Poughkeepsie Public Library District

ENRICHING LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY

2012 Annual Report



"Whether it is providing a social environment for seniors, a safe space for kids after school, or a 'makerspace' to unleash the talent in the community, libraries are becoming more important than ever."

Caroline Kennedy



Major Cultural Programs

Throughout the year, the Library District offered several month-long programs that explored a particular theme. From January 11 to February 24, Adriance Memorial Library hosted A Fine Romance: Jewish Songwriters, American **Songs**, a major traveling exhibit illustrated with colorful posters from Broadway shows and photographs of composers, singers, and the casts of hit musicals and films. Through a month-long series of performances and presentations, our community learned about the lives and works of Irving Berlin, George and Ira Gershwin, Jerome Kern, and many more. Three months later, another major exhibit, Manifold Greatness: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible, was installed at Adriance. Scholars from Bard College, Dutchess Community College, Marist, and Vassar offered presentations on: The Challenges of Translation; The Art of the King James Bible; The Bible as Literature; The History of the Printed Bible, and others.

In the summer, the Library District hosted a series of discussions as part of a grant-funded national program, called *Building Common Ground*, whose goal was to engage the public in contemplation and discussion of the importance of community, civility and compassion in their daily lives. In October, the Library District launched its sixth annual *Big Read* with the active involvement of more than 40 organizational partners including the schools and colleges. The featured book was *The Maltese Falcon*, and on the final evening, more than 600 people watched the film adaptation at the Bardayon.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT The classes and activities for children were amor

The classes and activities for children were among the most popular and appreciated programs offered by the Library District in 2012. Baby Rhyme Time, The Toddler Learning Center, Reading Buddies, Family Story Time, and others help support the healthy development of local children while also providing parents with ideas and opportunities for the continued enrichment of the lives of their children.





Investing in our Youth

When Caroline Kennedy mentions a "makerspace" in the quote above, she's referring to a space where people are given the tools and opportunity to express their creativity. In 2012, the Library District received a grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to plan a Teen Media Lab. Library staff members are currently working with Children's Media Project and IBM to design the Lab, which will engage middle and high school students in youth-centered, collaborative learning using digital and traditional media. There will be pilot programs this summer and the program will launch in June 2014.

That's just one of the ways the Library District offers support throughout the educational life of a young person. Is your child preparing for kindergarten? Learning to read? Reviewing the SATs? Getting ready for college? There's a program on that at the library.

Business and Employment

During 2012, our public libraries supported those who were most impacted by the economic climate by providing technology training, online resources for employment, access to government resources, continuing education, retooling for new careers, and support for starting a small business. Thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the Dyson Foundation, the Public Computer Center flourished and became a permanent part of the Library District, offering ongoing support to job seekers, business owners, and those who need to improve their computer skills.



Building for the Future

In November, voters in the City and Town approved the Library District's proposal to build a new branch library to address the growing demand for library services. The project involves the renovation of 18,000 square feet of interior space and the addition of 4,200 square feet of new space. The new library will include four meeting rooms, including one dedicated to children's programs, to fulfill the public library's expanding role as a community center offering programs for all ages. The main program room, which can be divided into three separate rooms, will be able to accommodate up to 200 people.



Outreach to the Hispanic Community

The Community Learning Plaza (La Plaza de Aprendizaje) continued to flourish during 2012. The program is designed to assist members of Poughkeepsie's growing Hispanic population improve their literacy and language skills while also preparing for the workplace. The Library District works in partnership with Literacy Connections and other community organizations to introduce Hispanic families to community resources, including the programs and services offered by the library. In May, the Library District offered a series of four cross-cultural programs following the celebration of El Dia de los Niños (Children's Day) on April 30.





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 2012 Annual Fund. These lists reflect gifts received between January 1 and December 31, 2012, including gifts in response to the Friends' Appeals. *All names are listed as requested by the donor.*

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

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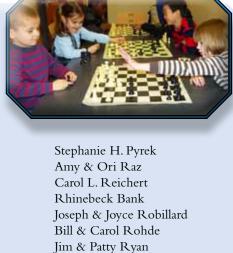
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I consider the library to be my home away from home. My request list for library books is never-ending – I love to read. I also love the wide variety of activities available at the library – not just for kids, but for adults too!

Joanne Schultz, Poughkeepsie resident



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2012 FINANCIALS

Revenue

Real Property Taxes & PILOT Payments	\$5,581,690
Dutchess County	52,081
Library Charges	80,650
Annual Fund	37,341
Grants	39,679
State Aid	242,280
Interest and Earnings	13,178
Miscellaneous.	161,601
Interfund Transfers	18,695
Total Revenue	\$6,227,195
E	
Expenditures	
Salaries & Wages	\$2,555,788
•	
Salaries & Wages	8,486
Salaries & Wages. General Support MTA Commuter Tax	
Salaries & Wages. General Support MTA Commuter Tax Benefits	
Salaries & Wages. General Support MTA Commuter Tax Benefits Equipment.	8,486 1,160,712 16,876 320,386
Salaries & Wages. General Support MTA Commuter Tax Benefits Equipment. Library Materials	
Salaries & Wages. General Support MTA Commuter Tax Benefits Equipment. Library Materials Automation.	8,486 1,160,712 16,876 320,386 24,996 42,640
Salaries & Wages. General Support MTA Commuter Tax Benefits Equipment. Library Materials Automation. Information Services	
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Message from the Board President



Looking back over all of the highlights of 2012 provides us with many more reasons to look forward with excitement to the future of our Library District. The expanded and refurbished Adriance Memorial Library has now been open for three years and has been an outstanding success, drawing appreciative comments and large numbers of new patrons. The renovated facility has also seen an increase in the quality and scope of the programs the Library District offers for people of all ages, including the increasingly ambitious, month-long series of programs described on page one of this Annual Report.

When we consider the numbers of people of all ages whose lives are impacted and improved by our public libraries, how can we not be excited

about the prospect of opening our brand new branch library on Boardman Road in the fall of next year? How many more of our neighbors will be educated, informed and entertained? How many more children will discover the joy of reading? Our public libraries are more important and more appreciated than ever. As I write this letter, the Pew Research Center has just released a report titled Parents, Children, Libraries, and Reading.* The report includes the astonishing fact that 94% of parents say libraries are important for their children and 79% describe libraries as "very important."

2012 was another very successful year for the Library District and as the year drew to a close, the community showed its appreciation of that work by approving the plan to build the new branch library. I know I speak on behalf of the Board, administration and staff of the Library District in stating that this vote of confidence has further encouraged us all to offer yet more to the community in the years ahead.

Lila Lynch, President, Board of Trustees

*http://libraries.pewinternet.org/2013/05/01/parents-children-libraries-and-reading/