

2023 Annual Report



A YEAR OF GROWTH & FUN

Black Earth Public Library spent 2023 focusing on reestablishing the library as a community hub, where patrons can find leisure, information, community, and support. Through our programming, collections, and marketing, the focus on creating opportunities for fun, enrichment, and more carried through 2023 and is reflected by the annual report.

In-person program attendance nearly tripled from 2022, in part because of the nearly 100 more programs offered in 2023.



2,610

IN-PERSON
PROGRAM
ATTENDANCE



173

IN-PERSON
PROGRAMS
OFFERED



179

VIEWS OF PRE-
RECORDED
VIRTUAL
PROGRAMS

No new pre-recorded programs were created in 2023. This number reflects views of pre-recorded programs from 2022 and earlier.



In-Person Programming

In 2023, the library focused on providing robust in-person programming, including:

- Book discussions for adults
- Lego Club
- Teen Writer's Circle
- Storytime
- Toddler Art
- Local Author Fair
- Teen Escape Room
- Battle of the Books
- and much more!

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AN EYE ON COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Yearly large maintenance projects across all library collections means collections remain relevant, attractive, and informative, encouraging browsing. The Library Director, Youth Services Librarian, and Circulation Manager worked together in 2023 to accomplish these projects and write a Collection Development Plan to guide future projects of this type.

↪ **14,628**

PHYSICAL
MATERIALS IN
OUR
COLLECTION

↪ **21,287**

TOTAL
CIRCULATION

↪ **757**

ITEMS ADDED
TO THE
COLLECTION

What happens to materials that have been deselected?

All items deselected from the library collection find a second life by being donated to the Friends of the Black Earth Public Library.

Deselection occurs using a set of criteria outlined in the Collection Development Policy on the Black Earth Public Library website.

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WELCOMING SPACES

2023 was about outreach, and letting everyone in the community know about our services, staff, collections, programs, and more. We spent 2023 telling everyone about the library, and our statistics reflect the increased awareness through an increase in the number of visits and reference transactions.



↪ **19,038** VISITS

↪ **1,019** REGISTERED USERS

↪ **676** REFERENCE TRANSACTIONS

Getting connected at the library

Providing computer and broadband access is an integral part of Black Earth Public Library's services and mission.

881 PUBLIC COMPUTER USES

72,218 PUBLIC WI-FI USES

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DIGITAL & TO-GO SERVICES

We had a huge increase in in-person programming in 2023, and we also worked to provide self-directed activities and robust online services available to our patrons with their library card, including databases, streaming services, and more. Increased awareness for those services has led to a sharp uptick in their use.



792

PARTICIPANTS
IN SELF-DIRECTED
ACTIVITIES



5,033

USES OF
ELECTRONIC
MATERIALS



243,144

ITEMS
AVAILABLE
THROUGH
ELECTRONIC
COLLECTIONS

What are self-directed activities?

Self-directed activities are "planned, independent activities available for a definite time period which introduce participants to any of the broad range of library services or activities that directly provide information to participants." In short, self-directed activities are grab n' go kits! At Black Earth Public Library, this includes:

- Kids Grab Bags
- Adult Take & Makes
- Pipe Cleaner Flower kits

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REVENUES

Village of Black Earth:	\$133,657
Dane County Reimbursements:	\$ 60,879
Other County Reimbursements:	
Green County	\$198
Iowa County	\$2,218
Columbia County	\$29
Sauk County	\$245
Grants Received:	
SCLS Youth Literacy Grant	\$424
e-Rate reimbursement	\$96
Continuing Education Grant	\$526
 Total Operating Income:	 \$219,526

EXPENDITURES

Salaries & Wages:	\$112,742
Benefits:	\$15,055
Library Materials:	\$23,826
Contracted Services:	\$14,432
Other Expenditures:	\$39,079
 Total Operating Expenses:	 \$205,134

LIBRARY STAFF

Bailey Anderson	Library Director
Kirsten Rogers	Youth Services Librarian
Michelle Zander	Circulation Manager
Miles Varichak	Library Assistant
Donna Vought	Library Assistant
Maureen Frame	Substitute Library Assistant
Murilo Alves Zacareli	Substitute Library Asst.
Riley Lynch	Substitute Library Assistant
Heidi Sherman	Library Page
Felicity Crowe	Library Page
Brenna Schuetz	Library Page

LIBRARY BOARD

Gary Schuetz	President/Treasurer
Linda Colby	Vice President/Secretary
Anne Moore	School Representative
Sarah Morrow	Village Representative
Dylan Helmenstine	Trustee