



# North Branch January 2026

Submitted by: Kristin Graf & North Staff / statistics prepared by Bina Williams

December 2025

Service Statistics	Number of new library cards: 78 Number of visitors: 3509	Number of questions answered: Total 2710 Reference 1279 Directional 1208 Technical 223
Collection Statistics	Collection Size: 100177 Total Added: 117 Total Withdrawn: 735	
Circulation Statistics	Total Circ: 3773 (37% of BPL total)	In-house: 585 Grand total: 4358
Public Internet Usage Total:	Public computer Users for the month: 521 Total Wifi connections n/a	
Room Usage by outside groups TOTAL	Room use: Bookings: 5 Attendance: 62	Study room uses: 44 Attendance: 57

Programming Programs Attendance:	<p><i>Virtual:</i> Mindfulness: 5 sessions, 25 attendees</p> <p><i>In person off-site</i> 1 Watermark Book Discussion: 15</p> <p><i>In person on-site: Regular programs</i> 1 Adult book Discussion: 5 1 Art with Veronica: 11 0 Bridgeport Community Historical Society 2 Computer Class 22 0 Books-In-Between 3 DIG Chess 10 0 E Sports: 3 Gifted Girls: 61 1 Lawyers in Libraries: 7 3 Little Bears: 57 3 Little Hands: 27 8 Mah Jongg: 76 5 Playtime: 41 3 Yoga Saturdays: 96</p>	<p><i>SPECIAL PROGRAMS</i> <i>In Person Onsite</i> Cozy Crafternoon: 15 Grateful Tree and Santa: 50 History Holiday Trains: 25 Tales for a Winter's Night: 6 Thursday Night Café: 54 Holiday Concert: 55 Noon Year's Eve: 19</p>
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Other Services	5 Digital Navigator: 5 Notary appts: 19 (16 documents) Coloring sheets: 200 Info Tables: 0 Passport: NA ILL requests for BPL system patrons: 0 patrons/ 0 items requested 0 Tests proctored: 0
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Outreach	Date, Event, Approx. # of people reached: No outreach events in December
Staff Dev and "outside" meetings	KG: School Governance Winthrop School BW: Steering Committee for Local Governance Partnership (Formerly School Readiness Council), Excellence in Early Learning Digital Media

*"Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering, 'It will be happier.'" – Alfred Lord Tennyson*

A number of dynamic library programs made December a month full of warmth, creativity, and community engagement at the North Branch. Computer lessons and art classes brought adults in from the cold, while storytimes and craft programs gave kids time together for fun & learning. Throughout the month, the Reindeer Scavenger Hunt delighted and challenged visitors of all ages, with the added benefit of giving folks the opportunity to visit and explore each of our departments. Miss Bina's Noon Year's Eve, an annual highlight, was warm and festive, as families gathered to celebrate the New Year live from Bangkok, create luminaries, draw fireworks, and share memorable photo moments. Music was in the air, as Monika hosted two lovely holiday music concerts, one being the return of the Thursday Night Café, the other, a performance by violin students from the Suzuki Music School.

Community partners helped make the library the place to be! The Gratitude Tree event, featuring Trisha Smith, Don Wilson, and Santa Claus, spread joy and appreciation. The Gifted Girls Club hosted a holiday party and continued their mission to empower Bridgeport girls. The Reindeer Games, an annual event in support of Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse, and held in honor of James McGrath, took place on the athletic fields behind the library on a very snowy Saturday and brought some new visitors our way. These experiences truly showcased the library as a hub for family fun and cultural exchange.

They say looks aren't everything, but they're still something! Several displays reflected our festive spirit: Holiday novels and holiday movies were featured, though we noted the need to diversify our collection to include more titles for Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Diwali, and Lunar New Year. Christmas decorations and displays of books and DVDs added seasonal charm. We received a great influx of some exciting, new audiobook and DVDs to add to the collection. These new titles, as well as keeping up with mending damaged materials and weeding outdated and non-circulating audiobooks and children's books, have kept our collection fresh and browse-worthy.

Planning for the future was also a priority. Preparations for upcoming programs like a cooperative effort between the Library and the Bridgeport Public Schools to have every 3rd grade class visit the library in March; reigniting 1000 Books before Kindergarten; and Summer Reading 2026 (Plant a Seed...Read!); are just a few of the initiatives that are underway, ensuring exciting opportunities ahead.

Staff continued to shine – shout out to our pages, Joe and Miracle, for their excellent shelving work and knowledge of the collection. Another shout out to LA I Ilesha, who is doing a fantastic job helping Bina with Little Bears (a storytime for kids aged 0-5), as well as assisting a grateful patron with job resources, then promoting Universal Class, reinforcing our role in lifelong learning! Lifelong learning isn't just for our patrons – LA I Lynn is always seeking to learn something new on LinkedIn Learning. Kudos to LAs Paula, David & Dana for processing 120 library card applications from Blackham School. Service doesn't stop at the walls of the North Branch - David and Kristin helped at a couple of other branches, while Dana wrangled multiple copies of *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes for a book club held off site at the Senior Living Hospitality Group.

As we closed out December, we remain committed to improving facilities, addressing safety concerns like icy driveways and poor lighting, and fostering inclusive, engaging programs for all. The month was a testament to the library's ability to bring people together, celebrate diversity, and create lasting memories.