

Stratford Library Association



Annual Impact Report July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

*Stratford is a town of 54,000 people
and 30,000 library cardholders*

Learn. Create. Share.

Dear Friends,

It has been my pleasure to serve as the President of the Stratford Library Board these past two years. As my term ends, I am happy to share the impact the Library has on our community. In all we do here at the Stratford Library, we work to empower and enrich our diverse community by providing access to innovative services, information, and ideas. In 2022, the Library Board, Staff, and Community Members developed a Strategic Plan framed by four goals: Advancing our Community, Gateway to Stratford, Addressing Human Needs, and Investing in the Library's Future. These goals will direct the future work of the Library Board and Staff.

This year, the Stratford Library welcomed 2,500 visitors every week. People borrowed items, participated in programs, engaged the uCreate makerspace, received help with technology, attended meetings, used free WiFi, read, studied, worked, and played. There is no other public space in Stratford offering so many services for all community members at no charge.

Our hardworking Library Board supported the Library through advocacy, improved efficiency, and close collaboration with Town Officials to ensure we serve all of Stratford's residents fully. Our dedicated team of library workers provided services in one of Connecticut's top 25 busiest public libraries. Our donors and volunteers make so much possible by supporting the Gala, Associates campaign, and Annual Book Sale. Finally, our library patrons provided real-time input, ensuring that our programs and services are responsive so that everyone can learn, create, and share.

With gratitude,

Stratford Library Association
Board President, 2022 - 2024



**Incoming Board President Robyn Proto
with exiting President Maria Ferrera**

2023-2024 Board of Trustees

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Maria Ferrera, <i>President</i> | Susan P. Johnson |
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| Janice Cupee, <i>Secretary</i> | Alan Llewelyn |
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| Gavin Forrester, III | Gladys A. Ramos |
| Shelley Hall | Anthony A. Smith, Jr. |
| David Harden | Rob Walsh |
| Doreen Jaekle | |



**2024 Youth Liaison Candace Mack &
Board President Maria Ferrera**

We appreciate our new donors. Welcome to the community.

Thank You to our Generous Associates

**Matching Gift Employer*

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Helen Adams
Richard Adams
Janine Aggott
Efraim Almodovar
Patsy A. Altieri
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Robert Augusta and
Sydney Augusta Huynh
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Sandra Brown
Patrick and Tammy Buchanan
Faith Buchino
Cynthia Buckley
John Burgeson
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Burrows
Ann Burton

Mr. and Mrs. A. Bushinsky
Carol Caldwell
Jackie Camarra
Elizabeth Cambras
Marianne Card
Edwina M. Cardozo
Michael and Kathleen Cariu
Marguerite Carlucci
Alan Carney
Jeanette Caron
Kenneth G. Caserta
Dawn Caserta
The Casimiro family
Robert Catapane
Michael Cepetelli
Daniel M. Chase
David Chess
Kathleen Clark
Shirley A. Clark
Judith Cleri
Mary Clare Collier & Peter Kaiser
Margaret Conley Heffel
Robert and Susan Copley

Library Programs

“My Dad and I watched the eclipse for like a half hour while it set in and started to wear off. My stepmom came along too and we were all just taking turns with the glasses. Really it was just a nice moment with my parents that wouldn't have happened without you, so thanks.”

- Teen Patron



Watching the Eclipse



Main Street Festival

Program attendance increased
13% this year.



Thank you for supporting your Library!

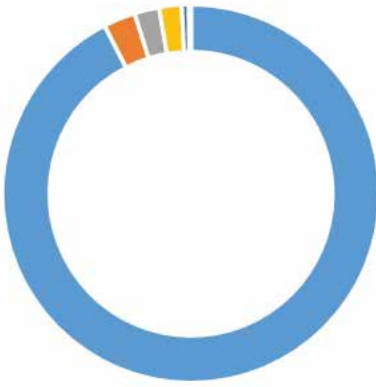
Miriam Costa
Elaine Cristiani
F. Mitchell Dana
Beth DaPonte
Louise Dean
Robert and Wendy DeLuca
Barbara Ann DeMattio McKay
Natalina DeMeis
Barbara Demsky
Michael Dennis, Jr.
Johanna Deyo
Ernesto Diaz
Josephine DiCamillo
Lizbeth Difabbio
Joseph DiMenno
David Dinan
Janet Dinihanian
Katherine DiSavino
Peter Doherty
Marilyn Dolan
Conor Donegan
Charlie Donovan
Richard Dorset

Diane Drenkard
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dunbar
Tracey Durivage
Michael Dzewulski
Mary Ann Evanko
Ann-Marie Evans
Mary Evers
June Evitts
Richard Ezyk
Carole Fanslow
Emily Favreau
Florence Feher
Patricia Ferrando
Maria G. Ferrera
Patricia Fox
Leslie Frankel
Louis Frazier
Judith Gagnon
Ralph Giammattei
Kathleen Gilligan-Megrue
Karla Glad
Susan Glick
Gail Gonya

Denise Goodman
George and Phyllis Grafton
Michelle Green
Robyn Greenspan
Christine M. Griffin
Donna Griffin
John and Kathy Grogan
Robert and Deborah Grossman
Marsha Gruder
Marie Guman
Irene K. Guman
Andra and Art Gumbus
Shelley Hall
Janet Halliday
Carol Hamilton
Judy and Bob Hampel
Serita Harris
Richard Hawkins
Mary Haynes
Myra Healey
MC (Margaret) Heffel
Marion and Fenton Heil
Lynn Hess

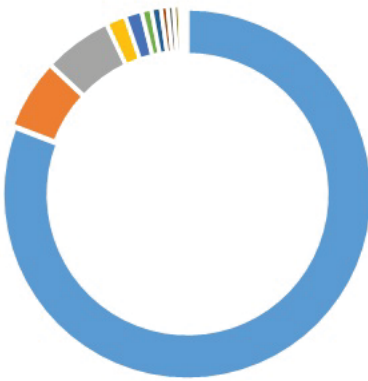
We are grateful for your generous support.

2023-2024 Revenue



- Town of Stratford, \$3,676,530
- Trust Gifts, \$109,000
- Fundraising, \$84,500
- Grants, \$76,833
- Earned Income, \$24,000
- Gifts, \$6,525
- Other, \$600

2023-2024 Expenses



- Personnel, \$3,256,860
- Facilities, \$247,213
- Materials/Processing, \$240,895
- Professional Services, \$68,700
- Services, \$58,857
- Supplies & Processing Costs, \$34,375
- Fundraising, \$33,250
- Programs, \$23,500
- Grants, \$21,433
- Building Improvements, \$20,000
- Other, \$13,250
- Gifts exp, \$10,785

"These 2023-2024 Financials are unaudited financial information. A copy of the Stratford Library Association's audited financial statements may be requested by contacting giving@stratfordlibrary.org."

Dee Hiatt
 Dolores Hoctor
 Karin Holmgren
 Lyn Hubina
 Erica Hupfer
 Robert Iassogna
 Impact Hub/Legacy.com
 Lilliana Jacobs
 Sandra Jacobson
 Doreen and Bob Jaekle
 Dr. Raymond E. Jankowich
 James Jarusinky
 Patricia Jensen
 Sue and Bob Johnson
 Lynn Junkin
 Robert C. Kaeser, Sr.
 John Kamenitsky
 Carole Kaputa
 Robert Katz
 Blanche Katz
 Marc and Laura Kavulich
 Mary Keegan
 Eileen and Thomas Keenan

Judith Keenan
 Patricia Kees
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 Henry R. Kelly, Sr.
 Joelle Kilcourse
 Phebe Kirkham
 Margaret Knablein
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 Patricia Heather Lea
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 Judith Lessler
 Richard Leventhal

Josephine Levine
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 Cynthia Loynd
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 Deborah Lupo
 Patricia MacDonald
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 Frank Maco
 Nancy Lou Maco
 Marina Maina
 The Majneber family
 Norine Marchellos
 Donald Marsala
 J E Martin
 Ms. Gail M. Marton
 Richard and MJ Marus
 Nancy Marx
 Joel and Mary Jo Mason
 Deborah Mastro
 Michael Mastro
 Paul R. Mathewson



Funding Partners

Town of Stratford
PEGPETIA Grant Program
CT State Library

The Milford Bank
Rotary Club of Stratford
Vicki Soto Memorial Fund

Teen Advisory Board (TAB)

“I’ve really liked having a leadership role within the Library. I’ve been able to take volunteering to the next step and help with Library events on a higher level.”

– Teen Advisory Board Member (TAB)



Stress Popping Fun!



Make Your Own Ice Cream

“TAB has allowed for direct student input. We’ve been able to create things at the Library that we knew people would really like and our advisors were supportive.”

– Teen Advisory Board Member (TAB)

MBI, Inc.
Eleanor McBrien
Anita McCain
Gail McCarthy
Judith L. McCarthy
Shirley K. McCormack
Melody E. McDonald
Sara McGill
Eileen and Skip Meehan
Martene Megos
Margaret Mehai
Mellow Monkey
Mildred Memoli
Irene Menard
Fundador Mendez
Catherine Merwin
George Mihalik
Virginia Millington
Robert Milstein
Andrea Milstein
David Miner
Patricia Ann Misencik
Reese B. Mitchell

Doreen Moffat
Carrie and Jeff Monachelli
Florence Moran Kokoruda
William J. Morris & Janet G. Morris
Sandra Morrison
Denise Morrissey
Judy Mudre
Maria Mugartegui
Patrick Murphy
Brenda Murphy
Jocelyn Murray
Judy Nachilo
Raymond Nalewajk
Kenneth Narus
Pat Naylor and John Cottrell
Teresa Neville
Susan Nielsen
Angela Nizzardo
Paula Nizzardo
Mary Barbara O'Brien
John and Karen O'Leary
Patrick O'Leary
Daniel Obuchowski

Ryan Olson
Karen Ormiston
Karen Orpilla
Linda and Richard Page
The Panchura family
Kathleen Pancoast
Crystal Patenaude
Patricia Patusky
Denise Payton
Janice Pellegrino
Pete Penny
Robert C. Perez
Deborah Perman
Keith Pesavento
Nancy and Michael Petronino
Maria Petrus
Steve Pfann
Francis Pfeiffer
Richard Pheneger
Barbara Pinckney
Eric Pine
Val Pinto
*Pitney Bowes

Thanks to your support this year, the Stratford Library

- Hosted 1,648 programs and events
- Welcomed 35,474 visitors
- Purchased more than 8,000 books and media
- Earned our spot among the top 25 busiest libraries in the state!

Stratford Library Staff



Management Team

Sheri Szymanski,
Executive Director

Geri Diorio,
Assistant Director

Caitlin Augusta,
Head of Children's Services

Dara Cates,
Circulation Supervisor

Corrine Driscoll,
Business Manager

Rachel Heerema, *Director of
Library Development*

Tom Holehan,
*Director of Public Relations
and Adult Programming*

Tiffany McCrae,
Head of Teen Services

Katie McFadden,
Head of Adult Services

Kate Sheehan,
Head of Information Technology



Award Winning Publicity

Angela Poisson
Paulette Powell Reeves
David Prause
Peter S. Prewitt
Patricia Primavera
Catherine Proto & Lisa Bevacqua
Robyn Proto
Mary Lee Prussel
Cynthia Pulito
Anita Pundurs
Donald Putrimas and Diane Elias
Christine Rafferty
Gladys A. Ramos
Christine Ratushnik
Orna Rawls
Maryclaire Reeves
Alanna Regan
Linda Rehm
Gregory P. Reilly
Pamela Remi
Lilian Revel
Paul Ribnick
John Roberts

Hildegard Roberts
Aldo Romano
L & C Romano
Jaclyn Rothenberg
Steve and Paula Rowe
Beryl Rubin
Stefano Russo
Stephen and Judith Rutter
Bahin Samimy
Valeria Sarosky
Diane Saslow
Richard Saykosky
Linnea Scheck
Deborah and Jeff Scholl
Jane Schroeder
Eunice Schwager
Kathy Scinto
Sandra Seavey
Elaine Secskas
Roger and Linda Sepso
Rita Shaughnessy
Margaret Sheahan
Ben Sheehan

Kathryn Sheehan-Giannelli
Mary Shevis
Lynn Shola
Courtney Shultz
Debra Silberstein
Nancy Silkman
Mary Ellen Simon
Nancy Sirois
Diane Helwig Slattery
Susan Slattery
William Slattery
David Small
Cynthia Smith
Shelagh Smith
Gerald Smolen
William Soisson
Ms. Tova Clayman
Donna Standard
Jacqueline Stern and
Jeffrey Potash and Family
Paul and Molly Stetz
Barbara Stewart
Patricia Stockdale

StratCon

Fandom fun for everyone at our 2023 StratCon, a time to celebrate all sorts of fandoms! A special thanks to our sponsors, The Milford Bank and our Fairfield County's Giving Day donors.



Making Reading Fun!



All ages fun in the Barbie Box

Summer Reading



Borrowing Activity increased 9% this year!



The Mayor's Summer Reading Party

771 children, teens, and adults read 6,359 books. And 190 little ones had 1,368 books read to them.

Sha Stokes
James Stone
Mary Ellen Stratford
Michael Suntag
Wendy Swain
Suzanne Szerszen
Bill and Sharon Szturma
Sheri Szymanski
Tom Tarczali
Junior M. Tavarez
Elinor Taylor
Marian Tedesco
Kathleen Thackaberry
The Froning Family
Judith Therrien
Kenneth Tigar
Geoffrey Tock
Bruce and Diane Tomasko
Patricia Trisko
Tammy Trojanowski
Cyrilla Turecheck
Lisa Turner
Two Roads Brewing Company

*Valley United Way, Inc.
Chris Van Doren
Ted van Griethuysen, Jr.
Camille Velez
Mrs. Gertrude Vezina
Marianna Vieira
Helen Villarreal
Gail Voytek
Ann and Loren Vultee
Rob Walsh
James Ward
Thomas Ward
Joan Wasilewski
Stephanie Weaver
Ralph and MaryAnn Weaver
Wendy Wernick
Kerry Whitman
Wilcoxson Elementary
School School Spirit
Richard and Linda Williams
Regina Wilson
Susan Wilson
Jessica Wolf

Joan Wootton
David Wright
Demetrios Xenikakis
Michael Zack
Janet Zamparo and David Childs
Raymond Zegarski
Thomasn Zelena
Nancy Zepke
Geri Zimmerman
Gail Zorpette
Evaggella Zoulamis

Memorial Gifts

Earl Augusta
Janice Daponte
Maureen Doherty
Ed Fennell
Doug Helwig
Tyler Holloway
John C. MacDonald
Margaret Otzel

Hooray for Hollywood Gala

Thanks to our Major Sponsors: Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament, Halper Keating Family, Berchem Moses PC, Ahlberg & Glad LLC, Aquarion Water Co., Barnum Animal Hospital, Dr. Immacula Cann & Family, Florek & O'Neill LLC, M&T Bank, Joel Pleban CPA and The Milford Bank



Glitz and Glam to Support the Library



Mayor Laura Hoydick with Board Member, Gladys Ramos

Thank You!



Shopping for a Great Cause

Annual Book Sale

Many thanks to the twenty-five adults and **174** teens who volunteered **6,002** hours with the Library Gala, Book Sale, UCreate makerspace, and Library projects.



Stratford Library Association
2203 Main Street • Stratford, CT 06615 • (203) 385-4164
www.stratfordlibrary.org