Georgia Public Library Service Update

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2022 Legislative Session Highlights

Photo by Mehmet Suat:
https://www.pexels.com/photo/city-building-architecture-tree-5130431/

2022 Legislative Session Highlights

FY22 amended budget
- $2 million for technology grants to public libraries
- $3 million for Major Repair/Renovation in public libraries

FY23 budget
- State-reimbursed library positions were included in the $5,000 COLA
- Library materials grant increased from $.40 per capita to $.60 per capita, for a total increase of $2,214,123
- $2 million in bond funding for Major Repair/Renovation in public libraries
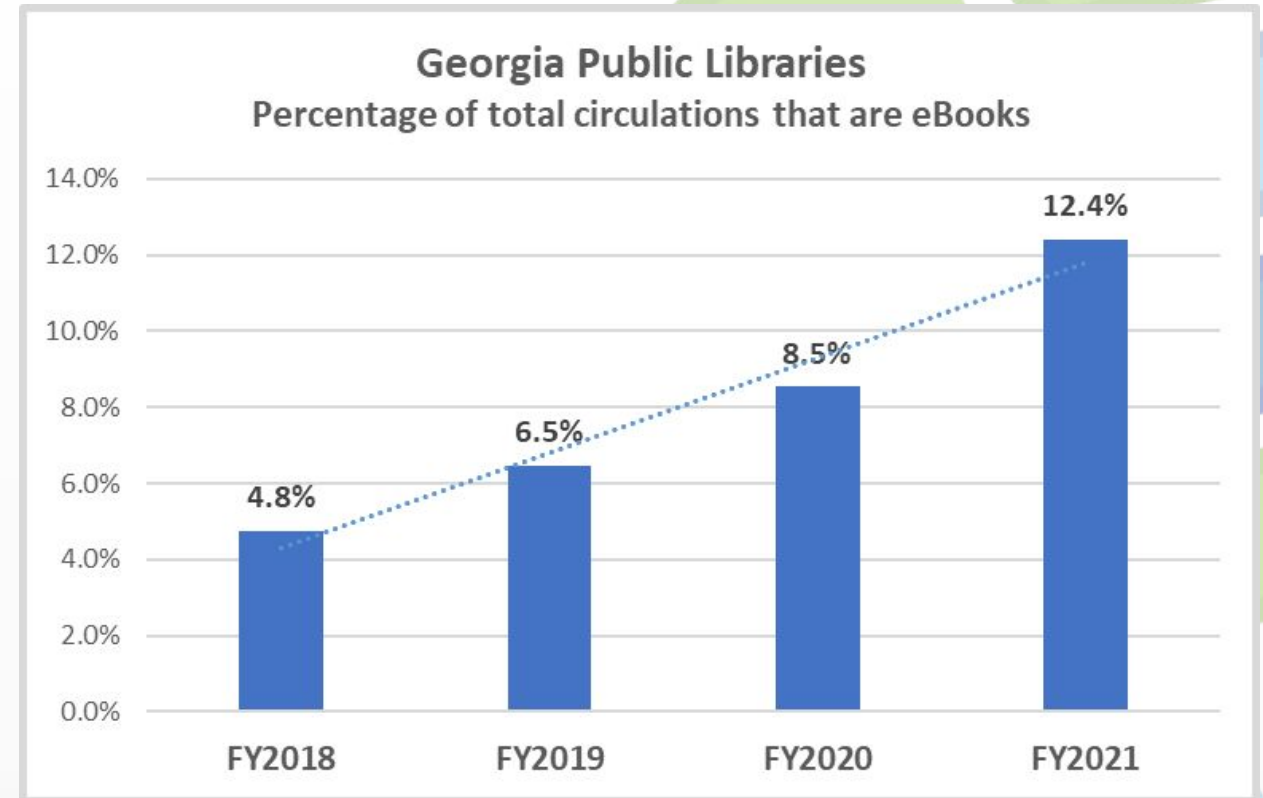- Approximately $10 million in bond funding for 6 library construction projects

Statistics

Empowering libraries to improve the lives of all Georgians

GEORGIA PUBLIC
LIBRARY SERVICE

Library Statistics

- Over 4.4 million, 40% of Georgians have a library card; this held steady during the pandemic.
- Georgia is one of four states piloting WiFi usage project with IMLS
- For the first time in two years, 100% of library systems in the state are just about back to usual service and hours!
- As of March 25, 2022, 70% of library systems have restored services to the same as before the pandemic.
- Two thirds continue to offer curbside service as of March 2022.
- **Ebook circulation as a percentage of total circulation increased by 45% from FY2020 to FY2021.**

Georgia Public Libraries
Percentage of total circulations that are eBooks

FY	Percentage
FY2018	4.8%
FY2019	6.5%
FY2020	8.5%
FY2021	12.4%

Library Statistics

Some FY2021 statistics:

- 61 library systems (60 as of FY2022)
- 408 facilities, including 9 bookmobiles
- Total square footage of Georgia public library buildings is 5,500,950 sq ft
- 2,737 Full Time Equivalent staff members
- Operating expenditures of the library systems was $212,466,196.
- Circulation for FY2021: over 24.7 million.

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Marketing and Communications

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Marketing Grants

Since 2018, more than 50 library systems have applied for these grants. Typically we award 6-8 per year. Campaigns took place in April 2022.

Creative uses of marketing grants

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Marketing Grants: Impact

"The GPLS marketing grant helped us demonstrate that a small marketing budget year round can have a substantial impact on our marketing reach as an organization. We used our grant to incentivize the sharing of patron impact stories. The number and quality of stories we received significantly increased compared to doing the same campaign without an incentive months before."
– Cherokee Regional Library

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Story Stroll Kits

- Children's picture books that libraries can check out for outdoor programming
- Diverse selection of books
- QR codes on each panel for an audio version
- Families walk through the story

Two permanent Story Strolls to be at the Chattahoochee Nature Center and Macon Museum complex in Macon.

Example panels from a Story Stroll kit

PINES

PINES

PINES PLAY Card

The PLAY card provides students with access to both physical and digital materials, such as eRead Kids and GALILEO. Students will be able to check out as many as five items at a time and there are no late fees. They can request items from any PINES affiliated library, and they'll be delivered free to their local library branch for pickup.

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PINES PLAY Card

Total Cards	224,273
Total Active Districts	25
Total Checkouts	34,753
Total Logins	31,120
MOU In Progress	10
MOU Pending	16
Total In Queue	36

A **PINES** library card helps *students* do better in school *& life.*

PINES

PINES

PINES AV Lending

- Since March 2022, overall AV circulations have gone up 10%
- Average of 9,500 AV items per month sent between different library systems
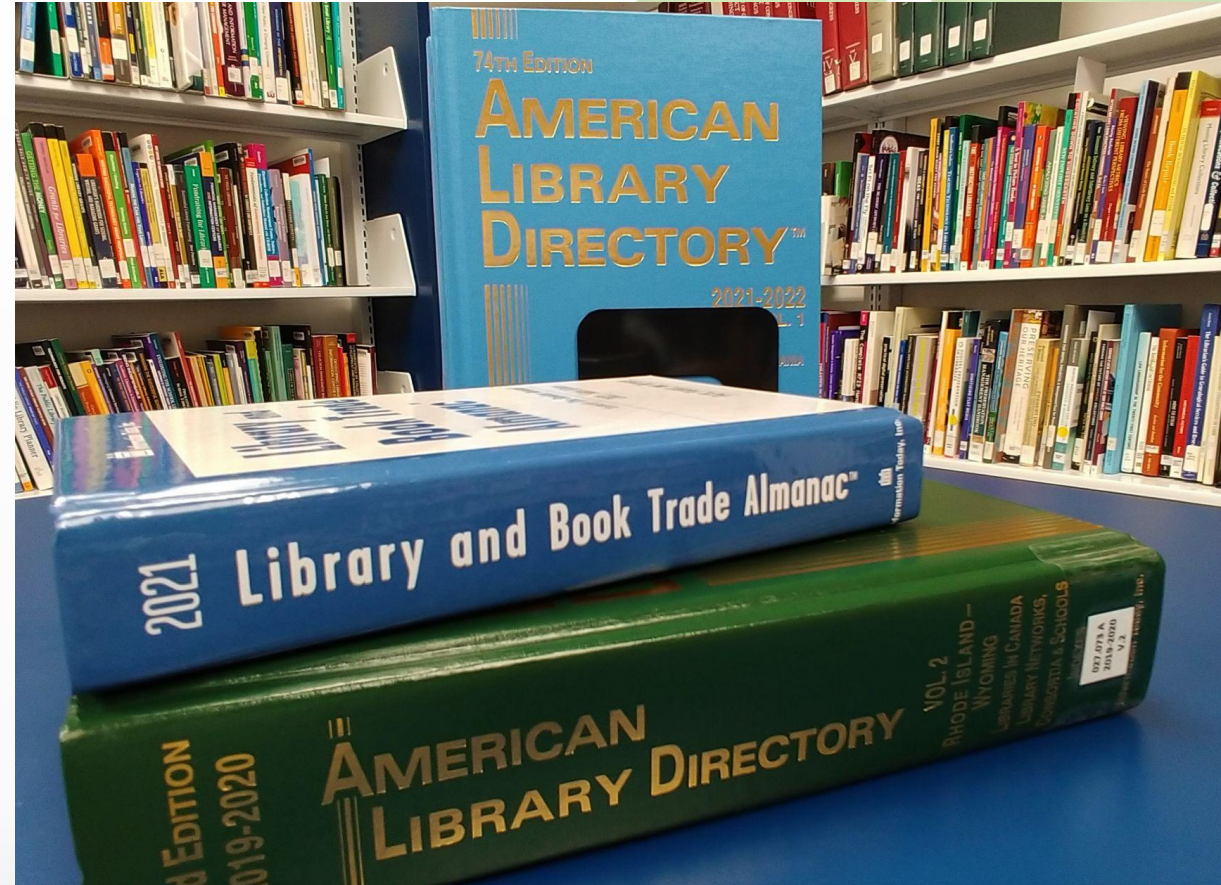
Types of AV items borrowed:
- 73% DVD
- 20% audiobooks
- 5% music CDs
- 2% videogames

Professional Collection

The GPLS Collection is a business library for the business of librarians and library staff in the state of Georgia.

Youth Services

PrimeTime Family

YOUTH SERVICES

PrimeTime Family: Impact

- **213** families participated
- **649** individual participants statewide
- **90** new library cards issued during six week program.
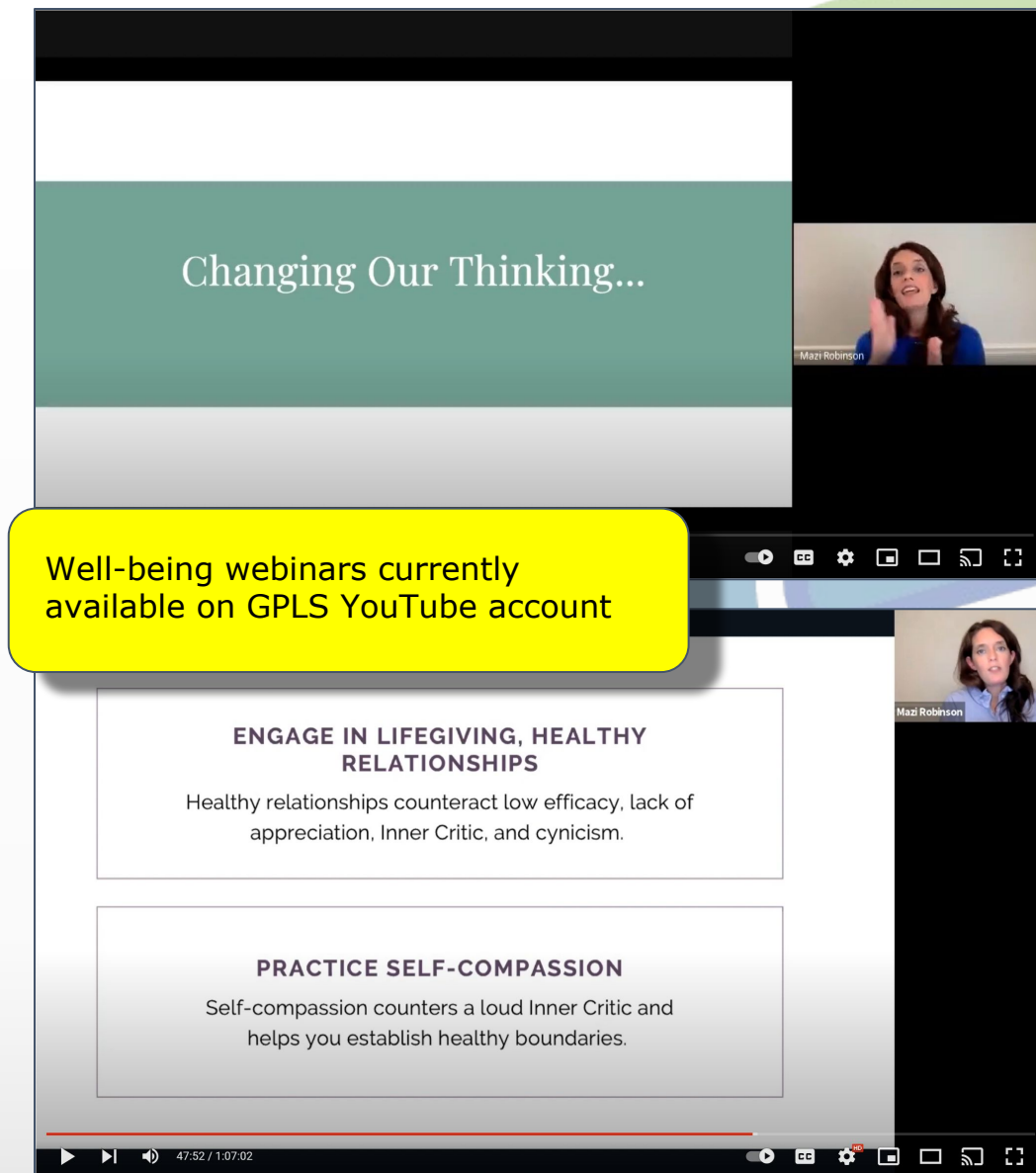
Library Staff Well-Being

LIBRARY STAFF WELL-BEING

Forums with library managers and patrons
- Learning more about the community experience and how the library contributes to community life.
- Partnership with Alaska, New York, and Texas on the IMLS Libraries in Community System Grant

Series of well-being workshops led by Licensed Professional Counselor Mazi Robinson for our library teams across the state
- 3 virtual presentations
- In-person presentations at our financial training in March and Directors meeting in May
- Presentation topics: Anxiety, Burnout, and Leadership
- Presentations available for viewing on Georgia Public Library Service YouTube page

Changing Our Thinking...

Well-being webinars currently available on GPLS YouTube account

ENGAGE IN LIFEGIVING, HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Healthy relationships counteract low efficacy, lack of appreciation, Inner Critic, and cynicism.

PRACTICE SELF-COMPASSION

Self-compassion counters a loud Inner Critic and helps you establish healthy boundaries.

Entrepreneurial Learning Initiative (ELI)

Training to help people for a mindset for entrepreneurship

In partnership with EBSCO, we are working on a new exciting promotion for the Entrepreneurial Learning Initiative. More news coming soon.

THINK & ACT LIKE A BOSS.
georgialibraries.org/eli

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Information Technology

Information Technology

Tech Boot Camp

- Virtual 2021 and 2022
- Increase in attendance year-to-year:
  - 2019 (about 100 attendees);
  - 2020 (145 attendees);
  - 2021 (167 attendees).
- The conference also grew to 4 days

"AN ADVENTURE TOO BIG FOR THE REAL WORLD"

CYBER CAMP 2021

WELCOME TO A TECH OASIS

Information Technology

Cybersecurity

- GPLS cybersecurity program started providing 2 new services for Georgia's libraries:
  - Filtered DNS-allowing libraries to manage their filtering on a granular level and have more control over their filtering rules without taking on the burden of local hardware to manage;
  - Risk assessments for libraries, was launched in October 2021. Libraries will participate in this program in order to discover their risks, determine the proper mitigation path, and justify additional funding and resources to improve their overall cybersecurity stance

Information Technology

Libraries Without Walls Grants

- Funded by CARES Act through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
- Five focus areas:
  - broadband infrastructure
  - Chromebook lending
  - G Suite migrations
  - tech innovation
  - Wi-Fi expansion.
- **63 projects** were funded to **40 library systems** with $558,210.70 in funding spent.

ARE YOU IN NEED OF A COMPUTER?

AZRLS will get you connected with our **Technology Lending Program!**

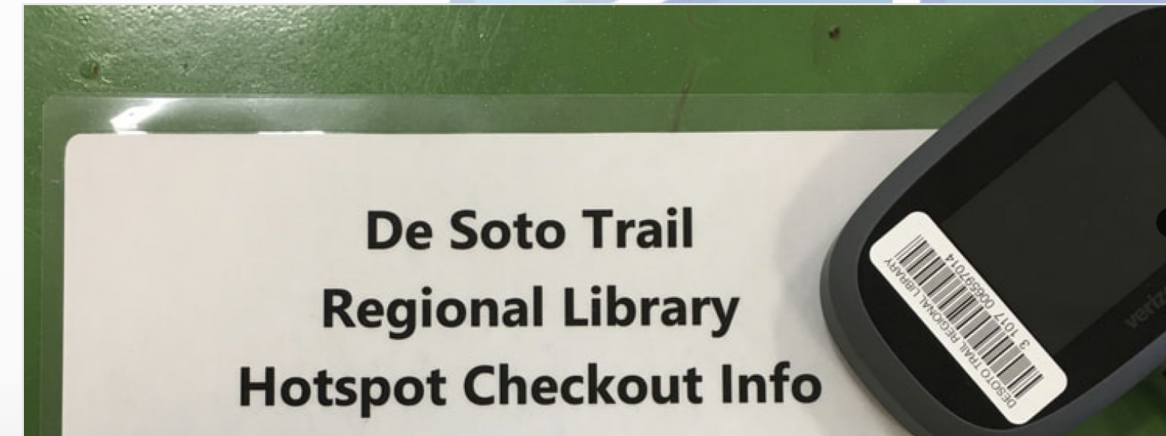*Google Chromebooks available for checkout at the public library*

The Roddenbery Memorial Library is now pleased to offer Google Chromebooks for checkout.

With a grant from the Georgia Public Library Service and the Institute of Museum and Library Services with funding from the CARES Act, the Libraries without Walls grant awarded chromebooks to libraries to expand digital access during Covid, with a focus on the student population of Grady County.

Backordered for four months, the library is excited to finally have these for students of all ages to use. A RML library card and some form of student ID are required. Please call the library at 377-3632 for more information.

ERNESTINE DANIELS holds a Chromebook and carrying case.

De Soto Trail Regional Library Hotspot Checkout Info

Libraries used grant funds to help patrons stay connected and get work done.

Information Technology

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Relief Grants

- Expanded on GPLS Libraries Without Walls grant program to include new areas: digital inclusion, eBooks, and technology:

  - Device lending
  - Digitization
  - eBooks and audiobooks
  - Equipment replacement and upgrades

  - **Outreach vehicles** ➡
  - Remote book lockers
  - Self-check stations

- Goal to support libraries as they transition to a hybrid service model of in-person and virtual services.
- By the end of March 2022, **139 projects** were funded and $1,257,890.63 in funding was spent

Libraries used grant funds to expand library services to communities.

Information Technology

Tech Loaner Kits

- Our Loaner kits were expanded to **include 8 new kit types**, from drones, to cybersecurity penetration testing to Wi-Fi expansion.

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Your free Georgia public library card is the key to discovery at your library, online and at great places around the state.

With your library card, you can learn new job skills, go to storytime, research for your next school assignment, learn a language, get free admission to great places across Georgia and much more.

Find your local library at georgialibraries.org

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