

A photograph of the Swarthmore Public Library building, a two-story structure with a gabled roof and large windows. The words "SWARTHMORE" and "PUBLIC LIBRARY" are visible on the building's facade. The building is surrounded by lush greenery, including trees and a well-maintained lawn.

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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Swarthmore Public Library





# THANK YOU!

Providing an entire community with quality library events and services is a team effort. Thank you to everyone who made it possible this year.

## LIBRARY STAFF

Abigail Cengel, Director  
Carol Mackin, Circulation Manager  
Scott Schumacher, Youth Services Coordinator  
Jenifer Phillips, Adult Services Coordinator  
Kerry Doyle, Public Relations Coordinator  
Mae Vachon, Library Associate

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

David Murphy, President  
Ellen Kornfield, Vice President  
Kate Maloney-Gross, Secretary  
Sonya Pappas, Treasurer  
Elizabeth Brown, Trustee  
David Langdon, Trustee  
Jennifer Prevoznik McNamara, Trustee  
Tom Melvin, Trustee

## FRIENDS OF THE SWARTHMORE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Beth Fitzsimons, President  
Barb Weir, Vice President  
Anne Papa, Treasurer  
Ann Currens, Secretary

## LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

We are greatly appreciative of the **769 hours** in 2022 spent helping the library!

Meredith Flower  
Kate Francis  
Carol Kennedy  
Mimi Nenno  
Anne Papa  
Bern Rehberg  
Sarah Rehberg  
Carol Savery  
Beth Soch  
Helen Van Hoeven



# A MESSAGE FROM

## ABIGAIL CENGEL, LIBRARY DIRECTOR



What a wonderful year 2022 has been! I began as the Library Director halfway through the year, and I am amazed by the love and dedication the Swarthmore community has for the library. I have tremendously enjoyed getting to know the library, its staff, and the community the library serves. It's inspiring to see a community so engaged with their local library.

2022 was marked by a number of exceptional accomplishments. Our circulation numbers are climbing up to pre-pandemic levels. Programs for adults and children are consistently attended, and our staff has outdone themselves this year in developing creative programs. From the highly-attended return of the beloved Dog Show, to spooky sensations such as a presentation by Edgar Allen Poe, to community collaborations such as the Local Author Expo, 2022 has been a remarkable year for learning and growing at the library.

Thank you to everyone who visited the library, checked out a book, or even just visited our website in 2022! Even the smallest action provides tremendous support.

Looking ahead, we are excited to explore improvements to library services, programs, and collections to meet the ever-changing needs of the Swarthmore community. I'm looking forward to learning and growing with the Swarthmore community in 2023!

## DAVID MURPHY, BOARD PRESIDENT



It's been a pleasure to serve on the Swarthmore Library Board of Trustees in 2022.

I've learned much more about the library's mission, its service to the community, and our vision for the future. Our library provides a true north star to so many in the community. It's one of the first resources for young parents as they impart their love of books and knowledge to their children. The library is a critical resource for an immigrant seeking knowledge and employment resources. It's a quiet safe haven for those looking to learn of any age, as well as a touchstone to those who are new to the community. The library aspires to be a warm and safe space for the entire community.

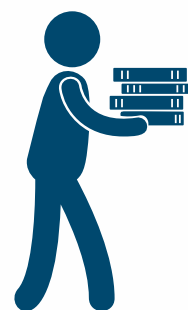
All of this is provided due to the amazing staff, volunteers and friends, and the community that supports the library directly through your donations and indirectly through your taxes. We see you, we value you, and we appreciate you.

The library is here to serve the borough, I personally welcome your suggestions. As we enter 2023, the Swarthmore Library is embarking on a mission to expand/renovate our existing space to provide better access and accommodations for all. Look for our efforts to reach out for public suggestions later this year. Wishing everyone a safe and happy 2023, get your reading lists in order!

# 2022 BY THE NUMBERS



**4,514**  
SWARTHMORE  
CARDHOLDERS



**64,502**  
VISITORS TO THE  
LIBRARY



**769**  
VOLUNTEER HOURS



**2,498**  
HOURS OPEN



**89,056**  
PRINT CHECKOUTS



**18,725**  
DIGITAL CHECKOUTS



**1,606**  
LIBRARY OF THINGS  
CHECKOUTS

**207** ADULT PROGRAMS

**3,731** ATTENDEES



**392** CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

**7,171** ATTENDEES



**25,281**  
VISITS TO OUR WEBSITE



**3,735**  
PUBLIC COMPUTER  
SESSIONS



**2,196**  
FOLLOWERS ON SOCIAL  
MEDIA



# FUN AND LEARNING FOR ALL!

## DOG SHOW AT LITTLE CRUM CREEK PARK

The Swarthmore community came together to celebrate all things canine in the newly revitalized Dog Show. Pooches were paraded, winners were chosen, and fun was had by all! What a way to kick off the summer! Special thanks goes to the Providence Animal Center in Media for featuring adoptable dog Nando at the event.



## WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

2022 saw the return of the Wonderful Wednesdays summer series for children. Performances included an action-packed pirate adventure from Talewise, improv comedy for kids from DJ Mixup, and a family magic show from the Amazing Magi. We had a blast singing, playing, and dancing along!

## FULL STEAM AHEAD!

Mr. Scott made learning fun at our outdoor STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) summer series! We got messy creating slime, fed our inner engineers with wind-powered cars and mini catapults, and floated away on aluminum foil penny boats.

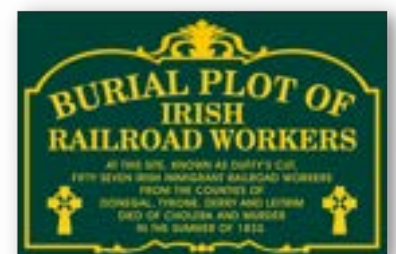


## WOMEN & THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Presented by Dr. Roger Turner of the Science History Institute, this thought-provoking program explored the lost history of women in science fields and what we can do to recover these important pieces of history.

## DUFFY'S CUT FILM SCREENING & LECTURE

Author William Watson highlighted a little-known piece of local history known as Duffy's Cut. Audience members were riveted by the history and archaeology of the Chester County site, learning about the tragic events that ended in an unmarked mass grave of 57 Irish railway workers.



# COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

## NATURE'S BEST HOPE AUTHOR EVENT

SwPL partnered with the Swarthmore Horticultural Society and the Swarthmore Environmental Advisory Council to host Doug Tallamy, author of *Nature's Best Hope*. Professor Tallamy taught us about ecosystems and how to protect them, sharing practical advice about how to transform your yard.

## VIRTUAL LOCAL AUTHOR EXPO

Our first collaborative local author expo! This event, hosted by Marple Public Library and Swarthmore Public Library, showcased works from six local authors. We had an evening of author talks and presentations by six featured speakers: Brian Dickens Barrabee, Cheryl Borrelli, Juanita Gregg, Arlene Lomazoff-Marron, Caroline Reeves, and Bryan Way.

# SPECIAL THANKS TO...

## AGING IN PLACE GRANT FOR WATERCOLOR WITH ANNA

Back by popular demand, artist and teacher Anna Loro taught us how to unleash our inner painter with her fabulous watercolor class. Participants brought watercolor creations to life with the skillful guidance of Ms. Loro.



## SHARON FORD FUND FOR GHOST OF EDGAR ALLAN POE

At this spine-chilling Halloween event, Dr. Covington made an appearance as Edgar Allan Poe. Through inspired readings of some of Poe's most famous poems and prose, audience members were able to fully experience the "ghost" of Poe through a chillingly gothic and hauntingly sublime performance.



## FRIENDS OF SWPL FOR CHILDREN'S MINDFULNESS SERIES

In this 6 week series, Mindfulness Educator and Consultant Bernadette Smith introduced mindfulness practices for children. More important than ever in a post-pandemic world, mindfulness practices can help children foster better focus and concentration and decrease their stress and anxiety.

# TECH HIGHLIGHTS

New to the library in 2022, we were able to offer exciting new technology! It allowed us to enhance library collections and services and make technology more accessible for community members of all backgrounds.

## SOLAR BENCHES

Relax and recharge (your devices) on our solar benches outside of Borough Hall! This Project was financed by a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development, Keystone Communities Program. The grant was awarded through a collaborative effort by the Swarthmore Public Library, Delaware County Libraries, and Senator Tim Kearney. The solar equipment will be installed at various public libraries within the 26th Senatorial District which includes Delaware and Chester Counties. Special thanks to Carol Mackin, who spearheaded the grant project with Delaware County Libraries, and without whom the project would not have succeeded.



## ROKU PLAYERS

Want to binge that new HBO show but can't afford the exorbitant fees? Dying to watch that new BBC murder mystery? We've got you covered! With three new Roku players, patrons can borrow select streaming services for one week at a time. A must-have for television and film enthusiasts without breaking the bank!



## NINTENDO SWITCH™

Newly added in September, we are pleased to be able to offer a Nintendo Switch™ for checkout. The console even comes pre-loaded with three popular Switch™ games! Gamers and fun-seekers alike will have a blast borrowing this item at no additional cost.

## MEETING OWL

Thanks to American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funds provided by Delaware County, we are able to offer hybrid programs using a Meeting OWL. With 360-degree views that create an immersive meeting experience, the Meeting OWL allows the library to offer virtual "seats" for in-person programs. In a post-pandemic world, we're excited to be able to offer flexible options for patrons of all ages!





# PUTTING THE "FUN" IN FUNDRAISING!

## NOSH & KNOWLEDGE

Our first annual trivia-themed fundraiser! At the sold-out event, community members battled each other for the coveted place of most knowledgeable team. Out of four rounds, "The Parkers" came in top place with a whopping 38 points! Attendees also tried their luck at a fabulous basket raffle. From lottery scratch-offs to gift cards to local theatre tickets, each basket was more popular than the next.

Thank you to our generous sponsors: King's Auto, Harvey Oak Mercantile, and GSM Advisory Group.



## FALL FEST

We had a blast at our first annual Fall Fest fundraiser! We had a visit from furry animal friends of Eyes of the Wild and got to play Halloween-themed carnival games. Families and children of all ages tried their skills at spooky cornhole, bottle toss, and bouncing eyeballs into a witch's brew! We also went "fishing" for books and caught a bundle or two!

Thank you to our generous sponsors: HeadRoom, Heidi Foggo Homes, Enduring Smiles Dental, Heiler Painting, Yay Lunch!, Ruby's Business Solutions, Longwood Gardens, Philadelphia Union Soccer, and the Friends of the Swarthmore Public Library.

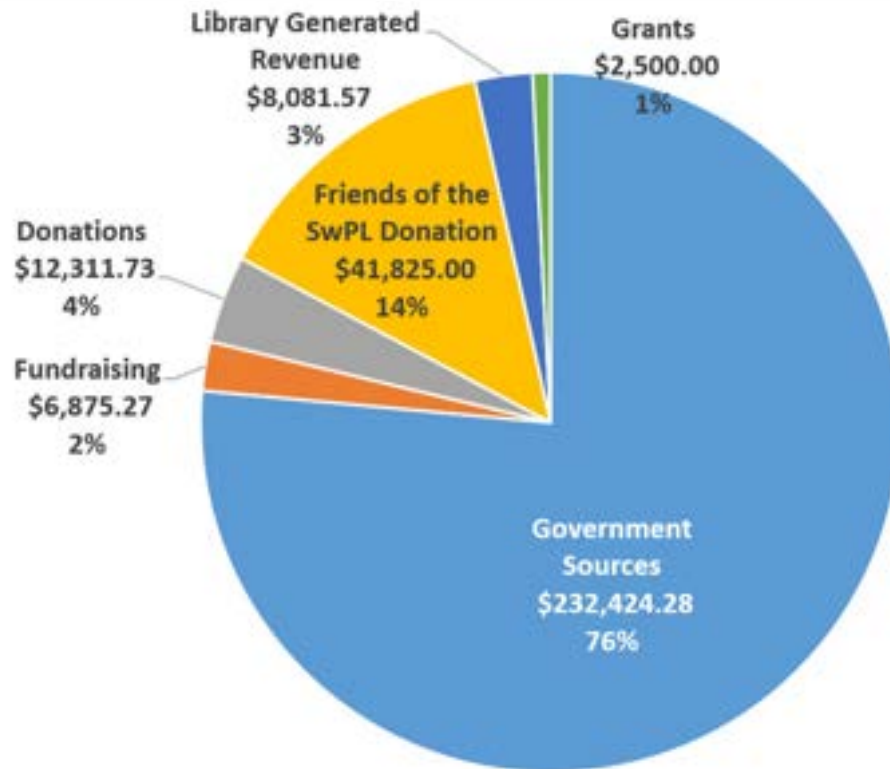




# 2022 FINANCES

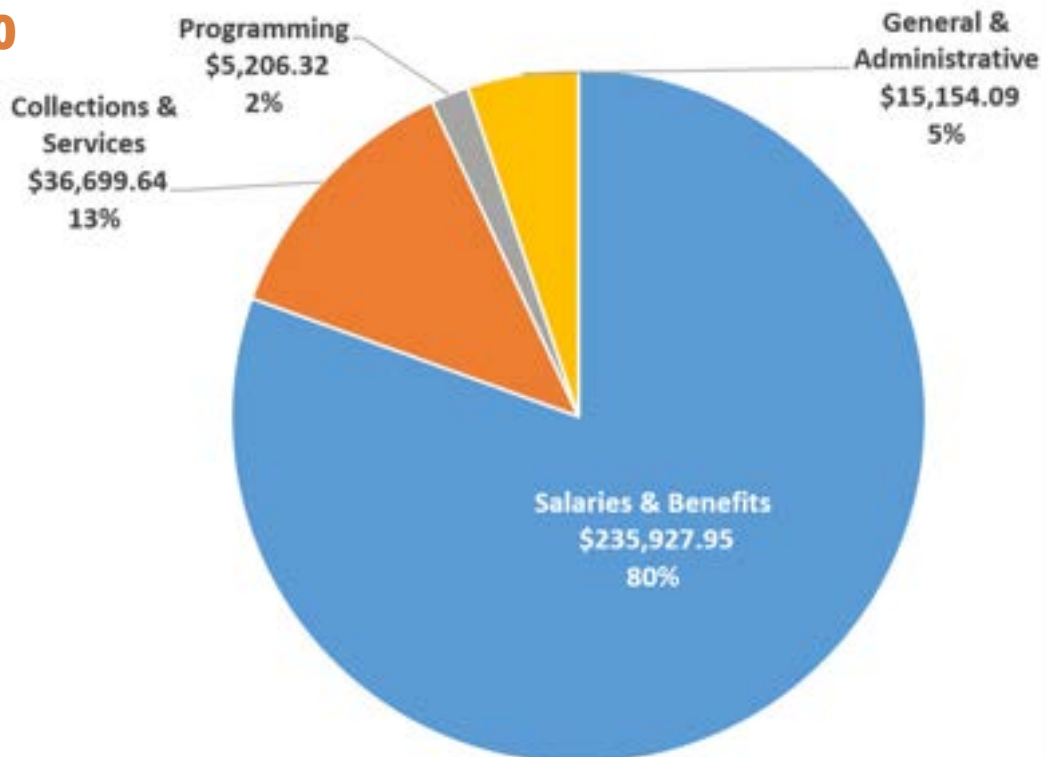
## OPERATING INCOME

**\$304,017.85**



## OPERATING EXPENSES

**\$ \$292,988.00**



# 2022 DONORS

## \$1-\$99

Elisabeth R Aaron  
Garen Boghosian  
Mark and Joan Brown  
David Burnette  
Pamela Butler  
Wendy Emrich  
Trudy Goglia  
Birgitte Haselgrove  
Tom Heron  
Etheldreda Kaminski  
Mary Kochanowicz  
Peter Koelle  
Ilene Lieberman  
Bradley Midgette, Jr.  
Janice Page  
Robert Schachner  
Executive Cleaners  
Amy Sisson  
Joseph Torregrossa  
Margaret J Urban  
Alan Waldt

## \$100+

Sara Sinclair Brody  
Mae Caleb  
Peggy deProphetis  
Sara Handley  
Stephen and Mary Hinds  
Sheryl Jones  
Stephanie Klein  
Laura Reiter  
Liz Rhoades  
Karen Robinson  
Ross and Kim Schmucki  
Damon Soeiro  
Elizabeth Thornton  
Martin Warner  
Theodore Weiss

## \$250+

Bridget Doherty  
Myra Hochman  
Mary Kochanowicz  
Tom Melvin  
James Peyton Jones  
Keith Peltzman  
Angela Tseng  
Susan Wright

## \$500+

Eleanor P. Clark

## \$1,000+

Christopher and Kathryn Kenney  
Martin and Terri Micklin

## EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

### NOSH & KNOWLEDGE

King's Auto  
Harvey Oak Mercantile  
GSM Advisory Group

### FALL FEST

HeadRoom  
Heidi Foggo Homes  
Enduring Smiles Dental  
Heiler Painting  
Yay Lunch!  
Ruby's Business Solutions  
Longwood Gardens  
Philadelphia Union Soccer  
Friends of the Swarthmore  
Public Library

## HONOR & MEMORIAL GIFTS

### IN MEMORY OF LESLIE BRUBAKER

Margaret Bishop

### IN MEMORY OF SALLY DOW

Jane Cohen  
Elizabeth Dow  
Andrew Irving  
Bette Schregel  
Susan Wright

### IN MEMORY OF ANN HAZARD

Mckayla Cairns  
Margaret Emerson  
Frank Lally  
Michael Lally  
Lawrence and Martha Shane  
Roland and Susan Spencer  
Joseph and Ann Torregrossa  
Ben Yagoda

### IN MEMORY OF BARBARA SILVER

Rob Oaks

### IN MEMORY OF JUDITH SCHATTENFIELD

K. Schattenfield

### IN HONOR OF SHEILA BELL

Graham Dodds

### IN HONOR OF CAROL MACKIN

Sharon Ford

## IN-KIND GIFTS

Franklin Institute  
HeadRoom  
Longwood Gardens  
Philadelphia Union Soccer  
Yay Lunch!

### Made a donation but don't see your name?

You may have given to the [Friends of the Swarthmore Public Library](#). Donations to the Friends of Swarthmore Public Library are tracked and managed separately by the Friends.

If you gave directly to the Library and your name has been misprinted or omitted, please contact us at [director@swarthmorepubliclibrary.org](mailto:director@swarthmorepubliclibrary.org) or 610-543-0436 so we can update your recognition preferences.

# THANK YOU!



# WHAT WAS SWPL'S ACTUAL WORTH IN 2022?

How much would library services cost if you had to pay for them directly?

## \$2,060,447.85

Adult Books Borrowed	<b>\$512,482.00</b>
YA Books Borrowed	<b>\$24,120.00</b>
Childrens Books Borrowed	<b>\$812,277.00</b>
Audiobooks Borrowed/Downloaded	<b>\$93,609.60</b>
Interlibrary Loan Requests	<b>\$295,800.00</b>
eBooks Downloaded	<b>\$122,295.00</b>
Magazines Read	<b>\$5,515.00</b>
Newspapers Read	<b>\$7,125.00</b>
Movies Borrowed	<b>\$18,476.00</b>
CDs Borrowed	<b>\$10,298.25</b>
Adult Program Attendance	<b>\$55,965.00</b>
Childrens Program Attendance	<b>\$50,197.00</b>
Museum Passes Borrowed	<b>\$9,480.00</b>
Computer Use (per hour)	<b>\$25,308.00</b>
Reference Assistance	<b>\$17,500.00</b>



## \$30.67

Contribution to library funding  
per capita  
(based on Swarthmore Borough's 2022  
contribution)



## \$315

Received in library services per  
capita