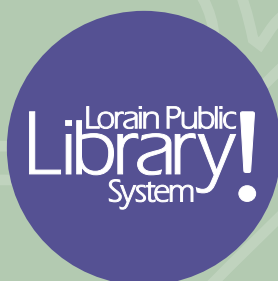


# Lorain Public Library System

## Annual Report 2023





VISION STATEMENT:

We are the catalyst for personal and community growth, discovery, and success.

OUR MISSION:

Connecting our communities to experiences that enrich, empower, and inspire every day.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Lourdes Bennett	Anne Godec	Christine Redovan
Jennifer Black	Ralph and Billie Godec	Ellen Reisig
Robert Burkhardt	Megan Gordon	Michael Rosinsky
Curtis and Janice Caden	Lisa Grisez Shullick	Lisa Grisez Shullick
Lisa Crescimano	Jennifer Klug	Michele Stewart
Joanne Eldridge	Dianne Kosboth	Michelle Strauser
The Foundation of the Lorain Public Library System, Inc.	David Martin	Nancy Tatarka
Friends of the Avon Library	Denise Nardini	Dr. Garalynn Tomas
	Veronica Newsome	John L. Wargo

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

2023 was a great year for Lorain Public Library System. We added over 800 cardholders to the family, loaned over 30,000 more physical items and over 40,000 more digital items from our eLibrary. While still not quite at the levels we were before the COVID-19 pandemic, we had almost 80,000 more library visits than in 2022!

It was also the year the renovation and expansion of the beautiful new Avon Branch was completed, the renovation of the North Ridgeville Branch continued and discussions about expanded services in Columbia began. We strive to keep pace with the growth of our communities.

We were happy to continue what have become annual events with wonderful partners such as the free community shred days with Lorain County Solid Waste District, Winterwear Share as part of Stocker Foundation and Operation Warm to provide outerwear for those in need, free tree saplings for kids to plant on Earth Day in collaboration with Neighborhood Forest and free tax preparation services offered through the United Way of Greater Lorain County.

We also collaborated with a few new partners. We worked with the Cleveland Seed Bank to offer free seed libraries at several of our branches. This proved so popular we plan to expand the offerings to all six branches in 2024.

Another new partnership was with Solidarity Urban Farms, who gathered a group of volunteers to move the urban farm at the Main Library to a new plot location with better irrigation. The adjusted growing area is now 4,096 square feet which yielded 2,586 pounds of fresh produce in 2023! We were able to use the bounty in culinary programs at the library and Solidarity Urban Farms was able to use it in community meals as well as profit from the sale of some of the harvest as well.

Thanks to a grant from the Ohio Department of Education, we were also able to begin a new tutoring program this year to address learning loss during the pandemic – you’ll find the information about our Launching Phenomenal Learners program in this report. They say it takes a village to raise a child and we are thankful to be part of so many villages, working with other community entities in raising children that will one day rule the world. Well, at least their own piece of it.

Thank you for your continued support of the Lorain Public Library System.

Sincerely,

Anastasia Diamond-Ortiz

Anastasia Diamond-Ortiz  
Director





ABOUT THE LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

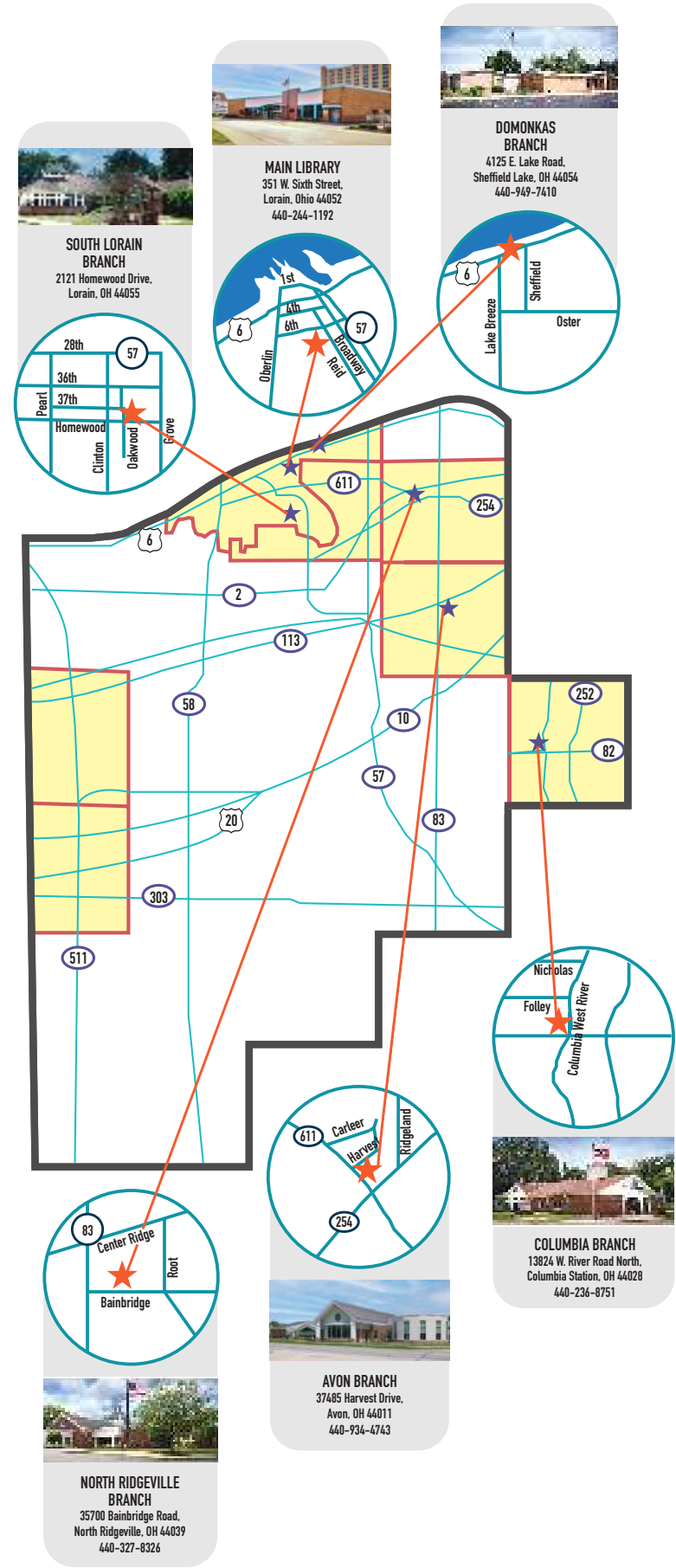
The Lorain Public Library System, or LPLS, is the largest, most comprehensive library system in Lorain County, Ohio, with much of its service area comprising the northeast part of the county. The estimated population in the library system’s service district is over 154,000. It serves both large and small communities, boasting a diverse patronage consisting of various economic, ethnic and educational backgrounds, with our Main Library sitting in the heart of downtown Lorain, the International City.

Library services are provided from six branches in Lorain, Avon, Columbia Station, North Ridgeville and Sheffield Lake. Additionally, LPLS has a Little Library on the Lake at Lakeview Park in Lorain and Outreach Services, which include a Books by Mail program and an extensive array of eServices available on our website.

School districts in the service area include Lorain City Schools, Avon Local Schools, Clearview Local Schools, Columbia Local Schools, Firelands Local Schools, North Ridgeville City Schools and Sheffield-Lake Sheffield Lake City Schools.

Lorain Public Library System provides everyone with free, educational, informational and entertainment resources through responsive quality service to support lifelong learning.

LPLS LOCATIONS



THE TOP FIVE  
IN EACH CATEGORY FROM 2023

FICTION

- “Verity” by Colleen Hoover
- “Identity” by Nora Roberts
- “The 23rd Midnight” by James Patterson
- “Lessons in Chemistry” by Bonnie Garmus
- “Fairy Tale: A Novel” by Stephen King

NON-FICTION:

- “Outlive: The Science & Art of Longevity” by Peter Attia
- “The Creative Act: A Way of Being” by Rick Rubin
- “The United States of Cryptids: A Tour of American Myths and Monsters” by J.W. Ocker
- “Love, Pamela” by Pamela Anderson
- “Decoding the Stars: A Modern Astrology Guide to Discover Your Life’s Purpose” by Allison Scott

COOKBOOKS

- “Baking School: Lessons and Recipes For Every Baker” by King Arthur Baking Company
- “Instant Pot Miracle Mediterranean Diet Cookbook: 100 Simple and Tasty Recipes Inspired By One of the World’s Healthiest Diets” by Urvashi Pitre
- “101 Greatest Soups on the Planet: Every Savory Soup, Stew, Chili and Chowder You Could Ever Crave” by Erin Renouf Mylroie
- “Taste of Home All-American Cookbook” by Taste of Home Books
- “Dishes for Two: 100 Easy Small-Batch Recipes for Weeknight Meals & Special Celebrations” by Good Housekeeping Institute

AUDIOBOOKS

- “The House at the End of the World” by Dean R. Koontz
- “Identity” by Nora Roberts
- “Spare” by Prince Harry
- “The 23rd Midnight” by James Patterson
- “Captive” by Iris Johansen

DVDS

- “Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One”
- “Guardians of the Galaxy Volume 3”
- “John Wick: Chapter 4”
- “A Man Called Otto”
- “The Super Mario Bros. Movie”

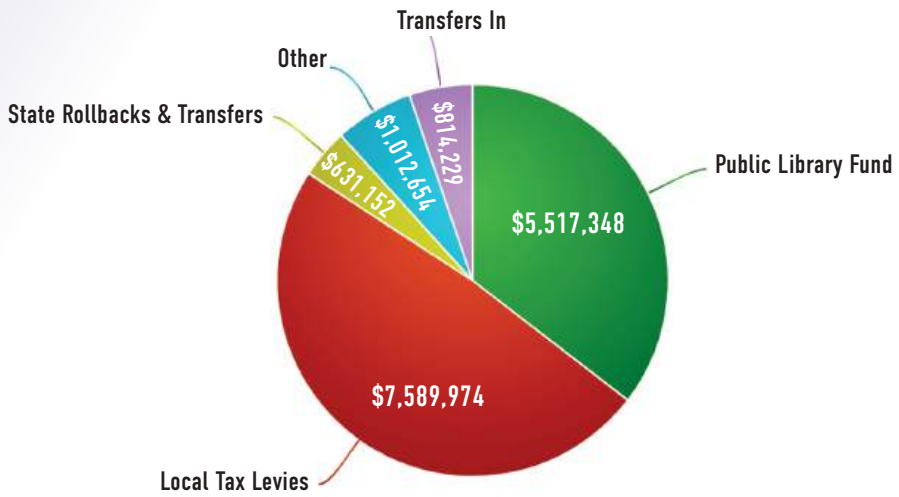
CHILDREN’S BOOKS

- “Diary of a Wimpy Kid: No Brainer” by Jeff Kinney
- “I Survived the Wellington Avalanche, 1910” by Lauren Tarshis
- “Dog Man: Twenty Thousand Fleas Under the Sea” by Dav Pilkey
- “The Pigeon Will Ride the Roller Coaster!” by Mo Willems
- “The Sour Grape” by Jory John

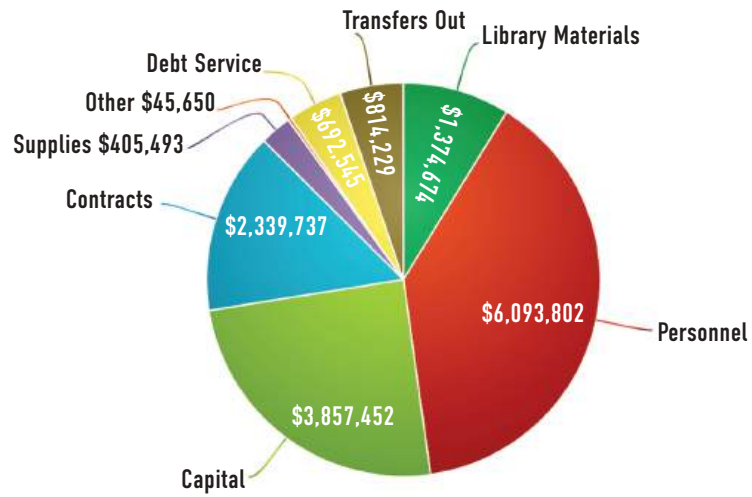
TEEN BOOKS

- “The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes” by Suzanne Collins
- “A Good Girl’s Guide to Murder” by Holly Jackson
- “You’d Be Home Now” by Kathleen Glasgow
- “The Sun and the Star: A Nico di Angelo Adventure” by Rick Riordan
- “Nick and Charlie: A Heartstopper Novella” by Alice Oseman

# 2023 Financials



REVENUE SOURCE DOLLARS	DOLLAR AMOUNT	% OF TOTAL
Public Library Fund	\$5,517,348	35.45%
Local Tax Levies	\$7,589,974	48.76%
State Rollbacks & Transfers	\$631,152	4.05%
Other	\$1,012,654	6.51%
Transfers In	\$814,229	5.23%
Total Revenues	\$15,565,357	100.00%



EXPENDITURES	DOLLAR AMOUNT	% OF TOTAL
Library Materials	\$1,374,674	8.80%
Personnel	\$6,093,802	39.00%
Capital	\$3,857,452	24.69%
Contracts	\$2,339,737	14.98%
Supplies	\$405,493	2.60%
Other	\$45,650	0.29%
Debt Service	\$692,545	4.43%
Transfers Out	\$814,229	5.21%
Total Expenses	\$15,623,582	100.00%

## 2023 ELIBRARY STATISTICS

309,221	eBook, digital audiobooks, video storybooks (OverDrive, Hoopla Digital, Bookflix)
18,809	Digital magazines (OverDrive, Consumer Reports)
13,681	Digital movies and television (Hoopla, Kanopy)
2,474	Streaming music (Hoopla)
4,147	Online education course enrollment (Gale Courses, LinkedIn Learning, Tutor.com)
10,952	African American Heritage, Ancestry.com, Heritage Quest
155,995	New York Times, Newsbank, Wall Street Journal
314	Creativebug
434	Mango, Transparent Languages

## 2023 SYSTEM STATISTICS

- 434,350 Library Visits
- 18,643 Open Hours
- 70,573 Library Cardholders
- 9,500 New Library Cards Issued
- 2,884 Programs Offered
- 48,694 In-Person Program Attendance
- 312,918 Materials Owned
- 1,005,303 Materials Loaned (not including eMedia)
- 524,183 Total digital circulation
- 41,782 New materials
- 67,291 Computer bookings
- 145,179 Website users
- 6,258 Facebook followers
- 1,863 Twitter followers
- 1,471 Instagram followers
- 692 TikTok followers

## TOP SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS IN 2023:

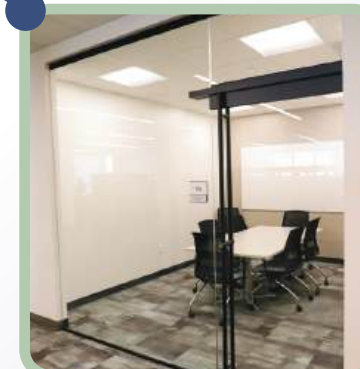
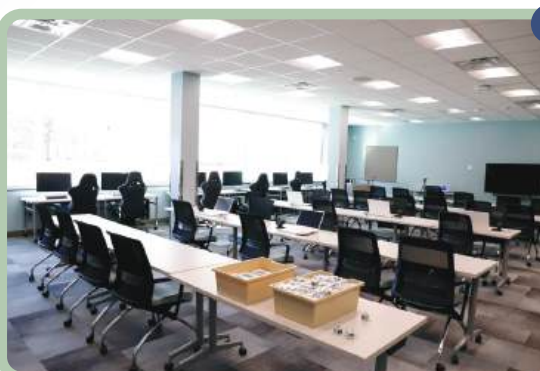
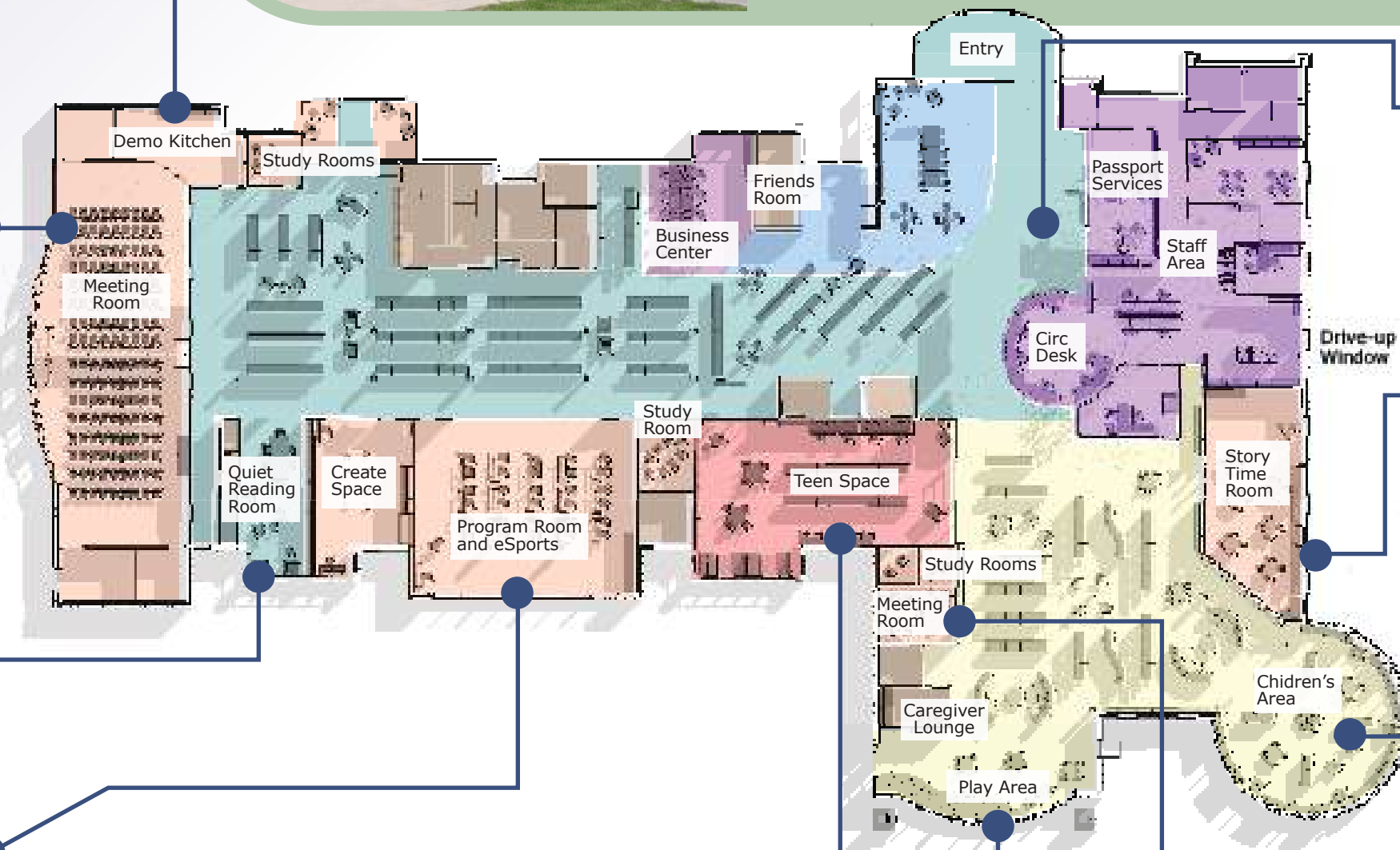
- Facebook:**  
A post about the Avon Branch grand reopening. 14,700 reach
- Twitter:**  
A post about the Lake Erie Crushers players visiting the branches. 1,366 reach
- Instagram:**  
A goofy post about the social media manager noticing a book out of place on the shelf. 6,494 reach
- TikTok:**  
A funny video about when all your Libby holds come in at once. 28.4k reach





Almost 2,000 people attended the ribbon cutting and open house of the newly renovated and expanded Avon Branch in February.

After years of planning and the passage of a levy, the city of Avon has a public library with a larger children's area, a dedicated teen space, a wildly popular Create Space, The Norton Family Foundation Demonstration Kitchen, a gaming center, reading garden, business center, much-requested drive-up window and more meeting room space.







*“Everything was new in 2023! These new features have completely changed the scope of library service in Avon.”*

*~ Donna Kelly-Sprinkle,  
Branch Manager*



AVON BRANCH

Avon hosted a three-month Maker-in-Residence in their Create Space in 2023. Local costume-maker and cosplay enthusiast Samantha Pasa hosted workshops and provided open studio hours to meet with patrons and answer questions.

Pasa had this to say of the experience: “The whole residency was a whirlwind of absolute joy, and the support I received from the community and staff was overwhelmingly positive. I met so many individuals of various age ranges and experiences who needed a dash of encouragement and a safe space to learn and ask questions. I cannot thank the library enough for providing the space and assistance for not only me to experiment and push myself, but to everyone in the community wanting to learn new things.”

Since the new meeting rooms became available, the Avon Branch has become a regular meeting place for some large community groups such as the Cleveland Clinic Avon Hospital Advisory Council, the New Westsiders, Working Women Connection and several Girl Scout troops and homeowners associations since the new meeting rooms became available.

The Avon staff also get out and about at various community events throughout the year and host story times at the Avon Pool and Every Child’s Playground in the summer. As part of giving back to the community and supporting Avon’s youth, the branch also sponsors a Little League team. “The Crushers” sent a thank you card that read “We had a great season and won eight out of ten games: I think you’re our good luck charm! Many of the girls on our team love to read, so you’ll be seeing us a lot.”



COLUMBIA BRANCH

Columbia also hosted a three-month Maker-in-Residence, quilter Heidi Massengill, whose programs attracted both novice and seasoned quilters from around the region. The other big events for Columbia involved animals and the outdoors.

Animal programs included a chicken egg incubation in partnership with the OSU Extension - Lorain County (which resulted in a few chickens that went on to win ribbons at county fairs), caterpillars undergoing metamorphosis into painted lady butterflies who were then released, a raptor encounter and goat yoga. The adjacent park provided the perfect place for Play Ball with the Lake Erie Crushers, a Summer Foam Party and a Touch-A-Truck event that had over 300 attendees.

Columbia is humbled to have a very active and enthusiastic Friends of the Columbia Library group that not only secured a grant to provide supplies for a Period Packing Party to donate menstrual supplies to youth that cannot afford them, but also organized a Tea with the Queen program that was so popular they also organized a Harvest Tea program later in the year.

The branch celebrated its 20th Anniversary with a holiday open house in December with what one patron deemed in a Google review a “very authentic” Santa Claus. In looking forward to the next 20 years in Columbia Station, LPLS contracted a local firm to conduct a series of focus groups to gather information regarding community needs for library services.



*“One of the perks of the Columbia Branch is our proximity to Columbia Park, which has served as an extension of our programming space, allowing us to host larger events such as Touch-A-Truck, the summer Foam Party and partnering with the schools for the Raider Jamboree back-school event”*

*~ John Guscott,  
Branch Manager*







*“People are always pleasantly surprised to find we have backpacks or kits for adults. They’ve seen the kits we have for children but aren’t as aware that we have Memory Care backpacks as well as Birdwatching and Night Sky Binocular kits.”*

*~ Anne Godec, Branch Manager*



DOMONKAS BRANCH

The LPLS branch with the greatest view had a year mixed with traditions and firsts.

The branch had another successful annual Martin Luther King Jr. Month of Service donation drive, collecting over 260 handmade or new hats, scarves, gloves, coats, socks and blankets to be donated to a local charity.

Staff had a new addition to their school visitations as Sheffield Academy kindergarteners through third graders enjoyed listening to stories and learning about upcoming programs at the library. Additionally, one local daycare began bringing a group for story times each week.

Domonkas hosted local glass artist Sheree Ferrato for a three-month residency as part of the Maker-in-Residence initiative, had a Lake Erie Crushers player conduct a story time and offered an ACT Boot Camp for teens to help prepare for the test.

Staff also started a monthly scavenger hunt throughout the building. Children hunt for a series of hidden small pictures in return for prizes. Hunts included finding pumpkins with faces expressing a range of emotions, the numbers one to ten in sign language and more.



MAIN LIBRARY

The Main Library saw both a new Manager and Assistant Manager in 2023, who together with an eager staff increased programming by 216% over 2022.

We worked with new and existing community partners as part of this program increase. Ohio Means Jobs hosted a series of programs for job seekers including job search help, career building and interview skills. Pathways Plate, a new nonprofit created to promote good nutrition and prevent obesity in minority communities of Lorain County, hosted weekly holistic health culinary programs throughout the summer. We also worked with the Ohio Legal Aid Society to host a free legal advice clinic on a Saturday morning. Over 40 attendees sought help!

We were also able to give back to community partners through job shadowing. Goodwill had one of their clients work alongside library staff for three weeks to learn what skills they would need for a job in libraries and Ohio Means Jobs had a Lorain High School student work at the Main Library from May through October to gain experience.

It was a stellar year for the Friends of the Lorain Public Library as well, a portion of whose book sale proceeds paid for specially-curated kindergarten literacy readiness kits that also included social emotional learning and sensory information. These kits were donated to circulate in a dozen preschools in the Lorain City Schools district.

The Main Library campus grew in 2023 with Lorain Public Library System purchasing and razing the empty home adjacent to the parking lot. Prior to the bulldozer coming in, the Lorain Fire Department was able to use the home for practice drills for their firefighters.



*“We strive to offer programming that meets each patron where they are, whether it’s learning to embroider a jacket or formattting a resume, we provide a vibrant community space for life-long learning.”*

*~ Jeanmarie Gielty, Branch Manager*







*“One of the highlights of each year is when first-graders visit the library and get their first library card.”*

*~ Mark Peters,  
Assistant Branch Manager*



**NORTH RIDGEVILLE BRANCH**

The North Ridgeville Branch was undergoing a refresh for a portion of the year, but that didn’t impede the staff from continuing to offer services and resources!

Due to popularity, additional Browser’s Reading Buddies programs were added and offerings for the birth to 2-year-old demographics increased with Messy Baby Playdates.

The attendance at adapted children’s programs increased from five to over 30 as staff found success in combining an adapted story time with a specific activity such as a cooking demonstration or science experiment.

One-on-one tech appointments continue to be popular – whether they are offered as an outreach program at partner locations like Pioneer Ridge or O’Neill Healthcare or in the branch. One patron in particular needed help using Google Maps to find her way home. Staff showed her how to upload and navigate the app on her phone and save her home address, helping her to maintain her independence as a senior adult.

Story time outreach programs continue to grow as well. Kim B. was presenting a story time at Early Childhood Learning Center when a non-verbal child spoke his first word. She was reading a book about Thanksgiving and the child started saying “turkey, turkey, turkey” along with her. The teachers were crying and recording the moment for the boy’s parents.

Wi-Fi printing and faxing services are highly utilized. Everyday, staff are helping patrons print from cell phones and send faxes. The outdoor hold lockers proved so popular additional lockers were installed this year.



**SOUTH LORAIN BRANCH**

The South Lorain Branch is the “Cheers” of the Lorain Public Library System: “Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name and they’re always glad you came.” That is the South Lorain Branch, the most neighborhood-centric of them all.

For example, when Bruni retired after 37 years and the community came together to celebrate her with a farewell party that included cards, the sharing of stories and even presents.

Or the example of infectious excitement of two young Latina women nearly screaming with joy upon discovering the book they wanted was available on our shelves in Spanish.

Or even the example of when the branch received a donation of vintage textbooks and military books from Ms. M. that had once belonged to her late father. Staff found the collection so intriguing they offered to create a special display. Ms. M, touched by the opportunity to share her father’s legacy with the community, added photographs and postcards. This display became a focal point and drew other relatives and to visit as well. In this one act, staff preserved history, fostered connection within the community and made that man’s story come to life.

Staff often assist patrons in navigating the challenges of online forms for jobs, medical matters and court-related issues. Neighborhood tweens and teens come to see if our community fridge known as a Freedgedge has been stocked, promising the staff they will eat a piece of fruit before they eat a cupcake.

This was also a pilot year for South Lorain Branch staffing a Little Library in the Park at Oakwood Park. The city of Lorain graciously allowed LPLS the use of the old concession stand to loan games and sporting equipment for use in the park.



*“In the midst of everyday activities, we witness the simple yet heartwarming moments that define our library.”*

*~ Danielle Coward,  
Branch Manager*







*“Working closely with Firefish allowed us to uplift the arts community while supporting a uniquely Lorain event.”*

*~ Erin Hallahan,  
Strategic Initiatives  
Manager of Innovation*



CREATE SPACES

In preparation for the 2023 Firefish Festival theme “Fire in the Sky, Transcending Dark to Light,” LPLS created a series of lantern-making events and hosted Firefish artist Ryan Craycraft as part of the Maker-in-Residence program at Little Library on the Lake at Lakeview Park this summer.

The Firefish partnership has continued to funnel new talent to the Maker-in-Residence program, which has increased attendance and provided additional opportunities for community members to learn new technology and art processes.

#CreateSpaceMade designs by local designer Jevon Terance appeared in the Desert Nights Fashion Show at the mile long pier in Lorain and even on the runway at New York Fashion Week! Jevon agreed to be the Fall 2023 Maker-in-Residence at the Main Library to teach others how to fuse technology and art in their designs with laser cut acrylic pieces. He also conducted a two-part sewing program where patrons learned to make a custom-printed fleece scarf.

When the Avon staff first learned they were going to have a Create Space, one of the first programs they wanted to try was a pet pillow. The final outcomes, while exciting, were also quite funny.



CULINARY LITERACY AND WELLNESS

The SIM Culinary Literacy and Wellness position was new this year to better utilize the urban farms at the Main Library and South Lorain Branch and expand the culinary initiative overall.

LPLS partnered with Pathways Enrichment Center, a faith-based nonprofit dedicated to enriching the lives of individuals by nurturing their potential through tutoring, mentoring, education and counseling, in their Pathways Plate Program.

The program was three-fold; culinary classes (this is where our SIM came in), “Pathways 2 Wholeness” focusing on developing the inner self and a “Physicians Speak” series in which licensed physicians and other professionals gave discussions concerning physical and mental health. All programs took place at the Main Library.

The culinary programs were designed to be interactive so participants could learn about and taste nutritional foods that would help those with blood sugar imbalance, obesity and cardiovascular disease – many of which are minorities living in Lorain.

LPLS designed four programs based on topics provided by Pathways: one to make ethnic dishes healthier by finding ways to add flavor without salt or oil, one that provided healthier substitutes for traditional cultural holiday dishes, one that involved whole foods for weight loss and one based on the Mediterranean Diet during which every participant admitted to never having tried any of the foods presented before!

Overall, each of the four culinary programs provided a live cooking demonstration and tastings for each participant (up to 30 people in some instances) with an overall cost of less than \$600 total thanks in part to using many ingredients grown in our own urban farm.



*“I provide the fundamentals of cooking, which empowers the patron with knowledge in food selection and preparation, helping them along their health journey. It also serves as a catalyst for social engagement fostering unity, peace and love.”*

*~ Yolanda Ramos,  
Strategic Initiatives Manager  
of Culinary Literacy and  
Wellness*







*“Outreach provides much needed programming and readers advisory to schools, community agencies and other gathering spots.”*

*~ Amy Breslin, Outreach Services Department*



**LITTLE LIBRARY ON THE LAKE AND OUTREACH**

Staff coordinated a live, virtual visit with New York Times bestselling author and illustrator Raul the Third, and 37 classrooms joined with an estimated 781 students. The recording, which was made available to any teacher whose class was unable to join live, has been viewed nine times since. LPLS gave 47 copies of Raul the Third’s books to participating schools across our service area.

Outreach staff continued their partnership with the Lorain County Metro Parks, hosting Books in the Woods discussions at the French Creek Nature Reserve in Sheffield.

In partnership with the Kipton community and Camden Township, Outreach staff facilitated a monthly Maker Moments program as well as book discussions at the Camden Recycling Building.

A series of five Summer Saturday programs took place at the Little Library on the Lake wherein community partners such as Black River Audubon Society, LGBTQ+ Lorain County and Lorain County Metro Parks created memorable experiences exploring fun and exciting activities.

Eight more patrons joined the Books by Mail service offered by LPLS in which those with a disability or other limitation that prevents them from visiting the library are able to receive library materials through the mail at no cost.



**LAUNCHING PHENOMENAL LEARNERS**

Launching Phenomenal Learners, the free tutoring program available to students of all ages that live within the city limits of Lorain continued to grow in 2023.

Our service addresses a dire community need as there are few consistent, free options for tutoring in Lorain. This program is unique in its consistent dedication to a small-group format. It operates on a 1:4 student to teacher ratio at maximum. Small settings allow tailored attention to each student’s individual needs while still fostering a sense of community and belonging amongst peers.

By paying a competitive wage, we are able to attract and retain top talent. Launching Phenomenal Learners employs eight exceptionally qualified tutors with a vast array of professional experience within K-12 education. Each are either actively involved within the schools or are retired from long, successful teaching careers.

This program utilizes Aperture Education’s DESSA screener to get an in-depth, comprehensive view of student social and emotional skills with tailored strategies and interventions to help them grow. It is the only screener to meet universal criteria set forth by the World Health Organization.

An example of how this works and why it is important: If a student arrives and is unwilling or unable to focus and complete their work, we address the situation from an SEL-based perspective. What needs of the student are not being met and are hindering their ability to learn? Perhaps they received a bad grad on a test that day and are feeling discouraged. We use strategies presented by aperture to target confidence building skills to progress toward learning for the day. Once students conquer their barrier, they are free to learn without a negative connotation.

Between the two branches offering this program, enrollment included 62 active students representing 21 different schools including nine Lorain City Schools, two Clearview Schools, four charter schools, three parochial schools, two online schools, one Amherst School (student is open-enrolled) and two homeschooled students.

★ *Launching* ★  
**Phenomenal Learners  
Tutoring Program**

*“A high-caliber tutoring program such as ours is the epitome of what it means to foster community growth, discovery and success.”*

*~ Tiara McGuire,  
Launching Phenomenal  
Learners Coordinator*





*"I just love, love, love my library. I don't know how I would get through my days without access to CLEVNET. It's not just books and magazines. There are so many new arts and crafts to learn every day. And the librarians — always smiling, the nicest people. Visiting the library is a pleasure."*

*~ Sunita G.*

*"Game changer. Love Libby and Hoopla."*

*~ Max S.*

*"Reading is a good way to relax and enjoy the moment."*

*~ Debbie W.*

*"I love Libby! I can find so many more options for magazines than at the store — and I don't have to pay!"*

*~ Kristin B.*

*"Books are my magic!"*

*~ Denise M.*

*"We love the events the library puts on, especially our local North Ridgerville Branch! This year we've read to dogs (my daughter's favorite), gone to a star-gazing party, gotten seeds for our garden (from one pack of seeds we grew almost 300 cucumbers!!), toured local farms and more! We love the library!"*

*~ Mary M.*

*"Just a quick note to tell you how much I am enjoying the Writers Group being offered at the North Ridgerville Branch. I only joined two months ago and am so impressed with your Felicia. Her approach is very positive and encouraging. The sessions are instructive and inspiring. I sincerely doubt my efforts will ever lead anywhere, but Felicia is making the process enjoyable."*

*~ Kathi D.*

*"I love my tutor so much that in the summer I don't want to leave!"*

*~ Yavielyz, third grader*

*"This is the best place in the world."*

*~ Cara, fourth grader*

*"I took the Chef's Knife class and we made ratatouille and it is the best class I have ever taken!"*

*~ Frank M.*

*"I can't emphasize enough how necessary culinary literacy classes are at public libraries...programs such as these teach essential know-how for everyone...More over, these programs are free and promote equal access and lifelong learning."*

*~ Phoenix C, Ph.D.*

