



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MAY 2025



FORT BEND COUNTY
LIBRARIES

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HIGHLIGHTS

Celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Cinco Ranch Branch: New displays were put up for May celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Science Fiction in Middle Grades, and May flowers.

First Colony Branch: Chinese Calligraphy - Saturday, May 3, from 2:00-3:00 pm - Junrui Garcia, a teaching artist with Young Audiences of Houston, hosted a workshop on Chinese-style calligraphy.

George Memorial Library in Richmond: On May 10, in conjunction with the Multicultural Festival, the North American Youth Chinese Orchestra (NAYCO) performed for an audience of 212 people. On May 19, the Anime Community Club focused on DIY onigiri, played trivia games, and watched anime.

Mission Bend Branch: In addition to the regular monthly programs, staff offered a paper lotus-flower craft program in keeping with May's "You Belong" signature theme of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Missouri City Branch: To celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the library had a large book display with circulating titles. For programming, the library hosted the AAPI Month *Films in Focus* Series and showed *The Farewell*, *Yellow Rose*, and *Lilo and Stitch*.

Sugar Land Branch: On May 8, staff taught Origami for Beginners, an introduction to the basics of Japanese paper folding. In honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we hosted representatives from the Japan America Society of Houston to present "Make Your Own Matcha," a program focused on teaching the history, tradition, and preparation of Japanese matcha. Participants prepared their own cup of tea, then enjoyed it along with traditional Japanese sweets.

Sienna Branch: The library celebrated Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month by presenting a "Passport to Asia" event on Saturday, May 24. The event featured crafts and games. This was an Adult Services and Youth Services collaboration, and 28 visitors participated.

University Branch: On May 3, in celebration of Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the library hosted a Chinese Lion Dance. This program began with a short lesson on the history and origin of the lion dance, then dancers from the USA Shaolin Xiu Culture Centre performed a traditional lion dance in our lobby, to the delight of everyone in the building. The history presentation was attended by 51 people, with about 50 more joining for the dance performance in the lobby, for a total of approximately 101 people in attendance.



HIGHLIGHTS

Summer Reading Challenge

System-Wide - CYCLEHouston has generously donated a 21-inch BMX-style bicycle to each of the branches. These bikes will be given away as drawing prizes at the end of the summer.

Cinco Ranch Branch - To promote summer reading and library resources, Youth staff visited six schools (LCISD, KISD, and Harmony Middle School), with a total of 17 presentations to 5,240 youth and 176 adults/teachers.

First Colony Branch - "Color Our World - Summer Reading Kick Off" themed story time featured songs, rhymes, a puppet show, and information about the Summer Reading Challenge. Visitors were able to ask questions about summer programming and sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge. A "rainbow cloud" craft was available for visitors to take at the end of the program. A total of 17 youth and 18 adults attended this program.

George Memorial Library in Richmond: On May 31, the library hosted a branch-wide Summer Reading Challenge Kick-off event. It included a scavenger hunt throughout the library, as well as carnival games, face painting, crafts, prizes, and a raffle for puppets.



Outreach

Fulshear Branch visited two schools. Between the two visits, 1,969 youth and 113 adults were reached.

University Branch in Sugar Land visited two schools, reaching 1,365 students and 86 adults.

Cinco Ranch Branch reached 5,240 students and 176 adults at six schools.

Sugar Land Branch visited three schools in person and did a virtual visit with a fourth. Staff shared information about upcoming events with 869 students and 46 adults.

First Colony Branch did seven presentations at five schools, reaching 2,473 students and 177 adults.

Missouri City Branch youth staff visited five schools, reaching 983 people for summer reading promotion, and participated in Career Day at Hunter's Glen as well as Fine Arts Night at Glover. Staff also visited 5th Street Head Start for monthly story time.

Sienna Branch visited seven area schools and did 21 presentations, reaching 5,811 students and 700 adults.

George Memorial Library in Richmond: dropped off 16,000 summer reading bookmarks at 30 schools: two Fort Bend ISD schools, seven private/head start schools in our area, and 21 Lamar Consolidated ISD schools. All of the schools were also sent videos and a branch-specific promotional video showing the SRC prizes and discussing upcoming programs.

Missouri City Branch: In addition to the in-house programs, staff attended three Outreach events and interacted with 314 people. Staff had five school visits for the Summer Reading Challenge and interacted with 983 participants.

Sienna Branch: Staff visited seven schools and did 21 Summer Reading Challenge presentations.



HIGHLIGHTS

Mother's Day

Albert George Branch in Needville: In Family Story Time, staff shared stories, songs, and finger plays about Mother's Day. Each child received a take-home craft to make a Mother's Day card.

Mission Bend Branch: Staff planned a special program for Mother's Day - "Zumba With Love" - which 5 adults and 7 children enjoyed. The event was filled with high energy and joyful moments as mothers and daughters danced. From the warm-up to the cool down, the room was filled with laughter. Participants also got to take home a DIY sweatband as a keepsake.

Missouri City Branch: On May 9, the library honored mothers at a Mother's Day Celebration. The event welcomed approximately 60 guests, including mothers from across the community, as well as esteemed guests such as judges, chiefs of staff, and county employees. The celebration was well-received, with positive feedback regarding the program's atmosphere, presentation, and impact in honoring the mothers of Fort Bend County.

Volunteers

Albert George Branch in Needville: Youth Services received 13 applications from individuals interested in volunteering. These applicants have completed their orientation and are scheduled to start their volunteering activities during the first week of June.

Fulshear Branch: Summer volunteer training took place on May 17, where 13 new student volunteers were trained over two sessions.

George Memorial Library in Richmond: Youth Services offered two volunteer orientation/interview sessions on May 12 and 19, with nine youth attending each session. Volunteers were given a brief interview and tested on their ability to sort books and cut out crafts.

Plant Swap and Garden Launch

First Colony Branch: Plant Swap - Saturday, May 26 - Guests were invited to participate in a plant swap. Visitors were given tickets to take up to three plants, based on how many plants they provided. At the end of the swap, they were permitted to take extra leftover plants. The event was attended by 48 adults and 12 children. Plant swaps continue to be popular throughout the library system.



Sugar Land Branch: Community Garden Launch - Saturday, May 31 - Sugar Land Branch officially launched its Community Garden with a kick-off party and presentation. The library was decked out in its floral best to invite visitors to enjoy both the festivities and the brand-new Community Garden. Branch Manager Mary Hulse was joined by Director Roosevelt Weeks and Commissioner Andy Meyers for a ceremonial planting outside before turning the stage over to Fort Bend Master Gardener Nancy Schafer for a talk on pollinators and the gardens that help support them.

HIGHLIGHTS

Arts & Crafts

First Colony Branch: *Hand-Coloring Photographs* - Saturday, May 10 - Local artist Jerry Poscovsky taught a class on hand-coloring photographs. Guests were given a photograph and high-quality water-soluble crayons. Mr. Poscovsky demonstrated how to use the crayons to color over the photographs, creating a new image in the desired colors. Guests were also given the option to use water pens and cotton swabs to blend colors.

Gnome Pots - Friday, May 2 - Adult Services staff taught guests how to make a garden decoration in the shape of a gnome. This program required two clay pots for the body and hat of the gnome, acrylic paint in various colors, a wooden bead to use as a gnome, and hot glue to attach the two pots as well as the "nose."

Jewish Heritage Month - Linda Woods Painting Class - Monday, May 12 - Guests painted a painting inspired by Linda Woods' Hamsa painting. Staff explained the origins of Jewish American Heritage month and the meaning of the hamsa hand.

Watercolor 101 - Sailboat Landscape - Tuesday, May 13 - Guests learned how to use watercolors to paint a landscape with the sea, the sky, a sand dune, and a sailboat.

Mamie George Branch in Stafford: Adult Program: DIY Macrame Plant Hanger using old T-shirts.

University Branch: On May 2, the library hosted *Craft Squad: Dragonfly Window Charms*. In this program, participants used wire and beads to create beautiful, beaded sun catchers shaped like dragonflies. They could use suction cups to attach them to windows or string them up and hang them from a rear-view mirror.

Craft Squad Social met three times (May 9, 16, 23). This program is for adults to bring their own craft projects to work on while socializing with fellow crafters. They share techniques, tips and tricks, and enjoy casual chit-chat. This month, the library had a total of 26 people in attendance. Some of the crafts done include: needlepoint, beading, cross stitch, Zen doodling, crochet, and coloring.

On May 17, the library hosted its 4th *Art & Craft Supply Swap*. This program is very popular with visitors, and it seems to grow every year. This year, staff handed out more Early-Bird Tickets to donors than ever before and had a line of approximately 50 people waiting outside the doors before the event opened. Even better - the community took almost as much as they gave, leaving little for staff to clean up!

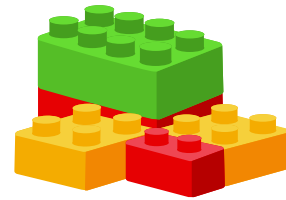
Sewa International & AmeriCorp Disaster-Preparedness Presentation

In collaboration with AmeriCorps Texas, the Fort Bend County Health & Human Services Department, and Sewa International, Fort Bend County Libraries hosted a series of free **Disaster-Preparedness Workshops** for children and adults. Each workshop included one session specifically for children and one session for adults. Families learned ways to become better prepared and work together as a team during emergency situations, such as hurricanes, floods, winter storms, heat waves, and pandemics.

This workshop took place at **George Memorial Library in Richmond, Sugar Land Branch, First Colony Branch, Mission Bend Branch, University Branch in Sugar Land, Cinco Ranch Branch, Missouri City Branch, Fulshear Branch, and Sienna Branch.**

PHOTO GALLERY

Build Club at Mamie George Branch Library in Stafford



Mother's Day at Missouri City Branch Library

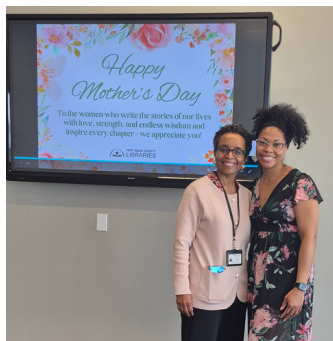


PHOTO GALLERY

Community Garden Launch Party at Sugar Land Branch Library



Fort Bend County Spring Fun Run



PHOTO GALLERY

Culinary Club at University Branch Library



George Memorial Library in Richmond - Rosenberg Rotary Club Presentation



PHOTO GALLERY

Summer Reading Challenge Kick-Off event at George Memorial Library in Richmond



Puppet
Winners!



Lion Dance at University Branch Library in Sugar Land



Art & Craft Swap at University Branch Library in Sugar Land



FACILITIES UPDATE

Albert George Branch in Needville

Maintenance removed two light poles in front of the building and installed replacements, trimmed long branches from the tree in the front of the library, and removed dead bugs found within the fluorescent light fixtures.

Cinco Ranch Branch

Power issue with ELS-5 not turning on; tech came out promptly and repaired. ELS-5 monitor loose on its base and removed for safety.

First Colony Branch

Roof repair occurred Dec 30- Jan 3: Currently no leaks for previous leaking areas; staff will continue to monitor. Suppression-release system in outside book drop needs to be repaired.

Fulshear Branch

The library was closed May 19-26 for repairs to the HVAC and other various issues, however, certain issues still need to be addressed. There is a strong chemical smell in the Meeting Room and Multipurpose Room. The Meeting Room has water leaking from the ceiling and the floor. The blinds in the conference room still need to be removed. We have an increase in the frequency of ceiling tiles becoming loose. The HVAC system continues to need weekly tweaking, especially during hot weather. The terrace is still unavailable due to damage from Hurricane Beryl. The list of issues was updated to include enhanced importance on the HVAC, ceiling tiles, & Meeting Room.

George Memorial Library in Richmond

The following maintenance items were addressed in May: Painted throughout the building; Repaired Information Desk cabinet door; Replaced ceiling tiles; Removed election signs; Repaired urinal in public men's restroom.

FACILITIES UPDATE

Missouri City Branch

Rodent was spotted in the Youth Services Manager's office. Sticky traps were set out and within four hours of placing the traps, five mice were captured. A mouse entry hole was also spotted by the windows. Rodent droppings were spotted in the break room. Maintenance was alerted; will need more sticky traps. The motor for one of the A/C air handlers was replaced, and the A/C is working properly again.

Mamie George Branch in Stafford

A leak has developed in the roof. It has caused one of the lights to go out, so it was removed and the panel left open to drip into some trashcans until maintenance is able to inspect/repair. A few other ceiling tiles have started to take on water and bulge as well. Maintenance has been notified; in the meantime, staff have covered the computers near the tiles in question in case that starts to leak as well.

Additionally, the City has begun work on the road leading into the school. They closed off the road and blocked the library's parking-lot entrance on that side as well. Staff were informed that it will be an 8-week project as they will be working on lots of the roads and sidewalks near the school. It is unclear if the road will be blocked for the library for the entire 8 weeks. So far, it has not impacted library use too much as visitors are still able to enter the building from the other parking-lot entrance.

Sugar Land Branch

Maintenance staff fixed a short in the parking-lot lights, realigned a crooked curb stopper, removed a dead tree, and fixed a toilet that wasn't flushing properly in the women's restroom. Additionally, staff reported a new wet spot on the ceiling after heavy rains, adjacent to the previous leak above the JNF 900s.

University Branch

The UH parking-lot lights - which have been out for the past 12 months - were repaired by the county library maintenance department. The maintenance team brought in a lift and replaced the light bulbs in the portion of the parking lot used by the library staff and visitors. The lighting has gotten progressively worse over the years, and the public parking spots and particularly the staff spots have been utilized in near darkness. The maintenance team has replaced 18 light bulbs with LED bulbs.

DATA & NUMBERS

MAY 2025

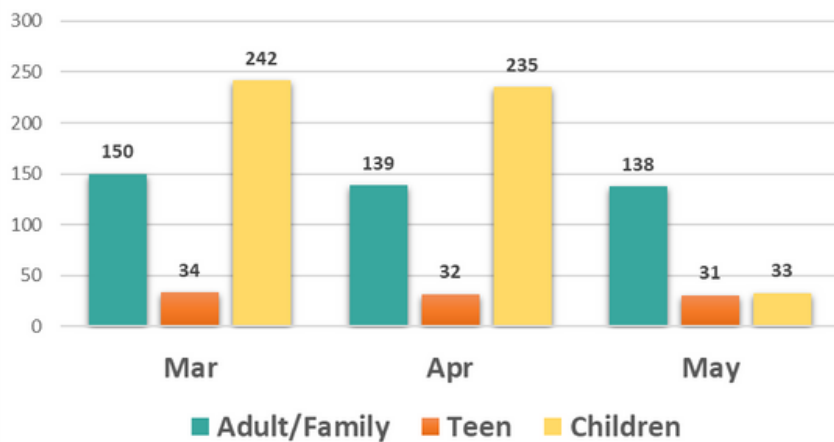


FORT BEND COUNTY
LIBRARIES

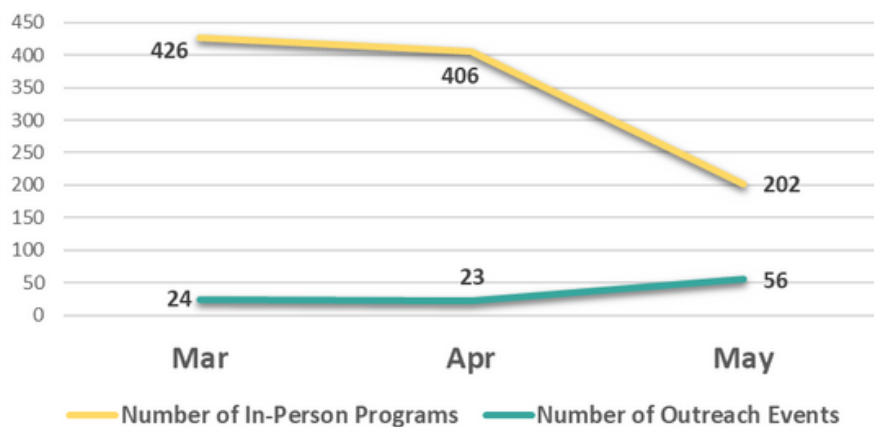
PROGRAMS



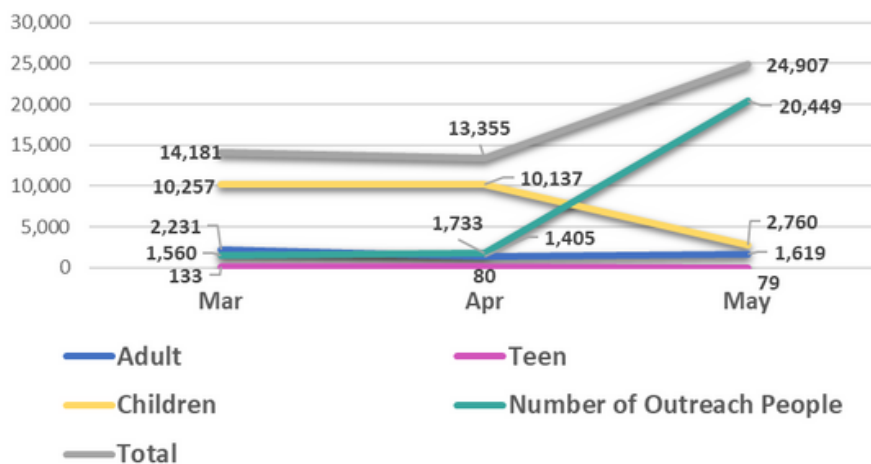
Programs by Audience



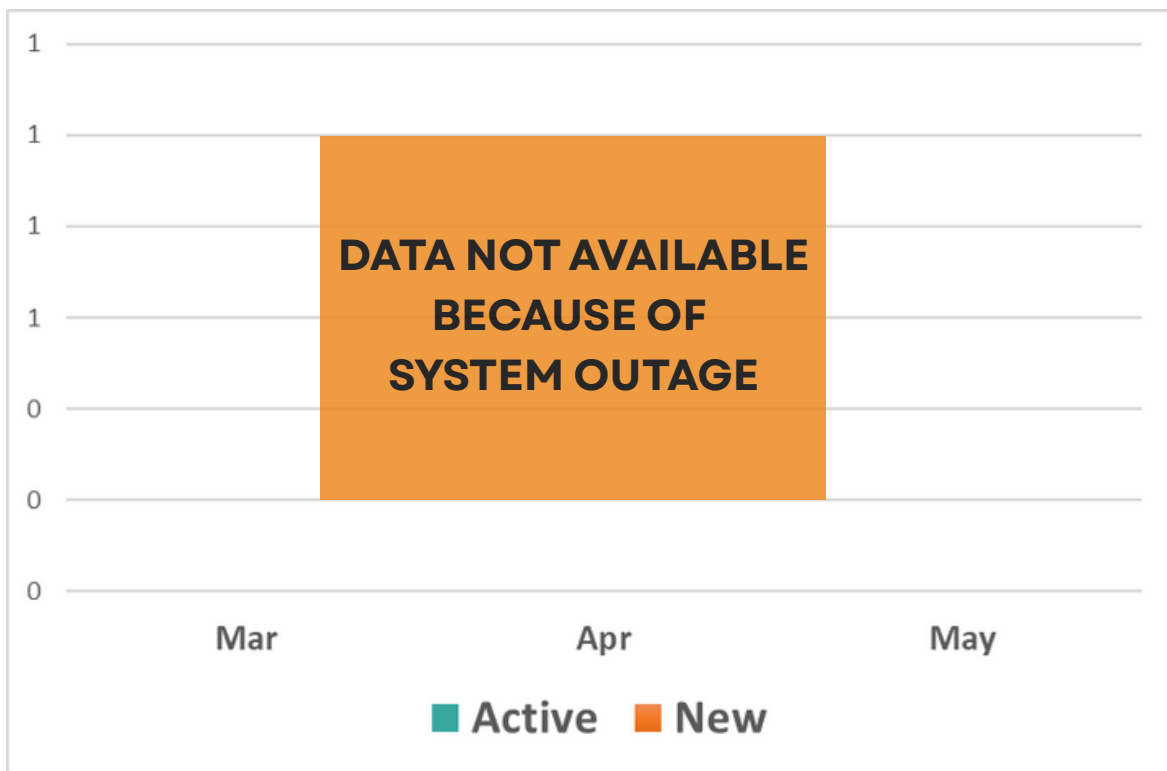
Programs In-Person & Outreach



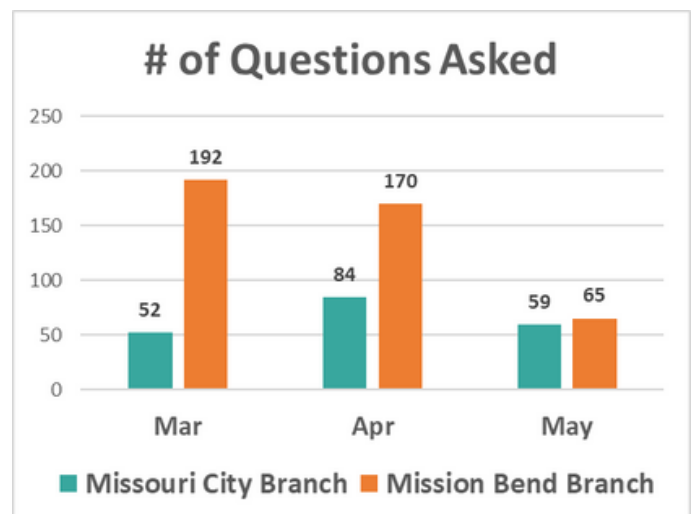
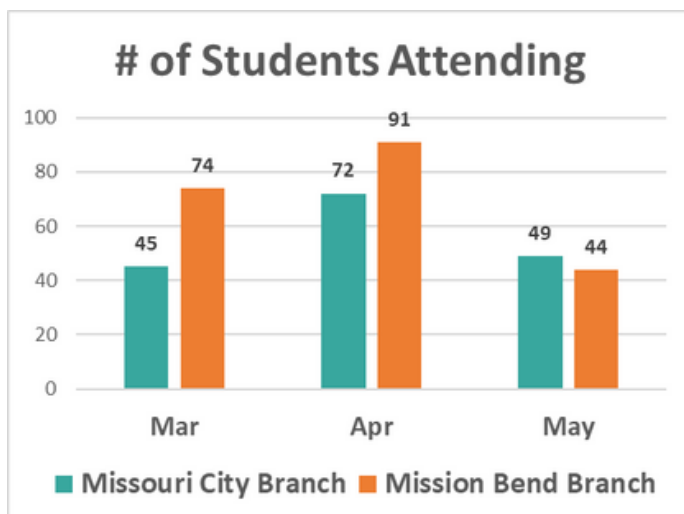
Program Attendance



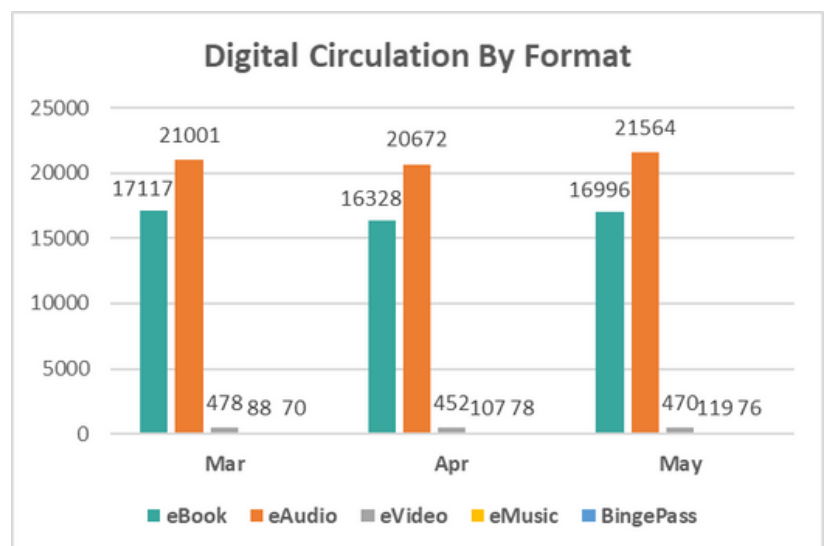
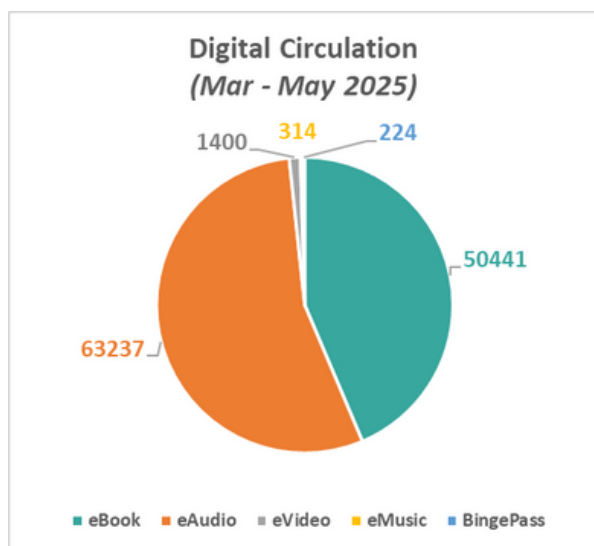
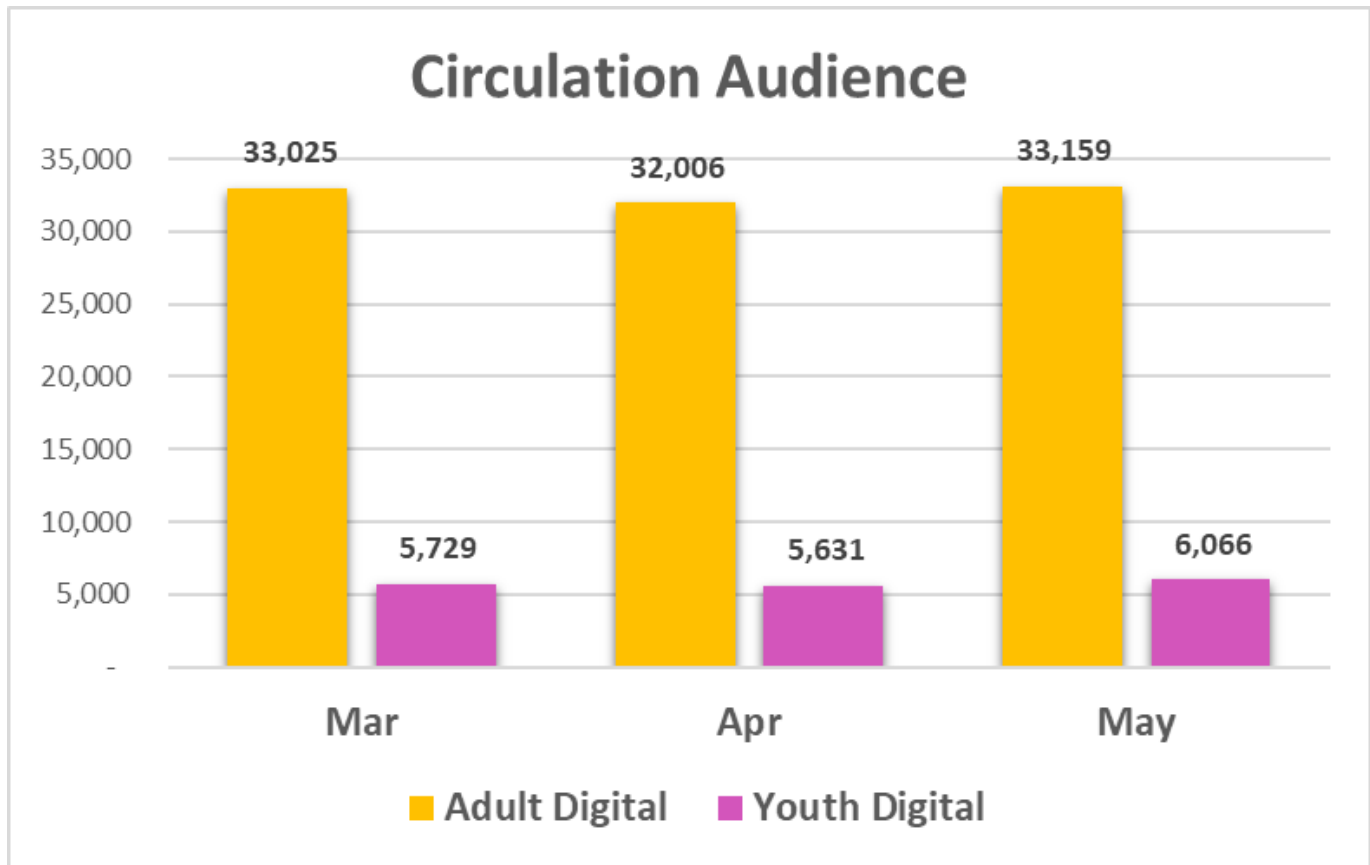
CARDHOLDERS



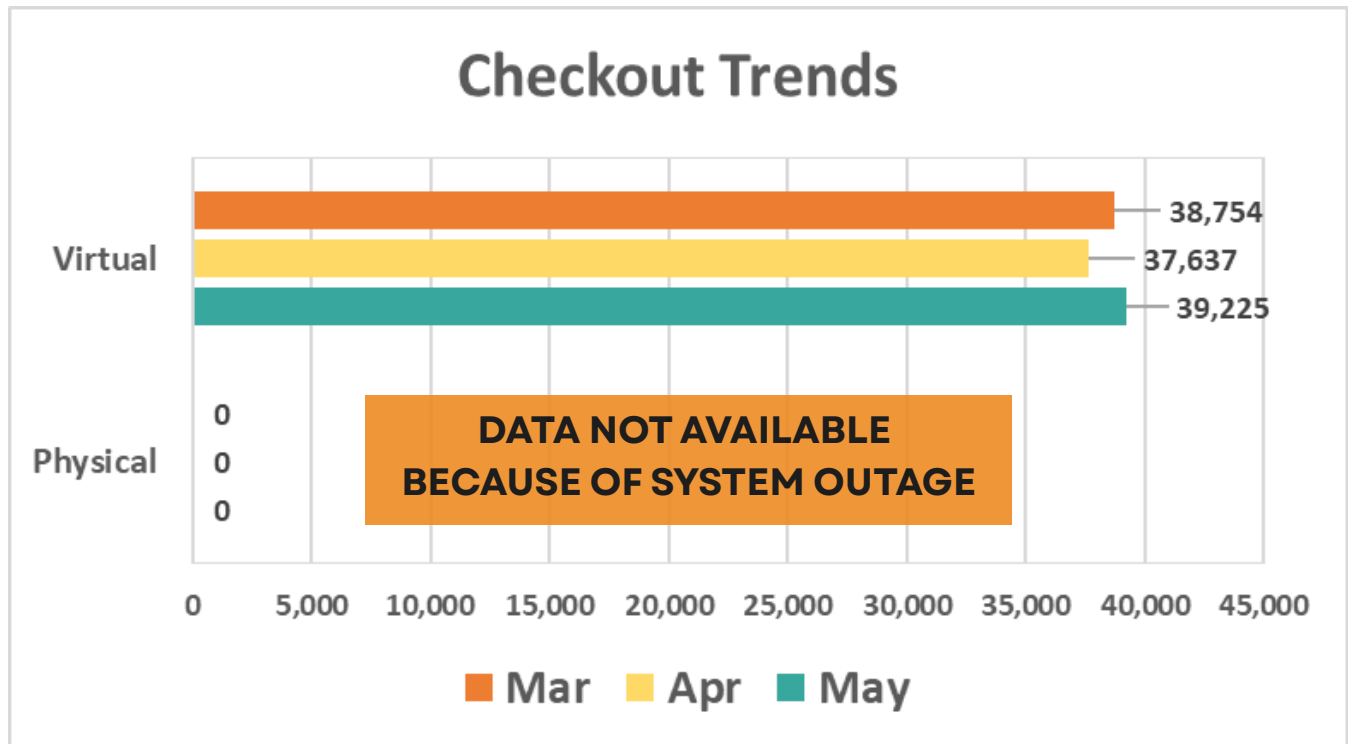
TEACHER IN THE LIBRARY



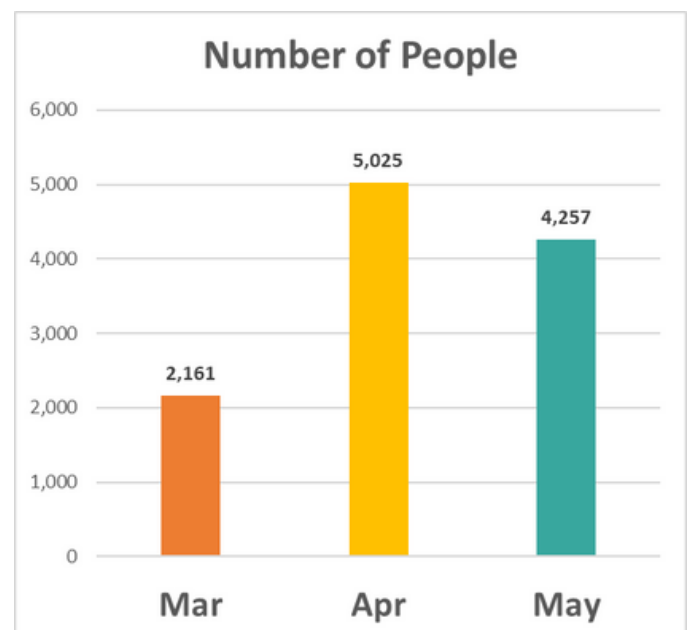
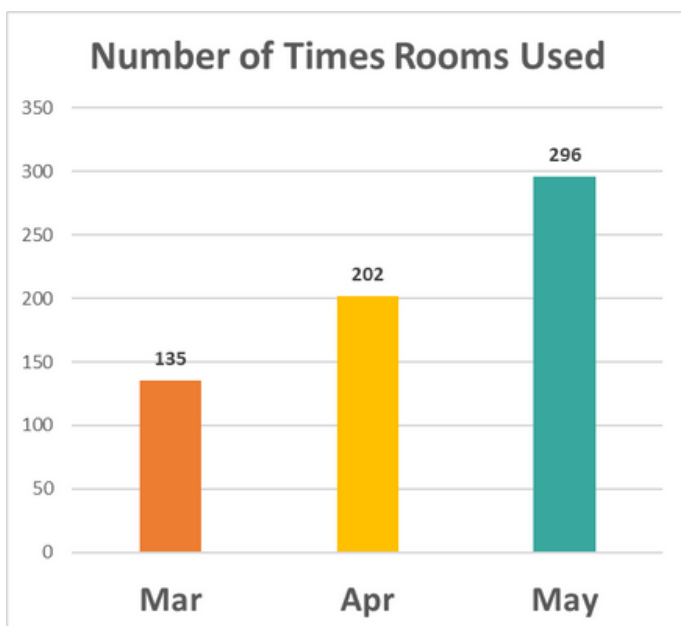
CIRCULATION



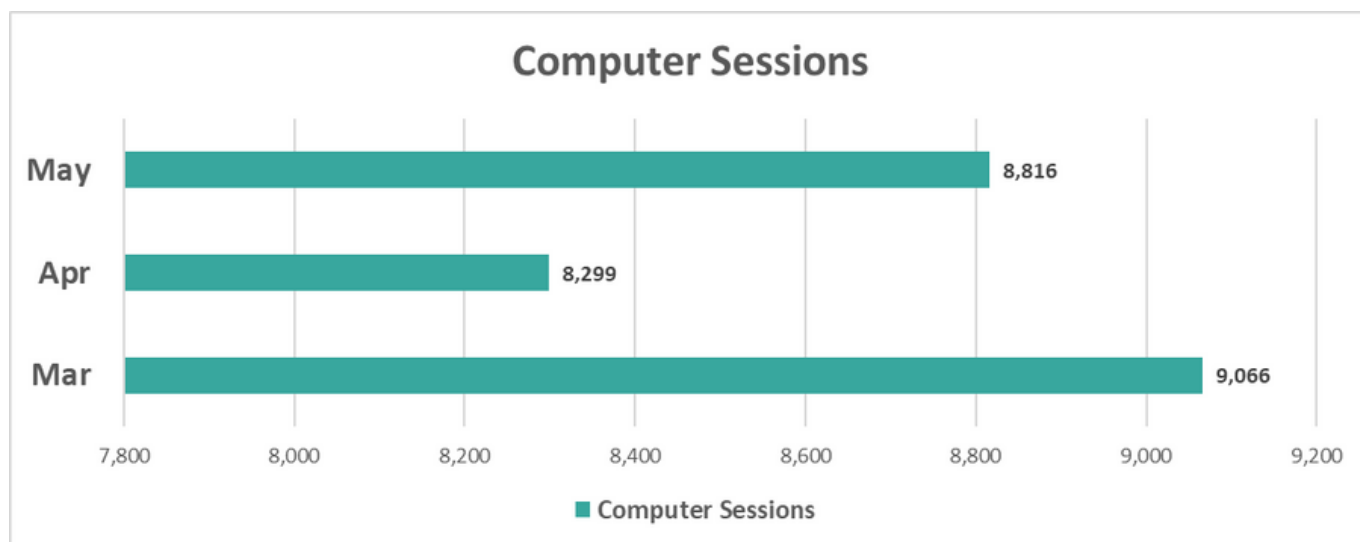
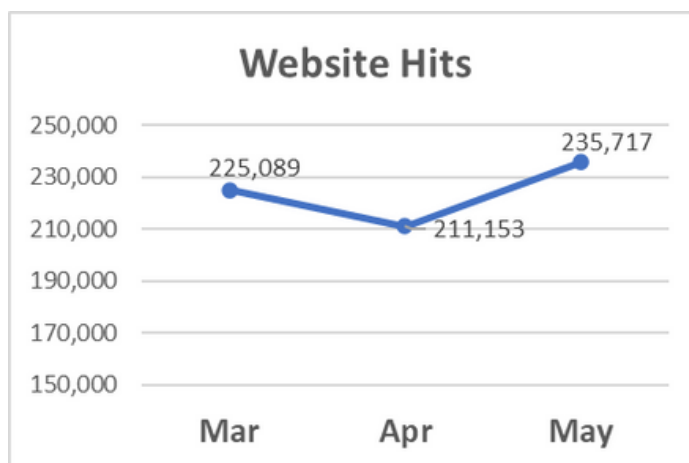
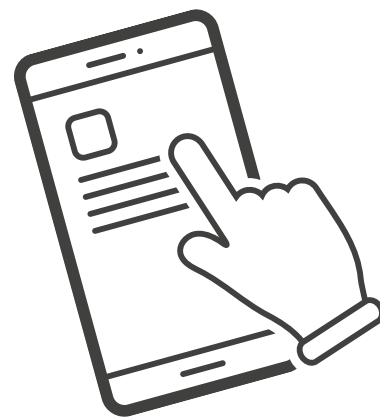
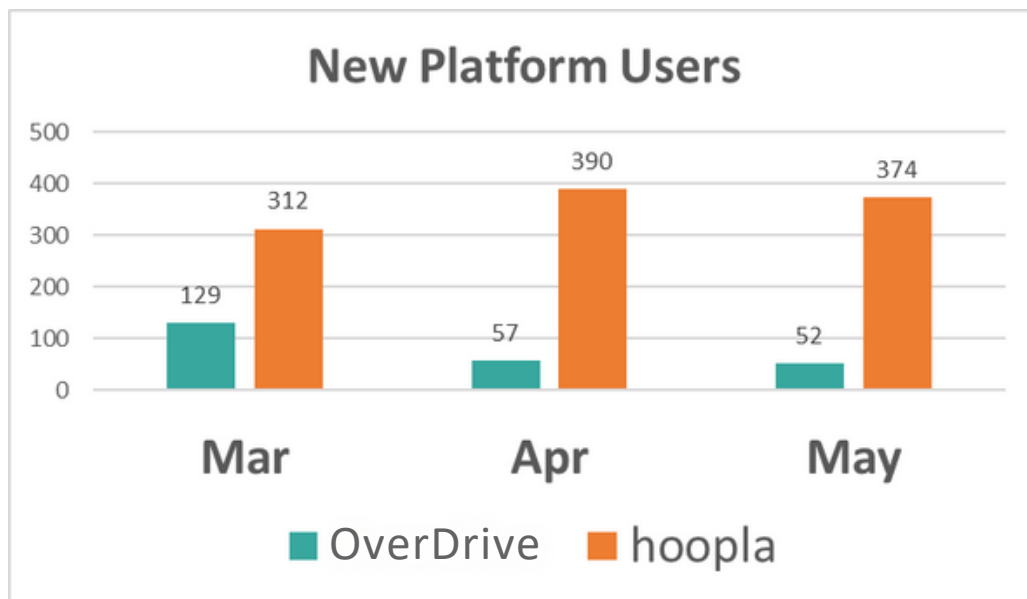
CHECKOUTS



MEETING ROOM RESERVATIONS



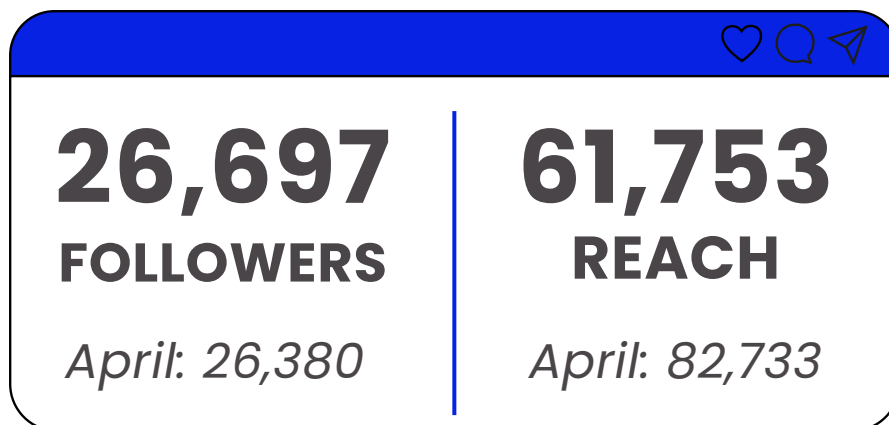
PLATFORMS & TECH



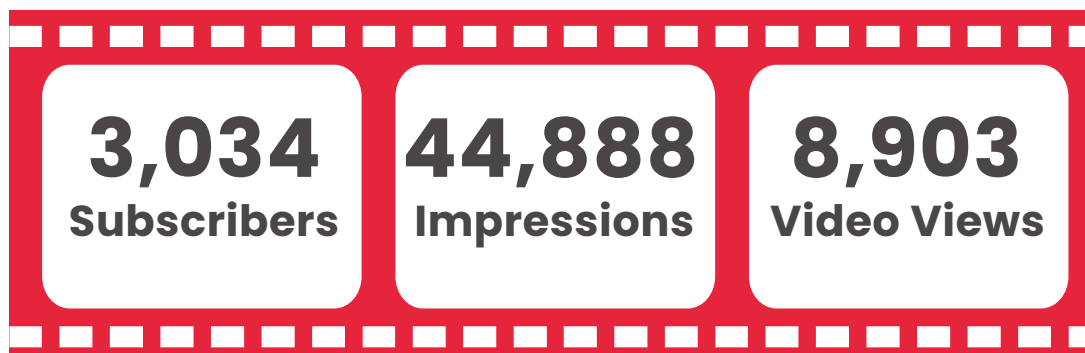
SOCIAL MEDIA

May 2025

Facebook *(all pages combined)*



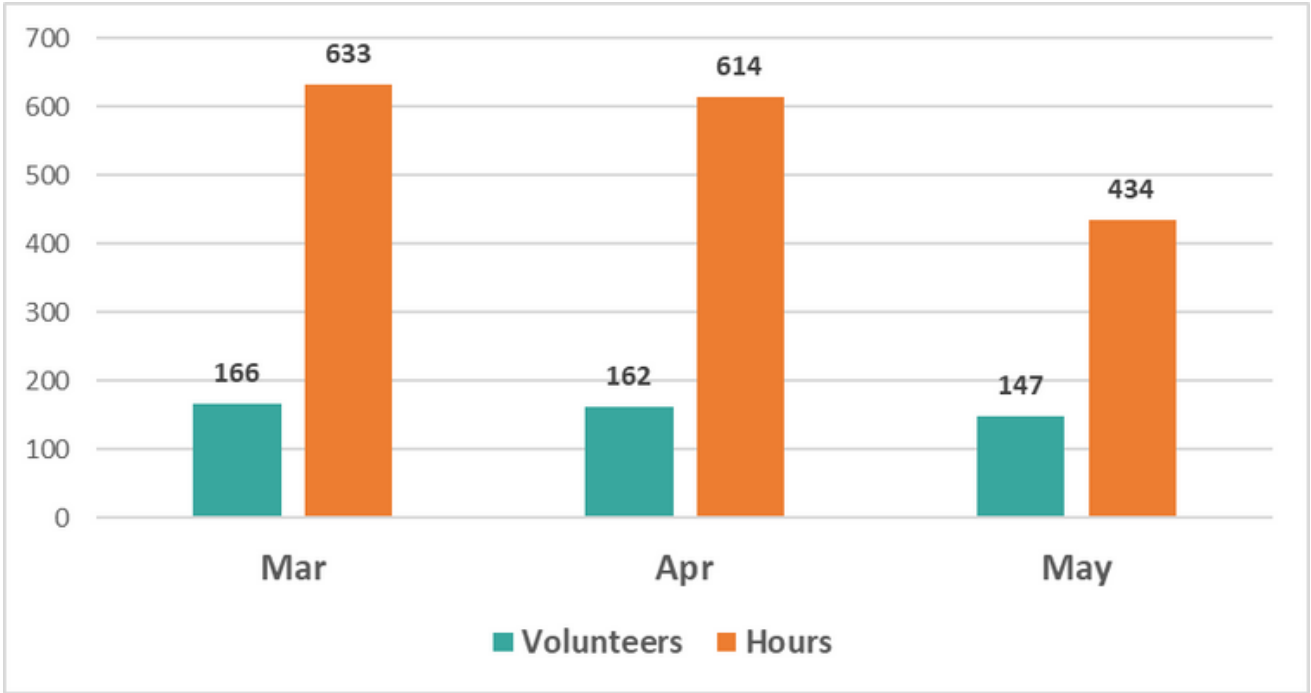
YouTube



Instagram



VOLUNTEERS



BUDGET & EXPENDITURES

FBCL	May 2025 - Budget Report
	Fiscal Year 2025 (10/01/2024 - 9/30/2025)
Total Budget	\$23,939,555.00
FTW	\$267.50
Year to Date Revenues, as of 10/01/2024	
Donations	\$42,936.45
Fines, Copiers, 3D Prints, etc.	\$62,134.06