

**Ames
Public
Library**
2024-2025

ANNUAL REPORT



940

**PEOPLE VISITED
THE LIBRARY
EACH DAY
THIS YEAR**



ames[™]
PUBLIC LIBRARY

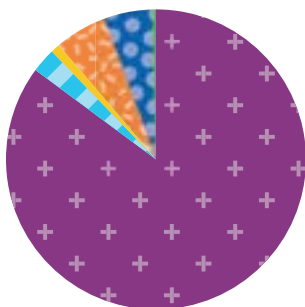


NUMBERS

984,666

ITEMS WERE
CHECKED
OUT DURING
THE YEAR
(THAT'S
ABOUT
2,697 ITEMS
A DAY!)

Total Budget: \$5,957,887



INCOME

- City of Ames Property Tax — 85%
- Story County — 3%
- State of Iowa — 1%
- Grants and Donations — 6%
- Capital Improvements — 5%
- Fines and Fees — less than 1%



EXPENSES

- Wages and Benefits — 66%
- Materials — 12%
- Facilities and Operations — 17%
- Capital Improvements — 5%



SPACES



Meeting and study rooms were used 9,058 times serving **23,187 people.**

VISITORS



The Library served more than **333,945 visitors.**

EVENTS



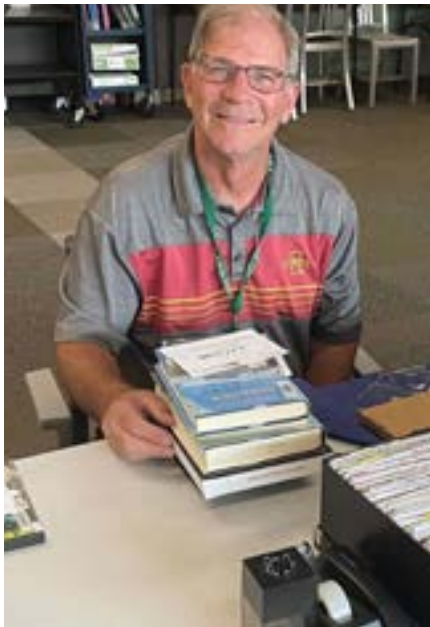
The Library had **2,055** online and in-person **events** attended by 44,968 people.

OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

415 volunteers contributed
10,727 hours of assistance
in 2024/2025.



Volunteers of all ages
helped with a variety of
projects in the Library, from
pulling hold requests to delivering books to
homebound patrons, and much more!



195

**HOURS WERE
CONTRIBUTED
BY LIBRARY
VOLUNTEERS
EACH WEEK**



5,206

**FREE MEALS
WERE
SERVED TO
CHILDREN
AND TEENS
OVER THE
SUMMER**



THANK YOU DONORS

**GRANTS AND
DONTATIONS:
\$337,436**

Thank you to our generous donors and grantors for supporting projects including special collections, presenters, children's activities, Project Smyles, and more.



Friends Foundation

The Ames Public Library Friends Foundation conducts fundraising, operates the Literary Grounds bookstore, and holds book sales to support the Library. Check out their new website at: www.aplff.org

TECHNOLOGY

E-BOOK CHECKOUTS:
98,327

E-AUDIO CHECKOUTS:
141,847

**E-MAGAZINE
CHECKOUTS:**
22,347

**VIDEO
STREAMING:**
16,584

**ONLINE TOOL
& DATABASE
USE:** 202,906

During this year the Library's public computers were used 47,405 times. The Library Wi-Fi was accessed 365,364 times and Wi-Fi Hotspots were loaned 935 times.



103 PEOPLE USED THE IDEA CENTER
TO DIGITIZE PHOTOS AND VIDEO, OR
CREATE WITH DESIGN SOFTWARE

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY



- **Reached out to 6,649 attendees** at 26 events on campus, at local parks, and at community events.
- Library staff and volunteers brought books to over **9,220 children** in daycares and preschools through **926 Project Smyles visits**.

- 85 middle and high school **teens** gave back **1,664 hours** through APL-Y Summer **volunteering**.
- **4,033 people** participated in the Summer and Winter **Reading Challenges**, and the year round 12 to Try Challenge for Adults.



- **7,639 visitors** checked out 25,587 items at 240 events and regular stops on the **Bookmobile**.
- Library staff and volunteers made **769 deliveries** of books and materials to homebound customers and centers through **Home Delivery**.

OUR PROJECTS

After much community engagement, the Library launched its new 2025-2030 strategic plan focusing on three key areas — Connecting Ames, Serving Ames, and A Place for Ames.

Highlights from this past year include:



Iowa Center for the Book (Connecting Ames)

Hosted 31 events celebrating Iowa's literary heritage as the Library of Congress' Center for the Book affiliate.

Digital Equity grant (Serving Ames)

Collaborated with libraries around Story County to connect residents to quality wifi and technology resources through a community betterment grant from Story County Community Foundation.

New carpet (A Place for Ames)

Updated the look, feel, and cleanliness of our spaces with new carpet! The carpet had seen nearly 4 million visitors and, despite diligent cleaning and maintenance, needed a refresh.

7 million

**MINUTES WERE
READ DURING
THE SUMMER
READING
CHALLENGE**





Library Director

Sheila Schofer

Library Managers

Brianne Anderson
Tracy Briseño
Alissa Dornink
Megan Klein-Hewett

Library Board of Trustees

Zoya Arora	Carolyn Myers
Morganne Dennis	Rick Reger
Debra Gibson	Kate Reynolds
Monica Gordillo	Brenda Thorbs-Weber
Richard Johnson	



Friends Foundation

Ames Public Library Friends Foundation Development Director

Lucy Carlson

Ames Public Library Friends Foundation Board

Catherine DeLong	Roxanne Johnson
Dana Eaton	Todd Klindt
Larry Gleason	Jesse Leonard
Monica Gordillo	Carolyn Myers
Nick Hoffman	Patricia Sedgwick
Diane Janvrin	Mike VanVertloo

