



ANNUAL REPORT



2022-2023



www.patten.lib.me.us



207-443-5141

STAFF

Director

Lesley Dolinger

Assistant Director

Elizabeth Manning

Adult & Lending Services

Debra Burleson

Aurora Cobb

Laurel Cox

Beverly Gilbert

Sarah Maciejewski

Jack Martin

Paula Price

Andrea Terry

Karen Townsend

Barbara West

Bookkeeper

Josephina Gasca

Children's Services

Mary Randall, Dept Head

Gia Charles

Karen Richard

Development Director

Samantha Ricker

Sagadahoc History & Genealogy Room

Mary Kate Kwasnik,

Dept Head

Jack Martin

Interlibrary Loan

Mary Ellen Wilson

Programming & Outreach

Hannah Lackoff

Technical Services

Shannon Stride

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Karl Albrecht, President

Michael Mason, Vice President

Anthony Jamison Treasurer

Eileen Harkins, Secretary

Stephen August

Anita Brown, RSU 1 Rep.

Tommy Davis

Roo Dunn, Bath Council Rep.

Dean Emmerson

Sukey Heard, Arrowsic Selectboard Rep.

Allison Hepler

Peggy Kapisovsky

Richard Kessler

Dawn Lee

Laurie Martin

Leah Zartarian

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Patten Free Library continues to be a vibrant, thriving community hub for the City of Bath and the Towns of Arrowsic, Georgetown, West Bath, and Woolwich. In FY22-23 we saw an increase in the number of visits to the library, items circulated, reference transactions, and people using our small meeting spaces and free Wifi.

In July 2023, the Library went fine free for most items, thanks to a generous grant from the Davenport Trust. This is our effort to eliminate barriers to borrowing library materials for all.

Since the pandemic, we have seen an increase in the amount of people using the library to work remotely. To that end, we have secured a \$100,000 ARPA Remote Work in Libraries Grant to provide better access to the physical building, enhance the technology offerings in our Community Room for meetings and hybrid presentations, and to create additional spaces for remote workers.

We are also working on a plan to improve the energy efficiency of the building and to finally have a HVAC system that will provide both heating and cooling throughout the building. Stay tuned for these exciting projects!

Finally, I want to acknowledge the hard working PFL staff and volunteers, the Friends of PFL, and all the donors who make it possible for PFL to thrive. Thank you!

Lesley Dolinger
Library Director



ANNUAL DONORS

\$500 or more. View full donor list on our website.

Champions \$2000+

Anonymous
Karl and Barbara Albrecht
Carol and Martin Eckstein
Betsy and Mike Fear
Edgard and Geraldine Feder Foundation
Yves Feder and Linda Skernick
Terry and Sally Gray
Roger and Sukey Heard
Mary Ellen Kazimer and Andy Barber
Richard Kessler and Pamela Cox
James and Michelle Rines
Laurel Walsh and Justin Schuetz
John Zittel

Major Benefactors \$1000-\$1999

Anonymous
Barbara and Jim Atherton
Dr. Susan Beegel
Lori Benson and Ken Borgendale
Thomas Davis and Daniel Evarts
Friends of Patten Free Library
Gregory Gensheimer, M.D.
William and Sally Haggett
Ted and Linda Hoch
Josephine Howell and John Kmetz
Catherine and Jeff Jacobs
James and Mabel Jacobs Family Trust
Colby and Kay Kavanagh
Peter and Jody Larkin
Mike Plaisted and Maggie Webbert
Tabell Family Foundation
Burleigh and Karin Thombs
Loren and JB Wright

Benefactors \$500-\$999

Anonymous
Juliana and Rick Cliffe
Irene and Joseph Drago
J Mark Enriquez
Alfred Fick
William and Charlinda Gray
Julia Kahrl
Joanne and Richard Marco
Kenneth Martin

Laurie and Dana Martin
Robert and Connie McChesney
Antoinette Mercadante
Judy and George Metcalf
Gary Paine
Jack and Susan Parker
William S. Patten
William and Diane Racine
David and Martha Reifschneider
Dugan and Lynn Shipway
Lora Soling and Steve Bartlett
Mary Swain
Victoria and Robert Tanko
Lambert Walker III
Sandra and David Weiss
Mark Wheeler
Gwen and Francis Zaborowski

BUSINESS SUPPORTERS

Champions \$2000+

Anonymous
Bath Savings Institution
First Federal Savings & Loan

Corporate Leader \$1500

Mid Coast-Parkview Health
Now You're Cooking
West Bath Historical Society

Major Benefactors \$1000-\$1999

Town Fair Tire Foundation
Wilson's Drug Store

Benefactors \$500-\$999

Country Farm Furniture
Data Defined
Derektor Robinhood
Judy Metcalf Law
Maine Street Design
Nason Mechanical Systems
The Reny Foundation
The Uptown
W. Bath Historical
Society

COMPANY PROFILE

MISSION

Patten Free Library transforms lives, inspires lifelong learning, preserves local history, and builds community through joyful, creative exploration and dialogue.

By the Numbers July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

The library had a total of **143,003** patron visits, with **810** individuals utilizing the group study rooms. The wireless usage reached **4,751** connections, while the adult circulation accounted for **48,838** checkouts and the children and young adult circulation recorded **41,571** checkouts. Reference transactions amounted to **8,152** interactions, and a diverse range of **400** in person programs were conducted. Additionally, there were **14,320** checkouts of eBooks and audiobooks, and **772** new library cards issued. The library also processed **26,477** interlibrary loan books and added **3,863** materials to its collection.

VISION

To be an essential part of our communities' intellectual and cultural life.



IMPACT STORIES

BATH DAILY TIMES DIGITIZATION PROJECT

Phase 1

The Sagadahoc History and Genealogy Room at the Library has hundreds of newspaper microfilm reels covering Bath history from 1820 to present day. Visitors have access to view and print from the reels on a microfilm reader, but these thousands of pages of newspaper film are almost entirely unsearchable. With the help of some generous donors, we digitized the first batch of 55 of the 220 reels of Bath Daily Times that the Library has in its collections. With digital access to the Bath Daily Times, the Library is offering an incredible, free resource not only for PFL patrons but also for outside users with a love of Bath history.

REPAIR CAFE

This collaborative program between PFL and Curtis Memorial Library is a huge success! Repair Café is part of a larger movement which encourages people to repair items instead of buying replacements. The libraries invite community volunteers to share their skills in electronics, lamp repair, sewing, computers, and more. On the designated day, people with items in need of service drop into the program and see what the volunteers can do. Volunteers have helped fix a lot of lamps, a belt, a coffee maker, clothing, several laptops, a carpet steamer, and more.



SPELLING BEE

The Patten Free Library's first ever adult Spelling Bee fundraiser brought together teens and adults for a spellbinding event, raising funds for library programs while fostering literacy and multi-generational community engagement. 10 teams, ages 16 and up, competed for the coveted "Best Speller" award, and helped raise \$7,800 for the Library.

FRIENDS OF PFL

The Friends of PFL continue to dedicate their time and energy promoting the resources and services of the library, sponsoring programs, and generating financial support. Our largest monetary contribution to the library is raised by the library bookstore; during fiscal year 2022-2023 we raised \$24,472.76 in net revenue.

Smaller, single event fundraisers, which included the Spring and Heritage Days Book Sales and the Luminary Night Bake Sale, yielded a total revenue of \$12,373.90. Our third source of income is May Membership Month. This year members' dues, coupled with generous donations, totaled \$4,215. This income allowed us to cover our Library Pledge of \$14,000.

The Friends donated \$1,000 to match gifts made to Patten Free Library on GivingTuesday, helping double the impact of several gifts made by lapsed and new donors. A \$500 donation sponsored gifts given to winners of the PFL Writing contest. Additionally, we gave 250 bookstore gift certificates to the PFL Summer Reading Program. Several library bookstore volunteers have mentioned how much they have enjoyed seeing young people come in with their gift certificates to pick out books.

VOLUNTEERS

Our dedicated volunteers generously contributed **over 3,300 hours** of their time. Through their efforts, volunteers assisted with various tasks, such as covering and shelving books, packing ILL orders, operating the bookstore, and sitting on committees.

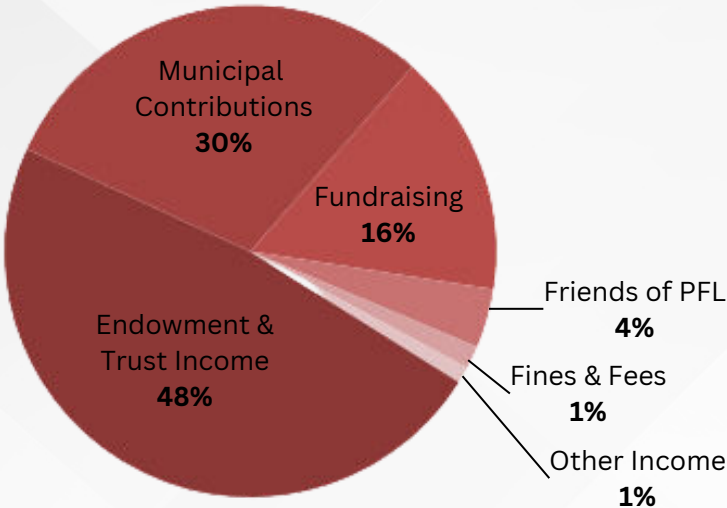
Their invaluable contributions not only enhanced the overall experience for library visitors but also showcased the power of volunteerism in creating a thriving and vibrant community hub.

The Library extends their heartfelt gratitude to these exceptional volunteers for their unwavering dedication.

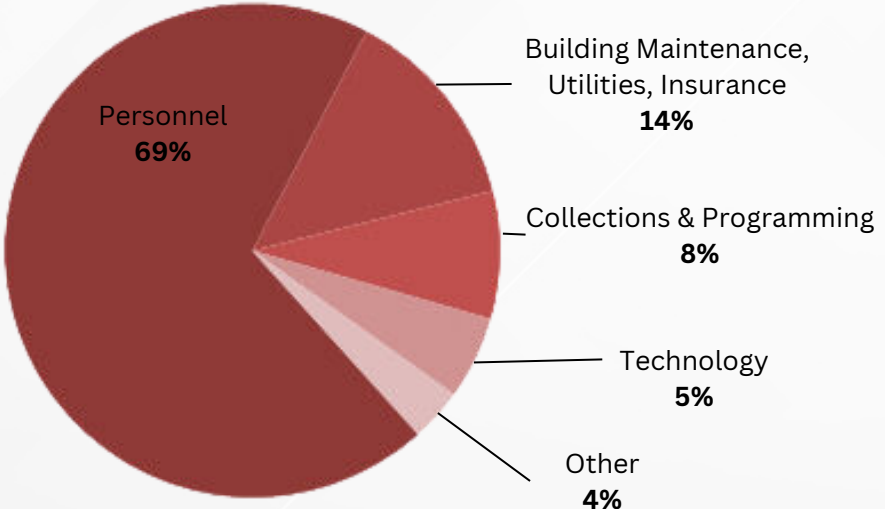


FINANCIALS

REVENUE



EXPENSES



GRANTS

- Anonymous - \$20,000 (General Operating)
- Bath Matters - \$3,000 (Children's)
- The Alfred Senter Fund - \$3,500 (Technology)
- TD Charitable - \$630 (Board Training)
- Davenport Trust - \$7,000 (Fine Free)