

2025

Library is the best

An anonymous note discovered in Square One reminds us of the impact the library has on the community.

Annual Report

Woodland Public Library

Executive Summary



Literacy Student Mira and her tutor Letha.

Woodland Public Library's FY2024-25 centered on access, engagement, and partnerships. We celebrated 150 years as California's oldest functioning Carnegie library while expanding services that meet people where they are—at the historic Carnegie building, in the Square One makerspace, across neighborhoods via the Bookmobile, and through literacy tutoring that changes lives. Summer Reading (Level-UP: The Wizard's Journey) unified our patrons in a playful, low-barrier challenge for all ages. Children's pop-ups and grant-funded early learning programs built family routines; teens co-created a dedicated courtyard space and dove into life skills and culinary arts; and adults found after-work offerings, from a fandom book launch to a growing romance book club and new community partnerships. Makerspace usage remained strong across trainings, open labs, field trips, and entrepreneurship. The Bookmobile's first full year delivered materials, technology, and on-board programming to schools, seniors, and recovery facilities, removing barriers and strengthening relationships. Overall, the library posted solid circulation and foot traffic, thousands of program interactions, and continued growth in new library cards—evidence that Woodland sees the library as both a trusted resource and a lively community hub.

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bookmobile character

*named by Gemma W.

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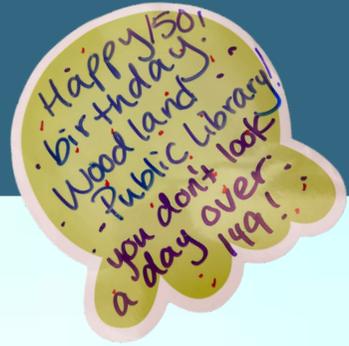
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150th Anniversary

The library's founding women held their first fundraiser—an ice cream social—to support the new institution.



Sesquicentennial

Marking 150 years since being established by a group of civic-minded women in 1874, Woodland Public Library used this milestone to connect past, present, and future.

The sesquicentennial also provided a unifying thread for programs and partnerships, sparking fresh pride in our Carnegie legacy while highlighting how today's services—from makerspace to Bookmobile—carry that legacy into the next century.

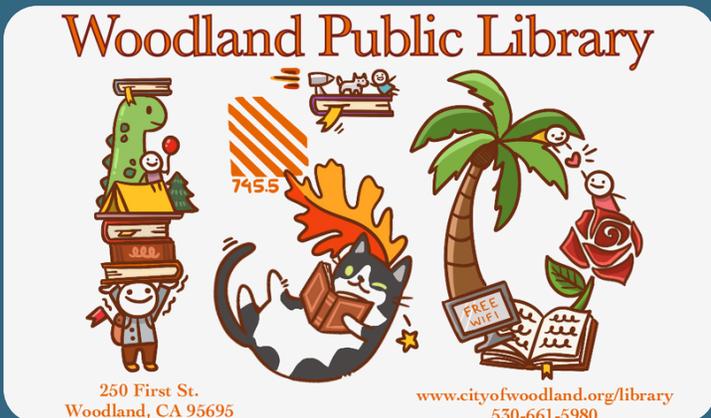


1905 Carnegie

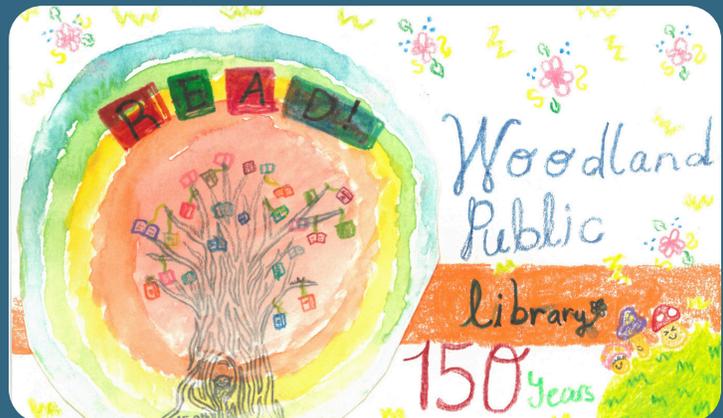
150th Anniversary Library Card

To celebrate the sesquicentennial, we invited the community to put its own stamp on the library—literally. A citywide card-design contest drew creative entries across age groups, with winning artwork printed on limited-edition cards. In parallel, the year-long “150th” reading challenge encouraged sustained engagement: readers logged books and activities over twelve months, earned milestones, and unlocked playful, locally flavored rewards. Together, these initiatives paired civic pride with everyday reading habits, keeping the anniversary visible and meaningful all year.

Designed by Sylvia L.

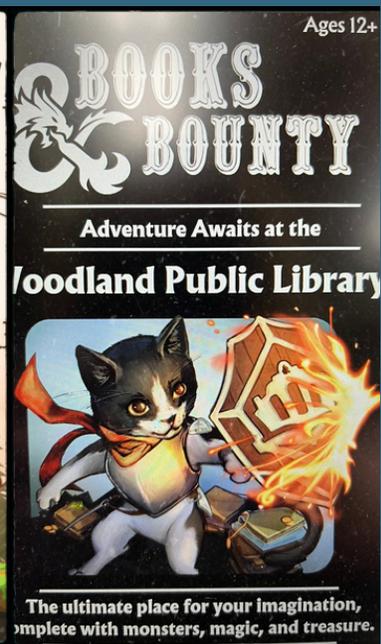
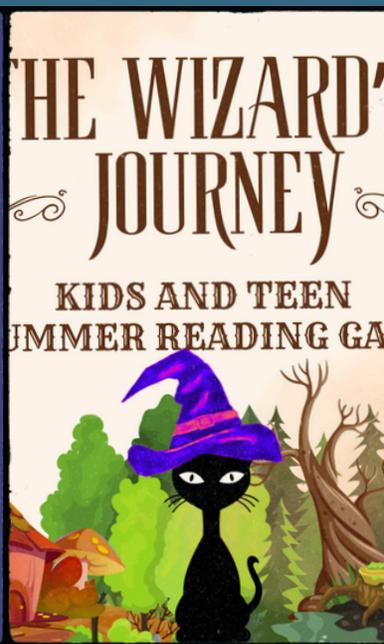
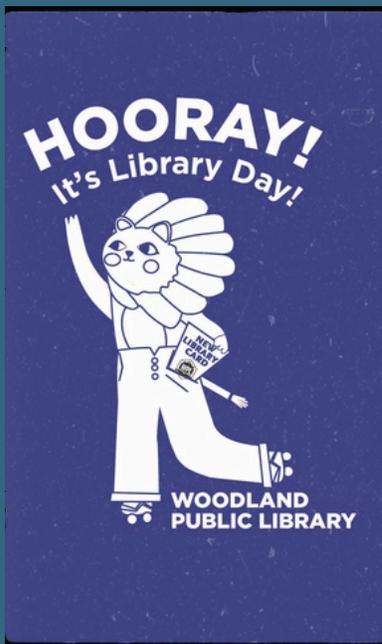


Designed by Yoli S.



Summer Reading

Summer 2025 brought patrons of all ages into a shared game of reading, play, and discovery. Under the Wizard’s Journey theme, families, teens, and adults tracked progress with simple paper logs, collected weekly stickers, and found something to do nearly every day—from Lunch at the Library and STEM “Make & Explore” to performer days, Farmer’s Market tie-ins, and Bookmobile adventures. A centralized summer table made registration and questions easy, while coordinated schedules across Children’s, Teens, Adults, the Bookmobile, and Square One turned summer reading into a true, library-wide campaign with clear goals, welcoming on-ramps, and a celebratory feel.



1361 Summer Events
9,673 attendees

2,657 Lunches Served

519.5 Teen Volunteer Hours

Kids Registered: 1,023

Teens Registered: 289

Adults Registered: 600

Minutes Read: 398,400

Minutes Read: 81,600

Minutes Read: 254,400

Children’s weekly cadence: Tween Scene (Mon), Performers (Tue), Lego Club (Wed), Make & Explore STEM (Thu), plus Saturday Farmer’s Market food-literacy tie-ins.

Teen weekly cadence: Teen Craft Corner (Mon), Volunteering and Secret Society of Library Teens (Tue), Hangouts (Wed), Teens in the Kitchen (Thu), Game and Grub (Fri), M-F Volunteering

New Concert at the Carnegie Series
\$22,800 Grant from CA State Library in support of Lunch at the Library Programming

of darkness.

It was unbelievable
of how many books
you have.

I will never forget
this time.

Sincerely,
Linden



The library is grateful to welcome hundreds of students each year, whether they visit in the library or we meet them in their classrooms.



Messy Maker Monday



Children's

Read, Rumble, and Rev gives local children and adults a chance to learn about the vehicles and industries in their community



The Library celebrates Dinovember each year, bringing dinosaurs to life with storytimes, crafts, and activities that spark curiosity and imagination in children of all ages.

Children's Services combined literacy-rich routines with big-tent moments that made the library a destination for families. Weekly storytimes, Lego builds, and STEM exploration anchored the calendar, while pop-up events themed to dinosaurs, Dog Man, and seasonal holidays drew crowds and new card sign-ups. Partnerships deepened impact: teen-facilitated Kids Cooking Academy built practical skills and confidence, and grant-funded Messy Maker Mondays and Stay & Play created welcoming spaces for early learners and caregivers to explore, connect, and access resources.



4,160 children and caregivers attended 164 Storytimes

Research confirms that reading success starts with young children enjoying library storytimes! Preschoolers' earliest experiences with books and reading are important; parent/caregiver knowledge can build on those experiences...



Library patrons celebrating a Dog Man event.

Highlights

Pop-Up Programming (Dinosaurs, Dog Man, Halloween, Winter): regularly drew 200+; Halloween party hosted about 330 attendees.

Kids Cooking Academy with CalFresh Healthy Living (UC Cooperative Extension) with teen-led facilitation; six-week skill-building series for 4th-5th graders featuring make-at-home recipes.

Save the Children Grant — \$8,500: launched Messy Maker Mondays (ages 0-5) and sustained Stay & Play; 8-10 week sessions drawing 50-75 attendees weekly; focus on sensory exploration, caregiver connection, and resource distribution.

No-Cost After School Cooking Classes for Kids!

Who can join and when are the classes? 4th & 5th Grade

Every Thurs. for 6 weeks

Dates: 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27

Time: 4:30-6pm

Where: Woodland Public Library



What do they learn?

- How to cook a healthy new recipe at each class
- How to prepare and eat more fruits & vegetables
- How to safely handle a knife & skillet



Teens

Teens took the lead this year—learning real-world skills, trying new creative paths, and literally shaping their own space. County-wide Adulting 101 sessions brought together local partners for finance, college and career readiness, cooking and more. Ongoing Teens in the Kitchen expanded culinary curiosity with staff and guest mentors. Most visibly, the new Secret Society of Library Teens transformed the courtyard into a weekly after-school hangout built with teen input, giving Woodland youth a welcoming, identity-affirming place to belong at the library.



Library teens walked downtown to Casa Del Pan, where they made conchas from scratch, baking and decorating them together.



Library teens learn how to handle snakes at a Teen Science Cafe



Yolo County Office of Education helps a library teen prepare for their future at Woodland Teen Hub



"Graffiti" in the SSLT Courtyard

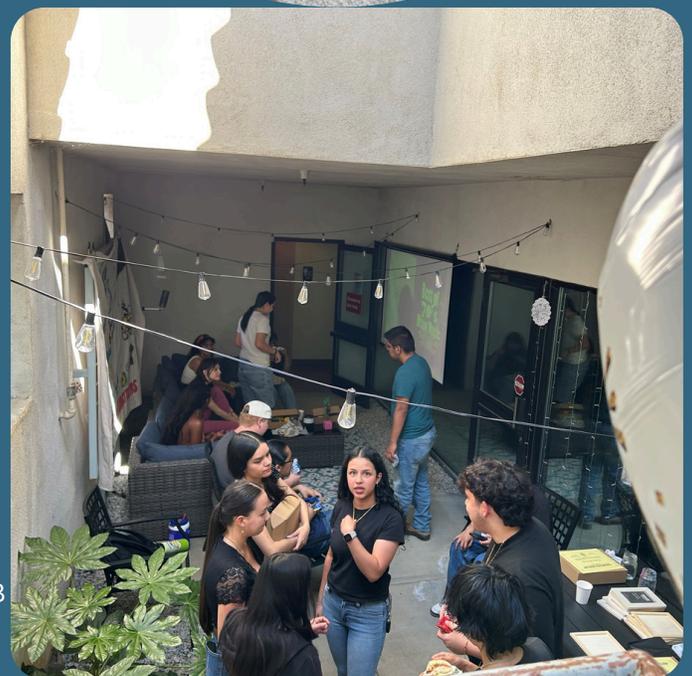
Being at the Library, makes me want to become a librarian

- Sam (Teen Advisory Board Member)

Teens in the Kitchen (monthly): staff-led by Maureen Ladd with guest chefs/bakers (e.g., Casa del Pan's Maria Olmedo, chef-owner of Kuji Kai; seasonal dishes from scones to tamales).

Secret Society of Library Teens: state-funded courtyard transformation; opened April 15, 2025; weekly Tuesday hangout; teens co-created and painted the space; hosted TAB Graduation Party.

Daily afterschool programming featuring events like the Woodland Teen Hub, Games & Grub, Teen Craft Corner, and more that inspire creativity, learning, and connection.



Secret Society of Library Teens

Adulting 101: Life Skills for Teens

Youth Empowered Through Action (YCOE) grant: countywide Adulting 101 series (financial literacy, college/career readiness, cooking, more) with 120 youth; keynote by Mychal Threets; Teen Advisory Board President delivered the welcome.



Learning to use basic tools with Makerspace Librarian



Culinary Workshop with Woodland Community College

“I am always excited to go to Adulting 101 because the event offers many professional courses that will help us later in life. Not only that, but there are some sessions where we can learn to frost cupcakes with a professional baker or learn how to paint with one of our librarians!”

-Fatima, Teen Advisory Board Member

Adult programming entered a season of discovery focused on bringing enjoyable after-work experiences for adults in the community starting the 2025 year off with a fandom-forward launch party. Romantasy readers (a new term for fantasy romance books) were invited to gather the evening of a much-anticipated sequel to a series being released internationally. Proving that the library can be the capstone to popular media culture, the event carried momentum into other desired programming such as a monthly weekend Romance Book Club and a partnership with the Woodland Silent Book Club.

Highlights

Onyx Storm Launch Party (January 2025): a fandom-forward evening that capped a day of excitement for an international book release. The event seeded ideas for more ongoing programming intended for adults with varied trending interests.

Happy Endings Romance Book Club (4th Saturday of every month): a growing group of avid romance readers. In this nontraditional book club, members read a book of a chosen trope or theme to share their experience with the group building a forum for community readers' advisory.

Partnership: Woodland Silent Book Club (spring season): providing pop-up browsing and on-site library card sign-ups at rotating venues bridged casual social reading with the depth of library collections and services.

Concerts at the Carnegie (summer season): 6 concerts; 486 total attendees; collaborations with local vendors (e.g., Kona Ice, Cork & Co, Casa del Pan).



Participants at the Onyx Storm Book Launch Party Competing in Trivia



Happy Endings is this year's newest ongoing book club for adults. Members of this group highlight some of the best romance reads for others to try.

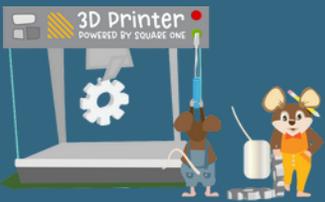


A colorful array of community members gather to enjoy music from a live metal band in front of the library.

ADULTS

In its inaugural year, the Bookmobile made the library mobile—bringing materials, Wi-Fi, sign-ups, and interactive experiences to schools, neighborhoods, seniors, and recovery programs. With wheelchair-accessible service and easy borrowing, each stop became a mini-library that reflected its audience: hands-on demos and games for students, curated large print for seniors, and personalized reader’s advisory for adults returning to reading. The approach strengthened relationships and reduced barriers, proving that access grows when the library meets people where they are.

Bookmobile



A TK class visits the bookmobile during a stop at Prairie Elementary school.





“This was the best day of school EVER!” – middle school boy after being at the bookmobile all lunch

Grants

Woodland Public Library received a \$40,000 grant from the Yolo County Office of Education to support the Adulting 101 program and bookmobile services for youth. The funding allowed the library to purchase books for the bookmobile, a smart telescope, a 3D printer, a laser cutter, sewing machines, button makers, an outdoor projector and screen, craft supplies, healthy snacks, and more. Every dollar was thoughtfully invested to enhance programs and services that directly benefit youth in the community.

School Visits

The bookmobile visited multiple elementary schools, both junior highs, and one high school, reaching hundreds of students in classrooms and during lunch. Each student received a tote bag, a book, and a scented bookmark. Along the way, students enjoyed free books, button-making activities, video games, and hands-on exploration of our 3D printer, bringing the library experience directly into the community.



New Partnerships

The bookmobile has become a beloved presence at local care facilities. Each month, it visits Cache Creek Lodge, a rehab facility in Woodland, connecting with 10-30 residents who are working on their sobriety. Every resident now has a library card and eagerly explores new books, places holds, and makes special requests during visits. The bookmobile also visits The Californian, a senior living facility, where residents enjoy coming aboard with their walkers and wheelchairs. It stocks large print books and has quickly learned residents' favorite authors and genres. Many residents are regulars who look forward to monthly visits and have their bookmobile routines down to a science.



Reading Dragons



Launched in June 2025 as a year-round reading program on the Bookmobile, Reading Dragons was adapted from the Dover Public Library model and has quickly become a community favorite. Open to all ages and free to join, the program rewards readers with exclusive dragon trading cards that change with the seasons. Patrons earn a halfway prize—a dragon-themed toy or trinket—and a finishing prize of their own miniature dragon. The fun, collectible nature of the cards has made Reading Dragons a true spark for young readers and families alike.

Statistics

- Participants since launch: 173
- Bookmobile interactions tied to Reading Dragons: 1,383

“Thank you so much for all the joy and imagination you brought to the community through the summer bookmobile activities and the Reading Dragons summer reading challenge! The dragon card game was such a creative and fun way to keep our boys engaged, and reading all summer long. They looked forward to each visit and loved tracking their progress.”

- Bookmobile Patron



Square One

" Makerspace "

Square One continued to be a high-energy workshop for all ages—part classroom, part studio, part community garage. Regular Basic Use & Safety trainings opened the door to hands-on projects, while open labs, craft nights, and field trips welcomed newcomers to try tools with guidance. Workforce and entrepreneurship programs helped adults test ideas and build micro-businesses; WorkAbility placements and K-12 visits linked students to career-connected learning; and weekly sensory play gave our youngest patrons space to explore through making.

239 patrons participated in basic use and safety classes at Square One, learning about design thinking and how to operate the makerspace equipment



Averaged 500+ patrons per month across open hours, classes, trainings, craft nights, field trips, and events.



Entrepreneurship cohort (with YCOE & Sacramento SBDC): 9-week adult education; alum now operates a rare-plant micro-business using Square One's woodshop.

WorkAbility (WJUSD): 7 student placements for job-skill development



Workability Graduates

Public access & reservations: Most equipment is available for drop-in use after Basic Use & Safety (BUS) training; high-demand equipment (laser, 3D printers, woodshop) can be reserved in 1-hour slots.



Maker Camp

m

Typical Square One hours:
Mon-Tue 9am-3pm;
Wed-Thu 1-7pm; Sat 10am-4p



ADULT LITERACY

In the past year, our adult literacy program has made a profound difference in the lives of learners. One tutor connected her learner with a UC Davis professor in a field of interest, giving the learner the opportunity to conduct an informational interview and ask thoughtful questions about a potential career path. Another learner completed two ELL classes at Sacramento City College, earning final grades of 99%, demonstrating incredible dedication and progress.

For one refugee learner from a war-torn country, the tutoring relationship became more than academic support—it became friendship. He shared that his tutor was the only friend he had here, and the connection has made all the difference in his life. In another success, a tutor was able to hire a learner in our program at his workplace. Today, he continues to work there, gaining skills and confidence every day.

These stories highlight the transformative power of individualized support, mentorship, and community connections that our program provides.

ADULT LITERACY

The Literacy program delivered one-to-one, goal-driven support that changes lives. Tutors and learners set practical milestones—like getting a job, earning a license, or finishing a first book—and worked steadily toward them in a welcoming, low-barrier environment. Flexible hours, simple enrollment, and close coordinator support made it easy to start; community connections opened doors to interviews, classes, and employment. The resulting stories of achievement underscore how foundational literacy fuels confidence, stability, and opportunity across Woodland.

9 learners met self-set goals (e.g., job attainment, reading a book, driver's license, workforce certificates)

22 volunteer tutors contributed 713 hours of one-to-one instruction.



Our adult literacy services extend to Monroe County Jail, providing inmates with literacy and GED support to help build skills, confidence, and opportunities for success. An additional 528 hours of tutoring were accomplished at the jail.

One-to-one adult tutoring (English reading/writing) with no ID required to enroll;
Office hours Mon–Thu, 9am–3pm in the lower level across from Square One.

Phone (530) 661-5986

Email literacy@cityofwoodland.gov

We love this library! They get me books from other libraries when they don't have them, and SO many activities for all ages-babies, toddlers, kids, teens, and adults. Especially enjoy getting to use the makerspace-Square One- and Adult Crafternoons. - Yelp 5 Star Review

20 25

Impact in Numbers



262,186

total circulation



136,897

total library visits



28,629

total program attendance

Library Access at a Glance



37,300

Library Card Holders including all WJUSD Students

39,646 e-books checked out

4,118 new library card holders

In the Community

107

engagements out in the community

6,281

patrons connected through outreach

Participation by Age Group

0-5

223

Programs

6,935

Caregivers and Children attended

6-11

366

Programs

11,200

Caregivers and Children attended

12-18

354

Programs

4,063

Teens attended

19+

388

Programs

2,750

Adults attended

All Ages

120

Programs

3,681

Attended



library@cityofwoodland.gov



530-661-5980



<https://cityofwoodland.gov/library>

Library Leadership & Staff

Greta Galindo, Director of Library Services

Sara Vickers, Library Program Manager - Children's Services

Sara Day-Murch, Library Program Manager - Teen Services

Trina Camping, Library Program Manager - Square One

Kacy Wilson, Library Program Manager - Bookmobile and Adult Literacy Services

Sylvia Moreno, Circulation Supervisor

Silvia DeSoto, Library Associate

Maureen Ladd, Library Associate

Shersten Rosenfeld, Library Associate

Woodland Public Library Board of Trustees

Chris Lambertus, Chair

Maureen King, Vice-Chair

Dr. John Jackson

Carol Beckham

Mark Salinas



“Brian the Lion”
bookmobile character

*named by Vita A.

