

New Rochelle Public Library Director's Letter to the Community

September, 2025



Dear New Rochelle Community

As summer winds down, I want to take a moment to reflect on what an incredible season it has been here at the Library. Our 2025 summer programs were filled with energy, creativity, and connection—truly a celebration of learning and community.

This year's Summer Reading theme, *Color Our World*, came alive through outstanding participation from over 1,100 children and teens. Young readers logged books and joined us for programs that ranged from kiddie music performances and yoga to live animal visits, crafts, water play, family concerts, and more. A special children's acting workshop gave our young drama queens and kings a chance to shine, and quickly became one of the highlights of the summer.

Teens made the Teen Room their own, connecting with friends in a welcoming, safe space. Programs included arts & crafts, jigsaw puzzle and giant Jenga nights, video gaming, and special events such as tie-dye, laser tag, treasure hunts, and college essay workshops. Their creativity and enthusiasm brought wonderful energy to the Library.

One of the crown jewels of our summer season was our International Music and Dance Festival, a beloved NRPL tradition for more than 20 years. This annual program continues to dazzle audiences with its extraordinary talent and diversity of cultural expression. This year's lineup was no exception—featuring the rhythms of Cuban and Afro-Peruvian music, vibrant Eastern European dance, and the spirited performance by the Calpulli Mexican Dance Workshop participants. It is truly one of the highlights of our year, and a shining example of how the arts can bring our community together in joy and celebration.

Adults also had plenty of opportunities to learn and connect, from new computer workshops to favorite programs like the Brown Bag book club, yoga, sewing, knitting, English conversation groups, and films.

As we look ahead to the fall, the Library will continue to be a place to connect, create, and celebrate together. We'll be bringing back beloved programs like our Friday night and Sunday afternoon concert series, wellness classes, the *New Rochelle Plays Hollywood* film series, and trivia nights. New offerings this season include acoustic string jam sessions and a history book club, giving our community even more ways to learn and share. Our daily children's programs at both Main and HCL will be back in full swing the week of September 15 with more music, puppet shows, STEAM and math programs, bilingual story times and more. Teens can look forward to additional college readiness programs, and more ways to connect with peers in fun and engaging activities..

And since September is Library Card Sign-Up Month, it's the perfect time to remind friends and family who don't yet have a card just how much it offers. A library card is more than access to books—it's a passport to programs, technology, digital resources, and opportunities to learn and connect. If you already have a card, consider encouraging someone you know to sign up and discover all the Library has to offer.

Whether you are a regular at our programs or have been meaning to try something new, fall is the perfect time to join us. You can explore all of our upcoming programs on our [online calendar](#), follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) (@nrpubliclibrary), and of course, keep an eye on this weekly eblast. If you already enjoy it, please share it with a friend—we love welcoming new faces.

Thank you for making this summer such a success. I look forward to seeing you at the Library this fall!

Warm regards,

Eugenia Schatoff

Executive Director
New Rochelle Public Library