



115 South Avenue | Rochester | New York | 14604

TO: RPL Board of Trustees  
FROM: Patricia Uttaro, Director  
DATE: May 26, 2021  
SUBJECT: Monthly Report – May 2021

## ***Action Items***

### **Update to 2021-22 Central Library Budget (Harrison)**

Since RPL Board approval of the Central Library budget in February, we have received confirmation of the requested 1.5% increase in County operating support. We have also received confirmation of flat NYS Library Aid (versus a 5% reduction), which has minor impact on Central.

Regarding expense changes from February, the City has approved a 4% cost of living adjustment for APT and Confidential employees, higher than our 2% estimate. Several City chargebacks for department services (motor equipment, phone charges) have increased, and we have restored a Librarian I position previously submitted as a new Library Assistant position.

Based on these expense increases we have removed the 2% vacancy factor for System Services revenue. This is something added a few budget cycles ago to bring actual billing closer to budget. Billing will still be based on actual payroll expenses. Based on increases in Community full-time positions, we have reduced benefits costs by nominal amounts based on the share of Central to Community FTEs.

Net of changes in revenues and expenses, the Central budget is increased by \$44,100 from February, for a total of \$10,929,500; we are distributing a revised expense and revenue summary, which reflects the changes described.

**Board Action Requested:** Approval of the amended 2021-22 Central Library Budget.

### **Update to 2021-22 Community Library Budget (Harrison)**

Since Board approval of the Community budget in February, the City has received updated, improved budget estimates from State aid via Federal stimulus funding. As a result we have restored the two full-time position reductions proposed in February. State Aid for libraries is now known and will be flat from the current year, and we have removed the Rippey Trust revenue (\$30,000) at the request of FFRPL to apply towards their Safe to be Smart support target. As a result of the latter we are requesting an increase of \$30,000 in fund balance utilization from \$530,000 to \$560,000. We have also incorporated private support of a full-time Raising A Reader Library Assistant position (\$65,500).

Our capital budget as submitted in February remains consistent; even with reductions in annual allocations, we have an increase in support with new projects (Maplewood design, Rundel HVAC). A summary of funding and the five-year Capital Improvement Program is attached.

The Community operating budget as amended will be \$4,682,600, an increase of \$144,000 from February. We are distributing revised expense and revenue summaries, which reflects the changes described.

**Board Action Requested:** Approval of the amended 2021-22 Community Library Budget.

**Central Library Development Aid FY22 (Harrison)**

Enclosed is the proposed budget application for the expenditure of state Central Library Development Aid for the 2021-22 fiscal year, flat from 2020-21. FY22 remains consistent with FY21 levels across all expense categories.

**Board Action Requested:** Approval of NYSED Central Library Development Aid for the 2021-22 budget cycle.

**Amending NYSED Library Construction Grant, Central HVAC (Traub)**

NYSED has notified the MCLS that available funds from other systems have gone unutilized, and the excess is applied to applicants from the FY2021 cycle. The MCLS is receiving an additional \$37,516, of which the RPL is the sole member applicant this cycle. As a result, we are recommending that the additional funds be applied to the Bausch & Lomb building HVAC project. This will help to offset the RPL capital match (\$40,000) as approved by the Board in August 2020. The total construction budget will remain \$1,013,000.

**Board Action Requested:** Approve an amended acceptance of NYSED Library Construction funds, from \$473,000 to \$510,516, for the Bausch & Lomb building HVAC project.

**Raising a Reader Temporary Support (Uttaro)**

The part-time Library Assistant supporting Raising A Reader has been vacant for most of the fiscal year, due to a resignation and the decision not to fill given the reduced school and daycare support during COVID. However, it will take several weeks to fill and train the new full-time and part-time staff funded in the FY22 budget. Much of the planning and supply development of this program occurs during the summer in preparation for the start of the school year. We recommend the retention of temporary support to create and produce content for At Home Storytime Kits, inventory management for Raising A Reader bags in advance of school and daycare openings in September, and support of outreach activities (story times) until the RPL positions are filled. Tonia Burton has identified Taylor Coonelly, a Nazareth College early childhood development student, as the recommended candidate for this temporary support. Ms. Coonelly will be paid at a rate of \$29 per hour, for 240 hours, not to exceed \$6,960. This will be funded from the FY21 operating budget (wage vacancy) as supported by the City Budget Office.

**Board Action Requested:** Approve a Professional Services Agreement with Taylor Coonelly for the services and fee described.

**Grant Acceptance, Rochester Regional Library Council Special Projects Grant (Uttaro)**

The Local History & Genealogy Division has been awarded a Special Projects Grant in the amount of \$3,850 from the Rochester Regional Library Council to provide professional development for staff involved in planning for establishment of an archive of Black history and culture. The money will be used to pay the tuition for 10 RPL staff to attend the American Association of State & Local History's virtual Basics of Archive training program and to pay a consultant (Steven G. Fullwood of the Nomadic Archivists Project) to teach a two a two-part workshop on Archiving & Preserving Local Black History. The workshop will be promoted and facilitated by RRLC and will be open to librarians, archivists, and community members throughout New York State.

**Board Action Requested:** Acceptance of the Special Projects grant from Rochester Regional Library Council.

**Professional Services Agreement, Lisa Buda (Uttaro)**

The Local History & Genealogy Division is asking for approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Lisa Buda for an amount not to exceed \$2,400. Ms. Buda will provide services in connection with the Technology Grant the library received from the Rochester Regional Library Council. Work to be done includes determining best practices for converting MARC records to Dublin Core, uploading a sample of images and associated metadata from the library's Rochester Images collections to New York Heritage, and developing a process manual to guide future transfer of Rochester Images content to New York Heritage in support of a long-range goal of making all Rochester Images material more widely discoverable.

**Board Action Requested:** Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Lisa Buda.

**Professional Services Agreement, Debergerac Productions (Uttaro)**

The Local History & Genealogy Division asks for approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Debergerac Productions for an amount not to exceed \$3,500 to convert content from several unstable audiovisual media formats (VHS and U-matic video cassette tapes, reel to reel audio tapes and audiocassette tapes) to digital formats for long-term preservation and access. Material to be converted comes from the Local History & Genealogy Division's Opera Theatre League and Rochester Arts & Lectures collections.

**Board Action Requested:** Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Debergerac Productions.

***Report Items***

***RPL Director Patricia Uttaro reporting***

**Update on Return to Full Operating Hours** – May has been a month of quick changes of direction as we worked to plan for a return to full operating hours for all RPL locations. In April, the NYSED Division of Library Development issued a memo that stated an expectation for all public libraries in New York State to return to pre-COVID, minimum standard operating hours by June 1. Initially, it did not appear that RPL would be able to comply by June 1, although a July opening date seemed possible. As May has progressed, we have learned that City buildings, including City Hall, will re-open for full hours June 1, so we sped up to meet that date as well.

Great thanks are owed to Cynthia Dana, Jennifer Lenio, Adam Traub, Melanie Lewis, Joan Lee, and Ana Suro for their perseverance in addressing all the questions and issues associated with bringing staff back from telework, planning for social distancing and mask wearing, and re-opening to full hours. There are some kinks, but we're working them out.

Effective Monday May 17, MCLS ended the requirement for member libraries to quarantine returned materials. This decision was made based on updated information regarding transmission of COVID-19, increased numbers of vaccinated people in Monroe County, and increasing requests from member libraries. While the system will not require quarantine, member libraries may continue to follow the practice for their own materials. Associate Director Traub is also closely monitoring issues related to the CDC indication that mask-wearing can be relaxed. While NYS is still under a mask mandate, libraries will continue to require masking. This is especially important as libraries resume in-person programs for children, most of whom have not been vaccinated.

**FFRPL Executive Director Search** – I continue to serve on the search committee to replace Ned Davis, who will leave FFRPL July 31. The job announcement has been released, with applications requested by June 11. There

will be a farewell event for Ned on June 23; more information on that will follow. For your information, the job description is shown below. Please share it with your networks.

**JOB POSTING:** Executive Director for Friends and Foundation of the Rochester Public Library. Rochester, New York

Do you love libraries and are you motivated to share your library story with others? Are you looking for an opportunity to use your skills to support an organization that benefits the entire community?

The Friends and Foundation of the Rochester (NY) Public Library, a 501(c)(3) that raises funds, presents programs, and supports special projects for the Rochester Public Library, is looking for a highly motivated individual to continue with and build upon our strong recent growth.

The successful candidate will be a highly visible library advocate, with proven ability to lead organizational change and develop and maintain relationships with individual donors while exhibiting excellent internal and external communications skills.

The ability to manage and meet fund raising goals, through current and newly developed programs, is important. Experience in the non-profit field and prior management experience is highly desirable and experience in working with non-profit boards, while not mandatory, is beneficial. A high school degree is mandatory with additional educational attainment preferable but not required.

To apply, please send your resume along with a brief summary outlining why you are interested in this position – tell your library story! – to [FFRPLsearch@libraryweb.org](mailto:FFRPLsearch@libraryweb.org) or to Friends and Foundation of the Rochester Public Library, Attn. Dick Hamilton, 115 South Avenue, Rochester, NY 14604. Applications should be received by June 11th.

For more information on the Rochester Public Library and the Friends and Foundation of the Rochester Public Library, please go to <https://roccitylibrary.org> and to <https://ffrpl.libraryweb.org>.

Social Media

April 2021	RPL Twitter	MCLS Twitter	Facebook	Facebook Calendar	Facebook Groups	Instagram	YouTube
Profile/ Page Visits	443	404	498	10	0	14	-
New Followers/ Page Likes	10 (1,996)	5 (2,202)	22 (4,891)	-	9 (732)	19 (1,877)	13 (247)
Engagements	88	42	1999	58	298	390	50
Check In/ Mentions	15	24	-	-	-	5	-
Post Reach	9669	6525	8798	481	-	6454	26817
Video/Story Views	-	-	519	-	-	0	1096
Saves/ Actions on Page	-	-	2	-	-	9	-

**Central Library Updates**

**Arts/Literature, Nanci Nugent reporting**

Programs

- The “Frida Kahlo Drawing Class” was another very popular drawing class given by Barbara Freiberg. Freiberg’s Zoom sessions are always filled and have a waiting list. In this class, she instructed students how to draw Frida Kahlo’s parrot painting. The Art Division provided the colored pencils for students to create the brightly colored work. Students enjoy Freiberg’s classes because they are for beginners and Barbara is very patient and friendly. The sessions are full of students talking and laughing with one another. Student remarks were, “I love her classes,” and “I always enjoy learning a new drawing technique in her classes.”



- “Concertina Book Binding” is part of the Art Division’s Bookbinding series. Bookbinder Rebecca Grant has taught previous classes and patrons very much like her friendly nature as they learn a new craft. These book classes require a sense of imagination and innovation and in this class, patrons learned how to stitch a Concertina Book. This technique creates a book that uses mountains and valleys in its structure and creates a book with folds. This binding allows for many variations that is good for beginners. Patrons learned how to cover their books with book board and decorative rice paper. Grant will be returning to teach some more advanced classes, such as the Coptic stitch, a piano hinge book, and making box structures for books.



- Katie Eggers Comeau, Architectural Historian at Bero Architecture, Caitlin Meives, Director of Preservation, Landmark Society of Western NY, and JoAnn Beck, President of Highland Park Conservancy, presented “The History of Rochester’s Parks.” This program coincided with both the Community Design Center of

Rochester's "Reshaping Rochester" lecture series, and the anniversary of famed landscape designer Frederick Law Olmsted's birthday. Eggers Comeau and co-presenters demonstrated how changing ideas about social reform, environmental conservation, and recreation have shaped our parks system. The accompanying slideshow was fascinating, and there was an active question and answer session at the program's conclusion. There has been renewed interest in our local public park system due to publicity surrounding the upcoming 200th anniversary celebration of Frederick Law Olmsted's birth, combined with pandemic related increases in outdoor recreation.

- Melissa Manczuk (Arts/Literature) and Renee Kendrot (Science) kicked off their new series of spring gardening programs with Jarmila Haseler from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Monroe County. Haseler led a very interesting presentation on raised bed gardening. She had a wealth of information that was presented to a very inquisitive and appreciative audience. Patrons commented that the content was presented in a clear manner and that the presentation was well prepared. One commented that the program was very interactive and applicable to the average gardener. Several people wished that Haseler had a show on local television as her information was so valuable and she was highly entertaining.
- Rochester Writes: April Rochester Writes programs included From Page to Stage: A Spoken Word Poetry class taught by local author and spoken word poet, Lutonya Highsmith. Ms. Highsmith, the leader of Rochester's only adult slam poetry team, led the group through a four-part series beginning with techniques for writing poetry and culminating with the tools for artfully performing a poem to an audience. The transformation of the students from beginning poets to skilled performers was impressive. The following comment was made in the follow up evaluation:  
*"Lu created an informal, non-competitive, encouraging, and respectful environment that was conducive to learning and having fun. Not only developed my own creative interests and abilities, but also developed a greater appreciation for the poetry art form and poets as artists."*

### Anecdotes

- Sometimes serendipity brings our patrons the resources that they need. Librarian Mary Fraser answered an "Ask a librarian" email from Tony who wrote:  
*"I'm trying to find reference material on how to mix linseed oil paint with specifics on ratios of pigment, chalk and zinc. I tried the web but I'm not having a lot of luck beyond artist quantities and I'll need gallons to paint exterior surfaces. I'm working on a historic home in Rochester."*  
She found some information in *Old House Journal* articles, but not the exact formula he needed. She referred him to books on preservation from the Science and History Division, and experts at the Landmark Society of Western NY. Later, while listening to the podcast "True Tales from Old Houses," she learned that the newest episode is devoted to all the "nerdy" details about linseed oil paint. Mary sent Tony a link to the show. His response: *"That's awesome. Thank you!"*
- The Art and Literature Division has resumed proctoring exams for residents. During the height of the COVID outbreak this service was postponed but it has now resumed with precautions in place. This free service to residents has again become an in-demand offering with numerous students being proctored monthly. Many of the students are adults taking NYS real estate exams or licensing certificates in other professional fields. College students living in Rochester who are taking exams remotely at schools across the country also use the service. The exams are both written and online. The division proctored four exams in April and five exams are already scheduled for May. Andrew Coyle is the proctor and he is very pleased to be able to offer this service again, not only because of its value to the community but because he enjoys it very much.

**Business Insight Center, Jennifer Byrnes reporting**

Statistics

- The Carlson Center for Intellectual Property assisted: 20 in person, 28 by email, 0 by mail, 10 by phone
- Webpage views: 51
- 3D Printer: 1
- Hours of in-depth market research: 45
- Tracy Jong usage: 2 hours and 45 minutes. 3 people served.

Database Use

- Frost & Sullivan: Downloads 20; Value \$77,850
- IBISWorld: Page Views 98; Value \$31,715
- InnovationQ: Logins 13; Searches 226
- MarketLine: Views 20; Value \$16,000
- PitchBook: Logins 5
- Statista: Logins 18; Value \$1,846
- ValueLine: Logins 256; Searches 4,799; Downloads 1,663

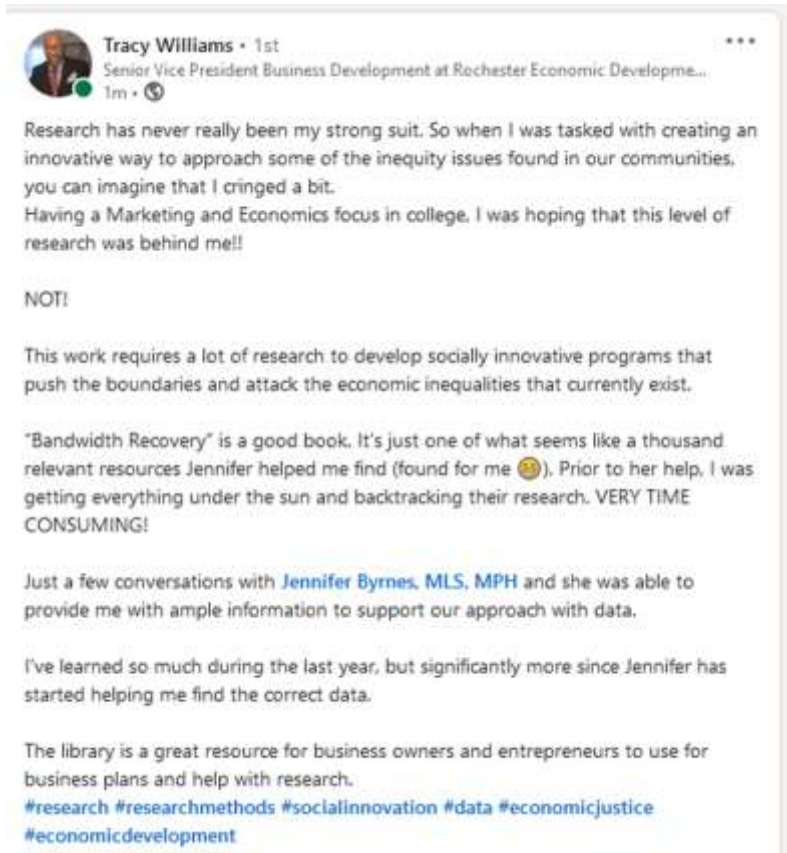
Programs

Business First Wednesday: The Procurement Experience with Drake Thomas, Certified Business Advisor  
Procurement refers to obtaining government contracts, whether on the local, state, or federal level. The United States is the largest purchaser of everything in the entire world. (Education & Engagement)

Recreational cannabis is now legal and those who want to develop their own strain can now do so legally. Kate Meddaugh presented “How to Patent Plants: Cannabis and Other Colorful Plants Included.” According to the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, there are currently 25 patents for cannabis/hemp.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Trainings

- Byrnes and Meddaugh presented to the participants of Monroe Community College’s “Launch Your Business” program. They are supporting 24 participants with market research and intellectual property questions, which has kept them very busy. Byrnes will once again be a judge for the presentations in May.
- Tracy Williams of the Rochester Economic Development Corporation (REDCO) posted glowing praise for the BIC on LinkedIn.



- Byrnes met with Catherine Pulver of Junior Achievement (JA). JA has a new initiative called the “Entrepreneurs Lounge” that intends to support youth in their efforts to start a business. They currently have 8,000 participants across 25 counties. BIC will provide content for their website in the “Do you want to Start a Business?” section.
- Byrnes had multiple meetings pertaining to Nexusi90 as well as potential funding opportunities through Rochester Economic Development Corporation. She had five 1:1s with business start-ups, ranging from digital media to massage therapy, and one 1:1 for an MBA student from St. John Fisher College who needed research assistance. She had her monthly Public Libraries Section meeting for the New York Library Association, of which she is currently the board president. Lastly, she met with Zack Sarkis to discuss an official partnership between BIC and HempLab; BIC clients would receive a code to attend HempLab workshops at no cost (value \$10 per workshop) and in exchange BIC will assist with program promotions.

### ***Children's Services, Tonia Burton reporting***

#### Meetings & Trainings

- Tonia Burton, hosted the monthly MCLS Children's services meeting. Burton has been working with the Seneca Park Zoo to find ways to collaborate and Tom Snyder, SPZ Director of Education joined the meeting to share the many programs offered by the zoo both virtually and in-person.
- Burton met with Lisa Sykes, Clinical Assistant Professor, Occupational Therapy Program of the York Wellness and Rehabilitation Institute at Nazareth College to coordinate Reading Garden Adventures. Students in Lisa's Occupational Therapy class worked on activity extensions for books that will be distributed in the Spring At Home Storytime Bags for Raising A Reader sites.
- Burton had two meetings relating to Talking is Teaching group met with Lindsey Morris from Too Small to Fail and shared important steps to make Rochester a Talking is Teaching Community. The local group also met with staff at Children's Institute to share what the campaign is and how we are proceeding with planning.
- Burton joined the monthly Get Ready to GROW team. GROW is a bus that is operated out of the Children's Institute. GROW bus, which travels throughout the region integrating children's health screenings (vision, hearing, language, cognitive, dental, social/emotional) with consideration of all the systems that surround each child (health, education, social, family). Being a part of this team allows for library contribution and participation. The GROW team also recently joined the Talking is Teaching group and received funding to purchase screening kits and books to give out to families. Burton will be assisting with book selection and incorporating early literacy tips in each kit.

#### Outreach/Community Contacts

- Katie Powell, Librarian I, presented library resources to two groups of pediatric residents from the University of Rochester Medical Center's Pediatric Links to the Community program.
- Jennifer Cesare, Library Assistant, helped assemble over 100 activity bags for the RCSD Pre-K Open House which Burton attended.
- Burton was joined by Melanie Lewis, Associate Director of RPL and Jasmine Santiago, Children's Services at Lincoln Branch at the Rochester City School District's Pre – K – Kindergarten Registration event at Freddie Thomas School on April 24. The event was attended by many parents and grandparents and offered a great opportunity to let people know that the libraries are open and that kids of all ages can get their own library cards. Activity bags were handed out to each child along with Sesame Street activities donated from WXXI's education department.



Programs

- Powell worked with Cornell Cooperative Extension's SnapEd educator to offer a virtual cooking program. Families picked ingredients before the program and cooked along with the educator on Zoom. They made a healthy and delicious taco skillet meal that met nutrition guidelines for the United States' Department of Agriculture's "MyPlate" program. Below is a picture of the bags that participants received.
- Powell edited weekly storytime videos for the National Association for the Education of Young Children's Month of the Young Child. Videos featured local community members and were American Sign Language interpreted. These videos are posted on the Children's Center's Facebook page.
- Burton moderated a weekly book discussion group, assisted by Nazareth students. Each week the students encouraged the participants to complete an activity relating to the week's reading and then they talked about the book, made predications, shared their thoughts and what they would do if they were in the same situations. The program was developed to provide a safe and fun place for tweens to talk and just share their love of reading. The book chosen was a Greater Rochester Teen Book Festival author, Rene Barron. The book was Maya and the Rising Dark. The author joined the last meeting and answered any and all questions the participants came up with. They really loved being able to have that type of interaction with a published author. Rena was great to work with and so generous with her time. She gave a hint of an Easter Egg she put in the first book that will reveal something in the second book. The participants are going to send their guesses on what it is and then Burton will give them the book when it's released with a signed bookplate that Baron offered to send.
- Levi hosted the Naz Students from the Occupational Therapy class which met on Mondays and Wednesdays in April in the Reading Garden. Naz students conducted activities for children with a slant on occupational therapy elements. These activities reinforced both their small motor and gross motor skills. This win-win collaboration between Nazareth College and The Central Library provided children with creative activities and Naz students studying Occupational Therapy with experience working with children ages 4-8. Every week children went home with a free book. They were also given QR Codes, which provide additional activities for them to do at home.
- Levi presented two pop-up Library story times to children who came to the Children's Center. Both story times were well received.



### ***Circulation/Information, Chad Cunningham reporting***

#### Statistics

- Curbside Pickup Appointments – 32
- New Borrowers – 54
- Notarial Acts – 32

### ***Local History & Genealogy, Christine L. Ridarsky and Michelle Finn reporting***

We learned this month that the County of Monroe Industrial Development Agency (COMIDA) awarded the Friends & Foundation of RPL a \$2,000 grant to support our efforts to collection oral history interviews with Black elders and activists. This project is part of our effort to establish an archive of Black history & culture. Interviews will be collected in partnership with the Clarissa Street Reunion, Teen Empowerment, Spiritus Christi's Anti-Racism Committee's Civil Rights Heritage Site planning team, and Monroe County's government-appointed historians.

#### Programs

- As part of the initiative to develop an archive of Black history and culture at Central Library, staff from Local History & Genealogy sponsored two daylong trainings on *Archiving & Preserving Black Local History* with Steven G. Fullwood, co-founder of the Nomadic Archivists Project (via Zoom). Part 1 of the series, "What's Here, What's Not and Why: Black Local History and Libraries," focused on racially and culturally inclusive collecting strategies and the role of librarians and archivists in preserving and showcasing the histories and cultures of the communities they serve. Part 2, "The Politics of Preserving and Archiving Black Cultural Heritage," emphasized how libraries can—and should—develop mutually beneficial partnerships with the communities they serve, not just taking stuff from them, but giving back in the form of access, programs, exhibits, and other supportive measures that sustain those communities, their stories, and their cultures. The program made possible by a Special Projects grant from the Rochester Regional Library Council, which facilitated the sessions; it was open to librarians, historians, and other cultural custodians throughout New York State and attracted a sizable and engaged audience. All Local History & Genealogy Division staff and most members of the archive of Black history and culture planning team attended.
- The April Rochester's Rich History series featured a talk by University of Rochester professor and public utilities expert Morris Pierce on "Rochester's District Steam Heating System" (via Zoom). This educational talk shed light on this fascinating yet overlooked aspect of Rochester's utilities infrastructure, from its creation in the late 19th century to its continued use in delivering reliable and economical steam service to more than 40 downtown buildings today. The program is available to view online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hdJpf8pEcg>.
- This month's installment of the local history trivia game, *Remember Rochester ROCs!*, featured questions about baseball, education, and general Rochester trivia (via Zoom and Crowdpuir). The game was particularly competitive this month, with a mere three-point margin of victory! Cody oversees the development and implementation of the game, with Morry and Finn assisting with question development and hosting, respectively.

#### Community Outreach/Meetings/Trainings

- Morry presented a screening of her recorded talk "From Liquors to Bitters: The History of the Fee Brothers in Rochester" for the residents of Leisure Care, The Village at Unity, in Greece, NY (via Zoom). An updated version of a talk Morry presented as part of the Spring 2020 *Rochester's Rich History* series, this educational

presentation highlighted the history of this longstanding family-owned local business. The screening was followed by a live question-and-answer session with attendees.

- Koehler presented “Online Library Genealogy Resources” for the Irondequoit Public Library Genealogy Group (via Zoom). Koehler’s informative presentation on Ancestry, city directories, and other library resources was followed by a lively question-and-answer session with attendees seeking help with a wide range of family history research topics and resources.
- Ridarsky, Fess, and Library Automation Services staff met (via Zoom) with staff from the Empire Archival Discovery Cooperative (EmpireADC) to discuss the process of allowing EmpireADC to harvest our archival finding aids for inclusion in the statewide discovery network. We had hoped that we could allow Empire ADC to directly harvest the data from the system (ArchivesSpace) we use to create archival finding aids, but that will not be possible until we upgrade the software. LAS will be exploring other options to determine how best to coordinate the work with Empire ADC in the meanwhile.
- Finn met with members of the local educational arts group Teaching Artists ROC and Chris Harris from Genesee Valley BOCES to discuss potential collaboration on a series of videos the group intends to produce about the Erie Canal. Harris brokered the meeting after discovering the *Erie Canal for the Classroom* unit for fourth grade on *RochesterVoices.org*. The videos, once made, might be posted to *Rochester Voices* as a complement to this curriculum.
- Ridarsky and Morry met with Mike Ross from the City Department of Information Technology to discuss methods of converting walking tours into an online format. They have decided to use the StoryMaps functionality of the City’s GIS software. For an example of the type of online content this will enable us to produce, visit [Touring Georgetown, D.C. \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com).

#### Special Collections

- Two new collections were accessioned in April: The David Canfield Post Card collection (over 10,000 postcards of Rochester and vicinity, fully indexed and archivally housed) and the Moore Family Papers (a small collection of business-related papers from the family that owned and operated the John C. Moore Company).
- Fess continued processing the Montgomery and Angell Family Papers, a large (22 box) collection of papers from a family that played a leading role in Rochester business and society throughout the 19th century.

#### Digital Projects

- April saw continued activity in the partnership between the library, the Clarissa Street Reunion Committee, and Teen Empowerment to develop an archive of material documenting the history of the Clarissa Street African American business and residential district that was demolished for urban renewal and highway construction in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Teen Empowerment Youth History Ambassadors and college interns continued to digitize and describe historical materials (primarily photographs) from the community. . Ridarsky and Fess disassembled eight large display boards full of photographs and ephemera that the Reunion Committee had assembled over many years, allowing their contents to be scanned for the project.

#### *Rochester Voices*

- Ridarsky and Finn met with Jim Belair, Randy Meyer, and Patti DiPassio from Monroe 2 Orleans BOCES to discuss how the library can support the new anti-racism curriculum, *Race, Class & Inequities*, that BOCES is developing in collaboration with the Rochester City School District and the University of Rochester. The library will host the primary sources that support the curriculum on *Rochester Voices* and through the new Community Webs project. Finn hosted a follow-up training for Meyer and DiPassio on how to upload content to *Rochester Voices* and in the process discovered some additional development to the site that might be required in order to present this new content as desired.

## **RPL Board Director's Report – May 2021 (Continued)**

- Finn uploaded another lesson to the *Erie Canal for the Classroom* unit on the *RochesterVoices.org*. This curriculum for fourth graders, developed with support from the Erie Canalways National Heritage Corridor, now includes eight classroom lessons and two teacher guides.
- In addition to training BOCES 2 employees on adding content for the new anti-racism curriculum (see above), Finn trained Nazareth student intern Sarah Mantz on how to upload additional oral history interviews to the Latino Voices collection. Mantz added 22 interviews to this collection this month, which Finn will review before publishing live on the site in May.

### **Reynolds Media Center, Joseph Born reporting**

#### Statistics

- During the month of April, RMC handled 754 reference questions and 261 non-reference transactions for a total of 1015.
- In April, RMC rented 10 pieces of equipment, 211 Mi-Fi units in addition to the regular collection, for a grand total of 3,967 items or 43% of the Central Library's total circulation (before renewals from Catalog Plus, Classic Catalog and Telephone are added).

#### Database Use

##### Hoopla

- Circulation
  - Movies/TV – 377
  - Audiobooks – 789
  - Music – 58
  - eBooks – 306
  - Comics – 146
  - Total – 1676
- New Users – 36

### **Science and History, Darlene Richards reporting**

#### Programs

Renee Kendrot and Alaikia Miller hosted a cooking demonstration program- "Homemade with Hiba Al Behadili." Participants received the recipe for grape leaves w/rice & meat via email. This was the last program from a grant from the New York State Council of the Arts (Education & Engagement). Among the positive comments:

*"The presenter was excellent! I learned so much about the tips and tricks from someone who has experience cooking this recipe! This was so much better than following a recipe!"*

#### Community Outreach/Meetings/Trainings

- Gabe Pellegrino continues publicizing the "Got Health?" monthly webinars by the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) for Community Health & Prevention through Facebook, Instagram, and various newspapers. The topic this month was "Running on Fumes: Improved Outcomes Require Community Partnerships." The program discussed the health disparities in our region related to COVID-19 infection, hospitalization and death rates and explored why these inequities exist and how agencies are working together to improve health outcomes.

- The smoking cessation partnership with the Community Outreach, Engagement and Disparities group at Wilmot Cancer Center at URMHC has begun at Central. There is now a table set up every Monday 10 am-1 pm that began the first week in April. The program counseling is available in English and Spanish. 21 people were contacted, 8 registered for health surveys and 4 were referred to the quit center.
- LROC, the Library Resource Outreach Center, resumed services the second week in April, with counselors available Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-3 pm. Many patrons have returned to the library and are asking for help with housing and other issues, and LROC is there to assist them. (15 people served)

**Teen Central, Shetora Banks reporting**

Programs

- Climate of Change was an online program shared with teens through our Facebook page. This entailed 22 days of learning about climate change, culminating on Earth Day. Teens also used two Macs in Teen Central to participate in daily activities; all were welcome.



- Monroe Community College Experience students and staff came for a visit. They browsed for books – and were given a mini tour of Teen Center and completed a Carbon Footprint quiz calculator as an Earth Day activity. They modified it at the end to change the number of earths consumed by their lifestyle throughout the year. They really enjoyed this activity. (Education & Engagement)

Community Outreach/Meetings/Trainings

- Banks has completed the ten-week Supervisor Leadership Development Course. The course used textbooks entitled *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team* and *A Manager's Guide to Coaching* in tandem with weekly modules as the curriculum. Guest lecturers covered topics like the civil service process and its history, disciplinary action administration, equity, and other inner workings of City departments.
- Banks had a Zoom meeting with Tremaine Harris, Youth Voice One Vision Coordinator, and The Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, at which they discussed future collaborations utilizing the ImagineYou lab.

Anecdotes/Other

- Banks followed up with a young adult patron who used to be a regular, after referring him to The Center for Youth in March. He had come to Teen Central and said he felt unsafe to return home and his mother was verbally abusive, especially angry that day. Two colleagues from the Center for Youth met with him at Teen Central; they were able to secure him space at Genesis house. The young patron is well and looking forward to securing his own apartment.

**Community Library Updates**

***Melanie Lewis, Deputy Director reporting***

During this reporting period, I completed the Deputy Director's Orientation/Training Packet developed by the Senior Management Team. Even though I am a long-time employee, I still find the complexity of RPL operations astounding. I know the packet only scratched layers on the surface; however, it has been a useful tool for me in this new role.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Trainings

Branch Administration's Pat Connor continues to represent the Rochester Public Library at neighborhood association meetings. This month the Maplewood Neighborhood Association held its first monthly Town Hall meeting in more than a year. While Connor was unable to attend the entire meeting due to a prior committee, Evanna DiSalvo was able to share library news during the meeting. At the suggestion of Jen Topa, Street Liaison for the Southeast Neighborhood Service Center, Connor attending the Neighborhood of the Arts Business Association meeting. NOTABA members were excited to hear the news that the Monroe Branch was beginning the reopening process.

An application for membership fee payments on behalf of the branch libraries to several neighborhood and business associations was submitted to the Friends and Foundation of the Rochester Public Library for consideration.

Connor participated in the Social Responsibility and Libraries Speaker Series presented by members of the Social Responsibilities Group of the New York Library Association's Developing Leaders Program. This series of five webinars explores how libraries of all types and sizes embody the American Library's Association definition of the Social Responsibility core value. Themes include digital equity, collection development, library programs and making public statements on current events. She also attending training on "Prejudice: Responding to Prejudicial Comments from Patrons" presented by Ryan Dowd of the Homeless Training Institute, "Understanding COVID-19 Vaccines: A REALM Project webinar" presented by the Reopening Archives, Libraries and Museums project, and the City of Rochester's "Probationary Period and Review: A Guide for Managers" training.

***Safe To Be Smart, Derrick Coley reporting***

The Arnett site: Kendra White has created a visual bulletin board in the teen space as a nod for National Poetry Month. Kendra utilized the graphics department for colorful lettering. Kendra reported minimal teen traffic but has assisted the few with employment applications and extended SOOP admission. In the down time Kendra has assisted adult patrons with internet searches and computer reservations and has greeted patrons through temperature checks upon entering the branch.

The Phillis Wheatley site: Lynnisha Bostick continues Telework as the Phillis Wheatley branch opened with reduced hours. The youth traffic has been minimal to none on entering the branch.

The Maplewood site: Yaliza Frank has been meeting with a few teens and parents that come by to share her schedule and contact information if they need her. The teens have talked about school and covid-19 issue with her. The student's expressed how working remotely has so many issues and it's hard to stay focused. Yaliza has been mentoring a teen that may need services from Center for Youth but has been taking baby steps so teen does not view her talking and questioning as intrusive, which could make the teen stop coming to Maplewood. The student is currently not enrolled in school and has housing issues. Yaliza has been helping him with applications to get his social security card and birth certificate.

The Lincoln site: Vera Haygood assists the branch manager with on floor operations, such as assisting adults with computer issues, helping with employment applications, and locating in-house materials for adult and youth patrons. Vera reported youth traffic has been minimal to none since opening.

The Sully site: George Carter continues to Telework. Sully branch is open with minimal youth traffic.

Teen Central site: Lydia Hylton continues to Telework. TeenCentral is open with reduced hours. John Hylton is teleworking and reporting to the site. John reported teens coming into the site as minimal to none.

### ***Arnett Branch Library, Bruce Tehan reporting***

#### Programs

- The Arnett Library welcomed back the Literacy Volunteers of Rochester who provide digital literacy services to our patrons. This one-to-one computer help program is of high value and importance to many Arnett patrons.
- The library once again partnered with the Arnett Block Association to have an Easter egg hunt in the community garden adjacent to the library building. Happily, efforts to adhere to COVID-19 regulations may have made the program even nicer than the already nice program of previous years. To allow for social distance, children and families searched for eggs in different time slots so that no more than 10 children and their parents were searching for eggs at the same. There were a lot of toddlers happily and peacefully wandering around searching for eggs; the event became more of a playful search than the quick race of earlier years. (Strategic Priority: Education & Engagement)
- Nancy Cholewa provided this report of her Raising A Reader effort: "I have been working with Tonia Burton to coordinate a return of face-to-face storytimes at the Volunteers of America preschool. I hope to be able to do storytimes (up to 3 classes per visit) on Tuesday and Thursdays mornings starting May 4th through the end of May or mid-June. I completed my Covid-19 vaccinations on April 6, so I am comfortable going into the school to work with the kids. Tonia and I are also attempting to coordinate some virtual storytime sessions for the schools to post on Seesaw. I have recorded 3 storytime sessions that we are making available to the pre-schools. I have also purchased \$1000 worth of "storytime books" in support of the RAR program using funds from the RAR program. Those books have started to roll in and are being processed as they come into the branch. They will be added to the Arnett Children's collection. It will be great to have additional titles



and/or additional copies of titles to use as we get Raising A Reader story times started again.” (Strategic Priority: Stewardship & Curation).

Anecdotes/Other

Arnett Branch Cleaner Mary Santiago was named a 2021 Library All Star by the Rochester Regional Library Council at the Council's annual meeting. (<https://rrlc.org/2021/04/22/rrlc-2021-library-all-star-winners/>) Santiago spoke during the online meeting and did a great job representing the Arnett Branch. Her nomination for the award is as follows:

*“Cleaner, Mary Santiago is an outstanding member of the Arnett Branch Library team. Since joining the library in 2012 her work has been of the highest caliber. As her supervisor, I have found Ms. Santiago to be an incredibly hardworking and dedicated individual who has always gone the extra mile. My fellow Arnett Branch employees, Rochester Public Library maintenance division workers, library visitors, library volunteers, and neighbors have all pulled me aside saying the same things. Mary’s work is a key reason the Arnett Branch Library is the attractive and welcoming place it is. During this COVID-19 situation we find ourselves in, Mary has performed her duties heroically. Mary cheerily took on whatever extra cleaning duties were required and embraced all new procedures pertaining to COVID-19 that we needed to follow. Her work allowed the Arnett Branch Library to resume in-person library services (both curbside type services and inside the library services). Arnett’s staff and its patrons are well aware of Mary’s skill at cleaning and her passion for keeping our building clean. As such, our staff and then our patrons, felt safe reentering the library. Year in and year out, Mary Santiago has been an all-star quality library worker. During this past, troubled year, due to her skills and courage, Mary has been an all-star’s all-star!”* (Strategic Priority: Stewardship & Curation)

- At the request of the 19th Ward Community Collective, the library is serving as a site for a free food stand where folk can donate and/or take food.
- One of Arnett’s regular patrons had this to say as part of a widely shared Celebrate City Living social media campaign championing public art in Rochester NY: “When Beth Larter was asked to share her favorite place for wall art, she gravitated towards two libraries — Frederick Douglass Community Library on South Avenue and Arnett Branch Library in the 19th Ward. ‘For me, public art and public libraries both represent a wonderfully human impulse to create something that everyone and anyone can enjoy,’ she said. She finally settled on Arnett. ‘The first time I visited the Arnett Library you had to look closely to recognize the industrial-looking building as a library at all. So I was delighted to discover a few summers ago that the drab exterior had been transformed into something that was beautifully and unmistakably a library. Since Arnett has become my local library, I have loved to see Richmond Futch, Chloe Smith, and Ebony





*Singleton continue to add their art to these walls, making them even more vibrant with every passing summer. Most of all, I love the way these walls express so brightly to the community the same message that we receive when we walk through those doors (or while the building was closed, when we checked out our books from the sidewalk)– that we are welcome, that we are worth investing in, and that there is always something new to explore at the library.”*

**Charlotte Branch Library, Dennis Williams reporting**

Programs

- The Food for Thought Book Discussion in their 24<sup>th</sup> year is still going strong meeting by Zoom. The selection for April was *The Truth According to Us* by Annie Barrows.
- Kim Whittemore visited Holy Cross for pre-school story time in April. Always a fun time!
- Karen Duff began preparations for the 2021 Adult/YA Summer Reading Program.



Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

Dennis Williams worked with Center for Youth to have training for staff in May regarding their services.

Anecdotes/Other

- The Charlotte Library forgave him.



- Heather Sessler reports COVID-19 has caused many in-person services to move online. Navigating these new systems has been particularly difficult for community members with limited technology skills. Helping people prepare documents, fax housing applications, or jump through governmental hoops have become rewarding daily tasks. This month, after spending hours on the phone, a gentleman came in for help using the computer to verify his identity to collect unemployment insurance. What appeared on the onset to be a simple process of uploading pieces of identification, turned into an all-hands-on deck effort to track down a webcam and head phones so he could video conference with an official. Though exasperated by the process,

in the end he was overjoyed to be done and doled out fist bumps all around. At least once a day, a patron exclaims how grateful they are for the free services provided at the library. (Strategic Priority: Sustainability and Resources)

- Williams, Jasika Tamang, and Yamilet Torres have done incredible work organizing the second-floor children's area!

***Frederick Douglass Community Library, Erin Clarke reporting***

Programs

- Sarah Ngo hosted one pre-K Zoom story time for Rochester Childfirst Network. (Strategic Priority #3: Stewardship and Curation)
- Isaac Lewis hosts lunchtime Zoom sessions to help with homework, play games, and talk about K-pop.
- Lauren DelGaizo and Emily Kleykamp are expanding our social media presence with regular updates to Instagram and are cross-posting on Facebook. Erin Clarke adds public health and other general updates to Facebook.

Anecdotes/Other

- Douglass opened for full services on Monday, April 26.
- A patron let Clarke know that she donated to the Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library specifically for the Douglass Branch to thank us for offering free printing.

***Lincoln Branch Library and Toy Library, Sarah Lehman reporting***

Programs

- Jasmine Santiago, Matt Seidel and Tashara Martinez are collaborating on a monthly Take n' Make project for visiting patrons. This month's activity was Rhyming Dominoes! (Strategic Priority: Education and Engagement)
- Santiago has started a new program called Worldwide Wednesdays. This month's topic was "Science". Activities included making rainclouds in a jar and a lava lamp in a jar! The program will cover many topics including culture, science, and crafts.
- The Toy Library received a very generous donation of toys, games and play items coordinated by Give Train. Seidel and Martinez have been working hard on processing these items and have processed 83 games and puzzles to date.

Anecdotes/Other

This month Santiago had a wonderful opportunity to participate in outreach for the first time since the COVID-19 shutdown! There were many chances to share information about the Lincoln Branch Library and the fact that the community know that the Lincoln Branch is open!

**Lyell Branch Library, Shamika Fusco reporting**

Programs

- Lyell's Little Chef Cooking Club: This month's cooking club recipe was "5-Minute Cheddar Cheese Popcorn (using real cheddar)." We supplied a copy of the recipe and the popcorn. It was very popular and went quickly!
- To celebrate National Day of Smell, children and families were given 5 small different scents to smell and try and guess. Patrons could submit their guesses either online using a Google form or drop off a paper submission. One patron did hers while at the library, and she hated the way Scent #2 smelled (basil oil) but she was a trooper and did the rest of the challenge! (Strategic Priority: Education and Engagement)
- Lyell patrons have always enjoyed National "Day" celebrations. This year we celebrated National One Cent Day on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Branch staff provided a mini jar with very first penny to the participants and asked them to double the amount every day for 15 days.
- For the month of April, the teens at Lyell were given materials to make DIY STEM birdfeeders. Lyell provided empty milk jugs along with bird-safe decorating materials/food, etc. Teens were encouraged to build their bird house and observe what kind of birds are coming to their feeder most often.
- This month for Whatcha' Fixin' Friday (the Instapot edition), Shamika Fusco made Minestrone soup with fresh bread that came from Cameron Ministries. Soup ingredients included pasta, string beans, beans, tomato sauce, broth, carrots, onions, fresh parsley, and parmesan cheese. Patrons were able to take the recipe home along with 2 ingredients for later preparation.



Community Outreach/Meetings/Trainings

Cameron Ministries held an Earth Day cleanup. Participants were broken up into two shifts. The afternoon shift met at the Lyell Branch Library. Pizza, salad, drinks, and cookies were served. Papers and Pencils of Jewish Family Services of Rochester was kind enough to donate school supplies to Lyell's backpack pantry. Supplies were used for a preschool outreach event on May 1<sup>st</sup>. (Strategic Priority: Sustainability and Resources)

**Maplewood Community Library, Johanna Buran reporting**

Programs

- The Maplewood Community Library Book Club read *The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger as the book for April. The group has been meeting on Zoom. For May the book is *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders. (Strategic Priority: Education and Engagement)



- There has been an increase in children visits to the Maplewood Community Library during the month of April. Some of the activities they have been doing are jumping rope, hula hooping, drawing with chalk and coloring. During May the option for children to try different art mediums will be available. Each child has their own bin of markers, crayons, and chalk so there isn't any sharing.
- Adapting the citizenship class slides to Zoom is almost complete. Once this is done, the citizenship classes on Zoom will be advertised. It is likely that the class will stay on Zoom as many participants prefer doing it online.

**Monroe Branch Library, Mary Clare Scheg**

Programs

- Rebecca Hudson provided the April Take-and-Make Craft, which was a clothespin puppet: 73 kits were taken by patrons.
- Annette Zweifler Seed Bank: The Branch's annual seed bank started again in April. Patrons are enjoying coming in and choosing their flower/vegetable seed packets. This program continues to be very popular. In conjunction with our Seed Bank, we have introduced gardening tool kits for patrons to check out. This is an easy, fun way to start the gardening experience. (Strategic Priority: Education and Engagement)



Community Outreach

Mary Clare Scheg contacted the Center for Youth regarding the use of the adjoining parking lot to do various library programs. The Center is excited about having outside programs using this space. This is a win – win for both the Center and the library. (Strategic Priority: Sustainability and Resources)  
Hudson created the monthly newsletter for the branch. This is a new way to let the community know what the library is doing, what services it provides and to ask for comments and feedback.

Anecdotes

The Monroe Branch received this communication: *"Introducing the first-ever Learning Circle Little Free Library cart, painted and decorated by my Grade 4/5 class today. Thanks again for the books - the kids are so excited about this project! Gratefully, Sue"* (These children's books that had been weeded from the collection were given to Sue for her students.)



**Phillis Wheatley Library, Lori Frankunas reporting**

Community Outreach/Meetings/Trainings

Lori Frankunas attended the Out of School Time Advisory Work Group Meeting through the Greater Rochester After School and Summer Alliance. Parent and Youth virtual focus groups will start in May and go through the summer. The group may ask to use library space to conduct focus groups if in-person meetings are planned. (Strategic Priority: Sustainability and Resources)

Anecdotes/Other

A patron was very grateful to staff for setting up a COVID-19 vaccine appointment for him on a previous visit. He stated that the set up and process for the Covid vaccine at the Dome Arena was just as the librarian had told him it would be and that put him at ease with the whole process.

***Sully Branch Library, Maria Heeks-Heinlein reporting***

Programs

The Sully Branch finished up the April Candy Counting Contest. Anyone who wanted to participate in the contest could take a guess on how many pieces of candy were in the jar each time they read a book. We had a jar for children, a jar for young adults, and a jar for adults. Patrons of all ages enjoyed the competition. (Strategic Priority: Sustainability and Resources)

Community Outreach/Meetings/Trainings

The Library set up a table to promote the library during the school supply pick up/outdoor meet and greet. Jen Nesbitt and Li'Asia Campbell spoke to 30 people and gave away lots of books, masks, and craft kits to students and families.

Anecdotes/Other

- Nesbitt is slowly adding some new bright touches to the children's area. A colorful alphabet rug and green toddler table have made it possible to create a special reading space for our littlest patrons and their caregivers. We've had a few toddlers enjoying that space this month. The board books are on display and the table is just the right size for little ones. Our patrons have expressed excitement at our changes both in person and on our Facebook page. We also received our new children's computer tables. They are large and brightly colored and are a nice improvement over the old tables.
- A patron called the library and requested assistance with looking something up in *Consumer Reports*. She said that she used to use Consumer Reports, but now she needed an account to access it and she does not have an account. Maria Heeks-Heinlein told the patron that *Consumer Reports* is one of our available online databases, and she could access it from home if she had a library card. Heeks-Heinlein assisted the patron with signing into the database, and the patron said if she knew she could do this from home she would have looked it up at 10 pm the night before instead of waiting for the library to open. The patron said that she "is so thankful for the library".
- George Carter and Carmen Gonzalez were awarded the Donna Grillo Scholarship to further their studies. Special thanks to Patty Uttaro for this scholarship in honor of a Sully Staff member who passed away in 2019.
- Jacob Bigelow has been discussing chess with patrons who are drawn in by the 3D printed chess display around his desk. Bigelow has had several offers for the sets but wishes to provide chess and other game sets for checkout or as prizes once the 3D printer is repaired; he has no interest in monetizing them. Bigelow has also had a small regular group of teens in the library again for computer use and has been building a rapport with them. Our Manga collection continues to be a big draw to the library as we have noticed quite a few new faces perusing the collection coming from the towns. (Strategic Priority: Education and Enjoyment)



- A security guard from School #33 brought three students to the library so we could talk to them about how the library works. The three students were very excited to see all of the things they would be able to borrow with a library card, and they all took library card applications home. One of the children said, “*Ms. Maria, this is my FAVORITE library!*”

**Winton Branch Library, Kathy Wolf reporting**

Programs

- Winton Branch Library’s book discussion group has been incredibly faithful during the pandemic showing up online every month. The group has not missed one meeting throughout the pandemic and participation has been consistent. For April’s meeting, the group read *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult. There were 14 people on the zoom discussion. Although this book was published several years ago, the topic of race relations was especially timely.
- Patrick Pittman created grab and go programming kits to kick off the gardening season with Grow an Ice Cream Cone. This crossover program focused on several STEM skillsets to encourage children and teens to try growing green beans and bulb flowers with an ice cream cone as their starter pot. The branch gave out all kits with marketing both digitally and physically encouraging participation. (Strategic Priority: Education and Engagement)

Anecdotes/Other

- Pittman experimented with displays and circulation, particularly to generate some movement in the DVD collection. He first rearranged the DVD collection to create a more appealing shelf visual and highlight the non-fiction DVDs. Then, with the free space created, designed a movie theater/awards themed display for new DVDs. Additionally, he created separate space for New DVDs by type. The change prompted questions from patrons, but the adjustment has proven successful. He also created displays for less-circulated DVDs by theme, including *Rom Com with a Little Dram* and *Awards Season*. These displays have created an uptick in DVD circulation and attention.



**Selected Meetings & Outputs**

**RPL Director Patricia Uttaro reporting**

**April 17, 2021 – May 21, 2021**

Standing Meetings

City Senior Management Team (weekly)

RPL-MCLS Management Team (weekly)

Adam Traub, Melanie Lewis, Brie Harrison, Ana Suro, Tonia Burton, Christine Ridarsky – one-to-one meetings (monthly)

FFRPL Executive Director Ned Davis (monthly)

Monroe County Chief of Staff, Amy Grower (monthly)

RPL All-Staff Meeting (monthly)

MCLS System Services and Operations Committee (monthly)

New York State Library – Division of Library Development conference call (monthly)

Public Library System Directors’ Organization (PULISDO) conference call (monthly)

City Deputy Mayor James Smith (monthly)

**RPL Board Director's Report – May 2021 (Continued)**

Urban Libraries Council Executive Director call (weekly)

Other Meetings

Dr. Daniele Lyman-Torres, Commissioner of the City's Department of Recreation & Human Services  
Councilmember Mitch Gruber  
Mayor Lovely Warren, City Budget Director Chris Wagner, & Deputy Mayor James Smith  
Anna Souannavong, Gates Library Director  
FFRPL Executive Director Search Committee (every Wednesday)  
FFRPL Volunteer Appreciation Program  
Division of Library Development phone call on minimum standards  
MCLS Plan of Service Committee (twice)  
RPL Board President Donna Benjamin  
Roc the Future Director Jackie Campbell  
CIP Council Hearing – Preparation & Hearing  
RPL Re-Opening Team  
Don Crumb & Johanna Brennan, various legal questions  
Mayor Warren, City Budget Director Chris Wagner & others on American Rescue Funds (twice)  
Mike McDougall, McDougall Communications  
GCV&M Executive Director Becky Wehle  
Visit to Arnett Branch to celebrate RRPL All-Star Mary Santiago  
Central Supervisors Meeting  
MCLS REJI Team (twice)  
Yversha Roman, new CASH Director & County Legislator – tour of Central  
City Commissioner of DES Norman Jones  
Councilmember Michael Patterson  
MCLS Trustees training on REJI Team  
City Press conference  
City Budget Presentation to Senior Managers

Email Activity

April 2021

<b>Name</b>	<b>Send Actions</b>	<b>Receive Actions</b>	<b>Read Actions</b>
Uttaro, Patricia	629	3876	6147
Traub, Adam	336	1713	3500
Harrison, Brie	355	1975	2223
Suro, Ana	586	2292	3056
Lewis, Melanie	269	1635	796