



ANNUAL REPORT

FOUNTAINDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT



2024-2025

MISSION

We inspire lifelong learning, foster creativity and connect you to resources and to the community through our robust collection of books and technology, extensive services and knowledgeable staff.

VISION

Discover. Create.
Grow.

Fountaindale Public Library is the best library. I do love all libraries, but Bolingbrook is spoiled.
- Laurie B.

I love this library! There is so much to do here and such amazing resources. I highly recommend this library.
- Beth N.

This library is absolutely beautiful and so thoughtfully designed. The open layout gives it a really spacious feel, with tons of natural sunlight streaming in—it makes the whole space feel warm and welcoming.
- Asif R.

ANOTHER AMAZING YEAR

As we look back on the past year, we're filled with gratitude for our amazing library community—every reader, learner and visitor who brings our spaces to life. In 2024–2025, we worked to make the library more welcoming, accessible and inspiring than ever before. From exciting new spaces and initiatives to creative community events and opportunities, this year was all about connecting people with stories, ideas and resources. This annual report celebrates the many ways we've grown together and the impact we've made as a community of curious minds.

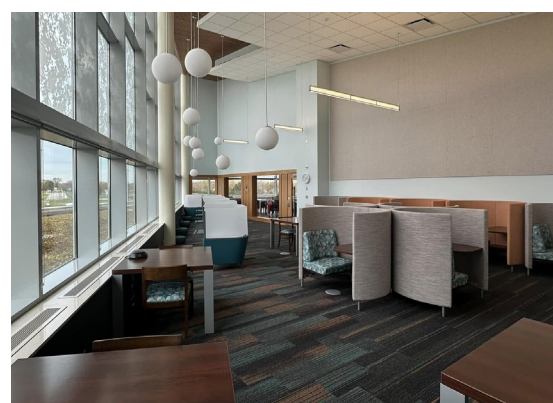
NEW SPACES, NEW POSSIBILITIES

In May 2024, we began construction on our 3rd floor as part of our strategic goal to create spaces that reflect the evolving and diverse needs of our community. This renovation focused on two main priorities: adding a new meeting room to accommodate growing demand and reimagining our Quiet Reading Room for better usability.

When construction was complete, we proudly unveiled **Meeting Room D**, a modern space for up to 12 people featuring a large conference table with built-in charging ports and a high-quality screen for all your audio/visual needs. Our **Quiet Reading Room** received a thoughtful refresh, with a variety of seating options—each with its own charging ports—designed to enhance both focus and relaxation. We also reorganized the Local History and Genealogy collections into a new **Local History Room**, featuring more than 1,000 books, microfilm, vertical files and magazines organized to explore with ease.



Meeting Room D



Quiet Reading Room

EXCITING ADDITIONS

We're always looking for new ways to make your library card even more valuable.

- This year, we added **41,212 new physical items** to our collection, including:
 - Four new **sewing machines** in Studio 300: the Brother XM2701, Brother SE400, Singer 6800C and Singer 9600.
 - 60 **WhaZoodle Speaker Sidekicks** preloaded with immersive audio stories that foster literacy and language development for kids ages 3–12.
 - Over 40 new **Nintendo Switch 2 games** to coincide with the system's release.
- Thanks to the Secretary of State and the Illinois State Library's **EBSCO State Database Package**, you can access more than 40 new eResources, including Hobbies & Crafts Source, Small Business Source, Learning Express Hub and many more.
- Looking for local news? Try the **Chicago Community Collection**, which offers full digital access to local, regional, and national sources like the *Chicago Sun-Times* and Bolingbrook's *The Reporter*.
- Our **new mobile app** makes it easier than ever to stay connected. Toggle between multiple library cards, reserve meeting rooms, search our digital collection, and more.

FRESH FINDS ON OUR SHELVES

Not only did we create new spaces this past year—we also breathed new life into our shelves with three exciting collections designed to inspire discovery and celebrate our diverse community of readers.

For children and families who enjoy reading stories that celebrate traditions and special moments, we created a new **Holiday Picture Book collection** featuring 3,000 picture books organized into 21 inclusive holidays and seasons. The books are labeled and shelved in browseable bins that showcase their colorful covers, making it simple (and fun) to find the perfect story for every celebration.

As part of our Black History Month celebration, we launched the **Black Voices collection**, which highlights the depth and richness of Black storytelling. This curated collection features works by prominent Black authors, spanning African American fiction, nonfiction and memoirs. You'll find it prominently displayed on our 3rd floor, offering a dedicated space to explore and celebrate these powerful voices.

Our **Adult Test Prep collection** is a valuable resource for learners and professionals preparing for exams. The collection includes study guides for tests such as the GED, GRE, GMAT, LSAT and MCAT, along with materials for career-specific certifications in fields like real estate, nursing, project management, law enforcement and commercial driving. All materials are conveniently grouped together on the 3rd floor, just behind the New Fiction shelves.

READING TAKES FLIGHT

Few things bring us more joy than helping readers—especially young ones—discover the magic of books. Whether we're rewarding milestones or connecting readers with their favorite authors, we continually seek new ways to spark excitement and nurture a lifelong love of reading.

Last fall, we launched **Reading Dragons & Friends**, a brand-new reading program for children in grades K–5. Kids earn unique, high-quality trading cards featuring mythical creatures for every 30 minutes they read. New cards are released three times a year, and readers can earn exclusive cards by attending special events. The result? A soaring success—more than 350 children signed up in the first seven months!

The dragons aren't just for the big kids! We reimagined our **1,000 Books Before Kindergarten** initiative with adorable baby dragons to inspire our youngest readers to take their reading to the skies. This rebrand took off with a 25% increase in registration, resulting in 125 new signups and a total of 225 little learners now participating.



For our grown-up book lovers, we introduced **Hold, Please!**, our convenient auto-hold subscription service that places holds on the latest releases from your favorite authors, including Freida McFadden, Rebecca Yarros, Ali Hazelwood, Stephen King, Brandon Sanderson, and many more. Choose from 80 popular authors, set your preferences and let us do the rest—it's your favorite stories, without the wait.

Across every age and season, our community shows that the joy of reading truly soars!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Trustee

I love their service of picking up books outside the library! It's very convenient.
- Vanessa

Fountaindale is a beautiful library with friendly staff and great programs, especially for kids.
- Paige R.

Wonderful library with great staff and varied selection. A great part of the community!
- Matthew W.

FOUNTAINDALE BY THE NUMBERS



New Cardholders
38,125



Item
Checkouts
783,175



Hold Requests
Fulfilled
83,146



Events
Held
3,700



Outreach Vehicle
Visits
17,135



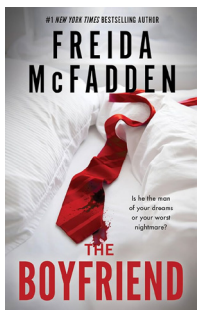
Meeting & Study
Room Reservations
9,979



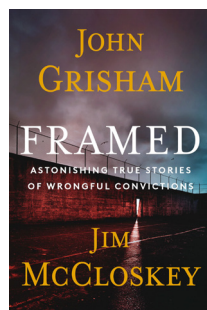
Reading Programs
Participants
5,816

MOST POPULAR MATERIALS

Adult Fiction



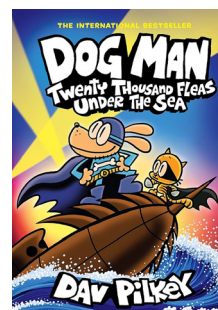
Adult Nonfiction



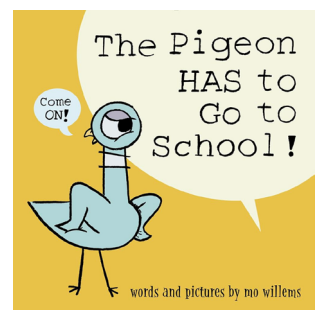
Teen



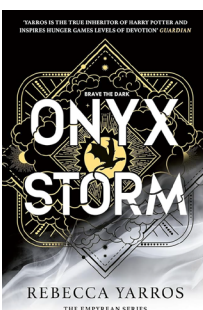
Juvenile



Picture Book



eBook



Audiobook



Movie



Children's Movie



Vinyl Record

