Discover Connect Learn

FY2021 Annual Report

Drake Community Library
930 Park Street
Grinnell, Iowa 50112
drakelibrary.org

Mission

Empowering the community through responsive services and programs, Drake Community Library will help all patrons access information, exchange ideas, and engage in lifelong learning and cultural enrichment.
~approved by the Board of Trustees, December 2017

2020/2021 Overview

We started fiscal year '21 with a derecho and finished the year with the continuation of a global pandemic. Thankfully the City of Grinnell has withstood these pressures and the Library has been able to respond with modified and creative services to meet the needs of our community of library users. Increasing online engagement with virtual programming; curbside delivery; electronic books, magazines, and films; a revamped website; and Internet access through mobile hotspots have aided our community's resiliency.

Authoritative, science-based information is the best cure for health related questions. The Library fielded many inquiries regarding COVID vaccination availability and current pandemic conditions. Our library policies reflected best practices with respect to social distancing in order to keep staff safe while continuing public services.

Youth Department meets the challenge of the pandemic

Pivot, transition, and flexibility describe our programming and services during the pandemic. While the building was closed to the public, online programming took place during the week with story times and special events on Saturdays. The special event programming was virtual and included stories and activities about world languages (French, Spanish, Arabic, and Hindi), feelings, kindness, being thankful and Halloween. Our programming was possible because of community members and community collaborations who graciously volunteered their time and talents.

Summer programming was a hybrid model with both virtual and in-person programming in collaboration with Tilly Woodward from the Grinnell College Museum of Art and AmeriCorps. Story Time Art in the Park was held twice a week at Grinnell College Museum of Art and the Farmer's Market at Central Park. Services were also provided for area summer camps and the school district's SLICK program.

Teens across Iowa including several from Grinnell participated in the Teen Battle of the Brains Smackdown. This was a virtual trivia event that was held on 3 separate occasions to give Iowa teens a chance to connect during online schooling last year.

Highlights from the Archives

A collection of photos and memories of the Longhorn, a favorite Grinnell restaurant (1961-97), can now be viewed on the library's Local History website. The archive pamphlet file collection is now searchable online via Access to Memory, a collaborative local history database with Grinnell College. Archive materials were essential in renewed celebrations of Grinnellians Edith Renfrow Smith and Cornelia Clarke.

Facility Management, FY21

The geothermal system received a major upgrade to the HTML interface used for remote monitoring as well as several new controllers and sensors to optimize operations. The derecho further damaged the already compromised large Maple tree south of the Library, necessitating its removal. In the fall, two Bur Oaks were planted to replace the Maple tree. Assorted shrubs, pines, and crabapple trees were planted on the south side of the parking lot to provide a green border.

Population Served (2020 census)

Grinnell Residents 9,564
Poweshiek County Rural 4,742
Kellogg.. 606
Malcom 270
Oakland Acres 176
Searsboro 147
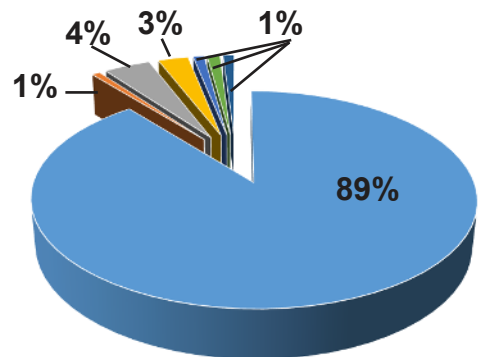
Stay Cool & Read A Lot

Due to library closure mid-March thru May and the limitations of curbside delivery from June thru mid-August, library statistics have suffered. However, DCL cardholders have access to an excellent array of digital resources courtesy of Friends of Drake Community Library. This has proven to be a lifesaver during the pandemic. Usage of digital books, films, and informational databases increased an average of 30% when compared to "normal" times. 10,446 individuals hold library cards at DCL for an average of 6,311 library visits per month prior to the Coronavirus library closures. The numbers below give you a statistical glimpse of library usage throughout FY2021.

	FY2021	FY2020	FY2019
Total Circulation	**60,823**	**82,750**	**94,147**
Books, Magazines	38,421	58,976	73,510
Audio, Video	1,589	5,106	7,104
eResource Downloads	20,813	18,668	13,533
Computer Use			
Computer Sessions	2,885	9,026	14,266
Wireless Sessions	10,284	8,753	(new statistic)
Meeting Room Use			
Total Events	106	1,031	1,457
Total Attendance	1,150	13,092	19,784
Programming			
On-site Programs	23	285	318
On-site Attendance	994	5,574	7,787
Virtual Programs	143		
On-site Attendance	2,100		

Library Income

- City of Grinnell (prop. taxes & CLN)- $521,278
- Gifts & Grants - $4,204
- County - $24,284
- Friends of DCL - $15,809
- Fines, fees, misc. (including insurance collections) - $5,705
- State - $6,819
- Contracting Cities- $5,791

Note: Gift/grant income reflects amount expended during FY21 from reserves.

Library Expenditures

- Salaries & Training incl. compensation study- $344,395
- Building & Equipment - $128,689
- Collections and Databases - $54,483
- Computer Systems & Hardware- $35,589
- Programming - $18,850
- Supplies (office, custodial, postage)- $11,884