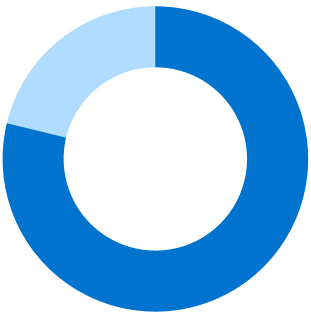
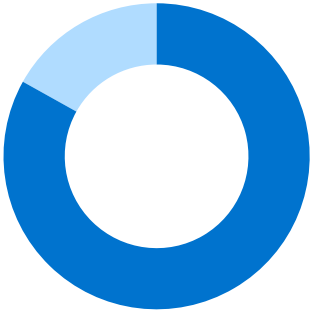














Monthly Report January 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,292	12,792	68,494	48 Events & Activities, 616 Participants
St. Cloud	18,903	8,099	14,842	76 Events & Activities, 1,335 Participants
Poinciana	8,771	7,828	27,034	46 Events & Activities, 628 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,456	4,771	15,734	45 Events & Activities, 454 Participants
West Osceola	13,861	8,231	18,906	49 Events & Activities, 840 Participants
Kenansville	184	101	3,323	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation <h1>80,588</h1>	Circulation  <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Print</td> <td>63,467</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Virtual</td> <td>17,121</td> </tr> </table>	Print	63,467	Virtual	17,121	New Card Registration  <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Cards</td> <td>811</td> </tr> <tr> <td>eCards</td> <td>165</td> </tr> </table>	Cards	811	eCards	165
Print		63,467								
Virtual	17,121									
Cards	811									
eCards	165									
Holds Placed <h1>7,368</h1>	Phone Calls to Call Center  <h1>7,743</h1>	TechCentral <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Visits</td> <td></td> <td>3D Prints Processed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>64</td> <td></td> <td>44</td> </tr> </table>	Visits		3D Prints Processed	64		44		
Visits		3D Prints Processed								
64		44								
Study Room Uses <h1>622</h1>	Room Reservations <h1>145</h1>	Volunteering <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Volunteers</td> <td></td> <td>Hours Donated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60</td> <td></td> <td>185</td> </tr> </table>	Volunteers		Hours Donated	60		185		
Volunteers		Hours Donated								
60		185								
Notary Visits <h1>28</h1> 	Reference Questions  <h1>13,237</h1>	Storytimes <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Storytimes Held</td> <td></td> <td>Attendees</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80</td> <td></td> <td>1,434</td> </tr> </table>	Storytimes Held		Attendees	80		1,434		
Storytimes Held		Attendees								
80		1,434								

English for Families grant award

The Osceola Library System was one of only 6 public libraries in Florida to be awarded the English for Families grant from the Florida Humanities Council. The program, which was developed by Orange County Library System for the National Endowment for the Humanities, provides funds to assist libraries present workshops and training for non-native English speaking children and families who want to improve their reading proficiency. The grant will fund evening programs at two branches where there is a high Spanish-speaking population and support a robust collection of materials for checkout and use with the program. Program events will start in March. The Library previously offered the successful Prime Time Family Reading program, another grant from the Florida Humanities Council, where Library storytellers gathered with families over food and books to reinforce the importance of reading together as a family to build the foundations of literacy.

TechCentral updates

The Osceola Library System's TechCentral makerspace has received some much needed updates. Virtual Reality is proving to be the most popular feature of TechCentral and to meet the demand, a second gaming computer was purchased in addition to updated Oculus Quest 2 virtual reality headsets. Fans were installed to provide additional air circulation in the Sewing Studio. Equipment for preserving memories on 8mm film, paper photographs and cassettes was purchased. And a laser engraver and Cricut vinyl cutter were added at patron request. Staff are finishing up training and hope to have the equipment available soon for reservations and classes.

Open Mic Night

TechCentral hosted its first Open Mic Night at the Hart Memorial Library. Participants were encouraged to bring their talents to share. From music to art to spoken word, amazing talent was on display. Participants performed solo singing, group bands and poetry while Library staff created the perfect atmosphere with stage lighting and sound on point. Future Open Mic nights will be planned at several libraries to highlight both the technology and staff expertise available in TechCentral and the plethora of talent in our county.

Other January activities:


- **Emphasis on Branding:** Standardized email signatures, updated color palettes and a cleaned-up logo are just some of the updates the Library is making to the look and feel of its signage, branding and promotions.
- **58 Years of the Golden Ticket:** The West Osceola Library spent a magical day celebrating the publication of the beloved children's book, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. No Hornswogglers or Vermicious Knids allowed!
- **Designer Dragon Eggs:** It's Dragon Appreciation Day and how better to celebrate than creating a beautiful dragon egg – baby dragon not included.
- **Deerwood Elementary School Tour:** 87 students toured the Poinciana Library, learning about Library programs and services, followed up by a fun STEAM activity and book talk inspired by *Amari and the Night Brothers*.
- **Wild About Reading outreach:** 172 people enjoyed free admission to the Wild Florida nature park with their Osceola Library card and participated in fun library-themed activities.
- **ALCO Library card drive:** Library staff interacted with Adult Learning Center of Osceola students and connected 68 students with new Library cards.
- **Rental Assistance Navigation event:** 40 people linked up with local agencies to sign up for housing assistance and other government services.
- **Inspire Your Heart With Art:** Local artist Jennicel Bolanos taught the special technique of Still Art painting to 21 attendees at the Buenaventura Lakes Library.




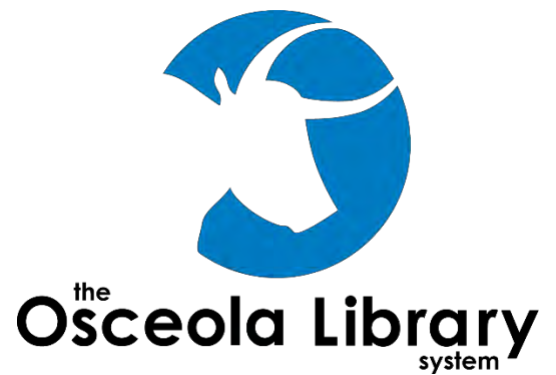
Above: Library staff set up with giveaways and goodies our regular Wild About Reading outreach at the Wild Florida nature park in beautiful Kenansville.

Table of Contents

- 3 Fonts
- 4 Colors
- 5 Logo
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Osceola  Library



The Library refreshed its color palette, refined its logo and updated its font selection to present a cleaner, bolder version of its branding.



Left and Above: Students from Deerwood Elementary explore “waterproof sand,” inspired by the book *Amari and the Night Brothers*, during a tour of the Poinciana Library.

Below and Right: Budding artists explored Still Art painting, guided by local artist Jennicel Bolanos at the Buenaventura Lakes Library’s Inspire Your Heart with Art program.

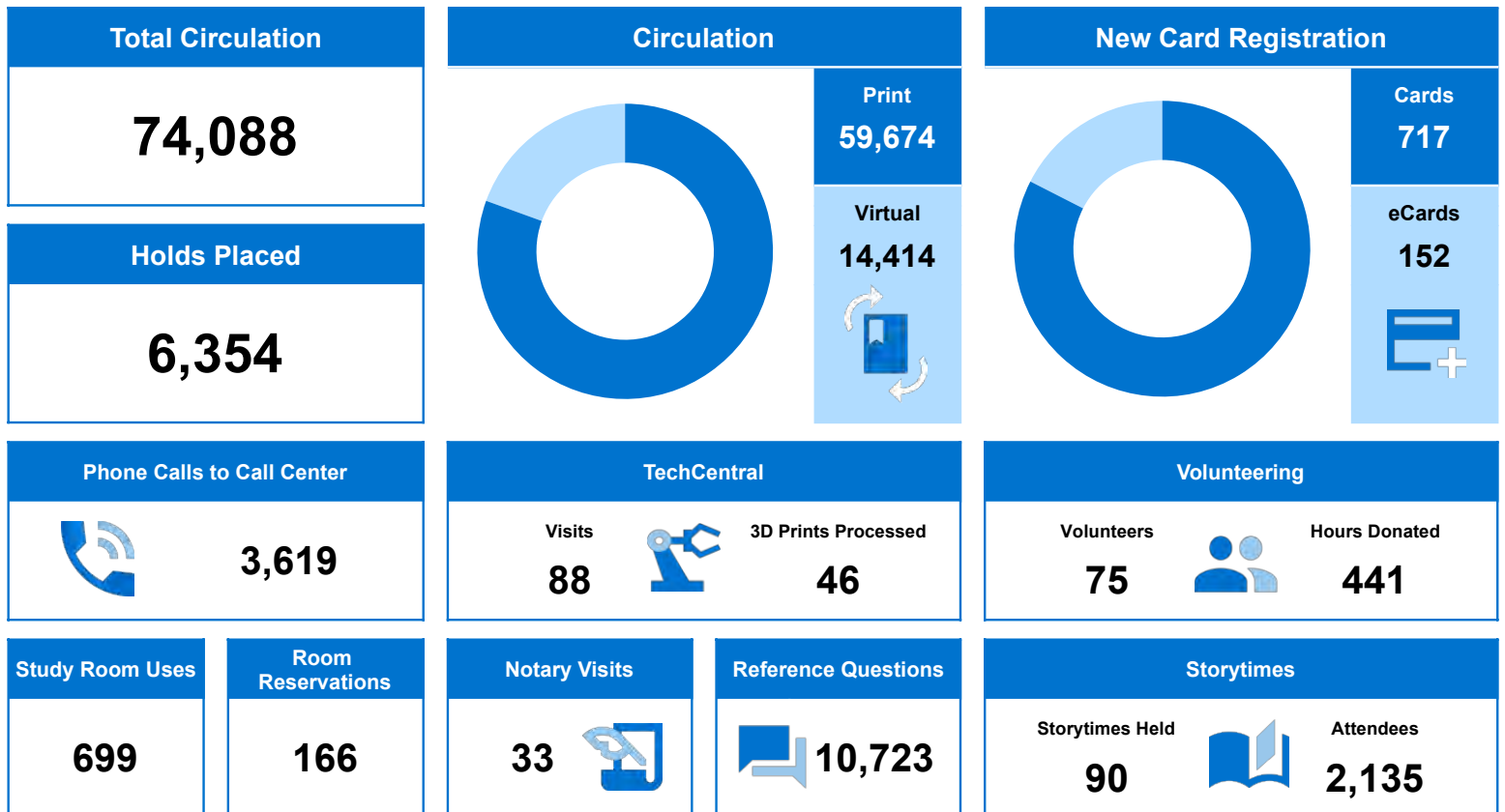


Monthly Report February 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	15,041	13,671	61,341	60 Events & Activities, 691 Participants
St. Cloud	18,255	8,142	16,066	75 Events & Activities, 1,381 Participants
Poinciana	7,936	7,878	27,551	44 Events & Activities, 670 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,090	4,837	16,218	48 Events & Activities, 625 Participants
West Osceola	13,195	8,337	21,620	61 Events & Activities, 957 Participants
Kenansville	157	112	2,921	N/A

System Stats at a Glance



Celebrating Black History Month

February is Black History Month and the Osceola Library System planned and presented programs that highlighted how Black Americans have made unique and enduring impact on the arts and sciences, societal and historical change, and community connections.

Highlights included:

- Civil Rights Activist Diane Nash (part of the Walking Library): 33 attendees gathered together at the St. Cloud Library to learn about the essential contributions of student sit-in organizer, Freedom Rider and founding member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, Diane Nash, then explored downtown St. Cloud in honor of her role in organizing the walking protest of the Civil Rights movement.
- History of African Jewelry Making: 28 attendees learned the cultural and artistic significance of African beadwork techniques and left with their very own wood bead bracelet.
- African American Read-In: Local artists and authors explored the cultural and artistic impact of Black Americans through the reading of poetry, literature and other spoken word arts in this event in partnership with the City of Kissimmee. The Library helped with hosting duties and provided free copies of books by Black authors for children and adults.

First CARES-funded COHS graduate

The Osceola Library System held a ceremony for its first graduate of the CARES Act-funded Career Online High School program. Tammy Putnam enrolled in the program in May 2021 having dropped out of high school in the 10th grade. She worked two jobs to take care of her family and eventually found employment with a local company building fiberglass boats. To progress higher in her company, she needed to complete her high school education. She found the online COHS program to be a convenient way to achieve her diploma while maintaining her job and taking care of her family. Dressed in a cap and gown provided by the Library, Tammy received her diploma alongside her children, husband and mother-in-law as they celebrated her accomplishment. TechCentral staff filmed a video and shot photos to aid the Library in promoting the COHS program.

ARPA-funded AWE stations debut

With funds provided by the American Rescue Plan, the Library purchased 11 AWE Learning stations for all 6 libraries in an effort to help slow learning losses endured by students during the COVID pandemic. The workstations are designed to engage students ages 2 up to 12 in learning activities to enhance language, literacy, math, and science skills in English, Spanish and French. The stand-alone workstations use games, music, color, and fun characters with age-appropriate content to improve academic achievement and enhance school readiness. Additional ARPA funds will be expended on STEAM kits and Launchpad tablets to compliment the AWE stations with the goal of providing additional tools to combat learning losses documented during the COVID pandemic.

Other February highlights:

Museum Art Kits: The Library has again partnered with the Rollins Museum of Art to distribute and promote the Museum Art Kits. Kits were available at our Hart Memorial, Poinciana and West Osceola Libraries. The Library promoted on social media and the kits are always a hit.

American Sign Language for Beginners: This popular multi-week course kicked off in February at the Hart Memorial Library. The program provides a basic introduction to ASL taught by deaf instructors through Library partners ASL Services. 146 students attended these workshops in February.

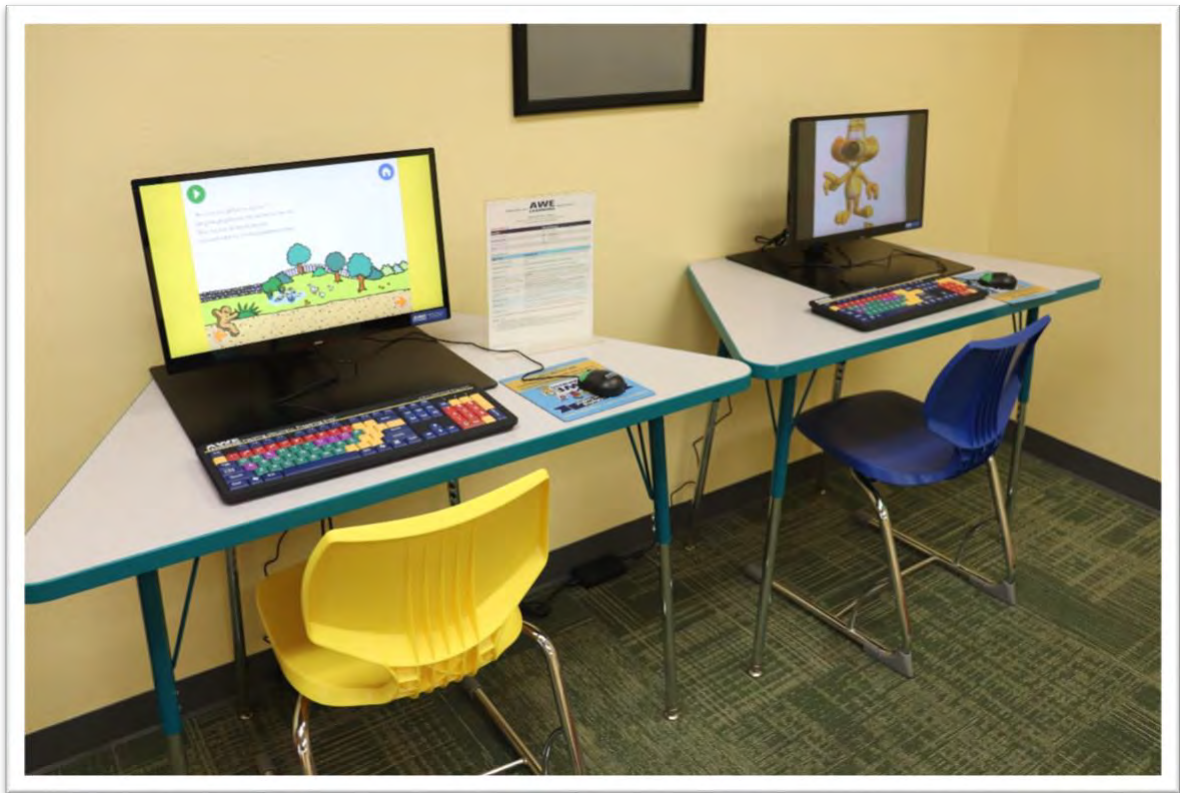
Spread the Sweetness: Nutella was the star of the day at this West Osceola Library program that celebrated the delicious hazelnut spread through a history lesson and some taste-testing. 13 people attended.

PBS KIDS Time: We continued our partnership with PBS affiliate WUCF with these online storytimes in English and Spanish that also feature at home crafts to follow along. These virtual programs reached 187 kids and parents.

Intermediate Guitar: After the success of Beginning Guitar at the Hart Memorial Library, this multi-week TechCentral class takes participants farther into their guitar journey. 19 people participated in February.



Left: The Library partnered with the City of Kissimmee to present the African American Read-In event, part of a national effort to elevate Black voices through literature



Above: Each Library received AWE literacy workstations as part of an ARPA-funded grant designed to add literacy and learning tools to help learning losses associate with online learning and the COVID pandemic.



Left: Tammy Putnam is the Library's first Career Online High School graduate from the CARES-funded program. Her school diploma will help unlock doors to promotional opportunities with her employer and helped her achieve her educational goals conveniently.

Below: The art of African bead work is explored in this hands-on program for families where participants made beautiful beaded bracelets.

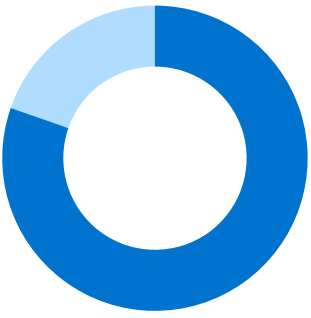
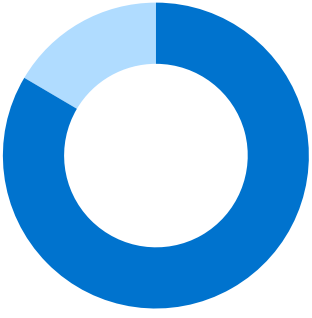





Monthly Report March 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,411	14,890	79,814	77 Events & Activities, 904 Participants
St. Cloud	21,796	9,166	20,342	90 Events & Activities, 1,624 Participants
Poinciana	9,469	8,860	31,244	60 Events & Activities, 772 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,526	5,383	19,912	60 Events & Activities, 761 Participants
West Osceola	14,168	9,853	30,383	67 Events & Activities, 1,235 Participants
Kenansville	244	115	3,723	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation <h1>84,177</h1>	Circulation  <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Print</td> <td>67,614</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Virtual</td> <td>16,563</td> </tr> </table>	Print	67,614	Virtual	16,563	New Card Registration  <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Cards</td> <td>749</td> </tr> <tr> <td>eCards</td> <td>148</td> </tr> </table>	Cards	749	eCards	148	
Print	67,614										
Virtual	16,563										
Cards	749										
eCards	148										
Holds Placed <h1>6,914</h1>	Phone Calls to Call Center  <h1>3,634</h1>	TechCentral <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Visits</td> <td>151</td> <td>3D Prints Processed</td> <td>57</td> </tr> </table>	Visits	151	3D Prints Processed	57	Volunteering <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Volunteers</td> <td>51</td> <td>Hours Donated</td> <td>440</td> </tr> </table>	Volunteers	51	Hours Donated	440
Visits	151	3D Prints Processed	57								
Volunteers	51	Hours Donated	440								
Study Room Uses <h1>802</h1>	Room Reservations <h1>183</h1>	Notary Visits  <h1>27</h1>	Reference Questions  <h1>12,834</h1>	Storytimes <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Storytimes Held</td> <td>96</td> <td>Attendees</td> <td>2,332</td> </tr> </table>	Storytimes Held	96	Attendees	2,332			
Storytimes Held	96	Attendees	2,332								

New Social Worker starts

The Osceola Library System officially launched its Social Worker in the Library project with the hiring and introduction of Matthew Jarmon. The program is made possible by funding through from the American Rescue Plan Act.

The Osceola Library System is one of only a handful of public libraries in the nation to offer an embedded Social Worker in its libraries. As libraries evolve into community hubs that link patrons to social services through free Internet and are a space where all types of people gather to learn, rest/recharge and connect, the requirement for more specialized expertise in the diversity of our patrons' intimate needs is felt.

Matthew has nearly 10 years of experience providing support and care to children and families in Florida and Tennessee and holds a degree in Sociology from Jacksonville University. He will offer individual and family assistance and referral in many important areas such as mental health counseling, food assistance and LGBTQIA+ support.

Matthew will spend the majority of his time at the Hart Memorial and Buenaventura Lakes Libraries providing one-on-one assistance through walk-in and appointments. He will be available some Saturdays at the Poinciana Library and for drop-in help while in the libraries and will also be active in the community by promoting his services and making meaningful connections with non-profits, religious groups and local government agencies.

Llama Llama Party for 1000 Books Before Kindergarten

The Osceola Library System for several years has supported the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten reading program that encourages parents and caregivers to share 1000 books with their child to help jumpstart a great beginning to their education. The Library wanted to highlight this reading challenge that is offered through the Beanstack reading app and what better way than a visit from an 8-foot llama! The character created by author Anna Dewdney made a special appearance at our Llama Llama Read-A-Rama Pajama Party at four of our branch libraries. Partners Learn 2 Read and Help Me Grow were also on hand to share in the festivities which included making llamas decorated with yarn and a color words activity. Library staff shared with participants how easy it is to log in to the Beanstack app, track reading time and how kids can add their hand print on the Tree of Knowledge when the 1000 books milestone is reached. 35 new participants are taking on the challenge and 79 people attended the programs.

Government Day with Leadership Osceola

The Osceola Library System presented as part of Government Day for the Osceola Chamber's 2022 class of Leadership Osceola. Leadership Osceola is a year-long exploration of the Osceola County community broken down by topics or areas of service, such as Education, Government or the Arts. Participants are key players in local businesses, non-profits and government.

In the 2 hour workshop, participants learned about many of the services and resources available to Osceola citizens. Library BINGO was a fun introduction to identifying by name valuable services and resources. The Youth team led hands-on STEAM activities as a way to highlight how the Library aligns its programming along with the Chamber's and School District's educational goals using STEAM toys and games. Tours through the Hart Memorial Library presented by Library staff showcased the TechCentral makerspace, Collection Services, Children's area with sensory inclusive aids, along with what's available in public spaces. All attendees had the opportunity to receive a free headshot to use with their resumes or online presence, plus sign up for a Library card which half were able to do. The group left with lots of goodies and information to remind them of their visit and we're looking forward to next year.

Other March activities:

Women's History Month: Through history, film, art and science, the Library celebrated the contributions of important women on society. Highlight programs included a walking tour of Mt. Peace Cemetery exploring the lives of early women' settlers, Pioneer Women of St. Cloud, Fashion Rewind: Styles of the Early St. Cloud Settlers, and a celebration of women authors through storytime and afterschool programs.

Paint and Sip: This program created at the Poinciana Library debuts as a recurring St. Cloud Library program taught by staff and with great results. 26 people gathered to paint together while sipping a refreshing beverage.

Sewing for Beginners: This TechCentral class provides hands-on instruction using Brother sewing machines each Friday afternoon for adults and teens.

Afterschool Programs: The Wednesday afternoon fun returns afterschool with programs for school age kids such as Creativity Corner at the West Osceola Library, STEAMWorks at Poinciana and St. Cloud, and weekly variety program at the Hart Memorial Library.

Kowtown Outreach: Library staff were on hand in the Lakefront Park to celebrate the 139th birthday of the City of Kissimmee. Staff gave Library cards, promoted TechCentral and Library resources, and talked up Summer Learning activities debuting in June to 180 people.

English for Families: This Florida Humanities grant funded program launched on March 21 and continued on March 28 with 52 people in attendance. The program led by Library Youth staff aims to use family dynamics and support teach English language proficiency.



Above: 26 budding artists explore their creativity in this staff-led art program at the St. Cloud Library. The Paint & Sip class also featured a refreshing beverage to round out a night of fun!



Left: Library staff set up a welcoming table with lots of resources to share, such as Summer Learning previews and VR headsets, as they connected with attendees of the Kowtown Festival in celebration of Kissimmee's 139th birthday at the Lakefront Park.



Above and Right: Llama visited several libraries to help jumpstart the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten challenge on Beanstack.



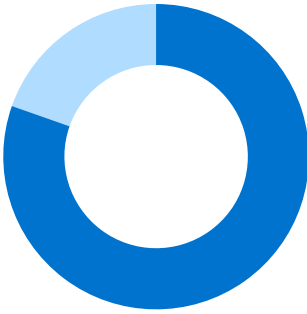

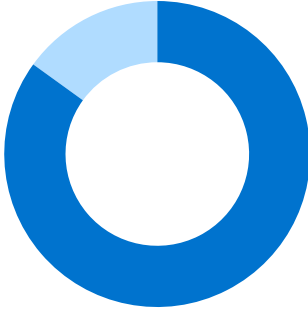






Left: In celebration of Women's History Month, local historian Larisa Roderick leads a group through Mt. Peace Cemetery. This program, Women's History From Beyond, is part of the St. Cloud Library's "Walking Library" series, taking patrons outside the Library to explore the lives of early women settlers.

Monthly Report April 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,746	14,822	71,181	60 Events & Activities, 1,010 Participants
St. Cloud	21,402	9,139	19,982	68 Events & Activities, 2,061 Participants
Poinciana	8,688	8,282	32,913	57 Events & Activities, 1,098 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,079	5,193	18,375	47 Events & Activities, 635 Participants
West Osceola	12,877	8,573	25,847	49 Events & Activities, 1,101 Participants
Kenansville	229	102	2,233	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation 80,901	Circulation  <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">Print 65,021</div> <div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">Virtual 15,880</div>  </div>	New Card Registration  <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">Cards 712</div> <div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; border-radius: 5px;">eCards 126</div>  </div>
Holds Placed 6,287		Phone Calls to Call Center  3,261
Study Room Uses 864	Room Reservations 173	Volunteering <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Volunteers 62 </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Hours Donated 535 </div> </div>
Notary Visits 27 	Reference Questions  10,793	Storytimes <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Storytimes Held 91 </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Attendees 2,475 </div> </div>

Earth Day with Community Shredding and Book Sale

The Osceola Library System celebrated Earth Day on April 23 with a Community Shredding Event, plus Earth Day themed activities and the first book sale since COVID closed book sales in 2020. The Saturday event at the St. Cloud Library was attended by 360 people bringing boxes and bags of items to be shred then leaving with fun crafts and “recycled” books. At least 14 bins of shredded waste was generated, a large amount according to the recycling contractor. Even folks from Osceola County government brought documents to be disposed of! The St. Cloud Friends of the Library raised over \$1200 to support Library programming and services. Other activities included a presentation by Library partner Love Makes Me Grow which helps to teach the benefits of growing your own food, in addition to a giveaway of seeds to start personal gardens. The event was complimented by free face painting and an opportunity to learn about geocaching, which is a fun way to get out into nature. Community response was very positive and more events will be planned in the future.

TechCentral’s Open Mic Night

TechCentral’s Open Mic Night at the Osceola Library System’s Hart Memorial Library is taking off! With a dedicated (and very musical) team from TechCentral setting up the Lillie Room like an intimate club with dimmed lighting and stage design, 40 attendees and participants jammed and sang the night away on Tuesday, April 5. Open Mic Night will have a regular space on our event calendar as a way to create cultural connections and promote TechCentral's resources like the Recording Studio and Mac Lab.

Sensory Room Opening and Sensory Play Dates

The St. Cloud Library celebrated the opening of their Sensory Room on Saturday, April 2. St. Cloud Friends of the Library were on hand to help introduce this new service to the community that is now available to be “checked out” by patrons needing a quiet space due to sensory processing challenges. The room is filled with the soothing sounds of a water feature, dim lighting and textured art to help provide a calming space for those who need a change of atmosphere. On the same day, Youth Services staff presented a Sensory Playdate at each branch library designed to “explore the five senses” with activities that help those on the Autism spectrum enjoy storytime. 101 people enjoyed both programs.

One Book, One Community

This year’s One Book, One Community collective read is *Framed* by James Ponti. The Library hosted weekly events to introduce young readers to this classic suspenseful tale about a young detective working with the FBI to help thwart the biggest art heist in United States history! The *Orlando Sentinel* provided free copies of the book and Library staff created fun activities that brought the story to life. 138 kids and families took part in April’s event – a May wrap-up with the author himself is on the calendar!

Other April activities:

National Library Week: To celebrate this annual event, the St. Cloud Library planned a week-long series of programs called Love My Library designed to highlight the “valuable role libraries play in the community,” plus Library staff received library/book themed tote bags in recognition National Library Workers Day and their enduring contributions to the success of the Library.

First Celebration News article: The West Osceola Library’s Adult Services Librarian Paola Grimes is preparing monthly reviews of upcoming programming and new services for publication in the Celebration News magazine available in print and online. The article will be a full-page feature each month.

Construction begins at BVL Library: There’s progress ahead at the Buenaventura Lakes Library where Commissioner Viviana Janer has given the go-ahead for interior and exterior renovations to help increase the use of WiFi after library closed hours and create more accessible study spaces.

Flex Your Fingers: Fine Motor Skills Workshops: This series continues to draw large numbers of kids and parents enjoying activities that help strengthen fine motor skills like using scissors and hand-writing. With programs at both St. Cloud and Poinciana Libraries, 206 kids and grown-ups participated in April.

Toho Water advertisement insert: Through a partnership with local utility company Toho Water Authority, the Library promoted essential services through an insert in the monthly bill, reaching over 100,000 customers in Osceola and Polk counties.

Hop on Downtown outreach: The Hart Memorial Library partnered with Kissimmee Main Street to be a Jelly Bean stop during this Easter event. Staff decorated the front window with a bunny-themed display and Drag Queen Storytime was the feature event in the Lillie Room.

Wild About Reading outreach: Library staff joined together with the Wild Florida Adventure Park to present a family-friendly day of activities, highlighted program information and face painting, plus all guests with a Library card received free entry to the gator park.

Faux Garden Terrarium: One of the many creative craft programs offered for adults, the Faux Garden Terrarium program at the Poinciana Library had patrons filling their terrariums with all kinds of accessories such as colorful rocks, fake plants, gnomes and skulls!

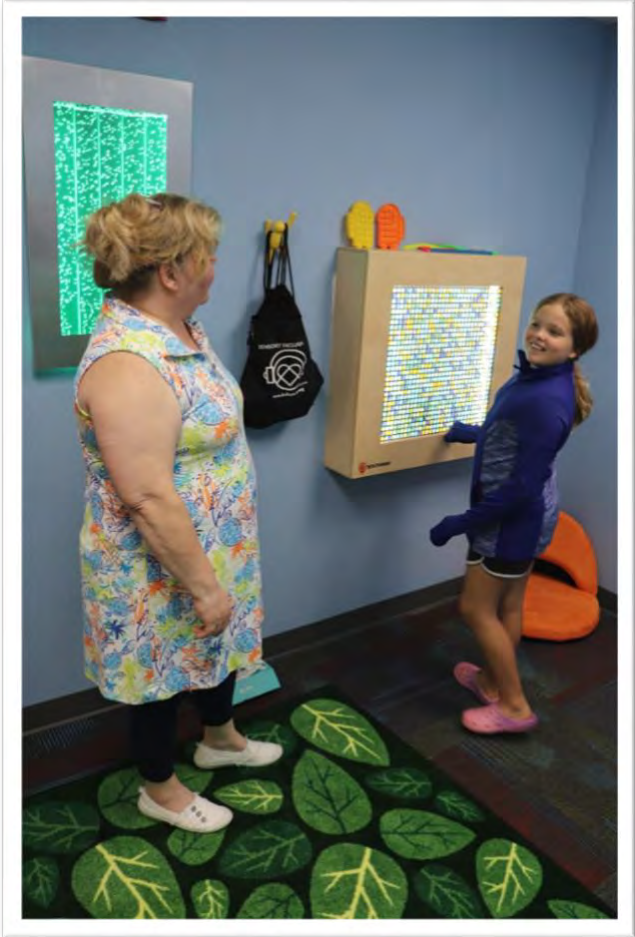


Above: This eye-catching graphic went out into the bill inserts of over 100,000 Toho Water Authority customers in Osceola and Polk counties.



Above: Guest artists jam during TechCentral's Open Mic Night.

Right: Youth Services Librarian Crystal Hamrick demonstrates how to use the newly launched Sensory Room at the St. Cloud Library.





Above: A sampling of the creative faux terrariums crafted at the Poinciana Library's adult series, Saturday Crafternoon.

Below: Youth Services Manager Lisa Jones connects with patrons at Wild Florida during the Wild About Reading outreach.





Left and Below: Hundreds of attendees rifled through recycled books and brought their old papers for shredding during the St. Cloud Library's Earth Day celebration.

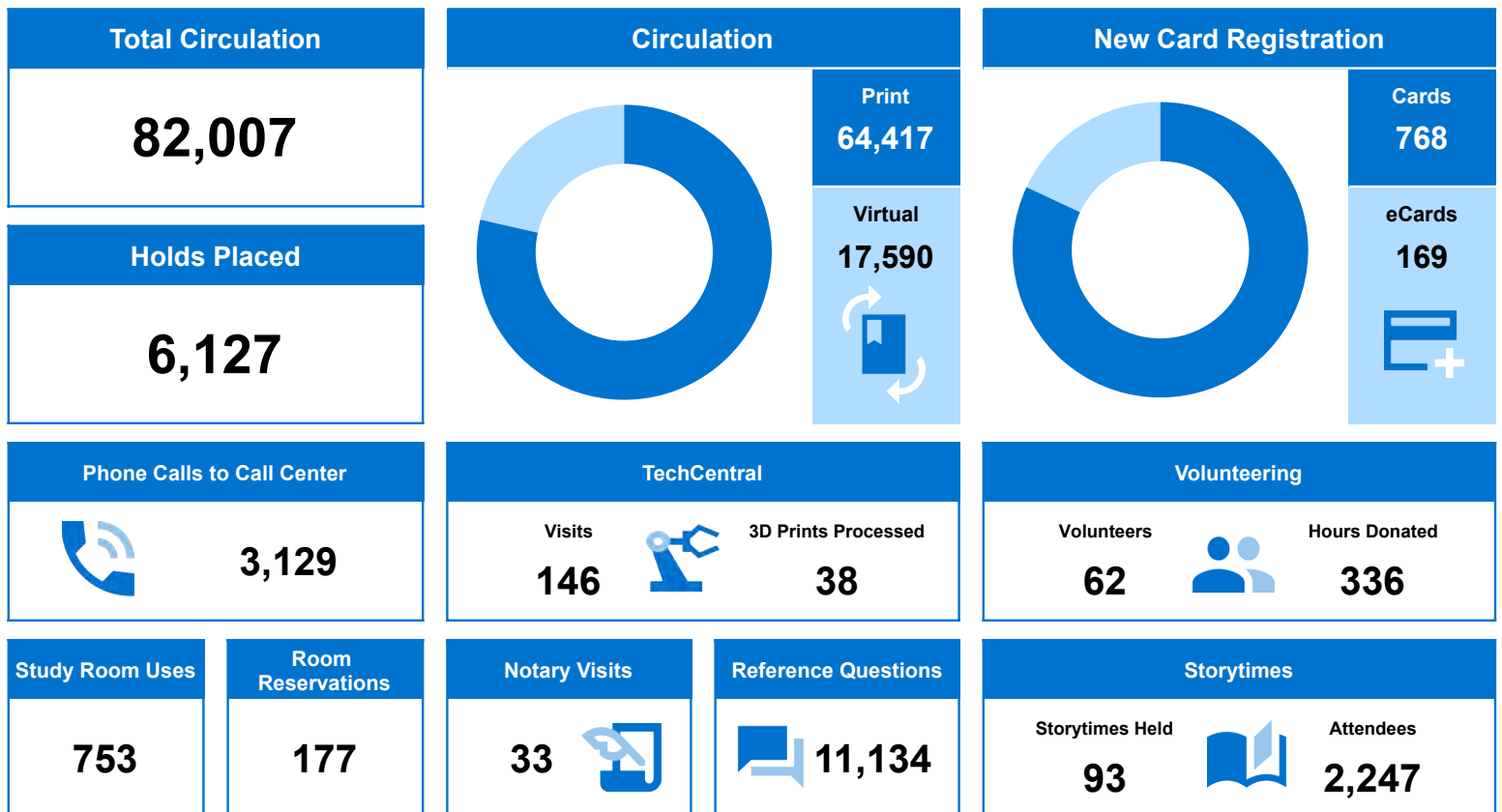


Monthly Report May 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,236	15,454	73,071	57 Events & Activities, 972 Participants
St. Cloud	21,138	8,444	19,449	66 Events & Activities, 1,329 Participants
Poinciana	9,059	8,240	31,177	53 Events & Activities, 920 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	4,974	4,756	16,980	55 Events & Activities, 816 Participants
West Osceola	12,792	8,472	25,534	36 Events & Activities, 947 Participants
Kenansville	218	85	3,628	N/A

System Stats at a Glance



Bubbles with Blaise

The Library delighted families with a unique program, Bubbles with Blaise, an after-hours event at Hart Memorial Library featuring “bubble master,” Blaise Ryndes. The show featured Blaise creating intricate and dazzling bubble sculptures and Blaise has been featured on the national TV show, America’s Got Talent. Youth and Adult staff used the opportunity to highlight the upcoming Summer Learning program due to launch in June, debuting a newly designed system-wide calendar of upcoming events. Participants were given a card that led them through different activities within the library to learn more about the availability of library services in a fun way, such as visiting TechCentral to star in a READ poster or checking out 3 books using the checkout stations for a chance to pose with Blaise as he envelopes kids in a giant bubble. The Osceola Friends of the Library conducted a successful pop-up book sale as well. The library branch closed at 6pm and reopened with a chance to sip nonalcoholic bubbly and nosh on fruits and sweets served by Teen Ambassadors. All participants were invited to enter raffle drawings for baskets and themed gifts, like a s’mores maker (in keeping with the Camp iRead theme of Summer Learning). 143 people attended and 130 items were checked out during the event.

Real Florida Reader program

Several Florida state departments coordinated with public libraries across Florida to launch a new program designed to create a powerful incentive to sign up for library cards and to experience the natural beauty of the Florida park system. The Real Florida Reader program distributed passes to public libraries that are good for the entry of one vehicle/up to 8 people to most of the Florida State Park system. The passes are free to check out for library card-holders. The Osceola Library System received 12 passes for its 6 branches and due to an effective media campaign, park passes flew out the doors as soon as they were received. These free passes are in effect until September 12.

FLA presentation on the Walking Library

Michelle Mosely, Adult Services Programming Coordinator, was selected to present at the annual Florida Library Association conference. She presented during the Lightning Round where librarians provide structured and informative but timed presentations (5 minutes, 20 slides). Michelle has coordinated many programs that are out in the community, partnering with local groups to present historical, natural or community-based programs that pair an immersive experience with an informative one. This has been especially important to keep people connected to the Library during COVID. Topics include a civil rights walking program, an exploration of local cemeteries and downtown history, and nature walks, coupled with the opportunity to apply for a library card and learn more about library resources. Michelle’s presentation was extremely well-received with librarians from across the state asking for guidance in replicating her exciting programs in their communities.

New Chambers Park Computers

The Library has had a long-standing partnership with the City of Kissimmee's Chambers Park Community Center with support provided for programming and outreach, an innovative grant for a resource "vending" machine, and the donation of 6 desktop PCs to be used for after school homework help. The Library recently upgraded these PCs with brand new all-in-one computers. The computers will help support youth education in this central Kissimmee neighborhood and connect Chambers Park to the Library's electronic resources.

Other May Highlights:

March to Your Own Story: This community-based program, sponsored in part by the Library in partnership with St. Cloud Main Street and the St. Cloud Friends of the Library, kicked off May 29 and features a stroll through downtown St. Cloud where participants will visit local businesses and read a book one page at a time.

One Book, One Community Finale: James Ponti visited the Hart Memorial Library to wrap up the community reading initiative featuring his novel, *Framed*. 34 people gathered to hear stories and take photos with the author.

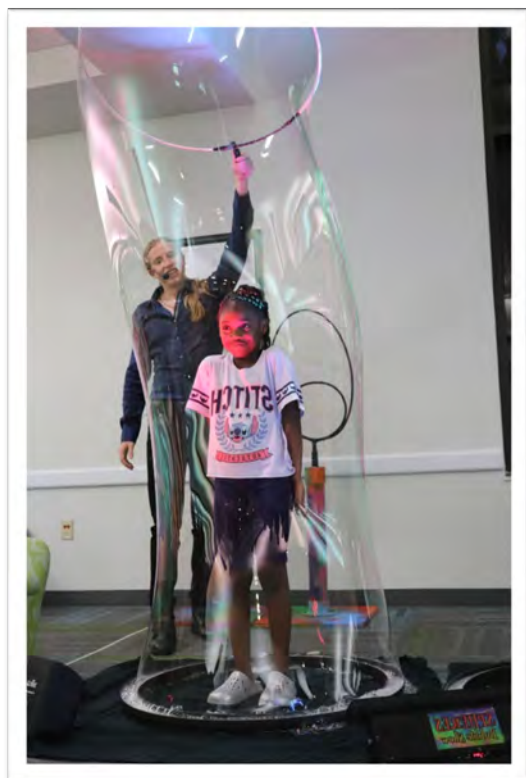
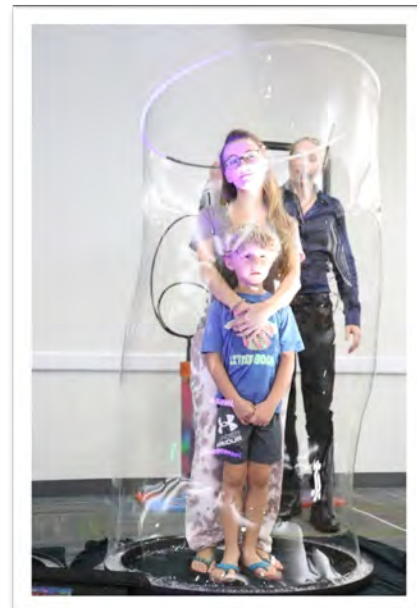
Storytime in the Park: This outdoor storytime program located in the Kissimmee Lakefront Park wraps up the hot summer months but continues to see great attendance with 86 kids and grownups attending in May.

Angel Paws to Read: The West Osceola Library hosted adorable kids reading to also adorable dogs with the return of the Paws to Read program, which gives kids a chance to practice their reading skills in a judgement free zone of unconditional canine love.

American Sign Language for Beginners: Presented by ASL Services and taught by Deaf instructors, this four week course at the Poinciana Library drew 47 attendees learning the basics of communicating in American Sign Language.

Paint and Sip: This evening program invites participants to enjoy a cool beverage while following a talented staff person as they lead the group in recreating their artistic masterpiece to take home and display. Programs at the Poinciana and St. Cloud Library attracted 50 people.

Nature Walk: Shingle Creek: Part of the Walking Library series of outdoor programs, the Pine Lily Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society guided participants around the North Sector of Shingle Creek, headwaters of the Everglades, while Library staff provided activities and information to deepen the learning experience.



Above and Left: The Bubbles with Blaise program was a great success and tons of fun. A pop-up book sale by our Osceola Friends of the Library was very popular and some of our kids dared to be encased in a giant bubble, just like Tyra Banks on America's Got Talent!



Left: James Ponti and Youth Services staff celebrate the finale of the One Book, One Community reading program. Ponti's middle grade adventure book, *Framed*, was the center point of the multi-county community reading program.



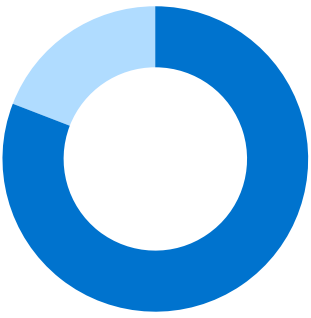
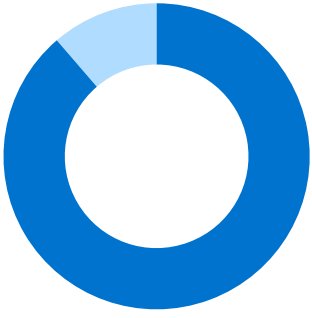












Above Left: Van Gogh's *Starry Night* inspired talented artist and staff member Melissa Gomez's painting for May's Paint and Sip program at the Poinciana Library
Above Right: The Real Florida Reader program distributed State Park passes to public libraries.

Monthly Report June 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	17,273	15,120	64,484	53 Events & Activities, 1,083 Participants
St. Cloud	24,571	10,477	18,025	81 Events & Activities, 2,723 Participants
Poinciana	10,913	9,306	28,930	57 Events & Activities, 1,367 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,868	5,972	17,608	55 Events & Activities, 1,366 Participants
West Osceola	13,433	9,137	23,965	57 Events & Activities, 1,376 Participants
Kenansville	171	104	3,099	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation <h1>89,314</h1>	Circulation  <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Print</td> <td>72,229</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Virtual</td> <td>17,085</td> </tr> </table>	Print	72,229	Virtual	17,085	New Card Registration  <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Cards</td> <td>1,177</td> </tr> <tr> <td>eCards</td> <td>150</td> </tr> </table>	Cards	1,177	eCards	150
Print		72,229								
Virtual	17,085									
Cards	1,177									
eCards	150									
Holds Placed <h1>6,817</h1>	Phone Calls to Call Center  <h1>3,489</h1>	TechCentral <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Visits</td> <td></td> <td>3D Prints Processed</td> </tr> <tr> <td><h1>121</h1></td> <td></td> <td><h1>74</h1></td> </tr> </table>	Visits		3D Prints Processed	<h1>121</h1>		<h1>74</h1>		
Visits		3D Prints Processed								
<h1>121</h1>		<h1>74</h1>								
Study Room Uses <h1>726</h1>	Room Reservations <h1>169</h1>	Volunteering <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Volunteers</td> <td></td> <td>Hours Donated</td> </tr> <tr> <td><h1>60</h1></td> <td></td> <td><h1>655</h1></td> </tr> </table>	Volunteers		Hours Donated	<h1>60</h1>		<h1>655</h1>		
Volunteers		Hours Donated								
<h1>60</h1>		<h1>655</h1>								
Notary Visits <h1>33</h1> 	Reference Questions  <h1>12,847</h1>	Storytimes <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Storytimes Held</td> <td></td> <td>Attendees</td> </tr> <tr> <td><h1>68</h1></td> <td></td> <td><h1>1,735</h1></td> </tr> </table>	Storytimes Held		Attendees	<h1>68</h1>		<h1>1,735</h1>		
Storytimes Held		Attendees								
<h1>68</h1>		<h1>1,735</h1>								

Summer Learning Kickoff

Summer Learning kicked off this month with a new theme, “Read Beyond the Beaten Path.” This theme inspired programming focusing on camping, the great outdoors and having fun in the Florida sun – with a good book! Camp iRead, the Summer Learning program for kids and families, got off to a great start with presentations by DoDad’s Lab and Gatorland, plus Library staff created engaging programs like Gnarly Creatures of Florida, STEAM Day and Carnival Day that connected the shows of sharing a good book with arts, crafts, and activities. Camp Survivor centered on teens exploring topical issues like learning how to speak up and speak out when confronted with a challenging situation, along with relaxed activities like Tie Dye and Bingo 4 Books. Adult Summer Learning brought people together over “Campfire Crafts” such as DIY bath bombs and macramé keychains just like summer camp from yesteryear! More adventure awaits as Summer Learning continues in July.

Pride Month Festivities

The Library celebrated Pride Month all June long with programs, crafts, outreach, displays and education. Our “Campfire Crafts” Summer Learning programs were themed to Pride Month with DIY rainbow earrings and a Pride button tree, plus a take and make Pride bracelet craft. Over the Rainbow storytime celebrated LGBTQ+ families through picture books, hands-on activities and songs. The Library hosted a table at the City of Kissimmee’s annual PrideFest gathering, connecting 20 new patrons with Library cards and chatting with 175 people about Library services. Our first LibGuide was published outlining the history and resources available on Pride Month. And staff created book displays and wore colorful READ with PRIDE buttons all month to help promote literacy and learning.

International Festival at BVL Library

The BVL Library hosted its annual International Festival, an exploration and celebration of cultures from around the world. Staff and community members get an opportunity to share special details of their traditions and the Library provides an essential connection to our diverse and ever-growing County. Participants were treated to a variety of food, crafts, activities, musical and dance performances. Countries represented included Canada, China, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Spain and Scotland. Dance performance included the Hula, Salsa and Pollera Colorá plus singers and dancers from Puerto Rico and Latin America. Food such as poutine, empanadas, hummus and Jamaican ginger beer was available for sampling. Tables were decorated with a 3D printed object that represented that country’s history or culture and participants were encouraged to paint Greek pottery, take a photo as the Mona Lisa and solve hieroglyphic puzzles. This afternoon family event brought 180 people into the Library on a sunny summer day.

– Information and phrasing taken from Lisa Martinez’s OPAL post on 6/30/2022

Other June Highlights:

COHS graduate: The COHS program graduated another Osceola graduate who had dropped out of high school in the 9th grade and then completed 27 credits in 7 months to earn her high school diploma through the grant-funded program offered by the Library.

Experience Osceola outreach: The Library shared stories, crafts, VR workstations and a joy for reading and Summer Learning with attendees at the St. Cloud Lakefront Park alongside County and community organizations.

Juneteenth celebrations: At the Lakefront Park in Kissimmee and at the West Osceola Library, staff celebrated Juneteenth with food, crafts and music as we explored this significant historical event.

March to Your Own Story: In partnership with groups like St. Cloud Main Street, Orlando Health and the Education Foundation, this story walk program lasts all summer. Participants gather in downtown St. Cloud to read illustrated pages from books by local authors set up in merchant windows and copies of the books are available for checkout at the Library.

21 Century Outreaches: Youth staff have partnered with the School District of Osceola to provide summer programming for a select group of schools called 21st Century Schools, which are schools that have been identified as needing additional academic enrichment to meet educational goals. The Youth team is visiting 11 schools over the summer.

LitMag Reception: Winners of the annual *LitMag* were celebrated at this weekend reception attended by their families and special guest *LitMag* judges. Works were read aloud and the reception opened with a discussion about the process of creative writing and publishing.

Marshmallow Treasure: Proof that it's the little pleasures in life that are the most fun, 428 people participated in the Poinciana and Hart Memorial Libraries game of "guess how many marshmallows are in the Mason jar"! Winners received a nice prize.



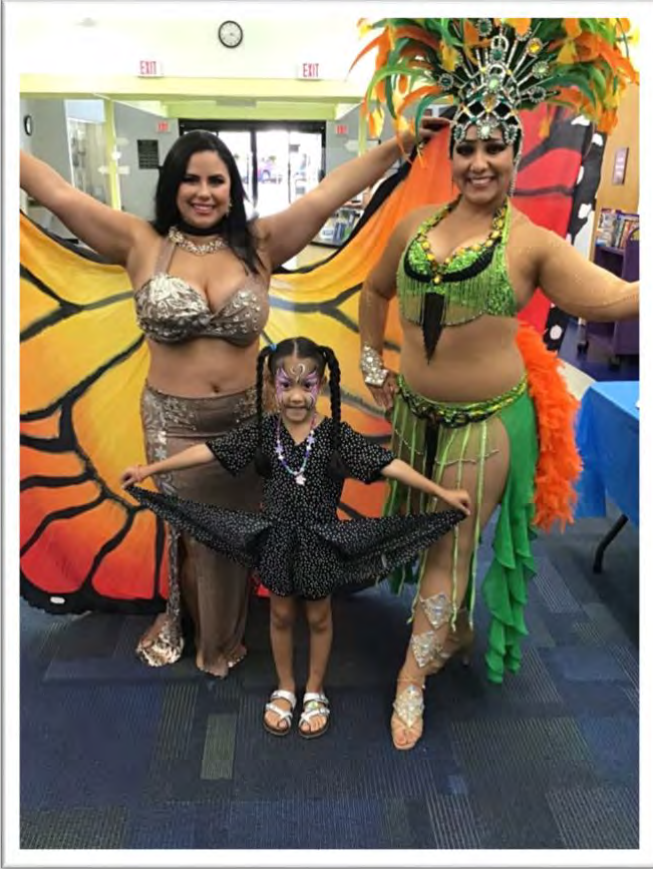
Summer Learning – “Read Beyond the Beaten Path”

Above left: Ms. Kaitie leads kids through a Peep experiment on STEAM Day at the Hart Memorial Library

Above right: Gatorland entertains and educates a great crowd at the BVL Library

Below: Ms. Susan and Ms. Crystal delight with Gnarly Creatures at the Poinciana Library

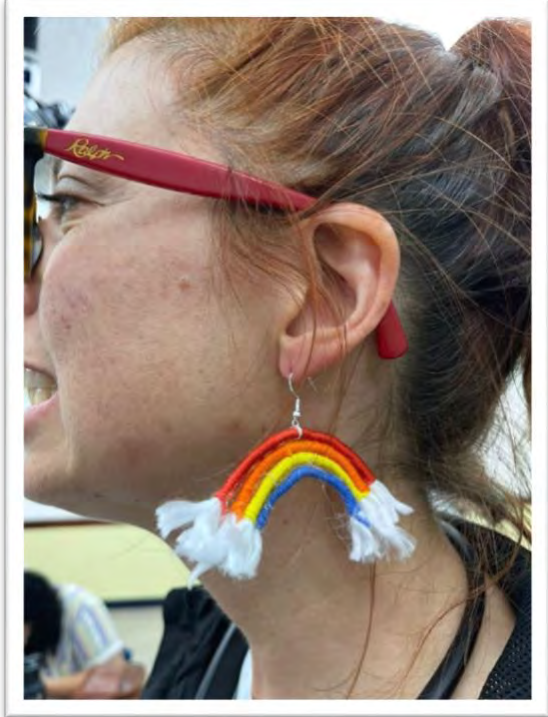




Top: The BVL Library's International Festival featured performances, food, and crafts from around the globe
Left: A visit from the Fire Department meant a chance to explore how to be fire smart and also to climb aboard the big rig!



Top: LitMag winners and judges have fun at the weekend reception
Bottom left: Ms. Crystal and Ms. Susan share camp crafts at Experience Osceola
Right: The Poinciana Library celebrated Prime Month with a Rainbow earrings craft

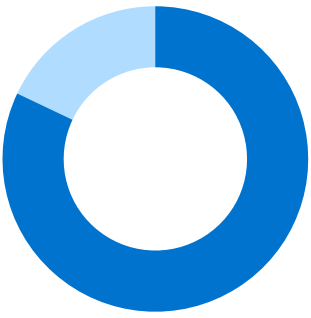
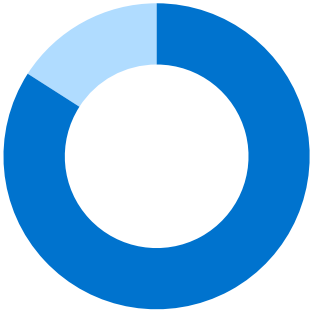





Monthly Report July 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	18,011	15,592	69,841	61 Events & Activities, 1,514 Participants
St. Cloud	25,413	10,527	20,758	85 Events & Activities, 1,963 Participants
Poinciana	11,005	8,710	33,910	57 Events & Activities, 852 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	6,048	5,998	21,082	56 Events & Activities, 991 Participants
West Osceola	14,235	8,150	27,138	58 Events & Activities, 846 Participants
Kenansville	135	55	3,052	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation <h1>91,233</h1>	Circulation  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Print: 74,847 Virtual: 16,386 	New Card Registration  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cards: 935 eCards: 177 	
Holds Placed <h1>7,173</h1>	Phone Calls to Call Center  <h1>3,170</h1>	TechCentral <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visits: 113 3D Prints Processed: 45 	Volunteering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteers: 54 Hours Donated: 566
Study Room Uses <h1>785</h1>	Room Reservations <h1>186</h1>	Notary Visits  <h1>39</h1>	Reference Questions  <h1>12,097</h1>
		Storytimes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storytimes Held: 58 Attendees: 1,201 	

Launch of new learning resources

With funds provided by the American Rescue Plan Act, the Library has developed two new collections of learning resources to “Slow the Slide” of learning losses brought on by the pandemic. Dozens of STEAM kits are now available to bring science and arts learning home in a fun and interactive way, such as exploring the impact of earthquakes or playing math games, paired with a topical book that families can read together. The Launchpad collection features tablets preloaded with games and learning challenges. Kids preschool to 8th grade are the focus for these new collections available at all branch libraries, in addition to the AWE Learning Workstations which debuted earlier this year. More STEAM kits will be added soon, featuring musical instruments like Ukuleles, and LEGO Educational kits that teach coding and complex problem-solving.

International Festival comes to Poinciana

Culture abounded at the Poinciana Library as they celebrated arts, history, food and dance from around the world at their International Festival. Featured countries were Ireland, Puerto Rico, India, China, Spain, Germany and more! Tables for each country provided cultural and geographic highlights along with the opportunity to sample crafts and foods important to those countries. Dance performances took center stage in the open space as dancers in traditional costumes performed Irish dances, Hula, Samba and more. Over 80 people attended this afternoon event.

County Commissioner teams up for Back Pack event

Sponsored by County Commissioner Cheryl Grieb, the annual back to school event is always a great way to reach kids just starting Kindergarten all the way up to high school. 400 backpacks provided by the Commissioner were distributed, along with Library information and school supplies. Attendees then had the chance to sample some of our new resources such as STEAM kits and Launchpads, in addition to fun STEAM games and activities, before checking out books to take home. Library staff created a Beanstack challenge to encourage use of the reading app and the winner of the challenge took home a \$50 gift card to a local pizza restaurant. The event was very successful with 719 people attending, 255 books checked out and 25 new patrons registered.

Summer Learning wraps up

Another great summer of learning came to a close for both kids and adults. This year’s theme of camping really jumpstarted creativity and the after-hours adult wrap up at the St. Cloud Library brought all the best of summer together with 130 people enjoying crafts and playing board games. West Osceola hosted the youth wrap up especially for families.

Canta y Encata dazzles

When a famous musical group from Colombia says they'll be in your area asking to stop by for a free performance, the answer is a definite yes when you find out it's Canta y Encata, a wonderful troupe of young performers who delighted BVL Library patrons last year in a surprise visit and dropped by the Library again this year. Special visitor Mirabel from Disney's Encanto also made a surprise visit as a compliment to this amazing morning along with a face painter. 169 people attended this special event.

Other July happenings:

BioDrops: Biomateriales Liquidos: In a partnership with UCF, tweens at the BVL Library attended a week-long summer camp to learn about the science of phase separation.

Rental Assistance Navigation Event: This recurring partner event connects residents with much need information to improve access to housing and living expenses, this time at the Hart Memorial Library.

NOAH Conference Outreach: Youth Staff presented story times and activities at this national conference for the National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation.

Painting with Flowers: Creativity was in full bloom at the Poinciana Library as 29 people learned how to use flowers as stencils.

Paint Night: Both St. Cloud and Poinciana Libraries hosted Paint Night enticing patrons to follow along as a gifted artist provides step by step instruction.

Nature Walk: Lake Lizzie South Loop: 21 people enjoyed an early morning hike through native wilderness to spy animals and plants important to the Florida ecosystem and history.

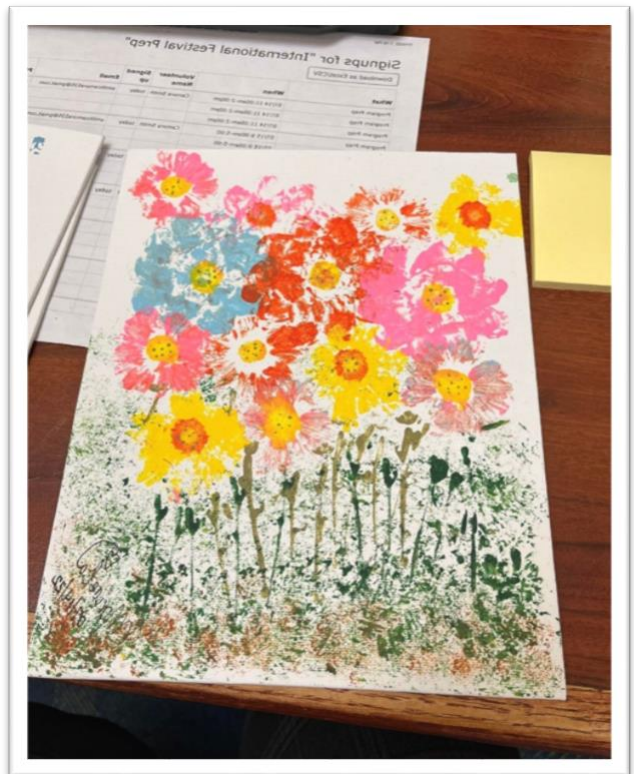
Osceola Hob Nob: Staff tabled at this event to educate and inform about Library services to Osceola and Orange political candidates.

Vex IQ Robotics: This multi-week series in TechCentral for teens over 12 teaches the basics of coding for these special robots.



Left:
Canta y Encata made a surprise visit to the BVL Library.

Below:
Painting with flowers produced unique artwork at the Poinciana Library.





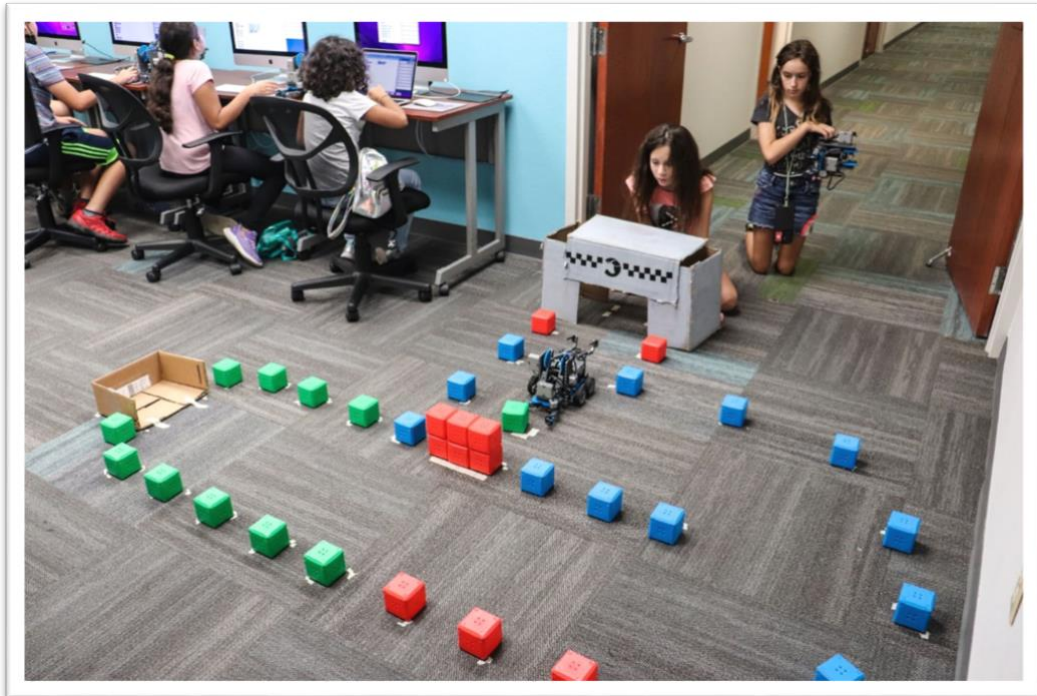
Above and Below: The Poinciana Library's International Festival featured crafts, food, dance, customs and history of countries from around the world, including India and Ireland.





Above: Commissioner Grieb hands out 400 backpacks to students who then enjoyed games and activities with Library staff.

Right: Kids flex their coding skills to program Vex IQ robots inside TechCentral.

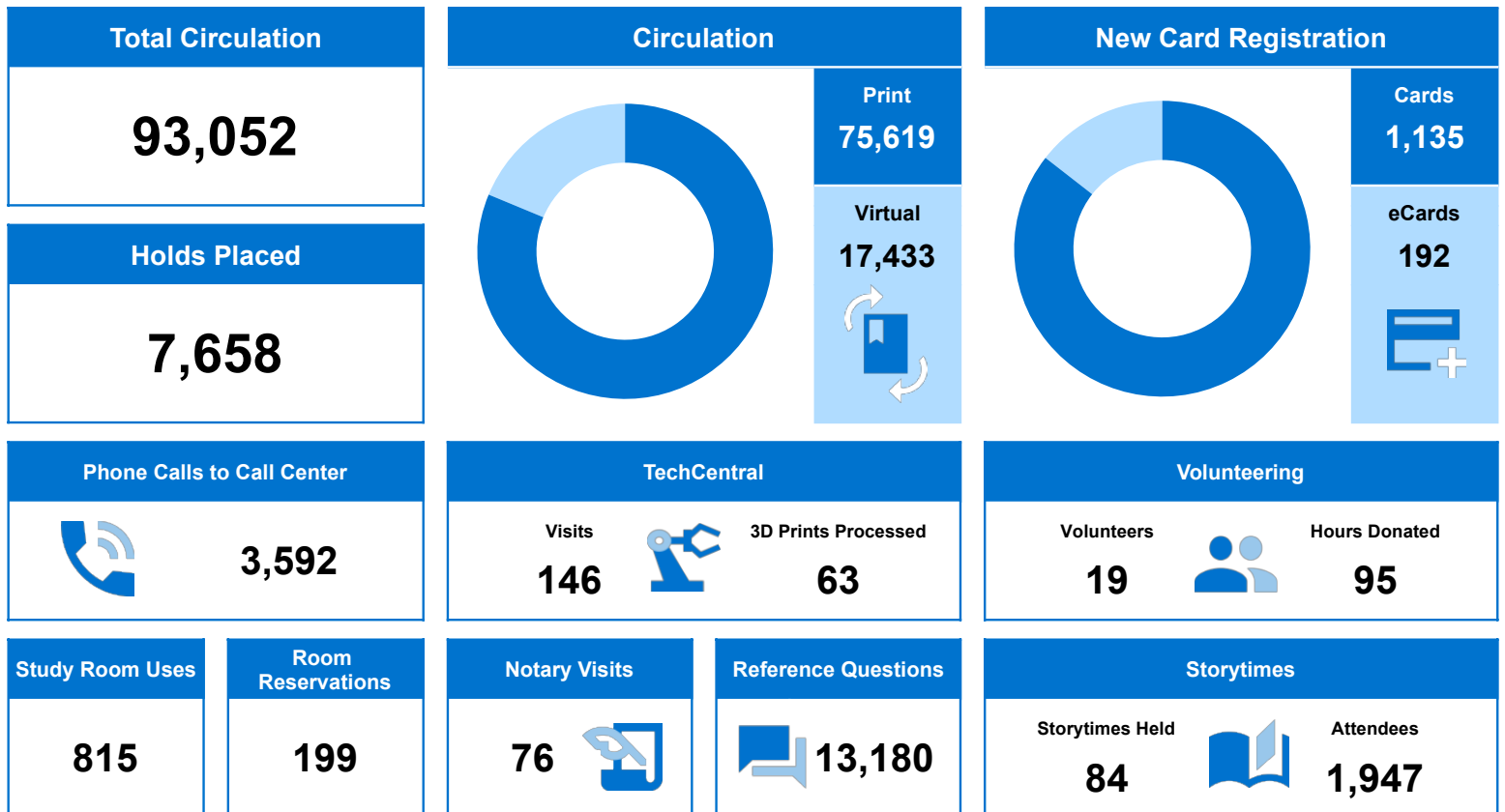


Monthly Report August 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	18,037	16,576	72,511	55 Events & Activities, 2,429 Participants
St. Cloud	26,009	10,864	21,325	58 Events & Activities, 1,091 Participants
Poinciana	10,609	9,362	35,377	48 Events & Activities, 988 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	6,332	6,116	22,104	49 Events & Activities, 724 Participants
West Osceola	14,984	11,521	28,382	51 Events & Activities, 892 Participants
Kenansville	198	83	3,144	N/A

System Stats at a Glance



National TV show films at Hart Memorial Library

The Hart Memorial Library was selected as a location for filming a Travel Channel TV series. The *Dead Files* pairs a NYC detective with a medium as they explore haunted locations in search of solving the unsolved and explaining the unexplained! The crew filmed in the Ray Shanks Memorial Law Library and in a staff area meeting room overlooking the Monument of the States, before moving on to another location in Kissimmee at historic Steffee Landing. Air time for this episode has not yet been scheduled.

Little Free Library debuts at water park

Through a partnership with a local water park, the Library is able to deliver “beach reads” to vacationers and locals alike. Island H2O Water Park in Kissimmee debuted a Little Free Library in the wave pool area so when parents and little ones are taking a break from the fun in the sun and water, they can relax with a good book provided by the Osceola Library System. Island H2O General Manager Jim Kunau noted, “We are constantly striving to improve the visitor experience,” and Library lovers know that a good book makes every experience better!

Central Florida Kids and Family Expo outreach success

Following the wrap up of Summer Learning, the Osceola Library System participated in the Central Florida Kids and Family Expo held at the Orange County Convention Center. The regional event is open to the public and staff are able to chat with parents and kids about library services and sign up new library patrons. It’s also an invaluable opportunity to connect with vendors in the kid entertainment and education industries and this has led to Summer Learning performers and securing giveaways and prizes. This year was by far the most successful! The Library sent 3 staff on each day of the two-day event. On Saturday, the first day, staff chatted with 1,118 people who stopped by the Library table. On Sunday, an impressive 602 people also visited the Library's table. Featured at the table were flyers for TechCentral, STEAM Kits and Launchpads, and Career Online High School information, and visitors were able to play our table-top Plinko game to win fun prizes.

Commissioner Grieb donates music stands to TechCentral

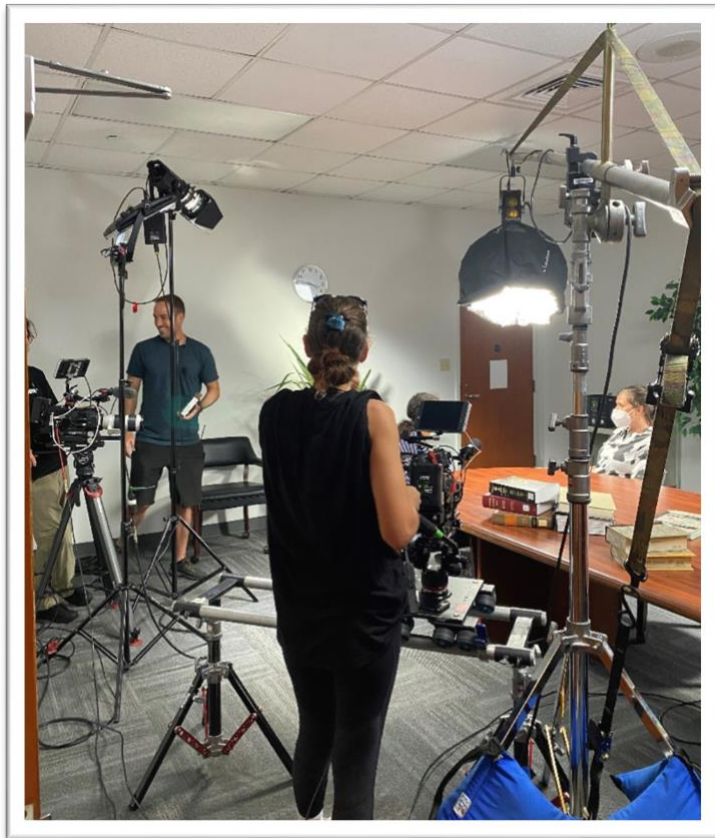
Commissioner Cheryl Grieb has been a supporter of all the creative arts and technology TechCentral offers, but as a musician herself, she was very impressed with the recording studio and the Beginning Guitar classes taught by the Makerspace Technicians. After attending the guitar class series, Commissioner Grieb generously donated 12 music stands plus a cart in order to make the learning experience better for future students. The Library is very grateful for not only the funds to support these classes but the time Commissioner Grieb takes to be a vocal and visible Library enthusiast.

Other August happenings

Osceola Friends of the Library book sale: The three day “Back to School” book sale was a big hit, moving out of storage hundreds of boxes of donations and discarded books and netting the Friends a healthy nest egg to enable them to continue their support of Library programming and collections.

English for Families at Poinciana: This Florida Humanities Council grant funded program seeks to gather families together to improve English language skills. The program was previously held at the Buenaventura Lakes Library.

St. Cloud Friend is CommUNITY Champion: Barbara Shuman, president of the St. Cloud Friends of the Library, was profiled by WESH TV as a CommUNITY Champion for her tireless commitment to education, the Teen Ambassador program and the St. Cloud Library.



Left: A production team takes over the Monument Room at the Hart Memorial Library to film scenes from the Travel Channel's investigation series, *Dead Files*, which pairs a cop and a psychic to solve crime and murder cases across the country.

Bottom: Beginning Guitar students enjoy the use of new guitar stands gifted by County Commissioner and musician, Cheryl Grieb.



Right: Island H2O partnered with the Library to build a Little Free Library so guests could enjoy a good story while lounging after a day in the sun. The Library will supply books and Island H2O is offering discounts to card holders through November.

Bottom: The Osceola Friends of the Library held a successful back to school book sale at the Hart Memorial Library. The 3-day event netted nearly \$2000 to support Library programs and services, and was the first book sale at this branch library since before the COVID pandemic started.

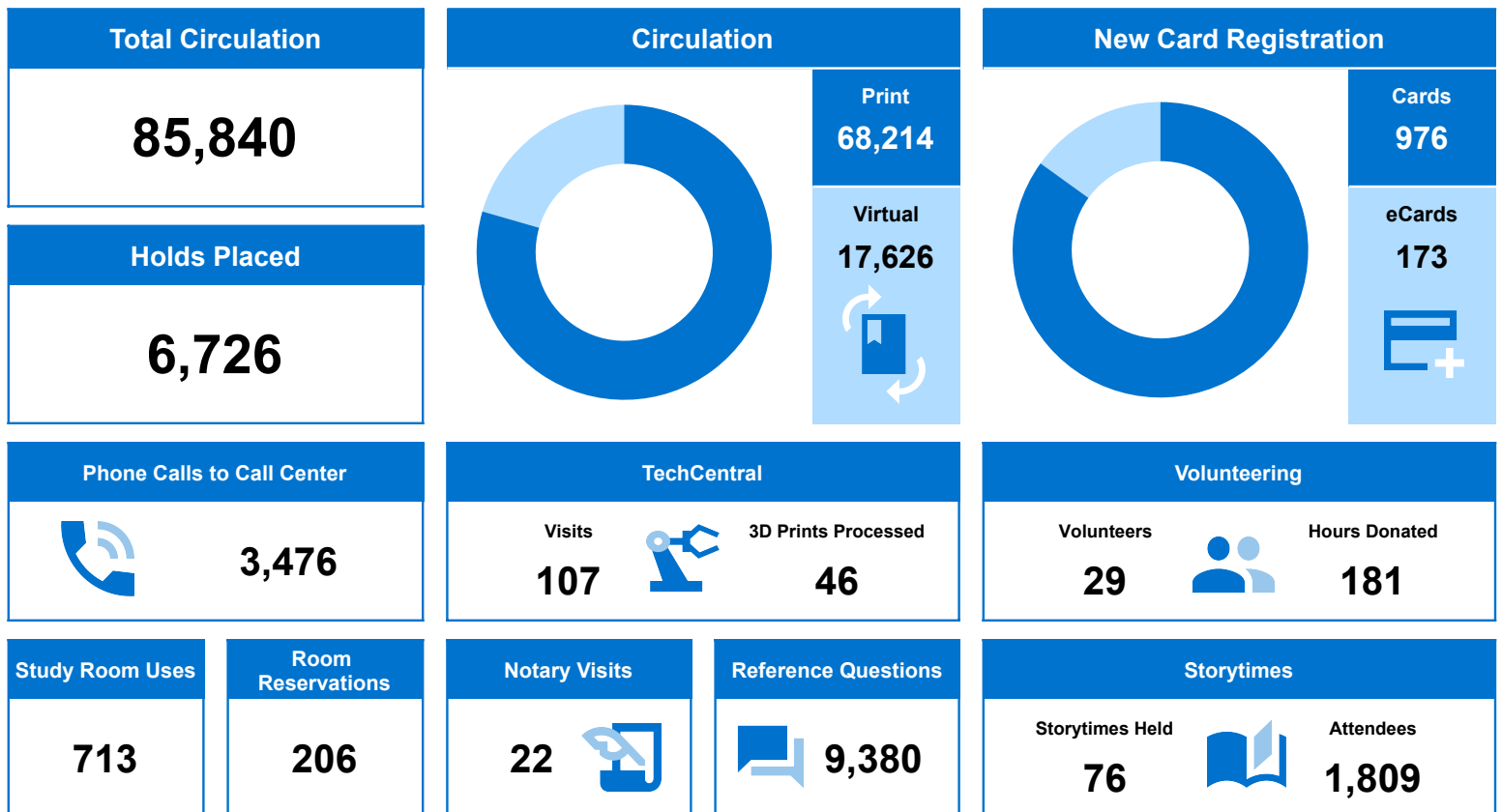


Monthly Report September 2022

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!



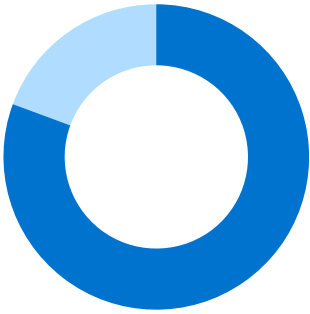

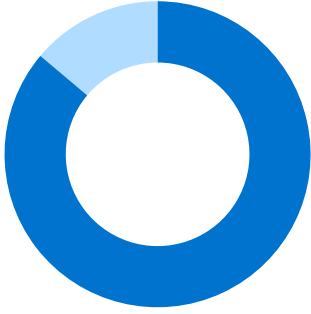






Left: The Osceola Friends of the Library provided 250 pocket Constitutions for patrons to take home in celebration of Constitution Week.

Monthly Report October 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	18,753	21,390	85,200	60 Events & Activities, 914 Participants
St. Cloud	24,999	10,215	22,348	60 Events & Activities, 1,156 Participants
Poinciana	10,209	9,753	34,038	57 Events & Activities, 1,008 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,803	5,766	22,510	48 Events & Activities, 733 Participants
West Osceola	14,313	13,179	32,313	60 Events & Activities, 1,362 Participants
Kenansville	157	75	2,929	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation 92,096	Circulation  <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Print 74,234</div> <div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Virtual 17,862</div>  </div>	New Card Registration  <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Cards 1,023</div> <div style="background-color: #007bff; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">eCards 165</div>  </div>
Holds Placed 6,791		Phone Calls to Call Center  4,161
Study Room Uses 770	Room Reservations 181	Volunteering <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Volunteers 65 </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Hours Donated 579 </div> </div>
Notary Visits 36 	Reference Questions  10,727	Storytimes <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> Storytimes Held 73 </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Attendees 1,714 </div> </div>

FEMA establishes DRC after Ian

The Osceola Library System is hosting the Federal Emergency Management Agency at the Hart Memorial Library as they provide assistance to the community in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian. The Hart Memorial Library serves as a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) in times of disaster or emergency. FEMA, along with the Small Business Administration and several local and state agencies that administer relief or aid for citizens in need, has set up in two large meeting rooms and should be in place for the next two months. Mobile Registration Intake Centers (MRIC) are due to open at the BVL, St. Cloud and Poinciana Libraries in the coming month to help provide greater local access to agencies to distribute aid.

Narcoossee Express Locker opens

The Osceola Library System launched new service in the Narcoossee area with the installation of an Express Locker for holds pick up and materials return. The Locker is located at the Narcoossee Community Center, a County park facility in the growing suburbs between St. Cloud and Orange County. Commissioner Ricky Booth was on hand for the ribbon cutting that also featured storytime, a face painter and interactive STEAM games. The Express Locker is funded by a Library Services and Technology Act grant and a second locker is due to launch in Reunion on the west side of the County. That locker is located outside a new fire station situated on one of the busiest roads in Osceola County near Champions Gate and Poinciana.

Spooky events draw big crowds

People of all ages were looking for a frightfully fun time and found it at the Library! In partnership with the Osceola Historical Society, the Kissimmee Ghost Tour took 42 patrons on a stroll through downtown after dark to hear spine-chilling local lore. Another after-hours family event, Hart Memorial's Spooky Spooktacular was themed to Heroes and Villains and 201 kids and grownups enjoyed tricks, treats and other ghoulish delights. West Osceola's after-hours Spooky Spooktacular was a big hit with its theme of "It's Just a Bunch of Hocus Pocus" featuring a visit from the Sanderson Sisters. 167 people attended. Spooky Spooktaculars were held at all locations in addition to Not-So-Spooky Storytimes for the little ones and a Murder Mystery Mayhem themed to Horror at Homecoming for teens at the Hart Memorial Library.

New Hotspot for outdoor WiFi debuts

The BVL Library debuted a new service with the grand opening of the Hotspot, an outdoor pavilion with strong WiFi accessible around the clock. Championed by Osceola County Commissioner Viviana Janer, the Hotspot features countertops with electrical outlets and USB ports, a large fan for cooling on those hot summer evenings and stools and benches for collaboration and individual study. The space is ADA accessible and has become a popular hangout for local youth.

Other October highlights:

Hurricane Ian CIC staffing: Library staff were called to serve in the Citizens Information Center in the lead up to, during and aftermath of Hurricane Ian. In total, Library staff contributed 507 hours of service.

Friends' book sale in West Osceola: Book sales returned to the West Osceola Library after years of hiatus. The Friends of the Library earned an impressive \$400 during the one-day sale with plans for the book sale to return in the New Year.

Charging Station donations: The Information Technology Disaster Resource Center donated charging stations to all the libraries in an effort to ensure that local recovery efforts for disaster-affected citizens included the ability to keep important communication devices charged up.

New recording studio window: TechCentral's evolution continued with the addition of a window joining the Recording Studio and a recording space next door. Now technician and artist can view each other while creating great art.

Museum Art Kits roll out: The Rolling Museum of Art kits arrived at the Hart Memorial, Poinciana and West Osceola libraries. The Fall 2022 kits feature a project for the whole family to enjoy and YouTube videos for demonstration.

Hispanic Heritage Music and Art Festival: Poinciana Library hosted talented musicians and artists as they shared their craft in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.



Above and Left: The Hotspot debuted at the BVL Library. Commissioner Janer and Library and County staff celebrate the opening of the outdoor workspace featuring WiFi and café seating.

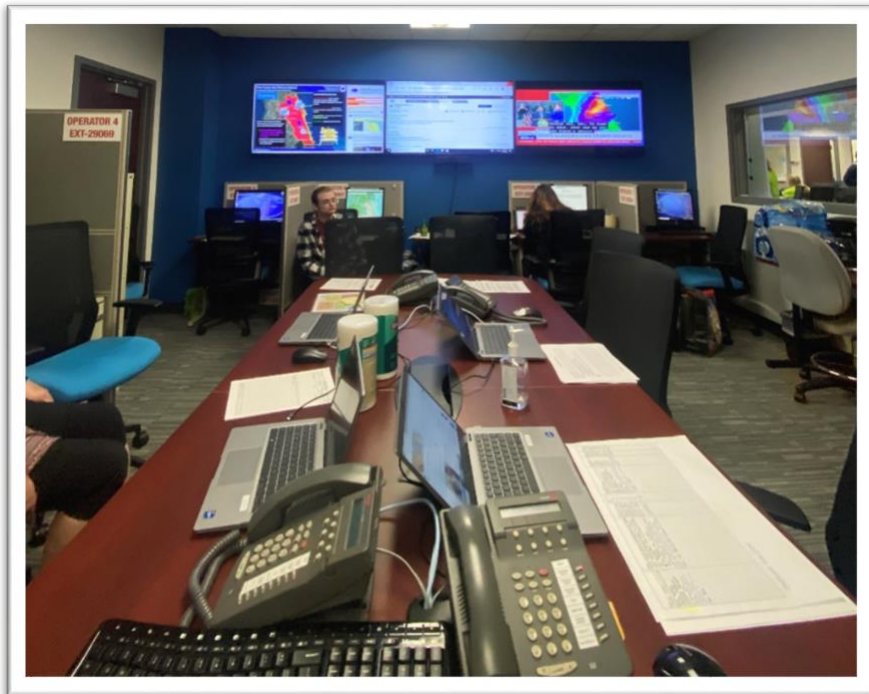
Right: The Express Locker service launched at the Narcoossee Community Center with Library and County staff, featuring Commissioner Ricky Booth, on hand to celebrate with a ribbon cutting and storytime.





Left: Kids enjoy a dance party at Hart Memorial's Halloween event while **(Below)** the Sanderson Sisters cook up a frightfully good time at the West Osceola after-hours event.





Left: A behind the scenes look at the Citizens' Information Center where Library staff spent over 500 hours during Hurricane Ian answering questions about County services before, during and after the storm.



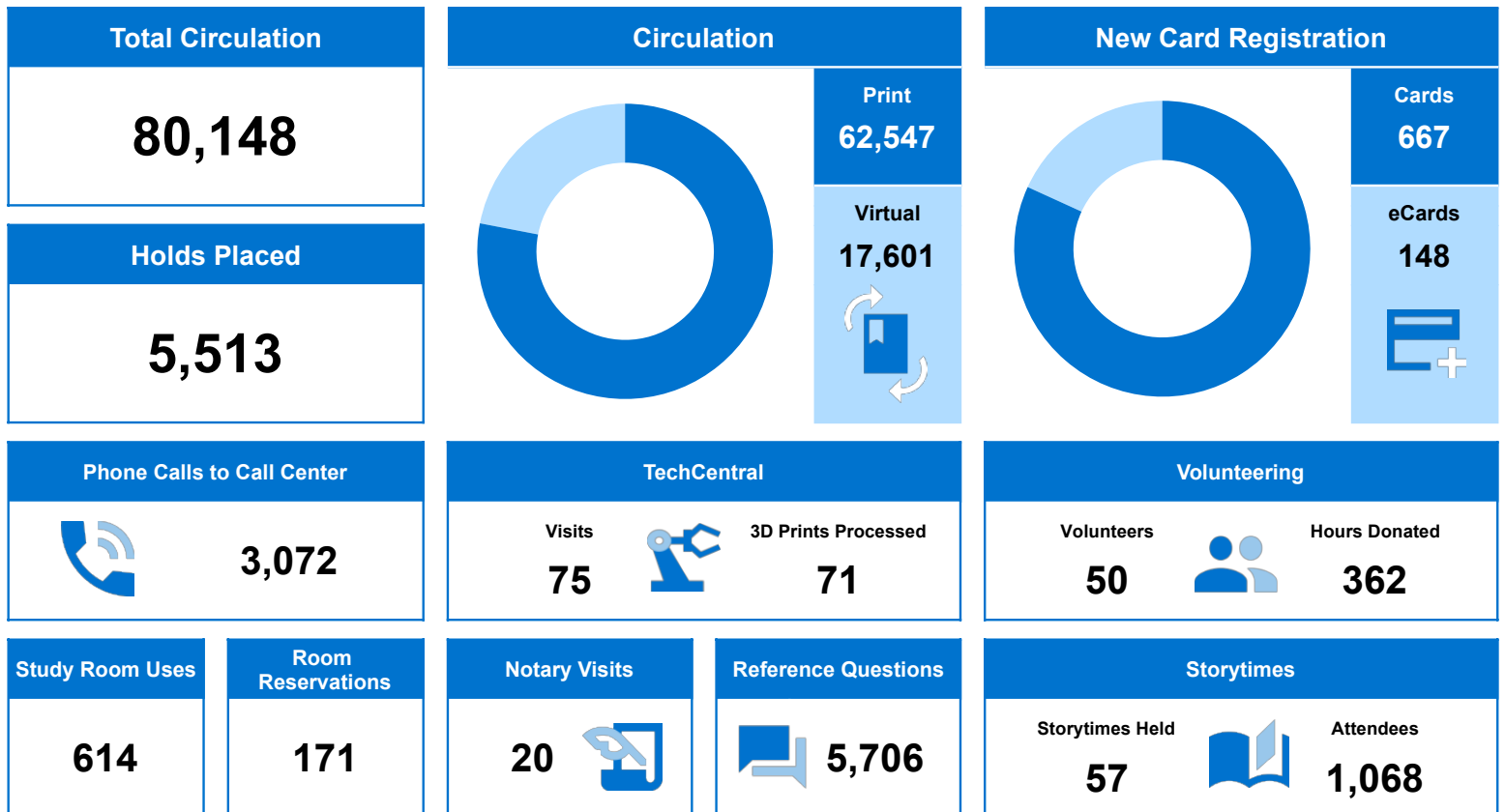
Above and Left: The Poinciana Library brought together artists and authors over music and snacks to highlight the culture and traditions of Hispanic arts and music. This library-wide event featured performances, author signings and artist showcases.

Monthly Report November 2022

Fiscal Year Oct. 2021 - Sept. 2022

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	15,552	15,552	82,495	47 Events & Activities, 649 Participants
St. Cloud	20,774	8,336	17,753	52 Events & Activities, 1,075 Participants
Poinciana	8,160	7,594	28,074	39 Events & Activities, 758 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,111	4,876	19,727	46 Events & Activities, 728 Participants
West Osceola	12,764	11,891	25,905	51 Events & Activities, 1,367 Participants
Kenansville	131	62	1,800	N/A

System Stats at a Glance



Reunion Express Locker opens at Fire Station #73

The Osceola Library System launched the second Express Locker with a locker located outside the Reunion Fire Station in the southwest part of the County. The locker launch was in conjunction with an open house at Fire Station #73 where patrons enjoyed free food and fire safety demos and the opportunity to test out the new locker and get a library card. Commissioner Choudhry was on hand for the big reveal of the lockers the crowd and Positively Osceola featured the locker launch in their social media.

As a lead up to the launch, Library staff have provided storytimes and technology tutoring for several months. Storytimes at the Reunion Locker had its highest attendance yet in November. There have been 17 checkouts, 22 holds and 32 returns since the launch on November 19. The Reunion locker is the second locker installed this year. The Express Lockers are funded by an LSTA grant through the Florida Division of Library and Information Services.

Select libraries serve as voting places

Early voting began October 21 and ended on November 6, with the general election held on November 8. The Supervisor of Elections has chosen Library locations as convenient community hubs for voting, a partnership that has extended over many years. The West Osceola Library supports early voting in its multipurpose room and the BVL, St. Cloud and Poinciana Libraries are polling places for Election Day. 4700 used the West Osceola Library for early voting and 1,355 people chose to vote at the libraries on Election Day.

FLOW Bus brings essential services to Poinciana

Finding time to visit government offices to wait in line for critical documents can be burdensome for working families. That's why the Library partnered with the Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles department to bring the Florida Licensing On Wheels (FLOW) Bus to the Poinciana Library. The FLOW team helped 25 citizens with things such as driver's license renewal and vehicle registration while parked in the Library's parking lot.

Volunteer Fair provides important connections

Connecting with the community was never so easy! The West Osceola Library hosted several local organizations looking for a few good people to help make a difference in the community. Representatives from Help Now Osceola, Osceola Friends of the Library, Florida Native Plant Society and more were available to chat with adults about donating their time to a great cause. 22 people made connections and more volunteer fairs are planned in the next year with the Library.

Other November highlights:

Closing for Hurricane Nicole: All Osceola Libraries closed for a ½ day on Wednesday, November 9, and all day on Thursday, November 10 only one month after Hurricane Ian set its sights on Central Florida.

MRIC units at branch libraries: State emergency management personnel installed mobile registration intake centers at the BVL, Poinciana and St. Cloud Libraries to facilitate more service point for those affected by Hurricane Ian.

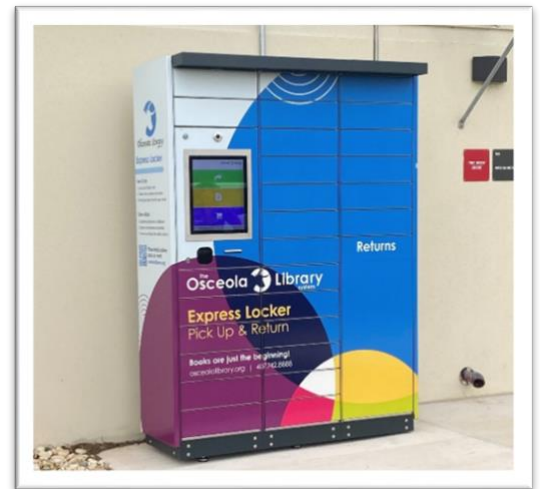
94 Years of Magic: West Osceola is located on the border of the most magical place on earth so they naturally celebrated Mickey's birthday with 25 of his best friends at this fun family program.

Florida Author Fest: 147 people attended the St. Cloud Library's Florida Author Fest that featured writers from all genres available for chatting about, signing and selling their collections.

Accidental Art: This fun program challenged participants to create some "happy accidents" or their own masterpiece, inspired by TV artist Bob Ross. 40 people participated and the results were featured in a Tiny Art show at the St. Cloud and West Osceola Libraries.



Above: Local authors Megan Grooms and Linda Zern set up tables at the St. Cloud Library for the Florida Author Fest.



Left and Above: Commissioner Choudhry and friends helped launch the Express Locker at the Reunion Fire Station.



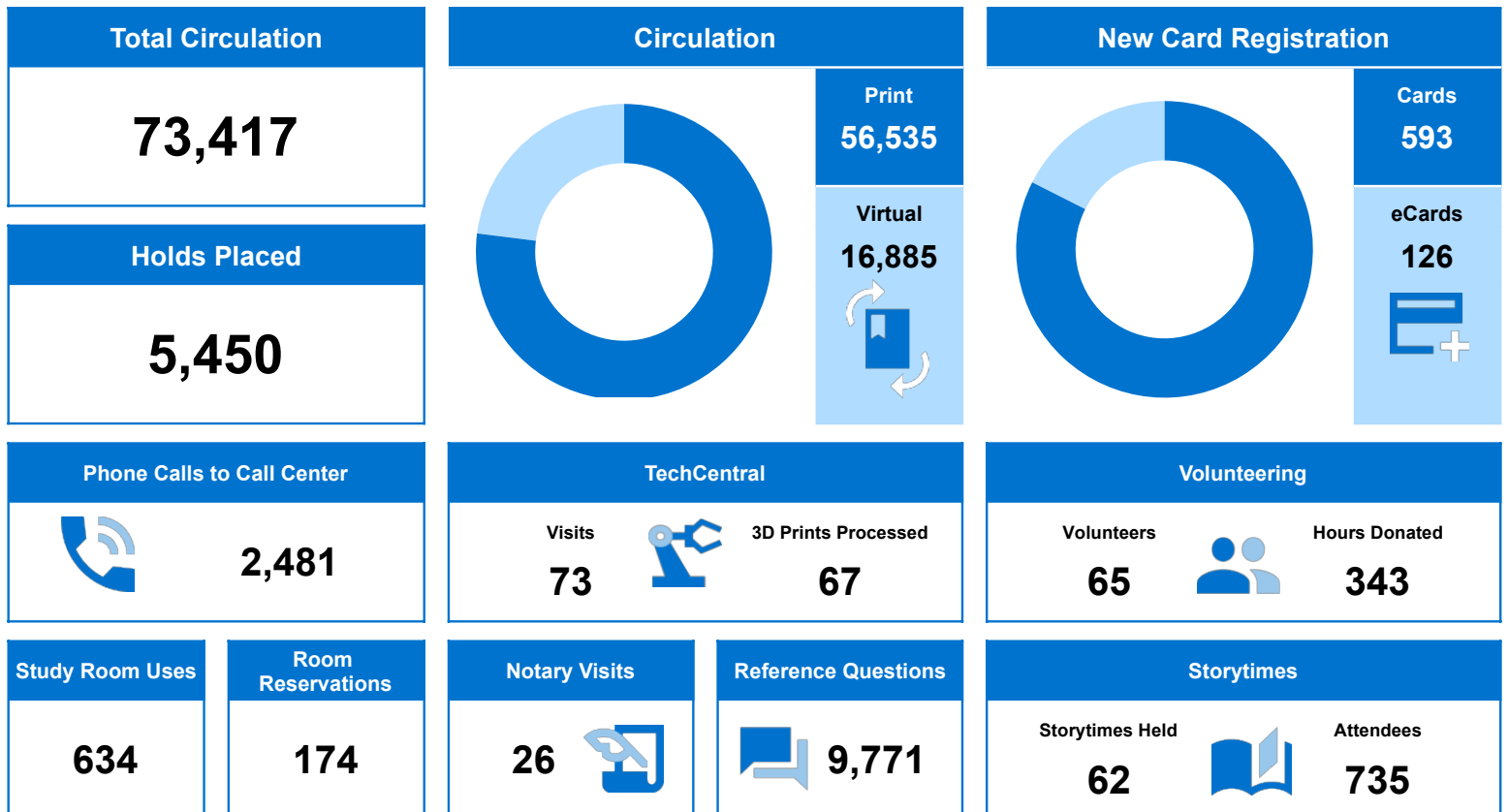
Above and Right: West Osceola's Volunteer Fair connected community organizations with people wanting to donate their time to a good cause.

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!



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.