

Most Popular Library Books So Far This Year Kris Wiley for The News-Review

Roseburg Public Library patrons continue to be wild about national bestsellers, manga and digital materials.

Statistics through the first six months of the year showed patrons checked out nearly 36,000 physical items, roughly equal to last year's six-month total. They checked out almost 16,000 digital items, a 13 percent increase over the previous year.

Looking at our physical collection, the most checked out single title so far this year was "Resurrection Walk," the seventh book in the Lincoln Lawyer series by Michael Connelly, which circulated 25 times. "The Exchange: After the Firm" by John Grisham was next with 23 checkouts. "The Women," Kristin Hannah's latest blockbuster historical novel, "The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store" by James McBride and "The Four Winds" by Hannah rounded out the top five.

The most popular nonfiction book for adults was "Oath and Honor: A Memoir and a Warning" by Liz Cheney with 12 checkouts. Volumes of "The Umpqua Trapper" produced by the Douglas County Historical Society also checked out regularly.

When it comes to series, readers love manga, a type of graphic novel that originated in Japan. Most of our manga is shelved in the young adult area, although some junior and adult titles are available.

Manga series often publish dozens of volumes, which quickly add to our circulation statistics.

The most popular titles this year, all shelved in the teen section, were "My Hero Academia" with 78 checkouts, followed by "Attack on Titan" (77) and "Black Clover" (64).

Hot authors in the children's section included Mo Willems, whose Elephant & Piggie books are perennial favorites, and Dav Pilkey, who writes the Cat Kid Comic Club and Dog Man graphic novels. The Baby-Sitters Club graphic novels, adapted from the classic Ann M. Martin book series, also were popular with junior readers.

The second half of the year will feature a number of big titles. I look forward to "Tell Me Everything" by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Elizabeth Strout; "Here One Moment," by "Big Little Lies" author Liane Moriarty; "Entitlement," Rumaan Alam's follow-up to "Leave the World Behind"; and "Other Rivers: A Chinese Education," in which Peter Hessler compares his experiences as a teacher in China in the 1990s to those in 2019.

Youth should keep an eye out for "Simone," a picture book written by Pulitzer Prize winner Viet Thanh Nguyen and illustrated by Minnie Phan; "They Call Me No Sam!," a middle grade book from Drew Daywalt of "Crayons" picture book fame; and "Twenty-

Four Seconds from Now ... a LOVE Story," a teen book from the acclaimed Jason Reynolds.

Patrons can place purchase requests ahead of time on the library's online catalog at roseburg.biblionix.com. Log in with a valid Roseburg Public Library card, then click "My Account," "Reserves/Requests," and "Let us know."

Library staff reviews all requests, and if we purchase the title, we automatically place holds for patrons in the order their requests are received.

This Week's Library Events

Monday, June 24-Saturday, June 29, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - StoryWalk® at Fir Grove Park

Tuesday, June 25, 10 a.m. – Grab-and-go craft kits while supplies last

Tuesday, June 25, 1-2 p.m. – Children's program: The Quest for the Kakapo performed by Traveling Lantern Theater

Wednesday, June 26, 10:30 a.m. – Storytime at Stewart Park Pavilion

Thursday, June 27, 10:15 a.m. – Storytime at library

Thursday, June 27, 1-2:30 p.m. – Teen program: PS4 Crash Team Racing challenge

Thursday, June 27, 6:30 p.m. – Silent Book Group

Friday, June 28, 10:30-11:30 a.m. – Children's program at Stewart Park Pavilion: Talk About Trees with Paula Yablonski