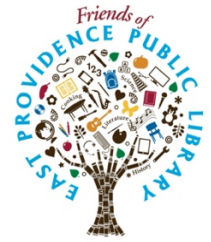


FRIENDS OF EAST PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2024



In fulfillment of our mission to support East Providence Library and our community, in 2024 the Friends of East Providence Public Library provided more than \$30,000 for programs and services and donated more than 3,000 books to people of all ages to encourage reading and to promote lifelong learning.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF LIBRARY PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- Weaver Library Interior Improvements – contributed \$20,000 for the redesign of the front of the library to better serve the needs of patrons.
- Museum passes for library patrons – paid for reduced cost or free admission to 15 museums, including Battleship Cove, Blithewold Mansion, Coggeshall Farm Museum, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Museum of Science, Boston, Mystic Seaport Museum, New Bedford Whaling Museum, New England Aquarium, Old Sturbridge Village, Plimoth Patuxet Museums, Providence Children’s Museum, Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Roger Williams Park Zoo, The Breakers and Worcester Art Museum, for a total cost of \$4,080
- Video Gaming System – provided \$800 for a Nintendo Switch gaming system to encourage participation of teens in library programs.
- Weaver Library – paid \$520 for a bench for patrons waiting for a ride. It is located under the front portico.
- Riverside Library – paid \$5,000 for chairs for patrons using the program room
- Children’s and Teen Summer Reading Program – furnished \$200 for prizes
- Summer Reading Program – provided coupons for free books for patrons of all ages
- Summer Block Parties – provided tickets to Block Island (\$40) as a free drawing prize for adults in June and gift cards for ice cream and candy (\$40), as well as bubble wands for all children, at the August Block Party.

SUPPORT OF LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY

- *Library Events – provided 1766 books for free distribution to attendees at library-sponsored community events throughout the city*
- 1008 books for all ages at our weekly Free Stuff Friday at Never-Ending Book Sales
- 236 books for community programs and laundromats
- 240 soft cover children’s books for families of patrons attending programs at Fuller Creative Learning Center
- 150 for all ages at Summer Block Parties
- 100 books for the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program
- 32 manga and graphic books for the teen program

- *Community, Local Schools, Hospitals and Service Providers – donated more than 1520 books, including*
- 460 soft cover books to Providence Books Through Bars
- 250 non-fiction books to Amos House for distribution to clients
- 230 novels to Miriam Hospital for their book cart for patients
- 180 large print novels to Rhode Island Veterans’ Hospital for their waiting room and in-house library
- 150 children’s and young adult books to Boys & Girls Club of East Providence for youth in after-school programs
- 135 young adult books to UCAP (Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program) in Providence for their in-classroom libraries for students to take and keep
- 50 large print novels to East Providence Senior Center for their library
- 30 soft cover novels to Rhode Island Hospital inpatient psychiatric unit.
- 25 non-fiction books by African American authors to Black Lives Matter RI
- 10 children’s books to Little Free Libraries in Rumford

To accomplish these goals, Friends of East Providence Public Library held two Thursday to Sunday book sales, in April and October, in addition to the Never-Ending Book Sales, held every day at Weaver and Riverside Library. Forty-six volunteers, out of 235 members, actively participated in Friends’ activities, volunteering 1,784 hours.