

GENERAL UPDATES

Newly elected City Council members Diego Zegarra and Molly Miller have been invited to participate in a Library tour and orientation scheduled for February. Several Library Board members, along with members of the Friends of the Library Board, are also expected to attend. This visit will provide an opportunity to introduce new City leadership to library operations, services, and current initiatives.

January marked the final Sundance Film Festival held in Park City prior to the festival's relocation to Boulder, Colorado, next year. The Library has long served as a festival venue, and staff will miss both the energy of the event and the opportunity to contribute to a world-class cultural experience. This year's festival operations proceeded smoothly, with volunteers assisting film-goers during load-in and load-out of the Santy Auditorium.

On January 16, Executive Director Adriane Herrick Juarez spent the afternoon at the Utah State Library, where she was interviewed for a statewide podcast and connected with colleagues from the state. During these discussions, it was shared that the recent Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) funding appears to be contributing to overall stability at this time, which is encouraging. The State Library has indicated it will continue to provide updates should circumstances change.

CATALOGING & COLLECTIONS

Angela Dohanos, Assistant Director and Head of Cataloguing & Collections, and Joe Oshnack, Room Rental and Tenant Coordinator, managed all operational aspects of the Sundance Film Festival throughout January, including load-in and setup, coordination with City departments, addressing facility needs during the festival, and overseeing cleanup and final walkthroughs. As this marked the final year of Sundance Festival operations in Park City, the conclusion was a bittersweet moment for staff.

Rylee Broach, Adult Services Librarian, assisted with the February *Blind Date with a Book* display, a popular initiative that encouraged patrons to explore reading outside their usual genres. She organized the *Unique Items* display and continued photographing and documenting each item to ensure consistency and distributed monthly internal communications highlighting *Unique Items*. In addition, Ms. Broach began the same documentation and promotional process for the *Memory Care Collection*.

Ms. Dohanos and Ms. Broach met with the Manager of the Hal Compton Research Library to discuss expansion of the Park City History Collection using a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant awarded last December. The expansion will refresh and relocate the collection to the Reading Room to support a library space reutilization project and create useful resources for America250 and the 2034 Winter Olympics.

In late January, the American Library Association Youth Media Awards were announced. Katrina Kmak, Youth Services Librarian, ensured award-winning titles were acquired for the Library and worked with the cataloging team to apply appropriate award labels. She also began a comprehensive review of the children's picture book collection, assessing the physical condition of each item and removing or replacing items as needed.

Flor Santa Maria, Spanish Services Librarian, successfully completed a Book Enhancement Grant project, resulting in significant investment in the Children's, Youth, and Teen Spanish-language collections. Funds were used to acquire diverse titles written and illustrated by Latinx authors and artists, strengthening representation and cultural relevance. Planning is underway for displays and programs to highlight these new materials and increase their visibility throughout the library.

EVENTS & PUBLICITY

January typically sees a decline in program attendance due to the Sundance Film Festival; however, participation levels remained comparable to those in the fall.

Ms. Broach introduced a new outreach program, *Tech Time with Rylee*, at the Senior Center. Following lunch, she presented a session on managing Gmail storage and provided printed materials for attendees. The program was well-received and led to increased demand for individual tech tutoring sessions, which Ms. Broach conducted throughout the month. She assisted patrons with a wide range of needs, including managing spam and email inboxes, adjusting device settings, printing, using Microsoft Word, and general troubleshooting for computers and mobile devices.

The department implemented a new creative event, *Bob Ross Paint Night*, which exceeded capacity due to strong community interest. Because of space and supply limitations, some attendees had to be turned away. The program is scheduled to return next quarter, and the library now maintains a set of reusable painting supplies. Later in the month, the *Paint Your Own Bookend* event attracted similar participation from patrons interested in creative activities.

The department hosted a final *Movies During School Break* screening featuring a 50th-anniversary showing of *Jaws*, which drew 75 attendees.

Ms. Santa Maria launched a new recurring winter program, *Après Ski School*, designed to engage youth after skiing through a rotating schedule of activities and crafts. The program quickly established strong attendance. Participation in *Charlas en la Cocina* also increased significantly, reinforcing its impact in supporting the well-being and mental health of the Latinx community. Due to increased demand for language assistance and translation support at the Tuesday Night Legal Bar, Ms. Santa Maria will assume leadership of this program to better meet community needs and coordinate directly with volunteer attorneys.

An introductory class on reading sheet music was offered and was met with enthusiastic participation. A second session is scheduled for March.

INFORMATION, TECHNOLOGY, & CIRCULATION

The Library extends its sincere thanks to the City's building maintenance crew for completing the installation of the remaining mural wall tiles that were purchased in 2025. All tiles were successfully installed before the end of January, ensuring the project was completed on schedule and enhancing the Library's visual and community-focused elements. In addition, tax-deductible donation acknowledgment emails were sent to all individuals who contributed to the mural wall project in 2025. These donors have also been formally recognized on the Library's website donor list:

<https://parkcitylibrary.org/mural-wall/>

During the January all-staff meeting, time was dedicated to professional development focused on the effective and responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools. Staff discussed best practices for writing clear and specific prompts to obtain accurate results, strategies to reduce AI "hallucinations," and methods for requesting cited, verifiable sources. Staff explored both academic and web-based search modes within Perplexity.ai and tested different settings to support more reliable research outcomes. The discussion also addressed the growing concern about AI-generated deepfakes and emphasized the importance of critically evaluating and double-checking sources to ensure the accuracy and trustworthiness of information.

On January 21, Chris Roh, Head of Information, Technology & Circulation, attended a virtual E-Rate meeting with Jerome Browning, the Utah Education Network (UEN) State E-Rate Coordinator, who supports libraries statewide. The meeting

reviewed the Library’s current E-Rate options and outlined upcoming deadlines. At present, 100% of the Library’s internet costs are funded through the E-Rate program, with Form 479 submitted annually each spring.

Additionally, in January, the City IT Department successfully replaced the Library’s firewall. This upgrade is a critical component of maintaining a secure and reliable network infrastructure. The Library greatly appreciates the City IT team’s continued commitment to keeping Library technology systems safe, up to date, and operational.

Ms. Roh and Kate Black, Circulation Team Leader, met with Catherine Wisniewski from the American Heart Association of Utah to review the Library’s Cardiac Emergency Response Plan (CERP). The Library currently maintains three Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs), with one located on each floor. These devices are inspected and maintained monthly. The Library also provides regular CPR, AED, and First Aid training for staff. Following this meeting, it was confirmed that the Library’s emergency training and response procedures are appropriate and fully aligned with Park City Medical Corporation’s (PCMC) overall emergency response plan.

The Circulation team processed eight (8) student library cards through the Park City School District (PCSD), supporting student access to Library resources and services.

TRAINING

Date	Topic	Participants	Total Contact Hours
January 2026	Niche Academy Trainings: Customer Service, Microsoft Outlook, Professional Email, Scheduling, Microsoft Teams	Adriane Herrick Juarez, Flor Santa Maria, Rylee Broach, Joe Oshnack	10
		Total	10