



CRANDALL
PUBLIC LIBRARY

RESILIENCE

2024 Annual Report

From the Director

Dear Community Member,

Responding to the theme of our 2024 Annual Report, I am reminded of a quote by Australian author and self-proclaimed change agent Catherine DeVrye, "Like tiny seeds with potent power to push through tough ground and become mighty trees, we hold innate reserves of unimaginable strength." Our community has shown remarkable resilience in adapting, enduring, and thriving in the face of social, environmental, technological, and economic challenges since the arrival of the Pandemic over five years ago. Crandall Public Library has led or walked in unison with country, state, county, municipal, and nonprofit administrations to implement programs and services that develop transformative foundations in patrons and constituents.



photo by Lauren Hull Photography

Library practices that assist in the restoration of our community's self-awareness, mindfulness, physical health, human connections, and purpose include but are not limited to buying additional books, improving access to increased electronic content, and beginning an initiative to integrate the three pillars of sustainability—environmental soundness, economic feasibility, and social equity—into our daily operations. Our public programming has exponentially increased. We now offer learning and creative opportunities for all ages—in 2024, we finally embraced tweens and twentysomethings. Our unmatched staff has been able to adapt services to community needs, promote strong interpersonal ties, enhance technology infrastructure, grow their self-engagement and capacities, provide training and equitable access, create successful disaster mitigation, and maintain a warm and welcoming ambiance with every interaction in our timeless facility.

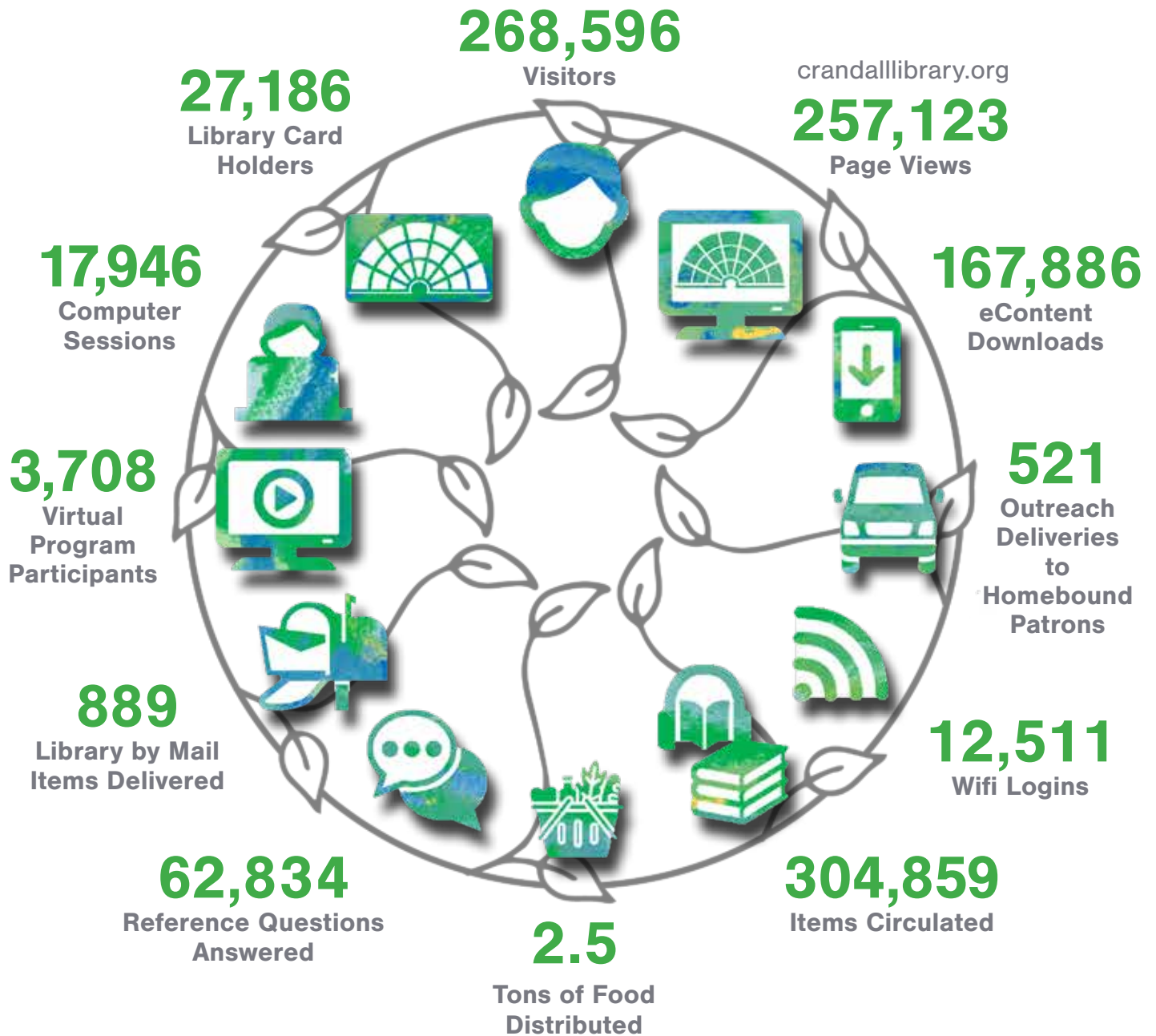
Remember, Crandall Public Library is all about adaptability, equity, and sustainability, all bundled into one fabulous ecology! Once again, thanks go out to the reader, our Trustees, our staff, and our Friends of the Library for your support.

Kathleen U. Naftaly

Director

Connections with Patrons

Patrons connected with the Library in-person, online, by phone, and through Outreach and Library by Mail.



We are proud to have provided you with guidance and direction in using our services.

Youth Services

Childrens & Teens

1,102
Total Programs

21,510
Total Attendance

270
Story Times

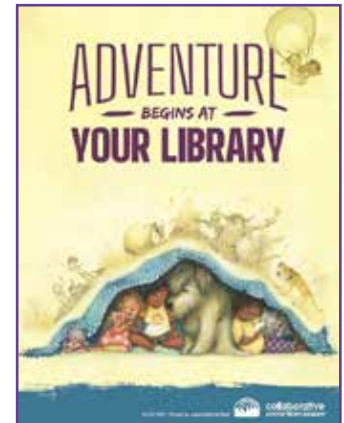
90
Art Classes

107
Tween Programs

80
Play Groups

87
Programs for
School Groups

201
Teen Programs



Mentoring Youth

The Youth Services department was aided by 46 volunteers who served for over 400 hours in 2024. Many of these volunteers were tweens and teens gaining valuable experience assisting with programs and helping maintain materials.

The department also hosted a number of students for internships and work experience through local programs. Students learned about working at the library while providing assistance with special projects in the Children's and Teen Rooms. Two students joined us through SUNY Adirondack's TRIO Upward Bound program, and one student each from Warren County Youth Employment and the Early College Career Academy Business and Entrepreneurship Program through SUNY Adirondack and WSWHE BOCES.

"Adventure Begins at Your Library" Summer Reading Program

Total Registrations:
508 kids, 81 teens

Minutes read (all):
325,926

Prizes awarded:
3,210

- 🍀 Teen Center staff coordinated with multiple non-profits and volunteers for the Martin Luther King Day of Service, including Glens Falls Medical Mission to Guatemala, Amorak Youth, The Mooncatcher Project, and North Shore Animal League Adirondack Region Cat Adoption Center.
- 🍀 Library representation at community events including Queensbury Elementary Family Reading Night, Glens Falls Symphony Orchestra Youth Arts Experience, Gurney Lane Family Fun Day, Center for Early Learning Arts and Literacy Festival, and Warren County 4-H Youth Fair.
- 🍀 Five teens and one staff assisted at events supporting WAIT House and the World Awareness Children's Museum.



Other Teen Center Highlights

Passive programming supplies, including board games, art supplies, playing cards, etc. had a recorded 777 uses by teen patrons. The Teen Center distributed 461 personal care items and snacks. All 2024 personal care items were donated by patrons and community partners including Planned Parenthood and SUNY Adirondack. Snacks were donated by patrons and were supplemented with funds from the Library's program budget. The Teen Center celebrated its "Sweet Sixteen" anniversary with a celebration that showcased 16 years of serving teens in our community.

Other Children's Department Highlights

Grants were received from Stewart's Holiday Match and the Touba Family Foundation to fund the "Family Nights at the Library" project, enabling staff to make outreach visits to local daycares and then host the families for an evening of fun at the library. "Adventure Buddy" stuffed animals were borrowed 34 times to leave the library to go on adventures with young patrons. Kids kept track of their experiences through journals and photos. Our collection of passes to 20 local museums and historic sites helped families visit 280 times in 2024. We had 110 visits from therapy dogs in 2024... that means the dogs enjoyed approximately 550 stories! Our 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program had 60 new registrations and participants read 26,100 books.

Some of our Program Partnerships

Adirondack Ballet Theatre • Saratoga 250 • Moreau Lake State Park • Guiding Eyes for the Blind • BOCES Cosmetology Program • LARAC • Glens Falls Fire Department • WMHT • The Wood Theater • The Society for Creative Anachronism • Dudley Observatory at Siena College



42,152

Reference Questions
Answered

882

Seed Packets Shared

Adult Services

2,360

Adult Program
Attendees

326

Adult Summer Reading
Participants



237

Digital Literacy Classes
Including 189 1-On-1 sessions

2,183

Adult Summer Reading
Books Read



New Programs!

Puzzles, 20 Somethings, Novella
& Graphic Novel Book Groups,
Crafting Saturdays and Steps to
Longevity Walking Group



- We introduced our patrons to our many databases
- Reference staff hosted beginner American Sign Language sessions
- We instructed our patrons on the use of our Cricut
- We helped our patrons collect their thoughts in our Memoir Writing class
- We showed four documentaries during Black History Month
- Carl Heilman instructed us in how to best photograph the eclipse
- We showed *The Deciding Vote* as part of our Women's History Month programming
- We distributed 2,000 eclipse glasses
- Reference staff showed off the Newsbank database
- Author Amy Godine talked about her new book
- We partnered with the Children's Department on an eclipse craft
- We helped our patrons start their seeds
- Dr. Mindy Townsend talked about the Great North American Solar Eclipse
- We hosted over 20 film screenings
- We celebrated Earth Day with the author of *The Blue Zones*
- Our patrons showed their creative side at a paint and sip
- We hosted 3 repair cafés
- We read, discussed, and watched the beloved tale *The Princess Bride*
- Our patrons made bookmarks out of pressed flowers
- We learned about the therapeutic use of horses
- We learned how to care for our skin
- We discussed our communities with local author Bernice Mennis
- We hosted a Smash Bros. video game tournament
- We hosted a Moonbee



We continued to bring great year round programming, exhibits, Live! Folklife concerts, and participatory workshops including Shutter Squad, Bluegrass Jams, Learn to Play the Ukulele, and Family History One-to-One.

28
Performances
2,133
Attendees



1,784
Patrons used
2,467
Items in the
Research Room



38
Ukulele
Lessons

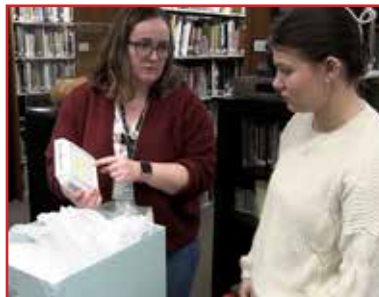


1,044
Patrons
attended

445
Bluegrass
Jam
Listeners

103
Workshops

741.25
hours
Volunteers
& Interns



13
Exhibits

**Social
Media**

Facebook - 94 posts, 669,969 reach; 91,076 engage; 3,896 shares
YouTube in 2024 - 44,906 views; 150 subscribers; 55 new videos
YouTube Totals - 440,490 views; 1,230 subscribers; 573 videos
(since 2014)

Community Engagement Coordinator

A Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC) serves as the Library's principal contact with community groups, organizations, and individuals who may be interested in outreach services and existing programs. The CEC helps design and implement new programming, and communicates with the public about our materials and other offerings.

500

Questions Answered

4

Months Old

200

Business Cards

20

Miles on Van



Sustainable Libraries Initiative

In 2024, Crandall Public Library committed to the Sustainable Libraries Certification program. This program requires the Library to complete a variety of action items addressing environmental soundness, economic feasibility, and social equity. While we hope to complete this certification by 2026, the initial focus has been on items relating to energy, accessibility, waste and materials. For example, the waste audit is shown in two of the photos.

13

Interdepartmental
Team Members

3

Repair
Cafes



Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative

77

Items
Repaired

58

Action Items
Completed



Our Partners

We are grateful to our partners whose connection with the Library brought interesting educational programs and vital services to our deserving community:



American Red Cross



The Library partnered with the Health Promotion Center of Glens Falls Hospital, funded by the NY State Department of Health

The Crandall Trust



Our supporters

Our heartfelt thanks for the generosity of these organizations whose continued support allows us to connect more effectively with our patrons:



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A Smile Is A Valuable Resource

THE TOUBA FAMILY FOUNDATION



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Base

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Edward & Penelope Baccei
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Alice Crotty
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Michael & Carmen Della Bella
Helen Di Fede
John & Mary Anne Doty
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Vicki File
Georgette Folley
Stephanie Gheen

Glens Falls Country Club - Bridge
Club
Glens Falls Symphony Orchestra
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Linda Hare
Carl T. Harrington
Laura B. Haskins
Dr. Kevin Herlihy
William M. Herrlich
Alison Hickey
Elizabeth & Robert Hogan
Philip Homan
Sharon & Bruce Howard
Susan Huners
Ted & Elaine Huntington
Edwin & Sarah Husa
Nancy Hyman
H. Thomas Jarrett
Mrs. Joan Jenkin
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Association Salem Central School
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Rosemary Kapsalis Bodensieck
Peter John Daly
Elizabeth Ellen (Evans) Finch
Mary Jane Gilet
Dr. George Green
S. Harley Harrington
Margo Hyde
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Cynthia Maguire
Enid Ann Mastrianni
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Providing us guidance to connect our resources to our vision: providing programs and services to educate, enrich and encourage our thriving community.

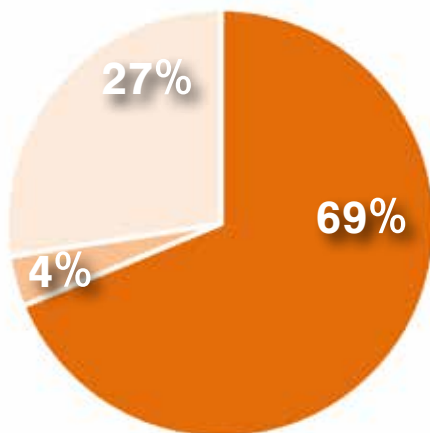
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Income

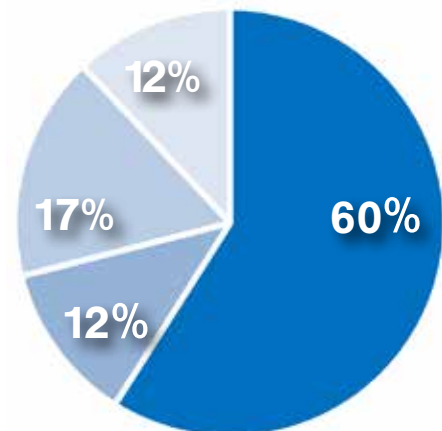


5.42 Million

- Local Public Funds
- New York State Aid
- Other Income (investments, fundraising, fines & grants)



Expenses



5.42 Million

- Support Services
- Building Operations
- Debt Service
- Programs, Service & Collections

Henry & Betsey Crandall Award 2024

We were proud to recognize Dr. John & Pat Schutze's long standing connection and commitment to the Library's Patrons and greater community.



251 Glen St., Glens Falls, NY 12801 • 518-792-6508 • crandalllibrary.org

