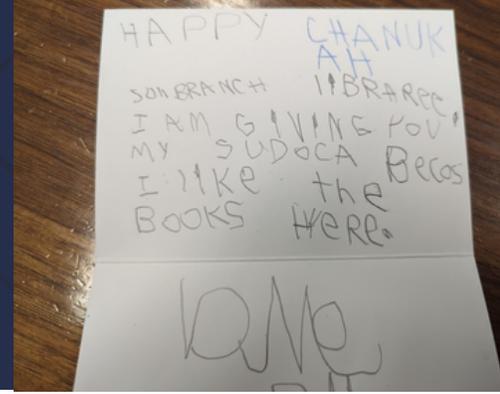


Soule Branch Library

JANUARY 2023

*Soule Library Staff,
Thank you for the help you provide to me all year long. I love libraries, yours is so nice, and you are so accommodating. May you have a Merry Christmas with your families and a safe, healthy Happy New Year.
Anne Marinelli*

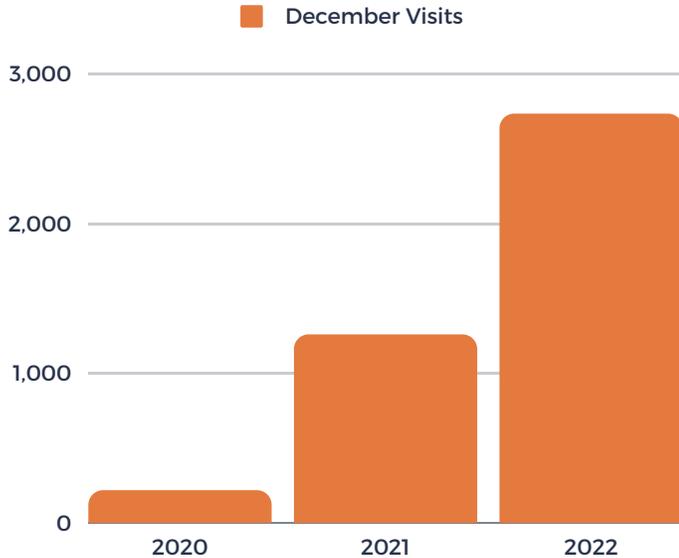


From Margaret (Youth Services Librarian): I am forever indebted to HW Smith 2nd grade teacher Ms. Boskowski for asking 5-8th grade teachers to share about anime club, because they delivered! We had 11 youth from the girls volleyball team (anime club falls naturally after their practice), and an 8th grade boy named Zack with his first grade brother Evan. After anime club, many of the tweens continued hanging out at Soule on their phones or doing homework. Zack proclaimed that now that he knew Soule was here, he'd be here every afternoon. He got me to sign him up for a TREK box, and I told him, "The more books and authors you can tell me you like, the better sense we'll have of what book to get you." His response was, "Well, I only just got into reading, so I'm open to anything." We're hooking emerging readers! He spent some time quizzing me on what manga to check out and left with a stack. He's been back every day since. It's wonderful to see anime serving as a pathway to reading.

Also: For PJ Storytime attendees included Syracuse Common Councilor Michael Green, with his wife and toddler (wearing adorable Hanukkah pjs). I did a Japanese drawing story featuring Santa Claus that our first grade attendee found clever. When I asked the first grader and his 8th grade brother what they're do if Friday was declared a snow day, they both said, "Come straight to Soule!"

From Amy (LA): This month we set up a puzzle exchange cart that is displayed near our community puzzle table. Patrons will be able to bring a puzzle for the cart and take a "new" one in return. Our puzzle exchange program was met with minimal interest, so our hope is that the more passive nature of this format will encourage more of our patrons to participate. With so many donations on hand, we will have the ability to exchange items so that something new will always be available, and I look forward to seeing how it is received in the coming months.

- We received a very generous donation from 1st grader Raphael and his father for the Chanukah holiday.
- Our quarterly staff meeting focused on our wins for 2022, thinking about goals for 2023, and a great presentation on outreach by Maggie. We also had a potluck & played a game naming holiday songs based on emojis.
- Karl created our first ever Adult Hibernation Winter Reading Contest. During the cold, dark weather, patrons will be able to read and win prizes!
- Amanda spoke at the Bethlehem Public Library (Delmar) staff development day on finding their why for their work at the library and goal setting for 2023.
- We have inventoried nearly the whole picture book collection which has picture books assigned to the J Fic collection, author's names spelled incorrectly, and a book accidentally assigned to Solvay (just below Soule in the pull-down menu). Our clerks are fixing these so our patrons can more easily find items.



64

Cards Created for Interfaith Works Senior Citizens

3RD

Place Award for Window Wonderland Walk and Contest Designed & Created by Amy & Evan

14

Gingerbread houses made at our youth program