


# FY2021 FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021



A photograph of a man and two children sitting around a small, round, white table with blue legs in a library or community center. The man, wearing a grey t-shirt with 'FORGETTOWN UNIVERSITY' printed on it, is looking down at an open book. A young girl with braided hair, wearing a light blue t-shirt, is also looking at a book. A young boy in an orange shirt is seen from the back, also looking at a book. The table is covered with several colorful children's books. In the background, there are blue walls, a desk with a computer, and green and blue armchairs.

**“In the nonstop tsunami of  
global information, librarians  
provide us with floaties and  
teach us to swim.”**

***-Linton Weeks***



# CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR	4
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR	5
HIGHLIGHTS	7
STATISTICS	9
INVESTING IN LIBRARY LEADERS	10
FCPL 2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN	11
ACCESS	13
INNOVATION	15
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT	17
TECHNOLOGY	19
LITERACY	21
ON THE HORIZON	23
FAIRFAX LIBRARY FOUNDATION	24
THANK YOU	25

# MESSAGE FROM Fran Millhouser

The past year has been a challenging one for us all. Our Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) staff has done a tremendous job ensuring cardholders have access to our entire circulating collection and terrific programming amid the pandemic. Thank you to all FCPL staff for your dedication to serving residents through express, curbside and virtual services and the reopening to our “new normal” in June.

Likewise, our cardholders have displayed patience and understanding as we have adapted to constantly changing circumstances. We are pleased so many of you have found diversion, enjoyment and support through FCPL this year and look forward to resuming a full slate of activities when it’s safe to do so.

Unsurprisingly, our cardholders’ use of eMaterials is up 17% in FY2021. Borrowing items through OverDrive, and its user-friendly Libby app, is an easy and convenient way for cardholders to enjoy eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines. The advent of new technology often brings to light legal questions, and eMaterials are no exception. In April, the FCPL Board of Trustees formed an ad hoc committee dedicated to ensuring Virginia public libraries have the same access to eMaterials as they have historically had to printed books, tapes, CDs and magazines.

The board is also aware that most other library systems in the Washington, D.C., area have gone fine-free, no longer charging cardholders for overdue materials. We have formed another ad hoc committee to study this issue in Fairfax County. In the fall of 2021, the board will make recommendations to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors based on that committee’s work.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees I’d like to thank our loyal cardholders and library users for their support and affirmation of the importance of the public library!



**Fran Millhouser**  
Chair  
Fairfax County Public Library Board of Trustees





# MESSAGE FROM Jessica Hudson

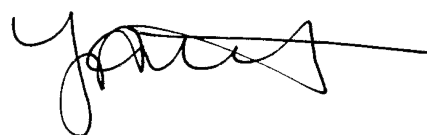
Thank you for your support of the Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL). Operating during a global pandemic continues to present challenges that we strive to reframe as opportunities. Along the way, we have endeavored to continue offering services and materials in keeping with our strategic plan.

We have worked to expand access to library services and foster an environment of innovation — our first two strategic goals. In some cases, pandemic circumstances pushed us to think creatively about how the library can support the community. Pre-pandemic, FCPL provided spillover wireless connectivity outside branch buildings. During the pandemic, residents required strong internet connections to work and to educate themselves, and we knew we could provide better access. As of April 2021, all public branches without parking garages have purposeful, expanded exterior wireless access.

A partnership with Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) took on new significance in FY2021. One of the largest school systems in the nation, FCPS serves a student population of just under 190,000. In 2018, FCPL piloted the Library Equity Access Pass (LEAP) program in one school pyramid. In October 2020, FCPL and FCPS expanded LEAP to every student enrolled in FCPS. What began as a program intended to provide another option if the child's regular library card was blocked has blossomed during the pandemic into an important avenue of access in support of students' virtual and in-person learning.

After months of social distancing and quarantines, residents are eager to gather when and where it's safe. When FCPL branches resumed normal operations June 5, library visitors began enjoying new hours that allow FCPL staff to offer in-person programs on several weekday evenings, give cardholders time to pick up or drop off materials outside nine-to-five business hours, and enable community organizations to reserve available public spaces on evenings and weekends. We have been excited to welcome visitors back into our branches for a full complement of services.

Keep reading our annual report to learn more about this dynamic year!



**Jessica A. Hudson**  
Director  
Fairfax County Public Library





# HIGHLIGHTS



## “New Normal”

When FCPL branches resumed normal operations June 5, 2021, visitors began enjoying new hours. Regional branches are now open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. Community branches are now open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Community branches are not open on Sundays. These new hours allow FCPL staff to offer in-person programs on several weekday evenings, give cardholders time to pick up or drop off materials outside nine-to-five business hours, and enable community organizations to reserve available public spaces on evenings and weekends.



## Congratulations, Trustee Smolen!

In September, the Virginia Library Association (VLA) awarded Miriam Smolen its 2020 Trustee Library Award, which recognizes distinguished service to libraries or a library in Virginia. Smolen joined the FCPL Board of Trustees in 2014 and is its immediate past chair; she served on the board as the Providence District representative.

Smolen worked diligently throughout her tenure, building relationships and bridging divides, to accomplish her present and future goals of both expanding ongoing funding for FCPL and expanding community access to library services by increasing branch hours.







## Food for Fines and Read Away Your Fines

Late fees continue to be barriers to services for some library users. For the third year, FCPL cardholders were invited to donate nonperishable food or toiletries to remove late fees from their accounts during the months of November or December. More than 900 people contributed, removing a total of \$9,448 from library accounts.

The American Library Association celebrated National Library Week April 4-10. As during previous library weeks, FCPL offered cardholders of all ages a chance to Read Away Your Fines. Every 15 minutes of reading during this week, which people tracked online using Beanstack, removed \$1 in fines. Each cardholder could read away a maximum of \$15. Nearly 200 cardholders participated, removing a total of \$650 from accounts.

## Honoring Former Trustee Will Jasper

Fairfax County and Virginia state officials gathered in May to honor Willard Owen Jasper, a longtime FCPL trustee for Lee District.

First appointed to the board in 2004, Jasper served as a trustee for 16 years before he passed away Oct. 4, 2020, after a brief illness.

A conference room at the John Marshall Library in Alexandria now bears a plaque in memory of Jasper. The current FCPL Board of Trustees voted to confer the honor.

"Naming a free, public space after Will is appropriate, as in life he felt it was important that community members had a place to gather," said Fran Millhouser, chair of the FCPL Board of Trustees.



*Will Jasper's family, including grandson Isaac Feldman, wife Darhyl, daughter Nyka and her husband Steven.*





# STATISTICS



**+16%**

\*Places FCPL in the top 40 most active library systems in North America. OverDrive usage refers to the circulation of eBooks and eAudiobooks through the website and app.

\*\*Database usage refers to site visits and article downloads from FCPL's 90+ online databases.







# eCirculation

## 2,722,866



**eBooks**  
**1,463,930**  
+12% from FY2020



**eAudiobooks**  
**1,149,051**  
+21% from FY2020



**eMagazines**  
**108,843**  
+61% from FY2020

**10,091,979**  
**TOTAL**  
**CIRCULATION**  
+13% from FY2020



**509,065**  
**CARDHOLDERS**

**EARLY**  
**LITERACY**  
**PROGRAM**  
**ATTENDANCE**  
**+138%**  
from FY2020

**43,280**  
**NEW**  
**ACCOUNTS**  
**REGISTERED**  
+1.2% from FY2020

**\$5.14**  
**IN VALUE**  
**BACK FOR**  
**EVERY**  
**DOLLAR**  
**PUT INTO**  
**YOUR**  
**LIBRARY**

**\$211,069,033**  
**TOTAL VALUE TO**  
**THE COMMUNITY**  
+4.3% from FY2020

**171,400**  
**CURBSIDE**  
**VISITS**  
New in FY2021

Return on Investment  
(ROI)



# INVESTING IN LIBRARY LEADERS

## Staff Excellence Awards

In March the FCPL Board of Trustees honored several staff members with its annual Staff Excellence Award.

Library users nominated their favorite staff members in February, and a board committee selected winners from nearly 100 nominations. Staff members from branches throughout the county and library administration were honored.

### 2021 FCPL Staff Excellence Award Winners:

- Kevin Brooks – *FCPL administration*
- Wanla Freer – *Reston Regional*
- Jan Harrod – *FCPL administration*
- Ginger Hawkins – *Patrick Henry*
- Andrew Pendergrass – *Pohick Regional*
- Sujatha Perakalapudi – *Reston Regional*
- Charlotte Reineck – *Martha Washington*
- Barbara Rice – *Kingstowne*
- Kylie Sparks – *Chantilly Regional*
- Sailaja Vedula – *Oakton*
- Laura Wickstead – *City of Fairfax Regional*

Honorable mentions went to the entire curbside pickup team at Pohick Regional Library and to Sarah Souther at the George Mason Regional Library.

Congratulations to all the winners, and thank you for your service to Fairfax County.

## Encouraging FCPL Talent

After a hiring freeze on noncritical positions lifted in FY2021, FCPL worked to fill a backlog of vacant positions. Nearly 75% of the positions filled in FY2021 were filled by internal candidates.

## American Library Association Annual Conference

During the American Library Association's annual conference, held virtually in June, FCPL Director Jessica Hudson and Deputy Director Christine Jones participated in a "fireside chat" style presentation. Joined by Anne Arundel County Public Library Director Skip Auld and Board of Library Trustees Chair Will Shorter. The group discussed how library boards can successfully address controversy and community feedback.

Strategies discussed included: clearly defining roles of the board and library administration; encouraging boards to establish and follow best practices (i.e. Robert's Rules or other meeting procedures); working to ensure full community representation on the board; and establishing and following a communications plan.





# FCPL 2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

## MISSION

We build community and promote literacies through programming, community spaces, technologies and collections of educational and recreational resources.

## VISION

FCPL is the essential (re)source to inform, engage and inspire our community.

## VALUES

We are anchored by the following values which guide us in our vision and the fulfillment of our mission:

### COLLABORATIVE <sup>Ⓒ</sup>

We build meaningful relationships.

### INNOVATIVE <sup>Ⓐ</sup>

We embrace and encourage innovation and creativity.

### SERVICE-ORIENTED <sup>Ⓒ</sup>

We provide excellent service in every transaction.

### ADAPTABLE <sup>Ⓐ</sup>

We anticipate and embrace change.

### COMMUNITY FOCUSED <sup>Ⓒ</sup>

We reflect and celebrate our community.

### LEARNING FOCUSED <sup>Ⓒ</sup>

We promote educational and personal growth.

### POSITIVE <sup>Ⓐ</sup>

We express a genuine attitude of enthusiasm.

<sup>Ⓒ</sup> Indicates Core Value. <sup>Ⓐ</sup> Indicates Aspirational Value.

## GOALS



Expand access to library services.  
Strategic Focus: **ACCESS**



Foster an environment of innovation.  
Strategic Focus: **INNOVATION**



Design events and services that engage our diverse and dynamic community.  
Strategic Focus: **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**



Integrate technology that will enhance and expand the library experience.  
Strategic Focus: **TECHNOLOGY**



Provide literacy services and materials across age ranges.  
Strategic Focus: **LITERACY**





## Expand access to library services.

Curbside Pickup

Library Equity Access Pass (LEAP)

Best Community Facility

Language Access

Welcome/Bienvenido

## FCPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022

 ACCESS

 INNOVATION

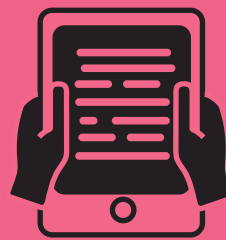
 CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

 TECHNOLOGY

 LITERACY



## Spanish-Language Digital Collection



**9,132**  
CHECKOUTS



# ACCESS

## Curbside Pickup

Despite a 62% year-over-year decrease in visits to FCPL's physical locations due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, circulation in FY2021 increased by 13%. Greater interest in the digital collection accounts for some of the growth, and FCPL also instituted a new curbside service model in response to the pandemic. Cardholders called ahead to ensure contactless pickup of their items.

## Language Access

FCPL staff members work hard to make library services accessible to the entire community, 13.2% of which speaks Spanish. Booklists featuring Spanish-language titles are highlighted on both the library catalog homepage and on FCPL's OverDrive digital collection landing pages. These booklists are promoted in Spanish on the library's Twitter account, and an article discussing FCPL's expanding Spanish-language collection appeared in Spanish in the online version of Branch Out, FCPL's quarterly publication.

FCPL also offers storytimes for children in both bilingual formats and in languages other than English. Spanish-English and Korean-English storytimes are both popular programs, as is a German-language storytime option.


## Best Community Facility

Reston Pride named Reston Regional Library Best Community Facility in August 2020.



Fairfax County Public Library

## CURBSIDE PICK UP



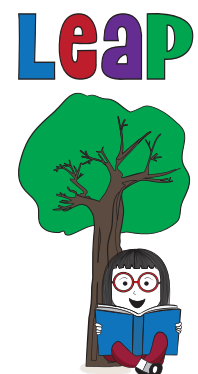
- 1 PLACE HOLD  
online or by phone
- 2 PARK & CALL  
wait in vehicle
- 3 COLLECT ITEMS  
keep 6' distance

## Welcome/Bienvenido/أهلاً وسهلاً/ Chào mừng/환영/欢迎

Staff created a series of engaging welcome videos in Spanish, Arabic, Vietnamese, Korean and Chinese to introduce users to the library and its basic features. These videos are housed on FCPL's YouTube page as playlists.

## Library Equity Access Pass (LEAP)

FCPL began a partnership in 2018 with Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) to offer students fine-free library accounts. FCPS is one of the largest school systems in the nation, with a student population of just under 190,000. FCPL piloted the Library Equity Access Pass (LEAP) to kindergartners in one school pyramid before expanding to all students within that pyramid. In October 2020, FCPL expanded LEAP to every student enrolled in FCPS.



What began as a program intended to provide children a fine-free option blossomed into an important avenue of access during the pandemic. Students share only their name to access their LEAP accounts. These virtual accounts dramatically lower barriers to access and create a dynamic partnership between the public library and the school district.





**Foster an environment  
of innovation.**

Virtual Programming: An  
Evening With Kristin Hannah

eBook of the Month

Virtual Reading Buddies

Community Arts Collection

## FCPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022



**ACCESS**



**INNOVATION**



**CIVIC  
ENGAGEMENT**



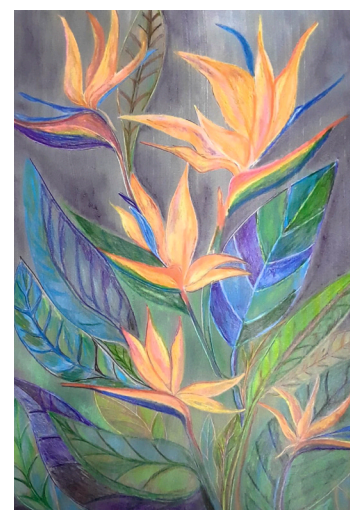
**TECHNOLOGY**



**LITERACY**



## An Evening With Kristin Hannah



Above: "Birds of Paradise"  
mixed media painting  
submitted to FCPL's  
Community Arts Collection by  
Lucrecia de Leon-Di Stasio.

# INNOVATION

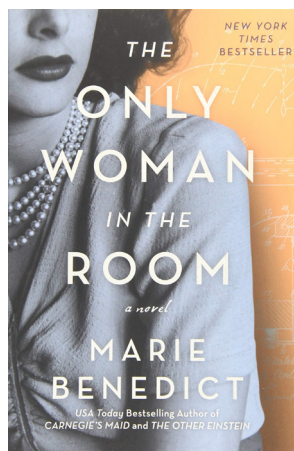
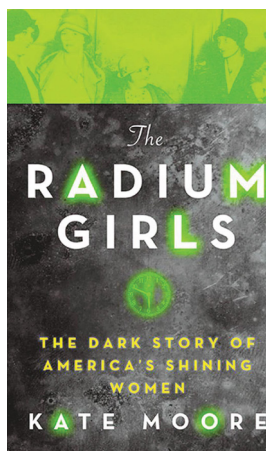
## Virtual Programming: An Evening With Kristin Hannah

FCPL initially turned to virtual programming as a way to offer cardholders library services amid COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on in-person gatherings. Virtual programming proved incredibly popular, and FCPL is now committed to a hybrid programming model, offering both virtual and in-person programs. Virtual programs can reach much larger audiences than their in-person counterparts.

In partnership with Fall for the Book, FCPL hosted Kristin Hannah, bestselling author of *The Nightingale*, *Firefly Lane*, *Winter Garden* and many other titles. Before a record-breaking virtual audience of 3,122 people from around the country and the globe, NPR Washington's Tayla Burney facilitated An Evening With Kristin Hannah.

## eBook of the Month

In January FCPL introduced an eBook of the Month initiative. Each month the library offers hand-selected eBooks for unlimited use — no holds, no waiting! These eBooks can be used for reading with friends, as virtual book club picks, or just because the public likes to read what library staff members suggest! One of June's books, *Radium Girls* by Kate Moore, was the year's the most popular eBook of the Month, followed by January's *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict.



## Virtual Reading Buddies

To help support children learning at home during the COVID-19 pandemic, FCPL began offering Virtual Reading Buddies. Children in grades K-6 are paired with a high school student volunteer who helps them practice their reading under library staff supervision. Offered in both English and Spanish, this program introduces young readers to the public library and encourages a love of reading.

## Community Arts Collection

In December 2020, FCPL launched the Community Arts Collection online, which allows Fairfax residents to upload their creations to the library's BiblioBoard platform and share them with the world. Artists can upload to either the Paintings & Illustration or the Photography collections.



Left: "Seaside" painting submitted to FCPL's Community Arts Collection by Davoud Bahrami.



Above: "Stand by Me" painting submitted to FCPL's Community Arts Collection by Cindi Berry.





**Design events and services that engage our diverse and dynamic community.**

**Health Department Partnership**

**Diversity and Inclusion Programming**

**IGNITE! Small Business Bootcamp**

**One Community, Many Stories**

**Great Discussions**

**FCPL  
STRATEGIC PLAN  
2018-2022**

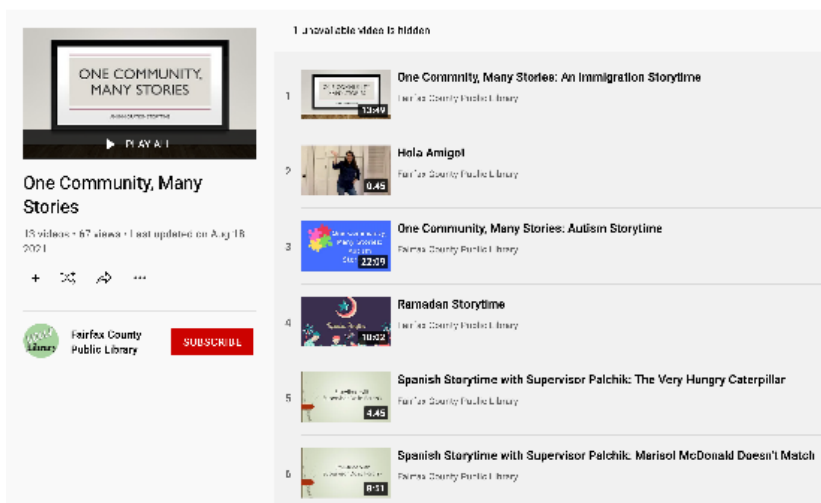
 **ACCESS**

 **INNOVATION**

 **CIVIC  
ENGAGEMENT**

 **TECHNOLOGY**

 **LITERACY**



**KWAME ALEXANDER**



# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

## Health Department Partnership

Library branches serve as community gathering spaces and information hubs. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, in partnership with the Fairfax County Health Department, various FCPL branches served as testing sites for their communities. More recently, the health department offered vaccination clinics at various library branches throughout the county.

## Diversity and Inclusion Programming

FCPL continues to highlight and celebrate the diversity of our community. A new Diversity and Inclusion Programming (DAIP) committee, introduced this fiscal year, includes representatives from library branches and administration. In FY2021, DAIP focused its efforts on three months of recognition: Black History Month in February, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May, and PRIDE Month in June. One of the most popular Black History Month events in 2021 featured New York Times Best Seller and Newbery Award-winning children's and young adult author Kwame Alexander (pictured at left), answering questions and reading his work. The Richard Byrd and Oakton Friends of the Library groups partnered with the Thomas Jefferson Library to sponsor this event.

## IGNITE! Small Business Bootcamp

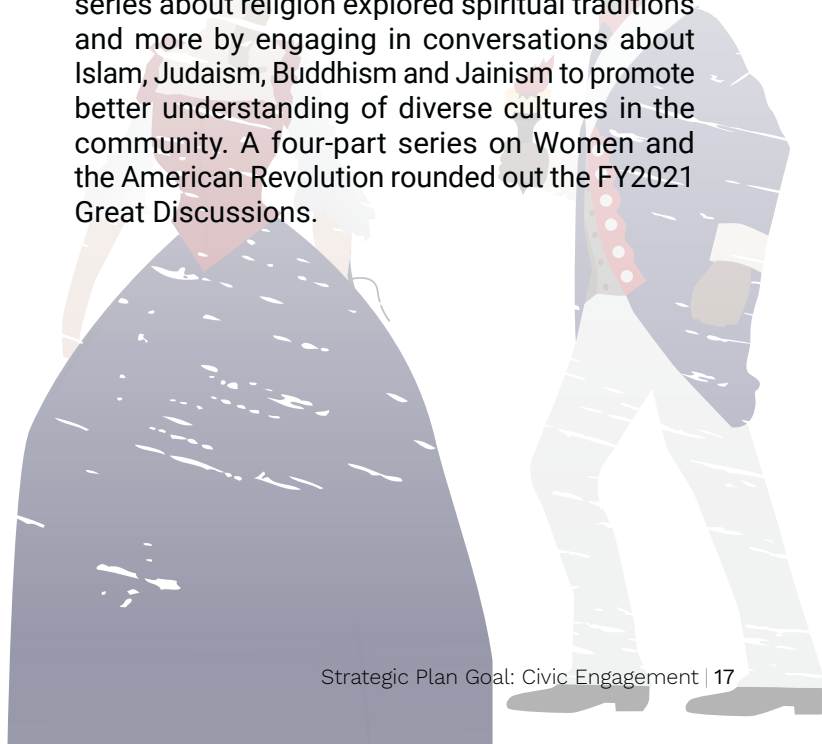
In partnership with the Town of Vienna and Vienna Business Association, FCPL offered a free, eight-session bootcamp for entrepreneurs and existing small business owners. The virtual sessions, held over a four-week period in the spring, covered topics like creating a business plan, financing, finding a prime location, marketing, hiring and managing employees, and successfully launching a new business.

## One Community, Many Stories

Recorded storytimes available on FCPL's YouTube channel are part of the library's One Community, Many Stories initiative. Each storytime features a member of a different community reading a story and talking about their lived experiences. One reader shared about life with autism, another spoke about Islam during a Ramadan storytime, a cantor performed songs and stories related to Jewish life, and Providence District Supervisor Dalia Palchik recorded storytimes in both English and Spanish.

## Great Discussions

FCPL introduced its Great Discussions series in September 2020 to promote community conversations about compelling and current topics. A Giant Awakes™: Understanding China in the Modern World kicked off these virtual dialogues. This series of five lectures put China's emergence as a world power in relation to the United States into context. In the next series, Slavery and the American Revolution, Dr. Richard Bell, associate professor in history at the University of Maryland, explored the American Revolution from the unfamiliar perspective of enslaved and free African Americans. A Great Discussions series about religion explored spiritual traditions and more by engaging in conversations about Islam, Judaism, Buddhism and Jainism to promote better understanding of diverse cultures in the community. A four-part series on Women and the American Revolution rounded out the FY2021 Great Discussions.







Integrate technology that will enhance and expand the library experience.

Wi-Fi Expansion

Chromebooks

Text Your Library!

Winter Reading Challenge

## FCPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022



ACCESS



INNOVATION



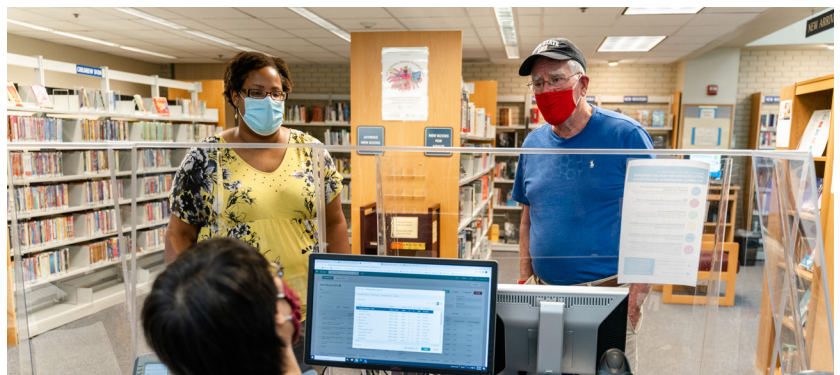
CIVIC  
ENGAGEMENT



TECHNOLOGY



LITERACY



## WINTER READING CHALLENGE



# TECHNOLOGY

## Wi-Fi Expansion

Pre-pandemic, FCPL's interior Wi-Fi signals spilled over into branches parking lots, providing some amount of exterior Wi-Fi access. During the pandemic, when students and adults alike required strong connectivity to work and to educate themselves, FCPL strove to provide better access. As of April 2021, county-owned FCPL branches without parking garages have exterior Wi-Fi signals. Patrons quickly found them and are using the service regularly.

## Chromebooks

FCPL cardholders are now able to check out Chromebooks for use at home. Chromebooks are available to adult cardholders at the five regional branches participating in a pilot program: Centreville, George Mason, Reston, City of Fairfax and Sherwood.

## Text Your Library!

FCPL users are now able to seek guidance in conducting research, support using library databases, and information about library programs and services via text. Ask Your Library staff answer texts sent to 571-556-5025 in real time 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## Winter Reading Challenge

FCPL offered a two-week winter reading challenge for the first time this fiscal year. The initiative, designed to introduce a new online tracking platform called Beanstack, ran from Jan. 11-25. The winter reading challenge offered reading-related virtual and at-home activities for preschool, school-age, teen and adult readers. FCPL readers logged 39,602 minutes of reading during the challenge!







Provide literacy services  
and materials across  
age ranges.

Highlighting FCPL's  
Collection

Digital Materials

Summer Reading Challenge

Health Literacy

Political Literacy

## FCPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022

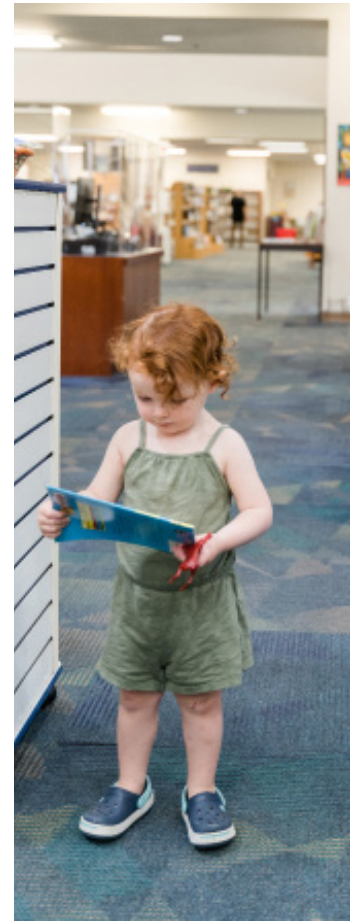
 **ACCESS**

 **INNOVATION**

 **CIVIC  
ENGAGEMENT**

 **TECHNOLOGY**

 **LITERACY**



# LITERACY

## Highlighting FCPL's Collection

To supplement FCPL's programming efforts around heritage and identity, the collections marketing team ensures relevant booklists appear on the library's catalog homepage and are featured on its OverDrive landing page. FCPL librarians curate each list for a specific age range and interest. Within the past year, list topics included: Dismantling Systemic Racism; Disability Awareness Month Picture Books; Health Care Heroes; and the Lunar New Year.

## Digital Materials

FCPL cardholders increasingly turn to eTitles for their reading pleasure. FY2021 saw 2.629 million checkouts from OverDrive, the service FCPL uses to facilitate digital borrowing. Usage climbed from 2.198 million checkouts the year before and 1.914 million in FY2019.

## Summer Reading Challenge

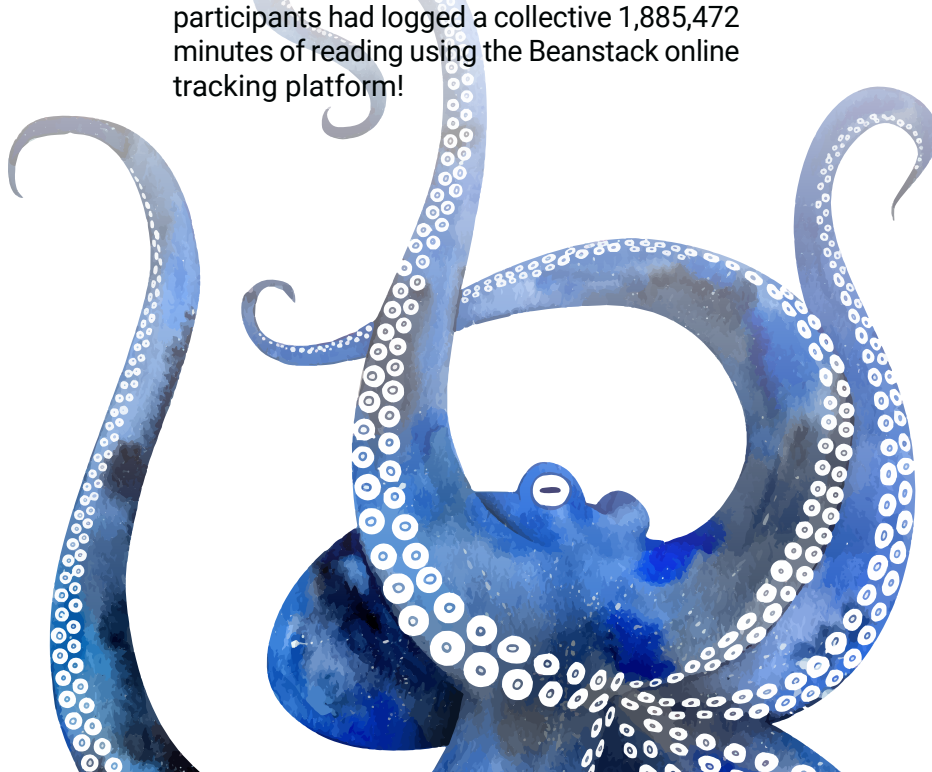
FCPL's 2021 summer reading challenge tracked minutes read rather than books completed. Tracking minutes makes the summer reading challenge more equitable for reluctant readers and those who aren't confident in their abilities. By June 30, 4,660 participants had logged a collective 1,885,472 minutes of reading using the Beanstack online tracking platform!

## Health Literacy

In partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, six FCPL branches collaborated to host a multi-part virtual series educating people with Alzheimer's and their caregivers about related issues and available resources. Topics included: Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia; Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body; Responding to Dementia-Related Behaviors; and Warning Signs of Alzheimer's.

## Political Literacy

With federal and state offices and referendums on the ballot in 2020, FCPL offered political literacy education. Programs included "Your Vote, Your Voice: Know Your Voting Rights" with the ACLU of Virginia and "Your Vote, Your Voice: Make a Plan to Vote" with the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area. 2020 also marked the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment granting women the right to vote. To mark this milestone, FCPL also hosted "Voting Victors: Women 'Sheroes' and the Right to Vote" and "Voting Voices: Book Read and Discussion" for teens.



# TAILS™ AND TALES

## Summer Reading Challenge



# ON THE HORIZON

## A Growing Branch

FCPL's Lorton Library branch remained closed throughout FY2021 as construction continued on a new building. The new facility, expected to open in 2022, will be co-located with the new Lorton Community Center. The library will increase from 10,000 to 16,000 square feet and will include expanded children's spaces, a teen room, a Wi-Fi laptop bar, an expanded quiet study room, new group study rooms, and expanded meeting space.

**LIBRARY  
CLOSED FOR  
RENOVATION**



## eBook Advocacy and Fines Review

In April 2021 the FCPL Board of Trustees formed ad hoc committees to explore two issues affecting library operations. The eBook Advocacy Committee chaired by Trustee Gary Russell is reviewing issues related to the library's procurement, retention and legal language regarding eMaterials. The Fine Review Committee chaired by Trustee Sujatha Hampton is reviewing the assessment and collection of fines on overdue library materials.

## Bond Referendum

In the November 3, 2020, general election, Fairfax County voters approved a \$90 million library bond referendum. The funds will be used to renovate or build four libraries: \$15 million for the George Mason Regional Library; \$23 million for the Patrick Henry Library; \$18 million for the Sherwood Regional Library; and \$34 million for a future Kingstowne Regional Library.

## Year of Literacy

FCPL plans to dedicate 2022 as its Year of Literacy. Each month will focus on a different subcategory of literacy, including sports literacy in March (expect fun March Madness-style activities!), financial literacy in April, and political literacy in October. Stay tuned for updates on our Year of Literacy programming.





# FAIRFAX LIBRARY FOUNDATION

## 27 Years of Fundraising

The Fairfax Library Foundation (FLF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable and educational organization committed to providing supplementary support to FCPL. The foundation, while reinforcing the need for continued and increased public support for the library, serves as a catalyst for attracting private funding from individuals, businesses, organizations and foundations to enhance library services for our community.

Since 1994, FLF has existed with the sole mission of supporting and enhancing the largest public library system in the Commonwealth of Virginia – FCPL.

## Special Events

- FLF's first Cinema in the Community event, Clue'd into the Library, took place in October 2020 and exceeded initial attendance expectations. The second Cinema in the Community event held in May 2021 sold out all presale tickets, with attendance reaching full capacity.
- The foundation sponsored Fall for the Book's Virtual Conversation With Tommy Orange in October 2020, which hosted more than 200 attendees.
- FLF partnered with Culinaria Cooking School in Vienna for a Let's Cook Together! virtual cooking class in February 2021

## Fundraising and Donor Support

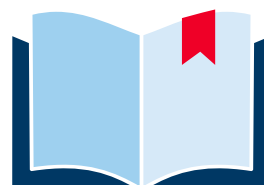
- 801 donors made 1,360 donations.
- FLF raised \$317,953.
- FLF's indirect appeal increased by 23.18% from FY2020 to FY2021.
- FLF's state tax appeal increased by 43.63% from FY2020 to FY2021.

## Books and Educational Support

- FLF spent \$22,218.50 on 6,502 giveaway books purchased for FCPL's early literacy programming.
- \$53,130.75 funded 33 scholarships and 23 American Library Association staff registrations.
- FLF's partnership with Amazon Wishlist resulted in \$4,651.53 worth of books donated to FCPL's collection.

## Online Programming

- 4,628 unique visitors made 6,261 visits to FLF's website, [www.fairfaxlibraryfoundation.org](http://www.fairfaxlibraryfoundation.org).
- FLF resources helped create 190 storytime videos for FCPL's early literacy audience.



FairfaxLibrary  
FOUNDATION

# THANK YOU

The Fairfax County Public Library Board of Trustees extends its thanks to library cardholders and Fairfax County residents for their flexibility and support this year. FY2021 brought a lot of challenges, and we appreciate the public for understanding and adapting along with us.

Our sincerest gratitude goes to FCPL's entire staff that continued to offer virtual programming while also planning in-person events, filled curbside bags while also greeting customers in branches, and worked hard every day to provide library services.

We appreciate the continued support of the many Friends groups associated with our branches. Despite the challenges of the past two years, these groups have worked hard to find new ways to support our libraries.

Many thanks to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for its commitment to our mission, values and strategic plan and for its support of our staff. We appreciate your leadership and support as FCPL continues to safely provide library services to the public.

## Board of Trustees



**Fran Millhouser**  
*Chair/Mason District*



**Brian Engler**  
*Vice Chair/Braddock District*



**Priscille Dando**  
*Fairfax County Public Schools*



**Keith L. Foxx**  
*Lee District*



**Sujatha Hampton**  
*Dranesville District*



**Sheila Janega**  
*Hunter Mill District*



**Suzanne S. Levy**  
*City of Fairfax*



**Jane Miscavage**  
*At-Large*



**Phillip Rosenthal**  
*Springfield District*



**Gary G. Russell**  
*Mount Vernon District*



**Miriam Smolen**  
*Providence District*



**Liz Walker**  
*Sully District*



## Dial-A-Story

FCPL launched Dial-A-Story in April 2021, allowing people to call in and listen to stories read by FCPL librarians in both English and Spanish. This service enables parents and caregivers who are limiting screen time or who don't have access to the internet for virtual storytimes to access read-alouds for their children. Stories are geared to children ages 3 to 5 and will be added in two-week rotations. Board members have also recorded stories; dial 703-246-BOOK (2665) now to listen!





/fairfaxcountylibrary



/fairfaxlibrary



@fairfaxlibrary



@fairfaxlibrary



Fairfax County Public Library  
12000 Government Center Parkway  
Suite 324 • Fairfax, VA 22035  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library)



A Fairfax County, Va.  
publication  
October 2021



To request reasonable  
ADA accommodations,  
call 703-256-3800, TTY 711