



**DETROIT
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

2018/19 COMMUNITY REPORT

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert. There is not such a cradle of democracy upon the earth as the Free Public Library, this republic of letters, where neither rank, office nor wealth receive the slightest consideration."

- Andrew Carnegie



The Detroit Public Library makes a difference in the lives of Detroiters who depend upon it for information, technology access, creative programming and relevant services. As the community's living room, every DPL location is a place that offers welcoming spaces for people of all ages. From author talks to job search assistance to computer classes to story times, the Library is an important gathering place for Detroiters.

Our 21 branches are active places, each providing useful services and outstanding programs tailored to the needs of the local neighborhood. Over the past two years, with the renovations of the Benjamin Franklin and Laura Ingalls Wilder libraries, we have continued our commitment of upgrading and beautifying branch locations. Thanks to your generous support, we continue to expand our delivery of programs and services. We meet our daily commitment to you through our staff who come from a variety of backgrounds and represent the diversity of the customers we serve. In FY 2019, our many employees provided research, technology, and learning resources that make a difference for you.

This report highlights two major accomplishments – our new “no fines” policy, and the introduction of a new Mobile Library that provides greater access to library services, technology and programming. Everything we do is about providing increased access to our collections and services. I invite you to check out our streaming services for e-books, music or movies, take advantage of our public computers and Wi-Fi, enjoy our great events, programs and exhibits. Whether you visit a branch or Main Library, remotely access various online programs, e-books or our digital collections, or visit our new Mobile Library when it comes to your neighborhood – wherever and whenever -- we are here for you!

JoAnne G. Mondowney



NO FINES

For the first time in 154 years, the Detroit Public Library is no longer charging overdue fines for late items. Beginning September 1, 2019, the library ended late fines and all past overdue fines were eliminated from patron's accounts. Due dates still matter, and to ensure patrons bring back materials on time, a customer's library card is blocked from checking out more items if they fail to return by the due date. The new rule does not apply to fees for any lost or damaged items—the customer will still be responsible for any replacement charges. But, with no fines, it is now easier than ever to borrow materials and enjoy the library.

MOBILE LIBRARY



The Detroit Public Library got “back on the road again” with the launch of a brand new Mobile Library in the Fall of 2019. For 80 years, the bookmobile has been an integral component of library service, by visiting neighborhoods, schools, and community organizations and events throughout the city of Detroit. This new Mobile Library offers more than just books.

Customers will now be able to check out audio visual materials such as DVDs, and the vehicle is equipped with all the latest technology, including WiFi, laptops, gaming systems, and even a large outside t.v. screen! The new Mobile Library will be making its ways across the city visiting branches, schools, neighborhoods and community centers.

WASH & LEARN



In 2017, the Library partnered with Libraries Without Borders to transform laundromats into spaces that expanded and extended services outside the library. The Wash and Learn Initiative places librarians and volunteers in laundromats to offer library programming and literacy engagement, as well as laptops, Wi-Fi and books. These pop-up libraries allow patrons to not only have access to the internet and computers, but assist with early literacy for children through story times and educational resources, all while doing their laundry.

A photograph of a man, a woman, and a young child sitting on a wooden floor, reading a book together. The man is on the right, pointing at the book. The woman is on the left, looking down at the book. The child is in the center, looking at the book. The background shows a bookshelf with books.

PRIME TIME READING

Sundays at the Library in Spring 2019 offered families a fun and relaxing time to bond through reading, discussion and storytelling. Prime Time Family Reading Time was a free six-week family reading program funded through a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council. At the end of each session, families received copies of the books to create their own home libraries.

JAVA & JAZZ

COMERICA BANK
JAVA & Jazz
A Coffee House Series

2020 marks the 20th anniversary of the Library's partnership with Comerica Bank. Since 2000, Comerica Bank Java & Jazz has provided amazing concerts to the community. From March to July, DPL packs the house for an evening of great jazz. The past two years have seen big name acts from Joan Belgrave, Straight Ahead, Marcus Elliot to Kimmie Horne. The library is looking forward to continuing this partnership.



Kimmie Horne

GALLERIA

Then and Now: A Retrospective of Portraits - Desiree Kelly



The Detroit Public Library's focus on cultural and educational programs has found a new outlet—exhibits. The library has transformed the first floor Galleria into a true gallery space for exhibits dedicated to spotlighting local artists. From an international painter, a juried exhibit, to a presentation on the history and art of headwrapping, the

variety of exhibits illustrate the role the library can play in presenting art and culture to the community. The Galleria offers a chance for both well-known artists to show their work, or those just beginning to gain exposure. It provides a means to bring people together and celebrate the creativity and diversity of Detroit.

ONLINE PRESENCE

DPL Increased and improved content and deliverables focusing on the programs, services and resources of the Library via website and social media channels, which in turn increased our subscriber base (Total: 30,900) and digital exposure.

We grew our subscriber base from January 2019 to March 31, 2020 as follows:



Constant Contact E-Newsletter



2.4%



Website Statistics

**330K
Users**

**1.4 M
Page
Views**



of Computers and Databases

**1,212
Public
Computers**

**99
Databases**



Social Media



↑ 25%



↑ 79%



↑ 2.4%

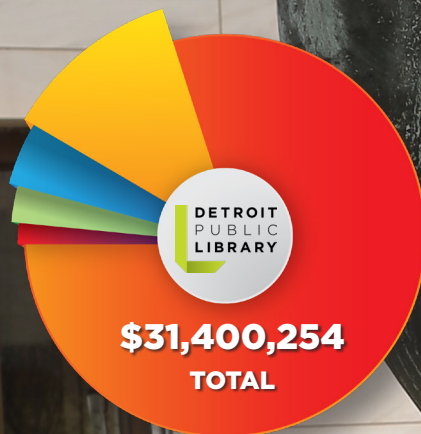


↑ 74%

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FISCAL YEAR 2018 (JULY 1, 2017-JUNE 30, 2018)

REVENUES



EXPENDITURES



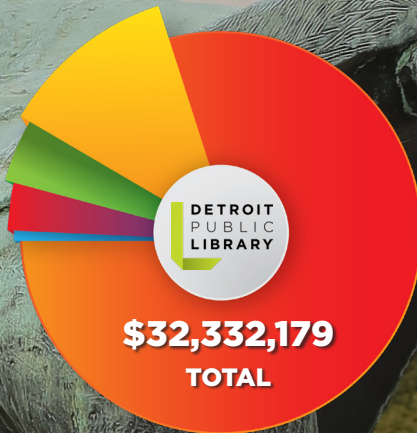
- TAXES - \$29,148,164
- INTERGOVERNMENTAL - \$1,257,032
- OTHER - \$600,310
- FINES & FORFEITS - \$258,931
- INTEREST - \$145,817

- SALARIES & WAGES - \$12,779,893
- OTHER - \$10,840,845
- BENEFITS COSTS - \$5,804,305
- TAX CAPTURES - \$2,451,716

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FISCAL YEAR 2019 (JULY 1, 2018-JUNE 30, 2019)

REVENUES



- TAXES - \$30,233,725
- INTERGOVERNMENTAL - \$1,450,678
- FINES & FORFEITS - \$302,008
- INTEREST - \$284,365
- OTHER - \$61,403

EXPENDITURES



- SALARIES & WAGES - \$13,131,325
- OTHER - \$11,571,513
- BENEFITS COSTS - \$7,023,021
- TAX CAPTURES - \$2,724,363

A black and white photograph of the Detroit Public Library building, a grand neoclassical structure with multiple stories, arched windows, and a decorative cornice. A large tree is visible on the left side of the frame. In the foreground, there is a green lawn and some low-lying shrubs. A dark signpost with the text "DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY" is visible on the left. A semi-transparent green rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing white text.

DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Cassandra Smith Gray, President
Russ Bellant, Vice President
Jean-Vierre Adams, Secretary
Edythe Hayden Friley
Franklin Jackson
Ida Byrd-Hill
Dr. Iris Taylor, Ex-Officio

Jo Anne G. Mondowney
Executive Director
