

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



SPOKANE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

spokanelibrary.org

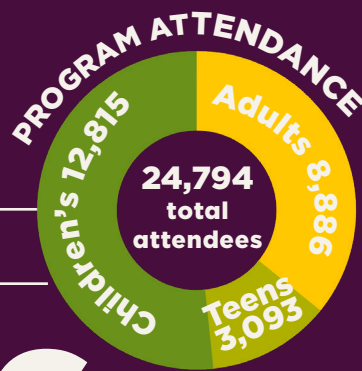
2022

was a year of reconnection. As the community and the world emerged from the pandemic, the Library system resumed normal operations, creating space and opportunities for a population that sought togetherness. After a two-year closure for renovation and pandemic, the Central Library reopened, fully transformed into a 21st century Library.

All Spokane Public Library buildings sit on the traditional homelands of the four bands of the Spokane Tribe of Indians: *sntútʔulixʷi*, *snxʷmeneʔi*, *sc̓qesciłni*, and *sčewíleʔ* (Upper Band, Middle Band, Lower Band, Chewelah Band). Since time immemorial, the Spokane Tribe of Indians has lived and cared for these grounds. Identifying themselves as “*sqélixʷ*,” or “Flesh of the Earth.” We pay our respects to their Elders – past, present, and emerging. We show gratitude to the land, river, and peoples who have been fishing, hunting, harvesting, and gathering here for generations. May we learn from one another’s stories, so that we may nurture the relationship of the People of the Spokane Tribe and to all those who share this land.

2022 BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL LIBRARY VISITORS **629,389**



23

ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE
AT THE HIVE®

1,172,466

Items Checked Out 551,621 DIGITAL + 620,845 PHYSICAL

DIGITAL SERVICES USED

eBooks **202,930**

Audiobooks **185,614**

Videos **116,200**

Music **25,343**

Magazines **21,534**



622
Music Lessons



1,019

Museum Passes Borrowed



2,510
Laptops
Checked Out

45,924

hours of computer usage



150,767

Database Searches



356

1-on-1 Business Consults



1

new local music streaming platform

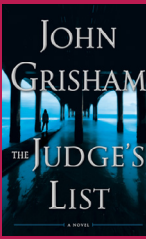
25,165

new library card holders

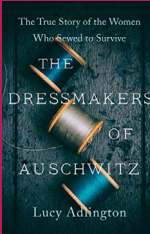
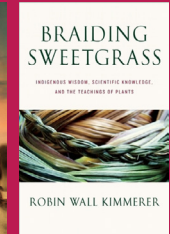
60,000

hours of meeting room usage

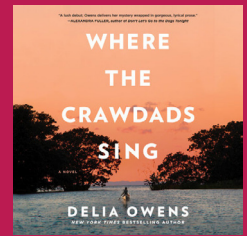
TOP CIRCULATED TITLES



Fiction

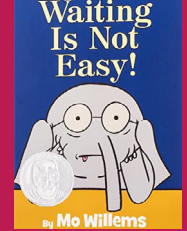


Nonfiction



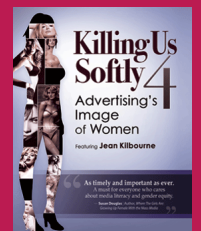
eBook

eAudiobook



Young Adult

Youth



DVD

Kanopy Film 3



41,117

YouTube views



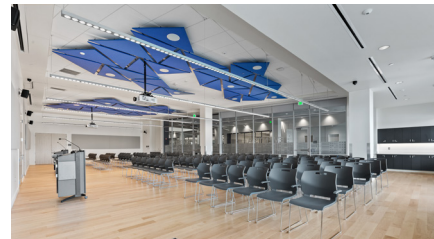
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NEW
LIBRARY
CARD
DESIGNS



CENTRAL LIBRARY GRAND OPENING

After a two-year renovation and pandemic closures, Central Library reopened on July 11, fully transformed into a 21st century library.



The enhanced space includes Media Studios, a Business Lab, the Inland Northwest Special Collections, KYRS radio station, New Leaf Café, River Rumpus Children's Playspace, and meeting spaces packed with events, including the Social Stair and the 300-person capacity nx^wyx^wyetk^w Hall.



GROWING A FARM-TO-TABLE VISION AT SHADLE PARK LIBRARY

When Shadle Park Library reopened after renovation in November 2021, an empty plot of land stood outside the Events room. It was hard to picture a thriving educational garden in the space, but over the next months plants flourished and partnerships bloomed.

Throughout 2022, Juan Juan Moses, Community Educator and Master Gardener cultivated both crops and partnerships with Inland Empire Garden Club, WSU Master Gardeners and Master Composters, Vets on the Farm, Water Wise Spokane, Skyhawks Camps, and more.

By the end of the summer, groups were regularly meeting in the garden and events space to learn all about how to grow and prepare your own nutritious foods.



From empty plot to thriving garden in one season



Garden tours



A cooking demo: farm-to-table in action



The demonstration kitchen



Educational visits for summer camps



Young visitors delighted by garden harvest

Introducing the Welcome Team



This year, Spokane Public Library joined a growing number of libraries nationwide—from Denver to Indianapolis—in adding a full-time social worker to the staff.

After observing an increasing need for additional support for some of our customers that is outside the expertise of traditional library staff, a social worker was hired at Central to lead a Welcome Team to better serve the unique needs of customers who may be experiencing life challenges.

Modeled after the highly successful CARES Team at the Spokane Fire Department, the Welcome Team places interns from Eastern Washington

"I sat and talked with folks during Coffee & Conversations. One man at my table told me: 'When you step into the library the mood just changes. Away from all the tension and fear outside. You can feel like a human being again, and no one judges you on how you look.' He'd been experiencing homelessness for more than ten years since leaving high school."

University's social work program into Spokane Public Library to help connect individuals with the resources they need. A newly created position for a Social Services Manager with a Master of Social Work supervises the internship hours.

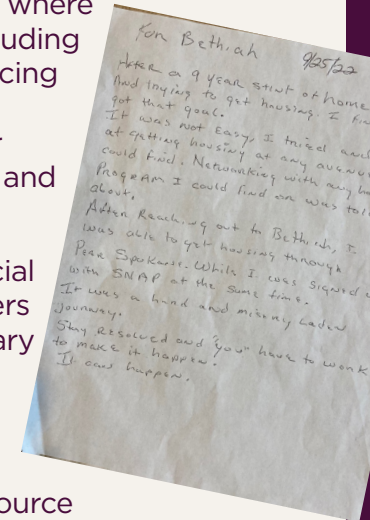
By making this staffing change, the Library is partnering with EWU to make a real difference in our community and ensure that the Library is a welcoming place for all.

Having a social worker on our team has already allowed us to better serve the unique needs of all our customers. The Welcome Team is not only helping people who are experiencing homelessness, but will also serve any population that may be facing life challenges.

Making an Immediate Impact

At times the social service needs in our community seem insurmountable, but since forming the Welcome Team in mid-2022, we're already seeing small impacts including:

- 'Coffee & Conversations' at Central Library where customers, including those experiencing homelessness, can stop by for coffee, snacks, and conversation.
- Scheduling social service providers at Central Library weekly during Community Court.
- Prepared a resource binder for all service desks so staff are better equipped to connect customers with social services resources.
- Connected seven people with housing.
- Canopy Credit Union created one hundred care packages and donated them to the Library to be handed out to members of our community most in need.



**MEDIA STUDIOS
BY THE NUMBERS**
(July–December
2022)



294
Podcast Studio
Bookings



168
Self-Recording
Sessions



228
Video Studio
Bookings



138
Video Educator
Sessions

BRINGING HIGH-END PRODUCTION TO CENTRAL LIBRARY

Getting access to high-end production equipment and facilities is often cost-prohibitive for musicians and creatives, but not anymore in Spokane. With the opening of the Media Studios in Central Library, anyone with a vision and a dream can record and produce on cutting edge equipment for free.

With isolation rooms, a live room, and state-of-the-art soundboard, Spokane citizens can now create the next Grammy-winning album in the **Recording Studio**. Don't know how to play an instrument yet? You can also take music lessons in this space with our Music Education Specialist!

In the **Video Studio**, you can produce films using cameras, editing software, microphones, a teleprompter, and a green screen.

Need a place to meet and record content? Use the **Podcast Studio** to record podcasts, sound bites, and much more. Access state-of-the-art equipment to create your piece.



KYRS Radio now broadcasts from their studio on the 3rd floor of Central in the Media Studios. Tune in at 88.1/92.3 FM.

The Library worked with a local agency, The Woodshop, to develop branding for Lilac City Local, an overarching sub-brand for the library that will showcase all the arts, culture, music, and more produced right here in the Inland Northwest.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2022

Open hours and programming resumed a normalcy in 2022 that we hadn't seen since early 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. From the re-opening of Central Library after renovation, to growing a farm-to-table program at Shadle Park, to the Library forming a Social Services team, the Library celebrated many accomplishments in 2022.

More Staff Hired

The Library added 30% new staff in 2022, to ramp up for new locations opening, extended hours, and to bring the vision of a 21st century Library to life. The Library added specialized staff such as a youth environmental educator, youth arts educator, adult current affairs specialist and a writing education

specialist. We also added a special events coordinator to better serve those using our expanded event space.



Events Resume

The community sought reconnection at in-person events including 'When Freedom of Expression is at Risk,' a conversation with former Boundary County Library Director Kimber Glidden who resigned after censorship pressures. Other events included Lilac City Live, Silent Writing parties, and many youth programs.



Toward A Greener Future

Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations were installed at The Hive® and Central Library. The Spokane Regional Transportation Council (SRTC) in partnership with Avista and local jurisdictions in Spokane County received a \$2,500,000 grant from the Washington State Department of Commerce to install electric vehicle charging around the region.

Ongoing Bond Construction

South Hill and Indian Trail closed in November 2021 to prepare for renovation and were closed for the duration of 2022.



33 Artists Market

Nearly 600 people visited The Hive® in November for the first-ever 33 Artists Market. Artists-In-Residence from The Hive as well as artists from around the region were able to display and sell their pieces and create economic vibrancy prior to the holiday season.

Deepening Partnership with Spokane Public Schools

Spokane Public Library began to manage a central collection that spans across all SPS middle schools and public libraries increasing the quality and

size of the collection while stretching the public's dollar. The Library is able to flex the open-source catalog system launched in 2021 to make this a reality. Teen events at the Hillyard library, co-located at Shaw Middle School, are well attended.



Public Art Installation

The final piece of permanent art was installed at Shadle Park Library as part of the percentage of public funds committed to the arts. Artist Jasmine Iona Brown of Tacoma, WA, created a multifaceted sculpture of diverse people reading.

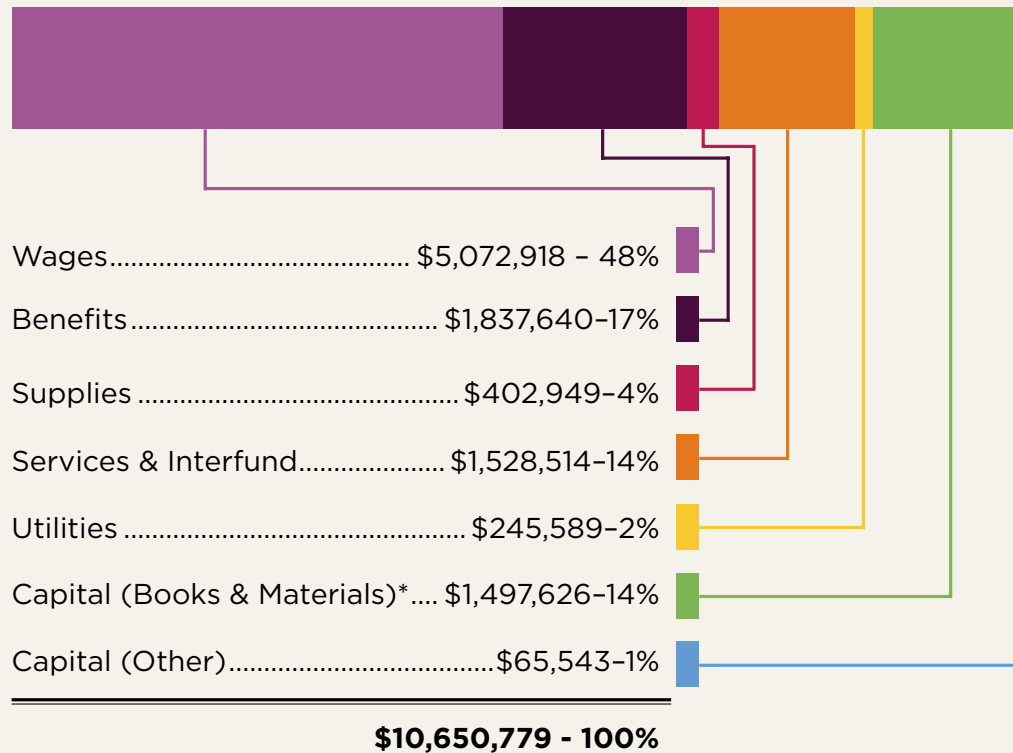


DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

The Library continued to deepen internal work on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in 2022.

- Staff at all levels met regularly to take a deep dive into Racial Equity Principles with DEI consultant Roo Ramos.
- Staff received a monthly DEI newsletter educating and informing staff on DEI issues and learning opportunities.
- Staff read and discussed a selection of DEI-related books including: *Disability Visibility*, *Gender: Your Guide*, *Evicted*, and *This Chair Rocks*.

2022 Expenses



* The capital books & materials includes \$358,881 purchased with bond dollars.

Bond Expenditures (excluding Capital Books & Materials).....\$15,627,286

2022 Spokane Public Library Board of Trustees

Lara Hemingway, Chair
Casey Linane-Booey IV, Vice Chair
Jim Kershner
Mary Starkey
Nathan G. Smith

Library Executive Director: Andrew Chanse

The Spokane Public Library Board of Trustees
meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Friends of the Spokane Public Library

An all-volunteer group dedicated to funding special
projects for the library through funds raised from
used book sales and membership fees.

go.spokanelibrary.org/friends

Spokane Public Library Foundation

A nonprofit organization governed by a Board of
Directors, the Foundation enhances programming,
services, and resources offered by the Library
through advocacy, partnerships, and private dollars.

spokanelibraryfoundation.org



spokanelibrary.org