

LIBRARY SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 2026



Americans and the Holocaust

The entire month of September featured programs to support the final four weeks of the Americans and the Holocaust exhibit. From showcasing the Burlington Hawk Eye's coverage of the war in our That's Yesterday's News program to survivor talks and our own in-house exhibit, Vacation Thru Time, we kept a full calendar of fabulous learning experiences for people of all ages.



The Vacation Thru Time in-house exhibit introduced people to the ten Boom family who risked life and limb to house and hide Jews fleeing the Nazi regime.

Our very talented BPL team, led by Bethany Luttenegger, hosted this multi-day event. Thanks to Bethany, Melissa Nystrom, and Monika Ryan for their creativity and passion that made this exhibit come to life.

Child Survivor: Samuel Marder

Thanks to a connection made by Dr. Gary Mansheim, we had the incredible honor of hosting Holocaust survivor, Samuel Marder via Zoom. Samuel shared his incredible story and Becky Ruberg, our Teen Specialist moderated the event with questions from the audience.



Similar to the survivor talk we hosted in August, Samuel's message for us was to be kind to one another and speak out against bullying. The virtual presentation offered us the opportunity to host classrooms, along with a room full of people at the library for a rich inter-generational learning experience. For many in the room, this may well be the only chance they have in their lifetime to hear directly from a survivor of the Holocaust death camps.

A great deal of thanks to Dr. Mansheim for making this event possible.

Local Business Support

Local business owner, Chris Murphy, launched an initiative this spring to support the library's purchasing budget, by collecting donations at his register and matching up to \$100 every month. Several other businesses, and local groups have also joined in, bringing in nearly \$1,000 every month for the library! Thanks to the following for their generous support of the library:

Burlington by the Book

Black Water Mini Golf & Mississippi Moon

Ice Cream

River Ridge Dental

Big River Popcorn & Treats

The Broom Closet

The Busted Cup

The Beancounter

The Butterfly Effect

September by the Numbers

Total Checkouts: **20,329** (22,177)

Number of Programs: **61** (35)

Program Participants: **2,749** (1,699)

New Borrower Accounts: **89** (121)

Use of online databases: **5,141** (3,892)

WiFi & Computer Use: **2,960** (3,112)

Items borrowed & loaned
through Inter Library Loan: **177** (142)

Home Library: **174** (287)

Meeting Room Reservations: **508** (449)

Door Count: **11,500** (12,372)

September '26 / August '26

Paint-a-Thon

Several library staff joined the city's team for the annual Paint-a-Thon to help give a new coat to a local house in need. The library staff joined folks from across all city departments as they worked together to accomplish this community service.



Bookmobile Outreach

The Bookmobile was out on the town this month and attended the South Hill Block Party. Readers of all ages were able to come onto the van to select books to take home and keep. This repository library is possible thanks to book donations from community members.



The Butterfly Effect

On September 20th the Butterfly Effect featured the Burlington Public Library as their community beneficiary. Donations were taken to support the library, and several poets opened their sets with their own personal library story.

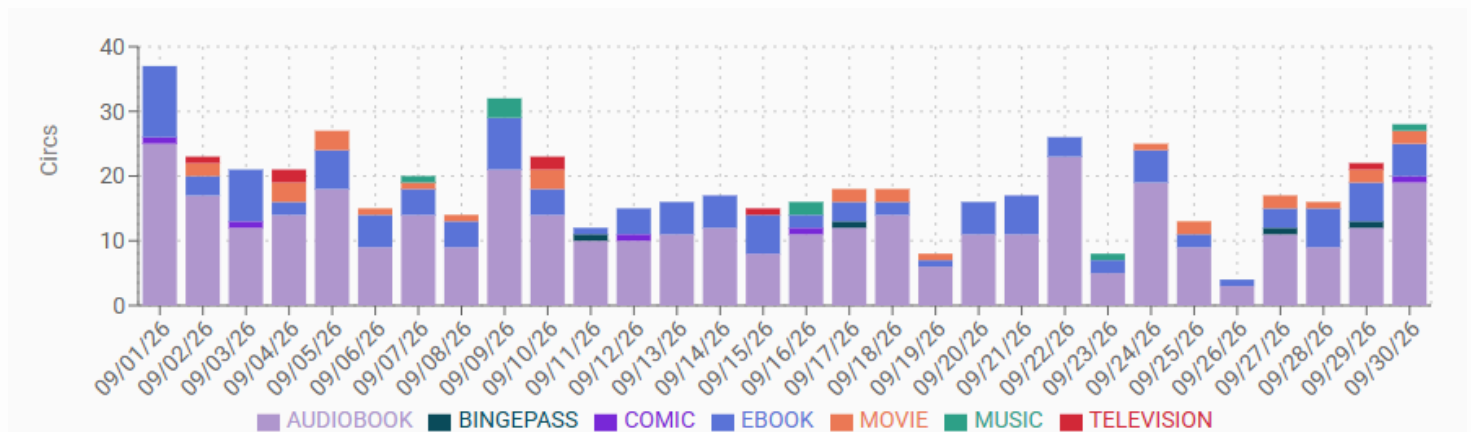


September by the Numbers: E-Lending

OverDrive/Libby & Hoopla

	Total Circulation	Amount Spent	Unique Patrons	New Patrons	Average Circ/Patron
Hoopla	560	\$1,312.43	327	32	1.7
BURLINGTON Libby	3,080	\$867.98	692	40	4.45
State Libby	302,457	\$50,241.23	63,075	2,584	4.59

Hoopla Detailed Report:



Libby State Snapshot:

1	Ames Public Library	19,475
2	Ankeny Kirkendall Public Library	15,442
3	West Des Moines Public Library	12,264
4	Urbandale Public Library	10,066
5	Council Bluffs Public Library	8,172
6	Sioux City Public Library	8,050
7	Waukee Public Library	6,746
8	Johnston Public Library	6,613
9	Indianola Public Library	4,531
10	Dubuque County Library District	4,038
11	Decorah Public Library	3,910
12	Nonwalk Easter Public Library	3,865
13	Altoona Public Library	3,316
14	Marshalltown Public Library	3,256
15	Newton Public Library	3,170
16	Burlington Public Library	3,080
17	Clive Public Library	2,965
18	Grimes Public Library	2,945
19	Bettendorf Public Library	2,825
20	Pella Public Library	2,794

Burlington Public Library

September-2026

In September, 681 unique patrons used your library WiFi. On average, these patrons visited to use the WiFi on just under 3 individual days.

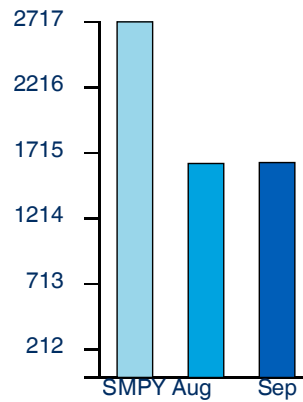
Change from prior month



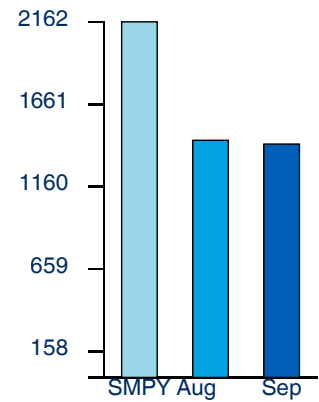
1642 ↑ 0.43%

Monthly Sessions

Total Monthly Session Count

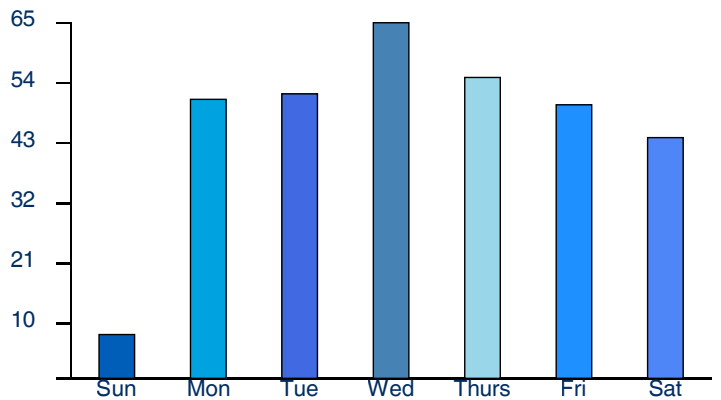


Total Monthly Visits

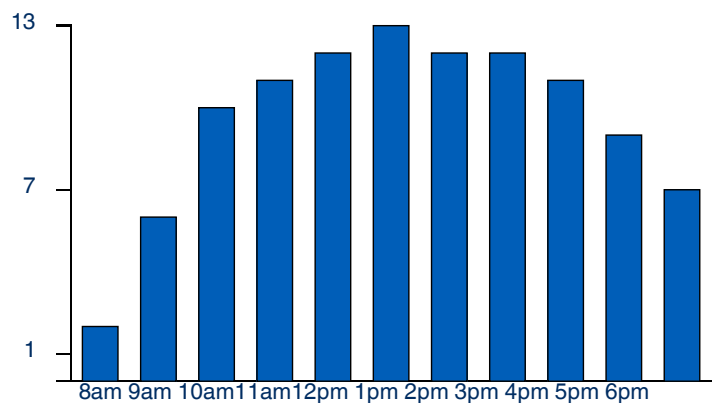


*SMPY: Same Month Prior Year

Average Daily Visits



Average Peak Hourly



1419 ↓ -1.6%

Total Visits



681 ↓ -1.02%

Unique Visitors



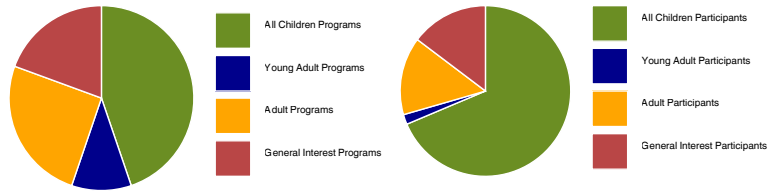
2.08 ↓ -0.95%

Average Return Rate

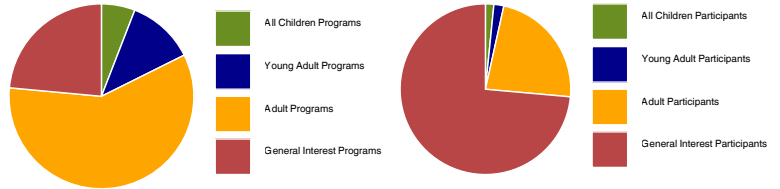
Burlington Public Library

July, 2026 - September, 2026

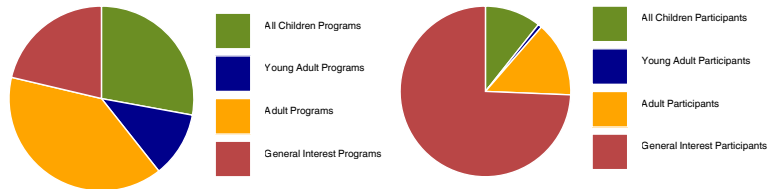
July Overview					
All Children Programs	30	44.78%	All Children Participants	1055	68.64%
Young Adult Programs	7	10.45%	Young Adult Participants	29	1.89%
Adult Programs	17	25.37%	Adult Participants	227	14.77%
General Interest Programs	13	19.4%	General Interest Participants	226	14.7%
Total Programs	67		Total Participants	1537	



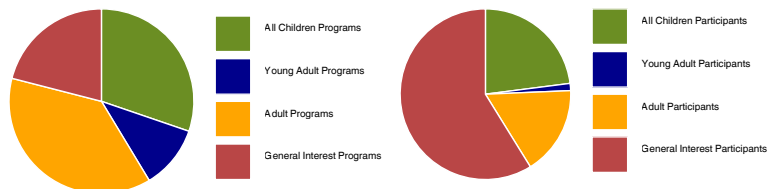
August Overview					
All Children Programs	2	5.88%	All Children Participants	27	1.59%
Young Adult Programs	4	11.76%	Young Adult Participants	32	1.88%
Adult Programs	20	58.82%	Adult Participants	390	22.95%
General Interest Programs	8	23.53%	General Interest Participants	1250	73.57%
Total Programs	34		Total Participants	1699	



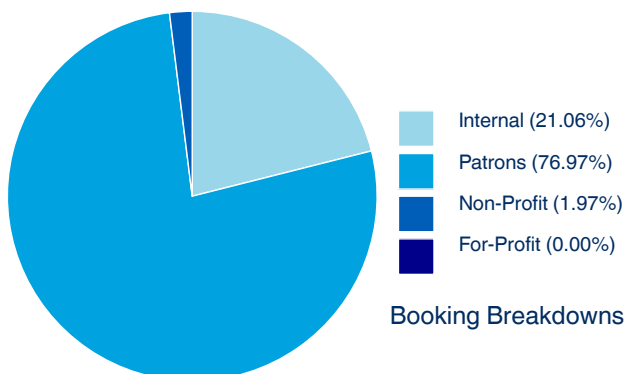
September Overview					
All Children Programs	17	27.87%	All Children Participants	293	10.66%
Young Adult Programs	7	11.48%	Young Adult Participants	20	0.73%
Adult Programs	24	39.34%	Adult Participants	392	14.26%
General Interest Programs	13	21.31%	General Interest Participants	2044	74.35%
Total Programs	61		Total Participants	2749	



Year in Review Overview					
All Children Programs	49	30.25%	All Children Participants	1375	22.97%
Young Adult Programs	18	11.11%	Young Adult Participants	81	1.35%
Adult Programs	61	37.65%	Adult Participants	1009	16.86%
General Interest Programs	34	20.99%	General Interest Participants	3520	58.81%
Total Programs	162		Total Participants	5985	

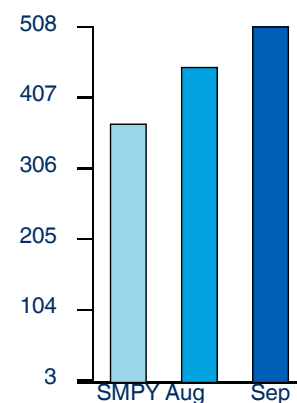


In September, you had 508 bookings overall with a cumulative attendance of 1828 patrons.



Booking Breakdowns By Percentage

Total Monthly Bookings



*SMPY: Same Month Prior Year

September Snapshots



Vacation Thru Time: ten Boom Family



Exhibit Tour



Guest Lecture with
Professors Ute Chamberlin & Gregory Baldi



School Tour

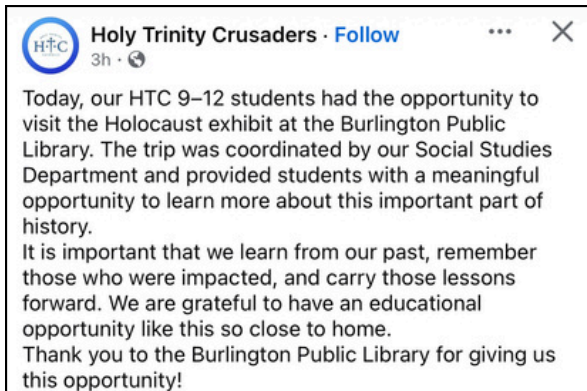


Exhibit Tear-Down



Ready, Set, Sew