

# **NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

## **Board of Trustees Meeting**

**March 19, 2024**



**Nashville Public Library Board of Trustees**

**Agenda**

**March 19, 2024**

**Edgehill Branch Library**

**1409 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. S**

**Nashville, TN 37203**

**12:00 PM**

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call
- II. Metro Ordinance required to be announced at all Board Meetings – *Chair, Joyce Searcy*
  - a. “Pursuant to the provisions of § 2.68.030 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws, please take notice that decisions of the Nashville Public Library Board may be appealed to the Chancery Court of Davidson County for review under a common law writ of certiorari. Any appeal must be filed within sixty days after entry of a final decision by the Board. Any person or other entity considering an appeal should consult with an attorney to ensure that time and procedural requirements are met.”
- III. Public Comments
  - a. “Pursuant to T. C. A. § 8-44-12, time is reserved at the beginning of Library Board meetings for which there is an actionable item on the agenda for public comment germane to items on the agenda. Up to five people will be allowed up to three minutes each to speak. Speakers must register within one half hour prior to the beginning of the meeting by signing their name on a physical sign-up sheet available at the entrance, and identifying any agenda item on which they intend to comment.
- IV. Board Chair Comments, *Joyce Searcy*
- V. Approval of Minutes: February 20, 2024
- VI. Interim Library Director Report, *Terri Luke*
- VII. Foundation Report, *Shawn Bakker*
- VIII. New Business
  - a. Edgehill Branch Overview, *Ashley Walker-Tyler*
  - b. Library Board Retreat, *Joyce Searcy*
- IX. Adjournment

**Next Scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting**

**April 16, 2024**

**Bellevue Branch Library**

**720 Baugh Road**

**Nashville, TN 37221**

**12:00 PM**

*Meeting Minutes – March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

**Nashville Public Library Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
February 20, 2024  
Main Library  
615 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37203  
12:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Joyce Searcy, Keith Simmons, Charvis Rand, Kate Ezell, Katy Varney, Nadine De La Rosa, and Rosalyn Carpenter

**Library Staff:** Linda Harrison, Terri Luke, Andrea Fanta, Susan Drye, Kyle Barber, Jena Schmid, Larry Jirik, Lisa Bubert, Lee Boulie, Anna Harutyunyan, James Staub, Chi Amaefula, Shawn Bakker, Klem-Mari Cajigas, Elliott Robinson, Ashley Tyler-Walker, Alex Danner

**Others:** Derrick Smith, Assistant Metropolitan Attorney at Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Mayor Freddie O’Connell, Scott Harrison, Shawna Chesser, Don Hardin, Steve Reiter, Joseph Johnston

I. Call to Order/ Roll Call

- a. The meeting was called to order at 12:01 PM.

II. Metro Ordinance required to be announced at all Board Meetings – *Chair, Joyce Searcy*

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III. Public Comments

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meeting by signing their name on a physical sign-up sheet available at the entrance, and identifying any agenda item on which they intend to comment.”

b. Ms. Lisa Bubert stated the following:

“Lisa Bubert here, speaking on behalf of the unionized workers of NPL. We urge the Board to move the library toward finding a permanent director. It was previously mentioned that other departments are operating with an interim director, and we can too.

However, I want to show the trickledown effect of that decision. As Terri fills the role of Interim Director, Jena Schmid has now taken on her duties as Assistant Director of Branch Services. Kyle Barber has now taken Jena’s duties as Assistant Director of the Main Library. It’s not clear who has taken on the duties of Adult Services Manager at Main, which is also Kyle’s job. Kyle has also requested and been granted a transfer to manage the EP branch, which has been without a manager since September. (Jena is currently office-ed there.)

A similar but more dire situation has unfolded with the BL and BX branches. BL has been without a manager since December 27, 2022. BX manager Annie Herlocker requested and was granted a transfer to BL but cannot complete her transfer until a manager is found for BX. Hiring for that position is proving to be impossible.

In the meantime, regional managers from other locations have been sharing the burden of checking in on the branches that do not have managers. Currently, Angela at SE and Emily at HM are both handling operations at BL as best they can. Emily now has a manager vacancy in her HM cluster at OH, which means she’s covering her branch, BL, and now an additional branch in her cluster.

Of course, these managers can’t be everywhere all at once. So, it is the staff at all of these locations who are handling the day-to-day managerial duties – setting schedules, handling customer complaints, managing staff workflow and interpersonal issues, managing safety and security issues, all for months, in one case for over a year, with no extra compensation for their interim duties.

Every time an interim duty is placed on a leader at a higher level, the staff below them are required to take on more tasks to compensate and simply keep the library running. The longer it takes to hire managers and administrators into permanent positions, the longer staff at lower, less-compensated levels run a hamster wheel to keep up. And we’ve been doing this since August of 2022.

On a personal note, it grieves me to think of what we’ve lost since the pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, if you called NPL an award-winning world-class library, I would have said heck yes and had plenty of things to point to prove it. Now, The Civil Rights and

Civil Society training is no more, after Andrea Blackman's departure. Our mentoring program, Odyssey NPL, pioneered by Helen Sanders who has also left the library, is stalled, replaced with occasional Zoom webinars. We no longer have a system-wide programming coordinator, making it nearly impossible for branches to properly plan for system-wide initiatives, such as Black History Month and Summer Reading. Salon 615 is dead.

Our institutional knowledge has now frittered away so much, we are essentially being tasked to rebuild in every area. But we can't rebuild until we hire a permanent director who will set our course. Or at least, that's the answer staff have been receiving for 19 months. We cannot continue to operate like this."

c. Mr. Joseph Johnson stated the following:

"Madame Chair, I am here as a private citizen, a task payer, property owner, and a patron of the public library [...] I don't know what the banned books are, and I would like to suggest that a list of the banned books be posted somewhere in a branch library with an explanation for why they're banned, whether t's by staffing [...] by some other policy decision by the board [...] the minutes of the board meetings, I'm sure those are publicly accessible, and I'd like to know how to obtain copies of those board minutes [...] and the person responsible for administering the banned book policy [...] I was advised I should call the department of Marketing and Communication, and I tried to call that three times during the week [...] and did not get a voicemail, did not get an answer [...] so I'm asking the board to direct me to the appropriate administrative official to get this information."

d. Ms. Searcy acknowledged Mr. Don Hardin and informed him that he would not be allowed to make public comment because his comment did not address any item listed on the day's agenda.

#### IV. Remarks, *Mayor Freddie O'Connell*

a. Mayor Freddie O'Connell made remarks:

"Good afternoon everyone, board members, staff, community members, thank you for the opportunity to address this board and the important work that you do in the city. Libraries connect people to information, increasingly to their communities and each other. We're so fortunate in Nashville to have access to an outstanding library system, including this one. I will say on a personal note, I am fortunate both to have grown up with the Nashville Public Library and now to watch my two daughters learn in large part a combination of things. We are a proud Metro schools' family; they thrive in our public school system, but they've also been raised on Wishing Chair Productions and many of the materials in the stack. In fact, we just watched them compete in the recent Lego contest. My 6-year-old daughter is learning to read, and has great resources in her

school library, but also here. Every time I see her eyes light up over a new success [or] something new she's learned, I think about the gratitude I have for the teachers and librarians who have turned on new lights and joined us in introducing her to new worlds.

Tonight, the Metro Council will consider our proposed capital spending plan. We've released it a few weeks ago [and] one of those priorities in that plan is strengthening our library system. We believe that the deferred maintenance that is evident in certain parts of the system are being addressed by the capital we're looking to allocate. We're putting our money where our people are, in our neighborhoods, and taking steps to ensure that Nashvillians know their government is responsive to their needs. Our libraries, parks, schools, and roads are community assets that bring us together, enriching a shared pride that we have in our home.

I know that everybody here today has tremendous pride in the library system, the impact it has on children and lifelong learners, and I am here as mayor, asking that this board set aside the challenges of leadership transition for now. I'm asking this board to come together under the shared passion for learning and the board's direct decision on the director. And so, for the library, the Board of Directors, like many of our [organization] or commission-led departments, is the appointing authority for the type positions, and the board approved Terri Luke as Interim Director in November. I support that decision. I think that for many of us, including me, the search process didn't unfold the way we had expected, but I have full confidence in Terri as Interim Director and we are not conducting a new search at this time. I want to thank Terri for her work and her leadership during a challenging time. She has my full faith and confidence. She will remain the Interim Director of this department as voted by the board.

A title of interim doesn't mean we don't address operational facilities or staffing issues at general services. Velvet Hunter has just completed a multi-year period as one of Metro's longest interim directors, and we are very excited about Gerald Smith stepping in that role as permanent director, but under Velvet's leadership we made fleet improvements. General services continued to build and maintain multiple buildings and have maintained the confidence of staff. I want to thank the candidates and everybody on the board for participation in this process and passion for your work. Transition is never easy, but this search has gone on for a long time, and we get to take a break from that process to follow its legal conclusion and to move onto the work at hand under Terri's leadership. The full committee has acknowledged the board's November vote to conclude the previous search and affirm that Terri Luke will serve as Interim Director with full responsibilities and authority until the next search is launched, and I know she will continue to bring excellence to our library system during her tenure. Thank you, Terri, and thank you Madame Chair."

V. Board Chair Comments, *Joyce Searcy*

- a. Ms. Searcy thanked Mayor O’Connell for his remarks, and shared her pride in knowing that each of The Library Board members valued the responsibility of supporting the library system.
- b. Ms. Searcy addressed statements made at the conclusion of the director search, where The Library Board as a whole, as well as two individual board members, were publicly maligned. Ms. Searcy continued that the accusations made were both untrue and unfair, and that research and The Library Board members’ own experiences and wisdom reinforce the fact that diversity is essential to ensure that organizations can thrive, and that is the only way to be innovative. Ms. Searcy expressed her hope that these things were behind them, and that NPL heeds Mayor O’Connell’s directive to give full support to the interim director as they continue to seek excellence in all that is done in the library system.

VI. Approval of Minutes: November 16<sup>th</sup> amended minutes, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

- a. Mr. Charvis Rand made a motion to approve the November 16<sup>th</sup> amended minutes. Ms. Kate Ezell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Mr. Rand made a motion to approve the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Ms. Ezell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Interim Library Director Report, *Terri Luke*

- a. Ms. Terri Luke informed The Library Board that some of the report statistics were down for the first time since the pandemic due to the snowstorm that caused the library locations to close for seven operational days; however, the numbers for e-books and audiobooks usage were up during the month of January.
- b. Ms. Luke stated that the admin team had had trouble filling the open Manager 3 positions, which had been reposted three times due to issues hiring for the position. Ms. Jena Schmid and Ms. Sherry Adams will meet with Ms. Luke to discuss further plans to best fill all three of the open manager positions.
- c. Ms. Luke and Ms. Searcy planned to attend the council meeting for Ms. Searcy’s reappointment to The Library Board. Ms. Luke thanked Ms. Searcy for all her years of service to the library.
- d. Ms. Luke and Ms. Searcy planned to attend the Minority Caucus reception on February 21<sup>st</sup> at Meharry Medical College.
- e. Ms. Luke informed The Library Board that for 4% funding, NPL usually received three funding allocations. The first was approved for \$1.675 million, which was allocated for

maintenance, which was an increase from last year. The mayor's office also recommended a total of \$4 million for collections: \$2 million for the second quarter and \$2 million for the third quarter. Ms. Luke stated that, if received, this would be the largest amounts for collections in the last 10 years.

- f. The Hermitage and Green Hills branches were recommended for renovations by the mayor. Ms. Luke stated that these two libraries were 23 years old and were next in line for renovations according to the Master Facilities Plan. Ms. Luke continued that Green Hills is number one in circulation throughout the system, and Hermitage is number four, so both branches see a lot of traffic. The mayor's office also recommended a design development process for both the Hadley Park and Richland Park branches.
- g. Ms. Luke informed The Library Board that on Feb 9<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Susan Drye submitted the FY25 operational budget request to the mayor's office and would be presenting to the mayor's office on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Luke stated that the team expected to cut back on the number of items asked for due to potential cuts. Ms. Katy Vary asked if The Library Board should be expected to show up to the mayor's office and the council meeting to support the budget asks. Ms. Luke answered that The Library Board's presence would be appreciated at the May council meeting. Ms. Searcy asked which budget funds were responsible for the courtyard repair. Ms. Drye answered that the funding for the courtyard was received in FY23's maintenance budget, and the amount allocated was approximately \$5 million. Ms. Luke added that they should have a report in the next few weeks regarding what needs to be done concerning the courtyard.
- h. Ms. Ezell asked what the hindrance was for hiring the manager 3 positions and where the admin team needed help. Ms. Luke stated that they are not receiving the number of applications that were received in the past, and the cost of living in Nashville has had a huge impact as well. Several applicants denied taking the job because of several factors, some of which also had to do with pay.
- i. Mr. Rand asked if The Library Board could obtain data on the utilization of other digital resources such as NYT and Linked-In Learning. Ms. Lee Boulie said she could get that information for the next month's board report. Ms. Boulie also verified that these resources are being used frequently throughout the system.
- j. Ms. Luke updated The Library Board that the renovations at the Edgehill branch were taking longer than expected. Ms. Drye added that because the building was 70 years old with very old pipes, the renovations required all three restrooms to be excavated. Ms. Drye continued that the building could not be considered operational without useable restrooms, so until the renovations were finalized, the building would need to remain closed.



- k. Mr. Rand asked if there were plans to create new policies and procedures to lower some of the incidents that had been occurring at the branches. Ms. Drye stated they were working on filling the security guard positions and creating a more effective schedule so all guards can be trained and scheduled at different branches. Ms. Drye clarified that a lot of the “incidents” reported— specifically at the Main branch— involved sleeping patrons that, when awoken, were agitated and the situations were escalated. Ms. Luke shared that a safety coordinator position was requested in the FY25 budget. Ms. Luke added that several reference staff conducted a survey comparing NPL to other “like libraries” to see what they are doing to address security issues across the country.
- l. Ms. Ezell asked if the research being done on security would be shared with The Library Board soon. Ms. Luke stated that she and Ms. Searcy planned to meet to discuss certain topics for the upcoming Board Retreat, and security would be one of those topics discussed.
- m. Ms. Luke informed The Library Board that the Bellevue branch had a leak in one of the bathrooms, where one of the flush valves became loose and resulted in a flooded building where approximately 75% of the building was affected. Luckily, none of the collections were affected, but the front desk was lost, and the branch had to be closed for repairs. Ms. Luke thanked Ms. Jena Schmid, Ms. Annie Herlocker, Ms. Angela Brady, Ms. Jennifer Fournier, all Bellevue staff, and Metro General Services for their work during this time. All Bellevue holds were sent to Green Hills, and staff were relocated to other branches in the meantime. Ms. Luke stated that they hoped to reopen the Bellevue branch at the end of March.

VIII. Foundation Report, *Shawn Bakker*

- a. Ms. Shawn Bakker informed The Library Board about the kickoff for the fundraising campaign for early literacy on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Bakker stated that those attending would hear Ms. Linda Harrison talk about some of the programmatic nature of what would be taking place with early literacy, including an exciting fundraising announcement.
- b. Ms. Bakker stated that the Black Women in Leadership Coffee and Tour was so successful that NPLF was asked to plan a Black Men in Leadership Coffee and Tour, which occurred on January 21<sup>st</sup>, with 25 black men in attendance. Ms. Bakker informed The Library Board that they received great feedback from that event as well. Another Black Women in Leadership event was scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Bakker asked any interested in attending to contact either Ms. Claudia Schenck or herself.
- c. The String City fundraiser was scheduled for March 1<sup>st</sup> from 6:30 – 9:30 PM at the Main branch, and tickets were already on sale.

- d. Ms. Bakker and the NPLF team were working to secure a spot for an ambassador to offer public comment at the March 19<sup>th</sup> Metro Council Meeting at 6:30 PM. Ms. Bakker continued that they would be presenting the 2023 NPLF Annual Reports to council members and asked The Library Board to save the date and stay tuned for details, as they hoped to have a large presence at this event.
- e. Ms. Bakker shared that plans were underway for a system-wide “Thank-a-Thon” postcard campaign— to thank the council members and the mayor for their support of the library budget— in preparation for Take Action for Libraries Day on April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- f. The Picnic with the Library is scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Main branch, and the theme will be *The Wizard of Oz*.
- g. Ms. Searcy asked if there would still be a Hispanic Women in Leadership event. Ms. Bakker answered that she was working with Ms. Renata Soto, who recommended a slightly different approach to that event, but more details would be announced later.

#### IX. New Business

- a. Black Music History Video with Elliot Robinson, *Andrea Fanta*
  - i. Ms. Andrea Fanta introduced one of many videos that Mr. Elliott Robinson created to celebrate both Black History Month and the Civil Rights Room. The video series was called “A Journey Through Black History.” Ms. Fanta informed The Library Board that the series could be found on all NPL social media and the NPL YouTube channel.
- b. Wishing Chair Video, *Bret Wilson*
  - i. Ms. Linda Harrison introduced Mr. Bret Wilson and the Wishing Chair Productions informational video. Ms. Harrison informed The Library Board that the video was intended to be used as a training tool for new hires to be informed on different departments throughout the library.
  - ii. Mr. Wilson introduced the Wishing Chair Productions informational video, and informed The Library Board that all images— save one— were captured in 2023.

#### X. Adjournment

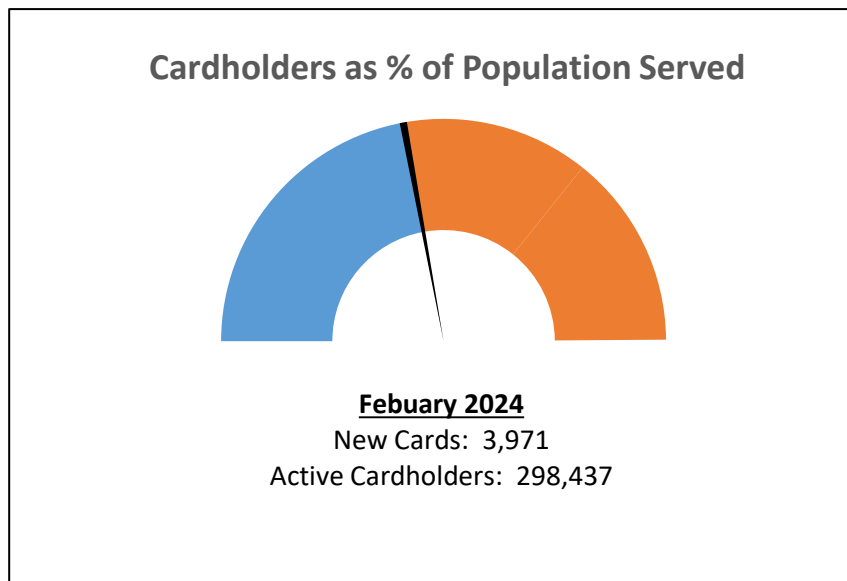
- a. The meeting was adjourned at 1:11 PM.

**Next Scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**March 19, 2024**  
**Edgehill Branch Library**  
**1409 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. S**

Nashville, TN 37203  
12:00 PM

*Respectfully submitted by Lana Boleyjack.*

*Statistical Summary – March 19, 2024*  
*Nashville Public Library*



Cardholders	Feb-24	Feb-24 Year-to-Date	Active Patron Cards	Average Cards in Last 12 Months
New Registrations	3,971	3,971	298,437	290,821

Volunteer Services	Feb-24	Feb-23	Year-to-Date	% Change 2022-2023
Number of Volunteers	152	171	1,228	-11.11%
Volunteer Hours	913	1,098	7,901	-16.85%

Attendance for Room Use	Feb-24	Feb-23	% Change 2022-2023
Community Use	24,842	4,801	417.43%
Library Use	24,924	10,819	130.37%

Reference	Feb-24	Feb-23	% Change 2022-2023
Answered	24,237	18,615	30.20%

*Statistical Summary – March 19, 2024*  
*Nashville Public Library*

**Wireless Data**

Wireless	Month				
	Feb-24 Sessions	Feb-24 % of Total	Wireless %	Feb-23 Sessions	% Change 2022-2023
Bellevue	710	0.72%	69.2%	2,442	-70.93%
Bordeaux	4,383	4.46%	51.6%	834	425.54%
Donelson	1,022	1.04%	46.8%	393	160.05%
East	1,504	1.53%	52.8%	515	192.04%
Edgehill	-	0.00%	49.3%	304	-100.00%
Edmondson Pike	4,262	4.33%	54.4%	1,487	186.62%
Goodlettsville	2,994	3.05%	50.7%	735	307.35%
Green Hills	4,934	5.02%	61.2%	1,565	215.27%
Hadley Park	1,509	1.53%	47.5%	363	315.70%
Hermitage	15,484	15.75%	52.8%	1,091	1319.25%
Inglewood	1,073	1.09%	40.7%	442	142.76%
Looby	839	0.85%	28.0%	256	227.73%
Madison	15,718	15.99%	37.6%	930	1590.11%
Main	28,837	29.33%	65.8%	10,413	176.93%
North	333	0.34%	29.1%	121	175.21%
Old Hickory	652	0.66%	64.2%	271	140.59%
Pruitt	2,143	2.18%	46.1%	615	248.46%
Richland Park	1,219	1.24%	45.0%	517	135.78%
Southeast	9,226	9.38%	69.1%	5,390	71.17%
Thompson Lane	926	0.94%	24.3%	213	334.74%
Watkins Park	550	0.56%	57.0%	297	85.19%
NPL Total	98,318		58.1%	29,194	236.77%

**Database and Website Data**

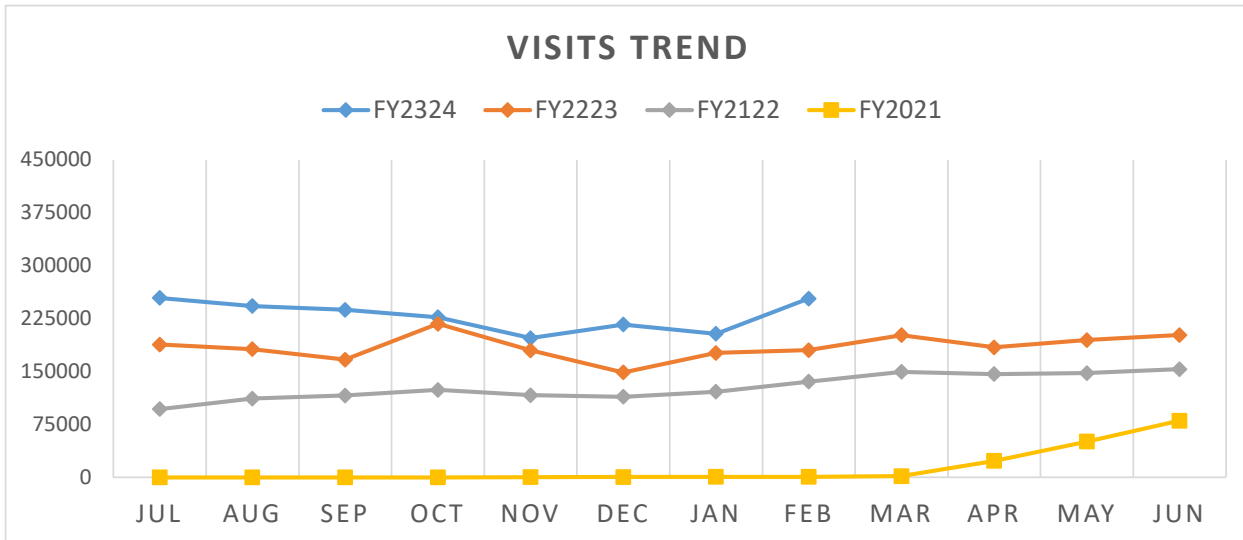
Public Computer Use	Month		% Change 2022-2023
	Feb-24	Feb-23	
Total Computer Use	22,007	19,380	13.56%
Total Wireless Use	98,318	29,194	236.77%

Website Visits	Month		% Change 2022-2023
	Feb-24	Feb-23	
Webserver	386,153	398,290	-3.05%

Database Usage	Month		% Change 2022-2023
	Feb-24	Feb-23	
Sessions	29,926	12,286	143.58%

*Statistical Summary – March 19, 2024*  
*Nashville Public Library*

**Visits**

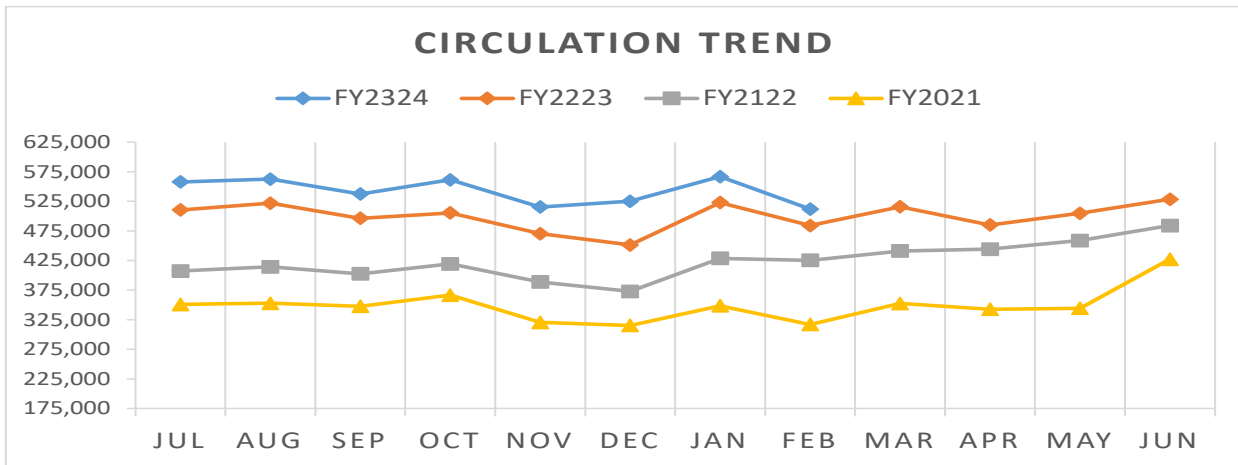


Visits	Feb-24 Visits	Feb-23 Visits	% Change 2022-2023	Feb-24 Circ / Visit	Feb-23 Circ / Visit	% Change 2022-2023
Bellevue	-	12,884	-100.00%	N/A	1.48	N/A
Bordeaux	6,115	4,492	36.13%	0.41	0.51	-19.94%
Donelson	6,703	5,342	25.48%	0.55	0.72	-22.68%
East	10,769	10,589	1.70%	0.34	0.31	7.99%
Edgehill	-	2,584	-100.00%	N/A	0.41	N/A
Edmondson Pike	23,523	9,855	138.69%	0.76	1.80	-58.00%
Goodlettsville	6,750	4,353	55.07%	1.12	1.73	-35.45%
Green Hills	37,561	14,828	153.31%	0.80	1.56	-48.62%
Hadley Park	1,883	1,538	22.43%	0.27	0.29	-6.23%
Hermitage	15,125	9,111	66.01%	0.96	1.42	-32.23%
Inglewood	15,719	13,066	20.30%	0.36	0.41	-12.31%
Looby	3,795	2,835	33.86%	0.22	0.29	-22.91%
Madison	23,061	14,903	54.74%	0.23	0.33	-31.63%
Main	49,749	33,492	48.54%	2.71	5.14	-47.26%
North	4,977	2,995	66.18%	0.12	0.17	-30.10%
Old Hickory	3,620	2,602	39.12%	0.54	0.72	-24.78%
Pruitt	5,260	6,834	-23.03%	0.03	0.04	-26.12%
Richland Park	9,403	7,229	30.07%	1.11	1.08	2.75%
Southeast	12,485	8,134	53.49%	0.50	0.74	-32.83%
Thompson Lane	11,987	9,438	27.01%	0.23	0.27	-15.84%
Watkins Park	4,871	3,155	54.39%	0.05	0.05	0.94%
<b>NPL Total</b>	<b>253,356</b>	<b>180,259</b>	<b>40.55%</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>-39.42%</b>

*Statistical Summary – March 19, 2024*  
*Nashville Public Library*

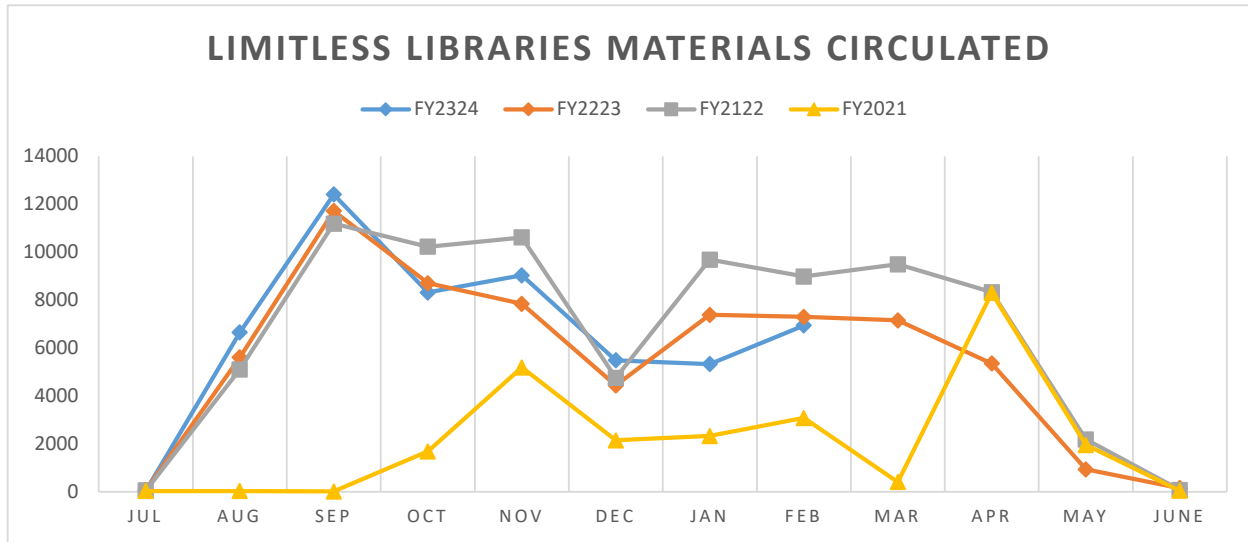
**Circulation Data**

eMedia	Feb-24	Feb-23	YTD	% Change 2022-2023
eAudiobooks	119,123	94,660	936,233	25.84%
eVideo	10,341	7,092	75,020	45.81%
eBooks	117,476	102,374	944,626	14.75%
eMusic	1,832	1,606	14,093	14.07%
eMagazines	25,482	7,117	164,638	258.04%
<b>Total</b>	<b>274,254</b>	<b>212,849</b>	<b>2,134,610</b>	<b>28.85%</b>



Circulation	Month				Fiscal Year-to-Date		
	Feb-24 Circulation	Feb-24 % of Total	Feb-23 Circulation	% Change 2022-2023	Feb-24 Year-to-Date	Feb-23 Year-to-Date	% Change 2022-2023
Belleuve	3,098	0.61%	29,529	-89.51%	216,651	258,345	-16.14%
Bordeaux	5,291	1.03%	5,513	-4.03%	47,361	48,105	-1.55%
Donelson	7,106	1.39%	7,457	-4.71%	64,178	61,877	3.72%
East	6,509	1.27%	5,911	10.12%	56,265	48,670	15.61%
Edgehill	1,385	0.27%	3,342	-58.56%	26,489	24,670	7.37%
Edmondson Pike	26,991	5.27%	27,686	-2.51%	234,528	233,039	0.64%
Goodlettsville	12,089	2.36%	27,686	-56.34%	111,402	121,358	-8.20%
Green Hills	40,912	7.99%	35,944	13.82%	317,009	314,296	0.86%
Hadley Park	2,087	0.41%	1,980	5.40%	16,901	14,977	12.85%
Equal Access	314	0.06%	300	4.67%	2,358	2,211	6.65%
Hermitage	24,189	4.73%	21,863	10.64%	207,635	194,654	6.67%
Inglewood	9,567	1.87%	9,378	2.02%	83,987	79,360	5.83%
Looby	2,734	0.53%	2,664	2.63%	22,346	20,181	10.73%
Madison	11,356	2.22%	10,476	8.40%	99,876	89,092	12.10%
Main	40,042	7.82%	41,718	-4.02%	328,771	347,577	-5.41%
North	2,413	0.47%	2,114	14.14%	21,315	17,481	21.93%
Old Hickory	4,651	0.91%	4,719	-1.44%	40,400	38,344	5.36%
Pruitt	1,398	0.27%	1,581	-11.57%	13,372	12,199	9.62%
Richland Park	15,184	2.97%	11,762	29.09%	112,411	100,707	11.62%
Southeast	13,154	2.57%	13,411	-1.92%	116,693	121,503	-3.96%
Thompson Lane	6,053	1.18%	6,049	0.07%	52,940	54,396	-2.68%
Watkins Park	1,111	0.22%	79	1306.33%	10,176	6,270	62.30%
eMedia	274,254	53.58%	212,849	28.85%	2,134,610	1,753,114	21.76%
Talking Library	-	0.00%	-	#DIV/0!	52	14	271.43%
<b>NPL Total</b>	<b>511,888</b>		<b>484,011</b>	<b>5.76%</b>	<b>4,337,726</b>	<b>3,962,440</b>	<b>9.47%</b>

*Statistical Summary – March 19, 2024*  
*Nashville Public Library*



### February Programming Data

Programming	2022-2023		% Change
	Feb-24	Feb-23	
Juvenile Programs	489	429	13.99%
Teen Programs	510	346	47.40%
Adult Programs	557	557	0.00%
Senior Programs	52	122	-57.38%
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>1,454</b>	<b>10.59%</b>

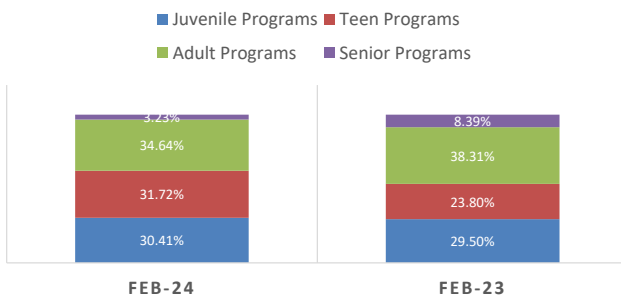
Programming	Change		
	Feb-24	Feb-23	
Juvenile Programs	16,862	18,935	-10.95%
Teen Programs	5,570	4,772	16.72%
Adult Programs	9,247	5,757	60.62%
Senior Programs	703	628	11.94%
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>32,382</b>	<b>30,092</b>	<b>7.61%</b>

Programming	2022-2023		% Change
	Feb-24	Feb-23	
In Person	1,280	1,175	8.94%
Outreach	278	255	9.02%
Virtual	50	24	108.33%
<b>Total Programs</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>1,454</b>	<b>10.59%</b>

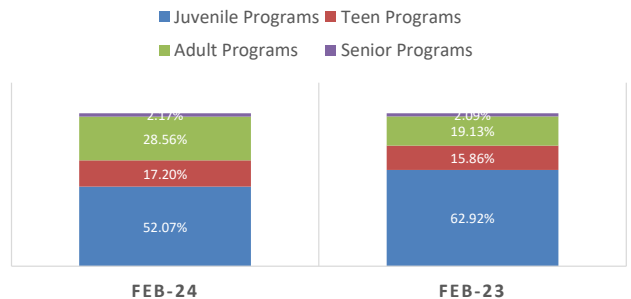
  

Programming	Change		
	Feb-24	Feb-23	
In Person	23,613	21,323	10.74%
Outreach	8,344	8,487	-1.68%
Virtual	425	282	50.71%
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>32,382</b>	<b>30,092</b>	<b>7.61%</b>

### PROGRAMS BY AGE GROUP



### PROGRAM ATTENDANCE BY AGE GROUP





**Statistical Summary – March 19, 2024**  
**Nashville Public Library**

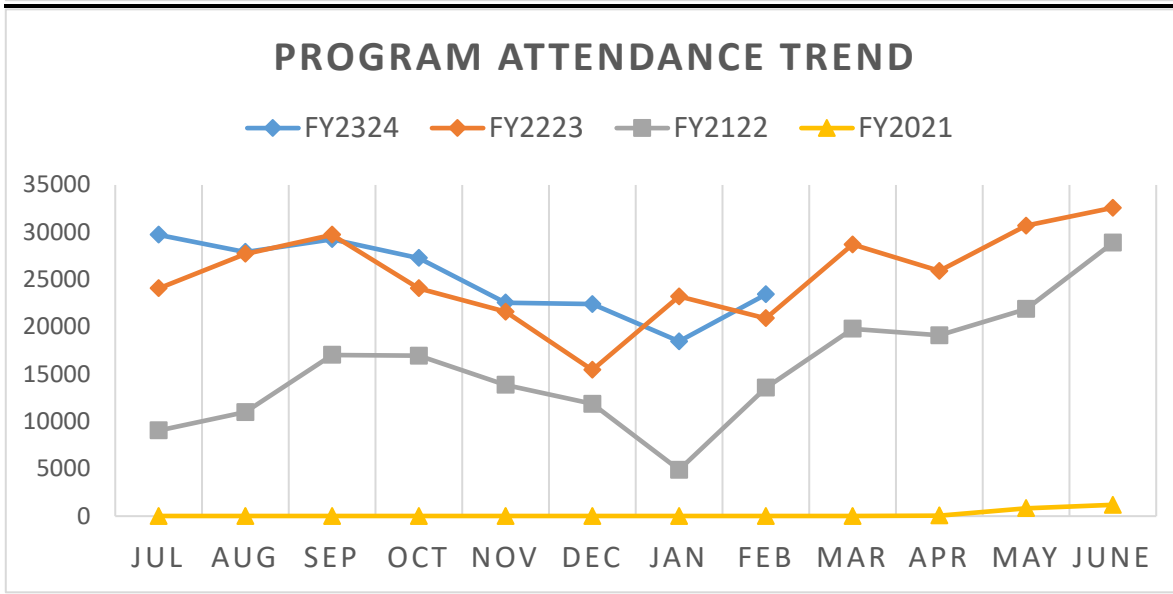
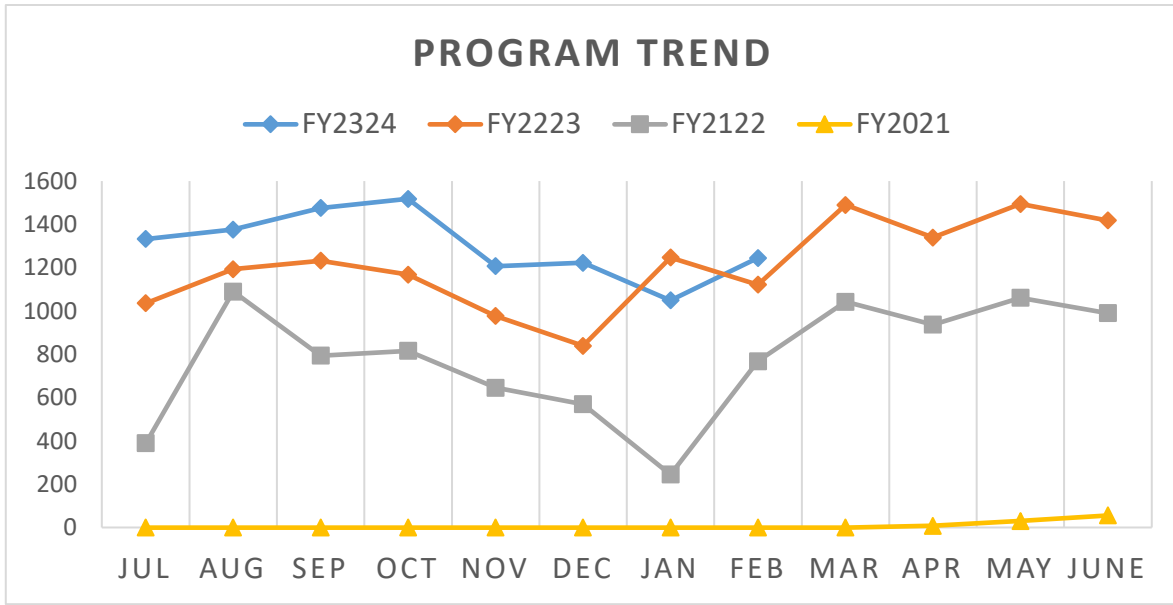
MONTH - FEBRUARY 2024

Library Programming	Location Totals								Programs by Age Group							
	Library		Outreach		Virtual		Totals		Juv		Teen		Adult		Senior	
	NO.	AUD.	NO.	AUD.	NO.	AUD.	No.	Aud.	NO.	AUD.	NO.	AUD.	NO.	AUD.	NO.	AUD.
ARCHIVES	0	0	1	32	0	0	1	32	0	0	0	0	1	32	0	0
BELLEVUE	0	0	28	1,179	2	11	30	1,190	18	792	4	342	7	41	1	15
BORDEAUX	65	613	2	45	0	0	67	658	31	427	24	148	8	61	4	22
BBTL (Bringing Bks to	2	50	37	1,084	33	74	72	1,208	30	973	0	0	42	235	0	0
BBTL (Adult Literacy)	0	0	4	31	0	0	4	31	0	0	0	0	4	31	0	0
DONELSON	29	508	8	71	0	0	37	579	16	409	0	0	21	170	0	0
EAST	79	1,306	6	177	0	0	85	1,483	24	427	60	1,056	1	0	0	0
EDGEHILL	0	0	3	326	0	0	3	326	1	40	0	0	2	286	0	0
EDMONDSON PIKE	30	149	2	43	0	0	32	192	4	69	16	62	12	61	0	0
GOODLETTSVILLE	49	763	2	44	1	7	52	814	17	406	9	95	24	295	2	18
GREEN HILLS	81	2,255	1	9	0	0	82	2,264	24	1,028	38	1,094	15	109	5	33
HADLEY PARK	25	148	14	242	0	0	39	390	23	210	0	0	16	180	0	0
HERMITAGE	53	899	4	57	1	24	58	980	24	644	3	41	29	269	2	26
INGLEWOOD	32	432	0	0	2	5	34	437	19	380	0	0	15	57	0	0
LOOBY	36	357	6	116	0	0	42	473	18	269	0	0	23	179	1	25
MADISON	51	778	4	114	0	0	55	892	21	594	19	162	14	133	1	3
MAIN - Adult Svcs	215	1,244	2	112	1	7	218	1,363	0	0	0	0	218	1,363	0	0
MAIN - Children Svcs	31	1,110	3	32	2	24	36	1,166	36	1,166	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAIN - Digital Inclusion	0	0	22	158	0	0	22	158	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	158
MAIN - LSDHH/Equal	1	4	2	27	1	18	4	49	1	12	1	15	2	22	0	0
MAIN - Puppet Truck	0	0	36	2,824	0	0	36	2,824	31	2,710	1	20	2	47	2	47
MAIN - Special Coll.	14	399	5	216	0	0	19	615	5	223	3	136	11	256	0	0
MAIN - Studio NPL	209	1,068	34	390	0	0	243	1,458	0	0	235	1,400	8	58	0	0
MAIN - Teen Svcs	32	253	6	97	0	0	38	350	0	0	38	350	0	0	0	0
MAIN - Wishing Chair	27	2427	0	0	0	0	27	2427	27	2427	0	0	0	0	0	0
NORTH	19	109	25	391	0	0	44	500	32	439	4	17	8	44	0	0
OLD HICKORY	20	276	3	70	0	0	23	346	14	289	6	37	2	14	1	6
PRUITT	46	6333	4	80	4	175	54	6588	20	1500	4	40	21	4718	9	330
RICHLAND PARK	19	704	3	74	0	0	22	778	12	647	2	60	7	57	1	14
SOUTHEAST	74	970	7	193	3	80	84	1243	25	539	31	283	27	415	1	6
THOMPSON LANE	26	218	4	110	0	0	30	328	11	198	2	16	17	114	0	0
WATKINS PARK	15	240	0	0	0	0	15	240	5	44	10	196	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,280</b>	<b>23,613</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>8,344</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>32,382</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>16,862</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>5,570</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>9,247</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>703</b>

Library Programming	Location Totals								Programs by Age Group							
	Library		Outreach		Virtual		Totals		Juv		Teen		Adult		Senior	
	NO.	AUD.	NO.	AUD.	NO.	AUD.	No.	Aud.	NO.	AUD.	NO.	AUD.	NO.	AUD.	NO.	AUD.
ARCHIVES	0	0	1	32	0	0	1	32	0	0	0	0	1	32	0	0
MAIN - Adult Svcs	215	1,244	2	112	1	7	218	1,363	0	0	0	0	218	1,363	0	0
MAIN - Children Svcs	31	1,110	3	32	2	24	36	1,166	36	1,166	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAIN - LSDHH/Equal	1	4	2	27	1	18	4	49	1	12	1	15	2	22	0	0
MAIN - Special Coll.	14	399	5	216	0	0	19	615	5	223	3	136	11	256	0	0
MAIN - Studio NPL	209	1,068	34	390	0	0	243	1,458	0	0	235	1,400	8	58	0	0
MAIN - Teen Svcs	32	253	6	97	0	0	38	350	0	0	38	350	0	0	0	0
MAIN - Wishing Chair	27	2427	0	0	0	0	27	2427	27	2427	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>6,505</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>7,460</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>3,828</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>1,901</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>1,731</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

\*MN includes Studio and Wishing Chair, which hosts outreach events at other locations.

*Statistical Summary – March 19, 2024*  
*Nashville Public Library*



**Financial – March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
 Nashville Public Library

<b>3/4/2024</b>	<b>Appropriations</b>	<b>Encumbered (current)</b>	<b>Spent (cumulative)</b>	<b>Free Balance</b>	<b>Committed (cumulative)</b>	<b>% Committed</b>
Metro-4% Funds	\$ 3,668,609.20	\$ 221,597.13	\$ 2,108,723.63	\$ 1,338,288.44	\$ 2,330,320.76	63.52%
Foundation	\$ 668,328.56	\$ -	\$ 692.02	\$ 667,636.54	\$ 692.02	0.10%
Subscriptions	\$ 197,800.00	\$ -	\$ 116,159.34	\$ 81,640.66	\$ 116,159.34	58.73%
Grants	\$ 730,500.00	\$ 45,387.27	\$ 634,555.76	\$ 50,556.97	\$ 679,943.03	93.08%
Donelson ODC	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 6,123.01	\$ 48,379.45	\$ 45,497.54	\$ 54,502.46	54.50%
	<b>\$ 5,365,237.76</b>	<b>\$ 273,107.41</b>	<b>\$ 2,908,510.20</b>	<b>\$ 2,183,620.15</b>	<b>\$ 3,181,617.61</b>	<b>59.30%</b>

**Personnel Summary/HR – March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**2024 New Hires**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Classification</u></b>	<b><u>Hire Date</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
Suzan Hicks	Library Page	2/5/2024	Edmondson Pike
Jillian Austin	Library Page	2/5/2024	Donelson
Andrew Johnson	Security Guard	2/5/2024	Security
Charles Bailey	Library Page	2/5/2024	Donelson
Travis Humbert	IS Media Tech 1	2/19/2024	Prod Services
Danielle Geiger	Library Associate	2/19/2024	Childrens
Andreas Ramey	Program Specialist 2	2/19/2024	Edgehill

**2024 Promotions**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Classification</u></b>	<b><u>Promotion Date</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
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**2024 Resignations**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Classification</u></b>	<b><u>Resignation Date</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
Matthew Ellis	Program Spec 2	2/3/2024	Richland Park
Chastin Short	Circulation Assistant	2/6/2024	Main Circ
Michael Payne	Custodian	2/16/2024	Custodial Srvs(retire)
Suzan Hicks	Library Page	2/20/2024	Edmondson Pike
Saber Abdelhalim	Program Spec 2	2/21/2024	Pub Tech

**Personnel Summary/Vacancy – March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
 Nashville Public Library

	Division / Branch	Title	Grade	Name	FP	FTE	Date Vacant	Notes
1	HR IMP	ADMIN SVCS MGR	OR07	VACANT (COHEN, S)	F	1.00	3/1/24	
2	CONF CNTR	ADMIN SVCS OFFICER 2	OR01	VACANT (COLLINS, D)	F	1.00	7/14/23	
3	DIRECTOR	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	ST11	VACANT (PHOUTHAVONG EVANS, M)	F	1.00	12/12/22	
4	OP & MAIN-MN	BLDG MAINT MECH	TG13	VACANT - NEW	F	1.00	7/1/22	
5	OP & MAIN-MN	BLDG MAINT MECH	TG13	VACANT (ISLAM, M)	F	1.00	11/14/22	
6	BELLEVUE	CIRCULATION ASST	ST05	VACANT (DENISON, D)	F	1.00	3/1/24	
7	BORDX	CIRCULATION ASST	ST05	VACANT (MCALISTER, M)	F	1.00	1/22/24	
8	BORDX	CIRCULATION ASST	ST05	VACANT (YEPREM, D)	F	1.00	10/30/23	
9	CIRC	CIRCULATION ASST	ST05	VACANT (SHORT, C)	F	1.00	2/6/24	
10	EDGH	CIRCULATION ASST	ST05	VACANT (MILLER, K)	F	1.00	9/16/23	
11	EDGH	CIRCULATION ASST	ST05	VACANT (POTEET, K)	F	1.00	2/5/24	
12	WATKINS	CIRCULATION ASST	ST05	VACANT (HEAD, O)	F	1.00	10/30/23	
13	OP & MAIN-BR	CUSTODIAN - Branch	TG07	VACANT (BERTOLDI, L)	F	1.00	7/24/23	Candidates selected
14	OP & MAIN-BR	CUSTODIAN - Branch	TG07	VACANT (PAYNE, M)	F	1.00	2/16/24	
15	OP & MAIN-BR	CUSTODIAN - Branch	TG07	VACANT (RIZAL, G)	F	1.00	12/7/23	Candidates selected
16	OP & MAIN-MN	CUSTODIAN - Main	TG07	VACANT (PAISLEY, W)	F	1.00	7/17/23	
17	TALKING	INFO SYSTEMS MEDIA TECH 1	OR02	VACANT - NEW	P	0.49	7/1/22	
18	ED PIKE	LIBRARIAN 1	ST09	VACANT (DELANEY, R)	F	1.00	6/1/22	
19	ED PIKE	LIBRARIAN 1	ST09	VACANT (LEWIS, E)	F	1.00	3/4/24	
20	GOOD	LIBRARIAN 1	ST09	VACANT (THOMPSON, A)	F	1.00	1/3/24	
21	REF	LIBRARIAN 1	ST09	VACANT (BARRETT, M)	F	1.00	9/30/22	
22	RICH PK	LIBRARIAN 1	ST09	VACANT (STRAHAN, C)	F	1.00	1/8/24	
23	BORDX	LIBRARIAN 2	ST10	VACANT (PIPER, E)	F	1.00	9/18/23	
24	DONELS	LIBRARIAN 2	ST10	VACANT - NEW	F	1.00	1/1/24	
25	DONELS	LIBRARIAN 2	ST10	VACANT - NEW	F	1.00	1/1/24	
26	DONELS	LIBRARIAN 2	ST10	VACANT - NEW	F	1.00	1/1/24	
27	ED PIKE	LIBRARY ASSOC	ST06	VACANT (FENN, M)	F	1.00	1/8/24	
28	HERM	LIBRARY ASSOC	ST06	VACANT (CROWDER, J)	F	1.00	8/2/23	
29	OLD HICK	LIBRARY MGR 1	OR05	VACANT (L'EPLATTENIER, C)	F	1.00	12/15/23	
30	CHILD	LIBRARY MGR 2	OR06	VACANT (RUA-BASHIR, P)	F	1.00	4/1/24	
31	BORDX	LIBRARY MGR 3	OR07	VACANT (HERLOCKER, A)	F	1.00	1/8/24	
32	ED PIKE	LIBRARY PAGE	ST02	VACANT (HICKS, S)	P	0.49	2/20/24	
33	GOOD	LIBRARY PAGE	ST02	VACANT (OLEAS, F)	P	0.49	8/12/23	
34	HERM	LIBRARY PAGE	ST02	VACANT (COOPER, J)	P	0.49	8/14/23	
35	MADISON	LIBRARY PAGE	ST02	VACANT (MOORES, A)	P	0.49	8/21/23	
36	ED PIKE	LIBRARY PAGE	ST02	VACANT (SCHAUMBERG, S)	P	0.49	11/14/23	
37	TECH SVCS	OFFICE SUPPORT REP SR	ST06	VACANT (YADLOSKY, K)	F	1.00	1/8/24	
38	ADMIN SVCS	PROGRAM MGR 1	OR04	VACANT - NEW	F	1.00	7/1/22	Posting
39	HR IMP	PROGRAM MGR 2	OR06	VACANT - NEW	F	1.00	7/1/23	Candidate selected
40	DONELS	PROGRAM SPEC 2	OR01	VACANT NEW - NEW	F	1.00	1/1/24	Candidate selected
41	DONELS	PROGRAM SPEC 2	OR01	VACANT NEW - NEW	F	1.00	1/1/24	Candidate selected
42	DONELS	PROGRAM SPEC 2	OR01	VACANT NEW - NEW	F	1.00	1/1/24	Candidate selected
43	ED PIKE	PROGRAM SPEC 2	OR01	VACANT (GILLESPIE, B)	F	1.00	1/23/24	
44	HR IMP	PROGRAM SPEC 2	OR01	VACANT - NEW	F	1.00	7/1/22	
45	NORTH	PROGRAM SPEC 2	OR01	VACANT (CRAIN, G)	F	1.00	1/22/24	
46	NORTH	PROGRAM SPEC 2	OR01	VACANT (SPRINGER JR., P)	F	1.00	1/22/24	
47	PUBLIC TECH	PROGRAM SPEC 2	OR01	VACANT (ABDELHALIM, S)	F	1.00	2/21/24	
48	SE	PROGRAM SPEC 2	OR01	VACANT (ROMINES, J)	F	1.00	1/18/24	
49	SECURITY	SECURITY GUARD	ST06	VACANT (CLENDENING, D)	F	1.00	7/10/23	Reposted
50	SECURITY	SECURITY GUARD	ST06	VACANT (MADU, O)	F	1.00	4/17/23	Reposted
51	ED & LIT	PROGRAM SPEC 2	OR01	VACANT - NPLF (Adult Lit Specialist)	F	1.00	7/1/22	Grant funded
52	WISH CHAIR	LIB PERFORMING ARTIST	ST07	VACANT (BOLEK, S)	P	0.49	4/27/23	Grant funded
53	ARCH/SPEC	PROGRAM COORDINATOR	OR02	VACANT (HIX, K)	P	0.65	12/6/23	Grant funded

**Brief Area Updates – March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Nashville Public Library

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

**Safety & Security: February 2024**

February 2024 Safety and Security Month end report

4 afterhours events requiring security coverage during February.

East branch has been and will continue to be covered in the afternoons by an Allied guard. NPL Security officers are still making a presence in the afternoons and the Teen fights have slowed down this month and the branch manager has been working with East Middle School administration and SRO with the problem teens.

Security phone numbers changed, and all old cell phones were disabled and returned.

Security radios were returned to Metro communications radio shop. All Security now have push-to-talk phones that work much better in the building.

All Security staff started working 4–10-hour shifts per week. All staff advised that they really like this change as it provides a better work life balance. We are also able to conduct more training.

The 3 newest security officers appear to be learning the position and appear to be content with the job duties.

The security officer position was reposted again in February for the two remaining open positions.

One suspended customer reappeared one time during in February. They are to be considered a dangerous person and has a lengthy criminal history in Nashville.

Total number of incident reports for the month of **February (58)** and related categories per incident report up from 46 incident reports in December:

Below is the number of incident Reports per Branch and then breakdown of each Branch:

*NOTE: Each report could have one or more conduct violations, a safety or security concern, and an injury or accident associated with the report which could or could not result in a suspension.*

<b>Number of Incident Reports per Branch</b>			
Bordeaux Branch	1	Madison Branch	7
East Branch	8	Main Library	29

Goodlettsville Branch	1	Richland Park Branch	1
Green Hills Branch	3	Southeast Branch	1
Hadley Park Branch	1	Thompson Lane Branch	2
Hermitage Branch	4	<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>

<b>Bordeaux Branch</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Madison Branch</b>	<b>7</b>
Injury or Accident	2	Conduct or Rule Violation	8
<b>East Branch</b>	<b>8</b>	Suspensions	5
Conduct or Rule Violation	9	<b>Main Library</b>	<b>29</b>
Safety or Security Incident	1	Conduct or Rule Violation	45
Suspensions	7	Injury or Accident	16
<b>Goodlettsville Branch</b>	<b>1</b>	Suspensions	19
Conduct or Rule Violation	1	<b>Richland Park Branch</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Green Hills Branch</b>	<b>3</b>	Conduct or Rule Violation	2
Conduct or Rule Violation	2	Safety or Security Incident	1
Injury or Accident	1	<b>Southeast Branch</b>	<b>1</b>
Suspensions	1	Injury or Accident	2

<b>Hadley Park Branch</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Thompson Lane Branch</b>	<b>2</b>
Conduct or Rule Violation	1	Conduct or Rule Violation	4
<b>Hermitage Branch</b>	<b>4</b>	Injury or Accident	3
Conduct or Rule Violation	2	Safety or Security Incident	5
Injury or Accident	2		
Safety or Security Incident	2		

<b>Number of Injury or Accident and Safety or Security Incidents</b>			
<b>911 for assistance</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Arrest</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Ambulance</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Police called</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Illness / Accident</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Safety Related</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Injury</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Suspicious Activity</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Medical</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Vehicle Theft</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Mental Issues</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Vehicle Towed</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Mobile Crisis</b>	<b>1</b>		

Number of Conduct or Rule Violations					
#1		#9	2	#17	17
#2		#10	1	#18	1
#3	4	#11	1	#19	8
#4	1	#12		#20	3
#5	9	#13	1	#21	7
#6	1	#14	2	#22	
#7		#15	9	#23	
#8	6	#16	4		

Suspensions	32
7 days	1
30 days	9
60 days	3
90 days	3
365 days	16



## **Delivery: February 2024**

### **Main:**

- We received 534 incoming UPS packages and sent 35 packages UPS GROUND.
- There were 102 overnight packages received from FedEx, DHL, etc.
- We received 84 inserts of mail from the United States Post Office, and we sent 63 inserts of mail to Metro Mail for postage.
- There were 56 special deliveries from Ricoh, Supply Room, Firefly, Amazon, etc.

### **Branches:**

- We moved: 4,681 hold bins (149,792 items)  
3,828 non-hold bins (122,496 items)  
1,471 Circulation/Main bins (47,072 items).

Total of 9,980 bins moved.

Total item count of 319,360.

An average of 499 bins and **15,968** items moved per day.

0 skids were sent to Pratt Industries for book recycling.

6 skids were sent to BWB.

### **Daily Complete Percentage:**

Holds 20 of 20 days for 100% in February.

## **Facilities Maintenance: February 2024**

Tamis work order report shows 330 work requests, 294 completed, 36 still active with an 90% completion rate for the month of February.

<b>February 1st - February 29th 2024</b>					
<b>Craft</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Total # Work Orders</b>	<b># Completed</b>	<b># Active</b>	<b>Completion %</b>
None Entered	February 2024	3	0	3	<b>0%</b>
Administration	February 2024	1	0	1	<b>0%</b>
Branch Custodial Services	February 2024	67	67	0	<b>100%</b>
Canceled	February 2024	1	1	0	<b>100%</b>
Contractor	February 2024	1	0	1	<b>0%</b>
Grounds	February 2024	84	81	3	<b>96%</b>
Main Custodial Services	February 2024	1	1	0	<b>100%</b>
Maintenance	February 2024	172	144	28	<b>88%</b>
		<b>Quantity 330</b>	<b>Completed 294</b>	<b>Active 36</b>	<b>Completion % 90%</b>

**February** Maintenance monthly report 2024: 144 work orders got completed with 3 employees.

## **BRANCH SERVICES**

Highlights for branches across the system in January and February included New Year and Lunar New Year activities, Nashville Reads programs and displays, tax form assistance, and several maintenance issues. There was also the week-long closure due to snow. When staff returned to work, they were busy pulling thousands of holds that people placed while they were stuck at home.

While **Bellevue Branch was closed for water leak repairs** during January and February, Bellevue Branch staff were reassigned to other branches where they were gladly welcomed. Worried that the individuals would feel isolated from their teammates, supervisors held check-in meetings and activities to keep the team bonded. Bellevue staff also continued to offer programs and outreach either within the community at other venues or virtually. Because the bookshelves and furniture had to be removed to replace the floor, we took the opportunity to work with NPL Designer Jennifer Fournier to make a few improvements to the floorplan when it reopens. The service desk was damaged by the water and will take several months to arrive, so the building will reopen with a temporary desk. Staff will return to the Bellevue branch beginning March 6, and Bellevue will open for curbside service on March 11. Once staff have made sure everything has been put in its proper place, we will reopen to the public for full service on April 1.

**Edgehill Branch** also closed for several weeks due to needed **plumbing issues**. The branch will be open for voting on March 5, and will reopen for full service on March 6.

While both Bellevue and Edgehill were closed, holds from these locations were rerouted to Green Hills Branch. During this time, Green Hills was struggling with its own maintenance issues with the cooling system. Temporary coolers were placed, which helped, but the building still ran uncomfortably warm during the unseasonably warm weather days. Still, patrons from Edgehill and Bellevue were grateful that they could still place and pick up holds.



**FEMA** continued to use the meeting room at Madison Branch for tornado recovery efforts. Their use of the room limited the amount of adult programming Madison staff was able to provide, but

it brought a lot of people into the library, giving Madison the highest door count for this fiscal year so far.

Led by Alfreda Miguel, staff from Bordeaux, Hadley Park and Looby branch libraries planned and executed the **2024 North Nashville Senior Appreciation Day**. The purpose of the program was to acknowledge the contributions of our senior population and to increase awareness around the issues that affect aging adults. Be Well partnered with the branches to make this event possible.

New **Children's Traveling Librarians**, Cara Kincaid and Cathy Strahan, started offering new outreach and program opportunities to our neighborhood branches who do not have a Children's Librarian on staff. They visit a different library community each day Monday – Thursday and use Friday for planning.

**Ryan Darrow** is being promoted to Manager 3 of the new Donelson Branch and **Pat Bashir** is being promoted to Manager 3 of the Edmondson Pike Branch.

Southeast staff, John McFarland and volunteer, Maureen Meyer, had the opportunity to be interviewed by WKRN about the **English Conversation Club** program. The short segment that aired on the 26<sup>th</sup> brought a valuable spotlight onto the community need that ECC fills.

## COLLECTIONS & TECHNOLOGY

### Shared Systems

- Jenny Ellis created an automated response queue to improve handling photography requests at the behest of Kyle Barber and his team. This improved the workflow upstairs a great deal.
- Jenny Ellis updated the Limitless Libraries site with a new workflow, which allowed her to update the site to Drupal 10. This had been a project slated for our web support vendor, Net Tango, so by figuring out how to do it herself, Ellis saved our support budget several hours (about \$1K).
- Kyle Cook held training for Bedework use in February, training 5 new employees.
- Kyle Cook and Jenny Ellis worked with the NPL Wellness Works team to add bike racks to the list of branch amenities.
- Team working to onboard Robertson Gifted Academy's library for staff by creating a marc file of their collection (currently in a spreadsheet) and devising a method of barcoding their collection so that items can be added. They will be moving to using Carl Connect for library services.
- James Staub and Kate Wingate visited AZ Kelley and Marshall Middle School. They have now visited all of the MNPS libraries that have new librarians. This time was spent orienting the librarians to the Limitless program, fixing technical issues, answering questions, and training the librarian on the system. James and Kate also attended Pineapple PD Day with MNPS Library Services (at their request).
- Kate visited Joelton Elementary school and read to students as part of Read Across America Day, supporting NPL's advocacy of community literacy and education.
- Team is working with the IT group at Loudon County PL in Virginia on using AI for library projects. James Staub already uses CoPilot in Git for some coding. Jenny Lane is using Fixie.ai to write a desk reference draft for the Circulation Committee.
- Jenny Lane has been serving on various panels for the Materials Management team's RFPs, including evaluating products and vendor demos.
- James Staub and Bryan Jones worked with Larry Jirik to fix a snafu with the Online Public Access Catalogs at branches where a rogue machine at Looby Branch was sending calls that overwhelmed the catalog servers. Branches lost OPAC use for about a week while

this issue was being investigated. James and Bryan are still working on maintaining a stable amount of traffic/speed of search in catalog.

- Net Tango and the web team completed 4 tickets on the multilingual project. Jenny Ellis reports that we are more than two-thirds of the way through the project, so we are very hopeful of a summer go live for Spanish and Arabic versions of the website.
- Jenny Lane and Jenny Ellis, working with Ryan Darrow and Kyle Barber, have completed the RFP for a communication and engagement software suite. Currently the library uses Springshare for this, a situation we hope to retain. Lane will submit the RFP to Jess Horn who will forward to Procurement.
- Bryan Jones upgraded Aspen to 24.02.04.
- The team has been working with ensure smooth closures of various branches in January, including Bellevue and Edgehill.
- Bryan Jones will be attended AspenCon in March.

## **NECAT**

NECAT and Production Services provided the technical support for NPL's broadcast of the Chinese New Year (CNY) on February 10 at the Nashville Fairgrounds, in collaboration with the Chinese Arts Alliance of Nashville (CAAN). This collaboration was formed during the Celebrate Nashville Tent Talk's Broadcast in October of 2023. The CNY broadcast was a success and featured interviews with Nashville's Mayor, Freddie O'Connell, Nashville Public Radio's Khalil Ekulona, and CAAN's Jen-Jen Lin as well as dances, artwork, and performances. The show was hosted by Lee Boulie and can be viewed on YouTube as well as on the NECAT channels and Roku, as scheduled.

Link to Broadcast:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgF\\_j2D0mA4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgF_j2D0mA4)



## February Quick View

2/3 Production 1 Class (11 Students)

2/10 Chinese New Year at Fairgrounds (10 NECAT volunteers)

2/11 Audio Class (3 students)

2/12 Let's Play Games

2/27 Overdue Adventures Taping (Hannah Gerst Show)

Membership

New Members	10
People in Production 1	11
People in Production 2	N/A
People in Specialty Class	3
Equipment Checkouts	4

### Studio Usage

	Blocks Booked	Time in Hours
Producer Led Productions	26	130
NECAT Productions/Staff working Days	9	45
Meetings/Tours	5	4.5
Trainings	4	20
Editing Bay Usage	2	5
Holiday Closures	2	10
Cancelations	4	20

### Kiosk Check-Ins

Reason	Number of People
Production	173
Class	14
Meeting	6
Tour	0



Event	0
Editing	1
Other	4
Total	198

### Network Content

NPL Programming Run Time	19649.35 Minutes
MTSU Programming Run Time	6733.57 Minutes
New First Run Programs	0
New First Run Episodes	59
New NPL Carousel Bulletins	4
New Carousel Bulletins	1

### Collections/ Materials Management

- Noel Rutherford completed the Ebsco staff instructions for online check ins and claims with our new periodical distributor and submitted the revisions to our Collection Development Policy and Request for Reconsideration form. She also created new staff instructions for how to respond to these Requests.
- Noel did prep work for her PLA presentation on Floating Collections and conducted Materials Management training for new staff.
- Noel met with Procurement and worked on several ongoing projects, including ePeriodicals and eVideos, eBooks and eAudiobooks and OCLC.
- All the collection development librarians completed their Donelson ODC orders.
- Ben English posted two collection spotlights: National Fasting February; Snowy Films.

- Beth Deeb has served on the evaluation of our Book and Audio/Visual Distributor RFPs and has posted two Collection Spotlights: Celebrate Black Authors: New Fiction, Black History Month: New Nonfiction.
- Melissa Meyers created spending reports for the state and federal LSTA grant and met with library finance team to update Amazon ordering workflow.
- Collection Development Librarians continued to select materials for the new Donelson Branch Library.
- Collection Development Librarians responded to a total of **675 material requests** in PIKA and LibAnswers from staff and library customers.
- Amanda Dembiec posted two blogs: All About Me – autobiographies; Wicked Weather (Severe Weather Week 2024)
- Susan Poulter prepared and recorded three podcasts: *The History of Dwarf Long Nose*; *The Three Brothers*; and the *Story of Prince Ahmed and the Princess Paribanou*.

**Meetings/Webinars Attended:**

- Internal: Materials Management Committee, Children’s Services meeting, Circulation Committee, Procedures Review Committee, Procurement RFP meetings, Collection Development Huddle; Conflict Resolution with Kyle Barber; MarCom meeting: Women's History Month planning; Participatory Budget.
- External: OCLC Resource Sharing Product Insights; TNShare Resource Sharing Committee meeting; Booklist Adult Faves; Graphic Novels for Adults and Young Adults; Books that are Buzzing for Spring; Macmillan Spring/Summer 2024 Librarian Preview; Amazing Audio.

**Materials Management Statistical Report Feb, 2024**

Feb New Circulation		
User category	# of Unique Users	Items checked out

Digital	45,337	273,249
Physical	20,848	127,677*
<b>Totals =</b>	<b>66,185</b>	<b>400,926</b>
<b>Feb New Acquisitions</b>		
<b>Format</b>	<b>Copies added</b>	
Digital	5,179	
Physical	6,876	
<b>Totals =</b>	<b>12,055</b>	

**\*Physical checkout statistics do not include renewals as this report is used by Material Services to determine the demand for content, not how long customers want to borrow the content.**

### **Technology**

- Branch Computer Maintenance/Updates
  - Power Cycle Computers / Test Logins - Ongoing
  - Verify monthly update installation - Ongoing

Verify network connectivity / domain presence – Ongoing

### **❖ Branch iPad Updates**

- Verify inventory of all iPads (21 branches)
- Update all existing apps
- Add SayHi, Zoom, WebEx, Authenticator, Square POS

#### ❖ Security Camera – Additions

- Hermitage – Quoted – Approved –Installation 4/15/24
- Goodlettsville – Quoted – Approved –Installation 3/25/24
- Inglewood – Quoted – Approved –Installation 4/1/24

#### ❖ Server Updates

- All Camera servers – Move servers to new VLAN & NIC Teaming – In Progress
- Migrate CM01 Server to new Milestone – Config backed up Pre Migration Complete
  - OS Upgrade – 3/8/24
  - Migration – 03/16/24

#### ❖ Library – Renovations - Bellevue

- Replace Staff / Public Computers – On Going – Completion 3/22/24
- Additional Staff – Est Completion – 3/22/24
  - Wiring - Quoted
  - Furniture – Ordered
  - Computer Equipment - Ordered

#### ❖ New Donelson

- Equipment Needs
  - Security Cameras & Server Ordered – Server Received
  - Plan/Evaluation Computer Equipment Needs Staff/Public – Order Submitted
  - AV Equipment Ordered

## ❖ INK

### 1. Completed

- Created new Office Supply page for Admin Services reflecting the new vendor selection hierarchy
- Cleaned and updated the INK auto-send Staff Database
- Restructuring of the Staff Printer Access workflow to resolve an error issue
- Updated Org Charts for Admin Assistants

### 1. Current

- Reworking the Staff Printer Access Program to comply with the new version of Outlook
- Creating Staff Photo Directory
- Working with PR to create a direct-upload site for their photo assets
- Train new Admin Assists on INK
- Correcting NPL Announcement document attachment error on INK

## **Production Services**

Production services provided AV support for 53 requests around the Nashville Public Library system. Breakdown:

- 24 Conference Center events with AV support
- 6 Satellite & Branch events
- 5 Podcast Studio sessions
- 5 Hybrid meetings facilitated during requested events
- 8 Filming session (Lets Play Games, Then & Now B-Roll & Main, Lego Awards, Board Meeting, EP Community Garden, Deaf Journeys, Overdue Adventures)
- 5 Maintenance visits (Main Classroom, Bordeaux Touch panel, EP Extron, EP Teen TV, Southeast Touch panel)

- **NPLU Filming Schedule**
  - 8 Videos Recorded
  - Completed edits for 2 videos
  - Published 9 videos on NPL Universe
  - 5 Livestreams in February
- **NPLU Stats**
  - 11.6k channel wide views
  - 4k hours of watch time
- **Podcasts**
  - Recorded 9 New episodes Family Folktales, Just Listen, All Things Eerie, Overdue Adventures.
  - Completed edits for 19 episodes.
  - Published 3 episodes. 2 for Family Folktales. 1 for Truth B Told
- **Captioning Data**
  - Number of videos completed: 13 (1 more in progress)
  - Total time captioned: 12:34:27 (12 hours, 34 minutes, and 27 seconds)
- **Production Services Highlights**
  - New Production Tech, Travis Humbert, started on February 20th.
  - Podcast recordings for the “Your Mind Matters” begin in March.
  - Chinese New Year live broadcast very successful.
  - Cleaned out & organized Production Storage Room

- All Hybrid meetings for the Month of February were streamlined from using OWL Labs devices.
- 1 production event was canceled after tech completed setup.
- 31 events currently projected for March.
- In works to update podcast recording and copyright structure.
- Production Services will have updated media analytics for March Board Report

## **1. Talking Library Highlights**

- **Welcome Travis**

- We're so excited to welcome Travis Humbert to the TL team as our new Production Tech!! Travis brings with him a wealth of studio recording and audio experience. He is the first addition to the TL production team in nearly 10 years! His first day was 2/20.
- He'll be helping with our intense audio-editing workload, recording special promos, and filling-in for Ben when he is away. Also, Travis' office is up in the main TL area on the 3rd floor, so he will be available to assist TL staff and volunteers with any audio/PC issues in the recording booths.
- In his first two weeks we have been busy training on TL gear, workflows, the AM live broadcast, and all things TL production. Training is going swimmingly so far, but it will be ongoing. Lots to learn!
- Travis' position is unique in that he will be working "half-time" for the TL, and half-time for NPL's Production Services team.

## EDUCATION & LITERACY

### **Adult Literacy at NPL – Jamil Sameen**

In February, Adult Literacy purchased 20 iPads to create two new mobile labs for partners to borrow and for staff to use for classes and outreach events. This month the iPads were used for the first time by the adult learners at the Branch of Nashville.



The 2024 Adult Education Spring Summit will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Main library conference spaces. This local conference provides a free professional development opportunity for the adult education community in Davidson County and will feature the 2024 Adult Educator of the Year ceremony. Adult Literacy received 6 candidates from 6 different organizations for Adult Educator of the Year. The selection committee was formed and soon they will be provided with material to score the nominees.

All the available seats for the upcoming Career Ninja workforce development training are filled and Adult Literacy staff are starting a waiting list for future potential trainings. This professional development training will enable the staff of our partner agencies to gain new skills in workforce development and better serve their clients in job placement and career advancement.

32 adult learners utilized the mobile laptop labs. In January, 33 new NPL cards were issued to students.

This month, Adult Literacy brought back the popular Teachers' Lounge. 15 educators attended the virtual event, where they discussed Learning Styles for Diverse Classrooms.



The team is busy preparing a presentation for the COABE National Conference in March, titled "Hold the World In Your Hands: Resources for Adult Learners at the Public Library." COABE (Coalition on Adult Basic Education) is the major professional organization for those working in adult education. Adult Literacy staff are excited to share their work with others in the field and hope that it leads to many partnerships between adult education providers and public libraries.

The Adult Literacy program actively engages in two collective impact initiatives in Nashville: Coalition for Better Future for Southeast Nashville and GOAL Collective. The Coalition meets on a monthly basis and provides in depth resources on the career advancement and adult literacy!

Adult Literacy staff attended GOAL full community quarterly meeting this month and initiated organizing an adult learner event. The prospects of collaborating on the event were discussed with the GOAL Collective Learner Engagement Working Group.

### **Bringing Books to Life! – Liz Atack**

BBTL provided 72 programs with 1,208 in attendance. 30 programs were story times, 2 were teacher workshops, 7 were Loving & Learning workshops and 33 were COACH sessions (in-person and virtual workshops, along with coaching sessions for families).

BBTL wrapped up its Holidays Around the World interactive story times, which were well received by teachers. The team spent part of February preparing the Mother Goose interactive story times, which begin in March and run through the spring. The team also lead *Lorraine* story times to go along with the current Puppet Truck theme.

Although the Lorraine theme just started, BBTL began planning for the next Puppet Truck theme, *La, La, La*, which will begin in July. The goal is to have materials ordered in the beginning of May and all materials ready for delivery by mid-June.

BBTL collaborated with an EL teacher at Tusculum Elementary school to create a workshop series for EL families. The goal is to create a home culture of literacy, building on families' strengths (i.e. they already have a culture of literacy at home, so encouraging them to continue talking and reading while offering tips and tools from NPL). 70 individuals attended the first workshop and enjoyed reading books together, trying out dialogic reading and picture walking techniques.

Family Literacy Program Specialist Caroline Cronin received the following shoutout from the Southeast library:

*"I wanted to send a quick thank you for everything you have done to translate our calendar and children's descriptions. This morning we had a tour of Spanish speakers come into the branch. They were so pleased to have our information in Spanish. You have made a huge positive impact on our community."*

Caroline translates the materials to share with families enrolled in the COACH study and the branches can use the materials as well.

BBTL staff attended the Begin Bright kickoff. Everyone is excited to grow the program and expand our services to the early childhood community in Nashville.

### **Be Well – Bassam Habib**

Be Well officially finished construction on the Edmondson Pike Community Garden. The branch staff and community all came out to help, and they are excited about planting and offering Be Well classes outside in the garden. One of the community members came with her granddaughter and shed tears at the sight of the garden, saying that she had been coming with her granddaughter for years to Edmonson Pike and that her daughter is now a gardener and is excited to help. The Nashville Food Project, Master Gardeners of Davidson County, Neighbors for a Native Nashville, Nashville Community Garden Coalition, and other community members and families are sponsoring beds in the garden. The Director of the TN Nature Academy discussed bringing their classes to the garden, having students learn outside. This is the 6<sup>th</sup> Be Well community garden in the system.

Be Well recently partnered with Joseph Bazelais and his team from the Black Mental Health Village, where they will begin offering art therapy classes bi-monthly at the Pruitt and Bordeaux branches. The program will be led by four therapists of color that will work with teens and young adults to grow and motivate their artistic talents.

Be Well partnered with Naomi Nwabara, a licensed Zumba instructor who will begin offering Zumba classes at Edgehill.

Be Well is working with Studio NPL and NAZA on a Teen Conference which will take place in April. Be Well's contributions include two types of journals (Self-Exploration and Compassion)— which were put together by Bassam Habib and two therapists from Transformative Therapy— a guided meditation, and a sound bath. Andy Melton, a therapist who worked with Your Mind Matters, will be on a mental health panel discussion for teens.

Be Well is working with NECAT and Lee Boulie on a dance series that highlights different kinds of dance and their benefits.

Be Well partnered with John Nardozi and the Metro Department of Health to address Substance Abuse and Addiction with a panel and a workshop with community members highlighting the Arabic speaking population. The panel discussion and workshop will be held sometime in April.

### **Digital Inclusion – Marian Christmon**

During February, the Digital Inclusion team provided basic digital skills training classes for seniors at John L Glenn, Metrocenter Teachers Apartments and the Looby library branch.

Microsoft Office skills for work classes were also provided for seniors at the Nashville Workforce Essentials facility.

**Sip & Swipe and Senior Tech Academy**      **MS Office Skills for Work @ Workforce Essential**

**John L Glen**



**Metro Center Teachers Apts**



Digital Inclusion’s partnership with Senior Planet started with the staff participating in Senior Planet’s “Train-the-Trainer” program, a 5-week program that helps prepare partners to teach Senior Planet courses and use their administrative tools. Digital Inclusion will start offering these courses in April.

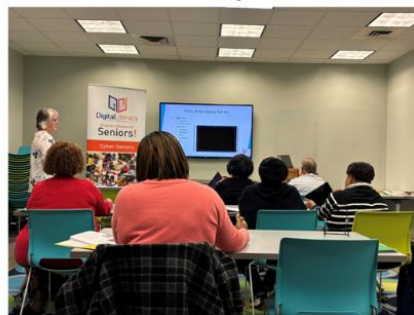
The two part-time TOP grant trainers are gradually taking over the basic skills training courses for the team. The plan is that they will conduct the basic skills courses while full-time educators will begin to offer Senior Planet classes for higher-level skills. Because the part-timers trainers are grant funded, we anticipate a period between grants this summer when they will not be funded. Both are enjoying the work and want to continue. Digital Inclusion will be reapplying for the Training Opportunities for The Public (TOP) grant again with the state library in hopes that they can continue in the fall.

**TOP Grant Trainers in Action @ Looby Library**

**Rhonda**



**Mary**



**Limitless Libraries – Syreeta Butler**

The \$12,265 donation from the Greater Nashville Chinese Alliance was utilized to procure materials focused on Asian-American and Pacific Islander content for MNPS. This initiative resulted in the addition of 25 new titles across various school collections.

### COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Sarah Allen and Emily Farmer completed the monthly collection development tasks. This included ordering April pre-publication materials, generating bulk lists tailored to each tier, and fulfilling individual school orders based on Schoology requests.

### COMMITTEE/ GROUP PARTICIPATION/ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Syreeta Butler hosted tours for Black Men in Leadership, Junior League of Nashville, and Black Women in Leadership at NPL, providing insights into Limitless Libraries.

Sarah Allen, Syreeta Butler, and Emily Farmer held discussions with MNPS Library Services regarding funding and operational strategies for schools lacking full-time librarians, and collaborated with MNPS Library Services and Shared Systems to evaluate age appropriateness and uphold intellectual freedom.

Sarah Allen, Syreeta Butler, Emily Farmer, Helene Mahnken, and Tyler Sainato volunteered at the High School Battle of the Books, sponsored by Limitless Libraries, with lunch catered by Slim N Husky's.

### OUTREACH

Tyler Sainato and Helene Mahnken visited 20 schools, engaged with 22 school librarians, assisted in 7 weeding and processing projects, contributed to 3 book fairs, and presented Limitless Libraries resources at 6 literacy and multicultural events. They also provided curriculum planning and delivered presentations for teachers and administrators, in addition to attending community meetings.

They elevated Limitless Libraries' social media presence by crafting engaging and interactive posts and reels. Additionally, they actively promoted the social media endeavors of both NPL and MNPS, demonstrating solidarity.

### CIRCULATION STATS

Limitless Libraries facilitated the circulation of 6,959 items, utilizing 1,602 green bags, 304 gray bins, with 37 book trucks returned from MNPS and 41 book trucks sent to MNPS, accounting for holidays and inclement weather closures.

**NAZA** – Anna Harutyunyan

NAZA Youth Adviser, Itzel, participated in the White House Interagency Youth Summit in Washington DC attended by US Departments of Education, Labor and Health. She was one of 90 young people nationwide invited to share their perspectives on important issues that affect youth lives such as mental health, cost of living, student debt, climate change, etc. A blog post with details is in the works and will be shared separately. For details about the event visit <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/biden-harris-administration-holds-first-ever-interagency-youth-policy-summit-cultivating-possibilities>

In February, 1,387 youth attended NAZA-funded programs. Two additional summer contracts were awarded with 46 slots for the month of June. Two training sessions were conducted with 19 participants.

### **Puppet Truck – William Kirkpatrick**

In February, the Puppet Truck had a total of 36 shows at 34 locations with 2,824 in attendance. The second puppet truck was retrieved after its final repairs, which helped the team accommodate more shows at more locations. Many of these shows were branch visits for African American History Month programming.

The Puppet Truck team is preparing for Celebration of Cultures month in April by making repairs to puppets and fixing the stages to get them ready since there will have to be quick flips and turn arounds to accommodate the rest of the Puppet Truck schedule.

The Puppet Truck team is in preparation for ENDADA at Montgomery Bell Academy. William Kirkpatrick plans to make a sign for the public shows so that more families can register for Wishing Chair Productions updates.

Much of February was spent scheduling upcoming Spring shows, and Puppet Truck's March calendar is already full.

William Kirkpatrick got in touch with Ketch Secor from Old Crow Medicine Show, to discuss bringing *Lorraine: The Girl Who Sang The Storm Away*, to the Episcopal School of Nashville, a school he helped found.

### **Wishing Chair Productions – Bret Wilson**

Wishing Chair Productions conducted 12 in person Storytimes, 15 mainstage presentations of *Anansi the Spider* in the children’s theater for a total of 27 performances with an audience count of 2,427 participants. Wishing Chair Productions welcomed several groups to private performance in the children’s theater during the month of February. Groups included Zion Christian Academy (pictured below), Merroll Hyde Magnet School, Smith Springs Elementary and Nashville Big Picture High School.



Wishing Chair Productions received a request from Administration to assist in the creation of a frame for the Our Nashville Reads campaign starting this month. Team members created a multi-sided frame to feature the book covers of the featured author Jason Reynolds. The completed work was showcased in the gallery storage on the first floor and then relocated to the Main lobby.



A request was made by the art teacher at Harding Academy for a representative from Wishing Chair Productions to come and conduct a presentation on hand and rod puppets. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students (50 students + 10 adults) are currently in the process of creating their own stories and making puppets for a presentation scheduled for late March. Bret Wilson led the instruction period and discussed performance techniques, physical/ vocal warm-ups, puppet construction, the library’s puppet history, etc. Wishing Chair also received an invitation to the three-day performance event scheduled to start March 20<sup>th</sup>.



Linda Harrison launched the Education and Literacy Department videos at the February 20<sup>th</sup> board meeting. The Wishing Chair Productions video was featured during the presentation. The video covers the history, current program offerings and vision for the future.



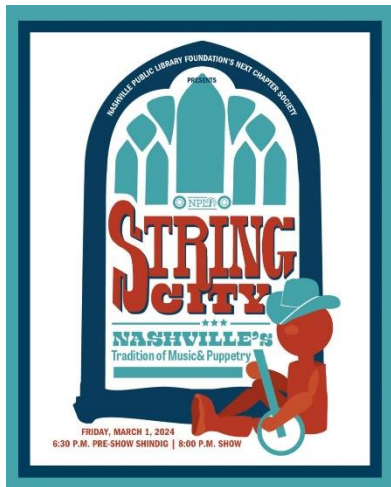
Wishing Chair conducted performances of *Anansi the Spider* on the mainstage in the children's theater. On February 10<sup>th</sup>, they did a special tribute in honor of Tom Tichenor on his 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday.



Wishing Chair Productions is partnering on a production with The Theaterbug entitled *Megg The Egg*. Wishing Chair will provide construction of one small Egg puppet and Egg costume with education workshops for the students on the other rod puppets. It's a one-day workshop roughly 2-hours in length and will cost nothing in materials. Workshops will cover how to build basic rod puppets along with how to perform them. Workshops are scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup> of March with performances of the show in April at the

Theaterbug.

Wishing Chair Productions is preparing to present *String City* for the Next Chapter Society as a fundraiser in the main auditorium of the Main library. Scott Leathers will be returning to assist in the cleanup of the lighting design of the show. Performance is scheduled for Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> @ 8:10 PM.

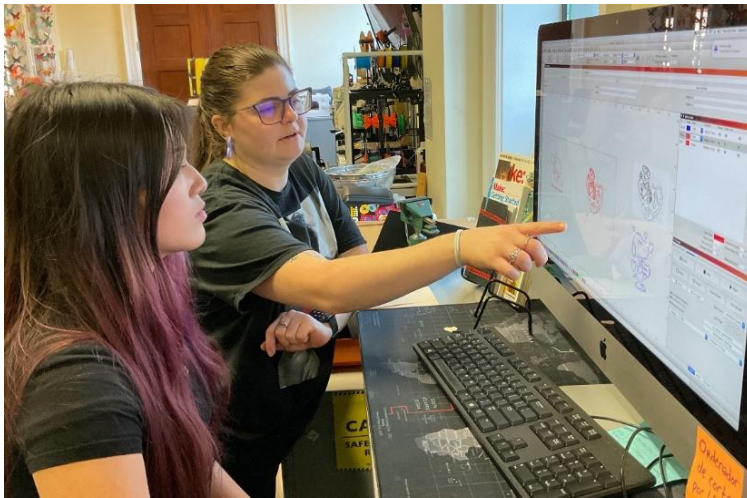


Studio NPL – Niq Tognoni

### Studio NPL Visits:

Studio NPL has been rotating mentors through East, Goodlettsville, Southeast, and Green Hills branches this month; Edgemoor and Bellevue programs are on pause due to building maintenance, but staff have been able to reallocate some of the mentor hours from those sites to the Watkins Park branch, and they are having great success with their patrons.

At Studio Main, the team have hosted three visits from Oasis's ITOP program (Immigrant and refugee families), and a visit from Brentwood's "Jack and Jill" group, who came in contact with Studio via a contact from the Black Women in Leadership NPLF tours.



*Mentor Mollie works with a student on laser-cut valentines.*

### Planning Month:

When not working with patrons, staff have been consumed with preparations for the Spring and Summer break intensives. Niq Tognoni and M Kelley have been working with MDHA to plan a 2-day tech intensive for young people in the Cayce Homes neighborhood, and Mariano Hayes and Stuart Wilson have been working on the Spring Break intensive "ReVogue Recycle"— a fashion-focused workshop using donated clothing and fabric. Studio team members have also been working steadily to plan the April 6<sup>th</sup> "Youth Connection Conference" at Southeast Community Center, in partnership with NAZA and Be Well. Looking ahead to summer, dates have been set for the summer intensives and Niq Tognoni met with several partners this month to make those a success (Southern Word, The Frist, Metro Parks, Music for Seniors).

### Outreach:



There was about 15 hours of active outreach programming this month, serving 240 teens across 12 different sites. Studio piloted a new outreach program around paper airplane design and flight (great for sites with outdoors access) and ran two simultaneous programs at a Head Middle School STEAM event. Several outreach events were with the “NICE” program, which exclusively works with refugee families; robotics activities are very popular with those participants, especially the ones that encourage communication as many participants speak languages other than English.

### **Adult Workshops:**

Studio piloted a Podcasting workshop for adults, attended mostly by other metro employees (Health department, Zero Waste Department, Nashville Dept. of Transportation). The team is framing this as an introduction to podcasting, how to create a “DIY” setup, as well as how to use the Studio NPL podcast studio. Studio will be hosting another workshop in March on editing podcasts, and that will help inform how to set up regular adult podcast workshops.

Studio hosted another 3D printing workshop at Hermitage branch, with 19 attendees, including the Hermitage Council Member. There were great responses, many “thank you” emails and several submissions to the 3D Printing Service cue. Studio will host one more of these workshops at Hermitage before pivoting to another branch.

The Third Young Adult Artist-in-Residence cohort began this month with Studio NPL partner Southern Word. There will be 4 participants aged 19-24 who will meet weekly throughout the semester to write and produce music, work with guest musicians from the symphony, and host a performance for teens.



*Stuart Wilson at the Hermitage Branch 3D printing Class.*

## MAIN

### Adult Services

- 16 Programs, 113 Attendees
- Joy Porter helped coordinate panelists for Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day partnership with Vanderbilt HIV Vaccine Program. 30 Attendees.
- Crystal Deane co-hosted the Seed Swap and Share event at Shelby Bottoms Nature Center which saw over 100 gardeners stop by to share seeds.

### Children's

- This year's LEGO Contest was our biggest to date with 282 Participants. We saw 1,593 patrons come through the library to view the creations.
- Cristina Picca continues her work serving the Latino Community. She conducted a library tour in Spanish for children and teachers at Bethany Christian Services of TN. She also created virtual story times for the Transitional Care Program at that agency.

### Equal Access

- Talking Library has 419 registered listeners and the provided 684 hours of programming.

### Special Collections

- 34 items scanned from the Nashville Banner negatives.
- 3 Oral Histories on Women's Suffrage clipped, transcribed, and uploaded.
- 7 Transcripts uploaded for ADA compliance.
- 14 programs with 261 attendees

### Teens

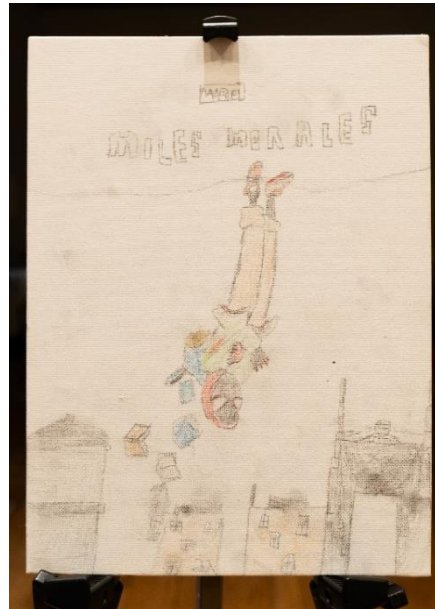
- 28 Programs, 200 Attendees
- 6 Outreach Visits, 97 Attendees
- 1,099 Teens came through the space this month.

## Nashville Reads 2024



This year's Nashville Reads theme was celebrating the works of African American author Jason Reynolds. Reynolds was chosen as the spotlight author by the Programming Committee due to his multi-generational books and his well-documented fight for intellectual freedom. A system-wide art contest was held across the branches where patrons were asked submit art pieces that were inspired by Reynolds and his books. These art submissions were put on display at Main during the Nashville Reads Finale Event.

The Nashville Reads 2024 Finale was held in the Gallery at Main on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> from 12-2 PM. Members of the public were invited to view the art submissions and indulge in light refreshments. Linda Harrison and Lana Boleyjack announced the two contest winners this year:



*Winners from left to right:  
Teen Art Prize Winner; Jack, 14; Children's Art Prize Winner; Lee, 8.*

The Programming Committee also had an art piece commissioned for NPL from local artist James Matthews, in honor of Nashville Reads 2024 and Jason Reynolds. The piece was on display from February 24<sup>th</sup> – March 4<sup>th</sup>, and will be disassembled and put on display at the branch.



This art piece was created as a celebration of the works of Jason Reynolds, Nashville Public Library's spotlight author for Nashville Reads 2024.

Created by local artist James Matthews, the piece incorporates blackout poetry from excerpts of Jason's books, and features three of Jason's most popular works, as well as a portrait of the acclaimed author.

On behalf of NPL staff, we thank James for his tireless effort crafting this piece, and Jason for his literary contributions.

## **MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS**

MarCom supported Interim Director and leadership team in creating a data-informed budget request for FY25; this request is NPL's plan to sustain a growth in free Library services and programs and meet Mayor O'Connell's charge to Metro government to provide best-in-class customer service to Nashville's residents.

MarCom also partnered with WSMV as the station broadcast its Black History Month 2024 special from the Library's Civil Rights Room.

MarCom created and launched NPL At Work, a communications campaign to demonstrate to the people of Nashville the value NPL has created with city dollars invested in NPL in FY24.