



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

JANUARY 2025



FORT BEND COUNTY
LIBRARIES

Table of Contents

Highlights	1
Photo Gallery	5
Facilities Update	7
FBCL Data & Numbers	9
Programs	10
Cardholders	11
Teacher in the Library	11
Circulation	12
Checkouts	13
Meeting Rooms	13
Platforms & Tech	14
Social Media	15
Volunteers	16
Budget & Expenditures	16

HIGHLIGHTS

Snow Days

All Fort Bend County Libraries' locations were closed for library business during Winter Storm Enzo. However, the **George Memorial (Richmond), Fulshear Branch, Missouri City Branch, and Mission Bend Branch Libraries** were open as Warming Centers with limited staff during the closure.

Celebrating Lunar New Year

On January 25, **George Memorial Library** hosted a Lunar New Year Festival. Activities included the Katy Kung Fu Lion Dance Team, an explanation of the tradition of Lion Dance, a riddle table, calligraphy, fortune cookies, and more. Youth Services provided 150 take-home lantern crafts which were passed out next to the North American Youth Chinese Orchestra who played traditional instruments in the Youth Services Dept. During the event, 234 adults and 149 children watched the lion dance team in the lobby.

On January 29, **University Branch (Sugar Land)** hosted a Lunar New Year Celebration! Visitors also had the opportunity to answer riddles to earn prizes! More than 95 people participated in the riddle game!

Also, on January 29, **Cinco Ranch Branch** Youth Services presented a Lunar New Year craft program where children made small lanterns and snake bracelets.

Fulshear Branch Youth Services created a Lunar New Year display with Easy Picture books.

Sugar Land Branch Youth Services created a Lunar New Year display showcasing fiction and nonfiction titles. Adult Services created a display from community member, King Lou, featuring cookbooks and a dishware set in celebration of Lunar New Year.

Mission Bend Branch created a Lunar New Year display, featuring books taking place near the holiday or generally related to the Chinese zodiac or mythology - New Year, New You, displaying books on self-help, how to, exercise, and diet/eating healthy.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Many branches had book and material displays to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., including **Albert George Branch (Needville), Fulshear Branch, and Missouri City Branch**.

Teen Financial-Literacy Programs

Library Director, Roosevelt Weeks, was featured on Great Day Houston on January 6, promoting the upcoming Teen Financial-Literacy Series at **Mission Bend Branch, George Memorial (Richmond), and Missouri City Branch**. The topic for January was *Budgeting 101*, presented by Janelle Johnson from FBC Extension Office.

George Memorial presented a *FAFSA 101: Unlocking Financial Aid* workshop on January 11, presented by Kathy Rose from CollegeCommunityCareer.

HIGHLIGHTS

Winter Activities

Albert George Branch (Needville): Hosted an After-School Break program for students in grades K-5 where participants created adorable winter-themed snow globes with clear plastic plates, snowflake confetti, shredded paper, and more!

Albert George Branch (Needville): Created winter-themed displays of books, CDs, and DVDs.

Fulshear Branch Youth Services Displays: The bulletin board transformed into a winter wonderland with a "Winter is Bear-able at the Library!" theme, featuring polar bears, snowflakes, and a cozy fire. The Middle Grades display remained a winter theme of "Chill Out with a Good Book" and features books with a winter theme.

Missouri City Branch Adult Services: The department created a popular book display called "Celebrate Winter."

Sugar Land Branch Youth Services: The Juvenile Nonfiction in-shelf display highlighted a variety of attention-grabbing books this month -- all with blue-colored covers -- to combat the "Winter Blues."

University Branch Youth Services: The bulletin board behind the Youth Information desk was decorated with winter items and decor!

Cinco Ranch Branch

Adult Services presented a program on basic embroidery. Participants were shown how to create a simple design using basic embroidery stitching. The theme for the design was oak-leaf embroidery.

After-School Break attendees learned about the **Butterfly Life Cycles** on January 15.

The wildlife group **Texas Snakes & More** visited on Saturday, January 18, and taught visitors about the different snake species in Texas and even brought live snakes for participants to touch!

Mission Bend Branch

After-School Break programs for elementary-age students. On January 9, 12 kids made dragon crafts to roar into the New Year. They made dragons with construction paper and tissue paper, as well as Perler beads. On January 23, 6 kids let their imaginations run wild during **Building Club**. They enjoyed taking on building challenges with LEGO and playing with Magna-Tiles.

The **Teacher in the Library** program continues to have a steady turnout. In January, there were 10 new student registrations and a total of 82 individual tutoring sessions.

HIGHLIGHTS

First Colony Branch

"STEM Lab: Static Energy." In this program, children used wool, tissue paper, salt & pepper, and balloons to learn about static energy. Children drew and cut out a snake from tissue paper and used a pipe and wool to move the snake. They were also able to see how static electricity picks up pepper out of a salt and pepper.

Customers learned to create a **DIY perpetual calendar** using blocks. They were given 4 small wooden blocks: 2 to number for days, 1 for days of the week, and 1 for months. These 4 blocks can be used to create a perpetual calendar by turning to different sides in order to create any day of the year.

Fulshear Branch

Our first **Drawing Basics for Teens** went well; participants drew Minions from the *Despicable Me* series, and they eagerly asked for more classes. Numerous teens attended the **Young Adult Advisory Council** where they helped with library displays, de-processed material, and gave their opinions on future programs. The **Young Adult Anime Club** watched *Mob Psycho*, ate snacks, played Kahoot!, and drew One Piece wanted posters.

Our new youth **Imagination Stations** series included stations with a restaurant, veterinarian's office, ice-cream shop, and a construction site. The favorite station was the ice-cream shop where kids were able to sell bowls of ice cream and deliver them to their customers.

Staff members attended the annual **Jr Reel Tournament** at Jones Creek Park where they met with members of the community.

Missouri City Branch

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, young artists explored the beauty of yarn to craft heartfelt gifts for their loved ones during the **After-School Break** on January 28. The students designed a festive **Valentine's Day card** with yarn and contact paper. They also created a special woven **Valentine's treat holder** using sheet protectors, colored paper, and yarn.

Sugar Land Branch

On January 13, **Creative Connections** had a **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**. Visitors assembled a variety of fancy sandwiches, enjoyed iced tea, and watched the adaptation of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

Janis Teas, of the **Texas Department of Agriculture**, offered a presentation on **Citrus Tree Problems**. This program covered the basics of citrus-tree health and what to be on the lookout for, especially as it pertains to certain pests and diseases that are common in Texas this year.

HIGHLIGHTS

George Memorial Library

On January 23, the Genealogy and Local History Department gave a presentation on “**Beginning Genealogy**” at the Pinnacle Center. In addition, the Genealogy & Local History Department filled the display case with information and memorabilia of the **Sugar Land Sugar Plant**.

The January **Creative Connections** program was “**Origami Stars**.” Participants learned how to make origami stars using the Japanese art of paper folding. They selected from a variety of origami paper colors to make their stars. They then filled small jars with decorative beads and all of the stars that they created. Those attending had a great time making origami, listening to music, eating snacks, and conversing with each other.

Sienna Branch

Highlights this month were Circuit Cards for Tech Explorers and Snap Circuits for Creative Connections. Youth Services offered a **Day of Engineering** for grades K-5, on Saturday, January 11, with help from YIP -- a volunteering program within The George Foundation. We had robotics, sink-or-float challenges, build-&-create stations, circuit cards, and binary-coding bracelets.

Adult Services started a new Saturday series, **Everyday Essentials**, which covers a different topic each month relating to skills and knowledge necessary to be an adult. This month, we covered how to get a driver license and how to register a car.

University Branch

On January 25, the **Friends of University Branch Library** hosted a large **book sale**. The sale was a huge success, with 335 people in attendance to support the library.

The Adult Services Dept had a well-attended program with Certified Senior Housing Professional Liz McNeel presenting “**Downsizing, Rightsizing, & Simplifying**.” On January 18, the **Alzheimer’s Association** presented a seminar, “**Introduction to Alzheimer’s**,” where visitors learned about the 10 common warning signs of Alzheimer’s and what symptoms to look out for in yourself and others.

The Youth Dept had an interactive **Squishmallow Scavenger Hunt**. When participants completed the hunt, they turned the form in for a prize. Their name was submitted for a drawing for one of three Squishmallows upon completion of the hunt. Participation has been great and very popular, so another Scavenger Hunt has been planned for February. Another popular program in January included **Rhyme, Reason, and Shadow Puppetry** by **Puppet Pizzaz**. The audience was shown how to make puppets at home with different materials.

PHOTO GALLERY

Lunar New Year at George Memorial Library (Richmond)



Bubble-Wrap Art at George Memorial Library (Richmond)



PHOTO GALLERY

Texas Snakes & More at Cinco Ranch Branch



Craft Drop-In at Cinco Ranch Branch



FACILITIES UPDATE

George Memorial Library

- Elevator maintenance needed on one of the elevators.
- Carpet in Meeting Room was cleaned.
- Temperature adjustments made in Middle Grades area & Youth Services Workroom.
- Meeting Room closet door lock was fixed.

Fulshear Branch

- The HVAC system needs weekly tweaking, especially during cold weather.
- The 2nd-floor terrace is still unavailable because of damage from Hurricane Beryl.
- Restroom locks were replaced.
- Water filters in the water fountains and bottle fillers were replaced.

Willie Melton Law Library

- Walls have been cleaned.

Cinco Ranch Branch

- Problems with the air conditioner; Texas Air was able to get it cooling and has ordered necessary parts.

Mission Bend Branch

- Staff continue to monitor roof leaks: 1) above Circulation service desk, 2) above Circulation workroom desk, 3) above staff PC in Adult/Circulation workroom, and 4) in public area above Friends of the Library bookshelf. Additional leaking was not noticed during the month of January.
- Floor outlet handle was broken in the Toy Area; it has been repaired.

FACILITIES UPDATE

First Colony Branch

- Leak near light fixture in Adult Services was repaired.
- Leak near light fixture in Circulation workroom above rolling shelves 9 and 10 was partially repaired.
- Leak in Children's near juvenile book spinners repaired.
- Leak in adult fiction above the FIC STA section repaired.
- Leak above ANF 900 section repaired.
- Leak in study room 6 repaired.
- Suppression-release system in outside book drop needs to be repaired.

Missouri City Branch

- Staff door was repaired and closes securely.
- Elevator was inspected on January 28.
- The key-operated security gate at entrance was repaired week of January 20.

Sienna Branch

- Replaced a broken clasp on the flag pole.

Sugar Land Branch

- The stump from the tree that fell during Hurricane Beryl was removed.
- Roofers worked on leaks in the Adult Services windows and Youth Services area.

University Branch

- Control board for the elevator was replaced and elevator is working.
- Windows were cleaned on exterior of building.
- Annual elevator inspection was passed on January 28.

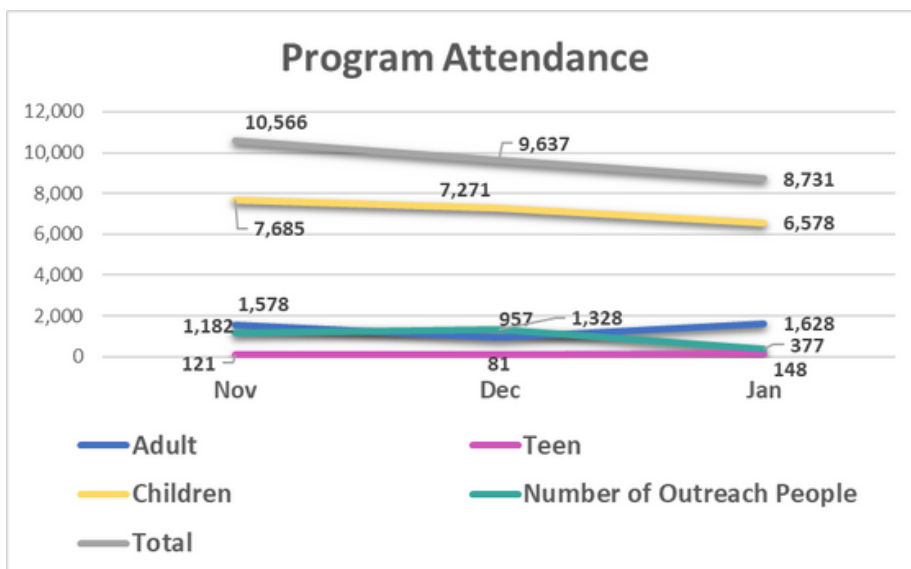
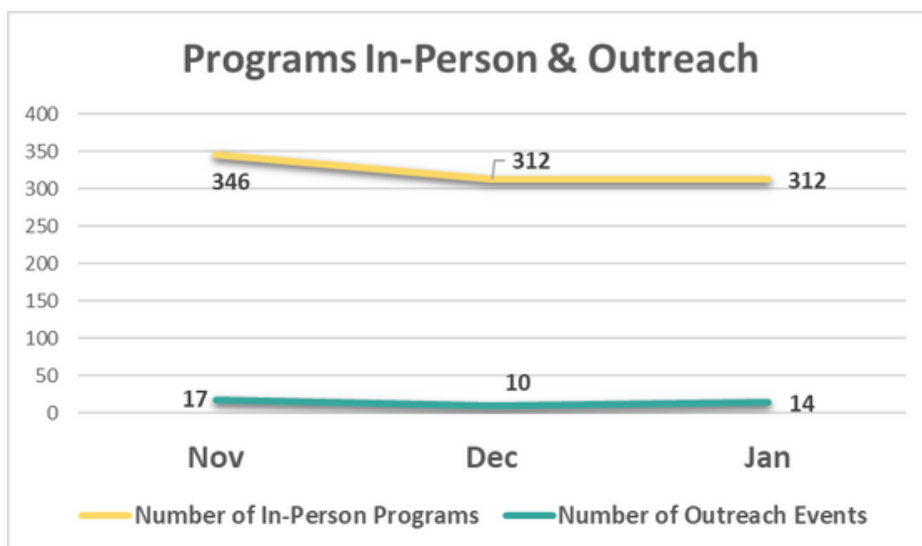
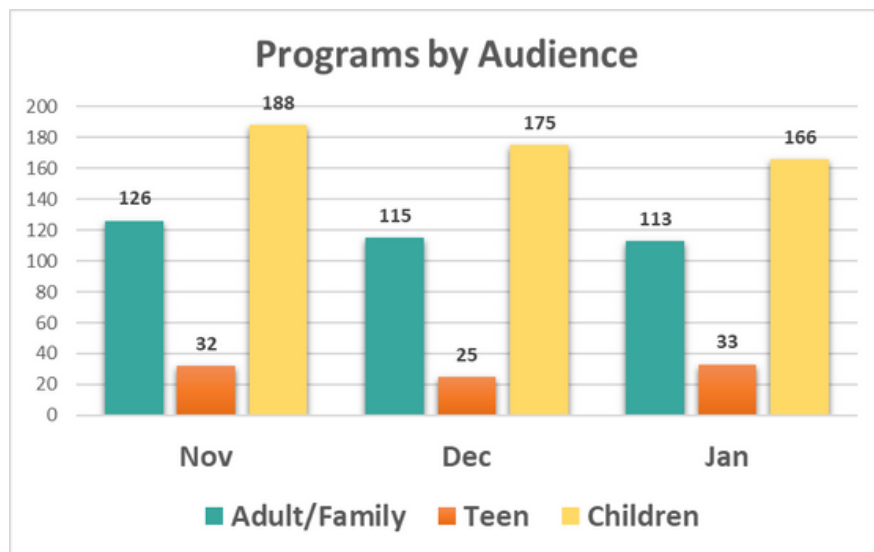
DATA & NUMBERS

JANUARY 2025

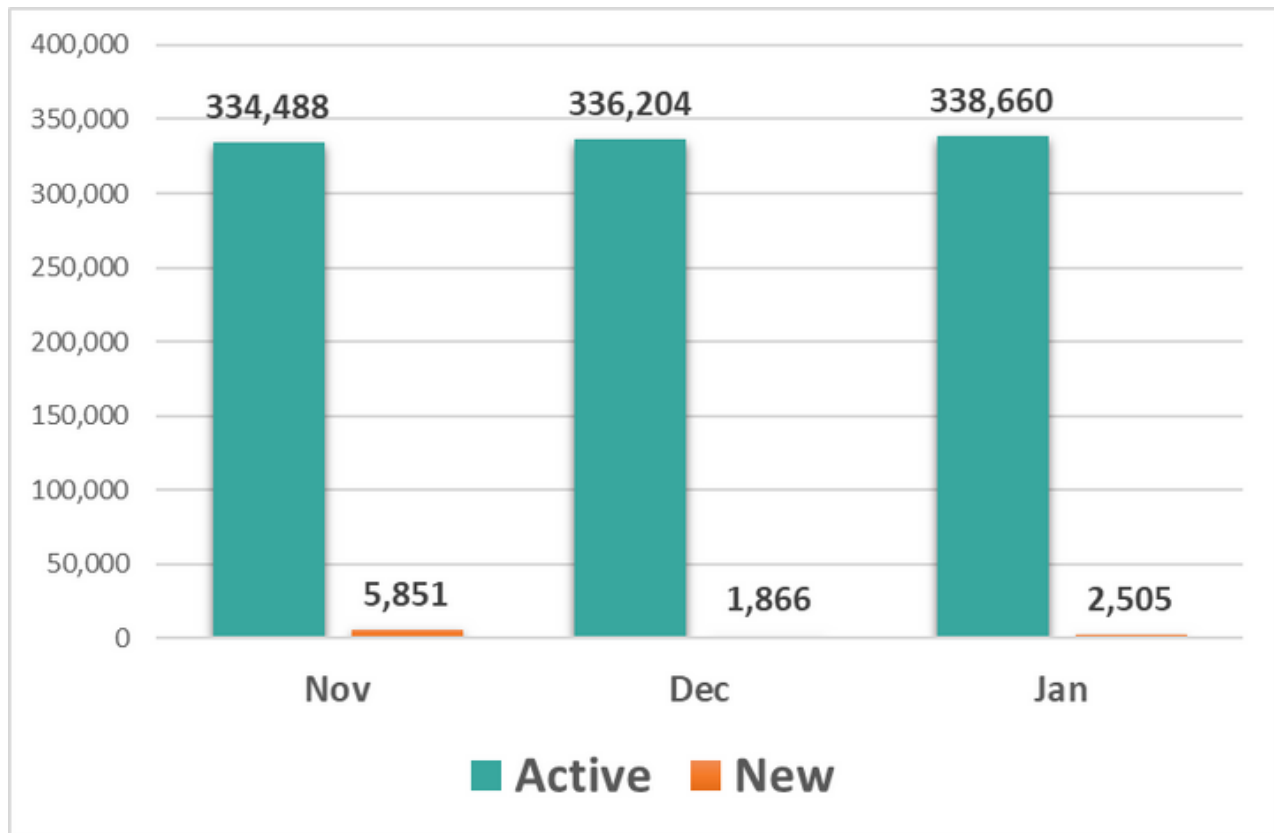


FORT BEND COUNTY
LIBRARIES

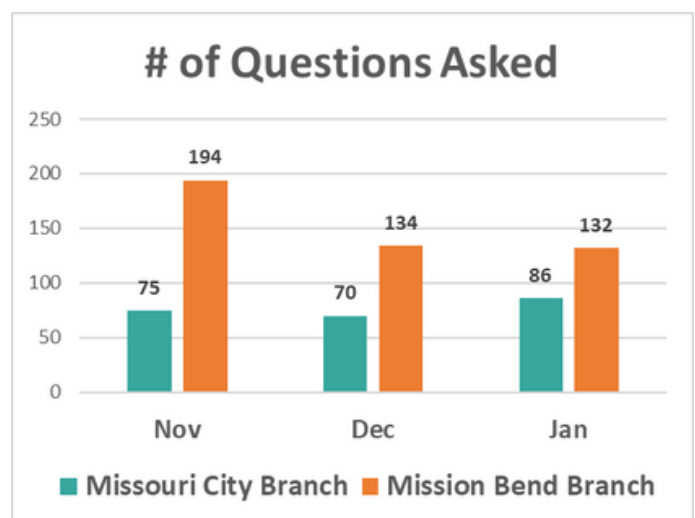
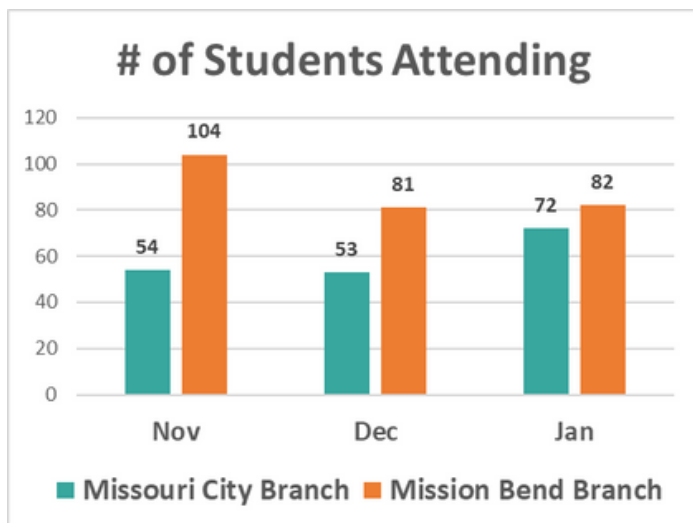
PROGRAMS



CARDHOLDERS

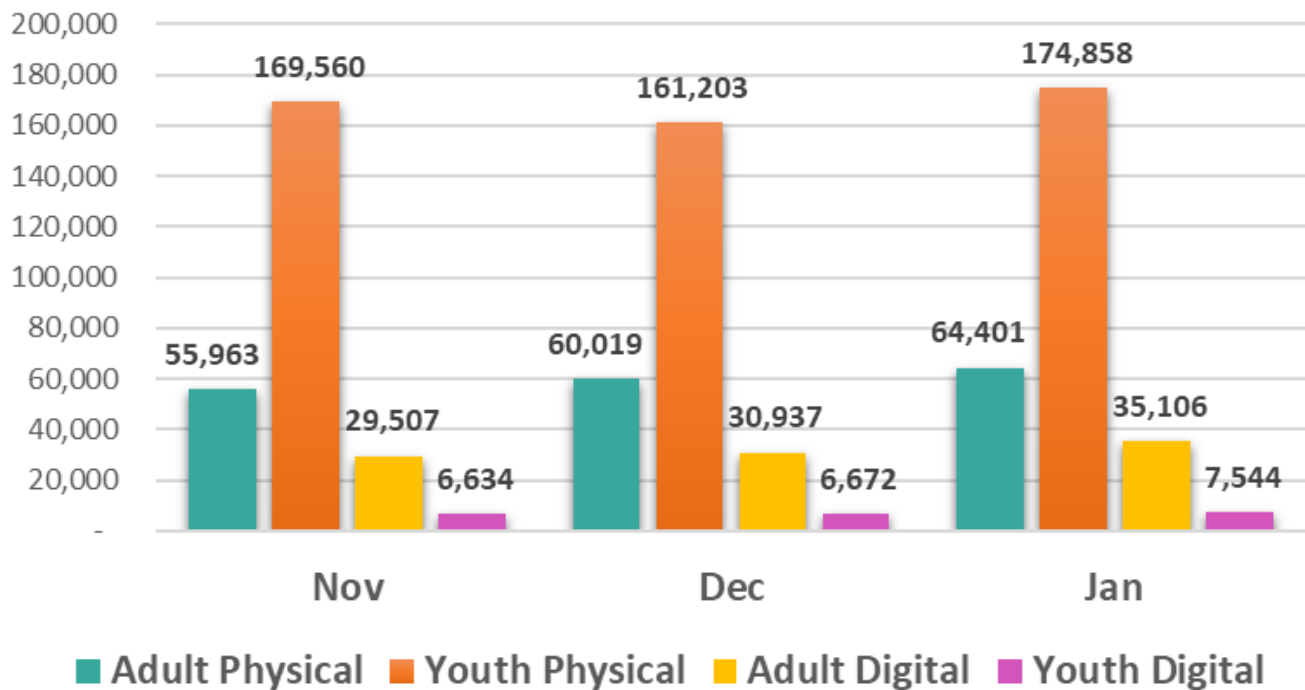


TEACHER IN THE LIBRARY

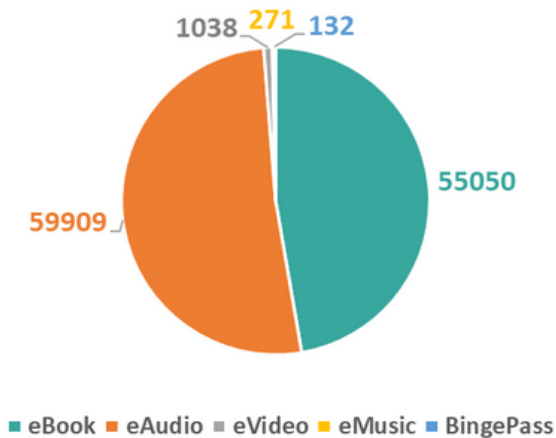


CIRCULATION

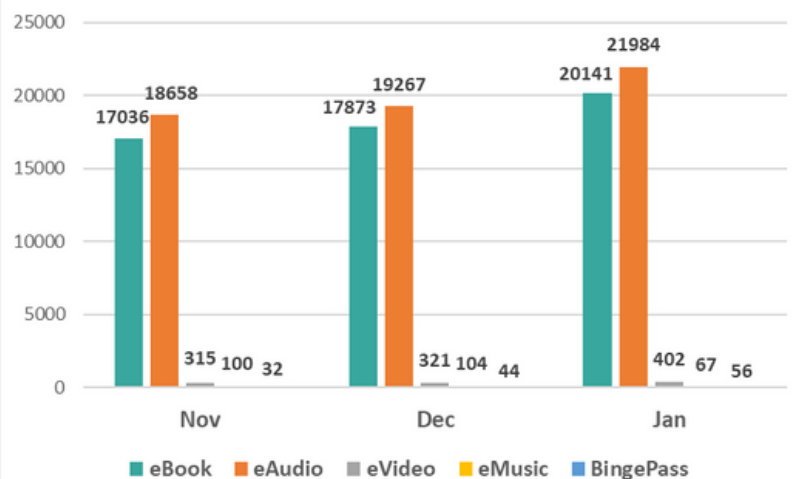
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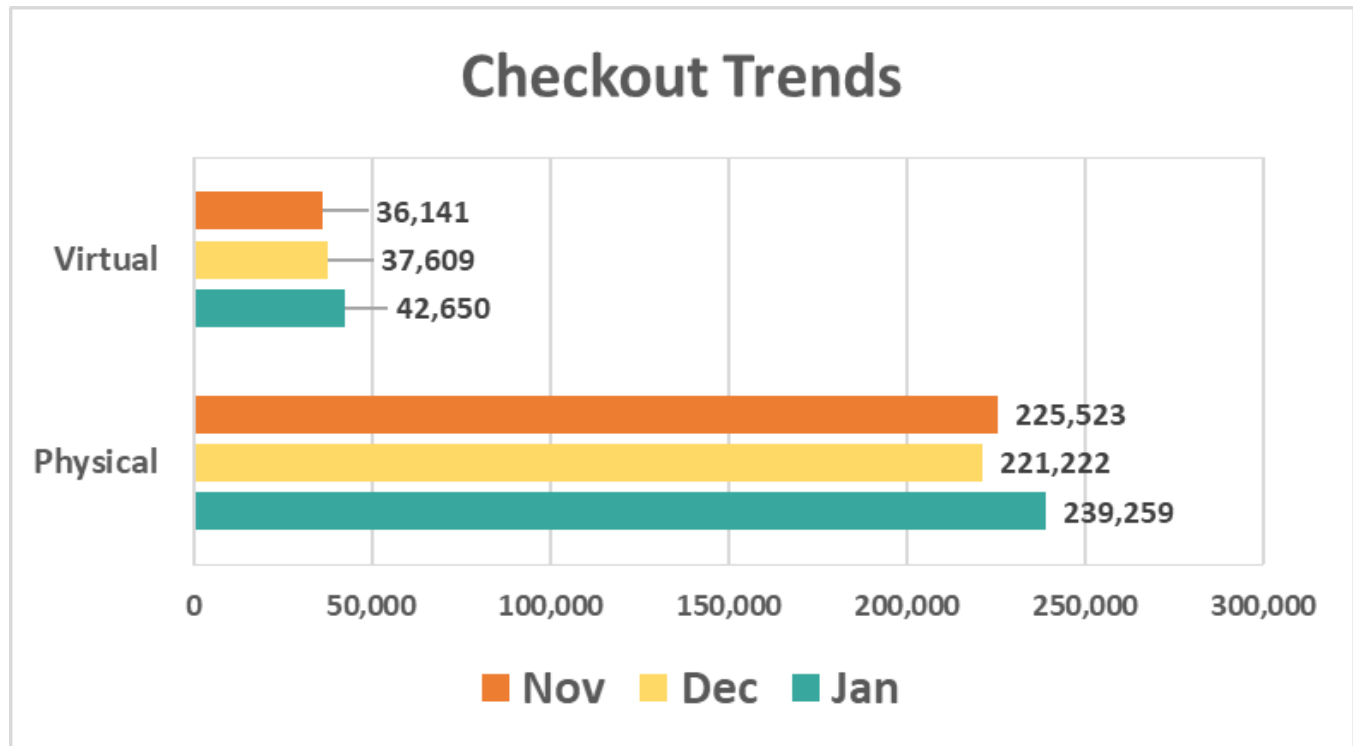
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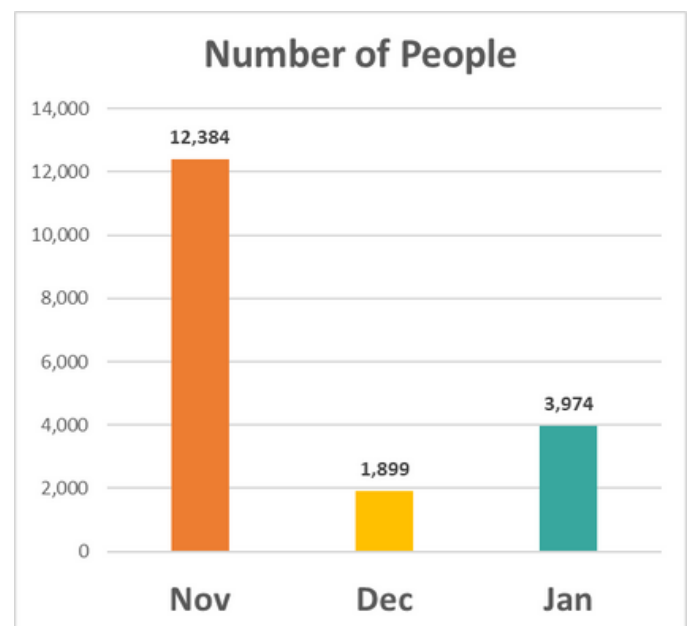
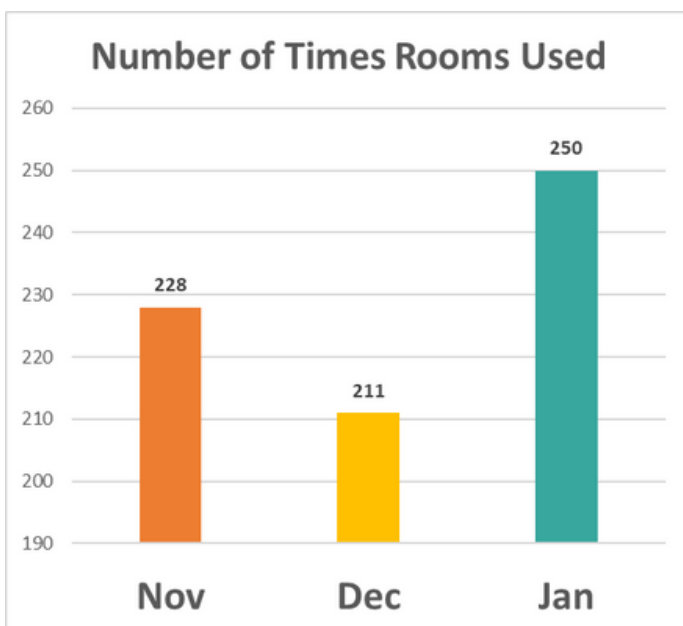
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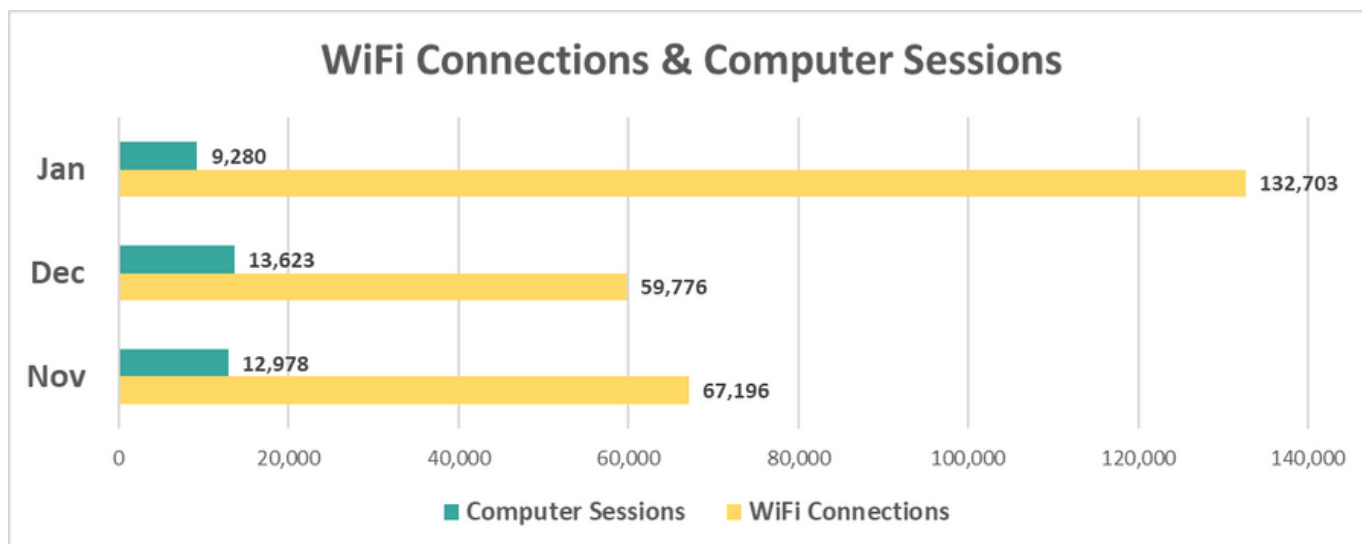
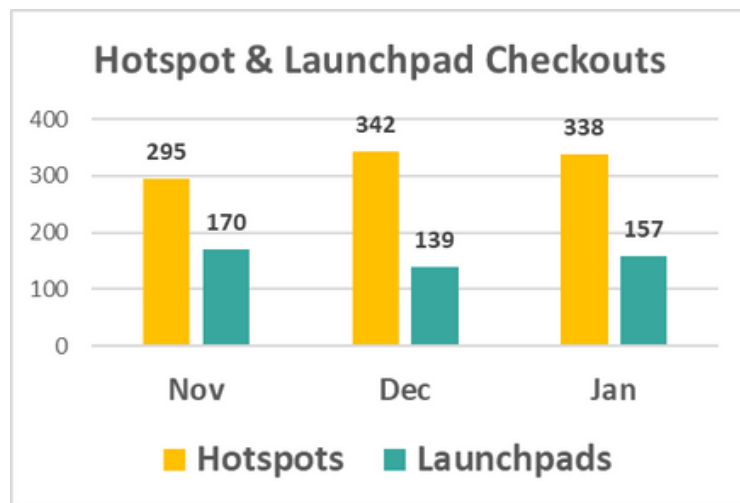
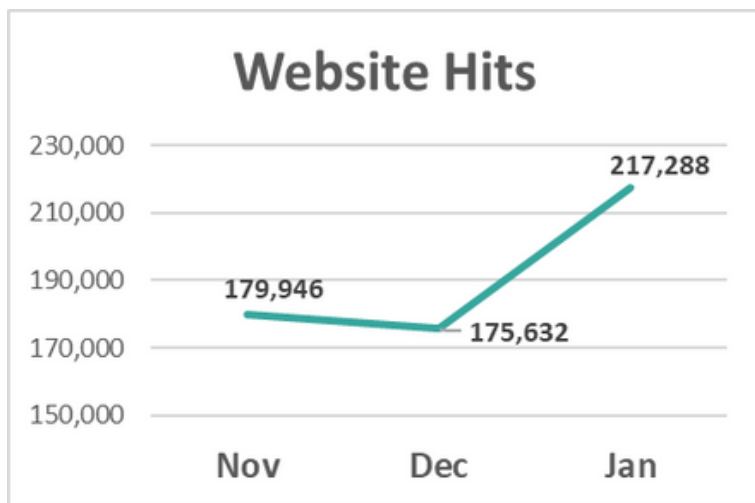
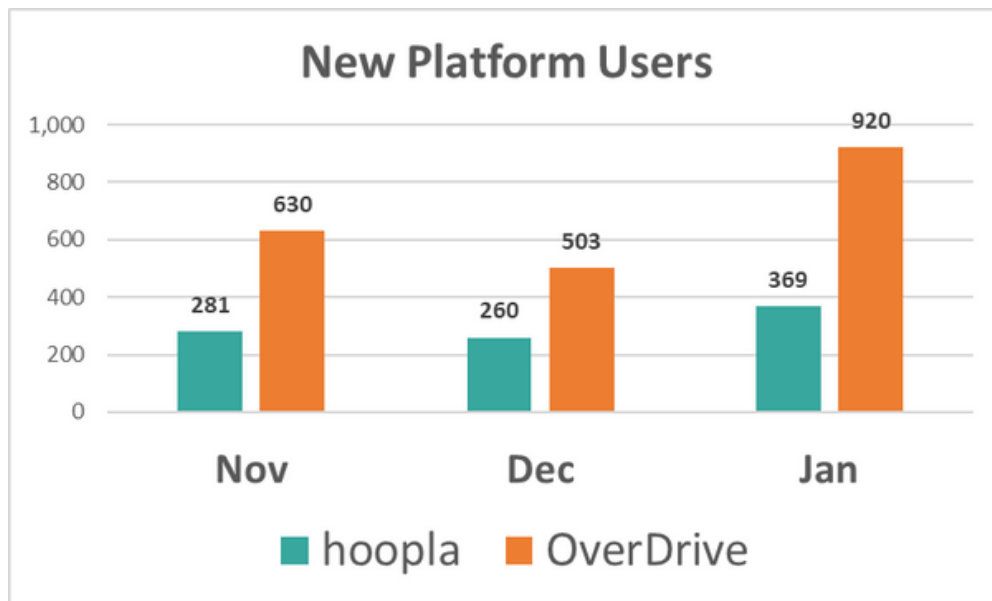
CHECKOUTS



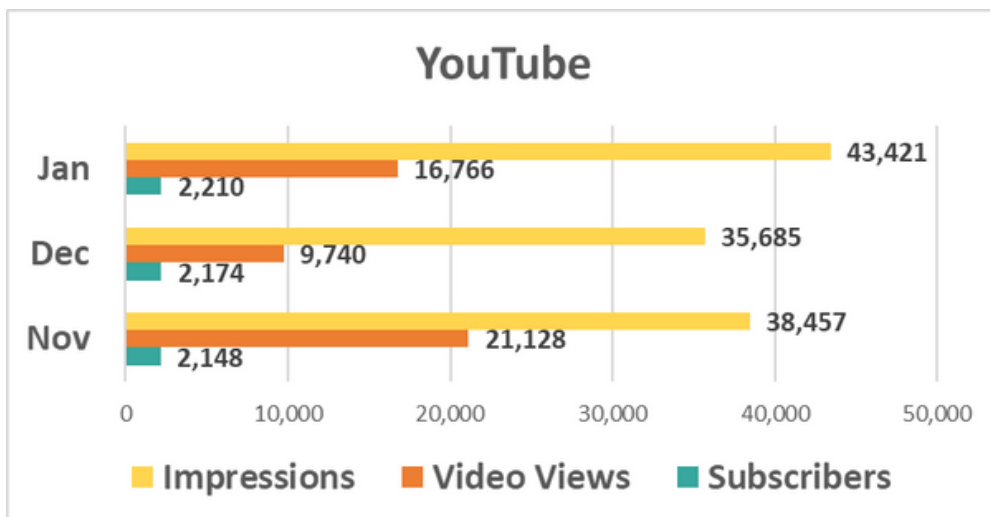
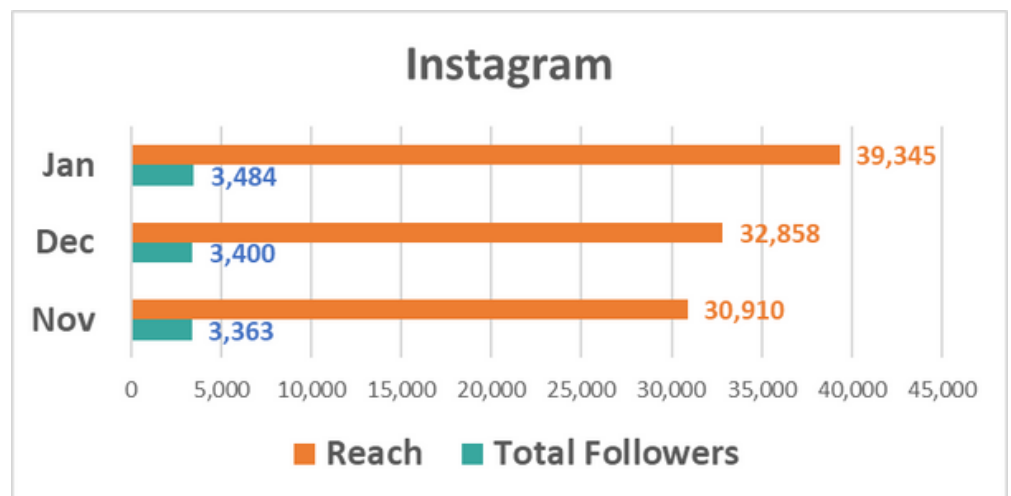
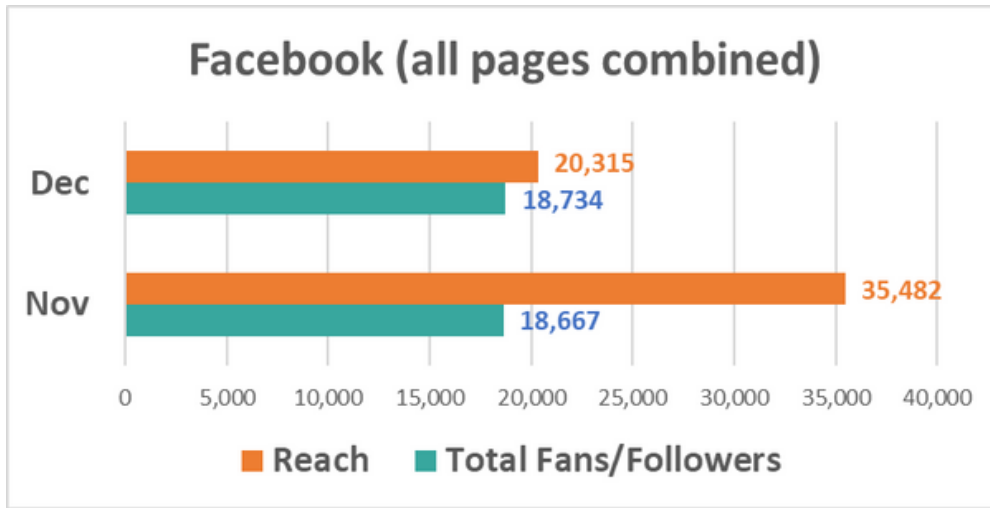
MEETING ROOM RESERVATIONS



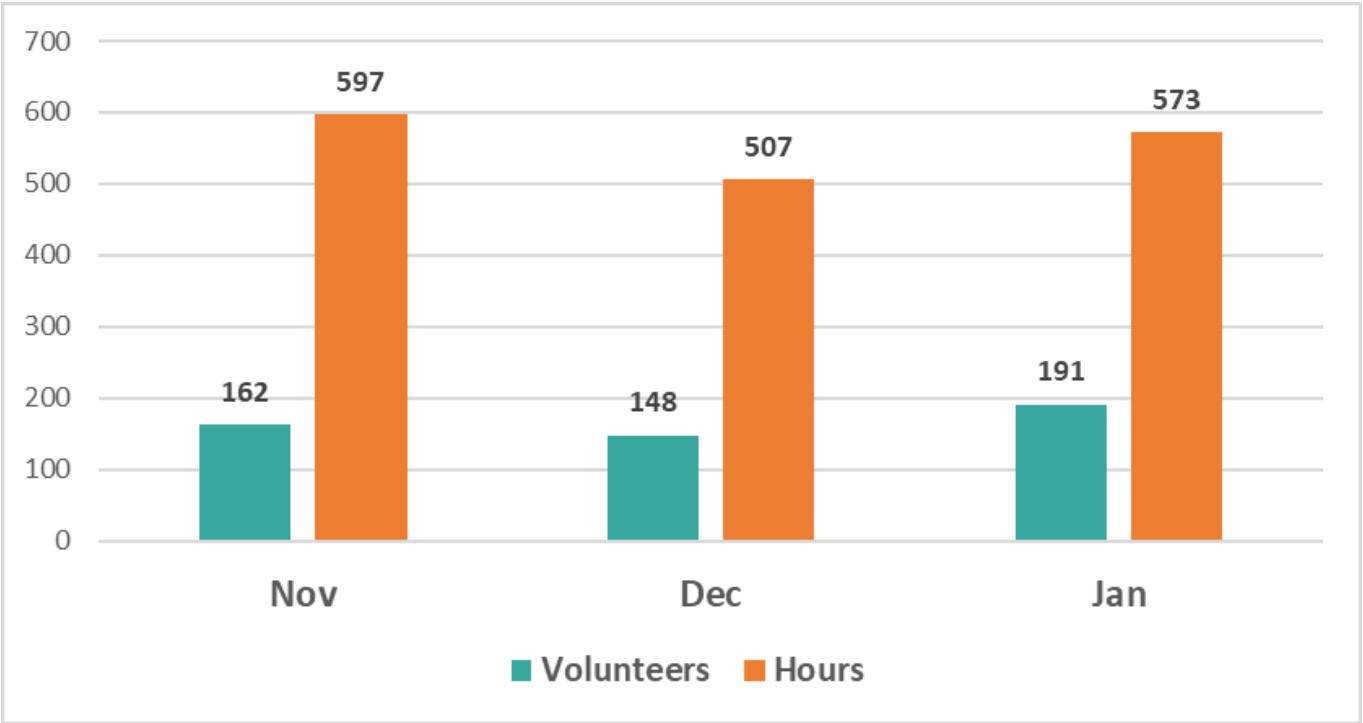
PLATFORMS & TECH



SOCIAL MEDIA



VOLUNTEERS



BUDGET & EXPENDITURES

FBCL	January 2025 - Budget Report
	<i>Fiscal Yar 2025 (10/01/2024 - 09/30/2025)</i>
Total Budget	\$ 23,939,555.00
FTE	267.50
Year to Date Revenues, as of 10/01/2024	
Donations	\$11,140.44
Fines, Copiers, 3D Prints, etc.	\$49,634.39