

# **Director's Report to the Board of Agents**

## **Silas Bronson Library**

**February 24, 2020**

**Raechel Guest, Director**

### **RIBA Aspira**

I met with some of the staff at RIBA Aspira Career Academy in the South End last week. They are interested in teaming up with the library to connect their community to our library services. The proposed plan is for a librarian to make regular visits to RIBA Aspira, signing up people for library cards, teaching them how to use our online services, and developing a loan delivery service for people who are unable to come to the library. RIBA Aspira will offer a Spanish-language version of our newsletter, since many of the people they serve are still learning English.

### **Urban Libraries Initiative Task Force Grant**

The Silas Bronson Library is a member of the Connecticut State Library's Urban Libraries Initiative Task Force, which was formed in 2019. As a member, we are eligible for an annual \$5,000 grant to be used for programming, collections, staff development, furniture, equipment (excluding computers, laptops, and tablets), or planning consultants (excluding space planning).

For this first round of funding, we intend to replace the stained and damaged decades-old chairs used by the public in the Main Reading Room. We will apply the grant funds towards the purchase of 30 new armless, plastic chairs with casters, similar to the chairs in the Teen Zone. I am currently in the process of filing all of the City's paperwork for grants.

## Front Plaza

We had a brief but extremely messy situation last week with geese in front of the library. The fountain had filled up with rain water, and that drew the geese to the front plaza. After a few hours, it was almost impossible to use the walkway without stepping in their droppings. We drained the fountain on Wednesday, and the geese have stopped congregating in front of the library.

## Staffing Updates

Janis Cyr has been selected as our new Accountant II. She will be transferring from the Tax Office. She has a tentative start date of March 9. We are still waiting for the Librarian III exam to be scheduled by HR.

Due to a combination of vacation schedules, illnesses, and ongoing vacancies, we have been extremely short staffed on several days this month. We have had to cancel BRASS computer classes, close the branch, and leave areas of the building staffed only by a Page. At the same time, we've had some of our busiest days in years, with more than 1,200 people visiting the library on any given day. Our staff have extended themselves to ensure that we keep the public service desks staffed.

## Circulation Division

### January Statistical Reports: Main Library

Total Collection Size: 256,546  
Total Items Added to Collection: 1,047  
Total Items Circulated: 10,720  
Total Circulation In-House: 324  
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 533  
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 566

Total Active Patrons: 10,378  
Total Expired Patrons: 12,835  
Total Patrons Added: 134

### January Statistical Reports: Bunker Hill

Total Collection Size: 15,686  
Total Items Added to Collection: 14  
Total Items Circulated: 501  
Total Circulation In-House: 0  
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 66  
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 205

Total Active Patrons: 366  
Total Expired Patrons: 393  
Total Patrons Added: 2

## Museum Pass Usage, January 2020

American Clock & Watch Museum: 0	Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk: 0
Barker Comic and Cartoon Museum: 0	Mattatuck Museum: 0
Beardsley Zoo: 0	Mystic Aquarium: 0
Children's Museum/Roaring Brook Nature: 0	Mystic Seaport: 1
Connecticut Forests & Parks: 0	New Britain Museum of American Art: 1
Connecticut Science Center: 0	New England Air Museum: 0
EverWonder Children's Museum: 0	New Haven Museum: 0
Harriet Beecher Stowe Center: 0	Old Sturbridge Village: 0
Imagine Nation: 4	Peabody Museum of Natural History: 0
Institute for American Indian Studies: 1	Wadsworth Atheneum: 2
KidsPlay Childrens Museum: 0	White Memorial Conservation Center: 0

## Online Presence

Facebook Followers	as of 2/21/2020: 2,143
Facebook Reach	January 24 – February 20: 6,485
Facebook Post Engagements	January 24 – February 20: 2,137

Instagram Followers	as of 2/21/2020: 599
Bronson Teens Instagram Followers	as of 2/21/2020: 203
Twitter Followers	as of 2/21/2020: 403

Website Visitors	January 1 – January 31: 2,032
Website Sessions	January 1 – January 31: 3,426
Website Pageviews	January 1 – January 31: 6,895

Most Visited Website Pages (January 1 – January 31):

Home Page: 3,355	Children's Division: 132	Hall of Fame: 33
Programs: 459	Bunker Hill Branch: 114	Directions: 32
Genealogy/Local Hist.: 282	How to Get a Card: 103	Friends: 28
How to Find Books: 234	Borrowing Questions: 71	Library History: 25
Research: 232	Board of Agents: 65	Email Signup: 23
Calendar: 229	Book Sale: 59	Meeting Rooms: 18
Ask A Librarian: 219	Newsletters: 55	Suggest a Purchase: 12
About Us: 200	Teen/YA: 50	News: 9
Museum Passes: 149	Computer Classes: 38	
eBooks: 140	New Movies: 34	