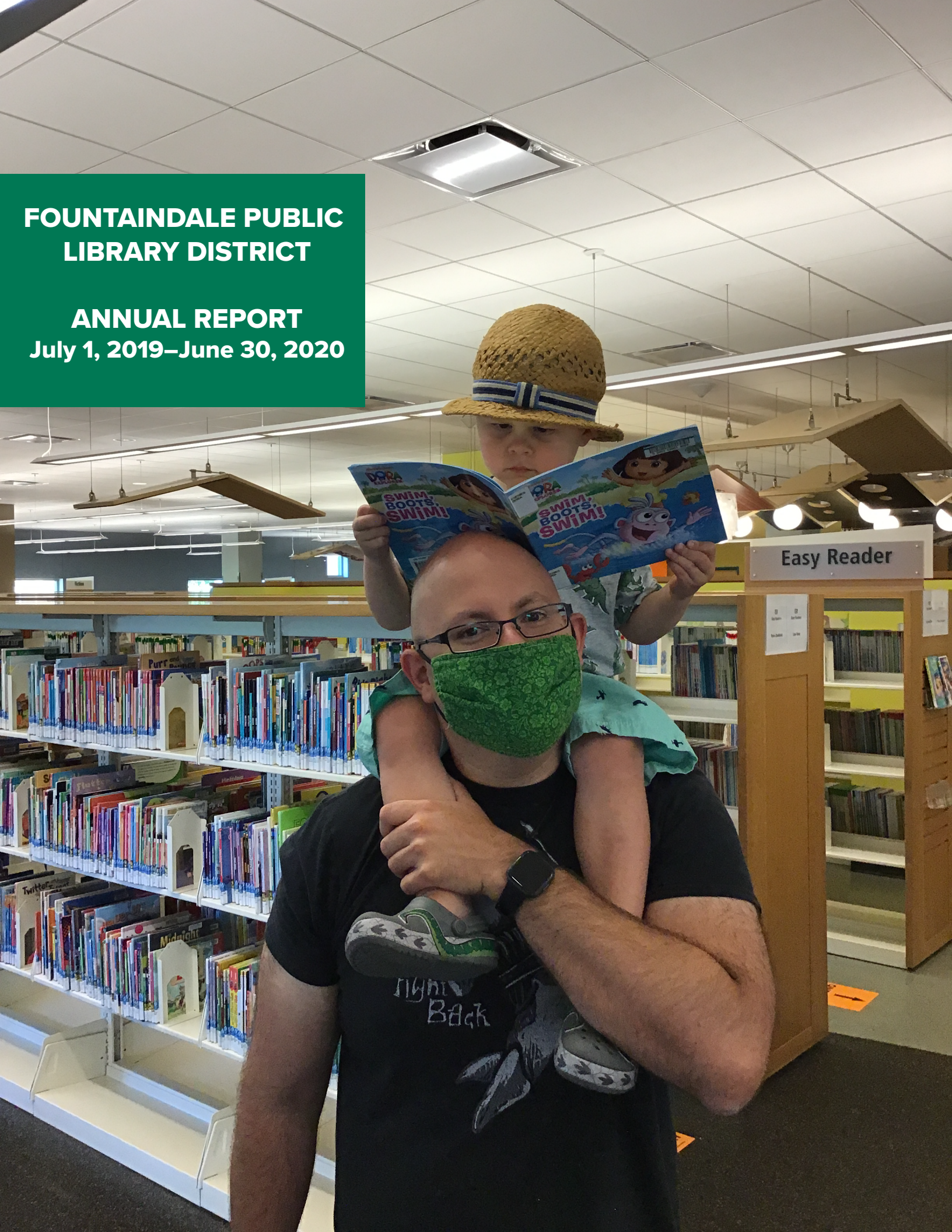


**FOUNTAINDALE PUBLIC
LIBRARY DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020**



MISSION

The Fountaindale Public Library District inspires community through education, enrichment and discovery.

VISION

Your exploration gateway.

"A magical place to let your imagination run wild and enrich your knowledge."

-Adrian O.

"This is by far the best library I've ever been to. Not only is the building beautiful, but every staff member is very helpful."

-Cindy H.

WHAT A YEAR IT'S BEEN

Though this past year has not been anything like we imagined it would be, we're incredibly proud of the work we've accomplished and are excited to share with you some of our most important achievements of our 2019–2020 fiscal year. We've made great strides toward better serving our entire community, transforming our programming to meet the needs of a virtual world and celebrated a wonderful milestone: our 50th anniversary. Whether you choose to access your library in person or from the comfort and safety of your own home, we encourage you to discover the world of possibilities available at Fountaindale Public Library.

50 AND FINE FREE

In preparation of celebrating our 50th anniversary in 2020, we held a library card design contest in the fall of 2019. We received more than 70 entries from adults, teens and children looking to have their artwork showcased on our library cards. The public voted on the top designs, and one winner from each age group was selected. We honored the winners and launched our new library cards at our 50th Anniversary Winter Carnival in January 2020, which featured games, food, prizes and princesses for our community to enjoy.



The 50th anniversary celebration continued throughout the year with weekly #ThrowbackThursday posts on our Instagram account and our Pillars of the Community video series featuring compelling testimonials from key Bolingbrook stakeholders.



In March 2020, we officially became a fine-free library, which means you no longer have to pay daily late fines on items that are overdue. We strive to provide excellent service to all residents in our district and understand that overdue fines can often create a barrier for people to use the library. By eliminating fines, we hope to share our collection of physical and digital items as well as our resources, services and spaces with even more members of the community.

Our Circulation staff also cleared previously-issued late fines from patrons' accounts so everyone could have a clean slate.

EXCITING ADDITIONS

We continuously look for new and exciting benefits to make your library card even more valuable.

- Our **Lucky Day Collection** in the lobby houses hot new releases, best-sellers and popular books and movies that typically have long hold times. If it's on the shelf, it's yours to check out—no holds, no waiting.
- Streaming popular movies and TV shows is a lot easier with our **Roku Ultras** featuring Netflix, Disney+, HBO and other exciting streaming services.
- Access newspapers and magazines from around the globe with **PressReader**, or let your creative side run wild with **Creativebug**, two of our newest eResources.
- We added a new meeting room by converting our 2nd floor computer lab into **Meeting Room C**, a modular and multipurpose meeting space.
- In the spring of 2020, Studio 300 unveiled their first **Artist in Residence**, Erika Doyle, lead designer at EVOL Collective.

RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

In an unprecedented time filled with uncertainty and unrest, we're here to provide reliable information, resources and services and, above all, a safe place to convene and connect.

The world changed as we knew it with the onset of COVID-19. We sadly had to close the physical doors to our building for a few months, but our staff began working hard to provide virtual programming, expand our eResources and digital collection and create virtual library cards so patrons could access all of our services from home. We even installed new hardware to boost our Wi-Fi signal to reach our parking lot so those without internet access could safely surf the web from their cars.

In early May, we were able to reopen our drive-thru window so our patrons could check out new materials. It was a truly humbling and heartwarming experience to see how many people expressed how much they missed our library and their overwhelming excitement to get their hands on new books, movies and video games to help pass the long hours of quarantine.

Since our building reopened, we have adapted to a new way of serving our community while still providing the same great services. We keep the health and safety of our visitors and staff at the forefront by requiring face coverings, encouraging social distancing and offering sanitizer in nearly every area of the library. We also quarantine returned materials, offer limited seating throughout the building to create social distancing and Studio 300 is open by appointment only. Most notably, we have shifted to a virtual format to provide a vast variety of daily events for adults, teens and children via Zoom and YouTube. Our Outreach Services team has resumed visiting the community by offering socially distanced material browsing with the Bookmobile and Library Express Van. They also provide contactless home deliveries to patrons who are unable to visit the building and make wellness calls to ensure the wellbeing of patrons from whom they have not visited for some time.

In response to our country's social upheaval, our Board of Trustees and Executive Director published a letter to our community standing against racism.

"Our library stands for a community that is welcoming and open to all, and for treating everyone who visits our library with kindness and respect. We stand unequivocally against racism in all its forms. We hope this is an opportunity we all take to listen to each other and learn from each other."

Our staff curated and continue to maintain physical and digital materials and resources in our building and on our website for children, teens and adults to help empower our community to have conversations about racism, antiracism and injustice. Our hope is that these materials will be a starting point to make our world a better one.



During our 2020 Summer Adventure, we had the opportunity to partner with The Third Institute (TTI) to provide much needed Black children's literature to kids in our community. Thanks to TTI's generous sponsorship, we were able to give these books to all of our 216 child Summer Adventure participants. The Third Institute also hosts a monthly Roots program on Zoom, which highlights African American heroes and sheroes throughout history.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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President

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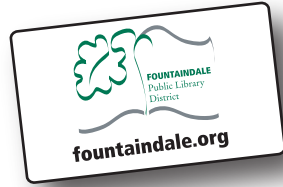
Ruth Newell
Trustee

Marcelo Valencia
Trustee

"Wonderful community resource! There's everything from infant storytime to business resources. You have to check out Studio 300, the digital media lab."
-Val G.

"Amazing library! Great staff! Always a pleasure to be there."
-Sean C.

FOUNTAINDALE BY THE NUMBERS



New Cardholders
1,333



Increase in Digital Material Checkouts
83%



YouTube Channel Views
20,784



Events Held (In-Person and Virtual)
2,834



Total Career Online High School Graduates
24



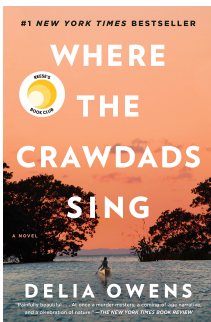
Hold Requests Fulfilled
101,288



Total 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Participants
358

MOST BORROWED MATERIALS

Adult Fiction



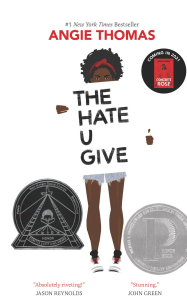
eBook

Adult Nonfiction



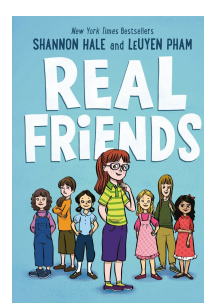
Children's Movie

Teen



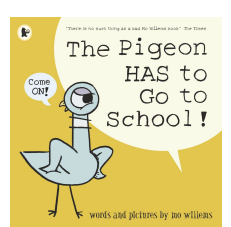
Movie

Juvenile



Video Game

Picture Book



CD

