

2018 Annual Report



Greetings from Onondaga Free Library

OFL continues to be the community's destination to read, explore, learn and share. We remain dedicated to building relationships with our community. Our friendly and informed staff create a positive and welcoming library experience.

2018 was another remarkable year at OFL! 12,857 patrons attended 776 programs. 265,780 items were checked out, and in July, we set an all-time monthly circulation record of 28,662. In addition, 107,534 people visited the library, 1,100 new patrons registered for a library card and 1,770 groups utilized our public meeting spaces.

New programs and initiatives began, including Crafting for a Cause at which all ages can create projects that benefit community organizations. Capital improvements included the installation of welcome kiosk, S.T.E.A.M. furniture and new seating in juvenile fiction area.

To our wonderful community that supports the library, we thank you for providing the financial resources for being able to offer the collections, programs and services that change lives for the better. We look forward to seeing you at the library!

Susan Morgan, Director



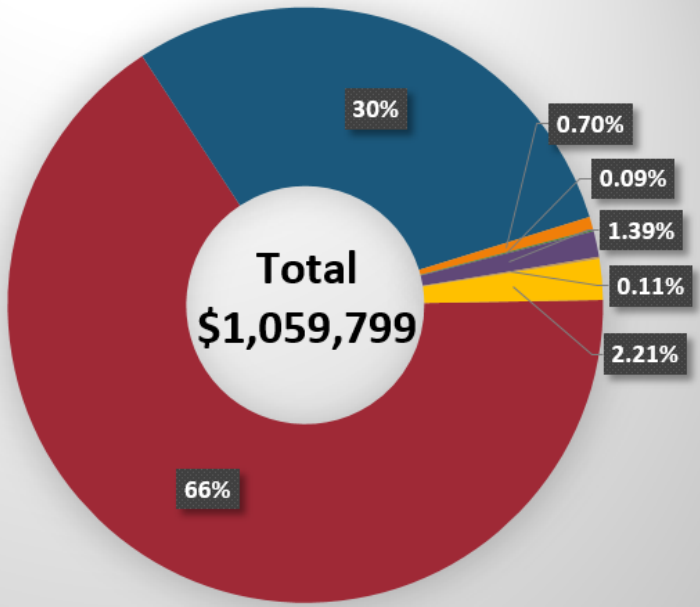
School Outreach Initiatives

OFL librarians traveled outside of the library to visit hundreds of students throughout 2018. We expanded our traditional school visits to include "technology tours" – sharing our favorite coding and S.T.E.A.M. resources with teachers and students. Our tours reached 3 districts (Westhill, West Genesee, Onondaga Central) and the Onondaga Nation School where we shared innovative learning opportunities for elementary, middle and high school students.

2019 2018 Financial Summary

OFEL: Revenues

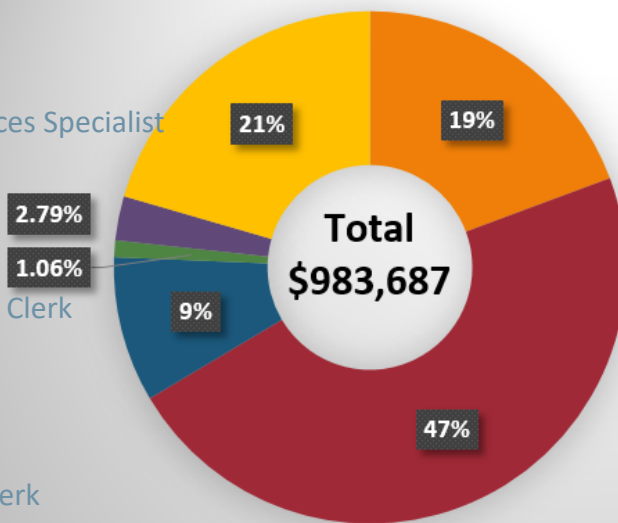
- Town of Onondaga (\$700,000)
- School Funds (\$312,000)¹
- State Aid (\$7,466)
- Grants (\$996)
- Gifts & Fundraising (\$14,726)²
- Interest (\$1,180)
- Library Charges (\$23,431)



¹School Funds include Westhill, West Genesee and Onondaga Central School Districts
²Gifts & Fundraising total includes \$13,458 from the Friends of Onondaga Free Library

Expenditures

- Debt Service (\$190,203)
- Staff Salaries, Wages, Benefits, Taxes (\$463,559)
- Collections (\$90,293)
- Programming (\$10,402)
- Capital Expenditures (\$27,399)
- Building Operation & Maintenance (\$201,831)



Thank you Friends!

With several very successful fundraisers in 2018, the Friends were able to make significant contributions to OFL.

The Friends funded the start of a new collection at OFL- the Library of Things! This collection consists of 9 technology devices that you can now borrow from OFL to try out before you decide to buy. The devices include home assistant speakers (Google Home Mini and Amazon Echo Dot), digital reading devices (android tablet, Kindle Paperwhite and Bluetooth FM transmitter), streaming devices (Chromecast and Roku), a FitBit and a GoPro camera.





Summer Reading: Yet Another Record Breaking Year!

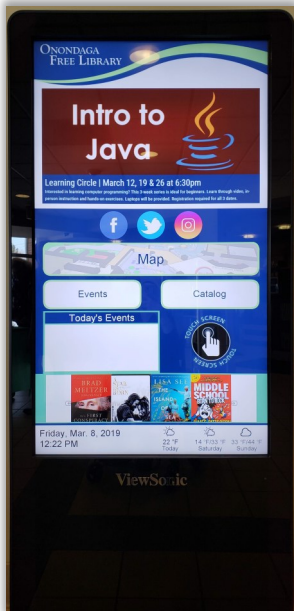
In May and June, our youth and young adult services staff visited 1,500 students among 3 school districts to talk about our summer reading program. This made a huge impact on participation!

- **Total Summer Reading Participants:** 553 (417 in 2017, 33% increase)
- **Total Books Read:** 7,441 (3,040 in 2017, 145% increase)

Note: These numbers don't reflect all the babies and adults who were reading all summer too.

Something new that drew a lot of families to OFL this summer was the baby chicks! Children learned about the life cycle of chickens as the eggs incubated at OFL for over 3 weeks. Families watched the chicks hatch at the library and from their home via a 24/7 live-stream. Children loved submitting names for the chicks, watching them grow each week and getting to know our new fluffy friends. We partnered with the Pumpkin Hollow to ensure that our chickens had a forever home where patrons could continue to visit them after they left the library.

Newly Added Features...



New Furniture in the Children's Areas

A beautiful customized seating area was installed in the juvenile fiction area- kids and parents now have another comfortable spot to read together!

Our S.T.E.A.M. area was redesigned and now features a large cabinet, which holds drop-in S.T.E.A.M. activities, and tables and chairs which act as workstations for kids to do projects.

Digital Displays

In 2018, we enhanced our lobby with an interactive welcome kiosk. The kiosk features a rotating slideshow of upcoming events, newly added titles, links to our catalog and event calendar, an interactive map of the library and social media feeds.

We also added a 65" digital display in one of our meeting rooms, replacing the library's projector and offering a better way to mirror a computer screen. Community groups and library programs are benefiting from this new display, screen casting presentations, videos, online classes and trainings.



Additional new gifts our library patrons were thrilled about receiving from the Friends included 8 Empire Passes, providing year-round access to New York State Parks, and 2 charging stations, each with the capability of charging up to 10 devices at a time.

The Friends legacy gifts continued to support popular library collections and programs including Fast Flicks, Lucky Day books and e-books, as well as programs such as the adult summer reading program and the annual holiday concert.

Including all the above and more, the Friends donated over \$13,000 to OFL in 2018. The staff, Board of Trustees and patrons would like to thank the Friends for devoting so much of their time and efforts to OFL.

MARCH 2019

FACES OF OFL:

Board of Trustees

Casey Barduhn, President
Jennifer Frasier, Vice President
Gary Lucas, Treasurer
Colleen Mahoney, Secretary
Tom Bradley
Amy Kremenek
Dan Pautz

Full-Time Staff

Susan Morgan, Director
Alyssa Newton, Assistant Director
Maggie Gall-Maynard,
Youth Services Librarian
Al Oliveras, Digital Services &
Technology Librarian
Chantal Rothermel, Marketing &
Outreach Coordinator

Part-Time Staff

Jackie Antonacci, Page
Theresa Castilano, Clerk
Kori Gerbig, Youth Services Specialist
Goran Lucic, Clerk
Ella Moran, Page
Ellie Stultz, Clerk
Ali Thabet, Page
Gail Thomas, Processing Clerk
Sue Thomas, Clerk
Tonette Young, Clerk
Debbie Zabel, Clerk
Brennan Zimmer,
Bookkeeper & Clerk

Substitute Staff

Pat Hagemann, Clerk
Chris Seiter-Dewey, Clerk
Katie St. Laurent, Librarian

Volunteers

Kathy DeSanctis
Donna Schwarz
Mary Silky

Kori Gerbig, Youth Services Specialist

I am so happy to be a part of OFL. Since I began in January 2018, I have been extremely impressed with the level of professionalism, the variety of programs offered and the emphasis on excellent patron services.

Looking forward to 2019, I am excited to continue to bring lively, interactive storytimes to the youth in our community as a means to promote early literacy, societal awareness and school readiness. It's amazing to watch the growth the children experience week to week, and it's very fulfilling to be a part of it. In addition to storytimes, we have introduced a weekly Music & Movement program, which is very close to my heart. Music is a key component in language development, so it is not surprising that this program is very popular and well loved.

It has also been a wonderful experience to provide programming for the older children here at OFL. In 2018, we launched a new, monthly Young Artists program to bring art education to students, both traditional and homeschooled, ages 9 and up. We also began our S.T.E.A.M. Discovery Hour, where students can explore various theories and practices in S.T.E.A.M. fields. Both programs have been met with great enthusiasm and continue to bring existing and new patrons to the library.

I could not be more excited to continue working with this great team to bring new programs and opportunities to the youth in our community.



Theresa Castilano, Clerk

As a clerk, a big part of my job is interacting face-to-face with patrons, so every day is new and exciting! There's so much to look forward to here at OFL and this year is looking better than ever!

This year, I'm excited to take on a new project— planning monthly drop-in crafts. These activities are all about creativity and artwork, and since I graduated with a BA in Graphic Design, this is a great way for me to put my degree to use. Look for some fun space crafts to go along with the summer reading theme, *A Universe of Stories*.

Our We Need Diverse Books campaign is also coming up soon! The goal of the campaign is for kids to enrich their world view and to discover books they may not normally think of reading. It's a great way to explore new genres, topics, and social issues, or to discover award-winning authors and literature.

I'm also looking forward to Bruce Coville coming to visit this summer! He's such a prolific author, our own local celebrity, and is also the editor of one of my favorite short story collections, *The Unicorn Treasury*. It'll be exciting to meet the author of so many great books!

I'm so grateful to be working with such a great community and I look forward to everything the future brings!



Onondaga Free Library

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Connect with us:

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