

GRAL Director's Report

SEPTEMBER 2023

ADVOCACY

-Minnesota Library Association Legislative Activities Calendar

MLA Legislative Updates: 10-10:30 a.m.

9/6/23, 11/8/23, 12/6/23

-Minitex Policy Advisory Council

I attended my first Minitex Policy Advisory Council meeting 9/8.

-2024 Budget Process for City of Grand Rapids and Itasca County

The City Council approve a Preliminary 2024 Tax Levy Resolution at the 9/25 meeting.

LIBRARY MANAGEMENT

-Library Façade Repair Project

I will have an update on the Façade Repair Project at the 9/13 Library Board meeting.

-RiverFest Electrical Upgrades

Complete.

-EV Charging

At the 8/28 meeting, the City Council approved an agreement to bring 4 EV charging stations to community hubs – including the library. No library funds will be used for this project.

FACILITIES MAINTAINANCE / SPACE

-RiverFest 2023

SOLD OUT!

-Library of Things

Staff are working on creating a permanent spot for our 'Library of Things'. A special thank you to Mike Randall from Facilities for his help.

-Summary for Library Façade Repair Project

The Library Façade Repair Project is best described as:

1. Replace exterior sealant, joints are in poor condition and the material is past its useful age.
2. Repair/replace flashing at front bay windows with a weatherproof membrane and protective cladding.
3. Remove and reset capstones, replace flashing with new material featuring a drip edge.
4. Fix (reinstall) the window in the east office, bringing it up to as new condition.
5. Perform sealant maintenance / repair around skylights. Sealant is in poor to fair condition.
6. Clean brick to remove stains and moss, add water repellent product to extend useful life.
7. Spot masonry repairs on estimated total surface area of 1,400 square feet.
8. Repaint exposed steel on building exterior.

END OF REPORT

August in Children's

It's time for me to take a deep breath and be grateful for a wonderfully busy summer at the library. August is a wind-down month for us, highlighted by the huge splash that is Summer Celebration.

- We hosted a puppet workshop this month, which was surprisingly well-attended. I avoid most August programming, because it is often lightly attended. This program was an extension of a July Legacy program in which patrons were given a box of materials with which to build a puppet.
- We also hosted Traveling Lantern Theater. Theirs was an excellent production, and I will look to possibly get them here earlier in the summer next year.
- Online Storytime filming continued.
- Page Turners (kids book club) and Teen Book Club met, and both groups voted to continue into the school year.
- We offered our final Scavenger Hunt of the summer. We will continue this again next year.
- Summer Celebration was, once again, a huge hit! This year we had to deal with rain, but, thankfully, our neighbors at KAXE allowed us to set up under the tent.
 - Thank you to all the Board members for your support! So many of you show up, work a table, greet and direct our guests, recruit volunteers, and help us promote the library to our community. You are the face of our celebration, and I would never want to do it without you.
 - This year we had a very generous grant from the Monday Evening Rotary Club of \$800, which nearly covered all the costs for the activity tables.
 - This year, finally, I got smart and purchased pails. Each year I need water for an activity or two, and each year I scramble to fill bowls. I finally figured out that a bowl with a handle (aka, a pail) would be infinitely more useable. 😊

- We had over 120 book logs returned for a book prize during Summer Celebration.
- We use the Kona Ice tally as our official attendance number. While some kids certainly get two, many adults don't have any, so this seems a reasonable number to use. This year, even with about an hour of rain, 531 cups of Kona Ice were distributed!

Each year, I am amazed at all the smiles during Summer Celebration. This year I snuck back to my office for five minutes to sit down and just look through my window. All the picnic tables and benches were full. People were playing lawn games. There was a constant line at the Kona Ice truck, as well as the popcorn table. Kids were running, folks were talking, it was a glorious celebration of books and community. And then? Yep, I took 10 days off.

Happy Reading!

Dayend Auto Renew	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Checkin

Description	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	%chg	Aug 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
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Normal	9919	10021	-2	11131	-11	71725	71039	0
Late	2240	1937	15	2064	8	15587	14955	4
Offline Normal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offline Late	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	12159	11958	1	13195	-8	87312	85994	1

Requests Placed

Description	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	%chg	Aug 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
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Placed	1950	1634	19	1816	7	15494	14767	4
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Total	1950	1634	19	1816	7	15494	14767	4

Requests Resolved

Description	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	%chg	Aug 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
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Cancelled	109	96	13	85	28	868	665	30
Filled	2681	2576	4	2797	-5	22950	22209	3
Expired	1	0	100	1	0	13	22	-41
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Total	2791	2672	4	2883	-4	23831	22896	4

Hold Resolved

Description	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	%chg	Aug 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
Picked Up	1547	1609	-4	1712	-10	13874	13370	3
Cancelled	9	5	80	3	200	52	28	85
Expired	165	132	25	133	24	974	1040	-7
Total	1721	1746	-2	1848	-7	14900	14438	3

Overdues

Description	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	%chg	Aug 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
1st Notice	722	650	11	536	34	4467	3776	18
2nd Notice	0	2	-100	0	0	17	16	6
3rd Notice	0	1	-100	1	-100	7	3	133
4th Notice	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	150
5th Notice	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	100
Final Notice	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	100
Notice # 7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notice # 8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notice # 0	265	152	74	193	37	1365	1089	25
Total	987	805	22	730	35	5864	4886	20

Borrower Delta

Description	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	%chg	Aug 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
New (Manual)	118	105	12	107	10	826	728	13

New (Manual)	524	328	59	346	51	4165	3864	7
Deleted (Manual)	155	335	-54	906	-83	3789	6245	-40
New (Batch)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deleted (Batch)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	679	663	2	1252	-46	7954	10109	-22

Acquisitions Activities

Description	Aug 2023	Jul 2023	%chg	Aug 2022	%chg	2023 YTD	2022 YTD	%chg
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Lines Ordered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Items Ordered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lines Received	350	219	59	197	77	2380	2249	5
Items Rcvd by Ven	367	220	66	199	84	2438	2278	7
Claims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total	717	439	63	396	81	4818	4527	6

Grand Rapids Area Library

Reference Statistics

August 2023

	August	YTD 2023
Door Count	3303	21,035
Reference Questions	232	1,788
Computer Help Over 5 Minutes	37	250
Tests Proctored	0	7
Public Computer Use: Sessions	331	1,876
Public Computer Use: Hours	290	1,541
Special Computer Sessions	154	1,091
Passports Accepted	140	812

August 2023

PP=140

5505

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 99202 6	2 99503 11	3 59412 4	4 66,002 8	5 29
6	7 60339 6	8 60,650 3	9 60906 13	10 60246 4	11 61,450 4	12 (30)
13	14 61783 8	15 62083 3	16 62634 * Summer Celebration 3	17 62,934 3	18 63,118 7	19 (24)
20	21 63464 7	22 63,775 6	23 64080 8	24 64362 9	25 64,546 4	26 (34)
27	28 64942	29 65,240	30 65488 2	31 65807 8		27

7 232
NP 154
L 37

August 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 8 NP C 	2 2+9 NP C 	3 1+9 NP C 	4 8 NP C 	5 37
6	7 3+11 NP C 	8 4+9 NP C 	9 3+11 NP C 	10 1+11 NP C 	11 8 NP C 	12 54
13	14 2+11 NP C 	15 4+8 NP C 	16 2+10 NP C 	17 7+3 NP C 	18 7 NP C 	19 54
20	21 16 NP C 	22 NP C 	23 14 NP C 	24 1 NP C 	25 NP C 	26 61
27	28 11 NP C 	29 6 NP C 	30 4 NP C 	31 5 NP C 		26

GRAL Children's Library Monthly Statistics

August 2023

Online Storytime

Programs: 5

Facebook views: 323

YouTube views: 587

Total views: 910

Artastic

Programs: 1

Facebook views: 57

YouTube views: 36

Total views: 93

Kits handed out: 150

Programs:	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name of Program</u>	<u>Number of people</u>
	8/01	Traveling Lantern	9
	8/08	Page Turners	6
	8/10	Puppets	30
	8/14	Teen Book Club	2
	8/16	Summer Celebration	531

Total Programs: 5 People: 578

Summer Reading Logs returned: 188

Reference Questions 2023: 510

Reference Questions 2022: 509

AUGUST 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		22 1	41 2	28 3	16 4	107 5
6	18 7 <i>No M*DDY</i>	32 8	21 9	22 10	11 11	104 12
13	21 14	12 15	17 16	11 17	12 18	73 19
20	20 21	37 22	25 23	38 24	19 25 <i>NO VAL</i>	34 26
27	31 28	22 29	14 30	18 31		81

510

GRAND RAPIDS AREA LIBRARY: 2023 Volunteer Report

Month	Regular Volunteers		RSVP Volunteers		Library Board		Library Friends		Library Foundation		Total	Total
	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours	# Vol	Hours
January	30	147.50	6	93.50	9	9.00	11	49.50	2	5.50	36	241.00
February	29	115.25	7	80.75	7	7.00	8	39.00	6	14.00	36	196.00
March	28	147.00	7	116.00	9	9.00	11	59.00	1	5.00	35	263.00
April	29	130.00	6	100.00	5	5.00	10	57.25	5	13.00	35	230.00
May	25	123.25	7	123.25	8	8.00	11	71.00	1	5.00	32	246.50
June	25	148.50	9	128.00	6	6.00	12	95.00	1	4.50	34	276.50
July	32	171.00	8	99.00	8	8.00	16	110.50	1	3.50	40	270.00
August	39	257.00	8	132.50	8	8.00	10	110.00	1	2.00	47	389.50
September												
October												
November												
December												
Total		1239.50		873.00		60.00		591.25		52.50	*	2,112.50

Special events of note were Summer Celebration and two Mystery Monday sales.