

# *Opportunity Endures*

2021 Community Report



**KENOSHA**  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

*Thank you to our board members for their continuous support of  
the Kenosha Public Library.*

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## *Mission*

Kenosha Public Library is an inclusive, welcoming community that strengthens neighborhoods, inspires shared learning, and nurtures curiosity.

## *Vision*

The Kenosha Community will be universally literate, civically engaged, and embrace multiple cultures and generations.

## *We Value*

Intellectual freedom, compassionate professionalism, collaboration, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

# Our Reach

Once more, we reflect on a year dominated by a pandemic and conversations around social inequities. Throughout evolving public health guidelines and changing environments, we relied on each other and the community for inspiration and connection.

8,000+  
new cardholders



## YOU SHOWED UP

Visits increased by 39%

Checkouts increased by 54%

Online renewals increased by 100%

Over 84,846 program attendees



## **WE HELPED YOU**

Place 192,753 holds

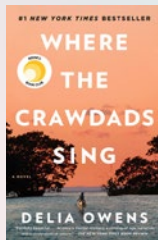
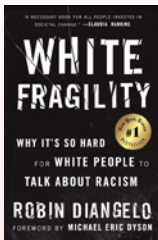
Answered 61,687 of your questions

Find what you were looking for 1,716,657 times on our website

Our Outreach Team brought nearly 12,000 items to you at home

# Opportunity Starts with Discovery

## MOST BORROWED TITLES IN 2021



45%

increase in  
items checked  
out.



## LIBRARY OF THINGS

Your curiosity continues to grow, and so does our Library of Things collection. The Library of Things contains over 1,000 items for community members of all ages and provides access to new technology, equipment, toys, and more. This year we added 209 items, including 100 ECF Chromebooks and hotspots, 360 degree cameras, and telescope kits.

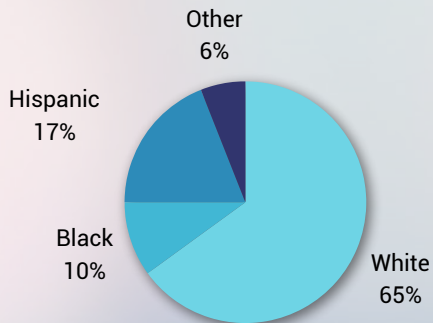


# Discovery Starts with Inclusion

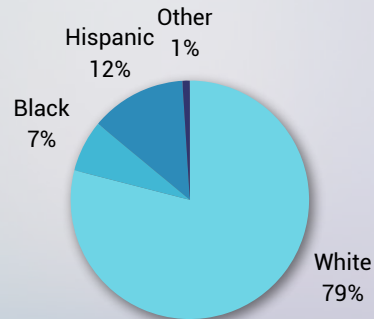
## DIVERSIFYING OUR SHELVES

Public libraries across the nation strive to be reflective of their entire community. Kenosha Public Library is no different centering inclusion and diversity at the heart of our collection strategy. Our 2021 diversity audit shows that KPL exceeds the national average in our collection's range of voices, stories, and representation.

## REFLECTING OUR COMMUNITY



Our Community



Our Staff

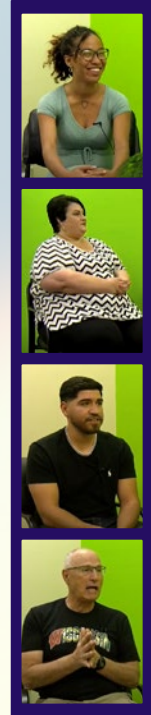


# 60 FOR 30 *project*

The 60 for 30 Project, a collaboration between Kenosha Public Library and Building Our Future, invited Kenosha residents to share their stories as only they can - by speaking authentically and freely about their experience and expertise. These one-on-one interviews can be found on [www.mykpl.us/youtube](http://www.mykpl.us/youtube)

800+

items exploring different cultural voices, gender, sexual identities, religious practices, and other intersectional topics were added to the collection.



# Strengthening Neighborhoods

In 2021, KPL seized the opportunity to focus on our resilient community members. Whether giving local authors a platform, calling the neighborhood together for some all-ages fun or virtually meeting your family in your living rooms, the KPL team worked diligently to create space for the entire community.

## **VIRTUAL STORYTIMES**

Bringing storytimes into your living rooms and classrooms was such a highlight for our Youth and Family Services team this year. You sang along, learned new sight words, practiced literacy skills, and made friends with your favorite librarians over 400 times in 2021.

## **NIGHTS AT NORTHSIDE**

We took the family fun outside in June 2021, turning the Northside Library parking lot into an art gallery, an opera house, a robotics lab, and an obstacle course. Over 280 of you joined us for weekly parking lot parties, shopped at the Friends of the Library pop-up book sales, and enjoyed dinner with the Hyd'n Cheese food truck.



## **INVESTING IN LOCAL SUCCESS**

Kenosha Public Library proudly owns nearly 1,000 titles written, produced, or directed by Kenoshans. In 2021, 19 new titles were added to that collection. The Kenosha Author's collection is available for checkout.





[www.mykpl.info](http://www.mykpl.info)