



START WITH US.

Phoenix Public Library

Annual Report | FY 2024-25



Phoenix Public Library

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Message from Library Services Director, Phoenix Public Library Advisory Board Chair



As I reflect on FY25, I am filled with admiration for what we accomplished together. As you read through our report, you will find multiple opportunities for connection throughout the year. I am grateful to lead an organization that prioritizes community, kindness, adaptability, inclusivity, and innovation. The multitude of resources we offer are a clear reflection of those we are here to serve. During the last year we laid the groundwork for a new Strategic Plan that will guide us through the next 3–5 years. That process helped us identify a unique tagline for our services which are intended to meet our customers wherever they may be in their journey—Start with Us.

From July 2024 through June 2025, over 2.2 million customers started a journey at one of our Phoenix Public Libraries. Families looked to us for Storytimes and help preparing their children for school. In March we celebrated the 500th class of Kindergarten Bootcamp – our premier program ensuring all students are ready to learn when they walk through the school doors for the first time. Our teams assisted Phoenicians of all ages build better futures with programs introducing them to STEM, college readiness, and civic engagement skills. Many customers started their job search at one of the many workforce events held at our libraries. During our hot summer months, patrons were able to find a cool place to sit, drink some water, and connect to resources for additional assistance.

Many of our customers connect with the library for fun and enjoyment. We circulated over 10.6 million items last fiscal year, saving our patrons thousands of dollars while providing exactly the kind of entertainment they're looking for. Our engaging programs – like Mini-tales, Creation Station, and Making Music invite creativity, including our customers in experiences unique to public libraries. This year we introduced Holds Lockers, allowing our customers to check out materials when it works for their schedule. We offer thousands of digital items that are available at all hours of the day. We are focused on ensuring that our patrons get what they want, when they want it.

I am proud of the work that we did in FY25 to build community, foster connections, and listen to the needs of our residents. Our incredible library team's dedication to excellence is reflected in the high level of support we see from our customers. I cannot wait to launch our new Strategic Plan in the next fiscal year and continue the tradition of excellence expected by the community.

See you in the library soon,

Erin

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erin MacFarlane'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Erin MacFarlane
Director of Library Services



As a lifelong user and champion of the public library, I love that Phoenix Public Library makes Phoenix a great place to live. Serving greater Phoenix as the Chair of the Phoenix Public Library Advisory Board is a role in which I am most proud of, I am honored to be part of what our library does for fellow community members every day.

The past few years represent important transitions for our library. We began Fiscal Year 2024-25 by welcoming our new Library Services Director, Erin MacFarlane in July. This launched a year of blending our system's traditions with new visions and expanding on the library's role in our communities as more than just a place to find books...although if books, in all forms, are what you are looking for, it's a sure bet you will find plenty to choose from at Phoenix Public Library! Those looking to build a better future attended early literacy, STE/AM, job help, or college access programs. Or those looking for a resource to help thrive were able to find a cool place out of the heat, get on a computer, connect with others or manage important life tasks via the internet. Those seeking enrichment, a way to fill an afternoon with something new and interesting, or add to their life-long learning catalog, found a culture program, checked out seeds (one of my personal favorites), or streamed content from one of the many offerings on the library's app or website.

This past year was full of our libraries being a place where any member of our community is welcome. A year of our libraries offering a place where anyone can find their place. And a year of our staff serving as facilitators and active connectors, helping members of our community find what they need through a library visit. All of this and more was offered this past year with even more planned in the months and years ahead.

It's safe to say that a Phoenix Public Library is one of my favorite places. I am looking forward to what's in front of us; ensuring this vital institution continues to deliver established library services as well as embracing new directions. I invite you to make a library visit part of your plans and hope to make a Phoenix Public Library one of your favorite places too.

Abraham

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Abraham James III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a stylized "A" and "J".

Abraham James
Library Advisory Board Chair

PhoenixPublicLibrary

FY 2024-25 by the numbers

2.2 million

total number of
library visits



69,279 new library cards created



Circulation (physical and digital):
10.6 million



27.7 million website visits



Number of Greater Phoenix Digital Library (Overdrive) checkouts:
4.7 million

Phoenix Public Library customers saved an estimated
\$100,180,276 by checking out physical materials



13,200
Wi-Fi hotspot
checkouts



Number of external/internal
Wi-Fi sessions:
3.5 million



329,582
Public access
computer sessions

25,151 questions
answered through Ask Us



38,113 calls
answered in the Call Center



46,168
Seed Library
checkouts

17,417 Culture Passes
& **165** Special Event
Passes issued



Total number of
programs: **8,998**



227,000 total
program attendance

356 families attended
32 Kindergarten Bootcamp series



39,011
College Depot visits
(in-person & virtual)



2,641 one-on-one
education planning appointments
(college planning, ReEngage Phoenix,
Craft A Profession)



218 events & workshops
(FAFSA, open labs, outreach events)



3,095
attended PHXWorks
programs



Total number of
volunteer hours
15,991

Start With Us for reading

Reading, and nurturing a life-long love of reading brings a host of significant benefits and leads to better outcomes for all ages. Library users can count on finding favorite family-friendly programs such as Storytime, Music and Movement, and Book Clubs (just to name a few) that boost, nurture, and support a love of reading. These programs are offered year-round throughout Phoenix Public Library's system, with special programming opportunities always being added.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

From June through July, families participating in Phoenix Public Library's "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" read almost 112,000 books. The "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" program offers families a guide to participate in fun reading challenges and track and celebrate their success. Reading together with little ones helps children strengthen language skills, builds vocabulary and builds a foundation for school and life success.

A New Catalog Experience

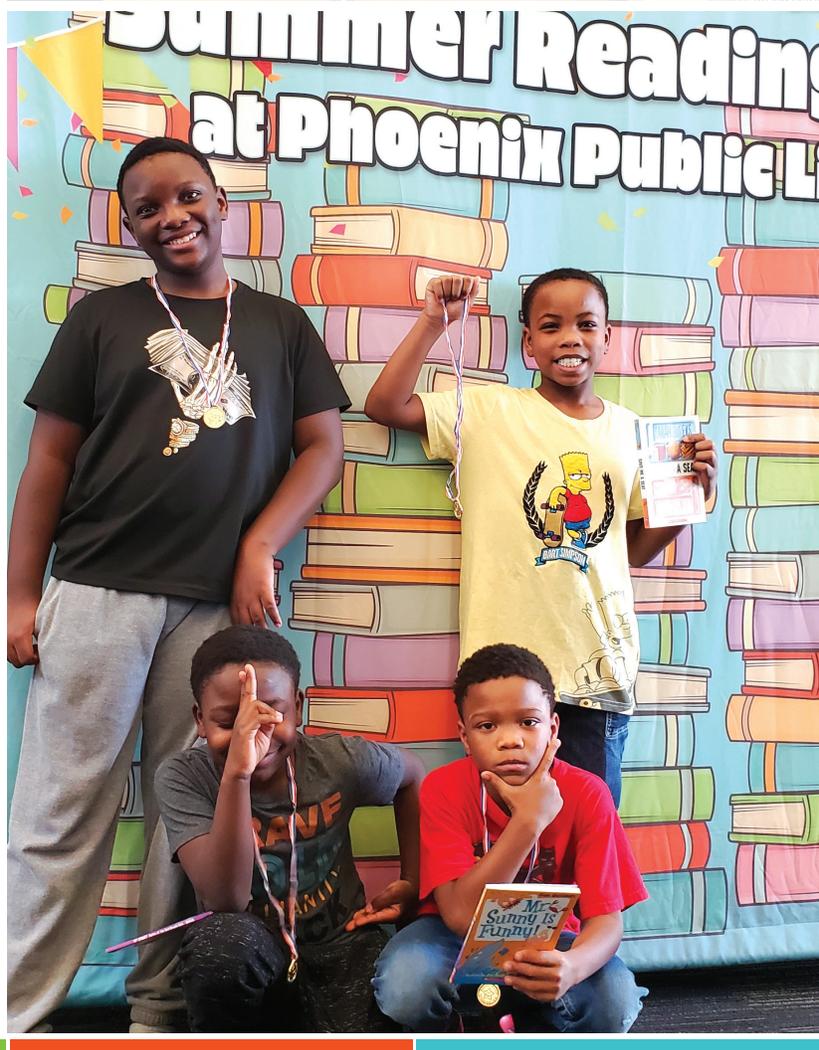
In May of 2025, Phoenix Public Library rolled out a significant upgrade to the online catalog, giving library cardholders a smarter, more personalized browsing experience. This new system improves how users search for books and other materials, offering better title suggestions, easier account management, and streamlined access to both physical and digital collections—all in one place. With features like read-a-like recommendations, improved bookmarking tools, and a more intuitive interface, the updated catalog is designed to help users discover more, save time, and enjoy everything the library has to offer.

A Visit from Jan Brett

In December, almost 250 kids and adults attended Phoenix Public Library and Changing Hands Bookstore's special New York Times bestselling children's author Jan Brett *Alice in Winter Wonderland* book tour, presentation and book signing. Families were treated to photo ops with the tour bus and "Hedgie" mascot, a book reading, illustration presentation and have their copy of *Alice in a Winter Wonderland* signed by Jan Brett.

Summer Reading

Phoenix Public Library's 2025 Summer Reading Program (June 1 through August 1) had the highest ever participation...25,529 participants, including more than 16,000 kids and teens. Collectively, Phoenix Public Library Summer Reading kids, teens, and adults read and logged more than 23 million minutes. Throughout the summer, Phoenix Public Library locations held more than 800 free programs for all ages and this year's summer program attendance was up 10% over the previous summer with almost 20% more library visitors across our system June 1 through August 1. Phoenicians made the library a big part of their summer plans. Where else can a whole family attend a magic show one week, learn Bollywood, KPOP dancing and ballet then next, get their jam on at a musical performance or meet and learn about animals through a Phoenix Zoo Live! experience...all for free and while boosting a love of reading?



Start With Us to build better futures

Phoenix Public Library is helping prepare our future workforce and life paths that have not yet been discovered. Whether it is developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills through a fun STE/AM program or a robotics fair, working in a Makers Space... helping a soon-to-be-kindergartner put their best foot forward... or finding opportunities for Teens to learn initial skills for a job, thousands of families and kids began building a better future with Phoenix Public Library.



MACH2 Launch at Cholla Library

On a bright Saturday in February, nearly 80 people attended the ribbon cutting celebration of a new Makers Space, MACH2 at Cholla Library. Families explored 3D printers, sewing machines, Cricut machines, laptops, 3D doodle pens and other equipment now available for regular programming at Cholla Library. Cactus High School's Cobra Robotics Team was featured with hands-on activities. Since opening, MACH2 has welcomed hundreds of regulars as they connect with a new hobby, discover a new skill or just enjoy an afternoon through a sewing/embroidery, paper crafting, 3D printing, or robotics program.

Robotics

In June MACH2 hosted "Robots Rock", an event with kids, teenagers and families engaging in experiments with Snap Circuits, learning about electrical components, building circuits, and devising their own projects. Attendees demonstrated their skills by creating working alarms, speakers, light shows, and even a functional radio.

In August, Burton Barr Central Library's MACH1 hosted the ASU Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering's FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Expo. Over 300 attendees viewed competition robots built by kids and teens, played with robot toys, created with LEGO® bricks, and learned about starting their own FIRST team.



Student Opportunity Fair

Over 120 Central High School students attended the Student Opportunity Fair in January, learning about entrepreneurship, Phoenix Public Library teen volunteer opportunities, and College Depot at Phoenix Public Library services. Many attendees hung around to participate in Burton Barr Central Library's Teen Central Open Mic! program that same day, showcasing music, poetry, storytelling, and other artistic expressions.

Kindergarten Bootcamp 500th Series

In March, Agave Library hosted Phoenix Public Library's 500th Kindergarten Bootcamp series and marked their final session in the series with a special graduation ceremony. Families with a child almost ready to start kindergarten learn and practice a variety of school readiness skills for the classroom, with an emphasis on practicing at home in this fun and interactive seven-week series. During the final session, after practicing the alphabet, counting skills, and reading a book about starting kindergarten, the kids created graduation caps to wear during the certificate ceremony, where every family's hard work and growth over the seven weeks of the series was celebrated.



I just had to tell you we are loving your Kindergarten Bootcamp series and think you are doing an excellent job... my child looks forward to coming and learning something new every time and it's been a great resource for me as a parent in so many ways. I've been taking notes and will use the tools you've shared for my own toolbox...thank you, thank you, thank you for your time and the attention you've been giving to our children these last few weeks.

~ Kindergarten Bootcamp Parent



Start With Us to expand your opportunities



College Bound

There were big changes to the U.S. Department of Education's FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) this past year and College Depot rose to the occasion. In collaboration with Arizona's FAFSA Coalition, College Depot staff trained high school counselors and developed content in support of the FAFSA chatbot "Ask Benji" offered via Education Forward Arizona. College Depot extended hours of operations for "FAFSA Extravaganza" events, increased the amount of FAFSA events hosted by more than 10%, and provided direct outreach to students with incomplete FAFSA's, thanks to a partnership with Phoenix Union High School District (PXU). In FY 2024-25, College Depot increased FAFSA assistance by more than 27% and hosted over 80% more FAFSA workshops/events. These numbers are only part of the story. Behind every one of these numbers is a young person with aspirations and this past year, College Depot helped more college bound hopefuls take a formative step towards building a better future.

Your support is a lifeline for someone like me, whose journey as a refugee and immigrant has been fraught with challenges yet has been the driving force behind my educational pursuits. Your generosity is not merely a gift of financial aid; it is an investment in my future and an affirmation that despite the obstacles, my dreams are valid and achievable. Thank you for believing in the potential of students like me and for providing the means to turn our aspirations into reality.

~ College Depot student, Riziki

GRIT

College Depot's GRIT (Graduating Ready, Independent, and Tenacious) program provides students with personalized, consistent, and long-term support throughout their senior year to help them successfully transition to college after graduation.

Students and advisors develop individualized plans and meet (virtually or in-person) throughout the school year, following a structured senior-year timeline aligned with key milestones for planning for, applying to, and preparing for college. In May, inspired by demand, College Depot expanded the GRIT program to offer hands-on, personalized services Wednesdays and Saturdays each week for high school seniors, beginning in August.

GRIT isn't just about pushing through, but growing through every challenge I've faced with mentors, counselors and making a step toward the strongest version of myself.

~ GRIT '25 graduate, Ciara

Career Bound

College Depot's Craft a Profession program provides personalized guidance to those interested in pursuing education and employment possibilities through an apprenticeship. In 2024, the entire College Depot team built up their Craft a Profession knowledge base and integrated apprenticeship options into their daily menu of postsecondary education opportunities. In August of 2024, 150 attendees engaged with community partners, learned about Craft a Profession resources and connected with apprenticeship opportunities at College Depot's Educational Resource Expo.



Start With Us to land that job

Navigating the job market successfully can be challenging. Phoenix Public Library's PHXWorks provides essential support to those looking to be a career changer, boost current skills, or are after landing a first or new job through resume/cover letter help and printing, computer and internet access, interviewing and test preparation and more.



City of Phoenix Mobile Career Unit

Phoenix Public Library is proud to partner with the City of Phoenix Mobile Career Unit (MCU) since its original inception in 2021. Before launching its official state-of-the-art Mobile Career Unit at Cesar Chavez Library in February, 2025 the temporary MCU made regular visits to Phoenix Public Library locations, pairing up with PHXWorks resources and library staff to offer job seekers personalized tools and opportunities. In FY 24/25, the MCU held job support events at six Phoenix Public Library locations, helping almost 700 connect with employers such as City of Phoenix After School Center, Sky Harbor Airport, Phoenix Fire Department, AJ's Fine Foods, Boys and Girls Club, Terros Health, Sip Coffee & Beer, Chick-fil-A, and Sir Veza's Kitchen & Kantina.

Employer Spotlight Series

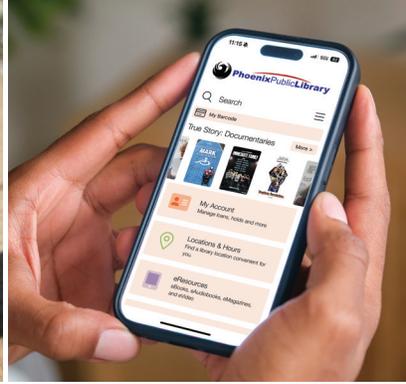
Held several times a month at Burton Barr Central Library and Harmon Library, for a total of 89 events in FY 24/25, the Employer Spotlight Series offers job seekers drop-in access

to spotlighted employers to meet and talk about what their organization is like, current job openings, what a career with them might look like. Featured employers such as U.S. Postal Service, Chairside Dental, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Arizona, Civitan Foundation and more connected with over 960 individuals.

PHXWorks



In January, 2025, Ocotillo Library assisted Mr. Cresencio, initially with faxing his unemployment application. During his visit, staff informed him of the various job opportunities and resources available through Ocotillo Library. Mr. Cresencio mentioned receiving a job offer via Facebook, which required him to submit personal information. Ocotillo Library's Workforce Librarian assisted him, ultimately confirming the offer was likely a scam. Mr. Cresencio received information about an upcoming Mobile Career Unit event at South Mountain Community Library. Shortly after, Mr. Cresencio returned to Ocotillo Library with the news he had successfully secured a job after his visit to the Mobile Career Unit.



Start With Us when you need something on your schedule

Phoenix Public Library App

When you need immediate access to Phoenix Public Library no matter where you are, we have you covered with the Phoenix Public Library App! This year, almost 10,000 Phoenix Public Library cardholders were welcomed to the fold and can now have their library card on their phone to manage their account, search the catalog, use their “digital” library card to checkout materials, check the library’s calendar for programs, initiate a study room reservation and more.

Holds Lockers

Starting as a pilot project at Acacia Library, throughout FY 2024/25, Holds Lockers were installed at remaining Phoenix Public Library locations. Located outside the main entrance of most of our locations, the Holds Lockers offer library customers 24/7, contact-free access to pick up library materials...when convenience is key.

Storywalk®

Phoenix Public Library’s StoryWalk® installations can be found 24/7 at three Phoenix parks. Harmon, Cesar Chavez, and Edison Park feature a children’s book displayed across 18 stations. Destinations on their own, StoryWalks® offer a shared reading experience promoting early literacy, movement and adult-child interaction. Featured books are routinely refreshed and StoryWalks® average hundreds of visitors a day as families enjoy a reading adventure.

July 2024 – June 2025 featured Storywalk® books:

Cesar Chavez Park 7858 S. 35th Ave.

I am a Very Good Thing
by Derrick Barnes

Julian is a Mermaid
by Jessica Love

Jayden's Impossible Garden
by Melina Mangal

First Laugh (DINÉ)
by Rose Ann Tahe

Edison Park 901 N. 19th St.

Yoga Bunny
by Brian Russo

When We Are Kind (DINÉ)
by Monique Gray Smith

Brave
by Stacy McAnulty

Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match
by Monica Brown

Harmon Park 1425 S. 5th Ave.

Senorita Mariposa
by Mister G

Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match
by Monica Brown

When We Are Kind (DINÉ)
by Monique Gray Smith

Dreamers
by Yuyi Morales

Start With Us to find fun and quality things to do on a budget

Monarch Butterflies

Monarch Butterflies were a “big deal” at Desert Sage Library. In the fall and spring, Desert Sage Library adopted more than 30 “painted lady” butterfly caterpillars and over a three-week period, welcomed local children, teens, and adults as they partook in butterfly-themed activities. Visitors were especially engaged in educational sessions about butterflies, exploring the life cycle of butterflies from the caterpillar stage through chrysalis, and witnessed a butterfly release during the final week. Throughout the duration of the program, numerous parents and children visited the library regularly to observe and inquire about the progress and transformations taking place.

Mini-Tales

When kids practice their reading with a therapy dog in our “Sit, Stay, Read” program, we see how magical and special the reading experience becomes. When kids get to practice their reading with a therapy miniature horse? Even better. In March, over 60 kids got an experience of a lifetime at Juniper Library, practicing their reading to miniature horses and a donkey. One family praised Juniper Library, saying, “Your library always offers the best things” while waiting to read to Buddy, the miniature horse.

Bike Rodeos

Throughout the fall and spring months, multiple Phoenix Public Library locations held Bike Safety Rodeos in collaboration with Phoenix Children’s Hospital. Kids and families came on down with their bikes, learned about bike safety and the rules of the road, got a free helmet, and got to practice what they learned through an obstacle course.

Creation Station

Visitors to Yucca Library enjoyed the “Creation Station” program. This family-friendly STE/AM initiative that combines an interactive lesson with a “take and make” STE/AM craft project had a regular following each week. Notable projects have included Mexican tile designs on fringe paper resembling weaving, Fluttering Butterflies, Fall Tree Books, and Interactive School Buses.



Mr. Rogers Week

The third annual Mister Rogers Week, in celebration of Fred Rogers' 97th birthday, was held in March. The week-long celebration of Mister Rogers featured photo displays of Mister Rogers Neighborhood, artifacts, and a visual biography of Fred Rogers. Over 300 children and their favorite grown-up participated in Mr. Rogers themed scavenger hunts, a Neighborhood Watch Party, Fred's Neighborhood Story Hour & Birthday Celebration, and Neighborhood Creative Crafting.

Making Music

On Saturday, June 21, Make Music Phoenix, a hands-on music program in partnership with local music education community agency Rosie's House, was hosted at Acacia, Burton Barr Central, and Harmon Library. A total of 327 participants enjoyed community-building activities, live music, hands-on sessions, and interactive performances.

All Around Fun

Visitors of all ages to any one of the 17 Phoenix Public Library locations can find a wide range of fun and interesting programs. Agave, Juniper, Ironwood, and Yucca Libraries offered several especially captivating options. Highlights included Agave Library's life-sized Candyland game in October, which drew over one hundred family participants, and a family drive-in movie experience where families got to turn cardboard boxes into cars they could take home. Juniper Library hosted its now annual family-friendly "Noon Year's Eve" party in December for a room full of those who can't stay up to midnight but still wanted to ring in the new year with dancing, crafts and more. Ironwood Library partnered with Desert Vista High School to celebrate the Lunar New Year with family-friendly crafts and performances. Finally, Yucca Library launched "Masterpiece Monday," a new adult art program featuring artists like Van Gogh and O'Keeffe. The program's blend of art history and hands-on instruction has made it Yucca Library's most popular adult program in years.



Start With Us to connect with community

Halloween Joy

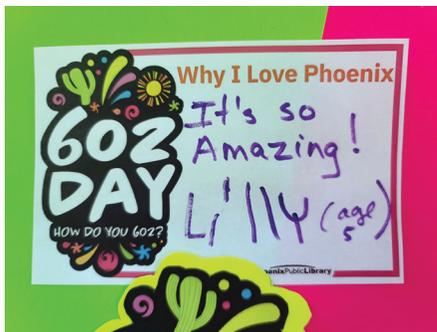
Families spent a Saturday in early October at Harmon Library enjoying a day of fall activities and shared community experience. The heart of the day's festivities, Harmon Library's nearly decade-long tradition Halloween Costume Giveaway, helped 221 kids participate in neighborhood Halloween festivities this year.

Storytelling and World Building

For centuries, people have sought connections through social interaction and shared experiences in community storytelling. Over the past year, more than 1,500 library visitors participated in Dungeons and Dragons programs for teens and adults at a Phoenix Public Library location. Whether they were experienced Dungeon Masters or new players, participants connected through shared creative and unique adventures with other community members.

How Do You 6-0-2?

On Monday, June 2, Phoenix Public Library participated in the second annual 6-0-2 Day. Nearly 200 library visitors engaged in various activities, including a special 6-0-2 Day scavenger hunt, Storytime sessions, taking photographs at a 6-0-2 Day photo booth, and attending the Phoenix Art Museum's Lemon Art Research Library presentation by Librarian Jesse Lopez titled "Books on Color" at Burton Barr Central Library. Across all Phoenix Public Library locations, young Phoenicians shared their reasons for loving life in Phoenix!



Knowing Where We Came From Helps Us Know Where We Can Go

In March, the Burton Barr Central Library's Arizona Room hosted Steve Schumacher, the official historian for the Phoenix Mayor's Office, as he engaged a number of library visitors with an exploration of Phoenix's distinctive history. Steve detailed the city's transformation from an agricultural settlement to a contemporary metropolis, emphasizing significant milestones, key figures, and critical challenges. Through his engaging narratives, attendees developed a deeper understanding and appreciation for Phoenix's rich historical legacy and development.

Programs like this are just one of the gems offered by The Arizona Room, located on the 2nd Floor of Burton Barr Central Library. Filled with a fascinating collection that offers a window into the history, culture and people of Phoenix and Arizona going back centuries, visitors can review the past in a way that helps define the future.





Start With Us when you just need a place to go

Something for Everyone

For more than 125 years, Phoenix Public Library has evolved from its initial two room space offering residents of a newly established City of Phoenix access to a small selection of books, to being a place where millions of people can find books and vital community connections. From July 2024 through June 2025, our 17 locations hosted over 2 million physical visits, and phoenixpubliclibrary.org welcomed over 27 million visits, offering Phoenix Public Library users a pause from the daily rush... access to the tools needed to manage some of life's basics... a connection to community... guidance on helping kids be ready for school... spaces to study or hold a meeting... take-and-make projects for families... job and career help... discovery of a love of reading... personalized college access planning... streaming a favorite movie or song... connection to information... or just a welcoming and trusted space. A place with something for everyone, and all for free.

Safe Spaces During Summer Heat

Anyone who has spent a recent summer or two here in Phoenix knows our summer months have recorded exceptionally high temperatures for extended periods. In the summer of 2024 and 2025, City of Phoenix's Heat Response Plans introduced a number of new or significantly revised actions and capacities to enhance the heat response mission. Notably, this includes extending hours of access to heat relief resources during late afternoons, evenings, and weekends to address gaps in availability to critical resources. Given the role of the library as a versatile and valuable community institution, Cholla, Harmon and Yucca libraries were designated as facilities where community members could seek refuge from the heat. Building on the experiences from 2024, in the summer of 2025 these three libraries continued to operate as extended hours Cooling Centers, staying open until 10 p.m. every day, including holidays, and added offering full library services plus crisis care navigation services provided by a community partner. The summer 2025 Heat Relief efforts saw Cholla, Harmon and Yucca libraries welcoming almost 23,000 visits during the extended Cooling Center hours.



One particular client has been a consistent presence at the Cholla Library Heat Relief station since July, showing up daily with determination and hope. Despite facing housing instability, he remained focused on his goal: securing employment and rebuilding his life. With a job opportunity already lined up, all the client needed was a safe and stable place to rest and recharge. The dedicated team at Cholla continued to advocate for him; each day checking for available beds at the North Mountain Healing Center (NMHC). Knowing that a single opportunity could make all the difference, it arrived on a day in early August. A bed had opened up, and the client was immediately transported to NMHC. The gentleman's gratitude was palpable. He expressed how deeply thankful he was to finally have a place to sleep through the night and take a proper shower. This moment marked a turning point, giving him the stability he needed to move forward with confidence. Thanks to the persistence and compassion of the Cholla team, this client now has a foundation to build on—and a brighter future ahead.

~ Heat Relief customer story from Community Bridges, Inc. staff assigned to Cholla Library

Start With Us when you need a library experience brought to you

Bookmobile

2024 marked the first time in over 30 years Phoenix Public Library met Phoenicians where they are with a Bookmobile. Outfitted with a collection of more than 2,500 items featuring a diverse range of authors, genres and age levels, Spanish, and large print materials; PPL's Bookmobile also brings Storytime programs, STE/AM activities, Wi-Fi, Seed Library, Culture Passes and more to communities needing a library connection. Since hitting the road in March of 2024, the Bookmobile has welcomed over 24,000 visits during one of its many stops, checked out 26,778 items and issued over 2,200 new Phoenix Public Library cards.

The Story Behind the Story

In early 2024, Phoenix Public Library offered library users the ability to welcome a mix of bestselling and award-winning authors into their own homes with the Library Speakers Consortium. From July of 2024 through June of 2025, several hundred PPL cardholders a month engaged with bestselling authors, thought leaders, illustrators, Smithsonian curators & scientists, journalists and podcasters such as Liane Moriarty, Raul the Third, Lee Hawkins, Jennifer Weiner, Jodi Picoult, Greg Hurwitz, Liann Zhang and more. Both live and on demand, book lovers and lifelong learners learned the story behind the story, directly from the source, even when they couldn't fit in a visit to a library!

This talk was great! I had just finished the book, and it was like having the author come to my house to talk about it. Getting to hear her speak and learn about her personally—her research, writing habits, work with her daughter—greatly enriched my impressions of the book. This was only my second library webinar because I just discovered them. I will continue to watch for authors I'm interested in and join more webinars. Keep bringing current authors in both fiction and non-fiction please! These are great programs.

~ Gina



You'll always find something when you Start With Us



**START
WITH US.**



Phoenix Public Library is looking forward to continuing to serve our communities in the coming years. As we prepare for the launch of our Strategic Plan in the fall of 2025, which will guide us for the next 3–5 years, we have established an updated Mission and Values Statements:

We empower our community with resources and opportunities to inspire and enrich lives.

Adaptability – We evolve services and technology to meet the needs of the community.

Inclusion – We level the playing field through ensuring universal access.

Integrity – We do the right thing even when no one is watching.

Kindness – We foster an environment of empathy and compassion.

Making a Difference – We build impactful connections with our communities every day.

Library Advisory Board

Abraham James, Chair

Kathleen Ingley

Dominique Medina

Anne Thorne

Brenda Thomson,
Vice Chair

Adam McAnally

Dianne Post

Supporting Phoenix Public Library

Our thanks to Phoenix Public Library Foundation and Friends of the Phoenix Public Library for their support in expanding Phoenix Public Library's reach through community advocacy, providing supplemental financial support and connection to critical community and education partners.



What Phoenixians Checked Out

Phoenixians can always count on Phoenix Public Library as a place to find their next “great read.” Here is what our customers were checking out July 2024 through June 2025:

Adult Fiction

1. *The Waiting* by Michael Connelly
2. *Eruption* by Michael Crichton
3. *The Women* by Kristin Hanna
4. *Raised by Wolves* by James Patterson
5. *Fourth Wing* by Rebecca Yarros

Children’s Fiction

1. *Dog Man* (series) by Dav Pilkey
2. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* (series) by Jeff Kinney
3. *Captain Underpants* (series) by Dav Pilkey
4. *My Weird School Special: No More School April Fools* by Dan Gutman
5. *I Survived the Great Alaska Earthquake, 1964* by Lauren Tarshis

Teen Fiction

1. *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* by Suzanne Collins
2. *The Summer I Turned Pretty* by Jenny Han
3. *The Brothers Hawthorne* by Jennifer Barnes
4. *Sunrise of the Reaping* by Suzanne Collins
5. *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder* by Holly Jackson

eBooks on Overdrive

1. *Remarkably Bright Creatures: A Novel* by Shelby Van Pelt
2. *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver
3. *The Suspect: Murder in a Small Town* by L.R. Wright
4. *Yellowface* by R. F. Kuang
5. *The Women* by Kristin Hanna

Magazines

1. *People*
2. *Us Weekly*
3. *Prevention*
4. *Real Simple*
5. *Better Homes and Gardens*

Music

1. *The Tortured Poets Department* by Taylor Swift
2. *Short n' Sweet* by Sabrina Carpenter
3. *1989: Taylor's Version* by Taylor Swift
4. *Reputation* by Taylor Swift
5. *Lover* by Taylor Swift

Movies

1. *IF*
 2. *Wicked*
 3. *Inside Out 2*
 4. *Despicable Me 4*
 5. *Gladiator II*
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