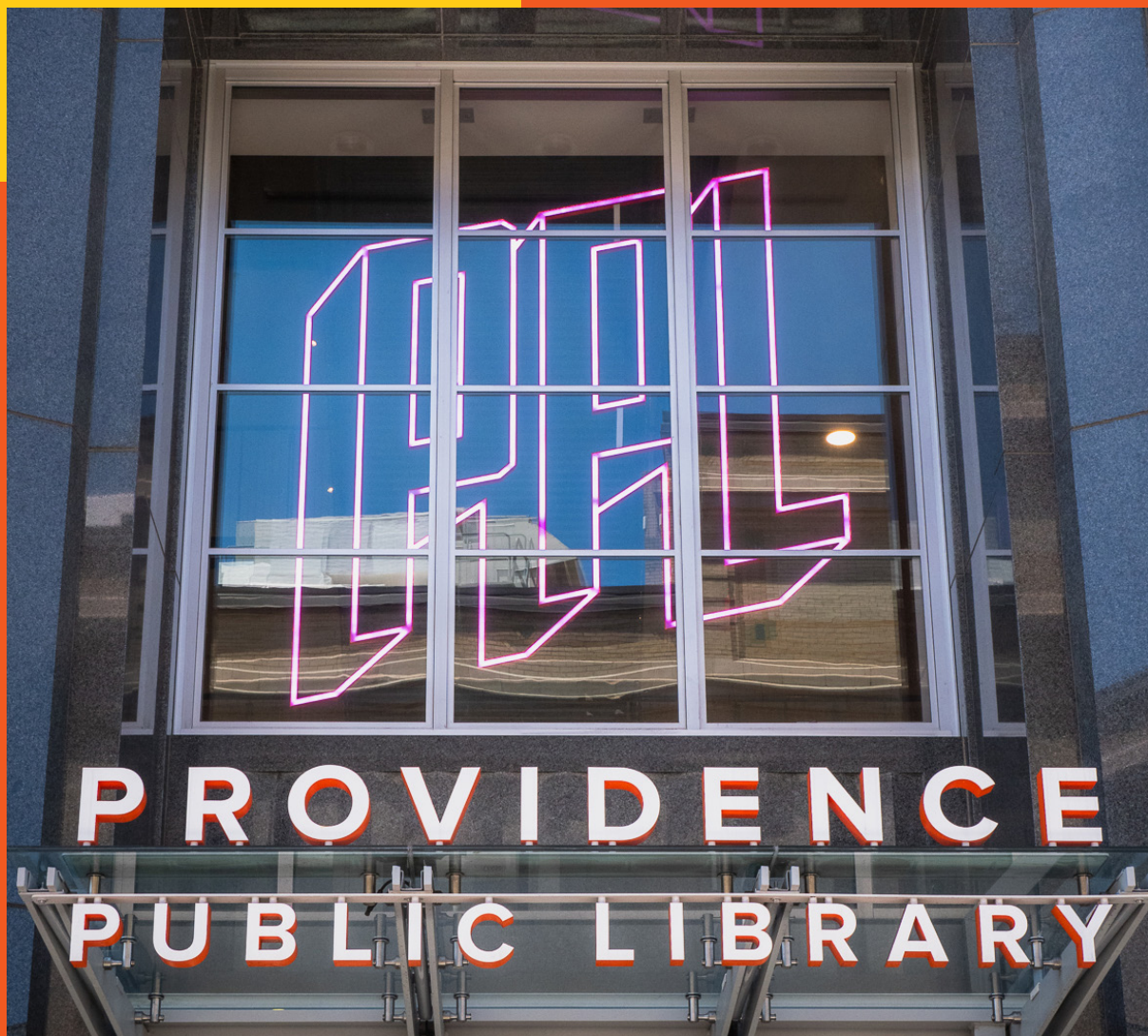


2021 Annual Report



A YEAR OF TRANSITION AND HOPE

Reflecting on 2021, we realize the pandemic has taught us so much . . . about ourselves, our resilience, the enduring role of libraries, as well as PPL's impact on people's lives.

Coming off the high of our historic building transformation, we – as everyone has – faced unprecedented challenges. We put our plan for reopening and expansion on hold and quickly developed and launched alternative methods for delivering our programs and services to people who seemingly needed us more than ever.

As the pandemic continued, we came to understand our new reality . . . that the new ways of doing things were here to stay and there was now a heightened need to be even more present, if only virtually! With separation and uncertainty the norm, many turned to us for stability, a way to stay connected, and not only to provide a path forward for achieving personal goals and aspirations, but also a sustaining sense of hope and excitement about the future.

Having completed our own physical transformation, we were well-positioned to answer the call and we are so proud of the way everyone at PPL responded! We found once again, as is often the case during times of great disruption, that the need to change how we do things provides the best opportunity to innovate and grow.

We will remember 2021 as a year when we were challenged to push ourselves – even when we thought we could be pushed no further – and as both a time of transition and pursuit of new ways to do what we do and a time of great hope for all those who we were able to connect with and be there for, providing just what was needed.

As always, we thank all of our dedicated supporters . . . so many who enable PPL not only to respond to the needs of all those we serve, but also continue to learn, grow, innovate, and co-create with our community to take everything we do to the next level.

Jack Martin, *PPL Executive Director*
Robert W. Edwards, Jr., *Chair FY 2021*

The complete 2021 Annual Report can be viewed online at:
prov.pub/annualreport2021
For the best viewing experience, please open on a desktop browser.

2021 At-a-Glance

95 teens gained work exposure and earned academic credit and digital badges.

We helped more than **100** adults become employed, while **124** individuals completed Tech Pathway classes in Essential Excel, Rhode Coders, and Data Analysis & Visualization.

450 adult learners from 35 countries took part in ESOL, Citizenship, GED, and Transition-to-College classes.

607 individuals were served through a total of **3,155** virtual “visits” with our digital and career services staff.

We helped more than **1,200** adults increase their technology skills.

More than **8,000** children received takeaway education materials to complement and enhance our virtual STEAM education offerings.

More than **50,000** pages of Rhode Island newspapers became publicly available through the Chronicling America national archive website as part of PPL's participation in the Library of Congress' National Digital Newspaper Program.

We served **199,000** patrons with in-person services and programming in tandem with ongoing virtual options, takeaway materials, and loanable technology.

AskRI.org collections and databases were accessed almost **5 million** times.

“My family and I love Providence Public Library and we will be lifelong patrons. We truly believe the words of Doug Wilhelm apply to the PPL, “a library is a house of hope. It’s a place where we all, whatever our situation, can feed our ideas and develop our dreams.”

– Luisa Murillo



A YEAR OF TRANSITION AND HOPE

Rewilding: Alive in the Churn

a collaborative and interactive exhibit

A collaborative project between PVD Young Makers and PPL, Rewilding: Alive in the Churn transformed the Library’s Joan T. Boghossian Exhibition Gallery into an interactive biome for artists and experimenters, creating a physical and virtual space that was at once iterative, collaborative, and ever-changing. Over the course of two months, participants were invited to join nice local artists to explore, experience, and experiment with ways of being in a world that is in flux. Rewilding: Alive in the Churn rejected the violence inherent in the ideal of the “clean slate,” which asserts that in order to create, we must first erase everything that has come before. Artists and members of the public working and reworking the space, by the hour and by the day, created a layered history that built upon itself continuously.



Financial Report

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Fiscal Year 2021 – July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021
Consolidated report of the PPL and PPL Foundation

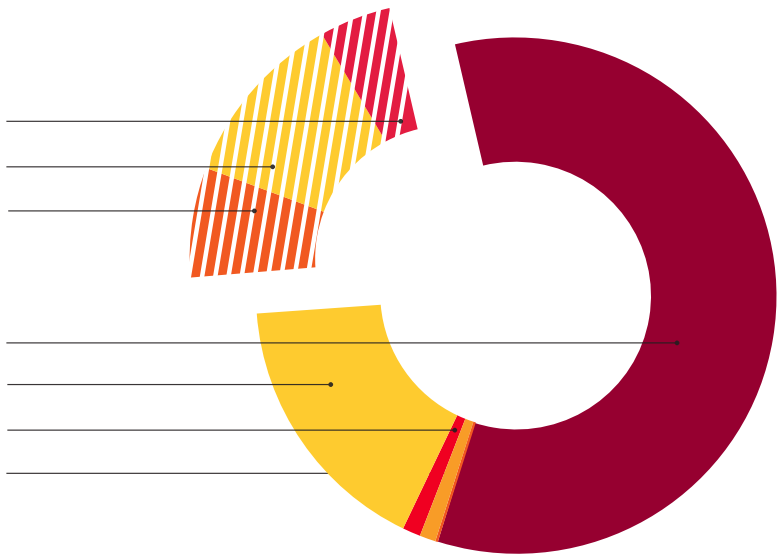
REVENUE – \$6,304,158

Public Funds

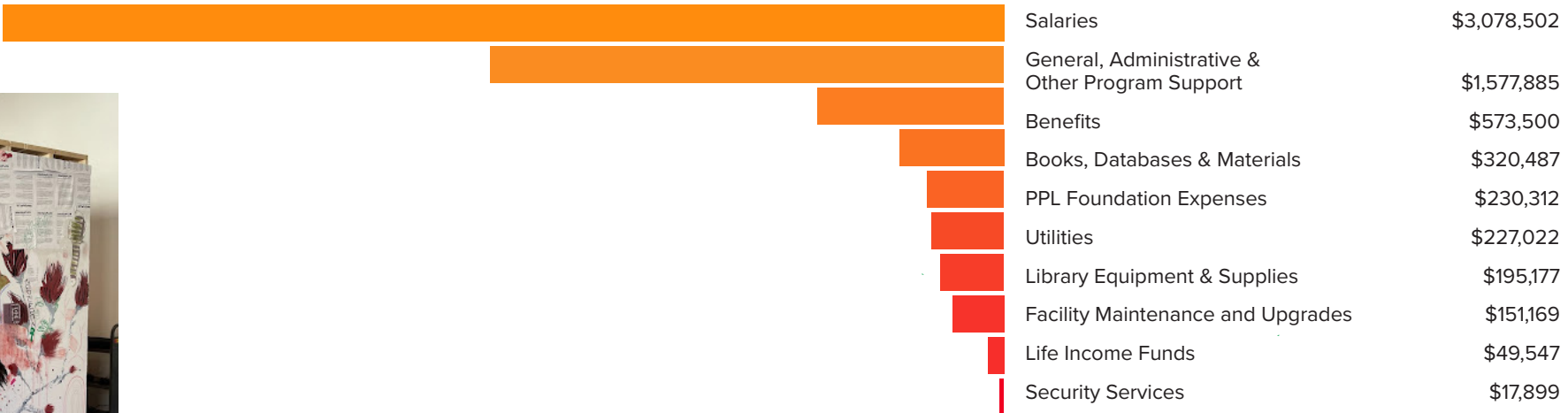
State of Rhode Island – Grant in Aid	\$433,156
Rhode Island SRRC & other contract/grants	\$708,080
City of Providence Building Lease	\$279,411

Private Funds

Contribution from Endowment	\$3,690,594
Program Grants & Donations – <i>restricted</i>	\$1,048,084
Event Rental	\$73,010
Donations – <i>unrestricted</i>	\$67,376
Fees, Fines, Interest & Dividends	\$4,447



EXPENSES – \$6,421,501 / Surplus (Deficit) – \$117,343



Salaries	\$3,078,502
General, Administrative & Other Program Support	\$1,577,885
Benefits	\$573,500
Books, Databases & Materials	\$320,487
PPL Foundation Expenses	\$230,312
Utilities	\$227,022
Library Equipment & Supplies	\$195,177
Facility Maintenance and Upgrades	\$151,169
Life Income Funds	\$49,547
Security Services	\$17,899

PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Robert W. Edwards, Jr., Chair
Joseph A. Chazan, MD
Andrew L. Cortes
Sean C. Dagesse
Elizabeth A. Debs
Lisa DeCubellis
Frank Eyetsemitan
Maia Farish
Maria J.R. Goncalves
Dr. Kathleen C. Hittner
Billy Kepner
Julius Kolawole
Guy Lombardo *
Sally P. McDonald Willis
Katherine A. Messier
Jane O'Farrell
Meghan Rego
Brent Runyon
Micah E. Salkind
Christopher Stevens
Sally Strachan
Robert K. Taylor
Juan Wilson, Jr.

TRUSTEES EMERITUS

Robert* and Pamela Faulkner
Dr. Charles J. McDonald*
Mary B. Olenn
Joel N. Stark

PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Robert W. Edwards, Jr, Chair
Maria J.R. Goncalves
Guy Lombardo*
Micah E. Salkind
Christopher Stevens

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

H. Jack Martin

* *Deceased*



Providence Public Library
150 Empire Street, Providence RI 02903
401 455 8000 • provlib.org