



Board of Trustees Meeting
Gates Public Library, Community Room #904, 902 Elmgrove Rd, 14624
August 21, 2023, 5:00 PM
Agenda

- I. PUBLIC COMMENTS** Corcoran

- II. ACTION ITEMS**
 - 1. Minutes of Prior Meeting Corcoran page 3
 - 2. Claims Harrison page 7

- III. REPORT/DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - 1. Liaison & Committee Reports
 - a. Liaison to Rochester Public Library Board Stephens
 - b. Liaison to Rochester Regional Library Council Knapp
 - c. Friends and Foundation of the RPL Borgus

 - 2. Staff Reports
 - a. Science, History & Social Sciences Division Pellegrino
 - b. Director's Report Uttaro page 9
 - c. MCLS Services Smathers page 10
 - d. Central Library Services Smathers page 19

- IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

- V. ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting:
September 18, 2023, 5:00 p.m.
Central Library, Board Room



**Meeting of the MCLS Board of Trustees
Central Library, Rundel Memorial Building, Board Room
June 26, 2023
Minutes**

- Trustees Present:** Gary Brandt, Kimberly Brown, Christopher Corcoran, Emily Hessney Lynch, Amy Moffitt, Mack Smith, Erick Stephens, Suzanne Stockman (quorum present)
- Trustees Excused:** Peter Knapp, Marjorie Shelly
- Trustees Unexcused:** None
- Staff and Guests:** County Office Liaison, BJ Scanlon; FFRPL Executive Director, Donna Borgus; staff members Michelle Finn, Shareka Jackson, Debi Mansour, Jennifer Smathers, Patty Uttaro

Call to Order

Ms. Stockman called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m., welcomed trustees, staff, and guests, and confirmed a quorum was present.

Public Comments

No members of the public were in attendance who wished to address the board.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Brandt MADE A MOTION to approve the May 15, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Claims

Ms. Jackson reviewed the financial claims with the trustees and offered to answer questions. Rev. Smith MADE A MOTION to approve the claims as presented. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

President's Report

Ms. Stockman acknowledged this is her last meeting as President and she thanked everyone for their work as trustees and Mr. Corcoran for stepping up as the next president.

She reported that the Director's Succession Planning is moving along albeit slightly behind schedule. However, she is not concerned since it is early in the process.

Rochester Public Library (RPL) Liaison

On behalf of Mr. Stevens, Ms. Uttaro reported that the RPL Board approved updates to the Central Library and Community Library budgets, Central Library program aid, and an amendment to the Branch Card Access Services, which will replace key access with card access in all the branch libraries except Maplewood. The Board approved a slight change to the hours at the Winton Branch in response to public requests for more evening hours. Before COVID, the RPL Board had approved regular closures for each branch throughout the year for staff training, team building, and projects. The Board approved resuming this practice for the coming year. Lastly, they approved the annual report for RPL to New York State.

Mr. Stephens joined the meeting at 5:09

In response to a question, Ms. Uttaro explained that ongoing delays are pushing back the re-opening of the Lincoln Branch.

Rochester Regional Library Council (RRLC) Liaison

Ms. Stockman drew everyone’s attention to the written report and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Friends and Foundation of the Rochester Public Library

Ms. Borgus reported that FFRPL was able to fund every request submitted by RPL in this past fiscal year. Additionally, most metrics are slowing down across all fundraising sectors after a peak during the pandemic, however, FFRPL remains ahead of where they were pre-COVID. In response to a question about upcoming events, she asked everyone to share thoughts and trustees provided several suggestions including a gala, a cocktail reception, an after-dark event, or a Halloween party fundraiser. She also shared that the FFRPL will be organizing an event to get the four library Boards together sometime over the summer.

Board Committee Reports

None.

Local History and Genealogy Report

Ms. Finn introduced herself as the Local History and Genealogy Division supervisor. She provided a presentation overview of the division and its current projects, publications, and programming.

Ms. Stockman asked about the scanning being done by Family Search. Ms. Finn shared that the couple who were doing the scanning recently had a family emergency, and a new team will be assigned.

Mr. Brandt asked about the City’s Heritage Trail. Ms. Finn explained that the staff in the Local History and Genealogy Division lead tours of the trail as well as other walking tours in the city.

Director’s Report

Ms. Uttaro offered to answer questions about the written report. She reported that Senator Cooney is providing \$100,000 for the purchase of a bookmobile. The vehicle will be a large van rather than an RV and will be based at the Lyell Branch.

She then reported that Senator Brouk will be providing funding for another author series in 2024. RPL will receive \$20,000 and is again looking to partner with other libraries also receiving aid to bring in big-name authors to the area.

The other big funding news was a late budget allocation from the city council of \$150,000 in the FY23 budget to fund another year of MiFi units. The council was swayed by the usage statistics showing the highest usage coming from the poorest city neighborhoods.

MCLS Office/Central Library

Ms. Smathers offered to answer questions about the written report. She reported that she attended the recent Newman-Riga Library Board Meeting and was impressed with the outpouring of support for the Board's decision to keep the challenged book in their collection.

For Central Library, Ms. Smathers reported that the Patron Services Manager, Cynthia Dana has retired after over 40 years with the RPL. Ms. Dana was also awarded Library All-Star by the RRPL this past year.

Other Business

None.

Adjournment

Rev. Smith MADE A MOTION to adjourn the meeting. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Patricia Uttaro, Secretary

MCLS Financial Claims

M	D	CLAIM VO	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	EXPENDED	REMARKS
7	1	2000578973	11102440-ROCHESTER MUSEUM & SCI	BOGO VIP PASS	2,816.00	
7	1	2000578987	11103336-ROCHESTER PHILHARMONIC	VIP PASS	870.00	
7	1	2000579135	11119168-NY MUSEUM TRANSPORTATION	VIP PASS	490.00	
7	1	2000579610	11108746- SUSAN B ANTHONY HOUSE	VIP PASS	1050	
7	1	2000579522	11103878-GEORGE EASTMAN MUSEUM	VIP PASS	1,640.00	
7	1	2000580467	11127580-FINGER LAKES BOATING MUSEUM	VIP PASS	320	
7	1			RETIREE MEDICAL	(86.34)	Q2 SETTLEMENT
7	3	2000581390	11106122-Newman Riga Library	VIP PASS	190.00	ONLINE FINES DEC 22-MAY 23
7	3	2000581331	11103162-GENESEE COUNTRY VILLAGE & MU	VIP PASS	\$ 720.00	
7	5	2000581961	11105635-CAMPBELLNET SOLUTIONS	HPE DL20 2 YEAR POST WARRANTY	\$668.39	CAPITAL
7	5	2000581961	11105635-CAMPBELLNET SOLUTIONS	AXIX P3245-V	\$1,796.40	CAPITAL
7	5	2000581961	11105635-CAMPBELLNET SOLUTIONS	EXACQVISION LICENSE 1 YR MAINT	\$612.00	CAPITAL
7	7	2000582339	11118787-CBS DISTR DBA PERMACARD	CHILD LIBRARY CARDS	\$2,246.82	
7	7	2000582283	11105288-East Rochester Public Library		\$ 441.00	ONLINE FINES DEC 22-MAY 23
7	7	2000582280	11105181-Rochester Public Library		\$ 8,458.00	ONLINE FINES DEC 22-MAY 23
7	7	2000582310	11109903-OVERDRIVE	MATERIALS-HOLD	\$ 3,345.70	MULTIPLE EBOOKS/AUDIOBOOK
7	7	2000582372	11122281-CHARLOTTE GENESEE LIGHTHOUSE	VIP PASS	\$ 330.00	
7	14	2000583015	11126896-FRIENDS OF ULYSSES S GRANT COT	VIP PASS	\$ 250.00	
7	21	2000583087	11104976-TRI DELTA RESOURCES	SERVER STORAGE & BACKUP	\$ 108,550.00	
7	21	2000583628	11105989-Irondequoit Public Library		\$ 3,522.00	ONLINE FINES DEC 22-MAY 23
7	21	2000583622	11105181-Rochester Public Library		\$ 681,461.29	SYSTEM SERVICES JAN-JUN 23
7	21	2000583714	11126800-CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS	VIP PASS	\$ 900.00	
7	21	2000583722	11127579-SEWARD HOUSE MUSEUM	VIP PASS	\$ 225.00	
7	24	2000583404	11104976-TRI DELTA RESOURCES	VMWARE VSPHERE 5	\$ 1,098.00	
7	25	2000583790	11105635-CAMPBELLNET SOLUTIONS	FORTICARE	\$ 28,669.28	
7	28	2000584286	11109903-OVERDRIVE	2023 DIGITAL MATERIAL PLATFORM	\$ 2,500.00	3RD QTR
7	28	2000584237	11103128-RRLC	MEMBERSHIP	\$ 2,140.00	07/01/23-06/30/24
7	28	2000584373	11127577-CARROUSEL MUSUM	VIP PASS	\$ 595.00	
7	31	2000583881	11102541-UNIQUE MANAGEMENT	2023 MATERIAL RECOVERY	\$ 2,494.80	JUN
7	31	2000584087	11120206-SITEIMPROVE	2023 WEB MONITORING	\$ 1,997.40	50/50 SPLIT W RPL
7	31			RETIREE MEDICAL	\$ 997.80	JUL
					\$ 861,308.54	



TO: MCLS Board of Trustees
FROM: Patricia Uttaro, Director
DATE: August 21, 2023
SUBJECT: Monthly Report–August 2023

Action Items

None.

Report & Discussion Items

MCLS Director Patricia Uttaro reporting

Recommended Reading

- A Call to Action: The State of Early Literacy in New York - <https://newyork.edtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/ETNY-Literacy-Report.pdf>
- Anti-Book Ban Bills Introduced in NYS Assembly - <https://www.observertoday.com/news/top-stories/2023/08/anti-book-ban-bills-introduced-in-nys-assembly/>
- Central Library Evolving After Rowdy Teens Prompt Changes - https://buffalonews.com/news/local/buffalo-central-library-john-spears-teens-weapons-detectors/article_ce85f692-3174-11ee-b3ea-9bd4ebc38817.html

Upcoming Events

- August 28, 6:00 pm webinar: Defending the Freedom to Read: Policies, Procedures & Civic Engagement. Register here - <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMrf-gvqikiHtS266tltlGPKtpuSEY83hm3#/registration>
- September 20, 6:00 pm: Joint Board Cocktail Reception hosted by FFRPL. All trustees received an invitation from FFRPL Executive Director Borgus. Please RSVP if you plan to attend.
- October 17, 5:00 pm webinar: Trustee Handbook Book Club – Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Access & Justice. Register here - https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XV-i3OlcStuLK02hzFA3Kg#/registration

New Central Associate Director Hired – Interviews were conducted in June to fill the newly restored Central Library Associate Director position. Emily Clasper accepted the position and begins here with at Central on August 14. Emily comes to Central from the University of Rochester, where she has served as the Director of Strategy and Patron Services for UR libraries for several years. Prior to moving to Rochester, she was the Assistant ILS Operations Manager for the Suffolk Cooperative Library System on Long Island. Emily brings a wealth of experience to Central, including a background in project management. Emily will lead Central Library divisions, including the reinstated Central Library Administration Office. Cynthia Dana will return to CLA at the end of the summer in a PT capacity, focusing on marketing, community engagement, and programming. Many

thanks to Melanie Lewis, Joe Born & Chad Cunningham who assisted with interviews. We are thrilled to welcome Emily to our team. She will begin reporting on Central Library activity to this board in September.

Finger Lakes Emerging Library Leaders – The classes continued in June and July, with topics including trendspotting and ideation, placemaking, power structures, and the importance of community connections for libraries and library staff. Presenters included Kevin Kelley, Director of Planning for the City of Rochester; Jaime Saunders, President & CEO of United Way of Greater Rochester; John Cohen, Director of the Ogden Library; and myself. The August class will focus on sustainability and will feature Director of the Mid-Hudson Library System Rebekkah Smith-Aldrich discussing the “triple bottom line” of sustainable libraries, and MCLS Finance Director Harrison discussin financial sustainability for libraries. Feedback from participant evaluations has been positive, and the discussions in each class sessions very productive and illuminating.

Library Automation Services

Brie Harrison reporting

- Jim Whittemore reinstalled PCs and Networking equipment, a new data rack, and cleaned up existing wiring in the data closet after Lincoln Renovations were complete. He worked with Crown Castle to get the fiber re-installed.
- Whittemore installed cameras at the Rundel Loading Dock and a PC and TV/Monitor for Shipping to monitor the dock.He also installed Exacqvision software and accounts on multiple PCs.
- Mary Royce launched a new Teen Services web page, began work on a new Adult Services web page, removed unused forms and form data from websites, and continued compiling training and procedural documentation.
- Pamela Principé has been working on catalog record cleanup for FRBR.
- Jordan Dotson worked on building a new helpdesk and worked with Steven Shon (Ogden) to create a Nonfiction analyzer/report. Dotson also worked on CARL cleanup projects.
- Martha Ruggeri updated the phone messages for Central and Branches and took care of hours changes for phones and PCs at branches.
- Brenda LaCrosse met with Fairport technology librarians and provided a tour of the data center. She also worked with the vendor that Fairport uses for managed services after a major network failure that interrupted service for 5days.

MCLS Member Libraries

Jennifer Smathers reporting

Canadian Wildfires that impacted Monroe County’s air quality forced many storytimes and activities planned for outside to be held inside member libraries. In addition, several MCLS member libraries are distributing 3M K95 masks provided by the County to patrons who need to take precautions when the Air Quality Index (AQI) rises. The MCLS Shipping Department has once again become a vital component for increasing access to personal

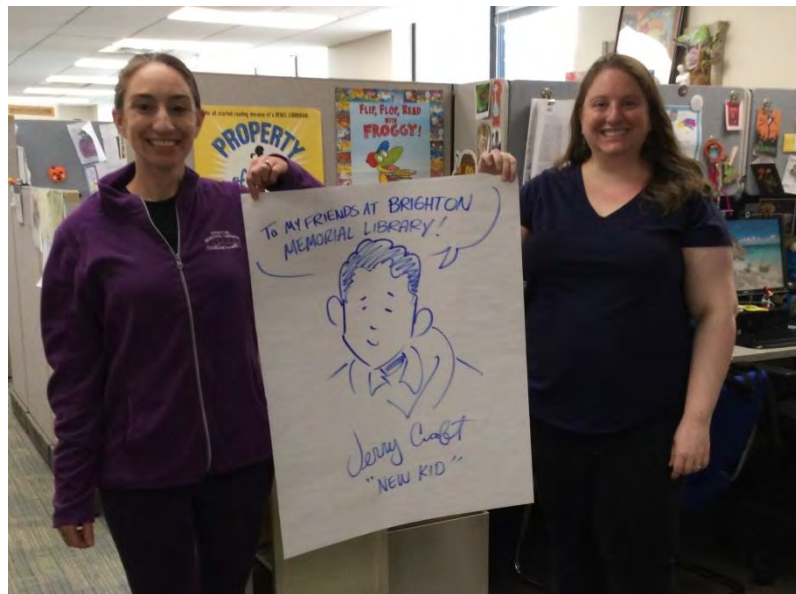
health equipment, with library directors monitoring their library's supplies and requesting more as needed. This will continue as long as supplies last.

In June, MCLS libraries were recognized by KidsOutAndAbout.com as one of the top places in the Rochester area to take children. It is worth noting that of the top 5 places, libraries were the only winners that did not require the purchase of admission to enjoy. That said, MCLS VIP passes offer discounted admission to fellow top-10 winners the Rochester Museum and Science Center and Genesee Country Village and Museum. Three additional places were added to the VIP Pass program this season: The Fingerlakes Boating Museum, Herschell Carousel Museum, and the Seward House Museum. The media announcement of the top five, with Tonia Burton is available at: <https://foxrochester.com/news/good-day-rochester/kids-out-and-about-announces-the-top-5-best-places-to-take-your-kids>

Several member libraries are participating as collection sites for donations to Willow Domestic Violence Center of Greater Rochester. Personal care and non-perishable food items are in high demand for the summer months. For more info, go to <https://willowcenterny.org/make-a-difference/wish-list>

Brighton Memorial Library

After a three-year hiatus due to COVID, BML held its 2023 volunteer and staff recognition dinner at the Locust Hill Country Club on May 18, 2023. Young Adult and Tween Librarians were invited to Twelve Corners Middle School to see "New Kid" author and illustrator Jerry Craft. They were very excited that they were given this personalized drawing from him!



Chili Public Library

The library float and book giveaways were a hit at Chil-E Fest. Patrons said, “Wonderful to see the smiling faces that make the CPL such a great place to visit!” “You all looked great, and so did the float! Thank you for being in the parade.” “I love our library so much!” Chili’s Native Plant Garden and Seed Library made page 9 of My Hometown Magazine:



https://issuu.com/westsidenew/docs/my_hometown_magazine_july_2023/s/27387912.

East Rochester Public Library

Due to upcoming construction and Book Nook renovations that will take place in September, the ER Friends decided to extend their book sale through August 19th. Book sales will occur every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday from 10 am-1 pm from July 31st through August 19th.

Fairport Public Library

A patron approached a librarian and asked, “Are you Miss Mary?” She remembered our wonderful librarian Mary Gleason from her childhood visits to the Maplewood Community Library! Mary immediately remembered her. The patron shared what a significant impact Mary made on her life, including how she now brings her children to the library and that they are a “library family.”



The library now has Social Stories to help prepare children for a visit to the library and to prepare them for attending a storytime. Fairport also has fidget toys and other sensory supports available at children's programs. Visit their website to access Social Stories online or ask for a copy at the Children's Room desk. <https://www.fairportlibrary.org/kids/social-stories>

Gates Public Library

Gates started a new book club that exclusively reads female authors. The book selection for July was *The Sea of Tranquility* by Emily St. John Mandel. It remains available as both an audiobook and an e-book through Overdrive. In 2014 Joanna Walsh, author and journalist, founded [#ReadWomen](https://www.readwomen.org/) to promote and support books written by women. Any genre. Any length. Any kind. Gates hopes to keep up the momentum.

Greece Public Library

For June’s Book Break recording, GPL librarian Claire and special guest Jenna W discussed books they didn’t like and even some they Did Not Finish (DNF). https://fb.watch/mc_wp4sznH/ This episode generated many comments on Facebook, from people agreeing with the dislike of specific authors and titles to someone who said, “Thank you, ladies. My TBR just got shorter. Not enough though. Still too many.”

Hamlin Public Library

230 people attended Hamlin's Big Machine Day! Special thanks to community partners: the Hamlin Fire Department, BCSD Transportation Department, MCSO Drone Team and SWAT Team, the Hamlin Highway Department, Brightly Farms, the Hamlin Youth Group, and volunteers Caleb, Tammy, Maggie, Leah, Chris, Robin and Alaina.

Congratulations to all the children and adults who successfully used books, found clues, solved puzzles, used black light flashlights to reveal invisible ink messages, scoured maps, deciphered codes and opened numbered



and lettered locks in our Escape Room!

Henrietta Public Library

The Minerva Campbell Literary Contest Awards are presented to students exhibiting literary ability. This annual prose and poetry competition is conducted for Junior High School and Senior High School students attending Rush-Henrietta Central Schools and students who reside in Henrietta and attend school elsewhere. The Henrietta Public Library Board of Trustees, which sponsors the contest in honor of its first president, appoints a committee of judges to select the winners within each division. These teens are some of the 2023 winners. Congratulations to all of this year's award winners who can be found here: <https://hpl.org/news/winners-2023-minerva-campbell-literary-contest/>



Irondequoit Public Library

IPL and guests had a wonderful time learning about bike safety with Officer Lawton from [Irondequoit Police Department](#)! We read *Duck Rides a Bike* by David Shannon (unsafe!) and *My Bike* by Byron Barton (safe). Officer Lawton shared his top three tips for bike safety: 1. Always wear a helmet 2. Always look both ways when crossing the street 3. Have a light and wear reflective clothing if riding at night.

During the Workout Warriors program with Eva from Roc Fitness and Sword Fighting, patrons also had fun learning real historical sword techniques, including footwork, attacking, and defending.



Mendon Public Library

The library handed over 1,000 books to kids along the route of the Mendon Fire Department Carnival parade. The library was at the carnival, too, with their Quiet Tent, hosted by The Friends of Mendon Public Library and Totiakton Girl Scouts. MPL has 5(!) brand new mobile hotspots available now to check out, courtesy of the Friends of the Mendon Public Library. Although you cannot put the hotspots on hold, you are welcome to call the library before you stop by to ensure we have one.



Newman Riga Library

Riga's Zoo Mobile program turned out to be a tight squeeze, but well-attended! All had fun meeting and learning about millipedes, a thorny toad, a boa, and a rabbit!

Ogden Farmers' Library

Ogden celebrated the beginning of summer with a performance by The BenAnna Band. Ben and Anna provided a musical collection of pop and throwback covers, traditional kids' songs with a new twist, and unique children's music. Ben and Anna are brimming with talent, energy, and catchy sing-along songs, and all of the folks there were brimming with the giggles and the wiggles.

Parma Public Library

The rain kept Parma folks inside for Homeschool Hour, but participants had a really fun time making solar ovens, so they could cook s'mores when the sun came out! [Caraglio's Pizza](#) in Hilton donated the pizza boxes!

Penfield Public Library

Some of Penfield's favorite moments this summer have happened at Mario & Friends, Cupcake Wars, and Tween Makers (seriously, who doesn't love some creative engineering with crackers, pretzels, and cheese in a can?). The Black Storytelling performers provided a wonderful celebration of Juneteenth.

Pittsford Community Library

Robin L. Flanigan recently dropped by the *Your Friendly Neighborhood Librarians'* studio to chat with Robyn and Jim about her new book, *100 Things to Do in Rochester Before You Die!* They discussed the research and writing process behind the comprehensive guide to Rochester,



some of the hidden gems the author discovered around town, and Flanigan's reading habits and favorite books. Listen here: <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/pittsfordlibrary>.

Scottsville Free Library

Check out Scottsville's new Instagram account: https://www.instagram.com/scottsville_free_library/. One of the first posts advertised the program *Eclipse 2024 Revealing the Mysteries and Marvels* presented by Deb Ross, Eclipse Ambassador and publisher of KidsOutAndAbout.com.

Seymour Library

Girls Rock Rochester visited and read *What A Wonderful World* by Bob Thiele and George David Weiss and *One Love* by Cedella Marley to demonstrate messages of kindness, togetherness, and respect. Participants enjoyed a wonderful rendition of *One Love* by Bob Marley to accompany Cedella Marley's picture book adaptation. Nothing is more beautiful than our storytime voices! <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1969361060082984>

Webster Public Library

The library's Webster Business Spotlight Series kicked off with JUSTININTERIORS discussing the opening of a home interior brick-and-mortar store. In July, the series moved on to Never Say Never Stables, a family-owned horse farm that offers children's lessons, special programs, and parties. Since closing the Hegedorns grocery store, the library has given a temporary home to several hand-painted ceiling tiles. 4th and 5th-grade Webster students designed the tiles in the 1990/91 school year. You can read more about the history behind the ceiling tiles here: <https://websterontheweb.com/2023/06/06/hegedorns/>

MCLS Office Updates

Jennifer Smathers reporting

June and July offered many opportunities to interact with local media, from county-provided N95 mask distribution to RPL fine-free announcements and the Jazz Festival promotions. Smathers has begun an intense review of the Carl ILS' financial system capabilities and how RPL's budget structure is represented in Carl's funds. This is the first step in adjusting acquisitions workflows to automate procedures to streamline next year's operation.

Art of the Book

Art of the Book Judges returned the first round of scoring sheets for submitted artwork. 90% of the pieces submitted have been accepted into the 2023 Art of the Book exhibit. Alicia Gunther and Exhibit Team members Sarah Ormond, Jonathan Hammond, and Corinne Clar contacted the nearly 100 artists about the status of their works. During June and July, Gunther received and processed all 160+ pieces of art accepted into the show.

Events and Meetings

Throughout June, Alicia Gunther coordinated 25 MCLS staff to attend the Rochester Pride Parade and festival on July 15. Staff designed library-related Pride shirts that were worn to the event, storytimes were held during the festival, staff walked in the parade, patrons were able to create various buttons with the MCLS button maker, and staff overall engaged with 1,000+ patrons about library services and access to reading materials. On July 20, Gunther joined Pittsford Community Library Director Amanda Madigan to host an MCLS table for Camp Day at Innovative Field. Gunther and Madigan interacted with adults and youth during the event, sharing information about the libraries and giving out books.

On July 29, Gunther and Cynthia Dana hosted an MCLS table at the first annual Recovery Fair hosted by Monroe County Addiction Services. While it was rainy, Gunther and Dana handed out books to attendees and assisted with library services, including setting up one patron with Hoopla.

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

In June, the MCLS office added some new games to the Big Games collection which is available for borrowing by all member libraries. With these additions, the MCLS Office was able to accommodate additional requests for games at member libraries. New games include a second Jenga and Connect Four set, Kubbb, Giant Sorry, Ring Toss, Giant Dominoes, Yardzee, and Giant Magnatiles. Parts of the MCLS rotating collections went to 10 member libraries during June and July. Member libraries are actively reserving the game collections for summer reading events. Thanks to Director Uttaro for providing the discretionary funding to expand and refresh the collection.

Social Media

June/July 2023	RPL Twitter	MCLS Twitter	Facebook	Facebook Groups	Instagram	YouTube
Profile/ Page Visits	510	338	2038	-	260	-
New Followers/ Page Likes	11 (2,117)	2 (2,237)	63 (5,764)	59	89 (2,530)	35 (552)
Engagements	219	152	2225	94	416	216
Check-In/ Mentions	29	22	-	-	17	-
Post Reach	8591	5906	18953	-	5454	6611
Video/Story Views	-	-	3138	-	2393	6611

Constant Contact Newsletter

Central / RPL Newsletter (2 Sent)

- Subscribers who opened newsletter – 4,850/4,958
- Click through – 186/107

New subscribers – 19

OverDrive

- Total Checkouts- 82,893/89,296
- Lucky Day Checkouts- 742/757
- Simultaneous Use Checkouts- 8,172/9,095
- SORA Checkouts- 709/261
- Great Courses- 97/113

Interlibrary Loan

Lending: Requests Received - 978 Requests Filled - 313

Borrowing: Requests Received - 98 Requests Filled - 93

Outreach Department, Amy Discenza reporting

In-Home Library Service

Outreach staff selected and distributed library materials to 43 in-home patrons and made three materials pickups. Two new patrons in Brockport began in-home services in June and July.

In-Home Materials Distribution:

- Home Deliveries: 39 patrons received a home delivery of physical library materials and Braille and Audio Reading Downloads
- Braille and Audio Reading Downloads by Mail: 4 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)

Outreach staff mailed out three reference packets to in-home patrons.

Library Stations/Micro Collection Lending Service

Outreach staff selected, pulled, charged, and packed materials for 23 library stations—fulfilling special requests for eight sites. There were no missed deliveries this month (Cycle One and Two).

Corrections and Reentry Support

- Outreach staff continues 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.
- Over the past few months, Outreach staff -- with input from the Recreation & Vocational Coordinator and a classroom teacher at the facility -- have been working to develop a collection of paperback books, Playaway audiobooks, and classic board games to enhance the "library" at the Monroe County Children's Detention Center. The final materials arrived in June, and Amy Discenza and Maren Kyle delivered the collection to the Rush facility.
- Discenza and Wes Becker presented to a group of 12 women about local library and reentry services at the Monroe County Jail. 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. Discenza 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.
- Becker hosted the "Know Your Rights, Fair Housing" workshop, the second in a four-part series for individuals impacted by the criminal legal system. Attorneys and other service professionals from Legal Assistance of Western NY, Center for Community Alternatives, and the Judicial Process Commission presented information to justice-involved attendees about their legal rights regarding Fair Housing protections. Attendees were very engaged, asking multiple questions specific to their situations. Becker also hosted a workshop on reducing barriers from a criminal record, emphasizing certificates of rehabilitation, the third in a four-part series for people impacted by the criminal legal system. Service professionals from Legal Assistance of Western NY, the Center for Community Alternatives, and the Judicial Process Commission presented information to justice-involved attendees about their legal rights about Fair Housing

protections. Attendees were very engaged with general and specific questions regarding the topic. The series' final installment, Sealing Conviction Records, will be held on August 3 at 1:00 in the Kate Gleason Auditorium.

- Outreach staff fulfilled two requests for “Making Moves” reentry resource packets from incarcerated individuals, Transitional Coordinators, and other justice-involved persons; the “Making Moves” webpage received 86 total pageviews.

Outreach

- Discenza and Kyle presented to a group of Chapel Oaks Independent Living Apartments residents about digital library services for readers and enthusiasts of the arts. Discenza and Kyle sounded off on their favorite features of Libby, Hoopla, and Medici. Tv, then demonstrated how to browse and borrow from each service.
- Discenza spoke to the June and July cohorts of Pathstone’s Employment Focused Services Program about essential library services. In her presentation, Discenza highlighted: library collections and services that are of particular value to individuals who are job hunting, contemplating new careers, or interested in continuing their education; valuable library partnerships and collaborations such as LROC, the Empire Justice CASH program, and the Foodlink Community Cafe; and, of course, the many ways one can use the library to save money and have fun. Pathstone’s Employment Focused Services Program serves individuals 18+ on probation and court-referred. All participants are unemployed and have been placed on probation within the last six months or recently released from the adult criminal justice system. Discenza speaks with a new cohort each month and keeps Pathstone’s Water Street office space supplied with library events calendars and brochures.
- Kyle facilitated a short story discussion at Lifespan’s Lily Café: a community gathering space that provides daily programming and breakfast and lunch for people ages 60+ at the Maplewood YMCA. June’s story was “Cuisine de Memoires” by N.K. Jemisin and July’s story was “The Paper Menagerie” by Ken Liu.
- Discenza facilitated a short story discussion at Lifespan’s Wolk Café: a community gathering space that provides daily programming and breakfast and lunch for people ages 60+ in downtown Rochester. June’s story was “Chivalry” by Neil Gaiman, and July’s was “Pockets” by Amal El-Mohtar.
- Outreach staff assembled titles in various formats for the book discussion group at Valley Manor Independent Living Apartments (City of Rochester) and Ashley Woods (Penfield).

Central Library Updates

Jennifer Smathers reporting

Arts/Literature, Robert Scheffel reporting

Programs

- A Vanishing New York. In July, Arts Division welcomed photographer and author John Lazzaro who spoke about his book *A Vanishing New York*. Lazzaro spoke of his interests in history, photography and how these interests led to the eventual publication of his book. Lazzaro divided the program into regions of New York State and the various backgrounds of the sites he explored photographically. Lazzaro brought the history of places into his photographic works, describing the past and the current situations that



exist due to these abandoned and vanishing locations in various parts of New York—leaving the audience to reflect on the current state of structures that surround us. Lazzaro ended the program with questions and inquiries from the attendees. The program has been recorded and posted to the Rochester Public Library Youtube page.

- **Museum-Quality Storage for Photographs and Memorabilia.** Kate Jacus from Photocurator and Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services presented a program on 'Museum-Quality Storage for Photographs and Memorabilia.' Jacus began the program with the steps that guide planning for storing and managing a collection of photographs or important items. Jacus touched on the science behind what makes items archival or not and how to get each type of item into a storage environment conducive to long-term storage for generations to come. Jacus described how each type of object and material has its plan of action. Attendees had many questions about the process and had a lively conversation throughout the program. Jacus gave out additional resources for materials and helped advise on managing collections. The attendees had various perspectives of their reasons for interest in the program, from personal collections and managing family collections to reaching out to the public to help with having a guide to the subject. This was a useful, applicable program on a subject matter that everyone deals with how to take care of what they care about long term.



Business Insight Center (BIC), Jennifer Byrnes, reporting

Meetings

Byrnes met with an editor from Rowan Littlefield to discuss publishing a book about cannabis for librarians. She met with David Serrano of the Cannabis Workforce Initiative to discuss possibly having a CWI Fellow housed at the library 2-3 times per week. She met with Vision Financial Group to discuss financial programming. Byrnes and Melissa Cobo met with Anthony Manning of REDCO to discuss how they can be better partners. Lastly, Byrnes and Cobo met with Yasmin Mattox, the relatively new director of the iZone, a part of the University of Rochester libraries. iZone is a creative problem-solving space and a program and community; iZone is designed to empower students to explore and imagine ideas for social, cultural, community, and economic impact. They were asked to present to their new cohort of students in the fall.

Outreach

Byrnes and Kate Meddaugh presented to the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) monthly meeting at Oak Hill Country Club. Byrnes was the keynote speaker and a panelist at a small business program for the Parma Public Library. She discussed small business startups. Other panelists were local business owners.

Training

Cobo participated in the following trainings: Public Library Services for Strong Communities: Results from PLA's 2022 Survey – Public Library Association, State of Cannabis Business Organization, Structuring and Set Up - Harris Beach PLLC, Innovation Through Law: The Importance of Early-Stage IP, Regulatory and Market Research – Syracuse Innovation Law Center.

Consulting

- The Carlson Center for Intellectual Property assisted: 2 in person, 25 by email, 0 by mail, three by phone, and two by Zoom.

- Carlson Center Webpage views: 28
- 3D Printer: 8
- Hours of in-depth market research / prior art searching: 45
- Requests Outside Greater Rochester Area: 15

Database Usage Statistics

- Frost & Sullivan: Downloads: 20 Value: \$63,500
- IBISWorld: Page views: 93 Value: \$34,700
- InnovationQ: Logins: 11 Searches: 182
- PitchBook: Logins: 34
- Statista: Searches: 3,903 Downloads: 694

Anecdotes

After more than 20 years of service, Kate Meddaugh, manager of the Carlson Center for Intellectual Property, will leave RPL to move to Tennessee. Because of her efforts, the Carlson Center is a public library's top-performing Patent and Trademark Resource Center. She will be greatly missed.

Children's Center, Tonia Burton reporting

Programs

- All Together Now, the 2023 Summer Reading Program began at the end of June. This summer's theme encourages working, creating, reading, and playing together. To entice early registration for the reading game, children can choose to enter a drawing for four tickets to Seabreeze. As children read and attend programs, they earn raffle tickets that can be used to win four tickets to the Rochester Museum and Science Center, Strong Museum of Play, Seneca Park Zoo, or a Red Wings game. Other choices are a bundle of books or a family game night bundle.
- Throughout the summer, we invited patrons to draw and color a quilt square for our Community Quilt that Miranda Hazen will sew together and display in the Children's Center this fall. In the meantime, the squares are pinned up on a board in our Middle Ground for all to see.
- Taylor Connelly began our Exploration playtimes in the Secret Room with different themed toys and scavenger hunts for each weekly event. Children have explored bubbles, chalk, and nature. In the second week, dinosaurs took over the Secret Room.



- Our first visiting artist program for the summer was the energetic *BenAnna Band*. They filled KGA with music so fun that you couldn't help but get up and dance. They passed out scarves, shakers and had bubbles filling the room. The performers are trained music therapists and use different techniques to encourage the kids to make cross-body movements; this is important for kids because it helps develop strong motor skills, which aid in balance and improve reading and writing skills when children get to school.



- Circus For All Show amazed children and parents alike. Ben Berry shared his amazing talent while teaching us the importance of reading, practicing, and making mistakes. This comment was sent to Burton after the Circus For All Show-
"I just wanted to tell you how much our children enjoyed the show on Monday! The circus guy was so interactive and fun! He taught the children how to communicate and work together to attain a goal, and they succeeded, which was the highlight! When he performed, he made mistakes and laughed them off, showing our children that it was fine not to be perfect! He mostly made our children laugh, which was so fun to see! Thanks again, Friends and Foundation of the library!"
Joi DiGennaro McMurtry, Friendship Children's Center.



- In July, Coonelly also hosted a series of STEAM job discovery programs called World of Work. Participants learned what it takes to become animators, video game designers, and chemists. In August, participants will learn about architecture with Kelly Jahn, the architect for the Secret Room. The final session will be at Innovative Field, learning about jobs in the sports field with the Red Wings.



- Miranda Hazen continued the Make It Together series of programs with Chalk the Walk for Pride on the Rundel Terrace and some big collaborative builds with LEGO. Then we built a big Recycled Robot named Book Bot Square Pants.

- The RPO Instrument Petting Zoo made a return! Musicians discussed their instruments and let kids have a hands-on experience with all the different instruments in the orchestra.
- The Ganondagan State Site visited and showed families how to make cornhusk dolls. When children began to ask questions about why the doll had no face, the presenter discussed the importance of the No Face doll with a story. She showed families how to make dolls with corn husks, scissors, and thread. Some kids took their dolls and played with them in the Children's Center, right with some of the cars, tracks, and other toys we have.
- Borinquen Dance Theater Company visited the library for two performances that highlighted the culture of Puerto Rico, specifically the Indigenous and African influences on the island culture. They closed the program by teaching the kids how to dance the Plena.





Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Tonia Burton participated in a Parents Helping Parents Playdate at Miracle Field in Webster. Parents Helping Parents is hosting events for children with special needs who require early intervention services. However, because of the lack of providers and long waiting lists, they cannot get services such as music therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, or speech therapy. Therapists volunteer their time to be on hand to answer parents' questions and give ideas for activities families can do at home while waiting for services. Currently, the wait for assistance could be over a year.
- Burton attended the *Right To Read* screening at The Little. This documentary shares the stories of an NAACP activist, a teacher, and two families fighting to provide children with the ability to read, which indicates life-long success. A panel of local experts shared what was happening locally and answered questions from the audience. The panel comprised a researcher from the University of Rochester, an education professor from Saint John Fisher, a literacy coordinator from Geneva School District, and a parent advocate. This is part of a larger community focus on the importance of early literacy. See the "Call To Action" link in the "Recommended Reading" section.
- Some staff in the Rochester City School District will be trained in LETRS. LETRS is a professional learning course for reading, spelling, and related language skills instructors. It provides educators with in-depth knowledge and tools that they can use with any reading program. In Penfield, the school district changed to using science-based literacy instruction, and Geneva is also changing to science-based literacy. One of the panel members is a parent who started using the library when her children participated in Raising A Reader and told the audience several times that the library is a place people should be taking their children.

Outreach

Burton attended the Annual Play in Nature Event at Maplewood Park. The City Department of Recreation and Human Services hosts this event. Several other community partners shared activities and services, encouraging families to play outside in nature. Burton checked out materials using a brand-new Mi-Fi from the Reynolds Media Center. One young patron was very excited to be able to check out a Nature Backpack at the park.



Circulation/Information, Chad Cunningham reporting

Statistics

Curbside Pickup Appointments-13

New Borrowers-334

RRLC Access Cards Issued-17

Notarial Acts-381

Anecdotes/Other

- A patron started coming to the library in June. She loves our library and all we offer, but she has one problem: she can't climb the stairs and does not like riding alone in an elevator. Circulation and Information staff have been riding up in the elevator with her. She's very happy that we help her with this issue, and we enjoy taking a short trip with a friendly person.
- A gentleman recently moved to Rochester from Texas. He is unhoused by choice and has been working with various Circulation staff to get information on different shelter and food options. He has fascinating stories about his life and has become quite a presence at the Circulation desk in Rundel.
- A couple recently moved to Rochester from Idaho. They had planned on getting library cards and came on a beautiful day. They were very impressed with the Rundel building. They told Cunningham that the last election they voted in in Idaho was an election for Library Board trustees. They asked about Libby, and Cunningham explained their options. They left feeling very excited about the Monroe County Library System.
- The big news this month was, of course, the Rochester Public Library going fine-free. Patrons were incredibly happy to hear the news. One patron said that the library going fine-free was a blessing and that we made his day.
- A patron approached the Circulation Desk to pay for some book sale items she wanted. She and Cunningham discussed how she loves coming to book sales to get children's books to help teach her English as a Second Language students. She also worked as a storyteller and was at the library to get help rewriting her business plan. She spent the afternoon enjoying all the library has to offer.
- A patron who had experienced a series of devastating life events was referred to Cunningham. She had fines on her account from the Brighton library and didn't know what to do. Cunningham told her to let him reach out to Brighton and see what could be done. Cunningham talked to the Brighton circulation supervisor and explained the situation. She cleared the fines off the account, and Cunningham informed the patron. It's always cool to see Monroe County Library System libraries work together to make things easier for our patrons.
- Cunningham and Kathy Sochia notarized paperwork for patrons chosen for the Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program.

- Rich Mangione, Eve Brewer, and Sochia had a fun moment at the circulation desk. A patron had left a card in a book that advertised a phone number you could call to listen to a poem. They called the number and did indeed have a poem read to them! Add that to the “Fun Stuff Found in Returned Items” list! If you want to call, the number is 585-546-2531.

Local History & Genealogy, Christine L. Ridarsky reporting

This summer saw the unexpected departure of the FamilySearch team that was assigned to digitize materials in the division. Due to a family emergency, David and Dorothy Warren left their post in early June. FamilySearch intends to assign another team to the project, although we do not yet know the timing for this replacement. The digitization project is on hold until the replacement team arrives.

Division staff continues to plan for the physical relocation of records of the Monroe County Historian’s Office from St. John Fisher University to the second floor of the Rundel building. Brandon Fess, who is overseeing this move, invested 7.25 hours in June and 5.5 hours in July. The move is expected to take place in mid-August. The library’s Facilities staff has been assisting to prepare the space where the records will be kept, and the Shipping department assisted with a test move in early July. Since the division became the official provider of Monroe County Historian services in May, it has fielded twelve reference inquiries in that capacity: three in May, eight in June, and one in July. Gerry Smith, the consultant who was hired to advise the library, the City, and the County on the best path forward for managing regional historical services, began his work in July and expects to submit his recommendations in October.

Orders Fulfilled:

	June 2022	June 2023	Increase
Life Records	6	55	817%
Newspaper Index	0	10	Unable to calculate
Rochester Images	2	9	350%

First-year summary of fee-free service:

	Total Requests FY22	Total Requests FY23	Increase
Life Records	75	741	888%
Newspaper Index	37	155	319%
Rochester Images	64	286	347%

The end of Fiscal Year 2023 on June 30 marked the completion of a full year of fee-free service for Life Records, Newspaper Index, and Rochester Images orders. As this chart shows, patron use of these services increased exponentially after fees were eliminated, suggesting the library has successfully removed a financial barrier to access. The Local History & Genealogy Division will continue to track requests for this service; however, annual comparisons will no longer appear in the division’s monthly reports unless requested by the library Board or Management.

Programs – Priority #1: Education and Engagement

- The June installment of Rochester's Rich History featured a presentation on "Juneteenth: Origins, History, and Celebrations" by Shirley Strothers and Eunice White. This program was held in person in the Kusler-Cox Auditorium.
- In July, Emily Morry hosted a walking tour on the theme "Douglass, Anthony & Beyond: Activism and Social Justice in Rochester." Turnout was impressive and the feedback received from participants was enthusiastic. This was the third of five monthly tours the division has scheduled for this summer. Unfortunately, the tour planned for June on the theme "Multicultural Rochester" was cancelled due to rain.

Exhibitions – Priority #1: Education and Engagement

- Hope Christansen created two table displays in the division this summer. The June display, *Celebrating Pride – LGBTQ+ Month in Rochester*, featured a selection of items from the Local History & Genealogy collections, including photographs, books, pamphlets, a t-shirt from the Gay Alliance, and information about the history of Pride Month and the Shoulders to Stand On archives project, which the library inherited from Evelyn Bailey and the Out Alliance in summer 2022.
- The July display, *Celebrating Our Beautiful Cemeteries in Western New York*, featured photos, books and periodicals, pamphlets, walking tour brochures, and a bibliography of resources from the division's collection to encourage education about and appreciation for our local cemeteries, including the Rapids Cemetery, for which division staff recently secured a historical marker from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation.



Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- In June, Christine Ridarsky and Emily Morry participated in the dedication ceremonies for two historical markers that the Office of the City Historian secured through the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. One marker is located at the Rapids Cemetery in the 19th Ward; the other is in front of the former headquarters of Martha Matilda Harper's beauty empire on East Main Street. Ridarsky also represented the Office of Monroe County History at a marker in Durand-Eastman Park. The Legends & Lore marker, also funded by the Pomeroy Foundation, highlights the myth of the White Lady who haunts the shores of Lake Ontario searching for her lost daughter.
- Morry gave a walking tour, "Beyond Flour and Flowers: Industry in Rochester," to an enthusiastic group of adults from Temple Sinai in June. The group was very pleased with the tour and in appreciation, donated money to the Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library.
- In June, Fess and Antoine McDonald presented on the Rochester Public Library's special collections to staff and patrons at the Henrietta Public Library. Fess spoke about the holdings currently available in the Local History & Genealogy Division, and McDonald spoke about efforts to establish a new Archive of Black History & Culture as part of the Documenting, Preserving & Improving Access to Black History Collections project. Fess gave a second presentation on the library's special collections for patrons at the Pittsford Community Library in July.
- Ridarsky was appointed to the Advisory Council for a University of Rochester Medical Center research project that is examining the history of racism and race relations at the University of Rochester School of

Medicine and Dentistry and Strong Memorial Hospital from its establishment through the 1980s. She participated in an introductory meeting in June.

- Ridarsky continued to represent the City on the Rochester Museum & Science Center's Collections Committee and attended a meeting in June. The focus was on the then-upcoming repatriation of human remains and funerary objects to the Oneida Nation and the museum's other efforts to comply with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.
- McDonald attended the annual conference of the American Library Association (ALA) in Chicago in June. He attended sessions, networked with colleagues and former classmates, and learned about the latest trends in the field of librarianship. McDonald reported that his biggest take-away was a deep sense of connectedness with his fellow librarians and feeling a sense of community in realizing how librarians from across the country are facing similar challenges, seeking similar solutions, utilizing similar technologies, and speaking a similar language.
- At the end of the ALA conference, McDonald participated in a daylong symposium hosted by Community Webs, a web archiving project that seeks to advance historical institutions' ability to document local history through digital archives. McDonald was invited to attend the symposium due to his previous participation in the Community Webs project and his role as project manager for the library's emerging Archive of Black History & Culture. At the symposium, McDonald learned more about ArchiveIt, one of Community Webs' primary resources, as well as other tools that the project will soon roll out. McDonald appreciated the opportunity to connect with, learn from, and share experiences with professionals doing similar work.
- In July, McDonald attended the Youth Tech Academy Summer Enrichment Program where he presented to a sizable group of campers about the Rochester Public Library, the Local History & Genealogy Division, and the job functions of a librarian. McDonald shared concepts such as archiving and preservation along with some local historical resources (Howard Cole's directory of Black businesses) and present (*In This Moment* chapbooks, produced by the Visual Studies Workshop). The youth were highly engaged and asked many questions. McDonald also collected Community Needs and Desires surveys for the Archive of Black History & Culture from several of the young people at this event.

Special Collections

Fess accessioned five new collections this summer, including sets of the newspaper *Moore's Rural New Yorker* from the years 1862 and 1865 that are in excellent condition. Fess also created two new finding aids: one for the James W. Phelps Collection (letters and ephemera passed down by the descendants of Rochesterian Ida S. [Orwen] Phelps) and the other for the Iris Bassett Scrapbook (created by Ms. Bassett to commemorate her time at West High School, 1909–1912). These finding aids will be automatically added to the 300+ finding aids for the library's special collections that are now available through the Empire Archival Discovery Cooperative website (<https://www.empireadc.org/search/repositories/nr>).

Archive of Black History & Culture

Work to develop an Archive of Black History & Culture progressed steadily through June and July. The Community Advisory Board finished reviewing the Black Resources Database developed by the Rochester Regional Library Council (RRLC) that identifies existing collections held by local institutions. McDonald shared the Board's feedback with RRLC. The Community Advisory Board also finalized and voted to adopt mission and vision statements for the archive, which McDonald will submit to the RPL Board of Trustees for final approval. The Advisory Board continued to collect Community Needs and Desires surveys that are being used to inform the development of the archive, including collection scope and a multi-year strategic plan. Project consultant Mekko Mongeon will summarize the information collected in the surveys in a final report on the community's expectations for the project. Finally, the Advisory Board developed a Documentation Survey that will be used to gather information from organizations and individuals that its members have identified as potential community records holders (above and beyond the collections identified by RRLC).

Digital Projects

- Two major metadata projects reached milestones in June. With heavy lifting from contractor Lisa Buda, Fess was able to finish creating metadata for the digital images generated through the library’s partnership with Clarissa Street Legacy and Teen Empowerment. Once reviewed and approved by Teen Empowerment, the images will be mounted online on New York Heritage. The second project advanced by Buda involves creating item-level metadata for the thousands of images in the Rochester Postcard Collection. As previously reported, the way metadata for this collection was originally grouped by theme meant it was unable to be uploaded to *New York Heritage* with the rest of the collections from the library’s Rochester Images collections. A Collections and Access Grant from the Rochester Regional Library Council has allowed the library to contract with Buda to complete this work with the end goal being to add the postcard collection to *New York Heritage* by the end of 2023.
- The division continues to contribute digitized content to a handful of online platforms, increasing discoverability and access to these materials. There were 640 page views of Local History & Genealogy Division content available through *New York State Historic Newspapers* (<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/>) in June and 599 in July. There were 728 page views of content on *New York Heritage* (<https://nyheritage.org/>) in June (July numbers for *New York Heritage* were not available at the time of this report). There were 1,476 page views of content available through the library’s *Rochester Voices* site (<http://www.rochestervoices.org/>) in June and 1,401 in July.
- As noted above, the FamilySearch volunteer scanning team left their assignment at the Rochester Public Library in early June due to a family emergency. In the 10 days they were here, they digitized a total of 34 yearbooks. See below for details. Digital products from this project are becoming available through the FamilySearch site (<https://www.familysearch.org/en/>). In May, 119 items from the Rochester Public Library were added to the FamilySearch site, with 49 views of RPL content on the site that month. There were two items added and eight views in June. (Note: The FamilySearch reports on materials uploaded and number of views come out a couple of weeks after the division’s monthly report is due. July’s numbers will be included in the next report.)

Materials scanned by FamilySearch, June 2023:

Title	Author	Quantity	Dates
The Lair	Wilson Magnet High School	10	1999-2010
Quakers	Benjamin Franklin High School	1	2013
Vanguard Collegiate	Vanguard Collegiate High School	1	2013
Voca-Scope	Vocational High School	3	1939, 1941, 1942
Surveyor	Washington High School	3	1937, 1938, 1940
Monarch	Rush-Henrietta High School	16	1987-2011 <i>passim</i>

Social Media

There were two new posts to the *Local History ROCs!* blog in June and two in July. These included the two-part “William Morgan and the Anti-Masonic Agitation,” by Christopher Brennan and “Chasin’ the Past Pt. 6: Lost Jazz Clubs of Rochester” and “Yes, Chef! Fun Finds in our Menu Collection” by Morry. The new posts received 122 views in June and 67 views in July. Also in July, an online article titled “2023’s Best Cities for Hot Dog Lovers” published on LawnLove.com linked to Morry’s previous post “The Missing Link: The Origins and Evolution of the White Hot,” helping the post to garner 1,396 new views that month! The article can be read online at <https://lawnlove.com/blog/best-cities-hot-dog-lovers/>. All blog posts can be read online at www.rochistory.wordpress.com.

Anecdotes/Other

- In June, Fess assisted Robert Pierce from the Inter-Library Loan Office in digitally imaging microfilm containing 185 –1856 issues of the *Rail Road Advocate* newspaper for a patron of the Riga library. The *Rail Road Advocate* is a rare and difficult-to-obtain serial; Pierce had gone to great lengths to obtain the microfilm from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln library. Unfortunately, after obtaining the film, Pierce found out the patron was unable to come downtown to use it. Pierce enlisted Fess's help in using the automated scanning features of the division's ScanPro microfilm scanners to digitize the issues needed. Riga's director messaged both Fess and Pierce the following day to report:
"I can't thank you enough for scanning the Railroad Advocate for my patron. I couldn't wait to see him this morning to give him the great news. Mr. Stewart is very, very appreciative of the efforts you went through to do this. You both went over and beyond and made his day."

Reynolds Media Center, Joseph Born reporting

Reference

RMC handled 1627 reference questions and 602 non-reference transactions for 2229 transactions in June and July.

Circulation

RMC rented 17 pieces of equipment and 551 Mi-Fi units in addition to the regular collection

Programs/Tours/AV setups

Our First Friday Film in June was "Buena Vista Social Club. In July, it was "Avatar."

The See It First film was "The Man From Toronto."

RMC sponsored 3 Jazz Combos during June and five days of "Jazz Starts Here" noontime performances during the International Jazz Festival week. Hundreds of people have attended these concerts.

Brown Bag Book Discussion was:

Liberte by Kaitlyn

Greenidge and *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks.

Winners by Frederick Backman

RMC sponsored 3 "Music in the Garden" programs during July:

Jamaric

The Fiddle Witch

Pastor

RMC performed 15 A/V setups for programs in Central Library.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

Mary Haag of RMC sponsored a "Barbie" gift basket raffle. The winner was selected 7/31. The winner, Kelly, exclaimed to Mary, "I've never done anything before" and was very happy! Mary plans on doing another to coincide with the DVD release of the movie.



Anecdotes/Other

Thanks to funding provided by the City of Rochester, RMC is processing and preparing 400 new Mi-Fi units for circulation. The new units will start circulating on July 5th. RMC processed 280 of the new Mi-Fi collection and started circulating them on 7/5. We circulated 361 Mi-Fi units during July. We are still waiting for more cases to finish processing and circulating the 120 units.



Science and History, Gabe Pellegrino reporting

Programs

- *Got Health?* Online video series, presented by and in partnership with the Center for Community Health and Prevention at the University of Rochester Medical Center, continued with June's program: *Stay Healthy & Safe while Enjoying the Great Outdoors!*, which reached nearly 300 views. The series is promoted through the Library's Facebook page by creating an event for each month's presentation and sharing the video once it has aired live. This series is presented from September through June; it will resume in the fall.
- Jim Porter, NASA Ambassador, presented James Webb Space Telescope. Jim talked about the history of the James Webb Telescope and shared images that had been sent to NASA from this telescope. Renee Kendrot promoted this program with printed flyers/posters distributed to Central Library and the City Branch Libraries through online community calendars, the library's social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram), and email blasts. There were 45 people in attendance, and everyone was engaged during the author's presentation, and people asked several great questions after Jim's presentation! This program was recorded and posted to the Rochester Public Library's YouTube Channel.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- LROC (Library Resource Outreach Center) visitors were at about 60 for each June and July, continuing its high numbers despite occasional cancellations. The Division has also observed many instances where representatives from Person-Centered Housing Options, our Tuesday LROC group, have been making individual appointments with people at the Library. This indicates that the need is higher than what can be provided during the regular LROC schedule. The other LROC partners, MCCollaborative and Legal Assistance of Western New York (LawNY), have also seen many people. The health insurance navigator from LawNY was also here for her once-monthly visit and spent several hours with clients.
- In June and July, Pellegrino attended the monthly meeting of the Community Cancer Action Council, which also breaks up into subgroups regarding community-driven cancer research: video production and youth education. The Council is part of the Library's partnership with Wilmot Cancer Center. Through the work of these subgroups, a video was created at Strong Memorial Hospital regarding clinical trials for lung cancer targeted to underrepresented groups. The video has now been edited and is ready for use. All team members were allowed to view the video, which will be presented in various forms, then marketed, possibly

in edited forms, to such places as hospital waiting rooms, clinics, and so forth. With the video's completion, Pellegrino will continue with the Community-Driven Cancer Research subgroup in the youth education area.

Grants

Lily Anthony assisted patrons with grants in substance abuse, financial counseling, cemeteries, mental health, and human rights.

Displays

Renee Kendrot created a book display about gardening, which included books about gardening indoors and gardening with pots. Alaikia Miller created a "Read with Pride" display for June and July and a display on "Wildfires and the Climate." Pellegrino created a summer barbecuing/grilling display. The space/eclipse display continues throughout the year as we prepare for the 2024 solar eclipse.

Facebook Statistics: June/July 2023

Gardening Club: 183 Members (6 New Members)

9 Posts, 6 Comments, 14 Reactions

Total Engagements: 29

Cooking Club: 157 Members (4 New Members)

8 Posts, 2 Comments, 14 Reactions

Total Engagements: 24

Technology Center, Jay Osborne reporting

Programming

- Ginger Brewer has seen much success in June and July with her Computer Tutor program at the Central Library. The numbers have remained remarkably constant since she started these classes several months ago.
- The Tabletop Gaming Group program growth plateaued from the highs of May. The gaming groups condensed to two groups on Saturday afternoons in June and condensed further into one group over the summer. The group will continue to meet most weeks of the summer though a break is likely later in August.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- The Technology Center's classroom is routinely in use by our partner organizations. Technology Center staff and our partners in this space offer resume workshops, computer literacy classes, and job search assistance. Rochester Works and Digital Literacy use the space and assist many patrons weekly.
- Staff assisted with the long-anticipated Guaranteed Basic Income application period. Digital Literacy Volunteers made an extra effort to provide additional staff to support our patrons. Their help was instrumental in maintaining a more regular workflow despite the increased demand for assistance. Staff helped dozens of patrons navigate the site and recorded a remarkable 43 instances that a line-by-line readout of the entire application was needed. Many of these patrons were visually impaired or so computer-phobic that they did not trust themselves to navigate the website.

Teen Central, Shetora Banks reporting

Programs

- Youth Summer Camp Visits: Teen Central has been a summer destination for many youth camps that have used our space for learning and a cool destination on a hot day. Each camp enjoys our staff and space and learns new information about what Central Library can offer them. They love to experience job simulations with our Virtual reality Oculus system. Acting as a mechanic is the most popular chosen profession.

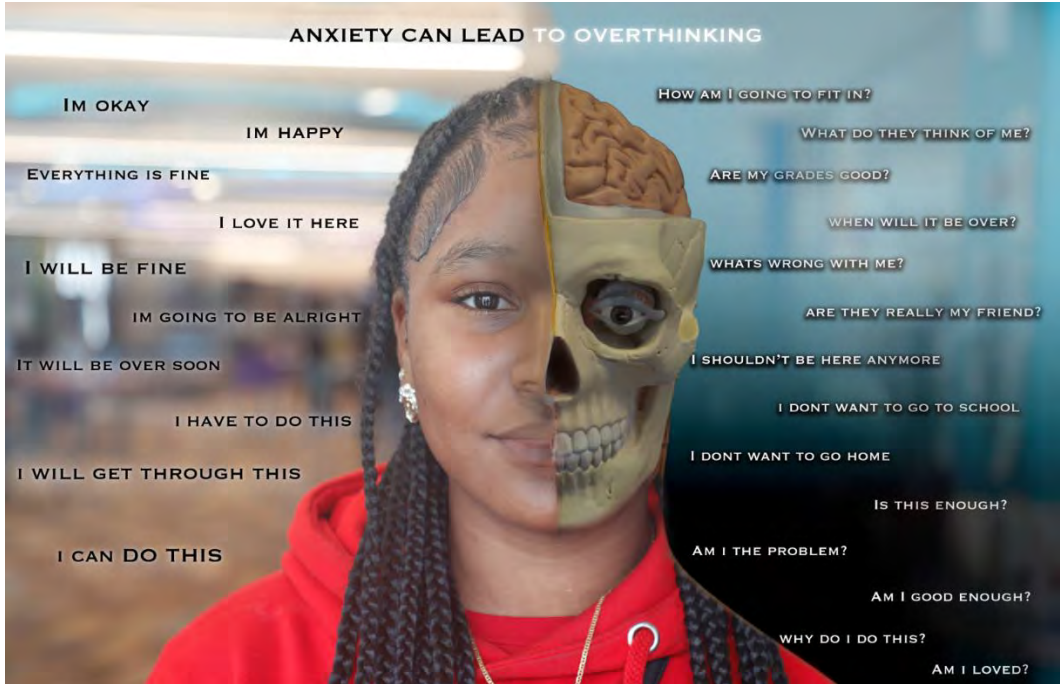


- Youth Tech Career Development: Teen Central hosted The Youth Tech program, which spent the day learning how to create resumes and websites. They visited our space for the day to conduct workshops and learn digital media techniques. This was their second visit to the library, and we expect to see them using our space in the future.
- ABC Aim/Epic youth work program: The Action for a Better Community program is being hosted by Teen Central this summer. This six-week program hires youth to create thought-provoking social content through play and video. The teens earn a stipend for their participation, and for many, it's their first employment opportunity. The Teen Central staff has worked hard to accommodate all the teens' needs, which included various digital media skills, creative writing, and real-world employment experience. We have offered our mentoring experience to help the teens reach their goals.



This year they picked the topic of mental health to highlight. Here are some of their posters:





You can check out their behind-the-scenes website here:

<https://express.adobe.com/page/dEK1x2ew1Q0KX/>

- Climate Robot Rangers: Students assembled and tested climate sensing devices with Arduino kits. They have learned to measure CO2, Temperature, Humidity, and Particulate Matter and conducted experiments to identify climate change indicators. They are also learning to collect useful climate data and visualize the results to gain helpful insights. We use many resources provided by NASA and local organizations to discuss the effects of deforestation and climate change in contributing to socio-economic disparities in communities.

<https://nar.headwaterseconomics.org/3600063000/explore/map>



MCLS Circulation

Town Libraries				
	Jun 2023	Jun 2022	+/-	%
Brighton	43,674	41,165	2,509	6.1%
Seymour	11,367	11,677	(310)	-2.7%
Chili	17,733	16,329	1,404	8.6%
East Rochester	3,604	3,206	398	12.4%
Fairport	51,914	50,009	1,905	3.8%
Gates	18,002	18,687	(685)	-3.7%
Greece	44,299	40,883	3,416	8.4%
Hamlin	4,161	4,089	72	1.8%
Henrietta	35,733	36,220	(487)	-1.3%
Irondequoit	35,624	34,835	789	2.3%
Mendon	7,875	8,151	(276)	-3.4%
Newman Riga	2,034	1,858	176	9.5%
Ogden	11,410	9,323	2,087	22.4%
Parma	7,037	6,652	385	5.8%
Penfield	36,661	34,905	1,756	5.0%
Pittsford	45,155	42,604	2,551	6.0%
Rush	2,615	2,531	84	3.3%
Mumford	559	312	247	79.2%
Scottsville	2,341	2,148	193	9.0%
Webster	36,183	36,266	(83)	-0.2%
<i>Towns Total</i>	<i>417,981</i>	<i>401,850</i>	<i>16,131</i>	<i>4.0%</i>
<i>RPL Total</i>	<i>61,060</i>	<i>63,318</i>	<i>(2,258)</i>	<i>-3.6%</i>
MCLS Total	479,041	465,168	13,873	3.0%

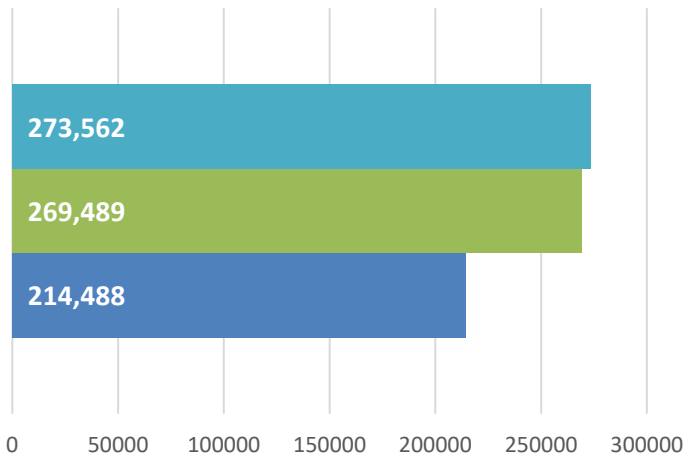
MCLS Circulation

Town Libraries				
	Jul 2023	Jul 2022	+/-	%
Brighton	45,218	44,763	455	1.0%
Seymour	13,253	13,346	(93)	-0.7%
Chili	19,202	19,521	(319)	-1.6%
East Rochester	3,728	3,578	150	4.2%
Fairport	57,766	56,439	1,327	2.4%
Gates	19,815	22,078	(2,263)	-10.3%
Greece	47,251	46,143	1,108	2.4%
Hamlin	4,693	4,724	(31)	-0.7%
Henrietta	41,199	41,137	62	0.2%
Irondequoit	35,482	37,174	(1,692)	-4.6%
Mendon	8,749	8,827	(78)	-0.9%
Newman Riga	2,173	2,388	(215)	-9.0%
Ogden	11,998	10,087	1,911	18.9%
Parma	7,926	7,182	744	10.4%
Penfield	37,186	37,832	(646)	-1.7%
Pittsford	46,235	45,096	1,139	2.5%
Rush	2,801	2,686	115	4.3%
Mumford	758	869	(111)	-12.8%
Scottsville	2,518	2,982	(464)	-15.6%
Webster	39,964	40,846	(882)	-2.2%
<i>Towns Total</i>	<i>447,915</i>	<i>447,698</i>	<i>217</i>	<i>0.0%</i>
<i>RPL Total</i>	<i>65,766</i>	<i>65,151</i>	<i>615</i>	<i>0.9%</i>
MCLS Total	513,681	512,849	832	0.20%

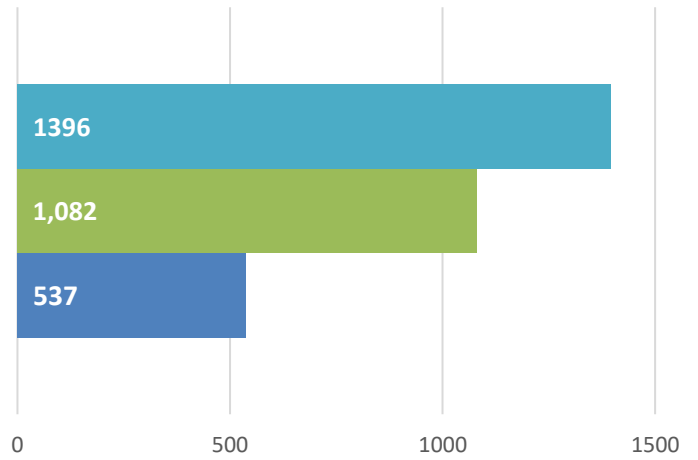
RPL Central Statistics YTD
Jan-Jun



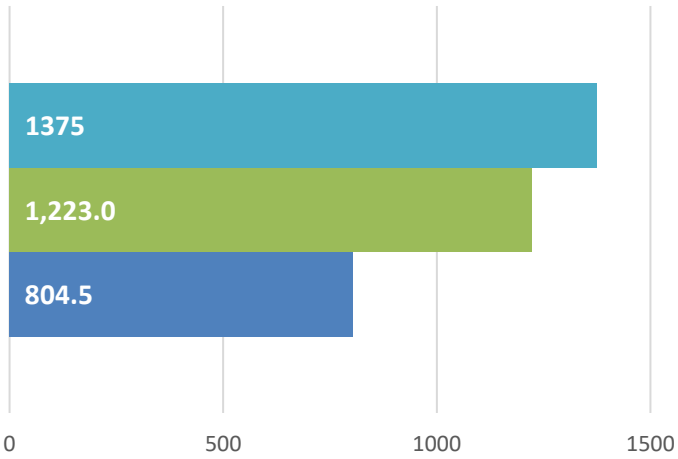
CIRCULATION



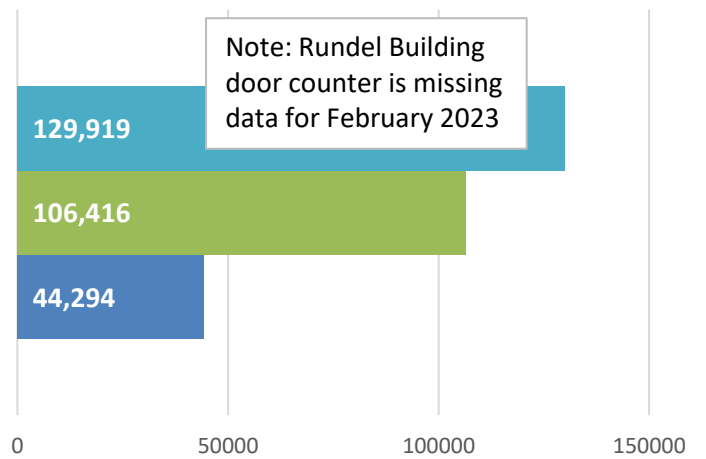
LIBRARY CARDS



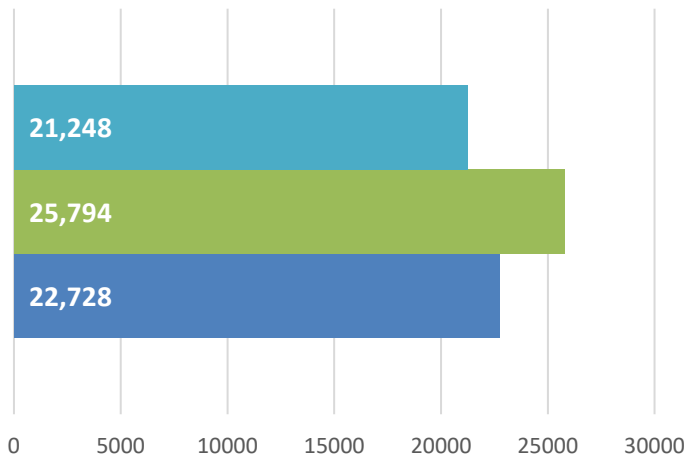
SERVICE HOURS



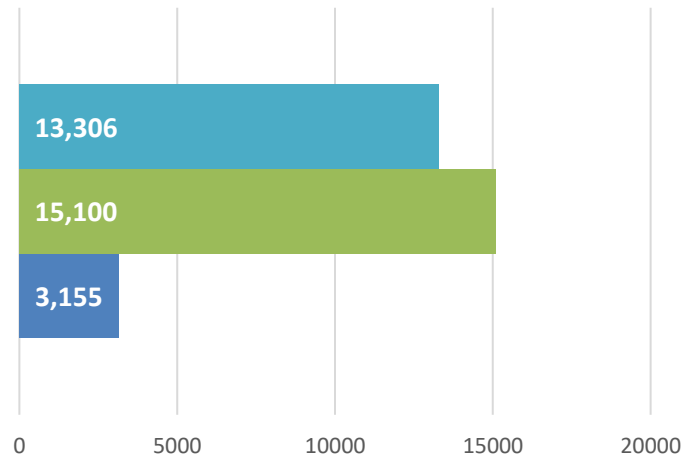
VISITS



REFERENCE QUESTIONS



NON-REFERENCE

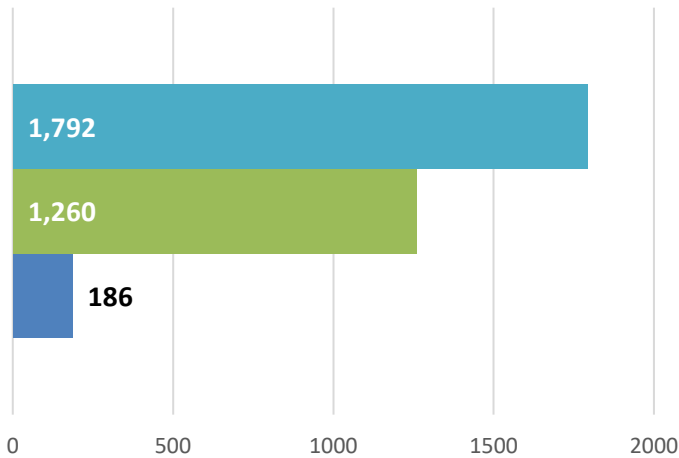


RPL Central Statistics YTD

Jan-Jun



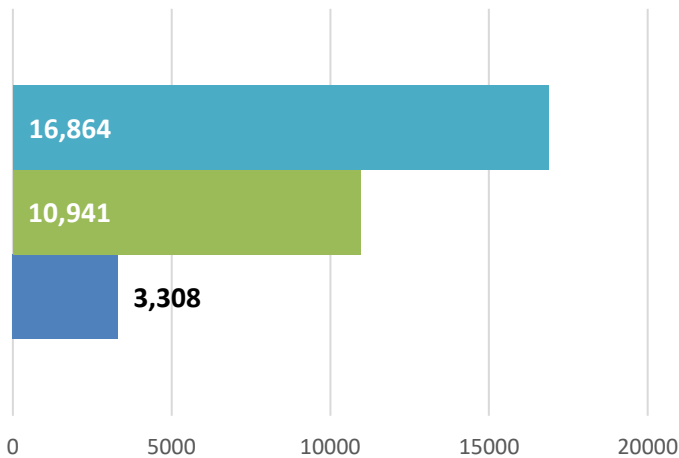
NOTARY



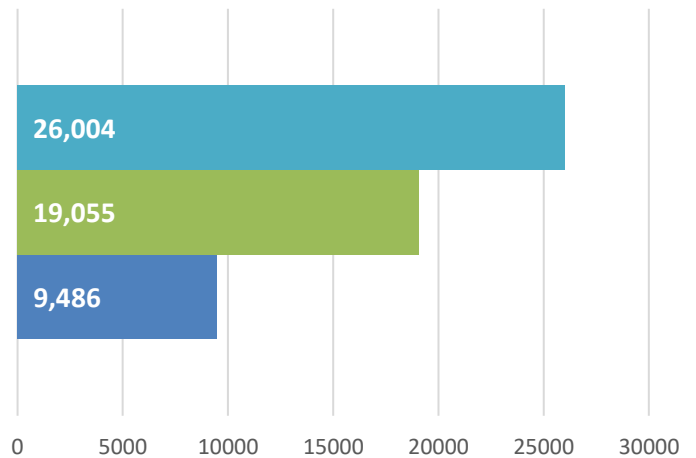
DEFINITIONS

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- Notary:** Notary Public acts. Each signature counts as one act.
- Computer Hours:** Hours patrons used the public PCs.
- WiFi Uses:** Number of log-ins to the public WiFi.
- Group Programs:** In-person and online programs. Excludes one-on-one programs and take-n-make.
- Program Attendance:** Attendance at Group Programs. Excludes staff and presenters.

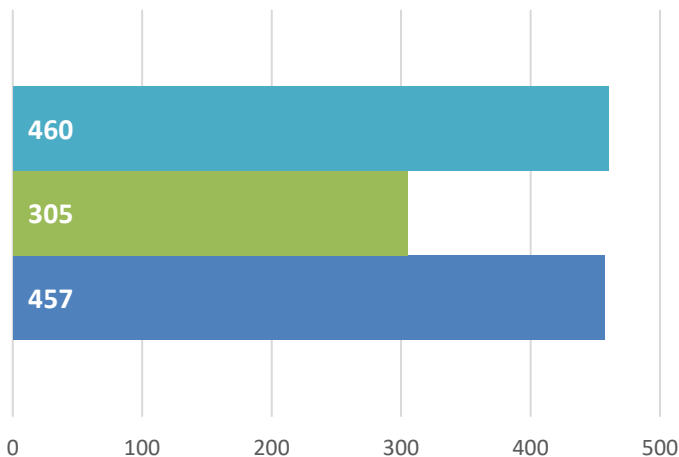
COMPUTER HOURS



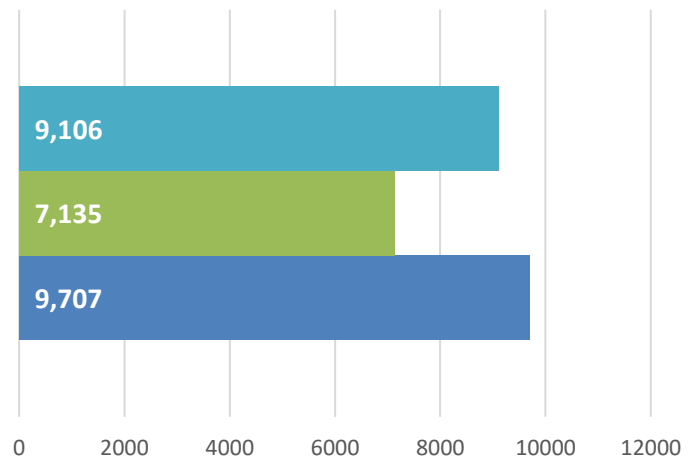
WIFI USES



GROUP PROGRAMS



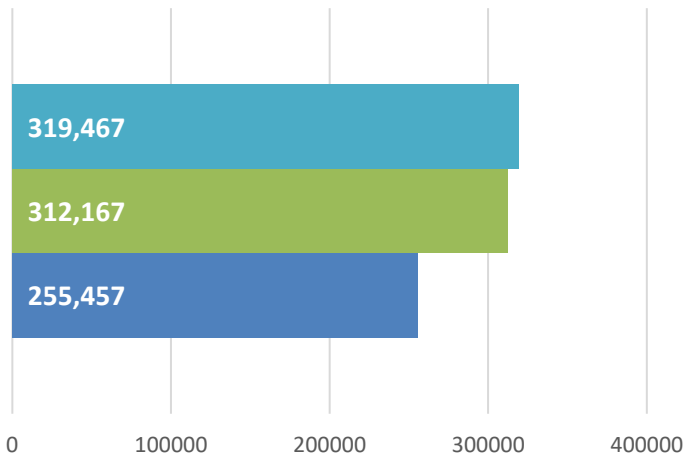
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE



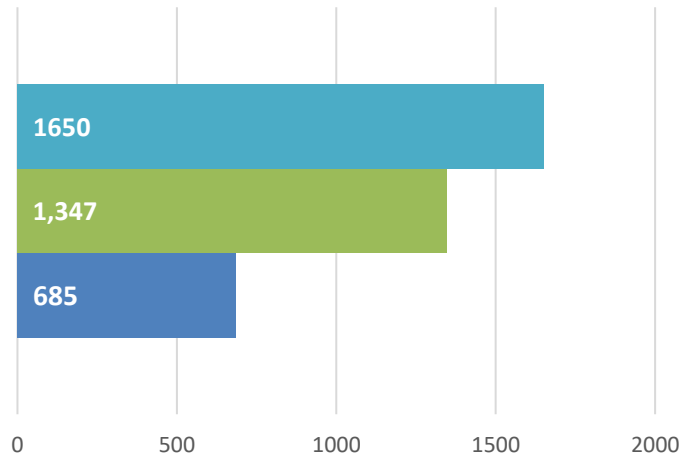
RPL Central Statistics YTD
Jan--Jul



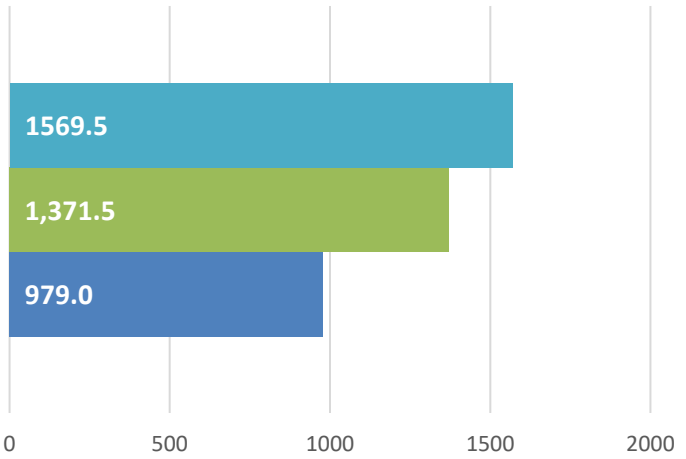
CIRCULATION



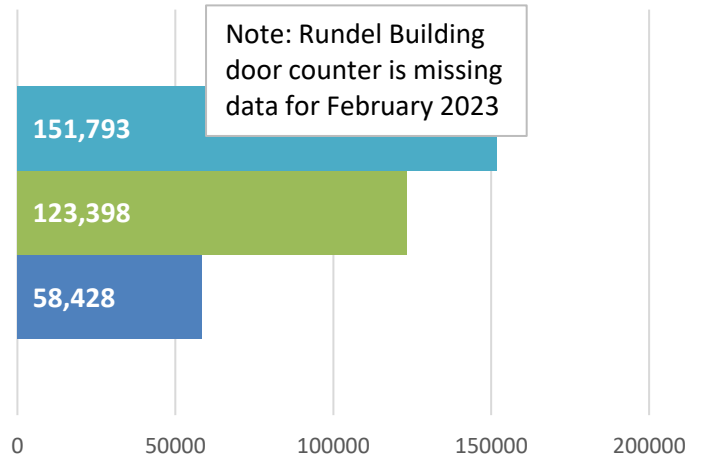
LIBRARY CARDS



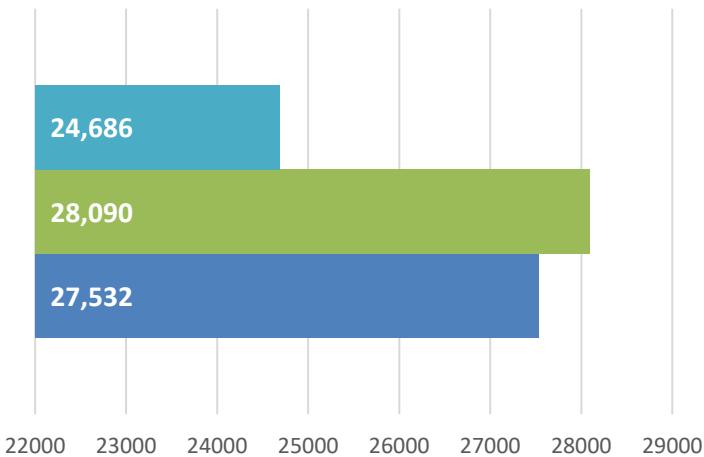
SERVICE HOURS



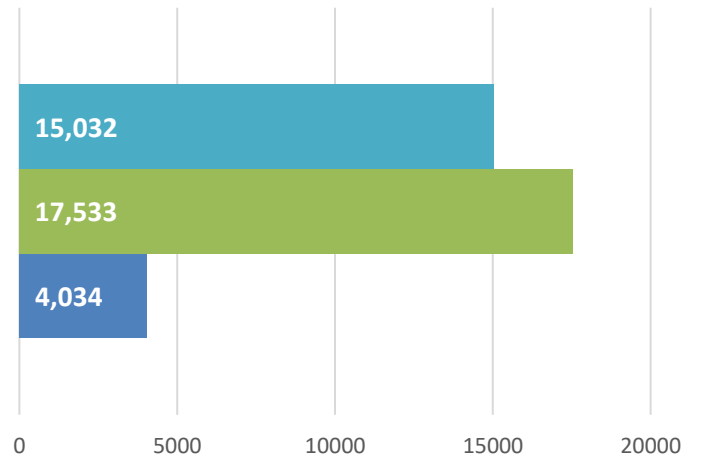
VISITS



REFERENCE QUESTIONS



NON-REFERENCE

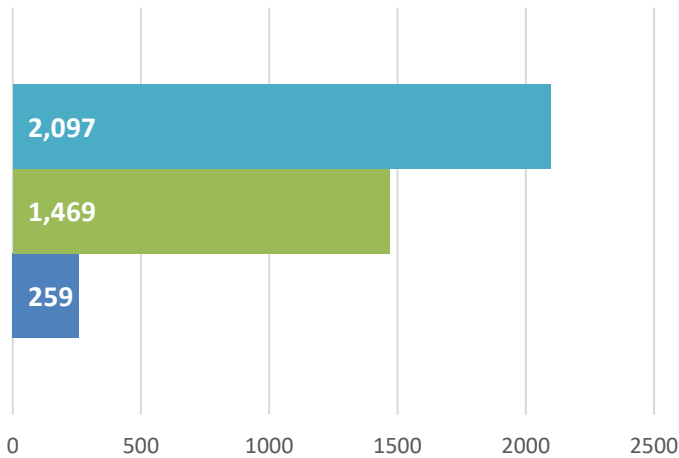


RPL Central Statistics YTD

Jan--Jul



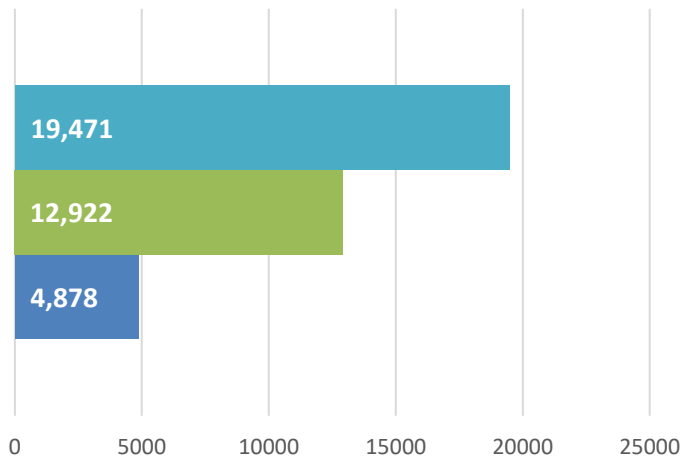
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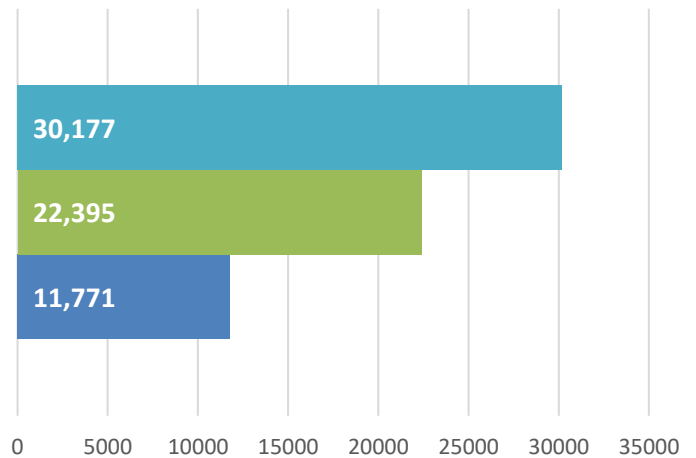
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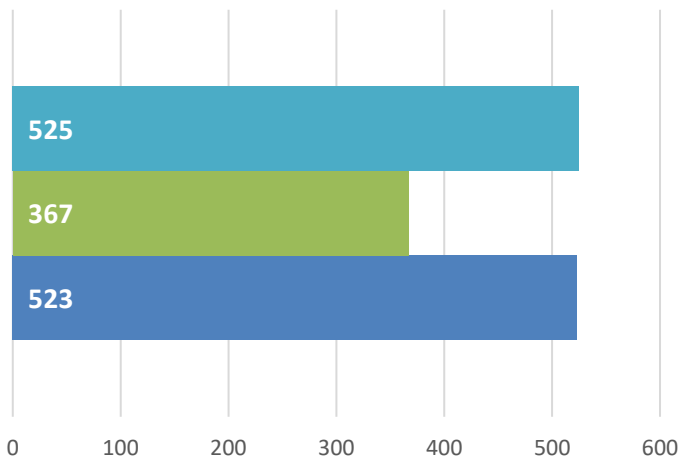
COMPUTER HOURS



WIFI USES



GROUP PROGRAMS



PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

