

# BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY

## North Branch March 2024 Monthly Report

Submitted by: Paula K with Bina W

April 9, 2024

Service Statistics	<p>New library cards: 80 (55 A, 5 YA, 20 J)                  Number of visitors: 4,587                  Number of online database sessions: n/a</p>	<p>Questions answered: 5,405                  (2,495 Ref, 2,389 Other, 521 Technical Assistance)                  Number of interlibrary loans (in/out): 255/675</p>
Collection Statistics	<p>Adult: 49,454 (37 added in March)                  Teen: 4,694 (0 added)                  Children: 37,913 (11 added)                  Hotspots: 30 (0 added)</p>	<p>A&amp;V materials: 13,061 (34 added)                  Magazines &amp; Newspapers: 1,718 (41 added)                  TOTAL: 106,870                  (123 added and 846 withdrawn in March)</p>
Circulation Statistics	<p>Adult: 1,520 plus 185 inhouse use                  Teen: 157 plus 25 inhouse use                  Children: 1,974 plus 744 inhouse use                  Hotspots: 4</p>	<p>A&amp;V materials: 627 plus 4 inhouse use                  Magazines &amp; Newspapers: 96 plus 21 inhouse use                  TOTAL 4,378 (38% of total BPL circ) plus 979 inhouse use.                  GRAND TOTAL: 5,357</p>
Public Internet Usage	<p>Users for the month: 527                  WIFI use: N/A**</p>	<p>**Computer network issues prevent reporting</p>

<p><b>Programming Milestones:</b></p> <p><b>87 programs</b>  <b>Attendance: 2,802</b></p> <p><b>8 Room use:</b>  <b>Attendance: 105</b></p> <p><b>GRAND TOTAL</b>  <b>Attendance: 2,907</b></p>	<p><b>Inhouse programs:</b></p> <p>10 Notary appts: 24                  3 LITT Mixed Chess: 16                  1 BCHS program: 15                  1 Do For Others: 20                  1 Essential Oils: 8                  1 AARP Safe Drive: 3                  1 Lawyers in Libraries: 12                  3 C2 Study Skills: 6                  2 Cat Adoptions: 95                  4 Mahjongg: 31                  4 Little Bears: 69                  1 Art program: 17                  1 Forest Bathing: 3                  1 Tea Party (GG): 55                  1 Women's History Month w/BYL &amp; Dynamic Girls: 20</p>
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<p>1 Easter/Spring Celebration: 504                  5 Yoga: 129                  14 E-Sports: 79                  3 weeks Coloring sheets: 1,351                  3 Gifted Girls: 26                  5 LV Learn English: 34                  2 Digital Navigator: 4                  3 Quilting: 23                  1 Craft honoring Alma Thomas: 3                  4 Tax AARP: 145                  1 Interview for Success: 7</p>	<p><b>Virtual programs:</b></p> <p>4 Mindfulness: 20                  1 Adult Book Group 20                  3 Tax VITA: 36</p> <p><b>Other:</b></p> <p>1 Watermark Book Group: 12                  1 Medical Training Table: 15</p> <p><b>Outreach: n/a</b></p> <p><b>(Study room use:</b>                  55 Uses of study rooms:                  Attendance: 103)  <b>(ILL Requests: 6)</b></p>
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Staff Development, meetings other than the usual, etc.

Paula K: Winthrop School Governance Council  
Bina W: NASA Partner Eclipse Ambassador webinar series  
School Readiness Council

“If we are sensitive to the world- if we are paying attention to how profoundly astonishing the world is- every second would make our hearts burst.” -Novelist Lauren Groff, quoted in The WSJ

March marched on so quickly! Displays garnered lots of attention and featured Women’s History Month, St Patrick’s Day, Easter, Spring, and more. The lobby displayed Bridgeport Schools with Paul Baudner’s collection of historical photos, yearbooks, banners and more. Joel H made use of his artistic talents. In addition to creating the banner for the lobby display, he officially switched from scattered snowflakes to beautiful spring flowers decorating the new books and other areas. Several patrons enjoyed watching and learning his flower making techniques.

We had many programs planned for Women’s History Month (WHM) and holidays in March. The Easter/Spring Celebration with partners Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse and Gifted Girls was a huge success with over 504 patrons attending. It was a beautiful day so activities inside (face painting, crafts, and a photo booth complete with Easter bunny) and out were enjoyed by all. BYL and GG also hosted a lovely WHM fancy celebration Tea with activities and delicious food. Other special programs went well (see the very full list!). Tax Assistance appointments were full, and our generous AARP volunteers have added another day in April.

Regular programs such as Little Bears Storytime went well. The beginner and intermediate level groups of Literacy Volunteers’ Learn English series are growing. The new C2 Education program, Study Skills and College Prep, is too. Preparation for the big solar eclipse (Bina is a NASA Partner Eclipse Ambassador; Joel is her solar attaché) is at the forefront, as are other upcoming programs for spring and planning for summer.

Staffing needs eased a bit more with the arrival of new Library Assistant I Paula Carlson. She is a very welcome, cheerful and helpful addition to the North staff. We continue to benefit from sharing Black Rock’s excellent page Joe. Despite the staffing crunch, the entire North staff is dedicated to providing the best customer service possible for all our patrons. Joel H enjoyed being able to help out at Black Rock one day during a staffing crisis there.

Building needs are being addressed as time allows. So far, most books and items have avoided water damage from the leaks. Custodian Dawn B is quick to find more buckets, pails and barrels as the needs arise. We all look forward to the new roof. The nesting season in the damaged overhang is in full swing. Some technology glitches are still in need of fixing. The work of the library goes on. Staff had opportunity to address some collection management tasks (weeding, fixing, straightening, sorting, etc.). Larry F and others spent many hours searching problem lists to find and fix items, and worked on the CD weeding project.

