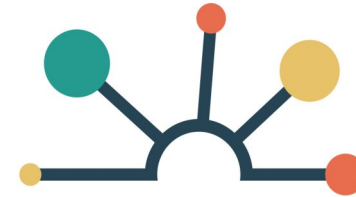




Richmond Memorial Library

2024 Budget Newsletter



Richmond Memorial Library

19 Ross Street, Batavia, NY

Budget Vote & Trustee Election

Thursday, May 2, 2024

Gallery Room

9am - 9pm

RICHMOND MEMORIAL LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT

The Richmond Memorial Library's mission is to connect our community with diverse resources that educate, enrich, and engage.

Message from Board President, Jessica Ecock Rotondo



The Richmond Memorial Library has seen another successful year, thanks to our director, Beth Paine, and our incredible staff.

The library engaged in many initiatives this year. We instituted a permanent fine free policy, meaning there are no late fees or fines for items belonging to the library. By removing fines, we removed barriers, allowing us to live up to our mission of connecting “our community with diverse resources that educate, enrich, and engage.” To continue serving our patrons in need of better technology, we loaned out hundreds of Chromebooks and hotspots. Almost 200 people completed our community needs assessment, which has already started guiding us in developing our upcoming five-year plan. We will continue listening and learning from our patrons, proudly providing incredible library services for Batavia and the surrounding regions.

As we have the past few years, the trustees remain sensitive to the economy and have prepared next year’s budget with only a one percent increase in the amount to be raised by taxes. We thoughtfully and creatively plan ideas to remain sustainable with our resources, while still offering new and creative programs, and materials for our patrons.

Our library offers something for everyone, including children, teens, adults, and seniors, gamers, crafters, poets, and genealogists! Come join us for a quiet space to read, view an art show, listen to music in front of the fireplace, enjoy story time with the kids, get tax or tech assistance, check out the book sale, or just meet a friend in a safe and comfortable place.

Thank you to all library staff for your dedication and hard work; our year was so successful because of you!



RICHMOND MEMORIAL LIBRARY

2023 in review

89,161
people visited the library (avg. 299/ day)

120,660
physical items circulated:
books, DVDs, CDs & more

298
days open

23,096
digital checkouts on
Hoopla & OverDrive

14,689
active cardholders at the end of 2023

18,080
reference transactions

8,427
computer sessions used

157
adult programs

82
teen programs

408
children’s programs

61
general/all ages programs

12,297
total program participation

most popular print items



most popular media

Music CD- *To Be Loved*- Michael Bublé
Children’s Movie- *Super Mario Bros.* Movie Adult Movie- *A Man Called Otto*
Children’s TV- *The Backyardigans* Adult TV- *The Big Bang Theory*
Adult Audio- *Demon Copperhead* / *The Whittiers* / *Treasure State*
Children’s Audio- *The Dangerous Gift* by Tui Sutherland
Periodical- *People Magazine* Video Game- *Spiderman: Miles Morales (PS4)*

Richmond Memorial Library

19 Ross St, Batavia NY | 585-343-9550 | batavialibrary.org

Message from Library Director, Beth Paine

“The most important asset of any library goes home at night – the library staff.” Timothy Healy

This is a quote that goes directly to the heart of the Richmond Memorial Library. Our library staff are the heart of our library and it’s definitely not just me who’s noticed! Looking over our most recent public survey, patrons put our library staff as one of the best things about the library. Besides knowing our collection inside and out, they are always ready to give suggestions for the next book or movie you should check out, to help you locate materials throughout the library, assist you on the computer to find what you’ve been searching for, or teach you how to use our mobile print service. These amazing people are the backbone of the library, and I am very grateful to know that everyone else appreciates all of their hard work and dedication to the library.



We received a lot of useful feedback from the public survey, as well as some further insight into our progress in programming from the New York State Annual Report that is filed by most public libraries in the state. Much of what we see as our most important materials and programs are not always what patrons mention the most. While we know that our children’s programs draw in some of our larger crowds each year, our new Teen/Tween Library Assistant has increased attendance for those programs by about 50%. Adult programming continues to draw in a wide range of participants with our very eclectic programming offerings. And of course, Richmond Reads was an enormous success with Jeannette Walls as our visiting author in 2023. Just wait until you see who we’re getting for 2024!

As we continue into the last half of our budget year, we have been looking over everything that was accomplished this past year. We were very proud to be able to become permanently fine-free, removing the financial impediment to library use that can sometimes prevent the equal use of library materials and services for all patrons. We have replaced the majority of our patron computers with brand-new, high-quality equipment and we are in the process of creating a Technology Replacement schedule so that we always have up to date technology for our patrons.

As I look forward in 2024 and continuing into 2025, I see our continuing update projects for technology, a jam-packed Summer Reading Program, some brand new and innovative programs for all ages, like our new Minecraft Mondays that start on April 15th, and some outdoor projects to enhance the beauty and use of space on the library’s property. And I am happy to report that even with all of these amazing updates, the Board of Trustees has been able to keep our budget increase to only 1%! Our main goal is to not only provide Batavia residents with an open and free library to visit to check out a book, but also a community center where you can learn about everything from how to open an email account to how to create a journal, to getting help filing your taxes. We thank you for your consistent support and for allowing us to continue to serve you and the entire Batavia community.

Meet the Library Trustee Candidates

**To serve a 3-year term
July 2024 — June 2027**
2 Trustee Positions Available



Felipe Oltramari

Felipe Oltramari has been a resident of the City of Batavia for the past 17 years. Along with his wife, they have raised two daughters in Batavia. Felipe works as the Director of Planning for Genesee County and has been working for the department for over 20 years. Felipe graduated with a Bachelor’s degree from the State University of New York at Geneseo and received a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science, concentrating in Environmental and Community Land Planning, from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF). He is a certified planner with the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and accredited with the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNUa).

Christina Mortellaro

Christina Mortellaro is a native Batavian and lover of libraries. She is interested in becoming a Library Trustee because she firmly believes that public libraries are cornerstones of democracy, keepers of history, and providers of equitable access to information and space in a community.



Christina is the current Director of the TRIO Adult Educational Opportunity Center (AEOC) at SUNY Genesee Community College (GCC), a federally-funded college access program that support adults who are low-income and potential first-generation students throughout the Western New York. She holds a MEd in Higher Education Administration from SUNY Brockport and dual B.A.s in English and Communication from SUNY Geneseo.

Prior to work as the director of AEOC, Christina was an Assistant Director and Student Advisor with the TRIO Upward Bound program at SUNY GCC, a similar program for high school students. Before working in higher education, Christina served two terms with Rochester Youth Year AmeriCorps VISTA— a different federally-funded program working to alleviate the effects of poverty in Rochester, NY.

Christina currently serves as a Board Member At Large for the Association for Equality and Excellence in Education, Inc. (AEEE), a professional association that supports college access professionals at 125 colleges and universities in New York and New Jersey. She will transition to be AEEE’s Western New York Representative this fall.

Other current and relevant volunteer experience includes being a current volunteer with Richmond Memorial Library’s “Books Sandwiched In” committee, serving on the executive board of GCC’s Inclusive Excellence Committee, and being a former 13-year volunteer with HOBY Leadership.

In her spare time, Christina loves to spend time with family, friends, and the cats in her life. She loves to read, write, craft, travel, and support the arts.

	2023-2024	2024-2025	Change
Operating Expenses			
Library Materials - Books	\$57,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$3,000.00
e-books	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
Media	\$40,000.00	\$41,000.00	\$1,000.00
Periodicals	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Microfilm	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$0.00
Online Resources	\$37,400.00	\$38,400.00	\$1,000.00
Imagination Library	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Library Programs	\$45,000.00	\$45,750.00	\$750.00
Supplies	\$8,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$8,000.00
Equipment	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$1,000.00
Computer/Technology Services & Support			
	\$44,890.00	\$59,000.00	\$14,110.00
Contractual Services & Support <i>such as security system, printer, copiers</i>	\$25,270.00	\$14,337.00	-\$10,933.00
Publicity	\$15,000.00	\$6,000.00	-\$9,000.00
Professionals Services and Dues	\$56,540.00	\$29,200.00	-\$27,340.00
Postage	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00
Mileage	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$0.00
Continuing Education/Conference	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$0.00
Office Supplies	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Telecom	\$3,900.00	\$4,000.00	\$100.00
Utilities	\$27,950.00	\$25,920.00	-\$2,030.00
Insurance	\$7,000.00	\$18,816.00	\$11,816.00
Custodial Supplies	\$2,100.00	\$2,750.00	\$650.00
Wages & Salaries	\$872,073.00	\$865,361.00	-\$6,712.00
Employee Benefits - Social Security	\$67,217.00	\$65,599.00	-\$1,618.00
Health Insurance + Fees	\$204,331.00	\$226,640.00	\$22,309.00
NY State Retirement	\$83,788.00	\$99,039.00	\$15,251.00
Worker's Compensation	\$9,100.00	\$3,500.00	-\$5,600.00
Capital Improvement	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$1,681,159.00	\$1,696,912.00	\$15,753.00

PROPOSITION

Shall the Board of Education of the City School District of Batavia be authorized to raise by tax \$13,814 to increase the annual appropriation from \$1,381,469 to \$1,395,283 for the benefit of the Richmond Memorial Library?

Richmond Memorial Library

2024-2025 Proposed Budget

Operating Revenues	2023-2024	2024-2025	Change
Real property taxes levied by school district	\$1,381,469.00	\$1,395,283.00	\$13,814.00
Other payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs)	\$54,666.00	\$58,219.00	\$3,553.00
New York State Library Aid	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Library Generated Income			
--Interest of Investments	\$850.00	\$500.00	-\$350.00
--Fines/Printing/Photocopy	\$20,000.00	\$18,000.00	-\$2,000.00
--Gifts/Memorials	\$7,458.00	\$10,000.00	\$2,542.00
--Refund Fines/Lost Items	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
--Non-Resident Library Cards	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Appropriated Funds	\$189,006.00	\$208,910.00	\$19,904.00
Genesee County Grant	\$22,210.00	-	-\$22,210.00
Total Revenues	\$1,681,159.00	\$1,696,912.00	\$15,753.00



John Roach

John Roach is from Kenmore, NY in Erie County. He moved to Batavia in 1974, when he started working for New York State.

He retired from the New York State Department of Corrections as a Senior Counselor after 36 years, starting out as a Correction Officer at Attica. He also worked at the Wyoming, Orleans and Albion Correctional Facilities.

John is a Viet Nam War Veteran where he served as a Military Police Investigator. He then joined the US Army Reserve and retired after 32 total service as a Master Sergeant, working in Facility Management for the Division Engineer. Other positions in the Reserve were Nuclear Security, Drill Sergeant, Instructor, Training Evaluator and Division Engineer Office.

John was a volunteer with the local Boy Scouts for 29 years.

He served on the City of Batavia Charter Commission twice and on the Mall Operating Committee one term.

John believes in public libraries as a necessary part of a community and wants to help keep ours going.

RICHMOND MEMORIAL LIBRARY VOTING GUIDELINES

WHO MAY VOTE?

Residents of Batavia City School District who are citizens of the United States, eighteen years or older, and are registered voters may vote on this year's Trustee Election.

Eligible residents of the Batavia City School District who are not registered voters may come in to the library on April 9th between the hours of 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm to register to vote in this year's budget vote & trustee election.

WHAT ABOUT ABSENTEE BALLOTS?

Applications for absentee ballots are available at Richmond Memorial Library. If the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the application must be received at the Richmond Memorial Library by 5 pm on April 23rd. If the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter, the application must be received by 5 pm on April 29th.

“Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life. Libraries change lives for the better.”

—*Sidney Sheldon*

RICHMOND MEMORIAL LIBRARY

PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET VOTE AND TRUSTEE ELECTION 2024-25 Fiscal Year

PROPOSITION

Shall the Board of Education of the City School District of Batavia be authorized to raise by tax \$13,814 to increase the annual appropriation from \$1,381,469 to \$1,395,283 for the benefit of the Richmond Memorial Library?

YES

NO

SAMPLE BALLOT

LIBRARY TRUSTEE MEMBER

For a three-year term, 2024-2027

VOTE for TWO:

Felipe Oltramari

John Roach

Christina Mortellaro

SAMPLE BALLOT