

About the Ironwood Carnegie Library

The mission of the Ironwood Carnegie Library is to strive to provide equitable access to materials and services that support the educational, informational, cultural, and recreational needs of the entire community.

*Ironwood, Michigan was founded primarily because of its importance to iron mining. The significance of Iron in the Gogebic Range was fully realized in 1884 when the Coly Mine was opened and ore discovered, in 1880, the census showed Michigan as the second largest producer of iron behind Pennsylvania. The iron mines formed the basis of Ironwood's economic and cultural life. Ironwood's current population is estimated to be **4,956** and manufacturing, the service industry, and tourism are the main areas of employment.*

The Ironwood Carnegie Library is a public library that was founded in 1901 with the support of Andrew Carnegie. It is the oldest continually operating Carnegie Library in the state of Michigan and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2011.

The library is part of the city of Ironwood, with its own 5-member governing board and the city's mayor serving as the ex officio.

The library offers a wide range of resources and services, including:

- *Books, magazines, and newspapers*
- *Electronic resources, including e-books, audiobooks, and databases*
- *Programming for all ages, including story time, book clubs, and computer classes*
- *Computer, internet, Wi-Fi, and hot spot access*
- *A quiet space to study or work*

The library also works closely with the local genealogical and historical societies to preserve the area's history. We co-hold a subscription to the area's Newspaper Archives and assist residents, visitors, and callers across the country in researching family history.

The Ironwood Carnegie Library is a vital community resource that connects residents to each other and to the world. It is a place where people can learn, grow, and connect with their community.

Here are some of the unique things about the Ironwood Carnegie Library:

- *It is the oldest continually operating Carnegie Library in Michigan.*
- *It is a beautiful historic building that has been carefully restored and was placed on the Historic Register in 2011.*
- *It houses a unique collection of books and newspapers documenting the area's history.*
- *It is an access point to the global community through technology.*
- *It is a place where people of all ages can learn, grow, and connect with their community.*

The programming component of the library is perhaps one of our biggest priorities.

Next Chapter Book Club for adults with developmental disabilities

Caregiver Resource Support including books, memory kits, referral information, etc.

Early literacy activities including Cuddebugs story times and classroom visits.

Robust summer reading program for pre-readers through teens, including art programs, STEM programs, book clubs, and story hours.

Outreach to schools and daycares.

Adult programs including author visits, poetry writing groups, and book clubs.