MILLINOCKET MEMORIAL LIBRARY

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR MISSION
To enrich lives, inspire imaginations, and empower community.
Greetings!

2023 was a year of finding focus as a library and building the momentum we need for long-term success. We embarked on a strategic planning process to imagine what was possible for MML and to determine our priorities going forward. On the next page, we’ll dive into what that looks like, but first, I’d like to provide a snapshot of some of our key achievements this past year.

Programs
Our programs are at the heart of what we do, and in 2023, we offered over 300, ranging from computer classes, to arts and crafts activities, to nature walks. But to me, the most impactful programs were the ones where we were able to bring your ideas to life, like our teen-led Pokemon Club this summer or our community conversation on domestic violence in the fall.

Facilities
We are committed to ensuring that our facility is as functional, accessible, and welcoming as possible. So in 2023, we made several improvements, including transforming a storage room into a lounge for local teens and installing four electric vehicle charging stations to keep up with emerging technology. Over the next year or so, we have plans to modernize our elevator, update our roof, and improve the look and functionality of our grounds.

Funding
Last year, we strengthened our relationship with one of our key funding partners, the Town of Millinocket, through increased communication and accountability. I’m pleased to share that as a result, we have our first ever contract with the Town for the services we provide. In addition, we were blown away by the support we received from our donors this year, surpassing our annual campaign goal of $25,000 by over 40%. These wins offer us increased stability as we move forward, allowing us to focus on what matters.

As I reflect on the past year, I extend my gratitude to each member of our library community, and I hope this report captures and celebrates the progress we have made this year thanks to all of you.

Warmly,

Diana Furukawa
Library Director

February 2024
WHERE WE’RE HEADED: 5 BIG GOALS

Below are the 5 big ideas that came out of our strategic planning process this year. They outline what we hope to achieve over the next 3-5 years. View the whole plan on our website at: MillinocketMemorialLibrary.org/strategic-plan.

1. Provide engaging and relevant resources and programs.
   - Offer consistent, quality customer service
   - Host enriching programs for all ages
   - Grow our collection based on your interests

2. Facilitate innovative projects that make our community more livable.
   - Sustain the Katahdin Gear Library
   - Help lead community development initiatives

3. Serve as a keystone community hub and gathering space.
   - Improve building accessibility
   - Invest in sustainability of building
   - Increase use of library as a meeting space

4. Garner broad participation and support.
   - Gather community input
   - Improve effectiveness of marketing
   - Streamline fundraising efforts

5. Achieve strong organizational sustainability for long-term success.
   - Retain strong board, staff, and volunteer team
   - Develop multiyear financial plans
As an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit, our operating costs are funded by a combination of grants, donations, our contract with the Town of Millinocket and support from the Friends of MML. Operating expenses include the supplies, services, and staff time necessary to offer our services and programs, grow our collection, and maintain our building.

**OPERATING INCOME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>$4,227</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friends of MML</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$53,433</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating Grants</td>
<td>$7,276</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Employee Retention Credit*</td>
<td>$81,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Sewall Foundation Grant</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Grants</strong></td>
<td>$188,916</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town of Millinocket**</td>
<td>$76,109</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Income</strong></td>
<td>$340,685</td>
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**OPERATING EXPENSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs &amp; Community Engagement</th>
<th>$3,910</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Supplies &amp; Marketing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Time- Programs</td>
<td>$51,532</td>
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<td><strong>Total Programs &amp; Community Engagement</strong></td>
<td>$55,442</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collections &amp; Library Services</td>
<td>$12,619</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Collections</td>
<td>$59,449</td>
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<td>- Staff Time- Reference, Circulation, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Collections &amp; Library Services</strong></td>
<td>$72,067</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>$6,463</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Technology</td>
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<td>- Utilities</td>
<td>$21,294</td>
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<td>- Rent***</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Repairs &amp; Maintenance</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Staff Time- Facilities</td>
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<td><strong>Total Facilities &amp; Equipment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration &amp; Fundraising</td>
<td>$650</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Fundraising</td>
<td>$486</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Professional Development</td>
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<td>- Office Supplies, Postage, &amp; Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Financial Review</td>
<td>$8,150</td>
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<td>- Consulting</td>
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<td>- Insurance</td>
<td>$13,231</td>
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<td>- Staff Time- Administration &amp; Fundraising</td>
<td>$43,329</td>
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<td><strong>Total Administration &amp; Fundraising</strong></td>
<td>$84,623</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$315,128</td>
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*The Employee Retention Credit was one-time COVID-related federal funding.
**We received a final 2023 quarterly payment from the Town of Millinocket in early 2024.
***We are required to pay rent through 2026 per an agreement that financed the library’s 2019 renovation.

Questions? Our 990, independent financial compilation, and many other reports are available on our website at: MillinocketMemorialLibrary.org/reports.
We offered a series of hands-on programs this year on canning and preserving.

We partnered with Katahdin Federal Credit Union this year to offer workshops on topics like wills and power of attorney.

Local musician, Mark Miller, held a summer concert that was enjoyed by people of all ages.

This spring, every Granite Street School class toured the library and learned about the resources we have to offer.

Some of our teen patrons celebrated completing our community puzzle!

Participants and staff outside of the gear library’s downtown location after a mountain biking program this summer.

By the Numbers

On the average week in 2023...

- 433 people visited the library
- 235 books were circulated
- 161 people connected to Wifi
- 53 people used a public computer
- 49 people attended a library program

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- 49 people attended a library program
- 235 books were circulated
- 161 people connected to Wifi
- 53 people used a public computer
- 433 people visited the library

This spring, every Granite Street School class toured the library and learned about the resources we have to offer.
We would like to acknowledge the many dedicated volunteers who make our work possible. Below is a non-comprehensive list of our 2023 volunteers and Friends.

- Ben Barr
- Barbara Beaulieu
- Jonah Bissonnette
- Austin Brittin
- Clay Brittin
- Lelia Brown
- Yolanda Bulley
- Dean Crocco
- Ghost Crocco
- Melissa Crocco
- Michael Crowley
- Shorty Cummings
- Ed Dunstan
- Marie Dunstan
- Chelsea Ehret
- Carolyn Filauro
- Albert Fowler
- Fred Fowler
- Marian Fowler
- Bernie Friel
- Cindy Friel
- Greg Friel
- Esther Gass
- Deborah Grabber
- Jeff Hamm
- Lily Hamm
- Phil Healey
- Fred Herring
- Cindy Ingerson
- Anne Jackson
- Randy Jackson
- Dale Jandreau
- Sarah Jandreau
- Makenna Johnson
- Margie King
- Mark Kowalski
- Sherry Kowalski
- Ross Knowlton
- Leona Kunkel
- Mary Lou Libby
- Mia Lowery
- Terri MacDonald
- Robin Matarazzo
- Mary McManus
- Kamma Michaud
- Carol Morrison
- Wally Paul
- Mary Pinette
- Tom Power
- Barbara Riddle-Dvorak
- Henning Schöne
- Riley Schramm
- Kitty St. John
- Norma Wentworth

As a kid growing up in Caribou in the 1930s, Bob Pelletier fell in love with mystery books like the Hardy Boys series. But during World War II, reading took on a new meaning for him as he pored over maps and encyclopedias to learn about the distant places where his older brothers were stationed. He came to understand reading as an invaluable bridge to the wider world beyond his small town, which ultimately led him to his career in education.

Bob worked as a teacher and principal in Millinocket for many years before becoming the superintendent of Millinocket Schools in the 1970s. He became involved in the library in the 1960s, advising on the construction of the new building and later collaborating with staff to establish libraries at each school in Millinocket. In his retirement, Bob joined the library’s board, serving for 27 years. In addition, he volunteered many hours each week to help maintain the building and grounds. And when the library’s very existence was threatened back in 2015, Bob fought hard to keep its doors open. Why? Because, in his words, “A town without a library, I don’t want to live in.”

Looking back on over 50 years of service to MML, Bob reflected on how the library is now so much more than “just a place to keep a bunch of books,” but is a hub for programs, technology, learning, and community connection. Even in his nineties, Bob is the kind of person to roll up his sleeves and get to work when he sees a need. He embodies the spirit of volunteerism that is at the heart of MML’s story, and we commend him for his years of service to the library and community.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our major donors

We would like to extend special recognition to the following donors who went the extra mile in 2023 to support our work. Your generosity is inspiring.

Anonymous donors
Nancy & Reinier Beeuwkes
Stephen & Margaret Bond
Jerry & Gretchen Davis
Marian & Albert Fowler
Philip Healey
William Hinton
Joseph Huber & Sheila Unvala
Margie King
Michael MacDonald
Sky MacDonald
James & Cathy Mingo
Molly Ostrander
Lee Smith
Gregory & Jean Waite
Shultzie & Spencer Willows

Consistent donors

We also wish to acknowledge the dedication of the following donors, who have given to the library consistently over the past three years. Your ongoing support makes a big difference.

Anonymous donors
Beth & Doug Allen
Arthur & Florence Archie
Chandler Barbour
Reinier & Nancy Beeuwkes
Jean & Will Boddy
Stephen & Margaret Bond
Sally Bouchard
Rodney & Debbie Cole
Meghan Cooper
Judith Cyr
James Deabay
William Dennen
Eldon & Donna Doody
Daniel & Margaret Elliott
Anthony & Carolyn Filauro
Elizabeth Fowler
Marian & Albert Fowler
Frank & Bernie Friel
Arthur Furukawa
William Hinton
Cynthia Ingerson
Rodney & Susan Jacobs
David Kalenak
Margie King
Doug & Judith Knowlton
Maria Knowlton
Dolores Kong
Dick & Jan Krause
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Roberta Laverty
John Lawton
Robert & Priscilla Leet
Kevin & Mary Lou Libby
Paul & Terri MacDonald
Michael Madore
Joetta Manzo
Gregory & Valerie Mekras
James & Cathy Mingo
Algirdas Nakas
Robert O’Halloran
Barbara Page
Wally & Mitzi Paul
Randall & Tina Place
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Faye Rosselle
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David & Patricia Trainor
Mary Ann Underkoffler
Stephanie Weaver
Stephen Williams & Lisa Reece
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Our foundation & corporate supporters

The organizations below have supported our work through business donations, grants, and partnership.

AARP
Age-Friendly Millinocket
American Library Association
Boreal Theater
Cara Charitable Foundation
Dead River Company
Eastern Maine Development Corporation
Elmina B. Sewall Foundation
Emery Lee & Sons
Friends of Katahdin Woods & Waters
Golden Rule Foundation
Katahdin Collaborative
Katahdin Federal Credit Union
Katahdin Region Higher Education Center
Ktaadn Arts Education Center
Maine Community Foundation
Maine State Library
Millinocket Fabrication & Machine LLC
Millinocket Regional Hospital
National Digital Equity Center
Onion Foundation
Our Katahdin
Outdoor Sport Institute
Outer Reach Broadband
Penobscot County
Penquis CAP
Run Maine Inc.
Start Small
Thrive Penobscot
Town of Millinocket
Wabanaki Public Health & Wellness
Wilderness Edge Campground