2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

2023 was a year of growth for the library. We took on new projects, evaluated our services, and continued to follow our plan of service.

We collaborated with the Millbrook Rotary in May to create the Millbrook Community Fridge. The generosity of local businesses and individuals has been heartwarming to see. The fridge strengthens community resilience by addressing food insecurity, reducing waste, fostering social connections, and providing support during challenging times.

Our new Library of Things collection debuted, where you can check out things like a ukulele and a mini donut maker. This collection promotes the sharing of resources within our community, allows you to save money by borrowing items temporarily, and lets you use a diverse range of items without the need for storage space at home.

We worked with many local businesses and organizations to hold community events and programs. The Millbrook Arts Group worked with us to bring you another winter concert series, Diwali dancing, and more. We had over 25 school visits last year, thanks to our great local teachers, and received two amazing nature exploration backpacks from Dutchess Land Conservancy. These are just some of our valued community collaborators, and we consider ourselves fortunate to engage with such wonderful people right here in Millbrook.

Many people contribute to making the library a unique space – our dedicated staff & board members, a fantastic team of volunteers, and most important - you! If it has been a while since your last visit, drop by and see what's new.

This year, we are enthusiastic about expanding upon the achievements of 2023 and working to find more novel and innovative ways to support our community.

Courtney Tsahalis, Director

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Anderson Center for Autism
- Angels of Light
- Art Effect
- Artists for Soup
- CARY Institute
- Cornell Cooperative Extension
- DAYONE Early Learning Community
- DC Dept. of Transportation
- DC Office for the Aging
- Dutchess Day School
- Dutchess Land Conservancy
- Grace Church
- Grace Smith House
- Hudson Valley Justice Center
- Hudson Valley Legacy Firm
- Hudson Valley Writers
- Knit the Rainbow
- Long Reach Arts Gallery
- Mental Health America
- Merritt Bookstore
- Mid-Hudson Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club
- Millbrook Arts Group
- Millbrook Business Association
- Millbrook Central School District
- Millbrook Fire Department
- Millbrook Garden Club
- Millbrook Historical Society
- Millbrook Rotary
- NYS Citizens Preparedness Corp.
- Pollock Krasner House
- Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club
- Rivers & Mountains GreenFaith Circle
- Sharon Audubon Center
- Staatsburg Historic Estate
- Stewart's Shops
- The Fountains at Millbrook
- Town of Washington
- Vanderbilt Historic Mansion
- Village of Millbrook
- Wethersfield Estate
- & Many More!
**FROM THE COMMUNITY**

“I really enjoyed coming to the library & finding out what an incredible place of resources it is for our community. I was especially floored by the amount of young families that come every day of the week to bring the children downstairs!”

“I just wanted to reach out and say that what you have done with the library programs is phenomenal! I grew up going to the library and it has always held a special place in my heart.”

“Thank you for maintaining the wonderful traditions as well as introducing new experiences at the Millbrook Library.”
FRIENDS OF MILLBROOK LIBRARY

Thanks to grants from the Friends, the Library purchased an energy-efficient new refrigerator for the Staff Room and furnishings for the Teen Room as well as additional shelving for the ongoing Book Sale. Popular Adult, Teen, and Kids programming was underwritten with funds from the Friends. The Friends arranged for free passes to be enjoyed over the summer months at Innisfree, Wethersfield, and Trevor Zoo.

For the first time since 2019, the Friends organized their most successful Holiday Silent Auction to date, raising over $13,000 - funds that will be applied to ongoing programming throughout 2024 as well as to the installation of pollinator-friendly plantings in front of the Franklin Avenue entrance to the Library. To join the Friends, email friends@millbrooklibrary.org.