



168TH ANNUAL REPORT

THE NEW BRITAIN INSTITUTE

20 HIGH STREET, NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051

JULY 1, 2020 – JUNE 30, 2021

**NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
NEW BRITAIN YOUTH MUSEUM
NEW BRITAIN INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM**

New Britain Institute Board of Managers, 2020-2021

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Treasurer: Mary Ann Kolitsidas

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New Britain Youth Museum: Christopher LaSaracina
New Britain Industrial Museum: Jonathan Scott
Finance Committee: MaryAnne Kolitsidas

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Nancy Sarra, Superintendent, Consolidated School District of New Britain

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Stephen Mangan, Vice Chair
Randall Judd
Frank Bradley
Julie Dyson
Mallory Howard
Craig Nolan
Arun Srinivasan

NEW BRITAIN INSTITUTE 2020 – 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*“Celebrate our past, understand our present,
and pioneer our future”*

To say that Covid 19 pandemic dominated our lives in the past year; I suppose would be an understatement. It separated us, took away much of which we took for granted, closed many of the places we enjoyed frequenting, made work, schooling, travel, socializing all so much more difficult. Yet here we are in 2021 looking around and saying, “is that all you got”. Through scientific breakthroughs, a vaccine was developed in months, which is all the more amazing to those of us who were Polio Pioneers, who as children were vaccinated only after almost 25 years of research. What progress,.....what talents bestowed upon at birth yet developed through years of education.

The City of New Britain celebrated its **Sesquicentennial** as a City, that is 150 years since the town became acknowledged as a city. The New Britain Institute through its education-based branches celebrates 168 years of serving the educational needs of the Greater New Britain Community, and partnering with the City for 120 of those years to meet those needs in hopes of meeting the curiosity of all those willing to give it a try. That partnership is still alive and well as we leave the pandemic behind to regain our lives and yet we've accepted (perhaps grudgingly) that we need to still take some precautions. To that end, our Annual Membership Meeting will be available in person as well as remotely through the use of Zoom technology.

Initiatives

During the past year we continued to progress with our initiatives. **Marketing:** We enlisted the preliminary services of Axim Design to learn of the importance of consistency in our look and branding, the need to further develop our website, and focus our attention to becoming the development arm of our branches to raise awareness of what they provide to the community, support better programs offered in up to date facilities.

Our logo and branding will be more consistent, and should appear on all branch publications, and our website is undergoing a design transformation through the donated talents of Bud Volz and his daughter Emily. So please make a point of checking out newbritaininstitute.org to see the progress, and the unveiling at this year's Annual Meeting.

The second initiative is the re-introduction of the **Institute's Annual Lecture**, which has been the brainchild of our retiring board secretary Gil Gigliotti, PhD. Not to steel his thunder and hopes of building the gate, he will announce this year's speaker and subject, which we hope will engage and promote a series of supporting activities sponsored by other organizations in the Central CT Region. We are very excited to finally begin development of this event with CCSU, which has been delayed for over a year and a half by the pandemic.

The third initiative again is **Development** for the branch operations. To that end the Board has approved pursuing the creation of additional ways to enhance the growth of the **endowment**. While it is true that the endowment grew handsomely in the past year, that was due in large part to the very substantial growth of the stock market and our investment management through Conry Asset Management and SEI. We plan to create a vehicle for generating planned giving opportunities through bequests and pledging of assets in their many forms.

NB Institute Branches

While the concept of creating a Center for Creativity and Innovation at the St. Mark's property adjacent to the NB Library was a mostly accepted concept as an integration of a number of education based non-profits with today's manufacturers, and educational entities, the immediate and severe needs that arose as a result of the Covid pandemic made fundraising impossible, and with it the hopes for a new more permanent home to house the **Industrial Museum** in a facility large enough to allow the museum to expand and mature into a force in the revitalization of the spirit of industrial innovation and creativity in addition to being a reminder of past successes. As president of the Institute, I remain committed to finding such a facility, and want your help too!

Again due to Covid social distancing requirements the Industrial Museum opened exhibits in the adjacent cavernous & glorious Anvil Place (former banking floor of NB National Bank) through the generosity of its owner the Mutual Housing Association of Greater Hartford, the City, (2) local foundations, several corporations and a couple of individuals. Now with the lessening of Covid restrictions the museum has again withdrawn to their facility next door.

The **Youth Museum** reopened the **Hungerford Nature Center** campus after having spent the pandemic down town totally transforming the animals' environment, and building a terrace to house expanded programming and event gatherings. As if that wasn't enough they reopened the totally renovated **Downtown Center** in September reinventing itself with an imaginative hands on learning center now with a focus on STEM learning opportunities for pre-school through grammar school students thanks to corporate gifts and foundation grants supporting goals of their director and staff.

The **New Britain Public Library** is now back to full operation having stayed open for much of the pandemic albeit limited hours, while most all surrounding town libraries were closed, truly becoming THE library for much of Central Connecticut. During the past year, all the bathrooms (most dating back to 1975) were renovated & redesigned to be accessible to all people and be a lot more inviting to use thanks to Federal Block Grant money administered through the City of NB, and the design and creation of an arts and crafts focused Maker Space hands-on-learning center where the Computer Center was previously located as that moved just behind the Information Desk. The two phased exterior restoration project for the historic Erwin & Hawley Buildings was developed by QA & M Architects in conjunction with staff and the Board's Building Committee. I would be remiss if I did not mention that the preparation of the design, construction documents & supervision of the interior renovations were donated by the New Britain architectural firm of Kaestle Boos.

So, while the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic can not be understated, we have grown from the setbacks to become stronger and more committed to meet the educational needs of the Greater New Britain Community to help those willing to quench their curiosity, become better educated & more knowledgeable ultimately creating a more fulfilling life with ambitions to not only grow themselves and their families, but their neighbors, friends and co-workers in the community we all share.

Board Changes & Acknowledgements

Due to term limits and changes we all go through in life over the past (2) years, I would again be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the contributions of Gerry Amodio and Mayor Lucian Pawlak who left the Board last year, along with Nina Jankowski, Tom Satalino and Sharon Beloin-Saavadra this year. While we will be losing Gil Gigliotti's services as secretary (who has a secretary with a PhD in English?.....We have!), he will stay on serving as a director on the Board of Managers.

As always I want to mention our (3) branch directors Pat Rutkowski at the Library, Tom Pascoello at the Youth Museum, and especially Randy Judd as the unpaid volunteer director, treasurer, and immediate past Board president at the Industrial Museum for their expertise, and never say die attitude to make their organizations as special as they are. Of course they in turn receive the support of their board committees and staff, as well as the City of New Britain starting with Mayor Erin Stewart, our Common Council members and staff with whom we share this successful quasi public-private arrangement for the past 120 years.

Thank you for your support and looking for 2021 – 2020 to be a year of wonderful accomplishments.

G. Geoffrey Bray
President

NEW BRITAIN INSTITUTE

TREASURER'S REPORT

JUNE 30, 2021

Investments were valued at \$3,350,180 for the Library Fund, \$360,102 for the Youth Museum Fund and \$182,814 for the Industrial Museum fund, totaling \$3,893,096 as of June 30, 2021 as compared to \$3,254,305 on June 30, 2020.

The Institute maintains a checking account to pay administrative expenses and common expenses benefiting all entities. The balance in this account on June 30, 2021 was \$71,161 as compared to \$26,554 at June 30, 2020. In July 2020, \$11,800 was transferred from the investment accounts to the Institute checking account to cover the estimated annual expenses for the 2020/2021 fiscal year, of this amount, \$10,235, \$1,088, and \$477 was paid from the investment accounts of the Library, Youth Museum, and Industrial Museum, respectively. Also included in the checking account is \$45,000 received from the Vance Charitable Fund for the benefit of the Library.

The investment funds earned dividends and interest of \$143,770, recognized gains of \$7,053 and unrealized gains of \$644,624 for the twelve months ended June 30, 2021.

The Library received \$1,590 from the EH Case Trust year to date. The library receives quarterly distributions from this trust. The Vance Charity Foundation gave \$45,000 to the Library for a project to be specified in the future. Currently these funds are in the Institute checking account as noted above.

The Institute received \$5,667 of donations from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Total donations received since fundraising began through June 30, 2021 amounted to \$24,840.

The Industrial Museum received donations for their Building Fund. Donations were received from Joan Morgan for \$16,000, and \$2,000 from various other donors.

Expenses totaling \$30,477 were paid on behalf of the Library for investment fees, \$17,192 for reimbursement of computer expenses from Sheehan Fund, and \$100,000 to supplement construction project as matching funds.

Expenses totaling \$3,287 were paid on behalf of the Youth Museum for investment fees and \$12,400 to supplement the operating budget.

Expenses totaling \$1,469 were paid on behalf of the Industrial Museum for investment fees.

Administrative expenses of \$18,037 were paid out of institute funds for directors' insurance, audit fee, bookkeeping, and annual report and meeting expenses.

An anonymous donation in the amount of \$18,500 was received by the Institute to pay the consulting fees for the fundraising study for potential purchase and renovation of the St. Mark's property.

Respectfully submitted,

MaryAnne Kolitsidas, Treasurer

New Britain Institute
Fund analysis - year to date summary
FYE June 30, 2021

	Beginning July 1, 2021	earnings	Transfers out and expenses	Transfers In and Donations	Ending 6/30/2021
Library Fund	2,819,898.89	686,594.97	(157,904.21)	1,590.00	3,350,179.65
Youth Museum Fund	301,952.37	74,924.50	(16,774.93)	-	360,101.94
Industrial Museum Fund	132,454.06	33,906.27	(1,945.56)	18,400.00	182,814.77
Checking	26,554.40	21.43	(24,736.93)	69,322.20	71,161.10
total	3,280,859.72	795,447.17	(201,361.63)	89,312.20	3,964,257.46
Library					
<u>Board Restricted - Income to be distributed for operating budget support</u>					
Income Fund	1,027,670.13	236,360.56	(118,932.50)	-	1,145,098.19
Women's Club of NB (Perm)	17,445.96	4,012.50	(2,019.02)	-	19,439.44
<u>Unrestricted</u>					
General	529,183.78	132,980.80	(5,888.69)	-	656,275.89
Jean and Harold Clark	77,428.13	19,457.24	(861.61)	-	96,023.76
EH case Interest	28,885.44	7,488.14	(332.02)	1,590.00	37,631.56
Elaine Anderson	28,720.93	7,217.37	(319.60)	-	35,618.70
Ladislau (Walter) Smialowski	20,281.40	5,096.60	(225.68)	-	25,152.32
Elizabeth Cunningham	74,373.44	18,689.58	(827.63)	-	92,235.39
Alice B Larkin	47,083.25	11,831.76	(523.94)	-	58,391.07
Elizabeth Meagley	23,517.98	5,909.94	(261.71)	-	29,166.21
Anne Fowler	29,769.02	7,480.77	(331.27)	-	36,918.52
RW Sheehan	432,499.21	108,684.50	(22,005.34)	-	519,178.37
Howland Rogers	69,886.88	17,562.15	(777.69)	-	86,671.34
Stephen Czerwinski	31,193.59	7,838.75	(347.11)	-	38,685.23
John Ward	82,282.30	20,677.09	(915.63)	-	102,043.76
Helen Lynch	34,588.67	8,691.90	(384.89)	-	42,895.68
Agnes Cowlam	62,178.34	15,625.05	(691.91)	-	77,111.48
Curtis Jennings	7,854.12	1,973.70	(87.40)	-	9,740.42
JP Bruemmer Charitable Trust	14,209.78	3,570.84	(158.13)	-	17,622.49
<u>Temporarily Restricted (by Donor)</u>					
Irene Vandenburg	17,294.34	4,345.95	(192.45)	-	21,447.84
Benjamin A Hawley Fund	13,910.38	3,495.61	(154.79)	-	17,251.20
<u>Permanently restricted</u>					
Howland Rogers (NEH)	88,098.36	22,138.60	(980.35)	-	109,256.61
Challenge Grant (NEH)	21,710.34	5,455.73	(241.59)	-	26,924.48
National endow for Hum	39,833.12	10,009.84	(443.26)	-	49,399.70
Total Library	2,819,898.89	686,594.97	(157,904.21)	1,590.00	3,350,179.65
Youth Museum					
General	4,938.19	1,225.36	(274.33)	-	5,889.22
Elizabeth Cunningham	40,696.70	10,098.23	(2,260.90)	-	48,534.03
Howland Rogers	56,772.90	14,087.25	(3,154.02)	-	67,706.13
Stanley Cooper	34,166.27	8,477.76	(1,898.10)	-	40,745.93
TR Francis Parker	8,037.13	1,994.30	(446.50)	-	9,584.93
Margaret Chase Judd Fund	16,031.76	3,977.99	(890.65)	-	19,119.10
Agnes Cowlam	44,069.41	10,935.09	(2,448.27)	-	52,556.23
Catharine Rogers	26,802.72	6,650.68	(1,489.03)	-	31,964.37
Deborah Pfeiffenberger	70,437.29	17,477.84	(3,913.13)	-	84,002.00
Total Youth Museum	301,952.37	74,924.50	(16,774.93)	-	360,101.94
Industrial Museum					
<u>Temporarily restricted- Bulding Fund</u>					
Henrietta Judd	4,591.13	1,149.69	(50.00)	-	5,690.82
Warren and Elsie Kingsbury	10,955.05	2,743.35	(119.35)	-	13,579.05
Other Donors	1,620.49	475.28	(20.12)	2,400.00	4,475.65
Joan Morgan	-	764.33	(27.04)	16,000.00	16,737.29
<u>Unrestricted</u>					
New Britain Club	88,136.92	21,997.37	(1,321.85)	-	108,812.44
Ruth Rees Charitable Fund	2,079.01	518.88	(31.18)	-	2,566.71
Howland Rogers	25,071.46	6,257.37	(376.02)	-	30,952.81
Total Industrial museum	132,454.06	33,906.27	(1,945.56)	18,400.00	182,814.77
New Britain Institute (all unrestricted)					
Institute Cash Activity	26,554.40	20.03	(24,736.93)	24,322.20	26,159.70
Vance Charitable Fund FBO Library	-	1.40	-	45,000.00	45,001.40
Total NBI	26,554.40	21.43	(24,736.93)	69,322.20	71,161.10
Total New Britain Institute	3,280,859.72	795,447.17	(201,361.63)	89,312.20	3,964,257.46
difference stmt	-	-	-	-	-



NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2020 – 2021



It was a year unlike any other; a full year struggling with COVID times with many, unique challenges. We safely reopened to the public on Monday, July 6th, with modified services, and hours, Monday- Saturday, minus evening hours. Library users were very grateful, glad to be able to come into the library for computers, copiers, faxing, books and movies. Our Jefferson Branch reopened to the public in April. Despite the challenges and concerns, staff did an amazing job of providing services and a welcoming place.

Numerous safety and cleaning procedures were put in place to make the library safe for staff and patrons. A second security guard was added to insure all protocols were followed. Seating was limited. Returning computer users found the Computer Center was in a new location behind the Information Desk. The only area that was not accessible is the Periodical Room, but staff has assisted library users by retrieving magazines on request with a collection of current newspapers available in the main area. Programs went virtual, using Zoom or Facebook Live. Children's Services offered several in-person programs outdoors. Originally, only adults were allowed in Children's but that eventually changed.

We learned new ways to deliver library service, breaking records, but in the wrong direction. Our first month saw 5,653 visits: 75% lower than a normal July (2019). Library business was impacted for the entire year. Usage remained consistent, slightly increasing every month. At the end of the fiscal year, we had a total of 70,638 visits. Circulation staff continued to provide curbside service, but it dropped off sharply with the reopening to the public.

There were pluses during the year. With a grant funded Wi-Fi project, the CSDNB, working with the City, replaced our existing access points with new equipment and installed additional access points, providing Wi-Fi access throughout the library. Grant funding, from the Greater New Britain Community Foundation, allowed us to purchase software that could be used to promote the library on social media and several web cams for virtual programming. The City provided funds for needed PPE. The State grant "Everybody Learns" was awarded to 65 principal libraries to support the state's public libraries as they continue to make health and safety improvements and offer more services to residents amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Libraries that serve low-income urban and rural communities received the funds. We were awarded \$73,528. It provided PPE and cleaning/disinfectant items, a charging locker for electronics, a two year subscription of a mobile printing program for the Computer Center printer, an air purification system, a sound proof booth, free standing hand sanitizers, furniture and a room divider for the Community Room, to provide additional meeting space.

As vaccinations became available in May, we moved to normalizing services. Restrictions were lifted, services were returning to normal. As of May, mask wearing was eliminated. Computers were available with normal sessions. Quarantining was eliminated and the Community Room was available for meeting. The entire library, including the Periodical Room, was now available.

A new position was added– that of a part time HR Manager. An employee assistance program, and a new online human resource information system, BambooHR for the staff, were also added. In anticipation of the opening of the makerspace, a part time LTA position was added.

We enjoyed a delightful visit from WSFB reporter. Roger Susantin. He filmed a piece “*Libraries made improvements as they start welcoming guests back*” which appeared the evening news, highlighting some of the new services that we added.

A wonderful event for CCSU students was held on the front lawn, with music and refreshments, as organized by the New Britain Downtown District and CCSU. Students were bused to the library as the starting point of their downtown scavenger hunt.

The library was voted as one of the city’s 150 “gems” of the City, in anticipation of the September 2021 Sesquicentennial Celebration. We will be featured on an interactive mobile app called “TravelStorys” that will help users navigate the city and experience each of the “gems”.

Being one of the few libraries opened in our area, which allowed the public to browse the collections, we had many out-of-towners visit and check out items at our library. As a participant in the CT State Library’s borrowIT program, we received a state funding repayment of \$17, 062 as the number of items we lent to non-residents exceeded the number of items our card-holders borrowed from other libraries.

The Makerspace Committee met throughout the year planning services, purchasing equipment and learning how to use it. The Committee began planning an opening celebration for August 2021.

The most momentous event of the year - we officially went fine free, June 1, with a board unanimously passed resolution, to ensure that library services were available to all on an equitable basis. All fines were forgiven – past and present.

It most certainly was unprecedented times but we did it and did it well. The community needed library services and in order to do so, we needed to be in the library. Despite the challenges, we were able to do it safely and successfully. We learned new ways of providing services; virtual programming, grab and go kits, curbside pickup, digital services, and book bundles. But when it came down to it – when we reopened, people chose to use tried and true services. Library users were glad to be able to be at the library. Perhaps it was a small piece of normalcy returning to their lives. If so, we were glad to be able to do so.

Highlights

- Children's Services offered in-person outside programming: the Summer Reading Kick-off program, with storyteller, Rona Leventhal, Bingo on the front lawn. Halloween drive through, the Chinese Acrobat, Li Liu, and Comic-Mime Robert Rivest.
- Story Walk: an annual program presented in conjunction with the School Department. . This year's book was *Those Shoes* by Maribeth Boelts. At the end of the story, families were given a copy of the book, a craft and a snack to take home.
- We celebrated the 10th annual **Take Your Child to the Library Day**: in a more low-key manner than in years past. Activities included: take and make crafts, a find-the-book-character scavenger hunt with a prize for completing, and a prize for getting a first library card. Each family was given a free book.
- Amy Litke, Head of Children's Services was invited to join Nelba Marquez Greene of CCSU Anna Grace Project for an author interview. They interviewed Mandy Gonzalez, Broadway actor and author of *Fearless*, a middle grade novel, talking about her career, the development of the book, and how developing a character for the stage is similar/different to creating a cast of characters in a book.
- The calendar on our webpage was replaced with the Library Insight calendar.
- With the addition of PrinterOn, patrons can send print jobs from their devices from in the library and outside the library.
- National Library Week was celebrated with a variety of programs: a virtual escape room, author story time, activity kits and a book in a jar contest.
- Jefferson Branch received a donation of 100 books from a New Britain family, a brother-sister duo from New Britain, who are on a mission to bring diversity to school libraries. Nine-year-old Mariah Cubano Yopp and six-year-old Tyshawn Yopp launched their "Black Characters Matter" mission, to ensure the books in city schools are representative of everyone.
- The Homework Center was held in person and virtually, with 36% usage of appointments.
- The YWCA New Britain, New Britain Public Library, and New Britain Museum of American Art partnered on a women's history project depicting the significant contributions of women to the development of New Britain, throughout the 150-year history for the Sesquicentennial Celebration.

Statistics at a glance (previous year is in parenthesis).

- The main library was opened 294 days. The branch was opened 103 days.
- We had 12,421 card holders.
- 211,415 items were checked out.
- There were 70,368 patron visits.
- Staff answered 40,747 informational and reference questions.
- 14,458 downloadable titles were checked out from the Overdrive downloadable collection by 2821 users, including 4,532 Advantage titles. The downloadable collection

saw a 1% increase this year with 124 news users. August 2020 had the most checkouts 1,300. The remainder of the year settled down to a circulation of 1,100 – 1,200 a month

- Web page visits: 75,329.
- 46 deliveries were made to homebound patrons and those in nursing homes.
- Computers were used 12,808 times.
- Our Wi-Fi statistics are unavailable October – January, and therefore incomplete.
- Museum passes were borrowed 73 times with the New Britain Museum of American Art being the most popular.
- We offered 252 programs which were attended by 15,412 people.
- Technical Service created and upgraded over (3,896) 2,969 OCLC cataloging records.
- Our collection is comprised of 208,767 items. 39,084 items were withdrawn. 16,729 items were added.

Staff Additions

- Adult Services: Aimee Lemire, Head of Adult Services
- Technical Services: Patryk Zysek, FT Computer LTA
- YA Services: Larissa Tabb, Alexis Clark, part time Clerks.

Staff Departures

- Adult Services: Aimee Lemire, Head of Adult Services, Bernardo McLaughlin, PT Clerk.
- Circulation Department: Patryk Zysek, PT Circulation Clerk.
- Jefferson Branch: Christian Nunez-Rosa, Library Aide.
- Technical Services: Melissa LeFebvre, Computer Librarian.
- Young Adult Services: Karina Escobar, Larissa Tabb, part time Clerks.

Fundraising, Grants and Gifts

- Annuity bequest of the estate of Evelyn Berg, \$2,156.
- Annual Giving Campaign raised \$23,197.
- Barbara Becker Fund, \$500.
- Friends of the Library grant \$2,000.
- Leonard W. and Jeannette C. Varkal Fund \$500.
- Stanley Seniors Charitable Foundation, \$3,000.
- Community Foundation of Greater New Britain / Farmington Bank Community Foundation COVID mini grant for \$909.00.
- CT Everybody Learns Grant, \$73,528. (Connecticut's Coronavirus Relief Funds)

Pat Rutkowski
Director

NEW BRITAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF

As of 6/30/2021

ADMINISTRATION

Patricia Rutkowski , Library Director
Marian Farley, Assistant Director
Beth Iacampo, Human Resources Manager
Lisa Sandow, Administrative Assistant
Donna Maisto, Bookkeeper

CIRCULATION

Emily Berardino, Circulation Supervisor
Vicki Aiudi
Catherine Demetro
Kristina Farina
Seema Kumar
Vivian Qui
Chloe Santana
Lucia Werkheiser
Kiera Wojtaszek

JEFFERSON BRANCH

Kathleen Holly, Branch Supervisor
Susan Atwood
Norma Bisson

TECHNICAL SERVICES

Barbara Morse, Head of Technical Services
Janet Picano
Mahogany Rich
Megan Thompson
Joan Zakszewski
Ptryk Zysek

ADULT SERVICES REFERENCE

Head of Adult Services - vacant
Danielle Berube, Assistant Head of Adult Services
Vanessa Ayala
Crystal Casey
Christina Ehnott
Brett Garabedian
Legna Melendez
Bryan Morris
Jennifer Ohlund
Jason Villani

YOUNG ADULT

Emily Mulvey, Young Adult Supervisor
Alexis Clarke
Louise Courchaine

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Amy Litke, Head of Children's Services
Aneesa Aviles
Martha Baylock
Joann Bostrom
Audrey Carman
Catherine Cheney
Labiba Goni
Jade Shaheed
Stephen Woshinsky

MAINTENANCE

Todd Amoroso
Ernesto Baez
Thomas Dumais

	Budget FY 20-21	June FYE
REVENUES		
City Appropriation	3,025,000	3,025,000
State Grant	0	0
Desk receipts	15,000	5,208
Endowment	41,600	0
Gifts, grants, etc.	45,000	36,583
Sheehan Interest-computers	17,700	17,193
Borrowlt	3,349	17,062
NEH Grant Fund Income	5,900	0
Capital Improvement Funds	0	0
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>3,153,549</u>	<u>3,101,046</u>
EXPENSES		
Library Staff	1,812,863	1,710,044
Social Security	112,398	96,544
Medicare taxes	26,287	24,636
Employee insurance	420,000	356,118
Pension	108,430	71,568
Unemployment Compensation	10,000	1,671
TOTAL PERSONNEL	<u>2,489,978</u>	<u>2,260,582</u>
Audio Visual	51,000	40,121
Books	139,500	146,184
Microfilm	1,000	933
Periodicals	16,000	15,109
Realia	750	759
Software	2,750	1,240
On-line services	30,000	37,589
TOTAL MATERIALS	<u>241,000</u>	<u>241,935</u>
Building Improvements	0	0
Professional/contracted fees	14,000	20,707
Audit	14,000	12,250
Parking	3,600	3,259
Fuel and utilities	109,000	110,852
Equipment & furniture	8,000	8,278
Maintenance Contracts, etc.	47,500	82,852
Computers	17,700	13,651
Insurance	40,000	26,878
Library Supplies	15,000	24,169
Postage/Printing/Advertising	6,500	8,280
Building maintenance supls.	14,657	9,916
Security	41,351	101,412
Telephone	10,000	9,194
Automation system	52,614	52,614
Legal Fees	5,000	17,137
Travel	1,650	843
Training/conferences/etc.	4,500	1,657
Programming	13,000	7,442
Institutional dues	1,500	1,514
Educational Reimbursement	3,000	3,000
OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>422,572</u>	<u>515,905</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>3,153,550</u>	<u>3,018,421</u>

New Britain Youth Museum & Hungerford Nature Center



2020-2021

Annual Report

Hungerford Nature Center
191 Farmington Ave., Kensington, CT 06037
(860) 827-9064

New Britain Youth Museum
30 High Street, New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 225-3020

NewBritainYouthMuseum.org * HungerfordNatureCenter@gmail.com * [Facebook.com/HungerfordNatureCenterNBYM/](https://www.facebook.com/HungerfordNatureCenterNBYM/)

A letter from the President and Executive Director

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Susan D. Lovitt
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Robert Ramsey

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Youth Museum Office Manager

Debbie Ladd
Nature Center Program Coordinator
& Office Manager

Adam Marzi
Animal Care Coordinator,
Volunteer Coordinator & Educator

Sage Meehan
Membership Coordinator &
Nature Center Guest Services

Tom Pasocello
Executive Director

Nicole Sidwell
Educator

Wayne Smith
Animal Care

Rusty Spence
Maintenance

Donna Veach
Development & Marketing Director

This year, despite the great challenges of the pandemic, I am proud to say the New Britain Youth Museum and Hungerford Nature Center ended the year stronger than when it started. The continued challenges from the Covid-19 virus required us to reach deep into our creative abilities. Our dedicated and resilient staff, with incredible support from our Board of Directors, members, volunteers, donors, and community, made this year one of our most successful yet.

To keep our guests and staff safe, our downtown location was closed during the height of the pandemic. During this time, our Board of Directors and staff developed a strategic plan to transform the 66-year-old downtown museum into an “early beginnings science center.” Outdated, static museum exhibits were replaced with dozens of newly created, interactive, fun, hands-on exhibits, specifically designed for children ages 2-9. When the museum re-opened in May 2021, word quickly spread, and the museum is now bustling with inquisitive and happy children and their families.

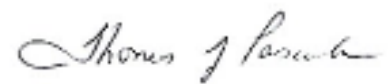
The renovations at the Hungerford Nature Center continued as well. New interactive, educational exhibits were installed. Our innovative new nocturnal room allows guests to see animals that are usually only active at night. Staff also created a new indoor ‘nature shack’ with exhibits to inspire young guests to learn more about the natural world around them. New animals were added to our collection, including our extremely popular baby skunk.

Due to Covid, traditional events, field trips, and on-site programs were curtailed, but our educators focused on creating a series of very successful virtual programs. These have been extremely well-received. Adam’s Fast Facts on Facebook helped grow our social media presence, as followers learn something new about animals and nature every day. And this year, as Connecticut began to re-open, we have once again been able to take our programs directly to students in schoolyards, day cares and community centers throughout the region.

The recent years have produced a plethora of changes for the New Britain Youth Museum and Hungerford Nature Center, as we continue to meet our goal of becoming one of the leading environmental and recreational destinations in Connecticut. We are extremely grateful for the continued financial support of the City of New Britain, as well as local foundations such as the American Savings Foundation, Community Foundation of Greater New Britain, the Marjorie Moore Foundation and the many corporations and individuals that have helped make possible many of the changes. Thank you for being a part of our rebirth.



Christopher LaSaracina, President



Thomas Pasocello, Executive Director

Thank You To Our Volunteers

"I have been part of the Hungerford Nature Center family for over 30 years. I began taking my daughters to Hungerford for visits with the animals and to attend classes. I was asked if I would be interested in helping out at events and my days of cooking pasta, flipping pancakes and carving pumpkins began. I was later hired as an instructor and was able to share my love of animals with the many students and guests who visited the center. I am now enjoying my retirement and have returned to a place I love, to volunteer my time and energy to a new generation of visitors at Hungerford. The center is growing and changing with the times and I look forward to being a part of its' future endeavors."

Cathy Meehan, Volunteer

"I volunteer because I believe the resident animals deserve no less than the best care that can be provided. They are the biggest draw to this facility. It's more important than ever to help the staff, past and present, who share the same love for the animals here. It's a pleasure to be able to assist them, to help them meet their goals of giving these wonderful animals the love and life they deserve."

Lisa R. Lozier, Volunteer

"I began volunteering at Hungerford over 25 years ago to fill some free time. It filled that free time and then some.

One of the greatest pleasures in spending so much time with one organization is you see how it changes, sometimes slowly, sometimes overnight.

I have watched children who came to play and learn come back as adults to teach and become valued members of the staff.

It is a small venue filled with wonderful exhibits and people dedicated to educating children and adults about nature, animals and the need to conserve for the future.

Those filler hours have been some of the most rewarding in my life."

Jean Larson, Volunteer and Board Member

Local Organizations that Support Animals Care through Student Volunteers

Southington VOAG

M.A.R.C.

A.R.C.

C.L.I.M.B.



Animal Care Volunteers

Lisa Lozier	Sara Frasier
Sue Silva	Ryson
Shaely	Melvin
Ava	Cameron
Lenina	Evangeline
Aymara	Kayon

Special Event Volunteers

Melissa Meehan	Jean Larson
Cathy Meehan	Debra DiCicco
Karie Walczewski	Sara Putala
David Ottavi	Loretta Putala

Interested in Volunteering

Please call for more information:
(860) 225-3020 to Volunteer at the Youth Museum.
(860) 827-9064 to Volunteer at Hungerford Nature Center.
Or Email HungerfordNatureCenter@gmail.com

Applications are available on our website:
www.newbritainyouthmuseum.org/volunteers

Year in Review

Exhibits

New exhibits are popping up everywhere at the Hungerford Nature Center. Visit our new Nocturnal Room and you can watch as our night time friends actively move around their new homes or interact with our push button window display, New England Nighttime.



Dress up like a beekeeper or step back in time and play with dinosaurs. Children can draw, build, create and play in the new Activity Area.

Guests can step inside the new Exploration Shack and discover themed, hands-on exhibits that will change throughout the year. Please explore these new areas. Enjoy them. There are more to come.

Animal Care

During the past year we have welcomed several new members to the Hungerford family. Our new goat, Charlotte, came to us in September, and who, to our surprise, was pregnant. On January 5th 2021, with a little help from Adam, Nessa was born!



We also welcomed our new friend who is so 'stinking' cute, Tux the skunk! He is a de-

scended eastern striped skunk that was picked up from a breeder in Iowa earlier this year. He is just about 5 months old.



We have begun to add some fun enrichment toys for our larger animals to interact with. A seesaw, a large scratching post and a swing are just the beginning.



Special Events

This year's long awaited auction was held in June at our Hungerford Park site. We decided to host there as things were still up in the air with COVID and we wanted to show off our beautiful patio/outdoor educational area. The plan is to utilize this space moving forward for special events and rentals. The auction was well attended (a bit warm) but everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and get some real great deals. We've decided to host a holiday auction on December 4th at the Shuttle Meadow Country Club so "Save the Date." Michael is coming back with his music and we will have dinner and dancing as well. Hope you can all join us.

New Britain Youth Museum Renovations

Despite the challenges of COVID19, the downtown site was able to be renovated and re-opened to the public in June of 2021. With the help of the Mayor's Charitable Foundation, a new hands-on exhibit was installed in New Britain. This *please touch* exhibit geared towards children ages 2-9 offers an introduction to S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics). Various exhibits have been constructed to encourage children to learn about the world of science while having fun. Attendance has been great since our opening and we've received a lot of positive feedback. Come visit us for a tour.



Membership

Our membership continues to grow. Benefits include free or discounted admission to museums and nature centers as part of Association of Nature Center Administrators (ANCA), American Horticulture Society (AHS), Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums (ROAM), North American Reciprocal Museum Association (NARM) and Association of Science – Technology Center (ASTC).

By the Numbers

NEW BRITAIN YOUTH MUSEUM STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION JUNE 30, 2021

ASSETS		LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS		CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$244,074	Amounts due to related parts	\$978
Investments	360,102	Accounts payable	795
Inventory	361	Accrued taxes and expenses	<u>51,598</u>
Prepaid expenses	<u>5,963</u>		
Total Current Assets	610,500	Total Current Liabilities	53,371
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		NET ASSETS	
Building improvements	145,767	Unrestricted net assets	
Furniture and equipment	<u>125,790</u>	Unrestricted net assets	85,295
	271,557	Board designated net assets	<u>25,256</u>
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(248,072)</u>		
Total Property and Equipment	<u>23,485</u>	Total Unrestricted Net Assets	110,551
Total Assets	<u>\$633,985</u>	Temporarily restricted net assets	<u>470,063</u>
		Total Net Assets	<u>580,614</u>
		Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$633,985</u>

	<u>UNRESTRICTED</u>	<u>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
SUPPORT AND REVENUES			
City of New Britain	\$362,000	\$ ---	\$362,000
Contributions	36,613	---	36,613
Grants	---	97,429	97,429
Program income	44,092	---	44,092
Memberships	4,937	---	4,937
Special events	17,362	---	17,362
Interest income	3	---	3
Investment income	---	13,650	13,650
Gain on investments	---	312	312
Unrealized gain on investments	---	60,962	60,962
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>55,245</u>	<u>(55,245)</u>	<u>---</u>
Total Support and Revenues	<u>520,252</u>	<u>117,108</u>	<u>637,360</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Program services	307,372	---	307,372
Management and general	<u>181,761</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>181,761</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>489,133</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>489,133</u>
Total Support and Revenues over Expenditures	31,119	117,108	148,227
OTHER INCOME			
Gain on debt cancellation	<u>56,845</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>56,845</u>
Increase in Net Assets	87,964	117,108	205,072
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	<u>22,587</u>	<u>352,955</u>	<u>375,542</u>
Net Assets at End of Year	<u>\$110,551</u>	<u>\$470,063</u>	<u>\$580,614</u>

13 Virtual Programs for 525 New Britain students.

8 Virtual Programs for 251 students

6 groups visited the Hungerford Nature Center with a total of 80 students.

1,291 Children visited

150 people attended Special Events.

There were 33 Off Site programs, reaching 853 students.

Members: 902

1,594 Adults visited

Members

Family Plus Members

Elizabeth Basinger
Mary Bathrick
Frank Bradley
Sandra Brown
Wenching Chen
Mary Peterson Cook
Amanda Costa
Kelly Dirga
Katherine Dow
Maria Falvo
Falvo Family
Hengyu/Hsieh Family
Elsa Interlandi & Family
Elise Kiser
Jean Larson
Maloney Family
Linda Mattie
Melissa Meehan and Alex Folson
Kenneth & Catherine Meehan
Michael Melillo
Parciak Family
John and Vera Racine
Susan & John Rathgeber
Rollins Family
Sirotnak Family
Kathleen Welch

Family Members

Adhikari Family
Ed Alicea
Alicki Family
Sharon Andrews
Jenn Baker
Bannon Family
Berry Family
Betenvia-Sotak Family
Bouyea Family
Branciforte Family
Brodeur Family
Mary Kate Buckley
Nadine Cabrera
Ann Cai
Cassetta Family
Cistulli Family
Coley Family
Roberta Collins
Roger and Patricia Coyle
Cummings Family
Curtin Family
Jennifer Davis-Thibeault
John and Ruth Day
Amy and Justin DeAngelis
Verna DelCegno

Denorfia Family
DesSureauult Family
Pat Downing
Michael Dumais
Rob and Betsy Egleston
Faria Family
Fournier Family
Maria Flejter
Gibbons Family
Katie Goodridge
Greco/Johnson Family
Paul Griswold
Hawker Family
Karen Hoang
Bruce and Lorraine Huffaker
Jessica Iudiciani
Jarman-Smith Family
Stella Jarosz
Kadzielnile Family
Joanna Knyps
Tracey Kochey
MaryAnne Kolitsidas
Andrew Kulak
Nancy Lambert
Lee Family
Lents Family
Katlyn Liegeot
Lozier Family
Macke Family
Christine Maffucci
Marchese Family
Marturana Family
Pat & Ron Marzi
Matteis/Kerivan Family
Susan McQuarrie
Sarah and Doug Meaney
Marisol Mercado
Mezzei Family
Kim Mildrum
George & Andra Millerd
Logan Milliken
Robert Mittica
Joan Morgan
Murphy Family
Napoletano Family
Niemczycki Family
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Yaron Ofer
O'Leary Family
Olsen Family
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Pavano Family
Peck Family
Plewa Family
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Sharon Stoddard
Lorraine & Larry Stub
Raphael Suda
Trott Family
Wu Family
Brian Zahaba
Michael Zame
Zavatsky Family
Ziomek Family

Individual Members

Thomas Bozek
Lisa Day
Irene DiPace
Elva Stregowski

Libraries

Berlin-Peck Memorial Library
Burlington Public Library
East Hartford Public Library
Guilford Free Library
Meriden Public Library
New Britain Public Library
Richmond Memorial Library
Wethersfield Public Library

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Margaret Renzella
Brierley Johnson

Special thanks to all our Summer Solstice Auction Donors

The New Britain Industrial Museum

The New Britain Industrial Museum spread its wings in 2020-21, unfolding into the New Britain National Bank lobby that had been virtually empty for 30 years.



We swept off dust from the 1990's, swabbed the marble floors and exploded into newly titled ANVIL PLACE with our New Britain made treasures - many not before exhibited. A newly donated Landers stove, gleaming Fafnir ball bearing sample cases, North and Judd spurs gathered from the old west - and many other wonders all appeared for the first time in the expansive room - one of the City's finest spaces.

THE NEW BRITAIN
INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM

A T

ANVIL PLACE

See the objects that gave New Britain the title
"THE HARDWARE CITY OF THE WORLD"



Hours: Wednesday and Saturday 1PM-3:30PM
Admission free by reservation through December 12!
Suggested donation: \$5

PLEASE CALL UPON ARRIVAL (860) 832-8654

THIS SPECIAL EXHIBIT WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY:
MUTUAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION OF GREATER HARTFORD, INC.
CITY OF NEW BRITAIN ARTS ALLIANCE AND THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT
THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER NEW BRITAIN AND THE FARMINGTON BANK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PROVIDED FUNDS THAT MADE THIS PROJECT POSSIBLE
ACME-MONACO, INC. AND KARABIN FARMS
JOAN MORGAN
DIANE PULITO

The New Britain Industrial Museum is a division of the New Britain Institute.

With our triad mission always in mind - **collecting, conserving and exhibiting** the marvelous and endless products from New Britain's two centuries - we defied the forces of doom and gloom with this multitude of sparkling things.

So, very fortunate indeed were those hearty folk who visited from far and wide!

Collection

There is never an end to - "I couldn't just throw it out", "wonder if you have", and "cleaning out and found" - the calls and visits with boxes and bags of hidden treasures we enjoy. Why should the - *year pandemic* - be any different!

Happily, within our great organization is the Youth Museum, from which we inherited wonderful industrial objects - including a mega **Corbin display key**, and a fearsome **dragon from the old Fafnir plant** - just two of dozens of fine objects out of this collection.



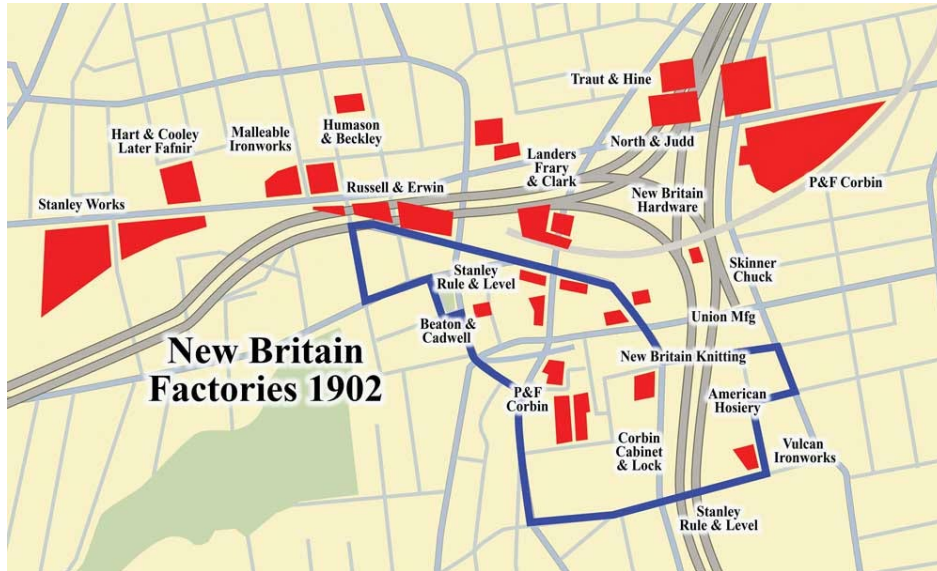
Members and people from all over the country call or email to offer tools, appliances and all other things New Britain. A donor from Alaska recently shipped us a vintage collection of Stanley booklets and plans for the home workshop. Much closer to home, **Casimir Slipski** donated a fine array of his Stanley power tools, and the oak tool chest he was awarded as an employee of the company.

Beverly Harris (husband Don worked at Fafnir) donated her father's tool boxes and tools used to build houses in New Britain, and a handsome picture for our Industrial League exhibit with a Tug-O-War team featuring Beverly's uncle John R. Peterson. And you can see countless other recent donations when you visit!



Exhibits - Factory Walking Tour

In addition to the Anvil Place exhibit, curator **Riza Brown** led the creation of a **factory walking tour** - and she also led enthusiastic tour groups around the streets of New Britain to see what once was and what remains of the factories. We had a major assist from **Gary Hudkins** who prepared the graphics and maps.



Please call the office or email to schedule a tour!

Other Milestones

- June 2020 - Farewell to Sophie Huget Mitten
- July 2020 - Planning Exhibits at Anvil Place
- Participation in Connecticut Historical Society "Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy"
- September 2020 - Downtown Car Show Display
- October 2020 - Open Anvil Place Exhibit
- March 2021 - New Computer Server and Data Preservation Project [Cloud]
- June 2021 - New Raymond Engineering information sharing site opened.
- Participate in Statewide Museum *Open House Day*
- Launch Factory Walking Tour



Membership and Public Donations

As is always the case, our membership provides the lion share of the NBIM operating budget. Major Contributors follow - but many contributions of various sizes are essential to our support. We appreciate and need all these donations to continue with our important mission, no matter the size!

Community Fund of Greater New Britain
Farmington Bank Community Foundation
Saturday Night Club
State of Connecticut - City of New Britain Commission on the Arts
Karabin Farms

Volunteers

Warmest thanks to our Docents and Program Volunteers:

[in random order]

Without Their Help Our Museum Could NOT Exist

Bill Paris
Julie Dyson
Roger Thorin
Allen Nelson
Justine Beach de Cruz
Margery Chase
Randy Judd
Ken Ayers

**We are Pleased to Announce that the Recipient of the 2020-21
Volunteer of the year award is **WILLIAM PARIS****

NBIM Board

Thank You to the Board of Directors 2020-2021

Jonathan Scott, Chairman
Stephen Mangan, Vice Chairman
Randall Judd, Treasurer
Frank Bradley, Secretary
Julie Dyson, Director
Mallory Howard, Director
Craig Nolan, Director
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