

Northeast Branch

The second most heavily visited branch in Seattle, the Northeast Branch is located in a community of readers. It hosts four Library-sponsored book groups, and residents - particularly teens - want even more. The annual poetry contest draws readers and writers of all ages in support of each other and the written word. The branch serves a community of families, including six local public elementary schools and one middle school, in addition to the preschools, day cares and families that frequent story times. In 2011, over 10,000 parents and children participated in story time and more people attended each story time than any other branch in the system. The annual neighborhood history display reflects local pride. Continuing budget cuts threaten the branch's vibrant programming and undermine efforts to effectively serve students and families.

Needs: Books, computers, staff, programs, meeting rooms - everything at this branch is in high demand. People who live outside the area also use this branch because hours at their home branches have been cut. The levy will relieve service pressures by expanding hours at other locations. Computers and printers essential to support students, job seekers and others will be upgraded and the collection of books and materials and online services improved. Funding for regular building maintenance is also included.

What this means for patrons:

- Preserve current hours
- Add books, electronic books, movies and music and reduce wait times, especially for popular titles
- Expand children's collection of books systemwide to support early literacy and early learning
- Eliminate one-week systemwide closure
- Upgrade technology services, including computers, software, printers, copiers, online services and infrastructure
- Increase maintenance, including specialized cleaning and furniture care, periodic restroom updates, major maintenance

Programs:

Teen Advisory Group, story times, book groups for adults and children, computer classes, Library skills classes, opera previews, tax help, annual Northeast Seattle neighborhood exhibit

Currently open:

Seven days a week

Special features:

The Northeast Branch provides a large, diverse collection of books, DVDs and CDs. There is a Senior Citizen Resources Center and a large magazine collection with a special reading area.

In 2011, people checked out over 959,000 books and other materials at the Northeast Branch.



"I LOVE the library, and Northeast Branch is my second home. The librarians there are friends, as well as advisors."

-Northeast Branch patron

At a Glance 2011

- 352,747 patron visits
- 959,906 materials checked out
- 10,025 story time participants
- 35 public computers
- 226 community meetings

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