

WHEATON PUBLIC LIBRARY



2023



ANNUAL REPORT

# from the director



The Wheaton Public Library Board and Staff wrapped up 2023 by celebrating “100 years of happy” as a city tax-supported library. The

library has truly come a long

way since 1923. Gone are the days of quiet and being shushed as WPL today is a strong, robust community hub for all to collaborate, create, learn, discover, grow, and make noise! It makes my heart happy to see how people use the library in many different ways. I am proud to report that 384,284 people used the library and 1,133,243 items were checked out in 2023. This Annual Report will highlight data and showcase how the library was used, in-house and virtually.

While library usage grew, so did the WPL’s community engagement. I always say that **Public Libraries + Community Partnerships = Success!** Below are some of the successes we had in 2023:

- WPL celebrated the Andy Warhol Portfolios: A Life in Pop / Works from the Bank of America Collection, presented by the Cleve Carney Museum of Art and the McAninch Arts Center at the College of DuPage, by displaying four prominent Wheaton faces on the Library’s west plaza windows: Glennette Tilley Turner, Jonathon Blanchard, Marget Hamilton, and Jim Belushi.
- The library’s west plaza hosted three dinosaurs as part of the Downtown Wheaton Association’s Dinos Downtown Wheaton exhibit that brought 10 life-sized animatronic dinosaurs to Downtown Wheaton.
- The Wheaton Chamber of Commerce and WPL sparked great collaboration and learning with Ignite which consists of monthly business, career, and lifelong learning programs.
- Over 200 people donned their favorite plaid and enjoyed 18 holes of wacky, fun mini-golf at the WPL and Wheaton Park District Mad Fore Plaid fundraiser.

- A Butterfly Donor Wall was installed on the lower level. This new donor wall added another opportunity for donors to give to the WPL Endowment, which is managed by the DuPage Foundation. More information on how to make a lifetime gift to the library endowment can be found at [wheatonlibrary.org/endowment](http://wheatonlibrary.org/endowment)

I am pleased to say 2024 will be an exciting year with the library moving forward to repair and enhance the west plaza as well as working towards planning projects to enhance the main floor, youth, teen, and tech spaces. Always know that your voice matters in how the library grows. My door is always open for suggestions and ideas.

**Betsy Adamowski, Executive Library Director**

## mission statement

Wheaton Public Library is a welcoming destination that connects the community to literacy, information, ideas and experiences. Grow with us!

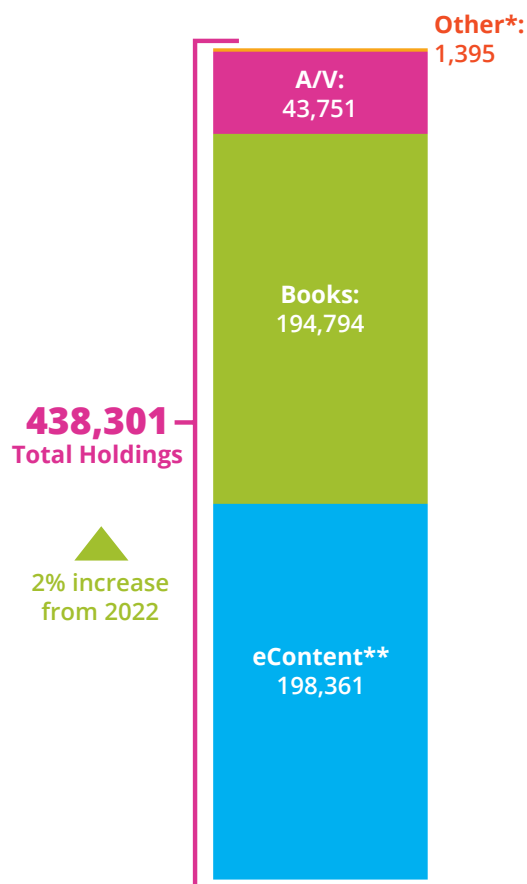


### Library Board of Trustees

Laurie Metanchuk, *President*  
Alan Herbach, *Vice President*  
Vallari Talapatra, *Secretary*  
Christine Fenne, *Treasurer*  
Robert Lyon  
Simone Morton  
Robert Rammer  
Stephen Siemer  
Kathryn Staron

# collections

Materials Held: Adult, Teen & Youth

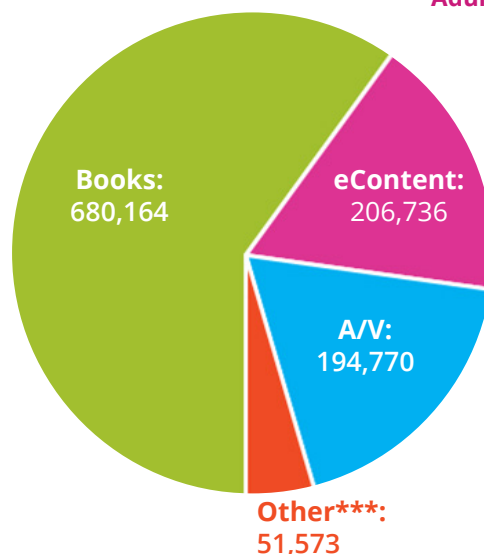


\*Other = Magazines, Newspapers, Video Games, Learning Games, CD Kits, Read Along Books

\*\*eContent = Digital Books, Audiobooks and Magazines from Libby & Boundless

# circulation

**1,133,243**  
Total Items Loaned:  
Adult, Teen & Youth



\*\*\*Other=Magazines, Video Games, CD Kits, Read Along Books, Discover Packs, Tech Equipment, and Interlibrary Loan

1.7% increase from 2022



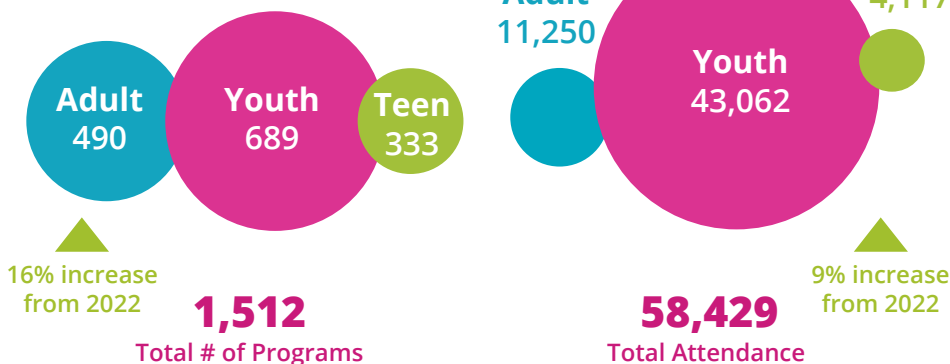
5% increase from 2022

**29,712**  
Total Cardholders

**3,534**  
New Cards Issued

# programs

Adult, Teen & Youth

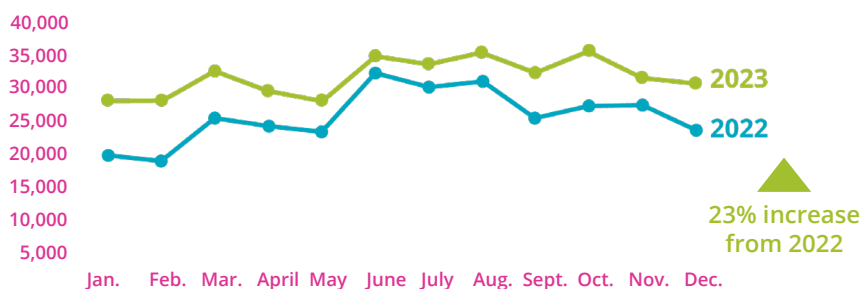


# service highlights

Computer Users	28,518	15%	▲
Mobile Print Jobs	5,680	35%	▲
Notary Transactions	1,329	11%	▲
Questions Asked	56,400	8%	▲
Study Rooms Usage	11,805	18%	▲
Total Program Attendance	58,429	9%	▲
WPL App Downloads	6,853	63%	▲

# in-person visits

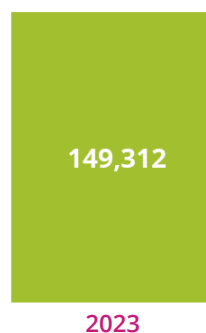
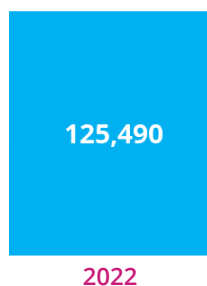
**384,284**  
Total in-person visits



# virtual visits

## Includes

At-home Database Use  
Chat Questions  
eContent Users  
Email Questions  
eNews Unique Opens  
Social Media Likes, Shares, etc.  
Virtual Program Attendance  
YouTube Views



19% increase from 2022





*"I can't say enough about this library. The programs are thoughtfully planned and the staff is above and beyond ... What a gem within our community."*

*"You are the best library ever. I've been coming here since 1961!"*



*"...thank you so much for all your help! My mom is 95 and has vision problems. You opened up the ability for her to read again."*



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