



2023

ANNUAL REPORT

Lake Region Public Library

LAKE REGION PUBLIC LIBRARY GOVERNANCE



Devils Lake City Commission

Jim Moe, Mayor

Rob Hach

Shane Hamre

Jason Pierce

Dale Robbins

The mission of the Lake Region Public Library is to enrich our citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration.

Ramsey County Commission

Jeff Frith, Chair

Lee Gessner

Bill Hodous

Blaine Volk

Paul Wilhelm

Lake Region Public Library Board of Directors

Jessica Fish, President

Daniel Howell, Vice-President

Paulette Paulson, Secretary

Cali DeMarce

Lee Gessner

Dale Robbins

Benjamin Scallon

The Lake Region Public Library Board of Directors is responsible for establishing the mission and vision for the library, determining the policies implemented to govern the library, hiring and evaluating the Library Director, advocating for the library, and overseeing the finances of the library.

Library Staff

Maddie Cummings, Library Director

Trista Beatty, Assistant Director

LaVae Haaland, Children's Librarian

Katiri Bjornson, Circulation Assistant

Samantha Bischof, Circulation Assistant

Contact Us

423 7th St NE

Devils Lake, ND 58301

(701)662-2220

www.devilslakendlibrary.com

Hours

Monday - Wednesday, Friday

9:00 am - 6:00 pm

Thursday

9:00 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday

10:00 am - 3:00 pm



2023 AT A GLANCE



2,355
Total open hours



35,573
Total visitors



34,940
Total physical items in the collection



1,914
Total active cardholders



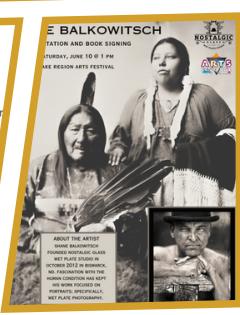
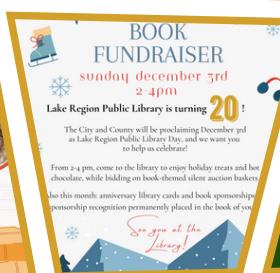
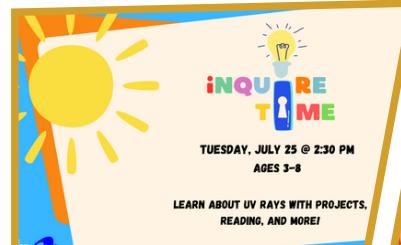
176
Total programs



3,074
Total program attendance



PROGRAM SAMPLES



“
“I really liked to see all the new activities this year - yoga and gardening and painting - keep that stuff up!”
”



AN AVERAGE DAY IN THE LIBRARY IN 2023



101
People visited the library



19
People used a computer

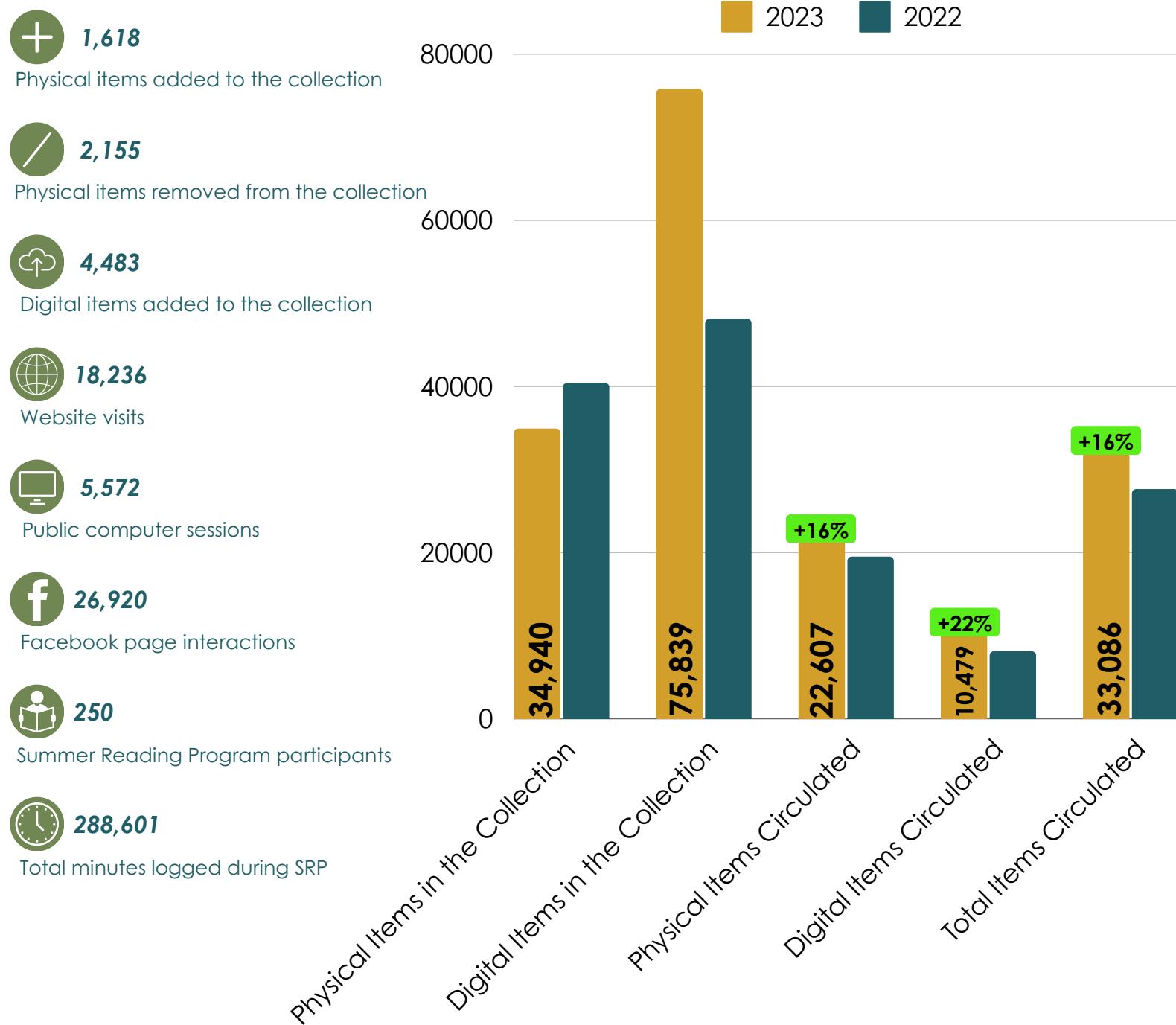


94
Items circulated



60
Questions asked of library staff

2023 STATISTICS & CIRCULATION

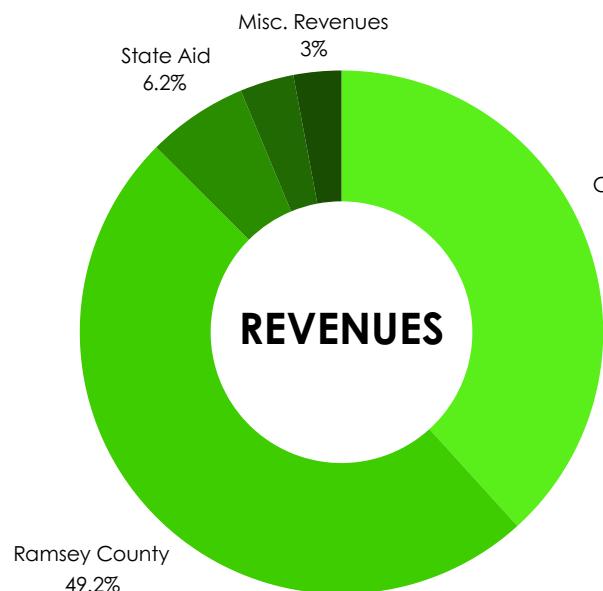


“

“Under the new leadership of Maddie and Trista, there has been a ton of wonderful changes including access to feminine products, all sorts of inclusive books and programming, as well as the introduction of the Library of Things. Given the limited space, I’m not sure it could be expanded, but the Library of Things is a phenomenal opportunity to continue to expand upon. This gives so many access to hobbies or items they may not otherwise be able to try. I also see the library expanding upon its awesome summer activities like yoga and Zumba. Book club has also been a nice addition despite my being unable to take advantage.”

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2023 FISCAL REPORT



City of Devils Lake: \$103,621

Ramsey County: \$133,266

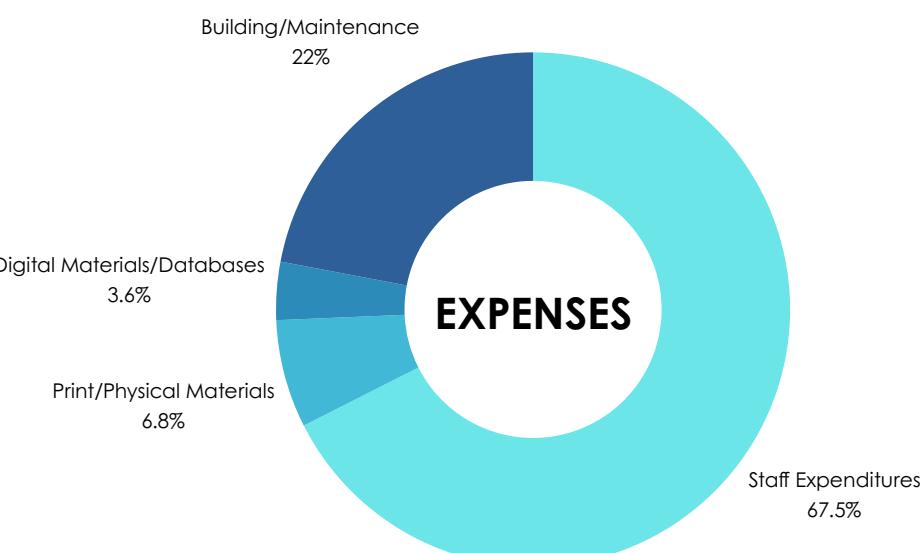
State Aid: \$16,868

Grants/Private Donations: \$9,030

Misc. Revenues: \$7,998

TOTAL REVENUES

\$270,783



TOTAL EXPENSES

\$282,825



FROM MADDIE

2023 was a truly great year for so many reasons. It was the first year since 2020 that there was no turnover in full-time staff. It was the year we implemented the first Summer Reading Program for adults, with amazing success and even greater feedback. **It was also the first year that the number of visitors to the library was remotely close to the numbers we saw before COVID-19 changed the world in 2020.**

Of course, the best part of 2023 was the milestone we hit on December 22nd- **the 20th anniversary of the Lake Region Public Library!** Succeeding the Carnegie Library just across the street which had been open since 1910, the Lake Region Public Library was meant to be a fully accessible facility that had more space for programs and collections for patrons of all ages and abilities to enjoy. **As we celebrate 20 years of fulfilling that goal, the facility has begun to show signs of aging that need to be addressed.**

At the end of 2023, due to its yearly issues and unsustainability of the many patches and small fixes over the past 20 years, **the Lake Region Public Library Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve the replacement of the HVAC system at the Lake Region Public Library.** With three of six heat pumps not working at all and therefore one heat pump needing to heat three zones of the building, it was costing thousands of dollars a year in maintenance that ultimately should have been replaced years ago. We have been working with Total Heating and Air to replace the HVAC system and completed two of three phases, with only the replacement of the final heat pump and main unit remaining. **The building is reliably warm and cool as needed, maintains a comfortable and appropriate humidity for housing tens of thousands of books, and is controllable by staff with a push of a button as opposed to an out-of-town control company.**

With the most pressing building issue taken care of, **the next steps are addressing accessibility challenges and cosmetic changes.** Thanks to incredibly generous grants from the North Dakota State Library and the American Library Association, in 2024 the Lake Region Public Library will be **painting the interior of the library, installing a remote access point** for secure entrance to the library's Community Room outside of regular hours, **working with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community** to better improve our services and programs for all patrons, and **amending and adding our mobility-accessible entrances.** We are so excited for all these initiatives and look forward to a busy year!

I would like to thank **Commissioners Gessner and Robbins, Spencer, Brina, Jessica, Saraye, Kandy, and the City of Devils Lake staff and employees** for all their help and collaborating with the Lake Region Public Library for the past year. I am so looking forward to seeing where our partnerships with Devils Lake and Ramsey County take us in years to come.



Maddie Cummings, Library Director

[Email](#)

701.662.2220