

BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

North Branch November 2023 Monthly Report

Submitted by: Paula K with Monika A

December 6, 2023

Service Statistics	<p>New library cards: 46 (32 A, 4 YA, 10 J) Number of visitors: 3,196 Number of online database sessions: n/a</p>	<p>Questions answered: 3,072 (1,242 Ref, 1,568 Other, 262 Technical Assistance) Number of interlibrary loans (in/out): 284/644</p>
Collection Statistics	<p>Adult: 49,951 (38 added in November) Teen: 4,648 (20 added) Children: 37,835 (9 added) Hotspots: 30 (0 added)</p>	<p>A&V materials: 13,519 (0 added) Magazines & Newspapers: 1,080 (58 added) TOTAL: 107,072 (125 added and 202 withdrawn in November)</p>
Circulation Statistics	<p>Adult: 1,385 plus 84 inhouse use Teen: 127 plus 6 inhouse use Children: 2,053 plus 341 inhouse use Hotspots: 7</p>	<p>A&V materials: 596 plus 39 inhouse use Magazines & Newspapers: 63 plus 11 inhouse use TOTAL 4,231 (36.48% of total BPL circ) plus 481 inhouse use. GRAND TOTAL: 4,712</p>
Public Internet Usage	<p>Users for the month: 448 WIFI use: info 1,810</p>	

<p>Programming Milestones:</p> <p>41 programs Attendance: 438</p> <p>12 Room use: Attendance: 154</p> <p>GRAND TOTAL Attendance: 592</p>	<p>Inhouse programs:</p> <p>1 Little Bears Storytime: 26 4 Notary appts: 11 4 LITT Mixed Chess: 46 1 Rails to Whistle Stops: 35 2 Gifted Girls: 16 1 Gifted G Meals for the Community: 75 1 Leatherworking craft: 18 1 AARP Safe Drive: 4 1 Lawyers in Libraries: 15</p>	<p>4 Mahjongg: 32 3 Quilting: 18 3 Yoga: 56 9 E-Sports: 40 1 Digital Navigator: 6</p>	<p>Virtual programs:</p> <p>4 Mindfulness: 20 1 Adult Book Group 20</p> <p>Other:</p> <p>Outreach:</p> <p>(Study room use: 75 Uses of study rooms: Attendance: 103)</p> <p>(ILL Requests: 2)</p>
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Staff Development,
meetings other than
the usual, etc.

“One must always be careful of books and what is inside them, for words have the power to change us.”
- Cassandra Clare

November ushered in the holiday season. Displays focused on family gatherings, Thanksgiving, and Native American Heritage. The beautiful lobby display is from artist Veronica Arias, who has been leading art programs at the library for over two years.

"Rails to Whistle Stops" was a very popular program with historian Sue Delbianco. She took us back in time to learn the history of railroad stations in CT and what became of them. The Leather Working Program with Vanessa Fassanella brought many generations together and everybody left proudly with their handmade wallets. The Quilting series finished up with a delicious lunch to celebrate the completed quilts.

Gifted Girls with Takyia Morales celebrated giving back to the community with traditional hot Thanksgiving hot meals for everyone. Takyia was cooking all night and the girls were very busy giving out the delicious meals. In other community service projects, Keller Willams Realty collected Blessing Baskets one evening. There was an inflated turkey photo opportunity (see below). The realtor, with local elementary school counselors, gave the baskets to local school families in need. North Branch staff donated enough for two baskets. Regular programs continued. Notary services and digital navigator help are always popular.

The building needs inside and outside continue. The building is 28 years old now. The pot holes are growing wider and deeper. The overhang ceiling near the automatic doors is still wet, growing and falling. Staffing needs continue, particularly in light of an extended medical leave that prevents more outreach and has cut children's programming even further. Black Rock is graciously sharing some of their page's part time hours with North, so the backlog of materials awaiting reshelving is a little smaller now. The North staff remains amazingly patient and flexible. So do our patrons.

