

GALS GUIDE

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**DR. LEAH "RIWO"
LEACH**

Founder & Executive Director
of Gal's Guide to the Galaxy

2024 was the start of a year of deep-diving into research about women around the world. The Gal's Guide Passport Program was developed to increase attendance and it did! There was a 33% increase of people coming to our clubs and events. The Gal's Guide Passport Program also enriched our lives with stories, food, culture, and exploration of 11 different regions of the world through the lens of women's history.

To make room for more meeting space, we pared down the collection, removing 867 books and placing 1,500 books in my living room.

Because it was a wedding year, we didn't purchase many new books for the collection. Space is an issue, but we made it work in 2024. Now we need to look at expansion.

Online and in-person our events, clubs, and meetups were meaningful. Personally, I saw multiple people throughout the year come into Gal's Guide having a rough day and leave smiling and empowered.

I'm proud to say that Gal's Guide continues to be a lifeline to the international community it serves.

Books & Love,

Leah Leach

Leah "Riwo" Leach

**AWARDED
ARTS
LEADER
2024**

by
Noblesville Creates



Traveler's Feast 2024

COMPANY OVERVIEW

MISSION

The mission of Gal's Guide is to provide the first independent women's history library in the United States to preserve, collect, share, and champion women's achievements and lessons learned. We will act as a catalyst to creators who utilize our resources to guide others to these amazing role models who have been waiting in the shadows of history for too long.

5,615
BOOKS IN THE
LENDING COLLECTION

**INTERNATIONAL GALS
THEME IN 2024**



Kristina W. Kelly @Author Signing

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

33%

Increase in attendance



Gal's Guide Clubs continued to bring people to the library for connection, discussion, and to learn something new. The 6 clubs Gal's Guide hosted in 2024 were; LGBTQ+ Ally Meetup, Buddha Friends, Book Club, Walking Club, Film Club, and Writer's Galaxy.

Gal's Guide published its third Anthology on April 13, 2024. **Gal's Guide Anthology: Nourish** published 48 fantastic pieces of writing by 33 authors. Four of those authors were published for the first time. A mini book tour and awards encouraged all to continue writing.

We hosted three **Galentine's events** in 2024! Always a fan favorite, we celebrated the Year of the Dragon with an event for adults, an event for young crafters, and an event at our public library on February 13. As Leslie Knope says, "Ladies celebrating ladies, It's the best day of the year!"

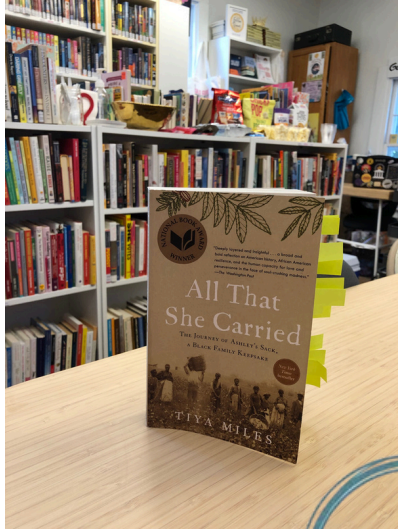
Things We Found in Books was an **art show** and traveling exhibit that was on display in City Hall, Noblesville Creates main gallery, and Stephenson Gallery .

Gal's Guide also hosted 8 **Girls Scout events**, and 10 **Author signings**, and put on a spooktacular fall fundraiser **Night with the Witch & Famous**.

VIEWS & DOWNLOADS

- * Our YouTube channel saw an increase of subscribers and views. 10,500 views this year. We also uploaded 133 more videos relating to our podcast & writing class.
- * Our Podcasts saw an increase of subscribers and downloads. Our active *Gal's Guide Podcast* saw an 6% increase with 8,952 downloads this year. Our retired show *Your Gal Friday* saw 64% increase in downloads.

GRANT PROJECTS



ONE STATE ONE STORY

Indiana Humanities One State One Story Community Read picked Tiya Miles' *All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake*. Gal's Guide created three book talks and two events showcasing the power of ancestry, female lineage, writing, and telling your family story. Because of this grant, Gal's Guide was able to gift 30 copies of Tiya's wonderful book and hold meaningful discussions.

\$750

in program support



WRITING WORKSHOP

Gal's Guide Library was supported by the Indiana Arts Commission with a grant for our 12-week writer's workshop. The fourth annual writer's workshop was Feminine Healing and Creativity Writing Workshop. We had 28 registered attendees from around the world. Six of the students were a group in Ireland led by Jackie Donegan. Fifteen writers received scholarships thanks to the grant. The program produced new writing projects and maybe even new books to be put out into the world in upcoming years.

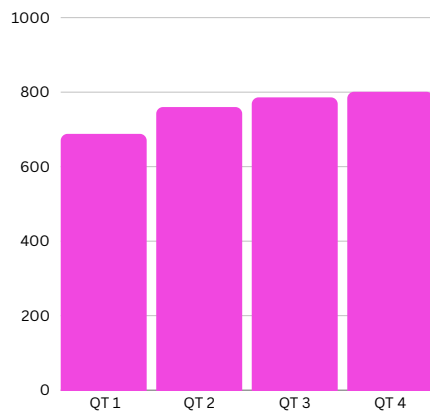


\$4,000

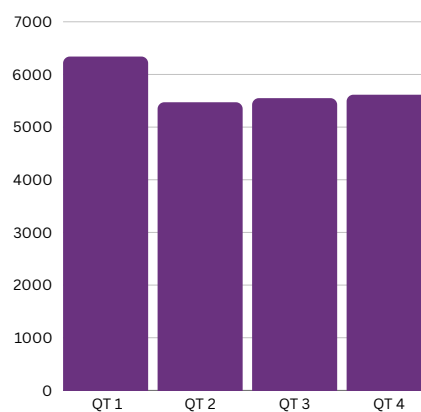
In program support



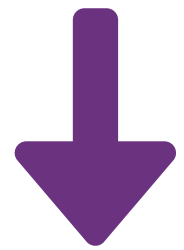
17%
Increase



Library Card Memberships

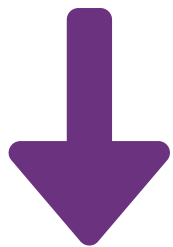


Catalog

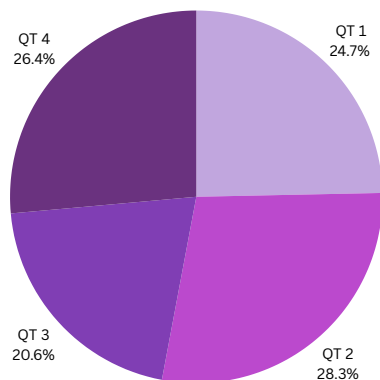


10%
decrease
(Weeding Year)

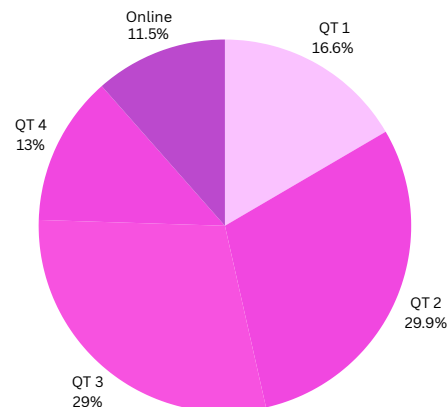
KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI)



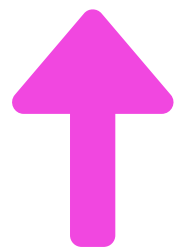
25%
Decrease



Check in/out/renewal Transactions



Program Attendance



33%
Increase

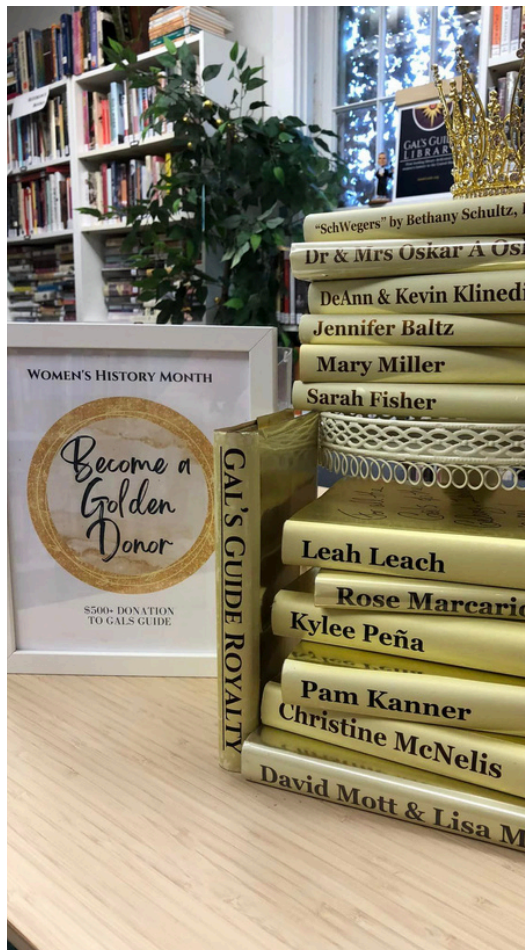
SUPPORT

PATREON

Erin O'Riordan
Teresa Dallas
Wendi Williams
Carol Jones
Katherine Johnson
Alyson Dewar
Jennifer Rycenga
Lisa Cardona
Brian Helton
Rebecca Berfanger
Barbara Ann O'Leary
Chris Eller
Debbi Sponsler

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Debbie's Daughters
Conlin Family
Kiln Creations



GOLDEN BOOKS

Noblesville Creates
Lacy Arts
BtGo Travel
Sandra Palette



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Wendi Williams
Kerra Wagner
Debbi Sponsler
Jennifer Baltz
Mary Miller
Sarah Fisher
Leah Leach
Rose Marcario
Kylee Pena
Pam Kanner
Christine McNelis
David Mott & Lisa Meece
"SchWegers" by Bethany
Schultz Realtor
Dr. & Mrs. Oskar A.
Oskarson
DeAnn & Kevin Klinedinst

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KASSANDRA SIMCOX

LYNDSAY ZEHREN



Bonnie Just-Fillenwarth @Night with the Witch & Famous

STAFF

DR. LEAH “RIWO” LEACH

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BUDDHA FRIENDS DIRECTOR, LGBTQ+ CLUB DIRECTOR, FILM CLUB DIRECTOR, PODCAST DIRECTOR,

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BOOK CLUB DIRECTOR

BARB CONLIN

ASSISTANT BOOK CLUB DIRECTOR

JACKIE DONEGAN

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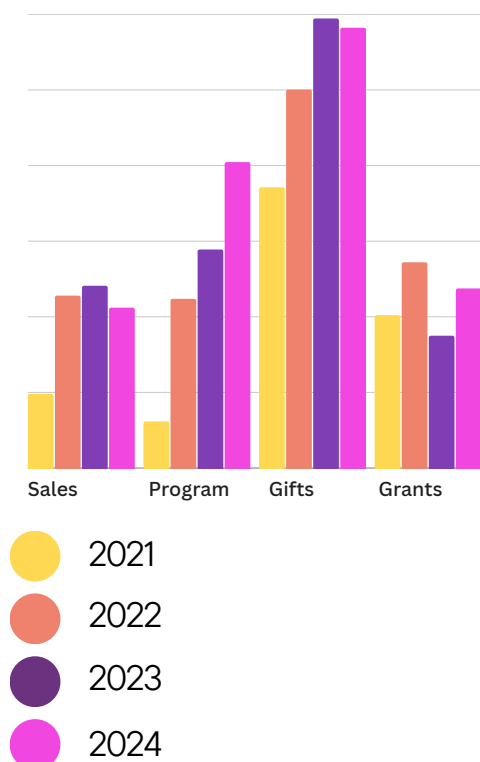
AMBER JONES

PODCAST EDITOR

JEFF COUCH

WRITER'S GALAXY DIRECTOR

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



Revenue

\$24K

Contributions, gifts & grants \$11,645

Grants \$4,750

Program Revenue \$8,092

Sales of Inventory \$4,242

Expenses

\$20.5K

Inventory Expenses \$1,599

Fundraising Expenses \$1,644

Rent \$3,785

Programing and General Operating \$13,469

Profit

\$3.5K

BOTTOM LINE

NET 2024

\$3.5K

TOTAL NET

\$15.2K

FUTURE OUTLOOK

FUTURE PLAN

In 2025 Gal's Guide will enter it's rebel era. We will explore different ways women of history have rebelled, loved fiercely, and created positive change.

Gal's Guide appreciates the different ways people learn. That's why we offer podcast episodes, book clubs, fun events, and hold space open for difficult conversations. Every month at Gal's Guide you'll see us learn and share a different aspect of rebellion.




Volunteer Friday

INOVATION

Gal's Guide is seeking to expand it's footprint to a larger, more visible space that also includes a women's history museum.

Want to help?

Email info@galsguide.org

GALS GUIDE
WOMEN'S HISTORY
LIBRARY
 **AND MUSEUM**

CONTACT US



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