



6700 Merle Hay Road, Johnston, IA 50131 • 515-278-5233 • info@johnstonlibrary.com

To: Mayor Dierenfeld and Members of the Johnston City Council
From: Johnston Public Library Board of Trustees
RE: Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022

From the *Johnston Code of Ordinances*:

[The library's annual] report shall contain statements as to the condition of the library, the number of books and other cultural items added, the number circulated, the amount of fines collected, and the amount of money expended in the maintenance of the library during the year, together with such further information as may be required by the Council.

Infrastructure

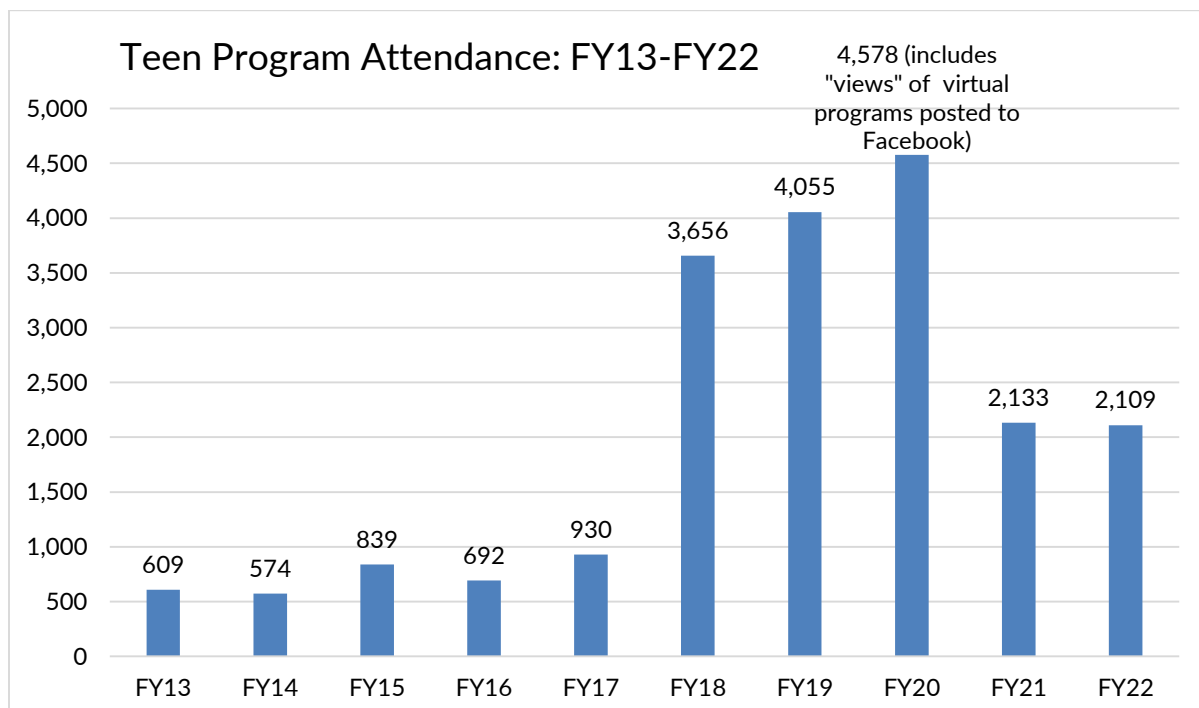
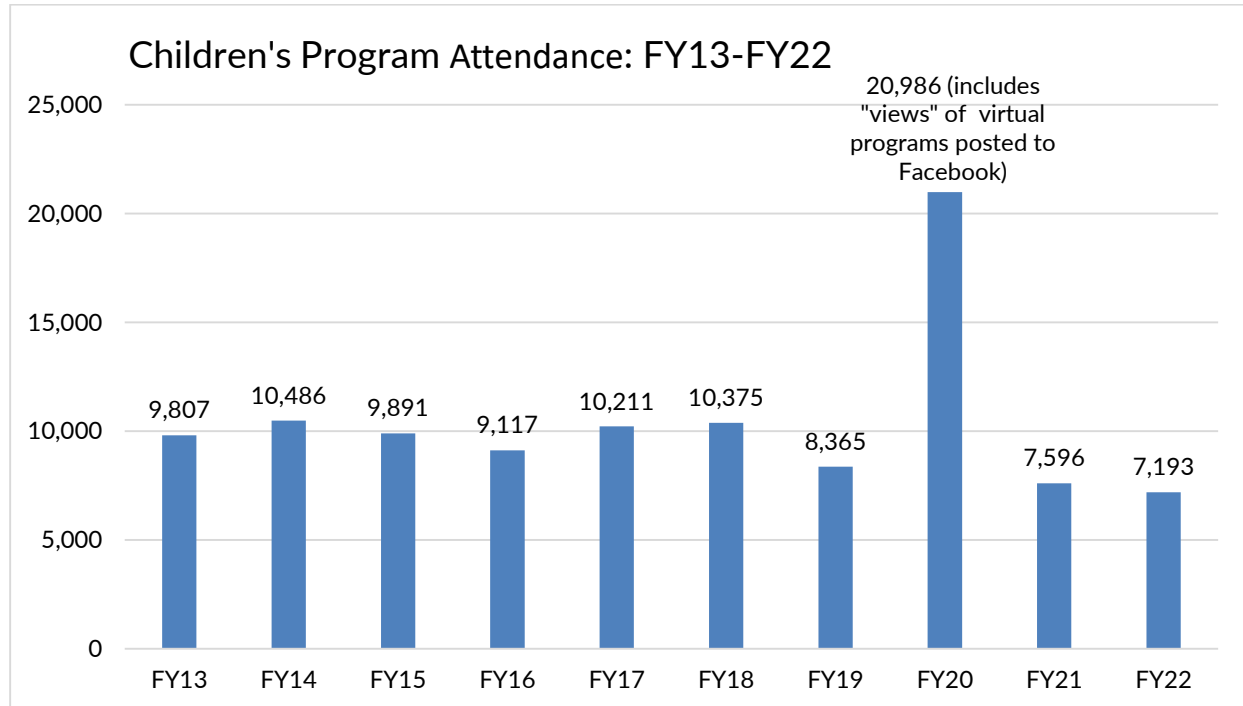
The interior of the library building has been well maintained and is in very good condition. The library's HVAC system is now more than twenty years old and underwent several repairs in FY22 including replacement of condenser coils that sustained hail damage in 2021. The library's exterior is in good condition although the parking lot has a number of cracks and other damage that will be repaired in FY23 as part of the Capital Improvement Program.

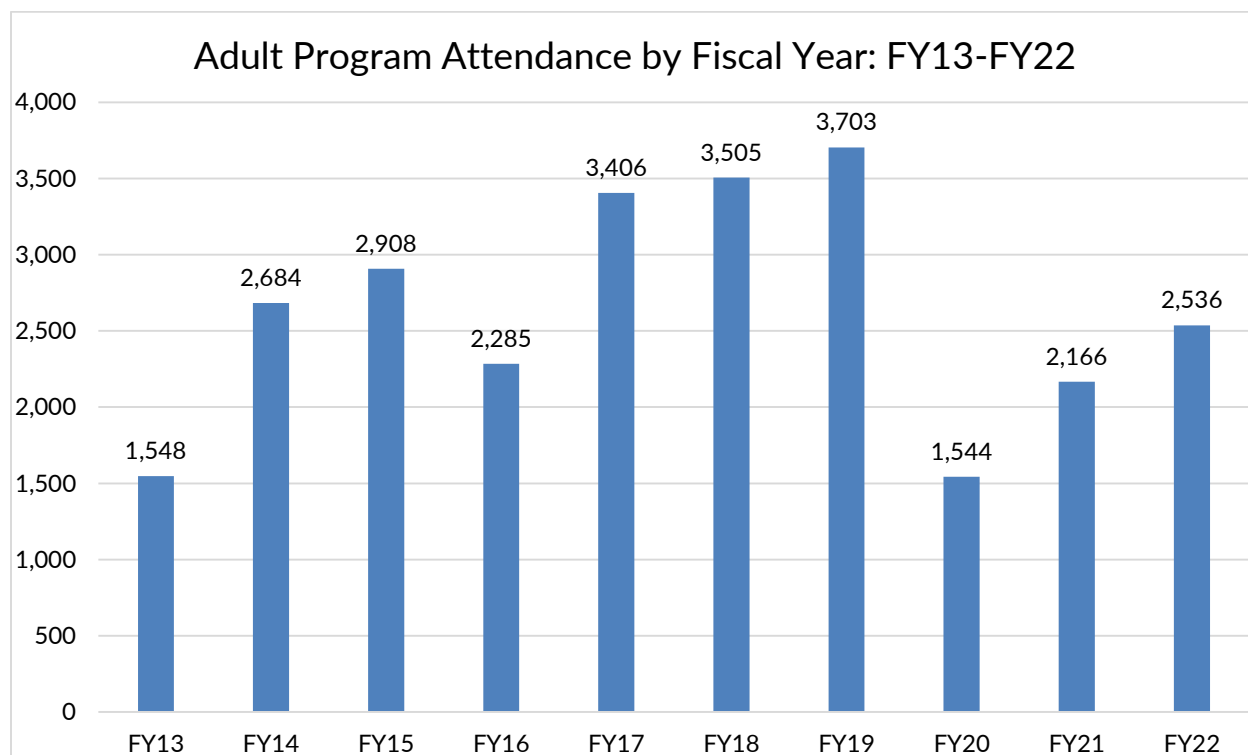
In August 2021, we created a new space for teens by enclosing an existing alcove with floor-to-ceiling glass walls. The space, currently open weekday afternoons, features art supplies, laptop computers, videogame systems, and a small collection of young adult fiction and graphic novels. Having a space where teens can socialize and hang out has contributed to a dramatic reduction in noise and behavior issues.

As part of their 2022 budget, the Johnston Public Library Foundation funded purchase and installation of a new shade structure for the library's west patio. The space, which was previously uncomfortable in the afternoons from lack of shade, is now much more welcoming.

Programs

FY22 has been a year of reestablishing connections with patrons after months of virtual and take-home programming. In-person story times, book clubs, our ESL programs, Sunday Crafting Club, and other regular programs resumed in August 2021. Although many patrons remained cautious about in-person events, particularly in the early months of FY22, by June and July attendance at most programs reached or exceeded pre-pandemic levels.

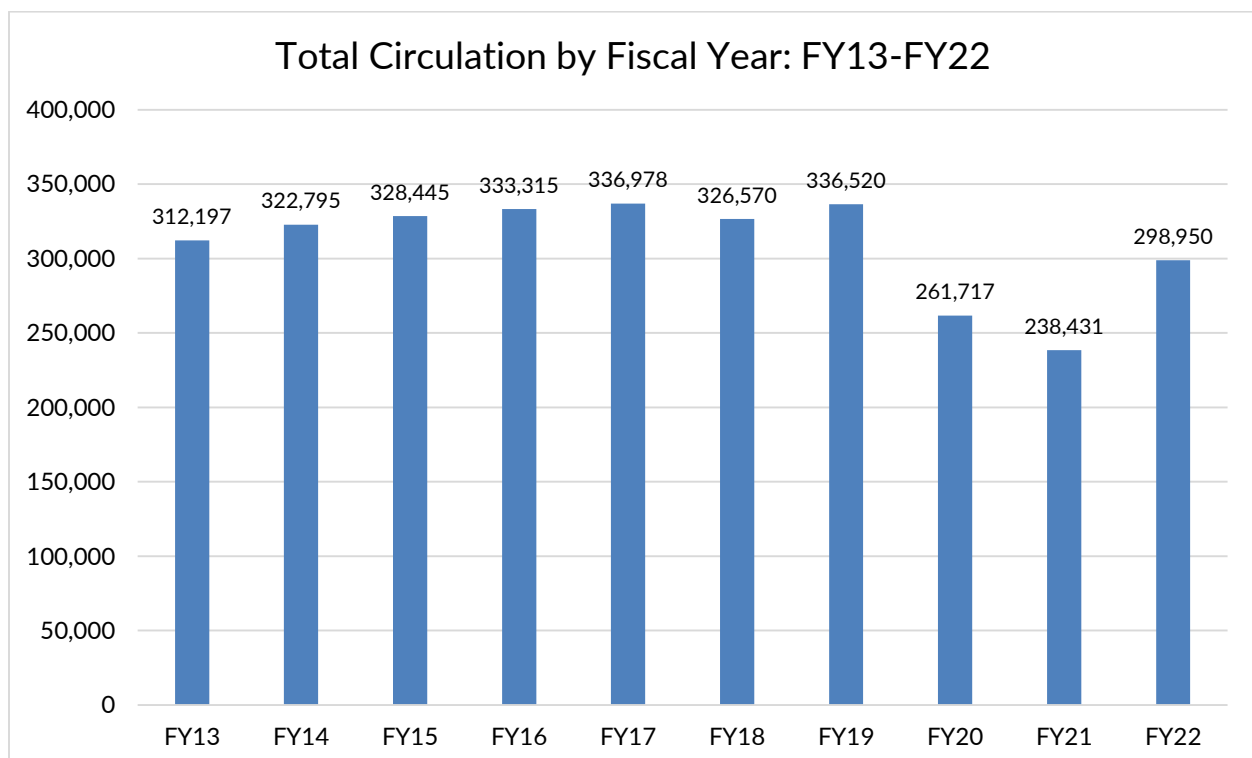
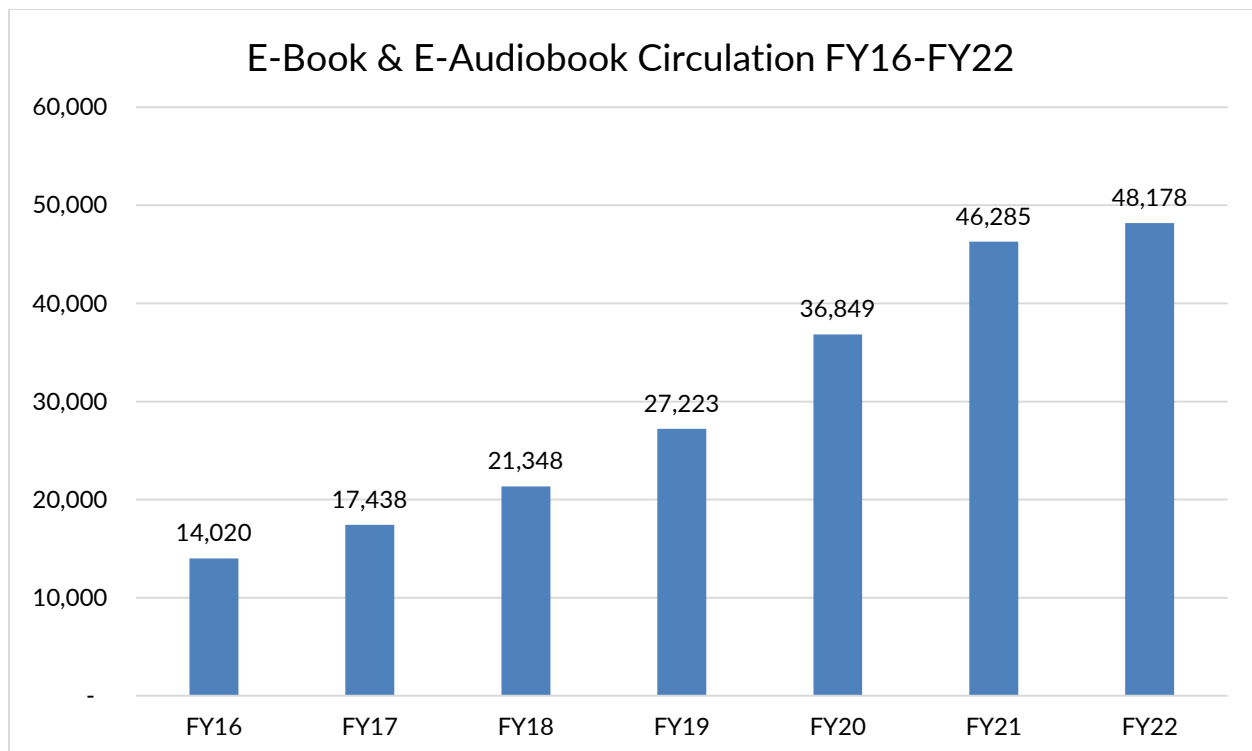




Collections & Circulation

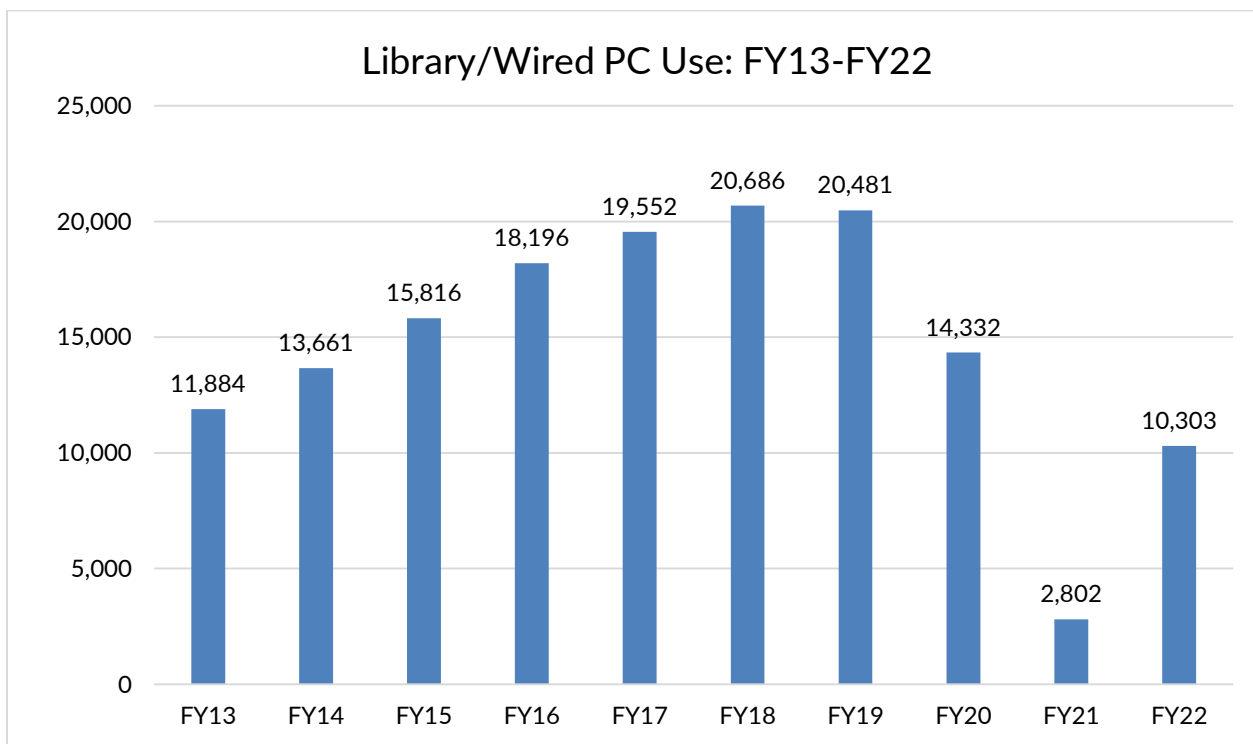
We’ve seen a surge in demand for the library’s collection of e-books, e-audiobooks, and e-magazines since early in the pandemic. In FY19, electronic titles made up 8% of total circulation while in FY22 they made up more than 16%. In response, we’ve dedicated a larger share of the collection budget to purchasing additional copies of high-demand titles to reduce wait times for Johnston patrons.

In FY22 staff relabeled, re-cataloged, and reorganized nearly 5,000 titles from the library’s picture book collection. Picture books are now organized by category—like “Animals”, “Concepts”, “Dinosaurs”, “Explore”, and “Favorites”—and are shelved face-out to make browsing easier for patrons.



Services

In addition to providing programs and circulating materials, public libraries provide a number of services—computer and WiFi access, for example, and faxing, printing, and notary services—that are critical for patrons trying to find employment, gain citizenship, connect with family and friends, or handle day-to-day responsibilities. The Johnston Public Library Foundation was awarded a nearly \$9,000 grant from Prairie Meadows in June to extend our public WiFi network into the parking lot in front of the library, the green space between the library and Simpson Barn, and behind the library to the playground and the shelter currently under construction. Our hope with this project is that those with no or slow Internet access can take advantage of the library’s WiFi while the library is closed or while they’re enjoying the amenities or events in Johnston Commons.



On behalf of the library board and library staff, we’d like to thank the council for your continued support.

Other Statistics

Payments received for overdue, lost, and damaged materials: \$18,635

Total circulation: 298,950

Library maintenance expenses FY22: \$36,879 (this includes the *Maintenance of Building & Grounds* and *HVAC* budget lines)

Items added:

Material Type	Number Of Items
Book	5,145
Newspaper	1,760
Magazine	1,553
ILL (borrowed)	500
DVD	335
Audiobook	334
Book Club	201
DVD-TV	163
Blu-ray	120
Hot Picks Book	75
CD	52
Videogame	18
Kit	10
Hot Picks DVD	8
Total	10,724