

We are grateful as we reflect upon 2023's growth and achievements.

Our **Imagine-Discover-Connect** capital campaign culminated in April with the unveiling of a fully renovated and expanded Kaltreider-Benfer Library, the final of three libraries reimagined to meet the ever-changing needs of York County's children, teens, and adults. A welcoming crowd delighted in its new transformation. Programs and attendance at the library continue to rise as adults, families, teens, and children explore its diverse offerings.

From our reimagined spaces evolved a new program for teens, **York Cosplay!** Local experts introduced participants to the varied facets of cosplay, from selecting a character to mastering the walk, as teens readied for our first-ever York Cosplay Fashion Show. This inspiring, confidence-building program will expand in 2024.

Outstanding service to teens continued with our award-winning **Youth Empowerment Summit**, a program that encourages high school students to explore options for life after graduation. This year, YCL expanded outreach and attendance by locating the event at Penn State York Campus.

Library staff and leadership continued to engage in strategic planning, identifying opportunities for growth and community engagement. With support from the York County Community Foundation, YCL embarked upon a service optimization study, designed to enhance efficiencies, explore service models, and affirm sustainability. Planning continues in 2024.

We are grateful for the amazing contributions of time, talent, and resources that support our local libraries. Our libraries are true community treasures, for and by the people we serve. **Thank you for helping us enrich our communities and inspire generations to come!** We hope to see you at your local library soon.

Robert F. Lambert, President
York County Libraries

Claire Forbush, Chair
York County Libraries

Tom Donley, Chair,
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York County Libraries



All Together Now. York County Libraries' SummerQuest program celebrated its 16th year of partnering with "Get Outdoors (GO) York!" of WellSpan Health. **8,850** registrants participated, 18% over 2022. Library members read an impressive **5,600,449** minutes and attended **1,113** events offered online or in a library setting. SummerQuest was made possible by the support of Avalon Insurance, The York Water Company, WellSpan Health, and The GIANT Company.



1000 Books Before Kindergarten. York County Libraries celebrated ninety-nine children completing one thousand books in a special ceremony at Martin Library. These enthusiastic learners read a combined total of **103,105** books, **4,105** above goal! Since our 2018 launch, a total of **995,622** books (nearly one million!) have been read by children from birth to Pre-K. 1000 Books Before Kindergarten was made possible by support from the Richard S. & Ann B. Barshinger Family Foundation.



GOAL: Grade One At the Library. York County Libraries' annual GOAL program offers a free library card to every first-grade student in York County. Now in its sixteenth year, **42,273** GOAL library cards have been issued since the program began in 2008. Students meet nationally-known children's authors as part of the celebration program. Our annual initiative is made possible thanks to the generous support of PeoplesBank, presenting sponsor since GOAL's inception.



Leap into Science. Leap into Science is a hands-on interactive program for school age children that focuses on **STEAM** topics: science, technology, engineering, arts and math. Professional educators encourage participants to ask and answer questions like scientists, through research, observation, and prediction. Children enhance critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving and collaboration skills, important in school and life beyond. **725** participants benefited from this innovative program in 2023.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Thanks to all who support York County Libraries, including our partners & sponsors:

- Anne & Philip Glatfelter III Family Foundation
- Avalon Insurance Company
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- Waste Management
- WellSpan Health
- York County Community Foundation
- York Water Company

2023 Program Highlights

Celebration of Poetry. York County Libraries announced **24** winners of the 34th Annual “Celebration of Poetry” contest from a pool of **159** applicants, grades 1-12 in York and Adams Counties. The winning students read their entries at a special ceremony on April 26 at Guthrie Memorial Library in Hanover. Entries were evaluated for overall impact, poetry elements, grammar, usage, mechanics and spelling by a panel of local educators, librarians, and writers.



York Cosplay. YCL’s teen program fosters authenticity, inclusivity, and confidence through creative self-expression. Local experts in cosplay and costume design facilitated five workshops for teens throughout the spring, teaching fabrication, special effects hair and makeup, 3-D print designs, and embodying confidence and character. Each workshop hosted between eight to fifteen teens, culminating with twelve teens in the June Fashion Show. York Cosplay will expand in 2024. All ages are encouraged to participate.



Youth Empowerment Summit. Our annual countywide teen event was held Saturday, September 30 at the Penn State York Campus. Over **120** students grade 9-12 attended this unique opportunity to exchange classroom learning to explore options for life after graduation. Teens met online with award-winning author Andrew Aydin and received a copy of **March: Book One**, co-authored by Aydin and civil rights icon Congressman John Lewis. **March** was the first comics work to ever win the National Book Award.



YCL Teen BeatWay Studio DJ Lab. BeatWay Studio DJ Lab came to life in 2023, an audio visual and recording studio at Martin Library with multi-week training of student cohorts creating beats. Beat makers, or producers, manipulate audio, sequence samples, program rhythm sections, and compose parts using virtual instruments. The library received a special grant from The Les Paul Foundation to expand its DJ platform in 2024.



\$7 MILLION BUDGET



BY THE NUMBERS

- **4,001 programs** with 95,822 attendees
- **175,408** Wi-Fi uses
- **492,804** website visits
- **639,785** library visits
- **1,403,081** items borrowed
- **\$28,851,900** total value of items & services

York County Libraries
159 E Market Street
York, PA 17401

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York County Libraries
Administrative Office:
159 E Market Street
Third Floor
York, PA 17401
717.849.6969

Our Locations

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| BROGUE Collinsville | JACOBUS Village |
| DILLSBURG | RED LION Kaltreider-Benfer |
| DOVER | SHREWSBURY Paul Smith |
| ETTERS Red Land | SPRING GROVE Glatfelter |
| GLEN ROCK Arthur Hufnagel | STEWARTSTOWN Mason-Dixon |
| HANOVER Guthrie | YORK CITY Martin |
| HELLAM Kreutz Creek | |