SARANAC LAKE FREE LIBRARY

SLFL Annual Association Meeting 1/24/24

Saranac Lake Free Library
2023 Annual Association Report

HIGHLIGHTS

Over the past year, our library has achieved some remarkable milestones, fostering a vibrant community of readers and learners. In a significant stride towards sustainability, 2023 marked the completion of a solar panel installation on the library roof. This grant-funded 34 kW system not only aligns with our commitment to environmental responsibility but also positions the library as a beacon of eco-friendly practices within our community. The SLFL's commitment to inclusivity was evident as we expanded our collection and implemented programs, ensuring diverse voices and perspectives were readily available to our patrons. The introduction of library cards for non-resident borrowers has widened our reach and made us more accessible, reflecting our dedication to promoting a sense of community that transcends geographical boundaries.

TRENDS

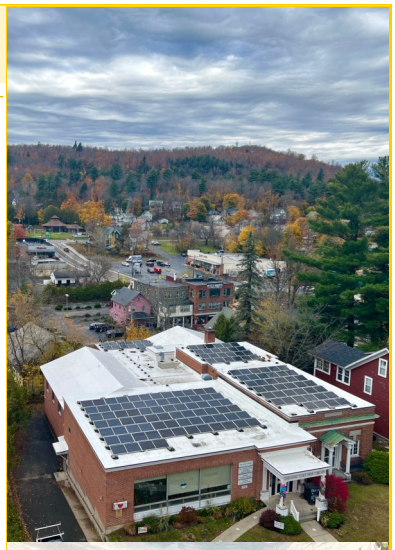
It is clear that our community is using its library more than ever. Total library visits increased from 39,273 in 2022 to 51,765 in 2023. The SLFL put on 460 library programs in 2023, up from 264 in 2022. Our most well-attended program, senior chair yoga, proved so popular that we had to add a second weekly session. Thanks to generous community partnerships we have been able to fund two sessions per week for the entire year. Halfway trough the year the SLFL Board of Trustees amended the Cantwell room use policy to allow for private groups to reserve the space. This resulted in 120 instances of outside community groups using the room for programs, workshops, training, or even private get-togethers; up from 64 in 2022.

LOOKING AHEAD

As we look to 2024, our focus remains on enhancing the library experience. We anticipate being awarded another grant for $127,000 for library upgrades. The addition of conferencing technology in the Cantwell Room will facilitate dynamic gatherings, both in-person and virtually. Additionally, we are excited to bring a new level of comfort to the first-floor lobby, reading room, and Cantwell Room with the installation of air conditioning, ensuring a welcoming environment for all patrons all throughout the year. Furthering our commitment to sustainability, the SLFL is embarking on an initiative to replace all lighting in the building with energy-efficient LED fixtures, contributing to reduced energy consumption and a greener library space. These endeavors, in conjunction with our commitment to innovation and community engagement, have set the stage for an exciting future.

THANK YOU!

A very special thank you to everyone who continues to support us via our spring membership drive and our end of year annual appeal. This year you helped us raise nearly $60,000! Another big thank you to all of our volunteers who donate their time to ensure successful book sales, a properly weeded collection (as well as a properly weeded and mowed front lawn), or who donated their time to help with programs and events.



2023 AT A GLANCE

- Library Visits 51,765
- Registered Borrowers .. 7,818
- New Library Cards.....314
- Library Programs 460
- Cantwell Use By Community Groups 120
- Items In-house 36,321
- Total Circulation 29,599

PEOPLE

Board of Trustees

Mike Baccaria, *President*
Cheryl Joyce, *Vice President*
Beryl Szwed, *Secretary*
Christina Lawrence, *Treasurer*
Amy Richardson
Jesse Jakobe
Tiffany VanEtten
David Staszak
Angela Bates
Wendy Austin
Mackenzie Davison
Aurora Pfaff

Staff

Jake Widrick, *Library Director*
Peggy Orman
Michele Tucker
Emma Galeotti
Jason Brill
Jenny Curtis
Matt Keating
Mary Bartel

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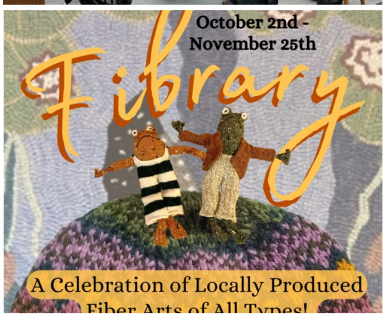
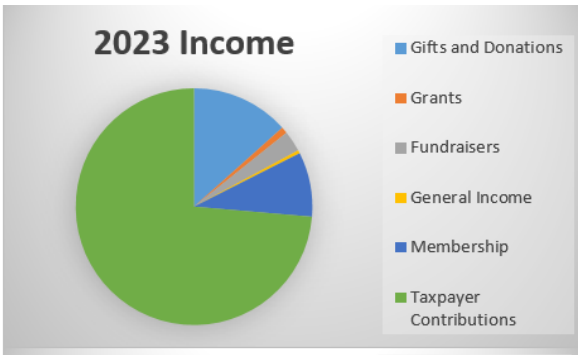
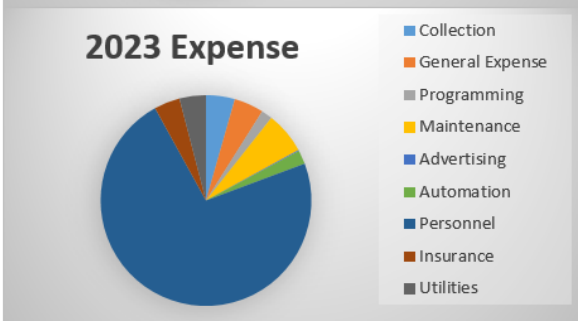


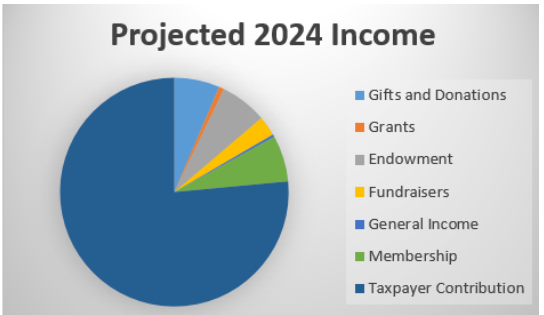
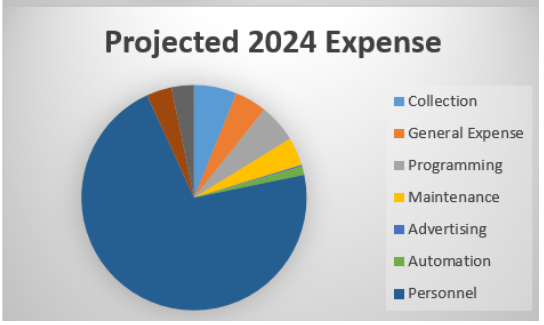
FINANCES

2023 Operational Income and Expense

Income		
Gifts and Donations	$	64,733
Grants		4,275
Fundraisers		13,698
General Income		2,137
Membership		42,646
Taxpayer Contributions		356,092
Total Income		**483,581**
Expense		
Collection	$	20,022
General Expense		20,611
Programming		7,655
Maintenance		28,976
Advertising		656
Automation		9,631
Personnel		329,381
Insurance		17,995
Utilities		18,398
Total Expense		**453,324**





2024 Budget

Income		
Gifts and Donations	$	34,450
Grants		3,909
Endowment		35,501
Fundraisers		15,000
General Income		1,950
Membership		35,000
Taxpayer Contribution		409,506
Total Income		**535,316**
Expense		
Collection	$	32,900
General Expense		24,530
Programming		29,570
Maintenance		21,663
Advertising		1,250
Automation		6,500
Personnel		382,243
Insurance		19,350
Utilities		17,310
Total Expense		**535,316**