



Greenwich  
Library

2024 Annual Report

**SPREAD THE WORD**  
**ABOUT GREENWICH LIBRARY**

Make sure **EVERYONE** knows  
about the **AMAZING** things  
that are happening **HERE!**

# Message from the Library Director and Board of Trustees President

Dear Community Member,

Greenwich Library is our community's cultural commons.

Where else in Greenwich can a person borrow a digital audiobook of the latest bestseller in the morning, conduct investor research on a Bloomberg Terminal in the afternoon, and see a world-class presentation from John Meacham in the evening?

Greenwich Library has continued to maintain its place as one of our community's treasures. We say this by our success. Led by its dedicated Staff, Trustees, and Friends, the Library saw robust growth in many of its key metrics this year.

- Nearly 500,000 visitors came to one of the Library's facilities this year, averaging more than 1,300 per day.
- Nearly one million physical or digital items were borrowed by our patrons this year—representing a four percent increase.
- Over 1,800 programs and events were held this year with over 61,000 people in attendance.

This growth would not have been possible without the continued support of our community. It has allowed us to offer those materials and services our residents need as well as provide speakers, musicians, and performers that greatly enhance the educational and cultural well-being of our community. And our patrons have recognized the Library, giving it over a ninety percent satisfaction rating in all our key areas of services, collections, and programming in a recent community survey.

When you put all these elements together, it has made Greenwich Library one of the best community libraries in the country. Thank you for your continued support.

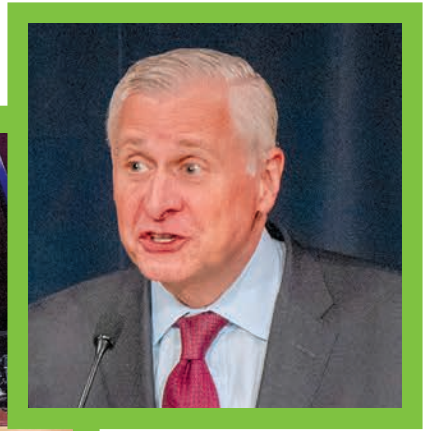
With gratitude,



Joseph Williams,  
Library Director



Ian Murray,  
President, Board of Trustees



# Tell ART Lovers

who appreciate discovering new artists, about the unique community of patrons and art aficionados they will meet at the Flinn Gallery. The Gallery presents five new shows every year.



# Tell Your FRIENDS

about the world-class concerts  
and lectures by renowned experts  
you attend at the Berkley Theater.



# Tell Your COLLEAGUES

about the subscription business databases you  
access to stay competitive and in the know, and  
the state-of-the-art equipped meeting rooms  
where you meet clients.

# Tell Your KIDS

studying for midterms and finals at Greenwich Library is a thing! When a brain break is a necessity, our Teen Librarian has snacks, games and even support animals to revive you.



# Tell Your NEIGHBORS

the Greenwich Library branches in Cos Cob and Byram are the closest thing to a community clubhouse.

# Tell Your BOOK CLUB

about Greenwich Library events that offer the opportunity to meet authors and have your book signed.



Our community depends on Greenwich Library. And, we depend on you. All Greenwich Library programs, classes, and lectures are funded entirely by charitable donations from people like you.

Thank you for your support.

The Library's mission is to provide **EXCEPTIONAL** resources, programs, and services that promote the joy of lifelong **LEARNING** and discovery, and to offer a welcoming place for people to gather and share **EXPERIENCES**.



## Highlights and Accomplishments

Greenwich Library staff continue to work on the goals set forth in our three-year strategic plan, *Greenwich Library Reconnects*. The Library's mission remains to provide exceptional resources, programs, and services that promote the joy of lifelong learning and discovery, and to offer a welcoming place for people to gather and share experiences.

The following are key projects and notable highlights of the reporting period:

### **Collections:**

- Created a Young Adult Middle School collection especially curated for Grades 6 to 8.
- Relocated and refreshed the French language collection to the Byram Shubert Branch Library, creating space to expand Spanish, Japanese, and Chinese collections at the Main Library.
- Conducted a diversity audit of Library collections and developed additional parameters to ensure that purchased materials meet strategic goals.

### **Programming:**

- Offered exceptional programming including conversations, concerts, and performances enjoyed by consistently full houses in the Berkley Theater. Notable programs included:
  - Signature Series: David Leonhardt in conversation with Jacob Weisberg
  - Children's AuthorsLive: Jennifer L. Holm
  - Friends Performing Arts: Pilobolus
  - Musicians from Marlboro
  - Signature Series: Jon Meacham
  - Flinn Gallery Legacy Lecture: Blake Gopnik on Andy Warhol

### **Spaces & Facilities:**

- Analyzed data concerning the Library's environmental footprint to develop an action plan, including plans to purchase a brand-new electric Book Van, a generous gift from the Friends of Greenwich Library.
- Finalized a plan for the renovation and expansion of the Cos Cob Branch based upon community feedback.

### **Services:**

- Developed a patron services committee to study how to streamline and make the patron experience seamless.
- Relunched in-person book delivery to senior residential facilities post-COVID. Explored ways to provide patrons with more personalized service tailored to their specific needs.

## Statistics and Highlights

This fiscal year saw tremendous increases in key Library statistics. From July 2023 to June 2024 the Library system saw 492,305 visits, averaging more than 1,300 visits per day. This represents an 8% increase in visits from the 457,667 visits of the prior year.

### Other key statistics underscore this trend:

- Total circulation continues to increase to over 962,331 materials borrowed per year, an increase of 4% over the previous year.
- Reference assistance continues to be valued by our patrons: Technology Questions (+7%) and Reader's Advisory (+9%) were up year-over-year.
- We increased the number of in-person public programs systemwide by 8% (from 1,722 to 1,852), and in-person attendance followed suit, increasing from 60,762 to 65,181, up 7% year-over-year.
- The number of programs for Teens increased 62% and attendance increased 166% from 1,256 to 3,338 participants.
- Museum pass usage continues to increase with a 23% jump from 1,108 to 1,368.
- Circulation to elderly, nursing, and homebound patrons increased 119% from 1,740 to 3,804.

### Circulation of digital materials increased in all areas:

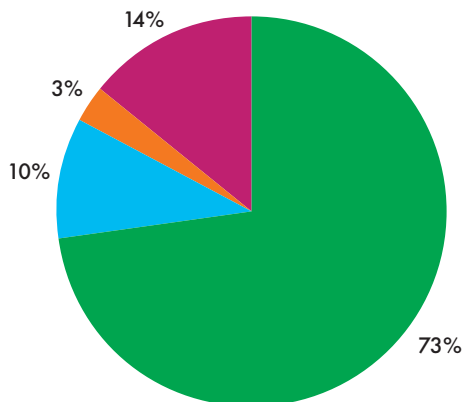
- eBook circulation increased 5%  
The most-borrowed eBooks of the year were *Lessons In Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus, *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano, *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese, *Happy Place* by Emily Henry, and *Solito: A Memoir* by Javier Zamora.
- eAudiobook checkouts increased 17%  
The most borrowed eAudiobooks of the year were the same as the eBooks.
- Patron use of streaming video remained largely stable with a 1% increase to 26,981.
- Digital periodical use saw a big increase of 166% from 23,198 to 61,637.

## Sources of Funding

Greenwich Library has a long history of public-private partnership.

### SOURCES OF FUNDS

- Town
- Peterson Foundation
- Friends of Greenwich Library
- Other Private Funding



The annual operating budget is funded by the Town of Greenwich, while the Board of Trustees Development Office and the Friends of Greenwich Library raise private funds to support Library programs and initiatives. The Friends of Byram Shubert Library and the Friends of Cos Cob Library provide additional program funding.

A long-standing private endowment comes from the Clementine L. Peterson Foundation. The Foundation was established under the will of Clementine L. Peterson in memory of her son, Jonathan, and her husband, J. Whitney Peterson. Peterson Foundation Trustees exclusively govern the investment plan and distribution of funds. The annual distribution is used for operating and staffing costs of the Peterson wing, as well as for enhancing business and music collections and services.

**All PROGRAMS** for children,  
teens, adults and seniors  
are funded entirely by  
**CHARITABLE** donations from  
people like **YOU.**

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Christina Turiano Sander  
Sydney and Peter Uhry  
Alma Weinberg  
Marina and John Yoegel

# Opening Night Celebration 2023

Kim Aanonsen	Melissa Grieco	Malaine Miller and Jonathan Perloe	Sophia Tawil and Frederick Wesner
Hector Arzeno	Karen Grinthal	Mitchells / Richards	Aimee Telsey
Francie and Hank Ashforth	Erika Hall	Salvatore Molluzzo	Joan and Sudip Thakor
Erika Banks	Mary Shaw Halsey and Rob Marks	Edward Mortimer	Trapp Optical
Lee Barney	Lauren Hampton	Bennett Mosse	Marilyn Tucker-Viselli
Ellen Barolak	Karin Hansen	Ronda Muir	Elizabeth Walker
Betsy Benenson	Kelley and Chip Haslun	Ian Murray	Svetlana Wasserman
Janet and Robert Bodey	Tom Heagney	Barbara Netter	Monica Webster
Sarah Boyle	Nancy Heller	Stacey Clarfield Newman	Charlotte Weinberg
Jane Brash	Deborah Herrington	Dianne Niklaus	Nancy Weissler
Elisabeth Brivic	Julie Honig	Helen Nitkin	Evie Wen and Seung Bak
Mary-Jane Brogan	Michelle Horgan	Old Greenwich Wine Merchants	Laura White
Rosario Brooks	Maryam Horri	Barbara Ormerod-Glynn	Helaine and Jonathan Winer
Jun and Matt Brumberg	Il Pastaficio	Stuart Orrick	Elizabeth York
Marissa Brust	Siri Jacobson	Roxann Painter	Mary-Ann Zalman
Jessica Bryant	Kerri Jaffe	Martha and Steve Palmer	Janet Zibelli
Joan and Christopher Carter	Vinita Juneja	Renata and Chintan Panchal	Carol Zuckert
Hong Chen	Peggy Edersheim Kalb and Scott Kalb	Harriet Papa	
Alexandra and Larry Codraro	Ashod Kassabian	Mary Park	
Mary Corson	Karen and Dennis Keegan	Wendy Pei	
Constance Cowen	Pam and Doug Kelly	Laura Petit	
Judith Crystal	Sheila Kendrick	Denise Petrone	
Anne Noel Dawson	Renee Ketcham	Elizabeth Petty	
Andrea and Lou DeBergalis	Mary Kirk	Sharon and Barney Phillips	
Teresa Delany	Alvina Kwan	Kirsten and Andrew Pitts	
Wynne Delmhorst	Aie Teck Lau	Katherine Plavan	
Cynthia and Mark De Riemer	Donna Laviolette	Caren Polner	
Eileen Deschappelles	Hilary Martin Lea	Lolly Prince	
Diane's Books	Mary Ellen LeBien	Carol Ravera	
Joellen Doyle	Carol Lissauer	Nicole Reynolds	
Lisa Edmundson	Bey-Shan and Eric Liu	Barbara Richards	
Suzanne Ellison	Sally and Phil Lochner	Karen Rider	
Laura and Dave Erickson	Cricket and Jim Lockhart	Deborah Ross	
Courtney Evans	Kathy Lovesey	Karen Royce	
Patricia Fahey	Bunny Lukas	Geri and Mike Rubenstein	
Barbara Fenton and Bruce Croaning	Valerie Malley	Isabelle Schiavi	
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Debra Fram and Eric Schwartz	Kathy and Chris McCormack	Chrissy and Pete Schwartzstein	
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Jennifer and Michael Freitag	Mary Joan McKiernan	Diana and Scott Seaton	
Karin Fry	Angenette and Bob Meaney	Sonal Seth	
Ellen Fullerton	Abby Meiselman and Ken Bloom	Jane Snowdon	
Ron Gardner	Mary Melvin	Catherine Stathakopoulos	
Lynn Garelick	Laura Meyer	Valerie Stauffer	
Marty and Jeff Gendell	Virginia and Juan Meyer	Catherine Streiff	
Beth Gilliland	Deborah Michals	Jodi Stuart and Ivan Mattei	
Debra Graham	Marsha and Ken Mifflin	Carmen Suarez	
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Leslee Asch and Will Morrison  
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R. Ellen and John Avellino  
Jennifer and Michael Baldock  
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Berkley One  
Nancy and James Better  
Susan Bevan  
Vera and John Blankley  
Janet and Robert Bodey  
Kerri Breed  
Andrew Bronin  
Rosario Brooks  
Jun and Matt Brumberg  
Thomas Brust  
Dasha Burns  
Anna and Alex Buzik  
The Clementine L. Peterson  
Foundation  
Jill and James Cobbs  
Alexandra and  
Lawrence F. Codraro, Jr.  
Mary Corson  
Adrienne Coyle  
Dalio Philanthropies  
David Darst  
Marna and Charles Davis  
Laura Davis  
Angelique and  
William F. Dawson, Jr.  
Anne Noel and Alec Dawson  
Wynne and Arthur Delmhorst  
Elizabeth and Burke Dempsey  
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Donna de Varona and John Pinto  
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Jessica and Bob Fitzsimmons  
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Ralf Hirt  
Tracy and Mark Holton  
Michael Horgan  
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Jamie and Charles Jobin  
Laurie Josephs and Josh Brain  
Peggy Edersheim Kalb  
and Scott Kalb  
Karen and Dennis Keegan  
Renee Amory Ketcham  
Gail Khosla  
Page and John Knox  
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Armel Romeo Kouassi  
Carl R. Kuehner, III  
Catherine Ladnier and  
Mickey Robinson  
Maggie and Chris Lange  
Lin and Tracy Lavery  
Sally Lawrence  
Hilary Martin Lea  
Mary Ellen LeBien  
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Serena and John Liew  
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