

LIBRARY SERVICES

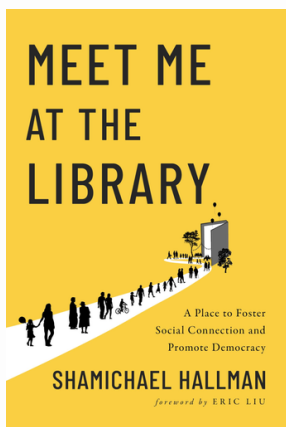
MARCH 2025

Staff Training

On March 3rd the Burlington Public Library hosted a regional training for SE Iowa library staff, trustees, and Friends members centered around the book, *Meet Me at the Library: A Place to Foster Social Connection and Promote Democracy* by Shamichael Hallman.



North Liberty Public Library Director, Jennie Garner, joined Shamichael as our guest speakers, who led us in a day of learning and collaboration. The State Library of Iowa and 8 SE Iowa public libraries were represented in attendance, in addition to several trustees, Burlington City Manager, and Friends members.



Seed Library

February kicked-off the 2025 gardening season with our annual Seed Swap, and this month we opened our Seed Library. Patrons are encouraged to browse our seed collection and take what they would like for their backyard gardens.



Thanks to our seed donors West Cost Seeds, Seed Savers Exchange, and Nine Square Feet, we are able to offer BPL patrons a wide variety of produce, herb, flower, and vegetable seeds.

History Comes to Life

Based on the award winning book, *The Woman They Could Not Silence: The shocking story of a women who dared to fight back* by Kate Moore, this month's First Friday program brought Elizabeth Packard to life with actor Laura Keyes. Keyes' portrayal of Packard brought to light the incredible fight this woman faced in the late 1800's and the human rights progress she eventually secured in her quest for justice.



National Library News

On March 14th the White House issued an Executive Order calling for the elimination to the maximum extent and reduction of statutory functions and associated personnel to the minimum presence and function required by law for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) as well as six other agencies. In FY24 \$211 million was allocated to the Library Services Technology Act (LSTA), which is the leading source of federal funding for public libraries. Iowa public libraries directly benefit and rely on annual funding from IMLS/LSTA, with \$2.2 million allocated to Iowa in FY24. A loss of IMLS funds would be a significant blow to Iowa libraries, and force service cuts for the 99% of Iowa residents who are served by one of Iowa's 544 public libraries. OverDrive/Libby, interlibrary loan, website hosting, data software, and more are just a few examples of IMLS services we are at risk of losing.

March by the Numbers

Total Checkouts: 23,947 (21,606)

Number of Programs: 38 (36)

Program Participants: 781 (812)

New Borrower Accounts: 116 (84)

Use of online databases: 7,327 (7,754)

WiFi & Computer Use: 4,908 (4,288)

Items borrowed & loaned through Inter Library Loan: 150 (126)

Meeting Room Reservations: 392 (343)

Door Count: 10,065 (8,466)

March '25 / February '25

Community Highlights

Chris Murphy, owner of Burlington By the Book, launched a community book drive to benefit the library in light of our FY26 budget cut and compounded loss with state and federal dollars being restricted (see National Library News). Using community feedback for weekly book selections, Chris will donate one newly published book to BPL every week for one year.



Several community members have joined in Chris' efforts and are now donating new books weekly to the library as well. Pictured above is Chris with BPL's book purchaser, Laura Davis, as these two have created a joint effort to enhance our collection.

Friends' Highlight

The Friends of the Burlington Public Library were the recipients of a generous donation from F&M bank.



March by the Numbers: E-Lending



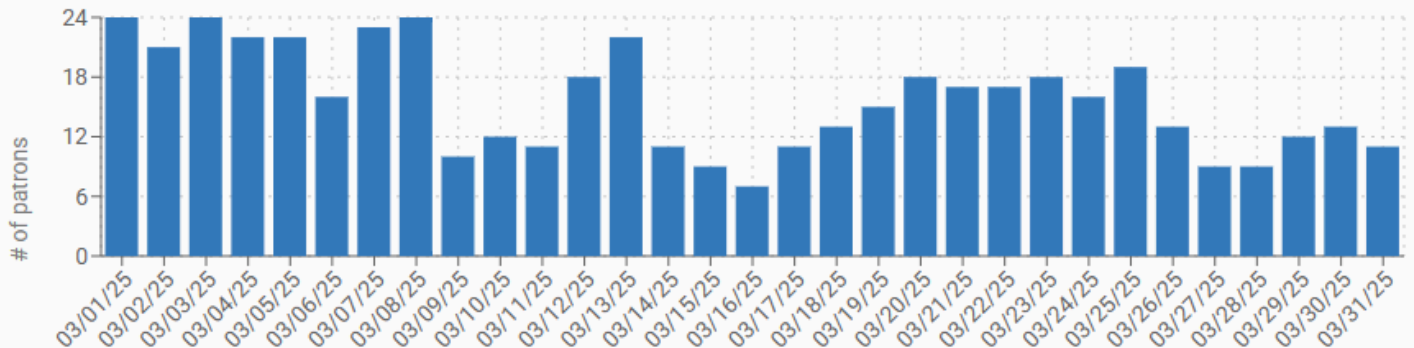
OverDrive/Libby & Hoopla

	Total Circulation	Amount Spent	Unique Patrons	New Patrons	Average Circ/Patron
Hoopla	536	\$1,284.16	306	26	1.8
Libby	3,046	\$519.78	647	32	4.72

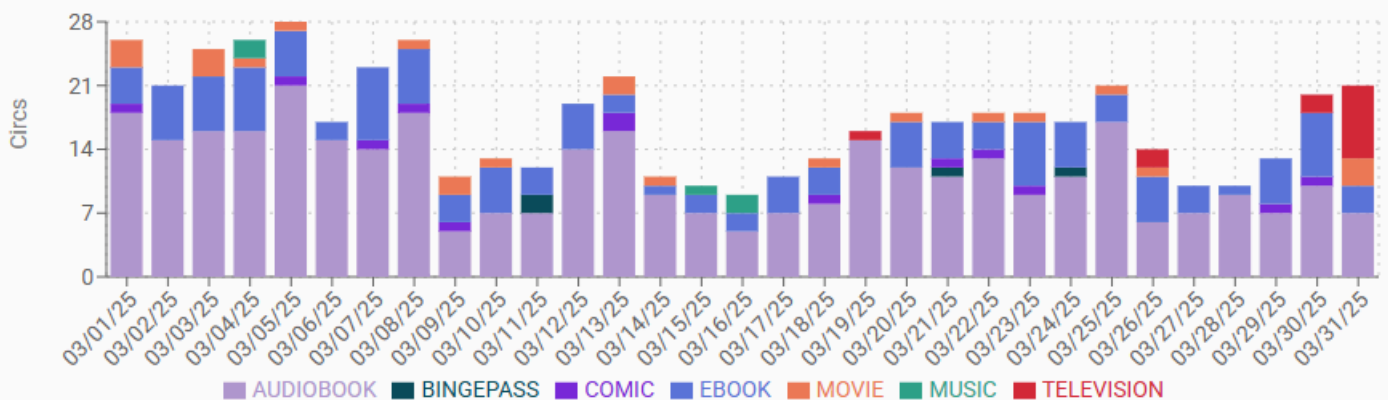
Hoopla Detailed Report

Patron Borrowing Report

There were **306** unique patrons borrowing Instant licenses from March 1, 2025 through March 31, 2025 with an average of **9** people borrowing at least one Instant item per day.



Circulations by Format



March by the Numbers: WiFi

Burlington Public Library
March-2025

In March, 884 unique patrons used your library WiFi. On average, these patrons visited to use the WiFi on just under 3 individual days.

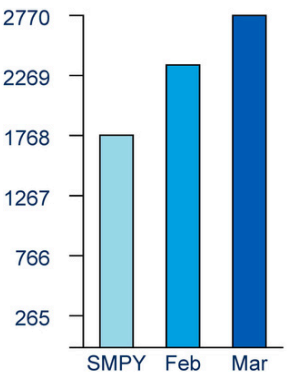
Change from prior month



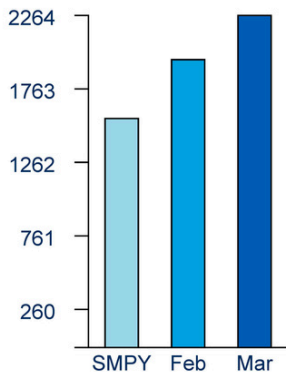
2770 ↑ 17.52%

Monthly Sessions

Total Monthly Session Count

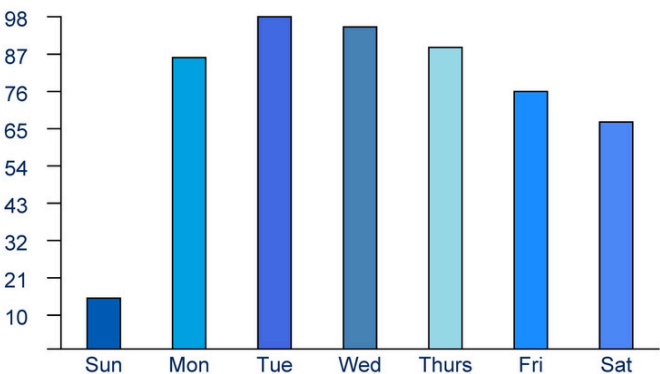


Total Monthly Visits

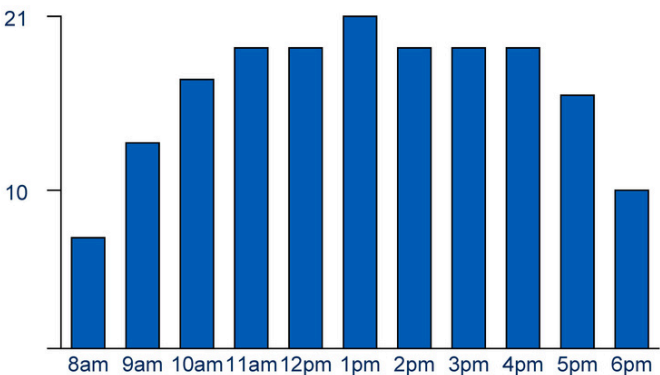


*SMPY: Same Month Prior Year

Average Daily Visits



Average Peak Hourly



2264 ↑ 15.33%

Total Visits



884 ↑ 14.66%

Unique Visitors



2.56 ↑ 0.39%

Average Return Rate