

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

Burroughs-Saden/Public Services
December 2023 Monthly Report
Submitted by: Tanarha Smith-Dixon, Branch Manager

01/08/2024

Service Statistics	New library cards: 54 TOTAL (38 A, 5 YA, 11 J) Questions answered: 1,533 (681 Ref, 538 Other, 314 Technical Assistant) Number of visitors: 4,901 Number of online database sessions: Number of interlibrary loans (in/out): n/a 108/631	
Collection Statistics	Adult: 224,313 Teen: 5,756 Children: 62,671 Hotspots: 47	A&V materials: 25,228 Magazines & Newspapers: 4,020 TOTAL: 323,508 (416 added and 908 withdrawn in September)
Circulation Statistics	Adult: 685 Teen: 161 Children: 977	A&V materials: 388 Magazines & Newspapers: 5 Hot spots: 12 Cultural passes: 1 In-house: 944 Grand totals: 3188
Public Internet Usage	Users for the month: 1109 WIFI use: 569	

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

ADULT SERVICES

RandR:

Librarian Adam Cleri Reached out to contacts from League of Women voters, asking about voter registration brochures & programs.

Adam worked on the newsletter with Librarian Jeff Coutts, and Beardsley Manager Anna K. Adam filmed a video about using podcast equipment, video was submitted to Beardsley Library Branch Manager Anna K.

Adam C, and Librarian Kate M-T. worked on research to gain signups for the Libraries' Speakers' Consortium. Within this program we will be able to livestream multiple author talks each month.

Katherine is still in training with Library Manager Tanarha SD. She is learning how to enter programs, and room bookings to the library calendar.

Ongoing Programs:

- Adult game night
- Adult book club

Collections:

- Weeding continues in various areas of the non-fiction collection. Weeding the new fiction books continues done by the circulation department.
- More Nonfiction, and Fiction book carts are being created in Baker & Taylor and ordered.

Outreach and Networking:

Digital Navigator Andre O'Connor held 19 digital navigator sessions in total.

- 10 lessons in person; used Northstar
- Assisted 2 patrons with internet services through Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)
- Provided 7 one on one tech sessions assisting patrons with account setups (new I-Pads, new phones, and accounts for new devices)

Concerns:

- Saturdays continues to be an issue with staffing. There are still times where only HC has to close for a few hours to help cover lunches in Adult Services on Saturdays.

BHC:

Jaime Pettit has been researching and planning her next exhibit for the BHC exhibit area.

Michael Hawkins also performed several last-minute scanning and copying sessions to meet patron requests. His research duties will expand in January.

Hawkins worked with Elizabeth Van Tuyl to implement a simple scrapbook imaging technique using the BHC's D-SLR to capture articles for a patron request.

Van Tuyl is preparing a list of workshops, webinars, mini-classes, etc., that cover topics applicable to planned BHC activities for the coming year. She will request funding to allow appropriate staff to attend designated workshops.

HC Collections:

- Elizabeth Van Tuyl has finished retrieving all selected materials from the municipal archives; she has been working on setting up a storage area for them on the 7th floor. Both Pettit and Van Tuyl will be finalizing lists of the items and eventually a collection guide over the next few months.
- The BHC secured funding to continue re-designing and making accessible again its award-winning labor history website: *Bridgeport Working: Voices from the Twentieth Century*. The work will be performed by Synergy of Westport where the site is hosted. This site is an invaluable collection resource and staff look forward to presenting it to the public again and adding content to it.

Highlights

- Museum photographer Paul Mutino came to the library on Sunday, December 10th to photograph the Bernard Riley mural depicting the story of Bridgeport. The BPL rented at 12' high scaffold from Advance Scaffold for the project. Mutino has produced one color and one black and white image showing the whole mural. These images were created from carefully captured images of sections of the mural by using advanced photo editing software. The high resolution, uncompressed files will be stored in several locations, including the CTDA, for long term preservation. Copy images can be made available for library projects.
- Univ. of Illinois, Urbana Champagne MLIS student and intern Adrian Nordgren has performed very well in conducting a doll collection survey for the BHC and is uncovering valuable information on the collection items. The work continues.
- Third year Yale Univ. doctoral candidate Amanda Rivera continued her work interviewing members of Bridgeport's Puerto Rican community about bi-lingual education, especially in the 1970s. BHC is providing equipment and also garnering the interviews from her research for the permanent collection.
- Van Tuyl, Pettit, and volunteer Furchtgott were able to visit the CT Air and Space Museum in Stratford and conduct an initial assessment of the AVCO materials held in the museum's storage facility.

YOUTH SERVICES

Programming:

- Wednesday, December 6th, we had a Kids Holiday Movie Night (The Muppets Christmas Carol). Four families came (4 adults, 15 kids)

- Thursday, December 14th, hosted Santa & Mrs Claus at the library! We had giveaway bags and books, a photo backdrop, snacks, and lots of holiday cheer! (39 adults, 82 kids)
- Wednesday, December 20th, we had a Winter storytime & craft (3 adults, 6 kids)
- Wednesday, December 27th, we held a Kwanzaa Storytime & Craft which was attended by Mayor Joe Ganim! (5 adults, 4 kids)
- **Drop-in Crafts** were offered each open Saturday in December. We hope to carry this program through to 2024 & make it a regular Saturday program:
 - 12/2 - 12 kids
 - 12/9 - 14 kids
 - 12/16 - 11 kids
 - 12/26-12/29 (weeklong drop-in craft) - 25 kids
- **Little Learners** storytime for 0-5 was delivered on Tuesday each week by either Taslima or Kristin.
 - 12/5 (3 adults, 7 kids)
 - 12/12 (3 adults, 5 kids)
 - 12/19 (3 adults, 3 kids)
- **Monday Crafternoons** also take place weekly & are led by Taslima
 - 12/4 (2 adults, 4 kids)
 - 12/11 (3 adults, 3 kids)
 - 12/18 (3 adults, 5 kids)
- **Lego Club** takes place every Thursday & is moderated by Theresa
 - 12/7 (5 adults, 12 kids)
 - 12/21 (7 adults, 13 kids)
 - 12/28 (8 adults, 14 kids)

Outreach:

- On Friday, December 1st, Kristin visited Precious Memories Daycare to read a couple of stories and discuss what the library is with two Pre-K classes (20 students, 4 teachers)
- On Tuesday, December 5th, Kristin visited Wilbur Cross Elementary School's Reading Club to do a read-aloud/sing-along. There were 25 students, 15 parents, and 4 teachers.

Displays:

- In December, we had book displays for winter, Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa.
- Our bulletin board theme is *Get Your Mitts on a Good Book!* and features pictures of some of our favorite characters.

Continuing Education:

- Kristin attended the final session of Set the Stage before January's graduation. The topic was *Mother Goose on the Loose* storytime system & tips for sharing literacy basics.

Passports:

- Taslima completed 10 passport applications during the month of December.

Successes/Concerns:

- The department continue to have various repairs that need to be done in our kids' bathrooms, and would like to add a changing table to the boys' room. When we have the bandwidth, it would be great to do a bathroom renovation as they are old and not as functional as we need.
- We revamped our Homework Help bulletin board and it seems to be very popular - people appear to be taking quite a few tear-off tabs.

December 2023, Adult Program/Meeting Room Information

DATE	Count	COMMUNITY PROGRAM	LIBRARY PROGRAMS	NOTES
12/07/23	3		Adult Book Club	
12/09/23	10		A Christmas Carol Live- 1 st floor	
12/11/23	5	Rehabilitation Associates-3 rd floor		
12/12/23	3	Bridgeport Health Department-Front Lobby		
12/13/23	8	Negro Business & Professional Women- 3 rd floor		
12/13/23	3		Adult Game Night	
12/15/23	4	Victory Productions-3 rd floor		
12/15/23	4	BuildOn Program		
12/16/23	10	Sarah's Beauty House		
12/16/23	32	Black People Rock-1 st floor		
12/19/23	3	Victory Productions-3 rd floor		
12/20/23	32	God's Team-1 st floor		
12/20/23	5		Adult Game Night	
12/22/23	25	Dinity Music Concert- Front Lobby		
12/27/23	6		Adult Game Night	
Total	153			