

ANNUAL REPORT



2022 - 2023



CONTENTS

- 3 Letter from the Library Director
- 4 Library Statistics
- 5 Programs
- 11 Summer Reading 2023: Imagine Your Story
- 14 Volunteers
- 15 Library Partners & Supporters



LETTER FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

The 2022-2023 fiscal year (FY) Millington Public Library Annual Report is a wonderful opportunity to pause and reflect on the Library's efforts to fulfill its mission to Encourage Reading, Enhance Learning, and Enrich Our Community.

Encourage Reading, Enhance Learning, and Enrich Our Community

It was a busy year full of service to Millington residents and new and expanded Library offerings. We are fortunate to have the support of a dedicated and hardworking Library Board. Two new members, Linda Cooper and Kathryn Paris, were welcomed this year. Linda brings valuable experience in marketing and fundraising and Kathryn is an active library patron and homeschool parent. The Board's combination of fresh, new perspectives along with experience and insight result in strong leadership for your Library.

The 2023 Summer Reading Program was particularly successful and kicked off with a visit from the Library Director and Program Coordinator to Millington Primary School. It was so much fun to read B.J. Novak's *The Book with No Pictures* to all the classes. Students could not have been more excited about participating and the opportunity to read, have fun, and possibly win a special prize.

The Library is always looking for new and fun ways to bring the Millington community together, and this year the catalyst for fun was foam! Yes, that's right, the first ever Foam Party saw children and teens swimming in foam on the Library's front lawn. Even our friends at the Millington Police Department dropped in and joined the party.

Underpinning all the fun, learning and service is the Library's operational structure. The City of Millington renewed an agreement for Library operation with Library Systems & Services (LS&S). New shelving and additional support for staff are examples of continued commitment to excellence.

Several Library Board members recently commented on how the Library's success brings a strong sense of community to Millington. I could not agree more and am grateful to be a part of a team that cares deeply and works tirelessly to provide services that bring people together. Here's to even more education, enrichment, community connection and fun in the coming year!

Stephanie Kinsler | Library Director



LIBRARY STATISTICS



2,281
OPEN HOURS



38,972
LIBRARY VISITS



6,099
USE OF
COMPUTERS



60,340
WI-FI USE



34,854
WEBSITE VISITS



297
CHILDREN'S
PROGRAMS



5,226
CHILDREN'S
ATTENDANCE



95
ADULT
PROGRAMS



485
ADULT
ATTENDANCE



18,806
DIGITAL
CIRCULATION



32,110
PHYSICAL
CIRCULATION



406
NEW BORROWERS

PROGRAMS

Adult Programs

Spring and Fall Master Gardener Programs

The Library offered a variety of enriching programs for adults in FY2022-2023. The newly-formed Millington City Beautiful Commission partnered with the Library to plan and host spring and fall gardening programs. All programs were taught by Memphis Area Master Gardeners. These programs were very well attended and participants were inspired to improve their home's curb appeal, beautify their lawns, and try new gardening techniques.

United Way Tax Assistance

Courtesy of the United Way of the Mid-South, the Library provided free tax preparation for individuals and families, a popular and necessary service especially among seniors. Tax preparation was offered every Saturday from 10am - 3pm during tax season; 127 Millington residents filed their taxes at the Library this year.

Paint Nights

The Millington Public Library extended its hours in January and March to host winter paint nights. Classes of 20 jovial attendees created beautiful wintry creations on canvas with the help of volunteer and local artist Larnell Givhan. Refreshments were served and participants enjoyed lots of laughter and fun. These free, popular classes allowed each attendee to put their own special touch and style into their creations.



Master Gardener Pam Beasley



Teen Programs

In the last several years, the Library has provided more programs for tweens and teens. For the first time ever, Library staff provided consistent weekly programs for teens with consistent attendance. FY2022-2023 was also the first year that staff provided programs specifically for teens as part of our Summer Reading Program. Millington teens decorated our sidewalk with chalk art, attended a cooking class, read Grimm's Fairy Tales, and participated in many other activities. The Library also stayed open late in June for a Teen Paint Night taught by a professional artist.



The Library serves as an after school "home away from home" for many teens, where they can use our Wi-Fi, do homework, play checkers, and attend fun programs while waiting for their ride home.

TEEN TIME
Tuesdays @ 4:30 - 5:30pm

- June 6 - Dragon Eggs Craft
- June 13 - Chalk Art
- June 20 - Cooking Class
- June 27 - Fairy Crowns Craft
- July 11 - Grimm's Fairy Tales Edition

The library provided **38** programs for teens this year. This a **300%** increase from only **7** programs the previous year. These new programs had **333** in attendance which is a **156%** increase in attendance! Millington Public Library support teens!



Library Teen Advisory Board (LTAB)

The LTAB members met quarterly in FY2022-2023 with two main missions:

1. To plan and implement Library events that would bring tweens/teens to the Library
2. To raise some money to support teen programs

LTAB ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Met regularly to discuss LTAB goals
- Prepared baked goods and ran a Bake Sale at the Library's Santa event
- Fundraised \$400 to purchase a Nintendo Switch for the Library
- Set up and selected games for the Nintendo Switch
- Volunteered their time to work the Library's Book Sale Fundraiser
- Planned and hosted an event Teen Game Night at the Library on June 1, 2023
- Completed volunteer hours for Key Club



2022-2023 LTAB Members

Jesse Hiner
Emma Warren
Emma Golightly
Diana Parra
Anthony Parra
Christina Mercer
Kimba Mercer

Children's Programs

Storytimes and Craft Times

This past year, more and more families with children under five visited the Library regularly, and the Library had about 20 attendees in our weekly Storytime program. Storytime helps prepare children for pre-k and kindergarten by helping them learn letters, numbers, and vocabulary. Storytime also helps preschoolers develop their concentration, social skills, and communication skills. Before and after Storytime, budding readers browsed our Library collection and picked out books to continue learning and reading at home with their families. The Library also hosted Craft Time every Saturday morning, and attendees enjoyed making fairytale-themed crafts for Summer Reading like crowns, unicorns, and fire-breathing dragons!



Literacy Gym

Literacy Gym is an educational playground where preschoolers learn how to play well with their peers, and many of our Storytime families attended every Thursday morning in FY2022-2023. The learning stations were set up to help attendees learn words, colors, letters, and skills such as sorting and counting. Regular class activities include the clean-up time song, parachute song, and the freeze game song. This fun class helped little ones learn and practice social skills at the Library, a particularly important learning component for the many participants born during the pandemic with limited opportunity for socialization.

Music Maestros

Music Maestros class was taught by volunteer and busy mom herself, Mikenzie House, who loves using her music educator background and amazing voice to teach early literacy skills through song and dance. The Library offered this class twice a month, regularly bringing in a crowd of busy moms with busy toddlers!

STEM, LEGO and Coding Clubs

The Library had three clubs that met regularly after school. For FY2022-2023, many of our science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) activities were lessons in engineering basics where kids built towers out of index cards and rollercoasters out of straws and glue. LEGO Club never ceased to amaze us with their creative designs for themes including tree forts, favorite pets, spaceships, and more. In Coding Club, the ten Library classroom laptops and iPads received plenty of use when kids used Scratch, a free programming language and online community, to experiment with computer code and create their own interactive stories, games, and animations. The class also played with their robot friends, Dash, Bottley, and the Coding Critters.



Halloween Spooktacular

On October 22, 2022 the Millington Public Library hosted its 3rd annual Halloween Spooktacular. Last year's event was a big hit for our community with **434 people in attendance**. We had an amazing number of volunteers devote their time to assist as families participated in Trunk or Treat, dug dinosaur eggs, completed a craft, learned about insects, and participated in other fun activities. This event would not have been possible without our amazing volunteers and community partners including:

- Dagan's Living Waters Bookstore
- Xcelsior Martial Arts
- Memphis Causeplay
- Memphis Zookeeper Meredith Bacue
- Millington Fire Department
- Millington Police Department





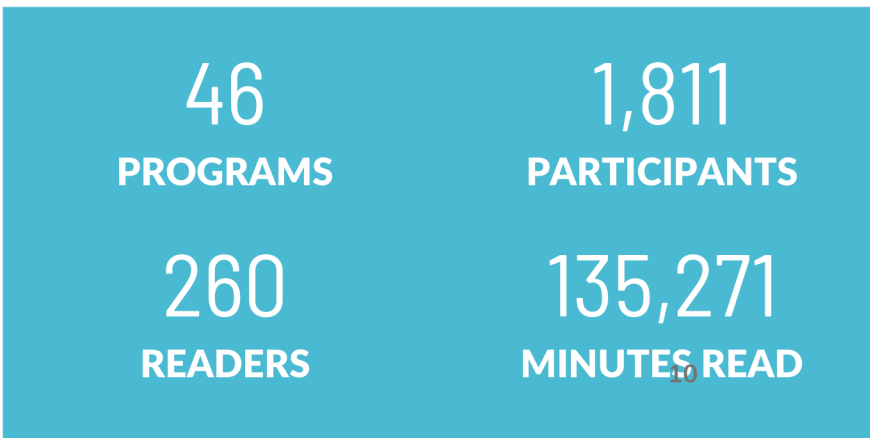
Santa at the Library

The Millington Public Library hosted some extra special guests in early December. Santa and Mrs. Claus dropped in to read *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* for **122 listeners**. Patrons also decorated cookies, enjoyed hot chocolate, and completed a scavenger hunt. Members of our community also came out to support our Teen Advisory Board (TAB), who had a Bake Sale to raise funds for teen programs. Several of our Millington teens are master bakers; they showed up with pies, cupcakes, pecan bars, and many other goodies! Our community also participated in Macy's 15th Annual "Believe" Letter Writing Campaign, collecting 48 letters to Santa.



The library more than doubled its program offerings for preschool age children this year (156 versus 69). Attendance at these programs also doubled with **2,019 attendees**. Grade school age program attendance also increased by **38%**.

SUMMER READING 2023: IMAGINE YOUR STORY



The following local businesses donated coupons and gift certificates:

- Boatwright's Pharmacy
- Xcelsior Martial Arts
- Jack's Burgers
- Buff City Soap

The Library is also thankful for our City of Memphis organizations who provided our patrons with some amazing experiences including:

- Brooks Museum of Art
- Memphis Fire Museum
- Memphis Grizzlies

Thanks to all of our Summer Reading supporters!

Millington Public Library's 2023 Imagine Your Story Summer Reading Program set many records! The Library hosted 46 programs attended by 1,811 participants. Crowds of excited children enjoyed learning about animals, experimenting with electricity, and watching a puppet show about kindness from our professional line-up of edutainers. 260 registered readers collectively read 135,271 minutes! While the Library had less readers registered this year, these readers read 84% more than last year!

The Library hosted 6 more programs in FY2022-2023 with 1,211 more attendees! We are thankful to the Millington community for supporting our Summer Reading Program by donating prizes and sponsoring programs. The Kiwanis Club of Millington is one of our most loyal supporters and provided us with \$500 for our grand prizes once again. The Library Boosters sponsored our puppet show program for a second year in a row! The total Library budget for Summer Reading was \$3,000 and the total value of all donations this year was \$4,616.



Board member Kathryn Paris and family at our Summer Reading Kickoff Party



The Library launched a new software to manage our Summer Reading Program called READSquared. All participants used this tool to register for our reading program and log their reading time in minutes. Like our former app, this technology allowed readers to earn digital badges as rewards for reaching different point levels in their six-week reading journey. Both our readers and the Library staff found READSquared to be user-friendly, and as a valuable added bonus, READSquared has an app available on Apple and Droid devices for readers to log their time while on the go. Best of all, READSquared is supplied free to all Tennessee libraries through our membership in Tenn-Share! Of course, some readers prefer to use our paper bingo sheet logs, so the Library still provides those as well.



Mr. Bond's Science Guys

Mr. Bond's Science Guys gave our summer readers and staff a "hair raising" lesson in static electricity this year! As always, the crowd of 125 attendees enjoyed Mr. Bond's fun and interactive program.

Miss Andi's Life with Animals Shows

The Life with Animals Shows brought a menagerie of animals to the Library along with two educational programs. Miss Andi actively promoted the value, conservation, and care of all creatures, and summer readers really enjoyed learning from her and petting the animals.



Stuffie Sleepover

The Library's 3rd Annual Stuffie Sleepover brought giggles for stuffed animals spending the night in the Library.



Summer Reading Grand Prize Winners

The Kiwanis Club of Millington is committed to boosting education and literacy and is Millington Public Library's most loyal supporter. This year, the Kiwanis Club provided the Library with \$500 for grand prizes for our Summer Reading Program. These funds bought three plushy prize baskets awarded by a random drawing of active participants and Kindle Fires for our top readers in each age category.



VOLUNTEERS

The Library had some amazingly talented volunteers this year, helping out with our big events including the Summer Reading Kickoff Party, Craft Times, Halloween Spooktacular, and Santa at the Library.

Local professional artists Larnell Givhan and Rochelle Miller of Rochelle's Artistic Designs donated their time to provide four Paint Night programs this year. Busy mom and hobby farmer Mikenzie House and her popular music class for preschoolers had 20 to 30 consistent attendees. Mikenzie is now busy homeschooling her little ones, but we hope to bring this class back by popular demand soon!



Teen volunteers prepping for Summer Reading Kickoff Party

Jesse Hiner, Millington Central Middle High School senior and Key Club member, shared her musical talents this year with weekly ukulele classes. The class had some regulars who enjoyed learning from their fun and professional teacher. Jesse was also an active member and leader of our TAB. She ran a Bake Sale for the Board and helped us with our Book Sale. Jesse started her first year of college at Eastern Tennessee State University this fall, and she is greatly missed at the Library.

Millington Public Library partnered with Tennessee Promise to provide a place for graduating seniors and college students to remain eligible for scholarships that cover the cost of college tuition and fees. This partnership allowed Tennessee students to obtain an Associate's degree for free at any of the state's 13 community colleges or 27 colleges of applied technology. The Library provided opportunities for these students to complete their volunteer hours by the December deadline. Since these volunteers are only required to assist for eight hours, the Library gave these students jobs including cleaning books and shelves and preparing for craft times. These students received the benefit of earning their scholarship, and the Library remained clean and organized.

Our Library relied heavily on volunteers to help make our holiday events a success. Volunteers from Naval Support Activity Mid-South (aka "the base") were invaluable helpers at our annual Halloween event. Among our other volunteers were retired teacher Nelda Finn, teaching assistant Meghan Brown, Navy officer Wei Zeng and family, Navy Officer Erik Sandbeck, and members of our Library Teen Advisory Board, their friends, and staff member Thomasina Perdue's son and daughter. Memphis zookeeper and bug lover Meredith Bacue brought her "bug zoo" along with an opportunity for kids to hold a hissing cockroach.

Xcelsior Martial Arts, Memphis Causeplay (a cosplay group that does charity events), Library Board member Kathryn Paris and family, Millington Chief of Police Chris Stokes, and the Millington Fire Department decorated their trunks and gave out tons of candy and other treats.

The Library is so thankful for the time and effort of all of these dedicated volunteers.



LIBRARY PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

Thank you to our community partners for their continued support:

- Boatwright's Pharmacy
- Buff City Soap
- Brooks Museum of Art
- Jack's Burgers
- Jesse Hiner, Ukulele Instructor
- Kiwanis Club of Millington
- Larnell Givhan, Artist
- Larry & Leanna Dagen & Dagen Living Waters Books
- Mikenzie House, Music Maestros teacher
- Memphis Fire Museum
- Memphis Grizzlies
- Meredith Bacue, Memphis Zoo
- Millington Book Chat Club
- Millington Central Middle High School Librarian Amber Carter
- Millington City Beautiful Commission, David Carter
- Millington City Finance Director Randy Hendon
- Millington Guidance Counselors, Tarique Martin and Ashleigh Currie
- Millington Fire Department
- Millington Police Department
- Millington Public Library Board & Boosters
- Millington Public Library Teen Advisory Board (LTAB)
- Millington Primary Librarian Amanda Carrico
- Millington Reading Club
- Millington YWCA, Isaac Isais
- Naval Support Activity Mid-South (NSAMS)
- Rochelle Miller of Rochelle's Artistic Designs
- Xcelsior Martial Arts