

## AURORA FREE LIBRARY NOVEMBER 2024 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Submitted for Board of Trustees Meeting

### HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWS

- 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Actual Date Event Wed. Dec. 11, 4-6 pm Cake, slideshow and displays.
- Dave and I attended the Nonprofit Summit at The Lodge and attended workshops on How to Have a Thriving Board, Advocacy and Staff Wellness.
- Thank you for another fantastic Spooky Library Halloween led by Susan MacCormick with help from Robin, Ginger, Gretchen and 2 teens. Over 400 people came through!
- We were notified by the Village that it was discovered that the public line to the library is lead. As far as the village has been able to determine, it is the only one in the village. Dave and I will be in touch with the village to get the water tested and determine next steps.

### GRANT ACTIVITY NEWS

#### **Rosen Storytime Train 2023-24: FINISHED SPENDING**

#### **Rosen Grants for 2024-25:**

#### **Rosen Summer Reading Grant 2024-25 with Hazard Library: FINISHED SPENDING**

#### **Rosen Storytime Train 2024-25:**

- Aurora Preschool continues to visit twice a month and other families attend weekly. The Preschool came on Halloween as well for a treat and a story.
- Visited UPK classrooms at Emily Howland in October and November with Hazard Library.

#### **Rosen Take it on the Road and Beyond 2024-25:**

- We are planning the next few months of Take and Make kits. For Dinovember we handed out a dinosaur activity book along with dinosaur crafts (gem art and a lego-like dinosaur kit). We gave out dinosaur books and crafts to the Food Pantry families last weekend.
- Purchased a Dinosaur Activity book for Storytime (Preschool) and UPK students for Dinovember.
- In December we will be handing out Poptart gingerbread house kits at the Food Pantry as we have done in the past. We are also putting together holiday craft kits for our patrons at the library and are currently passing out Christmas Countdown kits made from recycling our paper snake links from this summer.
- The first Monthly Painted Paper Workshop with Whitney Nichols had 13 kids.
- Our monthly Tween Graphic Novel Workshop was held in November discussing the book *Play Like a Girl*. Next month's book is titled *Four Eyes* by Rex Ogle.
- A Storywalk of the book *Explorers of the Wild* is up at the library. We borrowed this one from the Seneca Falls Library.

#### **Statewide Community Regrant from Auburn Public Theater 2024:**

- Tri-Cities Opera performed The Ugly Duckling for 43 people. All in attendance enjoyed it.

### PROGRAMMING/PR

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- Book Lovers' Ball author Melinda Carter Oakes gave a short talk on her book *The Cheerleader's Guide to the Workplace* with 12 in attendance.
- Travel Series program featured the Lampman Family Zimbabwe Trip with their Safari leaders.
- D & D group of Teens continues to meet weekly.
- Peachtown is visiting weekly and Kathy is reading to them.
- Partnered in October with Create Kindness and United Ministry on Hocus Pocus with a Focus and raised money for the SCCS Boosters. We cosponsored the Balloon Artist and also held a corn stress ball craft table.
- Kathy put together a Dinovember scavenger hunt for November and are planning a Gnome Hunt for December.
- Met with the 125<sup>th</sup> Committee to finalize plans for the party on Wed. Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. It will be 4-6 pm. We will have displays, cake, and a slideshow. Kids will get a free book.
- Young Frankenstein movie night had 40 participants.
- Susan MacCormick's Halloween Night Spooky Library was a hit. We had over 400 people come in. We had three entries for our Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Smart Cookie won and all received a prize.
- Promoting upcoming events including Perry Ground, The Last Waltz Movie night, and Christmas in Aurora events.
- Planning Graham Cracker House Decorating for Christmas in Aurora and will host Santa following Tree Lighting.
- Reviewed/ gathered info for November Hub Newsletter.
- Updated website with webmaster and posted to FB and Instagram and used Mailchimp to alert patrons of latest events. Created PR for events and sent out press releases.

### ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

- Attended Annual Meeting with Dave. Presentation by Matthew Burr "Human Resources Basics for Directors and Trustees".
- Attended NonProfit Summit with Dave. Melanie Littlejohn of CNY Community Foundation spoke about Strategic Partnerships with NYCON and we attended the following breakout sessions:
  - Staff Wellness, Staff Incentive Programs | Mary Simpson, Unity House
  - Transitioning to a Modern & Thriving Board Model | Karen Macier, Nonprofit Executive
  - Advocacy: What It Is, How It Can Benefit Your Organization, and Where to Start! | Tania Anderson, ARISE
- Attended FLLS Directors' Meeting. Highlights:
  - NYS Library Advocacy Day will be earlier than usual on February 5, 2025.
  - New York Library Association (NYLA) is asking the state for a huge increase this year.
  - To be salaried you must make \$60,405.80 in 2025.
- Planning to work on Staff Benefits Policy. FLLS will be sending out a survey to member libraries asking for their policies soon.
- Attended Cayuga Connect meeting. A total of 6 of 9 county libraries attended. Topics included: lending policies, county funding, collection and patron codes, and consolidating services.

### FINANCE/LEGAL COMPLIANCE/FUNDRAISING

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- Asked and received the following from Loretta in the Business Office at SCCS regarding numbers for tax rate. This shows \$5000 & \$7500 and the difference. As you can see, it doesn't change much. Below are the current year's tax rates vs. adding \$5000 and \$7500, let me know if you need further clarification.

	Current	+\$5000	+\$7,500
	Tax Rate	Tax Rate	Tax Rate
	per 1000	per 1000	per 1000
	Assessed	Assessed	Assessed
Fleming	0.150594	0.154697	0.157261
Genoa	0.188244	0.193372	0.196577
Lansing	0.150594	0.154697	0.157261
Ledyard	0.188243	0.193371	0.196576
Locke	0.198150	0.203548	0.206922
Scipio	0.150594	0.154697	0.157261
Venice	0.171132	0.175794	0.178708

- Keeping up-to-date with Dave regarding DRI and NYS Library Construction Projects including the MOH AC project to begin in Spring 2025.
- Received Trustee Training Requirement from 2 board members so far.
- Worked on Annual Appeal Letter and Mailing List with Dave.
- In touch with Sue about possible notecard and ornament items for fundraising/sale.
- FLLS is once again offering Collection Development Grants up to \$2000. This money can be used on new collections or adding to current collections or replacing items in current collection. I requested \$2000. We will deposit it this year and use it next year.
- Emailed Cayuga County and submitted a voucher to be paid our \$3500 for 2024.

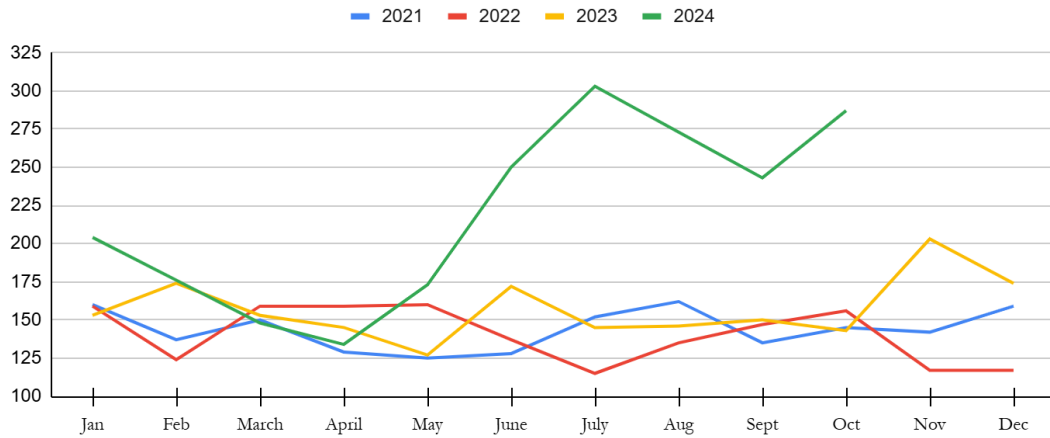
**DOOR COUNT: \*Daily door count (not including those who attended programs). Door count is up.**

Month	2023	2024
December	314* + 345 attended Programs	
November	326* + 347 attended Programs	
October	327* + 622 attended Programs	<b>448* + 937 attended 28 Programs</b>
September	352* + 336 attended Programs	352* + 500 attended 18 Programs
August	420* + 162 attended Programs	622* + 170 attended 11 Programs
July	428* + 634 attended Programs	732* + 678 attended 25 Programs
June	395* + 650 attended Programs	433* + 700 attended 16 Programs
May	242* + 259 attended Programs	389* + 213 attended Programs
April	219* + 305 attended Programs	370* + 273 attended Programs
March	266* + 865 attended Programs	376* + 781 attended Programs
February	250* + 569 attended Programs	376* + 674 attended Programs
January	225* + 107 attended Programs	399* + 100 attended Programs

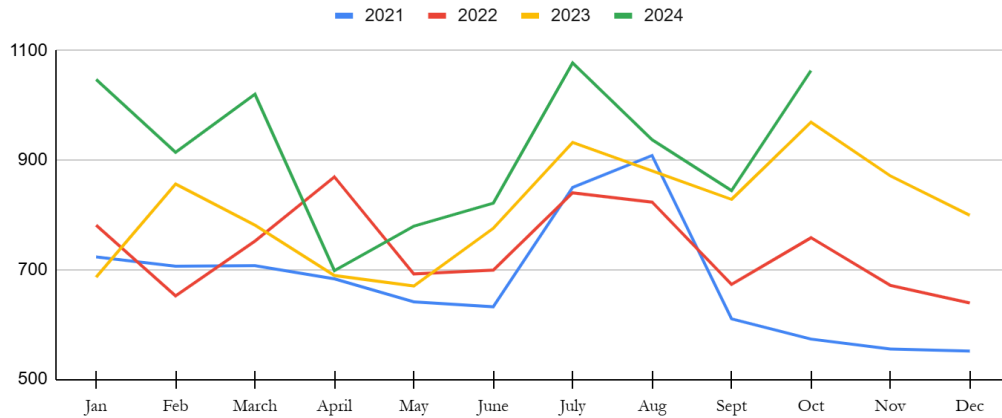
**CIRCULATION COMPARISON 2021-2024:** Overdrive ematerials use and circulation is up.

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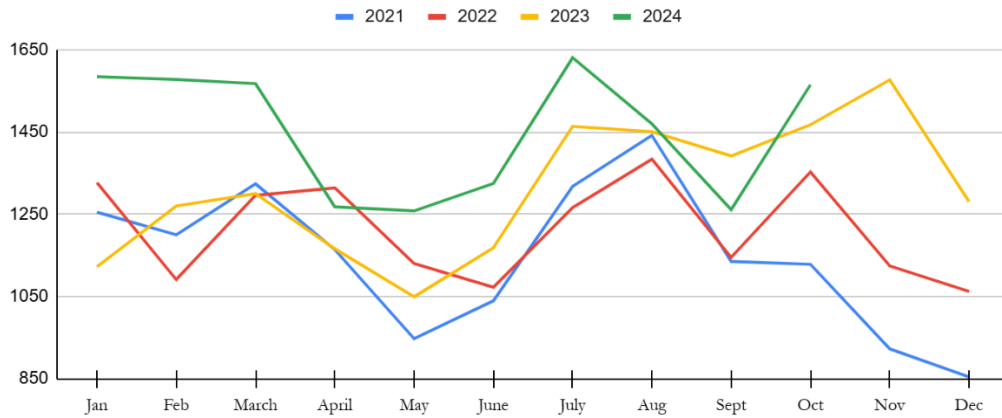
Total Circulation of Overdrive ematerials



Total Circulation of all Materials without renewals



Total Circulation of all Materials with renewals



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### BUILDING USE AND MAINTENANCE

- **2023/24 Maintenance/Checks** have occurred: Stair Chair (8/14/2024), Fire Extinguisher Check (10/21/2024), Service Alert (4/16/2024) and Fall Visit (10/8/2024), Furnaces/Navien Boiler maintenance Holbrook Heating (11/29/2023), Holbrook Heating AC maintenance (5/8/2024), Window Washing and Power washing (4/20/2024).
- Some shades in main room are not working. Sandy spoke to vendor.
- The groundlight in front damaged by Hale still needs to be fixed. **Dave met with Dave Brong.**
- NEED SEVERAL NEW FLOOR GRATES in main room- **OPEN ISSUE**
- AFL/MOH Front sign near sidewalk will be refurbished by Yesteryears next year. DAVE
- Main Street entry steps are spalling and gaps where mortar is on sides seems to have increased. Met with DAVE and mason 7/12/22 to solicit estimate. **PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**
- Need to install street number – **OPEN ISSUE**
- First floor weatherizing south windows- **OPEN ISSUE- Submitted with DRI Grant.**
- Stains on interior north wall MOH – **OPEN ISSUE**

### UPCOMING EVENTS: PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK for more

DATE	EVENT	FUNDED BY	TIME & LOCATION (AFL unless noted)
Any time	Overdrive/Libby Eresources help		
Mondays	Fiber Arts Group		4 pm
Wednesdays	Storytime	Rosen	9:30 am
Mondays	Teen D & D		5:30 pm
Nov 20	Painted Paper	Rosen	6:30 pm
Nov 23	The Last Waltz Movie		7:30pm
Nov 24	Perry Ground	Regrants Art	2 pm
Dec 4	Book Club		7 pm Opendore
Dec 7	Xmas in Aurora		11am Graham Cracker, 3pm Brass Trio, 4 pm Tree Lighting/Santa
Dec 11	125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party		4-6 pm
Dec 11	Tween Graphic Novel Book Club	Rosen	6:30 pm
Dec 18	Painted Paper Art Club	Rosen	6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by Sandy Groth