

Wilmette Public Library Director's Report – November 18, 2025

Library Activities for October-November 2025

Anthony Auston, Director

Welcome Desk & Shelving (Manager Patsy deVuono)

Monthly Statistics

The library saw 22,159 visitors in October, averaging 715 unique users each day.

In the Shelving department, each day starts by emptying the RAILS interlibrary loan delivery bins. In October, 281 bins were emptied, had their location tag taken off and were put through the AMH. If there is more paperwork these items are put straight on the exceptions cart. Also, all the CDs that are returned and any JE paperbacks as well as very small items that are not heavy enough to be read by the AMH are sent right to the exception cart.

This October we sent 57,308 items through the AMH. 22,612 of those materials went to the exceptions cart and were sent to Circulation for further processing. On Friday evenings we generally do not have Shelves working, and there were no materials put through the AMH after 6pm on Friday nights.

Staff charged 306 Wonderbooks and Vox Books, and cleaned/repared 18 CDs/DVDs in October. Every morning Mary takes care of processing items that require mending – checking each item out to repair and then taking those items to the various selectors who make the final decision on whether they should be repaired, replaced, or discarded. This month she sent 251 items to the selectors for repair.

The Welcome Desk answered 1,088 total questions in October (313 phone queries and 775 in-person questions). There were 469 Reference and 418 Directional questions. In October, there were only 10 phone calls on Friday nights after 8pm, averaging 2 per Friday. Between 6pm and 8pm there were 53 calls total, averaging a little over 10 calls per Friday. It is always the slowest time that we are sitting at the desk.

The Welcome Desk also has other duties. This month we gave out 16 Teacher Bags to 6 area schools. We also keep track of the key to the auditorium kitchen, and handed it out 6 times in October. One of the favorite things we are able to do is talk to any patrons that see a friendly face and want to stand and chat. It is nice to have the time to make patrons feel welcome, from the young children who come with their nannies to the older patrons who like to tell us about their opinions on everything.

Progress on Goals

Staff continued shifting in the media room in support of the Collection Revitalization Project. There are now one and a half open shelving units in the audiobook area.

The Large Type area has also been shifted, opening up the last row of LT Non-Fiction. This move makes room for patrons to work at the adjacent table, and also makes it easier for patrons to browse these books without affecting those sitting at that table. Shelver Michael Mah has taken over making the endcap signage, and new signs were made for the LT area this month.

We received a new supply of book easels that have been put into use in the fiction room. It looks much nicer now that all the book displays have an easel.

Personnel

We're sad to report that this month that Welcome Desk Assistant Colleen Reese accepted an offer to join another library. We wish her the best of luck in her new endeavor.

The Shelving Department now has 4 students from Cove School working as student interns. Aidan, who has been here for about 4 years now, is hoping to work here one day. He works the most frequently, coming in three days a week. Zach helps shelve DVDs. Mary Claire, who started over the summer, divides her time between shelving and helping with jobs in Youth Services. Our newest intern is Charlotte, who also shelves in the children's area. She is doing an incredible job; we are going to have her start sorting the books soon to give her more opportunities.

I will be the Chair for the April 10 Staff Development Day, and have started assembling the committee. I have great expectations for the day.

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 a variety of adult nonfiction collections that have been in transition.

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.

The TS team has reactivated its acquisitions, cataloging, and preparation of new library of things items for circulation to our patrons. The committee had been waiting to resume orders and development of this collection until TS hired its new manager, but since that process is taking longer than we hoped, TS has aligned its priorities set aside time to catalog the new items when they come in. New additions to the collection include: 2 new DSLR camera kits (DSLR camera and lenses bundle, and a DSLR camera and field monitor bundle), an Apple Pencil, Giant Uno, and Wingspan.

Assistant Manager Shanti D’Costa continued to coordinate alternative means of order fulfillment in the wake of our primary material vendor Baker & Taylor closing its operations. Director Auston and Finance Manager Discepolo coordinated calls and credit data for multiple prospective vendors to facilitate TS and collection stakeholder decision making about alternative options. In the meantime, Shanti worked with IT Assistant Christine Hightower on setting up an interim ordering process for both Adult and Youth Services, which going forward could be our option if our potential new vendors are not able to provide this process. This included setting up a formattable spreadsheet and printable cards, workable by both selectors and the TS acquisitions team to submit and track orders. Christine did the heavy lifting on the form’s design and set-up, while Shanti provided input on the details as the process needed to work for everyone involved.

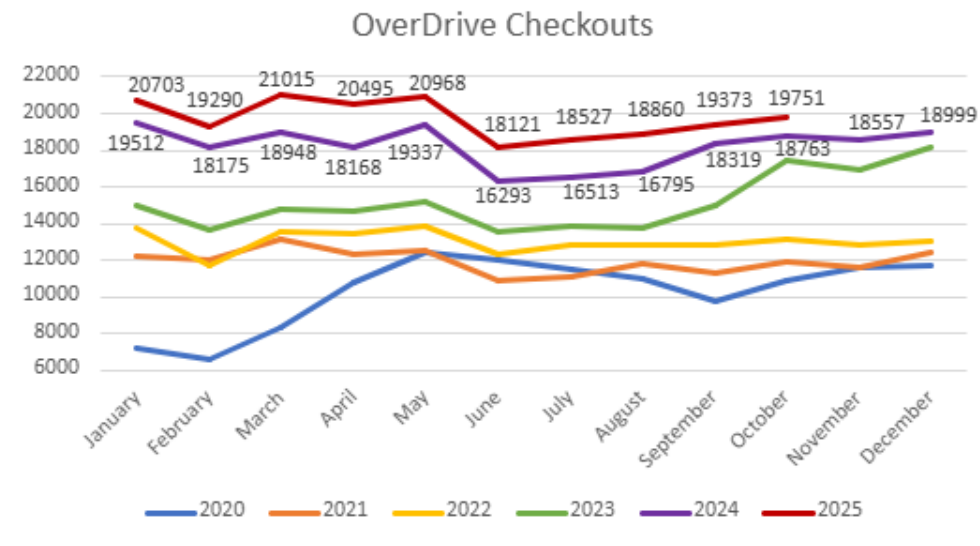
Digital Collections (Digital & Maker Services Manager Lauren Kelly)

This month we launched two new Chicago Tribune online resources: Online Access (website) and Digital Edition (online version of the daily print edition). Although we have the ProQuest database of the Tribune, there had been a gap in our offerings since the elimination of the Chicago Tribune from PressReader a couple of years ago. We’re thrilled to have these products live on our site.

Digital Collections Highlights

- Newspaper and magazine resources saw strong usage across our collection, including notably high session counts for PressReader and the New York Times website and record circulation of OverDrive digital magazines.
- With school back in session, educational resources are seeing spikes in traffic. PebbleGo and PebbleGo Next had 760 combined article views, and World Book Kids had a record-shattering month with 1,795 content views, up from a typical monthly count of 50.
- Self-directed learning resources had a robust month, with 215 sessions in Mango Languages and 356 videos viewed via LinkedIn Learning.

OverDrive



19,751 checkouts in October:

- 9,281 eBooks (47.0%)
- 6,927 digital audiobooks (35.1%)
- 3,543 digital magazines (17.9%)

Top eBook titles by checkout:

1. Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid – 38
2. Great Big Beautiful Life by Emily Henry – 36
3. My Friends by Fredrik Backman – 35
4. The Wedding People by Alison Espach – 35
5. The Secret of Secrets by Dan Brown – 34

Top digital audio titles by checkout:

1. The Housemaid by Freida McFadden - 76
2. Great Big Beautiful Life by Emily Henry – 43
3. The Housemaid's Secret by Freida McFadden – 37
4. Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid – 34
5. The Wedding People by Alison Espach - 31

The most popular magazines:

1. The New Yorker – 604
2. The Week Magazine – 178
3. Guardian Weekly – 163
4. Us Weekly – 141

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 127 new cardholders in October, and 8 new D39 student cards.

On October 5, Heather Douek and Susan Karol, along with Laura Antolin from YS, represented the library at Gillson Park for the Park District's annual Fall Fest. Though we did not issue any library cards at the event, we received great feedback from those who attended, and Laura performed two storytimes for the children.

On October 17, our department had a very productive experience as part of the Half Day Staff Day, in which eleven Circulation staff reviewed emergency procedures. This training benefits not just the Person in Charge, but all staff who work in the building. We were also able to meet in-person for a department meeting, which allowed us the opportunity to go over certain procedural updates and reminders (our department is comprised primarily of part-time staff, and it's challenging to get them all in one place on a single day, so this was especially valuable).

Rebecca Vrana-Naquin and Kathy Kraemer have volunteered to represent Circulation on the Staff Day (April 10, 2026) Committee.

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	51,763
Oct	50,538	53,994	55,226	59,304	50,816
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	212,692

Wilmette Public Library Monthly Statistics as a Whole For 10/2025	
Total Checkins	28,765
Checkout Stations	16,947
Leap Checkout and Renewal	9,298
Total Checkouts	26,245
Auto-renewal	23,720
Power PAC Renewal	342
Leap Checkout and Renewal	181
Checkout Stations	120
Total Renewals	24,571
Number of your Library's items checked out system-wide	25,151
Holds Placed through your interface	6,076
Holds placed for/by your patrons	6,942
Holds Held	8,048
Holds Checked out	6,739
Holds Cancelled	1,420
Holds Unclaimed	1,109
Number Of Items Currently Out	31,073
Unexpired Patrons on file	18,066

Wilmette Public Library 24/7 Pickup Lockers Monthly Statistics For 10/2025	
Total Checkouts	345
Wilmette Cardholder	99
CCS and/or Reciprocal Borrower Cardholder	27
Holds Held	380
Holds Unclaimed	29

Adult and Teen Services (Manager Cathleen Blair)

Progress on Goals

Develop and present valuable, outcome-oriented programs and events.

Adult Services was proud to play a part in celebrating **Freedom to Read Week** (October 5-11) at the library, highlighting issues of intellectual freedom and fostering discussion of how we as individuals and as a society are impacted. A prominent display invited visitors to consider “What Do We Lose When Stories Are Censored?” and the community responded with thoughtful and moving comments to fill the board. We also partnered with Communications and Events staff in hosting “Books on the Chopping Block”, a program of dramatic readings from the most challenged books of the previous year. Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia curated an expert selection of targeted titles for all ages from which attendees were invited to select to take for their own.

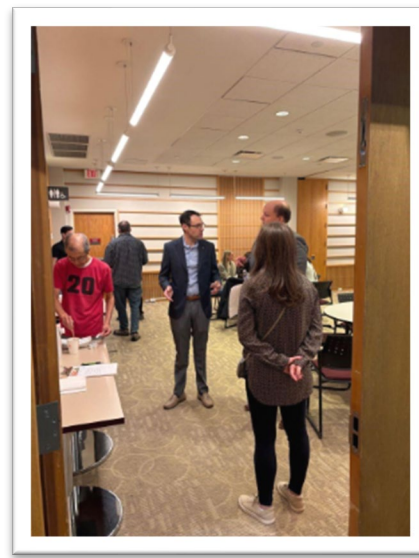
The annual **Discover the Story of Your House** program, featuring the joint expertise of presenter Julia Johnas and Genealogy and Local History Librarian EvaAnne Johnson, is one of the most anticipated offerings each year. Julia tailors her presentation specifically for researching homes in Wilmette, including photos and newspaper clippings from Wilmette properties. In the middle of her presentation, an attendee excitedly exclaimed, “That’s my house!” and Julia said, “Let me tell you something interesting about your house,” and shared how that house changed its address over the years. During the second half of the workshop, attendees can search for their home in some of the materials that Eva brings out from the Local History Room – including the Sanborn Fire Insurance Atlas, our house history files, 1927 city directory, early maps of Wilmette, and more. Each attendee discovered something new about their home and was provided with additional resources for discovering more about the story of their house. The workshop spurred further conversations and visits to the Local History Room.



Understanding Your Medicare Choices is a popular bi-annual offering, but Senior Services Librarian Jillian McKeown's strategy to experiment with offering as a virtual program this round garnered nearly double the attendees, effectively expanding assistance to residents in navigating a complicated process.

Explore and facilitate opportunities to grow and strengthen strategic partnerships.

Highest attendance yet was recorded for each of two recurring local entrepreneur engagement events. Business Librarian John Amundsen facilitated successes in the most recent entries in the **Coffee and Business Connections** and **Lunch and Learn** series, and Wilmette/Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jennifer Gatesman expressed eagerness to "continue this valuable partnership". Not only do attendees benefit from demonstrations of library resources, presentations by expert speakers, and opportunities to network, but also they are introduced to the expertise and support John can offer through 1:1 appointments, and increasingly they are taking advantage of this service.



Due to her position and expertise, Genealogy and Local History Librarian EvaAnne Johnson was identified as a stakeholder and invited to participate in a listening session of the **Village of Wilmette Historic Preservation Plan**. One of the points of discussion was suggestions for outreach efforts to connect Wilmette residents with information about preserving their historic home, and Eva offered testimony that most visits to the Local History Room were to conduct research on the history of individual homes. She suggested the Commission might consider presenting a program about historic preservation, either as part of an architecture series or as a standalone program.

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

In preparation for next phases of the Collection Revitalization Project, selectors continue to conduct deep assessments of impacted collections in order to right-size and refresh holdings prior to relocation. In October Librarians Jillian McKeown and Rachel Rothe each invested hours and expertise in assigned collections: Feature Films (DVDs and Blu-ray Discs) and Romance Paperbacks, respectively.

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

On October 23, Genealogy and Local History Librarian EvaAnne Johnson was elected Chair of the Illinois State Archives Advisory Board and the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board, on which she has served as Vice Chair for the past year. In addition to serving as a dual board for the functions above, this entity bears responsibility for distributing regrant funds received from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission for the preservation of historical records in Illinois.

Teen Services Librarian Krista Hutley participated in the Illinois Library Association conference hosted in Rosemont, IL, from October 14-16, and she also staffed a shift at the Young Adult Services Table while in attendance. A list of the sessions she attended is appended to the end of this report.

In addition to attending the ILA Conference for one day of topic-specific presentations, EvaAnne Johnson also participated in the Illinois State Genealogical Society Conference in Rockford, IL on October 24-25. Her reports are appended to the end of this report.

Additional Spotlight Activities

Public Desk Service

Adult Services staff answered 2539 questions in October. More than 1000 of those questions were related to physical collections, and 20% were attributed to study room facilitation. Most notably, staff reported 25% gains over the previous month in assistance for two significant categories: digital resources and readers' advisory.

Services to Older Adults

Senior Services Librarian Jillian McKeown and Librarian Nancy Wagner facilitated three rounds of deliveries to Mather Senior Living and independent residences in October, totaling nearly 50 homebound deliveries for the month.

In addition, Jill continues to facilitate a monthly Literary Lounge at Mather, fostering engagement both with books and with fellow readers, and this program highlights for attendees ways to identify and articulate what draws us to a story. These opportunities also

serve as gateways for assistance with additional library services, such as when Jill meets with residents before or after the session to instruct and support digital collection access.

Collection and Advisory Services

A shared passion of staff is to amplify compelling voices and perspectives that are underrepresented in publishing and media so that readers may more easily discover. As a library, we strive to honor identified heritage months by creating added-value appeal spotlights, such as Rachel Rothe's web and newsletter spotlight of new releases by Indigenous authors or Jillian McKeown's media display of Spooky Season Meets Hispanic Heritage Month: Movies with Latinx Directors and Actors.

By far the display that received the most attention by visitors, some of whom indicated they were seeing themselves in prominent collection offerings for the first time, was one honoring Filipino American History Month. In addition to interacting with the items on the display, more than one patron asked for a personal copy of the materials curated to feature throughout the month.



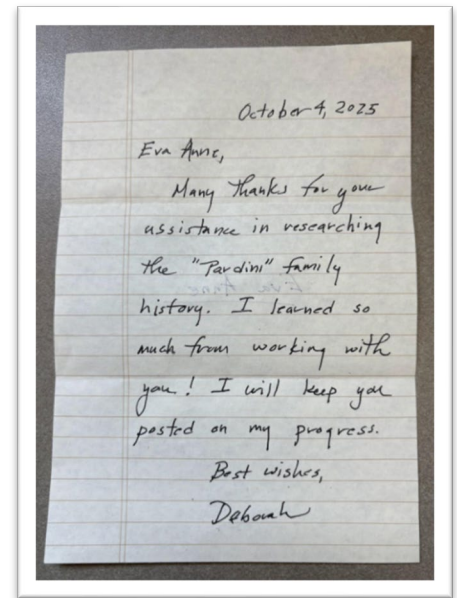
The recent theft from the Louvre inspired a list of Art Heist and Art Forgery Historical Fiction, and other popular displays in October included Locked Room Mysteries, Workplace Novels, and Gothic Fantasy.

Notable Patron Interactions

Senior Services Librarian Jillian McKeown fielded a request for photos of two reported associates of author Mark Twain: Dan Slote and James W. Paige. After scouring publicly available sites and more specialized online resources, Jill initiated a search of all Twain-related print resources in the building, and it was only then that a drawing of Slote was identified. "Print saves the day!" she reported. Though she was not successful in locating a picture of the other, she did find an authoritative source citing there were no known photos of him currently

in existence. The search required time over multiple days, sheer persistence, and nimbleness of approach.

Genealogy and Local History Librarian EvaAnne Johnson received two testimonials of service impact this month, one of which was in recognition of assistance offered years ago: "Hello EvaAnne - a few years ago I met with you to discuss strategies for finding my unknown father. I used your advice and fairly quickly found him on Ancestry. Just a month ago I discovered that I also have six half-siblings (his children), four of whom are still living. I want to thank you for your help and guidance and let you know the outcome was beyond my wildest expectations." Eva also received a handwritten expression of thanks (pictured) following a session of assistance in family history research, which included the sentiment "I learned so much from working with you!"



Staff Conference Reports

Krista Hutley, Illinois Library Association Annual Conference, October 14-16:

Sessions Attended:

- Opening Keynote by Dr. Terrell Strayhorn
- IRead Showcase
- Culture, Collaboration, Community: Addressing the Loneliness Epidemic
- Designing for Disability: How We Reframed Our Perspective and Our Services
- President's Program by Dilla, Chicago's historian
- YASF Meeting
- Teen-Driven: Teen-Led Programs and Leadership in Action
- Youth and YA Unconference
- Resumania: Incorporating Job Skills and Programs for Teens
- DiversiTEA Closing Keynote by Roy Kinsey
- Involving Teens in Library Discussions

EvaAnne Johnson, Illinois Library Association Annual Conference, October 14:

This year's Illinois Library Association Conference was held in Rosemont, IL. I attended just one day on Oct. 14. In particular, I was excited to attend a session presented by the genealogy librarian at Arlington Heights Memorial Library, Eddie Kristan, titled "Heritage or Hierarchy: Removing Barriers to Access in Genealogy and Local History." He spoke about how traditional genealogy and local history research can create barriers to building community and/or exclude certain groups, especially those who have nontraditional families or have recently moved into the community. He discussed the importance of understanding your historical and current demographics, including reciprocal borrowers, and emphasizing underserved populations in your community. We were challenged to rethink our concepts of what constitutes history, which includes contemporary history from the last 50-75 years. We also discussed how to make family

history more relevant and inclusive to younger generations. Some of these same topics were discussed in Eddie's recent RAILS Learning Lab session, but with different examples and even more ideas for expanding the scope of genealogy and local history services at public libraries.

Other interesting sessions that I attended included "Peek Behind the Technical Services Curtain: Cataloging for Non-catalogers" (which was interesting to hear the TS perspective about some of the quirks that appear in library catalogs and why things are cataloged the way that they are), "You Belong Here: Fostering Inclusive Library Collections through Diversity Audits" (which was presented by a librarian at my alma mater, and it was interesting to see the progress that they've made with that library collection since I attended there; also some practical information about conducting diversity audits), and "How to Banish Imposter Syndrome and Stop Kicking Your Own Ass" (which gave me some inspiration to believe in my own skills and experience).

EvaAnne Johnson, Illinois State Genealogical Society Conference, October 24-25:

This year's ISGS annual conference was held in Rockford, IL on Oct. 24-25. I attended the two in-depth workshops on Friday, Oct. 24, which covered AI in Genealogy and Illinois Labor History. These workshops were two hours long, which was nice because the speakers could go deeper into the topic. I was particularly impressed by the workshop by Mike Matejka, who is the president of the Illinois Labor History Society, and gave a balanced overview of some of the important touchpoints of Illinois labor history that influenced labor unions nationwide. (He would be a great potential speaker for next year's America 250 programming!)

Friday's itinerary also included a tour of Rockford Public Library's Local History Room. Rockford Public Library recently opened a brand-new main branch in spring 2024, and it features a spacious Local History Room with study tables, microfilm computers, a climate-controlled archival storage area, and gorgeous views of the Rock River. Although their archival collection is much larger than ours, their new room was very inspiring!

On Saturday, I attended five featured sessions, mostly related to industry in Illinois and how it relates to local genealogy. These sessions included researching farmers, researching in business archives, the history of coal mining in Illinois, German settlement in the Midwest via the Mississippi River, and researching in railroad records. Questions about records related to specific occupations occasionally comes up during genealogy one-on-one appointments, so I'm happy that I was able to brush up on some interesting occupational record collections in Illinois and learn more about our industrial history.

Another exciting tidbit from the conference – I won a one-year membership to Chicago Genealogical Society!

Youth Services (Manager Andrea Vaughn Johnson)

Youth Services Programs

In October, Youth Services offered 63 scheduled events with a total attendance of 2,064. We also facilitated 16 drop-in activities like StoryWalks, open play times, and in-house activities which drew over 1,000 participants. Here are a few highlights:

Little Dabblers

In our weekly Little Dabblers program, Youth Services Assistant Manager Lisa Bigelow gave families a playful sensory art experience and an opportunity to explore new vocabulary with a "texture tree" activity. Kids and caregivers decorated trees with mixed media with the invitation to try out rich sensory words like smooth, rough, shiny, fluffy, sparkly, and crinkly.



Best of 90-Second Newbery Film Screening

We hosted a best of 90-Second Newbery Film Screening with author and festival founder James Kennedy for the funniest and most impressive films of the past 15 years, providing inspiration and tips for young people to make their own films, including leveraging Studio and Library of Things resources to help with their submission. Attendees enjoyed the variety of film styles, genres, and approaches to telling concise literary stories.



Navigating 504 and IEP Plans - A Let's Learn Together Parent-Educator Program

On October 14, Community Engagement Librarian Sarah Jo Zaharako partnered with School District 39's Parent Association of Student Services to present an orientation to 504 plans and Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). These plans are used to support students with disabilities in public schools. Participants learned the difference between these two types of plans and the requirements to receive one.

Diwali Celebration

On October 25, we hosted a Diwali Celebration in collaboration with the South Asian Families of Wilmette. Our program began with Culture in Motion dance studio founder, Reemlee Chowdhury, leading a fantastic Bollywood dance class, which has quickly become a wonderful annual tradition for our celebration. More than 100 people joined us afterwards for diya painting, fireworks painting, stories, rangoli coloring, paper lantern making, and mehndi, followed by delicious treats. We are grateful to Shefali, Aliyah from Henna by Parvin, Reemlee, and all our volunteers and helpers.



Halloween Activities

On October 29, younger fans of the holiday enjoyed a special Halloween Storytime that was more silly than spooky, presented by Lisa Bigelow. Participants in our monthly Hungry Crafters program created edible monster puppets on October 30, presented by Jennifer Lee.



On October 31, Youth Services staff wore their Boeey Decimal shirts on Halloween. The back of each shirt features a spooky topic and its call number. Staff made a few new shirts in The Studio using the heat press.



Youth Services Outreach

Preschool Outreach Librarian Ruth Bell made 24 visits to area preschools which were attended by 346 children and teachers and coordinated ten deliveries of books and learning materials. YS staff also collected books for 16 teacher bags for pickup at the Welcome Desk. School Engagement Librarian Eti Berland led five events with students and school staff, serving 229 patrons. We also welcomed a visit from partner Northern Suburban Special Recreation Association (NSSRA) on October 7.

St. Francis Xavier 4th Grade Research Trip

St. Francis Xavier's 4th grade class (of around 60 students, plus their teachers) visited the library on October 1 for their annual field trip hosted by Eti Berland to learn how to research for their state project, including locating print and digital resources, evaluating information for currency and accuracy, and citing their sources. They also had fun with a special scavenger hunt about Illinois state symbols.



District 39 Teacher Meeting

The library hosted District 39's technology teachers/specialists, school librarians, and library support staff for a morning of professional development on Friday, October 3, centered around our digital services and Studio. Digital & Maker Services Librarian Janet Piehl provided a tour of the Studio, an overview of the machinery and tools available, and the ways students and families have been using the space. She also shared a tour of the Technology Desk area and digitization resources and an overview of the Library of Things. They were given time to explore the space and ask questions before the group split up; the library staff joined School

Engagement Librarian Eti Berland, Youth Services Manager Andrea Vaughn Johnson, Community Engagement Librarian Sarah Jo Zaharako, and Teen Librarian Krista Hutley for their yearly meeting to share updates about library initiatives, reflect on our partnership, share Summer Reading Club statistics and our new school services infographic, and get feedback about future plans.

McKenzie Kindergarten Visit

On October 6, we hosted McKenzie Elementary School's kindergarten students for their annual field trip to the library, hosted by Eti Berland and Lisa Bigelow. They provided a storytime and a tour of the library – and repeated these experiences four times with the classes divided. Everyone had a wonderful time! Kids asked very insightful questions about what happens when a book is not available when they visit, about library mascots Minty and Marshmallow, and were eager to visit again.

Central Kindergarten Visit

For the first time, the library hosted Central Elementary School's kindergarten students for a field trip to the library on Monday, October 13 hosted by Eti Berland and Andrea Vaughn Johnson. All four classes visited the library for a library tour and a storytime – and an opportunity to learn more about library resources.



StoryWalk Visit

Romona Elementary School librarian Alicia Wiechert invited Ruth Bell and Eti Berland (and library mascots Minty and Marshmallow) to visit on October 8 to create a video to promote the school's StoryWalk with a group of 4th grade students. They created a similar video last year, so this has become a yearly tradition! The StoryWalk features the picture book *I am Every Good Thing* by Derrick Barnes, illustrated by Gordon C. James, to celebrate his visit to Wilmette in November. The video is available to watch on the Library's YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/shorts/d_MCeIBhNuM

School Librarian Alicia Wiechert shared this feedback about the project: "Thank you so much for sharing the video and giving our students the opportunity to help create it. You and Ruth are seriously the best (along with Minty and Marshmallow too)! Thanks again for making time to plan, do all of the behind-the-scenes work, and create this amazing video! I am looking forward to sharing the final video with our school community!"

Book Displays

In October, Youth Services curated displays of picture books to highlight autumn, movement and music, and spooky stories. In the Junior High Room we promoted World Smile Day with cheerful stories and Halloween with horror stories from the Young Adult collection.

Special projects

Hispanic and Latine Heritage Month Scavenger Hunt

One of our most popular passive programs, our seasonal scavenger hunt, was a huge success in September and October to celebrate Hispanic and Latine Heritage Month. Hundreds of children and caregivers enjoyed searching for images of book covers throughout Youth Services. Some participants sought out copies of the books and used the scavenger hunt for book recommendations.

Additional program details and statistics are appended to this report.



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

Community Engagement Librarian Sarah Jo Zaharako shared that a caregiver was pleasantly surprised to learn we have a snack area in youth services. After she and her child enjoyed a snack, she told us how thoughtfully designed and beautiful our library is.

“A mom was effusive about how much she appreciated Andrea's Babytime class. She said she has gone to other libraries for this program, but Andrea's Babytime was the best!”



Youth Services Librarian Amanda Jacover greets a child in a stroller.

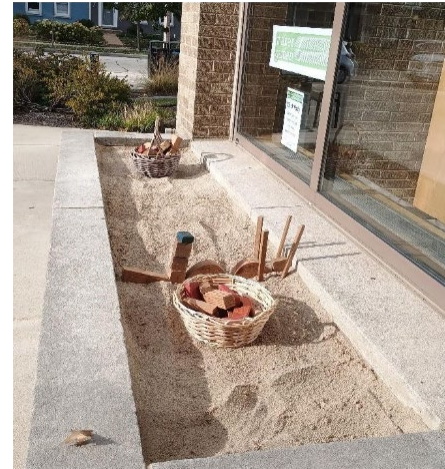


This patron demonstrated the expression, “drop everything and read.” 😊

Digital & Maker Services (Manager Lauren Kelly)

Programs

Digital & Maker Services Librarian Janet Piehl ran the Maker Garden in October with the theme of “Block Party.” Patrons were invited to build and design with wooden blocks of varying shapes and sizes.



Program Highlights

- This month Digital & Maker Services ran “Halloweek” in the Studio from October 27-30, spearheaded by Lydia Hanchett. Patrons came by the Studio to work on their Halloween costumes with extra provided supplies such as velcro, elastic, special heat transfer material, and posterboard. We also offered a cute small craft for folks – a felt animal ears headband.



- Digital & Maker Services Associate Ethan Herdrich ran Papercraft Jack-o'-Lantern with Silhouette Cameo, and 7 patrons attended. Everyone made and left with a unique paper cut Jack-o'-Lantern.



- Digital Services Assistant Alex Barzallo hosted a Cybersecurity program (virtual) with 21 attendees. October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and this program served as a timely reminder for patrons about potential online threats and how to stay safe on the internet.

Program Updates

- The DMS Team met as a group to brainstorm programs for the January / February / March cycle, then developed our ideas over the course of the month and submitted programs to Communico on October 30. As always, we offer a mix of Maker, Digital Literacy, Online Resources, Gaming, and Coding programs for all ages.

The Studio

In October the Studio team had 509 interactions in the space. The usage patterns have shifted in the Studio with the start of the school year. We are seeing more activity between 3:30 and 6pm than over the summer, which saw 1-4pm as the more popular time.

Studio Projects and Patron Stories

- A patron had 3d printed a tube that turned out to be a guitar slide and tested it out with some thread in the Studio before heading home.
- A patron was very, very happy to see the crafting resources flier and expressed her admiration for librarians.
- Janet Piehl showed some kids the Studio sticker book. They responded, "mind blown!"
- Several patrons extended their school experiences in the Studio. At school, a second grade class 3D printed "creepy carrots" from the book *Creepy Carrots*. Afterwards, one student and her mom came into the Studio to do more 3D designs.
- A young teen came in to "make a t-shirt about an element." He was studying elements in science class and created heat transfers related to Einsteinium, which he later applied to a t-shirt.
- The librarian from Avoca School stopped by the Studio for recommendations about cutting machines and took a quick tour.
- A patron made personalized buttons with her friends' names for her birthday party.
- Two patrons came into the Studio to make fall décor for a fundraising event they were hosting together. They spent a few hours digging deep into the Silhouette features and they couldn't stop raving about how amazing it is that the Studio has so much available for free. They were also brainstorming ideas for their next projects.
- Two patrons who attended Janet's Meet the Machines 3D printing program came in to work on their own 3D printing projects.
- A regular patron used the Studio to make decorations for her sister's 70th birthday party.
- A grandfather and his very young granddaughter came in looking for something to do. Ethan got a button template and colored pencils for the little girl and helped her make a magnet. She was proud of it and her grandpa thanked Ethan. Apparently, the little girl was so proud she showed every other kid she saw, cause shortly after three separate

groups of young kids and parents showed up to “make magnets”.

- A parent called to ask about ways to label their child's belongings for school.
- An architect came into the space to learn about 3D Printing
- We had many Halloween focused interactions. A group of girls made and applied “Thing 1, Thing 2,” etc., heat transfers for their costumes.
- The costume one patron wanted cost \$100, so she learned to sew and made it herself more economically.
- An elementary school student taking a sewing class through the Park District came in to finish sewing a self-designed skeleton Halloween decoration.

Studio Updates

- This month the team launched the new embroidery machine, which went live on 10/7. We implemented certifications for patrons to be able to use the machine, and are offering 1:1 bookings for staff help. We had four certifications in October, with more booked in November.



- Digital Services Assistant Beth Hafter is training in the Studio to be able to work full shifts at that service point if needed.
- Janet Piehl hosted a Studio visit for District 39 Librarian and Technology Teachers on a Teacher Institute Day on 10/3, in collaboration with Eti. There were 20 adult attendees.
- The librarians and teachers met in the Studio for a tour of that space and the Technology Area and a discussion of DMS services. Janet also gave an overview of the Library of Things. The librarians split off for a meeting with Eti, while the technology teachers stayed in the Studio with Janet for a question-and-answer session. Janet had the chance to find out how and when the schools teach STEAM subjects and which

machines and software they use. We discussed how the library can support both students and teachers through the Studio's programs and services.



- Janet Piehl planned a Winter Reading Club Studio craft for kids, a library card/bookmark pocket with a “Library Joy” theme.
- Janet also created a project for patrons to make a DIY sticker book for the Studio. It’s very simple: laminate a piece of paper, cut it into quarters, and attach the pages. Stickers can easily be removed from the laminated paper. This is another use for the laminating machine, our secret weapon of creativity!

3D Printing

October Patron Prints: 97

Technology Desk + DMS Department

Updates

- In October DMS Staff had 716 interactions at the Technology Desk. Help topics included: resetting Outlook password, two factor authentication, emailing scanned photos, using magnification tool, changing font colors, downloading attachments from email and

uploading them to Google Drive, html online game creation, assistance with a Chinese visa, Paypal money transfer, and more.

- In October 3429 pages were scanned at the Scan Station, up from 2827 in September.
- The TBS computer management system also allows for usage reports. October had 1433 computer sessions (all locations). This is right in the average number typically seen.
- Ethan Herdrich is working on a Tech Anxiety Lunch & Learn session for staff with the IDEA committee.
- We moved a paper cutter to the Technology Area this month after getting a few patron requests. We've had positive feedback regarding providing access to this tool.
- Lydia Hanchett ran the board meeting livestream this month.
- Lydia Hanchett attended the ILA annual conference this past month. Highlights included:
 - Sessions about e-resource accessibility, non-traditional library career pathways, library design for user experience, fandom fests, and surveys.
 - A presentation about how Indian Trails and Vernon Area libraries launched maker-in-residence and political-scientist-in-residence programs
 - Two posters about different ways to make a community mural happen
 - Two presentations about cool stuff you can do with Excel
 - Networking with staff at other suburban libraries as well as CCS, RAILS, Illinois state library, and e-resource vendors.
- Finn Dos Santos worked to process two new items for the Library of Things – an Apple Pencil and Formula D (board game). They have also consistently worked on upkeep of items including replacing cord labels, adding "Please do not return in drop-box" stickers, replacing missing parts and instructions.

Additional program details and statistics are appended to this report.

Communications and Events (Manager Sarah Beth Brown)

October Programming

Programming Coordinator Jennifer Bartel put together a schedule of engaging programs that fostered community connection and cultural exploration. Highlights included live performances and virtual travel experiences, all supporting the library's mission to inspire learning and engagement.

In-person programming was rich this month, including two standout events. *Books on the Chopping Block*, presented by City Lit Theater Company, featured professional actors reading excerpts from the top 10 most frequently challenged books in the U.S. from 2024. Jennifer partnered with Adult Services to surprise attendees with their choice of a free challenged book to take home. Adult Services Manager Cathleen Blair and Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia attended as extra staff support and to be able to answer questions from patrons.



We also hosted a folk concert from The Sweet Maries, which drew a strong audience and enthusiastic feedback for the artists' artistry and storytelling.

Virtual programs remain a stronghold, particularly as we move into cooler weather. Some of this month's offerings include Classic Hikes of the World and a livestreamed tour of Paris's Latin Quarter. Feedback on these programs included:

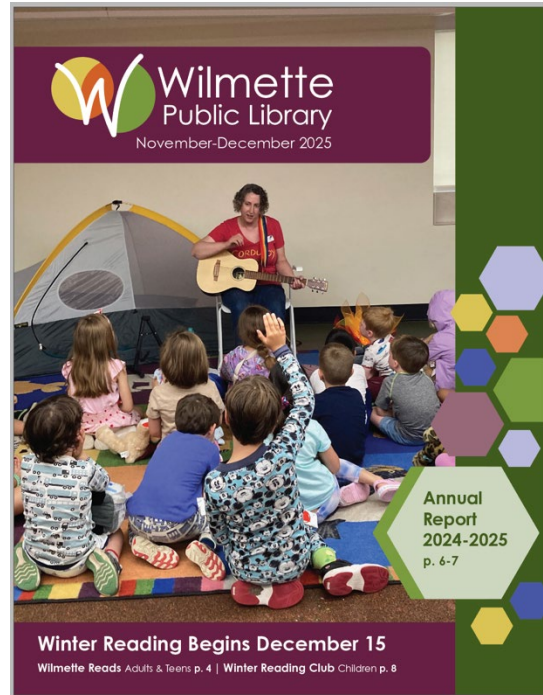
- *It's perfect. This couple happen to be the bravest, most adventurous, greatest hikers, and terrific photographers. They gave us a nice narrative.*
- *It was very good!*
- *Patrick was excellent as usual. Thank you for setting it all up for us. I hope he takes us to another arrondissement soon.*

October Communications

Much of October was focused on the November-December issue of the library newsletter, which hit homes late in the month. As in 2024, Wilmette Reads and the children's Winter Reading Club begin in December, to allow for participation during winter break, so we took the opportunity to introduce these series in this issue, though both will be featured with a larger spotlight in the winter issue of the newsletter. The largest focus this issue, however, was the FY24-25 Annual Report, which was the center spread in the issue. This is the first time that we have included the report in our newsletter, and the first time in many years that the report was mailed to homes (as opposed to being available online or in print exclusively in house.) This

year's report highlighted our work to run the library at or under budget, while still striving to provide the highest possible level of service. We hope that putting the report into the popular newsletter that more families will engage with the picture of our financial year. The annual report PDF is attached to this report. Moving the report earlier in the year was a huge project but we are confident that it presents the information in a way that is attractive, informative, and timely.

In addition, the department worked on details associated with our collection revitalization project, including helping to organizing and prioritizing the project task list and working on signage, both for now and to plan for the completion of the project.



Graphic Designer Sarah Rose worked across many departments this month. In addition to assisting with the major projects above, Sarah stayed on top of the steady flow of design and collateral requests, including:

- Created new signs and updated old ones as needed as spaces shift on the lower level, this will be an ongoing and developing project as the spaces continue to evolve.
- Created new posters for display in the vestibule and the bulletin board, with accompanying digital images as needed
- Provided graphics, files, and design consulting as needed, including finding images for use in Communico and the now completed button maker infographic in The Studio
- Created new name badges for new staff as needed
- Created signage and graphics for various informational needs such as for the Half Day Staff Day closure
- Produced, printed, updated and/or replenished a number of printed materials including a know your rights handout
- Worked with the Library of Things committee to better plan for labeling items for patrons
- Worked with Christine to troubleshoot and maintain the large format printer
- Produced program signage throughout the building, including for program cancellations and a sign promoting chargers in YS.
- Designed materials for distribution throughout the community, such as the *K-Pop Demon Hunters* and *Wicked* flyer.

Lydia also had a productive month, working on promoting Friends of the Library week and the early November elections across our platforms. She helped communicate our goals and initiatives to the community through our various tools, including:

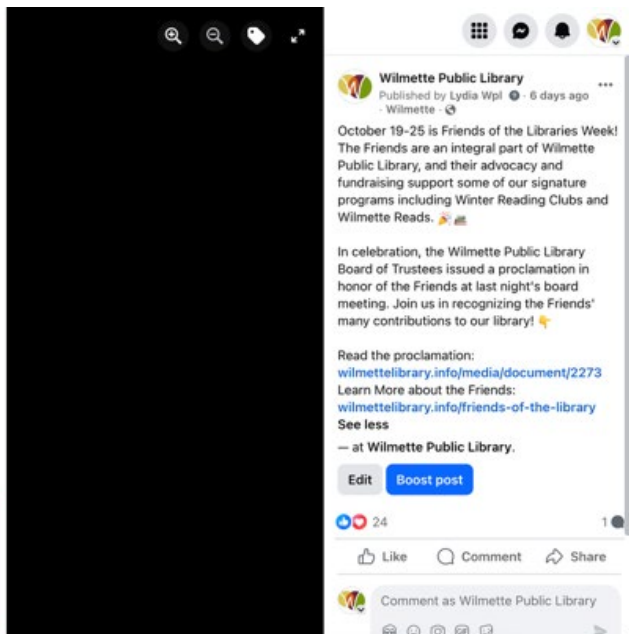
- Sent weekly general newsletters and biweekly Youth Services newsletters. Sent a genealogy & local history newsletter in collaboration with Eva Johnson on 10/2, and a RA email in collaboration with Rachel Rothe & a business newsletter in collaboration with John Amundsen which both sent on 10/3
- Spotlited timely book picks from Adult Services in the newsletters, including works by Stephen King (selected by practicum student Melissa Whitley) & historical fiction about art heists/forgery (Rachel R.)
- Social media highlights included posts about the Freedom to Read Week (Oct. 5-11) interactive displays in Youth and Adult Services, the Friends of the Library Week (Oct. 19-26) proclamation, book displays, and our annual staff Halloween post
- Published 5 posts to the staff blog, including writing a post with links to our Halloween-themed programs & streaming/downloadable resources
- Compiled 2025 staff book picks for the November-December print newsletter
- Took photos at 10/13 Meet the Machines: 3D Printer
- Shared November book groups with The Book Stall for inclusion in their promotions
- Shared a document with November 2025 events with programmers/managers
- Updated the Native American Heritage Month webpage
- Created homepage slides highlighting the 11/4 Know Your Rights Workshop: Illinois Coalition for Refugee Rights, personalized book picks & the library app

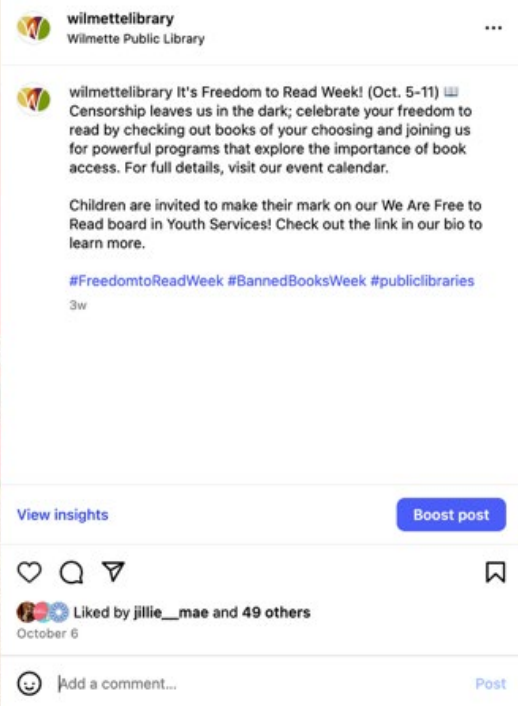
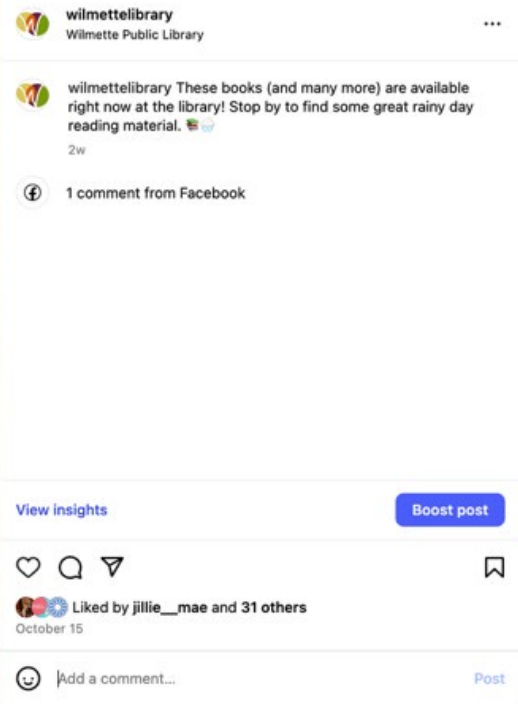
Email, Social Media, and Communications

Email newsletter statistics from October:

- 76,258 sends
- 1,461 clicks

A few of our more popular posts from October:





Information Technology (Manager Michael Pocrnich)

The final phase of the implementation of our recently upgraded computing hardware continues this fall with the migration to Windows 11. Testing began with the PCs in the IT department being upgraded first and a couple others for testing purposes. CVI built a new Windows 11 patron profile to be used on our patron PCs (including internet computers and catalog stations), which were upgraded during Staff Day on October 17. Staff PC updates began migration this month with Interlibrary Loan, Digital & Maker Services.

Technical Services requested help populating a mail merge document from an Excel spreadsheet for book orders to cards once Baker and Taylor close. Christine met with Shanti and Megan to see what information needed to be gathered from the selectors for the cards. Christine created a Word mail merge and Excel document based off the Baker and Taylor order cards. She then saved the mail merge document and the excel spreadsheets as templates, so staff don't accidentally save over the original document.

Christine showed Shanti and Megan templates they could use for some upcoming carts from selectors. Christine, Shanti, and Megan have a meeting scheduled with Cathleen and Andrea in November to work through any questions they may have before training the selectors in their departments. Christine also created a short PowerPoint for the meeting to help answer any questions while going over the templates.

Facilities and Safety (Manager Marcos Levy)

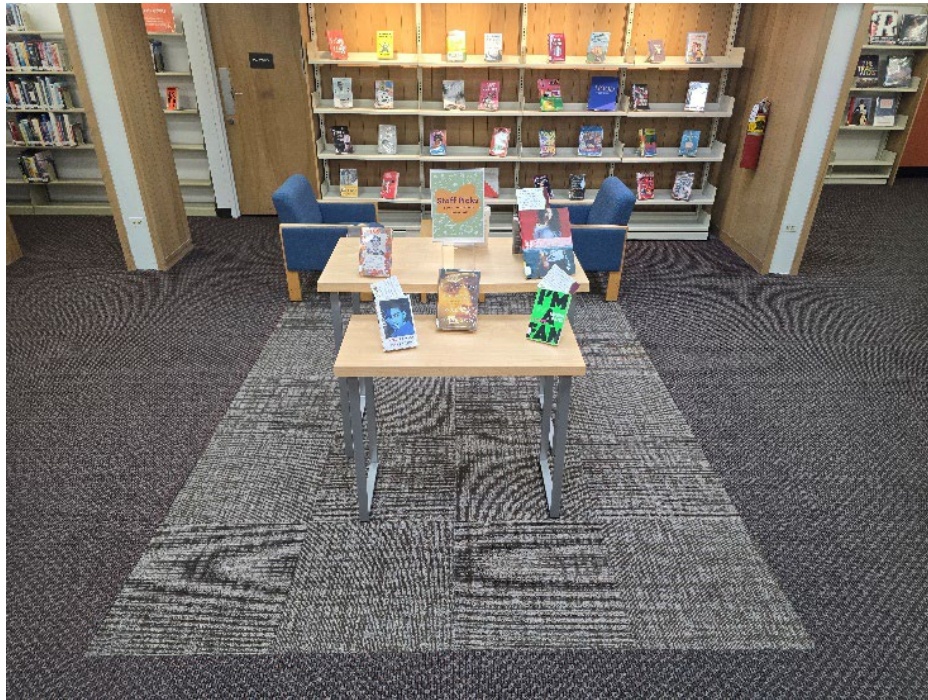
Building Improvement

As part of the 2025-26 Collection Revitalization Project, revitalization of the lower level north room (formerly known as the 900's room) was completed this month. Background information about the previously completed 2025 Asbestos Abatement Project is posted on 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>.

The north room space was closed through October and re-opened following the painting and re-carpeting of the space in early November. The before and after pictures tell the story of the transformation of our light renovation project. Lewis Floor & Home provisioned and installed the carpeting, and DD Facilities Services patched and painted the entire room and hallway consistent with the main color throughout the building.



At the bottom of the southwest stairs, the area rug that had been placed over patched carpeting was replaced using new carpet tile as an inlay, experiment, and demonstration of what replacing the carpeting on the south side of the lower level.



HVAC

Hill Mechanical performed our quarterly maintenance with a surprise bonus: their supplier mistakenly ordered parts for Hill's warehouse which could be used for our facility, and we were recipients of some of those parts at no cost. Two of our roof top units had electrical components that were identified in the last PM that needed to be replaced, and we saved the labor cost of replacement by waiting for our most recent schedule visit.

Library Van

After 5 years of trusty daily service, the van required tire replacement this month and in anticipation of winter conditions.

Human Resources (Manager Michael Boone)

Recruitment

Since we have posted for the part-time Adults Services librarian position, we have received 25 applications for this role. Adult Services Manager Cathleen Blair has narrowed that down to 5 applicants that HR Manager Michael Boone has prescreened. We are currently in the process of reviewing the screens to determine who we would like to bring in for interviews. Hoping to have a selection made this month.

Special projects

Paylocity Update

HR and Finance coordinated on-site trainings on October 22 and 23. We held separate training sessions for staff and managers and assisted managers. Representatives from Paylocity were on-site as well as virtually to assist staff with entering time, submitting time-off requests, and maneuvering in the new system/features. Managers and assistant managers had additional training on how to approve timecards and time-off requests. We have contracted additional hours for future on-site training as needed.

Flu/COVID Vaccination Clinics

We held our annual Flu & COVID Vaccination clinics on October 20 and 21 this year. We had 35 staff participate in the event to help protect themselves against the upcoming flu season and potential COVID exposure.

Halloween Celebration

To get in the spirit of the season, the Hospitality Committee hosted a Halloween celebration for staff on Friday, October 31. Staff were encouraged to wear work-appropriate costumes that day as well as bring in a photo of themselves in a past Halloween costume. Light treats were served in the breakroom, and staff got to vote for their favorite costume. Everyone seemed to get into the spirit and enjoyed the day!

Staff Work Anniversaries in September

Name	Dept	Date of Hire	Service Years
Lisa Bigelow	Youth Services	10/10/2005	20
Jennifer Lee	Youth Services	10/28/2013	12
Eva Johnson	Adult Services	10/14/2013	12
Alex Barzallo	DMS	10/13/2015	10
Diane dos Santos	Youth Services	10/04/2016	9
Anthony Auston	Administration	10/29/2018	7
Megan Brown	Technical Services	10/02/2023	2
Rachel Rothe	Adult Services	10/16/2023	2
Michael Siwinski	Facilities & Safety	10/14/2024	1

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.

All staff participated in training for:

- Cybersecurity awareness
- Harassment prevention
- New payroll, timekeeping, and HR solution provider, Paylocity

10/1: Accessibility in Action: Building Inclusive Library Experiences webinar (Patsy DeVuono)

10/1: Library of Things committee

10/1: Parenting in the Digital Age, District 39 (Sarah Jo Zaharako)

10/2: Teaching Digital Literacy and Well-Being, Common Sense Media (Sarah Jo Zaharako)

10/2: How to Talk to Your Kids about Social Media, Screen Action Network (Sarah Jo Zaharako)

10/6: The Power of Pretend Play, Early Childhood Investigations (Ruth Bell)

10/7: Creating a Memorable Staff Day webinar (Patsy DeVuono)

10/8: Banned Books Week Drop-in Program, Skokie Library (Eti Berland)

10/8: The New Civic Path: Area Library Directors with Rich Harwood (Anthony Auston)

10/9: CCS Circ Managers meeting (Matthew Hoffman)

10/9: Community Engagement committee

10/10: The Future is Indigenous, Field Museum (Eti Berland)

10/13: Libraries Count: RAILS Data Conference (Sarah Beth Brown)

10/14: Leadership Peer Advisory Group (Michael Pocrnich)

10/15: D39 PTO Presidents Counsel meeting, District 39 (Sarah Jo Zaharako)

10/15: RAILS Genealogy and Local History Librarians (EvaAnne Johnson)

10/15: Finance Committee Meeting (Anthony Auston, Sandra Discepolo)

10/14-16: ILA Annual Conference (Jennifer Bartel, Lydia Hanchett)

10/16: Friends of the Library annual volunteer luncheon

10/16: Catalyst Leadership event, RAILS (Sarah Jo Zaharako)

10/17: Half-Day Staff Day (all staff)

10/20: Partner Meeting: Illinois State Archive Director (EvaAnne Johnson)

10/21: MLIS Student Interview [Readers' Advisory Services] (Rachel Garcia)

10/22: North Shore Business for Breakfast (John Amundsen)

10/22: Paylocity Staff Training

10/22: Wilmette State of the Village (Anthony Auston)

10/23: Paylocity Supervisor Training

10/23: IDEA committee

10/23: Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board [ISHRAB] (EvaAnne Johnson)

10/24-10/25: Illinois State Genealogical Society Conference (EvaAnne Johnson)

10/27: RUSA BRASS Business Reference in Public Libraries Committee (John Amundsen)

10/27: Partner Meeting: Women of Wilmette Book Group (Rachel Rothe)

10/28-30: Adobe MAX Design Conference (Sarah Rose)

10/28: Wilmette Historic Preservation Plan Stakeholder Listening Session (EvaAnne Johnson)

10/29: Association for Professional Genealogists, Chicago Region (EvaAnne Johnson)
10/29: CCS Executive Team (Anthony Auston)
10/29: Illinois OCLC Day at Harper College (Carly Stauss)
10/30: ALSC Mentor Meeting (Eti Berland)
10/30: Lunch & Learn: Digital Wellness

Attachments

- October circulation statistics by item and material collections
- October online resource statistics by title and category
- October program statistics
- FY24-25 Wilmette Public Library Annual Report
- FY24-25 Cooperative Computer Services Annual Report
- New Trier News article on library food drive partnership
- Illinois Senate Resolution 104 on library trustee training

11/01/2025

Wilmette Public Library District
Activity At Wilmette Library Stations
Monthly Statistics For 10/2025

Collection	Material Type	Number Of Items	Local Charges	Local Renewals	Total	Total + Lender	CCS ILL Lender	CCS ILL Borrower	Ratio
Fiction	Book	36,841	2,735	2,624	5,359	5,888	529	638	0.15
Fiction	Book Hot	666	850	2	852	852	0	0	1.28
Fiction	Book New	1,571	1,097	519	1,616	1,842	226	157	1.03
Fiction	CD	5	1	0	1	1	0	0	0.20
Fiction	CD Audiobook	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Fiction	CD Audiobook New	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Fiction	DVD	7	1	0	1	1	0	0	0.14
Fiction	Large Print	4,349	311	276	587	682	95	58	0.13
Fiction	Large Print New	352	103	57	160	235	75	10	0.45
Magazines	Magazine	1,874	188	454	642	642	0	0	0.34
Magazines	Magazine New	122	1	1	2	2	0	0	0.02
Magazines	Microform	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Magazines	Newspaper	1,197	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Multimedia	Blu-ray	1,283	191	112	303	363	60	82	0.24
Multimedia	Blu-ray New	75	90	4	94	98	4	7	1.25
Multimedia	Book	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0.50
Multimedia	Boxset	0	7	6	13	13	0	7	0.00
Multimedia	Boxset New	0	3	1	4	4	0	3	0.00
Multimedia	CD	6,824	391	269	660	843	183	112	0.10
Multimedia	CD Audiobook	2,006	114	155	269	294	25	16	0.13
Multimedia	CD Audiobook New	137	55	33	88	100	12	6	0.64
Multimedia	CD New	290	102	27	129	167	38	8	0.44
Multimedia	DVD	9,104	1,285	693	1,978	2,220	242	354	0.22
Multimedia	DVD New	196	224	30	254	260	6	15	1.30
Multimedia	Multimedia Kit	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Multimedia	Playaway	633	32	37	69	75	6	4	0.11
Multimedia	Playaway Audio New	43	9	16	25	27	2	1	0.58
Multimedia	Seasonal AV	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Multimedia	VHS	147	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Multimedia	Videogame	213	23	54	77	81	4	12	0.36
Multimedia	Videogame New	35	15	6	21	23	2	1	0.60
Nonfiction	Book	43,583	2,468	3,372	5,840	6,337	497	743	0.13
Nonfiction	Book Hot	260	273	1	274	274	0	0	1.05
Nonfiction	Book New	1,589	761	544	1,305	1,475	170	138	0.82
Nonfiction	Large Print	846	52	61	113	121	8	6	0.13
Nonfiction	Large Print New	60	13	6	19	31	12	1	0.32
Nonfiction	Scores / sheet music	0	1	6	7	7	0	1	0.00
Online	eAudiobook	68,964	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	eBook	96,165	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	eMagazine	6,075	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	Online Resource	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Other	AV equipment	4	22	1	23	23	0	0	5.75
Other	Bag	536	298	279	577	577	0	0	1.08
Other	ILL Material	0	48	6	54	54	0	0	0.00
Other	Kit	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Other	Mobile Hotspot	20	30	0	30	30	0	0	1.50
Other	Other	28	530	6	536	536	0	0	19.14
Other	Special Collection	155	128	0	128	128	0	1	0.83
Teen Fiction	Book	2,593	322	441	763	789	26	128	0.29
Teen Fiction	Book Hot	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Teen Fiction	Book New	136	27	26	53	55	2	11	0.39
Teen Fiction	Large Print	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	0.00
Teen Multimedia	Blu-ray	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	0.00
Teen Multimedia	CD	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Teen Multimedia	CD Audiobook	3	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.33
Teen Multimedia	Playaway	1	2	3	5	5	0	2	5.00
Teen Multimedia	Playaway Audio New	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Teen Multimedia	Videogame	99	16	29	45	47	2	0	0.45
Teen Multimedia	Videogame New	12	0	0	0	1	1	0	0.00
Teen Nonfiction	Book	221	25	46	71	74	3	17	0.32

Teen Nonfiction	Book New	3	4	0	4	4	0	4	1.33
Teen Online	eAudiobook	1,086	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Teen Online	eBook	1,816	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Fiction	Book	38,161	8,980	10,113	19,093	19,532	439	1,020	0.50
Youth Fiction	Book New	1,239	729	598	1,327	1,369	42	72	1.07
Youth Fiction	Kit	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Youth Fiction	Large Print	174	32	39	71	74	3	9	0.41
Youth Fiction	Seasonal Book	2,093	514	4	518	521	3	10	0.25
Youth Fiction	Special Collection	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	0.00
Youth Magazines	Magazine	836	54	180	234	234	0	0	0.28
Youth Multimedia	Blu-ray	199	39	19	58	60	2	7	0.29
Youth Multimedia	Blu-ray New	8	4	0	4	5	1	0	0.50
Youth Multimedia	Book	30	3	1	4	4	0	0	0.13
Youth Multimedia	Boxset	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	0.00
Youth Multimedia	CD	338	32	16	48	53	5	3	0.14
Youth Multimedia	CD Audiobook	407	26	22	48	51	3	3	0.12
Youth Multimedia	DVD	1,461	308	246	554	571	17	29	0.38
Youth Multimedia	DVD New	38	35	1	36	37	1	1	0.95
Youth Multimedia	Kit	0	5	5	10	10	0	5	0.00
Youth Multimedia	MP3 Audiobook	0	6	4	10	10	0	6	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Multimedia Kit	0	2	2	4	4	0	2	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Other	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Other Audiobook	0	1	2	3	3	0	1	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Playaway	1,320	189	312	501	520	19	12	0.38
Youth Multimedia	Playaway Audio Hot	0	2	2	4	4	0	2	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Seasonal AV	127	14	0	14	14	0	0	0.11
Youth Multimedia	Videogame	822	191	300	491	498	7	13	0.60
Youth Multimedia	Videogame New	146	83	4	87	92	5	1	0.60
Youth Nonfiction	Book	15,087	1,935	2,297	4,232	4,369	137	263	0.28
Youth Nonfiction	Book New	421	145	190	335	348	13	7	0.80
Youth Nonfiction	Large Print	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Nonfiction	Seasonal Book	197	45	0	45	49	4	0	0.23
Youth Online	eAudiobook	1,529	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Online	eBook	2,896	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Online	Kit	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Online	Online Resource	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Other	Kit	7	4	0	4	4	0	0	0.57
Youth Other	Other Audiobook	0	3	3	6	6	0	3	0.00
Youth Other	Special Collection	23	2	0	2	2	0	0	0.09
Youth Other	Videogame	0	1	2	3	3	0	1	0.00
Totals		359,814	26,245	24,571	50,816	53,747	2,931	4,025	0.14

11/01/2025

**Wilmette Public Library District
Activity At Wilmette Library Stations
Monthly Statistics For 10/2025**

Collection	Number Of Items	Local Charges	Local Renewals	Total	Total + Lender	CCS ILL Lender	CCS ILL Borrower	Ratio	Auto Renewal
Fiction	43,791	5,099	3,479	8,578	9,503	925	864	0.20	3,324
Magazines	3,194	189	455	644	644	0	0	0.20	453
Multimedia	20,988	2,544	1,443	3,987	4,571	584	630	0.19	1,373
Nonfiction	46,338	3,568	3,990	7,558	8,245	687	889	0.16	3,795
Online	171,213	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Other	744	1,056	292	1,348	1,348	0	1	1.81	270
Teen Fiction	2,731	350	468	818	846	28	140	0.30	420
Teen Multimedia	115	22	33	55	58	3	6	0.48	23
Teen Nonfiction	224	29	46	75	78	3	21	0.33	43
Teen Online	2,902	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Youth Fiction	41,667	10,257	10,755	21,012	21,499	487	1,113	0.50	10,477
Youth Magazines	836	54	180	234	234	0	0	0.28	180
Youth Multimedia	4,896	942	938	1,880	1,940	60	87	0.38	920
Youth Nonfiction	15,712	2,125	2,487	4,612	4,766	154	270	0.29	2,437
Youth Online	4,433	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Youth Other	30	10	5	15	15	0	4	0.50	5
Totals	359,814	26,245	24,571	50,816	53,747	2,931	4,025	0.14	23,720

Product	Metric Captured	Category	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Oct-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	18	0	29	0	95	24	36	116	\$ 1.44
Brainfuse	Database Usage	Online Learning	14	21	37	90	64	162	41	164	368	\$ 18.55
Chicago Tribune Online + Digital	Total Users	Periodicals				36		36	9	0		\$ 11.25
CLCD: Children's Literature	Results	General Reference	90	0	487	25	81	602	151	261	424	\$ 1.48
Consumer Reports	Page Views	General Reference	1217	981	768	905	1289	3871	968	5027	14367	\$ 0.20
Consumers' Checkbook	Logins	General Reference	14	15	4	10	7	43	11	17	47	\$ 6.16
CreativeBug	Total Views	Online Learning	32	5	26	7	14	70	18	221	509	\$ 2.30
DLIL eBooks	Checkouts	eBooks / AV	8760	8504	9357	9281	9841	35902	8976	36045	118118	\$ 2.20
DLIL audiobooks	Checkouts	eBooks / AV	7041	7101	6873	6927	6551	27942	6986	25599	78110	\$ -
DLIL magazines	Checkouts	Periodicals	2726	3255	3143	3543	2371	12667	3167	8746	32310	\$ 0.03
EBSCO Database Package	Total Requests	General Reference	24	51	43	94	35	212	53	145	1091	\$ -
Encyclopedia Britannica	Documents + Media	General Reference	57	27	41	95	64	220	55	181	1639	\$ 0.63
Explore More Illinois	Uses	General Reference	44	69	7	8	0	128	32	17	210	\$ -
Facts on File (Infobase)	Total Views	General Reference	5	22	4	77	26	108	27	60	442	\$ 8.06
Find My Past	Total Views	Genealogy	70	10	12	2	68	94	24	246	1062	\$ 1.09
FirstSearch (OCLC)	Total Searches	General Reference	57	148	49	137	170	391	98	538	1503	\$ -
Gale Courses	Course Logins	Online Learning	4	2			10	6	2	20	82	\$ -
Gale Business Insights	Searches	Business / Finance	0	0	0	5	2	5	1	2	81	\$ 68.24
Gale Business: Entrepreneurship	Searches	Business / Finance	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	10	24	\$ -
Gale Business: Plan Builder	Searches	Business / Finance	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	59	80	\$ 119.05
Gale Directory Library	Searches	General Reference	2	0	0	5	0	7	2	16	59	\$ 79.10
Gale eBooks	Retrievals	General Reference	4	0	0	0	6	4	1	37	117	\$ 47.09
Gale General One File	Searches	General Reference	27	25	4	20	25	76	19	95	3143	\$ 3.89
Gale UDeMy	Lectures Completed	Online Learning	233	216	39	195	70	683	171	332	1067	\$ 2.82
Hoopla	Circulations	eBooks / AV	1814	1824	1855	1746	1548	7239	1810	6284	19439	\$ -
Kanopy	Plays	eBooks / AV	1048	972	919	901	887	3840	960	3954	11921	\$ -
LexisNexis (NexisUni)	Documents Accessed	Periodicals	74	98	33	83	94	288	72	280	979	\$ 5.42
LinkedIn Learning	Total Videos Viewed	Online Learning	125	183	155	356	235	819	205	651	3174	\$ 2.09
Local History Digital Collection	Page Views	Genealogy	4214	6632	16527	12661	6514	40034	10009	14178	73817	\$ 0.04
Mango Languages	Total Sessions	Online Learning	138	164	194	215	140	711	178	555	1349	\$ -
Mergent Archives	Pages Viewed	Business / Finance	1	0	4	2	9	7	2	15	29	\$ 61.90
Mergent Intellect	Pages Viewed	Business / Finance	9	65	27	23	62	124	31	269	648	\$ 19.30
Morningstar	Record Views	Business / Finance	350	63	244	227	37	884	221	552	1887	\$ 3.79
Newsbank Chicago Community Collection	Full Text Views	Periodicals	266	127	71	73	70	537	134	139	1058	\$ 3.77
Newsbank Heritage Hub	Full Text Views	Genealogy	18	0	14	0	18	32	8	172	323	\$ 11.79
Newspaper Archive	Total Page Views	Periodicals	53	22	74	97	99	246	62	321	1273	\$ 4.23
New York Times Digital Edition	Usage Sessions	Periodicals	4441	3488	6173	6025	1824	20127	5032	6681	26264	\$ 0.10
Niche Academy	Total Views	Online Learning	68	162	76	77	23	383	96	107	415	\$ 2.57
Novelist	Total Requests	General Reference	215	148	147	154	175	664	166	680	2560	\$ -
Oxford English Dictionary	Total Item Investigations	General Reference	1	1	23		47	25	6	108	348	\$ 6.63
Pebblego and Pebble Go Next	Article Views	General Reference	0	3	61	760	1794	824	206	1850	7082	\$ 0.35
PressReader	Issues Opened	Periodicals	558	625	500	751	586	2434	609	2334	8696	\$ 0.64
ProQuest: Ancestry Library Edition	Total Documents	Genealogy	641	373	466	298	253	1778	445	1984	6158	\$ 0.32
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune	Total Documents	Periodicals	101	121	184	95	249	501	125	816	1655	\$ 4.76
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune Historical	Total Documents	Periodicals	133	219	201	197	338	750	188	888	2825	\$ 1.73
ProQuest: CultureGrams	Total Pages Viewed	General Reference	50	3	22	11	0	86	22	58	254	\$ 5.26
ProQuest: Fold3	Total Documents	Genealogy	10	60	59	9	0	138	35	200	364	\$ 4.50

ProQuest: Heritage Quest	Total Documents	Genealogy	22	7	30	1	14	60	15	67	280	\$ 2.81
ProQuest: Newspapers.com	Total Documents	Periodicals	374	61	186	80	118	701	175	589	1713	\$ 3.74
ProQuest: New York Times	Total Documents	Periodicals	217	243	217	59	121	736	184	1421	2354	\$ 3.33
ProQuest: New York Times Historical	Total Documents	Periodicals	29	5	118	59	119	211	53	166	335	\$ 11.12
ProQuest: Research Library	Total Documents	Periodicals	119	59	92	100	116	370	93	315	1291	\$ 4.22
ProQuest: Wall Street Journal	Total Documents	Periodicals	421	451	550	300	734	1722	431	2726	6806	\$ 0.19
Record Information Service (Public Record)	Total Visitors	General Reference	151	159	157	159	168	626	157	661	1871	\$ 0.31
Reference Solutions (Reference USA)	Total Searches	Business / Finance	37	43	79	30	105	189	47	301	1067	\$ 8.86
Scholastic Teachables	Documents	General Reference	357	248	157	202	55	964	241	557	2863	\$ 0.30
S&P Net Advantage	Total Usage	Business / Finance	154	186	155	221	195	716	179	732	2068	\$ 7.03
Statista	Result Clicks	Business / Finance	51	8	1	18	11	78	20	359	504	\$ 30.48
Tumblebooks	Book Views	eBooks / AV	29	48	36	53	9	166	42	56	462	\$ 1.12
Value Line	Logins	Business / Finance	481	510	566	544	477	2101	525	1910	6178	\$ 0.56
Weiss Ratings	Page Views	Business / Finance	24	8	19	4	4	55	14	25	98	\$ 21.84
World Book	Content Views	General Reference	32	5	52	1830	77	1919	480	132	1745	\$ 0.63
OTHER												
App	Sessions	Library Technology	2100	1856	1828	1704	1410	7488	1872	2831	18678	
Website	Sessions	Library Technology	18983	18046	18005	19080	17564	74114	18529	34169	213958	
Scan EZ Scan Station	Pages Scanned	Library Technology	3321	2652	2827	3429	2500	12229	3057	4742	45617	
Patron Computer Use	Sessions	Library Technology	1610	1717	1480	1433	1519	6240	1560	3178	18041	

Category and Product	Metric Captured	July	August	September	October	Total
General Reference						
AP Stylebook	Page Views	48	18	0	29	95
CLCD: Children's Literature	Results	90	0	487	25	602
Consumer Reports	Page Views	1217	981	768	905	3871
Consumers' Checkbook	Logins	14	15	4	10	43
EBSCO Database Package	Total Requests	24	51	43	94	212
Encyclopedia Britannica	Documents + Media	57	27	41	95	220
Explore More Illinois	Uses	44	69	7	8	128
Facts on File (Infobase)	Total Views	5	22	4	77	108
FirstSearch (OCLC)	Total Searches	57	148	49	137	391
Gale Directory Library	Retrievals	2	0	0	5	7
Gale eBooks	Retrievals	4	0	0	0	4
Gale General One File	Retrievals	27	25	4	20	76
Novelist	Total Requests	215	148	147	154	664
Oxford English Dictionary	Total Item Investigations	1	1	23	0	25
Pebblego and Pebble Go Next	Article Views	0	3	61	760	824
ProQuest: CultureGrams	Total Pages Viewed	50	3	22	11	86
Public Records / Check Illinois	Total Visitors	151	159	157	159	626
Scholastic Teachables	Documents	357	248	157	202	964
World Book	Content Views	32	5	52	1830	1919
Periodicals						
DLIL magazines	Checkouts	2726	3255	3143	3543	12667
LexisNexis - NexisUni	Retrievals	74	98	33	83	288
Newsbank Chicago Community Collection	Full Text Views	266	127	71	73	537
Newspaper Archive	Total Page Views	53	22	74	97	246
New York Times Digital Edition	Usage Sessions	4441	3488	6173	6025	20127
PressReader	Issues Opened	558	625	500	751	2434
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune	Total Documents	101	121	184	95	501
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune Historical	Total Documents	133	219	201	197	750
ProQuest: Newspapers.com	Total Documents	374	61	186	80	701
ProQuest: New York Times	Total Documents	217	243	217	59	736
ProQuest: New York Times Historical	Total Documents	29	5	118	59	211

ProQuest: Research Library	Total Documents	119	59	92	100	370
ProQuest: Wall Street Journal	Total Documents	421	451	550	300	1722
Genealogy & Local History						
Find My Past	Total Views	70	10	12	2	94
Local History Digital Collection	Page Views	4214	6632	16527	12661	40034
Newsbank Heritage Hub	Full Text Views	18	0	14	0	32
ProQuest: Ancestry Library Edition	Total Documents	641	373	466	298	1778
ProQuest: Fold3	Total Documents	10	60	59	9	138
ProQuest: HeritageQuest	Total Documents	22	7	30	1	60
Online Learning						
Brainfuse	Database Usage	14	21	37	90	162
CreativeBug	Total Views	32	5	26	7	70
Gale Courses	Enrollments	4	2	0	0	6
Gale UDeMy	Total Videos Viewed	233	216	39	195	683
LinkedIn Learning	Total Videos Viewed	125	183	155	356	819
Mango Languages	Total Sessions	138	164	194	215	711
Niche Academy	Total Views	68	162	76	77	383
Business / Finance						
Gale Business Insights	Full Text Retrievals	0	0	0	5	5
Gale Business: Entrepreneurship	Full Text Retrievals	0	0	0	0	0
Gale Business: Plan Builder	Retrievals	0	0	0	0	0
Mergent Archives	Pages Viewed	1	0	4	2	7
Mergent Intellect	Pages Viewed	9	65	27	23	124
Morningstar	Record Views	350	63	244	227	884
Reference Solutions	Total Searches	37	43	79	30	189
S & P Net Advantage	Total Usage	154	186	155	221	716
Statista	Searches	51	8	1	18	78
Value Line	Logins	481	510	566	544	2101
Weiss Ratings	Page Views	24	8	19	4	55
eBooks / AV						

DLIL eBooks	Checkouts	8760	8504	9357	9281	35902
DLIL audiobooks	Checkouts	7041	7101	6873	6927	27942
Hoopla	Circulations	1814	1824	1855	1746	7239
Kanopy	Plays	1048	972	919	901	3840
Tumblebooks	Book Views	29	48	36	53	166
OTHER						
App	Sessions	2100	1856	1828	1704	7488
Website	Sessions	18983	18046	18005	19080	74114
Scan EZ Scan Station	Pages Scanned	3321	2652	2827	3429	12229
Patron Computer Use	Sessions	1610	1717	1480	1433	6240

October 2025 Program Statistics

Dept	Staff	Title	Virtual?	Date	Time	Reg	Attend
AS	EvaAnne Johnson	Discover the Story of Your House	In-Person	10/4/25	1:00 PM	Yes	27
AS	John Amundsen	Coffee & Business Connections	In-Person	10/10/25	9:00 AM	Yes	18
AS	Jillian McKeown	Dementia Caregiver Support Group (Virtual)	Virtual	10/13/25	7:00 PM	Yes	13
AS	Rachel Garcia	Classics & Contemporary Book Discussion	In-Person	10/14/25	10:30 AM	Yes	14
AS	Jillian McKeown	Understanding Your Medicare Choices (Virtual)	Virtual	10/20/25	7:00 PM	Yes	44
AS	John Amundsen	Strictly Business Lunch & Learn with John Marta	In-Person	10/24/25	12:00 PM	Yes	21
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Armchair Travels	In-Person	10/2/25	1:00 PM	No	7
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Green Cleaning Solutions Workshop	In-Person	10/3/25	10:00 AM	Yes	20
CE	Jennifer Bartel	El Norte (1983)	In-Person	10/6/25	9:30 AM	No	4
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Books on the Chopping Block	In-Person	10/7/25	6:30 PM	Yes	34
CE	Jennifer Bartel	At Home Film Series (Virtual)	Virtual	10/14/25	7:00 PM	Yes	7
CE	Jennifer Bartel	A "Wicked" Conversation with Marissa Bode (Virtual)	Virtual	10/21/25	19:00	Yes	8
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Classic Hikes of the World (Virtual)	Virtual	10/23/25	7:00 PM	Yes	34
CE	Jennifer Bartel	The Sweet Maries	In-Person	10/24/25	7:00 PM	No	52
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Livestream Paris: The Latin Quarter (Virtual)	Virtual	10/28/25	11:30 AM	Yes	55
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Lights Out, Everybody	In-Person	10/30/25	2:00 PM	No	43
DMS	Janet Piehl	Metal Stamping	In-Person	10/3/25	11:00 AM	Yes	8
DMS	Lauren Kelly	Canva Basics	In-Person	10/6/25	6:30 PM	Yes	3
DMS	Doug McGillivray	Python Halloween Dice Game	In-Person	10/10/25	5:30 PM	Yes	4
DMS	Janet Piehl	Meet the Machines: 3D Printer	In-Person	10/13/25	6:30 PM	Yes	9
DMS	Lauren Kelly	Digital Photo Restoration for Beginners	In-Person	10/16/25	6:00 PM	Yes	5
DMS	Ethan Herdrich	Minecraft Club	In-Person	10/20/25	4:30 PM	Yes	8
DMS	Ethan Herdrich	Papercraft Jack-o'-Lantern with Silhouette Cameo	In-Person	10/22/25	6:30 PM	Yes	7
DMS	Alejandro Barzallo	Cyber Security (Virtual)	Virtual	10/24/25	5:00 PM	Yes	21
DMS	Lydia Hanchett	Halloweek in the Studio	In-Person	10/27/25	5:00 PM	No	6
DMS	Lydia Hanchett	Halloweek in the Studio	In-Person	10/28/25	5:00 PM	No	1
DMS	Lydia Hanchett	Halloweek in the Studio	In-Person	10/29/25	5:00 PM	No	2
DMS	Lydia Hanchett	Halloweek in the Studio	In-Person	10/30/25	5:00 PM	No	4
TEEN	Krista Hutley	Teen Take & Make: Screen Printing (Take-Home Kit)	In-Person	10/10/25	12:00 AM	Yes	22
TEEN	Krista Hutley	Dungeons & Dragons	In-Person	10/11/25	1:00 PM	Yes	6
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/1/25	9:30 AM	No	42
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/1/25	10:00 AM	No	22
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime	In-Person	10/2/25	9:15 AM	No	25
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime	In-Person	10/2/25	9:45 AM	No	28
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Little Dabblers	In-Person	10/3/25	9:30 AM	No	43
YS	Eti Berland	Best of the 90-Second Newbery Film Festival	In-Person	10/3/25	4:30 PM	No	22
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Storytime in Mandarin Chinese	In-Person	10/4/25	10:00 AM	No	15
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Emotion Explorers Storytime	In-Person	10/4/25	2:30 PM	Yes	8
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	German Bilingual Storytime	In-Person	10/5/25	2:00 PM	No	9
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/7/25	9:30 AM	No	52
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/7/25	10:00 AM	No	51
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Story Explorers	In-Person	10/7/25	4:00 PM	No	14
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Make Your Own Mask	In-Person	10/7/25	6:30 PM	Yes	7
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/8/25	9:30 AM	No	45
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/8/25	10:00 AM	No	35
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Pajama Storytime	In-Person	10/8/25	6:30 PM	No	13
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime	In-Person	10/9/25	9:15	No	30
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime	In-Person	10/9/25	9:45 AM	No	23
YS	Eti Berland	K-9 Reading Buddies of the North Shore	In-Person	10/9/25	6:00 PM	No	14
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Little Dabblers	In-Person	10/10/25	9:30 AM	No	57

October 2025 Program Statistics

YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/11/25	10:00 AM	No	19
YS	Ruth Bell	Building with Bits and Bobs	In-Person	10/12/25	2:00 PM	No	36
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/14/25	9:30 AM	No	47
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/14/25	10:00 AM	No	48
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Story Explorers	In-Person	10/14/25	4:00 PM	No	12
YS	Sarah Zaharako	Navigating 504 and IEP Plans	In-Person	10/14/25	6:00 PM	Yes	17
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/15/25	9:30 AM	No	57
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/15/25	10:00 AM	No	50
YS	Jennifer Lee	STEAM Lab: Autumn "Fossils"	In-Person	10/15/25	4:30 PM	Yes	13
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime	In-Person	10/16/25	9:15 AM	No	39
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime	In-Person	10/16/25	9:45 AM	No	43
YS	Sarah Zaharako	Art for Big Feelings	In-Person	10/16/25	4:00 PM	Yes	10
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Little Dabblers	In-Person	10/17/25	9:30 AM	No	34
YS	Jennifer Lee	Little Craft Hub	In-Person	10/18/25	10:00 AM	No	30
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	The Mighty Pawns Chess Club	In-Person	10/19/25	2:00 PM	No	17
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/21/25	9:30 AM	No	51
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/21/25	10:00 AM	No	43
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Story Explorers	In-Person	10/21/25	4:00 PM	No	15
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/22/25	9:30 AM	No	52
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/22/25	10:00 AM	No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Spanish-English Bilingual Storytime	In-Person	10/22/25	4:30 PM	No	12
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime	In-Person	10/23/25	9:15 AM	No	28
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime	In-Person	10/23/25	9:45 AM	No	31
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Little Dabblers	In-Person	10/24/25	9:30 AM	No	81
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Lego Club	In-Person	10/24/25	4:00 PM	Yes	8
YS	Sarah Zaharako	Rainbow Storytime	In-Person	10/25/25	10:00 AM	Yes	26
YS	Eti Berland	Bollywood Dance Lesson	In-Person	10/25/25	1:00 PM	Yes	30
YS	Eti Berland	Diwali Celebration	In-Person	10/25/25	2:00 PM	No	100
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/28/25	9:30 AM	No	52
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/28/25	10:00 AM	No	53
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Story Explorers	In-Person	10/28/25	4:00 PM	No	11
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/29/25	9:30 AM	No	52
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-Person	10/29/25	10:00 AM	No	47
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Halloween Storytime	In-Person	10/29/25	6:30 PM	No	11
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime	In-Person	10/30/25	9:15 AM	No	20
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime	In-Person	10/30/25	9:45 AM	No	46
YS	Jennifer Lee	Hungry Crafters: Monster Puppets	In-Person	10/30/25	6:30 PM	Yes	9
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Little Dabblers	In-Person	10/31/25	9:30 AM	No	52
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-Person	10/1/25	10:30 AM	No	20
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-Person	10/7/25	10:30 AM	No	45
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-Person	10/8/25	10:30 AM	No	20
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In free play	In-Person	10/13/25	9:30 AM	No	45
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-Person	10/14/25	10:30 AM	No	30
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-Person	10/15/25	10:30 AM	No	30
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In free play	In-Person	10/20/25	9:30 AM	No	35
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-Person	10/21/25	10:30 AM	No	30
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-Person	10/22/25	10:30 AM	No	37
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In free play	In-Person	10/27/25	9:30: AM	No	25
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-Person	10/28/25	10:30 AM	No	40
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-Person	10/29/25	10:30 AM	No	20



Wilmette Public Library Annual Report FY 2024-25

Highlights of Our Year

- We introduced a **new library app** in May, featuring a new interface and graphics, a wide variety of resources, quick account access, and an easy-to-use digital library card.
- Reading series remained popular** with Summer Reading Clubs for all ages, Children's Winter Reading, and a successful second year of our adult and teen community reading series, Wilmette Reads, all funded by the Friends of the Wilmette Public Library.
- We opened three **Lower Level study rooms** to the public, adding availability to a much-requested building asset.
- Our librarians worked on **improving access to our collections**, with major updates to the non-fiction collections on the Lower Level.
- The North Suburban Special Recreation Association presented the library with their **Advocate of the Year award**, recognizing our commitment to creating an inclusive and supportive community.

262,421
Library Visits ↑8%

62,892 Reference Questions
Answered ↑44%

6,920 Patron Interactions in
The Studio

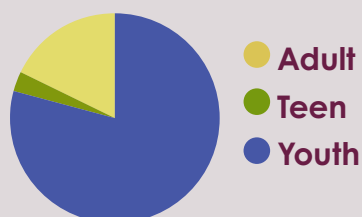
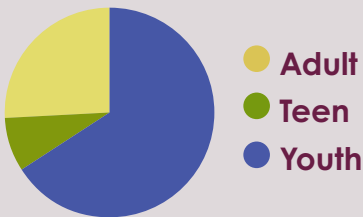
6,387 Study Room Bookings ↑25%

137 Room Rentals ↑25%



964
Total Programs

32,642
Program Attendance



Thank you to our Community Partners

The Friends of the Wilmette Public Library • League of Women Voters of Wilmette & Kenilworth • New Trier High School • School District 39 • School District 37 • Village of Wilmette • Wilmette/Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce • Wilmette Park District

Programming increased 8% and engagement increased 30%

Library staff made **272** outreach visits and reached **12,280** community members at schools, festivals, parks, and more.

The library is open 73 hours each week and 353 days a year.

In the 2024-25 fiscal year, staff maximized resources to bring the community new services, growing collections, and cultural/educational programming. At a time of increasing costs, staff completed the year on budget.

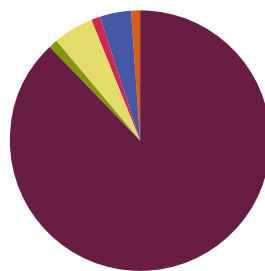
In June, the board approved the library's annual budget of \$6,602,918. Later in the year, the library conducted a long-range financial study, projecting trends for general operations as well as planned capital reserve projects. As a result of the study, to meet the library's fund balance policy of retaining 50% to 100% of its annual operating expenses in reserve, the board reviewed additional strategies to reduce expenses and bolster revenues.

Overall, the challenges presented by the recent inflationary market, the changing and competitive labor market, and maintaining delivery of the library's valued quality of service, the board unanimously supported requesting a 4.9% increase to the annual property tax levy in November 2024.

As we reflect on the ongoing financial health of the library, we continue to enhance partnerships, evaluate new revenue streams, and work with our community to sustain the library for years to come.

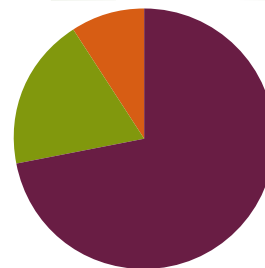
Learn more about our finances at wilmettelibrary.info/finance

2024-2025 Revenues \$6,650,524



- 88% Property Taxes
- 5% Interest Income
- 4% Charges for Services
- 1% Miscellaneous
- 1% Replacement Taxes
- 1% Grants/Donations

2024-2025 Expenditures \$6,328,061



- 72% Personnel
- 19% Materials/Services
- 9% Operations



642,413
Physical Item Circulation

259,808
Digital Collection Circulation

73,419 Holds filled for Wilmette patrons

Interlibrary Loan

43,406 Items to Wilmette

41,333 Items from Wilmette

213,958 Website Visits ↑3%
842,692 Wi-Fi sessions ↑7%

18,041 Public Computer Sessions ↑20%

11,921 Kanopy Accessed
12,302 hoopla Accessed

Library collection:
184,036 physical items
386,117 downloadable and streaming items



CCS Annual Report

FY 2024-2025

Our Mission and Vision

Our strategic goals for this year included updating our mission and vision:

Mission: Enhance each cooperative member's capacity to serve their patrons through optimized resource sharing, a community of continuous learning, and strategic cost-sharing.

Vision: CCS members are thriving—empowered by collaboration and technology to meet the diverse needs of their communities.

Our Guiding Principles

The guiding principles underlie all of the work CCS does and are the driving forces in CCS decision making.



We support resource sharing.



We foster a culture of collaboration and community.



We provide professional development, training, and networking opportunities.



We adopt those technologies and services which enhance the user experience.



We practice fiscally responsible stewardship of member library resources.



We engage all member libraries and respect their diversity.

Strategic Initiatives

In 2021, CCS Governing Board adopted five strategic directions to ensure CCS continues to work towards our stated vision. In FY2024-2025, CCS completed the following initiatives to support those strategic directions.

Develop flexible, responsive services that will continue to improve the patron and staff experience.

Engage Governing Board in a strategic planning process

The Long Range Planning Committee and R. Malinowski conducted a strategic planning process in FY 2025 resulting in a plan approved by Governing Board in May 2025. The process included research into other consortia plans and services, surveying library directors and CCS staff, analyzing Polaris satisfaction, and facilitating discussions with the Governing Board. The new plan covers 2025-2030 and will be revisited annually.

Develop a more accessible format for library staff to view existing Polaris policy tables and adopt a standard workflow for submitting requests

R. Barth developed a tool to give more insight into one of the most complex tables powering Polaris, the material type loan limits table. Working with V. Seward, Barth gathered library staff feedback before publishing the tool. [Tool Documentation](#)

Strategically build membership to further promote resource sharing in Illinois.

Develop framework to assess the impact of Find More Illinois on CCS patrons, library staff, and library budgets

R. Fischer, D. Wischmeyer, R. Barth, and K. Lyons collaborated to collect data on the interlibrary loan process, including lending/borrowing statistics from Find More Illinois and OCLC, staff time, and costs. An initial presentation of the analysis is planned for November 2025 Governing Board.

Successfully onboard the Vernon Area Public Library

The Vernon Area Public Library began circulating in September 2025, on schedule. M. Landers led the project for CCS, and all staff contributed to its success. Due to inconsistencies in last year's data loads and this year's test data load, an additional day was added to the offline period. CCS staff will work with Innovative to identify potential causes of the increase in processing times and work to reduce member downtime. A more robust report on the migration as a whole is in progress.

Identify and pursue new opportunities for enhancements of core ILS services to improve patron and staff experiences.

Compare Vega Discover with PowerPAC and in-market discovery layers

G. Shah conducted a multi-phase comparative study between Vega Discover, Bibliocore, and Aspen, including gathering feedback from patrons, member library staff, and CCS staff. Shah's findings indicated that Bibliocore and Vega Discover received similar scores overall, with each presenting unique advantages. After an additional set of presentations to the Governing Board, the Board selected Bibliocommons as the CCS-wide discovery layer in September 2025. Implementation will begin in FY 2026.

Evaluate available services for phone notifications and identify optimal service for CCS prior to contract renewal

M. Landers researched available phone notification providers and recommended moving to UniqueManagement's MessageBee Phone service. This service's advantage over Innovative's PhoneAlerts is primarily that each library can have a unique caller ID. Both services are cloud-based which will allow CCS to decommission an aging server and associated analog telephone lines. Implementation will be complete by Spring 2026.

Help libraries use ILS data effectively for internal decision-making and communication with stakeholders.

Evaluate in-market data analytics tools and incorporate findings into strategic plan

Following the Governing Board's strategic data needs brainstorming, R. Fischer and G. Shah synthesized the Board's data needs. Fischer led an investigation into in-market tools. R. Malinowski projected potential costs for an in-house developed tool. Fischer recommended Orange Boy's Savannah as a centralized analytics tool to support member library strategic decision-making. R. Malinowski presented to the Board in May 2025 and implementation will begin in FY 2026.

Continue to focus on providing value to CCS members through fiscally responsible stewardship of member library resources.

Prepare for and begin ILS contract renewal

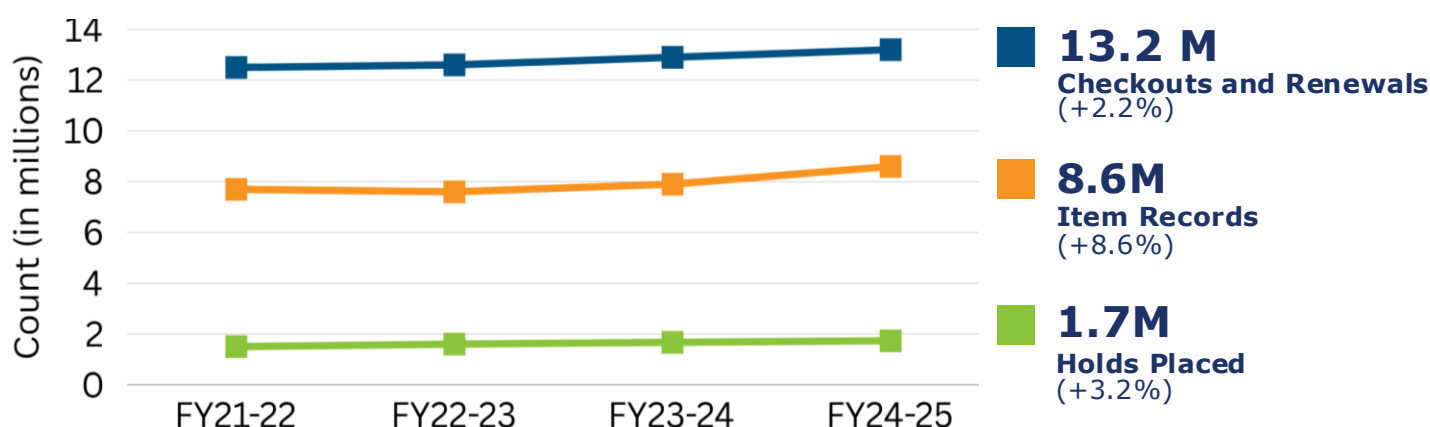
D. Wischmeyer conducted and analyzed a detailed Polaris Satisfaction Survey, which was shared with membership in January 2025. The results of the survey were incorporated into the strategic planning process, discovery analysis, and contract renewal process. Library directors were separately asked about overall value of Polaris in the strategic planning survey.

D. Wischmeyer and R. Malinowski met with other Polaris customers to discuss the pain points of their contract negotiations to set expectations for our own process. R. Malinowski began contract negotiations with Innovative Interfaces in May 2025, and the process was put on hold until Governing Board's discovery layer decision in September 2025.

CCS At a Glance

This year, CCS supported **499,746 active users**
across **32 member libraries**.

Circulation



CCS Website

122k
site views

14k
unique users

Web Reports

15k web reports were
downloaded in
FY24-25

Top Web Pages

Member Tools A-Z

Member Libraries

Info

Dashboard

Online Courses

Top Web Reports

Daily Detail Payment Report

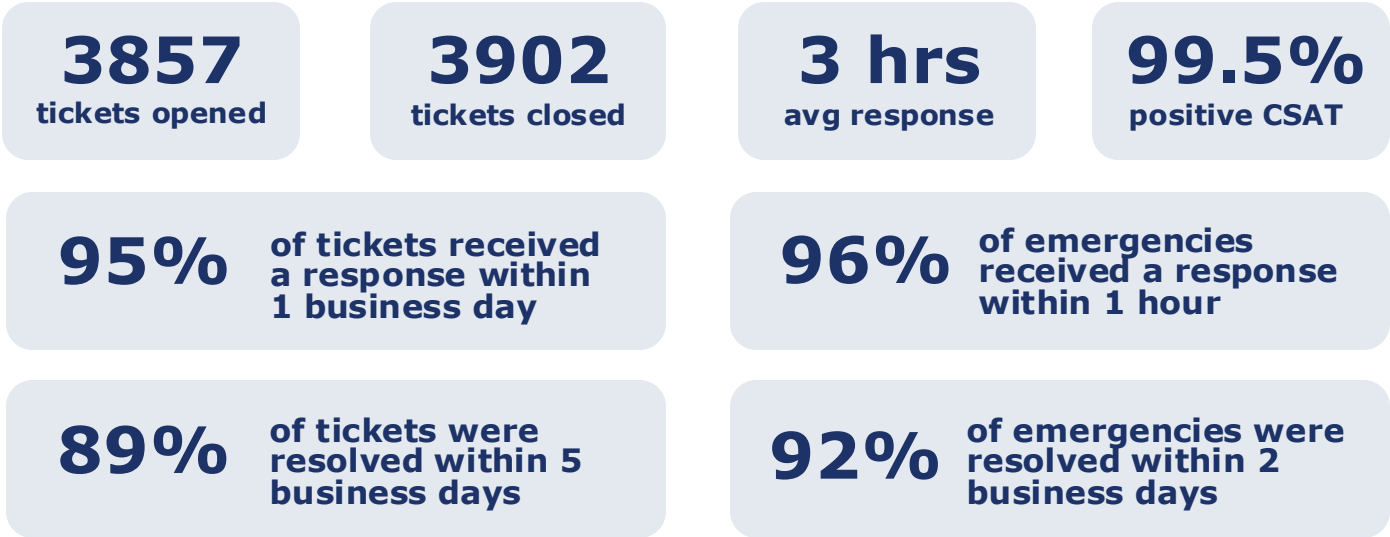
Daily Search Shelves

Daily Checkouts and Renewals

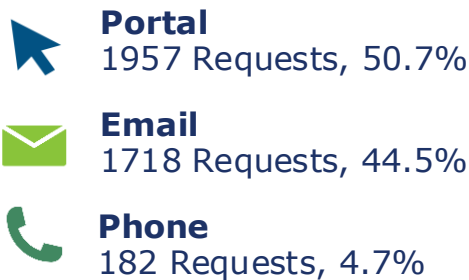
Purchase Alert

Monthly Circ Dept Stats

Support Statistics



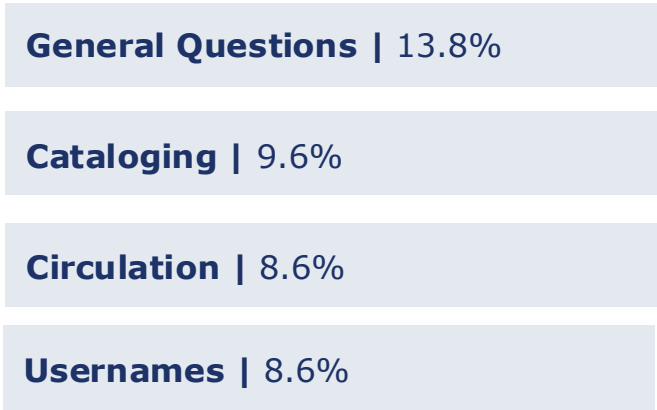
Tickets by Source



Top Libraries



Top Categories



Training Engagement

35

training sessions

11

external presentations

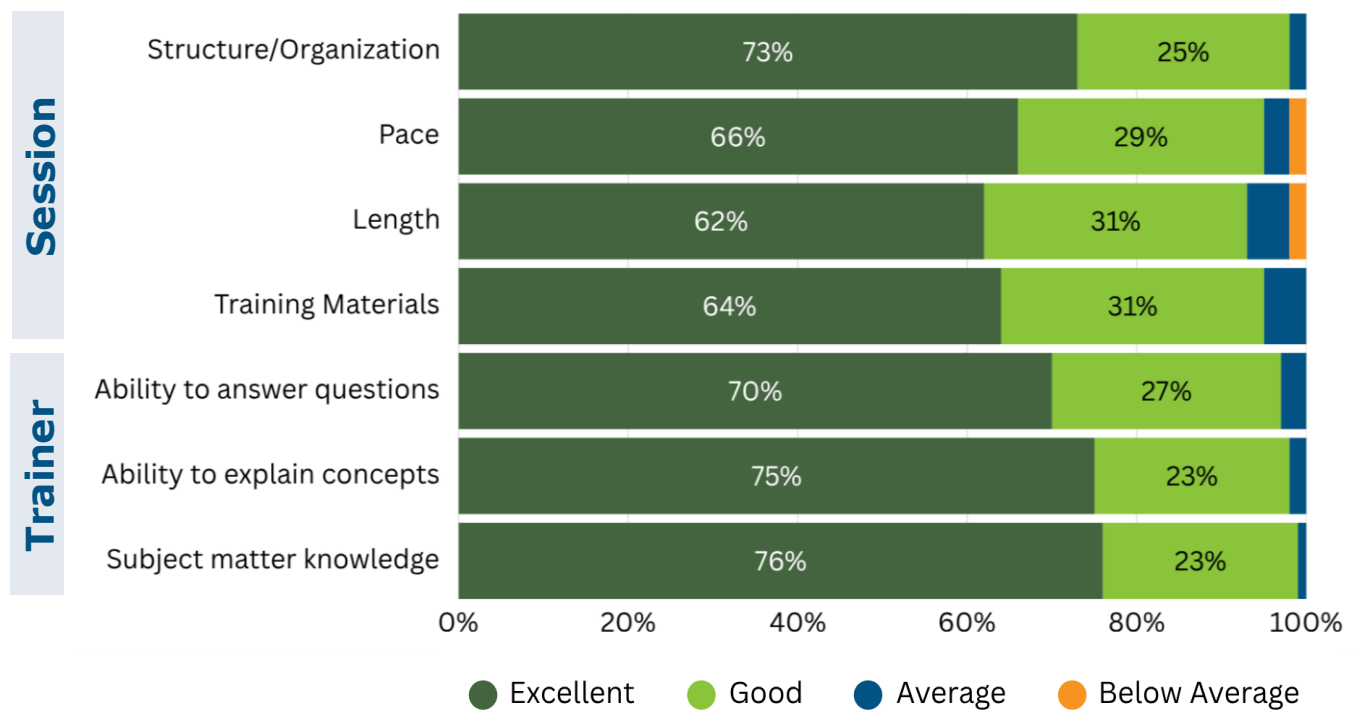
711

registrations

489

live attendees

Post-Session Survey Results



Top Courses by Users

Intro to Polaris and Leap | 1000

Circ. Functions in Leap | 474

Intro to Searching in Leap | 439

Holds and Hold App. in Leap | 339

Intro to Simply Reports | 243

Top Videos by Views

Intro to Leap and Polaris | 541

MMPL-WPL Go Live Review | 285

Logging In and Out of Leap | 249

Introduction to FMI – April | 245

Introduction to FMI – June | 224

2025-2030 Strategic Vision

In 2025, CCS Governing Board adopted [new strategic initiatives for 2025 – 2030](#). For each initiative, CCS has identified a goal for 2025 – 2030 and potential activities to support that goal in FY 2025-2026.

FY25-26 Supporting Activities

Goal	Activities
Amplify the impact of our member libraries: <i>Member libraries have the support they need to deliver powerful services to their patrons.</i>	Implement OrangeBoy Savannah
Enhance the patron experience: <i>Library users have frictionless experiences using public-facing resources.</i>	Implement BiblioCore Discovery Layer Implement LX Starter Implement UMS Phone Notices Assess FMI Impact
Deliver value to all CCS members: <i>CCS consistently delivers high-quality services that maximize member libraries’ return on investment.</i>	Renegotiate Polaris Contract Wauconda/Rolling Meadows Migration
Model operational excellence: <i>CCS runs efficiently, communicates effectively, and strives for excellence.</i>	Research Nonprofit Status CCS Web Tools Accessibility Audit Adopt Tuition Reimbursement Policy

NT community unites in support of SNAP

While SNAP faces financial turmoil, the NT community is ensuring that SNAP-reliant citizens still have access to food

Lorelei Hansen, News Editor

CORRECTED November 9, 7:19 p.m: McNamara and Thomas were incorrectly attributed to being from the Wilmette Township, the Village of Wilmette was incorrectly referred to as the Wilmette Township, and the food drive was referred to as running at New Trier Township Village Hall; the article has been updated to reflect that McNamara and Thomas are from the Wilmette Park District, the Village of Wilmette is not the Wilmette Township, and the food drive is running at New Trier Township.

The Wilmette Park District, Wilmette Public Library, New Trier Township, and Village of Wilmette teamed up on Oct. 30 to host a food drive for community members that rely on the government-run Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Requesting donations from the New Trier Food Pantry's priority list, the food drive is currently running at New Trier Township, the Wilmette Library, Community Recreation Center, Centennial Recreation Complex (CRC), and Central Station Coffee & Tea.

Since the government shutdown led to eliminating SNAP benefits and later the Trump Administration restoring partial benefits to SNAP users for the month of November, the 1000 New Trier Township residents who are reliant on SNAP now face reduced food stability. Additionally, with multiple holidays occurring in the next month, the New Trier Township Food Pantry must meet a growing food demand during an already-busy season.

"[SNAP] places more pressure on the food pantry and the vulnerable population in general," Heather Oliver, the Outreach and Communications Director for the New Trier Township, said. "[New Trier Township is] very dependent on donations and outside support."

Since the food drive began, the organizers have delivered multiple boxes to the New Trier Township Food Pantry.

"I came in Monday morning, and there were five book bins, not totes, but book bins full of food from the community. They wanted to participate in helping these people out, and I was amazed," Marcos Levy, the Facility Manager at the Wilmette Public Library and contact for the food drive, said. "So, for me, it was just refreshing to see that people still care."



Hansen

At the Community Recreation Center, bags are filled with items for the food drive

Levy has delivered two van loads of donations to the food pantry this week, and said that when he initially visited the food pantry, “the food was wall to wall.”

The activity at the Wilmette Public Library is similar to other donation sites such as CRC, which has already received a significant amount of food.

“The response has been amazing,” JP McNamara, the Marketing and Communications Manager, and Lindsay Thomas, the Superintendent of Operations at the Wilmette Park District shared via email. “The donation boxes at the CRC have filled up several times already, and we’ve made a few deliveries to the Pantry. It’s truly been inspiring to see how quickly the community has come together. I’d say it’s the most successful food drive we’ve had in at least ten years.”

According to Oliver, the organizers chose the donation sites because they are conveniently located, inciting more people to stop by.

However, it’s not just the donations’ quantity that stands out, though, but its quality.

“People were bringing actual things I would buy for my own home,” Levy said.

The food drive encourages the community to bring items on the New Trier Township Food Pantry’s priority list, including items such as pasta, tuna, salmon, canned chicken, and even hygiene products like toothpaste and mouthwash. All of these items are things that SNAP users will now have to decide between with reduced benefits.

McNamara and Thomas explained that the planning of the food drive began with the Executive Directors of the Wilmette and New Trier Township “discussing a growing need in the community.” Oliver then began work with the other organizers to execute the plan.

All of the organizers have worked independently to contribute to the bigger picture of the food drive: the New Trier Township has delivered boxes of food, the Wilmette Park District has worked on community outreach, and the Wilmette Public Library has managed delivery for the donations they receive.

“We’ve focused a lot on getting the word out and inspiring people to donate,” McNamara and Thomas wrote. “Our Parks Department and the Village’s Public Works team have been picking up and delivering all the donations, so it’s been a great team effort.”

The Wilmette Public Library chose to manage delivering the food they receive in order to make the process smoother.

“It’s better for us, logistically, to handle the food, as far as taking it there and then receiving another, which is part of the bigger picture,” Levy said. “So it’s not like I’m disconnected with the program, but I’m part of the program that we’re making it work for us.”

Additionally, working together, through this food drive, to help the community aligns with the organizers’ missions like the Wilmette Park District’s mission to “enrich the quality of community life by promoting wellbeing, providing exceptional parks and facilities, and offering creative programming for people of all ages and abilities.”

“Our mission is to serve the community,” McNamara and Thomas wrote. “When New Trier Township reached out about the food drive, it just made sense to get involved. Supporting our neighbors in need is something we’re always proud to do.”

The Wilmette Public Library’s mission also focuses on the community, and is to “[welcome] everyone with collections, resources, and experiences that enrich the lives of individuals and our community.”

For Levy, the library’s mission is partially why he works there.

“One thing about this library is that they really want to serve the community as a whole and since I’ve been here for the past five years this month,” Levy said. “That’s one thing that brought me here.”

Levy said that he predicts the amount of donations will level out in the coming days after the initial influx of food, but that the library will continue helping with the food drive “as long as there’s a need.”

Similarly, in the future, New Trier Township is open to hosting more food drives for those in need.

“[The food drive] started because of our crisis,” Oliver said. “But, that doesn’t mean it goes away if the perceived crisis is over.”

Oliver also mentioned how the food drive can be a model for other communities to use “on an ongoing basis, not just in times of crisis.”

The Wilmette Park District, too, is open to working on something like a community service project again.

“When there’s a need in the community, we’re always open to partnering again,” McNamara and Thomas wrote. “This initiative has demonstrated the benefits of community collaboration.”

As for the community collaboration during this food drive, Levy has been anything but disappointed.

“The compassion that we all have, that I’m noticing, is being displayed,” Levy said. “And the fulfillment of knowing that you’re helping someone able to eat, is more than satisfying; it’s like I’m being part of something greater than myself. And as people continue to give, knowing that it’s not about them, it’s about others, that’s what speaks louder than anything else.”

If you are interested in contributing to the food drive, then you can buy items from the New Trier Township Food Pantry priority list and drop off donations at the New Trier Township Food Pantry, the New Trier Township, the Wilmette Library, Community Recreation Center, Centennial Recreation Complex (CRC), or Central Station Coffee & Tea during business hours. Additionally, the New Trier Township is looking for volunteers to help with sorting and organizing the donations. If you are interested, you can sign up [here](#).

From: [ISLServices](#)
Subject: Senate Resolution 104 Adopted October 15, 2025
Date: Thursday, October 23, 2025 4:16:09 PM
Attachments: [Senate Resolution 104 104th General Assembly.pdf](#)
High

On behalf of the Secretary of State and State Librarian, Alexi Giannoulis, I would like to share with you a copy of Senate Resolution 104, adopted by the Illinois Senate on October 15, 2025. The resolution, sponsored by Senator Laura Murphy, recognizes the vital role of library trustees in operating our great public libraries across the state. It also recognizes the importance of library trustees getting the training and support needed to perform their trustee functions to the best of their abilities.

Please share this resolution with your board of trustees and also share this link to the iLEAD Trustee Training portal, [iLEAD Trustee | iLEAD TRUSTEES](#), developed through the Illinois Heartland Library System with funding from this office.



Greg McCormick

Director, Illinois State Library

Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulis

Gwendolyn Brooks Building, 300 South Second St., Springfield, IL 62701

217.782.2994 (o)



ILSOS.gov

State of Illinois



Senate Resolution

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Senate Resolution No. 104

Offered by Senator Laura M. Murphy

WHEREAS, Public libraries serve as essential community institutions that provide access to information, education, and cultural resources to all residents; and

WHEREAS, The governance and oversight of public libraries is entrusted to library trustees who play a critical role in ensuring that libraries operate efficiently, equitably, and in the best interests of the public; and

WHEREAS, Library trustees must navigate complex legal, financial, and policy matters, including issues of intellectual freedom, budgeting, and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Illinois Secretary of State provides training and educational resources for library trustees to enhance their knowledge of their responsibilities and the best practices in library governance; and

WHEREAS, Continuing education and training for library trustees is vital to maintaining strong and well-functioning libraries that serve the diverse needs of Illinois residents; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge all public library trustees to participate in ongoing training programs provided by the Illinois Secretary of State to strengthen their ability to effectively oversee library operations and services; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage the Illinois Secretary of State to expand and enhance library trustee training opportunities, ensuring that all library board members have access to comprehensive education on governance, ethics, and policy matters; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to Illinois Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias, the Illinois State Library, and all public library boards in the State of Illinois.

Adopted by the Senate, October 15, 2025.

Don Harmon

President of the Senate

T. C.

Secretary of the Senate

