

FISCAL YEAR 2021
OCT. 2020 – SEPT. 2021

September 2021 Monthly Review

	Hart	St Cloud	Poinciana	BVL	West Osceola	Kenansville
Circulation	16,925	21,670	9,689	5,722	14,258	210
Visitors	11,698	8,315	3,196	5,025	9,184	92
Computer Sessions	68,167	16,587	33,618	14,481	18,109	3,059
AWE Computer Sessions	N/A	244	N/A	333	N/A	N/A
Programming Virtual, Onsite, In-Community, and Schools	Events: 36 Attendance: 475	Events: 61 Attendance: 951	Events: 41 Attendance: 255	Events: 28 Attendance: 464	Events: 37 Attendance: 528	Events: n/a Attendance: n/a

System Stats at a Glance

- Virtual Circulation totaled 16,657 checkouts or sessions
- Patrons used study rooms 712 times and made 448 room reservations
- Staff performed 22 notary services
- 12,284 in-person and 194 virtual Reference questions were answered
- 59 volunteers donated 241 hours of service
- 904 persons registered for full-service Library cards and 153 registered for eCards, a 49% increase over September 2020
- 7,498 holds were placed on Library materials
- Staff facilitated 81 Curbside Pickups
- Call Center received 3,785 phone calls
- Patron use of checkout stations totaled 16,057, accounting for 42% of in-library checkouts
- Total circulation for September was 85,131

Highlights

TechCentral receives Beautification and Innovation award

We can officially add “award-winning” to TechCentral’s name! The Osceola Library System’s makerspace at the Hart Memorial Library was the recipient of the Beautification and Innovation Award from the Osceola Chamber of Commerce’s Downtown Kissimmee Area Council (DKAC). DKAC is comprised of business and community members representing the interests of the downtown Kissimmee area. The award recognizes those who have invested in their community by improving their space to be more inviting, making better use of space or technology or providing a new and important service. Commissioner and DKAC board member Cheryl Grieb was on hand to present the award as TechCentral staff and management highlighted all the creative space had to offer via a live stream with local media group, Positively Osceola. An A-Frame spotlighting the award will be displayed in Hart Memorial’s lobby for up to two months.

Show Your Card, Osceola!

Show Your Card, Osceola! launched in September in celebration of National Library Card Sign Up Month. The program connected the Library with area businesses in a push for community exposure and economic development during this important month designated by the American Library Association. Staff outreached to the community to enlist businesses to provide incentives to customers who produced their Library card when making a purchase. Cardholders received percentages off purchases or free items at a wide-array of local businesses, such as Bonnie Lee’s Fried Chicken in St. Cloud and Upper Crust Pizza in Celebration. Overall, the Library issued nearly 100 more library cards in September than the previous month.

Wild About Reading at Wild Florida

Wild Florida, an excellent partner who has supported several Library outreach events, gave free admission one Saturday during the month in conjunction with National Library Card Sign Up Month. The Library hosted the Wild About Reading outreach program filled with activities, prizes and Library information. Staff created a Library BINGO scavenger hunt that highlighted both Library services and Wild Florida’s many fun activities for a chance to win raffle prizes. Guests could have their face painted to transform into all kinds of wild creatures, an animal bottle cap necklace was a popular take and make craft and nearly 150 people presented their Library card to receive free Wild Florida admission.

El Festival de Frida

Latin American artist Frida Kahlo was the muse and inspiration for El Festival de Frida at the BVL Library. In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, staff transformed the branch into a walking exhibit of bold colors, music, arts and crafts and dance. Participants fashioned their version of Kahlo’s signature flower headband. Tissue paper was the medium used to create a delicate and vibrant flower mural. Kahlo’s iconic self-portraits were inspiration for DIY jewelry projects and guests were treated to a traditional Mexican musical and spoken word performance. The event was sponsored by the Kissimmee Utility Authority and was a huge draw with over 230 attendees.

Voices! Hispanic Heritage Collection on BiblioBoard

The diversity of Hispanic culture was the featured topic of Voices, a community collection in the digital publishing platform BiblioBoard. The collection seeks input from the community to build a digital library of stories, mementos and artifacts of Hispanic culture. Through creative expression like song or story, photos of special jewelry or clothes, and even a recipe, we can learn so much about what it means to be Hispanic in Florida and across the nation. To kick off the project, Library staff filmed their own stories about their family heritage, representing the countries of Puerto Rico, Nicaragua and Colombia. The video is available on YouTube and the BiblioBoard page continues to accept submissions to build this important community collection.

Other outstanding programs or events:

Chess Club at the Poinciana Library – Put the boards out and let the games begin!

Paint and Sip at the Poinciana Library – Step-by-step creative instruction paired with a refreshing beverage, what could be better?

Fandom Kissimmee outreach at the Kissimmee Civic Center – Library staff were on hand to demonstrate Virtual Reality headsets and issue cards to reading superheroes.

Storytime in the Park at the Lakefront Park in Kissimmee – As long as there is sunshine and fresh air, this program is going strong.

Book Wyrms: Dungeons & Dragons online from the St. Cloud Library – All Tiefling Warlocks and High Elf Fighters welcome in this online gaming program. Coming in October to the BVL Library!

Harry Potter display window at Hart Memorial – Library staff staged an amazing window display to support the Main Street Kissimmee's Wizarding World of Kissimmee after-hours program

Gallery



Left: TechCentral received the Beautification and Innovation award from the Downtown Kissimmee Area Council. Commissioner Cheryl Grieb was on hand along with Positively Osceola and other DKAC members to present the award to Library staff.



Top and Right: Mexican painter Frida Kahlo was the inspiration for an afternoon brimming with original art work, crafts, music and costumes at the BVL Library.



the
Osceola  **Library**
system

Left: Staff assembled a fun window display as part of Kissimmee Main Street's Wizarding World of Kissimmee event. **Top:** The Show Your Card, Osceola! website featured all the participating businesses, who also displayed the logo to signal their partnership with the Library.