



Rochester
Public Library

More Than You Think

115 South Avenue | Rochester | New York | 14604

TO: RPL Board of Trustees
FROM: Patricia Uttaro, Director
DATE: April 26, 2023
SUBJECT: Monthly Report – April 2023

Action Items

Amended Library Capital Improvement Program (Harrison)

There are minor changes to the Library Capital Improvement Program since the Board's approval in fall 2022. To meet budget reductions, we have removed the contingency request from the City for the Maplewood expansion project (\$480,000) but the roof replacement remains. DES has also recommended a second year of Rundel HVAC funding based on the current work scope; we are unclear at this stage if it is to be included in the current design project. As of publication, we do not have information on the status of the Northeast Branch Library project based on the NYS Homes and Community Renewal funding application via the Rochester Housing Authority.

Project Category	Project Description	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Municipal Facilities	Maplewood Roof	\$633,000	0	0
Municipal Facilities	Winton Branch Renovation	0	0	0
Non-Public Safety Fleet	Branch Facilities Van Replacement (EV)	\$66,000	0	0

Central Facilities	Rundel Roof Replacement	0	0	\$500,000
Central Facilities	Rundel Structural Repairs (East Terrace)	0	0	0
Central Facilities	Rundel HVAC (Filtration, Intake Air)	\$500,000	\$500,000	0
Central Facilities	Bausch & Lomb HVAC (Heat Pump)	0	\$530,000	0
Central Facilities	Rundel Elevator Modernization	0	\$500,000	\$500,000
Central Facilities	Bausch & Lomb Elevator Modernization	0	0	\$500,000

Note that all annual allocations (facilities maintenance, IT equipment, furnishings, fleet replacement) remain as submitted through the budget process and are unchanged.

Board Action Requested: Approval of the Capital Improvement Program as amended.

Amended NYSED Grant Award (Harrison)

The MCLS has been awarded an additional amount of \$104,131 in NYS library construction funds for the Rundel Building Air Quality Improvement Project. This increases the NYSED library construction grant award for the Rundel project to \$622,263 and the total awards under the grant program for the fiscal year from \$1,343,848 to \$1,447,979.

As part of the procedure for State Aid for Library Construction projects, additional funding becomes available when other public library systems do not spend their allocated funds. Funding is reapportioned to those systems that have spent their full allocation and not all eligible projects were funded at the maximum allowable amount. The Rundel project met these criteria for the MCLS.

Board Action Requested: Accept \$104,131 of additional Library Construction grant monies from NYSED.

Report & Discussion Items

RPL Director Patricia Uttaro reporting

Automatic Renewal – At the annual MCLS Directors Retreat in March, the topic of automatic renewal was raised. Automatic renewal of eligible materials is a system-wide decision, meaning individual libraries cannot opt out. The process automatically renews any borrowed item that is renewable (i.e. does not have a hold and is renewable). The system members voted to initiate the automatic renewal of library materials in 2019, but it was not implemented due to concerns raised by some members who anticipated significant reductions in revenue as an unintended consequence of the action. At the time, some libraries were just launching pilots of fines elimination and had already projected certain revenue losses and were not able to absorb anything new. The discussion in 2023 is focusing on service to patrons and increased circulation versus fine revenue. We'd be interested in your thoughts on this topic as the MCLS Directors Council will be discussing this in the coming weeks.

Social Media

March 2023	RPL Twitter	MCLS Twitter	Facebook	Facebook Calendar	Facebook Groups	Instagram	YouTube
Profile/ Page Visits	629	622	1,502	-	-	293	-
New Followers/ Page Likes	15 (2,108)	6 (2,235)	14 (5,764)	-	8	87 (2,448)	10 (485)
Engagements	53	101	2,558	72	51	381	44
Check-In/ Mentions	9	21	-	-	-	12	-
Post Reach	2,289	4,215	14,602	-	-	6,061	23,161
Video/Story Views	-	-	19	-	-	0	1,008

Central Library Updates

Jennifer Smathers reporting

Patron Services Manager, Cynthia Dana reporting

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Cynthia Dana, along with Chad Cunningham presented training on Handling Difficult Situations with staff at Henrietta and Gates. Staff is encouraged to participate in the conversation, and it is surprising the different directions each training takes. Feedback is positive; Dana and Cunningham always pick up a tip or two also.
- Dana, along with Erin Clarke attended a meeting with other City staff members for an update on the upcoming GBI (Guaranteed Basic Income) Pilot Program. Dana and Clarke will present this information to Branch Managers and Central Supervisors, while Dana conveyed to the organizer, Liliana Ruiz a count of how many posters, flyers, etc. are needed for all of RPL.

Arts/Literature, Nanci Nugent reporting

Programs

- Art Pioneers: The Women of Abstract Expressionism--The Art Division Celebrated Women's History Month with the Jackson Pollock-Krasner House, located in East Hampton, NY. Presenter Joyce Raimondo not only spoke about Abstract Expressionism's women artists but also spoke about how the art world shows diversity and equity by promoting the artwork of People of Color and LGBTQ work. In this program, patrons learned how women painters were pioneers in Abstract Expressionism and Color Field painting. Women artists in the 40s and 50s were ignored, while it was Lee Krasner, an Abstract Expressionist artist married to Jackson Pollock, who was primarily responsible for promoting Pollock's career while her work was overlooked by the white patriarchal art world. Some of the artists discussed were Elaine DeKooning, Helen Frankenthaler, African American artists Alma Thomas, Mildred Thompson, and other women painters. Library patrons enjoyed this program with comments such as, *"The presenter was very knowledgeable,"* and *"I really enjoyed the presentation! I want to thank the Central Library for providing this on zoom so that those of us with disabilities who are not that mobile can enjoy listening and participating in the presentation."* and *"I would like to know more about different forms of art like fiber art, sculpture, and folk art."*
- Writing Comedy--The program Writing Comedy, taught by Hilary Bluestein-Lyons and part of the Rochester Writes series at Central, concluded at the beginning of March. There was positive feedback for the writing series at Central and the class. Comedy is known to be the most difficult genre and patrons enjoyed learning from an experienced instructor. Feedback from the class included: *"The timing was perfect. The class size was just right. Having about a dozen participants made the class interesting by having a variety of experiences/backgrounds,"* *"What I really enjoyed was that the instructor (Hilary Bluestein-Lyons) invited us to an Open Mike Night Zoom after the last class. I listened in and was able to see the comedic principles I'd learned in class applied to real-life comedians,"* and *"I also want to applaud the instructor for inviting us to a comedy-drama play at the Penfield Community Center that she wrote. I went and enjoyed myself."* The current writing programs, Words in Progress (first Saturday of the month via Zoom) and I Want to Write a Novel (Wednesday nights in the Rundel Arts Room), continue into April.

Business Insight Center (BIC), Jennifer Byrnes reporting

Jennifer Byrnes met with City Councilman Mitch Gruber to discuss cannabis businesses in the city. She also met with the founding members of the NY CAURD Coalition (conditional adult-use retail dispensary). The coalition invests in its members through educational pathways and ensures access to resources to create a sustainable, equitable, and inclusive cannabis industry. She also met with Rodric Cox-Cooper of the Workforce Development Institute to discuss the state of cannabis in the area.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Byrnes and Kate Meddaugh taught two business classes at Hobart William Smith; one via Zoom, and the other in person.
- Meddaugh and Melissa Cobo attended the online annual seminar by the US Patent and Trademark Office. Presentations were given on the new public patent searching tool and the examination process of both patents and trademarks. Meddaugh attended Statista training. Statista is a statistical database, and the training was for basic features and functions

Consulting

The Carlson Center for Intellectual Property assisted: 2 in person, 42 by email, 0 by mail, 3 by phone, 5 by Zoom.

Carlson Center Webpage views: 29

3D Printer: 5

Hours of in-depth market research / prior art searching: 69

Requests Outside Greater Rochester Area: 8

Database Usage

Frost & Sullivan: Page views: 11 Value: \$30,000

IBISWorld: Page views: 64 Value: \$25,275

InnovationQ: Logins: 7 Searches: 65

PitchBook: Logins: 21

Statista: Searches: 56 Downloads: 59



Anecdotes/Other

- Byrnes will be speaking at the annual American Library Association conference in Chicago as part of the panel for "Fostering Economic Opportunity and Advancement with Innovative Programming."
- BIC connected Carter Sargent, an RIT student starting a video game company, to a pro bono attorney at Barclay Damon. From Carter, *"It went great! I really feel like my company is in good hands. Thank you so much for connecting us!"*
- Byrnes was asked to be a mentor for 607 Soaring – the Southern Tier Collegiate Competition– a pitch competition for students from Corning Community College and Elmira College.

Children's Center, Tonia Burton reporting

Programs

Irish Dance with Rince Na Tiarna: It was a very enjoyable program for everyone. The kids and teens were all highly talented and the enthusiasm was highly contagious. Many families had not visited Central before, so we made sure to mention the Secret Room and after the program, the Children's Center was packed! It was a highly memorable day.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Tonia Burton held the March MCLS Children's Services meeting at the Golisano Autism Center; Cathy Kyle and Katie Powell attended. Burton arranged for a tour of the facility and then a training led by Kelly Conlon. The training explained what autism is, what autism is not, sensory strategies, and best practices for working with people with autism.
- Burton joined a quarterly NYS Youth Services meeting hosted by the Division of Library Development (DLD). Information about upcoming webinars and summer reading was shared as well as the latest news from the department.
- Burton attended the Monroe County Youth Bureau Advisory Board meeting. The board is working on getting to know one another and discussing bylaws and actions that are needed.
- Burton connected a Girl Scout representative with Hipocampo for Children's Book Week which is the first week in May. Central, Arnett, Maplewood, and Winton will host a "Bee A Reader" project with the Girl Scouts. Each patron will read and get a free book purchased by the Girl Scouts and a pollinator activity to take home.
- MCLS has been a supporter of Month of the Young Child (April) for many years. This year Burton is working with the planning team to assist with picking up artwork from the area early childhood educators and will be facilitating having the artwork hung in different locations. Central Library is also hosting the kick-off on April 3. Some member libraries have been invited to hang artwork created at childcare locations in their area. At this time the following locations have been matched: Central, Brighton, Pittsford, and Sully. Other possibilities are Douglass, Irondequoit, and Wheatley.

- Burton joined the Eclipse Stakeholder meeting. The planners discussed the dates and times for the event and shared all the preparation from making sure the I-90 is clear without any active construction from Ohio – Rochester to all the businesses making 2024 merchandise. Look for coffee, beer, hard cider, and more all labeled with Eclipse 2024. RMSC showed off their patches and moon stress balls, one community member did ask everyone to consider that the event is near Earth Day so be mindful of selling/giving away landfill stuffing.
- Burton met with staff from the Seneca Park Zoo for a planning meeting for a new poetry contest, Poetry Takes Wing. This is an intergenerational program that encourages people to write bird poems. There will be writing workshops and open mic events as well as prizes that include time at the Writers & Books Writing retreat for a teen and an adult. The zoo is looking for funding to pay for the writing workshops and hopes that many libraries will participate in hosting workshops.

Anecdotes/Other

- Katie Powell was working on the children's reference desk a mom and son came in and shared the son is autistic. Powell was able to share information about Golisano Autism Center with the mom.
- Miranda Hazen observed and captured some great adult and child play moments over the month including some Wii Just Dance, a little one taking his first steps (couldn't get a picture of that one), and a collaborative creation of a bird out of Magnatiles.



Raising A Reader

- Burton talked with childcare site staff at Friendship, Generations, Head Start, and VOA about Raising A Reader. Sites are still not stable and have different challenges which impact Raising A Reader activities. Friendship has decided to stop the program this year and try again next year. Generations is dedicated to the program and after retraining it is running well. It is the first year for both Friendship and Generations.
- Hart Street's Education Specialist has returned from leave, so we are now better able to schedule information-sharing sessions for families. VOA has had a considerable amount of staffing changes. They have identified a classroom teacher who will now be the lead. The teachers are dedicated and passionate about Raising a Reader.
- Margarita Chaves and Taylor Coonelly participated in family outreach with the Hart Street families to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

- The RAR program provided take-and-make bags filled with holiday-themed sorting activities along with literacy tips for families. Library books were also shared focusing on spring colors to encourage families to visit the library. Chaves also participated in family outreach at our VOA site. RAR staff also provided take-and-make bags containing sorting activities with shapes and colors for families. Chaves was also able to reiterate the importance of RAR and parents responded well by stating how they are enjoying the program. Families were also looking forward to their new weekly bag rotation.



Circulation/Information, Chad Cunningham reporting

Statistics

Curbside Pickup Appointments-7
New Borrowers-188
RRLC Access Cards Issued-3
Notarial Acts-378

Anecdotes/Other

- Chad Cunningham worked repeatedly with a patron this month who needed to file extensions on several New York State hearings and meetings. Cunningham and the patron worked together to contact the state via fax, e-mail, and regular mail. The patron, who is not comfortable with computers, very much appreciated how the library staff is always willing to help her.
- Cunningham helped a patron renew an Out of County card for a family member who lives in Iran. They obtained the Out of County card so she could borrow items in English to help her improve her language skills before she moves to the US.
- Jim Montione was working at the Information Desk when a very shy 4-year-old came up to the desk with his grandfather. After some coaxing from his grandfather, the child asked if his card was in good standing. Montione told him that it was and, seeing that the young patron looked like he had more to say, asked if he needed help finding anything. The grandfather encouraged him to ask his question. After asking for two movies, Montione looked them up and then walked them over to the media center and introduced him to Barb Wilson. Wilson helped the quiet child find his movies and checked them out. The grandfather thanked Montione for helping his shy grandson.

Local History & Genealogy, Michelle Finn reporting

- The Archive of Black History & Culture was featured in an article published by the *Democrat and Chronicle* this month: “Rochester Public Library launches archive to document Black history and culture” by Justin Murphy. Murphy interviewed Antoine McDonald, Christine Ridarsky, and several members of the archive’s Community Advisory Board about the status of the project, past efforts that have led the project to this point, and aspirations for its future development. Read the full article here: <https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2023/03/22/rochester-ny-public-library-launches-archive-to-document-black-history-culture/70007895007/>.
- The Community Advisory Board met once this month and began drafting mission and vision statements for the archive. They also discussed the development of a strategic plan and collection policy and reviewed the database identifying existing collections pertaining to Rochester’s Black community that was compiled by the Rochester Regional Library Council. The board also held two more focus group sessions (one virtual, one in-person) to garner input from the public about what materials and topics people would like to see represented in the archive. The board plans to hold additional input sessions throughout the spring and will collect surveys until the end of May. To complete the survey and contribute to this input-gathering stage of the project, visit: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-LnuN5qq7EiuTRMeq9uQO3dt2HwVPVFydW37ELEuD-7Kxdw/viewform>.

Programs – Priority #1: Education and Engagement

- This month the division co-hosted *In Conversation with ROC’s Black Leaders: Part Two* (via Zoom), the second in a program series built around the *In This Moment* chapbooks produced by the Visual Studies Workshop (<https://www.vsw.org/publications/vsw-press/in-this-moment-revolution-reckoning-reparation/>). *In This Moment* pairs teams of Black writers and photographers to profile Black leaders from across the city. The program featured activist Anita Cameron, writer Brianna Milon, and photographer Sean Boose. It was delivered in partnership with Henrietta, Pittsford, Gates, Webster, Mendon, Parma, and Penfield town libraries.
- The March installment of *Mourning in the Morning*, presented in partnership with the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery, featured a talk by Michael Nighan on “Helen Pitts Douglass: Advocate, Wife, Keeper of the Flame.” The program was held via Zoom; a recording is available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/Nz65VJZPMHE>.
- *Rochester’s Rich History* featured a talk by Brian Gibson on “An Old Road into the Past: Rochester’s Julia L. Sauer, Her Children’s Classic *Fog Magic*, and Canada.” The program was held in person in Kusler-Cox Auditorium and simultaneously livestreamed via the library’s YouTube channel. A recording is available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/UjExvC6Gin0>.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- This month the division kicked off a 10-week Historic Youth Ambassador Leadership Program in partnership with JW Management & Quality Consultants CEO Jacqueline Sprague. The youth participants in this program are working with division staff and community partners to learn about local history, genealogy, and research skills that will enable them to conduct oral history interviews, create family data packets, and present on influential elders in the community. The program meets twice a week on Wednesday evenings and Saturdays.
- Dan Cody hosted a group of students from Monroe Community College’s English for Speakers of Other Languages program who visited the division for a tour of the *Welcome Home* exhibition. The students were delighted to see their cultures represented in the exhibit and to find books in their native languages at the library.
- Brandon Fess was interviewed by SUNY Geneseo student George Macko for a video follow-up to Macko’s fall 2022 internship working with the division’s special collections.

- Ridarsky continued to represent the City on the Rochester Museum & Science Center's Collections Committee and participated in a joint meeting between that group and the museum's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. The primary topic of discussion was the museum's compliance with the Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and how to appropriately respond to media inquiries while respecting the wishes of tribes to handle repatriations privately.
- Ridarsky and Corinne Clar, representing the library's Exhibits Team, met with representatives from the Greece Historical Society, architect Christopher Brandt, and Wendy Boyde to discuss the possibility of the library hosting an exhibit created by Syracuse University architectural students on Boyde's grandfather, Thomas W. Boyde, Jr. Boyde was Rochester's first Black architect and one of the first African American architects in the U.S. to own his own company. The Greece Historical Society received a grant to document Boyde's work and is eager to highlight his life and career through the exhibit but does not have space within its facility.
- The first issue of the *Rochester History* journal to be published under the partnership agreement with RIT Press is at the printer and is expected to be distributed and available before the April 21 conference, "Rochester & the Mid-Sized American City in the 21st Century." Ridarsky and Emily Morry met multiple times with representatives from RIT and RIT Press to finalize the details of this issue and to plan for the conference, which will mark the new partnership between the library and RIT Press and feature a conversation about Rochester between Mayor Malik Evans and former Mayor William A. Johnson, Jr. For more information and to register for the conference, visit <https://roccitylibrary.org/rochester-and-the-mid-sized-american-city-in-the-21st-century/>.

Special Collections

This month's work with the division's special collections received external support from Barbara Appelbaum, former librarian for the Center for Holocaust Awareness and Information, who assisted Fess in reviewing and arranging audio cassettes from the Jewish Federation Collection on Holocaust Survivors in Rochester. Appelbaum intends to donate additional materials from this collection that are currently in her possession.

Digital Projects

The division contributes digitized content to a handful of online platforms, increasing discoverability and access to these materials. In March, there were 694 page views of division content available through *New York State Historic Newspapers* (<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/>); 1,336 page views of content available through *New York Heritage* (<https://nyheritage.org/>); and 1,872 page views of content available through the library's *Rochester Voices* site (<http://www.rochestervoices.org/>).

The FamilySearch volunteer scanning team digitized 166 books this month and scanned 1,250 pages of reshoots from various City and Suburban directories that were produced to fill gaps identified in previously scanned volumes of these series. See below for details. Digital products from this project are starting to become available through the FamilySearch site (<https://www.familysearch.org/en/>); there were 4 views of items from the Rochester Public Library on FamilySearch this month.

RPL Board Director's Report—April 2023 (Continued)*Materials scanned by FamilySearch, March 2023:*

Title	Vol.	Author	Pages	Call no	Publisher and place	Pub. Date
Orient	1929	East High School Rochester, NY	160	Rqr373R676ea 1929	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1929
Orient	1930	East High School Rochester, NY	156	Rqr373R676ea 1930	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1930
Orient	1931	East High School Rochester, NY	112	Rqr373R676ea 1931	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1931
Orient	1932 Jun	East High School Rochester, NY	60	Rqr373R676ea Jun 1932	East High School, Rochester, NY	1932
Orient	1933 Jan	East High School Rochester, NY	60	Rqr373R676ea Jan 1933	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1933
Orient	1934	East High School Rochester, NY	72	Rr373R676ea 1934	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1934
Orient	1935	East High School Rochester, NY	63	Rr373R676ea 1935	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1935
Orient	1936	East High School Rochester, NY	59	Rr373R676ea 1936	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1936
Orient	1937	East High School Rochester, NY	66	Rqr373R676ea 1937	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1937
Orient	1938	East High School Rochester, NY	76	Rqr373R676ea 1938	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1938
Orient	1939	East High School Rochester, NY	88	Rqr373R676ea 1939	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1939
Orient	1940	East High School Rochester, NY	73	Rqr373R676ea 1940	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1940
Orient	1941	East High School Rochester, NY	76	Rqr373R676ea 1941	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1941
Orient	1942	East High School Rochester, NY	80	Rqr373R676ea 1942	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1942
Orient	1943	East High School Rochester, NY	76	Rqr373R676ea 1943	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1943
Orient	1944	East High School Rochester, NY	76	Rqr373R676ea 1944	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1944
Orient	1945	East High School Rochester, NY	72	Rr373R676ea 1945	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1945
Orient	1946	East High School Rochester, NY	80	Rqr373R676ea 1946	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1946
Orient	1947	East High School Rochester, NY	84	Rr373R676ea 1947	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1947
Orient	1948	East High School Rochester, NY	88	Rqr373R676ea 1948	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1948
Orient	1950	East High School Rochester, NY	92	Rr373R676ea 1950	East High School, Rochester, NY	1950
Orient	1949	East High School Rochester, NY	106	Rrq373R676ea 1949	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1949

RPL Board Director's Report—April 2023 (Continued)

Orient	1951	East High School Rochester, NY	111	Rqr373R676ea 1951	Du Bois Press, Rochester, NY	1951
Orient	1952	East High School Rochester, NY	127	Rqr373R676ea 1952	National Scholastic Press Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1952
Orient	1953	East High School Rochester, NY	117	Rqr373R676ea 1953	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1953
Orient	1954	East High School Rochester, NY	116	Rqr373R676ea 1954	National Scholastic Press Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1954
Orient	1955	East High School Rochester, NY	114	Rr373R676ea 1955	Unknown	1955
Orient	1956	East High School Rochester, NY	117	Rqr373R676ea 1956	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1956
Orient	1957	East High School Rochester, NY	117	Rqr373R676ea 1957	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1957
Orient	1958	East High School Rochester, NY	119	Rqr373R676ea 1958	Unknown	1958
Orient	1959	East High School Rochester, NY	109	Rqr373R676ea 1959	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1959
Orient	1960	East High School Rochester, NY	121	Rqr373R676ea 1960	Unknown	1960
Orient	1961	East High School Rochester, NY	136	Rqr373R676ea 1961	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1961
Orient	1962	East High School Rochester, NY	141	Rqr373R676ea 1962	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1962
Orient	1963	East High School Rochester, NY	161	Rqr373R676ea 1963	Unknown	1963
Orient	1964	East High School Rochester, NY	174	Rqr373R676ea 1964	Unknown	1964
Orient	1965	East High School Rochester, NY	177	Rqr373R676ea 1965	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1965
Orient	1966	East High School Rochester, NY	170	Rqr373R676ea 1966	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1966
Orient	1967	East High School Rochester, NY	200	Rr373R676 ea 1967	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1967
Orient	1968	East High School Rochester, NY	170	Rr373R676ea 1968	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1968
Orient	1969	East High School Rochester, NY	173	Rr373R676ea 1969	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1969
Orient	1970	East High School Rochester, NY	178	Rr373R676ea 1970	Unknown	1970
Orient	1971	East High School Rochester, NY	176	Rr373R676ea 1971	Unknown	1971
Orient	1972	East High School Rochester, NY	146	Rr373R676ea 1972	Unknown	1972
Orient	1973	East High School Rochester, NY	187	Rr373R676ea 1973	Unknown	1973

RPL Board Director's Report—April 2023 (Continued)

Orient	1974	East High School Rochester, NY	192	Rqr373R676ea 1974	Unknown	1974
Orient	1975	East High School Rochester, NY	191	Rr373R676ea 1975	Unknown	1975
Orient	1977	East High School Rochester, NY	190	Rqr373R676ea 1977	Unknown	1977
Orient	1978	East High School Rochester, NY	195	Rqr373R676ea 1978	Unknown	1978
Orient	1979	East High School Rochester, NY	192	Rrq373R676ea 1979	Unknown	1979
Orient	1980	East High School Rochester, NY	193	Rqr373R676ea 1980	Unknown	1980
Orient	1981	East High School Rochester, NY	172	Rqr373R676ea 1981	Unknown	1981
Orient	1982	East High School Rochester, NY	174	Rrq373R676ea 1982	Unknown	1982
Orient	1983	East High School Rochester, NY	158	Rr373R676ea 1983	Unknown	1983
Orient	1984	East High School Rochester, NY	163	Rr373R676ea 1984	Unknown	1984
Orient	1985	East High School Rochester, NY	168	Rr373R676ea 1985	Unknown	1985
Orient	1986	East High School Rochester, NY	162	Rr373R676ea 1986	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1986
Orient	1987	East High School Rochester, NY	168	Rr373R676ea 1987	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1987
Orient	1988	East High School Rochester, NY	171	Rr373R676ea 1988	Hunter Publishing Company, Canandaigua, New York	1988
Orient	1989	East High School Rochester, NY	172	Rr373R676ea 1989	Unknown	1989
Orient	1990	East High School Rochester, NY	167	Rqr373R676ea 1990	Unknown	1990
Orient	1992	East High School Rochester, NY	145	Rr373R676ea 1992	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1992
Orient	1993	East High School Rochester, NY	149	Rr373R676ea 1993	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1993
Orient	1994	East High School Rochester, NY	153	Rrq373R676ea 1994	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1994
Orient	1997	East High School Rochester, NY	137	Rr373R676ea 1997	Walsworth, Marceline, Missouri	1997
Orient	1998	East High School Rochester, NY	140	Rr373R676ea 1998	Herff Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana	1998
Orient	1999	East High School Rochester, NY	139	Rr373R676ea 1999	Herff Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana	1999
Orient	2000	East High School Rochester, NY	142	Rr373R676ea 2000	Herff Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana	2000

RPL Board Director's Report—April 2023 (Continued)

Orient	2001	East High School Rochester, NY	146	Rr373R676ea 2001	Herff Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana	2001
Orient	2002	East High School Rochester, NY	144	Rr373R676ea 2002	Herff Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana	2002
Orient	2003	East High School Rochester, NY	140	Rr373R676ea 2003	Herff Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana	2003
Orient	2004	East High School Rochester, NY	154	Rr373R676ea 2004	Unknown	2004
Orient	2005	East High School Rochester, NY	141	Rr373R676ea 2005	Herff Jones, Indianapolis, Indiana	2005
Orient	2010	East High School Rochester, NY	152	Rr373R676ea 2010	Walsworth, Marceline, Missouri	2010
Orient	2011	East High School Rochester, NY	152	Rr373R676ea 2011	Walsworth, Marceline, Missouri	2011
Orient	2013	East High School Rochester, NY	156	Rr373R676ea 2013	Unknown	2013
The Incandescent	1938	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	60	Rr373R676ed 1938	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1938
Edisonian	1933	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	32	Rr373R676ed 1933	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1933
The Incandescent	1939	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	72	Rr373R676ed 1939	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1939
The Incandescent	1940	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	76	Rr373R676ed 1940	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1940
The Incandescent	1941	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	84	Rqr373R676ed 1941	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1941
The Incandescent	1942	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	84	Rqr373R676ed 1942	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1942
The Incandescent	1943	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	84	Rqr373R676ed 1943	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1943
The Incandescent	1944	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	70	Rr373R676ed 1944	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1944
Edisonian	1945	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	68	Rr373R676ed 1945	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1945
Edisonian	1946	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	74	Rr373R676ed 1946	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1946

RPL Board Director's Report—April 2023 (Continued)

Edisonian	1947	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	82	Rr373R676ed 1947	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1947
Edisonian	1948	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	84	Rr373R676ed 1948	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1948
Edisonian	1949	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	84	Rr373R676ed 1949	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1949
Edisonian	1951	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	108	Rqr373R676ed 1951	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1951
Edisonian	1953	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	104	Rqr373R676ed 1953	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1953
Edisonian	1954	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	104	Rqr373R676ed 1954	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1954
Edisonian	1955	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	112	Rqr373R676ed 1955	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1955
Edisonian	1956	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	110	Rqr373R676ed 1956	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1956
Edisonian	1957	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	102	Rqr373R676ed 1957	Inter-Collegiate Press, Kansas City, Kansas	1957
Edisonian	1958	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	94	Rr373R676ed 1958	Inter-Collegiate Press, Kansas City, Kansas	1958
Edisonian	1962	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	120	Rr373R676ed 1962	Inter-Collegiate Press, Kansas City, Kansas	1962
Edisonian	1959	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	114	Rqr373R676ed 1959	Inter-Collegiate Press, Kansas City, Kansas	1959
Edisonian	1960	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	102	Rr373R676ed 1960	Inter-Collegiate Press, Kansas City, Kansas	1960
Edisonian	1961	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	102	Rqr373R676ed 1961	Inter-Collegiate Press, Kansas City, Kansas	1961
Edisonian	1963	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	120	Rqr373R676ed 1963	Inter-Collegiate Press, Kansas City, Kansas	1963
Edisonian	1964	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	126	Rqr373R676ed 1964	Inter-Collegiate Press, Kansas City, Kansas	1964

RPL Board Director's Report—April 2023 (Continued)

Edisonian	1965	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	150	Rqr373R676ed 1965	Inter-Collegiate Press, Kansas City, Kansas	1965
Edisonian	1966	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	156	Rr373R676ed 1966	Inter-Collegiate Press, Kansas City, Kansas	1966
Edisonian	1967	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	132	Rr373R676ed 1967	Dubois Press, Rochester, New York	1967
Edisonian	1968	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	137	Rfr373R676ed 1968	Universal Bookbindery, San Antonio, Texas	1968
Edisonian	1969	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	145	Rr373R676ed 1969	Universal Bookbindery, San Antonio, Texas	1969
Edisonian	1970	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	155	Rr373R676ed 1970	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1970
Edisonian	1981	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	191	Rqr373R676ed 1981	Hunter Publishing, Winston-Salem, North Carolina	1981
Edisonian	1983	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	171	Rr373R676ed1983	Hunter Publishing, Winston-Salem, North Carolina	1983
Edisonian	1989	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	197	Rqr373R676ed 1989	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1989
Edisonian	1990	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	228	Rqr373R676ed 1990	Jostens, Minneapolis, Minnesota	1990
Edisonian	1991	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	208	Rr373R676ed 1991	Yearbook Affiliates Inc., Unknown	1991
Edisonian	1993	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	151	Rr373R676ed 1993	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1993
Edisonian	1995	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	158	Rr373R676ed 1995	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1995
Edisonian	1996	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	170	Rr373R676ed 1996	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1996
Edisonian	1980	Edison Technical and Industrial High School, Rochester, NY	185	Rqr373R676ed 1980	Edison Technical and Industrial High School	1980
Jefferson	1935	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	50	Rr373R676j 1935	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1935
Jefferson	1936	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	84	Rr373R676j 1936	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1936

RPL Board Director's Report—April 2023 (Continued)

Jefferson	1937	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	65	Rqr373R676j 1937	Dubois Press, Rochester, New York	1937
Jeffersonian	1938	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	63	Rqr373R676j 1938	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1938
Jeffersonian	1939	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	75	Rr373R676j 1939	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1939
Jeffersonian	1940	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	70	Rr373R676j 1940	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1940
Jeffersonian	1941	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	72	Rr373R676j 1941	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1941
Jeffersonian	1942	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	75	Rr373R676j 1942	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1942
Statesman	1943	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	69	Rr373R676j 1943	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1943
Statesman	1945	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	67	Rr373R676j 1945	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1945
Statesman	1946	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	75	Rrq373R676j 1946	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1946
Statesman	1947	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	74	Rqr373R676j 1947	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1947
Statesman	1948	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	74	Rqr373r676J 1948	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1948
Statesman	1950	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	80	Rr373R676j 1950	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1950
Statesman	1951	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	79	Rqr373R676j 1951	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1951
Statesman	1952	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	74	Rqr373R676j 1952	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1952
Statesman	1953	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	74	Rqr373R676j 1953	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1953
Statesman	1954	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	82	Rqr373R676j 1954	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1954
Statesman	1955	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	81	Rqr373R676j 1955	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1955
Statesman	1956	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	83	Rqr373R676j 1956	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1956
Statesman	1957	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	81	Rqr373R676j 1957	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1957
Statesman	1958	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	80	Rqr373R676j 1958	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1958
Statesman	1959	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	82	Rqr373R676j 1959	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1959
Jeffersonian	1938	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	63	Rqr373R676j 1938	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1938
Jeffersonian	1939	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	75	Rr373R676j 1939	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1939
Jeffersonian	1940	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	70	Rr373R676j 1940	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1940

RPL Board Director's Report—April 2023 (Continued)

Jeffersonian	1941	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	72	Rr373R676j 1941	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1941
Jeffersonian	1942	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	75	Rr373R676j 1942	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1942
Statesman	1943	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	69	Rr373R676j 1943	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1943
Statesman	1945	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	67	Rr373R676j 1945	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1945
Statesman	1946	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	75	Rrq373R676j 1946	Craftco, Chicago, Illinois	1946
Statesman	1947	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	74	Rqr373R676j 1947	Craftco, Chicago, Illinois	1947
Statesman	1948	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	74	Rqr373r676j 1948	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1948
Statesman	1950	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	80	Rr373R676j 1950	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1950
Statesman	1951	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	79	Rqr373R676j 1951	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1951
Statesman	1952	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	74	Rqr373R676j 1952	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1952
Statesman	1953	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	74	Rqr373R676j 1953	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1953
Statesman	1954	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	82	Rqr373R676j 1954	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1954
Statesman	1955	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	81	Rqr373R676j 1955	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1955
Statesman	1956	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	83	Rqr373R676j 1956	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1956
Statesman	1957	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	81	Rqr373R676j 1957	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1957
Statesman	1958	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	80	Rqr373R676j 1958	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1958
Statesman	1959	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	85	Rqr373R676j 1959	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1959
Statesman	1960	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	96	Rqr373R676j 1960	Durand, Chicago, Illinois	1960
Statesman	1962	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	97	Rqr373R676j 1962	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1962
Statesman	1964	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	109	Rr373R676j 1964	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1964
Statesman	1965	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	109	Rr373R676j 1965	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1965
Statesman	1966	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	119	Rqr373R676j 1966	Wm. J Keller Inc., Buffalo, New York	1966
Statesman	1967	Jefferson High School, Rochester, NY	128	Rqr373R676j 1967	Jefferson High School, Rochester, New York	1967

RPL Board Director's Report—April 2023 (Continued)

FTHS Seniors 12	2012	Dr. Freddie Thomas High School, Rochester, NY	130	Rr373F852s 2012	Dr. Freddie Thomas High School, Rochester, New York	2012
		City Directory Project	1,250			
				Total Pages	20,416	
				Total Books	166	

Social Media

There were two new posts to the *Local History ROCs!* blog in March: “Start Your Engines...And Much More: From the Rochester Coil Co. to Delco, Pt. 1” by Cody, and “Healing and Caring: The Life and Legacy of Mother Hieronymo O’Brien (April 13, 1819-January 30, 1898), Part 1” by Chris Brennan. The new posts received 88 views. In addition, readers from 38 countries revisited 177 previously published posts for a total of 2,934 views in March. All posts can be read online at www.rochistory.wordpress.com.

Interns/Volunteers

The division’s work was supported by three volunteers in March for a total contribution of 29.5 hours. Karen Sue Brown continued sorting and filing the backlog of newspaper clippings; she contributed 9.75 hours. Linda Lopata contributed 12.25 hours entering collection information into ArchivesSpace to create a finding aid for the pin-back button collection in the Office of the City Historian. Noeme Liestman provided 7.5 hours arranging, rehousing, and describing the library’s previously unprocessed early (pre-1900) photographic materials.

Anecdotes/Other

- One of the more interesting research questions that came through the division this month was about the location of Mumford’s Meadows, a spot in early Rochester that was the site of some of the very first games recorded anywhere as “baseball.” The reference in question is from the 1820s, predating by over a decade the (discredited) 1839 Cooperstown origin story for the national pastime. Through careful evaluation of early Rochester maps, especially those of Fenn and a rare 1818 village plat, Fess was able to narrow the location to a small section of land near High Falls.
- Jennifer Bannister from the Center for Teen Empowerment and the Clarissa Uprooted Exhibit shared the following compliment about the library, Phillis Wheatley branch, and the Local History & Genealogy division with Patty Uttaro this month: “Patty...Just want to share what an amazing partner the Library has been throughout this process since we began in 2019—through Christine, Antoine, and the whole Local History/Genealogy dept. and also through Lori Frankunas and the entire Phillis Wheatley team! You must be very proud of their innovative commitment to accessibility, representation, and working hand-in-hand with the community. (btw...if ever there is a library/archive/civic, etc. award or recognition that folks get nominated for, Clarissa Uprooted folks from TE & Clarissa Street Legacy would love to provide letters of support/recommendation for our RPL partners. We can’t say enough accolades!).”

Reynolds Media Center, Joseph Born reporting

Reference

During March, RMC handled 756 reference questions and 364 non-reference transactions for a total of 1,120.

Circulation

In March, RMC rented 5 pieces of equipment, 308 Mi-Fi units in addition to the regular collection, for a total of 4,760 items or 31% of the Central Library’s total circulation of 15,710 (before renewals from Catalog Plus, Classic Catalog and Telephone are added).

****When adding in the RMC items that circulated at other libraries, RMC circulated 10,205 items! ****

Door Count

March saw the Mon–Fri door count averaging 191 people daily.

Mon & Wed evenings (6-8:30) averaged 23 patrons while Saturdays averaged 127 patrons.

Programs/Tours/AV setups

- The First Friday Film “The Quiet Man”
- Our See It First film “Black Panther: Wakanda Forever”
- The Brown Bag Book Discussion of “Say Nothing” by Patrick Keefe, was held 3/22
- RMC performed 26 A/V setups for programs in Central Library!

Anecdotes/Other

RMC donated several hours to the Shipping Department and the Technology Center during their times of being short-staffed. Robert Scheffel, Alan Gilfoy, and Joseph Born all helped.

Science and History, Gabe Pellegrino reporting

Programs

- The Basics of Composting: Sue Nolen, Master Gardener from the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Monroe County did a presentation on the basics of composting. Some of the people who attended previous gardening programs requested this program.
- Ida Tarbell: Mark Sample, a history professor from MCC, discussed the life of muckraker Ida Tarbell and how she exposed the business practices of JD Rockefeller and the Standard Oil Company.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- LROC (Library Resource Outreach Center) introduced a new counseling service/support group which has been well received.
- The University of Rochester Medical Center presented to us a new Distinction in Health Student, Maryam Omran, who has set up a vitals check clinic in the Health Central Kiosk. The clinic continues for a week in April.
- Flo Morris attended the Branch Managers' meeting to talk about the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Taxpayer Assistance Program (TAP) and to spread awareness of the multitude of tax forms available at Central.

Anecdotes/Other

One happy patron who successfully filed her taxes with NYS was also thrilled to know about the Foodlink Café. She plans to return for the support group conducted through LROC.

Technology Center, Jay Osborne reporting

The Technology Center staff has been doing an amazing job helping patrons obtain IRS PINs and tax records during the month. Staff educated patrons on the importance of ID.Me and updating their information with government agencies to minimize fraud. Though some issues with the IRS pin retrieval required extra time, staff estimate they were able to resolve over 95% of the patrons' issues.

Technology Center staff have created an online spreadsheet to better track meeting room and classroom use. In March over 60 meetings and room use were recorded. This figure represents individual or small-group use and does not include the usage of the innovation spaces or library programming.

Programs

Ginger Brewer has been working to expand her computer training program at the Technology Center. She has been able to schedule several patrons to meet one-on-one for computer training and cell phone lessons. Brewer's practice of using the classroom space for these tutorials makes it very easy to transition from one-on-one tutorials to more typical classroom group instruction. Brewer's focus has been to educate all patrons that frequent the library to have some type of knowledge on digital literacy and build needed skills. Brewer's commitment to teaching patrons how to do things for themselves is a perfect match for the goals of the Technology Center.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

The Technology Center has been able to host weekly tabling sessions for Leroy Banks and Lindsay Murphy from Rochester Works. They continue to make valuable connections with patrons in the Technology Center. Lindsay Murphy has been using our classroom to provide walk-in resume instruction and job application assistance on the first Monday of every month.

Anecdotes

- Several patrons complimented the demanding work of the Technology Center staff. One patron particularly told Ginger Brewer that her sweater reminded him of a superhero's cape after she assisted him with forms he needed and navigating the IRS website. The patron went on to say that he visits the library because of people like Brewer and others throughout the library. His words, *"If it wasn't for the library, I would truly be lost. Word!"* But seriously, Is there a budget line for superhero capes?
- Tech Center staff helped a patron who was trying to access unclaimed funds on the New York State Comptroller's website in his deceased mother's name. We found out that the patron had to obtain a death certificate for his mother and find his birth certificate that showed his relationship with his mother. A few days later he returned with all the documents the state required and we scanned them for him and helped him to upload them to the Comptroller's webpage where the patron was successful at submitting his claim. He was very thankful for our assistance, stating he would never have been able to complete the task without our help.
- A patron came to us recently asking questions about his credit score and general issues with his credit. He has been to the Tech Center a few times and said he came back to us with this non-tech question because we had always been helpful to him, and he knew he could count on us for friendly and informative assistance. We asked him a few questions about what concerns he was having with his credit and quickly saw that he would probably best be served by the Consumer Credit Counseling Services located on University Avenue. They could provide him with in-depth plans of how best to go about improving his credit situation. We also pointed him in the direction of library materials that offered good basic tips on improving a person's credit score.
- The Technology Center's collaboration with Rochester Works has been very valuable for many of our patrons. Pedro Nunez and Amy Shropshire got one patron's resume set up properly with help from Rochester Works' Leroy Banks and Lindsay Murphy. Library staff connected him to job sites and got his email working, so he was able to reply to job offers. The patron had his phone interview in our meeting room and got the job on the first try.

Teen Central, Shetora Banks reporting

Programs

- Girls Who Code: Fae Jahanshiri and two attendees were interviewed by a reporter from Spectrum News, who joined in with the class.
- Learn on Udemy: 8 new patrons registered and learned how to make a free Udemy account; they were provided with information, instructions, and an overview of the certification courses offered through Udemy.
- Sewing classes: There were multiple participants in March. People seem to enjoy this class and love to bring personal projects to receive assistance with learning proper techniques.
- E-SPORTS: As a Network of Academic and Scholastic Esports Federations (NASEF) Fellow, Jeff Bostic, is currently designing a library esports curriculum to make it easier for libraries to establish an esports program. NASEF is planning a library esports panel at the 2024 Public Library Association Conference. With several members of the Liberators playing Fortnite, we are also designing a class to help teens create their Fortnite islands in the new Unreal Engine Fortnite creator. The Liberators are also in the process of choosing how to spend their funds from the CLL vs RPD event.
- GLOWFORGE: The Glowforge was once again a hit with kids on a school field trip. A group of girls made wristbands. The class plans to return so that other kids can create something.
- Music Mentoring: Recently, John Hylton has begun to mentor a few teens in developing music and the preparation for the business side of music. The process of teens sharing their music with Hylton helps build a great mentoring relationship and helps the teen build confidence. Hylton is currently helping students produce EPs that will showcase their talent and hard work.
- Connect Four Tournament: A teen challenged staff to play. It cascaded into many teens watching and wanting to participate against each other. The tournament was a good break from electronic gaming and tasked the teens to use problem-solving skills to win. The two young men in the picture were the two best and ultimately competed in the grand finals for a gift.



Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

Jahanshiri participated in two meetings to collaborate with FLX-CLE and Get Real! Science at the University at Rochester to continue planning on presenting our Climate Robot Rangers summer program.

Anecdotes/Other

- John Hylton was able to stop two groups from potentially fighting by actively being nosy, listening to their conversation, and watching their movements. The two groups were confronted and reminded of the banning that could happen if they fight in the library. The crisis was averted and neither group engaged in fighting.
- Shetora Banks was talking to two adult men who had been called to the teen center by a family member who suspected that other teens wanted to fight him. Hylton noticed that the men were agitated and possibly ready for confrontation. Hylton was able to keep the two groups from escalating into a fight and mentored the group that was suspected of wanting to fight the young man.

Community Library Updates

Melanie Lewis, Deputy Director reporting

During March, I focused on meeting with each Branch Manager for a scheduled quarterly visit. During these visits, managers gave me updates on personnel issues, building issues, and projects and initiatives they are proud of. I am also able to meet newly onboarded staff and share updates about the 2023-24 budget process. This visit is in addition to scheduled as-needed and drop-in meetings.

I also participated in two important events at the Maplewood Community Library. Assembly Member Sarah Clarke presented a symbolic check representing funds she secured for the acquisition and demolition of 308-310 Augustine Street. This will allow the Hunt Architectural firm more space to develop a plan for the renovations. Mayor Evans, Assemblymember Clark, RCSD, and Neighborhood Association representatives were present at this press conference. We appreciate the support the Assemblymember has given to this project and libraries in general.

Later the same evening, Hunt Engineers and Architects hosted a community forum where community members, neighbors, and stakeholders were able to give input and receive updates about the project. It was a lively evening with many a diversity of participants sharing concerns and suggestions.

Arnett Branch Library, Bruce Tehan reporting

Community Outreach/Meetings

- Colleen Murray attended an evening event at John Walton Spencer School #16 and Bruce Tehan attended a St Patrick's Day Parade and Celtic Faire with Jennifer Smathers. At both events, Irish gold chocolate coins were given out to kids and adults who played an Irish-themed game. Branch Administration librarian Jennifer Reisch helped devise the game. Kate Peck used that same pot of gold inside the library to play an Irish trivia game that was enjoyed by teens. One teen, referring to St Patrick, exclaimed, "He was a real guy?! I thought he was like the Easter Bunny."

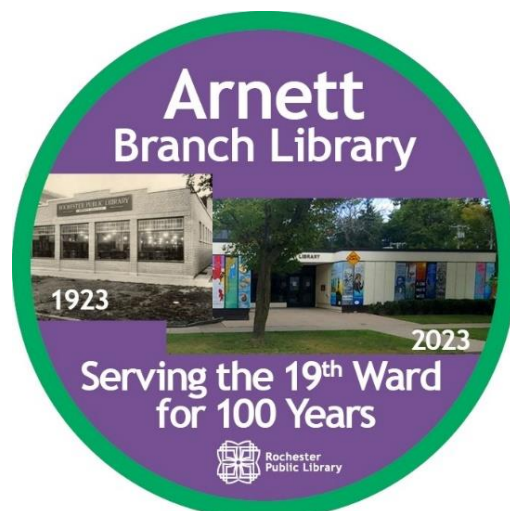
Anecdotes/Other

- Teens teamed up with Ceola Lester-Bacot and Nancy Cholewa to create buttons in commemoration of the branch's 100th anniversary. The buttons, designed by Corinne Clar and Cholewa, are very popular with Arnett patrons. Patrons are also contributing one hundred reading suggestions for the library to share on social media and as bookmarks as part of the anniversary celebrations. The book suggestion project gives the library a chance to give individual shoutouts to its community members.

Charlotte Branch Library, Dennis Williams reporting

Programs

- 119 families were served with 8 volunteers participating and helping at the produce pickup. Leftover sandwiches from an event at the Susan B. Anthony House were included by



Flower City Pickers. Jennifer Cherelin took extra donations to the complex adjacent to the Greece Baptist Church and also to Cameron Community Ministries.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Jennifer Cherelin participated in Family Reading Night at Abelard Reynolds School #42. She interacted with over 60 people, handed out 30 library card applications, read to 30 children, and met with the school librarian, various faculty members, students, and their parents.



Anecdotes/Other

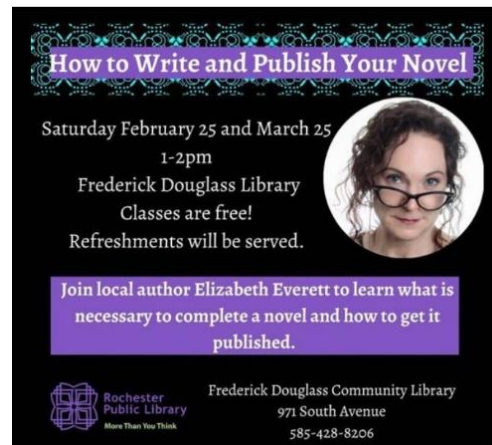
- Courtney Zapata assisted a patron for almost an hour to help her file for unemployment. The patron was extremely grateful and came back in to say thank you again.

Douglass Community Library, Evanna DiSalvo reporting
Programs

- Local author Elizabeth Everett followed up last month's program on how to get started writing with information on how to get published. (Education & Engagement)
- Tickets to Margaret Woodbury Strong's Museum of Play were raffled to celebrate Women's History Month.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Neighborhoods Building Neighborhoods (NBN 6) Zoom Meeting: Evanna DiSalvo attended the evening meeting and was able to connect with Veterans Outreach Center (VOC) Executive Director Laura Stradley. There will soon be plans for how the library can collaborate with that agency and help the veterans it serves.



Anecdotes/Other

- Thwacky Thursday – Rainbows: This month's team-building theme was that the library is the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Staff dressed in rainbow colors including coin scarves and gave gold-wrapped candy to patrons.

Lincoln Branch Library, Sarah Lehman reporting

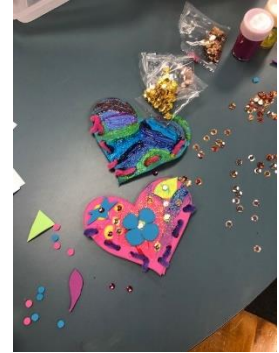
We expect to start returning staff and materials to Lincoln at the end of May, with a soft opening planned for early July. We anticipate a formal grand opening sometime later in the summer or early fall.

Lyell Branch Library, Sarah Lehman reporting

Programs

- Natasa Prelevic designed and assembled Take & Make activities for kids featuring origami tulips, origami leaf envelopes, International Women's Day popsicle art, and Message in the Heart.

- Manju Sharma and Artemis Markakis collaborated to make self-care and self-love activity packets for teens to do in observance of World Teen Mental Wellness Day. The packets covered the five important life domains which are emotional, physical, social, professional, and spiritual wellness, and provided mental health resources and information.



Anecdotes/Other

- Sharma was asked by a teen for help with her 11th-grade math problem concerning a parabolic algebraic equation. The student was not sure how to convert a standard form equation to the vertex form of the equation so Sharma helped her to solve the equation and find the value of different variables.

Maplewood Community Library, Johanna Buran reporting

Programs

- The library's kid council has taken ownership of programming at the library and will decide the future programs with input from the other kids at the library.
- One highly praised event was the leprechaun scavenger hunt. There were varying levels of difficulty with large shamrocks, smaller pots of gold, and three tiny leprechauns. The leprechaun level was so difficult that it took people multiple days to find it and they loved it.
- The following week there was an egg hunt outside. Children were partnered off with their families and there were large eggs for the youngest children and smaller eggs for the older children.
- The anime/manga club celebrated their reading contest by having a Korean pop dance party. The Korean pop dance party was so popular that the club chose to do more dancing the following week.

Anecdotes/Other

- New Americans Librarian Brian DiNitto mailed out arithmetic worksheets and easy reader books to a woman who studies through Zoom. The woman is from Afghanistan and has several very young children at home. She meets with staff once a week through Zoom to review basic arithmetic and start sounds for English words.
- Staff helped a man sign into an Occupational Safety and Health Administration course he needs to complete for his job. He came back for four days and finally completed the online class.

Monroe Branch Library, Mary Clare Scheg reporting

Anecdotes

- A mother with two young children came into the library to speak with Mary Clare Scheg, who discovered the family needed food. Scheg provided her with items from the pantry shelf. She said thank you and headed down the ramp with her son following behind and the daughter, probably about 7, bringing up the rear. Scheg stood outside watching them leave when suddenly the little girl turned and blew Scheg a kiss. The library's small pantry is continuing to fill a need in this community.
- A mother from story hour requested that Matt Hoople learn and perform some rhymes from Ms. Rachel (a YouTube children's entertainer). Hoople has so far only committed one to memory. When Hoople first performed them at St. Paul's Daycare, each of the three classes asked if they could do the 'bubblegum song' a second time at the end of story hour. Hoople plans to memorize them all now.

Phillis Wheatley Community Library, Lori Frankunas reporting

Programs

- The children loved planting bulbs in a pop-up spring bulbs program. Suzanne Kolodziej from George Eastman Museum gave us the materials to plant the flowers. The children drew pictures of what they thought their plants would look like when they bloomed.
- Book Club: Sheilah Murphy visited the Episcopal Home on Mt. Hope for a senior book club. The book was *Too Soon to Say Goodbye* by Art Buchwald. The group lost one member due to home changes but gained another! The group enjoyed Buchwald's humor (Priority #2: Create and maintain essential library relationships).



Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Lori Frankunas met with Mike Bulger from Healthi Kids. The library will be getting a cabinet, metal display stand, and mini refrigerator to expand the food pantry.
- Frankunas met with Doris Green of Lifespan. Funded by a grant Lifespan has received, the meeting room will be used every Tuesday for a caregiver respite center until September. Caregivers can leave their loved one in the care of Lifespan employees and volunteers. Lifespan provides refreshments and entertainment for the elders.

Anecdotes/Other

- One of the children has lost her grandmother this month. Alex Haehn found materials in the library to help the child process her loss. The children all give her support and listen to the child when she tells stories about her grandmother.
- An older patron with no digital literacy skills wanted help learning how to use a computer. She was overwhelmed and felt defeated because she felt no one has the patience or the time to help her. She was ecstatic that Wheatley staff members would sit down with her and has since started to come weekly for computer tech lessons.
- New volunteer Ron Krause will be helping teens with their homework every week starting soon.

Sully Branch Library, Maria Heeks-Heinlein reporting

Programs

- The Adult book club started back up at Sully with the first meeting's discussion of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot.
- The chess club has increased in popularity and now it is normal to find teens, adults, and children playing together on the chess sets and boards provided by Jacob Bigelow.

Community Outreach/Meeting/Training

- Maria Heeks-Heinlein attended the Beechwood Neighborhood Association's meeting and spoke to the group about the Health and Fitness fair that is being planned by the Thomas Ryan Community Center and the library.
- Santiago visited the Rochester Indie Comics Expo at Sibley Square to share information about the libraries and distribute graphic novel-based activities.

Anecdotes/Other

- A woman came into the library and told staff that she adopted a child from Tanzania. The parent said she loves bringing her daughter to the Sully Branch because of our diverse collection. The patron said she knows that she can find something here that her daughter will enjoy, and she thanked the staff for having a nice children's area.
- Bigelow was told by a patron how much she appreciated the library's manga collection and that she had come from the other side of the city to borrow materials.
- Kifa Hendrix spent some time at Sully to clean many of our inside windows. The windows look much better and it makes the library look lighter and brighter.
- The Monroe County Healthy Neighborhoods program set a table up at the Sully Branch to register people for much-needed services. [Monroe County, NY - Healthy Neighborhood Program](#)

Winton Branch Library, Kathy Wolf reporting

Programs

- Winton Branch Library had a pop-up art party to support the annual 6x6 art exhibit and fundraiser at Rochester Contemporary Art Center. Librarian Mary Fraser set up stations for participants to draw a picture or make colorful prints using a gelatin press. Rolling the paint on the slab of gelatin was fun but seeing the layers of paint pull off onto paper with patterns of shapes or animals was amazing. Everyone had some art to take home or to donate to the Rochester Contemporary Art Center where they'll be on exhibit this summer.

Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- One of our regular patrons teaches English at East High School and is working on her Ph.D. in teaching and curriculum. She is working on a project about how families use spaces in libraries and asked to interview Kathy Wolf who spoke with her for about an hour. The patron was interested to know that different libraries' spaces are used differently from each other dependent on the community in which they are situated.

Anecdotes/Other

- Jane Doe is a recent widow who has been using library services a lot since her husband's sudden death in December. She turned to the library for help in getting a free phone through Assurance Wireless. When the phone arrived, she tried to activate it but couldn't, so she came to the library for assistance. Wolf sat with her for an hour trying to help but finally had to refer Doe to Michael Weinstein, the Digital Literacy Volunteer. Weinstein spent the entire three hours of his visit with her trying to activate the phone. It turned out that the phone that was sent was defective so Assurance sent a new phone the following week. Doe was able to activate the new phone without issue but would never have been able to do so without Weinstein's help.
- Rhyme Time is the most meaningful and rewarding part of Wolf's job. Gathering children and parents each week, making connections with them, and singing together is incredibly rewarding. Families have shared with Wolf the joy they experience with each other – it's magical and Wolf is so grateful and happy to be a part of it.