# Osceola S Library

# Monthly Report July 2023

Fiscal Year Oct. 2022 - Sept. 2023

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	17,354	16,139	74,635	76 Events & Activities, 1,425 Participants
St. Cloud	24,399	11,144	22,917	79 Events & Activities, 1,824 Participants
Poinciana	10,101	9,425	34,181	41 Events & Activities, 804 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,355	5,548	22,972	53 Events & Activities, 1,316 Participants
West Osceola	12,942	9,739	28,105	53 Events & Activities, 1,054 Participants
Kenansville	130	93	2,486	N/A
Narccossee	236	18	N/A	N/A
Reunion	42	10	N/A	N/A

## System Stats at a Glance



#### **Osceola Arts Mural Debuts at Hart Memorial**

The Hart Memorial Library turned into a beautiful art canvas courtesy of the Osceola Arts ARTisNOW mural project. Local artist SKIP created a bold and colorful scene of kayakers, heron and the iconic Kissimmee Lighthouse that covers 150 of wall space facing Johnston Street. The mural's title is Day & Night, as the Lighthouse casts its guiding light out into Lake Toho, illuminating all the activities and wildlife. The Library is one of many downtown Kissimmee buildings that have been beautified by artists brought in by Osceola Arts to showcase the diversity and creativity blooming in Osceola County.

#### Library Partnership Leads to State Award

The Osceola Library System's Storybook Adventures program, in partnership with St. Cloud Main Street, is now an award-winning program. St. Cloud Main Street submitted the program to the Preservation on Main Street State Conference and won the Celebrating Main Street award for the innovative program. Previously called March to Your Own Story, this creative program presents pages of a local author's book in the windows of downtown St. Cloud businesses followed by a scheduled book giveaway and author signing at a designated business who hosts the event. This program brings people downtown to shop and engages with both businesses and literacy and supports local authors. Location maps are available at the St. Cloud Library which brings people into our building and our logo is on all materials presented with the program. This is a truly an inspired partnership and excellent way to connect the community with the Library.

#### International Festival Delights at BVL Library

Cultures from all over the world were highlighted through food, song, dance and art at the annual International Festival at the Buenaventura Lakes Branch of the Osceola Library System. The popular weekend event featured performances by a traditional Peruvian dancer and the local Latin Dance Academy, plus a visit from (cosplayer) Mirabelle from Encanto who posed for pictures and sang songs with her little lookalikes. The event featured tables hosted by staff each celebrating a different country with crafts and food samples, plus a 3D and Cricut created architectural landmark or art centerpiece that showcased the technology resources available for public use. 250 people attended this family program.



#### Summer Learning Wraps Up

The Library concluded another successful Summer Learning program. This year's theme was Find Your Voice which provided a great opportunity to explore creative expression, learn a new skill to gain confidence and knowledge, hear engaging and inspiring stories and be entertained with performances. Over 5,600 people enjoyed nearly 250 programs for adults, families and children with diverse events ranging from take home activities, nature walks and puppet shows to book clubs, art classes, and so much more.

### **Other July Activities:**

**Back to School Bash with Commissioner Grieb:** Commissioner Cheryl Grieb distributed 400 backpacks while Library staff engaged families with hands-on STEAM activities. 448 kids and parents attended this event.

**ELC Family Engagement Day:** Staff from the Early Learning Coalition brought Build-A-Bear bears to delight families with kids ages 4-5 and to educate about ELC services. 26 people attended this BVL Library event.

**Open Mic Night:** Talent is on display at this monthly drop-in event where people can share their creativity through performance. 24 people attended July's event.

**Venomous Snakes of Florida:** Extension Services staff guided attendees through the basics of being alert around these deadly creatures, including how to identify and keep safe. 36 people attended this St. Cloud class.

**St. Cloud Friends of the Library Book Sale:** The Friends hosted a successful summer book sale at the St. Cloud Library. Proceeds help fund Library programs.

**Backyard Water Features:** Extension Services was back at the St. Cloud Library to offer tips and tricks for updating the backyard to dazzle with water features and attract wildlife. 19 people attended this St. Cloud program.

**Nature Walk: Lake Lizzie South Loop:** This Walking Library program took participants on a journey outside the Library and into nature. 17 people attended.





**Above**: Librarian Kaitie and Manager Lisa show off the free backpacks provided by County Commissioner Cheryl Grieb at the Hart Memorial Library's Back to School Bash. **Below**: After snagging a backpack, school-aged kids and their families enjoyed STEAM activities.







**Above**: The International Festival at the BVL Library brought families to share a love of exploring the arts, crafts and culture of countries around the world. Anthony (Finland) and Nicole (France) delighted with authentic food and dress!



**Above**: Artist SKIP created a unique design representing the night and day activities of the Kissimmee lakefront on the Hart Memorial Library as part of Osceola Arts ARTisNOW mural project. The mural is entitled "Day & Night."





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**Above:** Families at the BVL Library Build-A-Bear provided by the Early Learning Coalition while learning about resources for preschoolers. **Below:** Extension Services staff educate St. Cloud Library users on how to identify venomous snakes and protect yourself in the event of an encounter.



