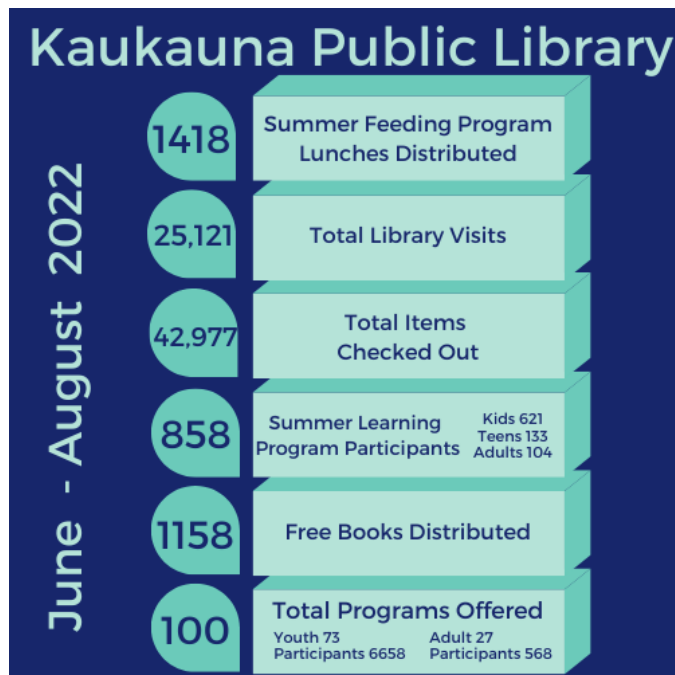


Summer Library Program

The 2022 Summer Library Program ended on August 20. We once again offered a print and virtual option through Beanstack. We had online participation equal to what it was last year, but what we found was that the completion rate with significantly lower for Beanstack users. An average of 58% of paper log users completed the whole program. Only 15% of Beanstack trackers completed all 10 weeks. An “out of sight, out of mind” problem, I presume. We do have funding for Beanstack from DPI beyond the initial 2020 grant. Our school district is also implementing Beanstack for the first time this year, so we will be looking for ways to increase awareness and engagement in its use through partnership with the schools.



You'll see a comparison of participation from 2021-2022.

	Pre-school	School Age	Teens	Adults	Total
2021	174	425	93	95	787
2022	214	407	133	104	858
Difference 2021 and 2022	+40	-18	+40	+9	+71

Programming:

In August we held 20 youth programs with attendance of 2525 (this included SLP participation) and 4 adult programs with attendance of 177 people. We also put together two teacher packs to support teachers on the first week of school in August. We had 800 people attend Fairy Walk on August 22. Fairy Walk included our fairy house contest, crafts, music, face painting, and a new bounce house. We are reevaluating the contest element of the event for 2023. Big thanks to our event sponsors and numerous volunteers for making the night a success!

Fall programming has started and are back to pre-pandemic participation levels. We have great crowds for all four of our weekly storytimes. We also continue to offer evening and weekend storytimes. Toddler Time in September had nearly 40 people attend to play and learn. New this fall the Appleton Seed Library and Grown from Seed group hosted a tomato tasting for more than 100 people, they brought in dozens of varieties of heirloom tomatoes for people to drop in and try. They also shared information about seed saving.



National Library Card Sign Up Month

Kaukauna joins public libraries around the state for a fun campaign to celebrate library cards. By signing up for a library card or showing their card when they visit any library in the state this month, users can get a vinyl sticker to show off their love of the library. OWLS and its marketing partnership with systems across Wisconsin provided these to us at no cost.



Banned Books Week

Kudos to Jenny for coming up with an engaging and interactive display to celebrate Banned Books Week throughout the month of September. Library visitors can guess the banned book under each reason for the challenge and take their photo in the display. Her initial post (photo here) reached over 10,000 people on Facebook, had 495 likes, and 45 shares. The comments on the post supported the freedom to read and the work the library does to ensure access to books. We have seen many, many patrons stop to explore the display in the library. I overheard one parent talking to her school aged children about banned and challenged books, why some people might challenge a book, and why it was important for families to discuss what is best for each household, letting people have the freedom to choose what they want to read for themselves. I encourage you to stop and explore the display for yourself.



Fox Cities Book Festival Scheduled for October 11-16. The Festival kicks off with a partner event with Lawrence University, Diverse & Resilient, and the Community Foundation to bring Carmen Miranda Machado to Lawrence for a virtual event on 10/11. We will host James R Lawrence and a panel of KPL Write Club members here at the library on 10/12. 10/13 is a special event honoring FCBF founder Ellen Kort at River Tyme Bistro. Author events continue in person and virtually 10-14/10-16. Visit FoxCitiesBookFestival.org for details and time.

Administrative Update

As Ashley has already shared with you, I have accepted a position with the Winnefox Library System. My last day with Kaukauna Public Library will be Wednesday, November 2. Between now and then I will be working with Ashley, James, Liz, and Spencer to transition my responsibilities to keep things moving forward! Part time staff will also take on small tasks temporarily until my replacement can be hired and trained.

I know I'll see you all between now and then, and hope to continue to find ways to support KPL, but I do want to thank you all so much for making me feel welcome from the moment I joined the library three years ago. It has been the best experience of my career. There is something magical about KPL, and while I am excited for this new opportunity for me personally and professionally, please know that I am only able to do it because of all I have learned from every person I have met here.