

GENEVA PUBLIC LIBRARY 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



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FROM THE DIRECTOR *by Chris Finger*

What is a public library's role in its community? Exploration of this question is a common exercise given to the library staff and trustees during strategic planning. To me, a more important question is, what is a community's role in its public library? I have been to each of the forty-two OWWL libraries and after each visit, I leave with an idea for something to put in place at Geneva.

Sometimes the idea is simple, like adding a book to our collection. Sometimes it is a complex undertaking, such as holding a Human Library event. Some ideas are implemented successfully, while others never get off the ground. A perfect success rate is impossible because no matter which library you borrow from, their community will never be the same as the community your library serves.

For any dedicated library staff member, the yearning to add more services for your

patrons is natural. This report will highlight some of the wonderful new accomplishments of our staff and volunteers. However, I believe that our steady commitment to working hard to provide the highest quality traditional services supersedes singular noteworthy



improvements. Books, DVDs, literacy and information programming, free computer access, and community gathering spaces are what Geneva has told us it needs from its public library. To those ends, 2018 was a banner year for us.

In answer to the questions I raised at the beginning of this message, our community's role is to inform us of its needs. Then it is the

Library's role to assess those needs and meet them. We have twenty-two staff members, seven Trustees, and dozens of volunteers. All are dedicated to inspiring and supporting a lifetime of learning and creativity for the Geneva community.

I can assure you that the steadiness of 2018 was not the result of complacency. I expect that we will see a number of exciting changes to the Library over the next handful of years. Whatever the shape and form of those changes, I can guarantee that they will be shaped by the needs of Geneva first. In anticipation of the Herculean effort that awaits our incredible staff, trustees, and volunteers as they roll out new changes, I, for one, am appreciative of a year spent in the relative tranquility of an essential job, well done.

Sincerely,
Chris Finger
Library Director



YOUTH SERVICES *by Tanya Taylor*

2018 for the Youth Department was all about making changes to our space. This summer we held a six-week Youth Art program to update our Children's Room mural. The original mural was done sometime in 2000 by a group of youth patrons and one adult volunteer. We decided it was time for a change, so we invited our 2018 youth patrons to lend their creativity to a new mural.



I love the library because of the Children's Room!
Because of the nice librarians and the books.



Youth ages 8-17 worked with Christine Legott, a teacher and artist, who has painted numerous murals in the area. Ms. Legott and the participants spent time choosing a theme, designing, and painting the final mural of the four seasons, one season per wall. The mural is located in the parking lot entrance for all to view the beautiful colors and artwork for years to come.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES *by President Santa Abraham*

The Geneva Public Library was very busy in 2018. Elevator upgrades and ground floor Community Room improvements were major projects the Library completed last year. The elevator work included an overhaul of the mechanical system and interior improvements.



In order to meet the demand for our public spaces, we installed a division wall in the Community Room to allow more groups to be able to use the room at the same time. Moveable wall partitions were also purchased to allow for added privacy during tutoring sessions. These projects were funded thanks in part

to a New York State Public Library Construction Grant.



We realize parking continues to be a concern for library staff and patrons. The Library has a vested interest in the City of Geneva's DRI 5-Way Intersection project. We have worked closely with the City and the architects to ensure they consider our parking concerns during the design phase. We will continue working with them and participate in conversations and meetings with the City.

In 2019, we are looking forward to be able to provide the public with free mobile Hotspot

Kits. Each kit includes a mobile hotspot, with unlimited data, and a Chromebook. This initiative, which provides households without Wi-Fi services the benefits of internet in the home, was made possible by a Spectrum Digital Initiatives Grant.

A big thank you goes out to GPL staff, Foundation and volunteers for their continued support. We strive to be a staple in Geneva and will continue to try to meet the needs of our community. I hope to see you at a program this year.

All the best,
Santa Abraham,
President, Board of Trustees



The most checked out book at GPL in 2018 was "Unbound" by Stuart Woods.



Gives excellent service and never has a problem meeting our needs when asked. Always has a great selection of movies as well.

ADULT SERVICES *by Susie Flick*

2018 was a whirlwind of great programs and even greater partnerships. I am always in awe of what we can accomplish by working together and this year was no different. By partnering with other organizations, as well as, our own patrons, we were able to offer programming that we wouldn't have been able to do otherwise.

In partnership with the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester, we offered gentle yoga classes for survivors of breast and gynecological cancers. In March, we partnered with Geneva Reads and offered a Club Night for all book clubs in Geneva to attend to discuss what books we loved, which ones we didn't and everything in between.

June brought a joint effort with the LGBTQ Center of the Finger Lakes when we hosted transgender performer, Penny Sterling, who gave a spectacular performance for FLX Pride Festival. Yogi Dianne Murphy held several sessions of Yoga for EveryBody free of charge and open to all.

Local lawyer and history enthusiast, Peter Einset held several lectures for us, the most popular being a program on simple wills.



Books, book club, all the people who work here are amazing!

Our strong partnership with AARP allows us to provide tax preparation help and the driver safety course which are a couple of the highest attended adult programs.



Tuesdays on the Terrace, a wonderful partnership with FLIMA that showcases local musicians in the summer and the monthly Musical Moments series, which has been a staple of the library since 2007, continued to be among the most popular programs in 2018. I continued our popular book club which has a faithful membership and welcomed some new members this year. In August, I started a Cookbook Club which far exceeded my expectations and continues to grow every month.

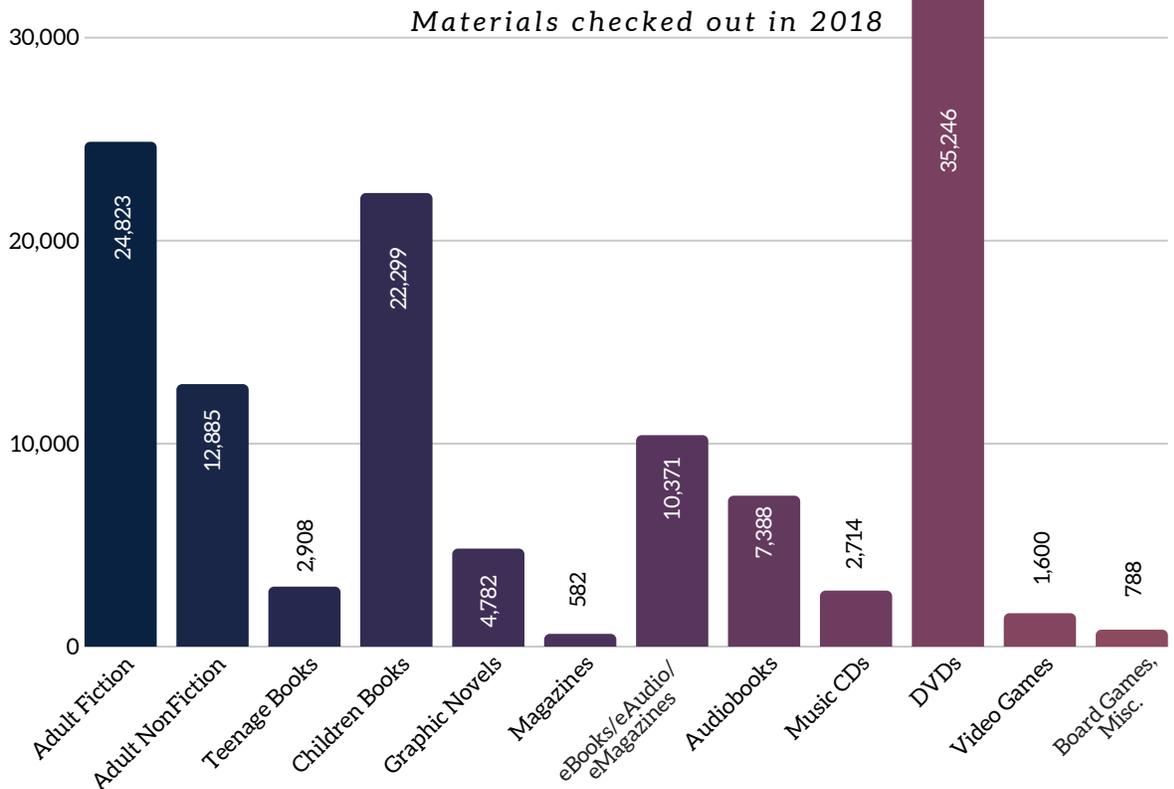
Although programming is important, we also do a lot of work behind the scenes to make your experience here better. With the help of Ontario County Youth Work Program, we were able to do a building wide inventory for the first time ever. Inventory is an important part of making sure our catalog is up to date, making it easier for you to find what you are looking for. We weeded and shifted the entire fiction collection to make browsing easier and more enjoyable while also reorganizing our magazine and new fiction collection to make our seating area more inviting.

We are always working toward making your experience at the library better. If you ever have suggestions or requests, we welcome them.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

This past year, over 80,775 people walked through our doors, whether to use the library as a space to relax or hold meetings (our meeting rooms were used 508 times), to enjoy one of our many programs, to get questions answered and learn a new skill, or to simply find some free entertainment to borrow.

657 of these people received a new library card with our library and we hope this number will continue to grow. As one patron said, "It was an enjoyable and welcoming first visit, and we look forward to returning."



In 2018 we had:	with
143 Adult Programs	1,592 in attendance
131 Teen Programs	667 in attendance
248 Children's Programs	3,673 in attendance

In the search for information, patrons made Reference research requests a total of 1,989 times and used our microfilm 131 times. 18,177 people used our WiFi while 16,750 people used our public computers. Our staff provided technical teaching and support 2,406 times while offering 68 computer classes.

“It is peaceful, friendly people here and good books and movies. My son loves coming here for games and books. That’s what I love about my library!!”

REFERENCE & TECHNOLOGY SERVICES *by Kelsy Hibbard-Baker*

I will always remember 2018 as the year I led my first group computer classes at the library. Although I had been doing one-on-one computer appointments for over a year, I had never led a group class before. One-on-one appointments are quite personal and a little informal; although I have some basic areas that I need to cover, the individual’s questions and needs shape the rest of the appointment time.

Classes turned out to be like nothing I had ever done before. Each class requires me to come up with a topic that I think will be interesting or beneficial to a large amount of people. This is usually not difficult since there is so much interesting and useful

technology to explore! I have to examine all aspects of the technology that I will be teaching about and determine whether each aspect is better suited for a beginner, intermediate, or advanced level class.



After that, I begin working on the lesson itself. I might create a PowerPoint presentation or an informational handout in Microsoft Word. I want participants to leave with these resources so they can use them as an aid while

they are practicing their new skills in their personal or professional lives. Most of all, I try to make my classes as hands-on and practical as the group setting allows.

Despite the differences between the two methods, I find teaching group computer classes just as rewarding as one-on-one appointments. It is nice to see familiar faces coming to multiple classes, whether it is because they need to learn how to use Word for their job or because they are curious about what “the cloud” is and how it works.

I look forward to another great year of teaching and learning technology at the library in 2019!

RECEIPTS	ANNUAL BUDGETED
Local Public Funding	\$ 730,933
Pioneer Library Grants	\$ 7,275
Pls Central Library Grant	\$ 13,770
Other State Grants	\$ 129,636
Other Grants	\$ 1,500
Memorials And Scholarships	\$ 2,250
Geneva Public Library Foundation	\$ 9,715
Gifts & Fundraising	\$ 8,700
Fines, Fees & Commissions	\$ 17,000
Interest & Other Income	\$ 7,560
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 928,339



DISBURSEMENTS:

Staff:	
Staff - Local Funding	\$ 591,663
Staff - Central Library Funding	\$ 13,770
Staff Development	\$ 5,500
Subtotals - Staff	\$ 610,933
Collections:	
Subtotals - Collections	\$ 61,222
Programs:	
Adult, Childrens, And Young Adult	\$ 12,200
Services:	
Professional & Contracted Services	\$ 13,320
Library Supplies	\$ 8,000
Printing, Postage & Publicity	\$ 1,200
Subtotals - Services	\$ 19,500
Facilities Expenditures	\$ 95,348
Capital Expenditures	\$ 129,136
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 928,339



"Nice staff, very helpful, love using the library"



Geneva Library is the very best. Always on top of all the latest books, the people are great. I am so happy we have a wonderful library in Geneva.

THE FOUNDATION FOR THE GENEVA PUBLIC LIBRARY

by President
Nancy Bauder

While the Foundation's focus remains on long-term financial support, over the organization's seven years our undertakings have evolved to meet both the Library's current needs and the skills of the organization's leadership and volunteers.

The Foundation undertook a successful autumn appeal to Library donors and patrons. At the close of the campaign on March 1, 2018, we had raised \$30,718 from 194 donors, which averaged \$158.34 per donor.



Those figures were up in total 14% and by average 17%. Proceeds from the annual appeal enabled the Foundation to grow our Endowment Fund in service of the organization's mission of a sustainable future for the Library.

Our partnership with Wegmans continues to flourish. This past year, dozens of our Children's Room patrons enjoyed Wegmans' cooking classes. Wegmans also served as a

I love that the library staff are so helpful and kind. Thank you!

corporate sponsor for our annual fundraising event called *A Taste of Jazz*, which took place in February. Billsboro Winery and The Herzig Group also sponsored the event, which returns for its fifth anniversary in 2019. The event raised a total of \$3,610.66 and was an across-the-board success.

The past year also saw the solidification of the Foundation's Balcony Bookstore, which provides purchasers year-round access to books and raises an average of \$168 per month. Our two large book sales in April and October raised a total of \$9,596.38. Proceeds from the book sales and store support the year-to-year

operational needs of the Library. A book sale committee comprising Lynn Herzig, Deb Brewer, George Abbott, Judy Campbell and Kerry Lippincott worked smoothly to ensure the success of the Foundation's book selling operations.

Other notable actions during 2018 were the establishment of a popular fundraising project selling canvas bags bearing the Library logo and the receipt of generous sustaining gifts from Jane and Bill Crumlish. The latter assured stable funding for Musical Moments, one of our most popular programs, for the foreseeable future.

Nancy Bauder
Foundation for the Geneva Public Library
President

