



Director’s Report to the Library Board of Trustees April 25th, 2024

Operations

“Once we have consistent spring weather, the chiller will get turned on.” Well, now we wait. Spring has sprung, and it was incredibly warm in the library last week with the uptick in temperature. However, there are many moving parts to getting the chiller up and running and it’s more than just pushing an on button. I am hopeful that it will be on and running soon before we have consistently *very warm* weather.

And our next issue...our green roof was leaking but it seems to have stopped. The township has been out to look at it and has found a new company that deals in green roofs so that we can make sure everything is A-OK (and my office isn’t drippy anymore). The contractor recommends they get all of the cracks and seams in the stucco that are visible by the green roof sealed. They will also be sending out a roofer to dig down into the green roof to investigate the membrane.

Beverly is back to her post at Paoli! We’re so glad to have her back.

We are considering applying for an LSTA grant but the turnaround time is very quick (due May 15th).

Building Access

For the month of March 2024, 14,095 library visits were recorded. Compared to March 2023, the visitor count increased by 522.

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	11,963
March	4,054	8,817	13,573	14,095
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	11,661	11,051	
December	7,286	9,722	10,093	



TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES

TREDYFFRIN PUBLIC LIBRARY & PAOLI LIBRARY

Monthly 2024 to 2023					
	March 2024	March 2023	Difference	% increase or decrease	
Paoli	2,879	2,649	230	9%	
Tredyffrin	11,216	10,924	292	3%	
Libraries Combined	14,095	13,573	522	4%	

Yearly 2024 to 2021			
	Tredyffrin	Paoli	Libraries Combined
2024 (YTD)	28,516	8,297	36,813
2023	110,408	30,232	140,640
2022	92,061	28,232	120,293
2021	52,365	19,298	71,663

Circulation

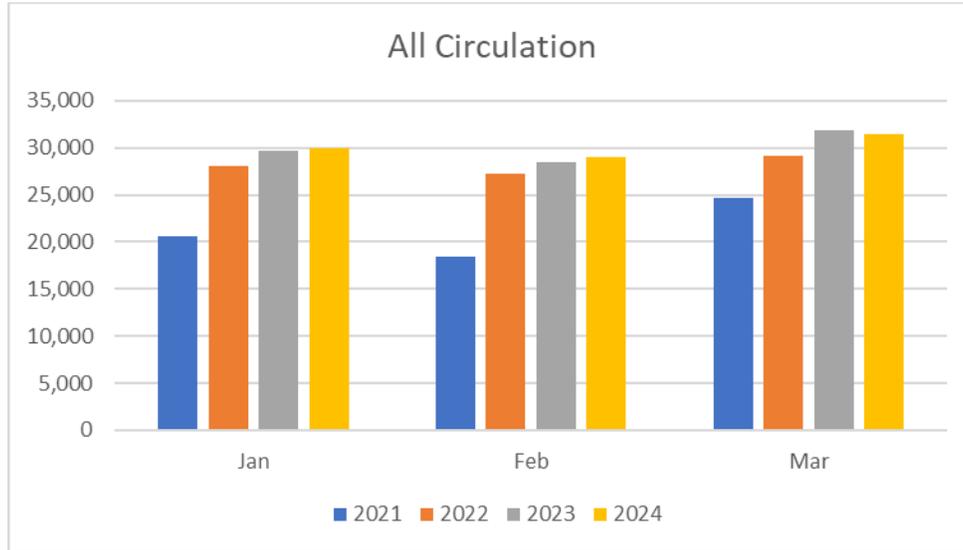
March 2024 circulation totaled 31,479. Overall circulation continues to improve but remains slightly lower than pre-pandemic totals. E-materials circulation remains high and accounts for approximately 28% of total circulation for 2024, so far.

All Circulation													
	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	29,070	31,479										90,497



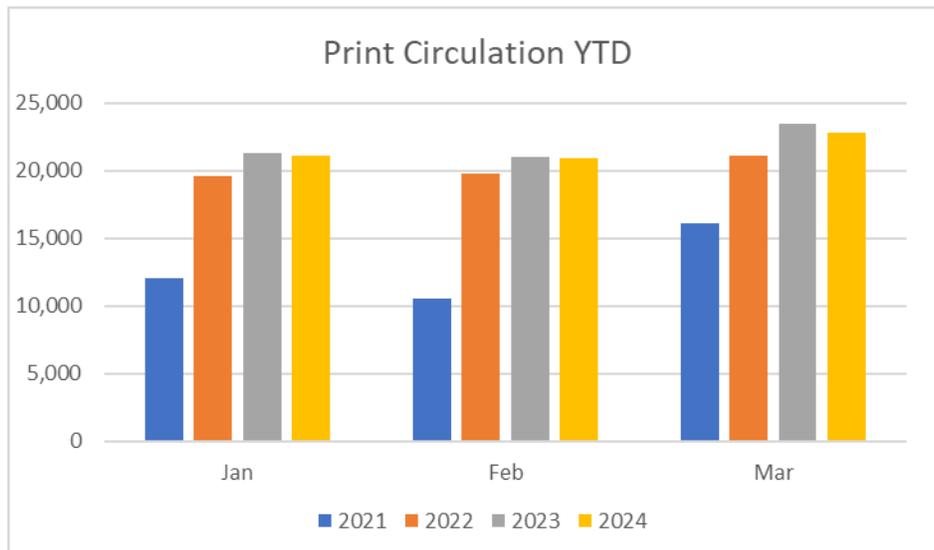
TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES

TREDYFFRIN PUBLIC LIBRARY & PAOLI LIBRARY



Print Circulation													TOTAL
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
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	20,887	22,833										64,829

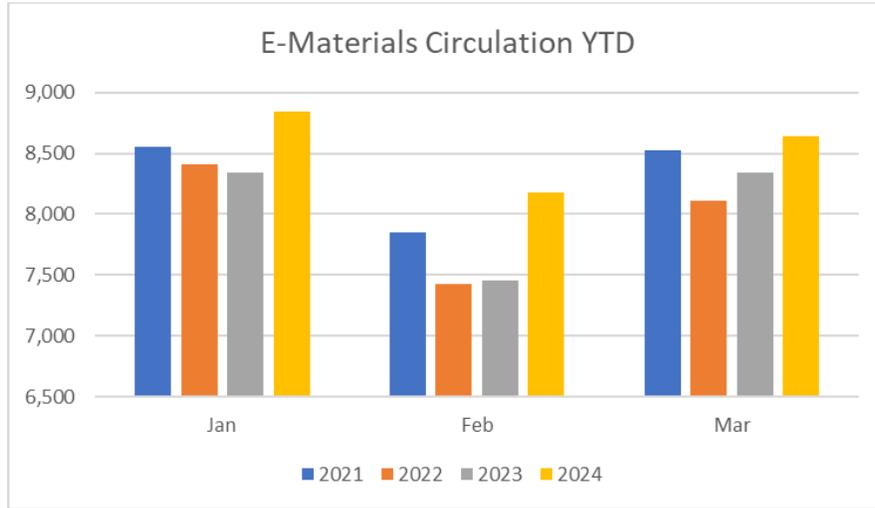
E-Materials Circulation													TOTAL	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec		
2021	8,555	7,854	8,523	7,782	7,995	7,934	8,399	8,379	7,553	7,657	7,541	7,853	96,025	30.9%
2022	8,407	7,426	8,112	7,775	8,190	8,276	8,883	8,930	7,971	7,943	7,826	7,995	97,734	28.0%
2023	8,339	7,453	8,346	7,833	8,091	8,402	8,941	8,953	8,239	8,200	8,044	8,467	99,308	27.8%
2024	8,839	8,183	8,646										25,668	28.36%





TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES

TREDYFFRIN PUBLIC LIBRARY & PAOLI LIBRARY



Programming Notes

March 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	120
February	212	90	93	127
March	153	93	120	125
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	372



TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES

TREDYFFRIN PUBLIC LIBRARY & PAOLI LIBRARY

Programs Attendance	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	2,997	756	1,641	2,609
February	2,966	867	1,545	2,191
March	2,107	1,005	2,220	2,449
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	7,249

Adult Programming (submitted by Sam Sorensen):

In March, Tredyffrin saw over one thousand patrons for adult programs!

Our most attended events were the Vintage & Handmade Market with 125 patrons and the SEPTA Senior Key Card Sign Up with 242 patrons. Michele Bolay, our Children’s Programming and Admin staff member, and I are considering another market in November for the holiday season. The SEPTA event was a collaboration between the library, Rep. Melissa Shusterman’s office, and Senator Carolyn Comitta’s office. Their offices were very pleased with the turnout, stating that this event was more successful than all of their recent events. We received calls from patrons asking if it was possible to sign up if they lived outside of Chester county, and the staff from both offices confirmed that as long as the attendees lived in Pennsylvania, they would assist them. I raise this detail because many from the area who may not be Chester county residents still consider our library an important resource. Because of the overwhelming response, I coordinated additional sign-up dates with Rep. Shusterman’s office to increase accessibility with parking and wait times. The next event is scheduled for June 11.

I have also been working closely with Amy Mosica, our Makerspace Coordinator, to host more intergenerational programming. We held an event on March 10, Mario Day, and we had 220 attendees. We are planning more programs out of the Makerspace that allow intergenerational connection. We are also planning Makerspace programs specifically for seniors and working with local service organizations to publicize them more widely.

Looking ahead, we will be starting up a weekly Mah Jongg program (Tuesdays from 11am until 1pm) based on a lot of requests from the community. I also received program details for the Lunch & Learn series we run with Valley Forge Park Alliance that will begin on June 6. I am working on completing the Beanstack challenges for Arbo-READ-um, curating materials for People’s Light’s lobby and writing copy for their display, locking in programming for Pride month in June, and designing the passport challenges, scheduling thematically aligned programs, and sourcing prizes for adult summer reading.



Children's Programming (Submitted by Stephanie Bragg)

The children's department was hoppin' in March! We had our usual widely attended storytimes, fantastic art programs, and tech time in the makerspace. Plant Club got started by planting their starter seeds. Plant Club continues in April Homemade Bug Hotels. For the preschool crowd we had Preschool STEM where the littles used paint laced with baking soda and vinegar to make Fizzy Painted Shamrocks and grow rainbows using absorption. And in the Makerspace we introduced digital art through the Procreate app and tried to stop the Pigeon from driving the Spheros. Miss Amy has also started a crochet club for 4th-6th graders, all skill levels welcome!

The Children's Department is planning for summer! The theme is Adventure Begins at Your Library. Last summer we welcomed 500 registrations and expect this year to be the same. Each child registered will receive a summer learning passport with a reading challenge, some summer learning activities and more. We are even adding a new age group in partnership with the teen department. We are looping 7th & 8th graders in. There will be a Pre-K to 4th Grade passport and a 5th to 8th Grade passport. Registration will be at the summer reading table manned by our awesome summer teen volunteers. We have planned STEAM Week (which replaces Science in the Summer) for the middle of July and are looking forward to some excellent external educators to come in with fun and engaging activities.

Teen Programming (Submitted by Laurie Doan)

Teens in March held our monthly events including: board game and cards night, teen book groups, weekly crochet club, anime, Switch on the big screen, chess, and our Roundtable Discussion Dinner.

Teen Librarian, Laurie Doan is enrolled in Computational Thinking as part of Transforming Teen Services, an initiative of the Young Adult Library Services Association in partnership with Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The teen librarian attended three school musicals and two ARCH presentations in the district. Also off-site was an event at the McKaig Nature Center where teens unleashed their inner explorers and embarked on a night hike to find the "Missing McKaig Pot of Gold." After our successful quest, we gathered around a warm bonfire for classic s'mores and shared our discoveries with fellow adventurers.

March marked the beginning of our 5-week course Introduction to Python with Aarav. The course covers: Introduction and Installing Python & VS Code, Data Structures (Lists, Sets, Dictionaries etc), Control Flow (If, Else, Elseif, Loops), Functions and its uses, File Management, and Game Development using Python.

Our Remixed Classics program is ongoing.

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