



# 2023 Annual Report to the Community

## WSPL Mission

The WSPL shall provide our communities with welcoming centers of information and discovery and provide our patrons with tools for lifelong learning, creativity and enrichment. We open our doors to every open mind.

Visit [www.WSPLonline.org](http://www.WSPLonline.org) to learn more about the library.

## Library Programs and Services

In-person programming was back in full swing in 2023. We welcomed the first graders back to the Jeffersonville Branch in June and students explored the library and got their first library card.

The library offered 270 programs for all ages from July 2022 to June 2023. The increased number of programs resulted in doubling attendance to 2,555 participants.

A Puzzle Swap program, started in January 2023, gave the community a chance to take puzzles and donate others when they finished them.



Over 300 puzzles were taken this past year! Along with all of the programs, all branches continue to offer public computers, wifi, copying and faxing services, tech support, tax forms, local history and other resources both in-house and online.

## Library Highlights

In 2023, there were **32,280 visits** to our branches, up 12% from last year. Over **50,680** books, DVDs, audiobooks and other items were checked out. While checkouts for our physical items increased by 1.3%, our digital collection usage went up 15.8% totaling **22,932** e-books, audiobooks, e-magazines downloaded and films streamed.



Photo credit: Jeanne Sager Photography



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The library continued to offer One-on-One Computer Help Sessions both in person and via Zoom, scheduling 309 appointments in 2023. Public computer usage went up 6% this year and WiFi usage continues to rise.

The library added Tutor.com and Mango to the many online resources it offers. The Bethel Woods Museum passes were borrowed 28 times in 2023 serving over 100 patrons. Based on survey results, the library will add additional passes for patrons to borrow in July 2024.

## Program Highlights

Nationally renowned poets graced the stage at the Delaware Free Branch during the *10th Anniversary First Fridays Poetry Series*. *See Yourself @ the Library*, a community art project, resulted in the installation of Pop Art self-portraits on the windows at the Delaware Free Branch for all to enjoy. Both programs were funded through regrant programs administered by the DVAA. Additional funding for the *10th Anniversary First Fridays Poetry Series* was received from Poets & Writers Reading and Workshop grants.



## Youth at the Library

This year, the library collaborated with the Tusten Youth Club, Delaware Youth Center and the National Park Service to offer opportunities for children and teens both at the library and in the community.



New mural at the Tusten-Cochecton Branch.



“All Together Now” was the Summer Reading Program theme. The library offered 25 programs with attendance totaling 440.



## Library Card Holders

By the end of 2023, there were **3,941 library card holders** at WSPL. New library cards were put into the hands of 382 community members this past year. We would love to double that number, so make sure your friends and family all have a card and have the opportunity to access all of the materials, resources and programs the library offers. Sign up for a library card at [www.WSPLonline.org](http://www.WSPLonline.org) or by visiting one of our branches.

## Top Checkouts for 2023

Some of the most borrowed titles in 2023 at the Western Sullivan Public Library.



*The Five-Star Weekend*  
Adult Fiction

*The Wager*  
Adult Non-Fiction

*Lessons in Chemistry*  
Audiobook

*All My Rage*  
Teen

*Big Top Bonanza*  
Children

*Verity*  
eBook

*Yellowstone 1923*  
DVD

## Construction Project Completion

The library received NYS Library Construction Aid totaling \$60,385 to assist in completing the Jeffersonville parking lot project. This project included paving the deteriorating lot behind the library along with upgrading the lighting system to LED fixtures, replacing the sewer lateral and restoring the retaining wall. Below are before and after photos of the parking lot.



Upcoming projects at the Delaware Free Branch include the replacement of the failing HVAC as well as a restoration project which includes repointing, window restoration and restoring and replacing part of the cornice. Both Delaware Free and Tusten-Cochecton Branches will upgrade to energy efficient LED fixtures.

## Board of Trustees

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## Branches and Contact Information

**Delaware Free Branch**  
Laura Moran, Branch Manager  
45 Lower Main St, Callicoon, NY  
845-887-4040

**Jeffersonville Branch**  
Jennifer Olsen, Branch Manager  
19 Center St, Jeffersonville, NY  
845-582-4350

**Tusten-Cochecton Branch**  
Alexa Simonelli, Branch Manager  
198 Bridge St, Narrowsburg, NY  
845-252-3360

Audra Everett, Library Director

Visit [www.WSPLonline.org](http://www.WSPLonline.org) to view the library's Five-Year Long Range Strategic Plan.