



# WILLIAM B. OGDEN FREE LIBRARY

ENRICHING THE LITERARY AND CULTURAL LIVES  
OF OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1897

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Dear Friends of the Library,

In a normal year we would be sending you a letter encouraging you to make a year-end donation to the library. But, this is not a normal year. The board felt asking you for a donation is not appropriate at this time. Instead, we want to thank you for all your patience, support and understanding, as we have felt our way through this pandemic. Nothing in our past experiences has prepared us for having to negotiate through this time. The library remains strong and active and innovative. Below we have highlighted some of the things we are doing to allow you to still enjoy the library. With your help we will come out of this stronger and better able to serve you throughout the coming years.

Robbie-Jean Rice, President Board of Trustees

## COVID RESPONSE

*The safety of staff and the public is a priority!*

We have initiated enhanced cleaning procedures as recommended by the Center for Disease Control and our local Department of Health.

Library materials that have been returned or handled are being placed into a period of quarantine as recommended by the findings of the REopening Archives, Libraries, and Museums (REALM) research project.

To improve the quality of the air inside the library, the board approved the installation of a Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization unit in our HVAC system.

## NEW SERVICES

In March, the library began offering Hoopla. Hoopla is a digital media service that allows you to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, and comics with your library card.

Contactless curbside pick-up is available by appointment for those who would rather not come inside the library at this time.

We have expanded our selection of large print, audio books, and DVD by participating the 4CLS rotating circuit collection. This will allow us to make the best use of our space while at the same time, being able to offer new and popular titles.

## SUMMER READING

Our annual summer reading program was fully remote and virtual.

Zoom programs included two readings with local children's authors, exploring the solar system with Cornell University's Spacecraft Planetary Imaging Facility (SPIF) program, and painting with Ibiyinka Alao, the United Nations Ambassador of Art for Nigeria.

We provided a different craft and STEM kit each week for children to complete at home.

Ninety-seven children participated in our reading challenge. They collectively recorded 19,401 minutes on our online reading app.

## ON-GOING PROGRAMS

Book & Film Chat and the monthly book club are being held on Zoom. The 2021 book club selections are available. We will be participating in the Diverse Reads Reading Challenge created by Libby.

Looking for extra reading material? Our little free libraries are kept well-stocked. Visit them at the Big M, Dollar General, and the two laundromats.



## ON THE LIBRARY LAWN

Using our outdoor space while the weather has been nice, we partnered with the Walton Theatre to present four weeks of "Movies by Moonlight," family friendly films and POPCORN!

Our Big Book Give-Away was a huge success. We had 168 people stop by and peruse our twelve tables of books. Every single book found a home that day!