Conjuring everyday library magic

One of the best parts of my morning is the moment when the library doors first swing open and the people of our town stroll through the entrance. The library instantly lights up as a gathering place where all are welcome – no matter their age, beliefs, or situation. Here, the everyday magic of serving important human needs is a constant. Here’s what I mean:

• As parents and toddlers arrive for Story Time, a lasting friendship with the written word – and the stories we all share – begins.
• Amid the quiet of the Reading Room, a lifelong learner opens a laptop and begins typing the memoir she has always wanted to write.
• Our Homebound Delivery librarian visits with an avid reader who shares how valuable reading is to his quality of life, strengthening a vital social connection.
• Later in the day, middle-schoolers burst in to choose the books that define their interests before retreating into the library’s warmth and safety.

On a daily basis, we strive to meet our neighbors’ needs, offering vigorous adult and children’s learning opportunities, free streaming films, guided access to historical resources, and one-on-one career help – to name a few.

Our Five-Star library remains a constant for our community – an anchor that reliably serves in a time of so much change, and it will continue to keep the light alive for the generations to come.
**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022**

**INCOME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANNUAL APPEAL and GRANTS</td>
<td>$317,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROGRAM and BOOK REVENUE</td>
<td>$92,374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENDOWMENT INCOME</td>
<td>$139,974</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOWN of CAMDEN</td>
<td>$493,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,042,552</strong></td>
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**EXPENSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOOKS, PROGRAMS, and OPERATING</td>
<td>$167,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACILITY MAINTENANCE and IMPROVEMENTS</td>
<td>$114,573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROFESSIONAL and SUPPORT STAFF</td>
<td>$689,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMPHITHEATRE and HARBOR PARK</td>
<td>$63,221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,034,723</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NET**

$7,829

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(Top) Detail of Colby Adolphsen’s LEGO library replica, Atlantic Avenue entrance. (Bottom) A local student shelters in focus and quiet study in a favorite hidden nook of the Children’s section.

**Financial Reporting**

The library follows procedures that ensure ongoing reviews of financial reporting during the fiscal year. The Finance Committee meets regularly to understand the details of the library’s financial status. In addition, annual independent audits and reviews are performed to provide an outside examination of both the library’s accounting procedures and the resulting financial reports.
The everyday magic of connecting
Adult, Children's programs fuel a memorable impact in 2022

Notable Programs

1. Maine Maritime Museum's "Cotton Town: Maine's Economic Connection to Slavery"
2. "Camden Native Plant Celebration and Sale," a Wild Seed Project Member-Hosted Event (top right)
4. Finding Our Voices "14 to 41: Three Years Later" Survivors Speak Panel and Exhibit (above)
5. The Camden Rotary Presents: "Music by the Sea," a 4th of July Concert

2022 PROGRAMS

1,230
Up 130 over pre-pandemic 2019

ATTENDANCE - IN-PERSON

19,478
Nearly doubled for second year in a row

ATTENDANCE - ONLINE

221,895*
Up 171,590 from 2021

Most Viewed on YouTube
Joseph Coté reads from Colson Whitehead's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel "The Nickel Boys" on Explorations Read-Aloud, July 29

Most Checked-Out Books

1. Hatchet Island
   Maine's own Paul Doiron
2. The Midcoast
   Damariscotta native Adam White
3. The Madness of Crowds
   Louise Penny
4. Give Unto Others
   Donna Leon
5. The Lincoln Highway
   Amor Towles

Camden leads all Maine public libraries in YouTube subscribers

YouTube Subscribers
1. Camden Public Library
2. Portland Public Library
3. McArthur Public Library

Facebook Followers
1. Portland Public Library
2. Bangor Public Library
3. Camden Public Library

Instagram Followers
1. Portland Public Library
2. Bangor Public Library
3. Camden Public Library

Did You Know: These rankings do not include Miss Amy's separate children's-specific channels, YouTube's @MissAmyHand and Instagram's @miss_amy_h and their avid devotees.
Things are feeling more like pre-COVID times every day. We started increasing our in-person indoor programs as we consistently saw more families in the library! We continue to provide online videos of crafts, book recommendations, and STEM programs. If someone is sick at home, families e-mail us, and books are gathered and put at curbside. We offer programs inside and out, taking advantage of our beautiful library grounds.

-Miss Amy

Miss Amy's Dinovember craft and book-pairing video on how to make a handprint Stegosaurus dino-soars on YouTube.

An astounding 114,675 views!

YAY! 2022’s more than 166,000 library visits were up 30% from 2021

Top Youth Books

- Picture Book: King Hugo’s Huge Ego, Chris Van Dusen
- Beginning Reader: Eye of the Earthquake Dragon, Tracey West
- Middle-Grade Fiction: Diary of an Awesome Friendly Kid: Rowley Jefferson’s Journal, Jeff Kinney
- Juvenile - Non-Fiction: Pokemon Super Deluxe Essential Handbook, Scholastic
- Young Adult: The Book Thief, Markus Zusak, and The Girl From the Sea, Molly Knox Ostertag (tie)

(Clockwise from middle left) "Going to the Library" is one of many folding books on display. With his art filling the Jean Picker Room, author/illustrator Jim Arnosky joins groups from Camden-Rockport Elementary School and Children’s House Montessori School in one of 2022’s first inside, in-person programs for kids. We were thrilled to bring back our annual outside Harry Potter Party after several COVID-affected years off.
More than 150 years of the Camden Herald is now searchable online.

We had another busy year in the Walsh History Center. Inquiries about house histories continue to lead the list of research requests. We are immensely aided in any kind of research by the Camden Herald Archives that the library finished posting in 2022, thanks to a Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation grant and private donations. We now update the Camden Herald Archives annually with scans of the current year.

Ken Gross

Notable Research Requests

- Lok Marina
- Marion Village
- Camden Anchor Works
- Curtis Island Lighthouse
- Ledgers and "Daybooks" of Camden business people
- Meduncook Plantation Vital Records of Friendship, Maine
- Fort Pine Hill
- Ship S.D. Carleton
- Camden Community Hospital
- Theresa Parker Babb Photo Collection
- Wilder Washington ("W.W.") Perry
- Bok Collection
- 1937 Tax Photo Collection
- Yearbooks
- Green Gables Inn
- And much more!

Quite a Catch: Camden Herald Archives

Our goal is to offer the richness of history through the most immediate media of the day. This historic newspaper offers a rare, intimate glimpse into everyday life decades ago. The impact of making this record available to everyone is immense. Researchers, historians, students, and educators, at any grade level or degree level, will benefit.

Watch the "Discover History Month Series: N.C. Fletcher's Camden of 1884" on the CPL Programs YouTube Channel

N.C. Fletcher: Eyewitness to Camden history

The Walsh History Center produces an annual exhibit in the library’s Jean Picker Room. This year’s exhibit and history talk were on Camden’s own N.C. Fletcher. Fletcher was a Universalist minister who preached all over the Midcoast for three decades in the early 1800s. He became a businessman in 1854, starting in the lime industry and settling into being a pharmacist for the remainder of his career. He also served in the state legislature and on the Governor’s Council. He knew everyone worth knowing – and wrote an eyewitness history of Camden in 1883 and 1884.

Ken Gross
In 2022, the Camden Amphitheatre and Harbor Park were busier than ever with events for the public to enjoy. They started with Winterfest in February, featuring ice carving, a doggy fashion show, and a polar plunge, then came a concert by the Midcoast Community Chorus in May. Shakespeare performances throughout the summer numbered 17, and we hosted 18 weddings, May through October.

Other events included engaging performances by the P2P Dance Center, Downeast Singers, Bay Winds North Wind Ensemble, and Mondaynite Jazz Orchestra. Also on the list were the Maine Outdoor Film Festival; the Camden Rotary Club Fourth of July Concerts; Miss Amy’s Story Time; and morning Yoga and Tai Chi classes.

For the first time in three years, the Camden Amphitheatre and Harbor Park were filled with arts and crafts enthusiasts visiting vendors for Harbor Arts & Books in June and October.

The Amphitheatre and library grounds were a stop on the Camden Garden Club annual garden tour in July. Guests were guided around the parks, once in the morning and again in the afternoon.

The Bay Chamber Screen Door Festival featured three to five concerts a day during five days and was well attended.

Special events included Camden on Canvas, the Stewardship Educational Alliance’s Environmental Fair (S.E.A.), the Gay Parade in June, plus a Native Plant Sale in September.

- Dave Jackson

Constantly unfolding beauty of historic parks attracts scores of citizens
In honor of Edna St. Vincent Millay’s February 22 birthday, artist Ken Hendricksen created this tribute and displayed it for viewing in the library’s Reading Room.

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Katie McGrath and J.J. Abrams,
   The Katie McGrath & J.J. Abrams
   Family Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Akre
Liz and David Albertson
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Patricia Finnigan
Abigail and John Fitzgerald
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Susan and Shane Flynn
Susan and Shane Flynn, in memory of
   Bonnie White,* in support of
   Bonnie’s Learning Legacy
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   John Cummings
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   in loving memory of Norm Shaddick*
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   Jim and Catherine Kinsella
Elinor Klivans
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   Parker Laite, Jr., in memory of
   Bob and Barbara Lannamann*
James R. Lannamann, in honor of
   Robert and Barbara Lannamann*
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   Lannamann*
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Natalie Travia and John Burns
Laurie and Russell Warren, M.D.

*In Memoriam

As of Feb. 1, 2023
Anonymous (14)
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Anonymous, in honor of Miss Amy
by Freda and Jake Zwass
Anonymous, in memory of
Kathleen Morgan*
Anonymous, in memory of Alice Rowe*
Anonymous, in honor of Martha Wolfe
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Ronald Wenzel
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Abraham Dugal, in honor of Everett Dugal
Penny Dunning
Kathleen Eakin
Patty Edly
Jonathan Edwards and Mary Riley
Ron Elligott

With the Amphitheatre transformed into the magical Forest of Arden, the
Camden Shakespeare Festival delivers a
groovy 1960s version of "As You Like It."
The library has weathered the pandemic with the strength of volunteers. In 2022, 65 volunteers gave 2,130 hours. This work included doubling book-sale fundraising to $46,076!

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*In Memoriam
Art lovers welcome the return of Summer and Fall Harbor Arts & Books, supported by the Reny Charitable Foundation.

See Campaign for the Future sponsors, p. 13

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Mary and Edward Wiese
Bruce and Katherine Willey
John and Lucy Williams
Judy Wolf
Martha L. Wolfe
Peter Yesis
Katherine Young

*In Memoriam
Camden on Canvas grew in its second year, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of attendees, business sponsors, and a powerful group of volunteers. In all, $66,147 was raised to benefit the Campaign for the Future.

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Hannaford Supermarket - Camden
Hartstone Inn & Hideaway
Hawthorn Inn

Leslie Curtis Designs
Laird Camden Inn
Megunticook Market
Proforma Marketing Essentials
Thomaston Place
Auction Galleries
Timbercliffe Cottage

MARY LOUISE CURTIS BOK INVESTOR $50,000-plus
First National Bank

FLETCHER STEELE PARTNER $25,000-plus
Bangor Savings Bank Foundation

MEGUNTICOOK INVESTOR $10,000-plus
Allen Insurance and Financial
Camden National Bank
Page Gallery
The Reny Charitable Foundation

HARBOR BENEFACCTOR $5,000–$9,999
Camden Law
Ken Gardiner, Edward Jones Investments - Camden

ATLANTIC AVENUE PATRON $1,200–$4,999
Baird Private Wealth Management
Hartstone Inn & Hideaway
Lyman-Morse – Camden Classics Cup
Once a Tree
Peter Ott’s On The Water
P.G. Willey & Co.
RE/MAX Jaret & Cohn
TREETREEKEEPERS LLC-Johnson’s Arboriculture
Viking, Inc.

MAIN STREET PARTNER Up to $1,200
Camden Coast Real Estate
Carver Hill Gallery
DAAC Designs
Dwelling in Maine
Finding Our Voices, provided by Jane Johnson
French & Brawn Market Place
Fresh & Co.
Glendarragh Lavender
Harbor Builders Associates
High Mountain Hall
Horch Roofing Inc.
Jessie Tobias Design
Legacy Properties Sotheby’s International Realty
Maritime Energy
On the Water in Maine
Primrose Framing
Rockport Automotive
Rockport Blueprint
Small Wonder Gallery and Frameshop
The Smiling Cow
Waterfront Restaurant

As of Feb. 1, 2023
Anonymous
Donald and Penny Abbott
Tyler Abbott and Kelly Murphy
Andrea Adams
Christine Adams
Jane Adams
Will Addis
Roger Akeley and Bernice Berger
Michael Akers
Anne Aldridge-Peacock
Jonathan Allen
Kristi Alling
Andrew April
Marie Arven
Debbie Ayalaian
Rebecca Babbs-Brott
Karen A. Backman
John Baikewicz
Baird Private Wealth Management
Chris Ball
Ed and Allison Ballo
Maria Baskin
Travis Baugh
Penny and Larry Baum
Paige Beckman
Robert Bender
Joel Benedict
Lena Bengtsson
James G. Bennett
Nicholas Bernald
Matt Berta
Rachel Bickham
Ken and Sheila Bishop
Jennifer Bitting
Christopher Bittle
Peter Black
Ranni Blaisdell
Francis Boscoe
James and Felicity Bowditch
Renée Lio Braaten
Karen C. Brace
Jay Bradford
Evelyn Brady
Robin and Jeffrey Brown
Leo and Elisabeth Brenninkmeyer
Chelsea Brezai

Deborah and Witter
Brooke
Mary Gray Brott
Amy Brown
Barrett and Lynne Brown
Howard Brown, Jr.
Matthew Brown
Ruben S. Brown and Marjorie W. Brown
Dale and Doug Bruce
Faith Bruce
Nelson Bryant
Susan Burkhardt
Jay and Maureen Burnett
Edd Burns
John Burns and Natalie Travia
Jason Burwen
William and Barbara Buss
Jayme Bynum
Silvia Calabi and Sue Bramhall
Camden Conference
Camden Opera House
Camden Riverhouse Hotel
Kathleen Capetta
Susan Carlsen
Dana Cease
Dick and Karen Cease
Gina Cella
Rodney Chamberlain
Marilyn G. Chapman
Susan Stasowski and Dan Cheever
Richard Chinlund
Stacy Clark
John and Ellen Claussen
Greg Clayton
Bruce and Sherry Cobb
Mary Condit and Stanley Jobe
Joe Conneely
Morgan Connell
Al and Martie Cooper
Chris Cortese
Orion Couling
Mark and Jen Coursey
Patricia Courtney
Eve Crimmins
Ursula and Thomas Crossin
Mary Curry

Robert Daigle
Angie and Mike Daly
Jack and Margaret
Dautner
Theresa and Jeffrey Davis
David and Mallory DeCubellis
Saundra DeTurk
Kathy and Jack Deupree
Bratton Deuring
David A. Dickey
Philip Dinkins and Ed Lally
Jamie Dishner
Anne M. Doan
Ina Doban
Jo Donnis and Peter Imber
Ed and Vicki Doudera
Joey and Alisa Dowd
Mary Doyle
Andra Dreyfus
Kathleen Eakin
Kristina Early
Sara Lynn Eastler
Patty Eddy
Carol Lou Eisenhardt
Whitney Ellis
Robin A. Elms, D.V.M.
Mark Hirsch
Ginger Hite
Mimi Benedict and Skip Habin
Michael Hoess
Sherri Hoffman
Dorothy Hokkanen
Brooke Holland
D. Hollander
Allison Holmes
Alexander Horowitz
Jennifer House
Katie Howard
Phyllis Hubertz
Karen Hull
David and Lucinda Hutchison
Liz Ilgenfels
David and Ann Ingram
Jessica and Jonathan Ives
Carol Jackson
Dave and Nancy Jackson
Kathleen Jarrell
Lexa Dean Jobe
Elizabeth Jones
Hilary Carr Jones and David Jones
Matt Jones
Patricia and Rendle Jones
Charles and Mary Jordan
Joseph Kalo
Kathy Kandziolka
Ted and Susan Kanelakis
Stu Kantziolka
Stone Kathryn
Catherine Lyon
Deborah and Jeffery Kaufmann
Jim Kearney
Happy Kearns
Wendy and Bud Kellett
Pamela Kenney and Brian J. Madocks
David G. Kern
Elizabeth Kilday
Sarah and Dubik Kim
June Kincaid
Crickett King
Jenny King
M. Klepperer
Elnam Klivans
D.E. Knowlton
Stephen Kolt
Christine Koryta
Michael Koryta
Nancy and Parker Laite, Jr.
Megan Lamare
Kelly Lamb
Ann Lape
Ivy Lapides
Diane Lesbon
Lisa Leeman
Sara Lerner
Traci and Mark Lerner
Nate Lesser and Katie Lyons
Paul and Susan Levine
Steven Levine
Tom Liais
Richard Lim
Judy Lindahl
Kristen Lindquist
Julia Lipton
Jane Littlefield
Martin Lloyd
Robert and Tamara Lloyd
Lorimer Loake
Patricia Lynch
T. Mack
Maggie Madow
Judi Male and Irving Stenn
Susan Manning
Jennifer Manus
Nikki Mauonis
Cynthia Margeson
Michael Margeson
Victoria Marshall
Lucas and Robert Martin
Eleanor Masin-Peters
Garrett Massey
Keith and Carolyn May
Stefanie and Mark McAllister
Anca McCafferty
Mark McCarty
Allan P. McCobb
Judy McCoy
Jacqueline McDonough
Susan McGovern
John McGovin
Dennis and Judy McGuirk
Lydia McKee
Hugh McKellar
Patricia McLean
Kelly Mejia-Martinez
Pat Minard
Bruce and Carter Meyer
Stephanie Miller
Susan Miller
Amy McNerney Mistr
Elizabeth and Stephen Mixter
Aimee Moffitt-Mercer

*In Memoriam
A BENEFIT FOR THE CAMDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY
IN COLLABORATION WITH PAGE GALLERY

Plein-Air Event
July 21-23, 2023, from Friday, July 21, to noon on Sunday, July 23
Reception and Live Auction
July 23, 2023, Camden Amphitheatre

Artists (22) include:
Ken DeWaard, Alison Hill, Jill Hoy, and Colin Page

librarycamden.org/camdenoncanvas
Rhombicosidodecahedron from Wooden Alchemy in Camden spontaneously pops up in the Fauns Garden in August.