

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library Town Report for East Montpelier, VT  
2024 for Town Meeting 2025**

We are delighted to serve more than 700 patrons from East Montpelier each year as we work to empower community members to become lifelong learners by providing easy access to materials, online resources, programs and a welcoming place.

At the Kellogg-Hubbard Library, you can borrow from our physical collection of over 60,000 books, DVDs, audiobooks, magazines, newspapers, and more, our digital collection (available 24/7 online), including over 100,000 downloadable titles, and from libraries statewide. We deliver library materials to homebound patrons and to outreach sites in our member towns. For many, the library is a warm (or cool) space, a public bathroom, and a place to feel welcome.

Library Lending was strong in fiscal year 2024 with 178,279 physical circulations (books, DVDs, CDs, magazines); and 36,044 digital circulations (e-books, audiobooks, streaming video and online magazines). We have 713 library patrons from East Montpelier, who borrowed more than 14,000 items from our collection, plus digital library use, which we can't separate by town.

In FY '24 we offered 286 programs for children and teens and 163 programs for adults. 9,664 of our community members attended those programs, up significantly from last year. 22 children from East Montpelier completed our summer reading challenge and many more attended programs, especially the programs we held in Calais. Recently, we hosted National Book Award Finalist Amber McBride for a writing workshop and presentation at U-32, which was attended by the entire 8<sup>th</sup> grade class. We are also looking forward to hosting the Basement Teen Center in partnership with Elevate Youth Services starting in spring 2025. This year, we also recommitted ourselves to strengthened communications to ensure that everyone is aware of library programs and services, and launched a new website focused on accessibility and ease of use.

We recently implemented several changes that will enhance our collection and increase access for our patrons. This includes joining the Catamount Library Network, which will provide patrons with seamless access to more than 650,000 items from nearly 30 libraries around Vermont, directly from our improved online catalog. Our new video service Biblio+ provides unlimited streaming to hundreds of films and TV series, and our new magazine service provides access to hundreds of titles.

We are still working hard at restoring the building after experiencing \$2 million of damage in the July 2023 flood. The flood has provided us with an opportunity to make needed building improvements, including elevating all our mechanical equipment above the flood elevation, creating new small-format meeting rooms, and adding climate control to the building.

The Library is funded annually through tax support from the municipalities we serve (54% in the current fiscal year), income from our endowment and reserves (24%), and private contributions and fundraisers (19%). We are requesting \$54,558, or \$21 per capita, a \$2,598 increase (5%) over last year, primarily due to inflationary pressure and increased health insurance costs. The \$1 per capita increase matches the requested increase in our other towns and compares to \$57.50 per capita for our Montpelier request. The state average per capita support for Libraries is \$38. Our total FY '25 budget is \$1,153,159.

Our East Montpelier representative is Sarah Swift and our Executive Director is Dan Groberg. **Thank you for your continued support!**