

GOAL 1: Improve the Customer Experience in our Physical & Digital Spaces

- Translated library card application form into Arabic to support communication between staff and our Arabic speaking community
- A door contractor, an electric contractor and Library Facilities converted the public restroom doors at Council Tree with automatic open and close controls. The doors now open with the wave of the hand, allowing folks of all abilities ease of access to our bathrooms
- Added a new magnetic wall board at Harmony for kids. Specialty magnets for this low-tech, interactive board include jumbo alphabet letters, tangrams, dominos, and gears. Lots of early childhood learning and fun!



GOAL 2: Expand Places Where People Connect with the Library

- Librarians presented a storytime and a craft at Timnath Town Center on October 20 as part of the monthly outreach series organized by Outreach and Council Tree.
- Let Freedom Read reading challenge engaged 188 people in thinking more about intellectual freedom. This month-long reading challenge, aimed at teens and adults, was hosted on our Beanstack platform.

GOAL 3: Develop & Expand Strategic Partnerships

- Hosted an Experience the Eclipse event with FRCC's Astronomy Department. Around 80 people of all ages attended the short presentation by FRCC Teaching Assistant Gentrice Petrie, and at least 150 people picked up free eclipse glasses to view the eclipse.
- Collaborated with community partners and the City of Fort Collins to plan the Latiné & Hispanic Heritage Month Community Celebration at the Gardens on Spring Creek.

- Met with Summit Stone, CSU (BSW and MSW programs as well as PT/OT programs) and Outreach Fort Collins to explore ways to expand coverage at Old Town in support of those in crisis and experiencing homelessness, especially on the weekends
- Pour Brothers Community Night event raised \$979 for 2024 Fort Collins Book Fest (this includes a \$500 donor match)
- Awarded \$27,000 for a laptop kiosk at Council Tree Library through the City of Fort Collins Digital Inclusion Program

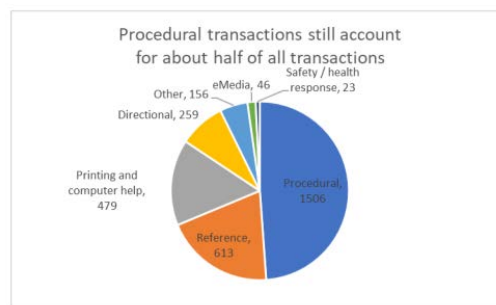
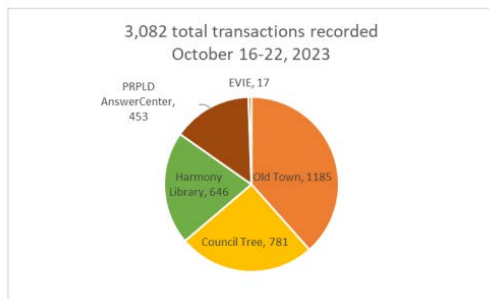
GOAL 4: Build Opportunities for Staff Development & Engagement

- Many staff attended CALCON and Council Tree Children’s Librarian, Amy Holzworth, and Larimer County Health Specialist, Ginger Hilliard, presented a program about their partnership to support new parents and caregivers after storytimes
- Communicated with staff regarding compensation adjustments and bilingual pay guidelines

GOAL 5: Create & Implement Key Metrics and Tracking

- Launched implementation of internal Partnership Tracking Database using Asana
- Conducted DART reference tracking survey. Key takeaways include: over 3,000 total transactions recorded between 10/16 and 10/22 (comparable to 2021 and 2022), most transactions happen at the circulation desks, take less than one minute, and are “procedural”

[DART Results October 16-22, 2023](#)



GOAL 6: Uphold Intellectual Freedom & Democracy

- The Free to Read Book Club held its first book discussion on October 19 at Council Tree Library. The program, open to teens and adults, focuses on titles that are both recently published and recently challenged. The group read and discussed *Gender Queer*, the most challenged book of 2022.

- Poudre Libraries hosted a Banned Books Kick-off event at the Lyric Cinema. Volunteers read passages from Banned Books and attendees were invited to reflect on their relationship with reading, to donate to EveryLibrary or Poudre Libraries, to write to a banned Author, to email local officials on issues related to intellectual freedom, and to create a "found" poem.
- Banned Books were on display at all library locations during Banned Books Week/Month. Around the district library visitors interacted with displays featuring a timeline of book burnings, books that have been challenged, articles from national and local publications, infographics, "Dear Banned Author" postcard campaign, and could pick up bookmarks and stickers.



OTHER PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

In October, we had the highest monthly program attendance since pre-pandemic with 4,806 attendees. While attendance is just one indicator, increased attendance, especially in combination with other metrics and feedback, suggests that we are designing programs that our community wants to attend... or, as we strive for in our 2023 Strategic Plan, "people in our community see their needs and interests represented in library services."

Eclipse and Astronomy Programs: Old Town Library and Harmony Library both hosted several programs in partnership with the Northern Colorado Astronomical Society designed to teach people about the eclipse and promote science literacy.

Banned Books Week: We had an impactful Banned Books week with 344 people engaging in Banned Books related programs, including events at The Lyric, Wolverine Farm, Council Tree Library, and online. (PS, you can watch the livestream of the ["Uncensored: Banned Books Week Kick-Off."](#))

Hispanic & Latiné Heritage Month and Día de Muertos: Last but certainly not least is our programming around Hispanic Heritage Month and Día de Muertos. Multiple programmers across locations helped plan and facilitate these events in the libraries, in the community, and online. We highlighted the work of female Hispanic and Latina directors through a Film Series at The Lyric, talked about the history of Tres Colonias during a walking tour, made colorful calaveras at Harmony, strolled through a Día de Muertos Story Stroll in Library Park, and baked Pan de Muerto in a Zoom class. We also collaborated with various community organizations to put on a large-scale community celebration for Hispanic & Latiné Heritage Month at the Gardens on Spring Creek.



Día de Muertos Story Stroll



Staff at Banned Books Bingo

OCTOBER MEDIA COVERAGE

INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM / BANNED BOOKS WEEK

- "Thursday Night News," 10/5/23, CTV Ch. 11, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZiq-I5YL7A&list=PL5rBcwX97bn1hytK3TO4KARyYZQqkvjM3&index=1>

SE COMMUNITY CENTER

- "Fort Collins, 2 partners join forces on new southeast community center with pool, library," *Coloradoan*, <https://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2023/10/16/fort-collins-psd-library-join-forces-to-build-new-southeast-community-center-with-pool-library/71204824007/>

- "New Community Center, Aquatics Center and Library Coming to Fort Collins," *1310 AM KFKA / 103.1 FM Radio*, <https://1310kfka.com/news/10/new-community-center-aquatics-center-and-library-coming-to-fort-collins>
- "Fort Collins Area School, Library Districts, and City Announce Joint Commitment to Community Innovation Center Project," *North Forty News*, <https://northfortynews.com/category/news/fort-collins-area-school-library-districts-and-city-announce-joint-commitment-to-community-innovation-center-project/>

GENERAL

- "OpenStage Theatre Partners with Poudre Libraries for THE BOOK OF WILL," *BroadwayWorld.com*, <https://www.broadwayworld.com/denver/article/OpenStage-Theatre-Partners-with-Poudre-Libraries-for-THE-BOOK-OF-WILL-20231031>

HOW'D WE DO? CUSTOMER COMMENTS

- Old Town Library – Great! Appreciate that there are printing services.
- Council Tree Library – Love this library. Came here for three days to study and complete an online CDL course. A pleasant and quiet environment.
- Council Tree Library – Wonderful to see the dogs from HABIC. Please have them again!
- Old Town – Hey library. Bookkeepers, you have done it again, consistently raising the bar for public services, and doing it flawlessly. I'd say I'm surprised, but I know your library system. I've seen it up close and personal.
- Harmony Library – You did very well! I came in and got a new library card. Gayle was very helpful and got me set up in a snap!
- Harmony – I am against your banned books display. (No contact information provided.)