

## Director's Note

2024 was the first full year implementing our new Strategic Plan! The 2024 Work Plan Tracker on [dglibrary.org/transparency](http://dglibrary.org/transparency) allowed anyone to follow along with our accomplishments as they happened.

Working with Downers Grove Grade School District 58, library card registration was open to all students during their school registration process. More than 4,541 students registered, including 2,841 new cardholders. This allows teachers in District 58 to more effectively use library resources, such as online databases, in the classroom.

The Teen Library Council was established to give teens a voice in our services for them. Teen volunteers and program attendance skyrocketed. Teen Central got a makeover, including a new public service desk, configuration of shelving to better define its area, and new and repurposed furniture creating zones for lounging, studying, and teen programs.

Exciting new items were added to our collections including Tonies, Yotos, and accessibility kits. We made improvements to our building safety and security, added civic engagement and information literacy programs, and supported voter registration and information. We began the process of a building study to examine the feasibility of acoustical separation of Teen Central, improving physical accessibility from the parking lot, creating a Makery, and adding a wellness room for kids with sensory needs and nursing moms.

Look for the 2025 Strategic Work Plan Tracker and follow along with what's happening at the library!

## About DGPL

 Number of staff: 110

 Number of physical items in our collection: 248,803

 Service population: 50,247

**Mission:** Welcoming all to discover, grow, play, and learn

**Vision:** The heart of a diverse community providing inspiring ideas, community connections, and empowering opportunities

### Our Values:

**Inclusive and Welcoming Environment:** We celebrate our individual uniqueness and create spaces where everyone is valued, represented, and included

**Community Engagement:** We listen and respond to the changing needs of our community

**Equitable Access:** We remove barriers and enable access for all

**Intellectual Freedom:** We provide a variety of programs, services, and materials so community members can customize their own library experience

**Lifelong Learning:** We are always learning and encourage our community to be curious and continue to learn throughout all stages of life

**Integrity:** We advocate for and uphold ethical library practices and responsible financial stewardship



# How People Use the Library: A Year in Numbers

**1,083,620**  
items circulated

**406,297**  
website views

This averages 1,407 attendees a week!

**73,168**  
program attendees

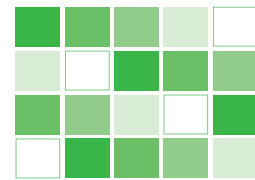
**1,851**  
book-an-expert one-on-one sessions

book-an-expert one-on-one sessions

**77,610**

reference transactions

You have questions and we have answers! Reference transactions went up 11% from 2023.



**14,908**  
room reservations

Attendance increased by 3.7% in 2024. This is about 1,196 people per day.



**436,627**  
library visits



**17**  
gallery exhibits

**204,240**  
eMaterials downloaded

The popularity of digital materials continues to increase. Up 17.5% compared to 2023, they accounted for nearly 19% of all checkouts.



**330**  
3D prints & poster prints

**28,801**  
donations to The Cupboard

Patron generosity never ceases to amaze us. Donations to The Cupboard increased 16%.

**1,855**  
programs offered

2024 featured 163 more programs than the previous year. One of the newest and most successful in the lineup was The Human Library®.



**34,607**  
DGPL cardholders

**35,995**  
computer user sessions

**109**  
home deliveries

**58,987**  
ILL requests coming to DGPL

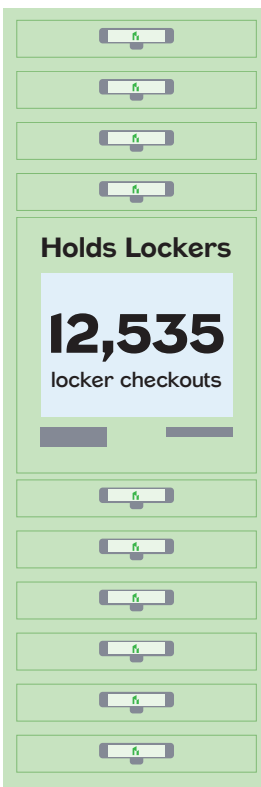
**49,347**  
ILL requests going to other libraries

**6,833**  
virtual program views

social work intern one-on-one sessions

Sessions increased a whopping 54% between 2023 & 2024.

**545**



Holds Lockers

**12,535**  
locker checkouts

# Finances

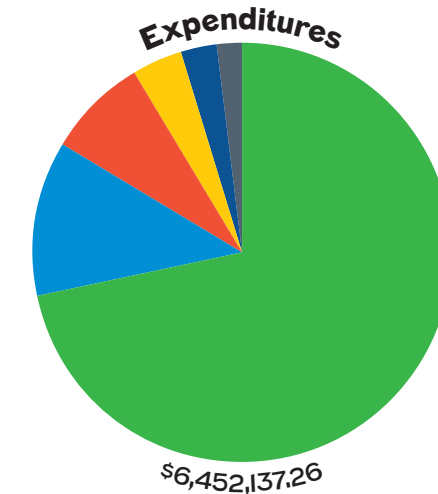
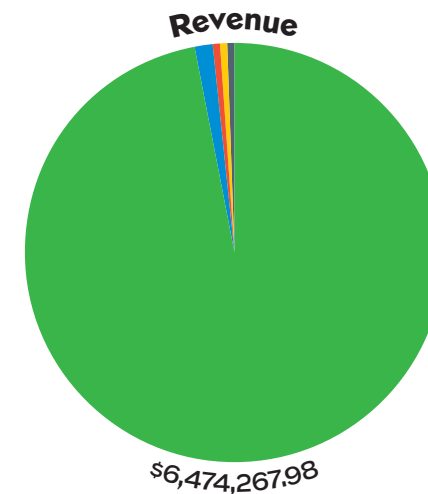
## Property Tax Bill\*:



District 58: 35.53%  
District 99: 33.64%  
Village of Downers Grove: 10.48%  
Park District: 5.67%  
College of DuPage: 3.65%  
**Library: 3.64%**  
DuPage County: 2.85%  
Forest Preserve: 2.11%  
Township: 1.47%  
Sanitary District: 0.7%  
DuPage Airport Authority: 0.26%

\*Property Tax Bill information from Village of Downers Grove's 2024 Adopted Budget.

## Library Operating Budget\*\*:



\*\*Budget information is from the unaudited end-of-year December 2024 data.

# Popular Picks

## Kid Fiction

**Dog Man: Mothering Heights**  
by Dave Pilkey

## Picture Book

**Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!**  
by Mo Willems

## Teen Fiction

**If He Had Been with Me**  
by Laura Nowlin

## Adult Fiction

**The Women**  
by Kristin Hannah

## Adult Nonfiction

**The Demon of Unrest**  
by Erik Larson

## Audiobook

**Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone**  
by J.K. Rowling

## Music

**Just Can't Get Enough: New Wave Hits of the '80s**

**TV Show**  
**Murdoch Mysteries**

## Movie

**The Boy and the Heron**

**Anything Emporium**  
Roku (with Apple TV+, Disney+, & Netflix)

# New & Notable

- Teen Central's refresh
- Social Work Intern sessions increased 541% from 2023
- 4,541 registered for Student Library Cards with District 58
- Hublet tablets in Teen Central and Kids Room
- The Human Library®
- Tween area in the Kids Room

For more details, visit [dglibrary.org/transparency](http://dglibrary.org/transparency)



1



2



3



4



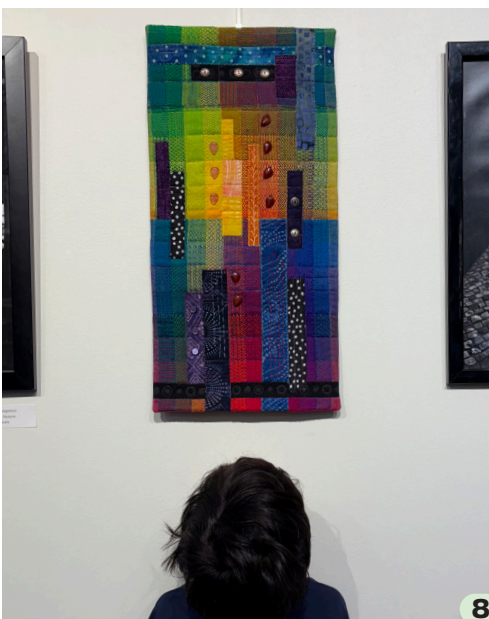
5



6



7



8

## Our Year in Photos

1. Local Author Fair
2. A new library cardholder
3. School Outreach
4. Eclipse Viewing
5. Butterfly Whisks
6. Bob Ross Birthday Party Paintings
7. Teen After Hours: Mario Kart Live
8. A child admiring artwork in the gallery
9. The future is bright when you've got your own library card!



9

