



BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INDIANOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY

October 14, 2025

5:30 PM

Indianola Public Library - Meeting Room B

Agenda

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Comment**
- 3. Agenda Approval**
- 4. Minutes Approval**
 - A. Sept. 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- 5. Trustee Continuing Education**
 - A. Book Challenges
- 6. Financial Reports**
 - A. Approve Monthly Claims
 - B. Review Financial Reports
- 7. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Library Building Update
- 8. New Business**
 - A. Policy Review: Circulation*
 - B. Policy Review: Public Comment*
- 9. Reports**
 - A. Friends of the Library
 - B. Director's Report
 - C. Library Statistics
- 10. Agenda Items for Next Meeting**
- 11. Trustee Comments**
- 12. Adjourn**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INDIANOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY

September 9, 2025

5:30 PM

Present: *Library Director - Michele Patrick, Dawn Goodale, Andrea Carlson, Sally VanDorin, Andy Brittingham, Val Craven, Randi Malone*

Guests: *Jake Meshke, Steve Richardson*

1. Call to Order

Andy called the meeting to order at 5:29pm.

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Agenda Approval

Andy suggested we modify the agenda to add an introduction of our new Library Board member and move "Unfinished Business" to our first order of business after approvals to accommodate our guests.

MOTION: *Cyd motioned to approve the agenda with the amendments outlined above. Sally seconded. Motion carried.*

4. Minutes Approval

The August 12, 2025 minutes were presented for approval.

MOTION: *Cyd motioned to approve the minutes. Val seconded. Motion carried.*

5. New Board Member Introduction

Andrea Carlson was introduced as the newest board member on the IPL board. Andrea shared about herself and expressed her gratitude to be part of the board.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Library Building Update

Indianola City Manager, Jake Meshke, and Mayor Steve Richardson, updated Library Board on the land swap agreement, noting a 6-month extension from the County, allowing the Library to remain in its current building until the end of 2028. The County has requested an adjustment to their chiller payment share based on anticipated occupancy.

The original concept plan for the library was based on a 6th Street and Iowa location, but due to the sale of that property, the library is back to the location within the 6th Street Sub Plan area.

City Manager Meshke emphasized the need for a wholistic plan for Indianola's many facility needs, to be developed with the City Council. He estimates a 9-month process for this plan, including an end-of-year planning session and 5-6 months for analysis. Randi Malone raised concerns about the timeline logistics, particularly regarding the land swap deal and the deadline for moving out of the current space. Meshke expressed hope for flexibility from the County on the deadline. Mayor Richardson encouraged speaking with City Council representatives. The Indianola Advocate Candidate Forum on October 14 was also mentioned as a potential venue for questions related to the Library Building.

7. Financial Reports

a. Approve Monthly Claims*

Michele presented the monthly claims to the Board. Nothing unusual for this month.

MOTION: *Andrea moves to approve the monthly claims. Dawn seconded. Motion carried.*

b. Review Financial Reports

Michele noted that all is well with the financial reports.

8. Reports

a. Director's Report

Michele gave her report. Andy asked if people are aware that Trunk or Treat is not happening at the Library this year. Michele noted that it has been published in the newsletter, but suggestions were made for it to also be posted on socials. Michele will forward to Allison for her to add to the Library Social Media this month. It was also suggested that we direct the public to other activities - such as the ICYF Trunk or Treat and the Costume Parade on the Square.

b. Library Statistics

Statistics are looking good. There is an update to be made to a typo in the August Program and Services stats, but otherwise things are on track.

c. Friends of the Library Report

Cameo Gioffredi has joined as the newest member of the Friends of the Library. The Friends report being bummed about the loss of the land at 6th Street and Iowa and have asked for advice on what to say when people ask about the plan for the Library. It was encouraged to tell people to ask the City Council for insight on the plan going forward.

9. Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

No items mentioned for the next meeting.

10. Trustee Comments

No Trustee Comments.

11. Adjourn

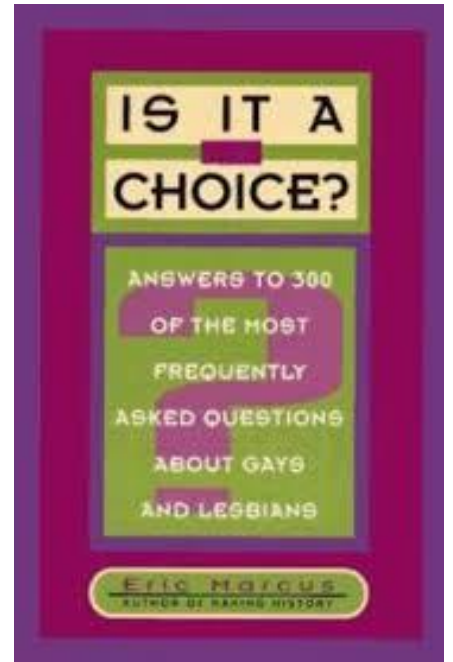
Motion to Adjourn by Andy at 6:55pm.

From IPL's Archives ...

The only formal book challenge at the Indianola Public Library occurred in 1993 regarding the book Is it a Choice, sparking a wave of letters from both supporters and opponents across the county.

The official complaint stated “I don’t think a book or books on the subject is of much concern to the Christian believing people of this community. If one person can cause a book to be placed in our library which is controversial, that’s too much.”

The library board ultimately voted to keep the book in the library’s collection.



Quotes from a few of the many letters received by the library board:

- “Having been born and reared in Iowa, I wish to God I had found that book on a library shelf when I was a teenager.”
- “Tell the Homos – Read God’s Bible”
- “I decided I’d better send [this letter] because it is important to speak up these days for freedom of speech. So many interest groups want to silence other’s opinions.”
- “The public library should be a place where a multitude of voices can be heard and I cannot understand why that important responsibility of public libraries should have to be threatened.”
- “As I thank you for defending our right to read, I am, ultimately, thanking you for protecting our right to think.”

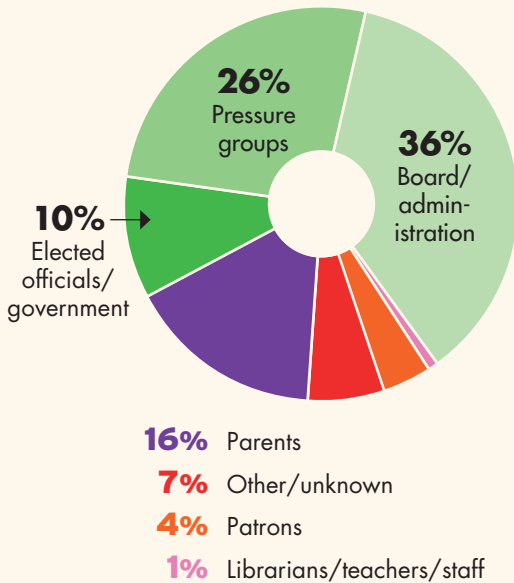
CENSORSHIP BY THE NUMBERS



The American Library Association documented another year in an unabating deluge of efforts to censor library materials in 2024, continuing an extremist campaign to suppress access to books that began in 2021. Last year, **2,452 unique titles** were challenged, the third highest number ever documented by ALA and significantly exceeding the annual average of 273 unique titles over the period from 2001–2020. [Learn more at ala.org/bbooks](https://ala.org/bbooks)

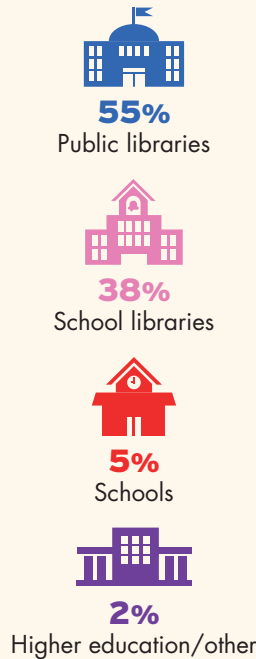
WHO CHALLENGES BOOKS?

Nearly **72% of censorship attempts** in 2024 were initiated by pressure groups and decision makers who have been swayed by them.



Statistics based on 5,813 book challenges.

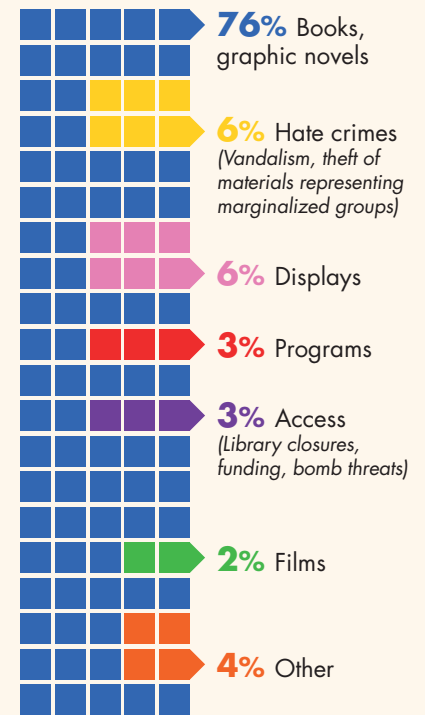
WHERE DO CHALLENGES TAKE PLACE?



Statistics based on 804 cases with known locations.

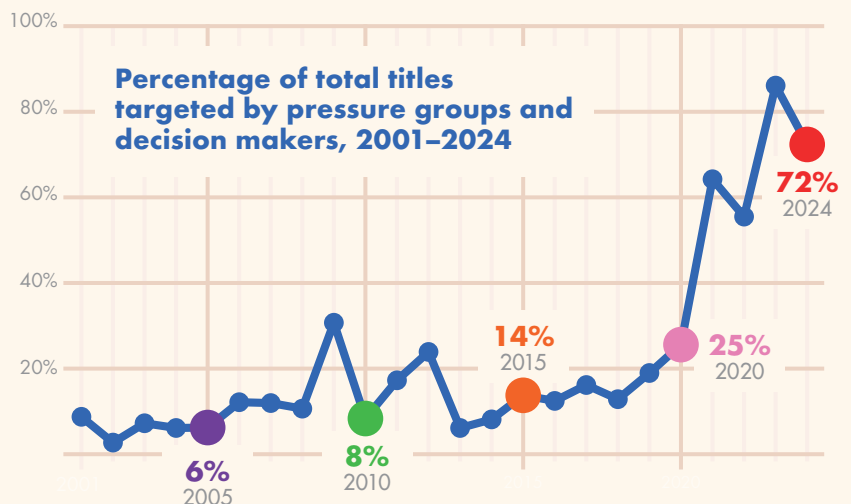
BOOKS AND BEYOND

ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom tracked **821 censorship attempts** in 2024. Here's the breakdown:



CENSORSHIP TRENDS

The majority of library censorship can be tied to organized campaigns. Pressure groups and the administrators, board members, and elected officials they influenced targeted 4,190 total titles in 2024. From 2001–2020, this constituency attempted to remove an average of 46 titles per year.



CENSORSHIP STATISTICS COMPILED BY:



OFFICE FOR Intellectual Freedom American Library Association



— PUBLIC LIBRARY —

Invoices for Board Meeting

October 14, 2025

Vendor	Amount	Description of services or goods
Amazon	\$3,927.74	Craft supplies, DVDs, TBR goodies, books, other materials and supplies
Baker and Taylor	\$462.46	Books
Baker and Taylor Entertainment	\$114.70	DVDs
Center Point Large Print	\$575.28	Large print books (Annual western subscription)
City of Indianola (IMU)	\$2,019.92	Utilities
Demco	\$81.89	book covering supplies and bookmarks
Dust Pros	\$1,696.50	Janitorial services, supplies
Iowa Water Management Co.	\$54.48	Monthly agreement
Kelsey McFarland	\$40.04	Mileage and expenses to Kids Lib
MidAmerican Energy	\$79.08	Natural Gas
Playaway Products	\$69.99	Playaway devices and Wonderbooks
TRM Disposal	\$125.00	Trash removal
Waste Management	\$20.00	Recycling tote (Sept and Oct)
Woosley Landscape and Mowing	\$190.00	Mowing services
Wells Fargo	\$2,442.60	See statements for details

Total: \$11,899.68

Approved

Date

Approved

Date

Budget Summary

September 2025

For Fiscal: 2025-2026 Period Ending: 09/30/2025

25% of budget year



Personnel	September	Year-to-Date	Budget	% Spent
Salaries	41,597.03	145,743.63	550,129.00	26.5%
Benefits	12,317.07	39,754.10	147,948.00	26.9%
TOTAL	53,914.10	185,497.73	698,077.00	26.6%

Collection	September	Year-to-Date	Budget	% Spent
Physical	8,536.82	10,523.55	56,000.00	18.8%
Digital	4,099.92	4,099.92	7,000.00	58.6%
Special	721.86	990.04	6,000.00	16.5%
TOTAL	13,358.60	15,613.51	69,000.00	22.6%

Operations	September	Year-to-Date	Budget	% Spent
Repair/Maint	1,937.41	3,287.20	20,000.00	16.4%
Computer/IT	408.45	30,677.60	36,000.00	85.2%
Operations	15,121.57	18,850.33	89,414.00	21.1%
TOTAL	17,467.43	52,815.13	145,414.00	21.1%

TOTAL TO DATE	September	Year-to-Date	Budget	% Spent
	84,740.13	253,926.37	912,491.00	27.8%

Revenue

September 2025

For Fiscal: 2025-2026 Period Ending: 09/30/2025

25% of budget year



		Current Total Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Variance	Percent Received
041-4100-40000	Property Taxes	681,945.08	29,518.78	32,001.14	(649,943.94)	5%
041-4100-44700	Library Service Reimbursements	82,000.00	0.00	0.00	(82,000.00)	0%
041-4100-47400	Misc Sales	4,000.00	437.35	1,260.60	(2,739.40)	32%
041-4100-47641	Library Fines	3,000.00	282.70	806.89	(2,193.11)	27%
041-4100-49403	Transfer In--T&A PROP TAX	143,148.00	0.00	512.69	(142,635.31)	0%
Revenue Total:		914,093.08	30,238.83	34,581.32	(879,511.76)	3.78%

Expenditures

September 2025

For Fiscal: 2025-2026 Period Ending: 09/30/2025

25% of budget year



		Current Total Budget	Period Activity	Fiscal Activity	Variance	Percent Used
041-4100-60110	Salaries/Wages	138,786.00	10,788.22	37,603.90	117,364.43	27.1%
041-4100-60130	Salaries/Wages	411,343.00	30,808.81	108,139.73	349,561.49	26.3%
041-4100-61100	FICA	42,407.00	3,098.24	10,858.18	36,207.96	25.6%
041-4100-61300	IPERS	51,501.00	3,883.18	13,605.67	43,733.78	26.4%
041-4100-61420	Deferred Comp-457	4,800.00	400.00	1,200.00	4,000.00	25.0%
041-4100-61430	Employee Assistance Program	300.00	300.00	300.00	0.00	100.0%
041-4100-61440	Wellness Program	360.00	0.00	0.00	360.00	0.0%
041-4100-61500	Health Insurance	32,529.00	3,584.36	10,753.08	25,360.28	33.1%
041-4100-61501	Dental Insurance	3,303.00	331.85	817.43	2,485.57	24.7%
041-4100-61502	Vision Insurance	312.00	43.52	98.16	213.84	31.5%
041-4100-61503	HSA Expense	7,203.00	138.45	830.70	6,372.30	11.5%
041-4100-61550	Life Insurance/ADD/LTD/STD	4,833.00	380.89	1,134.30	3,698.70	23.5%
041-4100-61599	Workers' Comp Insurance	400.00	156.58	156.58	243.42	39.1%
041-4100-62100	Membership Dues/Subscriptions	860.00	0.00	0.00	860.00	0.0%
041-4100-62300	Education/Training	1,000.00	12.97	12.97	987.03	1.3%
041-4100-62700	Mileage	450.00	84.00	84.00	366.00	18.7%
041-4100-63100	Repair/Maint	20,000.00	1,937.41	3,287.20	16,712.80	16.4%
041-4100-63710	Utilities	28,000.00	6421.45	6,471.69	21,528.31	23.1%
041-4100-64020	Advertising & Legal Notices	1,500.00	0.00	139.16	1,360.84	9.3%
041-4100-64082	Insurance--General Liability	6,086.10	0.00	0.00	6,086.10	0.0%
041-4100-64083	Insurance--Property	9,808.18	0.00	0.00	9,808.18	0.0%
041-4100-64084	Insurance--Boiler/Machinery	635.00	0.00	563.00	72.00	88.7%
041-4100-64090	Janitorial Services	23,000.00	3,544.75	5,414.25	17,585.75	23.5%
041-4100-64990	Misc Contractual	1,000.00	4534.61	5,057.02	(4,057.02)	505.7%
041-4100-65020	Library Books & Periodicals	56,000.00	8,536.82	10,523.55	45,476.45	18.8%
041-4100-65021	Digital Materials	7,000.00	4099.92	4,099.92	2,900.08	58.6%
041-4100-65022	Special Collections	6,000.00	721.86	990.04	5,009.96	16.5%
041-4100-65060	Office Supplies	3,000.00	210.32	221.75	2,778.25	7.4%
041-4100-65070	Materials/Supplies	4,000.00	78.48	248.76	3,751.24	6.2%
041-4100-65079	Materials/Supplies--Program	7,800.00	234.99	410.87	7,389.13	5.3%
041-4100-65080	Postage	1,375.00	0.00	226.86	1,148.14	16.5%
041-4100-65990	Miscellaneous	900.00	0.00	0.00	900.00	0.0%
041-4100-67240	Computer Hardware/Software	36,000.00	408.45	30,677.60	5,322.40	85.2%
Expense Total:		912,491.28	84,740.13	253,926.37	735,587.41	27.8%

Library Special Revenue

September 2025

For Fiscal: 2025-2026 Period Ending: 09/30/2025

25% of budget year



Revenue Acct	Expense Acct	August	YTD Revenue	YTD Expenditures
141-4100-44302	141-4100-65025	Enrich Iowa	5,286.79	1,703.00
141-4100-47050	141-4100-65070/65020	Donations/Memorials/Grants	1,108.89	531.00
141-4100-45040/47051	141-4100-65023/65024	Friends of the Library	4,809.65	4,708.20
TOTAL			11,205.33	6,942.20

MEMO



To: Library Board of Trustees
From: Michele Patrick, Library Director
Date: October 2025
Subject: Library Building Update

The Library Steering Committee continues to work with OPN Architects on a design for a new building. Meetings are scheduled through the fall with completion of the concept design expected mid-January.

MEMO



To: Library Board of Trustees
From: Michele Patrick, Library Director
Date: October 2025
Subject: Circulation Policy

Suggested changes to the Circulation Policy are:

- Eliminating overdue fines for Library of Things items
- Instituting a reactivation fee for deactivated hotspots
- Making minor wording changes for clarity, with no change in meaning

Context:

Library hotspots are a high-demand item within the Library of Things and are frequently returned late. They have been the primary reason overdue fines remained in place for Library of Things items after fines were eliminated for other materials. Under the current policy, a fine of \$0.50 per day is assessed for up to \$5.00. Once a hotspot has been billed (35 days overdue) the hotspot is deactivated—a process that requires coordination with the service provider—and remains inactive until it is returned.

What this Change Achieves:

It streamlines the Circulation Policy by eliminating all overdue fines while maintaining a financial incentive for returning hotspots on time.

Circulation Policy

Loan Periods, Check Out Limits, ~~and Fines~~

Material Type	Checkout Limits (per card)	Loan Period	Renewals	Fines
Books, magazines, and audiobooks	None	3 weeks	Two	None
Movies	Five	1 week	Two	None
Board Games	Five	1 week	Two	None
Puzzles	Five	3 weeks	Two	None
Video Games AND Stem Kits	Two	1 week	Two	None
Library of Things	Two	1 week	Two	\$.50/day

~~Fines will be assessed daily until the item is returned, up to a maximum fine of \$5.00 or the cost of the item, whichever is less.~~

Suspended Privileges

~~Accounts with materials overdue by seven or more days will be frozen until all overdue items are renewed, returned, or purchased in the case of loss or damage.~~

Accounts with materials overdue by seven days or more will be suspended until all overdue items are renewed, returned, or paid for if lost or damaged

~~Fines be under~~ Patron accounts must owe less than \$5.00 to check out.

Notices

Notices are sent when an item is one day overdue, seven days overdue, and 21 days overdue. A final notice is sent when an item is 35 days overdue.

Billed Items

Accounts with materials overdue 35 days will be billed for the cost of replacing the items, up to \$80.00. This bill is final. Accounts will be suspended until the bill is paid.

Renewals

If an item is eligible for renewal, the library will automatically renew the item for the patron at the due date. Items will not renew once they have reached the maximum number of renewals. Interlibrary Loan items, magazines, and book club sets are not eligible for automatic renewals.

Holding Items

If an item is checked out, a hold may be placed on it and the patron will be notified when it is available. ~~A patron must have a library account before a hold can be placed. A valid library account is required to place a hold.~~

~~In addition, Additionally, items not owned by the library may be requested through interlibrary loan. A fee is charged for interlibrary loan items is assessed if the item is located and must be paid before the item can be checked out. prior to checking out any interlibrary loan materials.~~

Reference

The genealogy reference collection does not circulate.

Home Delivery

At Home Delivery is provided to those people living within the corporate city limits of Indianola, who are unable to come to the library on their own due to a disability, either long- or short-term. Books are delivered to patrons on a regular basis.

Copying Services

A copy machine and computer printer are provided for use by the public at 15¢ per copy. Patrons are responsible for all items printed. Patrons are responsible for all items printed.

Faxing Services

Patrons may use the library's fax machine to send faxes at no charge. Incoming faxes are not accepted.

Digital Materials

The library offers a collection of digital materials to patrons with valid library cards. Some digital materials are limited to patrons who reside in the city limits of Indianola or rural Warren County. The number of items checked out per patron is limited and checkout periods vary.

Library of Things

Library of Things items are checked in by two library staff members at the time they are returned. ~~Patrons sign an agreement form confirming that all pieces of the item are present, undamaged, and clean at the time of checkout.~~ At checkout, patrons receive an inventory list detailing all components of the item and are responsible for any missing or damaged parts upon return. Replacement costs for Library of Things items are based on the original purchase price, up to a maximum of \$80.00. Hotspots not returned by the due date will be deactivated, and a \$5.00 reactivation fee will be added to the patron's account. Borrowers should clean items before they are returned or a small cleaning fee ranging from \$2.00-\$5.00 may be charged.

Adopted 8/99; Revised 12/03; Revised 01/04; Revised 02/07; Revised 02/14; Revised 4/17; Revised 12/18;
Revised 5/19; Revised 6/19; Revised 6/21; Revised 3/22; 5/22; 10/22; 12/22; 3/23; 11/23; 5/25

Circulation Policy – CLEAN COPY

Loan Periods and Check Out Limits

Material Type	Checkout Limits (per card)	Loan Period	Renewals
Books, magazines, and audiobooks	No limit	3 weeks	Two
Movies and board games	Five	1 week	Two
Puzzles	Five	3 weeks	Two
Video games, STEM kits, and Library of Things	Two	1 week	Two

Suspended Privileges

Accounts with materials overdue by seven days or more will be suspended until all overdue items are renewed, returned, or paid for if lost or damaged

Patron accounts must owe less than \$5.00 to check out.

Notices

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Adopted 8/99; Revised 12/03; Revised 01/04; Revised 02/07; Revised 02/14; Revised 4/17; Revised 12/18;
Revised 5/19; Revised 6/19; Revised 6/21; Revised 3/22; 5/22; 10/22; 12/22; 3/23; 11/23; 5/25

MEMO



To: Library Board of Trustees
From: Michele Patrick, Library Director
Date: October 2024
Subject: Review of Public Comment Policy

Recommendation

No changes to the Public Comment Policy.

Context

Adopted in 2022, the Public Comment Policy has not yet been used in a library board meeting, but it closely mirrors the city council's policy, which appears to work well during council meetings.

Public Comment Policy

During the Public Comment agenda item of a Library Board meeting, members of the public may address the Library Board on any subject over which the Library Board has the authority to act.

- Individuals shall be limited to three minutes speaking time.
- A maximum of twenty minutes per meeting will be set aside for Public Comment, unless additional time is granted by the presiding officer. A majority vote of the Trustees may extend or decrease the time limitations on this rule.
- Preference will be given to individuals who did not speak at the previous meeting's Public Comment.
- Individuals may not speak more than once during Public Comment.
- All remarks shall be addressed to the Board as a whole and not to an individual Trustee or Library staff member.

Any individual addressing the Library Board will be asked by the presiding officer to clearly state their name and address prior to speaking so that their name may be accurately recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Residents may submit online public comment cards. Cards must be submitted at least 30 minutes prior to the meeting and will be distributed to board members. Submitted comment cards are public record.

Group Presentations

Organized groups that wish to make a presentation longer than the time allowed will be required to contact the presiding officer prior to the meeting and be granted permission by the presiding officer.

Further Action

Matters presented during Public Comment which require further investigation or information shall be referred to library staff, and if the Library Board determines that action is required, the item may be placed on a future agenda.

Director's Report



October 2025

Annual Report

The library's annual report for FY25 is attached. Highlights include record circulation, the introduction of the popular STEM kits for kids, and an increase in the door count.



Library Closed Oct. 13-15 for Repairs

The library will be closed October 13–15 to complete permanent repairs to the skylight. This work finalizes a process that began in June, when three glass panels and a side window were damaged, forcing a week-long closure and the cancellation of 18 programs. Temporary fixes allowed the library to reopen at the time, but the final repairs are now scheduled for later this month.

Ballet Des Moines & IPL

Indianola Public Library cardholders age 7 and older are eligible to receive a free ticket to performances by the Ballet Des Moines this year. The program is in partnership with the Iowa Library Association, the Des Moines Public Library, and the Des Moines Performing Arts. Details are on the library's website.

Banned Books Week

The library highlighted Banned Books Week with a display of frequently challenged books.



ANNUAL REPORT

FY-2025





Library Board of Trustees

Andrew Brittingham, President

Randi Malone, Vice President

Valerie Craven

Cyd Dyer

Dawn Goodale

Teresa Swan Tuite

Sally Van Dorin

ABOUT THE LIBRARY

For **141 years**, the Indianola Public Library has proudly served the community — connecting residents to information and to one another, empowering them to learn, enjoy, and thrive.

Mission

We open doors for curious minds.

Vision

IPL anticipates, innovates, and inspires.

Anticipates: We foster trust and communication to identify the needs, wants, and aspirations of our community.

Innovates: We experiment and push expectations with programs and services designed for the people we serve.

Inspires: We encourage discovery, stimulate growth, and cultivate meaningful experiences and relationships.



LIBRARY COLLECTIONS



Collections

The library provides collections to serve the educational needs and diverse interests of the community. In addition to books, the library offers games, puzzles, DVDs, video games, local history, ebooks, digital magazines, streaming videos, and a variety of Library of Things items.

214,709
Number of items

167,255
digital items

47,454
physical items

1,628

IPL Bridges book users

Digital Offerings

The library's digital collection includes books, audiobooks, and magazines through the state-wide consortium Bridges. In FY25, 1,628 IPL patrons checked out digital items, making the library the **10th biggest user of Bridges** in the state of Iowa (503 participating libraries).

Streaming Videos

The library offers access to over 35,000 movies, documentaries, and children's educational shows through Kanopy streaming. In FY25 library users downloaded 2,169 videos.

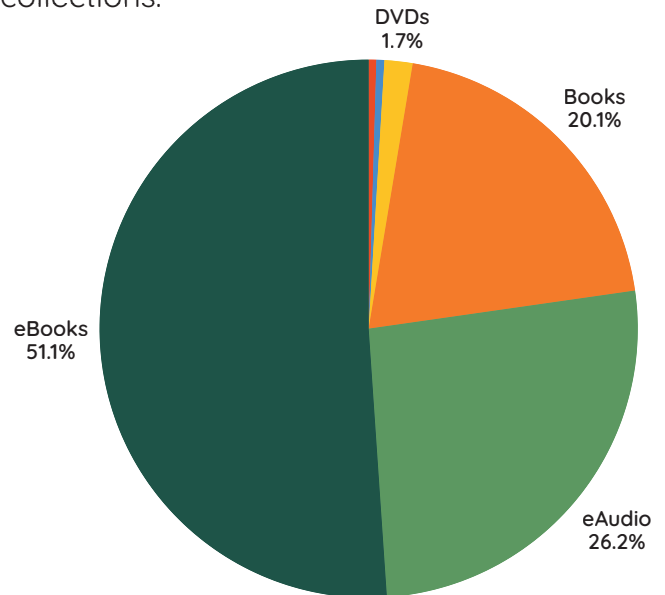
STEM Kits

New in FY25 were 58 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) kits added to the children's collection.



Collection Size

The library's collection included 214,709 items in FY25. Due to space constraints, this is an ever-shifting collection in which less popular collections make room for more in-demand collections.



Special Collections

The library's special collections include games, puzzles, and Library of Things. Children's games and puzzles were the most popular of this group.



LIBRARY USE



Breaking Records

For the third consecutive year, library circulation and use has reached record levels, making FY25 the busiest year in the library's 141-year history.

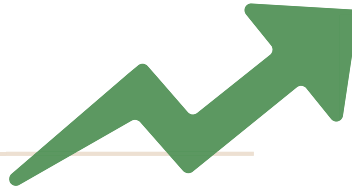
82,659

Door count

In FY25, a total of 82,659 people visited the library. June and July were the busiest months of the year with over 17,750 visits in those two months alone.

204,792

Items borrowed

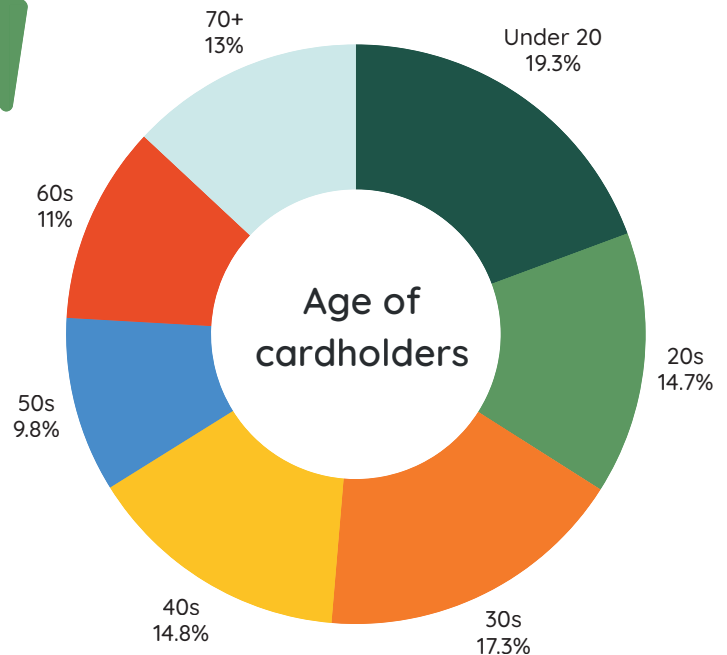


Record Circulation

The library had the **highest circulation in its 141 year history** in FY25 with a record 204,792 checkouts. This was an 8% increase over FY24, which held the previous record.

Popularity

Although digital materials make up the largest number of items in the library's collection, patrons prefer physical items. Physical items such as books account for 75% of checkouts.



8,745

Library Card Holders

The library has 8,745 active card holders. Children and those in their 30s are the largest groups of library users.

The library primarily serves Indianola residents, who account for 68% of library cardholders, while rural Warren County residents make up 23%.

Books

and other physical items

Ebooks

and other digital items

LIBRARY SERVICES

Ask us!

3,900

Reference questions answered

Services Offered

The library offers many free services to patrons, including test proctoring, research assistance, and computer help.

Questions Answered

Librarians offer computer assistance and answer hundreds of questions each week.

Local History Research

The library provides access to Indianola newspapers from 1850-present along with a variety of local history research resources.

Free Notary Services

In FY25, the library began offering free notary services.

Free Test Proctoring

The library provides free test proctoring for students.

897

Books Delivered

Home Delivery

As part of the library's long-running Home Delivery Service, volunteers made over 50 home visits, delivering 897 books to homebound Indianola residents.

Community Partnerships

The library actively partners with community organizations to provide essential services to residents. Initiatives include a diaper donation box, a food pantry refrigerator in collaboration with Helping Hand, and the "I Have a Need" pantry, which offers free hygiene products for teens.

11,277

Computer Sessions

7,682

wireless sessions

3,595

computer sessions

Public Computers

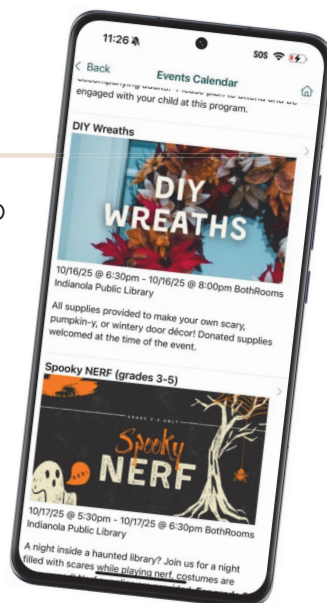
Patrons used 7,682 wireless sessions on personal devices along with 3,595 sessions using the library's six public computers. The library also offers printing, scanning, and faxing for the public.

48,152

Website Hits

The library's mobile app continues to be popular with 3,439 unique users and 26,147 page views.

The library's website also sees sizable online traffic with 48,152 hits in FY25.



LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Programs Offered

The library offers programs for all ages, such as preschool storytimes, teen hangouts, and escape rooms for adults.

16,760

Program Attendance

Library Programs

In FY25, the library hosted 614 programs with a total attendance of 16,760.

In addition to on-site programming, the library actively engages with the community by offering programs at every Indianola elementary school, as well as the middle school, high school, local private schools, and community preschools.

Adventure Passes

Indianola residents checked out 271 free family passes to the Blank Park Zoo, Science Center of Iowa, Des Moines Children's Museum, and Botanical Gardens of Des Moines through the library's Adventure Pass program.

Subscription Boxes

One of the library's more unique services is its personalized subscription boxes, curated by librarians based on each patron's reading preferences. In FY25, 560 individual subscription boxes were created and distributed.



Seed Library

The Seed Library has more than 100 different types of fruit, flower, and vegetable seeds available for free. Patrons can donate seeds back to the Seed Library at harvest.

Book Walk

The year-round children's book walk is a popular feature on the library lawn, showcasing 21 different interactive stories last year.



LIBRARY BUILDING



Library Building

Built in 1984, the library building is 11,250 sq. feet. It is a one-story building with one program/meeting room and a partial basement. Its defining feature is a skylight that divides the building to create an atrium.

In FY25, the building was open seven days a week for a total of 64 hours each week.

Major Repair

In June 2025, three skylight panels and a side window were damaged, resulting in a seven-day closure and the cancellation of 18 programs during the peak of the summer programs. Repairs are estimated to cost over \$22,000 and will be completed in FY26.



FY25 Building Expenses

Janitorial Services	\$25,152
Utilities	\$17,713
Routine Maintenance	\$7,741
Insurance	\$15,400
Repairs	\$5,181
Landscaping and Lawn Care...	\$1,830

Total: \$73,017





Circulation

September 2025

Print	SEP 2023	SEP 2024	SEP 2025	YTD-FY24	YTD-FY25	YTD-FY26
Adults	3,839	3,629	3,558	12,437	12,047	11,086
Teens	478	528	457	1,962	1,855	1,669
Children	4,375	5,802	5,895	16,248	19,248	19,278
Total	8,692	9,959	9,910	30,647	33,150	32,033

Special	SEP 2023	SEP 2024	SEP 2025	YTD-FY24	YTD-FY25	YTD-FY26
DVDs & Video Games	1,404	1,578	1,744	5,038	5,515	6,006
Magazines	129	168	92	438	444	312
Audiobooks	185	76	111	510	335	325
Games & Puzzles	493	567	647	1,798	2,280	2,421
Library of Things	76	60	100	214	246	234
STEM Kits	NA	4	174	NA	4	529
Total	2,287	2,453	2,868	7,998	8,820	9,827

Digital	SEP 2023	SEP 2024	SEP 2025	YTD-FY24	YTD-FY25	YTD-FY26
Ebooks	1,694	1,807	1,629	5,344	5,538	5,214
Eaudio books	1,592	1,888	2,400	4,728	5,722	7,206
Digital Magazines	117	235	398	217	653	1,175
Streaming Videos	146	151	139	463	460	749
Total	3,549	4,081	4,566	10,752	12,373	14,344

TOTAL TO DATE	SEP 2023	SEP 2024	SEP 2025	YTD-FY24	YTD-FY25	YTD-FY26
	14,528	16,493	17,344	49,397	54,343	56,204

Programs and Services



August 2025

Program Attendance	AUG 2023	AUG 2024	AUG 2025	YTD-FY24	YTD-FY25	YTD-FY26
Adults	334	38	16	477	179	150
Teens	0	0	43	108	122	158
Children	0	0	0	920	976	816
Library Meetings	21	7	21	29	12	38
Total	355	45	80	1,534	1,289	1,162

Number of Programs	AUG 2023	AUG 2024	AUG 2025	YTD-FY24	YTD-FY25	YTD-FY26
Adults	12	5	5	23	18	15
Teens	0	0	2	5	7	7
Children	0	0	0	24	28	21
Total	12	5	7	52	53	43

User Statistics	AUG 2023	AUG 2024	AUG 2025	YTD-FY24	YTD-FY25	YTD-FY26
New Library Cards	101	95	71	219	209	181
Door Count	7,758	6,814	6,748	16,019	16,034	15,039
Number of Home Deliveries	11	6	4	21	12	10
Home Delivery Checkouts	115	98	33	269	214	122
ILL Items Loaned	15	25	30	41	40	65

Computer Usage	AUG 2023	AUG 2024	AUG 2025	YTD-FY24	YTD-FY25	YTD-FY26
Public Computers	456	286	294	785	700	617
WiFi Sessions	683	603	606	1,597	1,344	1,319
WiFi Unique Users	290	254	279	604	554	600
IPL App Launches	1,920	2,005	2,316	4,011	4,493	4,922
App Page Views	2,127	2,766	3,002	4,532	6,103	6,564

Meeting Room Usage	AUG 2023	AUG 2024	AUG 2025	YTD-FY24	YTD-FY25	YTD-FY26
Number of Meetings	16	14	17	17	14	17
Meeting Attendance	80	70	60	88	70	60



YTD Activity Summary

SEPTEMBER 2025

