

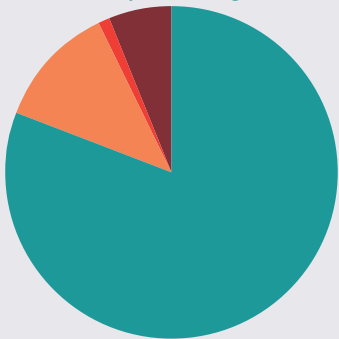
ANNUAL REPORT

MESA COUNTY LIBRARIES

2021

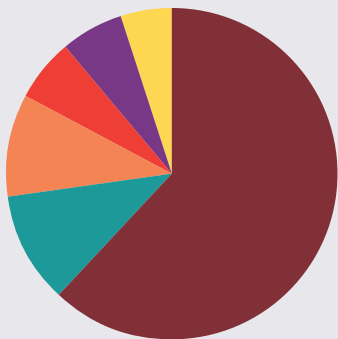
2021 FINANCIAL DATA

(Preliminary unaudited figures)



TOTAL REVENUE = \$7,993,613

- Property Taxes - \$6,478,862
- Ownership Taxes - \$933,697
- Fees & Misc. - \$83,897
- Grants & Donations - \$497,157



TOTAL EXPENDITURES = \$6,985,114

- Personnel - \$4,322,709
- Library Materials - \$760,232
- Support Services - \$660,001
- Technology - \$437,508
- Facilities - \$421,952
- Capital Projects - \$382,712

Exploring a New Normal

Reflecting a true pioneer spirit, Mesa County Libraries staff reopened the libraries in January 2021 after the pandemic closures of the prior year. We were one of the first libraries in the state and the country to reopen. I could stop writing this message at that point; it would be enough to say the library remained open for the entire 12 months of 2021.

But our staff continued to adjust library services and improve programs. In-person events returned in the summer, when they were held outdoors. A new drive-thru window was installed at the Central Library to streamline the curbside pick-up that our community appreciates.

In the summer, conversations began with Mesa County for the library district to build the new Clifton Branch on property adjacent to Rocky Mountain Elementary School as part of a community campus. This project is moving forward with an intergovernmental agreement between the

library and county. The library expects groundbreaking to happen in early summer 2022, with the new library opening in 2023. The project will be funded through donations, grants, and library savings; no tax increase will be required.

In July, a new partnership between the library and Mind Springs Health co-located two clinicians at the Central Library and Clifton Branch. Similar to Mind Springs' partnerships with the Mesa County Sheriff's Office and the Grand Junction Police Department, the program features crisis clinicians in the libraries who work in specific branches to respond to community calls, support library staff, and be accessible to community residents in the library. This new relationship continues to grow as the work and expectations evolve, and it provides important services that individuals might not otherwise have access to.

Michelle Boisvenue-Fox
Library Director

2021 STATS

TOP 5

Checked out Items

KIDS FICTION

1. **Dog Man: A Tale of Two Kitties**
– Dav Pilkey
2. **Dog Man: Unleashed**
– Dav Pilkey
3. **Wings of Fire: The Dragonet Prophecy (graphic novel)**
– Tui T. Sutherland
4. **The Dragonet Prophecy (text novel)**
– Tui T. Sutherland
5. **Dog Man: Fetch-22**
– Dav Pilkey

TEEN FICTION

1. **The Hunger Games**
– Suzanne Collins
2. **Midnight Sun**
– Stephenie Meyer
3. **Minecraft Essential Handbook**
– Stephanie Milton
4. **A Court of Thorns and Roses**
– Sarah J. Maas
5. **The Maze Runner**
– James Dashner

ADULT FICTION

1. **All the Devils Are Here**
– Louise Penny
 2. **The Four Winds**
– Kristin Hannah
 3. **Daylight**
– David Baldacci
 4. **The Law of Innocence**
– Michael Connelly
 - 5 (tie). **Dark Sky**
– C.J. Box
- Where the Crawdads Sing**
– Delia Owens

DVDs

1. **News of the World**
2. **The Father**
3. **Land**
4. **The Little Things**
5. **Wonder Woman 1984**

Kanopy

1. **Alone: Season 1**
2. **Alone: Season 2**
3. **Project Impossible**
4. **The Chosen**
5. **How the Earth Was Made**

Hoopla

1. **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone**
– J. K. Rowling
2. **Death in Paradise: Season 1, Episode 1**
3. **Alone: Season 7, Million Dollar Mistake**
4. **Mystery Road: Season 1, Gone**
5. **The Lost Apothecary**
– Sarah Penner

Pandemic Resilience

Library statistics for 2021 reflect Mesa County Libraries' strong comeback from 2020, the first year of the pandemic.

Our libraries opened their doors in January and kept them open, welcoming patrons indoors while continuing to offer curbside pick-up and drive-thru service to patrons more comfortable with those options.

105
%

Library Visits
= 659,226



16.7
%

Checkouts & Renewals
= 1,239,474

12.2
%

Electronic Circulation
= 259,076

3
%

Library Cardholders
= 73,965

12.3
%

Adult Student Hours
= 18,005

38.3
%

Volunteer Hours
= 9,168

Did You Know?

In 2021 ...

- **Twenty-four students** were celebrated for completing Career Online High School and GED preparation programs through Mesa County Libraries.
- After moving online in 2020 due to the pandemic, **Comic Con** and **Culture Fest** resumed as major in-person events, attracting more than **3,400 attendees**.
- Patrons watched more than **800,000 minutes** of content on Kanopy.

- A wilderness garden, accessible paths, and several drainage micro-basins were added to the **Discovery Garden**.
- **Outdoor Story Walks®** took place in Collbran, Fruita, Downtown Grand Junction, and the Discovery Garden.
- As part of a **week-long Community Read in Fruita**, the library hosted award-winning journalist **Eli Saslow**, author of "Rising Out of Hatred: The Awakening of a Former White Nationalist," in an insightful, well-attended online discussion about the issues his book raises.

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Shana Wade - Associate Director
Blair Wade - Finance Director
Kendra Rhodes - Development Director



Mesa County
LIBRARIES

Contact Mesa County Libraries

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