

# Forbes Library Northampton, MA FY 2023 Action Plan



## Community Hub

Forbes Library engages the community by providing a place and services that connect people and help bridge divides.

Objectives	Actions	Timeframe for Activity	By Whom
Provide a safe, secure, and comfortable place	Actively engage with the Resilience Hub and Department of Community Care	Fall 2022	Leadership Team
The Library's collection, services and programming will reflect the cultural, ethnic, religious, economic, and gender diversity of the community	Seek out programming partnerships with community groups that serve or represent BIPOC members of our community	Fall 2022	Programming Committee
Leverage partnerships with local organizations	Host an Arrive at 5 for the Greater Northampton Chamber of Commerce	Winter 2023	Administration
	Explore a partnership with the Hampshire County Jail	Summer 2022	Cross departmental team
Provide opportunities for civic engagement			
Create an engaging and positive atmosphere for library patrons and staff			

## Connecting Past, Present & Future

Forbes Library provides a connection to local history and documents today's history through our growing Special Collections, Hampshire Room for Local History, and the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum (CCPLM).

Objectives	Actions	Timeframe for Activity	By Whom
Expand accessibility and engagement with the library's special collections	Relabel fine art collection with larger font for accessibility and added context where warranted	Fall 2022	Information Services
	Partner with local schools to offer a student research project based on the library's Special Collections	Spring 2023	Information Services/ Children's
	Launch Historian in Residence program to add context, complexity, depth, and understanding of our local and regional history	Fall 2022	Information Services
Increase digital access to, and awareness of, our collections	Continue crowdsourced transcription project of the multi-volume Judd Manuscript. Scan and use new Library of Congress open source tools	Summer 2022	Information Services
	Complete transition to a new content management system for our digital archives	Spring 2023	Information Services
Upgrade the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum in alignment with its mission and priorities	Submit StEPS Assessment of the CCPLM	Fall 2022	Coolidge Standing Committee
Grow collections by engaging our community to make and document today's history in partnership with our other organizations			
Expand the Hampshire Room for Local History & Special Collections to provide research space and room for the collections to grow			

## Access & Innovation

Forbes Library connects all patrons to services, resources, and technology that are convenient, relevant, and accessible.

Objectives	Actions	Timeframe for Activity	By Whom
Increase access to library services	Upgrade basement HVAC, renovate Young Adult Room and create a new programming room for children and teens	Winter 2023	Facilities Committee in Conjunction with City
	Launch a book bike program	Fall 2022	Leadership Team
Raise public awareness of the library's resources and services	Offer Spanish language library tours and library card registration		
	Conduct publicity campaign to highlight the library's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion		
	Publicize programs to a wider audience using radio, social media and collaborating partnerships		
Increase diversity on the board of trustees and its appointed committees	Seek to increase the number of trustees on the board to allow for more perspectives		
Increase digital access for our community (bridge digital divide)			
Provide vibrant collections for all			

## Children & Teens

Forbes Library fosters the love of reading, and encourages the development of creative and critical thinking skills among children and teens, from early literacy through mature readership, by offering services that spark curiosity and nurture learning.

Objectives	Actions	Timeframe for Activity	By Whom
Actively engage with the community to increase access to and awareness of collections, programs, and services available to children, teens, and their families	Work with local nonprofits to identify ways to better support families who have recently immigrated to the Northampton area.	Fall 2022	Children's
Foster a community around early literacy starting at birth	Work with local child-focused organizations to cross-promote/host events and library card sign ups	Summer 2022	Children's
Update and improve children and teen spaces to provide appropriate, fun, and safe spaces for all	Upgrade basement HVAC, renovate Young Adult Room and create a new programming room for children and teens	Winter 2023	Facilities Committee in Conjunction with City

## Fun

Forbes Library enriches lives by providing free entertainment, recreational reading, access to the arts, and opportunities to create.

Objectives	Actions	Timeframe for Activity	By Whom
Celebrate and support authors and readers			
Inspire and encourage the community to explore and create			
Provide opportunities to experience art and music			
Enhance library grounds for community building and education	Add a bandshell to the grounds	Fall 2022	Facilities