



Together, we grow!

It was another successful year for Reading Public Library, with a strong emphasis on expanding digital resources and diverse programming.

Several initiatives significantly increased access to information and education, especially for underserved populations. Hotspots were circulated to patrons for free WiFi access, our local history collection was digitized making it accessible to the public, and training on digital devices for seniors was in high demand.

A \$50,000 grant from the Giorgi Family Foundation helped us address the digital divide even further by allowing us to replace 53 public computers. Additionally, we have received a COVID Digital Connectivity state grant for 40 laptops dedicated to digital education outreach.

Our fundraising events were joyous, fun, and successful in raising the funds to support our efforts. We are deeply grateful for the community support received at our Celebrity Bartender Fundraiser, which allowed us to create a reading nook in the Children's Department at the Main branch, providing a quiet space in an otherwise bustling library area. Our Cocktails & Classics event continues to be a highlight of our year enjoyed by hundreds of supporters, and our 2024 Annual Appeal exceeded its goal by \$15,000.

In the spring, we collaborated with Reading Pride to host our first Library Card Contest. The winning artwork was printed on a limited-edition library card that patrons could swap out for their current card, while new patrons could choose between the two versions.

Our Southeast Branch partnered with The Food Trust and was honored with the Berks County Public Library Award for Outstanding Community Organization for its Community Fridge partnership.

In our second year as a Passport Acceptance Agency, we assisted 874 patrons in obtaining passports and hosted two walk-in passport fairs.

With an eye on preserving local history for the future, we acquired the rights to the book *The Dreamland Park Murders* and plan to release a new edition within the next year or two. This upcoming

venture presents a unique opportunity to enhance the community's access to this piece of local history.

This year, we were honored to announce a very special friendship gift from the Reading Library and Museum in the UK. The 1726 publication of *A Collection of the Works of William Penn* is now on display at our Main branch.



A mother and son enjoying our new reading nook funded by our Celebrity Bartender fundraiser in 2024.

In 2024, Reading Public Library received approximately \$573,300 in private funds and grants. We are so thankful for the support we receive from organizations and private donors that helps us continue to be a community hub offering free services and important resources to all. Our success is a testament to our patrons' support and active participation.

As we enter the New Year, we are filled with anticipation and excitement, focusing on helping our neighbors find their place at the Library.

Thank you for your generosity!
Melissa Adams, Executive Director

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2024 ANNUAL REPORT

2024 OPERATING INCOME

State	982,588
County	1,267,161
City of Reading	478,090
Other	
Grants and Gifts	573,292
Daily Operations	126,857
From Library Trusts	627,220

TOTAL INCOME	4,055,209
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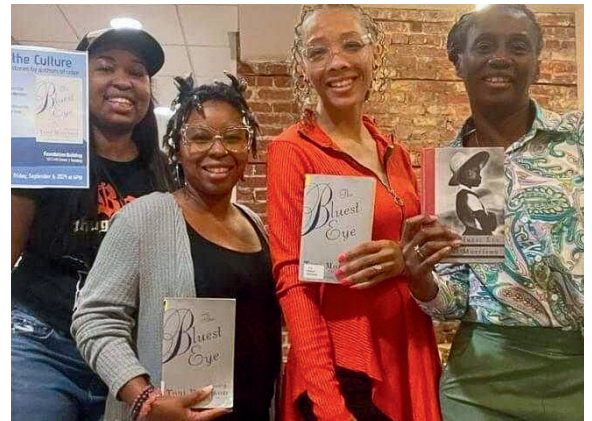
2024 OPERATING EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits	2,736,112
Collection Development	457,438
Other Operating Expenses	617,695
To Library Trusts/Endowments	248,680

TOTAL EXPENSES	4,059,924
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Beginning Balance January 1, 2024	52,933
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TOTAL ENDING BALANCE	48,218
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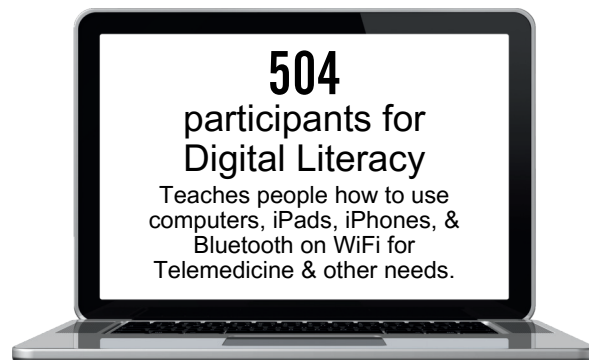


2024 In Review



203,312
items circulated

Patrons saved
\$1.9 million



504
participants for
Digital Literacy

Teaches people how to use
computers, iPads, iPhones, &
Bluetooth on WiFi for
Telemedicine & other needs.



29,498
program attendance

16,372 participants
1,128 kids programs

6,733 participants
567 teen programs

4,846 participants
527 adult programs

1,547 participants
70 adult programs



5,931
STEM
participants
Science,
Technology,
Engineering, Arts,
& Mathematics)



3,815
Summer
Reading
participants



3,207
participants in Early
Childhood Literacy
Visits to **18 locations**,
38 monthly classes



12,304
items circulated in
Senior Outreach
monthly visits to **18**
senior living facilities
in the City of Reading



77,812
30 minute computer
sessions in the library



874
passport
applications
processed

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Scott's Exeter Car Wash

Seidel Hyundai
Sheetz
Robin Shilling
Sally Shultz
Sittler Golf
Sorrelli Jewelers
Carolyn Spano
State Hill Craft Cocktails & Kitchen
The Standard Group
Starting Over Club
Sweet Street Desserts
Sycamore Springs Farm LLC
Symbiote Collectibles
Texas Roadhouse
That Personal Touch
Tinsel & Twig
Tom Sturgis Pretzels
Top Golf
Top Notch Distributors
Trish's Specialty Cheesecakes
Turkey Hill Experience
Uncorkd
Unique Snacks
Van Scoy Jewelers
WABC TV
The Works
Wyomissing Restaurant & Bakery
Zelda & Mark Yoder
Yuengling Brewery
Zipf's Candies by Sweet Surprises

CELEBRATORY HONOREES

*The following friends, relatives, and co-workers
were recognized with gifts to Reading Public Library:*

Kathy Bailey
Ginny Chudgar
Edward Domkus
Bronwen Gamble
Emily McNulty

Mike Najarian
Richard Plzak
Allan Schneider
Catherine Symond

MEMORIAL HONOREES

*The following loved ones were memorialized
with gifts to Reading Public Library:*

Jeanne Arnold
Donald Boltz
Joan & Eugene Dobrzyn
Phyllis Gogluizza
Mary "Kate" & Paul Hoh
David M. & Mae E.
Hollenbach
Margaret H. Leiendecker
Susan Leiendecker

Eleanor Printz
Bill Reber
James T. Reedy
Herbert Reese
Martha Ros
Jerry Sigal
David Thun
Elizabeth Corbit Wolfe

Save the Dates!



**Wednesday,
May 14**



**Friday,
September 26**

For more information,
call 610.478.8977 or visit
ReadingPublicLibrary.Org/Support-Us



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Library Hours

Main Library

610-655-6350

Monday 9:00 - 7:00
Tuesday 9:00 - 7:00
Wednesday 9:00 - 5:30
Thursday 9:00 - 5:30
Friday 9:00 - 5:30
Saturday 9:00 - 4:00

Northeast Branch

610-655-6361

Monday 9:00 - 5:30
Tuesday 9:00 - 5:30
Wednesday 10:30 - 7:00
Thursday 9:00 - 5:30
Saturday 10:00 - 3:00
(Closed Mon, Tue, Thur 1-2) (Closed Wed 2-3)

Southeast Branch

610-655-6362

Monday 10:30 - 7:00
Tuesday 9:00 - 5:30
Wednesday 9:00 - 5:30
Thursday 9:00 - 5:30
Saturday 10:00 - 3:00
(Closed Tue, Wed, Thu 1-2) (Closed Mon 2-3)

Northwest Library

610-655-6360

Monday 1:00 - 5:30
Tuesday 2:30 - 7:00
Wednesday 1:00 - 5:30
Thursday 1:00 - 5:30

Reference 610-655-6355
www.readingpubliclibrary.org

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If we missed your name or made an error, we
apologize. Please contact us with any corrections.