

**Circulation:**

Circulation Statistics	Jan-17	Dec-16
Checkouts and renewals	25428	20109
Ebook circulation	1372	1448
ILL circulation total (lent and borrowed)	5024	4006
New patrons	198	151
Current total patron count	17926	18160

- A large volume of mail from the last all-patron mailing was returned due to residents no longer being present. The circulation staff and staff from other departments all pitched in to remove those individuals from our records. Due to this cleanup the total patron count decreased slightly from the December figure, despite the library adding nearly 200 new members to our rolls.
- ILL usage is well balanced—the library lends approximately as many items as our patrons borrow from other libraries within the consortium—2507 lent and 2517 borrowed.

**Staff and Volunteer Updates:**

- Emily Faulkner started as new Director on January 16.

**Children's Services**

- For Martin Luther King, Jr. Day we partnered with NIU's Center for Black Studies. We provided the space and seven activities. NIU provided a wonderful paint activity and LOTS of great volunteers. The volunteers manned the activity tables, and one read to children. The approximately 30 NIU volunteers were mostly from the Black Male Initiative and the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Despite the terrible weather – lots of ice and extreme cold, followed by rain and fog, 30 brave adults and 30 brave children attended. Including the NIU students, we had 90 people for the children's program. Some of the volunteers then went on to assist with the teen program, which made the cover of the newspaper.



- At the beginning of the month we offered “Coding with Minecraft”. The computers were full of eager young coders. Laura Warmke, school librarian and library volunteer, organized the program, which started in the Story-Activity room with a video clip about the “Hour of Code,” an international initiative to teach coding skills to children. The program was attended by 22 people (18 children and 4 adults). Some enjoyed it so much that they stayed well past the ‘official’ end of the program to keep on coding.



- 4-C Fun with Your Little One, a Tuesday evening program, began in January. After the first evening, it has been well attended. Jodie Thunder and Clara Turner are the 4-C Parent Educators who run this program, which seems more popular each week.
- The local Daughters of the American Revolution (General John Stark chapter) sponsored a reading contest – “History for the Holidays” – for children in grades 1-5. There were four categories (fiction and non-fiction for lower elementary, and fiction and non-fiction for upper elementary). 15 children read a book about American history and wrote a report about it to enter the contest. Although a few boys entered, the winners were all girls: Samantha V., Lincoln 2<sup>nd</sup> grade; Anna J., home school 2<sup>nd</sup> grade; Saila N., Jefferson 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; and Brooke P., Tyler 4<sup>th</sup> grade. {Saila is pictured below.}



*Saila N, Jefferson 3rd Grade winner*

- Pokémon League, hosted on Monday evenings by the Gaming Goat was well attended each week. In February the program will move to Tuesday evenings.

- Movies shown in the Story-Activity Room have varying attendance. The most popular and best attended movie Theresa has ever had was *Finding Dory* with an attendance of 61 (33 children and 28 adults). The entire audience stayed for the whole show. The *Secret Life of Pets* was also popular, with 18 attending (5 adults and 13 children). This was a more usual crowd. *Pete's Dragon*, shown on a Friday afternoon after school, kept the audience entertained for the first hour and a half, but after that a few of the younger families left to head home to dinner, leaving only the hard-core movie goers to stay till the end of the 103 minute show.
- This was the last month of the outreach program Marti Brown has been doing at University Village and Conexion Comunidad. She finished and turned in the grant report for this program to DCCF. A new grant from DCCF will pay for the next outreach program which begins in February. Like the previous outreach program, the new one focuses on at-risk preschool children.

### Teen Services

- The teen room has become a local hangout, with a number of reference and materials questions being asked every day of staff. Now that the room is open it offers a place for kids to come outside of school and home to relax and socialize in a safe and enriching environment.
- Video games are very popular—52 teens signed up to use the games, with Call of Duty and NBA2K being the current favorites.
- There were 4 Pop-up Movie programs throughout the month screening *Allegiant (Divergent volume 3)* and *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. A total of 23 teens participated in these programs.
- We had 41 teens and tweens attend our regularly scheduled monthly programs: Magic Muffins Discuss a Book + Activity (tween); Adventure @ Your Library (teen, meets twice monthly); Magic Muffins Magazine (tween, meets twice monthly); Cinematic Teen Reads (teen); and TAG (teen).
- For Martin Luther King Jr. Day the teens celebrated with nearly 20 members of NIU's Black Male Initiative (BMI) in the Teen Room. Members of BMI and 7 local teens and tweens enjoyed pizza and pop and participated in a thought provoking and powerful discussion on personal experiences of diversity. The teens and tweens were very insightful and it was very moving to hear of experiences from the BMI members. Several short stories and poems were presented to draw connections between different experiences, as well as a guided discussion led by the teen librarian. BMI has expressed interest in working with the library again in the future.
- The teen librarian also visited Clinton-Rosette Middle School and met with six seventh grade classes (about 150 students) to share some fun book titles and book trailers. That evening and the rest of the week we have had several new groups of students coming in to hang out in the Teen Room. It's always fun when they come into the library and exclaim, "I saw you at my school!"
- There have been occasional patron complaints about teens in the library outside of the teen room. We are looking for possible solutions to help everyone enjoy the library together.

### Adult Services

#### **Adult book clubs**

- The General Book Club The General Book Club met on Monday, January 9 at 7:00 pm to discuss a work of fiction, *The Excellent Lombards* by Jane Hamilton. 7 people attended the book discussion. The next Book Club will take place Monday, February 13 at 7:00 pm. We will discuss *My Life in France* by Julia Child.
- The Off the Beaten Path Book Club discussed *The Peripheral* by William Gibson with 5 attendees. In February we will read *Oryx and Crake* by Margaret Atwood.

- The Crime Fiction Book Club is on hiatus through February and will resume in March with *Jade Dragon Mountain*, by Elsa Hart.
- A community book club, the Last Monday Reading Group, is a local book club with 8-10 members who meet at the Lutheran Church on Russell Road. The library coordinates with the group to select titles and process group check-outs for their members through our holdings and ILL. In January they read *Two Old Women* by Velma Wallis, and *Unforgettable: a Son, a Mother, and the Lessons of a Lifetime* by Scott Simon.

### Local History Room

- The Local History Room was open for a total of 105 hours in January resulting in 24 reference transactions
- AncestryLibrary was used 18 times and averaged 90 minutes of use per session.
- Library staff member Steve Bigolin is in contact with Clint Cargile, author of [Five-Mile Spur Line: a Railroad History of Sycamore, Illinois](#). We are inviting him to do a program in the Local History Room about the spur line and his research for the book along with a book signing.

### Philanthropy Center

- WealthEngine, the Foundation Directory Online, and Foundation Grants to Individuals Databases each received 1 login during the month of January.
- The library's membership for Foundation Center is up for renewal this month. We renewed for another year and at a discounted rate of \$1495 (the usual rate is \$1995).
- We have rescheduled a training on the Foundation Directory Online database for the nonprofit Rural Community Pavilion Education Group in Mt. Morris, IL to be held in the Collaboration Classroom on Feb 8.
- Staff member Teresa Iverson viewed the State of the Network Webinar, the end of year review for the Foundation Center's Funding Information Network, on January 11. They are in beta testing to include information about applying for government grants, which should be added to the Foundation Directory Online Professional (the version the library uses) sometime in the early spring.
- Funding Information Network Days will be in Chicago Thursday, October 5 and Friday, October 6. Staff member Teresa Iverson has requested leave to attend on the library's behalf for further training, as the event is usually held out of state.

### Other adult programs

- AARP Tax-Aide volunteers will provide free tax help on Saturdays, February 11 – April 15 from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm.
- English Teacher in the Library teaches English to all ages and levels and was originally funded by a grant from Target. It has been continued by Christine Holloway, and is quite successful. In January, Christine had 37 people attend the workshops (consisting of 16 unique participants attending multiple sessions), and taught native Chinese and Spanish speakers.
- Kishwaukee College is using the Yusunas Meeting Room to host their twice-weekly ESL classes. The room has been provided free of charge, but as the event is not a partnership program exact attendance has not been recorded—the instructor estimated 16 people per class. There is also associated childcare, the attendance at which has not been recorded. The College has reached out to continue the use of the room for next semester and we are entering discussions about changing the relationship to a true partnership.

- A Résumé Workshop taught by Bob Schlacks was held on Jan. 10 with 7 attendees who all had an opportunity to meet one-on-one with the instructor to discuss their résumés.
- A similar workshop on Interview Skills was presented by Bob Schlacks on Jan 17, which drew 10 participants.

**Collaboration Studio and IT Help Desk:**

	Total Attendance	Adults	Children
Maker/Collaboration Studio	13	33	9
Computer Classes	6	9	0

- Maker classes: Introduction to 3D printing, Introduction and Advanced 3D design with TinkerCad, Introduction to WordPress, and The Arduino Microcontroller Tracks (Intro to Arduino, Basics of Programming for Arduino and Making with Arduino).
- Computer classes: Excel I and II, Computer Basics, Files and folders, and Word I and II. These are the most-requested topics, so in regular rotation.
- The Arduino Classes were new this month and have had a solid turn-out. Arduino is a micro-controller that can be programmed to do nearly anything. In these classes Demi is teaching patrons what an Arduino is, how to write code for it, and how to make it do what you want. It's a rather intensive class from a teaching standpoint (and requires some specialized hardware) so class size is limited currently, but we are looking into getting Demi a second person in there that can help.
- We also added an "Introduction to Wordpress" class. The class explores the options to use Wordpress to create a blog or website, depending on the individual's preference. The class will be offered again in February.



*A ring designed by a patron*



*A dragon printed on our Form 2 printer*

**Collections and Materials:**

- A shortcut to Ancestry: Library Edition database has been added to all adult computers in the library. We hope this will increase usage and access even when the Local History room is not open to the public.
- The holiday collection is being interfiled to make more room for the collections of the Brian D. Slavenas Center for Cross-Cultural Understanding.
- All of the basic federal and state tax forms and instruction books have arrived and are available to the public on a cart in the main lobby.

## Staff Training and Development:

- Reference and PR staff will receive training on the ReferenceUSA database from a member of Infogroup on April 25.
- The library has been offered a series of staff development sessions from Kishwaukee Health's Employee Assistance Program. At the moment we are working with them to determine suitable dates and topics. The agreement with EAP includes several of these sessions per calendar year.

## Public Relations

- The library was awarded the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce's 2016 Business of the Year award at a dinner on January 19<sup>th</sup>. A photo of the staff is being arranged by the Chamber for Wednesday, February 15 at 8:45 a.m. The Board is welcome to join us and be part of the photo if they desire.

Media coverage of the library from January 12-Feb 3:

Date	Media Outlet	Topic	DKPL staff	Link
1/14/2017	Daily Chronicle	incoming director	Emily Faulkner	<a href="http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/13/our-view-thumbs-up-to-new-local-library-leaders/atq9jx2/">http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/13/our-view-thumbs-up-to-new-local-library-leaders/atq9jx2/</a>
1/16/2017	WNIJ	incoming director	Emily Faulkner	<a href="http://northernpublicradio.org/post/new-dekalb-public-library-director-wants-promote-community-involvement-versatility">http://northernpublicradio.org/post/new-dekalb-public-library-director-wants-promote-community-involvement-versatility</a>
1/16/2017	WLBK	incoming director	Emily Faulkner	n/a
1/16/2017	Daily Chronicle	MLK programs	None cited	<a href="http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/16/niu-students-use-holiday-to-teach-children-about-martin-luther-king-jr/a6zy00x/">http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/16/niu-students-use-holiday-to-teach-children-about-martin-luther-king-jr/a6zy00x/</a>
1/17/2017	Daily Chronicle	incoming director	Emily Faulkner	<a href="http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/09/new-director-take-reins-at-dekalb-public-library/ar79x eo/">http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/09/new-director-take-reins-at-dekalb-public-library/ar79x eo/</a>
1/18/2017	MidWeek	Kish ESL classes	None cited	<a href="http://www.midweeknews.com/articles/2017/01/10/1fd3164562614f1ebe0b25a869974c20/">http://www.midweeknews.com/articles/2017/01/10/1fd3164562614f1ebe0b25a869974c20/</a>
1/20/2017	Daily Chronicle	Chamber of Commerce business of the year 2016	Emily Faulkner (Pat Ademkewicz also present)	<a href="http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/19/dekalb-chamber-of-commerce-dinner-honors-community-leaders-businesses/ay56bz6/">http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/19/dekalb-chamber-of-commerce-dinner-honors-community-leaders-businesses/ay56bz6/</a>
1/24/2017	Daily Chronicle	outgoing director	Dee Coover	<a href="http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/24/retired-dekalb-library-director-dee-coover-to-give-writing-a-try/aeo7b7i/">http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/24/retired-dekalb-library-director-dee-coover-to-give-writing-a-try/aeo7b7i/</a>
1/30/2017	Daily Chronicle	Haish DAAHA Marker	none cited	<a href="http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/30/local-group-seeks-to-recognize-dekalb-barbed-wire-baron-jacob-haish/annxxgh/">http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/01/30/local-group-seeks-to-recognize-dekalb-barbed-wire-baron-jacob-haish/annxxgh/</a>
2/1/2017	MidWeek	3D classes	Josh McCarthy	<a href="http://www.midweeknews.com/articles/2017/01/30/30b6261bef454eb2ad3f31976e0de8ee/">http://www.midweeknews.com/articles/2017/01/30/30b6261bef454eb2ad3f31976e0de8ee/</a>
2/3/2017	WNIJ	Congressman Kinzinger	none cited	<a href="http://northernpublicradio.org/post/large-crowds-something-say-pack-congressional-office-meetings">http://northernpublicradio.org/post/large-crowds-something-say-pack-congressional-office-meetings</a>

## Grants/Fundraising/Donations:

- A new MOU was signed regarding funding for the Brian D. Slavenas Center for Cross Cultural Understanding.
- The library also agreed to an MOU with the Kishwaukee Kiwanis for Healthy living programs over the next five years under the title "A Healthy Mind in a Healthy Body." Programming is due to begin this spring.

- The library received anonymous donation for 2 rugs for children’s storytime programs—staff has selected and ordered the rugs which will enhance our storytimes.
- A mailing is being prepared for the first part of the annual campaign. This will consist of a direct-mailed piece to all households in DeKalb highlighting the library’s offerings and inviting them to contribute, as well as a personalized letter and donation request to previous donors.

### **Building:**

- Lots of work and workers to get building ready for commissioning. Building still not fully commissioned.
- There is a small leak in the snow melt pump. The pump supplier has been notified—we are waiting for their reply.
- Cold water chiller pump #3 was leaking glycol but has been repaired. Piper fitters were called to tighten the fittings.
- An issue remains about lights in the building staying on during unoccupied hours. The electrician has been called about these issues and is working toward a permanent solution.
- The window leak left from punch list was sealed by the window contractor. Internal damage still needs to be addressed by Pepper.

### **Security Issues**

- The police sent an officer to be present at the Traveling Hours of Representative Adam Kinzinger on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. More than 100 people attended the event, which had been moved to the Yusunas Room in anticipation of a large crowd. No incidents occurred.
- The library assisted DeKalb police by giving them footage of outside streets in regards to a home invasion in the area.