

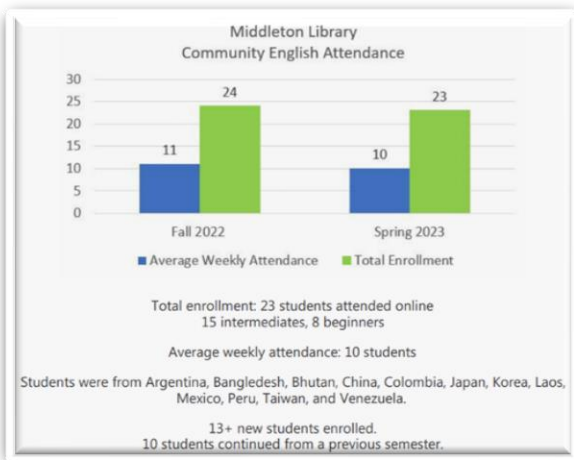
May 2023
Monthly Strategic Road Map

Community Partnerships

Focuses on empowering and connecting with individuals and groups who have the knowledge, skills, and social connections to take action in creating a strong, vibrant community.

Priorities:

- Collect and value input from library users and increase communication with underrepresented populations to better understand needs, identify barriers to use, and increase use of the library.
- Create more opportunities for the public to share their talents and expertise.
- Grow and strengthen relationships with strategic area partners.



Based on student feedback, this semester the Literacy Network offered a hybrid Community English class in partnership with Middleton Library, and made possible with support from the Friends of the Library. A total of 58 students were served through three options for Community English classes. The beginner in-person class was mostly at Sauk Trail Elementary and three classes were held at Middleton Library. To support adult learning, those attending in-person benefited from free concurrent childcare and students attending online benefited from free level-appropriate textbooks. During the end-of-semester celebration in the Friends of the

Library Community Meeting Room at the library, the students were presented with a certificate and a Middleton Library Pencil bag. Thanks to Head of Adult Services, Liz Zimdars, for building a great relationship with this community partner and to the Friends of the Library for funding the program!



Civic Engagement

Focuses on advocating for the City of Middleton and its residents.

Priorities:

- Align the goals of the Middleton Public Library with the goals of the City of Middleton.
- Cultivate a collection and offer programming that reflects the entire community.
- Develop service strategies responsive to community needs.

As libraries throughout the United States continue to deal with censorship, the Dane County Library Directors are teaming up to support the right to read through: policy and procedure sharing, media training, scenario analysis, and best practices regarding the [1967 Freedom of Information Act](#), open meetings, records requests, and patron/staff privacy. The [WLA](#) and [CCBC](#) continue to expand support.

Inclusion and Belonging

Focuses on creating opportunities for people to experience, express, and celebrate cultures, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Priorities:

- Provide effective leadership in the development, coordination, implementation and assessment of programs, collections, and services to promote diversity and understanding of bias and differences.
- Honor freedom of expression, intellectual freedom, the right to read, and civil discourse as fundamental to personal, professional, and organizational growth.
- Develop the skills and capacity of staff, board, and volunteers to support diverse communities of users and advocate for resources.



“Dear friends at the library, we just finished up our month of fasting Ramadan, and celebrated our holiday, Eid al-Fitr! During Ramadan we collected books for children about Ramadan and Eid to share with the library. WE ❤️ READING!!!”

– Madison Islamic Center

Dane County Public Libraries have formed a LGBTQ+ Affinity Group for staff. The group plans to meet regularly and discuss topics like:

being out at the library, Pride events, new/recent queer books and media, future planning. Thanks to Youth Services Librarian, Jenn Senn for participating in this group and representing MID.

Place and Space

Focuses on providing physical and virtual spaces that are safe, modern, welcoming, and flexible.

Priorities:

- Create accessible spaces inside and outside of the library that support connections, experiences, and literacy.
- Increase patron’s ability to find, understand, and utilize what they need in the library and online.
- Continue to plan for the long-term future by participating in the Community Campus Plan.

Currently the South Central Library System leases two buildings; an administration building and a delivery facility. The leases have escalated in costs over the years and both leases are expiring in 2023. Though SCLS is a tax-exempt organization, it pays taxes through leases which are less than optimal for SCLS. By consolidating one shared facility, SCLS will not be paying property taxes, the mortgage will be a set amount and SCLS will gain a physical and fiscal asset. Since 2018 SCLS has been discussing ways to:

- Find economies of scale and efficiency within its operations
- Save money
- Combine both the SCLS administration and delivery operations under one roof to facilitate team work, eliminate redundant tasks and create a more unified corporate culture

After several years of analysis and planning the SCLS is moving its headquarters June 28-July 1 to 1650 Pankratz Street, Madison.

Director, Jocelyne Sansing, was selected to participate in the Wisconsin Public Library Facilities Assessment Focus Group, hosted by the Department of Public Instruction. This is a state-wide, multi-year project that is studying and collecting data on all public library facilities in WI. This will be especially helpful as the Community Campus Planning Committee reforms under the direction of Middleton's new, Mayor Kuhn. To date, 356 libraries across the state, including Middleton, have participated in an extensive facilities survey. These survey findings were presented at the April [WAPL conference](#) in Oshkosh with plans to make the data available to the public in early 2024. One of the projected outcomes of the project is to provide local municipal leaders with data, background information, education, and best practices for capital facilities projects.

Sharing the Impact

Focuses on communicating why and how the library is here for you.

Priorities:

- **Protect patron privacy and increase awareness and use of services and resources.**
- **Develop improved communication efforts and methods to reach current and potential users.**
- **Celebrate the critical role the library plays in fostering multiple literacies.**



Outreach and Youth Services staff were BUSY this month promoting the 2023 Summer Reading Program! This annual program continues to serve ALL ages. School visits include:

- Kromrey - 960 students
- Sauk Trail – 425 students
- Sunset Ridge – 315 students
- West – 400 students
- Northside – 375 students
- Pope Farm – 425 students
- Elm Lawn – 350 students
- MHS – 85 students

3335 Total Students Reached!

Over a dozen teens have signed up to volunteer for Summer Reading Program support!

During the month of May the library offered:

65 total programs with 4022 participants

25 were outreach visits with 3241 participants

Christensen Family Art Gallery was listed as a stop on the Middleton Art Walk map. While the program offered during the Art Walk only had 5 participants, it was great the library was included in the promotions.

Other program highlights from May include Cricut Basics Workshop, Dungeons and Dragons, and Demystifying Estate Planning by Heather A. McDonell, Esq.



YOUR LIBRARY NEEDS YOU!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE FOR THE LIBRARY
BOARD & FRIENDS OF THE
LIBRARY

Make a positive impact in your library community!

Library Board Application:
<https://cityofmiddleton.us/FormCenter/City-Clerk-10/Committee-Application-Form-59>

Friends of the Library Volunteer Opportunities:
Please email friendsmiddletonlibrary@gmail.com

Contact Library Director
Jocelyne Sansing to
learn more about these
opportunities.

JSANSING@MIDLIBRARY.ORG

Thriving Together

Focuses on creating an environment where people want to be.

Priorities:

- Create and nurture a culture of continuous and innovative learning and development for staff, board, and volunteers.
- Strengthen the organizational structure of volunteers and Friends group and work with members to broaden support of the library's mission.
- Ensure short and long-term fiscal sustainability through thoughtful financial development, donor relationships, and partnerships.

Deputy Director, Katharine Clark, has created an 'off desk time' structured training program for staff. Utilizing recorded library programs, vendor

webinars, and other online resources, training topics include everything from databases, to reader's advisory, and safety and security. Learning priorities are centered on library services, like Hoopla, Libby, and other databases. After each online session, staff fill out a brief form with their takeaways and these are compiled monthly and shared out with all staff.

The Friends of the Library hosted their annual members meeting on May 10th. The full FOL board was in attendance and this time was used for an annual review of activities and planning head for fall fundraising.

Director, Jocelyne Sansing was awarded "Ambassador of the Month" for the Middleton Chamber of Commerce for making several key member connections and presenting on the state of the library for an event. She also served on the interview panel for the new full-time dedicated facilities manager, who will start in August. A dedicated City Communications Manager position was identified in the City of Middleton's strategic planning process, class and compensation study, and included in the 2022 referendum. This position was recently filled and the City welcomed new Communications Manager, Brent McHenry. The library will work closely with Brent on creating communications priorities, like a crisis communications plan.



Welcome part-time Library Assistant, Samantha to the Middleton Team!

Welcome new Trustees, Connie Nadler and Aurora Pop-Vicas! The Middleton Public Library Board of Trustees continues to seek two more trustees for the nine person volunteer board.

Down the road: June is Pride month! August 8th is Non-profit day at the Chamber of Commerce, where the Friends of the Library will host a table for the second year in a row.

June's theme is Pride!

Celebrate LGBT+ Pride Month with these library programs and displays!

Programs

Queer & Trans Perspectives in Healthcare & Beyond
(Scholar for Life)
Tuesday, June 20 6pm
Adult Program

Movie Screening: Tár
Thursday, June 29 1pm
Adult Program
Rated R, 2hrs 38min

Displays

Adult Display: Pride Month!

Teen Display: Pride Month!

MIDDLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Register at midlibrary.org/events