



GLOUCESTER COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM

2022

Year In Review



**Mullica Hill Branch
Administrative Headquarters**
389 Wolfert Station Rd,
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
856-223-6000

Director: Carolyn S. Oldt
Assistant Director: Judith Pissano
Commission Director: Frank J. DiMarco
Commissioner Library Liaison: Lyman Barnes
www.GCLS.org

Glassboro Branch
2 Center St,
Glassboro, NJ 08028
Manager: Loretta Lisowski

Greenwich Branch
411 Swedesboro Rd,
Greenwich, NJ 08027
Manager: Cindy Simerlink

Logan Branch
498 Beckett Rd,
Logan, NJ 08085
Manager: Jonathan Amey

Margaret Dombrosky
Swedesboro Public
Library
1442 Kings Highway,
Swedesboro, NJ 08085
Manager: Andrew Brenza



Highlights from 2022

Fine Free

GCLS became the first library in Gloucester County to go Fine Free in April, 2022.

Summer Reading



GCLS participated in the New Jersey State Library "Oceans of Possibilities" 6-week 2022 Summer Reading Program. GCLS had 1,191 children, teens, and adults register and read 22,233 books. All GCLS

Branches participated by creating a system-wide Summer Reading calendar, hosting special programs and offering prizes each week. GCLS hosted 313 youth programs with 6,514 participants. Children and teens are given summer reading bags, funded by the Friends of GCLS, and local businesses provide incentives such as a free ice cream cone. GCLS hosted 63 adult programs with 589 participants.

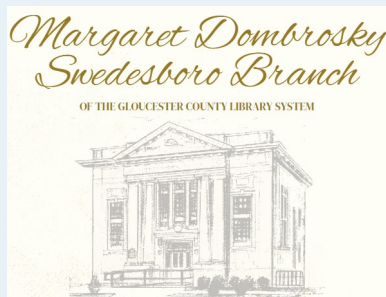
Etta Jane Heiser 5K / 1 Mile Walk

The Friends of GCLS held their inaugural 5K/1 Mile walk on Sunday October 2. The event was held in memory of Etta Jane Heiser, former Library Friend.



Library Renaming

On October 8, the Swedesboro Branch was renamed in honor of the former Branch Manager, Marge Dombrosky. The library was renamed **GCLS Margaret Dombrosky Swedesboro Public Library**. The ceremony was held under a tent in the back of the library. Borough Mayor Tom Fromm, Councilman Dave Flaherty, Director Carolyn Oldt, and Margaret Dombrosky spoke at the event.



Grants

Due to the initiative and hard work of GCLS Staff, the library was awarded grants totaling approximately \$35,104 in 2022.

Library Service and Technology Act Grant Year 2022 (LSTA), Embracing Change Through Digital Literacy at GCLS - \$20,000

Gloucester County Cultural & Heritage Grant, Mural - awarded through Friends of GCLS - \$5,500

Munich Safety Grant - \$4,039

NJ Health Connect @ Your Library - \$2,910

Creative Aging Grant - approx. \$1,775

LibraryLinkNJ Grant - \$500


NJ STEM Pathways Mini-Grant - \$380



Technology

- ◇ The library webpage (www.gcls.org) was accessed 284,699 times. More than 22% of our patrons use mobile devices to access our webpage.
- ◇ GCLS branches provide 116 public-access computers with broadband internet access, all of which provide a full range of MS Office applications.
- ◇ All GCLS branches now offer Mobile Printing, saving our patrons valuable time.
- ◇ Hot Spots are now available for check out at all branches, allowing users to have internet access at home or on the road. In addition, GCLS is now loaning iPads.
- ◇ GCLS now offers a Digital Library Card with a simple online application.

GCLS and the Community

- ◇ The GCLS Mobile e-Bikes were brought out to many events this year including public community events in which they were used to connect with library patrons and potential patrons, and help advocate for the library. These events include: RCSJ Senior Art Show; Borough of Glassboro, Artwalk Night Market Festival; Red Bank Battlefield Park, Family History Day, and many more.
- ◇ The GCLS Mobile e-Bike and equipment were used in multiple job fairs that were scheduled in coordination with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the American Job Center at Gloucester County, the Gloucester County Workforce Development Board, and Rowan College of South Jersey.
- ◇ GCLS is the first library in New Jersey who has partnered with Longwood Gardens for a Community Read. All branches participated in programs around the theme of trees. Longwood Gardens provided a limited number of books and free passes to those that participated in the programs.
- ◇ The Youth Services Department partnered with Sesame Street to offer 30 *Little Neighbors* storytimes. All participants received a book, stickers, badge and certificate for attending. Storytimes focused on helping children to think and act with concern, respect and kindness for others.
- ◇ Read Across America was celebrated across the library system. GCLS Glassboro Branch had a special guest speaker, Commissioner Frank J. DiMarco who read his favorite book, "*Horton Hears a Who*".
- ◇ GCLS is pleased to continue to participate in the RCSJ Intern Scholarship Program. In 2022, five interns were placed at GCLS libraries and at InnovationStudio at RCSJ.
- ◇ GCLS continues to issue courtesy "Database Only" cards to County departments participating in the Intern-Scholar program. This provides interns who do not reside in a GCLS member community with access to GCLS online training resources such as Universal Class and Learning Express.
- ◇ Working with our vendor, RBDigital, GCLS has also been able to offer free access to *Universal Class* to all Gloucester County employees. Universal Class offers over 500 online continuing education courses.
- ◇ In February, GCLS participated in the *Gloucester County Cares about Hunger* campaign with the annual Food for Fines, Feel the Love initiative.
- ◇ Weeded books are now being rebranded as Little Library Books and being repurposed in the community, including at Shady Lane, Mantua Laundromat, etc.
- ◇ We have sent over 10 boxes of Little Library weeded books to the non-profit organization, BookSmiles, putting books in the hands of children and teens.
- ◇ GCLS Mullica Hill Branch hosted the Gloucester County Chamber of Commerce for a before-hours networking event. About 35 Chamber members attended. Nancy Polhamus, Head of Adult Services, gave a brief talk about research tools and personal assistance available at the library.
- ◇ The GCLS Glassboro Branch continues to partner with the Food Bank of South Jersey to offer free lunches for those under 18 years of age. Public schools offer free lunch while school is in session and this program helps those with food insecurity through the summer months.
- ◇ Branch Manager Jon Amey spoke to the "Aged to Perfection" senior group regarding library services and volunteer opportunities.
- ◇ GCLS benefitted from 1,486 hours of volunteer service.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

BY THE NUMBERS 2022

220,280
Visitors



Items in our E-Collection
1,335,354

E-Content Checked
Out
79,463



302,521

items borrowed from our shelves

17,052

USES OF
REFERENCE
SERVICES

27,265

USES OF
IN-LIBRARY
INTERNET

14,033

TOTAL
HOURS
OPEN

4,297

Weekly E-Newsletter
Subscribers



New
Library Cards
2,747



Followers on:

4,507 Facebook
17,920 Twitter
1,991 Instagram

27,801

NUMBER OF
COMPUTER
SESSIONS



Follow Us!



@GloucesterCountyLibrary

@GCLibs

@GloucesterCountyLibrarySystem

www.gcls.org

3,014

number of
library programs
attendees at our
programs

Free
Fun!

41,836

429 community sponsored
programs

9,470 attendees at community
sponsored programs

