



IMPACT REPORT

2022



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fargo Public Library made engagement with the community a priority in 2022. Library staff did a tremendous job providing extremely creative programs and events for all ages. The Design-a-Library-Card contest was a tremendous success with over seventy creative entries. The winning designs have become very popular with new patrons.

The library began an exciting new partnership with Fargo Public Schools that provided the opportunity for students in grades 6 to 12 to utilize their student ID as a library card. We had over 5,000 students take advantage of the opportunity. We look forward to expanding this program to Kindergarten through 5th graders in 2023.

The Red River Valley Kids Read program was another exciting collaboration between the Fargo Public Library and the libraries in Grand Forks, West Fargo, and Wahpeton. It was partially funded by a grant from the North Dakota Council on the Arts. The Fargo Public Library provided books to children in the community as well as to teachers and students in Fargo Public Schools.

Facility master planning was initiated to develop a plan for the continued viability of the current library locations and identify the scope and location of a potential additional location. The plan will be available in 2023 and will help identify priorities for library facilities for the next ten years.

The 2022 One Book One Community reading project which featured the Pulitzer Prize-winning book *The Night Watchman* by Louis Erdrich was a tremendously successful collaboration between the Fargo Public Library and the other libraries in the metro area. Community participation was tremendous, with over 600 attendees at the in-person author event.

The Fargo Public Library continued to see significant increases in visits and items checked out in 2022. Library visits across the three locations were up by over 25%. The Main Library saw the largest increase with 31% more visits than in 2021. The number of items checked out increased in 2022 by more than 7% over 2021, which is an increase of over 62,000 more items. It is exciting to see the continued strong support the library receives from the community.

Regards,

Timothy S. Dirks, MLIS, MPA
Director, Fargo Public Library



A MESSAGE FROM BOARD PRESIDENT DR. CARLOS HAWLEY

I am pleased to work with the Library Board as we review library policies in order to ensure that your Public Library remains current and that we endeavor to remove barriers to service. Our work has included the selection of architectural firm JLG for the development of a forward-thinking Facilities Master Plan designed to better serve a changing community. The board has recently moved to support the addition of staff positions based on identified under-staffing. We have been pleased to see the increase in Library visits in 2022 (up 25% from 2021) and the increase in items circulated in 2022 (up over 7% from 2021). I, as well as each of the members of the Library Board, are members of the community and patrons of the library. While we hope our concerns are consistent with those of the people of Fargo, it is through communication with our fellow library patrons that we can remain better informed of community needs and desires. I urge every patron to communicate with the Library Board and help us better represent the community.

- Carlos Hawley

OUR MISSION

The Fargo Public Library provides effective and efficient library services to meet our community's personal, professional, and lifelong learning needs.

OUR VISION

The Fargo Public Library will be a model of excellence in library services, and the primary place in the community for people of all ages to fulfill their informational, recreational, and lifelong learning needs.

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2022 FARGO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Carlos Hawley, *President*

Jenna Reno

Amy Ouren, *Vice President*

Kristen Schipper

Hannah James

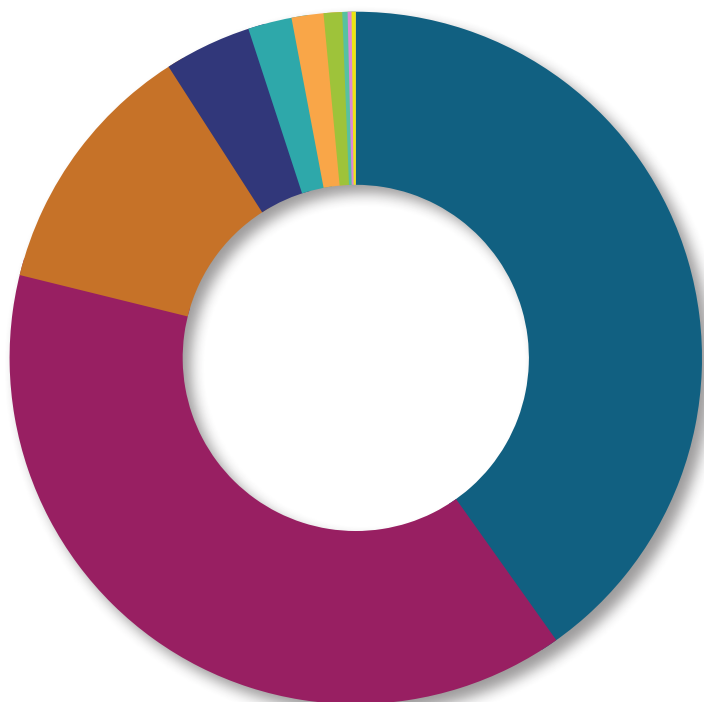
Arlette Preston,
City Commission Liaison

Wanda Mengelkoch

Carrie Peterson

Patrick Sinner,
Friends of the Fargo Public Library President

2022 COLLECTIONS



The Fargo Public Library continues to grow and improve our collections to meet the needs of our community.

TOTAL Physical Items in the Collection: **265,638**

 ADULT PRINT 105,464	 VIDEO GAMES 2,250
 CHILDREN'S PRINT 100,590	 ADULT KITS 639 (includes board games, book-club-in-a-bag & other kits)
 ADULT A/V 31,356	 CHILDREN'S MAGAZINES 470
 CHILDREN'S A/V 10,592	 CHILDREN'S KITS 257 (includes kits and totes)
 YOUNG ADULT PRINT 5,322	 EQUIPMENT 169 (includes day-use items, devices & equipment)
 ADULT MAGAZINES 3,868	 YOUNG ADULT MAGAZINES 86

INNOVATIONS IN 2022



Teen, Kids', and Adult winning library card designs.

Read & Share is a new service aimed at increasing the public's access to books and reading. With the support of the Friends of the Fargo Public Library, Read & Share repurposes gently used books that were previously in the library's collection or were donated to the library. These books are available at partner organizations including Fargo Public Cass Health Clinic in the Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program (WIC) office, several Little Free Libraries, and at community engagement events. Since launching the Read & Share service in August, 449 books were distributed to the members of the community.

Red River Valley Kids Read

A new community-read program for kids was held April 1–30. Titled Red River Valley Kids Read, the program is a collaboration between the public libraries of Fargo, West Fargo, Grand Forks, and Leach (Wahpeton) in ND, and the Moorhead Public Library in MN. *Storm Warning* by Elizabeth Raum, a middle-grade novel taking place during the historic Red River Valley Flood of 1997, was the highlighted book. A grant from the North Dakota Council on the Arts made it possible for the libraries to offer free copies of the books at area libraries and also to school librarians and 5th grade teachers in the Fargo Public School District. The grant also funded author visits at most of the partner libraries. Additional book-related programming rounded out the month.

The Fargo Public School Student ID Program is a collaboration with the Fargo Public Schools (FPS). Parents of FPS students in grades 6-12 are able to register their child for a Fargo Public Library card during the school registration process. Instead of receiving a physical library card, the child is able to use their FPS student ID to access the library's materials and services. Over 5,000 students were registered for library cards via fall 2022 FPS registration. Plans are underway to offer this program to all FPS students (K-grade 12) in fall 2023.

In September, the Fargo Public Library celebrated Library Card Sign Up Month by introducing Limited Edition Library Cards. The limited edition card designs were created by area artists of all ages who submitted art to the library's "Library Card Design Contest" during the month of April. The winning artists' designs in each age category were made into the new library cards. The winners, who were selected through public voting with over 2,400 votes received, are Ryan LeClair (Kids 12 and younger); Annie Ondracek (Teens 13 to 18); and Patty Fresonke-Twigg (Adults 19+). The new cards are available at all three library locations while supplies last.

Library Card Design Contest results

71 total entries



Tech Help

Adult Services staff launched weekly Tech Help sessions at the Main Library in May of 2022. Patrons can register for 30-minute sessions with library staff to work on a specific tech problem or a question about a variety of online services, applications, or specific devices. If sessions are not booked, drop-ins are welcomed. Library staff have helped users work through such difficulties as untangling a business Facebook account from a personal account, setting up a smart watch, and keeping track of versions of a loved one's personal history manuscript, as well as getting numerous library patrons connected to eBooks and eAudiobooks.

TOP CIRCULATING BOOK TITLES for 2022

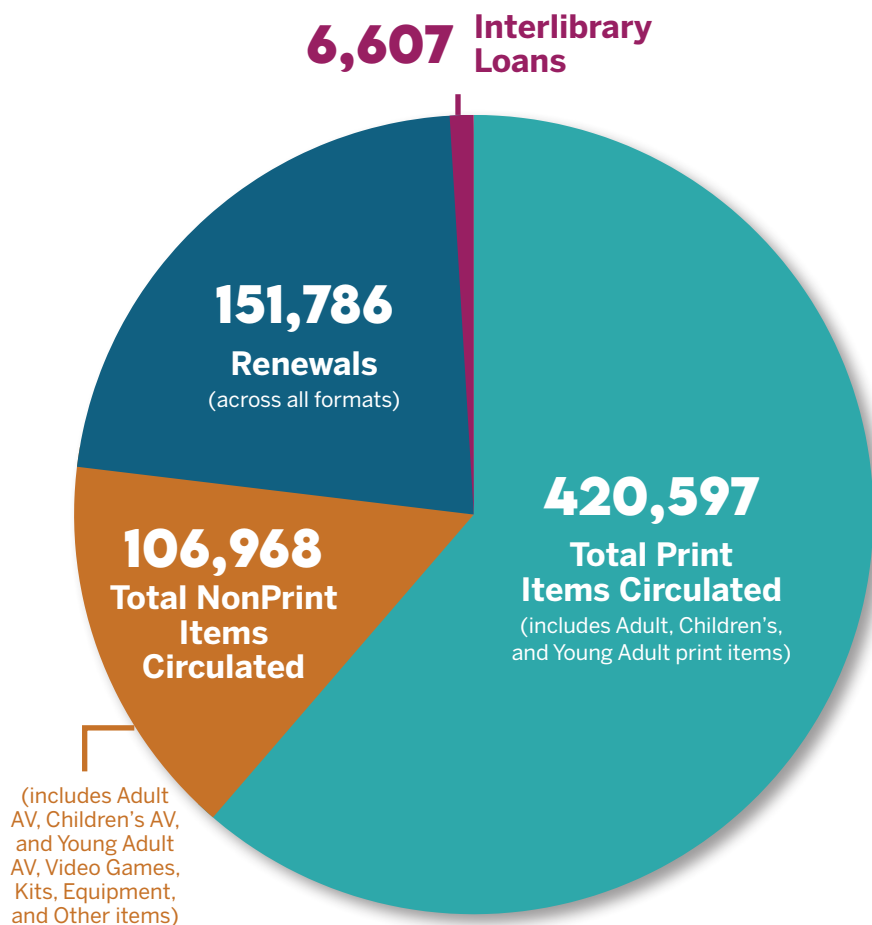


1. **Verity**
by Colleen Hoover
2. **The Last Thing He Told Me: A Novel**
by Laura Dave
3. **It Ends with Us: A Novel**
by Colleen Hoover
4. **The Four Winds: A Novel**
by Kristin Hannah
5. **Apples Never Fall**
by Liane Moriarty
6. **The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo: A Novel**
by Taylor Jenkins Reid
7. **The Judge's List: A Novel**
by John Grisham
8. **Book Lovers**
by Emily Henry
9. **Where the Crawdads Sing**
by Delia Owens
10. **The Wish**
by Nicholas Sparks

1. **Dog Man: Mothering Heights**
by Dav Pilkey
2. **Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Big Shot**
by Jeff Kinney
3. **All-Star Pups!**
by Mary Tillworth
4. **Break the Ice!/
Everest Saves the Day!**
by Courtney Carbone
5. **Jurassic Bark!**
by Hollis James
6. **Chase Is on the Case!**
by Carolyn Hay
7. **Dog Man: Grime and Punishment**
by Dav Pilkey
8. **Dog Man: For Whom the Ball Rolls**
by Dav Pilkey
9. **Mighty Pup Power!**
by Hollis James
10. **Guts**
by Raina Telgemeier

1. **A Court of Thorns and Roses**
by Sarah J. Maas
2. **The Hawthorne Legacy**
by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
3. **The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes**
by Suzanne Collins
4. **Shadow and Bone**
by Leigh Bardugo
5. **The Inheritance Games**
by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
6. **The Book Thief**
by Markus Zusak
7. **Six of Crows**
by Leigh Bardugo
8. **The Summer I Turned Pretty**
by Jenny Han
9. **A Court of Mist and Fury: A Court of Thorns and Roses Series, Book 2**
by Sarah J. Maas
10. **Firekeeper's Daughter**
by Angeline Boulley

CIRCULATION BY THE NUMBERS



TOTAL ELECTRONIC ITEMS CIRCULATED

226,567



Libby.

hoopla



Children's
Devices

197,836

28,540

191

912,525

In 2022 our patrons
checked out total items
(across all formats)



TOP RESOURCES 2022

- 1 ancestry®
- 2 MANGO
- 3 Value Line®
- 4 MORNINGSTAR®
- 5 Novelist



2022 CHILDREN'S PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



All storytime events returned to in-person sessions in 2022 including special storytimes, Kindergarten Success storytimes, and Baby Rhyme Time.



Storytime Attendance in 2022 (In-Person; Spring and Fall)	1,607
Summer Reading Challenge Storytime	793
Baby Rhyme Time	273
Kindergarten Success Storytime	115
Special Storytimes (Train Day, Stuffed Animal Sleepover)	107

In 2022, Children's Services staff returned to in-person programs and events and slowly phasing out virtual or online activities throughout the year.

Total Children's Programming Attendance	Children's Events and Activities	
	Winter, Spring, Fall 2022	Summer 2022
17,271	10,449	6,822



Summer Reading Challenge

The 2022 summer reading program was a hybrid, with both online and in-person elements. The library continued using the online component Beanstack which allowed kids and families to register, log their reading, and pick their prizes all online. This year kids of all ages counted the days read for their logging. A paper version was also available for those who chose to participate in the Summer Reading Challenge that way.



Other Summer Reading Challenge Stats

43% of kids who registered completed the challenge
32 average number of days read per reader



Children completed the program (birth through age 12)

713

Days read (birth to age 12)

52,624



Crafternoons To Go

Crafternoons To Go packets were take-home programs that took the place of the regular in-person Crafternoons events. The packets consisted of supplies and instructions needed to create a specific craft. Families were able to sign up for packets to complete at home. Crafternoons returned to in-person events in the fall of 2022.

Community Engagement Events for Kids Attendance

- Midwest Kid Fest (Fargo Parks) • **2,500**
- Kid's Day at the Red River Market • **665**
- Head Start Storytime Visits • **504**
- Back to School Bash (Fargo Public Schools) • **369**
- Fall Festival at the Red River Market • **311**
- Party for the Planet (Red River Zoo) • **275**
- Group Tours • **256**
- BookBike Visits at Area Parks • **106**
- Birding Festival (Dakota Audubon) • **50**
- Christkindlmarkt Storytime (Red River Market) • **30**



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

1,645

children registered



WINTER READ-A-THON

283

children registered



TOTAL STORYTIME ATTENDANCE

2,895



CRAFTERNOONS TO GO PACKETS

1,209

New for 2022 in the Children's Dept.: Red River Valley Kids Read

In 2022, a new community read program for kids was held April 1 – 30. Titled "Red River Valley Kids Read," the program is a collaboration between the public libraries of Fargo, West Fargo, Grand Forks, and Leach (Wahpeton) in ND, and the Moorhead Public Library in MN. *Storm Warning* by Elizabeth Raum, a middle-grade novel taking place during the historic Red River Valley Flood of 1997, was the featured book. A grant from the ND Council on the Arts made it possible for the libraries to offer free copies of the books, and also supported author visits at the participating libraries. Additional book-related programming rounded out the month.



435 young children earned a book by reading **100** books with an adult.

Weekly Scavenger Hunts

The Children's Staff introduced weekly scavenger hunts during the summer of 2022 and it proved to be so popular, they were extended into the fall and winter. Each week library staff hid 10 themed images around the library for kids to search for and find. These activities elicited conversations and engagement between children and their caregivers, and provided continued incentive for families to visit the library regularly.

- **Kids' Passive Programming Participation** – these were activities that Children's Services staff provided either to take home or were available outside of the physical building:

Oceans of Possibilities Scavenger Hunt	1,954
StoryWalk®	554
One Book One Community: Kid's Book Giveaway	186
Dial-a-Story	132
Design-a-Bookmark Submissions	111
Northern Narratives Jr. submissions	55
Tiny Art Show	37
James Webb Space Telescope Challenge and Fun Pad Giveaway via Beanstack	32

2022 ADULT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

2022 Northern Narratives Writing Project

76 participants with 112 total qualified entries.

Poetry entries: 72

Fiction: 27

Nonfiction: 13

These numbers are above pre-COVID (2019) entry numbers!



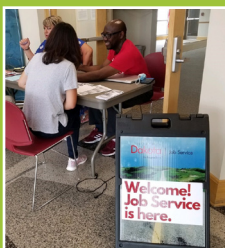
Northern Focus Photography Project

33 participants

The highest number of participants so far!

As part of Northern Narratives Writing Project, two writing workshops were held in February: one was led by Minnesota author Marcie R. Rendon, and North Dakota Poet Laureate Larry Woiwode led the other session.

In late September, the Main Library held a reception for the **2022 Northern Narratives + Northern Focus Projects**. We were excited to invite participating writers, photographers, and the general public to celebrate while taking in the Northern Focus exhibit in the gallery, and to gather and listen as writers read excerpts from the pieces chosen for inclusion in Northern Narratives. Over 100 people joined us for the reception. This year's projects were supported by the Friends of the Fargo Public Library.



IN-LIBRARY JOB ASSISTANCE WITH JOB SERVICE ND

In 2022, the Fargo Public Library and Job Service of North Dakota continued to build on their partnership. In addition to the presentations by library staff at Job Service highlighting library services available to assist job seekers through their monthly CareerBuilder workshops, ND Job Service began monthly visits to both the Dr. James Carlson branch and the Main Library, to help library users become more aware of the opportunities and assistance available to them through Job Service.

2022 AUTHOR VISITS

MAY **Dawn Quigley**, author of the young adult novel, *Apple in the Middle* (This event was presented in partnership with the Spirit Room and the NEA Big Read for *An American Sunrise*, a book of poetry by Joy Harjo.)

JULY **Sarah Vogel**, author of the nonfiction book, *The Farmer's Lawyer: The North Dakota Nine and the Fight to Save the Family Farm*

AUGUST **William Kent Krueger**, author of the Cork O'Connor mysteries



TINY ART SHOW

Over 50 individuals painted mini canvases in this multigenerational program. In-person painting sessions were held at all three library locations, and mini canvases could also be picked up to be painted at home. The painted canvases were displayed at the three library locations during the summer.



Winter Reading Challenge “Get Smitten with Reading”

288 adult participants

Summer Reading Challenge “Oceans of Possibilities”

357 adult participants

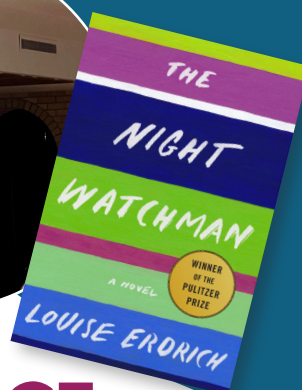
One Book One Community Reading Challenge

56 adult participants

2022 ONE BOOK ONE COMMUNITY PROGRAM THE NIGHT WATCHMAN BY LOUISE ERDRICH

Author Louise Erdrich presented to just under 700 community readers on the campus of Concordia College in late October. Erdrich’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel fictionalizes the real-life story of her grandfather, Patrick Gourneau, who worked as a night watchman in rural North Dakota and who carried the fight against Native dispossession all the way to Washington D.C.

One Book One Community partnering libraries and organizations offered a number of events during the program series, exploring the themes of the book. Support for the project was provided by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the Lake Agassiz Regional Library, Friends of the Fargo Public Library, Concordia College Cultural Events, Friends of the West Fargo Public Library, Friends of the Moorhead Public Library, Indigenous Association, Moorhead Area Public Schools Indian Education, and Moorhead Community Education.



2022 ADULT EVENT ATTENDANCE

TOTAL ATTENDANCE AT ADULT EVENTS IN 2022:

4,770

TOP 5 ADULT EVENT TYPES ATTENDED IN 2022

(total yearly attendance)



1. Monthly Online/ Facebook Book Parties: **1,036**



2. Author Events: **916**



3. Go & Grow/ Plant Swap Events: **796**



4. Arts & Crafts Events: **428**



5. Yoga: **401**



2022 TEEN PROGRAM AND EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



In 2022 teen programming made the full shift from virtual programs back to regularly scheduled in-person programming at Fargo Public Library locations. Teen Time was held on a weekly basis during the school year at both the Dr. James Carlson and downtown Main Library locations. Teen Time hosted a variety of activities including STEM events, crafts, games, and book talks.

2022 Teen Totals

Total Teen Programs in 2022: 60

Total Teen Attendance at Teen Events in 2022: 373



Teens also had the opportunity to earn volunteer hours by helping out with the Dr. James Carlson Library's Learning Garden. Area teens helped with the planting, weeding, watering, and general care of the plants in the vegetable garden.

Total teen garden volunteers: 5



The **2022 Summer Reading Challenge** continued to give area teens a variety of fun, engaging activities to participate in over the summer months. In addition to earning rewards for reading each day, teens had the opportunity to take part in weekly activities. Some of the most popular events were hydro dip planters, stamped leather keychains, and the annual spray dye t-shirt event.

Summer Reading Challenge Totals for TEENS

Total Teen Registrations for Summer Reading Challenge	185
Teen Reading Challenge completions	67
Free book prizes for Teens (40 days of reading)	67
Free pin prizes for Teens (50 days of reading)	53

Summer Events for Teens	19
Total Teen Attendance at Summer Teen Events	195



FRIENDS OF THE FARGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends of the Fargo Public Library is a volunteer non-profit organization that supports the library in a variety of ways. The Friends assist the library through fundraising activities, advocacy, and programming support so that the library can better serve the residents in our community. Fundraising activities include used book sales at all three branches. These proceeds are spent on items that improve and expand the unique services offered by the library. Over 90% of the money raised is given back to the Library.

Friends of the FPL 2022 Approved Donations

1 Book 1 Community	\$3,000
Northern Narratives & Northern Focus	\$1,000
Seed Library	\$300
Crafternoons	\$1,800
Summer Reading Program	\$3,550
Friends Donations in 2022 total	\$9,650

Contact us!



(701) 364-2665



friendsoffargolibrary@gmail.com



www.friendsfpl.org



Friends of the FPL, C/O Main Library,
101 4th St. N. Fargo, ND 58102



/FriendsoftheFargopubliclibrary

2022 OUTREACH SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS

In 2022 the Fargo Public Library's Outreach Services Dept. served **4,672 patrons** at our **18 partner sites** and checked out/delivered **11,265** items to patrons.

25

library volunteers
donated

2,003

hours

317

patrons used
the **Dial-A-Story**
service

27

patrons
participated
in **Senior
Book Club**

4

patrons participated
in the library's Books
By Mail service with

168

items delivered with
this service in 2022

*(these numbers are bundled
in with the patron and items
numbers above)*



OUTREACH SERVICES PARTNER AGENCIES AND SITES

1. Bethany Retirement Living on University
2. Bethany on 42nd
3. Crossroads Senior Living Apartments
4. Ecumen Evergreens
5. Edgewood Vista
6. Eventide Senior Living Community
7. Fargo Elim Senior Living Community
8. Good Samaritan of Fargo
9. North Sky Senior Apartments
10. One Oak Place
11. Pioneer House
12. Riverview Place
13. St. Catherine's North
(previously known as Rosewood on Broadway)
14. St. Catherine's South
(previously known as Villa Maria)
15. Sunrise Senior Apartments
16. The Meadows on University
17. Touchmark at Harwood Groves
18. Trollwood Village Senior Apartments

2022 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Partnerships and collaborations continue to be a priority for the library. Participating in community engagement events in 2022 allowed the Library to meet community members where they were at, whether at Broadway Square, NDSU, a local park, or other places throughout Fargo. Library staff shared information about our events, collections, and services, opened library accounts, and checked out materials. Community Engagement events helped facilitate connections and partnerships with other community organizations, such as Head Start, Audubon Dakota, Fargo-Moorhead Pride, and the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber, along with many, many others.



**Total Number
of Community
Engagements Events**

51



**Total Number of
People Met**

10,926



**Total Number
of Library Card
Registrations**

281



**The Library participated in these Community
Engagement Events for the first time in 2022:**

Horace Mann-Roosevelt Family Night – May 17

Day of Dignity at Broadway Square – August 28

Fargo Public Schools Back to School Bash – September 8

NDSU Library Banned Books Week Celebration – September 20

Boo at the Red River Zoo – October 29

AARP Tech Help with Red River Rainbow Seniors – November 17

2022 PARTNERSHIPS

**Anna Johnson
(One Book One Community)**

Audubon Dakota

Bank of North Dakota College SAVE

Bear Creek Winery

Broadway Square

Bruce Crummy (RRVKR)

Camp Lone Tree

**Cass County Soil Conservation
District (RRVKR)***

City of Fargo

**Concordia College Carl B.
Ylvisaker Library**

Concordia College Science Academy

Douglas Herman (RRVKR)*

Drekker Brewing Company

Drumconrath Brewing

Ed Clapp Senior Center

Fargo Cass Public Health

Fargo Park District

Fargo Public Schools

**Forum Communications/InForum
(RRVKR)***

FM Astromony Club

F-M Ballet/Gaspers School of Dance

Friends of the Fargo Public Library

Grand Forks Public Library

Gooseberry Park Players

Growing Together Community Gardens

The Human Family

**Historical and Cultural
Society of Clay County**

Indigenous Association

Josh Kading (RRVKR)*

Kerry Buckle (RRVKR)*

**Lake Agassiz Regional Library /
Moorhead Public Library**

Leach Public Library (Wahpeton)

* Red River Valley Kids Read

Little Big Wars Game Store

Matt Olien

**Moorhead Area Public
Schools Indian Education**

Moorhead Community Education

Morrie Lanning (RRVKR)*

**MSUM Dept. of Physics
and Astronomy**

MSUM Livingston Lord Library

MSUM Oceanarium

NaNoWriMo: ND Elsewhere Chapter

**National Oceanic Atmospheric
Administration, Grand Forks (RRVKR)***

NDSU Extension

NDSU Herpetology Club

NDSU Libraries

NDSU Society of Women Engineers

North Dakota Job Service

North Dakota Master Gardeners

Pet Partners of the Red River Valley

Red River Market

**Red River Modules Model
Railroad Club**

Red River Rainbow Seniors

Red River Zoo

River Keepers

SENDCAA Head Start

Spirit Room

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
St. Paul District (RRVKR)***

U.S. Geological Survey (RRVKR)*

Valley Reading Council

Valley Senior Services

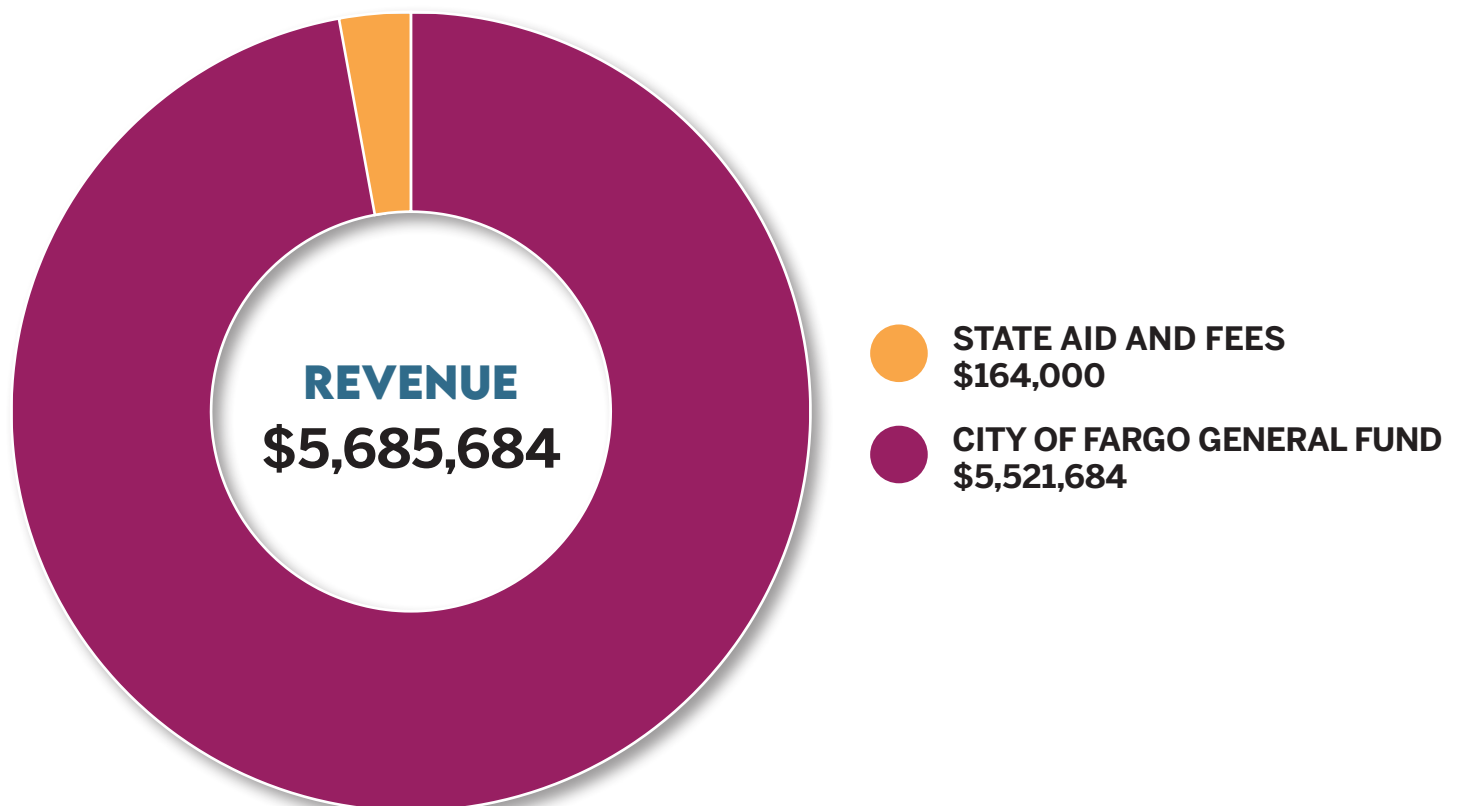
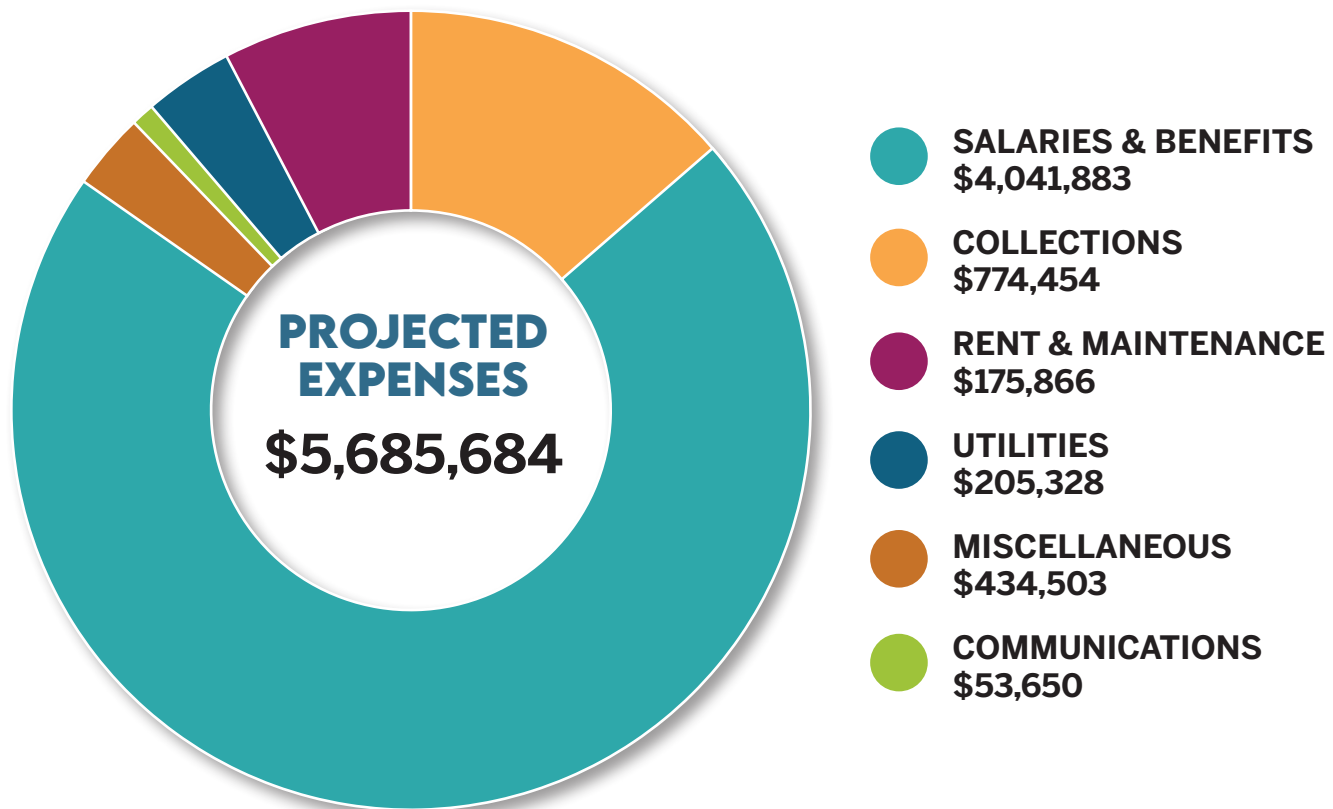
WDAY (RRVKR)*

West Fargo Public Library

Wild Terra

Zandbroz Variety

FISCAL YEAR 2023 PROJECTED BUDGET







Fargo Public Library



Main Library
101 4th Street North
Fargo, ND 58102
(701) 241-1472



Dr. James Carlson Library
2801 32nd Avenue South
Fargo, ND 58103
(701) 476-4040



Northport Library
2714 North Broadway
Fargo, ND 58102
(701) 476-4026



THE FARGO PUBLIC LIBRARY IS A DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF FARGO