

Bloomfield Township Public
Library



The Library's lobby shines brightly with new, cost-efficient light fixtures installed as part of a library-wide LED replacement project.

ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022

■ HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2021/2022 FISCAL YEAR

This year saw several major changes to Bloomfield Township Public Library's administration, leadership team, and Board of Trustees. It can be difficult to say goodbye to valued team members and to lose their wisdom and experience. However, the Library filled many of the vacated positions with internal promotions, a testament to the mentoring and guidance provided by those who retired this year. Some notable **retirements and promotions**:

- In Administration, former Library Director Carol Mueller retired at the end of April 2021, closing out 43 years in the library field. New Library Director Tera Moon, previously the Assistant Director, officially took the helm at the beginning of May. The Board of Trustees unanimously selected her to step into this role. Assistant Director, Katherine Bryant, began working at the Library in September, returning to Metro Detroit after ten years in Tennessee.
- Technical Services Department Head Marianne Abdoo retired in July 2021 after 22 years of service. Lori Smith-Hoogasian was selected to fill this position. Lori has worked at the Library for 34 years, most recently as the Assistant Department Head of Technical Services. That vacancy was filled by Deb Smith, who has worked at the library for 18 years.
- Youth Services Department Head Marian Rafal retired after 41 years working at the Library in January 2022. Jen Taggart, who has worked at the Library for 21 years most recently as the Assistant Department Head of Youth Services, was selected to fill this position.
- Systems Department Head Joan Wu also retired in January 2022 after 17 years of service. Paul Zink was selected to fill this position. Paul has worked at the Library for over four years.

There was also a new appointment to the **Library's Board of Trustees**. In January 2022, the board accepted Trustee Sandra Edwards' resignation. Twelve candidates applied for the vacancy and were interviewed by the board, with Township resident Shane Spradlin being selected and sworn in as the new Library Trustee at the March 2022 board meeting.

■ PANDEMIC RESPONSE

As the world adjusted to the new reality of the COVID-19 pandemic, so did the Library. Many initiatives that began in 2020 designed to provide excellent, safe customer service continued, and these will likely remain in place as alternative, accessible options for using the Library.

Staff remained engaged with patrons through the **Virtual Branch**, offering live and on-demand video programs including Read-Alouds, KidLITCast, book clubs and book talks for all ages, science and art programming for youth, and much more. Libby, hoopla, and Kanopy remained core resources for patrons seeking digital eBooks, audiobooks, music, periodicals, and movies. Collections on these platforms were expanded accordingly.

At the start of the fiscal year, all programs and outreach services were fully virtual. Adult and Youth Services offered hands-on take-and-make craft kits, science-at-home kits, and other DIY activities. **Outdoor programming** for children began to take place at Cranbrook, Johnson Nature Center, and Bowers School Farm, as well as on the Library's Youth Terrace with outdoor family story times. In June, **indoor in-person programming** for adults resumed with a little help from a device with a 360° camera, microphone, and speaker that allowed for a hybrid virtual and in-person experience.



The Library moved through Phases 3, 4, and 5 of its Reopening Plan throughout the course of the year, going from limited half hour patron visits to browse for materials, talk with staff, and use computers, to a return of "cautious full service" with no time limits and the reopening of study spaces and meeting rooms. The Circulation Department continued to offer **curbside delivery service**, making 1,780 deliveries during the year. Many curbside service users are seniors or parents with children, and they have expressed gratitude for this service.

FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS



In April 2021, the Library began converting every light fixture (over 5,000 total) throughout the building and grounds to energy and cost-efficient **LED fixtures**. By the end of the year, the project was 98% complete, coming in ahead of schedule and under budget. LED light bulbs last longer, are more durable, and offer comparable or better light quality than other types of lighting. The Library has seen financial savings in energy use and lower maintenance costs. Additionally, the Library received a rebate through DTE's Energy Efficiency Program. All removed fixtures were disassembled and recycled along with the new fixture packaging. Remaining fixtures and control panels are still arriving, although some have been delayed due to the global supply chain disruption. The project is anticipated to wrap up in 2022.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

The Library's **5th Annual Photo Contest** came to a close in April 2021 with the announcement of the winners via social media and the library website. The theme was "*The Incredible Journey*," and Township residents were invited to enter photographs that captured part of a significant passage in their life. 58 participants submitted 91 photos.

Pictured at right are the winning photos: Youth Category (top row, left to right) – First Place "*Into the Light*" by Tyler Shrader, Second Place "*Over the Zilwaukee Bridge*" by Hayley Sadeghi, Third Place "*The Journey Up*" by Olivia Jenney.

Teen Category (middle row, left to right) – First Place "*Dream Chasers*" by Isabella Cook, Second Place "*Convergent*" by Kosta Sergakis, Third Place "*Storyteller*" by Isabella Cook. Adult Category (bottom row, left to right) – First Place "*On the Edge*" by Melanie Meinhart, Second



Place "*Each Finding Their Own Way*" by Hugo DeCampos, Third Place "*Louis Braun's Journey*" by Kathleen Lanciault. The Best in Show Winner (left) was "*Press On: Graduation 2020*" by Laura Teste. The judges remarked on the great use of black and white, and how the bare feet in the corner of the frame and on the graduate really captured what 2020 was like.

Summer and Winter Reading Challenges were a great success in encouraging people of all ages to read. 570 excited readers registered for the Summer 2021 Reading Program, "*Tails and Tales*." Youth Services handed out 300 Big Bags of Summer Reading Fun filled with crafts and activities, and librarians hosted a variety of educational and entertaining virtual programs. Over 250 readers registered for the Winter Reading Challenge, with seven youth winners awarded prizes of either a bag of books or a Toyology gift card.

■ NEW PROGRAMS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Youth Services created a **Stories and Stuff subscription** book box service for readers in grades 3 – 8. Each month participants receive one book that is selected based on their favorite topics, along with special literary treats to keep. The department also launched a new circulating **STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) **multimedia kit collection**. In October 2021, they held the first in-person large-scale event since 2019 – **Trick or Treat at the Library** – welcoming over 200 kids and 350 caregivers to stations throughout Library. Each department handed out treats, crafts, stickers, or games/activities to happy trick or treaters.

A **Community Quilt Reception** was held in December 2021. Patrons of all ages designed and created panels for a hand-made quilt that depicted “*The Incredible Journey*” of their unique story. The quilt has been preserved in our Local History Archive.



The **Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.)** held a logo contest, which received five unique submissions. Avani N.'s logo, *Where Books Come to Life*, was selected as the winning entry thanks to its strong use of details and images of characters rising out of an open book. Avani's logo best represented what T.A.B. is about: providing teens with support and resources to help prepare them to rise up and into their own stories towards a successful and fulfilling life!

■ STAFF DEVELOPMENT



The Library's annual **Staff Development Day** was held on Friday, May 7, 2021. This year's training was via Zoom, with half the staff attending from inside the building and the other half from home. Staff learned about the updated

Office 365, and then joined topic-specific breakout sessions and department meetings.

Staff continued to attend **conferences and webinars**, both virtually and in-person, with several participating in regional library work groups and committees. This included Director Tera Moon, who worked with the Michigan Library Association's (MLA) Think Space cohort for library directors across the state, and Youth Services Department Head Jen Taggart, who served as Vice Chair of the Michigan Alliance for Cultural Accessibility.

■ GIFTS AND DONATIONS

The **Friends of the Library** remained steadfast in their support of the Library, while ensuring the safety of their volunteers and customers during the pandemic. In mid-July 2021 they held a special two-day book sale to clear out old stock, then resumed accepting donations of used materials in August. The community responded with a flurry of donations that has yet to slow down. Second Saturday Book Sales began in August 2021, with the November sale earning a record high of \$5,390. Even though the Friends were only able to hold six sales instead of the usual twelve, they generously provided \$15,950 in gifts to the Library. These gifts were used to fund the Adaptive Umbrella Workshop, TV on DVD replacement sets, an outreach kit, and more.



■ COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Over the summer, Youth Services collaborated with Cranbrook and Bowers School Farm to offer **outdoor community scavenger hunts** to over 200 adventurers. Fall brought increasing requests for **outreach visits**, including the Bloomfield Hills Schools' PTO Council Welcome Back Celebration, Birmingham Covington Reading Rally, Fall Festival at the Bowers School Farm, and Wild About Books outdoor story times at the E.L. Johnson Nature Center.



For March is Reading Month, Youth Services staff offered school media specialists a choice of two safe methods to reach new first-grade readers: either a live Zoom session or 20-minute recording. The Friends of the Library generously sponsored the purchase of 352 beginning reader books for **First Grade Readers' Rally** packs.

In December 2021, Bay Area Panthers offensive lineman Jeremy Hickey partnered with the Library to supply children's books to a special education classroom at Lone Pine Elementary School. Mr. Hickey, a Bloomfield Hills resident, sponsored the classroom as part of a **holiday charitable giveback program**.

■ BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

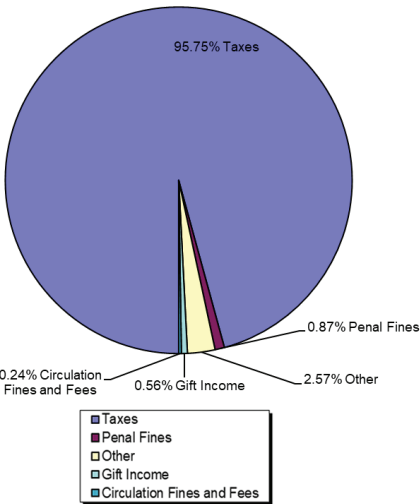
Library Trustees are residents of Bloomfield Township, and are elected every four years. The Library Board of Trustees meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month, except April, which is on the fourth Tuesday. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the Board Room at the Library.



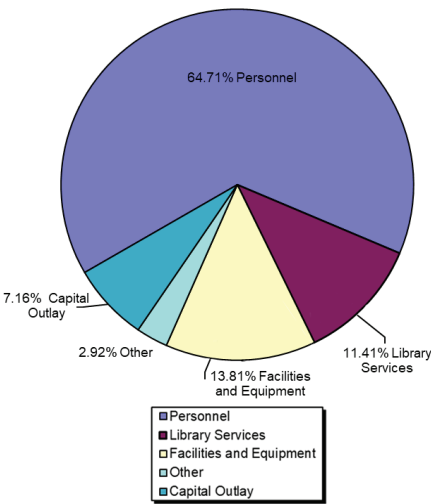
*Members of the Library Board of Trustees.
Top row (from left to right): Grant Gerhart, Danielle Gillman, and Tom Deska. Bottom row (from left to right): Judy Lindstrom, Joan Luksik, and Shane Spradlin.*

Financial Review of Fiscal Year 2021/2022

Bloomfield Township Public Library GENERAL FUND REVENUE SOURCES April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022



Bloomfield Township Public Library GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022



Bloomfield Township Public Library Facts at a Glance

314,153

Items in the Library's collection, including books, DVDs, CDs, kits, and one skeleton.

12,581

Library patrons attended

456

Programs

594,879

Items circulated

129,183

Visitors to the Library

***Bloomfield Township Public Library champions
the power of words to spark discovery and imagination.***

1099 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Township, MI 48302
(248) 642-5800 | www.btpl.org

LIBRARY HOURS:

Mon-Thurs: 9:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Saturday: 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: Noon – 5:30 p.m.