

**WHEATON PUBLIC
LIBRARY**



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

grow with us

mission statement

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

from the director



Betsy Adamowski

BETSY ADAMOWSKI, Executive Library Director

“I am thrilled to share with you the Wheaton Public Library 2024 Annual Report. It makes me smile to say that 2024 is the start of the library’s 2nd century as a tax-supported city library.

When my staff and I look at the past history of WPL, we are inspired by how it began and how it grew to be one of Wheaton’s most popular destinations for all ages to gather, learn, grow, and most importantly, have fun. I am pleased to say, with confidence, that WPL continues that legacy. I love watching people use WPL in so many different ways. Tables are filled with bridge players, knitters, people doing puzzles, tutors working with adults and children, teens working on projects, people taking video meetings, and yes, people sitting quietly and reading a book. The library is truly a robust, inspiring, and fun place to be!

Please enjoy this 2024 Annual Report, as it represents the work that the Library Board, staff, and I did together. Always know that your voice matters to us and my door is open for suggestions and ideas.”

Some highlights for 2024:

Welcomed **The Bean** as our new concessionaire for the Library’s café.

Developed a new Spotlight destination on the main floor that will provide readers easy access to trending topics and popular titles in a modern, browsable area that will open in March 2025.

Hired a full-time technology instructor to meet the demand for more computer classes and tech assistance.

Held our first Star Wars Day event for all ages with over 400 in attendance.

Launched a business networking group.

Started a support and resource group for parents of children with autism and neurodivergence in partnership with North Shore Pediatric Therapy Group.

Added Aspen Discovery overlay to our online catalog in order to expand search capabilities beyond our collections to include events and online resources.

Replaced the Library’s chiller.

Increased programming for seniors.

Distributed over 3,400 free solar eclipse glasses to the community.

Coordinated Toy Swap, Craft Swap, Seed Swap, and Plant Swap programs, as well as a permanent Puzzle Swap Shelf, to promote sustainability.

board of trustees

Laurie Metanchuk, *President*

Alan Herbach, *Vice President*

Vallari Talapatra, *Secretary*

Christine Fenne, *Treasurer*

Robert Lyon

Simone Morton

Robert Rammer

Stephen Siemer

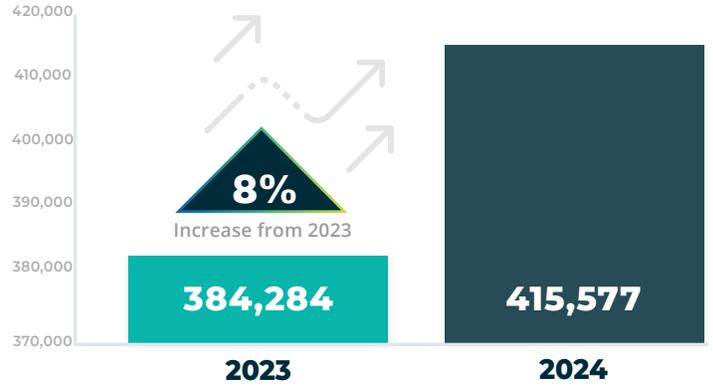
circulation



- **647,253**.....Books
- **253,225**..... eContent
- **179,518**..... Audio & Video
- **52,013**..... Other ***

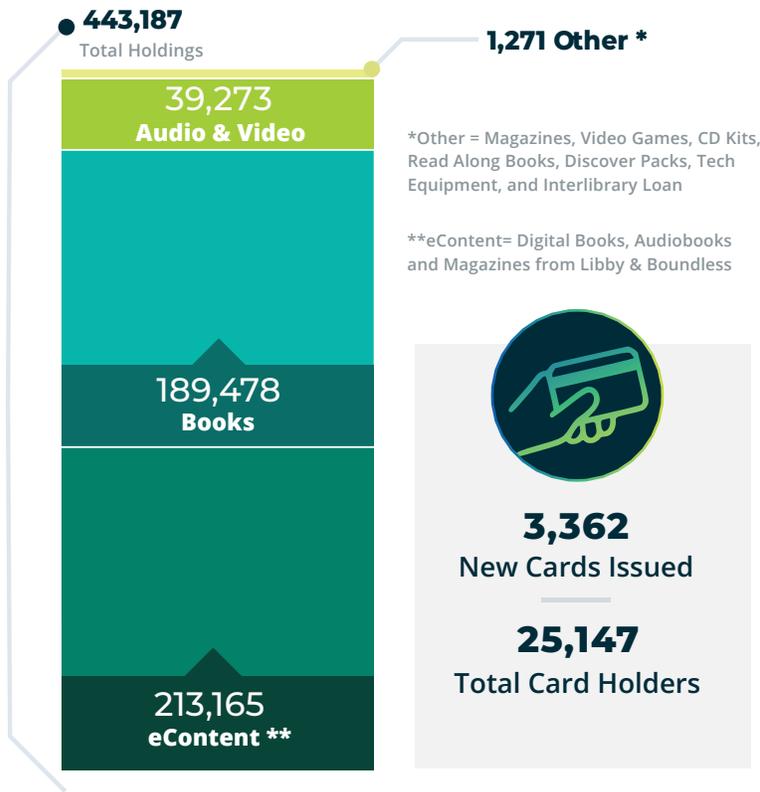
***Other = Magazines, Video Games, CD Kits, Read Along Books, Discover Packs, Tech Equipment, and Interlibrary Loan

in-person visits



collections

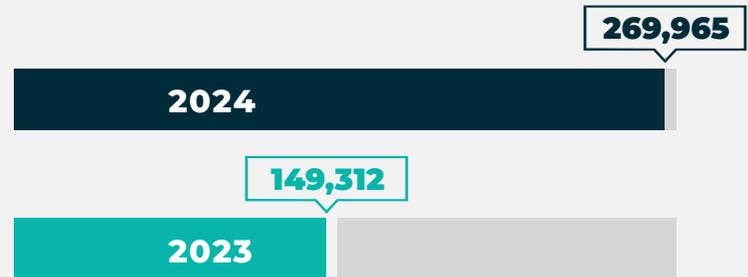
Materials Held: Adult, Teen & Youth



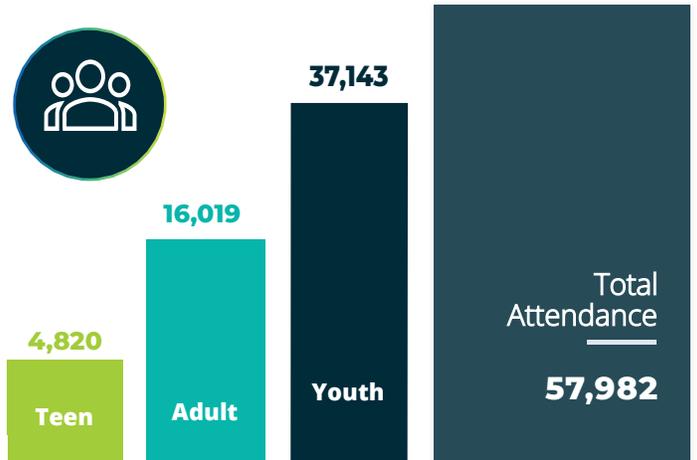
3,362
New Cards Issued

25,147
Total Card Holders

virtual visits



program attendance



service highlights

1:1 Assistance	181	35.07%	▲
3D Print Jobs	769	67.54%	▲
Computer Users	33,454	17.31%	▲
Mobile Print Jobs	8,741	53.89%	▲
Museum Passes ****	451	11.63%	▲
Notary Transactions	2,169	63.21%	▲
Questions Asked	107,853	91.23%	▲
Study Room Usage	11,919	0.97%	▲
Teen Volunteers	149	9.56%	▲
WPL App Downloads	8,937	30.41%	▲

****Top five museum passes include Brookfield Zoo, Cantigny Park, Chicago Botanic Garden, Griffin Museum of Science and DuPage Children's Museum

THANK YOU, FRIENDS OF THE WHEATON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Your continued dedication, hard work, and support has provided the Wheaton Public Library with many wonderful concerts and programs for all ages.



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The Wheaton Library offers so many wonderful workshops and classes along with all of the literature resources. I'm so grateful to be a part of a community that has such a phenomenal library.



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We appreciate the excellent varied programs and opportunities presented by the Wheaton Library!



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What an incredible job the Wheaton library brings to their patrons and beyond.

