

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

Black Rock Branch August 2025

Submitted by: Margaret Girgis, Branch Manager

[Select Date]

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| Service Statistics | Number of new library cards: 44 Number of visitors: 1894 | Number of questions answered: (Reference, Technical, Other) 212 Ref, 151 Tech, 111 Other TOTAL: 474 |
| Collection Statistics | Collection Size: 39513 Total Added: 182 | |
| Circulation Statistics | Total Circ: 1766 In-house: 145 | |
| Public Internet Usage | Users for the month: 343 Total Wifi connections: 176 | |
| Room Usage | 6 bookings, 8 attended (est) | |
| Programming | 2 Weekly Craft: 19 attended 4 Story Times: 27 attended 3 Adult Group Computer Class: 1 attended 1 Adult Book club: 3 attended 1 Adult Tai Chi: 6 attended 1 Teen Crafts: 0 attended 2 Adult Writer's Group: 2 attended 1 Family Picnic: 9 attended 1 Riverside Reptiles: 30 attended 1 T-shirt Design: 11 attended 1 Ice Cream Social: 44 attended | |

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| Other Services | Digital Navigator: 2 appointments, 1 person (same person came to both) Notary: 6 appointments, 8 people Passport: N/A |
| Outreach | 8/10 Black Rock Farmer's Market- 10 people 8/17 Black Rock Farmer's Market- 12 people 8/24 Porchfest-Kidfest- 63+ people |
| Staff Development | In early August Mat reviewed Evergreen from the staff and the patron side with all staff. In mid-August and through mid-September all staff are reviewing Hoopla and Overdrive/Libby. It is worth noting Sarah G. knew both services inside-out! It is clear that she is extremely well versed in how to use main and advanced features and could provide excellent help to any patron inquiries about setting up or using either service on either a mobile or a desktop device. |

Highlights

SRP 2024

We saw a fair number of children and some adults and teens participate in the SRP this year. I do think a lot of adults were unaware of there being an option for the despite the marketing; two of our regular book club attendees were excited/dismayed when they realized they could have been a part of the program all summer and as regular library patrons, I was surprised they seemed unaware of that fact. So, I suspect our upsell-to adults at least- needs to be worked on. I can say that both of our adult winners were pleased to win, and one was so excited I thought she would explode. Like a kid on Christmas, she dove right into her prize bag and was super excited that we might take her pic and use it on our social media-telling me to let her know so she could share it with people she knew.

Programs

Our August program lineup for kids was very successful. The all-ages format works well for us regardless of topic. Our ice cream social and picnic had kids and parents, an equal number of adults came to see Riverside Reptiles as did children (and not every adult even had a kid) and our T-shirt design even garnered us a few of the most elusive of library patrons- the teenager! We are now on to planning fall programs, with partnerships in mind for some, such as our ever-popular Halloween party. We also have a financial literacy programming the works, and we are expanding our group computer classes both in quantity and in topics. Trina's crafts are so popular in the afternoon we are trying a 6pm session to target our working families, and our story times have suddenly started to get a following as well.

Outreach and Networking

We spent a lot of Saturdays out at our local farmer's market this month and are in the midst of planning orientations and outreach to the Burroughs Center and some of our local schools. We are also working with the boys and girls club to offer some programs and activities as partners.

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Concerns:

There are not too many concerns to report this month; our team is working hard to make programs and services successful, accessible, impactful, and fun for all ages. The imminent concerns I have at this point are moving forward on some issues already brought before the Board:

Signage for outside the building

Work on the facade of the building

General work inside the building: painting, floors, etc.

Once these topics are addressed, we can look to the future at topics such as renovating our basement and updating our spaces, and perhaps look at ways to expand our garden out to the back of our building. Patrons really seemed to enjoy the several programs we held outside, and it would be great to have even more space to utilize for outdoor activities.