



2019 **annual** report

from the **director**

I am honored to share with you the 2019 Wheaton Public Library (WPL) Annual Report. This report represents a year of the many accomplishments of the Library Board of Trustees and WPL staff. The year of 2019 was truly a transformative one for us!



The 2018 Community Analysis Project gave the staff and Board of Trustees the spring-board needed to develop an ambitious strategic plan that is proving to be a success on many levels. One standout was our ability to secure the funding needed to open WPL with additional hours. Starting in June 2020, the Library will be open until 7 pm on Friday evenings and open Sundays year-round from 1-5 pm. Another achievement was to install the Giving Tree donor wall on the west side of the Library (outside the Café) that gives donors a place to leave a legacy in honor, memoriam or recognition to a loved one. The funding for this wall came 100% from endowment donations.

I cannot emphasize enough on the successes that the Library has gained from our partnerships that have been developed through the years. The Friends of the Library organization continues to be the Library's strongest revenue source, outside of property taxes. The Friends donated \$50,000 to the WPL programming budget, which funds ALL of the WPL programs, concerts and reading programs.

We know that ALL of you count in so many ways. And in 2020 you "count" even more if you participate in the 2020 U.S. Census. Please join us on April 1 for a Census Party at the Library and enjoy a treat to celebrate the value you have in shaping the City of Wheaton! Visit wheatonlibrary.org/census to learn more.

Thank you for your continued dedication and loyalty to WPL. I state over and over that WPL is more than books, DVDs and computers; it is also a place to find hope, inspiration, a helping hand and a brighter future. Your voice is important as we continue to grow. Always know that my door is open and I welcome your thoughts, ideas and concerns. I look forward to another exciting year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betsy".

Betsy Adamowski, Executive Library Director

mission statement

Wheaton Public Library is a welcoming destination that connects the community to literacy, information, ideas and experiences. Grow with us!

Board of Directors

Christine Fenne, *President*
Joe McHaley, *Vice President*
Laurie Metanchuk, *Secretary*
Alan Herbach, *Treasurer*
Robert Lyon
Robert McDonough
Simone Morton
Kathryn Staron

year highlights

- Added Teen Department Head to the Staff
- Adopted a New Strategic Plan
- Approved Funding for Additional Hours on Fridays and Sundays Year Round
- Approved Funding for Phase 3 of Interior Remodeling Project
- Approved Funding to Upgrade Integrated Library System to Polaris
- Dedicated a Wall to Outgoing Wheaton Mayor, Mike Gresk
- Installed a Giving Tree Legacy Donor Wall
- Developed Marian Park Pop-Up Programs
- Opened Library during Polar Vortex
- Developed Outreach Initiatives
- Started a Business Resource Roundtable
- Redesigned eNews

“ Such an amazing place. The staff is very kind, and will do almost anything to get you what you need. The books selection is fantastic, and it is such a nice place to bring kids ... Truly a gem!”

LIBRARY + PARTNERSHIPS = SUCCESS

65+ community partners 

GRANTS

American Library Association:
American Creed
DuPage Foundation JCS
E-rate Funding Program
Institute of Electric and
Electronics Engineers of Chicago
Science Kit Grant
RAILS Census 2020
Rotary Club of Wheaton
Wheaton Lions Club
Whole Foods: One Dime at a Time

café on the Park
38,000 HOT DRINKS
17,000 cups of coffee
24,000 bakery items
3,600 WRAPS

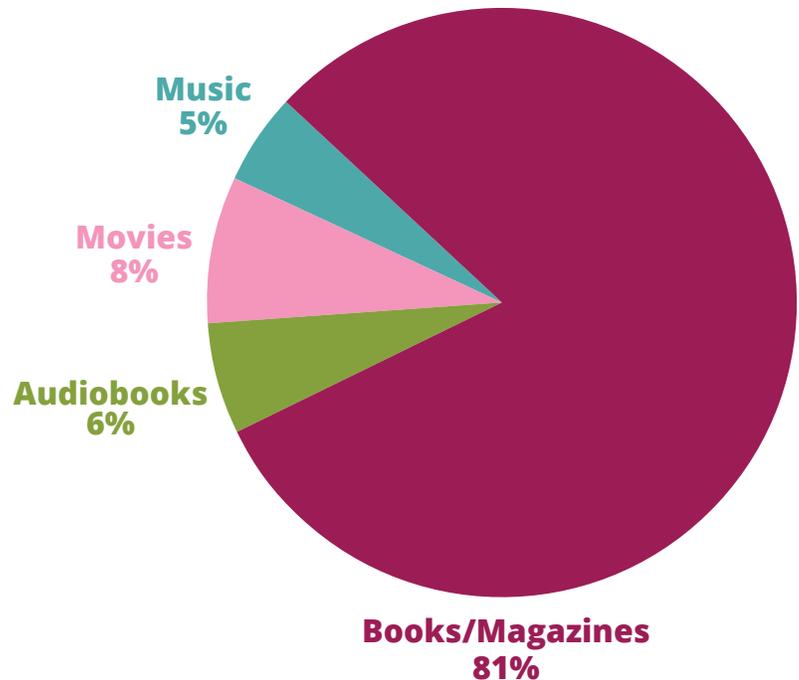


the numbers

Items in the Collection

Collection Summary 2019

Books & Magazines	213,672
DVDs	18,636
Music CDs	13,030
CD Audio Books	12,094
Playaways	2,718
Blu-Rays	1,403
Media Kits	647
Video Games	143
Tech Equipment	175
Microfilm & Microfiche	127
Framed Art	100
TOTALS	262,745



Study Rooms

Our nine study rooms saw an increase in use of 33% over last year. The three new study rooms added to the 2nd floor are sound proof and include a TV that can be connected to your laptop (or borrow one from the Tech Center.) A cell phone booster was added to the lower level which makes the three study rooms located there more user friendly.

Study rooms require a reservation. WPL cardholders can reserve a study room online and up to one week in advance. Same day reservations are available to everyone in person and over the phone. wheatonlibrary.org/studyrooms

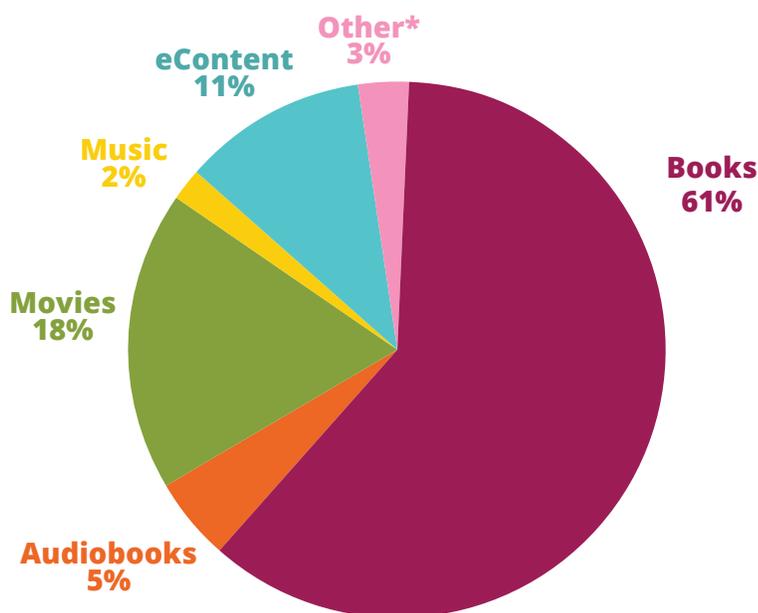
TOTAL CIRCULATION
1,013,326

books & MAGAZINES
621,518
CHECKED OUT

262,745
items in collection

525,711 VISITORS

Items Checked Out



*Other = Video Games, Framed Art, Tech, LINKin checkouts, Learning Games, CD Kits, Discover Packs

Circulation Summary 2019

Books	621,518
Audiobooks	44,169
Movies	178,209
Music	25,129
eContent	114,814
Other	29,487
Total	1,013,326

WPL Numbers 2019

Visitors	525,711
Total Circulation - all material	1,013,326
Circulation - eContent	114,814
Holds placed	81,077
Books borrowed through LINKin	18,565
Books borrowed through ILL	3,253
Items in the collection	262,745
Signed up for notices via text message	350
Computer users	41,900
Program attendance	36,721
Number of programs	1,128
Local groups used meeting rooms	1,728
Reference questions asked	8,635
Study rooms used	7,535
Museum Adventure Passes	268
Notary Public appointments	471

Q&A

Why do you have more than one eContent provider?

Not all eContent providers offer the same titles. It's true that OverDrive, Axis360 and RBDigital include many popular authors and titles, but they also have exclusive special collections.

OverDrive is your only choice for Kindle books. All of our eContent providers work for Kindle Fire users.

Axis360 has a large collection of children's material and children's books in Spanish.

We're making it easier! eContent from all of our providers will be included in our new online catalog coming in March 2020. You'll be able to see what we have, where it's available, place holds and check out right from the catalog.

24/7 library

eCONTENT

Wheaton readers are finding eBooks and audio books convenient and easy to use, borrowing almost 115,000 digital items! You'll find popular material for both adults and kids at any of our eContent providers, but each also offers something unique: Kindle books from OverDrive; Children's books in Spanish from Axis360; exclusive audio books from RBDigital; Consumer Reports and People Magazine from Flipster; popular "grocery aisle" magazines from RBDigital; and international newspapers from PressReader. wheatonlibrary.org/econtent

ONLINE LEARNING

Wheaton learners viewed over 1,100 instructional videos from Lynda.com. The most popular topics were Microsoft Excel and Word, Photoshop, online marketing and computer programming basics. With over 70 languages to choose from, they studied German, Japanese, Tagalog and Mandarin Chinese with Mango Languages. Those planning to take occupational, military or college entrance exams found practice tests on Learning Express. wheatonlibrary.org/econtent

PREMIUM ONLINE RESOURCES

Look to us for information you can't find for free on the Internet. Consumer Reports, ReferenceUSA, Morningstar and Value Line remain our most popular databases along with Genealogy databases such as Heritage Quest, Ancestry and FamilySearch. Search historical newspapers, obituaries, census records and more. Most are available from home! wheatonlibrary.org/research

TEXT NOTICES

Sign up today to join the 1,327 patrons who receive text notices from the library. See what you have checked out or on hold, receive a text message when a hold is ready or when an item is due. Best of all, you can renew by text! Text SIGNUP to 630-868-9361 to get started. Learn more at wheatonlibrary.org/textnotices



ONLINE CATALOG AND MY ACCOUNT

Looking for something to read? The online catalog is a great place to start! Search for a favorite title then click on it. Scroll down to see read-alike books with similar titles or authors. If the book is part of a series, those titles can be found here as well. See something you like? Hold it! Click the **Request It** button and we will find the book, place it on the self-serve holdshelf for you and notify you when you it's ready for pick up. Log in to My Account to renew items checked out, pay fines, freeze your holds and more. Find links to the catalog and My Account at wheatonlibrary.org

IT'S HERE! NEW ONLINE CATALOG

New features include easy ways to narrow your search and Google previews. All of our eContent titles will be there and you can even check them out from the catalog! We'll still have author and title suggestions and you can place a hold on anything, even if it's In.

tech center

3D PRINTING

516 items were printed on our Dremel 3D printer this year! We taught classes for teens and adults on how to create 3D objects with Tinkercad. Check the Program Guide for the next Tinkercad class. You can create any time! Use any 3D design software then upload your file to the library and we will print it. Cost is \$1/file + 10¢/gram.

wheatonlibrary.org/3dprint

DIGITIZE YOUR MEMORIES 115 people came to the library to convert their VHS tapes to DVD while 33 others checked out our VHS to DVD converters to use at home. We have tools to digitize other formats too: photos, slides, negatives, 8mm video, audio cassettes and LP records. wheatonlibrary.org/tech2go

TECH2GO Borrow a projector, try a Go-Pro camera or read an eBook with an iPad. Tech2Go items were checked out 964 times last year. We have a variety of A/V equipment, iPads, robots and STEM Kits that can be checked out for a week. wheatonlibrary.org/tech2go

MOBILE PRINTING Need to print a Boarding Pass from your phone? Did your home printer run out of ink? 3,331 print jobs were sent to the library from home or a mobile device. Use your email address to release your black and white (10¢/page) or color (25¢/page) print jobs at the Tech Center. Print jobs remain in the queue for 24 hours. wheatonlibrary.org/mobileprint

“ This is my absolute favorite library. It’s clean and quiet and spacious, lots of reading rooms or lounging areas, places for children, coffee shop, and more. They also have a ton of selections. Just an awesome library all around.”

115,000
DIGITAL CHECKOUTS

516 items
created on 3D printer

79 Tech2Go items were
checked out 964
TIMES

TECH FOR KIDS

Snap Circuits kits, logic games, Ozobot and Sphero robots, GoPro Camera. eContent for Kids: books, comics, graphic novels from Tumblebooks, OverDrive and Axis360

1,327 PATRONS
received notices via text

3,331 PRINT JOBS

BORROW AN IPAD OR IPOD
TOUCH FROM THE TECH CENTER
TO TEST-DRIVE ALL OUR APPS.

adult services

COMPUTER INSTRUCTION

We continue to offer free computer class series on Microsoft Office 2019 and Google Drive, as well as individual classes on Cutting the Cable Cord, Internet Safety, library databases, and Travel Apps. Coming soon: Advanced Excel and Photo Editing.

wheatonlibrary.org/calendar

Want to suggest a class or get more information about current offerings? Email us at techclasses@wheatonlibrary.org

BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER (BRC)

Connect with SCORE, an organization that helps small business owners, by attending a workshop or roundtable; gather with other local business owners at our Tuesday morning meetups; or schedule a one-to-one meetup with our Business Specialist.

The BRC has hundreds of books, or visit our webpage for eBooks, eAudiobooks, eNewspapers and business databases. wheatonlibrary.org/brc

GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY

Dig deep into your family history with a visit to our genealogy section. We have print materials as well as databases that contain vital records, family histories, military records and more. A four-part series of genealogy classes as well as individual home history help sessions are offered twice yearly. Get additional help from our genealogy specialist or from DAR and DuPage County Genealogical Society volunteers.

wheatonlibrary.org/genealogy

“ My favorite place to go for studying. I really like that there’s no noise on the second floor ... I haven’t been able to find a better library than this in the suburbs of Chicago. Keep up the great work, staff!”



special services

NOTARY • PROCTORED EXAMS
ONE-ON-ONE TUTORIALS
HOMEBOUND SERVICES



578 attended **72**
computer classes

STUDY
ROOMS:

7535
logins

BRC

488 attended
55 programs

youth services

NEW SPACES

The Storyhouse Marsh, with its beautiful mural inspired by the Lincoln Marsh, opened up to everyone. Once a closed off room used for programs, children and their families have made it a space to read, play one of our many board games, do homework, or play I Spy. Our new Early Childhood Program Room has become home to our family and bilingual storytimes, homeschool meet-ups, storytime stations, and much more to come in 2020.

GET CREATIVE

We strive to make sure the library is a space for our children to create and explore. The new Lego wall in the Tween Center has become a canvas for some spectacular creations as children learn to build out onto a vertical surface. Two new activity tables allow children to set up domino tiles to create chain reactions, play with interlocking construction IO Blocks, and try out a variety of other hands-on activities.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

We had a year full of entertaining and enriching programs including:

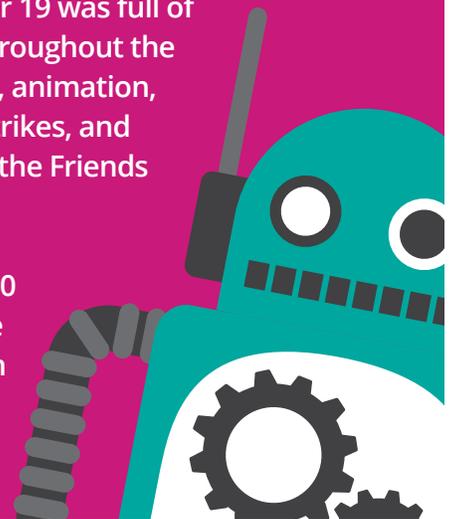
- International Dot Day
- Family Lego Night
- Family Movie Night
- Storytime and Storytime Stations
- Book discussions
- Sing Together
- Costume Parade
- Young Artists
- Sewing classes
- History for Kids: Apollo 11
- Summer Tween Camps
- Yoga
- Homeschool Meet-ups
- Battle of the Books
- International Games Week
- Scratch and Minecraft classes
- NIU Block Fest and STEM Roadshow

HIGHLIGHTS

Ice Cream Social WPL hosted its second Ice Cream Social on Saturday, June 8, to kick off our Summer Reading Challenge. This year's event included The Bubble Bus and music from the Steel Crazy Band. We had beautiful weather for bubbles, dancing, cold treats, and a celebration of summer reading.

Maker Day Our second Maker Day on Saturday, October 19 was full of creativity and learning. We had 17 Maker and STEAM stations throughout the library for attendees to try out. Stations included robotics, slime, animation, calligraphy, Arduinos, LED throwies, bookmarks, hand-pedaled trikes, and more. Giveaway t-shirts and door prizes were made possible by the Friends of the Library and Wheaton Rotary.

New Year's Eve Noon Party We had over 400 children and their families help us celebrate the new year a little early. Party goers played bingo, had their faces painted, posed in front of our photo booth wall, joined in a glow stick dance party, and counted down to noon with a balloon drop.



teen services

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Teens had a blast at our regular gaming tournaments and after-hours laser tag events.

DIY PROGRAMS

18 Programs with 124 Attendees, including Nailed It cookie and cupcake decorating competitions, Upcycled Fashion, and Handmade Earrings (where teens were also able to use our 3D printer).

SCHOOL, COLLEGE, AND CAREER PROGRAMS

8 Programs with 59 Attendees, including SAT & ACT Practice tests, advice on the FAFSA and paying for college, and dealing with school stress.

MARGIN PROJECT COLLECTION

The Teenspace has introduced a new collection of books where teens can share their thoughts, underline passages that struck a chord, or add some illustrations in the margins.



1,495 teens participated in **113** programs

outreach: **31** visits met with **2,508** attendees

HIGHLIGHTS

DIY Stress Balls To help prepare for the stress of finals week, the library visited Wheaton North and Wheaton Warrenville South High School to help students make their own stress balls from balloons and rice. This was our second annual pre-finals week visit.

Franklin Middle School Library Card Sign Up

For library card sign up month, we visited Franklin Middle School during their lunch hours to sign students up for library cards.

Star Wars & Free Comic Book Day

Over 100 people stopped by to pick up a free comic book and take pictures with members of the 501st Midwest Garrison decked out in full Star Wars Gear!

Wizard Fest

600 people came out to celebrate 'The Boy Who Lived!' Teens, Kids, and Adults showed up in creative costumes to join a house, make wands, practice divination, try some butterbeer, and rock out to the wizarding band 'Tonks and the Aurors'.



community

ARTS & CULTURE CENTER

In 2019, we featured different artists and organizations on display each month on our gallery walls and display cases, along with special exhibitions and artists receptions.

Highlights of 2019:

- Art Contest reception
- When Home Won't Let You Stay exhibition
- Drop-in Make & Take crafts for all ages
- Day of the Dead display
- Snow City Arts reception
- Gingerbread House Contest

For more information on displaying art and exhibits in the Arts & Culture Center, contact ce@wheatonlibrary.org

OUTREACH

The Community Engagement Department does much of the library's outreach, which also includes giving tours of the library and presentations to outside organizations on library services and resources. We also work outside of the library:

- Short Story Discussions at Travanse Living
- Pop-Up Libraries and children's activities at Marian Park
- Library Card Sign-ups at World Relief
- Library booths at community events

For more information on how the library can work with your organization, contact ce@wheatonlibrary.org

LOCAL AUTHOR FEST

In April 2019, WPL held its first ever Local Author Fest, featuring over 30 Wheaton area authors connecting with their readers and their community. Join us on Saturday, April 18 for our 2nd annual Local Author Fest, featuring author tables with books for sale, open mic readings and storytimes in the Storyhouse Marsh, and a keynote lecture by bestselling author Elizabeth Berg. More details to come!

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

- American Creed
- OverDrive Digital Bookmobile
- Library Card Sign-up Month Scavenger Hunt
- SCARCE Where is Away exhibit

NEW PROGRAMS

While we still offer all of your favorite programs, we are always introducing something new!

- WPL Writers' Group
- Encore Network (for seniors)
- After Hours Laser Tag (20-30 year olds)
- Art Demonstrations (in partnership with the DuPage Art League)
- Wheaton Science Theater movie nights at Dry City Brew Works

6,713 ATTENDED **244**
PROGRAMS

564 PEOPLE ATTENDED
56 BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Friends of the Library

Mission: Promote public use and community support for the library, to foster appreciation of its value as a cultural and educational asset to the community, and to focus public attention on the resources, services, facilities, and needs of the library. Friends raised \$675,220 in 2019!

WHAT FRIENDS DO:

- Sponsor/volunteer at events
- Sponsor fundraising activities such as Used Book Sale, Media Sale and Holiday Book & Gift Sales
- Provide a Book Nook for shopping

wheatonlibrary.org/friends

FRIENDS
of
Wheaton Public Library



Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit #1932

225 N. Cross Street
Wheaton, IL 60187
630-668-1374

wheatonlibrary.org



ECRWSS RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Photo Policy: Wheaton Public Library reserves the right to photograph program participants. These photos are used solely to promote library programs and services. By attending an event, you are allowing WPL the right to take and use photographs of yourself or your family. Please notify a staff member if you do not wish to be photographed.



WHEATON CENSUS 2020
Count Me In!



What Do I Need to Do?

For more information, visit wheatonlibrary.org/census





WATCH your mail for your personal family Census postcard. You have three options for responding 1) Online 2) By phone or 3) by mail.

VISIT the City of Wheaton at wheaton.il.us/2020census for helpful information about filling out your census.

CELEBRATE Census Day on April 1 at Wheaton Public Library. If you need help, bring your Census postcard and our staff will be happy to assist you.



The Giving Tree

Leave your legacy

To learn more, visit wheatonlibrary.org/givingtree