

Lackawanna Public Library

Community Report 2023



2023: 101 YEARS OF LIBRARY SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

The Lackawanna Public Library is an important part of the Lackawanna community, providing services to the public for over 100 years. Library users are not only able to access materials to enrich their lives, but to attend recreational programs, educational opportunities, and connect with other residents. Libraries are so much more than books. We provide access to wifi, internet, technology training, and act as a community hub for needed resources such as the distribution of home emergency kits in preparation for our Western New York winters.

PARTNERSHIPS

The Lackawanna Public Library is grateful to have long-standing partnerships with local organizations like the Friends of the Lackawanna Public Library, The Lackawanna Historical Association, and The City of Lackawanna School District. Because of support from other non-profits in the Buffalo and Erie County area, such as the YWCA, Literacy Buffalo Niagara and The Wilson Foundation, we are able to extend our reach further into the community. Thank you to all of our volunteers and supporters that help us provide needed services to Lackawanna and beyond.

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LIBRARY DIRECTOR
Pamela Edholm

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PROGRAMS AND OFFERINGS

Throughout 2023, the Lackawanna Public Library was able to offer rich and diverse programming for people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. In partnership with local organizations, talented performers from the Western New York area, and local legislators, we reached over 7,000 participants with our programs. We strive to meet the needs of our community by providing educational and enrichment opportunities from birth and up. Lifelong learners are always welcome here!

Our toddler time, which encourages early literacy through interactive stories, songs, and activities continues to grow. Held every week at 10:30 AM on Tuesdays and Fridays, we encourage you to join in the fun. Stop by and check it out! Our monthly family events were a hit in 2023 as well. Our Iftar Party in March brought in 89 participants and our Not-So-Spooky Halloween event brought over a hundred participants. We made a lot of memories together this year. Something new we tried this year was a Halloween Costume Swap and Giveaway. This was a big hit with families. We had over 40 people come shop and we were featured on the local news. We are definitely going to continue this new tradition next October!

Adult literacy is fostered in our library with our weekly English Conversations for the U.S. Citizenship Test program in partnership with Literacy Buffalo Niagara. Our monthly Community Book Club always provokes fascinating discussion. Adult programming has expanded to include our monthly Adult Craft Circle and our Spice Explorers Club.

The Lackawanna Public Library also served as an important distribution point for Emergency Preparedness Kits to help residents prepare for Western New York weather emergencies. And, of course, we are here for you when you need solar eclipse glasses and COVID tests, too. The Lackawanna Public Library is honored to support our community and strive to continue our services to our residents for the next 101 years!

2023 Statistics

Library Visits

33,578

**Items
Circulated
53,497**

**Computer
Sessions
6,044**

**Wifi Sessions
5,657**

**Program
Attendance
7,365**

