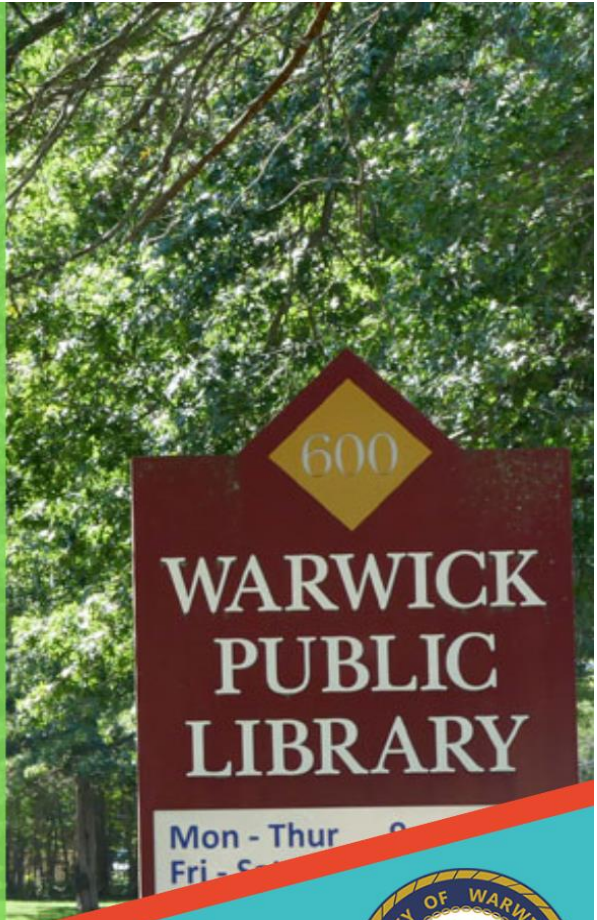




WARWICK  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

# ANNUAL REPORT



YOUR OPEN  
DOOR TO  
LEARNING

2023  
2024

401-739-5440



wpladmin@warwicklibrary.org



www.warwicklibrary.org



600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI 02889



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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

## A Year of New Beginnings



In some ways, this past year has been a year of new beginnings for the Library. As the world and our city has been able to return more and more to normal operations, our slogan has started to take on new meanings. “Your Open Door to Learning,” has always highlighted what libraries strive to achieve ... we want to be there for you to help you meet all of your educational, social, and entertainment needs. Of course, the pandemic made that more difficult, but libraries across the country attempted to still connect with their patrons and their needs. I would like to say that while we didn’t always get it right, we were successful at meeting your Library needs as thoroughly as possible.

One exciting thing that can be found in these pages is that the members of our community continue to want to make use of what we have available at the Library, whether it is in the form of physical materials, our digital collections, our meeting and study room spaces, or the programming and services we offer. In fact, in just about every area, we have seen an increased use of all of these things over the numbers from the previous fiscal year, which closed at the end of June. You will find some of those great statistics in this report.

We have also opened doors in other ways. Over the course of the year, our smaller branches have all expanded their hours so they are now open 22 hours a week, and all of our friends in neighborhoods around the city have come back and settled in.

We continue to want to meet your interests and needs. I invite you to reach out if you have some ideas about how the Library can make changes or add services or materials. Please feel free to contact me if you do have any ideas.

Thank you, as always, for being a valued Library patron.

Aaron Coutu-Jones  
Director

### ***Mission Statement***

The Warwick Public Library is the hub of community learning where every child can be a reader, every resident can connect to the digital world, and lifelong learning enriches every life. The Warwick Public Library is your open door to learning and everything online.

# LIBRARY AS PEOPLE

## Library Staff

Maureen Anderson  
 Katie Arnold  
 Evan Barta  
 Sally Beachen  
 Jennifer Beiermann  
 Julie Belanger  
 Gregory Borden  
 David Carpenter  
 Eliza Channell  
 Aaron Coutu-Jones  
 Kelly DiCenzo  
 Jane Flanders  
 Anna Gemma  
 Barbara Grant  
 Wil Gregersen  
 Jeanne Gyra  
 Andrea Hutnak

Diane Iacono  
 Michael Kanelos  
 Suzanne Kapotas  
 Christine Kayal  
 Penny LaCroix  
 Jennifer Linton  
 Amber Lopes  
 Bette Maioli  
 Kris Ann MacPhee  
 Rose Makin  
 Cathi McManus  
 Pam Miech  
 Jennifer Morse  
 Ellen O'Brien  
 Lou Papineau  
 Corey Paul  
 Rachel Perrone

Jackie Petrarca  
 Mary Anne Quinn  
 Brianna Resto  
 Lillie Ann Ricci  
 Deb Rock  
 Alexey Rudayev  
 Tanisha Sampson  
 Kathleen Sonier  
 Lillian Tobin  
 Anne Trainer  
 Tina Travis  
 John Vitulli  
 Gabrielle Volta  
 Leslie Wasilewski  
 Colleen Wolf  
 Emily Woodbury

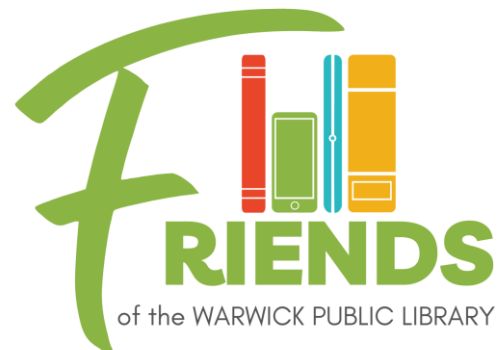
## Library Board of Trustees

Stephanie Carter, Chair  
 Kimberly Wineman, Vice-Chair  
 Michael Riccitelli, Secretary

Peggy Chace  
 Patricia Major  
 Jeff Ursillo  
 Mary Johnson

## Friends of the Warwick Public Library Board

Cheryl A. Cotter, President  
 Michael James Kanelos, Vice President  
 Loretta Furtado, Treasurer  
 Diane Kanelos, Recording Secretary  
 Jayne Berghorn, Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter Editor  
 Maureen F. Wishart, Membership/Marketing Chair  
 Cathryn R. Collins, Board Member  
 David P. Dupéré, Board Member  
 Yvette Kenner, Board Member  
 Evelyn O'Hearn, Board Member  
 Heidi Showstead, Board Member  
 Megan Magee, Auxiliary Board Member  
 Sandra Hartley, Auxiliary Board Member  
 Stacey Popules, Auxiliary Board Member

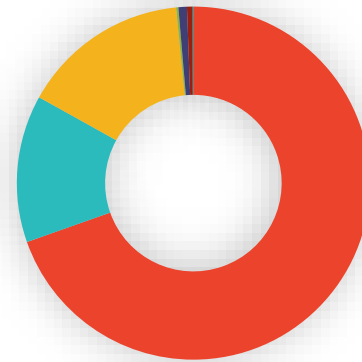




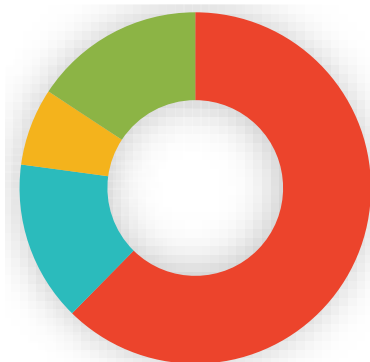
# LIBRARY FINANCES

## Income

- City of Warwick General Fund - \$3,664,104
- State Aid - \$710,409
- City of Warwick Capital Improvement - \$808,730
- Federal Funding, including ARPA - \$10,895
- Grants - \$0
- Endowment - \$40,895
- Friends - \$25,014
- Self-Generated Funds - \$5,470



- City of Warwick General Fund
- State Aid
- City of Warwick Capital Improvement
- Federal Funding, including ARPA
- Grants
- Endowment
- Friends



- Personnel
- Operating Costs
- Books, Media, Patron Services
- Capital Improvement

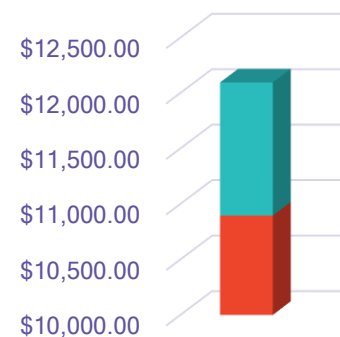
## Expenditures

- Personnel - \$3,283,937
- Operating Costs - \$777,744
- Books, Media, Patron Services - \$375,253
- Capital Improvement - \$828,730

## Grants Awarded

- OLIS - ARPA Tech Grant II = \$10,895
- OLIS - Summer Learning Grant = \$1,200

This has resulted in a combined total of **\$12,095 in grant income**.



- OLIS - Summer Learning Grant
- OLIS - ARPA Tech Grant II

## Return on Investment

With a city investment of approximately \$3.6 million for library operations and with state support of \$710,409, the residents of the City of Warwick received services and materials valued at **\$19,841,740<sup>1</sup>**. That is a return of **\$5.42 for every \$1 spent** by the city toward operations. That is why we are the best bargain in the city!

<sup>1</sup> Syracuse University School of Information Studies Return on Investment Tool - <https://truevalue.ischool.syr.edu/calculator/>

# BY THE NUMBERS

## Library Usage

Visitors to our four branches numbered 216,661, which is a 20.25% increase over last year. Library staff answered 33,729 Reference questions, which is a 34.45% increase. The Library has 25,112 library card holders, which means about 30.25% of city residents have a library card. Library cards are free to all residents of Rhode Island and can be obtained by visiting any public library or by visiting <https://www.oslri.org/application/>.

Membership in Ocean State Libraries allows patrons to use their library card to choose from over 5 million items statewide. Besides borrowing from their home library, last year our patrons received 64,993 items from around the state. We aren't selfish, though! We shared 44,881 items with those same libraries.

## Programming

During the last fiscal year, we offered 907 programs in person at our branches, which is more than double the offerings from the year before. These programs were attended by 15,887 people. Our staff made 92 site visits to offer programs or informational sessions, which were attended by 7,581 people.

## Breakdown by Age

Programming is always one of the most popular things for library patrons to make use.

	Programs	Attendance
<b>Children's</b>	514	11,669
<b>Teens</b>	143	1,896
<b>Adults</b>	289	5,112
<b>All Ages/Family</b>	65	5,082

*Warwick Radio Online*, our podcast, has grown in popularity since its founding in 2021. The podcast's 79 episodes from last fiscal year had 4,955 downloads.



## VolunTEENS

This certainly a safe way for teens to volunteer their time to help others. Hours earned could be used for community service requirements. Teens created get-well cards for hospitalized children, tutorial videos, made homemade gifts for deployed soldiers and wrote peer reviews.

**111 Volunteers**  
**813 Volunteer Hours**

## Technology

The Library strives to provide greater access to everyone who needs or wants to use technology. Besides circulating various technological devices for use either inside or outside the building, our branches have 42 public computers for public uses. Those computers had 20,108 uses, which is an increase of almost 15% over last year. Those visiting any of our library branches have the ability to access the internet through our WiFi both inside and outside of the buildings. This has resulted in 49,231 uses, or an increase of 32.57% over the last fiscal year.

# Circulation of Materials

## Physical Materials

Books, Magazines & Other Print Materials	309,060
CD Audiobooks & PlayAways	10,672
DVDs & BluRays	48,136
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>367,868</b>

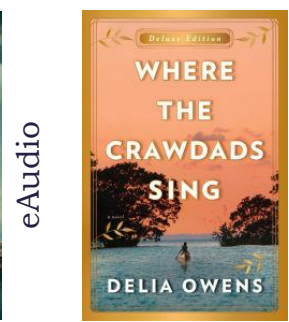
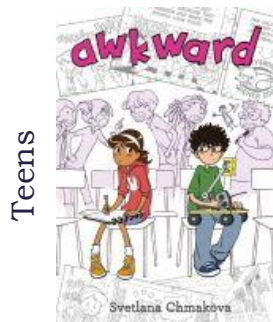
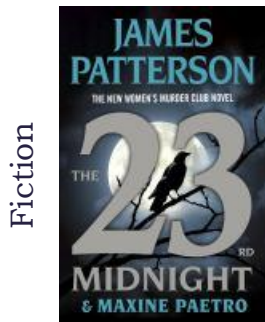
*Did you know we circulate mobile hotspots, laptops, tablets, telescopes, and many more non-print or media items? Keep an eye out for more information about our new Library of Things, which will be full of various items for you to try at home.*

## Digital Materials

*Did you realize you can access digital content on three platforms? The RI eZone provides access to eBooks and eAudiobooks. Hoopla provides access to eBooks, eAudiobooks, graphic novels & comics, and films & TV shows. Kanopy provides access to streaming films and TV shows.*

eBooks	97,830
eAudio	34,690
eVideo	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>132,543</b>

<b>286,356</b>	<b>20,453</b>	<b>155,969</b>	<b>132,543</b>	<b>97,830</b>
Adult Materials	Teen Materials	Children's Materials	Downloadable Audiobooks, Movies, Music, TV	eBooks

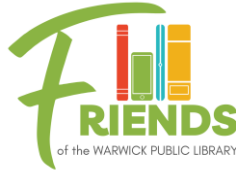


## Online Resources

Our online resources saw heavy use this year. With patrons search for articles and other online information resulting in 1,761,155 documents, articles, and other online resources being provided.



The Friends of the Warwick Public Library are an amazing group of volunteers dedicated to raising funds to pay for items and programs we might not otherwise be able to afford. Last year the Friends contributed \$25,014 towards the Library.



## Friends of the Warwick Public Library Membership Form

Yes, I want to be a Friend:

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Family | \$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron            | \$25.00 |

Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make your tax deductible check payable to the “Friends of the Warwick Public Library” and mail to 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, Rhode Island 02889 or drop your form off at the Central Library or at the Apponaug, Conimicut, or Norwood branches.

The Friends are a 501(c)3 organization.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to volunteer.