

Monthly Report January 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,292	12,792	68,494	48 Events & Activities, 616 Participants
St. Cloud	18,903	8,099	14,842	76 Events & Activities, 1,335 Participants
Poinciana	8,771	7,828	27,034	46 Events & Activities, 628 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,456	4,771	15,734	45 Events & Activities, 454 Participants
West Osceola	13,861	8,231	18,906	49 Events & Activities, 840 Participants
Kenansville	184	101	3,323	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation

80,588

Circulation

Print: 63,467
Virtual: 17,121

New Card Registration

Cards: 811
eCards: 165

Holds Placed

7,368

Phone Calls to Call Center

7,743

TechCentral

Visits: **64** 3D Prints Processed: **44**

Volunteering

Volunteers: **60** Hours Donated: **185**

Study Room Uses

622

Room Reservations

145

Notary Visits

28

Reference Questions

13,237

Storytimes

Storytimes Held: **80** Attendees: **1,434**

English for Families grant award

The Osceola Library System was one of only 6 public libraries in Florida to be awarded the English for Families grant from the Florida Humanities Council. The program, which was developed by Orange County Library System for the National Endowment for the Humanities, provides funds to assist libraries present workshops and training for non-native English speaking children and families who want to improve their reading proficiency. The grant will fund evening programs at two branches where there is a high Spanish-speaking population and support a robust collection of materials for checkout and use with the program. Program events will start in March. The Library previously offered the successful Prime Time Family Reading program, another grant from the Florida Humanities Council, where Library storytellers gathered with families over food and books to reinforce the importance of reading together as a family to build the foundations of literacy.

TechCentral updates

The Osceola Library System's TechCentral makerspace has received some much needed updates. Virtual Reality is proving to be the most popular feature of TechCentral and to meet the demand, a second gaming computer was purchased in addition to updated Oculus Quest 2 virtual reality headsets. Fans were installed to provide additional air circulation in the Sewing Studio. Equipment for preserving memories on 8mm film, paper photographs and cassettes was purchased. And a laser engraver and Cricut vinyl cutter were added at patron request. Staff are finishing up training and hope to have the equipment available soon for reservations and classes.

Open Mic Night

TechCentral hosted its first Open Mic Night at the Hart Memorial Library. Participants were encouraged to bring their talents to share. From music to art to spoken word, amazing talent was on display. Participants performed solo singing, group bands and poetry while Library staff created the perfect atmosphere with stage lighting and sound on point. Future Open Mic nights will be planned at several libraries to highlight both the technology and staff expertise available in TechCentral and the plethora of talent in our county.

Other January activities:


- **Emphasis on Branding:** Standardized email signatures, updated color palettes and a cleaned-up logo are just some of the updates the Library is making to the look and feel of its signage, branding and promotions.
- **58 Years of the Golden Ticket:** The West Osceola Library spent a magical day celebrating the publication of the beloved children's book, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. No Hornswogglers or Vermicious Knids allowed!
- **Designer Dragon Eggs:** It's Dragon Appreciation Day and how better to celebrate than creating a beautiful dragon egg – baby dragon not included.
- **Deerwood Elementary School Tour:** 87 students toured the Poinciana Library, learning about Library programs and services, followed up by a fun STEAM activity and book talk inspired by *Amari and the Night Brothers*.
- **Wild About Reading outreach:** 172 people enjoyed free admission to the Wild Florida nature park with their Osceola Library card and participated in fun library-themed activities.
- **ALCO Library card drive:** Library staff interacted with Adult Learning Center of Osceola students and connected 68 students with new Library cards.
- **Rental Assistance Navigation event:** 40 people linked up with local agencies to sign up for housing assistance and other government services.
- **Inspire Your Heart With Art:** Local artist Jennicel Bolanos taught the special technique of Still Art painting to 21 attendees at the Buenaventura Lakes Library.




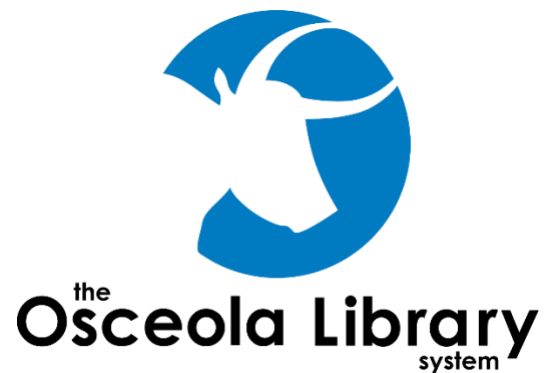
Above: Library staff set up with giveaways and goodies our regular Wild About Reading outreach at the Wild Florida nature park in beautiful Kenansville.

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Osceola  Library



The Library refreshed its color palette, refined its logo and updated its font selection to present a cleaner, bolder version of its branding.



Left and Above: Students from Deerwood Elementary explore “waterproof sand,” inspired by the book *Amari and the Night Brothers*, during a tour of the Poinciana Library.

Below and Right: Budding artists explored Still Art painting, guided by local artist Jennicel Bolanos at the Buenaventura Lakes Library’s Inspire Your Heart with Art program.

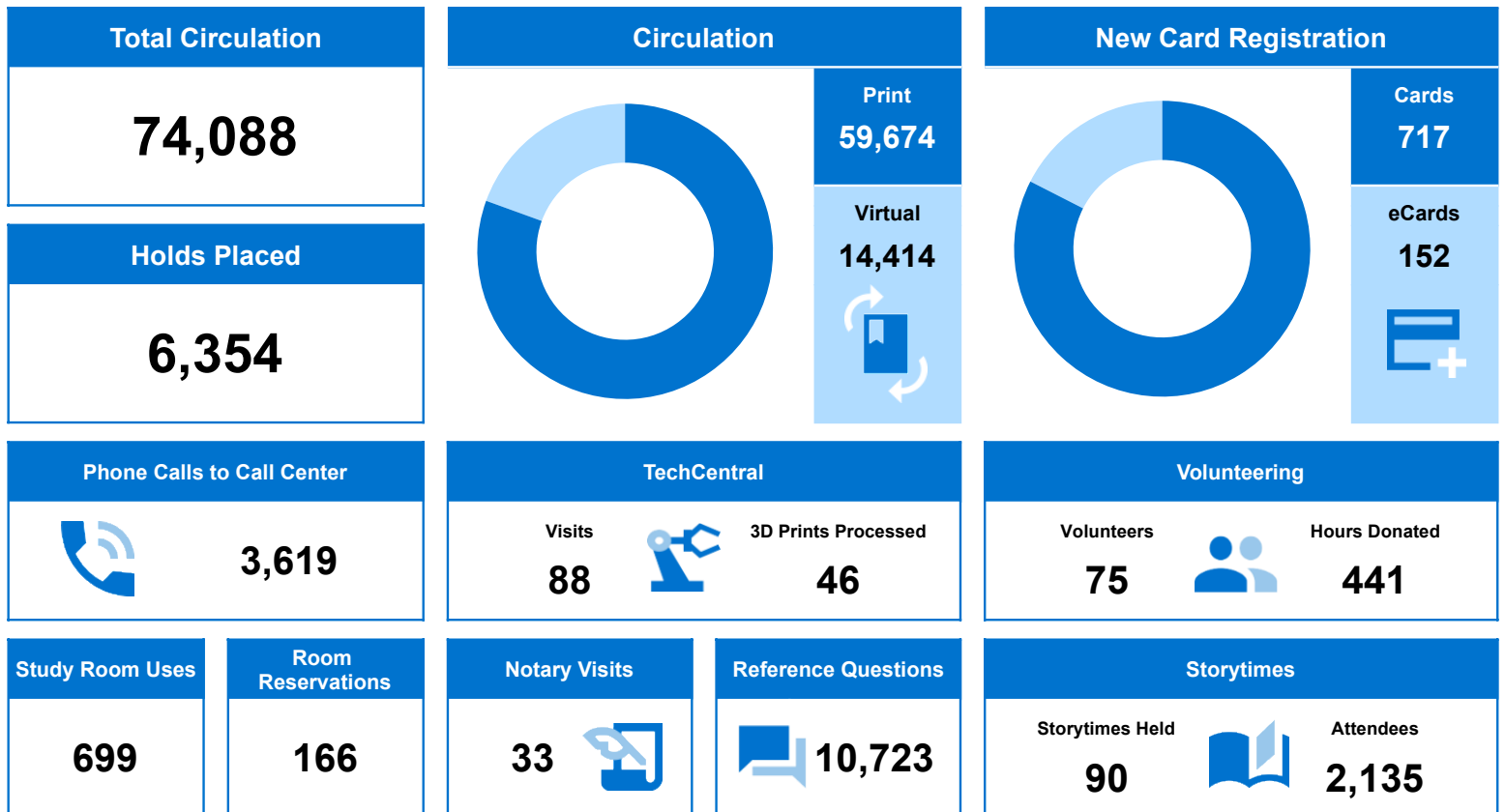


Monthly Report February 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	15,041	13,671	61,341	60 Events & Activities, 691 Participants
St. Cloud	18,255	8,142	16,066	75 Events & Activities, 1,381 Participants
Poinciana	7,936	7,878	27,551	44 Events & Activities, 670 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,090	4,837	16,218	48 Events & Activities, 625 Participants
West Osceola	13,195	8,337	21,620	61 Events & Activities, 957 Participants
Kenansville	157	112	2,921	N/A

System Stats at a Glance



Celebrating Black History Month

February is Black History Month and the Osceola Library System planned and presented programs that highlighted how Black Americans have made unique and enduring impact on the arts and sciences, societal and historical change, and community connections.

Highlights included:

- Civil Rights Activist Diane Nash (part of the Walking Library): 33 attendees gathered together at the St. Cloud Library to learn about the essential contributions of student sit-in organizer, Freedom Rider and founding member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, Diane Nash, then explored downtown St. Cloud in honor of her role in organizing the walking protest of the Civil Rights movement.
- History of African Jewelry Making: 28 attendees learned the cultural and artistic significance of African beadwork techniques and left with their very own wood bead bracelet.
- African American Read-In: Local artists and authors explored the cultural and artistic impact of Black Americans through the reading of poetry, literature and other spoken word arts in this event in partnership with the City of Kissimmee. The Library helped with hosting duties and provided free copies of books by Black authors for children and adults.

First CARES-funded COHS graduate

The Osceola Library System held a ceremony for its first graduate of the CARES Act-funded Career Online High School program. Tammy Putnam enrolled in the program in May 2021 having dropped out of high school in the 10th grade. She worked two jobs to take care of her family and eventually found employment with a local company building fiberglass boats. To progress higher in her company, she needed to complete her high school education. She found the online COHS program to be a convenient way to achieve her diploma while maintaining her job and taking care of her family. Dressed in a cap and gown provided by the Library, Tammy received her diploma alongside her children, husband and mother-in-law as they celebrated her accomplishment. TechCentral staff filmed a video and shot photos to aid the Library in promoting the COHS program.

ARPA-funded AWE stations debut

With funds provided by the American Rescue Plan, the Library purchased 11 AWE Learning stations for all 6 libraries in an effort to help slow learning losses endured by students during the COVID pandemic. The workstations are designed to engage students ages 2 up to 12 in learning activities to enhance language, literacy, math, and science skills in English, Spanish and French. The stand-alone workstations use games, music, color, and fun characters with age-appropriate content to improve academic achievement and enhance school readiness. Additional ARPA funds will be expended on STEAM kits and Launchpad tablets to compliment the AWE stations with the goal of providing additional tools to combat learning losses documented during the COVID pandemic.

Other February highlights:

Museum Art Kits: The Library has again partnered with the Rollins Museum of Art to distribute and promote the Museum Art Kits. Kits were available at our Hart Memorial, Poinciana and West Osceola Libraries. The Library promoted on social media and the kits are always a hit.

American Sign Language for Beginners: This popular multi-week course kicked off in February at the Hart Memorial Library. The program provides a basic introduction to ASL taught by deaf instructors through Library partners ASL Services. 146 students attended these workshops in February.

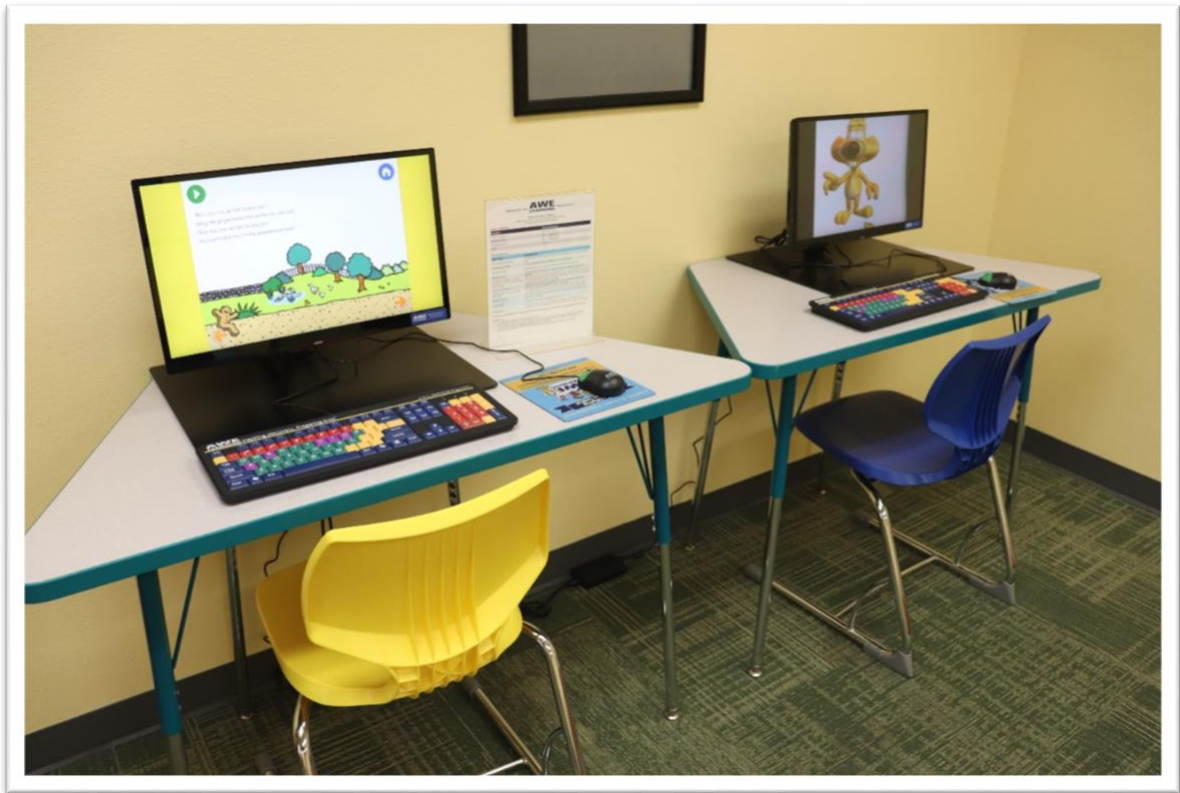
Spread the Sweetness: Nutella was the star of the day at this West Osceola Library program that celebrated the delicious hazelnut spread through a history lesson and some taste-testing. 13 people attended.

PBS KIDS Time: We continued our partnership with PBS affiliate WUCF with these online storytimes in English and Spanish that also feature at home crafts to follow along. These virtual programs reached 187 kids and parents.

Intermediate Guitar: After the success of Beginning Guitar at the Hart Memorial Library, this multi-week TechCentral class takes participants farther into their guitar journey. 19 people participated in February.



Left: The Library partnered with the City of Kissimmee to present the African American Read-In event, part of a national effort to elevate Black voices through literature



Above: Each Library received AWE literacy workstations as part of an ARPA-funded grant designed to add literacy and learning tools to help learning losses associate with online learning and the COVID pandemic.



Left: Tammy Putnam is the Library's first Career Online High School graduate from the CARES-funded program. Her school diploma will help unlock doors to promotional opportunities with her employer and helped her achieve her educational goals conveniently.

Below: The art of African bead work is explored in this hands-on program for families where participants made beautiful beaded bracelets.



Monthly Report March 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,411	14,890	79,814	77 Events & Activities, 904 Participants
St. Cloud	21,796	9,166	20,342	90 Events & Activities, 1,624 Participants
Poinciana	9,469	8,860	31,244	60 Events & Activities, 772 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,526	5,383	19,912	60 Events & Activities, 761 Participants
West Osceola	14,168	9,853	30,383	67 Events & Activities, 1,235 Participants
Kenansville	244	115	3,723	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

<h3>Total Circulation</h3> <p>84,177</p>	<h3>Circulation</h3> <p>Print 67,614</p> <p>Virtual 16,563</p>	<h3>New Card Registration</h3> <p>Cards 749</p> <p>eCards 148</p>
<h3>Holds Placed</h3> <p>6,914</p>	<h3>Phone Calls to Call Center</h3> <p>3,634</p>	<h3>TechCentral</h3> <p>Visits 151</p> <p>3D Prints Processed 57</p>
<h3>Study Room Uses</h3> <p>802</p>	<h3>Room Reservations</h3> <p>183</p>	<h3>Notary Visits</h3> <p>27</p>
		<h3>Reference Questions</h3> <p>12,834</p>
		<h3>Volunteering</h3> <p>Volunteers 51</p> <p>Hours Donated 440</p>
		<h3>Storytimes</h3> <p>Storytimes Held 96</p> <p>Attendees 2,332</p>

New Social Worker starts

The Osceola Library System officially launched its Social Worker in the Library project with the hiring and introduction of Matthew Jarmon. The program is made possible by funding through from the American Rescue Plan Act.

The Osceola Library System is one of only a handful of public libraries in the nation to offer an embedded Social Worker in its libraries. As libraries evolve into community hubs that link patrons to social services through free Internet and are a space where all types of people gather to learn, rest/recharge and connect, the requirement for more specialized expertise in the diversity of our patrons' intimate needs is felt.

Matthew has nearly 10 years of experience providing support and care to children and families in Florida and Tennessee and holds a degree in Sociology from Jacksonville University. He will offer individual and family assistance and referral in many important areas such as mental health counseling, food assistance and LGBTQIA+ support.

Matthew will spend the majority of his time at the Hart Memorial and Buenaventura Lakes Libraries providing one-on-one assistance through walk-in and appointments. He will be available some Saturdays at the Poinciana Library and for drop-in help while in the libraries and will also be active in the community by promoting his services and making meaningful connections with non-profits, religious groups and local government agencies.

Llama Llama Party for 1000 Books Before Kindergarten

The Osceola Library System for several years has supported the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten reading program that encourages parents and caregivers to share 1000 books with their child to help jumpstart a great beginning to their education. The Library wanted to highlight this reading challenge that is offered through the Beanstack reading app and what better way than a visit from an 8-foot llama! The character created by author Anna Dewdney made a special appearance at our Llama Llama Read-A-Rama Pajama Party at four of our branch libraries. Partners Learn 2 Read and Help Me Grow were also on hand to share in the festivities which included making llamas decorated with yarn and a color words activity. Library staff shared with participants how easy it is to log in to the Beanstack app, track reading time and how kids can add their hand print on the Tree of Knowledge when the 1000 books milestone is reached. 35 new participants are taking on the challenge and 79 people attended the programs.

Government Day with Leadership Osceola

The Osceola Library System presented as part of Government Day for the Osceola Chamber's 2022 class of Leadership Osceola. Leadership Osceola is a year-long exploration of the Osceola County community broken down by topics or areas of service, such as Education, Government or the Arts. Participants are key players in local businesses, non-profits and government.

In the 2 hour workshop, participants learned about many of the services and resources available to Osceola citizens. Library BINGO was a fun introduction to identifying by name valuable services and resources. The Youth team led hands-on STEAM activities as a way to highlight how the Library aligns its programming along with the Chamber's and School District's educational goals using STEAM toys and games. Tours through the Hart Memorial Library presented by Library staff showcased the TechCentral makerspace, Collection Services, Children's area with sensory inclusive aids, along with what's available in public spaces. All attendees had the opportunity to receive a free headshot to use with their resumes or online presence, plus sign up for a Library card which half were able to do. The group left with lots of goodies and information to remind them of their visit and we're looking forward to next year.

Other March activities:

Women's History Month: Through history, film, art and science, the Library celebrated the contributions of important women on society. Highlight programs included a walking tour of Mt. Peace Cemetery exploring the lives of early women' settlers, Pioneer Women of St. Cloud, Fashion Rewind: Styles of the Early St. Cloud Settlers, and a celebration of women authors through storytime and afterschool programs.

Paint and Sip: This program created at the Poinciana Library debuts as a recurring St. Cloud Library program taught by staff and with great results. 26 people gathered to paint together while sipping a refreshing beverage.

Sewing for Beginners: This TechCentral class provides hands-on instruction using Brother sewing machines each Friday afternoon for adults and teens.

Afterschool Programs: The Wednesday afternoon fun returns afterschool with programs for school age kids such as Creativity Corner at the West Osceola Library, STEAMWorks at Poinciana and St. Cloud, and weekly variety program at the Hart Memorial Library.

Kowtown Outreach: Library staff were on hand in the Lakefront Park to celebrate the 139th birthday of the City of Kissimmee. Staff gave Library cards, promoted TechCentral and Library resources, and talked up Summer Learning activities debuting in June to 180 people.

English for Families: This Florida Humanities grant funded program launched on March 21 and continued on March 28 with 52 people in attendance. The program led by Library Youth staff aims to use family dynamics and support teach English language proficiency.



Above: 26 budding artists explore their creativity in this staff-led art program at the St. Cloud Library. The Paint & Sip class also featured a refreshing beverage to round out a night of fun!



Left: Library staff set up a welcoming table with lots of resources to share, such as Summer Learning previews and VR headsets, as they connected with attendees of the Kowtown Festival in celebration of Kissimmee's 139th birthday at the Lakefront Park.



Above and Right: Llama visited several libraries to help jumpstart the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten challenge on Beanstack.



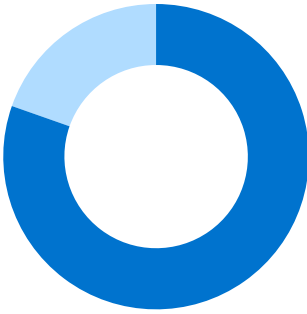

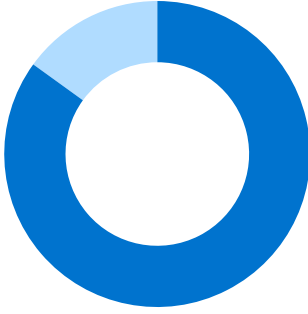







Left: In celebration of Women's History Month, local historian Larisa Roderick leads a group through Mt. Peace Cemetery. This program, Women's History From Beyond, is part of the St. Cloud Library's "Walking Library" series, taking patrons outside the Library to explore the lives of early women settlers.

Monthly Report April 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,746	14,822	71,181	60 Events & Activities, 1,010 Participants
St. Cloud	21,402	9,139	19,982	68 Events & Activities, 2,061 Participants
Poinciana	8,688	8,282	32,913	57 Events & Activities, 1,098 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,079	5,193	18,375	47 Events & Activities, 635 Participants
West Osceola	12,877	8,573	25,847	49 Events & Activities, 1,101 Participants
Kenansville	229	102	2,233	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation 80,901	Circulation  <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #0072bc; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Print 65,021</div> <div style="background-color: #0072bc; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Virtual 15,880</div>  </div>	New Card Registration  <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #0072bc; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Cards 712</div> <div style="background-color: #0072bc; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">eCards 126</div>  </div>	
Holds Placed 6,287		Phone Calls to Call Center  3,261	TechCentral <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Visits 121  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> 3D Prints Processed 58 </div> </div>
Study Room Uses 864	Room Reservations 173	Notary Visits 27 	Reference Questions  10,793
		Volunteering <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Volunteers 62  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Hours Donated 535 </div> </div>	
		Storytimes <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Storytimes Held 91  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Attendees 2,475 </div> </div>	

Earth Day with Community Shredding and Book Sale

The Osceola Library System celebrated Earth Day on April 23 with a Community Shredding Event, plus Earth Day themed activities and the first book sale since COVID closed book sales in 2020. The Saturday event at the St. Cloud Library was attended by 360 people bringing boxes and bags of items to be shred then leaving with fun crafts and “recycled” books. At least 14 bins of shredded waste was generated, a large amount according to the recycling contractor. Even folks from Osceola County government brought documents to be disposed of! The St. Cloud Friends of the Library raised over \$1200 to support Library programming and services. Other activities included a presentation by Library partner Love Makes Me Grow which helps to teach the benefits of growing your own food, in addition to a giveaway of seeds to start personal gardens. The event was complimented by free face painting and an opportunity to learn about geocaching, which is a fun way to get out into nature. Community response was very positive and more events will be planned in the future.

TechCentral’s Open Mic Night

TechCentral’s Open Mic Night at the Osceola Library System’s Hart Memorial Library is taking off! With a dedicated (and very musical) team from TechCentral setting up the Lillie Room like an intimate club with dimmed lighting and stage design, 40 attendees and participants jammed and sang the night away on Tuesday, April 5. Open Mic Night will have a regular space on our event calendar as a way to create cultural connections and promote TechCentral's resources like the Recording Studio and Mac Lab.

Sensory Room Opening and Sensory Play Dates

The St. Cloud Library celebrated the opening of their Sensory Room on Saturday, April 2. St. Cloud Friends of the Library were on hand to help introduce this new service to the community that is now available to be “checked out” by patrons needing a quiet space due to sensory processing challenges. The room is filled with the soothing sounds of a water feature, dim lighting and textured art to help provide a calming space for those who need a change of atmosphere. On the same day, Youth Services staff presented a Sensory Playdate at each branch library designed to “explore the five senses” with activities that help those on the Autism spectrum enjoy storytime. 101 people enjoyed both programs.

One Book, One Community

This year’s One Book, One Community collective read is *Framed* by James Ponti. The Library hosted weekly events to introduce young readers to this classic suspenseful tale about a young detective working with the FBI to help thwart the biggest art heist in United States history! The *Orlando Sentinel* provided free copies of the book and Library staff created fun activities that brought the story to life. 138 kids and families took part in April’s event – a May wrap-up with the author himself is on the calendar!

Other April activities:

National Library Week: To celebrate this annual event, the St. Cloud Library planned a week-long series of programs called Love My Library designed to highlight the “valuable role libraries play in the community,” plus Library staff received library/book themed tote bags in recognition National Library Workers Day and their enduring contributions to the success of the Library.

First Celebration News article: The West Osceola Library’s Adult Services Librarian Paola Grimes is preparing monthly reviews of upcoming programming and new services for publication in the Celebration News magazine available in print and online. The article will be a full-page feature each month.

Construction begins at BVL Library: There’s progress ahead at the Buenaventura Lakes Library where Commissioner Viviana Janer has given the go-ahead for interior and exterior renovations to help increase the use of WiFi after library closed hours and create more accessible study spaces.

Flex Your Fingers: Fine Motor Skills Workshops: This series continues to draw large numbers of kids and parents enjoying activities that help strengthen fine motor skills like using scissors and hand-writing. With programs at both St. Cloud and Poinciana Libraries, 206 kids and grown-ups participated in April.

Toho Water advertisement insert: Through a partnership with local utility company Toho Water Authority, the Library promoted essential services through an insert in the monthly bill, reaching over 100,000 customers in Osceola and Polk counties.

Hop on Downtown outreach: The Hart Memorial Library partnered with Kissimmee Main Street to be a Jelly Bean stop during this Easter event. Staff decorated the front window with a bunny-themed display and Drag Queen Storytime was the feature event in the Lillie Room.

Wild About Reading outreach: Library staff joined together with the Wild Florida Adventure Park to present a family-friendly day of activities, highlighted program information and face painting, plus all guests with a Library card received free entry to the gator park.

Faux Garden Terrarium: One of the many creative craft programs offered for adults, the Faux Garden Terrarium program at the Poinciana Library had patrons filling their terrariums with all kinds of accessories such as colorful rocks, fake plants, gnomes and skulls!



Discover ebooks, audiobooks, language classes, programs for all ages, technology and more - **ALL FREE** with your library card!

Books are just the beginning!

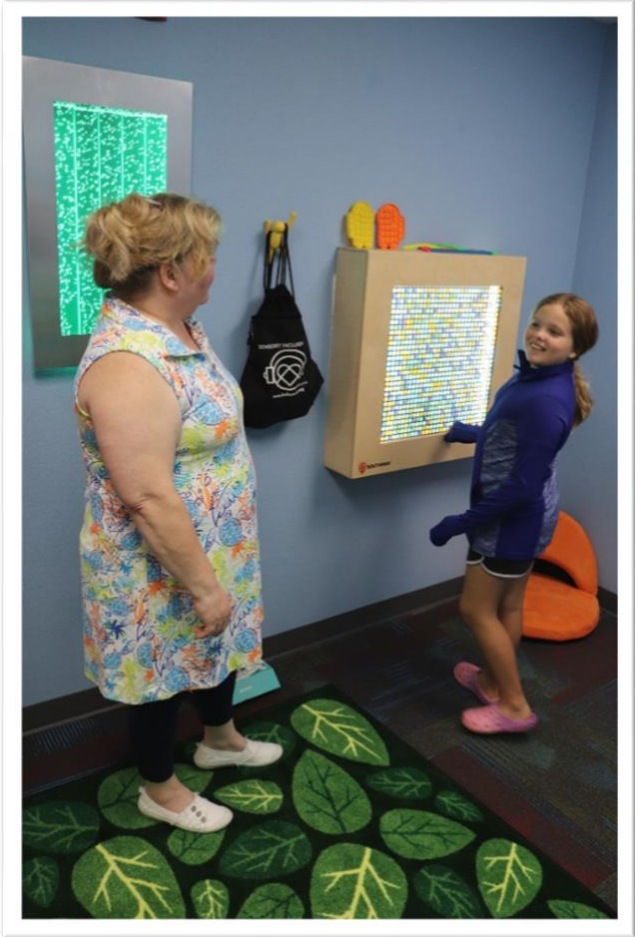
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Above: This eye-catching graphic went out into the bill inserts of over 100,000 Toho Water Authority customers in Osceola and Polk counties.



Above: Guest artists jam during TechCentral's Open Mic Night.

Right: Youth Services Librarian Crystal Hamrick demonstrates how to use the newly launched Sensory Room at the St. Cloud Library.





Above: A sampling of the creative faux terrariums crafted at the Poinciana Library's adult series, Saturday Crafternoon.

Below: Youth Services Manager Lisa Jones connects with patrons at Wild Florida during the Wild About Reading outreach.





Left and Below: Hundreds of attendees rifled through recycled books and brought their old papers for shredding during the St. Cloud Library's Earth Day celebration.

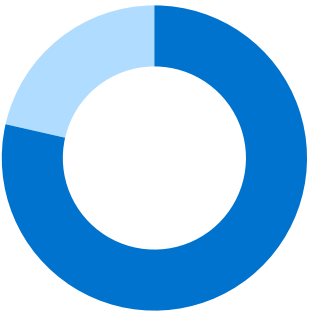
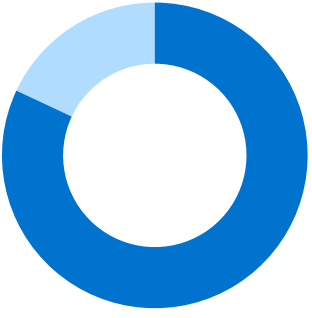







Monthly Report May 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,236	15,454	73,071	57 Events & Activities, 972 Participants
St. Cloud	21,138	8,444	19,449	66 Events & Activities, 1,329 Participants
Poinciana	9,059	8,240	31,177	53 Events & Activities, 920 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	4,974	4,756	16,980	55 Events & Activities, 816 Participants
West Osceola	12,792	8,472	25,534	36 Events & Activities, 947 Participants
Kenansville	218	85	3,628	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation 82,007	Circulation  <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column;"> <div style="border: 1px solid #007bff; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Print 64,417</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #007bff; padding: 5px;">Virtual 17,590</div> </div>	New Card Registration  <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column;"> <div style="border: 1px solid #007bff; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Cards 768</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #007bff; padding: 5px;">eCards 169</div> </div>		
Holds Placed 6,127		Phone Calls to Call Center  3,129	TechCentral <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Visits 146 </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  3D Prints Processed 38 </div> </div>	
Study Room Uses 753	Room Reservations 177	Notary Visits 33	Reference Questions  11,134	Volunteering <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Volunteers 62 </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Hours Donated 336 </div> </div>
			Storytimes <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Storytimes Held 93 </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Attendees 2,247 </div> </div>	

Bubbles with Blaise

The Library delighted families with a unique program, Bubbles with Blaise, an after-hours event at Hart Memorial Library featuring “bubble master,” Blaise Ryndes. The show featured Blaise creating intricate and dazzling bubble sculptures and Blaise has been featured on the national TV show, America’s Got Talent. Youth and Adult staff used the opportunity to highlight the upcoming Summer Learning program due to launch in June, debuting a newly designed system-wide calendar of upcoming events. Participants were given a card that led them through different activities within the library to learn more about the availability of library services in a fun way, such as visiting TechCentral to star in a READ poster or checking out 3 books using the checkout stations for a chance to pose with Blaise as he envelopes kids in a giant bubble. The Osceola Friends of the Library conducted a successful pop-up book sale as well. The library branch closed at 6pm and reopened with a chance to sip nonalcoholic bubbly and nosh on fruits and sweets served by Teen Ambassadors. All participants were invited to enter raffle drawings for baskets and themed gifts, like a s’mores maker (in keeping with the Camp iRead theme of Summer Learning). 143 people attended and 130 items were checked out during the event.

Real Florida Reader program

Several Florida state departments coordinated with public libraries across Florida to launch a new program designed to create a powerful incentive to sign up for library cards and to experience the natural beauty of the Florida park system. The Real Florida Reader program distributed passes to public libraries that are good for the entry of one vehicle/up to 8 people to most of the Florida State Park system. The passes are free to check out for library card-holders. The Osceola Library System received 12 passes for its 6 branches and due to an effective media campaign, park passes flew out the doors as soon as they were received. These free passes are in effect until September 12.

FLA presentation on the Walking Library

Michelle Mosely, Adult Services Programming Coordinator, was selected to present at the annual Florida Library Association conference. She presented during the Lightning Round where librarians provide structured and informative but timed presentations (5 minutes, 20 slides). Michelle has coordinated many programs that are out in the community, partnering with local groups to present historical, natural or community-based programs that pair an immersive experience with an informative one. This has been especially important to keep people connected to the Library during COVID. Topics include a civil rights walking program, an exploration of local cemeteries and downtown history, and nature walks, coupled with the opportunity to apply for a library card and learn more about library resources. Michelle’s presentation was extremely well-received with librarians from across the state asking for guidance in replicating her exciting programs in their communities.

New Chambers Park Computers

The Library has had a long-standing partnership with the City of Kissimmee's Chambers Park Community Center with support provided for programming and outreach, an innovative grant for a resource "vending" machine, and the donation of 6 desktop PCs to be used for after school homework help. The Library recently upgraded these PCs with brand new all-in-one computers. The computers will help support youth education in this central Kissimmee neighborhood and connect Chambers Park to the Library's electronic resources.

Other May Highlights:

March to Your Own Story: This community-based program, sponsored in part by the Library in partnership with St. Cloud Main Street and the St. Cloud Friends of the Library, kicked off May 29 and features a stroll through downtown St. Cloud where participants will visit local businesses and read a book one page at a time.

One Book, One Community Finale: James Ponti visited the Hart Memorial Library to wrap up the community reading initiative featuring his novel, *Framed*. 34 people gathered to hear stories and take photos with the author.

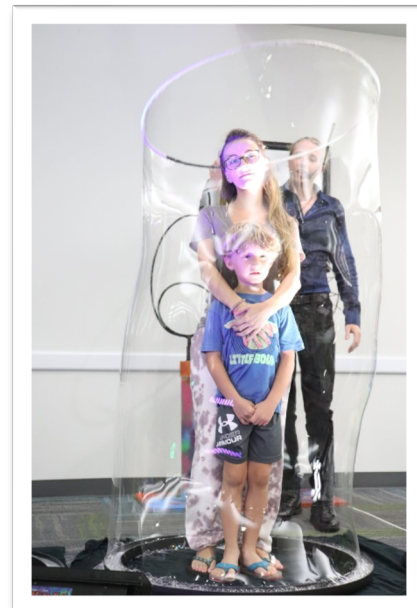
Storytime in the Park: This outdoor storytime program located in the Kissimmee Lakefront Park wraps up the hot summer months but continues to see great attendance with 86 kids and grownups attending in May.

Angel Paws to Read: The West Osceola Library hosted adorable kids reading to also adorable dogs with the return of the Paws to Read program, which gives kids a chance to practice their reading skills in a judgement free zone of unconditional canine love.

American Sign Language for Beginners: Presented by ASL Services and taught by Deaf instructors, this four week course at the Poinciana Library drew 47 attendees learning the basics of communicating in American Sign Language.

Paint and Sip: This evening program invites participants to enjoy a cool beverage while following a talented staff person as they lead the group in recreating their artistic masterpiece to take home and display. Programs at the Poinciana and St. Cloud Library attracted 50 people.

Nature Walk: Shingle Creek: Part of the Walking Library series of outdoor programs, the Pine Lily Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society guided participants around the North Sector of Shingle Creek, headwaters of the Everglades, while Library staff provided activities and information to deepen the learning experience.



Above and Left: The Bubbles with Blaise program was a great success and tons of fun. A pop-up book sale by our Osceola Friends of the Library was very popular and some of our kids dared to be encased in a giant bubble, just like Tyra Banks on America's Got Talent!



Left: James Ponti and Youth Services staff celebrate the finale of the One Book, One Community reading program. Ponti's middle grade adventure book, *Framed*, was the center point of the multi-county community reading program.



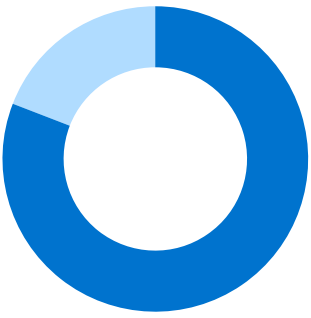
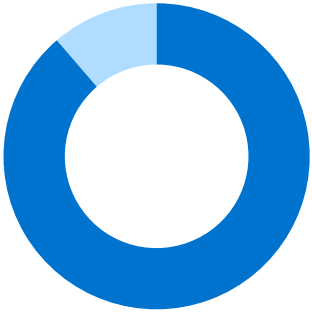



Above Left: Van Gogh's *Starry Night* inspired talented artist and staff member Melissa Gomez's painting for May's Paint and Sip program at the Poinciana Library
Above Right: The Real Florida Reader program distributed State Park passes to public libraries.

Monthly Report June 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	17,273	15,120	64,484	53 Events & Activities, 1,083 Participants
St. Cloud	24,571	10,477	18,025	81 Events & Activities, 2,723 Participants
Poinciana	10,913	9,306	28,930	57 Events & Activities, 1,367 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,868	5,972	17,608	55 Events & Activities, 1,366 Participants
West Osceola	13,433	9,137	23,965	57 Events & Activities, 1,376 Participants
Kenansville	171	104	3,099	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation <h1>89,314</h1>	Circulation  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Print: 72,229 Virtual: 17,085 	New Card Registration  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cards: 1,177 eCards: 150 	
Holds Placed <h1>6,817</h1>		Phone Calls to Call Center  <h1>3,489</h1>	TechCentral <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visits: <h1>121</h1> 3D Prints Processed: <h1>74</h1>
Study Room Uses <h1>726</h1>	Room Reservations <h1>169</h1>	Notary Visits  <h1>33</h1>	Reference Questions  <h1>12,847</h1>
		Volunteering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteers: <h1>60</h1> Hours Donated: <h1>655</h1> 	Storytimes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storytimes Held: <h1>68</h1> Attendees: <h1>1,735</h1>

Summer Learning Kickoff

Summer Learning kicked off this month with a new theme, “Read Beyond the Beaten Path.” This theme inspired programming focusing on camping, the great outdoors and having fun in the Florida sun – with a good book! Camp iRead, the Summer Learning program for kids and families, got off to a great start with presentations by DoDad’s Lab and Gatorland, plus Library staff created engaging programs like Gnarly Creatures of Florida, STEAM Day and Carnival Day that connected the shows of sharing a good book with arts, crafts, and activities. Camp Survivor centered on teens exploring topical issues like learning how to speak up and speak out when confronted with a challenging situation, along with relaxed activities like Tie Dye and Bingo 4 Books. Adult Summer Learning brought people together over “Campfire Crafts” such as DIY bath bombs and macramé keychains just like summer camp from yesteryear! More adventure awaits as Summer Learning continues in July.

Pride Month Festivities

The Library celebrated Pride Month all June long with programs, crafts, outreach, displays and education. Our “Campfire Crafts” Summer Learning programs were themed to Pride Month with DIY rainbow earrings and a Pride button tree, plus a take and make Pride bracelet craft. Over the Rainbow storytime celebrated LGBTQ+ families through picture books, hands-on activities and songs. The Library hosted a table at the City of Kissimmee’s annual PrideFest gathering, connecting 20 new patrons with Library cards and chatting with 175 people about Library services. Our first LibGuide was published outlining the history and resources available on Pride Month. And staff created book displays and wore colorful READ with PRIDE buttons all month to help promote literacy and learning.

International Festival at BVL Library

The BVL Library hosted its annual International Festival, an exploration and celebration of cultures from around the world. Staff and community members get an opportunity to share special details of their traditions and the Library provides an essential connection to our diverse and ever-growing County. Participants were treated to a variety of food, crafts, activities, musical and dance performances. Countries represented included Canada, China, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Spain and Scotland. Dance performance included the Hula, Salsa and Pollera Colorá plus singers and dancers from Puerto Rico and Latin America. Food such as poutine, empanadas, hummus and Jamaican ginger beer was available for sampling. Tables were decorated with a 3D printed object that represented that country’s history or culture and participants were encouraged to paint Greek pottery, take a photo as the Mona Lisa and solve hieroglyphic puzzles. This afternoon family event brought 180 people into the Library on a sunny summer day.

– Information and phrasing taken from Lisa Martinez’s OPAL post on 6/30/2022

Other June Highlights:

COHS graduate: The COHS program graduated another Osceola graduate who had dropped out of high school in the 9th grade and then completed 27 credits in 7 months to earn her high school diploma through the grant-funded program offered by the Library.

Experience Osceola outreach: The Library shared stories, crafts, VR workstations and a joy for reading and Summer Learning with attendees at the St. Cloud Lakefront Park alongside County and community organizations.

Juneteenth celebrations: At the Lakefront Park in Kissimmee and at the West Osceola Library, staff celebrated Juneteenth with food, crafts and music as we explored this significant historical event.

March to Your Own Story: In partnership with groups like St. Cloud Main Street, Orlando Health and the Education Foundation, this story walk program lasts all summer. Participants gather in downtown St. Cloud to read illustrated pages from books by local authors set up in merchant windows and copies of the books are available for checkout at the Library.

21 Century Outreaches: Youth staff have partnered with the School District of Osceola to provide summer programming for a select group of schools called 21st Century Schools, which are schools that have been identified as needing additional academic enrichment to meet educational goals. The Youth team is visiting 11 schools over the summer.

LitMag Reception: Winners of the annual *LitMag* were celebrated at this weekend reception attended by their families and special guest *LitMag* judges. Works were read aloud and the reception opened with a discussion about the process of creative writing and publishing.

Marshmallow Treasure: Proof that it's the little pleasures in life that are the most fun, 428 people participated in the Poinciana and Hart Memorial Libraries game of "guess how many marshmallows are in the Mason jar"! Winners received a nice prize.



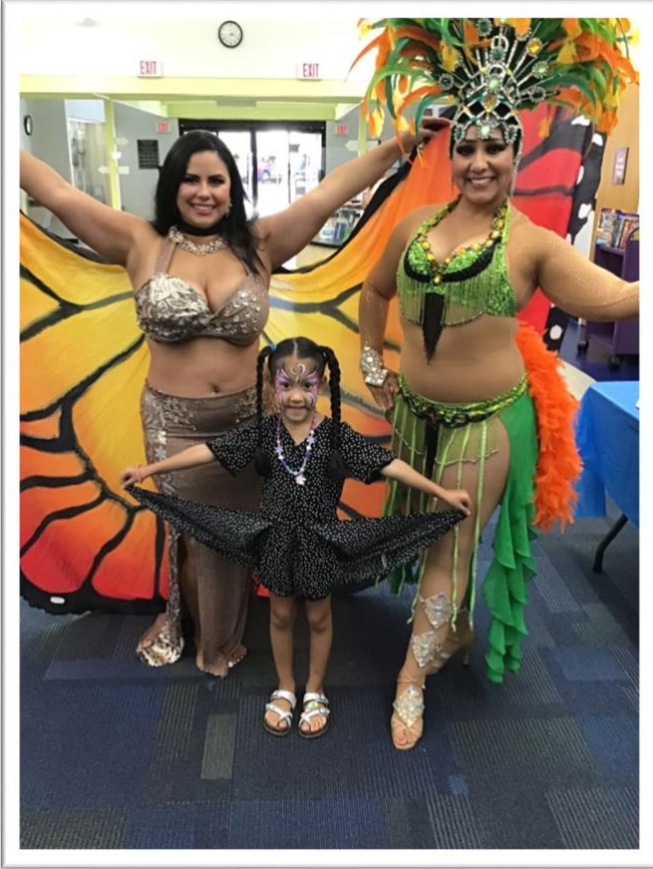
Summer Learning – “Read Beyond the Beaten Path”

Above left: Ms. Kaitie leads kids through a Peep experiment on STEAM Day at the Hart Memorial Library

Above right: Gatorland entertains and educates a great crowd at the BVL Library

Below: Ms. Susan and Ms. Crystal delight with Gnarly Creatures at the Poinciana Library





Top: The BVL Library's International Festival featured performances, food, and crafts from around the globe
Left: A visit from the Fire Department meant a chance to explore how to be fire smart and also to climb aboard the big rig!



Top: LitMag winners and judges have fun at the weekend reception
Bottom left: Ms. Crystal and Ms. Susan share camp crafts at Experience Osceola
Right: The Poinciana Library celebrated Prime Month with a Rainbow earrings craft

