

## Monthly Report February 2023

Fiscal Year Oct. 2022 - Sept. 2023

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	14,779	14,663	86,692	62 Events & Activities, 1,058 Participants
St. Cloud	20,241	10,703	24,224	62 Events & Activities, 1,456 Participants
Poinciana	8,213	9,152	35,443	44 Events & Activities, 1,071 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	4,700	5,614	23,715	37 Events & Activities, 652 Participants
West Osceola	13,192	11,146	30,870	58 Events & Activities, 1,349 Participants
Kenansville	188	112	4,023	N/A
Narccossee	167	14	N/A	N/A
Reunion	165	23	N/A	N/A

### System Stats at a Glance

#### Total Circulation

**78,287**

#### Circulation

Print: **61,313**

Virtual: **16,974**

#### New Card Registration

Cards: **996**

eCards: **112**

#### Holds Placed

**5,936**

#### Phone Calls to Call Center

**3,073**

#### TechCentral

Visits: **119**

3D Prints Processed: **63**

#### Volunteering

Volunteers: **74**

Hours Donated: **368**

#### Study Room Uses

**942**

#### Room Reservations

**218**

#### Notary Visits

**41**

#### Reference Questions

**9,462**

#### Storytimes

Storytimes Held: **75**

Attendees: **2,161**

## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual *LitMag* Reception

*LitMag*, the literary magazine for Osceola youth, celebrated its 6th year in publication with a reception for the winners of the writing and art contest. These creative teens and tweens have the distinction of their works published in print in a glossy professional magazine and online through the BiblioBoard digital publishing platform.

The authors and artists, selected by celebrated local authors Jan Eldridge, Isabelle Olmo (Brenda Hernandez) and Arielle Haughee for inclusion in the magazine, were invited along with their families to a reception honoring their artistic contributions with their works read aloud for everyone to enjoy. The guest authors kicked off the event with a fascinating presentation on their experiences leading up to their big break in the publishing world, exploring the topics of self-publishing, working within the big publishing business and even starting a publishing company as a way get your works out into the marketplace.

46 people attended this inspirational and celebratory reception at the Hart Memorial Library.

## Career Online High School Graduation

The Library had the honor of holding a graduation ceremony for four hard-working students who completed the coursework for the Career Online High School (COHS) Program.

The meeting room turned into a graduation hall as friends and family from as far as Puerto Rico gathered to celebrate new graduates on their success in taking this major step toward a brighter future. US Representative Darren Soto recorded a message of encouragement and support for their hard work. Adult Services Manager Dagmar Lopez led the graduation ceremony and handed out Library-created diplomas while the COHS diplomas arrive later in the mail.

New graduates received professional headshots and dressed in cap and gowns, which they kept as souvenirs of their achievement, to take photos after the ceremony.

The Library has graduated 9 students since offering the COHS program starting in 2022.

## Celebrating Black History Month

The Library is proud to highlight the important cultural contributions and historical achievements of Black Americans throughout the month of February. To explore Black History Month in greater depth, the Library created an InfoGuide, available on the website, to provide links to resources in and out of the Library's collections and developed enriching programming for adults and children.

Here are some of the events hosted across the system:

**African American Read- In:** This inspirational program produced annually in partnership with the City of Kissimmee features Osceola citizens reading aloud from works by African American authors.

**Step Into the Past at West Osceola & Hart Memorial:** Participants learned about the daily lives and societal conditions of Black Osceola citizens in this presentation by Osceola History.

**Celebrating Black Superheroes at Hart Memorial:** Historian Magdalena Lamarre discussed the origins and evolution of Black Superheroes in this exploration of comic book history.

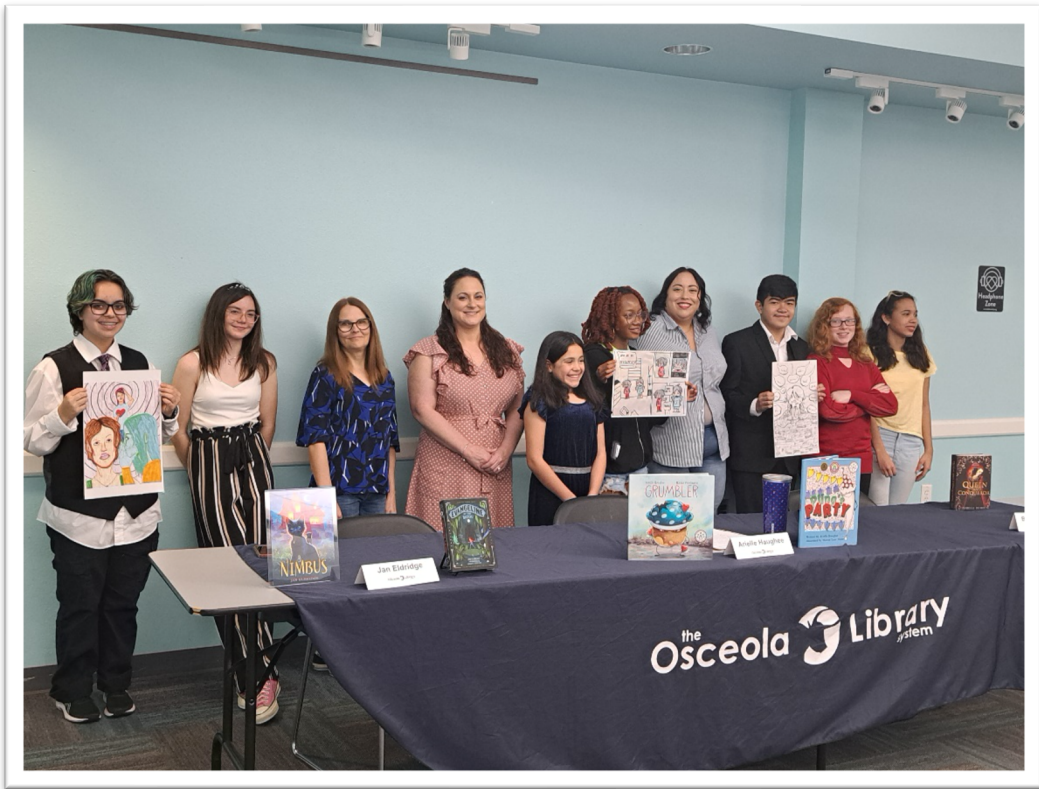
**Storytimes and School-Age programs at all libraries:** Important figures or events in Black History were featured throughout regular youth programming. Examples include, West Osceola's Creativity Corner introducing artist Jean-Michel Basquiat, Poinciana's Homeschool Book Worms group reading works by prominent Black authors, such as *Wings of Fire* by Tui T. Sutherland, and St. Cloud exploring the connection between art and stories with artist and civil rights pioneer Faith Riggold and the activity, *My Quilt of Me*, highlighting her story quilt artwork.

### Other February events:

**Friendship Memory Keepers at Buenaventura Lakes:** Artist Maria Bencosme led a group of 15 crafters in making one-of-a-kind journals to store treasured memories.

**Aging In Place series at West Osceola:** This monthly series from Senior Life Publications provides tips on how move into older age with health and community intact.

**Spanish for Beginners at Hart Memorial:** Conversational phrases and basic skills in Spanish are offered in a relaxed group setting with a certified instructor.



**Top:** *LitMag* guest judges and local authors pose with the teen and tween winners of the literary magazine contest whose works will appear online and in print.

**Below:** Students listen attentively as the Spanish for Beginners' instructor prepares a lesson.







**Above:** Proud COHS students prepare to graduate. **Below & Right:** Young artists learn about Faith Ringgold, interpret her story quilt in this Black History month program.

