



New Rochelle Public Library Director's Letter to the Community: Growing Our Children's Garden

October 2026

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

A year ago, we celebrated the reopening of the Children's Garden with a new patio and pavilion, creating a welcoming outdoor space where children and families could read, play, gather, and enjoy Library programs. It has been wonderful to see the Garden become part of the life of our Library and community.

Now, we are building on that investment with another round of improvements designed to make the space even more engaging and useful.

The latest project is well underway, with new landscaping, fresh sod, refreshed planting beds, and new plantings already taking shape. This project has been made possible in large part through funding from the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation, along with a grant supporting the plantings secured through a partnership of the Garden Club of New Rochelle, Healthy Yards New Rochelle, and the Library. We are grateful to all of our partners for helping make these enhancements possible, and to the Garden Club and Healthy Yards for their help guiding the plant selection and installation, adding another wonderful connection between the Library and our community partners.



In the coming weeks, additional features will be installed, including an outdoor stage, four interactive musical play pieces, raised garden beds, flexible seating, outdoor storage for gardening and program materials, and solar pathway lighting.



These improvements reflect our vision for the Library as more than a place to find books. Our spaces should invite people to gather, explore, learn, and connect—and that includes the outdoors. The Children's Garden gives us an opportunity to bring Library experiences into the fresh air while giving children a place to discover, create, and simply enjoy being here.

As the new landscaping settles in and the remaining features are installed, our Youth Services staff is already busy planning a special event on October 24 to welcome everyone to the enhanced space. We look forward to sharing the Garden with our community and giving children and families an opportunity to experience all that the refreshed space has to offer.

There is something especially fitting about watching a garden grow. Just as plants need care and attention to flourish, so do the spaces that serve our community. We are excited to see this next chapter of the Children's Garden take root.

Warm regards,

Eugenia Schatoff

Eugenia Schatoff, Executive Director