

Annual Report 2025

A year of learning, connection, discovery and community.

LEWISTON, NEW YORK

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Lewiston Public Library is to enrich lives by meeting the informational, educational and recreational needs of the community through a variety of resources and outreach programs.

2025 AT A GLANCE

58,363	42,807	11,983	409	5,518
library visits	physical items borrowed	digital checkouts/views	program sessions	program participants

LEADERSHIP

A strong, resilient community resource

Statement of the President

Christopher A. Pannozzo

President, Board of Trustees

The Lewiston Public Library is an invaluable resource and institution for Lewiston and the surrounding communities. In addition to the traditional program of loaning print and electronic media, the Library offers other programs to benefit residents and assist their search for continuous growth and knowledge.

The Library is a strong and resilient organization. It is managed by its dedicated Director, Jill Palermo, and her diligent and capable staff. Together, they provide excellent customer service to the Library's patrons and visitors.

The Library's finances are considered stable. Funds are provided by the Town of Lewiston; they are managed and spent judiciously and in accordance with all applicable laws and policies. The budget, though, is modest, and there has been no change in the amount of funds provided by the Town in numerous years, aside from the absorption of certain previously agreed upon utility costs.

As the Library approaches 40 years of age, maintenance and repair needs for its physical structure and mechanical systems are becoming an increasing concern. To continue the level of services already provided, it is important that increased funding be sought and attained.

In the coming year, the President and other Board members should continue to build relationships with local elected leaders and promote the benefits of the Library to the community. Through these efforts, the Library's mission and vision can be more widely shared and, it is hoped, the value of increased funding will be more recognized.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher A. Pannozzo

President, Board of Trustees

From the Director

Jill Palermo

Director

The Lewiston Public Library has been a place of incredible activity this past year. Thanks to the support of the Town of Lewiston, Niagara County and the dedication of our Friends of the Library group, we were able to offer a variety of materials and programs. The Library is also a place patrons visit to read the newspaper, work on their laptop using the Wi-Fi, or reserve a session on library computers.

PROGRAMS & ENGAGEMENT

Something for everyone

NEW PROGRAMMING	CONTINUING CLUBS	ONGOING PROGRAMS
Italian Cultural Programming In partnership with the Lewiston Council on the Arts: Italian conversation, Italian book club, Italian movies and Scopa, a traditional Italian card game. Pre-K Story Hour With volunteer Lori Spanbauer and assistants Barbara Rottaris and Kathy Sirianni. Chapter’s Café Operated by individuals with Down syndrome and their support professionals. Open 10 a.m.–noon, Tuesday–Thursday.	Adult 2 book clubs Recipe Club Children’s Build-It Chess Pokémon Game Clubs Games Chess Mahjong Rummikub Scrabble	Children’s Story Hour Crafts for adults and children Genealogy Get Up and Move Kid’s Yoga Tail Waggin’ Tutors

FAMILY PASSES

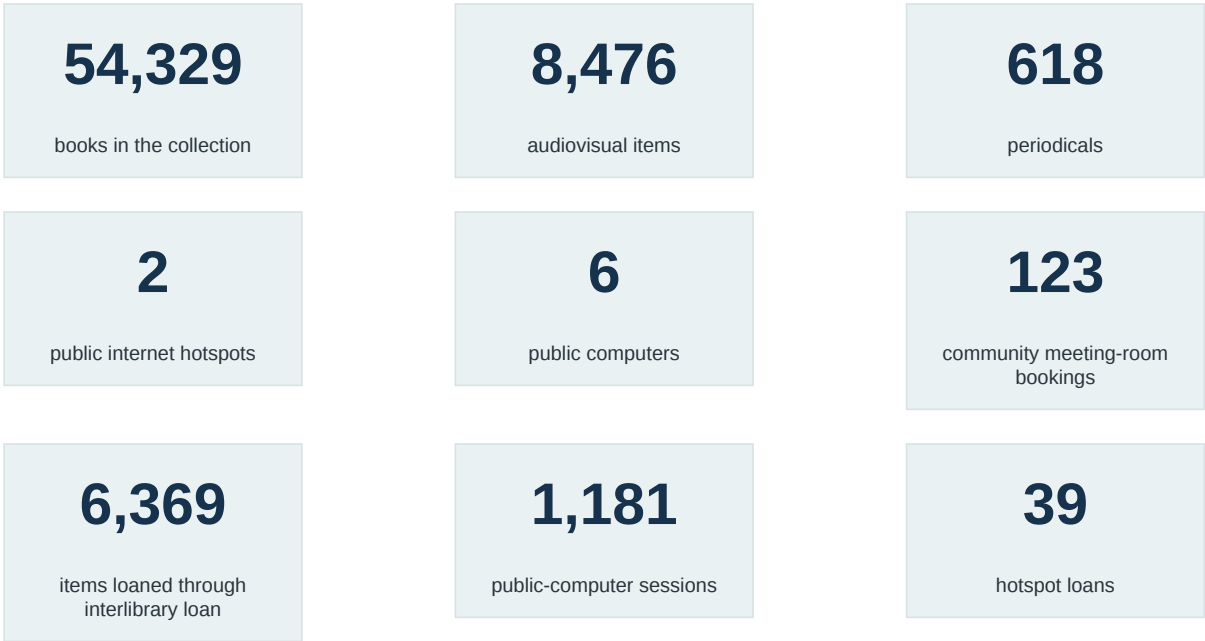
Aquarium of Niagara Explore aquatic life close to home.	Rochester Museum & Science Center Hands-on learning and discovery.	Old Fort Niagara Connect with local history.
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SPECIAL EVENTS

Costume Swap • Craft Swap

COMMUNITY IMPACT

By the numbers



DIGITAL LIBRARY

Cardholders downloaded or viewed **11,983** e-books, audiobooks, movies, music, comics and television shows in 2025—up from 9,674 in 2024.

Platform	2024	2025	Change
Hoopla	6,103	7,614	+1,511
Libby	3,661	4,369	+708

PROGRAMMING

Library staff prepared, presented and hosted **409 program sessions** for **5,518 participants** of all ages. During the six weeks of summer reading, the Library offered **31 children’s and family programs** with a total attendance of **1,051**.

COLLECTIONS

What the community checked out

MOST POPULAR CIRCULATING ITEMS	TOP MOVIES
Adult Fiction: <i>The Crash</i> by Freida McFadden Juvenile Fiction: <i>Dog Man</i> by Dav Pilkey (graphic novel) Top 10: Six juvenile graphic novels and four adult fiction titles.	Adults: <i>Home Alone 2</i> Kids: <i>Toy Story 3</i>

PHYSICAL CIRCULATION

Library users borrowed **42,807 physical items** in 2025. The Library also loaned **6,369 items** to other libraries through the interlibrary loan system, extending the reach of the collection beyond Lewiston.

A PLACE TO CONNECT

The Library is more than a place to borrow materials. In 2025, **58,363 people** walked through its doors to read the newspaper, use Wi-Fi, work on a laptop, access public computers, attend programs, meet with community groups and take advantage of the Library's many resources.

SUMMER READING

31 children's and family programs • 1,051 participants • six weeks of summer programming

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

2025 budget highlights

Revenues	Amount	Expenditures	Amount
Town of Lewiston	\$392,170	Building Insurance	\$29,320
Niagara County	\$16,622	Building Maintenance	\$5,879
LLSA	\$4,224	Equipment Maintenance	\$17,811
Legislative Grant	\$20,000	Circulation System	\$18,019
Fines/Fees	\$4,677	Digital Materials	\$9,981
Miscellaneous	\$2,770	Library Materials	\$34,580
Total	\$440,463	Payroll	\$276,919
		Total	\$392,509

FUTURE OUTLOOK

The Library has operated every year in the black and hopes to continue to do so. A small amount of funding is carried over each year to cover expenses while we wait for the first installment of Town of Lewiston funding.

2026 will bring challenges as costs continue to rise, while Library funding has remained the same for the last four years. Maintaining the Library's current level of service will require careful stewardship and continued community support.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Responsible stewardship

2025 Annual Treasurer's Report

As of March 2025, Nancy Smith resigned as Treasurer of the Lewiston Library Board and was replaced by John Daigneau for the remainder of the term.

The earliest account balance for 2025, on February 11, was **\$149,520.16**. As of January 1, 2026, the account balance was **\$164,100.58**. No funds were withdrawn or added during calendar year 2025. The return on the account for the history of the account is **9.79%**.

The account is now under the management of a new advisor, Michael Boss, with Edward Jones. Michael has spoken to the Board about opportunities to use the account moving forward.

In an effort to remain current with the financial responsibility of the Library and abide by applicable statutes, Board members Christopher Pannozzo, President, and John Daigneau, Treasurer, were added as signatories on the Library's current bank accounts in July. Inactive signatories were removed.

FRIENDS OF THE LEWISTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library provide valuable support for the Library and its programs. Information on Friends activities can be found on the Library's website.

lewistonpubliclibrary.org/friends

LOOKING AHEAD

The Library's future is built on a simple idea: strong library services strengthen the entire community. Continued support from residents, the Town, Niagara County, Friends and community partners will help Lewiston Public Library remain a welcoming place to learn, gather, discover and grow.

LEADERSHIP & CONTACT

Your library, your community

2025–2026 Board of Trustees	
President	Chris Pannozzo
Vice President	Fred Caso
Treasurer	John Daigneau
Secretary	Wendy Guild Swearingen
Trustee	Matthew Feldman
Trustee	April Saks
Trustee	John Spanbauer
Town of Lewiston Liaison	John Jacoby

CONTACT

Lewiston Public Library

Lewiston, New York

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OUR MISSION

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Thank you to the residents, Town of Lewiston, Niagara County, Friends of the Library, volunteers, community partners and patrons who make the Library a vibrant part of our community.