

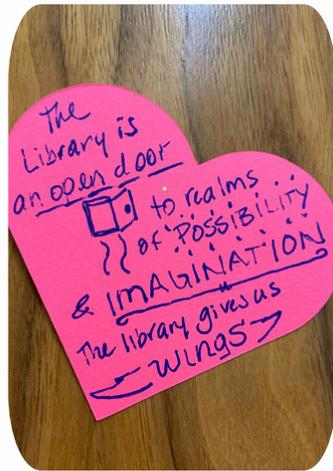
LIBRARY SERVICES

FEBRUARY 2026

BURLINGTON
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Lover's Month

February is National Library Lover's Month, and to celebrate patrons showed their Burlington Public Library love with notes left on our display door.



The Daily Iowan

Since 1868 the University of Iowa has been independently publishing The Daily Iowan, and beginning this month the Burlington Public Library is proud to include this periodical with our lineup of newspapers available to the public. Thanks to community feedback, we were able to expand the news coverage available to our patrons by including this award-winning publication. The Burlington Public Library currently provides **89 unique magazine titles** and **10 unique newspaper titles**.

Pokémon Club

This month we kicked-off a new Pokémon Club series, thanks to community input from Henry Petersen.

"Pokémon Club was a big hit for its first day with a total of 28 attendees," said BPL's Joseph Burgus. "All of the kids who attended the event interacted with each other and had a great time trading cards and battling or just learning how to battle for the first time. Even a few parents joined in to battle. This event wouldn't be possible without youth representative, Henry, who reached out to us to be able to host the event and he did an amazing job leading the group and making sure everyone got the help they needed."

This new club comes at an exciting time as this year is the 30th anniversary of Pokémon! We're thrilled to be able to add this program to our lineup, and appreciate Henry bringing it to life.

Advocacy Committee

On February 25th the Library Board's Advocacy Committee held an open meeting to go over current legislation that would impact public libraries. Over 35 concerned citizens joined the meeting where HF2324 and HF2622 were discussed in detail.



HF2324 - Prohibition on school and library partnerships

HF2622 - Omnibus Library Regulation bill

*See Legislation Update page for more info.



Capitol Day & SE Iowa Days

On February 3rd Library Director, Brittany Jacobs, along with Library Board Chair Jennifer McMillan and Trustee Brandon Orth attended the Iowa Library Association's Capitol Day in Des Moines. The three Burlington representatives were joined by around 70 other library advocates from across the state to champion and urge support for Iowa's libraries.

On February 4th & 5th Brittany, Brandon, and Trustee Mary Weinand joined the SE Iowa delegation at the Capitol for SE Iowa Days to promote and champion everything SE Iowa has to offer. Brittany, Brandon, and Mary attended the subcommittee hearing where Brittany spoke against a proposed bill prohibiting school and library partnerships (HF 2324, formerly HSB 636).

Trustee Weinand and Brittany were also able to meet with the State Librarian, Brenda Hall, to discuss Burlington's concerns for the future of libraries.

February by the Numbers

Total Checkouts: 20,122 (21,828)

Number of Programs: 51 (42)

Program Participants: 1,470 (1,293)

New Borrower Accounts: 109 (75)

Use of online databases: 3,060 (18,770)

WiFi & Computer Use: 3,153 (3,181)

Items borrowed & loaned through Inter Library Loan: 119 (175)

Home Library: 256 (248)

Meeting Room Reservations: 453 (348)

Door Count: 9,581 (9,651)

February '26 / January '26

Master Gardeners

This winter the Burlington Public Library has partnered with the Des Moines County Master Gardeners for a new multi-week series of garden or nature related events.

Of the partnership, Carol Remick stated, "While January saw new gardening presentations offered through the Des Moines County Master Gardeners, February's herb, pollinators, bee and butterfly topics continued the horticulture information flow. These one-to-two-hour presentations were seemingly well received by the public, with attendance averaging between 22 and 50 attendees at the events."



"We have enjoyed meeting the public in the Burlington Public Library," said Des Moines County Master Gardener Education Committee Chairperson Carol Remick. "The mission of the Master Gardeners is to provide evidence-based horticultural knowledge to the community. I can't think of a better place to accomplish this goal in the dead of winter than this beautiful facility."

Partnerships like this create opportunities for our community to come together in unique ways to learn and grow alongside of local experts. With our new 'suggest a program' page on the website, we are now actively seeking community members to join us in creating a robust and varied calendar of events.

<https://www.burlington.lib.ia.us/calendar-events/suggest-program>



February by the Numbers: E-Lending

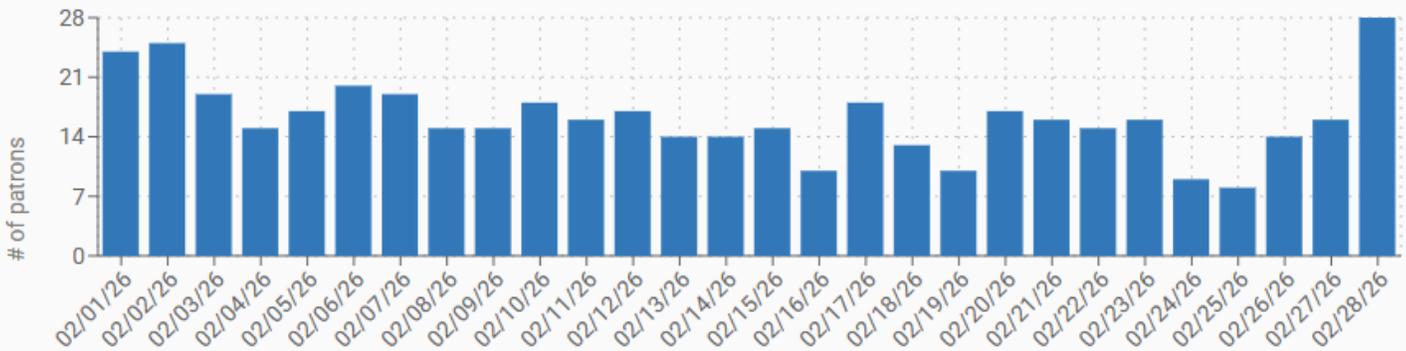
OverDrive/Libby & Hoopla

	Total Circulation	Amount Spent	Unique Patrons	New Patrons	Average Circ/Patron
Hoopla	528	\$1,247.04	300	19	1.8
BURLINGTON Libby	3,322	\$504.64	669	45	4.97
State Libby	282,444	\$111,477	60,513	2,423	4.65

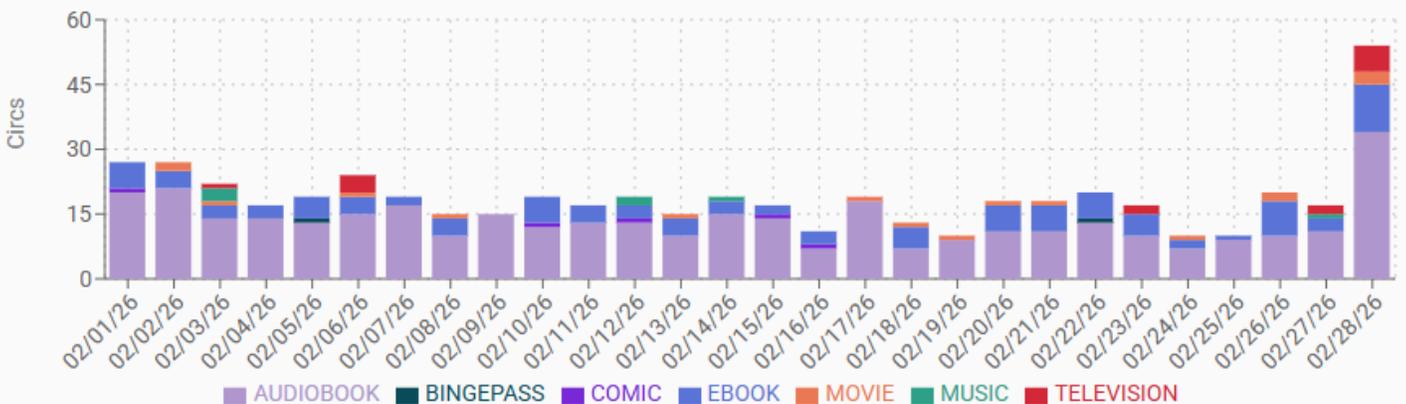
Hoopla Detailed Report

Patron Borrowing Report

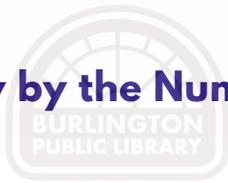
There were **300** unique patrons borrowing Instant licenses from February 1, 2026 through February 28, 2026 with an average of **10** people borrowing at least one Instant item per day.



Circulations by Format



February by the Numbers: WiFi



Burlington Public Library
February-2026

In February, 672 unique patrons used your library WiFi. On average, these patrons visited to use the WiFi on just under 2 individual days.



Change from prior month
1419 ↓ **-1.87%**

Monthly Sessions



1285 ↑ **2.15%**

Total Visits



672 ↑ **20.65%**

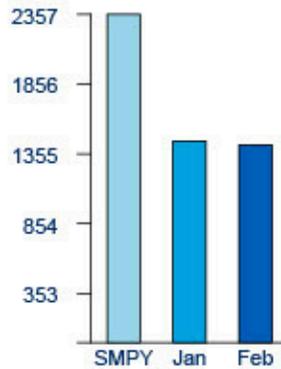
Unique Visitors



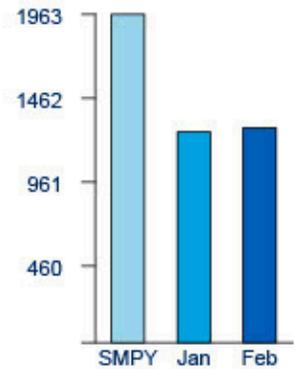
1.91 ↓ **-15.49%**

Average Return Rate

Total Monthly Session Count

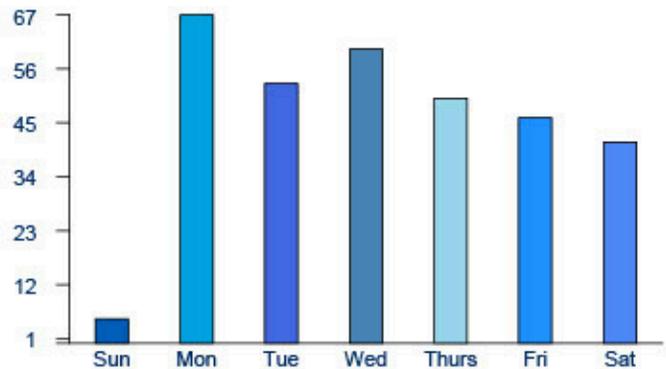


Total Monthly Visits

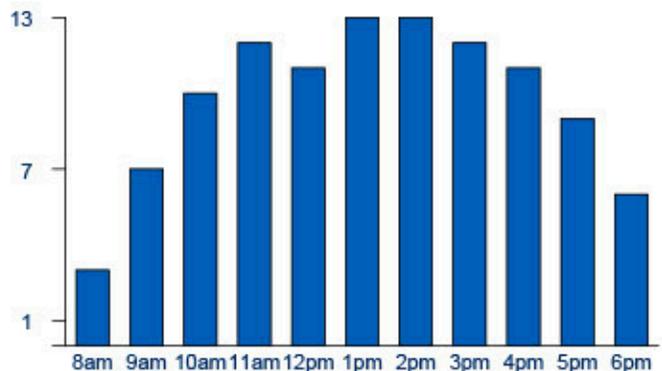


*SMPY: Same Month Prior Year

Average Daily Visits



Average Peak Hourly



February by the Numbers: Spaces



Burlington Public Library
Feb-26

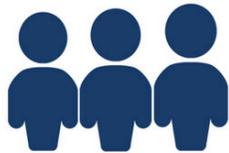
In February, you had 453 bookings overall with a cumulative attendance of 1754 patrons.



Change from prior month

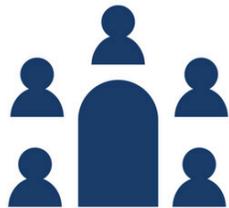
453 ↑ 6.84%

Total Bookings



1754 ↓ -1.9%

Total Attendance



3.9 ↓ -7.14%

Average Attendance

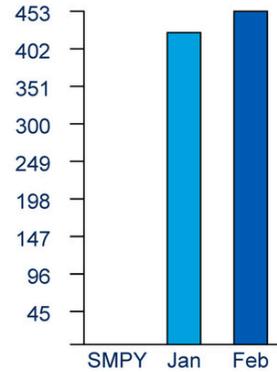
87 ↑ 14.47%
Internal Bookings

353 ↑ 2.32%
Patron Bookings

13 ↑ 333.33%
Non-Profit Bookings

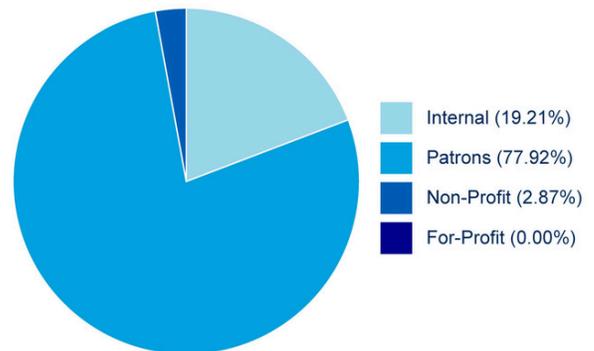
0 ↑ -
For-Profit Bookings

Total Monthly Bookings

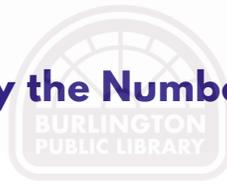


*SMPY: Same Month Prior Year

Booking Breakdowns By Percentage



February by the Numbers: Programs

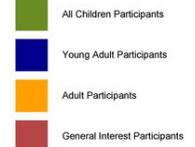
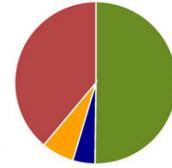
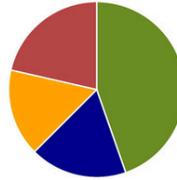


Burlington Public Library
July, 2025 - February, 2026

July

Overview

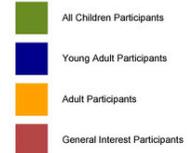
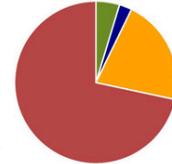
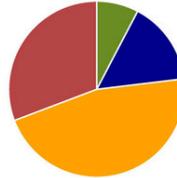
All Children Programs	25	44.64%	All Children Participants	954	50.18%
Young Adult Programs	10	17.86%	Young Adult Participants	84	4.42%
Adult Programs	9	16.07%	Adult Participants	123	6.47%
General Interest Programs	12	21.43%	General Interest Participants	740	38.93%
Total Programs	56		Total Participants	1901	



August

Overview

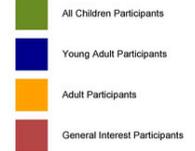
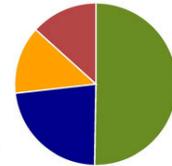
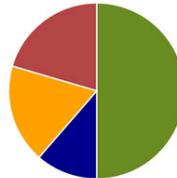
All Children Programs	1	7.69%	All Children Participants	28	4.7%
Young Adult Programs	2	15.38%	Young Adult Participants	15	2.52%
Adult Programs	6	46.15%	Adult Participants	126	21.14%
General Interest Programs	4	30.77%	General Interest Participants	427	71.64%
Total Programs	13		Total Participants	596	



September

Overview

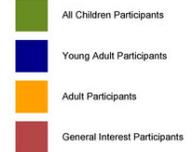
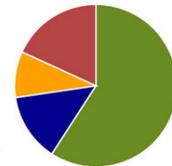
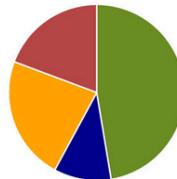
All Children Programs	22	50%	All Children Participants	495	50.25%
Young Adult Programs	5	11.36%	Young Adult Participants	226	22.94%
Adult Programs	8	18.18%	Adult Participants	133	13.5%
General Interest Programs	9	20.45%	General Interest Participants	131	13.3%
Total Programs	44		Total Participants	985	



October

Overview

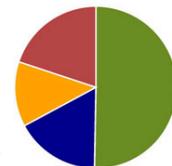
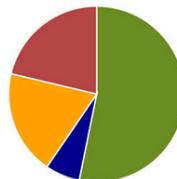
All Children Programs	27	47.37%	All Children Participants	1322	59.12%
Young Adult Programs	6	10.53%	Young Adult Participants	303	13.55%
Adult Programs	13	22.81%	Adult Participants	205	9.17%
General Interest Programs	11	19.3%	General Interest Participants	406	18.16%
Total Programs	57		Total Participants	2236	



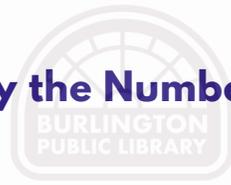
November

Overview

All Children Programs	25	53.19%	All Children Participants	629	50.28%
Young Adult Programs	3	6.38%	Young Adult Participants	211	16.87%
Adult Programs	9	19.15%	Adult Participants	162	12.95%
General Interest Programs	10	21.28%	General Interest Participants	249	19.9%
Total Programs	47		Total Participants	1251	

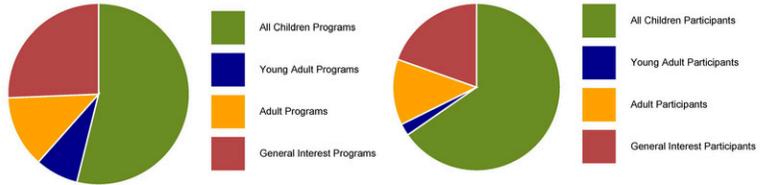


February by the Numbers: Programs

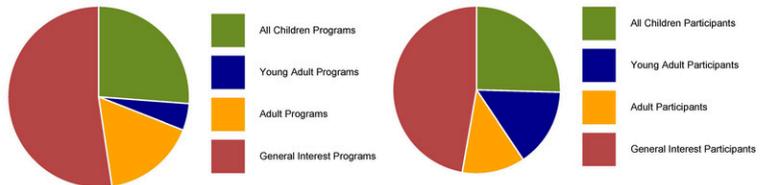


Burlington Public Library July, 2025 - February, 2026

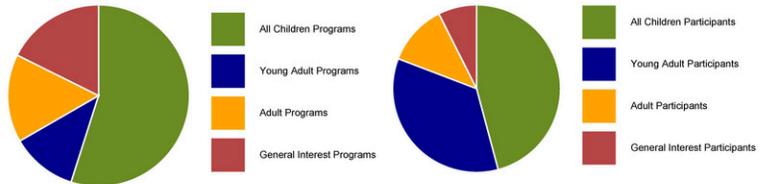
December					
Overview					
All Children Programs	21	53.85%	All Children Participants	477	65.34%
Young Adult Programs	3	7.69%	Young Adult Participants	17	2.33%
Adult Programs	5	12.82%	Adult Participants	93	12.74%
General Interest Programs	10	25.64%	General Interest Participants	143	19.59%
Total Programs	39		Total Participants	730	



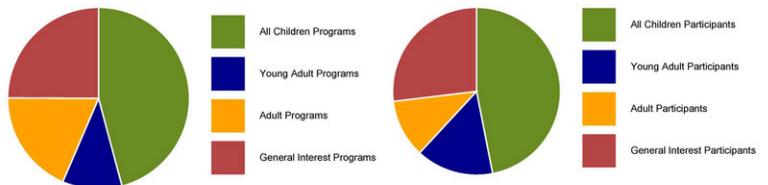
January					
Overview					
All Children Programs	11	26.19%	All Children Participants	329	25.44%
Young Adult Programs	2	4.76%	Young Adult Participants	196	15.16%
Adult Programs	7	16.67%	Adult Participants	157	12.14%
General Interest Programs	22	52.38%	General Interest Participants	611	47.25%
Total Programs	42		Total Participants	1293	



February					
Overview					
All Children Programs	28	54.9%	All Children Participants	674	45.85%
Young Adult Programs	6	11.76%	Young Adult Participants	514	34.97%
Adult Programs	8	15.69%	Adult Participants	173	11.77%
General Interest Programs	9	17.65%	General Interest Participants	109	7.41%
Total Programs	51		Total Participants	1470	



Year in Review					
Overview					
All Children Programs	160	45.85%	All Children Participants	4908	46.91%
Young Adult Programs	37	10.6%	Young Adult Participants	1566	14.97%
Adult Programs	65	18.62%	Adult Participants	1172	11.2%
General Interest Programs	87	24.93%	General Interest Participants	2816	26.92%
Total Programs	349		Total Participants	10462	





2026 Legislative Update

Bills introduced to the Iowa legislature during the first funnel:

HF 2025 - Historical Resource Research Center

HF 2136 - Confidentiality of Library Records for Minors

HSB 636 - Public School / Library / Bookmobile Partnerships

HF 2270 - State Library Standards

HF 2309 - Harmful to Minors

HSB 720 - Omnibus: Public Library Regulations

SF 2293 - Removes Historical Resource Research Center

SF 2177 - Library & Vendor Filtering

SF 2119 - Obscenity Exemption

Bills that survived the first funnel:

HF2324 (HSB 636) - Public School / Library / Bookmobile Partnerships

2. The board of directors of a school district shall not do any of the following:

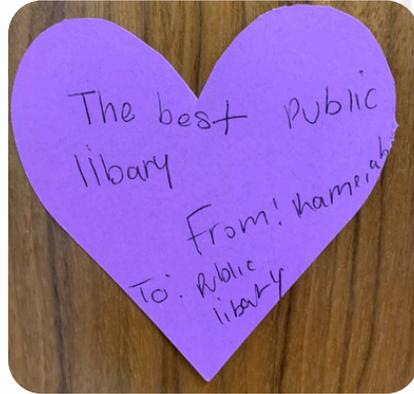
- a. Enter into any agreement with a public library that allows students enrolled in the school district to utilize identification cards issued by the school district to access any books, electronic resources, or other educational materials at the public library.
- b. Allow a mobile library to access school district property for purposes of hosting or participating in an event that allows students enrolled in the school district to check out books from the mobile library.

HF2622 (HSB 720) - Omnibus: Public Library Regulations

- Enforces 'age appropriate' policies
- Ends confidentiality of minor's records
- State Library Accreditation Standards cannot reference ALA or ILA
- Withholds all local tax funding if in violation of new 'age appropriate' policy guidelines
- Removes governance from Library Boards and moves all control to City Councils effective July 1, 2026
- All materials in a public library collection must be reviewed and deemed 'age appropriate' or not, and all determinations must be affirmed or denied by the City Council
- All private gifts, devises, and bequests made to or for the benefit of the library will be accepted, held, and expended under the authority of City Council.

SF 2293 - Removes Historical Resource Research Center

February 2026



National Library Lover's Month displays



February Spicy Book Club: Basil



The newest addition to our newspaper lineup



Public Services Manager, Sam Watson, took matters into his own hands when faced with a display issue. By utilizing our 3D printers, Sam designed a component that works with our existing book display units to create a new, front facing display system for movies. This will exponentially expand our ability to display movies, and help move the 20,000+ titles in the collection. Kudos to Sam for his creative problem-solving skills, and bringing a fresh new idea to BPL.