

### CELEBRATING

100 Years

Cuyahoga County Public Library 2022 ANNUAL REPORT





### 100 Years of Service to the Community

In 1921, the State Legislature of Ohio passed a law that enabled the establishment of a county district library for any area not served by a free public library, subject to a vote of the people. As residents began moving into outlying areas of Cuyahoga County and the need for library services to these residents became more evident, a referendum was placed on the November 7, 1922, general election ballot authorizing a county library district. The issue passed by more than two to one, making Cuyahoga County Public Library the first county library in Ohio to be organized under the new law.

One hundred years later, CCPL has 27 branches that serve 47 communities and is consistently one of the best and busiest library systems in the world. We have come a long way.

In the 1970s, the former Euclid-Richmond Branch of CCPL served as a book depository, housing overflow books and periodicals that were delivered to other library branches as needed. The building housed the maintenance shop and personnel offices for the Library until the fall of 1978. In 1979, it was sold to a private investor for conversion to commercial use.

This Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) is a summary of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the year ended December 31, 2022. The financial data included in the PAFR is derived from the more detailed ACFR. Both reports are consistent with generally accepted accounting principles and guidelines established by the Government Accounting Standards Board. You can find both the PAFR and the ACFR online at cuyahoglibrary.org.

The data and listings in this report are accurate as of December 31, 2022.

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## A Message from our **Chief Executive** Officer

I am so proud of how much we accomplished at Cuyahoga County Public Library (CCPL) in 2022. There were so many successes and notable milestones it's simply not possible to mention them all, but I can share a few highlights:

- We adopted a new strategic plan, mission and vision to set the course for our organization.
- We developed a new Facilities Master Plan (FMP) that will provide the roadmap for our next 10 years of capital improvements. It's a plan that will help ensure our branches can continue to provide excellent service, equitable access and engaging experiences for years to come.
- We launched a new brand identity that aligns with our strategic plan and articulates our commitment to helping county residents discover even more of the incredible resources their library has to offer.
- We celebrated the grand opening of the new Bay Village Branch of CCPL an event that was years in the making. The turnout for the opening was outstanding, and the community's response to the new building has been phenomenal.
- We welcomed a new Board of Trustees member, Amira Thomas. Amira replaced long-time Trustee Robert Varley, who retired from the Board after many years of distinguished service.

Lastly, and most notably, we celebrated CCPL's 100th birthday. As part of that celebration our Board of Trustees approved a new policy to eliminate daily overdue fines and forgive all existing fines and fees as a one-time exception, giving everyone a fresh start heading into CCPL's second century of service to the community.

Going fine-free significantly increases access to CCPL for everyone in our community. It is a wonderful 100th anniversary gift back to the county residents who support our mission to empower individuals and communities by providing opportunities for all to read, learn, create and connect.

These are just a few of the moments that made 2022 so special. I want to thank our customers, staff, Board of Trustees, Foundation Board members, Friends of the Library members, elected officials and community partners for an unforgettable year. Your support and belief in the power of libraries to change lives and transform communities inspires us every day.

Thank you.

Tracy R. Strobel Chief Executive Officer



**Monique Good** Chief Human Resources Officer

Pam Jankowski **Chief Public Services Officer** 



**Daniel Barden Technical Services Director** 

Enda Bracken **Branch Services Director** (East)



Lane Edwards **Branch Services Director** (South)

Izoduwa Ebose-Holt Human Resources Director



**Facilities Director** 

**Rebecca Ranallo** Literacy & Learning Director



List of Principal Officials as of December 31, 2022



Scott A. Morgan Chief Operations Officer/ **Fiscal Officer** 



**Robert Dolan** Finance Director/Deputy **Fiscal Officer** 



**James Haprian** Information Technology Director



**Robert Rua Marketing Director** 



**Hallie Rich** Chief Communications & **External Relations Officer** 



**Terry Echols** Adult Education Services Director



**Bridget Hawes Development Director** 



**Caroline Vicchiarelli** Branch Services Director (West)



### A Message from our **Board President**

As a lifelong Cuyahoga County resident, I am deeply honored to serve as president of the Cuyahoga County Public Library Board of Trustees. Celebrating the system's 100th anniversary during my tenure is a particular distinction that stands as a highlight in my public service career.

A century of service remains a special milestone that few organizations ever reach. In 2022, Cuyahoga County Public Library joined esteemed institutions such

as Playhouse Square, Cleveland Museum of Art and Cleveland Clinic in achieving a marker of longevity that speaks to the trust and respect we have earned within the community.

For 100 years, residents have relied on Cuyahoga County Public Library for their information needs. From the library car that delivered materials to communities throughout Cuyahoga County in the early 20th century to the Wi-Fi-enabled Digital Navigator van that travels countywide helping residents connect to the Internet in 2022, the Library's goals remain consistent: make information accessible for all.

I view my role as a Library Trustee as one of great responsibility. For anyone who remembers the joy of visiting library storytimes as a child or with their children; anyone who benefited from a librarian placing the exact right book in their hands at the exact right moment; anyone for whom library service made a difference in their lives - I thank you for your support for CCPL and your confidence in the Board of Trustees' leadership.

One hundred years from now, I hope the CCPL Board of Trustees is comprised of readers, learners, creators and connectors who have been inspired by their public library system and who are proud to ensure the highest level of public library service be delivered to residents throughout our great county.



The new Cuyahoga County Public Library Board of Trustees met in March of 1924. In order to provide immediate service to county residents, they voted to administer operations through Cleveland Public Library. From the beginning, CCPL hired its own personnel, purchased its own books and reimbursed Cleveland Public Library for its contributions.

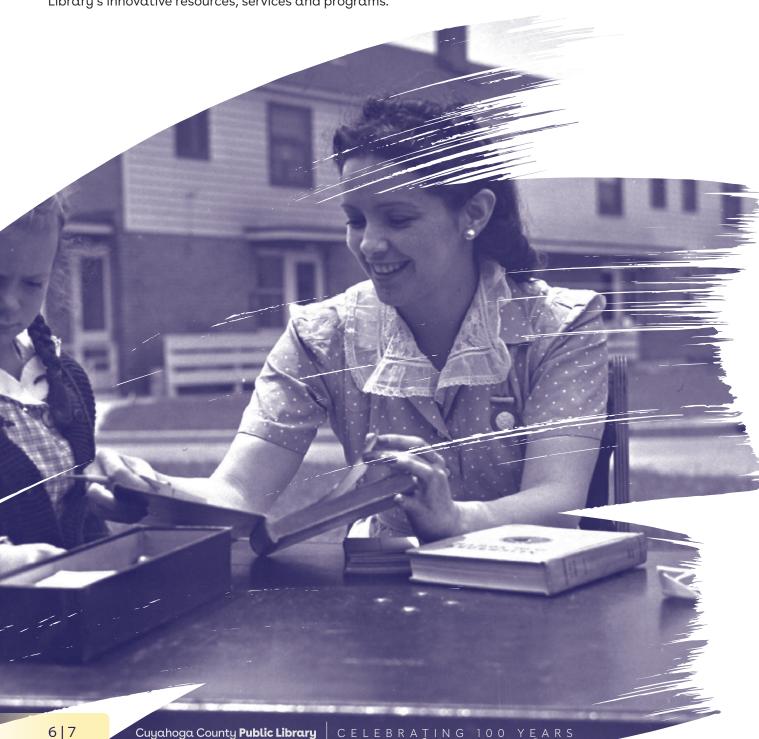
## **About Us**

### **Our Mission**

To empower individuals and communities by providing opportunities for all to read, learn, create and connect.

### **Our Vision**

We envision a thriving and inclusive Cuyahoga County where all residents benefit from and are inspired by Cuyahoga County Public Library's innovative resources, services and programs.



## Governance

CCPL is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees authorized by the State of Ohio to establish policies and an annual budget. Board members represent the citizens' interests while promoting the highest level of library service to the community. Trustees are appointed for seven-year terms by Cuyahoga County government and the Court of Common Pleas, and they serve without remuneration.



#### Dean E. DePiero President

Mr. DePiero has served as Of Counsel for McDonald Hopkins since 2005 and is currently the Law Director for the City of Aurora and Assistant Law Director/Prosecutor for Broadview Heights. Mr. DePiero

also served as the Mayor of Parma and as an Ohio State Representative. He was appointed by the Cuyahoga County Executive with confirmation by the Cuyahoga County Council; his term expires in January 2024.

#### Allyn A. Davies Vice President

Ms. Davies is the Co-Owner of The Merrymeeting Group. She also serves on the Cuyahoga County Public Library Foundation Board and Cleveland Central Catholic

High School Advisory Board. She was appointed by the Cuyahoga County Executive with confirmation by the Cuyahoga County Council. Her term expires in March 2029.



#### Maria L. Spangler Secretary

Ms. Spangler is the Community Engagement Director for The Sherwin-Williams Company. She was appointed by the Court of Common Pleas. Her term expires May 2024.

### **Edward H. Blakemore** Trustee

Mr. Blakemore is Assistant General Counsel at Rockwell Automation where he has primary responsibility for product liability, commercial and toxic tort litigation

filed against the Fortune 500 company. He was appointed for a seven-year term by the Cuyahoga County Executive with confirmation by Cuyahoga County Council. His term expires December 2026.



#### William J. Leonard Trustee

Mr. Leonard is Executive Vice President of Oswald Companies. He serves on the board of St. Edward High School. Mr. Leonard has formerly served on the Boards

of the Children Aid Society and NOACA. He was re-appointed for a seven-year term by the Court of Common Pleas. His term expires November 2028.



#### Patricia A. Shlonsky Trustee

Ms. Shlonsky is Partner-In-Charge of Ulmer & Berne LLP's Cleveland office and chairs the firm's Employee Benefits and Tax Practice Groups. She was

appointed for a seven-year term by the Cuyahoga County Executive with confirmation by Cuyahoga County Council. Her term expires January 2027.

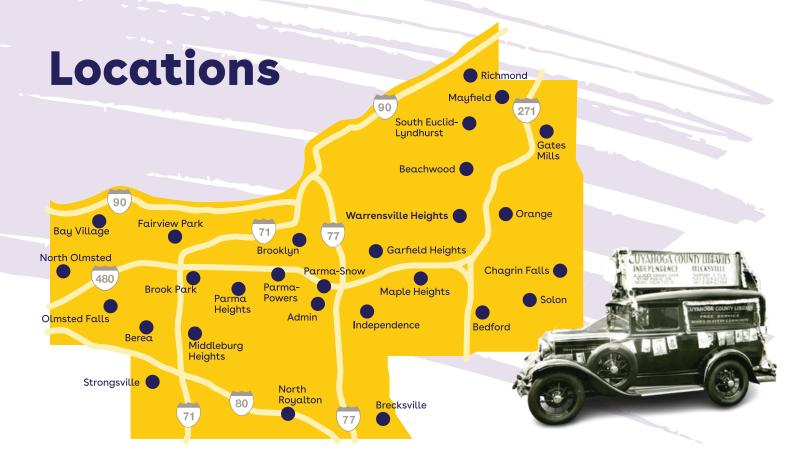


#### **Amira K. Thomas**

Amira Thomas is the Executive Director of the OAK Nonprofit organization. She graduated from Cleveland State University where she received her bachelor's degree in psychology and a masters's degree in education. Ms. Thomas

was appointed by the Court of Common Pleas. Her term expires October 2025.





**Bay Village Branch** Jessica Breslin, Manager

**Beachwood Branch** Amia Wheatley, Manager

**Bedford Branch** Eboni Dickerson, Manager

**Berea Branch** Kalyn Kappelman, Manager

**Brecksville Branch** Melanie Rapp-Weiss

**Brook Park Branch** Gabriel Venditti, Manager

**Brooklyn Branch** Kathleen Sullivan

**Chagrin Falls Branch** Maryann Penzvalto, Manager

**Fairview Park Branch** Jesse Sanders, Manager

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**Garfield Heights Branch** Megan Barrett, Manager

**Gates Mills Branch** Maryann Penzvalto, Manager

Independence Branch Melanie Rapp-Weiss

Maple Heights Branch Deva Walker, Manager

**Mayfield Branch** Julie Liedtke, Manager

Middleburg Heights Branch Ron Block, Manager

North Olmsted Branch Shayna Muckerheide, Manager

North Royalton Branch Becky Wendeln, Manager

**Olmsted Falls Branch** Kalyn Kappelman, Manager **Orange Branch** Anthony Furino, Manager

**Parma Heights Branch** Krista Tokarz, Manager

**Parma-Powers Branch** Holly Camino, Manager

**Parma-Snow Branch** Stacey Boycik, Manager

**Richmond Heights Branch** Julie Liedtke, Manager

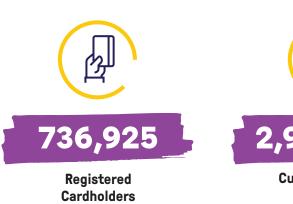
Solon Branch Darlene Davis, Manager

South Euclid-Lyndhurst Branch Steve Haynie, Manager

Strongsville Branch Donna Meyers, Manager

Warrensville Heights Branch Ali Boyd, Manager

## 2022 Statistics





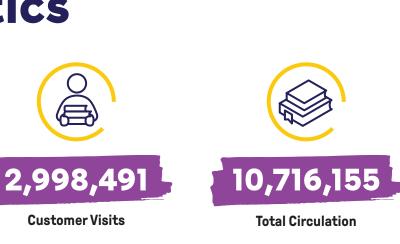


**Digital Items Borrowed** 

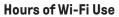
841,620

**Reference Transactions** 











Hours of Public Computer Use









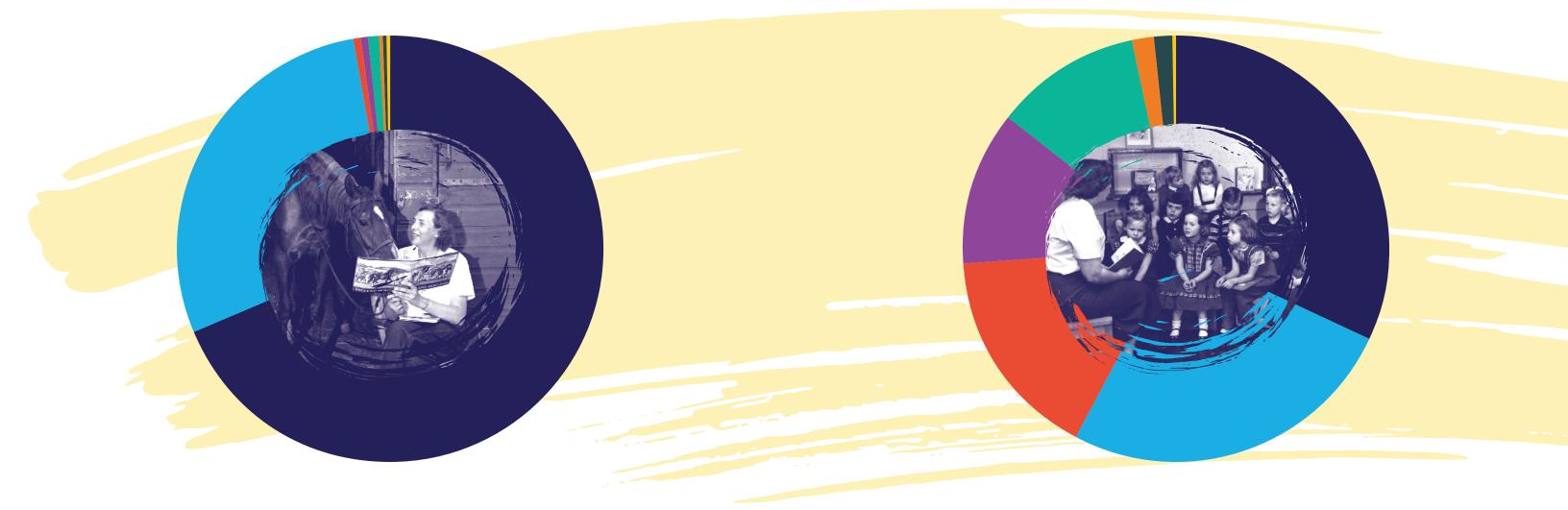
**Program Attendance** 

## **General Revenue Fund**

## **General Fund Expenditures**

Local property taxes	\$62,983,464
Public Library Fund	\$26,345,223
Miscellaneous	\$378,583
Carryover	\$500,000
Patron Fines & Fees	\$903,319
Gifts & Donations	\$150,572
Interest on Investments	\$332,470
<ul> <li>Services provided by other entities</li> </ul>	\$6,006

Salaries
Advances & transfers to other funds
Purchased & contracted services
Employee fringe benefits
Library materials
Capital outlay
Supplies
Miscellaneous/other



\$29,339,850
\$23,503,062
\$14,833,793
\$10,721,899
\$10,048,073
\$1,561,600
\$1,245,209
\$103,393

### Birthday Gifts Tylically when it's your birthday you receive gifts. We celebrated our 100th birthday by giving gifts back to the community, from eliminating overdue fines and one-time fue for giveness for everyone to investments in our branches o enhance our service to the community. These are just a ev of our gifts to you in 2022.



## When you need a little focus time.

If there's one thing that we know we can never have enough of it's study rooms. Our gift back to the Garfield Heights community was just that. More study rooms. Need a little time to study, write, or catch up on emails? The Garfield Heights Branch has a study room for that.



### Let's take a ride.

Our Mayfield Branch became the first in the CCPL system to lend bikes and helmets. Visitors to the branch can borrow a bike and take a scenic ride through the beautiful North Chagrin Reservation trails that surround the branch.



### Music in the air.

The new percussion play installation at our Parma-Snow Branch makes musical expression accessible for people of all ages and abilities. Plus, it's a lot fun.



### Innovation lives here.

Want to start your own Etsy side hustle or embroider your company logo on a polo shirt? The new textile-focused Innovation Center at our Warrensville Heights Branch has you covered with a variety of options from direct-togarment printing, an embroidery machine, sewing machines and even a long-arm quilting machine.

# New Century, **New Look**

Our 90s era floppy disk/book logo was once etched in stone. Now it's fun throwback merch.

At 100 years young, we recognized it was time to update our look and story. The way we present ourselves to the community affects the way the community sees us. Are we a stuffy institution that prioritizes quiet research and reading above all else? Or, are we a community information resource that welcomes curious, engaged - and, yes, sometimes even noisy - learners?

We listened to our staff, our customers and our partners describe the ways they see and experience CCPL. We used that feedback to inform a fresh logo design and new tagline - Discover More. Our brand represents the possibility and opportunity that the Library creates for our community.

From Greater Access to limited edition Library Top Dogs our library cards have come in a variety of different styles over the years.

Check us out!

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CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Cuyahoga County

**Public Library** 

patrick Media Group, Inc.



And, if you're wondering why there isn't a book somewhere in the new logo ... well, the truth is that reading is central to everything we do, but a book doesn't tell our whole story. Consider the readers who rediscovered their love for reading through the convenience of audiobooks; the customers who rely on us for computer and Internet access; and, the kids who learn through play in our interactive early childhood spaces. Their library experiences are valid, and they aren't defined by a single object.

Reading? Yes. Books? Yes. A whole lot more? A resounding YES!

#### Take that, Lt. Bookman.

To celebrate our rebrand and anniversary, we doubled down on our brand promise to be open and welcoming to all – and we offered fine forgiveness to all cardholders and eliminated fines for the future. A fresh start for the next century!



Hear from a few customers who called our "Fine Confessional Hotline" with stories of their most challenging, funny or memorable library fine.







CCPL enters its second century with a new Facilities Master Plan (FMP) that will provide the roadmap for our next 10 years of capital improvements. It's a plan that will help ensure our branches can continue to provide excellent service, equitable access and engaging experiences for years to come. Our last FMP was adopted by the Board of Trustees in June 2010. Since then we have completed the most significant building improvement program in CCPL's history, resulting in the renovation, expansion or replacement of more than half of our 27 branches. Our new FMP builds on the successes of our last plan while also identifying opportunities to make strategic improvements and close gaps in service and access.





Located at the former site of the Bayway Cabin, the approximately 17,000-square-foot Bay Village Branch better connects with the city's other civic assets, such as City Hall, the Family Aquatic Center and the Play-in-Bay Playground. It includes many exciting new features, including a rooftop terrace with a view of Lake Erie.

## **Facilities Master Plan**

The plan was developed in consultation with Group 4, an architecture research and planning firm that has created successful, innovative facilities

plans for libraries across the country. It should be read as a framework of expert recommendations to address CCPL's current and projected needs.



Scan to read the Facilities Master Plan

#### A grand, grand opening

On Saturday, April 30, 2022, we cut the ribbon on a new, much-anticipated Bay Village Branch. Hundreds turned out for the celebration which included performances by the Bay High School drumline, Choraleers and chamber strings; hands-on printmaking with Zygote Press, commemorative library cards, a visit from children's authors Rachele Alpine and Doug Cornett, food trucks and live demonstrations in the branch's new Innovation Center.

# **Digital Equity Elevated**



LIBRARY

COUNTY

CCPL's first book car was introduced in 1927. Back in those days the term "bookmobile" hadn't even been invented yet. Almost 100 years

later, we use our high-tech Digital Navigators van to bring technology access to our communities.



wrong side of the digital divide. They help residents register for affordable broadband Internet plans, secure devices they may need for work or school, and sign up for tech training classes.

Like the bookmobiles of CCPL's early history, the Digital Navigator van travels throughout Cuyahoga County bringing a wireless signal and resources to neighborhoods where digital access and adoption remains low. "It's not enough to have basic access to the Internet from the Library," says Aimee Lurie, CCPL's IT Literacy Manager, "You need in-home access and the skills necessary to use a broadband connection." Through one-on-one appointments or pop-up "office hours" at community events, our Navigators are working to advance digital equity one household at a time. To date, they've reached more than 1,000 families who benefit from the Navigators' assistance with American Connectivity Program registration and their patient approach to teaching the basics like downloading and using an app.

### Lifelong Library Aficionado **Goes Digital**

Janice Arnold grew up using the public library and raised her family to

do the same. Ever the lifelong learner, Janice turned to the Library's **Digital Navigators for** help with everything from basic vocabulary - "What is a hyperlink?" - to learning how to manage the wellness app prescribed by her doctor.

"They're helping me to be independent," she explains.

Scan to learn more about Janice's digital journey.



## **Storytimes Then & Now**



Peek into any CCPL storytime, and you probably won't be surprised to find an enthusiastic librarian reading a picture book aloud or leading a group of children in a silly song. The joy that kids experience in our storytimes has long been a hallmark of the family library experience.

As we enter our second century of service, our storytimes look a little different than they did decades ago. While the presence of books, smiling faces and laughter remains unchanged, our storytimes today are designed around an intentional library curriculum, Every Child Ready to Read<sup>®,</sup>

Library storytimes have evolved over the years to include songs, dance, puppets and even yoga. Their core purpose, however, remains the same – building lifelong readers.

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20 21 Cuyahoga County Public Library CELEBRATING 100 YEAR



which focuses on providing grown-ups with the resources they need to build their child's early literacy skills.

This foundational literacy work incorporates family engagement (recognizing that families come in all different shapes and sizes) to support children as they grow from emergent readers all the way to fluent readers.

#### Readers from Day One

CCPL partners with MetroHealth to make sure families and babies are connected to literacy services at birth. Every baby born at Metro

receives Baby's First Library Card as part of a literacy kit given to parents of newborns. Trained volunteers teach families about the contents of the kit and explain the importance of reading aloud to babies.

Scan the QR code to meet the Bargers – a family of readers – who were delighted to bring home their bundle of joy along with a new library card.





Cuyahoga County Public Library Administrative Offices 2111 Snow Road Parma, Ohio 44134-2728

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