

ANNUAL REPORT



SCRANTON LIBRARY
MADISON, CT

2020/2021

let us connect you



Dear Friends,

On July 1, 2020 we planned to roll out the red-carpet for a grand reopening ceremony to mark the completion of the renovated and expanded library building and to celebrate the 120th anniversary of Scranton Library. Instead, we reopened the Library during a global pandemic and spent the next twelve months navigating uncharted waters with the primary goal of providing a safe environment while staying true to our mission.

In retrospect, the convergence of the reopening and a global pandemic seem serendipitous. The larger square footage was perfect for social distancing and improved ventilation delivered exceptional air quality throughout the day. Plentiful spaces allowed for the continued delivery of services, new technology permitted virtual and hybrid gatherings, and private tours of the new building established meaningful relationships.

As you will see in this report, a lot was accomplished in the face of strong headwinds and we are immensely proud of our Scranton Library team for supporting each other and constantly pivoting and innovating to stay relevant while welcoming the community back safely.

We are also reminded of how fortunate Scranton Library is to have such dedicated and loyal supporters. Thank you for inspiring us, supporting us, and for joining us as we reopened the Library together.

Thanks to the essential framework and resources that were in place, Scranton Library did celebrate a successful reopening and 120th year. Now as we forge ahead, we welcome your ideas, your suggestions, your complaints and criticisms, your hopes and dreams. By uniting our efforts, we will grow and thrive while meeting the needs of the community we serve.

See you at the Library!

Sunnie Scarpa, Library Director & Nicole Wiles, Board President

WELCOME BACK



“

The public library is where place and possibility meet.

*-Stuart Dybek,
Award-winning Author & Poet*

From left: Dave Osborn, Timothy Crowley, Ford Schumann, and David Schumann of the Schumann Foundation, Scranton Board of Trustees President Nicole Wiles, former Scranton Library director Sandy Long, current Library Director Sunnie Scarpa, and First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons at the Children's Library dedication.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for all Madison residents by providing access to information, fostering lifelong educational and cultural learning, and cultivating relationships among our residents through the exchange of ideas.

2020/2021 YEAR IN REVIEW



Sheila Chagnon, one of our first "Take Out & Delivery" customers in July, 2020.



Members of the Davis family on a library tour.



Summer reading participants Claire & Jacob.



Staff modeling social distancing guidelines.

Monday, July 13th - Our contactless "Take Out & Delivery" hold pick up service began at 801 Boston Post Road, just 3 business days after receiving our Certificate of Occupancy!

July & August - In lieu of a grand re-opening party we welcomed over 300 community members to view our expanded facility via self-guided, COVID safe library tours. Our Children's Department ran a fully virtual Summer Reading program for kids, with innovative take home kits and exciting prize incentives.

September - We successfully re-opened the building for library use by appointment after completing a certificate of compliance with the Governor's extensive sector guidelines.

October & November - Our new podcast "Scranton Talks" was launched in order to connect Madison community members through shared interests and new information. Hours were expanded and open access was restored.

December - By the end of the calendar year, we had racked up some impressive statistics. 22,584 physical items (books, DVD's, magazines) were checked out via "Take Out & Delivery." Another 19,565 items were borrowed via digital download (audio and Ebooks, movies, music, & periodicals). Virtual programming was immensely popular with over 17,913 people participating in just six months' time.



One of our top rated episodes of Scranton Talks - the Scranton Library podcast.

“

The varied and creative virtual adult activities that have been offered during the pandemic have been lifelines for many in the community.

- Sunday Movie Matinee participants

Keep up the excellent work!! So appreciated!

-Adult Programming survey response

YEAR IN REVIEW CONTINUED



Librarian Rachel Taylor presented a virtual cocktail program in Feb 2021.



Our new tent made programs like this dog licensing event possible!

Borrow a bocce game from the Library of Things!

Games loan for 2 weeks. Check one out this spring!

Staff demonstrate how to use the bocce ball kit from our "Library of Things".



Custodians Nick and Ray joined us in May, 2021.

January & February - We continued to present and expand innovative virtual programming that served to connect community members throughout a spike in COVID infections and a period of difficult isolation for many.

March - Scranton Library Friends, Inc. donated an amazing tent to cover our patio and make possible a plethora of outdoor programs and activities, including the return of their very popular used book sales!

April - Our "Library of Things" launched, making it possible for anyone with a library card to borrow unconventional items like laptops, tablets, chess sets, binoculars, lawn games, and more. New items are added regularly in response to community feedback and requests.

May - A mid-year special appropriation of funds from the town made it possible for us to hire two part-time custodians, Nick and Ray. With their help providing continual cleaning throughout the day, we were able to expand both hours and services, while remaining in compliance with the Governor's sector guidelines.

June - Library use soared in the last month of the fiscal year thanks to vaccination rates going up and infection rates going down. The library is now regularly buzzing with activity as restrictions lift and programs transition back to in-person and hybrid formats.

“

The library is now running like a Swiss watch.

- recent donor survey respondent



Members of Girl Scout Troop 61120 with Library Director Sunnie Scarpa, and carpenter David Hansen, at the Pollinator Pathway dedication ceremony in June, 2021.



Chess enthusiast Ted O'Neill and friends gather around the chess tables in our newly created Wall St. pocket gardens.

The library is inviting, clean, new, and I enjoy the company of staff and visitors. As a Director of International Admissions at a large university, I have seen libraries around the world regularly. Your library is elegant, well-staffed, and well organized.

- Carlos Maria Rivero y Hornos Ed. D

"Richard and I have always been great supporters of the Scranton Library, and Richard served many years on the Board of Trustees. We are pleased to be able to provide specific support for the new Teen Room, since our kids so enjoyed the library in their teens, and we wanted also to honor Richard's parents who dedicated much of their energies to ensuring healthy and positive opportunities for teen growth in the community where we grew up."

-Lisa Dunkle Scheffler, MD

TOP 5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE LIBRARY



1

Thursday night is TEEN NIGHT in our new teen area featuring board games, video games, and virtual reality games. Up to 30 teens participate each week and a Tuesday Afterschool Anime program was recently added to further engage the after-school teen crowd.

2

Rooms are now available for use by outside groups. To book a room for your next meeting, book club, or event, go to: scrantonlibrary.org/room-reservations/



3

You can borrow more than books - we have video and board games, music, movies, magazines and more. We even have a "Library of Things" with lawn games, tech gadgets, and a pizza oven!



4

Volunteers offer free TEEN TECH HELP in our computer area every Wed-Thurs from 2:30-4:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary.



5

The Children's Library averages FIVE story times each week. To learn more about programs for all ages, go to: scrantonlibrary.org/events



FINANCIALS

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION - UNAUDITED June 30, 2021

Assets

Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	515,000
Cash and cash equivalents - restricted		401,000
Promise to give		5,000
Prepaid expense		5,000
Net property, equipment and other		15,278,000
Long-term investments		2,939,000
Total assets	\$	<u>19,143,000</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

Underfunded pension payable	\$	443,000
Accounts payable		71,000
Accrued payroll and taxes		48,000
Mortgage and other loans payable		180,000
Total liabilities		<u>742,000</u>

Net assets:

Without donor restrictions		14,962,000
With donor restrictions		3,439,000
Total net assets		<u>18,401,000</u>

Total liabilities and net assets	\$	<u>19,143,000</u>
----------------------------------	----	-------------------

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS - UNAUDITED For the Year Ended June 30, 2021

	Total
PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUES:	
Grants and Contributions	
Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 1,376,000
With Donor Restrictions	582,000
Annual appeal	74,000
Investment Activity	
Without Donor Restrictions	-
With Donor Restrictions	651,000
Other	1,000
Total public support and revenues	<u>2,684,000</u>
FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES:	
Program services	901,000
Development and fundraising	31,000
Management and general	523,000
Total functional expenses	<u>1,455,000</u>
Increase in net assets	1,229,000
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>17,172,000</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 18,401,000</u>

This is unaudited information and is pending our full audit and is not intended to present the full financial position of E.C. Scranton Memorial Library as of June 30, 2021.

Board of Trustees

2020/2021 Officers

President, Nicole Wiles
Vice President, Paul Petrie
Treasurer, Richard Davis
Secretary, Jessica McCullough

2020/2021 Trustees

David Beecher
Christine Beirne
Donald Craft
Tyler Dennett
Sara Greenwood
Keith Luckenbach
Michael Maney
Betsey Piner (President,
Scranton Library Friends)
Francis Pullaro
Doreen Shirley
Paul Sprague
William Stableford
Janice Wolf

Staff Members

Administration

Sunnie Scarpa, Library Director
Kari Castelli, Business Manager
Laura Downes, Head of Special Projects

Adult Services and Reference

Marcia Sokolnicki, Head of Reference
and Local History
Anne O'Connor, Adult Reference
and Technical Services Librarian
Rachel Taylor, Adult Reference
and Programming Librarian
Colin Welch, Adult Reference
and Teen Librarian

Children's Services

Lydia Holland, Head of Children's Services
Myla Perrelli, Children's Librarian

Circulation

Allison Murphy, Head of Public Services
Kayla Munger, Library Technical Assistant
Chris Jennings Penders, Library Technical
Assistant

Part-time Staff: Wendy Colomb, Ray Eurto,
Clara Flath, Olivia Fiumiatti, Natalie
Fleischer, Lindsay Greco, Tessa Griffin,
Sawyer Hanlon, Fiona Kelly, Tanner Mroz,
Nick Regan, Emily Rush, Chris Trentham

In a recent survey, 73% of respondents said their favorite thing about the library is **our friendly staff!**

STATISTICS

Here's a statistical snapshot of what YOUR support helped us accomplish last year.

We couldn't do it without you!

- 7,523 items were added to the collection this year (books, movies, audiobooks, and non-traditional items).
- We welcomed 13,357 visitors to the library, despite construction and COVID-related service disruptions.
- We offered 574 free programs for all ages, with 33,873 participants - that's an average of more than two programs every day!
- 97,665 items were checked out and the number of registered library card holders increased 13%.

We're always working to improve our services and connect you in new and exciting ways -



SUPPORT SCRANTON

There are so many ways to support the Scranton Library!

We hope you'll join your neighbors and friends to support the library today.

- Donate online at www.scrantonlibrary.org/support-the-library
- Send a check to 801 Boston Post Road, Madison, CT 06443
- Choose E.C. Scranton Memorial Library while shopping at smile.amazon.com - a simple way for you to support the library every time you shop, at no cost to you!
- Make a gift via PayPal at: bit.ly/scrantonpaypal or Venmo us [@scrantonmemoriallibraryct](https://www.venmo.com/scrantonmemoriallibraryct) - please include your name, email, and specify what the payment is for (i.e. donation) in the "What's it for?" field so that we can send you a donation receipt. The 4-digit phone number verification code is 0338.
- Buy a brick! Engraved bricks are a meaningful way to honor a loved one. More info at: scrantonlibrary.org/support-the-library