



Quarterly Staff Report—March 2022

Gustavus Public Library

#907.697.2350

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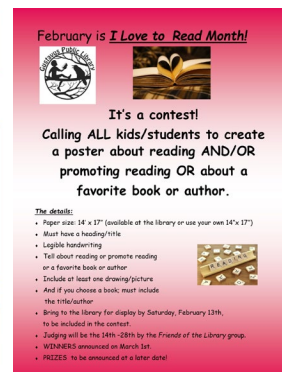
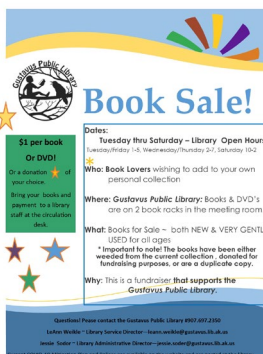
1. General Library Statistics: January-March 2022

	January	February	March (as of March 8)
Library Visitors	245	217	176
Books Checked Out	548	381	33
Movies Checked Out	229	171	39
Other Materials Checked Out	26	4	0
Events/Meetings Hosted at Library	12	16	7



Past, Current, and Upcoming Programming for Winter 2022

- Weekly School Groups (K-2 Class, Middle School Class)
- *I Love to Read Month* posters
- Grab and Go Kits
- Book Sale
- LEAP into Science Sessions
- Gustavus Virtual Book Club (new books chosen monthly)
- Books for Babies and 1000 Books Before K
- Test Proctoring (driver's license, IDEA, and EMT)
- Curbside Services 5 days/week
- Curbside distribution of COVID tests
- Custom-made book/DVD boxes
- Library Friends Monthly Meetings
- Information: 1040 Tax Forms and instructions, Permanent Fund Dividends forms for adults and children, 2022 Tide Tables, and more.
- Summer Reading Theme: *Read Beyond the Beaten Path*
- Library Literacy Camp weeks (TBD)
- Easter Egg Hunt event –April 17th Outside event (TBD)



2. Status of Active or Upcoming Grants

We are continuing to spend the funding from our FY22 PLA (Public Library Assistance) Grant. This grant gives us a total of \$7,000 which we budget for materials (books, DVDs, etc.). We purchase approximately 50 books/DVDs per month using funds from this grant. *Please let us know if you have a book or DVD request.* We'll be submitting the application for the FY23 PLA Grant by April 1.

In November, we received about \$6000 from an ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) grant. A requirement of the grant was to use \$3,500 to buy supplies and equipment to respond to COVID impacts within the community. We have used some of the funds to purchases materials and supplies to assembles STEM kits for all ages. *We have 12 STEM kits that are assembles and ready to be checked out by patrons! They include different games/toys/supplies for the topic of the kit and books that support the topic. Topics of the kits include:*

-  Robots and Mazes
-  Birds and Bird Anatomy
-  Escape Rooms
-  Human Anatomy
-  Building Bridges and Buildings
-  Family Fun
-  Juggling
-  Coding for 5+
-  Pasta-Making
-  Money, Money, Money
-  Coding for 4+
-  Magnets and Magic

STEM Kits Available for Check-Out!



The Gustavus Library is excited to announce that we have STEM Kits available to be checked out! These kits are packaged in easy-to-carry totes and contain hands-on activities and books.

Currently, the following kits are available:

- Human Anatomy, ages 8+
- Robots and Mazes, ages 7+
- Escape Rooms, ages 16+
- Birds and Bird Anatomy, ages 8+



Kits can be checked out for three weeks. Please stop by the library or call 907-697-2350 or email:
jessie.soder@gustavus.lib.ak.us or
leann.weikle@gustavus.lib.ak.us

COMING SOON: MORE STEM kits that focus on coding, pasta-making, magnets, money and more!

A peek to what you would find inside a STEM Kit Tub:



Building Bridges and Buildings STEM Kit



Human Anatomy STEM Kit

Good News! In October 2022, we applied for a \$1000 Book Hook grant, which was offered by an Alaska Brewing Company investor to Alaska small rural libraries this year. We proposed several ideas to support literacy from ages birth to 5. We didn't receive the grant, but Geoff and Marcy Larson recently donated \$500 to the library to help fund a part of our proposal. Thanks Geoff and Marcy! The donation will help support our *1000 Books Before K* initiative. We are still seeking funding for the *Books for Babes* work.

3. Existing Projects

Library Assistant, Melisa Gomb, has been working on re-cataloguing our entire collection since November. She's made a lot of progress! She's corrected spine labels on the classics, Alaska fiction, juvenile Alaska fiction and non-fiction, early chapter books, easy readers, and more. She has also moved some of the books in

order to increase checkouts and to make them easier to browse. Our library volunteers recently received training about some of the recent changes made to the catalogue and new locations of books during our last Library Friends and Volunteers meeting.

We are also moving ahead with a plan for a covered bike shed for the library. We've been in contact with Bre Ohlson, who originally proposed the idea. We've also connected with TJ Lazar to get some more information about the design he created five years ago. We plan to submit a document to the City Council soon.

4. Past, Current, or Upcoming Trainings

Jessie and LeAnn both attended the *Alaska Library Association Virtual Conference* in Feb. 2022. Highlights included: trainings in data sources and gathering, meeting many new Alaskan authors and introductions to the books and writing, and Summer Reading Program and Resources training. The theme for this year is: ***Read Beyond the Beaten Path***. Plans are being made to utilize our soon to be completed Hammock Reading Forest, Story Walk and other great outdoor learning areas at the library. In addition, the Gustavus Public Library is again partnering with the Glacier Bay National Park staff on summer programming.

LeAnn is applying to attend *S.L.I.M.* (Small Library Institute of Management) Training May 9-12. This training is designed for library directors who work in small community libraries in Alaska. It will cover the areas of: management, policy development, collection development, copyright and patron confidentiality, reference services, and youth services and technology planning.

5. Budget

We've been working with Tom and Eduarda during the FY23 budget process. Thank you to both as they have been great guides and mentors in this important process!

Thank you to our Council! We appreciate all of your efforts on behalf of Gustavus!

LeAnn and Jessie