



2024 Annual Report

Daniel Boone Regional Library | Serving Boone & Callaway Counties



Mid-Missourians Give the Library High Marks

Results from the community survey conducted on behalf of the Daniel Boone Regional Library (DBRL) showed high satisfaction rates among residents in Boone and Callaway Counties. We used ETC Institute, a research firm that does studies for public libraries and municipalities all across the country.

ETC compared some of our findings with other governmental organizations and reported that:

Overall satisfaction with DBRL's services is 93%.

This is **29%** above the national average of 64% for public libraries.

Of those surveyed, **91%** are satisfied with the overall value they receive for their tax dollars, which is **58%** higher than the national average for local governments.

Satisfaction with service provided by DBRL staff is **94%**, which is **55%** above the national average for governmental organizations.

You can read the full survey report online at www.dbrl.org/survey-2024

New & Expanded Services in 2024

■ NEW! CommunityMade Reading Lists

Our staff has worked with local organizations throughout Boone and Callaway Counties to create topical book lists they think will be of interest to the community. The titles listed are available in our catalog and highlight the types of services and information each organization offers.

■ NEW! Community Resource Specialist

To further assist library patrons, the library hired a Community Resource Specialist (CRS) to connect people to other community resources. The CRS assists patrons with navigating life challenges by connecting them to services and information to help meet their needs. The library can now provide referrals for things like health care, food, shelter, housing, clothing, education, jobs and vocational training.

■ NEW! "The Creative Age" Classes for 55+

Our new program series, "The Creative Age," encourages adults 55 and older to tap into their creative sides. The aims are to improve quality of life for older adults, engage them with library resources and break down stereotypes, demonstrating that you can develop your creativity at any age.

Two eight-week courses have now taken place, taught by professional artist Jenn Wiggs out of Orr Street Studios in Columbia and at the Callaway County Public Library in Fulton. Each course culminates with a reception and display. We have gathered tremendous positive feedback from our students! This program was supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through a grant from the Missouri State Library.

2024 Statistics

94,325 DBRL Cardholders

227,893 people in library district*

11,844 new cards issued

2,903,479 Total Check-outs

Columbia: 1,350,510

Digital Branch: 1,230,225

Callaway: 98,589

Outreach Services: 76,108

Southern Boone: 70,353

Holts Summit: 65,533

Hallsville Library-To-Go: 12,161

1,099,803 Webpage Views

34,615 online resource uses

Over 488,577 Library Visits

55,134 uses of library computers

57,882 uses of library Wi-Fi

35,693 attendees or viewers for 1,418 programs

2,179 new passports executed

526,007 Items in Collection

Books: 355,510

eBooks: 72,012

DVDs: 37,111

Downloadable Audiobooks: 27,723

Music CDs: 16,452

Audiobooks (CDs & Playaways): 13,855

Devices & Kits: 1,231

Additional Digital Materials

These third-party services expand our digital offerings to provide streaming or downloadable titles not counted above. New titles are frequently added, so totals fluctuate.

Freegal: 18 million+ songs and music videos

hoopla: 1,826,397 titles streaming audiobooks, eBooks, comics, music and TV shows

Kanopy: 30,000+ films and videos

OverDrive: 5,500 magazine titles
(OverDrive eBooks & audiobooks are counted above)

**Based on U.S. Census data for 2020.*

More New & Expanded Services

NEW! Online Fiero Code Classes

Learning how to code can be fun when you use the library's free resource Fiero Code, newly added last May! Ages 8 to adults can enjoy this self-guided online program that teaches you how to code through hundreds of tutorials and dozens of real-world projects. You can build websites, video games and apps. Learn programming languages HTML, CSS, Javascript and more. Have fun going through the program's gamified learning experience — as you progress through the activities, you'll earn clothes and accessories for your personal avatar. Access Fiero Code through the library's website, then use your library card to set up a free account and start coding.



NEW! Outdoor Exploration Kits

Debuting last summer, our new Outdoor Exploration Kits are designed to encourage children to go outside and learn about the natural world. Each kit includes a set of binoculars, a magnifying glass and a compass, plus several books to help get your family's outdoor adventure started. Get ideas on what to see and do with a book of activities and adventures, and learn to identify what you observe with guides on birds, bugs, trees and wildflowers. You can borrow these kits for four weeks.



Holts Summit Public Library Fifth Anniversary

On March 5, 2019, the community of Holts Summit welcomed a new DBRL location. The new branch replaced the popular bookmobile visits that had served the community for 62 years and the Library-To-Go lockers and book drop that had been at City Hall since 2013. Since the new library opened, check-outs in Holts Summit have exceeded those from the bookmobile stops and lockers combined. In 2024, nearly 21,484 visits were made to the Holts Summit Public Library and almost 65,533 items were borrowed by patrons there.



2024



Grants and Donations Enhanced Library Services

We received grants from a variety of sources in 2024 that helped fund a number of library initiatives. We're also very appreciative of the donations made through the Friends groups and the DBRL Foundation.

Grants Received

An Institute of Museum and Library Services grant of \$4,394 allowed the library to offer "The Creative Age" classes for ages 55+. (See page 1.)

We received \$250,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funding through Boone County to reimburse the library for a portion of the costs of the Community Resource Specialist and the Safety and Security Manager positions for 2024 and 2025.

A \$20,000 grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources enabled us to conduct energy audits of the Columbia and Callaway County Public Libraries.

The Missouri Association of Community Arts Agencies awarded us \$1,000 for programming at two schools in Callaway County.

Mid-MO Solid Waste Management District grant of \$10,000 is funding our book recycling for 16 months.

The library secured a \$1,000 Rural Technology Fund grant to pay for tablets for a pilot program to expand offerings for home delivery patrons.

Friends of the Library Groups

Brightspeed Donation

On October 25, the Friends of the Columbia Public Library received a donation of \$2,500 from Brightspeed. This contribution directly supports our ongoing mission to enrich and expand library services for our community.

Book Sales

Despite a long disruption in their ability to accept donated books in 2024, the Friends of the Columbia Public Library were able to make a \$50,000 donation to the library this year. The library Friends in Ashland, Columbia and Fulton are volunteers who raise money for their respective libraries, primarily through book sales. Each is an independent 501(c)(3) organization.



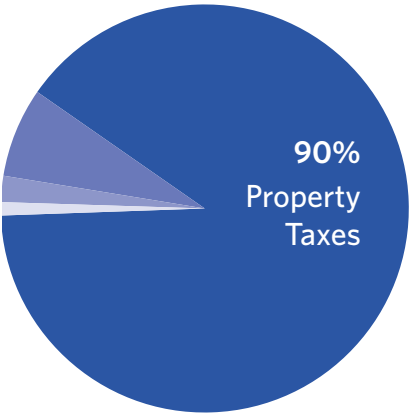
Daniel Boone Regional Library Foundation

In total, the DBRL Foundation raised \$91,900 in 2024. That included a donation of \$3,775 from the proceeds of 755 ticket sales for the CoMo Grown-Up Book Fair hosted by Rose Music Hall and \$42,000 raised through the Foundation's annual fall fundraising campaign and CoMoGives donations for the implementation of the Read to Succeed program.

2024 Operating Revenue

\$15,428,004

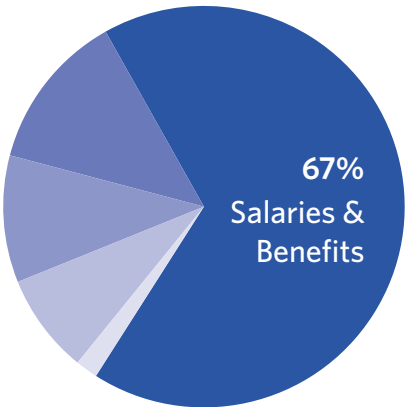
- 7% Other
- 2% State Aid
- 1% Contributions



2024 Operating Expenditures

\$15,960,419

- 13% Library Materials
- 10% Building Operations & Maintenance
- 8% General Operating
- 2% Capital Outlay



DBRL STAFF NEWS



Robin Westphal Named New DBRL Executive Director

In November, the library’s board of trustees and staff warmly welcomed Robin Westphal as the new executive director of Daniel Boone Regional Library. She brings a wealth of experience to our organization and the communities we serve. For the past six years, Robin served as the state librarian for Missouri. In that role, she worked to uphold the mission of the State Library by promoting the development and improvement of library services throughout the state and

served as the director of the Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library. Prior to working for the state, she served as the executive director for a public library in Johnson City, Tennessee and at the public library in Chillicothe, Missouri. Westphal has years of past community service experience including serving seven years on the Chillicothe RII school board, 10+ years in Rotary, and she also served on both the Grand River YMCA board of directors and Livingston County Health Department Board.



Angela Scott Promoted to Associate Director of Operations

Angela Scott joined DBRL in 1998 in the administrative office, and has served in many roles since then. She was a librarian on the children’s team before being promoted to several management positions and eventually being named the new associate director of operations.



Julie Murphy Promoted to Branch Lead at the Callaway County Public Library

Julie Murphy began her career at the Fulton library in 1985, and since then has served patrons of all ages through story times and day care visits, outreach to seniors and more. She also created an adult story time program which has been replicated across the branches.



Nancy Nelson Celebrates 50th Anniversary

In June 2024, Nancy Nelson celebrated working at the Callaway County Public Library for 50 years! Nancy has been a keeper of the genealogy and reference collection, and has been instrumental in documenting local history.

Otter Bowman Selected To Be ALA Volunteer

Librarian Otter Bowman was elected to the American Library Association Intellectual Freedom Round Table of Directors, and accepted a position on the ALA Chapter Relations Committee.

Union Celebrates One Year Anniversary

The library’s contract with Daniel Boone Regional Library Workers United was finalized December 19, 2023 and went into effect January 1, 2024.

Congrats to Our MLA Award Winners

Every year, the Missouri Library Association (MLA) recognizes individuals across the state for their work on behalf of libraries and the communities they serve. We are so proud that four people associated with DBRL received awards in 2024. Congratulations to each of them for their contributions!



Patricia Powell, Daniel Boone Regional Library Trustee

Virginia G. Young Outstanding Service Award

Recognizes an individual trustee for exemplary service to libraries in Missouri.

Sherry McBride-Brown, Retired DBRL Librarian

Meritorious Achievement Award

Recognizes an individual outside of the library profession or a retired librarian who has made a significant contribution to libraries in Missouri.

Pam Stone, Holts Summit Public Library Branch Lead

Outstanding Library Employee Award

Recognizes a library employee who has made a significant contribution to the improvement and advancement of library and information services.

Otter Bowman, DBRL Librarian

Ronald G. Bohley Award

Presented jointly by MLA and Amigos Library Services to an individual or individuals whose actions have led libraries to work better together and who exemplifies the best efforts to reach out beyond their own institution to further multi-type library cooperation throughout the State of Missouri.

LIBRARY MISSION

YOUR LIBRARY:

connecting you to ideas, information, community life and each other.

VISION STATEMENT

DBRL strives to be at the heart of the community, a trusted resource and partner known for excellence, creativity and open, equitable access, connecting every person to opportunities for a lifetime of discovery, learning and joy.

LIBRARY GOVERNANCE

The Daniel Boone Regional Library serves two library districts, the Callaway County Library District and the Columbia and Boone County Library District. The library system is governed by a board of 14 volunteer trustees appointed by the Columbia mayor and the Boone and Callaway County commissioners.

Callaway County Library District Board of Trustees

Dawn Dirks, Mary Fennell, Tonya Hays-Martin, Jean Howard, Cori Miller

Columbia and Boone County Library District Board of Trustees

Shannon Alvis, Margrace Buckler, Dorothy Carner, Seth Christiansen, Lisa Finn, Jacqueline Kelly, Patricia Powell, Travis Pringle, Jennifer Rodewald