

# PALM SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY

## 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



## STATISTICS AT-A-GLANCE:

### Palm Springs Public Library

City Librarian Jeannie Kays



On behalf of the Library Board of Trustees, Friends of the Palm Springs Library, Palm Springs Public Library Foundation, and Library Staff, I present this Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2021-22. My team worked hard to provide excellent service in changing times and remain flexible in programming and service options. We added new services like mobile hotspots and the Zip Books program and continued old favorites, like Summer Reading Program, which you will read about later.

One of the “newer” services available is the ability to apply for a passport at the Library. Last year we helped 591 people apply for their passport. Appointments are available if you need to get a new passport. Visit our website for details.

Through a grant from the California State Library, we added six new database services: Northstar Digital Literacy, Coursera, LinkedIn Learning, Skill Share, GetSetUp, and LearningExpress. The services were supported in whole or in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act, administered in California by the State Librarian. Sharpen your skills or learn new skills through these and other online resources from the Library.

Looking forward, we were awarded a \$6.5 million matching grant from the California State Library for infrastructure improvements. You will hear more about that project in the coming months as we start the design process for the renovation. The project is required to be completed by March 2026. It will be here before you know it.

We are confident that you will find something for everyone on our website or inside the library. See you soon!

Jeannie Kays, Director of Library Services

#### MAIN LIBRARY

- Library Visits/Door Count: 82,591
- Materials Checked Out: 292,051
- Number of eBook Check-outs: 20,567
- Public Service Hours: 2,087
- New Library Cards Issued: 2,170
- Public Computer Sessions: 15,788
- Public Wi-Fi Sessions: 13,699
- Number of Virtual Programs: 68
- Virtual Program Attendance: 946
- Number of In-Person Programs: 69
- In-Person Program Attendance: 3,066
- Volunteer Hours: 1,373
- Number of Reference Questions: 10,422

#### WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

- Library Visits/Door Count: 24,052
- Public Service Hours: 2,698
- Public Computer Sessions: 2,861
- Public Wi-Fi Sessions: 1,327

PLEASE NOTE: We continue to see effects from COVID-19 impacting our numbers as people were cautious to return in person.

**Palm Springs Public Library**

300 S. Sunrise Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262  
760-322-READ (7323) [www.pslibrary.org](http://www.pslibrary.org)

## Summer Reading Combines Virtual and In-Person Programming

We continued with Beanstack, a virtual system, for a third year for registration and management, but this year we added weekly in-person programming for each age group. The theme was "Read Beyond the Beaten Path" so programs were themed around exploration, discovery and preparedness. Kids and Teens checked in each week for free, new books and adults earned a book voucher to use at the Friends book sale. Once again we tracked books and minutes read and participants earned badges and a chance to win grand prizes generously provided by the Friends of the Library, PS Sustainability Commission, and many local businesses and organizations. At the finale, staff, volunteers, administration and a member of city council all celebrated our accomplishments, awarded the grand prizes, and had treats to bring an end to the our summer reading program.



### SUMMER READING STATS:

TOTAL SIGNUPS: 538 (+43 from last year)

TOTAL BOOKS READ: 871 (Pre-K only)

TOTAL MINUTES READ: 129,348 (2,155 hours; youth + teens + adults)

TOTAL ONLINE BADGES EARNED: 2,955



## Palm Springs Public Library Foundation Continues Funding for Mobile Hotspots

In April 2021, the Library introduced Internet To Go, mobile Hotspots to lend to those without access to the Internet. Twelve Hotspots were initially purchased with funds from a grant awarded to the Palm Springs Public Library Foundation on behalf of the Library. However, the demand was so great and the hold list so long that it was obvious that there was a need for more Hotspots. The Library Director applied for additional grant funding from the State Library, which we received and more Hotspots were purchased. This year the Foundation unanimously voted to continue funding the original twelve Hotspots purchased for another year and that, combined with additional grants, have allowed the Library to have 70 Hotspots available to lend for up to two weeks, free with a library card!

## Zip Books Are A Hit!



A new program, Zip Books, was introduced in the Spring of 2022 and it was an immediate hit with Library users! Funded through a grant from the California State Library, this program

allows you to request a book that isn't currently in the Library's collection and have it mailed directly to your home from Amazon.

Zip Books are checked out to you like any other library book. When you're done, simply return the item to the library—where it will be checked in and made available for others to use! Because Zip Books is a user-driven program, the library collection becomes more closely matched to the needs of the local community, so it's a win-win for everyone!

A Palm Springs Library card is required to utilize this program and the items, like other library items, are subject to loan time limits and other borrowing guidelines.