

Poughkeepsie Public Library District

2010 Annual Report

Serving our Community



"Of I could be anywhere in the world right now reading a book I would be at the Adriance Library....The distinctive scent of books that have been read, reread and treasured by their many readers is calming and provides the most natural place for a reader to enjoy their book. I am thankful to have Adriance in my community." - Nikhil Dhawan, Todd Middle School student

Although libraries are about more than just books these days, it is clear that kids of all ages still love to read library books! PPLD circulation figures for 2010 illustrate just how much this community reads: of the TOTAL number of items checked out (416,411) throughout the year, 224,481 were print items and 191,940 were non-print items.

As members of the Mid-Hudson Library System, Adriance and Arlington also supply library materials to patrons from libraries around the region. In 2010, we fulfilled 114,690 'hold' requests, some for PPLD patrons but many for patrons throughout the five MHLS counties.

Over 500 children and teens registered for the 2010 Summer Reading Program. They recorded their reading achievements and participated in fun enrichment opportunities at the library all summer. Special Summer Reading Program events drew record numbers of excited kids and families (nearly 4,300). October brought record numbers of participants to Big Read events as well (over 6,000).

PPLD is honored to be a valued part of community life in Poughkeepsie. Thank you for your support!



Culture

The mission of the Library District states that we will be a vibrant institution meeting the needs of a diverse community. To this end, the Library District offers many enrichment opportunities to children, families and patrons of all ages and backgrounds.

In 2010, the Poughkeepsie Public Library District offered opportunities for the public to enjoy events such as: African Drumming, the

American Youth Symphony, a concert from Wizard Rock, Poe's Last Mystery (theatrical performance), puppet theater performance, mime, ventriloquist show, comedy, writing and performing poetry and rap, learning Hip Hop Dance, Summer Theatre Camp, culinary instruction, arts and crafts projects, and more!



Techno Literacy

The Public Computer Center was open for 66 sessions from September through December of 2010 and served over 200 patrons with individualized assistance. Library patrons took advantage of lab time and scheduled classes to boost their technology literacy. Classes included computer basics, beginning Internet, introduction to social networking and classes on Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Lab hours are being expanded to include sessions at the Arlington Branch, and classes continue to be modified and developed to address specific patron requests. "Computer and Internet access at public libraries connects millions of Americans to economic, educational and social opportunity each year," said Jill Nishi, deputy director of U.S. Libraries at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.



Life Knowledge

wany community members value the wealth of experience and knowledge that can be found at the local library. In 2010, our librarians were asked over 58,000 questions on an incredibly wide range of topics.

PPLD also partnered with local experts to offer free information sessions to the public on topics including defensive driving, Alzheimers' awareness and caregiver support, elder law, tax preparation, support for small business owners, how to use the numerous databases available to patrons, GED classes, how to access all the benefits of holding a library card, legal rights for special needs children, support for non-profits, and much, much more!

Got a question? Try the library!



106 Seeker Assistance

n February 26, 2010, the Library District learned that it was one of 30 public libraries in New York designated as a Public Computer Center slated to receive a federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant. The main focus of the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program grant is to increase the digital literacy of the public and assist library patrons in finding jobs and advancing their careers using the latest information technology.

For many in our community, the fast-paced development of information technology represents a huge barrier (searching for and applying for jobs online, learning basic computer skills, creating or updating a resume). "Now, when people in our community need support utilizing technology, they can find it at their library," says PCC Director Stephanie Harrison.

In September, 2010, the Public Computer Center opened with a set of new laptops, a staff of gifted instructors and a roster of dynamic classes. The classes, which focus on searching for jobs online, creating effective resumes, and developing good interview skills, are regularly full, and patrons also receive individualized computer support during daily computer lab hours. The response has been tremendous!



Authors and Speakers

Throughout 2010, the Poughkeepsie Public Library District proudly hosted respected authors, illustrators and literary scholars, giving the community access and insight into literature for all

In February of 2010, the Library District hosted two musical author/educators, Dr. Peter Muir and Maxwell Kofi Donkor. In April, community children were delighted to meet 'Arthur' and the real 'D.W.', artist Kim Brown, sister of author Marc Brown. For National Library Week, we also hosted authors Ann Burg, Lesa Cline Ransome, Susanna L. Hill, Sandra Pinkney, photographer Myles C. Pinkney, and author/illustrator Charles R. Smith, Jr.

During October's Big Read, Poe scholar Dr. Elliot Engel spoke to a capacity crowd, followed in subsequent weeks by authors Mitch Horowitz and Dr. Charles J. Rzepka. In December, Authors Barbara and Wesley Gottlock were featured speakers at the Friends' Annual Meeting.

Annual Fund Contributors

The Poughkeepsie Public Library District and the Friends of PPLD are grateful to the individuals, businesses and organizations who contributed to the 2010 Annual Fund. These lists reflect gifts received between January 1 and December 31, 2010, including gifts in response to the Friends' Appeals. *All names are listed as requested by the donor.*

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Comedienne Paula Poundstone (5th from left) with Friends of PPLD









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Poughkeepsie Public Library District

2010 Financials

Revenue

Real Property Taxes & PILOT Pa	syments \$4,913,357
Dutchess County	83,160
Library Charges	86,807
Annual Fund	28,662
Grants	107,671
State Aid	246,750
Interest and Earnings	11,477
Miscellaneous	
Interfund Transfers	121,785

Expenditures

Total Expenditures	\$5,541,212
Debt Service	976,207
Operations	
Information Services	42,640
Library Materials	
Equipment	33,106
Benefits	906,740
Salaries & Wages	\$2,525,876

Remembering James R. Tallman

Jim Tallman, a distinguished and long-time member of the Library District's Board of Trustees, died peacefully at his home on August 7 at the age of 73.

Jim graduated from Cornell University and served as an officer on a United States Navy destroyer before moving to Poughkeepsie and beginning a 30-year career with IBM. Following his retirement, Jim became very active as a volunteer and the Library District was just one of several organizations that benefited from his wisdom, integrity and humor.

Speaking on behalf of the Board, administration and staff, Library Director Tom Lawrence noted Tallman's contribution to the development of the Library District. "Jim was very committed to our community and took a passionate interest in making sure that the Library District played an active and effective role in the community," he said. "He served on the Board with great distinction and commitment for nine years and his wise, patient presence will be sorely missed."

Doughkeepsie Dublic Library District

Adriance Memorial Library

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Arlington Branch Library

504 Haight Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Phone:

(845) 485-3445 poklib.org

E-mail:

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In Memory of Frances June Barbara Paxton

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Message from the President of the Board

Dear Friends:

1010 was a remarkable year for the Poughkeepsie Public Library District. We enjoyed the first complete year in our beautifully renovated and expanded Adriance Memorial Library. The combined circulation of library materials from both city and town library locations increased 34% from 2009 to 2010. 416,411 items were checked out of the library and 367,939 visits were made in 2010. Over 500 children and teens participated in the summer reading program. October's Big Read, which featured the works of Edgar Allen Poe, was a huge success. Numerous events for the public to enjoy were held at the Library District's facilities. Included in these events were talks by authors and artists, concerts, theatrical performances, and even culinary instruction.

In February 2010, the Poughkeepsie Public Library District became one of 30 libraries in New York State designated as a Public Computer Center. This designation allowed the District to receive a federal grant to purchase equipment and hire staff for the purpose of increasing digital literacy and also assisting patrons in job searches and career advancement. The Public Computer Center was opened in September and has since assisted patrons with individualized instruction in computer use, online job searches and instructions in computer programs.

We thank the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District for their outstanding support. In December 2010, the Friends completed their \$250,000 pledge to the library. They also held two book sales, organized bus tours, ran book discussions, held a tea party and ran an ongoing 'Name a Shelf' program for the benefit of the library. Thank you, Friends, and congratulations to all the volunteers in the Friends organization.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the public whose support of the Library allows us to serve the community and enrich lives through library services.

Mary McGowan President, Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees

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