



# 2022

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

## ANNUAL REPORT





## From the Director Jeff Collins

Hello, and thank you for your continued support of Davenport Public Library! Here's what we've been up to throughout 2022. Our staff has shown remarkable resilience throughout this year of transition. As the world continues to move toward a post-pandemic normal, our community responded by visiting our libraries, using our study and meeting rooms, attending high-quality library programs, and borrowing lots of library materials. This year was punctuated by a significant leadership transition, as the Library Board of Trustees hired me to take the reins after Director Amy Groskopf retired following a career that spanned more than 33 years of service.

I hit the ground running in February and was fortunate to work with and be trained by library employees who continually impressed me with their knowledge, work ethic and passion for the public we serve.

### Staff highlights:



Brittany Peacock (Community Outreach and Marketing Supervisor) became President of the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services (ABOS), a national organization that supports library staff and leadership.

At the Iowa Library Association (ILA) Annual Conference, two Davenport Public Library employees received awards: Amber Carlson (Youth Services Librarian) received the ILA Youth Services Quality Time Award and Quinn O'Brian (Library Social Worker) received the ILA Library Philanthropy Award.



Quinn and Leslie Ross (Information Services Supervisor) presented at the ILA Conference on the role of social workers in public libraries. Speaking of Quinn, she serves under a three-year contract funded through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) and helps patrons navigate a complex system of support and resources available in the community, addressing issues such as housing instability, homelessness, unemployment, food insecurity, and legal issues. In addition to providing one-on-one assistance, she has partnered with local community groups and assisted 934 patrons, while forging 44 partnerships with community organizations, since beginning her role.

Our staff continue to seek out ways to develop their talents and learn about how to best serve our public, as Brittany and Leslie completed the Davenport Strengths Institute in June after completing the 12-month leadership program.



Rachel Rugg (Information Services Librarian) participated in the 2022 ILA Leadership Institute in August.

I'm proud of our staff for these wonderful achievements.

*Continued on the next page*

## A few more highlights:

We held an Open House on September 30th to celebrate the \$1.8 million renovation of | Main and the launch of the Library's first makerspace, Studio 321. The renovation was made possible through generous donations from our community and the FRIENDS of the Davenport Public Library, resulting in new study rooms, more comfortable seating and charging stations, ADA-accessible restrooms, and other infrastructure improvements. We also updated numerous furnishings at Fairmount, especially in the children's area, and partnered with River Bend Food Bank to designate a community snack pantry for area youth. In addition to our role as a participating summer meal site for Davenport Community Schools, the Library is helping to feed kids both physically and mentally.



The 2022-2024 Strategic Plan framed much of our work toward achieving goals and objectives in the following areas: 1) Improving marketing; 2) Better reaching underserved communities; and 3) Better engaging underserved or underrepresented communities in our facilities. We created a Brand Guide and Marketing Plan, updated our organizational structure, developed a new printed monthly calendar to spotlight library events, and implemented new workflow efficiencies, such as Patron Point – a marketing automation platform that helps us engage with and retain patrons, while making it easier to attract new patrons.

We worked with the City of Davenport Community Economic Development and Parks and Recreation to expand our Literacy Outreach Program. This funding allowed us to hire two part-time temporary Library Assistants during the summer and a full-time Library Assistant for the school year to offer literacy programs to children in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. Our Outreach team attended community events, including the February Family Fun Days, the MLK Center Juneteenth Celebration, the QC Unity Pride Parade, Yoga and Stories in the Park at VanderVeer, and more!



We offered engaging and responsive programs that reflect the diversity of our community, including Make the Connection: A DEI Bookclub, which virtually hosted Brittany K. Barnett, who authored the best-selling book *A Knock at Midnight: A Story of Hope Justice and Freedom*, the Quad Cities Deaf Resource Fair, and the Teen Summer Brunch: Drag Queens & Kings program, which offered teenagers a safe place to explore our diverse world. Many programs were offered virtually, in-person or off-site – we even hosted an event in a mine! In addition to our annual Summer Reading Program, we continued reading challenges year-round to help patrons stay engaged, including the Hispanic Heritage Month Reading Challenge, Teen Reading Challenge, and Native American Heritage Month Challenge this fall.

In short, it has been an amazing year. I am proud of what we've accomplished together and excited for what comes next. Here is a sneak peek at a few upcoming initiatives:

- \$1.08 million-dollar project to enhance the children's areas at all three Davenport Public Library locations
- Accessibility and landscaping improvements at | Main
- Fairmount Community Center
- New meeting room tables and other furnishings at | Eastern
- Student Library Card program in partnership with Davenport Community Schools

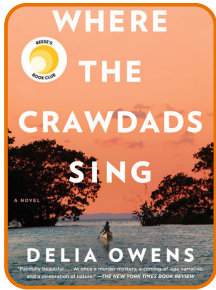
We are thankful for the wonderful support of the Library Board of Trustees, FRIENDS, Mayor and City Council, City Administrator and City employees, and especially our community. I'm excited to serve as we work together to fulfill our mission to connect a diverse community to resources that inform, enrich, educate, and entertain!

# Year in Review



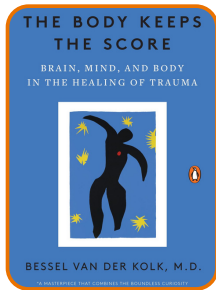
## Most Checked Out Items of 2022

### Fiction



*Where the Crawdads Sing*  
Delia Owens

### Nonfiction



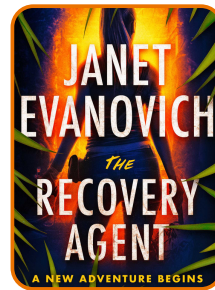
*The Body Keeps the Score*  
Bessel Van der Kolk

### Romance



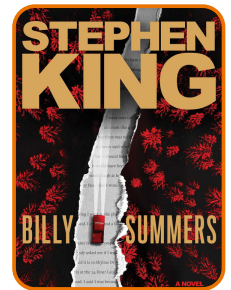
*People We Meet on Vacation*  
Emily Henry

### Mystery



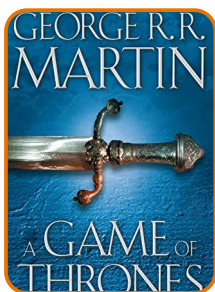
*The Recovery Agent*  
Janet Evanovich

### Horror



*Billy Summers*  
Stephen King

### Sci-Fi/Fantasy



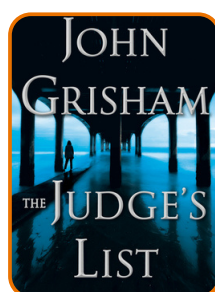
*A Game of Thrones*  
George R.R. Martin

### Urban



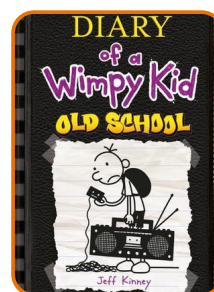
*Playing with Fire*  
Kiki Swinson

### Audiobook



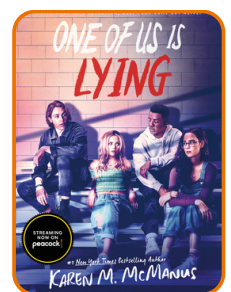
*The Judge's List*  
John Grisham

### Juvenile Fiction



*Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Old School*  
Jeff Kinney

### Young Adult



*One of Us is Lying*  
Karen M. McManus

# Community Engagement

Davenport Public Library engaged 11,795 people through 354 offsite programs and events.



Emily & Holly (Youth Services) delivered books for checkout. This was one of 18 elementary schools visited.



Ashley (Customer Services) attended the Freight House Farmer's Market. This was the first of 11 visits to the market.



Nikki (Technical Services) at Planet Funk Con in June.



Quinn (Information Services) at the Lincoln Center Block Party in September.



Kathryn (Special Collections) attended Party in the Park at Duck Creek! The OWL (Outreach Wheeled Library) was at all 7 events this summer.



Brittany (Community Outreach & Marketing) at Sunderbruch Park for Tales and Trails, a program that welcomed 88 attendees in 4 visits.

## Summer Reading

The Summer Reading Program is an annual reading challenge that aims to educate and enrich readers of all ages. Each year, the Library holds a challenge for area schools to see which schools have the highest participants and this year, Hayes Elementary and Trinity Lutheran won the school reading challenge. The winning schools were honored by the Mayor and City Council during a council meeting in October. The schools also received a trophy along with free books for their school library.

<p><b>2,233 SUMMER READING PARTICIPANTS</b></p>	<p><b>63% INCREASE IN PARTICIPANTS FROM 2021</b></p>	<p><b>284 EVENTS HELD JUNE-AUGUST</b></p>	<p><b>7,107 PROGRAM ATTENDEES</b></p>	<p><b>\$2,000 WORTH OF FREE BOOKS GIVEN TO AREA SCHOOLS</b></p>
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## New in 2022

To learn more about these new services, scan the QR code above!

Studio 321 launched in September at | Main. Studio 321 is a makerspace with a 3D printer, button maker, Cricut, high pressure heat press, large format printer, sewing machines, a digital conversion station, and more.



Want free seeds? Check out the Davenport Public Library Seed Library at | Main. The Seed Library has flowers, fruits and vegetables of heirloom varieties with new seeds added yearly.

Simply Held (formerly Best Sellers Club) is a service that automatically places books by popular authors on hold for cardholders. If you were already signed up for Best Sellers Club, you were automatically enrolled in Simply Held.



"I want to say thank you to Quinn. She has really helped me. If you have somebody that believes in you and you believe in yourself, then you can go somewhere. I cannot state how much Quinn has been instrumental in my success." - Damian



"One of the best things parents can do for their children!"  
-Facebook follower

# Thank You to Our Donors!

Davenport Public Library gratefully acknowledges the generosity of its donors. Their financial support has a tremendous impact on our services. The following donations were received by from January 1, 2022 through November 30, 2022. We apologize for any errors or omissions in this list.

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Luke Beatty  
Honey Bedell  
Connie Benning  
Norm & Linda Bower  
Eve Browning  
Don & Dee Bruemmer  
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Elizabeth Casillas  
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Reva Young

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Hubbell-Waterman Foundation  
Regional Development Authority

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John Deere Classic  
Estes Construction  
RIA Federal Credit Union  
Wells Fargo

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Matthew Golden

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Steve Imming

## In Memory of Eleanor Anne Devine

Dennis & Jeanne Devine

## In Memory of Jeff M. Johnson

Michele Plogh

## In Memory of Patricia May

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William & Rosemary Churchill  
Vic and Pam Crome  
Carol Dietsch  
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Charles & Courtney Donohue  
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## In Memory of Michael Duffy

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## In Memory of Ella Johns

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## Visit Our Little Free Libraries!

**Davenport Public Library | Main**  
 321 Main Street  
 Davenport, IA 52801

Mon 9:00am - 8:00pm  
 Tues 9:00am - 8:00pm  
 Wed 9:00am - 8:00pm  
 Thurs 9:00am - 8:00pm  
 Fri 9:00am - 5:30pm  
 Sat 9:00am - 5:30pm  
 Sun CLOSED

**Davenport Public Library | Eastern**  
 6000 Eastern Avenue  
 Davenport, IA 52807

Mon 12:00pm - 8:00pm  
 Tues 9:00am - 8:00pm  
 Wed 12:00pm - 8:00pm  
 Thurs 9:00am - 8:00pm  
 Fri 9:00am - 5:30pm  
 Sat 9:00am - 5:30pm  
 Sun CLOSED

**Davenport Public Library | Fairmount**  
 5000 Fairmount Street  
 Davenport, IA 52804

Mon 9:00am - 8:00pm  
 Tues 12:00pm - 8:00pm  
 Wed 9:00am - 8:00pm  
 Thurs 12:00pm - 8:00pm  
 Fri 9:00am - 5:30pm  
 Sat 9:00am - 5:30pm  
 Sun CLOSED



Sunderbruch



Fairmount Bus Shelter



Duck Creek

Three Little Free Libraries were donated by United Way Quad Cities and John Deere Harvester Works. The collection within each Little Free Library has been provided by FRIENDS of the Davenport Public Library and we thank them for their generosity! A special thanks to the staff involved in the project and to Davenport Parks and Recreation for providing the Little Free Libraries a home!

