



thegdl.org

Annual Report



Message from the Director

Dear Friends,

Genesee District Library strives to serve you with the very best library staff available.

In our branches, we have a variety of employees and volunteers who provide top-notch service. Eighteen of our 19 branches have a dedicated librarian who holds a Master of Library Science degree. We also have a Digital Services Librarian, Business Librarian, Youth Services Librarian, and a Talking Book Center Librarian, who works closely with the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled. These Librarians have studied and trained in specialties so that they may provide our patrons with the highest level of knowledge and service.

Our Library Assistants have 4-year degrees and have benefited from working alongside our librarians. Our Pages bring a wide variety of educational backgrounds and skill sets to the job, as well.

We are grateful for our volunteers, some of whom belong to our Friends groups. And lastly, we have the same high standards for our program presenters who provide knowledge, story times, music, entertainment, and fun for our patrons.

So, the next time you visit a Genesee District Library, you will be assisted by a highly educated, skilled, caring, friendly and helpful group of people. We want only the best for our patrons.

Sincerely,
David Conklin, Library Director

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About the Genesee District Library

The Genesee District Library (GDL) is a public library system serving the residents of Genesee County, Michigan. Our service area covers all communities within the county with the exception of the City of Flint, which is served by the Gloria Coles Flint Public Library.

The GDL system consists of 19 locations and includes services such as the Robert T. Bolo Business Center (Grand Blanc-McFarlen), the Talking Book Center and Homebound Service (Headquarters), and three Seed Libraries (Fenton-Winegarden, Montrose-Jennings, Forest Township).

In a normal year, over one million visits are made annually to the GDL for books, movies, music, technology and programs. Residents within our service area also have online access to books and music.

The GDL was formed on January 1, 1980 through a partnership between Genesee County and Grand Blanc Township. It is governed by an eight-member volunteer board. Funding is provided through a .7481 county-wide millage (excluding the City of Flint). An additional 0.25 mills was approved on May 2, 2011. The millage was renewed in August of 2016 by a 3-to-1 margin. The remaining revenue comes from fees and fines, state aid, grants and gifts.

Friends of the Library

Generous. Enthusiastic. Dedicated. The Genesee District Library is fortunate to have several wonderful Friends groups that support our libraries in dozens of ways. We are grateful for their service:

- Baker Park Friends Group
- Vera B. Rison Library Friends
- Friends of the Burton Memorial Library
- Friends of the Clio Area Library
- Fenton Library Board
- Friends of the Fenton-Winegarden Library
- Friends of the Flushing Area Library
- Friends of the Forest Township Library
- Friends of the Johnson Library
- Friends of the Goodrich Library
- Friends of the Grand Blanc-McFarlen Library
- Linden Library Board
- Friends of the Montrose-Jennings Library
- Friends of the Mt. Morris Library
- Friends of the Perkins Library

Board of Trustees



*Library Director
David Conklin*



*Linda
Ryals-Massey,
Chairman*



*Dale Hostetler,
Vice Chairman*



*Joan Towarnicky,
Secretary*



*Valaria
Conerly-Moon,
Trustee*



*Robert Crites,
Treasurer*

Not Pictured

*Todd Barnes, Trustee
Fred Hines, Trustee*

Years of Service



5 Years

Left to Right: Norma Wells, Carla Gorney, Les Rout, Baptiste Irvin, Addy Anderson, Brad Willis, Sonya Harrison



10 Years

Left to Right: Debbie Bohmier, Alger Newberry, Brian Cutter, Dave Conklin



15 Years

Johnnie Jones



20 Years

Kara Yater



25 Years

Left to Right: Theo Christopher, Tracy Carlton

Above & Beyond Award



Youth Services Librarian Heather Harrison was presented with the 2023 Above & Beyond Award at the annual In-service at U of M Flint Banquet Center on October 9.

In-Service Entertainment



At the Staff In-service on October 9, Vaughn Mortimer, Delivery Driver, and Johnnie Jones, Library Assistant, provided entertainment by singing a comedy spoof on the song, Sounds of Silence, referencing noise in libraries.

Volunteers Make a Difference

Genesee District Library is happy to welcome volunteers into our branches. The GDL had five active branch volunteers in 2023, and they contributed 214.5 hours. Warmest thanks to these volunteers!

TAG Volunteers

The Teen Action Group (TAG) is a group of teen volunteers who help with a variety of youth library programming including volunteering at programs (set-up/clean-up, help with crafts and activities), suggesting teen programs and services, and assisting with the planning of teen programs. TAG had 10 active members in 2023 and they contributed a total of 321 hours to Genesee District Library. Warmest thanks to our teen volunteers!

SRC Statistics

2,809 People Registered

1,669 Active Readers

1,757,832
Minutes Spent Reading

1,520 Book Reviews Submitted

971 Completions

29,754 Badges Earned

963 Participants (33%)
Completed the Challenge

164 Prizes Given Away

421 Completion Book Prizes

17.5 Average Hours Read
by Active Readers

Summer Reading Challenge

The All Together Now Summer Reading Challenge ran from June 10 to August 5. There were 164 total prizes given away in prize drawings and 421 prize books given away for completions.

More Reading Challenges

In addition to the Summer Reading Challenge, GDL held a reading challenge in September to celebrate National Library Card Signup Month, a Winter Reading Challenge, and a March is Reading Month Challenge.

National Library Card Signup Month

In 1987, Secretary of Education William Bennett stated: "Let's have a campaign ... Every child should obtain a library card and use it." In that spirit, GDL once again promoted a September campaign to encourage library card signups:

1. Reached out to all Genesee County schools to assist them in obtaining cards for all of their students.
2. Offered a free GDL cloth tote bag or lunch bag to anyone who came into the branch to sign up for a library card between September 1–30.
3. Entered those people in a drawing to win an Apple iPad.

Programming Highlights

1,151 Total In-Person Programs
28,578 Attendees

33 Virtual Programs
8,302 Viewers

28 Take & Make Kits
2,156 Patrons Served

60 Outreach Events
5,262 People Reached

57 Library Visits
2,716 People Visiting

Grand Total Programs—1,184

**Grand Total
Patrons Served—36,880**

In September, the Genesee District Library issued 1,068 new library cards to patrons, compared to the monthly average of 773.



*Black History Month Brunch with
Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II and
emcee Matt Franklin from ABC12.*

Black History Celebration

The 22nd Annual Black History Month Brunch was held on Saturday, February 4, 2023, at Genesys Conference & Banquet Center with 500 guests attending. Awards of Excellence were presented to Norman Bryant, Dr. Shane Jackson, and Sgt. Tanya Meeks. The Partner in Progress Award was presented to Flint Odyssey House. Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II spoke, Nikki Giovanni provided the keynote address, Gwen Pennyman-Hemphill and the Kuungana African Drum & Dance Company performed. Matt Franklin from ABC12 emceed the event.

In 2023, 2,015 Niche Academy tutorials were viewed on our website, making it easier than ever for patrons to access our digital services.

Gifts & Donations

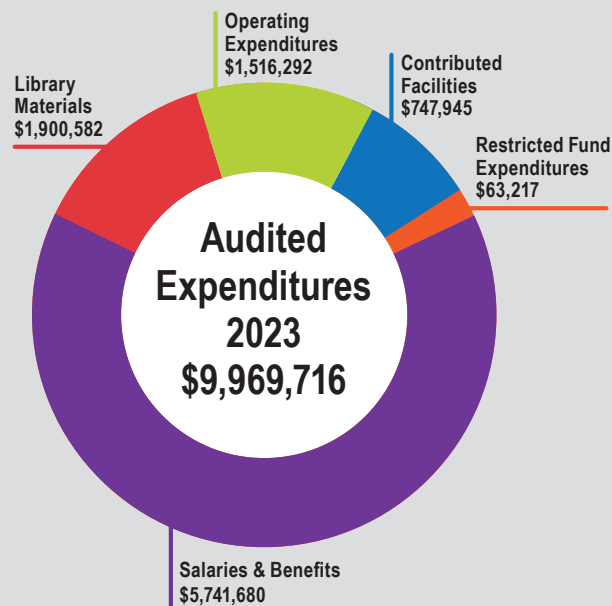
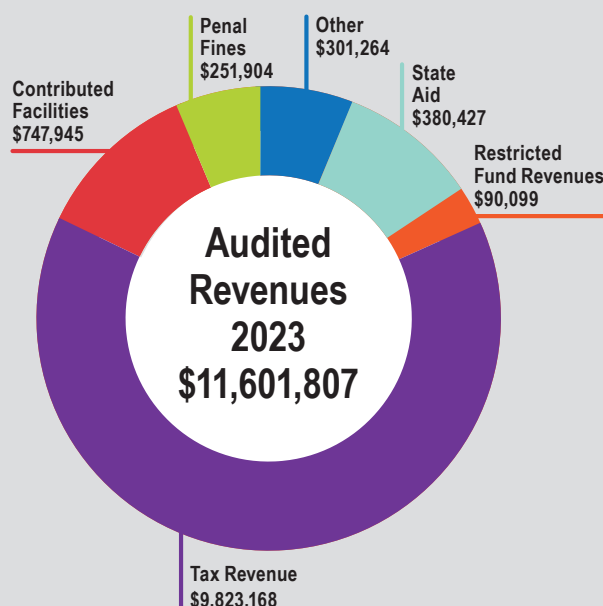
Thanks to the following people and organizations for giving generously to the Genesee District Library in 2023:

- Adams, Gay S & William
- Allen, Yetiva
- Anthony, David & Kathryn
- Bailey, Archie
- Bayview Club of Fenton
- Beito, Michael & Diane Banyas
- Bond, Joanne
- Bowman, Brandi
- Bueby, David & Kay
- Burk, Patricia
- Burton Memorial Library Friends
- Calandro, Mary & Nick
- Chapman, David
- Clapp, Melba
- Clark, Paul & Sharon
- Cole, Tina
- Cooper, Bridgett
- Corcoran, Shirley
- Crawford III, James B.
- Desai, Bonnie
- Dunlap, Elaine
- Dunn, Colleen
- Flushing Women's Club
- Fogelsonger, Gina
- Friends of the Clio Area Library
- Friends of the Fenton Library
- Friends of the McFarlen Public Library
- Golden, Frances & Mayo Family
- Grand Blanc Care & Library Bridge-A-Rama
- Hartranft, Lois
- Haver, Fred
- Johnson, Cherie & John
- Johnson, Ms.
- Kennedy-Jacob, Mary; Elizabeth L., Cori S, Kelly S., Julie W.
- Lauterbach, Lori & Staff of Ascension Genesys Medical Procedure Unit
- Linder, Suzanne
- McCluskey, Heidi
- Mikolay, Kristine
- Moody, Marla
- Mt. Morris Historical Society
- Murphy, Darla
- Owens, Adam & MaryAnn
- Palm, Gregory
- Price, Alson & Virginia
- Price, Lowell
- Reed Jr., Dr. Donald N.
- Rhoades, Tim
- Rogers, Janie
- Ryva, George & Maxine
- Scheidemantel, Marilyn
- Shantaram, Rajagopal
- Sharp, Angela
- Smalley, Jane
- Spaven, Sharon & Nicolle Lasota
- Taylor, Douglas Charles
- Turnbow, Scott
- Wentworth, Craig & Barbara
- West, Brian
- Zindalhadid, Bayan
- Zuger, Laura & co-workers in the Flint Pod

Community Partnerships

We have many valuable partnerships throughout Genesee County. Some are new, and some are long established:

- Argentine Early Learning Center
- Atherton Elementary School
- Baron's Fest, Gaines
- Burton Senior Center
- Carman-Ainsworth Head Start
- Carman-Ainsworth Senior Center
- CASES – Community Approaches to Strengthening Economic Supports
- Central Elementary School, Davison
- City of Grand Blanc
- City of Linden
- Cook Elementary School
- Davison Senior Center
- Delta College Public Media, Michigan
- Learning Channel
- Dillon Elementary
- Dowdall Elementary School
- Eisenhower Elementary
- Erik Jones Foundation
- Federal Communications Commission/ Affordable Connectivity Program
- First Student
- Flint & Genesee Literacy Network
- Flushing Community Schools
- Flushing Early Childhood Center
- Flushing Senior Center
- Food Bank of Eastern Michigan
- For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum
- Gaines Elementary (Head Start)
- GCCARD Head Start
- Genesee Community Health Center
- Genesee County Board of Commissioners
- Genesee County Parks & Recreation
- Genesee Health System
- Genesee County Juvenile Justice Center
- Genesee Intermediate School District
- GISD Career Coaching
- GISD Literacy Birth-3rd Grade and School Readiness
- Gloria Coles Flint Public Library
- Grand Blanc Community Schools
- Grand Blanc High School (Trades II Class)
- Grand Blanc Senior Center
- Greater Flint Health Coalition—Connecting Kids to Coverage
- Greater Flint Health Coalition—Flint Water Crisis
- Great Start Collaborative and GISD Center for County-Wide Programs
- Great Start Readiness Program
- Hamady Elementary School
- Hamady Middle School
- Hill-McCloy High School
- Hyatt Elementary School
- KinderCare Learning Center, Fenton
- Lake Fenton Middle School
- Linden Charter Academy
- Linden Elementary School
- McLaren Health Care
- McMonagle Elementary School
- Michigan Financial Wellness Network
- Michigan State University Extension
- Mott Community College
- Mt. Morris Head Start
- New Standard Academy
- North Road Elementary School
- Northridge Academy
- Parents As Teachers, Perry Center, Grand Blanc
- Pawsitive Changes Therapy Dogs, Inc.
- Perry Innovation Center
- Randels Elementary School
- Reid Elementary School
- State Representative John D. Cherry
- St. John Preschool
- St. Robert School, Flushing
- Swartz Creek Senior Center
- Syring Elementary School
- Tomek-Eastern Elementary School (Fenton Head Start)
- United Way of Genesee County
- Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid
- WJRT ABC12
- World of Wonder, Fenton



Return on Investment (ROI)

	Circulation/Use	Estimated Value	Cost
Print Books	446,596	\$31.25	\$13,956,125
Magazines	4,124	\$8.50	\$35,054
Audio Books	4,988	\$30.00	\$149,640
DVD/Bluray	154,389	\$24.00	\$3,705,336
Playaway View	74	\$79.00	\$5,846
Playaway Launch Pad	573	\$110.00	\$63,030
PC usage	50,183	\$15.00	\$752,745
eBooks	242,701	\$15.00	\$3,640,515
eMagazines	25,992	\$7.50	\$194,940
Database Search	71,752	\$21.00	\$1,506,792
eMusic	115,972	\$1.29	\$149,604
eVideo	5,347	\$3.99	\$21,335
eAudio	171,171	\$30.00	\$5,135,130
Interloan Requests	21,185	\$30.00	\$635,550
Total			\$29,951,641

Operating Budget \$9,969,716

ROI Summary

For every \$1 spent on the library it provides \$3.00 in services.

Introducing the Genesee District Library Story Book Trails

In partnership with Grand Blanc Township, the City of Linden, the Grand Blanc High School Trades II class, and the Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative, Genesee District Library opened two Story Book Trails. One is in Eagles Wooden Park in Linden, and the other is in Rust Park in Grand Blanc.



Eagles Wooden Park, Linden

GDL vs. Peer Libraries

Library	Service Population	Branches	Hours Open	FTEs	Millage Rate	Per Capita Spending	Annual Budget
KDL	439,194	18	19,841	220.93	1.28	\$58.46	\$25,673,919
GDL	334,609	19	28,385	81.95	0.9981	\$29.05	\$9,721,889
CADL	244,451	14	24,621	139.13	1.53	\$49.55	\$12,111,570
GCFPL	81,252	1	1,821	28.39	4	\$55.16	\$4,482,161

(KDL – Kent District Library, CADL – Capital Area District Libraries, GCFPL – Gloria Coles Flint Public Library); 2022 State Aid Report data

Circulation

BRANCH	2023	2022	%
Baker Park	18,530	20,512	-9.66%
Beecher-Vera B. Rison	13,593	15,613	-12.94%
Burton Memorial	28,247	28,450	-0.71%
Clio Area	47,348	47,380	-0.07%
Davison Area	87,865	90,056	-2.43%
Fenton-Winegarden	62,935	63,823	-1.39%
Flint Township-McCarty	19,960	17,300	15.38%
Flushing Area	41,343	42,714	-3.21%
Forest Township	18,631	18,884	-1.34%
Gaines Station	1,990	2,151	-7.48%
Genesee-Johnson	16,051	16,587	-3.23%
Genesee Valley Center	6,945	14,703	-52.76%
Goodrich	13,906	14,765	-5.82%
Grand Blanc-McFarlen	122,461	121,933	0.43%
Linden	22,526	23,408	-3.77%
Montrose-Jennings	18,916	21,947	-13.81%
Mt. Morris	23,122	23,434	-1.33%
Swartz Creek-Perkins	24,454	24,047	1.69%
William F. Delaney Headquarters	35,545	36,045	-1.39%
Talking Book Center	29,454	40,226	-26.78%
Physical Items Total	653,822	683,978	-4.41%
eDatabases	71,752	66,239	8.32%
eAudio	227,717	189,730	20.02%
eBooks	242,701	228,790	6.08%
eVideo	5,347	5,924	-9.74%
eMusic	115,972	95,725	21.15%
eMagazines	25,992	12,572	106.75%
Digital Items Total	689,481	598,980	15.11%
Grand Total	1,343,303	1,282,958	4.70%

Visits & Access

BRANCH	2023	2022	%
Baker Park	20,517	20,980	-2.21%
Beecher-Vera B. Rison	14,685	16,600	-11.54%
Burton Memorial	26,786	24,433	9.63%
Clio Area	30,457	28,915	5.33%
Davison Area	53,919	48,510	11.15%
Fenton-Winegarden	55,790	52,150	6.98%
Flint Township-McCarty	20,897	16,314	28.09%
Flushing Area	35,999	34,305	4.94%
Forest Township	21,426	15,481	38.40%
Gaines Station	1,118	970	15.26%
Genesee-Johnson	10,386	10,160	2.22%
Genesee Valley Center	14,107	33,064	-57.33%
Goodrich	17,492	16,679	4.87%
Grand Blanc-McFarlen	104,723	90,390	15.86%
Linden	23,572	23,014	2.42%
Montrose-Jennings	19,579	19,713	-0.68%
Mt. Morris	15,979	14,738	8.42%
Swartz Creek-Perkins	32,097	29,718	8.01%
William F. Delaney Headquarters	39,153	31,862	22.88%
Physical Visits Total	558,682	527,996	5.81%
Virtual Visits Total	659,331	904,793	-27.13%
Grand Total	1,218,013	1,432,789	-14.99%
PC Usage (Logins)	71,065	72,213	-1.59%
PC Usage (Hours)	50,183	53,750	-6.64%
Wifi Logins	62,209	36,747	69.29%



GENESEE DISTRICT LIBRARY

Vision

To be a community destination for traditional and modern resources, which empower and enrich the communities we serve.

Mission

We will provide our local communities with access to informative, entertaining, educational, and culturally enriching resources, while maintaining a high standard of fiscal responsibility.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Genesee District Library is committed to embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). GDL recognizes collective identities and differences, visible and invisible, that make up a person or community are integral in the growth and strengthening of the communities we serve.

GDL strives for the assurance of fair treatment and equal outcomes for all, while understanding that some groups have been historically underserved and underrepresented. GDL endeavors to increase opportunities and eliminate barriers for these groups of people.

GDL operates on the basic philosophy of creating environments where any individual or group is welcomed, respected, supported, and valued. By showing respect in both words and actions we will embrace our communities' differences and ensure our libraries are an inclusive resource for everyone.

The ideals of DEI will be applied throughout our services, collections, and programs. We believe that DEI enriches the lives of our communities across Genesee County, and we are dedicated to upholding these ideals by creating an inclusive, welcoming, and respectful culture that appreciates and supports individual differences.

thegdl.org