

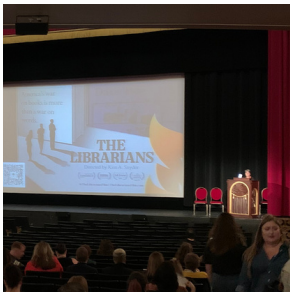
LIBRARY SERVICES

OCTOBER 2025

BURLINGTON
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Iowa Library Association

Manager of Collection Services & IT, Lois Blythe, and Library Director, Brittany Jacobs, spent October 1 - 3 in Sioux City for the annual Iowa Library Association conference. Lois serves as the President of the Iowa Library Association Foundation, and Brittany was elected as the incoming President of the Iowa Library Association. The passing of the Presidential gavel took place at the conference handing off the official presidential duties to Brittany for the 2026 year. As the ILAF President, Lois opened the conference with a speech ahead of an exclusive screening of The Librarians documentary. Burlington's own Sam Helmick is currently serving as the American Library Association President, giving Burlington a lot to be proud of.



Banned Books Week



The Burlington Public Library celebrated Banned Books Week from October 5-11, and ended the week with our inaugural Banned Camp Book Club. Led by the Board of Trustees, this

book club aims to bring awareness to censorship, our right to read, and civic discourse surrounding libraries.

Genealogy Lock In

The annual Genealogy Lock In was held on Sunday, October 19th and hosted 30 individuals. 1-on-1 tech help, genealogy research assistance, Fortepan training, and much more was on offer at this fall's event. Many thanks to Nancy Halls, Lynn McVey, and Lois Blythe for hosting this fabulous event. The Friends of the Library were on hand to sell books and several community volunteers donated their expertise and time as well (Kay Weiss & Terry Abriz).

Donations



The Burlington Public Library received a donation of an American flag that flew over President Lincoln's grave at the Lincoln Tomb in Springfield, IL. Carol Brotherson donated this flag, and it will enter the rotation of flags to fly on the library's SE flag pole.

The Burlington Public Library received a donation of the full set of the Iowa Ordinance Plant (IOP) newspapers that we will scan and add to our digital archive. With the help of the Des Moines County Geographic Information System (GIS) office, we were able to create high-quality scans that will be an added resource to our digital archive of Burlington artifacts. Thanks to Suzanne Brueck for this generous donation.



Outreach



On October 18th, about 30 individuals showed up to Dankwardt Park to help plant the 50 trees that were unlocked during this summer's reading program. Patrick Moore, the City Forester, led the day's events with a tree planting, tree walk, and pruning lesson.

Friends of the Library Week

October 20 - 25th was the annual Friends of the Library Week! Our Friends group is strong with 345 members as of their October board meeting. The Friends provide all funding for library programs and events, ensuring that everything BPL has to offer is always FREE to attend.

October by the Numbers

Total Checkouts: 23,614 (23,295)

Number of Programs: 57 (44)

Program Participants: 2,236 (985)

New Borrower Accounts: 101 (121)

Use of online databases: 10,846 (22,645)

WiFi & Computer Use: 4,658 (4,721)

Items borrowed & loaned through Inter Library Loan: 193 (175)

Meeting Room Reservations: 303 (370)

Door Count: 9,968 (9,890)

October '25 / September '25

Pumpkinpalooza

This year marked the 10th anniversary of Pumpkinpalooza, a community tradition that continues to grow each year. The event has evolved since its early days, when it began as a pumpkin drilling activity paired with cookie decorating and costume contests. From the beginning, Tiara and Stephanie have been part of this spooktacular celebration with Bethany joining the team shortly thereafter.

The 2025 event featured pumpkin painting, face painting, two photo opportunities (one with our local star Emily the Skelly and another with spooky staff portraits), and several games.

Our library intern Miqueas was a rock star who used his artistic talents to enhance the event and stepped in wherever he was needed. He was an enormous help in keeping everything running smoothly.

A total of 320 patrons participated in this year's Pumpkinpalooza! Survey feedback and in person comments showed that pumpkin painting was the favorite activity, followed closely by face painting and pumpkin bowling. Families repeatedly stated that they've attended for years and that Pumpkinpalooza has become an annual tradition. They especially enjoy the familiar faces, not too spooky decorations, and returning activities as well as new surprises each year.

Parents of our youngest patrons appreciated that starting early allowed Babygarten families to enjoy the festivities in a calmer environment before the bigger kids arrived. The event concluded with fog machines, holiday music, and an impromptu dance party.

Pumpkinpalooza remains one of our most anticipated and cherished library traditions for patrons and staff alike and this year's milestone celebration was no exception!



October Snapshots



The Bookmobile spotted in Dankwardt Park



Ghosts in the stacks



Pumpkinpalooza Team:
Bethany, Stephanie, Miqueas & Tiara



City Council Candidate Forum

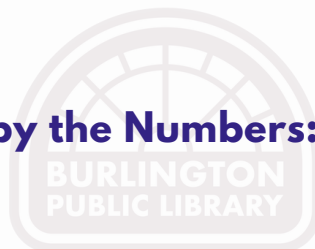


Hallo-week Costumes



Halloween Costumes

October by the Numbers: E-Lending



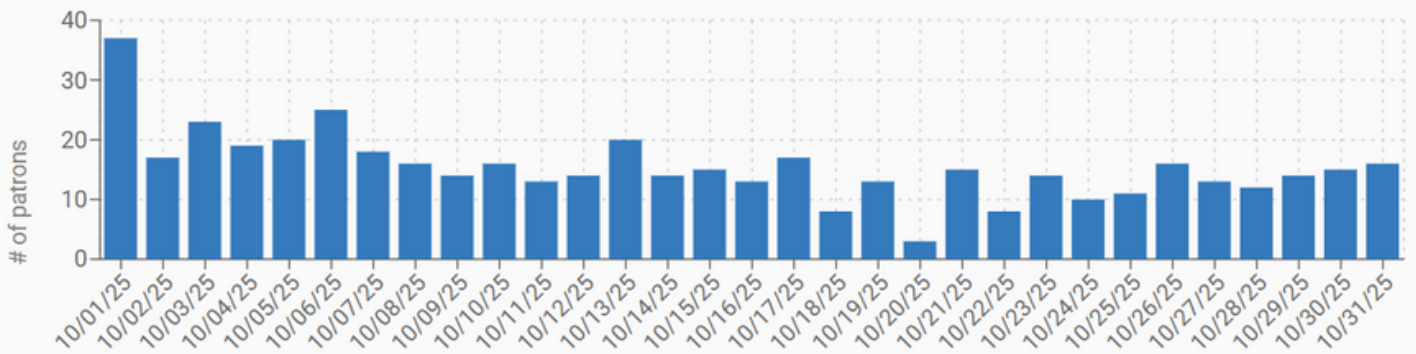
OverDrive/Libby & Hoopla

	Total Circulation	Amount Spent	Unique Patrons	New Patrons	Average Circ/Patron
Hoopla	535	\$1,303.32	316	22	1.7
BURLINGTON Libby	3,008	\$504.64	664	31	4.53
State Libby	299,000	\$52,450	59,449	2,504	5.03

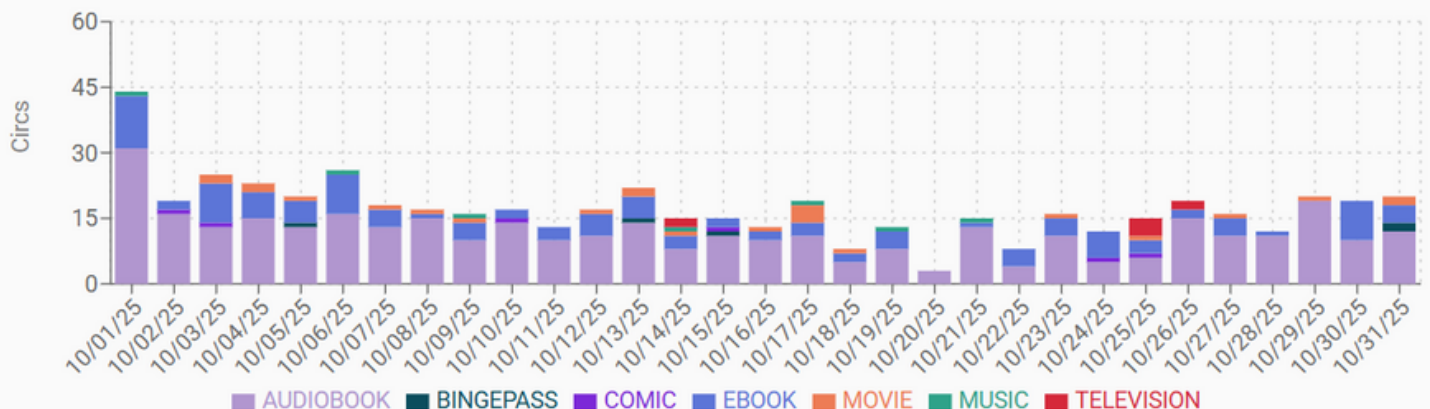
Hoopla Detailed Report

Patron Borrowing Report

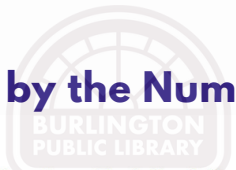
There were **316** unique patrons borrowing Instant licenses from October 1, 2025 through October 31, 2025 with an average of **10** people borrowing at least one Instant item per day.



Circulations by Format



October by the Numbers: WiFi



Burlington Public Library
October-2025

In October, 703 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



2545 ↓ -6.33%

Monthly Sessions



2051 ↓ -5.13%

Total Visits



703 ↓ -2.63%

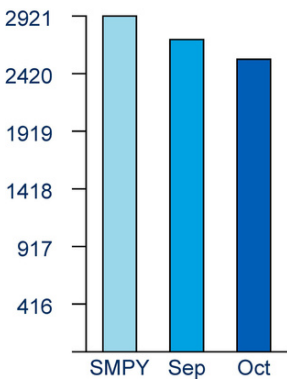
Unique Visitors



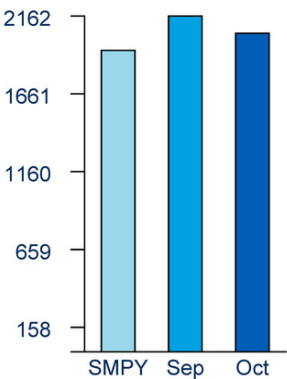
2.92 ↓ -2.34%

Average Return Rate

Total Monthly Session Count

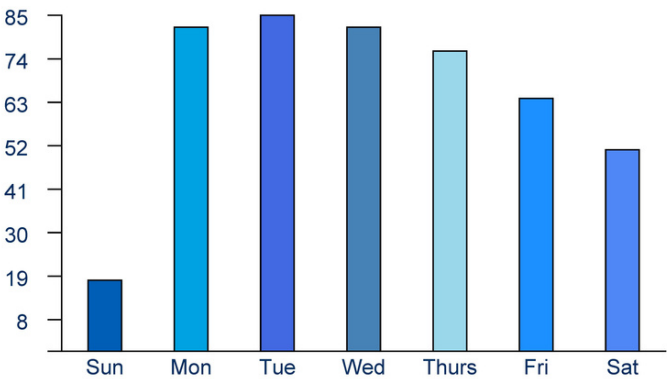


Total Monthly Visits

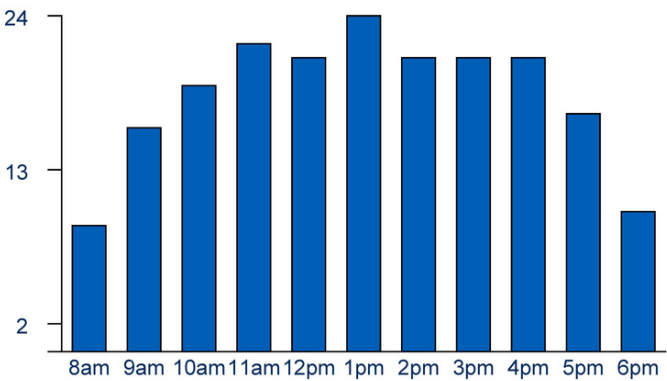


*SMPY: Same Month Prior Year

Average Daily Visits



Average Peak Hourly



October Outgoing ILL Map

