

2023-2024 Novi Public Library Annual Report



Cultivate **Learning**
Inspire **Creativity**
Foster **Inclusivity**

The Next Twenty Years



Mark Sturing,
Library Board President

We have had a great and exciting year at the Novi Public Library. I am happy to report that the Library is almost at full staffing levels and operating all normal hours. The Library continued its extensive programs with outstanding attendance levels and increased its book and media loans. The Library had over 390,000 visits from patrons and over 835,000 checkouts of materials this past year. See the Annual Report for this year's highlights.

With the assistance of the consulting firm, Rethinking Libraries, the Board adopted a Strategic Plan with four new goals 1. Align Funding and Services, 2. Improve Internal Communications, 3. Adapt Resources, Services and Facilities 4. Staff Investment and Retention. The Library's new Mission of **Cultivate Learning, Inspire Creativity, Foster Inclusivity** sets the stage for how the Board and staff are engaging the community today!

With a high demand for its services, the annual budget surpluses in the past have ended and the Library will gradually use some of its existing reserves to maintain current levels of service, materials and activities as well as fund future capital needs and repairs. The Library has been very fortunate that with years of surpluses and fundraising, the Library has accumulated a reserve to operate with some deficits in the next few years and still provide its first class services to the Novi community. Although the Library building may look brand new, thanks to its dedicated staff, it is now almost 15 years old and will require various capital replacements and repairs in the future, including a new automated return system which allows instant check-in of returned materials and 24/7 return opportunities at the Library's drive-up window. We look forward to finding additional sources in the next few years to continue and expand services which we believe the Novi community expects and deserves, about the same time that the current millage which funded the Library building will expire, so that the Library can continue to serve its community at the same high level.

The Library has been operating for over 14 years with the same millage from a prior building, which was about one-third its current size. Replacing the current building millage at its expiration with a new millage at a much lower amount (about a half) would be a means of securing the funding needs for the next twenty

years if that is the desire of Novi residents. In other words, the combined existing millage for operating and a smaller new millage for operating and capital improvements at the time the current millage for the building expires would be less than today's combined operating and building millages.

I have to mention that some libraries in our region and across the country have unfortunately faced a large number of book challenges and proposed book bans. The Novi Public Library has been proactive and continues to update its policies. In addition, staff have attended several training seminars to properly deal with these ongoing issues in libraries. We understand that the purpose of a public library is to serve the wants and needs of all of its residents.

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 Fisher, for making the Novi Public Library one of the best and a true gem 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!

Very truly yours,

*Mark A. Sturing
Library Board President*

**[Click here to download our
2023-2024 Annual Report summary handout.](#)**

Our 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.



Early Literacy Play Area at the Novi Public Library

Our Highlights

July 2023 - June 2024



Highlight 1: Created Strategic Work Plan for 2024-2025

At the April 25, 2024 Library Board Meeting, Trustees approved a one-year Strategic Work Plan for 2024-2025. This plan details the ways the Novi Public Library will work towards its four strategic goals:

- Align Funding & Services
- Improve Internal Communications
- Adapt Resources, Services & Facilities
- Staff Investment & Retention

[Click here to download a PDF of the details of this work plan.](#)

In April 2024, the Novi Public Library launched a new event calendar and meeting room software called Library Market. This new software allows patrons to register for programs and request a meeting room online.

This new software allows better flexibility for patrons when checking our meeting room availability when the Library is closed. The mobile-friendly software provides for easier registration for programs.

[Click here to go to our new calendar and meeting room software.](#)



Highlight 2: Launched New Online Calendar & Meeting Room Software



Highlight 3: Participated in DIA Inside | Out Program

In partnership with the City of Novi's Parks and Recreation Department, the Novi Public Library participated in the DIA Inside | Out Program from May 2024-October 2024. The Library received a beautiful reproduction of "The Piazza San Marco" by Canaletto, which was installed just outside the main entrance.

Along with the program, patrons were able to participate in a BINGO activity to explore other reproductions throughout the City.

Additional Highlights

- **Improved** building Wi-Fi with newer and faster technology in August 2023.
- **Displayed** a story walk at Pavilion Shore Park from September-October 2023.
- **Partnered** with City of Novi Parks and Recreation for a new Read and Recreation program, from September-October 2023.
- **Hosted** Emiko Jean, author of *Mika in Real Life*, for the 13th Annual Community Read in October 2023.
- **Completed** a disability audit of the building in November 2023.
- **Received** new electric vehicle charging stations in Library's parking lot in January 2024.
- **Replaced** the security cameras throughout the building in January 2024.
- **Installed** new shelving in the youth area for STEAM kits in February 2024.
- **Enhanced** youth play area with new toys, thanks to a generous donation from the Friends of Novi Library in February 2024.
- **Held** a successful Tiny Art Show in April 2024.
- **Welcomed** Novi Photography Club photo exhibit in April 2024.
- **Collaborated** with Dear Asian Youth Novi (DAYN) for annual API Heritage Festival in June 2024.
- **Celebrated** a with over 1,000 attendees of all ages during our 2024 Summer Reading Kick-Off Party in June 2024.
- **Upgraded** building paging system and remote printing option (Princh) for patrons in June 2024.



Story Walk
at Pavilion Shore Park 2023



Tiny Art Show 2024



Summer Reading
Kickoff Party 2024

Looking Forward to 2024-2025

- **Implementing** initial Strategic Planning Goals for 2024-2025.
- **Updating** Teen Area on the 2nd Floor to allow for more seating and group studying while making the Young Adult Collection more accessible.
- **Welcoming** Michigan author, Kelsey Ronan, for 14th Annual Community Reads event.
- **Hosting** a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Human Library® Event.
- **Upgrading** Library technology such as printing and scanning.
- **Preparing** plans and financial needs for a future bond initiative.

- **Improving** internal communication and organizational work culture.



Lakeshore Lending Library, located at Lakeshore Park 601 S. Lake Dr, Novi.

Our Year in Numbers

A snapshot of how our community used their library from July 2023–June 2024.

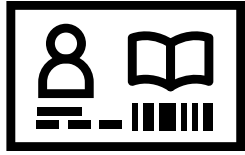
Circulation

835,917

total checkouts

676,938 physical 158,979 digital





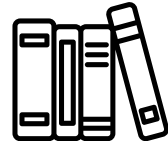
3,947

new library cards issued



23,295

total cardholders
(5% increase)



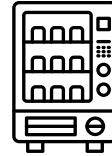
153,863

total items
in our collection



304

NPL @ Your Door items delivered



1,004

checkouts at Lakeshore Lending Library
(32% increase)

General/Programming



390,728

visits to the Library



8,751

Teen Space visits (114% increase)



465

meeting room rentals
(21% increase)



1,636,773

computer logins
(library computers & wireless)
(192% increase)



3,351

iCube Makerspace
training sessions
(26% increase)



43,672

program participants
(18% increase)



2,723

Summer Reading participants
(39% increase)



41,556

books read during
Summer Reading

Donations/Sponsorships



\$29,298.79

Friends of Novi Library donations for Library programs,
services and technology



\$24,990.78

raised in program and event sponsorships,
in-kind and general donations

\$2,365.78

general donations 271 account,
in-kind donations

\$16,725.00

general donations 272 account

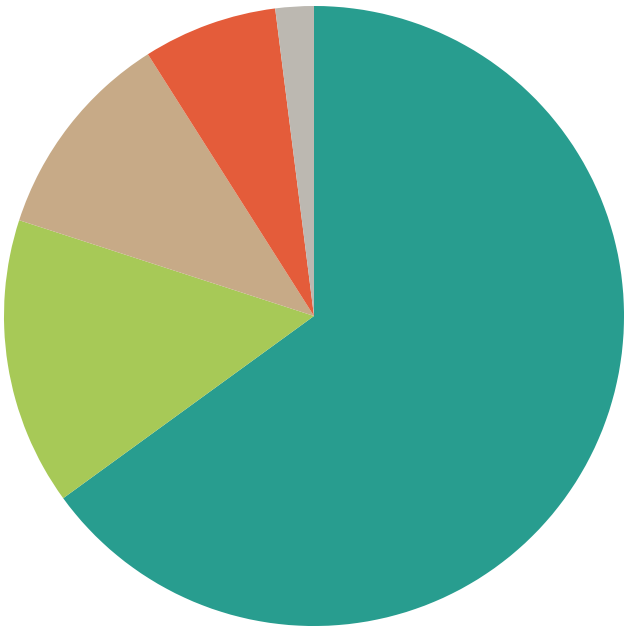
\$5,900.00

raised in program and event
sponsorship

July 2023-June 2024 Financial Summary

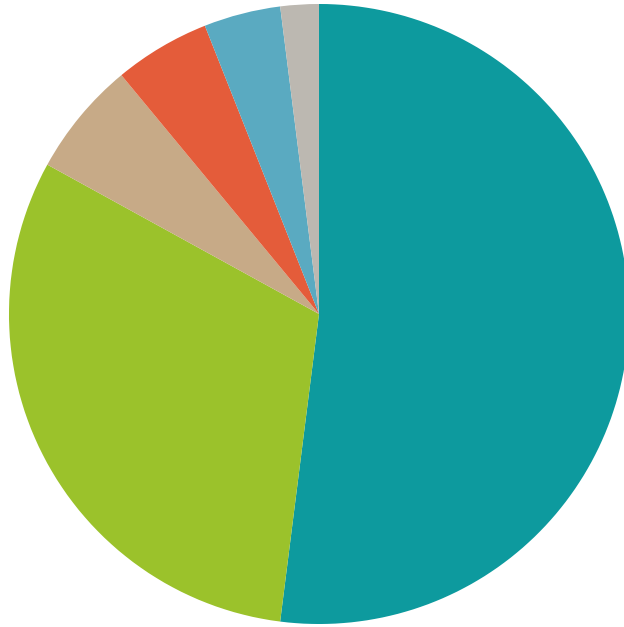
Audited: October 31, 2024

271 - Library General Fund



Personnel/Benefits (65%)	\$2,448,748.97
Collections/Online Resources/Catalog (15%)	\$586,817.53
Utilities/Maintenance/ Building/Grounds (11%)	\$417,071.57
Programming/Marketing/Training/ Technology (7%)	\$258,566.85
Supplies/Equipment/Furniture (2%)	\$82,960.41
Total Revenue	\$3,827,332.74
Total Expenditures	\$3,794,165.33
Fund Balance in Reserve	\$2,596,669.43

272 - Library Contributed Fund



Capital Projects - Technology/Building (52%)	\$111,045.89
Building/Grounds (31%)	\$66,001.70
Collections/Raising a Reader (6%)	\$12,266.16
iCube Makerspace (5%)	\$9,856.18
Programming (4%)	\$8,612.26
Staff Recognition/Undesignated (2%)	\$3,542.10
Total Revenues	\$156,688.28
Total Expenditures	\$211,324.29
Fund Balance in Reserve	\$1,643,951.09

Our Leadership



Mark Sturing
President



Kathy Crawford
Vice President



Brian Bartlett
Treasurer



Kat Dooley
Secretary



Karla Halvangis
Trustee



Ajeeta Gawalapu
Trustee



Lori Burke
Trustee



Alexandra DeMore
Student Representative



Alyna Dohadwala
Student Representative



Julie Farkas
Library Director



Novi Public Library Staff

Further Reading

- [Strategic Work Plan 2024-2025](#)
- [Strategic Planning Information](#)
- [Library Market Program Calendar](#)
- [Library Market Meeting Rooms](#)
- [2023-2024 Annual Report Summary](#)

Policies Approved This Year

- [Patron Behavior Policy](#)
 - [Meeting Room Rental & Use Policy](#)
 - [Information & Reference Services Policy](#)
 - [Emergency Closing Policy](#)
 - [Collection Development Policy](#)
 - [Hours of Operation Policy](#)
 - [Financial Policy](#)
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Contact Us

For further information, please reach out to us at administration@novilibrary.org.

Novi Public Library

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Updated 12/30/24