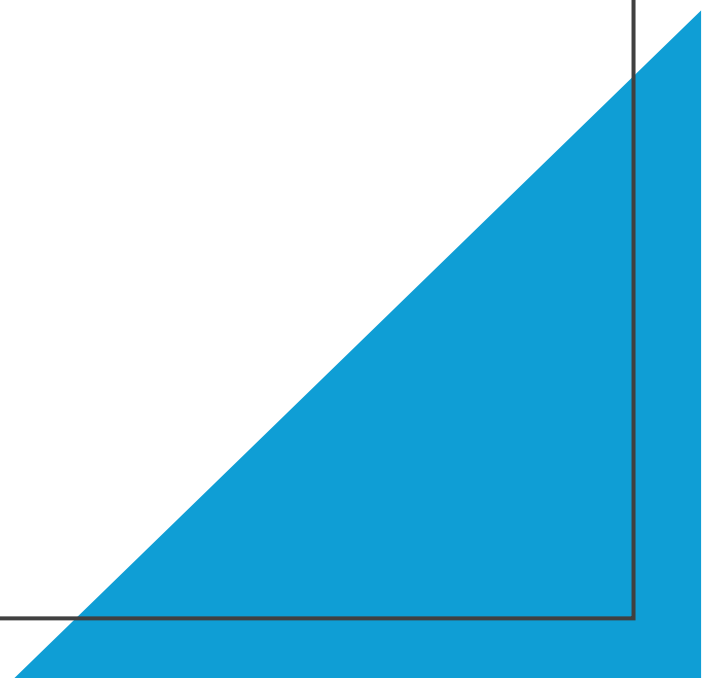


Welcome to SWAN Expo

Friday, August 21, 2026



Welcome to SWAN Expo's 8th year



Access to WiFi:

Connect to:
Passcode:



How to access the event
schedule:

Visit
support.swanlibraries.net/swanexpo



What's for lunch?

It is a buffet!



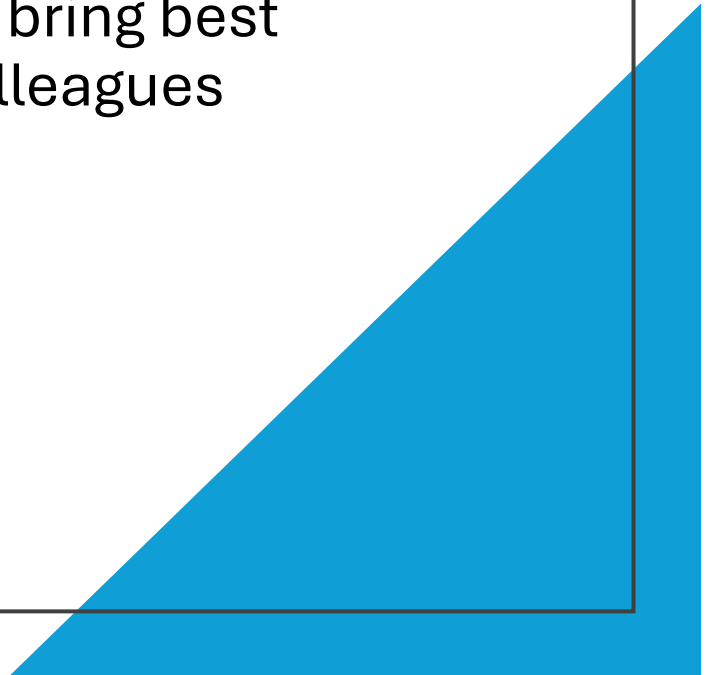
Test your knowledge to win prizes!



Reminder: NIU is a smoke-free campus

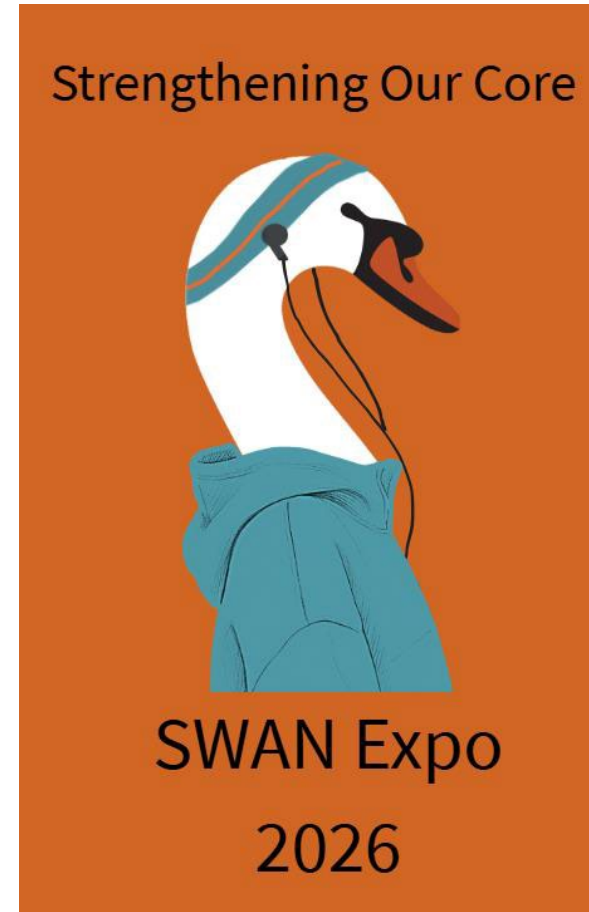
The Purpose and Vision of SWAN Expo

To create a gathering for the SWAN Membership and friends sharing expertise and big ideas, striving to bring best practices back to our colleagues



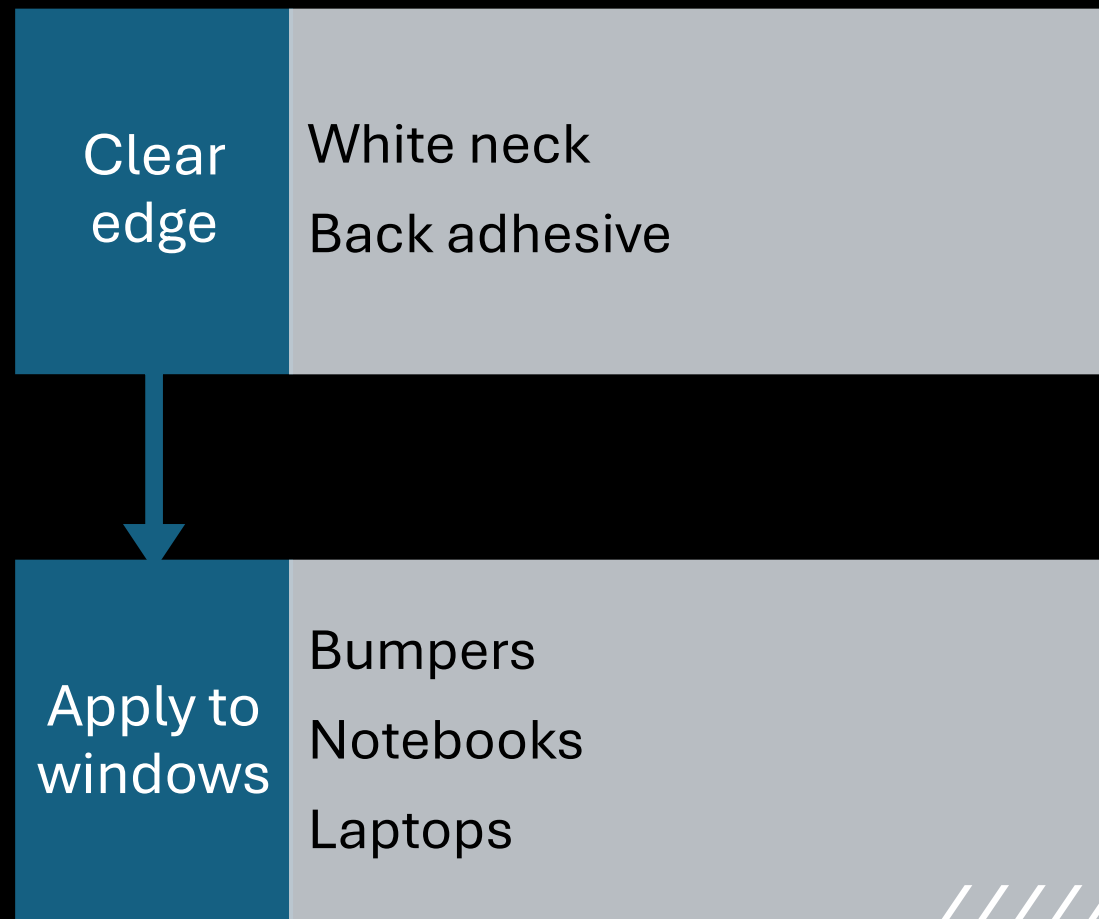
“Strengthening Our Core”

- Every SWAN Expo has a theme. This year, we wanted to recognize the fundamentals of library work and librarianship at all levels
- Our core functions
- Our core identity
- Our core values
- We hope you walk away heartened about the future and with some fresh ideas in your head!





SWAN sticker for all Expo attendees!



Special
thanks to our
library
presenters...
there are a lot!

Ann Marie Lindsey	Glen Ellyn Public Library
Ashley Middleton	Glen Ellyn Public Library
Cindy Khatri	Downers Grove Public Library
Ellen Anderson	Geneva Public Library District
Ellie Hansen	Glen Ellyn Public Library
Jaime Wesley	Worth Public Library District
Jasmina Lapo	Saint Charles Public Library District
Joy Anhalt	Tinley Park Public Library
Karen Christiansen	Glen Ellyn Public Library
Kathy Welko	Addison Public Library

Special thanks to our library presenters

Margaux Morrone

Megan Vasquez

Molly Bitters

Molly Blitstein

Omar Kushad

Pamela Kamin

Parish Turner

Rebecca Bartlett

Samantha Zimmerman

Sara Youngs

Tim Candlish

Geneva Public Library District

Tinley Park Public Library

Eisenhower Public Library
District

Tinley Park Public Library

Carol Stream Public Library

Glenside Public Library
District

Bensenville Community Public
Library District

LaGrange Public Library

Tinley Park Public Library

Glen Ellyn Public Library

Downers Grove Public Library

Special thanks to our SWAN presenters

Cynthia Romanowski

Bibliographic Services
Manager

Ian Nosek

IT & System Support
Manager

Lexii Klopp

Network Security
Administrator

Olivia Montolin

e-Resources Consultant

Tara Wood

User Experience Manager

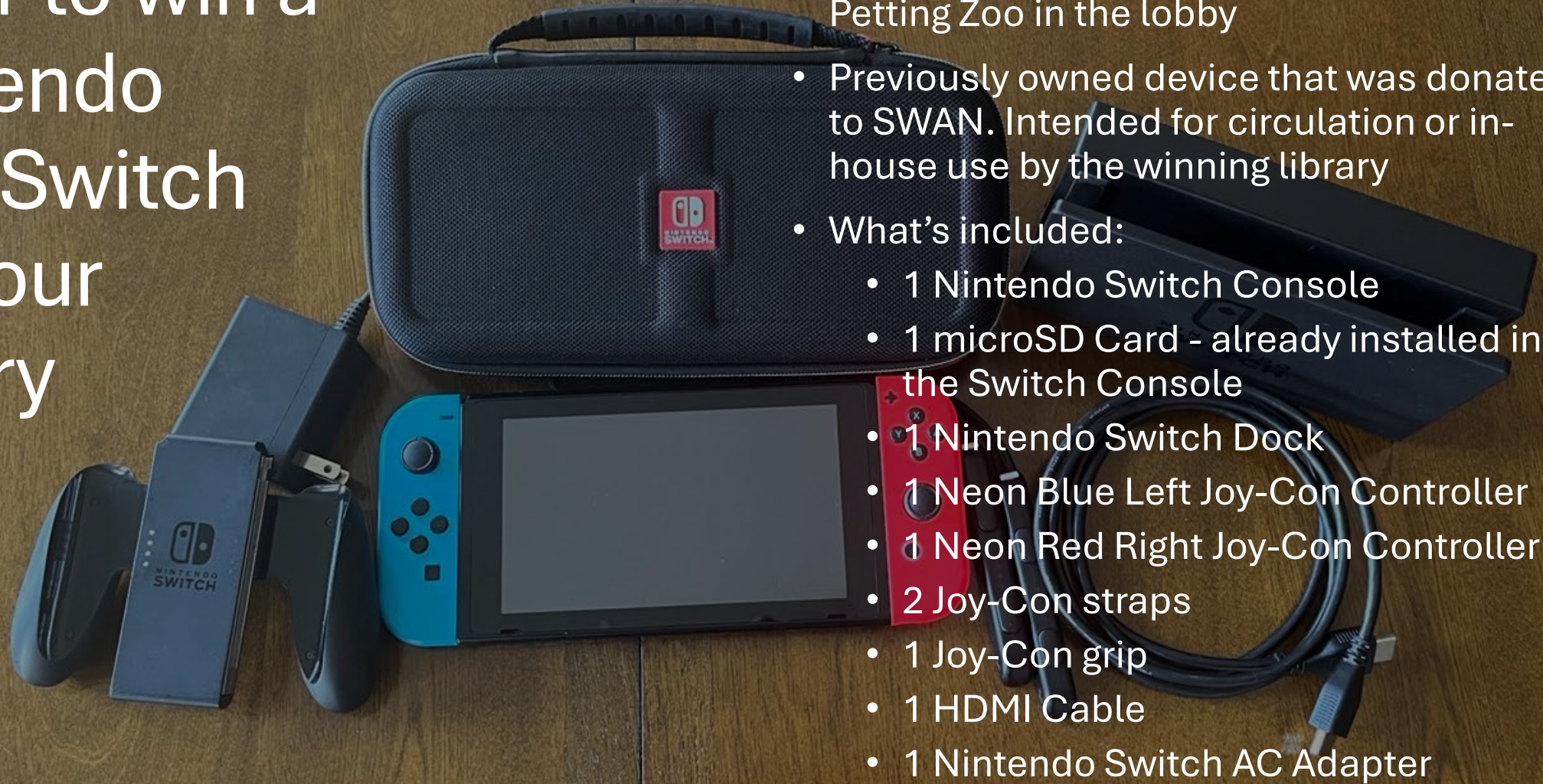
Thank you for the “Petting Zoo” of Library of Things

Ann Marie Lindsey	Glen Ellyn Public Library
Joy Anhalt	Tinley Park Public Library
Ellen Anderson	Geneva Public Library District
Margaux Morrone	Geneva Public Library District
MaryKellie Marquez	Warrenville Public Library District
Monica Murphy	Frankfort Public Library District
Jenn Gunn	West Chicago Public Library
Jenny Cuevas	Addison Public Library



Win prizes at
closing
session!

Enter to win a Nintendo One Switch for your library



- Fill out a raffle ticket in the Library of Things Petting Zoo in the lobby
- Previously owned device that was donated to SWAN. Intended for circulation or in-house use by the winning library
- What's included:
 - 1 Nintendo Switch Console
 - 1 microSD Card - already installed in the Switch Console
 - 1 Nintendo Switch Dock
 - 1 Neon Blue Left Joy-Con Controller
 - 1 Neon Red Right Joy-Con Controller
 - 2 Joy-Con straps
 - 1 Joy-Con grip
 - 1 HDMI Cable
 - 1 Nintendo Switch AC Adapter

State of SWAN

SWAN Expo 2026

Aaron Skog, SWAN Executive Director



SWAN Consortium

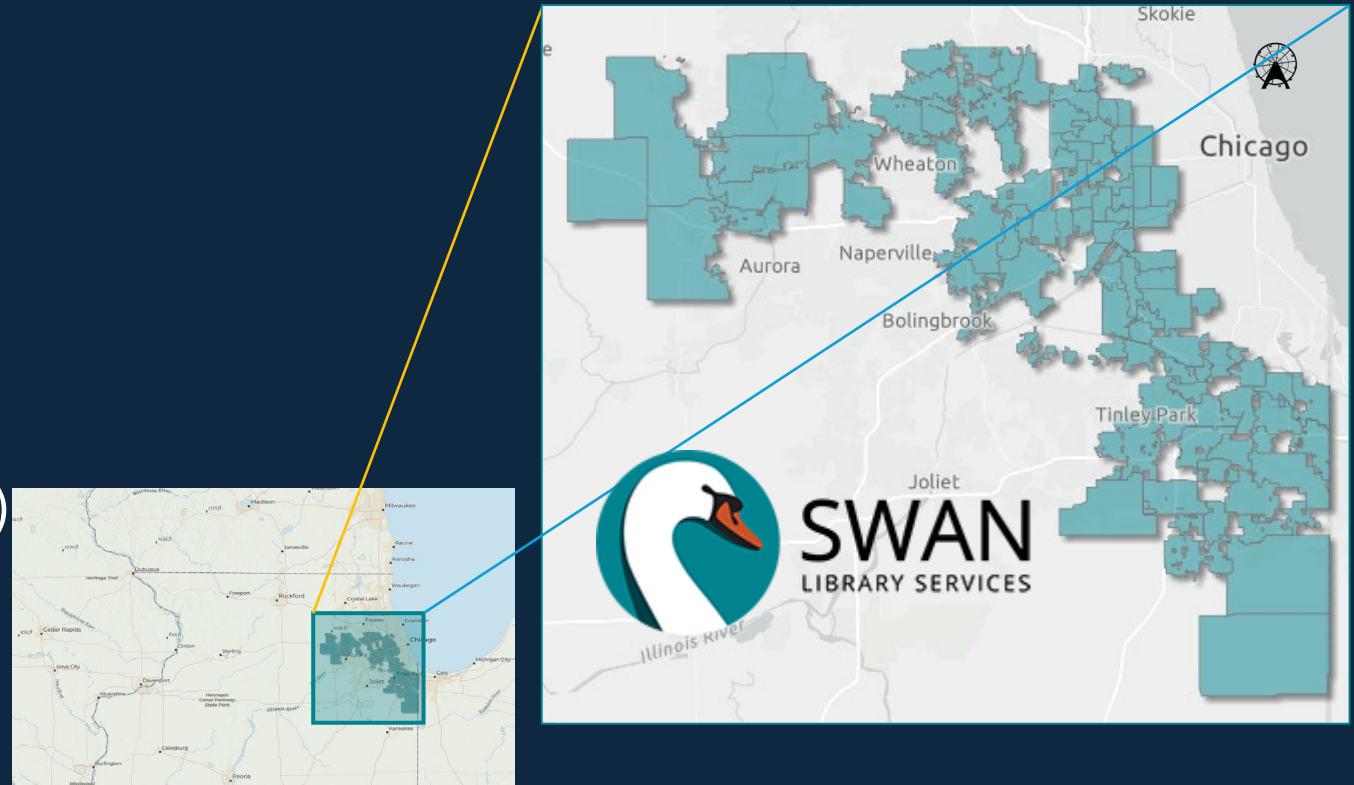
Who We Are

Today 100 libraries of all types

- 96 Public Libraries
- 1 Academic
- 2 Special
- 1 School

-
- 1.3 million titles
 - 7.3 million items
 - 788 thousand users
 - 13 million annual circulation

-
- 2.1 million ILL (FY25)
 - 2.1 million reciprocal borrowing (FY25)
 - 240,000 reciprocal borrowing transactions outside of the library membership





SWAN Membership includes

Library Services Platform

- Aspen Discovery
- Aspen LiDA
- BLUEcloud Analytics
- BLUEcloud Commerce
- BLUEcloud Staff
- EBSCO Discovery Service
- Online Patron Registration
- MobileStaff
- Eduserv OpenAthens
- OCLC WorldCat Discovery, ILL
- SirsiDynix Symphony Web Services
- SirsiDynix Symphony WorkFlows
- Unique Management MessageBee
- Virtual Private Network

SWAN Provided Services

CENTRALIZED
NOTIFICATION

CENTRALIZED
BILLING

CENTRALIZED
CATALOGING

CENTRALIZED E-
COMMERCE

CENTRALIZED
OCLC
CONFIGURATIONS

TRAINING &
SUPPORT

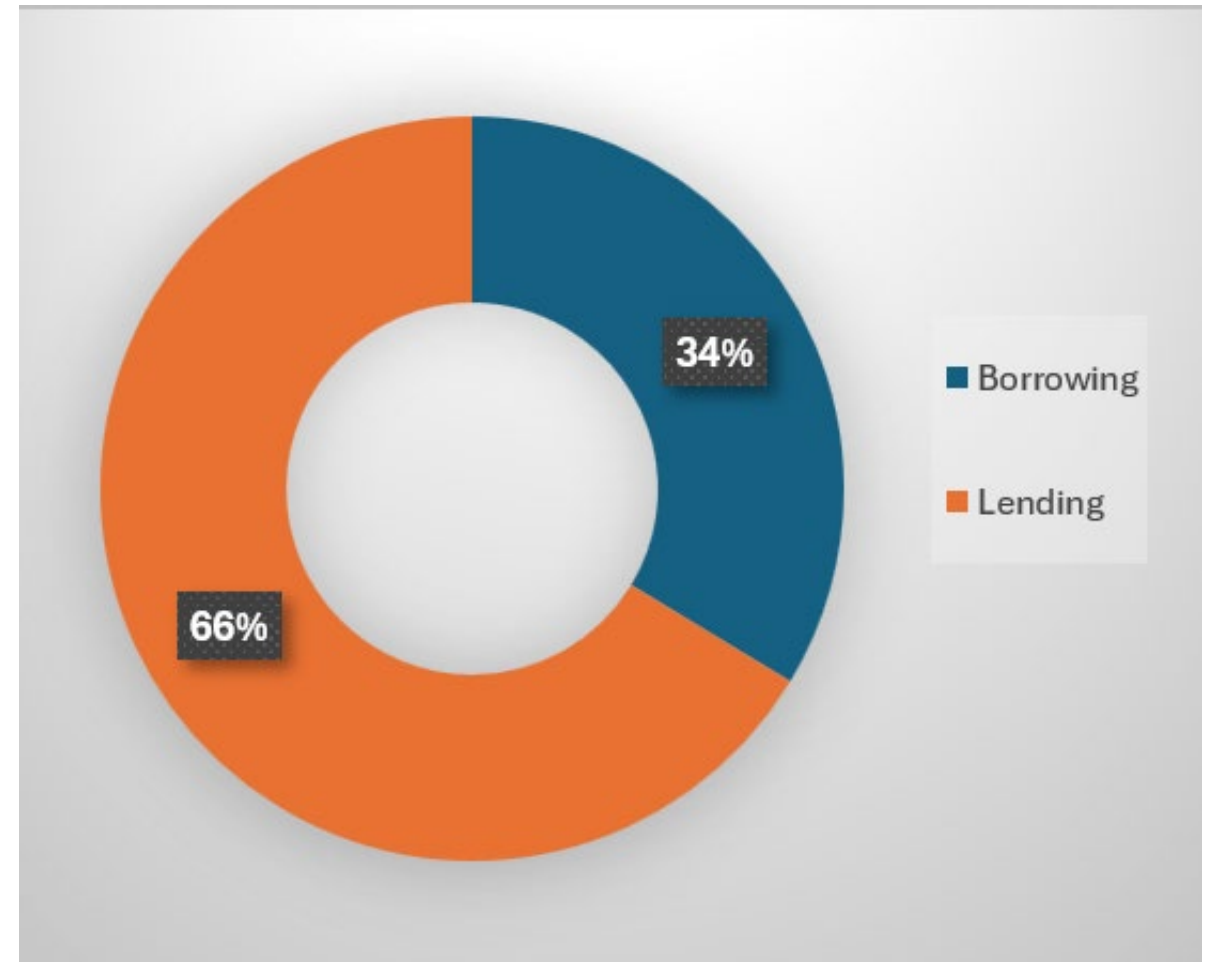


What's New in the past year?

2025 WorldShare ILL Loans Filled

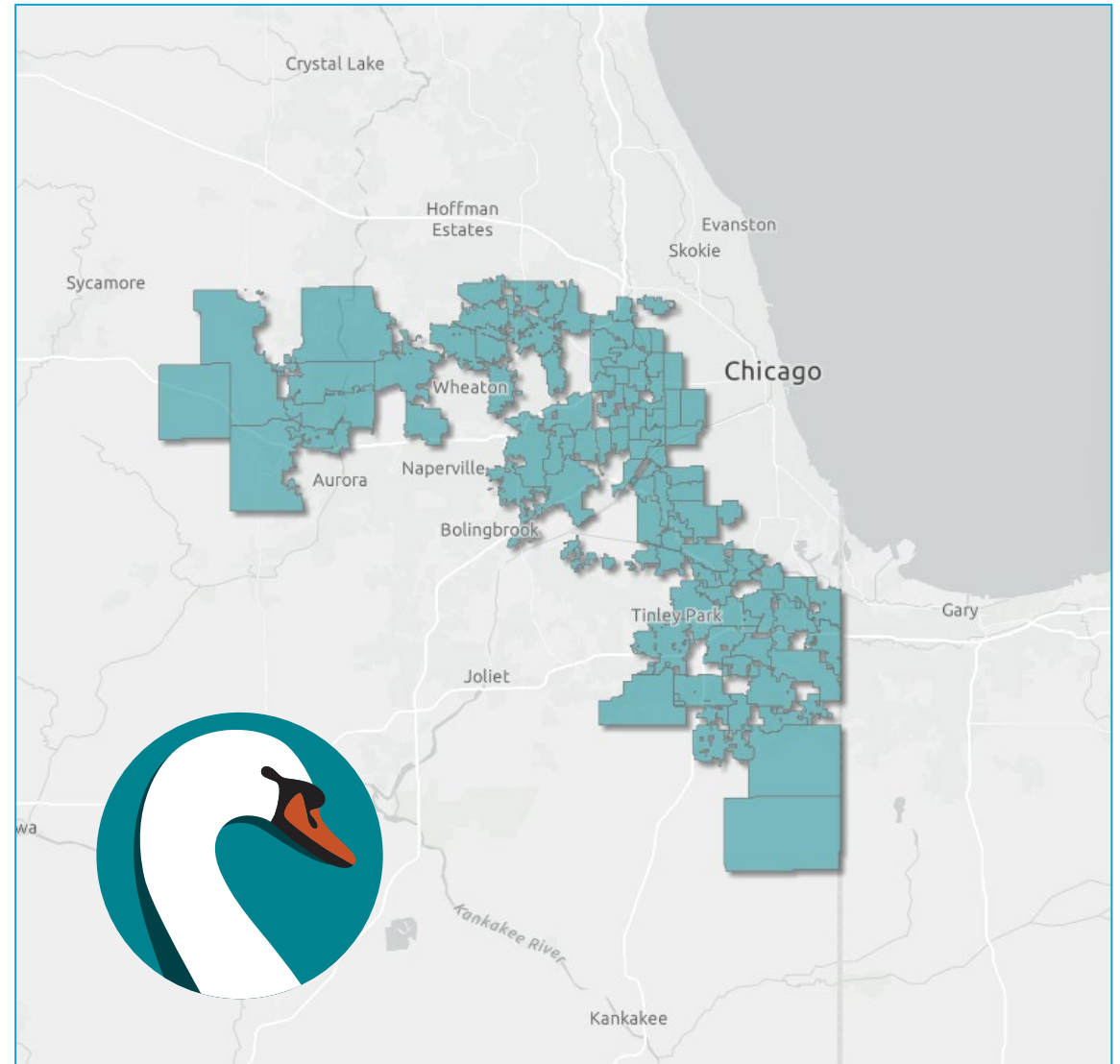
31,387 Items Loaned
15,923 Items Borrowed

SWAN remains a
net lender by a 2:1
ratio!



ENHANCED Online Patron Registration

- Available to ALL SWAN libraries (included)
- Determines home library using geolocation GIS maps
- Uses Illinois State Library's library district maps
- Each library has a unique shape file



Online Registration Statistics

8/16/25 thru 8/15/26

Overall Registrations: 87,065

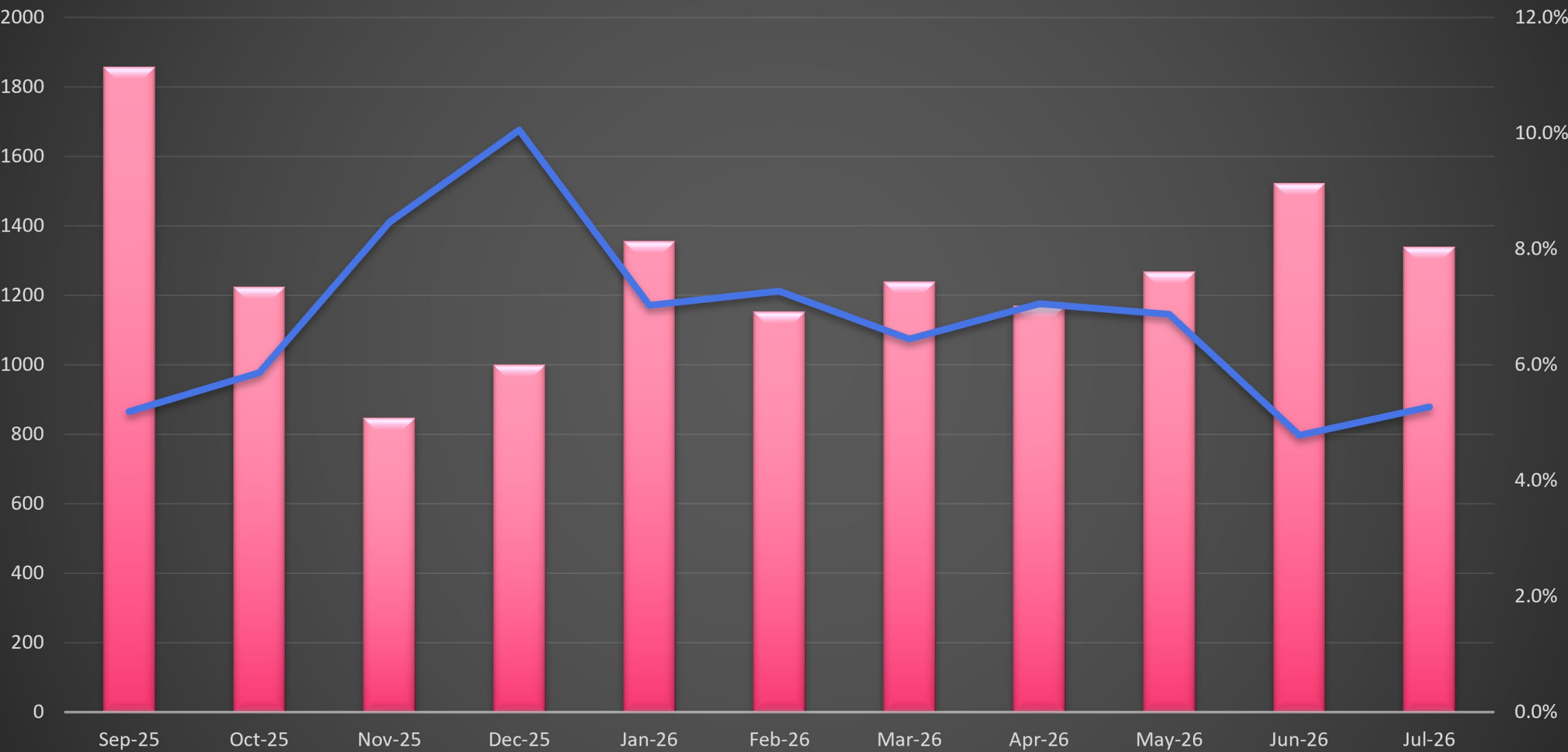
Total Online Registrations: 15,145 (~41 per day)

~6% of total registrations through Patron Point

Applications Not Approved

- Already Registered – 6,270 (18%)
- Out of SWAN Service Area – 5,509 (16%)
- Age – 791 (2%)
- Invalid Address – 688 (2%)
- Identity Cannot Be Verified – 5,714 (16%)

Online Registrations and Percentage of Total September 2025 to July 2026



EBSCO Explora Profiles

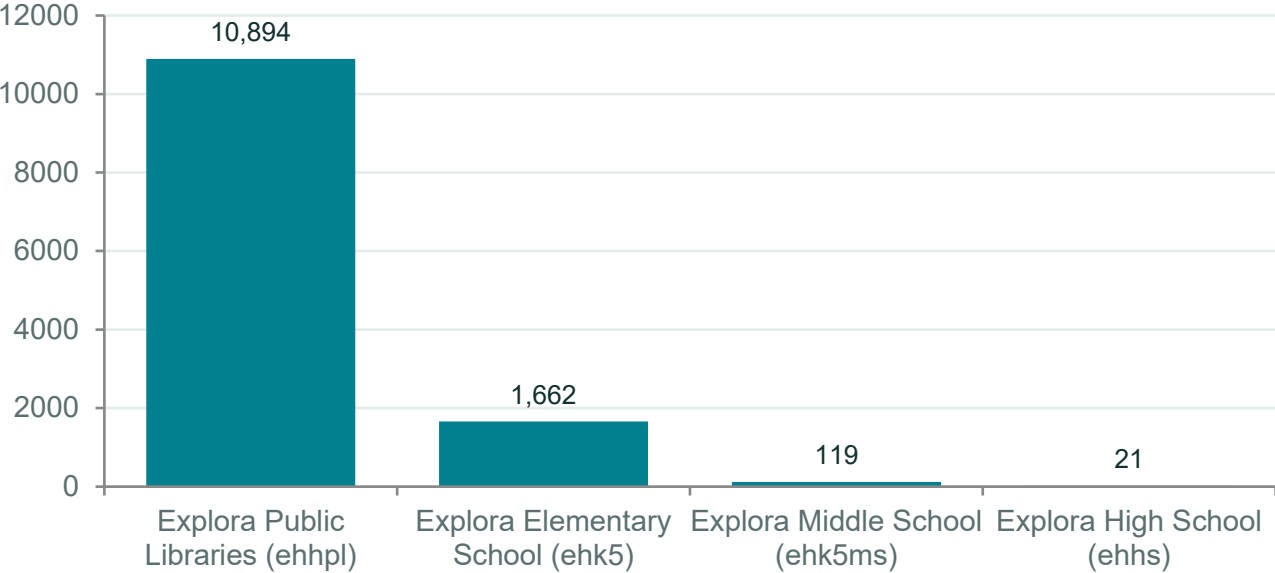
12,696

Total Requests

4

Active Profiles

Searches by Profile

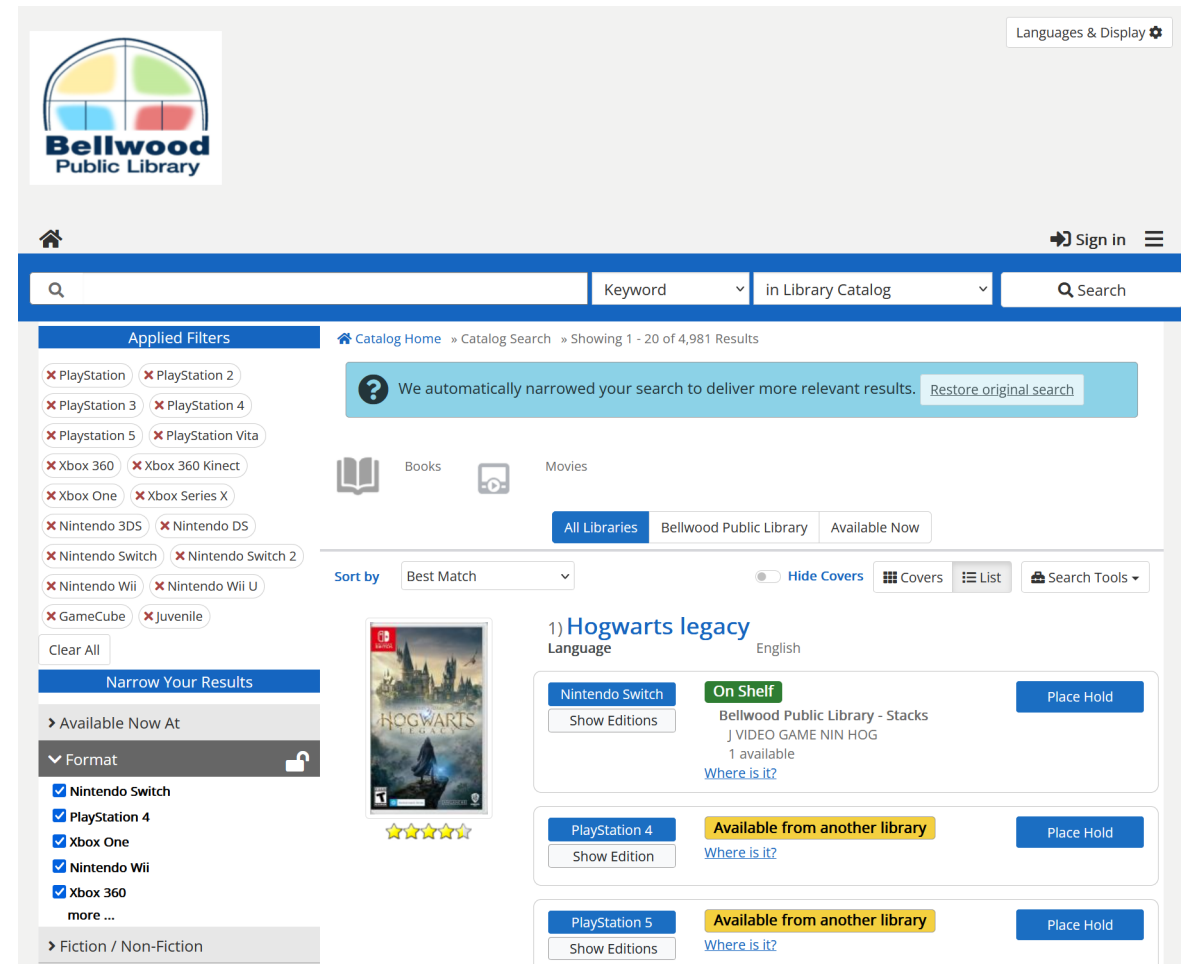


Top 3 Libraries and Profile

- 1 Downers Grove — Explora for Primary Schools
- 2 St. Charles — Explora Public Libraries
- 3 Woodridge — Explora Public Libraries

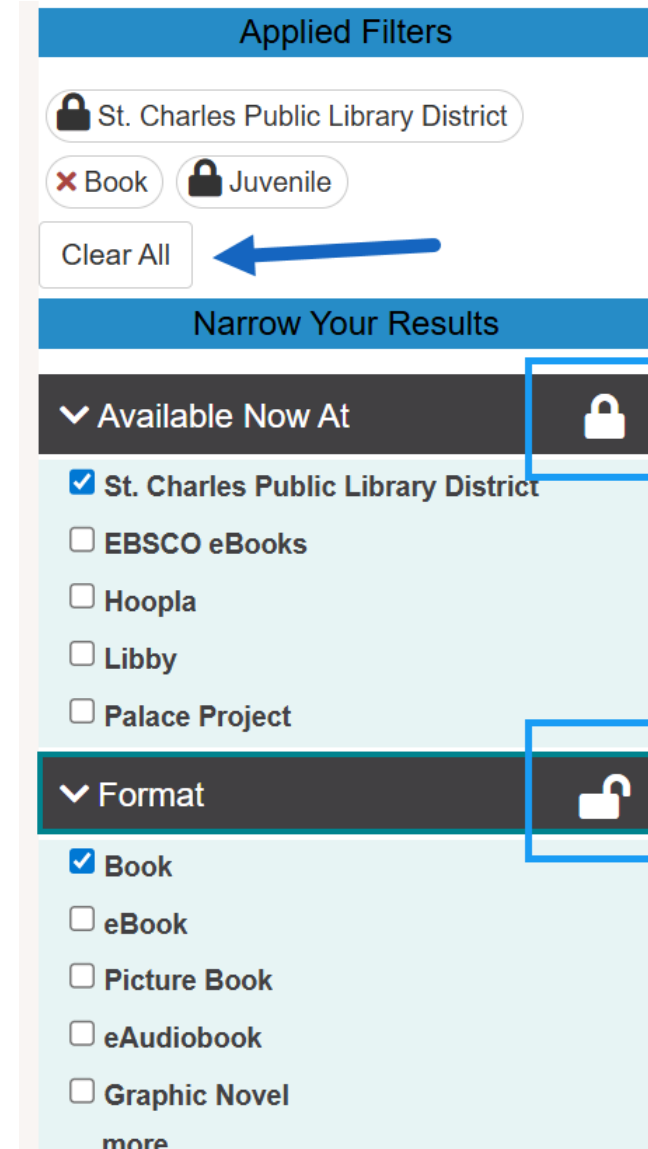
Apply filters based on your keyword search, like “video games for kids”

New Aspen Feature: Keyword filters



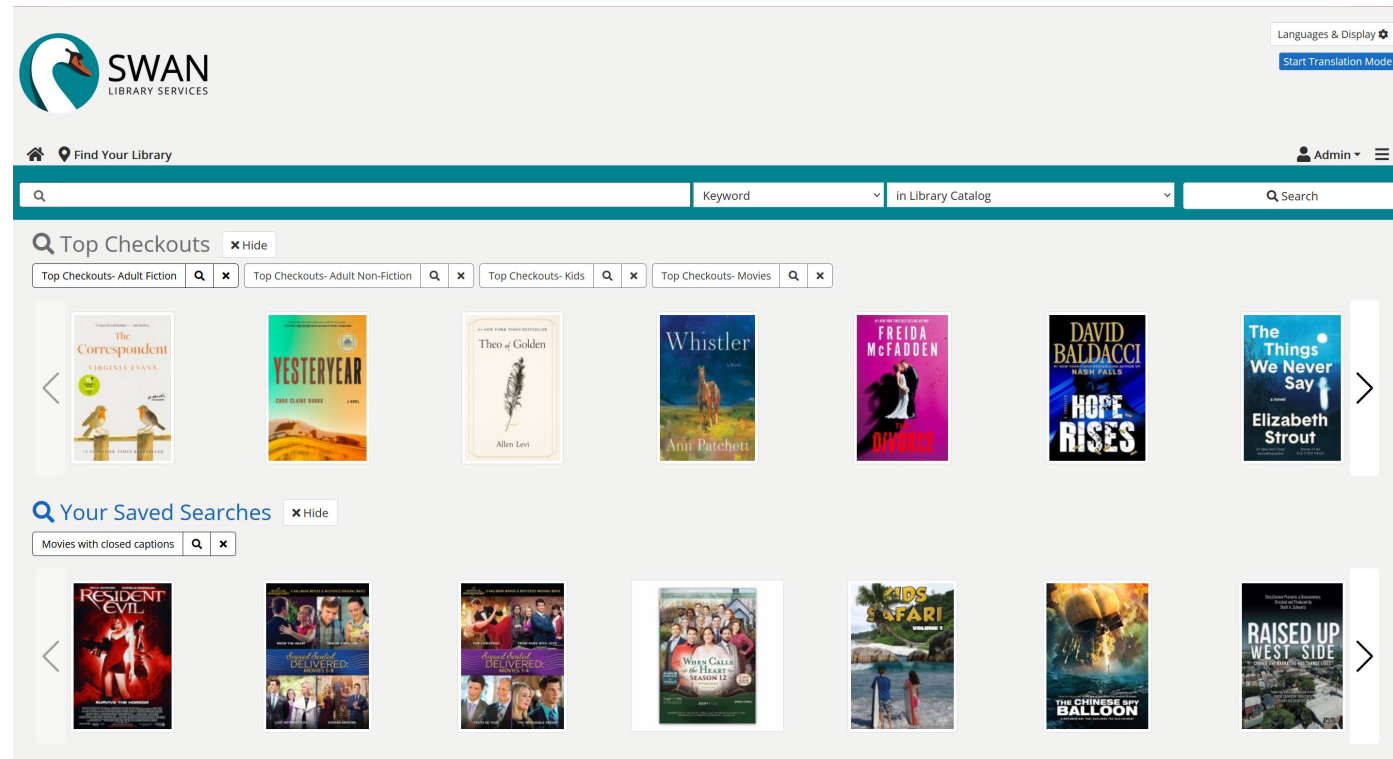
Save filters across searches.

New Aspen Feature: Locked filters



New Aspen Feature: Full-width theme

Update your theme to display nicely at large screen sizes – great for OPAC computers and display screens!



New Aspen Feature: Patrons can update phone numbers

Patrons can now update their phone numbers in My Account, which will also update in Symphony and WorkFlows

[Catalog Home](#) » [My Account](#) » [Contact Information](#)

Contact Information

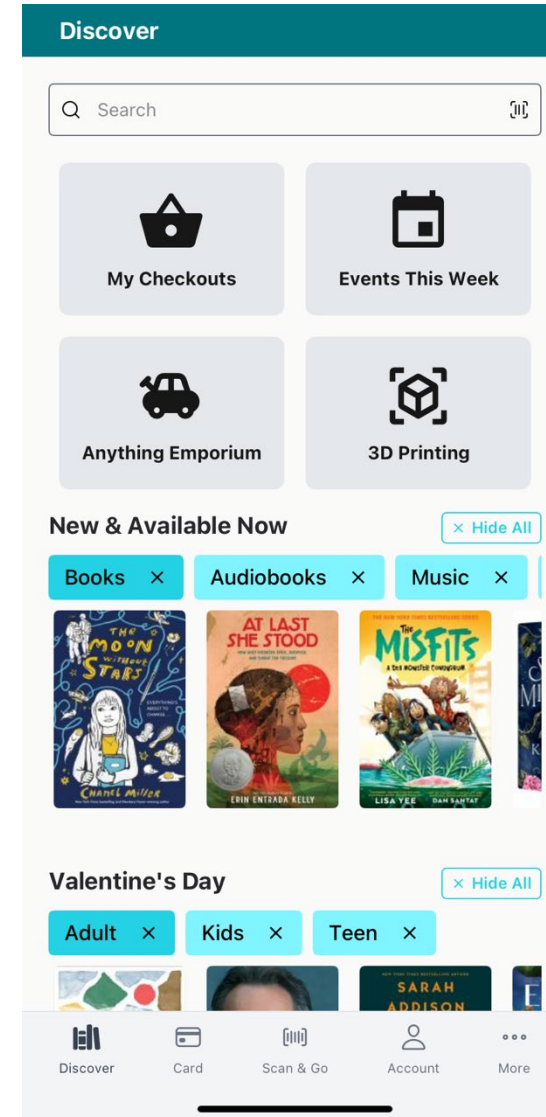
Want to receive text notifications? Update your [Text Message Settings](#).

Full Name	ASPENTEST, WALNUT
Expiration Date	
Preferred Name	Wally
Address	1313 MOCKINGBIRD LANE
City	TREE TOWN
State	IL
Zip	60588
Primary Phone Number	123-456-78 * Phone number must be exactly 10 digits.
Email	tara@swanlibraries.net

[Update Contact Information](#)

New in the app: Home screen links and display

- The browse categories got a new, more accessible design update.
- And you can now add custom links to your home screen to highlight your library's services.



Additional Aspen development highlights

Aspen Discovery

- Many improvements to series pages
- Improvements to holds logic
- Edition picker for non-fiction holds
- Improvements for language filters
- Ability to manage purchase suggestions by title
- Email customization for saved searches
- Palace Project integration
- Major API improvements for Hoopla integration
- New formats: Picture book, Big book
- Filters for lists
- List groups
- Additional record grouping tools for catalogers

Aspen LiDA

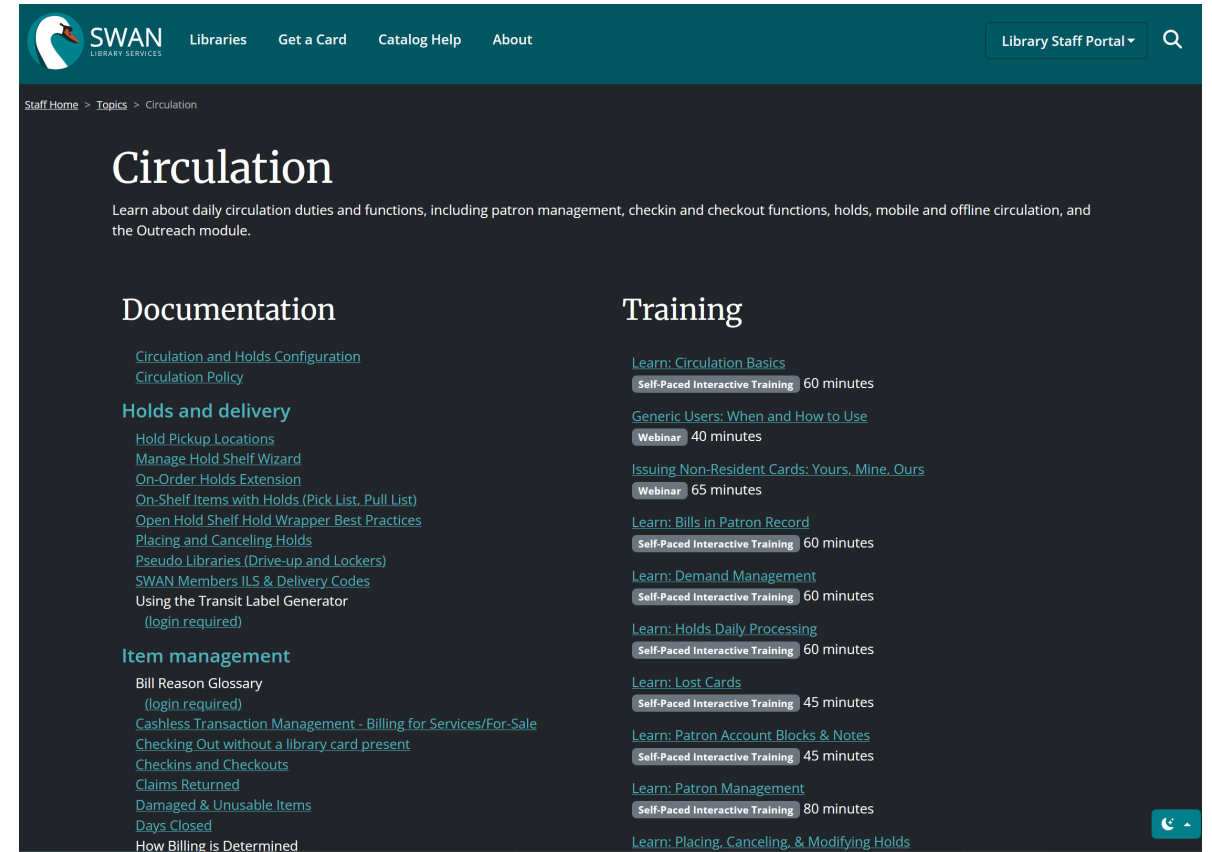
- Backend improvements to help speed and performance (more coming soon!)
- Saving barcode if you are logged out
- Updates for scan-and-go (self-check) to work with Symphony
- More descriptive error messages

See session “Making the Most of Purchase Suggestions in Aspen Discovery” 2:00 p.m.

New on the SWAN website: DARK MODE

We continue to work on improvements to our support site, including:

- Lots of documentation improvements, including a new tagging and organization system
- Dark mode and accessibility improvements
- Bot-handling, including a server migration and spam management tools



New on the SWAN website: Before You Buy

Before signing a contract for a new vendor or platform, use this checklist to ensure you'll be able to authenticate and successfully implement a new service

- Accessibility
- Authentication
- Integrations
- Vendor Access Policy
- Do you already own it or have a discount?

The screenshot shows the SWAN Library Services website. The header includes the SWAN logo, navigation links (Libraries, Get a Card, Catalog Help, About), a search icon, and a 'Library Staff Portal' dropdown. A breadcrumb trail reads: 'In this section > Staff Home > Topics > E-Resources > Before You Buy'. The main heading is 'Before You Buy'. Below it, a paragraph states: 'Before signing a contract for a new vendor or platform, use this checklist to ensure you'll be able to authenticate and successfully implement a new service.' Another paragraph follows: 'First, check if your platform is already supported - this can mean the implementation process will go more quickly. If a vendor is not on this list, your next step is to review the rest of this page and open a ticket with SWAN.' A light blue box contains the text 'Vendors currently working with SWAN' with a dropdown arrow. The 'Accessibility' section is highlighted. It starts with the question 'Is this platform accessible?' and explains that public libraries must comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). It lists two bullet points: 'Check the RAILS VPAT database' and 'Request a current VPAT (Voluntary Product Accessibility Template) or accessibility statement directly from the vendor'. It then states that when reviewing a VPAT, users should look for conformance with WCAG 2.1 AA. A note mentions that a VPAT alone does not guarantee compliance and that users should contact SWAN if unsure. It concludes by stating that accessibility should be revisited at each contract renewal. On the right, a 'On this page' sidebar lists: Accessibility (active), Authentication, Integrations, Vendor access policy, and a link to check for discounts. A small dark blue button with a sun icon is in the bottom right corner.

SWAN
LIBRARY SERVICES

Libraries Get a Card Catalog Help About

Library Staff Portal

In this section > Staff Home > Topics > E-Resources > Before You Buy

Before You Buy

Before signing a contract for a new vendor or platform, use this checklist to ensure you'll be able to authenticate and successfully implement a new service.

First, check if your platform is already supported - this can mean the implementation process will go more quickly. If a vendor is not on this list, your next step is to review the rest of this page and open a ticket with SWAN.

Vendors currently working with SWAN

Accessibility

Is this platform accessible?

Public libraries are required to comply with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Before signing any new contracts, ensure that the platform will meet accessibility standards and requirements.

- [Check the RAILS VPAT database](#)
- Request a current VPAT (Voluntary Product Accessibility Template) or accessibility statement directly from the vendor

When reviewing a VPAT, look for conformance with [WCAG 2.1 AA](#) (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines), the standard required for ADA compliance.

Keep in mind that a VPAT or statement alone does not guarantee compliance, but it is a good starting point. If you are unsure whether a platform meets requirements, contact SWAN before moving forward. RAILS also offers guidance and support through their [Digital Accessibility](#) page.

Accessibility should be revisited at each contract renewal, as platform updates can affect compliance over time.

On this page

- Accessibility
- Authentication
- Integrations
- Vendor access policy
- [Is there a discount or is this included in your SWAN membership](#)

Online Learning

4 Acquisitions Courses



TS400: What is Acquisitions?



TS401: Symphony Acquisitions Funds and Vendors

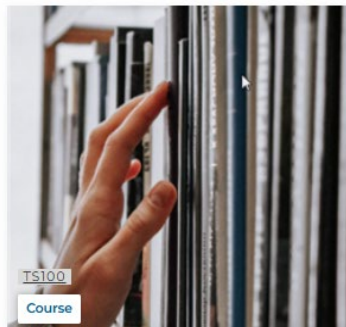


TS402: Creating and Sending Symphony Acquisitions Orders

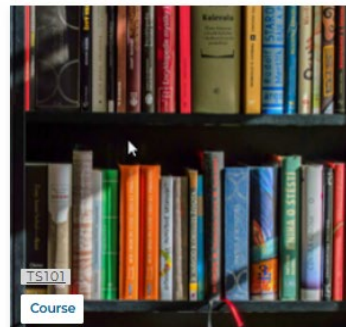
11 Technical Services Courses



TS080: Searching in Workflows



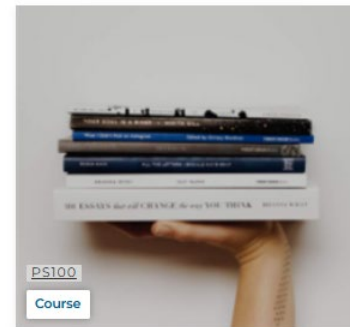
TS100: Adding Call Numbers and Items



TS101: Creating Pre-Cats

24
Courses

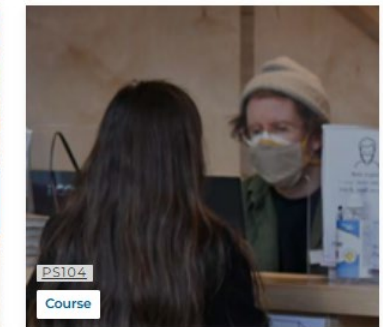
9 Patron Services Courses



PS100: Circulation Basics



PS101: Patron Management



PS104: Patron Account Blocks & Notes

Networking Groups

- Acquisition & Cataloging Networking
- Aspen Networking
- Circulation Networking
- Cataloging & Acquisitions Networking
- Book Club Networking
- E-resources Networking

Working Groups

- Cataloging Working Group
- Circulation Working Group
- Discovery & Usability Working Group

*Get
Involved!*



LIBRARY SERVICES

Stay informed and affect positive
change with Networking and
Working Groups.

SWAN Working Groups past year accomplishments: Cataloging Working Group



Genre headings standardization to meet new LC form eliminations and Aspen filtering capabilities



Non-English language materials standardization for better language filtering in Aspen



Established WhaZoodles cataloging guidelines



Testing of new 890s field for Library of Things and shared records



Refined local series practices



Collaboration with DUX for Aspen Search Interpreter configuration

SWAN Working Groups past year accomplishments: Circulation Working Group

- Mentor Program
- Choose the Fate of the Item- Use It or Lose It
 - April 29th, 2026—Done
 - **October 14th, 2026**

SWAN Discussion: Choose the Fate of the Item - Use It or Lose It

Wednesday, Oct 14, 2026 | 9:30 am - 11:30 am

[REGISTER](#)

45 seats left

About This Event

Learn how to become a wizard at using the Unusable and Damaged Users. Circulation Working presents an interactive workshop on how to best determine if an item is still usable or if it's time to lose it.

This is a one-time discussion, not a presentation or training event, and as such it will not be recorded.

DUX Working Group Accomplishments

2026 Project: Improving the My Account experience for patrons



Brainstormed new features and improvements



Prepared for the upcoming usability test in September 2026

Additional accomplishments

- With Cataloging Working Group, developed settings for keyword filters
- Made configuration decisions for: “Where is it?” copies display, Accelerated Reader values, filter displays

Working Group Accomplishments: E-Resource Working Group

EBSCO Explora Profile Development:

Identified and created four EBSCO Explora profiles tailored to the databases provided by the Illinois State Library, improving access and discoverability for library patrons.

Electronic Resource Usage Initiatives:

Currently developing strategies to increase electronic resource usage across member libraries, with the goal of maximizing the value and reach of existing digital collections.

Troubleshooting Documentation (*ongoing/standing item*):

Continuing to maintain and refine troubleshooting documentation to support consistent, efficient issue resolution across libraries.

New: Cataloging Library!

- We had 1 new library join: Warrentville!
 - 23 Cataloging Libraries Total
 - Cataloging libraries have more control over shared bibliographic database
 - If interested, see our Requirements for SWAN Cataloging Libraries
 - <https://support.swanlibraries.net/reference/64784/94930>



EXPO sessions

- SWAN staff
 - Discovery Disconnect: Auditing Your E-Resource Access and Fixing What's Broken
 - Making the Most of Purchase Suggestions in Aspen Discovery
 - Mindfulness: It's Good for Your Core!
- Roundtable discussions
 - Tracking Patron Payments at the Circulation Desk: What's Working at Your Library?
 - Technology & Your Library
 - More Than Checkouts: Expanding Community Reach Through Circulation Outreach
- Lobby
 - Library of Things
- Membership speakers
 - Beyond Books: Launching, Expanding, and Marketing a Successful Library of Things
 - How to Become an Illinois Approved Professional Development Provider
 - Preparing for Web Accessibility and Conducting a Manual Audit
 - The Watercooler Gang: Why Fun is Essential
 - Bringing Joy to Adult Seasonal Reading Programs
 - Building your Dream Team
 - It Takes a Village: Building a Collaborative Collection Committee
 - Pre-built Reports and How People Use Them
 - Modernize Your ILL: Streamlined Processes Using Spreadsheets and Reports
- Protecting Patrons' Data Privacy with Digital Vendors Q&A (Ballroom)
- Closing session: Our next year & SWAN Update

Your Keynote

Introduction to our Keynote:

Protecting Patrons' Data Privacy with Digital Vendors

Presented by Dorothea Salo

- The Information School
- College of Computing & Artificial Intelligence
- University of Wisconsin-Madison

