

Circulation:

2017	17-Mar	Feb-17	Jan-17	Mar-16
Checkouts/renewals/in-house:	28205	24442	25428	29863
Ebook Circulation	1424	1207	1372	1407
ILL Total Circulation	5928	4920	5024	5602
New Patrons	242	186	198	301
Total Patrons	17722	18058	17926	18712

- March circulation was up from February—Spring is in the air!
- The numbers from 2016 include the bump in interest that the new building generated upon opening. I am excited to see that our numbers for this year are comparable.
- Access Services is working with PrairieCat to change the way our catalog is arranged to display items held at DKPL first when a patron searches for an item. Currently the display is alphabetical so patrons need to scroll to see if we hold the item.

Staff and Volunteer Updates:

- Susan Garlisch joined us as our new Teen Librarian on April 3rd. She has worked in public libraries for a number of years, most recently the Geneva Public Library. Susan brings a great deal of enthusiasm and patience—both necessary for teens!—and has already generated some good ideas for library-wide programming.
- Carolyn Tatman is leaving DKPL. Her last day is April 12th.
- A new Head of Adult Services has been identified for Board approval. Britta Gregor Krabill has more than 12 years of experience as a public librarian, serving all ages. She has a particular interest in digital resources, and a strong background in management and collection development. If approved, her first day will be April 24th.
- Josh McCarthy has accepted the position of Tech Desk and Studio manager. He will be starting his new role on April 24th.
- The library is currently reviewing applications for the positions of Public Relations and Events Manager and Teen/Tween Specialist. Interviews are expected to take place in the next few weeks.

Youth Services:

Children's Programs	Adults	Children	Total
Recurring Story Times and Crafts	468	629	1097

Teacher in the Library	3	7	10
School Visits	12	40	52
Pokémon League	15	28	43
Various Activities	8	19	27
Beauty Visits	84	109	111
Homeschool Happenings	8	24	32
Magic Matt's Family Fun Show	70	161	231
Movie Showings	2	9	11
			1696

- Magic Matt’s Family Fun Show was a huge success, with 70 adults and 161 children in attendance (for a whopping total of 231 patrons) on Wednesday, March 29. The Yusunas room was packed; some people even had to stand in the entryway to view the show.
- Jim and Deb Paulin from the Russell Woods Forest Preserve visited Little Learners on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 21 and 22. The children loved having the chance to learn about birds and their nests from our special guests. 19 people (11 children and 8 adults) attended the program on Tuesday, and 69 people (39 children and 30 adults) saw them between Marti’s three programs on Wednesday.
- Homeschool Happenings brought together 30 kids and parents to test out STEM concepts—they floated boats and did an egg drop for March.
- Jessica from *Parties with Character* appeared as “Beauty” (from *Beauty and the Beast*) on March 30 and again on April 7, which was very popular with the children. 111 people (47 adults and 64 children) came to the first event, and 82 (37 adults and 45 children) came to the second, where they heard the princess tell a story and got to visit with her.
- At 10 a.m. on April 22nd we will host a Money Smart Week Big Read Story time, featuring the statewide Big Read book, *Money Doesn’t Grow on Trees* by St. Louis author Deletra Hudson. Gavin Wilson from Country Financial will read stories before the children complete a craft and activity related to financial literacy.



Teen Services:

Teen/Tween Programs	Adults	Children	Total
Spring Break Tournaments	0	12	12
In the Name of Justice	1	7	8
Movie Showings	0	2	2
			22

- Susan Garlisch spent her first week observing the teens and getting to know the dynamics of the room before beginning reference service.
- The pilot of keeping the door to the Teen Room unlocked but closed seems to have decreased the noise coming from the room itself, so we are planning to continue that practice.
- There have been a number of incidents of poor behavior from teens in the library—we are working to address those. Principal Tim Vincent is working with Susan to come up with a game plan for the teens to make productive use of their time in the library. He has come by to visit and be a visible presence several times over the past few weeks, and has been helpful in introducing a number of the teens by name. Susan and I have meetings scheduled with DHS staff to discuss their ideas and suggestions in the next few weeks.
- Several of the teens offered suggestions for programs they would like to see in the library, and Susan is working to incorporate a number of those in future programming.

Adult Services:

Adult Book Clubs

- The General Book Club discussed *Open City* by Teju Cole. 7 people attended. The April meeting will discuss a work of nonfiction, *When Books Went to War: the Stories That Helped Us Win World War II* by Molly Guptill Manning.
- Off the Beaten Path Book Club discussed *Shades of Grey* by Jasper Fforde with 5 attendees. In April, we will read *The Quiet Girl* by Peter Hoeg.
- Crime Fiction Book Club discussed *Jade Dragon Mountain* by Elsa Hart with 6 attendees for the first meeting, and 5 for the second. In April, we will read *The Passenger* by Lisa Lutz.
- Two book clubs meet outside of the library but utilize our staff and resources to access materials. The Last Monday Book Group read *The Illusion of Separateness* by Simon Van Boog. The University Women's Book Club read *Miller's Valley* by Anna Quindlen.

Local History Room

- The Local History Room was open for a total of 140 hours in March, resulting in 42 reference transactions (up from 22 in January).
- AncestryLibrary was used in the LH Room twice in the month of March, and a total of 279 searches were logged for the library. This is significantly fewer than last month (2158), possibly because the two regular users were absent all month.

Philanthropy Center

- Our database usage for WealthEngine, Foundation Directory Online, and Foundation Grants to individuals were all lower than I would like to see (1-2 logins each).
- Teresa Iversen submitted the annual FIN Network Achievement Report required by the Funding Information Network, which showed that we meet their basic requirements.

- Teresa is planning some Foundation Directory Online workshops for nonprofits to help increase usage and awareness of these resources.
- Teresa also attended a webinar for libraries seeking funding opportunities. Visualizing Funding for Libraries is a free online tool that uses Foundation Maps and provides data specifically for libraries. It can be accessed at <http://libraries.foundationcenter.org>.

Adult Programs

Adult Programs	Adults	Children	Total
Book Clubs	23	0	23
Computer Classes	22	0	22
NIU Alumni Tour	25	0	25
English Teacher in the Library	64	0	64
Kishwaukee ESL	165	0	165
Heartland Blood Drive	11	0	11
			310

- We have invited the Heartland Blood Bank back for another program later in the summer when they will have incentives, in the hopes of getting a larger turnout.
- English Teacher in the Library and the Kishwaukee ESL classes are both very popular.

Tech Desk and Collaboration Studio:

Maker/Collaboration Studio	13 classes	27 attendees
Computer Classes	8 classes	25 attendees

- Arduino classes are not as popular as expected. We are working to identify if a different format or time of day would improve attendance.
- Emily Faulkner and Joshua McCarthy attended a Maker Summit in Chicago on March 27th. The summit brought together maker spaces from the region, ranging from libraries and schools to universities and for-profit entities to discuss issues and solutions.
- The Collaboration Studio raised \$163.28 in March through 3D print sales.
- Staff tested a new type of material for the 3D printer—cork-infused PLA plastic.
- Excel continues to be the most popular computer class for our patrons.



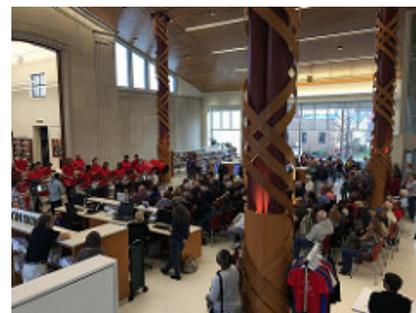
Public Internet Computer Usage

Adult	Mar-17	Feb-17	Mar-16
Total Sessions	1947	1709	1707
Total Time: Min	92905	80577	67715
Average Session:	47.71	47.15	40.1
Teen	Mar-17	Feb-17	Mar-16
Total Sessions	25	13	
Total Time: Min	608	706	
Average Session:	24.31	54.3	
Children	Mar-17	Feb-17	Mar-16
Total Sessions	490	445	211
Total Time: Min	20664	19038	1084
Average Session:	42.16	42.78	40.01

- Internet usage increased in March, though the length of sessions for most remained fairly steady at about 45 minutes per use.

Other Programs:

- The NIU Steelband performed on April 8 to a standing-room only crowd of about 250 in the main atrium. Attendees of all ages enjoyed the beautiful music and the after-hours nature of the event.
- Samantha Hathaway, Theresa Winterbauer, Susan Garlisch and Teresa Iversen have been working to prepare our Summer Reading Programs for children, teens, and adults. This year's theme will be "Reading by Design."
- The library had a booth at the Community Expo in Sycamore on March 30th. We had a steady stream of interest from people looking to learn more about the library or to engage in our interactive bookmark making activity. Kids from 3-83 took part in making individualized bookmarks.



Collections and Materials:

- Collection development has been balanced among staff members temporarily, but areas are being assigned to Susan and there are others waiting for the new Head of Adult Services to take over.
- We have added over 450 items just for this month, and have mended about 140 items including cleaning discs.

Staff Training and Development:

- The library closed for two hours on the morning of March 29th for staff training. We spent the first hour talking with Clinton Rosette principal Tim Vincent about the teens who come from his school. Mr. Vincent gave the staff some insights about the kids and some of the resources (or lack thereof) they may have at their disposal. He also gave some practical tips for building relationships and having conversations with the kids. The second hour was spent with representatives from EAP, who led us in a number of teambuilding activities to get people working with members of other departments. Staff seemed to enjoy the activities, and several followed up afterwards to say that they were utilizing the techniques in their interactions with the teens or had reached out to EAP for support with personal or work-related issues.
- Staff have been given new job descriptions and responsibilities based on the revised organizational chart. There has been cross-training for various people taking on new tasks, which is expected to continue for the next few weeks as people become accustomed to their new roles.

Public Relations:

Media coverage for the month of March:

Date	Media Outlet	Topic	DKPL Staff Reference(s)	Link
3/27/2017	Daily Chronicle	Jacob Haish	N/A	http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/03/20/letter-help-commemorate-legacy-of-jacob-haish/aijywoq/

- The Library also featured prominently in the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce annual directory, with a two-page spread on winning Business of the Year for 2016.
- The #ProudlyDeKalb group will begin posting library stories on their website, <https://proudlydekalb.com/>
- A list of downtown sites where flyers for upcoming library programs can be posted has been created. These sites will begin to promote library events.
- Upcoming library programs will begin to be posted on the PlanIt DeKalb and the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce websites.
- The library's meeting rooms have been added to eventective.com, a website that lists local venues and vendors.
- The library placed advertisements for the April 8th Steelband Concert and the April 15th "Lunch is on Us" events in the Midweek, the Chronicle, and on the Chronicle website.

Grants/Fundraising/Donations:

- A number of pledges were fulfilled in March.
- The response from the direct-mail and fundraising letter was disappointing. It may be better to leave longer between mailed donation requests.
- The DeKalb County Community Foundation's Give DeKalb day of giving will take place on May 4th. People can give to the library directly, which will be supplemented by funds from the trust. More information can be found at: <http://dcmp.org/2017/01/11/give-dekalb-county-2017/>

Building:

- Six new security cameras have been added to the building.
- We are still working to complete the addition of another server to allow for a possible failure without causing a complete shutdown of our network. This work is approximately 70 % complete.
- Several issues with air handlers occurred during the month.
- The city has been asked to investigate a sulfuric smell coming from some of the sinks in the staff areas. We are waiting for their report on the safety of the water before deciding how to proceed.
- A fence has been installed around the generator on the north east corner of the building.
- Tuckpointing has been taking place on the south side of the Haish building.
- A buffer has been purchased to help maintain the terrazzo in the new building.

Security Issues:

- Only a few minor security incidents of patrons being ask to leave for the day because of behavior. One patron was banned for a week because of inappropriate langue and using it toward a staff member.

Administration:

- Pat Adams has begun working on the LACONI survey

Upcoming Events:

- On April 15th the library is kicking off the DeKalb Kiwanis Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds campaign with a Lunch is on Us pizza event.
- The Friends Spring Book Sale will take place April 21-23.
- The Songkran Lunar New Year Thai Festival will take place in the Zimmerman Room on April 22nd from 11am-3pm
- April 22nd also kicks off Money Smart Week here at the library.