

## Library Quarterly Staff Report — December 2025

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General Library Statistics	September	October	November
Library Visitors	522	718	492
Books Checked Out	260	290	277
Movies Checked Out	76	35	66
Interlibrary Loans Checked Out	10	18	42
Digital Materials Checked Out	129	154	135
Other Materials Checked Out	26	40	26
Events Hosted at/by Library	23	36	23

### Programming List for Summer & Autumn 2025

- Makers Meetings – Ongoing Wednesday Evenings
- The Library Band and Banjo Lessons – Ongoing Thursdays
- Story Walk Trail with New Books Monthly
- Books for Babies – Ongoing Thursdays (September featured Hillary Landers from REACH Infant Learning Program offering hearing and vision screenings)
- Story hour for Preschool – Ongoing Wednesdays
- Kid's Learn Music with Kate Boesser – Ongoing Tuesdays and Wednesdays (Open to all but please check with Kate before attending)
- Peg-A-Palooza Cribbage Tournaments (September and October)
- Teen Sketchbook Club (twice a week in September)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Carrot Tasting with Geneva Mottet (September)
- Pizza, Puzzles and Games (September, October and November)
- Get Out the Vote Postcard writing (September)
- Harvest Fest Display and celebration focused on our Free Seed Library
- Spooky Read (October)
- Halloween Trick or Treating (October)
- Gustavus Community Cookbook Fundraising Effort call for submissions
- Artober, an annual art challenge with participants all over the world hosted by Kathy Hocker (October)
- Movie Nights once a month with popcorn and other treats for sale

- Zombie Doll Workshop – Librarian Morgan Park helped to make creepy custom zombie dolls
- Town Hall meeting with Senator Jesse Kiehl and Representative Andi Story
- Bad Art workshop – Librarian Morgan Park helps to free yourself of the shackles of your own expectations
- Life on the Slime Line, a Visual History of the Juneau Cold Storage on Zoom
- Gustavus Adult Book Club (Open to all and new books chosen monthly)
- Test proctoring (driver's license, EMT, AK Star)
- Curbside Services are still available 7 days a week!

## **Grant Status**

We recently applied for and received a Book Hook Grant of \$1000 to help the library extend our reference section, and to educate us on offering more reference services. We also plan to use some of the money on upkeep of our STEM Kits that need replenished after return.

We also have applied for \$1750 from the RurAL CAP Foundation Grant for what we are hoping will be a series of three interconnected workshops titled "Cultivating Food Sovereignty in Gustavus." This project will address the high cost and limited availability of fresh food by empowering residents with hands-on skills in small-scale, sustainable protein and vegetable production. If funded, Leader Geneva Mottet, a certified Master Gardner with over 20 years of experience in animal husbandry will be holding a Meat Rabbit Husbandry and Collaborative Cage Build in August, the third annual Community Carrot Tasting and Seed Saving Workshop in September, and a Rabbit and Poultry Show at the Gustavus Harvest Festival also in September.

The Public Library Assistance (PLA) Grant that we receive yearly accounts for \$7000 of our library materials budget. This year's application has been received and accepted and is being expended monthly.

The OWL (Online With Libraries) Grant has also been renewed and continues to greatly reduce the cost of our internet services.

The Alaska Community Foundation Grant continues to support all sorts of educational programming.

## **Staff Training and Professional Development**

Melisa attended The Library Journal's The Future of Resilient Communities: Libraries at the Center of Disaster Recovery, SirsiDynix's Connections, a recorded event with lots of sessions she is attending when she can find time such as Empowering Libraries to Connect Help Seekers, Elevating Employee Experience, Coping with Library Disruption, and Adaptation During Tumultuous Times. Melisa also attended The Library Journal's

webcast Designing Libraries Within Your Means and is planning on attending the American Library Association's Bite-sized Improvements: How to make small, meaningful changes to Library space in early December.

Morgan and Melisa both plan to attend the Alaska Library Association's Conference in Sitka in March of 2026 called Mapping the Future: Libraries in Changing times.

### **A Big Thank You to Our Volunteers!**

Our volunteers play a vital role in keeping our library thriving. Many assist with special projects during their shifts, and their support is deeply appreciated. As we transition from spring/summer to autumn volunteers, we can always use more helpers. If you or someone you know would enjoy contributing to the library, please consider volunteering!

### **Thank you to our City Council!**

We appreciate all your efforts on behalf of Gustavus.