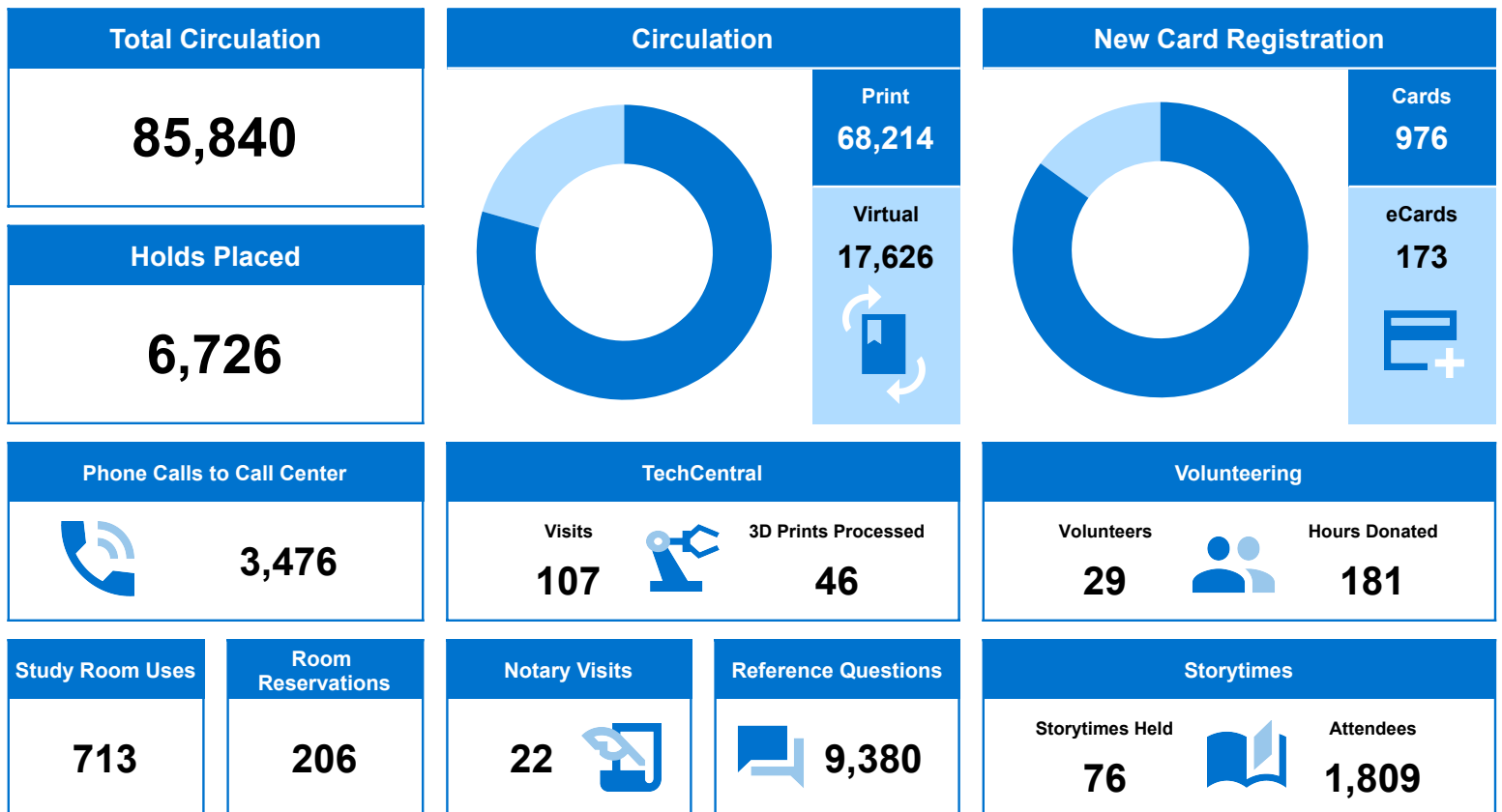


Monthly Report September 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,912	13,091	74,021	67 Events & Activities, 1,179 Participants
St. Cloud	23,228	9,170	21,192	70 Events & Activities, 1,544 Participants
Poinciana	9,679	8,132	29,960	54 Events & Activities, 824 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,781	4,888	20,292	50 Events & Activities, 539 Participants
West Osceola	12,432	7,826	24,453	60 Events & Activities, 1,011 Participants
Kenansville	182	82	3,162	N/A

System Stats at a Glance



Show Your Card, Osceola!

September is Library Card Sign Up Month, a special month designated by the American Library Association to help promote the benefits of “the most important card in your wallet.” The Osceola Library System celebrates with the Show Your Card, Osceola! program that marries increased library use with local economic development, a key goal of our Strategic Plan. Library staff ask local businesses to provide a discount or free service when presented with an Osceola Library card. In exchange, businesses receive marketing materials, free online and in-library promotion and the opportunity to gain new customers through library exposure.

Businesses that participated range from realtors to restaurants, theme parks to music lessons. The Library created a webpage where patrons could check which businesses were participating and the page was updated throughout the month. Newsletters advertising the program went out throughout the month along with posts on social media. Posters were created for and distributed to each business to promote at their establishment. In total, 30 business participated and Library card sign ups increased 8% over last September.

Hurricane Ian and CIC Activation

Hurricane Ian set its sights on Central Florida in the last week of September and Library staff were activated by Osceola County Emergency Management staff the Citizens’ Information Center, the call center that provides up to date information for citizens in times of natural disaster or local emergencies such as the COVID pandemic. Library staff are trained to direct citizens to resources in the County such as shelter, water, food and medical assistance before, during and after the emergency. As Hurricane Ian bore down on the County, Library staff were in the Emergency Management compound overnight to provide assistance, staying safe from the storm outside. In total, 10 Library staff in the CIC were activated for two weeks and provided a total of 507 hours of continual service to the County.

Hispanic Heritage Month Begins

September 15 kicks off Hispanic Heritage Month and the Osceola Library System provides a ton of great programs to celebrate. In the first two weeks, patrons of all ages could choose from arts and crafts, dancing, games, storytimes, STEAM activities and social events all geared toward celebrating vibrant and diverse Hispanic culture and history. Highlights included the Herencia en Colores event at the Hart Memorial Library highlighting local Hispanic painters and their creative journeys and inspirations where 40 people attended. Maker’s Café programs at Poinciana and St. Cloud Libraries drew inspiration from important cultural elements of Hispanic culture where they created personalized dominoes and crafted Taino petroglyph rocks.

September is Bee-Licious!

Osceola County Cooperative Extension presented a fun and informative program in honor of National Honey Month. 22 people at the Bee-Licious Honey program had the opportunity to learn about the significance of honey bees and their important role as pollinators to the lifecycle of crops and the environment in general, plus sample “bee-licious” Florida honey.

Other September Happenings:

BVL Library Friends Book Sale: Book sales to benefit the Friends of the Libraries are returning and September’s was hosted by the BVL Friends of the Library. The Book Sales bring in lots of new library patrons and the Friends were able to sell approximately 40 boxes of books at their two day sale.

Banned Books Week: Challenges to contemporary favorites or enduring classics is the focus of this week each September as the Library educates and informs on the issue of censorship and tolerance with activities and creative displays.

Fandom Kissimmee: Library staff hosted an outreach table where had fun dressing up and playing games with participants, while educating about Library services and events while TechCentral staff taught a workshop on creating comics at this annual City of Kissimmee event celebrating superheroes, science fiction, anime and everything in between.

Library for All: Inclusive adult programming returned with the Library for All weekly program where adults of all developmental and physical levels can participate in fun activities and informative sessions on topics such as technology and voting.

American Sign Language for Beginners: The St. Cloud Library hosted this popular program where participants learn the basic skills to communicate with Deaf and Hard of Hearing people through instruction, role playing and games.

International Dot Day: This program takes its inspiration from the children’s book *The Dot* by Peter Reynolds in which a girl discovers her artistic talent. When a teacher read this book to his class, it was the spark for the global celebration of International Dot Day as a day to encourage children to uncover their creativity we all have inside and share it with the world.

Teddy Bear Clinic: Sponsored by Nemours Children’s Health, this West Osceola program helped kids get rid of their fear of going to the doctor by practicing on stuffed animals.

Constitution Week: The Osceola Friends of the Library provided pocketed 250 Constitutions to take home during Constitution Week. Library staff created inviting displays and the Constitutions were snatched up in record time.



Left and Below: Nemours Children’s Health opened their Teddy Bear Clinic to help children alleviate fears about doctor visits.

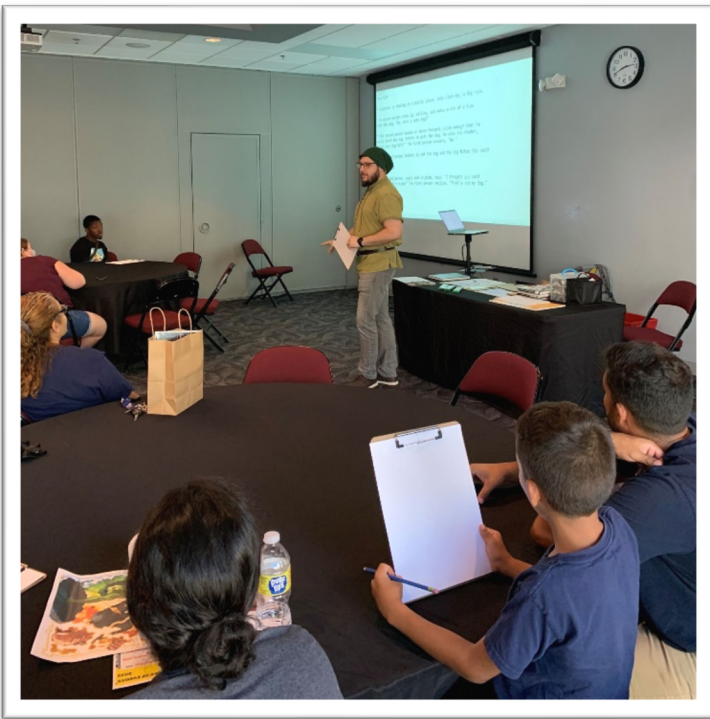


Below and Right: St. Cloud Library patrons attended the Maker’s Café program on crafting Taino petroglyph rocks in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.





Left and Below: Library staff were on hand at Fandom Kissimmee to rescue any non-library card holders from their book-less fate or teach them how to create their own comic book!



Left: The Osceola Friends of the Library provided 250 pocket Constitutions for patrons to take home in celebration of Constitution Week.