

# CONNECTIONS

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITIES



2022 ANNUAL REPORT WITH 2023 CALENDAR





## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

After triumphing over the trials of a two-year global pandemic, Tulsa City-County Library stepped out in 2022 with a new mission, vision and building plan – all aimed at growing and strengthening our connections within the many communities we serve.

This idea of truly connecting with our communities resonated as an underlined theme of this past year. So much so, that it became the very mission that drives us. That mission is to inspire, promote learning and create connections that strengthen our communities. Our vision is to facilitate an environment where everyone in Tulsa County is seen, heard and welcomed. Our 24 library branches and Outreach Services are unique resources in their communities, reaching into every corner of our county. Because we want our community to think of us first when looking for information and resources, we want to continue to build the networks that help us activate our collections and resources.

In order to strengthen our communities, we have to ensure that our libraries can meet the needs of those they serve. That is why we have embarked on a new building plan, called *MY Library, OUR Future*, to replace four libraries – Brookside, Owasso, Rudisill Regional and South Broken Arrow – that are currently underserving their communities because of space and technology limitations.

We are now in the beginning phases of a capital campaign to construct four new libraries so that we can provide the

next level of library service in these communities. These are among the most used branches in our system and replacing them with state-of-the-art facilities will ensure these communities continue to have a library that supports the future they want to create.

The designs of these new libraries will bring together inspiring aesthetics with innovative flexibility that allows each community to make the branch their own as needs naturally evolve over time. These new buildings will also help us expand our reach and welcome more individuals through our doors; they will improve our usability by removing barriers to access; and they will continue establishing the library as a convenient and valuable service and resource for all.

TCCL has always provided access to information, space and technologies for every individual in the communities we serve. By improving the scale and accessibility of our locations, TCCL can better connect each community member with the opportunity to reach and fulfill their dreams.

As you turn the pages of this annual report, you will see how TCCL connected with and strengthened the many diverse communities we serve and our plans to continue these connections throughout the future.

*Kimberly Johnson*

- Kimberly Johnson, CEO



# BEHIND THE SCENES



PICTURED FROM LEFT:  
Tulsa City-County Library  
Commissioners La Verne  
Ford Wimberly, Ed.D.; James  
Rea (representing County  
Commissioner Karen Keith);  
Rodrigo Rojas (representing  
Mayor G.T. Bynum); Leanne  
Helmerich; Richard D. White  
Jr.; Ellen Duecker; Danny  
Williams; and Rik Helmerich

## Tulsa City-County Library Commission

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**Leanne Helmerich**, *chair*  
**G.T. Bynum**, *mayor of Tulsa*  
**Moises Echeverria**, *vice chair*  
**Karen Keith**, *county commissioner*  
**Danielle Widell**, *secretary*  
**Ellen Duecker**  
**Rik Helmerich**  
**Cynthia McGhee**  
**Richard D. White Jr.**  
**Danny Williams**  
**La Verne Ford Wimberly, Ed.D.**  
**Peggy V. Helmerich**, *emeritus*

## Tulsa Library Trust Board

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<b>Isaac Ellis</b> , <i>president</i>	<b>M. Susan Savage</b>
<b>Bri Ghosn</b>	<b>Clifton Taulbert</b>
<b>Jordan Helmerich</b>	<b>Julie Watson</b>
<b>Paul Johnson</b>	<b>Melissa Easterling</b> , <i>Trust executive director</i>
<b>Annette LaFortune Murray</b>	
<b>Martin Newman</b>	

## Friends of the Tulsa City-County Libraries Board

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<b>Dorothy Minor</b> , <i>president</i>	<b>Gisele McDaniel</b>
<b>Nancy Carroll</b>	<b>Cindy McDonald</b>
<b>Lillie Haddican</b>	<b>Glad Platner</b>
<b>Marty Laughlin</b>	

# OTHER ACTIVE FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES GROUPS

## Friends of the Collinsville Library

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This group supports the Collinsville Library through generous donations.

## Friends of Genealogy Inc.

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Founded in 1998, this group supports the Genealogy Resource Center, located at Hardesty Regional Library, through memberships and donations.

## Friends of the Helmerich Library

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The purpose of this organization is to aid and promote the activities and goals of the Peggy V. Helmerich Library. Every year, this dedicated group hosts a very successful book sale and uses the proceeds to fund programming across the TCCL system. Since its inception in 2004, the Friends of the Helmerich Library has given more than \$108,000 to benefit TCCL locations.

## Friends of the Rudisill Regional Library

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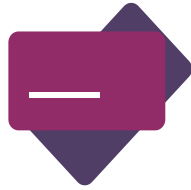
This group supports the Rudisill Regional Library and the African American Resource Center by raising funds, volunteering at library programs, encouraging new customers to use the library, hosting book discussions and supporting TCCL staff in continuing education with the Freddie Martin Rudisill Scholarship Award.

# QUICK STATS



**POPULATION SERVED**  
672,858

**LIBRARY  
CARDHOLDERS**  
375,159



**LIBRARY SITES** 26  
(24 Public, 2 Nonpublic)

**OUTREACH  
VEHICLES** 3



**PERSONNEL** 316  
(Full-time Equivalents)

## OWNED MATERIALS

Physical	1,139,023
Digital (eBooks/eAudio)	123,187
Total Owned Materials	1,267,355



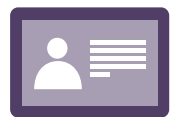
## PHYSICAL MATERIALS BREAKDOWN

Children's Items	368,815
Adult Items	770,208



## SUBSCRIPTION eMATERIALS

eBooks/eAudio	1,228,639
eMagazines and eNewspapers	24,316
Access to Streaming or Downloadable Music	14,270,198
Streaming Movies and TV	59,099



NOTE: STATS REFLECTED ARE FOR CALENDAR YEAR AND INCLUDE ESTIMATED NUMBERS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## JUNE 30, 2022

### REVENUE

Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 35,659,092
Services and Fees	\$ 372,920
Interest Earned	\$ 83,383
Grants	\$ 10,073
Federal & State Aid	\$ 644,996
Library Trust	\$ 117,031
Miscellaneous	\$ 286,667

**\$ 37,174,162**

### EXPENSE

Personnel Services	\$ 21,030,979
Maintenance & Operations	\$ 5,782,250
Materials	\$ 1,760,936
Miscellaneous	\$ 121,202
Capital Outlay	\$ 3,882,696

**\$ 32,578,063**

**NET CHANGE IN  
FUND BALANCES** \$ 4,596,099

NOTE: TOTALS REFLECTED ARE FROM UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.





# JANUARY 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>New Year's Day</b> Libraries closed <b>Kwanzaa ends</b>						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	<b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b> Libraries closed	<b>Library Systemwide Inventory</b> Libraries closed	18	19	20	21
<b>Lunar New Year</b>	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### MY Library, OUR Future



TCCL kicked off the new year with a new building plan, called *MY Library, OUR Future*, to ensure tomorrow's TCCL will continue to inspire, promote learning and create connections that strengthen our communities. Four of TCCL's most used libraries that are underserving their communities because of space and technology limitations have been identified: Brookside, Owasso, Rudisill Regional and South Broken Arrow.

For the design process, TCCL spent several months gathering input and ideas from library users in these service areas; spoke with city council representatives, city managers, mayors and representatives from local chambers of commerce; and conducted a feasibility study of those in the philanthropic community. KKT Architects has been selected to design state-of-the-art facilities that will mirror elements of the flagship Central Library while still maintaining the unique characteristics that make these branches special to the communities they serve. We are now in the beginning phases of a capital campaign to raise \$37 million to bring these designs to life. Learn more here: [www.MYlibraryOURfuture.org](http://www.MYlibraryOURfuture.org).



PICTURED ABOVE:  
Two friends share a story after attending Build A Reader Storytime at Central Library.







# FEBRUARY 2023

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				Groundhog Day		
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Valentine's Day				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Presidents Day Libraries closed		Ash Wednesday			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Young People's Creative Writing Contest deadline				
26	27	28	1	2	3	4

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Easy Rawlins author receives Sankofa Freedom Award

During Black History Month, TCCL's African American Resource Center and the Tulsa Library Trust presented the 2022 Sankofa Freedom Award to Walter Mosley, one of America's most celebrated and beloved authors. Established in 2005, the purpose of this biennial award is to recognize a nationally prominent author whose lifelong work positively addresses the range and complexity of cultural, economic and political issues affecting the greater African American community. From his first novel, *Devil in a Blue Dress*, with its protagonist Easy Rawlins, to his latest short story collection, *The Awkward Black Man*, Mosley's work has explored the lives of Black men and women in America – past, present and future – and deepened the understanding and appreciation of Black life in the United States. The Sankofa Freedom Award ceremony and author presentation took place on Zoom on Feb. 12. You can see the presentation here: [www.youtube.com/tulsalibrary](https://www.youtube.com/tulsalibrary).



PICTURED ABOVE:  
Thomas A. Edison Preparatory School took home the first-place trophy for the high school competition in TCCL's 2022 African American Heritage Bowl, held at Rudisill Regional Library.







# MARCH 2023

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	1	2 Read Across America Day	3 World Wildlife Day	4 American Indian Festival of Words Writers Award
5	6	7	8 International Women's Day	9	10	11
12 Daylight Saving Time begins Set clock ahead one hour	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19	20 Spring begins	21	22 Ramadan begins at sundown	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Adult Creative Writing Contest deadline	1

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Archie Mason inducted into Circle of Honor

To kick off the American Indian Festival of Words, TCCL inducted the Rev. Archie Mason, Osage and Cherokee, into the Circle of Honor at a virtual ceremony, held March 5. Mason was an educator for 34 years and one of the longest-serving members of the Osage Nation Congress. Induction into the Circle of Honor is a celebration of the honoree's actions in the face of adversity, commitment to the preservation of American Indian culture and legacy for future generations. "By offering programs like the American Indian Festival of Words, Natives see the library as a gathering place for them," said Teresa Runnels, coordinator of TCCL's American Indian Resource Center. The Circle of Honor award is given biennially by the resource center and Tulsa Library Trust. As a Circle of Honor honoree, Mason received a ceremonial blanket and a \$5,000 cash prize, provided by The Maxine and Jack Zarrow Family Foundation.

PICTURED ABOVE: Mark Wilson, Cherokee; Archie Mason, Osage and Cherokee; Rob Anquoe, Kiowa; and Lillian Williams, Pawnee, gather at Zarrow Regional Library for the Circle of Honor Ceremony.







# APRIL 2023

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH  
NATIONAL ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
<b>International Children's Book Day</b>			<b>Passover begins at sundown</b>		<b>Good Friday</b>	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Easter</b> Libraries closed				<b>Passover ends at sundown</b>		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		<b>Holocaust Remembrance Day</b>		<b>Interfaith Holocaust Commemoration</b>	<b>Ramadan ends Eid al-Fitr begins at sundown</b>	<b>Earth Day</b>
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<b>National Library Week</b> April 23-29					<b>Arbor Day</b>	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<b>Día, Children's Day/Book Day</b>						
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Talk, sing, read, write, play with Build A Reader app

Thanks to a grant from the Hardesty Family Foundation, TCCL launched a new Build A Reader app in 2022 to help develop early literacy skills in children from birth to pre-K, and grow and sustain a love of reading. Led by professional library staff trained in supporting children's literacy and learning development, Build A Reader storytimes follow the Every Child Ready to Read initiative established by the Public Library Association. The free Build A Reader app offers short, bite-sized videos demonstrating songs, finger plays and great book recommendations in thematic categories, such as "animals" and "feelings," to prepare young children for a lifetime of reading joy. The app also tracks reading and offers virtual badges, stickers and trophies after reading a set number of books. Use the Build A Reader app to talk, sing, read, write and play every day to help your child develop early literacy skills. To download the new app, search "Build A Reader" in the App Store or on Google Play.

PICTURED ABOVE: Meggie Harlan takes her children to the Nathan Hale Library at least once or twice a week to pick out books.







# MAY 2023

ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH  
JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	1	2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Mother's Day					Endangered Species Day	Asian American Festival
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Memorial Day Libraries closed					
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Encouraging the next generation of writers

Each year, area teachers and librarians come together to encourage aspiring writers ages 10 to 18 to hone their skills by entering TCCL's Young People's Creative Writing Contest. The 2022 contest attracted 585 entries from across Tulsa County. You can read the 45 winning entries here: [www.tulsalibrary.org/ypcwc](http://www.tulsalibrary.org/ypcwc).

### Zarrow Award celebrates reading and writing

Each May, Tulsa City-County Library and the Tulsa Library Trust present the Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature to a nationally acclaimed author who has made a significant contribution to the field of literature for children and young adults. The annual Zarrow Award gives Tulsa County youth an opportunity to meet and talk with an author they have only read about in books. Join us on May 5 at Hardesty Regional Library to meet our 2023 Zarrow Award winner Steve Sheinkin. Learn more here: [www.tulsalibrary.org/zarrowaward](http://www.tulsalibrary.org/zarrowaward).



### PICTURED ABOVE:

Teen Teamers at the Pratt Library prepare for the 2022 Summer Reading Program. Nearly 220 teens ages 13 to 15 applied for the 2022 Teen Team, a volunteer group that assists TCCL staff with the summer program. In 2022, Teen Teamers volunteered a total of 8,000 hours in June and July at area libraries.







# JUNE 2023

CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH  
 IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH  
 PRIDE MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	1 Summer Reading Program begins	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 World Oceans Day	9	10
11	12 Music Sandwiched In	13	14 Flag Day	15	16	17
18 Father's Day	19 Juneteenth National Independence Day Libraries closed	20	21 Summer begins	22	23	24
25	26 Music Sandwiched In	27	28	29	30	1

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Asian American Festival celebrates 20 years!

More than 1,000 festivalgoers enjoyed a day of live performances, traditional arts and crafts, food and plenty of fun activities for all ages as TCCL's Asian American Festival returned to in person on June 25 at Martin Regional Library. The 20th annual festival included performances by China Roses folk dancers, Hibiki Japanese Drum Team, Kaajhuab Dance Team (Hmong) and Di Dim Dol, a Korean drum dance group. Yumie Farringer concluded the day with a Japanese tea ceremony. The festival also featured interactive booths and an exhibition of children's artwork from Kyoto, Japan, giving us a glimpse into their daily lives. Oklahoma has enjoyed a sister state relationship with Japan's Kyoto Prefecture since 1985. The free festival was funded by the Tulsa Library Trust.

### TCCL participates in Tulsa Juneteenth Festival

Several library staffers braved the heat on June 18 to represent TCCL at the Tulsa Juneteenth Festival's Kid Zone, held in the historic Greenwood District. Numerous people stopped by the library booth to learn about and see the plans for the new Rudisill Regional Library, sign up for the Summer Reading Program and enjoy other family-friendly activities.

PICTURED ABOVE: Traditional dance performance at 2022 Asian American Festival







# JULY 2023

FAMILY HISTORY MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	Independence Day Libraries closed	5	6	7	8
9	Music Sandwiched In Teddy Bear Picnic Day	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	Music Sandwiched In	25	26	27	28	29
30	Summer Reading Program ends	1	2	3	4	5

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Creating a community of readers

TCCL's Summer Reading Program connects people of all ages with their library, helps kids keep their reading skills strong, and promotes the joy and love of reading. The 2022 program "Oceans of Possibilities!" offered more than 700 free events, plus numerous incentives, including coupons for free food and entertainment from area businesses, and prize drawings for completing the program. With the help of presenting sponsors FC Tulsa, Mazzi's, Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Safari Joe's H2O, Tulsa Drillers, Tulsa Library Trust, Tulsa State Fair, *Tulsa World*, Tulsa Zoo, *TulsaKids*, Whataburger and Williams, TCCL reached more than 51,000 people, from newborns to adults, who read 301,156 books in all. The city of Collinsville was the victor in the Summer Reading Program Mayor's Challenge with the highest percentage of youth participating in the program - 34 percent of newborns to 17-year-olds in Collinsville signed up for the program.

PICTURED ABOVE: Library mascot Buddy Bookworm high fives young readers at Library Summer Reading Night at a Tulsa Drillers game. Children and teens who completed the Summer Reading Program received a free ticket to the game.







# AUGUST 2023

BLACK BUSINESS MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
National Root Beer Float Day			Book Lovers Day			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Preparing students to succeed in school

TCCL teamed up with the Coalition of Hispanic Organizations, Tulsa Tech, Tulsa Public Schools and the Tulsa Area United Way, as well as more than 40 community organizations, agencies and local businesses, to help students and families prepare for the new school year. The sixth annual Back-to-School Community Resource Fair, held Aug. 13 at Tulsa Tech Lemley Memorial Campus, offered free backpacks filled with school supplies, informational booths and free services, including haircuts, dental screenings and vaccinations. Volunteers handed out over 2,200 backpacks in less than two hours. Library staff connected with hundreds of families about TCCL's After-School Homework Club and Homework HelpNow database. The After-School Homework Club provides free homework and test help for third through eighth graders at five libraries – Broken Arrow, Brookside, Kendall-Whittier, Maxwell Park and Martin Regional – September through April each school year. Site facilitators assist students with basic school subjects including reading, math, writing, spelling and social sciences. For the 2021-2022 school year, 58 students received a total of 342 hours of homework assistance.

PICTURED ABOVE: TCCL staff connected with hundreds of children and their families at the Back-to-School Community Resource Fair.







# SEPTEMBER 2023

LIBRARY CARD  
SIGN-UP MONTH  
LITERACY AWARENESS MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
	<b>Labor Day</b> Libraries closed					
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Grandparents Day</b>					<b>Hispanic Heritage Month</b> Sept. 15-Oct. 15	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
						<b>Fall begins</b>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Food, fun and favorite authors

About 75 people enjoyed listening to authors Connie Cronley, Traci Sorell and Martha Kemm Landes, while enjoying delectable bites, at “Chapters: A Casual Evening of Books, Bards and Bites,” held Sept. 8 at Hardesty Regional Library. The annual fundraiser raised more than \$2,500 to benefit TCCL’s Ruth G. Hardman Adult Literacy Service.

### Pilot program helps improve lives

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, workers who have earned a high school diploma make on average nearly \$10,000 more per year than those without a diploma. Thanks to a partnership with the Oklahoma Department of Libraries and Gale/Cengage Learning, five Tulsa County residents age 25 or older were selected in 2022 to participate in a pilot project, where they could earn their high school diploma at no cost through Excel High School. Once they complete the online, self-paced program, they will receive a diploma from a federally accredited, state-recognized high school. TCCL’s Ruth G. Hardman Adult Literacy Service coordinates the Excel High School pilot program. More spots will open in 2023.

PICTURED ABOVE: Jasmine Edmundson celebrates receiving her high school diploma. She was the first of five participants to earn her diploma through TCCL’s Excel High School pilot program.







# OCTOBER 2023

GLOBAL DIVERSITY AWARENESS MONTH  
LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Banned Books Week</b> Oct. 1-7	<b>Library Staff Development Day</b> Libraries closed			<b>World Teachers' Day</b>		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	<b>Indigenous Peoples' Day</b>					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>National Friends of Libraries Week</b> Oct. 15-21						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
						<b>National Mentoring Day</b>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		<b>Halloween</b>				
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Access for all!

Banned Books Week is celebrated each October and focuses on the freedom to read. Last fall, TCCL launched a new webpage, [www.tulsalibrary.org/access-for-all](http://www.tulsalibrary.org/access-for-all), to uphold our library system's long-standing core values and our customers' freedom to read. On this page, you can find TCCL's collection management policies and procedures, and additional resources such as further information on the First Amendment, and the American Library Association's Freedom to Read statement and Bill of Rights.



### TCCL inaugurates Hummingbird Award in Literary Arts

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, TCCL's Hispanic Resource Center and the Tulsa Library Trust selected Benjamin Alire Sáenz, an award-winning American author of poetry and prose for adults and teens, and a writer of books for children, to receive the inaugural Hummingbird Award in Literary Arts. Given biennially, the award honors and recognizes a nationally prominent author, poet or artist of Latinx descent whose work has elevated and affirmed the voice of the Latinx community. Originally scheduled Oct. 29, Sáenz had to postpone his visit to Tulsa to receive the award until 2023.

PICTURED ABOVE: Children of all ages had a fun time at Nathan Hale Library's Pumpkin Palooza!







# NOVEMBER 2023

NATIVE AMERICAN  
HERITAGE MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Daylight Saving Time ends Set clock back one hour					Books To Treasure	Veterans Day Libraries closed
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
				Thanksgiving Day Libraries closed	Native American Heritage Day	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Books To Treasure celebrates the beauty of children's literature

Hundreds of area second graders and their families celebrated reading, writing, creativity, science – and baby elephants! – as children's illustrator Katherine Roy shared her love of drawing and the natural world as the featured illustrator for TCCL's 2022 Books To Treasure on Nov. 18 at Hardesty Regional Library. Prior to Roy's visit to Tulsa, children's librarians and library staff distributed nearly 8,000 copies of Roy's *How To Be an Elephant* book to schools across Tulsa County to give to second graders to keep as their own, plus nearly 2,600 second graders received custom library cards featuring an adorable elephant illustration from Roy's book. To complement Books To Treasure, TCCL explored these great, gentle creatures on its Kids Read Curious World webpage with fun elephant activities, reading lists, videos and more. The Tulsa Library Trust sponsors Books To Treasure through a grant from the Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation. Learn more here: [www.tulsalibrary.org/kids/books-to-treasure](http://www.tulsalibrary.org/kids/books-to-treasure).



PICTURED ABOVE:  
Illustrator Katherine Roy shared her love of drawing with students at Marquette Catholic School while in Tulsa for TCCL's Books To Treasure program.







# DECEMBER 2023

UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	<b>Peggy V. Helmerich Distinguished Author Award Black-Tie Gala</b> 1	<b>Peggy V. Helmerich Distinguished Author Award Public Presentation</b> 2
<b>International Day of Persons with Disabilities</b> 3	4	5	6	<b>Hanukkah begins at sundown</b> <b>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</b> 7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	<b>Hanukkah ends at sundown</b> 15	16
17	18	19	20	<b>Winter begins</b> 21	22	23
<b>Christmas Eve</b> Libraries closed 24	<b>Christmas Day</b> Libraries closed 25	<b>Kwanzaa begins</b> 26	27	28	29	30
<b>New Year's Eve</b> 31	1	2	3	4	5	6

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

### Ann Patchett dazzles Tulsa

American novelist Ann Patchett saved the day when she graciously stepped in as the featured speaker for the 2022 Peggy V. Helmerich Distinguished Author Award series after Elizabeth Strout withdrew due to illness. Patchett, who won the 2014 Helmerich Award, returned to Tulsa Dec. 1 and 2 to speak at the 2022 public presentation and black-tie gala, held at Central Library. "Of all the galas I've done in my life, I had more fun in Tulsa by a factor of 10. I had such a good time. Part of it was that I was madly in love with Peggy (Helmerich)," said Patchett about her 2014 trip to Tulsa to receive the prestigious prize. Patchett said she was thrilled to come back to Tulsa and very excited to see the renovated Central Library, as it was closed for renovations in 2014. Given annually by TCCL and the Tulsa Library Trust, the Helmerich Award consists of a \$40,000 cash prize and an engraved crystal book.

PICTURED ABOVE: TCCL's Central Library was turned into an enchanting winter wonderland for the 2022 Helmerich Award gala. A capacity crowd of 320 guests enjoyed fine dining among the bookstacks, while listening to a dazzling presentation by featured speaker Ann Patchett.

PHOTO BY JESSICA KARIN TROUT





# 2022 REMEMBRANCES AND RETIREMENTS



PICTURED: Jim and Sally Frasier

## **A celebration of life: Remembering Sally Frasier**

On Oct. 29, a standing-room-only crowd of 250 people filled Central Library's Pocahontas Greadington Learning and Creativity Center as they came to celebrate the life of longtime TCCL Commissioner and community volunteer Sally Frasier, who died on Aug. 21, 2022. "Sally Frasier was one of our biggest supporters," said TCCL CEO Kimberly Johnson. "During her 34 years as a library commissioner, from 1985 to 2019, Sally worked tirelessly and passionately promoting, campaigning and lobbying for libraries, both locally and nationally; she personally visited with Oklahoma state and federal legislators, advocating for libraries and legislative changes for many years. She also was an active member of our Hispanic Resource Center and African American Resource Center advisory boards. Sally and her husband, Jim, even donated a wonderful vintage Wurlitzer jukebox to our African American Resource Center for a listening station to pay homage to the musical artistry of African Americans. She was my friend, but more than anything, she was an incredible person who loved TCCL. Her contributions will have a long-lasting impact on this library and our community."



PICTURED: Mary Lou Divelbiss

## **Family donates books in remembrance of Sand Springs librarian**

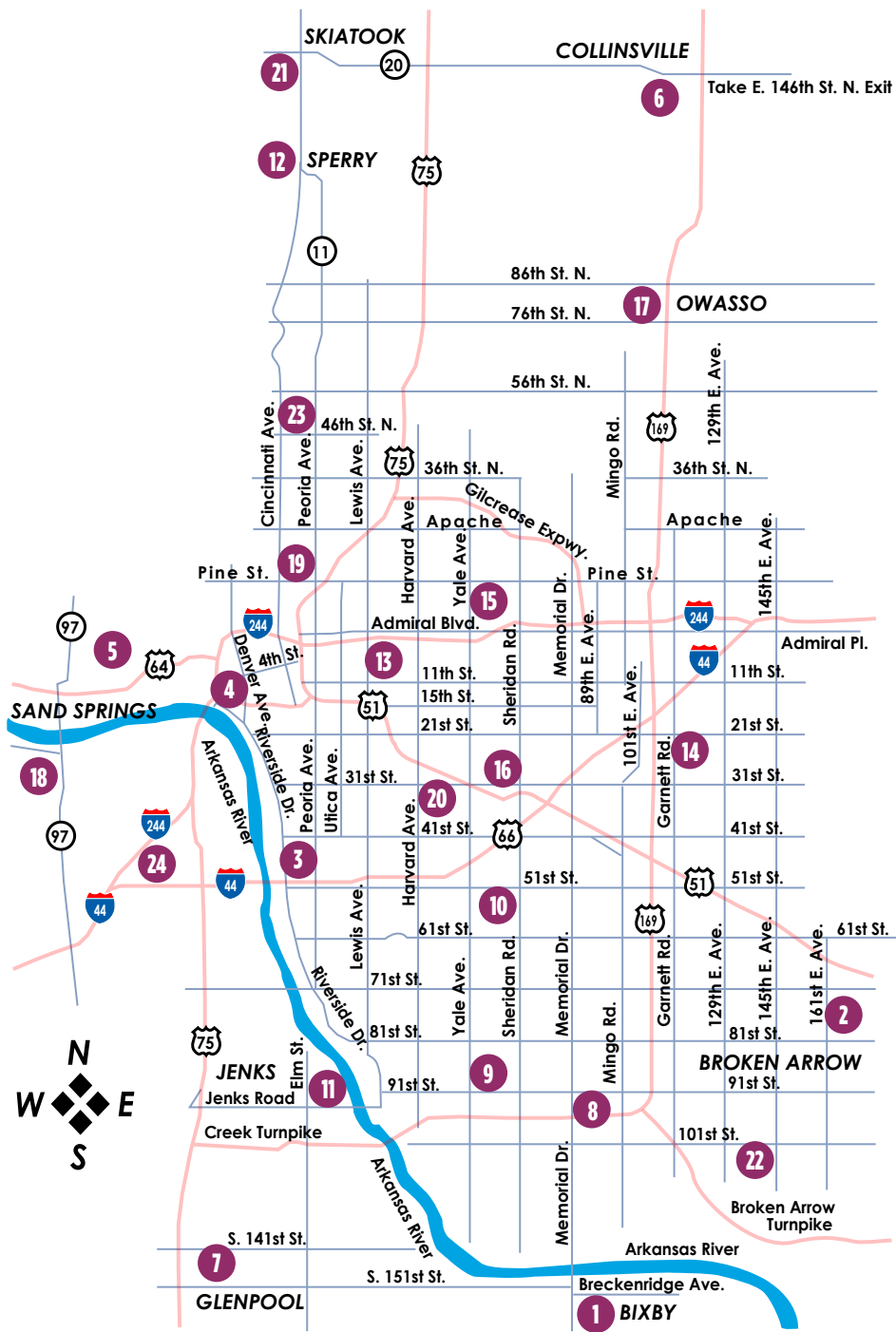
Mary Lou Divelbiss, who served as branch manager of the Charles Page Library in Sand Springs from 1993 to 2008, died on May 1, 2022. To honor Mary Lou's love of reading and how it impacts a child's education, her family asked for donations to a local library in lieu of flowers, and her grandchildren donated children's books to the Charles Page Library to give away to Sand Springs youth during TCCL's Summer Reading Program in remembrance of their beloved grandmother.

## **Five longtime employees retire from TCCL in 2022**

TCCL extends best wishes and a happy retirement to Cathie Sue Andersen, youth fiction selector, Collection Management; Sue Anderson, senior director of customer experience, Executive Offices; Marianne Haddad, customer service assistant, Schusterman-Benson Library; Rusty Pascoe, master carpenter, Facilities; and Melissa Smith, branch manager, Bixby Library. TCCL greatly appreciates your dedication to libraries and years of service.



# TULSA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY LOCATIONS



- 1 Bixby Library**  
20 E. Breckenridge, 74008
- 2 Broken Arrow Library**  
300 W. Broadway, 74012
- 3 Brookside Library**  
1207 E. 45th Place, 74105
- 4 Central Library**  
400 Civic Center, 74103
- 5 Charles Page Library**  
551 E. Fourth St., Sand Springs, 74063
- 6 Collinsville Library**  
1223 Main, 74021
- 7 Glenpool Library**  
730 E. 141st St., 74033
- 8 Hardesty Regional Library and Genealogy Center**  
8316 E. 93rd St., 74133
- 9 Helmerich Library**  
5131 E. 91st St., 74137
- 10 Herman and Kate Kaiser Library**  
5202 S. Hudson Ave., Suite B, 74135
- 11 Jenks Library**  
523 W. B St., 74037
- 12 Judy Z. Kishner Library**  
10150 N. Cincinnati Ave. E., Sperry, 74073
- 13 Kendall-Whittier Library**  
21 S. Lewis, 74104
- 14 Martin Regional Library and Hispanic Resource Center**  
2601 S. Garnett Road, 74129
- 15 Maxwell Park Library**  
1313 N. Canton, 74115
- 16 Nathan Hale Library**  
6038 E. 23rd St., 74114
- 17 Owasso Library**  
103 W. Broadway, 74055
- 18 Pratt Library**  
3219 S. 113th W. Ave., Sand Springs, 74063
- 19 Rudisill Regional Library and African American Resource Center**  
1520 N. Hartford, 74106
- 20 Schusterman-Benson Library**  
3333 E. 32nd Place, 74135
- 21 Skiatook Library**  
316 E. Rogers, 74070
- 22 South Broken Arrow Library**  
3600 S. Chestnut, 74011
- 23 Suburban Acres Library**  
4606 N. Garrison, 74126
- 24 Zarrow Regional Library and American Indian Resource Center**  
2224 W. 51st St., 74107





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