



 PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY
Library District

2025

Annual Report

100 E. Abriendo Ave. | Pueblo, CO 81004 | (719) 562-5600 | www.pueblolibrary.org

Renovated and revived

Patrick A. Lucero Library reopens after year-long renovation

The Patrick A. Lucero Library reopens its doors to the public after a \$4.2 million renovation. Kicking off a week of grand opening festivities is the official ribbon cutting scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 1 at the East Side-area branch located at 1315 E. 7th St.

"This library continues to serve the East Side of Pueblo with renewed energy and purpose. This milestone is more than a building—it is a testament to our community's resilience, pride and belief in the power of public libraries to uplift and connect. The Lucero Library stands ready to welcome the community back with open doors and open hearts," Sherri Baca, PCCLD executive director said.

Grand opening week events:

- Unveiling the Lucero Community Walls on Tuesday, Sept. 30.



The reading area of the newly remodeled Patrick A. Lucero Library.

Celebrate two new installations: a Digital History Wall honoring Pueblo's East Side and a Tribute Wall to Patrick A. Lucero. Light refreshments provided.

See Page 3



Representatives from the city and county of Pueblo along with Pueblo Library Trustees prepare to cut the red ribbon, officially opening Lucero Library.



A wall dedicated to Patrick A. Lucero's life is filled with mementos from his time in the U.S. Army and from growing up on Pueblo's East Side.



Interior of the Patrick A. Lucero Library.

Lucero Library, continued

- **Leading with Courage: Hispanic Women Who Shaped Our Region**, on Tuesday, Sept. 30.

- Join Charlene Garcia-Simms for a powerful evening of storytelling honoring Hispanic women pioneers of Pueblo and Southern Colorado.

- **Fur-Ever Friends: Paws & Power-Up Party** on Thursday, Oct. 2

Enjoy a petting zoo, free plushy adoptions, crafts, family portrait photo booth, and a back-to-school giveaway with backpacks, supplies, and snacks. Perfect for kids and families!

All events take place at Lucero Library and are free and open to the public.

The 12-month renovation project involved major improvements including an expanded community meeting room; dedicated spaces for children, teens and adults; a new audio/visual studio and a refreshed book collection.

The East Side library is named after Patrick A. Lucero, a Pueblo native who served in the Vietnam War and was killed in action in 1968. The library was dedicated to him in 2014, as a tribute to his legacy and his love for reading and learning. Since then, more than 1 million visitors have come through its doors.



The newly remodeled Patrick A. Lucero Library features a reconfigured front entry and an expanded public meeting room.



A young patron peruses the newspapers in the magazine area of the Patrick A. Lucero Library.



Library Card Design Contest!

LIMITED EDITION

GRADES 6-ADULT

LIBRARY CARD CONTEST

The lucky winner of the library card contest received a high-quality art inspiration basket and was honored at a special ceremony during the Patrick A. Lucero Library grand reopening.

Digital Navigators make it easy

In partnership with PC-CLD, CSU Pueblo, and the Adelante Connect Project, digital navigators assisted PCCLD patrons with a wide range of digital tasks, from setting up an email to navigating the internet.



Three digital navigators offered open office hours at three Barkman, Lamb and Rawlings libraries to provide technology support and educational modules.

The Digital Navigators:

- Alex Moore has a background in history and information technologies.
- Nigel Santistevan has a background in computer information systems with a specialization in data analytics.
- Juliann Sandoval has an extensive background in education.

The Digital Navigator assistance program was free and open to all library patrons.

Summer Reading sees a record number of finishers

A record number Pueblo County young readers successfully finished their Summer Reading challenge. A total of 7,086 youth ages 0 to 18 completed and turned in game boards throughout June and July.

Each completed game board turned in earned the child a prize and coupon, earned them an entry for the weekly grand prize drawing.

Game boards weren't the only hot item. During the "Color Our World" program, more than 500 kids attended a Summer Reading program at one of the eight library locations.

Taking the fun outdoors, the popular Books in the Park program had an attendance of 1,113. Sessions were held at two locations, Langoni Sports Complex and the Lake Minnequa Park and Open Space.

More than 800 were in attendance for the kickoff, held at Rawlings Library.



The Summer Reading kickoff was held in June at Rawlings Library. Community partners, PCCLD staff and the Salida Circus entertained more than 800 attendees at Rawlings Library.



Adult Winter of Reading

Gitta and Penny represented the urban fiction genre at Barkman Library's table during the Adult Winter of Reading Kickoff. The annual adults only reading challenge entered its 5th year.

Key Results

MATERIALS CHECKED OUT

907,443

DIGITAL USAGE

613,360

LIBRARY VISITS

589,625

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

152,766

Bestselling author headlines annual All Pueblo Reads

Readers can get ready to strike a chord of suspense as they unravel the strings of the Pueblo City-County Library District's 21st annual All Pueblo Reads literacy project.

Good Morning America Book Club pick "The Violin Conspiracy" by Brendan Slocumb is the featured adult title. "The Violin Conspiracy," is Slocumb's debut novel and it follows a Black classical musician whose family heirloom violin is stolen on the eve of the most prestigious classical music competition in the world.



Brendan Slocumb

A free public author talk featuring Slocumb was held on Saturday, Oct. 25. The sold-out Booklovers Ball, a fundraiser for the Pueblo Library Foundation, featuring Slocumb was held at Rawlings Library on October 24. Each event drew an audience of nearly 300.

Slocumb also gave author talks at Central and Pueblo County high schools.

Kicking off the six-week program was a free concert with the Pocket Philharmonic. Guests experienced "The Violin Conspiracy" through music ranging from classical to the tension-filled theme from the Alfred Hickcock classic "The Birds."

Younger readers enjoyed the children's picture book, "The Music Inside Us" by Jack Wong. The illustrated picture-book is a moving, biography of one of the greatest cellists of all time, Yo-Yo Ma, and his lifelong passion for using music to unite people in harmony and joy. Wong gave author talks at local elementary schools.



Jack Wong

Hundreds of copies of each of the All Pueblo Reads selected titles were checked out throughout the district.

Artist-In-Residence program launched at Rawlings Library

Pueblo City-County Library District launches Artist in Residence program at Rawlings Library.

Artists chosen for the program are provided with dedicated time, space, and resources to focus on their creative work while engaging with a specific community, organization, or institution. The program typically allows artists to explore new ideas, experiment with their craft, and produce original artwork, often inspired by the local culture, history, or

resources of the host institution.

Former Puebloan Kimberly Sewell is the program's first artist in residence. She is a multidisciplinary artist and educator currently located in Albuquerque. She is primarily a fiber artist and printmaker whose work explores the varying ways these mediums can be combined.

Other artists include Rain Pavasko, a interdisciplinary illustrator and colored pencil artist Rick Espinoza.

Leadership Teams

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Fredrick Quintana | President

Trisha Macias | Vice President

Iris Clark

Jeffrey DeHerrera

Stephanie Garcia

Doreen Martinez

Jessi Ones

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Sherri Baca | Executive Director

Amy Nelson | Associate Director of Public Service

Thomas DeFrates | Director of Information Technology

Terri Daly | Director of Human Resources

Jill Kleven | Director of User Services

Nick Potter | Executive Director of Pueblo Library Foundation & Strategic Initiatives

Alan Rocco | Facilities Superintendent

Bri Reyes | Chief Financial Officer

FOUNDATION BOARD

Elizabeth Gallegos | President

Alexandria Romero | Vice President

Abbey Hartless | Treasurer

Andrea Aragon

Joe Arrigo

Michelle A. Chostner

Brandice Eslinger

Chad Heberly

Dr. Bruce M. Johnson

Jessi Ones

Antoinette Ramos

Laura Solano

Teresa Therriault

Gala White

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

Marisa Stoller | President

Eric Segall | Vice President

Adina Vega | Secretary

Jeffrey DeHerrera | Treasurer

Jan Hoover | Books Again Manager

Bret Holland

Jean Latka

Randi Mohar

Melanie Phelps

Antoinette Ramos

Teresa Therriault

Nicole Wismann

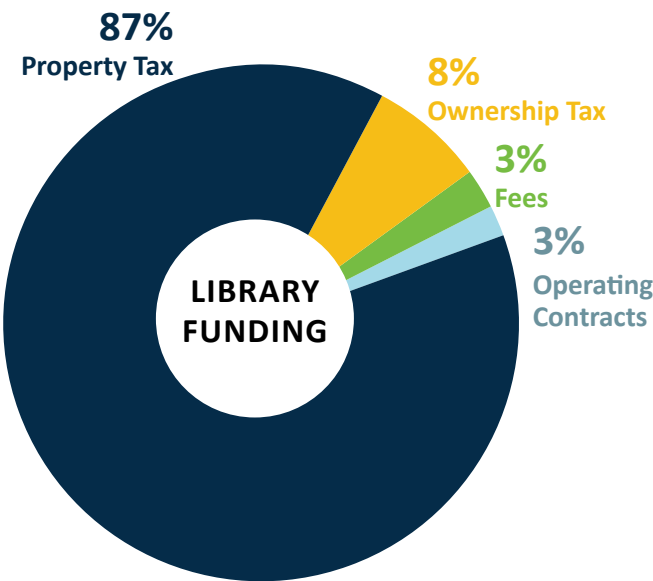
2025 LIBRARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

General Fund

HOW THE LIBRARY IS FUNDED

LOCAL PROPERTY TAX	\$14,116,884
Taxpayers of Pueblo City & County support a mill levy of 5.85	
SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAX	\$1,231,646
Specific ownership tax, which is the licensing tax on vehicles, boats, etc.	
FEES	\$429,667
Fines charged for overdue materials, photocopy charges, meeting room rental fees, sales of flash drives, ear buds, book bags, etc. and interest earnings on investments.	
OPERATING CONTRACTS, GIFTS	\$422,475
Rent received from Friends for the book store, as well as miscellaneous grants and gifts, including significant contributions from the Friends of the Library, are also included in this line.	

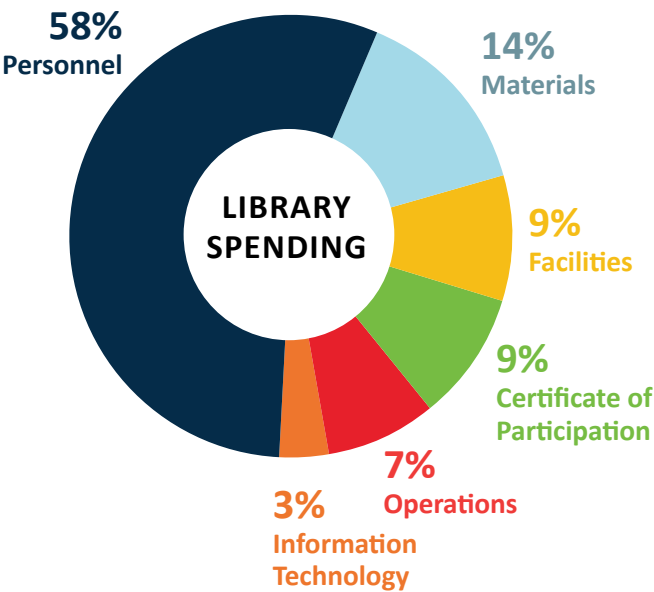
TOTAL REVENUE	\$16,200,672
---------------	--------------



HOW THE LIBRARY DISTRIBUTES FUNDING

PERSONNEL: SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$8,174,804
Wages, insurance, PERA, training, and employment-related expenses (unemployment insurance, workers compensation, recruitment expense, employee recognition).	
MATERIALS & PROGRAMS: BOOKS, AV, SUBSCRIPTIONS, etc	\$1,896,343
Books, CDs, electronic databases, periodicals, subscriptions, processing costs and programs for the public.	
FACILITIES: UTILITIES, LEASES & MAINTENANCE	\$1,208,086
Everything to maintain the facilities—utilities, custodial service, building repair and maintenance, lease of space, insurance and vehicle maintenance.	
CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION: PAYMENT ON BUILDINGS	\$1,283,620
Semi-annual payment of principal and interest for the COP financing for three renovated libraries, refinance of Pueblo West Library and finance the renovation of Rawlings Library.	
OPERATIONS: CONTRACTS, ADMINISTRATION, etc.	\$994,196
General operating expenses such as library and office supplies, professional memberships, contracts, county treasurer's fees, postage, couriers, photocopy expense and library cafe services.	
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: COMPUTERS, etc.	\$468,313
All technology expenses are reflected here—costs to maintain the Integrated Library System (catalog), telecommunications costs including Internet access, supplies and maintenance contracts to keep everything updated and functional.	

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$14,025,362
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	\$2,175,310
TRANSFER TO CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	(\$2,162,335)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	\$12,975

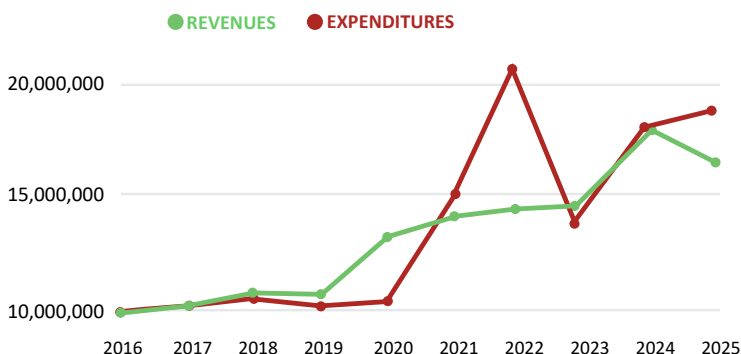


General Fund

SUMMARY OF NET POSITION

ASSETS	2024	2025
Cash and investments	\$8,835,480	\$6,876,902
Property tax and other receivables	\$14,307,767	\$16,599,903
Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$452,527	\$733,852
Capital assets, less depreciation	\$42,951,963	\$46,429,654
TOTAL ASSETS	\$66,547,737	\$70,640,311
Deferred outflows	\$2,553,974	\$1,959,642
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$559,839	\$514,767
Accrued liabilities	\$335,218	\$134,582
Compensated absences	\$798,986	\$853,250
Certificates of participation	\$11,265,641	\$11,014,896
Net pension liability	\$4,046,433	\$3,604,274
Net OPEB Liability	\$312,791	\$223,320
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$17,318,908	\$16,345,089
Deferred revenue: property tax	\$14,202,935	\$16,376,876
other deferred inflows	\$204,933	\$163,302
NET ASSETS		
Net investment in capital assets	\$30,989,262	\$35,402,020
Restricted	\$535,843	\$493,546
Unrestricted	\$4,749,352	\$3,615,630
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$36,274,457	\$39,511,196

10-YEAR HISTORY: TOTAL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES



Note: Increase of expenditures are capital spending for renovating Rawlings Library in 2021.

Capital Projects Fund

REVENUES

INTEREST INCOME	\$166,404
Earnings on investments — ColoTrust investments for the Library Replacement Plan, and debt service reserve.	
GIFTS AND DONATIONS	\$1,247,930
Donations received from miscellaneous donors, including Friends of the Library and the Rawlings Foundation.	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,414,334

EXPENDITURES

PCCLD has a Library Replacement Plan to upgrade and replace capital assets on a defined schedule. The following areas hold expenses for those capital asset items.	
Capital Asset Repair and Maintenance	\$22,303
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$302,930
BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	\$4,456,996
Additions or improvements to the buildings. This includes renovation of the Patrick A. Lucero Branch.	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$4,782,229
REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(\$3,367,895)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	
TRANSFERS IN FROM GENERAL FUND	\$2,162,335
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	\$1,205,560



2025

Annual Report

Vision

Books & Beyond

Motto

Ideas,
Imagination
& Information

Mission

We serve as a foundation for our community by offering welcoming, well equipped and maintained facilities, outstanding collections, and well-trained employees who provide expert service encouraging the joy of reading, supporting lifelong learning and presenting access to information from around the world.

LOCATIONS

BARKMAN LIBRARY | 1300 Jerry Murphy Rd., Pueblo

GIODONE LIBRARY | 24655 U.S. Hwy 50 E., Pueblo

GREENHORN VALLEY LIBRARY | 4801 Cibola Dr., Colorado City

LAMB LIBRARY | 2525 S. Pueblo Blvd., Pueblo

LIBRARY @ THE Y | 3200 Spaulding Ave., Pueblo

LUCERO LIBRARY | 1315 E. 7th St., Pueblo

PUEBLO WEST LIBRARY | 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., Pueblo West

RAWLINGS LIBRARY | 100 E. Abriendo Ave., Pueblo

AVONDALE ELEMENTARY | 213 Hwy. 50 E., Avondale

BEULAH SCHOOL | 8734 Schoolhouse Ln., Beulah

LIBRARY @ THE U | CSU-Pueblo, 2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo

PCCLD at Pueblo Community College | Suite. 110, Pueblo