

DAPL Annual Report 2024





The Big Picture



Circ and Patron Count

- 2024 was the DAPL's best year ever in terms of patrons through the door, program attendance, and circulation.
- 76,695 patrons visited the DAPL in 2024 over 6,000 more than 2023.
- 53,194 physical children's materials (books, kits, and learning bundles) circulated in 2024. A massive leap of nearly 10k items over 2023.
- We also saw a big jump in digital circulation 50,319 eBooks and digital audio books circulated in 2024.

Bookmobile and School Services

- The bookmobile made more stops in 2024 than ever before, with 306 visits across Stark, Slope, and Billings County.
- 2631 items circulated from the bookmobile.
- We served 1430 unique patrons across our bookmobile routes.
- The bookmobile traveled over 14,000 miles in 2024.



Notable Achievements



Internal

- Elevate the DAPL to future-focused status according to state guidelines to secure additional state funding. Confirmed by state library 6.3.24
- Address long-standing maintenance issues within the facility. To date, we have repaired and replaced windows, repaired masonry, and have budgeted to replace damaged external doors to historic preservation standards. And more.
- Trimmed library budget for 2025 by 20% without any reduction in service.
- We have for the first time, gotten library board representation for Billings, Slope, and Stark counties.
- 0 requests for reconsideration in 2024.

External

- Established programming partnerships with local schools. We now host monthly programs at the middle and elementary schools and are in talks with Trinity and DHS to do the same.
- Have doubled our outreach stops to elder care facilities in Dickinson.
- Created numerous partnerships through the creation of experience passes to offer library users educational access to facilities at vastly reduced prices.
- Hosted our first ever clubs fair, to form stronger bonds with organizations like the Lions, Rotary Club, and many more.

Storytimes



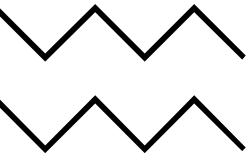
We've hosted **53 sessions** of Pre-School Storytime this year.
Pre-School Storytime features a craft to build motor skills.

We had **956** kids ages 3-5 in attendance.

We've hosted **26 sessions** of Tiny Tots Storytime this year.

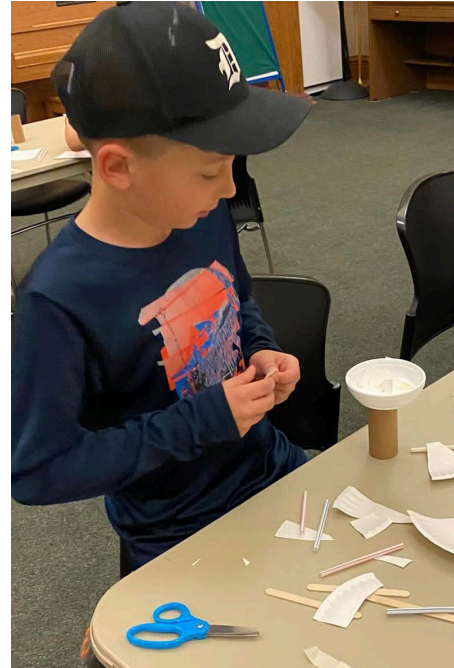
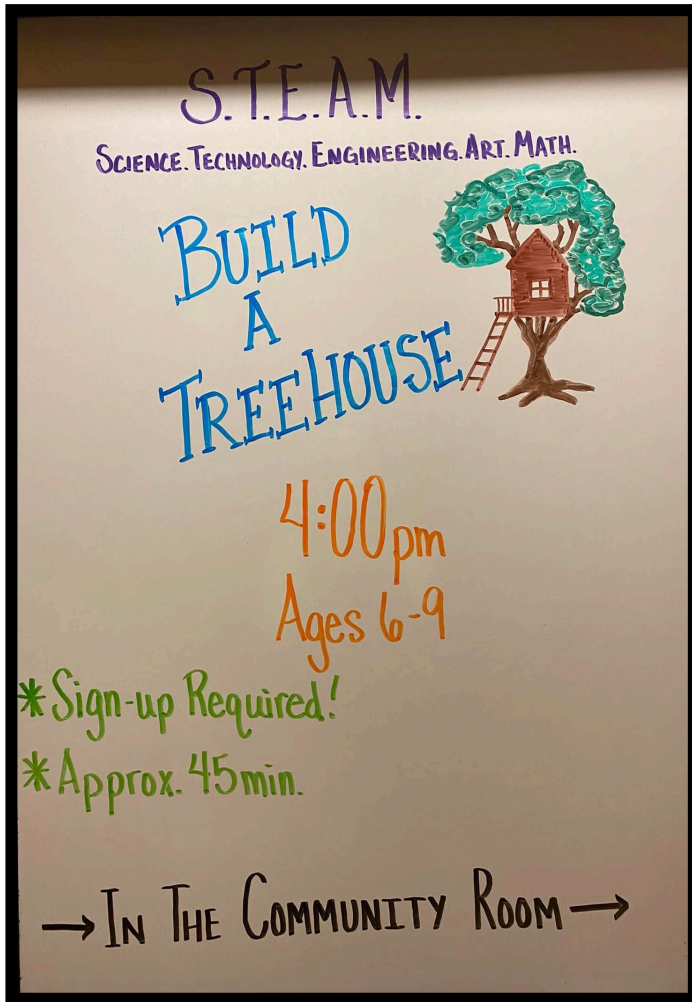
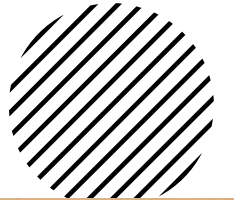
We had **410** kids ages 0-2 in attendance.





S.T.E.A.M.

(Science. Technology. Engineering. Art. Math.)



This program is for kids
ages 6-9.

We've hosted **12 sessions** of S.T.E.A.M. this year.

We had **165** kids ages 6-9 in attendance.



R.U.F.F. Readers

Reading Unjudged to Furry Friends



This event is done in collaboration with a pure-bred German Shepard that is licensed as a therapy dog and service animal.

Kids ages 6-12 can sign-up for a 15 minute time slot to read to Sammy.

We had siblings sharing time slots this month due to the popularity.

A colorful poster for the 'R.U.F.F. Readers' event. At the top, it says 'Dickinson AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY'. Below that, 'R.U.F.F.' is written in large, bold, black letters, followed by 'Reading Unjudged to Furry Friends' in smaller text, and 'READERS' in large, bold, red letters. A cartoon illustration of a German Shepherd dog is shown sitting next to an open book. A green circle on the right says 'SEPT. 23RD'. Below the dog, it says 'Read to a therapy dog!'. Further down, it says 'Open to ages 6-12' and 'Available Times: 4:00pm, 4:15pm, 4:30pm, 4:45pm'. A yellow box contains the text 'Children may be signed up for ONE 15 minute slot.' and 'Sign-up Required! Sign-up in the library or by calling 701-456-7700'. At the bottom, it says 'Parent/Guardian MUST be present at check-in to sign the participant waiver for their child.' The poster is decorated with various dog-related icons like bones and paw prints.

Dickinson
AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

R.U.F.F.

Reading Unjudged to Furry Friends

READERS

SEPT. 23RD

Read to a therapy dog!

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Dickinson Middle School Lunch Events



We hosted **2 DMS Lunch** events in 2024.

We had **100** t(w)eens ages 11-14 in attendance.



A new event in partnership with the Dickinson Middle School library for students ages 11-14 where attendees are provided with pizza and a new activity each month.

Partnerships



SEATS & FEET
SOCK AND UNDERWEAR DRIVE

Underwear and socks are the most under-donated, yet most needed items of clothing.

All sizes for boys and girls are needed.

Drop off **NEW** packages of socks and underwear. T-shirts, diapers, training bras, pants, and other clothing items can also be donated.

All donations will go to the local public schools Clothing Pantry and United Way of Dickinson.

SEPTEMBER 3RD-30TH
DROP OFF DONATIONS AT THE LIBRARY

Dickinson AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY
Dickinson PUBLIC SCHOOLS
United Way of Dickinson

Clothing Drive in partnership with United Way of Dickinson and Dickinson Public Schools.



EXPERIENCE PASSES

Use your library card to visit *amazing places* in North Dakota!

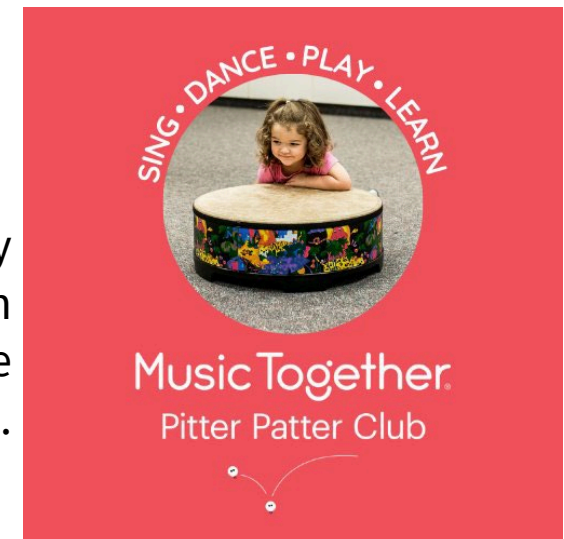
The poster features a blue background with a dotted pattern and three photos of North Dakota locations: a dinosaur skeleton, a building, and a landscape. Yellow stars and a heart icon are also present.

We are adding new passes for circulation to our collection. These passes grant free entry for one family.

We currently have passes for:

- Badlands Dinosaur Museum
- Dakota Zoo (Bismarck)
- ND State Parks
- ND Gateway to Science (Bismarck)
- Pioneer Trails Regional Museum (Bowman)
- West River Community Center

Pitter Patter Club hosted by Andrea Evenson. This fun music class is hosted at the library every other month.



SING • DANCE • PLAY • LEARN

Music Together.
Pitter Patter Club

The poster features a red background with a circular photo of a young girl playing a drum. The text 'SING • DANCE • PLAY • LEARN' is curved around the top of the photo.

Outreach



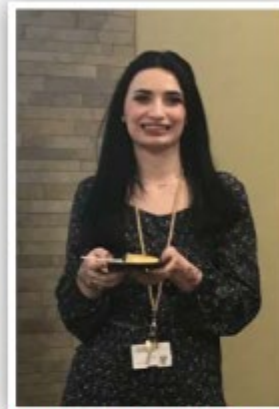
▲ Dorothy Ficek

Jim & Cara Murphy ►



Armchair Travels with Jayda

An activity the residents anticipate each month is "Armchair Travels." Jayda Borah from the Dickinson Public Library presents on other cultures during the activity. The residents sample different desserts from the country Jayda is presenting on. Recently, the residents learned about the Caribbean Islands. Flans, which are a popular dessert there, were served to the residents. Thank you to El Sombrero for making the delicious dessert for the activity!



▲ Jayda presenting on the Caribbean.

The library attends multiple community events such as Trick or Trunk, Harvest Festival, Health & Safety Fair, and DPS's Literacy Carnival.

We visit a few different senior homes a month for Armchair Travels. The picture above is from St. Luke's Newsletter. We also go to Able Day's Program once a month and Heart view for a presentation on library resources.

2024 Programming stats



- In 2024, we added over 120 brand new programs to our calendar.
- To offer some context, in 2023 we ran 357 programs.
- In 2024 we ran 492 programs (another record for the DAPL).
- We saw attendance and engagement up across the board as can be seen in our stats.

Total Children: 22,655 **5% increase** from 2023

Total Teens: 3,403 **46% increase** from 2023

Total Adults: 12,974 **32% increase** from 2023

Total People: 39,262 **16% increase** from 2023

