



## Quarterly Staff Report — March 2023

Gustavus Public Library

907.697.2350

LeAnn Weikle ~ Library Services Director ~ [leann.weikle@gustavus.lib.ak.us](mailto:leann.weikle@gustavus.lib.ak.us)

Jessie Soder ~ Library Administrative Director ~ [jessie.soder@gustavus.lib.ak.us](mailto:jessie.soder@gustavus.lib.ak.us)

### 1. General Library Statistics Dec. 2022-Feb. 2023

	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
<b>Library Visitors</b>	332	468	428
<b>Books Checked Out</b>	551	525	416
<b>Movies Checked Out</b>	172	262	157
<b>Interlibrary Loans Checked Out</b>	34	44	43
<b>Digital Materials Checked Out</b>	142	128	117
<b>Other Materials Checked Out</b>	52	41	36
<b>Events Hosted at/by Library</b>	11	11	23



## Past, Current, and Upcoming Programming for Fall/Winter 2022

- April 21, Canote Brothers program with Gustavus Preschool and Middle School (all grades/homeschool welcome)
- April 20, Canote Brother will join the Everybody Welcome Library Band
- March 19, Garden Form/Seed Library Grand Opening (in collaboration with Gustavus Community Garden)
- March 2-April 13, Art Club for grades 2-5, (once a week/6 weeks)
- Feb. 26-27, CPR/First Aid Classes for library volunteers and public
- LEGOs with Annie, Fridays 2:30-4, Jan/Feb/March 3 & 10
- Duplo LEGOs with Annie, Thursdays, 10-11, Jan/Feb/March 2 & 9
- Reading Club & Kids Book Club: 3 weeks (Feb/March) *The BFG* by Road Dahl
- Feb. 18, Seed Saving Presentation with Leah from Foundroot
- Feb. 8, NPS Local Hire Resume and Interview Tips Presentation
- Jan. 18/Feb. 20, TACO (Teen Advisory Council organization) Meetings
- Jan. 19-Feb. 23, Art Club for grades K-1, (once a week/6 weeks)
- Jan. 21, Gustavus Seed Library Meeting
- Jan. 10, Virtual Town Hall with Se. Jesse Kiehl and Rep. Andi Story
- Kid's Night Partnership at Gustavus Community Center once a month
- Gustavus Virtual Adult Book Club (new books chosen monthly) OPEN TO EVERYONE!
- Everybody Welcome Band, Thursdays at 5:15 ~ Highlight! The Canote Brothers will join us on April 20<sup>th</sup>!
- Gustavus Preschool Class Weekly Visits
- Homeschool Story Time, Tuesdays at 10am
- Books for Babies and 1000 Books Before K
- Test Proctoring (driver's license, EMT, AK STAR)
- Curbside Services 5 days/week
- Custom-made book boxes – please let us know if there are any requests
- Library Friends and Volunteers Meetings every 2 or 3 months

## 2. Status of Active or Upcoming Grants

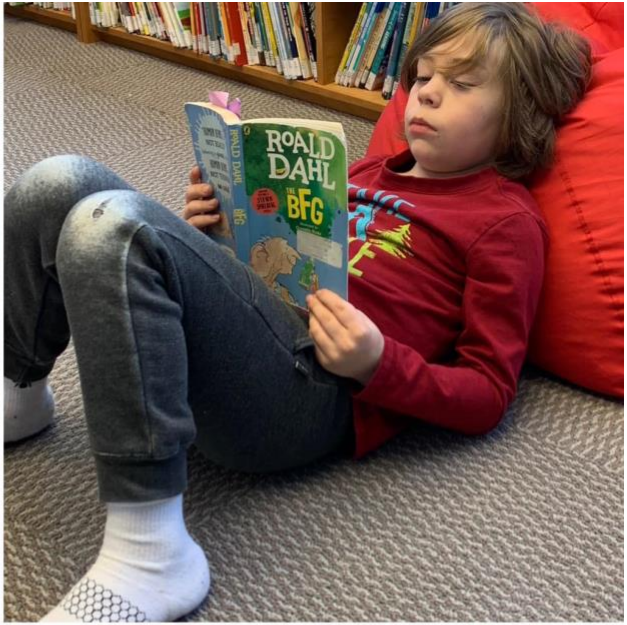
In April 2022, our library was awarded a \$10,000 Alaska Community Foundations Grant. This grant will allow us to host several literacy camps during the next year. These camps will have a literacy, E.S.T.E.A.M., and outdoor education focus and will be available for youth in our community. (E.S.T.E.A.M. = Environment, Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) Our first camp, held Aug. 15-18, was a huge success. **We have three Library Literacy Camps planned for this summer—a Reader's Theater camp, a Book Arts camp, and a Fish and fish-themed camp.**

Each year we apply for the PLA (Public Library Assistance) Grant. We were awarded the grant for FY23, so we have a total of \$7,000 which we budget for materials (books, DVDs, etc.) We purchase approximately 50 books/DVDs per month using funds from this grant. Please let us know if you have a book or DVD request! We have submitted the grant application for FY24.

We are planning to apply for the ILC (Interlibrary Cooperation) Grant which is due April 1. We'd like to submit a proposal to pay for new patron computers. The current patron computers are over ten years old, and we have a lot of problems with them.







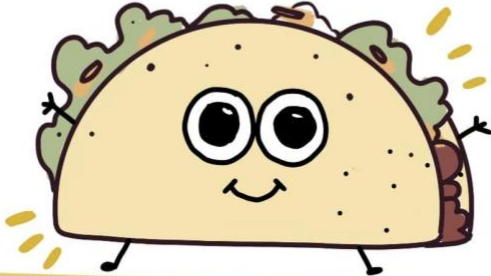
### 3. Existing Projects and Programming

We have formed a TACO (Teen Advisory Council) with middle school students in collaboration with Brittney Cannamore, the Gustavus Community Center Operations Manager, Morgan Park, a paraprofessional from the Gustavus School, and Megan Bishop, a teacher from the Gustavus School. We are working with middle school students to plan programs, provide support and fun at the Library and/or the Gustavus Community Center for the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade age group in Gustavus.

# T.A.C.O


Teen Advisory Council Organization

**February 20th 6:30 PM**  
**@ Gustavus Community Center**




**Join us for a night of delicious tacos and conversation about what you Teen's would like to see in this town!**

**Teens age 11 -14**



Special Thanks  
LeAnn Weikle  
Jessie Soder  
Brittney Cannamore  
Gus Martinez  
Megan Bishop  
Morgan Park



Our Library Assistant, Melisa Gomb is working on our Alaska section. This is a large collection of non-fiction and fiction materials. She is cross-checking what is on the shelf with our online catalog, so we can reorder missing titles or delete the records of the titles no longer found on the shelf. Many of the records in the AK section have no notes, subjects, or other helpful information that would return a search in the catalog, so she is adding information to all the records. She is also adding more information to Local Author titles and making sure those titles are in the correct location(s) and easy to find. In addition to working through the Alaska section, Melisa is also working on getting patron account access to RM online. This would allow patrons to view their circulation history, request titles, and see a list of their items checked out and request renewals—all online.

In early 2022, longtime summer resident, friend of the library, and artist Brian Waverly died. His widow, Alyce Waverly, asked people to donate money to the library in memory of Brian. She requested that the money be spent on art for the library in honor of Brian. After discussing with Alyce, we have decided to complete another step in the killer whale skeleton project. When the whale skeleton was installed in the library, there was a lot of conversations about painting the wall behind the whale with an ocean scene that included a killer whale to complement the skeleton. We are planning to use the money donated to the library in Brian's honor to pay a local artist to paint canvases that will hang behind the killer whale skeleton.

The Canote Brothers are coming to Gustavus for an Earth Day weekend celebration! hey will join the Everybody Welcome Library Band on Thursday, April 20. On Friday, April 21, they will work with Gustavus students to learn how to play a string instrument and have fun with music. The weekend is made possible by the Gustavus Community Center and a grant. On Saturday, there will be many more musical opportunities with The Canote Brothers at the G.C.C.; a jam session, potluck, family dance, and a performance!

*"Greg and Jere Canote are identical twins whose music is all about having a good time. They do, you will. It's steeped in vintage Americana — forgotten fiddle tunes, swing classics, and quirky novelty songs — but with their own twists (and a few of their brilliant original takes on the world around us). They're fabulous musicians, moving effortlessly among fiddle, guitar, banjo, ukulele, and various hybrids, and their genetically-matched voices recall brother duets from the Blue Sky Boys to the Everlys."*

*Redwood Bluegrass Associates*





This year's Summer Reading theme is ***"Find Your Voice."*** We have already begun collaborating with the National Park Service to host weekly *Summer Reading ~ Library Reads* events. The theme is amazing because so much of literacy is about finding your voice; both as a reader, a writer, and an illustrator. Authors and artists/illustrators tell "the story" of many things that matter to them. The theme also lends itself to supporting the idea of learning life skills of being assertive and advocating.

We have been researching possibilities for replacing the boiler at the library after Mark Berry recommended its replacement in December of 2022. After servicing it in December because it shut down for an unknown reason, he said the inside of the boiler is degrading. We will continue to research boiler replacements and will report to the council in our next quarterly report. We are especially interested in energy-efficient options.

The carpet in high-traffic sections of the library is becoming stained and worn. We are making a plan to clean the carpet (with help from volunteers) in the entire library. We have also discussed replacing sections of the carpet since the carpet in the library is "carpet tiles." We've obtained a quote to replace the carpet. One idea we have discussed is replacing the carpet in the meeting room, which is the worst of it, with a product that is more durable and easier to clean.

**We have the best volunteers!** Many of them have projects they are working on while they work their shifts at the library. These projects include organizing historical library photos, helping with the Art Club, taking care of all the plants in the library, mentoring young aspiring librarians, taking ownership of a section of the library, and more. We are incredibly appreciative of Amy Erfling for getting our Seed Library up and running before moving to Juneau to start her new job. We'll miss her but wish her good luck. We love our volunteers and our library benefits so much from them!



#### **SEED SAVING 101**

with Leah Wagner from Foundroot

Foundroot is a small family-owned business in Haines, Alaska.  
Leah will be sharing her decade of knowledge about seed saving.

**Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> @ 11am**

Gustavus Public Library

Participate virtually or in person.

If you have any questions, please contact [aerfling@gmail.com](mailto:aerfling@gmail.com).

We continue to reach out to the school and offer support and programming. Currently the preschool class comes to the library for weekly visits. We are also collaborating with Megan Bishop to support the TACO group.

#### **4. Past, Current, or Upcoming Trainings**

LeAnn and Jessie will be attending the Alaska Library Association Conference in Fairbanks March 23-25. The theme of this year's conference is "Rising to Challenges."

Jessie is taking a graduate level online class, "Library Materials for Young Adults" through the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee.

**Thank you to our City Council!**

**We appreciate all your efforts on behalf of Gustavus.**