

Director's Report to the Library Board of Trustees February 22nd, 2024

Operations

Well, our chiller arrived, but the old chiller had a circuit board that connected/talked to something underneath the roof, and apparently got disposed WITH the old, broken chiller. So now we wait to see how we can get Hirschberg and Higgins to fix this issue without cutting a hole in our brand new, fixed, roof.

We have a *NEW* new Marketing Associate! I encourage all of you to drop by sometime in March to meet Shane Zandotti. Alexandria Mlkvy withdrew her acceptance of our offer, but we are very excited to begin working with Shane, as he has library experience as well as marketing experience. It was a hard decision to make between Alex and Shane in the first place. Shane will be working closely with Rachel on marketing for fundraising, but also with other FT staff on their needs and on the library's social media, website, and more.

Our new vending machine is up and running. It has two slots – one for food, and one for drinks, and people are getting confused – so there is a learning curve.

I have been working on the state report (always a fun time)!

Beverly is taking a leave of absence until at least March 7th to care for her ailing husband. We're currently rotating full-time staff between here and Paoli as needed to help with coverage and management.

Building Access

For the month of January 2024, 10,755 library visits were recorded. Compared to January 2023, the visitor count increased by 42.

Libraries Combined				
Month to date				
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
January	2,308	7,148	10,713	10,755
February	2,095	7,303	11,281	
March	4,054	8,817	13,573	
April	4,764	9,386	11,666	
May	5,611	8,767	12,940	
June	7,184	11,108	13,418	
July	8,345	12,621	11,962	
August	8,447	12,609	12,889	
September	5,959	10,576	9,937	
October	7,380	10,575	11,117	
November	8,230	10,329	11,051	
December	7,286	9,722	10,093	

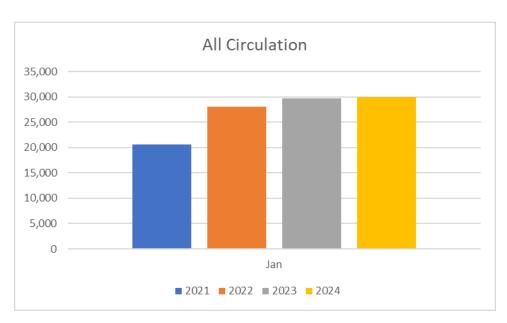
Monthly 2024 to 2023						
	Jan. 2024	Jan. 2023	Difference	% increas	ase	
Paoli	2,513	2,430	83	3%		
Tredyffrin	8,242	8,283	-41	0%		
Libraries Combined	10,755	10,713	42	0%		

Yearly 2023 to 2021				
	Tredyffrin	Paoli	Libraries Co	mbined
2024 (YTD)	8,242	2,513	10,755	
2023	110,408	30,232	140,640	
2022	92,061	28,232	120,293	
2021	52,365	19,298	71,663	

Circulation

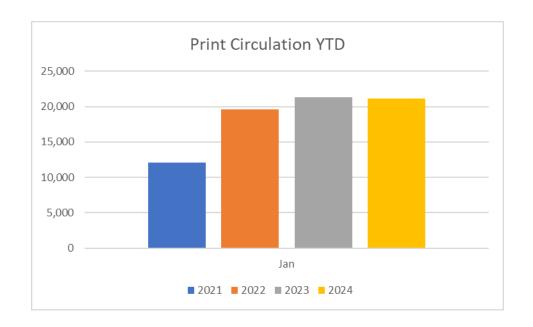
January 2024 circulation totaled 21,109. Overall circulation continues to improve but remains slightly lower than pre-pandemic totals. E-materials circulation remains high and accounts for approximately 30% of total circulation for 2024, so far. We are heading in the right direction post-pandemic, though.

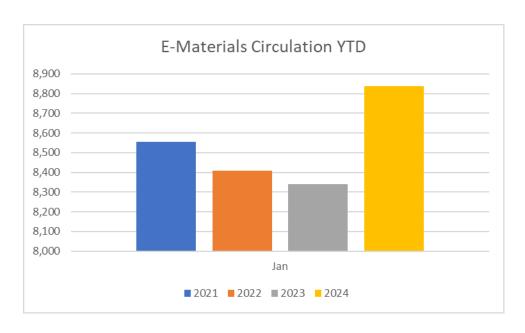
All Circula	tion												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
2021	20,659	18,421	24,680	24,230	24,718	29,178	32,707	31,704	24,807	26,401	26,285	26,682	310,472
2022	28,040	27,215	29,181	28,411	27,226	30,653	33,428	33,568	27,421	27,976	27,783	27,674	348,576
2023	29,657	28,481	31,813	28,150	28,181	31,593	33,983	34,308	27,822	28,048	27,995	27,771	357,802
2024	29,948												29,948



Print Circu	ulation												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
2021	12,104	10,567	16,157	16,448	16,723	21,244	24,308	23,325	17,254	18,744	18,744	18,829	214,447
2022	19,633	19,789	21,069	20,636	19,036	22,377	24,545	24,638	19,450	20,033	19,957	19,679	250,842
2023	21,318	21,028	23,467	20,317	20,090	23,191	25,042	25,355	19,583	19,848	19,951	19,304	258,494
2024	21,109												21,109

E-Materia	ls Circulation	1												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	
2021	8,555	7,854	8,523	7,782	7,995	7,934	8,399	8,379	7,553	7,657	7,541	7,853	96,025	30.9%
2022	8,407	7,426	8,112	7,775	8,190	8,276	8,883	8,930	7,971	7,943	7,826	7,995	97,734	28.0%
2023	8,339	7,453	8,346	7,833	8,091	8,402	8,941	8,953	8,239	8,200	8,044	8,467	99,308	27.8%
2024	8,839												8,839	29.51%





Programming Notes

January 2024 programming numbers are listed here. The charts show updated totals for numbers of programs offered and program attendance.

Programs Offered				
	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	221	84	98	119
February	212	90	93	
March	153	93	120	
April	101	82	108	
May	140	69	121	
June	165	76	119	
July	241	80	124	
August	122	74	122	
September	57	132	127	
October	126	81	116	
November	94	62	123	
December	70	52	78	
TOTAL	1,702	975	1,349	119

Programs Attendance				
	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	2,997	756	1,641	2,604
February	2,966	867	1,545	
March	2,107	1,005	2,220	
April	1,915	841	2,082	
May	2,363	943	1,886	
June	2,254	1,086	2,335	
July	2,966	941	2,502	
August	2,324	1,192	2,162	
September	816	2,095	2,218	
October	1,445	1,218	2,104	
November	1,635	806	1,964	
December	852	890	1,230	
TOTAL	24,640	12,640	23,889	2,604



Adult Programming (submitted by Sam Sorensen):

We hit the ground running in January, and we recorded 881 patrons who attended programs for Adults 18+ at Tredyffrin. The library and the Tredyffrin Township Environmental Advisory Council partnered with Jenkins Arboretum on their Third Thursday lecture featuring Benjamin Vogt, and that was our most attended program this month with 175 people on Zoom. Rep. Melissa Shusterman's office was very pleased with the space, set up, and turnout for her Coffee & Conversation event; during a rainy morning, they saw 51 folks. The program was supposed to run from 10-11:30am, but they asked to extend due to the wonderful response. They stayed until noon, and Rep. Shusterman and I chatted about future possibilities like town halls.

Jonathan Trice and I (with Rachel Kramer's help!) applied for an Empowered History Microgrant offered by the Pennsylvania State Archives for equipment to create and house an oral history project focused on the LGBTQIA+ population of Chester County. We were inspired by other regional archives, such as Lehigh Valley's, to create primary source materials detailing the diverse lived experiences of this community. Jonathan has an extensive background in archives, and I have trained in oral history methodology. The application review period is February 1-March 31, so I expect to hear a decision nearing the end of March. We intend to pursue this project regardless of outcome.

Part-time staff are pitching and running well-attended programs, like Patty Hove's Football 101 and Claire Witzleben's Connecting Club. Carla Vastine co-facilitates the Banned Book Club, the resume and cover letter workshops, and additional programming, such as the workshop on Writing Letters to the Editor with me. Our partnership with the Wayne Senior Center has hit a solid stride, and older patrons know to seek out Francis' tech help and workshops every other Monday at the library. His workshop on editing and organizing iPhone photos had an overwhelming response, so he kindly offered it twice for a total of 23 attendees.

Looking forward, I am working closely with Amy Mawby over at Jenkins to solidify details for Arbo-READ-um. This year's theme is birds! I am also working on adult summer reading and aligning our reading schedule with the children's department so families can choose to read together. Amy Moscia and I are planning more Makerspace programs for adults through the year. Our needle felting workshop in January was comprised entirely of beginners, and patrons expressed gratitude for the opportunity to come to the library, socialize, and craft. I am also in touch with Valley Forge, West Chester University, Main Line Health, local authors, People's Light, Willistown Conservation Trust, a harpist, local coffee roasters, and a local plant shop owner to partner and develop programs together.

Children's Programming (Submitted by Stephanie Bragg)

Kids programs have been rockin' in the Makerspace! Kids have made 3D keychains with their names, made stop motion videos, and designed and heat pressed their own patterns for socks. Storytime is still happening 3 times per week with a monthly special storytime. We had Christine Kinslow come for music time and Ballet 180 teach Creative Movement at the end of January and they will be back in February.

We've already start thinking about summer reading, can't believe it's time to plan already! The theme is "Adventure Begins at Your Library." Just about 3 months until summer reading.

Teen Programming (Submitted by Laurie Doan)

Teens in January held our monthly events including: board game and cards night, teen book groups, weekly crochet club, anime, and our Roundtable Discussion Dinner.

There was a winter cabaret with teens from the Katherine Mallon-Day vocal studio to benefit the library.

We attended the Main Line Camp Fair sponsored by the Devon Elementary School PTO. Our 11th Annual Performance Arts Summer Camp, July 29-August 9, was filled, but we were happy to answer questions and take names for the waitlist.

Our Remixed Classics program is ongoing.

Respectfully submitted by Mallory Hoffman (with statistics and pivot table help from Valerie Green) 😇