



Message from the State Librarian

This May, the State Library’s 1st Ave Columbus location continued in its relocation effort. Furniture that would not fit in the new space was relocated to the SEO Service Center in Caldwell and the packing of the collection and the rare books collection continued.

As always, it’s the State Library staff that make everything possible. The library staff have shown remarkable perseverance throughout the relocation process, handling every challenge with professionalism, creativity, and a positive spirit. Their hard work ensured that the transition was as smooth as possible. I am deeply grateful for their commitment and the care they bring to their work every day.

Mandy Knapp



State Senator Casey Weinstein, State Librarian Mandy Knapp, and Executive Director of the Hudson Library & Historical Society Leslie Polott

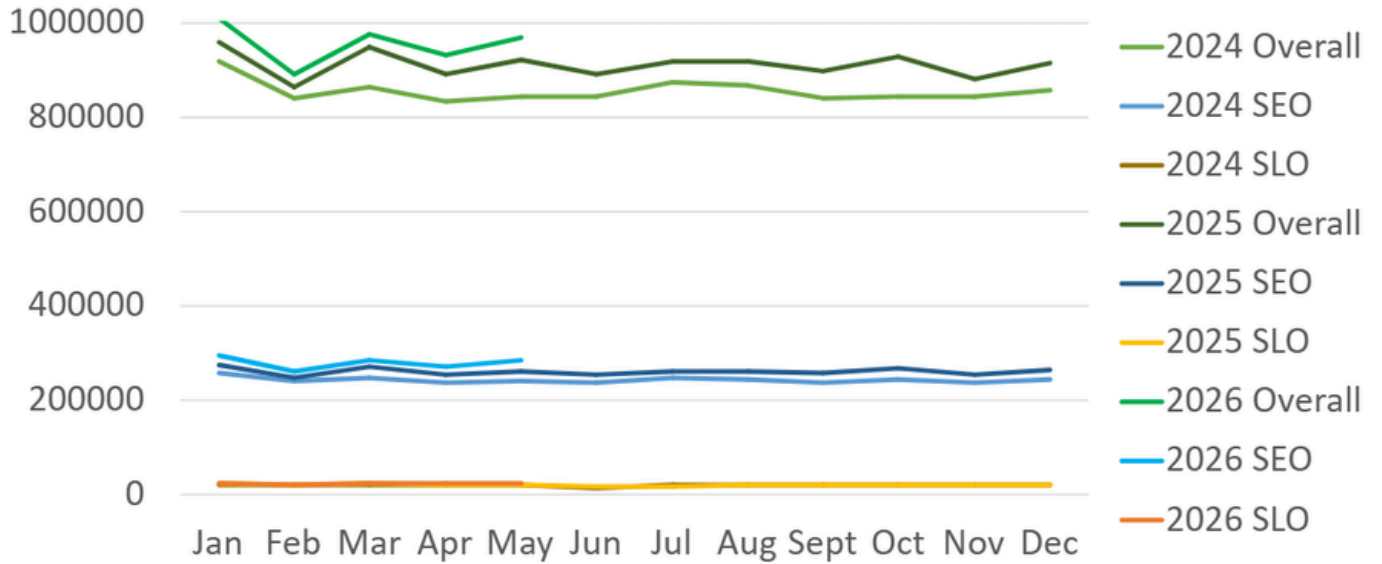
Highlights

- In May, State Librarian Mandy Knapp visited the University of Findlay Shafer Library, the Mazza Museum, the school media center at Cuyahoga Falls City Schools, the Hudson Library & Historical Society, Marietta College Legacy Library, the Medina County District Library, the Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library, and the library at the Cincinnati Art Museum.
- Staff worked hard to prepare for the Columbus relocation. Some items were sent to the Caldwell location.
- The State Library’s strategic plan continued to form. At the May Board Meeting, the Board continued to work on next steps.
- Progress was made on securing a Library Services Platform (LSP) for the Serving Every Ohioan (SEO) consortium.

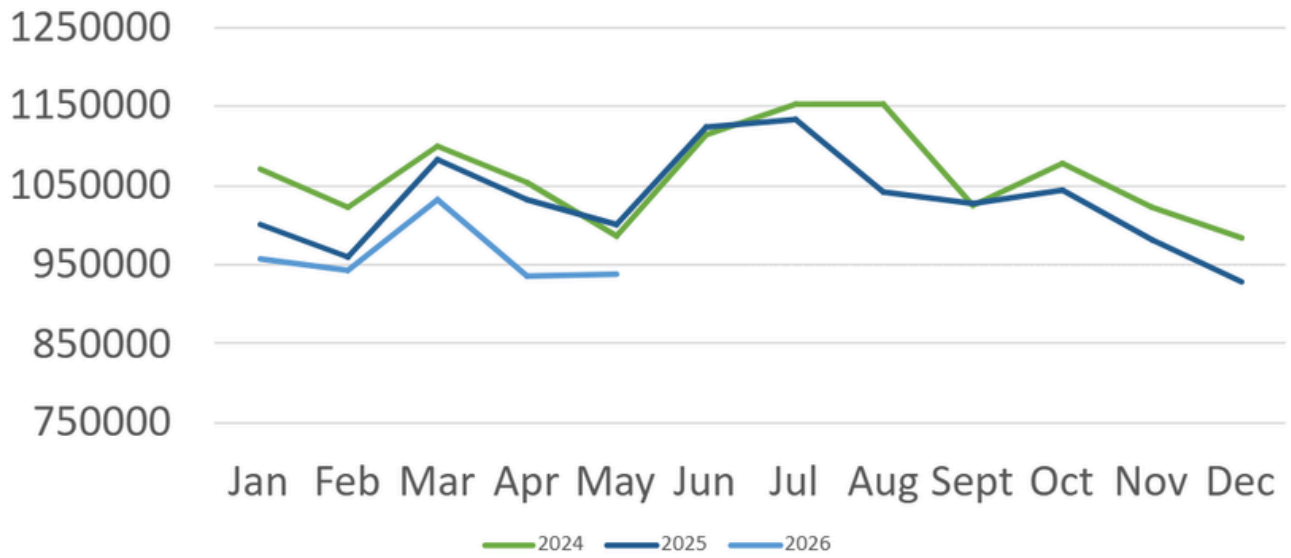


Marietta College Library Director Angela Burdiss, State Librarian Mandy Knapp, and Director of Operations and Technology John Stewart

Ohio Digital Library Circulation by Month



SEO Consortium Physical Circulation by Month



Staff Training by Month



Cooperative Partnership Meetings by Month



Library Services—May 2026

On the Move!

This month the Library Services team worked incredibly hard to complete the packing of portions of our collection so they can be moved to our new Gahanna location. Our staff completed major projects including the packing up of our collection of over 20,000 rare items and the packing of our collection of over 70,000 Dewey items.



Digital Initiatives Librarian Shannon Kupfer-Trausch successfully led the State Libraries Rare book packing project.



Government Documents Librarian Elissa A. Lawrence is seen here packing up the last of our Dewey collection.

Ohio Health Care Association Conference

On May 18 and 19, our Talking Book Supervisor Angelyn Hellman promoted the Talking Book program at the the Ohio Health Care Association conference at the Columbus Convention Center. Angelyn shared information about our important program with health providers around the State of Ohio.

Library Programs & Development—May 2026



On May 5, Library Consultant Katy Hite (left) addressed the attendees of “Build Your Network: Adult Literacy at Your Library,” a workshop she co-planned and facilitated. On May 7, Library Consultants Jeff Laser and Erin Kelsey (right; left to right) led a strategic planning activity with the staff of Pickaway County Library.

Conservation and Preservation LSTA Grant Workshop

On May 19, in partnership with the Ohio Preservation Council, State Library staff (Library Consultants Jeff Regensburger and Penelope Shumaker; Associate State Librarian Evan T. Struble) facilitated the Conservation and Preservation LSTA Grant workshop, held at the Columbus Metropolitan Library’s Karl Road branch. This workshop is designed to give potential grant applicants the information they need to successfully navigate the grant

process. The daylong event featured information about selecting items for conservation, the conservation process itself, as well as the mechanics of applying for the grant and examples of previous grant-funded projects.

Over 25 participants attended this year’s workshop. In addition to the information provided, attendees also got to see one of last year’s professionally-conserved items--a historic parasol--reunited with its owners from Miami University’s library.

Take 5: REVO: The Re-Evolution of Teen Services

On May 8, the Akron-Summit County Public Library hosted [Take 5: REVO: The Re-Evolution of Teen Services](#), featuring an inspiring keynote talk by ALA President Sam Helmick and librarian-led sessions on Mentor Mindset, intellectual freedom, and the power of play for adolescents.

Seventy-four teen and youth services library workers engaged in learning, exploration, and, as one attendee put it, “lots of affirmation that our work is valuable, necessary, and appreciated on a larger scale than we realize.”

An annual professional development event for public

library teen and youth services specialists, school librarians, and other youth advocates, Take 5 is supported by federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Library consultants Janet Ingraham Dwyer and Penelope Shumaker serve on the planning team.

ODL By the Numbers

Let’s take a deeper dive into the Ohio Digital Library (ODL) for the month of May:

Total checkouts:

968,806 (4,771,199 YTD)

Format preference:

Slightly more audiobooks (roughly 436K) than ebooks (422K) circulated in May. Magazines clocked in with 110K.

Support:

59 support tickets were submitted and answered in April.

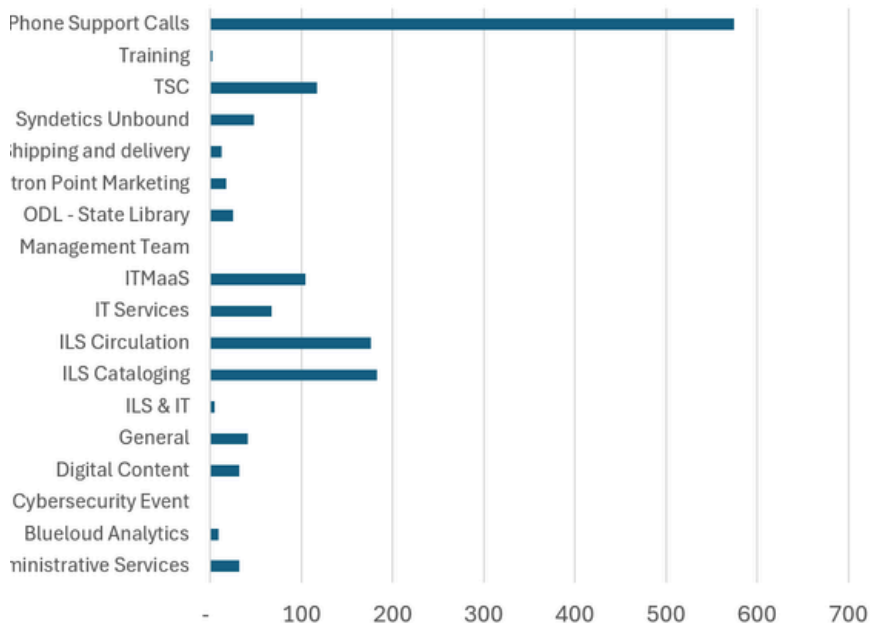
Most popular book title:

Shield of Sparrows, by Devney Perry (audiobook)

Curious about what’s being checked out? Take a look at the [real-time checkouts and holds](#).

SEO Service Center—May 2026

SEO Service Center Support Tickets and Calls for May 2026



Quick Takeaways:

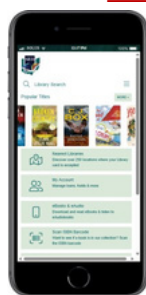
- Phone support calls (574) dominate overall volume.
- ILS work (Circulation + Cataloging 359) represents a major share of operational demand.
- IT Services + ITMaaS (238) and TSC (117) continue to be significant service drivers.

Key service highlights include:

- The ILS Support Team continued offering the Round Prices and Bill to the Nearest 5 Cents service.
- **Two library visits** - Bowerston Public Library and Forest-Jackson Public Library

For the past 30 days, the Consortium experienced significant activity:

- Over **938,029** items were circulated.
- **172,453** holds were created, and **179,890** holds were filled.
- **6,975** new users were created.
- **570** interlibrary loan requests were initiated.
- **871** support tickets were created, with **14** relayed to the software vendor.



Mobile App Stats	2025	2026	% Change
New Devices	3,061	1,825	-40%
Holds Placed	30,818	34,870	13%
App Launched	86,005	92,748	8%
Searches	91,396	91,877	1%



- Serving Every Ohioan Staff Tutorials views - **1,022**
- Online Catalog Patron Tutorial views - **688**
- Technical Services Committee - **1**



- Heavy use in Announcements and Newsletters being sent (**392,203 emails**)
- Medium use in Birthday/Anniversary campaigns (**3,186 emails**)
- Light use of Winback (**373 emails**) and Coming of Age (**1,290 emails**) campaigns



Jarrett Bates Promoted to Librarian 1

May 6, 2026: The State Library of Ohio is pleased to announce the promotion of Jarrett Bates to Librarian 1 in our Research and Catalog Services Department. Jarrett now leads Interlibrary Loan (ILL) operations, supports the Talking Book Program, and provides reference and user assistance to state employees, government officials, and library patrons.

Ohio LSTA Conservation & Preservation Grant 2026



May 14, 2026: The State Library of Ohio, in partnership with the [Ohio Preservation Council \(OPC\)](#) and the [American 250-Ohio Commission](#) is pleased to announce the availability of federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds of up to \$4,999 for libraries to conserve a single item or preserve a small, discrete group of items within their collections. The item(s) selected for conservation/preservation should be unique, valuable (culturally or monetarily), and as a cultural artifact speak to the mission and values of the applying institution.

32 Library Professionals Selected for Library Leadership Ohio 2026 Cohort

May 18, 2026: The State Library of Ohio and OhioNet are pleased to announce the cohort of library leaders selected to participate in Library Leadership Ohio (LLO) 2026. Selected participants were carefully chosen based on outstanding leadership potential, collaborative spirit, and deep commitment to the profession.

