



IOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY

2022 Annual Report

Play to Learn

The Southeast Kansas Library System received a \$162,000 grant from the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund through the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Program. Starting in October 2021, Iola Public piloted the first year of the 3-year Family Engagement in Public Libraries project. The grant funded play-based programs to connect families to community services, a new parenting collection and catalog kiosk, Family Place Libraries™ training, the Grow Your Brain play space, and coaching with Tammie Benham, the System's Youth Services Consultant. Over 2,000 visitors played in the new space.

By the Numbers

- 25,618 visits in 2022 64% ↗
- 48,097 borrowed items 14% ↗
- 342 new patrons 33% ↗
- 265 programs 139% ↗
- 3,182 program attendees 51% ↗
- 3,044 computer uses 1% ↗
- 5,153 website visits 2% ↗
- 115 passports accepted 58% ↗

Board of Directors

Katrina Springer, President
Marilyn Logan, Vice President
Elaine Stewart, Treasurer
Jessica Maness, Secretary
Marcia Davis
Tim Stauffer
Pam Coons
Steven French, Mayor



Community Partners

The **Friends of Iola Public Library** raised over \$1,880 from book sales in April and October. Support totaling \$3,225 helped purchase new materials and card tables and funded programming for all ages.

Iola Reads selected *Take Me With You* by Catherine Ryan Hyde and distributed teacher appreciation boxes. For young readers, the group selected *The Girl in the Locked Room* by Mary Downing Hahn. Priscilla Howe shared stories at the local schools and Bowlus Center and with help from ACC students, staff, and committee members, we had 224 come through our "Haunted library."

Financial Overview

City of Iola	224,455
State Aid	1,507
Other Income & Gifts	67,488
SEKLS Support	16,945
Total Income	\$310,395
Staff Expense	223,317
Collection & Programs	26,705
Building & Admin	51,560
Total Expense	\$299,582
Capital Improvement	\$4,500

Grants:

Kansas Notable Books	\$ 214
Your Community Foundation	\$1,390
Thrive Allen County	\$1,165

Major Gifts:

Friends of Iola Public Library
Buck Thompson memorial
Peg Beech memorial

Endowment:

Donations Received	\$ 6,141
Wilson Estate transfer	\$ 50,000
Balance	\$123,346

The acknowledgement list of our generous donors is on the [Donate](#) page of our website.

Highlights from the Year

- ✓ Started a seed library with donations from the Humanity House
- ✓ Planted a zinnia garden
- ✓ Created two new seating areas
- ✓ Improved the circulation desk
- ✓ Expanded hours, opening at 9 am
- ✓ Eliminated fines for adults
- ✓ Provided 193 curbside pickups
- ✓ Nominated for Thrive Award for Excellence in Recreation
- ✓ Hosted eight guest speakers, crochet and chess clubs, and blood drives
- ✓ Joined ACMAT Family Safety Night

Looking Towards the Future

The Board, staff, City staff, and community members worked with Jim Minges, Consultant, to develop a new long-range plan for the Library. Financial support for the process came from a *Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan* (SHARP) grant, provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities through Humanities Kansas. The new plan and progress dashboard were posted on the Library's website: iolapubliclibrary.org.

Our goals:

- Become the destination for the community
- Ensure that the community is aware of the library and its service offerings
- Provide the community with an excellent and welcoming library facility
- Become a hub to meet community needs
- Secure adequate funding for staff, services, and programs



Oceans of Possibilities

This year's Summer Reading program took advantage of the Annex yard for outdoor projects and water play, with storytimes, crafts, and reading challenges thrown in. The Library had 32 programs attended by 981 preschoolers, children, and young adults.