

# 2022

## Year-In-Review

Visits, loans and usage across the National Library Board's (NLB) collections, programmes and exhibitions continue to grow towards pre-pandemic levels. In particular, there was a sharp increase in visitorship to NLB's libraries and archives in 2022 compared to 2021.

In addition, in 2022, NLB saw positive public responses to its initiatives rolled out under its LAB25 (Libraries and Archives Blueprint 2025), including the NLB nodes at offices, parks and malls, as well as more digital content through its various channels.

Here are some highlights from NLB in 2022:

### Our Patrons

61.7%

Overall Reach

8.3  
out of 10

Overall Customer  
Satisfaction

### Our Visitorship

16.5M  
visits

across our  
network of libraries,  
the National Archives  
of Singapore and the  
Former Ford Factory

Total  
visitorship  
grew by 5M from  
2021, despite Central  
Public Library and  
Marine Parade Public  
Library being closed  
for renovations  
during 2022.



1.05M  
visits

Jurong  
Regional Library

Most Visited  
Library

### Our Nodes

NLB's Nodes bring the  
whole library experience  
closer to you, beyond its  
physical walls through our  
content and services,  
wherever you are.

Across  
more than  
20  
Locations

More than  
1.62M

Visitors



### Our Usage

Digital  
Loans

13M  
grew by 0.5M  
from 2021



Overall  
Loans

38.6M  
grew by 0.7M from 2021

Physical  
Loans

25.6M  
grew by 0.2M  
from 2021



Digital  
Usage\*

82.7M  
grew by 2.1M from 2021

\*Number of pageviews to NLB's website and  
usage of subscribed e-Books and e-Databases

Average number of  
sessions to NLB Mobile  
app per month:

2.28M

### Our Programmes & Exhibitions

~18,000  
NLB Programmes



2.04M

Participants

grew by 0.62M  
from 2021

16  
NLB Exhibitions



# Top 3 of 2022



## PHYSICAL BOOKS

### Adults

- 1** The Almost Complete Collection of True Singapore Ghost Stories: Book 1  
*Russell Lee*
- 2** The Celestial Zone X.II (Chinese)  
*Huang Zhanming*
- 3** When Breath Becomes Air  
*Paul Kalanithi*

### Children

- 1** Plants vs. Zombies 2, Weapon Secrets: Ask and I Shall Answer (Chinese)  
*Xiao Jiang Nan*
- 2** Plants vs. Zombies 2, Dinosaur Comics (Chinese)  
*Xiao Jiang Nan*
- 3** Plants vs. Zombies 2, Jipin Hilarious Comic Strips 2 (Chinese)  
*Xiao Jiang Nan*



## E-BOOKS

### Adults

- 1** This is What Inequality Looks Like  
*Teo You Yenn*
- 2** It Ends with Us  
*Colleen Hoover*
- 3** The Spanish Love Deception  
*Elena Armas*

### Children

- 1** Cat Kid Comic Club Series, Book 1  
*Dav Pilkey*
- 2** Mothering Heights: Dog Man Series, Book 10  
*Dav Pilkey*
- 3** Perspectives: Cat Kid Comic Club Series, Book 2  
*Dav Pilkey*

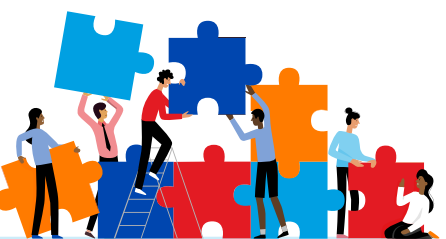


## AUDIOBOOKS

- 1** Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets: Harry Potter Series, Book 2  
*J.K. Rowling*
- 2** Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones  
*James Clear*
- 3** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Harry Potter Series, Book 4  
*J.K. Rowling*



**Did you know?**  
You can still use  
NLB's Audiobooks  
even when you  
are offline!



## PROGRAMMES

- 1** Read for Books



As part of the National Reading Movement, Read for Books is a charity book drive which aims to raise awareness and share the gift of reading with the less privileged. For every 10 people who read for 15 minutes, one book will be donated to selected beneficiaries.

- 2** Book Bugs: Rescuers of Stories Lost



This is the fourth iteration of a bug-themed collectible card game reading promotion, to encourage children aged 10 to 14 years old, to read in both English and Mother Tongue Languages. It also promotes local collections and partnerships, as well as supports family bonding and peer-to-peer interaction through the gameplay.

- 3** Curiosity



Started in 2022, Curiosity seasonal activations seek to promote the collections of National Library and National Archives through creative avenues, which allows you to discover, learn and engage with our island's history through our content and collections. More than 180,000 visitors and participants have been engaged through these Curiosity initiatives.



## EXHIBITIONS

- 1** Mapping the World: Perspectives from Asian Cartography

Showcasing rare historical maps, this exhibition brings together different mapping traditions and worldviews, political and cultural spheres of influence, and the exchange of cartographic knowledge between civilisations across the world.

- 2** Libraries Transforming: Our Journey from Past to Future

Since the opening of the first branch library in Queenstown in 1970, public libraries in Singapore have gone through a dramatic transformation. Journey with us from the past to present in this exciting exhibition.

- 3** Tamil Cholai

This exhibition features seminal Tamil literary works from the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the present, reflecting the unique concerns, outlook, and aspirations of the Tamil community in Singapore through the decades.



## E-LEARNING COURSES

- 1** 100 Days of Code: The Complete Python Pro Bootcamp for 2023
- 2** The Complete 2023 Web Development Bootcamp
- 3** The Complete Python Bootcamp From Zero to Hero in Python



**Did you know?**  
NLB was the first  
public library in  
Asia Pacific to  
provide Udemy  
Business.