

March 24, 2026

Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Consent Items
 - a. January 2026 minutes
 - b. January 2026 financials
 - c. February 2026 financials
4. President's Report
5. Information Items
 - a. Staff Reports (Attachments)
 - i. Assistant Director's Report
 - ii. Adult Report
 - iii. Teen Report
 - iv. Children's Report
 - b. Auxiliary Board
6. Board Discussion
 - a. Strategic Plan
 - b. Discovery Zone/Learnique Update
 - c. Library Programming
7. Mission Moments
8. New Business

Next meeting dates: Tuesday, May 19 – 7:30 pm

Tuesday, June 16 - 7:30 pm

Minutes of the January 27, 2026
RFRR Board Meeting

Lina Eroh began the meeting at 7:36. Lina welcomed the incoming trustees, Joe Lorano and Stephanie Larsen.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda contained the minutes of the December 2025 board meeting and the December 2025 financial statements. Kathleen made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Jan seconded. All approved.

President's Report

Lina thanked the trustees for their contributions to the annual campaign and the completion of their trustee training requirements.

Staff Reports

Director's Report

Chris reported that he would send out trustee education opportunities shortly. The bathroom renovation is going well. They will be completed on time for the annual meeting. Someone has approached the library about doing a podcast using the RyeTV equipment. Chris is reviewing the IMLS grant possibilities for this year to see if one is possible for the library. Chris then went over the 2025 year end statistics. Circulation was up, mostly from digital content. There was no increase in children's fiction circulation despite additional spending. This is perhaps due to the new shelving system by series rather than author. Door count and adult programming were up. There was a question about additional ebooks for children. Hoopla has been reduced because WLS's funding has been reduced. The library buys more print books for children than ebooks.

Adult Services

Catherine reported that the meeting room is being heavily used by the community. The mahjong group is very successful. She asked if any trustees knew a mah jong instructor since an additional one is needed.

Teen Services

Catherine reported that last Friday was a lock-in with laser tag. Forty-eight attended. There is a new policy on checking out board games designed to combat the issue of missing pieces. They now must be checked out even for use in the library and the pieces are checked both at check-out and check-in.

Children's Services

Catherine reported that the read to a dog program called Arf is very popular. Two children at a time can read to a dog for 15 minutes. The American Girl dolls are quite popular. The library now has a version for younger children ages 18 months and up that comes with a board book and fewer parts.

Auxiliary Board

Auxiliary Board Meredythe reported that two chairs have been chosen for Vehicle Fair on May 31. The theme for Novel Night is "Icons Only". They are busy lining up sponsors to front load the fund raising.

Discovery Zone update:

Chris reported that Learn'ique had presented a proposal for monitoring the space, programming and clean up. The library staff member who had been monitoring the space has retired. The Learn'ique proposal would provide a designated staff member trained in early childhood education Monday through Friday from 3:00 to 6:00. This person will maintain order in the space, provide one directed educational activity per day, and reorganize and sanitize the toys and materials daily. The toys would also be checked for damage or missing parts and replaced as needed. A cost for a full year would be \$34,000. A pilot program from now until June would cost \$14,300. A discussion of the proposal ensued. Meredythe commented that it would increase the Auxiliary Board's budget, necessitating more fundraising. The issues that are trying to be resolved include staffing and being able to provide more active engagement and upkeep on the space both cleaning up and replacing broken or missing toys. Lina suggested that a survey be taken after the pilot to decide how it was received. Georgia moved that the Board approve a pilot project from February 2026 to June 2026. Jenny seconded. All approved.

Building Committee

Chris reported that during the security system upgrade it was discovered that window monitors were not working. Securitas suggested that the library switch to motion detectors. They recommended 7 motion detectors but felt 4 could do the job. The board discussed the merits of 7 rather than 4 motion detectors. It was determined that 7 detectors at a cost of \$6,900 would be preferable. Jackie made a motion to use of \$6,900 from Capital Projects to supplement the existing security system upgrade. Jim seconded. All approved.

Finance Committee

Katie reported that Val will be the new treasurer after the annual meeting. The audit kick off meeting went well. She recommended that the library transfer \$100,000 from operating cash on hand to the Capital Projects fund. Emilie so moved. Jan seconded. All approved.

Development Committee

Georgia reported that the 2025 annual fund wrapped up with a total of \$381,000 raised. There were only 74 new friends this year compared to 125 last year. She announced that Emilie will take over Development next year.

Strategic Planning

Lina reported on the highlights of the survey of the board. Strategic planning should start with what the library wants to be in the next 5 years. There was a discussion on the library's mission statement about being a dynamic gathering place for life-long learning. Should the focus be on reading or as a community gathering place. It was suggested that the board should have a retreat to discuss core values.

Mission Moments

Chris reminded all about the annual meeting on February 5 with a conversation with Nathaniel Philbrick, the 2026 Mayor's Award recipient.

There being no further business, Lina called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Val so moved. Georgia seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14.



January Financials

Printing & Publicity includes all expenses for printing and mailing of the Annual Report

Action: The Board approve the January Financials

Rye Free Reading Room
Income and Expense Report
For 1 Month Ending January 31, 2026

	Current Month 2026	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD Budget	2026 Budget
Income				
City of Rye	\$ 831,500	\$ 831,500	\$ 831,500	\$ 1,663,000
Annual Campaign	\$ 20,631	\$ 20,631	\$ 23,333	\$ 280,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 2,731	\$ 2,731	\$ 2,917	\$ 35,000
Osborn Branch Library	\$ 3,672	\$ 3,672	\$ 4,422	\$ 53,066
Auxiliary Board Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000
Endowment Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110,000
	<u>\$ 858,534</u>	<u>\$ 858,534</u>	<u>\$ 862,172</u>	<u>\$ 2,221,066</u>
Expense				
Library Materials				
Books	\$ 8,982	\$ 8,982	\$ 8,240	\$ 98,885
Audio Visual	\$ 135	\$ 135	\$ 2,162	\$ 25,940
Periodicals	\$ 1,592	\$ 1,592	\$ 1,075	\$ 12,900
Programs	\$ 1,912	\$ 1,912	\$ 1,125	\$ 13,500
Ebooks/ Binding	\$ 9,778	\$ 9,778	\$ 7,167	\$ 86,000
	<u>\$ 22,399</u>	<u>\$ 22,399</u>	<u>\$ 19,769</u>	<u>\$ 237,225</u>
Library Operations				
Supplies	\$ 1,670	\$ 1,670	\$ 1,273	\$ 15,270
Equipment & Systems - New	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 333	\$ 4,000
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 375	\$ 4,500
Automated Systems	\$ 1,573	\$ 1,573	\$ 7,938	\$ 95,250
Telephone	\$ 813	\$ 813	\$ 583	\$ 7,000
Postage	\$ 1,275	\$ 1,275	\$ 833	\$ 10,000
Printing & Publicity	\$ 11,466	\$ 11,466	\$ 2,500	\$ 30,000
Auditing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,083	\$ 25,000
Legal Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 167	\$ 2,000
Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfer to Designated Account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 929	\$ 929	\$ 650	\$ 7,800
	<u>\$ 17,726</u>	<u>\$ 17,726</u>	<u>\$ 16,735</u>	<u>\$ 200,820</u>
Building Operations				
Heat	\$ 6,776	\$ 6,776	\$ 2,250	\$ 27,000
Light & Power	\$ 2,143	\$ 2,143	\$ 2,958	\$ 35,500
Water & Sewer	\$ 237	\$ 237	\$ 875	\$ 10,500
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	\$ -	\$ 8,478	\$ 417	\$ 5,000
Building Supplies	\$ 405	\$ 405	\$ 1,000	\$ 12,000
Contracted Services	\$ 6,305	\$ 6,305	\$ 3,083	\$ 37,000
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 18,000
Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,154	\$ 37,850
Capital Projects Fund Transfer	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 116,866</u>	<u>\$ 125,344</u>	<u>\$ 115,238</u>	<u>\$ 282,850</u>
Personnel				
Salaries	\$ 88,028	\$ 88,028	\$ 94,989	\$ 1,139,866
Social Security	\$ 6,569	\$ 6,569	\$ 7,311	\$ 87,737
Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 149,462
Medical Insurance	\$ 6,308	\$ 6,308	\$ 7,803	\$ 93,634
Other Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,333	\$ 16,000
Payroll Services	\$ 1,262	\$ 1,262	\$ 583	\$ 7,000
Staff Development	\$ 137	\$ 137	\$ 417	\$ 5,000
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 102,304</u>	<u>\$ 102,304</u>	<u>\$ 112,436</u>	<u>\$ 1,498,699</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 858,534</u>	<u>\$ 858,534</u>	<u>\$ 862,172</u>	<u>\$ 2,221,066</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$ 259,295</u>	<u>\$ 267,773</u>	<u>\$ 264,178</u>	<u>\$ 2,219,594</u>
Net Receipts (Expense)	<u>\$ 599,239</u>	<u>\$ 590,761</u>	<u>\$ 597,995</u>	<u>\$ 1,472</u>

For 1 Month Ending January 31, 2026

	Unrestricted (Operating)	Temp. Restricted (Designated)	Endowment and Board Restricted	Combined
Income				
City of Rye	\$ 831,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 831,500
Annual Campaign	20,631	0	0	20,631
Contribution	-	0	0	-
Grants	-	0	0	-
Osborn Branch Library	3,672	0	0	3,672
Income from Invested and Equity	-	0	1,465	1,465
Miscellaneous	2,731	0	0	2,731
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Designated	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Cap Projects	-100,000	100,000	0	-
	<u>758,534</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>1,465</u>	<u>859,999</u>
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	0	0	0	-
Transfer: Endowment to Operating	0	0	0	-
Appreciation/Depreciation			0	52,695
			<u>52,695</u>	<u>52,695</u>
Total Funds	758,534	100,000	54,160	912,694
Expense				
Library Materials				
Books	8,982	0	0	8,982
Audio Visual	135	0	0	135
Periodicals	1,592	0	0	1,592
Programs	1,912	2,960	0	4,872
Online Resources	9,778	0	0	9,778
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	<u>22,399</u>	<u>2,960</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,359</u>
Library Operations				
Supplies	1,670	0	0	1,670
Equipment & Systems - New	0	0	0	-
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	0	0	0	-
Automated Systems	1,573	0	0	1,573
Telephone	813	0	0	813
Postage	1,275	0	0	1,275
Printing & Publicity	11,466	0	0	11,466
Auditing	0	0	0	-
Interest	0	0	0	-
Legal Services	0	0	0	-
Miscellaneous	929	0	0	929
	<u>17,726</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>17,726</u>
Building Operations				
Heat	6,776	0	0	6,776
Light & Power	2,143	0	0	2,143
Water & Sewer	237	0	0	237
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	8,478	6,927	0	15,405
Building Supplies	405	0	0	405
Contracted Services	6,305	12,437	0	18,742
Repairs & Maintenance	1,000	0	0	1,000
Insurance	0	0	0	-
Miscellaneous	0	0	3,933	3,933
	<u>25,344</u>	<u>19,364</u>	<u>3,933</u>	<u>48,641</u>
Personnel				
Salaries	88,028	0	0	88,028
Social Security	6,569	0	0	6,569
Retirement	0	0	0	-
Medical Insurance	6,308	0	0	6,308
Other Insurance	0	0	0	-
Payroll Services	1,262	0	0	1,262
Staff Development	137	0	0	137
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	<u>102,304</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>102,304</u>
Total Expense	167,773	22,324	3,933	194,030
Net Receipts/Expenses	590,761	77,676	50,227	718,664
Prior Year Funds	407,118	677,714	2,335,519	3,420,350
Balance	997,879	755,390	2,385,746	4,139,015

Rye Free Reading Room
Endowment Report
January 2026

Endowment Inflows/Outflows:	YTD 2026	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Beg of Period (Market Value)	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398	2,109,492
Expenses	(3,933)	(15,603)	(15,538)	(14,636)
Transfer to/from Other Funds	0	(100,000)	(101,387)	(105,000)
Interest & Dividend Income	1,465	72,776	60,868	53,480
Appreciation	52,695	157,220	116,785	117,063
End of Period Bal (Market Value)	2,385,746	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398
Endowment Performance	2.15%	9.65%	7.50%	7.39%
Return of S&P 500	1.45%	17.88%	25.02%	26.29%
Return of Barclays Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index	0.11%	7.30%	1.25%	5.53%

Silvercrest:		YTD 2026	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Cash & Equivalents	3%	70,037	66,153	111,218	(27,006)
Fixed Income	36%	766,970	766,991	669,740	760,448
Equities	52%	1,113,560	1,072,653	1,157,022	1,166,785
Gold	7%	149,809	144,945	24,213	19,117
Other	2%	44,061	43,469	31,358	30,573
Silvercrest Total	100%	2,144,437	2,094,210	1,993,551	1,949,918

Endowment Breakdown at:		Permanently Restricted & Board Designated	Temp Restricted	Total
	YTD 2026			
Shea		41,680	62,343	104,023
Flores		76,650	621	77,271
Balf		27,390	32,625	60,015
Silvercrest		745,086	1,399,351	2,144,437
		\$ 890,806	1,494,940	2,385,746

**Rye Free Reading Room
Annual Campaign
January 2026 YTD**

<i>Donations to the Current Annual Campaign</i>		2023	2024	2025	2026
Donations received & deposited in	JAN	32,982	3,137	18,105	9,264
	FEB	1,446	1,255	14,900	-
	MAR	2,953	6,143	2,295	-
	APR	4,214	15,077	2,279	-
	MAY	2,689	3,311	52,865	-
	JUN	1,736	7,783	11,260	-
	JUL	9,500	69,110	53,367	-
	AUG	1,032	10,330	6,509	-
	SEP	16,056	9,775	15,672	-
	OCT	134,064	32,760	41,740	-
	NOV	35,114	76,764	55,613	-
	DEC	64,832	87,511	93,200	-
	Total	306,618	322,956	367,805	9,264
Donations to <i>Previous or Subsequent</i> Annual Campaigns					
Donations to <i>prior</i> Annual Campaigns		30,883	12,738	20,931	11,367
Donations to the <i>subsequent</i> Annual Campaign		0	0	-	-
<i>Sub-total</i>		30,883	12,738	20,931	11,367



February Financials

Automated systems includes \$34K to WLS for their systems, its a semi-annual payment, balance will be paid in January

Auditing includes \$12k to Grassi & Co for the audit. Half of total balance, will pay remainder when they finish audited financial statements (July)

Furniture & Fixtures includes \$3.3k for new brass outlet covers (under self checkout table)

Repairs includes \$1.5k to Polytemp for boiler maintenance and \$1.3k to Roto Rooter for 2nd floor bathroom issues

Insurance includes \$7.6k to Regan agency for building liability insurance

Action: The Board approve the February Financials

Rye Free Reading Room
Income and Expense Report
For 2 Months Ending February 28, 2026

	Current Month 2026	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD Budget	2026 Budget
Income				
City of Rye	\$ -	\$ 831,500	\$ 831,500	\$ 1,663,000
Annual Campaign	\$ 10,339	\$ 30,970	\$ 46,667	\$ 280,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 1,604	\$ 4,336	\$ 5,833	\$ 35,000
Osborn Branch Library	\$ 4,667	\$ 8,339	\$ 8,844	\$ 53,066
Auxiliary Board Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000
Endowment Transfer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110,000
	<u>\$ 16,609</u>	<u>\$ 875,145</u>	<u>\$ 892,844</u>	<u>\$ 2,221,066</u>
Expense				
Library Materials				
Books	\$ 6,675	\$ 15,657	\$ 16,481	\$ 98,885
Audio Visual	\$ 198	\$ 333	\$ 4,323	\$ 25,940
Periodicals	\$ 300	\$ 1,892	\$ 2,150	\$ 12,900
Programs	\$ 1,763	\$ 3,675	\$ 2,250	\$ 13,500
Ebooks/ Binding	\$ -	\$ 9,778	\$ 14,333	\$ 86,000
	<u>\$ 8,936</u>	<u>\$ 31,335</u>	<u>\$ 39,538</u>	<u>\$ 237,225</u>
Library Operations				
Supplies	\$ 1,751	\$ 3,421	\$ 2,545	\$ 15,270
Equipment & Systems - New	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 667	\$ 4,000
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ 4,500
Automated Systems	\$ 37,357	\$ 38,930	\$ 15,875	\$ 95,250
Telephone	\$ 334	\$ 1,147	\$ 1,167	\$ 7,000
Postage	\$ 963	\$ 2,238	\$ 1,667	\$ 10,000
Printing & Publicity	\$ 1,312	\$ 12,778	\$ 5,000	\$ 30,000
Auditing	\$ 12,330	\$ 12,330	\$ 4,167	\$ 25,000
Legal Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 333	\$ 2,000
Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfer to Designated Account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 485	\$ 1,414	\$ 1,300	\$ 7,800
	<u>\$ 54,532</u>	<u>\$ 72,258</u>	<u>\$ 33,470</u>	<u>\$ 200,820</u>
Building Operations				
Heat	\$ -	\$ 6,776	\$ 4,500	\$ 27,000
Light & Power	\$ 2,326	\$ 4,469	\$ 5,917	\$ 35,500
Water & Sewer	\$ 220	\$ 456	\$ 1,750	\$ 10,500
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	\$ 3,388	\$ 3,388	\$ 833	\$ 5,000
Building Supplies	\$ 854	\$ 1,259	\$ 2,000	\$ 12,000
Contracted Services	\$ 2,245	\$ 8,550	\$ 6,167	\$ 37,000
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 3,244	\$ 4,244	\$ 3,000	\$ 18,000
Insurance	\$ 7,604	\$ 7,604	\$ 6,308	\$ 37,850
Capital Projects Fund Transfer	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 19,881</u>	<u>\$ 136,746</u>	<u>\$ 130,475</u>	<u>\$ 282,850</u>
Personnel				
Salaries	\$ 86,439	\$ 174,468	\$ 189,978	\$ 1,139,866
Social Security	\$ 6,447	\$ 13,016	\$ 14,623	\$ 87,737
Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,910	\$ 149,462
Medical Insurance	\$ 10,821	\$ 17,130	\$ 15,606	\$ 93,634
Other Insurance	\$ 988	\$ 988	\$ 2,667	\$ 16,000
Payroll Services	\$ 739	\$ 2,001	\$ 1,167	\$ 7,000
Staff Development	\$ 2,014	\$ 2,151	\$ 833	\$ 5,000
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	<u>\$ 107,448</u>	<u>\$ 209,754</u>	<u>\$ 249,783</u>	<u>\$ 1,498,699</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 16,609</u>	<u>\$ 875,145</u>	<u>\$ 892,844</u>	<u>\$ 2,221,066</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$ 190,796</u>	<u>\$ 450,093</u>	<u>\$ 453,266</u>	<u>\$ 2,219,594</u>
Net Receipts (Expense)	<u>\$ (174,187)</u>	<u>\$ 425,052</u>	<u>\$ 439,579</u>	<u>\$ 1,472</u>

For 2 Months Ending February 28, 2026

	Unrestricted (Operating)	Temp. Restricted (Designated)	Endowment and Board Restricted	Combined
Income				
City of Rye	\$ 831,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 831,500
Annual Campaign	30,970	0	0	30,970
Contribution	-	0	0	-
Grants	-	0	0	-
Osborn Branch Library	8,339	0	0	8,339
Income from Invested and Equity	-	0	3,448	3,448
Miscellaneous	4,336	0	0	4,336
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Designated	-	0	0	-
Transfer: Operating to Cap Projects	-100,000	100,000	0	-
	<u>775,145</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>3,448</u>	<u>878,593</u>
Transfer: Auxiliary to Operating	0	0	0	-
Transfer: Endowment to Operating	0	0	0	-
Appreciation/Depreciation			104,037	104,037
Total Funds	775,145	100,000	107,485	982,630
Expense				
Library Materials				
Books	15,657	0	0	15,657
Audio Visual	333	0	0	333
Periodicals	1,892	0	0	1,892
Programs	3,675	14,683	0	18,358
Online Resources	9,778	0	0	9,778
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	<u>31,335</u>	<u>14,683</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>46,018</u>
Library Operations				
Supplies	3,421	0	0	3,421
Equipment & Systems - New	0	0	0	-
Equipment & Systems - Maintenance	0	0	0	-
Automated Systems	38,930	20,111	0	59,041
Telephone	1,147	0	0	1,147
Postage	2,238	0	0	2,238
Printing & Publicity	12,778	0	0	12,778
Auditing	12,330	0	0	12,330
Interest	0	0	0	-
Legal Services	0	0	0	-
Miscellaneous	1,414	0	0	1,414
	<u>72,258</u>	<u>20,111</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>92,369</u>
Building Operations				
Heat	6,776	0	0	6,776
Light & Power	4,469	0	0	4,469
Water & Sewer	456	0	0	456
Fixtures, Furnishings & Equipment	3,388	27,602	0	30,990
Building Supplies	1,259	0	0	1,259
Contracted Services	8,550	12,437	0	20,987
Repairs & Maintenance	4,244	0	0	4,244
Insurance	7,604	0	0	7,604
Miscellaneous	0	0	3,933	3,933
	<u>36,746</u>	<u>40,039</u>	<u>3,933</u>	<u>80,718</u>
Personnel				
Salaries	174,468	0	0	174,468
Social Security	13,016	0	0	13,016
Retirement	0	0	0	-
Medical Insurance	17,130	0	0	17,130
Other Insurance	988	0	0	988
Payroll Services	2,001	0	0	2,001
Staff Development	2,151	0	0	2,151
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	-
	<u>209,754</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>209,754</u>
Total Expense	350,093	74,833	3,933	428,859
Net Receipts/Expenses	425,052	25,167	103,552	553,771
Prior Year Funds	407,118	677,714	2,335,519	3,420,350
Balance	832,170	702,881	2,439,071	3,974,122

Rye Free Reading Room
Endowment Report
February 2026

Endowment Inflows/Outflows:	YTD 2026	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Beg of Period (Market Value)	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398	2,109,492
Expenses	(3,933)	(15,603)	(15,538)	(14,636)
Transfer to/from Other Funds	0	(100,000)	(101,387)	(105,000)
Interest & Dividend Income	3,448	72,776	60,868	53,480
Appreciation	104,037	157,220	116,785	117,063
End of Period Bal (Market Value)	2,439,071	2,335,519	2,221,126	2,160,398
Endowment Performance	4.43%	9.65%	7.50%	7.39%
Return of S&P 500	0.68%	17.88%	25.02%	26.29%
Return of Barclays Bloomberg Aggregate Bond Index	1.75%	7.30%	1.25%	5.53%

Silvercrest:		YTD 2026	YTD 2025	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Cash & Equivalents	3%	71,029	66,153	111,218	(27,006)
Fixed Income	35%	770,533	766,991	669,740	760,448
Equities	53%	1,158,697	1,072,653	1,157,022	1,166,785
Gold	7%	153,689	144,945	24,213	19,117
Other	2%	43,814	43,469	31,358	30,573
Silvercrest Total	100%	2,197,762	2,094,210	1,993,551	1,949,918

Endowment Breakdown at:		Permanently Restricted & Board Designated	Temp Restricted	Total
	YTD 2026			
Shea	41,680	62,343	104,023	
Flores	76,650	621	77,271	
Balf	27,390	32,625	60,015	
Silvercrest	745,086	1,452,676	2,197,762	
	\$ 890,806	1,548,265	2,439,071	

**Rye Free Reading Room
Annual Campaign
February 2026 YTD**

<i>Donations to the Current Annual Campaign</i>		2023	2024	2025	2026
Donations received & deposited in	JAN	32,982	3,137	18,105	9,264
	FEB	1,446	1,255	14,900	10,339
	MAR	2,953	6,143	2,295	-
	APR	4,214	15,077	2,279	-
	MAY	2,689	3,311	52,865	-
	JUN	1,736	7,783	11,260	-
	JUL	9,500	69,110	53,367	-
	AUG	1,032	10,330	6,509	-
	SEP	16,056	9,775	15,672	-
	OCT	134,064	32,760	41,740	-
	NOV	35,114	76,764	55,613	-
	DEC	64,832	87,511	93,200	-
	Total	306,618	322,956	367,805	19,603
Donations to <i>Previous or Subsequent</i> Annual Campaigns					
Donations to <i>prior</i> Annual Campaigns		30,883	12,738	20,931	11,367
Donations to the <i>subsequent</i> Annual Campaign		0	0	-	-
<i>Sub-total</i>		30,883	12,738	20,931	11,367

Assistant Directors Report

LIBRARY OPERATIONS:

- Reviewed Departmental budgets with Business manager
- Reviewed the new Hoopla limit to lending policy with WLS and Library staff

STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Began discussion with all departments regarding an examination of library programming for the future.
- Attended Morgan Stanley Reimaging Libraries Innovations on site conference, Morgan Stanley, 2000 Westchester Avenue, Purchase, NY

FUNDRAISING, OUTREACH & COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

- Vehicle Fair
- Rye Seniors Book Club

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- RFRR 2026 Annual Meeting
- Planning Community Viewing Party for Playing for Keeps: The Upside of Downtime with RyeAct, IRL, Rye YMCA, Rye Recreation, pRYEde, WLS, Disconnect to Reconnect and other community organizations
- Met with Abbey Kumar to discuss Learnique's supervision of the Discovery Zone

BUILDING & GROUNDS

- Polytemp did the first of a bi-annual service call for library heating and cooling systems
- Borelli came to work on the boiler
- Joe contacted the gardener to clean up the garden after winter
- Sonitrol completed the security system upgrade

STAFF & PERSONNEL

- Department Meetings with Circulation, Adult, Teen and Children's Departments
- Began planning Family Leave for Elizabeth, Children's Librarian. Leave Begins March 21, 2026
- Reviewed 2026 individual goals with each staff member

Adult Services

Programming:

- Ongoing Programs
 - Rye Storytellers Guild (monthly)
 - Senior Law Day Collaborative Webinars (monthly; virtual & hosted by WLS)
 - Postpartum Circle - Resumed 1st week of March (weekly)
 - **Mahjong (weekly)**

Programs

- Music of Ireland
- Bling's the Thing: Earring Design
- Autoimmunity Demystified: Nutrition & Lifestyle Strategies to Help Restore Your Body's Natural Healing Capacity
- AI in Real Life: How It's Shaping You, Your Business, and the Future
- Art Exhibit – Rye Y's Heads Up! A Distracted Driving & Walking Poster Contest

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

Strategic Priority 1: Independent Reading Services

Book Displays

- RFRR Off The Shelf Book Picks, RW250: 13 books for 13 colonies - MA, NH, MD, CT, Black History Month, Lunar New Year: Year of the Fire Horse, Women's History Month, Irish-American Heritage Month
- Programs
 - Read in Rye: The Now Era: Improvisations on presence, rhythm, and the art of being human - Sarah Jane Cion
 - Literary Sessions with Mark Schenker: Black Boy by Richard Wright (hybrid)
 - Library Book Groups - Cookbook, Current Events (hybrid), Rye Readers, Thursday Afternoon (hybrid)

Strategic Priority 4: Community Interest Advancement

- Programs
 - The Hidden History of Slavery in New York - Film Presentation presented with The Westchester County Human Rights Commission and the Port Chester/Rye NAACP
 - Irish Tea & Tales (hybrid) presented by The Rye Storytellers
 - The Gunboat at Ground Zero: A Revolutionary War Mystery presented by AIA-
 - Programs with the Rye Historical Society & Revolutionary Rye 250
 - Prelude to the Revolution in a New York Town presented by Lear Beyer (hybrid)
 - Cowboys and Skinners: The Perilous Life in the Neutral Ground presented by Jan Kelsey (hybrid)

Teen Services

Programming and Displays:

- Mock ACT with Apple Routh
- Counting Cash - Teen led program about managing finances
- The Historical Miniatures Games are a popular recurring event, especially with the middle school boy crowd and we recently had 16 kids at the table
- The collaboration with Inlure on bi-monthly Physical and Mental Wellness on Tuesdays hasn't had a lot of attendance beyond inviting the kids who are already in the teen room to come over and participate. The first March session was cancelled due to weather and low registration.
- STEM events continue to be popular, especially since they tend to be on a quicker side.
- The International Snack Club also remains popular with 12-16 kids each month
- The Nintendo Switch and Teen Space are in regular use with a steady crowd of 20 or so teens in the Teen Room most weekdays after school
- Mossy Mirrors

Strategic Goals

Independent Reading and Reading Drop-off Prevention

- "Beware the Ides of March" book display
- Off the Shelf for February *The Way I Used to be* for YA, and *Dress Coded* for middle grade.
- Manga book club is holding steady

Community Interest Advancement

- Heard in Rye continues to meet
- Heard in Rye Junior Board continues to meet here
- Inlure, an initiative with the Westchester County Government, is hosting mental and physical wellness events for teens every 2 weeks.
- Mock exams have been added to the calendar

Materials:

- Now that the board games are stored with the components separately from their boxes, there is a pause on adding new games. A rotation approach may need to be applied for continued collection growth, as well as responding to community feedback.
 - Pre-orders for fiction, graphic novels, and manga for 2026 are underway.
 - Standing Orders for AP exam study guides are also being explored.
-

Children's Services

PROGRAMMING AND DISPLAYS:

Community Interest Advancement

- Our story programs continue for all of our youngest patrons. Tales for Tots on Mondays with Debbie Fletcher has been going well. Robert the Guitar Guy on Tuesdays, Wiggle Giggle on Wednesdays, Bilingual Music on Thursdays, and Creative Movement Storytime on Fridays are all well attended.
- Crafty Kids on Wed/Thurs is well attended. The K-5 session on Wednesdays is always a full registration, and usually has a waiting list as well.
- Cooking with Kids is now offered in a weekly format (rather than biweekly). Each recipe will be made two weeks in a row. This will allow a new group of children to attend, since classes typically fill up
- Our new Time Traveler Craft class has a small group of regulars. It will be on hiatus until the fall as Elizabeth is going out on family leave.
- We had a nice lineup of programs in February for the school break. Attendance was good, although the library seemed quiet during this time.

Independent Reading and Reading Drop-off Prevention

- The Books and Beyond book club for 3rd-5th graders will next week to discuss *Boticelli's Apprentice*. Arlo will be stepping in to run the club in Elizabeth's place.
- The new book club for 1st-2nd graders will have their second Saturday meeting for the Spring next week. It's a small group. This is the last session for this school year.
- ARF! Is a new program where kids can come read to a dog for a 10 minute session. It meets once a month on Friday after school. March's session is on the 27th. People must call to reserve their time slot.

OUTREACH:

- We continue to order books for various school book clubs.
- Milton's 5th grade Capstone project will be taking place again this year. This library will work with the school librarian to support this unit.
- RCDS 1st graders will be visiting next week for a story time and to learn more about the library.

MATERIALS:

- Books continue to be ordered regularly.
- 5 new plush American Girl dolls have arrived and are available for circulation.

OTHER:

- Learnique's presence in the playroom has been helpful with managing behaviors and cleanup.
-

Strategic Plan update

The deadline for completion for the new RFRR Strategic plan is in 3 years. The Strategic Planning committee met at the library on Wednesday, March 3. As part of this discussion, the committee decided to explore the possibility of hiring a consultant. Chris has provided some contacts.

Discovery Zone/Learnique update

Learnique started supervision at the Discovery Zone on February 1, 2026.

- Staff is in the Discovery Zone Monday-Thursday, 3-6, Friday, 3-5:30
- Each day there is different theme based activity
- Each day there are coloring pages
- Abby has given RFRR access to an app where she posts pictures of activities in order to see what she has been doing
- Abby has ordered new toys to put out in the room
- The library is conducting a survey with users of the DZ in order to use the feedback to evaluate this pilot program.

Library programming discussion

The Staff at the library has begun to discuss new programming and initiatives. Current discussions include:

- An author event with a top tier author that has broad appeal to the community
- Some new after school programs for elementary aged children
- Reevaluation of internal spaces for teens and tweens. Mission Moments

Notable Activities

March 20-April 3 Spring Break Activities for Kids

- Monday, 3/30, 4:00 pm – Cooking with Kids Pineapple Upside Down Pancakes
- Tuesday, 3/31 – Spring Break Movie – Zootopia 2
- Wednesday, 4/1, 4:00 pm – K-5th grade Recycled Crafts
- Thursday, 4/2 – Crafty Kids Rainy Day Umbrella
- Friday, 4/3 – Spring Bunny Scavenger Hunt

Friday, April 3, 2:30 pm Teen Paint and Sip

Seed Library should be out in the next week.

Saturday, 4/11 – Playing for Keeps: The Upside of Downtime

- Multigenerational program on the importance of play for our mental and physical health. Watch the film and also play a variety of games for all ages. Film discussion is hosted by Dr. Andy Bell, PHD, MA, Program Director for Westchester County's Department of Mental Health

Saturday, April 18, 2:00 pm – Artist Reception – Have a Seat, photography by Anne Marie Leone

Sunday, April 19, 1:00 pm – First of our Sunday film series, *Marty* with Joe Gianquinto.