

# Seymour Library Annual Report

## 2018

### Year in Review

I am so excited to share all the new ways that Seymour Library is innovating to bring you a 21<sup>st</sup> century library. Our mission is to connect our community, to expand opportunities, and to inspire curiosity. Seymour Library serves as our community's hub of learning and discovery by providing dynamic resources and experiences – and we are so proud to have introduced many new programs and services in 2018.

Right now, we are geared up for the creation of a new Learning Lab, which allocates space to help you acquire 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. We're renovating office space on the main floor to provide accessible space for small classes and lecture programs. We'll be sharing more information about the Learning Lab this fall when the renovation is complete.

Looking back at 2018, we were busy! We hosted a Humanities New York book discussion series, *Finding a Voice*, about women authors. We introduced our Civics @ Seymour program, a series of lectures and films providing attendees with an opportunity to learn and discuss foundational concepts about our form of government. The final program in the Civics series was our first Human Library™ where people from the community could come to Seymour Library and check out a Human Book for conversation.

We transitioned our traditional summer reading program to a summer learning program, with the goal of inspiring curiosity for all ages through experiential programs. We installed our new butterfly garden and based our summer learning programs around the idea of getting outside to explore and rediscover nature. We knew we were on to the right idea when we heard a little boy tell his grandma he needed to hurry to the library because he needed to find a book about butterflies.

But our investments, initiatives, and growth are not just focused on adding new services.

### Our Building

In 2018, we invested \$66,000 in a Physical Condition Assessment & Programmatic Report from Bell & Spina Architects to identify and prioritize the work that needs to be done to maintain our building over the next several years. This included reviewing the function and flow of our library, current space use and needs, and proposed planning to accommodate the anticipated future use of the library. Many of you attended the public meetings that took place as part of this assessment.

Some recommendations emphasize maintenance of the building, such as plumbing and roof repairs. Other recommendations include expanding much-needed program space and addressing ADA accessibility issues by building an addition. We're looking forward to exploring those recommendations more in 2019.

*Continued...*



*I have been to many public libraries. This one is by far the best. They offer so much for everyone!! You name it they have it...So many free events, classes, and activities, crafts, and much more for babies all the way up to teens! They really have everything covered. All the staff are more than happy to help and remember your name. Such a beautiful historical library with a beautiful outdoor garden. Perfect place to stop if you are from out of town!! The children's room is huge and so inviting you won't want to leave. Give Seymour Library a try and you won't regret it!*

*~ L.S., Google Review*

### Serving Our Community

We are committed to providing opportunities for learning and discovery that inspire you. In 2018, we offered over 1,000 programs and one-on-one sessions.

### Providing memorable experiences

This year our newly installed pollinator garden provided opportunities for discovering nature. We also added table-top game collections for adults and families as well as a Google Expeditions kit.

## Services 13, 962 Active Cardholders

➔ 91, 841 Annual Visits



One-on-One Tutorials  
540



➔ 14,188 People attended library programs  
8, 016 Adults, 6, 132 Children

1, 131 Library Programs  
874 Adult, 257 Children



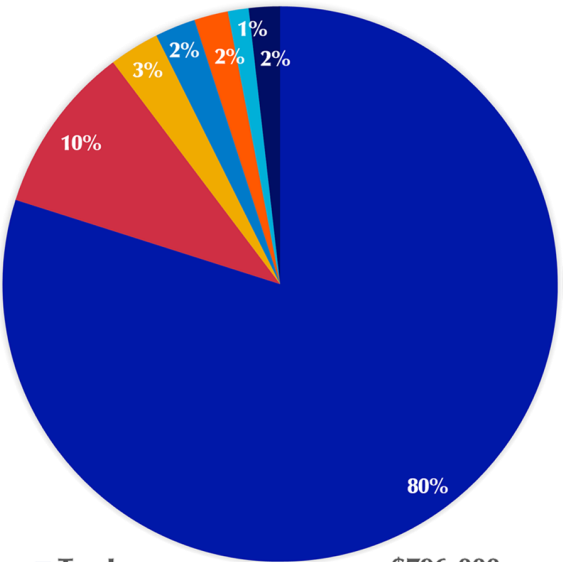
Patricia Messina, Owasco, *president*  
Ellen Dello Stritto, Fleming, *vice president*  
Dawn Taylor, Fleming  
Joseph Runkle, Sennett  
Ginny Kent, Auburn  
James Hanley, Auburn  
Kathleen Carnes, Sennett  
Larry Liberatore, Owasco  
Mike Trapani, treasurer  
Nancy Karpinski,  
*Seymour Library Foundation representative*  
Lisa Carr, ex-officio,  
*Seymour Library director*

## Board of Trustees



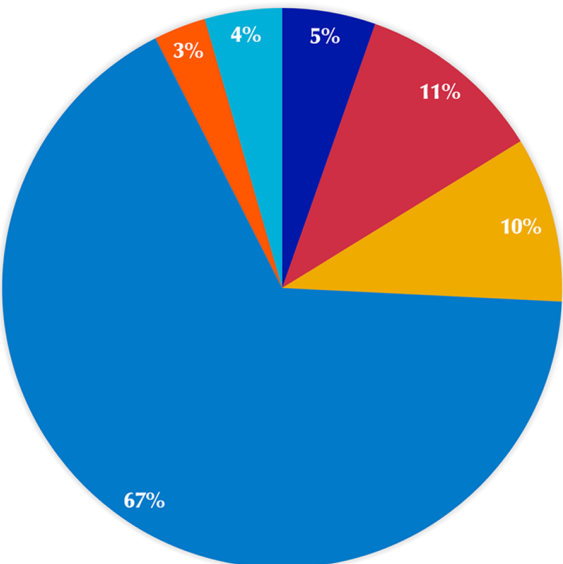
# 2018 Operating Budget

Income: \$996,163



■ Tax Levy.....	\$796,000
■ Library Foundation.....	\$97,768
■ Grants.....	\$29,116
■ State & Local Aid.....	\$23,518
■ Gifts & Donations.....	\$19,662
■ Fines, Fees, Misc.....	\$12,029
■ Released from restriction...	\$18,070

Expense: \$1,001,354



■ Administrative.....	\$53,994
■ Building & Grounds.....	\$108,383
■ Materials to circulate.....	\$95,738
■ Payroll & Related Expense.....	\$668,384
■ Programs & Services & Supplies....	\$30,182
■ Technology.....	\$44,673

## A Gift

In 2018, our library received an unexpected gift in the form of a bequest from community member Jeanne Dunn. Ms. Dunn left approximately \$1.25 million to Seymour Library, with a specific request that funds from her estate be used for the children’s section of the library. While we determine how best to use this gift to achieve Ms. Dunn’s wishes, we were able to use some funds from this bequest to pay the balance of a loan from our Library Foundation and to balance our 2019 budget.

## Funding Sources

As we look ahead, Seymour Library will request a small increase in the tax levy to provide \$18,000 that is necessary to continue to fund general operations for the 2020 budget.

Funding for library operations and projects comes from various sources. It is important to understand what tax dollars are used to support and what funds from gifts such as Ms. Dunn’s bequest can be used to support.

While we are able to use some of the bequest on operations if necessary, we need to honor Ms. Dunn’s wishes to invest in the growth and future development of our library, specifically the children’s section. Tax funding will be required to support library operations, such as staff salaries, the purchase of books and other lending materials, and building maintenance. Therefore, the Dunn bequest is not included in the operating budget shown on the left.

Should the Library Trustees decide to undertake a renovation or building improvement project, federal, state, and private grants will be pursued. The Board of Trustees ensures sound ethical and legal governance and financial management of the library. We are incredibly fortunate to have Trustees who make the good decisions to ensure that the Library has the resources needed to advance its mission well into the future.

## Looking Forward

We look forward to seeing the investments in both the necessary repairs of our beloved building, as well as the opportunities for growth that Ms. Dunn’s bequest will allow us to pursue. Most of all, we are honored to continue providing a unique, dynamic, and valuable resource to our patrons community-wide.

  
Lisa Carr, Library Director



*I love the welcoming, very neat and friendly atmosphere! With not much to do in the city, I appreciate having the library in the heart of Auburn with many activities for our children and the chance to borrow with no cost!*

~Jess, Library Love Letter

## Learn, Discover & Grow

This summer, we offered nearly 60 programs for learners of all ages with over 1,400 participants!

## Digital Discovery

Our library’s online services, technology workshops, and digital branch have continued to grow. This year, we added Kanopy, a movie streaming service, and increased our one-on-one help sessions. We look forward to expanding our services to meet the needs of our community.



*Your most borrowed eBook in 2018: Release Me.*

*The movie you streamed the most in 2018: Loving Vincent.*



Print Books  
101,170



Movies (DVD & Digital)  
29,844



Audiobooks & Music  
8,366



eBooks  
5,055

**Circulation** Over 150,000 checkouts