

News Release – OWWL Libraries Kick Off 2025 With Year-Long Tour

(Thursday, January 2, 2025) Canandaigua, NY — Over the next twelve months, libraries across Ontario, Wayne, Wyoming and Livingston Counties are encouraging community members to visit all 42 libraries in the OWWL Library System. Dubbed the OWWL Library Tour, the program is designed to encourage library use, support literacy, and strengthen community bonds.

The process is easy: Participants can pick-up a map to get started at their local OWWL Library. There is a specific map available for each county. Each time a patron visits a library, a book sticker is placed over that location on the map. Once a county map is complete, participants earn a prize bundle which may include a collectible card, keychain, embroidered patch, and sticker. There are different prize bundles for each county to help incentivize participants to continue past their home county. Anyone completing all four counties will also receive a gold Limited Edition OWWL Library Card!

“Our system is quite large, spanning 2500 square miles, so we thought more patrons would be able to complete the challenge—whether they opt to finish one or two counties or go for all four—if it was a twelve-month program,” said Piety Exley, who is coordinating the program at the OWWL Library System along with Matthew Kominiarek who did the graphic design work. “It also becomes a year-long celebration of all 42 OWWL Libraries and their fantastic programs, services, and materials.”

The Perry Public Library is excited to welcome new visitors to the library and to the Village of Perry as part of the tour. Director Jessica DeMarte noted, “Each of the 42 libraries and their communities is unique, and I hope that those who participate find something to love about each one. Make sure to check out the surrounding areas for more of what makes the community special, like Perry's Sea Serpent!”

Bloomfield Public Library Director Rachael Aycok is thrilled about the potential for the OWWL Library Tour to bring people together. “We strive to make the library a hub for connection, learning, and accessing information. This program will encourage patrons to not only visit their home library, but see what other libraries are offering as well. Not only will it bring more individuals into libraries, but I believe it will encourage a larger sense of community.”

The tour runs from Thursday, January 2 through Wednesday, December 31, 2025. To learn more, find your local library, and preview the tour maps, visit owwl.org/librarytour. The OWWL Library Tour is sponsored by the OWWL Library System, headquartered in Canandaigua, which supports library services across Ontario, Wayne, Wyoming, and Livingston Counties.



Bloomfield Public Library prepares for the OWWL Library Tour.

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News Media: For more information, contact OWWL Library System at 585-394-8260 x1106 or communications@owwl.org.