

PALM SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT



STATISTICS AT-A-GLANCE:

Palm Springs Library Perseveres

City Librarian Jeannie Kays



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our attention and memories are focused on the end of the fiscal year, but we must take a moment to remember all the terrific activities we did pre-COVID. We were on target to have another record year of usage by our community, with our door count and materials checked out doing very well. Take a look at this annual report for a highlight of activities.

Unfortunately, the Main Library and Welwood Murray Memorial Library closed to indoor service at the end of business March 13, 2020. Due to budgetary constraints, we stopped all book and supply ordering and went into a conservation mode to get through the end of the fiscal year. We were able to successfully save and give back \$229,500 (8.5%) of our almost \$2.7 million budget.

Because the library was closed, we shifted gears to offering virtual library card access and promoting our online services like streaming movies and TV shows through Kanopy and AcornTV. Kanopy and AcornTV are on a pay-per-use plan and the demand shot up with so many users sheltering in place. In fact, Kanopy and AcornTV were so popular that we had to get grant funding to continue AcornTV and get additional funds from our Friends of the Library for Kanopy.

At the end of May, we implemented Library-A-Go-Go pickup service. This program was well-received with 1,068 using the service in June, the end of our fiscal year. We are truly enjoying helping people get access to library materials. Call our Librarians or fill out the online form if you need suggestions on what to read or watch next.

MAIN LIBRARY

- Library Visits/Door Count: 133,665
- Materials Checked Out: 324,673
- Number of eBook Check-outs: 21,230
- Public Service Hours: 1,646
- NEW Library Cards Issued: 2,918
- Public Computer Sessions: 26,266
- Public Wi-Fi Sessions: 22,754
- Number of Programs: 198
- Program Attendance: 5,943
- Volunteer Hours: 2,377
- Number of Reference Questions: 16,664

WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

- Library Visits/Door Count: 29,388
- Public Service Hours: 3,048
- Public Computer Sessions: 15,995
- Public Wi-Fi Sessions: 2,456

COVID-19 negatively impacted the majority of our numbers EXCEPT our downloadable services. E-Book usage went up 31%. Streaming services Kanopy and AcornTV (new this year) went through the roof with 11,208 streams.

Palm Springs Public Library

300 S. Sunrise Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262
760-322-READ (7323) www.pslibrary.org

Summer Reading Goes Virtual

Funny how plans work. We had our performers scheduled, our system in place, and were ready for another year of children, teens, and adults visiting the library for Summer Reading. Enter the pandemic. Scratch our plans. We are nothing if not resilient and flexible. Friends of the Library stepped up and we had Beanstack, a virtual system in place within weeks. Activities were designed, prizes were awarded, and a partnership with PSUSD helped to promote the new online experience.

We are able to use Beanstack for other reading programs too, like *1,000 Books Before Kindergarten*. You can even use the mobile app to track your reading anytime.

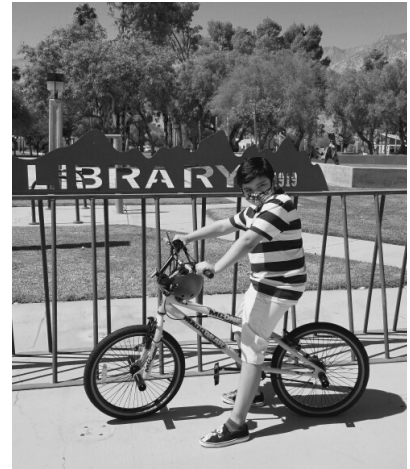
SUMMER READING STATS

TOTAL SIGNUPS: 828

- Youth: 447
- Teen: 197
- Adult: 184

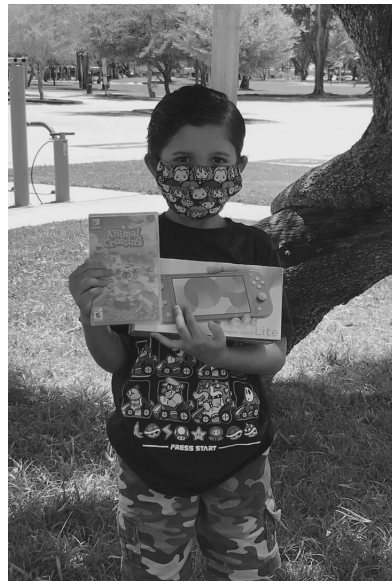
COMPLETIONS: 207 (25%)
(READ 400 MINUTES)

TOTAL MINUTES READ:
227,164
(3,786 hours)

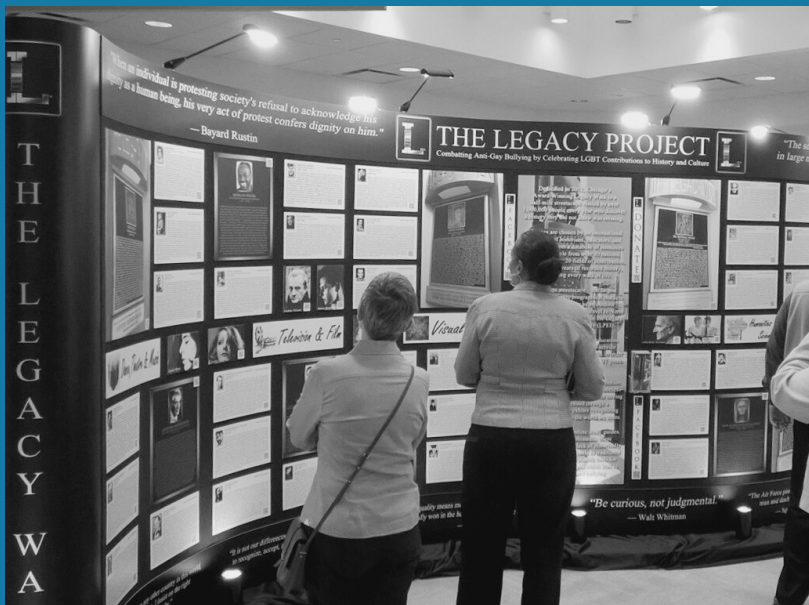


Building Committee

A team of community representatives met in August-October 2019 to determine where a new or renovated library should be located. With input from the community and evaluation of various factors, the overwhelming recommendation was that the library should remain located at Sunrise Park. Next steps are to determine what the library building needs to best serve our community.



Legacy Wall Travels to Palm Springs Public Library



The Legacy Wall, a one-of-a-kind exhibit that features 125 mini-biographies and photographs of LGBTQ people from every walk of life, traveled from Chicago, Illinois to Palm Springs, California in November 2019.

The 11-day exhibit allowed students from all around the Coachella Valley to visit the Library for an interactive and educational experience through sponsored field trips. Friends of the Palm Springs Library were a proud sponsor of the Legacy Wall.