



Executive Director's Report November 2025

ILA: The Illinois Library Association Conference was in Rosemont this year which allowed us to send 11 staff in addition to three trustees. The theme of the conference was "You Belong Here." Staff who attended will present to the Board in the November and December meetings.

Web Accessibility Guidelines: New Web Content Accessibility Guidelines will go into effect for our library on April 24, 2026. We have been training and looking at our content to prepare it for the new guidelines. In your packet is a resolution adopting the new guidelines. The policy committee reviewed this resolution and is prepared to work on any new policies that are needed. Following your adoption of these guidelines we will begin changing practices and content on the website.

First Floor Renovation: We received 12 bids for the first floor renovation project. The lowest bidder was Reed Construction. Engberg Anderson is reviewing their contract and will make a recommendation at the November Board meeting.

District 15: We have been hard at work to strengthen our partnership with District 15. In October they attended a Halloween themed story time dressed in dinosaur costumes and presented information on the district. We are working on a partnership that will allow all kids to sign up for library cards as part of their registration process with the district.

"Appreciate you both teaming up on Tuesdays for RFID. Dream Team status officially earned!"



Staff You Should Know



Jennifer has been a Materials Assistant since 2024 and she has made an impression as someone who provides great customer service and find anything on the first floor of Main Library. But you don't have to take my word for it, see what her colleagues have to say:

"Thank You, Your attention to detail will help members in the future"

"Thank you to Jennifer for her warm, patient connection with a mother and their child last night. Her heartfelt approach highlights the library's positive impact on our community."

"Thank you for finding and explaining the Sprout Kits to parents with questions. They were very happy when checking out."

Calendar



- Bibliotheca 10/10
- ILA Presentation Prep 10/13, 10/15
- Rotary 10/14, 11/04
- ILA 10/15, 10/16
- ILA Presidents Breakfast 10/16
- KnowB4 10/21
- Pre Bid Meeting 10/22
- Rotary Social 10/24
- North Suburban Directors 10/27
- POC 10/30
- Engberg Anderson 10/30
- Cyber Team 11/10



New Employees



- Michael is our new Training Coordinator
- April is our new Digital Communications Coordinator
- Eddie is our new Technology Support Specialist
- Isabella is our new Branch Library Associate at the North Hoffman Branch
- Ingrid is our new Member Services Assistant
- Ivy is a new Materials Assistant in Member Services
- Holly is a new Materials Assistant in Member Services
- Ilona is a new Material Assistant in Member Services



Bilingual Promotions



- Polo was promoted to Bilingual (Spanish) Maintenance Assistant
- Jackie was promoted to Bilingual (Spanish) Workshop Assistant
- Hannah was promoted to Bilingual (Ukrainian) Rand Branch Library Associate
- Elisa was promoted to Bilingual (Spanish) Rand Branch Library Associate
- Monica was promoted to Bilingual (Spanish) Youth and Teen Services



Milestone Anniversaries



- Tara, Collection Services Acquisitions Associate, celebrated her 25th work anniversary
- Selicia Applegate, Workshop Manager, celebrated her 10th anniversary

Harper College Theatre Ensemble presents 'She Loves Me,' a timeless musical with heart

Harper College News Bureau

October 21, 2025



Georg Nowack (played by Sam Garrison, left) and Amalia Balash (played by Bethany Brautigam) are perfume store clerks who fall in love via anonymous love letters in "She Loves Me." The musical, which runs November 14-23 at Harper College's Performing Arts Center, was inspired by the same play as the movies "You've Got Mail" and "The Shop Around the Corner."

Before the letters, laughter and love songs of *She Loves Me* hit the stage this November, Harper College is offering audiences a cinematic prelude – free screenings of *You've Got Mail* and *The Shop Around the Corner*.

All three stories trace their roots to Miklós László's 1937 play *Parfumerie*, following a pair of coworkers whose everyday bickering hides an anonymous romance.

To build excitement for its [production of *She Loves Me*](#) (November 14-23 at Harper's Performing Arts Center), the [Harper College Theatre Ensemble](#) will participate in a pair of movie screenings, which include special introductions, discussions with *She Loves Me*'s director and dramaturg, and a live performance from the musical's cast. [You've Got Mail](#) (1998) will screen at 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 29 in Harper's Film Lab, Building E, Room E109, 1200 W. Algonquin Road, Palatine. The Palatine Public Library is partnering with the Ensemble to host a screening of [The Shop Around the Corner](#) (1940), 1 p.m. Saturday, November 1, at the library, 700 North Court.

Director Kevin Long describes *She Loves Me* as a story that continues to resonate across generations, whether set amid the rise of Nazism in Europe or the onset of the digital age.

"For me, this is a show that has a gigantic heart," said Long, also a Theatre Arts professor at Harper. "In times of hardship and struggle, this story always seems to resurface to comfort us. It's about connection, about the family you find rather than the family you're born with."

Set in a 1930s perfume shop, the musical follows two clerks who, unaware that they are secret pen pals, argue by day and pour their hearts out in letters by night. Long said that in an age of digital avatars and fleeting text messages, the show's premise feels refreshing.

"When's the last time you wrote a letter?" he asked. "That's a beautiful commitment. This musical dares us to reveal our true love for one another."



Kevin Long, director of "She Loves Me" director and a Harper professor, said that one of the features of Harper College Theatre Ensemble productions is that actors such as Bethany Brautigam, left, and Julianne Pfendt get to interact with experienced and talented professionals, including costume designer Jane DeBondt and scenic designer Lauren Nichols, who recently won a Jeff Award.

With its witty dialogue, elegant score and heartfelt message, *She Loves Me* offers audiences a warm and hopeful escape, which Long called "a nice balm for a troubled time." But it's more than only that, given that composer Jerry Bock and lyricist Sheldon Harnick went on to co-create *Fiddler on the Roof*.

"This is some of the best music ever written. Some of the best lyrics ever written. Every theatre critic knows this is one of the top shows of all time," Long said. "It's such a finely crafted musical where the characters need to sing to affect change. Their movement is based out of necessity."

The production features students from across disciplines, working with professionals such as scenic designer Lauren Nichols, who recently won a [Jeff Award](#). Long emphasized that learning opportunities are endless for students who get to interact with such world-class theatrical talent.

He said he has been equally impressed by this ensemble's dedication and openness.

"They're gracious, kind and fearless," he said. "For two and a half hours, audiences will forget about all the junk that's going on in the world and just see people opening up to each other and sharing themselves. You're going to walk away holding your loved ones that much closer."

Performances of *She Loves Me* will take place at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, November 14-23, at Harper's Performing Arts Center, 1200 W. Algonquin Road, Palatine. Sunday shows are preceded by Coffee Talk with Long and dramaturg Mary T. Christel. For tickets and information, visit the [Harper Box Office](#) or call 847.925.6100.

You've Got Mail will screen at 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 29, at the Harper Film Lab, Building E, Room E109. *The Shop Around the Corner* will screen at 1 p.m. Saturday, November 1, at the Palatine Public Library, 700 North Court, Palatine. Both screenings are free and open to everyone.

JOURNAL & TOPICS

Journal & Topics Media Group | Serving Chicago's Great Northwest Suburbs

Upcoming Events **Free Access**

Palatine

Palatine Garden Club

Palatine Public Library

700 N. North Court, Meeting Room 1

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 6

Speaker Marla Garrison will present a lecture and slide show entitled “Dragonflies: A Natural History.” Macro-photographs will offer a close-up view of these fascinating insects. Garrison will discuss their history, life cycle, and ecological importance, including some of the 100-plus species found in Illinois. Pre-registration is not needed. For information, email Barb Figlewicz: hyperfig27@gmail.com.



Today's
E-edition



Sign Up for
Newsletters

Daily Herald
Suburban Chicago's News Source



TODAY'S STORIES

NEWS

SPORTS

OPINION

OBITUARIES

BUSINESS

ENTERTAINMENT

LIFESTYLE

CLASSIFIEDS



Home and Garden

Home & garden calendar, Nov. 2-8

Palatine Garden Club: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 6, at the Palatine Public Library meeting room 1, 700 N. North Court. Marla Garrison, author of "Damselflies of Chicagoland," will present a lecture and slideshow on "Dragonflies: A Natural History." A renowned dragonfly and damselfly expert, Garrison conducts research across the country. Her presentation will include macro-photographs offering a close-up view of these fascinating and beautiful insects, and she will discuss their development, life cycle and ecological importance, including some of the 100-plus species that can be found in Illinois. Garrison recently retired as director of the Liebman Institute for Science Innovation at McHenry County College in Crystal Lake. Free; registration is not necessary. Information, email Barb Figlewicz: hyperfig27@gmail.com.

Palatine CCSD 15 officials describe facilities upgrades from 2022 "Moving 15 Forward" referendum

Palatine Community Consolidated School District 15 officials said the district used the successful "Moving 15 Forward" referendum, approved in November 2022, to develop and complete a five-year master facility plan that renovated 12 school buildings and updated classrooms, libraries and specialized learning spaces.

District staff said the work addressed several priorities identified before the referendum, including all-day kindergarten, moving sixth grade into middle schools to align neighborhood feeder patterns, and modernizing facilities to better support teachers and students. "We called it moving 15 forward for a reason because that's what this work was going to do," a district staff member said.

District staff described the referendum as the result of about six years of preparation and noted it was the first successful facilities referendum for the district in 34 years. The five-year plan led to renovations across a dozen buildings, the speakers said, including updated art rooms, science and STEM labs, libraries, cafeterias, multipurpose rooms, upgraded hallways, lighting and gymnasiums. The presentation emphasized changes intended to support teaching practices, such as larger classrooms and flexible furniture to facilitate group work rather than row seating.

One speaker described everyday effects on students: "I really like about our building now, we now have students walking, riding their bikes to school. It really now feels like a community school and it feels like a family here," the speaker said. Staff highlighted that one elementary school was converted into a middle school so Hoffman Estates now has its own middle school, and district staff pointed to new science labs and STEM spaces as areas expected to boost engagement and achievement.

Officials also outlined a forthcoming 6–10 year master facility plan to prioritize remaining capital needs, specifically HVAC systems and roofs, and said they are working on project prioritization tied to associated funding. Speakers described the initial projects as "an investment on the part of the taxpayers" and thanked community members for passing the referendum.

Speakers repeatedly framed the renovations as intended to give teachers modern facilities that match their instructional work, while allowing the community and staff to take pride in the schools. The presentation closed by reiterating gratitude to voters who supported the referendum and noting that the district will continue planning for longer-term facility needs.



palatinelibrary • [Follow](#)

...



palatinelibrary 5d

During the month of November, donate food items to [@littlecityorg](#) The items requested are canned veggies, gravy, canned pumpkin, boxed stuffing, instant potatoes, cornbread mix, pie crust mix, baking mixes, evaporated milk, broth, and spices. Items can be dropped off at the Main Library.

PALATINE JOURNAL

Vol. 60 No. 50

Journal & Topics Media Group | journal-topics.com | Thursday, November 6, 2025 | \$1

SPECIAL SECTION
**Our Annual
Salute To Veterans...INSIDE!**

VETERANS DAY
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Chief Explains Cop's Involvement In ICE Arrest

By RICHARD MAYER
Associate Editor

Palatine Police Chief William Nord during Monday's (Nov. 3) village council meeting defended an officer's actions with assisting U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents in the arrest of an individual Oct. 27.

According to Nord, at approximately 11:49 a.m. Oct. 27, officers were dispatched to 1190 E. Dundee Rd. for a 911 call reporting three subjects wearing police gear who were struggling with an individual they were trying to

take into custody and that pepper spray was being used to get compliance.

"When the first officer arrived, he tried to maintain control while waiting for backup," Nord said. "The officer determined these three were federal agents who were arresting an individual that was lying on his stomach with the three agents laying on top of him. The officer observed three agents to be exhausted and not giving commands to the individual or communicating with each other."

Nord said one agent was lying on the man's

legs and holding his right arm, which had handcuffs on it. He said a female agent was kneeling with her full weight on the man's back yelling at the crowd to stay back. He said another larger male agent was partially lying on the man's upper torso to gain control of his left arm that was underneath.

"It became apparent to the officer that the agents no longer appeared to have a plan or physical ability to ensure a safe environment," Nord said. "The officer also observed an agitated crowd who was yelling at the officer to help the individual."

Nord said the officer began telling the crowd to step back to ensure safety and then looked back at the federal agents to see if any progress had been made, but they continued to lay on top of the man who was not being compliant.

"The officer observed cuts and abrasions on the man's arms and his breathing was labored," Nord told the council. "Based on the officer's observations and fearing that if the struggle continued, there was a likely chance that the individual would become in

(Continued on page 32)

Fall Palette

Page 32-PA | Thursday, November 6, 2025 | The Journal

Arrest

(Continued from page 1)

imminent danger of being severely injured."

Nord said specifically, the officer believed the female agent kneeling on the man's back and pressing on his neck was causing him trouble to breathe and he believed he had to act immediately to help expedite the encounter and get agents off the individual, so the officer reached down to secure the man's arm so agents could secure him.

"Our officer in Spanish told him to stop fighting but the man continued to resist so the officer verbally directed the female agent to get a hold of the other arm, but did not. The agents got the man's left arm to handcuff him, but they still had trouble and the female agent was seen holding the handcuffs incorrectly, which rendered her unable to secure the handcuffs on the man's left wrist."

Eventually, Nord said, the agents were able to get the man handcuffed, stood him up, and placed him in a vehicle. That is when the officer obtained badge numbers for the agents and the name of the person being arrested before they left the scene and the crowd dispersed.

"While people want to rush to judgment and declare violation of the Trust Act, it does provide overriding provisions of assisting ICE operations to address situations that officers are thrust into like in this case," Nord said. "The Illinois Trust Act prevents state and local resources for immigration

order to preserve order, maintain peace and protect life."

Nord emphasized the officer first tried verbalizing instructions to agents and the individual and when that proved to be ineffective, he used minimal force to ensure a safe outcome.

"Although the officer's actions were proper, the agent's actions and poor tactics could reasonably be interpreted at the least improper and dangerous," Nord said. "The Safety Act declares that officers can't stand by and allow excessive force or dangerous tactics used in an arrest. They have a lawful obligation to intervene. The officer had a matter of seconds to weigh his options and couldn't drive away from the scene. He had to get involved and restore order."

According to Nord, if the officer did nothing, the arrest would have continued until one or all agents caused serious injury to the individual and the crowd could have gotten involved further, putting everyone's safety in jeopardy.

"The department's message to the public is that we follow the law and preserving peace," Nord commented. "He acted lawfully and calmly with a professional demeanor, which is commendable in a chaotic situation like this. This was a positive result of the department's tactical training program and regular testing knowledge of policy and training must always be a priority."

Palatine resident Roman Golash told the village council that he 100% supports the police.

Library Issues Statement On ICE

The Palatine Public Library recently posted a message on its website informing patrons on what it does and does not do when it comes to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

According to the message, the library "strives to provide a welcoming space for everyone and a safe environment to the best of our ability."

"The library is a public space, and we cannot keep ICE agents from entering our parking lot and library,"

the message said. "Once the library is aware of an ICE presence, staff have guidelines to contact leadership and security to monitor and handle the situation."

Officials emphasized that the library does not assist or collaborate with ICE agents in any way, unless they are legally obligated to provide information in compliance with a valid judicial warrant signed by a judge.

"Our branch locations are housed in buildings managed by community

partners, and ICE entry into these buildings is subject to their policies," the message said. "However, once agents enter a library branch, our guidelines apply."

Officials added that everyone is welcomed at the library, and staff is committed to respecting everyone's privacy. They added they do not require a member's immigration status to register for a library card or use services and all library records are confidential.

criminal illegal aliens," Golash said. "This officer's actions were excellent and for this community to come here and not recognize that is sad."

Resident Joyce Slavic commented that ICE is making the community less safe and appreciated Nord's explanation on how "inept" ICE agents are. She also asked the council to implement an ordinance that would provide more restrictions to ensure

the village take some type of action.

"I am furious," he said. "Listening to the chief, it shows the ICE agents deployed there were grossly incompetent and our department had to help ICE because of their incompetence. We need to find a way to avoid assisting ICE. You (council) have to do something more. This is unacceptable in the community."

The council and mayor did not provide

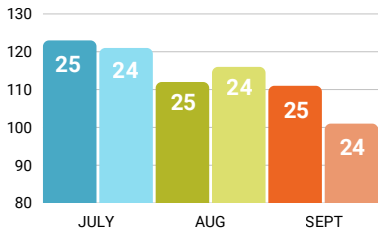
www.journal-topics.com

Quarter 1: Statistics Report

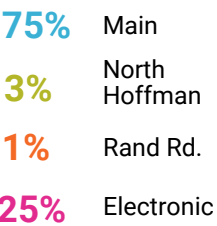
July-September 2025



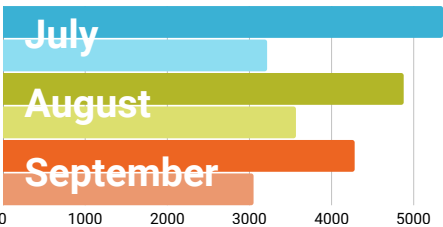
Total Circulation in Thousands



Circ by Location



Program Attendance



Science Madness

Highest attended program with 169 people



Most Popular Program: Science Madness

Welcome to your new quarterly statistical report. In this report, I have provided a sampling of statistics that I intend to update quarterly, along with some statistics specific to each quarter. Please let me know what statistics you find useful and any I have not included that you would like to see.

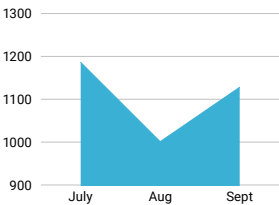
The second page of this report provides a breakdown of statistics related to the strategic plan. Most of these are not where we want them to be yet, because we are only in the first quarter of the strategic plan.

The remainder of this report provides an in-depth examination of branch programming statistics for the past year. This is one area where we continue to see success and make improvements.

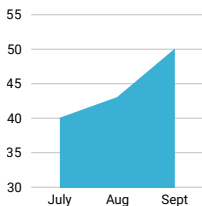


Most Popular Display: July Beach Reads

Study Room Use

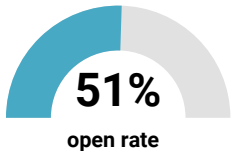


Meeting Room Use



Email Marketing

27 emails



397

volunteer
Hours

\$9,349

Friends Money
Raised

\$5,107

Foundation Money
Raised

Outreach

Interactions

2,122
July

2,085
Aug

1,638
Sept

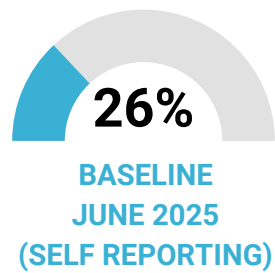
23

Different
Organizations
Visited

Aliya Nursing Home
Baldwin Kindercare
Buehler YMCA
Elderwerks
Farmers Market
HE Park Dist.
HE Kindercare
Jane Addams Ele.
Jaycees parade
Lincoln Elementary
Paddock Elementary
Palatine High School
Palatine Kindercare
Palatine Park Dist.
Palatine Police
Palatine Township
POC
Rotary
Salt Creek Park Dist.
St. Mary's Church
Ukrainian Church
White Rabbit Club
Whiteley Elementary
Willow Creek Church

Strategic Plan Highlights

Bilingual Staff



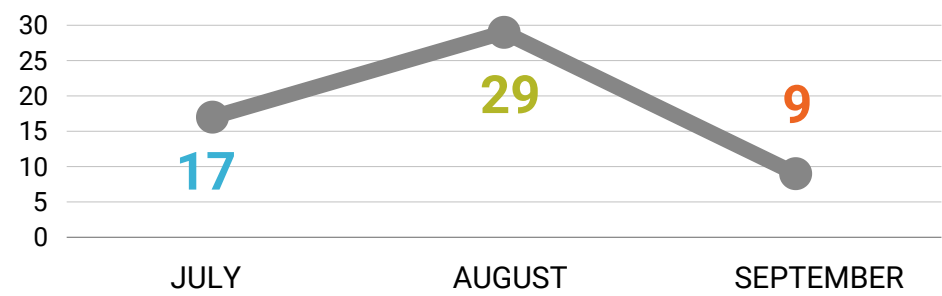
LANGUAGES SPOKEN

Cantonese
Hindi
Italian
Japanese
Polish
Spanish
Ukrainian

Goal #1
Bilingual Compensation

Goal #2
Workshop Classes at
Branches

of Classes



Craft Program Attendance

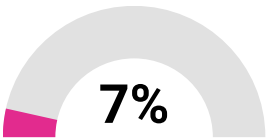
JULY
29

AUG
20

SEPT
64

Goal #3
Workshop Craft Programs

Goal #4
Capitol Needs Plan
Projects



OF BUDGET SPENT

Branch Programming



Outreach

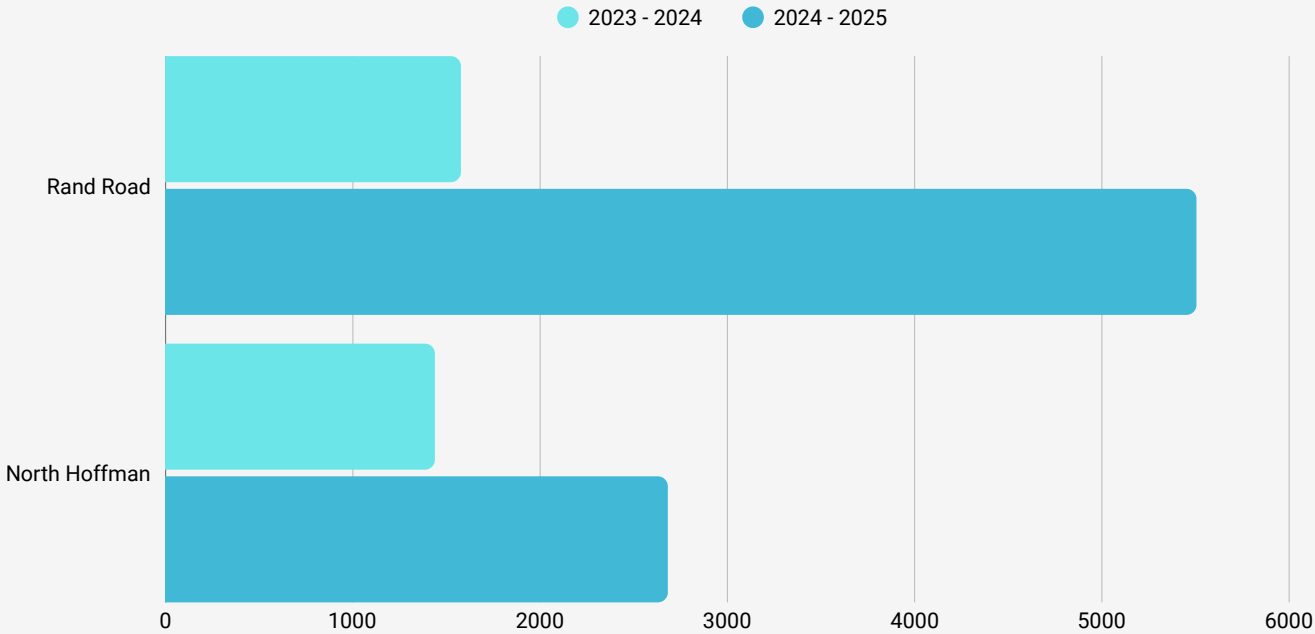


Passive Programs

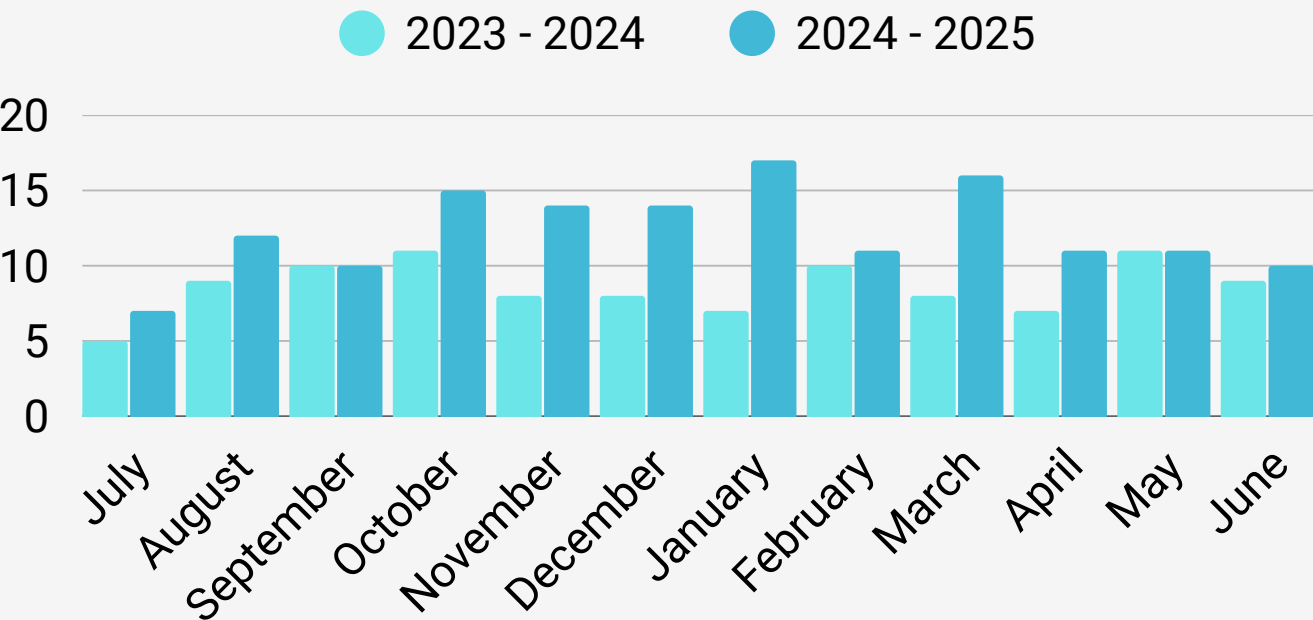


Workshop Programs

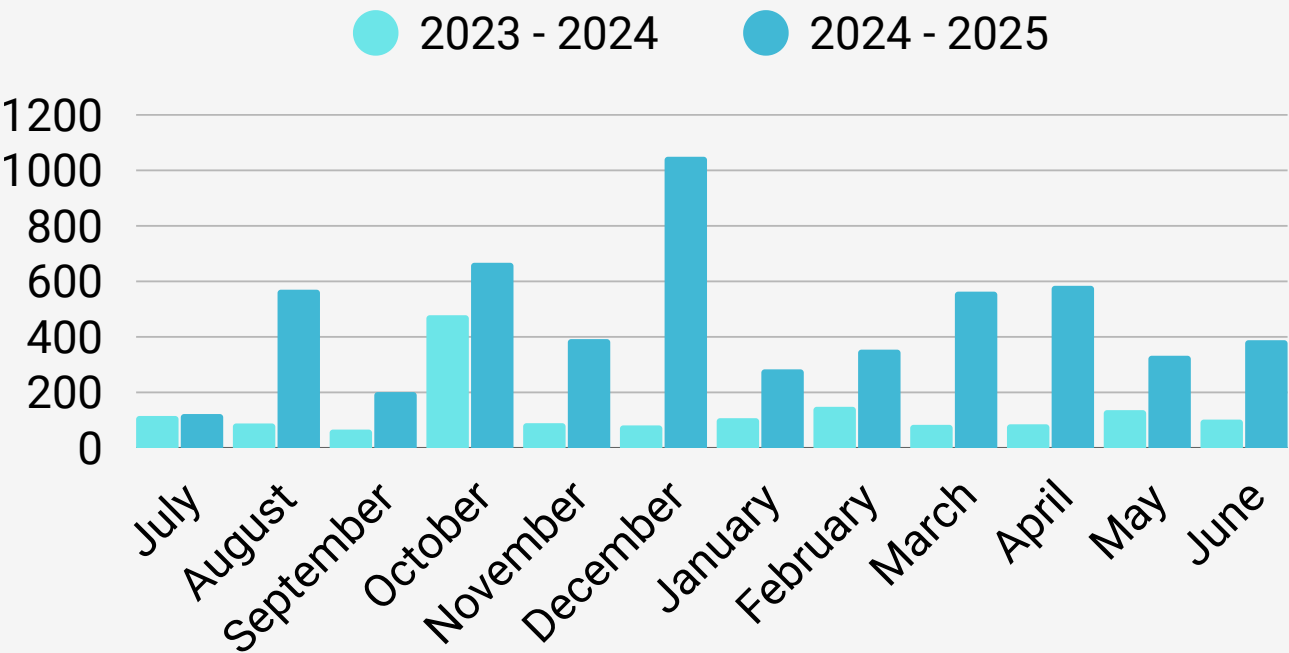
Total Attendance



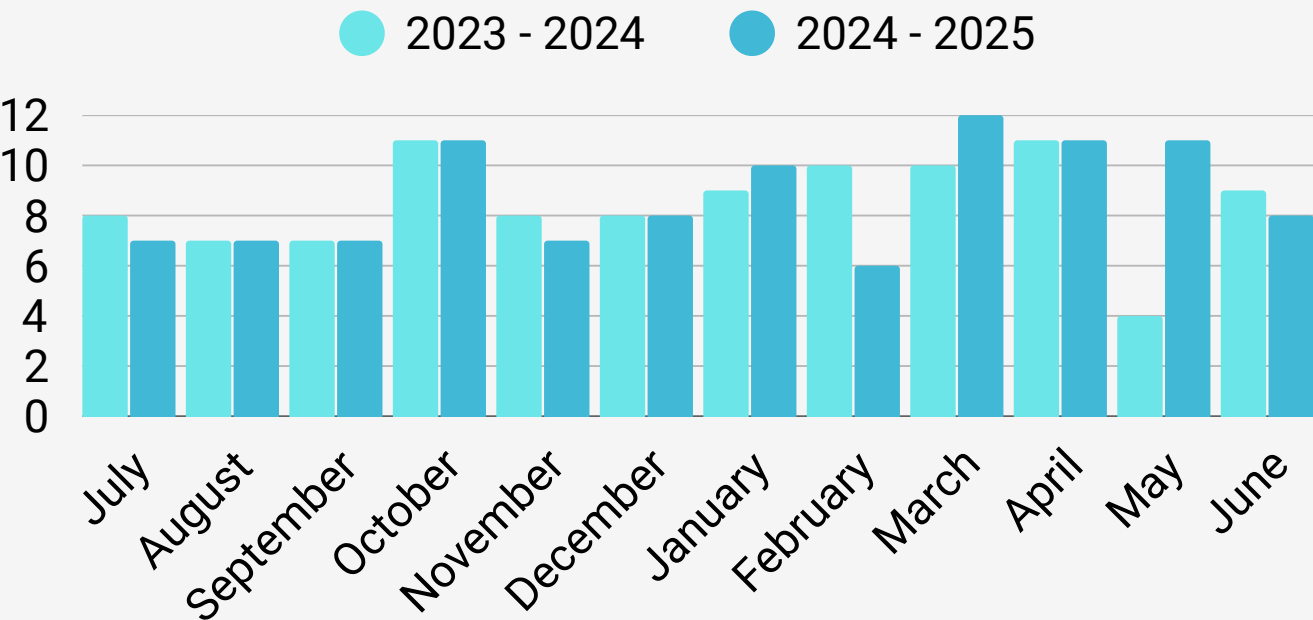
Number of Programs



Program Attendance



Number of Programs



Program Attendance

