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“There is a lot to love at the NPL.
The people, the place, the books!”

— Patricia

“Your caring customer support is a very special thing—and, having grown up in New Jersey, it makes me proud that the Newark Public Library provides such a

wonderful resource for so many people.”

—Mitch



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THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

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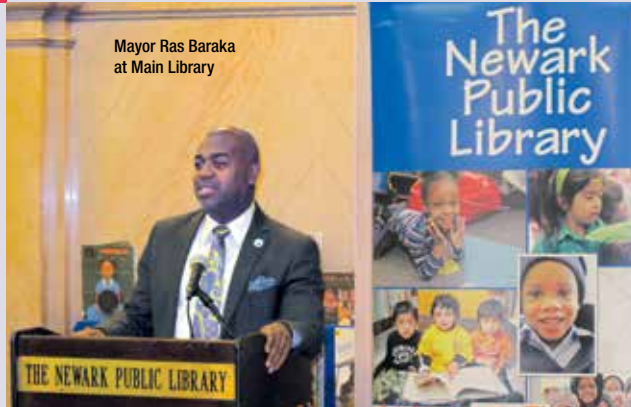
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Mayor Ras Baraka
at Main Library

THE CITY OF NEWARK

Ras J. Baraka, *Mayor*

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A Message from the Interim Director



The state of America's public libraries has been well summarized recently by Yvonne Dooley in the May/June 2016 issue of the *Library of Congress Magazine*, by Robinson Meyer in the April 14, 2016 issue of *The Atlantic*, and by The Pew Research Center in an April 7, 2016 report.

Despite dire predictions of their demise, America's public libraries are thriving. Previously recognized as repositories and lending places for books, public libraries are now centers for learning, innovation and collaboration. The digital age with its rapidly changing technology requires public libraries to evolve or risk obsolescence.

During the recent Great Recession, public libraries saw an all-time high in usage. Patrons came to libraries in droves to use computers, look for jobs and attend classes in addition to checking out library materials.

Americans value public libraries in their communities. 90% say closing of their local public library would have an impact on their community and 63% say it would have a major impact.

Libraries are helping to bridge the digital divide, often providing the only free Internet access in their communities, along with free access to e-books.

Yet, as demand for public libraries surged, funding dwindled. Newark Public Library is a prime example. The Library suffered a 35% cumulative decrease in City funding from 2009 to 2012, and no increase for 2013 to 2015.

Nationally, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) found that as investments in public libraries were reduced, mostly in reaction to post-recessionary budgetary reductions, decreases in library use followed. As investments in public libraries, such as revenue, staffing, and programs increased, so did critical use measures, such as attendance and circulation of library materials.

There's strong evidence that usage tracks investment. If public funds for libraries are cut, usage goes down. If libraries receive more public funds, more people use them.

So, where is the Newark Public Library in this mix? Following those decreases in City funding for the Library, the Library cut staff, hours, and book budgets, and Library use decreased dramatically. With a reduced staff and budget, the Library had to figure out how to continue to serve the residents of Newark with greatly reduced resources.

2015 marked the turning point. Patron visits, reference questions, public computer use, program offerings and attendance, and library card registrations all increased at the Main Library and a few branches. These trends are continuing in 2016.

The Library is buying books and other library materials again. The Mayor's budget proposal includes an increase in support for the Library for 2016. This is the first increase since 2008. It also includes capital project support for long overdue renovations and repairs to Library buildings.

2015 was a pivotal year and 2016 promises to be a time of moving forward in a very positive direction for the Newark Public Library.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Alrutz". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Thomas Alrutz
Interim Director, The Newark Public Library

“Many, many thanks for your prompt reply, but especially for your ‘digging’ into archival sources, which is greatly appreciated. . .all of this has exceeded my expectations.”

Youth Services

Whether visiting after school for homework help, checking out a book by a newly-discovered favorite author, or just hanging out with friends, young people are happily visiting the Main Library and Branches. Story time, gaming, crafts, comics, and even cooking are just some of the services designed to welcome these children and their families. The Library also hosts many school and community groups and brings library activities into the community through regular outreach.

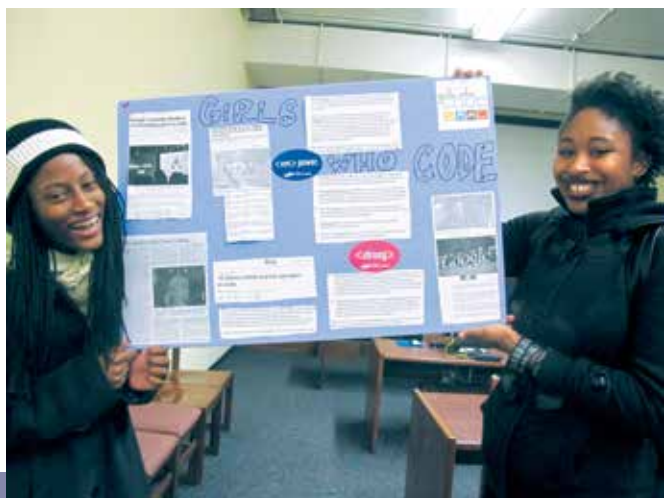
At *Mayor Baraka Goes to the Library*, Mayor Ras Baraka brought story times to the North End Branch and the Main Library in conjunction with Read and Believe and Programs for Parents. The Mayor’s office also coordinated a donation of books from First Book that were distributed to children and teens.

Newark Mommies organized *Building on Books*, a series of toddler story times

paired with a creative art project, at the Main Library. The program was funded by an ArtStart grant from the Newark Arts Council.

The Girls Who Code club met at the Main Library weekly and graduated its first class in May. Silvia Jaramillo-Regalado, Student Ambassador, explained her decision to start a club, “I truly feel as though there is a deep interest in education technology and improving the school environment for students as well as their own lives.” The club has provided computer programming instruction to girls in grades six through twelve. Following on the success of this group, a new class began in the fall, led by volunteer Gabby Rojas.

Students and their parents took advantage of weekly math coaching sessions provided by *Brick City Thinks*.



The Springfield Branch hosted three *College Fairs*, at which many students were given on the spot college acceptances. Volunteers Lyndon Brown, Cheryl Crawford, Wilhelmina Holder, and Erika Jackson taught weekly SAT preparation classes and helped students to complete college applications, financial aid forms, and personal statements. Funding from the Victoria Foundation helped to support the College Prep Program.

Art classes for teens included Manga drawing workshops with Misako, jewelry making presented by the TiaMarie Beading Studio, and superhero drawing and cartooning taught by Paul Merklein. Funds for these classes were provided by the Victoria Foundation, which also supported purchase of new books for the Young Adult collections.

In 2015, the *Summer Reading Challenge* was the focus of daily activities at all eight library locations, with the theme

Every Hero Has a Story. Readers received incentives for participating in the Challenge, and were awarded certificates of achievement at celebrations in August. Generously funded by the Victoria Foundation and the Friends of the Library, the program encouraged children to read to help prevent summer learning loss. The Essex County Environmental Center presented story and craft programs linked to the theme. Children’s librarians and library assistants staffed the Night at the Museum event at the Newark Museum in June to promote summer reading, with activities and games to encourage participation.

The *Newark Black Film Festival Youth Cinema* screenings at Main Library included ten children’s films.

The Write Stuff, a writing group for young people led by Campbell Hester, continued to meet at the North End Branch.



Main Library Summer Reading Challenge



Springfield Branch Summer Reading Challenge



“Thank you so much for finding the article for me. I appreciate the help. It has taken a long time to find this much out and I could not have done it without you.”
—Patrice

Programs and Exhibits



Examining Black Images in African American Literature program panelist Cheryl Willis Hudson, speaker Dr. Brenda M. Green, and moderator Dr. Adunni Anderson, at the opening of *My Soul Has Grown Deep: An Appreciation of African American Literature*.

Black History Celebration

Our annual celebration of Black History featured *My Soul Has Grown Deep: An Appreciation of African American Literature*, an exhibit that made use of the Library's extensive collections of the works of African-American authors, exploring writing

from slave narratives to contemporary pieces. The opening program included a panel discussion, *Examining Black Images in African American Literature*, moderated by Dr. Adunni Anderson, President of The Bibliophiles, with panelists Cheryl Willis Hudson, editorial director of Just Us Books; and Marva Allen, founder of the Hue-Man Bookstore. Dr. Brenda Greene, founder of the Center for Black Literature at Medgar Evers College, CUNY, was the guest speaker. The jazz group Cobblestone Multimedia Ensemble provided background music.

Additional events included:

Pen, Pitch, Publish, Profit: a Self-Publishing Intensive for Aspiring Authors presented by Caryl Lucas and LaTanya Orr

Black on Paper, a conversation with poet Walee and playwright Chisa Hutchinson, hosted by author and publisher Dr. Anasa Maat

Uncommon Genres in Black Literature, with Darrell Goza, author of comics and graphic novels; Valerie Wilson Wesley, mystery and paranormal novelist; and Donna Hill, romance novelist

Call Me Crazy: Diary of a Mad Social Worker performed by actress/poet/playwright Helena D. Lewis

In recognition of National Poetry Month, poets and writers read from the works of Amiri Baraka and presented poems and prose inspired by or dedicated to Baraka.

Funding for the Library's Black History Celebration activities and exhibits was provided by a generous grant from the PNC Foundation.



Hispanic Heritage Celebration

Through a selection of works by Cuban-American artists, historical maps of La Habana,

photographs, and vintage Cuban postcards from the Library's Special Collections Division, the exhibit *Beyond Exile: Cubans in New Jersey* examined the roles of women, the arts, religion, political culture and the effect of exile itself in the community's immigrant experience. Sociologist Lisandro Pérez presented the keynote address at the opening reception. Dr. Pérez is currently Professor and Chair of the Department of Latin American and Latina/o Studies at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York. The opening reception was cosponsored by the Friends of the HRIC.

Additional programs included:

The History of Cuba in 12 Songs, performed by Gema Corredera, cosponsored by Rutgers University Libraries, as part of the *Latino Americans: 500 Years of History* grant project

Defining La Regla Lucumí: Dispelling Misconceptions about Santería, including storytelling, ritual drumming, and dance, presented in partnership with La Casa de Educación y Cultura Latina, Inc., of Perth Amboy, New Jersey

Film screening and discussion of *The Lost Child* with writer and librarian Danilo Figueredo, filmmaker Gabriela Elise, and three former Operation Peter Pan children, who were part of the large project to bring unaccompanied Cuban minors to the United States in the early 1960s

Moving to the Rhythms of Cuba, dance performance and lecture by Global Rhythms

This year's programs and exhibit were made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council of the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and administered by the Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs, and by a grant from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

"The Newark G.A.L.S., Inc. LitCamp girls had an awesome visit to the Fantastic Tales exhibit at the Newark Public Library! The reading inspiration brought out their creativity, curiosity and silly faces."

familiarizes, and engages the community to gain a better understanding of the culture that is being highlighted. year's focus on Cuba couldn't come at better time as new relationships are being developed on many fronts."

Art, Music, and Dance

Exhibit: *Fantastic Tales: Adventures in Illustrated Children's Books from the Special Collections Division*, curated by Nadine Sergejeff

Annual Spring Concert for Beyond the Eyes, an organization serving visually-impaired people: Janet Van Kline Ensemble and tap dancer and choreographer Maurice Chestnut

Author Appearances and Book Launches

Guy Sterling, *The Famous, the Familiar and the Forgotten: 350 Notable Newarkers*

D.H. Figueredo, *Revolvers and Pistolas, Vacqueros and Caballeros: Debunking the Old West*

Brendan O'Flaherty, *The Economics of Race in the United States*

Fausto Romero, *Los Rielos del Tamarindo – El tiempo del Condor*

Rita Williams-Garcia, *Bottle Cap Boys: Dancing on Royal Street*

Community Interest

Bergen Crafters, a crochet and knitting club, Clinton Branch Library

Beyond the Eyes 8th Annual Open House, with facilitator Ivis Alvarez Trejo, hosted by the Special Services Room

Domestic Violence Prevention Fair, a three-day event hosted by La Casa de Don Pedro's Domestic Violence Advocacy Program in collaboration with the Library and the Union City Artist Collective

Panel Discussion and Book Signing for *The Prize: Who's in Charge of America's Schools?* by Dale Russakoff with participants: author Dale Russakoff; Shane Harris, Vice President, The Prudential Foundation; Mary Bennett, educator, teacher/leadership coach and advocate for children; and Ryan Hill, Executive Director, KIPP NJ Charter Schools; and moderator, Richard Roper, President, The Roper Group

Black History program with speaker Melvin Creamer, cohosted by the Special Services Room and the New Jersey Black Deaf Advocates

History, Literature, and Film

In recognition of National Poetry Month, local poets read their own poems and the works of Amiri Baraka

Screening of *Mate Burilado, Tradición Familiar (Carved Gourds, A Family Tradition)*, cohosted with Grupo Cultural Tradiciones del Perú

Left to right: Jaleesa McEachin, keynote speaker Kevin Powell, Celeste Bateman, Library Director Wilma J. Gray



Left to right: Ryan Hill, Mary Bennett, Shané Harris, Dale Russakoff



Author Guy Sterling

Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration

The Library, in collaboration with the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice and the Newark Community LGBTQ Center, honored the memory of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with the program *Injustice Anywhere Is a Threat to Justice Everywhere*. Produced by Celeste Bateman & Associates, LLC, the day included a performance by the Special Ensemble musical youth performance group; poetry with Jaleesa McEachin, and a talk by noted writer Kevin Powell, *Are Dr. King and His 'Dream' Still Relevant?: Community, Social Media, and the New Activism*. The program was hosted by Jerome C. Harris, Jr., Interim President/CEO of the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice.



Frances E.W. Harper Literary Society

Celebrating Black History Month: Remembering Paul Robeson, Sr., and Remembering Paul Robeson, Jr., with Kevin Maynor, operatic bass

Celebrating Women's History Month: discussion with civil rights activist Catherine Peppers Hill

Celebrating National Poetry Month: a community read featuring works by Amiri Baraka, Maya Angelou, and Louis Reyes Rivera

Celebrating the Black Diaspora: In the Memory of Elombe Brath, *Voices of Liberation: Patrice Lumumba* by Leo Zeilig

Book Discussions: *With Ossie and Ruby: In This Life Together* by Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee; *The Man Who Cried I Am* by John A. Williams; *Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table* by Julian Bond and Andrew Lewis; and *Kindred* by Octavia Butler

Film Showing: *To Kill a Mockingbird*

“The teacher’s ability to assess our needs and level of proficiency is really marvelous.”

Collections and Services

The Library prides itself on the breadth of its collections, and on the services it provides not only to students and everyday users, but also to scholars and researchers. Our reference librarians continue to be the backbone of the institution.

Independent scholar Peter Kidd visited from England, to examine the medieval manuscripts in the Special Collections Division. Donating his time and his expertise, he provided much useful information about the history and contents of these items, and wrote about an Italian Cistercian breviary on his blog.

The twenty members of a Book Arts class at Rutgers-Newark made several visits to Main Library, touring the Library and Special Collections Division. The students saw specimens from the Library’s collection of artists’ books, and researched the Great Migration, with a special booklist created by Librarian Nadine Sergejeff, as part of their project with the Krueger-Scott African American Oral History Collection.

The Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee (NPLC) donated its archives to the Library, a significant addition to the collections of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center. NPLC has worked to gain landmark status for many of the most beloved and most endangered features in Newark’s built environment. The NPLC archives will be an invaluable resource for anyone researching Newark’s architectural history.

The Puerto Rican Community Archives, a component of the New Jersey

Hispanic Research and Information Center, hosted a table at Monmouth County Archives Day, one of the largest gatherings of archivists and historians in the state, presenting military service materials from the Hernandez Gutierrez and Blanca Alvarez Blanco Papers, which related to the 2015 theme about World War I and New Jersey.

Two collections related to Latino uprisings in the Puerto Rican Community Archives, the Newark ’74: Remembering the Puerto Rican Riots – Records and the Latino Riots Collection, were used by journalists and scholars, including *Star Ledger* columnist Barry Carter who featured the Library’s exhibit *Newark ’74: Remembering the Puerto Rican Riots – An Unexamined History* in an essay. Michelle Nickerson, Associate

Professor of History at Loyola University of Chicago has been using those collections and oral histories from the Latino Oral Histories Collection of PRCA for her research on the Camden Uprising of 1971.

Several volumes from Special Collection Division’s copy of *The Birds of America* by John James Audubon, published in New York in 1839, were loaned to Dana Library at Rutgers-Newark for the exhibit *The Art of Ornithology*.

Photos from the *Newark Evening News* Collection of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center were used by *CBS News Sunday Morning* for a May 17 profile of author Judy Blume. The photos documented several plane crashes in Elizabeth, New Jersey, in the



Mayor Baraka, Clifford the Big Red Dog, and Newark readers at City Hall

early 1950s. Those events were featured in Blume's new adult novel *In the Unlikely Event*. Another author, working on a biography, used both clippings and photographs of Larry Doby, who played for the Newark Eagles baseball team in the Negro Leagues of the 1940s, and went on to become the first African American player in the American League.

Clinton Branch Library was featured in a Cobblestone Media video made for the I Have a Dream Foundation, a Newark-based nonprofit providing educational support and services for local youth.

The exhibit *Fantastic Tales: Adventures in Illustrated Children's Books from the Special Collections Division* was featured in an online article by Joanna Bonnum on the *NJ Monthly* website and in a story reported by Luke Margolis and broadcast on News12 NJ.

Technological innovations in public service in 2015 included a refreshing of the Library's online catalog with a new interface that made searching for materials easier. A new digital microfilm scanner in the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center simplifies the process of saving research and emailing it to patrons.

"I like that you can learn at your own pace, and the teacher is friendly & helpful."

"I grew up in Newark and spent many MANY wonderful afternoons at the Newark Public Library." — Mark



Seated, Paula Baratta, Heidi Cramer, Director Wilma Grey; standing, Joseph C. Casale, George Wheatle Williams

Awards and Accomplishments

Heidi Cramer was named Librarian of the Year by the New Jersey Library Association. She was the Vice Chair of the NJLA fundraising committee. She was also a speaker for NJLA's Library Bootcamp webinar, and spoke about successful grant writing at the NJLA annual conference.

Joseph C. Casale completed his term as President of the Rotary Club of Newark, and served as an ambassador for the Newark Regional Business Partnership, as a member of the Newark Walking Trail Project Committee, and as a trustee for the Newark Downtown District.

Leslie Kahn served as secretary on the NJLA Executive Board, and spoke in the NJLA annual conference session, *Social Work in Public Libraries: Did I Sign Up for This?*

Ingrid Betancourt was recognized as one of the Most Influential Latinos in New Jersey by the Latino Leadership Alliance of New Jersey.

Nadine Sergejeff mentored library school students as part of the MentorNJ program of NJLA. She chaired the NJLA Public Relations Committee. Her article,

"Discovering Artists' Books at Newark Public Library," was published in the Summer 2015 issue of the *NJLA Newsletter*.

The Spring 2015 *NJLA Newsletter* included an article written by Heidi Cramer and Natasha Osborne about the Library's very successful Financial Literacy for Preschoolers campaign that began in 2010.

The Puerto Rican Community Archives was featured in the book *Archives Alive: Expanding Engagement with Public Library Archives and Special Collections* by Diantha Dow Schull where it was cited as an example of an effective, vital, community-based archive.

Elizabeth Parker presented the paper "The Politics of Memory: Archiving Activism," at the Rutgers – Newark Women and Gender Studies annual symposium.

Dale Colston joined the Newark Black Film Festival Committee.

Thomas Ankner continued his service as Secretary of the Newark Preservation and Landmark Committee, trustee of the Genealogical Society of New Jersey, and trustee of the Friends of Plume House.

Support for the Library

Booked for the Evening



Booked for the Evening Keynote Speaker Anthony Marx with Honoree Wilma J. Grey

Colleagues, friends, family, and supporters gathered at *Booked for the Evening*, the Library's annual signature fundraising event, to honor Wilma J. Grey, on the occasion of her retirement. Ms. Grey, who had a 46-year career at the Library, was appointed as the tenth Director in 2005 and was the first African-American woman to hold the position. More than 200 people attended the festive event, held at the Library, which raised \$156,000.

The featured speaker was Anthony W. Marx, President of the New York Public Library, who shared his exciting ideas for reimagining libraries, discussing accelerated digital initiatives, enhanced educational programming, and other innovative methods of serving the public.

Benefit Chair Rick Thigpen, PSEG Vice President of State Governmental Affairs, hosted the event. Mayor Ras J. Baraka and Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr., served as honorary co-chairs, and joined in the warm admiration expressed by benefit guests

about Ms. Grey's service to the Library and the City of Newark. Newark City Council President Mildred Crump described the honoree as "a living legend." A video highlighting Ms. Grey's career at the Library featured testimonials from Newark notables such as Linwood Oglesby, Executive Director of the Newark Arts Council, who noted her accomplishments in keeping the Library vibrant and praised her as "a cultural treasure for Newark."



Grants

Edison Parking Foundation — \$20,000 for the publication of *Knowing Newark*

Friends of the HRIC — \$3,000 for collection development

Newark Arts Council — \$2,200 ArtStart grant for the Building on Books programs

Newark History Society — \$5,000 for *Knowing Newark*

Newark Celebration 350 Committee — \$15,000 for *Knowing Newark* website

New Jersey Historical Commission — \$5,200 for the archival processing of the Charles F. Cummings Papers

New Jersey Historical Commission — \$60,342 for general operating support

New Jersey Historical Commission — \$10,901 for the Newark at 350 exhibit

PNC Bank — \$22,000 for the Black History Celebration

Prudential Foundation — \$175,000 for capacity building

PSEG Foundation — \$5,000 for English for Speakers of Other Languages classes

TD Bank Charitable Foundation — \$3,000 for children's computers

Turrell Fund — \$5,000 for children's programming

Verizon Foundation — \$5,000 for the Summer Reading Challenge

Victoria Foundation — \$11,000 for the Academic Support Program at Springfield Branch Library

Victoria Foundation — \$10,000 for the Summer Reading Challenge

Victoria Foundation — \$60,000 for computer classes, collections for job seekers, and programs and collections for young adults

“You have been so helpful! There should be more people like you. You really have been friendly and resourceful. I felt lost trying to get this project going, and once I spoke with you it turned out to be so easy!” — Nikky

Friends of the HRIC

Friends of the HRIC is a community support and advocacy group that fosters the ongoing development and operation of the New Jersey Hispanic Research and Information Center at the Library. In 2015, Friends of the HRIC donated over \$25,000 to support staff, collections, exhibits and new equipment for the Center. They cosponsored the book launch for *Revolvers and Pistolas, Vacqueros and Caballeros – Debunking the Old West* by Danilo Figueredo, and the opening of the 2015 Hispanic Heritage Celebration, *Beyond Exile – Cubans in New Jersey*.

At their biennial Awards Dinner and Silent Auction on May 14, 2015, the Friends of the HRIC celebrated 14 years of supporting NJHRIC and its mission: to inspire lifelong learning in the Latino community, and to rescue and preserve the Latino historic legacy in New Jersey. Yesenia López, project archivist for the Puerto Rican Community Archives, was one of the five individuals to receive the Shaping Our Future Leadership Award. Grizel Ubarry and Carlos Medina each received the Maria DeCastro Blake Community Service Award.

The Friends of the Newark Public Library

In April, the 24th Annual Book Sale, organized and staffed by volunteers from the Friends, earned \$5,000. Unsold sale items were given to the Newark Downtown District and to several local charter schools. Volunteers from the Friends continued the collaboration with the Military Park Partnership at “Tuesdays in the Park with NPL Friends.” The Friends also instituted an “Everyday Book Sale” on the first floor of the Main Library where shoppers can make book purchases from a selection of children’s and adult titles.

The Friends annual meeting featured presentations by Troy West and Matthew Gosser, both architects and artists. West, professor emeritus of architecture at New Jersey Institute of Technology, and Gosser, College of Art & Design gallery director and curator, spoke about recent projects.

The Friends made two donations to the Library: \$5,000 for the Summer Reading Challenge, and \$5,000 for collection development.

Characters Walk

The Third Annual Characters Walk successfully raised more than \$1,100 for purchasing titles for children. This partnership between the Library and the Rutgers Undergraduate Women in Business group has the goal of increasing children’s literacy for the City of Newark, through free access to books and learning resources through the Library. The event highlighted favorite characters from children’s books, with costumes, games, a reading corner, face painting and other activities.



Girls Who Code program participants

“Thank you tremendously for taking the time to customize a special tour. You have a very special way of interacting with the students — so heartfelt & warm!”
—Jen Williams, lead teacher at West Caldwell Tech

“...you are the model of efficiency and helpfulness! Thank you so much for your swift attention to our request. You and the collection are in keen competition for ‘Gem of the Year’ award!... Speaking with you... reinforced my belief that librarians’ contributions to our world can never be over-estimated. Thank you again for everything you did to help us and to bring this wonderful collection to an even wider public eye.” —Andy

Contributions 2015

The Newark Public Library enriches the lives of everyone in our community. Generous donations from individuals, foundations, corporations, and organizations help to ensure that the Library remains a vibrant, vital part of greater Newark. The Library’s resources and programs allow patrons to explore new ideas, improve their lives, and enjoy a unique sense of community. Charitable contributions from those who believe in our mission of providing opportunities for lifelong learning make the Newark Public Library a richer place for everyone!

It is with deep gratitude that we acknowledge our donors who have contributed to our 2015 Annual Fund Campaign or to one of our many restricted funds. Their support is essential to our success! For further information on making a donation, please visit the Library’s website at www.npl.org.

Over \$100,000

Prudential Foundation

\$50,000 - \$99,999

New Jersey Historical Commission
Victoria Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,000

Friends of the HRIC

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Dr. and Mrs. Timothy A. Crist
Mr. William J. Dane

Edison Properties
Newark Foundation

Friends of
The Newark Public Library

Newark Celebration
350 Committee

PNC Bank

PNC Foundation

Prudential Financial
Public Service

Electric & Gas Company

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Steinbaum
Verizon

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Audible.com

Ms. Carol Greene Duncan

Ms. Wilma J. Grey

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Grover

Mr. Donald Katz and
Ms. Leslie Larson

Newark History Society

PSEG Foundation

Michael Rachlin & Co., LLC

RBH Group

Turrell Fund

Verizon Foundation

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Mr. Thomas J. Alrutz

Stuart S. Appelbaum

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[American Sign Language instructor Lolata Greggs is] “a phenomenal and awesome teacher. I am so thankful for the class.” —Jamaal Brown, Assistant Director-Diversity & Community Programming, Rutgers University-Newark

Facts and Figures

Patron Visits	400,870
Circulation including eLibraryNJ	145,132
Questions Answered	186,446
Employment Questions Answered	54,525
Computer Use Sessions	156,867
New Library Card Registrations	7,393
Programs & Attendance (Library- and Community Organization-Sponsored)	1,097 programs 22,116 attendees

Author and speaker Dan O'Flaherty



Library staff members

Financial Summary

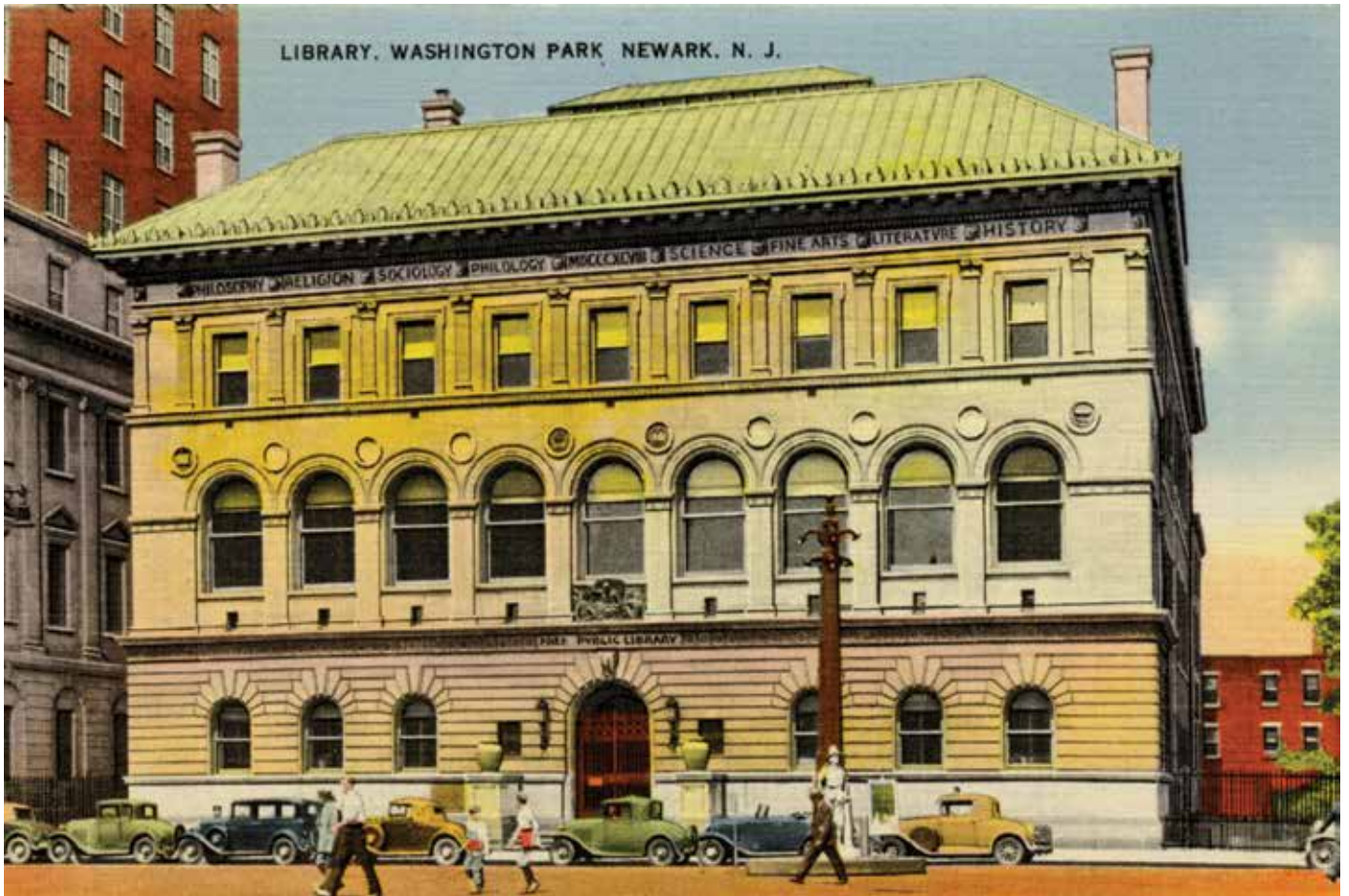
Support and Revenues

City of Newark Appropriation	\$10,080,901
State Library Aid	211,336
Unrestricted Donations	174,717
Grant-Related Revenue	457,541
Investment Income	19,634
Fines and Fees	59,070
Other Revenues	198,296
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES	\$11,201,495

Expenditures

Salaries and Wages	\$ 5,419,813
Payroll Taxes and Employee Benefits	2,470,674
General and Administrative	275,211
Services by Contract	2,310,493
Books and Library Materials	186,027
Other Materials and Supplies	111,930
Capital Expense	77,213
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$10,815,361

Please note: The annual financial audit had not taken place when this Financial Summary was prepared.



Postcard view of the Library, from the collections of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center.

“Forty years ago, I made sure that my children participated in the wonderful programs at the Newark Public Library. Please take advantage of this great opportunity for your children.” —Sol

The Newark Public Library

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The Newark Public Library
Annual Report 2015

“Honestly the Newark Public Library is probably the best school in Newark.” —Aaron