PAGES







2021 GRATITUDE REPORT

A PUBLICATION OF THE READING PUBLIC LIBRARY

MELISSA ADAMS TAKES THE HELM



Melissa Adams

We are excited to announce that Melissa Adams has been named Executive Director of Reading Public Library. Ms. Adams has most recently served as Library Director of Muhlenberg Community Library since 2016. There, she successfully led the Muhlenberg Library through major challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic

and an unanticipated renovation following the August 2020 flooding. She had previously worked in Library Services at Pottsville Free Public Library and Lower Macungie Library.

Adams said about her appointment, "I feel truly honored to be appointed as the Executive Director of Reading Public Library. The City of Reading is undergoing significant revitalization and the idea of working with the City and the

community to help make positive changes happen is really exciting. I envision a library that not only serves and reflects our community, but also works hand in hand to collaborate, co-create, and re-shape our future."

According to Jim Shankweiler, an educator at Penn State Berks and chair of the Executive Director Search Committee, "In spring of 2021, a Reading Public Library Search Committee took up the daunting task of searching for a new Executive Director for the Library. Search Committee members knew early in the process that Ms. Adams brought enormous value, knowledge, and energy with her. She has held a variety of demanding positions in Library Administration. Collectively, these experiences have given her deep exposure to the many aspects of Library operations. She has worked for quite some time in communities bordering Reading, so she has an acute understanding of our community's needs."

Please join us in welcoming Melissa to our library.

LIFE IN THE CLOUDS • WILD FRONTIER • PARIS ON THE SCHUYLKILL STRATEGIC PLANNING DURING UNCERTAIN TIMES

What do Life in the Clouds, Wild Frontier, and Paris on the Schuylkill have in common? Each one represents a conceivable scenario for our community in 2040 envisioned by our Strategic Planning Committee. This group took a look into possible future scenarios based on the current political climate, a post-COVID world, and a variety of other factors. After an intense analysis and discussion, they arrived at three possible visions of societies in which our library could exist.*





in Strategic Direction and Community Engagement and Associate Fellow of Saïd Business School, University of Oxford.

The 2022 to 2024 Strategic Plan defines a future consisting of four fundamental tracks that reflect our continued goals of adapting to community needs and ensuring resilient library services. The tracks include: Developing Intentional Partnerships, Creating Increased Digital Opportunities,

Engaging Residents in Co-Designing Programs, and Creating a Library Staff that Reflects the Community.

By engaging in this robust strategic planning process, Reading Public Library is poised to continue serving our community no matter what the future holds!

* Learn more at:www.readingpubliclibrary.org/strategic-plan/

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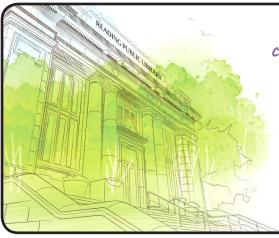
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...... Lori and Alan C......

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State County City of Reading Other Grants and Gifts Daily Operations	751,141 1,342,041 401,493 691,047 30,578		
		From Library Trusts	45,000
		TOTAL INCOME	3,261,300
		2021 OPERATING EXPENSES	
		Salaries and Benefits	2,155,786
		Collection Development	392,731
Other Operating Expenses	595,507		
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,144,024		
Beginning Balance January 1, 2021	47,525		
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If we missed your name or made an error, we apologize.

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