

# HAMILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Kids meeting a couple of tortoises during the 2021 Summer Reading Program

## From the Director

Although much of 2021 was defined by Covid-19, we were happy to be able to reopen the Community Room to the public and make face coverings optional in our facility. As we continue to return to normal, we will be offering our annual Summer Reading Program, "Oceans of Possibilities." We're also participating in the first system-wide Library Road Trip!

We've had a lot of changes to our team this year, and I want to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing staff and Board members for their service to our facility and community. Larry LeClair, Wendy Watkins, Renee Rashford, Cassie Marks, Michael Goe, and Deb Niles, we wish you the best on your future endeavors!



History Museum exhibit

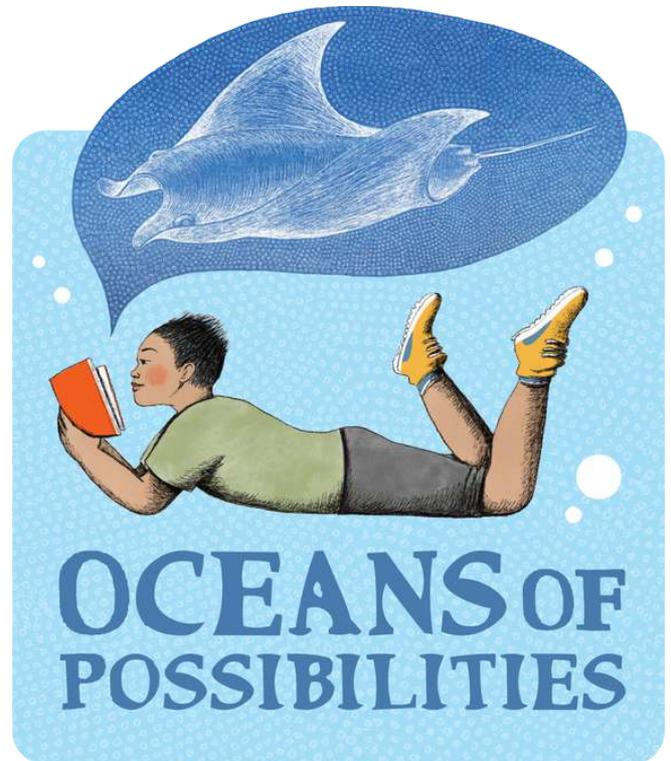
## History Museum

Come visit the new exhibit in our History Museum! This summer, the display features the 185-year-old Chenango Canal! This canal, like the Erie Canal, was a chance to develop the area before the railroads took over with cheaper and faster transportation. Packet boats and freight barges were the most commonly seen in the canal between 1837 and 1878. On hand are a diorama of the Village bridge, photos, artifacts, a model of a canal boat, and more!

## Upcoming Programs

From June 1st through August 31st we are participating as a "stop" in the MidYork Library Road Trip. Visit all 45 libraries in the MidYork system to get an exclusive gold library card, custom printed with your current barcode number! If 45 libraries is too many don't worry, there are other prizes to win along the way. So stop in to get your map of all the libraries and get started.

Our annual Summer Reading Program, "Oceans of Possibilities", kicks off on July 11th with an Ice Cream Social hosted by the Friends of the Library. Participating kids will get a free book and earn other rewards all summer by completing simple challenges. The more you read the more you can enter to win big prizes at the end of the summer. This program is open to all ages and runs until August 13.



## We have a new logo!

Since we no longer have a lantern out front we decided to work with a graphic designer to create a new logo for the library. After a lot of discussion and several potential designs we chose an Elm leaf transitioning into the pages of a book. We felt this design represented the library and the community, both as we are currently and our potential to grow together.



## Our Mission

To foster literacy and intellectual growth in our diverse community by providing free and equal access to programs, services, and collections.

## Our Vision

We proudly serve as a community partner, creating a welcoming space for people of all ages, abilities, and interests. We seek to promote the joy of reading; offer engaging, high-quality materials and services to support learning; and be responsible stewards of our community resources.

## Co\$t Corner

BY LAUREN WALSH - BOT FINANCE OFFICER

The year has just begun and already the library staff and board of trustees have been busy planning the budget for the next fiscal year. Building budgets involves balancing. We consider anticipated expenses and earnings for the year to make sure that all costs - including new books, movies, programs, and supplies as well as staff salaries and more - can be paid by available and incoming funds. Our support comes from the school district, the state, county, village, and past and present patrons - thank you all!

In the coming year, we expect to spend **\$311,451**. These funds will keep the doors open to the public for more than 40 hours a week of check-outs, programs, and use of community spaces. In order to balance this budget, we have cut back on the costs of new books, e-books, materials, and media by 10% and proposed an increase in the school district tax by 7%. Each and every year, we thank you for supporting the library with your budget votes and your continued patronage. For more information and to view our current budget, please go to our website at <https://www.hamiltonlibrary.org/board-of-trustees/> and click on documents.

# Library Statistics 2021

## New Patrons

165

## Programs

129

## Program Attendance

2,318

## Physical Checkouts

38,613

## Digital Checkouts

10,063

## Public Computer Use

1,053

## Wifi Logins

1,734

## People Visiting the Library

13,655

## Home Deliveries

65

## Hamilton Public Library

13 Broad Street  
Hamilton, NY 13346

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

## Local Postal Customer

## BUSINESS PARTNERS

American Red Cross

Arts at the Palace

Colgate Bookstore

Community Action Partnership

Community Memorial Hospital

Earlville Free Library

FoJo Beans

Gilligan's Ice Cream

Hamilton Area Community Coalition

Hamilton Community Chest

Hamilton Movie Theater

Hamilton Rotary Club

Maxwell's Chocolates & Ice Cream

Oliveri's Pizzeria

Rogers Environmental Center

Thought Into Action

Upstate University Hospital

Utica Public Library

Hamilton Central School

Madison Central School

Brookfield Central School



The Friends of the Library Book Nook

## Buildings and Grounds

Two major projects defined this year's physical space at the library. The HVAC system renovation and the front entryway book sale upgrade. While the new HVAC system may not lend itself well to pictures, the more consistent, comfortable, and energy-efficient heating and cooling is certainly something to celebrate! This project, which took longer than expected to complete due to the pandemic, was funded by a New York State Library Construction Grant, the Village of Hamilton, and the Friends of the Library.

We added several custom-made wooden book shelves in our front entryway, paid for by the Friends of the Library. The items sold in this room will benefit the Friends, so stop in and purchase an affordable used book, DVD, or CD and support the Friends of the Library in the process!