

Central Library Monthly Report

April 2023

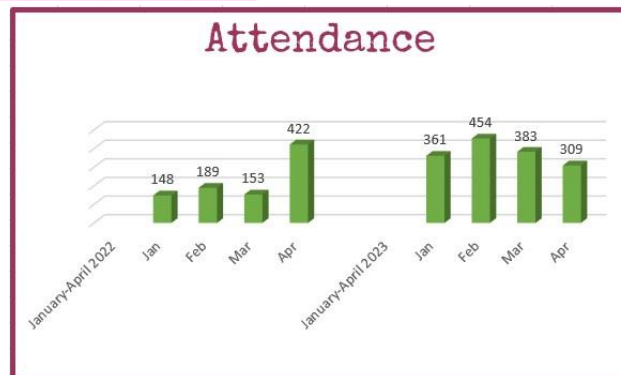


René Battelle
Library Manager

Statistics

This year, we are experiencing a boost in our programming numbers, thanks to the hard work of our librarians and support staff. In 2022, we achieved a 66% increase in programs offered during the year and 229% increase in program attendance. In 2023, I would expect to level off a little, but so far, our numbers are still increasing, especially with regard to attendance. Program statistics for January-April of 2023 show an increase of 12% more programs at Central (from 92 to 103), with 65% higher attendance (from 912 to 1,507). In March, although we did the same number of programs as last March, there was a rise of 150% in attendance numbers.

Library Visits.... 5,388
KidSpace Visits.... 736
Digital Circulation.... 5,087
Total Circulation.... 12,187
Computer Use.... 1,565
Reference.... 1,057

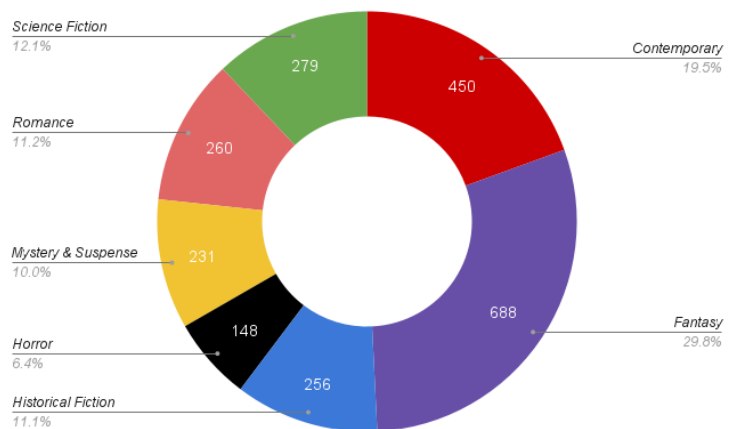


Services & Collection

❖ **Local History & Genealogy**

- Kate booked a special CLRC traveling exhibit on “Immigration in New York State 1650-1950”. It will be up for the month of May, to coincide with Local History’s special focus on immigration.
- As always, Dan and Kate assisted patrons in LH/G with some interesting questions, including a patron from Rochester who has a familial connection with Guglielmo Marconi and wanted information on our Marconi bust. Dan assisted the registrar from the Comfort Tyler Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in researching Revolutionary War patriots buried in Oakwood Cemetery and Kate researched an interesting question from a patron in France about a French war bride who married a WWI Lysander soldier and traveled to America in 1919. Dan also gathered photos of previous Ossie Golden Trustee Award winners for the ceremony early in April, and he created a special display for the Board Retreat featuring photos and articles from Central’s move to the Galleries in the nineties.

- ❖ **Teen Fiction** – Raz and Nan are working on a special project to shelve Teen Fiction by categories. Raz has completed assigning all the books into seven genres. Color-coded dot stickers were ordered for the next phase, when Raz and Nan will relabel and shelve all of the books into their genre collections. Additionally, based upon data that Raz is gathering, they can weed the collection and increase purchases in higher circulating genres.



Programs

For Children

- ❖ **Storytime with Miss Lauren, Thursdays @ 10:30** – (Attendance =17)
- ❖ **KidSpace Activities** – Nancy has been creating some great activities for KidSpace visitors! They had 30 kids participate in the monthly craft with tissue paper flowers and “doodle on the moon”; 14 kids participated in a Super Mario Bros. Bingo game; 10 kids participated in a solar system bingo game for Earth Day; and there were also two special science activities involving color changing flowers and walking water.
- ❖ **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 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** – Every other week, Arc groups visit Trudi and Lauren at Central for crafts in the MakerSpace and movies in the Community Room. (Attendance = 23)
- ❖ **Drop-In Tech Help** – Patrons can get help from staff 5 days a week with all their technology questions, including personal tablets and phones. (Attendance = 22)
- ❖ **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 = 26)
- ❖ **Community Health Resources** – Health organizations now 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 37 patrons to talk about their services.
- ❖ **Tracing the Hidden Half: Finding & Documenting Your Female Ancestors, Friday April 14** – Kate hosts monthly programs on topics of interest in Local History and Genealogy. In April, she had 19 attendees to her program. You can find the video of her presentation on the OCPL YouTube page at: <https://youtu.be/ra3Hi6FLuXk>
- ❖ **Riley? O'Reilly? Oh Really? Deciphering Irish Immigrant Passenger Lists, Friday April 28** – Kate teamed up with Soule and Paine Branch Libraries for this month's genealogy program. (Attendance = 23)
- ❖ **Tuesday Reels Movie, April 25** – This month Trudi showed "Uncharted" and provided popcorn for patrons. (Attendance = 16)

In the MakerSpace

- ❖ **Hook and Needle Yarncrafters, Thursday, April 6 at 2:00pm** – Nan put on music, and she and a group of patrons enjoyed chatting and working on knitting and crochet projects. (Attendance = 4)
- ❖ **Macrame Keychains, Thursday, April 13 @ 2:00pm** – Nan helped explain the instructions and walked patrons through the steps of creating a special macramé keychain. (Attendance = 5)
- ❖ **Spring Sun Catchers, Thursday, April 27 at 2:00pm** – Patrons used beads, fishing wire, and other MakerSpace supplies to create beautiful sun catchers. (Attendance = 16)

Outreach & Collaboration



Margaret Hartman from Tully Hill Recovery Center got in touch with us about setting up a display for Drug and Alcohol Awareness Month. She is working on highlighting community resources and activities for sober living, and was especially interested in partnering with the library as a safe space in the city for people struggling with sobriety. Trudi and Leah put together a great display, and Margaret stopped down to photograph it in order to promote the library on Tully Hill's social media pages.

Author
Tully Hill Treatment & Recovery
Happy Friday!

If you are in the area and looking for something fun to do, stop into the Central Library in downtown Syracuse and check out their #AlcoholAwareness display!! Your local librarian has a wealth of knowledge and resources! Ask about some of these incredible books on recovery, sobriety and living a life without alcohol! Thank you @ocplcentral for your support and encouragement of CNY's sober community!

- ❖ I organized a meeting with Carol from Petit, Celeste from Paine, and Annemarie from Mundy about updating our Branch and Central Community Analyses. Several years ago, each branch children's librarian wrote a community analysis summarizing library demographics and local partnerships; we are in the process of updating these documents to create a broader analysis for incoming staff as part of our onboarding procedures. The group met to discuss what might go into a template, and divided up responsibilities for each section. We will meet one more time and then present our template to the branch managers during our June Librarian III meeting.
- ❖ Central was the host site for this year's OCPL Board Retreat. We had a great time showing off our building and services, particularly KidSpace, Local History, and the MakerSpace. Participants got to talk to our staff about programs and services, and everyone took home a 3D printed bookmark as a souvenir.
- ❖ Central participated in a second NYS DOT Local Hire event for I-81 on April 21 and 22.

Stories & Highlights

On April 19th, an excited couple who live in the downtown neighborhood came to the desk and asked Deb all about library resources. They got library cards, browsed the collection, and used the computers for a while. When they were leaving, the woman came up to Deb and said “I just wanted you to know that this place is awesome! You are so nice, and we can’t wait to come back – we adore this place!”



Ossie Edwards and I received this year’s Ossie Golden Trustee Award! I was so excited to celebrate with my family and friends, and touched that my staff would honor me in this way.

For April and May, Chris Seiter-Dewey arranged for a beautiful display of Positivity Paintings by students at Dr. King Elementary School.

