
Library Board

Monday, January 31, 2022

Regular Meeting

Item F2

Approval of Library Annual Report 2021-22

Staff Contact:

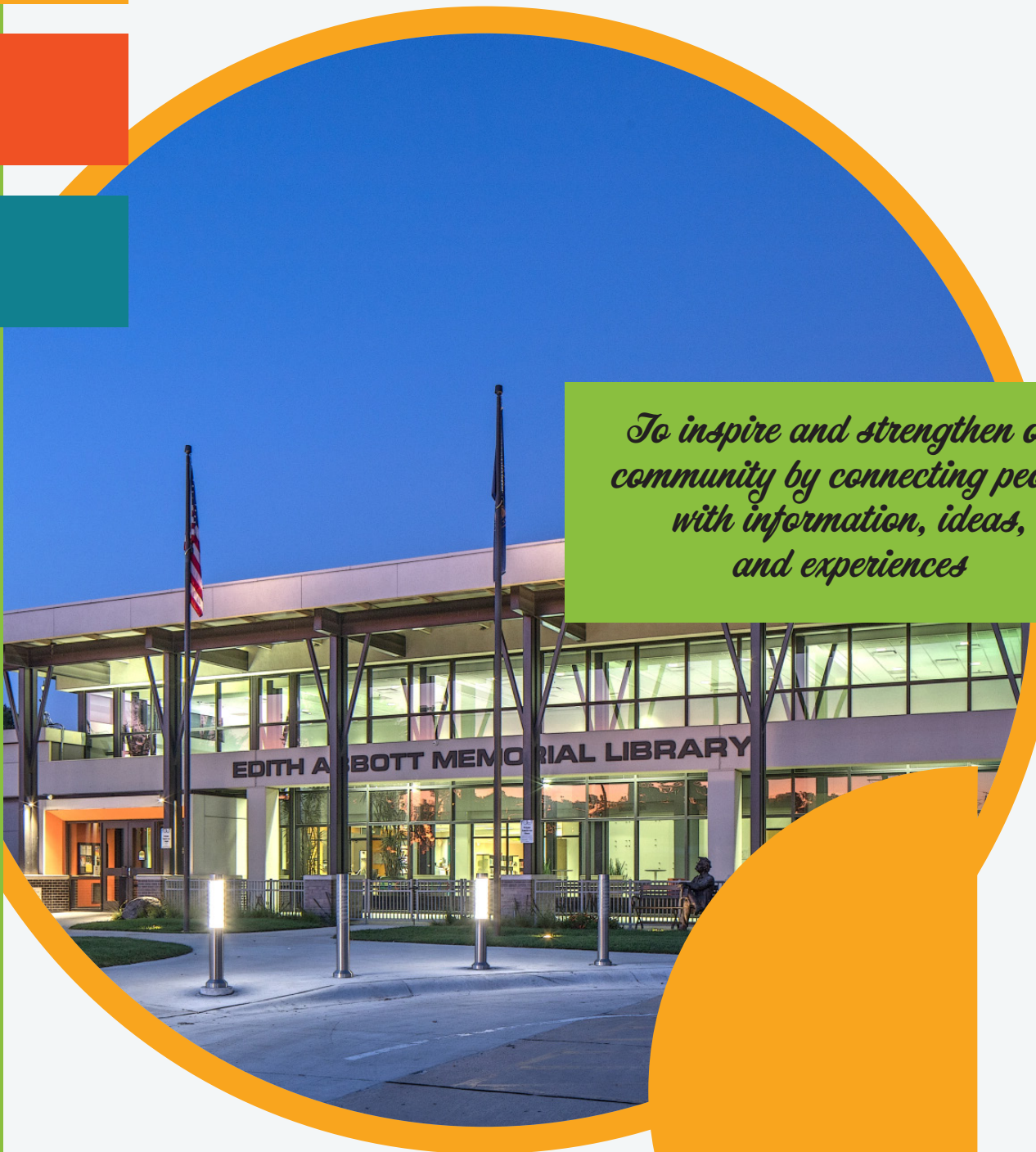


Grand Island
Public Library

2021 - 2022 Annual Report

JANUARY 31, 2022

FOR OCTOBER 1, 2020
THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2021



*To inspire and strengthen our
community by connecting people
with information, ideas,
and experiences*

From the Director's Desk

Library Director Celine Swan

The Library Had an Innovative Year

The Grand Island Public Library has continued to operate during the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic by being open and providing much needed services to the public.

We have continued to meet the public's needs by providing in-person, virtual, and hybrid services and programming.

The future of the Library includes challenges with reduced staffing and, as a result, reduced operating hours. As patrons continue using the Library, more programming, expanded open hours including nights and weekends, and additional services will become a necessity.

The Library is not just a place for books. We serve many, many patrons, and our Library and staff have evolved to serve the times.

In spite of the challenges, we accomplished many things:

- Replacement of an out-of-date HVAC system
- Appointment of Laura Fentress as the new Youth & Family Services Librarian
- Selection of a new and improved Integrated Library System and Public Catalog
- Completion of the children's outdoor Learning & Discovery Center
- Increased social media presence
- Expanded community partnerships with organizations across Grand Island and across Nebraska
- Grand Island Public Library Board began working on the newest Strategic Plan



**Makerspace programming
and activities continue to
grow in popularity**



By the Numbers



31,553
Registered Patrons

227,708
Checkouts
(up 5.2% from 2020!)

97,727
Items in Print

80,441
Digital Items

15,823
A/V Items

10,439
Items added

15,720
Items withdrawn

Catalog Migration

In December 2020, a team of library staff members including Director Celine Swan, Librarian Shaun Klee, Library Assistant IIs Lori Medlin and Jeanne Simons, and Library Assistant Is Nicole Roundy and Lindsay Wassinger began exploring options to replace the previous Integrated Library System (ILS) and Public Catalog.

After demonstrations of many great products, the selection committee recommended migration from PTFS Bibliovaiton to The Library Corporation’s (TLC) Library•Solution. Migration to the new system began in Spring 2021, was completed on August 9, 2021. Patrons and staff began using the new system the very next day, August 10.

Highlights of Library•Solution include:

- Text Message notifications
- Improved public catalog searching and experience
- Integration of Overdrive titles with the catalog
- Dedicated children’s catalog
- Enhanced content including cover images and reviews



Technology Overhaul

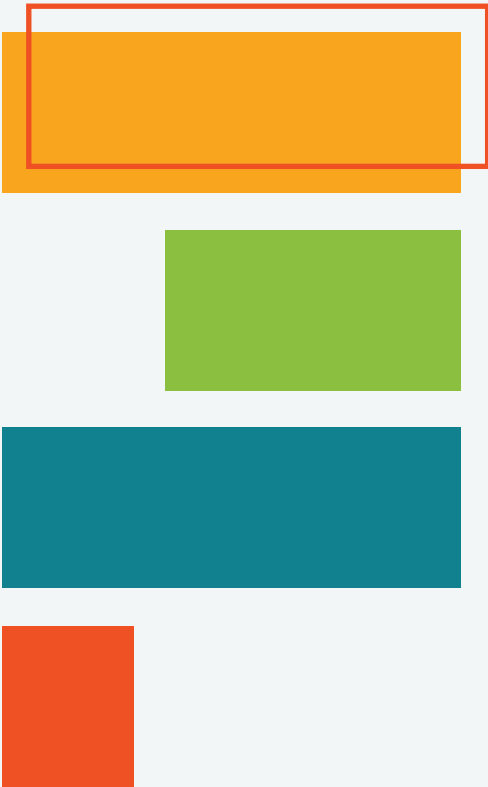
GIPL began a massive overhaul of technology, from catalog to computers .

The first major project was a long overdue review and replacement of the Integrated Library System software and Public Catalog (see page 6).

A new document scanning station was added in the fall replacing slow, outdated flatbed scanners. The new Envisionware Library Document Station scans to email, an external storage device, or cloud storage in just a few easy steps.

Thanks to numerous grants, the long overdue process of replacing the public computers began. The Adult Computer Area was the first area in which new computers were added.

Plans for the upcoming months include replacement of the remaining public and staff computers, and upgrading the RFID security and self-checkout system with new equipment. New technology for the Library's Makerspace area is also in the works.



**Primo
Programs**



Artist Nancy Fairbanks taught teens and tweens about pottery and clay arts, Summer Reading 2021

Primo Programs

Programming returned in full-swing last year

*Funding for programs
and supplies generously
provided by the Grand
Island Public Library
Foundation.*

Programming this fiscal year was a combination of online, hybrid, and in-person. We had a full schedule of events for patrons of all ages.

KIDS' & TEENS'

Winter and spring programming for ages 0 to 18 was largely virtual including hybrid Winter Break 2020 and virtual Bear Fair. Summer and fall 2021 saw the gradual return of in-person programming and regular in-person events including storytimes and Teen Library Council. Our 2021 Victorian Tea Party remained virtual.

SUMMER READING 2021

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Checkers Library TV: Weekly educational videos for kids starring Checkers the Inventor and his robot sidekick Snoozer.

Preschool Storytime: Weekly videos with a story and related craft. Craft kits were offered for pick-up so kids could create along with the video.

Baby & Toddler Storytime: Weekly songs, rhymes, bounces, and stories for ages 0-2.

IN-PERSON PROGRAMS

Partnerships: Parks & Rec Kinder Camp outreach and outdoor Storytimes and crafts.

Family Storytime: Outdoor storytime and

crafts in the new Early Literacy Outdoor Discovery Area.

Teen Crafts & STEM: Guest presentations and Makerspace events for teens and tweens to craft and create.

ADULTS

Adults enjoyed a robust series of events, including:

BOOK CLUBS

Adult Book Club and To Read or Not To Read resumed in-person meetings. In partnership with local organizations a new Bygone Book Club, dedicated to discussing historical books of Grand Island and Central Nebraska began.

AUTHOR VISITS

One Book, One Nebraska 2021 author James Kimble, and USA Today bestselling author Alex Kava joined us for virtual author talks during Summer Reading. Local author Jeff Barnes presented a lecture about the Historical Markers of Nebraska.

HERITAGE HOUR

GIPL, Hall County Historical Society, Prairie Pioneer Genealogical Society, and the Betsey Hagar DAR chapter began a popular monthly program dedicated to family and local history topics.

GIPL Annual Report



Gary Staab's

New Heights

Artwork donated by the Staab Family in September 2021