



# Mount Prospect Public Library



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

# MISSION

Mount Prospect Public Library exists to:

- Connect people to information, resources, and opportunities for enrichment and leisure.
- Provide and sustain a book culture through literary knowledge and interactive experiences.
- Promote and support education and lifelong learning.
- Build community.

# VISION

The Library Board and Staff will invest resources and build on new opportunities to provide excellent and innovative library service to all residents of Mount Prospect. Concurrent, operational strengths will be maintained.

Library will continue to engage in new and emerging technologies.

Library will connect residents to library services where and when needed by increasing the Library's presence.

Library recognizes its role in building community. To that end, the Staff and Board will nurture existing partnerships, build coalitions, and participate in joint ventures.

The public library is a powerful educational institution. Library provides opportunities for continuous learning throughout a person's life.

# ADAPTING TO A NEW NORMAL

2021 was the second consecutive year that we all were navigating the coronavirus pandemic, and while we began on uncertain ground, we ended on a solid path forward to our new normal. The library was closed to the public in January 2021, but we continued to provide contactless pickup, computers by appointment, and virtual programs. We reopened the Main Library on February 1, and South Branch on March 8. From April through July, we slowly reopened all public spaces, and by August 2021 we were mostly back to normal, with the exception that we continued to offer programs virtually through the end of the year.

## EXCITING AND NEW

**Cards for Kids.** In February we rolled out the Illinois initiative that provided a free library card to kids who participate in the free/reduced lunch program, even if they live in an unserved area.

**Fines Free.** As of April 1, the library became officially fine free so everyone in the community can use the library's resources and not worry about overdue fines when "life happens."

**Improved Access to Materials.** In April, we relaxed our loan periods to better serve our patrons. The most notable change is that New DVD's can be checked out for seven days instead of the previous three.

**Museum Adventure Pass.** In May we launched this popular program that allows patrons to request free or discounted passes to a variety of destinations, including Brookfield Zoo and Chicago Botanic Garden.

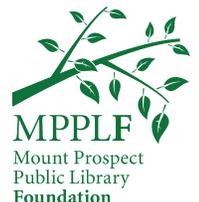
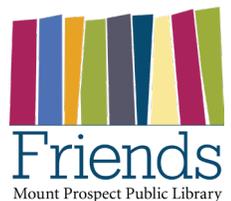
**More Rokus.** In July we doubled the number of Rokus in our collection, and Apple TV+, Discovery+, and Paramount + were all added.

**New Branding** In July we freshened up the look of the library's brand by introducing a new logo, color palette, and style.



## FRIENDS AND FOUNDATION

The library is grateful for the continued support of our valued partners, the Friends of the Library and the Mount Prospect Public Library Foundation. Through fundraisers such as used book sales and raffles, the Friends and Foundation donate funds to the library to support library programs and services.



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

On May 20, we welcomed a new addition to the Library Board, Rosemary Groenwald. She was sworn in with three returning trustees; Marie Bass, Sylvia Haas, and Kristine O'Sullivan.

## SOUTH BRANCH



As part of a mini-refresh of the branch, we brightened up the space with a new coat of paint, reconfigured the area to provide more welcoming space for patrons, and refreshed the technology. We also installed an outdoor book drop so patrons can return materials 24/7.

In October we added to our technology collection and introduced dedicated wifi hotspots to patrons at South Branch.

## COMMUNITY

A patron was looking for a recipe for Firehouse Chicken from a Lions Park textbook from 10 years ago. Library staff reached out to a local school librarian, who remembered the recipe. The school librarian purchased the textbook from Amazon and donated it to the library to give to the patron. The patron was thrilled:

*"You all are so AMAZING! I can't believe it was found. I've been looking for so long that I'm still in shock!"*



To provide the community with information and resources, we partnered with the Village of Mount Prospect in March to host a webinar "Understanding Vaccines Developed to Prevent COVID-19," and partnered with the Village to host a vaccination clinic at the RecPlex facility in June and July.



# 2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Marie Bass

Michael Duebner

Sylvia Fulk

Brian Gilligan

Rosemary Groenwald

Sylvia Haas

Kristine O'Sullivan

## QUOTES

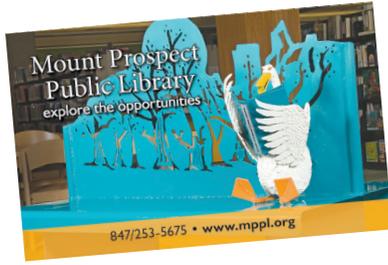
*MPPL and the South Branch staff are a great educational asset for our community, and we could not do enough to thank them.*

*You have such good displays here that I always end up getting more than I was planning on.*

*I love this place. This is where I get all my movies, without it—I wouldn't know where to go or I'd be broke. It is way better than what Blockbuster had when it was around.*

*We made it through the school year! Please express my professional and personal appreciation to all your colleagues for all the extra hard work and effort they beautifully accomplished to keep our community connected to books and each other at a time when we so desperately needed it!*

# MPPL BY THE NUMBERS

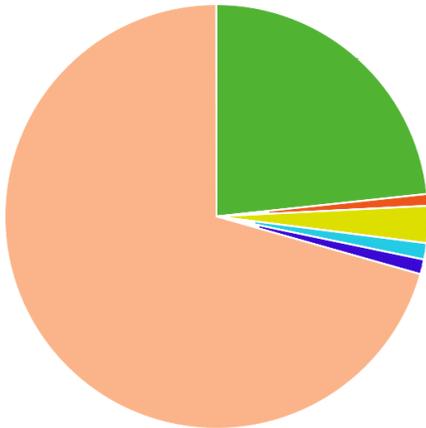


**TOTAL CARDHOLDERS - 25,043**  
**NEW IN 2021- 1,612**



Total Programs Held:  
**804**  
 Total Program Attendance:  
**21,758**

## Items available at MPPL:



- Books **308,328**
- Audiobooks **11,664**
- Movie & TV DVDs **37,339**
- Music **16,512**
- Magazines **14,769**
- eMedia **933,851**

Print & Digital  
 Circulations: **929,914**



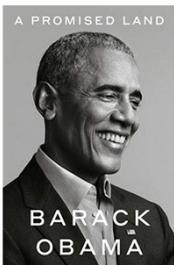
People participated in  
 Summer Reading: **2,592**

Questions answered by library staff: **84,916**



## MOST POPULAR MATERIALS 2021

ADULT  
 NONFICTION



ADULT  
 FICTION



TEEN  
 FICTION



YOUTH  
 FICTION



Hold requests:  
**119,471**

ADULT  
 eBook



YOUTH  
 MOVIE



ADULT  
 MOVIE



VIDEO  
 GAME

