

**AURORA FREE LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT
OCTOBER 2026**

Submitted for 10/15/2026 Board of Trustees Meeting

HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWS

- Summer Reading Statistics included 45 programs with 1440 participants! There were 17 Teens and 15 Adults who participated in our weekly reading program or signed up for summer reading.
- Check out Trustee Lib Guide on FLLS site for training and other information about libraries and trustee responsibilities : https://scrlc.libguides.com/flls_trustee_toolkit
- We have not received the Free and Direct Access Plan from FLLS yet to be voted on. I assume you will need to vote on it next month.

GRANT ACTIVITY NEWS

Rosen Take it on the Road and Beyond 2026-27:

- Graphic Novel Book Club will meet on October 14 with author of *Misfit Mansion*, Kay Duvault. The author will Zoom in and speak to participants and lead them in an art activity. Books have been provided and she has signed bookplates for each of them.

Hazard Summer Reading Grant Summer 2026:

- Spent most of money for Hazard Summer Reading

Storytime Train 2026-27 Grant:

- Reached out to SCCS UPK Classrooms and have set up a schedule for monthly visits with Hazard Library starting in late October.
- Weekly Storytime at the library began Wed. Sept. 23. Aurora Preschool has a number of new young children and will begin coming on October 21st.

Auburn Public Theater Community Arts Regrant 2026:

- The first two-session Adult Pottery workshops is complete and another will take place on Oct. 22 and Nov. 5. The Kids one met once and created animal-themed planters and will glaze next week. Everyone has enjoyed the workshops and we hope to offer some in the future if we can find funding.
- The grant will also fund felting workshops in November – one for Adults and one for Teens. They will take place on Sat. November 7th.
- Tri-Cities Opera will perform Hansel and Gretel on October 24th at 11 am. I have been promoting it online and via email and will be promoting it directly at SCCS as well.

PROGRAMMING/PR

- We made a Ducktober Scavenger Hunt which is happening for October along with a Rubber Duck Decorating Contest. Those who return ducks will receive a small glow-in-the-dark duck and be entered to win a Lego Set. The returned ducks will be on display at the end of the month.
- I submitted our summer reading results to FLLS to pass on to NYS for the summer reading program.
- Peachtown (grades K-2) will change their visit to 1 pm (instead of 2 pm) on Wednesdays. The upper school is also hoping to find a time to visit.
- Liz Snyder will offer a Leaf Talk and Card Making event on October 14 at 7 pm.
- The 9 To 5 Movie will be shown this weekend- Sat. October 17 at 7 pm as a tribute to Dolly Parton.

- We celebrated Summer Reading Readers who received an ice cream cone or brought in their reading logs at an ice cream sundae party at Emily Howland. There were 72 students who participated.
- Attended SCCS Emily Howland Open House on Sept. 23 with Hazard Library and talked to 67 adults, 5 teens and 44 kids. We gave out 4 Aurora cards and 6 Hazard cards and promoted library services.
- Meredith's Story and Soup Club met on Sept. 25th to discuss *Hatchet* with 7 kids. They are planning another meeting in November.
- Aurora Art Club will meet Oct. 15 to make windcatchers at 3 pm.
- We will hold Chess Club this Friday, Oct. 16 at 5 pm.
- The Southern Cayuga Book Club discussed *The Frozen River* this month and will meet to discuss *Frank* in November about Frances Cleveland who attended Wells College.
- We will join Hazard Library at SCCS for a Trunk or Treat Event on October 30th.
- Reviewed/ gathered info for the October Hub Newsletter.
- Updated website with webmaster and posted to FB and Instagram. Used Mailchimp to alert patrons of latest events including BLB. Created PR for events and sent out press releases.

ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

- Intern Sarah Bullock continues to help us with library projects and day-to-day work to complete her internship.
- We are participating in the Great Give Back which happens annually with Hazard Library. We are asking for donations of tuna or chicken pouches or salad kits, jello or pudding cups, or non-refrigerated pouch yogurts for the King Ferry Food Pantry's Backpack Program.
- Met with FALCONS Advisory Committee made up of several library directors to discuss topics to bring up with other directors regarding the common card and catalog primarily.
- Kathy Thompson has been volunteering frequently and is helping with the storytime while Linda K. is out after her knee surgery.
- In touch with Dave regarding building needs and Construction Projects and grant opportunities.
- FLLS continues to work on Plan of Service (like Long Range Plan). We have no new info yet.
- Will attend FLLS Annual Meeting on 10/16/2026.

FINANCE/LEGAL COMPLIANCE/FUNDRAISING

- Working on Policies with Thea and Lori.
- **Congrats** to Lori for completing her 2 Hours of Trustee Training!
- Received Lori's, Michele's, Jo's and Thea's Sexual Harassment Training. **THANK YOU!!**
- Promoted Book Lovers' Ball on social media, emails and website.

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

January 2026 Door Count 245 people (plus 180 at 14 programs)

February 2026 Door Count 326 people (plus 677 at 21 programs)

March 2026 Door Count 446 people (plus 715 at 27 programs)

April 2026 Door Count 339 people (plus 302 at 23 programs)

May 2026 Door Count 516 people (plus 618 at 23 programs)

June 2026 Door Count 544 people (plus 956 at 19 programs)

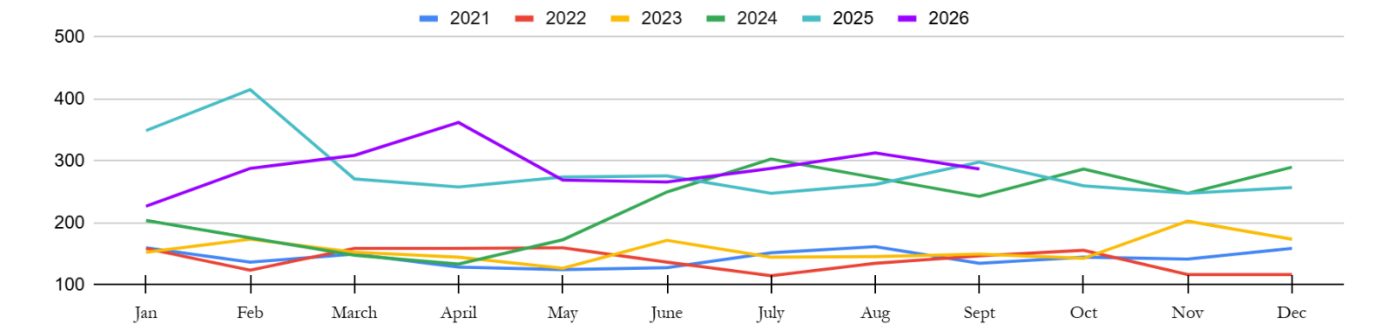
July 2026 Door Count 573 people (plus 384 at 14 programs)

August 2026 Door Count 654 people (plus 365 at 21 programs)

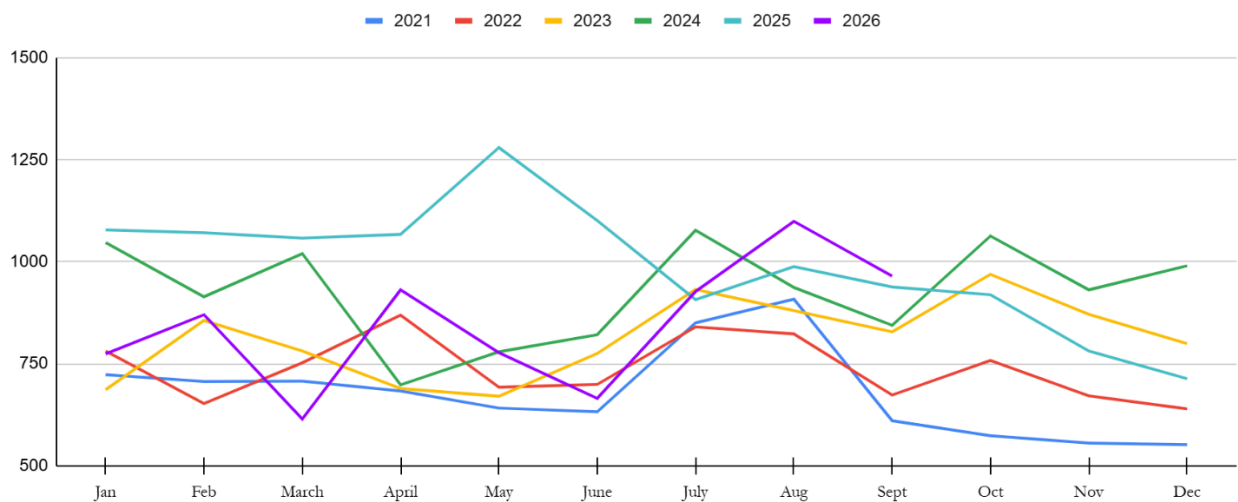
September 2026 Door Count 457 people (plus 446 at 16 programs)

CIRCULATION:

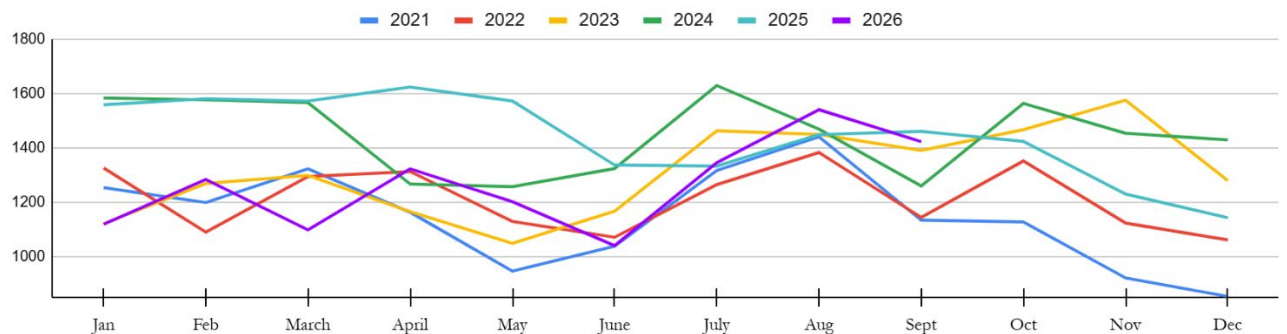
Total Circulation of Overdrive ematerials



Total Circulation of all Materials without renewals



Total Circulation of all Materials with renewals



BUILDING USE AND MAINTENANCE

- Stair Chair bill was adjusted thanks to Dave calling. Cost was \$270 (not original \$838).

2025/26 Maintenance/Checks

- Stair Chair (7/15/2026), Fire Extinguisher Check (12/2025), New alarm system Eastern Security Services company (7/15/2026) put in a cell phone to alert them of alarm. B & C Furnaces/AC Maintenance (6/29/2026), Window Washing and Power Washing (5/16/2026).
- ****Seal front doors to preserve.** OPEN ISSUE**
- Consider 'permanent' sign for Lili's puppets
- Consider options for lighting for step from platform in front of flowers to front walk way. **DAVE will look at electric light for those areas**
- Need New Grate made in Front Room (metal has split and Dave made temporary wooden one). Inns use Reggio Registers. **LORI and DAVE**
- Follow-up on water line issue with Village (Mike White). **DAVE**
- Basement dehumidifier and jail heat. **DAVE Submitted Construction Grant**
- AFL/MOH Front sign near sidewalk will be refurbished by Yesteryears. **DAVE**
- Need to install street number – **OPEN ISSUE**
- First floor weatherizing south windows- **OPEN ISSUE- Since did not receive DRI funding, resubmitted in NYS Construction Grant.**
- Stains on interior north wall MOH – **OPEN ISSUE**
- Consider extending concrete walkway from back steps to curb. Also consider a concrete handicapped parking space near back door?

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	Peachtown		1 pm
Wednesdays	Storytime	Rosen	9:30 am
10/1-10/31	Great Give Back for Food Pantry		
10/1 and 10/22	Children's Pottery Sessions	APT	4:30pm
10/14	Tween Graphic Novel Book Club	Rosen	6 pm
10/14	Leaf and Plant ID	Helming	7 pm
10/16	Chess Club		5 pm
10/17	9 To 5 Movie – Dolly Parton		7 pm
10/22 and 11/5	Second Adult Pottery Sessions	APT	6 pm
10/24	Tri-Cities Hansel and Gretel	APT	11 am
10/24	Michaela Groth and Friends	MOH	7:30 pm
10/31	Spooky Library		5-8 pm
11/4	Southern Cayuga Book Club		7 pm Opendore
11/7	Felting Workshop(s)	APT	TBD

Respectfully submitted by Sandy Groth