



ANNUAL REPORT: FISCAL YEAR 2015



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

What a busy and exciting year 2015 was at the Glen Ellyn Public Library! We started the year with a new fiscal calendar, January 1–December 31, allowing for a more accurate budget and levy process. We are pleased to report that as of December 31, 2015, 82 percent of the households in Glen Ellyn have current library cards. We had a total of 336,325 visitors to the library, and 29,115 attendees at our programs. There were 633,986 items checked out, and 68,371 reference questions answered.

In January, we held our fifth and final Swinging thru the Stacks mini-golf event. In the five years of Swinging thru the Stacks, the event raised over \$50,000 for special projects and brought over 1,000 people to the library to golf. February saw our 2nd Annual STEAM Fair take over GEPL with nearly 1,000 attendees. Kids and adults were eager to learn more about Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math through hands-on experiences.

Freedom Riders, a traveling exhibit, opened at the library in March with an estimated 6,600 people visiting during its four week display. As a thank you to their donors, the Friends of the Library and the Glen Ellyn Public Library Foundation hosted a special after-hours opening event for this exhibit with cocktails, appetizers and a brief presentation about materials, programs and services available at the library.

Our Summer Reading program, READ for Heroes, kicked off in May with registrations taken at the Taste of Glen

Ellyn. The annual Summer Reading Ice Cream Social followed in June. We served 750 bowls of ice cream along with hundreds of ice pops, watermelon and grapes. READ for Heroes saw a total of 3,336 participants surpass our reading goal for the year resulting in the Friends of the Library donating \$1,000 to the Glen Ellyn Volunteer Fire Company, and The Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn donating \$1,000 to the Glen Ellyn Police Department.

Also over the summer months, the library again served as a free lunch site for the Northern Illinois Food Bank—making free lunches available to those 18 years and younger who may not otherwise have a lunch to eat. GEPL's Summer Meals served 1,105 meals to a total of 1,286 attendees over eight weeks. All meals were provided at no cost by Northern Illinois Food Bank.

The library finished out the year with a Youth Department remodel. The remodeling project finished on time, reopening on December 20, and on budget. If you have not seen the new space, we invite you to do so. It was designed to meet the needs of all our youngest members, from birth through eighth grade.

If you have a question or comment regarding the Glen Ellyn Public Library, please do not hesitate to contact me at dbussey@gepl.org or 630-790-6760.

- Dawn Bussey, Library Director

A COMMUNITY PILLAR

For over 100 years, the Glen Ellyn Public Library has strived to provide the highest level of programming, services and materials to the Glen Ellyn community. With a knowledgeable, enthusiastic and friendly staff, the library continually works to build relationships within the community.

SERVICE FOR ALL

Youth

At the end of December 2015, we were excited to announce the newly redesigned Youth Department was open to the public. There are a variety of exciting new features in this redesign including new furniture, new lighting, a Middle School Room, bin-style shelving for picture books, a 3D printer display and an expanded Youth Program Room. READ for Heroes encouraged children to record their reading and work towards a community-wide goal in support of the local police and fire departments. The Youth Department's goal was to read 70,000 hours over the course of the summer. Thanks to the fantastic and dedicated efforts of the children of Glen Ellyn, we exceeded our goal by 115%, logging a total of 80,254 hours. Congratulations to all the children who participated!

Middle School

Middle school students started 2015 at the library with a bang—a private screening of “I Am Eleven” followed by a Skype interview with the filmmaker. We followed up with big events such as our after-hours Nerf Wars, and an interactive viewing of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone. Both events were very well attended. Due to the Youth Department remodel, we hosted a couple of off-site, middle school meet-ups. Students enjoyed visiting Vertical Endeavors for rock climbing and Churchill Woods for archery. In December, after the remodel, middle school students were welcomed to their own newly designed space, The Middle. The room provides a quiet space with easy access to technology, an art cart, board games, and features a middle school art gallery.

High School

What a great year for teen services at the Glen Ellyn Public Library! Our study services continued to be popular throughout the year with steadily increasing attendance for Homework Café, and high attendance for Late Night Study. In February over 40 teens participated in our Teen Scene Art Contest which included a reception attended by more than 100 teens, family and friends. Over the summer we welcomed 15 talented and dedicated teen volunteers, and we continued to work with teen volunteers in the form

of our Teen Leadership Council during the school year. With help from volunteers, Young Adult Librarian Hannah Rapp has been able to do outreach to clubs at Glenbard West and will continue working with extra-curricular groups in 2016. In partnership with the Youth Department we increased our outreach to special education classes at the high school by visiting classrooms and hosting class visits to the library. With regular programming to round everything out, we've had a wonderful year of serving teens inside and outside the library.

Adult

The second floor came alive with our new Emerging Authors collection—featuring primarily self-published books—and our Digital Media Lab—where members can convert their old VHS tapes, vinyl records and slides into 21st century formats. Check out our new lab to explore its many possibilities! Helping members understand the technology in their life continued to be a focus for us in 2015. GEPL cardholders gained access to Lynda.com, a powerful tool that teaches technical skills, creative techniques, business strategies and more. Our study rooms are averaging almost 500 uses each month by anyone wanting a quieter place to work or study. We remain ready to recommend the next great book, movie, eBook or audiobook, and to help you find and understand any information you need. Come visit us on the second floor!

Circulation

The Circulation Department continued to provide friendly, quality service, striving to meet the needs of the busy Glen Ellyn community. We launched a new service to renew members' library cards before they expire—without members needing to leave their homes. For those cardholders who live within the library taxing district and are over 18 years old, a postcard is sent to their listed address letting them know their library card was renewed for another year; there is nothing further they need to do! This endeavor has received much positive feedback; and since January 2015 over 3,000 library cards have been renewed through this service.

Materials Processing

The Materials Processing Department processed and added 20,235 new items to the Glen Ellyn Public Library collection. The department also removed 27,980 damaged, outdated, and non-circulating items. Overall the collection includes:

- Books = 128, 867
- Magazines = 7,675 volumes
- E-Books = 23,712 titles
- E-Magazines = 96 titles
- Audio Recordings = 16,795 volumes
- E-Audiobooks = 30,739 titles
- DVDs = 10,692 volumes
- E-Videos = 8,491 titles
- E-Music = 2,738 titles

Information Technology

IT staff worked diligently to resolve problems and issues, while also performing necessary upgrades. Over the course of 2015, IT resolved 612 of 638 technology issues. Here are a few of the top projects the IT Department completed:

- Upgraded the buildings WiFi environment to support almost a 50% increase in WiFi logins.

- Replaced Youth Department computers with newer models, as well as increased the capacity to 12 stations; and installed iPad catalog stations.
- Deployed new Digital Media Lab equipment and set up Youth Department iMac in the lab; replaced Adult Department laptops with new models.

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Glen Ellyn Public Library received \$66,992.00 in grant funding and a total of \$43,885.00 in monetary gifts for the fiscal year of 2015.

THE BEST IS YET TO COME

As always, the library will strive to continue its track record of providing exceptional service and materials, as well as exciting programs to all members of the Glen Ellyn community. We'll start 2016 with our Renovation Celebration in the Youth Department, and a brand new program—Beer, Bacon and Books: An After-Hours Special Event. Our 3rd Annual STEAM Fair will return in March.

GLEN ELLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY USAGE NUMBERS FOR FY 2015

WiFi Logins = 81,844

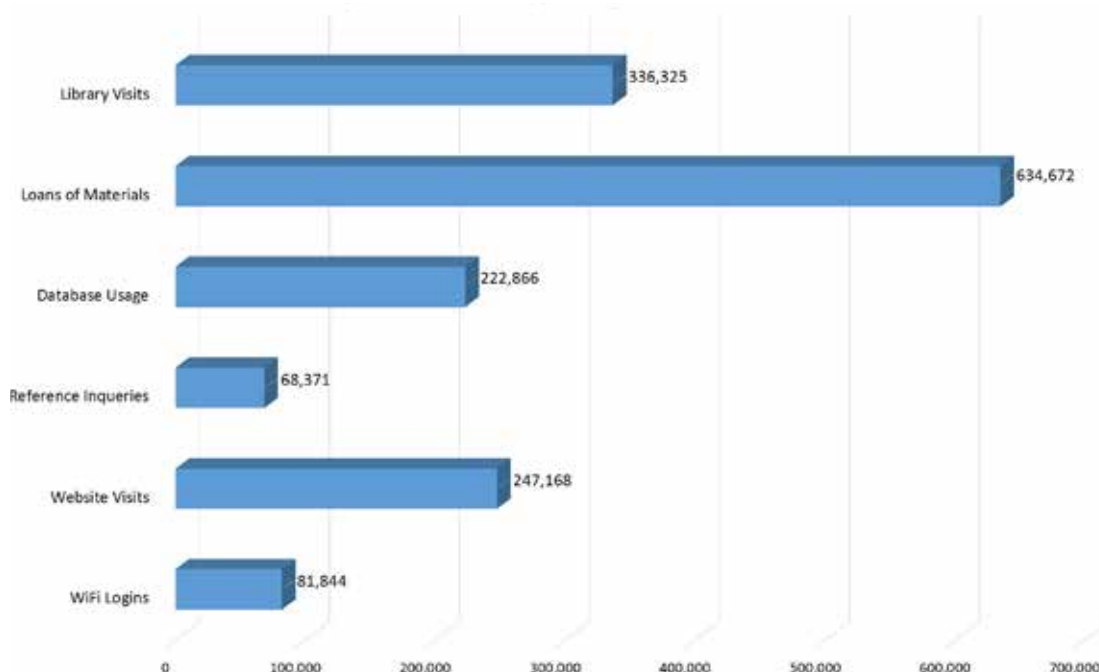
Website Visits = 247,168

Reference Inquires = 68,371

Database Usage = 222,866

Loans of Materials = 634,672

Library Visits = 336,325

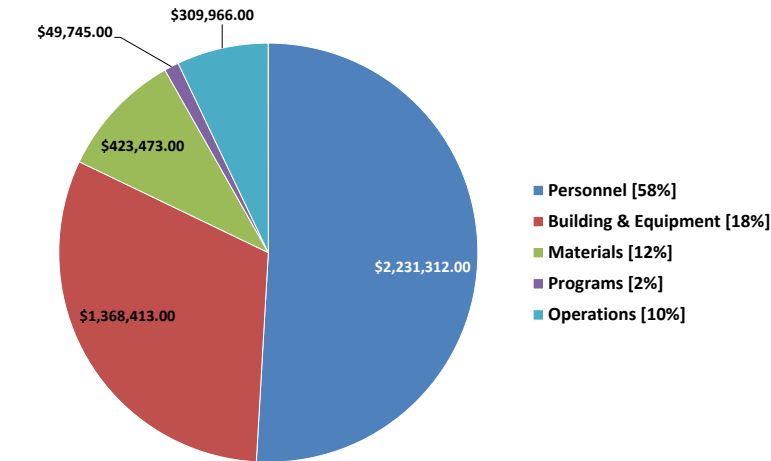


In May, the library kicks off our popular philanthropic summer reading program with 2016’s theme being READ to Build. In late spring, the library will ask the community to participate in a technology survey to help us evaluate our tech services and learn more about the impact of computer use at GEPL. In September we are partnering with 11 other libraries to host author Elizabeth Strout. And look for more multi-cultural programming coming Fall and/or Winter 2016.

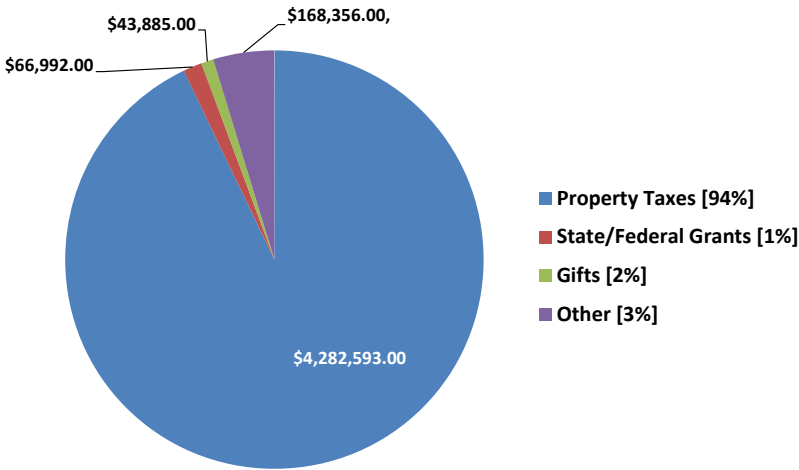
HAVE A SUGGESTION?

We would love to hear from you! Please email Library Director Dawn Bussey at dbussey@gepl.org or place your comment in one of the comment boxes located throughout the library.

EXPENDITURES January 2015-December 2015



REVENUES January 2015-December 2015



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