

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

March 2023

PROGRAMS

Attendance	Jan	Feb	Mar 1-15
Adult ongoing programs/series/clubs	283	212	145
Special events	128	170	118
Children's/YA programs	117	144	76
Outside groups - reserved rooms	35	50	32
Virtual programs	24	21 (incompl)	tbd
Total	587	593	380

Highlights from March:

- **Literary:** Memoir Writing Workshop (now also a weekly self-directed offshoot group), Book Club
- **Partnerships:** Rhinebeck History Trivia at Kroeg with NYT bestselling historian Alexis Coe; All Abilities Story and Craft Program with Anderson Center; Nerds at Night with Megabrain Comics; Bard Lifetime Learning Ikebana series; Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress Community Assessment
- **Other Special Events:** Modeling Kindness & Inclusivity (36 people); From Militarized to Decarbonized (33 registered); Improv for Humanity (5)
- **Youth:** Aesop Bops (50 people!), Dungeons & Dragons, STEAM Workshop
- **Ongoing:** Knitting, Lego Hour, Storytime, Mahjong, Scrabble, Music & Movement for Toddlers, Chair Yoga, Brain Games, Tai Chi, Sound Meditation, Classical Guitar

Happening soon:

- Madagascar Culture Connect Reception: Saturday, March 25 from 2-3pm
- Make Your Own Gardener's Lotion Bar: Tues, April 4, 6:30pm

FUNDING

- **414 Prep:** I've contacted the County Board of Elections, the Town Assessor's office, and the Office of the State Comptroller to begin work on our planned 414 campaign. We will discuss this further down the agenda.
- **Grants:** We are starting to work on grants, beginning with Arts Mid-Hudson by asking for \$5000 to fund a monthly author series (kudos to Michelle for an excellent application). We will also be applying for technology funds to update some patron computers and to pay for the networking upgrades we just completed, and for increasing the number of

early literacy programs we offer. We may also seek grant funding for outdoor benches and possibly cafe tables.

- **Friends:** Asking for Summer Reading Program funding, museum pass renewals, and reimbursement for the electrical and painting work done to prepare for the Teen Zone.
- **Bequest:** The library was named as a beneficiary in the will of Steph Oppenheim, and that trust is being settled at the NYS Attorney General's office. We are expecting to receive partial payment in April of approximately \$56,000.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

- **Technology:**
 - The NYS Tech Assessment project is underway.
 - Peter Bartram installed 2 new core routers and a new switch in the wire room because the others were no longer being supported with manufacturer updates. These have a lifespan of 3-4 years.
 - We've started recycling tech items at Staples, which is free and earns a small credit.
- **Teen Zone:** Electric work and painting was completed. All furniture is expected to arrive by the time of this meeting.
- **Cleaning:** Green Janitor service cleaned 5 pieces of upholstered furniture onsite.
- **Shed:** The window and door were finally replaced! We've moved a lot of items in but have decided to keep the book bike upstairs for now, as it is very popular. The closet downstairs now has space for Friends' overflow, as well as tables and chairs and the dolly carts.
- **Children's Area:** We've started rearranging some furniture and will be decluttering the story room in the spring.
- **Accessibility:** In April, I will be looking for contractors to give estimates on sidewalk and pavement work and will also be checking with the appropriate state office about relevant ADA guidelines. The goal is to greatly improve wheelchair accessibility from the parking lot into the building.
- **Displays:** High school students who went to Madagascar last summer are displaying their post-trip projects and information about Madagascar. The display includes artwork, cultural examples, and interactive digital presentations. We also have a women's history book display, Starr Picks, and rotating local authors.
- The Purple Air Monitor wasn't installed as planned because the outside outlets were dead. They have since been repaired and installation is being rescheduled.

OTHER

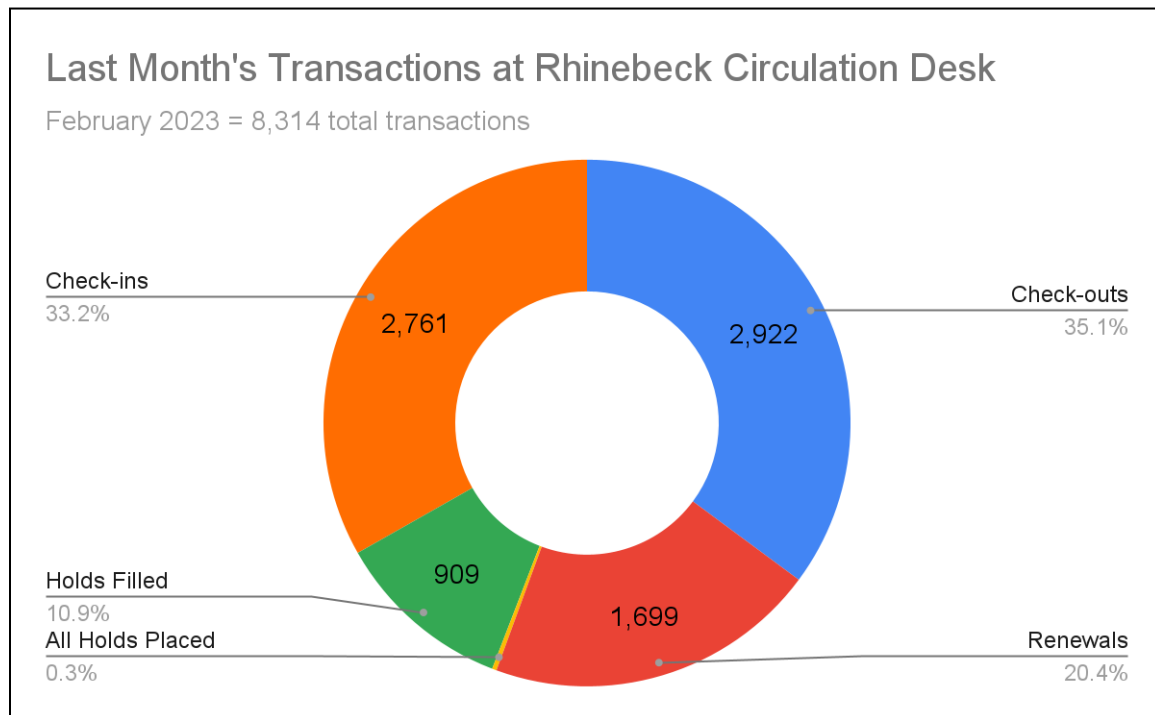
- A 4-page **Annual Report to the Community** was printed with copies in the library, posted on our website, and also shared on social media and to our email list.
- Library Advocacy Day ended up being virtual because it was a snow day but Rebekkah reports that everyone's efforts seem to have had a positive impact. The state budget hasn't yet passed, but after Advocacy Day, both chambers proposed higher library spending than before.

- I met with our new insurance representative for a building walk-through and discussion of policies. He had recommendations but found nothing problematic.
- The library was closed due to snowstorms on 2/28 and 3/14. In addition, programs were canceled on 2/22 and 2/17 at the request of the program leaders.
- Bloomerang (donor management software) training: upcoming
- Trustee reception April 26 at East Fishkill for \$50. Deadline for attendees and money is 3/29.

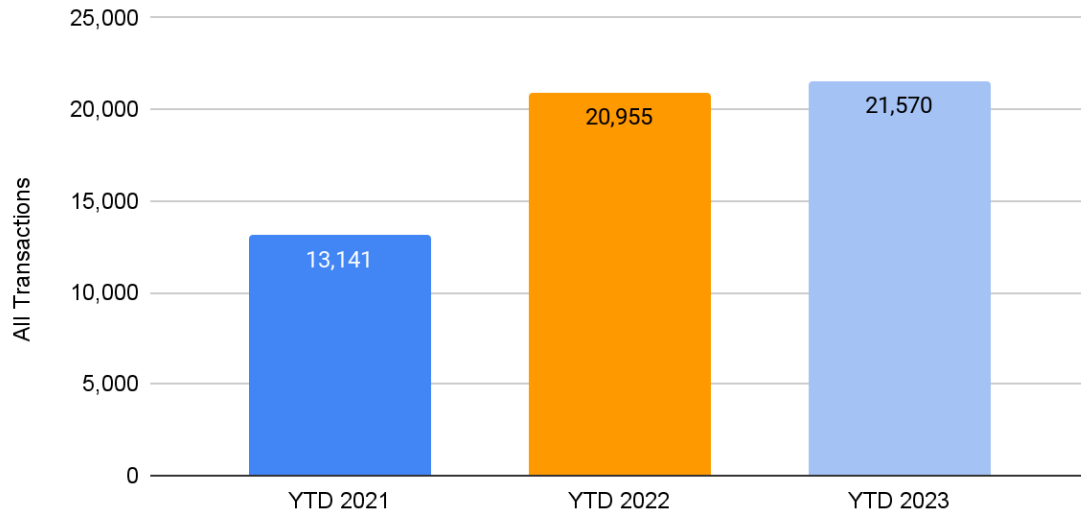
SUGGESTED FOCUS FOR THE BOARD

- Upcoming events to promote:
 - Friends Book Sale: April 21-22
 - Author Talk at Morton: Lambda Award winning author Fenton Johnson and PEN/Faulkner Award winning author Joan Silber in Conversation about Solitude and the Creative Life, April 25, 6:30 at Morton Library
- Trustee Essentials Series begins April 13 5:00 - 6:30pm [REGISTER HERE](#)
- Trustee Handbook Book Club: The Board-Director Relationship – Tues April 18 5:00-6:30pm [REGISTER](#)

STATISTICS



Year-to-Date Comparison: Total Transactions by Location



Total Transactions at Rhinebeck Circulation Desk January 1 - March 15

Overdrive Usage

■ Total Starr
 ■ Starr eBooks
 ■ System eBooks Avg
 ■ Starr eAudio
 ■ Starr eMagazines

