# Hamilton Public Library 2020 Annual Newsletter

# Summer Reading Program 2019 "A Universe of Stories!"

The library was out of this world last summer as we kept the entire community busy with our Summer Reading Program! About 200 patrons of all ages signed up to track their reading and win amazing prizes donated by over 40 local businesses. In total, about 1,000 patrons enjoyed nearly 50 programs, and this year we even added a remote Summer Reading Program once a week for two months in Lebanon!



Thank you to the Friends of the Library for everything they did (and continue to do) to support the Summer Reading Program. Not only did they purchase a new book for every child that signed up, they also personally served ice cream at our kickoff event. Sweet!

#### **Library Staff** Cassondra Marks



In August 2019, Liza Taylor joined the staff as our new Assistant Director. Liza was a regular at the Earlville Free Library from a young age, where her mother Shari is still the Director. Once she found out she could go to school to be a Librarian, she knew there was nothing else she wanted to do. After earning her MLIS from SUNY Albany, she worked as a Teen Librarian in Ohio. She is excited to be back in New York and working in a library so close to home.



We have also welcomed two part-time Library Clerks, Caleigh Tuttle and Elliot Townsend. Both area natives, they are excited to be working at the library. If you haven't already, stop in and say hello!

#### **Library Board of Trustees**

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### **Library Director**

Travis Olivera

#### **Assistant Director**

Liza Taylor

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#### Friends of the Library

Diane Finch, President Kelly Norris, Vice President Gloria Gaudeau, Treasurer Diane Fenton, Secretary Barbara Albrecht Jen Latreille Suzanne Watson



What's new in the library, besides new books, movies, and staff members? We've been hosting a number of unique and exciting activities, including Escape Rooms for patrons of all ages, monthly wellness classes with Chair Yoga and Guided Meditation, and brought back the popular Book-to-Movie Club. Our younger patrons have also enjoyed practicing reading to therapy dogs, and we think the dogs had fun too! One of this year's highlights was our Noon Year's Eve Party, for kids to enjoy the holiday without missing any sleep! With the Community Room at capacity, we'll definitely be doing that again!

This year also saw the official start to our After School Program, where we offer homework help, activities, snacks, and games to school-aged kids two days a week. With our new Children's Room, we're looking forward to adding kids' coding programs to our roster, along with other fun crafts, games, and experiences for everyone to enjoy.

In our exhibit space, there were seven different art shows, displaying everything from watercolors to one hundred knitted wool hats.

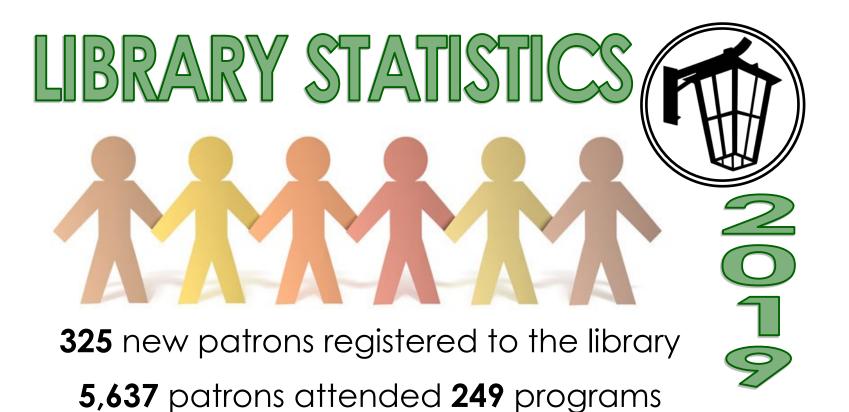
In other news, we doubled our Saturday hours so be sure to visit after the Farmer's Market. We also added a sunscreen dispenser right outside our front door through a partnership with Cancer Prevention in Action, so keep that in mind during the hot summer months.





## ADAPTING TO CHANGE - COVID-19

The mission of the library is to provide the community with access to reliable information for recreational, informational, and cultural use. While we had to close our doors in March, we are using this time to expand online services and explore new ways to engage with patrons. We miss seeing you every day, but enjoy our interactions through email, social media, and the phone. Coordinating with the Madison County Historical Society to collect stories from this unprecedented time in history is just one of the many ways we adapted, and hope to see more positive initiatives like this one offered in response.





**60,719** print and digital items were used in the collection

Our 7 public computers were used **3,612** times, while our Wi-Fi network was used **3,668** times

**34,307** people visited the library this past year!



Thanks for another great year!

# **Hamilton Public Library**

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# 2020 Annual Newsletter





The year 2020 is the 125th anniversary of the Great Fire in the Village of Hamilton, that destroyed twenty-two of the buildings in the business district. To commemorate this event the Hamilton Historical Commission is putting up a new exhibit in the library museum. In the exhibit, there will be pictures of the before and after of the disaster, along with a few artifacts that survived the flames, and the damage from the smoke and water. Please come in and visit the display.

# Summer Reading is coming: IMAGINE YOUR STORY!

Summer Reading kicks off in July! Check our website for updates!

13 Broad Street, Hamilton, NY 13346 | (315) 824-3060 | HamiltonLibrary.org

Open Monday - Thursday 10am-7pm, Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 9am-3pm