

# CARMEL CLAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Annual  
Report  
2022





## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

2022 was a year of change and transition for the Carmel Clay Public Library. While it was a fun and novel approach housing our biography collection in the freezer section and audiobooks in the dairy section, library staff and patrons alike said both a fond and grateful farewell to the temporary Merchants' Square Main Library in late summer. A sincere thanks to our patrons and everyone in the community for their understanding and patience during this transitional period. I'm certain we made some memories together that will endure far beyond our relatively short two-year span of operation there.

The new Main Library opened to the public on October 1, 2022. The overwhelmingly positive reaction from the community has been incredible and humbling. Our patrons have demonstrated yet again that our library is regarded as a community treasure. It is noteworthy that, since opening in the new library, usage has returned to pre-pandemic levels. Patrons are visiting, checking out materials, and attending programs at a level not seen since 2019.

The new Main Library offers options to the community that simply weren't possible before the renovation. A few examples include additional meeting spaces and the ability for groups to reserve them, an expanded Digital Media Lab with more 3D printers and recording rooms, and dedicated study rooms and programming spaces for teens.

Truly, the future has never been brighter, and possibilities abound at our library. Thank you for your support and patronage. I look forward to seeing you at the library!

**Bob Swanay**

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## MISSION

To inspire lifelong discovery, facilitate collaboration, and connect people with resources.

## VISION

To support a diverse community of people committed to lifelong learning, an enhanced quality of life, and enriching social and cultural experiences.





**282,469**

TOTAL LIBRARY VISITS



**1,653,648**

TOTAL CHECKOUTS



**89,129**

TOTAL QUESTIONS  
ANSWERED



**100,777**

RESIDENTS

IN THE LAST QUARTER  
OF 2022, THE LIBRARY  
AVERAGED

**1,482**

TOTAL VISITORS TO BOTH  
LOCATIONS EACH DAY

**2,234**

PHYSICAL ITEMS CHECKED  
OUT EACH DAY

**1,137**

DIGITAL ITEMS CHECKED  
OUT EACH DAY

**71**

STUDY ROOM  
BOOKINGS EACH DAY



**85,677**

CARDHOLDERS



**45,252**

ACTIVE CARDHOLDERS  
who used their cards to check  
something out in past 12 months

## GOING FINE FREE

In July 2022, we eliminated overdue fines for late returns. Overdue fines had traditionally represented a very small percentage of the library's revenue but could be a significant barrier to library use, particularly for those who could benefit most from the library's services. The new policy helps us provide equitable service to all members of our community while still encouraging patrons to be responsible borrowers.

## NEW EMAIL NEWSLETTERS

In the spring of 2022, we introduced three new monthly newsletters geared toward general library information, teens, and families. Delivered via email, the newsletters showcase library services, upcoming events, and reading suggestions.

## MULTILINGUAL STORYWALKS

Although lack of space at Merchants' Square continued to prevent extensive in-person programming for much of 2022, we ramped up our StoryWalk® offerings in the community. For the first time, some of the StoryWalks were translated into different languages, allowing us to reach new families with these engaging outdoor experiences.



"The team at the library has always been so resourceful for my family. And against the backdrop of such challenging times in recent years, I want to just share another 'It really matters what you do' and thank you for the service you provide all of us who reside here and visit CCPL."

- CCPL patron

## WEST BRANCH ACTIVITIES

In addition to convenient holds pickup and comfortable space to browse and work, West Branch patrons also enjoyed in-library activities like scavenger hunts and mosaic sticker posters. Take-and-make kits were offered periodically for all ages.





## MOVING BACK TO MAIN STREET

Our time at both the temporary space in Merchants' Square and the rented Digital Media Lab space came to an end in July 2022. Over the next two months, collections, furnishings, and equipment were packed, transported, and set up at the expanded library on Main Street. Meanwhile, West Branch staff were kept busy handling all patron interactions during that time.



## GRAND REOPENING OF THE MAIN LIBRARY

On October 1, 2022, we welcomed the community back to the expanded Main Library. On the first day alone, we issued 164 new library cards, and over 11,000 checked-out items were returned. Patrons were amazed by the bright openness of the new facility.

Patrons were delighted with the new study rooms and quickly began making use of the room reservation system. There are more than three times as many study rooms as before, and they are kept busy throughout the week.

Although they had been without across-the-street library service for two years, teens rediscovered the new library in no time at all. The new Teens Area is in use all day long thanks to Carmel High School's flexible schedule. Teens also make use of seating and gathering areas throughout the building after school.



## A BIGGER AND BETTER DIGITAL MEDIA LAB

In its new space at the Main Library, the Digital Media Lab has become a focal point. The larger, brighter lab is perfect for digital content creation. New 3D printers make exciting projects possible, including the ability to print multiple colors in a single object. Lab staff are experts at explaining new technology and have created fun in-lab and take-home activities for hands-on learning.



## HOLDS PICKUP LOCKER

We launched our new holds pickup locker at the Main Library in December 2022. Located in the parking garage, it offers a convenient way for patrons to pick up holds 24/7 and is especially popular with patrons who have mobility challenges or whose schedules make it difficult to visit when the library is open.

## TEEN ART

One of the most exciting features of the Main Library Teens Area is the mural designed by teen artist Connor Heagy. Elements of the piece are echoed in wall characters throughout the space. We also welcomed our first Teen Artists in Residence, who made good use of their exclusive studio space to develop artistic projects.







## IN-PERSON PROGRAMS

Our book discussion groups, which had been meeting virtually since COVID, began meeting in person at the Monon Community Center in spring of 2022. By the time the Main Library reopened, patrons were eager for more in-person opportunities. Events for all ages saw a huge demand, from “sold-out” free concerts and storytimes to gaming sessions and the popular Green Gift Shop.

## YOUTH LIBRARY COUNCIL

Building on the success of our Teen Library Council, we launched a new Youth Library Council in 2022. This enthusiastic group of 4th and 5th graders help assemble library craft kits, write book recommendations, assist with library events, and more. The YLC now has over 60 members.



	Winter Reading Program	Summer Reading Program
<b>Kid Participation</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>1,574</b>
<b>Teen Participation</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>428</b>
<b>Adult Participation</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>842</b>
<b>Donations Earned</b>	<b>377</b> Donations for Carmel's Exotic Animal Rescue & Pet Sanctuary	<b>3,250</b> Donations for Humane Society for Hamilton County

## READERS SUPPORTING COMMUNITY

Our Winter and Summer Reading Program readers once again supported community organizations.

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Ms. Linda L. William  
Francine Williams  
Ralph M. & Mattigene  
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Darla Wilson  
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Marilyn Wilson  
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Ronald Winings  
Gail Wiseman  
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Richard & Barbara Yoho  
Leah York  
Qing Yu  
Mary Ziemba  
Stephanie Zircher  
Robert Zuniga

THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR GENEROUS  
SUPPORT!





## 2022 OPERATING EXPENDITURES

Personnel	\$4,152,612
Library Materials & Databases	\$1,393,465
Other Services & Charges	\$606,076*
Capital Improvements	\$546,272*
Building Equipment & Maintenance	\$334,639
Utilities	\$344,003
Supplies	\$109,942

*\* Does not include expenditures from the Operating Fund for the Main Library expansion project, \$4,062,295 in 2022.*

## 2022 OPERATING REVENUE

Property Tax	\$4,097,083
Local Income Tax	\$3,384,820
Local Income Tax, Special Distribution	\$664,495
License Excise Fee	\$360,456
Interest Earnings	\$294,469
Other	\$88,363
Fines & Fees	\$21,528

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**MAIN LIBRARY**

425 E. Main St.

**JOYCE WINNER WEST BRANCH**

12770 Horseferry Rd.