



Rochester
Public Library

More Than You Think

115 South Avenue | Rochester | New York | 14604

TO: RPL Board of Trustees
FROM: Patricia Uttaro, Director
DATE: January 25, 2023
SUBJECT: Monthly Report – January 2023

Action Items

Recommendation for Appointment to the Board (Karin & Benjamin)

The Nominating Committee recommends that Jim Kraus have his name submitted to the mayor for consideration and recommendation to the City Council for appointment to the RPL Board. He will fill the vacant position left by Carolee Conklin. His term will be effective with his appointment through December 31, 2027.

Board Action Requested: Approve forwarding the name of Mr. Kraus for recommendation to the City Council for appointment to the RPL Board of Trustees effective immediately and expiring December 31, 2027.

RPL FY22 Audit (Harrison)

The library's auditors, Freed Maxick CPA's, have completed their audit of the 2021-22 RPL fiscal year and met with the RPL Board Finance Committee on December 8, 2022, to review their findings. The Board Finance committee members will provide their summary and recommendation to the Board, with the attached management report and financial statements.

Board Action Requested: Accept Freed Maxick's audit of the 2021-22 fiscal year.

Agreement, Conflict Management Training (Smathers)

Children's Services Consultant Tonia Burton has secured training for youth services staff from the Center for Dispute Settlement in conflict management skills. The training will occur over four sessions in February 2023 where the Center will first work with library leadership to understand the interests, needs, and motivation of library staff, then develop a customized training drawing from national and evidence-based models on conflict, dialogues across differences, implicit bias and "blind spots." The cost is \$2,600 and will be paid from the Beene Fund.

Board Action Requested: Authorize an agreement with the Center for Dispute Settlement to provide conflict management training for the terms described.

Rundel First Floor Early Closing (Uttaro)

Hacker Hall will serve as a venue for a wedding on Saturday, May 27, 2023. The request is to close the first floor of the Rundel Memorial Building at 3:00 p.m. (2 hours early) to facilitate set-up for the wedding. The Local History and Genealogy Division would remain open for normal operating hours.

Board Action Requested: Approve closing the first floor of the Rundel Memorial Building at 3:00 on May 27, 2023, to accommodate the set-up for a wedding.

RPL/MCLS Service Agreement (Uttaro)

The agreement between MCLS and the Rochester Public Library that outlines the services to be provided by RPL to MCLS and its members expired on December 31, 2022. Typically, this has been a 3-year agreement; in 2021 we recommended shifting temporarily to a 1-year agreement due to re-negotiation of the MCLS Document of Understanding. We are now recommending a 2-year agreement to expire on December 31, 2024, to return to a three-year agreement cycle in 2025. This agreement specifies the primary system and support services to be provided by the RPL to the MCLS members. It provides the same flexibility as previous agreements between the MCLS and the RPL and maintains the ability to increase operational support for system services. A copy of the agreement is included in this packet.

Board Action Requested: Approve an MCLS-RPL Services Agreement for the period January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2024.

Community Advisory Board for the Archive of Black History & Culture (Uttaro)

The Local History & Genealogy Division received a grant last year from the Rochester Area Community Foundation (via the Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library) to develop the framework for the establishment of a permanent community-curated Archive of Black History & Culture. The library seeks to establish a community advisory board to serve as community liaisons and provide input on the project's mission, vision, and strategic plan. The grant includes funding to pay quarterly stipends of \$300 (\$1,200/year) each to 10 advisory board members. FFRPL will execute professional service agreements and handle payments. The library received applications from 43 people who wished to serve. A committee comprised of five library staff members and representatives from community partner organizations reviewed the applications against a rubric they created and interviewed 16 finalists. The 10 people the committee has recommended for appointment bring diverse perspectives, experiences, and community connections to the project.

After some consultation with the City Law Department, we believe that this advisory board will function as a sub-committee of this Board, will draw its' authority from this Board, and thus should be formally appointed by this Board. We recommend that establishment of this kind of advisory board be added to the RPL Board By-Laws when they are next revised.

Board Action Requested: Establish a Community Advisory Board for the library's Archive of Black History as a committee of the RPL Board and appoint the following 10 people to one-year terms as members:

Carolyne S. Blount	Darien Lamén	Jean C. Pryor
Mauricio Marc Coombs	Shanterra Mitchum	Ernesta Walker
Calvin Eaton	Quiana Joseph-Muhamma	Rodney Allen Young
Xavier Holiday		

Tummonds Report (Uttaro)

Each year, libraries in the region receiving funds through the FFRPL Tummonds Fund are required to certify the amount spent and the number of materials purchased with the funds. The document required by FFRPL, and the estate is included with this packet and certifies that “In 2022, the Rochester Public Library used its FFRPL *Tummonds Fund* grant to purchase supplemental circulating materials of 570 e-books and 30 audio books, at a cost equal to or exceeding \$20,142.00.” Further, the FFRPL requires the RPL Board to approve the following statement: “Rochester Public Library is a tax supported public and is eligible to receive FFRPL *Tummonds Fund* grants, which we agree will only be spent for supplemental circulating material. We further agree to abide by all terms & conditions of confidentiality, spending and reporting requirements as determined by the FFRPL *Tummonds Fund* Committee, in order to remain eligible for continued grants.”

Board Action Requested: Approve the Tummonds Fund report for 2022.

Report & Discussion Items

RPL Director Patricia Uttaro reporting

Marketing

The Marketing Team contacted patrons who have not used their library card in the last year using a list of lapsed users. The email sent included information on activities and services offered by RPL and was highlighted by pleasing photos and graphics. This was sent to 4,136 lapsed users in late November. Of those, 3,852 emails were successfully delivered. By mid-December, the email had been opened by 1,367 lapsed patrons for an open rate of 35.5%. There were 29 click-throughs to our various website links for a click-through rate of 1%.

Melissa Cobo from the Business Insight Center shared a proof-of-concept direct mail project idea. Using the AtoZ database, she was able to map addresses of new homeowners around the county and suggested to the team that postcards could be sent inviting these new homeowners to visit their local library. Cobo is now trying to determine the number of postcards and cost mailing.

The team is working on a radio campaign for National Library Card Month in September 2023. WHAM/FOX TV will produce up to three different ads. The team has also begun planning a Love Your Library campaign for February 2023.

Trustee Training Reminder

The new state requirement for annual training for library trustees took effect January 1 which requires 2 hours of training annually for every person serving as an appointed library trustee in NYS. (Education Law 260-d added by Chapter 468 of the Laws of 2021).

According to the New York State Education Department Division of Library Development:

Public library trustees in New York State oversee an estimated \$1.6 billion of the public's money—a responsibility that must be undertaken by informed, thoughtful, prudent, and trustworthy library boards. Requiring trustee education will foster an understanding of complex governance processes so that this responsibility is met.

Furthermore, to provide effective oversight, board members must appreciate their mandated duties and responsibilities. An effective way of providing this appreciation is to offer the training necessary to be good financial stewards.

The Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State states that “trustees must learn and grow during their entire tenure on the board, developing an ever-deepening awareness of the affairs of their own library and an appreciation and understanding of other libraries and library organizations. The public library is a multifaceted organization functioning in a complex world.”

Per Education Law, trustee education topics may include financial oversight, accountability, fiduciary responsibilities and the general powers and duties of a library trustee.

As 2023 progresses, the MCLS Office will offer a variety of opportunities for training. Debi Mansour will keep track of the training for each trustee on the MCLS and RPL Boards, so please make sure to let her know when you complete any training.

Mobile Library Concept

Several years ago, we began exploring the possibility of reinstating some form of bookmobile to the RPL. During 2022, Deputy Director Lewis formed a small team that began to gather all the research and ideas and develop them into a proposal. This was done in conjunction with information included in the RPL Branch Facilities Report from 2018 that identified an opportunity at the Lyell Branch for a mobile service. We are now at a point where this service is moving closer to reality and would like to test our ideas with the board.

The current concept includes transitioning Lyell into a hybrid business model with a mobile service. This means that the library would be open some days for normal business and closed other days for mobile outreach, which would focus in the northwest part of the City, but could also be used in other areas. The vehicle would be a smaller version of the traditional RV-sized bookmobile, likely a Ford Transit van. The window for ordering a vehicle through the City is tricky, so we are beginning discussion with the Fleet Manager to determine the process and length of time involved from ordering to receiving the vehicle. We also have an opportunity to work with RIT’s design students again, through Kelly Jahn, who would design the interior and connect us to a local fabricator. If you remember, Kelly led the RIT design student work that resulted in the Secret Room renovation.

We’d like input and feedback from trustees regarding this project. Deputy Director Lewis will be able to share more information at the meeting and we’ll be happy to answer questions at that time.

Social Media

November 2022	RPL Twitter	MCLS Twitter	Facebook	Facebook Calendar	Facebook Groups	Instagram	YouTube
Profile/ Page Visits	432	387	276	0	2	17	-
New Followers/ Page Likes	0 (2,088)	0 (2,218)	20 (5,877)	-	15	17 (2,298)	14 (439)
Engagements	19	78	1,552	54	41	274	61
Check-In/ Mentions	33	11	-	-	-	274	-
Post Reach	1,137	2,810	3,745	436	-	3,934	15,629
Video/Story Views	-	-	243	-	-	78	1,357

December 2022	RPL Twitter	MCLS Twitter	Facebook	Facebook Calendar	Facebook Groups	Instagram	YouTube
Profile/ Page Visits	582	427	335	2	0	14	-
New Followers/ Page Likes	0 (2,088)	0 (2,218)	26 (5,942)	-	13	12 (2,310)	6 (447)
Engagements	47	57	1,666	23	87	155	26
Check-In/ Mentions	7	7	-	-	-	6	-
Post Reach	1,873	3,246	7,003	307	-	3,105	18,537
Video/Story Views	-	-	528	-	-	232	893

Central Library Updates

Jennifer Smathers reporting

Patron Services Manager, Cynthia Dana reporting

Anecdotes/Other

- Dana has spent a lot of time in the Tech Center due to staffing issues. This area sees most of the patrons who enter through the front doors. Recently, PCHO (Person Centered Housing Options), part of LROC decided to set up in the Tech Center to reach more people who could use their help. Dana witnessed a staff member from PCHO kneeling next to a young man who was using a computer. Ron Freitag indicated that he had asked them to help this person as he was in rough shape and had just started visiting the library to get some help. This is just a typical day for Tech Center staff who find themselves getting to know way more about patrons than they ever expected. They are making a difference in lives every day and the regulars there have formed a sort of community.
- Dana was in Rundel when she noticed two patrons, one an elderly man, looking rather lost so she approached them. They were a father and daughter in search of Flo Morris. Turns out Flo has been communicating with this patron and has been very helpful in finding materials that interest him. They came to meet her and to see the current display in the division. Morris always goes above and beyond for her patrons.

Arts/Literature, Nanci Nugent reporting

Programs

- Be Thankful Painting Sign—Patrons enjoyed this class taught by artist Ola Kraszpuska. Patrons were provided with small wooden pallets on which to paint their message of “welcome” or “thankful” and were shown how to add decorative leaves. We had a few new patrons in this class, and that is always good to see. Student comments were all positive, one commented, “this was a creative project and easy to do and I learned to mix colors.” “I liked the enthusiasm of the teacher and the class, and she was very patient.” “Keep the great classes coming.”
- The monthly writer’s support group “Words in Progress” lost a beloved member, Jerry B., in November. The group has formed a real community and shared the news of Jerry’s sudden passing before the December meeting. While the group membership changes from one five-month session to the next, everyone is supportive of one another, and as one said “To the long-timers of this group, you have a special place in my life. Every one of you, as well as the newer members...”



Business Insight Center (BIC), Jennifer Byrnes reporting

Statistics – November/December

The Carlson Center for Intellectual Property assisted: 10 in person, 36 by email, 6 by phone, and 1 by Zoom.

Web Page Views: 68

Hours of in-depth market research: 90

Requests Outside Greater Rochester Area: 7

3D Printer: 2

Tracy Jong appointments: 6 hours, 8 people served in November, and 4 appointments in December.

Database Use

Frost & Sullivan: 32 Page Views; Value \$117,800

IBISWorld: 397 Page Views; Value \$132,565

InnovationQ: 14 Logins; 183 Searches

PitchBook: 26 Logins

Statista: 91 Visits; 37 Downloads

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Jennifer Byrnes met with [Yasmine Kotturi](#), a Ph.D. of Human-Computer Interaction at Carnegie-Mellon University, to discuss how apps may help small business owners. She also attended a meeting with Empire State Development to learn about new NYS small business funding opportunities. A meeting with the Financial Empowerment Center finalized plans for them to begin seeing clients in our new meeting rooms starting in January. Byrnes met with Kelly Brown Lonis of Monroe Community College’s Workforce Development department to discuss how BIC may help them with their initiatives.
- Byrnes presented on working with cannabis businesses to the American Library Association’s (ALA) Libraries Build Business (LBB) group. LBB is a national initiative of the ALA, supported by Google.org, intended to build capacity in libraries offering programming or services to local entrepreneurs and the small business community, prioritizing low-income and underrepresented entrepreneurs.

- Byrnes and Meddaugh met with Deanna Kocher, Assistant Director at Rev Ithaca Startup Works, an accelerator/incubator affiliated with Cornell University. BIC will be working with their hardware and manufacturing businesses. Byrnes met with the team of the Koffman Southern Tier Incubator, an affiliate of Binghamton University, to discuss how BIC can serve its companies. She also met with Ervin Starr, a business professor at Roberts Wesleyan College, to discuss presenting to his students. Meddaugh attended Rochester Open Coffee Club's monthly meeting to network and discuss the resources of the Business Insight Center and the Carlson Center for Intellectual Property.

Anecdotes/Other

Byrnes attended the Upstate Capital Deal of the Year awards celebration at the Strong Museum. An attendee from Skull Diamond and Heart Capital said talking with her and learning about BIC's services alone was worth the \$700 annual membership fee.

Children's Center, Tonia Burton reporting

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Burton joined the Month of the Young Child Committee. The committee had its first meeting to begin planning events for the April celebration of young children throughout the early childhood community.
- Kelly Conlon and Mary Brzustowicz presented Serving Patrons with Autism Spectrum Disorder training to MCLS Children's Services staff at the November meeting at Arnett Library. Providing this training helps us meet the unique needs of our community by offering experiences that represent our diverse populations, which meets Strategic Priority # 1.



Programs

- Children's hosted a special program for schools. Award-winning author Kekla Magoon visited with seven classes from Rochester City School District on zoom and four classes in person from Renaissance Academy. Magoon shared her writing process and the evolution of her book *Season of Styx Malone*, and answered questions from the students. The students had some great questions including, "Do you have one place you write?" "How long does it take to organize all your sticky notes into a story?" "How many revisions do you have to do for each book?" One question stuck with the author, so she asked Burton about it later. It was "Can you write a book about a character with depression?"



Raising A Reader

- This year Children's staff members continue to provide services to ABC Home Visiting Program, ABC Hart Street, Ibero, and VOA. They have added Generations Clinton Crossing, Generations Clinton, and Friendship Children's Center. They are servicing a total of 755 families this year. Most of the children are under the age of 3. Once children are old enough for universal PreK, the Rochester City School District provides centers with books, and they utilize 1000 Books Before Kindergarten tracking sheets.

- Children's staff members focused on the literacy skill of "Asking Good Questions" for the parents at Ibero. Families were able to follow along a story walk based on the book *City Shapes* and then they were given a take-and-make bag with items to create their own city shape skyline. The other sites received the same activity but based on the story *Leaf Man* for families.

Circulation/Information, Chad Cunningham reporting

Statistics

Curbside Pickup Appointments-7

New Borrowers-300

RRLC Access Cards Issued-20

Notarial Acts-386

Anecdotes/Other

- A mysterious envelope appeared in the mail at the Central Library. The envelope was addressed to the library, the Hyatt, and Seabreeze. Inside were two money orders: one for fifty cents and one for two cents. One of the money orders was made out to Tom Brady. One was not made out to anyone. Whoever purchased the money orders had written cryptic and illegible notes on the money orders. The return address on the envelope listed a name, Apt 800, and Rochester, New York. John Washington from Finance brought the mysterious envelope to Chad Cunningham, hoping that the information on the envelope could be used to identify a library patron. While Cunningham used all his circulation detective skills, he was unable to identify who had sent the money orders. For now, the envelope is in the Circulation Services safe.

Local History & Genealogy, Christine L. Ridarsky reporting

The Local History & Genealogy Division made noteworthy progress on two exciting community projects in the final months of 2022.

First, staff completed an extensive recruitment and selection process that resulted in a recommendation that the following 10 people be appointed by the RPL board to a community advisory board that will guide the development of our planned community-curated Archive of Black History & Culture: Carolyn S. Blount, Mauricio Marc Coombs, Calvin Eaton, Xavier Holiday, Darien Lamien, Shanterra Mitchum, Quiana Joseph-Muhammad, Jean C. Pryor, Ernesta Walker, and Rodney Allen Young.

Second, staff held numerous community input sessions with teachers, students, and the public to gather feedback to assess educational and cultural heritage tourism opportunities connected to the library's North Terrace. Michelle Finn and Christine Ridarsky then participated in a half-day brainstorming session with staff from Second Avenue Learning (SAL) that resulted in a preliminary vision for an Augmented Reality experience that will enhance visitor engagement with and the educational value of the terrace. The library has a grant from Humanities New York that allowed us to hire SAL to develop technical specifications that will allow us to seek additional funding for the development of an AR experience.

The team decided to focus on three visitor experiences: an interactive gateway that would provide visitors with an overview of the art and meaning represented on the Gateway sculpture, a 3-D virtual landscape built upon the map on the water table, and a virtual scavenger hunt to collect virtual objects at specific physical locations on the terrace or within the visible landscape. It is difficult to envision the potential in this limited verbal

description, but trust us, it will be amazing! SAL's visioning and technical documentation will include sketches that will better explain the concepts. Look for that in reports in Spring 2023.

Programs – Priority #1: Education and Engagement

- The division also hosted a special program and birthday celebration in honor of the late Howard W. Coles, a prominent local activist, publisher, author, historian, and radio personality who championed equal rights and worked to improve conditions for Black Rochesterians in the community in the mid-20th century. Speakers included Coles' children Joan Coles Howard and Matthew Coles; former Rochester Museum & Science Center archivist Stephanie Ball, educator, and television producer Darien Lamien; and Niner Davis licensed real estate broker and winner of the Howard W. Coles Breaking Barriers Award. This event was presented in partnership with Coles's daughter, Joan Coles Howard, with support from the Rochester Museum & Science Center.
- Also in November, the division posted an on-demand cooking demonstration on YouTube in which Meghan Cholach demonstrates how to make kanapky, a traditional Ukrainian open-face sandwich made with ingredients that are readily available in a typical Ukrainian kitchen. This program was created as an ancillary to the *Welcome Home* exhibition, which celebrates the contributions of Rochester's immigrant communities. It can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/6GLt9ZNVkTI>.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- The division hosted several school groups in November and December. First graders from the World of Inquiry School 58, guided by Michelle Finn and Dan Cody, used directories, photographs, maps, and other division resources to learn about the history of their school. Second graders from the Genesee Community Charter School worked with Christine Ridarsky to learn about Rochester as America's first Boom Town. Finn taught a professional development workshop for a group of second and third-grade teachers from this school; they were developing a unit on Rochester's early nursery business and sought historical information and resources. Finally, Ridarsky and Finn hosted a group of fifth graders from the World of Inquiry School 58 who were studying westward expansion.
- Finn also led a group of 11th and 12th graders from Vertus High School, a group of fifth graders from the Genesee Community Charter School, and most of the above-mentioned groups of students and teachers on five separate tours of the Rundel North Terrace to gather their feedback and ideas for future educational engagement at the site, including the AR experience discussed earlier in this report.
- Brandon Fess was interviewed by two Fairport High School students who were studying the Civil War. Fess could speak from the perspective of the library's collections and that of a descendant of multiple Union soldiers. The students asked several perceptive questions about the conflict which Fess answered at length. Unfortunately, the students have not yet shared their finished project.

Special Collections

- Brandon Fess accessioned four new items/collections in November and two in December. Significant among these accessions was the Judith Van Ness Recipe Collection (documenting changing American food traditions, 1950s to the early 2000s), the Jesse Lansner Collection of Rochester Community Players Ephemera, the Rochester Civic Garden Center Records, and the Whitelaw Roemer Photograph Collection.
- McDonald met with Midge Thomas, widow of the late Dr. Freddie Thomas, to discuss a planned donation of papers that document Dr. Thomas's service and career, the foundation named in his honor, and Mrs. Thomas's community involvement. This collection will become part of the Archive of Black History & Culture once it is officially established.
- The division received assistance from two community members whose specialist knowledge advanced the arrangement of two other significant collections. First, Barbara Appelbaum, former librarian for the Jewish Federation's Center for Holocaust Awareness and Information, spent an afternoon assisting Fess in

organizing audiovisual materials in the Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester Collection on Holocaust Survivors in Greater Rochester. Second, Cynthia Howk, former Architectural Research Coordinator for the Landmark Society of Western New York, aided in arranging blueprints in the James DeVinney/Corn Hill Historian Papers.

Digital Projects

The FamilySearch volunteer scanning team digitized 32 items in November and 17 in December, focusing on yearbooks and directories. See below for details.

Materials scanned by FamilySearch, November 2022:

Title	Volume	Author	Pages	Call no	Publisher and place	Publication date
The Witan	1956	Charlotte High School	96	Rr373R676c 1956	Colonial Litho Corp, Rochester, NY	1956
The Witan	1957	Charlotte High School	112	Rqr373R67 6c 1957	Colonial Litho Corp, Rochester, NY	1957
The Witan	1958	Charlotte High School	112	Rrq373R67 6c 1933-1958	Colonial Litho Corp, Rochester, NY	1958
The Witan	1959	Charlotte High School	112	Rqr373R67 6c 1959	Unknown	1959
The Witan	1960	Charlotte High School	112	Rqr373R67 6c 1960	Colonial Litho Corp, Rochester, NY	1960
The Witan	1961	Charlotte High School	129	Rr373R676c 1961	Unknown	1961
The Witan	1962	Charlotte High School	128	Rqr373R67 6c 1962	Colonial Litho Corp, Rochester, NY	1962
The Witan	1963	Charlotte High School	140	Rqr373R67 6c 1963	American Yearbook Company, Hannibal, Missouri	1963
The Witan	1964	Charlotte High School	148	Rr373R676c 1964	American Yearbook Company, Hannibal, Missouri	1964
The Witan	1965	Charlotte High School	148	Rqr373R67 6c 1965	American Yearbook Company, Hannibal, Missouri	1965
The Witan	1966	Charlotte High School	140	Rqr373R67 6c 1966	American Yearbook Company, Hannibal, Missouri	1966
The Witan	1967	Charlotte High School	144	Rr373R676c 1967	American Yearbook Company, Hannibal, Missouri	1967

RPL Board Director's Report – January 2023 (Continued)

The Witan	1968	Charlotte High School	147	Rr373R676c 1968	American Yearbook Company, Hannibal, Missouri	1968
The Witan	1969	Charlotte High School	160	Rr373R676c 1969	Keller Yearbook	1969
The Witan	1970	Charlotte High School	160	Rqr373R67 6c 1970	Unknown	1970
The Witan	1971	Charlotte High School	176	Rr373R676c 1971	Unknown	1971
The Witan	1973	Charlotte High School	112	Rr373R676c 1973	Western Yearbook Publishers	1973
The Witan	1975	Charlotte High School	136	Rr373R676c 1975	Western Yearbook Publishers	1975
The Witan	1976	Charlotte High School	160	Rr373R676c 1976	Western Yearbook Publishers	1976
The Witan	1977	Charlotte High School	144	Rrq373R67 6c 1977	Western Yearbook Publishers	1977
The Witan	1978	Charlotte High School	151	Rr373R676c 1978	Western Yearbook Publishers	1978
The Witan	1983	Charlotte High School	96	Rrq373R67 6c 1983	Unknown	1983
The Witan	1984	Charlotte High School	104	Rr373R676c 1984	Unknown	1984
The Witan	1985	Charlotte High School	96	Rr373R676c 1985	Jostens, Minneapolis, MN	1985
The Witan	1987	Charlotte Junior-Senior High School	96	Rqr373R67 6c1987	Jostens, Minneapolis, MN	1987
The Witan	1988	Charlotte Junior-Senior High School	96	Rrq373R67 6c 1988	Unknown	1988
Rochester City Directory	1950	R.L. Polk & Co.	1575	Rr 917.4789 R676 1950	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	1950
Rochester City Directory	1949	R.L. Polk & Co.	1614	Rqr917.478 9 R6761949	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	1949
Rochester City Directory	1970	R.L. Polk & Co.	2020	Rr917.4789 R676 1970	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	1970

RPL Board Director's Report – January 2023 (Continued)

Rochester City Directory	1974-75	R.L. Polk & Co.	1932	Rr917.4789 R676 1974-75	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	1974-75
Rochester City Directory	1991	R.L. Polk & Co.	1252	Rr917.4789 R676 1991	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	1991
Rochester City Directory	1999	R.L. Polk & Co.	853	Rr917.4789 R676 1999	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	1999

Materials scanned by FamilySearch, December 2022:

Title	Volume	Author	Pages	Call no	Publisher and place	Publication date
Rochester City Directory	2000	R.L. Polk & Co.	632	Rr917.4789 R676 2000	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	2000
Rochester City Directory	2001	R.L. Polk & Co.	522	Rr917.4789 R676 2001	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	2001
Rochester City Directory	2002	R.L. Polk & Co.	1,232	Rr917.4789 R676 2002	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	2002
Rochester City Directory	2003	R.L. Polk & Co.	996	Rr917.4789 R676 2003	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	2003
Rochester City Directory	2004	R.L. Polk & Co.	903	Rr917.4789 R676 2004	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	2004
Rochester City Directory	2005	R.L. Polk & Co.	905	Rr917.4789 R676 2005	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	2005
Rochester City Directory	2006	R.L. Polk & Co.	1,008	Rr917.4789 R676 2006	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	2006
Rochester City Directory	2007	R.L. Polk & Co.	1,084	Rr917.4789 R676 2007	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	2007
Rochester City Directory	2008	R.L. Polk & Co.	1,004	Rr917.4789 R676 2008	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	2008
Rochester City Directory	2009	R.L. Polk & Co.	996	Rr917.4789 R676 2009	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	2009
Rochester Suburban Directory	1946	R.L. Polk & Co.	1,053	Rr917.4788 R676r 1946	R.L. Polk & Co., Detroit, Michigan	1946

Rochester Suburban Directory	1965	R.L. Polk & Co.	2,290	Rr917.4788 R676r 1965	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	1965
Rochester Suburban Directory	1976-1977	R.L. Polk & Co.	1,616	Rr917.4788 R676r	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	1976
Rochester Suburban Directory	1981	R.L. Polk & Co.	1,506	Rr917.4788 R676r	R.L. Polk & Co., Boston, Massachusetts	1981
Rochester Suburban Directory	1983	R.L. Polk & Co.	1,570	Rr917.4788 R676r	R.L. Polk & Co., Malden, Massachusetts	1983
Rochester Suburban Directory	1984	R.L. Polk & Co.	1,588	Rr917.4788 R676r	R.L. Polk & Co., Malden, Massachusetts	1984
Rochester Suburban Directory	1996W	R.L. Polk & Co.	1,194	Rr917.4788 R676r	R.L. Polk & Co., Detroit, Michigan	1996

Social Media

There were four new posts to the *Local History ROCs!* blog in November and December: “A Genealogy of Place: Frequently Asked Questions about House Research, Part Two” and “A Genealogy of Place, Part Three: From Frankfort Institute to Flat Iron Cafe” by Christopher Brennan, and two parts of “There and Back Again: Jay Silverheels’ Rochester Connection” by Emily Morry. The newest posts received 61 views in November and 186 views in December. In addition, readers from over 36 countries revisited 179 previously published posts for 2,059 views in November and 2,316 in December. All posts can be read online at www.rochistory.wordpress.com. In reviewing the end-of-year statistics, we were pleased to note that blog readership has been steadily increasing over the past five years and that the blog had more views (25,118) and visitors (16,282) in 2022 than in any prior year.

Anecdotes/Other

One notable reference transaction involved a researcher looking at the history of the Great Embankment over time. A member of the New York State Canal Society, the researcher was looking for cartographic evidence to supplement the extensive research file that the Society already maintains on the Great Embankment. Fess was able to provide him with several historic maps from the RPL collection, link him to maps from the New York State Archives, and provide him with a primer in the ways of archival research (as he had no prior experience in that area, and needs to do more).

Reynolds Media Center, Joseph Born reporting

Statistics

RMC rented 17 pieces of equipment and 514 Mi-Fi units in addition to the regular collection, for a total of 8139 items. When adding in the RMC items that circulated at other libraries, RMC circulated 17,285 items.

Programs

- See It First film “Top Gun: Maverick”
- The Concert series continued with the Irondequoit community orchestra The Quintessence Quintet.

RPL Board Director's Report – January 2023 (Continued)

- The First Friday Matinee on 12/2 was “Get Low “.
- Our See It First film “The Woman King” was shown on 12/17.
- Brown Bag Book discussions about “Vesper Flights” by Helen MacDonald, were both in person and on Zoom
- RMC performed 41 A/V setups for programs in Central Library and streamed 4 programs to YouTube.

Stewardship

In addition to our regular contribution, RMC has set aside a \$27,000.00 rollover from our Reynolds Trust Fund to help continue Mi-Fi circulation services to our community after the Federal Grant expires at the end of June 2023.

Science and History, Gabe Pellegrino reporting

Programs

- Growing Garlic in the Home Garden was presented by Jarmila Haseler from the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Monroe County. This program was very popular, and the Cornell Cooperative Extension sold garlic seeds from Fraser Farms for people to purchase. Garlic grows throughout the winter season, and it grows well in Western NY because of the cold temperatures.
- The *Got Health?* Online video series, presented by and in partnership with the Center for Community Health and Prevention at the University of Rochester Medical Center, continued with: *Beat the Holiday Blues: Tips for Handling Stress, Depression & Grief during a Season of Celebration*. Viewing numbers were high through Facebook. The series continued with: *Beat the Holiday Blues: Tips for Handling Stress, Depression & Grief during a Season of Celebration*.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Pellegrino attended the monthly meetings of the local chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA). The group is hoping to purchase several copies of this year's Big Read book: *Deaf Republic*. Pellegrino will check with FFRPL regarding an appropriate method for getting discounted copies of the book to be paid for by HLAA. Some of the titles suggested are *Smart Hearing* by Katherine Boulton (2018); *Hearing Loss for Dummies* (2002); and *Hear & Beyond* by Shari Eberts (2022). Pellegrino will also look independently at these titles for purchase by the Science Division.
- Pellegrino also attended two meetings of the Video Workgroup meeting of the Community-Driven Cancer Research Team (part of our Wilmot partnership). More discussion was had on the video's specific focus and upcoming work with the video production team; a special follow-up meeting discussed three scenarios for video production; a meeting with the production team is next.
- LROC visitors numbered around 60 this month, a marked increase. This is even though they did not make two of their dates. Many visitors on Friday were here not only for legal help but because Legal Assistance of Western New York is assisting patrons with HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program). No doubt the arrival of cold weather has contributed to the additional visitors.

Anecdotes/Other

- Displays: Florence Morris put up a book display for Native American Heritage Month, in partnership with Melissa Manczuk (Art/Lit) who loaned two beautiful folio-size books for display along with several dolls from the George W. Cooper Doll Collection. The dolls displayed represent Aboriginal Australian, Ecuador, Guatemala, North American Indian, United States Alaska, and Peru. This is a wonderful collaboration of the two divisions to share and display older folio books. Also displayed is a folio book from the Science, History, and Social Sciences Division. The book title is *Tarahumara: Where Night is the Day of the Moon*.
- Morris has been working with a particular patron for a year. The work began with the patron using Chat Reference to ask about aviation books. Since that initial Chat Reference, Morris has been corresponding with the patron via email. The patron is 90 years old, an avid reader, and a frequent user of the Pittsford Public Library. When the patron requests books and/or if Morris comes across books that the patron may be interested in, Morris sends the books to the Pittsford Public Library for him to pick up. The week of November 21, Morris had sent the patron an email with four photographs Lily Anthony had taken of the Science, History, and Social Sciences Division's aviation display. On Tuesday, November 29 the patron and his daughter came up to meet Morris, to see the aviation display and the Science, History, and Social Sciences Division. Morris and the patron are delighted that they can all put a face to their email correspondents.



Technology Center, Jay Osborne reporting

Programs

- The Technology Center has been able to host weekly tabling sessions for Leroy Banks from Rochester Works. Mr. Banks has made some valuable connections with some of our regular patrons. The offer of professional resume services and access to the contacts available through Rochester Works are both huge benefits for many users of the Technology Center. Meeting the people most likely to need his services at the place they congregate every day makes his efforts here very efficient and he plans to continue working out of the Technology Center for the foreseeable future.

Anecdotes/Other

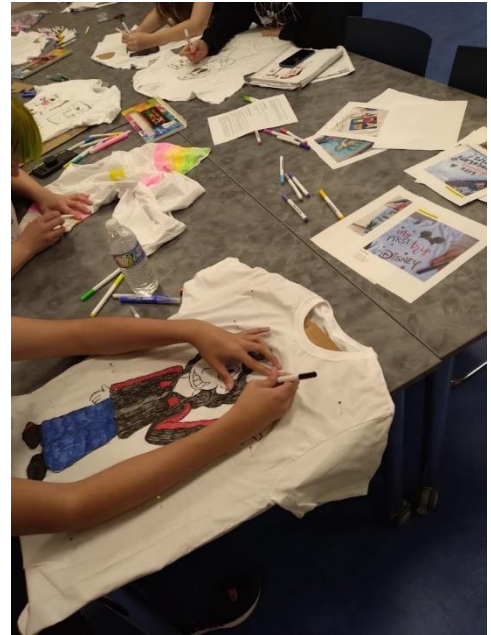
- Amy Shropshire had an elderly patron come in several times. Although an excellent musician, he has never been able to navigate digital spaces well enough to widely share his music. She helped him set up a YouTube channel for his music, helped him upload a few songs, start a GoFundMe for an album, and did a bit of social media marketing. He has been very understanding about staff needing to step away to help other patrons who need help with job applications or other essential tasks, but he gets as much help as possible with his more in-depth social media needs. Another patron that has needed more in-depth needs is a gentleman needing graphic design support for his fledgling roadside assistance business. Shropshire helped him make flyers and signs for his vehicle and showed him some of the options available for signs in PowerPoint and Publisher. These more in-depth projects are no less critical for those patrons and with effective time management this kind of support can be balanced between more urgent or time-sensitive tasks. They

advance the lives and well-being of our patrons in practical ways while fulfilling our mission of encouraging learning and collaboration.

Teen Central, Shetora Banks reporting

Programs

- Girls Who Code: The fall session ended. Students can continue and finish if they choose because Girls Who Code allows them to log in to their accounts and learn even after the expected completion date. New students joined the programs.
- Teens Craft & Connect: We had a few new craft learners in November. Students participated in crocheting gifts for the upcoming holiday season. The most complex projects produced were a small pouch with a button and bracelets. We had a t-shirt painting program. Many teens participated by drawing their favorite logos and images:
- Teen Book Talk: We read these books: *Loveless* by Alice Oseman, *Surviving the City*, and *From the Roots Up (Surviving the City #2)* by Tasha Spillett. Participants had a profound discussion concerning the dilemmas of the character Dez and expressing her full identity. In December we discussed *The Teenage Girl's Guide to Living Well with ADHD: Improve Your Self-Knowledge, Self-Esteem, and Self-Care* by Sonia Ali.
- Teen Cooking Experience: Many teens and tweens participated in the Teen Central holiday cookie-making event. They had a fun time kneading, cutting, and decorating their favorite Christmas cookies.



- Esports – The Central Library eSports team earned their status as Twitch Affiliates in November. They are now eligible to earn money through donations, ads, and subscriptions. After a rocky first attempt, the team won the Farmcraft II challenge. The team president won the Tekken 7 Tournament hosted by A Gamer's Nostalgia. The team secretary was able to stream himself getting a personal record on Fortnite. [Sam Fortnite PR.mp4](#) Numerous other videos have been uploaded to the library YouTube account.



Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Faezah Jahanshiri had an online meeting with Blyss Buitrago, the Regional Retention Specialist for the Girls Who Code club. The meeting was to seek advice and get access to more available resources needed to overcome several challenges/roadblocks in making the Girls Who Code program at RPL a successful program. Also, Jahanshiri was contacted by Kelvin O. Sanchez Orona with Ibero American Action League. He works in the Youth Division Program as an ASPIRA Mentor at Eugenio Maria de Hostos Charter School and is interested in enrolling 8th-grade students into our Girls Who Code program. We had a Zoom meeting to discuss ways we can collaborate toward facilitating virtual sessions and incentivizing student participation.
- Shetora Banks participated in JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) training. Getting Gender right: Role Modeling Support of Gender Diversity and Individuality and Cultivating Affirmations and Belonging for LGBTQIA and Youth with the Kaleidoscope Youth Center led by Lyndin Cudlitz.
- Faezah Jahanshiri had a meeting with Eve Tulbert at the UR Warner College of Education and started planning for the Climate Sensor project as part of the Teen Central Robotics Club to be offered in March.
- Jahanshiri was contacted by Rebecca Lauzon of the Rochester Museum & Science Center. She invited Teen Central to collaborate with them as part of an ecosystem of learning hubs across the Northeast. They receive support from NASA and small science and technology centers across the Northeast aiming to create a community of connected and data-rich climate and environmental sciences learning experiences for youth. <https://www.learningecosystemsnortheast.org/>.
- Shetora Banks attended the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion training series: Windows and Mirrors: LGBTQIA affirming programs and curriculum and Grant Writing: Fund development for sustaining high-quality programs.

Anecdotes/Other

Lisa M. Feinstein, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Co-Chair, of The Strong's Women in Games Initiative at The Strong National Museum of Play reached out to Teen Central because she was aware of our involvement with the Girls Who Code program. She extended us free tickets, \$35 value each, for interested youth to attend a wonderful program *Gaming for All: A Women in Games Celebration*. The program included micro presentations and a panel discussion with trailblazers from the video game industry—including Beth Llewelyn, Principal & Co-Founder, Zebra Partners; Sydney Adams, senior game designer at Take-Two Interactive Software; Shannon Loftis, retired Xbox Team executive with Microsoft; Lauren Synger, Voice Actor, Voice Director, Singer, Songwriter; Jenny Xu, CEO Talofa Games; and Rebecca Heineman, CEO at Olde Sküül—with additional insights from Jenn Hinton, Associate Director of RIT's MAGIC Center/MAGIC Spell Studios. Youth were also able to visit the museum's exhibits and enjoy refreshments.

Community Library Updates

Melanie Lewis, Deputy Director reporting

During November and December, my focus was on meeting with each manager for end-of-year updates including information on programs, staffing, and preparation for upcoming budget proposals. Some of the Branch Managers took advantage of the data gathering and analysis skills of Erin Clarke from Branch Administration to help support their submissions. Debi Mansour from the Director's office also coordinated and provided information for the managers to use in their requests. Most submitted thoughtful and comprehensive proposals to support continued improvements at their sites.

During these months, Branches had two managers away on medical leave; staff was extremely flexible in pitching in with additional duties and alternate schedules to continue providing services.

Branch Administration chose two longtime staff members, Vera Haygood and George Carter to attend the City of Rochester's "Lead On" Leadership Development program. This training focuses on introducing participants to the necessary set of skills, techniques, and tools that will increase effectiveness within the workplace. Our goal is to help prepare Vera and George for future leadership opportunities within the RPL. Both are currently Youth Services Assistants for Safe to Be Smart.

Arnett Branch Library, Bruce Tehan reporting

The Arnett Branch and its community partners are busy planning celebrations and big things in honor of Arnett's 100th birthday in 2023! There will be more information forthcoming to the board about special events.

Programs

- There were numerous successful programs including a cooking workshop presented by Food Link which was well enjoyed by adults and a LEGO Club Pine Wood Derby facilitated by the Scouts of America Seneca Waterways Council, which was wildly popular with boys, girls, and their grown-ups. During the derby, kids made cars out of LEGOS and held a series of races.



Community Outreach/Meetings

- Arnett staff conducted various outreach and is involved in a *Complete the Street* project taking place at the corner of Arnett Blvd. and Warwick Ave. To learn more about such projects visit [Complete Streets Makeover: Making Rochester streets safer for all - Reconnect Rochester](#)
- Arnett's young patrons and Nancy Cholewa decorated several boxes that were picked up for a Thanksgiving food drive facilitated by Uniting and Healing Through Hope. The project is described in this news article: [Uniting and Healing Through Hope kicks off Thanksgiving food drive | RochesterFirst](#)

Charlotte Branch Library, Dennis Williams reporting

Patron Kimberly Rouleau's ROC Made With Love event was a huge success! Charlotte was a drop-off location for handmade crocheted and knitted winter items. Rouleau said they collected more than 700 items total, and Charlotte received the bulk of the donations. Many pieces had been picked up by the end of the month and the remainder were displayed indoors for patrons to snap up. A woman came in asking for a face mask to ride the bus and she mentioned how cold it was outdoors, so Sessler told her to grab something to keep warm. The woman selected a scarf and mittens, exclaiming how nice it was. The collaboration has been so successful that Rouleau will continue to collect items throughout January for Charlotte to distribute.

Douglass Community Library, Evanna DiSalvo reporting

Programs

- Soup-er Potluck Lunch: Lunch was well attended and was especially appreciated by the kids, as it was a school half day. Staff wore the Team Doug t-shirts and Melanie Lewis joined the festivities. Many guests commented that we should do it again! (Stewardship & Curation)
- Snowman & Reindeer Craft: The kids had fun making snowmen and reindeer. One creative child even made fancy earmuffs and a heart purse for her snowwoman! (Education and Engagement)
- Gingerbread houses: Children of all ages and their families enjoyed getting creative and making their own gingerbread houses with the Story Book Cook.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- 2022 Family & Community Engagement Forum Resource Fair: Isaac Lewis and Emma Reynolds represented the library. Several attendees signed up for library cards and visited the library.
- Teacher Training and Story Time: Jennifer Nesbitt and the Raising a Reader team will be bringing the popular Raising a Reader program to the Generations Daycare nearby. Nesbitt offers story time to five classrooms at the daycare each month. Nesbitt also assisted with kicking off the Raising a Reader program at Generations Daycare.



A patron brought in her elderly mother for Notary services because both Lifespan and the Office for the Aging recommended coming to Douglass. She was worried about it being stressful for her mother and was told that the staff at Douglass would be very patient. It happened to be on the day of the Soup-er Potluck Lunch, so they were able to enjoy that as well!

Lincoln Branch Library, Sarah Lehman reporting

Vera Haygood participated in a Safe to Be Smart outing with youth at the Geva Theater. These outings provide a sense of community and an opportunity for youth to experience the arts. They truly enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to further events at the Geva Theater with the Safe to be Smart community. Geva's Community Engagement Director, Rachel DeGuzman, provided 10 free tickets to each Geva production this season. These tickets were distributed among the STBS staff to be used for outings like this. In addition, library staff have curated lists of recommended reading related to each production. Director Uttaro has provided the lists for the

first three productions, and other MCLS staff will provide lists for the remaining productions. The lists are made into a poster which hangs in the lobby at Geva.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Seidel, Haygood, Kurz Michel, and Santiago all began weekly pop-up programming at the Ave D Recreation Center to help maintain a presence in the immediate community around the library while it is closed for renovations.
- Santiago provided Raising a Reader-themed storytime for the Volunteers of America Children's Center for three separate classrooms.
- Santiago provided five Family and Togetherness-themed storytime for the Joseph Avenue Early Head Start location.

Lyell Branch Library, Shamika Fusco reporting

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Tabling: The Monroe County Department of Public Health loaned the Lyell Branch a display with information and resources about childhood lead poisoning and prevention methods for private homes as well as businesses within our community. Patrons were invited to visit the display during their visit to the library, and the dates of the tabling were advertised on the library's social media.

Branch Manager Fusco bid RPL farewell in early January as she accepted a position as Director of the Livonia Public Library. Fusco had a long career with RPL, starting as a clerk, working in the Toy Library, and eventually earning her Masters in Library Science. We wish her well in this new venture!

Maplewood Community Library, Johanna Buran reporting



The branch expansion is getting real! This photo shows the demolition of the house behind the library, which is the first step in this project. The design team is moving ahead, and Deputy Director Lewis anticipates that there will be a community input session sometime in March. Work is also progressing with the City regarding an easement agreement with Aquinas for use of the adjacent property north of the current library building. During

discussion and research, we learned that the entire Aquinas campus is on the historic register, making any project somewhat complicated. Lewis and Brie Harrison will be working with City Real Estate in the coming weeks to identify a satellite location for Maplewood during the construction.

Programs

- There was a surprise field trip to the zoo towards the end of the month courtesy of Children's Service Consultant Tonia Burton.
- Rochester Regional Health ran a toy drive and donated the toys to the children of the Maplewood Library. Stories were read and gifts were opened. All of the children then wrote thank you cards to "Santa's Helpers".
- December concluded with a packed gingerbread house making event. The young architects created dozens of fancy gingerbread houses and decorated gingerbread kids, while some of the youngest just enjoyed the candy decorations. One of the most detailed ones used icing to create smoke coming out of the chimney.



Monroe Branch Library, Mary Clare Scheg reporting

Programs

- Children's Librarian Matthew Hoople hosted the Irondequoit Community Orchestra for a children's concert directed by local composers, and conducted a total of four school visits with Rochester City School District schools 23 and 35.
- The Monroe Branch held its first session dealing with the issue of climate change. The presenter discussed the knowledge, vocabulary, conditions, frameworks of interpretation, and conflicted politics of climate change. In the second session, there will be a discussion on individual and collective responses to climate change.

Anecdotes/Other

- Jayla, a teenager who in previous months claimed to hate books (and recently asked about becoming a librarian) offered this month to read a book during a storytime. Hoople was very proud of the attempt, although afterward, Jayla said "Reading is scary! Maybe I should work at a zoo instead." The following week Jayla asked if she was allowed to try again and Hoople was happy to encourage her!
- The Monroe Branch participated in "ROC Made with Love." Scarves, hats, and gloves were hung all along the front fence of the library. The items that were left are now on a book truck inside the entrance of the library for patrons to take. People are adding to the supply of these items.
- To spread holiday cheer, Hoople took the leftover summer reading prizes and wrapped them up as presents to give away to kids who visited in December. One particularly shy girl named Maeve came to the library with her parents for the first time. This young girl was stunned to learn that there was a present for her, she opened it and received a small stuffed bear. For the rest of her adventure in the library, she clutched the bear to her chest. A few weeks later, a letter arrived for Hoople (in Crayon) that read: "Dear Mr. Matthew. Thank you for the bear! I am a dada bear holding the baby bear. I love him. Thank you! – Maeve"

Phillis Wheatley Community Library, Sheilah Murphy reporting

Programs

- Sheilah Murphy and Social Work Intern Lydia McCarthy held a Coffee and Conversation program to get to know the local community. It was a good discussion of the type of support a social worker could supply to locals. Group support regarding violence in the community was one idea that sparked interest (Priority #2: Create and maintain essential library relationships).
- Marta Pereira led the library's first chess club. The children learned about chess and then they were able to compete against each other. Excitement is brewing for the next chess meeting, and everyone is eager to learn more!
- Michele Saccente hosted a Mix and Mingle event for teens and children. Patrons were tasked with decorating a Thanksgiving card that would be donated to seniors/elders in the community. Many cards were made and distributed to the Episcopal Senior Home and a local congregation.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Murphy hosted a book discussion at the Episcopal Senior Home on Mt. Hope. The book *The Murder of King Tut* by James Patterson was discussed. The conversation was lively and focused on James Patterson as a writer and the lack of historically accurate content in the book.
- Haehn partnered with School 19 for their Snuggle Up and Read Program. The children received books, a blanket, and snacks to take home. In addition, a storyteller came and dazzled the children with a tale. Eleven new library users signed up for their first library card!
- The Rochester Kwanzaa Coalition hosted one of their weeklong gatherings at Phillis Wheatley Library. Food, music, and holiday traditions were observed with the community. It was a lively and exciting celebration to end the year.

Sully Branch Library, Sarah Lehman reporting

Programs

- Jacob Bigelow had a homeschooled family come in to participate in the 3D printer program. Both boys were excited about learning how the printer worked and was enraptured with it in motion. They both pulled over chairs to watch the printer make the designs they had chosen. During the program, the boys asked good questions that showed they had a basic understanding of the technology.
- Crunchy Sam brought his reptiles and invertebrates to Sully much to the delight (and occasionally to the horror) of the young audience. A particularly audible gasp was heard when he introduced the emperor scorpion!
- Patrons at Sully certainly enjoy their chess. This is demonstrated in the frequent games George Carter is challenged to undertake and in the chess pieces that Bigelow creates with the 3-D printer.



Winton Branch Library, Kathy Wolf reporting

Programs

- Caldecott Honor winner John Rocco and his wife Hayley gave an evening presentation to introduce their newest book, *How to Send a Hug*. Accompanying them in their presentation was Rochester's Postmaster Derek Spencer who read the book and joined the Roccas in talking about the United States Postal Service and what it does. Children were invited to create a mailable hug and were provided a "jacket" (envelope) in which to send it. Book sales were handled by Julie Berry from the Medina bookstore Author's Note. The program was well-attended and well-received. (Priority 1: Education and Engagement)
- The Winton Branch Library was pleased to offer a Death Café on a Saturday afternoon that attracted many more people than expected. Each time Death Café of Western New York offers a program, the dynamic that unfolds is wholly unique to its participants. Discussions are deeply meaningful and transformative experiences for most participants, leaving them swimming with colorful thoughts that leave much to meditate on. (Priority 1: Education and Engagement)

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- DelGaizo spent the last five weeks participating in the Pursuit of Equity course offered by the New York State Library with a focus on teens. This synchronous digital course included self-reflections, assessments, and readings aimed at learning how to make the library a hospitable space for all by looking inward towards ourselves and our staff as well as outward at the community. (Priority 3: Stewardship and Curation)