

Arlington Public Library

COUNTY MANAGER'S
PROPOSED FY 2022 BUDGET

County Board Work Session

March 16, 2021





Arlington Public Library

Everyone Has A Story

Vision

Arlington Public Library is the heart of a thoughtful, inclusive and dynamic community where people and ideas connect.

Mission Statement

We champion the power of stories, information and ideas.

We create space for culture and connection.

We embrace inclusion and diverse points of view.

Our Promise

Arlington Public Library promises to:

Inspire and quench your thirst to know.

Encourage you to ask why and why not?

Embrace inclusion and diverse points of view.

Be a wellspring for ideas, for conversation, for disagreement, for enlightenment.

Create opportunities for an increased understanding: of our world, of our community and of each other.

We will do all of this with good will, humor and kindness.

Through books and community programs. Within our walls and outside in the community.

We are here for you.

Department Overview

- Central holds-only model (392,000+ books delivered to patrons) opened June 2020
- Westover and Shirlington Library Express locations opened March 9
- Book Bundles offered since November 2020
- Creative and innovative virtual programming and community engagement



Libraries Collect COVID-19 Stories in Quaranzines

by [Gina Murrell](#)
Jun 01, 2020 | Filed in [News](#)



Across the nation, libraries big and small are embracing the quarantine. A portmanteau of “quarantine” and “zine,” the quaranzine is a creative outlet that allows individuals and communities to process difficult thoughts and emotions concerning the COVID-19 pandemic. Zines, do-it-yourself publications traditionally produced in print for a limited audience, have for decades been a form of esoteric self-expression. However, the quaranzine is widely emerging as an artistic, therapeutic way to cope with this unique and trying time in history.

“When the going gets tough, the tough get arty,” observed Diane Kresh, library director at Arlington Public Library (APL), VA, in her introduction to her library’s *Quaranzine*, an online zine comprised of contributions from the local community and published weekly on the library’s website. Liz Larabee, APL’s Programs and Partnerships Librarian,

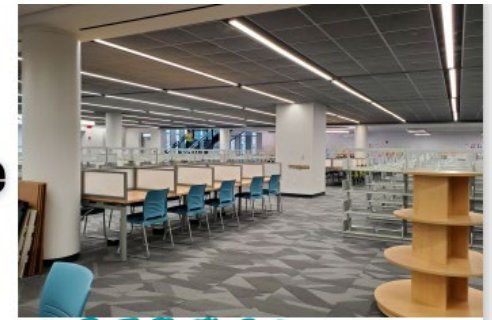


Art by Molly McCracken from Arlington Public Library’s *Quaranzine*
Photo courtesy of Liz Larabee

Columbia Pike - Before and After



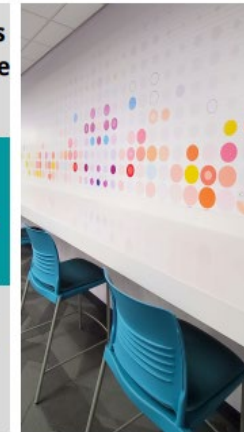
Columbia Pike Library



After-school access to shared APS space on 2nd floor

Laptop bar with easy outlet access

Seats up to 38 for lounge and study use



20

Adult computers with internet and printer access

Children's computers with internet access

2

1 Large meeting room with media access, seating 20

2 Small meeting rooms with media access, seating 4-6

1 Medium meeting room with media access, seating 8-10

07.24.2019: Arlington Public School (APS), Arlington Public Library (APL) and Stantec met to discuss architectural options for the library space, school space, and shared space

11.18.2019: Members of the Arlington County Board and APS Board, along with APL Leadership, co-hosted a community update on the renovation. Stantec presented early concept plans

05.03.2020: Began first of weekly scheduled coordinated meetings between APS, APL, and Stantec, continued throughout construction

Winter 2021: Final punchlists and walkthroughs

April 2021: Estimated completion



Libraries in the COVID-19 Pandemic

- Reinvented the library's workflow. All holds through Central since June.
- Virtual studio built and Arlington Reads goes virtual (likely to continue)
- Take-n-make bags at two locations. Hundreds of patrons each week.
- Answering phones and chat remotely (likely to continue)



Libraries in the COVID-19 Pandemic

March to mid-June 2020

- Physical libraries closed
- Library staff led County food distribution program, assisted DHS, DTS, and PSCHEM.
- Outdoor wifi added at three libraries through continued work with Digital Equity Task Force.

Mid-June 2020 to February 2021

- Central-holds only opens. Continued limited assistance to PSCHEM and DHS public health efforts.

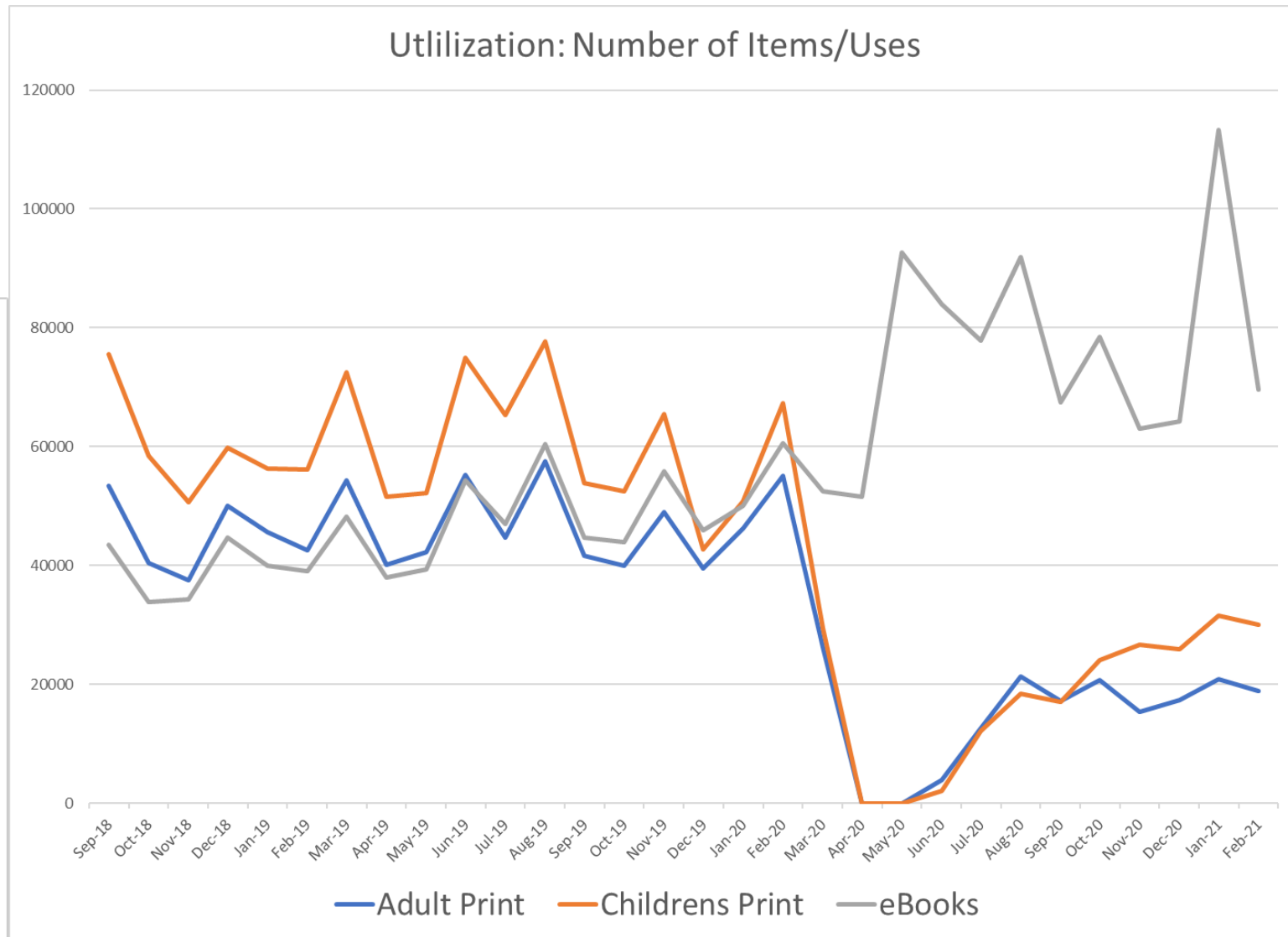
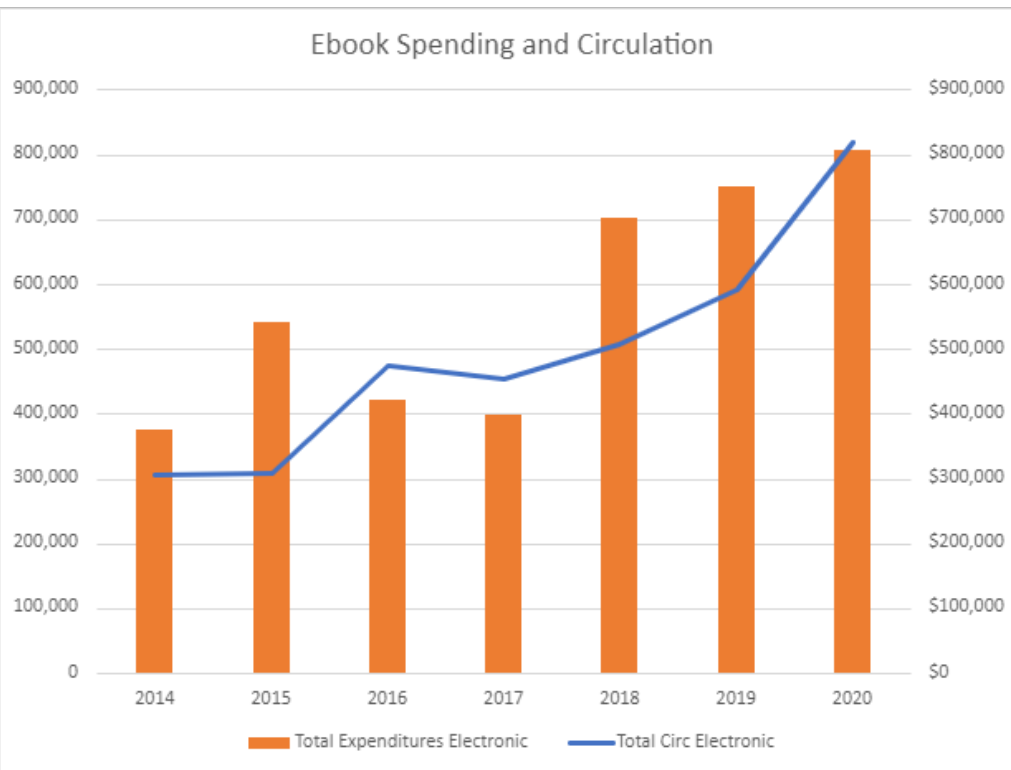
March 2021

- All library staff except those using ADA called back to libraries
- 27 percent of permanent public service staff unavailable for in-person work
- Of 80 temporary employees working for library in March 2020 providing direct public service, 18 willing to return so far.



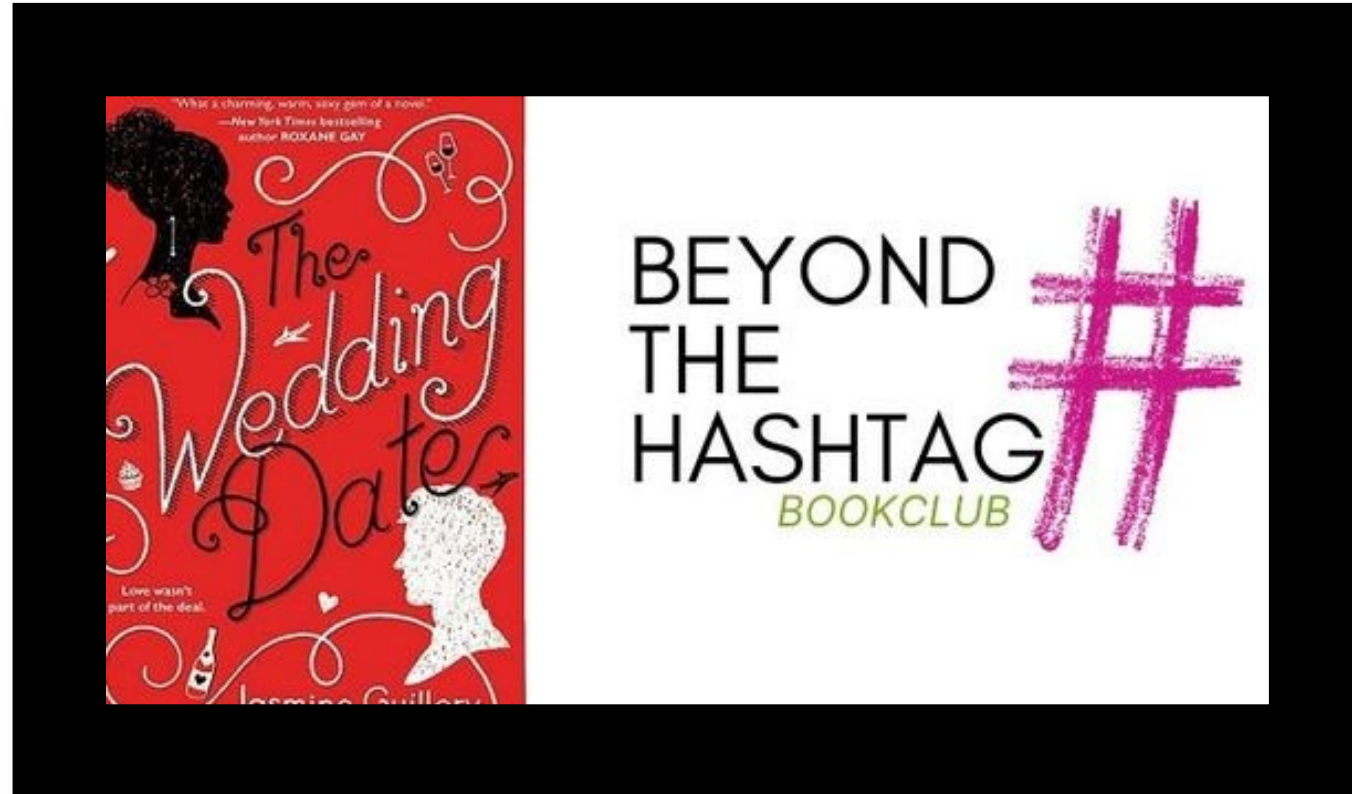
Libraries in the COVID-19 Pandemic – The Collection

- eBooks, ebooks, ebooks. If we spend it, they will come.
- Print still a core offering, particularly for children and certain populations in the County.



Focus on Equity

- Fine-free in July 2020
- Library racial equity steering group created and facilitator hired for staff conversations
- Dr Seuss – Opportunity for an ongoing dialogue with parents
- Beyond the Hashtag book club
- Shift to less response-driven customer service



FY 2022 Budget Summary

	FY 2021 Adopted	FY 2022 Proposed	Change	% Change
Expenses	\$14,758,386	\$13,862,772	-\$895,614	-6.1%
Revenue	\$278,218	\$295,742	+\$17,524	+6.2%
Funded Staff	130.67FTEs	122.17FTEs	-8.50 FTEs	-6.5%

- 8.5 FTEs are frozen and unfunded in FY 2022.
- \$50,000 removal of one-time funds in collections budget.

FY 2022 Budget Highlights

- Glencarlyn and Cherrydale will not re-open to the public until July 2022. (\$880,889, 8.5 frozen FTEs)
- Frozen FTEs include 2 Librarian Supervisors, 2.5 Librarians, 2 Library Associates, and 2 Library Assistants.
- \$50,000 removal of one-time funds in collections. Impact:
 - Reduced print magazines
 - Reduced investment in e-platforms

Key Future Budget Considerations

- Bozman and Crystal City locations
- Collections budget
- Convert some temporary employees to permanent staff



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