## Director’s Report, July 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>July 2015</th>
<th>July 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children’s books and magazines</td>
<td>5858</td>
<td>6634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s media</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult books and periodicals</td>
<td>4599</td>
<td>4225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult media (DVDs, video games, MP3 and CD books, Music CD’s)</td>
<td>3790</td>
<td>3361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eContent and Database Usage</td>
<td>1028</td>
<td>1437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young adult books</td>
<td>885</td>
<td>899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodicals in-house usage</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microfilm use</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Questions</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>2056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Assistance at Reference Desk</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Internet Usage</td>
<td>2380</td>
<td>2566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Internet, iPad, Game Computers, Word Processing Usage</td>
<td>938</td>
<td>1,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPL’s wireless usage (reports from our routers, hand devices too)</td>
<td>1918</td>
<td>2524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s program attendance, includes guitar classes/concert, and class visits</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YA and Adult Program attendance (Library &amp; Community)</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adult Programs</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Door Counter (half of entries recorded)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>15,456</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Adult Events Highlights

**Harry Potter – Pub Trivia**  
**Tuesday, July 19, at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Facilitators:** Kathryn Cannarozzi, Genesis Jais, Mari Zigas, Elisabet Paredes, Keri Adams  
**Attendees:** 53  
Our audience is almost exclusively young people, so we seem to have found something appealing to the millennials in our area.  
Liz did an amazing job creating our slide show and finding questions for our contestants. Mari was the most energetic and engaging host. Her
skills are definitely not limited to a juvenile audience. Keri and Liz used their knowledge of all things Harry Potter to score the answer sheets accurately when there was a judgement call needed. Gen set up all the technical aspects perfectly including connecting with the Still’s video system. We were on at least 4 different screens including those above the bar area. Almost the entire room was playing our trivia game. Tyrone, manager of Pottin Still, is delighted with the event and asked that we have one every month. We agreed to starting in September. The Still will also be offering prizes to the winners. I believe he gave the winning team free drinks last night. (Kathryn Cannarozzi)

Quotes from Program Evaluations:

- This is awesome.
- You are awesome
- Great program
- Needs better range of question difficulty
- Great job!
- Feels like programming targeted at young adults which I feel like is often overlooked
- Lots of fun

Concert on the Lawn
Jan Findlay Quartet “Jazz Songs: America’s Music”
Saturday, July 16, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Facilitators: Kate Cannarozzi, Sharon Castanteen
Attendance: 42
On this very hot day, we had over 40 people crowding into somewhat shady spots, but no one moved a muscle after that because Jan Findlay and her very adept Jazz musicians (piano, bass, and guitar) were mesmerizing.

Couponing Workshop
Tuesday, July 19, at 7:00 p.m.
Presenter: Teresa Purdie
Facilitator: Barb Schuit
Attendance: 6
Teresa did an excellent job of outlining the basics and giving helpful strategies to get started on using coupons to save money. She provided a handout that listed things she talked about, such as where to get coupons, different types of coupons, and how to organize them (hint: start with a small envelope! Teresa herself now has a binder that looks like a small suitcase and is organized by the layout of her local ShopRite!). She also explained a variety of other tips and strategies, including Rewards programs, coupon apps, and coupon databases. Teresa was very informative and very good in fielding questions -- and a total pro with how to deal with audience members who were trying to dominate the Q&A, or getting off-topic -- very impressive! This was a very practical, informative, and interesting program. (Barb Schuit)
Open Mic Night  
Thursday, July 18, at 7:00 p.m.  
Facilitators: Kathryn Cannarozzi, Sharon Castanteen  
Total Attendance: 23  

Except for one poet, we had all guitar-singing acts. The headliners, Andy & Judy Daigle sang their own songs which had a classic folk sound, sweet and profound ballads the moved the audience to cheer. One of the participants sang “Can you feel the love tonight” from the Lion King and we certainly did in this gentle, open, non-judgemental space for people to share their hearts and music.

Special Snapshot of one summer day at JPL: July 19th:  
From Keri: We did the math and between three kids programs, two YA programs and two adult programs we had **146** people attend library programs yesterday. 53 of them were for Pub Trivia alone!

Other Events, Clubs, etc.:  
Book Clubs: 17  Movies: 4  
Expungement Workshop: 10, Veteran’s Counseling: 4, Coloring Club: 16, Citizenship: 21  

Computer Skills, Job Search, and Inspect Your Gadget: Kathryn Cannarozzi, Genesis Jais, Catherine Folk-Pushee  
Total Attendance: 35  

Individual computer instruction is for Hackensack residents only. This month included basic Excel, resumes, online job search, music, Word, resume, cover letters and email. Kathryn’s comment: basic computer skills are for everyone, even blue collar workers, since almost all applications are online now.

Highlights from Catherine Folk-Pushee:  

Highlight One: At the Spectrum for Living Recruitment Event which occurred on June 9, the organization presented information and pre-interviews for Direct Support Professionals to assist clients with special needs.  
**Update:** Two Hackensack residents who attended this job fair have since been hired for full-time positions at Spectrum. They are Gabrielle Frankel and Carol McMorris.

Highlight Two: A student I have been working with for a while expressed interest in how she could create an updated brochure to advertise her ministerial services. Money is very tight and she could not afford to pay for a print shop, let alone a graphic designer. I said we could create it right in Word. She worked up a copy on paper and I demonstrated how to format the layout and enter text and images. We printed out a few samples for review. While it was lacking the polish of a glossy professionally printed publication it looked very nice and she was more than pleased with the results.
Inspect Your Gadget Report (16 drop-in)

Some of the issues/questions addressed this month:

_I had one person with an iPad and one with a tablet, but all the rest were all cell phones (including a flip phone). Most were new to smart phones so they wanted help with the basics: setting a passcode, sending a text, writing and sending an email, taking photos, making a phone call, adding contacts, downloading apps and what the "Play Store" and "App Store" are. Early in the month I had a patron who did have a handle on her phone, but was running out of space on her phone so she wanted to know how to transfer her photos to her computer. I turned into a lesson on file transferring for the 4 people sitting at the table with me. I showed her how to transfer the files via usb cable but also explained other methods she could use._

_This month I even got to use some of my travel expertise during gadget! I explained to a patron all the ins and outs of using your phone abroad without racking up charges with his cell provider._

(Genesis Jais)

English Conversation, Computer Assistance in Spanish and English, and Bilingual Outreach. Michelle Acosta, Bilingual Library Associate

Attendance: 79

Computer Spanish -10

- How to buy things on amazon
- Open gmail account
  - I helped open 8 different email accounts
  - Explain the differences between other email accounts
- Explain the different ways google apps can help
  - Docs
  - Calendar
  - Sheets
    - Schedule
    - Keeping finances
- Facebook overview
  - How to load a photo
  - How to load a video
- Messenger overview
  - How to send a single message
  - How to send group message
  - How to send a picture
  - How to call or video call someone
- Excel overview
  - How to open a spreadsheet
  - Also explain that google sheets offers the same service as excel only more simple

ESL Conversation Class: 44
July 6, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.
Naturalization Information session
Attendance: 15
A USCIS representative presented an information session about becoming a US citizen. We partner with the USCIS office to help better assist people with different situations. Examples:

- Daughter looking for information for her parents to become citizens
- A lawyer from Hackensack came to support the program.
- People who had the appointment were looking into more ways to learn more about civic questions and vocabulary

July 7, 1 to 2 p.m.
The Outreach Bridge to Engaging Latino and Spanish-speaking Families webinar.
Attendance: 10
- More programs with Hispanic families can influence the way people look at the library
- Build relationships and establish trust
- Don't let lack of Spanish skills keep you from helping a patron
- Ways to do outreach
  - Give out invitations instead of flyers
  - Find the school liaison or family coordinator in schools
  - Get in touch with head start programs
  - Party in the park
  - Free summer lunch
  - Back to school night at the library
  - Have a library night when school starts
    - Provide food and babysitting

Report by Keri Adams, YA Librarian
Attendance: 331


Summer Reading Program!
7/5/16 – Harry Potter Party – 36
7/5/16 – Book Club: All-American Boys by Jason Reynolds – 7
7/7/16 – Retro Video Games – 26
7/8/16 – Arts and Crafts – 22
7/12/16 – Minute to Win It – 26
7/12/16 – Skype Visit with Jason Reynolds – 16
7/14/16 – Hip Hop Dance and Scratch Part 1 – 14
7/14/16 – PPYA Volunteer Meeting – 6
7/15/16 – Hip Hop Dance and Scratch Part 2 – 12
7/19/16 – Maker Day – 30
7/19/16 – Book Club: Illuminae - 9
7/21/16 – Paint Party – 23
7/22/16 – Video Games – 26
7/26/16 – Bowling – 24
7/26/16 – Booktalk – 19
7/28/16 – Mock a Movie: Ghostbusters (1986) – 20
7/29/16 – Board Games – 15

Total Attendance: 331
Registrations: Including Volunteers – 90

Half of the students attending this year are entering Grades 9-12.
28 students have returned for at least two summers (some are on 4 and 5 summers!)

Our numbers are down from our all-time highs of last summer but are right in line with the other quite successful summers we’ve had the past 4 or 5 summers.

As usual, I have the most wonderful teenagers on the planet, and there’s a core group of about 25 kids who’ve been coming to many of the programs. Simple programs like arts and crafts or video games actually seem to be doing better than some of the more flashy, time consuming programs.

The Hip Hop Dance and Scratch workshop was interesting because the dance part of it was amazing but the tech side proved to be a little too complicated for a two hour workshop. However, the dance workshop itself where Javon Harrison (a dance instructor for CMDE in Hackensack) taught the teens how to whip and nae nae was incredible. The teens really enjoyed the lesson. This is one program I would definitely repeat next year without the tech component because I think it would reach a large audience outside of the teens who usually participate.

Maker Day was also a big hit. We had different stations where the teens could try out different tech/maker items (all purchased with the grant from the Hackensack Rotary!). Barb and Manny helped a bunch of teens sew their own drawstring bags using a sewing machine for the very first time. We had makey-makeys and the teens could create a video game controller out of fruit or play dough. They also enjoyed our Little Bits circuit kit and making a designer name sign using our Laser Cutting Machine. A few teens spent the afternoon taking pictures in front of our green screen and photoshopping themselves into funny pictures or building fun things with legos. The most popular item was our button maker. Teen used a discarded book about superheroes or drew their own design.
The event that was the most challenging but enjoyable was the Harry Potter Kick Off Party. We had volunteers (and a few staff members) prepare for the event by making and painting wands and making chocolate frogs to give away. At the event, the students got sorted into their houses, participated in a small scavenger hunt, took their pictures with Ron, Harry and Hermione, made House Buttons, and drank Butterbeer. After a team trivia contest (unsurprisingly won by Ravenclaw), we went to the front lawn to play Quidditch. It was a hot day but the kids really enjoyed running around riding pool noodles and shooting for the goal. The Gryffindor team won a narrow victory. I attached the amazing picture from The Chronicle of the event.

Retro Video Games and the Paint Party were two crowd favorites. Gamers Paradise in Rochelle Park brought a bunch of old game consoles in (from when I was a kid and teenager!) and the teens really loved it. For the paint party, we followed along to a video and made our own paintings. There are studios nearby to do this but it usually costs $30-$40 a person so most of my teens had not experienced this before.

The book club is down in numbers from last year but that’s a blessing because it’s WAY up in engagement. The teens who come actually read the books and have things to say about them. The Skype visit with Jason Reynolds was a huge success.

Children’s Program Highlights, by Mari Zigas

What a month! This is definitely the busiest summer we’ve had - at least in the 5 years that I’ve been here.

Registration started at the end of June and most programs filled up within a week. Gladys’s bilingual events were the first to fill up and close registration, with a mix of kids who have already been coming to her story time plus a lot of new patrons. I think this says a lot not only about her skill set but also shows a real need for bilingual programming.

We were happy to have the Union Street School of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing come in every week for a special story time geared towards the hearing impaired. I picked stories that were fairly short, funny and interactive while one of the teachers signed. The movies I showed of course had subtitles and the crafts were age-inappropriate since most of the kids were a little older than our regular story timers. All of the teachers were so grateful and even showed up to the Teddy Bear Picnic after I invited them, and we are currently planning a bimonthly program with the class in the fall. It might be time for me to learn sign language (in Spanish, of course)!

Junior Arts & Crafts was adorable, as usual, and like most crafty programs, Pinterest was our best friend. This month we made maracas filled with rice and beans, hand-print fish puppets (definitely their favorite), pictures with puffy paint (a mixture of glue, shaving cream and food dye), decorated mini mason jars with washi tape and did q-tip painting to make cherry blossom trees on canvas. These kids were so enthusiastic and the parents loved what they took home every week.
Masshiel has taken on **Chess Club** and does an amazing job pairing kids up depending on their level. We are also lucky enough to have a couple volunteers who are chess experts and are so helpful, especially since we can have up to 20 kids a week coming to play. It’s great to see kids who started as complete beginners and are now playing on their own - not only during the program but regularly in the Children’s Room.

**Bilingual Story Time** is adored by all and even non-Spanish speaking parents have thanked us for having it because their kids are learning new words every week. We use the same themes as regular story hour and Gladys translates the books every week.

As popular as **Mother Goose Time** is, we have decided to revamp it in the fall and turn it into a music and movement program. I have lots of manipulatives from Special Needs Story Time (shakers, scarves, wrist ribbons) that the kids can play around with and I’d really like this class to be more interactive and fun. I may not be able to play the guitar but I found some pretty fun songs that I think the kids (and parents) will enjoy. We have around 20 kids coming to Mother Goose every week this summer and I anticipate the same crowd coming to our new one in the fall.

We’ve had a huge increase in the **Video Game Club** this summer. While this program always has the biggest attendance during the school year, I’ve never had to bring out every single laptop we have and STILL have kids waiting to play while the Wii and XBox are full. This is definitely a fan favorite.

As much as I thought **Beady Buddies** were outdated, I was proven wrong because these kids absolutely love them. They are constantly asking me every day if they can make another one, while carrying around all of the ones they’ve made so far in the last couple of weeks attached to one huge, heavy keychain. In July we made Pokeballs, Pikachu (you can tell they’re big fans of Pokemon Go), lizards, turtles, ice cream cones, and their own initials. (I think JPL Beadies are trending-SC)

Our therapy dog, **Rodney**, came and it’s really nice to see kids who are normally not big readers eagerly pick out books and read to him. When Rodney visits the kids are calm and patient with each other and you kind of want the dog to be in the Children’s Room every day. Yet again another program that parents are grateful that we provide.
Bilingual Science Club was AWESOME and Gladys did a fantastic job coming up with all sorts of creative ideas. In July the kids made sprout houses out of sponges (weeks later we saw tiny alfalfa sprouts emerge), plastic out of milk and vinegar, floating balls (paper cones and straw), and - wait for it - rain in mason jars using shaving cream, water and blue food dye. I know a program is a hit when some of my most difficult-to-please kids can’t stop talking about it.

This was the first time I did a weekly Makers program and it’s been so much fun. We did the marshmallow challenge with toothpicks (good for ultra competitive kids); made catapults out of popsicle sticks, plastic eggs and rubber bands (and after tested out how far they could shoot with mini marshmallows, M&Ms, cotton balls, etc.); and played with the MakeyMakey (one kid couldn’t stop playing Roblox with a penny acting as a mouse). All in all a really great time every week.

While I don’t consider myself an artistic person, I’m happy to say that Arts & Crafts this month has had the same kids coming back every week, with their parents asking me if I can hold a craft day for themselves after seeing what their kids do. We did the perler beads (back due to popular demand), glow-in-the-dark mason jars, and my personal favorite - polaroid scrapbooking, which the kids really loved. Who knew polaroid pictures would make such a big comeback!

Gladys constantly has parents asking for their kids to come to Bilingual Cooking Club. Not only is this a program for the younger kids (which I’m trying to do more of), it’s also bilingual and involves FOOD - a trifecta for success. So far the kids have made fruit smoothies, dirt cups (crushed Oreos, pudding, whipped cream), and healthy banana splits. I’ve seen their parents lingering in the hallway waiting for leftovers.

Obviously we had to celebrate the release of Harry Potter and the Cursed Child so the Friday before it came out we had a release party. I put out a whole bunch of crossword puzzles, word searches and coloring pages in the back corner of the room while watching the first Harry Potter movie. Scholastic sent me a box of prizes for free so I was able to stuff some goodie bags. I borrowed Keri’s cut-outs, robe and sorting hat and the kids had so much fun taking pictures with them. It was a super easy program but really fun. I will never say anything bad about Harry Potter, anyway.
The Teddy Bear Picnic, as always, was a plethora of adorable kids with adorable stuffed animals. I saw a lot of new faces along with our regulars, and it was interesting to hear that they heard about the event from MeetUp (thanks Manny). I am planning on changing up this program for next summer, but overall it was a simple yet sweet event.

The kids had a blast at Friday Night Fun Night and have requested that we do it every Friday (nope). They played hide-and-seek on the main floor, had snacks and watched Zootopia. They really love hanging out at the library after hours and I’d like to try something similar to this in the fall.

Nature Nick’s Animal Adventures was HUGE - I have never seen the auditorium that packed. (Over 100 children and parents – SC) Nick brought with him a kangaroo, spider monkey, snake, and falcon. It was really cool and everyone loved it! You have to see the video of the kangaroo hopping around. Kids go nuts over animals, enough said.

As of Thursday, August 4th, 138 kids have signed up for summer reading on Beanstack and 3,171 books have been logged. I’m anticipating a big crowd at the Summer Reading Club party!

Outreach and Publicity

Report from Manuela Miracle, Public Relations Librarian:

I have started to reach out to target audiences in an effort to increase our visibility to community members who may not have access to computers/social media. The biggest success we experienced was in reaching out to local dance studios. Not only did they all respond that they would gladly post our flyers but one of them volunteered to teach a salsa class free of charge before our salsa concert.

I am now regularly posting our events on 5 different community calendars and I have also reached out to Bergen County to see if they would allow us to post our events on their calendar. In July, we also created two additional meetup groups (one for Book Groups and another for Cultural Events) The Cultural Events Group has 70 followers and the book clubs has 18 followers.

Hackensack Chronicle
July 15, 2016
Photos and caption, Front page
“Going to Hogwarts”

Hackensack Chronicle
July 22 2016 issue
Photos and caption, page 8
“Learning to Dance and Code”
Building and Grounds

Freight Elevator
After extensive repairs, we passed state inspection. However a pump valve broke and we are out of commission once again. This is a relatively less expensive repair but we are waiting for the part.

Basement, Periodicals
Our maintenance worker, Joe Bounassi, with help from Security Guard Najee Anderson, took more shelving down and painted the walls to prepare for the state-sponsored LEAP program computers and equipment. They set up the tables that we purchased and installed the equipment. We are now ready to schedule classes and serve the visually impaired with complete access to the digital world.

Children’s Department
Maintenance has now mounted the DVD cabinets that were moved to make more room for tables and computers that we can hopefully install in 2017. The DVD cabinets are now more safe and secure.

Sound System
We are still in the process of obtaining quotes.

Respectfully Yours,
Sharon Castanteen