

# Shepherdstown Public Library

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**ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

**FISCAL YEAR JULY 2023-JUNE 2024**



# DIRECTOR'S LETTER

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It has been a wonderful and productive year here at the Shepherdstown Public Library. We have grown in so many ways and have learned so many things that inform our continued future success. Literacy continues to be at the forefront of everything we do. We are creating engaging ways to promote literacy through new materials, storytimes, books clubs, and book recommendations.

This year, we've introduced a variety of new programs. We've expanded our offerings to include a range of wellness activities for adults, embraced nature-based learning for children, and enhanced STEAM education for all ages. Some of the highlights have been our Grandparents Day event complete with a photo booth, a solar eclipse watch party, the "Planting for Pollinators" workshop with Peggy Bowers, a petting zoo full of adorable animals, art exhibits, adult papercraft sessions, a homeschool cookie exchange, a code-breaking challenge for teens, and our exciting Summer Reading kickoff party.

We feel incredibly fortunate to have this wonderful space that allows us to explore new ideas and adapt in innovative ways. My team and I are proud and delighted to work and engage with our community. We look forward to making the upcoming year just as exciting and rewarding as the last.

*Christy Hagerty*

**CHRISTY HAGERTY**

Library Director



# YEAR IN NUMBERS AT SPL

**34,009**

LIBRARY VISITORS

**83,454**

ITEMS CIRCULATED

**17,581**

ELECTRONIC MATERIALS  
CIRCULATED

**↑ 63%**

CIRCULATION IS  
UP YOY

**882**

NEW LIBRARY  
CARDS ISSUED

**↑ 27%**

CARD SIGN-UP IS  
UP YOY

**549**

TOTAL EVENTS &  
PROGRAMS

**10,945**

TOTAL EVENTS & PROGRAM  
ATTENDANCE

**↑ 80%**

EVENT & PROGRAM  
ATTENDANCE IS UP  
YOY



Community Eclipse Party



Gardening for Birds & Pollinators Workshop



Story & Visit with the Shepherdstown Police Dept.

# SUMMER READING PROGRAM

347

SRP Participants

The Shepherdstown Public Library's 2024 Summer Reading Program was a resounding success, with 347 kids and teens actively participating. By keeping reading logs, attending fun and educational programming, and maintaining their math skills, these young readers not only enjoyed a summer filled with engaging activities but also kept their academic abilities sharp during the break.

Summer reading programs like this one are crucial in preventing the "summer slide," where students can lose progress in reading and math over the summer months. These programs foster a love of learning, encourage regular reading habits, and help bridge the gap between school years, ensuring that children return to school ready to succeed.



Nature Journaling Club



Teen Art Club



Introduction to Rocks



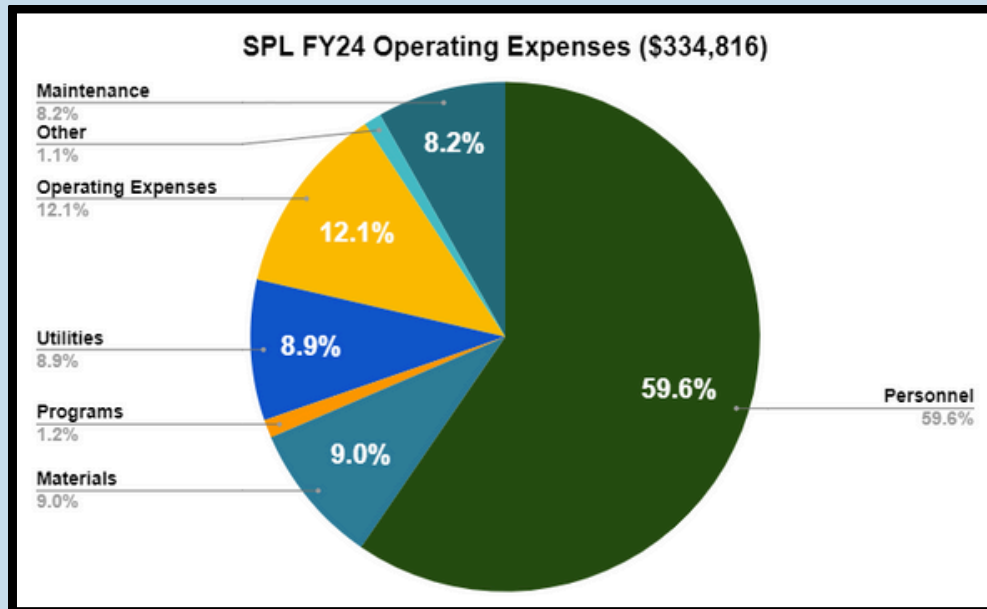
Summer Reading Kick-Off Party

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Our staff provides excellent programming and opportunities for reading, learning and community experiences. We receive funding from the State, County, Board of Education Levy and the Corporation of Shepherdstown.

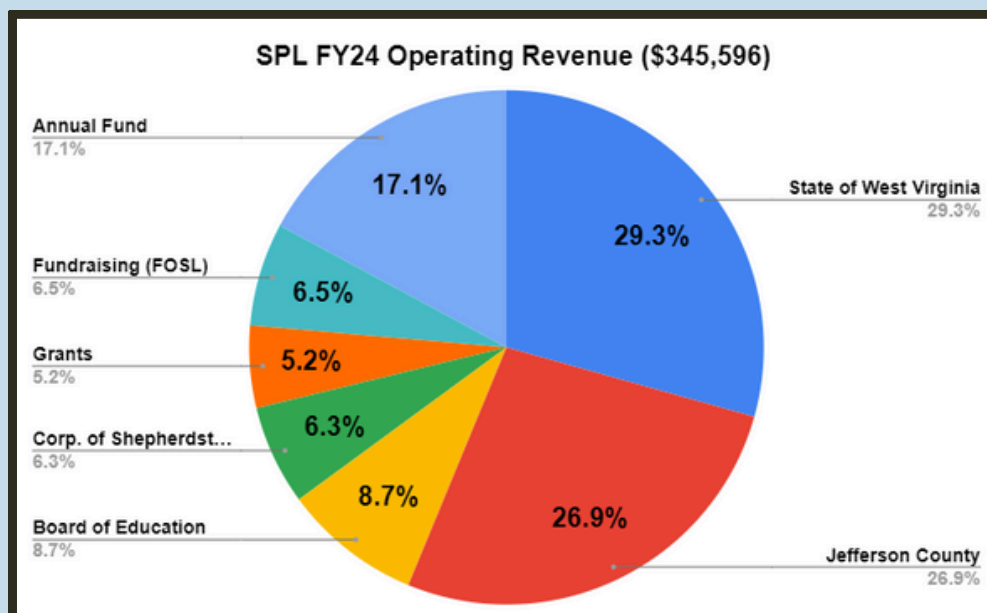
We also rely on fundraisings, donations and our support groups to help sustain the work we do.

We are grateful to have the support of the following groups:



**Friends of Shepherdstown Library (FOSL)** provides funding to the library through membership, book sales and special library events.

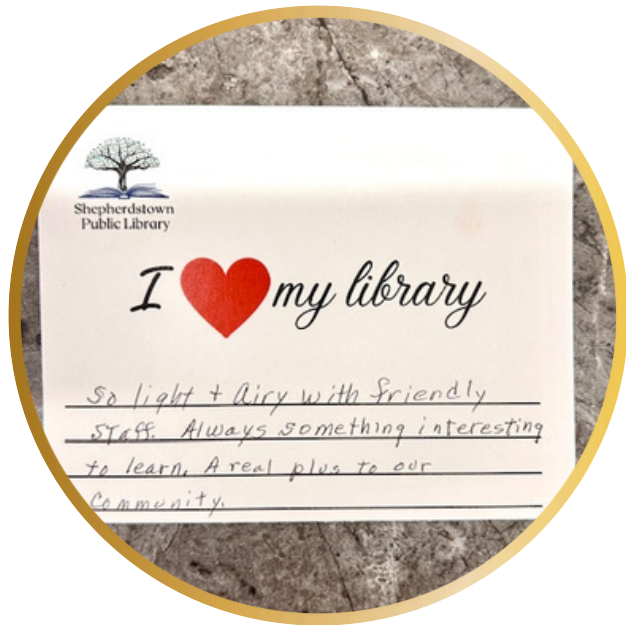
**Nourishing Literacy Giving Circle** provides continuous unrestricted giving throughout the year to the library.



**The Shepherdstown Library Foundation** is creating an endowment and a sustaining fund for the library to have continued funding for the future.

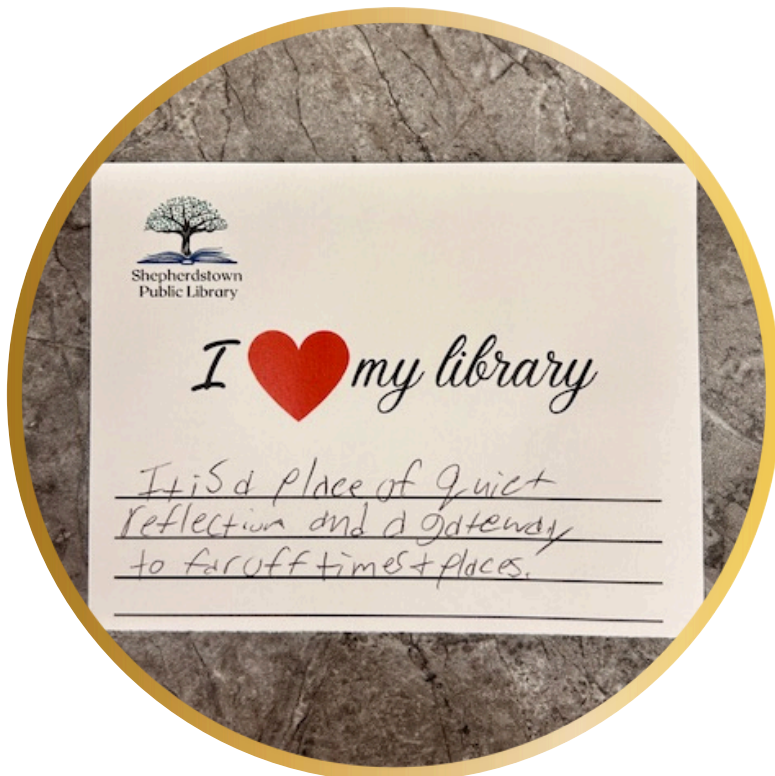
Our **Garden Stewards** group has raised money to create, grow and maintain our pollinator gardens.

# FROM OUR PATRONS



*"I love my library because it's so light and airy with friendly staff. Always something interesting to learn. A real plus to our community."*

*"Of course we love books but we also LOVE the sense of community!"*



*"I love my library because it is a place of quiet reflection and a gateway to far off times and places."*

*The Shepherdstown Public Library Staff*



*SPL  
Volunteer Brunch*



*Middle School Math Club*



*Summer Reading Program  
Petting Zoo*

*SPL Garden  
Stewards*





# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**NANCY STEWART - PRESIDENT**  
**MARY ANNE HITT - VICE PRESIDENT**  
**SALLY BRASHER - SECRETARY**  
**JEFFREY BANNON - TREASURER**  
**RUTH MCQUADE - AT LARGE**

# STAFF

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