

DAVID A. HOWE PUBLIC LIBRARY

2022 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Your Library by the Numbers - 2022

Number of library card holders	5,381
Number of library materials checked out to card holders	54,550
Number of library materials loaned to other libraries	10,282
Number of state and private grant dollars awarded for special projects	\$21,059
Number of hours open	2,512
Number of library-sponsored programs offered	742
Number of library subscription service bags	288
Number of attendees at library- sponsored programs	9,749
Number of early literacy programs for children ages 0-5	95
Number of children, teens, & adults who attended Summer Reading programs	3,648
Number of group and one-on-one digital literacy sessions offered	106
Number of attendees at all digital literacy sessions	106
Number of times library computers & wireless service were used	12,713
Number of the Howe's Things library podcast listens in 2022	9,443
Number of times library meeting rooms were used by community groups for meetings, events, & fundraisers	80
Approved 2022 tax levy	\$430,932
Total state aid to library in 2022	\$2325



I have always imagined that paradise will be some kind of library. - Jorge Luis Borges

The Library in 2022



2022 marked our return to the annual village parade! This year was especially fun because we also got to help celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Texas Hot! It was exciting to see so much activity on

main street and so many people celebrating right here on the library lawn.

In the spring we welcomed best-selling author, and Western New York native Susan Wiggs! This event was years in the making, having postponed



Friends President Kris Bailey (left), Susan Wiggs (center) and Friends Secretary Monica Finn

it from its original date in April of 2020. Ms. Wiggs' visit was sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Originally from Olean, Ms. Wiggs took music lessons in Wellsville as a child and was delighted to have the opportunity to re-visit her roots.



Finally, we had two particularly noteworthy additions to the staff this year. The first was Spike, a bearded dragon whose name was decided by a vote in the children's room.

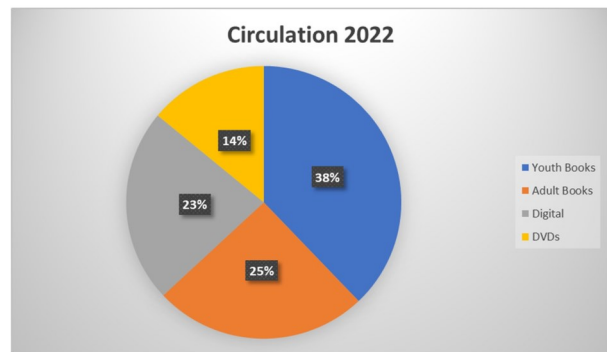
Spike takes up residence in the special habitat created for him by head of maintenance, Rick Dodd. The old fireplace in the youth room makes a nice, cozy home for our prickly little pal.



Then, there's David A. Meow rescued from the streets of Wellsville by staffers Amanda Smith and Ally Fesmire. David soon left his mark on the library, aiding in library programs, hosting visiting hours, and even promoting his own book, which he wrote by walking on Ally's keyboard! He has settled in well and so far has only ruined one pair of shoes! (No one's purrfect.)
- Nic Gunning, Director



What People Borrowed in 2022



Patrons borrowed a total of 54,550 items in 2022—an average of 123 items per day. Patrons are not limited to borrowing only when the library is open, as our digital collections are available 24/7 year round.

In 2022, children’s fiction books were the most borrowed items in the library’s collection with 18,562. This includes picture books, juvenile fiction, and young adult fiction. Adult fiction came in second with 12,324 loans. Electronic materials came in third with 11, 242 loans. This includes digital books, audiobooks, and magazines.

The library’s collection consists of 147,686 items, including 34,306 youth books, 66,210 adult titles, 4,500 DVDs, and 3,363 audiobooks on CD. In addition, patrons have access to 22,001 e-books. The library added 2,989 items to its collections in 2022.

Library Programs & Outreach Services

Once again we participated in the summer lunch program through the school, providing free lunches to kids during weekdays throughout the summer. We



continued our partnership with the Allegany County Jail by providing them with a fresh batch of books for their in-house library. We also worked closely with the Allegany County Blind Association, hosting a “Craft for a Cause” program and participating in their “See All You Can See” information fair. In September we partnered with the League of Women Voters to help register community members to vote.

Howe’s Things, the library’s podcast and radio show, continued to provide connection to the library for those near and far. We covered several topics including literary awards, Banned Books Week, Poetry month and more. We also featured many guests including library staff, volunteers and directors from around the system. Plus we had several interviews including author Dylan Newton, artist Mike Vosburg and Winsome Bingham, author of the award-winning children’s book *Soul Food Sunday*.

In addition to our frequent visits to local daycares for storytime, the youth department has been able to help reach children by handing out books at the Rotary Dinner as well as all of our seasonal events held on the front lawn. We are also proud to announce that all the grades in the Elementary School were able to come and take a tour with Miss Kate and visit the art show while it was on exhibit at the library!



The Nancy Howe Auditorium

At the end of 2021 Jessica Wieszczyk stepped down from the role of Auditorium Coordinator, having served in that capacity since 2019. We are thankful for all Jess brought to the job and are glad she stayed on in the circulation department.

For 2022, Daphne O’Kelly stepped into the role in an interim capacity and oversaw a slate of programming that included an array of perennial favorites including Emerald Isle, The Young Sisters and The Rock N Roll Pet Show.



We also had an increased focus on dance with workshops from the Genesee Country Village (19th Century Dance) and Devi Bollywood Performing Arts and performances including *Always the Hour* from Annie Wilson and *The Nutcracker* from Genesee Dance Theatre.



We staged several historical programs with Albert McFadyen as FDR, Ken Serfass as Ulysses S. Grant and Mike Randall as Mark Twain.

New to our stage in 2022 we welcomed Matt Burns and Alyssa Trahan.



Our major programs are paid for in part through state and private grants, organizational sponsorships and contributions from members of the community. Nancy Howe Auditorium programs are always free and open to everyone.

Library Operating Income and Expenses for 2022

INCOME	
WCSD Taxpayers.....	\$430,932
Endowment.....	\$172,880
Gifts & Grants.....	\$132,762
Fees & Other Income.....	\$11,250
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$747,824

EXPENSES	
Personnel.....	\$489,306
Administration.....	\$27,356
Programming.....	\$20,356
Collection.....	\$39,161
Facility.....	\$68,740
Technology.....	\$37,933
TOTAL EXPENSES.....	\$682,852

CAPITAL PROJECTS:

Gifts/Grants.....\$25,325

Funds will be used in 2023 for terrace construction projects



Oceans of Possibilities Summer Reading Program

We took a dive into Summer Reading this year with our “Oceans of Possibilities” Theme. The children’s program had a record breaking number of participants: 235 kids between the ages of zero and ten! Children had the opportunity to explore different fun and educational water themed activities such as raft building, beach slime, and live turtles!

One of the highlights of our 2022 Summer Reading Program was definitely the Ice Cream Taste Test that was held at Sugardaddy’s. Fifty children were able to sample a small portion of 8 different flavors of ice cream and then vote for their favorite. We were also fortunate to have Yoga at the library by Heather Lynn as well as a visit from local hot air balloonist Vickie Nydegger Ketchner!

As always the generosity of our community is never-ending. Kids who stop by the library once a week earn a small prize of either a book, a snack, or a coupon. Our coupons are generously donated by local businesses such as Texas Hot, Napoli Pizza, Shorts, McDonalds, Burger King, and 7-Eleven. These kids definitely had their fill of ice cream!

Our Teen Summer Reading Program featured activity trackers for teens to keep track of books read, time spent outside, and creative activities.



We were pleased to have 58 teens sign up for the program this year. We kept busy with ocean crafts and activities, as well as plenty of times to just hang out and relax in the teen loft! Some highlights from the summer were playing Twister with paint, having a water balloon fight on the library’s lawn, and hunting for hidden bags of treats in the stacks.



The adult summer reading program offered a variety of programs, including yoga on the front lawn, craft classes, book clubs, Tasty Tuesdays cooking club, trivia contests, and an author visit from Dylan Newton. Everyone who registered received a specially designed summer reading tote bag. Weekly \$25 gift certificates were awarded each week, as well as a grand prize drawing for a Tablet.

Local establishments also served up some delicious lunches for Tuesdays on the Terrace! Plus we were pleased to welcome back Music on the Lawn with concerts presented by the MOTL Committee. It was a great summer!

People At The Library (2022)

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Ken Reichman

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Erik Baldwin

Emily Budinger

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Darryl Depner

Ann Giddings

Gary Havens

Jim Knapp

Cori Lunn

Peter Mangels

David A. Meow

Heather Molloy

Daphne O’Kelly

Kim Reale

Spike

Jessica Wieszczyk



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In 2022, the Friends donated \$9,579 to help pay for library

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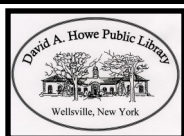
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The only thing you absolutely have to know is the location of the library. -Albert Einstein



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