

## MEETING NOTICE

DATE: January 24, 2025  
TO: Library Board, Mayor, City Clerk, and City Attorney  
FROM: Ryan Wieber, Library Director  
SUBJECT: Library Board Meeting

DATE AND PLACE OF MEETING: **Tuesday, January 28, 2025** (*rescheduled from Jan 21, 2025*)  
Bennett Martin Public Library  
136 S. 14<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lincoln, NE 68508

STARTING TIME OF MEETING: 8:00 a.m.  
CHAIR OF MEETING: Joe Shaw, President  
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Monthly Business Meeting

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### AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Announcement of Open Meetings Law
2. Approval of Agenda\*
3. Public Comment on Agenda Items
4. Approval of December 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes\*
5. Standing Committee Reports
  - a. Committee on Administration
  - b. Committee on Buildings and Grounds
  - c. Committee on Finance
    - i. Approval of Monthly Recap of Expenditures for December 2024\*
  - d. Committee on Technology
6. Special Committee Reports
  - a. Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries Executive Director Report
7. New Business
  - a. Approval of Roster of Foundation for LCL Board Candidates\*
  - b. Approval of Resolution in Honor of Gail McNair\*
  - c. E-content Overview Report: Rebecca Aracena, Support Services Coordinator
8. President's Report
9. Assistant Library Director's Report
10. Library Director's Report
11. Public Comment – Anyone wishing to address the board on a matter not on this agenda may do so at this time.

\*Action Item

*Proposed agenda kept continually current and available for inspection at the Administrative Office of the Bennett Martin Public Library. The Board shall have the right to modify the agenda at said public meeting when convened.*

**ACCOMMODATION NOTICE** The City of Lincoln complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 guidelines. Ensuring the public's access to and participating in public meetings is a priority for the City of Lincoln. In the event you are in need of a reasonable accommodation in order to attend or participate in a public meeting conducted by the City of Lincoln, please contact the Lincoln Commission on Human Rights at 402-441-7624, or the City Ombudsman at 402-441-7511, as soon as possible before the scheduled meeting date in order to make your request. *Open Meetings Act of the State of Nebraska posted in meeting room.*

# Library Board Meeting Minutes

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

BENNETT MARTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

## BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Joe Shaw, Lisa Hale, Morgan Gerteisen, Patty Beutler, present. A quorum was present. Jackie Ostrowicki, Dan Sloan and Terri Dunlap, Nichole Bogen, absent.

## CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSTING OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT

President Shaw called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and announced the Open Meetings Law was posted and available for review.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Shaw noted that the Agenda/Meeting Notice was posted according to the Open Meetings Act of the State of Nebraska. Shaw noted that two of the present Board members had not attended last month's meeting, so in order to have a quorum vote, the minutes would be held for approval until the January meeting.

## PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No Public Comment.

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Committee on Administration

No report

### Committee on Buildings and Grounds

No report – quarterly meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, December 18.

### Committee on Finance

#### Approval of Monthly Recap of Expenditures for November, 2024

Treasurer Hale shared that the total Operational expenditures were \$806,670.15. Expenditures from other funds totaled \$843,214.21 for Total Expenditures of \$843,214.21. Hale moved approval of the report. Sloan seconded. Bogen arrived at this time. There was no discussion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Beutler, Shaw, Gerteisen, Hale – AYE. Motion carried 4-0.

### Committee on Technology

Wieber reported that the committee met and reviewed the technology plan, and current and upcoming projects. Replacement of Public Access Computers (PACs) is in the works, replacement of access points throughout the system is upcoming. The budget is currently partly operational and partly Keno funds. The next Technology meeting will be held on February 26 at noon via Zoom.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Foundation Executive Director Report

Gail McNair was absent – no report.

## One Book One Lincoln (OBOL) Annual Report

Bennett Martin Librarian Jen Jackson reported this was an exciting year. Two committee members had to bow out early on. The remaining, smaller committee was full of great people with great new members who happily participated in creating videos for the top ten books. The big highlight was having winning author, Amanda Peters here. Thanks to all who participated with the Foundation for getting her here. Patrons are requesting access to the recorded event, which is still in process. Watching the voting and seeing a runaway hit was exciting. She received good feedback on what folks liked and didn't, as per the impact section of report. Feedback came via the voting site and also one-on-one at book group events.

Wieber observed that E-audio circulation is considerably higher than e-books. Jackson noted that she educates readers that while digital books do return themselves, if you finish and return the item promptly, folks on the holds list appreciate it. Hale noted the 2024 votes and circ totals are down from last year. Jackson noted a couple of factors impacting the top three. *North Woods* is written in an unusual format – following the setting and not the characters. Good feedback was received, but also, lots of folks couldn't get into it. *Little Devils in America* was another atypical format, being essays rather than a novel. While many committee members were big proponents of the book, it didn't circulate well. Folks who did like it, really liked it.

Hale asked about the statistics on length of holds. Library Coordinator, Rebecca Aracena shared that the top three titles weren't available on Hoopla this year – which is the streaming (simultaneous access) service. For previous years, when they were available, it really boosted the number. Where the titles are available is dependent on publishers. The normal Overdrive hold ratio is reduced for OBOL, for the regular collection, the ratio is 6 holds to 1 copy and for e-audio 8.5 holds to 1 title. Because demand is so high for the OBOL titles, the ratio is reduced to 4-1 on e-books, and 6-1 on e-audio. Fewer formats available results in longer holds and less circulation. Discussion followed.

Jackson shared recommendations for next year will include trimming the number of events offered during the summer. The goal will be for fewer events with higher turnout. Marketing strategies such as using a podcast to promote events is being considered. She reminded the Board that three new committee members are needed. The application for new members is live on the website through January 5, 2025. Submissions for the 2025 titles are being accepted until January 31<sup>st</sup>. Board members commended Jackson, the OBOL committee and LCL staff for their hard work to put on the event.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries (FLCL) and Lincoln City Libraries (LCL) Mutual Agreement

Director Wieber noted this agreement lays out each party's responsibilities. The Foundation's charge, as a 501c3 is to act as the fundraiser and grant submission agent for LCL. Changes this year were limited to dates. Hale moved approval. Beutler seconded. There was no further discussion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Shaw, Gerteisen, Hale, Beutler – AYE. Motion carried 4-0.

### FLCL License Agreement for Office Space

Wieber noted the physical address is required for the Foundation's function. The only change this year was the change of office space from Bennett Martin to Walt branch, at the same \$1,200/month rental rate. Walt was chosen as they are an active hub of Foundation volunteers and they are able to utilize the former police substation. Hale moved approval. Gerteisen seconded. There was no further discussion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Shaw, Gerteisen, Hale, Beutler – AYE. Motion carried 4-0.

### FLCL Book Sale Agreement

Wieber shared that the only changes in the agreement are updating the dates. Per the agreement, sales can be of any type – large, small or pop-up. He noted that the two-year experiment of holding the smaller pop-up sales at the branches

has proven to be a significant drain on volunteers, and has not been as profitable as hoped. They will be paused for the time being. FLCL is still the agent for sales, and income from Thriftbooks is significant and those sales will be continued. For any sale, FLCL receives 10% for costs. Hale moved approval. Beutler seconded. There was no further discussion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Shaw, Gerteisen, Hale, Beutler – AYE. Motion carried 4-0.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Shaw had no report.

## ASSISTANT LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Assistant Director Glaesemann shared a significantly reduced list of vacancies compared to previous months. Vacancies include the 20-hour Read Aloud Librarian position at Bennett Martin, to be posted after the new year; the 20-hour Heritage Room Curator position which will post before the end of December; Gere is interviewing today for a 30-hour Library Service Assistant and Eiseley has a 20-hour position they are preparing to post.

She shared plans to try out desktop-style Hearing Loops at the service desks. Hearing Loops are magnetic wireless coils that send sound directly to hearing aids or to headphones if the patron needs assistance without using hearing aids. Beutler asked about the cost of the devices, Glaesemann noted the desktop devices are approximately \$300 each. Discussion followed.

## LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

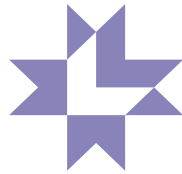
Director Wieber shared a sample of the good statistics from November. While physical circulation is down 6%, digital circulation is up 9%. Computer use is up 5%, program attendance is up 10% and meeting room use is up 3%. The increase in attendance and use indicates folks are making active use of libraries for things other than checking out physical books. A sampling of the services offered at LCL include job searches, resume building, how to use LCL's databases, and using the library as a fun space with storytimes and youth programming. Storytime statistics continue to be excellent and Outreach is benefiting from the hard work of all staff who do outreach, including Coordinator Ali Bousquet.

He announced that on January 28<sup>th</sup>, Eiseley will host a new piece of artwork on a five-year loan from the Museum of Nebraska Art at Kearney. The artist responsible for the piece requested it be placed at Eiseley branch. He also shared that the Foundation will look to the Board to co-plan a going away event for their outgoing Director.

President Shaw noted Wieber's announcement that while LCL has once again qualified for Gold level accreditation from the Nebraska Real Estate Commission, the one statistic on which LCL scored extremely low was the number of staff. Wieber shared that LCL's number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff has remained static for the past 15+ years at 107 FTEs. The other comparably-sized library systems in the Commission's survey had an average number of 125 FTE's, and the median number is 139. Shaw expressed the hope that the FLCL can help find funding specifically for additional staff. Discussion followed.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 a.m.



LINCOLN

City Libraries

## **Memo to the Library Board**

### **January 2025**

**Please note:** this month's Board meeting is at **Bennett Martin Library, at 8am.**

**FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET:** The actual percent of budget expended year to date is 32.92%, compared to the budgeted 33.33%. Annual adjusted expenditures to date are 34.00%.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Committee on Administration**

The Committee is meeting on 1/20/2025 to review operational updates.

#### **Committee on Buildings and Grounds**

The Committee met on January 6 to review recent and upcoming projects.

#### **Committee on Technology**

There was no meeting in December.

#### **Committee on Finance**

##### *\*Approval of Monthly Recap of Expenditures—Action Item*

Reports are attached. Treasurer Lisa Hale will bring forward a motion to approve. The Committee's next scheduled meeting is January 29 at 12pm on zoom. We'll discuss Keno funding and the recently-created budgets for various functions including programming, furnishings, and marketing.

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Foundation Executive Director Report:** Gail McNair

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. *\*Approval of Roster of FLCL Board Member Candidates*

Please see the slate of candidates in your packet attachments. Per the FLCL bylaws, the Library Board reviews and considers for approval these candidates.

b. *Approval of Resolution in Honor of Gail McNair\**

This is Gail McNair's last month of service to the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries, and thus, her last official Library Board Meeting, too. We are grateful for her longtime contributions to the Foundation and the Library. Her love for the Library has been reflected in her work, and her heart has led the way. The Resolution will be delivered separately to the Board.

c. *E-content Overview Report: Rebecca Aracena, Support Services Coordinator*

Rebecca will provide a helpful look into the complex world of digital and streaming collection development.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Jodene Glaesemann will provide a staffing update, and other operational news.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

I'll provide updates on library planning and strategic initiatives.

### **CONTRACTS FILED**

<u>Business Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date Received</u>
Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Youth Rally	to loan artwork described in the agreement to Lincoln City Libraries through January 6, 2025.	12/12/2024
Lincoln Children's Zoo	Education Coordinator, Amy Heusinkvelt will provide staff and an Animal Ambassador (one Milk Snake) to visit the Friday, January 3, 2025, storytime at Bennett Martin Public Library from 10:15--10:45 a.m. at no cost.	12/5/2024



**LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES**  
**136 S. 14th Street**  
**Lincoln, NE 68508-1899**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Library Board

**FROM:** Ali Larson, LCL Business Office

**RECAP OF EXPENDITURES - DEC 2024**

Library Operational Budget - FY 2024-25	\$ 858,292.13	
Library Enc/Reapp - From FY 2023-24	-	
Heritage Room Fund - FY 2024-25	-	
Polley Music Library - FY 2024-25	9,211.56	
<b>Total Operational Expenditures</b>	-	<b>\$ 867,503.69</b>
Grants	\$ -	
Hompes Fund	-	
Keno	232,622.34	
Miscellaneous Library Donations Funds	5,921.08	
Capital Improvements	-	
<b>Total Expenditures - Other Funds</b>		<b>238,543.42</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$ 1,106,047.11</b>



LINCOLN  
City Libraries

## Director's Report for December 2024

- This year's African American Read-in event, coordinated by Lincoln Public Schools, is scheduled for February 5. We partner with LPS with book displays, student-assisted story times, and a special exhibit of artwork titled "Walk Together: Promoting 30 years of Positive Action" by Jevon Woods is on display now at Gere.
- Youth Services and Outreach Coordinator Ali Bousquet coordinated the interdepartmental Snowplow Santa with LTU on December 7 at three locations: Gere, Anderson, and Walt Branches. This popular annual event drew 370 attendees. Each branch welcomed visitors with special activities.
- Assistant Director Jodene Glaesemann is coordinating an internal grant consideration and submission process for better tracking and reporting, and to ensure staff are aware of available grants from governmental and professional associations. A database of past grants and potential funders is also being developed, to be linked to the staff intranet-based landing page and fillable form.
- Stay tuned: LCL turns 150 years old in 2027 and we plan to celebrate this achievement! Jodene Glaesemann is leading the efforts and will coordinate planning that involves fellow staff, board and Foundation members, patrons, and community stakeholders. Funding for this will involve outside grants and sponsors.
- The Library's [2024-2027 Strategic Plan](#) is completed and an easy to read summary is presented on the library's website under "[Reports and Plans](#)."
- The Eddie Dominguez sculpture installation at Eiseley Branch Library is set for Tuesday, January 28 at 5:00pm. Speakers include the artist and a board member from Public Art Lincoln. The Library is appreciative of this long-term loan from the Museum of Nebraska Art, and the coordination provided by Public Art Lincoln. Eiseley Manager Lisa Olivigni assisted in identifying a central and very visible location for the art. Join us if you are able!
- The Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors is currently operating with a slight change of open hours. Due to the promotion of Librarian Amber Stephenson to a 40-hour position at Bennett Martin—and the subsequent search for the next Heritage Room Librarian—we are currently not providing Sunday hours, except by appointment only.
- Virtual Service's Peter Jorgensen has prepared a report of the top website pages visited for the month and will continue to provide this ongoing to give insight on how patrons utilize the library website. See below:



**Top twenty pages for December 2024:**

Page title	Views
Home	45289
Locations and Hours	26358
Events Calendar	1215
Due and Renew	1167
Get a Library Card	1018
Databases and Research	853
eBooks and Audiobooks	734
Meeting Rooms and Study Rooms	569
Holidays and Closures	507
Author Alerts	489
Print, Scan and Copy	489
Holds	470
Storytimes	443
One Book One Lincoln	424
Reading Challenges	327
Kids	310
Forms	265
Book Groups	262
3D Printing Request	236
Our Apps	226

**Vision:** *LCL: Literacy, Community, and Lifelong learning*

**Mission:** *Lincoln City Libraries provides access to information, ideas, books and lifelong learning opportunities that inform, enrich and empower every individual in our diverse community.*

- Priorities:**
- 1. Maximizing Access*
  - 2. Communicating our Offerings*
  - 3. Strengthening our Potential*
  - 4. Growing our Support*

**Examples of the Library's Vision, Mission and Priorities in our daily work:**

- Cindy K. at BMPL relayed interactions with a patron utilizing library resources before taking his driver's license test, "Regular patron stopped by the second-floor desk on Dec. 31 and said he had news to share. He said that he went to the DMV and passed his driver's license test with no problem. He said the test took him only five minutes. He had used the library's resources to study for the test (the DMV manual) and also to take practice tests. I had greeted him the week before and he was excited to tell me that he was going to take the driver's test. I noticed he had a manual that he was studying and suggested that he also log onto the computers and take the practice tests there, as well."

- AT BMPL: Kim J. and Scott C. collaborated on a reference request. Kim said the request was “from someone who was trying to track down information about the chapel on the UNL campus where her parents had been married; she also was hoping to visit the apartment building where her parents lived while in Lincoln. This one was tricky because the apartment building no longer exists and the UNL Chapel was demolished sometime after 2021. The customer appreciated the pictures we were able to find as well as our memories of the chapel. This was my favorite interaction this month.
- Lauren E. (BMPL) said she assisted a patron seeking resources to turn on one’s heat during the winter: “I was able to direct her to city as well as nonprofit assistance programs for utilities. I also helped her navigate alternative (yet, temporary) heating solutions for the interim: generators, propane heaters, emergency blankets, stone heat, and so on.”
- Anthony V. (BMPL) assisted a Russian-speaking patron who didn’t speak English to print some needed documents. The patron then expressed interest in learning English, so Anthony was able to share our resources as well as introduce them to Lincoln Literacy.
- Bennett Martin Library has partnered with Lincoln Hygiene Network to provide socks, hygiene kits, and feminine products to customers in need. Staff and families have also donated hats, gloves and scarves to give to patrons with the cold weather. The WISH Lab also created and donated about 20 care kits (including hats, gloves, handwarmers, a snack) for us to hand out that we went through within a couple of days of receiving!
- Laura N. at Bennett Martin relayed, “I visited with a retired couple who came to Bennett Martin for a meeting. The wife told me she was a retired teacher and had used the Classroom Loan Bags extensively. I could tell she didn’t think we still had them, but she asked anyway, saying, ‘Everything is electronic by now, you probably don’t have any of those anymore.’ I assured her that we did and she was so pleased to hear that this feature was still available to Lincoln teachers.”
- Vicki C. (Walt Branch) reported this great interaction: “A middle school student and her mom were checking out books on Coretta Scott King for a school project. We chatted about the project and before they left I showed them where to find further information in the databases on our website including the History and Biography Databases: Biography Reference Bank, Biography Reference Source, and the Black Freedom Struggle databases; as well as the Magazine and News databases option. The student said she would look them up on her Chromebook when she got home.”
- Courtney S. (Walt) reported that “A woman came in needing to type a cover letter for a job application. She didn’t have much experience with them, so I helped her find a template online for the same field as her application and showed her how she could edit it to be more personalized to her. She was very thankful that we were able to help.”
- Vicki C. shared that “A young uncle called and said he wanted to get his 8 and 13-year-old niece and nephew library cards for Christmas. Since I explained they needed at minimum to be present at the library and eventually have parental approval, he decided to ask his sister if he could bring the kids to the library and at least set up the cards. He had done his research and knew about the Homework tutoring and Transparent Languages and wanted to make those resources available for his niece and nephew. Hooray!”
- Walt hosted the Jigsaw Puzzle Swap event on 12/14. Jessica S. did a stellar job organizing and promoting this event and shared the following report: “We had 127 attend and over 200 puzzles

donated. People of all ages attended the swap with families and by themselves. We had many eager VIP ticket holders that came in the door right at 10:00 a.m. hoping to get the best selection. We played winter holiday music, served hot chocolate, hot apple cider and cookies. Three Walt Teen Advisory Board members assisted during the event to greet customers, accept puzzles, keep the tables organized, and collect VIP tickets.

- Thanks to Rod C. and his team for relocating the internet computers from the computer lab. Walt Branch now has filtered internet computers in all five study rooms with webcam monitors for meetings. This will enhance accessibility for customers. We are working to turn the computer lab space into a room for makerspace activities, library programs, and a customer study space.
- Tami B. (Eiseley) shared this about a patron encounter: There was a young man in today (early 20's) who said that he used to come here when he was in middle school but hadn't been here since then. He said he just wanted to compliment us on how nice everyone is and how the building and the people make everyone feel welcome here. He said that now that he has come in as an adult he is going to come back more!
- From Rebecca H. (Bookmobile) One positive thing this month is that we had an online meeting with Farber, our new vehicle manufacturer, to work out shelving and interior finishes on the new vehicles. It was challenging to pick out colors via an online meeting! However, we made some selections and later received by mail our color samples of laminate and flooring, and they look pretty good together. Currently the color scheme is a bright white for the metal van interior and powder-coated shelves/carts, a subtle brushed light grey/aluminum look for the flat panels that will be mostly be hidden behind the shelves as well as used for the interior cabinetry, and an accent of our "library lavender" for use on the desktop. Exterior graphics design will come later in the build process and we will team up with a designer at the manufacturer for that project.
- Eiseley/Williams outreach and programming in December included the following: Melody S. held her first program with a viewing of *Shrek the Halls* and a related craft time. One of the high school volunteers was brave and suited up as the gingerbread man for kids/families to take pictures with. Seventeen patrons attended. Pam C. provided outreach storytime sessions at Air Park's Project Future. Forty-two children participated. Susan S. promoted Teentober with booktalks to 350 students at Lefler Middle School. Celeste W. provided outreach storytime sessions at Highlands' Project Future with 58 in attendance.
- At Gere: Ronda H. had a customer ask about a typewriter to use at Gere – which we no longer have available. She was able to get her set-up on a computer to write a Christmas letter. Ronda reported she was successful and left a while later, with a completed letter in hand.
- Cally O. (Gere) was at Standing Bear High School on the 4<sup>th</sup> with 15 students joining her in making Duct Tape Roses. The Librarian at Standing Bear, Angela Fischer, sent Cally this message after her visit: "Thank you – people are still talking about the duct tape roses today, and one girl said it totally lifted her mood yesterday."
- Explore & Play at Gere on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> hosted by Ronda H., Diane V., and Paden H. with 221 attending. Ronda shared that the meeting room was full from beginning to end with families joining us to play.
- Family Fun Night at Gere on the 3<sup>rd</sup> had a Super Mario Brothers theme and was hosted by the TAB (Teen Advisory Board) team and Cally O. with 35 attending. There were stations to play Mario Kart

(hot wheels and other race track toys), a cake walk to music from the Movie, Mario bingo, a pop-up Mario craft, bean bag and ball toss games and a scavenger hunt that stayed up through December and was greatly enjoyed by customers.

- Araya W. (Gere) helped four different people on the 31<sup>st</sup> set up their new devices (mainly Kindles) that they had received as Christmas gifts. Most of them had heard they were able to check out Libby items and send them to a Kindle, but one didn't know that and was delighted to find out.
- Araya W. and Ronda H. hosted Taylor Swift Night at Gere on the 13<sup>th</sup> with 51 attending of all ages – the 13<sup>th</sup> happens to be Taylor Swift's birthday. Ronda shared: "Araya, being an avid Swiftie, had planned a variety of fun activities for the evening. The patrons absolutely loved it. From young to old, they came all decked out in their Swift wear."
- Karrie S. (NESU) shared, "On December 13, we had a Riley School Night at Anderson Branch Library. Fifty-eight folks attended for a scavenger hunt, crafts, pizza and free books. Check-out was great at the event, and we even signed up four attendees for new cards."
- At Anderson Branch Library, Karrie S. shared, "We ended the month (and the year) with a Noon Year's Eve party. We had several stations of crafts: noise makers, party hats, buttons, as well as a resolution station and tattoos! The highlight was the balloon drop at noon. 141 attended. 10/11 News was also at the event and interviewed me. It appeared on the 6:00pm news that evening."
- NESU Librarian Karrie S. wrote, "I was going to say, 'We used the downtime to start planning storytimes for January...' but there was no downtime this month!" In years past, the month of December was often used to "catch-up" on projects and collection work. With the exception of the storytime break during December, the month now seems nearly as busy as any other time of year.
- On 12/12/2024, NESU Manager Kim S. relocated the Binge Boxes at Anderson Branch Library from the DVD shelves to the New Movies display area. The very next day, a customer asked, "When did you get Binge Boxes?" An NESU employee responded, "We've had them for years." Another employee added, "They were recently moved to this location, in hopes of increasing circulation." The customer replied, "Well that's great! I'm excited!"
- The Polley Music Library had a fascinating book talk with Omaha author Caitlin Cass this month. She discussed her latest book, *Suffrage Song* which details the long history of the suffrage movement in the United States (which also included a lot of music in its early days). She prepared a fantastic PowerPoint to accompany her talk, which covered both the book and her process for creating graphic novels. The audience of 8 had some great questions, and Cass was very inspiring to young authors and writers!

Ryan Wieber,  
Library Director  
1.17.25

**December 2024 Use Compared to December 2023  
Lincoln City Libraries**

Location	Print Checkouts		Print Loan	Non-Print Checkouts		Non-Print	Total Checkouts		Total Loan
	2024	2023	Change	2024	2023	Loan Change	2024	2023	Change
BMPL	11,019	11,068	-0.44%	3,148	2,667	18.04%	14,167	13,735	3.15%
Anderson	9,064	8,627	5.07%	2,314	2,230	3.77%	11,378	10,857	4.80%
Bethany	6,171	5,678	8.68%	842	861	-2.21%	7,013	6,539	7.25%
Eiseley	17,516	16,882	3.76%	2,369	2,984	-20.61%	19,885	19,866	0.10%
Gere	43,066	44,507	-3.24%	6,231	7,070	-11.87%	49,297	51,577	-4.42%
South	7,191	7,086	1.48%	1,159	1,088	6.53%	8,350	8,174	2.15%
Walt	30,983	29,360	5.53%	4,370	4,405	-0.79%	35,353	33,765	4.70%
Williams	549	650	-15.54%	101	199	-49.25%	650	849	-23.44%
Lied Bookmobile	1,164	1,022	13.89%	66	129	-48.84%	1,230	1,151	6.86%
InterLibrary Loan	136	178	-23.60%	0	0	0.00%	136	178	-23.60%
<b>Subtotal Checkouts</b>	<b>126,859</b>	<b>125,058</b>	<b>1.44%</b>	<b>20,600</b>	<b>21,633</b>	<b>-4.78%</b>	<b>147,459</b>	<b>146,691</b>	<b>0.52%</b>
Download/Stream Audio	0	0	0.00%	47,148	39,699	18.76%	47,148	39,699	18.76%
Download/Stream eBook	0	0	0.00%	34,703	30,459	13.93%	34,703	30,459	13.93%
Stream Video	0	0	0.00%	1,047	895	16.98%	1,047	895	16.98%
<b>TOTAL CHECKOUTS</b>	<b>126,859</b>	<b>125,058</b>	<b>1.44%</b>	<b>103,498</b>	<b>92,686</b>	<b>11.67%</b>	<b>230,357</b>	<b>217,744</b>	<b>5.79%</b>

Location	Youth Checkouts		Youth Loan	Adult Checkouts		Adult Loan	Visits	Visits	Visits
	2024	2023	Change	2024	2023	Change	2024	2023	Change
BMPL	4,898	5,039	-2.80%	9,269	8,696	6.59%	9,924	10,704	-7.29%
Anderson	5,564	5,005	11.17%	5,814	5,852	-0.65%	5,043	4,749	6.19%
Bethany	4,096	3,574	14.61%	2,917	2,965	-1.62%	2,724	2,631	3.53%
Eiseley	12,712	12,013	5.82%	7,173	7,853	-8.66%	8,534	7,487	13.98%
Gere	26,505	27,977	-5.26%	22,792	23,600	-3.42%	16,498	16,433	0.40%
South	4,435	4,462	-0.61%	3,915	3,712	5.47%	3,368	3,246	3.76%
Walt	23,142	22,093	4.75%	12,211	11,672	4.62%	11,241	10,799	4.09%
Williams	455	627	-27.43%	195	222	-12.16%	1,027	841	22.12%
Lied Bookmobile	721	618	16.67%	509	533	-4.50%	249	257	-3.11%
InterLibrary Loan	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
<b>Subtotal Checkouts</b>	<b>82,528</b>	<b>81,408</b>	<b>1.38%</b>	<b>64,795</b>	<b>65,105</b>	<b>-0.48%</b>	<b>58,608</b>	<b>57,147</b>	<b>2.56%</b>
Download/Stream Audio	6,557	5,603	17.03%	40,591	34,096	19.05%	0	0	0.00%
Download/Stream eBook	8,154	4,958	64.46%	26,549	25,501	4.11%	0	0	0.00%
Stream Video	0	0	0.00%	1,047	895	16.98%	0	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL CHECKOUTS</b>	<b>97,239</b>	<b>91,969</b>	<b>5.73%</b>	<b>132,982</b>	<b>125,597</b>	<b>5.88%</b>	<b>58,608</b>	<b>57,147</b>	<b>2.56%</b>

Location	Program & Outreach Attendance - Youth		P&O Att - Youth	Program & Outreach Attendance - Adult		P&O Att - Adult	Computer Use		Computer
	2024	2023	Change	2024	2023	Change	2024	2023	Change
BMPL	185	339	-45.43%	103	54	90.74%	2,397	2,205	8.71%
Anderson	356	116	206.90%	0	0	0.00%	750	632	18.67%
Bethany	0	0	0.00%	16	29	-44.83%	269	253	6.32%
Eiseley	102	104	-1.92%	10	8	25.00%	1,317	1,220	7.95%
Gere	519	580	-10.52%	118	0	0.00%	1,130	1,257	-10.10%
South	82	100	-18.00%	6	6	0.00%	363	396	-8.33%
Walt	216	231	-6.49%	470	106	343.40%	1,018	890	14.38%
Williams	59	83	-28.92%	7	6	16.67%	189	142	33.10%
Lied Bookmobile	0	20	-100.00%	58	41	41.46%	0	0	0.00%
System Outreach	0	0	0.00%	365	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,519</b>	<b>1,573</b>	<b>-3.43%</b>	<b>1,153</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>361.20%</b>	<b>7,433</b>	<b>6,995</b>	<b>6.26%</b>

Location	Meeting Room Attendance		Meeting Room Att	Study Room Attendance		Study Room Att	2024	2023	
	2024	2023	Change	2024	2023	Change			
BMPL	106	164	-35.37%	90	0	0.00%			0.00%
Anderson	211	190	11.05%	0	0	0.00%			0.00%
Bethany	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%			0.00%
Eiseley	358	230	55.65%	291	0	0.00%			0.00%
Gere	388	507	-23.47%	258	0	0.00%			0.00%
South	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%			0.00%
Walt	370	376	-1.60%	299	0	0.00%			0.00%
Williams	15	1	1400.00%	0	0	0.00%			0.00%
Lied Bookmobile	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%			0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,448</b>	<b>1,468</b>	<b>-1.36%</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

**Lincoln City Libraries  
December 2024 Use Report**

Location	Loans/Circulation			Visits			December 2024 Other Use				December 2023 Other Use					Change: Total Other Use	
	Dec 2024	Dec 2023	Change	Dec 2024	Dec 2023	Change	Computer Reservations	Program & Outreach Attendance	Meeting Room Attendance	Study Room Attendance	Total Other Use	Computer Reservations	Program & Outreach Attendance	Meeting Room Attendance	Study Room Attendance		Total Other Use
Bennett Martin Public Library	14,167	13,735	3.15%	9,924	10,704	-7.29%	2,397	288	106	90	2,881	2,205	393	164	0	2,762	4.31%
Anderson Branch Library	11,378	10,857	4.80%	5,043	4,749	6.19%	750	356	211	0	1,317	632	116	190	0	938	40.41%
Bethany Branch Library	7,013	6,539	7.25%	2,724	2,631	3.53%	269	16	0	0	285	253	29	0	0	282	1.06%
Eiseley Branch Library	19,885	19,866	0.10%	8,534	7,487	13.98%	1,317	112	358	291	2,078	1,220	112	230	0	1,562	33.03%
Gere Branch Library	49,297	51,577	-4.42%	16,498	16,433	0.40%	1,130	637	388	258	2,413	1,257	580	507	0	2,344	2.94%
South Branch Library	8,350	8,174	2.15%	3,368	3,246	3.76%	363	88	0	0	451	396	106	0	0	502	-10.16%
Walt Branch Library	35,353	33,765	4.70%	11,241	10,799	4.09%	1,018	686	370	299	2,373	890	337	376	0	1,603	48.03%
Williams Branch Library	650	849	-23.44%	1,027	841	22.12%	189	66	15	0	270	142	89	1	0	232	16.38%
Lied Bookmobile	1,230	1,151	6.86%	249	257	-3.11%	0	58	0	0	58	0	61	0	0	61	-4.92%
InterLibrary Loan	136	178	-23.60%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
System Outreach	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	365	0	0	365	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>147,459</b>	<b>146,691</b>	<b>0.52%</b>	<b>58,608</b>	<b>57,147</b>	<b>2.56%</b>	<b>7,433</b>	<b>2,672</b>	<b>1,448</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>12,491</b>	<b>6,995</b>	<b>1,823</b>	<b>1,468</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,286</b>	<b>21.44%</b>
DownloadStream Audio	47,148	39,699	18.76%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Download/Stream eBooks	34,703	30,459	13.93%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Stream Video	1,047	895	16.98%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
<b>Download SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>82,898</b>	<b>71,053</b>	<b>16.67%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>230,357</b>	<b>217,744</b>	<b>5.79%</b>	<b>58,608</b>	<b>57,147</b>	<b>2.56%</b>	<b>7,433</b>	<b>2,672</b>	<b>1,448</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>12,491</b>	<b>6,995</b>	<b>1,823</b>	<b>1,468</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,286</b>	<b>21.44%</b>

Holdings Report	PRINT		NON PRINT		Total	REGISTRATIONS	2024	2023	Change
	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth		Purged			
<b>Owned</b>	353,354	307,689	74,947	33,271	769,261	<b>Active</b>			
<b>Added</b>	1,158	750	291	157	2,356	Resident	148,231	147,177	0.72%
<b>Withdrawn</b>	-4,951	-4,029	-95	-491	-9,566	Library OneCard	52,785	47,452	11.24%
<b>Current</b>	349,561	304,410	75,143	32,937	762,051	County	8,910	9,056	-1.61%
						NonResident	953	932	2.25%
						Reciprocal	486	484	0.41%
						Limited Use	10,047	9,321	7.79%
						<b>Total Active</b>	<b>221,412</b>	<b>214,422</b>	<b>3.26%</b>

Notes for Month

	2024	2023	Change
<b>WiFi Sessions</b>	110,827	113,051	-1.97%
<b>WiFi Users</b>	8,366	8,635	-3.12%
<b>Website Users</b>	81,899	94,287	-13.14%
<b>Website Sessions</b>	113,761	125,186	-9.13%
<b>Database Use</b>	7,500	6,581	13.96%

**Lincoln City Libraries  
December 2024 Fiscal Year To Date Use Report**

Location	Loans/Circulation			Visits		
	Loans/ Circulation FY 24-25 YTD	Loans/ Circulation FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change	Visits FY 24-25 YTD	Visits FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change
Bennett Martin Public Library	53,106	54,761	-3.02%	45,068	41,771	7.89%
Anderson Branch	47,080	45,587	3.28%	22,507	21,135	6.49%
Bethany Branch	30,012	29,010	3.45%	11,233	11,176	0.51%
Eiseley Branch	84,758	89,213	-4.99%	37,933	34,703	9.31%
Gere Branch	209,968	228,675	-8.18%	73,487	70,296	4.54%
South Branch	35,212	36,982	-4.79%	14,951	13,997	6.82%
Walt Branch	147,198	152,902	-3.73%	49,291	46,890	5.12%
Williams Branch	3,493	4,059	-13.94%	4,834	4,288	12.73%
Lied Bookmobile	5,871	5,709	2.84%	1,524	1,439	5.91%
InterLibrary Loan	661	794	-16.75%	0	0	0.00%
System Outreach	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>617,359</b>	<b>647,692</b>	<b>-4.68%</b>	<b>260,828</b>	<b>245,695</b>	<b>6.16%</b>
DownloadStream Audio	183,173	161,224	13.61%	0	0	0.00%
Download/Stream eBooks	131,494	123,165	6.76%	0	0	0.00%
Stream Video	4,159	3,375	23.23%	0	0	0.00%
<b>Download SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>318,826</b>	<b>287,764</b>	<b>10.79%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>936,185</b>	<b>935,456</b>	<b>0.08%</b>	<b>260,828</b>	<b>245,695</b>	<b>6.16%</b>

	FY 24-25 YTD	FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change
<b>Online Registrations</b>	356	635	-43.94%
<b>Overall Registrations</b>	3,805	4,139	-8.07%

	FY 24-25 YTD	FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change
<b>WiFi Sessions</b>	488,595	484,813	0.78%
<b>WiFi Users</b>	36,657	39,014	-6.04%
<b>Website Users</b>	337,551	360,354	-6.33%
<b>Website Sessions</b>	466,197	476,715	-2.21%
<b>Database Use</b>	28,755	33,087	-13.09%

Year-to-Date Holdings Report	PRINT		NON PRINT		Total
	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth	
<b>Owned 9/1/2024</b>	372,148	329,191	80,850	34,144	816,333
<b>Added YTD</b>	8,615	6,369	1,104	878	16,966
<b>Withdrawn YTD</b>	-31,202	-31,150	-6,811	-2,085	-71,248
<b>Current - 12/31/2024</b>	349,561	304,410	75,143	32,937	762,051

Location	Computer Reservations			Program & Outreach Attendance			Meeting Room Attendance			Study Room Attendance			*Study Room Attendance			Total Other Use		YTD CHANGE
	FY 24-25 YTD	FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change	FY 24-25 YTD	FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change	FY 24-25 YTD	FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change	FY 24-25 YTD	FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change	FY 24-25 YTD	FY 23-24 YTD	YTD Change			
Bennett Martin Public Library	9,660	8,965	7.75%	2,751	3,629	-24.19%	696	545	27.71%	269	0	0.00%	13,376	13,139	1.80%			
Anderson Branch	3,253	2,934	10.87%	4,148	2,834	46.37%	843	707	19.24%	0	0	0.00%	8,244	6,475	27.32%			
Bethany Branch	928	919	0.98%	616	673	-8.47%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	1,544	1,592	-3.02%			
Eiseley Branch	5,546	4,864	14.02%	5,957	3,793	57.05%	1,283	1,319	-2.73%	1,161	0	0.00%	13,947	9,976	39.81%			
Gere Branch	4,468	4,971	-10.12%	5,800	5,323	8.96%	2,098	2,202	-4.72%	1,271	0	0.00%	13,637	12,496	9.13%			
South Branch	1,784	1,783	0.06%	768	976	-21.31%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	2,552	2,759	-7.50%			
Walt Branch	4,090	3,876	5.52%	5,030	6,074	-17.19%	1,354	1,419	-4.58%	1,420	0	0.00%	11,894	11,369	4.62%			
Williams Branch	773	755	2.38%	1,009	561	79.86%	18	17	5.88%	0	0	0.00%	1,800	1,333	35.03%			
Lied Bookmobile	0	0	0.00%	223	246	-9.35%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	223	246	-9.35%			
InterLibrary Loan	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%			
System Outreach	0	0	0.00%	950	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	950	0	0.00%			
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,502</b>	<b>29,067</b>	<b>4.94%</b>	<b>27,252</b>	<b>24,109</b>	<b>13.04%</b>	<b>6,292</b>	<b>6,209</b>	<b>1.34%</b>	<b>4,121</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>68,167</b>	<b>59,385</b>	<b>14.79%</b>			

\*Study Room Attendance tracking began 9/1/2024

# LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES

## Monthly Categorical Report

December 31, 2024

	Budget Amount	Budgeted Year-to-Date	Expended Year-to-Date	Balance	Current Month Expended
<b>Administration-Div. 1</b>					
Personnel	\$ 992,911.00	\$ 330,970.33	\$ 323,752.91	\$ 669,158.09	\$ 70,891.74
Supplies	33,000.00	11,000.00	10,516.99	22,483.01	3,015.78
Services & Charges	170,885.00	56,961.67	136,906.55	33,978.45	8,288.08
Other	7,000.00	2,333.33	-	7,000.00	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,203,796.00</b>	<b>\$ 401,265.33</b>	<b>\$ 471,176.45</b>	<b>\$ 732,619.55</b>	<b>\$ 82,195.60</b>
<b>Percent Expended</b>		<b>33.33%</b>	<b>39.14%</b>		
<b>Buildings &amp; Grounds-Div. 2</b>					
Personnel	\$ 133,429.00	\$ 44,476.33	\$ 44,138.93	\$ 89,290.07	\$ 10,113.06
Supplies	26,000.00	8,666.67	24,010.26	1,989.74	12,830.97
Services & Charges	1,459,636.00	486,545.33	358,416.50	1,101,219.50	131,074.83
Other	258,900.00	86,300.00	84,972.22	173,927.78	40,863.95
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,877,965.00</b>	<b>\$ 625,988.33</b>	<b>\$ 511,537.91</b>	<b>\$ 1,366,427.09</b>	<b>\$ 194,882.81</b>
<b>Percent Expended</b>		<b>33.33%</b>	<b>27.24%</b>		
<b>Public Service-Div. 3</b>					
Personnel	\$ 6,287,345.00	\$ 2,095,781.67	\$ 1,867,168.69	\$ 4,420,176.31	\$ 420,750.83
Supplies	81,900.00	27,300.00	18,139.32	63,760.68	11,366.72
Services & Charges	62,900.00	20,966.67	25,575.12	37,324.88	10,262.02
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,432,145.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,144,048.33</b>	<b>\$ 1,910,883.13</b>	<b>\$ 4,521,261.87</b>	<b>\$ 442,379.57</b>
<b>Percent Expended</b>		<b>33.33%</b>	<b>29.71%</b>		
<b>Support Services-Div. 4</b>					
Personnel	\$ 1,300,778.00	\$ 433,592.67	\$ 426,278.73	\$ 874,499.27	\$ 95,967.77
Supplies	62,000.00	20,666.67	34,326.43	27,673.57	10,003.43
Services & Charges	434,203.00	144,734.33	304,734.76	129,468.24	7,989.11
Other	1,005,000.00	335,000.00	398,673.78	606,326.22	24,873.84
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,801,981.00</b>	<b>\$ 933,993.67</b>	<b>\$ 1,164,013.70</b>	<b>\$ 1,637,967.30</b>	<b>\$ 138,834.15</b>
<b>Percent Expended</b>		<b>33.33%</b>	<b>41.54%</b>		
<b>Total Library Operational</b>					
Personnel	\$ 8,714,463.00	\$ 2,904,821.00	\$ 2,661,339.26	\$ 6,053,123.74	\$ 597,723.40
Supplies	202,900.00	67,633.33	86,993.00	115,907.00	37,216.90
Services & Charges	2,127,624.00	709,208.00	825,632.93	1,301,991.07	157,614.04
Other	1,270,900.00	423,633.33	483,646.00	787,254.00	65,737.79
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,315,887.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,105,295.67</b>	<b>\$ 4,057,611.19</b>	<b>\$ 8,258,275.81</b>	<b>\$ 858,292.13</b>
<b>Percent Expended</b>		<b>33.33%</b>	<b>32.95%</b>		
<b>Other Library Fund Appropriations</b>					
	<b>Amount Appropriated</b>		<b>Expended Year-to-Date</b>	<b>Balance</b>	<b>Current Month Expended</b>
FY 2023-24 Reappropriated	\$ 706,661.00		\$ -	\$ 706,661.00	\$ -



**LINCOLN CITY LIBRARIES - FUND BALANCES**  
**December 2024**

<b><u>GRANT FUNDS</u></b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
Net Lender Fund	\$ 1,492.15	\$ -	\$ -	1,492.15
NLC Youth Grant 2024	823.76	-	-	823.76
NLC NE eReads Grant 2024	47,955.00	-	-	47,955.00
State Aid 2023	16,654.50	-	(33.44)	16,687.94
State Aid 2024	52,993.00	-	-	52,993.00

**DONATED FUNDS**

Heritage Room	\$ 147,498.38	\$ -	\$ -	147,498.38
Polley Music Library	226,527.77	109,424.62	9,211.56	326,740.83
Joseph J. Hompes	129,564.33	-	-	129,564.33
Misc. Library Donations	721,112.88	25.00	5,921.08	715,216.80
Alice Nielsen	85,118.83	-	-	85,118.83
Dorothy Holland	122,439.42	-	-	122,439.42
Glennis Leapley	65,128.58	-	-	65,128.58
Lincoln Cares	30,458.18	349.80	-	30,807.98

**APPROPRIATED FUNDS**

	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expended</b>		<b>Balance</b>
		<b>Dec 2024</b>	<b>Exp-to-Date</b>	
Heritage Room FY 2024-25	\$ 36,153.00	\$ -	\$ 9,122.19	27,030.81
Polley Music Library FY 2024-25	124,459.00	9,211.56	39,264.73	85,194.27
Keno FY 2023-24	135,060.42	135,060.42	135,060.42	-
Keno FY 2024-25	1,039,500.00	97,561.92	172,216.78	867,283.22
<b>Capital Improvement Projects</b>				
FY 2021-22 Bookmobile	587,148.76	-	-	587,148.76
FY 2022-23 Bennett Martin Elevator 1-4	200,000.00	-	20,640.85	179,359.15
FY 2024-25 Bennett Martin Improvements	250,000.00	-	-	250,000.00

# Foundation

## for Lincoln City Libraries

*For our Libraries. For our future.*

**To:** Joe Shaw  
President, LCL Library Board

**FROM:** Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries

**Date:** January 2, 2025

**RE:** FLCL Board Nominations

The Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries Nominating Committee is providing the names below for consideration by the Library Board for board trustees to serve their first three-year term from 2025-2027, as per the FLCL bylaws.

### **2025 -2027 Trustees Nominees**

**Kathy Hall Asboe:** Realtor at RE/MAX Concepts

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself.

I was born and raised in Lincoln with three siblings. My mother, Pat, was a wonderful stay--home mom. My father was Hub Hall, a Lincoln realtor, broker and developer for over 50 years. How lucky I was to have the Bethany branch of the library literally on the other side of our back fence. It was a fun place to get books and do research for school (long before the Internet).

I'm a proud graduate of Northeast High School where I met my husband. We've been married for 46 years and have 4 children and 6 grandchildren.

After high school I attended a Bible college for one year and then studied business at Nebraska Wesleyan.

I was fortunate to be able to be a stay-at-home mom while our children were in school. Going to the library was a weekly event (mostly the South St. branch) for Story Hour, summer reading programs and just checking out books. It was not unusual for us to lug home 50 books at a time. I have also developed through purchases from retired teachers and other sources a children's library in our home with IOOs of titles including some with Lincoln City Library tags still on from purchases at the library sales. We also make sure to give each grandchild a book for their birthday and holidays.

I obtained my realtor's license when we approached an empty nest 25 years ago. I worked my first ten years with the Best Mentor anyone could have, my father. He truly taught me that helping people was the most important thing about real estate. The last 15 years I have been with RE/MAX.

I have served on the Board of Directors for Milkworks, a breastfeeding support organization. I am currently serving on the Board of the Eastmont Foundation. It would be a privilege to serve on the Lincoln City Library Foundation.

### **Ginna Claussen**

Thank you for considering my application to serve on the Foundation for the Lincoln City Libraries Board of Trustees. From an early age my parents taught me and my five siblings the value of reading. We were all frequent visitors to our public library in North Platte and our father was involved with the "Friends of the Library Board" for many years. I learned how to write my first resume with our librarian's help. I love libraries. Today when I walk into a Lincoln library, I immediately look around and see people of all ages reading books, studying, exploring, and sharing conversation. There are vast resources and services our libraries offer for learning and engagement. Libraries are a beacon of kindness and hope. I want to help grow that for all of Lincoln.

### **Melinda Henson**

Literacy and learning have shaped every aspect of my life, fueling both my professional endeavors and personal passions. As a doctoral candidate in Special Education at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), I focus on fostering inclusive practices and improving outcomes for autistic individuals across home, school, and workplace settings. Growing up in Alaska, long, cold winters made books a vital escape and an integral part of my development. Classics like *Anne of Green Gables*, *Little House on the Prairie*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird* became cherished companions that inspired my lifelong love of literacy.

I am also proud to serve as co-chair of Linked2Literacy's Dolly Parton Imagination Library in Lancaster County. In its inaugural year, we enrolled over 4,000 children and delivered 20,000 books at no cost to families, fostering a love of reading in our youngest learners. Married to my husband, Jeff, for 21 years, we are parents to Ella (14) and Mara (5). Together, we've experienced how libraries inspire curiosity and enrich lives across generations. I am honored to contribute my expertise, dedication, and passion to advancing the Foundation's mission of ensuring high-quality library services for our community. Thank you for considering my nomination to serve on the Board of Trustees for the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries.

### **Cory Kibler, Haberfeld**

I moved from California to Nebraska in 2000 to attend college, and except for a three-year stint in Denver, my wife Lara and I have lived in Lincoln since 2004. I graduated from Doane College with BAs in both English and philosophy, and I earned my MA in philosophy at UNL in 2008. Since then, my career has revolved around writing, and I currently serve as Copy & Content Manager at Haberfeld Associates.

As long as I can remember, I have absolutely adored books and libraries. Growing up in Ventura, CA, I used my elementary school's library to find and read all the classics (*Hardy Boys*, *Nancy Drew*, *Boxcar Children*, etc.). My mother is also a voracious reader, and I quickly moved on to many of her favorites as I got older. This meant a lot of mystery/thriller authors like Michael Connelly, Agatha Christie, Harlan Coben, Jonathan Kellerman, and so many more. In college, my love of literature grew to include writers like William Faulkner, Toni Morrison, Tom Robbins, Tim O'Brien, and Shakespeare. In the intervening years, I have found books to love in almost every genre, but I always seem to come back to mysteries.

I am honored to serve on the Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries Board of Trustees. I love our Lincoln City Libraries, each of which has its own distinct character and charm and history. I love discovering a new author or book series on our libraries' shelves, and I love seeing my daughter Elliott find a book in the children's section and instantly get hooked. Everyone deserves books, everyone has the capacity to love stories, and Lincoln's libraries are for everyone.

### **Rhonda Seacrest**

Rhonda Seacrest is a lifelong Nebraskan, moving to Lincoln in 2000 from western Nebraska.

In the 1970's she became acutely aware of the differing educational and other opportunities available to eastern and outstate Nebraska citizens and students. She became an advocate to equalize that divide, advocating tirelessly for upgrades to outstate Nebraska experiences beginning with Sheldon Statewide, continuing to bring museum quality art to ten Nebraska communities each year.

She has served on various statewide boards and recently completed a seven year term as a member of the board of Lincoln City Libraries. Rhonda also served as liaison from the Library Board to the Foundation board of trustees.

She has received several awards for her work, most recently Nebraskan of the Year by the Lincoln Downtown Rotary.

### **Jim Schiefelbein, Semi-retired & ProMed**

I am originally from Bellevue , NE. Started my undergraduate degree at UNL in the early '70s and have been living in Lincoln since then. I have had my library card since the '80s. Lincoln libraries are very important to me and my family. My wife, daughter and son have enjoyed checking books and materials from the libraries for many years. Even my granddaughter now has a library card.

I received my undergraduate and two graduate degrees from UNL. I am semi-retired and work part-time for a logistics company ProMed. I also am a member of Lincoln Center Kiwanis and drive the train at the Zoo for a few hours a week. My wife Joyce is a retired educator. My adult children, Carrie & Paul, live in Lincoln and each have three children.

Thank you for considering me for the Foundation Board. I would welcome this opportunity to serve the Lincoln libraries through this Board.

# Summer Reading Challenge 2024: Adventure Begins at your Library



Ali Bousquet-Youth and Outreach  
Services Coordinator

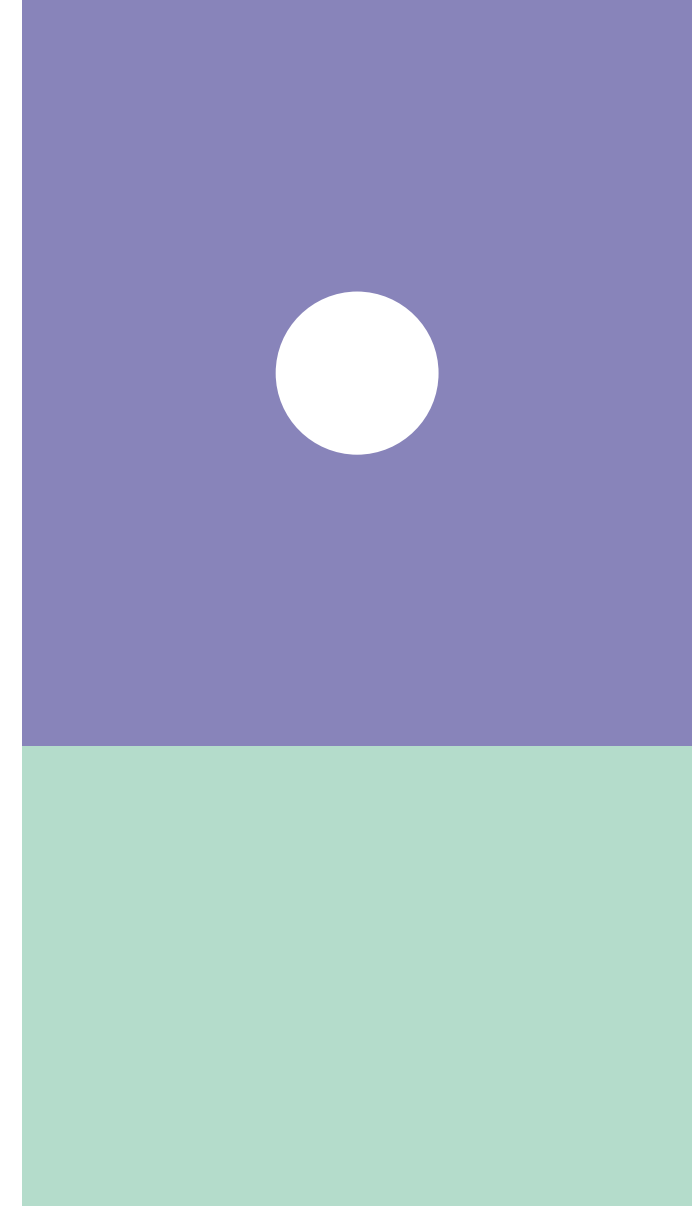
# Summer Reading Registration: Opportunities to grow!

## Overall numbers:

- **16,111** participants in SRC
  - Slight decrease from 2023:  
roughly 6%
  - 41% of participants  
completed the challenge
    - on par with 2023  
completion numbers

## Summer outreach sites:

- Fewer city sites visited
  - timeline/coordination
- County Outreach
  - Decline in attendance





# Events and storytimes:

## Event Attendance:

- 8% increase from 2023

## Storytime Attendance:

- 20% increase from 2023

## Meeting community need:

- Offered on all days of the week and weekend
  - Evening hours
- Repeat events for better outcome
- Variety

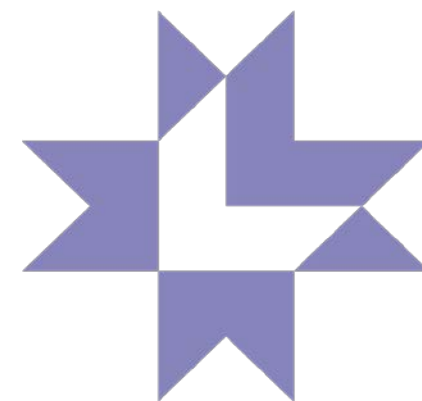


# Questions? Concerns?

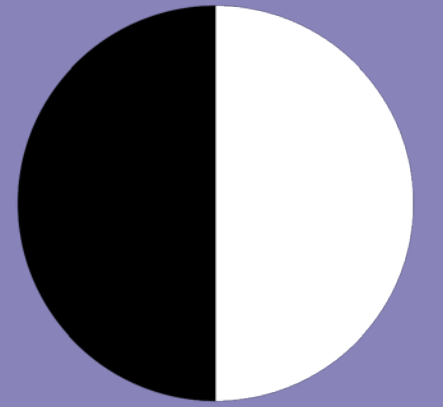
**Thanks!**

**If you want to reach me:**

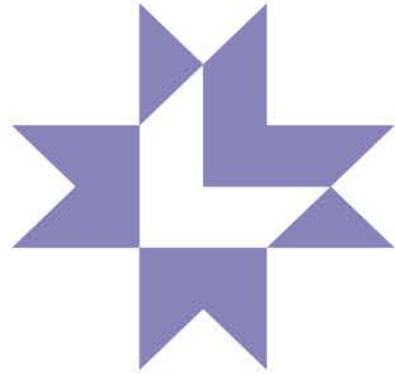
[abousquet@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:abousquet@lincoln.ne.gov)



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Incidents and Bannings – FY 2023-2024

# Reported Incidents

Fiscal Year 2023-2024



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# Levels of Offenses – per Library Behavior Policy

## Level 1

*e.g. Sleeping/Noise/No shoes or shirt*

*Given two warnings, upon the third warning, customer is required to leave for the day*

## Level 2

*e.g. Skateboarding/bathing/using someone else's card*

*Given one warning, upon the second warning, customer is required to leave for the day*

## Level 3

*e.g. Intoxication/Harassment*

*No warnings needed. Customer required to leave the premises immediately for the remainder of the day*

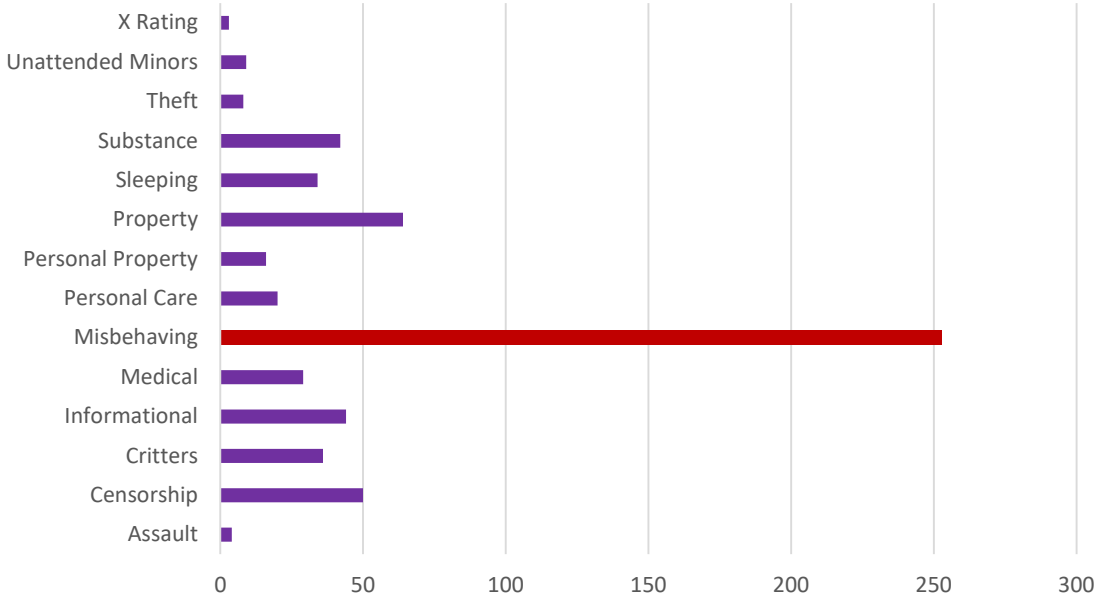
## Level 4

*e.g. Smoking/drinking/weapons, illegal activity, also insect infestations*

*Customer required to leave immediately and given a 3-day suspension. Incident forwarded to Administration to investigate proceeding with a banning.*

# Incident Reports 23-24

Count of Offense by General Category



## Misbehaving

- Disregarding staff instructions: 13
- Disturbance: 190
- Disturbance-Phone: 11
- Harassment: 21
- Harassment-Phone: 16
- Indecent Exposure: 1
- Trespassing: 2
- Weapon on premises: 1

Total Incidents reported between 9/1/23-8/31/24: 612



# Incident Reports 23-24: Breakdown



**Assault:** 4 incidents, all resulting in bans of 1-2 years

**Censorship:** 50 incidents of books/materials found after they'd been deliberately hidden or misshelved. The majority of the titles deal with subjects like gender, menstruation, sexuality, race, and religion.



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# Incident Reports: Breakdown



**Critters:** This fiscal year we've had 14 bed bug incidents, and been visited by 12 dogs, 7 bats, 2 cats, 1 raccoon, 1 hamster, 1 baby kangaroo and an itinerant dragonfly.

**Informational:** This is a broad category that covers calls to parents/caregivers, unusual behavior and conversations, documenting the serving of banning letters, non-emergency medical incidents, events that occur just off library property and one electronic monitoring ankle-device tossed on the roof.



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# Incident Reports: Breakdown

**Medical:** Some incidents required calls to LFR, some to LPD, and one resulted in a Mayoral Commendation for the BMPL team when they saved a patron's life.



**Misbehavior:** This is the broadest category, and includes things like loud conversations, biological messes, deliberately staged and video recorded shenanigans, books tossed down an HVAC vent, bartering and panhandling, and petitioning during election periods.



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# Incident Reports: Breakdown

**Personal Care:** This covers Hygiene issues as well as bathing on site and lack of clothing/shoes.

**Personal Property:** Unattended items (everything from paperwork to food to drugs/paraphernalia) and excessive personal items.

**Property:** Damage done to library property, trespassing, fires, loitering and vandalism.





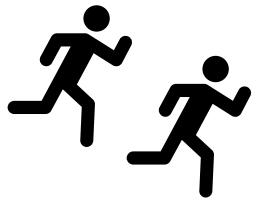
# Incident Reports: Breakdown

**Sleeping:** Patrons are generally given 2 warnings. On the third, they're told to leave.

**Substances:** Alcohol, marijuana, meth, cold pills, all the things.

**Theft:** Library materials and personal property/vehicles.

**X-rated:** Online or in person, solo or in pairs. Four offenders who've been banned. Two attempted offenders who removed themselves from the premises in a red-faced hurry.

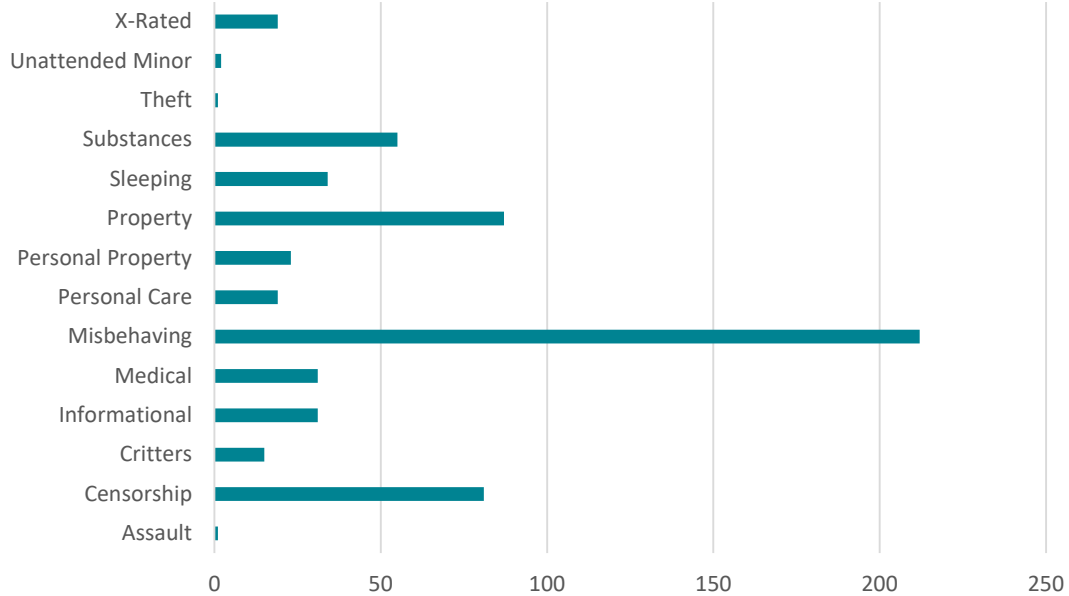


**Unattended Minors:** One of these was a young fella who wanted to run away from home and live at the library. He was a big fan of our wi-fi.



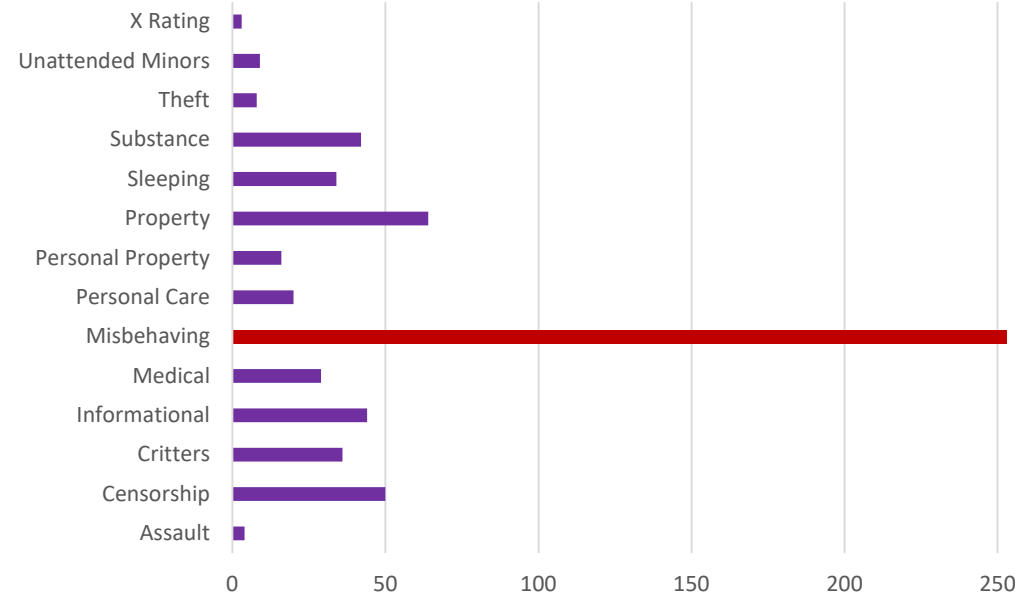
# Comparison: FY 22-23 \* FY 23-24

Count of Event by General Category 22-23



Total Incidents FY 22-23: 612

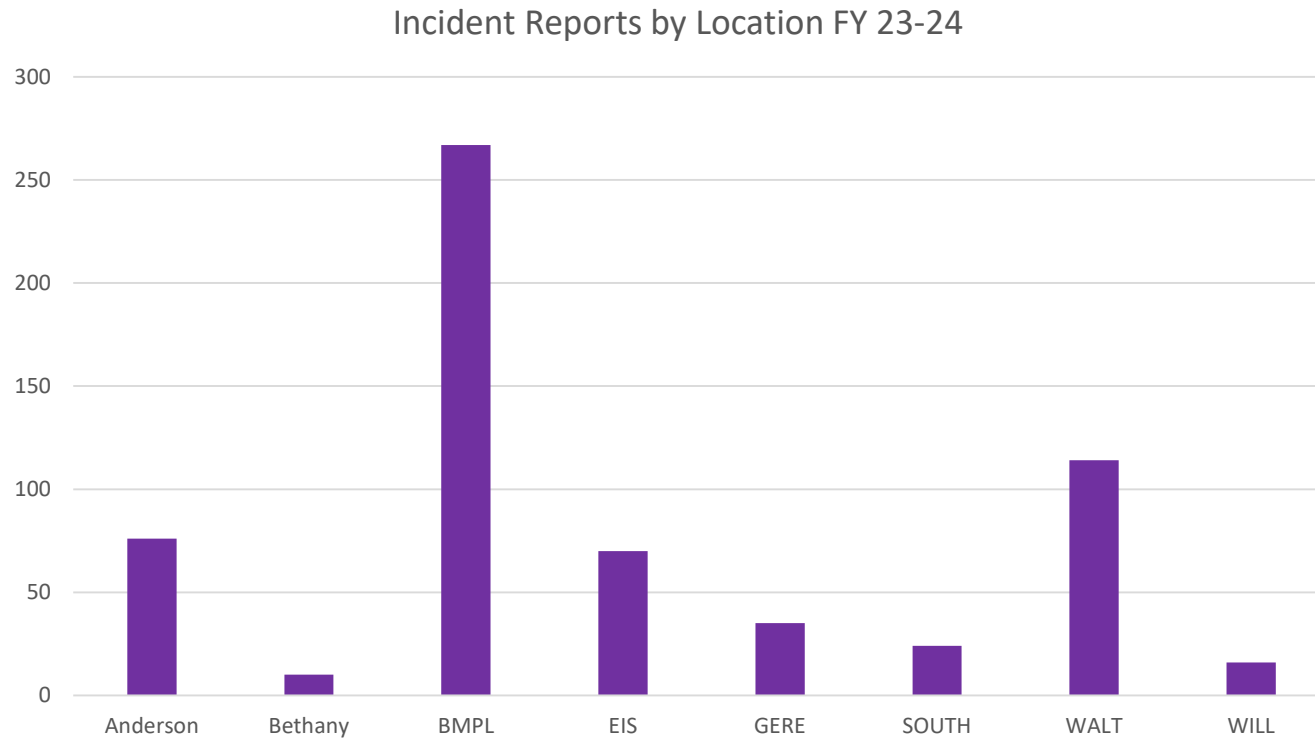
Count of Offense by General Category 23-24



Total Incidents FY 23-24: 613

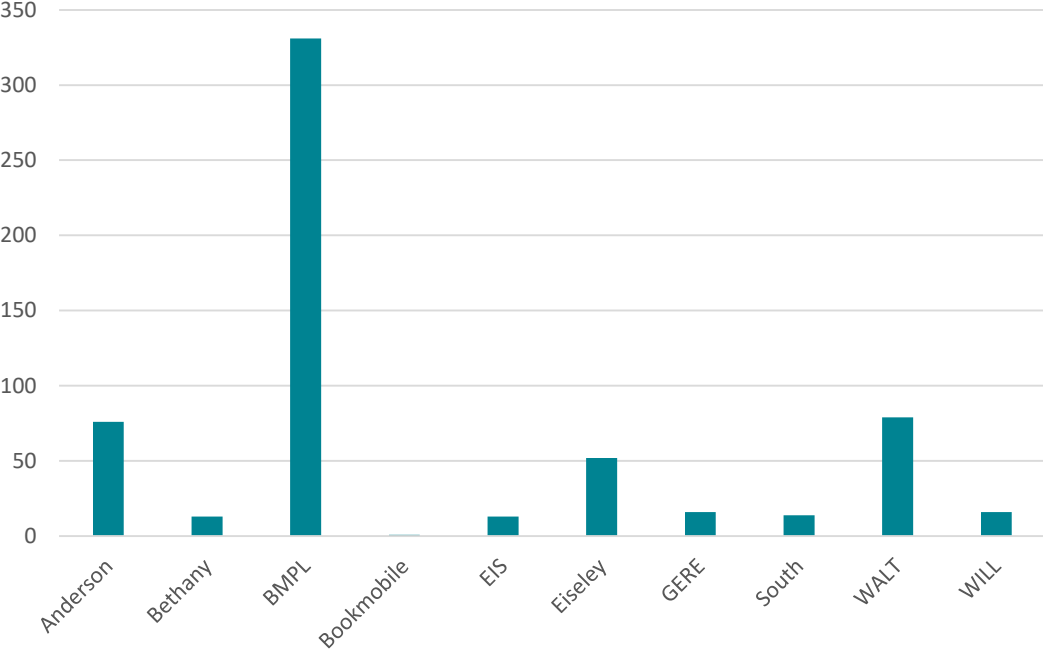


# Incidents by Location

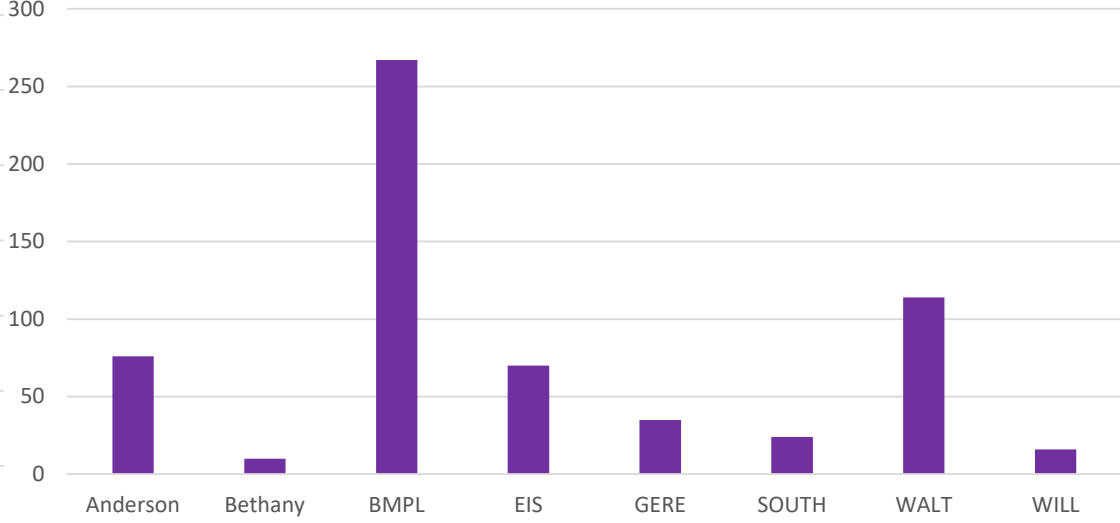


# Comparison: FY 22-23 \* FY 23-24

Incidents by Location 22-23



Incidents by Location 23-24



# Bannings

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

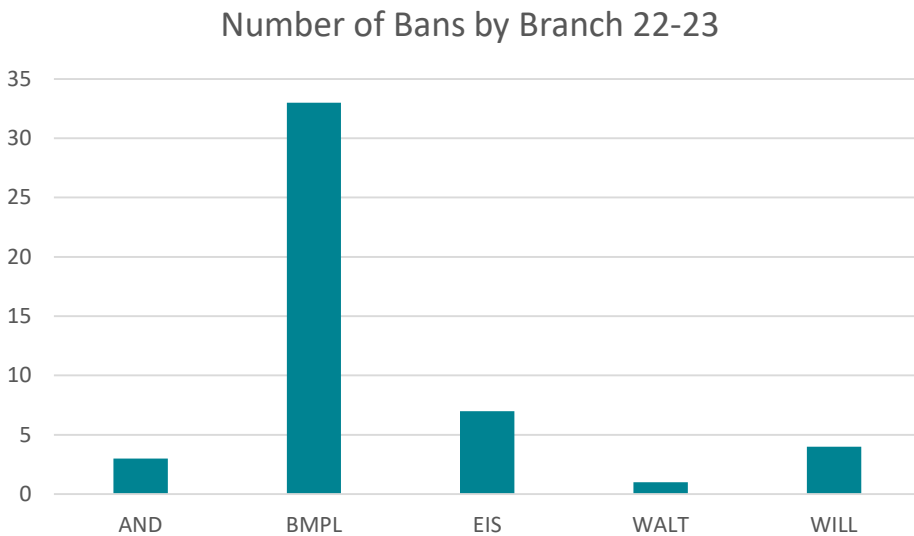


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# Number of bans

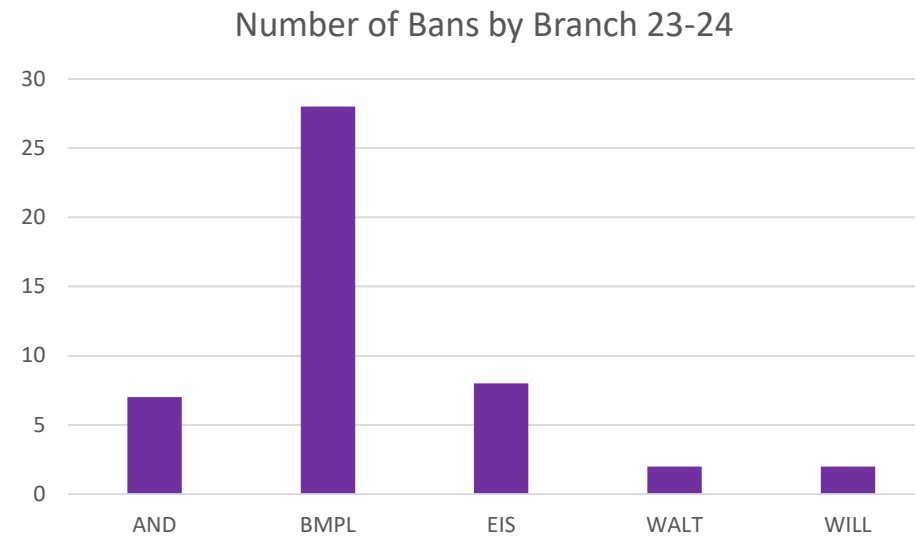
FY 2022-2023

49 bans issued



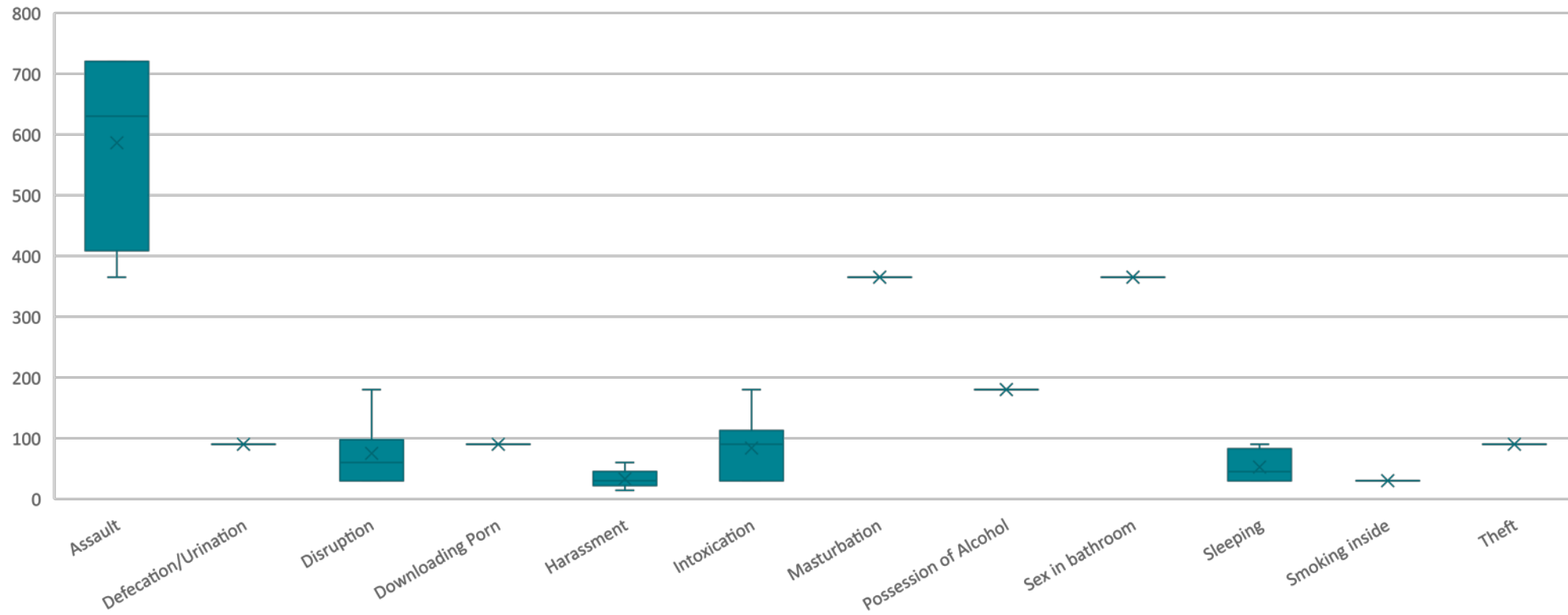
FY 2023-2024

48 bans issued



# Bannings FY 23-24

Range of times banned per Infraction (in days)



# Hopes & Dreams

