

PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT

Report of the Executive Director – July

Submitted to the Library Board of Trustees

August 22, 2024

Executive Director

Barkman Library Update—Final preparations are underway. The library will receive the keys to the newly renovated building after all of the Pueblo Regional Building Department inspections are completed. A final punch list walk through has been scheduled as have the building systems training with library staff. Reopening celebrations are planned. The Barkman Library is scheduled to reopen on Tuesday, September 3, 2024. The project is on time and within budget.

Lucero Library Update—The library closed on August 3. The books and shelving has been moved into storage pods on location. The construction fencing is installed. Lucero staff are packing up and moving out. The City of Pueblo Planning & Zoning Commission will review the Lucero plans on August 14. The first reading of the ordinance approving the facility use agreement regarding the library's use of El Centro del Quinto Sol happened last evening. The final reading is on Aug 26. HW Houston construction will be giving the library the final guaranteed maximum contract price for the Lucero project very soon.

Opting Out of Colorado FAMILI—We continue to work with the Colorado Department of Labor regarding the library's desire to transition to a private insurance plan to provide FAMILI benefits. The State wants the library to opt out of the FAMILI program—this requires a resolution passed by the library trustee board, a public hearing before the trustee approve the resolution and notice to be given to library employees regarding the opting out of the FAMILI program. All benefits and features of the FAMILI program will be provided by the private insurance plan beginning in 2025.

2025 Annual Planning Retreat—Please join us for the annual planning retreat on Thursday, August 29, 2024 from 8:00-2:00.

Barkman Library

Barkman Library patrons enjoyed the outdoor activities this summer. Taking on that extra step to provide an inclusive weekly program for all ages was important to the Barkman Library staff. Committed to continue serving the Belmont community and surrounding areas, we wanted to ensure that we kept connected and providing services as best we could.

Many patron comments included how they enjoyed the numerous programs (Squirt Gun Tie-dye was a huge hit) and appreciated the library's ability to provide them in the outdoor space that before would not have been possible.

The Barkman Library finished the month of July with a resounding success of amazing program participation by our community. Attendance ranged from 30-60 participants.

Programs & Outreach

Summer Reading Weekly Programs:

- Splash Painting: 5.6 x 6 ft canvas created by Marcus Bower



- Summer Sensory Excursions: Sensory activities included chalk, color dye salt, visit from CSU Extension for a group learning experience about water conservation and how to filter clean water from dirty water.



Normally very shy, William decided that BK staff member Robin, was the perfect individual to show off his gathered “rock” collection.



- Squirt Gun Tie-Dye & Rockets: Take aim and fire! Luckily no one became a colored casualty during this program.



- Bubble Party! Handmade bubble wands and giant bubble creations! Luckily, the soap just washes off. The kids were also able to experiment with very large wands to create massive bubbles. Instructions to create their own solution at home was also provided.



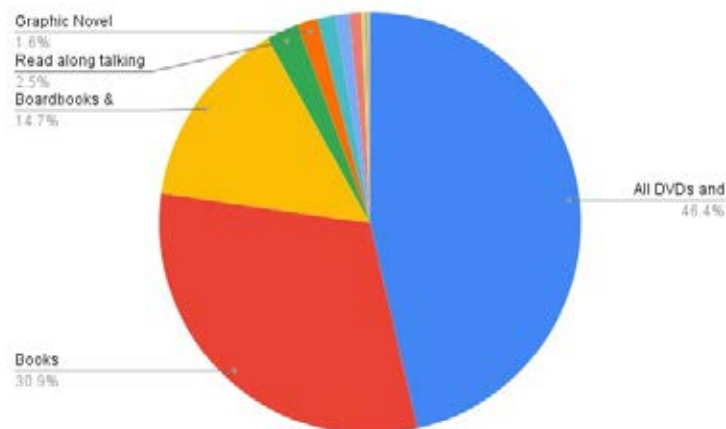
Storytime with Brigitta Meyerhofer. (Storytime is a weekly event) We were able to use our brand new storytime rug circles this summer!

Ongoing outreaches also include:
 CSUP Pre-K Library Visits
 Pueblo Villa Retirement Home

Greenhorn Valley Library

Circulation Total Checkouts: 2,378

All DVDs and BluRays: 1,103
 Books: 734
 Boardbooks & Picture Books: 349
 Read Along Talking Books: 59
 Graphic Novels: 37
 Seed Packets: 33
 Magazine: 25
 Audiobooks: 22
 Hot Spot: 6
 ILL-Book: 4
 Laptop/Tablet: 3
 Music on CD: 1
 Sports & Outdoor Equipment: 1
 Community Passes: 1



pie chart graph showing number of checkouts by category

Circulation Total Check-ins: 2,566

Total Library Visits: 4,719

Week of July 1st: 931

Week of July 7th: 1,324

Week of July 14th: 1,249

Week of July 21st: 1,215

Total Number of Digital Uses: 195**Program Attendance Total: 650**

- Outreach @ Pueblo Zoo: 102
- Yoga With Ashley: 97
- Ice Cream and Paint: 67
- Books at Meals on Wheels Lunch Outreach: 66
- Super Snakes with Nature's Educators: 40
- Music and Movement Storytime: 38
- Saturday Night Magic: 33
- Camp Crafty: 31
- Balloon Creations with Mr. Magic!: 26
- DMV2GO: 25
- Balloons! with Cool Science: 20
- Friendship Bracelets!: 17
- Greenhorn Valley Book Club: 17
- Candy Magic: Explore the Freeze-Dried Wonder!: 15
- Sip N' Stroke: 15
- Video Games: 14
- Ice Cream Social: 12
- Introduction to 3D Printing: 7
- Family Friday:

OUTREACH:

Pueblo Zoo Camp programs (102); Meals on Wheels Lunches (66)

Sharing our Stories:

We relocated the Foreign Films to a display shelf and noticed a significant increase (at least 75%) in the number of checkouts.

Lucero Library

Youth Programming

- **Hardknox Afterschool Chess Program** - 25 Participants
- **Hardknox Individual Mentoring:** - 25 Participants
- **Youth passive programs:**
 - Exploration table: 15
 - Coloring table: 130
 - Take and Make Kits: 418
 - Game system (XBox/Switch): 187
- **After School Activities & Crafts:**
 - **Description Makerspace and Food/Crafts**
 - **Participants: 107**
 - **Chris Rivera featured**
 - **Sensory Jars**
 - **Bingo**
 - **Paper plate dinosaurs**
 - **Toilet paper roll Parrots**
 - **Chocolate candy molds**
 - **Popcorn maker**
 - **Rock candy/ Indoor s'mores**

My featured program was the sensory jars that were given to me by Jessica. It started out with 2 participants and when the other kids noticed what we were making they came and joined. They had so much fun and were happy to begin doing crafts at the library. Bingo is always popular and the chocolate candy molds were exciting. Indoor s'mores were improvised in place of rock candy due to the time we had.

Adult Programming

- **Program Total:** 60 participants
 - **Featured Adult Program:** Crafty Crew: Unfinished Projects and Mystery Bags
 - Description: Patrons were invited to bring any unfinished projects they want to finish. I had basic craft supplies/tools available for usage. There were over 120 mystery bags that patrons could select 5 bags to see what they got to create with. There was a variety of mystery bags from unclaimed kits to go or craft supplies. "It feels like Christmas morning!" "Thank you for the lovely supplies! I wanted to make a dreamcatcher!"
 - 20 Participants
- **Recovery Solutions:**
 - Description: Recovery Solutions Drop-In Center is a Peer Specialist-ran facility that promotes wellness and recovery to individuals 18 years of age or older with mental health and/or substance use conditions. This amazing group visits the library twice a month to explore the library and participate in programs with Jessica Blaha. This month we had open art with acrylic paints and canvas, which the individuals loved. The following program was Christmas in July with cute tea light ornaments and birdseed on pinecones.
 - 30 Participants
 - "My pinecone will be a nice treat for my pet birds!"

Special Projects and Highlights

- **Spice Library**
 - 15 signed waivers/participants

- **Adventure at your library/Passport activity:**
 - 90 participants
- **EastSide Child Care Center weekly visits in July**
 - Librarian Tina started a partnership with the Childcare center to start a weekly preschool storytime and weekly library visits with the school-aged children to come in July. During their fourth visit, Tina was talking with some of the school aged children and they mentioned that at the Childcare Center they have a pretend store and now started a pretend library where they pretend to be "library workers". They call their pretend library, the "Lucero Library"! It is wonderful to see them walk away with not only books and Summer Reading prizes but with a sense of ownership with our library and taking it back to school with them.
- **Check Out Challenge:**
 - Description: To encourage PCCLD's strategic goal of checkouts and library visits, we pushed the Checkout challenge with our patrons in July. For every 10 checkouts, they get a completed punch card that enters them into a drawing for a prize of goodies. This month it was themed to adventure.
 - 27 participants
- **Boys and Girls Club Visits**
 - 300 participants over July
 - Description: The Boys and Girls Club visited us every week in July. We would provide on-the-fly programming, encourage them to complete Summer Reading forms or explore the interactive library activities we created.

Outreach

- Eastside Farmers Market: Tina and Jessica attended the East Side Farmer's Market to promote the library and to inform them about our upcoming renovation. We interacted with 90 people.
- Chris Rivera called Children's First to get 2024 Pueblo County Youth and Family guides
- Chris Rivera provided the Hillvill Properties with book resources



Lamb Library, Library @ the Y, Beulah Library

PROGRAMS

- Storytimes – 160 (LB), 132 (L@Y)
- Youth Programs – 155 (LB), 17 (Beulah)
- Teen/Tween Programs – 72 (LB)
- Adult Programs - 145 (LB)
- Passive/Kits2Go Programs – 180 P/95 K (Lamb), 145 P/20 K (L@Y) 20 K (Beulah)



Excited library patron!



July Grand Prize Winner!

OUTREACH

- Boys & Girls Club - July 9th/10th/23rd - 15 attendees
- LifeCare Center of Pueblo - July 11th - 9 attendees

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Lamb hosted a special weekly Summer Steam Program this summer focused on utilizing our outdoor space and funded with a grant from the Friends of the Library. With 67 attendees for the month of July alone, this program was a huge success! We also invested in Steam Toys which include dramatic play items. Lamb also offered a monthly scavenger hunt throughout the summer months with a different theme monthly that focused on summer reading. Since we had over 100 participants each month, we have decided to continue this passive program throughout the year.



DISPLAYS OR EXHIBITS



Art by Marshall Wolf - 333 attendees

ADDITIONAL DATA

- Circulation - 10,677 (LB), 1,490 (L@Y), 18 (Beulah)
- Library Visits - 6, 658 (LB), 2,283 (L@Y), 17 (Beulah)
- Digital Use - 1545 (LB), 400 (L@Y)

- Meeting Room Use - 17
- Study Room Use - 31
- Notary Appointments - 24
- Curbside Appointments - 4
- Volunteer hours - 3

Thank You Notes and Comments

"Our family specifically appreciates ALL the PRIDE themed events and programs. It helps us feel accepted, validated, a part of our community, and encourages us to be involved." - Poole Family

"Crystal is always helpful in selecting interesting books and movies." - The Wertsbaughs'

"The PRIDE themed crafts and events make me feel welcome. I hope to see more of these in the future!" - Myka Poole

I watched Crystal assist a disabled patron throughout the library. She was in a hurry as she had to catch the bus. - T. Kosak

Pueblo West Library

Community Display Cases

Pueblo West Women's League Membership Drive Display
Historical images of presidential visits to Pueblo, Co.

Art Exhibits, Estimated Attendance 612

PJ Wilkins Bell art and photography

Pueblo West Library held a total of 122 programs, outreaches, club meetings, technology training, and Kits2Go with a total attendance of 2776.

Program Highlights

History Round Table July 3rd

For the History Round Table, Beth Moore picks a historical event on which to focus the discussion for each month. Participants can research it ahead of time or can just sit and listen. Beth provides discussion questions at the beginning. July's theme focused on the Revolutionary War. A few regular attendees were there, as well as some Revolutionary War enthusiasts. We had a great discussion about life during colonial times in America and the differences between British and American culture. One of the attendees said he was thrilled he decided to come and will be coming to future History Round Table programs.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover/Tea Party July 18th – 19th

We held our annual Stuffed animal Sleepover in July. Over 50 people attended the Jammie Storytime to kick off the Stuffed Animal Sleepover. 34 children dropped off stuffed animals to spend the night in the library. The stuffed animals explored the library, got their photos taken in the stacks, made a craft (friendship bracelets) and enjoyed storytime! Around 50 attendees joined us to pick their stuffed animals up from the sleepover and celebrated with them at the Stuffed Animal Tea Party. The families enjoyed fruit tea, cookies and a fun paper hat craft. The attendees were so happy with the program and thanked us for running such a fun and exciting event for the kids and their stuffed animals.

Summer Reading Program: Intro to Printmaking July 24th

As part of the summer reading programs, we created 3 art programs. The one Ray Packard was tasked with was Intro to Printmaking. GHV asked for the kit and Ray created and sent it to them. For PW, Ray created the kit and facilitated the event. The students who attended showed so much creativity and passion for art. We had good conversations about the library being a place for them to show their creativity in a safe and accepting environment.

Page Turners Tween Summer Reading Book Club June & July 2024

This summer, the Pueblo West Branch Library successfully hosted the Page Turners Book Club; The book club was for children ages 8 - 12. Throughout the summer, the club registered 11 participants. The club met 6 times throughout the summer and read "Charlotte's Web," "The Castle in the Attic," "The Tale of Despereaux," "Indian in the Cupboard," and "Frindle." Each book discussion meeting was complemented by creative activities that reinforced the themes of the books, ranging from crafting model Iroquois longhouses to interactive discussions about character development and narrative structure. The program culminated in a fun finale party attended by family members. The party featured a "Castle in the Attic" themed photo booth, pizza, and a special video presentation showcasing highlights from the summer. At this celebration, each participant received a certificate of completion along with a canvas book bag filled with two books, a journal, a pen, and a reading light. This initiative not only enhanced the participants' reading skills and enjoyment but also fostered a sense of community and creativity among the young members and their families. We have had enough positive feedback to consider continuing the book club throughout the academic year.

The Summer Reading Medicine Wheel Program with SOAR July 17th

The medicine wheel program in partnership with SOAR was a huge success. The children enjoyed learning about Native American culture and had a ton of fun painting their medicine wheels. The songs that were sung by our guest had the kids completely captivated. During the last part of the program, everybody held hands and did a friendship dance together. Smiles and laughter all around!

Tech Services

DIRECTOR:

- The library district received eleven Requests for Reconsideration for materials. Sherri Baca assigned Jill Kleven to lead the various committees who will send their recommendations to Sherri in August.
- Jill led the recruitment for Corporate Cup. 65 participants have signed up for the events in September.
- The Technical Services department got new carpet as part of their remodel and will receive their new cubicles in August.
- Jill gave a presentation to the Board of Trustees on LibraryIQ at their July work session.
- Jill oversaw the delivery of new AMH and self checks at Barkman. She also helped with the collection and the moving of the Youth Laptop Kiosk to Barkman as well.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT:

- 500 classroom copies of The Henna Artist were ordered for local high schools. The title was also ordered to put in the collection. 75 copies went out at the end of July to each location for display.
- Elizabeth Flores prepared a list of materials for Lucero to pull to take to their temporary location in September.
- Danielle Cowles has been working on launching eSerials at all locations due to the fact most newspapers are either going digital or to mail delivery. She will be launching that September 1st.

CATALOGING:

- More seeds were delivered by the CSU Extension office and sent out.
- Items continued to be received and cataloged for Barkman's Opening Day collection.
- Peggy Bilger continued to work on the OCLC cataloging subscription with our print vendors.

Local History & Genealogy

PROGRAMS

TOTAL PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: 150

Storytimes - Attendance: 42

Adult Programs - Attendance: 108

OUTREACH

Maria and Aaron tabled at the 4th Annual CSU-P Aztlan Research Center Summer Institute. Approximately 20 people made contact with the materials and/or us.

SPECIAL PROJECTS, INITIATIVES, NEW PARTNERSHIPS

July 17th LHG presented Denver's Office of Storytelling's "Reclaiming Denver's Chinatown" with Chief Storyteller Rowena Alegria. 26 attended and enjoyed Chinese food from a local restaurant.

Denver artist Rogelio Quinonez's art reception was held on July 20, with 32 in attendance.

ADDITIONAL DATA

- **Circulation**

WR Ref-books: 47

REF-Maps: 0

GEN books: 8

SC-Loan: 16 checked out, 27 in-house uses

Microfilm used: 156

Obit Requests Completed: 108

Ask Us request completed: 2

Article requests completed: 0

Photo files used: 20

Archival boxes used: 0

Vertical Files used: 2

Digital Use and Collections

Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection

Colorado Weekly Chieftain:

page views: 596

Users: 141

Sessions: 69

Colorado Daily Chieftain:

page views: 4,289

Users: 527

Sessions: 267

Ancestry Library Edition All Databases Searches Run: 5,699
Ancestry Library Edition All Sessions Run: 2,737
Heritage Quest All Searches Run: 120
Heritage Quest All Sessions Run: 43
Fold3 Library Edition searches: No data

ArchivesSpace

Users: 134
Sessions: 143
Pageviews: 613

CONTENTdm items: 11,611

Users: 318
New Users: 306
Sessions: 403
Pageviews: 2,218

Virtual Exhibits

Total Views:
Roaring '20s - 33
Natural Framing - 21
Baseball - 15

Volunteer hours HRC - 6.5 ; Archives - 50

Experiential Learning

Makerspace programs

- Ukulele Choir 1: 9
- Sharon Needle Felts: canceled due to illness
- Collaborative Drawing: 16

Community Member Programs in Makerspace

- Southern Colorado Equity Alliance
- Self-Care Group

Open hours: Every Friday and Saturday from 11-2pm- 156 participants this month

D60 Lunches- We continued to host D60 lunches in our space. Our most popular day was Little Caesar's Pizza Day with 86 kids and family members having lunch! We are excited to host again next year during our summer break.

Museum Programs:

- Misti Hughes Reception for her Imaginika solo show
- 3 art classes facilitated by Misti with an average of 30 people attending each! Misti is a wonderful teacher and showcased three different art forms and mediums in her classes- watercolor, acrylic, and graffiti.

Exhibits:

- Misti Hughes solo show
- State Fair exhibit

Museum Volunteer/docent Shyla-39 hours this month. Shyla has been helping to fold brochures and is learning to hang exhibits- she and Alyssa are working on putting up our Fandom Art display.

Concierge Services and Meeting Rooms:

We had 169 room reservations this month. We promoted Summer Reading on the first floor and celebrated disability pride and national bison month with our displays! We have also put up a state fair display- please stop by and take a look! All photos are from our archive.

Call Center Statistics:

911 calls, up 213 from last month. We have rerouted call center phones and changed some extensions with the hope that we will solve the issues of roll over calls and missed or dropped calls. The upward increase is encouraging and we will continue to watch the report to see if the trend continues.

User Services

PROGRAMS

Youth Programming

20 Tween Centralized programs

73 attendees at 3 Rawlings tween events

934 youth and families served lunch through our d60 partnership

65 people at our Fiber arts club that introduced sewing, crochet and embroidery to our attendees.

Summer Reading Update: As of the end of July, 8295 game boards have been completed, with one month to go. 3804 patrons attended the centralized youth programming provided for tweens, teens and families across the district.



Ages 9-18 Summer Reading July Grand Prize winner Athena Kelley pictured at the left.

Youth Librarians at Rawlings all know and love Athena, and were excited that her name was randomly drawn to win the July grand prize (a wealth of art supplies). Ciara treasures a sketch of a lovely cat by Athena that hangs in their workspace, a gift from this fantastic reader.

Adult Programming

Adult Literacy Program : In July the Adult Literacy Program served 17+ patrons in the following ways: 7 referrals to community resources (GED classes, ESL classes, library programs and services, etc.), 2 new learners registered for tutoring, 3 new tutors onboarded, 4 scholarships and 1 extension awarded for the COHS program, and 1 general ALP information session held. Additionally, Lev connected with 10 community partners about the upcoming "Find Your Fit" resource fair in September and worked with folks from CSU-P to begin the process of awarding college credit for selected COHS coursework. A highlight from my work this month was awarding the scholarships and extension - getting to provide the resources that patrons need to help change their lives is why I became a librarian, and I'm so excited to support these students as they progress through the COHS program.

Tea & Makes, July 17th



Craft Program Highlight - Kathy Kearney's Tea & Makes has become a popular weekly multi-generational program averaging 20 attendees. Shrink plastic sheets or *Shrinky Dink* are a favorite at **Tea & Makes**. This photo was taken on July 17th when 25 people participated in the Rawlings Makerspace. Children with parents, teens, new adults, aging adults, and middle adults all jumped in and created beautiful images while enjoying tea and snacks. One attendee drew her dogs pictured at the left!

New Partnership - D-60 Parent & Family Engagement

Reference Librarian Jen Scroggins recently met with Xavier Madrid, the Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator for D-60 Schools, to discuss how the library could support D-60 families with information literacy and community resources. Jen shared how she could help with resources for improving research skills, evaluating information, and understanding bibliographic resources. Jen's goal is to build strong relationships with D-60 to enhance information literacy skills for their entire community including students, staff, and parents.

New Initiative - The Human Library Program Proposal Blueprint

Thad Stelter had the opportunity to meet with Leyla Ilter. Leyla represents the Human Library Organization at their home location in Copenhagen, Denmark. Discussed in the meeting were the processes required in order to obtain a license in order to host a Human Library event at PCCLD. The Human Library Organization would provide marketing materials, use of their logos, and most importantly, training for the "books" This meeting with Leyla was also a special opportunity to speak with someone in another part of the world! More to come as Thad develops the program proposal blueprint that will allow PCCLD to hold this event in the future! This program proposal will be a blueprint for our library district programmers and librarians to use at their branch or in their department.

Computer Classes and Digital Literacy

67 people served in computer classes and 23 people served one to one in July.

Facilities

Work Order Statistics

- 309 work orders completed.
- 46 custodial work orders completed.

Rawlings

- Set up Tech Services director's office.
- Installed carpeting in Tech Services.
- Set up green racks from storage for DVD self-modification.
- Installed bird spikes on patios.
- Assisted with Rawlings statue installation.
- Conducted elevator certification.

Barkman

- Continued upkeep while under renovation.
- Installed exterior tables.

Lamb

- Repaired broken window.
- Conducted elevator certification.

Pueblo West

- Installed new partition in men's bathroom.
- Roof inspected completed, waiting on report.

Other duties/projects

- Completed Books in the Park.
- Modified new trailer.
- Set up El Centro del Quinto Sol for Lucero patrons.
- Emptied PODS.
- Repaired VAVs
- Modified AHU #1 & #2 with gauges and bleeding valves.
- Worked on emergency preparedness.

Volunteer Hours

Volunteer Services Monthly Report

PCCLD Volunteer estimated hours for the month of July

ADULTS	TEENS	BOOKS AGAIN	BOD TRUSTEES
234.00	61.65	1369.25	20.00

TOTAL HOURS	1684.90
VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS	\$53,579.82

*(Estimated by Independent Sector's figure of \$33.49/hour for each volunteer hour contribute)

Thank You Messages

Comment Form – Lucero Library

From Patron – Apolonia Martinez

"I would like to comment on the Lucero Library staff and atmosphere. The staff is friendly and very helpful (with a smile) & knowledgeable. Security are friendly & efficient. The atmosphere in this library truly is a neighborhood library.

At first I did not think I would like this library after coming here since Barkman closed. I enjoy this library & the friendly staff. I especially enjoy watching how the staff treat youth than come in here."

Card – Mail – Amy Nelson & The Library District

From Patron – Tamara M. Teale

"Life in Pueblo is so diverse, I hardly know what to say, except perhaps what I've always said that they

summer reading programs really save lives. The young neo-cortex brain is hungry for reading. My dad was a World War II vet who read to me and my brother & sister, but today young minds are frequently distracted. Their dads are busy, too. Well, perhaps I'm distracted too with aging! To me, just to know the PCCLD serves people brings me satisfaction. It's good to see children & their parents at any library I visit."

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Baca
Executive Director