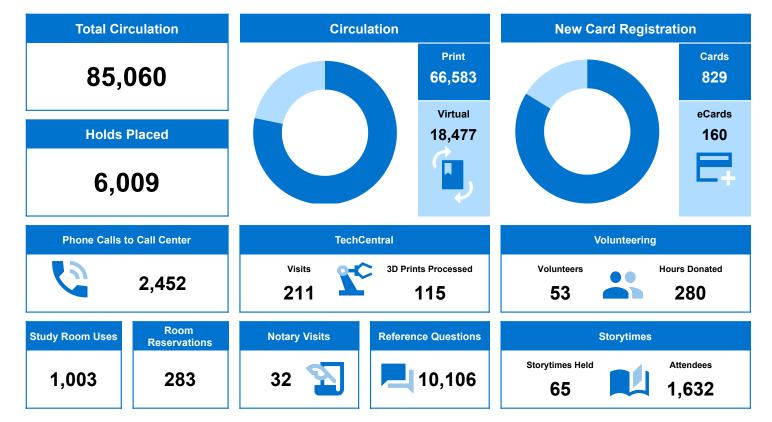


Monthly Report November 2023

Fiscal Year Oct. 2023 - Sept. 2024

Location	Print Circulation	Visitors	Computer Sessions (including WiFi)	Programming
Hart Memorial	16,528	14,727	71,478	51 Events & Activities, 627 Participants
St. Cloud	22,068	9,245	18,501	67 Events & Activities, 1,576 Participants
Poinciana	9,203	8,853	31,934	44 Events & Activities, 1,027 Participants
Buenaventura Lakes	5,274	5,127	18,232	48 Events & Activities, 911 Participants
West Osceola	13,103	9,363	24,325	56 Events & Activities, 1,367 Participants
Kenansville	118	67	3,169	N/A
Narccossee	187	14	N/A	N/A
Reunion	103	11	N/A	N/A

System Stats at a Glance



1000 Books Before Kindergarten featuring Bluey!

Early literacy is a core goal for the Library and one example of our commitment to engaging young children's love of reading is the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program. This program encourages parents to read at least 1000 books of any kind before their preschooler starts school. To celebrate this goal, the Library hosted parties across the system featuring a visit from everyone's favorite TV puppy, Bluey. 328 people at five libraries celebrated with activities, stories, and music.

U.S. Congressman visits for storytime

The Library welcomed U.S. Representative Darren Soto to the preschool program, Rhythm, Rhyme & Storytime, at the Buenaventura Lakes Library. This program is for preschool-aged children and their families. Ms. Rachel introduced the Congressman who briefly discussed who he was before reading two books, Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See? and Dragons Love Tacos. After reading books, Ms. Rachel asked him to join her for her final song, Jiggle Your Scarf. He eagerly agreed, taking the scarf, standing up front next to Ms. Rachel, and joined in on all the actions. After the program, he thanked the kids and the parents for letting him read to them, praising the children for how well-behaved they were. Once out of the program he presented Branch Manager Lisa Martinez and Zone Manager Jennifer Sargent with a Certificate of Recognition for promoting Early Literacy in the 9th Congressional District. We're delighted that the Congressman recognized the Library for its educational efforts and for spotlighting this essential community resource.

COHS graduates four hardworking students

The Library is proud to announce four more students have completed the Career Online High School Curriculum and received their Florida-accredited high school diplomas. On November 4, a graduation ceremony was held to honor them. Tt was a happy occasion attended by family, COHS's Lindsay Weiss, and U.S. Representative Darren Soto's Outreach Assistant, Juan Lopez. Although only one student was able to attend, this meant that Tiffany Rosario had the spotlight all to herself! She plans to pursue a career in dental assisting. Tiffany said, "Because of the Osceola Library System I am finally making that dream come true." The program has graduated 15 students since its debut at the Osceola Library System in 2021.



Other November happenings:

Florida Author Fest: 75 people attended this annual program that gathers local authors at the St. Cloud Library to meet and greet the public, plus sign and sell their works.

Celebrate Diwali: Through stories, crafts, and henna, school-age children explored Hindu culture with a celebration of the Festival of Lights. Adults painted Diya for home decoration in the monthly Maker's Café.

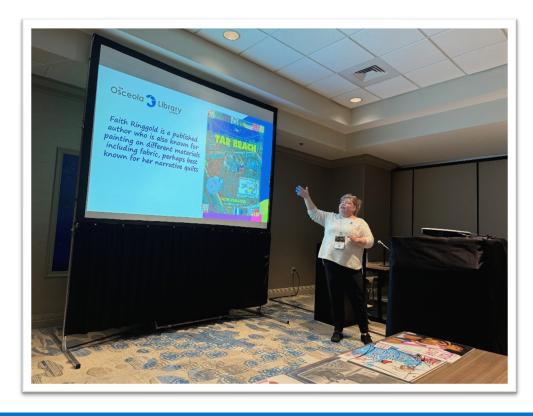
Kids Crafter's Fair: Children had the opportunity to be both artists and entrepreneurs as they showcased their handiwork for participants to buy and enjoy. 119 people attended this Poinciana Library program.

Volunteer Fair: The West Osceola Library helped connect 73 people to community service opportunities, bringing groups like Help Now, the Hope Partnership, and the Osceola County Animal Shelter together with service-minded individuals.

Visit to WUCF for Ready to Learn grant: Library staff toured the studios of WUCF and learned about the planned Ready to Learn grant activities as the Library prepares to be a grant-designated "Learning Neighborhood" in 2024.

FLA proposals accepted: The Youth Services team received word that two proposals have been accepted to present at the annual Florida Library Association conference in May 2024.

Presentation at FAME conference: (Right) Youth Services Librarian Crystal Hamrick teamed up with local authors to present "Picture Books: More than Meets the Eye" at the annual Florida Association for Media in Education conference.

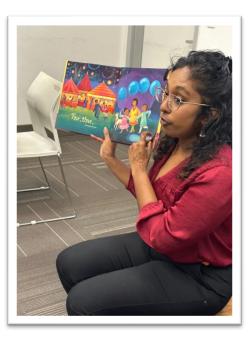




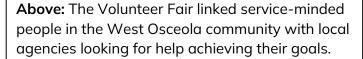




Celebrating Diwali at the West Osceola Library.







Right: Career Online High School graduate Tiffany Rosario celebrated a huge life milestone with her family, staff from Rep. Darren Soto's office, and COHS leadership on hand to cheer her on.





Bluey was the star of our 1000 Books Before Kindergarten parties that celebrated the benefits of early literacy and reading at least 1,000 books before starting preschool.





Left: U.S. Congressman
Darren Soto presented
Buenaventura Lakes
Library Branch Manager
Lisa Martinez and Zone
Manager Jennifer Sargent
with a Certificate of
Recognition for Promoting
Early Literacy in the 9th
Congressional District.
Rep. Soto had previously
joined the morning
storytime to read books
with families.

