

LIBRARY SERVICES

DECEMBER 2025

BURLINGTON
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Skill Building With BPL

While sewing may seem like a skill of the past, the cognitive processes and motor skills required to complete a project are on par with rocket science. That's right! NASA has hosted a podcast entitled, Sewing for Spaceflight that outlines the skills necessary to create protective shields for space missions. Burlington has a rich space history with several NASA scientists hailing from our small town, with John Kelly, Dr. Ed Stone, and Dr. James Green being just a few. Though it may not seem like it, our sewing class connects today's Burlingtonians to our rich history while also developing the skills to help fly us to the moon, and beyond!



Teen Area Enhancement

Our Teen Area continues to be enhanced as we work our way towards elevating this space dedicated to our teen patrons. This month a beautiful light-brite wall was added to the teen space, offering a sensory experience as well as a burst of color. Thanks to funding from our TICOS teen advisory group, as well as additional funds from local grants we are one step closer to completing the teen enhancement project.



Inventory

Patrons may have noticed that our adult non-fiction shelves have undergone a significant change. In December, BPL staff completed the first comprehensive inventory of the adult non-fiction collection. Working together across library departments and utilizing the Texas CREW Manual (Continuous, Review, Evaluation, and Weeding), staff reviewed each title for condition, circulation, relevancy, and availability. Review and weeding of any library collection is a necessary, and mandated, practice set forth by our professional standards as well as the State Library of Iowa.

The children's department was first to undergo a full inventory, followed by tween, teen, and adult non-fiction. Adult fiction and genre fiction will be next in line, and following a complete collection inventory we will begin work on the first collection audit - determining where we have gaps, overflows, and how to best balance all resources.

The removal of several hundred adult non-fiction titles have freed-up several bays of shelving, which will come down in the near future to make room for more gathering space for library users to gather and connect.



ALA Training

Library Director, Brittany Jacobs, attended a 3-day training in Chicago with the American Library Association as the incoming President of the Iowa Library Association. Jacobs was joined by Linda Smithson, the incoming President of the Iowa Association for School Librarians, and the two represented Iowa amongst the 50-state delegation present. ALA's current President, Sam Helmick, a Burlington native helped to lead the training and equip participants with tools to champion libraries of all kinds.



Public Officials Reception

As public officials who are appointed by the Mayor to act as the governing body of the Library our Library Board of Trustees are civilian leaders and in the front row of local government. Three of our Trustees attended this year's Public Officials' Reception hosted by the Greater Burlington Partnership. Board Chair, Jennifer McMillan, along with Brandon Orth and Roger Hatteberg joined area council representatives as well as state legislators for an evening of networking and connection.

Mini Zen Gardens

To end the year on a peaceful note BPL's Allison Richert, along with our two current Teen Interns, hosted a Mini Zen Garden event. The wait-listed program drew participants of all ages, and encouraged everyone to find peace and calm as they built their own mini zen garden to take home for continued peace.

Allison led the group in a mindfulness meditation, and shared resources from our collection to help center oneself and find calm, particularly in the midst of life's every day stressors.



December by the Numbers

Total Checkouts: **20,619** (21,191)

Number of Programs: **39** (47)

Program Participants: **730** (1,251)

New Borrower Accounts: **58** (61)

Use of online databases: **18,081** (15,400)

WiFi & Computer Use: **2,872** (3,000)

Items borrowed & loaned
through Inter Library Loan: **107** (148)

Meeting Room Reservations: **313** (286)

Door Count: **8,220** (8,505)

December '25 / November '25

December by the Numbers: E-Lending

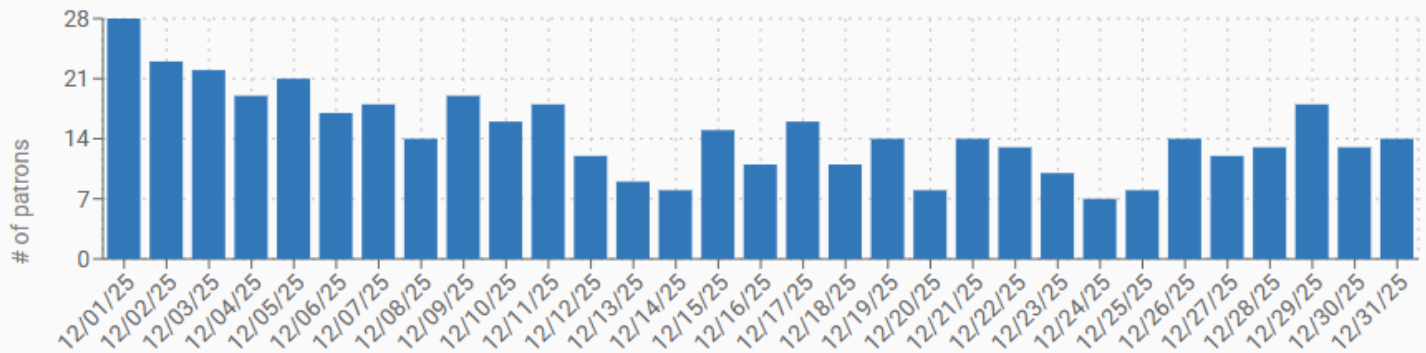
OverDrive/Libby & Hoopla

	Total Circulation	Amount Spent	Unique Patrons	New Patrons	Average Circ/Patron
Hoopla	499	\$1,226.35	298	22	1.7
BURLINGTON Libby	2,936	\$504.64	634	23	4.63
State Libby	290,033	\$55,136.03	58,935	2,278	4.92

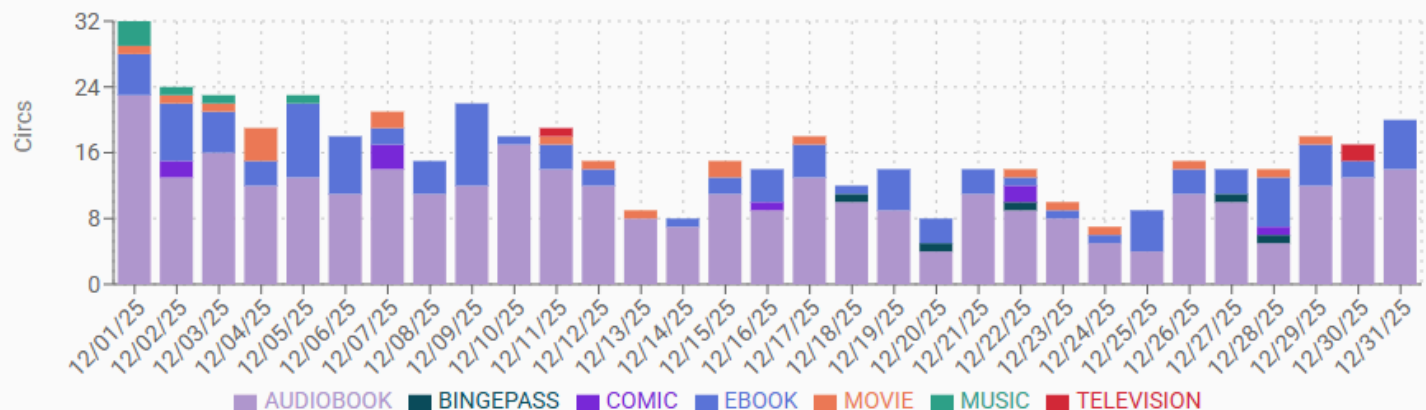
Hoopla Detailed Report

Patron Borrowing Report

There were **289** unique patrons borrowing Instant licenses from December 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 with an average of **9** people borrowing at least one Instant item per day.



Circulations by Format



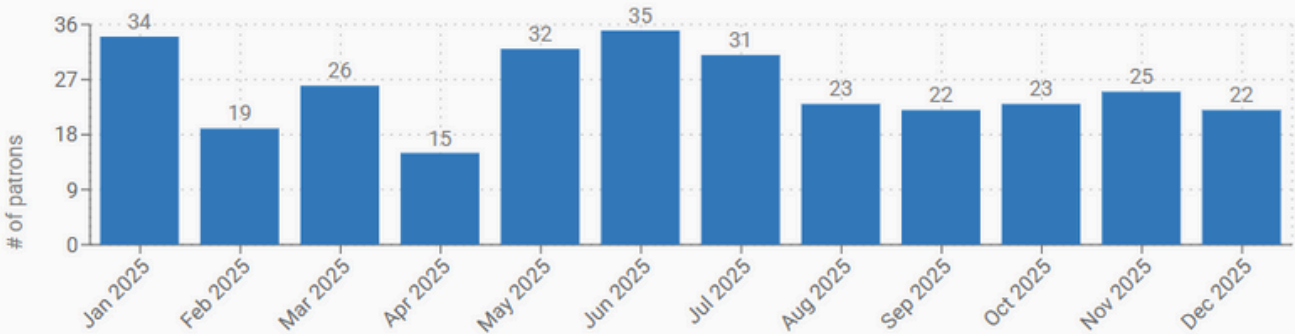
Hoopla & Libby Annual Report - 2025

	Total Circulation	Amount Spent	Unique Patrons	New Patrons	Average Circ/Patron
Hoopla	7,003	\$16,918.68	800	307	8.8
Libby	33,756	\$6,055.68	1,360	359	24.82

New Patron Report

[View Patron Growth Report](#)

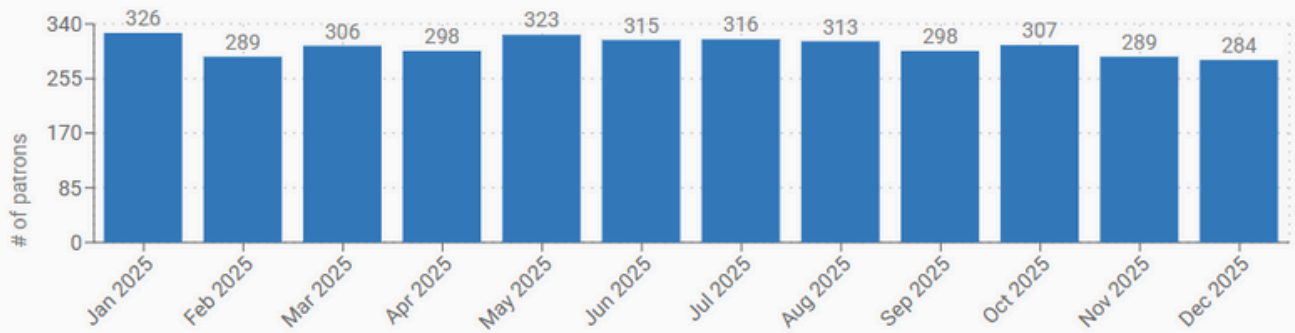
There were **307** new users from January 2025 through December 2025 with an average of **25** users being added for each month.



Patron Borrowing Report

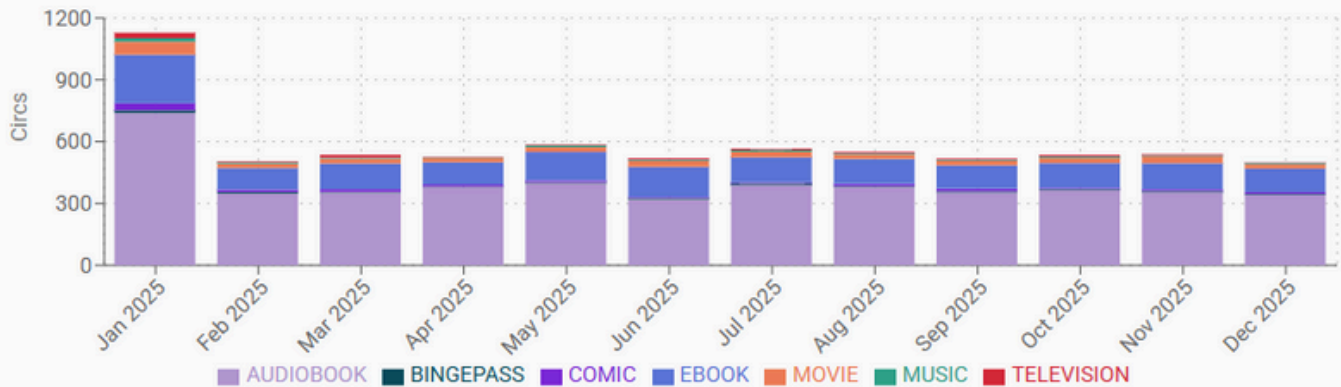
[View Patron Growth Report](#)

There were **800** unique patrons borrowing Instant licenses from January 2025 through December 2025 with an average of **66** people borrowing at least one Instant item per month.



Circulations by Format

[View Detailed Circulations by Format Report](#)



2025 Top Circulating Books

Fiction

1



2



3



4

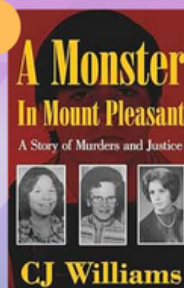


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Non-Fiction

1



2



3



4

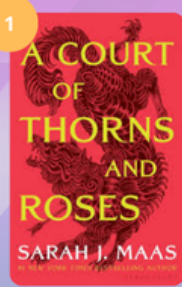


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Teen

1



2



3



4



5



Tween

1



2



3



4



5



Children's: Chapter Books

1



2



3



4



5



Children's: Picture Books

1



2



3



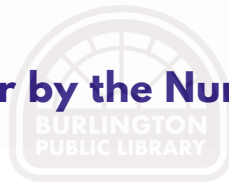
4



5



December by the Numbers: WiFi



Burlington Public Library December-2025

In December, 491 unique patrons used your library WiFi. On average, these patrons visited to use the WiFi on just under 3 individual days.

Change from prior month



1208 ↓ -9.24%

Monthly Sessions



1069 ↓ -8.08%

Total Visits



491 ↓ -12.01%

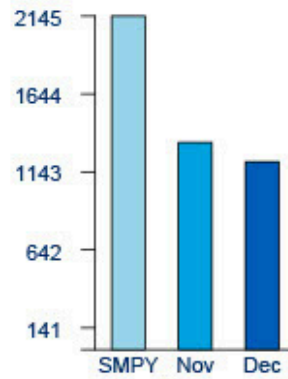
Unique Visitors



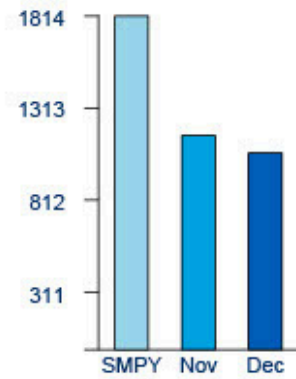
2.18 ↑ 4.81%

Average Return Rate

Total Monthly Session Count

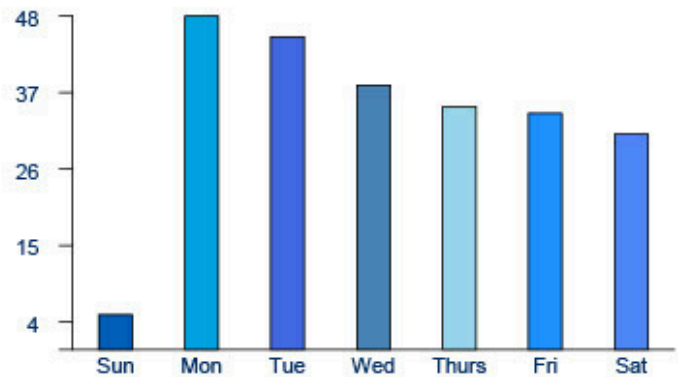


Total Monthly Visits



*SMPY: Same Month Prior Year

Average Daily Visits



Average Peak Hourly

