

Central Library Monthly Report

December 2022



René Battelle
Library Manager

Statistics

We had a strong finish to 2022, with numbers up in all categories. With the addition of programming staff in TeenSpace and adult services, as well as increased one-on-one tech help offerings, we saw a sharp rise in computer use and program attendance. Overall visitors were also up, and I expect this trend to continue through most of 2023, although we may see these figures stabilize as more time passes since the pandemic began.

<p>Visitors +97%</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>28,956</td> <td>57,096</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2021	2022	28,956	57,096	<p>Total Circulation +24%</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>113,888</td> <td>141,492</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2021	2022	113,888	141,492
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<p>Print Circulation +40%</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>60,500</td> <td>84,474</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2021	2022	60,500	84,474	<p>Digital Circulation +7%</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>53,388</td> <td>57,018</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2021	2022	53,388	57,018
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<p>Computer Use +129%</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>8,051</td> <td>18,456</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2021	2022	8,051	18,456	<p>Program Attendance +200%</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1,106</td> <td>3,347</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2021	2022	1,106	3,347
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Services & Collection

❖ **Local History & Genealogy:**

- Dan met with Val, Becky, and Andrea Ennis of Lucidea Archivera about the in-house database restoration project; they are hoping to launch the software early this year.
- Dan also met with Chris Thornton for training on the BestMARC cataloging system. This system will help move things along when cataloging items donated to LH/G. Dan was able to enter 10 items for addition to the public catalog.
- Two attorneys and a staff member from Legal Services of Central New York met with Dan to get a tour of LH/G and discuss Syracuse history.
- The Preservation Lab is getting increased use, particularly with patrons requesting to use the negative scanner to preserve family photos of which they might not have prints.

❖ **Collection Marketing:** Trudi and Shakela put together a mouthwatering display of holiday cookbooks in December, many of which caught the eyes of our patrons. Their book selections included something for every taste, from soul food to vegan to classic cocktails.

Programs

For Children

- ❖ **Storytime with Jackie, Thursdays @ 10:30** – Jackie has a great group of families who regularly visit her storytime. (Attendance = 39)
- ❖ **Empower CNY Tutoring, Saturdays 1:30-3:00** – Free tutoring for kids in grades K-8, with volunteer high school tutors. Registration is required to attend. Please register at empowercny.org (Attendance = 20)

For Teens

- ❖ **Teen Advisory Board** – Teens gave positive feedback on the changes Nan has made to their space over the last month. (Attendance = 3)

For Adults

- ❖ **Talk to a Lawyer, Tuesdays at 12:00** – Patrons can drop in for free legal information, assistance, and representation in civil legal matters. (Attendance = 12)
- ❖ **Weekly programs w/Arc of Onondaga, Wednesdays at 9:30** – Each week, Arc groups visit Central Library for storytimes with Jackie and crafts in the MakerSpace with Trudi. In December, the groups did a card making craft in the MakerSpace, watched “A Christmas Story”, and attended a special Read to the Dog program. (Attendance = 28)
- ❖ **Drop-In Tech Help** – Patrons can get help from staff 4 days a week with all their technology questions, including personal tablets and phones. (Attendance = 33)
- ❖ **Yoga with Dan, Tuesday evenings** – Yoga instructor Dan Nichols provides this calming program to our patrons on the second and third Tuesdays of the month. (Attendance = 3)

- ❖ **Community Health Resources** – Health organizations provide regular twice-monthly tabling events at the library. Organizations include The Prevention Network, Helio Health, Syracuse Healthy Start, F.A.C.E.S., Syracuse Surge Initiative, Planned Parenthood, and the Onondaga County Health Department. The groups met with about 66 patrons to talk about their services.
- ❖ **Tuesday Reels Movie, December 27** – This month Trudi showed a Christmas movie and provided popcorn for patrons. (Attendance = 4)

Outreach & Collaboration

- ❖ December was a great month for school visits! We had 4 schools come to KidSpace to get library cards, listen to storytime, and have fun in the play areas. Van Duyn and the Citizenship Academy both stopped by early in the month, and Jowonio made two visits. All in all, we hosted 81 kids and 25 teachers.



- ❖ Nan worked with Reilly Callahan, a student in the iSchool, on a plan for a series of life skills programs for teens. Reilly presented her final report, and Nan is hoping to get started on the series in the spring.
- ❖ I met with Jim Emmons of the Syracuse Poster Project to discuss bringing more artwork onto the first floor walls. Jim has submitted a grant through TNT to hang some additional Poster Project pieces on the blue wall near the MakerSpace, similar to the setup we have on the second floor above the music CDs. Jim will keep me posted on the date of the TNT meeting, so I can attend and advocate for the project.

Stories & Highlights

- ❖ Chris Seiter-Dewey has done a wonderful job booking artists for our display space! All year, we have had a rotation of unique artwork, and she's already planned several new bookings for 2023. December's artist was Deborah Walsh, who brought in her bold, eye-catching acrylics. We also received some nice donations from our artists: John Heard donated one of his paintings, which we hung up next to the MakerSpace door; and Kathleen O'Brien donated a book on watercolor in appreciation for displaying her art in March.



- ❖ In other art display news, Evan and Amy from Soule created a window display that we entered into the Downtown Committee's Window Wonderland contest. Thanks to their beautiful work and incredible attention to detail, we won third place!

