Ramsey County Library Data Stories Highlight 2022 Milestones

In 2022, Ramsey County Library circulated a total of 2.73 million materials, and interestingly, 40% of the library materials checked out were from the library in Roseville! There was a total of 2,240 programs (in-person and virtual) attended by 35,178 participants.

Learn more about all of the Library’s accomplishments, circulation numbers and more on Ramsey County’s Open Data Portal. In Ramsey County Library by the Numbers, you can see all of the Library’s services and programs, or get a detailed breakdown of circulation numbers in the Library Usage story.

Ramsey County launched the Open Data Portal as a way for residents to read, research and download data on county programs and services. Learn more at opendata.ramseycounty.us.

Minnesota State Parks Library Passes at the Library in North St. Paul

Attention all adventure enthusiasts and nature lovers! Get ready for an amazing summer packed with thrilling outdoor adventures. You can obtain Minnesota State Parks Library passes at the library in North St. Paul. These passes allow residents to borrow seven-day permits for free, granting them access to any state park in Minnesota. To date, the passes have been checked out 130 times! Don’t miss out on this incredible opportunity. For more information, visit bit.ly/3w59IKZ.

This program is made possible by Minnesota State Parks and Trails and funded with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Fresh Paint and New Carpet at the Library in Maplewood

Renovation at the library in Maplewood is coming along great. Since the closing in December, grid work has been installed to create new study rooms and meeting spaces. The walls were repainted in cool blues and muted red tones in April. Recently, new carpet was installed, coordinating with the paint. To learn more about the Maplewood Renovation Project, visit rclreads.org/maplewood-renovation.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to get updates on the Maplewood Renovation Project. Check out more pictures at bit.ly/RCL-MP_Renovation.
Virtual programming is offered remotely using Zoom communication software. Some in-person events have resumed at select library locations. Registration is required at rclreads.org or by calling 651-724-6001 (press #2). You must provide a valid email address to participate.

**Take-Home Art Kits for Adults**

Adult Take-Home Art kits provide you with a creative experience away from screens and technology. Supplies and instructions are included. Registration is required through the Library’s online calendar. **Take-Home Art kits are funded with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.**

**Tiny Art**

**July 1-31**

Make your own tiny paintings to show off at the library! Pick up a take-home art kit with a canvas, paintbrush, and paints at Ramsey County Library locations in Mounds View, New Brighton, North St. Paul, Roseville, Shoreview and White Bear Lake, while supplies last. Drop off your completed art by the end of August to be included in our Tiny Art Exhibit in September. No registration required, limit 1 kit per person. **Tiny Art is funded with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.**

**Book Clubs**

In-person book clubs have resumed at some locations. Visit the Library’s online calendar for the most up-to-date information.

**Shoreview Mystery**

Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m.
July 18: Hello, Summer by Mary Kay Andrews
August 15: Finlay Donovan is Killing It by Elle Cosimano

**Shoreview Take Pride**

Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
July 6: Yerba Buena by Nina LaCour
August 3: Fun Home by Alison Bechdel

**White Bear Lake Mystery**

Wednesdays, 1:30-3 p.m.
July 5: English Writers
August 2: Female Writers

**Karen Chan Art**

Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
July 10: Roses in Acrylic
RCL-White Bear Lake
August 14: Peonies in Acrylic
RCL-Shoreview

Join local artist Karen Chan for guided step-by-step instructions throughout the process of using acrylic paints to create beautiful works of art. All levels are welcome. Class size limited to 20 participants. Registration is required. **This series is funded with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.**

**Get the most up-to-date library news and events!**

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY:**

bit.ly/RCL_e-newsletters

**History Events**

**Ramsey County Historical Society Presents: History Revealed**

The following Ramsey County Historical Society programs are part of the series, “Making Minnesota: Natives, Settlers, Migrants and Immigrants,” co-sponsored by the East Side Freedom Library.

**Italians on Saint Paul’s East Side**

Thursday, July 20, 7 p.m.
Zoom Webinar

Italian immigrants have had a significant presence in St. Paul. Although there were only a few as the city began to grow in the 1850s, within five decades their numbers had risen substantially. Many settled in Railroad Island and Swede Hollow on the East Side. Join John Andreozzi for a retrospective look at their culture and their times.

Andreozzi has written about the experiences of Italians in the United States and maintains Italian-American-Experience.org.

**Whiteness in Plain View: A History of Racial Exclusion in Minnesota**

Thursday, August 10, 7 p.m.
Zoom Webinar

Widely seen as a progressive stronghold of the Midwest, Minnesota also has some of the greatest racial disparities in the nation. Historian Chad Montrie maintains that those disparities have their roots in Minnesota’s earliest days as a territory and in the decades that followed. Join him and James Curry for a discussion of our state’s historical record of white exclusion of African Americans.

Montrie is a history professor at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell, and is the author of the article, “In that Very Northern City: Recovering a Forgotten Struggle for Racial Integration in Duluth.”

Curry is an Arthur C. McWatt Fellow at the Ramsey County Historical Society.
Programming is subject to changes and cancellation. For the most up-to-date program information or to register for an event, visit rclreads.org.

**Community Resource Advocates**
Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m.
Service Center-Maplewood*
3001 White Bear Avenue N., Suite 1022A
Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
RCL-Roseville

Social workers, advocates and county navigators will be in the library to help individuals and families with questions relating to housing resources, shelter, accessing benefits, food assistance, mental health, youth services and more.

Call Peoples Incorporated at 651-774-0011 for more information or visit peopleincorporated.org.

*Please note: Advocates have relocated to the Service Center at the Maplewood Mall during the library renovation. No appointment necessary. Call 651-724-6062 for more information.

**Community Well-being**

**Environment and Sustainability Events**

**Seed Talk: Gardener Get Together**
Tuesday, July 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
RCL-White Bear Lake

Come meet other gardeners to exchange ideas, problems, tips and tricks all about the plant world. Bring a lawn chair or blanket as we’ll meet outside the library on the boulevard strip on Clark Avenue, (or inside the White Bear Lake library in case of inclement weather). We would love to meet some of the gardeners who had grown seeds from the White Bear Lake Seed Library as well as gardeners new to the seed library.

**Ramsey County Master Gardeners Present**

**July 13: Planting for Pollinators**
Pollinators are critical to a healthy environment and many native species are in jeopardy. Learn what you can do at home to create healthy habitats for native bees and butterflies.

**August 10: Be A Pest Detective**
Learn how to prevent, identify and respond to pests and problems that appear in your yard and garden using Integrated Pest Management practices.

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**History Events**

**White Bear Lake Area Historical Society**

**Boat Builders of White Bear**
Monday, July 24, 6-7 p.m.
RCL-White Bear Lake

Join local historian and author Jay Rendall to hear stories from his highly anticipated book chronicling the Boat Builders of White Bear.

**What’s in a Name, Part IV**
Monday, August 28, 6-7 p.m.
RCL-White Bear Lake

Join us for part four of a series where we explore many of the streets and parks around the White Bear Lake area and investigate how they got their names through the years. From Podvin Park to Hammond Road and Park Avenue to Hobe Lane, what’s in a name?

*This series is funded with money from Minnesota’s Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.*

**Puzzle Pals**
Sundays, 12:30-4:30 p.m.
July 16; August 20
RCL-Shoreview

Join us every third Sunday of the month for a day of making friends and making puzzles! Puzzles will be provided at the library, though you’re welcome to bring your own. All ages are welcome.

**Knitting for Good**
Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
RCL-Shoreview

Do you love to knit, or crochet, or quilt or sew? Join us for this unique opportunity to gather with your crafty neighbors as we knit for good. Drop in anytime and bring your projects to work on. All skill levels are welcome.

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**Employer of the Day**

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-Noon  
RCL-Roseville

Looking for a new job? Every Tuesday, a different employer will visit the library to talk about job opportunities in their organization. Bring your resume and your best first impression to get hired. *Presented by Ramsey County Workforce Solutions.*

**Career Services**

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Service Center—Maplewood*  
3001 White Bear Avenue N., Suite 1022A  
No Career Services July 4.

Mondays, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
July 10; August 7  
Fridays, 1:30-4:30 p.m.  
RCL-Roseville

Open to everyone for drop in job search assistance and career planning including:
- Resume development, applying to job postings, interview tips, networking, LinkedIn and more.
- Upcoming Job Search related workshops and events.
- Information and referral to Employment and Training programs offered by Ramsey County and partner providers.

*Please note: Career Services have relocated to the Service Center at the Maplewood Mall during the library renovation. *Presented by Ramsey County Workforce Solutions and MN Job Partners.*

**Ramsey County Fix-it Clinic**

Saturday, August 26, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
RCL-Roseville

At Fix-It Clinics, residents bring in small household appliances, clothing, electronics and more to receive free guided assistance from volunteers with repair skills to disassemble, troubleshoot and fix items. Fix-It Clinics build community connections and reduce the number of repairable objects that are thrown in the trash.

**Resume Writing**

Monday, July 31, 6-7:30 p.m.  
RCL-Roseville

Learn how to write cover letters that catch the attention of search groups and resumes that emphasize your skills and experience, even if your job history doesn’t seem like a perfect fit for the job you want. Discover strategies that will help you apply for multiple jobs while customizing your application for each opening. *Presented by The Loft.*

**Great Communication Skills**

Monday, August 14, 6-7:30 p.m.  
RCL-Roseville

Hone your persuasive and descriptive writing skills using proven tips and tricks from the world of print advertising. Learn how to self edit and move from sentences that just sit on the page to those that inspire your reader. *This series is funded by MELSA.*

**Small Business Workshop**

Start with Brand: Messaging & Identity  
Thursday, August 17, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
RCL-Roseville

Learn how to define your unique selling proposition, communicate with your audience and make sure all your marketing efforts align with your true north. Move beyond features and benefits to connect with your audience in meaningful ways. *Presented by SCORE Twin Cities.*

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Virtual programming is offered remotely using Zoom communication software. Some in-person events have resumed at select library locations. Registration is required at rclreads.org or by calling 651-724-6001 (press #2). You must provide a valid email address to participate.
Succession Planning for Digital Assets
Wednesday, August 2, 6-7:30 p.m.
Zoom Webinar
Technology has changed the way we store our data, communications, activities and memories. Even if you aren’t aware of it, most of us have digital assets of some kind. Digital assets include email accounts, computing devices such as laptops and smartphones, data storage such as USB thumb drives and cloud accounts, domain registrations, digital photos, social media and other online accounts and subscriptions, and even cryptocurrency.

So what happens to these assets if we’re incapacitated or we pass away? How can we make sure that appropriate people—a spouse, loved one or executor—can access what they need access to? What about things you don’t wish to share—whether email, a dating profile or certain accounts or documents? And what if some forgotten or abandoned account were hacked? This session is designed to clarify the kinds of information worth protecting, how to protect it appropriately and how to make sure that a designated recipient can have the kind of access you wish.

Learn the Basics of Zoom Meetings
Monday, August 7, 6-7 p.m.
Zoom Webinar
Learn the basic features of using Zoom Meetings. There will be time for questions following the presentation.

Drop-in Computer and Tech Help
Mondays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
RCL-Shoreview

Wednesdays, 5-7 p.m.
Thursdays, 1-3 p.m.
RCL-Roseville

Do you need extra help on the computer, tablet or other piece of technology? Are you searching for a job or working on a resume? Let us help answer your questions! Registration not required.

One-to-One Computer and Tech Help by Appointment
Tuesdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
RCL-New Brighton

Thursdays, 10 a.m.-Noon
RCL-White Bear Lake

Individual basic computer and technology help is available by appointment at the libraries in New Brighton and White Bear Lake. Staff will help with your basic technology questions including email, working on resumes or documents, mobile devices, e-books and social media. Call New Brighton at 651-724-6002 or White Bear Lake at 651-724-6007 to schedule your half-hour help session.

Drop-in E-book and E-audio Help
Tuesdays, 2-4 p.m.
RCL-Roseville

Have you purchased a new computer or mobile device and are curious how to use the Library’s e-book Overdrive/ Libby service? Help is available for your questions about the world of e-books! Bring your device for some hands-on instruction. No appointment necessary.

Assess Your Basic Computer Skills
Monday, July 17, 10:30 a.m.-Noon
RCL-Roseville
Are you unsure about your computer skills? Join us in using the Northstar Assessment tools! These assessments are an easy way to identify what you know and pinpoint what you need to learn.

Android Phone Basics
Wednesday, July 19, 10:30 a.m.-Noon
RCL-Roseville

This beginner class will introduce you to the operating system of your Android phone. Learn to navigate your home screen, work with apps and learn basic settings.

ChatGPT and other Creative AI Unleashed: Exploring the Art and Science of Text and Image Generation *NEW*
Thursday, July 20, 6-7:30 p.m.
RCL-Roseville

We will delve into the basics of artificial intelligence (AI) and showcase the remarkable capabilities of generative tools for image and text creation. Learn more about the cutting-edge AI models through live demonstrations that reveal how these innovative technologies can bring your creative ideas to life and be inspired by the endless possibilities that AI holds for the future of creativity and communication.
**iPhone Basics: Navigating iOS**  
Friday, July 21, 10:30 a.m.-Noon  
RCL-Roseville  
Learn more about the iOS interface, Siri (your virtual assistant), browsing the internet using Safari, downloading apps and some iPhone tips and tricks.

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**iPhone Tips & Tricks**  
Tuesday, July 25, 10:30 a.m.-Noon  
RCL-Roseville  
Learn to use Focus mode to manage your notifications, find a lost iPhone, navigate, and organize your photos, connect to wireless devices using Bluetooth and more.

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**Introduction to Chromebooks**  
Wednesday, July 26, 10:30 a.m.-Noon  
RCL-Roseville  
This basic computer class will introduce you to Chromebooks. Learn what a Chromebook is, the difference between types of Chromebooks, how it differs from a PC and basic usage and settings.

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**Maker Adult**  
Fridays & Saturdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
RCL-Roseville  
Use the Library’s laptops to design a 3D model, create your own stickers, cards or other cardstock cutouts, or utilize the video and photo editing software. Access the Library’s digitization equipment to convert your physical photos, slides, negatives, cassette tapes, 8mm and Super 8 film, as well as VHS and VHS-C tapes into high-quality digital files. Try the sewing machine or ask questions about the 3D printer.  
Maker equipment is available through a combination of reservations and first-come, first-served.  
For the most up-to-date information on how to access and reserve time with the equipment, call 651-724-6100 or visit rclreads.org/makeradult.

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**Photo & Video Conversion**  
Tuesday, July 18, 6-7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, August 2, 10:30 a.m.-Noon  
RCL-Roseville  
Come learn about the Library’s digitization equipment that can convert your physical photos, slides, negatives, cassette tapes, 8mm and Super 8 film, as well as VHS and VHS-C tapes into high-quality digital files. Bring a flash drive to store your files and up to 12 items to digitize as time allows. Registration required. Space is limited to 10 participants.

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**Designing for the Cameo: Create a Sticker**  
Tuesday, August 8, 10:30 a.m.-Noon  
RCL-Roseville  
Use Silhouette Studio to design stickers that you’ll cut out of adhesive vinyl using the Library’s Silhouette Cameo electronic cutting machine. Registration required. Space is limited to six participants.

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**Designing for the Laser Engraver: Cardstock Bookmarks**  
Thursday, August 24, 6-7:30 p.m.  
RCL-Roseville  
Learn how to cut cardstock with the library’s laser engraver while making your own bookmark. Registration required. Space is limited to six participants.
Why Do You Love Your Library?

This spring, the Ramsey County Library Friends revisited our Love Your Library Campaign during National Library Week. We shared some of the hundreds of wonderful and heartfelt responses that Ramsey County Library patrons submitted to the Love Your Library campaign. Enjoy a sampling below:

• “We love the library and are there about every week. The book and movie selections are superb and all of the staff have been so very nice. The story times for our grandsons are fabulous as are the Read Make Do kits. We have told so many of this wonderful asset to our community.”—Lois

• “To me the library is a special place, it takes me to places I could never afford to go to. It opens my mind to endless knowledge. It just makes my world so much bigger, and it keeps my brain going. I love it.”—Glenn

• “My favorite day of the week is the day we come home from the library. My 6 and 8 year old cuddle up in a cozy spot and plow through the 30-50 books they have chosen. My favorite thing about the library is the variety and diversity of books the library has.”—Kate

• “The library means a safe space for the diverse community to come celebrate themselves and one another as well as literature. I love that Ramsey County library provides so many community programs and unique places to study because it creates a welcoming homey environment and a sense of belonging on a deep profound level.”—Robin

• “I LOVE coming to my library because reading is something I love to do. Books take me on adventures anywhere, anytime, without me traveling, because I’m a kid. My parents and grandparents have come to libraries...libraries are where every adventure begins.”—Grayson

• “Technology help; nowhere else can I get this kind of help with such overall service, knowledge and helpfulness.”—Susan

• “I love the book collection. I always find something good or what I need. It’s a great place to just come get a book or magazine and relax. It saves me lots of money - I don’t need to buy books to read.”—Frieda

• “I love the look on my friends faces when we talk about the latest book that we want to read and they immediately go to their phones to request it. In stressful times, the pleasure of a book can light the darkest night. That pleasure is magnified when shared in a reading community.”—Kate

Want to submit your own stories or comments? We’d love to hear from you. Use the Love Your Library online form at rclfriends.org/love-your-library.

April Used Book Sale a Record-Setting Success

Many thanks to all of the hardworking volunteers, book donors, and book sale customers that made the April sale at RCL-Roseville possible! The cool and rainy weather on the days of the sale made for a cozy and warm destination for book lovers. The Friends sold a record-setting $9,200 of used books, DVDs and CDs.

A particular thank you to our Special Sales Team who worked many hours and coordinated and planned the sale: Karin Avery, Elaine Cole, Ann Graham, Mary Laine, Susan Miller, Cindy Quarfoth, and Kris Robertson-Smith.

Please continue to shop all year long at our used bookstores at Maplewood (re-opening in fall), Roseville and Shoreview locations; and our Used book carts at Mounds View and White Bear Lake.

Reading Friends Volunteer Opportunity for 2023-2024

We are seeking volunteers to become Reading Friends in the 2023-2024 school year. Starting September, volunteers will serve in the New Brighton area working one-on-one with K-5 children on reading after school on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons. No prior experience is necessary and orientation is provided. Your level of commitment is flexible - you can volunteer every week or just weeks that fit into your schedule.

A free and confidential background check is required to join the Reading Friends Literacy Program. Background checks can be completed this summer in preparation for the new school year. For more information about the program, the volunteer schedule and the volunteer application process, contact Caitlin Carroll at ccarroll@rclfriends.org or 651-724-6127.
Maplewood (MP) 651-724-6003
3001 White Bear Avenue N., Suite 1022A
M-F 10-4:30
Limited Library services available. Friends’ Used Book Store not open during renovation.

Mounds View (MV) 651-724-6004
2576 Mounds View Boulevard
M & Th 1-8; W, F & Sa 10-5; T & Su Closed

New Brighton (NB) 651-724-6002
400 10th Street NW
M, Th-Sat 10-5; T 10-8; W 1-8; Su Closed

North St. Paul (NS) 651-724-6005
2300 North St. Paul Drive
M 10-8; W, F & Sa 10-5; T & Th 1-8; Su Noon-5

Roseville (RV) 651-724-6001
2180 N Hamline Avenue
M-Th 10-8; F-Sa 10-5; Su Noon-5
Friends’ Used Book Store

Shoreview (SV) 651-724-6006
4560 N Victoria Street
M-Th 10-8; F-Sa 10-5; Su Noon-5
Friends’ Used Book Store

White Bear Lake (WB) 651-724-6007
2150 2nd Street
M 10-8; T & W 1-8; Th-Sa 10-5; Su Noon-5

Website and Social Media
rclreads.org
facebook.com/rclreads
@rclreads
bit.ly/RCL_e-newsletters

Due Date Renewal
651-766-4141 or My Account online

Closed
July 4

Ramsey County Library Board
Grace Atkins, Chair
Stephen Fitze, Vice Chair
Andrea West, Secretary
Dawne Brown White
Jason Isaacson
Kami Miller
Marissa Kirby

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