



Bradford Public Library

Annual Report

January 11, 2024

Mission Statement

The Bradford Public Library is committed to supporting and enhancing learning, creativity, and opportunities for personal growth and community connections with reliable information and resources, and the support necessary to navigate those resources in a safe and welcoming environment.

2023 Reflection

The library staff has worked tirelessly toward our mission in response to the needs of the whole community. Open access, freedom to read from a diverse collection, and creative programming drive our inclusive and public-led planning, welcoming everyone into this historic building and important community space. With appreciation for the tremendous challenges faced by public libraries across the nation, we recognize that the BPL is no exception. That being said, with the commitment and support of our patrons, library board of trustees, the Bradford Selectboard, and general public, our librarians feel safe and appreciated for the multitude of services we provide beyond the checking out of books.

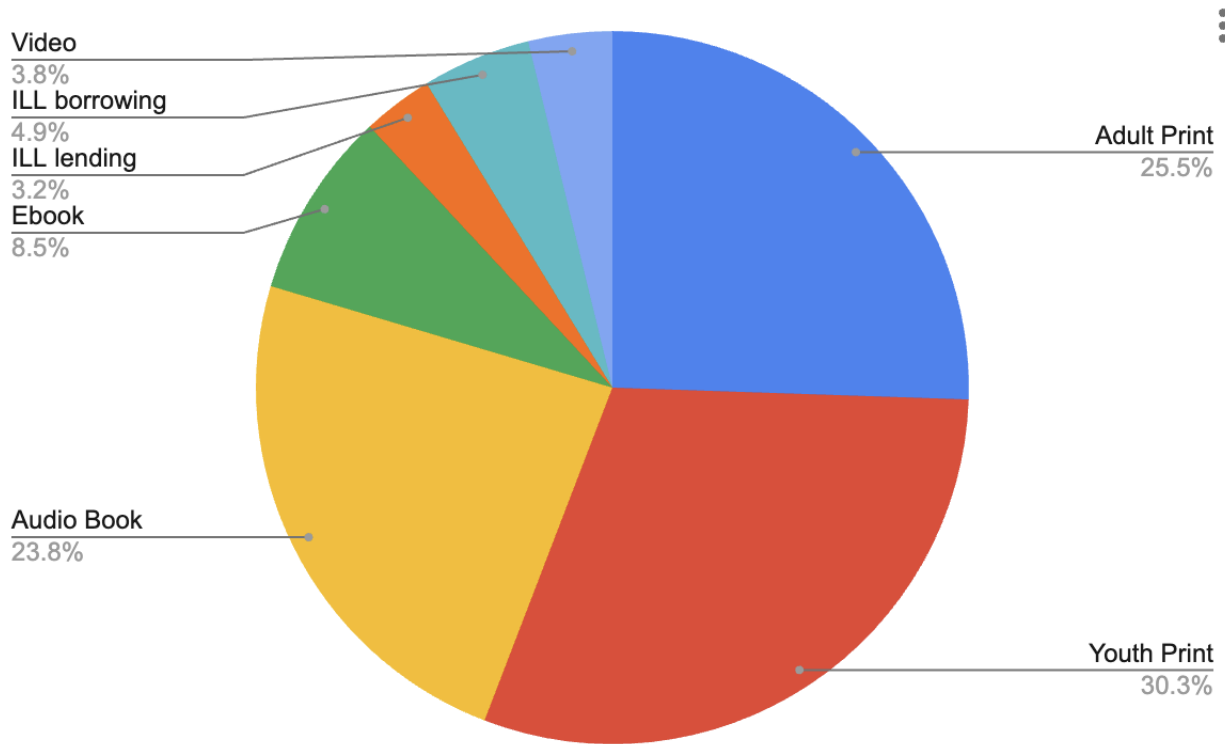


Administration

2023 and double staffing has given librarians time to offer more programs and hone data collection for insight and reporting. The numbers support our efforts to continue or make changes to library materials, use of space, and how patrons access resources.

2023 Circulation Stats help us recognize trends and patron interest. Understanding how folks access library materials helps support our collection development.

Total in house collection ~ 16,667



Visitor Tracking

2023 reports show 1586 registered patrons with a total of 9584 visits for the year. A total of 2770 participants attended 355 programs held at the library!

Collaborations

BPL works collaboratively with many individuals, agencies, and organizations to broaden outreach and support efforts that could not easily be done alone. Capstone, Space On Main, Hub Teen Center, Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF), Everyone Eats, VT Humanities, Old Church Theater, the Peace Education Program, Little Rivers, Star Cat Books, HireAbility VT, Mentoring Project, VT Early Literacy (VELI), HIV/HCV Resource Center, Bradford Parks and Recreation, the local homeschool community, and more.

Programs

Library programs are free and open to the public. This helps fill the human need for community, connection, and entertainment while encouraging social interaction outside of typical social groups.

Popular ongoing programs include:

Poetry Circle, Spanish Conversation, Mahjong, Dungeons & Dragons, BPL CREATE!-Adult Crafting, BPL READS!-Book Discussion, Toddler Story Hour, Friday Afterschool program.

Special Programs:

Guest authors, Poet Laureates and published poets, Bradford Poem Town, teen drama camp, multiple summer reading programs, book giveaways, guest speakers, film screenings, school visits, gardening program, teen wellness.

Grants

Grant funding plays an important role in maintaining our historic building and continuing to provide cultural activities for the public. Librarians continuously seek funding opportunities to help support programs and upgrades. In 2023 BPL received a matching grant from the Preservation Trust of Vermont to repair and maintain all the window casings on the building.

Preservation Trust of Vermont	\$5,250
VT Humanities Rapid Response	\$1,000
VT Humanities Spanish language	\$4,000
VT Early Literacy programming	\$1,500
Winnie Belle, STEAM kits	\$500
VT Humanities Teen Drama Camp	\$4,500
Interlibrary Loan Courier	\$557
Summer Reading, VT Dept of Libraries	\$300

Staff

Gail Trede ~ Library Director Betsy Kane ~ Assistant Director
Circulation Assistants ~ Kathy Davidow, Nancy Kane, Patsy Belknap



Thank You

Tony Brainerd & Larry Coffin
for years of support and commitment
to the library and staff
by serving on our Board of Trustees

Respectfully Submitted by Gail Trede, Library Director