



Headquarters:

102 Priestley St.
Canton, MS 39046
Phone: 601-859-7733
FAX: 601-859-0014

Branch Libraries:

Camden Public Library

116 Parkside Avenue
P.O. Box 159
Camden, MS 39045
Phone/FAX: 662-468-0309

Canton Public Library

102 Priestley Street
Canton, MS 39046
Phone: 601-859-3202
FAX: 601-859-2728

Flora Public Library

144 Clark Street
P.O. Box 356
Flora, MS 39071
Phone: 601-879-8835
FAX: 601-879-3934

Madison Public Library

994 Madison Avenue
P.O. Box 1153
Madison, MS 39130
Phone: 601-856-2749
FAX: 601-856-2681

Ridgeland Public Library

397 Highway 51 North
Ridgeland, MS 39157
Phone: 601-856-4536
FAX: 601-856-3748

June 15, 2022

Board of Supervisors:

As always, on behalf of the Madison County Library System, our patrons and communities, I thank you for your unwavering support of our libraries and tireless commitment to help us serve our communities in the face of unprecedented challenges over the past two years.

MCLS is committed to our mission to serve all members of our communities. From virtual programming to curbside services, our libraries have stepped up, reinvented and reimagined library services to meet the ever changing needs of our patrons.

This year, as life returns to some sense of normal, Madison County Library System is once again excited to bring our Summer Reading Program to the youth of Madison County. Each year thousands of youth throughout Madison county attend educational and entertaining programs, while checking out and reading thousands of books. This year's theme "Oceans of Possibilities" combines the joy of reading and storytelling with an appreciation of nature and wildlife and challenges our patrons to find their treasure at the library. Studies show summer reading programs help to preserve reading skills and prevent the "summer slide". Our goal is to emphasize the importance of reading as an everyday life skill and as a source of information, enjoyment and culture while creating a community of readers. We challenge all of our participants to take the time to read mindfully each day. Have you accepted the challenge?

In addition, with three of our five libraries in communities with a higher than 94% free and reduced lunch rate, we know many of our young patrons suffer food insecurity especially during the summer months when school is not in session. At MCLS, we see our summer reading program as a chance to feed not only their mind, but their body and soul. This year, thanks to a generous grant from Save the Children and a partnership with Canton Public Schools, MCLS will serve over 5000 meals to Madison County youth during the eight weeks of summer reading.

Our bookmobile brings the library to the community, serving those with limited access. In addition to schools, retirement communities, nursing homes, summer programs and community events, the bookmobile currently services a dozen Little Free Libraries installed throughout the county. This year, the bookmobile will initiate Storytime in the Shade, bringing our summer reading program to community parks and events, meeting our youth where they are.

In July, MCLS will again partner with Canton Tourism and the Mississippi Film Office to host the annual Canton Young Filmmakers Workshop. Talented youth from across the state and beyond will spend two intensive weeks at the library learning the ins and outs of filmmaking from story concept and script writing to acting and filming to final editing. The young filmmakers will then debut their movies for family and friends at our Red Carpet Event.

"Serving Madison County"
<http://www.mcls.ms>

This summer, MCLS will debut our new teen centers in Madison, Ridgeland and Canton, as well as our Learning Resource Centers and expanded Autism Resource Center. We are proud to provide a safe and welcoming space for our youth and uplift our special needs communities. Each of these technology and STEAM oriented projects is responsive to the needs of our communities.

With your continued support, we look forward to continuing our mission to serve our communities and to reflect those communities through programming and services. Attached is the MCLS 2022-2023 fiscal year budget request which represents a less than 1/10 mill increase. The library has not had an increase in millage since it was reduced during the years 2006-2010 from 1.16 to the current level of 1.07. We ask for this increase not only to ensure the sustainability of our projects and to continue bringing innovative services to our patrons, but also to meet staffing needs. In addition to providing excellent library services, it has been a goal over the last several years to ensure our dedicated and hardworking staff is compensated with salary equivalent to a minimum of \$15.00 an hour. As I have discussed with a few of you, with increasing costs and competitive job markets, this goal has become even more pressing. Together, we can move one step closer to making that goal a reality. We respectfully ask you to allocate total funding in millage and/or additional dedicated funds at the level requested.

Finally, a respectful reminder that our library is in need of capital improvement maintenance. The carpeting in the children's area needs to be replaced as it is severely worn and has suffered damage due to flooding from the plumbing. Additionally, the chillers in our HVAC system need to be replaced. We ask that additional money be allocated specifically for both of these maintenance issues.

Thank you for your consideration. I am always available to answer any questions you may have about the Madison County Library System.

Tonja Johnson, Director
Madison County Library System
102 Priestley Street
Canton, MS 39046
601-859-7733 ext. 101
tjohnson@mcls.ms

Madison County Library System
2022-2023 Budget Request

2022-2023

SALARIES	\$ 1,342,000.00
SOC. SEC. & RET.	\$ 359,000.00
AUDIT	\$ 8,500.00
AUTOMATION EXPENSE	\$ 18,500.00
AUTOMOBILE EXPENSE	\$ 10,000.00
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	\$ 25,250.00
DUES - PROFESSIONAL	\$ 2,750.00
FURNISHINGS & EQUIPMENT	\$ 23,000.00
INSURANCE	\$ 46,500.00
LIBRARY PROGRAMS/ADULT	\$ 8,500.00
LIBRARY PROGRAMS/SR&YOUTH	\$ 21,000.00
LIBRARY PROGRAMS/SP. NEEDS/OUTREACH	\$ 2,000.00
MATERIALS (BOOKS, DVDS, ETC.)	\$ 301,500.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 23,000.00
OTHER OFFICE EXPENSES	\$ 5,000.00
OUTSIDE SERVICES & FEES	\$ 20,000.00
POSTAGE	\$ 5,650.00
PR/Promotional Items	\$ 1,349.00
ILS MAINTENANCE	\$ 27,000.00
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	\$ 3,000.00
SUPPLIES - JANITORIAL	\$ 6,000.00
SUPPLIES - TECH SERVICES	\$ 4,500.00
TELECOMMUNICATION - DATA/TELEPHONE	\$ 14,500.00
TRAVEL & STAFF TRAINING	\$ 10,000.00
UTILITIES / CAMDEN	\$ 13,000.00
UTILITIES / CANTON	\$ 67,000.00
TOTAL	\$2,368,499.00
OPERATING BUDGET	
AUDITORIUM USE FEES	\$ 500.00
CITY OF CANTON	\$ 105,000.00
CITY OF MADISON	\$ 105,000.00
CITY OF RIDGELAND	\$ 115,000.00
TOWN OF FLORA	\$ 1,200.00
COPY AND FAX REVENUE	\$ 25,000.00
MADISON COUNTY	\$ 1,908,275.00
PERSONNEL GRANT	\$ 108,524.00
TOTAL	\$ 2,368,499.00

\$0.00

Libraries are places where communities connect - to things like broadband, computers, programs and classes, books, movies, videogames and more. But most importantly, libraries connect us to each other. - Molly Shannon, National Library Week Honorary Chair

From education and technology resources to cultural and recreational events, MCLS is committed to serving our communities. Last year our libraries connected patrons to...

Critical access to the internet. **Over 50%** of our public computer users report no home internet access and rely on Wi-Fi from the library to keep them connected. We provide **free Wi-Fi access 24/7**. **11,397 Wi-Fi sessions** were logged by our patrons last year.



Online resources and public computers for digital inclusion and student success. MCLS partners with Tutor.com to provide **free tutoring services** to students. Additionally, Patrons logged **over 13,000 computer sessions, over 12,000 online database sessions (representing a 60% usage increase) and attended 223 computer classes.**

Summer Reading with online and in-person programs and grab and go kits . MCLS libraries presented **372 in-person and virtual programs** for youth and adults with an astounding attendance of **over 41,000** and we gave away **over 1500 books** as part of the Summer Reading Challenge. We also provided **over 5000 lunches** to area youth.

1,573 online and virtual programs for children, teens and adults with attendance of **over 126,046**. Patrons participated in story times, STEM projects, book clubs, gaming, crafts, cooking, scavenger hunts and more. We also **partnered with PBS and the Mississippi Library Commission** for author visits and arts programs.



A sense of community.

As patrons returned to the libraries, nearly **145,000 patrons** visited the branches, checking out more than **299,490 items** and asking more than **50,700 reference questions.**

Increased access to programs and services. Patrons attended programs and accessed resources in-person and virtually via Zoom and Facebook Live. The **Bookmobile** brought the library directly to over **1,779 patrons.**

MCLS added **1522 new digital titles** and saw a **23% increase** in e-book and e-audio book usage.

UNDENIABLE SAVINGS & VALUE

Average retail value of books & audio-visual materials:

\$25



Value of services provided based on number of items circulated:

\$7,487,250

Nationally, less than 2 cents of each tax dollar goes to fund public libraries in America.

Locally, less than 1 cent of each tax dollar goes to fund MCLS libraries.