

# BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

## Branch: Black Rock Branch July 2024

Submitted by: Margaret Girgis

[Select Date]

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 33 Number of visitors: 1499	Number of questions answered: (Reference, Technical, Other)  199 Ref, 187 tech, 131 Other
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 39,926 Total Added: 291	
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 1900 In-house: 95	
Public Internet Usage	Users for the month: 271 Total Wi-Fi connections: 145	
Room Usage	Room: 8 uses, 45 (approx)	
Programming	3 Weekly Craft: 24 patrons 5 Story Times: 32 patrons (est) 3 Adult Group Computer Class: 3 patrons 1 Adult Book club: 1 patron 2 Teen Crafts: 2 teens 3 ESL Conversation Group: 2 patrons (est) 2 Adult Writer's Group: 3 patrons (est) 2 teen Pop-ups" 4 teens 1 Family Movie: 0 patrons 1 Talewise: Science Heroes 6 patrons	

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Other Services	0 Digital Navigator: 0 patrons (once cancelation, plus other changes to how we structure 1:1 Notary: 15 appointments, 18 patrons Passport: N/A
Outreach	Date, Event, Approx. # of people reached July 27- Black Rock Farmer's Market- 44 people
Staff Development	Mat attended <i>Technology in Public Libraries: Results from PLA's 2023 Annual Survey</i> Mat has taken over as our Digital Navigator and begun attending their committee meetings.

## Highlights

### Collections

Weeding/Ordering continues. We did manage to decrease our overall collection size by about 11% last year, so the goal now is to decrease another 14%. Library IQ software will allow us to deep dive better into our collections to really curate orders and weeds based on what subjects move and those that don't.

Our Wonder books are circulating, but our Habbi Habbi's are not. I think the issue is the extra step of getting the wand separately from the books. I don't have a solution (yet) but have been pondering other ways to market or package the books for easier use.

We have seen an overall increase in circulation throughout our collections over the year. With a little more weeding, and strategic partnering, I think we can expect a decent increase again this year in circulation.

### Programs

July was a little quieter than expected, even with in-house programs. Between the heat and the fact that several staff came down ill for a week at a time we had to operate under less-than-ideal conditions. However, our story times are increasing in attendees and in attendee consistency, and we are starting to get a small but regular attendance at our teen programs. We actually have seen a sudden increase in teens using the library in general, and I do expect these users to form the backbone of our teen crafts and activities this fall.

### Outreach and Networking:

We have started attending the Black Rock Farmer's Market in July. While we see a lot of familiar faces there, and many people already have their cards (or are from out of town), it has been good for the neighborhood to see us participating in the community. Since attending, we have seen some of the same locals start to come in to check us out, and the connections we are already making with local vendors has been useful.

### We are also:

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Communicating with the Burroughs Center to arrange class visits with their ESL students  
Working to arrange class visits with Black Rock School  
Just starting communicating with St. Ann's about helping them with their library  
Increasing communication with the local Senior Center; mostly through their members

## Concerns:

I have some concerns about the building; we are starting to see water again in the building during heavy rains (primarily the boiler room, but then it leaks into the program room).

I also think we need to get one more dehumidifier and additional air filter(s). When it rains, the smell of mold is strong. Our staff also seems to take ill frequently, and I worry that it is partly caused by an unhealthy building.

I'd like to see our facade repair get underway, and I'd like to get started on the painting of our main level. There is apparent water damage on our main floor walls that needs to be addressed as well. Once the painting is done we can start to address the floor.

Patron-wise we do have a local person using the building who remains under watch by the staff. He has exhibited a tendency to hover near young people and in their spaces unless addressed by staff. He has yet to do something that truly violates our policies, but his behavior is curious enough to have the entire team on alert when he is here.