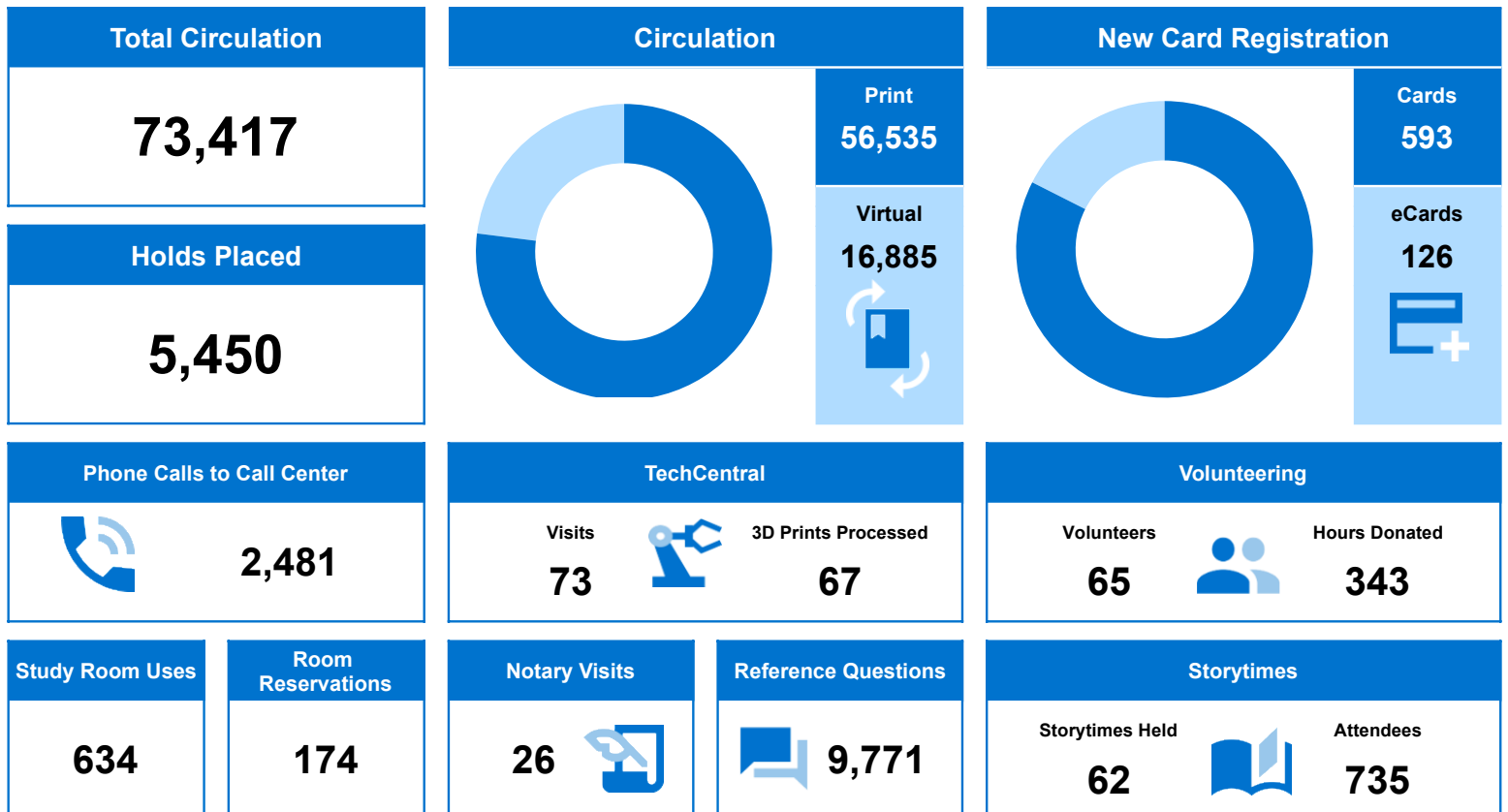


Monthly Report December 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2022 - Sept. 2023

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	14,185	15,469	88,392	48 Events & Activities, 806 Participants
St. Cloud	18,171	7,735	19,107	62 Events & Activities, 990 Participants
Poinciana	7,833	7,676	29,045	36 Events & Activities, 594 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	4,719	4,325	19,292	44 Events & Activities, 493 Participants
West Osceola	11,269	8,751	22,908	51 Events & Activities, 834 Participants
Kenansville	198	91	3,033	N/A
Narccossee	120	16	N/A	N/A
Reunion	54	14	N/A	N/A

System Stats at a Glance



Letters to Santa

The Osceola Library System played Santa's helper again this year when each branch library hosted a Letters to Santa program. Activity packs were available for pick up that contained a postcard for the child and a reply form for the parent or caregiver to complete with the child's wishes and requests from Santa. The forms were returned to a special mailbox in each library's Children's area. Youth staff gathered the forms and postcards, and crafted a thoughtful reply from a certain jolly old soul. The letters were sealed up then stamped and postmarked from Christmas, Florida (Santa's winter home). 167 letters were sent out to happy kids.

Kissimmee Festival of Lights

The Library was on hand with holiday cheer at the annual Kissimmee Festival of Lights event held on the Veterans Lawn at the Lakefront Park. Mrs. Claus paid a visit, bringing her cozy fireplace and elf helpers. She posed for photos with visitors at the Library's Pop-up Photo Stop, while revelers enjoyed music, dancing and holiday lights. Zone Manager and Downtown Kissimmee Council vice chairperson Candice Shields emceed the parade as it snaked through historic downtown Kissimmee.

Gingerbread House Decorating Contest

Friendly competition and artistic expression were on display when the Library hosted a Gingerbread House Decorating Contest at the Poinciana and Hart Memorial Libraries. All the tasty supplies needed to create an edible holiday cottage were provided to participants and once the creations were complete, photos of the houses were posted on social media so the public could vote on their favorite creation. 35 people attended these programs, from little kids to grownups, building their perfect sweet home.

Central Florida Business Networking Group

The Library hosts a weekly networking group designed to foster communication, share information and provide mentoring for the local business community. Attendees hear from the Library about resources available for economic development and then learn about marketing, customer retention and other strategies from peer businesspeople. The meetings are open to anyone wanting to grow and learn, and supports the Library's goal of fostering economic resiliency for Osceola citizens.

Other December highlights:

Holidays Around the World: The West Osceola and Poinciana Libraries showcased winter-time cultural celebrations through the sharing of food, crafts and performances.

Junior Escape Room: Jack Frost: School-age kids and their families were invited to solve puzzles set up by the Guardians – Tooth Fairy, Mother Nature, Chris Kringle, Easter Bunny and Sandman – as they tried to save Jack Frost from the villainous Pitch Black.

Nature Walk: Three Lakes WMA – Sunset Ranch Trail Hike: The Library journeyed outside in oak hammocks and wetlands for this Walking Library program presented by the Pine Lily Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society.

Murder Mystery Mayhem Presents: Ho Ho Homicide: This Christmas-themed murder mystery party invited teens to wade through treachery, deception, betrayal and *gasp* MURDER to solve the mystery.



Above: Trekkers gather for a brisk walk led by Library staff and volunteers from the Pine Lily Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society in this Walking Library program.

Vote For Your Favorite!

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This page: Participants young and young at heart dove in with sticky fingers while others planned their moves strategically. But fun was had by all in the Gingerbread House Decorating Contests.



Above: Mrs. Claus greeted all the good children and adults of Osceola County at the Kissimmee Festival of Lights Pop-Up Photo Shop.



Left: Holiday traditions from countries around the world were on display at the West Osceola (pictured) and Poinciana Libraries.