

John and Judy Gay Library Public Services Board Report

August 2017

Numbers and staffing

The JJGL staff rose to the challenge once more this summer, with circulation stats in July beating previous records, with a big 115,679. The percentage of checkouts done on the self-checkout machines is up to 58%. Ideally, this percentage will continue to grow so that staff can devote more time to assist patrons who have questions and to get the books back on the shelves faster.

We have been short-handed this summer as several staff members left to help out elsewhere in the library system, to work in full-time positions, or to attend college. Every staff member steps up in times like these, checking in, sorting carts, shelving, and assisting patrons regardless of job descriptions. As we replace our experienced staff members, our new hires are buddied with more knowledgeable staff in order to learn the Koha procedures and our policies. We have recently hired two part-time library assistants, and are in the process of replacing a shelver, a part-time library assistant, and a librarian supervisor. Youth Services will be replacing a librarian and a part-time library technician soon, both of whom will spend some time at JJGL.

New happenings

We started our new adult programming at JJGL this past spring. The knitting and crocheting class has been the most popular and will continue this fall. We will add a program on McKinney museums, a bimonthly Cinema Club focusing on cult films of the '80's, an interactive Labyrinth movie viewing, and a one-time Novel Write-In. Other learning opportunities for the public will be an open computer lab help time when a staff member will be available to assist with computer questions, and a Digital Library Expo where our ebooks, audio ebooks, magazines, comics, games, and other digital resources will be highlighted. The Youth Services department has additional special programs planned.

Steve Sexton, Circulation Supervisor, and I are on the staff committee that has met with Spencer and the architectural and construction candidates. As different ideas are tossed around, we are learning about physical ways to separate the children from the adults, how far staff members might want to walk from their parking places (not two football fields' length), and what some new requirements from the Fire Marshall might be.

Every JJGL staff member participated in creating the new Long-Range Plan for the library system. Committees for each of the segments reviewed the previous plan, edited, and added new, up to date information. Several JJGL staff members performed the final editing, creating a cohesive document out of the individual sections.

Lisa Bailey

Branch Manager, John and Judy Gay Library

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