

Director's Report to the Board of Agents

Silas Bronson Library

September 21, 2021

Raechel Guest, Director

Library Construction Grant Application

The Board of Aldermen approved our grant application at their meeting on September 20. We are requesting \$250,000 through the State Library's Construction Grant program, with another \$250,000 coming from the City's bonding. The project will completely replace our existing passenger elevator using the existing elevator shaft. The current elevator has a lifespan of about 20 years, and it is now more than 50 years old. Completing the application packet has been a long and complicated process that would not have been possible without Chantal Johnson, Admin 3, who took on the project during my medical leave and kept it moving forward after my return.

Mobile Library

Although we don't yet have a way to transport the mobile book cases, we have started participating in community events. On Saturday, September 18, Michael Tierney set up a library booth at a housing expo in Fulton Park, distributing library brochures and newsletter, registering new library card holders, and answering questions about the library and its resources.

Staffing and Saturdays

The Civil Service Commission has approved proposed revisions to the Librarian IV job description (last updated in 2004). We are now waiting for the job opening to be posted. We are also still waiting for a list of Librarian II and Admin I candidates.

We resumed Saturday hours on September 11. It was a fairly busy day, with individuals and family groups coming to use the library. The Bunker Hill Branch Library resumed Saturday hours on September 18. Our reduced Monday hours started on September 13, with the library closing at 4:45.

Circulation Division

August Statistical Reports: Main Library

Total Collection Size: 260,936
Total Items Added to Collection: 968
Total Items Circulated: 7,311
Total Circulation In-House: 34
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 1,520
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 332

Total Active Patrons: 42,200
Total Expired Patrons: 10
Total Patrons Added: 115

August Statistical Reports: Bunker Hill

Total Collection Size: 11,218
Total Items Added to Collection: 53
Total Items Circulated: 527
Total Circulation In-House: 0
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 81
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 294

Total Active Patrons: 1,359
Total Expired Patrons: 0
Total Patrons Added: 4

OverDrive Circulation: August

Audiobooks: 409
Ebooks: 604
Total Checkouts: 1,013

Adult: 827
Teen/YA: 87
Children: 99

Museum Pass Use - Summary by Month

Year	Month	Pass	Pass Type	Number Reserved	Checked Out	No Shows
2021	August	American Clock and Watch Museum	Print from Home	1	1	0
2021	August	Barker Character Comic and Cartoon Museum	Print from Home	1	1	0
2021	August	Beardsley Zoo	Pick Up/Return at Library	2	0	2
2021	August	EverWonder Children's Museum	Print from Home	2	2	0
2021	August	Mattatuck Museum Art and History Center	Print from Home	1	1	0
2021	August	Mystic Seaport	Print from Home	3	3	0
2021	August	New Britain Museum of American Art	Print from Home	1	1	0
2021	August	New England Air Museum	Print from Home	1	1	0
2021	August	White Memorial Conservation Center	Print from Home	1	1	0

Online Presence

Facebook Followers as of 9/17/2021: 2,556
Facebook Reach August 20 – September 16: 3,789
Facebook Post Engagements August 20 – September 16: 467

Instagram Followers as of 9/17/2021: 954
Bronson Teens Instagram Followers as of 9/17/2021: 290
Twitter Followers as of 9/17/2021: 454

Wowbrary Active Subscriptions as of 8/9/2021: 94
Wowbrary Customized Newsletters as of 8/9/2021: 6
Wowbrary Webpages Viewed August 1 – August 31: 2,068
Wowbrary Clickthroughs to Catalog August 1 – August 31: 141

Website Visitors August 1 – August 31: 1,510
Website Sessions August 1 – August 31: 2,458
Website Pageviews August 1 – August 31: 5,230

Most Visited Website Pages (August 1 – August 31):

Home Page: 2,559	Bunker Hill Branch: 93	Board of Agents: 26
Programs: 242	Digital: 93	Computer Classes: 25
Program Registration: 128	Newsletters: 81	New Movies: 24
Genealogy/Local Hist.: 190	How to Get a Card: 80	Friends: 23
How to Find Books: 172	eBooks: 71	Book a Librarian: 23
Research: 166	Borrowing Questions: 64	Hall of Fame: 21
Museum Passes: 155	Teen/YA: 59	Requests: 20
Ask A Librarian: 136	Library History: 47	Business Resources: 18
About Us: 115	Book Sale: 36	Directions: 11
Take Out: 106	Calendar: 32	GovDocs: 12
Children's Division: 102	Home Delivery: 28	