



TOWN OF BALLSTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY

COMMITTED AND CONNECTED

2019 Annual Report to the Public

Summer Reading Kickoff



Louise Miller Author Visit



Cookie Decorating &



Authors Becky Albertalli and Jennifer Dugan

The Library welcomed 3 authors, and hosted 250 people at our Summer Reading Kickoff Party at Jenkins Park!

Our ever popular cookie decorating has continued, along with the addition of many new and exciting programs for our patrons.

2 Lawmar Lane, Burnt Hills, New York 12027 (518) 399-8174

Monday - Thursday 10 AM - 8 PM
Friday 10 AM - 5 PM
Saturday 10 AM - 2 PM

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Town of Ballston Community Library 2019 REPORT

90,000
VISITORS
TO THE LIBRARY



LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 new HVAC units funded by NYS SAM Grant
- 250 attended 1st Annual Summer Reading Kickoff
- 40% increase in adult program attendance
- \$107,606 in NYS Library Construction Aid sought for Local History Room and improved lighting

67,180 ITEMS IN THE COLLECTION



118,803
ITEMS BORROWED
Books, CDs, and DVDs



12,486
TIMES ACCESSED

4,321
TIMES USED

570
PROGRAMS



11,148
ATTENDEES



6,745
CARD HOLDERS



11,537
eBOOK DOWNLOADS

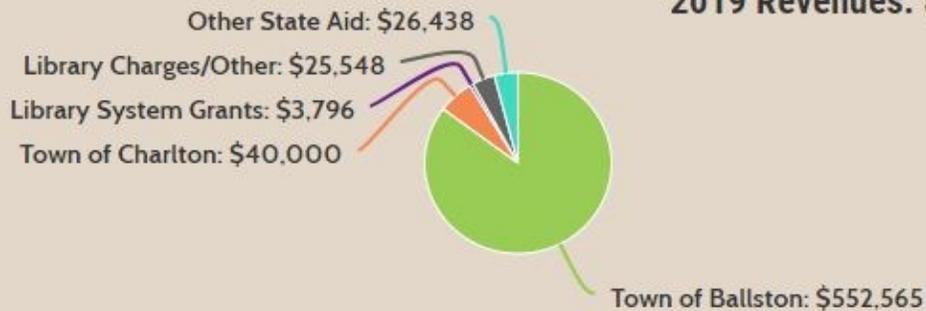
2019 Summer Reading Participants



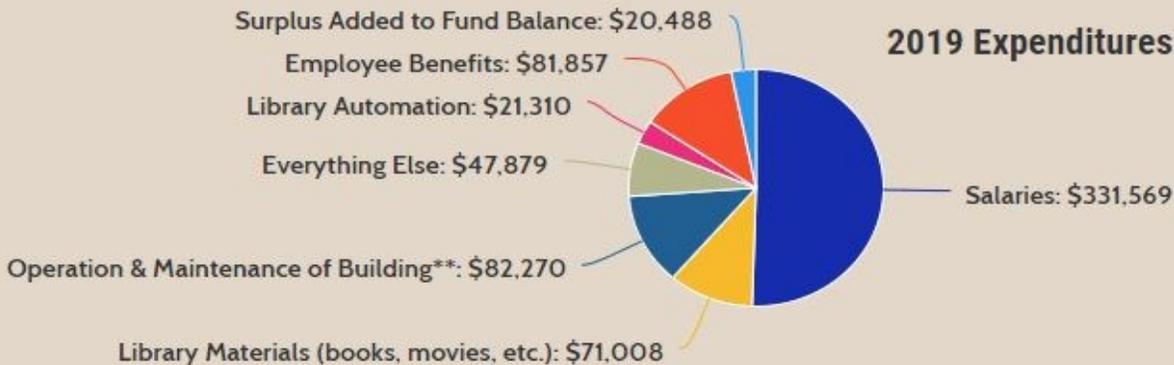
2019 Annual Wireless Sessions



2019 Revenues: \$656,381*



2019 Expenditures: \$656,381



*Based on preliminary/unaudited figures as of 2/14/19

A Note from Steve Zarelli, President of the Library Board of Trustees:

As I write this “2019 Annual Letter,” we are in the midst of a global pandemic unlike anything seen in a century. That said, it would be unfair to allow 2020’s challenge erase the amazing accomplishments of 2019. Let’s take a look at 2019 and I’ll get back to the pandemic in a moment:

- In 2019, the library hosted 570 programming events with a total of 11,148 participants, representing a double digit increase in attendees compared to 2018.
- There was a 10% increase in annual visits to library website.
- 250 people attended the library’s first annual Summer Reading Kickoff in Jenkins Park featuring live music, face painting, crafts, games, therapy dogs, and snacks.
- Librarians visited every K-5 class in the BH-BL CSD to promote summer reading. We collaborated with school district for prizes and awards.
- Friends of the Library generously donated a new train table and train set for the Children’s Room, and new tables and chairs for the teen space as part of Summer Reading voting conducted by Summer Reading participants.

Coming off such a terrific year, we were excited to do and be even more in 2020.

Then, everything changed with COVID-19. Per Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order, the library was closed to the public.

The library staff and trustees quickly huddled... *how can we continue to deliver much needed services to the community when the building is closed?*

We pivoted quickly to ramp up virtual programming. We expanded digital lending and promoted heavily. We amped up online book reviews and hosted virtual book clubs. The librarians are still available by phone or online to serve patrons.

I am so proud how the librarians and staff have responded to a terrible crisis with grace, dedication and perseverance. Thank you to Colleen, Jenn, Rebecca, Susan and the entire staff.

Through the worst of it, we continued to fulfill our mission to serve the ever-changing needs of the community. So, in a way no one could have anticipated, we **ARE** doing more and being more in 2020.

We all look forward to the day when we can open the doors and greet you in-person again.



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Thomas Shaginaw, Trustee
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Julia Stone, Trustee

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Jennifer Richard, Head of Adult Services
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Pati Pericone
Terry Riley
Kelly Shaginaw
Ruta Tomik

Many thanks to the Friends of the Library for their unwavering and dedicated support of the library, and to our community for supporting the Friends’ fundraisers like Mini-Golf, Spring Fling Basket Raffle, and Book Sales.