

SUMMER READING 2020

Every summer, the Niagara Falls Public Library participates in a state-wide effort to combat "summer slide" - learning loss that occurs when children do not read during the months of summer vacation. As with all aspects of American life in 2020, Covid-19 put an entirely different spin on the New York State summer reading program. However, as they say in showbiz, "the show must go on." We responded to the challenges of the pandemic by creating no- and low-contact versions of our 2020 summer program, Imagine Your Story, allowing children and teens to participate in the fun and learning of summer reading safely and within the comfort level of their family.

As a remote option for tracking summer reading, we utilized READsquared - an online program that allows users to log reading, earn digital badges, unlock mini-games and read-aloud books and take part in learning missions. We also offered a low-contact paper reading log option for families comfortable with coming inside the library. Our staff presented video storytimes and STEAM programs and tutorials through our website and social media channels, and through the support of the Friends of the Library, we also presented a Virtual Summer Program created by Emmy-winning children's entertainment team Page Turner Adventures. Each week had a new and exciting theme and included daily videos to entertain and inform: craft and science instructional videos, performers, interviews with authors and illustrators, virtual field trips, and more.

While 2020 was a summer like no other, it did provide the opportunity for the library to explore new ways to deliver services to our patrons - some of which can carry over to when we return to "normal" - whenever that may be.

SUMMER READING 2021

As of this writing, there is still much uncertainty surrounding Summer 2021; however, planning has commenced for this year's program, Tales and Tales. We are certain that children and teens will be as excited about the animal theme as we are! We are cautiously optimistic about the possibility of outdoor in-person programming and will continue to offer low- and no-contact options, such as take-and-make craft kits and online recorded programs. We also anticipate participating as a Summer Food Service Site through the Niagara County Youth Bureau - helping to combat child hunger through handing out nutritious lunches to the children of our community. Whatever form they may take, we are looking forward to providing quality programs to our patrons and serving our community during the Summer of 2021.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

NFPL graciously acknowledges funding through the City of Niagara Falls, Town of Niagara, County of Niagara and New York State.

LIBRARY BUDGET ADOPTED 2020

REVENUES

Library Charges	\$20,000
Sales of books and other income	\$6,575
Friends of the Library	\$7,000
Dunlap Trust	\$18,000
System grants	\$400
RBDB grant	\$6,000
City of Niagara Falls	\$1,813,302
Town of Niagara	\$2,000
County of Niagara	\$67,000
State Central Library Aide	\$98,000
State aid-LLSA	\$21,000
Fund Balance	\$86,857
Total Revenues	\$2,146,134

EXPENDITURES

Personnel services	\$799,176
Library Materials	\$200,000
Library Operations	\$151,880
Equipment	\$8,800
Building - Maintenance and Utilities	\$218,625
Employee Benefits (active)	\$484,891
Post Employment Retirement Benefits (retirees)	\$282,762
	\$2,146,134

Audit conducted by CTBK in June 2021. Reports available upon request.

LIBRARY USAGE 2020

No. of items in collection	242,028
Adult books	85,156
Children's books	33,218
eAudiobooks	871
eBooks	10,013
Other Library materials	112,770
No. of items added to collection in 2020	14,679
No. of library visitors	101,239
No. items circulated	80,857
No. of Inter Library Loan materials received	5,413
No. of Inter Library Loan materials provided to other libraries	9,829
No. of website visits	126,537
No. hours open per week	
Main 60 / LaSalle 32	
No. of in person/virtual reference questions answered	12,653
No. of public computer sessions	
Main 6,141 / Wireless at Main 6,971	
LaSalle 3,868 / Wireless at LaSalle 3,348	
No. of NFPL cardholders	26,600
Virtual and In-person Programming	
No. of adult programs offered	215
No. of adult program attendees	375
No. of youth programs	317
No. of youth program attendees	3,540
One on one digital instruction sessions	177

Both branches of the NFPL remained service operable during the COVID closure. Main and LaSalle Branches were 2 of 12 branches throughout New York State which remained functional during the Spring 2020 COVID shut down.

GRANTS

Orrin Dunlap Trust - Phase 2 inventory	\$68,000
Niagara Falls Heritage Area - Phase 2 inventory	\$25,000
Friends of NF Local History - Phase 3 of inventory	\$10,072
Western NY Library Resource Council - Regional Bibliographic Databases (RBD) grant	\$9,310
Western NY Library Resource Council - Access and Innovation Grants	\$8,315
Nioga Library System - Summer Reading	\$300
Nioga Library System - Family Literacy	\$200
Friends of the NF Library	\$7,000
New York State - Central Library Development Aid	\$78,073
New York State - Local Library Service Aid	\$15,189
Niagara County Grant	\$67,292
National Library of Medicine	\$350



DONATIONS AND MEMORIALS

Wendy Martin, in memory of Rosemary Corieri \$200
Ellen Scavulli donation of \$25

