

Implementing the Long Range Strategic Plan

November 2022
Update





Shared Financial Accountability

The **Ossining Library Foundation** continues to work on raising its profile in the community. The Foundation board is currently planning a **winter fundraiser**, helmed by Miriam Risko, featuring a performer from folk-pop musician Elisa Peimer. The fundraiser will include a partnership with Sing Sing Kill Brewery, who will sell beverages at the event and donate a portion of sales to the Foundation. The Foundation is also hosting an **author series** in the winter, starting with Rochelle Udell in January. (Goal 1.1)

Foundation Board member Pam Thornton, along with Karen LaRocca-Fels, attended the **Association of Fundraising Professionals Mid Hudson Chapter National Philanthropy Day Conference** on November 17, which delved into fundraising best practices and provided a framework for plans to move the Foundation forward with new projects, such as planned giving. (Goals 1.1, 1.3)

The Library hosted the Northeast Etsy Association's Annual Holiday Fair, an artisan market that donates a portion of the day's proceeds to the **Friends of the Library** (Goal 1.1).



Diversification of Collections, Programs, and Services

The Library hosted a **Fall Festival**, an intergenerational program that provided entertainment, enrichment, and information about library services. A scavenger hunt enticed attendees to visit the service desks and talk to staff about what the library offers, apple cider and donuts were available for all, and the festival wrapped with a Circus Magic Show (Goal 2.1)

Karen LaRocca-Fels and Allison Robbins met with Linda Smith, from the Westchester Library System, to discuss hosting the **Reconnect with Tech** program, a fifteen-hour program that provides technology instruction and connectivity for the formerly incarcerated (Goal 2.3)

The Adult Services department launched its **Career Coaching** program, funded by the gift from the David Swope Fund (Goal 2.1)

The Library hosted several programs in honor of **Native American Heritage Month**, including a storytelling performance from Anne Jennison and a presentation from Barry Keegan on Lenapie technologies (Goal 2.1)

The Teen Room's book club, hosted with Sudha Narsipur at Ossining High School, has become the **Project Lit Book Club**. Project Lit is a national literacy movement of educators and students committed to **increasing access to diverse books** and promoting a love of reading (Goal 2.1)



Diversification of Collections, Programs, and Services

The Children's Department will continue its **Spanish Classes for Kids** program this winter. The program, which began as registration-only, has organically moved to a drop-in model, allowing the instructor to work with more kids. Based on the popularity of these classes, the Children's department hopes to offer a similar class for English language learners (Goal 2.1).

To obtain access to a better selection of **YA Spanish materials**, Marie Trapasso is working with Brodart to reactivate the library's account, with a goal of ordering from Brodart in December (Goal 2.2)

The Library's blood pressure cuff lending program continues to take off, and Marie Trapasso has worked to expand it, arranging for a bilingual representative from SunRiver Health to have an information table at the library on a monthly basis (Goal 2.3)



Diversification and Development of Staff, Board, and Volunteers

The **Patron Services Department** continues to expand and train ahead of its official launch to the public in January. This change will allow the front desk to become less transactional and more holistic, moving from the traditional circulation desk to a front desk that is the hub of the library and a focal point for all patrons (Goals 3.2, 3.3)

Ignayra Lopez and Mark Sacha attended the **New York Library Association Annual Conference and Trade Show**.

Each provided reports to the library about enriching sessions they attended and ways to utilize new ideas at OPL. Ignayra met with members of the Coalition of Library Workers of Color and sat at the coalition's table during the Exhibition Hall, allowing her to meet librarians from across the state (Goal 3.6)

Suzy Zavarella attended the nErD Camp LI Unconference, a participant-driven learning and networking experience. Through the unconference, Suzy was able to attend thought-provoking workshops and meet popular middle grade author Torrey Maldonado (Goal 3.6)

Diversification and Development of Staff, Board, and Volunteers

Karen LaRocca-Fels is working with Jerry Nichols to plan **board training** (Goal 3.2)

The Library is still posting for two positions: Part Time Library Assistant (Spanish Speaking) and Part Time Library Monitor. The library will continue to push out the postings to get a broad applicant pool (Goal 3.1)

Karen LaRocca-Fels continues to gather possibilities for **staff training in DEI and implicit bias** (Goal 3.2)

Karen and Suzy Zavarella are working together to move ahead on recruitment for the **Staff Assistant** position. A canvass letter was sent out to people on the active civil service list, and the position will be posted to the public (Goal 3.2)

Marie Trapasso attended the webinar "Addressing Threats in Public Libraries", which focused on safety and security (Goal 3.6)



Create and Sustain Relationships with All Parts of Greater Ossining

Library staff worked closely with community partners, especially with the **Ossining Union Free School District**, who highlighted the library's work with the district at the Board of Education meeting on November 17. Some of this month's work with the district includes:

- Marie Pierre and Marie Trapasso attended the **Poverty Simulation** at AMD Middle School.
- In addition to the Project Lit Book Club at OHS, Suzy Zavarella is in talks with the AMD Chapter of the club to bring the two groups together.
- Suzy is also working with Allison Bacon, the coordinator of instructional technology for OHS, and Angela Carrasquillo, OHS's new media production specialist, to discuss the library's podcasting equipment.
- Ignayra Lopez hosted Turkey Bingo at the district's Saturday Explore and Learn program.
- The Children's Room wrapped up this season of classroom visits.



Physical and Virtual Infrastructure Transformation

Karen LaRocca-Fels and Allison Robbins have started filing paperwork for the 2023 round of ERate funding, which will allow the library to fund 80% of its broadband costs and apply for more cabling work, another outdoor WiFi access point, and two backup switches (Goal 5.1)

Molly Robbins requested that Lothrop review the planned modular spaces on the second floor for fire safety compliance (Goal 5.6)

The Building and Grounds committee scheduled a meeting with the library's architects and engineers to kickoff the library's renovation projects and discuss timelines and costs (Goals 5.5 and 5.6)



Brand & Image

The Brand & Image team set a meeting for a strategy session with graphic designer Janeen Violante at the beginning of 2023 to move ahead with the project to **redesign the library's logo** (Goal 6.1)

Jefferson Quituisaca has been instrumental in creating and **translating materials** for promoting the library's eResources (Goal 6.2)

Molly Robbins **refreshed signage** throughout the buildings, installing new *Staff Only* signs throughout the library (Goal 6.4)