



BIXBY MEMORIAL FREE LIBRARY

November 2023

Hello, Friends and Neighbors!

It's hard not to notice that the Bixby is making things happen these days. With a growing array of offerings for all ages in the five towns, the Bixby continues to create opportunities for physical activity, social connections, community gatherings, arts & culture, volunteerism, local history, crafts, STEM, and, of course, reading!

I am so proud to be a part of this. More books, audiobooks, and digital resources are getting checked out, and we are ordering new books faster than ever. At the same time, **more people are coming to the library** to use the public Wi-Fi, computers, and printer, and to participate in programs like the Book Club, Writer's Club, Storytime, Lego Robotics Club, Fiber Arts Circle, and educational shows like the recent lifesized Dinoman Dinosaurs.

Even without coming to the library, **people in our community are taking greater advantage of the growing resources available through the Bixby's robust website.** From home, on your tractor, or during your commute, you can enjoy the library's free digital resources, including audiobooks, ebooks, online courses, VUHS yearbooks, and over 30 new finding aids for our historical collections.

If you haven't been to the Bixby in a while, I hope you'll take a moment to stop by the next time you're on Main Street. I highly recommend looking up at the dome and the hot air balloon that floats above the circulation desk, browsing the latest historical exhibits in the Kerr Room, contributing to the ever-present jigsaw puzzle, reading by one of the fireplaces, and checking out an item from the Library of Things for winter fun.

All of this takes time, effort, vision, and money. The Bixby Director and her impressive team have cultivated resources and funding to support so much of this programming and library operations, along with the support from our towns and people like you. This year alone, we've benefitted from grants from the United Way of Addison County, the Hoehl Foundation, the Vermont Arts Council, Raytheon/Collins, and the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership, to name a few.

We know that people turn to libraries for help when times are challenging. Your support will help us provide more books, more digital resources, more programming, and more access for everyone in our five-town community. I hope you will join me in donating to the Bixby this year - I know great things are ahead for 2024.

On behalf of the Bixby Library Board of Trustees and the Bixby Staff, **thank you for being a proud library supporter!**

Erin Roche
President, Bixby Board of Trustees

P.S. Though I'm proud of *all* Bixby programming, I'm especially moved by how our community participated in the Good Citizen Challenge this year, earning the library the Participation Award! Here's an excerpt from Seven Days:

"Before a tour of the Statehouse, Seven Days...caught up with Cici [Neffinger, Ferrisburgh Central student] and asked her why it's important to be a good citizen.

"Because," Cici said, "if no one's being a good citizen, then everything will just fall apart."