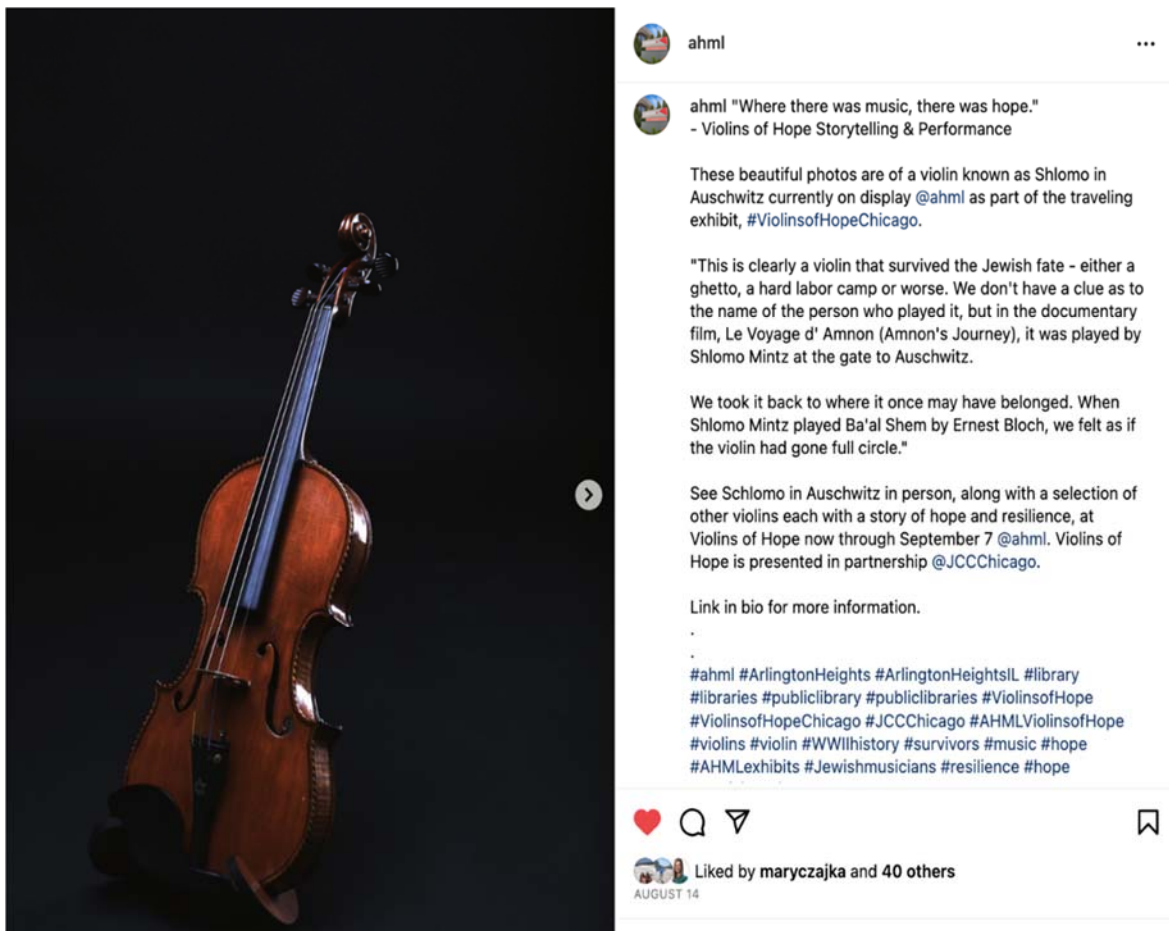


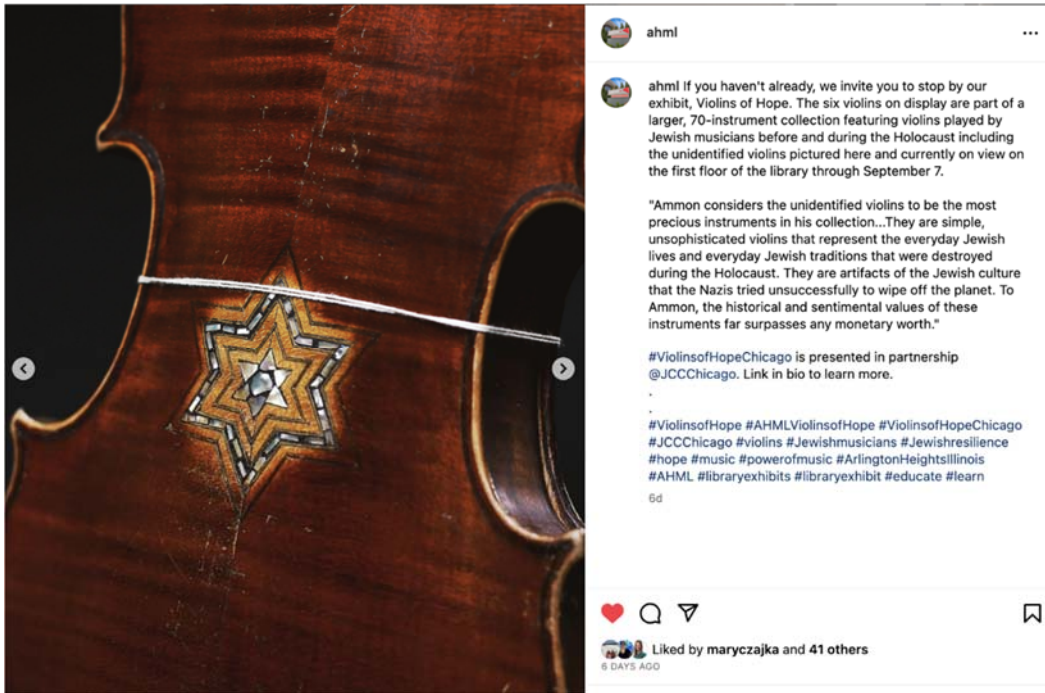
Executive Director's Report September 2023

Outreach and Community Engagement

Violins of Hope Exhibit

Arlington Heights Memorial Library in partnership with Jewish Community Center of Chicago (JCC), has been entrusted with six historic violins played before, during and after the holocaust. The Violins of Hope exhibit officially opened on Monday, August 7 and was accompanied by several companion programs. Throughout the month, the community has been introduced to the six violins and their histories at the library and on social media, via Instagram and Facebook. These recent posts curated by the Communications and Marketing team are bringing the exhibit to viewers beyond the library walls:





On August 13, the library welcomed a standing room crowd to the Hendrickson Room for the **Violins of Hope Storytelling and Performance**. Registration for the event filled weeks before the performance date and was truly the centerpiece event, bringing the Violins of Hope exhibit to life. The 214 attendees were treated to performances by violinists Aviva Chertok and Linda Veleckis Nussbaum. Aviva and Linda selected pieces that beautifully showcased the resilience of not only the violins themselves, but the community the violins represent. Storyteller Doris Lazarus, representing JCC Chicago, told the stories of each violin in an exciting, sentimental, and respectful way and provided a very active Q&A along with Hillary Wenk also of the JCC. Local reporter Eileen Daday attended and beautifully covered the event for Suburb Talk.

On August 11, Pastor Chris Edmonds brought **Footsteps of My Father** -- the heroic story of his father, Master Sgt Roddie Edmonds. Presented live in the Hendrickson Room, this event engaged multiple Violins of Hope partner libraries via Zoom. Twenty-five live attendees were enraptured by the heroics of the Master Sgt as they learned how he saved multiple Jewish lives while being a POW during WWII.

Sunday Musicale at North School Park: Brother Tim

On August 20, Arlington Heights own Brother Tim performed a strong 90+ minute set of more contemporary classic rock, including a surprising and excellent rendition of David Bowie's "Ashes to Ashes," an impressive performance of REM's "It's the End of the World As We Know It", and Blondie's "One Way or Another". Programs and Exhibits hosts, Jay Semla and Neal Parker were happy to welcome 89 attendees to North School Park for the performance on such a hot Sunday. Music lovers settled into the shade, brought hydration, and stayed for the whole show. "Great band and nice park with shade" really summarized the success of this late summer show.



National Night Out

Staff had the pleasure of engaging with 687 individuals at a lively National Night Out event in Arlington Heights. Attendees had the opportunity to pick up delightful crafts, enjoy exciting giveaways, participate in engaging games, borrow books, and even witness the enchanting presence of real-life gigantic caterpillars. This event serves as one of the annual highlights, drawing a significant turnout from residents, fostering enjoyment and enhancing their knowledge of Arlington Heights.



Heritage Fest

Presented in partnership with the Arlington Heights Park District, the Arlington Heights Historical Museum and the Village of Arlington Heights, this second annual community event held on the museum grounds showcased more than 15 different cultures through interactive tables and performances. Library staff and volunteers represented many



cultures including Sweden, India, Japan, Uzbekistan and the United States. Performances included Barefoot Hawaiian, Ayodele Drum and Dance, Hogan Irish Dance, and Grupo Folorico Quetzal. Northside Kung Fu, who has presented Kung Fu workshops for the library, also joined in the festivities by offering Kung Fu classes. Graphics staff created a beautiful passport for the event, which guided attendees through the event's activities, where they would present the passport at each table to receive a sticker. When attendees collected all the stickers, they received a prize. The event was attended by 550 people and received fantastic feedback. We look forward to continuing our efforts to foster cultural appreciation and diversity in the community.



Ukrainian Easter Eggs

On August 28, Denise Blazynski of the St. Charles Public Library brought the art and tradition of Ukrainian Easter to Arlington Heights. In her interactive presentation to 48 participants, Denise first shared the history of the Ukrainian Easter Egg and how different regions color the eggs differently. The full process typically takes 4-6 hours to complete, but Denise brought supplies for attendees to draw on eggs with wax in the second half of the event. Participants loved being able to test out their abilities and many would like to learn more about the process.



Kiwanis Backpack Event

Community and Circulation Services and Youth Services had the opportunity to participate in a back-to-school resource fair, complete with backpack giveaways and haircuts, organized by the Kiwanis Club of Arlington Heights and hosted at Faith Lutheran Church. This event serves as a crucial support system for families in Arlington Heights who are facing financial challenges, ensuring that they kick off the new school year on the right foot by providing them with essential resources. Staff assisted families in registering for library cards, introduced them to the library's wide range of services, and delighted them with prizes and back-to-school-related giveaways. In total, staff interacted with an impressive 277 individuals, with a noticeable presence of newcomers and multicultural families in attendance.

Name Change and Gender Marker 101

On August 10, eight people joined Avi, an attorney from the Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois, on Zoom for an informational program on how to change your name and gender marker in Illinois. Avi guided participants in the process and talked about what changes to look for in 2024. The Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois provides

support and advocacy, including free legal services to transgender people throughout Illinois.

Adult Recess

This first-time outdoor event was presented in partnership with Arlington Heights Park District and held Sunday, August 27 at beautiful Pioneer Park. Programs and Exhibits staff curated this “field day” of outdoor games for adults during back-to-school season for a nostalgic twist. They led attendees through classic field day races, spoon and egg races, water balloon tosses and more before playing low-key lawn games with some of the games from the Library of Things. Some lucky participants walked away with gift cards to Kilwins and an enjoyable time was had by all.

Serving Our Community

Teen Film Fest

On Friday, August 18th, the spotlight was on teen filmmakers at the 17th Annual Teen Film Fest! Eleven entries were received, and all films had a chance to shine during the main event. After their film played, each teen filmmaker was invited to come to the stage and receive feedback on their film from a knowledgeable panel of judges. This year we welcomed back Annette Bochenek, film historian and professor, and Shelli Nicole, culture critic, as returning judges. Bruce Janu, filmmaker and Hersey High School librarian rounded out the judging panel as a first-year judge.

Filmmakers competed for ‘Best Acting’, ‘Best Script/Screenwriting’, ‘Best Camerawork/Editing’, ‘Best Special Effects’, ‘Best Overall Film’ and ‘Golden Clapper for Funniest Sound Effect’. Eighty-four attendees were able to voice their opinion by voting for the ‘Audience Favorite’ award.

A special After Party was held in the Hub after hours to celebrate where filmmakers, judges and attendees had a chance to mingle and snack on goodies provided by wonderful Teen Advisory Board volunteers.

Falcon Park Fiesta

Partnering with Mount Prospect Public Library (MPPL), Youth Outreach Specialist Kim McGuire collaborated on developing and delivering an end-of-summer event for families at

Falcon Park, located at Arlington Heights' southern end near MPPL's branch. Kim and MPPL staff engaged 50 participants with activities and a storytime. The event was planned to coincide with the bookmobile stop so the service could be promoted to attendees and parkgoers.

IDES Municipal Job Fair

In August, the library partnered with the Illinois Department of Employment Security to offer a Municipal Job Fair. The job fair had tables from local municipalities, police departments, and other government agencies. There were 98 attendees, 17 employer tables, and 59 job kits distributed.



Inspired by Cooking Night: Chloe Coscarelli

Programs and Exhibits staff hosted 16 people in the Makerplace Kitchen on August 17 for the latest event in the new series of "Inspired By" Cooking Nights. This cooking class invites participants to make and try recipes from a new chef every month. This month, Programs and Exhibits Specialist Emily Muszynski designed the first vegan class in the space with recipes from vegan chef Chloe Coscarelli. With guidance from staff and all supplies provided, each table worked independently to make "parmesan" pita crisps, mushroom-lentil teriyaki sliders, and chocolate frosting for vanilla cupcakes. While not every participant was vegan, many were interested in learning more about vegan food.



Buttermilk Sandwich Bread

Programs and Exhibits staff welcomed Andrea Pracht of My Kitchen Clatter back to the Makerplace Kitchen for two sessions of a buttermilk sandwich bread class on Saturday, August 12. A total of 29 student chefs learned the ins and outs of making fluffy buttermilk bread loafs. Andrea taught them the proper kneading techniques and the science behind bread and yeast. The kitchen smelled delicious as participants made a quick bread to taste in class and made a second dough to bake at home and share with their families.



BINGO Night!

Programs and Exhibits Specialist, Neal Parker, and Info Services Assistant, Keelin Molloy, welcomed 73 enthusiasts for another Friday night of Bingo fun. The competition was fierce, and the winners were excited to receive gift cards from their choice of downtown Arlington Heights businesses. The grand prizes were snapped up immediately --- tickets redeemable for a Makerplace culinary program of the winners' choice. Overall, it was a great night and

participants expressed that they are so happy to have this social event offered for free, with no barrier to entry, via their library.

Dinner and a Movie

Kristyn Slick returned to the Makerplace Kitchen to teach attendees easy snack recipes for movie night. Twenty-eight attendees over two classes made popcorn crunch cookie bark with chocolate, mini pretzels and chocolate chip cookies. While the cookie bark set, they made nachos loaded with cheese, bacon and kettle chips. For the “main course” attendees made meatball slider skewers by putting meatballs, lettuce, tomatoes and pickles on a toothpick like a kabob. Attendees enjoyed this very hands-on class and always enjoy Kristyn’s highly organized class curriculum and handouts.

Watercolor Painting

The Makerplace hosted watercolor artist and teacher Audrey Ra for the first time to the delight of a very excited crowd. Thirty-four attendees learned how to paint watercolor illustrations of fruit and veggies. Audrey customized each workshop so that attendees could pick what fruits and veggies they would like to learn to paint.



Inspired by Art Night

On August 16, Makerplace Advisor Kate Henry and Programs and Exhibits Specialist Emily Muszynski offered an Inspired By Art Night celebrating revered Jewish artist Marc Chagall as a connection to the Violins of Hope exhibit. Together they hosted 21 artists, who used acrylic, glue sticks, permanent markers, and tissue paper to make colorful suncatchers inspired by the stained-glass windows by Marc Chagall. One attendee shared her mini masterpiece of Instagram:



Had an amazing time at the Makerplace "Inspired By" Art Night! This month was Marc Chagall and specifically his stained glass. Thanks Kate and Emily, I had so much fun creating and hanging out! @ahml #stainedglass #inspiredby

Beer Tasting

Programs and Exhibits Specialist, Neal Parker, welcomed Beer on the Wall's Matt Geary back to the Makerplace Kitchen for two summer beer tasting sessions on August 5. Matt started off the weekend afternoon sessions by talking about how our senses affect our approach to beer and then discussed ways and terms that can be used to describe beer. Next, he moved on to the tasting part of the class -- what everyone was waiting for. Matt detailed each beer he selected and while the group tasted, he provided a history of the brewery, beer style and beer history. While this was Matt's third time instructing in the kitchen, it was his first since the TV was added, which really helped bring some of his concepts to life via visual presentation. A total of 31 people attended the two sessions.



Library Service Awards Made at the Makerplace

Makerspace Branch Assistant Manager, Chris Krueger worked with Communications and Marketing staff to design and fabricate service awards for two of the library's longest-serving staff. The design was created by the library's graphics team and laser engraved a block of acrylic using the Makerplace's Epilog laser cutter.

Staff Highlights

Congratulations to Cyndi Hamann, who presented a CORE webinar with two other librarians titled: The Marvelous Middle; Finding Ways to Grow and Thrive in Middle Management. This was an adaptation of their ALA presentation. The presentation discussed learning how to grow, thrive and spread influence as a middle manager.

Programs and Exhibits Assistant Jay Semla is the newest member of LACONI's (Library Administrators Conference of Northern Illinois) Program, Outreach and Promotions (POP) section. He was selected to participate through a competitive application process; the current POP advisory board found his skills, experience, and event ideas will bring

something new to the table.

Rachel Delaney of Info Services received her Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from Dominican University in early August.

Pat Bennet celebrated 40 years and Helen Tzortzos celebrated 30 years at the library this August!

Arlington Heights Memorial Library

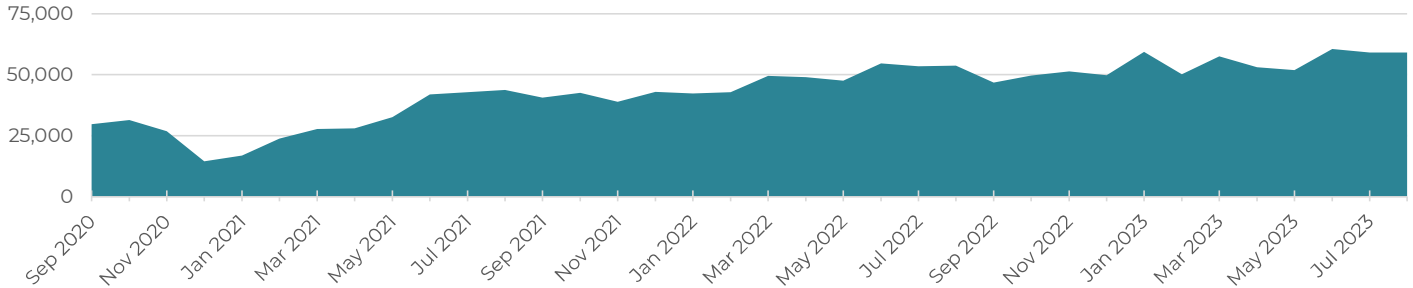
August 2023 Dashboard

Library Visits

81.7% of library customers in August visited the Main Library. Year to date, library visits are up 14.6%.

	August			2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Main Library	48,285	81.7%		375,978	320,521	17.3%
Drive-Up	5,088	8.6%		40,899	43,660	-6.3%
Bookmobile	3,212	5.4%		16,434	13,026	26.2%
Makerplace	1,415	2.4%		9,348	8,131	15.0%
Senior Center	1,129	1.9%		8,366	8,069	3.7%
Total	59,129	100%		451,025	393,407	14.6%

Total Visits



Room Use	August	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change	Trend
Hendrickson Room	9	98	65	50.8%	
Conference Rooms	1,097	9,307	7,630	22.0%	
Total	1,106	9,405	7,695	22.2%	<i>September 2022-August 2023</i>

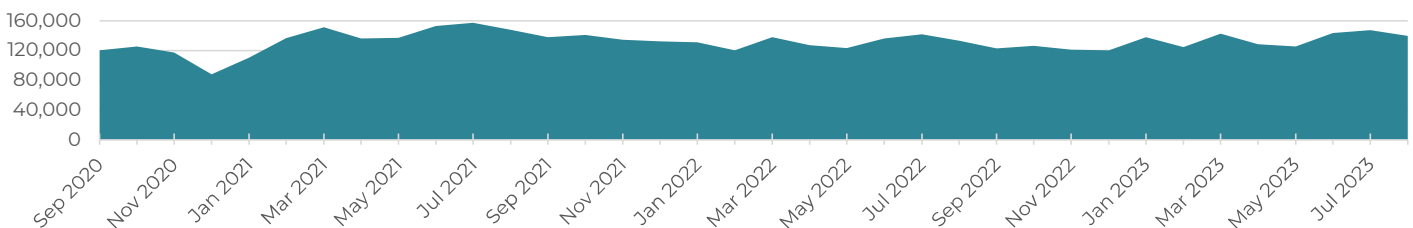
Library Cards ¹	August	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change	Trend
Resident	448	3,380	3,263	3.6%	
Reciprocal	142	1,040	751	38.5%	
Purchased	0	3	4	-25.0%	
Total	590	4,423	4,018	10.1%	<i>September 2022-August 2023</i>

Circulation

16.1% of checkouts in August were Downloadable items. Year to date, total checkouts are up 3.6%.

	August			2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Print	81,399	58.4%		631,138	609,697	3.5%
Audiovisual	26,108	18.7%		207,056	217,746	-4.9%
Downloadable	22,473	16.1%		175,058	157,345	11.3%
Other	9,139	6.6%		72,530	63,508	14.2%
ILL	367	0.3%		2,935	2,978	-1.4%
Total	139,486	100%		1,088,717	1,051,274	3.6%

Total Checkouts



¹ New cards only. Does not include renewals.

Arlington Heights Memorial Library

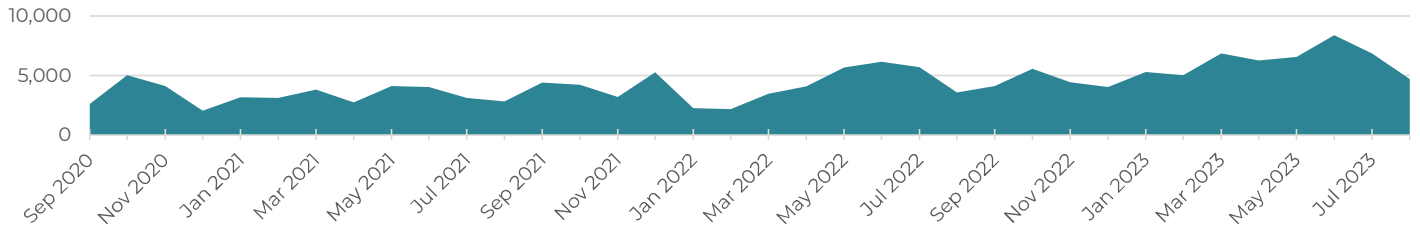
August 2023 Dashboard

Programs

3,346 customers attended Adult programs in August, which represents 71% of all program attendees. Year to date, program attendance is up 50.5% across all audiences and program sessions are up 6%.

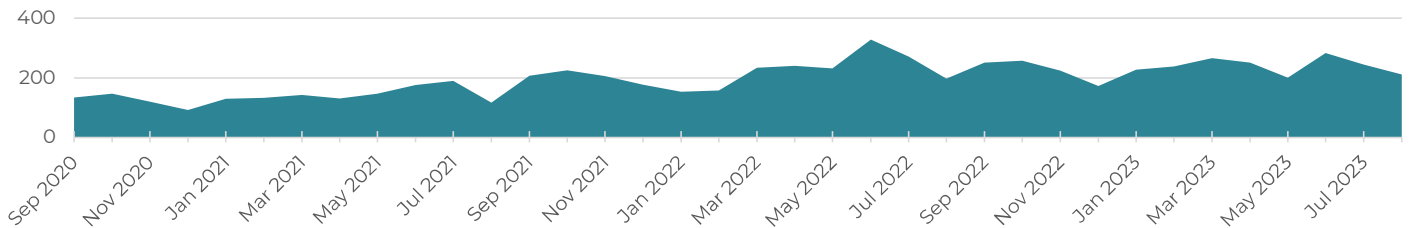
Attendance	August		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Children	1,176	24.9%	24,617	12,511	96.8%
Adult	3,346	71.0%	22,551	17,483	29.0%
Teen	193	4.1%	2,776	3,184	-12.8%
	4,715	100%	49,944	33,178	50.5%

Attendance



Sessions	August		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Adult	177	83.9%	1,250	1,169	6.9%
Children	28	13.3%	546	507	7.7%
Teen	6	2.8%	127	139	-8.6%
	211	100%	1,923	1,815	6.0%

Sessions



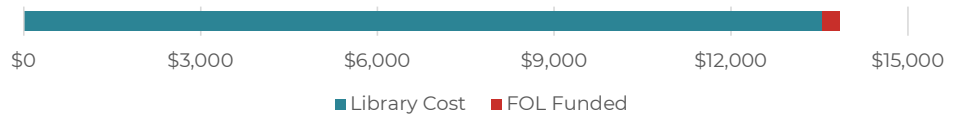
Total Program Cost

\$13,843.01

FOL Funded

\$300.00

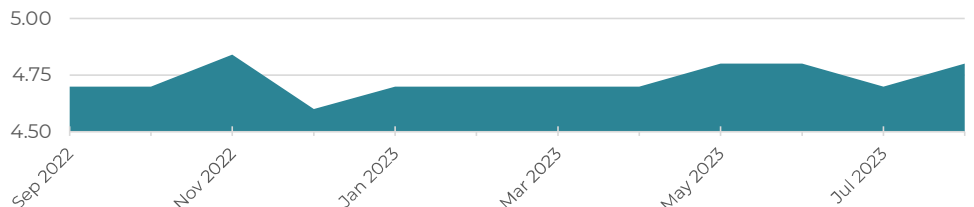
2.2%



Program Satisfaction

4.8 / 5

out of 58 programs



Supplementary Programs and Activities²

	August	Trend	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Attendance	4,414		35,275	23,809	48.2%
Sessions	14		181	186	-2.7%

September 2022-August 2023

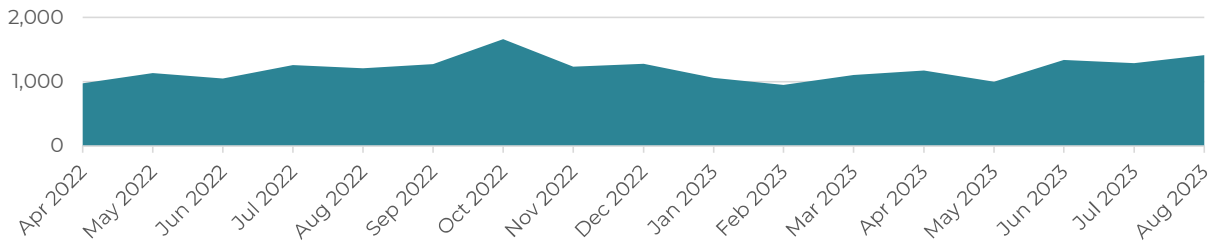
²Supplementary programs and activities are planned events where customers participate on their own, instead of at a designated time with a group. Registration is not required.

Arlington Heights Memorial Library Makerplace

August 2023 Dashboard

	August	% New Users	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Makerplace Visits	1,415	6.2%	9,348	8,131	15.0%
New Users³	August		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Makerplace	66	75.0%	464	370	25.4%
Kitchen	8	9.1%	125	198	-36.9%
Makerplace & Kitchen	14	15.9%	93	244	-61.9%
Total	88	100%	682	812	-16.0%

Total Visits



	August		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Equipment Usage⁴					
Fabrication	216	57.8%	1,269	817	55.3%
Small Tools	55	14.7%	398	107	272.0%
Sewing	55	14.7%	343	232	47.8%
Technology	46	12.3%	270	142	90.1%
Art	2	0.5%	29	17	70.6%
Total	374	100%	2,309	1,315	75.6%

	August		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Program Attendance⁵					
Culinary	142	53.4%	876	774	13.2%
Maker	112	42.1%	682	506	34.8%
Tour	12	4.5%	128	153	-16.3%
Other	0	0.0%	33	28	17.9%
Total	266	100%	1,719	1,461	17.7%

	August		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
3D Print Jobs	124		1,076	456	136%

	August
eLearning⁶	242

³ Measured by number of waivers signed for maker/fabrication, kitchen, or both

⁴ **Fabrication**: all fabrication room equipment except 3D printers; **Small Tools**: soldering irons, hand tools; **Technology**: design computers

⁵ **Culinary**: kitchen programming; **Maker**: hands on making programs (3D printing, laser cutting, sewing); **Tour**: attendance of facility tours prescheduled or drop-in

⁶ Niche Academy views of Makerplace resources

**ARLINGTON HEIGHTS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
FINANCIAL DASHBOARD
SEPTEMBER 2023 BOARD MEETING**

67% of Fiscal Year Lapsed				
Fiscal Year - 2023				
	Full Year	Year to Date		
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>%</u>	
REVENUES				
Taxes	\$ 15,212,000	\$ 8,243,997	54%	
Intergovernmental	\$ 114,572	\$ 100,674	88%	
Fees	\$ 31,600	\$ 31,425	99%	
Fines	\$ 10,000	\$ 9,982	100%	
Interest	\$ 5,000	\$ 315,489	6310%	
Other	\$ 191,400	\$ 51,499	27%	
Total Revenues	\$ 15,564,572	\$ 8,753,067	56%	
EXPENDITURES				
Personal Services	\$ 11,848,627	\$ 7,205,562	61%	
Contractual Services	\$ 1,797,123	\$ 1,187,261	66%	
Commodities	\$ 2,246,902	\$ 1,519,750	68%	
Other Charges	\$ 54,564	\$ 11,995	22%	
Property	\$ 98,590	\$ 48,302	49%	
Total Operating Expenditures	\$ 16,045,806	\$ 9,972,870	62%	
YTD b/(w)	\$724,334			
Capital Expenditures	\$ 1,780,413	\$ 242,734	14%	
Total Expenditures	\$ 17,826,219	\$ 10,215,603	57%	

Personnel			
	Full Time	Part Time	FTE
2023 Budget	86	164	158.56
Actual Headcount 7/31/2023	86	131	
New Hires August	1	4	
Separations August	2	2	
All Other, Net August		3	
Actual Headcount 8/31/2023	85	133	147.48
YTD Volunteer Hrs	16,047	Annualized FTE	8.23

Capital Projects			
	2023 Budget	2023 Expenses to Date	Status/Notes
<i>KW Redesign (Phases 1 & 2)</i>	\$ 699,253	\$ 35,760	In progress
<i>Circ Lockers</i>	\$ 42,500	\$ -	
<i>Hendrickson AV Equipment</i>	\$ 100,000	\$ 7,459	
<i>Staff/Public Computers</i>	\$ 187,110	\$ 168,631	Complete
<i>Door Access Controllers</i>	\$ 27,500	\$ -	
<i>South Parking Lot Lighting</i>	\$ 15,000	\$ -	
<i>Chillers and Cooling Towers</i>	\$ 565,000	\$ 14,625	NTE \$576,912 (\$549,440 + 5% contingency)
<i>All Gender Restroom</i>	\$ 30,000	\$ -	
<i>Makerspace</i>			
<i>Partnership on Belmont Lot</i>	\$ 64,050	\$ -	
<i>Replace Windows</i>	\$ 50,000	\$ 16,259	In progress
Total Capital Project Fund	\$ 1,780,413	\$ 242,734	14%