

 The
Seattle
Public
Library



THE SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
2015 ANNUAL REPORT



community

The Seattle Public Library is part of the fabric of our community.

As part of government, we collect and provide access to Seattle culture and history resources, hold naturalization ceremonies for new citizens and sponsor candidate debates during elections.

As part of each neighborhood, we host community groups in our meeting rooms, buy refreshments from local restaurants for Library events and protect the public during emergencies.

As part of the schools, we visit classrooms to encourage each child to get a Library card, sign up for Homework Help and take part in our Summer of Learning programs.

And as part of daily life, we get to know our patrons, and vice versa – excited children love it when they spot “their” librarian somewhere else in the neighborhood.

The Seattle Public Library creates community in all that we do. Thank you for your ongoing support.



A LETTER TO OUR PATRONS

Dear Friends,

We are excited to share our 2015 accomplishments that highlight why The Seattle Public Library is such a well-used and essential resource for every resident in our city.

Our libraries are centers for community life. They are where residents of all ages and backgrounds come together to learn, teach, celebrate and listen. The Seattle Public Library doesn't just connect people to information – it connects people to people – which is why our 2015 annual report is focused on the theme of “community.”

Every day, the Library provides opportunities for shared experiences through more than 10,000 educational classes and events each year, including ESL conversation sessions called “Talk Time,” musical performances and civic forums. In 2015, the Library brought Seattle’s creative talent together for an inspiring Design Lecture Series. Entrepreneurs filled our workshop on how to start businesses in the restaurant industry. In addition, Seahawks players and Library patrons came together to celebrate our new Seahawks Library Card as part of National Library Card Sign-up Month.

What’s more, the Library is making an impact not just in our buildings, but through outreach activities at youth shelters, schools, museums and parks – and

even at a local nightclub. Library staff members are out in the community, partnering with organizations, institutions and businesses and meeting patrons where they are in order to provide them with the resources and information and access they need. You can learn more about these innovative efforts in the pages ahead.

The Seattle Public Library would not be the progressive, award-winning institution it is without the hard work and dedication of our staff and volunteers, the leadership of the board of trustees and the continued support from The Seattle Public Library Foundation, the Friends of The Seattle Public Library and our elected officials.

We look forward to another successful year ahead and expanding opportunities for residents to participate and contribute to a stronger and more connected community. **Together, we are building a brighter future.**

Sincerely,

City Librarian Marcellus Turner
Library Board President Theresa Fujiwara



2015 Library board of trustees

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YEAR IN REVIEW

COMMUNITY ACCESS

Connecting to technology

The Seattle Public Library plays an important role in bridging the digital divide in our community by providing access to critical technology resources patrons need to ensure their success in all stages of life. The Library introduced a number of technology improvements in 2015 that improved computer and online services to the public.

One of the most exciting efforts was **lending Wi-Fi hotspots** for patrons to use on the go or at home. An initial grant from Google provided 150 hotspots for the public. Within a week there were nearly 1,000 holds on the devices. Thanks to an additional \$80,000 grant from Google, the Library added 200 more hotspots to the collection. Initial survey results revealed more than 50 percent of checkouts were to low-income patrons and 30 percent did not have Internet access at home.

Library **workshops on 3-D printing basics** were among the most popular classes offered this year. Participants learned how to design 3-D models from prototype to final product. The instruction was funded by a grant from The Seattle Public Library Foundation.

Much to the delight of patrons, we now **offer Wi-Fi printing**. Patrons can print documents using their wireless devices, including laptops, tablets and smartphones.

New software that improves access to our resources by low-vision and blind users is now available at all Library locations. Public computer **workstations now offer ZoomText**, a text-enlargement software program for low-vision patrons, and **JAWS**, screen

reading software to assist blind users. Patrons attended open houses to learn more about the new technology and to try it out.



COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS

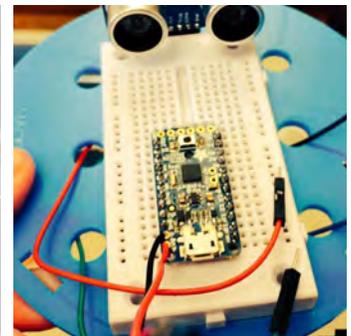
Books and materials for readers

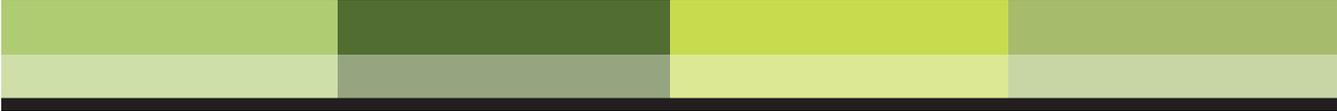
The Library's collections are the heart and soul of the Library. This year, over 11.5 million items were circulated. Thanks to the Library levy, the Library has been able to purchase more material in the formats you want, including e-books, digital media, DVDs, as well as print.

The Library added an array of new titles to its digital collection provided by **Zinio, a digital newsstand** offering popular magazine titles. New titles include The New Yorker, Vanity Fair, GQ, Bon Appetit, Vogue, Glamour and Architectural Digest. Over 140 magazine titles are available via Zinio, including Esquire, Macworld, Rolling Stone, Reader's Digest, Seventeen and many more.

The Library launched a **new self-publishing platform called SELF-e**. All Washington state authors can now submit their works to The Seattle Public Library's e-book collection using the new platform, which can be accessed from the Library's website: www.spl.org.

The Library launched **an innovative new reading contest called Summer Book Bingo**. Patrons picked up bingo cards at Library locations or printed them from the Library website. The program invited readers to expand their reading selections and track their accomplishments on the bingo card. Patrons who successfully marked out an entire row, or all 25 squares, were eligible for a prize drawing. Some of the reading challenges included books "you own but had never read," "author under 30," and "published the year you were born." More than 500 patrons read 8,000 books as part of the program. The program was done in collaboration with Seattle Arts & Lectures.





COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Helping small businesses

Connecting people to the resources and information they need to achieve their goals continues to be an important priority for The Seattle Public Library and also supports the economic vitality of our city.

The Library was a **sponsor of Geekwire's Startup Day** and staffed a booth where conference participants could learn all about free Library resources available for entrepreneurs and startups.

The Library launched a new program called **Library-to-Business**. The project team supports

entrepreneurial endeavors in underserved communities with information, education and networking and referral assistance. Trainings have included "Starting a New Business," "DIY Market Research" and "Quiere Empezar un Negocio en la Industria de Alimentos?" a Spanish language class for restaurant entrepreneurs.

Innovative programs

The Seattle Public Library encourages a culture of innovation, which results in new services that become models for libraries across the nation, such as the popular Seattle Reads program, which is duplicated across the world.

The Library received a \$35,000 grant from The Knight Foundation for **an innovative program called "Your Next Skill."** The program focuses on using librarians as personal learning advisers. As part of the pilot, the Library will eventually develop a Web interface where patrons enter information about a particular interest and Library staff members respond with a learning plan and a database of resources.

NBC's Nightly News with Lester Holt did a piece on our **Books on Bikes program**, where bicycling librarians provide full library service at community centers, parks, schools and other locations.

Our first **Pop-Up on the Central Library** on the Tateuchi Plaza was a huge success. We had an open mic jam session that featured singing, dancing and

more. The Seattle Architecture Foundation hosted an "Ask an Architect" booth and Olson Kundig Architects staffed a table on Seattle 2035. Pop-Up on the Plaza programs were held every Wednesday in August.

The Library **launched a Serving the Homeless Project team** to support people who do not have shelter or are insecurely housed. The outgrowth of this work was a recommendation to hire a social worker for the Central Library in 2016. This position, titled the Library's Community Resource Connector, will be funded by the Library Foundation. The position will connect people who are in the Central Library to appropriate city and social service agency services as needed. The position also will work with Library staff to build knowledge and awareness in working with people who are vulnerable or are in crisis. If this pilot is successful, we may expand the program to the neighborhood libraries.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Supporting children and teens

Services to youth are paramount at The Seattle Public Library. The Library increased programs in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math to support student success in school.

City Librarian Marcellus Turner held a **Community Conversation with a special focus on Youth and Family Learning** at the NewHolly Gathering Hall. The meeting was presented in partnership with Seattle Housing Authority and Seattle Public Schools. Participants learned about our many services and provided feedback on how else we could better meet their needs.

In recognition of **National Engineers Week**, Feb. 22-28, the Library and Pacific Science Center hosted a full month of programs that introduced children and teens to engineering and science literacy.

In 2015 we **partnered with Woodland Park Zoo for our "Wild Science!" Summer of Learning program**. Our 4,800 program finishers received free admission to the zoo during a special weekend. Also, as part of the zoo's new Banyan Wild Tiger Exhibit, the Central Library hosted a life-size Malayan tiger

statue. The Library also hosted tiger-related events throughout the summer.

The Seattle Public Library is now **part of the Safe Place network in King County**. Safe Place quickly connects youth who are in crisis to assistance. A Safe Place coordinator is available 24/7 to respond to a teen who needs assistance, providing resources and connecting the young person to shelter services, or reuniting the youth with family when safe and appropriate. Teens can locate businesses and organizations designated as Safe Places by placement of a yellow diamond Safe Place logo.

2015 was the **20th year of the Global Reading Challenge**, a citywide reading contest for fourth- and fifth-graders enrolled in Seattle Public Schools. There was a tie for first place: "The Reading Rockets" from Leschi Elementary School and "The Lords of the Book" from Orca Elementary School. The program



originally started with three schools and nine teams. This year's program included more than 3,000 students from 54 schools throughout the city.

The Library **launched a pilot project to make iPads available to children and their parents and caregivers** in children's centers in libraries across our city. A total of 27 iPads that offered a variety of educational content and applications were purchased for this pilot.

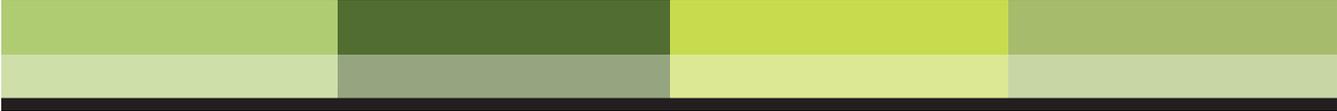
The Library increased the age eligibility for teens who can participate in the Library's **Fresh Start one-time fines amnesty program**. The Library now allows students ages 12 to 19 to get a fresh start with their Library cards. Overdue fines are the only charges that can be waived through this program.

The Library recently participated in training sessions and hosted a panel discussion with service providers

and youth to discuss **how we can better serve LGBTQ homeless youth**. Over 80 librarians and staff from Seattle, King County and Kitsap County participated in the trainings. The panel discussion was open to the community and included librarians and other staff from The Seattle Public Library, other city agencies and partners and representatives from the regional division of the Administration of Children and Family Services. Transportation, limited hours and fines were identified as three of the top barriers to LGBTQ homeless youth using the Library.

More than **111,000 children, parents and caregivers attended Library story times** in English, Spanish, Somali, Mandarin and Vietnamese, as well as in American Sign Language. Story times were offered for a variety of audiences including babies, toddlers, preschoolers and families.





COMMUNITY CULTURE

Promoting literature and the arts

The Seattle Public Library is committed to celebrating the written word and encouraging the exchange of ideas evoked by literature and the humanities.

“The Painter” by Peter Heller was selected for the **2015 Seattle Reads** program. “The Painter” is the story of a man intent on using the losses he has suffered to create a meaningful life. Heller visited the Library May 14-17 for public events.

More than **500 people attended a Library program featuring Kazuo Ishiguro**, the renowned British author of “The Remains of the Day” and “Never Let Me Go.” He discussed his new novel, “The Buried Giant,” at the Central Library. The crowd filled the auditorium, overflow seating, and spilled into the auditorium opening on Level 3. The novel, set in post-Arthurian England, features an elderly couple who set off on a hazardous journey. Ishiguro explained the book is about the way societies remember – or forget – their histories and their dark secrets.

The Living Computer Museum in SODO is now a part of the **Library’s Museum Pass** program, bringing our total number of participating museums to 14. The Museum Pass allows patrons to use their Library card to reserve and print out a free admission pass online to participating Seattle museums.

Jamison Green, world-renowned expert on transgender issues, came to the Capitol Hill Branch to discuss the social, historical, and legal context for the recent transgender movement and its importance in our culture.

More than 1,200 people attended our program with **renowned historian David McCullough** in June at the Paramount Theatre. The lecture was presented in partnership with The Boeing Co.

The Library held an **exhibition of images by 1920s-era photographer Frank Kunishige** in the Level 8 Gallery of the Central Library. The exhibition included a selection of prints that represent the full range of his artistic photographs. About 30 prints were on display but all 56 images in the Frank Kunishige Photo Collection are now available online from the Library’s website. Kunishige co-founded the Seattle Camera Club in 1924. This is the first time the images have been shown in a solo exhibit in Seattle since Kunishige’s death in 1960.

The Seattle Public Library was selected as Washington state’s host site for a **national traveling exhibition of the Shakespeare First Folio**, one of the world’s most treasured books. First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare, will tour all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico in 2016, the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death. Many of Shakespeare’s plays, which were written to be performed, were not published during his lifetime. The First Folio is the first collected edition of Shakespeare’s plays. It was published in 1623, seven years after Shakespeare’s death.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Connecting people and programs

The Seattle Public Library is greater than its books and buildings. In every neighborhood, the Library creates vibrant communities by connecting people to programs and each other. With our many partners, we provide essential educational, cultural and civic opportunities.

In fall 2015, the Library **partnered with Literacy Source and Seattle Public Schools on innovative ESL classes for low-income parents** after realizing that lack of child care often prevented attendance at branch ESL programs. All the Parent ESL classes provided child care and were held at four elementary schools: Broadview-Thomson in North Seattle and Hawthorne, Graham Hill and Dunlap in southeast Seattle. The 56 people who registered represented more than 12 countries of origin. In addition to building English language skills, the program also taught parents about the Library and increased their engagement with the schools. Based on lessons learned, school locations in 2016 were adjusted to Northgate Elementary, Hawthorne, Dunlap and Martin Luther King Jr. The program is funded by the Library Foundation.

The Library partnered with volunteers and a number of community organizations to **meet the English language, adult basic education and citizenship needs of immigrant and refugee populations and adult learners**. The classes, which were held at Library locations, were funded by the Library Foundation. In 2015 we offered:

- 414 ESL class sessions at five locations that served 209 people
- 169 adult education tutoring sessions at three locations that served 275 people
- 157 citizenship classes at two locations that served 123 people
- 146 Talk Time English conversation practice sessions at three locations that served 472 people



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Library partnered with the **Pacific Northwest Historians Guild** to produce its 28th annual history conference on the theme “The Urban Northwest in Landscape and Story” at the Central Library. This is the first time the conference was open and free to everyone, including professional historians, genealogists, oral historians, students and folklorists. Discussion topics included oral history projects and techniques, regional arts and culture, intersections of environmental and urban history, and impacts of influential individuals and multicultural communities.

The Library partnered with **Public Health Seattle-King County** for the 2014-2015 Open Enrollment for Affordable Care Act sign-ups. Approximately 328 people received one-on-one assistance at one of five Library locations that offered assistance. In addition, 101 patrons successfully submitted applications for health care coverage using Library computers.

The Library and **The Seattle Times** presented a conversation with chefs and restaurateurs from the local food scene in the Pacific Northwest at the

Central Library. The popular program featured:

- Matthew Dillon of Sitka & Spruce, Corson Building and Bar Sajor
- Tom Douglas of Tom Douglas Restaurants
- Maria Hines of Agrodolce, Golden Beetle and Tilth
- Rachel Yang of Joule, Revel and Trove

A new reciprocal agreement approved this year with the King County Library System gives Seattle patrons broader access to KCLS print and electronic resources. The agreement was based on a year-long analysis of patron use. The two library systems have had a reciprocal use agreement in place since 1979. The new agreement will be reviewed annually. Patrons of The Seattle Public Library can now:

- place up to 10 physical items on hold
- check out up to 100 physical items
- place up to 10 holds on e-books and e-audiobooks
- check out up to 20 e-books and e-audiobooks





The Library **partnered with the Seattle Seahawks** as part of an initiative to promote libraries and literacy. The Library unveiled a new Seahawks Library card at a press conference announcing the partnership in September, National Library Card Sign-up Month. Seahawks players Michael Bennett and Brandon Mebane spoke on the importance of reading. Mayor Ed Murray emphasized Seattle's reputation as one of the most literate cities in the nation, due in part to our strong libraries. The Sea Gals did a performance that ended in a "Go - Seahawks" cheer by patrons throughout the Central Library.

In addition, the Seahawks promoted the Seahawks card on the big screen at CenturyLink Field during home games, where the Library also had an information booth. Local public service announcements with Bennett, Mebane and their children also encouraged Library card sign-ups. More than 14,570 people signed up for Seahawks Library cards.

During the playoffs, the Library also held Seahawks viewing parties. The Library was featured on the NPR's "The Takeaway" for a story on how the Library brings the community together for a shared experience by showing the Seahawks games.

The Seattle Public Library, in collaboration with the design firm **Civilization**, hosted a free lecture series to bring creative industry professionals together for inspiring presentations, Q&A and networking. Free tickets to a lecture featuring Paula Scher on designing for public spaces events were quickly snapped up. Scher, a designer and partner at Pentagram, has created iconic work for The Public Theater, MoMA and the Metropolitan Opera, among many others. The program also featured a conversation with April Greiman, a trailblazing designer recognized as one of the first in her field to embrace computer technology as a design tool.

Our second annual Banned Books in Drag event in partnership with **Neighbours Nightclub** had another successful turnout, with over 900 people in attendance. Our librarian-led story times were particularly popular.





COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

Facility improvements

Our 26 branches and award-winning Central Library are essential neighborhood anchors and sources of great pride for our community. The Library is committed to ensuring our buildings are properly maintained for your comfort and enjoyment now and for the next generation of users.

After 11 years of heavy use, the **Capitol Hill Branch** was refurbished with new carpeting and paint. The Library also relocated some desks and shelves to increase efficiency and flexibility, installed a laptop bar and added more electrical and data boxes.

The **Rainier Beach Branch** was closed this year for several months for remodeling. The project involved replacing a worn section of the roof, as well as

reconfiguring the interior to better meet the needs of the community. A new meeting room and digital media studio were added, as well as collaborative work spaces and a quiet zone. It reopened in late December.

Exterior improvements were made to the historic **West Seattle Branch** to improve access. The front steps and ramps were replaced, and lighted handrails were installed. Parking stalls were also resurfaced.

Library anniversaries

It's time for a party! Library patrons came together to share memories and participate in activities at Library building anniversary celebrations across the city.

Library staff and patrons marked the **10th anniversary of the Greenwood Branch** on Feb. 8 with a sealed time capsule. The time capsule will be opened at the branch's 25th anniversary in 2030.

Library patrons enjoyed programs throughout the month of May in honor of the **Ballard Branch's 10th anniversary**.

Patrons were treated to tea and cake on June 13 for the **10th anniversary of the International District/Chinatown Branch**.

The **Lake City Branch celebrated its 50th anniversary** on Nov. 14 with crafts, local history, music and a vintage fashion show.

Mayor Ed Murray joined the public celebration for the **100th anniversary of the historic Columbia Branch** on Dec. 13.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

Honors

The Seattle Public Library strives to provide exceptional resources, services and buildings for the people of Seattle. We are proud of the recognition that we have received for these efforts.

The Seattle Public Library was **awarded the top rating of five stars** among large public libraries for a sixth consecutive year in Library Journal's 2015 Index of Public Library Service.

Seattle topped Amazon's **"Most Well Read Cities" list**. Our well-used libraries were a factor in the rating.

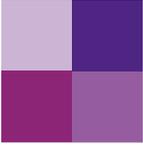
The Magnolia Branch was named a top neighborhood service in the HoodPad Guide.

Slate magazine featured the Central Library as one of the **"coolest" libraries in the world**.

CNN featured the Central Library in a piece titled **"11 of America's most spectacular libraries."**

The **Magnolia Branch was listed in the Washington Heritage Register**, where it joins over 1,800 other historic and culturally significant properties that have been recognized for their unique contributions to Washington's heritage.





SERVICE PRIORITIES

COMMUNITY NEEDS

The Seattle Public Library closed out its 2011-2015 Strategic Plan this year and is now using five Service Priorities to guide the work of the Library, as well as planning and decision-making. The Service Priorities are: Youth and Family Learning, Technology and Access, Re-Imagined Spaces, Community Engagement and Seattle Culture and History.

City Librarian Marcellus Turner developed the Service Priorities to respond to the needs of the community, support the educational, cultural and economic health of the city and allow the Library to offer patrons more personal and meaningful experiences.

In addition to our traditional emphasis on reading and literacy, the Library is developing and expanding programs in each priority area, helping establish a strong foundation for serving the next generation of users. The previous Strategic Plan was focused on Library operations and services following implementation of an intensive 10-year capital building plan.

2015 SERVICE PRIORITY HIGHLIGHTS

Youth and Family Learning

Provide Library services that support youth and families in academic success, career readiness and life.

Thousands of young patrons participated in STEAM-related activities as part of our enhanced Summer of Learning program. In addition, through our partnership with Woodland Park Zoo, program finishers received free admission to the zoo. The STEAM focus allows young people to explore science, technology, engineering, arts and math through reading and fun, hands-on activities.

We also are collaborating with youth organizations across the city to **reach underserved youth**, particularly those who are low-income, homeless or live in public housing communities.

Technology and Access

Serve as Seattle's primary point of access to information, lifelong learning, economic development and creative expression through innovative use of technology and digital resources.

The Seattle Public Library was among the first in the nation to **provide Wi-Fi hotspots for checkout by all patrons**. Patrons can enjoy free broadband access from home, school or work with the hotspots, which have a three-week loan period – the same as books!

We also are **expanding our program of digital literacy** to include advanced topics such as computer programming and robotics. Teens in the NewHolly neighborhood learned to program robotic "finches" and the Library participated in the national Hour of Code program throughout December.

Re-Imagined Spaces

Adapt and energize Library spaces for new uses in keeping with changing services, programs, interests and needs of Library users and the changing ways that they use Library spaces.

In response to patron needs and expectations, the Library **“re-imagined” the Rainier Beach Branch to provide improved spaces and technology** for children, teens and adults, including a new meeting room, multi-media studio and collaborative work areas.

Community Engagement

Offer Library programs, services, and collections that reflect community needs and interests, feature community voices, and create meaningful experiences.

The Library developed a new policy that allows Library programming on its plazas. The Library **held its first “pop-up” event on the Central Library plaza** in August that featured an open mic jam session with singing, dancing, acrobatics and more.

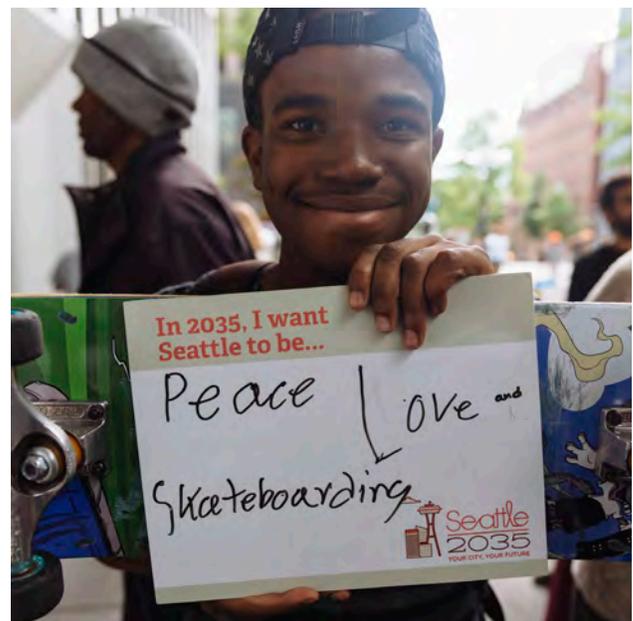
In the fall, **we hosted debates across the city** to give community members an opportunity to ask questions of City Council candidates.

Seattle Culture and History

Connect our community with our diverse local culture and history through compelling collections, expert assistance, innovative partnerships, and engaging programs.

In 2016 The Seattle Public Library plans to host a national **traveling exhibition of the Shakespeare First Folio**, one of the world’s most valuable and treasured books. The Library was selected as Washington state’s only host site. The Folio is touring all 50 states in recognition of the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare’s death.

In 2015, we **digitized 5,350 items from the Seattle Collection** to provide the community with greater access to the city’s history.



COMMUNITY LEVY

LIBRARY LEVY

In 2012, Seattle voters improved access to critical educational and literacy resources for every resident by passing a seven-year, \$123 million Library levy. The levy proposal, which was built after gathering nearly 39,000 comments from community members, reflected the public priorities for essential Library services now and for the next generation of users.

The levy helps restore core services drastically cut during the prolonged recession and stabilizes funding to support better Library hours, books, technology and building maintenance. It also supports the five Service Priorities that are guiding the future work and role of the Library.

Each year as part of our commitment to be accountable to the public, the Library produces an annual progress report that shows how we have used levy funds to support the core services that the public uses and values; 2015 was the third year of the levy.

Highlights from the 2015 report

- Retaining 6,000+ new open hours systemwide
- Offering **more than 10,000 classes**, workshops, outreach and other events
- **Adding** more than **41,500 new titles and nearly 33,000 new e-books and e-audiobooks** to the collection
- **Providing accessibility software** on all public computers and beginning the installation of new self-checkout stations
- Completing 12,000 work orders to keep every building clean, efficient and in good working order and completing exterior access improvements at the historic West Seattle Branch





COMMUNITY SUPPORT

THE SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Seattle Public Library Foundation was established in 1980 by a group of far-sighted citizens who understood that a great Library wouldn't be possible through public funding alone. The Foundation's mission is to ensure the long-term vitality of the Library by raising funds to enhance collections, public programs and facilities. In 2015, more than 6,000 individuals, foundations and businesses donated over \$4 million to support the Foundation and the Library.

2015 Highlights

The Foundation helped the Library secure dates for the national touring exhibition of **Shakespeare's First Folio** and funded the planning and production of this important event.

The Seattle Public Library Foundation came in **third place** among more than 300 nonprofits in King County in the number of gifts received during the Seattle Foundation's GiveBIG day.

The Library Foundation **earned a 4-star rating** for the fourth consecutive year from Charity Navigator, America's premier charity evaluator. Only 8 percent of the thousands of nonprofits rated by Charity Navigator have received four consecutive 4-star ratings.

The Seattle Public Library Foundation **gave \$5.8 million in grants to the Library**, including:

- \$1.5 million to support Collections
- \$1.6 million for Community Engagement, including a new bookmobile
- \$500,000 for Re-imagined Spaces, including the remodel of the Rainier Beach Branch
- \$123,000 for Seattle Culture and History, including to the Seattle Room

- \$431,000 for Technology and Access, including Wi-Fi hotspots
- \$1 million for Youth and Family Learning, including Summer of Learning and the Global Reading Challenge

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FRIENDS OF THE SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends of The Seattle Public Library is a nonprofit, grassroots membership group founded in 1941 to promote the Library as an essential institution of society and support its mission and vision. The group's 13,000 members advocate, educate, and raise funds on behalf of the Library.

Each year, the Friends group sorts and sells hundreds of thousands of used Library and donated books online, at its popular community book sales and through the FriendShop at the Central Library, which also sells literary-themed gifts, many of which are designed by Pacific Northwest artists.

Grants

In 2015, the Friends of The Seattle Public Library **awarded \$56,650 in grants**, including a \$2,500 contribution to the Give Big for books campaign, to support the following Library programs and initiatives for 2016:

- \$18,000 to purchase iPads for children's areas in Library locations across the city
- \$20,000 for job skills workshops
- \$6,550 to support the Library's Youth & Family Learning/Raising a Reader Program
- \$8,000 toward the Re-imagined Spaces project at the Rainier Beach Branch
- \$1,600 from the Friends of the Southwest Branch for the Library's Southwest Region Artists' Showcase and pilot "Play and Learn" programs

Books for Teachers

Thanks to a \$15,000 grant from the Renee B. Fisher Foundation, **the Friends gave 14,000 books to 148 teachers** from 31 Seattle Title 1 schools. The books were distributed at two venues: a one-day teacher-only sale, and the Friends Fall Book Sale. Librarians were on hand to assist teachers with book selection.

Officers

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COMMUNITY USE COUNTS

2015 STATISTICAL & FINANCIAL SUMMARIES

Facilities

- Central Library, 26 neighborhood branches and Mobile Services

Staffing

- Staffing: 690 (584.4 full-time equivalents)

2015 Circulation

- Adult books: 3,120,135
- Children's books: 2,560,120
- Media (DVDs, CDs, audiobooks): 3,262,493
- Digital/downloadable media: 2,235,223
- Other non-print: 366,076

Total: 11,544,047

2015 Collection Size

- Central Library: 1,283,420
- Branches: 904,368
- Virtual Library: 277,190 (e-books, e-audiobooks only)

Total: 2,424,469

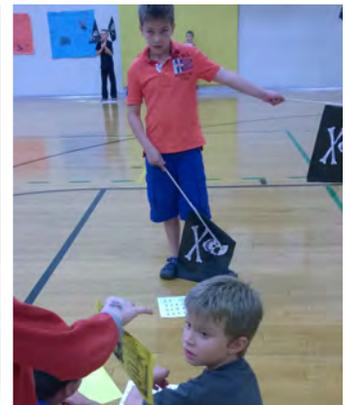
Patron Visits

- Central Library (door count): 1,544,390
- Branches (door count): 4,486,889
- Virtual visits (internal and external Web site visits): 6,805,412

Total: 12,836,691

Service Levels and Programs

- 745,873 reference questions answered (in person, phone, fax, mail, email, Live Help chat, online Homework Help)
- 4,847,319 holds placed
- 435,292 database sessions
- 359,079 people attended in person or listened by podcast to 10,377 programs at the Central Library or neighborhood branches



2015 Operating Budget

- Personnel: \$51,300,279
- Books and Materials: \$6,307,969
- Equipment: \$1,340,548
- Maintenance, Security and Utilities: \$2,574,558
- Supplies: \$875,732
- Other: \$2,864,724

Total: \$65,263,810

Event Services

Managing Central Library meeting facilities and building tours

531 private group rentals

44 nonprofit groups used free meeting room spaces

1,452 programs were hosted by the Library in meeting rooms

Total meetings supported: 2,027

Tours

- 702 people took scheduled group tours of the Central Library
- 2,092 cellphone tours

Photo shoots

- 28 photo or film shoots

Volunteers

- 759 individuals contributed
- 25,167 volunteer service hours

Social media

- Facebook fans: 38,148
- Twitter followers: 14,794
- Pinterest followers: 1,618
- Instagram followers: 4,765



THE SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCATIONS

**Central Library &
Mobile Services**
1000 Fourth Ave.
206-386-4636

Douglass-Truth Branch
2300 E. Yesler Way
206-684-4704

**Madrona-Sally
Goldmark Branch**
1134 33rd Ave.
206-684-4705

Rainier Beach Branch
9125 Rainier Ave. S.
206-386-1906

Ballard Branch
5614 22nd Ave. N.W.
206-684-4089

Fremont Branch
731 N. 35th St.
206-684-4084

Magnolia Branch
2801 34th Ave. W.
206-386-4225

South Park Branch
8604 Eighth Ave. S.
206-615-1688

Beacon Hill Branch
2821 Beacon Ave. S.
206-684-4711

Green Lake Branch
7364 E. Green Lake Dr. N.
206-684-7547

Montlake Branch
2401 24th Ave. E.
206-684-4720

Southwest Branch
9010 35th Ave. S.W.
206-684-7455

Broadview Branch
12755 Greenwood Ave. N.
206-684-7519

Greenwood Branch
8016 Greenwood Ave. N.
206-684-4086

NewHolly Branch
7058 32nd Ave. S.
206-386-1905

University Branch
5009 Roosevelt Way N.E.
206-684-4063

Capitol Hill Branch
425 Harvard Ave. E.
206-684-4715

High Point Branch
3411 S.W. Raymond St.
206-684-7454

Northeast Branch
6801 35th Ave. N.E.
206-684-7539

Wallingford Branch
1501 N. 45th St.
206-684-4088

Columbia Branch
4721 Rainier Ave. S.
206-386-1908

**International District/
Chinatown Branch**
713 Eighth Ave. S.
206-386-1300

Northgate Branch
10548 Fifth Ave. N.E.
206-386-1980

West Seattle Branch
2306 42nd Ave. S.W.
206-684-7444

Delridge Branch
5423 Delridge Way S.W.
206-733-9125

Lake City Branch
12501 28th Ave. N.E.
206-684-7518

Queen Anne Branch
400 W. Garfield St.
206-386-4227