

# Yankton Community Library

## 2020 Annual Report



**"Libraries always  
remind me that there  
are good things  
in this world."**

**Lauren Ward**

## ... Letter from the Director ...

Like everyone else, Yankton Community Library staff can say that 2020 was truly a year like no other. When the library closed to the public in March, no one could have predicted what was to come next. We knew we just needed to plan week by week and, sometimes, just day by day. One thing that was clear early on was that people in the community needed the library more than ever. We developed a procedure for curbside pick-ups almost immediately. People were desperate for the comfort of books and movies when the rest of the world came screeching to a halt.

Though the year was crazy, we still found a lot to be thankful for—the love and support of our community, the connection of working with a dedicated staff, and the creativity that was sparked as we tried to find new ways to engage our patrons. While safety was our main priority, we also sought to find ways to bring a little fun and happiness when there was so much uncertainty in our world. Chalk drawings, scavenger hunts, inflatable dinosaur costumes, and sidewalk obstacle courses helped to make our days (and hopefully yours!) a little brighter! I am proud of what the library achieved in 2020. We have an awesome staff that truly loves to serve our community. We reached out to some of our homebound patrons by sending greeting cards. We began making activity kits in June to provide materials for crafts and STEM projects. YCL hosted over 75 virtual programs as well as organizing some interactive programs like the Around Town Scavenger Hunt, a sidewalk obstacle course, and an outdoor movie.

Through thick and thin, libraries all over the country continued to serve their communities despite the challenges of 2020 and Yankton Community Library was no exception. Thanks for all you do to help support the library and our community!



**Dana Schmidt , Library Director**

## ... Staff ...

Dana Schmidt	Library Director
Linda Dobrovolny	Assistant Director / Technical Services
Amy Clare	Senior Library Assistant, Circulation
Amanda Raiche	Youth Services Librarian
Joan Heimes	Youth Services Assistant
Emily Lundgren	Library Assistant



Several part-time staff also assist with day-to-day duties to help things run smoothly at the library.

## ... Library Board of Trustees ...

The Library Board of Trustees is composed of six Mayoral/City Commission-appointed positions plus a County Commission representative. It also includes a representative from the City Commission. The Board of Trustees is a volunteer governmental body with various policy-making responsibilities. They meet monthly at the library and also participate in training so that our library can maintain exemplary status within the state. The 2020 Board of Trustees was composed of Christine Tielke, Dan Klimisch, David Koerner, Sarah Mechtenberg, Amy Nelson, Sue Otterman and Jerry Webber.

## ... Arts Advocate of the Year ...



Yankton Area Arts recognized YCL's staff as the 2020 Arts Advocate of the Year for all their hard work in offering creative arts programming to the community!

## ... Friends of the Library ...

The Friends raise money for the Yankton Community Library through regular used book sales. The proceeds of these sales benefit the library and its patrons in a variety of ways from year to year. They started off the year with a huge indoor book sale, but when COVID-19 hit, they had to get creative. So, they took the sales outside! In August and September, they were blessed with some beautiful weather and took the books to the library lawn for four successful used-book sales!



Some of their purchases in 2020 included sponsoring the virtual summer reading programs and prizes and an inflatable movie screen so the library can host outdoor movies!



# ... Serving through a Pandemic ...

## COVID-19 Timeline

March 11 — World Health Organization declares COVID-19 a pandemic

March 13 — Pres. Trump declares COVID-19 a national emergency

March 14 — Yankton Community Library is closed to the public

March 22 — YCL begins curbside pickup

June 15 — YCL opens for 30-minute appointments in the mornings for computer/printer use and test proctoring

June 20 — YCL re-opens for 1/2 Saturdays for curbside pickup

June 29 — YCL adds browsing appointments to morning hours

July 14 — YCL expands appointments to full day

October 1 — YCL begins offering Grab & Go hours (no appointment needed)



OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2020

**GRAB & GO**

2,028 VISITS

**JUNE - DECEMBER 2020  
OPEN BY APPOINTMENT**



**1,594  
APPTS**

# ... Serving through a Pandemic ...

## COVID-19 Procedures

When the library closed to the public in March, it was still uncertain how the COVID-19 virus could spread. The staff at YCL took extensive precautions to protect our staff and patrons. All late fees were temporarily waived so that patrons could keep their items longer if they wished to. All returned items were removed from the book drop using gloves and quarantined for 72 hours before the covers were wiped down and sanitized with a bleach solution. At this point, the items were checked in and reshelfed. The library board created a mask policy which required all staff and those entering the building to wear a mask over their nose and mouth. Other safety measures included removing the chairs, newspapers, magazines and toys from the common areas in an effort to reduce high-touch items. A Plexiglass barrier was also installed at the front desk. Staff made extra effort to sanitize more frequently throughout each day — particularly the computer work stations, the front desk and door handles. These added safety measures helped to keep our staff and patrons healthy so we could continue offering exceptional services to the community.



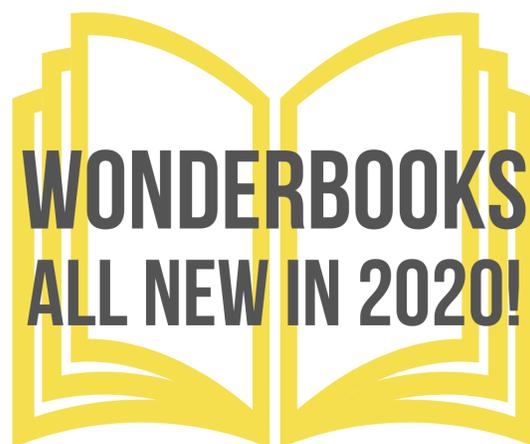
## ... Serving through a Pandemic ...



As a result of COVID-19 safety precautions for both patrons and staff, the front desk was outfitted with a Plexiglass barrier.

**"Everything you need  
for better future  
and success has  
already been written.  
And guess what?  
All you have to do  
is go to the library."**

Henri Frederic Amiel



**119 | ADDED TO COLLECTION  
534 | CIRCULATION**

The Yankton Community Library added Wonderbooks to its children's collection in 2020! Every Wonderbook is a print book with a ready-to-play audiobook with easy-to-use button controls for kids inside. Kids simply press play to read along with their favorite books and then switch to learning mode for literacy learning and fun.



# ... Collection, Circulation & Services ...

## LIBRARY COLLECTION

 72,103 BOOKS	 9,812 E-AUDIOBOOKS
 25,936 E-BOOKS	 3,751 DVDS
 3,197 CD BOOKS	 122 MAGAZINE & NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTIONS



TO THE PUBLIC  
2,315 HOURS



4,942



ITEMS  
IN 2020

## LIBRARY CHECKOUTS

 53,472 BOOKS	 8,704 E-AUDIOBOOKS
 13,354 E-BOOKS	 11,625 DVDS
 2,352 CD BOOKS	 721 MAGAZINES

"Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life."

Sidney Sheldon

## ... TOP TITLES IN FOR CHECK-OUT IN 2020 ...

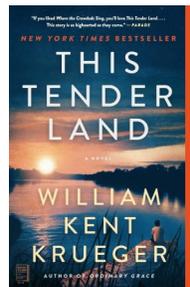
ADULT DVD



ADULT SERIES



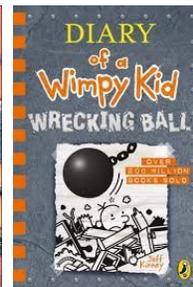
ADULT FICTION



YA FICTION



JUNIOR FICTION



KIDS DVD



## ... Special Events & Programs ...

### Another 'normal' year of pro-

**grams?** Perhaps not. The year started off strong in January and February with programs like after-school Lego Club, bilingual story time and a Downton Abbey Trivia Night hosted at Ben's Brewing Co., but with the onset of the pandemic, YCL adapted quickly and shifted to more virtual, drive-by and outdoor events to continue serving the Yankton community while putting safety first for all!



On Wednesday, July 29th, Tommy the Turtle, the official mascot of Yankton County Emergency Management helped hand out goodie bags with a book and information about severe weather preparedness to area youth in a drive-by pick up event.



76  
VIRTUAL PROGRAMS



1,894  
VIEWS

## ... Special Events & Programs ...

In May 2020, the Yankton Community Library hosted our first ever virtual community pet show. Here's just one of the adorable pet photos submitted!



## Halloween Festivities...



The YCL staff took advantage of the beautiful fall weather to host a variety of fun, outdoor activities for the community during Halloween week including a HUGE I-Spy game in our window, sidewalk obstacle course and treats on Halloween. There was also virtual Halloween fun with story time and a themed Kahoot trivia game!



On September 24, YCL hosted a virtual book discussion of "Unfollow," the 2020 One Book South Dakota. The discussion was led by Dr. Jamie Sullivan and the author, Megan Phelps-Roper also joined in!



## Are you following us on Facebook?

If not, you're missing out. We are working hard to keep our patrons up to date on everything that is going on at the library including reading programs, library resources, events, challenges and more. Don't miss out. **Like, share & follow us TODAY!**



## ... Special Events & Programs ...



In November, YCL kept it coming with more fun ways to keep the community engaged in library fun despite the on-going pandemic. All month, T-Rex could be found helping out around the library with things like

pulling book orders and making copies, but also enjoying a good read over lunch. T-Rex also handed out special treats for curbside pick-ups.

**DINO-VEMBER at YCL!**

## ... Special Events & Programs ...

### Around-Town Scavenger Hunt

During the month of September, YCL hosted a scavenger hunt throughout town in celebration of Library Card Sign-up Month.

Scavenger hunt participants had the month to collect letters posted on bright green paper hung in the windows of participating businesses and organizations in Yankton. Participants collected the letters by following fun clues like "Even kings and queens need athletic wear." (Royal Sport Shop) and "Use your peepers to check out some really great houses." (Vision Real Estate). Once collected, the letters needed to be unscrambled and arranged on the clue sheet to solve the mystery phrase. Once clue sheets were submitted, all that correctly cracked the mystery phrase were entered into a drawing for one of the many prizes donated by the participating businesses and organizations.

Almost 50 individuals and families (with over 100 total participants) took part in this program.

This out-and-about event was just another example of how YCL continued to serve the community with fun and engaging activities even in the midst of a global pandemic!



**THANK YOU to all the Yankton businesses and organizations that made this program possible!**

- 9th Street Clothing Co.
- Ace Hardware
- Ben's Brewing Co.
- Body Guard
- City Hall
- Czeckers
- Dairy Queen
- Delight Donut
- Dominoes
- Downtown Screen Printing & Embroidery
- Empower Fitness
- First Dakota National Bank
- Four Seasons Fabric
- Fox Run Golf Course
- GAR Hall
- Heartland Humane Society
- J&H Cleaning
- KYNT
- L. Lenae Designs & Floral
- Lemonade Stand
- Mead Cultural Education Center
- Pied Piper Flowers & Gifts
- Pizza Ranch
- Quality Health Clinic
- Rexall Drug
- River City Nutrition
- River's Edge
- Royal Sport Shop
- Summit Activities Center
- Soul Story Yoga
- Vision Real Estate Services
- Water Treatment Plant
- Willa B's
- Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce
- Yankton Community Library
- Yankton Fire Department
- Yankton Nurseries
- Yankton Police Department

## ... Mission ...

The mission of the Yankton Community Library is to uphold the public's freedom of access to information by providing a dynamic collection in a variety of formats and technologies, and responding to the needs of the community through timely services and programs.

## ... Core Service Values ...

### **Providing Access .....**

We believe that free access to information is foundational to democracy and as such libraries have an obligation to provide free and equitable access to all patrons, regardless of their age, race, sex, gender identity, religion, political affiliations, socioeconomic statuses, national origin, marital status, or abilities.

### **Promoting Lifelong Learning .....**

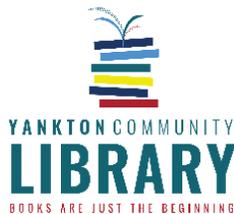
Learning doesn't begin and end with formal education; libraries have been called the "people's university." We strive to rise to this label by providing vibrant collections, digital opportunities and training, and interesting programs to our community.

### **Increasing Community Engagement .....**

Communities are stronger when we embrace and interact with one another. The library believes that this strength is built through daily interactions with our friends and neighbors in public spaces such as libraries. Libraries are one of the only places people can go that do not cost money. This, we believe, is an excellent environment for promoting community engagement.

### **Exceeding Expectations .....**

Our patrons are at the heart of what we do. By striving to exceed their expectations every day in our offerings, our interactions, and our collections, we build a stronger library and a better library experience for all.



## **Yankton Community Library**

515 Walnut St  
Yankton, South Dakota  
(605) 668-5275

[library@cityofyankton.org](mailto:library@cityofyankton.org)  
<http://library.cityofyankton.org>