



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Thursday September 10, 2026
New Rochelle Public Library: Main Library Ossie Davis Theater
7:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ESTABLISH QUORUM
3. ATTENDANCE
4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
5. EXECUTIVE SESSION (if applicable)
6. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES
7. REGULAR BUSINESS
 - WLS Representative Report
 - Presidents report
 - Directors Report
 - Treasurers report
 - Board Committee Reports
 - Approval of Checks and Warrants
8. RESOLUTIONS
9. OLD BUSINESS
10. NEW BUSINESS
11. PUBLIC COMMENT
12. ADJOURN

Please Note: This meeting will take place at 7:30 pm and entirely in person at the Main Library with no simultaneous Zoom broadcast available.

A recording of the meeting will be posted on the library's website: www.nrpl.org.

APPROPRIATION CHECK RUN
AUTHORIZATION

FUND CODE	<u>L</u>
FUND NAME	<u>LIBRARY - OPERATING</u>
DUE DATE	<u>9/10/2026</u>
CHECK DATE	<u>9/10/2026</u>
WARRANT TOTAL	<u>\$62,178.53</u>
WARRANT #	<u>14</u>
AUTHORIZED BY	<u>Darin V. Jacobelli</u>
TITLE	<u>Treasurer</u>

PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR FINAL
CASH REQUIREMENT REPORT

FOR DATA PROCESSING USE ONLY

FIRST CHECK #	<u>300154</u>
LAST CHECK #	<u>300184</u>
DATE PRINTED	<u>9/10/2026</u>

Trustee

Trustee

[Signature]
[Signature] 9/3/2026

APPROPRIATION CHECK RUN
AUTHORIZATION

FUND CODE	LT
FUND NAME	LIBRARY - GIFTS & DONATIONS
DUE DATE	9/10/2026
CHECK DATE	9/10/2026
WARRANT TOTAL	\$2,467.50
WARRANT #	15
AUTHORIZED BY	<i>Darin V. Jacobelli</i>
TITLE	Treasurer

PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR FINAL
CASH REQUIREMENT REPORT

FOR DATA PROCESSING USE ONLY

FIRST CHECK #	50014
LAST CHECK #	50016
DATE PRINTED	9/10/2026

Trustee *G. Selby*

Trustee *[Signature]* 9-3-2026

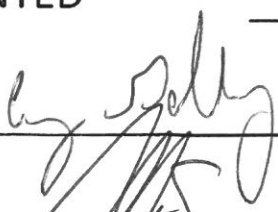
APPROPRIATION CHECK RUN
AUTHORIZATION

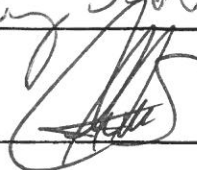
FUND CODE	<u>L</u>
FUND NAME	<u>LIBRARY - PAYROLL</u>
DUE DATE	<u>9/10/2026</u>
CHECK DATE	<u>9/10/2026</u>
WARRANT TOTAL	<u>\$4,933.83</u>
WARRANT #	<u>16</u>
AUTHORIZED BY	<u>Darin V. Jacobelli</u>
TITLE	<u>Treasurer</u>

PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR FINAL
CASH REQUIREMENT REPORT

FOR DATA PROCESSING USE ONLY

FIRST CHECK #	<u>40018</u>
LAST CHECK #	<u>40022</u>
DATE PRINTED	<u>9/10/2026</u>

Trustee 

Trustee  9/3/2026

NRPL Monthly Departmental Update

Adult Services

Department: Adult Services

Submitted by: Kira Aiello

Reporting Period: August 2026

1. Key Highlights

Reading is alive and well in New Rochelle!

Our Adult summer reading challenge was a huge success, 110 patrons signed up and over 240 books were read. On August 24th participants gathered to meet, mingle, talk about what they'd read and receive their prizes. See photos below.



Our Yiddish book discussions, supported by the Yiddish Book Center Grant, *Between Two Worlds*, have also received a particularly positive response. In August our librarian led two discussion groups. On 8/3 the group discussed, [*The Adventures of Max Spitzkopf: The Yiddish Sherlock Holmes* by Mikhl Yashinsky](#). Fifteen patrons were in attendance (registration was

limited to 16). On 8/31 our librarian led a discussion of *The Zelmenyaners: A Family Saga* by Moyshe Kulback. Sixteen patrons registered and 19 attended!

2. Programs, Services & Collections

Programs

- Programming supported by the Yiddish Book Center Grant is ongoing. In August we held two book discussions; a musical performance by The Isle of Klezbos and Marisa Scheinfeld's presentation on the Borscht Belt Marker project.
- Acoustic String Jam continues to be a fun and popular program. It's become so popular that we may need to require registration.
- Film screening and post screening discussion of *High Anxiety Fiddler on the Roof*, in celebration of Mel Brooks 100th birthday.
- Book Clubs:
 - The Past Pages Book Club discussed *The Battle for New York* by Barnet Schecter. The history book club continues to focus on books about the American Revolution in support of RW250.
 - The Brown Bag Book Club met to discuss *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt.
 - The library also supports three local book clubs, providing guidance and copies of books for members through the WLS interlibrary loan services.
- Digital Learning classes:
 - Librarian-led digital learning classes were held on Thursday evenings in August from 6pm-7:30; a three series workshop introducing MS Excel with 5-6 attendees at each class.

Services

The second floor Help Center continues to be a busy place.

- Conducted daily digital navigator sessions, one-on-one, to answer questions about patrons smartphones and laptops and patiently walked them through step-by-step tech tasks.
- Provided one-on-one support to help patrons successfully utilize NR city, NY county, NYS state, and federal online resources, including IRS, USCIS, NY.Gov, and local job online portals.
- Job Search Coach conducted a "Jump Start Your Job Search" workshop and held 12 one-on-one coaching sessions with job seekers.
- Healthcare Navigators assisted individuals and families apply for health insurance through the New York State of Health Marketplace.
- Notary Public is available every 3rd Thursday of the month.

Collections:

- Librarians continue to highlight books in our collection by providing book lists for the e-newsletter and creating book displays throughout the library, 5 displays were part of our new “While You Are Waiting For” campaign; the titles being waited for are: *Yesteryear*, *The Correspondent*, *The Calamity Club*, and *Whistler*. We also had displays for American Artist Appreciation month, Wellness month, Golf month, Romance Appreciation, National Friendship Day, among others.

3. Patron & Community Engagement

- At the New Rochelle Police Night Out event (8/14) more than 125 people stopped by the library’s outreach table for flyers and information about library programs. Five library cards were processed, several attendees completed surveys, and the children enjoyed library giveaways.
- The Library staffed a table at the annual Taste of Union event. We had flyers, handouts and library card applications. The library staff always receive a positive response at these events.
- Patron, C.Mason was very satisfied with the assistance they received with the online NYS Notary process and obtaining a license and stamp. They were so pleased with the assistance they received from the library that they offered to be volunteer notary for the library.

4. Operations & Facilities

5. Statistics Snapshot

<u>Event</u>	<u>Sessions</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Book Clubs	4	51
Acoustic String Jam	1	7
Film screenings	1	12
Digital learning classes	3	17
Exams Proctored		5
Notary	1	3

Circulation statistics for August 2026

Overdrive/Libby	unavailable as of this report
Kanopy	382
Hoopla	1,523

6. Looking Ahead

September is National Library Card sign up month. We will be giving our library card sign ups a particular push this year; encouraging patrons who are here often, but do not have library cards to sign up and become card-carrying members.

We also have some exciting new exhibits coming this fall.

In September we will be hosting an interactive escape room style exhibit sponsored by the Energy Justice Law and Policy Center. Patrons will be given an Air Quality Field Report card at the entrance with a goal of restoring New Rochelle's air grade from a D to an A+.

In November, our very own archivist will debut the "Art and Artifact" exhibit showcasing artwork from our archival collection and artwork displayed throughout the library. Having had a sneak preview of the exhibit, I am certain that the New Rochelle community will be amazed by the rich history of art in New Rochelle and the role the library has played in supporting local art and artists.

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Narrative Report – Adult Services

August 2026

Department: Adult Services

Submitted by: Kira Aiello

Reporting Period: 08/01/2026-08/31/2026

The month of August reminded us how much our patrons still value and enjoy a good book. We had an incredible response to our Adult Summer Reading Challenge, and the response to our Between Two Worlds Yiddish books in translation book club caught us all by surprise. It's not typical to have 16 patrons sign up for a program, but 19 turn up. Usually the numbers go the other way, only a fraction of the patrons registered attend.

Our Adult summer reading challenge was a huge success, 110 patrons signed up and over 240 books were read. On August 24th participants gathered to meet, mingle, talk about what they'd read and receive their prizes. It was great to see a community of readers get together to celebrate books and reading.

Our Yiddish book discussions, supported by the Yiddish Book Center Grant, Between Two Worlds, have also received a particularly positive response. In August our librarian led two discussion groups. On 8/3 the group discussed, [*The Adventures of Max Spitzkopf: The Yiddish Sherlock Holmes by Mikhl Yashinsky*](#). Fifteen patrons were in attendance (registration was limited to 16). On 8/31 our librarian led a discussion of *The Zelmenyaners: A Family Saga* by Moyshe Kulback. Sixteen patrons registered and 19 attended!

NRPL Monthly Departmental Update

Department: Circulation Department

Submitted by: Milton Cobb

Reporting Period: August 2026

1. Key Highlights

- The Circulation Department has a new Senior Clerk, Bryan McClellan. He began on August 10, 2026.
- In coordination with other departments, the Circulation Department has begun planning and getting data compiled to support efforts to increase library card sign-ups through “Library Card Sign Up Month” in September, with the ambitious goal of registering 2,500 new patrons by October 1, 2026 (from the start of the Summer in May). There is an additional tracked goal of a “record number” of monthly signups that we are attempting to surpass as a community goal. **This goal is set to 700 patrons signed up by the end of September.**
- An additional computer terminal in the Circulation Department office and an additional phone have been added. These two additions are to help facilitate the administration of the phone call-friendly version of the library’s user survey. The phone has been configured to receive messages from patrons who may call back concerning the survey.

2. Programs, Services & Collections

- The department looks forward to continued collaboration with the Head of Programming and Outreach on future outreach opportunities and programs. Most recently, members of the Circulation Team have sat in on programs as program facilitators. Recent outreaches that the department has participated include the Taste of Union Avenue event on August 29 and an outreach event at a new building, the Alary, on August 31.

3. Patron & Community Engagement

- **Additional staff member profiles added to WLS Evergreen-enabled laptop**
 - To aid in card registration at outreach events, additional user profiles were added to the WLS Evergreen-enabled laptop. The User profiles added are:
 - S. Perez
 - D. Torres
 - D. Link
 - “Sarah Miller” (The “Sarah Miller” profile is a profile that was created for use by members of Adult Services. This profile will allow any member of

the team to make use of the laptop, without having to sign into the account of M.Cobb, or the other three added profiles.

- **Community Survey Distribution and Data Analysis**

- The Circulation Department has been actively distributing the current Community Survey to patrons. Formerly, it was through the distribution of paper copies of the survey. Currently, it is through providing the survey to patrons on iPads and via QR code links.
- The department is distributing bookmarks which contain QR code links to the server to patrons in order to get the survey to a wider audience.
- Members of the Circulation Department have begun the process of analyzing paper copies of the survey and digitizing them.
- Members of the Circulation Department are making calls to patrons in order to administer a phone call-friendly version of the survey.

- **Access to Libby Ending for Patrons With Expired Library Cards**

- WLS is ending access to Libby for patrons who have expired library cards on August 1, 2026. In advance of that, on July 17, an email was sent to over 2,600 patrons with expired accounts who had accessed Libby within the current calendar year. There are an additional 261 patrons who were identified as having accessed Libby with expired cards who will need to be contacted via phone, as there is no email address on record for them.
- Since the August 1 “cutoff” date, the Circulation Department has been receiving numerous calls and visits from patrons who have needed to renew their library cards. Many of these transactions have gone smoothly. In many cases, these patrons have not set foot in the library in years. Circulation staff have been consistent in informing these patrons about the services and programs that readily occur at both the Main Branch and Huguenot Children’s Library, in order to encourage more frequent visits from these patrons.

4. Operations & Facilities.

- A new staff member has joined the Circulation Department:
 - Bryan McClellan joined the Circulation Department as Senior Clerk, effective August 10, 2026.

5. Statistics Snapshot

August 2026 Statistics

Main Branch

	August 2026
Circulations	Circulations : 15,272
Highest Circulation Categories	5 Highest Circulation Statistical Categories: 1. Juvenile Fiction- 6,968 2. Fiction- 1,657 3. Juvenile Nonfiction- 1,225 4. Movie- 1,174 5. YA Fiction- 1,100
Intraloans Supplied	Intraloans Supplied : 3,100
Intraloans Received	Intraloans Received : 1,129
Patrons Added	Patrons Added : 289
Items Added	Items Added : 352
Items Deleted	Items Deleted : 363

HCL

	August 2026
Circulations	Circulations : 3,283
Highest Circulation Categories	5 Highest Circulation Statistical Categories: 1. Juvenile Fiction- 2,523 2. Juvenile Nonfiction- 317 3. Fiction- 122 4. Nonfiction- 88 5. New Book- 81
Intraloans Supplied	Intraloans Supplied : 170
Intraloans Received	Intraloans Received : 662
Patrons Added	Patrons Added : 31
Items Added	Items Added : 15
Items Deleted	Items Deleted : 15

6. Looking Ahead

- The Circulation Department will be adding additional hotspots to the library's collection. The department will also be adding 10 Makey Makey STEM kits to the collection. These items have been acquired through funds provided by a technology grant. The department looks to have these items begin circulating in September, after a collaborative program with the Youth Services Department, scheduled for September 10.
- **The Circulation Department will continue to do whatever is needed to make the Welcome Desk a successful addition to New Rochelle Public Library.**

7. Attachments/Supporting Documents

- Monthly Circulation:
 - ☒ Monthly_Circulation_AUGUST2026
- Intraloans Supplied:
 - ☒ Monthly_Supplied_AUGUST2026
- Intraloans Received:
 - ☒ Monthly_Received_AUGUST2026
- Patrons Added:
 - ☒ Monthly_Patrons_Added_AUGUST2026
- Items Added:
 - ☒ Monthly_Items_Added_AUGUST2026
- Items Deleted:
 - ☒ Monthly_Items_Deleted_AUGUST2026

Monthly Departmental Narrative Report

Department: Circulation Department

Submitted by: Milton Cobb

Reporting Period: August 2026

Narrative Report

In coordination with other departments, the Circulation Department has begun planning and getting data compiled to support efforts to increase library card sign-ups through “Library Card Sign Up Month” in September, with the ambitious goal of registering 2,500 new patrons by October 1, 2026 (from the start of the Summer in May). There is an additional tracked goal of a “record number” of monthly signups that we are attempting to surpass as a community goal. This goal is set to 700 patrons signed up by the end of September.

The department looks forward to continued collaboration with the Head of Programming and Outreach on future outreach opportunities and programs. Most recently, members of the Circulation Team have sat in on programs as program facilitators. Recent outreaches that the department has participated include the Taste of Union Avenue event on August 29 and an outreach event at a new building, the Alary, on August 31.

An additional computer terminal in the Circulation Department office and an additional phone have been added. These two additions are to help facilitate the administration of the phone call-friendly version of the library’s user survey. The phone has been configured to receive messages from patrons who may call back concerning the survey. There have been more than 335 phone calls to patrons, in addition to paper copies and web-linked QR codes, distributed to patrons in order for them to complete the survey.

Lastly, Bryan McClellan joined the Circulation Department as Senior Clerk, effective August 10, 2026. We look forward to the skills, interests, and enthusiasm that Bryan will bring to his new role here at New Rochelle Public Library.

NRPL Monthly Departmental Update (August 2026)

Department: Youth Services

Submitted by: Bobby Simic

Reporting Period: August 1 - 31, 2026

1. Key Highlights (Strategic Goals Alignment)

- **Children's & Teens:** Summer Reading is nearing its end! As of August 31st, there are 1060 kids registered for the Summer Reading Challenge and 93 Teen registrants, beating last year's record numbers.
- **HCL:** Lots of children and caregivers coming to play games, read, and enjoy our community space even when programs aren't going on at the Children's Branch.
- **Teen Services:** Summer reading ended with a Pizza Party where 40 tweens, teens, their parents, and NRPD Officer McClintock and Officer Cruz dropped by for a wonderful afternoon of socializing, food, and games in the Children's garden on Friday, August 28th.

2. Programs, Services & Collections

- **Children's Room Book Displays:** World Cup/Soccer, Summer, Dinosaurs, Back to School, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Fall, Dolly Parton, Halloween/Spooky/Scary, Hispanic Heritage Month
- **Children's Room Book Displays:** Caregivers have let staff know that they appreciate our displays and like seeing them up before events as it reminds them to pick up books for each occasion.
- **Children's Room & HCL:** Summer programming wound down, finishing mid-August at both locations.
- **Children's Room:** Weekdays we had Yoga Kids, MEGA-Game Afternoon!, Baby Fingers: Signs, Stories & Songs!, Build, Make, Create: Dino STEAM, Chess for Kids, Tween Book Club, Baby & Me Together Time, Tiny Town, Wild Wednesdays! Live Animals, Kiddie Music Concerts: Little Harmoninas, the Calpulli Mexican Dance Company workshops and final performance, a staff-led Under the Sea Puppet Fun! puppet show, Toddler Time, and Let's Go Legos!. On two Saturdays, we had Saturday Summer Sings! concerts with musical performers Kurt Gallagher and Flor Bromley.
- **HCL Book Displays:** Dinosaurs, Summer Fun Activities and Hobbies, Dog Days of Summer, Nature Facts, Back to School, Fall, Summer Reading, Bunnies Reading Outdoors
- **HCL:** Summer programs - Jump with Joy movement program, LEGO Engineering STEM program, Rock Your World Kids concerts with Armelle Gloaguen, Splashdown waterplay with ArtPlay substituted when raining during Splashdown, Singin' with Sean, Adventures with Animals

presented by the Stamford Museum and Nature Center, Dinosaur Clay Play, Tuneful Tots with Florence, and Yoga Tots presented by Budding Buddha instructors.

- **Teen Services Book Displays:** Summer Reading Books
- **Teen Services:** Summer reading ended with making a compass bracelet, shaved ice, a treasure hunt, and a pizza party with a whopping 74 tweens and teens attending for these 4 programs.

3. Patron & Community Engagement

- **Children's Room & HCL:** Our 4 teen interns from the city's Youth Bureau finished up their summer with us. We're grateful for their help with all the summer programming we've had at both locations.
- **Teen Services:** 12 teen volunteers helped with our children's programming and various tasks this month with a total of 52 hours of community service.
- **Teen Services:** Our Paws & Relax with a Therapy Dog program continues to be a success with many teens interacting with therapy dogs Izzy and Milo from the Hudson Valley Pause from a Cause and R.E.A.D. Foundation.

4. Operations & Facilities

- **Children's Room:** Patrons have commented that they like when we have programs out on our patio and appreciate the kitchen, toys and puppet theater in our play area.
- **HCL:** Custodians installed a new soap dispenser in first floor bathroom. Mike corrected a problem with our alarm.
- **Teen Services:** An industrial fan and a drape was placed in the Teen Room to help alleviate the heat in the space.

5. Statistics Snapshot

(Attach or embed charts/tables if possible)

- **Children's Room:** 28 programs/1071 attendees; **HCL:** 21 programs/477 attendees; **Teen Services:** 73 programs/555 attendees
[Youth Services Program Stats](#)
- **Circulation:** See Milton's report.
- **Children's Room Total Ref Stats:** 2995; **HCL Total Ref Stats:** 1671

6. Looking Ahead

- **Children's Room:** Morning and afternoon fall programs are set to begin September 14th. We're continuing to plan for some special weekend events that celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, a Halloween-themed Children's Book Week party and ArtFest.
- **Children's Room:** We've reached out to the schools to find out when their back to school nights are and have also contacted them regarding class visits.

- **Children's Room:** Planning has begun for the December break week and we're already confirmed some of our crowd-pleasing performers, including a magician, live owls and a Nutcracker tap-dancing music performance.
- **HCL:** Preparing for Fall 2026 programs including additional Saturday programming for families and a fun concert for Arts Fest participation.
- **Teen Services:** We are looking forward to continuing teen programming at HCL with a Paws & Relax program scheduled for 9/16. Another special program includes a Teen Time Capsule (9/21) program where teens may send their future self an encouraging word, goals and aspirations, or other messages to be opened upon graduation. Programs have already been finalized for October - December including a fun Halloween Fest on 10/31, the return of the Manga Book Club, and giant Jenga becoming available on weekends.

7. Attachments/Supporting Documents

Children's Room Photos:



Families enjoyed learning about animals during our Wild Wednesday programs hosted by Stamford Nature Center.



Children creating their own prehistoric scenes during a session of Build, Make, Create: Dino STEAM!



Caregivers and children enjoying our sign language and music class with Mr. Erik of Baby Fingers!



Families enjoying our patio and playing together during one of our Tiny Town programs.



Children learning during our Chess for Kids program.



Children practicing their choreography for the International Music and Dance Calpulli Mexican Dance Company performance.



Families enjoying music and bubbles during a Saturday Summer Sings! concert with musical performer Kurt Gallagher!



Children and caregivers having a blast on our patio during a Saturday Summer Sings! concert with musical performer Flor Bromley!

HCL Photos:



Singin' with Sean at HCL was great fun with Sean bringing a new instrument each session. Here he is demonstrating that a violin can play classically and can also be called a fiddle and play bluegrass!



Splashdown at HCL was offered twice a week providing a great way to cool down and make friends. When the weather didn't cooperate, we offered a substitute ArtPlay program indoors.



Shoshana from the Stamford Museum and Nature Center introduced our young patrons to a variety of very cool animals. Here she introduced a Leopard Gecko during our Magical Beasts Adventures with Animals program.

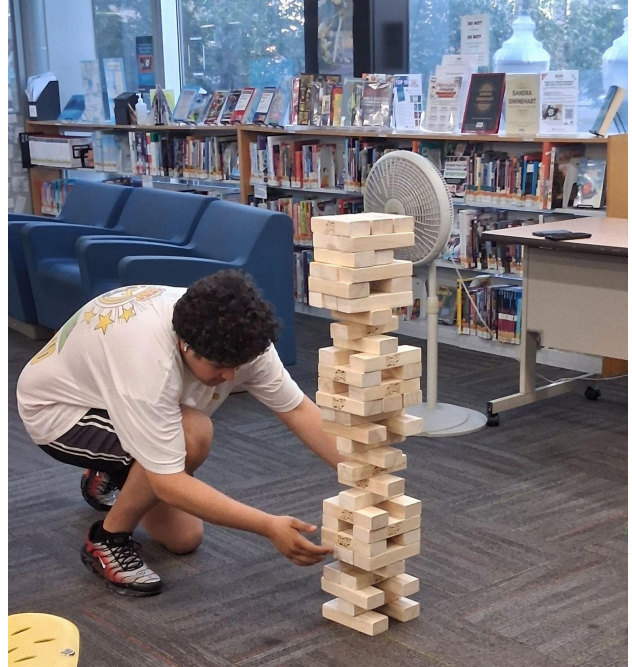


Armelle Gloaguen truly rocked our world every week at HCL with her Rock Your World Kids program of international songs and singalongs.

Teen Room Photos:



Teen staff taking a break from Jigsaw Puzzle Night (Tuesdays) to play a game of Uno with a teen.



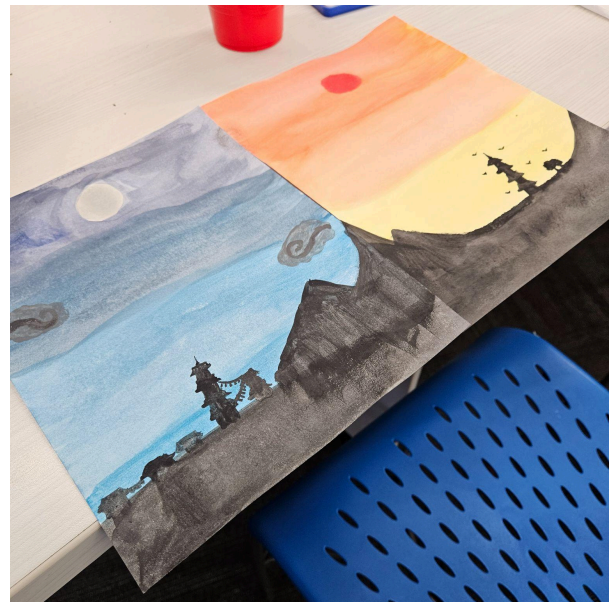
Tweens and teens playing during Giant Jenga Night (Thursdays).



Teens and tweens making their own shaved ice (8/14).



Teens looking for clues during our Treasure Hunt (8/21) summer reading program.



Tweens and teens letting their creativity out during the watercolor arts & crafts program (8/26).



Teens and tweens waiting on line to make a banana split on this month's Teen Eats program (8/27).





Tweens, teens, parents, and NRPD officers enjoying the day at our annual Pizza Party (8/28) summer reading program in the Children's Garden.



Teens and tweens interacting with pet therapy dog Milo from Hudson Valley Paws for a Cause on our Paws & Relax with a Therapy Dog program on 8/31.

Instructions for Staff:

- Keep sections concise (bullets where possible).
- Always link updates back to **strategic goals**.
- Submit to the Admin Office by the monthly due date.

Narrative Report – Youth Services (June 2026)

Department: Youth Services

Submitted by: Bobby Simic

Reporting Period: August 1 - 31, 2026

Both Children and Teens registered record numbers for both of our Summer Reading Challenges! As of September 1st, Children's enrolled 1060 kids and Teen Services signed up 93. Both age categories reached all-time high registrations. Many caregivers have said the Challenge has been a lot of fun and that their children love the incentive of winning prizes. Caregivers have mentioned that their child became more excited and motivated to read and visit the library due to the Challenge. Finishing the first gameboard doesn't stop kids from continuing to read and receive prizes and stickers throughout the rest of the summer. Many families picked up additional gameboards after completing their initial 500 minutes of reading to continue the reading fun with 2nd, 3rd and even more gameboards!

Programming at both Main and HCL proved to be a popular draw for children and families. 2054 attended August programs between both locations.

A typical sight at HCL was a full patio full of people with additional families spilling out into the park to witness the fun, especially when live animals and multicultural musician Armelle Gloaguen were presenting.

And the Children's Room's most consistently popular program is one we create and lead ourselves: our puppet shows led by the invaluable librarian Susan Mackey. This summer's puppet performance was Under the Sea themed and inspired audience members to learn more about the creatures featured in the show. One patron who attended asked for books about the ocean creatures they saw during the performance. Outside of our shows, puppets reliably engage and entertain in our other programs too. Another patron mentioned that Friday's Toddler Time program was a lot of fun and that their child loved the puppets used during it.

While Children's stops programming mid-August. Teen Services brings the fun for the entire month. They held 74 programs over the course of August with 555 teens attending. Program highlights include Paws & Relax with a Therapy Dog, a compass bracelet craft, making shaved ice and a treasure hunt.

Teen Services closed out the summer with a pizza party held out in the Children's Garden on Friday, August 28th. Teens played games and socialized with one another, their parents and special guests NRPD Officer McClintock and Officer Cruz. 40 teens enjoyed the program and celebrated the end of summer in an outdoor setting that benefitted everyone, including some

rambunctious teen regulars who utilized being outside in order to get loud, run around and blow off some steam.

Teen Services contributions aren't going unnoticed in the community. During August 4th's Police Night event, a parent stopped by and expressed to library staff tabling at the event how the Teen Services team has been wonderful with his son and greatly appreciates the library for providing a safe and supportive space for the teens in the community. He reiterated his views again several days later in-person to the teen staff at the Main Library building.

It's hard to believe summer is over and we're already in September. Rest assured, Youth Services has plenty of activities planned for kids, teens and families to keep them entertained and coming into the library during the fall.

NRPL Monthly Departmental Update

Department: Community Relations

Submitted by: Lisa Itzkowitz

Reporting Period: August 2026

1. Key Highlights

- Led promotional efforts to drive patron engagement for 33 August programs with emphasis on generating awareness of the final International Music and Dance performances, regular weekly/monthly programs, and special children's events.
- Coordinated NRPL presence at Taste of Union (8/29) and Gelato Truck at Alary (new downtown building, 8/31) outreach events. Taste of Union generated over 150 table visits, 23 new card applications, and 7 community survey completions. Alary generated 37 table visits and 7 new card applications.
- Served on the interview panel for hiring of a new Programming Coordinator.
- Continue to work with David Almodovar to finalize tech requirements for launch of new NRPL website.
- In support of Library Card Sign Up Month, wrote and distributed a press release "challenging" the community to help us reach the goal of 700 new cards during September. Created updated photo frames to support this effort.
- Sourced and priced t-shirts with new logo for NRPL staff
- Finalized Fall dates/contracts with providers of Multilevel and Beginner Yoga, Chair Yoga, and Tai Chi; finalized Fall session dates for Sewing, Knitting, Adult Art Workshops, SYHO, and Mah Jongg.
- Crafted promotional language for new and existing Fall 2026 programs. Supervised Community Relations staff in creating new/updated promotional materials for all Fall 2026 programs. Reviewed all materials for accuracy.
- Continue to provide insights and guidance regarding programming and budgeting to David Torres as he assumes his new role as Head of Programming and Outreach.
- Work with staff to craft promotional language/materials for new initiatives including Spanish Language Book Club, NRPL Archives Exhibit, and Air of Truth Exhibit.
- Completed another successful International Music and Dance festival, with the Calpulli Mexican Dance finale in Ruby Dee Park drawing an audience of 150.

2. Programs

- **Health and Wellness Programs - 15 sessions**
 - Chair Yoga *averaged 34 attendees/session.*
 - Gentle/Beginner Yoga *averaged 29 attendees/session*
 - Multi Level Yoga *averaged 25 attendees/session*
 - Tai Chi/Qi Gong - *averaged 32 attendees/session.*
- **Arts and Culture Programs - 9 sessions**
 - **Knitting Club**, *average 11 attendees/session*
 - **Open Sewing**, *average 15 attendees/session*
 - **International Music and Dance**, *average 98/attendees/session. The Capulli Mexican Dance Finale drew an audience of 150. Performance took place*
- **Fun and Games Programs - 4 sessions**
 - **MahJong Open Play**, daytime, *average 11 attendees/session*
 - **Mah Jongg Open Play evening**, *average 10/session (this group was formed by a patron who was asked by friends to teach them the game. We provide the space in the lobby. The organizer shared that people stop by to learn more.*

- **Virtual Programs - 1 session**
 - **Women and Money Roundtable, 3 attendees**

3. Patron & Community Engagement

- Hosted Red Cross Blood Drive on 8/7 resulting in 25 units of blood.
- Hosted Hearts and Home for Refugees Summer tutoring program during the weeks of August 17 and 24. This was the 4th summer in a row that NRPL provided space for this program. Each week, 23 campers were engaged by approximately 20 volunteer teens from local high schools to help ready students for the new academic year
- Met with the brand manager for new downtown buildings, The Alary, The Arc and The Atelier. The meeting resulted in an outreach opportunity at the Alary on 8/31, providing an excellent way to introduce NRPL to new downtown residents. This group skewed to the 20's - 30's age group which is a top priority - but hard to reach - target group for NRPL.
- Initiated teaser communications about WLS Roadtrip initiative

4. Operations and Facilities

n/a

5. Statistics Snapshot

- Total number of program sessions: 29
- Total number of attendees: 870
- Social media recap

August was another strong month for our social media. Facebook gained 72 new followers, had 860 content interactions, reached 26,210 unique accounts, accumulated 93,030 views across all posts and 1,246 profile visits from unique accounts. On Instagram we gained 40 new followers, had 724 content interactions (likes & comments), reached 4,744 unique accounts, accumulated 32,174 views across all posts and 483 profile visits from unique accounts.

August did well due to the continuation of the community survey, conclusion of International Music and Dance and the introduction of the new logo.

The most popular post of the month was our Calpulli Mexican Dance Finale posts (17,052 Views, 9,816 Reach, 228 Interactions.) Our Dolly Parton children's book display posts and repost also did well generating 7,528 views, 5,083 reach and of particular note, 269 interactions.)

- Email: The open rate on the weekly eblast was 60% - 27% higher than the industry average.

6. Looking Ahead

- Plan to launch the new website in September, upon resolution of outstanding issues with the current website vendor, MSM. Final date TBD
- Coordinating NRPL presence at New Rochelle Street Fair on September 19.
- Providing promotional materials for several back to school outreach events organized by Children's Dept.

- Serve as point person on the WLS Road Trip 2026, a pilot initiative to encourage library exploration and community engagement among Westchester residents and library staff. It will run from September 13th to December 13th, involving 29 library locations. There will be paper travel logbooks and a digital app for participants to track their visits, and earn chances to win in drawings for prizes.

7. Supporting Documents



Isle of Klezbos, a new performance group to NRPL, performed as part of both the International Music and Dance Festival and Between Two Worlds Yiddish book club programming.



NRPL tabled at Taste of Union on 8/29. This event draws a large crowd. One hundred and fifty people stopped by the table, 23 card applications were taken, and 7 community surveys filled out. Several new NRPL staff members participated in this event.



NRPL hosted Hearts and Homes for Refugees' summer tutoring program, run by local HS students for the benefit for children new to the US. NRPL provided access to space for 3 weeks this summer. The program ran M-F, 10:30 am - 1:30 pm, and served 23 children each day.

Community Relations Narrative Report

Department: Community Relations

Submitted by: Lisa Itzkowitz

Reporting Period: August 2026

This month, marketing provided support for **33 programs** across all library departments. Key events included communications for the three August **International Music and Dance Festival**, regular weekly programs including **Chair and Multilevel Yoga and Tai Chi**, as well as **Children's Summer Programs**.

Served on **interview panel for Programming Coordinator**. Counsel Head of Programming and Outreach on existing programming practices.

Coordinated NRPL presence at two **community outreach events**, **Taste of Union**, and a **Gelato Truck at the Alary, a new downtown building** whose residents are primarily young working professionals

Finalizing new website for launch as final tech needs are coordinated by NRPL Tech and current website provider.

Serving on cross-functional team to **maximize card sign ups during Library Card Sign Up Month** in September. Wrote and distributed a press release "challenging" the community to help us reach the goal of 700 new cards during September, and created updated photo frames to support this effort. Finalizing promotional materials for use in building including a thermometer graphic to track progress.

Serve as **point person for wellness classes**. **Scheduled and contracted classes** for Fall 2026.

Public relations coverage:

Talk of the Sound ran an article about the [launch of the new NRPL logo](#) and our [700 Card Challenge](#) as part of Library Card Sign Up Month. [Yonkers Times](#) also ran an article about the 700 Card Challenge. [Patch](#) ran an article about public libraries and included a quote provided to them from Eugenia Schatoff about our Museum Pass program.

The City of New Rochelle has promoted the Community Survey in the last several issues of its weekly [City e-News Blast](#). A number of new New Rochelle events sites are picking up NRPL events including [Downtown New Rochelle Weekly](#), [happs](#), and [locallittle.com](#)



APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR PERSONNEL
RESOLUTIONS

NO. 2026 09 (1 THROUGH 7), ACCORDING TO THE
RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EACH ITEM.

Board Meeting
Thursday, September 10, 2026
Incident Report Listing

Date	Time	Location	Description	Action Y/N	Emergency Services Contact
8/6/2026	6:35 PM	Main Library	Patron Interaction Regarding Enforcement of Children's Room Restroom Use Policy	No	
8/11/2026	2:30 PM	Main Library	Inquiry Regarding Individual Reported to Be Present in the Library	No	
8/17/2026	3:15 PM	Main Library	Children's Room Incident Involving Child Hand Injury and First Aid Response	No	
8/17/2026	5:45 PM	Main Library	Public Restroom Incident Requiring Maintenance and Security Response	No	
8/18/2026	5:30 PM	Main Library	Incident Involving Enforcement of Teen Room Conduct Policies and Temporary Patron Removal	No	
8/24/2026	12:30 PM	Main Library	Patron Incident Involving Disruptive Conduct and Use of Racially Offensive Language	No	
8/21/2026	4:10 PM	Main Library	Patron Incident Involving Disruptive Behavior	No	
8/24/2026	2:30 PM	Main Library	Teen Room Incident Involving Removal of a Patron's Cell Phone, Staff Response, and Subsequent Parental Complaint	No	
8/24/2026	9:30 AM	Main Library	Patron Incident Involving Room Odor and Disruptive Conduct	No	
8/27/2026	5:05 PM	Main Library	Teen Room Incident Involving Repeated Disruptive Conduct and Staff Intervention	No	
8/27/2026	6:45 PM	Main Library	Patron Complaint Regarding Teen Removal and Security Staff Interaction	No	

Board Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 2026

Personnel Report Listing

						Board Meeting
Last Name	Name	Title	Salary	Reason	Action Date	Report - Date
1 Ballan	Maeve	Part-Time Library Assistant Adult Services	\$27.80 Hour	New Hire	September 8, 2026	10-Sep-26
2 Fralonardo	Gianna	Part-Time Library Assistant Adult Services	\$27.80 Hour	New Hire	September 8, 2026	10-Sep-26
3 Gomez	Ruben	Part-Time Library Assistant Youth Services	\$27.80 Hour	New Hire	September 8, 2026	10-Sep-26
4 Ovitz	Tova	Part-Time Library Assistant Youth Services	\$27.80 Hour	New Hire	Septmeber 8, 2026	10-Sep-26
5 Perez	Sandra	Full Time - Senior Library Clerk	From Step # 3 \$60,398.00 - Salary \$2,323.00 To Step # 4 \$62,618.92 - Salary \$2,408.42	Step Increase	October 1, 2026	10-Sep-26
6 Welch	James	Full Time – Librarian I	From: Step # 2 \$66,094.08 - Salary \$2,542.08 To Step # 3 \$69,402.06 - Salary \$2,699.31	Step Increase	October 16, 2026	10-Sep-26
7 Schatoff	Eugenia	Library Director	From: Step # 2 \$192,885.94 - Salary \$7,418.69 To Step # 3 \$202,530.30 - Salary \$7,789.62	Step Increase	October 1, 2026	10-Sep-26



New Rochelle Public Library Director's Letter to the Community

August 2026

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

At the end of July, I had the privilege of participating in an Executive Education program at the Harvard Graduate School of Design focused on the future of library design and transformation. The program brought together library leaders, architects, designers, and community-focused professionals from around the world to explore how libraries continue to evolve to meet the changing needs of their communities.

While I came away with new ideas and fresh perspectives, one message stood out above all others: the most successful libraries are not defined by their buildings—they're defined by the people who use them. The physical space matters, but its greatest purpose is to support learning, creativity, connection, and belonging.

That idea resonated deeply because it reflects the work already underway here in New Rochelle.

As we continue planning for our once-in-a-generation renovation, I've been reminded that we're not simply renovating a building. Together, we're reimagining one of our city's most important civic spaces—a place where people of every age and background come to discover, create, connect, and grow.

The conversations at Harvard reinforced how important it is to listen first. Every community is different, and the best libraries are those that reflect the people they serve. I'm grateful that so many members of our community have already shared their ideas and aspirations for the future of the New Rochelle Public Library. Those voices will continue to guide us as planning moves forward. If you have not yet filled out our [Community Survey](#) please take a moment to do so now.

I returned inspired—not because I saw a blueprint for our future, but because I was reminded that there is no single blueprint. The strongest libraries grow from the character, creativity, and aspirations of their own communities. That's exactly what we're striving to create together.

Thank you for being part of this journey. I'm excited for the work ahead and for the opportunity to create a library that will serve and inspire New Rochelle for generations to come.

Warm regards,

Eugenia Schatoff

Eugenia Schatoff
Executive Director



September 10, 2026 Director's Board Report

Committee Meetings

Policy Committee Meeting - Monday August 3 · 8:30 am - 09:30 am

Labor Management Committee Meeting - Tuesday, August 4 · 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Community Relations Committee - Wednesday, August 12 · 9:05am – 9:50am

Board Meeting - Thursday, August 13 · 7:30 – 9:00pm

Building and Grounds Committee Meeting - Friday, August 14 · 8:30 – 9:30am

Personnel Committee Meeting - Monday, August 17 · 9:00 – 10:00am

Building and Grounds Committee Meeting - Tuesday, August 18 · 8:30 – 9:30am

Finance Committee Meeting - Wednesday, August 26 · 8:30 – 9:30am

Board Meeting - Thursday, August 27 · 7:30 – 9:30pm

Check-In Meetings

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director- Monday August 3 · 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Check in Meeting - Director + Assistant Director + Tradesworker - Monday August 3 · 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Check in Meeting - NRPL Friends - Tuesday, August 4 · 9:00 – 10:00am

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director- Wednesday, August 5 · 1:30 pm to 2:15 pm

Check in Meeting - Director + Community Relations - Wednesday, August 5 · 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Board President - Thursday, August 6 · 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director - Thursday, August 6 · 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Directors - Monday, August 10 · 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director + Maintenance - Monday, August 10 · 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director - Monday, August 10 · 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director - Tuesday, August 11 · 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director - Tuesday, August 11 · 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Directors - Wednesday, August 12 · 11:30 am – 12:00 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director- Thursday, August 13 · 3:45 pm – 4:45 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Board President - Thursday, August 13 · 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director- Monday, August 17 · 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Check In Meeting - Director + Board President - Wednesday, August 19 · 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director - Monday, August 24 · 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director - Tuesday, August 25 · 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Check In Meeting With Board President - Wednesday, August 26 · 10:00 am – 11:00am

Check In Meeting - Director + Community Relations - Wednesday, August 26 · 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Check In Meeting - Director + Assistant Director - Wednesday, August 26 · 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Other Meetings

Interview - Administrative Assistant Monday, August 3 · 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm

Administrative Meeting - Monday, August 3 · 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Interview - Administrative Assistant Tuesday, August 4 · 11:00am – 11:45 am

Interview - Administrative Assistant Tuesday, August 4 · 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm

NRPL X Huguenot Children's Library Tuesday, August 4 · 3:15 pm – 4:00 pm

Interview - Administrative Assistant Wednesday, August 5 · 3:00 pm – 3:45 pm

Interview - Administrative Assistant Thursday, August 6 · 3:00 pm – 3:45 pm

Administrative Meeting - Monday, August 10 · 2:00 pm – 3:00pm

NRPL X Transition Team - Tuesday, August 11 · 10:30 am – 11:15 am

Interview - Administrative Assistant - Tuesday, August 11 · 11:30 am – 12:00 pm

NRPL X Children's Garden - Tuesday, August 11 · 1:00 pm – 1:45 pm

NRPL X Law - Tuesday, August 12 · 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

NRPL X Law - Monday, August 17 · 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Administrative Meeting - Monday, August 17 · 2:15 pm – 2:45 pm

NRPL X Nawrocki Smith Accountants - Monday, August 17 · 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Civil Service Meeting - Wednesday, August 19 · 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

NRPL X PLDA - Thursday, August 20 · 9:30 am – 10:30 am

NRPL X Steelcase - Monday, August 24 · 9:30 am – 10:15 am

Administrative Meeting - Monday, August 24 · 3:00pm – 3:30pm

NRPL X Law - Tuesday, August 25 · 8:30am – 9:00am

Fiscal Transition Status Meeting - Tuesday, August 25 · 10:00 am – 11:00 am

NRPL X Procore - Tuesday, August 25 · 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Director's Meeting - Wednesday, August 26 · 11:30 am – 12:00 pm

NRPL X Contractor - Wednesday, August 26 · 1:45 pm – 2:30pm

NRPL X Lothrop - Wednesday, August 26 · 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

NRPL X Law - Monday, August 31 · 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Adult Services , Submitted by Kira Aiello

 **2026-08 Adult Services Monthly Report.pdf**

 **2026-08 Adult Services Narrative Report.pdf**

Note: This report is unavailable.

Youth Report, submitted by Bobby Simic

 **2026 08 Youth Services Monthly Report.pdf**

 **2026 08 Youth Services Monthly Narrative.pdf**

Circulation Report, Submitted by Milton Cobb

 **2026 09 Circulation Department Monthly Report Update.pdf**

 **2026 09 Circulation Department Monthly Report Narrative.pdf**

Community Relations Report, Submitted by Lisa Itzkowitz

 **2026 09 Community Relations Monthly Update.pdf**

 **2026 09 Community Relations Monthly Narrative.pdf**

Personnel Report:

 **2026 09 Personnel Report Listing.pdf**

Incident Report

 **2026 08 Incident Report Listing.pdf**

Respectfully Submitted,

Eugenia Schatoff

Eugenia Schatoff, Library Director