

Wilmette Public Library Director's Report – January 20, 2026

Library Activities for November-December 2025 - January 2026

Anthony Auston, Director

Welcome Desk & Shelving (Manager Patsy deVuono)

Monthly Statistics

The library saw 21,577 visitors in November, and 22,013 in December, averaging 739 unique users each day.

The AMH cleared 53,163 items in November, with 20,834 going to the exceptions cart. In December the AMH count was 54,584 items cleared, with 21,356 items going to Circulation for more attention. The beginning of the week is the busiest with a steady slowdown at the end of the week and weekend. The early morning is the busiest time of day with 27,794 items checked in between 8AM and 9AM in both months. By contrast only 1,355 items were checked in between 8PM and 9PM.

The daily ILL bin count was 219 in November, and 238 bins in December.

We charged 309 Wonderbooks and Vox Books in November, and 322 in December. In November we sent 228 items for repair. In December there were only 147 items. The amount of discs we clean is going down: in November we cleaned 21, in December 13.

The Welcome Desk saw 1,031 interactions in November, and 932 in December. In November, they answered 417 reference questions; 270 face to face and 147 over the phone. In December there were 332 total Reference questions; 190 in person and 142 over the phone.

There were 427 directional questions in November; 405 in person and only 22 on the phone. In December there were 469 total directional questions; 396 face to face and 63 over the phone. There were 187 direct phone transfers in November, and 141 in December. As always Friday evenings are the slowest time at the desk, averaging only 6 interactions after 7pm.

Progress on Goals

The media room Playaways were shifted from under the north windows to the open shelving with the rest of the audiobook collection. Aarin was able to remove the old wooden shelving from this area giving us a lot more room in the area.

The DVDs were also consolidated, after we helped Adult Services remove more items to be weeded. The boxed set CDs were shifted to the west wall shelving that was installed at the end of the CD collection. Aarin switched out the drawers to regular shelving.

Staff continued shifting in the media room in support of the Collection Revitalization Project. The open audiobook shelving unit and open DVD shelving units were relocated to the lower level North Room. We've begun planning the future layout of that room and can better visualize the space and flow of the collections with these open units installed there.



Shelvers also helped pull books in the 900s area and in Large Type for review.

The Mystery and Suspense books have been read and straightened; the area is very tight and needs weeding.

In Youth Services, shelvers helped with shifting. Holiday Items, seasonal books, Reading Rally materials, and all of the audiovisual collections were shifted to provide improved access and flow to the collections. Youth staff are also shifting display fixtures, seating, and study tables.

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

In November, cataloging librarian Carly Stauss input 65 Wilmette Reads books and updated all catalog documentation related to the series, while process assistant Emma Standard processed the materials books by placing two Wilmette Reads stickers, three pieces of Vistatape for reinforcement, and green overlay on each book in addition to the normal processing procedure.

Due to the temporary closure of the Wilmette Post Office, mail is being delivered in the afternoon instead of in the morning, which shifted a number of routines and procedures related to all mail (including magazines and newspapers), and required more time tracking when each periodical is delivered to ensure we do not miss any issues while the post office continues to adjust to their temporary procedures and location.

The TS team continued its acquisitions, cataloging, and preparation of new library of things items for circulation to our patrons. New additions to the collection include: crochet hook set, circular knitting needle set, 2 new GoPro HERO13 cameras, and 3 puzzles.

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. In December, she worked on compiling a list of all grids for Youth and Adult books for Libraria, and finalized a number of details with our representatives on their team. Shanti also ran this list through the paces with "test titles" to make sure that our imported MARC records, specifically our 970 field in the bib records were configured correctly.

All backorders from June through December 2025 were returned to selectors for their evaluation/confirmation. The librarian team identified the orders that they would like to keep active and the ones that can be cancelled for now.

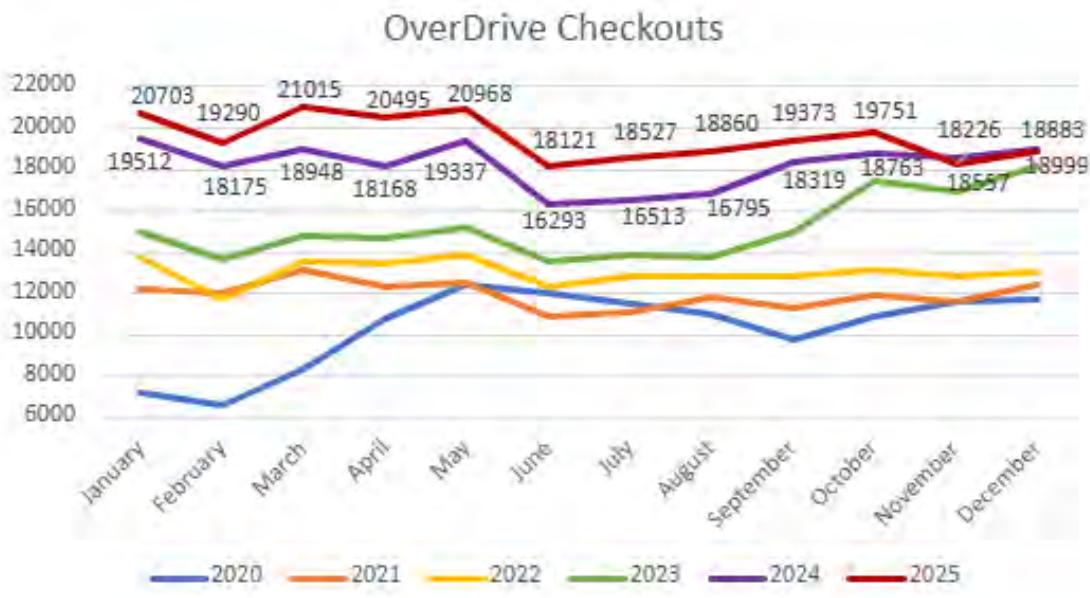
Digital Collections (Digital & Maker Services Manager Lauren Kelly)

Updates

- In November, Lydia Hanchett identified and provided cost-per-circulation access to just over 100 "zombie" hold titles that had no corresponding license copies within our consortium.
- Lydia also corresponded with representatives from the Wall Street Journal and Washington Post to explore adding those online resources to our collection.
- The in-library flyers promoting our online resources were a bit stale and had some outdated information. Lydia began the process of updating these flyers.

Digital Collections Highlights

- Consumer Reports had a strong month of usage in November, coinciding with Black Friday and holiday gift shopping.
- Ancestry and Heritage Quest genealogy resources both saw usage spikes in November, ahead of seasonal family gatherings for many.
- Patrons watched 1,145 movies and TV shows on Kanopy in December.
- November and December were busy months for digital newspaper access. PressReader and Newspaper Archive saw exceptionally high usage; the New York Times was the most-accessed title on both platforms. Use of our New York Times website access continued to be exceedingly strong, with 11,443 usage sessions across both months. We launched two new Chicago Tribune platforms in October, and in December we reached 100 combined monthly users for the first time.



18,883 checkouts in December:

- 8,866 eBooks (46.9%)
- 6,780 digital audiobooks (35.9%)
- 3,237 digital magazines (17.1%)

Top eBook titles by checkout:

1. The Correspondent by Virginia Evans – 49
2. Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid – 47
3. My Friends by Fredrik Backman – 37
4. The Let Them Theory by Mel Robbins - 34
5. The Academy by Elin Hilderbrand - 33

Top digital audio titles by checkout:

1. The Housemaid by Freida McFadden - 76
2. The Correspondent by Virginia Evans – 57
3. Great Big Beautiful Life by Emily Henry – 43
4. Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid – 32
5. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling - 29

The most popular magazines:

1. The New Yorker – 629
2. The Week Magazine – 126
3. Us Weekly – 120
4. Guardian Weekly – 105

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 140 new cardholders in November, and 109 new cardholders in December.

We welcomed 10 new D39 student cardholders in November.

In November, Assistant Manager Mark Cegielski completed the final steps in our bi-annual National Change of Address (NCOA) database cleanup project.

ILL Coordinator Amy Jung and Matthew submitted the annual Illinet survey. We also completed our quarterly RAILS count the week of November 17-21.

Matthew worked with CCS to establish a group block for new and older videogames on the checkout stations. The maximum number that a patron can check out is 5 total.

With the timing of the holidays, December was a relatively quiet month in terms of physical material checkouts, with our monthly circulation stats dropping under 47,000. There was, however, a slight uptick in check-ins, with about 2,000 more than the previous month.

December began with the resolution of an ongoing issue with our outside lockers. At the end of November, Bibliotheca replaced the touchscreen computer in the unit. However, this computer's new IP address was not linking-up correctly with our Smart Locker software. With the assistance of our IT department (Christine Hightower) and our technician from Bibliotheca, we were able to resolve this issue.

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	48,900
Dec	51,141	51,452	53,499	51,956	46,661
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	308,253

Wilmette Public Library Monthly Statistics as a Whole For 11/2025	
Total Checkins	26,578
Checkout Stations	16,973
Leap Checkout and Renewal	8,877
Total Checkouts	25,851
Auto-renewal	21,992
Power PAC Renewal	352
Leap Checkout and Renewal	162
Checkout Stations	114
Total Renewals	23,049
Number of your Library's items checked out system-wide	25,111
Holds Placed through your interface	5,414
Holds placed for/by your patrons	6,398
Holds Held	6,928
Holds Checked out	5,922
Holds Cancelled	1,305
Holds Unclaimed	991
Number Of Items Currently Out	32,027
Unexpired Patrons on file	17,949

Wilmette Public Library 24/7 Pickup Lockers Monthly Statistics For 11/2025	
Total Checkouts	87
Wilmette Cardholder	27
CCS and/or Reciprocal Borrower Cardholder	4
Holds Held	96
Holds Unclaimed	12

Wilmette Public Library Monthly Statistics as a Whole For 12/2025	
Total Checkins	28,072
Checkout Stations	15,312
Leap Checkout and Renewal	8,642
Total Checkouts	23,955
Auto-renewal	21,656
Power PAC Renewal	316
Leap Checkout and Renewal	163
Checkout Stations	104
Total Renewals	22,706
Number of your Library's items checked out system-wide	23,096
Holds Placed through your interface	5,285
Holds placed for/by your patrons	6,374
Holds Held	6,896
Holds Checked out	5,890
Holds Cancelled	1,120
Holds Unclaimed	906
Number Of Items Currently Out	30,114
Unexpired Patrons on file	18,044

Wilmette Public Library 24/7 Pickup Lockers Monthly Statistics For 12/2025	
Total Checkouts	183
Wilmette Cardholder	58
CCS and/or Reciprocal Borrower Cardholder	13
Holds Held	217
Holds Unclaimed	21



Our current holds shelves during a busy day in November, 2025

The Collection Revitalization team has finalized plans to relocate the holds shelves back to the Circulation lobby to provide greater convenience and staff support to this popular service. The holds shelves (which formerly occupied 10 shelves in the space where we currently display our new DVD and Blu-ray media by the Circulation Desk), were relocated to the above shelves in the Adult Services Recent Arrivals area in the early stages of the pandemic in 2020, and quickly grew to occupy over 30 shelves, which has been sustained ever since. As part of our Collection Revitalization Project, staff are implementing a series of improvements to spaces around the first and lower level in response to patron demand for resources. We anticipate the installation of the holds shelving will take place in late February, with additional phases of improvements to follow this spring.

Adult and Teen Services (Manager Cathleen Blair)

Progress on Goals

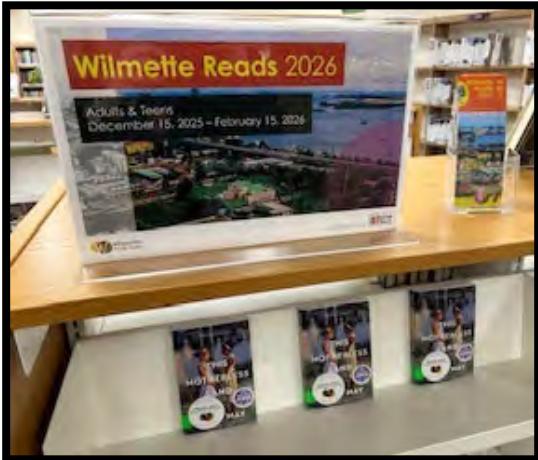
Develop and present valuable, outcome-oriented programs and events.

Wilmette Reads: In November and December, significant energies were invested in final preparations and launch of the third annual Wilmette Reads community reading initiative for adults and teens. Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia and Librarian Rachel Rothe worked with Communications and Events partners to create preview spotlights, design the activity guide, and prepare public displays to spark engagement in this year's spotlight on the appeal of reinventing familiar stories with a contemporary lens. Leaning into the cultural moment of titles such as *James* by Percival Everett, *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver, and the two-part film adaptation of *Wicked*, we are introducing *This Motherless Land* by Nikki May, a cross-cultural reimagining of Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*, as a featured selection for conversation while at the same time broadening the scope to celebrate the wealth of retellings for any reader interest.

In the short weeks following the launch on December 15, we can report a strong start in terms of sign-ups. In December alone, we fielded 120 specific patron interactions and 110 confirmed enrollments, and there is demonstrable patron enthusiasm for both the spotlighted title and the larger exploration of retellings. One patron commented that *This Motherless Land* was "a great pick... It's SO good." Department staff have also heard from multiple patrons how easy it is to sign up and to finish the program, which we are confident will manifest in a high number of successful completions this year.

In service to the enthusiastic response of our "Level Up" title suggestion bookmarks from Summer Reading 2025, Rachel Rothe curated titles for eight categories of retellings to be readily available for patron self-service or for staff assistance. In an effort to connect with additional audience and boost discovery, Senior Services Librarian Jillian McKeown expanded the Wilmette Reads theme to encompass visual media retellings for display.





Silent Book Club: In November, the library hosted its first Silent Book Club, a relatively recent iteration of reader gathering, at Central Station in Wilmette. In service to those who want to balance the private experience of reading with the social connections of those who have similar interests, patrons came together first to introduce themselves and then to enjoy companionable reading in quiet proximity. Senior Services Librarian Jillian McKeown then brought the attendees together to reflect on the experience and to share what each was reading. Everyone expressed joy regarding “a very fun experience” as well as a hope that the library might host another opportunity in future.

KPop Demon Hunters Party: Teen Services Librarian Krista Hutley collaborated with Youth Services Librarians Eti Berland and Jennifer Lee to offer a joint tween/teen fandom event in November to honor the enthusiasm for the film *KPop Demon Hunters*. More than twenty attended to celebrate this pop culture phenomenon: singing karaoke, posing in the photobooth, coloring images from the show, enjoying bookmark and sticker giveaways, and creating themed projects such as LED lightsticks and painted fans.



Honoring Veterans Day: Genealogy and Local History Librarian EvaAnne Johnson partnered with North Suburban Genealogical Society to host November program “Honoring Veterans Day: Members Sharing Their Ancestors’ Military Stories”, a collaborative program inviting participants to contribute narrative about a veteran in their family tree. Nine community members spoke about military stories, ranging from the Civil War to the Vietnam War. One presenter spoke about his own memory of a tense military drill onboard the USS Collett during the Vietnam War, another about his father-in-law's experience surviving the Bataan Death March, and another about her father's involvement with the Manhattan Project. A love story between an Army nurse and a soldier, a father's story as a radio operator and driver during WWII, as well as an uncle's WWII story of survival after his ship was bombed were also shared. Attendees were enthusiastic about the unique format and the opportunity to hear each other's stories.

Book Discussions: Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia and Librarian Rachel Rothe co-led two book discussions, one with a small but passionate group exploring *Persuasion* by Jane Austen in celebration of Austen's 250th birthday, and the other with the regular Classics and Contemporary gathering. In the latter, participants read Diane Wilson's *The Seed Keeper*, a book that impressed most of the group. One attendee confessed they first engaged with expectation they would not enjoy but had been pleasantly surprised with the approach that the author took with the subject matter, illustrating the value of librarian-curated selections and facilitated discussions.

Explore and facilitate opportunities to grow and strengthen strategic partnerships.

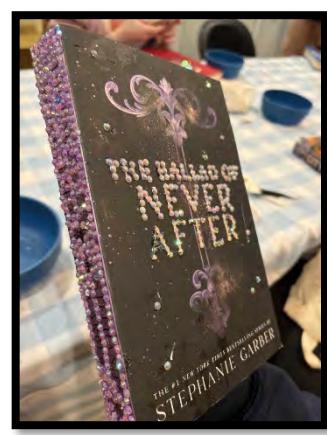
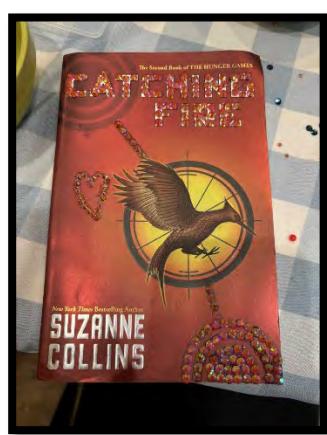
Alzheimer's Association: Senior Services Librarian Jillian McKeown partners with the Alzheimer's Association in sponsoring a monthly virtual Dementia Caregiver Support Group, and her role includes most of the administrative and communication tasks. The group dialogue is facilitated to support participants sharing challenges in caregiving and to offer support from those in similar circumstances, all within the context of a confidential forum.

Wilmette-Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce: Business Librarian John Amundsen reported a successful final installment of the 2025 Coffee and Business Connections networking series, events co-sponsored by the Wilmette-Kenilworth Chamber of Commerce. The series has continually gained attendance and awareness in the business community, leading to increased requests for mentoring referrals and 1:1 business research appointments, and exciting plans are in development for continuation in 2026.

Women of Wilmette: Following a 2024 success, Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia, Librarian Rachel Rothe, and practicum student Melissa W. were invited for a 2025 encore presentation opportunity with the Women of Wilmette. Introducing “Best Books of 2025”, they showcased a range of titles for different reading tastes, enhanced with both slide show and handout for personal TBRs and gift lists. Individuals have since visited the library in person to reiterate their appreciation at having the ‘inside scoop’ into the library world and with the engaging style of presentation, and the WCW group is sourcing monthly book discussion titles from the highlighted releases.



Pink Couch Books: In November, Teen Services Librarian Krista Hutley partnered with Lora Amigo, owner of romance bookstore Pink Couch Books in Wilmette, to offer a Book Bedazzling program for grades 7-12 held onsite at the store. Nine teens participated in this popular trend, using glue and tiny colorful gems to bedazzle a book cover.



Highlight the wealth of resources offered in our building and collections in more accessible and visually appealing ways

In addition to curated retellings displays to support the community reading initiative, Librarian Rachel Rothe designed a variety of other materials spotlights to engage visitors. A few examples include Native American History Month, Sweet Home Chicago, History Reimagined, and a special “For Fans of *Stranger Things*” to correspond with the anticipated drop of the final season of the popular series.



In media, “Noirvember”, a November celebration of classic film noir, was by far one of the most popular movie displays featured in the public area, requiring regular replenishment and eventually additional creativity as core titles were claimed. One patron approached Senior Services Librarian Jillian McKeown, not realizing she was responsible for the spotlight, and volunteered how much she loved and was inspired by the theme.

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

Librarian Rachel Rothe attended a meeting of the Adult Reading Round Table Steering Committee as a potential new member and was later invited to join the committee. Among her contributions during the first year of office will be participating in and planning upcoming genre study and book club development programs, as well as helping to design 2026 ARRTCon, a day of professional advisory skill development opportunities.

Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia concluded her semester supervision of practicum student Melissa W. after guiding her through nearly forty hours of direct experience with Wilmette Public Library. Melissa gained experience in creating displays, blog posts, and book lists, as well as in book discussion facilitation, outreach, and preparation for a community-wide reading initiative. Through her work, Melissa demonstrated thoughtful decision-making, clearly shared the library’s interest in bringing interesting and diverse perspectives to the community, and exuded enthusiasm for libraries and the work that they do. Rachel’s leadership in goal-setting, task structuring, facilitating interdepartmental experiences, mentoring, establishing benchmarks, and evaluation were key to Melissa’s success.

Business Librarian John Amundsen has been appointed to the Village of Skokie Fine Arts Commission by Mayor Ann Tennes and the Board of Trustees, in a term that will extend through August 2027. The Fine Arts Commission oversees several performing and fine arts grants, public art projects throughout the village, and several arts centers throughout the Village of Skokie.

Additional Insights

Public Desk Service

Adult Services staff answered nearly 5000 discrete questions in November and December combined. Thirty-eight percent related to library collection assistance, successfully illustrating the skill and advocacy of staff in amplifying and connecting patrons to books and media curated for use. Twenty-nine percent of interactions were in service to study room inquiries, reflecting gains over even usual high usage due to student preparation for semester exams. This period saw sharp increases in formal appointments with reference librarians, most notably in the categories of genealogy and in learning how to access digital resources on newly gifted devices.

Genealogy and Local History Services

The surge in genealogy and local history appointment requests in the final months of the year included the return of experienced researchers and the introduction of several first-time genealogy and property researchers. One applied for a scan of a handwritten early history of the Boy Scouts in Wilmette, which will also soon be made available in the library's Local History Digital Collection. Genealogy and Local History Librarian EvaAnne Johnson reports that each appointment reveals a new and interesting story about local individuals and places, and it brings her joy to learn about them even as she is offering her expert guidance.

Collection and Advisory Services

Not everyone realizes that specialist librarians are eager to provide reading suggestions, especially when it can be difficult to identify a topic or theme not as widely represented. Whether an in-person request at the desk or a webform submission for a personalized, curated booklist, AS librarians invest both attentive analysis of what the reader seeks and deep knowledge of collection to offer a creative array of possibilities.

- A patron requested a list of books featuring trans male protagonists, adding that they were just getting back into reading and wanted to read books that celebrated queer identities. Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia compiled a robust list of options, and the patron left with "a giant stack of books and a huge smile on their face." Rachel adds, "It made me very proud that we curate such an amazing and diverse collection. I'm so happy that patron had a positive experience at the library after being away for so long."
- Librarians Rachel Garcia and Rachel Rothe each received correspondence from patrons who had previously taken advantage of the Book Picks webform request:
 - Hi Rachel [G]. Just wanted to let you know that so far I've read *Ministry of Time* and *The Heart's Invisible Furies* -- and loved both! Thanks again for the great recommendations, and I'm looking forward to getting to more on this list. ~ S.

- Rachel [R]! Your picks kept me sustained throughout the year. Not only did I buy *Abigail* for a friend going through a tough time earlier this year AND for my grandfather for Christmas... I truly loved *A Place for Us*. I would have never found it myself. And I just finished Iza's *Ballad*. All because last year's adult winter reading challenge I did alongside my kids suggested I use this service. I may just have to use it again with a few new books I read this year (and wasn't expecting to love as much as I did) as the basis for the recommendations. ~ M.

Teen Services

After comprehensive assessment and great advocacy, Teen Services Librarian Krista Hutley and School Engagement Librarian Eti Berland successfully implemented planned revisions to the teen volunteer program. The Library's dedicated Volunteer webpage (<https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/about-us/volunteering>) has been updated for clarity and ease of use for teens and families. New tools to support coordination of volunteer scheduling and communication have been piloted, already demonstrating value in early usage.

December can be a notably high-activity month in teen services, and Krista planned a number of offerings to connect with students: a seasonal Teen Take & Make project, a *Wicked: For Good* movie release party, the highly successful Teen Pizza Study Night, and a Dungeons & Dragons campaign. Moreover, she partnered with Digital and Maker Services Associate Ethan Hendricks to sponsor a Smash Bros. Ultimate Nintendo Switch tournament for twenty-five excited competitors (grades 3-8) and a total of 45 people in attendance, with heavy representation of those who aren't often eager to engage in library programming.



Additional patron stories, program details, and statistics are appended to this report.

Youth Services (Manager Andrea Vaughn Johnson)

Youth Services Programs: November 2025

In November, Youth Services offered 46 scheduled events with a total attendance of 1,660 patrons. We also facilitated 16 drop-in activities like StoryWalks, open play times, and in-house activities which drew about 1300 participants. Here are a few highlights from November's youth and family programming:

Kindness Rocks! Rock Painting

In the *Kindness Rocks!* program on Saturday, November 8, fifteen patrons in grades 4-8 painted rocks with inspirational messages to be placed around their neighborhoods. Parents expressed gratitude for a program that aligns with the values they want to promote.

Bluey Party

Recognizing the power of early literacy media and children's fandoms, Youth Services Librarian Amanda Jacover spearheaded a highly anticipated Bluey Party (which included two sessions!) on Wednesday, November 26. The programs included a variety of interactive stations from puppet-making, coloring and activity pages, a character scavenger hunt, imaginative play baking, and a reading corner. We provided "extra magic" by revealing a surprise guest – Bluey herself, who led a dance party, followed by a photo opportunity where everyone could have their picture taken with Bluey. Amanda leveraged her connection with regular patron, Vasthy Valmont, who runs KID'z Mascot Fiesta, a small business serving the Chicago community, who provides character entertainment experiences, to invite her to be our special guest, Bluey. Our community was overjoyed to spend time with Bluey.



This program was thoughtfully designed to ensure everyone had a good experience, including additional activities in the Youth Program Room for people who could not get into either of the full programs. Youth Services staff including Lisa Bigelow, Sarah Jo Zaharako, Jennifer Lee, and Eti Berland helped prepare for and staff the event. Our Youth Helper Audrey provided much appreciated assistance in managing the different stations and the crowds. Youth Services Assistant Manager Lisa Bigelow worked closely with Amanda to design the program plan and room set-up that created an efficient system to ensure everyone got their picture with Bluey. IT Assistant Christine Hightower made sure that all the technology ran smoothly and successfully, troubleshooting during the program to keep the party going. More than 200 people enjoyed the Bluey Party experience and the additional activities in the YPR.

Amanda Jacover shared how supported she felt by the whole library: "From YS, Welcome Desk, Safety and Facilities, IT, and more, everyone went above and beyond to make our Bluey Party successful and unforgettable." Patrons shared many compliments about their positive experiences. A patron who noticed the extra Bluey activities in the YPR: "I'm not surprised you all thought of doing that. You are SO organized."



One of our regular caregivers shared: "The Bluey event was wonderful. Your team always does a wonderful job. Taylor Swift has nothing on Bluey!" It was truly "library joy" at its best.

Minecraft Craft World

Inspired by the fandom around Minecraft - and the high interest of Ethan's Minecraft Club, YS Librarian Jennifer Lee created a Minecraft Craft World program to respond to kids' interests. She provided a variety of fun activities including a scavenger hunt, photo booth, and crafting torches, bookmarks, and a Creeper Toss game. Kids were the experts in the room about the world of Minecraft, sharing why they love it so much, explaining to us, the grown-ups, how it works - and meeting likeminded friends in the process. Truly, following what kids are curious about is one of the best ways to build community - and Jennifer always seeks to build her programs with that curiosity and kid-appeal at the heart of her work.

One mom commented about the program a week after. Her kid wasn't so sure about attending the program but ended up joining the whole time and had a great time, and she said her son asked us to host this program again.



Kudos for our monthly STEAM Lab program

A caregiver of a participant in the November STEAM Lab program, Melt-Free Olaf, sent this lovely photo and commented, "Thank you for hosting this event, [participant's name] and her friends had such a wonderful time, and the project is adorable! Thanks, Jennifer!"



K-pop Demon Hunters Collaborative Program

Teen Librarian, Krista Hutley, Eti Berland, and Jennifer Lee collaborated on a joint tween-teen K-pop Demon Hunters program on November 13, satisfying the huge demand for programming about this breakout film hit, for around 21 teens. They provided a variety of engaging stations from LED lightsticks, painted fans, temporary tattoos, coloring pages, photo booth, karaoke, delicious snacks, and bookmark and sticker giveaways.



Little Parade concert

65 patrons were singing and dancing in our early childhood concert with Little Parade.



Native American Heritage Month drop-in activities

Patrons enjoyed a variety of activity and coloring pages celebrating Native American Heritage Month in our coloring area.



Youth Services Outreach: November 2025

Preschool Outreach Librarian Ruth Bell made nine visits to area preschools reaching 123 children and teachers and prepared ten bags of books and program supplies for delivery. School Engagement Librarian Eti Berland visited three school events in November, which were attended by 141 people. Youth Services staff also prepared 15 teacher bags for pickup at the Welcome Desk in November.

Wilmette Junior High Visit

On November 3, Community Engagement Librarian Sarah Jo Zaharako hosted a visit with Wilmette Junior High's 7th and 8th grade Special Education classes. Sarah shared a short presentation with a read-aloud, led a scavenger hunt, and gave them time to browse and use the light board in the Junior High Room.



Author Visit

School Engagement Librarian Eti Berland attended the community author visit for award-winning author Derrick Barnes on November 4, hosted by District 39 at Romona Elementary School.



Kindergarten Visit

Youth Services completed its fall kindergarten field trip program in November. Throughout the fall, we hosted Kindergarten visits, which create a strong foundation for school-library partnerships. Relaunched in fall 2024 after a five-year hiatus, kindergarten visits have become an essential part of our school engagement program. This year, we hosted visits with Romona, McKenzie, Central, Joseph Sears, Central, and Harper Schools. We hosted Central School's Kindergarten classes for the first time this year, ensuring that we have now hosted all District 39 Kindergartens.

On November 10, we hosted all of Joseph Sears School's kindergartens. On November 17, we hosted all of Harper School's kindergartens.





These field trips are made possible because of the hard work of our local kindergarten teachers, classroom parents, chaperones, and administrators who manage the logistics and support enrichment experiences in our community. (Harper School even made a book sharing what they love about the library that we shared with all staff.) It's also a team effort here at the library to ensure field trips run smoothly. Facilities and Safety manage bus parking and room setups, youth services staff present storytime and lead tours, and Circulation staff offer insights about how books get to the library, showcasing the blue bins that come in daily. We're grateful for everyone's help to make our kindergarten visits successful. These early positive experiences help children become lifelong library users.

You can learn more about what these visits are like on our blog here:

What Happens During a Kindergarten Visit?

<https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/posts/what-happens-during-kindergarten-visit>

Harper shared our Kindergarten visits in their school newsletter:

<https://app.smore.com/n/srnfm-harper-happenings?ref=email>

Book Displays

In November, the Junior High Room featured “K-Pop Demon Hunters Readalikes” and books to celebrate “Native American Heritage Month.” The patrons enjoyed deeply on K-Pop Demon Hunters inspired book recommendations (WPL Instagram also featured the book display)!

Special projects: November 2025

Singing with Baby!

On the library blog, children's librarian Reenie shares how [singing to babies](#) fosters connection and contentment. She explains how singing to an infant can significantly boost a baby's mood, citing a 2025 Yale University study.

<https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/posts/singing-baby>



Cove School intern Mary Claire has expanded her work experience to include youth services tasks like cleaning toys, tidying shelves, choosing books for displays, and writing our daily message on the lightboard.



Talking to Children About ICE Activity

The library steps up to support caregivers with accurate, relevant information in challenging times. On the library blog, Youth Services librarians compiled a [simple guide](#) to support difficult conversations about the migrant experience and the big feelings that come up when we hear about upsetting events in the news. <https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/posts/talking-kids-about-ice>

Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), the Illinois Association of School Business Officials (IASBO) and the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA) Joint Annual Conference

Youth Services Manager Andrea Johnson participated in a panel presentation on "Intergovernmental Collaboration and Relationship-Building" at the annual convention of the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), the Illinois Association of School Business Officials (IASBO) and the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA) on Saturday, November 22, along with Senta Plunkett, President, Wilmette Village Board of Trustees, Erin Stone, Board Member, Wilmette School District 39, and Tony DeMonte, Assistant Superintendent for Technology and Safety, Wilmette School District 39. The panel was moderated by Kari Cremascoli, Ph.D., Superintendent, Wilmette School District 39. Andrea discussed the many ways in which we serve and benefit our community through our close working partnerships to best serve the needs and vision of our collective community while working together to improve services, efficiencies, and our Village as a whole.



WILMETTE PUBLIC LIBRARY Partnerships

- Student Library Cards
- School Accounts for Teachers and School Staff
- Host for Teacher Meetings
- Joint Parent Workshops with PTO/PTAs
- Summer and Winter Reading Club Presentations
- Class Field Trips to Library
- Curriculum Materials for Teachers and Librarians
- eBooks for Students from Student Devices
- Joint Author Visits
- Joint Professional Development for Librarians



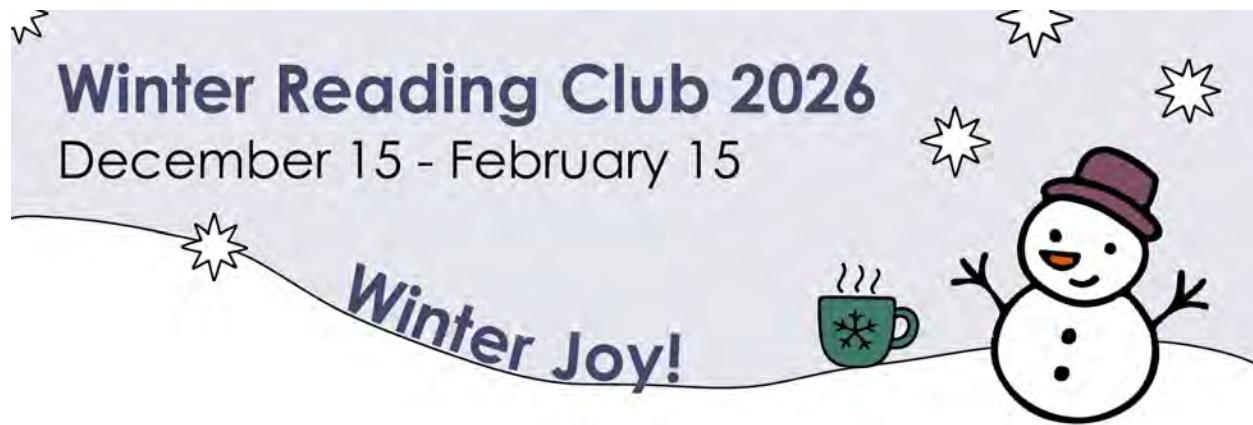
Additional patron stories, program details, and statistics are appended to this report.

Youth Services Programs: December 2025

In December, Youth Services offered 36 scheduled events with a total attendance of 1,071 patrons. We also facilitated 21 drop-in activities like StoryWalks, open play times, and in-house activities which drew about 1,300 participants. Here are a few highlights from December's youth and family programming:

Winter Reading Club is Here!

Winter Reading Club kicked off on December 15, just in time for the winter break. Children of all ages, even pre-readers, can join. Kids simply check off 20 spaces on a reading log and bring it to the Youth Services desk to report. After telling our librarians about their reading and winter activities, they can pick a book from our prize cart. Winter Reading Club book prizes are funded by the Friends of the Wilmette Public Library.



Supporting Autistic Children at Home: A Let's Learn Together Parent Educator Program

Thanks to the generosity of our presenters from [Easterseals](#), our recent program Supporting Autistic Children at Home went strong until closing time on Tuesday, December 2. Following a resource-packed presentation and Q&A, caregivers of children and emerging adults connected with one another and our presenters to exchange information, ask questions, and build community. This program was developed in partnership with District 39's Parent Association of Student Services.



STEAM Lab

In December, Jennifer Lee hosted STEAM Lab featuring a Melt-Free Olaf activity and a Scrape Painting program for kindergarten through 2nd graders. Both sessions brought over 20 children in each program. Kids enthusiastically explored hands-on art and science activities that encouraged creativity, curiosity, and joyful learning.



Games at the Library

Our in-house game collection has grown in popularity as the weather has gotten colder. We circulated 62 games in November, and 54 games December.

Families often gather and play together!



Outreach

Preschool Outreach Librarian Ruth Bell hosted a visit from All Things Bright and Beautiful Junior Kindergarten on December 1. The class enjoyed a library tour and library card presentation. School Engagement Librarian Eti Berland visited eight school events in December, which were attended by 1,541 students, parents, and teachers. Youth Services staff also prepared 4 teacher bags for pickup at the Welcome Desk in December.

Winter Reading Club Promotions

Joseph Sears School Family Literacy Night

School Engagement Librarian Eti Berland attended Joseph Sears School's Family Literacy Night and book fair launch on December 3 as a special guest by Joseph Sears School Parents' Volunteer Association (JSSPVA) and school administration to share interactive read-alouds and library resources. This was the first time the library participated in Sears' family literacy night.

Harper Winter Reading Club Visit

Eti Berland visited Harper Elementary School on December 10 to share an interactive presentation about Winter Reading Club, engaging students about their reasons for reading in the winter, sharing an interactive game to spotlight the variety of formats and reading experiences, spotlighting library programs that would appeal to them, and book-talking high-interest books to encourage children to select books before they go on break. Many students opted to join her presentation during their regular recess and enthusiastically participated.



Central Book Fair

Eti Berland and Digital & Maker Services Librarian Janet Piehl were invited to attend Central School's PTA Book Fair on December 10 for storytime and crafts, library resources, and Winter Reading Club promotions. Janet provided an original Minty & Marshmallow sticker coloring activity for families, many of whom shared that they were regular visitors to the Studio and were excited to visit during winter break and attend the Secret Gift Workshop. She also shared Studio resources, sample projects, and answered many questions about visiting the Studio.



Central School Winter Reading Club Visit

Eti Berland visited Central Elementary School on December 15 to share interactive presentations about Winter Reading Club for all 476 students. Many students from Central school came into the library after school to get their Winter Reading Club logs and sign up for the program.

Romona School Winter Reading Club Visit

Eti Berland visited Romona Elementary School on December 17 to share an interactive presentation about Winter Reading Club. Around 45 students opted to join her Winter Reading Club Presentation as a choice option during their regular recess and enthusiastically participated in the presentation.

Avoca West Winter Reading Club Visit

Eti Berland shared Winter Reading Club presentations for 305 students at Avoca West, along with the librarian from Winnetka-Northfield Library, demonstrating the many opportunities across New Trier Township for children to access library resources and participate in all winter reading programs.

McKenzie School Winter Reading Club Visit

Eti Berland visited McKenzie Elementary School on December 18 to share interactive presentations about Winter Reading Club for 455 students.



Avoca West



Romona



McKenzie

McKenzie 2nd Grade Cozy Reading Field Trip

Youth Services Librarian Sheri Reda hosted a “Cozy Reading” field trip with more than 80 2nd graders from McKenzie Elementary School as part of their enrichment program on December 11. She started the program with dynamic and engaging readalouds, demonstrating the joy of reading together around our handcrafted fireplace. Students were riveted, enthusiastically participating in the dialogic reading activities. Students then had the opportunity to read the variety of books curated by the librarians independently, to each other, or in groups. They also enjoyed the coloring station with library-themed coloring pages. Sheri shared, “kids were delighted to share their favorite books and authors (no surprises here; think Who Would Win and Dog Man), to color, and to explore the fireplace. We had a blast with two stories and about half the kids managed a tour of the second floor. Overall, a delight and a blast!”



Winter Reading Club Video

Ruth Bell and Eti Berland created a new Winter Reading Club video that was shared during all school visits in December. Inspired by librarian Mychal Threets, our library mascots Minty and Marshmallow search for library joy. It can be viewed on our YouTube channel and in our Winter Reading Club Facebook post.

You can access it at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ug6tPONbeyk>.

Mychal Threets, the inspiration behind the video, loved the video on social media!



Central School

NSSRA Enriched Lifestyles for Adults program visit

Sarah Jo hosted a visit from the NSSRA on December 17. Participants practiced library skills by searching the catalog for their favorite music and asking for reference assistance.

Book Displays

Jennifer Lee displayed “cozy books” and “staff favorites” in the Junior High Room in December display to celebrate winter and provide gift titles for holidays.



DIY Gift Ideas

Patrons looking for inspiration for gift giving and crafting in the new year saw a display of DIY Gift Ideas made by staff, including directions and materials for you to make your own! Youth Services Assistant Manager Lisa Bigelow put this display together to promote the library's maker tools and crafting resources.



Ruth Bell created a wintry scene in Minty and Marshmallow's display case.



Digital & Maker Services (Manager Lauren Kelly)

Programs

Digital & Maker Services Librarian Janet Piehl ran the **Maker Garden** in November and December. November continued with the theme of “Block Party,” which quieted down after the snowfall. Janet then worked to winterize the Maker Garden, installing the annual Solstice Log, a fake yule log display, reminiscent of the log burning in the fireplace on TV.



Program Highlights

- In November, Digital & Maker Services Associate Ethan Herdrich ran Design a 3D Printed Snowman, with 6 patrons attended. The kids had varying levels of computer literacy, for some of them it was the first time using a mouse. Other kids were familiar enough with Tinkercad to follow the instruction sheet on their own. Everyone left having completed a snowman.
- This month Digital & Maker Services Assistant Manager Lydia Hanchett ran our first sewing program – Learn to Sew: Fleece Hats. She led two sessions of beginner sewing machine classes in which participants made their own fleece winter hats to take home. The first session, on Tuesday evening, had 4 patrons and the second session, on Wednesday morning, had our maximum of 5. All were enthusiastic learners, and everybody left with a hat that they made!

One patron emailed to say “Thank you so much for teaching our group to sew a fleece hat. It was such an enjoyable learning event! Your preparation was perfect; and your demonstrations and explanations were clear. Thank you for teaching this wonderful event. I love my new hat, perfect for a cold Wilmette winter!”



- Janet worked with YS Librarian Diane Dos Santos on the annual Secret Gift Workshop in December, with 35 total attendees. The kids turned out with focus and creativity! The mom of two regular attendees emailed us: "...thank you for hosting this wonderful event once again. Tate and Melrose had an absolute blast on Saturday, as did their friends—several of whom had never attended before and just loved it. Thank you for creating such a unique and creative opportunity that truly empowers kids to give meaningful gifts to their loved ones."



- In December Ethan and Teen Librarian Krista Hutley ran the Smash Bros Ultimate Nintendo Switch tournament. 25 registered participants competed in the tournament, but at least 50 people attended the event including siblings and parents. Every kid that participated got to play in at least two matches. It was a lively event that benefitted from having two teen volunteers that helped check everyone in and fill out the bracket. The final match was the closest match of the entire tournament. All in all a very successful program!



- Digital Services Assistant Alex Barzallo hosted Cutting the Cable cord (virtual) in November with 13 attendees. Patrons who attended were involved throughout the presentation. Though this program is usually well attended, Alex may reassess how often he runs it. The idea behind the program was to show patrons alternatives to traditional cable while possibly saving money. However, with streaming platforms steadily raising their prices, the potential savings are becoming harder to guarantee.

Program Updates

The DMS Team has started to plan running our submitted programs for the January / February / March cycle, and will meet in early January to discuss April / May programs. As always, we offer a mix of Maker, Digital Literacy, Online Resources, Gaming, and Coding programs for all ages.

The Studio

In November, the Studio team had 600 interactions in the space, and December saw 339. This drop is due to our annual holiday closure.

Studio Projects and Patron Stories

The Studio was very busy over the schools' Thanksgiving break. We had some help from our teen volunteers during these busy times, which was great. Projects during that time included:

- A group of young teens made layered adhesive vinyl gnomes for their water bottles. They were very excited about gnomes.
- Some tweens made "Wimpy Kid Club" buttons.
- A family that had just moved here from Singapore stopped by and were excited to see what their new American library has to offer!
- A staff member came in with her kids to convert her son's drawing of a monster into a heat transfer to press onto t-shirts and sweatshirts for gifts. What a cool drawing! The design came out really well.



We also had other projects, including many for the holidays.

- A brother and sister came into the Studio to make Christmas magnets to gift each other. They used separate computers so they wouldn't see the other's designs; it was very cute.
- Annie helped a patron print return labels for her holiday cards. We had to work around the snowflake design so there was some trial and error but eventually we were able to make it look nice. She said she's had the labels for years but hasn't used them because she doesn't have a printer at home. She was very grateful to finally use them with the library's help!

- Ethan Herdrich had a rewarding experience with a young patron who was interested in 3D printing. The patron saw an active print going on a machine- a head of a character from the video game Hollow Knight, which Ethan explained. The patron came back a couple weeks later to submit a 3D print and remembered the conversation, which lead to the kid submitting his own 3D print, an Ender Dragon from Minecraft.
- A tween made a “coupon book” to give as a gift for her mom’s birthday.
- A patron embroidered a couch cushion with her granddaughter’s name as a Christmas gift. This is likely the largest embroidery project we’ve done!



Studio Updates

- The newly implemented system for embroidery machine certifications is going well. There is less strain on staff and patrons are knowledgeable about and empowered in completing their projects. As of the end of December we have certified 29 individuals to use the machine.
- Janet Piehl accompanied School Engagement Librarian Eti Berland to Central School’s Book Fair event on Wednesday evening 12/10. They had two separate tables in two different rooms—Eti’s focused on Winter Reading Club and services to youth in general and Janet’s focused on the Studio. She made black-and-white Minty and Marshmallow stickers for the kids to color and was pleased to see that most of the families that attended stopped by the table, and many of them told her how much they like the library. Many had already been to the Studio and the kids recognized library mascots Minty and Marshmallow. Their parents didn’t, which made for some funny interactions! Eti reported 476 people in attendance.

- Janet Piehl planned a Winter Reading Club Studio craft for kids, a library card/bookmark pocket with a “Library Joy” theme.
- Finn Dos Santos performed upkeep maintenance of one of our 3D printers, including dusting the extruder fans and relubricating the moving parts.
- Janet Piehl and Annie Blackie created the November-December display in the Studio.



3D Printing

November Patron Prints: 163

December Patron Prints: 92

Technology Desk + DMS Department

- In November DMS Staff had 604 interactions at the Technology Desk, and 762 in December. Help topics included: information about antivirus software, use snipping tool and print screenshot, navigating “identity verification” process, resizing photos, using Library of Things DVD player, resetting two-factor authentication prompt with a new phone, accessing Consumer Reports, troubleshooting iPass account, uploading scanned photos to Google Drive, digitizing 8mm film reel and more.
- In November 3,935 pages were scanned at the Scan Station, and December saw 4,531 scans.
- The TBS computer management system also allows for usage reports. November had 1,387 computer sessions (all locations) and December had 1,303.

- We deployed a laminator in the Technology Area in December, making this service available during all hours the library is open instead of the hours the Studio is open.



- Alejandro Barzallo ran the board meeting livestream in November.
- Digital & Maker Services Associate Ethan Herdrich updated and deployed updated Audacity instructions for the Digitization Station.
- DMS Manager Lauren Kelly trained on the Adult Services Desk in order to cover that service point during AS Department meetings.
- Lauren Kelly worked with YS Librarians Sarah Jo Zaharako and Lisa Bigelow on developing language for a welcome sign that promotes our library's culture of respect and presented it to the PIC group.
- Lydia Hanchett created a condensed guide to Technology Desk operations for staff in other departments who occasionally cover that service point during DMS meetings.

Library of Things

- Finn Dos Santos continues to work on processing new items for the Library of Things – November and December saw: Metal Detector, Giant Uno, Wingspan, GoPros, and 10 more puzzles. They have also consistently worked on upkeeping and repairing items including: Karaoke Machine microphones, missing pieces for board games, documentation for the DVD player, and a BeeBot.
- Lydia Hanchett purchased a Knitting kit and a Crochet kit for Library of Things.

Additional patron stories, program details, and statistics are appended to this report.

Communications and Events (Manager Sarah Beth Brown)

November/December Programming

November and December programming offered our community a rich mix of artistic performance, cultural exploration, and hands-on connection. Programming coordinator Jennifer Bartel put together a schedule of events that featured both scholarly and cultural speakers, and offered moments of connection for members of the community. Patrons continued to express appreciation for events that invite them to learn, reflect, and participate together.

November Program Highlights

Community Puzzle Exchange: We hosted our second Community Puzzle Exchange, an event that continues to grow in both donations and enthusiasm. Community members contributed more than 450 puzzles, and more than 150 patrons browsed and discovered new challenges to take home. The exchange also sparked moments of nostalgia—a patron was delighted to rediscover a long-discontinued childhood favorite puzzle and shared how meaningful it was to find it freely available at the library's event.

Monet Lives! Actor and painter Jim Parks brought Claude Monet to life in a dynamic historical portrayal. The performance offered patrons an entertaining bridge between art history and theater. The program was enhanced by 70 tiny handmade replicas of Impressionist Era art painted by Parks that were used to illustrate the color and vitality of Impressionism.

History of the Jingle Dress In celebration of Native American Heritage Month, Ojibwa author Kim Sigafus presented the cultural history and significance of the Jingle Dress, appearing in her traditional regalia. With the help of a patron volunteer, she assembled her own Jingle Dress on a mannequin, offering attendees a close and respectful look at its craftsmanship.

Darshan: The Act of “Seeing” in Hindu Art (Virtual): A docent from the Asian Art Museum guided participants through depictions of Hindu deities Vishnu, Shiva, and several goddesses. The combination of visual depth and cultural context made the art more accessible for patrons.

Patron feedback included:

- “Excellent speaker.”
- “Zoom is very convenient for participation.”
- “This is the first time I’ve attended a Wilmette Public Library event. Such events are wonderful opportunities to learn and expand our knowledge of the world’s many cultural heritages.”

Additionally in November, Communications & Events manager Sarah Beth Brown worked with staff and the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights to host a virtual program focusing on how immigrants can protect themselves in today's political climate. This event was

very well attended with more than 100 participants, and showed a good deal of support from our community for our immigrant neighbors.

December Program Highlights

Bobby Lewis Jazz Trio – New Year’s Eve Eve Concert: The library continued its popular tradition of welcoming the New Year with live jazz. Local favorites trumpeter Bobby Lewis, guitarist Andy Brown, and bassist Joe Policastro returned for an early New Year’s Eve concert, performing jazz standards and crowd favorites. This festive program once again drew community members together to celebrate the season through music.

Pages & Planning: A Year Ahead: This drop-in program invited patrons to prepare for 2026 by setting up planners, journals, and calendars, providing a calm, creative space for patrons to pause, look ahead, and begin the new year with intention.

Virtual Program Highlights

A Very Rockwell Holiday (Virtual): Art historian Jane Oneail explored the warmth and humor of winter through the festive artwork of Norman Rockwell. The program was very well received, with feedback survey comments such as:

- “Outstanding presentation by an especially articulate and knowledgeable presenter.”
- “Keep programs online so we can get diverse presenters from far away places.”

Jane Austen’s *Sanditon*: From Unfinished Swan Song to British Costume Drama (Virtual): In recognition of Jane Austen’s 250th birthday, author and Anglophile Claire Evans examined Austen’s final, unfinished work, *Sanditon*. This program offered literary context, historical insight, and popular culture appeal for both Austen enthusiasts and general audiences.

November/December Communications

Our Winter newsletter was mailed to homes the last week of December. This issue covers January-March, and features information supporting our children’s Winter Reading Club and adult and teen Wilmette Reads, a spotlight on our first floor collection revitalization project, and event listings and service promotions for all ages. As a 16-page issue, this required a particularly high level of effort and planning. We were lucky to have an early snow and get a great shot for the cover, which is always exciting, as we want the main image to be eye catching and seasonal.

Feeding into the newsletter, but also with building wide impact, was our focus on graphics and promotions for Wilmette Reads and Winter Reading Club. This year's Wilmette Reads features a bold color palette and unique visual style that we hope grabs patron attention. We are also thrilled to introduce all new giveaways for this year, including a new enamel badge for all participants, and a embroidered baseball cap and printed fanny pack as a finisher prize. As Adult Services continues to tweak the format of this reading series, the communications team has a lot of fun coming up with new designs and ideas for this signature series. Graphic designer Sarah Rose does an enormous amount of design work for this series and consistently turns out exciting, eye-catching ideas that are always on brand. She created and produced many items including the activity log & readers guide, branded posters & flyers, a full bulletin board display, branded companion sheet for The Studio, shelf talkers, themed signage, bookmark templates, and a giant banner for the AS desk—the largest item that we have ever printed in house!



In addition to these major projects, the communications team worked on improving and updating internal processes in November and December. While our team does have many independent projects, we also do a lot of behind-the-scenes work for initiatives from other departments, and we put a lot of effort at the end of the year into improving these workflows.

In addition to the above projects, Sarah had a busy couple of months in graphic design:

- Worked with Andrea and Sarah Beth to select and order a small, branded pouch for new youth card holders, they should be arriving shortly after a slight delay in stock.
- Designed, printed, updated and/or replenished a number of printed materials including the signage for the temporary heating issue.
- Created a sheet of fun and branded stickers as a handout for patrons at Jennifer Bartel's Pages & Planning program.
- Worked with Matthew to select and design an updated tote bag that is sold to patrons at Circulation
- Created new posters for display in the vestibule and the bulletin board, with accompanying digital images as needed, including a new welcome poster for the vestibule
- Provided graphics, files, and design consulting as needed, including finding images for use in Communico, and an updated financial infographic.
- 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 signage and graphics for various informational needs such as holiday closures

- Produced, printed, updated and/or replenished a number of printed materials including the virtual branch flyer.
- Designed and ordered branded tags for Library of Things items, an upgrade to how we label these varied items.
- Worked with Christine to troubleshoot and maintain the large format printer.
- Produced program signage throughout the building, including a large poster for the *K-Pop Demon Hunters* program.
- Designed materials for distribution throughout the community, such as a handout flyer for the Kids' Book Pick service.

Content coordinator Lydia Fair was also quite busy in November and December, supporting the major projects outlined above as well as keeping up with the regular flow of communications, including:

- Took photos at the 11/10 Sears Kindergarten Visit, snowy photos for the winter print newsletter, and book displays throughout the month
- Continued to organize and back up photos on Google Drive and the S. Drive
- Native American Heritage Month: shared librarian-curated booklists & book displays in our enewsletters and on social media, promoted museum passes with a tie-in to Gichigamiin Indigenous Nations Museum & activities in the YS coloring area
- Continued to spotlight book picks from Adult Services in the enewsletters, including memoirs, new fiction by Native American authors, and suggested reading for *Wicked* fans
- Additional promotional highlights included raising awareness of the 11/4 Know Your Rights Workshop presented by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights & the food drive in partnership with the New Trier Township, Village of Wilmette & the Wilmette Park District in support of the New Trier Township Food Pantry
- Assisted Sarah Beth with the creation of the Wilmette Welcome webpage, including uploading links to our policies, code of conduct, mission & vision statement
- Sent weekly general enewsletters, biweekly Youth Services enewsletters, a RA email in collaboration with Rachel Rothe on 12/11, a Winter Reading kick-off email on 12/15, and a 2025: Year in Review email in collaboration with Sarah Beth on 12/31
- Updated the Winter Reading Club and Wilmette Reads webpages, created a website header and slides for WRC, and encouraged participation via features in the enewsletters and on social media
- A few enewsletter highlights included a feature on digital access to *The Chicago Tribune*, RA from Adult Services: new retellings for Wilmette Reads & winter themed reads, and the new laminator machine in the Tech Area
- Published 10 posts to the staff blog, including writing a post, Cozy Fantasy Reads on 12/5
- Shared December and January book groups with The Book Stall for inclusion in their promotions

Email, Social Media, and Communications

Email newsletter statistics from November:

- 109,795 sends
- 2,129 clicks

Email newsletter statistics from December:

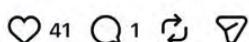
- 105,780 sends
- 1,759 clicks

A few of our more popular posts from November/December:



[View insights](#)

[Boost post](#)



liked by [newtriertownship](#) and [others](#)

wilmettelibrary Kindergarten visits are always a highlight of our calendar! This fall, we welcomed Romona, McKenzie, Central, Joseph Sears, Central, and Harper Schools for a fun tour, interactive storytime, and a Q&A. We can't wait to see our kindergarteners and their grown-ups back at the library!

Read our latest blog post to learn more!

#wilmette #librarylove

November 19, 2025



[View insights](#)

[Boost post](#)



liked by [newtriertownship](#) and [others](#)

wilmettelibrary Many left Saturday's Community Puzzle Exchange with arms full of puzzles, ready to take on a new challenge (or two, or three)! 🎉 Thank you to everyone who dropped off puzzles, and took part in our swap.

#publiclibraries #wilmette #librariesofinstagram

November 17, 2025



Wilmette Public Library
December 31, 2025 at 10:00 AM · 5

We're saying goodbye to 2025 and looking back at some of the books that Wilmette loved best before we go. Out of hundreds of thousands of checkouts, these are the top t... See more

... Reading Rewind Wilmette's Year in Reading 2025

Most Popular Fiction Top 2025 Release

Most Popular Nonfiction Book Club Favorite

Top 2025 Release

Top 2025 Release

Most Anticipated Author Return

These 2025 releases were particularly popular in Wilmette

Boost post

2 shares

Wilmette Public Library is at Wilmette Public Library
November 1, 2025 · Wilmette · 5

We invite you to join us on Tuesday, November 4 at 7pm for a Know Your Rights Workshop, presented by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights. This virtual program will cover how to protect yourself and your community during encounters with immigration or law enforcement.

Learn More & Register: wilmette.libnet.info/event/14945351

Know Your Rights Workshop

Tuesday, November 4, 7-8pm, Virtual

ILLINOIS COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE RIGHTS

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

Boost post

Lydia Wpl, Andrea Vaughn Johnson and 28 others

3 comments 19 shares



newtriertownship and wilmettelibrary
Original audio

newtriertownship We are grateful for our intergovernmental partners, including the Wilmette Public Library, and for the many residents who continue to support neighbors facing food insecurity by dropping off donations. ❤️

Food insecurity is not seasonal. We currently serve over 275 families in New Trier Township.

Thank you to Marcos Levy and the Wilmette Public Library for being such valued partners. The Library also serves as a warming center during open hours, offering a safe and welcoming space for our community.

#CaringInAction #NewTrierTownship #CommunityPartners #FoodInsecurity #WarmingCenter Grateful

6d

herewearenow25 Libraries are awesome. Now when I see that car I'll know the library (and Marcus) are out there serving the community! 🙌

4d Reply

herewearenow25 @herewearenow25 MarcOs!

herewearenow25 Liked by jillie__mae and 44 others

6 days ago

Add a comment... Post



wilmettelibrary
Wilmette Public Library

wilmettelibrary Join the Friends of the Wilmette Public Library tomorrow at their Books Down Under Holiday Pop-up Shop from 10am-4pm in the Auditorium! Stop by to shop gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and more, while supporting the library. This sale is cash-only. 🎉🎁

#wilmette #wilmettepubliclibrary

4w

gabrieldoyle Beautiful picture

4w 1 like Reply

View insights Boost post

herewearenow25 Liked by jillie__mae and 39 others

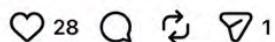
December 5, 2025

Add a comment... Post



[View insights](#)

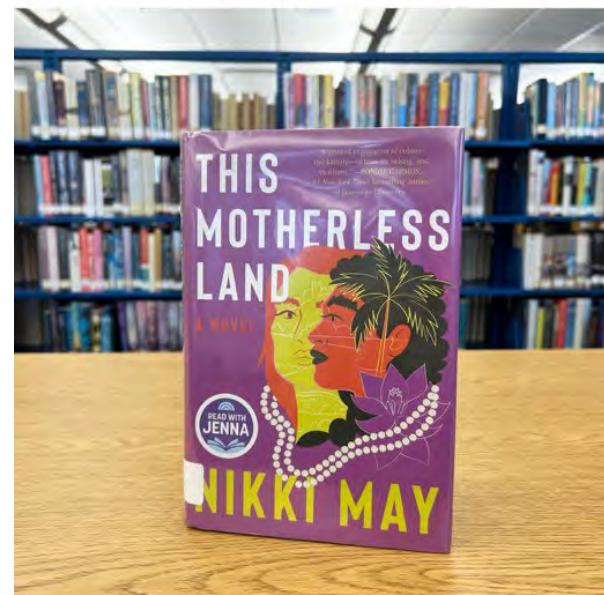
[Boost post](#)



Liked by [newtriertownship](#) and others

wilmettelibrary The library is open today with regular hours. We've got cozy reading corners and a wide selection of books, magazines, and newspapers waiting for you! 📚

December 26, 2025



[View insights](#)

[Boost post](#)



Liked by [jillie_mae](#) and others

wilmettelibrary Wilmette Reads is here! 🎉 Through February 15, join us for a community reading series celebrating the power of retellings. We invite you... [more](#)

December 16, 2025

Connect with us!

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

Information Technology (Manager Michael Pocrnich)

The final phase of the implementation of our recently upgraded computing hardware and software was completed in November when all public and staff PCs were migrated to the Windows 11 operating system. The library's fleet of 12 classroom laptops were updated in December, as were the 5 digital signage displays on the first floor.

The library's internet service provider experienced an outage on November 6, which knocked out 16 area businesses and residential areas. Recognizing the outage may affect operations for an extended period, IT deployed mobile beacon hotspots and various wireless devices to public service desks to help maintain services. As a result, staff were able to provide reasonably consistent service from the Adult and Youth desks, and Circulation was able to perform all of its regular services as well. The self-checkout stations continued to operate as normal in their fail-over "downtime" state, and that data was able to be uploaded to CCS when internet service was restored after 10:30pm that same day.

IT Assistant Christine Hightower is revising our AV setup instructions to include new changes to the auditorium setup protocols. She is also preparing to give staff a refresher on the auditorium and small meeting room technology equipment, which will be scheduled sometime in early 2026. Christine also worked with Technical Services, Adult Services, and Youth Services to design a universal book ordering template for staff to use when requesting items to order (following the dissolution of Baker & Taylor and our prior procedures thus requiring a workaround). She also made a PowerPoint presentation to train the staff involved in the new ordering process.

Facilities and Safety (Manager Marcos Levy)

Grounds

Our native plantings have taken a toll from the extreme heat and drought periods. I asked Chalet (our landscape maintenance contractor) for suggestions, and they presented several plants that would be favorable to our environment. Though it was late in the season most of the plants were available. They kept coming in groups, so instead of just waiting for them all, Chalet completed the installation in three separate trips. They were relatively root bound upon installation, so we will see them flourish next spring. These plants are out of harm's way during the winter.

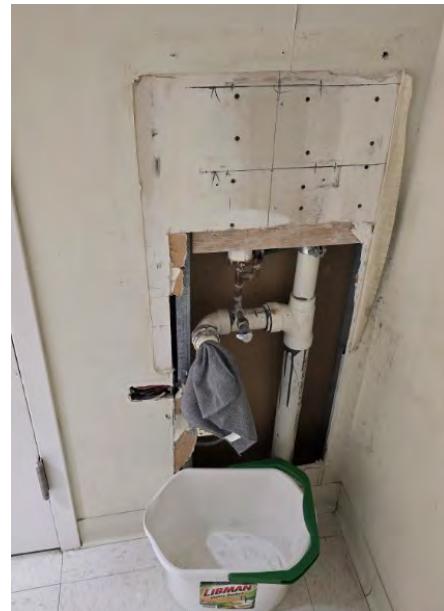
This fall and winter, Chalet will connect with one of their designers and will create something for the large south front wall along with making adjustments to the other areas that were proposed, recommending removal of the hydrangeas and coming up with substitutions.

HVAC

The VRF (variable refrigerant flow) system, which services the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning for front/west-most portions of the first and second floors, experienced a critical failure in late 2025 due to a variety of factors. This ultimately left these areas cooler than normal for the season, and the associated thermostats couldn't keep up. The system was repaired and restored in mid-January.

Building Improvement

In December, the auditorium bottle filling station and its fountain's internal piping leaked and flooded the floor. We're replacing it with a new, updated ADA-accessible filtered fountain and filling station. The plumbing must be moved to comply with code, and the wall will have to be repaired and painted before the new unit is installed. We agreed that this is also an opportunity to refresh this restroom area with additional lighting and new paint for the lobby.



Also in December, it was discovered that a roof drainpipe in the fiction room has a hole at the seam of a joint which leaks onto the carpet outside of the pillar during heavy rainfall. Hill Mechanical's plumbing team investigated and found the source of the leak. To repair it, we needed to open the wall in order to replace a 6 ft section of cast iron pipe and the joint that protrudes through the outside wall. The difficulty is the hub portion in the wall is sealed with concrete, limiting access for repair and replacement. Hill is going to try to remove the piece without disturbing the exterior face brick. They temporarily sealed the hole to prevent any additional water seepage and to adequately prepare for the logistics and equipment to fix the problem. We expect the repairs to be completed in late January.



Human Resources (Manager Michael Boone)

Personnel Updates

Adult Services

We have hired David Whittingham as our new part-time Adult Services Librarian. David brings more than 25 years of experience in the library field, the majority of which he spent at the Des Plaines Public Library. During his time there, he served as a Reader's Services Assistant and later as Reader's Services Manager for seven years. In that role, David oversaw the Fiction, AV, and Teen departments, managed outreach services for homebound patrons, and developed collections in adult fiction, audiobooks, and music. He was also selected to author a local history book in collaboration with the Des Plaines Public Library and its local history museum. David's first day will be February 2, 2026.

Part-time Adult Services Librarian Rachel Rothe will be transitioning into a full-time role as Advisory Librarian. In this newly created specialty position, Rachel will focus on expanding advisory services, including private book club support, display coordination, reading programs, and discussion facilitation. She will partner with Adult Services Assistant Manager Rachel Garcia to develop advisory resources and support skill development for the team. Rachel will begin her new position on January 19, 2026.

Technical Services

After two rounds of interviews including Director Anthony Auston, HR Manager Michael Boone and the whole Technical Services team, we are excited to announce that we have hired Sarah DeHaan as our new Technical Services Manager. Sarah brings a wealth of library and cataloging experience, having held positions at Baker & Taylor, World Book Inc., and River Forest Public Library. She also completed postgraduate cataloging work as a librarian-in-residence for the Library of Congress. Sarah holds a Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois, and a Bachelor in Communications from Lake Forest College. Currently, Sarah works at the reference desk at the Bourbonnais Public Library, where her passion for public library service has been reignited. Sarah's first day will be Monday, February 9, 2026.

2025 Calendar Year Turnover Rate

Staff turnover rate for calendar year 2025 was 9%. This is a slight increase from the 6% turnover rate we experienced at the end of calendar year 2024. During 2025, we had 8 staff members leave their employment, including the following reasons: 2 retirements, 2 family obligations, and 2 employees who found newly created opportunities at other libraries that we were unable to offer.

Special projects

2026 Open Enrollment

2026 Open Enrollment for benefits-eligible staff ran from November 3 through November 14. On 11/3, HR Manager Michael Boone and Finance Manager Sandra Discepolo held a benefits meeting for staff to go over changes to the healthcare plan, premiums, and in particular, the Health Reimbursement Account. As reported earlier in the year, renewal rates increased to record-level highs, and as a result, premiums increased, and coverage levels decreased, including the elimination of prescription weight-loss medications.

4th Quarter Staff Anniversary Celebration

We celebrated the years of service of staff who were hired in the 4th Quarter on December 18. Staff enjoyed cake and an assortment of treats courtesy of Costco and the Hospitality Team to celebrate staff's dedication, hard work and accomplishments.

Employment Law Conference

On November 13, HR Manager Michael Boone attended the annual Employment Law Conference sponsored by HR Source in Naperville. The daylong event featured topics ranging from hiring practices and incident investigations to leave compliance and politics at work. The keynote speaker, legal expert Mike Cramer from Ogletree Deakins, focused on employers and the new administration specifically centering on ensuring that your DEI initiatives are not considered discriminatory under our new administration's parameters. We also received information on new and existing policies that will need to be updated in our HR Policy manual, such as NICU-related leave, Organ and Blood Donation leave, and Nursing Mothers Act.

Work Anniversaries

November Work Anniversaries

Name	Dept	Date of Hire	Service Years
Jill Franklin	Adult Services	11/16/2007	18
Shanti D'Costa	Technical Services	11/03/2008	17
Ruth Bell	Youth Services	11/18/2015	10
Krista Hutley	Adult Services	11/06/2017	8
Marcos Levy	Facilities & Safety	11/16/2020	5
Megan Noone	Circulation	11/30/2021	4
Sidney Allen-Simpson	Adult Services	11/02/2022	3
Susan Wobbekind	Adult Services	11/15/2023	3
Susan Karol	Circulation	11/13/2024	1

December Work Anniversaries

Name	Dept	Date of Hire	Service Years
Sheri Reda	Youth Services	12/22/2014	11
Robin Sindelar	Youth Services	12/08/2017	8
Jennifer Bartel	Communications	12/22/2017	8
Andrea Johnson	Youth Services	12/03/2018	7
Emma Standard	Technical Services	12/29/2020	5

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

11/4: Know Your Rights webinar, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

11/5: "Calling It Quits: How to Evaluate Library Services and Decide What to Stop Doing," RAILS (Cathleen Blair)

11/5: Collaboration Meet: Rachel Ramirez, Wilmette Historical Museum (EvaAnne Johnson)

11/5: Electronic Content Consortium Executive Committee monthly meeting (Lauren Kelly)

11/5: Library of Things Committee

11/6: Adult Reading Round Table Steering Committee (Rachel Rothe)

11/6: Learning Graphic Design: Core Principles of Graphic Design (Lydia Fair)

11/6: The Librarians PBS event and screening (Eti Berland)

11/6: Presentation: Women of Wilmette: Best Books of the Year (Rachel Garcia, Rachel Rothe)

11/7: LACONI Recharge committee meeting LACONI (Sarah Jo Zaharako)

11/7: Collaboration Meet: Rachael Bild, Skokie Public Library (John Amundsen)

11/8: Cabinet of Wonder: The Value of Nursery Rhymes, Professional Development Association of Head Start (Susan Kaplan-Toch)

11/11: School Facilitators Networking Group, RAILS (Eti Berland)

11/11: Catalyst Leadership program meeting, RAILS (Sarah Jo Zaharako)

11/11: Presentation: Skokie Valley Rotary Club (John Amundsen)

11/12: CCS Governing Board (Anthony Auston)

11/12: Friends of the Wilmette Public Library Board Meeting (Anthony Auston)

11/12: Parenting in the Digital Age, Wilmette School District 39 (Andrea Vaughn Johnson)

11/12: Building Blocks for Supporting all Children in Inclusive Settings, Early Childhood Investigations (Ruth Bell)

11/12: ALSC Mentor Quarterly Meeting, ALSC (Eti Berland)

11/12: Teen or Youth Services Networking Group (Jennifer Lee)

11/13: Community Engagement Committee meeting

11/13: Introduction to Graphic Design: Illustrator via LinkedIn Learning (Lydia Fair)
11/13: Library Leadership Stories, ALA (Sarah Jo Zaharako, Andrea Vaughn Johnson)
11/15: Illinois State Genealogical Society Governing Board (EvaAnne Johnson)
11/17: Library and Immigration Enforcement, RAILS (Anthony Auston, Eti Berland, Anne Prohov, Sarah Jo Zaharako)
11/18: Person In Charge Meeting
11/18: Wilmette Public Library District Board Meeting
11/18-20: Data Driven Decisions virtual seminar (Sarah Beth Brown)
11/19: CCS CAMM meeting (Carly Stauss)
11/19: LACONI Governing Board meeting, LACONI (Sarah Jo Zaharako)
11/20: Accessibility Network Meeting (Patsy deVuono)
11/20: IDEA Committee
11/20: Introduction to Modern Book Mending (Laura Krimsin-Morales)
11/20: LIRA Annual Full Membership Meeting (Anthony Auston)
11/20: Selfcare for Burnout, Ryan Dowd (Sarah Jo Zaharako, Andrea Vaughn Johnson)
11/20: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Team in Youth Services Networking Group (Eti Berland)
11/24: Show Up, Speak Up: One Voice for a Unified Ecosystem, ALA (Eti Berland)

12/2: All Staff Meeting
12/3: "Challenge Reading and Event Module," Communico (Cathleen Blair)
12/3: Library of Things Committee
12/3: RAILS: Using Libraria Webinar, Q&A with Demonstration on Ordering Process & Services (Shanti D'Costa, Megan Brown)
12/4: Embroidery Certification, WPL Studio (Lisa Bigelow)
12/9: Wilmette Leaders Group (Anthony Auston)
12/10: CCS Executive Committee Meeting (Anthony Auston)
12/10: Collection Revitalization Project Planning Meeting
12/10: Skokie Valley Rotary Club (John Amundsen)
12/11: Circ/ILL Advisory meeting (Matthew Hoffman)
12/11: Community Engagement Committee meeting (Matthew Hoffman)
12/11: Collaboration Meet: Annette Bellezzo, Mather Senior Living (Jillian McKeown)
12/11: Collaboration Meet: Jenny Gatesman, WK Chamber of Commerce (John Amundsen)
12/11: CCS Public Access Services Group (Cathleen Blair)
12/12: MCATS NE networking meeting, Glenview PL (Andrea V Johnson)
12/15: Libraries as Civic Hubs: Dialogue, Deliberation, and Civic Engagement in Challenging Times, The National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation & Listen First Project (Eti Berland)
12/18: IDEA Committee
12/19: Read On: Tools to Help You Prepare for and Respond to Book Challenges: Author Panel Booklist/ALA (Eti Berland)
12/22: Intergovernmental Collaboration and Relationship Building State Convention of School Board Members, School Superintendents and School Business Officials (Eti Berland)
12/22: Taking Steps: How to Build Strong Library Communities, ALA (Eti Berland)
12/29: Educators as Sheriffs or Allies? Rethinking Our Relationships with Preschool-aged Children, Early Childhood Investigations (Eti Berland)

Attachments

- November & December Patron Impact Stories
- November & December circulation statistics by item and material collections
- 2025 Item additions and withdrawals
- November & December online resource statistics by title and category
- November & December program statistics
- Illinois Library Association legislative meetup summary materials

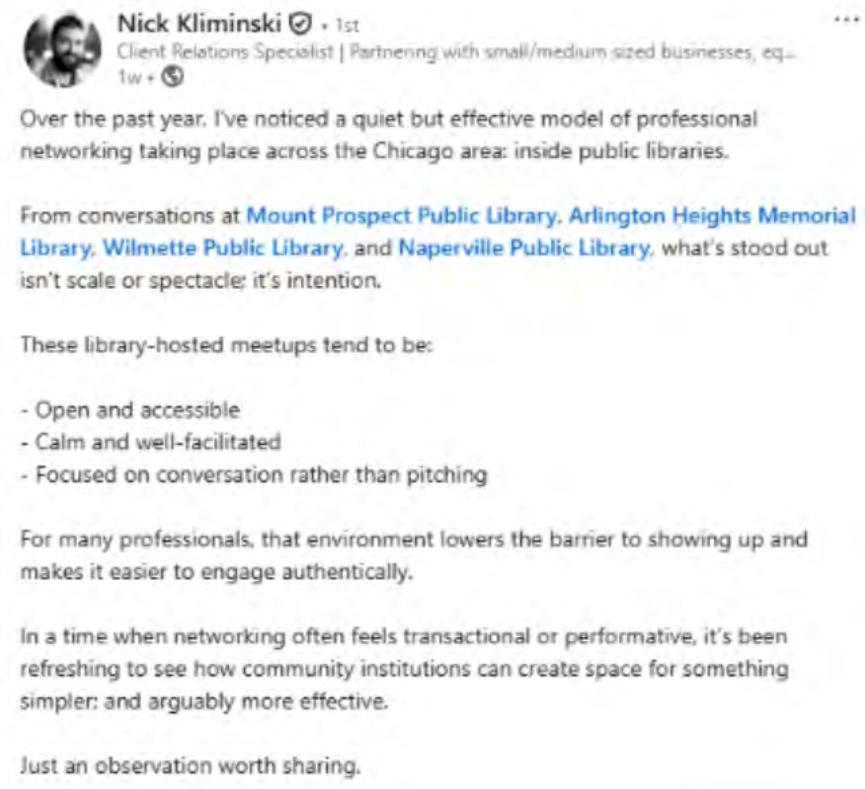
Additional Patron Comments/Impact Stories

November/December 2025

From Adult Services

One patron reported meeting some women during a casual visit to Books Down Under. They chatted, connected, and decided to form a book club together!

Nick Kliminski of Go Technologies, a regular Coffee & Business Connections attendee, posted recently on LinkedIn, extolling the virtues and efficacy of libraries as networking spaces:



Nick Kliminski 1st
Client Relations Specialist | Partnering with small/medium sized businesses, eq...
1w + 1

Over the past year, I've noticed a quiet but effective model of professional networking taking place across the Chicago area: inside public libraries.

From conversations at [Mount Prospect Public Library](#), [Arlington Heights Memorial Library](#), [Wilmette Public Library](#), and [Naperville Public Library](#), what's stood out isn't scale or spectacle; it's intention.

These library-hosted meetups tend to be:

- Open and accessible
- Calm and well-facilitated
- Focused on conversation rather than pitching

For many professionals, that environment lowers the barrier to showing up and makes it easier to engage authentically.

In a time when networking often feels transactional or performative, it's been refreshing to see how community institutions can create space for something simpler; and arguably more effective.

Just an observation worth sharing.

--

From Circulation

I want to thank you and the rest of the interlibrary loan staff for all your help in collecting so many children's picture books published over the past year. As you may know, George Sullivan and I will again be coordinating an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute class in January that focuses on important books in the picture book genre that we believe to be strong candidates for the annual ALA youth media awards. Having access to so many wonderful books through the Interlibrary Loan system has been such a blessing...so thank you.

From Digital & Maker Services

Ethan Herdrich had a 1:1 technology appointment helping a patron with very little digital literacy learn how to use a computer. He showed the patron how to use a mouse, how to open a web browser and search on Google, practicing by navigating the library website. We also found some free typing lessons online when the patron recognized that his method of hunting and pecking at the keyboard was not sufficient. It was a lot of information for the patron to process but he seemed very motivated to figure it out.

In November a 25-year patron of the library stopped by to say that, on a scale of 1-5, the library is a 6.3! He said that the people at the Technology Desk are always helpful, so much so that today he was able to come in and do what he needed to do on his own, according to Beth. Digital Services Assistant Annie Blackie assisted a patron at the Tech Desk who was trying to apply for a job on Indeed and getting very emotional because she couldn't figure out how to find and attach her resume. Annie helped her find the document on her phone and access it on the computer through her Google account. She was very appreciative and talked about how everyone at the Tech Desk is so helpful every time she comes in.

Finn Dos Santos assisted a patron who printed 100 zines about ICE response and using whistles to alert bystanders.

Lydia Hanchett helped a visually impaired patron move PDF files from discs to a USB drive on 12/3. She was not a comfortable computer user but was a very good sport about it, and she was shocked and effusive to learn at the end of our interaction that we wouldn't charge for the help (just the USB she'd bought at Circulation).

Lydia also helped a patron print out an Amazon shipping label on 12/3 and she was so pleased that she requested a comment card to write nice things on. She had arrived frustrated and prepared to have a bad time, but we were able to get her label printed with minimal trouble.

==

From Youth Services

A patron approached the desk one busy weekday to ask, "How often do you have this many families here?" When I told her with a smile, "Every day, especially in cold weather." She replied, "It's wonderful that the library provides this space for them."

Our scavenger hunts are inspiring patrons at home, too. A caregiver told us that she loves to take home the sheets for the kids' play dates. She cuts up an extra sheet and tapes the shapes around the house. Then the kids search the house for them!

One librarian shared, "On my way out yesterday, a caregiver told me that the family she cares for had just moved to Wilmette and that yesterday was her first library visit. SHE LOVED IT! She said how wonderful it is here!"

A parent signing child up for Mermaid Party mentioned at the Youth Desk: "We've gotten in from a waitlist for programs before. You all are so good at communicating about that, better than other libraries."

A regular caregiver shared: "I love visiting the bookstore downstairs. Books Down Under is the best business in Wilmette."

12/01/2025

Wilmette Public Library District
Activity At Wilmette Library Stations
Monthly Statistics For 11/2025

Collection	Material Type	Number Of Items	Local Charges	Local Renewals	Total	Total + Lender	CCS ILL Lender	CCS ILL Borrower	Ratio
Fiction	Book	37,000	2,474	2,396	4,870	5,284	414	553	0.13
Fiction	Book Hot	635	765	5	770	771	1	0	1.21
Fiction	Book New	1,494	1,028	480	1,508	1,766	258	143	1.01
Fiction	CD	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Fiction	DVD	7	2	0	2	2	0	0	0.29
Fiction	Large Print	4,356	288	241	529	587	58	37	0.12
Fiction	Large Print New	342	105	45	150	217	67	11	0.44
Magazines	Magazine	1,903	156	363	519	519	0	0	0.27
Magazines	Magazine New	120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Magazines	Microform	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Magazines	Newspaper	1,280	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Multimedia	Blu-ray	1,286	204	89	293	340	47	64	0.23
Multimedia	Blu-ray New	68	110	0	110	112	2	7	1.62
Multimedia	Book	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Multimedia	Boxset	0	9	2	11	11	0	9	0.00
Multimedia	CD	6,863	404	271	675	869	194	97	0.10
Multimedia	CD Audiobook	2,017	85	105	190	205	15	15	0.09
Multimedia	CD Audiobook New	194	66	41	107	122	15	6	0.55
Multimedia	CD New	230	64	25	89	124	35	13	0.39
Multimedia	DVD	9,117	1,331	819	2,150	2,341	191	269	0.24
Multimedia	DVD New	181	194	29	223	230	7	21	1.23
Multimedia	Playaway	644	28	34	62	69	7	7	0.10
Multimedia	Playaway Audio New	53	20	16	36	37	1	1	0.68
Multimedia	VHS	147	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Multimedia	Videogame	219	38	39	77	83	6	15	0.35
Multimedia	Videogame New	31	19	1	20	24	4	4	0.65
Nonfiction	Book	43,720	2,232	3,256	5,488	5,939	451	633	0.13
Nonfiction	Book Hot	238	245	1	246	246	0	0	1.03
Nonfiction	Book New	1,581	762	489	1,251	1,459	208	124	0.79
Nonfiction	Large Print	846	55	59	114	124	10	6	0.13
Nonfiction	Large Print New	50	9	11	20	24	4	0	0.40
Nonfiction	Scores / sheet music	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Online	eAudiobook	69,570	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	eBook	95,995	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	eMagazine	6,103	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	Online Resource	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Other	AV equipment	4	12	0	12	12	0	0	3.00
Other	Bag	534	294	244	538	538	0	0	1.01
Other	ILL Material	0	31	9	40	40	0	0	0.00
Other	Kit	1	2	0	2	2	0	0	2.00
Other	Mobile Hotspot	20	32	2	34	34	0	0	1.70
Other	Other	28	460	7	467	467	0	0	16.68
Other	Special Collection	156	109	2	111	111	0	0	0.71
Teen Fiction	Book	2,538	284	426	710	730	20	77	0.28
Teen Fiction	Book Hot	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0.00
Teen Fiction	Book New	128	36	24	60	64	4	16	0.47
Teen Fiction	Large Print	0	0	4	4	4	0	0	0.00
Teen Multimedia	Blu-ray	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Teen Multimedia	Blu-ray New	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Teen Multimedia	CD Audiobook	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.33
Teen Multimedia	Playaway	1	2	5	7	7	0	2	7.00
Teen Multimedia	Videogame	103	22	21	43	48	5	1	0.42
Teen Multimedia	Videogame New	8	3	0	3	4	1	0	0.38
Teen Nonfiction	Book	221	19	39	58	58	0	10	0.26
Teen Nonfiction	Book New	3	1	1	2	2	0	1	0.67
Teen Online	eAudiobook	1,085	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Teen Online	eBook	1,816	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Fiction	Book	38,170	9,457	9,354	18,811	19,199	388	901	0.49
Youth Fiction	Book New	1,347	772	562	1,334	1,419	85	63	0.99
Youth Fiction	Large Print	174	20	42	62	64	2	3	0.36

Youth Fiction	Other Audiobook	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Youth Fiction	Read-along	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Youth Fiction	Seasonal Book	2,093	505	11	516	518	2	15	0.25
Youth Fiction	Special Collection	0	2	0	2	2	0	2	0.00
Youth Magazines	Magazine	864	81	185	266	266	0	0	0.31
Youth Multimedia	Blu-ray	199	31	23	54	57	3	7	0.27
Youth Multimedia	Blu-ray New	7	8	0	8	8	0	1	1.14
Youth Multimedia	Book	30	3	3	6	6	0	1	0.20
Youth Multimedia	Boxset	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Youth Multimedia	CD	348	26	18	44	48	4	0	0.13
Youth Multimedia	CD Audiobook	406	36	17	53	58	5	3	0.13
Youth Multimedia	DVD	1,461	289	243	532	543	11	22	0.36
Youth Multimedia	DVD New	32	32	0	32	33	1	1	1.00
Youth Multimedia	Kit	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Youth Multimedia	MP3 Audiobook	0	1	4	5	5	0	1	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Multimedia Kit	0	4	1	5	5	0	4	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Other	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Other Audiobook	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Playaway	1,256	284	265	549	568	19	6	0.44
Youth Multimedia	Seasonal AV	108	14	0	14	14	0	0	0.13
Youth Multimedia	Videogame	825	281	250	531	540	9	8	0.64
Youth Multimedia	Videogame New	160	120	3	123	129	6	4	0.77
Youth Nonfiction	Book	15,051	1,639	2,313	3,952	4,023	71	182	0.26
Youth Nonfiction	Book New	496	212	144	356	364	8	8	0.72
Youth Nonfiction	Large Print	7	1	0	1	1	0	0	0.14
Youth Nonfiction	Seasonal Book	201	19	1	20	21	1	0	0.10
Youth Nonfiction	Special Collection	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Youth Online	eAudiobook	1,528	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	3	0	3	3	0	0	0.43
Youth Other	Other Audiobook	0	3	0	3	3	0	3	0.00
Youth Other	Special Collection	23	4	0	4	4	0	0	0.17
Youth Other	Videogame	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Totals		360,653	25,851	23,049	48,900	51,540	2,640	3,380	0.14

Item Count is where the Item Owning Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Charge is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Renewal is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

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

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

Wilmette Public Library District
Activity At Wilmette Library Stations
Monthly Statistics For 12/2025

Collection	Material Type	Number Of Items	Local Charges	Local Renewals	Total	Total + Lender	CCS ILL Lender	CCS ILL Borrower	Ratio
Fiction	Book	37,057	2,733	2,461	5,194	5,618	424	639	0.14
Fiction	Book Hot	660	857	3	860	861	1	0	1.30
Fiction	Book New	1,579	1,062	473	1,535	1,810	275	171	0.97
Fiction	CD	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Fiction	DVD	7	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.14
Fiction	Large Print	4,366	232	238	470	539	69	55	0.11
Fiction	Large Print New	358	107	58	165	240	75	10	0.46
Magazines	Magazine	1,944	166	355	521	521	0	0	0.27
Magazines	Magazine New	120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Magazines	Microform	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Magazines	Newspaper	793	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Multimedia	Blu-ray	1,275	190	102	292	342	50	42	0.23
Multimedia	Blu-ray New	66	89	4	93	94	1	7	1.41
Multimedia	Book	2	1	1	2	3	1	1	1.00
Multimedia	Boxset	0	14	6	20	20	0	14	0.00
Multimedia	CD	6,851	310	279	589	778	189	79	0.09
Multimedia	CD Audiobook	1,991	71	80	151	165	14	20	0.08
Multimedia	CD Audiobook New	199	69	52	121	139	18	4	0.61
Multimedia	CD New	240	59	39	98	125	27	10	0.41
Multimedia	DVD	8,949	1,393	930	2,323	2,477	154	346	0.26
Multimedia	DVD New	179	195	24	219	227	8	17	1.22
Multimedia	Playaway	608	35	48	83	92	9	2	0.14
Multimedia	Playaway Audio New	51	23	18	41	46	5	0	0.80
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	224	44	47	91	98	7	18	0.41
Multimedia	Videogame New	29	13	4	17	21	4	2	0.59
Nonfiction	Book	43,653	2,349	3,281	5,630	6,082	452	625	0.13
Nonfiction	Book Hot	227	239	2	241	241	0	1	1.06
Nonfiction	Book New	1,593	659	460	1,119	1,362	243	138	0.70
Nonfiction	Large Print	847	63	67	130	137	7	7	0.15
Nonfiction	Large Print New	52	15	12	27	34	7	1	0.52
Nonfiction	Scores / sheet music	0	4	3	7	7	0	4	0.00
Online	eAudiobook	69,838	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	eBook	95,848	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	eMagazine	6,228	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Online	Online Resource	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Other	AV equipment	4	4	0	4	4	0	0	1.00
Other	Bag	534	305	251	556	556	0	0	1.04
Other	ILL Material	0	32	5	37	37	0	0	0.00
Other	Kit	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1.00
Other	Mobile Hotspot	20	31	0	31	31	0	0	1.55
Other	Other	28	500	4	504	504	0	0	18.00
Other	Scores / sheet music	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Other	Special Collection	159	110	1	111	111	0	0	0.70
Teen Fiction	Book	2,414	310	353	663	699	36	92	0.27
Teen Fiction	Book New	130	34	27	61	65	4	14	0.47
Teen Fiction	Large Print	0	1	2	3	3	0	1	0.00
Teen Multimedia	CD Audiobook	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Teen Multimedia	Playaway	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1.00
Teen Multimedia	Videogame	106	15	21	36	39	3	0	0.34
Teen Multimedia	Videogame New	6	4	0	4	5	1	1	0.67
Teen Nonfiction	Book	219	24	40	64	65	1	17	0.29
Teen Nonfiction	Book New	4	2	1	3	3	0	2	0.75
Teen Online	eAudiobook	1,084	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Teen Online	eBook	1,816	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Youth Fiction	Book	38,346	7,365	8,911	16,276	16,563	287	663	0.42
Youth Fiction	Book New	1,305	704	610	1,314	1,407	93	89	1.01
Youth Fiction	Large Print	182	19	41	60	61	1	2	0.33
Youth Fiction	Other Audiobook	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00

Youth Fiction	Seasonal Book	2,074	532	14	546	546	0	18	0.26
Youth Fiction	Special Collection	0	3	4	7	7	0	3	0.00
Youth Magazines	Magazine	885	73	137	210	210	0	0	0.24
Youth Multimedia	Blu-ray	201	40	25	65	69	4	8	0.32
Youth Multimedia	Blu-ray New	5	6	0	6	6	0	0	1.20
Youth Multimedia	Book	30	3	2	5	5	0	1	0.17
Youth Multimedia	CD	355	36	24	60	65	5	1	0.17
Youth Multimedia	CD Audiobook	406	10	17	27	28	1	1	0.07
Youth Multimedia	DVD	1,468	369	299	668	683	15	50	0.46
Youth Multimedia	DVD New	24	17	1	18	18	0	1	0.75
Youth Multimedia	MP3 Audiobook	0	1	4	5	5	0	1	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Multimedia Kit	0	2	3	5	5	0	2	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Other	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Other Audiobook	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Playaway	1,251	218	281	499	512	13	14	0.40
Youth Multimedia	Playaway Audio New	0	2	0	2	2	0	2	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Read-along	0	1	2	3	3	0	1	0.00
Youth Multimedia	Seasonal AV	56	15	0	15	15	0	0	0.27
Youth Multimedia	Videogame	824	204	294	498	503	5	14	0.60
Youth Multimedia	Videogame New	179	120	3	123	130	7	3	0.69
Youth Nonfiction	Book	15,074	1,638	2,082	3,720	3,828	108	263	0.25
Youth Nonfiction	Book New	467	178	185	363	374	11	11	0.78
Youth Nonfiction	Large Print	7	0	1	1	2	1	0	0.14
Youth Nonfiction	Seasonal Book	198	11	4	15	16	1	0	0.08
Youth Nonfiction	Special Collection	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0.00
Youth Online	eAudiobook	1,528	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	Bag	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Youth Other	Kit	7	8	0	8	8	0	0	1.14
Youth Other	Multimedia Kit	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	0.00
Youth Other	Other Audiobook	0	2	3	5	5	0	2	0.00
Youth Other	Special Collection	23	7	0	7	7	0	0	0.30
Youth Other	Videogame	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.00
Totals		360,324	23,955	22,706	46,661	49,298	2,637	3,496	0.13

Item Count is where the Item Owning Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Charge is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Renewal is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

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

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

12/01/2025

Wilmette Public Library District
Activity At Wilmette Library Stations
Monthly Statistics For 11/2025

Collection	Number Of Items	Local Charges	Local Renewals	Total	Total + Lender	CCS ILL Lender	CCS ILL Borrower	Ratio	Auto Renewal
Fiction	43,839	4,662	3,167	7,829	8,627	798	744	0.18	3,007
Magazines	3,304	156	363	519	519	0	0	0.16	362
Multimedia	21,052	2,572	1,471	4,043	4,567	524	528	0.19	1,384
Nonfiction	46,435	3,303	3,817	7,120	7,793	673	763	0.15	3,659
Online	171,677	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Other	743	940	264	1,204	1,204	0	0	1.62	238
Teen Fiction	2,666	321	454	775	799	24	93	0.29	402
Teen Multimedia	115	28	28	56	62	6	4	0.49	20
Teen Nonfiction	224	20	40	60	60	0	11	0.27	38
Teen Online	2,901	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Youth Fiction	41,784	10,757	9,970	20,727	21,204	477	985	0.50	9,506
Youth Magazines	864	81	185	266	266	0	0	0.31	185
Youth Multimedia	4,832	1,129	831	1,960	2,018	58	58	0.41	809
Youth Nonfiction	15,755	1,872	2,458	4,330	4,410	80	191	0.27	2,381
Youth Online	4,432	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Youth Other	30	10	1	11	11	0	3	0.37	1
Totals	360,653	25,851	23,049	48,900	51,540	2,640	3,380	0.14	21,992

Item Count is where the Item Owing Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Charge is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Renewal is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

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

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

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

01/01/2026

Wilmette Public Library District
Activity At Wilmette Library Stations
Monthly Statistics For 12/2025

Collection	Number Of Items	Local Charges	Local Renewals	Total	Total + Lender	CCS ILL Lender	CCS ILL Borrower	Ratio	Auto Renewal
Fiction	44,032	4,991	3,234	8,225	9,069	844	875	0.19	3,100
Magazines	2,858	166	355	521	521	0	0	0.18	351
Multimedia	20,811	2,507	1,634	4,141	4,628	487	563	0.20	1,542
Nonfiction	46,372	3,329	3,825	7,154	7,863	709	776	0.15	3,604
Online	171,923	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Other	746	984	261	1,245	1,245	0	1	1.67	240
Teen Fiction	2,544	345	382	727	767	40	107	0.29	350
Teen Multimedia	116	19	22	41	45	4	1	0.35	21
Teen Nonfiction	223	26	41	67	68	1	19	0.30	38
Teen Online	2,900	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Youth Fiction	41,907	8,623	9,581	18,204	18,585	381	775	0.43	9,188
Youth Magazines	885	73	137	210	210	0	0	0.24	137
Youth Multimedia	4,799	1,046	956	2,002	2,052	50	101	0.42	928
Youth Nonfiction	15,746	1,828	2,272	4,100	4,221	121	275	0.26	2,152
Youth Online	4,432	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0
Youth Other	30	18	6	24	24	0	3	0.80	5
Totals	360,324	23,955	22,706	46,661	49,298	2,637	3,496	0.13	21,656

Item Count is where the Item Owing Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Charge is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

Local Renewal is where the Station_Library = YOUR LIBRARY

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

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

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

Wilmette Public Library
Items Added 2025

Collection	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2025 Total
Adult Fiction	391	378	343	412	456	403	505	317	253	436	262	304	4460
Adult Non-fiction	234	347	222	379	342	290	321	160	239	318	278	141	3271
Teen Fiction	34	30	24	31	43	18	25	19	14	7	13	6	264
Teen Non-fiction	0	4	4	83	2	6	7	0	0	0	0	1	107
Youth Fiction	321	335	269	642	511	340	361	256	170	205	360	325	4095
Youth Non-fiction	43	92	56	83	125	70	44	53	34	40	132	15	787
Adult Magazines	384	358	417	400	378	384	300	276	328	324	260	309	4118
Youth Magazines	37	41	38	37	44	30	39	32	40	25	31	23	417
Adult Multimedia	73	152	94	102	83	86	140	74	131	91	137	55	1218
Teen Multimedia			3		5	6	0	4	0	0	0	1	19
Youth Multimedia	78	14	42	88	26	54	18	32	14	46	39	21	472
Other (Library of Things, etc.)	49	56	37	57	28	46	39	39	38	43	20	21	473
Monthly total	1644	1807	1549	2314	2043	1733	1799	1262	1261	1535	1532	1222	19,701

Wilmette Public Library
Items Withdrawn 2025

Collection	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2025 Total
Adult Fiction	900	486	510	455	417	955	468	321	312	218	214	111	5367
Adult Non-fiction	1200	635	763	1177	1232	2752	1202	588	234	365	177	204	10,529
Teen Fiction	17	8	38	5	5	1	29	2	4	10	78	128	325
Teen Non-fiction	57	22	12	0	0	0	17	2	1	0	0	1	112
Youth Fiction	464	305	329	452	462	474	282	186	693	477	237	201	4562
Youth Non-fiction	479	478	105	324	30	45	86	10	20	126	95	24	1822
Adult Magazines	646	304	303	761	301	315	1088	473	509	231	182	796	5909
Youth Magazines	88	7	4	1	0	5	4	7	25	1	3	2	147
Adult Multimedia	2978	1322	41	600	512	584	776	261	596	497	73	296	8536
Teen Multimedia			0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
Youth Multimedia	34	11	182	118	62	242	543	42	29	12	103	50	1428
Other	3	1	1	1	4	0	3	1	1	5	3	0	23
Monthly total:	6866	3579	2288	3895	3026	5373	4498	1893	2425	1942	1165	1813	38,763

Category and Product	Metric Captured	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
General Reference								
AP Stylebook	Page Views	48	18	0	29	11	6	112
CLCD: Children's Literature	Results	90	0	487	25	300	200	1102
Consumer Reports	Page Views	1217	981	768	905	1297	641	5809
Consumers' Checkbook	Logins	14	15	4	10	4	4	51
EBSCO Database Package	Total Requests	24	51	43	94	184	63	459
Encyclopedia Britannica	Documents + Media	57	27	41	95	48	94	362
Explore More Illinois	Uses	44	69	7	8	11	8	147
Facts on File (Infobase)	Total Views	5	22	4	77	3	11	122
FirstSearch (OCLC)	Total Searches	57	148	49	137	52	146	589
Gale Directory Library	Retrievals	2	0	0	5	12	1	20
Gale eBooks	Retrievals	4	0	0	0	20	10	34
Gale General One File	Retrievals	27	25	4	20	15	16	107
Novelist	Total Requests	215	148	147	154	239	51	954
Oxford English Dictionary	Total Item Investigations	1	1	23	0	0	0	25
Pebblego and Pebble Go Next	Article Views	0	3	61	760	95	694	1613
ProQuest: CultureGrams	Total Pages Viewed	50	3	22	11	27	8	121
Public Records / Check Illinois	Total Visitors	151	159	157	159	153	150	929
Scholastic Teachables	Documents	357	248	157	202	177	140	1281
World Book	Content Views	32	5	52	1830	615	10	2544
Periodicals								
Chicago Tribune Online + Digital	Total Users	0	0	0	55	96	100	251
DLIL magazines	Checkouts	2726	3255	3143	3543	3064	3237	18968
LexisNexis - NexisUni	Retrievals	74	98	33	83	69	167	524
Newsbank Chicago Community Collection	Full Text Views	266	127	71	73	53	34	624
Newspaper Archive	Total Page Views	53	22	74	97	197	200	643
New York Times Digital Edition	Usage Sessions	4441	3488	6173	6025	5557	5886	31570
PressReader	Issues Opened	558	625	500	751	1022	1269	4725
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune	Total Documents	101	121	184	95	151	43	695
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune Historical	Total Documents	133	219	201	197	312	257	1319
ProQuest: Newspapers.com	Total Documents	374	61	186	80	484	238	1423
ProQuest: New York Times	Total Documents	217	243	217	59	142	64	942
ProQuest: New York Times Historical	Total Documents	29	5	118	59	173	40	424
ProQuest: Research Library	Total Documents	119	59	92	100	161	119	650
ProQuest: Wall Street Journal	Total Documents	421	451	550	300	234	185	2141

App	Sessions	2100	1856	1828	1704	1728	1803	11019
Website	Sessions	18983	18046	18005	19080	19847	19668	113629
Scan EZ Scan Station	Pages Scanned	3321	2652	2827	3429	3935	4531	20695
Patron Computer Use	Sessions	1610	1717	1480	1433	1387	1303	8930

Product	Metric Captured	Category	2025 Performance Metrics												FY24-25 Total	Cost per Use
			Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Nov-24	Dec-25	Dec-24	FY25-26 YTD	FY 25-26 Avg	FY 24-25 YTD			
AP Stylebook	Page Views	General Reference	48	18	0	29	11	0	6	0	112	19	36	116	\$ 1.31	
Brainfuse	Database Usage	Online Learning	14	21	37	90	5	108	20	19	187	31	291	368	\$ 25.72	
Chicago Tribune Online + Digital	Total Users	Periodicals			55	96		100			251	42	0	0	\$ 1.61	
CLCD: Children's Literature	Results	General Reference	90	0	487	25	300	0	200	0	1102	184	261	424	\$ 0.89	
Consumer Reports	Page Views	General Reference	1217	981	768	905	1297	1673	641	985	5809	968	7685	14367	\$ 0.21	
Consumers' Checkbook	Logins	General Reference	14	15	4	10	4	9	4	0	51	9	26	47	\$ 6.25	
CreativeBug	Total Views	Online Learning	32	5	26	7	17	37	12	46	99	17	304	509	\$ 2.71	
DLIL eBooks	Checkouts	eBooks / AV	8760	8504	9357	9281	8691	9451	8866	9965	53459	8910	55461	118118	\$ 2.05	
DLIL audiobooks	Checkouts	eBooks / AV	7041	7101	6873	6927	6471	6329	6780	6385	41193	6866	38313	78110	\$ -	
DLIL magazines	Checkouts	Periodicals	2726	3255	3143	3543	3064	2777	3237	2649	18968	3161	14172	32310	\$ 0.02	
EBSCO Database Package	Total Requests	General Reference	24	51	43	94	184	149	63	117	459	77	411	1091	\$ -	
Encyclopedia Britannica	Documents + Media	General Reference	57	27	41	95	48	65	94	80	362	60	326	1639	\$ 0.63	
Explore More Illinois	Uses	General Reference	44	69	7	8	11	9	8	4	147	25	30	210	\$ -	
Facts on File (Infobase)	Total Views	General Reference	5	22	4	77	3	24	11	25	122	20	109	442	\$ 8.68	
Find My Past	Total Views	Genealogy	70	10	12	2	78	116	9	41	181	30	403	1062	\$ 1.18	
FirstSearch (OCLC)	Total Searches	General Reference	57	148	49	137	52	159	146	56	589	98	753	1503	\$ -	
Gale Courses	Course Logins	Online Learning	4	2			17		20	6	1	57	82	\$ -		
Gale Business Insights	Searches	Business / Finance	0	0	0	5	16	24	0	0	21	4	26	81	\$ 75.42	
Gale Business: Plan Builder	Searches	Business / Finance	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	21	8	1	80	80	\$ 312.50	
Gale Directory Library	Searches	General Reference	2	0	0	5	12	7	1	2	20	3	25	59	\$ 73.24	
Gale eBooks	Retrievals	General Reference	4	0	0	0	20	13	10	0	34	6	50	117	\$ 39.16	
Gale General One File	Searches	General Reference	27	25	4	20	15	34	16	38	107	18	167	3143	\$ 3.94	
Gale UDemy	Lectures Completed	Online Learning	233	216	39	195	96	79	16	118	795	133	529	1067	\$ 3.00	
Hoopla	Circulations	eBooks / AV	1814	1824	1855	1746	1854	1567	1780	1590	10873	1812	9441	19439	\$ -	
Kanopy	Plays	eBooks / AV	1048	972	919	901	1047	907	1145	1214	6032	1005	6075	11921	\$ -	
LexisNexis (NexisUni)	Documents Accessed	Periodicals	74	98	33	83	69	92	167	6	524	87	378	979	\$ 4.72	
LinkedIn Learning	Total Videos Viewed	Online Learning	125	183	155	356	119	202	152	68	1090	182	921	3174	\$ 2.09	
Local History Digital Collection	Total Views	Genealogy	4214	6632	16527	12661	10745	3042	37826	6147	88605	14768	23367	73817	\$ 0.03	
Mango Languages	Total Sessions	Online Learning	138	164	194	215	169	98	122	73	1002	167	726	1349	\$ -	
Mergent Archives	Pages Viewed	Business / Finance	1	0	4	2		3		0	7	1	18	29	\$ -	
Mergent Intellect	Pages Viewed	Business / Finance	9	65	27	23	22	35	19	35	165	28	339	648	\$ 20.49	
Morningstar	Record Views	Business / Finance	350	63	244	227	63	84	108	54	1055	176	690	1887	\$ 3.74	
Newsbank Chicago Community Collection	Full Text Views	Periodicals	266	127	71	73	53	29	34	30	624	104	198	1058	\$ 3.70	
Newsbank Heritage Hub	Full Text Views	Genealogy	18	0	14	0	18	31	0	2	50	8	205	323	\$ 12.84	
Newspaper Archive	Total Page Views	Periodicals	53	22	74	97	197	102	200	99	643	107	522	1273	\$ 3.64	
New York Times Digital Edition	Usage Sessions	Periodicals	4441	3488	6173	6025	5557	1503	5886	1596	31570	5262	9780	26264	\$ 0.12	
Niche Academy	Total Views	Online Learning	68	162	76	77	28	23	48	35	459	77	165	415	\$ 2.50	
Novelist	Total Requests	General Reference	215	148	147	154	239	270	51	279	954	159	1229	2560	\$ -	
Oxford English Dictionary	Total Item Investigations	General Reference	1	1	23	0	0	35	0	107	25	4	250	348	\$ 14.29	
PebbleGo and Pebble Go Next	Article Views	General Reference	0	3	61	760	95	208	694	74	1613	269	2132	7082	\$ 0.32	
PressReader	Issues Opened	Periodicals	558	625	500	751	1022	558	1269	701	4725	788	3593	8696	\$ 0.57	
ProQuest: Ancestry Library Edition	Total Documents	Genealogy	641	373	466	298	647	411	346	365	2771	462	2760	6158	\$ 0.30	
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune	Total Documents	Periodicals	101	121	184	95	151	227	43	69	695	116	1112	1655	\$ 5.15	
ProQuest: Chicago Tribune Historical	Total Documents	Periodicals	133	219	201	197	312	345	257	197	1319	220	1430	2825	\$ 1.71	
ProQuest: CultureGrams	Total Pages Viewed	General Reference	50	3	22	11	27	68	8	18	121	20	144	254	\$ 6.43	
ProQuest: Fold3	Total Documents	Genealogy	10	60	59	9	26	45	46	38	210	35	283	364	\$ 4.67	
ProQuest: Heritage Quest	Total Documents	Genealogy	22	7	30	1	56	12	9	5	125	21	84	280	\$ 2.39	
ProQuest: Newspapers.com	Total Documents	Periodicals	374	61	186	80	484	65	238	186	1423	237	840	1713	\$ 2.97	
ProQuest: New York Times	Total Documents	Periodicals	217	243	217	59	142	108	64	62	942	157	1591	2354	\$ 3.26	
ProQuest: New York Times Historical	Total Documents	Periodicals	29	5	118	59	173	22	40	14	424	71	202	335	\$ 7.59	
ProQuest: Research Library	Total Documents	Periodicals	119	59	92	100	161	137	119	161	650	108	613	1291	\$ 4.27	
ProQuest: Wall Street Journal	Total Documents	Periodicals	421	451	550	300	234	725	185	919	2141	357	4370	6806	\$ 0.24	
Record Information Service (Public Record)	Total Visitors	General Reference	151	159	157	159	153	159	150	144	929	155	964	1871	\$ 0.31	
Reference Solutions (Reference USA)	Total Searches	Business / Finance	37	43	79	30	16	123	36	55	241	40	479	1067	\$ 10.21	
Scholastic Teachables	Documents	General Reference	357	248	157	202	177	152	140	289	1281	214	998	2863	\$ 0.31	

S&P Net Advantage	Total Usage	Business / Finance	154	186	155	221	273	95	132	91	1121	187	918	2068	\$ 6.35
Statista	Result Clicks	Business / Finance	51	8	1	18	13	23	74	11	165	28	393	504	\$ 24.63
Tumblebooks	Book Views	eBooks / AV	29	48	36	53	74	30	21	37	261	44	123	462	\$ 1.07
Value Line	Logins	Business / Finance	481	510	566	544	560	506	527	546	3188	531	2962	6178	\$ 0.56
Weiss Ratings	Page Views	Business / Finance	24	8	19	4	6	4	32	4	93	16	33	98	\$ 17.69
World Book	Content Views	General Reference	32	5	52	1830	615	17	10	45	2544	424	194	1745	\$ 0.55
OTHER															
App	Sessions	Library Technology	2100	1856	1828	1704	1728	1575	1803	1370	11019	1837	8568	18678	
Website	Sessions	Library Technology	18983	18046	18005	19080	19847	17358	19668	16812	113629	18938	101954	213958	
Scan EZ Scan Station	Pages Scanned	Library Technology	3321	2652	2827	3429	3935	3715	4531	3940	20695	3449	18296	45617	
Patron Computer Use	Sessions	Library Technology	1610	1717	1480	1433	1387	1421	1303	1304	8930	1488	8972	18041	

November/December 2025 Program Statistics

Dept	Contact	Title	Virtual?	Date	Start time	Reg?	Attend
AS	John Amundsen	Coffee & Business Connections	In-person	11/7/25	9:00 AM	Yes	12
AS	EvaAnne Johnson	Honoring Veterans' Day	In-person	11/8/25	1:00 PM	No	20
AS	Jillian McKeown	Dementia Caregiver Support Group (Virtual)	Virtual	11/10/25	7:00 PM	Yes	14
AS	Rachel Garcia	Classics & Contemporary Book Discussion	In-person	11/11/25	10:30 AM	Yes	16
AS	Jillian McKeown	Silent Book Club for Adults (Off-Site)	In-person	11/13/25	1:30 PM	Yes	6
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Shakespeare Project of Chicago	In-person	11/1/25	1:00 PM	No	81
CE	Jennifer Bartel	A Spin Around the Globe: Left Split (Virtual)	Virtual	11/3/25	7:00 PM	Yes	37
CE	Anthony Auston	Know Your Rights Workshop (Virtual)	Virtual	11/4/25	7:00 PM	Yes	93
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Monet Lives!	In-person	11/6/25	1:00 PM	No	37
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Pianist Vincent Ip	In-person	11/9/25	2:00 PM	No	61
CE	Jennifer Bartel	At Home Film Series (Virtual)	Virtual	11/11/25	7:00 PM	Yes	14
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Community Puzzle Exchange	In-person	11/15/25	1:00 PM	No	120
CE	Jennifer Bartel	The History of the Jingle Dress	In-person	11/17/25	6:30 PM	No	12
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Darshan: The Act of "Seeing" in Hindu Art (Virtual)	Virtual	11/18/25	7:00 PM	Yes	26
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Kenji López-Alt: Journey Through Food and Science (Virtual)	Virtual	11/18/25	7:00 PM	Yes	26
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Armchair Travels	In-person	11/20/25	1:00 PM	No	12
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Make a Paper Quilled Fall Leaves Card	In-person	11/24/25	1:30 PM	Yes	17
DMS	Doug McGillivray	Program an Autumn Seasonal Game in Scratch	In-person	11/6/25	5:30 PM	Yes	4
DMS	Lauren Kelly	Language Learning Online Resources	In-person	11/10/25	6:00 PM	Yes	3
DMS	Lydia Hanchett	Learn to Sew: Fleece Hats	In-person	11/11/25	6:00 PM	Yes	4
DMS	Lydia Hanchett	Learn to Sew: Fleece Hats	In-person	11/12/25	10:00 AM	Yes	5
DMS	Ethan Herdrich	Minecraft Club	In-person	11/17/25	4:30 PM	Yes	10
DMS	Janet Piehl	Meet the Machines: Embroidery Machine	In-person	11/17/25	6:30 PM	Yes	12
DMS	Janet Piehl	Holiday Cards with Silhouette Cameo	In-person	11/20/25	10:30 AM	Yes	5
DMS	Lauren Kelly	Informed Black Friday Shopping	In-person	11/20/25	6:00 PM	Yes	0
DMS	Doug McGillivray	Python Calculator	In-person	11/21/25	11:00 AM	Yes	6
DMS	Alejandro Barzallo	Cutting the Cable Cord (Virtual)	Virtual	11/21/25	5:00 PM	Yes	13
DMS	Ethan Herdrich	Design a 3D Printable Snowman	In-person	11/25/25	11:30 AM	Yes	7
TEEN	Krista Hutley	Bedazzle Your Book Night	In-person	11/6/25	6:00 PM	Yes	9
TEEN	Krista Hutley	Teen Take & Make: Pumpkin Pie Pillow (Take-Home Kit)	In-person	11/7/25	12:00 AM	Yes	21
TEEN	Krista Hutley	K-Pop Demon Hunters Party	In-person	11/13/25	7:00 PM	Yes	21
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Storytime in Mandarin Chinese	In-person	11/1/25	10:00 AM	No	13
YS	Ruth Bell	Building with Bits and Bobs	In-person	11/2/25	2:00 PM	No	25
YS	Jennifer Lee	Drop-In Free Play	In-person	11/3/25	9:30 AM	No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/4/25	9:30 AM	No	59
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/4/25	10:00 AM	No	49
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Story Explorers	In-person	11/4/25	4:00 PM	No	19
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/5/25	9:30 AM	No	46
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/5/25	10:00	No	16
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Spanish-English Bilingual Storytime	In-person	11/5/25	4:30 PM	No	12
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babysitter	In-person	11/6/25	9:15 AM	No	40
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babysitter	In-person	11/6/25	9:45 AM	No	39
YS	Eti Berland	K-9 Reading Buddies of the North Shore	In-person	11/6/25	6:00 PM	No	12
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Little Dabblers	In-person	11/7/25	9:30 AM	No	57
YS	Jennifer Lee	Minecraft Craft World	In-person	11/7/25	4:00 PM	Yes	4
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/8/25	10:00 AM	No	40

November/December 2025 Program Statistics

YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Kindness Rocks!	In-person	11/8/25	2:00 PM	Yes	15
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/11/25	9:30 AM	No	55
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/11/25	10:00 AM	No	53
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Story Explorers	In-person	11/11/25	4:00 PM	No	24
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/12/25	9:30 AM	No	51
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/12/25	10:00 AM	No	53
YS	Jennifer Lee	STEAM Lab: Melt-Free Olaf	In-person	11/12/25	4:30 PM	Yes	12
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Pajama Storytime	In-person	11/12/25	6:30 PM	No	12
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytme	In-person	11/13/25	9:15 AM	No	29
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytme	In-person	11/13/25	9:45 AM	No	35
YS	Sarah Zaharako	Art for Big Feelings	In-person	11/13/25	4:00 PM	Yes	11
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Little Dabblers	In-person	11/14/25	9:30 AM	No	50
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Lego Club	In-person	11/14/25	4:00 PM	Yes	13
YS	Jennifer Lee	Little Craft Hub	In-person	11/15/25	10:00 AM	No	29
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	The Mighty Pawns Chess Club	In-person	11/16/25	2:00 PM	No	30
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/18/25	9:30 AM	No	53
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/18/25	10:00 AM	No	54
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Story Explorers	In-person	11/18/25	4:00 PM	No	19
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/19/25	9:30 AM	No	46
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	11/19/25	10:00 AM	No	53
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytme	In-person	11/20/25	9:15 AM	No	40
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytme	In-person	11/20/25	9:45 AM	No	38
YS	Jennifer Lee	Hungry Crafters: Autumn Terrarium	In-person	11/20/25	6:30 PM	Yes	14
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Little Dabblers	In-person	11/21/25	9:30 AM	No	50
Magnificent Minds: A Let's Learn Together							
YS	Sarah Zaharako	Program	In-person	11/22/25	10:00 AM	No	17
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Beaded Wind Chimes	In-person	11/25/25	7:00 PM	Yes	12
YS	Eti Berland	Bluey Party	In-person	11/26/25	9:30 AM	Yes	100
YS	Eti Berland	Bluey Party	In-person	11/26/25	11:00 AM	Yes	66
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Music and Movement with Little Parade	In-person	11/28/25	10:30 AM	No	65
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-person	11/4/26	10:30	No	40
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-person	11/5/25	10:30 AM	No	20
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytme open play	In-person	11/6/25	10:15 AM	No	35
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-person	11/11/25	10:30 AM	No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-person	11/12/25	10:30 AM	No	45
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytme open play	In-person	11/13/25	10:15	No	33
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-person	11/18/25	10:30 AM	No	45
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-person	11/19/25	10:30 AM	No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytme open play	In-person	11/20/25	10:15	No	38
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	In-person	11/24/25	9:30	No	60
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	In-person	11/25/25	9:30	No	65
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Bluey Party "Lite"	In-person	11/26/25	9:30	No	80
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Minty and Marshmallow seek and find	In-person	11/26/25		No	100
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Hibbard Park StoryWalk	In-person	11/1/25		No	360
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Vattmann Park StoryWalk	In-person	11/1/25		No	360
AS	Rachel Garcia	Jane Austen Book Discussion	In-person	12/3/25	7:00 PM	Yes	7
AS	Jillian McKeown	Dementia Caregiver Support Group (Virtual)	Virtual	12/8/25	7:00 PM	Yes	13
AS	Rachel Garcia	Classics & Contemporary Book Discussion	In-person	12/9/25	10:30 AM	Yes	10
CE	Jennifer Bartel	A Very Rockwell Holiday (Virtual)	Virtual	12/1/25	7:00 PM	Yes	84
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Armchair Travels	In-person	12/4/25	1:00 PM	No	15
CE	Jennifer Bartel	At Home Film Series (Virtual)	Virtual	12/9/25	7:00 PM	Yes	3
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Jane Austen's Sanditon (Virtual)	Virtual	12/15/25	10:00 AM	Yes	14
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Pages & Planning: A Year Ahead	In-person	12/16/25	1:00 PM	No	4

November/December 2025 Program Statistics

CE	Jennifer Bartel	Armchair Travels	In-person	12/18/25	1:00 PM	No	19
CE	Jennifer Bartel	Bobby Lewis Jazz Trio	In-person	12/30/25	7:00 PM	No	110
DMS	Doug McGillivray	Design a Winter Snowflake in Tinkercad	In-person	12/4/25	5:30 PM	Yes	4
DMS	Ethan Herdrich	Minecraft Club	In-person	12/8/25	4:30 PM	Yes	6
DMS	Janet Piehl	Making Connections: Sewing and Embroidery	In-person	12/8/25	6:30 PM	Yes	6
DMS	Lauren Kelly	Digitization Tools Showcase	In-person	12/11/25	6:00 PM	Yes	20
DMS	Janet Piehl	Secret Gift Workshop	In-person	12/13/25	1:00 PM	Yes	17
DMS	Janet Piehl	Secret Gift Workshop	In-person	12/13/25	3:00 PM	Yes	18
DMS	Lauren Kelly	Holiday Gift Tag Stickers with Silhouette Cameo	In-person	12/15/25	6:00 PM	Yes	3
DMS	Alejandro Barzallo	What is AI? (Virtual)	Virtual	12/19/25	5:00 PM	Yes	16
DMS	Lydia Hanchett	New Year's Eve Novelty Glasses	In-person	12/27/25	2:00 PM	Yes	3
DMS	Ethan Herdrich	Smash Bros. Ultimate Switch Tournament	In-person	12/30/25	1:00 PM	Yes	50
TEEN	Krista Hutley	Teen Take & Make: DIY Rubber Stamps (Take-Home Kit)	In-person	12/5/25	12:00 AM	Yes	29
TEEN	Krista Hutley	Teen Pizza Study Night	In-person	12/15/25	7:00 PM	No	60
TEEN	Krista Hutley	Dungeons & Dragons	In-person	12/20/25	1:00 PM	Yes	6
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	12/2/25	9:30	No	45
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	12/2/25	10:00 AM	No	44
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Story Explorers	In-person	12/2/25	4:00 PM	No	22
YS	Sarah Zaharako	Supporting Autistic Children at Home	In-person	12/2/25	6:00 PM	Yes	14
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	String Art	In-person	12/2/25	7:00 PM	Yes	6
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	12/3/25	9:30 AM	No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	12/3/25	10:00 AM	No	43
YS	Jennifer Lee	Scrape Painting	In-person	12/3/25	4:00 PM	Yes	23
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babysitter	In-person	12/4/25	9:15 AM	No	15
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babysitter	In-person	12/4/25	9:45 AM	No	26
YS	Eti Berland	K9 Reading Buddies of the North Shore	In-person	12/4/25	6:00 PM	No	12
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Little Dabblers	In-person	12/5/25	9:30 AM	No	59
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	12/6/25	10:00 AM	No	13
YS	Ruth Bell	Building with Bits and Bobs	In-person	12/7/25	2:00 PM	No	35
YS	Jennifer Lee	Drop-In Free Play	In-person	12/8/25	9:30 AM	No	35
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	12/9/25	9:30 AM	No	49
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	12/9/25	10:00 AM	No	38
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Story Explorers	In-person	12/9/25	4:00 PM	No	20
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	12/10/25	9:30 AM	No	52
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime	In-person	12/10/25	10:00 AM	No	38
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Spanish-English Bilingual Storytime	In-person	12/10/25	4:30 PM	No	10
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babysitter	In-person	12/11/25	9:15 AM	No	22
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babysitter	In-person	12/11/25	9:45 AM	No	23
YS	Sarah Zaharako	Art for Big Feelings	In-person	12/11/25	4:00 PM	Yes	9
YS	Jennifer Lee	Hungry Crafters: Snowmen	In-person	12/11/25	6:30 PM	Yes	9
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Little Dabblers	In-person	12/12/25	9:30 AM	No	55
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Lego Club	In-person	12/12/25	4:00 PM	Yes	18
YS	Jennifer Lee	Little Craft Hub	In-person	12/13/25	10:00 AM	No	41
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	The Mighty Pawns Chess Club	In-person	12/14/25	2:00 PM	No	16
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Wiggleworms Party!	In-person	12/16/25	10:00 AM	No	136
YS	Jennifer Lee	STEAM Lab: Melt-Free Olaf	In-person	12/17/25	4:30 PM	Yes	22
YS	Sarah Zaharako	Rainbow Storytime	In-person	12/20/25	10:00 AM	Yes	19
YS	Lisa Bigelow	Family Movie: Wonka	In-person	12/29/25	10:00 AM	No	33
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Mermaid Party	In-person	12/30/25	2:30 PM	Yes	19
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-person	12/2/25	10:30	No	40

November/December 2025 Program Statistics

YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-person	12/3/25	10:30 AM	No	40
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime open play	In-person	12/4/25	10:15 AM	No	20
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-person	12/9/25	10:30 AM	No	38
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Family Storytime open play	In-person	12/10/25	10:30 AM	No	35
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Babytime open play	In-person	12/11/25	10:15	No	24
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	In-person	12/15/25	9:30	No	45
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	In-person	12/16/25	9:30	No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	In-person	12/17/25	9:30	No	45
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	In-person	12/18/25	9:30	No	45
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Drop-In Free Play	In-person	12/19/25	9:30	No	45
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Minty and Marshmallow seek and find	In-person	12/1/25		No	200
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Hibbard Park StoryWalk	In-person	12/1/25		No	360
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Imagination Playground	In-person	12/22/25		No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Imagination Playground	In-person	12/23/25		No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Imagination Playground	In-person	12/26/25		No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Imagination Playground	In-person	12/27/25		No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Imagination Playground	In-person	12/28/25		No	30
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Imagination Playground	In-person	12/29/25		No	50
YS	Andrea Vaughn Johnson	Imagination Playground	In-person	12/30/25		No	45



Illinois Library Association LIBRARY LEGISLATIVE MEETUPS

104th Illinois General Assembly | 2026 Spring Session |

Fund Libraries

Fully fund Fiscal Year 2026 state appropriations for the Illinois Secretary of State's grant programs, equalization grants, and per capita grants for public libraries, school libraries, and library systems. Approve appropriations for the Illinois State Library and higher education institutions including state university and community college academic libraries for the benefit of students, their families, and our communities. Increase the per capita and per student grant rates for public libraries and school libraries, respectively, to keep pace with increased expenses libraries will incur throughout the year.

Library System Area & Per Capita Grants/Public Per Capita & School District Grants Inflationary Adjustments

PPC received a proposal to adjust library and related grants to account for inflationary economic conditions. As noted in the proposal, "without an inflation adjustment, these vital funding mechanisms lose value over time, impacting library operations and services." Grants in these areas have been held flat for the past five fiscal years; we seek appropriate adjustment of grant line funding amounts.

ILA

Illinois Library Association
560 W. Washington Blvd, Suite 330
Chicago, IL 60661
e: ila@ila.org w: ila.org

 @ILlibraryAssoc

 @ILLibraryAssoc

 illibraryassociation



Illinois Library Association



@illibraryassoc.bsky.social

Require Public Library Trustee Training

The legislative proposal submitted requires public library trustees to undergo training each year. The PPC found this to be a smart, proactive step for a representative of local government to be best prepared as a trustee. It would set a shared understanding of the role of a public library trustee.

Open Educational Resources Funding Grant

CARLI's Open Educational Resources (OER) Committee presented its proposal for funding OER to address rising textbook costs that are creating an equity gap in higher education. PPC supports the \$3 million proposal to support faculty in creating OER materials. CARLI received a \$2 million US Department of Education Open Textbooks Pilot Grant, 2021-26; and a \$300,000 grant to administer the FY24 \$3 million Secretary of State/Illinois State Library grant. By the Spring 2026 semester, 219 classes have used or will be using the no-cost learning materials created by the two grants. Impact data is still being gathered. The OER funding would be part of the Secretary of State budget, a recurring \$3 million grant, and would be available to all schools in higher education per ILLINET.

Making eBooks Equitable & Accessible

The cost of eBooks to Illinois libraries is an ongoing and growing concern as libraries respond to user demand. PPC recommends taking legislative action to help libraries address the cost and limited terms of e-content.

The State of Illinois School Libraries

*Every student succeeds with
licensed librarians*

RECENT LEGISLATION

- **License to Read Act** provides that the State Librarian may negotiate with publishers of eBooks and audiobooks on behalf of libraries.
- **Banning Book Bans** requires libraries to adhere to the ALA's Library Bill of Rights and to create written policies against the practice of banning books in order to qualify for state grants.
- **Media Literacy** requires every public high school to include in its curriculum a unit of instruction on media literacy; sets forth what topics the unit of instruction shall include.

STUDENTS SUCCEED WITH LICENSED LIBRARIANS

In Illinois, the majority of elementary and high schools with a physical library are not staffed by those who have earned library certification from an accredited academic institution. There are no other roles in Illinois schools where unlicensed educators teach students.

Dozens of studies across the country indicate having a licensed librarian correlates with higher test scores across the board, even when variables like demographics and economic status are taken into account. One of the easiest steps Illinois can take for student success is to require all schools to employ ISBE licensed librarians, a mandate which is currently in place but inconsistently enforced ([23ILAC1.420\(o\)\(4\)](#)).

In cooperation with our state partners



Illinois Library Association



AISLE

Association of Illinois School
Library Educators

🌐 www.aisled.org
✉ advocacy@aisled.org

THE SLATE PROJECT

In response to large gaps in the data representing Illinois school libraries discovered by the [SLIDE Project](#), RAILS launched the School Library Data Project in January 2022 and created the [SLATE data dashboard \(School Library Advocacy Through Education\)](#). This dashboard allows users to look at individual schools or districts and find statistics about their library programs, including the collection size, dollars spent, and number of licensed librarians employed. Visit SLATE using the QR code.



Last update 11.2025



Federal Funding for Libraries in Illinois: IMLS/LSTA

Administered through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), the only federal program that exclusively covers services and funding for libraries, provided \$5.7 million for Illinois Libraries in FY2024 under the Grants to States Program. **Please support LSTA funding in the FY2025 federal budget; over 11.8 million Illinoisans reside in public library service areas which benefit from this funding.**

In FY2024 this funding impacted Illinois libraries through:

Efficiently Sharing Resources: 11 million items were transferred among more than 1,700 public, school, academic, and special libraries in Illinois. LSTA-supported resource sharing allowed for ground delivery services provided by the regional library systems and at no-charge to Illinois residents who requested the library materials. No one library can own everything; and sharing resources between libraries benefits library users across the entire state.

Additionally, through subscriptions for WorldCat Discovery/FirstSearch services Illinois libraries conducted nearly 1 million citation searches between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 to serve their library patrons and support their library operations. Academic and college libraries constituted (263,379) 28% of searches; public libraries (65%) 610,099; K-12 school libraries (5%) 47,157 and special libraries such as medical, law, corporate, and government (2%) 17,254. Use of these services allows libraries to identify and access the resources that are required to meet the expectations of their patrons.

Questions? Contact Executive Director Cynthia Robinson, crobinson@ila.org, 312-644-1897

Project Next Generation Grants: This initiative is designed to educate at-risk students and bridge the digital divide. Public libraries work closely with their school districts to identify needs; since its 2000 inception, thousands of teens benefited. In FY2024, 30 libraries received more than \$500,000 infunding to enhance students' abilities to deal with life experiences, develop critical thinking skills, and prepare for the future. The program is designed to immerse students in learning while providing access to computers, software, and technologies. The Peoria Public Library received \$12,500 to implement "Project Next Generation Mini Stem Activities" at its Lincoln Branch. Other communities benefitting from this program included Normal, Highwood, Chicago Ridge, Carbondale, Evanston and Glen Carbon.

Public Library Programming: Administered by the Northbrook Public Library, the "Illinois Libraries Present" initiative allows over 200 public libraries to afford high quality online programming for their patrons that would be cost prohibitive for single libraries to hold on their own. The program affords public libraries access to nationally known speakers and authors at no cost to the public they serve.

Professional Development: The Illinois Library Association receives funding from the Illinois State Library and partners with the Reaching Across Illinois and the Illinois Heartland library systems to provide library leadership training for library directors, those who are brand new or those newer to the position, via "Directors' University." These programs enable library leaders to make the most out of local tax dollars which support the bulk of public library operations in this state.

Why can't my library buy more e-books and audiobooks?

Publishers put limits on library e-books & e-audiobooks



Print books are owned by the library and can be used for decades until they're worn out.

e-Books and digital audiobooks are licensed—libraries don't own them.

Plus, publishers put limits on how long the content can be used:

1 or 2 years or 26 or 52 checkouts

Once that limit is reached, libraries need to re-purchase the license at the same inflated price if they want to keep offering it to their community.

e-Content usage is increasing

In 2024, a mid-size, suburban public library saw:

25%

increase in e-book circulation

15%

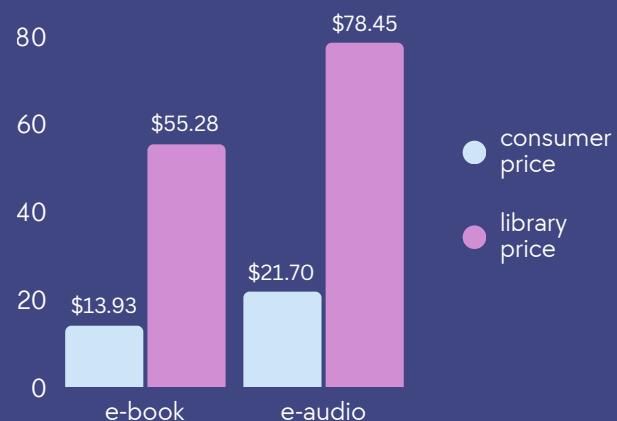
increase in audiobook circulation

e-book and digital audiobook costs are too high for libraries, and access is limited.

It's unsustainable for libraries to continue to purchase digital content this way.

They're free for patrons to use, but not free for libraries to offer.

An average e-book costs a library **3.9x more** than what you would pay to buy it on your Kindle.



Source: ReadersFirst

The cost per circulation of an electronic title is **3.7x higher** than a physical title.

\$0.63

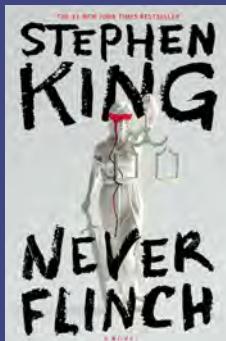
\$2.39

Source: Fremont Public Library

Source: Warren-Newport Public Library

Let's see some real-time examples:

*library costs reflect single user, 2-year limit agreement

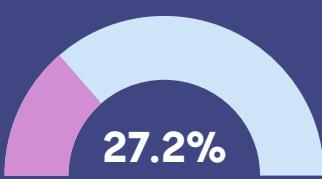


Format	Consumer Cost	Library Cost
Book	\$32.00	\$32.00
Tablet	\$16.99	\$67.99
Headphones	\$19.99	\$84.99



Format	Consumer Cost	Library Cost
Book	\$32.00	\$29.00
Tablet	\$14.99	\$55.00
Headphones	\$14.99	\$95.00

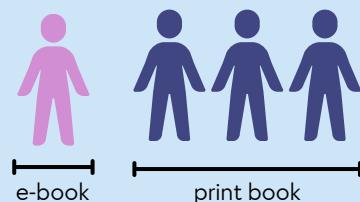
Sources: TS360, The Palace Marketplace, Amazon, and Apple Books



Source: LibraryJournal

Libraries spend nearly **one-third of their budget** on digital content so their patrons can enjoy these popular titles.

Three people could check out the same print book for **less than the cost of a single e-book checkout.**



How does this affect my community?



Hold wait lists will get even longer

Your wait times will increase



You'll have limited options

Libraries can't afford to buy the content your community wants



Libraries will reach their budget breaking point

Providing you with less for your tax dollars



Illinois is known for its leadership in support of libraries, but...

if publishers continue to control the terms of digital content for libraries, we'll see an erosion of resource sharing across the state. **We will lose one of the best things that makes Illinois stand out in the national library landscape.**

How you can help



Support future legislative efforts from the Illinois Library Association (ILA) to address the cost and limited terms of e-content.

www.ila.org/advocacy/legislative-issues/illinois-legislative-issues



Illinois Library Association

Open Educational Resources (OER) Legislative Proposal 2026

Open Educational Resources (OER) are teaching, learning, and research materials (like textbooks) that are either in the public domain or licensed in a manner that provides everyone with free and perpetual permission to engage in the 5Rs: retaining, remixing, revising, reusing, and redistributing. The material is free online, affordable in print, and can be saved for future use and study.

CARLI and its supporters request permanent funding for Open Educational Resources in the amount of an annual \$3 million appropriation to the Secretary of State's budget.

Background & context



The cost of course materials has become an equity issue because students do not have equal access to courses if they are unable to afford textbooks. According to the "[National Course Materials Survey 2023](#)," more than half of college students have taken fewer courses or avoided registering for a specific course due to the cost of course materials, including textbooks.

Why is it important to provide students with no-cost learning materials?



CARLI's "[Illinois Course Materials: Student Perspective Survey](#)," administered to Illinois higher education students in 2023, details that many students are making difficult choices between purchasing textbooks or purchasing other necessities, such as food, housing, or medication. Other comments suggested that students are experiencing significant stress due to their financial situation, and the cost of course materials adds to the stress. Members of the Illinois General Assembly have expressed strong support for reducing the cost of textbooks and other course materials. Similarly, faculty and instructors are intensely interested in promoting OER as they see firsthand the impact of textbook costs on their students.

Comprehensive solution

Open Education Resources, or OER, is a critical part of the solution for reducing the cost of higher education for Illinois students. Adopting a statewide OER initiative does not exclude other programs to reduce the cost of course materials, such as inclusive access or institutional textbook rental programs, would be abandoned. These options could be integrated to provide comprehensive coverage. **OER availability is good for ALL students in Illinois** because OER created are available at no cost for adaptation and reuse by anyone. Sharing knowledge widely is an important piece of the academic mission.

OER benefits



OER provide a number of benefits as part of a comprehensive solution to reduce the cost of course materials.

- The cost of OER to students is minimal to zero.
- Many forms of OER can be modified and therefore customized to a course.
- OER can be easily updated to remain relevant and do not require long lead times for publishing.
- OER can be accessed by students anywhere, at anytime.

Is this an adjustment to an existing statute, or is it new legislation?



Rep. Norma Hernandez introduced HB3411 in February 2025 for inclusion in the FY26 Secretary of State's budget. The bill was ultimately not successful. The state's academic library supporters filed 119 witness slips in support of the bill.

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

Appropriates \$3,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the Secretary of State for a recurring, permanent grant program for Illinois academic libraries. These grants shall be applied toward Open Education Resources.

State funding to date for OER in Illinois

Illinois SCOERs: Support for Creation of Open Educational Resources, 2021-2026



The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) in the U.S. Department of Education awarded a \$2 million grant to the University of Illinois System/CARLI for “[Illinois SCOERs: Support for Creation of Open Educational Resources](#).”

Illinois OER: Open Educational Resources Grants, 2025-2026



The \$3 million program, “Illinois Fund for Open Educational Resource Creation,” was included in the Secretary of State’s FY24 budget. The Illinois State Library awarded \$300,000 to CARLI to support programmatic administration.

Success of OER funding in Illinois

Students enrolled in Illinois SCOERs-supported courses demonstrated success through **high pass rates, high overall course scores, low withdrawal, drop, and fail rates**. This success was supported by their self-reported perceptions of high performance and attribution to open educational resources. Based on preliminary data collection, 68% of students surveyed noticed a difference in their subject area mastery while using OER created with grant funds, and 70% of students noted their study habits changed while using the OER.

Why anchor the program at the Illinois State Library with CARLI support?

Library grant programs have been successfully administered for decades through the Office of the Illinois Secretary of State. The partnership between CARLI and the State Library has been very positive. CARLI is the manager for several grant programs from the Illinois State Library, including the Illinois Library Delivery Service and the Digital Public Library of America. CARLI is a centralized organization that is supported by the University of Illinois System and 124 institutions of higher education, about 90 percent of the not-for-profit institutions in Illinois. CARLI’s experience and established conduits to higher education point to CARLI as an administrative agent for the program.

Unique opportunity

Academic libraries are uniquely positioned to support and promote the use of OER. They understand the unique curricula of each institution, they have a physical presence on campus, they have relationships with faculty across disciplines and across the institutions, and they provide access to scholarly materials. They represent a community already in place that can provide scholarly infrastructure for a statewide OER initiative. Many libraries are already training faculty in the use and creation of OER. CARLI membership includes almost all the higher education institution libraries across the state, serving more than 90% of Illinois higher education students, and has long standing relationships with the Illinois State Library and the Office of the Secretary of State. In addition, CARLI already has a successful track record of supporting collaborative efforts among the state’s libraries.

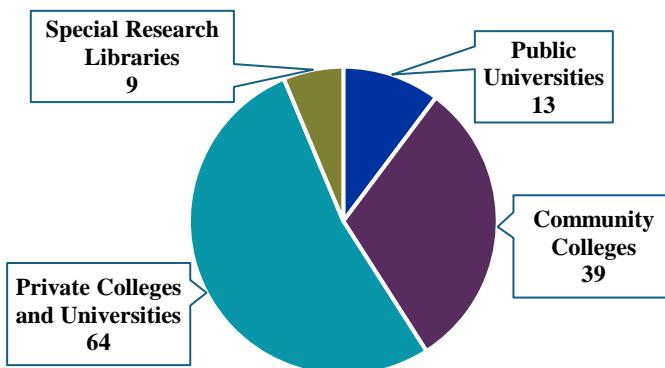
What is CARLI?

Supported by the University of Illinois System and its 124 member libraries, CARLI serves 90% of Illinois’ higher education students and faculty. Through the member libraries, CARLI serves over 630,000 higher education students, faculty, and staff, including over 121,000 across the three University of Illinois campuses.

Who are CARLI members?

- ALL Illinois’ public universities
- ALL Illinois’ community colleges
- 64 of Illinois’ not-for-profit private colleges and universities
- 9 special research libraries like the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, the Illinois State Library, and the Newberry Library

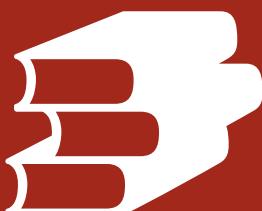
CARLI’s 124 Member Libraries



Illinois Public Libraries by the Numbers FY2024



Illinois has **640** Public libraries with a service area population of **11,807,164**.*



Illinoisans checked out **990,685,270** materials – that's **7** per resident or **23** per card holders.



E-books, e-audiobooks, and e-videos were downloaded **16,763,660** times.



Illinois residents visited libraries **36,260,689** times.



4,096,023 Illinoisans attended **218,009** library programs either in person or virtually.



Illinois residents connected to library Wi-Fi **23,703,627** times.

Illinois libraries do all this for only **\$72** per person!



Illinois Library Association
560 W. Washington Blvd, Suite 330 Chicago, IL 60661
o: 312-644-1897 f: 312-644-1899 w: ila.org

*1 Million Illinois residents do not have public library services.