



# 2013 Annual Report

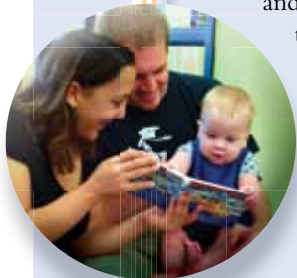
## Lifelong Learning

Working in partnership with other education providers, the Library District can truly be regarded as supporting lifelong learning in its widest sense, “from cradle to grave.” Throughout 2013, PPLD supported children’s literacy skills from the earliest age, provided space and resources for school children and older students’ study needs, and offered a wide array of opportunities for adult learners.

### Babies

Reading to babies sparks their brain development and creativity; it helps them succeed later when they enter school, and it’s a fun and unique bonding opportunity for parents and their babies. Research has also shown that children who are spoken to and read to frequently have larger vocabularies and develop into better readers.

In 2013, local parents received plenty of support in raising their infants as the Library District offered programs such as Baby Rhyme Time, a language enrichment program for infants from birth to 23 months, and Toddler Learning Center, a parent and child workshop featuring toys, books, activities, and play for children ages 18-36 months. Community resource people were often available to discuss parenting issues and topics including child development, nutrition, speech therapy and more.



### PreSchoolers

At the library, young children continue to develop important literacy skills, enjoy positive learning experiences, and prepare to enter kindergarten “school-ready.” Throughout 2013, the JLP Preschooler Learning Center, a designated space on the Youth Services floor at Adriaance Memorial Library, offered story times and guided play sessions among the various learning stations. Other programs included Art Lab, which offered sensory and fine motor skill experiences through unique art projects for children ages 18 months to five years old, and Toot and Scoot, a movement and music program featuring songs, instruments, rhyme, and interactive play.

*★ With Pre-K not in existence, the library is essential to my son’s early childhood development. The library helps him mature socially and see different people and accept them and make friends, establish relationships at an early age.*



*The library is important to me because I get help with my homework from the tutors. I like my Reading Buddy. He helps me to read better. The library is really fun and I like everyone that works here.*



### Adults

For adults, school and college may have been left far behind, but that doesn’t mean an end to learning opportunities. In 2013, Poughkeepsie residents learned about all of the following, for free, right here at the library: financial planning; making presentations using PowerPoint; composting; using Facebook and LinkedIn; Mah Jongg; creative writing and how to get published; knitting and crocheting; digital photography; growing garlic; navigating the Medicare website; starting a business; defensive driving; and preparing for retirement.

Adults could also join a book club, download indie films and e-books, meet an Oscar-winning director, or learn about the universe, and every month there was an exhibit of the works of a local artist in the Mary Wojtecki Rotunda Gallery.

*First of all, the building is beautiful. It’s like walking in the White House. The library is important to me because it’s a place to focus on my work. There are no interruptions. Moreover the employees here are very helpful. Anything I need, book or movie, they go out of their way to assist me.*



### Elementary

As children grow to take on new skills and to express themselves more confidently, the library provides a variety of opportunities. In 2013, the Chess Club allowed children in grades 1-6 to challenge themselves and join in the games under the guidance of coach David Byrnes, and the Story Telling Workshop turned things around by encouraging children in grades 3-5 to tell their own stories to each other.

Throughout the year, the Library District also offered programs and services for children with special needs. Rhythm and Rhyme is a sensory story time followed by a half-hour of socialization. PPLD also partnered with Astor Services to offer Early Childhood Developmental Check-Ups, in which five areas of development were evaluated by an early childhood development specialist.



### Teens

As children transition into their teen years, the Library District provides opportunities for them to offer guidance to the younger children who are following in their footsteps. As Tech Buddies, Reading Buddies or Homework Tutors, teens can share and develop their knowledge and mastery while experiencing the rewards of volunteering.

In 2013, pilot programs for the new Teen Media Lab offered opportunities for teens to learn and experiment with new skills and technology that allowed for new expressions of creativity while also developing important workforce skills.

Meanwhile, programs such as *Creating a Path to College* were designed to prepare Poughkeepsie teens for the important next phase of their development.



*★ All of the above quotes are from individuals who visited Poughkeepsie’s two public libraries on February 20, 2013 - or “Snapshot Day” as it was designated - a day on which we took a snapshot of all that went on in the Library District. 1581 people visited the two libraries and borrowed 1475 items. Visitors were asked to comment on their experience at the library.*





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The Poughkeepsie Public Library District and the Friends of PPLD are grateful to the individuals, businesses and organizations who contributed to the 2013 Annual Fund. These lists reflect gifts received between January 1 and December 31, 2013, including gifts in response to the Friends' Appeals. *All names are listed as requested by the donor.*

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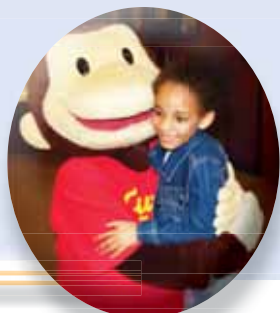
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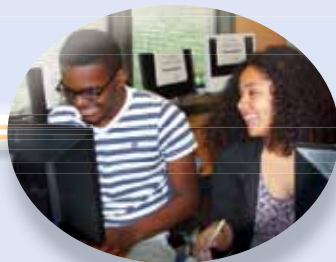


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## 2013 Financials

### Revenue

Real Property Taxes & PILOT Payments	\$ 5,735,144
Dutchess County	110,078
Library Charges	75,868
Annual Fund	29,584
Grants	95,664
State Aid	254,165
Interest and Earnings	8,937
Miscellaneous	57,645
Interfund Transfers	15,388
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$6,382,473</b>

### Expenditures

Salaries & Wages	\$2,703,689
General Support MTA Commuter Tax	2,702
Benefits	1,244,395
Equipment	13,824
Library Materials	372,769
Automation	37,484
Operations	945,069
Debt Service	980,092
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$6,300,024</b>



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## Message from the Board President

Once again, our Annual Report contains ample evidence of a flourishing Library District with exciting developments to anticipate in the coming years.

2013 began with a month-long exhibit and program series on African-American Baseball and ended with the seventh annual Big Read featuring Cynthia Ozick's *The Shawl* and involving 40 partner organizations from our local area. During the course of the year, our two libraries organized 2,335 public programs for local residents of all ages, drawing a program attendance of 31,222. Total visits to the libraries exceeded 389,000, and the number of items borrowed was a staggering 393,434.

As you have read in this report, the Library District is truly in the business of lifelong learning, offering programs for babies, preschoolers, elementary, teens and adults. At every stage of life, our libraries are always there, offering resources and guidance on every issue, question, and challenge we may face and providing stimulating and entertaining opportunities to EXPLORE, DISCOVER, and CONNECT.

The Annual Report would not be complete without a word of congratulations to the Friends of the Library District. Under the leadership of Pat Breen, the Friends continued to provide an astonishing level of support for the Library District in 2013. Several programs, including the Summer Reading Program, depend on the support of the Friends, and on behalf of the Board of Trustees I want to offer them our thanks and congratulations on another year of great success.

As 2013 drew to a close, work was beginning on the new branch library on Boardman Road, providing one more reason to look forward with great anticipation to all that our Library District will offer in the years ahead.

Anne Constantinople, *President, Board of Trustees*

