City of Calabasas Library

Annual Report

FY 2023-2024

FY 2023-2024 Year in Review

The Library celebrated its 25th year in 2023. In October we held a party to celebrate, and invited members of the City Council, City staff and the general public to attend.

Circulation of e-media continued to grow. During COVID, patrons became more aware of and more comfortable using digital resources. The California State Library provided many free online resources from COVID era funds. However, these were discontinued at the end of FY 2024.

The Library increased live programming, although a few programs remain on Zoom due to patron demand. With 18 other Libraries in Los Angeles County we participated in the One Book, One County Program with everyone reading *L.A. Weather* by Maria Amparo Escandon. We also increased our outreach to the community working with the Calabasas Chamber of Commerce and visiting the Farmers Market and local schools. The Library hosted several class visits from both public and private schools in the area.

Ellen Pangarliotas, original and continuing member of the Library Commission, passed away. She was instrumental in moving the Library away from the Los Angeles County system and creating an independent City of Calabasas Library. The Library held a special memorial for her with her family and city leaders in attendance.

Hidden Hills withdrew their funding for the Library but income from our local property tax revenues will continue to fund the Library.

Registered Borrowers

In Fiscal Year 2023-24 the library had 53,023 registered patrons.

Adults	27,517
Children	12,506
Digital cards	13,000
Total	53,023

Collection

Physical books no longer account for the largest number of items in the collection. An almost unlimited amount of content is available with a library card through the e-media and online resources links on the Library webpage. Digital books and audios are available through the Cloud Library, the Palace Project and Hoopla. Periodicals can be accessed online through Cloud Library and PressReader. Hoopla also provides access to many streaming videos and music. The California State Library provided us with additional free online resources during COVID and a few years after.

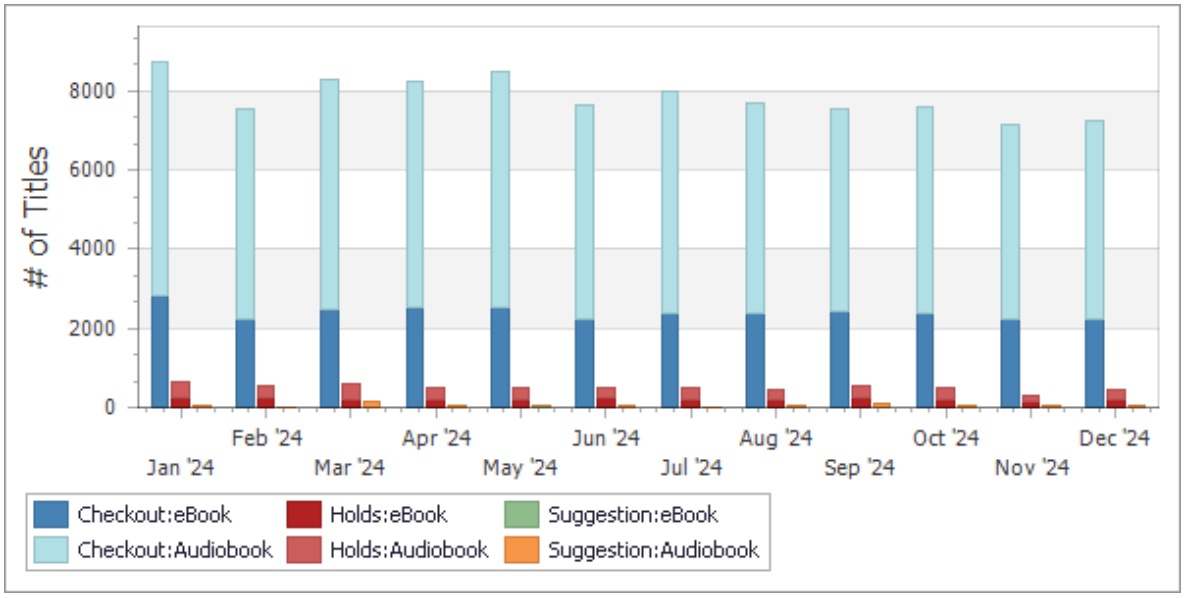
Print material	76,474
Audio CDs	4,429
DVDs	4,452
Physical Magazines (titles)	35
Physical Newspapers (titles)	5
Other (headphones, cords, etc.)	5
Total physical collection	**85,400**

Cloud Library Resources	628,323
Hoopla Resources	1,976,936

Circulation

The use of electronic materials (e-books, e-audiobooks, streaming video, etc.) is now greater than the circulation of physical items

Physical items	109,783
eMaterials	112,456
Total	222,239



Grants

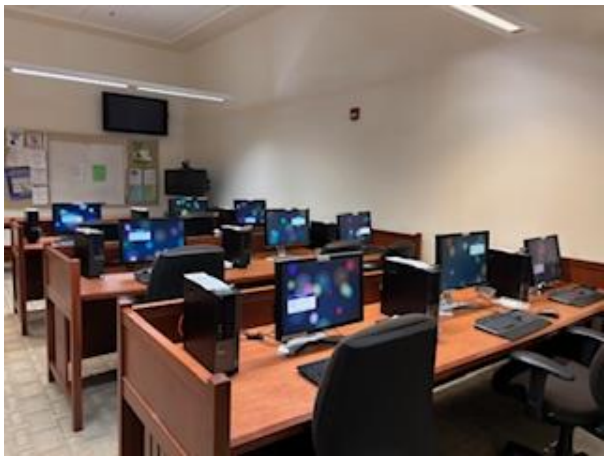
The Library staff applies for and won a series of grants from LSTA and the California State Library.

The **Zip Books** grant provides requested books to patrons directly from Amazon. When the patron is finished with the book, it is returned and cataloged to the collection. The program was very successful with 131 books ordered and 123 added to the collection.

The **California State Parks Pass** program provides free passes to patrons for use at most of the State Parks in California. The pass can be checked for two weeks at a time.

The Library received a **Ready – Or Not" Cultural Heritage Disaster Preparedness Project** grant of more than $8,000 from Groundwork Grants through the California State Library. The grant is for the purchase of archival materials to protect the Library's special collections in case of a disaster. Part of the grant requirement is to prepare a document with emergency contact information for needed resources to facilitate moving and storage of special collections.

The Library's Internet service is partially funded by a CENIC Broadband grant from the State Library. Each year we receive a reimbursement for the costs. CENIC operates the California Research and Education Network (calRen) a high-capacity computer network with more than 8,000 miles of optical fiber. The network serves over 20 million users across California, including the vast majority of K-20 students together with educators, researchers, and individuals at other vital public-serving institutions.



Tech use

In-house computer use has declined as people have their own devices. However, WiFi use has grown significantly. There are about 25,000 unique users and more than 55,000 logs on per year.

The Library's mobile app was used 11.000 times in a year. Patrons can access our website and check out in-house items from the app.

Programs

Programs are an essential part of our library services. Part of the Library's mission is to support the cultural and recreational interests of the community. There are programs for patrons of all ages. Children's programs during the summer encourage library visits with the hope that children check out books and increase their literacy. Reading in the summer helps students avoid the "summer slide". Teens participate in Study Buddies, Writers' Club and TLC, the Teen Library Council. There are craft programs for all ages and author visits, book clubs, film discussions and educational lectures for adults.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS	Number	Attendance
Children's programs	112	3,110
Young Adult programs	27	138
Adult Programs	49	560
All Ages	3	502
Total	191	4,310

Adult Book Club

Baby Stem Program

PAWS to Read

Writers' Club

Willow School Outreach Program

Fun Fair

Community Program

Summer Reading Program

Authors Lee Goldberg & Gregg Hurwitz

Calabasas Library
25th Anniversary Party

The Library Commission

The City of Calabasas Library Commission meet on a regular basis to discuss library policy, programs, services and the budget. The public is invited to attend and make comments or they may watch the meetings on CTV. The members of the Library Commission for 2023-24 were President, Julie Shy-Sobel, Monica Parmar, Mark Shear, Ann Park and **L**ily Werve, Student Member.

Library Commissioners with student volunteers

The Friends of the Calabasas Library Tea Fundraiser

The Friends of the Calabasas Library raise funds through membership dues and sales of donated Books and they distribute the money to the Library for special programs, rental books and movies. Volunteers participate in the Friends of the Library meetings and work in the book store. The President of the Friends is Elizabeth Parang, Francee Dawson, Treasurer, Bradley Bobbs, VP Membership, and Jody Schneider, Board Member.

Library Staff

The Library has six full-time staff members: Barbara Lockwood, City Librarian; Karilyn Steward, Senior Librarian; Kerrie Mierop, Youth Service Librarian, Suchandra Ghosh, Library Circulation Supervisor; Shanta Williams, Technical Services Coordinator; and Sarah Abdali, Executive Assistant II. The Library has six hourly Librarians, an hourly Archivist and six hourly Circulation employees. All Librarians hold Masters in Library Science degrees and full-time Librarians are members of the American Library Association (ALA) and the California Library Association. Barbara Lockwood continues to serve on the Administrative Board of the Southern California Library Cooperative (SCLC) and is a member of the SCLC Audit & Finance Committee. Karilyn Steward was chair of the SCLC Technology Committee. She also organizes the Ventura and West Los Angeles County MakerBox Collective. At the Annual 2024 American Library Association Convention in San Diego, Kerrie Mierop organized a panel of children's graphic book authors and several other major programs. She served as Chair of the ALA Children's Graphic Novel Award Committee.

Library Budget Fiscal Year 2023-24

Revenue

Property Tax	$2,574,588
Fees & Recovery	4,490
State Library Grants	9,680
Interest Income	108,382
General Fund Transfer	6,971
Total Revenue	$2,704,111

Expenditures

Staff Expenditures	$1,252,634
Physical Collection	40,529
Digital Collection	112,130
Civic Center O&M	268,229
Other Operating	54,654
Transfer to 2015 COP	774,725
Total Operating Expenditures	$2,502, 901
Change in Fund Balance	$ 201,210