

Director's Report for Board Meeting June 18, 2025

Vision: *Welcoming, Inspiring and Connecting our Community.*

Mission: *We serve as a community hub by connecting our patrons to all forms of literacy, lifelong, learning and growth.*

[RCL Monthly Calendar](#)



Robust Collections

- ★ Provide barrier-free access to resources for the community that are most in demand.
 - We added the Richland Community Library Scavenger Hunt Kit to our library collection of items to check out, to celebrate our library's 50th Anniversary, designed to promote local history learning and community exploration; all 6 kits are currently checked out, with 4 patrons on the waitlist.
 - The response to launching our Seed Library has been incredible. Thank you to everyone who's participated. We look forward to watching your gardens grow and flowers bloom this season. Thanks to Anne Richards, Collection Development Librarian, and help from patron staff members for planning, organizing, and launching the RCL Seed Library.
 - A patron recently borrowed our knitting machine from the Library of Things to make hats. We encourage patrons to share their photos with us to inspire others to explore new skills and projects through our collection.



Enriching Programs

- ★ Provide opportunities to create, learn, be entertained and come together.
 - Hosted a patron voting contest to name our library carts. Thanks to all who participated. Dolly Carton is now decked out in pink and turquoise rhinestones, while Cart Simpson features bold color blocks and spiky hair.
 - We welcomed Michigan Notable Author Brittany Rogers. A poet, visual artist, essayist, and Detroit native, Brittany shared from her debut poetry collection *Good Dress*, a 2025 Michigan Notable Title. This event was funded by the Library of Michigan Foundation, Michigan Humanities Grant, and the Library of Michigan.
 - On June 10th we hosted Dick Dapson, owner of Richland's own Fabrications, who brought a background in fiber studies and textile chemistry, along with fascinating stories and facts about fabric, yarn, and textiles.

- As part of our efforts to host more all-age programming, come celebrate Summer Reading with Art in the Evening, a drop-in art program for teens and adults starting late June through July. Join us Thursday evenings from 5 to 7 PM. No registration needed. Kids are welcome when accompanied by an adult.



Broad Outreach

- ★ Expand meaningful partnerships with local organizations to strengthen community inclusion.
 - On May 29th, GLCS 2nd graders visited the library for a field trip. Children's Librarian, Carrie Dunn, led activity stations, including a read-aloud, library bingo scavenger hunt, and arts and crafts.
 - Erica Schiller, Teen Librarian, will be representing the Library as Statue of Liberty in 4th of July Parade
 - Join us June 25 for a family friendly Environmental Health Education event here at the library. Families can earn badges while learning about caring for the environment, their homes, and their health. Complete all stations for a chance to win a family membership to Binder Park Zoo! Presented in partnership with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.



Strong Operations

- ★ Ensure sustainable funding sources for operating hours, collections, services, programs and staff.
 - All staff meeting on June 6th went well to get everyone in sync and ready for a fun summer.
 - Library Dot Engagement Survey Implemented June 12th
 - One of our library's HVAC units was replaced on June 17th by Kalamazoo Mechanical to help keep our building energy efficient year round.



Additional Information outside the scope of the RCL Strategic Plan.

- After a 1,375-day Duolingo streak, a patron switched to Mango Languages, citing frustration with ads and reduced learning quality. Reminding us how valuable our free, ad-free digital resources like Mango are.