

Muncie Public Library Report to the Community 2021



Discovering the New Normal in 2021

Although the pandemic continued to change life for everyone in 2021, MPL discovered new ways to deliver uninterrupted vital resources and services to the community. Read on to follow a year in the life of Muncie Public Library as we navigated the new “normal” to provide comprehensive library service to all.

Photos above: Burris Kindergarten students show off their new READ cards; MPL employees have fun with a Garfield photo opportunity for National Library Card Sign Up Month; and young customers help release a newly hatched Monarch butterfly in the Maring-Hunt Library garden area. Photo at right: A mom and her baby enjoy reading books at Kennedy Library.



MPL Mission Statement

Muncie Public Library will provide accessible and innovative services responding to the reading, informational, educational, and enrichment needs of the community.



2021 Highlights-Winter

January 2021 began with limited open hours at all MPL branches. Customers were encouraged to use MPL To Go, the newly created curbside service, and to schedule appointments for computer use. Masks were still required for all customers and employees. Black History Month and Women's History

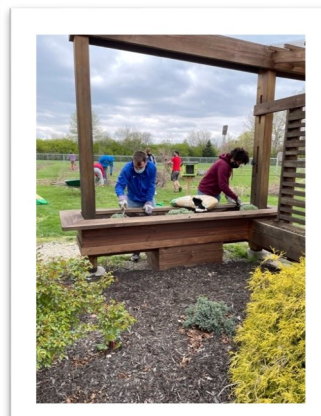
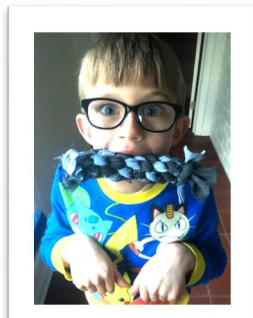
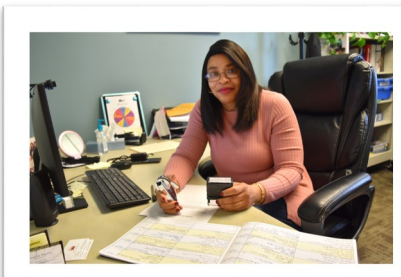
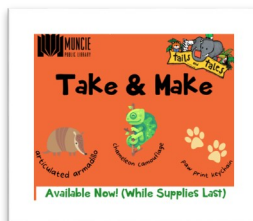
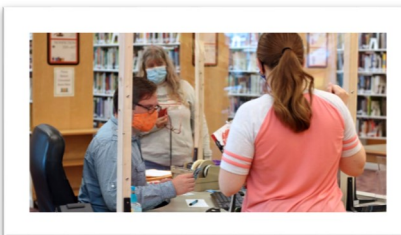
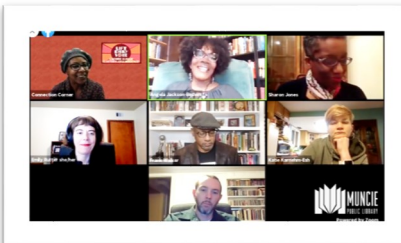


Month provided the framework for virtual programs, digital displays, and curated collections of resources. *Photos: The Black History Month logo used by MPL; a press clipping from a digital display created by Carnegie Library staff; and a screen shot from Conversation of Hope (COH), a virtual program hosted by Connection Corner staff. COH was funded by a grant from Lift Every Voice. Lift Every Voice is presented by the Library of America in partnership with the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Emerson Collective.*



2021 Highlights-Spring

The second quarter of 2021 ushered in a gradual re-opening of MPL with the introduction of Grab & Go, which encouraged short visits to check out materials, use document services, and renew and register library cards. *Photos: Customers at Kennedy Library; Tenisha Harris, Connection Corner Specialist, became a Notary Public to make this service available to the Whitely area and the community; Take & Make activity kits became very popular. Customers shared photos of completed projects, like a braided denim chew toy for dogs; BSU Fraternity volunteers helped clean up the Maring-Hunt Library garden area; MPL celebrated National Library Week with special NLW programs and a proclamation issued by Muncie Mayor Dan Ridenour.*



2021 Highlights-Summer

The Summer Reading Program (SRP) launched in June and continued through the month of July. Kids of all ages, and even adults, were encouraged to keep reading during the summer months and to attend in-person and online programming.

Photos: Promoting SRP in the Maring-Hunt Library garden area; a birthday party for Garfield at the Maring-Hunt Library garden area.



2021 Highlights-Fall

By fall, MPL was open with new operating hours. Customers, while still encouraged to wear masks and practice safe social distancing, were welcome to enjoy the library branches as places to research, relax, and linger over a good book or a newspaper.

Photos: An outreach activity at First Thursday in Downtown Muncie; shoppers at a Friends book sale; fun and games at an event at Kennedy Library; a family signing up for library cards; and in-person programming took place, such as Author Talk with Muncie-based author Marwin Strong, at Connection Corner.



Grants & Partnerships

MPL enjoys wonderful partnerships with many local organizations which result in shared projects and events. MPL also prides itself on reaching out to local, state, and national grant organizations to seek funding. Grant applications and grant awards provide the opportunity to share the story of our community, our needs, and our community's amazing ability to work together to address those needs. The following organizations funded programs and projects at MPL throughout 2021 and also provided funding in 2021 that will result in new initiatives to be completed and implemented in 2022.

Stwelve Coalition
Amazon Smile Foundation
The Ball Brothers Foundation
Ball State University
The City of Muncie American Rescue Plan
Classroom Connections of East Central Indiana
The Community Foundation of Muncie and Delaware County
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
First Presbyterian Church Missional Outreach
The Heart of Indiana United Way
HotBox Pizza
Indiana State Library CARES Act
Indiana Humanities
Indiana Landmarks
Kiwanis Club of Muncie
Kroger Payless Community Rewards
The Lowe's Foundation
The Muncie Paul Revere Chapter of the DAR
The Sherman & Marjorie Zeigler Foundation

Photos: Celebrating 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, a program made possible by the Heart of Indiana United Way; and book distributions with Classroom Connections ECI.



2021 Statistics

Collections

273,782

Includes all items, print, audio-visual, etc. and all Muncie Community School and MOM items in the shared UCAT catalog.

Circulations

298,808

Includes all circulating items at all branches, and checkouts through the shared catalogs.

Card Count

47,422

Includes Resident, Non-Resident, Student, PLAC, Reciprocal cards, and READ cards.

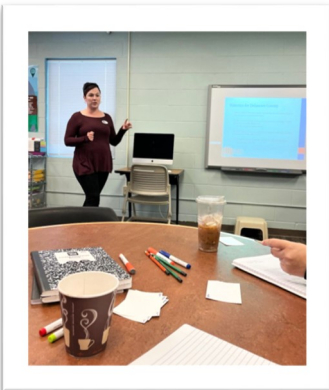
The READ Card Project puts special library cards into the hands of students, teachers, and staff at participating organizations.





Academic Enrichment at MPL: Ready Readers & Great Achievers

MPL Ready Readers (RR) is an early literacy program that provides free, one-on-one reading and vocabulary tutoring to children ages 1-9. Children learn and practice skills through different age-appropriate games and activities. RR is a unique early literacy program developed by



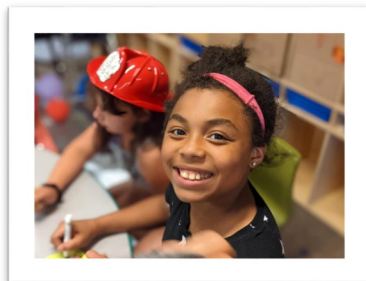
MPL employee Katie Lehman. The program focuses on the interests of the child to create an individualized learning approach. The program also includes parents and caregivers as part of the learning process. Ready Readers has been offered at Maring-Hunt Library since 2017, and several children "graduate" from the program each year as their skills reach age or grade levels of proficiency. Because of the program's success, there is generally a wait list to enroll, as the 50 available positions are filled quickly each year.

In 2021, Lehman applied for and was awarded a grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation to train community members as literacy tutors. This training has taken place, and now more literacy tutors will be available to help children who are struggling to read or who need improved language and vocabulary skills. Additionally, after a feature article appeared in a statewide library publication, other public libraries throughout the state have reached out to MPL and Lehman to replicate the RR program to serve their own communities. *Photo: Katie Lehman, Ready Readers Supervisor at MPL, teaches early literacy tutoring methods to community volunteers.*

Great Achievers (GA) is the MPL afterschool program for students at South View Elementary. GA is a 21st Century Community Learning Center funded by the Department of Education. The program helps students at risk of academic failure through homework help, tutoring, and art and other creative activities. GA meets Mondays through Thursdays during the MCS academic year, with a summer enrichment program offered, as well. GA staff work closely with South View Elementary administration and teachers to identify students in need of extra academic support. GA staff walk with the students from the school to Maring-Hunt Library. At the end of the GA session, the children are

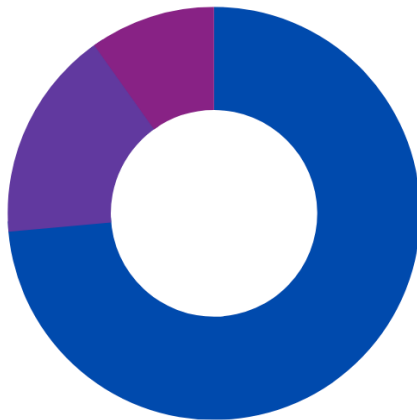


provided bus transportation home. The program provides nutritious snacks, one-on-one attention, and positive experiences for the students and their families. Ball State University Student Voluntary Services volunteers assist the GA program. *Photos: GA students tackle a building project; two GA students working on an art project; and time for a lunch break during the GA summer enrichment program.*



Muncie Public

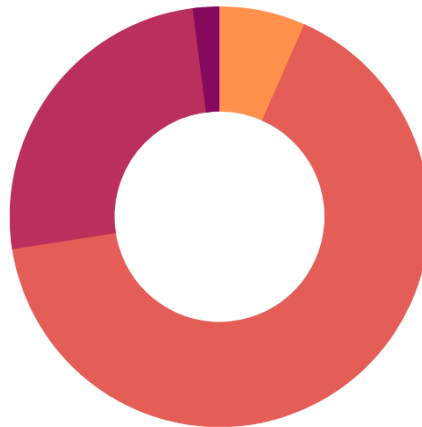
2021 Operating Revenue



● Property Taxes	3,027,480.02
● LIT (Local Income Tax)	680,804.00
● Other	405,800.05

Total: 4,114,084.07

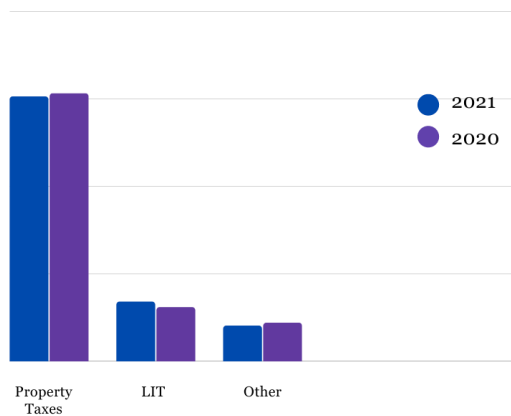
2021 Operating Expenditures



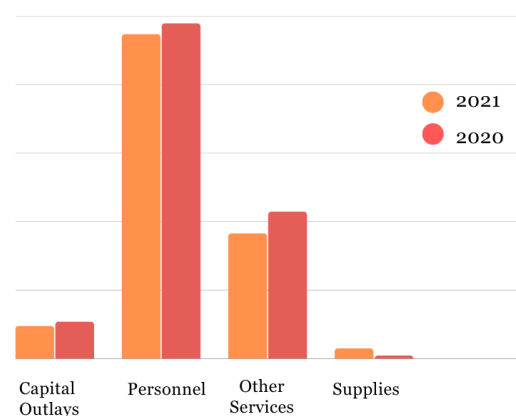
● Capital Outlays	237,384.68
● Personnel	2,365,506.69
● Other Services	912,157.11
● Supplies	73,676.22

Total: 3,588,724.70

Comparison: 2020 to 2021 Operating Revenue



Comparison: 2020 to 2021 Operating Expenditures



Muncie Public Library Board of Trustees 2021

Phil Boltz

Mary Louise Buck

Patrick Ferguson

Traci Lutton

Royce Mitchell

Billie Sheppard

Denise King



Officers 2021

President: Billie Sheppard

Vice-President: Patrick Ferguson

Secretary: Royce Mitchell

Photo: From left to right: Assistant Library Director Beth Kroehler, Board Members Phil Boltz, Mary Louise Buck, Patrick Ferguson, Royce Mitchell, Billie Sheppard, Denise King, Traci Lutton, and Library Director Akilah S. Nosakhere.

Did You Know?

The MPL Board of Trustees is comprised of seven members. Each trustee is appointed by one of the following local governmental entities: the Muncie Community Schools Board, the Delaware County Commissioners, or the Delaware County Council.

The Passing of a Friend

Sadly, MPL and the Muncie community lost a dedicated leader when Pastor Royce Mitchell passed away following a brief illness in the fall of 2021. Royce served as a dedicated and engaged member of the Muncie Public Library Board of Trustees since 2016. His leadership and wisdom will be missed.

Note from the Director

Prehistoric dinosaurs are the perfect example of what happens when one does not adapt to a changing environment. The COVID pandemic forced us to think a little deeper to create innovative methods to keep our community connected to reading material, video, media, and other resources people needed to make it through those weeks when in-person interaction was not possible. I cannot say enough about the MPL staff commitment to delivering human service. One service solution, MPL To Go, has remained a part of our offerings to the public. Many customers have found this curbside delivery to be a vital convenience. As we are well into a new year, MPL is now working to clear out the clutter in our facilities and embark on a path of restoration and renewal. This refresh will allow us to focus on current goals for MPL and to identify new goals as we approach our milestone 150th Sesquicentennial Anniversary in 2025.

Akilah S. Nosakhere, Director

Muncie Public Library

MPL Branches

Carnegie Library

301 E. Jackson Street

765-747-8208

Historic Carnegie houses the Local History & Genealogy collection and has public access computers, Wi-Fi access, programs, and a community meeting room.

Connection Corner

1824 E. Centennial Avenue

765-747-8216

Connection Corner is a high-tech community resource center with Wi-Fi access, public access computers, video production, a sound studio, a 3D printer, programs, tech tutoring help, a community meeting room, and notary service.

Kennedy Library

1700 W. McGalliard Road

765-741-9727

Kennedy Library is a full service library with a large collection of books, digital media downloads, magazines, CD's, DVD's, Wi-Fi access, public access computers, story times, programs, and a community meeting room.

Maring-Hunt Library

2005 S. High Street

765-747-8200

Maring-Hunt Library is a full service library with a large collection of books, digital media downloads, magazines, CD's, DVD's, Wi-Fi access, public access computers, a small study room, tech tutoring help, story times, programs, a community meeting room, and a pavilion garden area.

Administrative Offices

2005 S. High Street, Muncie, Indiana 47302

Phone: (765) 747-8228

Website: <https://www.munciepubliclibrary.org>

The Friends of Muncie Public Library

Thank you, to the Friends of Muncie Public Library for their volunteer service! As pandemic restrictions eased in 2021, the group held book sales to help support programs and services at MPL. Friends memberships are \$15 for individuals, \$5 for students, and \$25 for a family membership. Become a Friend today! Find out more on the MPL website: www.munciepubliclibrary.org



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MUNCIE
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LIBRARY
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