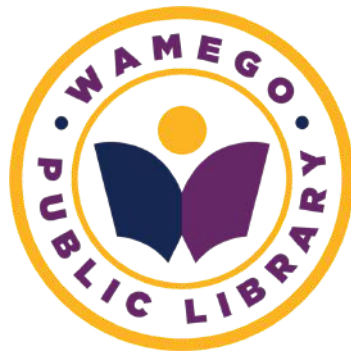


2023 Annual Report



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

2023 was an exciting year for the Wamego Public Library and our community! The year started with a very large hole behind the Library and ended with a beautiful new addition. With the help of many volunteers we packed up our entire collection and moved boxes, books, shelving, and furniture into the new space. The new Kirkpatrick Children's Library is an inviting area for families to read, play, and learn together.

Throughout the year, we were able to provide all our Library services to the community while functioning on just the main floor of the building. Dedicated Library staff continued to arrange and rearrange the space to best meet the needs of our patrons. We are so grateful for the partnership with the Wamego Senior and Community Center for allowing us to hold our free weekly Library programs, events, and classes. Without their generosity, programming would be on hold throughout the construction project.

The remodel is underway with hopes to have it completed late this spring. We are looking forward to moving everything back into place and having more space for you to study, read, socialize, and learn something new. A ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony will be announced through our newsletter, website, and social media platforms, so be sure to follow us for the latest updates.

I hope you enjoy a quick look at our year in pictures and numbers in the pages that follow. It's our attempt to highlight the value of this public space and the people in our community that are impacted in a positive way through caring Library staff, fun educational programs, and lifelong learning.

If you haven't had a chance to stop in, we'd love to see you and give you a tour!

Darci Hildebrand, Director

CONSTRUCTION



This was a big year for the Expansion and Renovation Project! We saw the new addition of the Library go from wood framing to being fully completed. The Library has added a brand new Children's Library, programming space, and an additional entrance off of 5th Street for the public to use. We were able to move in at the end of the year and welcome our community at the start of 2024.

We are so thankful that our community helped us transition into the new space. We could not have done the big move without a fleet of volunteers. Volunteers helped us box up books and other Library materials, move boxes and furniture, shelf books, shelf read to put all the books in order, and so much more. As a staff we can not thank our volunteers enough.

Our new Children's Library is being dedicated to William and Lovetta Kirkpatrick. The Kirkpatricks donated part of their estate to the Library, which inspired the Library Board and staff to dream big. We are so excited to be able to honor their legacy by naming the new children's space after them.

CIRCULATION

Top 3 Books of 2023

ADULT



top author:
COLLEEN HOOVER

The adult section features three book covers by Colleen Hoover. From left to right: 'It Starts With Us' (blue cover with white flowers), 'Ugly Love' (blue cover with bubbles), and 'It Ends With Us' (pink cover with flowers). Each cover includes the text '#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF IT ENDS WITH US'.

CHILDREN'S / YA




top author:
DAV PILKEY

The children's section features three book covers by Dav Pilkey. From left to right: 'Dog Man: Lord of the Fleas' (yellow cover with a dog's face), 'Dog Man: Mothering Heights' (blue cover with a dog and a child), and 'Dog Man' (blue cover with a dog in a uniform). Each cover includes the text 'THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER' and 'CREATOR OF CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS'.

Technology

QUICK STATS




2,818
Public
Computer
Sessions

9,107
free Wifi
Connections

21,970
Website
Visits

SOCIAL MEDIA



18,031
Facebook
Visits

314
Instagram
Visits

The technology section is set against a yellow background. It features three icons: a laptop, a Wi-Fi signal, and a mouse. Below each icon is a number and a description. To the right, there are two social media icons: a thumbs-up for Facebook and the Instagram camera icon. Below each icon is a number and a description.

A Day at the Library



161
Items
Checked Out



43
Wifi / Computer
Uses



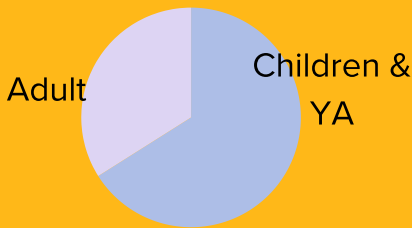
24
Program
Attendees



101
People Visit the
Library Daily

CIRCULATION

Circulation Snapshots



40,314
Items Checked Out



22,400
Books in the
Collection



8,186
Downloads of
E-content

THIS YEAR WE HAD



27,578
Visitors to
the Library



3,224
Library
Card Holders

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

2,208
Items
Borrowed



957
Items
Loaned Out

This year the Library received **\$320,400** in tax revenue and provided **\$925,900** of value in services to our community.

Year in Review

527
patrons

attended

38
programs



Embroidered
Bookmarks



Reupholstering
Chairs



Plant
Propagation



Mini Diamond
Painting

Year in Review

242
patrons

attended

41
programs



Anime Club



DIY Christmas



Sushi Making



Breakout Box

Year in Review

3,931
patrons

attended

154
programs



September
Homeschool Hub



Read to Dogs
at Dinovember



Storytime



Art Explorers
Family Night

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

480
patrons

read

122,300
minutes

2,265
patrons

attended

40
programs

Thank you
to our

76

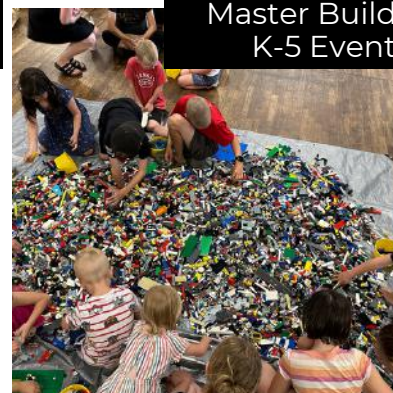
generous
sponsors!



Pool Party
Kick Off



Storytime
at the Park



Master Builders
K-5 Event



Adult Pickleball
Demonstration



Frankentoy's
YA Event



Touch-a-Truck &
Yard Games Finale

VOLUNTEERS



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

7 Dedicated Members

The Wamego Public Library's Board of Trustees is composed of seven dedicated individuals who believe in the positive impact a thriving library can bring to a community. We are so thankful that they guide our Library by fulfilling our mission to enrich lives, promote literacy, and build community by bringing together people, information, and ideas.

FRIENDS

The Wamego Friends of the Library continues to seek new members to actively support programming in our Library and the community. Their fundraising events include the annual Thanksgiving Pie Sale and membership drive. They are working on marketing their organization by designing t-shirts to sell as a new fundraising opportunity, as well as a feather flag to announce themselves when attending public events. Follow on Facebook to stay involved.

QUICK NUMBERS



\$900
Pie Sale

\$3,419
Book Sale



25
Memberships
to Date

470

Volunteer
Hours



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

We are fortunate to have creative people in our community that are willing to share their time with us for our program partnerships! Over the course of the year we have seen the benefits of bringing together local businesses, organizations, and individuals to share their knowledge through Library programs for children, teens, and adults.

Summer
Reading
utilized

22

different
community
partners

Adult
Programs
utilized

7

different
community
partners

Young Adult
Programs
utilized

3

different
community
partners

Children's
Programs
utilized

24

different
community
partners

totaling: **56** Community
Partnerships

A huge **thank you** to our donors.

Memorials and donations given to the Library greatly impact the level of service we can provide for the community. This past year the Library received over \$51,300 in donations through our memorial program to honor a loved one, Wamego Community Foundation Match Day, and fundraisers. Using these funds, we have purchased additional books and materials for check-out, enhanced programming, supplemented funding for the building construction project, and displayed a new StoryWalk® book each month. We are so thankful for the generosity and support of our community.

GRANTS

The Wamego Public Library and the Friends of Wamego Public Library were awarded **\$8,450** in grant funding in 2023. These grants funded various Library programs for children, teens, and adults; professional training for Library staff; additions to our book collection; and support for the Expansion and Renovation Project.