

## Program Highlights

### Summer Reading Program Wrap-up

The following information was collected from May 12 – August 2 as part of the *2025 Summer Reading Program*.

#### Adult Summer Reading:

- Lombard adult participants were given a choice to log either minutes or titles. Participants collectively read **3,900 books** and logged **690,819 minutes or 1.31 years** this summer.
- The Adult Summer Reading program ended with a total of **611 participants**, a 22% increase from last year.
- Winners for ticket drawings were notified in early August.

#### Youth and Teen Summer Reading:

- Lombard children and teens collectively read **1,768,628 minutes or 3.36 years**, a 16% increase from last year.
- **1,842 children and teens participated**, a 5% increase from last year.
- **1,145 book prizes** were earned by youth (birth–high school), an 18% increase from last year.
- **258 participants** completed a bonus reading log, a 29% increase from last year.
- Over **20 local businesses and organizations** partnered with the Library by providing prize coupons.
- **25 dedicated Volunteers** volunteered **426 hours**, helping children track their reading and redeem summer reading prizes.

#### Youth Summer Reading Wrap-up Party

**Date:** July 30

**Attendance:** 679

**Staff:** Youth Services & Facilities Team

Families enjoyed juggling entertainment from Jason Kollum (see right image) and delicious frozen treats from Kona Ice.

**262 Summer Reading prizes** were redeemed that day.



A young volunteer balances a spinning plate and ball.

## Family Program Highlights

### *Cardboard Adventures*

**Date:** July 17

**Attendance:** 21

**Staff:** Deidre Winterhalter (Elementary Services Librarian) & Julia Kindelin (YS Library Associate II)

Families created cat habitats, doll houses, robots, and more while playing with cardboard, tape, and paint sticks (see right image).



Families met up at the *Cardboard Adventure* event to socialize and create.

## Early Literacy Program Highlights

### *Jungle Jamboree*

**Date:** July 8

**Attendance:** 50

**Staff:** Tricia Nelson (Early Literacy Librarian) and Jeannie Arinyanontakoon (YS Library Associate II)

Kids went on a jungle adventure as they cut out spiral snakes, made giraffe hats, and survived a jungle obstacle course.

## Elementary Program Highlights

### *3D Optical Illusions*

**Date:** July 24

**Attendance:** 16

**Staff:** Chris Sowl (YS Library Associate II) and Alejandra Guzman (YS Library Associate II)

Students practiced one-point perspective drawing to create the illusion of depth and dimension.

## Teen Program Highlights

### *Rubber Ducky Cosplay*

**Date:** July 9

**Attendance:** 6

**Staff:** Jeannie Arinyanontakoon (YS Library Associate II) and Mark Smith (YS Library Associate II)

Kids enjoyed transforming their rubber ducks into their favorite characters such as Sherlock Holmes (see right image) and Stitch.



Ducklock Holmes made an appearance at the *Rubber Duck Cosplay* program.

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### ***Diamond Art***

**Date:** July 31

**Attendance:** 6

**Staff:** Caitlin Atkinson (Teen Librarian)

Teens created sparkly bookmarks (see right image).

### **Adult Program Highlights**

#### ***20s & 30s Board Game Night***

**Date:** July 11

**Attendance:** 10

**Staff:** Stephanie Howes (ALS Assistant Manager)

Ten patrons stopped by the Library to enjoy some boardgames.

#### ***Computer Classes***

**Sessions:** 12

**Attendance:** 58

**Staff:** Erin Bigger-Goldlust (Digital Services & Instruction Librarian) & Lance Garrison (ALS Librarian)

Popular classes this month were ChatGPT and Canva. Lance observed classes and assisted with the Drop-in Tech Help days.

### **Senior Program Highlights**

#### ***Senior Social: Comedy in Chicago: The Marx Bros. & Bob Newhart***

**Date:** July 21

**Attendance:** 68

**Staff:** Katie Cortesi (ALS Senior Outreach Librarian)

Chicago Movie Tours took attendees on a virtual tour of the Chicagoland locales that influenced both comedians (see below image).



Teens show off their sparkly bookmarks at the *Diamond Art* program on July 31.



Patron's enjoying *Comedy in Chicago*.

## Presentations and Performances for Adults

### ***I Feel Good! Hits of the 60s***

**Date:** July 13

**Attendance:** 56

**Staff:** Courtney Rose Welsh (ALS Programming Librarian)

Nostalgia Entertainment brought their music and storytelling to celebrate the hits of the 1960s.

### ***Roadside Attractions with Leslie Goddard***

**Date:** July 28

**Attendance:** 65

**Staff:** Courtney Rose Welsh (ALS Programming Librarian)

Library favorite, Leslie Goddard, presented on famous American roadside attractions.

## Studio 411 Program Highlights

### ***Studio 411: Cricut Project: Paper Potted Cactus***

**Date:** July 30

**Attendance:** 10

**Staff:** Melisa Martinez (ALS Studio 411 Supervisor) & Afra Siddiqui (ALS Library Associate II)

Attendees made potted cactuses from pre-cut paper. (See right image.)



The Paper Potted Cactus

### ***Studio 411: Fiber Arts Group***

**Date:** July 3, 10, 17, 24

**Attendance:** 14

**Staff:** Afra Siddiqui (ALS Library Associate II)

The Fiber Arts Group met on Thursdays in July to network and share fiber arts projects.

### ***Studio 411 Drop-Ins***

**Date:** July 11, 12, 14, 16, 21, 28

**Attendance:** 22

**Staff:** Melisa Martinez (ALS Studio 411 Supervisor) & Afra Siddiqui (ALS Library Associate II)

Drop-in hours give patrons an opportunity to learn about the studio and use equipment without an appointment.

## Community Connections – Outreach

### Community Partners

**Home Delivery:** Isabella Herrera (ALS Home Delivery Specialist) and Katie Cortesi (ALS Senior Outreach Librarian) prepped and made 65 home deliveries in July. 92 patrons are currently signed up for the Home Delivery service.

#### ***Alzheimer’s Disease and Dementia Resource Drop-in***

**Date:** July 2

**Attendance:** 8

**Partner:** RUSH Alzheimer’s Disease Center

**Staff:** Katie Cortesi (ALS Senior Outreach Librarian)

Leann Donovan connected with eight patrons in July.

#### ***Kid’s Corner at Lombard Cruise Night***

**Date:** July 26

**Attendance:** 210

**Partner:** Lombard Cruise Night

**Staff:** Cate Hoadley (YS Assistant Manager) & Emily Bradshaw (Content Coordinator)

**Trustee:** Ginger Kearney

Kids decorated slap bracelets and enjoyed other fun activities provided by the Library and the Village during the community-wide Cruise Night event.

#### ***Sky Center Summer Camp Visit***

**Date:** July 31

**Attendance:** 6

**Partner:** Sky Center Martial Arts

**Staff:** Deidre Winterhalter (YS Elementary Services Librarian) and Cate Hoadley (YS Assistant Manager)

Campers made paper airplanes, decorated metal race carts, and tested their creations with our airplane launcher and race car tracks.

Patron Engagement

Marketing Engagement

**Social Media Snapshot:** From January–July 2025, HPL social media accounts grew:

- Instagram +7,108 followers
- Facebook +131 followers
- LinkedIn +29 followers

Our engagement rates (comments, likes, shares, or other interactions) were well above industry average according to Buffer, a social media management software application. Engagement rates as compared to industry averages:

Platform	HPL Engagement	Industry Average Engagement
Facebook	10.2%	5.1%
Instagram	10.3%	1.2%
LinkedIn	13.2%	6.5%

**Summer Reading Email Newsletters:** In June and July, Summer Reading Program participants received a series of four emails with book recommendations, top summer titles, and more to encourage continued engagement in the program.

	Emails Sent	Emails Opened	Open Rate	Links Clicked	Click Rate
Summer Reading	3,941	2,311	58.6%	206	5.2%

Industry averages for 2025 (via HubSpot, an industry leading marketing platform):

**Open rate:** 42.35% | Non-profits: 46.49%

**Click rate:** 2% | Non-profits: 2.66%

Additional Services

**New Point of Sale (POS) System:** At the end of July, Patron Services began using Square as the POS system. Katie Horner (PS Manager), Alex Vancina (TMS Manager), and Michelle Baumann (Business Manager & HR Coordinator) oversaw this transition. Katie provided training for Patron Services staff. Initial staff feedback was positive. This replacement has an estimated annual



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savings of \$1,945 on software licensing and equipment rental when compared to the previous system.

### Collection Management

**Adult Library Collection Shelf Shift:** Stephanie Howes (ALS Assistant Manager) is coordinating a large shift for the materials on the second floor. This is being done to accommodate more space for growing collections and to better facilitate browsing after patron feedback. The team is over halfway done with the project.

**Slim DVD/Blu-ray Cases:** To optimize shelf space, single-disc DVD and Blu-ray cases are being replaced with a slim alternative that is approximately half the width of a typical retail case. Work started with the Adult AV collection in the Hub and will move to Youth AV next.

**Tote Bags for Patron Check-out:** Katie Horner (PS Manager) worked with Michelle Kilty (ALS Manager), Alex Vancina (TMS Manager), Cate Hoadley (YS Assistant Manager), and Kristie Leslie (Marketing Manager) to roll out a collection of 50 HPL-branded tote bags for patrons to check out. Like most other material, these check out for three weeks and are eligible for renewal. All were checked out within two weeks of launch.

**StackMap:** TMS soft launched StackMap, a digital wayfinding tool, for the Library's first-floor collections. When a patron searches for a material in the catalog, a "Map It" button will appear in the record. If clicked, StackMap will show the item's physical location in the Library. **Patrons used this feature 340 times in July.** TMS will add the second-floor collections to StackMap after second-floor shifting is completed.

### Staff Updates

**Adult Library Services:** Reader's Advisory Librarian, Heather Booth, resigned her position for a full-time roll at *Booklist* at the American Library Association. The posting for this open position will be available in the next couple weeks. Lance Garrison began his role as a part-time Librarian along with Natalie Hernandez as part-time Library Associate in July.

**Community Engagement Coordinator:** Kimberly Sipek starts on Monday, August 11. Kimberly is coming to the Library with prior experience at Westmont Public Library, Elmhurst Art Museum, and most recently, Griffin Museum of Science and Industry. Library staff look forward to her getting started and expanding on our community partnerships.

**Patron Services:** Patron Services hired two new staff members—Griselda Hernandez and Kalan Naylor—as part-time Patron Services Assistants. They both start their new roles in August.

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**Youth Services:** Tabatha Anderson (YS Manager) returned from leave. Cate Hoadley (YS Assistant Manager) led the YS team in Tabatha's absence. YS staff are grateful for Tabatha's return and Cate's willingness to step up during the Library's busiest season.

### Facilities Updates

**Custom Window Vinyl:** Steph Koblich (Graphic Designer) created custom icon patterns for the Computer Lab and Studio 411 to define the spaces, create a more visually interesting environment, and add some privacy for patrons during classes and events.

**PC Replacements:** TMS purchased twenty-two new PCs to replace computers in the ALS and TMS staff workrooms. These replace our oldest desktop computers. Installation is underway and should be completed in August.

**Conference Room Acoustics:** Acoustic Panels and acoustic wallpaper were installed in the second-floor Conference Room to reduce sound echo within the room and minimize sound carryover outside the room.

**Building Updates:** Phil Lucas (Facility & Security Services Manager) coordinates building maintenance, repair, and ongoing testing.

- Condenser coils on the four rooftop VRF units were cleaned.
- The chairs at the Adult Library Services computers were becoming a fall hazard. The wheels on those chairs were replaced with nylon glides.
- Tables in the Hub were extremely noisy when moved. Felt glides were installed on the feet to help combat the noise.
- Batteries on all sinks and soap dispensers were changed.
- Researched used scissor lifts, which would reach tough-to-get-to spots in and outside the Library while helping keep contractors' costs lower.

### Meetings, Training, & Continuing Education

#### Staff Training

**Facilities Training:** Facilities staff viewed *Active Violence Preparedness* and *Situational Awareness* presentations held by College of DuPage.

**All Staff Meetings:** On July 29, Anne Luzeniecki provided information about StackMap, Library Events Survey results, and Strategic Plan developments at two All Staff Meeting sessions.



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Meetings and Professional Development	
July 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>IUG Steering Committee Meeting via Zoom (Alex Vancina)</li></ul>
July 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>LibraryIQ progress and implementation meeting (ILS Committee*)</li></ul>
July 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Meeting with IUG and Innovative’s Idea Exchange team to discuss progress on product development goals (Alex Vancina)</li></ul>
July 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>LMCC Marketing Committee Meeting (Emily Bradshaw)</li><li>Aspen Community Meeting (Alex Vancina, Tim Mayse-Lillig, &amp; Carol Spitler)</li></ul>
July 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Financial audit launch meeting with Lauterbach &amp; Amen (Anne Luzeniecki)</li></ul>
July 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>WILIUG Steering Committee meeting (Alex Vancina &amp; Tim Mayse-Lillig)</li><li>ILA Committee &amp; Forum Leaders Orientation via Zoom (Alex Vancina)</li></ul>
July 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>ILA Marketing Forum Meeting (Emily Bradshaw)</li><li>RAILS Consortia Committee meeting in Burr Ridge (Alex Vancina)</li><li>LACONI Governing Board meeting hosted by HPL (Alex Vancina)</li></ul>
July 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Board of Trustees Meeting</li><li>Attended RAILS Libraries Count Conference Presentation (Emily Bradshaw)</li></ul>
July 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>RAILS Board meeting in Burr Ridge (Alex Vancina)</li></ul>

### **Staff Glossary:**

\*Jeannie Arinyanontakoon – YS Library Associate II

\*Caitlin Atkinson – Teen Librarian

Emily Bradshaw – Content Coordinator

\*David Gogo – Genealogy Librarian

\*Katie Horner – PS Manager

\*Stephanie Howes – ALS Assistant Manager

Anne Luzeniecki -- Executive Director

\*Tim Mayse-Lillig – Cataloging & Systems Librarian

Carol Spitler – Cataloging Librarian

\*Alex Vancina – TMS Manager

\*Tyler Works – Assistant Director