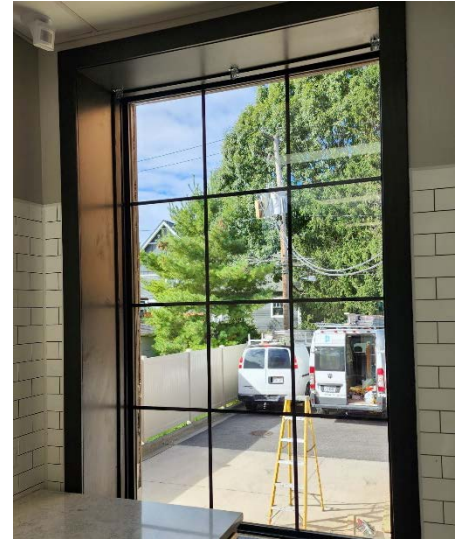


## Executive Director's Report November 2023

### What's New @ AHML

#### **Window Installation at the Makerplace**

During the month of October, most of the windows on the main floor of the Makerplace were replaced. This project will help improve the safety and security of the building, as well as thermal efficiency. The windows that were replaced were original to the building and did not close or seal properly. The new windows closely match the design of the originals, maintaining the original aesthetic of the building.



#### **Elevator Door Refresh**

The COVID 19 pandemic was rough on the elevator doors and railings, due to the increased cleaning frequency and harsher chemicals used to keep them germ free. In October, the public elevators received a facelift with the refinishing of the brass surfaces, making them look new again.



## Outreach and Community Engagement

### **OBOV Conversation with NWCASA**

Engaging with Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault staff and gaining insights from advocates and social workers who support individuals and families dealing with the traumatic effects of sexual assault was profoundly impactful in terms of One Book, One Village's engagement this year. This partnership underscores why OBOV stands out as one of the library's most successful community initiatives and how it reaches people at so many levels throughout Arlington Heights.



### **Visit to D214 Women and Children Center**

Staff visited District 214's Women's and Children's Center at Forest View and shared information about upcoming library programs, particularly highlighting English as a Second Language (ESL) and family programs. The visit concluded with a bookmobile stop; it was heartening to witness many new faces and hear individuals express their delight at experiencing the inside of a bookmobile for the first time.



### **Second Grade Bookmobile Visits**

Youth Services wrapped up the annual fall visits to District 25 second grade classes. Along with the bookmobile, staff visited Ivy Hill, Windsor, Olive-Mary Stitt, Westgate and Greenbrier Schools. Four-hundred young students enjoyed learning about the bookmobile by climbing on board to browse and had the opportunity to check out some favorites.

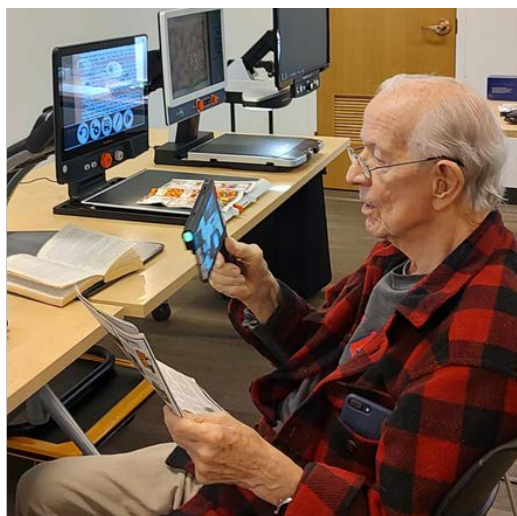
## Jasmine Warga Visit

Thanks to The Friends of the Library, the library sponsored award-winning author Jasmine Warga to visit local South and Thomas Middle Schools. Warga presented on her three popular middle-grade novels, which topics range from school gun violence and refugee crises to the journey of a Mars rover. At each school, student fans of her work clamored for a spot to be one of the 15 lucky raffle winners to join Jasmine for an intimate lunch conversation. In addition to her school visits, Warga also joined Youth Librarian Ellie Richardson for a public event at the library, where she took questions from readers of all ages and autographed books. Over two days, Warga saw more than 1,300 people in the Arlington Heights community.



## Chicago Lighthouse Low Vision Road Show

Expert staff from the Chicago Lighthouse were on site with a wide variety of tools to demonstrate for the 48 attendees who stopped by throughout the event to test products, receive advice and learn about Lighthouse services. Many attendees expressed appreciation for the library hosting the event, including several groups from Arlington Heights senior living sites: "What a great idea to host this at the library!"



## Small Business Resources Open House



Business Services Advisor Diane Malik partnered with the Village of Arlington Heights to host a Small Business Resources Open House. The Open House was held at the Village Hall and included eight organizations that support entrepreneurs and small businesses. Organizations included the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, Village of Arlington Heights Department of Planning & Community Development, Arlington Heights Chamber of Commerce, Meet Chicago Northwest, SCORE Business Mentoring, Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Harper College, Arlington Heights Park District, and High School District 214 Center for Career Discovery and Apprenticeships. 46 people attended over the course of two hours.

## Brain Health

Senior and Accessible Services staff hosted Dr. Kristin R. Krueger, a board-certified clinical neuropsychologist and research scientist at Rush University Medical Center, who helped 81 attendees learn how to incorporate cognitive activities to maintain or enhance brain health.



## Grease Sock Hop Kicks Off Inclusion Awareness Month



"Grease was the word" for the 33 attendees at the Inclusion Awareness kickoff sock hop for adults of all abilities. Staff teamed up to host partygoers who made 'Greased Lighting' paper cars and decorated 'Pink Lady' paper dolls, danced, received a keepsake photo booth picture, and played dance games to the music of disc jockey Brian. Northwest Special Recreation Association partnered with the library to provide support and transportation for those who requested it.



This year's Inclusion Awareness Month featured 12 programs for both adults and youth with total attendance of 315, a 91% increase over last year's inclusion programs attendance.



### Community Service Project Program for PADS

Community Engagement Liaison Catalina Shin collaborated with Programs Exhibits Specialist Neal Parker to kick off the service project season, which involves community members cooking meals to be donated to partners addressing homelessness and food insecurity. The PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) season runs from October to April, with the nearest location across the street from the library at the First Presbyterian Church. This initiative provided a warm dinner and to-go lunch for over 30 individuals from the PADS site at First Presbyterian Church.



## Serving Our Community

### *One Book, One Village*

Programming and discussions celebrating the library's 10th annual One Book, One Village (OBOV) continued to connect community with the book's themes through a variety of topics, formats and styles of programs.

### **An Evening with Catherine Adel West**



The culmination of the library's 10th annual One Book, One Village community read initiative was a huge success. One hundred eighty attendees joined author Catherine Adel West at Forest View Auditorium and 87 viewers live-streamed the event. Catherine Adel West and Natalie Moore's in-conversation portion of the event received rave reviews and the live Q&A demonstrated how much the community enjoyed getting to know Catherine and Sara. Year after year, event attendees who also participated in OBOV programs and book discussions told staff they were so happy to have the opportunity to watch Catherine speak and were glad to have the opportunity to meet her during the book signing. The in-person author event remains one of the most impactful events of the year. Catherine was so grateful to the library and the library to her, as she joyously participated in social media engagement leading up to the event, interacting with the library's posts and inviting her readers to enjoy the live stream, which helps ensure access for those that couldn't attend the event in person. The video is now hosted on the library's YouTube where it has almost 350 views and continues to draw engagement and connect readers with Catherine and her book. The video will remain available through January.

### **Songs of *The Two Lives of Sara***

On October 5, Jim DeRogatis and Greg Kot of Sound Opinions returned to the library in-person for the first time since the pandemic. Staff welcomed back these nationally loved, Chicago-based music critics and worked with them to create a program custom to OBOV – Sound Opinions: Civil Rights and the Sound of Memphis. Jim and Greg crafted a flawless presentation that took attendees through a tour of Civil Rights and Memphis Soul music, as portrayed in *The Two Lives of Sara*. They celebrated Catherine Adel West’s writing along the way, pulling out quotes directly from the book to set the stage for song choices. Fifty-five music lovers were engaged throughout, enjoyed listening, watching videos and shared excellent questions during Q&A. As always, Jim and Greg gave thoughtful responses with questions ranging from other songs/artists they thought would complement Catherine's playlist, the state of music in general, and if any music today carries the weight that Soul music did with the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s.

To end the month, staff hosted the first Vinyl Listening Party since the pandemic. With assist from in-house musician and record collector Charlie Crane of Digital Services, staff brought a selection of records from the era of *The Two Lives of Sara*. Attendees joined in, sharing their memories of certain tracks, requesting songs, and simply enjoying conversation with like-minded folks across ages for two full hours.

### **Recipe Box Painting and Swap**

Programs and Exhibits Specialist Emily Muszynski and welcomed 10 community members to the Hendrickson Room for a night of relaxing conversation and painting. Emily led the group in sharing stories about food and family while facilitating a related craft -- transforming simple wooden boxes into beautiful recipe boxes with paint and stencils. The participants chose favorite family recipes and swapped them with one another.

### **Fright Night: Horror Authors Panel**



To celebrate the Halloween season and Friday the 13th, staff hosted a panel of local authors in the genre followed by a book signing and reception. Twenty-nine readers came out to enjoy a night with authors Cynthia Pelayo, Gus Moreno, Juan Martinez, and Maryse Meijer. The panel was led by facilitator extraordinaire and horror fanatic, Nora Flanagan, who prepared fantastic questions for the diverse panel – a mix of thoughtful and fun. Each author has a unique style and Nora was deftly able to draw that out. The audience really enjoyed the short readings by each author and brought great questions for authors during Q&A. During the casual reception,

readers purchased stacks of books from The Book Stall and enjoyed having them signed while mingling with the authors. Overall, this was a wonderful night celebrating a sometimes-underrepresented genre of literature.

## Halloween Fun

On Wednesday, October 25, Halloween Fun was all treats and no tricks for the little monsters, witches, superheroes and princesses of Arlington Heights. Kids' World staff, dressed up as the library's Picture Book categories, distributed prizes at Plinko, Punch-In, Spin-the-Wheel and mini golf. Seven helpful Teen Advisory Group (TAG) tweens helped run carnival games at the afternoon session. Ghostly crafts, sensory "monster boxes" and a haunting photo op rounded out the fun for 336 attendees.



## Halloween Festivities

Over the years, ESL & Literacy students have asked about celebrating Halloween, and this year, the library threw a party to celebrate with everyone! 29 students and their family members came to play trivia, participate in a costume contest, try traditional American treats, and decorate pumpkins. It gave learners an opportunity to interact in a festive environment.





### **Giving Back to the Community with No-Sew Blankets**

On Thursday, October 12, 17 community members joined in the creative arts space of the Makerplace to create no-sew blankets. During this second session of the library's OBOV service project, participants made seven blankets for the North and Central Chicagoland Chapter of Project Linus. Representatives from Project Linus visited the group and shared touching stories of the children and families that are impacted by the warmth and love provided by these hand-made blankets. In total, the OBOV service project donated 15 blankets!

### **Customer-led Projects for Holiday Season**

Makerplace staff created simple projects customers can make, not just during the holidays. The kick-off project is a seasonal button. With Makerplace provided button coloring pages and supplies, customers create buttons as gifts or just to wear for fun. Coloring pages will be updated according to the seasons.



### **Inspired by Art Night**



Staff celebrated fall during October's installment of Inspired by Art Night on October 25. Twenty artists were inspired by the colorful nature-forward work of Georgia O'Keefe as they used leaves from the neighborhood to make fall-themed paintings. As with every Inspired by Art Night, it was fun to see how a simple prompt led to many different masterpieces.

### **Pumpkin Paint Pouring**

Expanding on the popularity of the paint pouring classes, Makerplace Specialist Lisa Hale took it seasonal and developed a pumpkin paint pouring class. Over four sessions, 29 makers learned to paint pour on a spooky subject, pumpkins!



### **Wet Felting**

Natasha Leher Lewis of Esther’s Place is always a huge hit at the Makerplace and in October, 23 customers learned a new technique – wet felting. Each attendee made their own ghost just in time for Halloween.



### **Celebrating Southern Cooking Culture with Chef Jamie**

Chef and restaurant owner, Jamie Gilmore, brought a series of Southern food staples to the Makerplace Kitchen in celebration of *The Two Lives of Sara*. On October 18, Programs and Exhibits staff brought their cast iron skillets to welcome Jamie, who fried beautiful golden brown chicken thighs for two sessions of her first October class: Chicken & Waffles. Before frying the chicken, Jamie showed the class how to make the batter and dip the chicken. While the chicken was sizzling, each table made their own waffle batter, and then made waffles two at a time. When the chicken was finished, Jamie plated the beautiful pairing and topped it off with her famous “hottie” syrup – a recipe attendees were surprised to love and excited to add to their cooking.

### **Talk and Taste**

Culinary Advisor Brian Baseggio chatted with 11 customers while sharing secrets for roasting pumpkin seeds, Inspired by America’s Test Kitchen. The new drop-in format gives customers a chance to ask questions at their convenience while integrating kitchen activities into a community of practice approach, where customers can grow and share their knowledge with one another.



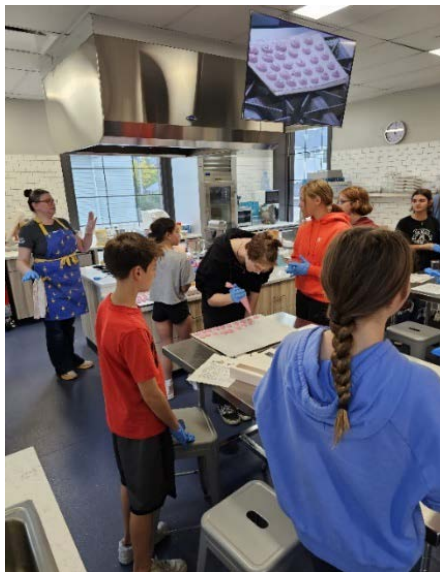
## Apple Pies

October 14 was a crisp fall Saturday, perfect for an apple pie class in the Makerplace kitchen. Returning chef Andrea Pracht and Programs and Exhibits staff hosted two sessions of this very hands-on class, teaching a total of 32 student chefs the ins and outs of apple pie. The kitchen smelled incredible as students chopped apples, built pies, and created pie dough to take home.

## Teen Culinary: Macarons



Thanks to presenter, Heather Booth, 14 teens had a fabulous experience making macarons in the Makerplace Kitchen on Tuesday, October 24. Heather brought supplies for teens to customize their own to-go boxes while she explained the history of macarons and handed out different flavors she premade to try. The teens were shown how to make the batter, taught what to look out for when baking and got to try their hand at piping out cookies. Each teen took home their own box of macarons!



## Space for Space Making



Makers came in to work in the art room needing a big place to spread out to glue, tape and assemble a Halloween piñata.

### **Chef's Choice with Chef Grace**

It was great to welcome Chef Grace Goudie back to the Makerplace Kitchen on Saturday, October 28. After a season away, Programs and Exhibits Specialist Emily Muszynski welcomed Grace back for two sessions of her popular Chef's Choice with Chef Grace. Grace led two bustling classes (18 attending the first and 16 attending the second), teaching home chefs a perfect fall weather recipe -- curry chicken and dumplings made with homemade chicken stock. The Makerplace kitchen was the epitome of cozy as students worked together to create their dishes to taste and take home, and attendees overwhelmingly loved this recipe choice.



### **Culinary- Polish Favorites**

This Polish Heritage Month, Kristyn Slick of Making Mealtime Memories returned to the kitchen with her popular Polish Favorites class. With Programs and Exhibits staff, Kristyn led two sessions of this hands-on class and served 31 community members (17 in the first, 14 in the second). Starting with Kolacki, the attendees learned how to make the dough, cut it, fill it and shape it to make over a dozen cookies a piece. Some participants decided to take dough home to freeze as well. While the Kolacki baked and cooled the class moved on to pierogi dough. Each person got to make their own dough and choose from the three fillings, mushroom, regular potato and cheesy potato. After filling their pierogi, participants boiled and sautéed their finished Pierogi. Everyone was thrilled at this hands-on class and loved being able to take food home.



## Staff Highlights

### Staff Present Making Technology Accessible at ILA Conference



More than 60 attendees joined the Illinois Library Association Conference session Making Technology Accessible: Creating an Assistive Tools Kit. Senior and Accessible Services Supervisor Katie Myers and Makerplace Assistant Manager Chris Krueger partnered to present the Assistive Tools Kit service model. Ideas were shared for implementing this type of project in other libraries and how the project has helped the library engage and connect to new audiences.

# Arlington Heights Memorial Library

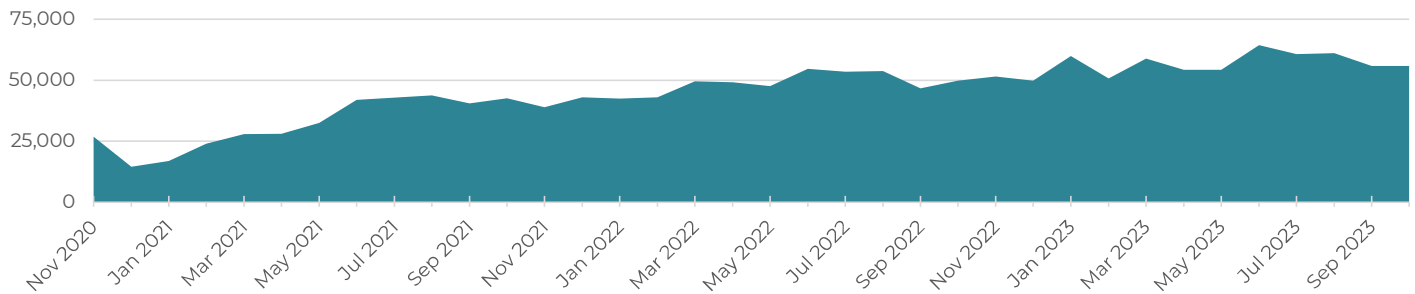
October 2023 Dashboard

## Library Visits

78.9% of library customers in October visited the Main Library. Year to date, library visits are up 17.5%.

	October		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Main Library	44,072	78.9%	463,305	397,162	16.7%
Drive-Up	5,041	9.0%	50,929	53,244	-4.3%
Bookmobile	2,478	4.4%	21,810	18,270	19.4%
Outreach	1,563	2.8%	16,583	N/A	-
Makerplace	1,537	2.8%	12,525	11,074	13.1%
Senior Center	1,154	2.1%	10,606	10,120	4.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,845</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>575,758</b>	<b>489,870</b>	<b>17.5%</b>

Total Visits



Room Use	October	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change	Trend
Hendrickson Room	10	115	93	23.7%	<p>November 2022-October 2023</p>
Conference Rooms	1,291	11,721	9,786	19.8%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,301</b>	<b>11,836</b>	<b>9,879</b>	<b>19.8%</b>	

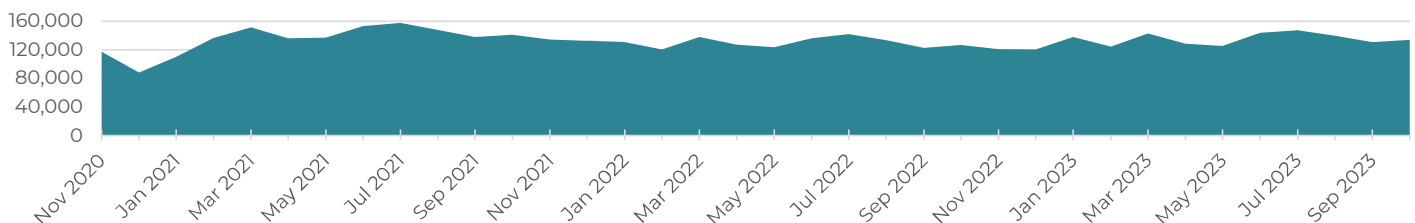
Library Cards <sup>1</sup>	October	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change	Trend
Resident	513	4,296	4,065	5.7%	<p>November 2022-October 2023</p>
Reciprocal	113	1,284	944	36.0%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>5,586</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	

## Circulation

16.4% of checkouts in October were Downloadable items. Year to date, total checkouts are up 4%.

	October		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Print	78,026	58.4%	785,828	758,841	3.6%
Audiovisual	24,571	18.4%	255,562	263,983	-3.2%
Downloadable	21,905	16.4%	218,610	195,907	11.6%
Other	8,687	6.5%	89,435	78,283	14.2%
ILL	413	0.3%	3,727	3,568	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>133,602</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,353,162</b>	<b>1,300,582</b>	<b>4.0%</b>

Total Checkouts



<sup>1</sup> New cards only. Does not include renewals.

# Arlington Heights Memorial Library

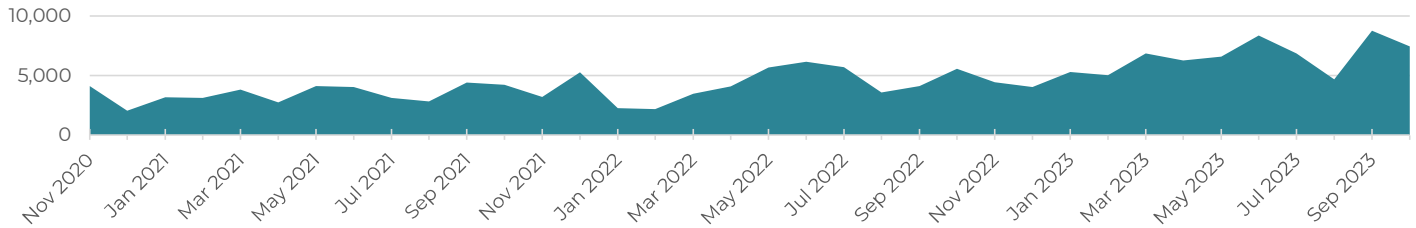
October 2023 Dashboard

## Programs

4,387 customers attended Children programs in October, which represents 58.8% of all program attendees. Year to date, program attendance is up 54.2% across all audiences and program sessions are up 8%.

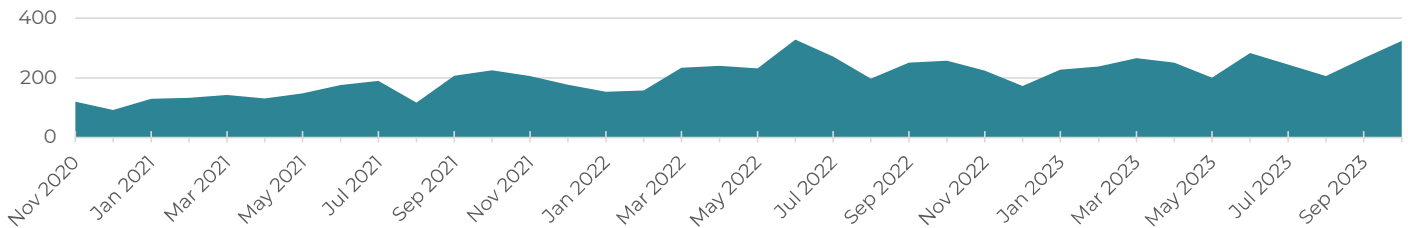
Attendance	October		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Children	4,387	58.8%	31,851	16,709	90.6%
Adult	2,735	36.6%	30,956	22,628	36.8%
Teen	341	4.6%	3,336	3,545	-5.9%
	<b>7,463</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>66,143</b>	<b>42,882</b>	<b>54.2%</b>

### Attendance



Sessions	October		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Adult	199	61.4%	1,619	1,506	7.5%
Children	112	34.6%	735	655	12.2%
Teen	13	4.0%	154	162	-4.9%
	<b>324</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,508</b>	<b>2,323</b>	<b>8.0%</b>

### Sessions



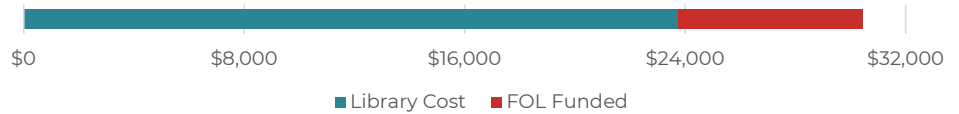
### Total Program Cost

\$30,438.42

### FOL Funded

\$6,700.00

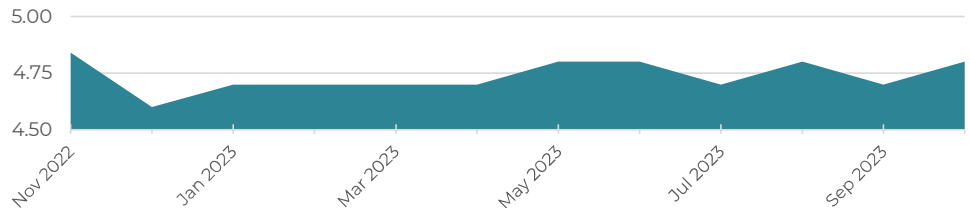
22.0%



### Program Satisfaction

4.8 / 5

out of 106 programs



## Supplementary Programs and Activities<sup>2</sup>

	October	Trend	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
Attendance	1,097		37,850	25,949	45.9%
Sessions	18		219	218	0.5%

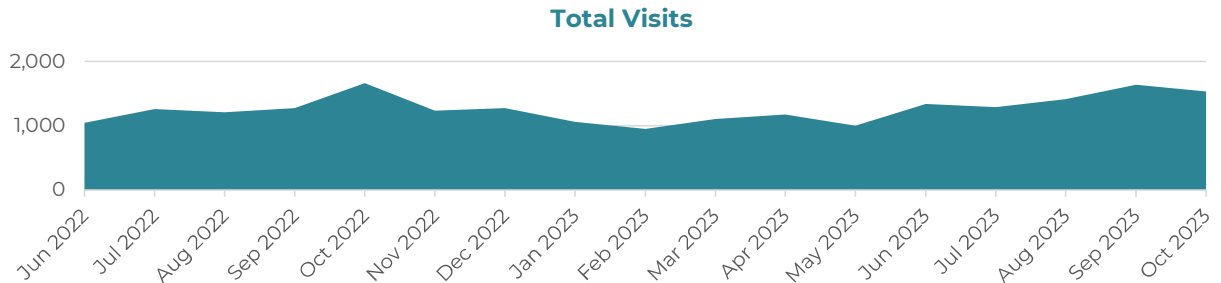
November 2022-October 2023

<sup>2</sup>Supplementary 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

October 2023 Dashboard

	October	% New Users	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
<b>Makerplace Visits</b>	1,537	6.1%	12,525	11,074	13.1%
<b>New Users<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>October</b>		<b>2023 YTD</b>	<b>2022 YTD</b>	<b>Change</b>
Makerplace	38	40.4%	572	474	20.7%
Kitchen	37	39.4%	180	237	-24.1%
Makerplace & Kitchen	19	20.2%	133	280	-52.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>-10.7%</b>



	October		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
<b>Equipment Usage<sup>4</sup></b>					
Fabrication	150	48.5%	1,631	1,075	51.7%
Small Tools	54	17.5%	528	167	216.2%
Sewing	76	24.6%	471	298	58.1%
Technology	23	7.4%	329	190	73.2%
Art	6	1.9%	44	21	109.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,003</b>	<b>1,751</b>	<b>71.5%</b>

	October		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
<b>Program Attendance<sup>5</sup></b>					
Culinary	170	53.0%	1,170	1,008	16.1%
Maker	142	44.2%	933	672	38.8%
Tour	7	2.2%	158	178	-11.2%
Other	2	0.6%	230	143	60.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,491</b>	<b>2,001</b>	<b>24.5%</b>

	October		2023 YTD	2022 YTD	Change
<b>3D Print Jobs</b>	184		1,440	651	121%

	October
<b>eLearning<sup>6</sup></b>	352

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

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

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

<sup>6</sup> Niche Academy views of Makerplace resources



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

<b>83% of Fiscal Year Lapsed</b>			
<b>Fiscal Year - 2023</b>			
	Full Year	Year to Date	
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>%</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Taxes	\$ 15,212,000	\$ 8,291,325	55%
Intergovernmental	\$ 114,572	\$ 100,674	88%
Fees	\$ 31,600	\$ 40,535	128%
Fines	\$ 10,000	\$ 12,156	122%
Interest	\$ 5,000	\$ 381,981	7640%
Other*	\$ 191,400	\$ 99,928	52%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 15,564,572</b>	<b>\$ 8,926,600</b>	<b>57%</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Personal Services	\$ 11,848,627	\$ 8,886,662	75%
Contractual Services	\$ 1,797,123	\$ 1,453,645	81%
Commodities	\$ 2,246,902	\$ 1,798,269	80%
Other Charges	\$ 54,564	\$ 13,514	25%
Property	\$ 98,590	\$ 58,894	60%
<b>Total Operating Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 16,045,806</b>	<b>\$ 12,210,984</b>	<b>76%</b>
YTD b/(w)	<b>\$1,160,521</b>		
Capital Expenditures	\$ 1,780,413	\$ 556,086	31%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 17,826,219</b>	<b>\$ 12,767,070</b>	<b>72%</b>

\*Other Revenue includes donations and FOL reimbursements, as well as sales of library bags, Digital Services & Makerplace items, and vehicle stickers.

<b>Personnel</b>			
	Full Time	Part Time	FTE
2023 Budget	86	164	158.56
Actual Headcount 9/30/2023	84	133	
New Hires October		2	
Separations October			
All Other, Net October		1	
Actual Headcount 10/31/2023	84	135	148.19
YTD Volunteer Hrs	19,976	Annualized FTE	10.24

<b>Capital Projects</b>			
	2023 Budget	2023 Expenses to Date	Status/Notes
<i>KW Redesign (Phases 1 &amp;2)</i>	\$ 699,253	\$ 223,591	In progress
<i>Circ Lockers</i>	\$ 42,500	\$ 1,650	In progress
<i>Hendrickson AV Equipment</i>	\$ 100,000	\$ 81,932	In progress
<i>Staff/Public Computers</i>	\$ 187,110	\$ 168,631	Complete
<i>Door Access Controllers</i>	\$ 27,500	\$ -	In progress
<i>South Parking Lot Lighting</i>	\$ 15,000	\$ -	
<i>Chillers and Cooling Towers</i>	\$ 565,000	\$ 30,223	NTE \$576,912 (\$549,440 + 5% contingency) Partially delayed to 2024
<i>All Gender Restroom</i>	\$ 30,000	\$ -	
<i>Makerspace</i>			
<i>Partnership on Belmont Lot</i>	\$ 64,050	\$ -	Revisiting in 2024
<i>Replace Windows</i>	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,059	Complete
<b>Total Capital Project Fund</b>	<b>\$ 1,780,413</b>	<b>\$ 556,086</b>	<b>31%</b>