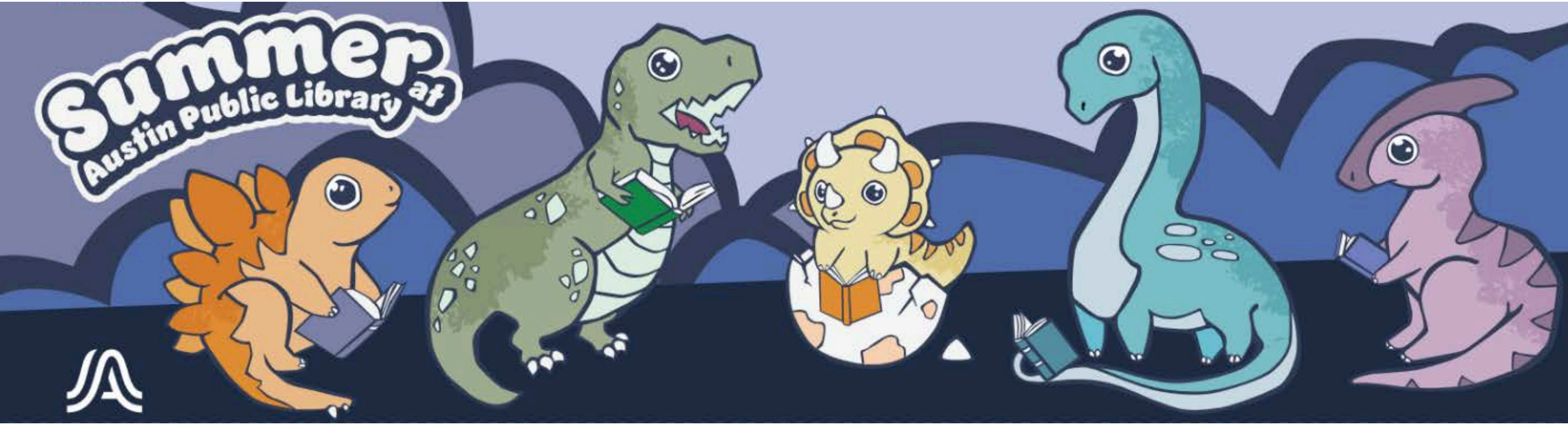
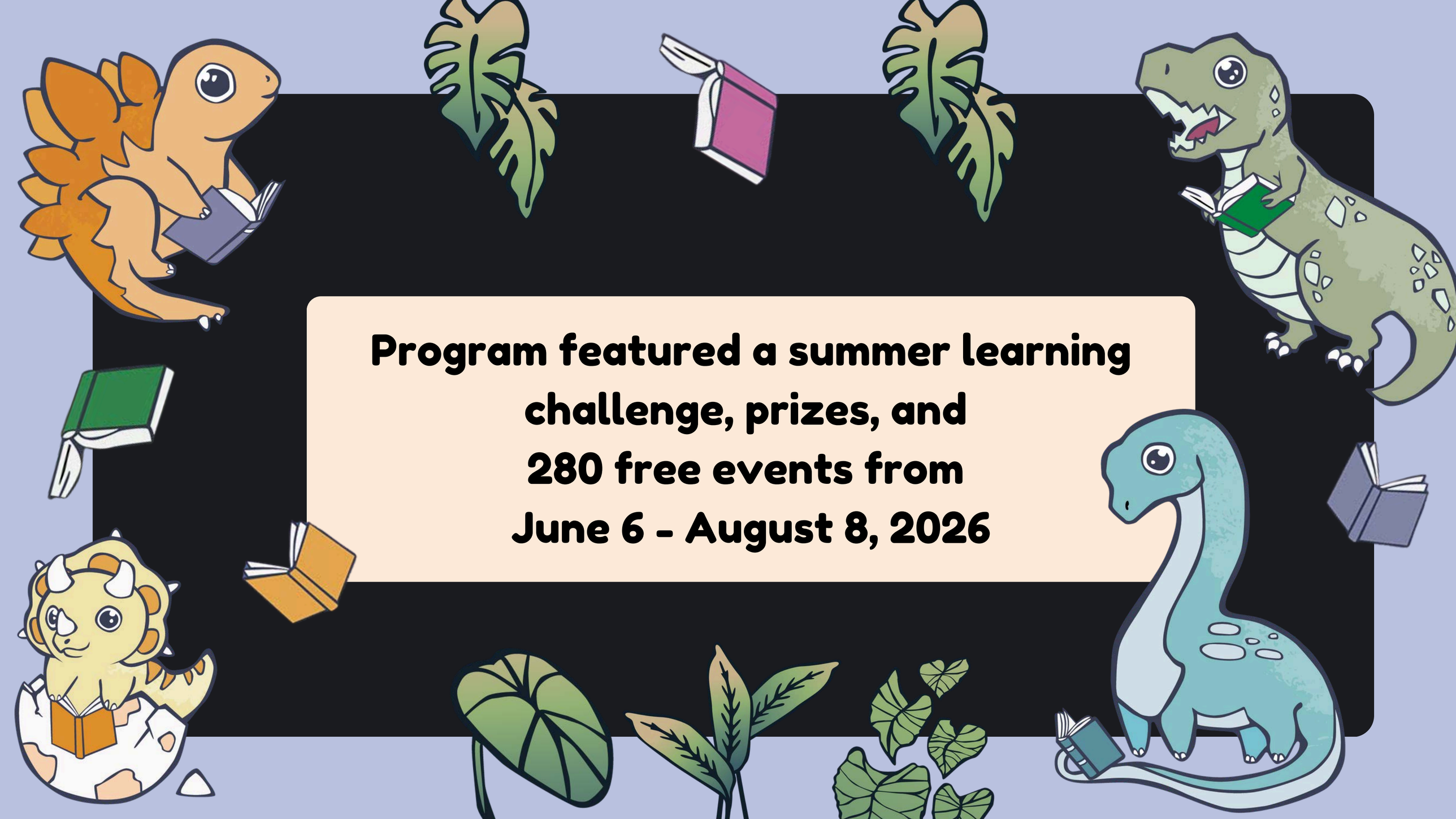


UNEARTH A STORY™

Austin Public Library

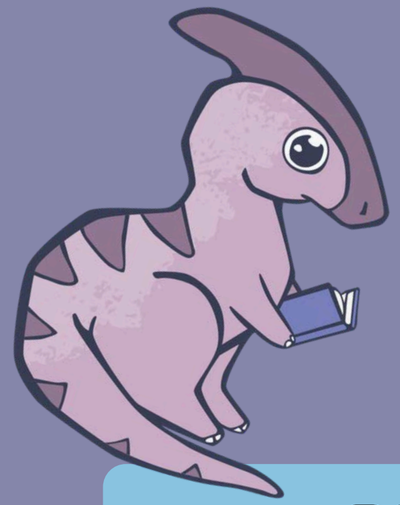
Alanna Graves
Librarian III: Summer Experience Coordinator

alanna.graves@austintexas.gov | 512-974-7311


Program featured a summer learning
challenge, prizes, and
280 free events from
June 6 - August 8, 2026

Summer Reading & Badge Challenge





THIS SUMMER, WE CHALLENGED YOU TO READ, LEARN, AND EARN FREE PRIZES

READ



600
Minutes

COMPLETE



Learning
Badges

EARN



Free
Prizes

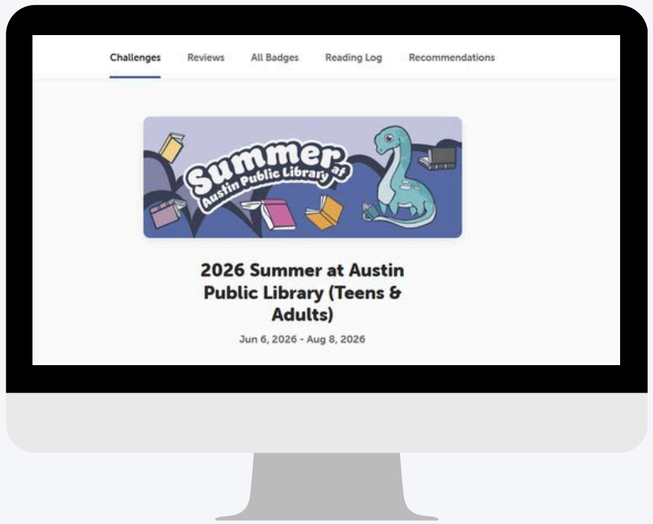


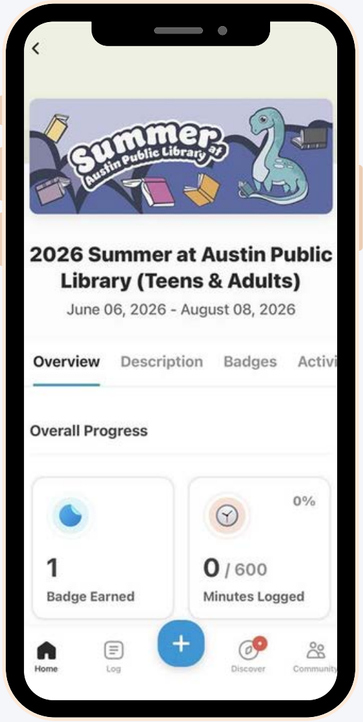




HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Online





beanstack

Paper Logs









Available at APL Locations

FREE PRIZES!
FREE PRIZES!
FREE PRIZES!



Youth earn a free book of their choosing!

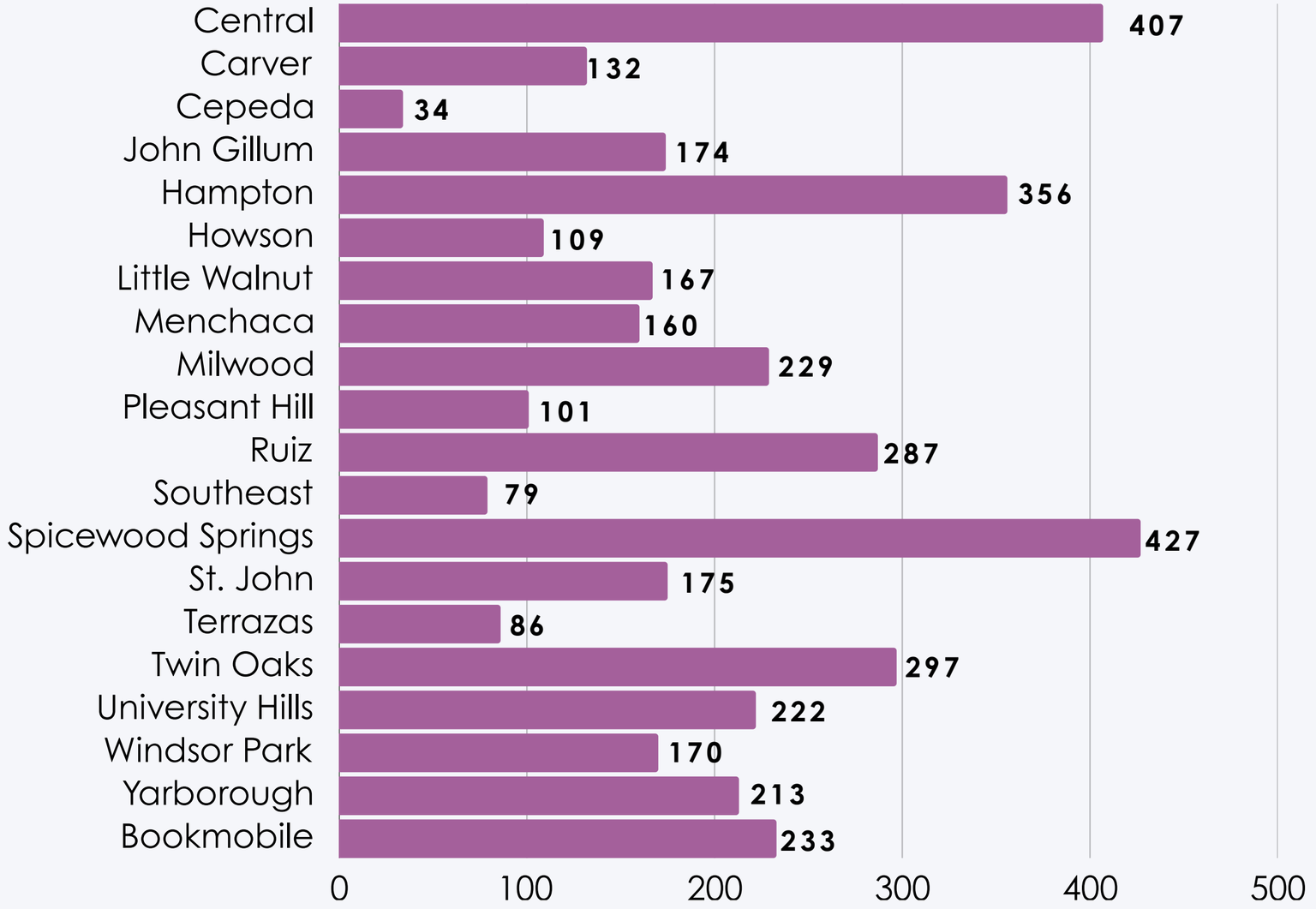


Adults earn an APL thermal mug!

2023-2026 System-wide Comparison:

	2023	2024	2025	2026	% difference 2025-2026
Minutes Logged	2,157,070	3,383,106	4,226,202	4,128,315	-2% decrease
Readers Enrolled	4,256	6,265	7,390	5,262	-29% decrease
Prizes Distributed	2,763	4,145	4,872	4,083	-16% decrease

2026 Prize Redeemed Totals by Location*:

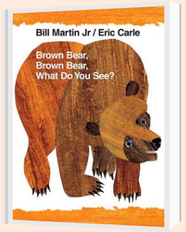


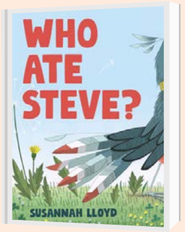
***Old Quarry & Willie Mae Kirk closed for renovations**

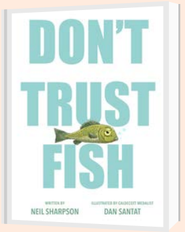
Top Titles Logged & Book Reviews Snapshot

229 book reviews were submitted

Babies & Toddlers







Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin
Who Ate Steve? by Sussanah Lloyd
Don't Trust Fish by Neil Sharpson

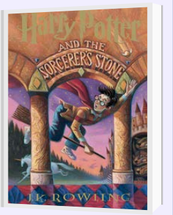


"I liked it but it was sad."
- Age 4

Kids & Tweens







Gabby Torres Gets a Billion Followers by Angela Dominguez
Saved by the Smell by Jarrett Lerner
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling

"I really like this book because it has a superhero topic it's about a boy who doesn't have friends then he does because of his whole story" - Age 9



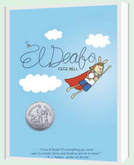
Teens





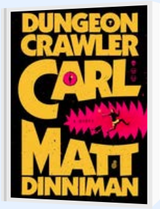


***Sunrise* on the Reaping** by Suzanne Collins
Demon Slayer by Koyoharu Gotōge
The Chalice of the Gods by Rick Riordan



"I give this book 5 out of five stars! This is the first graphic novel I've ever read. I think it is cool because it is about someone who is deaf in the 1970s. It was fun reading about someone with a disability other than my own." - Age 17

Adults







Dungeon Crawler Carl by Matt Dinniman
Yesteryear by Caro Claire Burke
The Calamity Club by Kathryn Sockett

"Absolutely amazing. I wish there was more books than just the single one.
-Adult Customer



Activity Badge Snapshot

3,476 RESPONSES SUBMITTED



"*The Star People* by SD Nelson. Mom saw it on the shelf and we read it together at the library. It was serendipity - my Grammie just passed away... A beautiful cultural and human story that came to us at the perfect time..."

-ATO Customer, age 6



"I attended the centennial event and learned facts about the 1920s and about typewriters"

-ASR Customer, age 29



"I created a comic that is 50 pages long about my everyday life and some fantasy mixed in. It is called "the starry night" and one of my dreams is to publish a book or novel."

-AOK Customer, age 12

2027 GOALS:

- Seek external funding for prize books, with focus on graphic novels
- Community Reading Goal: 4,500,000 minutes

QUESTIONS?

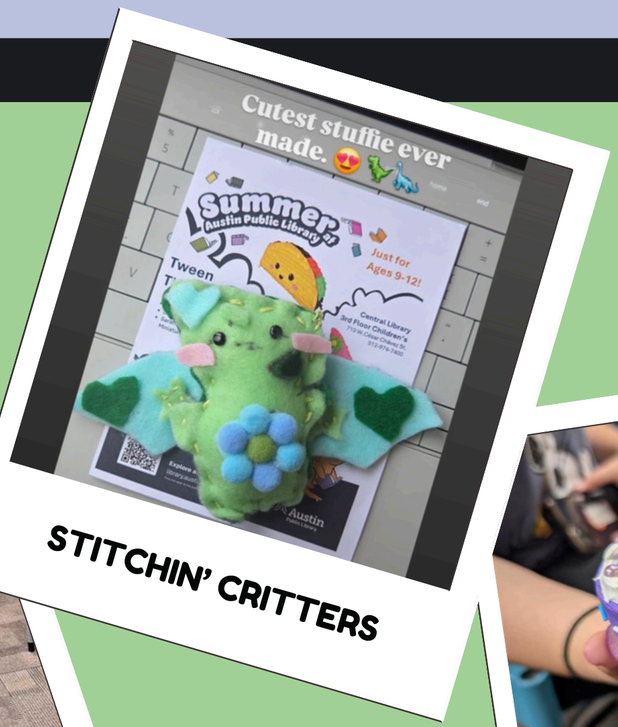

280 SUMMER EVENTS

2023-2026 System-wide Comparison:

	2023	2024	2025	2026	% difference between 2025-2026
Total Events	297	327	354	280	-20.9% in program offerings
Total Attendance	10,481	12,244	17,366	16,040	-7.6% in attendance



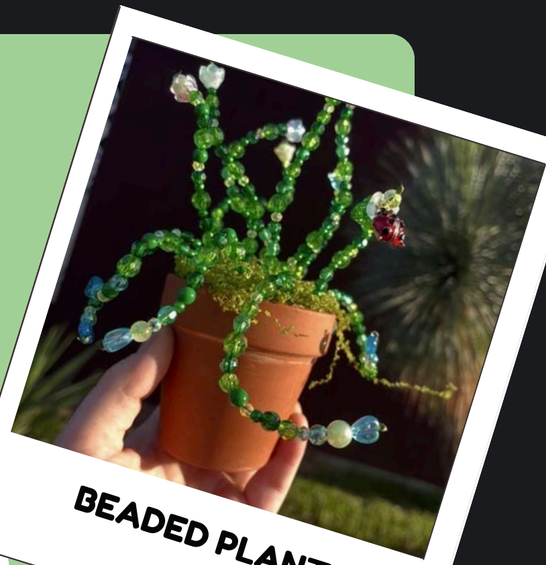
PREHISTORIC HABITATS



STITCHIN' CRITTERS



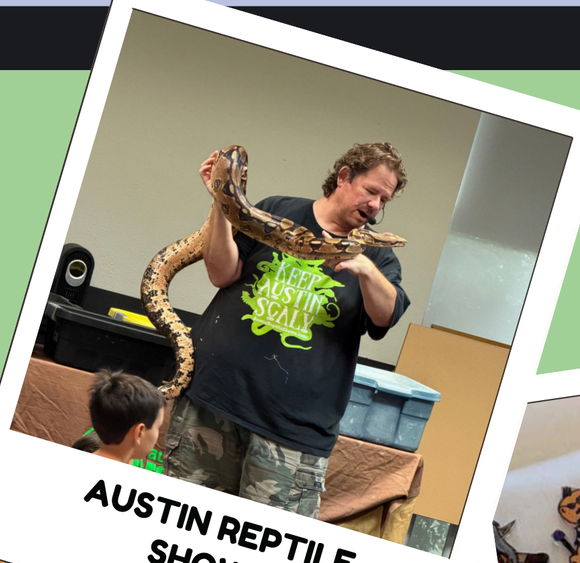
DECODEN DESSERT BOXES



BEADED PLANTS



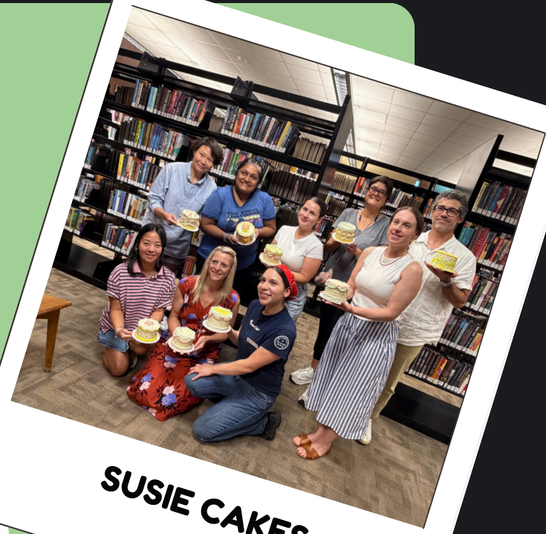
BK BONES



AUSTIN REPTILE SHOWS



DUNGEON & DRAGONS MINIS WITH SARAH DOAN



SUSIE CAKES

2027 GOALS:

- Expand partnerships with community organizations
- Increase attendance and event offerings back to 300



QUESTIONS?

Coming Summer 2027...

