

## Director's Report, February 2016

	February 2015	February 2016
Children's books and magazines	3846	3977
Children's media	361	296
Adult books and periodicals	3568	3669
Adult media (DVDs, video games, MP3 and CD books, Music CD's)	3355	3315
Downloadable/Database Usage Ebooks/music/audiobook/movies/mags	875	3473
Young adult books	380	417
Periodicals in-house usage	273	265
Microfilm use	161	144
Reference Questions	1541	1753
Computer Assistance at Reference Desk	400	505
Adult Internet Usage	2960	2237
Children's Internet, iPad, Game Computers, Word Processing Usage	n.a.	432
JPL's wireless usage (reports from our routers, hand devices too)	598	1543
Children's program attendance, includes guitar classes/concert, and class visits	97	124
YA and Adult Program attendance (Library & Community)	436	384
Young Adult Programs	28	89
Electronic Door Counter (half of entries recorded)	15,960	15,011

### Adult Program Highlights



#### **Love Framed in Black and White**

*Thursday, February 25, 2:00 p.m.*

*Presenter: Paula Wright*

*Facilitator: Barb Schuit*

*Attendance: 74*

*Paula had inherited about 500 family photos from her grandma. She researched the story of her many-generations-back slave ancestor who was married, in a love relationship – not a forced arrangement – to a prominent white man in a brief period of history where such a union was permitted. She put together the fascinating story of how the time of Jim Crow and other dynamics of history affected these two amazing*

people. Apparently there is even a connection to Johnson Public Library as, if I understand correctly, one of the descendants of this marriage was the driver for Mr. Johnson at one point. This was an amazing program, and it was also so nice to see the real warmth and enjoyment of those in attendance. (Barb Schuit)

### **Open Mic Night**

**Thursday, February 25, 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.**

**Facilitator: Kathryn Cannarozzi, Sharon Castanteen**

**Attendance: 35**



Our usual mix of talent and courage. Two magic acts! Each one had a comic style which entertained even more than the magic itself. Singers, poets, and comics joined us. As usual, everyone was respectful and attentive to the skilled and the struggling. An open-hearted open mic.



### **Coloring Club**

**Tuesday, February 9, 23, at 10:00 p.m.**

**Facilitator: Barb Schuit**

**Total Attendance: 28**

One new guy attended today and said he “really needed this.” The “regulars” enjoy chatting as they color, or sometimes, just being quiet. On February 23, an ESL teacher brought her class of about 6 adult students. She wanted them to have this kind of a group experience, and then have them write something about it afterwards. So that was an interesting dynamic, and it was nice to be able to be part of their introduction to the library, as well as to this country and language.

### **Business Research Lecture**

**For Hispanic Institute for Research and Development**

**February 13, 2016 9 am-12 pm**

**Lecturer: Catherine Folk-Pushee, Adult Services Librarian**

**Attendance: 20**

My lecture is part of week two of a 13 week course. I teach the students how to perform research to develop their business plan. Some students already have a small business, others are still developing their idea. I began with an overview of what encompasses a business plan and pointed out a couple good articles for further reading. Next, I talked about some of the helpful resources in the area such as the Chamber of Commerce, Small Business Development Center, and Federal Small Business Association office and show them the websites. I spent a good amount of time on the business databases available to cardholders. Finally, I wrapped up with a short tour of the library so the class came away with an idea of how a library is organized and what is available at Hackensack. (Catherine Folk-Pushee)

**David Bowie Tribute**

**Thursday, February 18, 6:30 p.m.**

**Facilitator: Kathryn Cannarozzi**

**Attendance: 18**

*We streamed a selection of David Bowie music videos from YouTube and then showed the film Labyrinth. I used the new projector for both screenings this month. It is actually brighter than the older one and easier to set up. There were 18 in attendance including a number of new faces. I spoke with 2 women from Englewood who were unaware of the movies and programs at our library. I collected a few emails for our newsletter and hopefully spread the word a bit more to a larger audience. (Kathryn Cannarozzi)*

**Bankruptcy-Who, What, Why, and How**

**February 17, 2016 2 pm-3:30 pm**

**Presenter: Susan Schulman-Northeast NJ Legal Services**

**Facilitator: Catherine Folk-Pushee**

**Attendance: 14**

*Susan began by describing the two most common chapters of bankruptcy, 7 and 13, the differences between them, and when each should be used. What Susan termed the Fair Debt Collection Act turned out to be a very hot topic for the evening. Getting back on track Susan spoke about the down side of declaring bankruptcy-how it affects your credit report, etc.*

*The next part of the presentation focused on how to begin the bankruptcy process. The final part of the presentation involved many participant questions. The audience was definitely hungry for the information. While Susan could certainly not answer every question she at least directed the person to another source. She was a very capable and knowledgeable presenter and I would be happy to have her back again. (Catherine Folk-Pushee)*

**Other Events, Clubs, etc.:**

**Book Clubs: 23 Movies: 20**

**ReServe, Citizenship Class, Veteran's Counseling: 44**

**Computer Skills, Job Search, and Inspect Your Gadget: Kathryn Cannarozzi, Genesis Jais ,  
Catherine Folk-Pushee, Michelle Acosta  
Total Attendance: 24**

Individual computer instruction is for *Hackensack residents* only.

**Highlight from Kathryn Cannarozzi**

*Helped an older patron to apply for work using online job applications. He found it confusing as he is still a novice with computer skills. Even a simple job as a greeter at Costco requires a fairly lengthy online application.*

**Inspect Your Gadget Report – February**

*This month we covered making a wireless mouse work, saving photos to the cloud, syncing cloud content onto Tablet, and converting a primary email address to gmail so it can sync to tablet and smartphone.*

*I also helped a patron who wanted me to explain some basics about smartphones since she is just transitioning from a flip phone to a smartphone. (Genesis Jais)*

**English Conversation, Computer Assistance in Spanish and English, and Bilingual Outreach. Michelle Acosta, Bilingual Library Associate  
Attendance: 24**

Spanish Computer -8 people

- Assistance with job application online
- Assistance with resume and cover letter
- Google docs and sheets overview
- Google email and apps overview
- How to have access to iCloud through a pc
- Manage bills using google sheets

English Computer-3 people

- How to use a hard drive
- Make document into pdf
- How to send attachment from USB, Google drive, computer

ESL conversation class: 13

**Young Adult Programs  
Report by Keri Adams, YA Librarian  
Attendance: 97**

YA Books for Adult Readers Book Club

2/6/16 – X by Illyasah Shabazz and Kekla Magoon – 8

Teen Tuesday

2/2/16: Video Games/Board Games/Minecraft – 12

2/9/16: Anti-Valentine’s Day Program – 16

2/16/16: Music Video Games (Rock Band/Dance Central/Dance Dance Revolution/Just Dance) – 3 (Torrential rainstorm)

2/23/16: Get Artsy: Color/Paint/Draw – 7

Booktalks at Hackensack Middle School – 2/25/16 – 3 presentations – 51 kids total

The Anti-Valentine’s Day Party was a huge success. They had time to color in a fake valentine and fill out “break-up” mad libs. We did celebrity breakup trivia and six different teens got every answer right. Then we

made catapults to shoot Sweethearts, which didn't work very well but was fun to attempt. Last but everyone's favorite, we iced broken heart cookies and got to eat them.

The book talks have also been a huge success, largely thanks to two of the teachers who offer extra credit for attending. More than a few of those students mentioned they would have come anyway, but it definitely draws in a few extras. Most of the attendees are 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

### Children's Program Highlights

*Mother Goose Time and Preschool Story Hour went through a bit of a slump with the bad weather, but we are seeing an increase in attendance with the absence of snow and cold. Having at-the-ready craft themes and Gladys' prepared books for Preschool Story Hour makes it a seamless sixty minutes of fun! Mother Goose Time is still in transition and we are working hard to find changes that will work for us. Still, the program is steady in attendance.*

*Ever popular Lego Day and Video Games on Mondays and Wednesdays respectively draw a good crowd. The Wii and X Box remain popular with the video set and Legos bring out the best in our creative kids.*

*We had a great time making Valentines on February 11<sup>th</sup> at our Valentine Workshop! We were also the proud recipients of several hysterical cards...mine said "I hope you have a crabby day"! That was a result of the myriad of foam pieces offered for placement on the cards. Yarn was used for the script lettering and some of the messages were truly inspirational.*



*Happily, our Chess Club has really taken off and learning to play chess seems to be the cool thing to do this season! I have quite a few first-time players and several beginner-intermediate players and the ones with a bit more experience seem willing to take the real beginners under their wings. It's a very enjoyable hour every Tuesday afternoon and I think the kids are gaining a true appreciation of what it means to concentrate and think ahead.*

*We've again noticed that signing up by phone and on a sign-up sheet at the desk works very well for our patrons. Joe put up bulletin boards that we had ordered to make our upcoming programs more of an immediate visual, in case a patron has any questions about them.*

*New books won't stay on our shelves! We love adding to our collections! (Babette Smith)*

## Outreach and Publicity

### Hackensack Chronicle

February 19, 2016 issue

Photos and caption, front page

“Teen Tuesdays”

Caption: ”Attendees at the Johnson Public Library Teen Tuesday Anti Valentine Party make sarcastic Valentine’s cards and crafts on February 9.”

### Hackensack Chronicle

February 19, 2016 issue

Photos and caption, page 3

“Building a Future”

(Photo shows Mari Zigas working with children on Lego creations)

### Hackensack Chronicle

February 26, 2016 issue

Photos and article, Front Page

“Speaker details family’s past for Black History Event

Kristen Agnes, staff writer describes our “Love in Black and White” event in a full-length article

### Hackensack Outreach Collaboration

Bergen County Housing Center Update

February 9, 2016, 10:00 a.m.

Staff: Sharon Castanteen

Director Julia Orlando described the new and updated services at the Center and afterwards I connected and consulted with two self-help and mental health professionals serving drop-ins and referrals.

## Professional Development

*Staff Name: Elisabet Paredes, Library Associate, Social Media*

*Continuing Education Activity: Managing Online Communities*

*Sponsor: LibraryLinkNJ*

*Date: February 10 – 11, 2016*

*Length of Activity: one hour*

- “Trust is built with consistency” and adding value to reader’s life
- Online engagement
- Community marketing
- Communities value organic growth and don’t want to be sold to with constant ads
- Celebrate accomplishments

(Example: JPL just reached 1,000 likes this month for our FB page).

*Staff, Trustee Name: Sharon Castanteen, Kristi Izzo*  
*Continuing Education Activity: Running, and Learning from Focus Groups*  
*Wednesday, February 3, 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.*  
*Scholarly Communications Center*  
*Alexander Library, Rutgers-New Brunswick*  
*Sponsored by: CRL-NJ-NJLA*

***Tips for Running Focus Groups:***

- Focus Group should be 6 to 10 people, invite 12
- To get people to fill out a survey or join a focus group, offer a raffle prize or fine forgiveness cards.
- Use a facilitator to keep the group moving, limit time for answers and an assistant facilitator to take notes of responses
- Facilitator must be objective, no staff, no director, no board member or they will fill in answers
- First question is an ice-breaker, e.g., what would you do if you won the powerball, dream vacation
- Survey question or Focus question: One word answer: Describe with one word, the library of your youth, library of today, and library of tomorrow.
- Question: If you had a magic wand you could wave to give your library....in terms of space, services, staff?
- Surveys, Focus Groups can be grouped into: Power users, potential users, general users
- When you advertise for the focus group, include purpose, FAQ's, contact info, compensation, and time commitment
- Open-ended questions best: Worse thing about your library, Best thing about your library
- Seek out groups from community organizations (CASA, churches, etc.)
- Have an outline now for moderating a focus group and a bibliography
- Potential moderators: Marie Radford (Professor at Rutgers)

## **Building and Grounds**

### *Landing on Moore Street*

The landing on top of the inside steps of the Moore Street Entrance has been covered with black treading to match the stairs.

### *Carpeting – Children's Department*

We have received some carpet samples to try out in the Children's Department

### *Some Ongoing Projects completed this month:*

- Fixing and replacing the wooden chairs on Main Floor (original chairs are coming apart)
- Cleaning and organize back storage areas
- Preventive maintenance on main floor and children's room tables, tightening screws and bolts
- Lubricating pumps and machinery
- Cleaning, diagnosing and replacing bathroom parts such as handles, flush odometers
- Moving shelving to create space for staff in staff work area

*Respectfully Yours,*  
*Sharon Castanteen*