

**Palo Alto City Library  
December 2017 Report  
Monique leConge Zieshenne, Library Director**

*The Palo Alto City Library staff plan and implement many diverse and exciting programs for the community throughout the year. In this report I like to highlight a few of our recent noteworthy events and activities. If you would like more detailed information about any of our programs, please contact me via phone at **650.329.2403** or by e-mail at **Monique.leconge@cityofpaloalto.org**.*

**December 2017 Circulation Statistics**

Checkout			Self-Check			Total Circulation			Visitor Count			Holds		
2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015	2017	2016	2015
74,636	79,869	84,104	87.77%	88.09%	86.94%	119,004	118,008	123,398	81,486	76,965	71,029	15,265	16,149	15,111

**December 2017 Circulation Statistics**

Branch	Checkouts	Self-Check	Total Circulation	Visitor Counts	Holds
Children's	10,347	84.98%	17,300	6,456	256
College Terrace	3,920	90.82%	6,056	4,021	24
Downtown	4,326	83.87%	6,260	7,316	101
Mitchell Park	43,998	89.89%	70,924	41,641	498
Rinconada	12,045	82.87%	18,464	22,052	131
<b>Totals</b>	<b>74,636</b>	<b>87.77%</b>	<b>119,004</b>	<b>81,486</b>	<b>15,265</b> <small>(includes online)</small>

**December 2017 Event Statistics**

	Programs					Attendance					Outreach		Volunteers
	ADULT	TEEN	PRE-SCHOOL	SCHOOL AGE	TOTAL	ADULT	TEEN	PRE-SCHOOL	SCHOOL AGE	TOTAL	# OF EVENTS	ATTENDEES	TOTAL HOURS
<b>2017</b>	13	28	52	9	102	111	1150	2784	319	4364	2	83	238
<b>2016</b>	36	25	69	12	142	446	381	4000	314	5141	1	10	279
<b>2015</b>	31	21	54	9	115	753	597	1977	458	3785	--	--	249

**December 2017 Virtual Experiences**

Resource	Average Reach	Total Likes	Checkouts/Visits
Facebook			
Twitter			
Databases			
Digital Collections			

## Literacy & Learning Events

### Children's Events:

- December 17: Youth Librarians Maggie Lai and Kathy Swartz, presented a S.T.E.A.M. program at Mitchell Park Library. 32 people attended the program, at which children and their families made holiday cards with LED lights by using copper tape and small 9V batteries.
- December 18: Russian storytime volunteers at Mitchell Park led a special Russian Christmas storytime party. Russian Santa and his helper passed out small presents, the library provided light refreshments, and everyone had such a great time before the two week holiday break! The program was very well attended at 75 people-their largest number yet!
- December 6: Senior Librarian Melissa Morwood managed a performance by Happy Birds in the El Palo Alto Room at the Mitchell Park Community Center. Nearly 80 attendees of all ages watched parrots sing, ride a bicycle, raise a flag, and push a shopping cart. Happy Birds is always a hit, and several audience members said they're already looking forward to the next performance.



### Teen Events:

- December 16 and 17: Librarian Christine and Senior Librarian Liz hosted Rinconada Library's first weekend extended hours for teens program which was attended by well over 200 teens from Palo Alto High and surrounding schools. "The idea came from staff feedback the previous year, indicating concern about where the teens would go after hours and how many of them really didn't want to leave at closing. Teens were given study space and snacks throughout the evening, and although they weren't all studying the entire time, they were definitely appreciative of the support and safe space to hang out at.": Christine
- December 7: Youth Librarian, Kathy Swartz oversaw a writing workshop and author event with JoAnne Stewart. "There were 13 participants and it went really well. We even got a thank you email from one participant.": Kathy
- December 5: Teen Librarian, Gina led DIY Holiday Crafts at Mitchell Park Library with 15 teens afterschool with Emily from the Teen Center collaborating. Teens were given cookies to decorate, and clear balls to fill. One teen attendee mentioned she has been coming to this library since she was a child when Melissa did storytime regularly at Mitchell Park, and she still enjoys coming to programs here as a teen.



### Civic Engagement Events

#### Children's Events:

- December 20: Senior Librarian, Liz Stewart, and Librarian, Christine Pennington, attended an outreach event at the MidPen Resident Services Corporation apartment complex in East Palo Alto. We provided information about our libraries services, as well as provided a storytime for about 30 residents.
- December 15: Gina and TLAB have collected over 100 toys for the Toy Drive at Mitchell Park Library. This is the first year that Gina has done the toy drive at all 5 branch locations.



#### Adult Events:

- December 9: Senior Librarian, Alison de Geus, presented California Listens: Digital Stories Premiere at Rinconada Library. This program was the public premiere of the digital stories recorded in June 2017 of eight Palo Alto residents who attended the California Listens storytelling workshop. Six of our storytellers were in attendance and shared a bit about their workshop experiences. The program drew in 17 attendees. After the program, many attendees came to thank us for hosting the program and complimented the video stories. Many of our workshop participants are eager to help facilitate future storytelling workshops for the Library and City. Librarian, Camden Kimura, assisted with set up, take down and event photography (photo below).



- December 28: Senior Librarian, Ana Elisa de Campos Salles, and Manager, RuthAnn Garcia, co-presented, “The Big Game: American Sports, Hobbies & Pastimes,” at the Welcome to America program. Ten people attended, including some kids who helped facilitate a very fun discussion and even helped explain some of the sports.

### **Community Partnerships**

#### **Youth Services:**

- December 17, 18, 19 , 20: Gina has teamed up once again with the Mitchell Park Teen Services staff to help give teens a safe place to study over the weekend and through their finals week at Mitchell Park. Over 100 teens at Mitchell Park Library, teens were pleasantly greeted by therapy dogs, which was the highlight for many teens. Additional treats included hot chocolate, video games, ping pong, Zen meditation, basketball, and pool. Teens were also given access to the study rooms at the community center's complex.

#### **Adult Services:**

- December 12: Alison led an introduction of the Palo Alto City Library, and tour of Mitchell Park Library, to the New Employee Orientation for new City of Palo Alto employees. There were 13 new employees to welcome, including two for the Library - Librarian, Doris Chen (Adult Services) and Senior Librarian, Chris Markman (ITC).

### **Staff News & Trainings**

#### **Youth Services:**

- Maggie attended HR's "30 Minute Energy Boost" workshop on December 28.
- Kathy attended Healing Library Webinar, on December 5, about providing a kit of materials to deal with special circumstance like the death of a pet or the death of a family member

#### **Adult Services**

- Doris was hired as Librarian and started on December 12. She had been working as the Library's graphic design intern during the summer, but had stayed on through November. Doris brings great enthusiasm for design and community enrichment. She will be working at the Mitchell Park branch, with one day at Rinconada.
- Camden watched the recorded lecture “It Starts Here: Teaching and Promoting Anti-Bias and Social Justice in Children’s Programs” from California Library Association’s 2017 annual conference, New Worlds Emerge. This helped her understand the importance of multi-cultural programming in children’s and teen services and gave her ideas on how to make her Saturday Family Storytime more diverse.

- December 21: Alison led an informal training/information session to acquaint Doris and Camden with offering 1 on 1 eBook Assistance at the Vi to Senior citizens. The outreach will resume for a three-month session on January 11.

### **Upcoming PACL Events**

#### **Youth Services:**

- Senior Librarians Melissa Morwood and Deborah Anthonyson will begin the winter session of the popular Sensory Storytime program, to be held at Mitchell Park Library on Fridays through February 2. Sensory Storytime, which is intended for children who have learning differences, features a small group size, opportunities for movement, and tactile experiences.
- Children's librarian Kathy Swartz will present STEAM Lab Sunday, on January 21– Snowstorm in a jar and Snow Globes
- Children's librarian Kathy Swartz will present Afternoon Adventures, on January 24 – Puzzles for National Puzzle Day
- Starting late January, Librarian Christine will be hosting Teen/Tween Friday Hours in the Embarcadero Room from 3-6pm. The plan is to open the room to Teens or Tweens to allow them a place where they can make noise and play with different craft activities, board games, and movies.
- January 2018: Gina Feil and Camden Kimura are working together writing a Creative Workshop for Tweens grant in January.

#### **Adult Services:**

- January 26: Alison and Christine are starting an after-hours hands-on crafting workshop at Rinconada Library. This month the program will welcome adults and teens (16+) to create DIY pocket hand warmers, using fabric and rice. A craft drive will be held to solicit gently-used crafting items for future events.