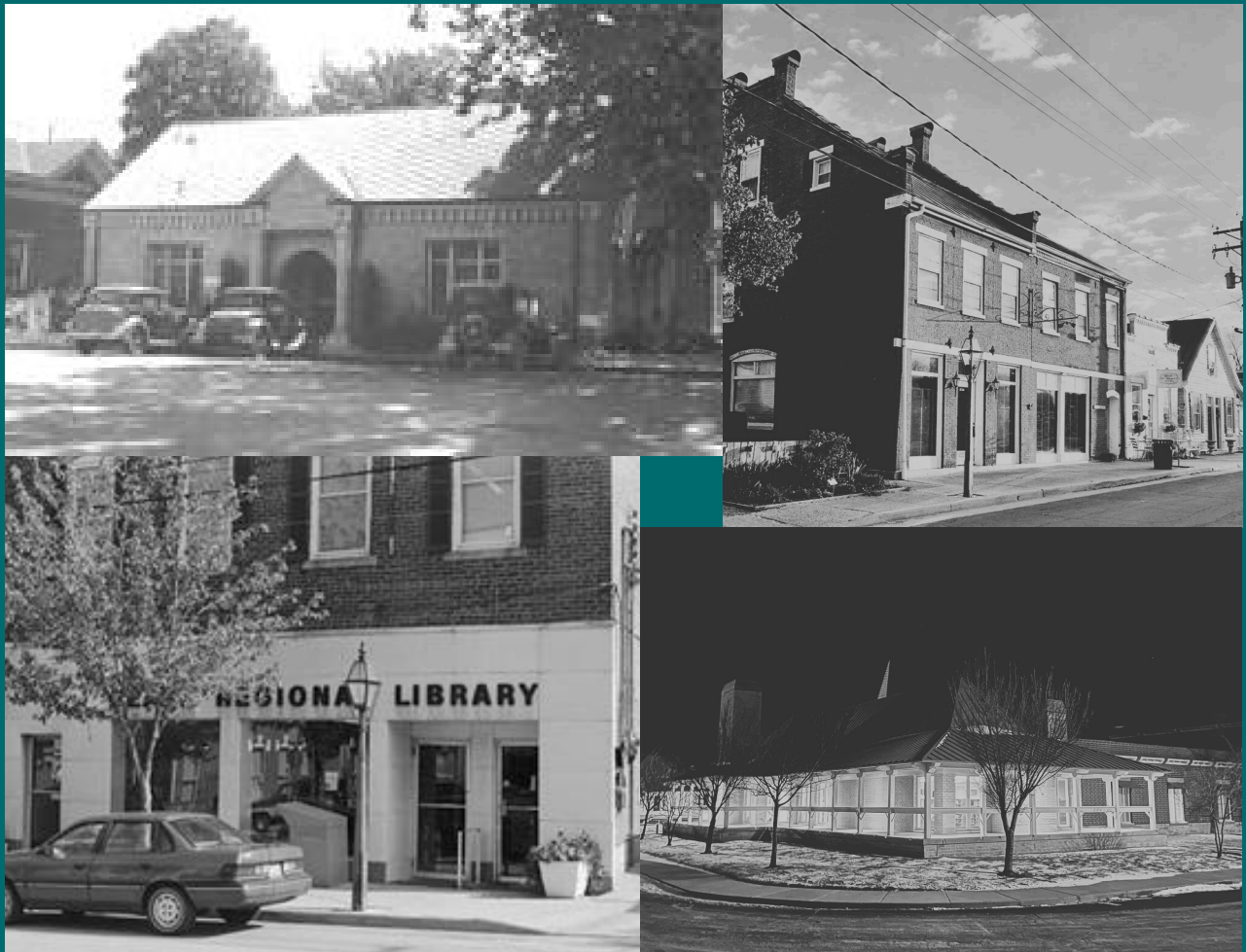


STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY LIBRARY

GROWING TOGETHER

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



**PREPARED BY:
STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY LIBRARY**

STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY LIBRARY LEADERSHIP



A Letter from the Director

As a father of three who has spent nearly his entire life in Ste. Genevieve, I've witnessed the remarkable transformation and growth that our small community has undergone. I vividly recall the scent of the library from its days in the old Koetting building, the carpet squares we eagerly grabbed during story time, and the joy of checking out as many books as we wanted as kids. That building, now known to my kids as a Dinosaur museum, doesn't even resemble its former self!

While we fondly look back on these memories, I can't help but reflect on the significant progress our community has made. The old library is gone, replaced by an even larger and more valuable community asset. However, the memories of that location linger. One constant has been the enduring presence of the library in our community. What began as a simple Library Club initiated by a group of citizens slowly evolved into a partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, followed by collaboration with Ozark Regional Library, ultimately leading to the establishment of our independent library location.

I can't help but imagine that if the original Library Club members returned, they would be pleased to see how their hard work has paid off. The library, once sharing space with a museum and charging 2 cents a day for book loans, outgrew its space twice before settling into our current location.

Regardless of when your library memories began, we all have stories that define our generations—stories uniquely ours, passed down to children and grandchildren who may struggle to comprehend, but will proudly share with their own descendants, saying, "Your grandpa came here when this was the library!"

I present to you our 2023 Annual Report, wherein you'll find evidence of the creativity required to nurture an exceptional library. While financial resources are finite, collaboration and creativity are the boundless resources we will tap into to support the library's mission.

I have no idea what the future holds for our library or where we will be in 20 years, but I can assure you that our library is stronger than ever.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sh. Long".

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY LIBRARY LEADERSHIP

Mission

The Ste. Genevieve County Library is guided by the past and focused on the future. Its mission is to enrich the lives of the community by empowering its citizen's personal, educational and professional growth. The library is committed to advancing literacy and nurturing life-long learning.

Board of Trustees

Jean Johnson

Board President

Melissa Otto

Vice President

Robin Reynolds

Treasurer

Robert Bach

Secretary

Cynthia Nugent

Member-at-Large

This annual report gives witness to the library's remarkable growth and development, due to the dedication and creativity of the library director and the employees at Ste. Genevieve library, and the continued support of the library Board of Trustees.

Your library serves, and will continue to serve, many varied and vibrant communities within its service area. It continues to offer a wide variety of activities & classes, that are of interest to young and old alike.

While the library can celebrate many achievements, its focus is on future opportunities that lie ahead. Continued success will be achieved through creativity, collaboration and communication.



Jean M Johnson

JEAN JOHNSON

BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRESIDENT

STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY LIBRARY STAFF

Library Staff

Shawn Long

Library Director

Lindsey Picou

Assistant Director

Misty McElligott

Program Librarian

Abby Bates

Youth Services

Asa Lemons

Technology

Barb Rhinehart

Donna Herzog

Margie Hogenmiller

Norma Lemons

Marge Nohr

Library Aides



Friends of the Library Board

Elizabeth Rudloff

President

Jerry Klein

Vice President

Richard Fieg

Treasurer

Rebecca Long

Secretary

Jennifer Cox

Historian

Vision

We strive to provide a center for information and discovery through innovative programming, robust collections, and responsive services. The Library is a place for Ste. Genevieve to learn, share and create.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



ST. AGNES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The efficacy of Ste. Genevieve County Library is intricately woven into the fabric of strategic partnerships, with some extending to one-off programs and others recurring throughout the year. These collaborations transcend the traditional scope of libraries, forging relationships that extend beyond the realm of books.

In 2022, our library embarked on a mission to transcend its physical confines and proactively engage with the community. One remarkable partnership that exemplifies this commitment is with St. Agnes Catholic School. Witnessing the tangible impact of our library's growth, St. Agnes has become a testament to the transformative influence of our programs.

Misty McElligott, our dedicated programming librarian, takes the initiative to visit Pre-K and First Grade students at St. Agnes Catholic School. Through careful book selections and meticulously planned activities, she not only captivates the students but also ignites their imagination. Michele Otte, the Principal of St. Agnes, expresses her appreciation, stating, "To witness the excitement in our students' eyes is truly amazing." These programs not only keep the students fully engaged but also cultivate a profound love for reading, a cornerstone of foundational learning.

The collaborative efforts of both educators and library staff, combined with the contagious enthusiasm of the students, serve as a compelling testament to the library's role as a transformative space. It goes beyond the conventional perception of libraries, showcasing their potential to inspire and shape the minds of the community they serve.

CHARITABLE IMPACT

FRIENDS OF STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY LIBRARY

The Friends of Ste. Genevieve County Library is a passionate community of volunteers dedicated to enriching our library and enhancing its services. Over the past year, their tireless efforts have raised over \$5000, enabling the acquisition of innovative resources like giant foam building blocks, showcased with pride at the County Fair. Their support has built the Library of Things, ensuring patrons have access to a diverse array of items for exploration and learning. Additionally, the Friends launched Dial-a-Story, bringing the magic of storytelling to homes across our community.

But their impact extends far beyond acquisitions. Through engaging fundraising events like Rock 'n' Roll Bingo, they've fostered a spirit of camaraderie while generating vital funds.

Their commitment to community outreach is unwavering, with members reading to children at the Christmas Walk, igniting imaginations at the summer reading kick-off, and spreading joy by hosting reindeer at the library's Christmas event.

The Friends of Ste. Genevieve County Library exemplify the power of collective action and the boundless possibilities that arise when a community comes together to support literacy and learning. Their dedication is proof of the transformative impact a support organization can have on our library and beyond.



By far the biggest highlight of the year was our popular Story Time with Santa program, which going into our 6th year. With the help of the FOTL, we brought real life reindeer to our program adding even more magic to an already amazing program.



With the help of our Friends of Ste. Genevieve County Library we were able to create our new Library of Things which features 11 backpacks that feature unique arts, crafts & activities.



The FOTL donated the funds to purchase large building blocks which we utilized at our outreach programs including the County Fair & Jour De Fete.

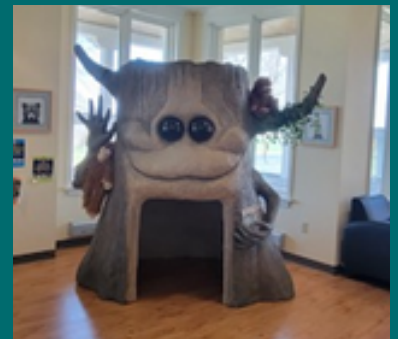
PRIVATE GIFTS & GRANTS

Private gifts & grants from a variety of sources allow the Library to stretch beyond providing the core services supported by tax revenues. Charitable gifts fuel innovation and allow our library access to tools and equipment to better serve our community that we otherwise could not afford on our own. This section highlights some of the resources our library was able to secure in 2023 thanks to gifts like this.

The Women's Club of Ste. Genevieve invited us to their program to talk about the technology programs we have hosted. As a thank you, they did an art drive to help us with our Library programming!



Our Children's Area tree was created by a local artist, utilizing a Ste. Genevieve Community Foundation Grant. After months of waiting, we added him early in 2023. This tree has been a huge hit in our children's area.



Our new Charlie Cart was purchased thanks to a generous donor, we have since been able to offer numerous cooking & baking classes for students and adults.



We received a Grant from the Ste. Genevieve Master Gardeners group to provide over 250 flower and plants for participants at the local Honey Festival.

With the support of the St. Louis Chess Club, which donated 2 clocks and over 12 chess boards to help us bring chess education to Ste. Genevieve County.



CHANGES AT THE LIBRARY



March

- * Our Children's Library Tree was delivered.

August

- * Dial-a-Story becomes available to our community.



December

- * Our 5th year of "Story Time with Santa" program was wildly successful and featured live reindeer.



January

- * Our new Charlie Cart arrives, and with it our ability to provide food programs.

July

- Our new Bloomsdale Locker goes live.



October

- * Our new Library of Things is introduced to our community.



* Indicates program or service was paid for by outside funds including grants, donations, or FOTL support

FISCAL YEAR 2023 FINANCES

REVENUE

Cash Available December 31, 2022	\$173,356.01
Property Tax	\$270,081.41
Patron Services	\$5,136.28
Grants	\$2,455.02
Gifts and Contributions	
Interest & Investment	\$7,491.05
Surtax District	\$7,802.15
Transfer from Community Center	\$166,536.79
Financial Inst	\$7.80
Misc. Income	\$1,420.72
Total Revenue	\$634,287.23

EXPENDITURES

Salaries & Benefits	\$240,159.20
Library Operations	\$178,596.30
Library Materials	\$32,224.43
Total Expenditures:	\$450,979.93
Cash Available December 31st 2023	\$183,307.30

PHYSICAL ITEMS IN OUR CATALOG

**29,514
TOTAL
ITEMS**



DVD



AUDIO



BOOKS



OTHER

**PHYSICAL ITEMS
IN OUR CATALOG**

2,376

639

26,036

463

**INCREASE/DECREASE
FROM 2022**

+7%

-13%

+5%

+119%

2023 CHECKOUTS

4,099

158

17,833

1,895

**INCREASE/DECREASE
FROM 2022**

-01%

+93%

-2%

-19%

With the increase of digital services like Libby & Hoopla we have seen a dramatic decrease in physical audiobook checkouts. We anticipate this number to continue to decrease considerably as audiobooks become more available "on demand".

TOTAL ITEMS CIRCULATED



DVD



AUDIO



BOOKS



WONDERBOOKS

**ADULT
CHECKOUTS**

2,930

75

8,655

NA

**JUVENILE
CHECKOUTS**

1,169

75

3,668

52

**YOUNG ADULT
CHECKOUTS**

NA

8

388

NA

**CHILDREN
CHECKOUTS**

NA

NA

4,720

350



TOP 5 PHYSICAL CHECKOUTS

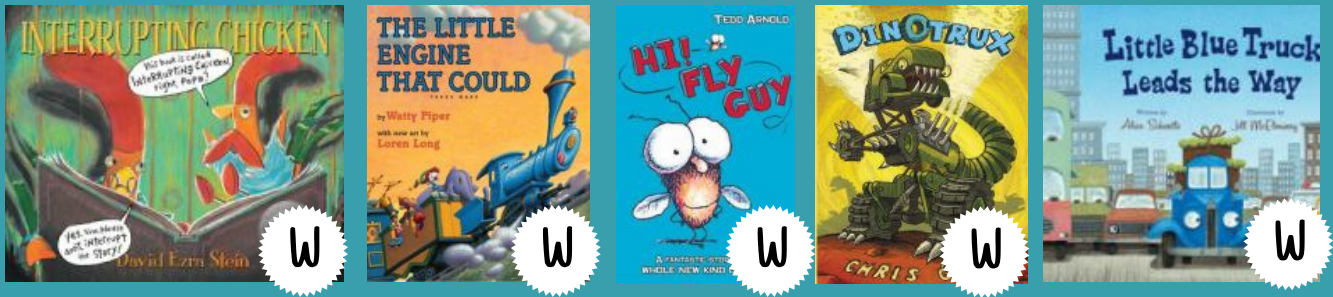
W INDICATES WONDERBOOK



Adult



Picture Book



Juvenile



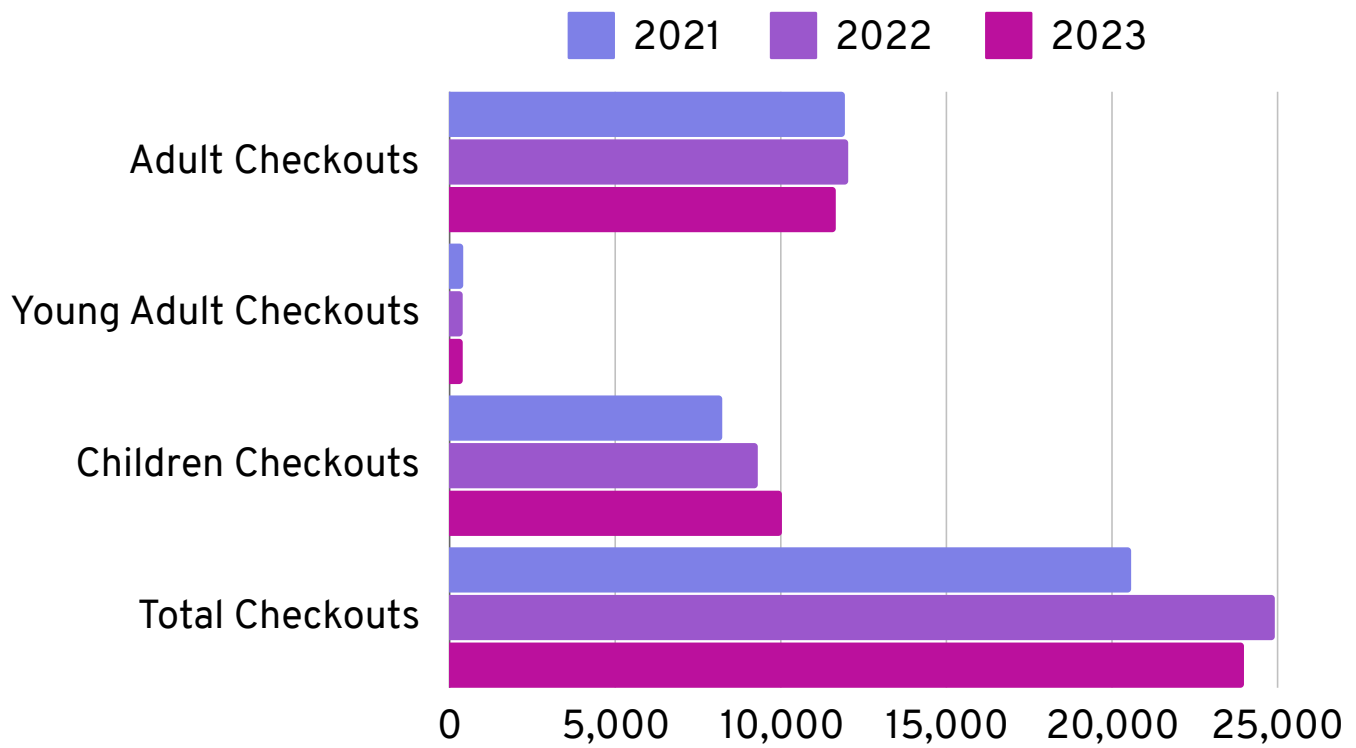
Adult



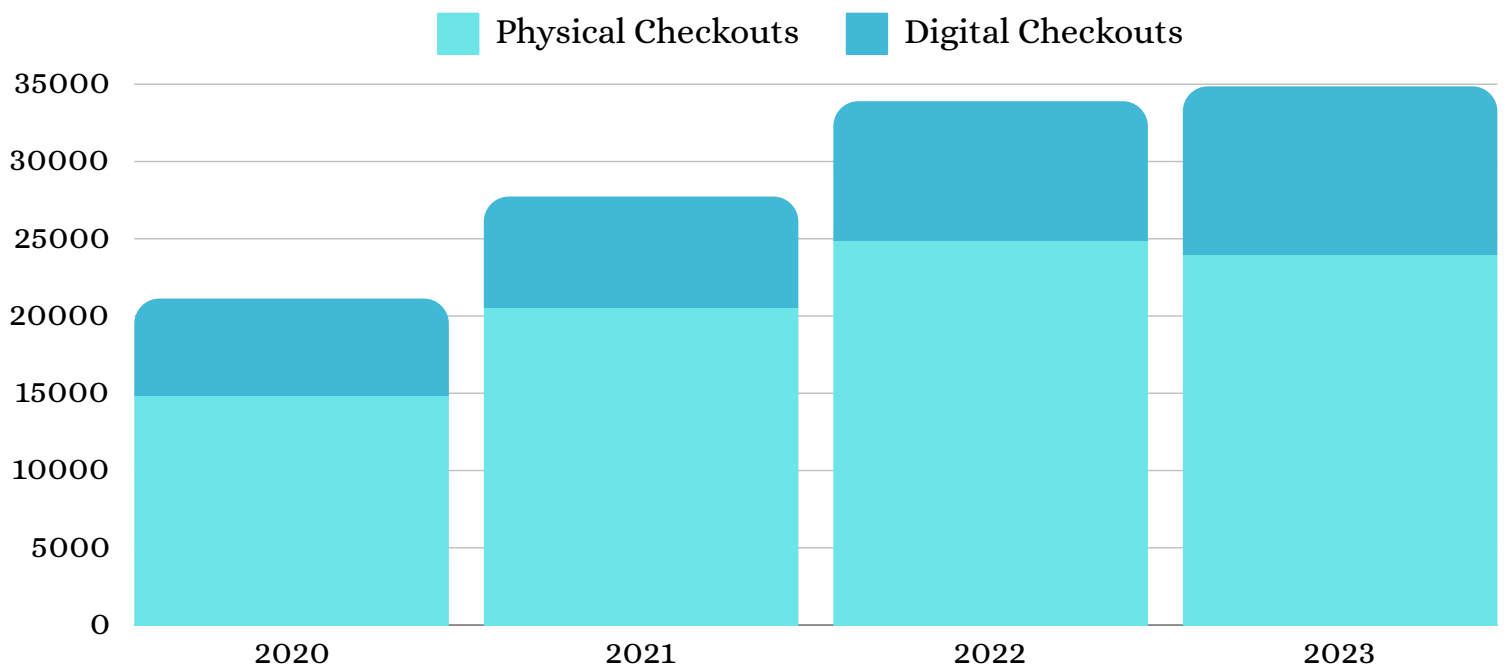
Juvenile



TOTAL ANNUAL CHECKOUTS BY AGE GROUP



TOTAL CHECKOUT YEARLY COMPARISON



LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

84 LIBRARY PROGRAMS

2,877 ATTENDANCE AT LIBRARY PROGRAMS

94 OUTREACH VISITS

4,399 OUTREACH ATTENDANCE

307 SUMMER READING PARTICIPANTS

LIBRARY CARD REGISTRATIONS

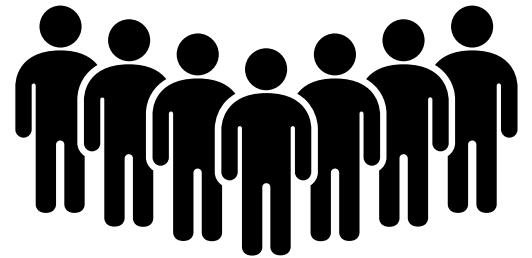
2021- 398
2022- 507
2023- 436



17% INCREASE FROM 2022!

VISITOR TOTALS

2021- 18,026
2022- 20,774
2023- 24,324



STORY TIME ATTENDANCE

2021- 977
2022- 1,349
2023- 1,376



2% INCREASE FROM 2022!



TECHNOLOGY HIGHLIGHTS

Ste. Genevieve County Library had 14 computers for patron usage at the close of FY 2023. These computers offer internet access as well as access to our OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) Microsoft Office products and Ancestry Library edition. We also offer free public access Wi-fi for patron and guest users. Both of these services are accessed and checked much the same way as a book.



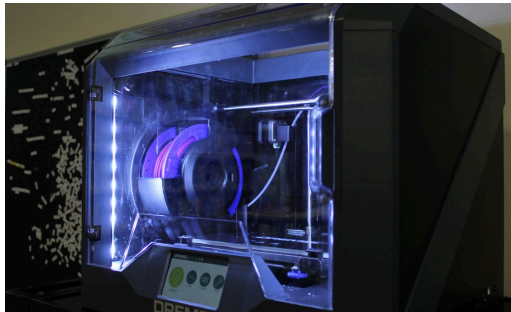
Our new VR Books allows patrons to check out a book and pair of glasses and utilize their phones and an app to make the stories come to life!



Our collection includes six laptops to help provide Tech Classes in our meeting room and allow people to check them out to work throughout the library.



Both Purchases with donor money in 2022, the large format printer and 3D printer have been a huge asset to our community. From printing of birthday banners or commercial blue prints, to our Bad Art Night trophy. Both of these pieces of equipment have seen significant use!



**110 TECH
ASSISTANCE
VISITS**

**516 COMPUTER
SESSIONS**

**7 WIFI ZONES
THROUGHOUT
STE. GENEVEVE
COUNTY**

**3,179 WI-FI ZONE
USERS**

**19,750
WEBSITE PAGE
VIEWS**

**12,242
UNIQUE VISITS**

DIGITAL USAGE



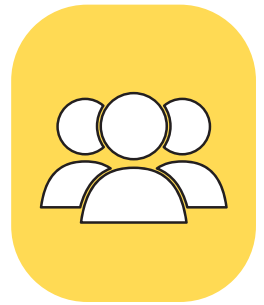
DVD/TV/
MUSIC



E-AUDIO



E-BOOKS



USERS

LIBBY ADULT TITLES

2,407

3,134

YA & J TITLES

390

40

586 *

HOOPLA ADULT TITLES

147

2,715

1,493

510

YA & J TITLES

35

275

77

TOTALS

182

5,934

4,744

1,096

% INCREASE
FROM LAST YEAR

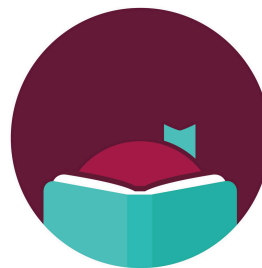
+13%

+29%

+11%

+23%

DIGITAL
CHECKOUTS HAVE
INCREASED 20%
SINCE 2022!

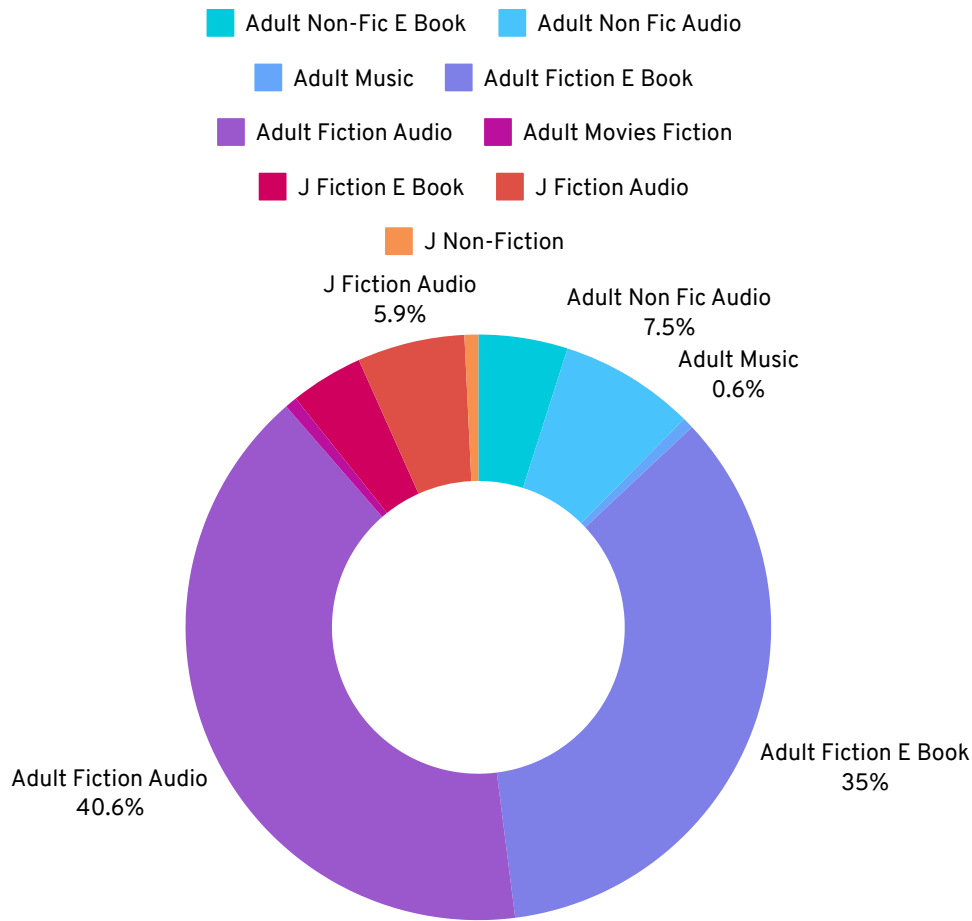


Libby.



* Last year's Libby number reflected only 3 years of registered patrons. This year we included our total users since having Libby to better reflect true usage.

WHAT OUR PATRONS ARE READING



DIGITAL CHECKOUTS

10,860 TOTAL DIGITAL CHECKOUTS



6,331



4,548

DIGITAL CHECKOUTS BY FORMAT



44%

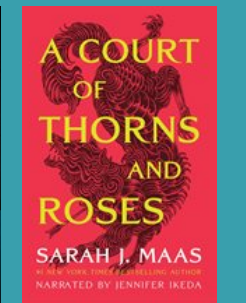
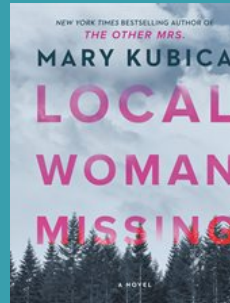
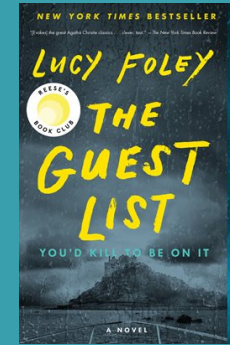
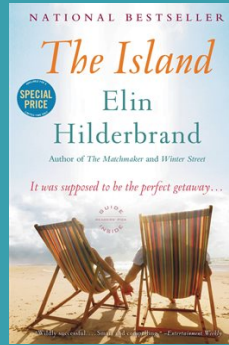
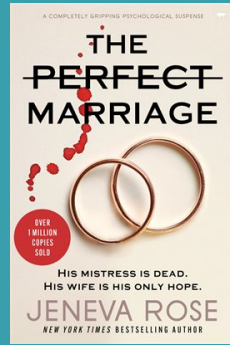
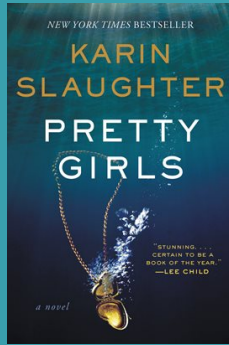


53%

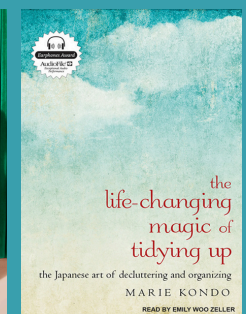
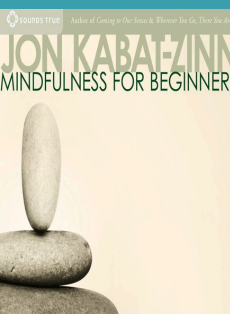
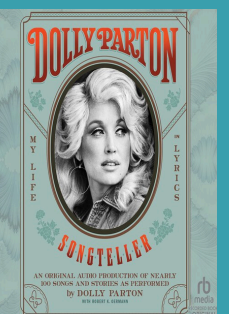
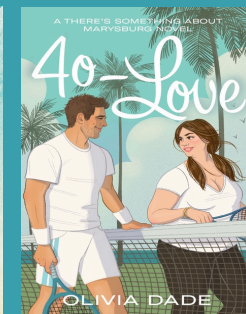
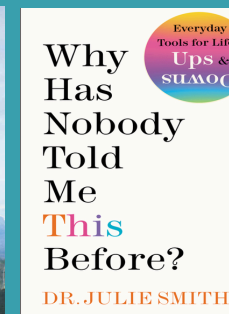
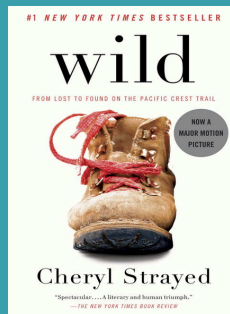
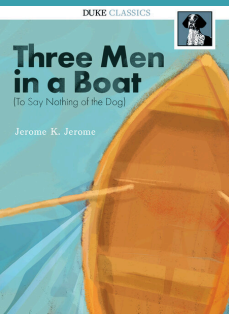


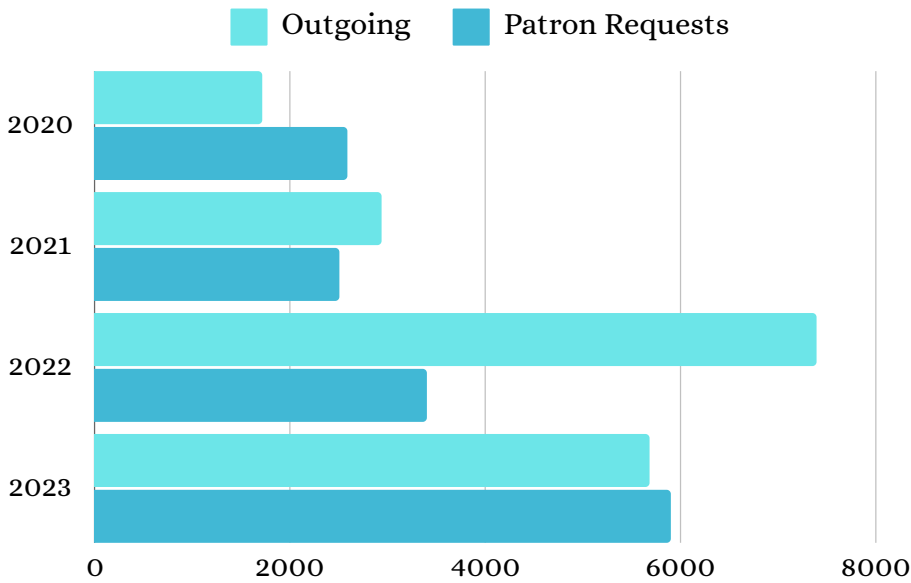
2%

TOP 5 DIGITAL CHECKOUTS



TOP 5 DIGITAL CHECKOUTS





64 MEMBER LIBRARIES

4.3 MILLION ITEMS

FUN FACT!
WE ARE NEARLY 400 DELIVERIES AWAY FROM NEEDING TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL DAY OF COURIER

Our Missouri Evergreen Consortium added 5 new member libraries and a 13% increase in available items to our community members.

Using Evergreen means that our collection is constantly working. If our library doesn't have a book, we can search 63 other libraries for a title. It also means that our entire collection is available for millions of patrons rather than just our community!

LOCAL & STATE REQUESTS



5,683



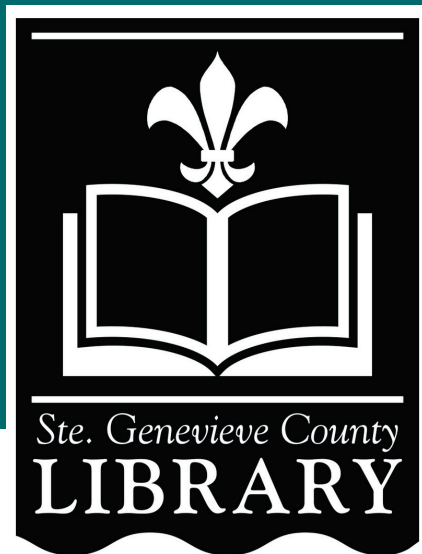
73% INCREASE FROM 2022



5% INCREASE FROM 2022



5,901



Ste. Genevieve County
LIBRARY