

DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 2023

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

HR Manager Zach Davis and I interviewed candidates for the two open HR Associate positions. We had a good pool of candidates and were able to move quickly. In May, Terry Versen will be rejoining us to take the recruiting and training position, and new staff member Darcie Abreu will take the payroll and benefits position.

We hosted our annual **Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon** on April 19. In 2022, we had 75 volunteers (34 adults and 41 high school students) who came in either weekly or bi-monthly. These volunteers gave a total of **2,007 hours** to help us run programs and services that otherwise would not have happened. We love gathering with them once a year to let them know how much we appreciate their service.



Our new Member Services desks and shelving are scheduled to arrive around July 1, so we've pushed the construction work (minor electrical, carpeting, and paint) to a start date of June 5. Member Services will serve staff from temporary desks near the central stairs.

EXTERNAL MEETINGS

- Facilitation Training for managers and committee chairs, 4/6
- CCS Governing Board, 4/12
- Pre-construction meeting for Member Services renovation, 4/13
- Second floor staff areas design meeting, 4/13
- POC Board
 - Executive Committee meeting, 4/18
 - Board meeting, 4/27
- Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, 4/19
- FOL President's meeting, 4/20
- Health insurance renewal meeting, 4/21
- Hoffman Estates Chamber Bon Appetit, 4/20
- Ray Mills Trivia Night with Rotary Club of Palatine, 4/21
- North Suburban Directors meeting at Barrington Library, 4/24
- Rotary Club of Palatine, 4/25

Jeannie Dilger

ACRONYMS USED

- ALA – American Library Association
- CCS – Cooperative Computer System, the library catalog that we share with 28+ other libraries
- CPLA – Certified Public Library Administrators program
- FOL – Friends of the Library
- NHB – North Hoffman Branch library
- ILA – Illinois Library Association
- IMRF – Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund
- ISL – Illinois State Library
- LIRA – Libraries of Illinois Risk Agency, our property/casualty insurance pool
- PLA – Public Library Association
- POC – Partners for Our Communities
- RAILS – Reaching Across Illinois Library System, the state agency that provides support to libraries in northern Illinois
- RRB – Rand Road Branch library
- TIF – tax increment financing
- WEB – Women Engaged in Business, a networking group of the Hoffman Estates Chamber

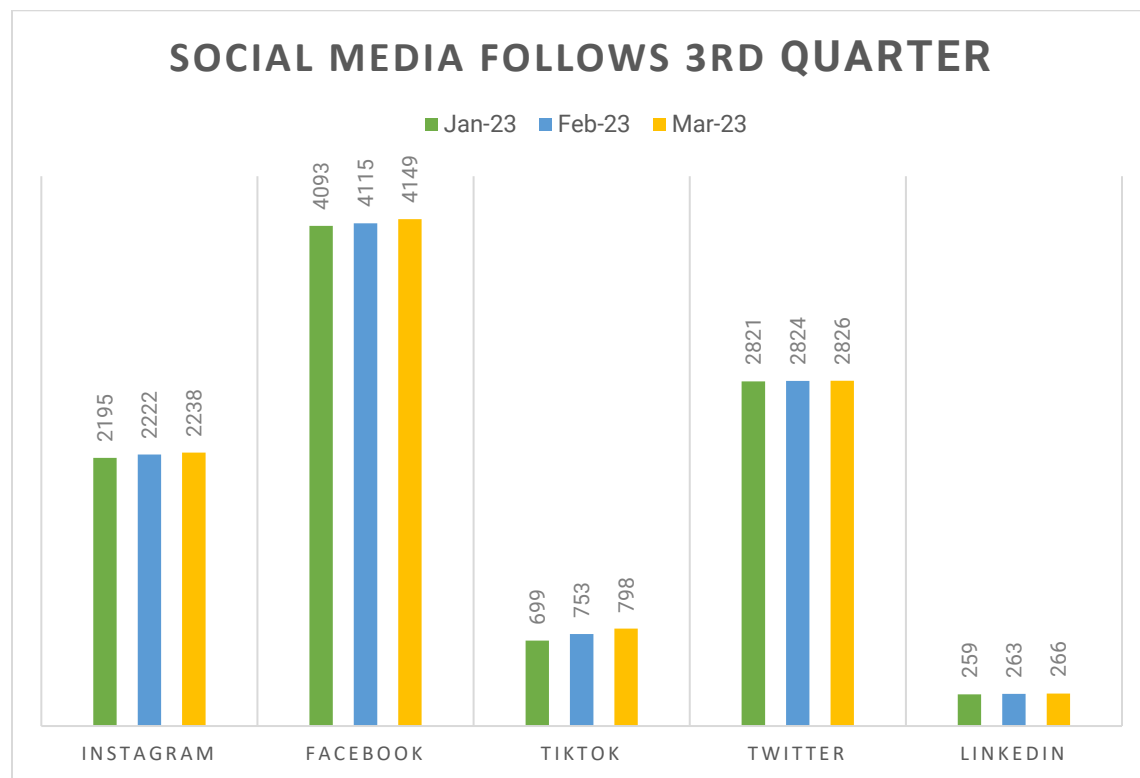
COMMUNICATIONS STATISTICS

Third Quarter: Jan – March 2023

Social Media Channels

This chart shows the steady increase in follows for each social media channel. “Follows” represent the people that are actively following our pages. They will see our content in their news feed.

Facebook and Instagram are still the highest performing with the most engagements. TikTok is steadily increasing reach and follows. LinkedIn has some slow growth as we try to engage with local businesses and career promote programming. Twitter is in flux right now and this platform is not a focus.



Google – Main Library page

This is when someone does a google search for the library.

- 17,998 Total Searches
- 13,041 Profile Interactions

Best Posts First Quarter

Engagements = Combined likes, comments, shares, saves, and views on one piece of content across multiple platforms.

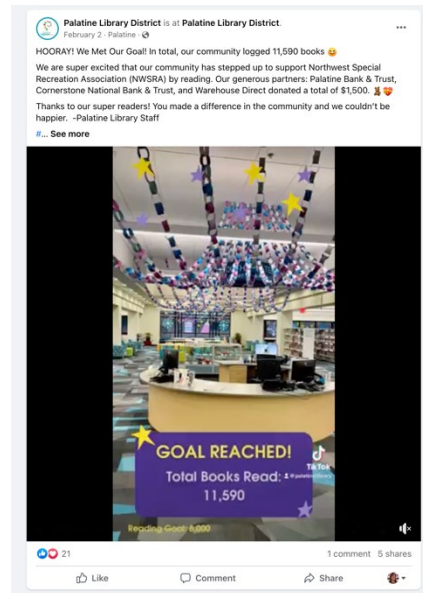
January 2023

Best FB and IG Post:

End of the Winter Reading Challenge

Total Engagement: 157

Total Reach: 1,305



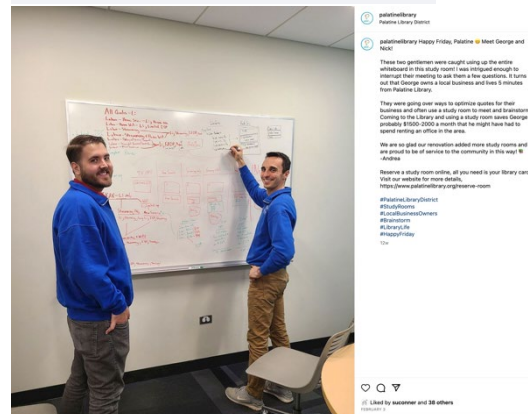
February 2023

Best FB and IG Post:

Small Business Owners in Study Room

Total Engagement: 333

Total Reach: 2,085



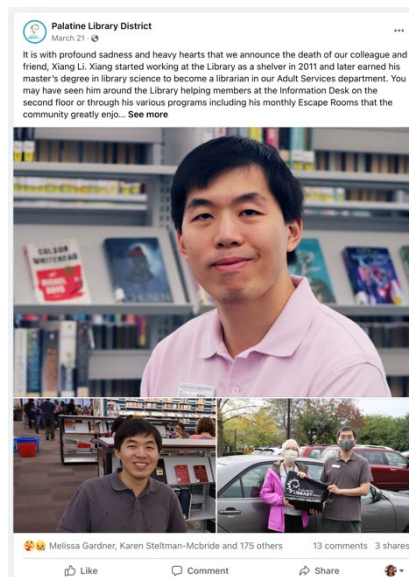
March 2023

Best FB and IG Post:

Tribute to Xiang

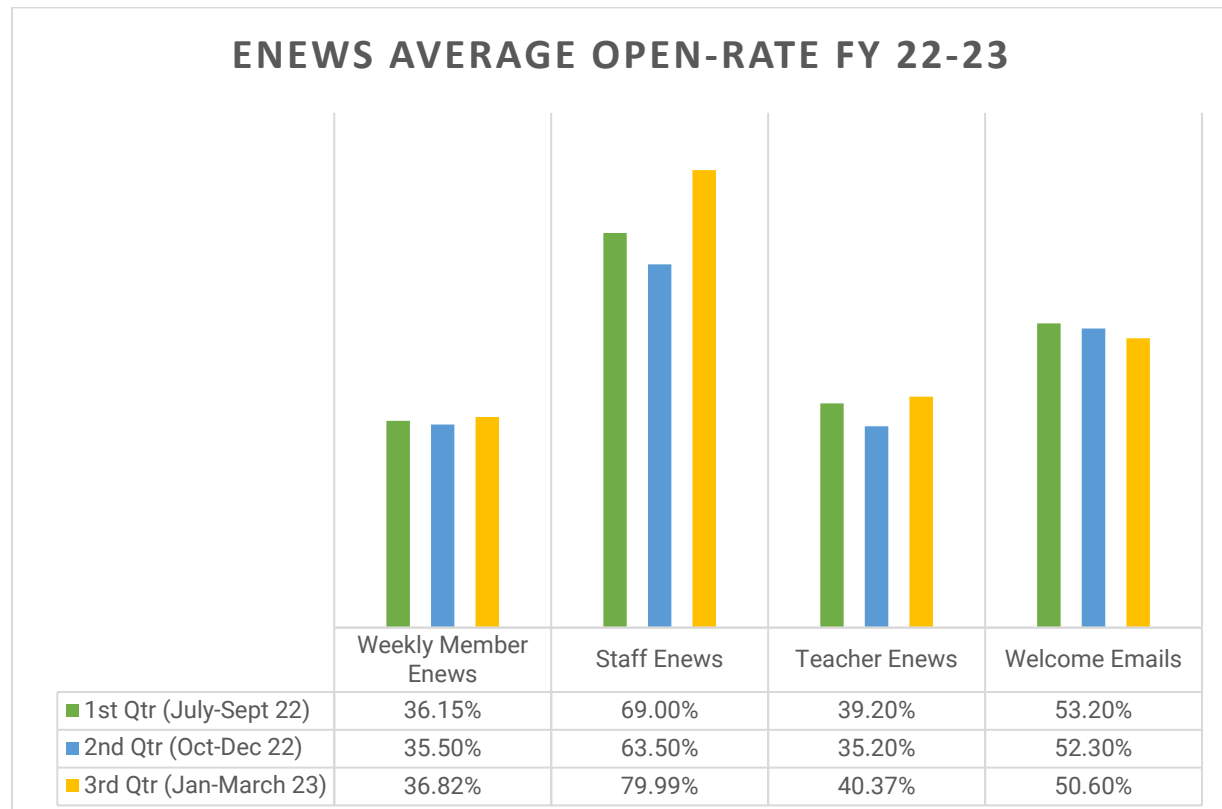
Total Engagement: 1,056

Total Reach: 2,022



Patron Point Member Enews

- We currently send out weekly member enews to 33,500 member accounts.
- Staff Enews has a high open-rate with recent jump in open-rate due to cleaning out old staff email accounts.
- Teacher emails are usually sent out once per month with better than average interaction.
- New Library cardholders are sent a series of four Welcome emails with relevant information. Open rate is good with very low bounce and unsubscribe numbers.



Submitted by
Andrea Lublink
Communications Manager

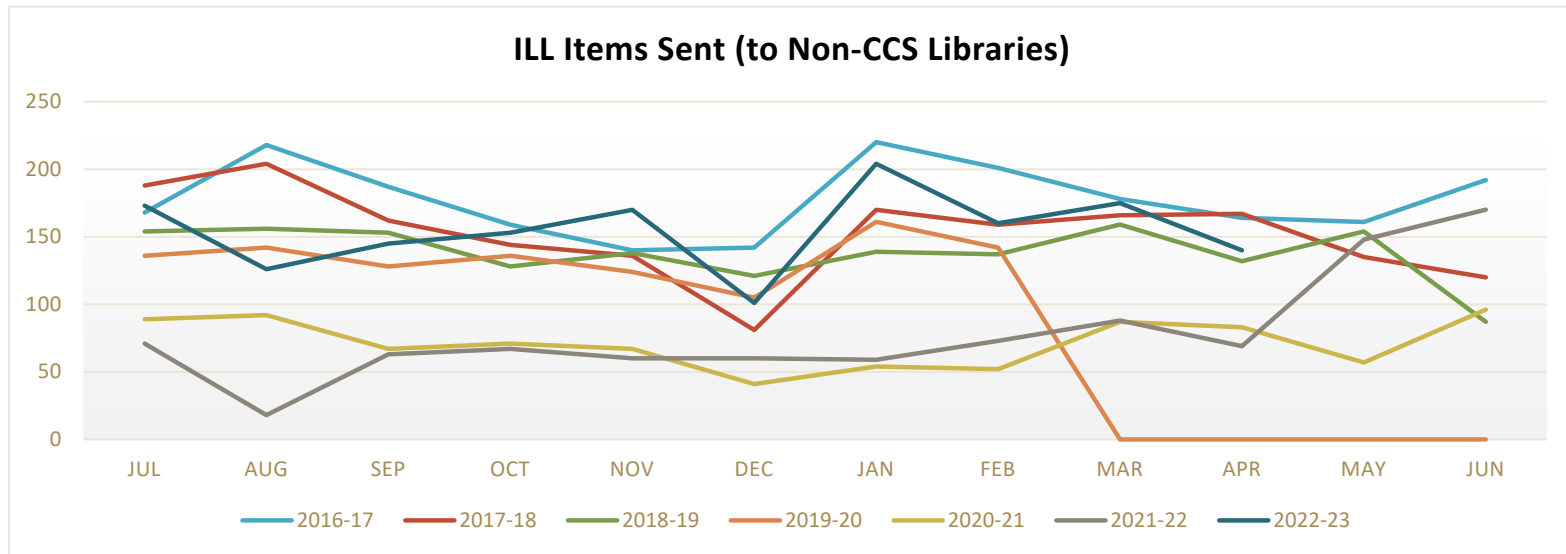
May 2023

Interlibrary Loan Statistics

	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
2016-17	168	218	187	159	140	142	220	201	178	164	161	192	2130
2017-18	188	204	162	144	136	81	170	159	166	167	135	120	1832
2018-19	154	156	153	128	138	121	139	137	159	132	154	87	1658
2019-20	136	142	128	136	124	105	161	142	0	0	0	0	1074
2020-21	89	92	67	71	67	41	54	52	87	83	57	96	856
2021-22	71	18	63	67	60	60	59	73	88	69	148	170	946
2022-23	173	126	145	153	170	101	204	160	175	140	0	0	1547

*No ILL for Pandemic 3/2020-6/2020

*Migrated to CCS 9/2020

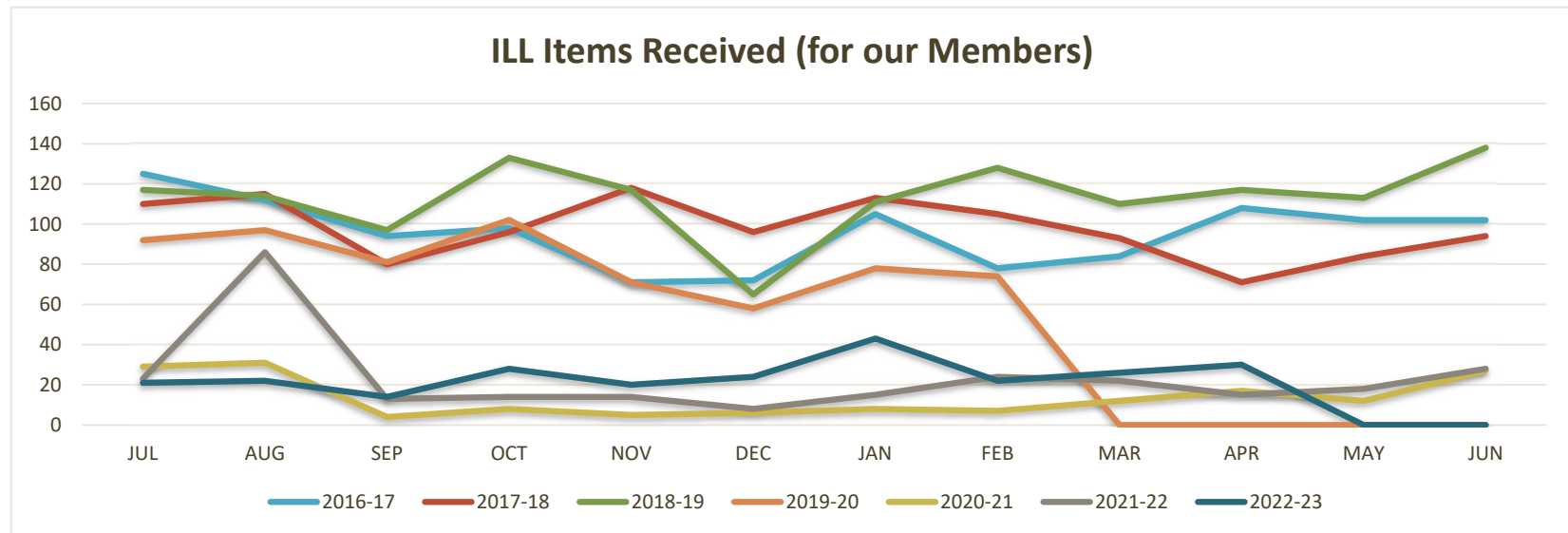


Interlibrary Loan Statistics

	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
2016-17	125	112	94	98	71	72	105	78	84	108	102	102	1151
2017-18	110	115	80	96	118	96	113	105	93	71	84	94	1175
2018-19	117	114	97	133	117	65	111	128	110	117	113	138	1360
2019-20	92	97	81	102	71	58	78	74	0	0	0	0	653
2020-21	29	31	4	8	5	6	8	7	12	17	12	27	166
2021-22	23	86	13	14	14	8	15	24	22	15	18	28	280
2022-23	21	22	14	28	20	24	43	22	26	30	0	0	250

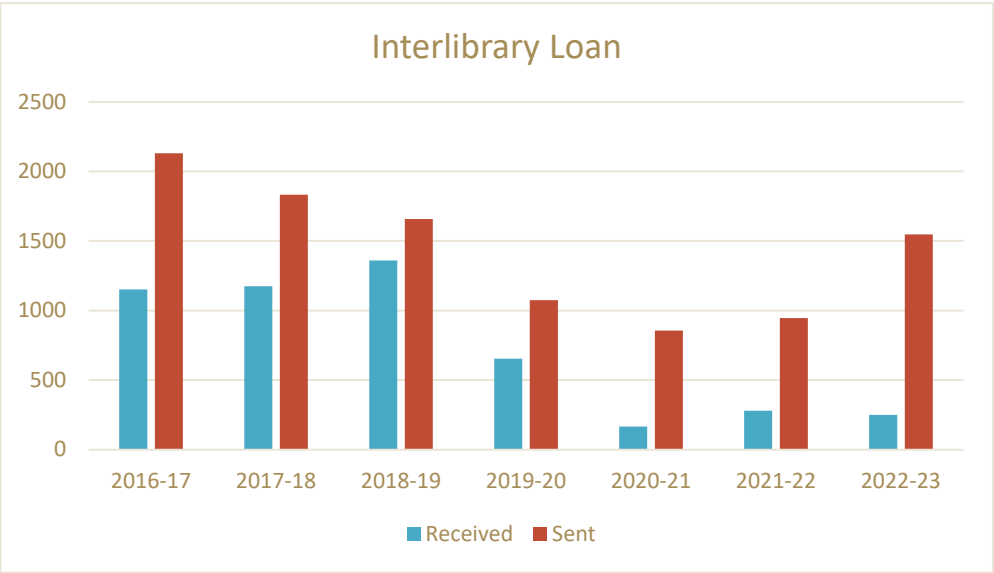
*No ILL for Pandemic 3/2020-6/2020

*Migrated to CCS 9/2020

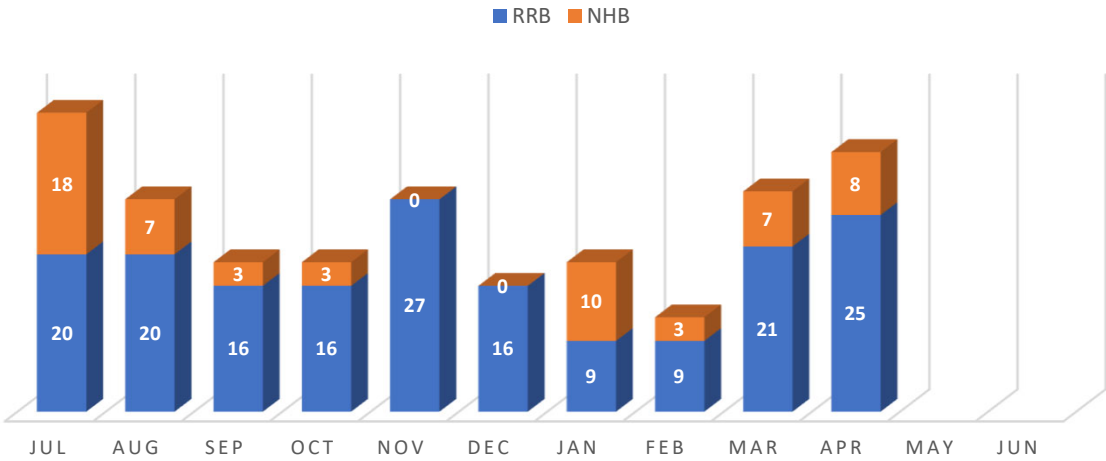


Interlibrary Loan Statistics

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Sent</u>
2016-17	1151	2130
2017-18	1175	1832
2018-19	1360	1658
2019-20	653	1074
2020-21	166	856
2021-22	280	946
2022-23	250	1547



EXTENDED ACCESS USERS 2022-23



*system down at RRB mid-Nov 2022 thru late Jan 2023

**CIRCULATION
2022-23**

	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	Fiscal YTD	Last Fiscal YTD	% Change
<u>Main</u>													
Juvenile Print	46,659	46,189	40,433	40,040	39,305	35,865	40,694	37,842	43,576	37,149	407,752	401,924	1%
Juvenile Non-Print	3,637	3,678	2,849	3,044	3,022	3,025	3,156	2,850	3,449	2,760	31,470	28,056	12%
Total Juvenile	50,296	49,867	43,282	43,084	42,327	38,890	43,850	40,692	47,025	39,909	439,222	429,980	2%
Total Young Adult	3,937	3,817	2,860	2,362	2,499	2,555	2,757	2,306	2,569	2,146	27,808	30,947	-10%
Adult Print	24,648	24,418	20,973	20,588	19,388	20,212	22,507	20,188	22,000	20,238	215,160	195,095	10%
Adult Non-Print	13,422	14,066	12,732	12,629	12,194	12,960	12,820	11,616	13,216	11,304	126,959	133,473	-5%
Total Adult	38,070	38,484	33,705	33,217	31,582	33,172	35,327	31,804	35,216	31,542	342,119	328,568	4%
TOTAL MAIN LIBRARY	92,303	92,168	79,847	78,663	76,408	74,617	81,934	74,802	84,810	73,597	809,149	789,495	2%
<u>North Hoffman</u>													
Juvenile Print	2,188	2,135	2,112	1,919	2,143	1,714	2,164	2,083	2,078	1,584	20,120	19,370	4%
Juvenile Non-Print	224	221	177	168	198	162	222	162	216	155	1,905	1,572	21%
Total Juvenile	2,412	2,356	2,289	2,087	2,341	1,876	2,386	2,245	2,294	1,739	22,025	20,942	5%
Total Young Adult	112	99	50	55	46	53	70	52	48	58	643	754	-15%
Adult Print	636	621	495	547	538	480	639	629	667	629	5,881	4,847	21%
Adult Non-Print	438	363	354	419	398	438	379	393	454	448	4,084	3,561	15%
Total Adult	1,074	984	849	966	936	918	1,018	1,022	1,121	1,077	9,965	8,408	19%
TOTAL N. HOFFMAN	3,598	3,439	3,188	3,108	3,323	2,847	3,474	3,319	3,463	2,874	32,633	30,104	8%
<u>Rand Road</u>													
Juvenile Print	623	703	615	508	504	415	434	482	586	531	5,401	3,111	74%
Juvenile Non-Print	112	137	118	137	93	115	105	104	134	97	1,152	748	54%
Total Juvenile	735	840	733	645	597	530	539	586	720	628	6,553	3,859	70%
Total Young Adult	20	24	10	10	14	12	6	8	7	8	119	131	-9%
Adult Print	178	200	149	116	88	123	167	112	170	135	1,438	1,254	15%
Adult Non-Print	130	231	164	154	202	257	322	213	258	249	2,180	1,145	90%
Total Adult	308	431	313	270	290	380	489	325	428	384	3,618	2,399	51%
TOTAL RAND ROAD	1,063	1,295	1,056	925	901	922	1,034	919	1,155	1,020	10,290	6,389	61%

**CIRCULATION
2022-23**

	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	Fiscal YTD	Last Fiscal YTD	% Change
<u>Digital Collections</u>													
Overdrive	15,659	16,480	18,265	17,510	16,999	17,169	18,710	16,758	18,617	18,503	174,670	152,590	14%
hoopla	2,792	2,881	2,744	2,827	2,916	2,883	3,107	2,772	2,982	2,889	28,793	30,666	-6%
Kanopy	1,129	1,318	1,420	1,512	1,327	1,205	1,354	1,444	1,621	1,217	13,547	11,794	15%
TOTAL DIGITAL	19,580	20,679	22,429	21,849	21,242	21,257	23,171	20,974	23,220	22,609	217,010	195,050	11%
CIRC. OF MATERIALS	116,544	117,581	106,520	104,545	101,874	99,643	109,613	100,014	112,648	100,100	1,069,082	1,021,038	5%
Electronic Info Retrieval	262	583	277	777	511	867	972	704	890		5,843	5,050	16%

TOTAL CIRCULATION	116,806	118,164	106,797	105,322	102,385	100,510	110,585	100,718	113,538	100,100	1,074,925	1,026,088	5%
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Self Checkout

# of Items	23,430	21,988	18,058	17,410	18,131	16,713	20,590	17,277	21,005	15,777	190,379	164,233	16%
% of Total Checkouts	20%	19%	17%	17%	18%	17%	19%	17%	19%	16%	18%		

Reciprocal Borrowing (other than CCS)

Items Loaned	2,589	2,446	2,203	1,949	2,236	2,033	2,379	2,674	2,893	2,381	23,783	20,515	16%
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Library Card Registration

Card Activity

													<u>Monthly Average</u>
New PPLD Cards	639	526	485	409	365	364	532	423	480	379	4,602		460
New RBP's	20	12	19	25	29	13	31	20	45	23	237		24
Renewals (PPLD/RBP)	591	468	397	394	345	374	458	342	307	146	3,822		382
Non-Resident Cards													
Renewals Non-Resident	8	0	1	6	4	6	2	6	8	10	51		5
New Non-Resident	11	10	2	2	2	7	0	0	0	0	34		0
TOTAL ACTIVITY:	1,269	1,016	904	836	745	764	1,023	791	840	558	8,746		729

Card Registrations

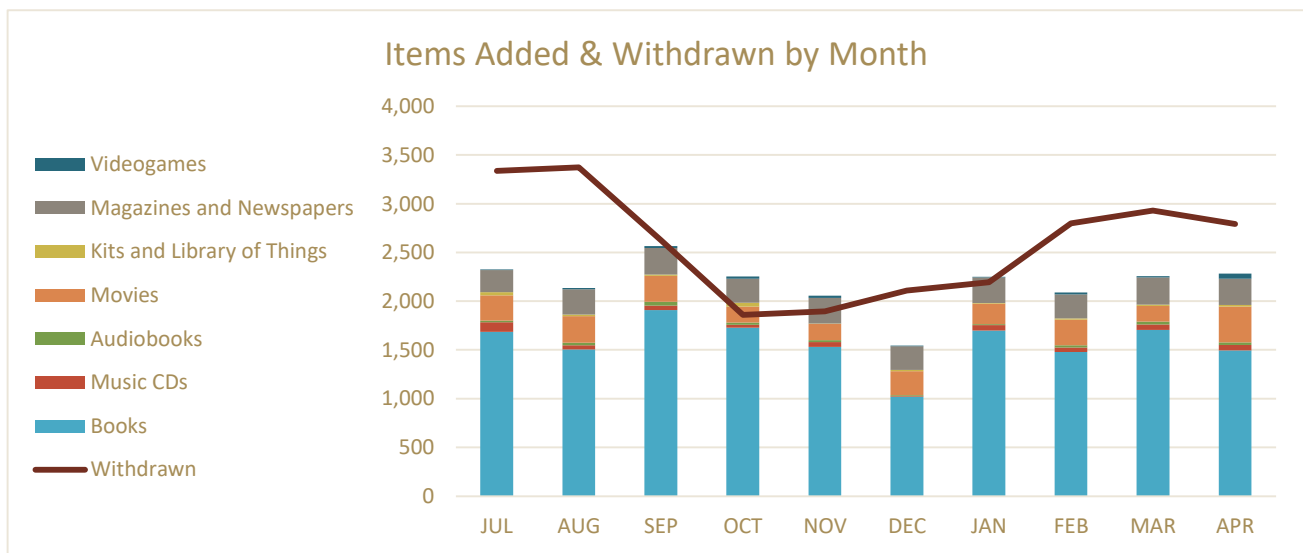
PPLD resident cards	39,731	39,519	39,263	39,133	39,148	39,085	39,173	39,141	38,945	38,968			39,211
Non-Resident fee cards	139	145	149	144	147	164	169	37	158	175			143
Reciprocal	13	17	13	14	15	15	12	13	16	12			14
ILL	46	46	47	49	49	47	49	50	51	51			49
TOTAL REG. PATRONS	39,929	39,727	39,472	39,340	39,359	39,311	39,403	39,241	39,170	39,206			39,416

**CIRCULATION
2022-23**

	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	Fiscal YTD	Last Fiscal YTD	% Change
<u>Collection Summary</u>													<u>Monthly Average</u>
Database Titles	113,762	114,746	103,705	102,612	103,652	103,223	103,579	105,144	104,830	107,563			106,282
Physical Items	213,673	212,713	212,544	212,449	211,234	210,706	203,946	204,027	204,004	203,826			208,912
<u>Door Count</u>													
MAIN	23,209	23,163	20,781	22,172	20,911	20,683	23,770	22,223	25,974	22,132	225,018	184,446	22%
NHB	1,504	1,374	1,214	1,434	1,548	1,394	2,073	1,613	1,752	1,539	15,445	11,768	31%
RRB	1,091	1,267	1,111	1,241	1,158	1,006	1,345	1,184	1,472	1,363	12,238	12,547	-2%
CURBSIDE PICKUP - MAIN	45	40	41	30	39	36	39	44	24		338	1,246	-73%
CURBSIDE PICKUP - NHB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	71	-100%
CURBSIDE PICKUP - RRB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	25	-100%
TOTAL	25,849	25,844	23,147	24,877	23,656	23,119	27,227	25,064	29,222	25,034	253,039	210,103	20%
<u>SUMMARIES BY TYPE</u>													
Juvenile Print	49,470	49,027	43,160	42,467	41,952	37,994	43,292	40,407	46,240	39,264	433,273	424,405	2%
Juvenile Nonprint	3,973	4,036	3,144	3,349	3,313	3,302	3,483	3,116	3,799	3,012	34,527	30,376	14%
Teen	4,069	3,940	2,920	2,427	2,559	2,620	2,833	2,366	2,624	2,212	28,570	31,832	-10%
Adult Print	25,462	25,239	21,617	21,251	20,014	20,815	23,146	20,929	22,837	21,002	222,312	201,167	11%
Adult Nonprint	14,038	14,660	13,250	13,202	12,794	13,655	13,521	12,222	13,928	12,001	133,271	138,179	-4%
E-Resource	19,580	20,679	22,429	21,849	21,242	21,257	23,171	20,974	23,220	22,609	217,010	195,050	11%
Database Use	262	583	277	777	511	867	972	704	890	0	5,843	5,050	16%
TOTAL	116,854	118,164	106,797	105,322	102,385	100,510	110,418	100,718	113,538	100,100	1,074,806	1,026,059	5%
<u>Reserves Filled:</u>													
MAIN	8,814	9,753	9,112	9,038	8,670	8,283	10,155	8,145	9,660	8,141	89,771	94,437	-5%
NHB	434	500	531	560	507	464	680	620	582	567	5,445	5,483	-1%
RRB	70	71	28	48	65	98	75	84	122	71	732	441	66%
TOTAL	9,318	10,324	9,671	9,646	9,242	8,845	10,910	8,849	10,364	8,779	95,948	100,361	-4%

COLLECTION SERVICES STATS 2022-23

ITEMS ADDED	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	YTD	LAST YTD
Books	1,687	1,504	1,907	1,728	1,532	1,018	1,699	1,477	1,705	1,495	15,752	15,827
Music CDs	98	42	46	29	47	6	54	46	56	56	480	683
Audiobooks	16	29	41	22	20	11	11	25	30	26	231	237
Movies	257	270	265	166	169	246	211	263	160	368	2,375	2,638
Kits and Library of Things	33	17	14	38	4	15	7	12	12	15	167	116
Magazines and Newspapers	227	260	272	248	263	240	263	245	280	269	2,567	3,210
Videogames	8	12	20	23	21	7	5	22	13	53	184	202
Total Items Added	2,326	2,134	2,565	2,254	2,056	1,543	2,250	2,090	2,256	2,282	21,756	22,913
Withdrawn	3,338	3,374	2,626	1,859	1,897	2,109	2,194	2,797	2,931	2,792	25,917	39,591
Withdraw: Add Ratio											1.19	

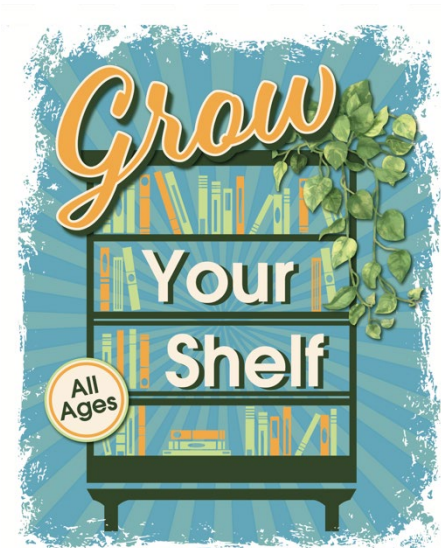


Grow Your Shelf April 2023 – Summary Report

Overview

This brand-new reading program, Grow Your Shelf, was held from April 1 through 30, 2023 and planned and coordinated by the Communications Department.

This program encouraged members to pick books and media that they wouldn't normally choose to read. We challenged members to read something new to broaden their understanding of a topic or theme, whether that's a different genre, book, or author whose experience differs from theirs.



This was a self-led reading program for Library members of all ages and staff did not need to check their library cards. It was not on Beanstack like our summer and winter reading programs.

Promotion

Grow Your Shelf was promoted with a two-page spread in the print newsletter, on the website, in weekly member enews, on social media, with posters, displays, hand-outs, and a press release.

Comms purchased new displayers for the hand-outs for each diverse reading theme. The various displays in the library and at each branch were where visitors picked up a paper reading log with instructions. Members could then get a seed packet as a gift at either the YTS or AS desk. (Friends donated funds to purchase prizes). They did not need to show staff books that they had read on the reading log. We ordered 250 seed packets (333 packets were delivered).

Staff supplied reading lists for the website, based on 12 diverse reading themes. Hand-outs were created and included a QR code linking to the reading suggestion lists.

Ideas to Help You Grow. Read a book that is...

- On a “banned” or “challenged” list
- By an author from another country or translated from another language
- About a different culture other than your own
- A different genre than your usual
- Representing disabilities by an author who is disabled
- A graphic novel
- Published before you were born
- By an author who is a different gender than you
- A cookbook from another culture
- In a format different than how you usually read (i.e., audiobook, ebook, etc.)
- By a BIPOC author (BIPOC includes an Arab, Black, East Asian, Indigenous, Latine, Middle Eastern, Pacific Islander, Persian, or South Asian author)
- A book recommended by Palatine Library staff

- A collection of poems

When someone read a diverse book of their choosing, they also could display the title on the Arc Wall with a paper flower to share with the community. We had a total of 85 flowers on display.

Statistics

	Participants	Entries	Winners
Main	263	500	Zaid Alani, Luciana Solorio, McKenna Egner (all children)
North Hoffman	12	23	Jaime Lonergan (adult)
Rand	5	11	Alexandar Felix (child)
Staff	13	31	Carly <i>Special mention: Glenda had the most entries (6)</i>

Conclusion

Overall, the objectives of this program were met by encouraging reading of diverse titles and providing a prize as an extra incentive. The visuals were attractive and well presented.

It is difficult to evaluate since this was a new reading program with nothing else like this to compare it to. That said, Main obviously had decent engagement, and the Branches saw significantly lower numbers.

It would be too time consuming to record all the book titles from the entries, but it was observed that participants submitted multiple titles. At-a-glance, titles were diverse; however, it's not easy to conclude if the titles were related to our reading lists.

Youth and Teen Services reported that children really enjoyed adding book titles to the Arc Wall display.

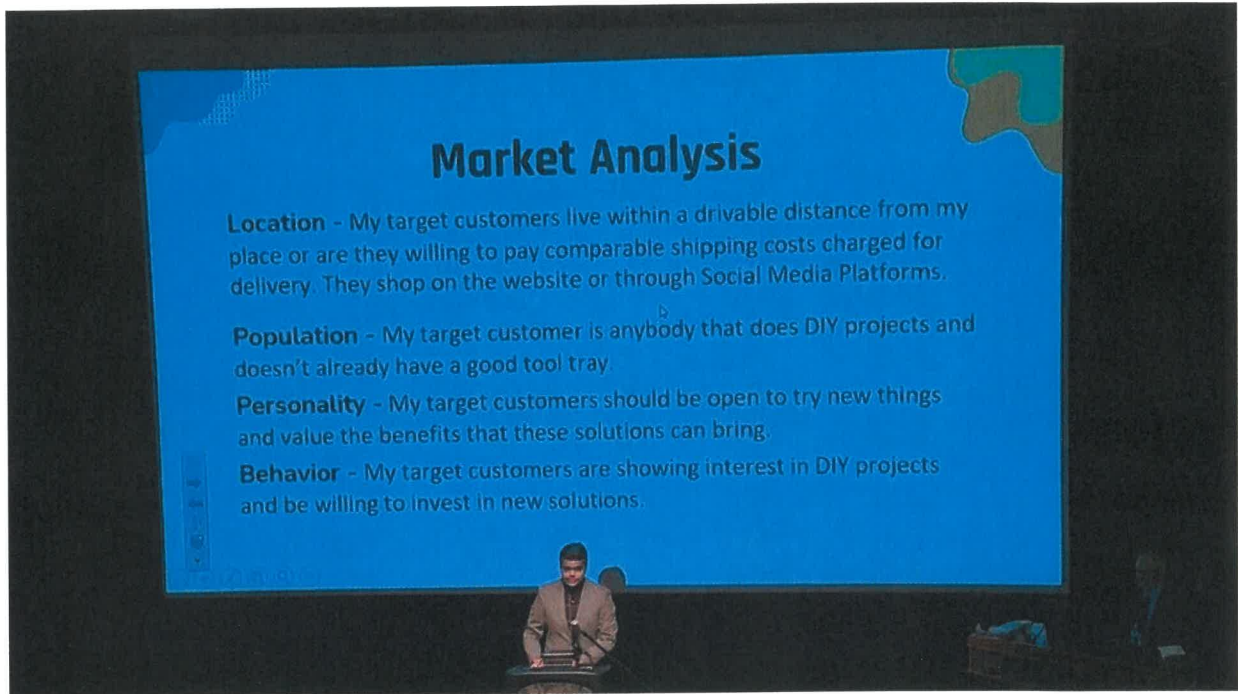
Submitted by
Andrea Lublink
Communications Manager
5/2023

How middle school kids are getting their own businesses started through YEA

[dh dailyherald.com/business/20230423/how-middle-school-kids-are-getting-their-own-businesses-started-through-yea](https://dailyherald.com/business/20230423/how-middle-school-kids-are-getting-their-own-businesses-started-through-yea)

Orrin Schwarz

April 23, 2023



- Arnav Gupta presents for his business Toolsology at Wednesday's Young Entrepreneurs Academy investor panel event at Harper College in Palatine. Photo courtesy of Scott Gilbrich/Connect Pros



- The group of 15 entrepreneurs gather with YEA Program Managers Steven Gaus and Rachael Jacobson at Wednesday's Young Entrepreneurs Academy investor panel event at Harper College in Palatine. Photo courtesy of Scott Gilbrich/Connect Pros

Orrin Schwarz



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Posted 4/23/2023 1:00 AM

Could you spend a school year setting up a business with a complete business plan and then get on stage in front of friends and family to present your plan -- when you were in middle school?

"Definitely a hardworking group, especially for students so young, 12-, 13-, 14-year-old kids who write a business plan and go through all the aspects of starting a business," said Steven Gaus, in his eighth year as the Young Entrepreneurs Academy program manager, after

Wednesday's YEA investor panel event at Harper College in Palatine. "Remarkable. I wouldn't have had the wherewithal at that age."

The nine-month program is in its ninth year locally, thanks to the Palatine Area Chamber of Commerce and the Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce. It was launched by the University of Rochester in 2004, and the national finals will be hosted in Rochester, N.Y., albeit virtually.

The kids spent more than two hours a week in class, in addition to their regular schoolwork, Gaus said.

The "Shark Tank"-type contest splits \$6,500 between the 15 contestants, but there's a catch. The kids have to follow through with their projects and request the funds as needed.

Arnav Gupta of Rolling Meadows won first place and \$1,100 for his company Toolsology, which plans to produce a flexible tool tray using 3D printers.

"I feel really great, obviously," said Gupta, who requested \$1,200 funding from the investor panel. "I really wanted to get a good position in this program because I really pursue business as my passion. I find this a very good opportunity for me."

"I thought it was a great idea, a usable DIY-type of tool kit or tool storage thing that's easy to use," Gaus said of Gupta's business. "It's compact. It makes sense. It's something that people are going to want to use."

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Gaus saw Gupta work hard to figure out a way to make his business plan realistic.

"It was a matter of struggling with somebody who could make the product for him," Gaus said. "We worked with Harper Maker Space, also with the Palatine library with their Maker Space to get a prototype made for him. And also a local manufacturer so he could get his costs set so he knew how much it was going to cost him to make in quantity so he could set his pricing and so on."



Gupta said he got the idea from working with his father on household projects when they moved into a new home two years ago. They often wound up with a "bowl full of screws and those types of things," he said, and the result was a mess.

Still, developing the business plan and his prototype product weren't the hardest parts of the endeavor for Gupta.

"Presenting. This is like the first time I've done such a big presentation. So it was definitely the presenting was the hardest part for me," he said.

He'll have another chance to present his product at the national competition. And he has to follow through on his business.

Palatine's Daniel Romanov placed second and was awarded \$950 for his business Hook It. Hook It buys biodegradable and recyclable components and reassembles them into fishing kits. Romanov said he has been fishing since age 4.

Sam Gonzalez, an eighth-grader from Palatine, placed third and was awarded \$800 backing her business, Mandala Designs, a "collaborative custom clothing business. She wore her product to the event.

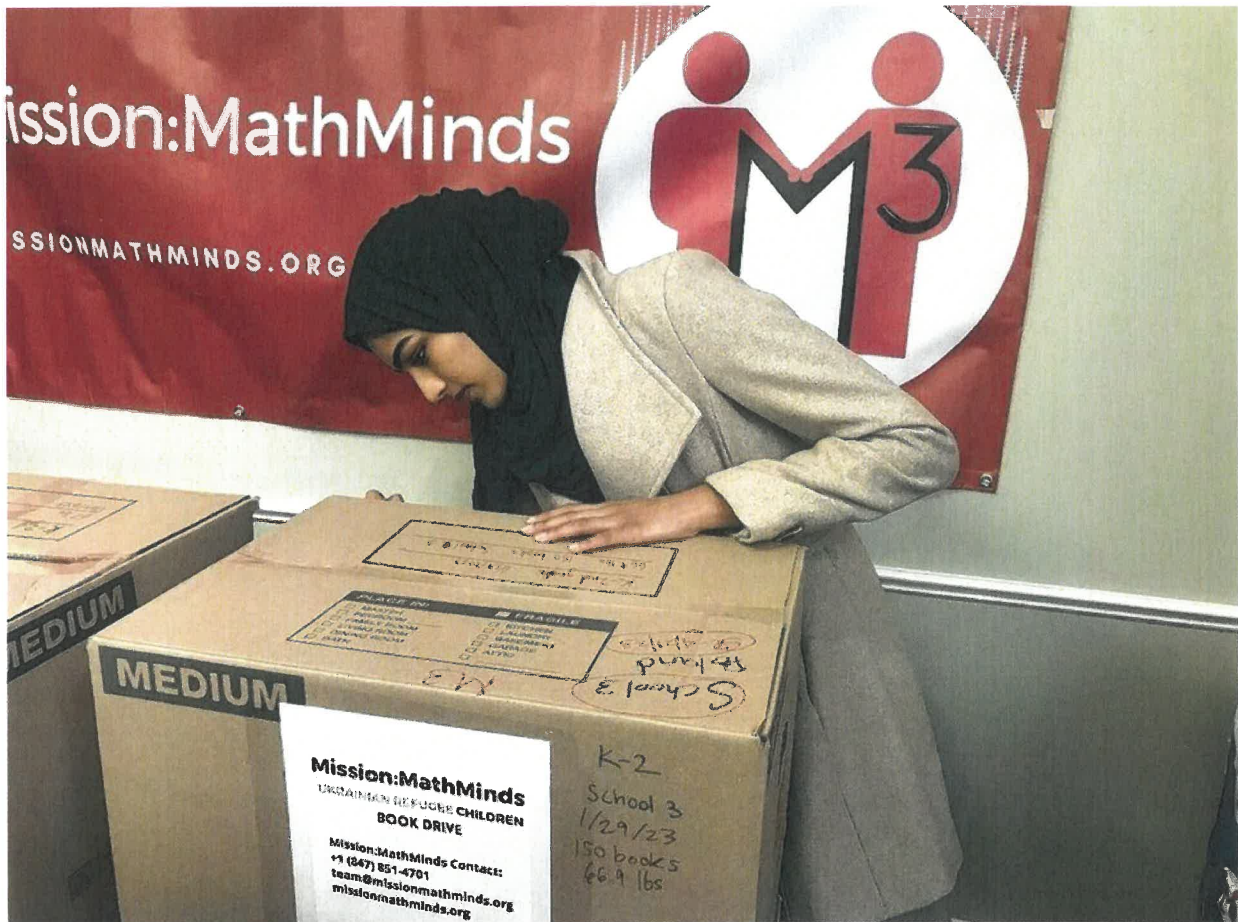
Serving on the investor panel were: Frank Cerrone of Pan American Bank & Trust; Meghan Hartnett of Lavelle Law Ltd.; and Daily Herald Suburban Business Editor Orrin Schwarz.
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'Hope, belief and gratitude': Suburban teen ships 8,000 books to Ukrainian refugees

dailyherald.com/news/20230423/hope-belief-and-gratitude-suburban-teen-ships-8000-books-to-ukrainian-refugees

Steve Zalusky

April 23, 2023



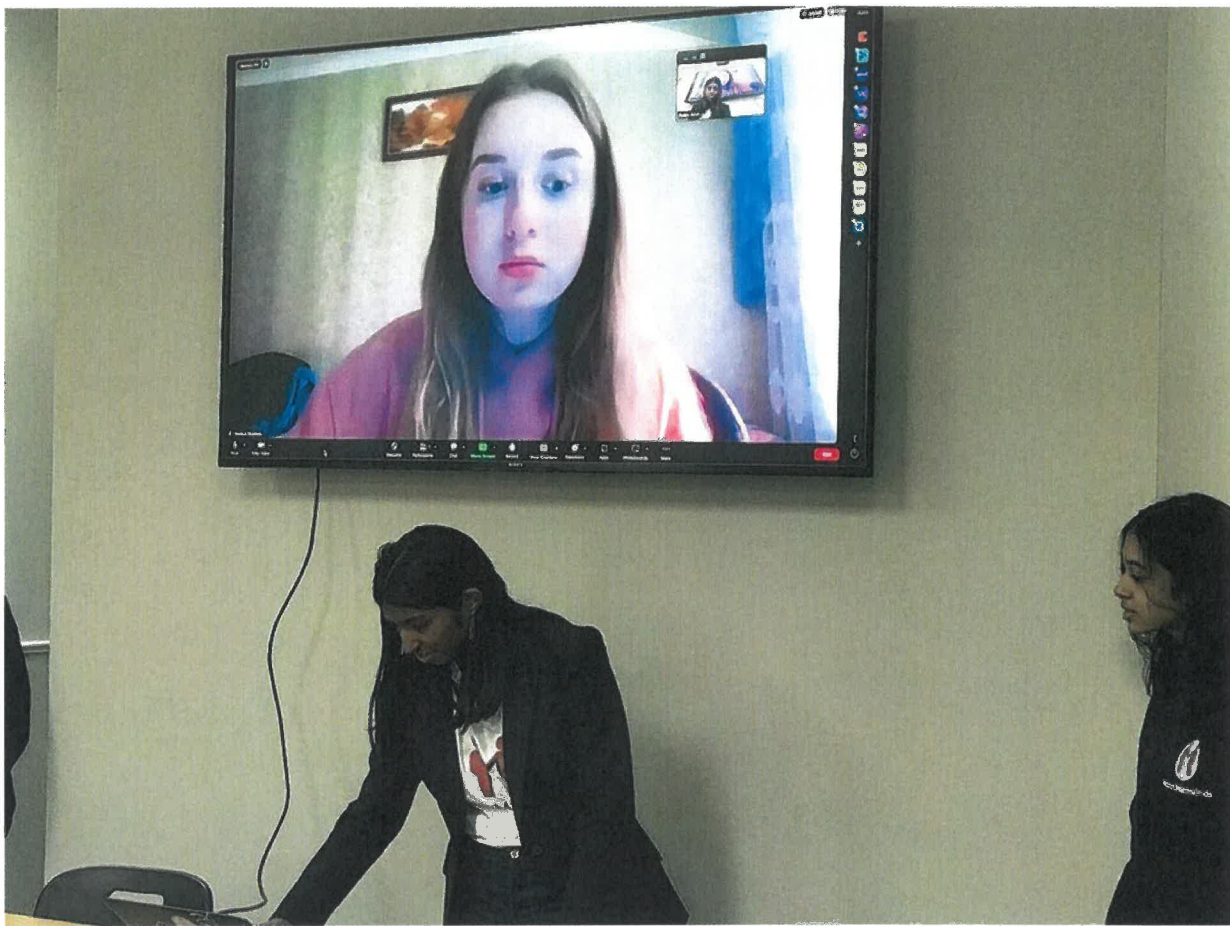
- State Rep. Nabeela Syed signs one of the boxes headed for Ukrainian refugee children Sunday during an event led by the suburban nonprofit Mission: MathMinds. The organization collected about 8,000 books to be shipped overseas to children in refugee camps or schools in Poland. Steve Zalusky | Staff Photographer



- Yuliya Matychyk reacts emotionally Sunday during a ceremony in Rolling Meadows commemorating the shipping of thousands of books to Ukrainian refugee children. Steve Zalusky | Staff Photographer



- From left, Yuliya Matiychyk, Nataliya Tsvyakh and Mariia Shevchuk, were among the guests Sunday when the suburban nonprofit Mission: MathMinds helped prepare 8,000 books for shipping to refugee children from Ukraine. Steve Zalusky | Staff Photographer



- Natalia Yakovchuk speaks from Ukraine on Sunday about efforts of the suburban nonprofit Mission: MathMinds to send about 8,000 books to children displaced by the Russian invasion. Steve Zalusky | Staff Photographer

Steve Zalusky



Updated 4/23/2023 6:29 PM

Thousands of books heading to Ukrainian refugee children were given a hopeful send-off Sunday at Kumon Math and Reading Center in Rolling Meadows.

It was a textbook example of volunteerism, as the 8,000 books worth more than \$100,000 were gathered as a result of the efforts of Mission: MathMinds, a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring girls to achieve in STEM fields.

It was founded three years ago by Ruby Arun, a 16-year-old William Fremd High School student from Inverness, and has since mobilized more than 300 student volunteers.

The books will find their way to refugee camps, thanks to Libraries Without Borders, as well as schools founded by Ukrainian educators displaced by the war. Ruby visited some of those educators during a trip to Poland last year.

"This mission is more than just collecting books. We're bringing hope, creating new opportunities for these students," Ruby said Sunday.

Partners in the book drive included several regional YMCAs, the Schaumburg Township Public Library District, Friends of the Palatine Library, the Palatine Public Library District, Palatine Township Elementary School District 15, Palatine-Schaumburg High School District 211, the Palatine Jaycees and the Rotary Club of Palatine. Polamer Precision Inc. of Schaumburg shipped the books.



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Among those taking part Sunday were Ukrainians displaced by the war, including Yuliya Matiychyk, who left her home in Chernivci and is now living in Hoffman Estates with her two sons, Yarema and Danylo.

She expressed gratitude for the efforts of the volunteers, calling the books an investment "in our development, in our future. Our kids are our future."

"I hope that this war will be stopped as soon as possible," she added.

Matiychyk was joined by her mother, Mariia Shevchuk, who will be returning to Ukraine, where she works as a doctor.

Arun also was joined remotely by Natalia Yakovchuk, whom she met in Poland last year and lives in Chernihiv, Ukraine. Yakovchuk talked about the impact of the bombing and shelling by Russian forces.

"We were basically living in basements all of the time," she said. "We went out only to get some food and have a shower. The basements were the only safe space at the time."

Taking photos at the event was Kristina Kost, who left her home in Lviv at the start of the Russian invasion and drove 36 hours to Poland with her daughter, her friend, her friend's family, a cat and a dog. Now she is staying with her daughter, Olesea, in Lake in the Hills.

"My heart is still in Ukraine," Kost said.

State Reps. Nabeela Syed of Inverness and Mark Walker of Arlington Heights also were present at the event.

"The future is great, when we have young people at the helm, changing the future," Syed said.

U.S. congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi joined virtually and led the crowd in a math problem.

"If you send 8,000 textbooks, worth \$100,000, 5,000 miles across the Atlantic to students in need, what is the outcome?" he asked. "This is the answer: Hope, belief and gratitude."

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Library patrons come together to create freedom quilt



Selicia Applegate, left, and Amy Lundquist hold up the completed Freedom Quilt made by community members. The quilt will be on display in the Palatine Public Library through Juneteenth, which

commemorates the official end of slavery on June 19, 1865. (Courtesy of Palatine Public Library District)

Palatine Library District is unveiling a new 8-by-7-foot freedom quilt that was completed in the library's makerspace, The Workshop.

Members of the community came together in a big way to complete this project in honor of Black History Month. Historically, freedom quilts were believed to use special coded blocks to communicate methods of escape for enslaved people.

During the first two weeks of February, library members were invited to grab materials and design their own block for the quilt. The last two weeks were dedicated to putting the finished blocks together and teaching members how to use the newly donated long-arm quilting machine in The Workshop.

In the end, members made 42 blocks, surpassing the initial goal of 20 blocks.

"I was overjoyed. Everyone was so receptive to the sessions, and it felt nice to see people from different skill sets and backgrounds who were so invested in seeing it get done. I'm always looking for ways to engage the community, so the ability to teach them about Black history while learning a new skill fits together so perfectly," said Selicia Applegate, makerspace coordinator at Palatine Library.

For Applegate, the initial goal was boosting awareness of the resources offered in The Workshop and for Black History Month.

Whether participants knew how to sew or use the quilting machine, Applegate made sure that there would be guidance for members at every step. Library member Theresa Benson stepped up to help move this project forward.

Benson, an avid quilter, worked with Applegate to learn how to use the long-arm quilting machine and train The Workshop staff on its functions.

They also worked together to make this project approachable for members. Benson spent time during the quilting sessions presenting the rich history of quilting and textile art in the Black community.

Special thanks to Benson for hosting the quilting sessions; to technology associate Amy Lundquist for preparing the take-home kits for members and providing support during the sewing sessions; to Joann Powell, who donated the long-arm quilting machine to The Workshop; to Tiffany Wilhoite, who donated extra fabric from her grandmother; and to the dozens of members who made their own blocks from home and worked together to make the finished product.

The finished quilt will be displayed in The Workshop on the first floor of the Main Library through the beginning of June to commemorate the official end of slavery on June 19, 1865.

The project came out so well that the library is excited to share that the quilt will be on display at 360 CHICAGO in the Hancock Center in coordination with their Juneteenth event.

Celebrate Juneteenth with the library on Monday, June 19, with a day full of cultural festivities. The event features a market showcasing Black-owned businesses, providing an opportunity to support and uplift the local community, and the unveiling of this community-created freedom quilt celebrating Black history.

In the evening, come and enjoy an open mic, where the library will showcase spoken word, music and other performances. Watch the library's website, palatinelibrary.org, for full details.

The Workshop was part of the library's massive renovation project in 2021. With the new equipment and resources available, the possibilities of new projects are limitless.

Visit palatinelibrary.org/workshop to learn more.

- Submit 'Your News' at www.dailyherald.com/share.

Palatine Farmers Market supports the community

dailyherald.com/submitted/20230426/palatine-farmers-market-supports-the-community

Marg Duer

April 26, 2023



The Palatine Farmers Market opens its 2023 season on Saturday, May 6, in the Metra parking lot. Courtesy of Nghi Loi Pappas

Marg Duer

Updated 4/27/2023 10:06 AM

Thanks to our customers and vendors, the Palatine Farmers Market, managed by the Palatine Sister Cities Association, looks forward to another outstanding year benefiting our community. The 2023 farmers markets season will open from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 6, in the Metra parking lot. Children of all ages are invited to "Plant a Posie For Mom" to take home. Local musicians provide a lively background for visitors to taste the highest quality fruits, vegetables, meats, fish, breads and baked goods, tacos, and healthy Acai bowls.

Saturday, May 6 only, the Shriners are bringing Vidalia onions direct from the famous Georgia onion fields. The market is proud to offer the highest quality foods -- products that are not available in grocery stores. Produce is required to be picked within 24 hours of the market. Scott Hasselmann grows organically alfalfa, hay, and non-GMO grains to feed his pasture-raised livestock, using no antibiotics, growth hormones or animal byproducts.

Customers buying raffle tickets provided the popular granite picnic tables and have funded three unique scholarships to local high school seniors pursuing French studies. Scholarships include two weeks in Palatine's Sister City, Fontenay-le-Comte, France. The vendors support the Community Resource Center by contributing to the Mobile Food Truck that delivers fresh market vegetables to families in need.

Each Saturday, the market welcomes members of local civic, not-for-profit organizations who are dedicated to special needs populations, recycling plastics and clothing, preserving the environment and organizing special events to benefit the community. The market also greets NCH Wellness, Palatine Library, Jaycees, and Palatine Historical Society with local events. *

Thank you for enjoying the market and supporting the community. The Palatine Farmers Market is much more than it appears.

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PALATINE PARK DISTRICT
Summer 2023 Program Catalog



DIVE Into Reading

- Summer Reading Program
- Sign up begins Thursday, June 1 –
- Monday, August 7

Read to earn badges and coupons and get a chance to win a prize! Finish your reading requirements and get a grand prize t-shirt or tote bag provided by Friends of Palatine Library.

Kick-off Party
Saturday, June 3
12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Celebrate with special programs, crafts, games, prizes, and more!
All ages. For valid District cardholders only.

 Palatine **LIBRARY** District 847-907-3600 • palatinelibrary.org

20 | Resident Registration Begins April 24 | Non-Resident Registration Begins May 2

Palatine Journal
April 6, 2023



The Great British Baking Tour
Monday, April 17
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

- Go on a delightful culinary tour of the UK and learn how to make a proper cup of tea. Sign up begins 4/3.
- Presented: Zoom.

 Palatine **LIBRARY** District
847-907-3600 • palatinelibrary.org


Scan here to sign up.

Palatine Library Celebrates Black History Month With New Community Quilt

journal-topics.com/articles/palatine-library-celebrates-black-history-month-with-new-community-quilt/

By Journal Staff | on April 20, 2023

April 20, 2023



Selicia Applegate (left) and Amy Lundquist (right) hold up the completed Freedom Quilt made by community members.

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Members of the community came together in a big way to complete this project in honor of Black History Month in February. Historically, freedom quilts were believed to use special coded blocks to communicate methods of escape for enslaved people.

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Visit palatinelibrary.org/workshop to discover what projects can be created in The Workshop.

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