



# Library Services Update

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# WHY ARE WE HERE?

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## Purpose

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- Provide an overview of the library services recently implemented
- Discuss new services being planned with the goal of advancing access throughout the county
- Discuss the Mayor's Summer Reading Challenge



# Explore a world of cinema with Kanopy.

## Introducing Kanopy

- Kanopy launched on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and is free to all adult library card holders
- Kanopy allows users to stream movies, documentaries, The Great Courses, and series from anywhere
- Stream directly from the platform or via apps available through Apple Store, Play Store, and on Smart TVs
- Library users receive 10 tickets a month

kanopy

Films that matter

Start today at [kanopy.com](https://www.kanopy.com)

Staged

FAVORITES US



# Kanopy Kids



- Kanopy Kids can be used in conjunction with Kanopy and allows for parental controls
- Unlimited streaming for kids—no tickets needed
- Includes beloved PBS shows like Sesame Street and Mister Rogers' Neighborhood to animated storybooks and STEM-focused series
- Diverse topics: Offers titles covering literacy, languages, math, and social-emotional learning
- Empowers caregivers to incorporate screen time that enriches, entertains, and educates

# Why Kanopy?

- Blu-Ray and DVD prices are 29% higher than they were this time last year
- DVD sales have declined for the 16<sup>th</sup> straight year
- Streaming video has become the go-to for film and TV favorites
- Kanopy has 1100+ content partners, including MGM, A24, WB, PBS, Paramount, BBC Studios, and The Great Courses
- 65% of films and TV shows on Kanopy include public performance rights for the library, eliminating the need for a separate license

# AWE Early Literacy Stations



- 7 AWE stations available throughout our 4 locations
- AWE Early Literacy station is an all-in-one educational touchscreen computer designed for children 2-8
- Provides a safe, ad-free learning environment that promotes early literacy, math, science, and problem-solving skills
- Software includes 70+ award winning, preloaded programs
- Games and activities make learning interactive and fun for young users
- No internet required
- Bilingual English and Spanish programs
- Funding provided by Waco Foundation

# Benefits of AWE Stations

- Early Literacy Support: Reinforces key skills to prepare children for school
- Bridging the Digital Divide: Provides access to technology and educational resources
- Parent engagement: Encourages caregiver involvement through co-use of engaging and educational tools.
- Community Value: Demonstrates the library's role in fostering lifelong learning and reducing barriers to education.

# Looking Ahead



- Through support from our Friends group, we are purchasing two new self-checkout stations for East and South Branches
- Working to implement an app for the library that will provide ease of access for users that will launch in May
- Working with IT Department on an E-rate grant through TSLAC for a hotspot lending program
- Investigating book vending machines and book lockers to expand access across the county
- Increasing number of e-book titles available through CloudLibrary (app available on App Store, Google Play, and Amazon App Store)



# Mayor's Summer Reading Challenge



# Why Summer Reading Matters

- Prevents the “Summer Slide”—students can lose up to 2 months of learning
- Encourages lifelong reading habits
- Supports literacy development and academic success
- In 2024, we had 2,700 people participate in SRC
- 1,565 were children ages 0-12 and 280 were teens
- With new sponsorships and changes, we expect to increase number of participants this year

# SRC 2025



- Registration is completely online through Beanstack and opens May 1!
- This year, we have 100+ programs that are being offered for all ages, with 74 of those programs specifically for children
- Incentives are provided when participants reach each level of the program. Incentives include book bags, coupons to local businesses, and other prizes.
- Sponsors include: Friends of the Waco-McLennan County Library, Hawaiian Falls, Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, H-E-B
- New this year: A commercial to encourage elementary age kids to participate
- Schools will have access to this commercial and flyers that can be easily printed, emailed, and shared with students

# SRC 2024 Programs





# Achievement of Excellence In Libraries Award

- Awarded by the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association, part of TML
- Places us in the top 19% of libraries in the state
- Must demonstrate excellence in a variety of categories
- Reflection of the work of our dedicated team





# THANK YOU

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