

# FINKELSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Hello East Ramapo Residents!

Thank you for your continued support of the Finkelstein Memorial Library. It is our privilege to serve such a vibrant community. Over the past year, the Library has remained a vital resource by providing access to books, technology, educational programs, and safe community space for individuals and families of all backgrounds.

As we look ahead, we are developing a new Strategic Plan to guide the Library over the next five years, and your voice matters. We invite you to complete our community survey, available on our website or in person at any service desk.

We are also excited to share that our long-anticipated Library Expansion Project is moving forward, with construction expected to begin this summer. This transformative project, supported by a \$2 million federal grant, New York State construction grants, and generous contributions from the Friends of the Library, will bring: expanded program and meeting spaces, a multicultural center, dedicated counseling services, more space for children's and Traditional collections and improved circulation.

In addition, we look forward to celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States with engaging programs such as *The Constitution Speaks* and *The American Revolution in the Hudson Valley*, with more to come throughout the year.

Our upcoming Budget Vote and Trustee Election will be held on May 12, 2026. The Library is seeking 4.5%, which equates to approximately \$12 per year for the average household. This modest increase will allow the Library to maintain current operating hours, expand children's books, and increase access to e-books, audiobooks, and streaming services. Due to rising costs and operational expenses, a budget with no increase would require reductions in services, including cuts to Sunday hours and other budget lines.

Your Library is more than a building; it is a lifeline, a learning hub, and a place of opportunity for our entire community.

On behalf of the Library Board of Trustees and Administration, thank you for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to serving you, and to seeing you at the Library soon!



Sincerely,  
Laura Wolven



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## **BUDGET VOTE & BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION**

**TUESDAY, MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> @ 7AM-9PM  
FINKELSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
FIELDING ROOM, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR**

**THERE IS 1 BOARD OF TRUSTEE SEAT OPENING  
AND THE CANDIDATES RUNNING ARE:  
JOAN SOSKIN (INCUMBENT),  
MARIE ANTOINE, ARIEL DAHAN & MOSHE DEAR.**

## Fulfilling Our Mission Every Day

Over 540k items circulated from our collection!

Total Collection Holdings: 228,420

Youth Services Summer Reading: 879

Insiders Club Visits: 476

Public Computer Use: 23,047

Website Traffic: 153,770

ESOL Assistance: 795

Program Attendance: 27,045

*We are an official Passport Acceptance Facility!*

*The 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance High School Diploma program is now open!*

*The Farm Stand will start in June!*

## 2026 Summer Reading Program

Reading over the summer helps prevent the summer slide, the set back that happens over the summer. The first six weeks of school in the fall are spent catching up to where students were at the end of the previous school year.

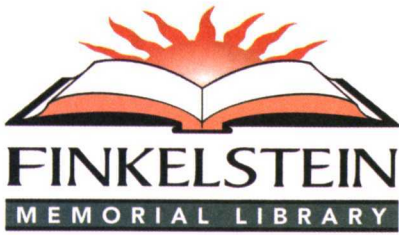
The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children and teens to read over the summer by allowing them to earn prizes and enter raffles for every book they read!

To Register: <https://finkelsteinlibraryny10.readsquared.com/>

**Log books and win prizes! Have fun all summer long!**

**FINKELSTEIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
PROPOSED LIBRARY BUDGET  
2026-2027**

	<u>2025-2026</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
<b>SALARIES</b>	\$5,298,745	\$5,614,575
<b>BENEFITS</b>	\$2,861,525	\$3,056,175
<b><u>LIBRARY MATERIALS</u></b>		
BOOKS & OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS	293,600	296,200
NON-PRINT MATERIALS	145,800	153,800
<b>TOTAL LIBRARY MATERIALS</b>	<b>\$ 439,400</b>	<b>\$ 450,000</b>
<b><u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u></b>		
ANNUAL BUDGET VOTE	16,000	10,000
COMPUTER NETWORK	120,000	112,000
BOOK PROCESSING	32,000	20,000
BUILDING & GROUNDS	85,000	66,000
COMPUTER SERVICES	84,300	114,696
EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	1,000	1,000
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	111,267	85,767
ENRICHMENT CENTER	40,500	35,500
INSURANCE	130,000	130,000
LIBRARY SUPPLIES	78,609	83,509
MEETINGS & MEMBERSHIPS	48,500	45,000
TRAINING	6,500	7,000
OUTSIDE LABOR	24,000	24,000
PAYROLL PROCESSING	39,000	25,000
POSTAGE	18,000	30,000
PROFESSIONAL FEES	100,000	70,000
PROGRAMS	102,500	108,000
PUBLICITY	13,000	13,000
SERVICE CONTRACTS	202,000	181,000
SEWER TAXES	10,000	14,000
SNOW REMOVAL	15,000	6,000
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	50,000	40,000
UTILITIES	120,000	130,000
GRANT WRITING EXPENSES	3,000	3,000
MAKERSPACE	13,000	13,000
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,463,175</b>	<b>\$1,367,472</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>\$10,062,846</b>	<b>\$10,488,222</b>
<b>REVENUES - TO FINANCE BUDGET</b>		
LIBRARY TAXES	9,408,346	9,831,722
MISC. REVENUE - FINES, STATE AID, -ETC.	284,800	236,800
TAX STABILIZATION FUND	369,700	419,700
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$10,062,846</b>	<b>\$10,488,222</b>



NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 7026  
MONSEY, NY

## POSTAL PATRON

24 CHESTNUT STREET  
SPRING VALLEY, NY 10977  
(845) 352-5700

# YOUR LIBRARY IS ESSENTIAL

### OPERATING HOURS:

**MONDAY - THURSDAY:**  
9:00 AM - 9:00 PM  
**FRIDAY:**  
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
**SATURDAY:**  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
**SUNDAY:**  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

### STAY IN TOUCH!

ATTEND OUR PROGRAMS:  
[WWW.FINKELSTEINLIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.FINKELSTEINLIBRARY.ORG)

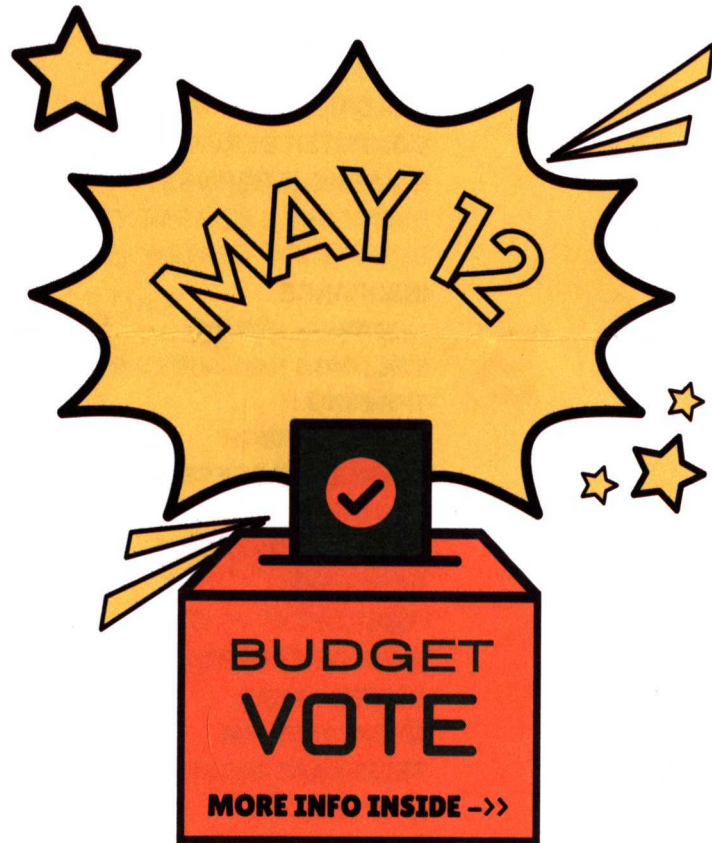
SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER:  
[WWW.LIBRARYAWARE.COM/1420/SUBSCRIBERS/SUBSCRIBE](http://WWW.LIBRARYAWARE.COM/1420/SUBSCRIBERS/SUBSCRIBE)

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

**FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM:**  
@FINKELSTEINLIBRARY

**TIK TOK:**  
FINKELSTEIN\_YS

**NO INTERNET AT HOME? YOU CAN CALL  
OR VISIT US TO LEARN MORE!**



**BOARD MEMBERS:**  
**DARNETT DAVIS**  
**ESTHER WALDMAN**  
**YEHUDIS GOTTESFELD**  
**JAMES JOHNSON**  
**OLUWASEYI BANJO**  
**YOSSI RUBINSTEIN**  
**JOAN SOSKIN**