



ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2022- 2023



Regaining The High Ground

This past year, we have seen a great recovery at the Novi Public Library from the events during the pandemic and thereafter. I am happy to report that the Library has returned to full staffing levels with some promotions and new hires. Although we reduced some Sunday hours this past summer to address the shortage of staff, we do not anticipate having to do that in the future. Even during a time of short staff, the Library continued its extensive programs and increased its book and media loans and attendance levels. In the month of July, over 1,700 patrons entered the Library on an average daily basis due in part to electrical and power outages in the area. The Library averages 60,000 checkouts per month.

The Library Board engaged a consultant, Rethinking Libraries, to help create a long-term strategy to plan for the anticipated needs and to serve the existing and changing needs of Novi residents. I thank you if you participated in any of the surveys or the community focus group sessions to help formulate those long-term strategies.

It has become clear now that the Library is fully staffed and with high demand for its services, the annual budget surplus in the past will slowly become annual budget deficits in the future. The Library has been very fortunate that with years of surplus, a healthy reserve has accumulated to operate with some deficits in the next few years and still provide its first class services to the community. Although the Library building may look brand new, thanks to its dedicated staff, it is now over 13 years old and will require various capital replacements and repairs in the future. We look forward to finding new funding sources to continue and expand first class services which the community expects and deserves. This comes at the same time that the current millage, which funds the Library building, will expire.

I have to mention that libraries in general are now unfortunately facing a large number of book challenges and proposed book bans. The Novi Public Library has been proactive and continues to update its policies. Staff has attended several training seminars to properly deal with these ongoing issues in libraries.

I wish to thank my fellow dedicated Library Board Trustees. Director Farkas, Friends of the Novi Public Library, the entire Library staff, supportive residents and businesses, the immense support and assistance of City staff, City Council and Mayor Gatt for making the Novi Public Library one of the best and true gems in the City of Novi.

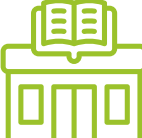
If you do not have a library card in your wallet or on your phone, I urge you to obtain one today!



*Mark Sturing,
Library Board President*

22/23 BY THE NUMBERS

A snapshot of how our community used their library in 2022-2023



4,167
new library cards issued



388,677
visits to the library

161,205


total items in our collection



36,914
program participants

560,339

computer logins 

836,089
total checkouts 

709,571 physical **126,518** digital



382
meeting room rentals



490
NPL @ Your Door items delivered

4,080

Teen Space visits 

756
items checked out from Lakeshore Lending Library 

1,956


summer reading participants

22,072


registered library card holders

2,659


iCube Makerspace training sessions

42,314


books read during summer reading



\$23,428.56
raised in program and event sponsorships, in-kind and general donations, and grants

\$10,000.00
Community Financial Credit Union
Lakeshore Lending Library

\$3,489.57
general donations 271 account, grants and in-kind donations

\$5,660.00
general donations 272 account

\$4,278.99
raised in program and event sponsorship





\$29,620
friends of NPL donations for programs, services, & technology

Strategic Planning

In Fall 2022, the Novi Public Library began working with Rethinking Libraries to engage with the Novi community for feedback for a new Five Year Strategic Plan. Feedback was gathered through a survey and multiple focus group sessions.

The following information came from the feedback from Novi residents, local leaders, business owners, partners, and staff, and will guide the Novi Public Library for the next five years. The Library Board approved this work in July 2023.

Mission

Cultivate Learning
Inspire Creativity
Foster Inclusivity

Vision

A vital community hub
for enrichment, exploration
and understanding.



Values

Welcoming and Inclusive Environment:

We embrace all voices and value diverse perspectives.

Community Focus: We engage through spaces, programs and services to support our community.

Collaboration: We explore partnerships to better connect resources and serve beyond our walls.

Innovation: We evolve with changing needs and are open-minded and adaptable.

Learning: We empower lifelong learners as they discover and cultivate their passions.

Creativity: We encourage adventure and wonder in all we do.



Focus Areas



Align Funding & Services

Share with the community the current gap between service expectations/needs and funding levels and explore opportunities to align funding to the service needs and expectations of the community.



Adapt Resources, Services & Facilities

Explore & develop efforts that optimize the quality, usability and community alignment of Library resources and facilities and ensure the community's aware of these resources, services & programs.



Improve Internal Communications

Improve processes and internal communications and expand decision input across the organization to keep service levels in-line with resources.



Staff Investment & Retention

Invest more in the Library staff to improve effectiveness, efficiency and job satisfaction to meet the current and future needs of the community.

Achievements 2022-2023

Unveiled new technology in the iCube Makerspace such as a graphics tablet, photo printer, Adobe computers, and more

Connected with Novi residents, community leaders, business owners, library partners and staff for feedback about library services strategic planning process to outline the next 5 years of library service

Received the Community Builder Award from the Michigan Association for Media in Education (MAME) in August 2022



Hosted spring Community Reads with Dr. Devorah Heitner, author of *Screenwise: Helping Kids Thrive (and Survive) in Their Digital World*, in partnership with the Novi Community School District and the Neighborhood Library Association in October 2022

Upgraded library's phone system in December 2022

Secured a new AC unit for the server room in January 2023

Held first annual Tiny Art Show in April 2023

Approved permanently fine free by Library Board in May 2023

Partnered with Dear Asian Youth Novi and Parks and Recreation for an AAPI Festival in May 2023

Increased accessibility on novilibrary.org with the ReciteMe toolbar, launched June 2023

Achieved a Summer Reading Kick Off party that saw 1,400 guests in attendance in June 2023

Launched new library app called myLIBRO in June 2023

Opened a fourth Read Box at Brookfarm Park, in partnership with Willowbrook HOA in May 2023



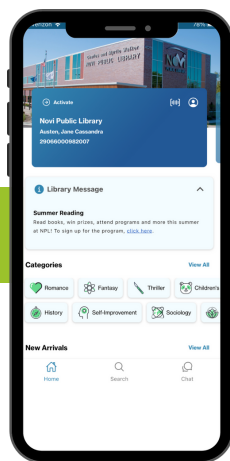
Looking Forward 2023-2024

Introducing new vision, mission and values statements along with a five year strategic plan

Hosting a fall Community Reads event in partnership with the Novi Community School District and the Neighborhood Library Association in October 2023

Updating library technology such as WiFi, printers/copiers and security cameras

Offering an additional study room to the 2nd floor, bringing the total to 10

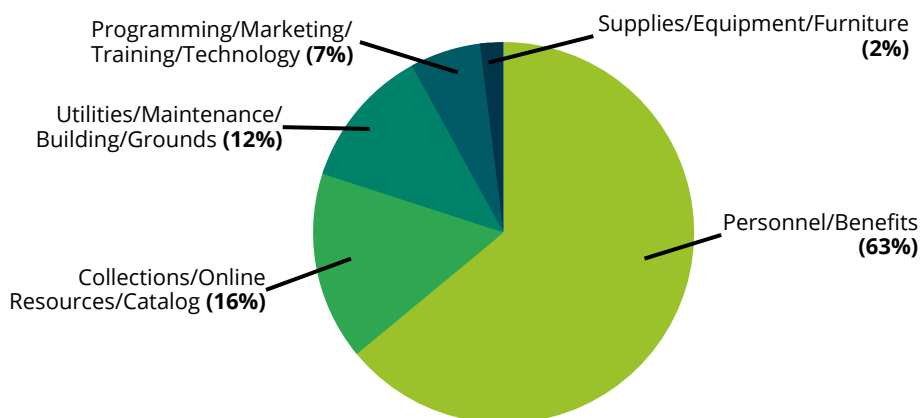




July 2022- June 2023 Financial Summary

(Audited: October 31, 2023)

271 - Library General Fund



Personnel/Benefits (63%)	\$2,172,053.70
Collections/Online Resources/Catalog (16%)	\$549,578.84
Utilities/Maintenance/Building/Grounds (12%)	\$430,158.39
Programming/Marketing/Training/Technology (7%)	\$251,868.08
Supplies/Equipment/Furniture (2%)	\$69,056.77
Total Expenditures	\$3,472,715.78
Total Revenue	\$3,507,953.84
Ending Fund Balance	\$2,598,740.02

272 - Library Contributed Fund

Total Expenditures	\$18,399.05
Total Revenue	\$60,930.71
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,698,587.00

Our Leadership



Mark Sturing
President



Kathy Crawford
Vice President



Sreeny Cherukuri
Treasurer



Brian Bartlett
Secretary



Priya Gurumurthy
Trustee



Kat Dooley
Trustee



Ajeeta Gawalapu
Trustee



Julie Farkas
Library Director



Abhay Kakarla
Student
Representative