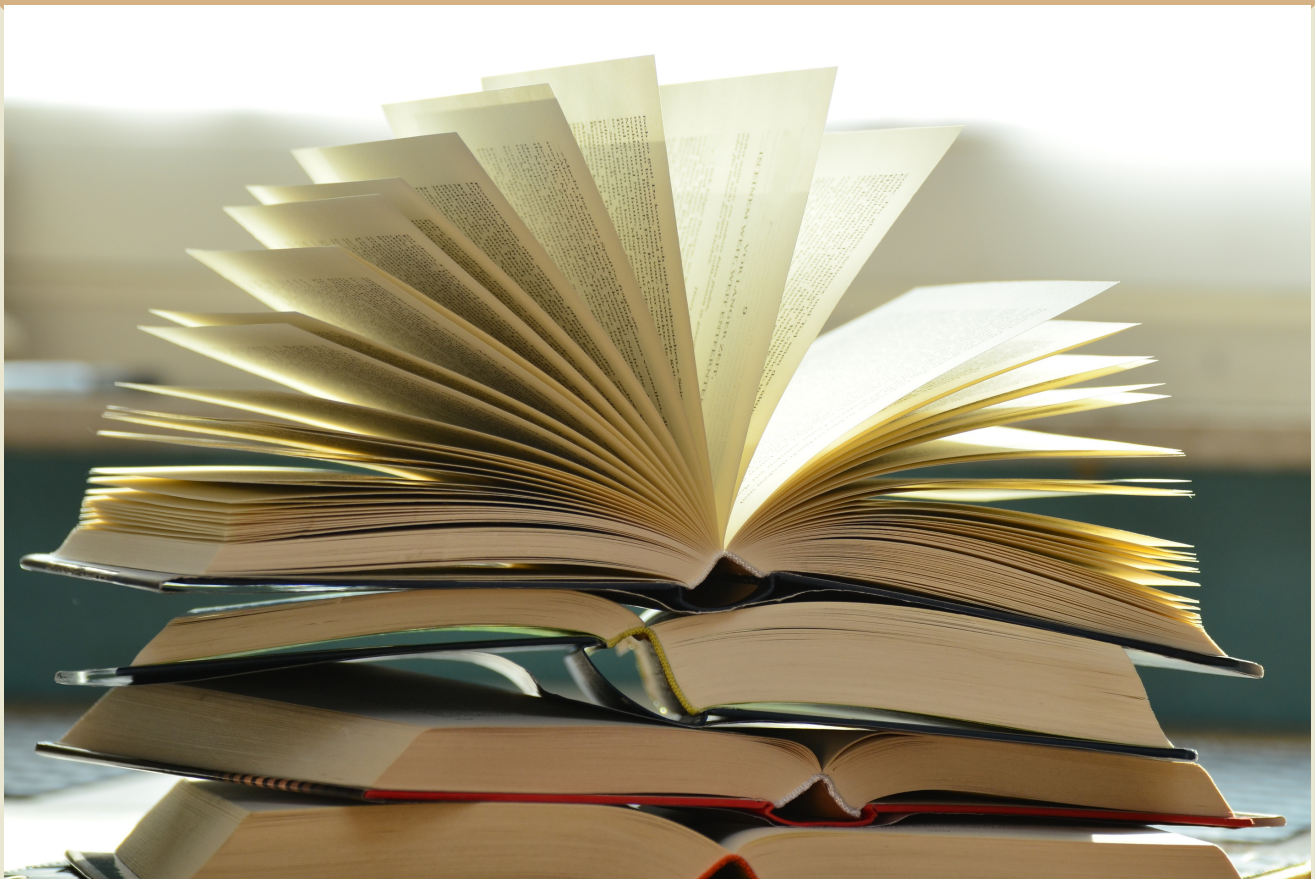


ANNUAL REPORT

2021 - 2022

117TH EDITION

ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC LIBRARY



MISSION, VISION & VALUES

Mission

The St. Joseph Public Library will enrich our community by providing diverse resources and services to support and fulfill the life-long informational and recreational needs of our patrons.

Vision

The St. Joseph Public Library's vision is to foster a united, engaged, and informed community where all generations connect, discover, and create.

Values

The St. Joseph Public Library values:

ACCOUNTABILITY. We are dedicated to delivering on our commitments and for the stewardship of our taxpayer dollars.

EXCELLENCE. We are courteous professionals who strive to create extraordinary experiences for our community.

EQUALITY. We are free and open to all people and ideas. We treat everyone with respect and compassion.

INNOVATION. We are always learning. We are constantly exploring new ways of doing things better and doing better things.

PASSION. We love the library, we love St. Joseph, and we love what we do.

TEAMWORK. We build connections and celebrate the diversity of our experiences.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mike Cadden - President

Kyla Ward - Vice President

Rosetta Ballew-Jennings - Treasurer

Elizabeth Latosi-Sawin - Secretary

Doug Hutton

David Jordan

Brian Kirk

Alison Schieber

Ingrid Woodbury

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mary Beth Revels - Director

Shirley Blakeney - Branch Manager, East Hills Library

Karen Schultz - Branch Manager, Washington Park Library

Audrey Sheets - Branch Manager, Carnegie Library

Jen Wildhagen - Branch Manager, Downtown Library

Crystal Stuck - Community Services and Outreach Coordinator

Sharon Canter - Manager, Reference Services

Misty Snider / Jess Gould - Manager, Children's Department, East Hills Library

Deanna Brown-Reith / Misty Snider - Manager, Children's Department, Downtown Library

Kim Tullis - Manager, Technical Services Department

FRIENDS OF THE ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Barb Yarbrough - President

Kari Benson

Bob Mackey - Vice President

Felicia Hawkins-Brawley

Annie Updegraff - Treasurer

Margaret Redmond

Pat Sander - Secretary

The Friends of the St. Joseph Public Library is a 501(c)(3) organization and had 126 paid members during the 21-22 fiscal year. Friends raise money through their annual membership drive and by hosting book sales overseen by staff liaison Crystal Stuck and her assistant Olivia Wildhagen-Piercy. The return of the Annual Fall Book Sale was a huge success after taking a break in 2020 due to the pandemic. Other sales during the year were the Vintage Book Sale and Holiday Book Sale. In addition to ongoing books for sale at the branches, the Friends sold books online at: <https://friends-sjpl.square.site/>.

The Friends offer ongoing financial support to the library and community in a number of ways. They provide the majority of the funding for the annual Summer Reading Program. They sponsor the Friends Front Row Film Series hosted by Bob Shultz that made its re-debut this year. They purchase books for library-sponsored teen and adult book clubs. The Friends pay for BookPage, a monthly book review magazine that is available to pick up at all the branches. They also purchase books to give to kids attending Pumpkinfest and the Juneteenth festivals. The Friends are Allied Arts Sculpture Walk supporters and helped sponsor the 2021-2022 Fantasy Dragon sculpture. The Friends of the Library took on a new expense this year when they voted to sponsor five seats for the Excel Adult High School Program, doubling the number of seats the library offers to adults to complete their high school education.

ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Ralph Schank - President
Drew Brown - Vice President
Kathryn Hill Bahner - Treasurer
Gary Myers - Secretary
Rosetta Ballew-Jennings

Whitney Lanning
LeeAnn Leonard
Nancy Nash
Houston Robert
Alison Schieber

The St. Joseph Public Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that encourages private donations to help ensure the library's future. The Foundation does not have members and is managed by a board of directors.

This year the Foundation purchased new toys for the Family Place Library™ at the Downtown Library. Family Place Library™ is a nationwide network of libraries who embrace the fact that literacy begins at birth, and libraries can help build healthy communities by nourishing healthy families. The Family Place Library™ at the Downtown Library provides early literacy & learning through play, along with parent education and engagement.

The Foundation also purchased five Launchpad PlayAway tablets for a joint program between SJPL and the St. Joseph Health Department's WIC Clinic. The launchpads are in the WIC exam rooms and provide families with educational and entertaining technology during their time at the clinic.

In 2018, the family of Laura Hutton requested donations to the SJPL Foundation in memory of their daughter, Laura, for the purpose of purchasing books about animals for the East Hills Library. Since then, over \$16,000 has been donated and nearly \$13,000 spent so far on books.



FINANCES

Income

Local Tax Income	\$ 3,439,839
State Aid	\$ 32,532
Grants	\$ 51,912
Athletes & Entertainers Funds	\$ 9,915
Donations	\$ 33,700
CVB Rent	\$ 4,697
Other	\$ 12,121

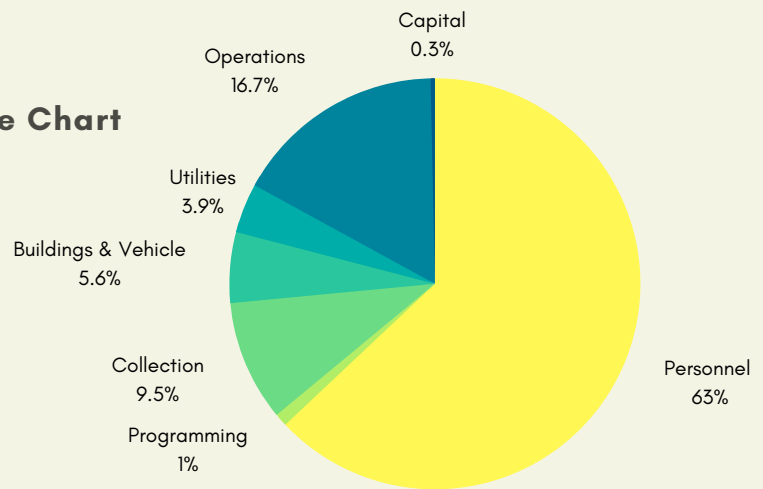
Total Income \$ 3,584,716

Expenses

Personnel	\$ 2,126,548
Collection	\$ 321,125
Programming	\$ 34,195
Buildings & Repair	\$ 187,710
Utilities	\$ 131,799
Operations	\$ 564,002
Capital Expenses	\$ 11,378

Total Expenses \$ 3,376,757

Expense Chart



The Missouri State Library encourages Missouri libraries to apply for competitive grants from Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds supplied by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. During the 2021-2022 fiscal year SJPL received the following LSTA grants from the Missouri State Library:

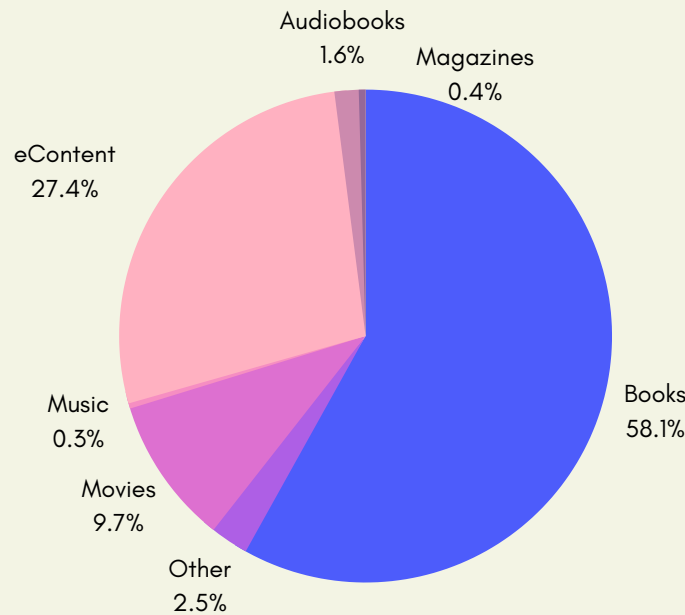
eCollection: \$30,000 grant for eBooks and eAudiobooks for the Grand River Library Axis360 Digital Consortium of which SJPL is a member. SJPL administered the grant for the consortium and staff from SJPL and Rolling Hills Library selected and ordered the books.

Show Me Steps: Reimbursed a portion of the costs for staff to attend the Public Library Association Conference held in Portland, OR.

Strengthen Missourians: ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) grant administered by the Missouri State Library that provided funding to subscribe to HelpNow, an online homework and tutoring service for students. The grant also allowed the library to purchase 5 Chromebooks and 5 T-Mobile hotspots for students enrolled in the Excel Adult High School program.

STATISTICS

Checkouts	Total	Adult	Teen	Children
Books	99,952	61,488	4,619	33,845
Audiobooks	2,724	2,331	13	380
Movies	16,619	13,883	16	2,720
eContent	47,120	38,403	3,913	4,804
Magazines	763	763		
Music	595	552		43
Other (Hotspots, Games, Fishing Poles, Seed Packets)	4,306	4,270		36
Total Checkouts	172,079	121,690	8,561	41,828



Programs	In-Person	Live Virtual	Recorded Virtual
Preschool	30 programs <u>688 attendance</u>	37 programs <u>810 attendance</u>	52 programs <u>1,706 views</u>
Kids	84 programs <u>2,227 attendance</u>	19 programs <u>299 attendance</u>	38 programs <u>998 views</u>
Teens	13 programs <u>167 attendance</u>	53 programs <u>214 attendance</u>	13 programs <u>231 views</u>
Adults	43 programs <u>826 attendance</u>	4 programs <u>325 attendance</u>	39 programs <u>1,811 views</u>
Total	170 Programs 3,908 Attendance	113 Programs 1,648 Attendance	142 Programs 4,746 Views

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The 2021-2022 fiscal year was another year that was marked by the COVID-19 pandemic. The St. Joseph Public Library branches closed to the public on July 21, 2021, reverting to contactless service. The library branches reopened for in-person services on September 20, 2021 and stayed open for the remainder of the year. SJPL resumed pre-pandemic library hours on February 28, 2022. In March, in-person programs began to be offered and the meeting rooms reopened to the public.

Some new services that were offered in response to the pandemic have stayed and will continue. SJPL now offers eCards to people who live in St. Joseph to access eContent. Take & Make craft kits are popular for all ages, with 283 different kits handed out to 7,057 people last year. Curbside service continues to be utilized: 3,867 people used the service during the 21-22 year.

I want to thank the nine members of the Library Board for being willing to frequently adapt the library's COVID response policy. Balancing the health concerns of the community and library staff, along with trying to provide the best service to our patrons, proved a challenge but they continually strived to stay on top of health information so that SJPL could safely provide library services.

I also want to thank the fantastic SJPL staff who adeptly handled moving from in-person library service to contactless and back again to in-person. They also continuously offered informative, educational, and fun library programs throughout year that ranged from in-person to live virtual to recorded virtual to take and make craft kits.

(continued)



DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONTINUED



Most of all, I would like to thank the SJPL library patrons who visit us in person and virtually. We've been serving our community and patrons since 1890. While a lot has changed since the beginning, one thing has stayed the same: the St. Joseph Public Library is your library and we are here for you.

As of June 30, 2022 the library had 53 employees, 34 of whom were full-time, 19 were part-time, and one was on-call and helped when needed.



We have started work on our next long-range plan. We are continuing to work with a consulting company who spoke with community stakeholders and surveyed library patrons, non-library patrons, and library staff. I'm excited about the future of the library and determining how we can best serve you, our community members. Stay tuned for more news in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Mary Beth Revels



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

SJPL offered two reading programs for all ages. The Tails and Tales Summer Reading program in the summer of 2021 had 1,078 participants with 16,224 books read. While the Summer Reading Program is fun, our real goal is to keep children and teens engaged over the summer. The Read for a Better World Winter Reading Program held in January had 164 participants and 1,770 books were read. Local celebrities once again agreed to get pied if all goals were met for the Winter Reading Program. Those good sports who indeed got pied were Children's Department Manager Misty Snider, KQ2 Sports Director Chris Roush, and KQ2 Chief Meteorologist Mike Bracciano.

All of our branches offer an ongoing early literacy program, *1,000 Books Before Kindergarten*, that promotes reading to infants and toddlers. During the year, 203 families participated in the program.

When people think of the library they often think of books, but SJPL offers much more. Mobile hotspots, seeds, fishing poles, notary services, laminating services, printing, faxing, and scanning were all popular reasons to visit the library.

New online services were offered at SJPL during the year. The Missouri State Library provided funding for every public library in the state to offer VetNow, an online service that offers support and guidance to military veterans and their families with services such as navigating Veteran Affairs, academic tutoring, and employment assistance.

Also new at the library is HelpNow, a one-on-one homework service that provides live tutoring along with other homework tools for students of all ages. HelpNow was purchased with grant funding provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

The library purchased five seats for the Excel Adult High School program, an online accredited high school for adults. The program proved so popular that the Friends of the St. Joseph Public Library sponsored five additional seats. One person graduated during the fiscal year. The same grant that provided funding for HelpNow also allowed the library to purchase five T-Mobile hotspots and five Chromebooks to support students enrolled in the Excel Adult High School program who did not already have the needed technology at home.

Checking out eContent from the library continues to become more popular every year. SJPL added a new service, Hoopla, that offers eBooks, eAudiobooks, music, and movies.

HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

The Reference Department, housed in the Downtown Library, continues to be one of the best resources for local history in St. Joseph. Some of the projects the Reference Librarians worked on during the year included: continuing to GIS map the cemeteries in Buchanan County; posting stories on the “City Worth While” (the section of the website that delves into topics of local history); starting the SJPLArchives page on TikTok; producing Tales from the Death Ledger videos for TikTok; and collaborating with the St. Joseph Convention and Visitors Bureau on several local history pop-up exhibits.

SJPL staff regularly work with schools and other organizations to promote library services and support the community. At the beginning of the 2021 school year, librarian outreach kits were given to librarians at all of the public and private elementary, middle, and high schools in the library district. The kits included books, treats, and helpful information about SJPL.

During the year, we celebrated National Library Week, Library Card Sign Up Month, Picture Book Month, Kindness Month, DiNovember, National Library Lover's Month, Family Fun Week, and held our own March Madness Tournament of Books.



COLLECTIONS

Library staff constantly work with the collections of materials in the branches - primarily books, audiobooks, movies, and magazines. The collections are checked for order on the shelves, items are cleaned as needed, and the collections are weeded for space and to remove outdated material.

Skilled staff at each library branch selects new materials to add to their collection and items that are donated to the library are also reviewed for potential addition to the library's collections.

The Technical Services Department cataloged 10,931 items that were added to the collections at the library branches during the year.

BUILDINGS

A construction project to rebuild the historic brick wing walls on the front steps at the Carnegie Library was completed.

Library Board member Rosetta Ballew-Jennings researched and planted Missouri native flowers and shrubs in the flower beds at the East Hills Library.

The family of Grace Frisch purchased and installed a memorial bench on the patio of the East Hills Library.



STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Staff Development Day was transformed into Staff Appreciation Day with lunch provided at each branch. Crystal Stuck created Staff Bingo, a fun game that gave staff from all the different branches an opportunity to learn more about each other.

Throughout the year, library staff attended conferences, continuing education workshops, and classes provided by many organizations including Mid-America Library Alliance, Missouri State Library, American Library Association, Public Library Association, Missouri Library Association, Missouri Association of School Librarians, AMIGOS, Leadership St. Joseph, Homeless Institute, SirsiDynix, and Niche Academy.

Afternoon Tea Book Club Virtual Murder She Read
Bring Your Own Book Club Downtown Book Club
Teen Book Club Preschool Storytimes Coloring for
Adults Written & Illustrated Teen Authors Messy

Murder
Historical
Fair
Book
Paint
SJR
C
Buck
He
Perky
Wac
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SRL Sprouts Teen Theatre Camp



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Mark's Movie Madness Teen Book Drop Origami
STEAM Saturday Maker Monday Crafternoons