

2022 Annual Report

Onondaga Free Library



Author event with Robin Wall Kimmerer
October 12, 2022

Greetings from Onondaga Free Library

For the entire year, the library fully open, with in person programming, updated collections, and meeting room use for the public. We were delighted to welcome back our patrons, many for the first time since the pandemic began, as we navigated the new realities of public library service.

Community engagement with the library was evident in the data and patron feedback we received. Notable statistics included:

- ⇒ Circulation of physical and electronic items: 229,254
- ⇒ Programs: 704 programs were attended by 9,719 people
- ⇒ Patron Visits: 61,303

We are proceeding with an updated long range plan and will be seeking community input on shaping the next several years of sustainable funding, staffing, collections, programs, and building improvements. We need your support to make this a successful process. As you review this annual report, note the past year's accomplishments and what new aspirations and goals you have for your library. We will be hosting several opportunities for the community to get involved and offer their ideas and feedback. Your voice matters more than ever as we look towards a brighter future at Onondaga Free Library.

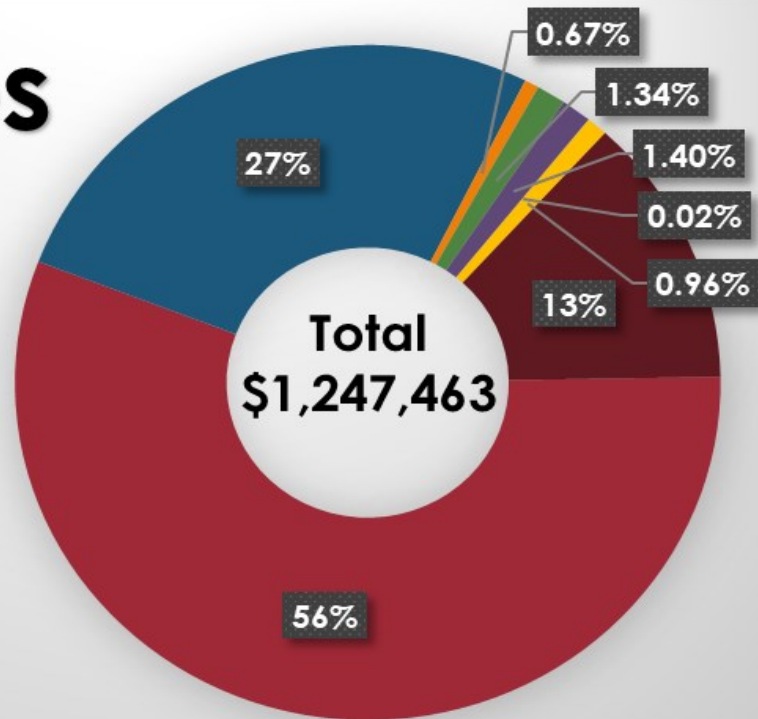
To our dedicated community that supports the library, we thank you for providing the financial resources to be able to offer collections, programs, and services that change lives for the better. Our library staff, Board of Trustees, Friends, and patrons make it possible for us to adapt to the changing needs of our community. We look forward to seeing you at the library.

Susan Morgan, Director

2022 Financial Summary

Revenues

- Town of Onondaga (\$700,000)
- School Funds (\$331,001)¹
- State Aid (\$8,325)
- Grants (\$16,771)²
- Gifts & Fundraising (\$17,410)³
- Interest (\$231)
- Library Charges (\$11,932)
- Fund Balance (\$161,793)⁴



¹School Funds include Westhill, West Genesee and Onondaga Central School Districts.

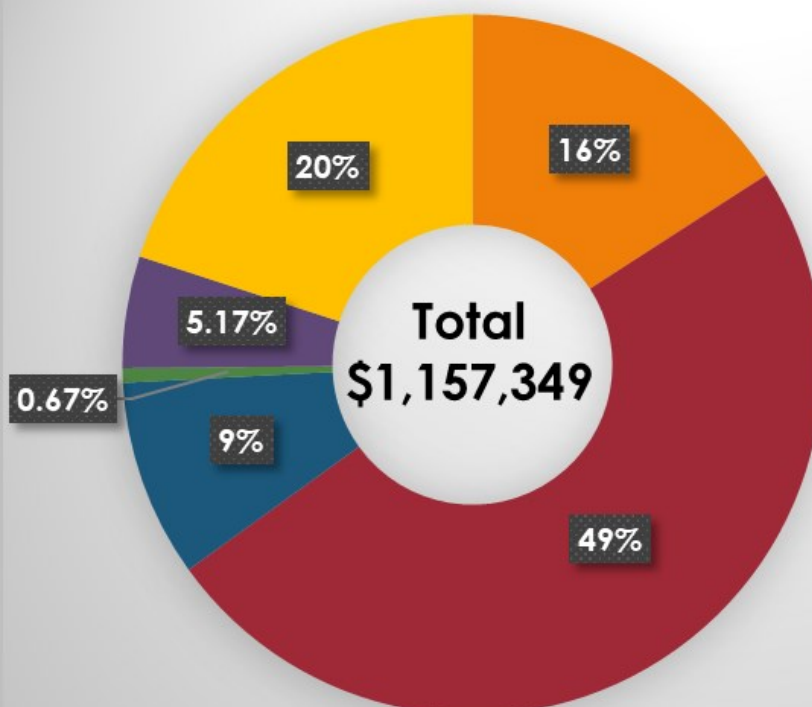
²Grants include \$12,975 from a NYS Construction Grant for LED lighting upgrades.

³Gifts & Fundraising total includes \$15,963 from the Friends of Onondaga Free Library.

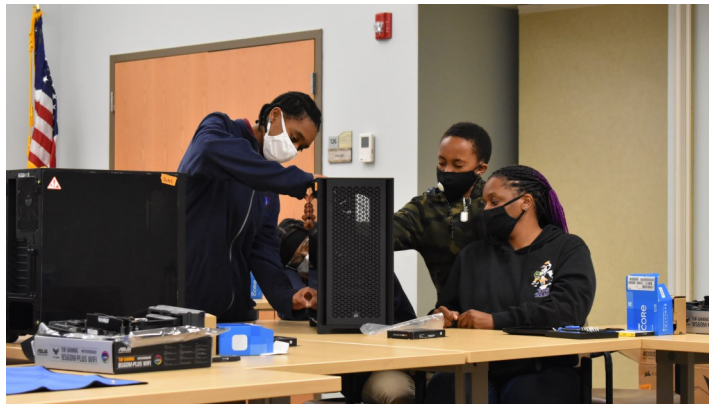
⁴Fund Balance includes employee retention funds of \$65,253.

Expenditures

- Debt Service (\$183,805)
- Staff Salaries, Wages, Benefits & Taxes (\$569,004)
- Collections (\$105,624)
- Programming (\$7,705)
- Capital Expenditures (\$59,817)¹
- Building Operation & Maintenance (\$231,394)



¹Capital Expenditures include LED interior lighting upgrades and a new HVAC unit.



ABOVE left to right: Build Your Own Computer made possible with funds from the American Rescue Plan Act allocated by CLRC; Rocket Build & Launch at Santaro Park with the Syracuse Rocket Club.

Programming, Outreach & Partnerships

2022 was a year for new and innovative programming at OFL. During February Break Week, the whole first floor of the library was transformed into a life-sized Candy Land game. In just a week, an estimated 200 families stopped by the library, played the game and won prizes. In April/May, through \$10,000 awarded to OFL by the Central New York Library Resources Council (CLRC) as part of the American Rescue Plan Act, our Digital Services and Technology Librarian presented a 4-week class in which he taught families how to build a functional, Internet-enabled computer. At the end of the program, the 8 families who participated were able to keep the computer that they built!

Thanks to strong partnerships with local organizations and school districts, we were able to offer new events to our community – highlights include a rocket build and launch with the Syracuse Rocket Club, bird and tree identification nature walks led by NYS Parks, local history programs presented by the Town of Onondaga Historical Society and Daughters of the American Revolution, suicide prevention program with Contact Community Services, GSA programs featuring special guests from the Syracuse Q Center, childhood development programs with Help Me Grow Onondaga and ACR Health and more.

Summer Reading

We had an amazing summer and thank you to all who participated in Summer Reading!

⇒ Total Summer Reading Participants: 505

⇒ Total Books Read: 5,250

Thank you to the Friends of Onondaga Free Library for supporting our entire Summer Reading program, providing \$3,000 in funding for prizes and programming, including new toys for the children's area, activity kits for kids who registered for summer reading, program supplies and guest presenters. This summer we transitioned back to hosting all programs in-person at the library. Thank you Gannon's Isle Ice Cream and Fairmount Glen Mini-Golf for providing our prize incentives for children and teens. To all the happy families that visited OFL this summer, thank you for enjoying our programs, collections and beautiful space.

Thank you Friends!

The Friends of Onondaga Free Library held successful fundraising and membership campaigns in 2022. Proceeds from their fundraising efforts provided support for the library's collections, including Lucky Day books, eBooks, Empire Passes (NYS Park Passes) as well as a new teen Manga collection, a refresh of the juvenile non-fiction collection and replacements of many well-loved titles. The Friends also funded a new art hanging system for the Teen Space, a caterpillar hanger unit for Storytime-to-Go kits and many programs. The Friends advocacy efforts, program support and staff appreciation help make our library an amazing community resource. Thank you for being champions of all we do at OFL!



MARCH 2023 FACES OF OFL:

Board of Trustees

Chris McCarthy, President
Beth Crump, Vice President
John Arcaro, Secretary
Tom Bradley
Elizabeth LaRochelle
Rob Price
Laurie Smith

Full-Time Staff

Susan Morgan, Director
Alyssa Newton, Assistant Director
Jill Hand, Youth Services Librarian
Scott Lipkowitz, Digital Services & Technology Librarian
Chantal Rothermel, Marketing & Outreach Coordinator

Part-Time Staff

Suzanne Allen, Clerk
Theresa Castilano, Clerk
Michelle Crews, Marketing Assistant
Kori Gerbig,
Youth Services Specialist
Aidan Goode, Page
David Kleberg, Page
Sue Thomas, Clerk
Tonette Young, Clerk
Debbie Zabel, Clerk
Brennan Zimmer,
Clerk & Bookkeeper

Substitute Staff

Penny Feeney, Librarian
Pat Hagemann, Clerk
Goran Lucic, Clerk

Jill Hand, Youth Services Librarian

Meet our new Youth Services Librarian, Jill Hand. She lives in Union Springs, the place she has called home her whole life! She has worked for several years in youth services departments of public libraries- including as the Youth Services Librarian at Seymour Library in Auburn and Children's Librarian at Springport Free Library in Union Springs. Jill earned her bachelor's in Educational Studies with a concentration in Early Childhood Education from SUNY Empire State College and her MLIS from Syracuse University.

She has a passion for children's literature, engaging and supporting children and families and connecting with the community.

When Jill is not at the library, she enjoys spending time with her son, catching up on the latest cooking competition shows and enjoying nature. She especially loves reading picture books and mysteries!



Michelle Crews, Marketing Assistant

Please join us in welcoming Michelle Crews to OFL! Michelle comes to OFL with 15 years of marketing experience as the new part-time Marketing Assistant. In this role, she will be assisting the Marketing and Outreach Coordinator supporting the efforts of promoting the library's programs, services and collections.

As a Camillus resident, originally from Elbridge, Michelle lived in Boston, MA while obtaining her Master's Degree from Boston University and then resided in San Diego, CA for many years. Upon her return to CNY, Michelle most recently worked as a Social Media Clerk at Maxwell Memorial Library. In her spare time, she is an avid disc golfer, loves to spend time with her family and friends and especially enjoys reading biographies and memoirs.



Onondaga Free Library

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Connect with us:

@OnondagaFreeLib

