

Director's Report, June 2016

	June 2015	June 2016
Children's books and magazines	4448	4733
Children's media	411	403
Adult books and periodicals	4308	4137
Adult media (DVDs, video games, MP3 and CD books, Music CD's)	4072	3027
eContent and Database Usage	1051	1309
Young adult books	611	
Periodicals in-house usage	364	312
Microfilm use	98	69
Reference Questions	1946	1924
Computer Assistance at Reference Desk	485	552
Adult Internet Usage	2844	2579
Children's Internet, iPad, Game Computers, Word Processing Usage	856	915
JPL's wireless usage (reports from our routers, hand devices too)	1686	2440
Children's program attendance, includes guitar classes/concert, and class visits	72	86
YA and Adult Program attendance (Library & Community)	402	520
Young Adult Programs	133	65
Electronic Door Counter (half of entries recorded)	20,617	15,998

Adult Events Highlights



Open Mic on the Lawn

Thursday, June 30, 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Facilitators: Kate Cannarozzi, Sharon Castanteen

Attendance: 35

Ian Gallagher sang folk tunes of the 50s and 60s and a surprising number of the audience sang along.

We had a perfect night, weather-wise, and there were mostly guitar players and singers, except for one or two rap poets. Pictured here is a "regular" at open mic, a Hackensack resident who writes his own songs with powerful lyrics and melodies.



Children's Arts Awards Program
Saturday, June 11, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Facilitator: ICAL and JPL (co-sponsorship)
Attendees: 110

This is a culmination of the Institute for Latin American Culture's art, music and dance education classes for the Hackensack community. Certificates were awarded, children exhibited their talents in art, music and dance. Food and music and art in a warm, welcoming atmosphere on a Saturday night at the library. JPL subsidizes the room and the art supplies for the children.

Spectrum for Living Recruitment Event
June 9, 2016 10 am - 2 pm

Presenters: Silma Gordon, Director and Kim Reitmeyer, VP Human Resources
Facilitator: Catherine Folk-Pushee, librarian
Attendance: 11

Spectrum is hiring for Direct Support Professionals to assist clients with special needs. The event began with an orientation to Spectrum and an overview of available positions. Silma and Kim explained everything from benefits and employee expectations to the drawbacks and bright side of working with special needs clients. They were very straightforward and honest in answering questions as well. After an hour the pre-screening interviews began for those who had signed up ahead with time for anyone else who was interested afterwards. I spoke with Silma and Kim when their interviews concluded and they were very pleased with the event. Even though they only had a small crowd they considered the applicants they interviewed very high quality and would love to work with us again. I proposed the idea of a broader career fair and they were willing to participate in that as well. (Catherine Folk-Pushee)



Cook Book Club
Monday, June 20, at 7:00 p.m.
Facilitators: Genesis Jais and Gladys Cepeda
Attendance: 6

Even though attendance was small, there is a lot of potential enjoyment in this club if we can promote it a bit more.

The book chosen was Chrissy Teigen's *Cravings*. The premise of the cookbook club was that we chose the book and the patron would choose the recipe from there. On Monday night we set up a table (we provided cutlery, paper goods, and refreshments), as the patrons came in we would take their dish and place it on the table; we also made labels for the dishes, so that people would know what they were sampling

A quotes from a patron:

"This was my favorite book! After I return it I'm buying my own copy!"

Next month's Cookbook is Gwyneth Paltrow's *It's All Easy*. (Gladys Cepeda)

Gardening in Small Spaces

Wednesday, June 8, at 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Presenter: Linda Grinthal

Facilitator: Barb Schuit

Total Attendance: 18

Linda Grinthal of Sunset Vista Community Gardens Learning Center in Lafayette, NJ. Linda grew up in Hackensack, went all through the school system here, graduating from Hackensack High School in 1973. Linda discussed and illustrated with PowerPoint, the various components of gardening in small spaces, from preparing the soil, to use of non-toxic materials in the containers, as well as all other aspects of the growth process, including how to preserve and store the bounty that (hopefully!) will be produced.

Linda was very engaging and those in attendance responded well to her willingness to explain things they were not familiar with, as well as asking good questions about practical things. (Barb Schuit)

I'm 55+ What do I do now? Explore ReServe!

Wednesday, June 15, at 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Presented by: Edward Dominguez, Program Officer

Facilitated by: Barb Schuit

Attendance: 8

Attendees learn how to reinvest a career's worth of experience towards serving nonprofit or public institutions. A total of 8 people attended the ReServe session. Their professional backgrounds were; Marketing/Finance, Sales, Administrative Assistant, Health Educator, Real Estate/ Mortgage Industry, Medical Research and Social Work/Psychologist.

Simple Exercise to Keep You Healthy!

Thursday, June 16, at 2:00 p.m.

Presenter: Amy Kalb (Kessler Rehab Center)

Facilitator: Barb Schuit

Attendance: 18

They gave very solid, helpful information, although, from the title of the class, some people expected to have some exercises demonstrated for them to learn about (or have them up exercising, maybe). However, because of the individualized nature of the kinds of exercise/rehab programs provided by physical therapists, they did a good job of emphasizing general preventive kinds of exercise, such as walking and other kinds of exercise to strengthen the heart, as well as other types of exercise to strengthen the muscles and assist with weight loss. (Barb Schuit)

Technology Workshops

Keri Adams

All About Twitter- How to use it/Why should you use it?

Wednesday, June 15, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Attendance: 26

The rescheduled Twitter program had even more people signed up for it than the first one and many were able to attend this. I was very nervous as this was the first tech program I had done in over four years to more than a small group of people, and Twitter is difficult to teach because there are so many interrelated parts. The response was fairly positive, although many participants suggested that the program went too fast because there was too much to cover. As several people requested I repeat the program again, I am going to do a two-part Twitter workshop sometime in the fall.

Other Events, Clubs, etc.:

Book Clubs: 15, Movies: 12

Expungement Workshop (8), Citizenship Class (23), Veteran's Counseling (4) Coloring Club (20): 47

**Computer Skills, Job Search, and Inspect Your Gadget: Kathryn Cannarozzi, Genesis Jais ,
Catherine Folk-Pushee
Total Attendance: 22**

Individual computer instruction is for *Hackensack residents* only. This month included basic Excel, resumes, cover letters, email, online music, online marketing, using a USB drive.

Inspect Your Gadget Report (3 drop-in)

Some of the issues/questions addressed this month:

- Adding music to phone
- Buying and installing an SD card, then transferring files from PC to card
- Downloading eBooks from Overdrive

**English Conversation, Computer Assistance in Spanish and English, and Bilingual Outreach. Michelle
Acosta, Bilingual Library Associate
Attendance: 82**

Spanish computer - 8 people

- Open facebook account
- Facebook overview
- Facebook messenger overview
- About gmail account
- Overview of gmail
- Overview of google apps
- How to download airplane tickets from email
- How to download concert tickets

English computer- 1 person

- Filling out job application for costco and home depot

ESL conversation class = 72

Citizenship one on one - 2 people

Go over civics questions using flash cards. I restrict one on one sessions to those people that have the interview in the next three months or so. We go over the civics questions using flashcards. Study vocabulary words

Literacy Round Table “Why Bergen employers need a literate workforce and how it affects your bottom line”
June 24, 8:30-11:30 AM

This was mostly a networking breakfast that consisted of business leaders and community leaders to focus on literacy on the work place. The goal is to increase literacy productivity in the workplace. Different organizations can help people become literate. Government agencies, Schools, the workplace. Libraries are a big part of literacy. Partnership is a great way to help people become literate. There were many prominent attendees who spoke:

Business Leaders:

- Howard Miller works for One stop Career Center
- Charlotte Sodora works for the Hackensack Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Community Resource Council.
- Sandra Sroka, Dean of Bergen Community College
- Patrick Welton, general manager of Marriot in Saddle River, NJ

Community Leaders:

- Marie Coughlin, Executive Director of BBCLS
- Sharon Rosario, Education Specialist with the Department of Education in Bergen County
- Patrick Hughes, Social worker for Bergen County Jail in Hackensack
- Dr. Joan M. Voss, Bergen County Freeholder

Report by Keri Adams, YA Librarian
Attendance: 65 in library & 900 outreach

Book Club

YA Books for Adult Readers Book Club – 6/4/16 – The Fault in Our Stars by John Green – 7

Outreach

Summer Reading Visits to Hackensack Middle School – 6/7, 6/8, 6/9 – 27 Presentations – approximately 900 students

Presentations went well but not as well as in year’s past. Some challenges:

- Students were not as drawn in by STEM heavy large programs as I’d hoped
- Book trailers for summer reading books weren’t as strong as in previous years (by the end I stopped showing them)
- A depressing book club book dampened the energy

Summer Reading

Sign Up Party – 6/14/16 – 15

At last year’s party I had 40 kids sign up on the first day so you can imagine my heartbreak when it was only 15. Fortunately, sign ups have continued to be slow but steady since then and though I am off my all-time high of last year, I am doing about as well as usual in most other successful years. Dawn and Liz have handled registration for me this year and it has gone really well.

Volunteers

June 11 – PPYA Volunteer Training – 7

June 11 – Event Volunteer Training – 10

- June 18 – Event Volunteer Training – 5
- June 18 – PPYA Volunteer Training – 3
- June 28 – Harry Potter Party Prep – 8
- June 30 – Harry Potter Party Prep – 10

I had training for two different kinds of volunteers (though many of the participants are doing both). The first is your typical event volunteer who helps out with set up, clean up and running a station at an event. The second is for students interested in reviewing books for me. I am on the YALSA Popular Paperbacks Committee this year and as part of that selection committee I need to read paperback books that deal with mental illness or biographies/memoirs for teens. The teens who have volunteered are reading and reviewing books that have either been nominated for the lists or are eligible. I've received a few reviews so far and it has been very helpful in terms of which books I will vote for at the end of the year due to high teen appeal (or lack thereof).

(Cathy, Kate and Liz were also very helpful in helping me prepare for the Harry Potter party!)

Children’s Program Highlights, by Mari Zigas



Normally we don't hold programs in the month of June as we are busy preparing for the summer, but this year we were lucky enough to book Fran Roesemann for Baby Signs, Shenole Latimer for a jazz program, as well as celebrate our first ever Dia de Los Ninos.

Baby Signs with Fran is always a hit, and parents constantly ask for Fran to come back. She plays her guitar, uses manipulatives, teaches sign language, brings out the giant parachute, and more. We are currently trying to book Fran for a music program in the fall.



Shenole Latimer brought in his saxophone for What's All That Jazz About?! and taught kids about the history of jazz using sound effects, riffs, animal noises, and reenactments. While this program was probably geared towards the lower grades and not "for all," the younger kids had a hilarious time and it was a completely new kind of programming that they really enjoyed.

Gladys hosted our Dio de los Ninos celebration on a Saturday morning in early June. As this holiday was to promote literacy, the kids made books out of paper bags and yarn that the kids decorated and they wrote their own stories in their homemade books. It was really cute and the parents got a kick out of being on the cover of the *Chronicle*. Yet another

successful bilingual event that involved everyone!

Gladys and I went to three schools to promote Summer Reading: the 5-6 School, Jackson Avenue, and Fairmount Schools. The slide show we presented was bright, colorful, and included lots of visuals for the kids to see what we offered. Teachers came up to us afterwards and told us how impressed they were by the diversity of events we offered, as well as how happy parents were going to be that we were adding so many bilingual programs.

As of early July, almost 100 kids were signed up for the Summer Reading Club on Beanstack - about 2 weeks after registration started. Almost 600 books have been read and logged! While running the club online requires a lot of one-on-one help for the kids and parents, Beanstack is making Summer Reading organized and streamlined for staff while the kids love seeing their books get logged in and are constantly asking us how many more books until another prize and raffle ticket. Go Beanstack!

Everyone is loving the new carpet!! It makes the room brighter and we get so many compliments every day. We also purchased a new shelf to organize the card and board games which many parents have thanked us for - labels and organization are the key to their happiness.

Outreach and Publicity

Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Meeting

June 23, 8:00 to 9:30 a.m.

Staff member: Manuela Miracle, librarian

Manny met a number of business owners, local leaders and involved members of the community. Among the people she met were: Anita Rivers, Director of Undergraduate Adult and Part-Time Admissions at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Susan Nabors Braisted a manager at Columbia Bank, David Bernstein of Liberty Tax Service and Don Perlman of Blue Dog Graphics.

Hackensack Chronicle

June 100, 2016 issue

Photos and caption, Page 8

“Celebrating Children’s Day”

Hackensack Chronicle

June 17, 2016 issue

Photos and caption, page 3

“All that Jazz”

Hackensack Chronicle

June 24, 2016 issue

Photos and caption, front page

“Learning to Cook”

Professional Development

Staff Name: All JPL Staff

Continuing Education Activity: Staff Day Morning Seminar “Emotional Intelligence in the Workplace” and Afternoon Departmental meetings.

Sponsor: JPL

Date: Friday, June 3, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Length of Activity: 2 hours of seminar training, 2 hours of future-visioning project

Our speaker, Marzena Ermler, does the supervisor training for BCCLS. She is a career coach and a learning and development professional who as a Job Search Central manager at the Science, Industry and

Business Library creates programs and services for job seekers. Prior to her coaching career, she honed her organizational development and coaching skills as NYPL's Learning and Development team manager.

After the interactive session on emotional intelligence, the staff broke up into 6 teams of 5 and envisioned the library of the future. They made posters of imaginary magazine covers featuring Johnson Public Library.

Strategic Planning

Kristi Izzo, Manuela Miracle, and I spoke to Pam Fitzgerald of the Ivy Group, another strategic planning consultant. Here is Kristi's summary of her input. We are now waiting for her proposal.

- *We could go to developers to see if they would be willing to share demographic or other data about population projections they used before determining to build in Hackensack*
- *We discussed wanting to include unused space downstairs as part of the planning process*
- *The need to reach out to users and non-users*
 - *Ivy doesn't use focus groups, but telephone surveys – have caller ID as library number and would tailor survey to us – feel surveys help raise awareness about the library*
 - *Best to do survey after presidential election (we weren't planning to do before then)*
 - *Would have Sharon do executive interviews and give her script and coaching*
- *Ivy group is more focused on quantitative research – use data – census, development plans, GIS map study, Neilson info*
 - *Would not use on-line surveys – limited to those with computer and probably already library users.*

Building and Grounds

Carpeting – Children's Department

Our maintenance team, Pete Lohrmann and Joe Bounassi worked very diligently on this project. They took down an ancient shelf, moved other heavy shelves around and stripped the floors to prepare them for carpeting.

The project is finally complete and we received many compliments on the new carpeting.

Elevator repair

Although, our freight elevator has been repaired and we are now efficiently receiving deliveries and putting our recycling into the van. We are calling almost daily for a coordination of a re-inspection, without much success.

Basement

Our maintenance team has also taken down two Periodicals shelves to make room for the LEAP Program equipment for the visually impaired. Joe Bounassi has been especially helpful in this project.

Sound System

We are still in the process of obtaining quotes.

*Respectfully Yours,
Sharon Castanteen*