

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



509 Cherry Street  
Jamestown, NY 14701  
716-484-7135  
[prendergastlibrary.org](http://prendergastlibrary.org)



# LETTER TO OUR COMMUNITY



In 2022, the James Prendergast Library demonstrated that it was ready to reconnect, as shown by robust activity at the library. Our Summer Reading Program statistics were back to high levels of engagement with over 800 youth, teen, and adult participants!

What makes JPLA so special is the initiative and creativity that the team brings to the library every day. Below are a few examples of new and innovative services and projects that staff put into place in 2022:

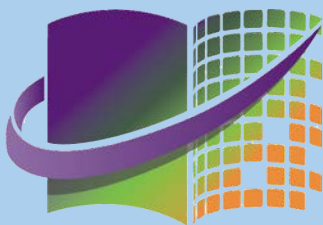
- Created a new initiative that brings community nonprofits to the library to host educational classes and programs.
- Updated the teen space with new games, furniture, and art projects.
- Created new teen programs including Teen Crafting.
- Went on 39 outreach visits to spread the word about library programs and services.
- Created new adult computer classes with topics on how to use Excel, Online privacy protection, and smartphone photography.
- Improved the collection's "browsability" by making children and adult material easier to find.

With lots of positive energy to fuel us, I look forward to 2023. Over the next year, we will work on a new strategic plan; incorporating ambitious sustainability goals to enhance what the library offers the community. What an exciting time for the James Prendergast Library and the Jamestown community. On behalf of the entire JPLA staff and board, I thank you for your support, and I look forward to a very vibrant 2023!

Anne Greene  
Executive Director  
James Prendergast Library

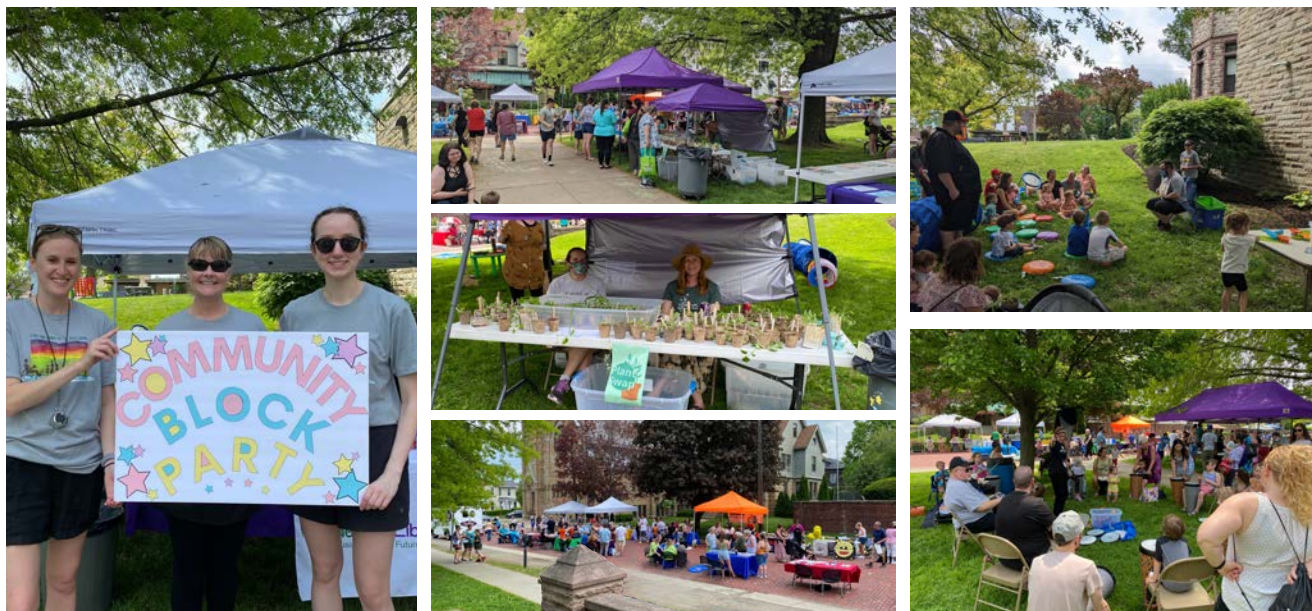
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Letter to Our Community
2	Block Party & Haunted Library
3-4	2021-2024 Strategic Plan Updates
5-6	Summer Reading 2022
7-8	Our Year in Numbers
9	Outreach & Partnerships
10	Murray L. Bob Education Initiative
11	New Teen Programs
12	New Materials
13	Community Partner Spotlight
14	Grants
15	Sponsors
16	Donations & Memorials
17	Budget
18	About Us



**PrendergastLibrary**  
Focusing on Your Future.

# FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY



On May 21, 2022, we hosted our First Annual Community Block Party which featured over 30 local organizations. Over 500 people attended participating in lawn games, storytimes, a plant swap, a scavenger hunt, and connecting with local organizations and community members.

## HAUNTED LIBRARY



On October 22nd, 2022, 300 people attended our first-ever Haunted Library tour, with a haunted literary theme. Guests toured the library to meet characters from classic storybooks.

# STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2024

## Focus, Goals, Investments

### A Focused Mission

Develop a new program plan that meets community needs, reaches new audiences, and brings the collection to life.

Invest in new technology and equipment that enhances library services for our community.

Create a collection management team to ensure the collection meets the community's needs.

Implement organized approaches to staff development to deliver service effectively.

### Community Engagement

Improve community connections by collaborating with local organizations and developing a volunteer program.

Utilize all media platforms to communicate library services, and celebrate its history and continuing role in our community.

### Sustainability

Improve the library's natural and physical space to enhance use and ensure inclusiveness of services.

Develop a fundraising plan that speaks to the community about their library's value and contributes to its ongoing financial sustainability.

## Values

### Equity

We are an inclusive and equitable organization that promotes equity of access in our community and serves the diverse needs and requirements of our users.

### Community

We align our services and programs with the needs of the community

### Creativity

We embrace a culture of exploration, experimentation and reflection to improve services, anticipate needs, and manage change.

### Sustainability

We invest in economic feasibility, environmental stewardship, and social justice, inspire investment and build support for the future.

### Collaboration

We build partnerships to achieve shared goals and increase the impact of our mission.

# Strategic Plan Progress Report

## Highlights

Developed a new program initiative - The Murray L. Bob Education Initiative.

Created a new partnership with JHS English teacher Betsy Rowe-Baehr to bring her English 9 and 10 student to the library monthly for programs and library usage.

Added topic bins for more picture books in the Children's Room.

Expanded the manga/anime collections due to patron requests.

Expanded the nontraditional collection to include bike locks and charging cords based on in-library needs.

Reinstated several adult computer classes such as Working with Excel and Introduction to Microsoft Word.

Awarded a NYS Library Construction Grant for a new outdoor patio and walkway in front of the library, and HVAC upgrades.

Received a grant to update collection storage, including magazines, children's books, and microfilm.

Purchased two new Children's Education Stations with LearningBoard keyboards and mice.

Improved the employee onboarding process to increase efficiency and staff morale.

Created a new sponsorship packet that list events and programs that businesses can sponsor - packet was sent out in early 2022 with a return of over \$3000!

Hosted the first Library Community Block Party to celebrate partnerships and raise awareness about nonprofits' collaborative work in Jamestown and the surrounding area.

Worked with WJTN to present a weekly radio program to promote library programs during the 2022 Summer Reading Program.

Created a new library facility plan, approved by the Board of Trustees and updated yearly.

Created recurring social posts highlighting the library collection and digital resources.

## Coming in 2023

### Outdoor Patio

A new outdoor program and event space is coming - anticipated installation early June 2023.

### Music Classes

Children's Music Project will host weekly music classes for toddlers and caregivers during Summer Reading 2023.

### Student Liasons

We anticipate adding one or two Jamestown High School students to the library's Board of Trustees in 2023.

### Books & Brews

Starting in February 2023, the library hosts a monthly adult bookclub a the local hangout Brazil's Beer and Wine Lounge

### Energy Updates

Grant funds will update and improve energy efficiency in the library building, paving the way for future sustainability initiatives.

# Summer Reading 2022

## Oceans of Possibilities

808 Participants - 912,866 Minutes Read



Our summer reading program was a great success this year, with many families enjoying our expanded programming, new outdoor sensory play activities, and our summer reading challenge. We also expanded our prize program to include "Read for Beads." For every hour read or one activity completed, children received a bead to add to their necklace. This program had a great response, and we are excited to continue the program in 2023. Some children earned over 60 beads throughout the summer! One parent said, **"The bead program really made my daughter want to read."**



### Waffle Party

Seventy people attended the end of Summer Reading Waffle Party



### Adult Readers

Twenty three adults read 127 books!



### City Parks Program

Every Thursday we visited a different city park with programs and books!



## LEAP into Reading with the Jamestown Public Schools!

In 2022, we worked closely with the Jamestown LEAP Camps to sign 300 children up for library cards. At the end of the summer, we visited each site with free books and beads to celebrate their reading accomplishments.

## Summer Lunch Program

2789 lunches distributed in partnership with the YMCA



# Our Year in Numbers

We had over 101,150 visitors at the Prendergast Library.

Of those visits, 18,984 were community meeting room uses and 19,404 were library program attendees.

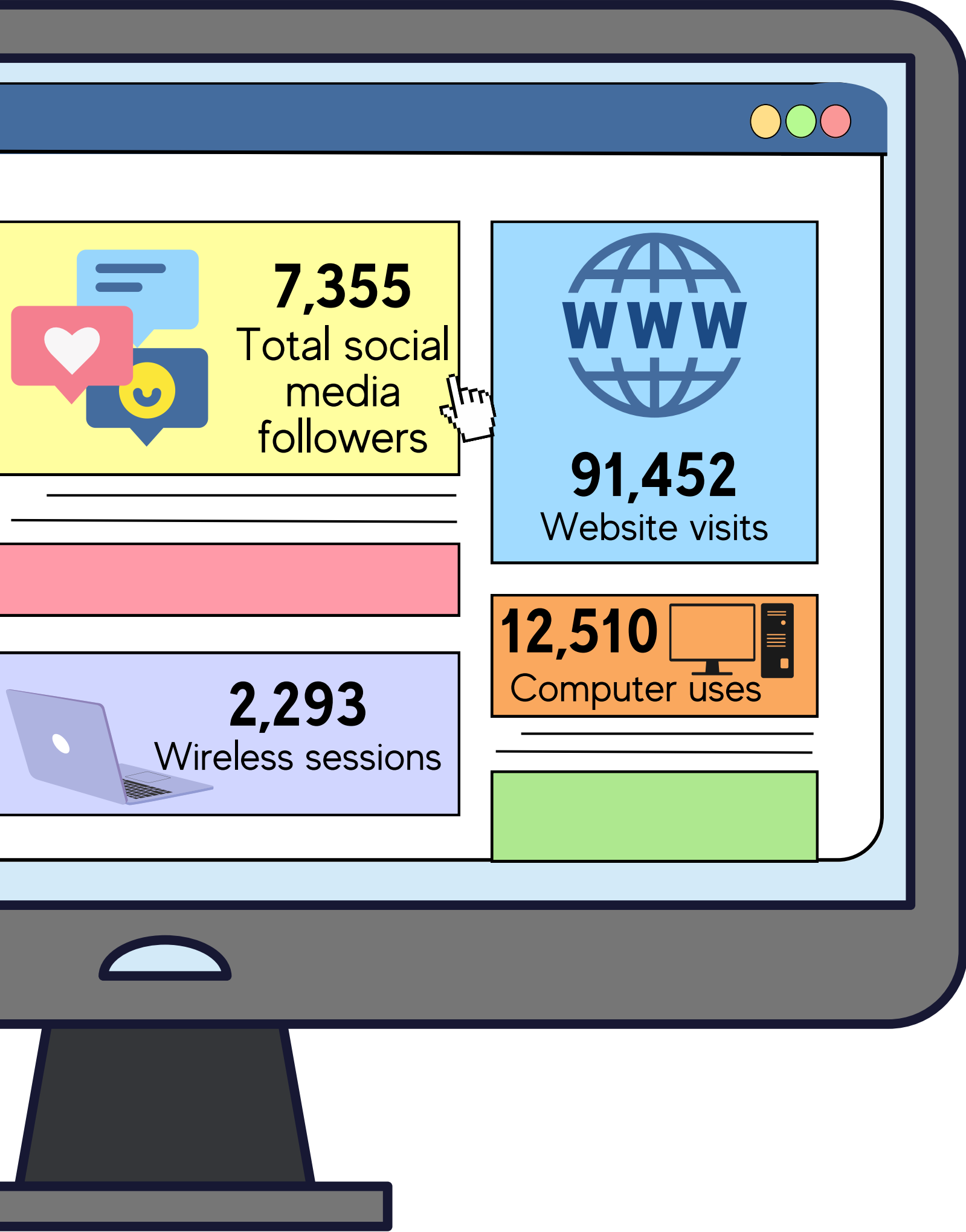
We have 144,573 items in our collection, including books,

audiobooks, DVDs, board games, science kits, and more!

We also answered #111,950 reference questions!

Our patrons checked out 138,966 items.





**7,355**  
Total social media followers

**91,452**  
Website visits

(Empty Card)

**2,293**  
Wireless sessions

**12,510**  
Computer uses

(Empty Card)



LINCOLN LEAP SUMMER CAMP



LOVE LEAP SUMMER CAMP



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB MOBILE MAKERSPACE

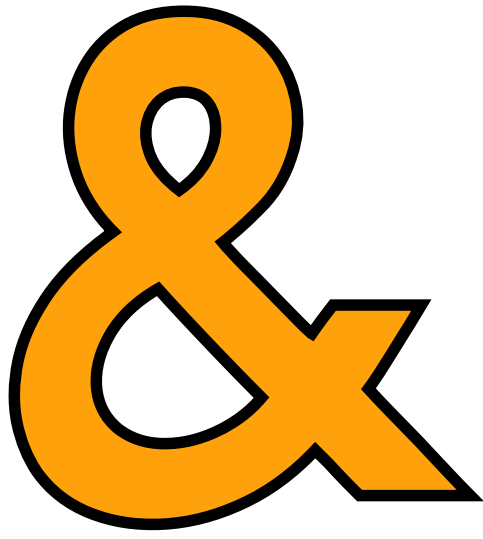


JAMESTOWN MOBILE MARKET

# Outreach



JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION



EARTH DAY GROW FESTIVAL

# Partnerships



SOCKTOBER SOCK DRIVE



AUDUBON MONARCH FESTIVAL



AUDUBON SNOWFLAKE FESTIVAL



JAMESTOWN PRIDE FESTIVAL

# Murray L. Bob Education Initiative

The Bob Education Initiative brings community organizations to the library to conduct classes and run programs. This initiative honors former director of the Prendergast Library and the Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System, Murray L. Bob.



## Audubon Community Nature Center

The Audubon offered two programs for families at the library: a Nature Discovery Station and a Community Science Day. Kids and families learned about animal tracks, engaged with local animal and plantlife, and even released some butterflies! Audubon also held three lectures on Monarch butterflies, their preferred plants, and raising Monarch caterpillars.



## Infinity Visual and Performing Arts

Over the summer, Infinity offered four all-ages drumming workshops at the library, and four with the library at Jamestown parks. Kids and adults alike had a wonderful time learning rhythms and getting loud!

This program was supported in part by the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.



## Pearl City Clay House

Pearl City Clay House, a program of Infinity, offered several workshops including bookbinding, zine making, blackout meditations, and creating a recycled desk organizer.

Attendees at these programs were able to get creative, try something new, and take home their finished products!

100%

of surveyed participants said they learned something new at a Murray Bob program!

# New Teen Programs

2022 included several new programs for teens at the library!

We started a weekly Teen Crafting program in April of 2022, hosting 246 attendees for crafts including zine making, resin, wet felting, and Kool-Aid dyeing.

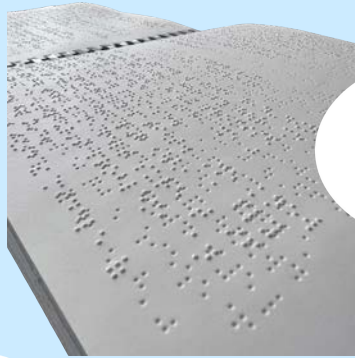
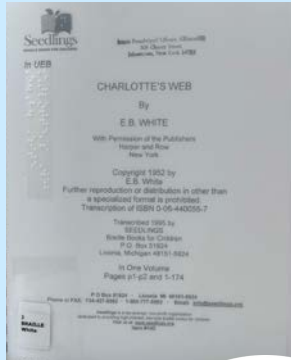
Teens kicked off Summer Reading with a tie-dye and pizza party on the library's front lawn. Throughout the summer, we offered programs including an escape room, bookmark contest, book clubs, and trivia for teens.



## Other special programs included:

- First Job and Resume Workshop
- Tween Poetry Workshop
- Ukulele classes with Infinity
- Teen Mindfulness and Wellness

# New Materials

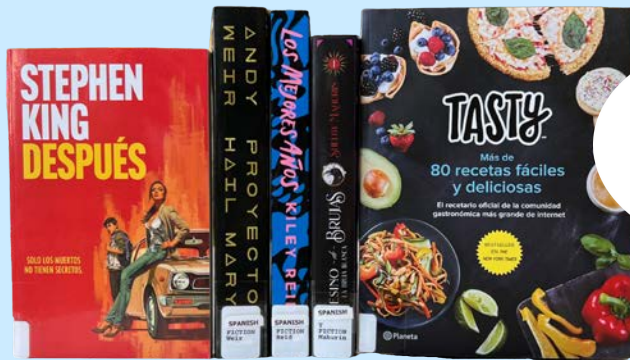


## Braille Books

In 2022, we expanded our collection of available Braille books to the public, adding more well-known titles, including *The Mouse and the Motorcycle*, *Bridge to Terabithia*, and *My Side of the Mountain*.

## Highlights Hello

Did you know that even babies can enjoy magazines? So in 2022, we added "Highlights Hello" to our collection of magazine subscriptions. With durable pages, lots of photos, and engaging rhymes and poems, these magazines are designed with our youngest readers in mind.



## Spanish Books

Our Spanish collection grew this year with more titles by Spanish authors and translations of popular bestsellers in English. In the Children's Room, we also reorganized our World Languages section so the collection is more visible and accessible to the public. This collection includes a wide variety of languages, including Spanish, French, German, and Japanese.



# Community Partner Spotlight



## Jamestown Mobile Market

The Jamestown Mobile Market visits the library every Wednesday from June-September. The market provides low-cost local fruit, veggies, and baked goods. In addition, they collaborate with Cornell Cooperative to offer healthy recipes samples and nutrition tips.

## Murray L. Bob Lecture

Presented by Field and Fork Network Executive Director Lisa French

Lisa discussed food insecurity in New York State and the various solutions her organization and others are doing to address the issue.



Joining Lisa was Linnea Haskins, Executive Director of the Jamestown Public Market. She spoke about the impact Field and Fork programs have had on Jamestown.

# Grants



## CRCF – General

\$4,000

CRCF funding was used to update the conference room to prioritize collaboration and accessibility.

\$5,000

## Jesse Smith Darrah Fund

The Jesse Smith Darrah Fund provided support for our eBook collection.

\$10,000

## CRCF – Community Impact

A grant from the Chautauqua Regional Community Foundation funded new programs and outreach initiatives.



## Cummins Summer Reading

\$6,652

Funding from Cummins supported our 2022 Summer Reading Program. In 2022, the library distributed 4,258 books.

\$74,365

## Sheldon & Lenna Foundations

Matching grants from the Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation and the Lenna Foundation provided funds for constructing our new patio and walkway. The project started in 2022 and will be completed in 2023.

\$2,500

## Chautauqua Cattaraugus Library System

CCLS provided a grant for materials for adult literacy including BOCES HSE books, and grant funding for Jamestown High School outreach programs.



\$18,953

## Holmberg Foundation

A grant from the Holmberg Foundation provided funding for outreach events and furniture in the Teen Area and Makerspace enhancements.

\$15,654

## Hultquist Foundation

A grant from the Hultquist Foundation funded materials to update and expand our collection including storage and presentation supplies for microfilm, magazines, and newspapers.



\$1,000

## CRCF – General

A grant from the Chautauqua Regional Community Foundation funded materials for our First Annual Haunted Library Tour.

# THANK YOU, DONORS & SPONSORS!

## 2022 PROGRAM SPONSORS

Thank you for your support of the library.

### COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY



### COMMUNITY DAYS



### CRAFTING & COMMUNITY



### SUMMER READING AT THE PARKS



### READ FOR BEADS





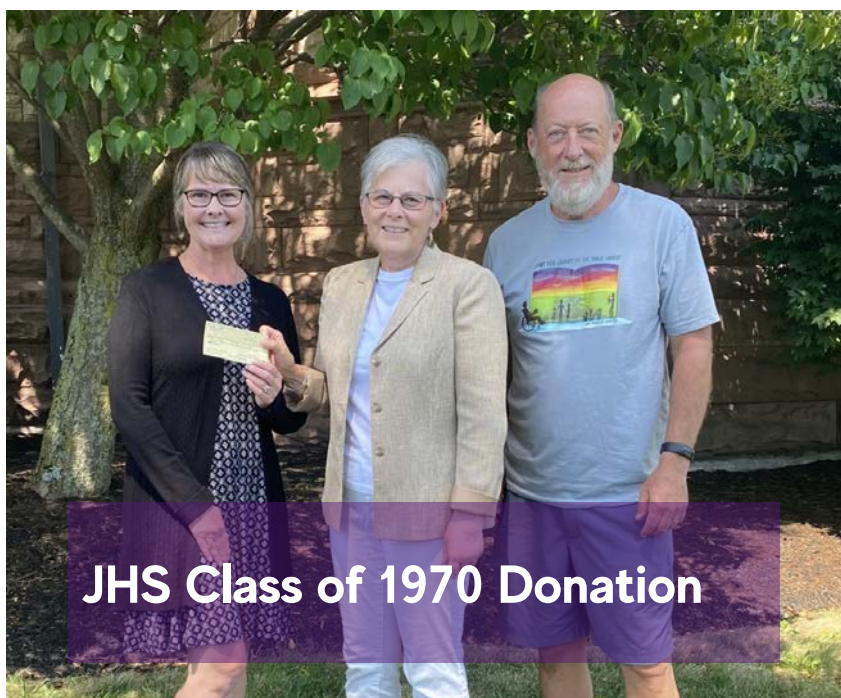
# 2022 ANNUAL FUND & MEMORIAL DONATIONS

## MEMORIALS

Memorials given to the library are in memory of loved ones and contribute to the growth and diversity of the library's collection.

**56** Memorials  
Totaling **\$5,279**

The library received a donation in memory of David A. Abbey Jr. To honor David's love of "tinkering," family and friends donated new robotic kits and a new storage unit for the Makerspace.



## FUNDRAISING

Annual Fund & Booksale  
Thank you to our donors for supporting the library's programs and services.

**460** Donors + Countless  
Booksale Patrons  
donated **\$128,444**

# 2022 BUDGET

## REVENUE

32.9%	<b>SCHOOL DISTRICT</b>	\$350,000
25.4%	<b>ENDOWMENT</b>	\$270,425
9.1%	<b>FUNDRAISING</b>	\$97,000
9.7%	<b>STATE</b>	\$103,148
5.3%	<b>CCLS REIMBURSEMENT</b>	\$56,000
1.9%	<b>LIBRARY FEES</b>	\$20,500
0.3%	<b>LEGACIES</b>	\$3,300
0.5%	<b>LOCAL COLLEGE</b>	\$5,000
1.3%	<b>COUNTY</b>	\$13,400
13.6%	<b>GRANTS</b>	\$145,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,063,773</b>

## EXPENSES

52.8%	<b>SALARIES</b>	\$562,158
16.5%	<b>BENEFITS &amp; RETIREMENT</b>	\$175,688
8.6%	<b>LIBRARY OPERATIONS</b>	\$91,149
10.3%	<b>MATERIALS</b>	\$110,000
0.7%	<b>PROGRAMMING</b>	\$7,000
6.7%	<b>BUILDING MAINTENANCE</b>	\$70,774
1.6%	<b>LEGAL / PROFESSIONAL FEES</b>	\$17,000
0.7%	<b>FUNDRAISING COSTS</b>	\$7,000
1.8%	<b>IT</b>	\$19,000
0.2%	<b>TRAINING / CONTINUING ED.</b>	\$2,000
0.2%	<b>OUTREACH / PUBLICITY</b>	\$2,004
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,063,773</b>

# About us

The James Prendergast Library opened in 1891. The library building and collection was a gift to the citizens of Jamestown from Alex and Mary Prendergast in honor of their son, James Prendergast. Over 130 years later, the James Prendergast Library is still serving the community.

## Board of Directors

Dan Hickman - President

Ned Lindstrom - Vice President

Cassie Blakeslee - Secretary

Michael A. Corey - Treasurer

Jessica Carr

Frank Corapi

Cindy Johnson

Judy Long

Matt Mancuso

Mary Zdrojewski

In 2022, the library operated with a team of 20 people. The staff is cross-trained to quickly move from helping patrons in the Children's Room to assisting with a question at the Reference Desk.

On a typical day out in the library, our staff shelve returned materials, keep the library clean, and assist patrons who are checking out items, searching for new books, and using public computers.

Behind the scenes, staff plan programs and outreach events, coordinate with community organizations to bring library activities out and about in Jamestown, and order and process new materials.

Every day is a busy day at the Prendergast Library!

Photo: Construction of the library's building, c. 1890



# James Prendergast Library

509 Cherry Street  
Jamestown, NY 14701  
716-484-7135



## Hours

Monday - Friday  
9:00 - 7:00

Saturday  
10:00 - 4:00

[prendergastlibrary.org](http://prendergastlibrary.org)

@prendergastlibrary   