

Directors' Report to the Board of Trustees and Easton Community date ending December 31, 2025

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Good evening, members of the Easton community, esteemed trustees, and honored guests. It is my privilege to present the Easton Library's annual report, highlighting our achievements and ongoing efforts throughout 2025. Our library remains steadfast in its mission to serve as a dynamic hub for learning, enrichment, and connection within this vibrant town.

Library Attendance and Programs

In 2025, Easton Library welcomed 3,488 visitors. Patrons engaged with our diverse offerings, including print and audiovisual materials, as well as a robust calendar of programs. A total of 230 programs were held, such as weekly Osteobusters classes, the Knitting group, Mahjong players, Story Hour, and our literacy group. Additionally, we introduced two new programs: the Neighborhood Book Club, meeting monthly, and the Cookbook Club, meeting every other month.

Children's and Community Programming

As part of the library's strategic plan to provide opportunities for youth, our early literacy initiatives continue to focus on developing a lifelong love of literature, increasing language development, and encouraging social skills to prepare children for reading success in school. I am pleased to report that our preschool story hour remains highly popular. Over 34 weeks during the school year, 485 people attended the Wednesday morning program.

Our "Color Our World" summer reading programs, sponsored by Friends of Easton Library, provided enriching experiences for local children and families. The World Awareness Children's Museum hosted an International Clothing event, Winterberry Homestead Traveling Farm introduced children to farm animals, Lily Loveday led a Free Movement & Craft session, and Carol Bollinger Green generously volunteered to teach Painting with Color for both novice and experienced participants.

Additional programming included the Winter Season Card Class, Deadbolt Mystery Game events, a Simple Easter Craft workshop, a presentation on brain cell

sustainability with Dr. Erin Barnhart, a Beginner Birding Workshop, Avian Research in the Albany Pinebush Preserve, The Great-Give Back to Comfort Food Community, the Community Trick or Treat at Burton Hall, and the Tree Trimming & St. Nicholas Party hosted by Friends of Easton Library.

Literacy Initiatives

Literacy remains a cornerstone of our mission. The library hosts a literacy group every Tuesday, supported by two volunteers from Tri-County Literacy, which serves Warren, Washington, and Saratoga counties. In 2025, the group facilitated 23 sessions, providing English as a Second Language instruction to 43 adult learners.

Summer Reading Program Achievements

Our "Color Our World" summer reading program was a highlight of the year, featuring collaboration with 19 Town of Easton businesses. These partners donated gift baskets, certificates, and financial support for program incentives. Children enjoyed Bingo sheets that taught them about continents, and many earned spins on the Wheel of Fortune for additional prizes. Registration included 16 children, 6 teens, and 11 adults. Participants achieved impressive results: children ages 0–11 collectively read 12,602 minutes, teens read 46 books, and adults read 74 books.

Collection and Circulation

The Easton Library's collection comprises 17,302 items, including fiction and non-fiction materials for children and adults, magazines, DVDs, and audiobooks. In 2025, 4,696 items were circulated, and 2,261 items were loaned through interlibrary loans. Notably, the number of library cardholders grew to 434, up from 421 in 2024.

Digital Access and Connectivity

To meet evolving patron needs, Easton Library offers hoopla, a digital media service granting instant 24/7 access to movies, TV shows, music, audiobooks, eBooks, and comics. Hoopla is compatible with smartphones, tablets, computers, and smart TVs. We also provide OverDrive via the Libby app for e-books and audiobooks. In 2025, patrons completed 1,845 electronic downloads, and our Wi-Fi was accessed 740 times.

Farm-2-Library Program

The Farm-2-Library program, now essential for patrons during challenging economic times, is supported by four dedicated volunteers who conduct weekly pickups at Comfort Food Community in Greenwich. Partnering with the Southern Adirondack Library System, the program delivers free, fresh food from local farms. In 2025, it supported 1,799 household members over 47 weeks.

Economic Impact and Savings

Easton Library membership provides tangible financial benefits. Library cardholders collectively saved \$82,169.68 in 2025 simply by utilizing their cards and library resources.

Mission and Community Impact

Aligned with our strategic plan's mission and vision, Easton Library strives to strengthen the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational materials available to our community. Access is provided onsite, online, and through platforms such as NOVEL NY, NY Heritage Digital Collection, Ancestry.com, SALS Salon database, hoopla, Libby, and our local history collection. The library is a welcoming hub for residents to gain new experiences, connect with neighbors, and enjoy engaging programs, supported by our friendly staff.

Closing & Invitation

On behalf of the Easton Library, I extend sincere gratitude to the community, our volunteers, sponsors, and trustees for their unwavering support. We invite all residents to take advantage of the diverse offerings at the Easton Library—there truly is something for everyone. Thank you for your attention and ongoing engagement.

This document was edited for content and style using Microsoft CoPilot AI.



Easton Library

2025 REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY

3,488
VISITORS



Wifi



740

TIMES ACCESSED

eBooks



1,845

DOWNLOADS

Highlights

The Literacy group continues to gather each Tuesday at the library, collaborating with Tri-County Literacy volunteers of Warren, Washington, and Saratoga Counties.

Adult Literacy and ESOL: Grand Total attendance: 43; Total Group sessions: 23

The Color Our World summer reading program was fun, with Bingo sheets on Continents and Wheel of Fortune. Nineteen local businesses contributed by providing incentives. The program registered 16 children, 6 teens, and 11 adults. Children 0-11 years old read a total of 12,602 minutes, 46 books were read by teens, and 74 books were read by adults.



Card Holders
434



Programs

230

PROGRAMS

1,993

ATTENDANCE



4,696

Items
Borrowed



17,302

Items in the Collection

