

FINANCIALS

Revenue
Real Property Taxes: \$8,268,345
Pilot Payments: \$166,397
Library Charges: \$31,001
Interest & Earnings: \$10,539
Grants: \$14,909
State Aid: \$288,057
Gifts & Donations: \$164,467
Miscellaneous: \$56,083
Interfund Transfers: \$1,108,330
Use of Fund Balance: \$100,849
TOTAL: \$10,208,977

Expenses
Salaries & Wages: \$4,498,588
Employee Benefits: \$1,954,200
Library Materials & Information Services: \$654,838
Equipment: \$117,347
Circulation & OPAC Management Fees: \$129,663
Operations: \$1,520,103
Debt Service: \$1,334,238
TOTAL: \$10,208,977

2022 BY THE NUMBERS

Total Visitors: 248,161
Items Loaned or Downloaded: 355,350
Reference Questions: 11,914
Public Computer Log-Ins: 80,440
Public Fax Usage: 343
Website Hits: 343,695
Database Usage: 189,620

PROGRAMS

Total Public Programs: 2,692
Total Program Attendance: 41,502

IN MEMORY OF

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A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

My first comments for an Annual Report were in the midst of a pandemic that would leave us all changed. Fear, loss and isolation have in many ways led to strength and greater connection. Fast forward to this year’s Annual Report and I am proud to say the Library District has remained constant through it all.

In-person programming is back in full and attendance is robust; virtual programs continue to be offered and desired; the dedicated staff are committed to helping the public in ways that often are above and beyond the call of duty. With great excitement in April of 2022, we welcomed the Sadie Peterson Delaney African Roots Library to PPLD. Our new branch is, for the moment, somewhat hidden under construction at the Family Partnership Center, but please persevere with parking and come in for a visit or sign up for a program.

On a personal note, I attended library events this year that reminded me of what this library does best: bringing a diverse community together. From well-attended, informative presentations, to the Book Festival, to the Luau at the Library and the cutest stuffed pig races ever, we are a community of people who learn together, play together and work together for the common good. It has been a true privilege to serve as President of the Board for almost 4 years and to have heard from you about your library experiences. I hope your summer plans include the many events our libraries have to offer and I thank you most sincerely for your continued support.

– Dianne Blazek, President, Board of Trustees

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2022 ANNUAL REPORT

A LOVE LETTER TO LIBRARIES

“A big room with heavy wooden tables that sat on a creaky/ wood floor/
A line of green shades—bankers’ lights—down the center/ Heavy oak
chairs that were too low or maybe I was simply/ too short/ For me to sit
in and read/ So my first book was always big...”

The opening to Nikki Giovanni’s cherished poem “My First Memory (of Librarians)” rings true for many of us, even if the details in our own lives vary. Reach back in your memory to the first time you ever visited a library – perhaps it was right here in Poughkeepsie. What did it look like? Smell like? Was it quiet or busy? Did you find your favorite book? Did you learn something new? Did you enjoy some solitude or were you with loved ones?

We welcome everyone to love their library and reach those who, for one reason or another, haven’t yet experienced their first visit. In 2022, we dedicated ourselves to breaking down barriers across the organization, inside and out, in pursuit of our strategic planning goals to establish greater access for all. The Library District eliminated most fines in the fall of 2022, removing a financial obstacle for patrons without burdening taxpayers. We also began hosting a community refrigerator and pantry in collaboration with Oakwood Friends School, who organize local companies and individuals to supply free food to any patron at Adriance Memorial Library.



After months of work with a passionate committee of community advocates, we opened the Sadie Peterson Delaney African Roots Branch Library to the public on April 9, 2022, nestled in the heart of the Family Partnership Center in Poughkeepsie’s Northside. As the building is set to finish renovations this year, we look forward to increasing visitorship and even more programming there. As a significant audience of Spanish-speaking patrons look to the library for resources, we’ve committed to growing our collections and events, with increased translation services and bilingual marketing.

We were honored to host incredible authors and connect the vanguard of American literature to audiences in Poughkeepsie all year long. We partnered with the Bardavon to present bestselling author Amor Towles (*The Lincoln Highway*) and National Book Award winner Imani Perry (*South to America*) and brought Gary Shteyngart, Susan Wiggs, S. A. Cosby, and many more to our library spaces. The Poughkeepsie Book Festival returned for the first Saturday of April, establishing the event as the area’s premiere annual gathering of authors and illustrators for young people.

Even in these contentious times, libraries continue to be among the most trusted public institutions in the country. Librarians work hard to uphold and protect American values – freedom, truth, opportunity. Thanks to the support of taxpayers and donors, we count ourselves lucky to meet future challenges and continue to grow.



ANNUAL FUND CONTRIBUTORS

The Library District is grateful to the individuals, businesses, and organizations who contributed to the Annual Fund between January 1 and December 31, 2022.

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