



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

 **Lincoln
Library**
Springfield's Public Library



Colorful holiday decorations spiral through the atrium, 2022



Library Card Month partnerships with downtown businesses were a success.



Staff members brave the cold rain at Springfield Pride

WE'VE DONE A LOT THIS YEAR

It's been a big year at Lincoln Library! I'm incredibly proud of the work our team has done. We have worked to better provide equal access to resources. We have partnered with local businesses. We have invested in literacy learning items and to made them available to teachers. And that's just scratching the surface.

We may made improvements big and small. We listened and made changes. We got out and about in the community and made an effort to reach people where they are.

Additionally, we have a 5-year plan to make Lincoln Library a even more vibrant and thriving Library. We believe a thriving Lincoln Library means a thriving Springfield and we're here to work together to make that happen. We love and appreciate the support from our patrons and community leaders. Thank you! Expect big things from us.

Stay tuned,

Summer Bok-Liff



2022 BY THE NUMBERS

Circulation

We circulated
347,682
physical items

We circulated
126,321
streaming and
digital items

Patrons completed
433,702
database searches

We circulated
137
Library of Things
items

Community

We welcomed
6,587
new and returning
cardholders

We welcomed
163,283
patrons into our
building

Patrons logged
17,878
public computer
sessions

We made over
15,000
student and teacher
eCards for District 186

Programs

We hosted
210
programs

We welcomed
4,166
program attendants

Community groups held
349
meetings in our space

We hosted
147
outreach events

Increase from 2019

Key Takeaway

Digital and
streaming checkouts
increased 26%



Digital access promoted during the
pandemic has remained popular and
provides even greater access to resources.

Print jobs increased
97%



The Library provides access to printing, and
free black and white printing has increased
access and utility for many patrons.

Hotspot checkouts
increased 217%



Internet access is still in high demand, and
an increased number of available devices has
helped fill that demand

Outreach events
increased 101%



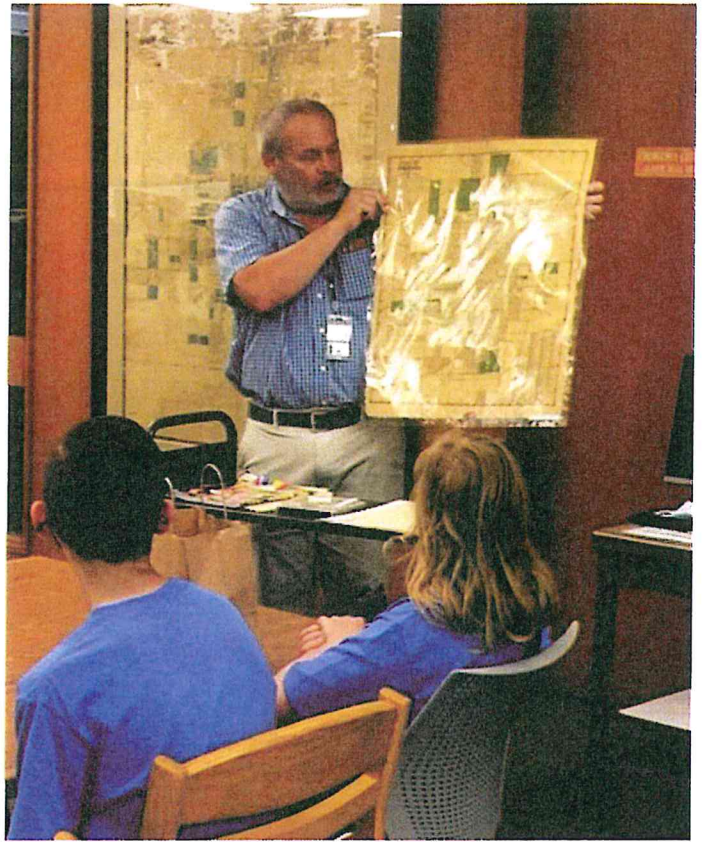
By adding a dedicated outreach staff member,
as well as ongoing pop-up events, we were
successful in expanding reach in the community

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Celebrating Our Roots and Investing in
the Future



Reference Librarian Sara teaches a computer class



City Historian Curtis Mann presents to visiting students

Investing in Innovative Technology

We replaced every public computer in the library, some of which were over a decade old. We added innovative software to public computers and began electrical work to improve internet infrastructure. We also added over 100 hotspots for check out, and purchased laptops for use in our study rooms. To top it all off, we even began planning for a digital and textile creation lab.

Prioritizing Sangamon Valley Collection

We prioritized our local history archives.

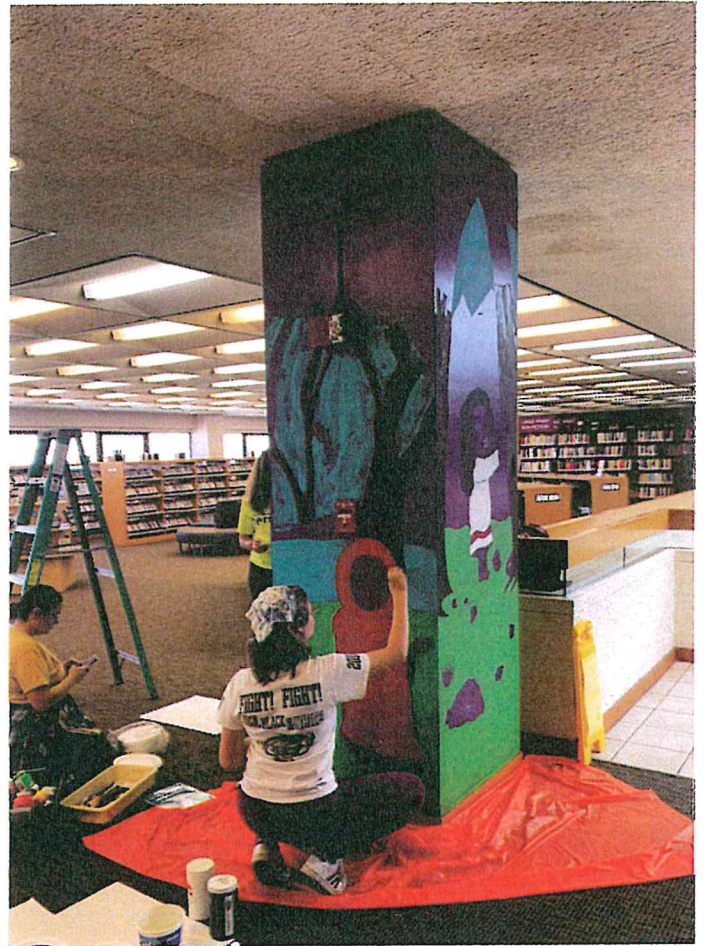
We purchased a digital scanner allowing for digitization of fragile and unique artifacts, including over 11,000 scanned negatives in the Mercury Photography collection. We made another large investment in the digitization of over 100 rolls of microfilm documenting City Council meeting minutes and small historical weekly newspapers.

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

New Ideas Inspire Us All



Children browse toys and games at the Library of Things Petting Zoo event



Sacred Heart-Griffin High School art club students paint a mural on the third floor

Launching Library of Things

Thanks to generous donations from the Lincoln Library Foundation, we were able to add 72 items for public checkout, including technology, toys, tools, games, medical equipment and more. Though this collection launched halfway through the year, there were an impressive 137 checkouts in 2022.

Building Community Through Arts

We believe beauty matters. We also believe building community matters. We invited local high school art clubs to create pillar murals. We also hosted two community art shows, an art and dance filled Juneteenth celebration, and a number of Arts in the Parks programs. We have craft programs every month and provide wildly popular make and take crafts for all ages.

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Connecting the Library to the Community
and the Community to the Library

Focusing on Community Outreach and Programming

Community outreach and partnered programming were a focus for 2022. We started by taking Summer Reading events all over the City from Jubilee Farms to Comer Cox Park. Then we hosted 147 outreach events.

We made over 15,000 student eCards for District 186, and visited teachers and students at schools all over Springfield.

The library was also fortunate to receive a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to add an Outreach Coordinator to our team for 2022. With her help, we were able to host Pop-Up Library events in Wards 2, 3, and 4, bringing full library services to Springfield neighborhoods.



Outreach Coordinator T'ena visits
Bonansinga Apartments



Library Assistant Britainy leads a music and
literacy activity for Brandon Drive residents



Summer Reading Bubble Bus Wrap Up
Party was a blast

MOVING FORWARD

Expect Big Things From Us



Mobile Branch- Coming Soon!

Our Mobile Branch, a custom-built diesel hybrid vehicle will begin rolling in 2023. It will feature two computer terminals, free Wi-Fi, mobile programming, and a rotating collection of 3,500 books, DVDs, CDs, and audiobooks.

With the help of our Mobile Branch and additional outreach staff, we will be able to reach all 10 Wards of Capital Township.

This will help us bring not only books and materials to new patrons, but classes on job skills, technology, literacy skills, and other programming that meets neighborhood and community need.



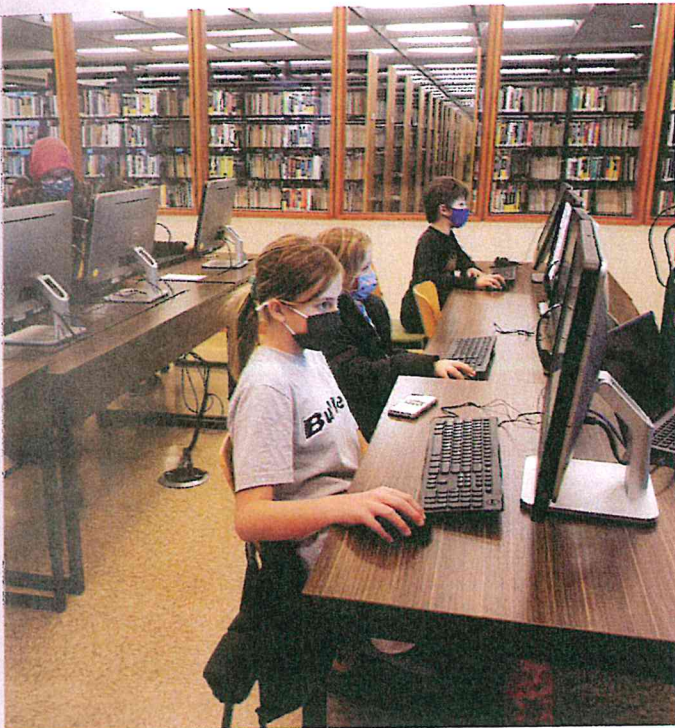
Top: A provided mock-up of what the mobile branch will look like

Middle: An example of a potential interior space, with shelving for 3,500 materials

Bottom: An example of an interior space, with two computer terminals and kitchenette for staff

MOVING FORWARD

Making the Library a Place the Whole
Community Can Enjoy



Young coding masters practice for World Coding day.



Lincoln Library staff host elementary students for an amazing story time.

We Will Invest in Technology and Infrastructure

We believe libraries should provide equal access to innovative tech. In 2023, the library will continue an electrical and internet infrastructure refresh that will expand the capacity of high-speed public Wi-Fi. We will also begin work on improving our aging public elevators.

Along with the updated public computers, we are bringing creative tools to our patrons. Look for access to Adobe Creative Cloud programs and a Creation Lab featuring 3-D Printers, podcasting and film equipment, sewing machines, and more!

We Will Focus on Literacy and a Youth Services Renovation

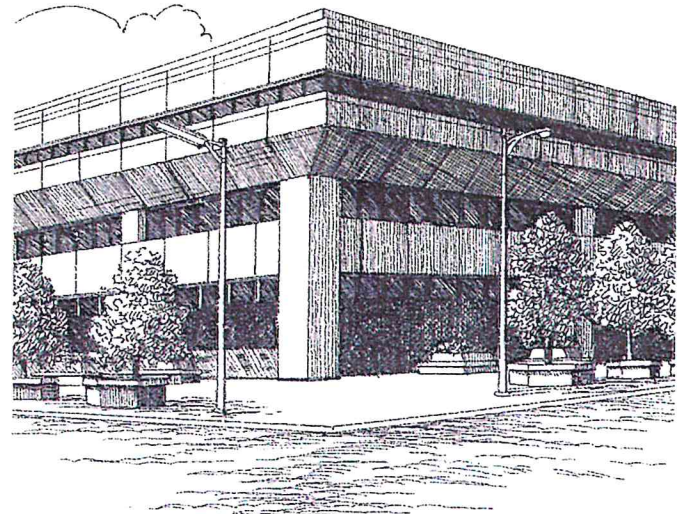
One of our priorities in 2023 is the revitalization our Children and Teen areas to better serve our community. Youth library spaces must be able to host programming of all kinds, support literacy learning, and inspire young minds. A full renovation of the Youth Services space will accomplish all of this, allowing staff to expand their offerings and create a destination for local families. Further, during this time of record low literacy rates, we are committed to investing in helping students in every part of our community build their reading skills.

MOVING FORWARD

2023 and Beyond



New elevator wraps brighten up the parking garage



Lincoln Library Alliance

We are Focusing on Beautification of our Space

Along with our pillars, more murals will be installed in the library, created by diverse local artists. This will soon include a 100 foot long mural that will bring color and interest to the exterior of the building along 7th Street.

We have a Thriving Advocacy and Fundraising Group

The newly founded Lincoln Library Alliance has begun serving as our advocacy and fundraising group. Lincoln Library Alliance is a nonprofit organization that has evolved from the former Land of Lincoln BookShare.

The group will sell Lincoln Library merchandise, host fundraisers, and organize book sales to bolster new initiatives, support the library staff and promote literacy in the community.

THANK YOU!

For your Patronage and Support!



Staff and volunteers celebrate 2022!

Top Checkouts

Fiction

Where the Crawdads Sing
Delia Owens

Nonfiction

Atomic Habits
James Clear

Young Adult Fiction

Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes
Suzanne Collins

Juvenile Fiction

The Deep End
Jeff Kinney

Juvenile Nonfiction

Minecraft: Guide to the Nether and the End
Stephanie Milton

Picture Book

Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity
Mo Willems

Libby

The Four Winds
Kristin Hannah

Library of Things

Ukulele Kit

Staff Wins

We asked staff members to highlight their favorite wins in 2022

Staff got to express their creativity in so many wonderful ways!

We built a great team this year, and we couldn't do what we do without it.

Our awesome new director.

Events like Juneteenth and the after-hours murder mystery.

World Space Week was so much fun.

The Library of Things!

The positive environment that we've built together.

The Pop-Up Library events! We got out into the community more than ever.

Summer Reading was amazing this year!

That we've accomplished so much in just a year, moving forward to help the community.