

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

Burroughs-Saden November 2025

Submitted by: Tanarha Smith-Dixon

December 3, 2025

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 56 Number of visitors: 7,760 Number of questions answered: (447 Reference, 304 Technical, 648 Other)
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 263,445 Total Added: 177
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 2582 In-house: 334
Public Internet Usage	Users for the month: 1247
Room Usage	Room: 12 Bookings, Attendance: 190 Adults, 70 teens, 0 children,
Programming	Adult Services November Programs • Chess Club: 8 adults • Computer Class: 41 adults, • Classic Movie Matinee; Noirvember Screening Series: 15 adults • Staff Association Dinner: 27 adults
Other Services	Digital Navigator: 39

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	Notary: 40 Passport: 3 Community Outreach: 4
Adult Services Staff Report	Librarian Jeffrey Coutts: • Made carts for Brodart, Overdrive, and Midwest Tape. • Continued my film screening program. The film shown in November was: ◦ The Third Man. Attendance was 4 people. • Administered a board game club. We had 5 attendees. • Planned programs for the winter and planned a joint African drum circle program with the children's department for Black History Month. • Continued to complete the "Staff Picks" and "Bridgeport Yesterday" portions of the weekly newsletter. Librarian Adam Cleri: • Collaborated with Librarian Jaime P. We created a podcast reviewing food pantry options for Bridgeport residents, & SNAP updates • Attended Media Committee Meeting • Reached out to several Bridgeport organizations in preparation for a podcast interview with Mayor Ganim held on 12/2/25 • Book rooms for community organizations • Set patrons up on microfilm & research on microfilm • Ran weekly chess club • Write for, edit, & sent weekly newsletters, & posted them on Facebook

Burroughs-Saden/Bridgeport History Center

Programming Milestones	• Two Memoir Writing were conducted this month, one took place on-site only and one took place via ZOOM only. A total of 16 attended. • Many visitors are still stopping by each to see the City Lights Gallery installed exhibition on the Bridgeport smokestack. The exhibition will remain at the library through 2025.
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Staff Development

- Archivist Jaime Pettit has successfully published an article in the popular "CT Explored" periodical. Look for her article on the "Times-Star" Civil War era riot and the role P. T. Barnum played in January's issue.

Highlights

November proved a short, but impactful month:

- Surveys of specific collections indicate that BHC will need to order substantial archival supplies.
- BHC anticipates the return of digital assets from important archival collections from our vendor in MA.
- BHC has taken steps to remove all BHC materials, including a/v items, from off-site storage. By the end of December, all items will be stored with Meyer in Windsor, CT.
- More books from the 7th floor have been packed for CT River Book Auction. They will be brought to CTRBA by a volunteer.
- Two boxes of materials from the Anita Vogel collection were donated to the New York Public Library per an arrangement by a previous BHC archivist. BHC maintains its own-Bridgeport based A. Vogel collection.
- BHC has been hosting or planning visits from representatives of important partner organizations such as HCC and the African American History Museum in Stratford.
- BHC continues to create space through rearrangement of selected materials in the stacks in preparation for incoming collections; Space for books remains extremely tight.
- BHC new microfilm cabinet has provided a huge amount of additional space for film, current and future acquisitions. When the budget allows for the buying of desks, the smaller film cabinet in the newspaper room could be removed in order to provide and more flexible space for a new desk arrangement.

Burroughs-Saden Youth Services

Programming:

- On Wednesday November 5th we had Stem adventures: Make a pizza box maze. It's a great way to explore creativity, problem-solving and basic engineering, and each child will leave with a one of a kind maze they can play with and share. We had 9 children.
- On Saturday November 8th we had Knot so fast: Let's make a macrame autumn Leaf. To learn simple macrame techniques. We had 29 children.
- On Wednesday November 12 we had Kernels of creativity : a harvest beaded corn craft. Kids learned to create their own beaded corn using vibrant pony beads and pipe cleaners, learning about fall traditions while practicing fine motor skills. We had 7 children.

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- On Monday November 24 we had Little leaves of gratitude mobile. Fun for children to reflect on gratitude and use their creativity and imagination to make a festive Thanksgiving decoration. We had 10 children.
- Weekly programs

Saturday Drop-In Crafts (passive program)

- November 1 (7 children)
- November 8 (9 children)
- November 15 (11 children)
- November 22 (10 children)

Hola, Pequeños!

- November 3 (8 children)
- November 10 (9 Children)
- November 17 (9 Children)
- Sensory Safari
- November 3 (8 Children)
- November 10 (2 Children)
- November 17 (9 children)
- Little Learners
- November 4 (15 children, 1 adults)
- November 18 (10 children, 7 adults)
- November 25 (3 children, 3 adults)

Little Steamers

- November 5 (6 children)
- November 12 (8 children)
- November 19 (3 children)
- SlimeTime
- November 12 (22 Children)
- November 19 (6 Children)
- Lego Club
- November 6 (8 children, 3 adults)
- November 13 (8 children, 3 adults)
- November 20 (5 children, 3 adults)

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Displays:

- Theresa did a display on Indigenous People, Autumn, and Thanksgiving
- Jawon did two displays in the teen room, one for Native American Heritage Month and the other for changing the flyers on the community board weekly in the teen room.
- Jawon also did weekly riddles in the teen room that often brought in teens and adults to try to answer for a winning sticker.

Continuing Education:

- Jawon attended two Zoom meetings.
 - One was creating thriving workplaces on Nov 5th.
 - Booklist webinar on wellness, self-care, and balance on Nov 18th.

Successes/Concerns:

- Taslima was delighted to hear from parents that they did not want Storytime canceled for Thanksgiving and expressed that they love the program and intended to participate.
- Patrons are grateful for the Storytime and other programs that are offered after school.
- A theater major student came in wanting books on Amelia Bedelia because she wanted to write a play on the character.

Katherine Mozier-Tichy

TEEN SERVICES:

Continued working on an outreach project, which includes:

- 3rd grade initiative
- Teens outreach project

ADULT/REFERENCE

Working with Librarian Adam C. on two projects.

- Author talk for book, Quarter Acre of Heartache, by Claude Clayton Smith
- Scheduling a book event & podcast episode

OTHER

Have been assigned to committees; meetings have started in earnest

- Outreach Committee

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- Youth Services Committee
- Programming Committee
 - America 250 Subcommittee
 - SRP 2026 Subcommittee
 - Adult Working Group