

Director's Report, January 2017

	January 2016	January 2017
Children's books and magazines	3892	4215
Children's media	337	318
Adult books and periodicals	4124	3880
Adult media (DVDs, video games, MP3 and CD books, Music CD's)	3347	2648
eContent and Database Usage	1904	1233
Young adult books	476	404
Periodicals in-house usage	213	366
Microfilm use	100	41
Reference Questions	1759	1572
Computer Assistance at Reference Desk	424	599
Adult Internet Usage	2149	2270
Children's Internet, iPad, Game Computers, Word Processing Usage	550	867
JPL's wireless usage (reports from our routers, hand devices too)	1459	2250
Children's program attendance, includes guitar classes/concert, and class visits	146	253
YA and Adult Program attendance (Library & Community)	359	378
Young Adults Programs+Outreach	77	95
Electronic Door Counter (half of entries recorded)	16,437	15,212

Adult Program Highlights



**Open Mic Night – Featured Headliner: Mike Agranoff
Thursday, January 19, 7 to 9 pm.**

Facilitator: Manuela Miracle, Elisabet Paredes

Attendance: 25

Manny has taken over Open Mic, with Liz assisting. She has been` growing our attendance and performances. Her report:

Our headliner, Mike Agranoff was outstanding! I really enjoyed him. He performed a medley of well-known folk music and originals and played Rachmaninoff on a concertina! Mike also gave me a list of his radio contacts that I am excited to try out!

-We had two really outstanding poets, one that was brand new to our Open Mic and has a book of published poetry. Shelley Fowler and D.B Meltzer.

-A new comedian joined our Open Mic. Massimo performed a set centered around library humor.



-Tony and Anthony played guitar and sang songs (these are our regulars).

-We had one young lady new to Open Mic who sang Bolivian folk songs -her name is Karly

-Eve played guitar and sang (a semi-regular)

-We had an outstanding Klezmer musician, Dena Ressler participate.

A few members of Open Mic Night have started communicating with me via email regularly; really building a community. (Manuela Miracle)

Superheroes Pub Trivia at Pointin Still Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Facilitators: Genesis Jais, Mari Zigas, Gladys Cepeda, Braison Travis

Attendance: 37

Our librarians continue to bring more fun to Hackensack. Shown here is our children's librarian collecting answers to questions about their favorite superheroes.

Report from Genesis: *Superheroes was another good showing for pub trivia. It is great when you see groups come back who really enjoyed a different topic of trivia. We started with 8 teams,*

but ended up with 6. It was too hard for one team, while another decided they just wanted to eat and watch without participating. At the end, a participant came up to give us thanks and congrats on a job well done, but always wanted our questions and answers so he could give it to his own library (in Pearl River) so that the can do trivia like us.



February's Trivia event subject is "Friends", the television show.



Food for Thought Cookbook Club

Book: Martha Stewart's Appetizers

Facilitators: Genesis Jais, Gladys Cepeda

Attendance: 9

Guacamole, Cherry tomato BLTs, Ceviche, miso honey wings, turkey and chive pot stickers. Our attendees has a delicious time. One Hackensack resident, Anita Sarajian, calls me every week to praise the program. February's selection is: The Smitten Kitchen Cookbook by Deb Perelman.

Job Search: Land Your Next Job!

Thursday, January 12, at 7:00 p.m.

Presenter: Evan Ardelle, Ardelle Institute

Facilitator: Catherine Folk-Pushee, Librarian

Attendance: 14

Since reactions were mixed, we will not ask this presenter back again.

Report from Cathy: *Evan covered some good information, much of it I was already aware of from other presenters or my own research. He emphasized networking as very critical to the modern job search and gave a few pointers on how to take stock the network one already has along with adding to one's network. He also suggested sending a physical resume and cover letter on higher quality paper and envelope. I had asked a question requesting clarification on this point as I did not think job seekers would get very good results by only sending in a paper resume. That is when he added that it should be in addition to an electronic submission in response to an online job ad.*

There is a definite draw for this kind of program and I will most likely arrange another program on it, just with a different speaker.

Other Events, Clubs, etc.:

Book Clubs: 15

Movies: 8

Coloring Club: 26

Veteran's Benefits Consultations: 4

**Computer Skills, Job Search, and Inspect Your Gadget: Genesis Jais,
Catherine Folk-Pushee
Total Attendance: 28**

Job Search, Applications, and other assistance occurs daily at the reference desk (see statistics on page one). Individual computer instruction is for *Hackensack residents* only. This month: Job Search and Resumes for most sessions, then Basic Internet searching, Email and Power Point.

Highlight from Catherine Folk-Pushee:

I met once with a very nice man who had worked at the same company for over 30 years when they merged with another company and many of the workers were laid off. So, he did not have even the beginnings of a resume. When I spoke with him on the phone I asked him to write out his job description and a list of his skills. Then when he came in for his class we put it all together in a short, but effective resume. I also looked up a few jobs that were similar to what he had been doing. He left happy with his new resume and eager to apply to the job openings in his area of expertise.

Inspect Your Gadget (Genesis Jais)

The winter months are usually light for this drop-in program. There were some repeat customers because as they get more experienced with their devices, they have more technical questions. I had one person that usually comes in for help with his cell phone that wanted to know why his text message didn't sent. He was trying to send a whole page letter through a text message. I explained the limits to the message length and he opted for

sending the message in parts. Other questions were about accessing emails on the phone and using other apps like Maps. Someone else needed help setting up her new phone.

**English Conversation, Computer Assistance in Spanish and English, and Bilingual Outreach. Michelle Acosta, Bilingual Library Associate
Attendance: 86**

Spanish Computer- 8 people

- Building resume -2 people
- Searching for jobs - 3 people
- Assist with filling out application for assisted living
- Filled out an application for ShopRite
- Showed job and career resources
- Showed how to find the career or human resources section of Hackensack Medical Center

English Computer- 2 people

- Overview of tablet -how to send emails, how to send messages on facebook, how to download apps. How to use the apps
- Rosetta Stone how to use from portable device

ESL conversation class = 74

**Report by Keri Adams, YA Librarian, Head of Periodicals
Attendance: 95 (includes Outreach)**

Jerseycat ILLs received – 8

YA Books for Adult Readers Book Club - 1/7/17 - Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys – 6

This book club meeting was on a day we closed early for snow and four of our regular members were unable to make it due to the weather. However, we had three new members join us that day! – one from Barb's old book club, a new member who had called during one of my reference shifts, and my mom. They all seemed to enjoy it and will hopefully stick around!

Booktalks at Hackensack Middle School - 1/26/16 - 3 presentations - 54 students total

This was another successful booktalk that got even better than normal results – every single fiction title I booktalked has been checked out at JPL! Maureen Carroll, the Middle School Media Specialist, said this is the most holds and checkouts she's ever placed on her books after a booktalk as well! (Although I often booktalk titles she does not own yet – otherwise that would be more common).

Teen Tuesdays

1/1/17 - Video Games / Board Games / Minecraft - 5

1/10/17 - Hyperactive Trivia - 10

1/17/17 - Video Games / Board Games / Minecraft - 3 (Liz covered my day off)

1/24/17 - Hour of Code: Drawing with Code - 8 (Liz covered - out sick)

1/31/17 - Board Games - 9 (Cathy, Michelle and Liz covered - out sick)

Children's Program Highlights, by Mari Zigas

After taking off a couple of weeks in preparation for the new session, we resumed programs on January 17th.

Almost fifteen kids returned their **Winter Reading Club** logs in on time and received prizes and certificates - they were so proud and the parents were happy to keep their children reading during the break.

Hallelujah, I've finally found the solution for getting more kids to come to **Sensory Story Time** - do it during the week! This is personally one of my favorite programs because it's so hands-on and every story (we usually do nine per session) has everyone involved. We use the flannel board, music, transparent pictures, read-alongs, fidget toys and more! The flannel activity for *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly* is hilarious and even the parents are requesting that I do it again. At the end of the program we're always exhausted in the best possible way because it's so involved.

The Young & the Restless for Preschoolers just keeps bringing in more kids every time. I've begun to wear work-out clothes on Thursday mornings because it's the most exercise I get all week. Some favorites are the parachute (to Lisa Loeb's "Catch the Moon") along with Hap Palmer's "Slow and Fast" where the kids are literally screaming for joy over running around during the fast part.

Video Game Club, as always, has our highest attendance. Even though Roblox is consistently played on the laptops, the kids have moved on from *WWE 2K14* on the Xbox to *FIFA* (honestly soccer is a lot more enjoyable for me to watch than wrestling so I'm a fan of this change) and now *Super Smash Bros. Brawl* on the Wii is the big hit. Like a lot of our programs, I think it's almost comforting to them - knowing that this club is there every week for them and they're able to hang out with not only other kids who have similar interests as them but also kids who they have never talked to but are able to learn from.



No one can get enough of **Tiny Tots Story Time**. Just the name alone is cuteness in itself but Gladys always picks such engaging books and the crafts are so adorable that parents always want to make one for themselves. This month we did polar bears and Chinese New Year! Did you know that the more dumplings you eat during the New Year the more money you make that year? As someone who is an avid fan of dumplings this was a fun fact to learn - and I'm pretty sure I saw some parents writing that down.

Rhythm & Rhyme is just pure joy for 35 minutes straight. The parents are great and the kids LOVE the songs. When you start to see babies who have been coming every week start to know some of the hand moves to *Wheels on the Bus* and *Shake Your Shakers* it will make your day. Some of the early education students from local colleges come to observe this program and even they get a kick out of it.

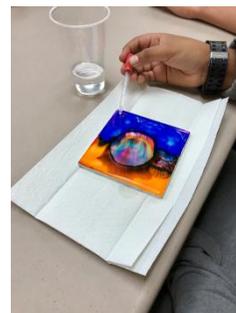
One of our new programs, **Bilingual Reading Helper**, has a small start but it's slowly increasing. Because this program runs for an hour and a half instead of the usual hour, Gladys and I are able to do more one-on-one help with students' reading skills. A favorite for one of our regulars is the *Sofia Martinez* series by Jacqueline Jules and together we have already finished every book we have. It's definitely fun when she tests me on my knowledge of all the Spanish words that the main character uses.

Tech Time is back! This month we did the Hour of Code and got through the whole *Frozen* section, which when you consider the fact that it contains degrees and angles, is a pretty proud accomplishment. We printed out certificates and can't wait for the next session!

We are lucky enough to have a brilliant 8th grade volunteer (one of my former Tech Time graduates from years ago, I may proudly add) who runs our **Chess Club** under the supervision of a staff member. He paired advanced students with beginners, and even enticed some kids who just happened to be watching to come and learn. I can't wait to see everyone's improvement during the next couple of weeks!

This month in **Crafternoon** we made tie dye coasters out of ceramic tiles, sharpies, and drops of rubbing alcohol (so cool) and also more pop culture characters out of perler beads! The coasters came out great and they seriously looked like something I would buy and use myself. The perler beads were a request from the kids and they always come out so cute. The Pokemon characters are definitely their favorite to make.

I had a coworker cover **Lego League** once this month when I was out sick and she was shocked at how quiet the kids were the entire time. Legos may sound simple but being able to build and create their own worlds is probably a little bit therapeutic and almost calming for them. We save everything they make from week to week so seeing the progression is amazing.



Yet again our favorite therapy dog was here for **Reading with Rodney!** Rodney is only able to visit us once a month but he makes such an impact on everybody. I have kids who struggle to get into reading but seeing Rodney makes them excited and eventually they will read a couple of pages to him. Every child that reads gets to give Rodney a treat and have him do a trick! They absolutely love it.

This year I went to the Early Childhood Development Center in Hackensack and assisted the school nurse and Lions Club with the vision screening tests. I saw five classes with around twenty students in each one. It was

extremely rewarding to be able to help and also adorable when the library kids recognized me and kept waving. This is definitely something I'd love to do again next year.

Outreach and Publicity

Report from Manuela Miracle, Public Relations/Government Documents Librarian:

I connected with the Communications Agency for the Ivanhoe Luxury Apartments Complex to see if we could have a table in their lobby or conduct a program there. They are willing to consider this and will present this to the building management.

Small Business Workshop Outreach-January:

Distributed Small Business Workshop Flyers between Camden Street and Sears.
Contacted the Chamber and they graciously agreed to email our flyer to the business community
Contacted SCORE , PTAC, Meadowlands Regional Accelerator at Bergen Community College,
Staples agreed to post our flyer in their Print and Marketing Services area.

I attended Tech Fest at Parsippany Library. The most interesting program presented involved augmented reality and I came away thinking about all of the ways we can utilize this free application. I'd like to use it to overlay artist commentary on signage in the gallery for art displays and in advertising for Open Mic Night. I can take a video clip of a particular performer and overlay that on an image that patrons can scan and get a quick clip of the performer.

I attended my first meeting as co-chair of the BCCLS Public Relations Committee and assumed my new responsibilities. I believe that my serving on this committee will serve us in increased digital circulation and in having a voice in communications that reach our Hackensack population.

For me, personally, the biggest highlight in January was in teaching a patron how to use copy/paste to create a collage in Publisher, change the collage from a Publisher document to a jpg which she could then upload to her Facebook page. This relieved the Ref. Desk for other work as she needed frequent assistance, led to patron learning a new skill and gave our patron the confidence that she could learn what seemed overwhelming at first.

Vision Testing (sponsored by the Lions Club)

Early Childhood Development Center

January 12, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Staff: Mari Zigas

Mari represented the library and screened over 100 children that day.
We were mentioned in the article in the Chronicle, February 3, page 5.

Hackensack Chronicle

February 3

Front page: "Donors asked to help local library, shelter"

County Seat (online only now)

January 9

“Hackensack Resident, Michelle Rice Exhibits Doll Collection at Johnson Library”

Professional Development

Staff Name: Keri Adams

Continuing Education Activity: EBSCONET

Sponsor: EBSCO

Date: December 14, 2016

Length of Activity: 1 hour, 15 minutes

Learned how to use EBSCO website to manage periodicals subscriptions, orders and renewals.

Staff Name: Catherine Folk-Pushee

Continuing Education Activity: Using Science Databases

Sponsor: US GPO

Date: January 11, 2017

Length of Activity: 1 hour

Learned how and when to use three major science databases: Science.gov, PubMed, and WorldWide Science.

Staff Name: Catherine Folk-Pushee

Continuing Education Activity: Tech Fest

Sponsor: Library Link NJ

Date: January 11, 2017

Length of Activity: 3 hours

Learned interesting and engaging ways of introducing patrons to new technology and how to use it in marketing the library:

- Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality, and Mobile Gaming
- QZZR for creating quizzes to help engage the public when staffing a library event table
- Loaning non-traditional items, best practices
- Chromecast tips and tricks
- Programs using coding
- Podcasts for professional development

Staff Name: Keri Adams

Continuing Education Activity: Mock Awards 2017

Sponsor: BCCLS

Date: January 13, 2017

Length of Activity: 4 hours

- Discussed the best books of 2016 with other teen/youth services librarians
- Received handouts Best YA, J, and picture books

Staff Name: Keri Adams

Continuing Education Activity: A Crash Course for the full-time supervisor

Sponsor: Fred Pryor Seminars

Date: January 19, 2017

Length of Activity: 6 hours

Learned strategies for getting the team on board with change, delegation, priorities, tasks, hiring, discipline, and communication.

Building and Grounds

Basement Sprinkler System - Capital Project

No new information yet from Sprinkler company doing the specifications or City project manager assisting me.

Freight Elevator (Sidewalk Lift)

We are waiting for Thyssenkrupp to manufacture the parts needed.

Generator

Mayor Labrosse delegated the project to the city manager, who has contacted the City department heads who can assist us.

Sound System

Barb is arranging for the equipment to be stored until we can find three clear days that the auditorium will not be used.

Upholstery of Children's room chairs

This project is complete and the new color on the chairs fits in perfectly now with the paint and carpeting tones.

Verizon switching from copper to fiber

We have been notified that we will temporarily lose service and also that the circuit lines to the Fire Department and the Security Company will no longer be available in a few months. I am planning to switch these circuits to POTS lines (Plain Old Telephone Service).

Hanging System

We've been told by artists that if we had a better hanging system, they would display their work. I am obtaining prices for hanging systems for the entranceway on Main and possibly for the hallways outside the auditorium. I need to find systems that are easy to install.

Children's Department Window Repair

C&C Masonry replaced metal coping, rivets, and sealant to stop leaks.

*Respectfully Yours,
Sharon Castanteen*