

# 2019 Annual Report

## POUGHKEEPSIE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

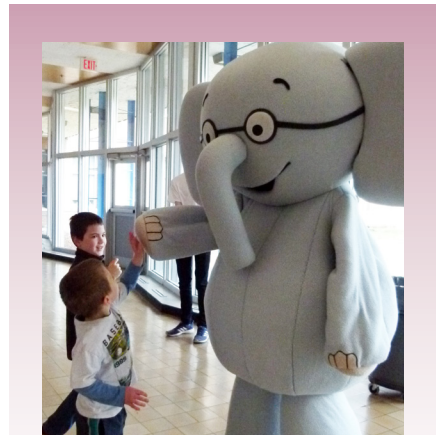
### **REALLY? The library does that?**

2019 saw the addition of several new resources and services to the Library District's offerings. In fact, even people who use our libraries on a regular basis may not be fully aware of all the things they can do, see, or borrow. That's why the theme of this year's annual report repeats a commonly asked question, "Really? The library does that?"

### **Want to Borrow a Metal Detector? How About a Go Pro Camera?**

The Library District has a Library of Things that features items that you may want to try without having to spend a lot of money. In 2019, we added Mobile Wifi Hotspots, a Go Pro HERO camera, two hiking backpacks, and, yes, a compact, collapsible, lightweight metal detector. And star gazers are always welcome to borrow our Orion StarBlast 4.5 Astro Reflector Telescope.

So if you want to hike to the top of a hill and watch the stars, you're welcome to borrow our telescope AND our hiking backpack which includes a flash light, compass, emergency blanket, first aid kit, binoculars, trail maps, and a copy of 50 Hikes in the Lower Hudson Valley.



### **Kids Read Book Festival**

Another major new program launched in 2019 was Kids Read, a book festival that featured 35 authors and illustrators of children's books. More than 500 people attended and the kids (and thus their parents!) were thrilled to meet their favorite authors and costumed characters including Biscuit, Bad Kitty, Elephant and Piggy. The craft tables were busy all day and the full schedule of presentations meant that there was always something new and interesting going on.

The book festival, which took place at Our Lady of Lourdes High School, engaged kids of all ages, offering readings and presentations on multiple stages. Children could buy books, have their pictures taken with authors and even have them sign their books. The Library District plans to make this an annual event but unfortunately, this year's book festival had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus.



### **Want to Travel to the Space Station? Or Maybe Paris?**

Just hop aboard one of our virtual trips using one of our 30 pairs of virtual reality goggles which give you a 360 degree view of your destination. In late 2019, we began offering programs in which patrons could virtually explore the Great Barrier Reef, the works of Leonardo Da Vinci, and hundreds of other exhibits or destinations including the space station. Just keep an eye on the program listings on our website.

### **"I Wish I Could Digitize Our Family Photos and Movies!"**

Well you can - at the library! Our Family Lineage Image Preservation (FLIP) digital service provides scanning and transferring services for the conversion of your family images, in both still and moving formats. There is a \$4.00 materials fee for the thumb drive on which your images will be stored.



### **Wish You Had Free Passes to Museums and Parks?**

In 2019, the Library District added 20 more sites to its list of 50 museums parks and destinations that offer free or reduced admission to Library District card holders. Book up to two passes for the same day to combine visits to nearby venues. These may be local places or destinations for your getaway trips to the Adirondacks,

Berkshires, Boston, or New York City. So if you want free passes to the Basketball Hall of Fame, or the Mark Twain Museum, or the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum, just call the library for details.

**PLEASE NOTE that some of these services will not be available during the initial phases of the Library District's reopening. To learn more about these and other programs and services, visit our website at [poklib.org](http://poklib.org) or call 845-485-3445 x3702.**

# Annual Fund Contributors

The Library District is grateful to the individuals, businesses, and organizations who contributed to the Annual Fund between January 1 and December 31, 2019.

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# Poughkeepsie Public Library District

## Financials

### Revenue

Real Property Taxes .....	\$7,677,943
Pilot Payments .....	126,577
Library Charges .....	70,788
Interest and Earnings .....	60,731
Grants .....	24,000
State Aid .....	286,630
Gifts & Donations .....	155,655
Miscellaneous .....	58,117
Interfund Transfers .....	213,106
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$8,655,982</b>

### Expenses

Salaries and Wages .....	\$3,682,369
Employee Benefits .....	1,718,756
Library Materials & Information Services ...	626,912
Equipment .....	67,655
Circulation & OPAC Management Fees .....	83,649
Operations .....	1,094,019
Debt Service .....	1,372,681
Contingency .....	9,941
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$8,655,982</b>

## 2019 by the Numbers

Total visitors .....	337,644
Items loaned or downloaded .....	434,229
Reference questions .....	16,919
Public computer log-ins .....	113,091
Public fax usage .....	805
Website hits .....	378,7149
Database usage .....	154,538

### Programs

Total public programs .....	3,185
Total program attendance .....	43,091

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## Message from the Board President

Normally, this message would discuss the Library District's performance in the previous year, highlighting its many achievements. However, nothing is normal at this time. As I write this message, our libraries are closed to the public, as are many of the organizations and institutions that make up our community.

Nevertheless, I am very proud of the ways in which the Library District has responded to this crisis. When face to face interaction with patrons was no longer possible, the library staff began making wellness calls to patrons at home. When Story Times and other programs were cancelled, the Library District embraced Facebook Live, Zoom, and YouTube to stay connected with the community. Since mid-March, staff members have made a remarkable 98 videos that resulted in 23,383 unique Facebook views and 2,160 YouTube views.

In response to the need for face shields for health workers, the Library District's IT department used our six 3D printers to make 120 face shield holders. Other staff members sewed more than 100 face masks in support of health care workers.

Meanwhile, the portals to online resources have been thrown wide open. Individuals who do not have a library card can easily sign-up online (poklib.org) providing access to a treasure trove of educational and entertaining resources.

During this crisis, there is so much that we cannot do, and so much that we miss from our normal lives. Still, I hope that you and your family can find some comfort, entertainment, and even inspiration, in all that the Library District is making available.

On behalf of everyone at PPLD, I wish you continued health and look forward to seeing you in person before too long.

**Dianne Blazek**, *President, Board of Trustees*