

Wellman

PUBLIC LIBRARY



ANNUAL REVIEW FY23

HIGHLIGHTS & SUCCESSES

Expanding Our Library: Thanks to the Washington County Riverboat Foundation generous grant, we were able to begin our library expansion project. We moved to a temporary location in downtown Wellman at the beginning of May and construction began shortly after. This project is doubling our library space, adding a much needed programming room and study room, creating an accessible space, and allowing us to grow our collection and services for our community. We anticipate completion to occur in early 2024.

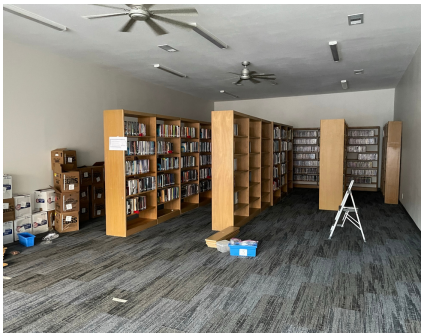
Summer Reading Program: We created and launched expanded Summer Reading Programming for the summer of 2023. In addition to providing a large variety of presenters and activities for our children's program, we launched a brand new Teen Summer Reading Program; providing programming content specifically for community teens and reading challenges. We also created a more engaging Adult Summer Reading log and saw an vast increase in participation with 70% of registered participants completing the log, whereas only 20% completed the previous year.

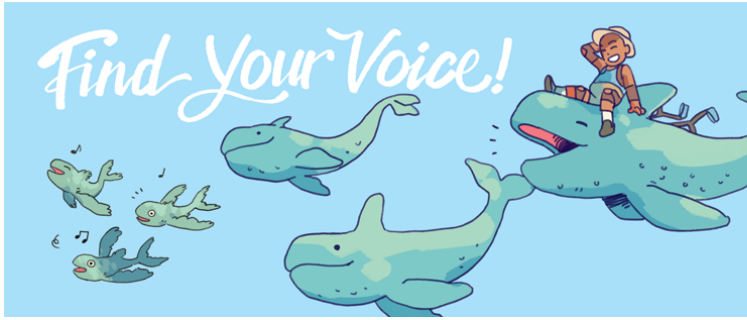
Increase in Programming and Events: We more than doubled our program offerings in FY23. Our mission is "Inspiring imagination, sparking curiosity, and creating community." We are working to fulfill this mission by expanding our programs to engage our community. We planned programs for children, teens, and adults throughout the year in order to better serve our whole community.

LIBRARY EXPANSION



This year, we have seen massive changes to our library in some of the best ways possible. In addition to increases in our circulation, programs, visits and services, we are seeing our library expansion project come to life after many years of planning. It is a wonderful and exciting change for our community.





SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The Summer Reading Program theme, "Find Your Voice", focused on encouraging children to express themselves. Our programs allowed children to try new things, such as juggling, yoga, and STEM activities, as well as encouraging a love of reading through reading logs and a visit to PAWS & More to read to the animals.



SUMMER READING PROGRAM



THIS YEAR

911

participants came
to our children's
events

47

participants came
to our NEW teen
events

202

participants came
to our highest
attended event of
the summer:
Blank Park Zoo

189

participants
registered for our
summer reading
programs:
children's, teen, &
adult

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

We strive to entertain, engage, and build community throughout the year. We provided programming for all ages including:

- Weekly Murder Mystery/Board Game Club on Mondays
- Weekly Story Times on Wednesdays
- Plant Exchange
- Escape Room
- Trunk or Treat
- Santa @ Light the Night in Wellman
- Christmas Party
- Dino Adventure
- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Library Scavenger Hunts





FY23 STATISTICS

Patrons

- 1,788 registered cardholders
 - 914 Wellman residents
 - 402 rural Washington County residents
 - 472 Open Access patrons
- 66 new card issued

Library Use

- 6,449 visitors (+8%)
- 4,005 website visits (+5%)
- 10,331 physical materials circulated (+3%)
- 15,313 digital materials circulated (+3%)

Interlibrary Loan

- 180 materials received from other Iowa libraries for our patrons (+275%)
- 57 materials loaned to other Iowa libraries for their patrons (+128%)

Library Programming

- Children
 - 113 programs (+131%)
 - 2,540 attendees (+111%)
- Young Adult
 - 5 programs
 - 39 attendees
- Adult
 - 56 programs (+81%)
 - 347 attendees (+163%)
- General Interest
 - 2 programs (+0%)
 - 1,234 attendees (+107%)
- Total
 - 176 programs (+114%)
 - 4,160 attendees (116%)

Passive Programming

- Scavenger Hunts:
- Make & Take Kits: 312
- Use of STEAM Resources: 226
- Reading Log Participants: 315
- Coloring Sheets: 435

CIRCULATION & COLLECTION STATISTICS



Physical Circulation

- 2,488 adult books (+39%)
- 146 young adult books (-81%)
- 6,274 children's books (+4%)
- 929 video recordings (-14%)
- 295 other physical items (+8%)

Digital Circulation

- 1,934 eBooks (-7%)
- 2,947 audiobooks (+16%)
- 101 periodicals (+34%)

Total Circulation

- 15,314 materials

Physical Collection

- 13,099 books
- 331 audiobooks
- 1,521 videos
- 243 other items

- 15,191 total physical collection

Collection Management

- 2,668 items weeded
- 851 items added

