

Monthly Report October 2023

Fiscal Year Oct. 2023 - Sept. 2024

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,659	16,319	72,743	63 Events & Activities, 8,569 Participants
St. Cloud	24,957	10,686	21,130	72 Events & Activities, 1,664 Participants
Poinciana	9,866	10,305	33,695	52 Events & Activities, 1,458 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,972	6,550	20,488	45 Events & Activities, 1,340 Participants
West Osceola	13,905	11,825	28,877	62 Events & Activities, 1,609 Participants
Kenansville	108	62	3,056	N/A
Narccossee	62	12	N/A	N/A
Reunion	182	14	N/A	N/A

System Stats at a Glance

Total Circulation 91,237	Circulation <div> Print 71,729 Virtual 19,508 </div>	New Card Registration <div> Cards 1,191 eCards 156 </div>
Holds Placed 6,572	Phone Calls to Call Center 4,141	TechCentral <div> Visits 363 3D Prints Processed 101 </div>
Study Room Uses 1,182	Room Reservations 295	Volunteering <div> Volunteers 77 Hours Donated 573 </div>
Notary Visits 45	Reference Questions 12,631	Storytimes <div> Storytimes Held 97 Attendees 2,887 </div>

Fine Free in '23

The Osceola Library System is officially fine free. The Library launched a campaign to alert all patrons that starting October 1, all previous late fines would be wiped out and no further charges for late items would be assessed. This change affects nearly 16,000 patrons who either have overdue fines currently or have not used their cards in years because of overdue fines blocking their accounts. Going fine free makes all the services and resources the Library offers even more accessible to all Osceola citizens.

Boo on Broadway scares up a fun time

The Boo on Broadway in downtown Kissimmee continues to be one of our most successful outreaches. This year we were paired with the Early Learning Coalition, which provided free books to all participants. The Library team dressed up for the occasion and gave away information on programming and services plus candy and books for kids and teens. The Library's table and costumes were themed to the book Ice Cream and Dinosaurs from the Groovy Joe series by Eric Litwin. The Library was able to interact with over 7,000 attendees.

FINRA collection finalized

The FINRA collection was officially launched this month. The Library had received a \$10,000 grant from the investor education non-profit to help aid communities impacted by natural disasters. The Library built a collection of eBooks, eAudiobooks, and print books on the topics of saving, getting out of debt, avoiding scams, budgeting, investing, and more. Over 220 titles were purchased in English and Spanish.

Annular Eclipse on a cloudy Saturday

It was a cloudy day but the Library was prepared with 200 glasses to give away for the Annular Eclipse on October 14. An Annular Eclipse occurs when the Moon moves between the Sun and Earth resulting in the Moon appearing to have a ring of light created by the Sun. Libraries held eclipse viewing parties with 107 people attending but others just picked up the free glasses at the branches to view at home.

Freedom to read Banned Books

Banned Books Week was reframed as Freedom to Read Week as we celebrated not why people don't like certain books or topics, but that everyone is free to choose the books that speak to them. Programs like the No Pressure Book Club and Banned Books Scavenger Hunt at Hart, Banned Books Bingo at St. Cloud, and the Take and Make Banned Book Bottlecap Necklace among other programs and displays, highlighted this important week with educational insights into the current focus on restricting reading choices in schools and libraries across the country.

Other October Happenings:

Spooky Spectacular parties: It was frighteningly fun for the whole family at this Halloween party held at each library. St. Cloud's theme was 13 Thrills and Chills while West Osceola celebrated the Nightmare Before Christmas. Nearly 800 people attended these programs.

Ghost Tour: In partnership with Osceola History, guides led 40 participants on a haunting walk through downtown Kissimmee.

Vegetable Gardening: Osceola's Extension Services outreach team educated on the dos and don'ts of having a vegetable garden in this weekly series that brought in 44 attendees.

Arte Bajo la Sombrilla / Art Under the Umbrella: 250 people attended this festival-like program at the BVL Library that showcased the handiwork, paintings, and original art of local Hispanic artists.

Literary Pumpkin Decorating Contests: This contest, held at both the Hart Memorial and West Osceola Libraries, challenged participants to decorate a pumpkin based on their favorite literary character and then face a jury of their peers on social media to decide the grand prize winner.



Above and left: Patrons entered their imaginative creations in the Literary Pumpkin Decorating contest at the Hart Memorial and West Osceola Libraries.



Above: Library Associate Arlo channeled his inner groovy unicorn while leading a ghost tour through Kissimmee. Below: Kaitie, Lisa, and Annelle channeled their inner dinosaurs and love of ice cream cones up for Boo on Broadway.





Above: Art Under the Umbrellas created an opportunity for artisans to share their beautiful work on a lovely fall day at the BVL Library.



Above and left: Kids and staff alike loved dressing up for the Spooky Spectacular parties that brought almost 800 people to the libraries.