

**Director's Report, May 2017**

	<b>May 2016</b>	<b>May 2017</b>
Children's books and magazines	3963	4290
Children's media	404	359
Adult books and periodicals	4090	3887
Adult media (DVDs, video games, MP3 and CD books, Music CD's)	2916	2632
eContent and Database Usage	1360	1401
Young adult books	503	386
Periodicals in-house usage	297	84
Microfilm use	69	54
Reference Questions	1960	1838
Computer Assistance at Reference Desk	594	606
Adult Internet Usage	2281	2387
Children's Internet, iPad, Game Computers, Word Processing Usage	749	1085
JPL's wireless usage (reports from our routers, hand devices too)	2358	2413
Children's program attendance, includes guitar classes/concert, and class visits	314	485
YA and Adult Program attendance (Library & Community)	467	613
Young Adults Programs+Outreach	74	78
Electronic Door Counter (half of entries recorded)	16,010	15,429

**Adult Program Highlights**

**Open Mic Night: Featuring: Contemporary Broadway  
Thursday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m.  
Facilitator: Manuela Miracle, Elisabet Paredes  
Attendance: 25**

*Very unusual crowd-most people had never come to Open Mic Night before. A mixed crowd of both men and women. The crowd I'd say averaged around 50 years old.*

*We had Shelly, a poet perform to great acclaim. Two singer / guitarists played three songs and another first time singer and guitarist played three songs.*

*The headline act was great! Two of our most grizzled hard rock veterans approached me after the performance and raved about how professional the headline act was and how talented and fun they were to watch. One*



*comment you may choose to include or not, stated. "I'm a hard rock guy, but you'd have to be an (insert expletive here) to not realize how good these guys are. This is just the coolest." (Manny)*

## **Adult Paint Night**

**Tuesday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Facilitator: Genesis Jais**

**Attendance: 17 (The limit was 20)**

Almost everyone registered for the class showed up. Everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves. The instructor, Nicole, was very kind, welcoming, and knowledgeable.

Comments on the program surveys included:



- “Would like to have more classes”
- “It was a very relaxing class”
- “Loved it! Would love to see this monthly! Even for a small charge.”
- “Would like weekly art classes”
- “When is the next class. I have other friends that want to attend.”
- “It was awesome and relaxing. The instructor was well informed. It was a great get together. Satisfied customer :)”
- “I really liked the art class. Would like to see more art instructed classes.”
- “It’s very impressive and relax. We want to do it more.”
- “Best class I’ve taken at Hack Library”
- “Everyone was chatting about how much fun &

creative this was - 1 hr almost not enough. Art and artist classes monthly?”

- “Instructor very knowledgeable about subject - all did well and enjoy!”
- “I would love to take this class monthly. Very therapeutic, very enjoyable! :)”

## **De-Clutter, De-Stress...and Get Things Done**

**Tuesday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Facilitator: Catherine Folk-Pushee**

**Attendance: 30**

*Jamie Novak’s de-cluttering programs are always a crowd favorite. She brings such self-effacing humor to her workshops that people aren’t afraid to admit they see themselves in many of her examples. She is very good at breaking large, overwhelming tasks into manageable chunks that may be handled one step at a time. I came away with some great tips myself. Here are a few examples:*

1. Use a die or dice to choose a random number from your to-do list and do it. No re-rolling!
2. In the kitchen begin with one drawer. Pull everything out and put it in a box on the counter. As you use and clean items put them away back in the drawer. At the end of the month whatever is left in the box you probably don’t need.

3. Leave a note with your kitchen timer of what you were going to do next so when you pick up the project again you won't get discouraged trying to remember where you ended last time.

There were many more and I was certainly not the only one jotting down notes. Jamie left some time at the end for Q&A and very graciously answered everyone's questions. All-in-all it was another entertaining and satisfying program by a regular speaker at JPL. (Catherine Folk-Pushee)

### **“Shondaland” Pub Trivia at Pointin Still**

**Tuesday, May 16, at 7:00 p.m.**

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

**Attendance: 25**

*This was a much smaller showing for Pub Trivia. It might be because this trivia spanned three shows instead of one fandom like trivia normally does. The teams that came were all regulars. They seemed to enjoy themselves. This was the first time this regular team won a trivia event.*

*The winning Team: Gladiators in*



*Dresses*



*The Pointin Still manager gave gift certificates for the winners of this trivia as well. It's a good trick to hopefully keep them coming to trivia so that they will use the gift certificate in the future*

### **Cookbook Club: Jersey Shore Cookbook**

**Monday, May 22, 7 p.m.**

**Facilitators: Gladys Cepeda, Genesis Jais**

**Attendance: 8**

*Overall it seems like people tolerated the book, but were not that enthused by it. The cookbook was slightly dependent on certain ingredients being in season, but the seasons are a bit late this year. Three people made the same recipe, Blueberry Scones, but they all came out different, so that was interesting.*

*The New Jersey Cookbook started a regional cooking theme for the next couple of months. Next month we will be looking at the Gran Cocina Latina by Maricel E. Presilla. (Genesis Jais)*



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

Book Clubs: 23

Coloring Club: 22

Veteran's Benefits Consultations: 4

Immigration and Naturalization Consultation: 5

Expungement Seminar: 2

**Computer Skills, Job Search, and Inspect Your Gadget: Genesis Jais,  
Catherine Folk-Pushee  
Total Attendance: 21**

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: Mostly Excel, then Job Search and Resumes, Basic Internet Searching, LinkedIn and online sources for continued learning. Other Topics covered: ReferenceUSA, editing and uploading videos, computer maintenance

**Highlight from Catherine Folk-Pushee:****Inspect Your Gadget: 3**

*This month was mostly tablet assistance.*

**English Conversation, Computer Assistance in Spanish and English, and Bilingual Outreach. Michelle  
Acosta, Bilingual Library Associate  
Attendance: 208**

Spanish computer class - 13 people

English computer class -3 people

Citizenship computer class: 57

ESL Conversation class: 53

Pilot ESL Conversation class: 10

- Starting a pilot ESL class on Tuesday 4-5 pm.
- The first class 6 people showed up, second class 2 and the third class 2
- I am still not sure if I should make it public. I want to make sure people will come to the class

*Immigration consultation report from Ada Torres:*

- May  
I saw 3 people with different issues.
- June  
I saw 5 people (some showed up with family). They mainly had citizenship questions and one had an issue with adjusting his status through family. I believe I was able to help them all by answering their questions.

### *Presentations*

- FDU May 26

I was invited to give a presentation at the language school of FDU about my Immigrant story and how libraries helped me learn English using their free resources

- Speaker Series May 31

Presentation to students trying to get their GED at Bergen Community college in Hackensack

### *Volunteers for June*

- There will be two volunteers teaching ESL conversation class for the summer. They are both ESL teachers at a community college.

### Guitar class concert 6/3

Another successful guitar concert where 64 people attended. Children got to show their new talent to their parents and caregivers.

Evening Citizenship Classes, presented by Dana Dasch-Goldberg: 6 attendees.



### **Report by Keri Adams, YA Librarian, Head of Periodicals Attendance: 78 (includes outreach)**

JerseyCat ILLs – 2 Received

*YA Books for Adult Readers Book Club*

5/13/17 - Trouble is a Friend of Mine by Stephanie Tromly – 7

*Teen Tuesday. Elisabet Paredes assisted*

5/2/17 - Half Day Movie: Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them - 6

5/9/17 - Cancelled

5/16/17 - Video Game Trivia - 6

5/23/17 - Video Games / Pop Culture Magnets - 12

### *Outreach*

5/2/17 – Met with School Media Specialists to work on Summer Reading Lists

5/24/17 – Lunch Table at Hackensack High School - 35 students

5/31/17 – Presentation with Michelle for the High School Equivalency Program at Bergen Community College – 12 participants

### Children’s Program Highlights/Special Events, by Mari Zigas

Attendance in our weekly programs has skyrocketed! The Children’s Room is packed with kids almost all day. The after-school regulars love having an activity to do every day and parents are constantly thanking us, especially with the **Bilingual Reading Helper** and **Sensory Story Time**. As crazy as the Children’s Room gets, it is so rewarding to see this many kids coming to the library.

Some specials from this month:



For the first time ever we celebrated **Star Wars Day** on May 4th (May the 4th be with you!). The kids watched *Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope* while making lightsaber keychains out of perler beads. It was a hit and we had a whole range of kids stop by and make one. *Star Wars* will live forever!

**Susie Lee Jin**, author of the adorable picture book, *Mine!*, came to visit our Tiny Tots Story Time group on May 24th. Not only did Susie do a hilarious interactive story time with an oversized copy of her book, she also did a short

magic show, told a couple jokes, drew an original sketch for the Children’s room, and organized a fun craft where all the kids made their own personalized bunny rabbit puppets! Everyone - including parents - were thrilled and it was a great time!



Photo highlights of regular classes:



## Professional Development

### Super Library Supervisor, part 3 and 4

**Staff:** Keri Adams

**Date:** May 3, 2017

**Sponsor:** Library Link NJ

**Length:** 11 hours

- Learned about basic Human Resources information such as FMLA
- In order of supersession: Federal Law State Law, contract, past practice.
- Follow the same rules for Teen volunteers as you follow for teen employees
- When you document, include what you did to set them up for success
- More effective meetings
- Communication and conflict resolution
- Don't block listening by rehearsing what you will say or reassuring people before they Finish talking

### New Service in preparation stages (Genesis Jais):



The library will be offering a loan of “mobile hot spots”, so Hackensack residents without Internet or with Internet at home but requiring mobility outside of the home, can be served. We were able to use a government resource for reduced pricing. We have 10 hotspots for only \$1,200 per year for all of them. Mobile Beacon is the company.

### Special Thank You Tweet from author of *The Enchanted*:

*“I love this! Thank you Johnson Library—libraries are so close to my heart as they saved my life. Hope the book club has a great talk.”—Rene Denfeld*

### Hackensack Collaborative Outreach Meeting

**Tuesday, May 30, 10 a.m. to 12 noon**

**Staff:** Sharon Castanteen

Information about homelessness, the shelter, and mental health services was shared in a collaborative atmosphere with representatives from various human services agencies in the County. Highlighted point: Bergen County was the first county in the nation to end chronic homelessness, as per official definition of “chronic”.

## Building and Grounds

### *Basement Sprinkler System - Capital Project*

Engineers from Millennium Fire Protection has made a proposal to produce specifications for a bid packet. The proposal is for \$5,500, which is under the quote threshold of \$6,000, according to our QPA, Jim Mangin.

### *Charging Stations*

We were given a contract award in the amount of \$5,298, thanks to the hard work of Keri Adams. We can now install two charging stations in the library for phones and tablets with a screen tied into the Office of Emergency Management for news and updates about weather advisories, etc. This is part of a long process of working with the OEM to become an emergency shelter. A generator is the next step.

### *Generator*

Still waiting for the very busy project manager, Wayne Vriesma, to decide if we have a place far enough away from the building to place a 300W generator.

### *Miscellaneous*

We had to take down the Raccoon display temporarily for lawn maintenance. We also had rats from the BCAP building trash next door (building was empty, awaiting demolition). We have united with Ed Decker, the landlord for the adjacent buildings to fight the problem. Painted and sanded the freight elevator car, which we use every day for deliveries, sending books to other libraries, recycling, etc.

*Respectfully Yours,  
Sharon Castanteen*