

# ANNUAL REPORT FY 2021-2022



Mission Statement: The Elkader Public Library provides the residents of the community and the surrounding area equal access to resources and services for information, continuing education, and recreation.

Despite the on-going pandemic, library usage continues to increase. Many mitigation measures have become part of our regular routine, such as disinfecting surfaces at least twice daily, and providing more options for families to participate in library activities from their homes. For the Summer Reading Program in June and July, families had the choice to attend in-person or complete the program on their own at home. The in-person Story Time groups were kept small by offering one on Monday and one on Thursday. The sessions were kept brief by preparing crafts kits for families to complete at home. The in-person Junior Readers met only once a week on Wednesdays, and they completed most activities on site. The Friends of the Library sponsored two special presentations for children and families which were held off-site.

Book discussions for adults continued in person throughout the year. A presentation on the Holocaust was held in September and “take-and-make” bags were made available to families in October for Fire Safety Week and for Halloween. In December, the Friends of the Library provided Family Fun Bags with crafts and activities for families to do on their own at home during winter break. The Friends of the Library also sponsored a magician on St. Patrick’s Day and a program on Grant Wood in April.

*“A library in the middle of a community is a cross between an emergency exit, a life-raft and a festival. They are cathedrals of the mind; hospitals of the soul; theme parks of the imagination. On a cold rainy island, they are the only sheltered public spaces where you are not a consumer, but a citizen instead.”*

*~ Caitlin Moran*

## RESOURCES & STATISTICS

### Books, Magazines, DVDs, & Audiobooks:

12,062 check-outs

### Puzzles, Cake Pans, Kits, & Equipment:

283 check-outs

### Public Computers & Wireless Network:

Used 2,510 times

### BRIDGES Audiobooks, E-books, & Magazines:

4,486 items downloaded

### Website Including Online Catalog:

Accessed 4,341 times

### Facebook:

684 Likes

780 Followers

## PUBLIC SERVICES

Faxing, Photocopying, and Scanning; Digitized Clayton County Newspapers Online; Tax Forms; Local Information; Reference Service.

## FUNDING

Approximately 74% of the Elkader Public Library's budget was provided by the City of Elkader. Roughly 22% was from county appropriations. The remaining 4% came from the revenue from overdue fines, fees for services, the State Library Enrich Iowa program, and library service contracts with the towns of Elkport, Garber, and St. Olaf.

## CARDHOLDERS

There were over 1700 active library accounts from:

- Elkader and Rural Clayton County Patrons
- Contracting Cities Patrons from Elkport, Garber, and St. Olaf [cities pay for library service]
- Open Access Patrons (patrons outside local area) [reimbursement from State Library of Iowa]
- Out of State Patrons [pay a yearly fee]
- Interlibrary Loan Libraries (libraries borrowing our materials for their patrons) [reimbursement from State Library of Iowa]

## PHOTOS



Book Discussion



Tom Milligan as Grant Wood



Mikayla Oz, Magician, with Audience Participation



Story Time for Toddlers & Preschool Ages Marching Activity



Junior Readers "Will it Float?" Experiment