

Brockway Memorial Library  
Annual Report 2023-2024



*Celebrating 75 Years*

1949-2024

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THIS REPORT INCORPORATES STATISTICAL INFORMATION FROM

JUNE 1, 2023 TO MAY 31, 2024

It's been a year of meaningful milestones and community engagement.



This year, we celebrate our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary since opening in 1949, serving for almost eight decades as an educational resource, an avenue for the arts, and a place of connection among friends and neighbors. We recognize George A. Brockway, a truck manufacturer and philanthropist, who hailed from Cortland, New York. A winter resident in Miami, he had the foresight and inspiration to plan for a library in Miami Shores Village, and we are so very glad he did! Over these many years, Brockway's core strengths of a strong collection and a warm, adept staff have been bolstered by rich community partnerships. Together, we strive to enrich the lives of the more than 30,000 visitors who pass through our front doors each year.

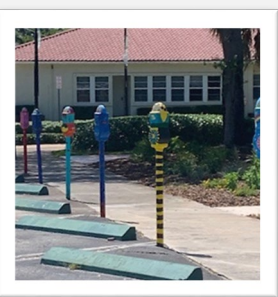
Last fall, Brockway Memorial Library proudly attained local historic designation based on the beauty of its mid-century modern Florida architecture, having been built in 1948, and several other significant features and facts about the now 75-year old establishment. Did you know Florida Everglades advocate and author Marjorie Stoneman Douglas was recorded in *The Miami Herald* as a notable guest at one of Brockway's earliest events? To kick off this special year, the MSV Historic Preservation Board, in partnership with the Miami Art League, commemorated the occasion on



January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 with a festive evening of local history and art. Mayor George Burch, Historic Preservation Board President Patrizia Bonaduce, Library Board President Cheryl Gowing, and representatives from the Art League all spoke on the value of our community gem. Nearly 20 local artists created pieces on the theme, "For the Love of Libraries." From creations based on books and reading experiences to favorite authors and reading spots, each piece was a unique tribute to the love of the written word.



Continuing the celebrations, on Saturday evening, April 13, 2024, the Library hosted a 1940s-themed cocktail party which doubled as a fundraiser for future initiatives. With about 60 guests in attendance, highlights included a 40s-inspired menu, live jazz from the French Horn Collective, and a spectacular slideshow put together by Librarian Frances Walsh, which included pictures from the Library's earliest days to the present. Notable guests included former Library Director, Ms. Elizabeth Esper, and former Children's Librarian, Ms. Anne Kelly, who served the Village for 45 and 32 years, respectively.



A "Design a Parking Meter" Art Contest was also held in late April to update the parking meters along the Library's south parking lot. Local area schools were asked to submit their students' unique designs. Nine winning designs were selected from three participating schools, which included Miami Shores Elementary, St. Rose of Lima, and Horace Mann. Students and their teachers, under the direction of Youth Services Librarian, Brenda Holsing, transferred their creations from paper to pole during a "painting party". Beautiful!

### Library Collection

Fiction:	20,450
Juvenile:	19,493
Non-fiction:	22,414
Reference:	1,882
Archival Materials, Physical & Digitized:	1,736
Large Print:	1,581
DVDs:	4,217
Audiobooks on CD:	1,984
Music CDs:	52
Print Magazines/Newspapers:	76
Digital Magazines (OverDrive):	5,222
eBooks & eAudios (OverDrive):	14,361
<b>Total Collection:</b>	<b>93,468</b>

### Collection Enhancements

New Books and Media Added:	1,548
Book/Media Donations:	311
Items Withdrawn:	658
Items Repaired:	457

### Dollars & Cents

Book and Movie Fines:	\$8,065.01
Print-outs:	\$2,249.85
Non-Resident Membership Fees:	\$6,754.50
Receipts for Lost Books:	\$663.47
Miscellaneous (Lost cards, etc.):	\$466.59
Donations:	\$19,186.91
Book Sale:	\$4,328.02
Program Fees:	\$5,276.28
Grants:	\$2,500.00
Meters:	\$66.25
Copier:	\$460.50

### Library Users

Adult Residents:	5,347
Children Residents:	1,549
Adult Non-Residents:	287
Children Non-Residents:	398
Barry Students & Faculty:	13
Non-Resident Business Owners:	19
New Patrons that Joined this Year:	418
<b>Total Registered Patrons:</b>	<b>7,613</b>

### Library Use

Book Circulation/In-Library Usage:	30,303
DVD Circulation:	1,716
Audiobook/Music Circulation:	482
Print Magazines:	173
<b>Total Circulation:</b>	<b>32,674</b>

### Digital Offerings

OverDrive eBook/eAudio Circulation:	2,056
OverDrive eMagazine Circulation:	839
Mango Languages Total Sessions:	62
Ancestry Library Edition Total Searches:	213
BrainPop, Jr. Total Sessions:	514
Brainfuse Veteran, Job, & Homework Help:	70

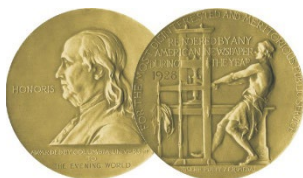
### Programs

Adult Programs:	170
Adult Program Attendance:	2,768
Youth Programs:	92
Youth Program Attendance:	3,557
<b>Total Program Attendance:</b>	<b>6,325</b>

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<b>Total Library Visits:</b>	<b>33,339</b>
<b>Total Days Open:</b>	<b>298</b>
<b>Average Daily Visits:</b>	<b>112</b>

## Collaboration of the Year



Each year, we like to highlight a special partnership that has been particularly beneficial to our community. This year, we wish to recognize our collaboration with the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists of *The Miami Herald*, led by Adult Services Librarian, Frances Walsh, and former Trustee, Kathy Redmond. The six-part series opened in April 2022 with *Dirty Gold* by local journalists Jay Weaver and Nicholas Nehamas covering the illegal trade between South America and Miami. The offering quickly gained steam as participants were treated to live conversations with these award-winning writers, hearing their stories first-hand. The programs continued throughout 2023 with a spotlight on *House of Cards* about the Surfside Condo collapse with journalists, Nehamas and Sarah Blaskey, *Made in Miami*, a riveting account of the political atmosphere in Haiti following the assassination of then-President Jovenel Moïse, led by writer Jacqueline Charles, and *Broken Promises* with Amy Driscoll and Nancy Ancrum, as examples. The final program, held in November of 2023, welcomed top executive editor for *The Miami Herald*, Alex Mena, who shared his vision for the future of the paper. Nearly 200 patrons participated in the offerings!

## ☞ Most Borrowed Titles 2023-2024 ☞

### General Fiction

*The Exchange*: John Grisham  
*Lessons in Chemistry*: Bonnie Garmus  
*The Secret*: Lee Child

### Mystery

*Dirty Thirty*: Janet Evanovich  
*Robert B. Parker's Bad Influence*: Alison Gaylin  
*The Raging Storm*: Ann Cleaves

### Non-fiction

*The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny & Murder*:  
David Grann  
*Wabi Sabi: Japanese Wisdom for a Perfectly Imperfect  
Life*: Beth Kempton  
*Be Useful: Seven Tools for Life*:  
Arnold Schwarzenegger

### Biography

*The Woman in Me*: Britney Spears  
*Astor: The Rise & Fall of an American Fortune*:  
Anderson Cooper  
*My Name is Barbara*: Barbara Streisand

### Audiobooks

*Simply Lies*: David Baldacci  
*Desert Star*: Michael Connelly  
*Dark Angel*: John Sandford

### Movies

*Oppenheimer, Barbie, and Avatar: The Way of Water*

### eBooks - Adults and Youth

*Judgment Prey*: John Sandford  
*The Secret*: Lee Child  
*Upside Down*: Danielle Steel  
*The Chalice of the Gods*: Rick Riordan  
*Dog Man: The Scarlet Shredder*: Dav Pilkey

### Juvenile Fiction

*Diary of a Wimpy Kid- The Ugly Truth*: Jeff Kinney  
*Dog Man-Mothering Heights*: Dav Pilkey  
*Baby-Sitters Little Sister: Karen's Witch*: Katy Farina

### Teen Fiction

*The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes*: Suzanne Collins  
*The Lightning Thief*: Rick Riordan  
*Naruto: The Worst Client*: Masashi Kishimoto

### Juvenile Non-fiction

*Minecraft: Guide to Creative*: Craig Jelley  
*365 Things to Do with Lego Bricks*: Simon Hugo  
*The Lego Play Book: Ideas to Bring Your Bricks to  
Life*: Daniel Lipkowitz

### Easy Readers

*Frozen: A New Reindeer Friend*: Jessica Julius  
*If You Give a Dog a Donut*: Laura Numeroff  
*Fly Guy & Fly Girl: Night Fright*: T. Arnold



### ☞ Library Board of Trustees ☞

Cheryl Gowing, President  
Laura Farley, Vice-President  
Nancy Frehling, Secretary  
Christine Gay & Puja Motiani

### ☞ Mission Statement ☞

Our mission is to engage our community in opportunities for literacy and lifelong learning and to enrich the lives of our patrons by providing access to a wide variety of information, materials, and offerings, with a focus on education, the arts and culture.

### ☞ Village Council, Administration & Charter Officers ☞

George Burch, Mayor  
Jesse Valinsky, Vice-Mayor  
Neil Cantor  
Jerome Charles  
Sandra Harris

Esmond K. Scott, Village Manager  
Kathleen Gunn, Deputy Village Manager  
Ysabely Rodriguez, Village Clerk  
Chanae Wood, Village Attorney

### ☞ Library Staff ☞

Michelle Brown, Library Director  
Frances Walsh, Adult Services Librarian  
Brenda Holsing, Youth Services Librarian  
John Bachay, Archivist

### ☞ Library Assistants ☞

Mariliz Anima, Brandon DelCarmen, Lars  
Essington, Ursa Gil, Belinda Muzii  
Sorahya Woods, Youth Services Assistant

### ☞ Library Page ☞

Beverly Muzii