

# LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



2020 Annual Report



# Lake County Public Library

## 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

### INTRODUCTION

In January of 2020 we started our 3-year strategic planning process. We added this goal:

*Goal: Leaving room for the unexpected! Unexpected opportunities and barriers arise, and we want to be nimble and responsive in those situations...*

We included this because we simply wanted to remind ourselves to remain flexible and be responsive to changes that come our way unexpectedly. We had no idea we'd be put to the test so quickly!

COVID-19 caused us to close our doors to the public on March 16, and we remained closed until June 15. It was difficult to be closed to the public for 3 months. An important part of our mission is to provide a physical space for people. However, another important aspect of our mission is to be a partner in building community. There were many uncertainties related to COVID-19 and its rapid spread, so we felt the best way we could support the community was to be closed to help contribute to "flattening the curve."

However, when do you need library materials more than during a quarantine?! So, within 2 weeks of being closed we were able to start offering curbside pickup and delivery services. We were so happy to be able to provide these services, even with their limitations. Libraries are often touchstones for communities and it is our hope that we provided just the tiniest bit of normalcy for our community in that time.

We are proud of our response to COVID. After we reopened in mid-June, we have been able to keep our doors open to the public without interruption. We were able to do this with a close partnership with Lake County Public Health Agency, who provided us excellent feedback and guidelines.

We want to thank all of our patrons for their patience and partnership throughout 2020.

Sincerely,

Brena Smith  
Director

## Collections

Our collections are at the heart of carrying out our mission and they have been especially important this past year. While we were closed, providing library materials through curbside service was how we stayed connected to our patrons and hopefully helped them feel connected to us!



The biggest addition to our collection was the Library of Things (LoT), which was purchased with a CARES Act grant through the Colorado State Library. This collection includes craft kits for adults and children, games, STEM kits, and musical instruments! LoT has been a bright spot for us and it's been great to be able to offer this new collection to patrons.

Another exciting addition to the library last summer was our Bibliobici (book bike). We set up Sadie's bike (YA Services Coordinator) with a trailer and she hit the road! This allowed us to safely participate in outdoor events and reach our patrons in a new and fun way. This also led to our mobile check out. Sadie and Stacy (Spanish Services Coordinator) packed up their cars and set up mobile checkout stations at several communities throughout the county every week during the summer. Both Mobile Checkout and the Bibliobici were successful for us and we plan to continue these services throughout 2021.



*Lake County Public Library patrons enjoying the Bibliobici on a nice summer day*

## Collection Highlights for 2020

Number of new titles added to our collections:

- Adult fiction and nonfiction: 522
- Children's: 523
- Young Adult: 206
- Spanish & Bilingual: 135

Circulation:

- InterLibrary Loan: Items borrowed by Lake County patrons: 3889
- InterLibrary Loan: LCPL items sent out to Marmot libraries: 2230
- Mobile Checkout:
  - Visits: 19
    - 149 checkouts
  - Bibliobici:
    - 10 Community Visits
    - 90 checkouts

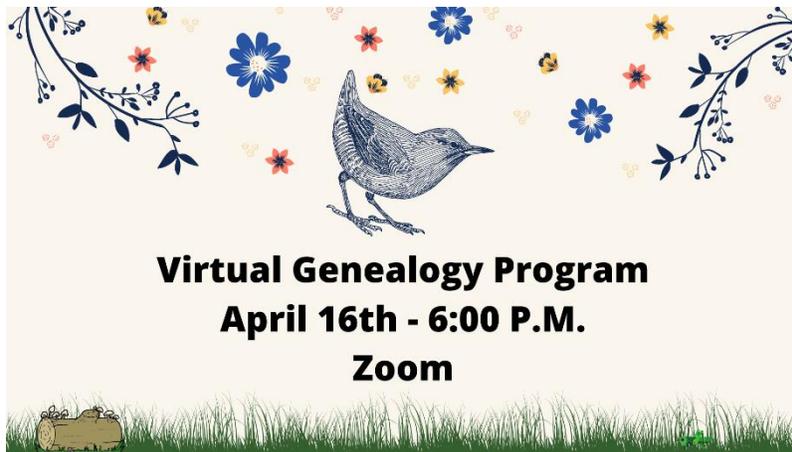


*The Bibliobici, out and about!*

Programming

Last year's programming emphasized our library staff's ability to be flexible and still offer excellent programming for our community.

In the summer Sadie utilized the nice weather and carried out some great craft programs in Ice Palace Park.



Holly Henning (Head of Local History) carried out three very well attended virtual local history programs.



Anita Harvey (Storyhour Coordinator), Jennifer Marruffo (Children's Services Supervisor), and Sadie created great Take & Make craft and learning kits throughout the summer and fall for kids.

Sadie launched our first young adult book club, called the Page Turners, which has 8 members and meets weekly.

*The Page Turners!*

## In the Library

During the shutdown in the Spring, even though we couldn't be open to the public we ensured our WiFi was available 24/7 and started up Delivery & Curbside Pick-up services. Both were successful and helped keep our patrons flush with library materials.



Like many direct service organizations and businesses, we had to apply a number of restrictions so that we could be open to the public. However, we are happy that we've been able to keep our doors open. This allows people to use our public computers, use services such as printing and faxing, and browse our collections.

- Visits: 18,469
- Computer services:
  - Wifi sessions: 20,859
  - Computer usage: 2,638
- Local history:
  - Onsite: 42
  - Virtual: 196

## Staffing and Professional Development

We are excited to have welcomed 3 new staff members last year!



Emma Carey, Circulation Team  
Fluent in American Sign Language



Brittney Woodrum, Circulation Team  
Bilingual in English & Spanish



Sadie Rehm, Young Adult Services  
Bilingual in English & Spanish

## Staff Professional Development Highlights for 2020

---

Even though in-person conferences, meetings and trainings were canceled last year, we were still able to participate in many of them in virtual environments:

- Young Adult Library Services Association Annual Conference
- Public Library Association (PLA) Webinar: Representation in the Library of Congress Collections: Complicating the Narrative
- Language Justice for Organizations (Community Language Cooperative)
- PLA webinar: Attended Language Justice for Organizations training Attended Leading Big in Small Spaces online conference (University of Michigan)
- Online Visioning & Leadership Workshops
- Successful Supervision Workshop with Pat Wagner
- American Association of State and Local Historians (AASLH) conference
- Preserving Colorado History: A Virtual Conference for Small Rural Museums and Libraries in Colorado in October
- Census Information Workshop with NALEO