Thank You for Supporting the Libraries Our Community Values

Sarasota County and the Library Foundation have partnered to strengthen our library system to provide even more library services to our community. Here are some examples of what we’ve accomplished together:

- Granted $125,000 in funding for a fully equipped mobile pop-up library
- Designated anticipated surtax funding for increased books and materials
- Advocated for increased statewide funding for libraries
- Eliminated library fines to ensure all residents can access library materials
- Returned Sunday hours to Selby and Jacaranda libraries
- Developed “maker space” technology in all library branches
- Enrolled 1,000 children in the Imagination Library
- Invested in library staff
- Increased spending on collections, especially digital resources
- Supported a budget that ensured libraries stayed open on Mondays

People in Sarasota Use Our Libraries!

- 2,580,094 items borrowed (physical + digital)
- 1,003,467 in-person visits
- 179,774 number of people in Sarasota County who have library cards
- 66,271 hours spent on library computers
- 72,328 phone calls answered
- 66,616 in attendance at library programs/events (in-person, online, recorded)

*2021 Statistics
Why Sarasota County Residents Love Our Libraries:

“**I love my library because** …You offer everything imaginable to people of all ages, backgrounds, and needs, and every word and image you give us is at the highest possible level of excellence.”

“**I love my library because** …I can always find great resources for our homeschooling journey. The knowledge and education of the library can power the world.”

“**I love my library because** …It’s such a friendly and warm place. Have loved libraries for 66+ years and Sarasota County is the best!”

“**I love my library because** …The total system is well organized with an outstanding collection. The variety of programs is superb and most importantly, the staff is outstanding.”

Expanding Library Access

In our newest initiative, the Library Foundation granted $125,000 to Sarasota County’s public library system to fund a fully-equipped mobile Pop-Up Library.

This customized outreach vehicle will be the first of its kind in Sarasota County, bringing the library’s technology, books, and programs to communities with limited access to library resources. Staffed with a full-time librarian and an outreach specialist, the Pop-Up Library will also provide:

- Mobile Wi-Fi
- STEM-based makerspaces
- Employment services
- Programming for children, families, & senior citizens

MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ADVOCACY TEAM


The mission of the Library Foundation for Sarasota County is to champion strong public libraries, support innovation and help to extend the library system’s reach for everyone in Sarasota County. sarasotalibraryfoundation.org | 941.404.3139