

AUSTIN  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



# Director's Report

November 2024

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# HIGHLIGHTS

## **APL Hosts Netherlands & Dutch Caribbean**

APL hosted an International Study Visit for 24 library professionals from the Netherlands and Dutch Caribbean. The four-day event featured collaborative roundtables, in-depth discussions with APL's Executive Leadership Team, and presentations on community engagement, school partnerships, and outreach strategies led by Jennifer Peters, Laura Tadena, Jenny Stirrat, and Melissa Sanchez. The group visited library locations, including the Central Library, St. John Branch, Windsor Park Branch, Terrazas Branch, Austin History Center, and African American Cultural and Heritage Facility. The group also had the opportunity to tour Austin City Hall and view the People's Gallery. The event concluded with a reflection session, which helped to foster cross-cultural insight and innovative approaches to library services.

## **Nature Smart Libraries**

### *New Project! Pollinator Garden at Ruiz and Cepeda Branch Libraries*

Austin Public Library is in the planning and design stage of installing pollinator gardens at both Ruiz and Cepeda. The gardens will serve as a resource for educating the community about the importance of pollinators and connecting people with nature

### *APL and Roots and Wings!*

APL is participating in the Roots and Wings Festival and is offering a variety of programs that highlight nature, creativity, and environmental stewardship. One highlight is the Urban Forest Explorers Nature Play Kit, which was made possible by a Roots and Wings grant. The kits will circulate with PARD's Loose Parts Kit and will also be available in the youth areas of Cepeda, Ruiz, and Twin Oak Branch Libraries throughout the festival.

### *APL Branch and Librarian Spotlight - Kayla De La Portilla @ Terrazas Branch*

Terrazas recently completed its renovation and the children's area now includes elements of nature play in the space. Kayla De La Portilla, Youth Librarian, has helped transform the area by introducing engaging, hands-on activities that connect children with the natural world.

## **African American Cultural and Heritage Facility (AACHF)**

The AACHF recently played host to the City of Austin's Equity Office for their "Equity 101" workshop, a pivotal event aimed at fostering, understanding and promoting inclusivity within the community. This workshop provided participants with

foundational knowledge on equity principles, highlighting the importance of addressing systemic inequalities and empowering marginalized voices. Attendees engaged in meaningful discussions and activities designed to challenge biases and promote equitable practices across various sectors. The collaboration between the facility and the Equity Office underscores Austin's commitment to creating a more just and inclusive society, celebrating the rich cultural tapestry of its diverse communities while striving for progress and understanding.

### Special Events

In October 2024, Central Library Special Events hosted a total of 17 events, including 14 rentals, 3 co-sponsorships, and 1 film/photography request (film/photo not included in event total), with a total estimated attendance of 2,523.

Co-sponsorship partners include:

- City Manager's Office – Frontline Focus 10/1/2024 (and associated Focus Group Meeting 10/4)
- Texas Library Association District 3 – Fall Meeting 10/22/2024
- The SAFE Alliance – Foster & Adopt in Austin Costume Party 10/27/2024

COA Department events include:

- City Manager's Office – Frontline Focus 10/1/2024 (and associated Focus Group Meeting 10/4)



## Carver and Yarborough

### Bid Phase

**Updates:** Carver: TBD Carver will go in-house to be bid out by Austin Public Library facilities (heating, ventilation, air conditioning, solar panels, decking repair, and roof overlay). This project will likely be a complete tear off the existing modified Bitumen roofing system Spring/ Summer Implementation

Yarborough: The Yarborough reroof project started on 9/9/24 and completed on 9/25. 20-year warranty has been issued. New roof top air conditioning units will be installed over 3 weekends in Nov/Dec. Actual dates are TBD.

**Next Milestone:** Heating and air conditioning replacement lead time Nov/Dec

**Expected Start/End:** Reroof Complete HVAC: Nov/Dec

**Actual Start:** Dec 1

## Old Quarry, Willie Mae Kirk, & St. John

### Construction and Design Phase

**Updates:** Old Quarry has completed Phase II abatement and electrical demolition. Plan sets are in process for both branches for mechanical, electrical, plumbing, structural, civil and architectural plans. Discussion surrounding the delayed opening of the branch are currently underway. Willie Mae Kirk was had additional testing done by TRC. Remediation scope and schedule are pending.

**Next Milestone:** Old Quarry: Electrical service and panel upgrade, HVAC commissioning and controls installation. Willie Mae Kirk: remediation schedule early Dec. Finalize floor plan and finishes for Willie Mae. Shelving requirements to be reviewed w/Willie Mae branch manager. Update all schedules to accommodate overlapping work at both sites.

Set meeting to review plans, furniture and upholstery for St John in December.

**Expected Start:** July 15, 2024.

**Actual Start:** 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025

## Faulk Building and History Center

### 95% Construction Phase

**Updates:** Faulk building final building inspections upcoming after minor items completed for code compliance. Final punch walk items remain at the History Center.

**Next Milestone:** Final Completion anticipated in November 2024; 99% Construction Phase

**Expected End:** 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2024

**Actual Start:** Nov. 4, 2022

## Little Walnut and Menchaca

### Design Proposal Phase

**Updates:** APL has commented on 60% Design Development drawings. APL will remove roof work from the scope of both branches. The roof scope has been accepted for Menchaca. The lead time for replacement in 6-8 weeks. Any additional landscape architecture work will be contracted thru a consultant from the master rotation list. Furniture plans to be completed by 1/01/2025.

**Next Milestone:** Completion of Design Development by 1/1. Construction Documents expected by 2/01/2025.

**Expected Start:** 07/01/2025

**Actual Start:** TBD

## Hampton Parking Lot Extension

### Construction Document Phase

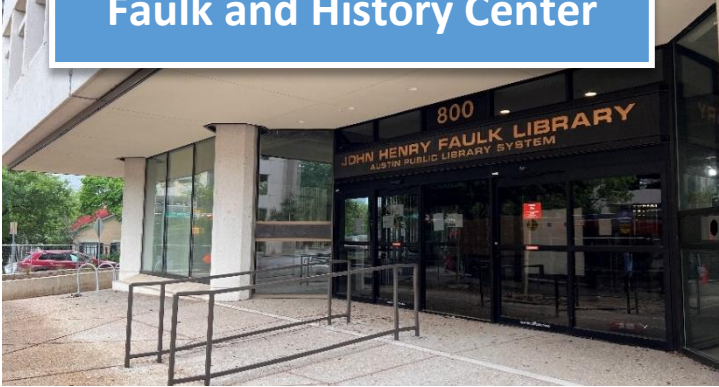
**Updates:** Quality Management division review completed for 60% construction Drawings.

**Next Milestone:** 90% Construction Drawings and review. Timeline has been updated by Public Works Project Manager.

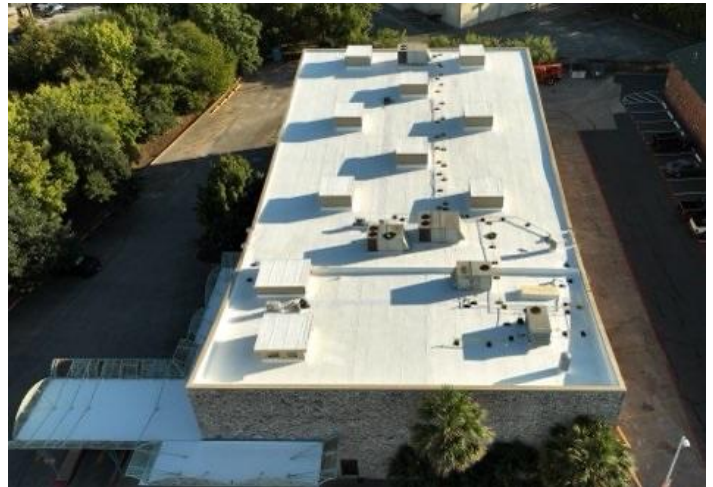
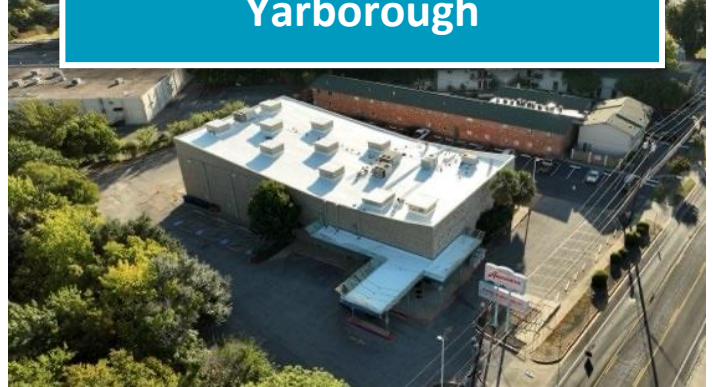
**Expected Start/End:** Fall 2024- Winter 2025

**Actual Start:** November/December 2024

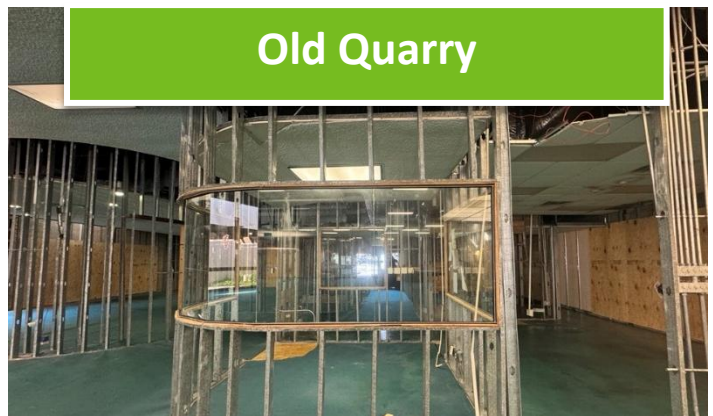
## Faulk and History Center



## Yarborough



## Old Quarry



## Willie Mae Kirk



# APL Data & Numbers

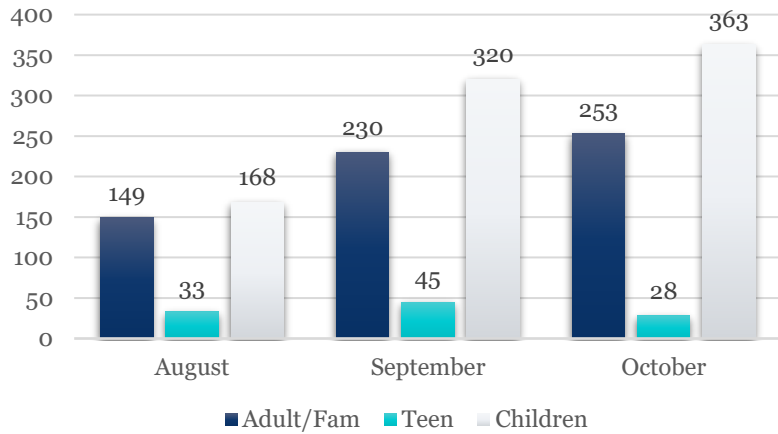
(As of October 31, 2024)

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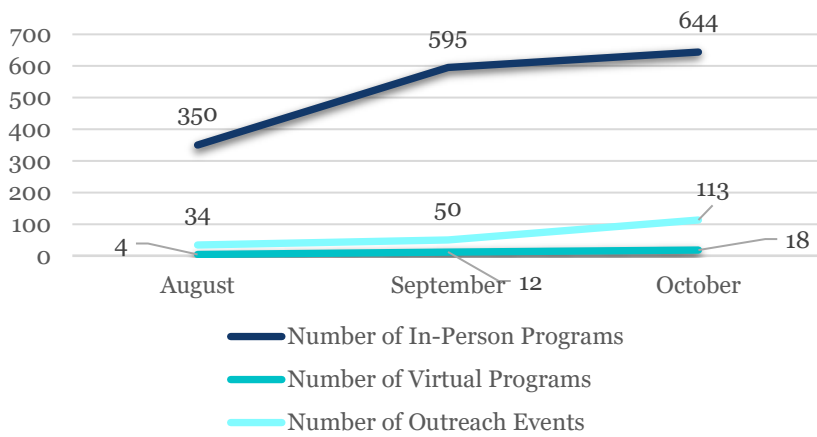
# PROGRAMS



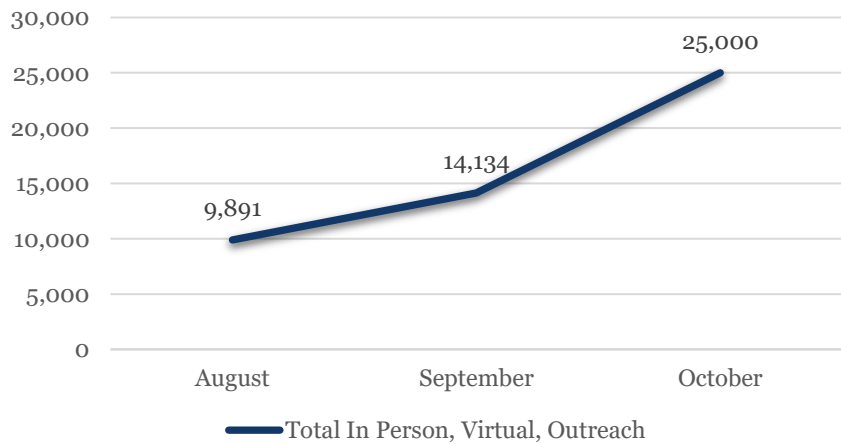
## Programs by Audience



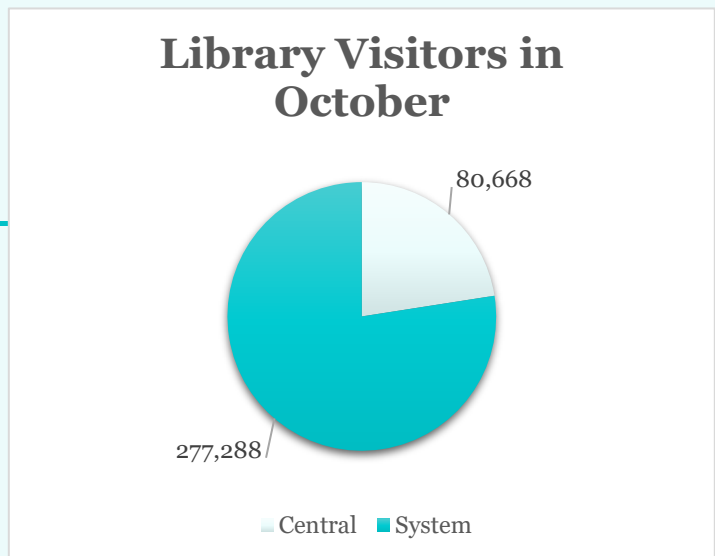
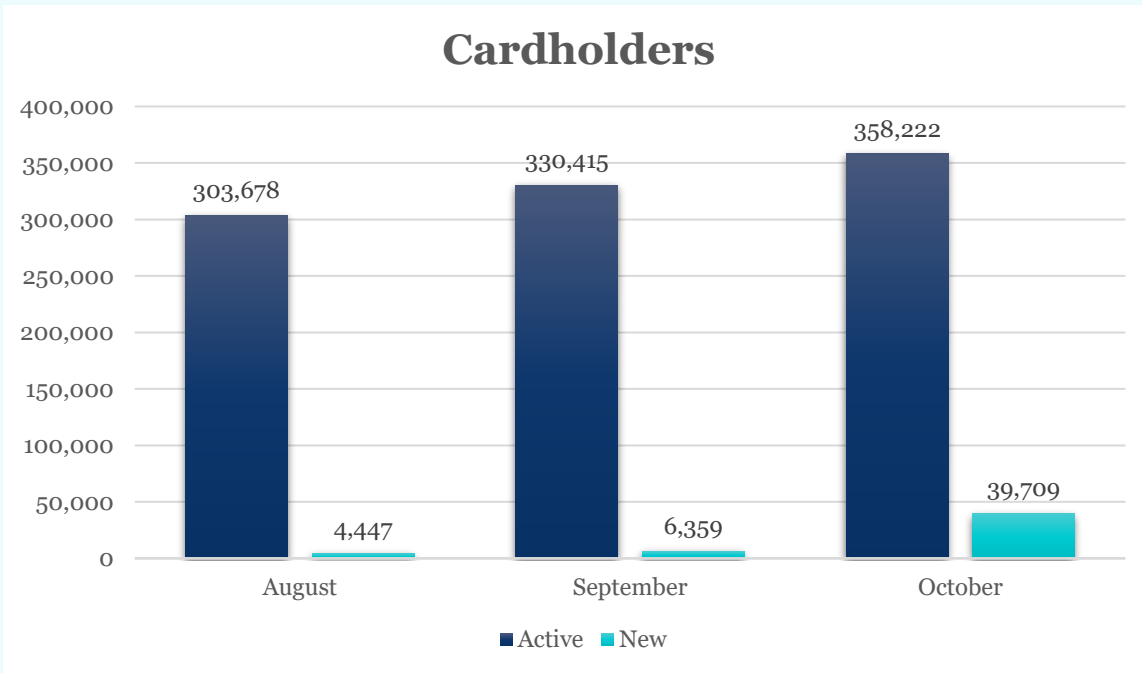
## Programs In-Person, Virtual, Outreach



## All Programs Attendance

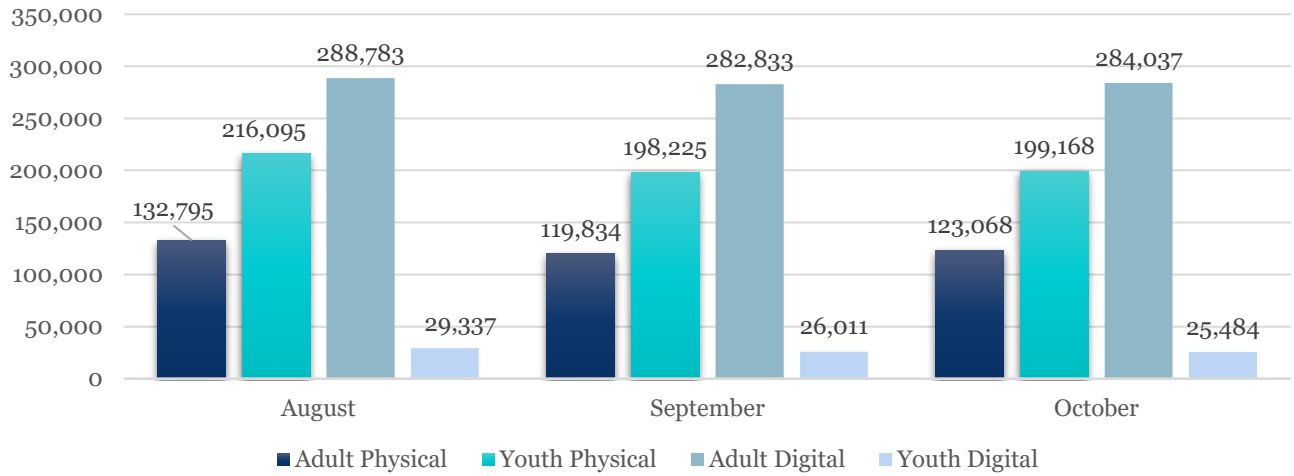


# CARDHOLDERS & VISITORS

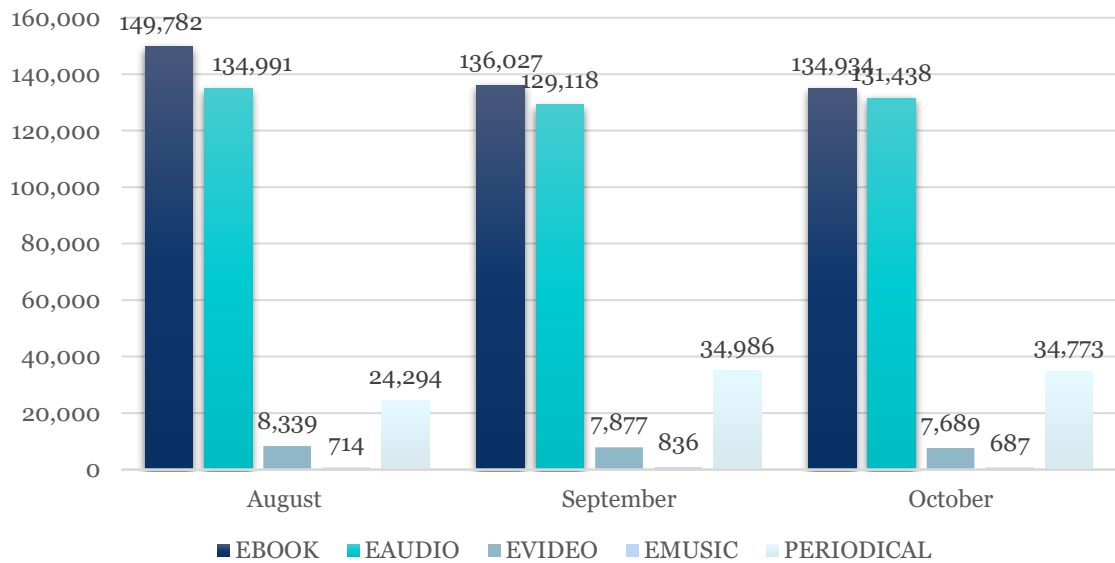


# CIRCULATION

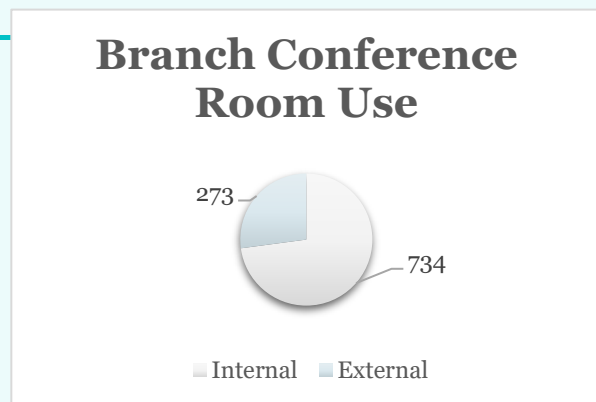
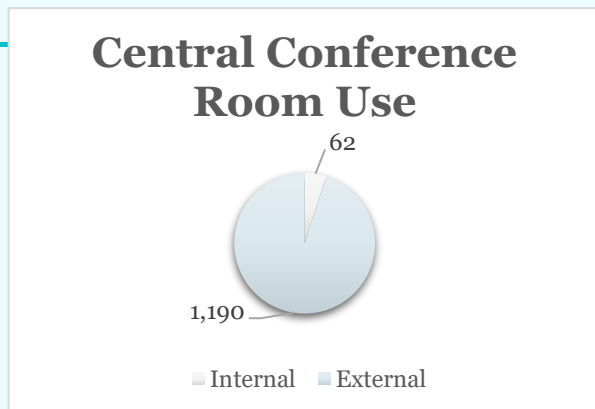
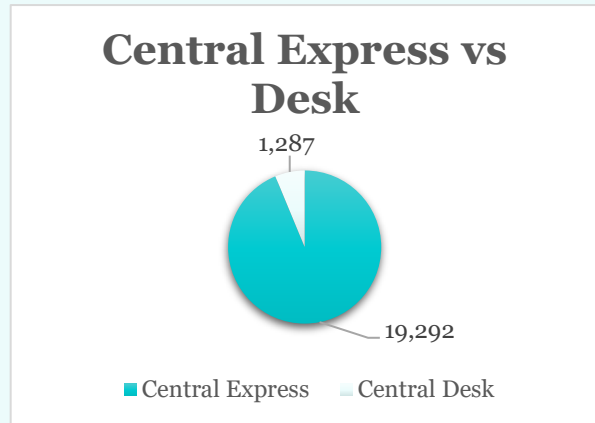
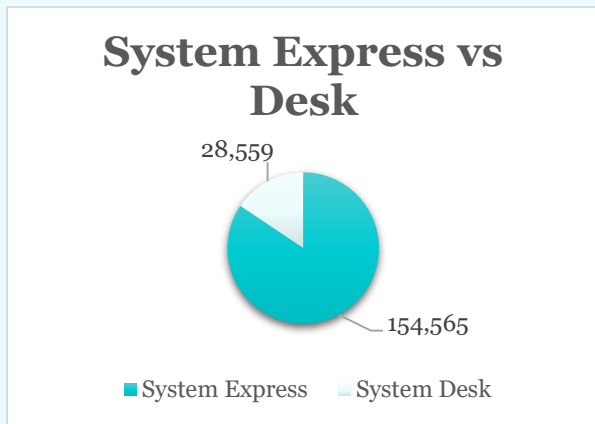
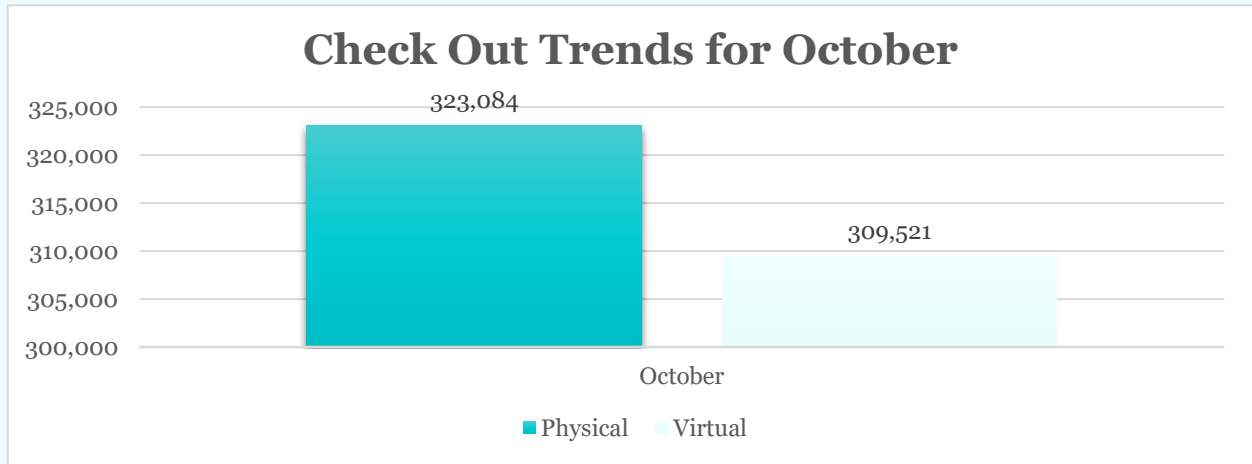
## Circulation Audience



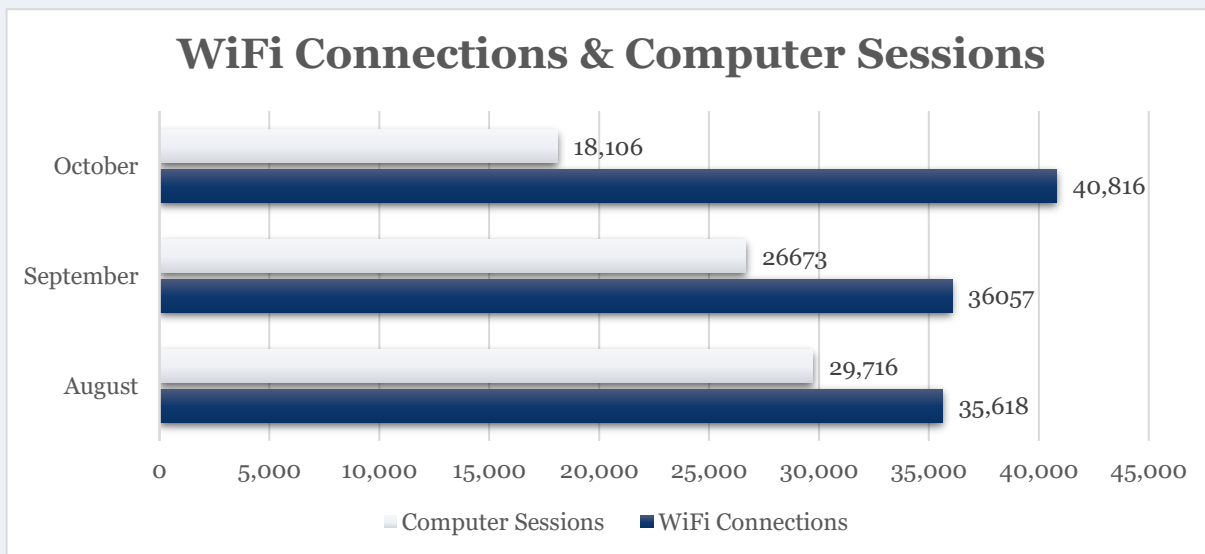
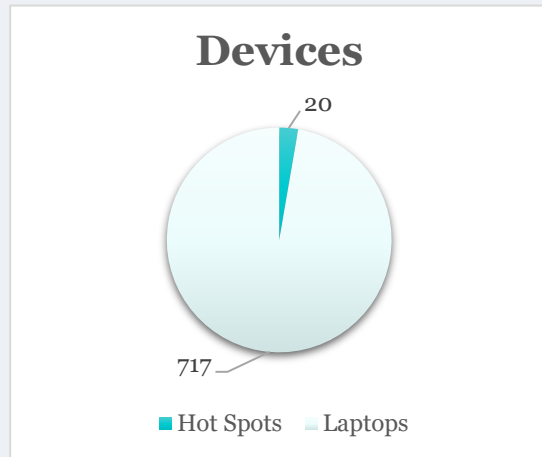
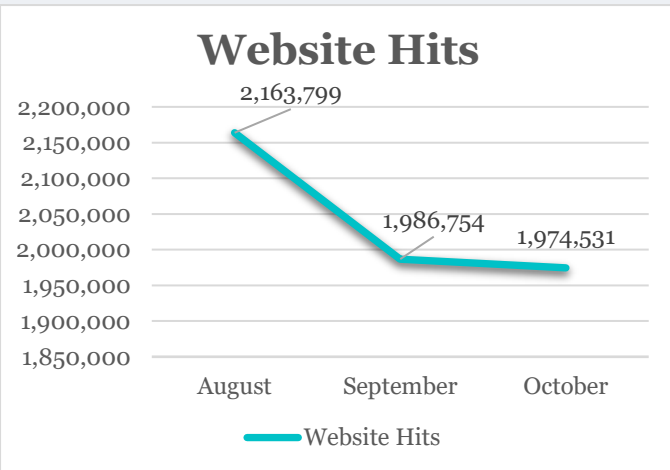
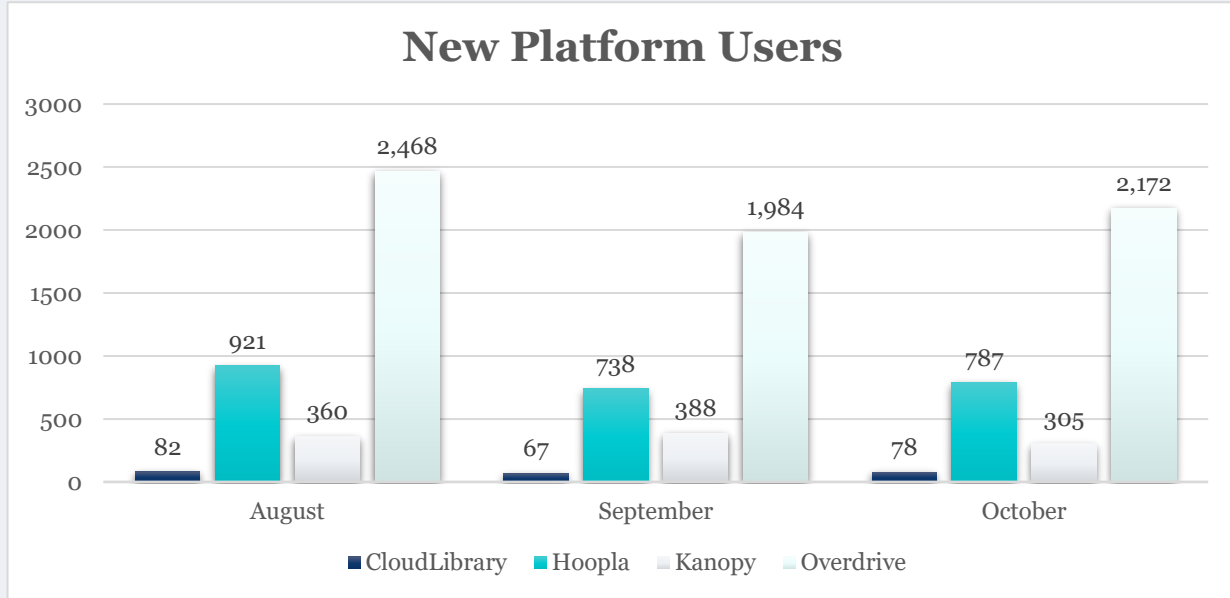
## Digital Circulation



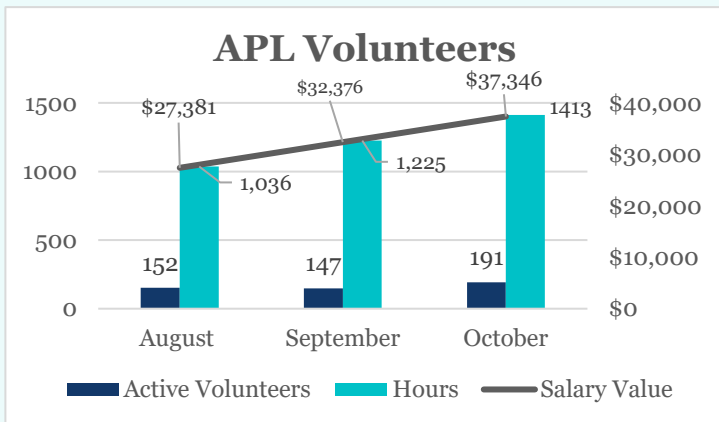
# CHECK OUTS & CONFERENCE ROOMS



# PLATFORMS & TECH



# VOLUNTEERS



# BUDGET & EXPENDITURES

APL Finance	Fiscal Year 2025 (10/1/2024 - 09/30/2025)
Total Budget	\$ 76,501,074
Materials Budget	\$ 7,208,572
FTEs	464.55
Year to Date (General Fund) Expenditures, as of 10/31/24	\$ 11,483,641
Year to Date Revenues, as of 10/31/24	
Non-Resident Library Card Fee	\$ 12,057
Passport Services	\$ 32,497
Parking	\$ 44,357
Gift Shop	\$ 29,457
Facility Rentals	\$ 19,387
Donations, including Recycled Reads	\$ 18,907