other	Special Collection	23	4	0	4	4	0	0	0.17
Totals		358,999	25,962	26,147	52,109	55,179	3,070	3,327	0.15

Item Count is where the Item Owning Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Charge is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Renewal is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Lender is where the Item Owning Library = YOUR LIBRARY and the Station_Library not = Item_Library

Borrower is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY and Item Owning Library not = Station_Library

09/04/2025

**Wilmette Public Library District
Activity At Wilmette Library Stations
Monthly Statistics For 08/2025**

Collection	Number Of Items	Local Charges	Local Renewals	Total	Total + Lender	CCS ILL Lender	CCS ILL Borrower	Ratio	Auto Renewal
Fiction	43,664	5,447	3,733	9,180	10,192	1,012	972	0.21	3,563
Magazines	3,228	192	493	685	685	0	0	0.21	490
Multimedia	22,091	2,489	1,586	4,075	4,616	541	516	0.18	1,510
Nonfiction	46,409	3,429	4,400	7,829	8,598	769	844	0.17	4,161
Online	168,534	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Other	746	822	302	1,124	1,124	0	0	1.51	283
Teen Fiction	2,724	379	564	943	982	39	103	0.35	541
Teen Multimedia	116	17	19	36	41	5	3	0.31	18
Teen Nonfiction	238	33	81	114	120	6	18	0.48	75
Teen Online	2,903	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Youth Fiction	42,457	10,074	11,317	21,391	21,873	482	665	0.50	11,039
Youth Magazines	806	63	168	231	231	0	0	0.29	168
Youth Multimedia	4,859	1,154	1,147	2,301	2,374	73	64	0.47	1,110
Youth Nonfiction	15,754	1,852	2,336	4,188	4,331	143	140	0.27	2,278
Youth Online	4,436	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Youth Other	34	11	1	12	12	0	2	0.35	1
Totals	358,999	25,962	26,147	52,109	55,179	3,070	3,327	0.15	25,237

Item Count is where the Item Owing Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Charge is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Renewal is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Lender is where the Item Owing Library = YOUR LIBRARY and the Station_Library not = Item_Library

Borrower is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY and Item Owning Library not = Station_Library

The number of Auto Renewals is included in the numbers found in the Renewals Column

Product	Metric Captured	Category	Jul-25	Jul-24	Aug-25	Aug-24	FY25-26 YTD	FY 25-26 Avg	FY 24-25 YTD	FY24-25 Total	Cost per Use
AP Stylebook	Page Views	General Reference	48	6	18	30	66	33	36	116	\$ 2.05
Brainfuse	Database Usage	Online Learning	14	30	21	27	35	18	57	368	\$ 19.62
CLCD: Children's Literature	Results	General Reference	90	0	0	180	90	45	180	424	\$ 3.38
Consumer Reports	Page Views	General Reference	1217	1414	981	1193	2198	1099	2607	14367	\$ 0.19
Consumers' Checkbook	Logins	General Reference	14	3	15	6	29	15	9	47	\$ 6.72
CreativeBug	Total Views	Online Learning	32	83	5	58	37	19	141	509	\$ 2.04
DLIL eBooks	Checkouts	eBooks / AV	8760	7988	8504	8586	17264	8632	16574	118118	\$ 2.19
DLIL audiobooks	Checkouts	eBooks / AV	7041	6412	7101	6335	14142	7071	12747	78110	\$ -
DLIL magazines	Checkouts	Periodicals	2726	2113	3255	1874	5981	2991	3987	32310	\$ 0.03
EBSCO Database Package	Total Requests	General Reference	24	10	51	56	75	38	66	1091	\$ -
Encyclopedia Britannica	Documents + Media	General Reference	57	42	27	24	84	42	66	1639	\$ 0.63
Explore More Illinois	Uses	General Reference	44	4	69	13	113	57	17	210	\$ -
Facts on File (Infobase)	Total Views	General Reference	5	5	22	16	27	14	21	442	\$ 8.82
Find My Past	Total Views	Genealogy	70	14	10	32	80	40	46	1062	\$ 0.91
FirstSearch (OCLC)	Total Searches	General Reference	57	100	148	104	205	103	204	1503	\$ -
Gale Courses	Course Logins	Online Learning	4	1	2	2	6	3	3	82	\$ -
Gale Business Insights	Searches	Business / Finance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	81	\$ 70.76
Gale Business: Demographics Now	Retrievals	Business / Finance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	\$ -
Gale Business: Entrepreneurship	Searches	Business / Finance	0	6	0	0	0	0	6	24	\$ -
Gale Business: Plan Builder	Searches	Business / Finance	0	44	0	0	0	0	44	80	\$ 69.44
Gale Directory Library	Searches	General Reference	2	15	0	0	2	1	15	59	\$ 85.98
Gale eBooks	Retrievals	General Reference	4	14	0	1	4	2	15	117	\$ 37.31
Gale General One File	Searches	General Reference	27	1	25	10	52	26	11	3143	\$ 3.82
Gale UDemv	Lectures Completed	Online Learning	233	73	216	71	449	225	144	1067	\$ 2.92
Hoopla	Circulations	eBooks / AV	1814	1553	1824	1645	3638	1819	3198	19439	\$ -
Kanopy	Plays	eBooks / AV	1048	1097	972	951	2020	1010	2048	11921	\$ -
LexisNexis (NexisUni)	Documents Accessed	Periodicals	74	114	98	65	172	86	179	979	\$ 5.50
LinkedIn Learning	Total Videos Viewed	Online Learning	125	164	183	70	308	154	234	3174	\$ 2.16
Local History Digital Collection	Page Views	Genealogy	4214	3560	6632	1456	10846	5423	5016	73817	\$ 0.04
Mango Languages	Total Sessions	Online Learning	138	87	164	150	302	151	237	1349	\$ -
Mergent Archives	Pages Viewed	Business / Finance	1	3	0	3	1	1	6	29	\$ 54.17
Mergent Intellect	Pages Viewed	Business / Finance	9	40	65	33	74	37	73	648	\$ 14.96
Morningstar	Record Views	Business / Finance	350	91	63	298	413	207	389	1887	\$ 4.41
Newsbank Chicago Community Collection	Full Text Views	Periodicals	266	35	127	28	393	197	63	1058	\$ 3.95
Newsbank Heritage Hub	Full Text Views	Genealogy	18	28	0	25	18	9	53	323	\$ 7.49
Newspaper Archive	Total Page Views	Periodicals	53	118	22	38	75	38	156	1273	\$ 4.26
New York Times Digital Edition	Usage Sessions	Periodicals	4441	1678		1549	4441	2221	3227	26264	\$ 0.14
Niche Academy	Total Views	Online Learning	68	22	162	40	230	115	62	415	\$ 3.04
Novelist	Total Requests	General Reference	215	58	148	158	363	182	216	2560	\$ -
Oxford English Dictionary	Total Item Investigations	General Reference	1	41		14	1	1	55	348	\$ 5.98
Pebblego and Pebble Go Next	Article Views	General Reference	0	55	3	0	3	2	55	7082	\$ 0.30
PressReader	Issues Opened	Periodicals	558	645	625	611	1183	592	1256	8696	\$ 0.65
ProQuest: Ancestry Library Edition	Total Documents	Genealogy	641	244	373	1075	1014	507	1319	6158	\$ 0.32

ProQuest: Chicago Tribune	Total Documents	Periodicals	101	135	121	204	222	111	339	1655	\$ 4.15
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune Historical	Total Documents	Periodicals	133	134	219	116	352	176	250	2825	\$ 1.59
ProQuest: CultureGrams	Total Pages Viewed	General Reference	50	23	3	30	53	27	53	254	\$ 5.84
ProQuest: Fold3	Total Documents	Genealogy	10	19	60	172	70	35	191	364	\$ 5.60
ProQuest: Heritage Quest	Total Documents	Genealogy	22	37	7	11	29	15	48	280	\$ 2.94
ProQuest: Newspapers.com	Total Documents	Periodicals	374	122	61	105	435	218	227	1713	\$ 3.55
ProQuest: New York Times	Total Documents	Periodicals	217	615	243	605	460	230	1220	2354	\$ 3.49
ProQuest: New York Times Historical	Total Documents	Periodicals	29	13	5	18	34	17	31	335	\$ 12.50
ProQuest: Research Library	Total Documents	Periodicals	119	57	59	87	178	89	144	1291	\$ 4.28
ProQuest: Wall Street Journal	Total Documents	Periodicals	421	639	451	650	872	436	1289	6806	\$ 0.17
Record Information Service (Public Record)	Total Visitors	General Reference	151	169		161	151	76	330	1871	\$ 0.34
Reference Solutions (Reference USA)	Total Searches	Business / Finance	37	38	43	25	80	40	63	1067	\$ 7.80
Scholastic Teachables	Documents	General Reference	357	381	248	105	605	303	486	2863	\$ 0.33
S&P Net Advantage	Total Usage	Business / Finance	154	207	186	200	340	170	407	2068	\$ 7.14
Statista	Result Clicks	Business / Finance	51	21	8	221	59	30	242	504	\$ 21.18
Tumblebooks	Book Views	eBooks / AV	29	8	48	19	77	39	27	462	\$ 1.25
Value Line	Logins	Business / Finance	481	480	510	456	991	496	936	6178	\$ 0.57
Weiss Ratings	Page Views	Business / Finance	24	13	8	4	32	16	17	98	\$ 24.73
World Book	Content Views	General Reference	32	34	5	8	37	19	42	1745	\$ 1.28
OTHER											
App	Sessions	Library Technology	2100	1545	1856	1286	3956	1978	2831	18678	
Website	Sessions	Library Technology	18983	17343	18046	16826	37029	18515	34169	213958	
Scan EZ Scan Station	Pages Scanned	Library Technology	3321	2058	2652	2684	5973	2987	4742	45617	
Patron Computer Use	Sessions	Library Technology	1610	1526	1717	1652	3327	1664	3178	18041	

Category and Product	Metric Captured	July	August	Total
General Reference				
AP Stylebook	Page Views	48	18	66
CLCD: Children's Literature	Results	90	0	90
Consumer Reports	Page Views	1217	981	2198
Consumers' Checkbook	Logins	14	15	29
EBSCO Database Package	Total Requests	24	51	75
Encyclopedia Britannica	Documents + Media	57	27	84
Explore More Illinois	Uses	44	69	113
Facts on File (Infobase)	Total Views	5	22	27
FirstSearch (OCLC)	Total Searches	57	148	205
Gale Directory Library	Retrievals	2	0	2
Gale eBooks	Retrievals	4	0	4
Gale General One File	Retrievals	27	25	52
Novelist	Total Requests	215	148	363
Oxford English Dictionary	Total Item Investigations	1	0	1
Pebblego and Pebble Go Next	Article Views	0	3	3
ProQuest: CultureGrams	Total Pages Viewed	50	3	53
Public Records / Check Illinois	Total Visitors	151	0	151
Scholastic Teachables	Documents	357	248	605
World Book	Content Views	32	5	37
Periodicals				
DLIL magazines	Checkouts	2726	3255	5981
LexisNexis - NexisUni	Retrievals	74	98	172
Newsbank Chicago Community Collection	Full Text Views	266	127	393
Newspaper Archive	Total Page Views	53	22	75
New York Times Digital Edition	Usage Sessions	4441	0	4441
PressReader	Issues Opened	558	625	1183
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune	Total Documents	101	121	222
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune Historical	Total Documents	133	219	352
ProQuest: Newspapers.com	Total Documents	374	61	435
ProQuest: New York Times	Total Documents	217	243	460
ProQuest: New York Times Historical	Total Documents	29	5	34

ProQuest: Research Library	Total Documents	119	59	178
ProQuest: Wall Street Journal	Total Documents	421	451	872
Genealogy & Local History				
Find My Past	Total Views	70	10	80
Local History Digital Collection	Page Views	4214	6632	10846
Newsbank Heritage Hub	Full Text Views	18	0	18
ProQuest: Ancestry Library Edition	Total Documents	641	373	1014
ProQuest: Fold3	Total Documents	10	60	70
ProQuest: HeritageQuest	Total Documents	22	7	29
Online Learning				
Brainfuse	Database Usage	14	21	35
CreativeBug	Total Views	32	5	37
Gale Courses	Enrollments	4	2	6
Gale UDeMy	Total Videos Viewed	233	216	449
LinkedIn Learning	Total Videos Viewed	125	183	308
Mango Languages	Total Sessions	138	164	302
Niche Academy	Total Views	68	162	230
Business / Finance				
Gale Business Insights	Full Text Retrievals	0	0	0
Gale Business: Demographics Now	Retrievals	0	0	0
Gale Business: Entrepreneurship	Full Text Retrievals	0	0	0
Gale Business: Plan Builder	Retrievals	0	0	0
Mergent Archives	Pages Viewed	1	0	1
Mergent Intellect	Pages Viewed	9	65	74
Morningstar	Record Views	350	63	413
Reference Solutions	Total Searches	37	43	80
S & P Net Advantage	Total Usage	154	186	340
Statista	Searches	51	8	59
Value Line	Logins	481	510	991
Weiss Ratings	Page Views	24	8	32

eBooks / AV				
DLIL eBooks	Checkouts	8760	8504	17264
DLIL audiobooks	Checkouts	7041	7101	14142
Hoopla	Circulations	1814	1824	3638
Kanopy	Plays	1048	972	2020
Tumblebooks	Book Views	29	48	77
OTHER				
App	Sessions	2100	1856	3956
Website	Sessions	18983	18046	37029
Scan EZ Scan Station	Pages Scanned	3321	2652	5973
Patron Computer Use	Sessions	1610	1717	3327