


FY2022 FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

your Fairfax County Public
Library
Imagine • Discover • Connect

A background image showing several children wearing face masks and paper crowns with leaf cutouts. They appear to be in a classroom or activity room, focused on a task. The image is slightly faded to allow the text to be prominent.

“LET CHILDREN READ
whatever they want and
then talk about it with them.
If parents & kids can talk
together, we won't have as
much censorship because
we won't have as much fear.”

– Judy Blume

IN THIS ISSUE

MESSAGE FROM FRAN MILLHOUSER	4
MESSAGE FROM JESSICA HUDSON	5
HIGHLIGHTS	6
STATISTICS	8
SUPPORTING LIBRARY STAFF	12
FCPL 2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN	15
ACCESS	16
INNOVATION	18
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT	20
TECHNOLOGY	22
LITERACY	24
ON THE HORIZON	26
FAIRFAX LIBRARY FOUNDATION	28
THANK YOU	29

image: Children create paper during a craft event held during our Sherwood Regional branch's 50th anniversary celebration.

MESSAGE FROM FRAN MILLHOUSER



The Fairfax County Public Library continues to serve as a community and civic asset dedicated to free access to information, and the Board of Trustees supports the services offered to the many diverse communities through the county at all 23 branches.

As trusted community hubs, the libraries partnered with the Virginia Department of Health and its Supporting Testing Access through Community Collaboration program to distribute COVID-19 rapid tests. Through this program library staff distributed more than 45,000 tests to Fairfax County residents.

To ensure that the fear of owing money would not be a barrier to anyone to use the library, the Board of Trustees approved the elimination of fines on overdue materials. Like other library systems with a fine-free policy, our borrowers are returning materials for others to use.

On behalf of all the trustees I'd like to express our deep gratitude to library staff for the services they provide every day, especially during the challenges of the recent pandemic. As always, the people behind the desk make FCPL a welcoming and amazing place.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "FE Millhouser".

Fran Millhouser
Chair
Library Board of Trustees

MESSAGE FROM JESSICA HUDSON



One of the most significant changes our library experienced in many years occurred last December, when the Fairfax County Public Library Board of Trustees voted for a policy change that eliminated fines on most materials. This change, which went into effect Jan. 1, 2022, is making significant progress toward the library being accessible for all Fairfax residents.

This year brought many other changes to FCPL. Our evolving response to the COVID-19 pandemic led us to partner with the Virginia Department of Health in distributing rapid tests and inspired new initiatives, including Library To Go and our continued investment in online programming. We hope Fairfax residents can continue to engage with their local branches in whatever way makes sense for their families.

Our launch of the Kanopy streaming service this February and Conserve Kits this summer shows that libraries are so much more than books! We are here for you whether you want to watch a documentary or start some home-improvement projects. Flip to pages 22 and 19, respectively, to learn more about each of these new resources.

Read on to find out about the many milestones FCPL hit this fiscal year: reaching 15 million checkouts from our digital collection, hosting the innovative Traveling While Black exhibit and so much more.

We are so thrilled to be your trusted resource for materials, programs, literacy support and more!

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jessica'.

Jessica A. Hudson

Director

Fairfax County Public Library

HIGHLIGHTS

Moving to a Fine-Free Library Service Model

At its Dec. 8, 2021 virtual meeting, the Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) Board of Trustees approved a new policy that ends the practice of charging overdue fines on most library materials. The new policy took effect Jan. 1, 2022.

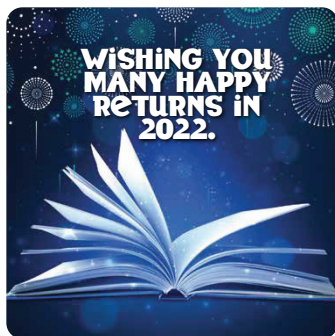
Overdue fines remain in effect for some special collections and interlibrary loan materials.

Equity drove FCPL's shift to a fine-free model of library services; the library's analysis showed that overdue fines disproportionately affected young people and those in low-income areas. Pre-pandemic "blocked" cards (accounts not allowed to check out materials due to having more than \$15 in fines) were about 17% of the total cardholder population. "Blocked" youth cards (accounts for users under the age of 18) were 23% of the youth cardholder population.

"Blocked" card numbers were higher in areas served by Reston Regional Library (Hunter Mill District), City of Fairfax Regional Library, George Mason Regional Library (Mason District), Kingstowne Library (Mt. Vernon/Lee District) and Sherwood Regional Library (Mt. Vernon District). There appears to be a link between low-income communities and higher numbers of blocked library accounts.

The Fine Review Committee chaired by Trustee Sujatha Hampton reviewed the assessment and collection of fines on overdue library materials and forwarded its policy change recommendation to the full Board of Trustees.

Information Services Librarian Janelle Ortiz gives out COVID-19 tests at the Sherwood Regional branch in December 2021.



COVID Tests

FCPL partnered with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to provide rapid COVID-19 antigen at-home test kits for free beginning in early December. This Supporting Testing Access through Community Collaboration (STACC) program enabled community members to know their status and get early care to help break transmission of the virus. FCPL branches disseminated almost 2,400 rapid tests on the program's first day: Dec. 3, 2021. Demand far outpaced supply and all available tests were distributed within two hours of branches opening.

FCPL received another three deliveries totaling about 42,000 tests which it disseminated throughout the rest of December 2021. While tests were available most days that month, with the onset of the omicron variant and people preparing for holiday gatherings, supplies ran out quickly in the week leading up to Christmas and the week between Christmas and New Year's.

FCPL received a small shipment (1,200 tests) from VDH in early 2022; four regional branches disseminated them within 10 minutes.

In less than two months, FCPL distributed a total of 45,812 rapid COVID-19 tests in partnership with VDH.



Technical Operations Division Director Dianne Coan counts and sorts COVID-19 tests in December 2021.



TEMPORARY HOURS ADJUSTMENT



Unequal Access: The Desegregation of Public Libraries in Northern Virginia

In September 2021, FCPL staff members Chris Barbuschak and Suzanne S. LaPierre presented to the FCPL Board of Trustees a history of segregation and the process of desegregation in Northern Virginia public libraries. FCPL's board in April 2021 had requested deeper background on the topic, which resulted in the report detailing how Black residents accessed public libraries and resources during segregation and highlights vital contributions of Black Virginians who worked to desegregate libraries. Read more: bit.ly/FCPL_UnequalAccess.



Temporary Change in Hours

FCPL thanks Fairfax residents for their patience and understanding as the library instituted a temporary change in hours this winter and spring. From Jan. 16 through April 1, 2021, all regional and community FCPL branches closed every Sunday and Monday. A surge in COVID-19 cases and a high number of vacancies necessitated this change in hours. All branches returned to normal hours beginning April 3, 2021.

Sherwood Regional Branch Celebrates 50 Years

The Sherwood Regional branch in October 2021 marked its 50th anniversary. To celebrate, the branch hosted an open house attended by more than 400 people on Saturday, Oct. 16. Festivities that day included the popular children's performer Groovy Nate, historical displays, Mariachi Aguila DC and hands-on activities including papermaking.

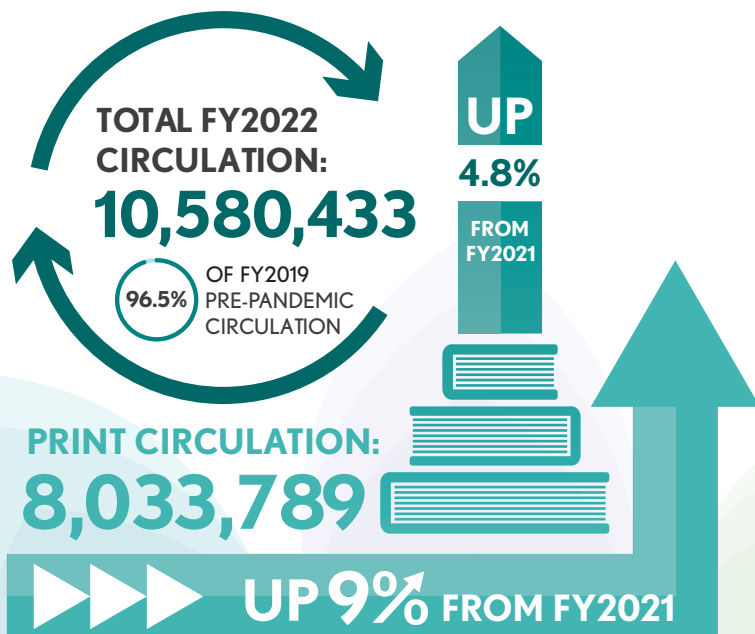


A family engages in craft time during the Sherwood Regional branch's 50th anniversary celebration.

STATISTICS

Please note that FY2022 is the first fiscal year since FY2019 when branches did not close to the public, offer only express services or offer only curbside services at some point in the year due to COVID-19 precautions, so we compare FY2022 to FY2019 at some places in this section.

CIRCULATION:



Most of FCPL's digital borrowing takes place via OverDrive (Libby App). The eCirculation figure includes eMagazines and other items accessed through platforms other than OverDrive.

OVERDRIVE CHECKOUTS

2,516,708

CONNECTIONS

FY2022 WIFI SESSIONS

1,324,080

UP 118% FROM FY2021

1,883,873 WEBSITE VISITS

UP 2% FROM FY2021

eCIRCULATION:

2,546,644
FY2022



DOWN -6% FROM FY2021

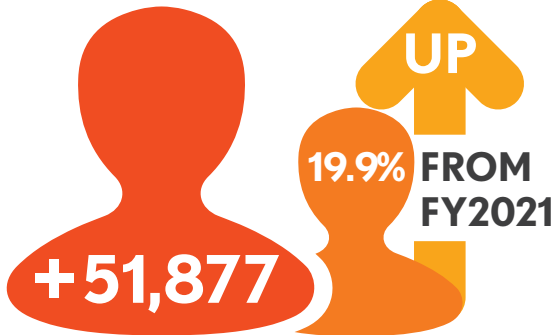
UP 29.7% FROM FY2019



LIBRARY USERS



2,460,834 VISITS
(INCLUDING CURBSIDE PICKUPS)



NEW ACCOUNTS REGISTERED



ABOUT 50% OF
DIGITAL USERS
LOG ON AT
LEAST ONCE A
MONTH

50%
01

PARTNERS

**TOTAL
VOLUNTEER
HOURS LOGGED
IN FY2022: 48,000**



HOURS LOGGED BY
FCPL VOLUNTEERS:



20,400

HOURS LOGGED BY
FRIENDS GROUP
VOLUNTEERS:



27,600

**FY2022 PROGRAM
ATTENDANCE:**



124,713
ATTENDEES



FROM FY2021

VALUE

1.9% increase over FY2021



\$5.24

RETURN ON
INVESTMENT



TOTAL VALUE TO
THE COMMUNITY

\$217,530,320



3.1% increase over FY2021

HOURS OF
SERVICE
PROVIDED:



59,320

IN FY22



6.7%

FROM
FY2021



2018



+2.6%

OVER
FY18

2020



+15.1%

OVER
FY20

HOURS

61,154

62,771

48,313

55,593

2019



-1.2%

OVER
FY17

2021



-23.0%

OVER
FY19

NEW AND RECENTLY ADDED SERVICES



LIBRARY TO GO

LIBRARIANS HANDPICK BOOKS FROM THE SHELVES FOR CARDHOLDERS BASED ON THEIR PREFERENCES:

635
REQUESTS THAT
CIRCULATED

5,820
ITEMS

CURBSIDE PICKUP:

14,569
PICKUPS IN
FY2022



A FREE-TO-USERS VIDEO STREAMING SERVICE:

3,864
ACCOUNTS
CREATED



15,134

**VIDEOS
PLAYED**



412,800 MINUTES
(6,880 HOURS) VIEWED

eBOOK OF THE MONTH:

15,877

CHECKOUTS IN FY2022



SUPPORTING LIBRARY STAFF

Staff Excellence Awards

The Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) Board of Trustees in March honored several staff members with its annual Staff Excellence Awards.

Library users nominated their favorite staff members this February and a board committee selected winners from nearly 150 nominations recognizing staff members from 12 branches and FCPL's Administrative Services. Board members introduced each winner and shared an excerpt from their nomination during a virtual meeting.

This year's winners:

- **Vicki Corcoran**, information assistant at Richard Byrd Library
- **Renee Edwards**, programming and educational services director at FCPL Administrative Services
- **Kelly Gilbert**, youth services assistant at Chantilly Regional Library
- **Jane Gironde**, early literacy assistant at FCPL Administrative Services
- **Robert Harsher**, readers' advisor at Access Services
- **Jill Johnson**, branch manager at Burke Centre Library
- **Christine Jones**, branch manager at Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library
- **Rebecca LaPlante**, assistant branch manager at Pohick Regional Library
- **Christine Lomax**, page manager at Woodrow Wilson Library
- **Elaine McRey**, librarian at City of Fairfax Regional Library
- **Kim Nguyen**, library aide at Burke Centre Library
- **Shazia Shehryar**, page manager at Oakton Library
- **Rebecca Takacs**, youth services assistant at Reston Regional Library
- **Anita Toth**, youth services assistant at Burke Centre Library
- **Erica Tran**, library aide at John Marshall Library
- **Maree Watkins**, librarian at City of Fairfax Regional Library
- **Nora Wickert**, information assistant at Dolley Madison Library

Presentations

Several FCPL staff members shared their knowledge at professional gatherings and conferences throughout the year including:

- **"Getting a Dollar From a Dime or Making the Most of Your OverDrive Budget."** Virginia Library Association Annual Conference. October 2021. Dianne Coan and Bethany Richardson.
- **"Partnering for a Successful Small Business Bootcamp."** American Library Association Annual Conference. June 2022. Deb Smith-Cohen.
- **"Resilient Together: Building School and Public Library Partnerships."** Library Journal, School Library Journal. October 2021. Jessica Hudson.
- **"Quarter Hour Advocacy Summit."** Virginia Library Association Annual Conference. October 2021. Jessica Hudson.
- **"Finding Your Leadership Pathway."** Public Library Association Conference. March 2022. Jessica Hudson.

ALA Emerging Leader

Masuma Sarwar is one of 49 people nationwide selected by the American Library Association (ALA) to participate in its 2022 class of Emerging Leaders (EL). Masuma is an interlibrary loan assistant in FCPL's Interlibrary Loan Office.

The EL program is designed to enable library staff and information workers to participate in project planning work groups, network with peers, gain an inside look at ALA structure and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity early in their careers. The Virginia Library Association is sponsoring Masuma's participation.

Scholarship Winners

Each year, the Fairfax Library Foundation awards scholarships to current library staff and volunteers. Recipients were recognized by the FCPL Board of Trustees during their May board meeting. In FY2022, over \$46,000 in scholarships were given to 28 recipients for both undergraduate, graduate and staff development opportunities.

To date the Foundation has awarded \$155,100 to 120 undergraduate students, \$244,000 to 83 graduate students, \$2,647 to two post-graduate students and \$82,369 to 228 employees for staff development.

This year's recipients are:

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

- Vipra Bhat
- Breona Brogan
- Katlyn Calustro
- Cathy Chau
- Yasmeen Galle
- Daniel Hanna
- Arielle Kim (Christine Chambers-Chun Scholarship)
- Eli Miller
- Maha Noor
- Susan Pirnat
- Lauren Richardson (Burke Centre Friends' Scholarship)
- Joseph Silver
- Jaimi Turgeon (Pohick Friends' Scholarship)
- Mia Simmons (Pohick Friends' Scholarship)
- Safa Yosufzai (Pohick Friends' Joan and Richard Vaaler Scholarship)
- Tara Yusef


GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

- Pamela Coughlan (Friends of Burke Centre Graduate Scholarship)
- Crystal Gillette
- Vijaya Gollamudi (Edwin "Sam" Clay Scholarship)
- Rebecca Gray Kurylo (Pohick Friends' Graduate Scholarship)
- Claire Quin
- Becca Snider (Burke Centre Friends' Graduate Scholarship)

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- Shelby Allen
- Renee Costello
- Sondra Eklund
- Alana Quarles
- Caroline Tirona
- Stephen Walker





“To ask why we need libraries at all, when there is so much information available elsewhere, is about as sensible as asking if roadmaps are necessary now that there are so very many roads.”

- Jon Bing, Norwegian writer

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** ☺
We build meaningful relationships.
- **INNOVATIVE** ☺
We embrace and encourage innovation and creativity.
- **SERVICE ORIENTED** ☺
We provide excellent service in every transaction.
- **ADAPTABLE** ☺
We anticipate and embrace change.
- **COMMUNITY FOCUSED** ☺
We reflect and celebrate our community.
- **LEARNING FOCUSED** ☺
We promote educational and personal growth.
- **POSITIVE** ☺
We express a genuine attitude of enthusiasm.

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

ACCESS

Library To Go

In September 2021, Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) introduced a concierge book selection service focused on making it easy for cardholders to find their next great read. To use the new service called Library To Go, cardholders simply fill out an online form about their reading preferences and FCPL librarians hand select materials for the cardholder to pick up at their selected branch! It's a great way to discover new-to-you titles.



Check it out:
bit.ly/FCPL_LibraryToGo

FCPL Eliminates Most Overdue Fines

FCPL's most impactful step toward equitable library access this year was the elimination of overdue fines. FCPL analysis showed that overdue fines disproportionately affected young people and those in low-income areas. Pre-pandemic, "blocked" cards (accounts with fines over \$15 are not allowed to check out materials) were about 17% of the total cardholder population. "Blocked" youth cards (accounts for users under the age of 18) were 23% of the youth cardholder population.

"Blocked" card numbers were higher in areas served by Reston Regional Library (Hunter Mill District), City of Fairfax Regional Library, George Mason Regional Library (Mason District), Kingstowne Library (Mt. Vernon/Lee District) and Sherwood Regional Library (Mt. Vernon District). There appeared to be a direct link between low-income communities and higher numbers of blocked library accounts.

Library systems around the nation, including in all our neighboring counties, had already moved to a fine-free model. Like those systems, we are happy to report that our cardholders continue to return materials even without the threat of fines.

FCPL's special collections that continue to incur overdue fines include but are not limited to: interlibrary loan materials and Connect Kits, which offer Chromebooks and mobile hotspots.

DON'T STOP THE FUN,
RETURN EVERY ONE.





Expand access to library services.

- | Library To Go
- | Lunar New Year
- | Pride Porch Parade
- | APA Heritage Month
- | Tuesday Specials

FCPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022



ACCESS



INNOVATION



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



TECHNOLOGY



LITERACY

Connecting via Programming

FCPL aims to connect with traditionally underserved communities through programming.

This year, five branches celebrated the Lunar New Year with traditional Chinese lion dance performances by the Jow Ga Shaolin Institute. One lucky guest at the Thomas Jefferson branch went home with a door prize: a puzzle honoring the Year of the Tiger!

Several FCPL branches also designed programming for Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month in May. Patrick Henry hosted author Pu-Chin Waide. Originally from China, then raised in India, Waide is the author of *Fantasies, Imagining and Memories*, a collection of short stories. Her event at Patrick Henry drew an audience of 30.

The City of Fairfax and George Mason Regional branches on May 26 hosted a traveling exhibit from the Museum of Chinese in America based in New York City.

Other programming for underserved populations this year included:

- **The Tuesday Specials book club** held monthly at the Pohick Regional branch, which is a book discussion group for teens and young adults with intellectual differences.
- **A community health fair** held in June at the Sherwood Regional branch.
- **Several Pride events in June**, including a Pride Porch Parade at most branches and Finding Safe Spaces for LGBTQIA+ Teens at the Reston Regional branch during which Safe Space NOVA founder and Executive Director Jordan Costen-Sumpter discussed the importance of safety and inclusion for LGBTQIA+ teens and young people.



INNOVATION

The Board of Trustees and EBooks

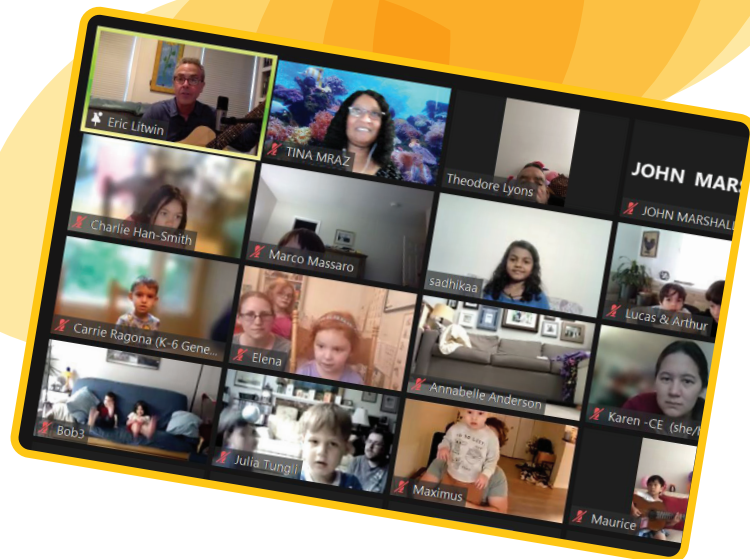
In April 2021, the Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) Board of Trustees formed an ad hoc committee to explore issues related to the library's procurement, retention and legal language regarding eMaterials. The eBook Advocacy Committee is chaired by Trustee Gary Russell.

The difference between how libraries acquire, lend and maintain digital materials versus physical items is considerable and complicated. FCPL's collection development and communications staff collaborated to produce materials educating the public on related issues, including:

- **EBooks and eAudiobooks are licensed**, just like computer software such as Microsoft Office is licensed, and aren't treated as books under print copyright laws.
- **In most cases**, libraries legally are allowed to lend them to only one cardholder at a time, the same as print books.
- **Sometimes publishers embargo new titles (placing a hold on their distribution)**, and libraries cannot access those books until the embargo is lifted.

At its July 2021 board meeting, the board unanimously approved the following language: *"The Library Board authorizes the Director to prepare and submit on its behalf to the Board of Supervisors an item for inclusion in the County's legislative agenda that supports action by the State Legislature to address barriers encountered by the Library in the purchase of eMaterials, including but not limited to cost, licensing limitations, and refusal to sell to libraries."*

The county's state and federal platform this year included language supporting libraries and efforts to decrease their eBook cost. FCPL's intent is to obtain more sustainable, accessible costs and terms for eMaterials.



Virtual Programming Success

While FCPL continues to offer about half of its programs in person, virtual author events proved to be so popular during the pandemic that it continues to offer many of these virtually so that geography and transportation are not barriers to accessing high-quality programming. This year's virtual author event lineup included:

- Laurell Hamilton
- Harlan Coben
- Katie Mack
- David Heska Wanbli Weiden
- Bob Shea
- Victoria Jamieson
- Jeff Zentner
- Lulu Delacre
- Eric Litwin



Eric Litwin participates virtually in an author event this spring.



Foster an environment
of innovation.

- BoT eBooks
- Virtual Programming
- Conserve Kits
- Traveling While Black

FCPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022



ACCESS



INNOVATION



CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT



TECHNOLOGY



LITERACY



Conserve Kits

FCPL launched Conserve Kits in May of 2022 as part of the Year of Literacy initiative covering Environmental Literacy. These kits contain tools, such as a kilowatt usage meter, laser thermometer and caulking gun, to help users better understand how much energy various home appliances and devices consumer and then make tweaks to conserve it!

bit.ly/FCPL_ConserveKit



Learn more about
the Year of Literacy
on page 24.

Traveling While Black

Fairfax residents had a chance to immerse themselves in history this year at the Sherwood Regional Library in Alexandria. The Traveling While Black interactive program ran at Sherwood from Feb. 22 to April 2, 2022. Visitors to this Emmy-nominated cinematic virtual reality exhibit produced by Roger Ross Williams and Felix & Paul Studios experienced lessons about restricted movement and race relations in the U.S. as shared by patrons around a booth in Washington D.C.'s historic Ben's Chili Bowl.

Ben's Chili Bowl has been a Washington, D.C., mainstay of the Black community since 1958, bearing witness to significant civil rights milestones that are woven into the film in powerful snippets of footage. From the stirring memories of civil rights leader Courtland Cox to the heartbreaking words of Samaria Rice, whose young son Tamir was killed by police in 2014, virtual reality connected the parallels of the past to the present.

Almost 300 people experienced the exhibit, including a busload from the Gum Springs Community Center, a local American Association of University Women chapter and Fairfax County Supervisor Dan Storck and his staff.



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

League of Women Voters Voter Registration Day

Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) partnered with the League of Women Voters - Fairfax Area on National Voter Registration Day to sign up new voters. League volunteers set up at each of FCPL's branches for four hours on Sept. 28. FCPL is proud to do its part in helping Fairfax residents get #VoteReady!

Read and Feed

For several years, FCPL hosted a "Food for Fines" drive each fall as a way of facilitating food donations to our partner organization, Food for Others, while also offering library cardholders a reduction on their fines. As of Jan. 1, FCPL no longer charges overdue fines on most materials. To continue its partnership with Food for Others, FCPL hosted "Read and Feed" in April. Fairfax residents were able to drop off donations at any FCPL branch during regular hours throughout the month of April.

FCPL facilitated the collection of 2,718 pounds in food donations during its inaugural "Read and Feed" program.



*FCPL Board of Trustees members
Brian Engler, Sujatha Hampton and
Priscille Dando donate to Read and Feed.*





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

- I Voter Registration Day
- I Women's Suffrage Series
- I Read & Feed
- I From the Pages of History

FCPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022



ACCESS



INNOVATION



CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT



TECHNOLOGY



LITERACY

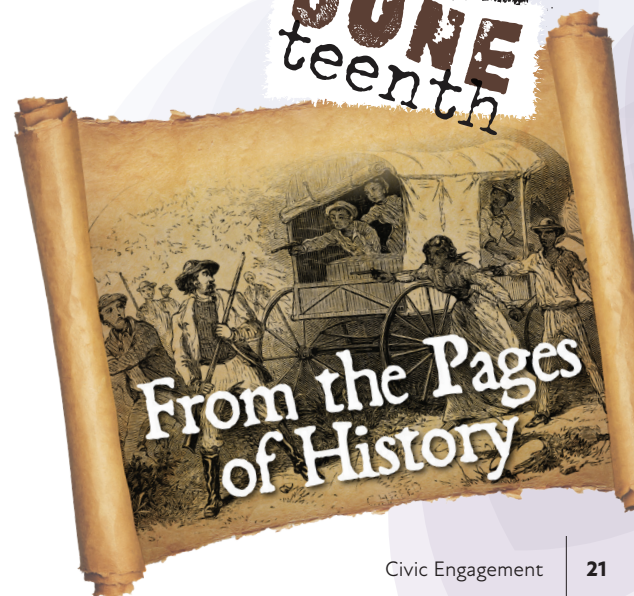
Let's Talk About It: Women's Suffrage Series

FCPL was one of 25 libraries awarded a grant by the American Library Association (ALA) to participate in Let's Talk About It: Women's Suffrage. This program is designed to spark conversations about American history and culture through an examination of the women's suffrage movement, according to the ALA.

Let's Talk About It: Women's Suffrage is a humanities discussion project supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities. This five-event series was held at our Pohick Regional branch beginning in May 2022.

From the Pages of History

FCPL hosted a four-part virtual series of in-depth discussions on Black history this year. The series included *The Fire of Frederick Douglass*, *A Scholar's Guide to Amazon Prime's "The Underground Railroad,"* *The Two Harriets: Tubman and Beecher Stowe* and *What We Commemorate on Juneteenth*.



TECHNOLOGY

Kanopy

Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) cardholders can now access thousands of streaming videos during our yearlong grant-funded pilot with Kanopy. This initiative, which launched in early February 2022, was made possible from an American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 grant and partially funded through the library's materials budget.

After creating a Kanopy account using their FCPL card, users can enjoy Oscar-nominated, international and critically acclaimed films and documentaries, the Great Courses and Kanopy Kids! Kanopy users can access curated lists of videos based on current events including "Conflict in Ukraine" and curated lists during Pride month in June. Kanopy Kids provides parental controls and unlimited educational options including "Sesame Street," language learning videos and more!

Between Feb. 1 and June 30, 2022, almost 4,000 FCPL cardholders watched a total of 15,134 videos for 6,880 hours through Kanopy.

Connect Kits

FCPL introduced Connect Kits in spring 2022. These kits include Chromebook computers and Wi-Fi Hotspots so that users can connect online anywhere. Chromebooks support the Google suite of productivity tools, including Docs, Sheets and Slides. These tools can access Microsoft Office files, including Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Connect Kits can be checked out by cardholders aged 18 and older from the Centreville, City of Fairfax, George Mason, Reston and Sherwood Regional branches.



Updated ILS notices

This year, FCPL changed over to a new vendor for its email communication. When cardholders receive notices about holds and materials that are due, they can expect clear, concise information. Color coding enables cardholders to quickly understand the subject of the email. The new format is also mobile-friendly, so cardholders on the go can keep up with their accounts from their mobile devices.



Integrate technology that will enhance and expand the library experience.

- | Kanopy
- | Connect Kit
- | 15 million eLoans
- | ILS Notices

FCPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022



ACCESS



INNOVATION



CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT



TECHNOLOGY



LITERACY

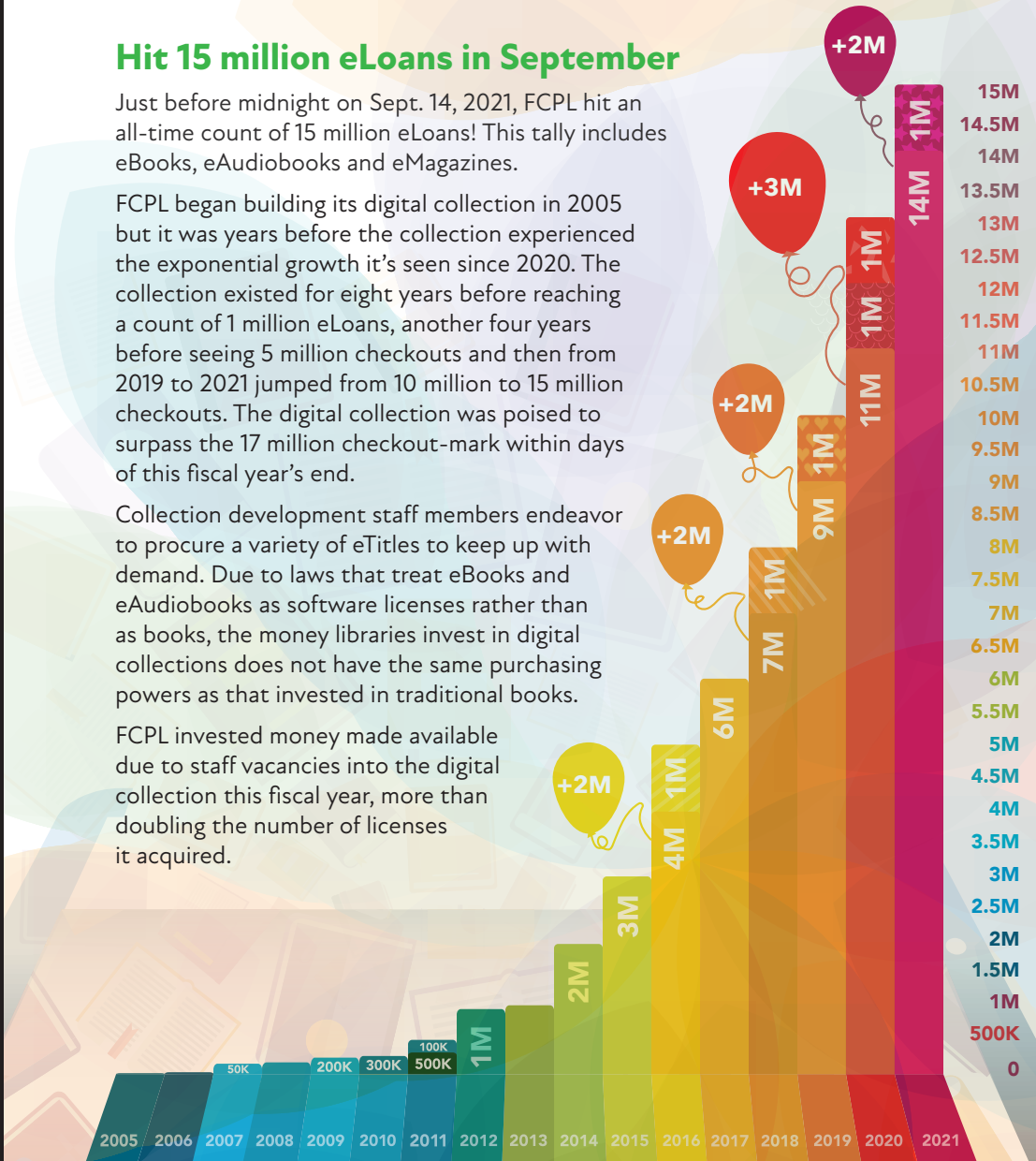
Hit 15 million eLoans in September

Just before midnight on Sept. 14, 2021, FCPL hit an all-time count of 15 million eLoans! This tally includes eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines.

FCPL began building its digital collection in 2005 but it was years before the collection experienced the exponential growth it's seen since 2020. The collection existed for eight years before reaching a count of 1 million eLoans, another four years before seeing 5 million checkouts and then from 2019 to 2021 jumped from 10 million to 15 million checkouts. The digital collection was poised to surpass the 17 million checkout-mark within days of this fiscal year's end.

Collection development staff members endeavor to procure a variety of eTitles to keep up with demand. Due to laws that treat eBooks and eAudiobooks as software licenses rather than as books, the money libraries invest in digital collections does not have the same purchasing powers as that invested in traditional books.

FCPL invested money made available due to staff vacancies into the digital collection this fiscal year, more than doubling the number of licenses it acquired.



LITERACY

Year of Literacy

Having a library card means having access to learn about anything. This year, Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) is celebrating literacy as the ability to 'read' a specified subject or medium and competence or knowledge in a particular area by focusing on special subjects all year long.

2022
FCPL'S
YEAR OF
LITERACY

January: The first month of the Year of Literacy was devoted to a celebration of general literacy, which included the introduction of many new library-facilitated book groups.

February: We celebrated Love Literacy during Valentine's month. Programming included Go on a Blind Date With a Book, which allowed cardholders to choose a book based on just a few details.

March: FCPL went mad about sports in March, facilitating brackets highlighting the best books of 2021 and a virtual event with Victoria Jamieson, award-winning author and the illustrator of *Roller Girl*.

April: Tax Day brought a month all about Financial Literacy at FCPL. Everyone from toddlers to retirees had the opportunity to hone their money smarts through Money Smart Storytime, a webinar about financing college, an estate planning presentation and more!

May: Environmental Literacy bloomed during the last full month of spring. Events included hands-on workshops and gardening seminars all about cultivating gardens with native plants and wildlife in mind.

June: FCPL celebrated Health Literacy with a community health fair at its Sherwood Regional branch, programs featuring nutritionists and exercise classes.



Amor Towles signs a copy of his book for FCPL Board of Trustees Chair Brian Engler.

Author events

FCPL sponsored its first major in-person author event in two years this spring in partnership with Fall for the Book. Amor Towles, author of *Rules of Civility* and *A Gentleman in Moscow*, appeared at the Sherwood Center in Fairfax on April 21, 2022. He discussed his creative process and some of the research behind his latest book, *The Lincoln Highway*. The event, which filled within hours of tickets becoming available, included a reception and book signing.

Other authors hosted in person include:

- **Rebecca Greene**, author of *Explore Virginia with Me!* at the Oakton branch.
- **Kevin Mallinson**, author of *Alarm in the Firehouse* at the Pohick Regional branch.
- **Zara Gonzalez Hoang**, author and illustrator of *Mi Casa is My Home* and *A New Kind of Wild* at the Thomas Jefferson branch.
- **Maya Miernik**, author of *Karina's Curly Crown* at the Centreville Regional branch.



Expand access to library services.

- | Year of Literacy
- | Summer Reading Adventure
- | EBook of the Month
- | Author Events

FCPL STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2022



ACCESS



INNOVATION



CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT



TECHNOLOGY



LITERACY

Summer Reading Adventure

Fairfax residents from preschool to adulthood participated in FCPL's Summer Reading Adventure beginning June 10, 2022. This year's theme was Oceans of Possibilities and the activities-based summer reading fun ran through Aug. 12, 2022. FCPL provided two ways to participate: either online through our partner Beanstack or with paper logs available for download from FCPL's website and at all branches. Branches also offered summer reading related events for all age groups both virtually and in person this year.

Everyone who finished the program received coupon sheets for summer treats and activities, including outings at Fairfax County Park Authority!



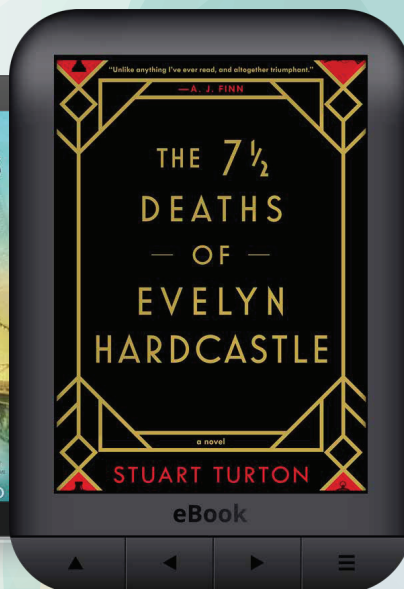
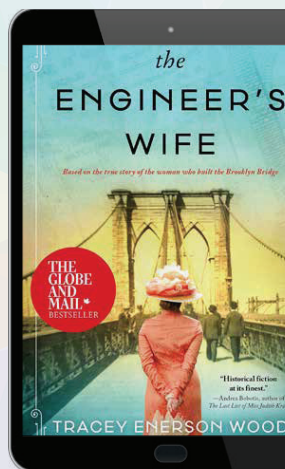
EBook of the Month

FCPL introduced eBook of the Month in January 2021. These hand-selected eBooks are available to cardholders for unlimited use – no holds, no waiting! The library continued to invest in the eBook of the Month this year as a way of ensuring cardholders have access to quality digital titles. During this fiscal year, FCPL cardholders checked out the eBook of the Month 15,877 times.

This year's most popular titles:

January 2022's eBook
The Engineer's Wife by
Tracey Enerson Wood
(2,721 checkouts)

April 2022's eBook *The
7 ½ Deaths of Evelyn
Hardcastle* by Stuart
Turton (2,144 checkouts)



ON THE HORIZON



Lorton Library

Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) is planning to welcome visitors back to our Lorton branch this fall. After more than two years of major renovations, the new and larger library will be co-located with the Lorton Community Center and Lorton Community Action Center. We are excited to be part of this first-of-its-kind community hub in Fairfax County!

Library of Things

Due to the popularity of nontraditional library items such as Chromebooks, FCPL is expanding its Library of Things. The library introduced Conserve and Connect Kits this fiscal year. Plans are underway for expanding the Library of Things to include a variety of other circulating shared resources including: binoculars, board games, gardening supplies and tools for home improvement.

The Lorton branch in summer 2022 prior to its opening.

New Strategic Plan Preview

Both a staff committee and Board of Trustees committee spent part of this year working on a new strategic plan for FCPL. Once approved by the board, this plan will guide the library for the next five years. FCPL will continue to focus on ensuring access for all Fairfax residents and providing educational and entertainment resources for our diverse community.

Upcoming Library Construction: Patrick Henry Library and Kingstowne Regional Library

Plans for a new Patrick Henry Library, located in the Town of Vienna, are currently in the design process. Fairfax County and the Town of Vienna have entered into an agreement to replace the current facility with a new library and a structured parking garage to both serve library users and meet the town's needs for additional parking along Maple Avenue. The new library will increase in size to approximately 21,000 square feet with additional dedicated parking for library users. Design will continue throughout 2022.

Construction of the Kingstowne Regional Library is slated to begin in fall 2022. The Consolidated Kingstowne Facilities will include the new Franconia District Office, the Franconia Police Station, a child care facility, a local history museum, the Center for Active Adults and the new Kingstowne Regional Library facility as well as a structured parking garage. Construction is anticipated to last approximately two years, with the current Kingstowne branch operating out of its leased facility for that duration.

FAIRFAX LIBRARY FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION DATA POINTS

- Number of FY 22 Donors: 767
- Number of Legacy Donors: 55
- Number of Consecutive Donors that gave FY 18 - FY 22: 131
 - Amount given by consecutive donors in FY 22: \$81,403.39
 - Average donation by consecutive donors in FY 22: \$621.40
- Amount Raised in FY 22 (excluding endowment distribution): \$241,343.13
- Amount Raised in FY 22 (including endowment distribution): \$397,562.13
- Increase percent of funds raised from FY 18 to FY 22:
 - Fairfax County Tax Appeal - 27%
 - Indirect Appeal - 47%
 - Sales of Product - 25%
 - State Tax Appeal - 44%

Foundation Tote Bags

In 2019, the Fairfax Library Foundation unveiled a set of limited edition literary-themed tote bags designed by our dear friend and kind supporter Catherine Macorol, author and illustrator of *A is for Axolotl: An Unusual Animal ABC*. The first tote set proved to be so popular that Ms. Macorol generously created a new, exclusive design for the Foundation: fun and colorful abstract animals inspired by the work of Piet Mondrian. Ms. Macorol's picture book is available for check out in the library's catalog, and the totes may be purchased on the Foundation's website at fairfaxlibraryfoundation.org/store. These are — once again — limited edition, so when they are gone, they are gone!

3rd Annual Cinema in the Community

This summer, with generous support from the Friends of Pohick Regional Library and Cox Communications, the Foundation held its 3rd Annual Cinema in the Community at Chantilly Regional Library. Hundreds of attendees enjoyed a free outdoor movie on a 40-ft. screen with local food trucks on site including Pakos Fresh Mex, Himalayan Soul Foods, Ben & Jerry's, and Hershey's Ice Cream. Thank you Reston Friends! This year's movie lineup showcased "Labyrinth" (1986), "Father of the Bride" (1991), and "Hercules" (1997). Be on the lookout next summer for our 2023 series!





THANK YOU

The Fairfax County Public Library Board of Trustees extends its thanks to library cardholders and visitors for their continued flexibility and support this year. This fiscal year brought many changes. We are proud to have eliminated fines on most materials and hope residents find they can now access the library more easily.

We sincerely thank the entire FCPL staff for continuing to offer — and even create new — programming, initiatives and other resources for library users.

We appreciate the continued support of the many Friends groups associated with our branches and are pleased to see book sales once again in full swing.

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 as FCPL continues to provide an array of library services both in-person and virtually.

Thank You for Being a Friend

The FCPL Board of Trustees in June 2022 accepted a \$200,00 gift from the Friends of Reston Regional Library.

The gift will be invested in FCPL's collection, benefitting cardholders throughout the county. A majority of the gift will be invested in FCPL's digital collection, which experienced explosive and sustained growth in recent years. FCPL's collection budget is unable to meet community demand in large part because more cardholders are checking out digital materials.

The group's funds are raised primarily through used book sales.

Thank you Reston Friends!

Above photo, from left to right: Friends of Reston Regional Library Book Sale Chair Charly Karlsson, Fairfax County Supervisor Walter L. Alcorn, Friends Community Outreach Chair Eileen Evon, FCPL Board of Trustees Chair Fran Millhouser and FCPL Director Jessica Hudson during an event marking the Friends donation.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Fran Millhouser, chair / Mason District



Brian Engler, vice chair / Braddock District



Jane Miscavage / At-Large



Suzanne S. Levy / City of Fairfax



Sujatha Hampton / Dranesville District



Priscille Dando / Fairfax County Public Schools



Sheila Janega / Hunter Mill District



Parker Brugge / Hunter Mill District



Keith L. Foxx / Lee District *
*Renamed Franconia District by the Board of Supervisors June 28, 2022.



Gary G. Russell / Mount Vernon District



Miriam Smolen / Providence District



Soo Park / Providence District



Phillip Rosenthal / Springfield District



Liz Walker / Sully District



/fairfaxcountylibrary



@fairfaxlibrary



@fairfaxlibrary



/fairfaxlibrary



Fairfax County Public Library
12000 Government Center Parkway
Suite 324
Fairfax, VA 22035
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library



A Fairfax County, Va.
publication
September 2022



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