

Connect - Learn - Imagine

July 2022 - June 2023



Library Visitors: 116,578

New Library Cards: 1,067

Programs: 988

Program Participants: 30,411

Total Items Circulated: 295,171

Inter Library Loans Received: 608

Inter Library Loans Sent : 1,465



WiFi & Computer Use: 39,762

Database Use: 74,592

***Value of Library Use: \$7,546,384**



LIBRARY SERVICES

JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023

Library Science

Though many people think that library staff get paid to read all day, there is a science to how we run and operate these community organizations. In addition to the Master's Degree required for Librarian positions, there are five laws of library science developed by Dr. R. S Ranganathan, that help guide library theory and practice and are evident in the way libraries serve their communities.

1. Books are for use
2. Every person their book
3. Every book its reader
4. Save the time of the reader
5. The library is a growing organism

This year brought much change our way with the departure of our Director of 15 years, onboarding of new team members, trying out new programs, integrating new technology, and migrating our data into a new integrated library system. Each dollar spent and decision made throughout the FY23 can point back to one of these five laws, with the most flexible and prevalent of the bunch being number five - the library is a growing organism.

In order to remain relevant in this day and age where more and more people have access to the internet, libraries have had to pivot to create a bridge to catch those left in the digital divide and to meet the needs of an ever-changing society.

By monitoring our collection, researching information seeking behavior, participating in interagency initiatives, developing relationships with our patrons, meeting people where they're at with our outreach, supporting the school systems, engaging in legislative work, striving for inclusivity, and continuously adapting to our community's needs we are ensuring the Burlington Public Library's place as a relevant and utilized resource.

Change is not easy, but it is necessary as all growing organisms are in a constant state of change. Keeping our mission statement at the forefront we are able to manage the often murky waters of change by keeping true to the goal of "creating opportunities for all people to connect with others, to learn about the world around them, and to imagine the futures before them."

Bookends: Summer Reading

Summer reading straddles the fiscal year, kicking FY23 off with the last half of Summer Reading in July of 2022. Vacation Thru Time took visitors back to the time of the Pharaoh's in Egypt and was the debut for our new virtual reality headsets. Thanks to this new technology, patrons were able to virtually tour the inside of the pyramids of Giza.

Jumping to the end of FY23, June 2023 took patrons even further back in time to the Jurassic era with life-size and hyper-realistic dinosaurs! Both of these programs are excellent examples of unique experiences that are engaging and support our collection, our mission, and the community.



LIBRARY SERVICES

JUNE 2022 - JULY 2023

Sensory Inclusivity

In October of 2022 the Burlington Public Library was certified as Sensory Inclusive by Kulture City. We are the second library in the state of Iowa to receive this designation.

We took this certification a step further by developing our own Inclusive Collection that now circulates for patrons. Our collection includes memory care kits, sensory processing tools, and accessibility resources.



Story Walk

Thanks to funding from our Foundation, and in partnership with the Burlington Parks & Rec department we were able to purchase and install a permanent story walk in our stunning Crapo Park. This story walk allows for inter-generational reading in a unique setting and will rotate stories seasonally.



Library of Unusual Things

This year we brought two new unusual collections to our line-up of offerings, seeds and puzzles! The seed library launched in February and offers patrons small seed packets that they are able to take home and start their own garden with.



The puzzle library started out as a puzzle swap, meant to last for a month but, due to popular demand has now become a permanent part of our collection.



Friends of the Library

161 volunteers to operate Footnotes Used Book Store

1,377 hours of volunteer time

337 Friends members