

# ANNUAL REPORT

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

October 2021 thru September 2022 were a busy 12 months! As COVID restrictions were removed and vaccines and boosters became widely available, we welcomed a lot more activity in the building. Beloved programs like movies and concerts resumed and virtual events like book clubs and the LEGO Contest were held in person. We continued to build our collection of experiences for the whole family (museum and park passes), purchased Tonieboxes for our littlest listeners and subscribed to Gale Business Suite to support local businesses and entrepreneurs.

As committed stewards of our treasured historic building, we continued with necessary capital improvements. We installed an elevator (technically an enclosed vertical platform lift) which was almost entirely grant-funded, so for the first time in our 130+ years, people who can't climb the stairs can attend programs and meetings at the library. We gave the walls a fresh coat of paint and also used grant funds to upgrade the lights and restore the chimneys.

Just after the end of the fiscal year, we took a big leap forward on the path to a new library building: we closed on the property at 75 Fennell Street! We're excited to start work with Oudens Ello Architecture to design an accessible, flexible, welcoming new library for the community and expect conceptual design options to be ready in late spring/early summer 2023. Stay tuned!

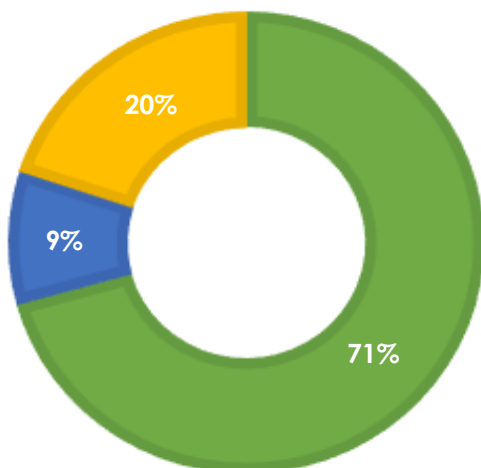


Nickie Marquis  
Library Director

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS | FISCAL YEAR OCT 2021 - SEPT 2022

OPERATING EXPENSES: \$ 462,288

Patron Services	\$ 326,808
Administration	\$ 92,037
Building	\$ 43,443



CAPITAL + PLANNING PROJECTS: \$ 247,900\*

### FENNELL STREET

Fundraising + communications	\$ 30,216
Engineering + surveys	\$ 25,369
Planning + design	\$ 14,420
	<b>\$ 70,005</b>

### GENESEE STREET

Elevator (vertical platform lift)	\$ 104,235
Chimney restoration	\$ 55,978
Lighting upgrades	\$ 11,081
Railing for front steps + ramp	\$ 6,600
	<b>\$ 177,894</b>

\* Capital project funds come from grants, donations and investment income. They are held and accounted for separately from operating funds.

## NEW + NOTABLE

Celebrated **Dinovember** with hide-and-seek (paper dinos were loose in our books!), story times and hands-on STEAM activities

DEC

### Tonieboxes

gave toddlers and preschoolers a screen-free listening experience that plays stories, songs and more

FEB

Collaborated with Waterman and 12 local businesses to help kids practice reading aloud during **Poem in Your Pocket Week**

JUN

### Stuffed Animal Adoption

gave 122 of our youngest summer readers the chance to choose and care for a new mini pet

AUG

After a long hiatus, 2 of our popular monthly series returned:

### Movies + Classic Guitar Concerts

NOV

Hosted the **Dickens Book Sale and performances** for locals and visitors alike for the first time since 2019

JAN

Distributed our last **Craft Kit**, which helped kids and adults get creative at home during the pandemic (832 this year, 2,250 total)

APR

Added to our collection of **Museum + Park Passes** with the MOST, Children's Museum of Oswego and the National Women's Hall of Fame

JUL

Subscribed to **Gale Business Suite** to help you research, plan, develop and grow your small business or nonprofit

SEPT

## ON OUR SHELVES

46,362 books, DVDs, etc. checked out: **UP 12%**

441 kits for all ages checked out: **UP 17%**

Most read adult mystery book was *State of Terror* by Hillary Rodham Clinton + Louise Penny

Most popular middle reader book was a tie between *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Double Down* and *Words That Built a Nation: Voices That Have Shaped America's History*

**66,618 total check outs (incl. digital): UP 8%**

## DOWNLOADABLES + STREAMING

20,256 digital items used

**Breakdown:** 47% ebooks, 10% video, 40% audiobooks, 2% magazines and 1% music

Total minutes watched on Kanopy: **53,735**

Most popular TV series on Hoopla was *Riviera from Sundance Now*

## PEOPLE + PROGRAMS

5,824 cardholders: **UP 6%**

4,652 people attended 315 virtual, hybrid and in-person programs

Most attended program was The Rev Theatre's *The Fisherman's Wife* at Austin Park with 127 people

## TECHNOLOGY

1,538 computer sessions and 4,149 wifi sessions

28,956 website visits: **UP 21%**

48 hotspot and Chromebook borrows

73 tech help appointments, plus plenty of informal help at the desk