

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

FEBRUARY 2025

Personnel

The Children's Room has an open part-time Information Specialist position.

Esther Schwartz has been added as a signer to the Key Bank account.

Outreach

Programming and Outreach Librarian Nanor Pogosian is working with the Nyack 2030 initiative as a community partner to bring a bike share to Nyack Library. The Library is also working with the Library lawyer Robert Schofield on a liability waiver.

Collections

Morgan Strand coordinated a donation of 49 books that had been banned in other libraries from GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network) of the Lower Hudson Valley. The books will be added to the Adult, Teen, and Children's collections.

Librarians at Nyack Library are working with their colleagues via the RCLS Reference User Group (RUG) to determine a policy on generative AI content currently accessible on the Hoopla platform. Right now, Hoopla, in trying to offer the most content and sacrificing quality, serves up an enormous amount of erroneous, low quality information at the top of search results. We are working with our colleagues to ask Hoopla to allow libraries to have some control over the content on the platform. However, the first step is blocking that content in the Aspen catalog and eventually, we are working to hold Hoopla accountable for their collection development policies.

Programs

Nanor was awarded a grant from RCLS for computer classes for senior citizens.

I've received great feedback from several patrons about the Library's Open Mic Night. Kristine Kumpf hosts this event and it has been a great success. This is one of the responses we received from a gratified patron: "Thank you so much from the bottom of my heart for an incredible night last night! You helped make it amazing!! Your responses to all the acts were so genuine and so encouraging! You truly are awesome! I hope you have an amazing day!"

Mike Grella has noted the additional one-on-one tech help to make up for less assistance at federal Social Security offices. He points out that the office in West Nyack is still closed and with no date to re-open and there are plans to close the office in White Plains. Government websites are changing and the burden on our digital navigators should increase as we assist patrons seeking assistance.

Technology

The Library purchased 10 new computers to replace dated staff machines and service point terminals.

Facilities

Jeff Flournoy added additional motion detection lights in the parking lot.

Budget Vote

The Nyack Board of Education certified the Nyack and Valley Cottage budget votes. The total as follows:

	Yes	No	Total
Regular Votes	266	23	289
Absentee Votes	36	22	58
Total	302	45	347