



Puzzle Palooza Winners

2025 IMPACT REPORT

The Camas Connection





CONNECTING COMMUNITY

Community meets at the Library on Farmer's Market days.

Director's Message



Library Director
Connie Urquhart

THE POWER OF CONNECTION

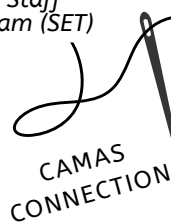
Looking back on 2025 feels like reminiscing with an old friend. From big events, like *Pete the Cat's Groovy Celebration* and *Haunted Happenings*, to first library cards and friendships formed at Library events, the common thread through each moment is clear: connection. No place provides a stronger sense of community than Camas. The Library is proud to be part of this growing city, and we're glad to welcome you each day.



The Library's Staff
Engagement Team (SET)

TWO MUST-SEE FEATURES

We're highlighting two special features in this year's report. First, the needle and thread below calls out key services or metrics. Second, each page includes a quote from our patrons, drawn from surveys, emails, social media, and online chats. These are definitely can't-miss reading!



Your library card now unlocks **14 cultural destinations**, offering free access to museums, gardens, and more for Camas residents through our Cultural Pass program, funded by the Friends & Foundation of the Camas Library (FFCL).



The Library is everything that's good about Camas.





Programming Librarian Vanessa Perger leads Toddler Storytime.

Metrics Dashboard

A snapshot of how the community uses and connects with the Library.



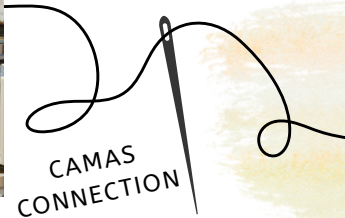
Searching the stacks



Technology & Collections Manager
Danielle Reynolds

People

Visitors to the building 154,689
Registered borrowers 38,436



A new partnership with Camas School District allowed us to connect nearly **7,000 students** with new public library cards.

Programs

Programs offered 1,306
Program attendance 39,484



Teen Songwriting



Choosing a Reading Dragons card

Checkouts

Total circulation 626,558 ↑ 4%
Physical materials 469,708
Digital materials 156,850

“ This is the best library around...you’ve really kept your identity. ”



- Different plants have different watering needs, e.g., tropical plants need watering more than succulents
- Develop a watering schedule to check all plants
- Water the soil mass all around, not just in one spot
- Don't use extremely cold or hot water
- Generally, top water plants (letting the excess drain)
- Plants prefer occasional, deep watering rather than frequent, shallow watering
- Check the soil before you water

CONNECTING THE MOMENTS

Houseplants 101

A Day at the Library

MORNING

Before we open, staff prepare the Library for the day ahead, checking in materials and shelving books. Soon, storytimes begin, patrons browse and connect, and our outreach team is already out in the community.

AFTERNOON

Volunteers lend a hand while study rooms fill up. After school, the Library buzzes with energy as kids arrive to collect Reading Dragons cards and teens gather for programs.

Wednesday afternoons are our busiest, as early release and the Camas Farmer's Market take turns bringing the community together throughout the year.

CAMAS
CONNECTION

EVENING

As the day winds down, visitors explore the Second Story Gallery, attend talks and book clubs, and gather in our community rooms, while others connect with us at events around town.



Administrative Support Assistant Christopher Knipes



Nature Scavenger Hunt



Bad Art Night

“

We are so grateful for the library. We walk over every week and you all are incredible. There are so many resources.

”



CONNECTING THE CURIOUS

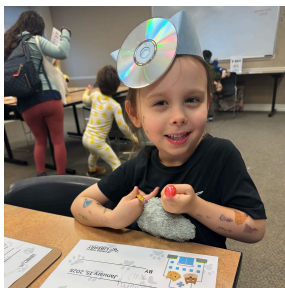
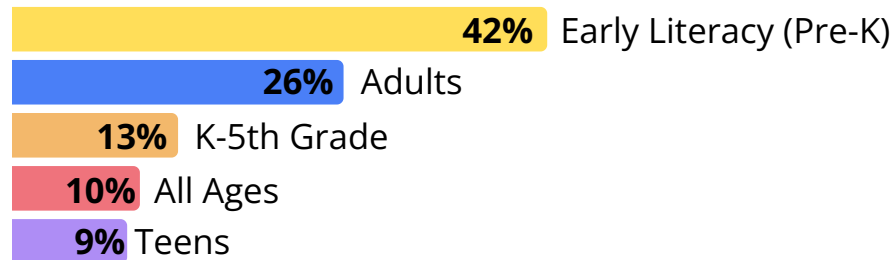
Artist in Residence Travis London's Children's Art Workshop

Programs



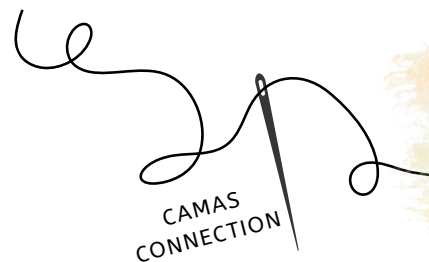
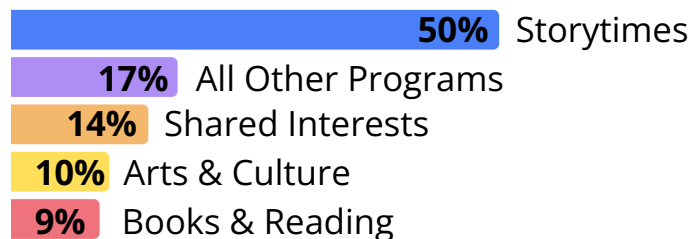
Book Ornament Craft

PROGRAMS OFFERED BY AUDIENCE



Preschool Animal Hospital

ATTENDANCE BY PROGRAM TYPE



*This year's Haunted Library was a real scream! Our Boo Crew of staff and volunteers welcomed **1,542 visits** in just two hours, with many guests returning again and again.*

“ You and the staff do such a fantastic job with the variety and scope of so many different programs and activities. **”**



CONNECTING THROUGH STORY

Meet Cute Book Club at Oak Tree Station

The Joy of Reading

LOVE TO READ? SO DO WE.

From first books to lifelong reading, the Library nurtures a love of books and stories at every age. Programs like *Little Dragons*, *Reading Dragons*, and *Tales with Tails* support young readers, while book clubs, *Mystery Date with a Book*, the *100 Book Challenge*, and community events invite readers of all ages to discover something new.



Preschool Storytime

1,111 readers completed the Summer Reading Program. Our highest total yet! With a 70% completion rate, more participants than ever before stayed engaged and reading all summer long.

CAMAS
CONNECTION



Teen Power Reader

WHAT CAMAS WAS READING

The God of the Woods, Liz Moore
Great Big Beautiful Life, Emily Henry
Shield of Sparrows, Perry Devney
The Wedding People, Alison Espach
The Women, Kristin Hannah

A Great Big
Beautiful
Night Event



Silent Book Club

“ This is a wonderful library! It just makes you want to read. ”



Library Associate Maria Martin greets First Friday visitors with our Library Book Bike in downtown Camas.

CONNECTING BEYOND

Outreach



Neighborhood Outreach

OUTREACH

26 Community Events

25 School Visits

9 Pop-Ups & More

The Outreach Team connects with the community at events, schools, and gathering spaces throughout Camas. If you see us around town, say hello!



Outreach Librarian Elliot Stapleton

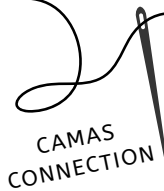
OFFSITE PROGRAMS

109 Storytimes

14 Readers Theater

10 Other

Library programs extend beyond our walls, bringing Readers Theater to every Camas elementary school, along with storytimes and other events throughout the community.



9,378

community members engaged with the Library beyond our walls.

“This is yet another reason why our century-old library is Camas’s jewel, and an essential part of our past, present, and future fabric.”

CONNECTING NEIGHBORS

A patron-led, informal fiber arts meet-up in the Totem Pole Room.

A Place to Gather

COMMUNITY ROOMS

The Library is a place to gather, hosting community groups, nonprofits, schools, and civic organizations throughout the year. Many groups return regularly, making the Library a trusted place to meet and connect.



Embellished Photo Portraits

SECOND STORY GALLERY

This year, we introduced Artist Talks and welcomed our first Artist in Residence, Travis London, who led workshops for all ages. From the Second Story Gallery to the Corner Gallery and display cases, the Library continues to offer space for artists and art lovers to connect.

The Gallery welcomed more than 2,200 people for Artists' Receptions and Talks.



Second Story Gallery Artist Talk



Poetry Street PNW

75 unique groups reserved our community rooms for a total of 203 meetings.

CAMAS CONNECTION



Community Librarian
Leah Burch

“

I love your study rooms! Such a good resource.

”



The Friends & Foundation of the Camas Library holds a fundraising drive at K&M Drive-In

CONNECTING A NETWORK

Our Support Network

FUNDERS

The City of Camas provides most of the Library's funding through local property taxes, supporting staffing, collections, facilities, and services. As a municipal library, these funds stay in Camas and directly serve our community. **The Library budget accounted for 6% of the City's General Fund in 2025.**

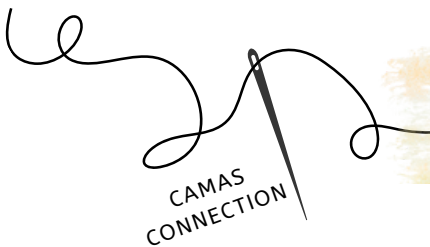
The Friends & Foundation of the Camas Library (FFCL) enhances programs and experiences through fundraising, grants, and donations, supporting events, gallery receptions, and initiatives like the Cultural Pass.



The FFCL Book Sale



Second Story Gallery volunteers



35% of Library programs are made possible by the Friends & Foundation of the Camas Library.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers play a vital role at the Library, from advisory boards and committees to the Second Story Gallery, special events, and projects. Even our four-legged volunteers join in through *Tales with Tails*, bringing comfort and connection to young readers.



Volunteer Appreciation Event

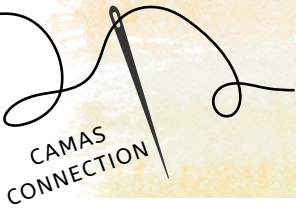
“ I loved getting to know community members in this space and look forward to being more active in my local community and library! ”



CONNECTING THE FUTURE

2026 Goals

The Children's Library will see a renovation in 2026



Annual goals are derived from the Library's and City's **strategic plans**, based on community input and needs. Please visit our website for full details.

Programming

Deliver impactful programs and events that engage the community, elevate local expertise, and support learning across all ages.



Library Associate Kary Wilson

Outreach

Expand outreach and partnerships to extend the Library's reach and connect more people with programs, services, and resources.



Circulation Services Specialist John Goaring

User Experience

Enhance accessibility and engagement by completing the Children's Library renovation and improving how visitors discover, navigate, and experience the Library.



Library Assistant Amy Hyland

Content Delivery

Strengthen collections, systems, and staff capacity to expand access and better serve the community.



Library Aide Jen Keen

“ I've never been to a sweeter place! ”