

Library Director's Report
December 2025

Information Item #5

Library Programs and Services

Library of Things planning continued in December; Roku streaming sticks were identified as the most popular LOT circulation items at other area public libraries. George Kalinka, Manager of Adult & Teen Services, will bring a sample of the WPL Roku streaming kits to the January Board Meeting for display and discussion.

Throughout November and December, several organizations requested space in the Library to collect food under the Charity Collections Container Policy (Girl Scouts, Village HRAC, and DuPage County Talent). Those efforts were generously donated to by patrons, and Library Staff and patrons continue to keep a Seasonal Giving Shelf well-stocked. Children and their very enthusiastic parents and relatives (400) rang in the NOON year with a fantastic dance party. Music-based programs brought people together at a variety of events offered for different age groups: trendy K-Pop for Kids (70), Family Jams (75), Adult Holiday (80), and Jefferson Jr. High Carolers (80). Library staff brought programs to the community at the ARC (57) and at Meadowview School (75).

Library staff submitted statistics and surveys to Williams Architects as they develop a Needs Assessment for the Library that is grounded in data. Williams will use the submitted material and comparisons to other public libraries in Illinois of our size and budget to help WPL plan strategically. The assessment and master planning activities will continue through early 2026.

Children's: In-Person Programs

Family Storytime & Craft, 30
Woodland Ornament, 47
Frosty Tunes and Jolly Jams, 75
Fossils & Crystals & Rocks Oh My!, 2 sessions, 90
Community Helper Storytime and Play - Chef's Corner, 114
K-Pop Kids/Dance Idols, 2 sessions, 70
Noon Year's Eve Scavenger Hunt, 300
DuPage ROE Storytime, 20
Baby Lapsit, 4 sessions, 135
Toddler Time, 6 sessions, 181
Preschool Storytime, 4 sessions, 57
District 68 - PK Modified Learning Program Visit, 12
Noon Year's Eve, 400 (drew all ages audience)

All Ages In-House Toys, 73
Where's Larry the Elf? (passive), 322
1000 Books Before Kindergarten Visits, 37
Building Blocks for Tots, 4 packets, 400
Take & Make Craft Kit, 2 projects, 250

Virtual Programs Past Views, 22

Tween/Teen: Teen Study Break, 10
Tween & Teen Activity Kit, 100

Adult: In-Person Programs

Art Gallery: Downers Grove Artists Guild
Art Reception: 20
Live Music: Home for the Holidays with Jodi Beach, 80
Book Discussion: A Winter in New York by Josie Silver, 8
Chair Yoga Workshop, 12
Monthly Meditation Group, 12

Holiday Tech Gifts with Mike Greshbein, 10
Snowman Ornament Craft, 25
Cozy Sticker Rooms, 30
Easy Address Labels, 2
Introduction to Word, 6
Senior Cards & Games, 2 sessions, 15

Virtual Programs

Discover Kwanzaa: Meaning, Symbols, and Traditions with Elizabeth Kahura, 10
MENTal Health Awareness with Kyle Lisowski, 4

Puzzle Pack, 275

All Ages: Jefferson Jr. High Carolers, 80
DIY Family Gifts, 55
Coloring Nook Sheets, 1,115

Community Outreach: Virtual: Literacy DuPage ESL Conversation Group, 4 sessions, 15
In-Library: West Suburban Pantry Tutoring, 3 sessions, 20
Guiding Light Volunteers, 2 sessions, 14
Felicia Acosta, Woodridge Police Department, Social Worker in the Library Meetings, 4
DuPage Health Coalition Workshop, Spanish Language, 3 sessions, 6

Off-Site

Outreach at the ARC, 57
Outreach at Meadowview School, 75

Services: E-Resources:
Media on Demand Total: 5,737
 Ebooks: 2,629
 E-Audiobooks: 2,077
 Magazines: 1,031
ERead Illinois/Boundless: 106
 Ebooks: 33
 E-Audiobooks: 73
HOOPLA: 1,669
 Ebooks: 481
 E-Audiobooks: 991
 Videos: 133
 Music: 64
Kanopy Videos: 318 Plays
BookFlix: 50
Newspapers: 3,128 issues
Lote4Kids: 7
Scholastic Teachables: 2

Website Users - Home Page Views: 12,781
Curbside Pickup: 23 pickups
Book Bundles for Children: 22 items
Interlibrary Loans Received: 2,914
Reference Questions: 2,253 in Adult/Teen and 982 in Children's
Public PC Sessions: 1,078 in Adult/Teen and 146 in Children's
Study Rooms: 444 in Adult and 17 in Children's
Outreach/Homebound Visits: 7
Volunteer Hours: 75.5 for Adult
Museum Adventure Passes: 18
Aruba Wireless Total Sessions: 29,326

Displays: **Children's Services Department:** Global Cheer; Language Spotlight: Russian; Starred Reviews- Best Books of 2025; All Wrapped Up in A Book; Christmas Movies; Read Any Good Books Lately; Rocks and Fossils; Explore the Sun & Moon; Winter Sport Athletes; Shelf and Book Bundles; Teacher Packs; Grab and Go

Adult Services Department: Short Days, Short Books; Winter Cozy Reads; Best Books of 2025; Holiday Cookbooks; Hot Titles You Might Have Missed

Lobby: Winterfest Igloo; Snow Globe; Frozen

Staff Development and Training

Adult/Teen Services:	George Kalinka Savannah Derrig Kate Lagerstrom Kathleen Leaf Linda Montalvo Dee LaPorta Kristine Pacheco Chris Keefe Stephanie Larkins	Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Generative AI and the Library Collection Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Generative AI and the Library Collection iRead Resource Guide Deep Dive: Programming, Crafts, Maker Ideas, Resource Guide Tips & Tricks
Children's Services:	Jessica Smith Jo Bulin Elizabeth Burns Carrie Erickson Kelly Girard Kristina Grudem Donna Karlinski Ellen King Marj Nicoletti Jenn Shunt Mary Ann Steinhaus Mary Sue Reese	Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Winterfest Recap Meeting Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Grad School Courses - Intro to Library & Information Professions and Technology in Library & Information Services Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Winterfest Recap Meeting
	Sarah Wilson	
Circulation Services:	Julie Lombardo Kara Higley-Kubik Sabrina Kahren Edita Meilkeine Eileen Neuffer Michele Sarussi Aziz Shakir Nancy Smith Dee Thurman Brendan Weaver	Staff In-Service - Effective Communication

Technical Services	Amy Weiss Tess Forbes Sharada Kamath Dulce Polivka]	Staff In-Service - Effective Communication
Administration:	Patti Naisbitt		Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Woodridge Community Awards ILA Legislative Breakfast SWAN Quarterly (Live ZOOM) Elevator Modernization Meeting Village Board, Public Comment Budget Meeting Winterfest Recap Meeting
	Kyle Bradshaw Laura Dygus		Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Staff In-Service - Effective Communication HR Source Peer Hub IPBC Benefit Consulting Task Force IPBC Q4 Compliance Session SHRM - I-9 Compliance Amid Rising Worksite Enforcement
	Jose Espino Angela Kobylarczyk Matt Hennessy		Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Staff In-Service - Effective Communication Staff In-Service - Effective Communication LACONI Technology Section Group Meeting

Library Operations

Circulation for the month of December was 44,197, an increase of 9% from December 2024. Registered borrowers number 22,706, which is 66.5% of the jurisdictional population. People/Door Count for month: 12,452