

ANNUAL REPORT: FISCAL YEAR 2018



Top (l to r): Drive-up window, 3/7 Pathway Café | Bottom (l to r): Summer Reading check presentation to SCARCE, a visit from the Weinermobile, marchers in the 4th of July Parade.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Glen Ellyn Public Library saw many changes in 2018. The third and final phase of a multi-year interior renovation project was completed, improving the Circulation and Meeting Room areas. The building's main entrance was moved south and offset sliding doors were installed to reduce cold winter drafts. The lobby was opened up, lighting was improved, and sound absorption was increased to minimize noise up to the 2nd floor. The Circulation book return, workroom, and shelver station were combined, and a drive-up window was introduced to create a more efficient work space. A new seating area near the entrance became a great spot to meet up with friends. Upgraded AV equipment in the meeting rooms made it easier for both members and staff to use. Self-service hold shelves and self-checkout machines eliminated the need to wait in line and allowed Circulation staff to provide a higher level of personalized service.

The new donor wall near the entrance doubles as both recognition and art work. Plaques that previously hung in the Library vestibule have a lovely new space on the 2nd floor. The Used Book Nook now does double duty as café seating and promotion for Friends of the Library.

The 3/7 Pathway Café is a delightful new addition. Funds raised at the Jungle Book Ball in November 2017 contributed to a \$50,000 donation from the Glen Ellyn Library Foundation that made the café possible. The aroma of fresh baked goods and coffee wafting through the air creates a comfortable, friendly atmosphere. New bar-style seating near the stairs is a nice place to enjoy a snack and charge devices.

While the last phase of renovation was underway, the Library made another big change, migrating from the LINC Library Consortium to the SWAN Library Consortium. Eighteen months of planning and preparation preceded this transition, and the May 1, 2018 migration to SWAN went smoothly. This change increased the number of catalog items available to our members from 1.2M to 8.4M. If an item is not available on GEPL shelves, it will be delivered from one of the 97 SWAN libraries in a matter of days.

- Dawn Bussey, Library Director

A COMMUNITY PILLAR

For over 100 years, the Glen Ellyn Public Library has strived to offer 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

2018 was a year of change and transformation for the Youth Department. Heather McCammond-Watts started as the new Youth Director in May. Other staffing changes included a new middle school librarian, a newly defined role for the youth technology librarian, and a community engagement librarian.

Some exciting new programs were introduced including the Nifty Stitchers sewing club, Get Up and Groove Music & Movement, Pint-Sized Plots 'n Pizza book group, Baby and Toddler Clothing Swap, KinderLab school readiness, and visits from the costumed character Bruce the Bear and the Wienermobile! After 12 weeks of "GEPL Reads for SCARCE" for summer reading, 2,326 kids had registered and logged a total of 71,532 hours of reading, book reviewing, and fun summer learning activities.

The Youth Department offered support through family learning activities, the Preschool Fair, and a visit from Dr. Dana Suskind, author of *30 Million Words: Building a Child's Brain*. The Library's intergenerational storytimes at the senior centers strive to increase benefits for seniors by lowering blood pressure, stimulating memories, and reducing ageism while building brain power among kids who listen and learn about an older generation.

Collections were expanded to include nature-themed PlayPacks, Just for Kids: Access Video, Creativebug DIY craft instruction, Nintendo Switch video games, and Vox read-along audiobooks.

Local partnerships were deepened by collaborating with the Park District on programs and PlayPacks, coordinating with schools for classroom materials and family literacy, hosting Westside Children's Therapy at our Sensory Saturday programs, and inviting Officer Joe for a police officer storytime. Bus to Books is a thriving partnership between Infant Welfare Society, D89, GECRC, and Madison School. The Library's free summer meals service (sponsored by the Northern IL Food Bank), enhances health and literacy during the summer months for Glen Ellyn's diverse community.

Middle School

Summer brought an abundance of aid to the Library. Over 50 middle schoolers volunteered to help the Youth Department. Whether it was straightening shelves, pulling books for a display, or crafting storytime items, they were an unending source of commitment and great enthusiasm. Changing the name Middle School Volunteers to The Middle Squad better symbolizes their unity, as they are quite a team of community citizens!

The Middle itself continues to be a popular place for meeting with friends, video games, board games, and studying. More shelving, games, and age-appropriate magazines were recently added. Furniture was also rearranged to increase space, and responsive art changes periodically.

Visiting area middle schools is paramount for continued collaboration in the community. At Hadley Jr. High, Junior Achievement teamed up with the school and the Middle School Librarian spoke with almost 100 students during three sessions about the Library profession and the means to succeed if one were to choose that career.

Found Art was another successful program in 2018. Middle Schoolers repurposed books into new creations. They learned that not all books donated to the Library can be put on shelves or sold at a book sale. So why not transform them into a neat design?

The Middle Files continue to be a great source of information for new books, student spotlights, and upcoming programs. Over 150 members subscribe to the e-newsletter!

Overall, 2018 was a wonderful year full of engagement and innovation among the middle schoolers.

High School

The Library continued to partner with the Glenbard South Special Education class. Students can now visit the Library for social and educational activities designed collaboratively by teachers and librarians. In December, Late Night Study had record attendance with an average of 80 people Tuesday through Thursday between 3 and 10 pm.

The YA librarian developed a Customer Service Workshop for high schoolers through a partnership with BR Ryall YMCA. This program, offered quarterly, provides professional education and volunteer opportunities. One participant is now employed by the YMCA.

The Independent Summer Reading program, which makes GEPL's Summer Reading program more accessible to members of the community best served by differentiated learning, will continue in 2019. The Teen Leadership Council grew by three year-round high school participants. Because of the popularity of the program, the YA librarian was contacted by other Illinois librarians to replicate the high school Nerf Games program on a larger scale.

Adult

The Adult Department focused on outreach in 2018. The Instruction and Business Librarian started an e-newsletter aimed at small local businesses and has partnered with the Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Alliance, and other local groups. The Outreach Librarian bolstered the Next Chapter Book Club for a group of adults with special needs who meet at the Library to read and discuss books. Because the Library's meeting rooms were not available during the renovations, several events were held off-site, including a fall Family Luau at the Lake Ellyn Boathouse, complete with food trucks and hula dancing.

Construction did not slow the Library's work as a Passport Acceptance Facility. GEPL accepted close to 1,300 passport applications in 2018, a 45% increase from 2017.

The SWAN migration also affected operations on the 2nd Floor as well. Librarians fielded many questions about Library PINs!

To mirror current trends, the Library purchased two new video streaming products: Kanopy and Access Video on Demand. These products add educational, documentary, and foreign content to the Library's collection. Hoopla was expanded to enable more members to access the movies they want. Adult Department staff are always happy to answer questions and help members find a great book, movie, ebook, or audiobook. Whether it is a tax form, train schedule, or passport you need, ask at the 2nd Floor Information Desk!

Circulation

As the Library joined a new Library consortium and adjusted to changes in software, Circulation also adapted and watched as a new lobby, Circulation desk and workroom were constructed. With the migration to SWAN in May of 2018, new services became available to members, including the ability to access books, movies,

and music throughout 97 libraries. In addition, members can renew eligible checked out items up to five times, and members who choose to receive email notifications can receive alerts with the new due date.

In August, Circulation launched the new drive-up window, which has been very popular. Members can request that all of their reserved items be held at the drive-up window for convenient pickup. Almost 2,000 items were checked out at the drive-up window by the end of 2018.

Members can stop in or call 630-469-0879 x5 to change their notification preferences or hold pickup location.

Materials Processing

The Materials Processing Department processed and added 15,202 new items to the GEPL collection. The department also removed 25,690 damaged, outdated, and non-circulating items. Overall the GEPL collection includes:

- Books = 116,638 items
- Magazines = 6,403 volumes
- E-Books = 379,107 titles
- E-Magazines = 123 titles
- Audio Recordings = 11,578 items
- E-Audiobooks = 84,422 titles
- DVDs = 9,482 volumes
- E-Videos = 401,066 titles
- E-Music = 279,706 titles

Information Technology

IT spent the first six months of 2018 migrating from LINC to SWAN and working on the technology needed for the Phase III Renovation on the 1st floor. Computers, cameras, self-checks, and people counters were installed to complete the new Circulation workroom and front entrance.

Sharon Bannister retired after 25 years at the Library and the department added 1 ¾ new staff (James, Justin, and Joey).

Post-remodel, IT has increased its programming support, assisting members with the new audio-visual gear in the meeting rooms, deploying new laptops for Google CS First Club programming classes, planning a new audio system for the 2nd floor, and hosting Oculus Rift VR Club meetings. The department has also been evaluating Automated Materials Handler (AMH) vendors, clarifying the Library's sorter requirements, and receiving vendor proposals. This will lead to board presentations in 2019. Somehow, we also found time to replace the staff server and migrate all of the staff servers to Server 2016.

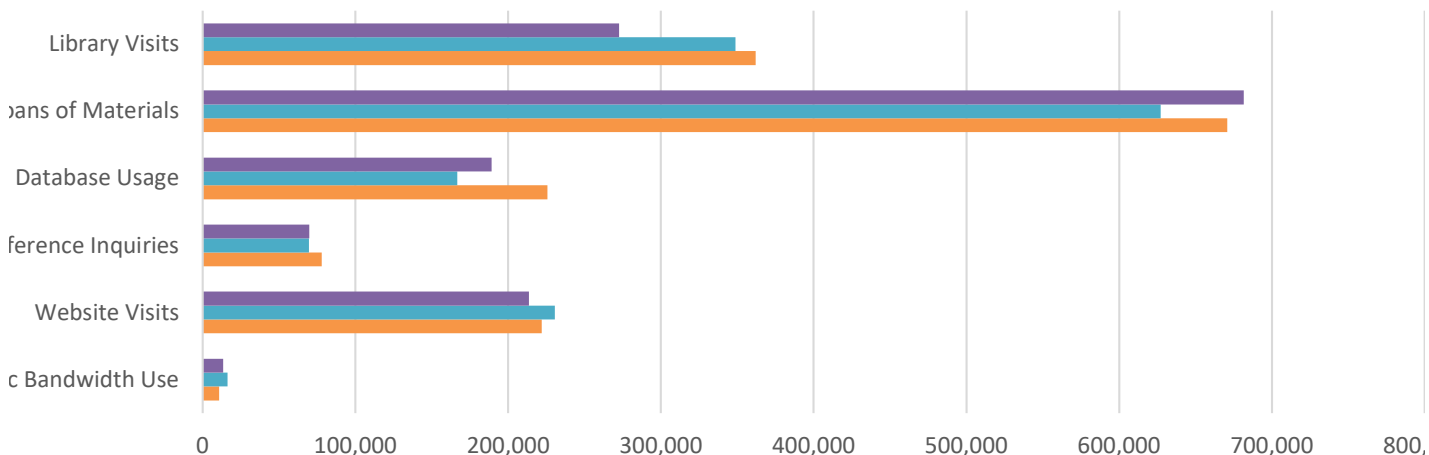
As security is a constant threat, the Library has also added a Sonicwall file scanner (Capture ATP), continued security awareness "phishing" training for staff, and is looking at additional security precautions to take in 2019. It was a busy year.

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Glen Ellyn Public Library received \$61,460.38 in grant funding and \$84,850.99 in monetary gifts for the fiscal year 2018.

GLEN ELLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY USAGE NUMBERS FOR FY 2018

Usage Statistic Comparison



	Public Bandwidth Use	Website Visits	Reference Inquiries	Database Usage	Loans of Materials	Library Visits
018	13,338	213,660	69,757	189,245	681,512	272,595
017	16,308	230,642	69,579	166,669	627,115	348,872
016	10,679	221,893	77,852	225,663	670,879	362,040

■ 2018 ■ 2017 ■ 2016

Please Note: Library Visits for 2018 are lower due to disconnection of people counter during Phase III Renovation.

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. 2018 was indeed a busy year. Now, get ready for some exciting new programs and services coming your way in 2019:

February: **You're Just My Type** – Use a typewriter to send a letter or poem the old-fashioned way (it's more romantic than a text!). Just write from the heart—we'll take care of the rest. Typewriters, paper, envelopes, and postage will be provided during the month of February. Program sponsored by the Glen Ellyn Library Foundation.

March: **Check the Library Marketing Campaign Launch, Short Story Kiosk** (made possible by the Glen Ellyn Library Foundation), and **GEPL-Con**, a chance to wear your cosplay and participate in Harry Potter Wand battles, Magic the Gathering and Pokémon card games, an escape room, and classic arcade games.

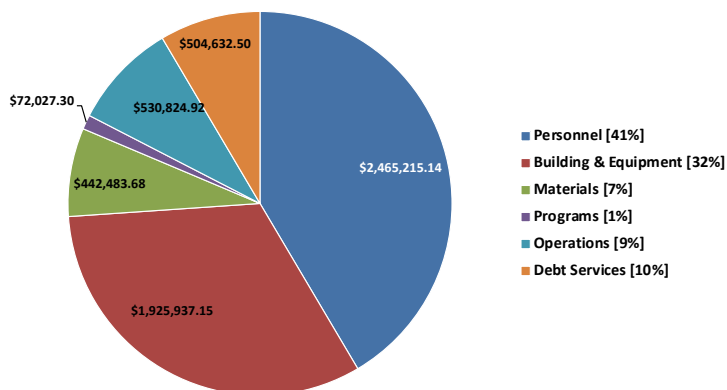
Summer: **Game On: Summer Challenge** – Help the Library meet its summer reading goals, and \$2,000 will be donated to the Glen Ellyn Park District Scholarship Fund by the Friends of the Library and the Glen Ellyn Library Foundation to make sure all children in Glen Ellyn have access to fun, healthy programming.

HAVE A SUGGESTION?

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

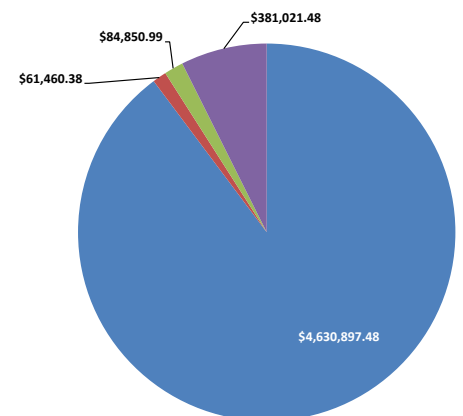
EXPENDITURES

January 2018 - December 2018



REVENUES

January 2018 - December 2018



Glen Ellyn Public Library
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630-469-0879 | gepl.org

Director
Dawn Bussey

Adult Dept. Director
Susan DeRonne

Youth Dept. Director
Heather McCammond-Watts

Circulation Dept. Director
Carrie Jeffries

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Maria Tachna

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