

Annual Report

Yonkers Public Library

2016

Letter from the President and Director

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Libraries are special places. They encourage deep learning, enjoyable reading, quiet reflection, and fact-finding. They encourage debate while being non-partisan and welcome people from all backgrounds and opinions into a space that is protected, supportive, and safe.



The Yonkers Public Library has been serving residents of Yonkers and surrounding towns in Westchester County since 1893. Since then, the YPL has greatly expanded and diversified its services. Our community continues to want popular and informative books and accurate information, and in addition to reading, patrons of all ages want to engage with each other to meet, discuss, learn, and even create things. The library continues to evolve to meet these needs.

This report outlines our accomplishments in 2016, a year of many exciting initiatives. Among other things, we finalized a new Long-Range Plan, which we encourage you all to read. We look forward to your feedback.

As we continue to grow, we encourage you to join us! Come read, meet, create, or go a step further: become one of our hundreds of volunteers, offer to teach a class, or become a Reading Buddy. Our monthly Board meetings are open to the public. In short, we welcome you to be an even bigger part of this important institution in the years ahead.

With warm wishes,

Nancy Maron, President, Board of Trustees, Yonkers Public Library
Ed Falcone, Director, Yonkers Public Library

Highlights of 2016

Supporting Early Readers



Reading Buddies

For over ten years, YPL has partnered with JCY-Westchester Community Partners to run the Summer Reading Buddies program. This collaborative effort pairs volunteers 14 and up with young readers each summer, and has grown larger each year. In 2016, we had 913 young readers participate as well as 339 volunteer readers.

School Partnerships

We continue to work closely with the Yonkers Public School system as a strategic partner in providing materials for school reports, summer reading, and academic projects. In 2016, YPL collaborated with local schools through direct classroom visits and by hosting students at the library. Over 50 school trips supported an estimated 1,100 students with library orientation and information literacy education.

Early Literacy Programs

YPL continues to offer a diverse range of early literacy and storytime programs for children 18-months to 6 years old. Developing early readers prepares each child for formal education and helps encourage a lifelong love of reading. In 2016, YPL held over 1,100 storytimes and early literacy programs, reaching over 12,556 participants.

Investing in a Digital Future



Tech Central Launches

In May 2016, with support from Mayor Spano, Assemblymember Shelley Mayer and Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins, we opened the doors to Tech Central at the Riverfront Library, a 2,000-square-foot space featuring cutting-edge technology, including two 3D printers, a sound-proof recording studio, video equipment, large-format printer and a computer training room outfitted with 30 laptops and 25 iPads. We hired a full-time technology training coordinator, a new position for our library dedicated to bringing innovative programs to our community. In just the first 7 months of service we have offered 48 technology classes for over 1,236 participants.

Expanded Digital Offerings

YPL expanded its online offerings to include movies, television shows, music, audiobooks, digital magazines, eBooks and comic books using a variety of simple platforms, including hoopla digital, Overdrive, and Press Reader. All services allow patrons to check out materials at any time, from any location and on any device with a valid library card.

Bringing Local History to Life

The Grinton I. Will Branch established the Yonkers Public Library Digital Archives, a multi-year initiative that will preserve and increase access to a diverse range of sources on and about the history of Yonkers. The initial project focuses on digitizing old historic photos and documents and recording oral histories of Yonkers' veterans.

Planning for Growth



Strategic Planning

The library undertook a strategic planning process designed to reexamine its vision, mission, values, and strategic goals. Over 3,000 Yonkers residents and library stakeholders participated alongside library staff and the Board of Trustees to develop a plan for the next five years. The resulting report, [Improving Lives, Engaging Community, Leading Change](#), outlines a focus on engaging with the community and making the library and its materials even more accessible to those who want and need them. To read the Strategic Plan, visit www.ypl.org or request a print copy at any branch.

Fundraising kick-off

In May, the library hosted “A Starry Night,” a fundraiser to celebrate the grand opening of Tech Central. The event included a stirring speech by guest of honor ISS Astronaut and Yonkers-native Colonel Ron Garan, a ribbon-cutting ceremony, and tours and demonstrations of the space and new equipment. As the evening progressed, party-goers enjoyed live music and stunning views of the Hudson at night. The evening fundraiser drew 110 people and raised funds for programming at Tech Central.

Building for the Future

While we love the history of our library and its buildings, they are in need of some updating. In 2016, we initiated the first phase of the long-awaited Will Branch modernization plan, discussing the plans with those in the community, and working with the State Historic Preservation Office to make sure our new façade will honor the history of the original building. We reinvested in the Crestwood branch collection and appointed a librarian as the new manager; at the urging of devoted branch patrons, we are actively seeking ways to upgrade the building, to permit easier access.

Who We Are

Library Staff

Executive Staff

Edward Falcone, Library Director

Susan Thaler, Deputy Director

Vivian Presedo, Business Manager

Sandy Amoyaw, Branch Administrator, Riverfront Library

Zahra Baird, Branch Manager, Crestwood Library

Christian Zabriskie, Branch Administrator, Grinton I. Will Library

Department Heads

Laurie Antash, Head of Adult Services, Grinton I. Will Library

Aurora Cruz, Head of Adult Services, Riverfront Library

Diane McCrink, Head of Children's Department, Grinton I. Will Library

Tara Somersall, Head of Children's Department, Riverfront Library

Suzanne Johnson, Circulation Manager, Grinton I. Will Library

Norma Talton, Circulation Manager, Riverfront Library

Ruth Rosner, Head of Reference, Grinton I. Will Library

Carlos Figueroa, IT Manager/Network Administrator

Mary DiChiara, Head of Technical Services

Russell Martinez, Supervisor of Custodians

Board of Trustees

Nancy Maron, President

Anietra Guzmán-Santana, Vice President

Stephen Jannetti, Treasurer

Gregory Arcaro

Jim Buckley

Hon. Hal B. Greenwald

Derrick Touba

2016 By the Numbers

Number of Cardholders: 89,303
Total Circulation: 838,548
Collection Holdings: 420,205
Library Visits: 947,657
Website Visits: 273,053
Electronic/Database Usage: 247,168
Total Number of Programs: 5,046
Program Attendance: 128,142
Total Hours Open: 9,896

Financials

Income

City of Yonkers	\$8,988,347
Room Rentals	\$ 11,160
Fines & Fees	\$ 65,300
State Aid	\$ 47,560
Misc. Income	\$ 41,050
Total	\$9,153,417

Expenses

Personnel	\$6,887,738
Utilities	\$ 279,031
Technology	\$ 494,132
Materials & Supplies	\$ 275,476
Rent	\$ 750,000
Other Expenses	\$ 467,040
Total	\$9,153,417

For more detail of the YPL budget, visit: <http://www.yonkersny.gov/home/showdocument?id=13432>

Stay in Touch!



Riverfront Library

1 Larkin Center
Yonkers, NY 10701

Hours of operation:

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sundays (closed July and August): 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.



Grinton I. Will Library

1500 Central Park Avenue
Yonkers, NY 10710

Hours of operation:

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sundays (closed July and August): 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.



Crestwood Branch

16 Thompson Street
Yonkers, NY 10707

Hours of operation:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday: 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sundays (closed July and August): 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Telephone for all branches:

(914) 337-1500

www.ypl.org

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