

2021-2022
Annual Report
Bridging the old and the new



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Ex-Officio Members:

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Ben Thomas, *KCPL Board President*

Stan Howell, *Marketing & Development Manager*

Jai Ravine, *Marketing Coordinator*

Staff

Department Managers:

Assistant Director	Sarah Mitchell
Human Resources	Marsha Alford
Information Technology	Teddy Claypool
Reference Services	Elizabeth Fraser-Dorney
Children's Services	Terri McDougal
Main Library Public Services	Vacant
Circulation Services Supervisor	Susan Murphy
ILS Admin	Susan Murphy
Technical Services	Seth Newell
Facilities & Security	Tim Venitsanos
Marketing & Development	Stan Howell

Branch Managers and Librarians:

Clendenin	Tammy Parker
Cross Lanes	Brittany Addis
Dunbar	Ben Ball
Elk Valley	Ellie Teaford
Glasgow	Anthony DeMinico
Marmet	Anthony DeMinico
Mobile Library	Anthony DeMinico
Riverside	Anthony DeMinico
Sissonville	Cathy Mason
St. Albans	Melissa Burchett

A Letter from the Board President

The 2021-2022 fiscal year was one of great transition for the Kanawha County Public Library.

As a community, we celebrated the return to the Library's Main Charleston Branch in early May. The re-opening of this facility represents many years of hard work by countless Library representatives, city and county leaders, and community volunteers. It would not have been achievable without the overwhelming generosity of our donors and the dogged perseverance of Library management and staff. We look forward to all of the ways that this facility will enrich our culture and community.

In the fiscal year ahead, the Library will dedicate itself to caring for the branches outside of Charleston. Members of the communities served by these facilities have patiently weathered a pandemic and an intense focus on the Main Branch construction project in the past few years. We look forward to nurturing the many relationships among the Library branches and tending to any physical needs of the Library's various facilities.

We also plan to focus on the entire patron experience, with a re-energized dedication to serving patrons and enriching their interactions with the Library system. Library management and staff are dedicated to finding new and engaging ways to connect with patrons. We are eager to serve as the community's living room.

Finally, I offer a word of gratitude and appreciation for Monika Jaensson, who ended her service as Board President on July 1, 2022, after many years of dedicated service to the Library. Monika has been a creative and persistent force in shaping the culture of the Library System. She was always kind and gracious, even when facing potential setbacks. We are all better for her friendship and leadership. The Library thanks Monika for her generous service and wishes her all the best in her new endeavors.

Please come visit us soon at a Library branch near you.

Updates from the Library Director

In May of 2022, the Kanawha County Public Library completed its 20 year, \$32 million "Reimagine Your Library" project – a renovation of the library system's main branch located in the iconic old Post Office Building and Federal Courthouse on Capitol Street in Charleston. The Library Foundation of Kanawha County was instrumental in leading the charge, and their hard work inspired contributions from a number of library supporters and businesses, including from The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation.

The new Charleston Library is now a spectacular mixture of history and modernism - showcasing open spaces, meeting and study rooms, new collections, and new and emerging technologies. Most notably, the IDEA Lab (Innovation, Design, Engineering, Art) allows visitors to learn and use technologies like 3D printers, laser cutters, and robotics that will shape the future.

While the Charleston Library truly is the centerpiece of a library system that includes branches in a total of ten Kanawha County communities, the system itself also offers other unique services that take place outside the four walls of our library branches - such as an internet-ready Bookmobile, and a lending kiosk system with 600 titles that will soon open in Clendenin.

The Library System strives to meet the needs of our patrons through free and equal access to information, job training and career development, educational, recreational, and cultural experiences, access to new information technology, lifelong learning opportunities, and most importantly, a center for community life.



Ben Thomas
KCPL Board President



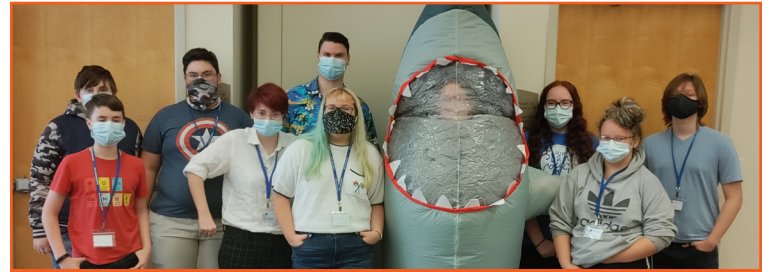
Erika Connelly
Library Director

2021-2022 Branch Highlights



CLENDENIN

Work began on our new 24-Hour Kiosk in the early part of 2022. Throughout construction, staff fielded questions from the community and explained the workings of the service. The Branch began the fiscal year without full staffing. By late fall, the Library was fully staffed with new staff members joining in right away to assist with programming and other projects. The Branch held two drive-thru events - at Halloween and during the Holidays.



ELK VALLEY

Elk Valley began in-person programming in May 2022. Storytime, teen and family programs were all well attended. The return of the Volunteering program was a great success. 18 Volunteers worked during June 2022, the first group of teens they were able to have in the building since 2019. Meanwhile, the Branch continued to host the Elk Valley Book Group either in person or via Zoom all year. The partnership with Elk River Backpack Blessings continued by providing snack bags for children in the community and making the free pantry outside the library available to patrons.



CROSS LANES

In January 2022, the Branch introduced the Cross Lanes Spice Club, a monthly program that encourages patrons to explore new recipes and cultural cuisines through free spice kits. In the Spring they launched a seed library and planted a garden with support from the branch advisory board, with over 600 seed packets distributed to the Cross Lanes community this year.



SISSONVILLE

Sissonville Branch, after being short-staffed for so long, is happy to announce the return to full staffing. They have been working hard to meet the patrons' needs by providing a fall festival and spring egg event, highlighting new materials such as video games, continuing to offer craft kits, and adding a fax machine.



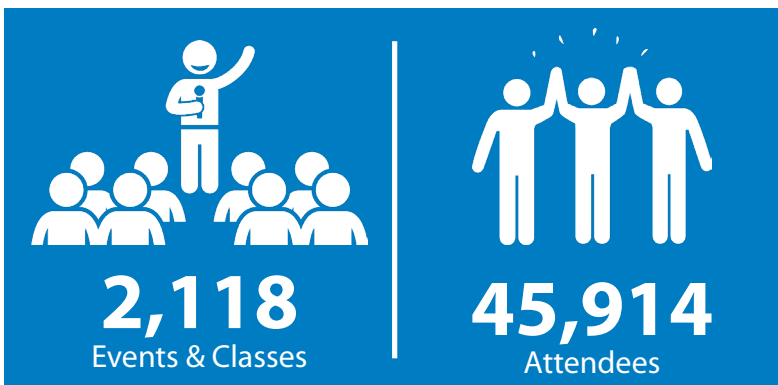
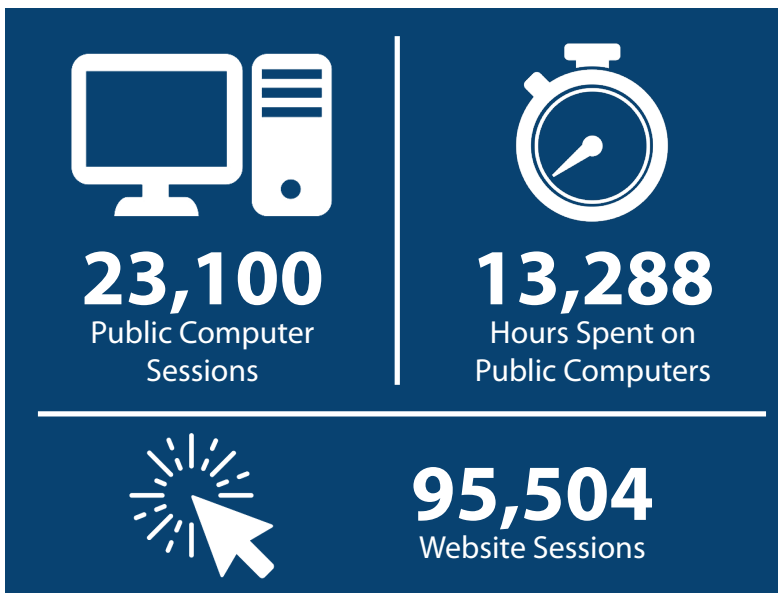
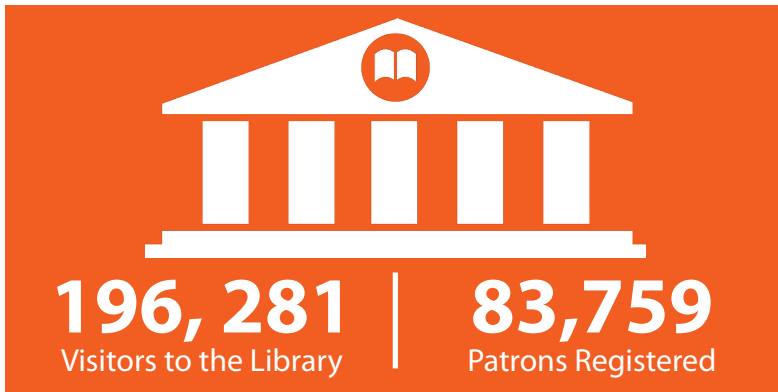
DUNBAR

Dunbar resumed in-person programming in 2022, including adult art classes and weekly storytimes. Plus, the Library featured displays for Black History Month and Women's History Month, highlighting historical figures such as Rosa Parks and Susan B. Anthony. The Branch also accepted the donation of a grand piano, which has proved a popular addition with patrons.






ST. ALBANS

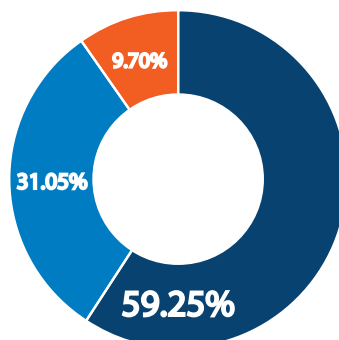
In August 2021, the Branch received a new HVAC unit - now housed behind the library, instead of on the roof - and a new fire panel. The Branch and advisory board hosted a drive-thru Holiday Open House featuring Santa, his assistant elf and the Grinch in December 2021. Library staff and the public were extremely excited for the return to in-person programming in May 2022.






Financials

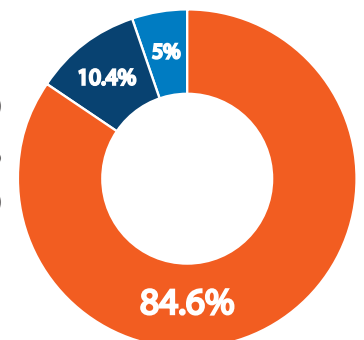
Income

	Levying Authorities	\$7,456,602
	State Grants	\$916,405
	Other	\$344,379



Expenditures

	Salaries/Benefits	\$5,222,820
	Other	\$2,736,566
	Materials	\$855,000





MOBILE LIBRARY

The Mobile Library was retired in 2021, and a new bookmobile was ordered as a replacement. As a temporary alternative, a pop-up library was introduced at Booker T. Washington Community Center and the Tompkins House in 2022 to provide service to eastern Kanawha County. The bookmobile office and bay underwent construction to replace the HVAC systems and lights. (Booker T. Washington Community Center Executive Director Gloria Rhem and Regional Branch Manager Anthony DeMinico pictured above.)

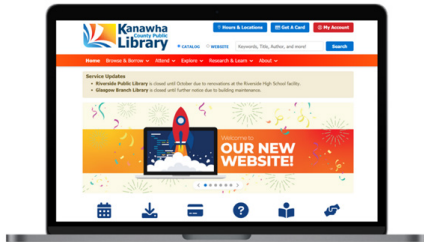
Highlights Continued

RIVERSIDE, GLASGOW & MARMET

Riverside had major construction projects finalized over the last year, including a new HVAC system, new lights, and roof repairs. The Glasgow Library has been closed since August 2021 due to an ongoing air quality issue. Live programs returned to Marmet with a successful SLC Kickoff and its first teen program since the outbreak of COVID-19.

CIRCULATION SERVICES

COVID forced staff to work in small teams, alternating days for much of the year. Provided regular service at the Charleston Town Center before moving back to the Main Library in the spring of 2022. Staff worked very hard on preparing the collection for the move by inventorying, shelf reading, shifting, and general inspection of all Library materials. The renovated building created new service areas for staff, resulting in the creation of new workflows, new procedures, organizing our new service desks, and getting acquainted with items in the new Tool Library.



New Website

KCPL launched its redesigned and upgraded website in September 2021. The streamlined, modern design offers easy navigation with a user-friendly interface, faster load times, and engaging content to help patrons better discover the library system's collections and services. The new website was the result of months of submitted design proposals from design agency Library Market and hard work by the KCPL staff.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Returned to in-person programming after two years of virtual programs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In May, Adult Services hosted the Charleston Ballet in the renovated Main Library, and in June the department took part in the Kiwanis Corporate Regatta. To celebrate the reopening of the Main Library, Public Services offered a number of special programs, including Teen DnD and a series of events in KCPL's new IDEA Lab.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Returned to live, in-person programming in May, highlighted by Storytime family programs, a performance by the River City Youth Ballet, and a visit from Ed's Dinosaurs Live. Continued to offer StoryWalk® events during the year and sponsored a Holiday Drive Thru Event in December at the Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center. Provided a successful live Summer Library Club, "Oceans of Possibilities", with weekly programs and events.

WV Book Festival

KCPL achieved a first for the state - a virtual book festival! Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the WV Book Festival elected to hold its 2021 events in a virtual environment. Spearheaded by the KCPL team, the Book Festival featured authors Colson Whitehead, Josh Malerman, Jon Scieszka, Eric Eyre, and Denise Giardina via live streaming and the Zoom platform. Despite the challenges of holding a two-day virtual event, the festival was a rousing success!

TECH SERVICES

Added 28,059 new items to the collection, 6,371 newspapers and magazines, and pursued hundreds of Inter-Library Loans for KCPL and other libraries nationwide. With the reopening of Main, Tech Services added new physical formats (ReadAlongs & video games) throughout the library system, assisted in the installation of self-checkouts and RFID technologies, and was instrumental in cataloging and setting up the Tool Library at Main.

MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT

Launched the new KCPL website in September 2021. Developed and produced a virtual West Virginia Book Festival in October in response to the ongoing COVID pandemic. Established an ongoing marketing program, featuring monthly advertising on radio, broadcast/cable television, social media and outdoor advertising. Coordinated fundraising efforts which generated \$63,535 for the KCPL Annual Fund.

Thank you!

In recognition to all those who contributed to the 2021/2022 Annual Fund.

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Anonymous (2)
Marsha Albert
Aaron Allred and Elizabeth Summitt
Dr. and Mrs. Steven A. Artz
Bridget Bailey and Richard Shaffer
Larry and Ilene Beckett
Benevity
Harriett Smith Beury
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Cheryl Davis
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Nicholas Winowich
Beverly Wright
Kenneth Wright
Todd and Maureen Wright
ZMM Architects & Engineers

HONOR AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

Anne Barth,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
Matthew W. Brown,
in memory of Marty Glasser and in honor of Cookie Glasser
Nancy R. Canterbury,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
Linda Arnold Catselis,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
Peyton and Anna Forbes,
in memory of Nelle Ratrie Chilton
Cookie Glasser,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
Nancy P. Guthrie,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
Ruth Vanderwilt McVey,
in memory of C.J. and Mary Jane Vanderwilt and Mary Ellen Vanderwilt
Elizabeth Z. Murphy,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
Lois Payne,
in memory of Mark Payne
Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Pollard,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
Jane H. Ray,
in memory of Cheryl Morgan
David and Gale Rubrecht,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
Kelli Saenz,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
Pamela G. Steelhammer,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
Patricia Tompkins,
in memory of Helen F. Smith
THE GREATER KANAWHA VALLEY FOUNDATION
CAMB Fund
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Danita Nellhaus
Phyllis P. Payne
Julia W. Robinson
Jane B. Shepherd
Anne Ray Silbernagel
Jo Ellen Diehl Yeary

Branch libraries located in unincorporated areas of Kanawha County are asked to raise a portion of their operating expenses. We thank the following donors who directed their Annual Fund contributions to the following branches.

CLENDENIN

Anonymous
Ron and Liz Cooper,
in memory of Lucy Anne (Young) Frokjer
The Haddad Foundation
Tina Hall
Betty L. Jones
Sharon Parker
Paul and Gloria Shafer
H.B. Wehrle Foundation
Elaine Woods

CROSS LANES

Frank and Joyce Andrews
Suellen Bottorf
Monica Burdette
City National Bank
Dennis and Marilyn Byrnside
Rose Cooley
Melba J. Farley
Anthony Ferrise,
in memory of Charmaine Mazzei
Patrick Ferrise,
in memory of Charmaine Mazzei
George J. Freebersyser
Paul and Barbara Gebhard
Martin Grimm
The Haddad Foundation
The Kessel Family Fund
John and Linda Lacaria
Jane Lowen
Lois A. Ludwig
Lisa A. Mazzei and Philip C. Prince,
in memory of Charmaine Mazzei
Jack McClanahan
Teresa McCormick
Walter and Hollie Mitchell
Jim and Ann Neidlinger
Linda C. Nicholson
Sandi Orr
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Ronald Raether
Alice Riecks
Fran Shropshire
Frances L. Sloan
Minerva Sneed
Frank and Sally Snyder
Julie Spiegler,
*in memory of Charmaine Mazzei and
Kenneth Negley*
Kenneth and Jerre Watkins
Betty Watson

H.B. Wehrle Foundation

Dr. Cassandra B. Whyte and Mr.
William R. Whyte

Robert and Nancy Wilson

ELK VALLEY

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Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Bailey
Rose Campbell
Dee Cavender
Nina Darnell
Paula Darnell
Jo Ellen Dean-Wagoner
Gibson Family Dentistry PLLC
Richard Fauss and Debra Basham
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David and Louise Peelle
C.E. Penn III
Edith T. Phillips
Nancy Smeltzer
Lola Smith
Isabel Starling
Joseph R. Stephenson
The Stodola Family
Ronald Warren
H.B. Wehrle Foundation
Benita Whitman
Joyce A. Williams
Adrienne Worthy

RIVERSIDE

Dianne Allport
Nancy Brown
Barbara Cook
John E. Fleck
The Haddad Foundation
Kessel Family Foundation
Larry L. Rowe
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Jack and Rethia Bumgardner
Nova C. Casto
Nancy Cunningham
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Shirley E. McGraw
Agnes L. Moriarty
Glenda Sisson
Larry M. Spradling
Sherry Stump
Deloris Warner
H.B. Wehrle Foundation
Lala Wiley

Our Vision

We envision the Kanawha County Public Library as the people's premier source of information in a community where learning and reading are revered and being well-informed is valued.

Reimagined Main Library Reopens!

KCPL reopened its Main Library in Downtown Charleston on May 9, 2022. The library building had undergone a massive two-year makeover which included renovations to the existing floors, 20,000 square feet of new space, and a Sky Bridge across Quarrier Street.

KCPL's "Reimagine Your Library" project began over 20 years ago when the first plans emerged to renovate the iconic building on Capitol Street. The library closed in March of 2020 and construction began in June of that year. From June 2020 to April 2022, the Main Library operated on a limited basis at the Charleston Town Center.

The \$32-million project was funded almost entirely by private donations – making it one of the largest privately funded construction projects for a public building anywhere in the country.

The renovated Main Library includes an Idea Lab, where patrons can operate 3D printers and virtual reality technology; a Tool Library, where everything from hammers to cement mixers are loaned out; a Café, operated by local business Mea Cuppa; an expanded Children's Area; more public meeting, conference and study rooms; and much more.

Our Mission

- *To provide free and equal access to information*
- *To provide citizens with job training and career development information*
- *To enrich individual and family lives*
- *To enable patrons to access new information technology*
- *To provide opportunities for lifelong learning*
- *To serve as the center of community life*
- *To use available resources efficiently and seek additional resources*