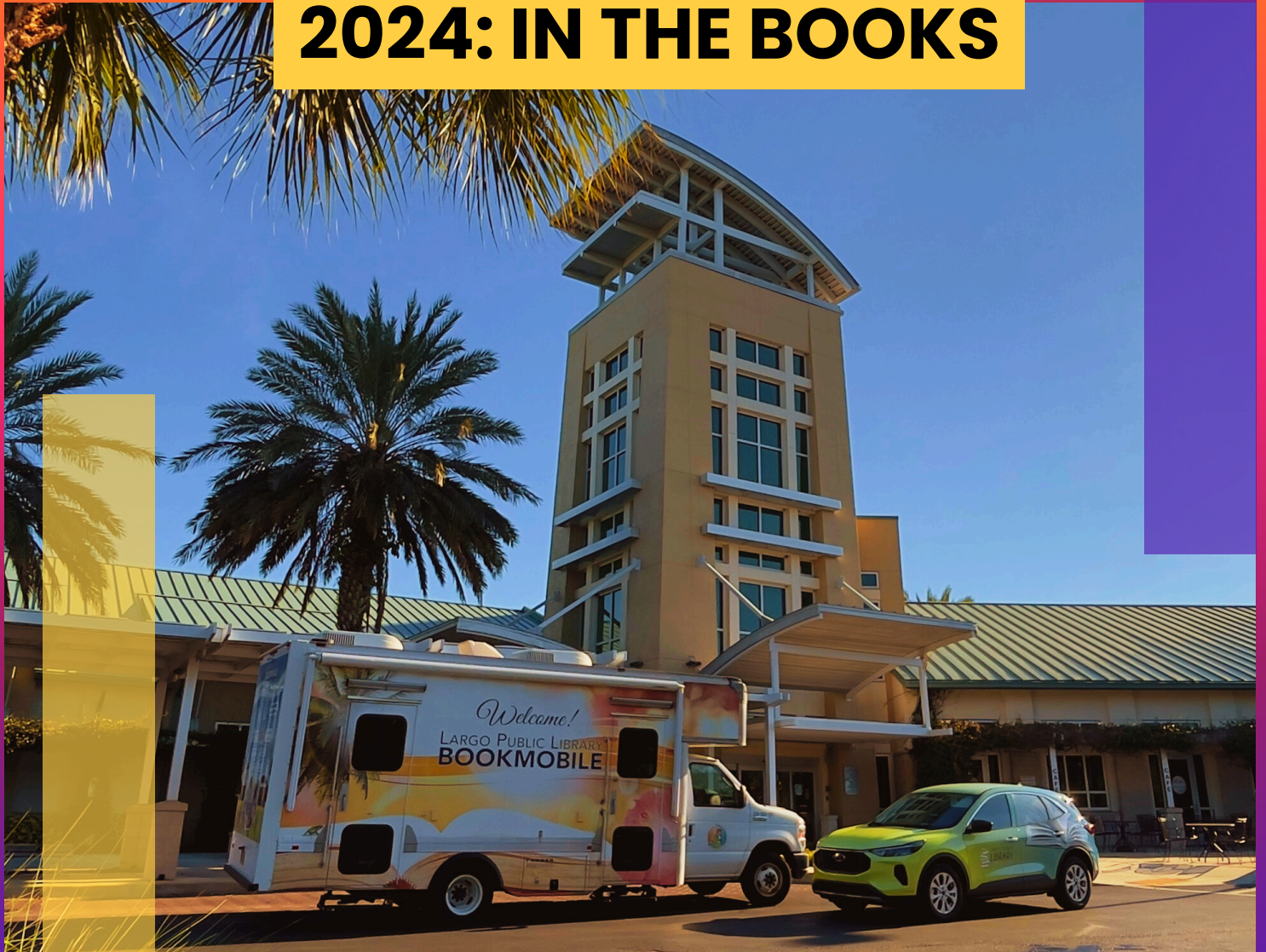


LARGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

2024: IN THE BOOKS





2024: A Year to Celebrate at Largo Public Library!

As we turn the page on 2024, we're thrilled to share the highlights of an amazing year at Largo Public Library!

From launching initiatives that celebrate literacy to welcoming a return to pre-COVID visitor and circulation numbers—along with a rise in library card registrations—we've worked to inspire connection and lifelong learning.

This year also highlighted the library's vital role in times of need. After Hurricanes Milton and Helene, we became a haven for the community, providing power, internet, and a safe space for those affected.

Our success wouldn't be possible without the support of our dedicated volunteers, the Friends of Largo Library, and the Greater Largo Library Foundation. Their tireless efforts and fundraising make it possible for us to offer the engaging programs and resources that bring joy and discovery to all ages.

This booklet is a celebration of how the library continues to empower and connect. Thank you for being part of our journey—here's to even more adventures in 2025.



2024: BY THE NUMBERS

CIRCULATION - 881,980

Adult: 241,696

Youth: 218,959

A/V: 99,837

Other: 297,744

Bookmobile: 23,744

VISITORS

Library: 342,084

Digital Branch: 439,438

Patron Assistance: 92,760

COMPUTER USERS - 559,057

Adult: 35,910

Youth: 5,915

Wireless: 518,232

PROGRAMS - 3,123

Children: 594

Teen: 131

Adult: 867

Outreach: 1,517

All Ages: 14

PROGRAM

ATTENDEES - 57,351

Children:

21,564

Teen: 1,174

Adult: 21,178

All Ages: 201

PUBLIC MEETINGS - 224

BOUNCING BACK

The COVID-19 pandemic starting in 2020 brought challenges, but we found creative ways to stay connected with our community.

Two standout services were our bookmobile, launched in 2018, and home delivery program. Both became lifelines during the pandemic, delivering books and materials to patrons unable to visit the library in person, ensuring everyone could stay connected to their favorite resources.

Fast-forward to 2024, and we're thriving—our program attendance and visitor numbers have bounced back to pre-pandemic levels! The bookmobile and home delivery service remain vital, bringing the library to those who need it most.

We're proud to be your trusted hub for learning, resources, and discovery.





There's a perfect book for every reader and a perfect reader for every book.

This year the Largo Public Library made significant strides in building a stronger community of readers and promoting intellectual freedom.

The **Free to Read** campaign boosted circulation and celebrated the importance of diverse and accessible materials for all, fostering a love of reading throughout the year.

As a part of this initiative, we organized our first-ever **Read-In** event in the Community Butterfly Garden with local vendors taking part. Another first was **Kids Book Fest**, highlighting local authors and connecting young readers with engaging stories, sparking excitement and creativity.

These initiatives showcased our commitment to literacy, community connection, and the joy of discovery through books.

LARGO TURNS A PAGE WITH CHRISTINA LAUREN

Largo Turns a Page went in a new direction in 2024, turning to the romance genre with **Christina Lauren** and their book *The True Love Experiment!*

This program, generously sponsored by the **Friends of Largo Library**, drew in over 150 readers who participated in a Q&A and signing with the authors!

Join us again in 2025 as LTAP gets spooky with Grady Hendrix and his bestselling *How to Sell a Haunted House!*

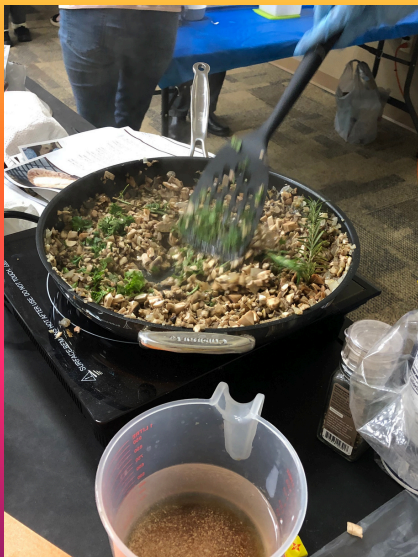


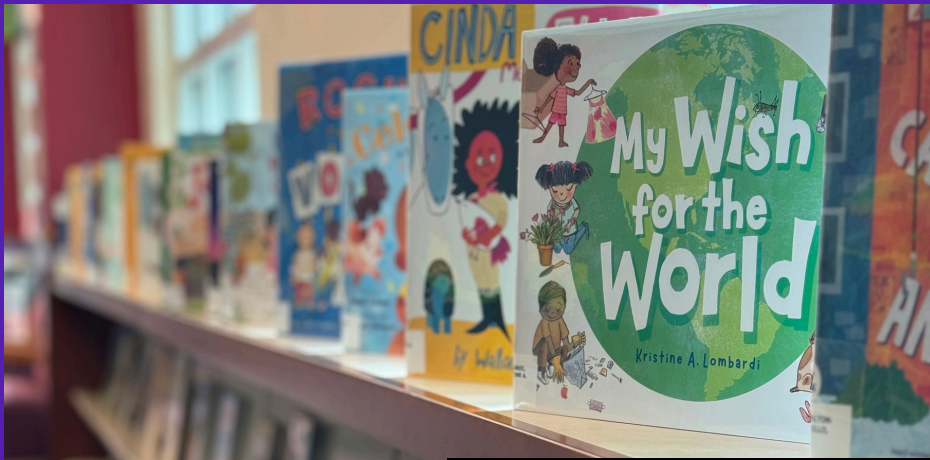
ADULT PROGRAMS

Largo Public Library was the perfect spot for adults to connect, learn, and have a blast. Love books? The library's variety of book clubs had something for everyone—whether you were into deep discussions or just wanted to chat about your latest favorite read with fellow bookworms.

Cooking and gardening programs were a hit, too, offering the chance to whip up tasty recipes, grow lush gardens, and swap tips with others who shared your passion. And who could resist trivia nights? They brought out everyone's competitive side in the best way, with plenty of laughs and good vibes all around.

With so many fun and enriching options, the library wasn't just a place to visit—it was a community where adults could explore new interests, meet great people, and feel right at home.





CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS



Our children's department was buzzing with energy this year, bringing families together for unforgettable and educational experiences!



This year we offered a new school readiness program called **Off to Kindergarten** that provided hands-on activities to build confidence in reading, math, and social skills. Combined with the **Back- to-School Bash**, our readers were headed into the school year on the right foot!

TEEN PROGRAMS



From hanging out with friends to diving into cool new skills, the library was the ultimate spot for teens to explore, create, and connect in 2024. Whether discovering hobbies or just having a blast, there was always something exciting happening!

Volunteers brought the magic to life, helping out with teen and kids' programs while racking up service hours for scholarships. Their energy and enthusiasm made every event more fun and the library buzz with community spirit.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This year has been full of milestones and meaningful connections! We celebrated the 50th graduate from **Career Online High School** and distributed 128 baskets to immigrant and refugee families during **Welcoming Week**.

Our **Freecycle** initiative embraced sustainability by giving gently used items a second life at no cost to the community. Additionally, our new **Seed Library** promotes sustainability by providing access to local and pollinator-friendly seeds, allowing community members to grow their own gardens.

With **English classes**, a **Conversation Club**, and a free citizenship course, we're empowering individuals to achieve their goals and build brighter, greener futures! These programs are made possible largely in part by the **Greater Largo Library Foundation** and the **Friends of Largo Library**.







SCAN ME



BE OUR FRIEND!

If you're interested in becoming a member of the Friends of Largo Library or donating to the Greater Largo Library Foundation to help create memorable moments like these, please reach out to the library at [727-587-6715](tel:727-587-6715) or scan the QR code.