

# Library Recap FY 2024

STATISTIC HIGHLIGHTS	FY24	FY23	
Visitors	81,674	69,478	18% increase
New Memberships	1,267	1,174	
Renewed Memberships	1,918	1,743	
Active Members	4,661		
Non-Resident Membership	67%	67%	
Materials Lent	141,496	117,717	20% increase
Physical Items	123,488		
eBooks & eAudiobooks	17,719		
Hotspots	289		
Information Transactions	22,538	19,756	14% increase
In-House Computer Sessions	8,606	7,958	8% increase
Wi-Fi Sessions	18,640	20,482	
Programs and Events	512	282	81% increase
Program and Event Attendance	*13,205	7,750	
Program Partners	13	12	
Volunteer Hours	3,687	3,040	21% increase

\*This increase is impressive and can be attributed to additional staff participating in a couple large outreach events, two big solar eclipse programs, increased partnership programs, and a program packed summer.

## FY2024 SUCCESSES:

1. Filled four positions with energetic customer service driven individuals to end the year fully staffed!
  - Positions filled this year: Youth Services Librarian, Children’s Services Associate, Public Services Associate, Public Services Lead
2. Expanded the number and types of programs offered.
  - Started a Seed Library where anyone can receive or donate seeds. Seeds such as vegetables, herbs, and flowering plants are available.
  - Initiated two Bilingual programs this summer, Bilingual Storytime and Platica con Cafecito. Both programs have met the goals to connect Spanish speaking families in a way that fosters friendships and promotes early literacy.
  - Increased adult programming through partnerships. Program categories included: Financial Literacy, Meditation, Sewing, Gardening, History, and author events.

- Presented a full calendar of summer programming. Summer programming included 145 activities with over 3,000 attendees. Highlights were the Monday Adventures with games and crafts, the Lost in the Woods Escape Room, Kids Sewing, gardening programs, and a History Talk celebrating the Harriet Tubman statue “The Journey to Freedom.” During June and July participants read 1,731,052 minutes and received 1,587 prize books.
- 3. Began opening at 12:00pm on Tuesday and Thursday in January and increased hours during June, July, and August by opening at 10:00am each day. This provided greater access for families during the summer.
- 4. Completed internal procedures project, reviewed User Responsibility & Conduct Policy, created Public Services Policy, and instituted patron retrieval of reserved materials.
- 5. Administered a Texas Book Festival Grant to replace and update our 1<sup>st</sup> Reader Collection. More than 100 books were purchased with this grant.
- 6. Awarded a University of North Texas History Digitization grant to have historical documents digitized and saved to the Portal of Texas History.

#### **BARRIERS TO SUCCESS:**

1. Staffing:
  - Although we finished the year fully staffed, most of the year the library struggled with a staffing deficit. Even with full staff, if two employees are out, it is a challenge to provide assistance at both service desks.
  - The library would benefit from participating in more community outreach events. This year, because of staffing, we were limited to what events we could attend. This will probably not change much since we have increased the in-house programming we provide. Currently all staff are involved in presenting or facilitating programs.
2. Space:
  - Our meeting room use has increased this year, and it is sometimes difficult to provide space for community partner programs.
  - Our three small study booths get a considerable amount of use. There are frequent requests for a 3- or 4-person meeting space. We do not have this type of space, and it would require either renovations or considerable funds to reconfigure our space to provide this.
3. Hours of access:
  - This is not a new concern but an ongoing request from the public. Opening later Tuesday and Thursday causes considerable confusion and creates issues when groups use our meeting room before the library is open. We received much public appreciation during the summer when the library opened every day at 10:00am.