

## Your Local Library

**W**hat does it mean to be a local library? I believe it means being an essential community organization, one that knows and responds to the needs and interests of the community it serves. It means working *with* the community—not just for it—so that our local community thrives. Every library is different because every community is different.

Just as local businesses supported by people shopping locally foster thriving communities, so do local libraries when supported by local residents. We know that our library—your library—can be that place where crucial connections are formed only if we continually reach out to and engage with you, our community. It is a symbiotic relationship. There is a reason “community” is part of our name.

It is this understanding that has informed what we have done over the past year. Our community is home to many seniors and retirees, so we offered a number of programs of particular interest to this population, including lectures on health topics, Tech Labs and one-on-one consultations to improve digital skills, and a reading and discussion series on aging and growing. We also have a growing number of young families using our library, so we added children’s story times and more special programs for homeschool families.

We are home to many creative people, and we held writing workshops, art workshops, and installed a Free Little Art Gallery and held art exhibits in the library to showcase the work of patrons and local artists. New immigrants have also moved to our region, so we purchased more Spanish-language materials and began offering English-language tutoring. Our community is rural and agricultural and blessed with many wonderful outdoor recreational assets. We added a seed library, collection materials on the climate crisis and ecological repair, as well as camping and hiking equipment to lend.

As the community changes, so will the library, because we are a community library, a local library, YOUR library.

Tammy Gaskell  
Library Director

## In 2022 Your Library:

- Began weekly **TUTORING IN ENGLISH** for English-language learners
- Resumed holding our annual **COMMUNITY PICNIC**
- Held our first **HYBRID PROGRAMS**, which allow patrons to participate in person or online
- Added **NEW CHILDREN’S STORY TIMES** and continued weekly programs **FOR HOMESCHOOLING** families
- Sponsored an **OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES** at Roe Jan Park
- **PROVIDED DIGITAL TRAINING** with online Tech Labs and one-on-one appointments with our Digital Navigators
- Hosted the **“ROE JAN WRITERS” SERIES** featuring local authors
- **SHOWCASED THE WORKS OF LOCAL ARTISTS** with art exhibits in the library
- **PARTNERED** with other Columbia County libraries, the Farmers Market, Columbia Land Conservancy, Roe Jan Historical Society, Copake Grange, the Roe Jan Brewing Co., and many other organizations to offer an array of **PROGRAMS FOR A WIDE VARIETY OF INTERESTS AND AGES**
- **CELEBRATED CINCO DE MAYO** with fun activities for the whole family

To receive our e-newsletter, which keeps you up to date on programs and resources, send an e-mail request to  
[COMMUNICATIONS@ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG](mailto:COMMUNICATIONS@ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG)

Also visit our website, [ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG](http://ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG), and our **FACEBOOK** and **INSTAGRAM** pages

Register for a library account by visiting  
[ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG/GET-A-CARD](http://ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG/GET-A-CARD)

Feel free to contact us with any questions—we are here to help!

**TAMMY GASKELL, LIBRARY DIRECTOR, 518-325-4101,**  
[DIRECTOR@ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG](mailto:DIRECTOR@ROEJANLIBRARY.ORG)

**PATRICIA A. PLACONA, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES,**  
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Patrons attended art workshops, reading and discussion series, and writing workshops



STEM activities are very popular at Homeschool Wednesdays



We are a “Library of Local,” with a seed library and a collection of books on the climate crisis and ways to advance ecological repair



On Zoom and in person, seniors attended talks on aging and health



Kate Shannon is our new library associate and communications manager



Patrons can now borrow camping gear

## 2022 BY THE NUMBERS

### OUR COLLECTION: WHAT YOU CAN BORROW AND USE

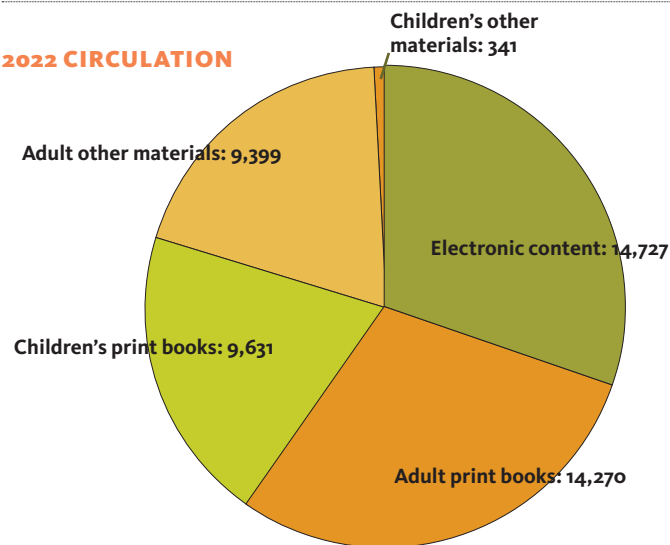
Print material: 19,352

Electronic materials—e-books, downloadable audio and video, e-magazines, databases: 25,131

Non-electronic materials—DVDs, books on CD, museum passes, etc.: 4,938

Total holdings: 49,421

### 2022 CIRCULATION



Total collection use: 48,368 / Total number of visitors: 27,676  
Registered borrowers: 4,468 / New patrons: 283



Add your art to our Free Little Art Gallery or take a piece home



Director Tammy Gaskell won the New York Library Association's Mary Bobinski Innovative Public Library Director award



Staff members Fran, Tia, Tammy, Robin, and Kate are here to help you

### 2022 PROGRAMS

Adult program sessions: 126

Children's and teen program sessions: 122

General/Family program sessions: 2

One-on-one programs: 141 (job search help, homebound delivery, "take and make" programs)

### PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

Adult program attendance: 1,780

Children's and teen program attendance: 2,266

General/Family program sessions: 285

One-on-one program attendance: 141

Visits to website: 26,361  
Computer sessions: 1,119  
Wireless access: 6,752

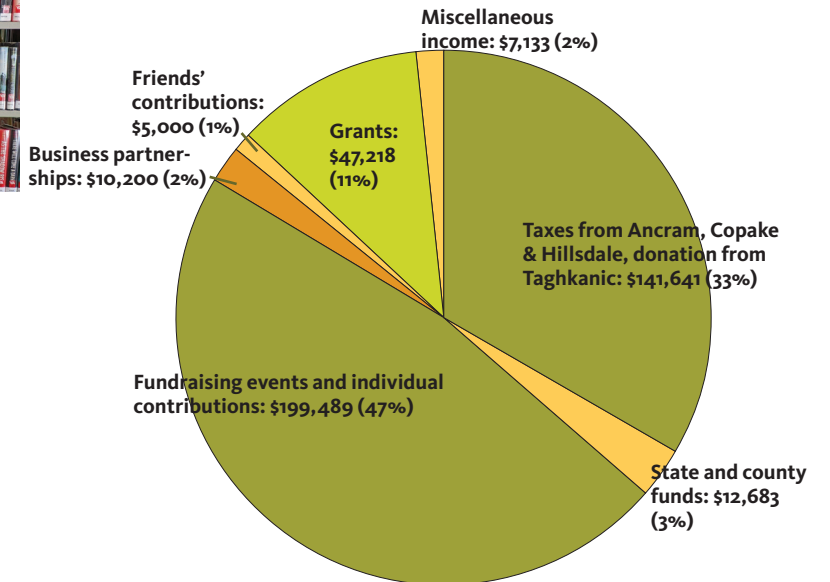
### RJCL LOCAL PUBLIC FUNDS IN COMPARISON TO OTHER LIBRARIES (3-YEAR AVERAGE)

RJCL - \$16.28/capita

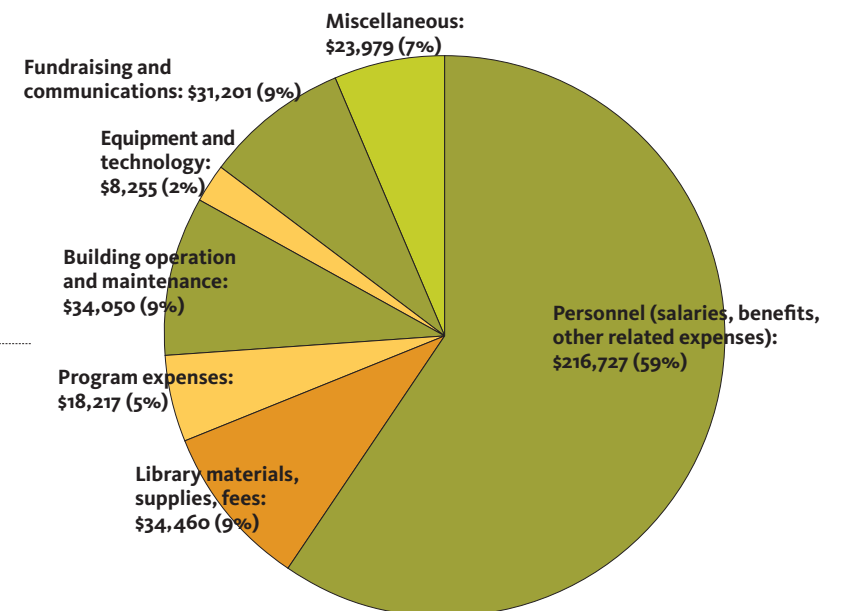
Columbia County libraries - \$23.86/capita

Mid-Hudson Library System libraries - \$53.38/capita

### HOW WAS YOUR LIBRARY FUNDED? INCOME—\$423,364



### WHAT DID THE MONEY PAY FOR? EXPENSES—\$366,889



Debt service: \$41,888, paid from funds set aside for this purpose in previous years and from donations by Friends of the Roe Jan Library.

A CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE OF THE AMOUNT PATRONS SAVED BY BORROWING MATERIALS\* AND ATTENDING FREE PROGRAMS: \$675,000. AND THAT DOESN'T INCLUDE THE MANY OTHER BENEFITS OF HAVING A LIBRARY IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

\*NOT INCLUDING HOTSPOTS, CAMPING EQUIPMENT, SEEDS, AND MANY OTHER RESOURCES