the seattle public library

connect with the seattle public library

The Seattle	Public Library Login
Title:	2009 Annual Report
Password:	
	Login or Sign up to be a fan of The Seattle Public Library



Susan Hildreth, city librarian



Eric Liu, Library Board president

Dear Friends,

The social networking theme of this year's annual report is intended to highlight how The Seattle Public Library uses online communities like Facebook to broaden its reach in the community.

The Seattle Public Library has one of the most robust and popular Facebook pages among public libraries with more than 3,000 fans. Through its Facebook page, the Library can regularly connect and communicate about popular services and programs with patrons.

Particularly during this down economy, it's important that people be aware of the many ways the Library can help them get through these challenging times. The Library continues to offer valuable assistance for patrons searching for jobs and needing help with personal finance issues. A recent grant from the Washington State Library will allow us to expand these important community resources.

As part of an organizational commitment to enhancing services to immigrants and refugees, the Library added more than 120 pages of new content on its website for Spanish, Chinese, Russian and Vietnamese patrons. The information helps these non-English-speaking patrons understand how to use Library services.

The Library launched its first digitized collections this year, the Northwest Art Collection and Historical photo collections. The Seattle Reads program featured Seattle author Nancy Rawles and her book "My Jim," and was an incredible success. The long-awaited update to the Central Library signage was completed, and it has already improved way finding for patrons.

The continued bleak revenue picture resulted in some challenging decisions – closing the Library for one week and maximizing use of the collection for all patrons by reducing the allowable number of holds and checkouts.

The Seattle Public Library Board of Trustees



Marie McCaffrey



Michael Parham



Jane Noland



Dr. Rajiv J. Shah

While we wait patiently for an upswing in the economy, the Library continues to do excellent work serving the needs and expectations of the public who rely on our resources and expert staff. Our services continue to be highly valued by the community, with a record-breaking circulation of nearly 12 million books and materials. More than 14 million people visited us in person or virtually last year. City officials heard from many of our patrons during difficult budget deliberations. Although cuts will be necessary next year, the Library was heartened when \$860,000 in potential cuts was restored to the Library for next year's budget.

Our continued success would not be possible without the hard work of our staff, the leadership of the Library Board, and the support of our elected officials, Friends of The Seattle Public Library and The Seattle Public Library Foundation. We look forward to next year, when we will start the development of a new strategic plan to guide our future growth and services.

Susan Hildrett, City Librarian

Eric Liu, Dibrary Board president



The Seattle Public Library Since social networking helps people connect and share information, The Seattle Public Library decided to feature highlights of 2009 in a Facebook format!

Wall

Info As

Ask a Librarian Photos

RSS/Blog

Boxes





Location:

Central Library 1000 Fourth Ave. Seattle, WA 98104

Phone:

206-386-4636

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Mon - Thurs: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Fri - Sat:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sun:

Noon - 6 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library If you're reading this, you helped push Seattle to the top as the most literate city in the nation!

🖥 January 12, 2009 at 8 p.m.

125 people like this



Roger Reader We're number 1!



The Seattle Public Library Seattle ranked first in an annual survey measuring the culture and resources for reading in the nation's largest metro areas!



Barry D Jerry Large wrote about it in The Seattle Times, "Reading into a city's health." http://seattletimes.nwsource.com/html/jerrylarge/2008617054_jdl12m.html



Chris Higashi Seattle is a city of readers! The Seattle Public Library was where the "one city one book" program started – everyone in the city reads and discusses the same book. It's now modeled in cities all over the world!

Some of the thousands of children who attend Library story times





















The Seattle Public Library The Library also offers programs that promote early literacy for the very young, like Raising A Reader – you're never too young to be a Library patron!



16 people like this



Roger Reader What's Raising A Reader?



The Seattle Public Library It's a national take-home book program. Each week, children get a bag of books to read with their families. The program promotes Library use. In addition to working with city of Seattle Step Ahead preschools, this year we've added families from Neighborhood House and Atlantic Street Center's Parent-Child Home program. We will serve more than 300 children and families in 2009!



Laura Wildin This is one of the many reasons why I \P the library!



Location:

Ballard Branch 5614 22nd Ave. N.W. Seattle, WA 98107

Phone:

206-684-4089

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours:

Monday - Tuesday:

1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday:

Noon - 5 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library We had a prize drawing on Jan. 16 for everyone who completed a Library Passport to celebrate the end of the 10-year "Libraries for All" building program. Did you go?

₱ January 17, 2009 at 10:46 a.m.







106 people like this



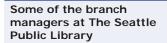
Roger Reader The event was a blast! I got a finisher's certificate and a Tully's gift card for visiting all 27 new or remodeled libraries with my passport! It was a fun way to see the community's investment in Libraries for All. Every branch had a stamp unique to its community.



Laila Barr I won one of the grand prizes! I get to have lunch with new City Librarian Susan Hildreth when she starts work later this spring!



Sam Thompson I got a special prize for trying to run to all the libraries in one day. Unfortunately, I didn't pick the best day since it snowed. I still went for it and made it to 17 branches before the system had to shut down.























The Seattle Public Library Want to watch the presidential inauguration with other community members? Come to the Central Library!





Roger Reader Cool! Can anyone come? Is there a charge?



The Seattle Public Library All Library programs are free. We're even letting people in at 8 a.m. even though we don't usually open until 10 a.m.



Jason Rutter I just attended and the auditorium was packed!



The Seattle Public Library We had around 275 people it was a full house. Glad you could make it!



Location:

Beacon Hill Branch

2821 Beacon Ave. S. Seattle, WA 98144

Phone:

206-684-4711

Website:

www.spl.org

2009 Hours:

Monday - Tuesday:

1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday:

Noon - 5 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library Love comics? For the second year, teen librarians are hosting "Comixtravaganza," programs that celebrate comics, manga, graphic novels and artists.

🔁 January 21, 2009 at 10:11 a.m.





† 76 people like this



Dick T I went last year and it was great. I heard more than 1,000 people participated.



Gilbert Jones You can design your own comic and there's free food!



The Seattle Public Library The Library will provide all the supplies. Spread the word!



The Seattle Public Library Out of work? Looking for a better job? Go to our one-stop "Job hunting resources" page from our website: www.spl.org.

February 12, 2009 at 11:43 a.m.







Ingrid Jefferson Wow, I can get help building a resume or attend a free class on how to do well in a job interview!



Roger Reader I just saw a story on Q13 about Resume Builder and your other online resources. http://www. q13fox.com/kcpq-get-a-resume--job-tips-at-sea-211705, 0,4573703.story



Gretchen A What I'd like is a job at the Library.

Some of the more than 2 million people who will visit the Central Library this year





















Location:

Broadview Branch

12755 Greenwood Ave. N. Seattle, WA 98133

Phone:

206-684-7519

Website:

www.spl.org

2009 Hours:

Monday - Tuesday:

1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday:

Noon - 5 p.m.

Some of the Library's Borrower Services staff





















The Seattle Public Library Our new city librarian Susan Hildreth will begin her position at The Seattle Public Library at the end of the month! http://www.spl.org/default.asp?pageID=about_lead-ers_citylibrarian_more

February 19, 2009 at 4:49 p.m.



200 people like this



Roger Reader I'd sure like to meet her.



The Seattle Public Library You can! There will be a public open house for Susan at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 7 at the Central Library. Mayor Greg Nickels will introduce her and welcome her to the city.



Sally S I heard she is the former librarian for the state of California



Roger Reader What happened to the previous Seattle city librarian?



The Seattle Public Library Former City Librarian Deborah L. Jacobs took a job with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in July. In the meantime, the Library's Chief Operating Officer Marilynne Gardner has been running the Library.



Friends of the Library We wish the new city librarian well and we look forward to meeting her!



Location:

Capitol Hill Branch

425 Harvard Ave. E. Seattle, WA 98102

Phone: 206-684-4715

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday:

Noon - 5 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library Save the date! Tavis Smiley is coming to the Central Library March 12! He'll be talking about his new book, "Accountable: Making America as Good as Its Promise."

March 10, 2009 at 2:08 p.m.





🖒 86 people like this



Chris C I heard a review about the book – it's about how we can help politicians deliver on their promises. He talks about ways of tracking performance and engaging with our government in ways that can improve our community.



Lori W I've heard Tavis on the radio for years and I was excited for the opportunity to meet him in person! He was fabulous. It was the first time I ever attended a Library program. There must have been 500+ people there!



The Seattle Public Library Be sure to sign up for our e-mail newsletter from our home page: www.spl.org, to get information each month about Library programs and services! You can also sign up to get regular e-mails about Library programs from the online calendar: http://www.spl.org/default.asp?pageID=calendar

Some of the 3,400 children who participated in this year's Global Reading Challenge





















The Seattle Public Library The results are in! John Muir Elementary School and B.F. Day Elementary School tied for first place for this year's Global Reading Challenge! Did you have a student involved?

March 26, 2009 at 11:17 a.m.





201 people like this



Keri Percell My daughter was on the team from John Muir! She loved it. Something like 40 public elementary schools and 320 teams of readers took part. The kids read 10 selected books and then participated in a "quiz bowl" competition.



The Seattle Public Library Glad your daughter enjoyed it – that's one of the goals – to make reading fun! More than 60 percent of the fourth- and fifth-grade students enrolled in Seattle Public Schools participated this year. We started the program in 1995!



Location:

Columbia Branch 4721 Rainier Ave. S. Seattle, WA 98118

Phone:

206-386-1908

Website:

www.spl.org

2009 Hours:

Monday - Tuesday:

1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday:

Noon - 5 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library Need free help with your taxes? Come to the Library!

₱ April 4, 2009 at 11:43 a.m.







209 people like this



Roger Reader This is a great public service. They even have people who can help with tax returns in Spanish, Vietnamese and other languages. How many years have you been doing this?



The Seattle Public Library This is the eighth year of the program, thanks to a partnership with United Way and AARP, which offers tax help at the branches.



Mary R How many people usually complete tax returns at the Library?



The Seattle Public Library About 4,000 tax returns were completed at the Central Library alone last year. This year, representatives from the IRS will be available to answer questions. In addition, people can find out if they are eligible for various public benefits.

Some of the expert librarians available to assist patrons





















The Seattle Public Library Check it out – we expanded information on our website for people who speak Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese and Russian.

₱ April 18, 2009 at 5:12 p.m.

175 people and Friends of the Library likes this



Roger Reader There is lots of information on how to use the Library, as well as a calendar of events in all four languages!



Bob B The short "Welcome to the Library" videos are helpful.



Sally S How was the Library able to do this?



The Seattle Public Library The Friends of The Seattle Public Library gave us a grant! Thank you Friends! The new website information is a great addition to our language line, which is a phone number we can call to receive immediate translation assistance in numerous languages when we are helping someone in the Library who doesn't speak English.



Location:

Delridge Branch 5423 Delridge Way S.W. Seattle, WA 98106

Phone: 206-733-9125

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Some of the 500 volunteers who support the work of the Library























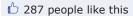




The Seattle Public Library April 19-25 is National Volunteer Week and we are grateful to the 500 volunteers who devote their time and talents to the Library! Our volunteers provide about 21,000 service hours each year. Are you a Library volunteer? Do you have a story to share?

April 25, 2009 at 9:07 a.m.







Tim D I'm one of 148 Homework Helpers who help grade school students with homework assignments and develop study skills. It's extremely rewarding!



Cathy Jones I help immigrants and refugees practice their English conversation skills through the Library's Talk Time program. It's taught me a lot about other cultures.



Dan Tyler I really enjoy my volunteer work teaching people basic computer skills. It's called "Wired for Learning" and our team will contribute nearly 500 service hours to the program this year.



Wendy A I'm a Welcome Desk volunteer at the Central Library. I help people who come through the main entrances. I assist them in finding where they want to go and answer their questions about the building, classes, tourist attractions and more! It's really fun!



Holly Beason I'm a high school student and I volunteer writing book reviews and short articles for the "Push to Talk" Library blog for teens! I get extra credit for school and it helps me become a better writer!





Location:

Douglass-Truth Branch 2300 E. Yesler Way

Phone: 206-684-4704

Seattle, WA 98122

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday:

Noon - 5 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library Library Board member Raj Shah will be leaving us soon. President Barack Obama announced his intent to nominate Shah for Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

♠ April 28, 2009 at 10:37 a.m.



62 people like this



Friends of the Library We wish him the best in the new administration!



The Seattle Public Library Foundation We appreciate all the energy he gave to the Library Board!



Ann Pickett Good luck Raj!



Roger Reader Who will fill his spot on the board?



The Seattle Public Library We don't know yet. Board members are appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the City Council. Board members serve five-year terms without

Some of the 643 employees who work at The Seattle Public Library



























The Seattle Public Library The Library just launched infoNET - a staff-only website. It will improve communication across our system. The site features a "news and announcements" section and a blog from the city librarian called "Susan's Corner."

♠ April 29, 2009 at 1:12 p.m.







Roger Reader Seems like an efficient way to connect with one another with staff spread out across 27 buildings.



The Seattle Public Library Yes, it's great to have important Library communication in one place – it really cuts down on e-mail!



Location:

Fremont Branch 731 N. 35th St. Seattle, WA 98103

Phone: 206-684-4084

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library TV crews were at the Madrona-Sally Goldmark Branch today because of reported incidents of H1N1 (swine flu) at the Madrona School across the street.

April 30, 2009 at 10:21 a.m.



Roger Reader Did the Library close?



The Seattle Public Library That's what the reporters wanted to know. The branch stayed open.



Suzie Shelf How has the Library been handling concerns over H1N1?



The Seattle Public Library We're following guidelines from Seattle Emergency Management and Seattle-King County Public Health and offering hand sanitizers near the computers. We've also displayed posters on how to reduce the spread of H1N1. http://www.spl.org/default. asp?pageID=collection db list&dbPage=17#Seasonal%20 Flu/H1N1



The Seattle Public Library 2009 Seattle Reads author Nancy Rawles was in town May 20-23 to talk about her novel, "My Jim."

₱ May 24, 2009 at 6:32 p.m.







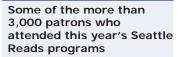
294 people like this



Chris Higashi More than 3,000 people attended the Library programs and 29 Library book groups read and discussed the book!



David H We thought we knew about slavery from studying history, but it took this work of literature to help us better understand what slavery did to people and the terrible toll it took on families.



















Location:

Green Lake Branch

7364 E. Green Lake Dr. N. Seattle, WA 98115

Phone:

206-684-7547

Website:

www.spl.org

2009 Hours:

Monday - Tuesday:

1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday:

Noon - 5 p.m.

Some of the 148 **Homework Help volunteers** who assisted children in grades one through 12





















The Seattle Public Library The Library Board approved \$1 million in cuts to the Library budget. All city departments were asked to take cuts to help address the city deficit, caused by the prolonged severe recession.

May 27, 2009 at 10:16 a.m.



Roger Reader What does that mean for the Library?



The Seattle Public Library There will be layoffs in management and administration, elimination of COLAs for Library executives, a systemwide Library closure for one week, cuts to the training budget and delays in staff computer upgrades.



Richard Matthews I hope the economy turns around



The Seattle Public Library The Daily Beast named the Central Library one of the World's Best Buildings! http://www. thedailybeast.com/galleries/296/1/ What do you think?

May 28, 2009 at 10:45 a.m.



52 people like this



Sarah D This is an impressive work of architecture... from the basic concept and form to the innovative details that seem durable, comfortable, and cost-effective. I wish I could find out where to buy the green jungle modular carpets.



Nico Saieh This is -- by far -- one of the most inspiring projects I know. And it's not just the skin or the structure. It's the new program relations that make this more than a mere library, but an enhanced public space around knowledge.



Location:

Greenwood Branch

8016 Greenwood Ave. N. Seattle, WA 98103

Phone:

206-684-4086

Website:

www.spl.org

2009 Hours:

Monday - Tuesday:

1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday:

Noon - 5 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library What goes along with a beach towel, SPF 40 and sunglasses? A good book of course! It's time to gear up for our annual Summer Reading Program!

🔁 June 1, 2009 at 10:13 a.m.







Roger Reader I heard this is the 90th year of Seattle's Summer Reading Program!



The Seattle Public Library It is! Children who read 10 books receive a book and a family day pass to the Burke Museum! Teens and adults can also participate!



Nancy Anderson I heard the Library will host free events in combination with the reading program.



The Seattle Public Library Yes, we will offer more than 750 programs! In keeping with our environmental theme, we will have an author series featuring local writers who have written about the Northwest. The Nature Consortium will also present workshops that combine art and nature.

Some of the thousands of patrons who took computer classes at The Seattle Public Library















The Seattle Public Library Need more computer time to work on your job search? Check out the new Job Resource Center on Level 5 of the Central Library! The center includes six computers surrounded by job-related reference materials.





24 people like this



Joe Jamison I was just there yesterday. I'm going back. You can use a computer for two hours and helpful staff members are nearby. The Library has also partnered with the WorkSource Seattle-King County Connection site. As part of this, 16 classes are being offered for people like me. There are seminars on how to begin a job search, how to write and submit a resume online and how to prepare for a job interview.



Location:

High Point Branch 3411 S.W. Raymond St. Seattle, WA 98126

206-684-7454

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

The Seattle Public Library The Wallingford Branch will close temporarily beginning June 27 for refurbishing. The book drop will also be closed.





Wendy Wall What's being done?



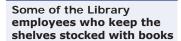
The Seattle Public Library The 2,000-square-foot branch is getting a facelift - it'll get a coat of new paint, new carpet and an additional computer station. The interior layout will be reconfigured to increase efficiency of the space.



Wendy Wall When will the branch reopen?



The Seattle Public Library Tuesday, Sept. 8. Nearby alternative locations include the University, Fremont and Green Lake branches.



















The Seattle Public Library Is Spanish your first language? We now offer chat in Spanish.

🗗 June 28, 2009 at 1:34 p.m.



15 people like this



Roger Reader How does it work?



The Seattle Public Library You just go to Ask A Librarian from www.spl.org and select Servicio de referencia por chat en español (Chat with a librarian in Spanish).



Roger Reader Thanks!



Location:

International District/ Chinatown Branch

713 Eighth Ave. S. Seattle, WA, 98104

Phone:

206-386-1300

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday:

1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library We've added new citizenship information to our website. It includes videos in five languages, a downloadable 24-page Citizenship Information booklet in 14 languages and other online citizenship resources.

🗗 July 10, 2009 at 12:37 p.m.



10 people like this



Kathy Anderson Thanks for letting me know! I teach classes on citizenship and these free resources will be wonderful to share with my students.



The Seattle Public Library Racking up too many fines? Try our collection of downloadable media! These titles are never overdue - they automatically return to the collection after 21 days! The Library has 43,000 e-books, audiobooks, video and music recordings in seven digital formats. Over 11,000 items were added in 2009.

Tuly 10, 2009 at 3:36 p.m.





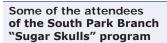
Frank V The collection is awesome! It's available 24/7! They even added a new collection of Chinese language e-books!



Rita W How do you use it?



The Seattle Public Library We have online tutorials that explain how to download books, music and videos. All you need is a computer with Internet access and a Library card. http://www.spl.org/default.asp?pageID=collection_ digibooks

























Location:

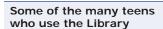
Lake City Branch 12501 28th Ave. N.E. Seattle, WA 98125

206-684-7518

Website: www.spl.org

Noon - 5 p.m.

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday:























The Seattle Public Library Looking for information on the best and worst used cars? We offer free access to Consumer Reports online, the premier product review and comparison service from Consumer Reports Magazine. http://ezproxy.spl.org:2048/ login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,ui d&profile=crcro

1 July 24, 2009 at 4:42 p.m.

44 people like this



Jim Hanson Wow, what other databases does the Library offer besides magazines?



The Seattle Public Library We have more than 75 premium databases accessible 24/7. This year we added GrantStation, which allows you to research private foundations currently accepting grant applications. Also new is enhanced Mango Languages Online, which provides language instruction at various levels in over 30 languages, plus ESL courses.



The Seattle Public Library The Library Board has a new trustee - Jane Noland! The City Council approved her appointment to the five-year volunteer post today. She was nominated by Mayor Greg Nickels. She replaces Gil Anderson, whose term on the board has expired.

August 17, 2009 at 1:19 p.m.



Roger Reader Isn't she a former City Councilwoman?



The Seattle Public Library Yes, she served from 1986 -1997. She currently is a member of the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission and is a glass artist in Seattle.



The Seattle Public Library All libraries will be closed Aug. 31-Sept. 7 for budget cuts. Be sure to stock up on those books, CDs and DVDs while you can.

August 18, 2009 at 3:17 p.m.



Sarah D We'll miss you!



Roger Reader Thanks for the reminder. I'll bring an extra Friends bag to haul all the extra books to tide me over!



Frank V Will materials accrue fines during the closure?



The Seattle Public Library Nothing will be due and no fines will be charged while we are closed.





Location:

Madrona-Sally Goldmark Branch

1134 33rd Ave. Seattle, WA 98122

Phone:

206-684-4705

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours:

Monday - Tuesday:

1 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday - Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library Improvements are slated for the holds/pickup area at the Northeast Branch. The branch will be closed Aug. 23-Oct. 10 while those changes are made. The 15,000-square-foot branch handles more holds requests than any other branch.

August 20, 2009 at 1:06 p.m.



Nancy Northeast This will really help! Right now the holds are piled up all over.



Roger Reader Where's the money coming from?



The Seattle Public Library The Library has a capital budget that pays for major maintenance projects.



Roger Reader Can that money be used instead to address budget cuts and keep the Library open?



The Seattle Public Library No, it can only be used for capital building projects.



The Seattle Public Library We're back! We missed you! Hope you missed us. Did you have enough to read, view and listen to while we were closed?

September 8, 2009 at 10 a.m.



Some of the immigrants who take part in ESL Talk Time sessions

















Ross Fugua SPL, our lives came to a complete stop while you were on furlough. Glad you're back! Please don't leave us again!



Susan Bui Library = Love. :]



Christopher Porter I bought a subscription to a mag, listened to the radio and spoke AS LOUD AS I WANTED... LOL! BUT, yes, I did miss you. :)



Jeanne Kliewer Distance (and time) makes the heart grow fonder! We shall meet in a few minutes, my library



Location:

Magnolia Branch 2801 34th Ave. W. Seattle, WA 98199

Phone: 206-386-4225

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday:

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library Ever wonder what happens to that paper latte cup you toss in the garage? We've partnered with MIT to study the movement of trash in Seattle. We need your help to collect items for the project!

September 9, 2009 at 2:35 p.m.







Roger Reader Like, you'd want an old shoe or my worn out toaster?



The Seattle Public Library Yes! Each piece will be tagged with an electronic blip that will track how it moves through the trash system.



Polly B What is MIT doing with all this information?



The Seattle Public Library MIT will work with artists to present the information in an exhibit at the Central Library Sept. 18-Oct. 11. MIT will present a public program on the results Sept. 19. Summary: http://senseable.mit.edu/trashtrack/index.php?id=1

Some of the Library Security staff





















The Seattle Public Library If you weren't among the lucky 765 people to hear retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Conner speak on "Education: A Big Idea in Today's America," at Town Hall Sept. 14, here is the podcast of her speech. http://www.spl.org/Audio/SandraDayOConnor2009.mp3

September 15, 2009 at 1:36 p.m.



34 people like this



 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Polly B I} love the Library's podcasts and listen to them when I am running or on the bus. The best part is that they're free! \\ \end{tabular}$



The Seattle Public Library You can find all our podcasts of author programs at http://www.spl.org/default.asp?pageID=collection_podcasts.







Location:

Montlake Branch 2401 24th Ave. E. Seattle, WA 98112

206-684-4720

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library Yay for summer readers! To everyone who participated in the Summer Reading Program: Thank you! Our goal was to have 12,000 readers sign up and 125,000 books read and we had 12,352 readers sign up and 156,361 books read! Great work everyone! We hope you had as much fun as we did!

September 20, 2009 at 11:14 a.m.



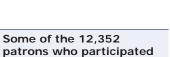
102 people like this



Bob J I did my part! I read 23 books over the



Lisa Daly Cleo represented the Fremont Branch at the Breakfast of Champions, an event that honors top readers from every Library location. It was the highlight of her summer!



in the Summer Reading



Program



















The Seattle Public Library Want to start your own library? You can start by visiting the Friends of the Library Book Sale Sept. 25-27! 200,000+ books, CDs, DVDs, videos, sheet music, art prints, posters for sale at bargain prices!

September 20, 2009 at 12:26 p.m.



Shoshanna L It is an airplane hangar full of books. If your heart, like mine, soars with a deep yearning when you read the phrase "airplane hangar full of books," then this is the event for you. The sale will haunt your dreams.



Jeff G More fun in an airplane hangar than anyone should be allowed to have.



Dianne C. My little heart squeals with joy when I dig through each and every box in the children's area to find books from my childhood that I can no longer get my hands on because they are out of print.

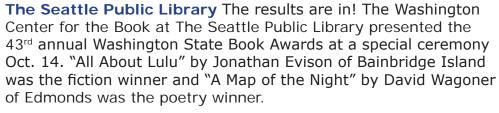


Dean R Don't be embarrassed to bring a suitcase to this thing. The first time I went I thought the people doing this were mad. The second time I went, I did the same thing. It's a bit of a stampede to the books, as you would imagine, but it's pretty well sectioned off and organized, considering how big it is and how many books there are.









🔁 September 25, 2009 at 10:13 a.m.



Information

Location:

NewHolly Branch 7058 32nd Ave. S. Seattle, WA 98118

206-386-1905

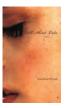
Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.









57 people like this



The Seattle Public Library Psst! Are you feeling a little bit naughty? Banned Books Week is Sept. 26-Oct. 3 and its purpose is to remind Americans not to take this precious democratic freedom for granted. Check out BannedBooksWeek.org's map of 120+ book challenges since the beginning of 2007.

September 26, 2009 at 1:05 p.m.

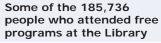




Roger Reader The Twilight series was one of the most challenged books in 2009!



Eva Green Our school is doing a Banned Books read out, where we will read from the 10 most challenged books of 2009 and then discuss them and why they were targeted for censorship. Here is a link to the books: http://www.ala. org/ala/issuesadvocacy/banned/frequentlychallenged/21stc enturychallenged/2009/index.cfm























The Seattle Public Library The City Council is reviewing Mayor Greg Nickels' proposed 2010 budget, which includes \$2.8 million in cuts to the Library budget next year. Proposed cuts include reducing branch hours and a one-week systemwide closure.

September 28, 2009 at 1 p.m.



Kelleen Conway Blanchard This is just wrong. Access to the public library is key to our democracy. Information is power.



Julianne Jaz When information is a resource - everyone wins. When information is a commodity - everyone loses...



Location:

Northeast Branch 6801 35th Ave. N.E. Seattle, WA 98115

206-684-7539

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday: Noon - 5 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library To maximize the use of limited resources during difficult budget times, the Library adjusted its Materials Loan Policy. The number of holds is now limited to 25 (was 100) and the number of checkouts is 50 (was 100). A \$5 fee will be charged for requested items not in the collection that are borrowed from other library systems.

Toctober 14, 2009 at 3:35 p.m.





Anthony Metzidis Why don't you just charge a nominal rental fee per item? Then you won't have to conjure up arbitrary and controversial borrowing limits.



John Boucher Because then you wouldn't have free access to materials. The idea is to penalize those who keep items longer than is fair, not to restrict access by imposing up-front "rental" fees. The real problem, anyway, is the cutting of library funding, which forces an increase in fines and other restrictions, all of which, in my view, are contrary to a library's basic mission: to provide free access to information to its community.



Friends of the Library It's National Friends of Libraries Week! The Friends are celebrating with a ceremony at the Central Library FriendShop, where we will also announce 2010 Library grants totaling \$161,000 that will fund special Library programs and initiatives.

Toctober 18, 2009 at 10 a.m.



25 people like this



Francine Friend The Friends is a wonderful group. I am so glad that the money I spent at the Book Sale last month goes to support the Library!

Some of the officers, trustees and employees of the Friends of the Library























Location:

Northgate Branch 10548 Fifth Ave. N.E. Seattle, WA 98125

Phone: 206-386-1980

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday:

Noon - 5 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library Yippee for us! We won a \$50,000 grant from the Washington State Library to help provide more services to people who are looking for jobs.

Cotober 29, 2009 at 11:20 a.m.



48 people like this



Ben Ream What kind of services?



The Seattle Public Library Services will include expanding online resources for job seekers, such as podcasts, blogs, text resources and online videos. Check out what we offer now at http://www.spl.org/default. asp?pageID=collection_db_jobresources



Jill Jones This is great news. I've used the Library's job resources and was at the press conference at the Central Library today where the grant was announced. Bill Gates Sr. was there and spoke. The Gates Foundation provided extra money to the State Library so The Seattle Public Library and other libraries across the state could have larger grants.

Some of the Literacy, World Languages, ESL staff













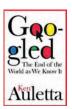




The Seattle Public Library Curious about how the world's favorite search engine came to be? Come to the Central Library tonight and hear author Ken Auletta talk about his book "Googled: The End of the World as We Know It."

November 9, 2009 at 4:11 p.m.







Elena Mullin I heard Mr. Auletta interviewed on NPR earlier this week. I definitely plan to attend.



The Seattle Public Library FYI: There's a \$5 special event rate to park in the garage beneath the Central Library.





Location:

Oueen Anne Branch 400 W. Garfield St. Seattle, WA 98119

Phone: 206-386-4227

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library If you enjoy U.S. history, I hope you were able to catch Thomas Jefferson at Town Hall on Nov. 13! Clay Jenkinson – the rock star of humanities scholar -- presented his portrayal of the nation's third president to a crowd of 700.

November 14, 2009 at 7 p.m.





77 people like this



Harry D I've seen Clay Jenkinson before but I've never heard so much laughter! Jenkinson told hilarious new stories to illustrate Jefferson's eccentricity – one involved the world's largest cheese and another had to do with shipping a moose to France.



The Seattle Public Library You can hear the stories by listening to the podcast of the program: http://www.spl. org/default.asp?pageID=collection podcasts author2009. This popular event is part of the McLellan/O'Donnell Living History Series.



The Seattle Public Library Good news! The City Council held a press conference at the Central Library today and said it was restoring \$860,000 in proposed cuts to the Library!

November 23, 2009 at 10:15 a.m.



308 people like this



Melinda T I was at the Library during the press event. The City Council gave highlights of the 2010 city budget, but made a special point of emphasizing the good work of The Seattle Public Library.



The Seattle Public Library Council members "shadowed" Library staff members and volunteers after the budget announcement. They helped shelve books, assisted at the Welcome Desks and walked the building with security officers!



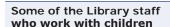
Kathy Jones I wrote a letter to the City Council telling them how important libraries are, particularly now, with people out of work and needing resources to find jobs. Libraries provide information and computer access to help people during challenging times.



Roger Reader The City Council said it heard from hundreds of patrons about the importance of preserving Library services and that's why it made libraries a priority.



Fran F The Friends of The Library were critical in helping raise awareness about the proposed cuts. They testified at City Council budget hearings. In addition to joining the Friends, what else can I do to support the Library?























Location:

Rainier Beach Branch 9125 Rainier Ave. S. Seattle, WA 98118

Phone: 206-386-1906

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday:

Noon - 5 p.m.



The Seattle Public Library Foundation The Seattle Public Library Foundation provides books and materials, as well as specialized resources and programs for all ages! We do this by securing and managing donations from individuals, businesses, and foundations to support the Library above and beyond what public funding provides.



Therese V It sounds like the Foundation adds a whole level of excellence to the basic services the Library provides through city support.



The Seattle Public Library Foundation That's right! And thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Foundation's Finance Committee, the Library Foundation was able to weather the financial storms of 2009. Our endowments and designated funds recovered value and are now in a better position to help the Library into the future.



Melinda T Did the number of donors drop because of the down economy?



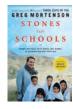
The Seattle Public Library Foundation People really value Library services, particularly during challenging times. More people in the community stepped forward to make gifts large and small. As word spread about potential budget cuts to the Library, people responded by making a donation or an additional gift of support to the Library. Others contacted the City Council and attended public hearings to say that libraries are a high priority.



The Seattle Public Library Were you one of the 2,900 people who got a seat at our Dec. 15 program with humanitarian Greg Mortenson?

December 16, 2009 at 8:02 p.m.







41 people like this



Roger Reader Yes! I was glad that the program was held at Seattle Pacific University this year so everyone who wanted to could attend. Something like 1,000 people were turned away last year when Mortenson was here - I was one of those who couldn't get in.



Patty D I heard that people came from all over the state!



Roger Reader I was one of the first people in line and waited more than three hours. It was worth it!



Rita W The book signing went on past midnight! The program was incredible and Mortenson was so nice to stay until every last book was signed.



Laura Mendelson The Library is an amazing institution in many ways and this kind of community gathering for a cultural and educational purpose was so important.



























Location:

South Park Branch 8604 Eighth Ave. S. Seattle, WA 98108

Phone: 206-615-1688

Website: www.spl.org

Noon - 5 p.m.

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday:

Some of the Library's **Technical and Collection** Services staff

















The Seattle Public Library If you enjoy early Northwest history, check out the Library's new digital collection: www.spl.org, select "Library Collections," "Special Collection." The collection includes 85 prints, drawings and paintings from important Northwest artists and 100 photographs of the early history of Seattle.

December 18, 2009 at 11:42 a.m.









Harry T This is so cool. You can search by decade, keyword, subject heading or just browse!



Paul Johnson I found portraits, streets, buildings, waterfront views, images of the destruction of the Seattle Fire of 1889 and other historical delights!



Friends of The Seattle Public Library Looking for a card or gift that won't break your budget? The FriendShop on Level 3 at the Central Library is the perfect place to find unique gifts in all price ranges. The shop features work from 60 Northwest artists whose mediums include photography, wood, glass and paper. Proceeds benefit the Library.

December 18, 2009 at 4:45 p.m.







17 people like this



Cindy Schuler I'm on my way!



Location:

Southwest Branch 9010 35th Ave. S.W. Seattle, WA 98126

Phone: 206-684-7455

Website: www.spl.org

Noon - 5 p.m.

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday:























Friends of The Seattle Public Library If you love the Library be sure to visit the Friends blog! Read about your neighbors who use the Library, get updates on the Book Sales and FriendShop and much, much more: www.friendsofspl.wordpress.com

₱ December 27, 2009 at 3:17 p.m.



Rebecca Albiani Hey, I was profiled on the Friends blog last month! I told the Friends how important the Library is to me and my family. We love the Green Lake Branch!



Carlos Alverez The Library is really important to our family too, particularly since we are newcomers to the U.S. We are so happy that our branch hosts Spanish story times.



The Seattle Public Library Glad you are taking advantage of our multilingual story times! This year, we hosted 36 story times in Spanish, 48 in Chinese, and 24 in Vietnamese!

December 31, 2009 at 1:21 p.m.



17 people like this



Tom Johnson I appreciate the Library's other early literacy programs. My family attends the Library's Play and Learn group, which teaches children pre-literacy skills using songs, stories and other activities. We have so much fun and it gets us using the Library more!



The Seattle Public Library The Library hosted Play and Learn groups for 3,355 parents, caregivers and children in five branch libraries in 2009! Over 92 percent of the participants reported they had a Library card and more than 50 percent said they visited the Library at least five times a month!

(Note: Some of the names and comments in the report were actual Library Facebook posts from 2009. Others are fictional names attached to posts developed to highlight key service and program accomplishments. If you're not yet a fan of The Seattle Public Library, sign up on Facebook now! Visit our Facebook page at: http://www.facebook.com/SeattlePublicLibrary)



Location:

University Branch 5009 Roosevelt Way N.E. Seattle, WA 98105

Phone:

206-684-4063

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to become the best public library in the world by being so tuned into the people we serve and so supportive of each other's efforts that we are able to provide highly responsive service. We strive to inform, enrich and empower every person in our community by creating and promoting free and easy access to a vast array of ideas and information and by supporting lifelong learning and love of reading. We acquire, organize and provide relevant library materials; ensure access to other collections and information sources throughout the nation; serve our public with expert and caring assistance and reach out to all members of our community.

Library Use in 2009

Statistical and Financial Summaries

Facilities

• Central Library, 26 neighborhood branches and Mobile Services.

Staffing

Staffing: 643 (527.46 full-time equivalents)

2009 Circulation

Adult books: 3,983,558Children's books: 2,155,850

Media (DVDs, CDs, audiobooks): 5,648,839
Digital/downloadable media: 125,803

• Total: 11,914,050

2009 Collection Size

Central Library: 1,084,995Branches: 1,209,606

• Total collection size: 2,294,601

The Library added 281,589 new items for adults, teens and children at all locations, including 184,002 new books and 97,587 new music CDs, audiobooks and DVDs.

2009 Patron Visits

Central Library (door count): 2,045,904

Branches (door count): 5,233,887

• Virtual visits (internal and external website visits): 6,725,126

Total patron visits: 14,004,917

2009 Service Levels and Programs

- 1,123,075 reference questions answered (in person, phone, fax, mail, e-mail, Live Help chat)
- 185,736 people attended 6,489 programs at the Central Library, neighborhood branches and Mobile Services
- 549,789 podcast downloads of Library programs



Location:

Wallingford Branch 1501 N. 45th St. Seattle, WA 98103

Phone: 206-684-4088

Website: www.spl.org

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Some of the Library's Mobile Services staff



















Library Use in 2009

2009 Operating Budget

2009 Operating Budget

• Personnel: \$38,301,065

Books and Materials: \$5,688,777

• Equipment: \$617,735

Maintenance, Security and Utilities: \$2,071,769

Supplies: \$738,035Other: \$2,568,088Total: \$49,985,469

Event Services

Managing Central Library meeting facilities and building tours

Meeting Rooms

- 450 private groups rented space and generated \$159,341 in revenue
- 49 nonprofit groups used free meeting room spaces
- 384 public Library events and internal Library meetings
- Total meetings supported: 883

Tours

 2,537 people took public and private group tours of the Central Library. More than 300 were visitors from outside the United States, including delegations from Denmark, Australia, Germany, France, Korea, Taiwan and Peru.



The Seattle Public Library Foundation

Grants to the Library in 2009

Library resources and materials	\$ 968,414
Public programs for children and adults	. \$1,713,750
Capital projects and enhancements	\$ 274,868
Donated services to the Library	\$ 165,644

Total \$ 3,122,676

Information

Location:

West Seattle Branch 2306 42nd Ave. S.W. Seattle, WA 98116

206-684-7444

Website: www.spl.org

Noon - 5 p.m.

2009 Hours: Monday - Tuesday: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m. Wednesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday:

Foundation Board of Directors

Susan G. H. Adkins Board President David F. McShea Vice President Robert P. Carlile Treasurer Anne Repass Secretary

Ross C. Baker John Stuart Calhoun Sue Coliton Theodore J. Collins Jack Faris Jodi Green Suzanne Hittman Mimi I. Howard

Gretchen Jacobsen Kelley A. Kurtzman Carla Lewis Lynn Pigott Mowe Glenna Olson Deborah Prince Deborah Rosen Ira Rubinstein Ryan Sawyer David Schneiderman Annie Searle Ina Tateuchi Patricia Walker David C. Williams Catie Wilson

Emeritus Board

Steve Wolf, Chair Patricia Akiyama Faye G. Allen Gil Anderson Fam Bayless Marcella Benditt Ron Chew David Davis Jack Faris Anne V. Farrell Suzanne Hittman Maria L. Koh Linda Larson Matt Medlin Chuck Riley Caryl Roman

Some of the thousands who support the Library through The Seattle Public **Library Foundation**















Friends of The Seattle Public Library

Officers

Linda Ruiz President Jennifer D. Johnson-Fong Vice President Susan J. Baker Secretary Minda Hevly Treasurer

Trustees

Joan Abrevaya Stephanie Andersen Jean Berry Ashlie Bornzin Keo Capestany Phil Gorsuch Jayanne Hino Ed J. Marquez

Flizabeth A. Maziarz Deborah Prince Tony Provine Joshua Rosen Sarel Rowe Mary Summers Connie Templeton



1000 Fourth Ave., Seattle, WA 98104 www.spl.org