

TETON COUNTY

# LIBRARY

REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY 2023

THE YEAR IT  
ALL  
CAME BACK!

plus

OUR NEWEST  
STICKER  
REVEALED

WHAT YOUR  
NEIGHBORS  
ARE READING

LIFE-CHANGING  
MAGIC OF SETTING  
PRIORITIES

the  
hottest  
thing on  
3wheels



TETON COUNTY  
LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTECA DEL CONDADO DE TETON





Summer brings the opposite of cabin fever, so we move our Cabin Fever Story Slams outdoors when the weather is fine.

GREATEST HITS  
**YELLOWSTONE**  
NATIONAL PARK  
A geothermal wonderland  
On March 1, 1872, Yellowstone National Park was established as the first national park in the world. It is a vast area of land, covering more than 3,300 square miles, and is home to a wide variety of natural features, including geysers, hot springs, lakes, and forests. The park is a unique and beautiful landscape, and it is a great place to visit for anyone who loves nature.  
SIDE A  
OLD FAITHFUL  
GRAND PRISMATIC SPRING  
YELLOWSTONE LAKE  
MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS  
FIREHOLE RIVER  
HAYDEN VALLEY  
LEAVE IT BETTER THAN YOU  
1872



# The Year It All Came Back

Welcome to our annual report! As Director of Library Services, it gives me great pleasure to share with you the extraordinary accomplishments and milestones that have shaped Teton County Library over the past year.

Fiscal Year 2023 felt busier than ever – we’re calling it “the year it all came back,” in part, because in-person programming returned, bringing after school children, lifelong learners, foreign policy aficionados, crafters, story timers, and even the Ruff Readers dogs back into our buildings.

Behind the scenes, a committee of staff and library stakeholders were also busy, first surveying the community and hosting community conversations, and then analyzing data and comments to create our new Strategic Direction. The mission and four top priorities spelled out by that plan have in turn provided staff inspiration for what comes next, as you’ll see on these pages.

We also celebrated 85 years as Teton County’s public library. In the spirit in which citizens called forth a free and accessible library in 1938, we embarked (along with several other county and town entities) on IDEA (inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility) training to ensure our Library serves everyone in the community.

To call attention to the special public-private partnership that operates under our roof, we’ve compiled a special flip sided report. On the next few pages, you’ll read about the last year in Teton County Library world, while the flip side of the report will give you more of last year’s story from the perspective of our newly merged partner organization, Teton County Library Foundation & Friends. Many people are unaware that taxpayer dollars fund about 86% of TCL’s offerings and operations, and donations to TCL F & F bring an additional 14% (the colorful icing on the 85th birthday cupcakes, if you will). We hope you enjoy both sides of our report!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kip Roberson".

Kip Roberson  
Director of Library Services



# The Life-Changing Magic of Setting Priorities

Strategic planning when done well should be thorough, eye-opening, and even sometimes painful. We asked the community to tell us what they liked and disliked about the Library, how they use our spaces and resources, and what they expect from us in the future. See the Strategic Direction in full at [tclib.org/strategic](https://tclib.org/strategic).

**Our Strategic Direction 2023-2027 spells out our new:**

**Mission:** We foster literacy and lifelong learning, inspire creativity, and strengthen community.

**Vision:** A welcoming community inspired to pursue its passions, forge connections, discover new ideas, and engage in civic life.

**Strategic Priorities:** Community, Lifelong Learning, Spaces, and Organizational Excellence



## PUTTING OUR PRIORITIES INTO ACTION

ACTION ITEM	COMMUNITY	LIFELONG LEARNING	SPACES	ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE
Library of Things	●	●		
Expanded hours ( <i>evenings and Sundays</i> )	●		●	●
Improved Spanish collection	●	●		●
Wonder Institute Recording Studio	●	●	●	
Family work and play station	●		●	
Book e-bike	●		●	
Library to Business program	●	●	●	
One22 satellite food cupboard	●		●	●
Expanded Tuesday night community programs	●	●		●
Community Health Outreach	●	●	●	
Ongoing Library Policies Review	●	●		●
New room reservation system	●		●	●
Strengthened Library bylaws				●
DEI training for staff & boards	●			●



# FY2023

## BY THE NUMBERS



**169,703**  
LIBRARY VISITS



**4690**  
VOLUNTEER HOURS



**881,783**  
WIFI SESSIONS



**13,740**  
ACTIVE CARDHOLDERS



**237,409**  
PHYSICAL CHECKOUTS



**130,646**  
DIGITAL CHECKOUTS



**8,134**  
REFERENCE QUESTIONS



**8,197 ADULTS. 106 TEENS**  
**7,348 CHILDREN. 2,099 ALTA**  
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE



**1,397**  
1KB4K KITS CHECKED OUT



**8,316**  
STUDY ROOM USE

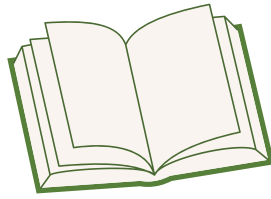


**1,801**  
NEW CARDS ISSUED



**8**  
GALLERY ART SHOWS





# THE STORIES BEHIND THE STATS

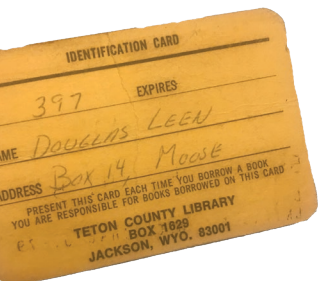
## A TALE OF TWO CARDS

When Moose patron Douglas Leen came to the front desk and told us his card needed to be renewed, he was making an understatement—it was the oldest card any of the current staff had ever seen, made of gold cardstock and handwritten, with number 397 on it. Doug estimated that he'd

been carrying it around since the 1970s. Even though the card had no expiration date on it, our software will not recognize a number that low, so we issued Doug a new green card that he'll be able to use in the

self-checker or to check out digital materials.

A couple of months later, during National Library Card Sign Up Month, we debuted a new card design with a fiery graphic image inspired by the #UniteAgainstBannedBooks movement. When patrons sign up for a card, they can choose our traditional light green card or take a stand against censorship by choosing the new "I Read Banned Books" card.



## THE JOY OF COOKING

Our 22 in 22 Reading Challenge ultimately engaged 597 readers, who read more than 7000 books by year end. Alta Branch Manager Eva Dahlgren and Alta patron and volunteer Kathy O'Neil came up with their own twist on the challenge—to apply the challenge to cookbooks by cooking at least one recipe each out of the books they chose.

The challenge proved life-changing in at least one way, as Kathy loves yogurt but not the plastic waste that comes with buying it. Enter "Homemade Yogurt & Kefir" by Gianacis Caldwell, whose recipes Kathy continues to use regularly. "We share a sweet tooth, so many of our choices involved baking," said Eva, whose favorite title from the year was "Pieometry" by Lauren Ko, which applies geometry into pie baking, as shown here in the photo of Eva and Kathy with two of their 22 creations.







## TO GUADALAJARA AND BACK

We heard through surveys and comments that our Spanish language collection was lacking, both in content and in visibility, and made it an almost immediate priority to address both problems.

Two staff members, Pati Rocha and Stephanie Franco, were dispatched to the huge Guadalajara International Book Fair in November to see what improvements they could make in content. They met with booksellers and placed orders for both the youth and adult Spanish collections.

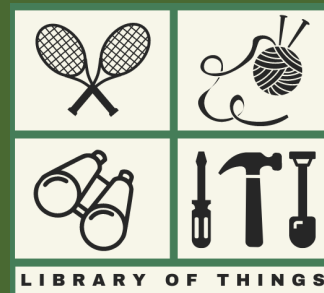
"We found books that would have been almost impossible to find through online sources," said Pati. "And now we have great connections to continue to build our collection."

Then the Spanish collection moved into a more prominent piece of real estate near the new books for easier browsing. Find ESL materials there too!

## BUILDING STRONG BUSINESS

Local entrepreneurs are some of our most regular visitors, using our study rooms for meetings and settling in to quiet corners to enjoy our free Wi-Fi, and now a consortium of state organizations are partnering in Wyoming Library to Business. It's a business-focused, community driven and completely free resource, available right here.

Our goal is to connect Wyoming entrepreneurs and business owners with a curated network of business experts, resources to learn new skills, and the tools to succeed at every stage. Start or expand your business, find funding, and create value for customers with free webinars at the Library and dedicated laptops to check out and use onsite.



## HAVE YOU TRIED OUR LIBRARY OF THINGS?

Our newest collection features practical items you can check out and use when you have a project or you want to try something before you buy it. Here's what you can check out from the LOT:

### Crafts & Hobbies

- Book binding kit
- Sewing repair kit
- Calligraphy kit
- Crochet hooks
- Darning loom (small)
- Knitting needles
- Quilt making kit

### Electronics/Tech support items

- Photo light box
- Presentation projector
- Portable scanner
- Ring light
- Roku stick
- Bluetooth speaker
- CD player
- DVD player

### For your health

- Seasonal affective disorder lamp
- Self-monitored blood pressure kit

### Household tools & implements

- Basic tool kit
- Garden tools
- Label maker and tapes
- Laser level/stud finder
- Retractable tape measure

### Outdoor Recreational Equipment

- Bike repair kit
- Camping lantern
- Cranking weather alert
- Headlamps
- Tennis kit for kids
- Trekking poles
- Badminton set
- Bocce ball set
- Cornhole set
- Ladder ball set
- Wildlife kit (binoculars, Field Guides, backpack)
- Pickleball kit



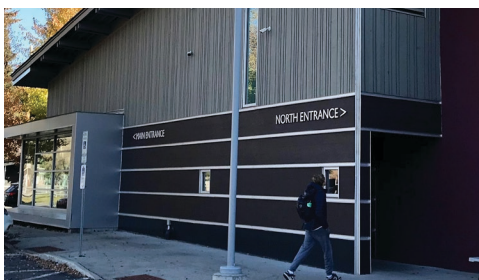
# So What Else is New?



**Wonder Institute Recording Studio:** Study Room 6 has been converted into a specialized space to produce polished audio and visual content for podcasts, YouTube videos, websites, and more, thanks to funding and expertise from the Wonder Institute. It's a professional atmosphere outfitted with high-quality audio and visual equipment for use by an individual or small group. Once your recording is done, visit the editing station in the computer lab to finish your project.



From paper flowers to mending clothing to sketching, we offered **Creativebug classes and kits** highlighting some of our favorite offerings from their large selection of online offerings. We supply the raw materials, and you bring your creativity.



You now have another choice when entering the building, thanks to the newly named **North Entrance** off the parking lot. This door had previously been limited to use by folks with mobility issues, but innovative thinking by our facilities team has made the door accessible to all.



Find fresh produce, dairy, pasta, peanut butter and more, free for the taking at the **One22 satellite food cupboard** in our lobby. The cupboard is restocked by volunteers and open during Library hours.



Like so many of our mid-town neighbors, we caught the e-bike craze! Our bright green **Book E-bike** makes appearances at the weekly Peoples Market and special events. Once on site, the box at the front of the bike opens to reveal all the books we have to give away to passersby. Stop by and say hi!

**In Development:** Wonder Institute Makerspace, Owen Bircher Park kiosk, passport processing, Alta outdoor space and after hours access, reciprocal borrowing with Valley of the Tetons Library—and more!



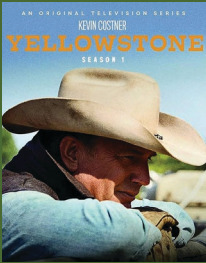
## TOP CHECK OUTS



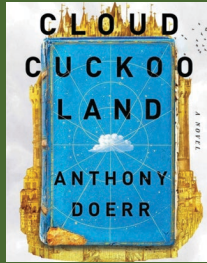
adult book



adult spanish book



DVD



e-book & e-audiobook



Kanopy video



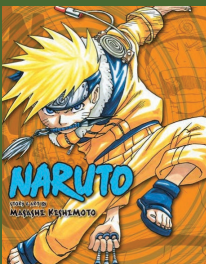
videogame



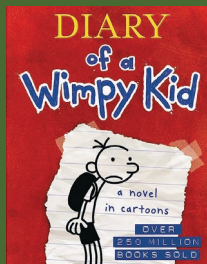
vinyl record



library of things item



young adult book



juvenile book



LinkedIn learning class:  
Excel spreadsheets



Creativebug class:  
watercolors

## FY 2024 Library Board:

Lisa McGee

CHAIR

Vicki Rosenberg

VICE CHAIR

Stan Steiner

SECRETARY

Peggy Gilday

TREASURER

Marylee White

Email public comments to [board@tclib.org](mailto:board@tclib.org)



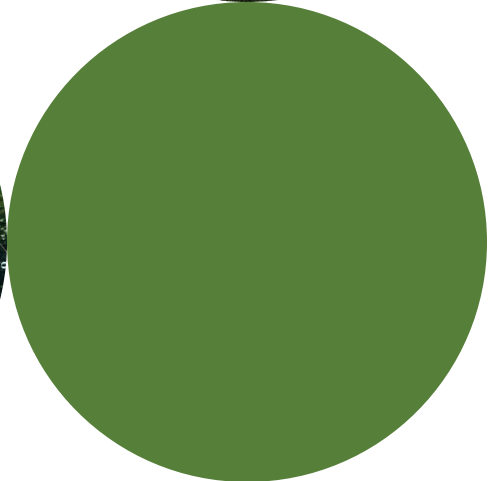
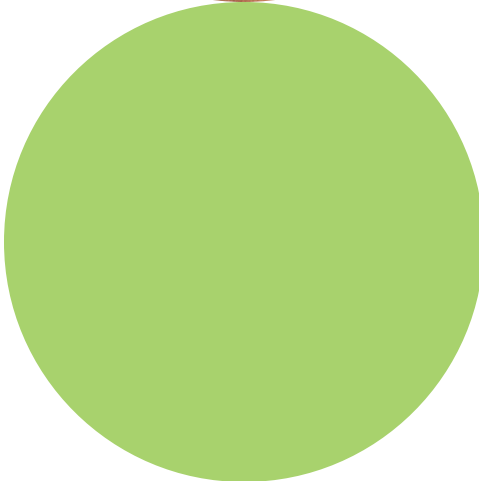
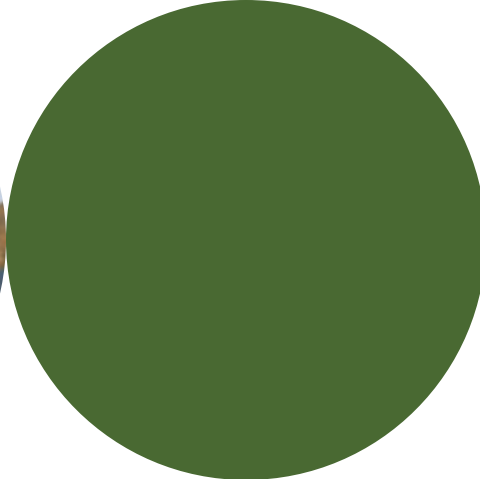
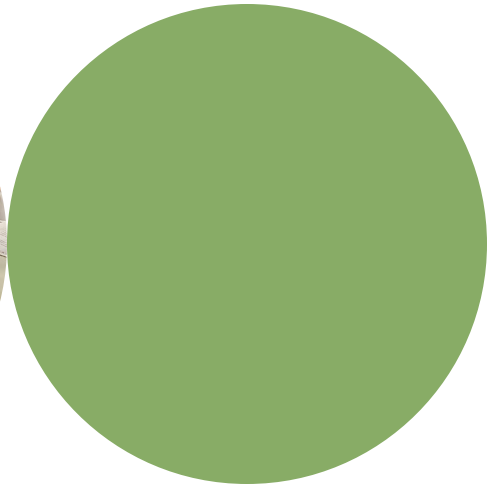
## PRESENTING OUR NEW STICKER!

Artist Jenna Mahaffie was chosen from our call for artists to create our new sticker. Stop by the Library and pick one up - while you're here, let us know what it is that calls you to the Library!





# Teton County Library





# Impact & Inspiration



TETON COUNTY  
**LIBRARY**  
FOUNDATION & FRIENDS

● ● ● ●  
SEE WHAT'S IN STORE  
**FOR 2024**  
● ● ● ●

**3** TIPS FOR ASPIRING  
WRITERS FROM AUTHOR  
TA-NEHISI COATES

THE FOUNDATION  
AND FRIENDS ARE  
**UNITING**





Beth Holmes hosts story time on the Town Square during the Jackson Hole Farmer's Market

## Dear Library Enthusiasts

**ON BEHALF OF THE TETON COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION**, we thank you for your support of our beloved library. Over the past year, we've witnessed our community's return to the Library with passionate participation and we are energized.

We're also thrilled to see our Library's new four-year strategic direction and grateful to have heard from many of you, as we established our own. Through our survey, personal interviews, and community retreat, we listened closely to your feedback about the role of the Foundation in supporting our library's exceptional programs, services, facilities, and staff. We were motivated and reinvigorated by your vision and we hope you see your input reflected in our priorities and goals for the next four years.

One thing we heard from you is that you would like to see more collaboration among community organizations. We're excited to share that we put this feedback into action by merging with the Friends of the Library! The Foundation and the Friends have appreciated a thriving and collaborative relationship for many years and we are eager to bring the strengths of both organizations under one roof.

We also heard that you want to know more about the impact of your contributions on the Library's success and we intend to share more of those stories with you through robust and improved communications.

We hope this report provides a sense of what your donations have made possible during the past year and we hope that you too are encouraged and energized by what's to come! Thanks to your gifts of time, energy, and resources, WE ALL enjoy the Library as an invaluable community hub.

We humbly ask for your continued support of the Library through the new Teton County Library Foundation and Friends!

With gratitude,

*Lauren*

Lauren Dickey  
Library Foundation  
and Friends President

*Diana*

Diana Peck  
Library Foundation and  
Friends Executive Director





# Board of Directors & Staff

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lauren Dickey  
PRESIDENT

Carolyn Ripps  
VICE PRESIDENT

Emmie Hill  
TREASURER

Karen Terra  
SECRETARY

Katie Mendenhall  
AT-LARGE

John Becker  
EMERITUS

Michael Adler

Willow Larson

Wendy Martinez

Bryan McDearman

Alex McDougall

Stewart McIver

Hugh O'Halloran

Andrea Rosenthal

## STAFF

Diana Peck  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Julie Tobiason  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
& OUTREACH  
COORDINATOR

## About Us

**THE TETON COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION AND FRIENDS EXISTS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE TETON COUNTY LIBRARY.**

Though our two organizations are structurally independent, our work is fundamentally intertwined. We are proud to share a common vision with the Library. Our mission and values, which describe and reflect our role, are our own.

### Our Mission

The Teton County Library Foundation and Friends enhances the library's programs, facilities, and resources by securing and stewarding charitable gifts, promoting volunteerism, and raising community awareness and appreciation for the Library.

### Our Vision

A welcoming community inspired to pursue its passions, forge connections, discover new ideas, and engage in civic life.

### Our Values

**Access** We believe in empowering individuals with the resources they need to expand their knowledge, enhance their lives, and reach their full potential. We are committed to supporting the Library in ensuring equitable access to information, community spaces, and personal development opportunities for all.

**Community** We believe in the value of partnerships and collective action. We are committed to fostering a culture of inclusiveness and working collaboratively to enrich the Library and ensure its positive, lasting impact as an invaluable community hub.

**Connection** We believe in building strong and thriving relationships. We are committed to cultivating meaningful interactions, communicating openly, and working toward shared goals with our donors, volunteers, the Library, and our community.

**Integrity** We believe that long-lasting and meaningful relationships are built on trust. We are committed to the responsible stewardship of resources, embracing sustainable practices, and operating with transparency and accountability.

**Service** We believe in the transformative power of serving others. We are committed to acting with compassion and responsiveness; and we value contributions of time, effort, and resources, and their impact on the Library's success.



# Foundation and Friends are Uniting!

We are thrilled to announce the strategic merger of the Teton County Library Foundation and the Friends of the Teton County Library!

This merger brings together two longstanding library support organizations, combining our strengths, resources, and mission. By uniting efforts, the new Library Foundation and Friends aims to streamline operations, amplify our impact, and create a unified approach to advancing the library's goals.

"We are excited for this next chapter for the Foundation and Friends," said Lauren Dickey, Foundation Board President. "By becoming one organization, we can serve the Library more efficiently and be an even stronger partner."

Historically, the Foundation's mission has been to secure and steward charitable gifts toward enhancing the library's goals. The Friends mission

has been to promote and provide volunteer services, raise funds through the Book Nook and other used-book sales, and steward the Little Free Libraries program. Together, the reorganized Foundation and Friends now has an expanded mission to enhance the library's programs, facilities, and resources by securing and stewarding charitable gifts, promoting volunteerism, and raising community awareness and appreciation for the Library. A unified organization working to enhance the Library gains the benefits of having one clear mission, increased opportunities for engaging with library supporters, and greater community outreach.

"We are so encouraged with the energized reorganization of the Foundation and Friends," said Friends Board President Lori Clark-Erickson. "We will be supporting the Library's mission, programming, and volunteers in grand new ways!"

## Welcome Former Friends Board Members to the New Foundation and Friends Board

### **Willow Larson, Friends Committee Chair, Governance and Nominating Committee:**

Everything calls me to the Library! I'm called to check out and return items, attend meetings, programs, and events, volunteer, peruse the Book Nook, pick up groceries at the One22 satellite pantry, and check out the community events bulletin board. I also enjoy borrowing ebooks through Libby and Hoopla, utilizing the Library of Things, and (as a professional fundraiser) completing research through Foundation Directory Online.

My favorite recent read was *The Hours* by Michael Cunningham, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1999. It's an incredible, moving story that follows three women from different eras who each grapple with their inner demons and roles in society. I came to this novel by way of the new opera that is based on the book. Without a doubt, it one of the most moving pieces of art that I've experienced in quite a while.



### **Michael Adler, Friends Committee:**

I appreciate many benefits from the Library, beyond simply getting books. The most important to me are the programs at the library and the exhibits. I am an active participant in the Geologists of JH programs and I have had three exhibits at the library, in addition to regularly viewing other exhibits.

I just finished a book called *Eager*, which was an amazing and enlightening account of what beavers do to help maintain clean water in our environment. I am also an active reader of books on physics and cosmology, which are aligned with my interest in astro photography. During our travels we actively use Hoopla and especially like the audio books by Agatha Christie.





# Meet our new Board Members and Staff

We asked each,  
“What calls you to  
the Library? What  
have you read  
lately that you  
recommend?”



**Katie Mendenhall, Executive Committee, Events Committee Chair:**

Because I have young girls (who love to read), the youth programming calls me to the library at this season in my life. I love all of the many opportunities offered: art projects, summer reading program, A Night at Hogwarts, story time (when they were younger), seasonal activities (gingerbread homes), music programs, and after school programs. It is also a beautiful, inviting library where I love to spend time with (or without) my children.

I recently read *Lessons in Chemistry* and recommend it!



**Alex McDougall, Finance and Investment Committee:**

I am called to the library for the accessibility to great resources, to broaden my knowledge base and ignite my imagination. I appreciate having access to the Wall Street Journal online and attending Page to the Podium events.

I really enjoyed Matthew McConaughey's book, *Greenlight*.



**Stewart McIver, Finance and Investment Committee, Internal Audit Committee:**

I love wandering around the rows of books and other collections, considering the world of possibilities, and knowing I'll leave with something I'm excited to dive into. It's an adventure and an experience for all ages, and one I've always enjoyed. I also enjoy the free access to thousands of audiobooks and have both the Libby and Hoopla apps on my phone. I use one or the other daily and am always queued up for my next read!

I just finished reading *The Three Body Problem* by Liu Cixin. I highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys hard science fiction and space. We have such incredible night skies in Teton County, and it makes you wonder what might be out there...



**Julie Tobiason, Administrative and Outreach Coordinator:**

Upon moving here, the Library was our family's first stop to ground us to our new home and it continues to be a welcoming place for us to be between activities, to attend programs, meet up with friends, and to gather bags of borrowed materials. It's been a place where I can reserve a study room to connect on Zoom and work quietly. We also love to check out numerous books in print, Hoopla for audiobooks, borrowing Library of Things items (Cornhole! A label maker!) and the ability to check out Nintendo Switch games!

I am consistently recommending books written by Emily St. John Mandel, Howard Thurman, Katherine May and Kate Bowler to my friends and fellow readers.



# Your Contributions at Work!

363

CHECK-OUTS THIS YEAR  
**LIBRARY OF THINGS**

1,064 YOUTH AND 390 ADULT  
READERS READ FOR A COMBINED

24,376

HOURS LAST SUMMER  
**SUMMER READING**

MORE THAN

1,300

BOOKS GIFTED  
**SPROUT MOBILE**

35,743

EBOOKS, AUDIOBOOKS, AND  
MOVIES DOWNLOADED THIS YEAR  
**HOOPLA DIGITAL DOWNLOADS**

*SPROUT Mobile Books Giveaway  
supported by your donations to  
Teton County Library Foundation  
and Friends*

## Fostering Literacy and Lifelong Learning

### LIBRARY OF THINGS

Ralph Mossman believes in protecting our dark skies and regularly participates in WY Stargazing events, bringing with him Alta's Library of Things (LOT) telescope. "It's a fantastic telescope!" Ralph shared. "It was able to pick up nearly everything, but was especially great at focusing on images of planets."

*Have an idea for additional Library of Things items? Your purchase suggestions are welcome for Library of Things at both the Alta and Jackson branches.*

### SUMMER READING

109 raffle prizes were awarded to happy readers and more than 2,000 books were gifted at the Book Fair during the Library's Ocean of Possibilities Summer Reading Program.

### SPROUT MOBILE

"Sprout Mobile is a terrific summertime collaboration where Hole Food Rescue nourishes kids' bodies with healthy free meals and the Library nourishes their minds and imaginations with free books!" –Joe Gagnon, Teton County Library Volunteer Coordinator.





# Inspiring Creativity



*Night at Hogwarts,  
wandering through  
the Forbidden Forest*



*Alta Branch's Night  
at Hogwarts magical  
wizarding world*

## NIGHT AT HOGWARTS

A Night at Hogwarts, an event based on the Harry Potter book series specifically for ages 8-17, was such a highly anticipated event that the registration filled up in less than 7 minutes!

This year, young attendees wandered through the Forbidden Forest before receiving their Hogwarts House assignment by the infamous Sorting Hat. With instructions by the Heads of Houses, they created potions, trained for Quidditch, learned about astronomy, and took an herbology class.

At Alta, librarians Eva Dalgren and Virginia Grosse set up a magical wizarding world with wand making, prophecy ball creating and a viewing of "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone."

Collaborating with Wyoming Stargazing and the Teton Raptor Center was as sweet as a Chocolate frog from Honeydukes!

## DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

(Day of the Dead) is a joyful Mexican celebration that helps families remember the deceased and celebrate their memory. Day of the Dead combines the ancient Aztec tradition of honoring ancestors with the religious holiday All Souls' Day, which the Spanish brought to Mexico in the early 1500s. Library families celebrated by creating Dia de los Muertos crafts.



*Dia De Los Muertos crafts*





## EDIBLE BOOK FESTIVAL

"In the end, all that remained was mostly crumbs. So goes the ephemeral reward of crafting literary art with flour, sugar, cereal, eggs, milk, Fruit Roll- Ups and fondant. About a dozen bakers entered Teton County Library's second-ever Edible Book Festival. At stake were three awards for People's Choice, Funniest/Punniest and Best Book to Belly Adaptation. Bakers had to follow two rules: The literary confections had to be edible, and they had to relate to a book." Wrote Jackson Hole

News&Guide reporter Rebecca Huntington. The Edible Book Festival could not be summed up any better!

## AUTHORS IN THE CLASSROOM

Award-winning children's author Bob Shea teaches creative writing and illustration skills to Teton County elementary school students.



Bob Shea in the classroom

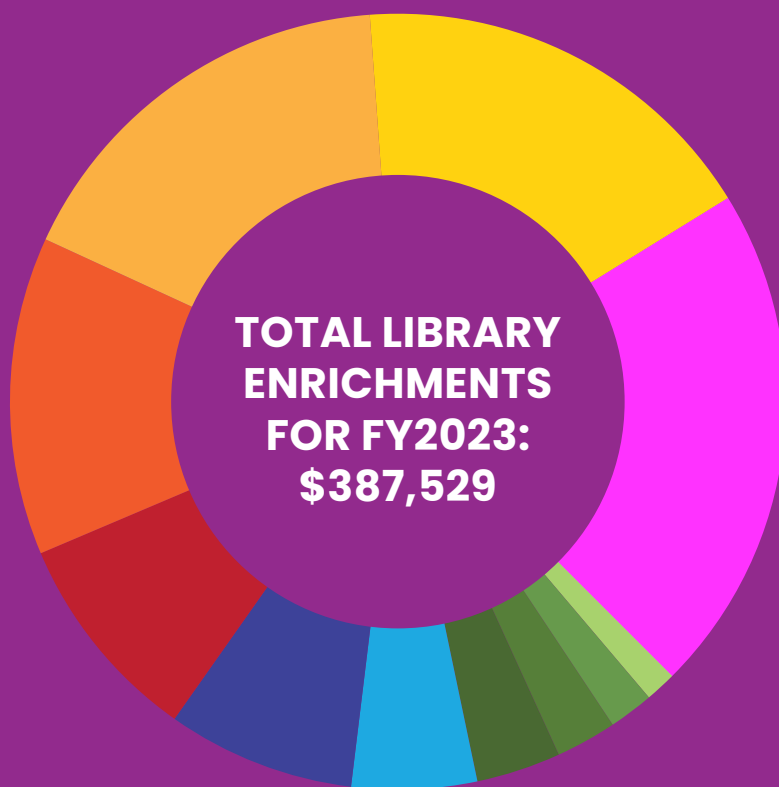


Sixth-grader Joy Hayashida-Ludington and seventh grader Mira Borrego won the People's Choice award for their interpretation of Shel Silverstein's "The Giving Tree."



## Total Funding for FY2023

- Teen/Adult Programs  
\$82,554
- Director's Initiatives  
\$67,249
- Youth/Tween Programs  
\$65,776
- Library Outreach & Promotions  
\$51,385
- Latino Programs  
\$34,280
- Collections Enhancements  
\$30,368
- Facilities Enhancements  
\$20,216
- Staff Housing Support Fund  
\$13,647
- Technology Enhancements  
\$9,804
- VITA Program  
\$7,215
- Alta Branch  
\$5,035



# Strengthening Community



Ta-Nehisi Coates hosted a group discussion with students

## Mr. Coates' advice for aspiring writers?

- 1 Find your own voice.
- 2 Be authentic.
- 3 Work like a carpenter.



Like a carpenter, he shared, writers need to be disciplined and may build on their skills for years before mastering their craft.

## PAGE TO THE PODIUM

Page to the Podium provides intellectual and cultural learning experiences by inviting renowned authors to share their stories and perspectives with our community. When author Ta-Nehisi Coates was the library's guest author in April, registration for Page to the Podium filled in just an hour and a half.

Mr. Coates spoke onstage with local author Nina McConigley to a packed Center for the Arts theater, reading from his book *Between the World and Me* and discussing some of the social, political and cultural challenges facing our country. The author also invited English students from Jackson Hole High School and Jackson Hole Community School to participate in a group discussion backstage where they talked about the author's work. Students asked questions about their role in raising awareness of social justice issues and about the craft of writing.

## VITA

Volunteers prepared and filed 488 free tax returns for Teton County residents this year, a 26% increase over the previous year.

## AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

The Library's Afterschool Program was back in person for the 2022-2023 school year! The Library partnered with Jackson Hole Children's Museum and offered drop-in programs and arts and crafts projects for students as they gathered in the library.



VITA tax prep for Teton County Residents



### FAMILY WORK AND PLAY STATION ▶

It's a desk. It's a playpen. It's the Family Work and Play Station in the Youth Wing. Caregivers can work at the desk and keep their little ones contained, safe, and happy in the connected playpen.



### SILENT DISCO ▶

This fun event brings the physical and mental health boosting elements of movement, music, and community building. It allows participants to view the library and its physical space in a new light, as a place to relax, express themselves, and gather.



### ◀ ALTA HOLIDAY WREATHS

A beloved program at the Alta Branch where community members gather to create holiday wreaths for decking their homes or to share as gifts.



### ◀ JACKSON HOLE FARMERS MARKET

The Library Foundation and Friends were excited to meet with community members to promote the Library's programs and services, while giving away free books. Library director Kip Roberson spent the morning talking to booth visitors and librarian Beth Holmes hosted story time in the Town Square. The Foundation and Friends were grateful to Farmers Market vendors who donated 5% of sales as a contribution to the Library.





*The Charlie Cart provides fun for all ages*

# Inspiration

## A SNEAK PEEK AT A FEW OF THE EXCITING PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS ON THE LIBRARY'S WISH LIST FOR 2024

### CHARLIE CART

Lifelong learning is becoming more flavorful at the Library! The Charlie Cart provides opportunities for nutrition education, cultural food experiences and cooking skills for all ages. The Library hopes to collaborate with other community organizations for a new, invaluable, and fun learning experience that's all about food.

### TEEN PROGRAMMING

Dungeons and Dragons. Magic the Gathering. Teen Page to the Podium. Café Saturdays arts and crafts. Teen gathering space. College Test Prep. – The Library has a new Teen Programs Coordinator who is enthusiastic about creating programs and spaces teens will love! – Are you interested in designing this re-imagined space and brainstorming future programs? Be on the lookout for a Teen Advisory Board forming soon to join in on the fun!

### MAKERSPACE

Create. Learn. Innovate. Turn your ideas into creations at the Library's new Makerspace! The Library is partnering with the Wonder Institute to offer tools, technology, and resources that foster creativity and hands-on learning. Your contributions will help the Library build a state-of-the-art Makerspace with 3-D printers, computers, sewing and crafting equipment, laser cutters, and much more!



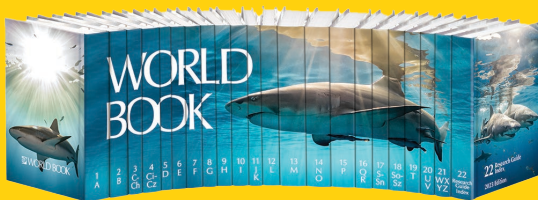




### BRAINSTORM SPEAKER SERIES

Embark on a journey of intellectual exploration, conversation and curiosity this fall and winter with the inaugural Brainstorm Speaker Series, presented by the Library, Jackson Hole News&Guide, and Center for the Arts.

The series begins in September and features four trailblazers who are renowned in their fields for sparking the mind and inspiring reflection: animal behavior and autism expert Temple Grandin, award-winning journalist Jesse Eisinger, host of The Hidden Brain podcast Shankar Vedantam, and award-winning science journalist Ed Yong.



### WORLD BOOK ENCYCLOPEDIA

They're as useful as ever! The World Book Encyclopedia is the only general reference encyclopedia still published today and provides authoritative and trusted information for learners of all ages. Whether to better understand a subject or to check a fact for a homework assignment, young patrons will find tens of thousands of index entries making it easy to find the information they need. With abundant colorful photos, illustrations, and maps, the encyclopedias will foster curiosity and promote new methods of research.



### MUSEUM AND CULTURAL PASSES

Your Library card benefits continue to grow! Individuals and families will now have free access to several attractions in Jackson and the surrounding area. Most passes can be downloaded from the Library's website on to a mobile phone for easy access. You can help provide new pathways of discovery!

### ALTA

The Alta branch is collaborating with the Valley of the Tetons Library for new programs, including writing workshops, civic engagement discussions, book clubs for adults and teens, and more! A new outdoor event space, enhanced community room and A/V system will make it all possible.



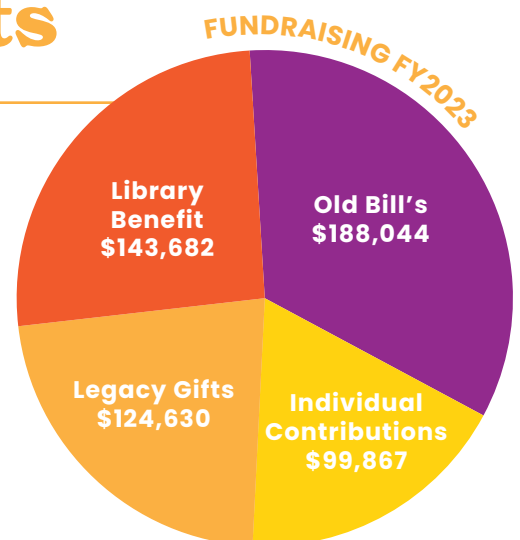


HONK IF YOU LOVE THE LIBRARY! Foundation & Friends at Old Bill's Fun Run

## Foundation & Friends Fundraising & Events

**WE ARE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND GENEROSITY IN THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION AND FRIENDS' FUNDRAISERS, SPECIAL EVENTS, AND VOLUNTEER WORK!**

Your contributions ensure the Library's lasting impact as an invaluable community hub, a place that fosters literacy and lifelong learning, inspires creativity, and strengthens community. THANK YOU for helping others expand their knowledge, enhance their lives, and reach their full potential!







All Smiles at the 2022 Annual Library Benefit



Volunteer Helping in the Book Nook



Staff Appreciation Lunch



Summer Book Swap



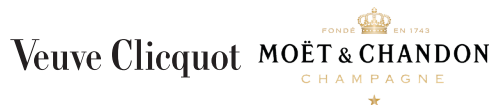
Volunteering at the Library



Book Talk with Dr. Annie Fenn, Author of The Brain Health Kitchen

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