



Spooky Selections, Sweet Treats

OCTOBER 2025

Patrons join the library for a spine-tingling good time



Long lines formed for library trick-or-treating and a dinosaur encounter!

October Highlights

October was packed with programming and promotions, culminating with the library's annual Trick-or Treat event on the 25th. This year's program also included a dinosaur encounter, which was hugely popular with families. Community partners for the event included The Gladys Project, Ephraim McDowell Health, and seven other organizations that served as treat stations for our colorful guests. Staff from across the library came together to support this event, which drew over 1,000 to the library on a Saturday. We're grateful to all who made this signature program so successful!



The library partnered with Centre College professor Dr. Laura Chinchilla and over 40 of her advanced Spanish students to offer a series of bilingual offerings over the month. Students offered their translation help, allowing the library to offer a Spanish language version of our monthly events calendar. Rachael and Youth Services worked with Chinchilla's students to host a pair of bilingual storytime programs. Finally, eight student groups presented a Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead) program on the library's Fifth Level. The groups constructed ofrendas (ceremonial altars) in honor of prominent Latin Americans who have died. These efforts brought hundreds to the library in a productive outreach effort to our Hispanic community.

Community Partnerships

MARA MERCHANT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY LIAISON



October is a historically busy time for programs and partnerships and this year was no different. Danville Independent School Librarians joined us last month for a professional development where each department shared their opportunities and resources. It was wonderful to discuss collaborations between BCPL and the schools! Staff also welcomed students on field trips from Woodlawn Elementary and Boyle County High School during the ofrenda dedications presented by Centre College students. These dedications, presented in Spanish and English, were followed by the sharing of conchas (Mexican pan dulce) and conversations between all ages of students about Día de los Muertos and their studies of the Spanish language!



We had the help of 23 volunteers last month, with the Library Haunted House being the program with the most volunteer participation. 13 total people helped decorate the adult nonfiction section, greeted incoming patrons, and acted as scarers in the library stacks. Our Library Trick-or-Treat would also not have been possible without the help of volunteers and students from the Centre College Bonner program. Thank you to everyone who volunteered this October!

Public Services

KATHY PHILLIPS, MANAGER

Our Circulation Desk was buzzing with excitement throughout October! We served hundreds of patrons, handling thousands of check-ins and check-outs, while simultaneously providing important services like notarizing documents and sending faxes. Additionally, we were thrilled to issue 149 new library cards to patrons in our community.

As part of the community-wide "Remember Balloons" initiative, the rotunda was transformed into a colorful gallery of paper balloons, each filled with a unique, handwritten recollection of a patron's cherished memory. It has been heartwarming and inspiring for the staff to read these snapshots of joy and nostalgia.

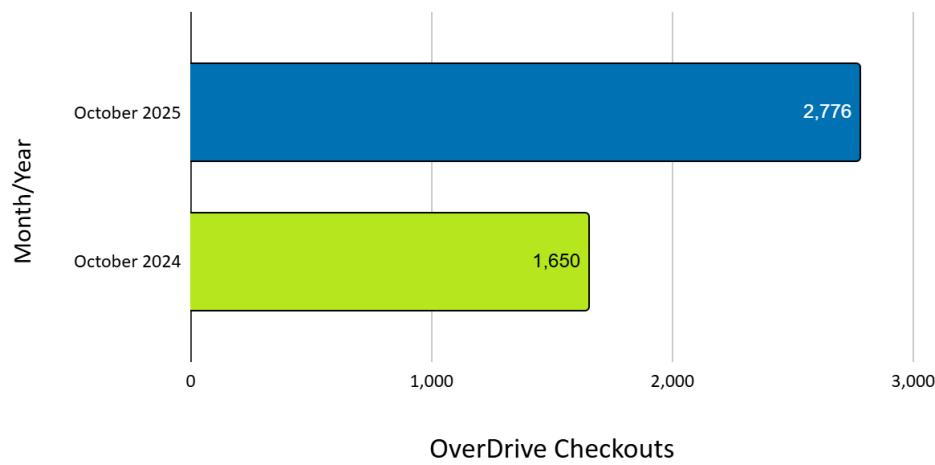
Fun and safety go hand-in-hand at BCPL! As all the spooky, costumed characters got ready for their big candy-hunt night, our Public Services staff distributed 150 reflective armbands to children, ensuring that every little ghost, goblin, and superhero was highly visible to traffic on Halloween night.

Technical Services

EMILY DONLON, MANAGER

Advantage Only (BCPL) OverDrive Checkouts: October '25 vs. October '24

All Checkouts of Titles Purchased Exclusively by BCPL for BCPL Patrons



purchased exclusively for Boyle County patrons, compared to only 1,650 BCPL only/Advantage checkouts in 2024. This is a 68% increase in BCPL-purchased borrowing!



In October, the Tech Services team cataloged and processed 379 items into our physical collections. BCPL patrons checked out 9,343 items from our digital collection (most often accessed through the Libby app). With more funding dedicated to growing our digital collections, we are seeing significant growth in BCPL-owned (also known as Advantage) titles. Over the past month, patrons checked out more than 2,700 eBooks and audiobooks

Youth Services

KINSEY HISLE, MANAGER

October brought a Fall Break full of kiddos and teens, plus spooky times and more! The Children's Department turned into a mad science lab for the week, complete with a pretend play lab, magnetic madness sensory bin, scientist lair fort building, pixel magnetic blocks, and more. One patron asked, "Did y'all get a grant or something? There's so much to do! It is great!" Everything used for the special week was then turned into a Stay and Play kit to be enjoyed year round.

Programming was split between spooky vibes, Día de Muertos, and fall fun. Bilingual Storytime was a big hit, and multiple school classes visited for the ofrenda presentations.

Haunted Clue and Franken-Plushies were a big hit with tweens and teens. In addition, on the anniversary of the Perryville Battlefield, YA patrons met a Civil War medical expert and viewed period surgical objects. Of course, it wouldn't be October without Library Trick-or-Treat which ended up being the biggest ever with over 1065+ people, plus two life size dinosaur puppets that greeted everyone!

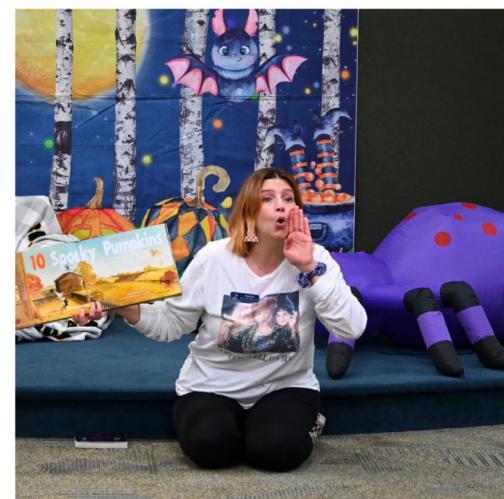


Above: All smiles at our annual Library Trick-or-Treat evnt!

Right: Ms. Rachael entertains customized kiddos and adults at Baby Storytime



A memorable moment from the month came from a dad who rushed in on a Tuesday night looking for a book that his daughter was refusing to go to bed until she read it. Library staff found the book and he was extremely grateful. Multiple patrons commented about how much they loved our Monster Hands Story Walk this month. The author is the son of a former KSD staff member, and we are going to try to connect us for a possible author talk in the future.



Adult Services

CHRISTINA FARRELL, MANAGER

The Adult Services Team had a very busy October. With the imminent closure of Baker & Taylor, Leah worked this month to shift her book orders to a new book jobber. She created a booklist and flyer for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. She has been working to organize the Kentucky Room to make sure it is an appealing place for our patrons to do research. She also worked with other material selectors on revisions of our circulation guidelines. Christina's team presented library resources to Danville Schools' Librarians during their professional development day here at the library.

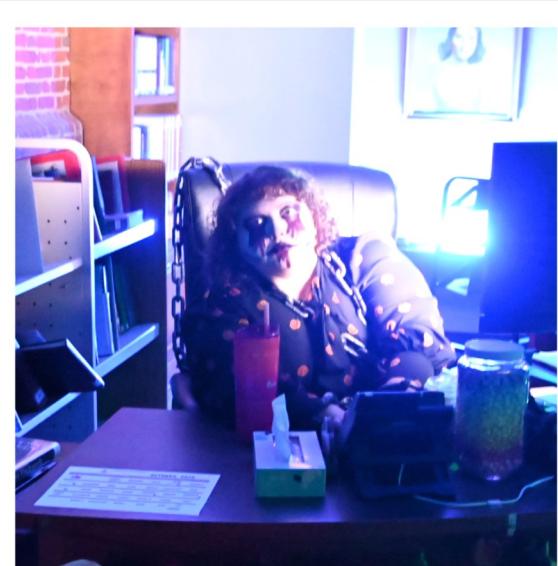
Morgan has been working to offer a variety of programs to appeal to our many different patrons. Our All Abilities Club made masks and continued their learning series on how to make friends. The ASD group had a Halloween party. BCPL After Dark was again offered at Morley's Backyard featuring a successful program crafting cemetariums.

The department continued their two new fall program series, Just Try It! and Family Craft Night. Christina led a beginner cross stitch class for Just Try It! Most participants had no experience with cross stitching and by the end seemed to have a good idea of how to continue with the hobby. Family Craft Night drew 40 participants who made monster paper craft portraits. Attendees enjoyed the activity and staff are enjoying the growth of the program.

The entire Adult Services Team, along with many other staff and volunteers, hosted our very first BCPL Haunted House. This was an enjoyable event for both community and staff, and we look forward to having another next year.



Left: Morgan and Christina work with crafters at our Just Try It! cross stitch program



Right: Leah's acting chops were on full display as she portrayed a disturbed book stamper during our Haunted House event!

Outreach Services

DANIEL AKEN, MANAGER

The October Outreach calendar was full of festival appearances, but the department also brought its own event to the table. Behind the Screams was an opportunity for those who may find a traditional haunted house attraction to be too scary or overstimulating to tour the Hustonville Haunted House without darkness, flashing lights, and scary characters. With guests representing Ephraim McDowell Medical Center and the Junction City Fire Department, safety was the theme and guests were given a safe experience in a relaxed atmosphere. A group of clowns from the house even invaded the library to promote the event.

On the festival front, the department visited the Perryville Commemoration Festival (including an appearance by the bookmobile in the parade), Art Center of the Bluegrass's fall festival, Ephraim McDowell's Sensory Friendly Spooktacular at the Extension Office, and Head Start's Trunk or Treat.

Outreach attended family nights at Hogsett and Bate, represented the library at Woodlawn Elementary School's Community Helpers Day, resumed their bookmobile stops with Woodlawn's reading intervention students, and, along with Youth Services, began a book club with Junction City Elementary students.



Clowning around in the Reading Room



Outreach brings the bookmobile to Art Center Fall Fest



Engaged youth at visits to Junction and Woodlawn

Attendance at Behind the Screams, the festivals, and one-off school appearances led to us providing programming for 978 people across eight events.

Also in October, Katie completed the six-month Public Library Institute, as she works toward earning her state library certification.

Information Technology

JOSEPH HURT, MANAGER

Joseph worked on a variety of projects in October, including the continued collaboration with the Story Center and Prof. Michael Bradshaw's Computer Science students at Centre College. The library's back end server work is enabling these students to build prototypes of applications that could be used to serve Story Center content to patrons in the future.

Joseph also worked with Maggie and her staff to prepare the technology needed to establish the Story Center's new digitization station at Forkland Community Center. This was a key milestone for the Story Center's long range plan, and Joseph has been instrumental in obtaining specs and pricing for the equipment needed to meet this goal.

IT worked closely with Emily in Technical Services and our cataloging vendor, SirsiDynix, to prepare the library for system upgrades. This involved reviewing software release notes and coming in early after the updates to apply software patches to our front-facing workstations at Circulation and other public desks.

Marketing & Public Relations

MIKE MARSEE, MANAGER

October meant Spooky Season, and there were many related programs to promote and showcase ranging from our Haunted Night at the Library where we offered a look at how scary the stacks can be to the Library Trick-or-Treat program where we showed off dozens of costumed kids.

On Halloween itself, we posted photos of costumed cuties from Baby Storytime and Storytime, young adults in costume at YA Gaming Guild and our own staff members who dressed for the day.

We also focused on the Día de Muertos events led by Centre College Spanish students and our partnership in The Remember Balloons initiative, and we documented the Story Center's installation of a memory lab at Forkland Community Center.

Our most-viewed Facebook post in October featured a collection of photos from Library Trick-or-Treat, followed by a photo of an impossibly cute Pillsbury doughboy from Baby Storytime that teased more photos on Instagram, a Trick-or-Treat announcement and a photo/video post from the installation of the digitization station at Forkland.



*Left: Student ofrenda honoring
Columbian writer and journalist
Gabriel García Márquez*



Story Center

MAGGIE MCADAMS, MANAGER



The Story Center welcomed many students in October, hosting 160 fifth graders from Perryville Elementary and Woodlawn Elementary. The Center hosted its last *Caring for Personal Collections* program of the year focusing on care of objects. Maggie's staff hosted 11 programs in this series and had 57 participants, many who returned for multiple sessions. The team plans to offer this series again in 2026, with some modifications to better serve their audience.



Sam and Maggie with Forkland Museum Director Wayne Thurman

Danville's past were dressed up and positioned throughout the downtown area for our tours. The walks drew 97 participants over two tours.

The Center wrapped up the month by participating in Constitution Square's Pumpkins in the Park program.

Story Center staff were out in the community quite a bit this month for festival season. They participated in the Perryville Commemoration Festival as well as the Perryville Battlefield Commemoration. They attended the Forkland Heritage Festival and Revue where they talked with over a hundred community members. The team regularly participates in Downtown Danville's Third Thursdays and they saw their highest program attendance in October. They partnered with West T. Hill Community Theatre to offer Downtown Ghost Walks. Rather than focusing on the paranormal, actors portraying figures from

Facilities Management

LOREN ARTH, MANAGER



Our Facilities Management crew once again made their contribution to Spooky Season by setting up the ghostly stone wall on the main floor. This display serves as a backdrop for many Halloween photos when patrons visit the building. Loren has been attending meetings with Colleen and our consultants at Collective Spaces Design Works as we look ahead to the redesign of the staff workroom on Level Two.

The team has continued to work on getting the library campus ready for colder weather. They have reorganized storage areas on the ground floor and our outdoor sheds, and they have taken down the last of the outdoor sun shades. They have also taken our bookmobile and van to the garage for routine maintenance.

As always, Loren and Lynn have worked to move furniture and equipment to allow staff the space they need to set up displays. They moved shelving out of the rotunda to make room for October's Remember Balloons display. They also brought the mailbox out of storage, delivering it to the Third Level lobby so that Youth Services could set up our annual Drop Your Drawers collection drive.

More October Fun!



Teens enjoy a costume contest at YA Super Gaming Guild!



A large crowd on hand for Family Craft Night: Monster Portraits!