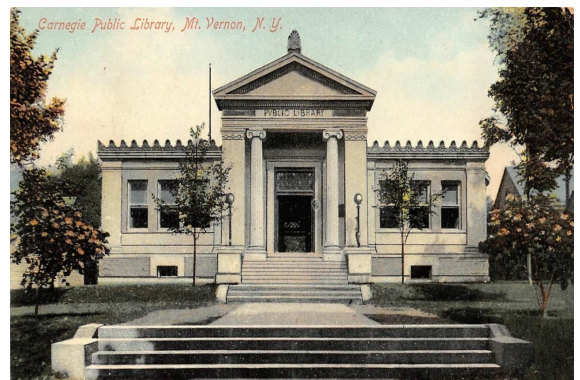


Mount Vernon Public Library Community Annual Report 2021

The Mount Vernon Public Library Celebrates 125 years of Having its Library Charter



Mount Vernon Public Library circa 1910

While the Mount Vernon Public Library (MVPL) has been in physical existence since 1902, it was on March 19, 1896 that MVPL was recognized by New York State as a legally established educational institution and granted its charter. The library's charter was signed by none other than Melvil Dewey, the legendary librarian and educator who created the Dewey Decimal Classification System.

The City of Mount Vernon is proud of its many famous authors whose works now grace the library's shelves, such as E.B. White ("Charlotte's Web"), Kenneth C. Davis ("Don't Know Much About" series of books), Mark Harris ("Bang the Drum Slowly"), and Sarah and Elizabeth Delany ("Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters First 100 Years"). We invite you to check out these and the many other great titles we have available in our collection.

Since receiving our charter, the library has experienced numerous changes and transformations. However, some things remain constant: the Mount Vernon Public Library's commitment to promoting literacy for people of all ages, our determination to provide the community with the latest technological advances, and our desire to engage patrons through innovative collections, services and programming.



Mount Vernon Public Library 2021

The Mount Vernon Public Library
The Central Library of Westchester County

Letter from the Director

The mission of the Mount Vernon Public Library (MVPL) is to provide a safe, accessible facility where people, information, and ideas come together to enrich lives and build community. MVPL is also a special place where lifelong habits of learning, self-improvement and self-expression are championed. As the Central Library of Westchester County, the Mount Vernon Public Library focuses on developing unique and current collections that build on technological advances, and serve a diversity of patrons throughout the county.



Timur Davis
Director

Like most public libraries, the Covid-19 pandemic had a tremendous impact on the Mount Vernon Public Library, causing the library to close its doors on March 16, 2020 and for a second time a few months later. Despite the many difficulties of that uncertain time, MVPL adapted to the circumstances, and offered curbside pickup, virtual programs, initiated online chat with a librarian, promoted our electronic databases for homework assistance, and created digital library cards.

To improve the safety and functionality of our historic Carnegie building, MVPL has installed A-Plus Technology cameras throughout the building, updated the boiler system, and installed new energy-efficient windows in the Reference, Circulation, Main, Teen, and Fiction areas of the library with generous financial assistance from NYSED grants, saving strapped taxpayers valuable dollars. MVPL also upgraded computer technology and our wiring system through an E-Rate grant, saving taxpayers \$155,000 during the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The Mount Vernon Public Library also received a \$106,000 federal grant enabling the library to purchase 100 Chromebook tablets and 100 mobile hotspots to loan patrons. In a city where poverty is high and broadband access is uneven at best, the need to bridge the technology chasm is pressing, and MVPL is truly grateful for all of the support the library continues to receive from our federal, state, county, and community partners who help us in our efforts to uplift our patrons.

The Library would like to take this opportunity thank all of its partners and supporters, particularly AARP, the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, ArtsWestchester, Black Westchester, the City of Mount Vernon, County Legislator Tyrae Woodson-Samuels, Feeding Westchester, Senator Jamaal Bailey, and our dear Friends of the Mount Vernon Public Library. As we all move away from the darkness and isolation imposed by Covid-19, the Mount Vernon Public Library renews its commitment to be a beacon, opening doors of opportunity and windows of knowledge to all who appreciate light.

MOUNT VERNON PUBLIC LIBRARY



THE CENTRAL LIBRARY OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY

The Mount Vernon Public Library
28 South First Avenue
Mount Vernon, NY 10550
914-668-1840
www.mtvpl.org

2021 BY THE NUMBERS



Over
500
New
Library Cards
Issued



Over
7,700
Engaged with the
library using
social media



53,310
Viewed our
website

2021 Program Highlights



Budget Information is available on our website:

<https://mountvernonpubliclibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/Facts-and-Figures-2021-2022.pdf>

**A hard copy will be available in the library
administrative office.**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dr. Vivien Salmon, Ph.D.
President of the Board of Trustees

Despite the pandemic, the Mount Vernon Public Library still managed to have a productive year and provide needed supplies and meaningful service to the community. Building improvement projects, including renovation of the elevator, installing security cameras, upgrading the boiler, and installing new energy-efficient windows, have been completed. The library has also upgraded our network and wiring to increase our internet speed, and a generous federal grant enabled the library to purchase 100 Chromebook tablets and 100 Wi-Fi hotspots for loan to our patrons.

While last year's challenges were many, with the help of our valued partners, the Mount Vernon Public Library survived Covid-19 and we plan to offer more and better programs, services and materials to all of our users as we welcome everyone back to the Central Library of Westchester County.

2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dr. Vivien Salmon, Ph.D. - President

Cathlin Gleason - Vice President

Judy Williams-Davis - Secretary

Oscar Davis Jr.

Hope Marable

Library Hours (September- June)

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Monday 10:00am - 8:30pm
Tuesday 10:00am - 8:30pm
Wednesday 10:00am - 8:30pm
Thursday 10:00am - 8:30pm
Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday Closed

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Monday 10:00am - 8:00pm
Tuesday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Wednesday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Thursday 10:00am - 8:00pm
Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday Closed

(July & August)

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Monday 10:00am - 8:30pm
Tuesday 10:00am - 8:30pm
Wednesday 10:00am - 8:30pm
Thursday 10:00am - 8:30pm
Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm
Sunday Closed

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Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm
Sunday Closed



The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence that we may yet have hoped for the future

-T.S. Eliot