

The library opened October 2, 2000 with around 14,000 items.

The library opened with some items you might find unique today: a typewriter, a MAC computer, VHS tapes, and cassettes. We “rented” popular titles for one week at the cost of \$1.00.

When we opened the doors for the first time we were still missing several thousand items from our “opening day” collection. Around 7,000 items arrived on time (a month before the library opened) with the rest of the items needing to be supplemented outside the book vendor for a short period. By the middle of 2000 the collection was complete and the library was moving along smoothly.

The library always placed a high emphasis on children’s programming. When we opened we had 5 toddler programs, a year later 15 toddler programs with waitlists. Only in recent years have we begun branching out from the regular adult book clubs into other adult programs. The exploration of more programming has been met with success and enjoyment.

In recent years, the library has seen many physical changes. In 2016 the old blue carpet was replaced with new grey carpet squares (for easy maintenance). We also re-oriented the library shelves from south – north, to the now east – west setup which gives the library a more open and light-permeating feeling as well as offering staff a complete view of the building from the front desk.

Also, in 2016 we moved the Teen area into the Tech room to give young adults a space of their own in the library. The tech area was relocated to the former media location and we were able to create two separate study rooms – something the patrons had been requesting for several years.

In 2018, we completed the circulation desk renovation. We were able to replace our original desk, which was overly large and didn’t provide a very approachable space and had low visibility. At the same time we were able to eliminate the old tile that was a slipping hazard, replacing it with more carpet and a smaller wood-tone tile entryway.

In 2019, we completed the final phase of our library renovation with the replacement of our original study tables and chairs with new fixtures, giving the library a more modern and approachable feel.

In the 20 years that the library has been open, we have seen staff come and go:  
Vicki Hibbert our original Library Director (1999-2013) who helped start the library  
Jerrri Heid our original Youth Services Librarian (2000-2005) left for Ames Public Library  
Suzy Piel Niebling Youth Services Librarian (2005-2015) left us to be the mom to two adorable twins Nora & Madison Niebling (but she is back now)  
Miss Susan left us to go to Urbandale Public Library  
Miss Angela left us to go to the State Library of Iowa  
Miss Judy and Miss Lisa just thought it was time to retire (how rude!) neither looked or acted like they should retire so young!

We have had 5 library babies:

Samuel R.	Nora N.	Madison N.
Vivienne D.	Ivy S.	

We have had library pets:

Sydney the bird  
Stuart Little I, Stuart Little II and Zoey the hamsters

We have seen some longtime patrons pass away:

Kay	Helen	Richard	Marilyn	Fred
Haney	Pat	Charles	Jeanne	Laura

And so many more.

We have seen library trends come and go:

VHS ➡ DVD ➡ BluRay ➡ Streaming video

We have a Makerspace collection for you to check out. These items are great for home use but may not be within your budget. You may want to try our Cricut or Sewing machine before purchasing one yourself, or maybe you just want to complete a project.

We check out mobile hotspots so you can have internet on the go or if you just need a quick boost at home.

Through national tragedies and national celebrations the Clive Public Library has been here to help you make sense of what has been going on.

We are proud to be a part of your family and that you are part of ours. We can't wait to see where the next 20 years takes us!