



TO: MCLS Board of Trustees
FROM: Patricia Uttaro, Director
DATE: May 15, 2023
SUBJECT: Monthly Report–May 2023

Action Items

Approval of Proposed 2024 MCLS Budget (Harrison)

Enclosed is the Proposed 2023 MCLS Budget, which was distributed for review by the Finance Committee and MCLS Director's Council before the Board meeting. Below is a summary of expense changes:

1. Monroe County has offered a 2% inflationary increase in RPL Central public operations support from Monroe County from our request of 1.5% (\$195,800).
2. Minor computer maintenance increases are offset by the elimination of a third-party agreement for offsite backup support (-\$5,520).
3. Professional services decreases (-\$14,400) are from lower monthly digital transmission and internet costs from our last E-rate bid process.
4. Membership decreases (-\$21,500) the cyclical costs of a multi-year movie licensing subscription not recurring in 2024 as well as the move from an NYLA membership re-bill moving to individual member subscriptions.
5. Contract Services increases (\$30,300) reflect salary and benefit increases for RPL system services.
6. Note that capital finance expenses (Bonds) are maintained by the County. The 2024 debt service is estimated as revised from 2023, with principal and interest based on County guidance in fall 2023. This amount will increase in future budget cycles with the remaining MCLS fleet replacement debt service.
7. We also rely on County input for Vehicle Maintenance/Service estimates and for the single remaining retiree medical payment annually.

On the revenue side, we are projecting flat state aid in 2024 based on projected 2023 aid as adopted in the NYS budget. Contract Payments reflect a 1.5% inflationary increase in MCLS Cost Share payments less the NYLA member revenue collection. Miscellaneous grants are reduced also reflecting lower E-rate expense reimbursements.

Expense and Revenue summary along with a presentation as distributed will be reviewed at the meeting.

Board Action Requested: Approval of the Proposed 2024 MCLS Budget.

Update to 2023-24 Central Library Budget (Harrison)

Since the RPL Board approval of the Central Library budget in February, Monroe County offered a 2% increase in Public Service operating support versus the 1.5% increase requested. The NYS budget was passed with flat Library Aid as projected. With City approval of late fine forgiveness for City branches, we will close the projected Central Library budget gap with an increase in fund balance utilization (\$50,000).

Several City chargebacks for department services (motor equipment, phone charges) have increased, and we have increased the Facilities utility budget based on current billing. Note we do not have an actual cost of living increase for part-time CSEA staff as contract negotiations continue but have budgeted 3% in wage adjustments for next year. With the NYS minimum wage change, upstate areas are still \$15 for 2024 (consistent with our current wage), increasing to \$15.50 in 2025 and \$16.00 in 2026. We will work with City on planning as part of the FY25 budget.

The revised budget is \$11,466,300; we are distributing a revised expense and revenue summary, which reflects the changes described.

Board Actions Requested: Approval of the amended 2023-24 Central Library Budget.

Central Library Program Aid FY24 (Harrison)

As a reminder, this budget now reflects the consolidation of CLDA and CBA into the new Central Library Services Aid Program. Flexibility to expend these formula State Aid funds include adult nonfiction and foreign language library materials in multiple formats. The attached summary reflects expenditures across Central service divisions as reflected in the overall operating budget. Aid is flat per NYS Budget from 2022-23t.

Board Action Requested: Approval of NYSED Central Library Development Aid for the 2023-24 budget cycle.

Trustee Appointments (Shelly)

The MCLS Nominating Committee recommends reappointment to the board for a full five-year term: Christopher Corcoran. If approved, the name will be forwarded to the Monroe County Legislature for official appointment.

Board Actions Requested: Approval of the Nominating Committee's recommendation of Christopher Corcoran to be appointed by the Monroe County Legislature to the MCLS Board of Trustees for the term of July 1, 2023– June 30, 2028.

Election of Officers (Shelly)

The MCLS Nominating Committee puts forth the following slate of officers for the term of July 1, 2022– June 30, 2023:

- President: Christopher Corcoran
- Vice President: Emily Hessney Lynch

Board Action Requested: Approval of the proposed slate of officers for the term July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024.

Monroe County Library System Annual Report to New York State (Uttaro)

Each year, all library systems in New York State are required to submit an annual report to the Division of Library Development in the New York State Education Department. This data-filled report informs the DLD of current contact information for library trustees, frequency of meetings, finances, network specifics, and results of work on the system Plan of Service. Some highlights include:

Data Point	2022	2021
Professional development sessions offered by the system	62	53
Professional development session attendance	602	516
Interlibrary loan activity	7,705	8,135
Consulting contacts with member libraries	17,742	12,683

A copy of the report is included with your packet.

Board Action Requested: Approval of the 2022 MCLS Annual Report to NYSED.

Report & Discussion Items

MCLS Director Patricia Uttaro reporting

MCLS Library Visits – Director Uttaro’s tour of MCLS libraries continued this month, with visits to Ogden, Riga, Parma, Henrietta, Chili, and Pittsford. It has been wonderful to see how each library has rebounded from Covid and to hear about the creative ways staff are attracting patrons back to the libraries. The quality and variety of programming at our libraries are the best it’s ever been. Uttaro attended the “Say No To Book Bans” panel discussion at Henrietta recently, which was extremely well done and effective in addressing the current wave of book and program challenges happening in our libraries. The audience was very engaged and the panelists were very passionate about intellectual freedom and libraries. There simply was not enough time to answer all the questions! Uttaro is hoping that this topic is turned into a Hacker grant application to fund a full-day conference on intellectual freedom and book challenges.

MCLS One-System Team Update – The team has scheduled two staff development workshops on civil service for June. The staff of the Monroe County HR Office who specializes in Civil Service will provide a “Civil Service 101” presentation on June 9, followed by a panel discussion with MCLS staff on June 23. MCLS staff have submitted more than 25 questions related to navigating the civil service process which will be addressed in both presentations. The One-System Team also has a survey out to staff now asking for input on the types of activities they would like to see the team pursue. Currently, two team members are working with the remaining members of the RPL/MCLS Staff Association to revive that organization.

MCLS Member Libraries

Jennifer Smathers reporting

Brighton Memorial Library

BML Friends sponsored two author visits in April. Author Jerry Elman, a second-generation Holocaust survivor, discussed his book *Miracles Through Hell*. Paul A. Vick presented his whirlwind story of his family titled, *Where the Cotton Grows: A missionary calling leads a Baptist family on a fateful journey to China leaving a lasting legacy*.

Chili Public Library

The Chili Art Group's new exhibit of artwork in the Library's Reading Room opened on April 1 and continues through June 30. They also have a Spring Show and Sale in the Chili Community Center from April 28– April 30.



East Rochester Public Library

ERPL's reading nook under the stairs for our little patrons is completed and ready for use!!! Thank you to the ER DPW and especially, Joe!

Fairport Public Library

Tonies are now available for loan at the library. Tonies are figurines that come preloaded with music and stories for children. They work with a Toniebox, which the library currently does not have available for loan. Find our Tonies in the children's room near the video games. Learn more about Tonies at <https://tinyurl.com/y8rr96f9> or <https://tinyurl.com/37tjeibp>



Gates Public Library

On April 25, National Library Workers Day, we celebrated and recognized the incredible STARS who work at the Gates Public Library and all MCLS libraries. The library administration is thankful for their public service and dedication to making the Monroe County Library System exceptional.



Hamlin Public Library

The library celebration in advance of the May 6th Coronation was fascinating! Thanks to Chris Cravatta for displaying her hat collection and for sharing her artistic skills. The hats turned out beautifully, the scones and macarons were delicious, and the conversation was delightful. Each lady went home with a teacup and saucer to use on May 6 when the coronation of King Charles takes place.



Henrietta Public Library

Pictured here are some of the most banned books in America. Many of them are modern books that deal with topics like race and LGBTQ+ identities. On April 20th, the library hosted a live panel of local business owners, academic/public library staff members, and authors who discussed the topic of book banning at our Say No to Book Bans event. This event was sponsored in collaboration with [540WMain, Inc.](#) and [Writers & Books](#). [Hipocampo Children's Books](#).



Irondequoit Public Library

Spring break programs were well attended, and the new Seed Library's grand opening made quite the media splash.

<https://www.rochesterfirst.com/irondequoit/irondequoit-celebrates-grand-opening-of-seed-library>



Mendon Public Library

An April exhibit showcased the art of local artist Rachel Anna DeVona. This painting series has slowly been growing since 2021.

Traditionally, Rachel's paintings center around people and faces, but since getting up close and personal with life on the farm, her subject matter has shifted! The goal is to have a traveling barn art show, featuring 12 macro vegetables, flowers, fruits, weeds, and more.



Newman Riga Library

April 27th's pajama story time with Ms. Hannah was a success! It was great to be able to spend the evening reading "Diary of a Worm" and "Pete the Cat - Crayons Rock." Kids also got to spend a little time making some new art for the fridge.

Ogden Farmers' Library

Expert swordfighter Eva Sarachan-Dubay showed kids how to battle a dragon during the Sword Fight Saturday workshop. The swords were pool noodles, but the lessons were real!

Parma Public Library

The latest social media post in the "Amy Translation" series ("Amy" being Amy Hogue, Parma Director) garnered the following patron anecdote on Facebook, "I used to manage a bookstore and one late Saturday afternoon a young woman came dashing in looking for the book her dad wanted for Father's Day -- Warren Remembers! The actual title was War and Remembrance. Her heart was in the right place!"

Amy may not always have the recommended title exactly right, but we will get you there!

Penfield Public Library

The children's room furniture has been spruced up with new upholstery and vetted by our aquarium fish for good measure - after all, gotta ask the experts when it comes to coral reef decor. One lifelong patron, after bringing the whole family along to the library said on Facebook, "The library gives us so much joy. The people at Penfield Library are #1 in my book... ha, ha (see what I did)!!!"



Pittsford Community Library

As seen on Facebook, "Around this time last week, I was putting way too much pressure on myself to finish an unrealistic amount of projects in a single afternoon. So there was only one thing to do... visit the library for a chicken break! The [Pittsford Community Library](https://www.facebook.com/reel/1171139020228388) had a great event where you could learn all about raising chickens & meet some friendly silkies too. It was the perfect way to break up my afternoon!"

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1171139020228388>

Scottsville Free Library

Lyre, Lyre's musicians Roxanne Ziegler and John Gaspar played a series of Academy Award-winning movie themes on their harps. The wonderful music and lovely evening were made possible by the Friends of the Scottsville Free Library, much thanks!



Seymour Library

Seymour celebrated Earth Day early by making biodegradable ice cream cone seed starters. This sweet and simple craft is the beginning of our summer garden. A few extra biodegradable ice cream cone seed starter kits were packed up. Each bag contained the supplies to grow two cones at home. A few of the bags brought a bit of mystery to the project. When they start to sprout we will be able to tell what they are!



MCLS Office Updates

Jennifer Smathers reporting

Much of the month was dedicated to the preparation and promotion of two events, the dedication of the Technology Center in memory of John Lovenheim and the Goethe bust unveiling planned for May 5. Ms.

Smathers began onboarding Mike Ekiert for his duties as Shipping Supervisor. Truck Driver interviews and test drives concluded in April. The new driver, Dave Singleton is a current City of Rochester employee and is expected to start May 8. Ekiert and Smathers have designed an onboarding itinerary for Singleton.

After a brief explanation from Smathers, the Monroe County Planning Board passed a motion to amend the 2022 Capital Budget to Provide an Increase in Funding for the Monroe County Library System Fleet Replacement Project and Authorize an Interfund Transfer to cover the cost of purchasing box trucks for use by the MCLS shipping department.

Big Read

Alicia Gunther worked with staff from NTID/RIT to promote the NEA Big Read happening in April 2023, featuring the book *Deaf Republic* by Ilya Kaminsky. Gunther distributed copies of “Deaf Republic to member libraries that hosted programs. There were 273 checkouts of the eBook and Audiobook of *Deaf Republic* through OverDrive/Libby. On April 3 Gunther joined Dr. Jill Bradbury from NTID for an Interview about the Big Read on News 8.

2023–24 VIP Passes

During April, Alicia Gunther worked with partners for the MCLS VIP Pass program to collect needed information for the 2023-24 season. We anticipate 14 participating museums, theatres, and historical sites including the return of the RPO and GEVA Theatre. New partners include the Finger Lakes Boating Museum, Seward House, and Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum.

MCLS Rotating Collections (Mobile Maker Space, Mobile Labs, & Big Games)

Parts of the MCLS rotating collections went to 3 different member libraries.

Social Media

April 2023	RPL Twitter	MCLS Twitter	Facebook	Facebook Calendar	Facebook Groups	Instagram	YouTube
Profile/ Page Visits	396	331	841	-	-	129	-
New Followers/ Page Likes	1 (2,109)	0 (2,233)	35 (5,764)	-	22	50 (2,480)	20 (506)
Engagements	65	186	1,870	97	47	381	73
Check-In/ Mentions	31	29	-	-	-	7	-
Post Reach	2,617	5,772	1,2240	-	-	1,264	26,306
Video/Story Views	-	-	583	-	-	229	1,233

Constant Contact Newsletter

Central / RPL Newsletter (1 Sent)

- Subscribers who opened newsletter – 4,568
- Click through – 102

New subscribers – 7

OverDrive

- Total Checkouts- 82,0855
- Lucky Day Checkouts- 819

MCLS Director's Report – May 2023 (Continued)

- Simultaneous Use Checkouts- 8,698
- SORA Checkouts- 801
- Great Courses- 111

Catalog Statistics

New Titles added to CARL

Total = 2484

Towns = 1629

RPL = 855

(Central = 485)

(Branches = 370)

No Hit Email Requests

Total = 2388

Towns = 1771

RPL = 617

(Central = 217)

(Branches = 400)

Outreach Department, Amy Discenza reporting

In-Home Library Service

Outreach staff selected and distributed library materials to 18 in-home patrons and made one materials pickup. One new patron (City of Rochester) was added this month.

In-Home Materials Distribution:

- Home Deliveries: 15 patrons received a home delivery of physical library materials and/or Braille and Audio Reading Downloads (BARD)
- Braille and Audio Reading Download by Mail: 3 patrons received a cartridge loaded with digital audiobooks from the NYS Talking Book and Braille library by mail (each cartridge included 15-25 titles selected and downloaded by Outreach staff)
- Books by Mail: 0 patrons received physical library materials via USPS

Outreach staff mailed out 1 reference packet to in-home patrons.

Library Stations/Micro Collection Lending Service

Outreach staff selected, pulled, charged, and packed materials for 13 library stations—fulfilling special requests for 8 sites. There were no missed deliveries this month (Cycle Two).

Support Visit

Amy Discenza and Maren Kyle made a station support visit to Chapel Oaks, a senior apartment complex with 120 units in Irondequoit, associated with St. Ann's. Discenza and Kyle met with Activities Director Mindy Sawnor and Concierge Janice Wilkinson to review the site's micro-collection profile (preferred formats, quantities, genres, and authors) and discuss other collections and services available through the department, including the Memory Care Collection and the upcoming inclusion of Playaways. Outreach staff keep a profile for each library station served and use this information when selecting materials for their bimonthly deliveries and for making purchasing decisions in general. Micro-collection profiles should be revisited regularly to ensure the department is meeting the needs of current residents.

Corrections and Reentry Support

- Outreach staff continue to partner with the Educational Coordinator at the Monroe County Jail to distribute library marketing materials and reentry information at the downtown facility, and to support the Veteran's Unit with DVDs for programming.
- Outreach staff have developed a new partnership with the Monroe County Children's Detention Center and have begun to assemble a recreational reading and game library at the facility.

Reentry support at Monroe County Jail

Wes Becker and Kyle presented to a group from the Veteran's Unit at the Monroe County Jail about local library and reentry services. Becker kicked off the presentation with a rich and well-received discussion of reentry resources, beginning with steps one can take while still incarcerated—such as demonstrating evidence of rehabilitation, crafting a personal statement, and getting a copy of your RAP sheet—before working his way through a variety of educational, job training, and reentry programs, as well as legal and health-related resources available in our community that folks can take advantage of upon their release. Kyle followed with an engaging sampler of library services: discussing the abundance of libraries in Monroe County; how to get a library card or a fresh start; collections and services for job seekers and aspiring small business owners; valuable library partnerships and collaborations; digital library resources; untraditional library collections; free events; and more.

Outreach staff fulfilled 1 request for a "Making Moves" reentry resource packet from incarcerated individuals, Transitional Coordinators, and other justice-involved persons; the "Making Moves" webpage received 53 total pageviews.

Outreach Department Rolls Out New Collection

The Monroe County Library System Outreach Department has launched a new collection of life enrichment resources designed to benefit community members living with Alzheimer's and related dementias (ADRDs) and their care partners.

The [Memory Care Collection](#), which was developed with Harold Hacker Advancement of Libraries Grant funds provided by the Friends and Foundation of Rochester Public Library, features [companion dolls and pets](#); [fidget and sensory activities](#); [games and puzzles](#); and [reminiscence and conversation starters](#). Go ahead and place a hold on an item to have it sent to the Monroe County library of your choice for pickup.

To evaluate the collection, Outreach Department staff are tracking circulation numbers through CARL.X ILS and soliciting user feedback via a survey. Each circulating item contains a half-sheet advertisement promoting the "[60-Second Survey](#)" with a QR code linking to the survey itself.

To date, marketing efforts have included an announcement on the MCLS listserv; distribution of the flyer (displayed on the left) to Monroe County Libraries, Lifespan, and 30 programs and facilities across the county that support people with ADRDs and/or their care partners; posts on the library's social media pages; and a feature in the Friends and Foundation of Rochester Public Library's newsletter.

In addition to the Friends and Foundation of Rochester Public Library, the Outreach Department would like to extend our thanks to Dee Mrak and Margaret Paige from the MCLS Cataloging Department—who spent a lot of time and energy writing original catalog records; Corrine Clar for designing wonderful marketing materials for the collection; and Mary Royce from LAS for creating a Memory Care Collection webpage.



Central Library Updates

Associate Director Jennifer Smathers reporting

Arts/Literature, Nanci Nugent reporting

Programs

- Famous Artists Who Were Creative with Physical Challenges: Joyce Raimondo led this discussion, highlighting Lee Krasner and other famous artists such as Henri Matisse, Frida Kahlo, Edgar Degas, Chuck Close, and others whose physical challenges sparked creativity and innovative adaptive processes leading to the creation of masterpieces. Matisse worked from his bed when he became bedridden; Krasner switched to her left hand after breaking her right; Degas used his failing eyesight in his right eye to create new work using more vibrant colors that he could see. Patrons were very moved by this class as some have disabilities.

Some comments, *"I learned that some artists were so committed to their art that they made it possible even in what appeared to be."* *"I became disabled when I was 40 years of age. No one gives you a handbook or brochure on how to move forward with life. You are on your own. It is isolating, lonely and overwhelming grief of the life you had. No one to reach out with the same struggles. Art was my salvation. This program has empowered me! Thank you!"*

- Writing Science Fiction: Science Fiction writer Edward Ashton taught a class on Writing Science Fiction His book, Mickey 7, has been made into a major motion picture to be released in 2024. The class covered both the craft and business of writing science fiction. Those attending particularly enjoyed hearing his stories of being on the movie set in London and how the famous director, Bong Joo-ho, took a prop from the set and secretly gave it to him, as a 'souvenir'. One of the attendees had this to say: "The presenter was very engaging, giving lots of personal anecdotes about working in the book industry and working on the set of a movie. I had a great time."
- Beyond Sound: Sign Language Poetry & Wordplay: In connection with the Big Read and NTID, deaf poet Eric Epstein presented a workshop on translating poetry, rhyming, and creating poetry using ASL in the Kate Gleason Auditorium. The workshop was designed for people with no ASL experience and is the result of over 5 years of work on Epstein's part. He was very excited to premier this workshop as he plans to present it across the country.

Patrons raved about the workshop and commented *"How exciting it was to discover this whole new world of deaf poetry and were just enthralled with Eric's presentation!"*

Another commented that it was a *"Beautifully explained introduction to sign language, how it is used in poetry, and the differences (and actually, the advantages of ASL which can compress meaning which is the object of poetry!) with English poetry."*

Business Insight Center (BIC), Jennifer Byrnes reporting

Programs

Business First Wednesday: Become the Marketing Expert for Your Business with Suzanne Rodriguez of My Brand Framework. Cannabis Industry MeetUp: Lighting for greenhouses with Dr. Jason Matlock of Fluence.

Meetings

Jennifer Byrnes met with the following people to discuss cannabis workforce development: Martha McDermott of the Bronx Business Tech Incubator; Maureen McNamara of Cannabis Trainers, creators of the Responsible Vendor Training program; Amanda Kernan of Green Flower; and Dave Serrano of the Cannabis Workforce Initiative, a partnership between the Workforce Development Institute and Cornell University.

Outreach

Jennifer met with the new cohort of businesses for the MARL accelerator (mobility, augmented reality, robotics, and logistics). MARL is based in Silicon Valley and participants are from all over the world.

Consulting

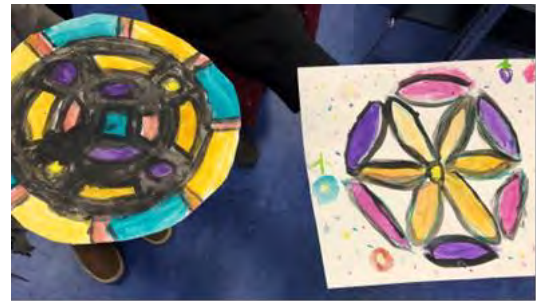
- Carlson Center Webpage views: 19
- 3D Printer: 21
- Hours of in-depth market research / prior art searching: 28
- Requests Outside Greater Rochester Area: 10

Database Usage – March Statistics

- Frost & Sullivan: Page views: 20 Value: \$73,000
- IBISWorld: Page views: 141 Value: \$59,750
- InnovationQ: Logins: 7 Searches: 106
- PitchBook: Logins: 18
- Statista: Searches: 56 Downloads: 58

Children's Center, Tonia Burton reporting

- Miranda Hazen had two Try-it Friday programs. During the April break, they did watercolor painting with the help of Wendy Saxena from Chili, then they made colorful rubber band bracelets.
- Naturalists from the Seneca Park Zoo offered two outdoor programs for families, describing how plants and animals adapt to urban environments. These programs coincided with Citizen Science Month and the nationwide City Nature Challenge. The children's center also debuted citizen science kits, which contain materials for families to collect data and report it to scientists. On a local homeschool Facebook page, a parent commented *"We really enjoyed this program earlier in the month, and the citizen science kits available at the library are great!"*



Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Tonia Burton worked with New York Association for the Education of Young Children Rochester Chapter and Child Care sites on Month of the Young Child Activities which kicked off at Central with a provider self-care event and viewing of the Children's Film Festival Selections. Burton also helped distribute children's artwork from childcare sites to Central, Brighton, Douglass, Gates, Irondequoit, and, Sully Libraries.
- Burton was joined by Manju Sharma from Lyell Library at the Rochester City School District Summer Expo. The Expo brought together providers of summer activities in one place for families to learn about all the options for their children.
- Burton attended a QUALITYStarsny provider informational session to share information about Talking is Teaching, library summer programs, summer reading, and professional development the library can offer staff. QUALITYstarsNY is New York State's Quality Rating and Improvement System for early childhood programs, they provide support and training for home and center-based childcare.

Circulation/Information, Chad Cunningham reporting

Statistics

Curbside Pickup Appointments-2

New Borrowers-167

RRLC Access Cards Issued-2

Notarial Acts- 169

Anecdotes/Other

- Cunningham had a delightful interaction with a patron who was placing a hold on a Mi-Fi unit. She usually gets her Mi-Fi units from Webster, but she forgot to place a hold and wondered how to get a unit quickly. Cunningham explained how the holds queue works and told her she would probably have one available at Central the next day if he placed a hold for her. She had many good questions about how holds work and they talked for a good ten minutes before Cunningham placed the hold. Sure enough, there was a Mi-Fi on the hold shelf for her less than 24 hours later.
- Tax season is now over, and CASH is done for the season. Over the last couple of months, Circulation and Information staff have set up 60 people with appointments to get their taxes done and have printed tax documents for about 350 people. Cunningham and Cynthia Dana attended CASH's annual review and will be meeting with CASH representatives in May to discuss future collaboration.

Local History & Genealogy, Christine L. Ridarsky reporting

Programs – Priority #1: Education and Engagement

- Rochester & the Mid-Sized American City in the 21st Century: A Conference and Conversation was presented in partnership with the Rochester Institute of Technology's College of Liberal Arts and Department of History. The event reopened a conversation begun 21 years before when then-Mayor William A. Johnson, Jr. convened the Rochester Conversation on Mid-Sized Cities. Mayors, academics, urban

policy experts, and others gathered to discuss the challenges that were facing the urban centers that occupied the poorly understood middle ground between towns and metropolises. The event also marked the launch of the publishing partnership between the library, RIT's History Department, and RIT Press to re-envision the *Rochester History* journal. Highlights of the conference included a plenary panel discussion, Influence of the Past: How History Informs Journalism, Elected Office, and Non-Profit Leadership in a Mid-Sized City, and a conversation between Mayor Malik Evans and former Mayor Johnson. Plenary panelists included Simeon Banister (President & CEO, Rochester Area Community Foundation), Mitch Gruber (City Council), Justin Murphy (Reporter, *Democrat & Chronicle*), Jackie Ortiz (Commissioner, Monroe County Board of Elections), and Yversha Roman (Monroe County Legislator).

- The April installment of *Rochester's Rich History* featured a talk by Megan Klem on "Rochester's Jewish Landmarks: Exploring Rochester's Jewish History Through the Built Environment." The program was held in person in Kusler-Cox Auditorium and simultaneously live-streamed via the library's YouTube channel. A recording is available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/OYH2i9SCUL4>.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Christine Ridarsky was a guest on WXXI's Connections with Evan Dawson with former Mayor William A. Johnson Jr., RIT History Professor Michael Brown, and *Democrat & Chronicle* reporter Justin Murphy to discuss the Rochester & the Mid-Sized American City in the 21st Century conference (see above). Registration for the conference increased substantially after the program aired.
- Mario Castillo and Brandon Fess provided information about the origin of Genesee Valley Park Golf Course upon request of the Monroe County Superintendent of Parks and Golf Courses, Greg Klem. The request was related to the upcoming PGA event in Rochester and a possible CBS piece on the public golf facility. Klem was very pleased with the information Castillo and Fess provided.
- Ridarsky and Michelle Finn led a Heritage Trail walking tour for 20 French high school exchange students and their teachers. The students were hosted by Allendale Columbia School.
- Emily Morry led a walking tour, "Washington Square: Dedication, Innovation, and Reinvention in a Mid-Sized City Neighborhood," in conjunction with the Mid-Sized City conference. Dan Cody assisted.
- The division hosted seven sessions of the Historic Youth Ambassador Leadership Program this month in partnership with Jacqueline Sprague. The students in the program are researching local Black community leaders and organizations along with their personal family histories. The program will culminate with the students conducting oral history interviews with local elders.
- Ridarsky attended a meeting at which the Rochester Historical Society and the Landmark Society provided an update to representatives from the Board of Regents, Office of New York State History, the City of Rochester, Rochester Area Community Foundation, and other stakeholders about its progress toward a long-range plan to preserve the Historical Society's collections. The consultant who was hired to assess the collection completed an assessment of the space in which the RHS is currently housed and made numerous recommendations that, if adopted, would allow the collection to remain in the space until a permanent home can be identified. The rest of the consultant's assessment (of the collection itself) is expected to be completed in May.
- Ridarsky met with Kristin Leary, one of the organizers of international #DouglassWeek to discuss this year's event, which will be held in Rochester July 10-16. Each year, the event occurs in and highlights a different

community with which Douglass had connections. For information, visit <https://douglassweek.org/>. Libraries and other organizations that are sponsoring Douglass-related events that week can list them on the site.

- Ridarsky met with Lentory Johnson, founder of Generational Engagement Matters and sponsor of an annual anti-gun violence student essay contest for grades 4-12, and Ralph Carter, a member of Third Presbyterian Church's Anti-Racism Committee. Johnson would like to document youths' experiences with gun violence for the historical record and wanted to understand what resources the library has that could help. Her son, Johnny Johnson, died in the 2015 mass shooting at the Boys & Girls Club on Genesee Street.

Special Collections

- The Community Advisory Board for the Archive of Black History & Culture met once this month. The board is currently drafting mission and vision statements for the Archive and reviewing the resources list produced by the Rochester Regional Library Council. The board is still collecting community surveys to gather input on the topics and materials that people want to see included in the Archive. The survey will be open through the end of May and can be found here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-LnuN5qq7EiuTRMeq9uQO3dt2HwVPVFydW37ELEuD-7Kxdw/viewform>.
- April saw the completion of a true odyssey of the acquisition of a special collection. In July 2022, a photograph showing Eleanor Roosevelt meeting with local African American leaders during her husband's 1944 presidential campaign was mailed to the division. Unfortunately, the potential donor did not provide contact information and Fess had to track him down using the return address on the envelope, which was for a nursing home in California. Fess called the nursing home, left a message for the potential donor (Mr. Persche), and waited for a response. After three weeks, he heard from Mr. Persche, who explained that the photo came from the collection of Democratic party leader Tom Thayer, who Persche knew when both lived in Chatham, New York. Fess sent Persche a deed of gift for the photo in September of 2022; the reply took months. The acquisition was finally completed this month. While certainly an extreme example, a high level of persistence is frequently necessary when carrying out special collections work.

Digital Projects

- The division contributes digitized content to a handful of online platforms, increasing discoverability and access to these materials. In April, there were 435 page views of division content available through *New York State Historic Newspapers* (<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/>); 812 page views of content available through *New York Heritage* (<https://nyheritage.org/>); and 1,377 page views of content available through the library's *Rochester Voices* site (<http://www.rochestervoices.org/>).
- The FamilySearch volunteer scanning team digitized 136 books this month and scanned 877 pages of reshoots from various City and Suburban directories that were produced to fill gaps identified in previously scanned volumes of these series. See below for details. Digital products from this project are starting to become available through the FamilySearch site (<https://www.familysearch.org/en/>); 32 items were added to the site in March, with three views of RPL items. (Note: The FamilySearch reports on materials uploaded and the number of views come out a couple of weeks after the division's monthly report is due. April's numbers will be included in next month's report.)

Materials scanned by FamilySearch, April 2023:

Title	Volume	Author	Pages	Call No.	Publisher and Place	Publication Date
Senior Annual	1928	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	104	Rr373R676jo 1928	Du Bois Press, Rochester, New York	1928
Senior Annual	1927	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	100	Rr373R676jo 1927	George P. Burns Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1927
John Quill	1931	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	92	Rqr373R676jo Jun1931	George P. Burns Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1931
John Quill	1932Jan	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	68	Rr373R676jo Jan1932	George P. Burns Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1932
John Quill	1932Jun	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	52	Rr373R676jo Jun1932	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1932
John Quill	1933Jan	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	40	Rqr373R676jo Jan1933	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1933
John Quill	1933Jun	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	52	Rrq373R676jo Jun1933	George P. Burns Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1933
John Quill	1934Jan	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	68	Rqr373R676jo Jan1934	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1934
John Quill	1938	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	87	Rr373R676jo 1938	Du Bois Press, Rochester, New York	1938
John Quill	1939	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	90	Rrq373R676jo 1939	George P. Burns Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1939
John Quill	1940	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	90	Rrq373R676jo 1940	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1940
John Quill	1941	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	105	Rrq373R676jo 1941	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1941
John Quill	1942	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	101	Rrq373R676jo 1942	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1942
John Quill	1943	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	85	Rqr373R676jo 1943	John Marshall High School. Rochester, New York	1943
John Quill	1944	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	86	Rrq373R676jo 1944	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1944
John Quill	1945	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	91	Rqr373R676jo 1945	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1945
John Quill	1946	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	89	Rqr373R676jo 1946	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1946
John Quill	1947	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	98	Rrq373R676jo 1947	John Marshall High School. Rochester, New York	1947
John Quill	1948	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	107	Rqr373R676jo 1948	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1948

MCLS Director's Report – May 2023 (Continued)

Title	Volume	Author	Pages	Call No.	Publisher and Place	Publication Date
John Quill	1949	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	109	Rrq373R676jo 1949	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1949
John Quill	1950	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	109	Rrq373R676jo 1950	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1950
John Quill	1951	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	108	Rqr373R676jo 1951	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1951
John Quill	1952	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	116	Rqr373R676jo 1952	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1952
John Quill	1953	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	126	Rqr373R676jo 1953	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1953
John Quill	1954	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	130	Rqr373R676jo 1954	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1954
John Quill	1955	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	143	Rqr373R676jo 1955	John Marshall High School. Rochester, New York	1955
John Quill	1956	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	143	Rqr373R676jo 1956	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1956
John Quill	1957	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	152	Rqr373R676jo 1957	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1957
John Quill	1958	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	155	Rrq373R676jo 1958	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1958
John Quill	1959	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	163	Rqr373R676jo 1959	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1959
John Quill	1960	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	179	Rqr373R676jo 1960	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1960
John Quill	1961	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	131	Rqr373R676jo 1961	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1961
John Quill	1962	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	130	Rr373R676jo 1962	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1962
John Quill	1963	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	122	Rqr373R676jo 1963	Du Bois Press, Inc., Rochester, New York	1963
John Quill	1964	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	165	Rr373R676jo 1964	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1964
John Quill	1965	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	169	Rqr373R676jo 1965	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1965
John Quill	1966	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	166	Rqr373R676jo 1966	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1966

MCLS Director's Report – May 2023 (Continued)

Title	Volume	Author	Pages	Call No.	Publisher and Place	Publication Date
John Quill	1967	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	164	Rqr373R676jo 1967	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1967
John Quill	1968	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	160	Rqr373R676jo 1968	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1968
John Quill	1969	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	163	Rqr373R676jo 1969	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1969
John Quill	1970	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	162	Rqr373R676jo 1970	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1970
John Quill	1971	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	162	Rqr373R676jo 1971	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1971
Koinonia	1972	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	165	Rqr373R676jo 1972	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1972
John Quill	1973	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	167	Rqr373R676jo 1973	Western Yearbook	1973
John Quill	1974	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	159	Rr373R676jo 1974	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1974
John Quill	1975	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	161	Rr373R676jo 1975	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1975
John Quill	1976	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	185	Rr373R676jo 1976	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1976
John Quill	1977	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	171	Rqr373R676jo 1977	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1977
John Quill	1979	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	184	Rr373R676jo 1979	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1979
John Quill	1980	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	156	Rqr373R676jo 1980	American Yearbook Company, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1980
John Quill	1981	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	156	Rqr373R676jo 1981	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1981
John Quill	1983	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	156	Rr373R676jo 1983	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1983

MCLS Director's Report – May 2023 (Continued)

Title	Volume	Author	Pages	Call No.	Publisher and Place	Publication Date
John Quill	1990	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	136	Rr373R676jo 1990	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1990
John Quill	1991	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	72	Rr373R676jo 1991	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1991
John Quill	1992	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	112	Rr373R676jo 1992	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1992
John Quill	1993	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	125	Rr373R676jo 1993	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1993
John Quill	1994	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	112	Rr373R676jo 1994	Knack & Richards, Inc., Williamsville, New York	1994
John Quill	1995	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	73	Rrq373R676jo 1995	Knack & Richards, Inc., Williamsville, New York	1995
John Quill	1996	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	105	Rr373R676jo 1996	Herff Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana	1996
John Quill	1997	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	105	Rr373R676jo 1997	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1997
John Quill	1998	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	107	Rr373R676jo 1998	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1998
John Quill	1999	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	104	Rr373R676jo 1999	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	1999
John Quill	2000	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	104	Rr373676jo 2000	John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York	2000
John Marshall High School	2001	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	81	Rr373R676jo 2001	Herff Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana	2001
John Marshall High School	2002	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	81	Rr373R676jo 2002	Herff Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana	2002
John Marshall High School	2012	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	97	Rr373R676jo 2012	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	2012
Monroe High School	2009	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	105	Rr373R676m 2009	Life Touch Yearbooks,	2009
The Kodak Lens	1922	Kodak High School, Rochester, NY	55	Rr373.7478K76k 1922	Kodak High School	1922
Polaris	1930	John Marshall High School, Rochester, NY	108	Rr373R676jop 1930	The Dubois Press, Rochester, NY	1930
The Kodak Lens	1923	Kodak High School, Rochester, NY	56	Rr373.7478K76k 1923	Rochester Alliance Press, Inc Rochester, NY	1923
The Senior Annual June	1924	Kodak High School, Rochester, NY	56	Rr373.7478K76k 1924	Kodak High School	1924

MCLS Director's Report – May 2023 (Continued)

Title	Volume	Author	Pages	Call No.	Publisher and Place	Publication Date
The Senior Annual June	1925	Kodak High School, Rochester, NY	76	Rr373.7478K76k 1925	Kodak High School	1925
The Senior Annual June	1926	Kodak High School, Rochester, NY	76	Rr373.7478K76k 1926	Kodak High School	1926
Monrolog	1927	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	91	Rqr373R676m 1927	The Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1927
Monrolog	1928	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	116	Rr373R676m 1928	The Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1928
Monrolog	1929	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	104	Rqr373R676m 1929	The Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1929
Monrolog	1930	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	112	Rqr373R676m 1930	The Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1930
Monrolog	1933	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	104	Rqr373R676m 1933	The Leo Hart Co., Rochester, NY	1933
Monrolog	1934	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	96	Rqr373R676m 1934	The Leo Hart Co., Rochester, NY	1934
Monrolog	1935	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	105	Rqr373R676m 1935	The Leo Hart Co., Rochester, NY	1935
Monrolog	1936	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	80	Rqr373R676m 1936	The Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1936
Monrolog	1937	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	80	Rqr373R676m 1937	The Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1937
Monrolog	1939	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	104	Rqr373R676m 1939	Litho by the Colony Press, Rochester, NY	1939
Monrolog	1940	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	96	Rqr373R676m 1940	Unknown	1940
Monrolog	1941	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	84	Rqr373R676m 1941	The Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1941
Monrolog	1942	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	85	Rqr373R676m 1942	unknown	1942
Monrolog	1943	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	86	Rr373R676m 1943	unknown	1943
Monrolog	1945	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	76	Rqr373R676m 1945	Wm J. Keller Co., Buffalo, NY	1945
Monrolog	1946	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	84	Rr373R676m 1946	Kings Craft, Kingsport, TN	1946
Monrolog	1947	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	85	Rr373R676m 1947	Craftco, Chicago, IL	1947

MCLS Director's Report – May 2023 (Continued)

Title	Volume	Author	Pages	Call No.	Publisher and Place	Publication Date
Monrolog	1949	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	76	Rr373R676m 1949	The Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1949
Monrolog	1950	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	77	Rqr373R676m 1950	Durand, Chicago, IL	1950
Monrolog	1951	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	78	Rqr373R676m 1951	The Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1951
Monrolog	1952	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	84	Rqr373R676m 1952	Unknown	1952
Monrolog	1953	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	96	Rqr373R676m 1953	Unknown	1953
Monrolog	1954	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	104	Rqr373R676m 1954	DuBois Press, Rochester, NY	1954
Monrolog	1955	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	112	Rqr373R676m 1955	DuBois Press, Rochester, NY	1955
Monrolog	1957	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	103	Rr373R676m 1957	Unknown	1957
Monrolog	1958	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	124	Rqr373R676m 1958	Unknown	1958
Monrolog	1959	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	128	Rqr373R676m 1959	Unknown	1959
Monrolog	1960	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	159	Rqr373R676m 1960	Unknown	1960
Monrolog	1961	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	174	Rqr373R676m 1961	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1961
Monrolog	1956	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	113	Rr373R676m 1956	Unknown	1956
Monrolog	1962	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	167	Rqr373R676m 1962	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1962
Monrolog	1963	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	165	Rqr373R676m 1963	Unknown	1963
Monrolog	1964	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	172	Rqr373R676m 1964	DuBois Press, Rochester, NY	1964
Monrolog	1965	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	187	Rqr373R676m 1965	DuBois Press, Rochester, NY	1965
Monrolog	1966	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	196	Rqr373R676m 1966	DuBois Press, Rochester, NY	1966
Monrolog	1967	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	199	Rr373R676m 1967	Unknown	1967

MCLS Director's Report – May 2023 (Continued)

Title	Volume	Author	Pages	Call No.	Publisher and Place	Publication Date
Monrolog	1968	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	216	Rqr373R676m 1968	Unknown	1968
Monrolog	1969	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	231	Rqr373R676m 1969	American Yearbook Company Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1969
Monrolog	1974	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	150	Rr373R676m 1974	American Yearbook Company Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1974
Monrolog	1978	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	111	Rqr373R676m 1978	American Yearbook Company Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota	1978
Monrolog	1982	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	126	Rr373R676m 1982	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1982
Monrolog	1983	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	124	Rr373R676m 1983	Unknown	1983
Monrolog	1984	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	134	Rr373R676m 1984	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1984
Monrolog	1987	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	134	Rqr373R676m 1987	Unknown	1987
Monrolog	1988	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	134	Rqr373R676m 1988	Taylor Publishing Company, Dallas, Texas	1988
Monrolog	2008	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	72	Rr373R676m 2008	Unknown	2008
Monrolog	2010	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	100	Rr373R676m 2010	Life Touch Yearbooks, Eden Prairie, Minnesota	2010
Monrolog	1982	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	126	Rr373R676m 1982	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1982
Monrolog	1983	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	124	Rr373R676m 1983	Unknown	1983
Monrolog	1984	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	134	Rr373R676m 1984	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1984
Monrolog	1987	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	134	Rqr373R676m 1987	Unknown	1987
Monrolog	1988	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	134	Rqr373R676m 1988	Taylor Publishing Company, Dallas, Texas	1988
Monrolog	2008	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	72	Rr373R676m 2008	Unknown	2008
Monrolog	2010	Monroe High School, Rochester, NY	100	Rr373R676m 2010	Life Touch Yearbooks, Eden Prairie, Minnesota	2010

Title	Volume	Author	Pages	Call No.	Publisher and Place	Publication Date
The Madigraph	1925 Jun	Madison Junior-Senior High School, Rochester, NY	36	Rr373R676mad June 1925	Unknown	1925
The Madisonian	1934	Madison Junior-Senior High School, Rochester, NY	84	Rr373R676ma 1934	Unknown	1934
The Madisonian	1936	Madison High School, Rochester, NY	68	Rr373R676ma 1936	Unknown	1936
The Madisonian	1937	Madison High School, Rochester, NY	68	Rr373R676ma 1937	DuBois Press, Rochester, New York	1937
The Madisonian	1938	Madison High School, Rochester, NY	68	Rr373R676ma 1938	Unknown	1938
The Madisonian	1939	Madison High School, Rochester, NY	76	Rr373R676ma 1939	Unknown	1939
The Madisonian	1940	Madison High School, Rochester, NY	77	Rqr373R676ma 1940	Unknown	1940
The Madisonian	1941	Madison High School, Rochester, NY	76	Rr373R676ma 1941	DuBois Press, Rochester, New York	1941
The Madisonian	1942	Madison High School, Rochester, NY	81	Rr373R676ma 1942	DuBois Press, Rochester, New York	1942
		Various Directory pages for the project	877			
Total Pages			16,507			
Total Books			136			

Social Media

Two new articles were posted to the *Local History ROCs!* blog in April: “My Back Pages: The Old School Roots of Rochester’s New Hall of Fame Class” by Morry, and “Start Your Engines...And Much More: From the Rochester Coil Co. to Delco, Pt. 2” by Cody. The new posts received 559 views, with Morry’s piece on the Hall of Fame inductees proving extremely popular. In addition, readers from 35 countries revisited 197 previously published posts for a total of 2,084 views in March. All posts can be read online at www.rochistory.wordpress.com.

Interns/Volunteers

The division’s work was supported by three volunteers in April for a total contribution of 30.5 hours. Karen Sue Brown continued sorting and filing the backlog of newspaper clippings; she contributed 17.5 hours. Linda Lopata contributed 9 hours entering collection information into ArchivesSpace to create a finding aid for the pin-back button collection in the Office of the City Historian. Noeme Liestman provided 4 hours arranging, rehousing, and describing the library’s previously unprocessed early (pre-1900) photographic materials.

Upcoming Events/Programs

Wednesday, June 14, 6:00-8:00 pm, “Local History Walking Tour: Multicultural Rochester” with Emily Morry. Meet on Rundel North Terrace for this 1.1-mile walk.

Saturday, June 17, 1:00 – 2:30 pm, “Rochester's Rich History: Juneteenth – Origins, History, and Celebrations” with Shirley Strothes and Eunice White of the Blackstorytelling League. Kusler-Cox Auditorium and live stream via YouTube.

Reynolds Media Center, Joseph Born reporting

Reference

During April, RMC handled 699 reference questions and 366 non-reference transactions for a total of 1065.

Circulation

In April, RMC rented 13 pieces of equipment, and loaned 238 Mi-Fi units in addition to the regular collection, for a total of 4,029 items. When adding in RMC items circulated at other libraries, RMC circulated 8,816 items.

Hoopla

Circulation:

- Audiobooks – 1005
- Binge Pass – 13
- Comics – 108
- eBooks – 310
- Movies/TV – 293
- Music – 84
- Total Circulation – 1813

Programs/Tours/AV setups

- The First Friday Film was “I don’t remember”.
- Our See It First film “Missing”.
- RMC performed 32 A/V setups for programs in Central Library!

Science and History, Gabe Pellegrino reporting

Programs

The Great American Eclipse 2024 presented by Jim Porter, Aerospace Engineer and NASA Ambassador, was well attended on Saturday, April 22. This is part of a series that Renee Kendrot has scheduled, leading up to the Eclipse. Several people who attended this program are excited to come back for Jim Porter’s next program about the James Webb Telescope.

Tax Preparation (report by Library Assistant Florence Morris)

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Taxpayer Assistance Program (TAP) returned to the Central Library in the Science, History and Social Sciences Division to offer in-person assistance to people for them to file their 2022 tax returns. This program was held every Wednesday, February through April 12, 2023, in-person for the first time since 2020 and TAP staff were happily busy. There were many positive comments from patrons who had come in to use the Taxpayer Assistance Program (TAP) to file their 2022 taxes. Some patrons were returning clients from previous years who were incredibly pleased to have this program back here at the Central Library. For some of the patrons, this was their first time coming into the Central Library since COVID. A patron wrote *“TAP (Taxpayer Assistance Program) Program was outstanding held on the third floor at the Main Library. Excellent staff, very knowledgeable. I would like to see this program return next year ‘2024.’ Can’t say enough about the program. Leonard Woods Citizen.”* And this patron stayed after he successfully filed his taxes and took books out from the History collection.



Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- LROC (Library Resource Outreach Center) visitors were up again to about 75 this month, the highest number in years. The counseling service/support group offered on Wednesdays has finished.
- The University of Rochester Medical Center's latest Distinction in Health Student, Maryam Omran, completed her sessions of vitals check clinic in the Health Central Kiosk, which saw 10 participants. Pellegrino met with Omran and a new student, Marissa LoCastro, who is planning to set up a regular vitals clinic at Health Central, staffed by UR medical students, with the possibility of adding regular evening and weekend hours. The three had a follow-up Zoom meeting with Dr. Theresa Green and Carolyn Settle of the Center for Community Health & Prevention, URM, to discuss this further, noting what supplies, requirements, etc. will be needed, and how these might be funded.

Anecdotes/Other

Pellegrino received a thank you letter from a patron who had initially asked for an article from a 1967 Newsweek magazine on her uncle, a white priest who was serving a largely African American, integrated Catholic community in Alabama, and fighting for civil rights. After finding the article, Pellegrino did some additional research, which revealed some follow-up information on the priest, his interactions with his bishop, leaving the community, subsequent marriage, and changing his name. The patron was very grateful as she is sharing information about her family with her children and grandchildren and feels this is an interesting and inspirational story.

John Lovenheim Center for Technology and Innovation, Jay Osborne reporting

- The Technology Center staff has been collaborating with CASH in helping patrons get their tax records and online identification issues sorted out. Almost all patrons' ID issues can be solved with time and patience. Compared to last year, this tax season was less challenging for Technology Center Staff. The volume of work shared with CASH and the Circulation department contributed to this. We are also three years into the implementation of online identity verification. That translates into three years of helping people navigate through some challenging websites. Over that time the sites have been dramatically improved. Our patrons have also accepted the reality that these verifications are the new normal for many state and federal agencies. Fewer people have not run into ID.ME and even these people are interacting with a much simpler set of challenging online issues.
- The Technology Center's most visible event of this month was the official ribbon cutting. Patty Uttaro, Mayor Evans, Councilman Gruber, and Mrs. Lovenheim spoke at this event and the Technology Center was officially renamed the John Lovenheim Center for Technology and Innovation. Frank Russo and Mary Giancurso of the maintenance department worked out a floor plan to comfortably accommodate over 60 attendees to create a very nice event. For many staff and patrons, it was the first time they were introduced to the life and lore of John Lovenheim. We would like to think he'd be pleased with our goals and service model.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- At the end of April, Digital Literacy launched the long-anticipated program of classroom instruction. Digital Literacy volunteers continue to support our patrons as they have been for the last 18 months but now can offer more formal classroom instruction. The Technology Center's classroom is the perfect venue and Central's proximity to the bus station makes this an almost ideal location for this project.
- Leroy Banks and Lindsay Murphy from Rochester Works continued to provide walk-in resume instruction and job application assistance on the first Monday of every month. Lindsay Murphy has been meeting patrons by appointment in the classroom to offer more in-depth resume instruction and job-seeking coaching.

Anecdotes

- Amy Shropshire has developed resource cards highlighting daily food and shelter resources available in the community for our homeless patrons. Debby, one of our long-term homeless patrons, contributed to this project by suggesting various vendors and updates for the regular changes in service availability. Shropshire's willingness to share her experiences with homelessness made Debby more willing to collaborate on this project. Debby commented on how much she has come to appreciate our laid-back attitude at the tech center, where we offer relevant resources to patrons without judgment, comment, or high-pressure sales tactics.
- During April, several patrons complimented the Technology Center staff on the resumes they were able to create with the staff's assistance. One patron told Ginger Brewer, *"I know that you help a lot of people so you may not remember me. You helped me build an impressive resume and find a job that I've been after for a long time. Because of you, I am no longer homeless, and I thank you for that."* It is stories like these which

make the staff in the Technology Center and throughout other departments realize the importance of having a library in the community.

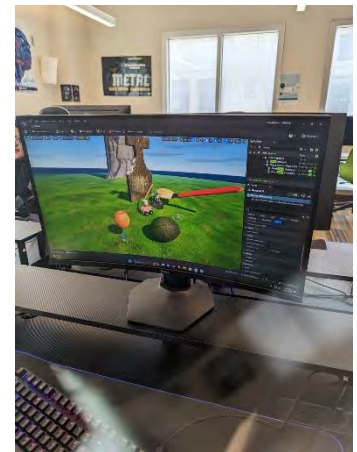
Teen Central, Shetora Banks reporting

Programs

- Girls Who Code: A few new 3-5th grade students signed up for this program. We received our second Amazon Wishlist order and are excited to use them in our craft and other fun programs!
- Robotics Club: We have a steady group of participants every Saturday. They are learning the basics of electric circuit boards and have learned to work with Python code for two Raspberry Pi projects, so far.
- Chess: We have had a resurgence in teens' interest in learning chess. We have many teens who are very good chess players and have helped other teens increase their knowledge of this great problem-solving game. We will have a teen center chess tournament so they can showcase all that they have learned.

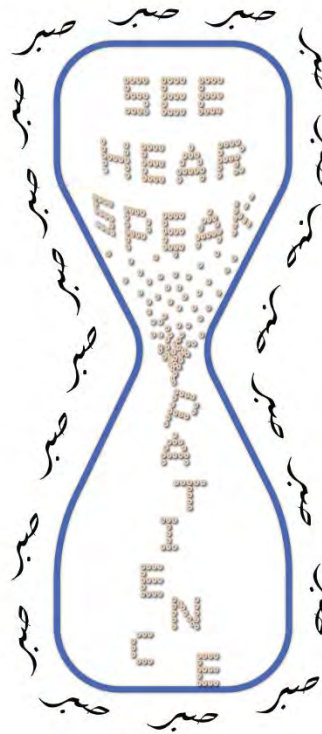
E-sports

- The NASEF Library esports curriculum was completed this month. A new class on the Unreal Engine for Fortnite was tested on a group of homeschooled kids. They were able to complete customized gaming islands on extremely high-powered software.
- We were also able to host the second A Gamer's Nostalgia (locally owned Videogame café) vs 585Fighterz event. They showed the liberators what a professional setup would look like and shared some catered Chick-fil-A with the team.



Illustrator

A young lady was able to take the gale.udemy classes through the library and create a t-shirt logo from her illustration in Adobe Illustrator.



Glowforge

The Glowforge was used during all four-school field trips this month. You can see a keychain that was made below. A skeleton album cover was also made in the Glowforge.

Music Studio

The music studio was in constant use this month. One of our patrons is making a poetry album.



MCLS Director's Report – May 2023 (Continued)

- School visit: School #58 came for a tour and enjoyed all the amenities the department and Imagine You Lab had to offer. We checked the status of students' library cards and signed up those who were without cards.
- One of our regularly visiting teens, Caydon, has embarked on an Ancestry DNA search. He discovered his great-great-grandfather and great-great uncle had authored books.

