

Annual Report 2022

New Chapter

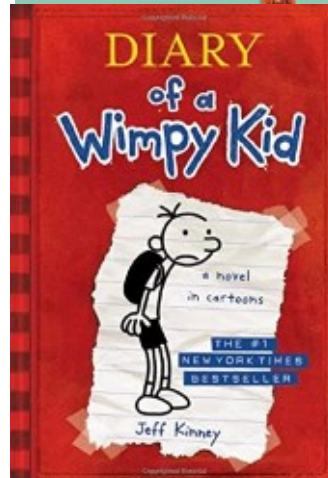
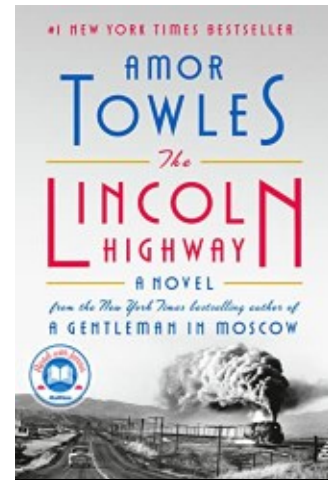


Carver County Library is beginning a new chapter in 2023. With the promises below, we state our dedication to superior customer service at Carver County Library.

The promises below were derived from the work we did on our updated Strategic Plan for 2023-2027, and reflect the voices of our staff members.

It is our hope that these promises will continue to guide the work we do in our communities and with our patrons.

- Create a welcoming and accessible environment for all.
- Strive to provide an enriching, inclusive, and safe library experience.
- Maintain a well-trained and skilled staff.
- Provide resources reflecting our communities and diverse points of view.
- Be an engaged partner in our communities.
- Be inspiring and innovative.
- Promote the joy of reading and lifelong learning.
- Reach out to underserved communities.
- Be good stewards of resources we receive.
- Present enriching events and programs.



The Year in Statistics

Top Checkouts of 2022

Adult Books

1. *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles
2. *The Last Thing He Told Me* by Laura Dave
3. *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult
4. *Verity* by Colleen Hoover
5. *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah

Adult eBooks

1. *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah
2. *The Last Thing He Told Me* by Laura Dave
3. *Apples Never Fall* by Liane Moriarty
4. *Verity* by Colleen Hoover
5. *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid

Teen Books

1. *The Summer I Turned Pretty* by Jenny Han
2. *The Inheritance Games* by Jennifer Barnes
3. *It's Not Summer Without You* by Jenny Han
4. *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* by Suzanne Collins
5. *Mockingjay* by Suzanne Collins

Kids Books

All from the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series by Jeff Kinney. As in 2021, Kinney wrote all top 5 kids books.

1. *Greg Heffley's Journal*
2. *Big Shot*
3. *The Last Straw*
4. *Wrecking Ball*
5. *Old School*

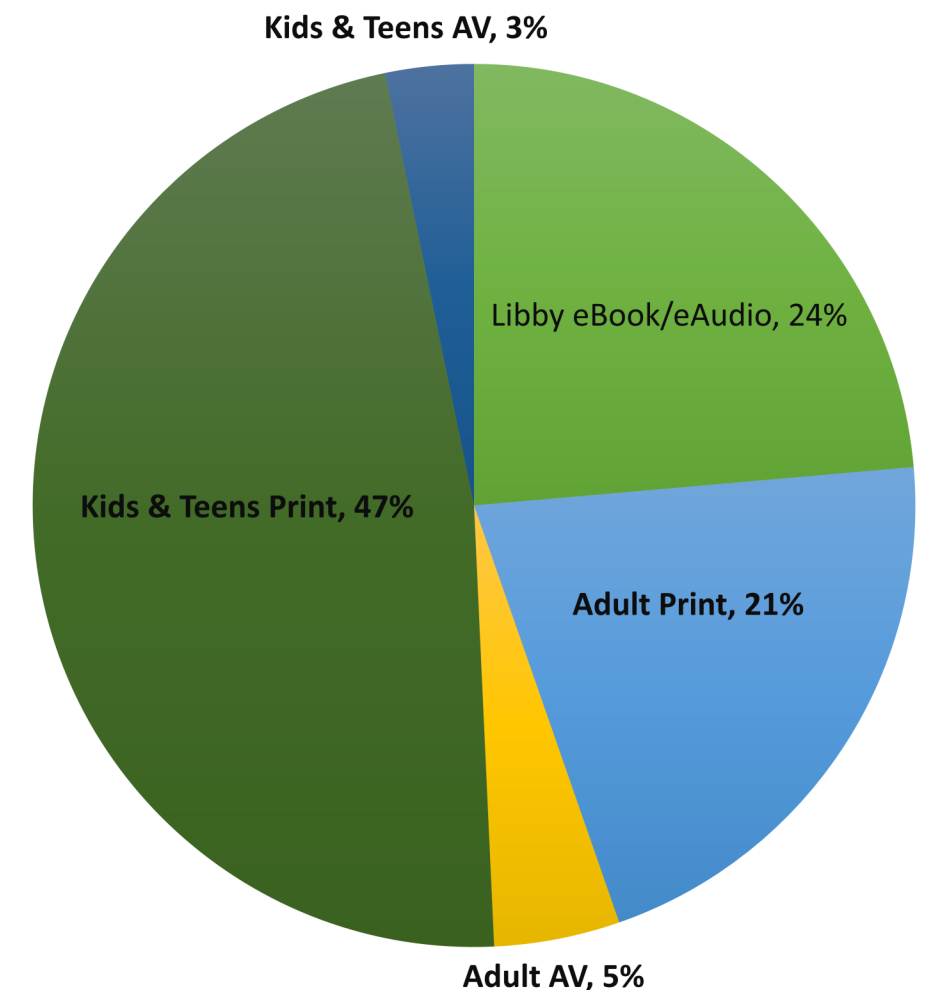
Check Out These Numbers

We had **over a million** total checkouts in the Carver County Library System this year, see below for more.

This was driven by a 26% increase in Libby eBook and eAudio checkouts. As a whole the consortium of libraries we're part of for Libby was **#1 in the world** for the total number of checkouts.

It also helped that we had a 23% increase in the number of library cards issued.

- Libby eBook/eAudio: 250,924
- Adult Print: 223,699
- Adult AV: 48,982
- Kids & Teens Print: 504,684
- Kids & Teens AV: 34,363
- Total: 1,062,652



Team Highlights

Adult Services

- Hosted notable authors, highlights include Abby Jimenez, Tia Williams, Adam Minter, and Nick Hornby. Events were hosted online, in-person, or both in some cases.
- Partnered with Carver County Parks, CareerForce Chaska, Carver-Scott Master Gardeners, and other community organizations to provide a wide array of programs throughout the county.
- Expanded marketing and technology, including the ability to watch a video of the class after it was done, which made for our most successful year of Jobs and Small Business programming ever.
- Increased the number of participants in Winter Reads by more than double of those from the previous year, and almost triple the number of reviews.

Collection

- Increased circulation of materials due to changes made to the easy reader, juvenile graphic novels, and adult graphic novel collections.
- Increased the circulation of eBooks and eAudiobooks accessed mostly through the Libby app by 69%, aided by a shift in the collection budget.
- Ensured that the library's youth collection contained materials related to diversity, equity, and inclusion through an ongoing diversity audit.
- Continued another year of mobile hotspots which saw a circulation increase of 43% with funding from the Dahlke Grant.

Communications

- Outperformed larger metro area library systems on all social media platforms we're on.
- Invited more people to attend programs and events through targeted emails, especially Jobs and Small Business classes.
- Innovated new ways to provide book recommendations using social media.
- Increased our newsletter subscriptions to over 10,000 people.

Generations

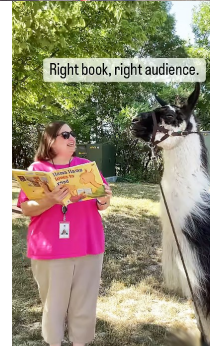
- Established this year as a new team focused on providing intergenerational programming.
- Piloted a program for Grandparents Week at all locations.
- Created and implemented a series of programs for interactions between seniors and teens in the summer.
- Assembled and facilitated the "Adulting" video panel program which received over 200 views total.

Technology

- Upgraded projection equipment for events and programs in our largest meeting space in Chanhassen Library.
- Purchased new iPads and tripods to support hybrid programming and other library activities.
- Updated our credit card readers to new data security standards, and were the first county entity to do so.

Youth Services

- Moved to providing more in-person programs, such as arranging Summer Reading performers at various outdoor locations.
- Expanded emphasis on reconnecting teens with library services, including outreach, the Chanhassen Teen Advisory Board, and Teen book club.
- Provided STEM activities, including STEM Tuesdays and additional STEM kits for families to check out.
- Expanded special in-library family reading themed program, "Read, Stay, Play" to all branches.



Dahlke Grant Awards 2022

As we mentioned last year, in 2021 Carver County Library became the beneficiary of a substantial gift from the estate of county resident and library patron Charles Dahlke. A portion of this gift supports an annual grant program for library projects, programming, and services. The grant money is used for such things as library pilot projects, enhancements to current specialized programs and projects, and enhancement to specialized services. In 2022, grants were awarded to the following 2023 projects.

- Purchasing materials, developing outreach materials, and offering outreach to support non-English Language Learners with an emphasis on Spanish speakers.
- Purchasing a collection of board and other non-digital games for programs.
- Purchasing and installing mobile device charging stations at Chanhassen, Chaska, and Victoria Libraries.
- Purchasing health literacy materials and funding accompanying programs.
- Expanding the Seed Library into more locations.
- Training and resources for diverse storytimes.
- Funding for youth STEM collection and programming.
- Continuing our mobile wireless hotspot program.

