



**COUNCIL BLUFFS  
Public Library**

# **FY23 Annual Report**



**The Council Bluffs Public Library  
enriches, informs and empowers our  
community.**

# Letter from the Director



Another year has passed at the library, and I am excited to share a recap of the major accomplishments at the library over the past 12 months. At the beginning of the school year, we successfully launched LIT: Student Accounts with the Council Bluffs Community School District.

This service of providing a library account to all students (opt-out option available), allows us to support the youth of the community in their learning and enrich and supplement what is being provided by the school district. We added Lewis Central Community School District in January for a total of just over 11,000 new accounts being provided to the residents of Council Bluffs.

In the fall, we planted two micro-prairies on the library property in partnership with the Parks and Recreation department and Pottawattamie County Conservation. These prairies will serve as demonstration native prairies and learning spaces to support the work of Bee City USA. They are tended to by volunteers and the educational materials and programming that corresponds with them is provided by Pottawattamie County staff and library staff.

This spring, we again partnered with the school districts to host author visits for the One Community Read program, hosting Holly Goldberg Sloan and Kate Messner. In partnership with Raise Me to Read, every second grader in Council Bluffs was gifted the book for the program by Kate Messner, and the authors visited Lewis Central Middle School, Kirn Middle School, Lewis and Clark Elementary, with Crescent Elementary students being bussed in, and St. Albert Elementary School. These visits had deep impact in exposing students to rich literature and engaging authors.

Thank you to our wonderful community partners, the Council Bluffs City Council, Mayor Walsh, the Friends of the Council Bluffs Public Library, and the Council Bluffs Public Library Foundation for all of their support to the library and the community!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Antonia E. Krupicka-Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a stylized initial "A" at the end.

-Antonia Krupicka-Smith, Library Director

## Board of Trustees

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Nicole Juranek, Secretary  
Leo Martin, Treasurer  
John Erixson  
Matt Garst  
Stacey Goodman  
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Alison Smith

## City Council

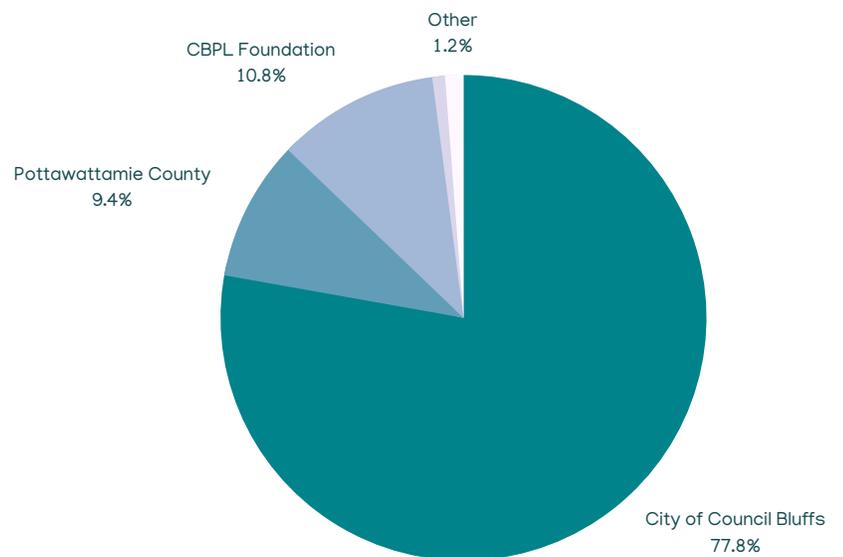
Matt Walsh, Mayor  
Joe DiSalvo  
Steve Gorman  
Chad Hannan  
Chris Peterson  
Roger Sandau

# Year by the Numbers

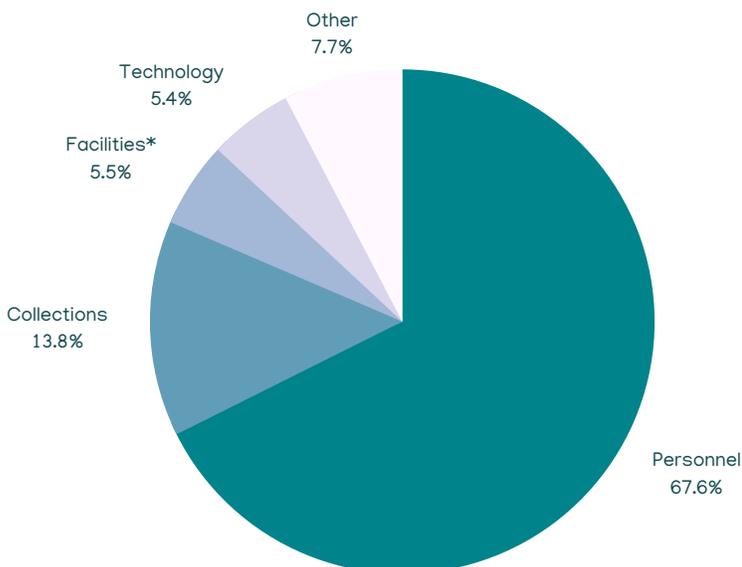
Collection Size	302,972
Items added to the collection	13,990
Physical Items Borrowed	262,783
Downloaded Items	278,138
Homebound Items Delivered	3,189
Interlibrary Loan Items	3,841

Total Card Holders	59,582
New Card Registration	3,122
Visits	174,401
Meetings by the Public	1,601

## Revenue



## Expenditures



Program Attendance	44,678
Reference Questions	20,814
Summer Reading Program Participants	1,061

\*Many costs associated with the upkeep and repair of the Library property are reflected in the Building and Maintenance and Parks & Recreation budgets. This is not a full representation of the facilities expenditures.

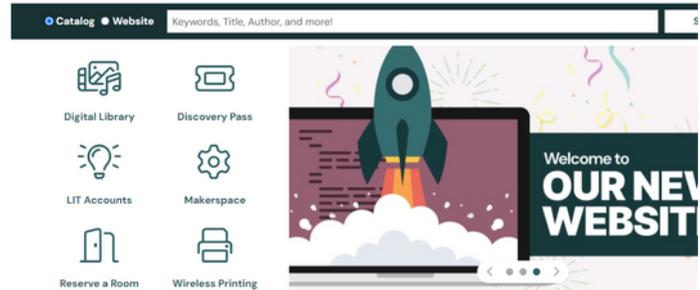
## Brand, Website, and Events/Reservation Calendar

- In January we launched a brand refresh that included an adjusted logo, logos for our associated 501(c)3s, and marketing material using updated colors and designs.
- In May we launched a new events calendar and reservation software so that patrons can easily see what is happening at the library and reserve spaces and tools.
- In June the new website was launched including representation of all that we offer and easy to navigate pages.



Location & Hours Library Newsletters

Books & More Events Discover & Learn Services



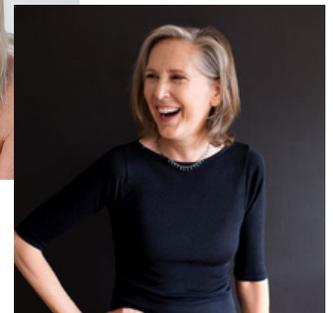
## Oral Histories and Daily Nonpareil Archives

- Through a grant from Iowa Humanities and the Council Bluffs Public Library Foundation equipment was purchased to establish a mobile oral histories booth. Additionally workshops were provided to teach community members how to conduct oral history interviews to begin to gather and create an oral histories archive for our community.
- Additional funding from the Council Bluffs Public Library Foundation allowed for the completion of the digitization of the entire Daily Nonpareil archive which allows greater access for the country to the history of our region as reported in the local newspaper.



## Foundation Author Series

- Authors Geraldine Brooks, Mary Roach, and Elin Hilderbrand made stops over the winter months through the Library Foundation Author Series.
- These events are hosted at the Iowa Western Arts Center and aim to expand the community's awareness and exposure to nationally known authors.
- All the events were attended by fans of the authors and we continue to be grateful to the Library Foundation for making this program possible.



# Highlights

## Friends of the Council Bluffs Public Library

"The Friends of the Council Bluffs Public Library is a non-profit organization that supports the outstanding services, programs, and staff training and development the Library provides. Over the past year, we were proud to support the library through the Discovery Pass program, movie licensing software, staff development, the summer reading program, and local scholarships. Through our partnership, the library can continue to expand its resources, host engaging events, and foster a vibrant community of readers and learners in our wonderful community!"  
– Dave Wise, Friends of the Council Bluffs Public Library Board President

There are several ways to support the Friends of the Council Bluffs Public Library. To learn more about volunteering and becoming a member visit [councilbluffslibrary.org/about/friends-of-the-library](http://councilbluffslibrary.org/about/friends-of-the-library)

## Council Bluffs Public Library Foundation

The library foundation was able to support a substantial number of library projects this year. Notably:

- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
- Library Programming including Community-Wide programs such as One Community Reads: The World is Your Garden and Pollinator Palooza.
- The Oral History Project
- Geraldine Brooks, Mary Roach, Elin Hilderbrand, Diane Wilson, Holly Goldberg Sloan, and Kate Messner Author Visits

"The CBPLF again takes pride in supporting our public library. Our gifts compliment the city funding with a goal of having a State of the Art Library for the community. Our funding has provided programming for various authors series, Dolly Parton Imagination Library books to any preschooler in Council Bluffs, in house programs and reading incentives. We have continued to support technology updates and made commitments to major future projects such as the Library Kiosk shelter for the FIRST AVE corridor. We will continue to support and enhance this important and loved city service."

– Kathleen Pyper, Library Foundation Board President

There are several ways to support the Council Bluffs Public Library Foundation. To learn more about giving back to your library through the Foundation visit [councilbluffslibrary.org/about/library-foundation](http://councilbluffslibrary.org/about/library-foundation)

### Friends of the Library Board

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J.R. Woltemath, Treasurer  
Dixie Hendricks  
Elizabeth Hunter  
Jessica Johanns  
Nicole Lindquist  
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Jordan Preston  
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Lorna Woods

### Council Bluffs Public Library Foundation Board

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Francis Clark, Treasurer  
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Ed Lynn  
John Nelson  
Jessica Rosenberg  
Kathy Tisher

The Council Bluffs Public Library is recognized as a primary community resource for educational support, self-directed learning, cultural development, advancing literacies, and building public prosperity and well-being.

- The Council Bluffs Public Library:
- \*Offers superior customer experiences
  - \*Encourages learning and discovery
  - \*Is inclusive and provides access to all
  - \*Cultivates collaboration and innovation
    - \*Believes in the freedom to know
    - \*Fosters a positive work environment
  - \*Provides wise stewardship of public resources



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[www.councilbluffslibrary.org](http://www.councilbluffslibrary.org)