



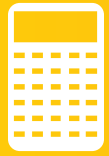
AmesTM
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Annual Report
2019/2020



**LIBRARIES
TRANSFORM[®]**

BECAUSE OF YOU, LIBRARIES TRANSFORM.



2019/2020
by the numbers



Over **961,602** items were
checked out last year.
(That's an average of over 2,600
items each day of the year!)



An average of **130 people**
visited the Library
each hour it was open.



Over **3,700 people**
signed up for a **library card**
in person or online.



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

326 volunteers contributed
10,867 hours of assistance in
2019/2020. Volunteers of all ages help with
a variety of projects in the Library, from
cleaning the shelves to delivering books to
homebound patrons, and much more!

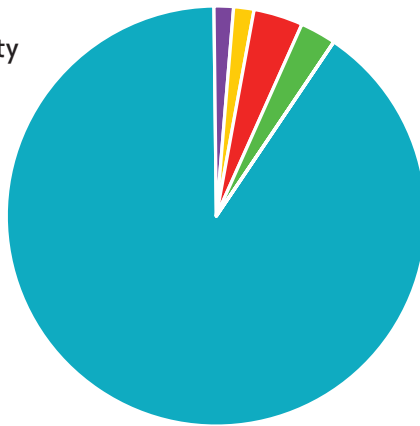
BECAUSE BUILDING A BETTER WORLD STARTS WITH LITERACY.



Total Budget: \$4,525,354

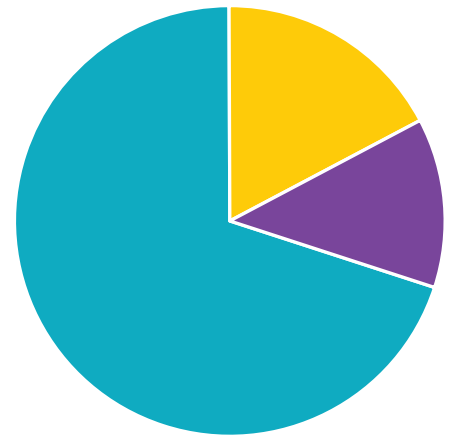
Income

- City of Ames Property Tax, 90.4%
- Fines and Fees, 1.5%
- State of Iowa, 1.6%
- Story County, 3.8%
- Grants & Donations, 2.8%



Expenses

- Wages & Benefits, 69.9%
- Facilities and Operations, 17.3%
- Materials, 12.7%



Grants & Donations: \$125,070

Thank you to our generous donors and grantors for supporting projects including collection enhancements, Project Smyles, book clubs, special events, and more.



AMES PUBLIC LIBRARY
Friends Foundation

The Ames Public Library Friends Foundation conducts fundraising, operates the Literary Grounds bookstore, and holds book sales to support Ames Public Library.

BECAUSE THERE IS NO SINGLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

Ames Public Library offers technology and digital resources for many purposes, including bridging the digital divide, helping individuals of all ages gain skills needed in our digital world, and connecting our community with the many resources available online.

Computers for the public were used almost **30,000 times** in 2019/2020.

The Library's **iPads** were used **4,400 times** in 2019/2020.

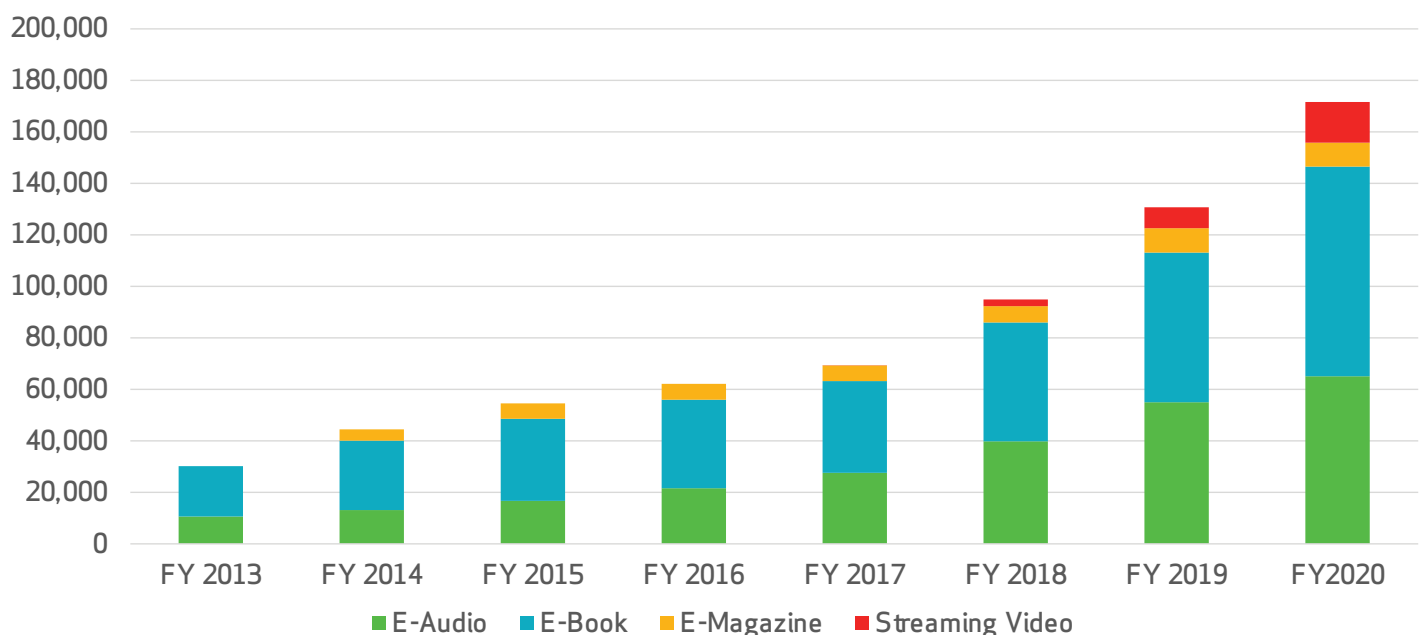
The **early literacy computers** were used over **10,000 times** last year.

Library visitors have free access to the **Internet** via Wi-Fi throughout the building.

Library staff and community partners shared their **technology expertise** through computer classes, iPhone & iPad Training, and more.

Ames Public Library offered cardholders free access to **33 premium online research and learning tools**, from children's interactive books to popular genealogy software to language learning programs to informational tools and reviews for consumers. In 2019/2020, cardholders searched these online resources an average of over **384 times a day!**

Electronic Format Usage



BECAUSE LEARNING CAN HAPPEN ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.

Libraries offer opportunities to discover a new favorite book, explore a hobby, and experience arts and culture—without an admission fee.

In 2019/2020, Ames Public Library offered over **408,000 items** from bestselling e-books to graphic novels to GRE study guides.



Did you know?

Ames Public Library lends a lot more than books, movies, and music!

A Library card lets you check out:

- Adventure Passes
(free admission to select local museums and attractions)
- Park Packs
- Wi-Fi Hotspots
- Read-About Story Kits
- STEM Kits
- Launchpad Learning Tablets
- Puppets
- Puzzles
- and more!

The Bookmobile brings a traveling library for all ages to several weekly stops throughout Ames.

In 2019/2020, **6,699 customers** visited a **neighborhood stop!**

The Bookmobile also visited a variety of **community events**, such as Farmers' Markets and the annual EcoFair, welcoming **1,704 people** aboard.



Bookmobile Artwork © Derek Anderson

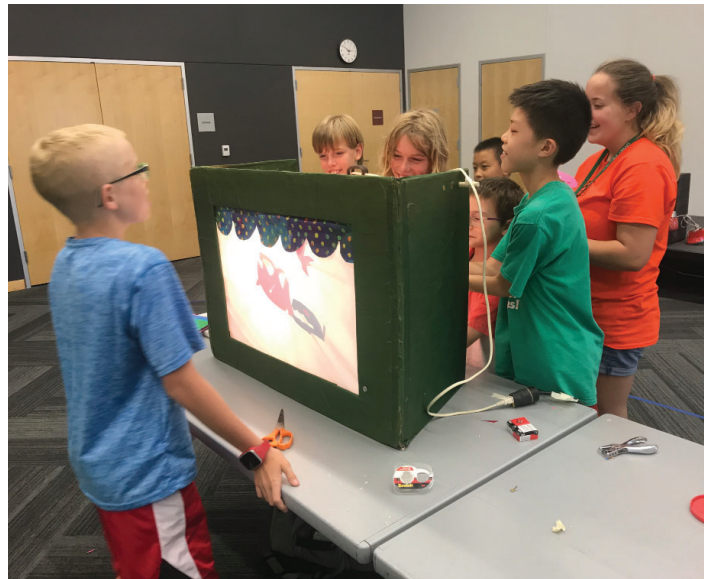


Library Director:
Sheila Schofer

Library Managers:
Tracy Briseño
Alissa Dornink Hawes
Jerri Heid
Megan Klein-Hewett

Library Board of Trustees:
Sarah Barchman
Mavis Butler
Charles Glatz
Roger Kluesner
Sandra Looft
Joanne Marshall
Carolyn Myers
D. Raj Raman
Brenda Thorbs-Weber

Teen Advisory Group Co-Chairs:
Katie Lavrov
Lizzy Smith



**Ames Public Library
Friends Foundation Board:**

Mark Boeck	Cheryl Langston
Mavis Butler	Jennie LeGates
Jen Dieter	Ana McCracken
Sharon Drake	Carolyn Myers
Brian Eslinger	Jill Roof
Margo Foreman	Valentina Salotti
Nick Hoffman	Andrew Zbaracki
Carolyn Klaus	

Sophie Johnson, Development Director



BECAUSE IN A PANDEMIC GOOD RESOURCES MATTER.

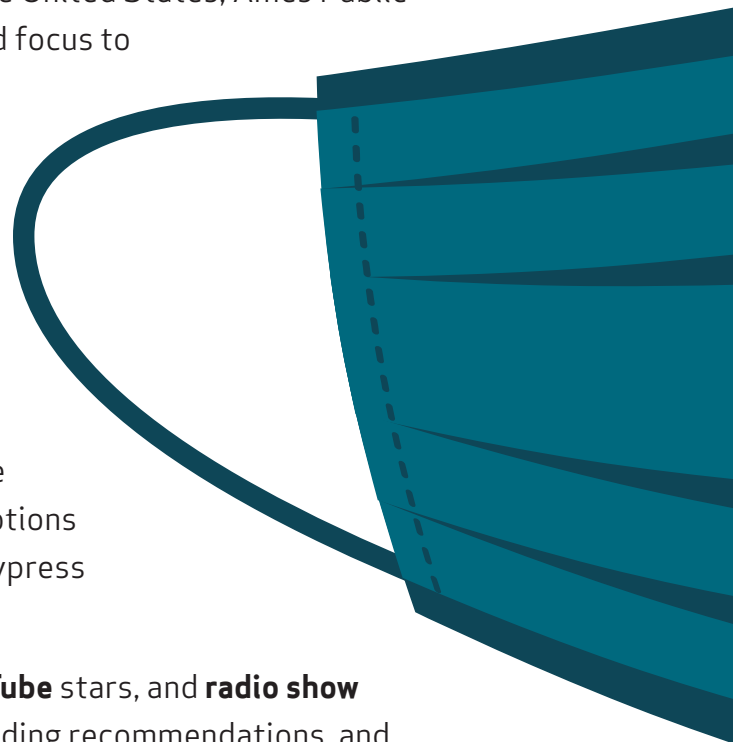


Spring of 2020 was not like any other year, for Ames Public Library or the world. When news of the COVID-19 pandemic reached the United States, Ames Public Library closed its building on March 17 and shifted focus to providing services and resources online.

Staff worked to get every **Wi-Fi hotspot** to a customer in need, and more were purchased throughout the year.

The Library offered **online card registration**, allowing immediate access to virtual collections. **E-book and streaming video** collections were expanded. The Library added free access to premium **online tools**, including subscriptions to The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Cypress Resume, and more.

Library staff became **Facebook Live** experts, **YouTube** stars, and **radio show** regulars, presenting live storytimes, recording reading recommendations, and finding new ways to connect with customers on social media.





Local teens were welcomed into a new virtual hangout on the Library’s own **Discord channel**.

While City of Ames buildings remained closed to the public, the Library began offering **curbside pickup** on May 18.

As spring turned to summer, Library staff came up with new ways to offer summer reading fun, including online **Reading Challenges** and **take-home activity kits** for kids. Over the spring and summer, the Library distributed hundreds of **free meals** and gave out over **7,000 free books** for kids and teens (courtesy of the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation).

At the end of 2019-2020 fiscal year, staff were busy gathering huge numbers of requested items (holds) and delivering them curbside while developing a new model of “grab and go” service for the reopening of the Library lobby on July 1.

