

# Greensboro Free Library

## A PLACE TO CONNECT

It has been a busy year here at the Greensboro Free Library! We emerged (cautiously) from two years of COVID isolation, bringing exciting programs to the library for youth, families and adults, while continuing to connect our community through virtual programs. The Library board developed a questionnaire that went out into the community to help guide us as we worked on a five-year strategic plan. As a result, we will be addressing building upkeep and parking and accessibility challenges, gathering ideas for backyard improvements, and making better use of our current space. We continue to develop new programs and refine our collection to meet the interests and needs of our community. Connecting our community to each other, to information, and to the world beyond our doors is the mission and passion of the Greensboro Free Library. To keep this momentum going we NEED your support as we head into 2023.



### The Year in Review

Emily Purdy, our children's librarian, offered programs this year that connected kids to our community, the environment, and to each other. With our summer theme of "Oceans of Possibilities" she helped children explore the local ecology of

Caspian Lake, investigate recycling opportunities, and experience art and culture through various programs. Emily encouraged connections outside our library by installing story walks along the Willey Beach Trail, and hosting a book giveaway, a bike safety program, and childcare story times in Greensboro Bend.

Adults also found many opportunities to connect through the programs we offered at GFL this year. From a poetry workshop to a Van Gogh painting party, from author talks on railroad history to a Vermont Humanities presentation on bees sponsored by Barr Hill Spirits, there was something for everyone to learn and enjoy. Visitors to the library also enjoyed viewing various art gallery exhibits. Connecting our community is important, whether that community is next door or around the world, which is why GFL continues to offer virtual programs. Book discussions, health presentations, heirloom gardening, and Korean lantern making were offered over Zoom to participants near and far.



Paula Davidson, our library director, worked to connect staff and volunteers to meaningful projects such as updating our collection and sorting book donations for the upstairs book sale. Paula also secured several grants to support our efforts to connect to the larger world, funding the addition of new titles celebrating diversity and a large expansion of our youth graphic novel collection.



## Moving Forward

We continued to make the library more energy efficient, installing LED bulbs and WindowDressers interior window inserts downstairs. We have plans for window inserts upstairs and hope to fund their installation in 2023. We addressed repairs and improvements to the building, including new flower boxes and planters, new handicap railings at the base of the entry ramp, painting of the metal roof, and a renovated staff bathroom. We have submitted two grants to the ARPA committee to support the creation of a sound-proof meeting room and upgrades to our computers and printers.

As you can see, we have had a busy year making connections in our community and meeting your needs. In the years ahead, we hope to build upon these connections by bringing you new programs, making improvements to our building, and offering outreach to connect the library to those who cannot come to us.

Your support is MORE IMPORTANT than ever! The library belongs to all of us, and with your help we can continue to serve as a place to connect, learn, and grow together.

# Thank you!

