

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CINCINNATI AND
HAMILTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Date: August 19, 2025

Meeting: Regular

Place: Main Library

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Trustees Present: Ms. Allen, Mr. Harding, Mr. Hendon, Ms. Redden, and Ms. Reynolds.

Trustees Absent: Ms. Louis and Mr. Olson.

Present: Paula Brehm-Heeger, Kathy Bach, Molly DeFosse, Staci Dennison, Kyla Hardin, Michelle Matthews, and Holbrook Sample

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

ACTION ITEMS

Upon the meeting opening, guest Denise Driehaus from the Board of Commissioners of Hamilton County, Ohio presented a resolution for retired Judge Nadine Allen at her last meeting. She acknowledged the excellent relationship between Hamilton County and the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library, also saying that the Library is a great asset:

Ms. Reynolds recommended the following:

RECOGNIZING JUDGE NADINE ALLEN ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE CINCINNATI & HAMILTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WHEREAS, Judge Nadine Allen was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library on October 3rd, 2018, serving a full seven-year term; and

WHEREAS, prior to her role on the Library Board of Trustees, Judge Allen served as a Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas Judge from 2009 to 2016, devoting much of her time to addressing inequalities and inequities of the judicial system; and

WHEREAS, when first elected to the Hamilton County Municipal Court in 1985, she became the first Black judge to be elected in a general election, as well as the first female Democrat to be elected to a county office; and

WHEREAS, Judge Allen's most recent roles on the Library Board of Trustees have been Chair of the Operations Committee as well as a member of the Development and Facilities, Finance, and Audit Committees; and

WHEREAS, during Judge Allen's service on the Board, the Library received national recognition and multiple awards from organizations such as the Ohio Library Council and the Urban Libraries Council; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure, Judge Allen led the Library through many historic milestones and advanced its mission in various ways, such as through her staunch support for community engagement in and around the Library's 41 locations; and

WHEREAS, Judge Allen presented strong vocal care and concern for Library staff through her advocacy for fair policies, salaries, and benefits; and

WHEREAS, Judge Allen has been remarkably dedicated to ensuring that Hamilton County residents have access to their public library, both through its physical spaces and online resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Board of Commissioners of Hamilton County, Ohio, does hereby recognize the invaluable contributions of Judge Nadine Allen to the Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library Board of Trustees and to the broader community and does hereby proclaim

President Harding presented a resolution for retired Judge Nadine Allen upon her last meeting on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library:

Resolution Honoring Retired Judge Nadine L. Allen

Whereas, Retired Judge Nadine L. Allen was first appointed to the Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library Board of Trustees in 2018 by the Hamilton County Commissioners, and

Whereas, Retired Judge Allen served for seven years as a valued member of the Library's Board of Trustees, including President of the Board in 2023 and Vice President in 2022, and

Whereas, Retired Judge Allen has been a staunch, vocal supporter of the Library during advocacy for local and state funding, and

Whereas, Retired Judge Allen served as President of the Board in 2023 during the Library's most recent funding efforts, providing information to the community about the value and importance of the Public Library, and

Whereas, the Library received national recognition and multiple awards from such organizations as the Ohio Library Council and the Urban Libraries Council while Retired Judge Allen served on the Board, and

Whereas, Retired Judge Allen supported the building, renovation, and improvement of Library locations across Hamilton County communities and strongly supported the work of the Facility Master Plan to ensure Hamilton County facilities are ready for the next generation of Library service, and

Whereas, Retired Judge Allen supported the ongoing creation of accessible spaces and upholding the Library's mission of connecting people with the world of ideas and information, and

Whereas, throughout her tenure on the Board, Retired Judge Allen continually demonstrated strong vocal care and concern for the staff, by advocating for fair policies, salaries, and benefits, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED in recognition of her years of committed service, the Members of the Board of Trustees thank and commend Retired Judge Nadine L. Allen for her dedicated service to the Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library.

Christopher A. Harding, President

Board of Library Trustees

Ms. Redden seconded.

Voting for the motion: Ms. Allen, Mr. Harding, Mr. Hendon, Ms. Redden, Ms. Reynolds...5 ayes. The motion carried. **(09-2025)**.

Ms. Reynolds recommended the following:

- **Approve the following dates for the 2026 Library Closing Schedule and 2026 Board Meeting dates:**

LIBRARY CLOSING SCHEDULE FOR 2026

Below is the proposed holiday closing schedule for 2026. Staff are paid holiday time for all closed dates except for Easter and the early closing on New Year's Eve, in accordance with the Library's

Holiday Policy. As noted below, it is our practice to close at 5:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve.

Wednesday, December 31, 2025 – New Year's Eve (close at 5:00 p.m.)

Thursday, January 1, 2026 – New Year's Day

Monday, January 19 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Sunday, April 5 – Easter (Closed Only)

Monday, May 25 – Memorial Day

Friday, June 19 – Juneteenth

Saturday, July 4 – Independence Day

Monday, September 7 – Labor Day

Thursday, November 26 – Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day

Thursday, December 31, 2026 – New Year's Eve (close at 5:00 p.m.)

Friday, January 1, 2027 – New Year's Day

BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2026

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 – Mariemont Branch Library

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 – Main Library

Tuesday, June 9, 2026 – Harrison Branch Library

Tuesday, August 11, 2026 – Main Library

Tuesday, October 13, 2026 – Symmes Branch Library

Tuesday, December 8, 2026 (Annual and Regular) – Main Library

All meetings will begin at 4:30 p.m. at locations listed above unless otherwise specifically noted.

Ms. Reynolds seconded.

Voting for the motion: Ms. Allen, Mr. Harding, Mr. Hendon, Ms. Redden, Ms. Reynolds...5 ayes. The motion carried. **(10-2025)**.

Mr. Hendon recommended the following:

- **Confirm the following change order that modifies the Symmes Branch GMP for Turner Construction:**

Contractor	Trade Contract	Number	Purpose	Amount
Turner Construction	GMP	#2	Design modifications	\$ 16,877.00

AVONDALE BRANCH MAINTENANCE AND RENOVATION

The temporary location at Living God Church is being prepared for library service and is expected to open once the GMP for the project is executed in late August or early September.

The bids for the project were received by Turner Construction on August 5. The updated project budget with the GMP exceeds the original planned estimate by \$1,350,000. We are requesting approval for the current GMP with the intent to execute an early release package to get the project started while we

carefully review the bids with Turner and work with the architect to look for savings.

We are requesting authorization for the Eva Jane Romaine Coombe Director to modify the Branch Renovation and Replacement 2022-2027 agreement with Turner Construction via GMP amendment subject to owner and attorney review as follows:

GMP inclusive of CMR fee and CMR contingency equal to or less than \$6,500,000 with a project budget of \$8,850,000 detailed below:

Avondale Branch GMP

GMP cost inclusive of fee		\$	6,500,000.00
Owner costs estimated(design fees, permits, and furniture)		\$	1,600,000.00
Design Fees and consultants	\$	500,000.00	
Furniture and Equipment	\$	750,000.00	
Other expenses	\$	350,000.00	
Contingency		\$	750,000.00
		\$	8,850,000.00

2025 BRANCH MAINTENANCE – MT. WASHINGTON BRANCH, MARIEMONT BRANCH AND OAKLEY BRANCH AND REPLACEMENT OF SHARONVILLE MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT

The guaranteed maximum price agreements for Mt. Washington, Mariemont and Oakley have been executed. Below is a table summarizing the estimates and the actual amounts. The Sharonville mechanical equipment replacement is pending.

	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Mt. Washington Branch GMP	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 1,693,564.00
Oakley Branch GMP	\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ 914,902.00
Mariemont Branch GMP	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,365,149.00
Sharonville Branch mechanical equipment GMP - estimated	\$ 800,000.00	\$ 800,000.00
	\$ 5,300,000.00	\$ 4,773,615.00
Current savings from estimate	\$ 526,385.00	

In early July, the Madeira Branch mechanical equipment (scheduled for replacement in 2026) failed. The branch was closed for a week, and we worked with Turner to obtain a temporary solution. The cost of the solution is slightly less than \$150,000. We have engaged CMTA to design the replacements system and intend to add it to this maintenance package.

The temporary location for Mt. Washington has been operating since June. The work on the branch is underway and on schedule. The Mariemont Branch closes on Friday August 1, with construction

commencing August 11, 2025. The target day for closing the Oakley Branch is late September with the CHPL facilities team installing carpet and painting before Turner begins the equipment installation in mid-October. Oakley is anticipated to be the first of the three branches to open with a target date of mid-December.

The bidding for the work at Sharonville chiller is expected to be completed at the end of August with an updated GMP to follow.

- **Increase the total estimated GMP to from \$5,300,000 to \$6,500,000 to add the Madeira Branch equipment into 2025 Branch Maintenance Project.**

SALE OF FORMER MADISONVILLE BRANCH 4830 WHETSEL AVE

As indicated at the June Board of Trustees meeting, there is no longer a need to maintain the former branch facility. In the spirit of good stewardship and given the decline in state funding, we would like to market the property for sale. After a recent site visit, the realtor has adjusted the valuation of the building to \$550,200.00 - \$640,900.00.

- **Approve the Request for Proposal to purchase the property attached as Exhibit I. In conjunction with the sale, we have hired CBRE to list the property and represent the Library in the RFP process. Under this agreement, we will list the property for six months in the event the RFP does not result in a sale.**

As noted in the RFP, the Board will review any offers at the October Board meeting.

REQUEST FROM ANDERSON BRANCH NEIGHBOR

A neighbor of the Anderson Branch Library has inquired about purchasing unused property at the Anderson Branch Library off of State Road. Any consideration of selling public assets will typically include public engagement and open competition.

- **Decline the verbal offer to purchase the property. The property is not for sale at this time.**

Ms. Reynolds seconded.

Voting for the motion: Ms. Allen, Mr. Harding, Mr. Hendon, Ms. Redden, Ms. Reynolds...5 ayes. The motion carried. **(11-2025).**

Ms. Redden recommended the following:

- **Approve the revised Pay Structure, as outlined in Exhibit I. For comparison, the current Pay Structure is provided in Exhibit II.**
- **Approve a 3% total merit increase budget for 2026. This increase is subject to performance eligibility and will be effective 4/12/2026, which is reflected on pay date 4/30/2026.**

The Library's last comprehensive market assessment and pay structure review was completed in December 2021, with an overall 2% structure adjustment implemented in January 2024.

EXHIBIT I

PROPOSED PAY STRUCTURE – EFFECTIVE 9/14/2025

Grade	Minimum	Midpoint	Maximum
1	12.90	14.84	16.77
2	14.25	17.10	19.95
3	15.75	18.90	22.05
4	17.48	21.42	25.35
5	19.40	23.77	28.13
6	21.53	26.38	31.22
7	24.01	30.02	36.02
8	26.77	33.47	40.16
9	29.85	37.32	44.78
10	33.28	41.60	49.92
11	37.11	46.39	55.67
12	41.38	52.76	64.14
13	46.14	58.83	71.52
14	51.45	65.60	79.75
15	57.37	73.15	88.92

EXHIBIT II

CURRENT PAY STRUCTURE

Grade	Minimum	Midpoint	Maximum
1	\$12.52	\$14.39	\$16.27
2	\$13.83	\$15.90	\$17.97
3	\$15.28	\$18.08	\$19.87
4	\$16.19	\$19.42	\$22.65
5	\$18.21	\$21.85	\$25.49
6	\$20.48	\$24.58	\$28.68
7	\$22.57	\$27.65	\$32.73
8	\$25.40	\$31.11	\$36.82
9	\$28.57	\$35.00	\$41.42
10	\$32.14	\$39.37	\$46.60
11	\$36.16	\$44.30	\$52.44
12	\$39.87	\$49.84	\$59.80
13	\$44.86	\$56.07	\$67.28

14	\$50.46	\$63.08	\$75.69
15	\$56.77	\$70.96	\$85.15

Ms. Allen seconded.

Voting for the motion: Ms. Allen, Mr. Harding, Mr. Hendon, Ms. Redden, Ms. Reynolds...5 ayes. The motion carried. **(12-2025)**.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

EVA JANE ROMAINE COOMBE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Brehm-Heeger reported that:

STATE BUDGET SUMMARY

On June 30, Governor DeWine signed the state's two-year operating budget (HB) 96 into law. The new fiscal year (FY26) began on July 1, and unfortunately, Ohio's public libraries face a reduction in state funding compared to the previous year. The Public Library Fund (PLF) closed out FY25 at \$504.6 million. In FY26, however, the amount available to public libraries will decrease to \$479.7 million. This change reflects a structural shift: the PLF is no longer calculated as a percentage of the state's General Revenue Fund, but instead appears as a flat line-item appropriation in the state budget.

The state budget allocates:

- \$490 million to the PLF for FY26
- \$500 million for FY27

However, the budget also includes annual transfers of \$10.3 million (a total of \$20.6 million over the biennium) from the PLF to support: State Library of Ohio, Ohio Public Library Information Network, Library for the Blind, Regional Library Systems and the Ohioana Library Association.

After accounting for these transfers, the actual amount available for distribution to Ohio's public libraries is:

- \$479.7 million in FY26
- \$489.7 million in FY27

For CHPL, this reduction in statewide public library funding equates to approximately a \$4 million loss over two years compared to FY 2025 funding.

While the funding changes take effect immediately, policy provisions included in the state budget do not take effect until 90 days after the Governor's signature, unless otherwise stated. Policy issues we continue to monitor which were vetoed by Governor DeWine include:

- Language giving County Budget Commissions increased oversight and authority over voter-approved property tax levies.
- A harmful provision that would have required libraries to segregate materials.

The Ohio House of Representatives did hold a voting session in July to consider overriding several of Governor DeWine's line-item vetoes in House Bill (HB) 96. However, at that time The House only secured enough votes to override the veto related to tax levies, more specifically, the elimination of replacement levies. There has been no news on whether or when the Senate will vote to override the veto. The House and Senate will be back in session in mid-September.

It is important to note that the General Assembly does have the option to override any of the remaining 66 vetoes at any point during the current legislative session, which concludes in December 2026. Veto overrides must originate in the chamber where the bill originally passed – in this case the House – and requires 3/5 vote of both chambers to pass.

LEGISLATOR VISITS

We were honored to host State Senator Steve Wilson at the Deer Park Branch on August 7 for a well-attended and lively family story time, followed by a tour of the Branch. We also look forward to welcoming United States Representative Warren Davidson to the Forest Park Branch, on August 18, and State Representative Cecil Thomas to the Clifton Branch on August 21 – both scheduled at those times as of the writing of this report.

URBAN LIBRARIES COUNCIL ANNUAL FORUM

For the first time, Cincinnati has been selected to host the Urban Libraries Council Annual Forum from October 22–24 at the Downtown Westin, with 250 attendees expected. On Thursday, October 23, we'll offer afternoon tours and a reception at our renovated Main Library. To accommodate the large crowd expected for the evening reception, the South building will close early at 4:00 p.m. (instead of 6:00 p.m.), while the North building remains open. We're eager to showcase our transformational Facilities Master Plan projects to library leaders visiting from large library systems across North America.

TRUSTEE NADINE L. ALLEN: THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Retired Judge Nadine L. Allen joined the Library Board of Trustees on September 30, 2018, and will conclude her seven-year term this September. Throughout her tenure, she has been a steadfast champion of the Library's mission and a dedicated community advocate, serving in key leadership roles as President, Vice-President, and Secretary of the Board. Her service as Board President in 2023 was especially significant, guiding the Library through a successful levy campaign that ensured continued investment in vital resources and services.

Judge Allen's influence extended far beyond board meetings. She provided essential guidance during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, consistently prioritizing the well-being of Library staff and the broader community. Her commitment to inclusivity and community engagement was evident in her active participation in the Library's Facilities Master Plan, which included listening sessions across the county to shape services around real community needs.

Under her leadership, the Library achieved several major milestones, including the renovation and expansion of the Price Hill and Walnut Hills branches, the construction of new branches in Deer Park, Madisonville, and Forest Park, and much more. Her contributions have left an enduring mark—not only

on the Library's infrastructure, but on its spirit of service.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Judge Allen for her years of exceptional service. Her legacy will continue to inspire and strengthen our work for years to come.

FACILITIES AND FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Redden reported that:

PROPERTY ACQUISITION – 1609 W NORTH BEND ROAD

The purchase sale agreement for the property has been executed. We have engaged J.S. Held to manage the due diligence process, which is scheduled for completion by October 12, 2025, closing no later than November 12, 2025. We will begin the design process upon a successful closing with community engagement this winter.

As previously noted, the current branch library is on property leased from Cincinnati Public Schools. The agreement states that if the building is not a library it reverts to CPS. Once the project timeline is defined, we will be in contact with CPS.

MAIN LIBRARY PROJECT UPDATE

We continue our work with Champlin Architecture and Turner on façade concepts to refresh the 9th Street exterior and provide a clear design connection between the two buildings.

The GMP for the Main Library Chillers, Cooling Tower and Generator Replacement was approved for \$6,300,000 in December 2024. The actual GMP was recently executed for \$6,065,354.

This work will intermittently impact access to the North parking lot.

Library staff recently met with Duke Energy to discuss Duke's plans for a gas line upgrade on Walnut Street and its impact on Library operations and projects. The Duke upgrade will begin on August 18, 2025 and is scheduled for completion by December 31, 2025. The area impacted will be between Court Street and 8th street. We discussed the need for communication and keeping access to the Library open. We also informed them of the chiller and generator replacement project taking place between September 2025 and March 2026. Duke's upgrade will not disturb the gas supply to the Library.

MIAMI TOWNSHIP BRANCH REPLACEMENT

The Library is working with the architect, SHP, on the design schedule with plans to complete the design by early 2026 with the GMP bidding and execution immediately after.

DELHI BRANCH REPLACEMENT PLANNING

The design process will begin in late 2025 with hopes of construction beginning in late 2026. The current project budget is \$18,000,000. We will be working with J.S. Held, SHP and Turner on this project.

FOREST PARK BRANCH, CHEVIOT BRANCH RENOVATION, AND MT. HEALTHY BRANCH

We are working on obtaining the project close-out documentation.

2024 AUDIT

The annual audit by the Auditor of State has recently been completed. The Trustees were notified via email on June 26, 2025. We submitted the report to the Government Finance Officers' Association for the annual award.

The audit noted one item where an expense was misclassified between two categories. The adjustment was made during the compilation process when we outsourced the preparation to the Local Government Services office of the Auditor of State. The overall expenses were reported accurately in total. The Library continues to work on expanding our internal resources so that in the future the risk of these types of misstatements are minimized.

BRANCH LEASES

The Library has three branch leases expiring over the next 18 months. The lease on the Greenhills Branch expires on October 1, 2025 and has an annual cost of \$6,300. We will be working with the Landlord over the next several months on renewal options. In addition, the Bond Hill Branch and the Loveland Branch have long-term leases expiring on December 31, 2026. The lease for Bond Hill has an annual cost of \$158,424 for 2026 and the cost of Loveland has an annual cost of \$103,426.

BUDGET UPDATE

As noted in the Human Resources Committee report, the Market Assessment was recently completed. As a result, the pay structure is being adjusted. The overall increase in salaries has been part of budget planning over the last several years. The 2025 budgeted salaries is \$38.2 M and the current projected salaries for year with the adjustment is \$37.5M. For 2026, the estimate is \$38.9M which is in line with long-term projections.

With the conclusion of the state budget process, we are able to update our revenue projections. The PLF for 2025 is expected to be \$49,105,497 and for 2026 it is expected to be \$48,692,527. Given the trending decrease in funding with the increasing cost of operations, including the importance of fairly compensating our staff, we will continue to evaluate all spending.

President Harding took a point of privilege to acknowledge the budget approach going forward. Trustee Reynolds noted that it is important for the old Madisonville property to end up in the correct hands for the community. Trustee Allen acknowledged the Library's investment in the community.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Reynolds reported that:

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

On Tuesday, July 22, the Cincinnati State Board of Trustees invited representatives from the Library to present at their July meeting, recognizing the successful partnership behind our Community Leadership Certificate Program (CLCP). This Library-funded initiative, developed in collaboration with Cincinnati State, creates meaningful pathways to leadership for Library staff who do not currently hold an MLS or MLIS degree but are passionate about public service and leading others. During the meeting, Library Director Paula Brehm-Heeger and HR Director Kyla Hardin shared the program's background, goals, and impact. Riya Jariwala, Mt. Healthy Branch Manager and recent CLCP graduate, offered a powerful personal reflection on her experience in the program. The Board also recognized the CLCP's receipt of the ASPA-GCC Outstanding Public Service Award in October 2024.

We are excited to announce that the third cohort of the CLCP will begin classes the week of August 25. Congratulations to the five staff members selected to participate: Mitzi Tejada, Justin Robinson, Laura Rosero, Beth Ponferrada, and Carlie Francis.

The CLCP has already demonstrated strong outcomes. Since the program's launch in August 2023:

- Nine staff graduated in Spring 2025, with one more set to graduate this Fall
- One participant has been promoted to Senior Branch Manager
- Five have been promoted to Branch Manager
- Two have received promotions to higher-level positions with expanded leadership responsibilities
- One was selected for a new location aligned with their professional development goals

With six participants currently entering their second year and five more about to begin, we're excited to continue investing in the growth and development of future Library leaders through this program.

STAFF MORALE TEAM

Back by popular demand, the Staff Morale Team created a Summer Reading program for staff. The program ran from June to late July. Many staff members joined the online Summer Reading Team to participate in weekly connection and conversation. The Staff Morale Team facilitated conversations about well-being, food, puzzles, team building, local finds, media favorites, trivia, and songs of the summer. To mirror the public Summer Reading program, the Staff Morale Team also created a bingo sheet that, once completed, would be entered into a grand prize raffle. Weekly prize winners were also announced for staff who participated in the weekly conversations. Thanks to all staff who participated and to our Staff Morale Team for another summer of fun and engagement!

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Allen reported that:

SAGOREE CHATTERJEE, REGIONAL MANAGER, SERVICE TEAM

Sagoree Chatterjee is an accomplished library professional with over a decade of progressive leadership experience at CHPL. In her current role as Regional Manager for Region 1, Sagoree oversees 11 CHPL branches and contributes to strategic initiatives as a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Her leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic as Senior Branch Manager at the Blue Ash Branch was instrumental in reimagining library services, including the implementation of curbside service. She expanded programming, enhanced staff engagement, and optimized branch spaces to better serve the community. Notable achievements include launching a podcast club to engage younger audiences and partnering with Miami University's Scripps Gerontology Center to enrich adult programming.

Earlier in her career, Sagoree managed the Norwood and Elmwood Place branches, where she strengthened community partnerships and improved service outcomes, such as increasing summer lunch attendance by 205% at Elmwood Place. Her tenure as Teen Librarian at the Deer Park Branch highlighted her talent for developing teen programs and fostering volunteerism.

Sagoree began her library career with CHPL at Main Library as a part-time Library Assistant and Reference Services Assistant. She holds a Master of Library and Information Studies from the University of Alabama and a post-baccalaureate certificate in Library Technology from the University of Cincinnati. Originally from India, she brings a multicultural lens and a deep commitment to inclusive community service.

Sagoree is retiring after 13 years of service on October 3, 2025 and will be greatly missed.

LIBRARY STAFF ENGAGEMENT WITH THE SCIENCE OF READING AND STATEWIDE LITERACY GOALS

We continue to align early literacy efforts with Ohio's statewide focus on the Science of Reading, an evidence-based framework for how children learn to read. Two Fall Youth Retreats are planned for September, focusing on practical applications of the Science of Reading in after-school programs, class visits, and teacher collections.

The Library is also participating in a statewide LSTA grant, led by Toledo Lucas County Public Library, to support this work. Staff training is further supported by resources like the Urban Libraries Council's Science of Reading Toolkit and internal workshops on decodable books and early literacy practices. These efforts reinforce the Library's role as a key partner in improving literacy outcomes for children across the region.

ONE-YEAR MAIN LIBRARY CELEBRATION & RECENT PROGRAMS/EVENTS

On July 12–13, the Library hosted Meet Me at Main, a weekend-long celebration marking the one-year anniversary of the Main Library's reopening. The event highlighted a year of programming, vibrant community connections, and creative use of public space. More than 4,500 people visited the Downtown Main Library over the weekend, including 3,012 visitors in the South Building, representing a 44% increase over average weekend attendance and nearly 80% more visitors than an average Sunday. The celebration featured a wide variety of performances, activities, and community partnerships, including Madcap Puppets, Elementz Hip Hop Dance Class, music by DJ Monet, and a headline performance by P. Ann Everson-Price and her All Star Band. Visitors also enjoyed Craft-a-palooza, face painting, and food trucks that activated our outdoor spaces. Additional highlights included the Friends of the Library Book Giveaway, a Cincinnati Shakespeare in the Park performance, the America's River Roots presentation, a Cincinnati Book Arts Society artist Q&A and panel, a Skate Downtown Cincy demonstration, and a piano performance by Ricky Nye.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1955 MAIN LIBRARY

On Thursday, September 18, 2025, the Library will host a special program marking the 70th anniversary of the 1955 Main Library building. Titled “Designing Cincinnati's Legendary Main Library: A Collaboration between Architect Woodie Garber and Librarian Carl Vitz,” the event will take place in the Huenefeld Tower Room, 3 South.

cf3, a local nonprofit focused on modern design and co-sponsor of the event, will offer refreshments starting at 6:00 PM, ahead of the Library’s closing. Archival photos and artifacts from the 1955 building will be on display during this time. The presentation begins at 7:00 PM and will be followed by a Q&A. Chris Smith will open with a brief history of the decades-long effort to build a new library. Robert Vitz, son of Carl Vitz, will speak on his father’s vision for a modern library. The presentation will be delivered by Elizabeth Garber, daughter of architect Woodie Garber, focusing on the building’s design and construction. This event celebrates the Library’s architectural legacy and the enduring vision of those who made it possible.

GENEALOGY LOCK-IN AT THE MAIN LIBRARY

On Saturday, October 4, 2025, the Library and the Hamilton County Genealogical Society continue their long-standing partnership by welcoming the return of the Genealogy Lock-In at the Downtown Main Library from 6:30-11:30 PM.

A "genealogy lock-in" is a dedicated after-hours event which provides researchers with extended access to resources and expert assistance from staff as guests delve into their family history and network with like-minded individuals. Additionally, this year, Dr. Michael Gunn of the Cincinnati Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will give a presentation during the Lock-In, on the history of burials at Washington Park and the number of patriots laid to rest throughout Hamilton County.

BLACK MUSIC WALK OF FAME EXHIBIT & LIVE RADIO BROADCAST

On Wednesday, June 18, the Library, in partnership with Hamilton County Commissioner Alicia Reece, hosted an exhibit at the Downtown Main Library celebrating the legacy of Black musical artists from the region. The exhibit featured memorabilia, photographs, and stories honoring 20 inductees, including new additions like Dottie Peoples, Nancy Wilson, The O’Jays, and The Ohio Players. It was interactive and inclusive, with collectible posters, live music, and activities highlighting the depth and diversity of Black music history. The event honored the newest inductees into the Cincinnati Black Music Walk of Fame and unveiled four original stars, now part of the Library’s collection, formerly housed at the Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky International Airport. The celebration included live musical performances and appearances by influencers and previous inductees. This partnership, and the Main Library’s recent renovation, focused on local history, garnered several media mentions. Nearly 2,000 visits were recorded at the Main Library on June 18, marking the highest single-day visit count for the period of June 9 to June 27. This demonstrates the power of collaboration, musical events, and engaging local history exhibits in attracting community interest.

To amplify the celebration, the Library hosted Commissioner Reece’s live radio broadcast and podcast, Soulfood, on July 25. This broadcast served as a dynamic lead-in to the July 26 induction ceremony and featured interviews, music, and community engagement. The initiative exemplified the Library’s commitment to honoring cultural heritage, fostering community partnerships, and creating vibrant public programming.

SUMMER READING 2025 WRAP-UP & UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Summer Reading 2025: Reading on the River drew 29,990 youth participants between May 31 and July 31, marking a 3.3% increase and a 13% jump in teen participation as compared to the same period in 2024. 79,560 customers attended Summer Reading programs in June and July and youth had the opportunity to explore science and sustainability through hands-on programs, such as "Compost Up-Close" with the Civic Garden Center, and "Chemistry in Your Hands" with the Cincinnati Museum Center. More than 1,100 youth interactions were reported by Homework Help and Enrichment staff in June. The library also distributed 4,426 community books from May through July and provided 4,438 meals in June and 3,842 meals in July. Thanks to generous partnerships, 1,013 Gold Star meal coupons and 20 gift cards were distributed at featured programs, and 20,000 Reds Vouchers were given to Summer Reading participants.

Featured Upcoming Programs & Events

- August 21 – Exploring Veterinary Science II, Loveland Branch
- August 25 – Voices Unleashed: The Power of Spoken Word Poetry Showcase Kick-off, Price Hill & Walnut Hills Branches
- September 9 – Rollin' on the River presented by the Cincinnati Museum Center, Cheviot Branch (in celebration of America's River Roots Festival)
- September 10 – CPR and First Aid presented by Serena Collins, Forest Park Branch
- September 23 – Cover Crops in Small Gardens and Raised Beds presented by Hamilton County Conservation District, Anderson Branch

Sagoree Chatterjee shared her years of experience in different roles at the Library.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Hendon reported that:

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The Library has received significant gifts from the LaMacchia Family Foundation and the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, thanks to the Stern Family Fund at the Greater Cincinnati Foundation and an anonymous donor.

THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION

On July 10, the Library Foundation hosted a sold-out fundraiser, *Booked for the Evening*, at the Downtown Main Library. It was an overwhelming success thanks to the support of many sponsors, including the LaMacchia Family Foundation, the Ann W. and Peter Williams Family Fund, Turner Construction, Champlin Architecture, Custom Design Benefits, Gallagher, CBRE, DSD Advisors, Harvard Maintenance, Leadership Excelleration, SHP, and U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management. In addition to these sponsors, there were 27 Hosts & Hostesses and 210 individual tickets sold.

Significant gifts have been received from the Charles H. Dater Foundation in support of the Homework Helper Program, Kathryn and Anthony J. Ciafardini, and the Ruth J. and Robert A. Conway Foundation.

FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends continue to see an increase in customers at their Bookstore and Warehouse in Hartwell. In July, one weekend boasted a \$10,000 weekend sale, that is more than double the sales of a normal weekend.

Looking ahead, the Cincy Indie Book Crawl is scheduled for October, and the Friends are again participating as a location on the annual Crawl.

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (ATLA)

The results of the 45th Annual Summer Sale were 22% higher than the June 2024 sale.

Staci Dennison presented an overview of the Foundation, to which Trustee Reynolds thanked her for the refresher and emphasized the importance of the Board supporting the Foundation's annual campaign.

STRATEGY COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Allen reported that:

BARBERSHOP BOOKS

On August 13, CHPL held a successful summer launch of the Barbershop Books program at the Deer Park Branch Library. Alvin Irby, Founder and Executive Director of Barbershop came from New York to enjoy the celebration. The ten barbershops in this partnership funded by the Library Foundation, provided free haircuts to kids. We also had engaging story times, activities for kids, book giveaways, and resource tables from youth serving organizations. The Snowie Mobile Truck provided shaved ice cups for the kids attending the event. Thank you to all Library departments for the assistance with planning and executing this event.

DENISON CULTURE SURVEY UPDATE

During the month of July, Regional Manager Justyn Rampa and Community & Employment Director, Michelle Matthews conducted nine staff focus groups. After reviewing the results from the Denison Survey, we worked to gather additional feedback to further understand staff perspectives, and identify opportunities for improvement across our organization. This phase of the process has yielded a wealth of insights that will help guide our next steps. We are currently reviewing the feedback and to develop recommendations, and areas for further exploration.

DISABILITY PRIDE

CHPL hosted and participated in several Disability Pride Month 2025 events, in celebration of the 35th anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). For example, we hosted *Create And Connect* at the Downtown Main Library MakerSpace, in partnership with Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services (HCDDS). In partnership with HCDDS and Autism Connections,

the Deer Park Branch hosted two Speed Dating events. We connected guests to Library resources and services at the Accessibility For All: Celebrating Disability Pride & The ADA event, with more than 100 in attendance. Finally, Price Hill Branch hosted the Disability Advocate Network and HCDDS Pen To Policy event, for an educational open house on how to advocate to protect disabilities services on the Federal, State, and local levels.

NAACP & CHPL FAIR HOUSING AFFAIR

In June, we partnered with Cincinnati NAACP for our second annual Fair Housing Affair at the Walnut Hills Branch Library. More than 100 people were in attendance.

- Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) presented information regarding their discrimination prevention resources.
- Black Homeownership Council On Aging provided resources for older adults and caregivers who may be homeowners and renters.
- The City of Cincinnati Tenant's Guide with eviction prevention resources was featured.
- Hamilton County Help Center provided free legal educational information.

ESOL EXPANSION

CHPL now offers in-person ESOL classes at 11 branches, a remarkable 450% increase since 2024. These include Beginner, Intermediate, and Conversation Groups, as well as ongoing virtual offerings. A training workshop in August is taking place at the Corryville branch for ESOL facilitators, and will focus on best practices and practical tools, featuring a special presentation by Daniel Zimmer, ESL Chair at Cincinnati State.

PARTNERSHIPS UPDATE

In partnership with ProSeniors, we hosted three in-person and one virtual session on advocating for long-term care residents. These served as training hours for those pursuing Ombudsman certification, empowering community members to advocate for vulnerable populations.

A new collaboration with the Huenefeld Story Center has led to the creation of a hybrid exhibit, English Learning in Cincinnati: Past & Present. Featuring oral histories from eight students in Main's Intermediate ESOL class, the exhibit highlights cultural stories from seven countries and includes historical artifacts. The exhibit opens with a celebration, Language and Culture at CHPL: Stories of English Language Learners, on September 19 and will run through 2025.

DIGITAL LITERACY INITIATIVE

This fall, we are partnering with Tech Time Cincinnati to offer digital literacy classes at the Norwood and Elmwood Place branches. Topics include smartphone and laptop basics. Tech Time will host tech help drop-in hours at the Mt. Healthy branch for four weeks.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Redden reported that:

DIGITAL STRATEGY

As discussed at the April 2025 Board meeting, a team from Technology and Logistics—led by Holbrook Sample and including Integrated Library System Manager Karen Davis and Material Selection and Acquisition Manager Tricia Spait—has been actively developing the Library’s Digital Strategy. The primary aim of this strategy is to maximize the impact of existing materials funding, with a particular focus on eBooks and eAudiobooks. Additionally, the strategy examines the implications of potential funding reductions of 5% and 20%.

The Digital Strategy addresses three key areas:

- The integrated library system, Sierra, and its discovery layer, BiblioCommons;
- Increased demand for E-materials and current demand for physical materials; and
- Databases

With the state budget finalized as of early July, future recommendations will be considered as we progress through the remainder of 2025.

ALL STAFF CYBERSECURITY TRAINING

40% of staff have started the cybersecurity training the Library is offering through our partnership with Ohio Persistent Cyber Improvement. The all-staff training component, called “cyber awareness” is less than two hours and completers receive a badge for completion of the module. Staff have until September 30 to complete the training. Staff who work in IT and high-stakes information areas will have more extensive training with advanced modules.

NEW CYBERSECURITY REQUIREMENTS

The state budget bill, HB 96, established Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 9.64, which sets new standards for how political subdivisions (including public libraries) handle cybersecurity and ransomware incidents. Each political subdivision will be required to adopt a cybersecurity program that safeguards the entity’s data, information technology, and information technology resources to ensure availability, confidentiality, and integrity. CHPL’s work with Ohio Persistent Cyber Improvement will allow us to interpret the new requirements and ensure compliance as we have already done with the all staff training component noted above.

To allow political subdivisions time to develop and adopt their cybersecurity programs, the Ohio Auditor of State (AOS) will check for compliance that cities and counties have adopted a plan by Jan. 1, 2026 and all other political subdivisions by July 1, 2026. Therefore, even though HB 96 is effective Sept. 30, 2025, the AOS will not check public libraries for compliance until after July 1, 2026.

It is important to note that the requirement to report incidents and the ban on payment of ransomware will become effective Sept. 30, 2025.

CORE SWITCH REPLACEMENT

In mid-June, the core switches, housed at the Main Library, were replaced. Last replaced in 2017, core

switches handle all internet connectivity, data transfer, and telephone (VoIP) traffic for the entire library system. A team from IT, led by Senior Network Administrator Rich Cupp, worked overnight to complete the complex project.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Harding reported that:

UPCOMING APPOINTMENT

The Board of Trustees of our Library consists of seven members. Four Board members are appointed by the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, and three by the Judges of the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas. Board members had been appointed for a term of seven years; the term has recently changed to four years. One Trustee term expires each year. The number of Trustees, term, and manner of appointment are governed by the Ohio Revised Code.

The next upcoming expiring appointment is that of current Board member Nadine L. Allen. Retired Judge Allen joined the Board in 2018. She has served a full seven-year term which ends September 30, 2025. She is not seeking reappointment. Retired Judge Allen's appointment in 2018 was made by the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, and this is the governing body charged with appointing a new Trustee at the end of Judge Allen's term in September 2025.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Hendon moved the Board approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Minutes of the Annual Meeting held June 10, 2025
- Monthly Financial Reports – for the periods ending June 30, 2025 and July 31, 2025
- Media Activity Report – June 4, 2025 – August 3, 2025
- Contributions, Gifts, and Donations – June 1, 2025 – July 31, 2025

CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS, AND DONATIONS RECEIVED GREATER THAN \$1000 April 1, 2025 - May 31, 2025

04/01/25 LIBRARY FOUNDATION	LUTHER FOUNDATION - HOMEWORK HELPER SUPPORT	50,000.00
04/01/25 LIBRARY FOUNDATION	TURNER CONSTRUCTION FOUNDATION - HOMEWORK HELPER SUPPORT	10,000.00
04/08/25 LIBRARY FOUNDATION	BEFRIEND A BRANCH - VARIOUS BRANCHES	1,194.00
04/22/25 HOUSTON BRUMMIT ESTATE	SUPPORT FOR LIBRARY PROGRAMS	5,000.00
04/25/25 LIBRARY FOUNDATION	BEFRIEND A BRANCH - AUDUBON DISPLAYMONITOR	3,500.00
05/20/25 LIBRARY FOUNDATION	BEFRIEND A BRANCH - VARIOUS BRANCHES	1,699.00

- Personnel Change Report through August 12, 2025

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>REASON</u>	<u>FULL NAME</u>	<u>JOB TITLE</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>G R A D E</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Appointment	New hire	Figueira, Justin	Maintenance Technician	Maintenance Services	1.00	6	06/08/2025
Appointment	New hire	Getinet, Yeabesra N.	Branch Shelver	Corryville	0.30	1	06/08/2025
Appointment	New hire	Trek, Asa	PT20-Library Customer Adv	North Central	0.50	4	06/08/2025
Appointment	New hire	Vaya Soler, Maria	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Groesbeck	0.60	4	06/08/2025
Appointment	New hire	White-Miller, Chloe	PT20-Library Customer Adv	North Central	0.50	4	06/08/2025
Appointment	New hire	Roark, Jaile	Monitor Mentor	Corryville	0.375	6	06/22/2025
Appointment	New hire	Gladieux, Karis G.	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Corryville	0.50	4	06/22/2025
Appointment	New hire	Gerth-Unger, Jennifer R.	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Symmes Township	0.60	4	06/22/2025
Appointment	New hire	Duval, Alexis	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Norwood	0.50	4	06/22/2025
Appointment	New hire	Arslan, Ayse	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Madeira	0.60	4	06/22/2025
Appointment	New hire	Carty, Nicolas	PT20-TC_Makerspace Tech	1 & 2 North	0.50	4	06/22/2025
Appointment	New hire	Chalmers, Hailey G.	Branch Shelver	Anderson	0.30	1	06/22/2025
Appointment	Rehire	Luecke, Robert M.	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Madeira	0.60	4	06/22/2025
Appointment	New hire	Kinney, Mariah	Public Safety Specialist	Public Safety	1.00	6	07/06/2025
Appointment	New hire	Boyd, Carleigh	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Avondale	0.50	4	07/06/2025
Appointment	New hire	Couch, Fred A.	Public Safety Specialist	Public Safety	1.00	6	07/06/2025
Appointment	New hire	Veach, Claudia S.	Branch Shelver	Westwood	0.30	1	07/20/2025

Appointment	New hire	Tacho, Lovie	HW Help & Enrichment Asst	Price Hill	0.30	3	07/20/2025
Appointment	New hire	Elisar, Joseph	PT20-Main Shelves	Sorting and Mat Retrieval	0.50	2	07/20/2025
Appointment	New hire	Hubbard, Mearen	Branch Shelves	Madeira	0.30	1	07/20/2025
Appointment	New hire	Maynus, Elise	Branch Shelves	Groesbeck	0.30	1	07/20/2025
Appointment	New hire	Pierce, Graham	PT20-Main Shelves	Sorting and Mat Retrieval	0.50	2	07/20/2025
Appointment	New hire	Propst, Violet E.	Public Safety Specialist	Public Safety	1.00	6	07/20/2025
Appointment	New hire	Hardwick, James E.	Branch Shelves	Madeira	0.30	1	08/03/2025
Appointment	New hire	Richmond, Amanda B.	Branch Shelves	Mt. Washington	0.30	1	08/03/2025
Appointment	New hire	McGuire-Fox, Autumn R.	HW Help & Enrichment Asst	Delhi Township	0.30	3	08/03/2025
Appointment	New hire	Mejia, Sarah	Public Safety Specialist	Public Safety	1.00	6	08/03/2025
Appointment	New hire	White, Brian	Public Safety Specialist	Public Safety	1.00	6	08/03/2025
Promotion	Promotion	Keyes, Elijah	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Blue Ash	0.50	4	06/08/2025
Promotion	Promotion	Siemer, Kathryn A.	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Green Township	0.50	4	06/08/2025
Promotion	Promotion	Niemeyer, Kathryn R.	Youth Librarian	Elmwood Place	1.00	7	07/06/2025
Promotion	Promotion	Vaya Soler, Maria	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Groesbeck	0.60	4	07/06/2025
Promotion	Promotion	Wynn-Piao, Sarah K.	Library Customer Spec	Madeira	1.00	5	07/20/2025
Promotion	Promotion	Lenarsich, Miranda A.	Library Customer Adviser	1 South	1.00	4	07/20/2025
Promotion	Promotion	Cohn, Sasha E.	Library Customer Adviser	West End	1.00	4	08/03/2025

Change	Change in FTE	Donnermeyer, Natalie A.	Page	Sorting and Mat Retrieval	1.00	2	06/08/2025
Change	Lateral transfer	Mariniuk, Viktoriia	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Wyoming	0.50	4	06/08/2025
Change	Transfer	Groene, Brittany N.	Customer Service Sub	Customer Service Subs	0.725	4	06/08/2025
Change	Change in FTE	Mihelich, Emily L.	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Clifton	0.60	4	06/22/2025
Change	Lateral transfer	Payton, Carrie I.	Library Customer Spec	Deer Park	1.00	5	06/24/2025
Change	Change in FTE	Demianenko, Svitlana	Library Customer Adviser	Symmes Township	1.00	4	07/06/2025
Change	Lateral transfer	Myers, Christine D.	Youth Librarian	Wyoming	1.00	7	07/06/2025
Change	Lateral transfer	Diaz, Mariza	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Forest Park	0.50	4	07/06/2025
Change	Lateral transfer	Widener, Olivia N.	Customer Service Sub	Customer Service Subs	0.725	4	07/06/2025
Change	Transfer	Sublett, Scott M.	Library Customer Adviser	Harrison	1.00	4	07/20/2025
Change	Transfer	Woodall, Sarah M.	Branch Shelver	Blue Ash	0.30	1	07/20/2025
Change	Change in FTE	Goff, Bailey D.	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Northside	0.60	4	08/03/2025
Change	Change in FTE	Sanchez, Agustin L.	PT20-Monitor Mentor	St. Bernard	0.50	6	08/03/2025
Change	Lateral transfer	Hedges, Taylor M.	Youth Librarian	Covedale	1.00	7	08/03/2025
Demotion	Demotion	Kraus, Katharine A.	Library Customer Spec	Monfort Heights	1.00	5	07/06/2025
Demotion	Demotion	Richmond, Larry	Library Customer Spec	College Hill	1.00	5	08/03/2025
Departure	Resignation	Pinkston, Jaxson J.	Public Safety Team Leader	Public Safety	1.00	7	06/11/2025
Departure	Resignation	Saylor, Shelby E.	Library Customer Spec	Monfort Heights	1.00	5	06/12/2025
Departure	Resignation	Mathews, Erin L.	Youth Librarian	Wyoming	1.00	7	06/12/2025

Departure	Resignation	Schreiber, Rebecca A.	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Clifton	0.60	4	06/18/2025
Departure	Resignation	Ferguson Schieszer, Ashleigh N.	Conservation Lab Manager	Conservation Services	1.00	9	06/22/2025
Departure	Resignation	Sullivan, Laura A.	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Hyde Park	0.50	4	06/25/2025
Departure	Retirement	Hanson, LaDonna J.	Library Customer Adviser	Symmes Township	1.00	4	06/26/2025
Departure	Resignation	Borger, Amelia-Bell R.	Library Customer Adviser	1 South	1.00	4	06/27/2025
Departure	Retirement	Davis, Barbara J.	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Northside	0.60	4	06/28/2025
Departure	Resignation	Ramsey, Chloe R.	Branch Shelver	Covedale	0.30	1	06/30/2025
Departure	Resignation	Wallace, Amanda L.	PT20-Main Shelver	Sorting and Mat Retrieval	0.50	2	07/01/2025
Departure	Resignation	Hill, Brittany N.	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Groesbeck	0.60	4	07/03/2025
Departure	Resignation	Cook, Ashlee E.	PT24-Library Customer Adv	Madeira	0.60	4	07/07/2025
Departure	Resignation	Johnson III, James	Branch Shelver	Madeira	0.30	1	07/09/2025
Departure	Resignation	Grant, Tyrus C.	Branch Shelver	West End	0.30	1	07/17/2025
Departure	Resignation	Yisrael, Aliyah N.	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Forest Park	0.50	4	07/19/2025
Departure	Resignation	Salinas, Juriana L.	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Monfort Heights	0.50	4	07/23/2025
Departure	Resignation	Yackin, Rylee T.	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Elmwood Place	0.50	4	07/25/2025
Departure	Resignation	Pawlak, Kelly M.	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Delhi Township	0.50	4	07/26/2025
Departure	Resignation	Monroe, Katherine A.	PT20-Library Customer Adv	Hyde Park	0.50	4	07/28/2025
Departure	Resignation	Schell, Carson P.	Sorter	Sorting and Mat Retrieval	1.00	2	07/29/2025

Departure	Resignation	Nattam, Anunita	HW Help & Enrichment Asst	West End	0.30	3	07/31/2025
Departure	Resignation	duBarry, Ingrid R.	Branch Shelver	North Central	0.30	1	07/31/2025
Departure	Resignation	Carmicle, Jesse D.	PT20-Youth Librarian	Bond Hill	0.50	7	07/31/2025
Departure	Resignation	Allfree Jr., Quincy	PT20-Monitor Mentor	St. Bernard	0.50	6	08/01/2025
Departure	Resignation	Hubbard, Mearen	Branch Shelver	Madeira	0.30	1	08/05/2025

6/3/2025 - 8/12/2025

- Statistical Report for June 2025 and July 2025

Statistical Report - June 2025

Trailing 12 Months of Data

Original Circulation



Digital Circulation



Visits In-Person



Visits Curbside & Drive-thru



Wi-Fi Sessions



PC Sessions



Statistical Report - July 2025

Trailing 12 Months of Data

Original Circulation



Digital Circulation



Visits In-Person



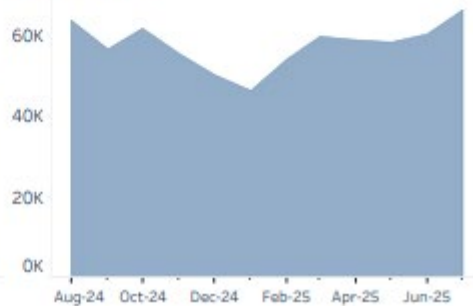
Visits Curbside & Drive-thru



Wi-Fi Sessions



PC Sessions



- Statistical Highlights – Summer Reading

Summer Reading 2025

May 31, 2025- July 31, 2025

29,990

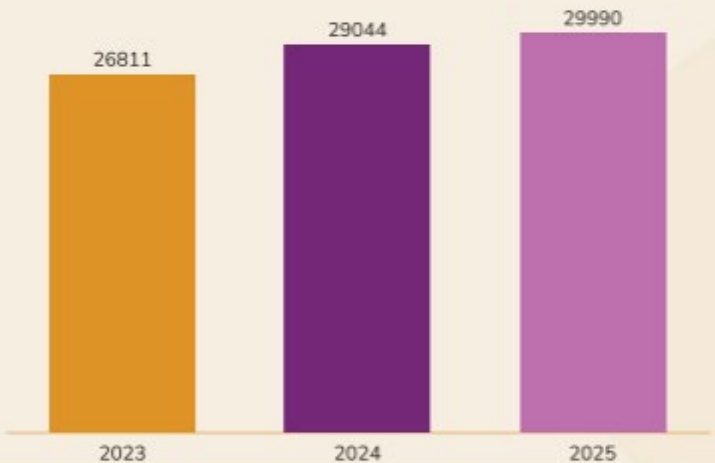
children signed up for the Summer Reading program

26,852 children ages 0-12 participated



3,138 teens ages 13-18 participated

Overall Summer Reading participation is trending upwards



13% jump in teen participation from 2024



4,426 additional community books distributed to children



1,013 coupons distributed for free kids meals at Gold Star Programs of the Month

Summer Reading 2025

May 31, 2025- July 31, 2025

70,560

customers attended Summer Reading programs in June and July

Children shared about their love of Summer Reading



A child at Hyde Park drew the Wonder Wheel when asked about what they loved about the program.

Children at West End drew smiley faces when asked how they feel about the library in the summer.



118

Staff responded to the Summer Reading survey and reported on the outcomes below.



92.4%

Kids and Teens had the opportunity to practice skills by connecting with the library in the summer.



85.6%

Kids and teens felt motivated to read and learn during the summer.



98.3%

Library staff strengthened relationships with youth and families through enjoyable experiences at the library and in the community



94.9%

Staff felt confident supporting youth in their summer learning journey.



- Investment Report (summary of invested balances) as of July 31, 2025

Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library
Investment Summary as of July 31, 2025

	Amount As of 6/30/2025	Amount As of 7/31/2025
Fifth Third Investment:		
General Fund	\$21,486,247.50	\$22,483,747.50
Building and Repair	\$13,628,120.00	\$14,628,120.00
Total	\$35,114,367.50	\$37,111,867.50
Fifth Third Operating Account:		
General Fund	\$18,771,839.40	\$15,856,328.99
Insurance Reserve	\$230,000.00	\$230,000.00
Special Revenue Funds	\$2,863,370.13	\$2,850,815.94
Building and Repair	\$27,333,601.93	\$25,284,220.67
Permanent Trust Funds	\$1,604,680.05	\$1,584,528.15
Total	\$50,803,491.51	\$45,805,893.75
STAR Ohio:		
Building and Repair	\$1,289,468.44	\$1,294,184.81
Total	\$1,289,468.44	\$1,294,184.81
U.S. Bank Managed Investments (Trust Funds):		
Total	\$6,778,407.00	\$6,778,407.00
Grand Total	<u>\$93,985,734.45</u>	<u>\$90,990,353.06</u>

Ms. Reynolds seconded.

Voting for the motion: Ms. Allen, Mr. Harding, Mr. Hendon, Ms. Redden, Ms. Reynolds...5 ayes. The motion carried. **(13-2025)**.

The Regular Meeting was then adjourned.

 President

 Attest: Secretary