

 The  
Seattle  
Public  
Library



Building a Better, Stronger Library  
2013 Report to the Community

# Dear Readers,



**CITY LIBRARIAN MARCELLUS TURNER  
AND STUDENTS FROM TOPS K-8 SCHOOL AT THE  
FIRST BOOKS ON BIKES EVENT**

We're happy to report that we started 2013 with every Library location open on Sunday! This is the first time in the history of The Seattle Public Library that the Central Library and all 26 branches have been open on Sunday.

The additional hours were made possible by a Library levy approved by voters in August 2012. The stable funding provides an important foundation and allows us to build stronger, better libraries. We celebrated with the community by hosting "Sundays are Special" parties and issuing five new Library card designs. Seattle patrons are also enjoying more books and materials, a higher holds limit, new computers and better maintained buildings, thanks to the levy.

Also in 2013 we became the first public library in the country to offer streaming and downloadable video and music for our patrons.

The Seattle Public Library also made news across the globe by breaking the world record for the longest book domino chain! This amazing feat helped launch the very successful 2013 Summer Reading Program.

The Library partnered with a variety of local service agencies to offer assistance to individuals enrolling in the federal health care system of providers. The Library was an essential player in the city's effort to enroll as many qualified residents as possible.

Librarians used their pedal power to kick off a pilot "Books on Bikes" program. Mayor Mike McGinn helped with the inaugural ride to TOPS K-8 School, where students were delighted to browse through the customized trailer full of books and materials. Additional innovative programs

will come out of a research project underway on millennials. A grant-funded project is giving us an opportunity to explore how to better attract this group to the Library.

The Library was happy to have the Seattle Aquarium join the Library's cultural pass program. Now we have 10 museum and cultural partners offering free admission to Library cardholders.

The Library introduced five service priorities for the organization: Youth and Early Learning, Technology and Access, Re-imagined Spaces, Community Engagement, and Seattle Culture and History. These priorities were shared with the public through a series of informal Community Conversations in our libraries. These conversations also provided an opportunity to listen to the public about other needs and expectations around Library services.

In May, we were pleased to welcome Tré Maxie, executive director of Powerful Schools, to the Library's five-member board of trustees. The Library Board is the governing body of the Library and controls Library finances and property, sets Library policy and employs the city librarian.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all the dedicated and talented staff members who bring the Library to life every day. Thank you to the Library Board, the Friends of The Seattle Public Library, The Seattle Public Library Foundation, volunteers, Mayor Mike McGinn and our City Council for your ongoing commitment and support to the Library's mission.

**MARCELLUS TURNER**  
CITY LIBRARIAN

**DAN DIXON**  
LIBRARY BOARD PRESIDENT

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Seattle Public Library brings people, information and ideas together to enrich lives and build community.

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### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DAN DIXON, PRESIDENT  
MARIE MCCAFFREY, VICE PRESIDENT  
THERESA FUJIWARA  
KRISTI ENGLAND  
JANE NOLAND (THROUGH APRIL)  
TRÉ MAXIE (STARTING IN MAY)

# Five Service Priorities Unveiled

CITY LIBRARIAN MARCELLUS TURNER shared five areas of focus that will guide the Library's work for the next three to five years:



- **Re-imagined Spaces:** Create new uses for Library spaces, to meet the changing needs of Library patrons.
- **Youth and Early Learning:** Support early learning and the joy of reading through our collections, services, programs and partnerships.
- **Technology and Access:** Increase access to materials, information, and services through enhanced technology, including interactive experiences.
- **Seattle Culture and History:** Capture and cultivate a rich recorded history of Seattle, making our unique heritage available to our communities.
- **Community Engagement:** Engage with our communities through partnerships and programs that connect the Library with patrons in meaningful ways.

These five Service Priorities are grounded in the Library's Strategic Plan and support the educational, cultural and economic health of the city.

An advisory committee leading the Re-Imagined Spaces Priority kicked off this year, and included representatives from Library staff, Friends of The Seattle Public Library, Library Foundation and Library Union.

The committee developed guiding principles for Re-Imagined Spaces, which were informed by a series of presentations given by representatives from local industries,

including aviation, retail, architecture and health. The speakers emphasized creating flexible and engaging spaces.

The principles are being integrated into various building improvement projects, such as this year's expansion of the children's area and reconfiguration of the service desks, meeting room, computers and holds area at the Northeast Branch.

Advisory committees are currently being identified for the other Service Priorities and will include community members. Work plans and projects around each service priority will get underway in 2014.

# Investing in Experiences

**LIBRARY LEVY** In January, Seattle residents saw a boost in Library services thanks to a 2012 voter-approved Library levy. The seven-year, \$123 million Library levy is helping restore core services drastically cut during the prolonged recession. The levy supports better Library hours, books, technology and building maintenance.

A major highlight in 2013 was the systemwide implementation of Sunday hours.

The Library promoted the new hours through “Sundays Are Special” parties and a Check-Out Challenge contest. Check-Out Challenge Cards were available for patrons to get stamped every time they visited a library on Sunday. Patrons with 15 stamps on their cards were eligible for prize drawings.

## CHECK-OUT CHALLENGE WINNERS:

- **Book Lovers Basket:** Cat Bozek, Southwest Branch
- **Book Lovers Tote Bag:** Xia Bouzek and Margaret Firebaugh, Wallingford Branch
- **Lunch with City Librarian:** Opal Walters, NewHolly Branch

In addition to more Sunday hours, the levy funded new Friday hours at the busy Columbia and Northgate branches. These two branches are now open seven days a week.

## OTHER LEVY FUNDED IMPROVEMENTS

- **Added** more than 42,000 titles to the print collection
- **Added** nearly 50,000 new e-books and e-audiobooks



## PATRONS PLAYED THE CHECK-OUT CHALLENGE CONTEST TO HELP CELEBRATE OUR NEW OPEN HOURS

- **Increased** copies of popular materials to shorten wait times
- **Increased** number of items a patron can put on hold from 25 to 50
- **Restored** reference staff at all locations
- **Eliminated** week-long closure of entire Library system
- **Increased** security staff
- **Replaced** and **upgraded** all 800+ public computers
- **Replaced** and **upgraded** public printers at most locations
- **Increased** building, custodial and engineering services
- **Improved** parking lots at Columbia and Southwest branches

# 2013 Year In Review

## ALL LOCATIONS OPEN SUNDAY

January kicked off with expanded hours systemwide. Branches with new Sunday hours hosted Sunday celebrations. Mayor Mike McGinn and City Councilman Richard Conlin joined City Librarian Marcellus Turner, Library Board members and members of the public for the first event at the Columbia Branch. The levy also funded new Friday hours for the Columbia and Northgate branches. As part of the Sunday hours promotion, the Library offered five new Library cards. The cards feature images of the Space Needle, Pike Place Market, Mount Rainier, the Central Library and an original design for children. We issued 78,133 new cards in 2013, with the Space Needle design being the most popular.



## TWO MAJOR DIGITAL SERVICES LAUNCHED

The Seattle Public Library was the first public library in the nation to offer a new streaming and downloadable video and music service called Hoopla. It includes thousands of films, TV shows and music albums. The Library also launched Zinio, a digital online newsstand, offering over 150 popular periodicals that are full page and fully illustrated.

## LIBRARY POETRY CONTEST

The Library celebrated National Poetry Month with a Haiku Hullabaloo poetry contest. Winning haikus were posted on the Library website in April. More than 400 entries from all ages were received.

### A WINNING HAIKU

Find the library  
It's a chamber of secrets,  
A wrinkle in time.

CLIO VOS, AGE 9  
SCHOOL: ORCA K-8  
COLUMBIA BRANCH

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“I love getting my e-books from The Seattle Public Library. In 20 minutes I can have several new books on hand without leaving my desk.”

ASK A LIBRARIAN PATRON

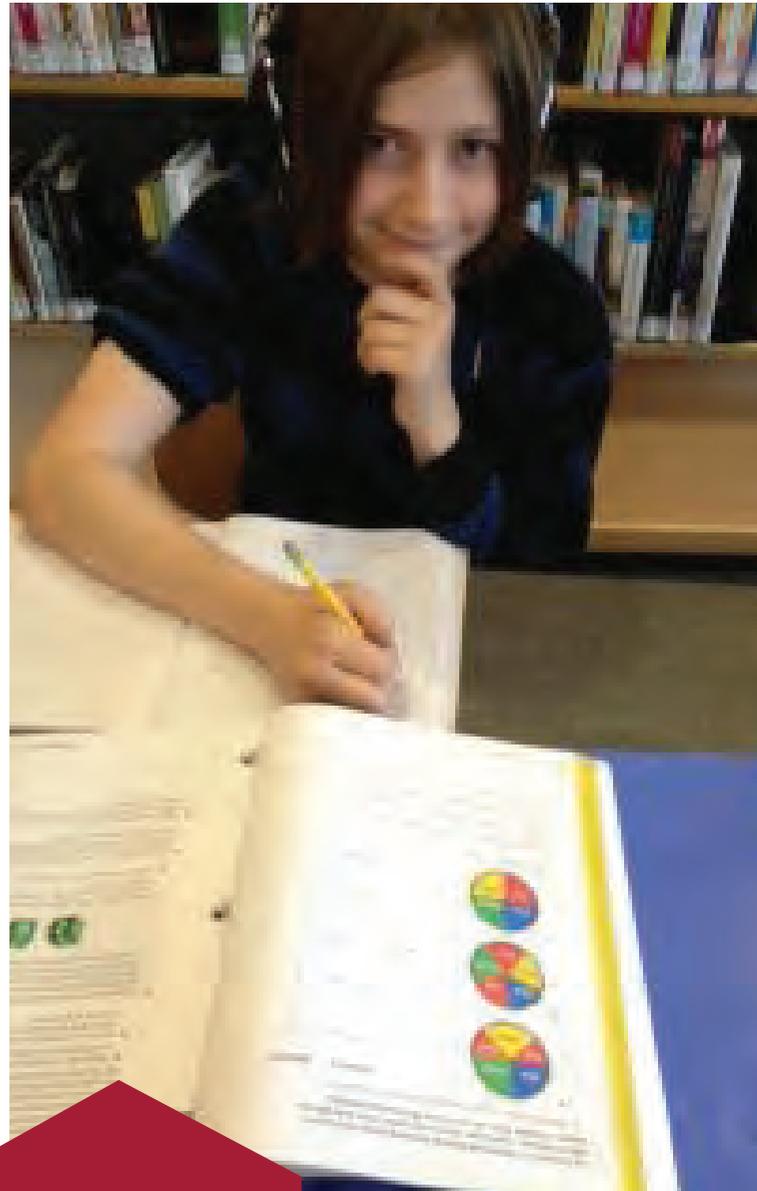
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### NATIONAL READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY

Benjamin Conway from Greenwood and Zack Gussin from Lake City attempted to walk to all locations of The Seattle Public Library in honor of National Read Across America Day, on March 2. The two planned to visit every library the weekend of March 2-3, walking approximately 10 hours each day. Read Across America Day recognizes the birthday of children’s author Dr. Seuss and is celebrated annually. Conway and Gussin began their venture at 7:30 a.m. March 2, wearing the familiar red and white striped hat from “Cat in the Hat.” At each library, they read from “Oh the Places You’ll Go.” They resumed their effort on Sunday, March 3. They tweeted and posted photos of the libraries throughout their walk. They made it to all but two branches.

### LIBRARY SNAPSHOT DAY

Library patrons were invited to take photographs of events, displays or anything eye-catching at Library locations on April 9 to celebrate Library Snapshot Day. This “day in the life of your library” was part of a statewide effort led by the Washington Library Association to raise awareness about the value of libraries. Over 200 photos were posted on the Library’s Facebook and Twitter pages from many different Library locations. Photos spotlighted Seattle patrons reading, working on computers, using self-check, reading a Spanish language newspaper, attending Homework Help and more.



**200 PHOTOS**  
were posted on the  
Library’s Facebook and  
Twitter pages

LIBRARY SNAPSHOT OF  
A BROADVIEW BRANCH  
PATRON



## MAYOR PROCLAIMS APRIL 14-20 NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Mayor Mike McGinn proclaimed April 14-20 National Library Week in the city of Seattle. National Library Week 2013, with the theme, “Communities matter @ your library,” celebrated libraries and library workers nationwide. “Libraries in Seattle and everywhere play a vital role in supporting the quality of life in our communities,” McGinn stated. “Libraries are a part of the American Dream – places for opportunity, education, self-help and lifelong learning.”

## NATURALIZATION CEREMONY

Eighty-eight people were sworn in as U.S. citizens at a naturalization ceremony April 19 at the Central Library. The ceremony was held in conjunction with the Library in honor of National Library Week. Seattle librarian Bob Tangney sang the national anthem to kick off the ceremony. Citizen and Immigration Services Seattle District director Anne Arries Corsano administered the Oath of Allegiance. Mayor Mike McGinn presented the keynote speech.

## BOOKS ON BIKES

The Library launched a pilot program that uses pedal power and a customized trailer to bring Library services to popular community events over the summer, including the Pride Parade, Cyclefest, Umoja Fest and Fiestas Patrias. Mayor Mike McGinn joined 10 Books on Bikes

librarians for the inaugural bicycle ride to TOPS K-8 School on May 21, during National Bicycle Month. Wearing white Books on Bikes T-shirts, the group met up with a fourth-grade class. The librarians gave book talks, signed up students for Library cards and provided reading recommendations from among the many books shelved on the Books on Bikes trailer.

The idea for Books on Bikes was the inspiration of Montlake Branch librarian Jared Mills. Mills, with the help of fellow librarian Linda Johns, submitted the idea to a staff committee for grant funding. “I thought it would be great to combine two things Seattle loves: our libraries and bikes,” Mills said. The proposal was enthusiastically received by the committee.

The custom trailer was developed and constructed by Colin Stevens, who runs Haulin’ Colin in Seattle. “It was specially designed to haul a lot of weight, as well as display books and other materials on the built-in shelves,” Mills said. “It also has a handy umbrella holder so we can keep our shiny new books from getting wet if the weather changes while we are out riding.”





## LIBRARY SETS WORLD RECORD FOR LONGEST BOOK DOMINO CHAIN

It took a total of seven hours of setup and five tries, but at around 11 p.m. May 31, the Library set the world's record for the longest book domino chain. The record-breaking event, confirmed by recordsetter.com, was held on the third floor of the Central Library. A total of 2,131 books followed a complex pathway that included ramps up and across book stacks, around a large planter in the center of the floor and more. To film the world record, five film crew members and seven cameras were used, including a time lapse camera. Twenty-seven volunteers assisted with the setup of books. The book domino chain was a collaborative project between the Library and local residents Luke Greenway of Bryant/View Ridge and Laura D'Asaro of Matthews Beach. Greenway designed the book chain pathway.



**VOLUNTEERS HELP SET UP THE WORLD BREAKING BOOK DOMINO CHAIN**

**BOOKS ON BIKES STAFF MEMBERS BROUGHT LIBRARY SERVICES TO POPULAR COMMUNITY EVENTS ALL SUMMER LONG**



The event helped launch the 2013 Summer Reading Program. A portion of the book chain spelled “read” and the last book – which dropped into the hands of a young patron – was the Summer Reading Program booklet. The video was featured on numerous websites, including CNN and the Huffington Post, and had more than 1 million views.

# 2013 Year in Review

## AQUARIUM JOINS LIBRARY'S MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM

The Seattle Aquarium has joined The Seattle Public Library's Museum Pass program, bringing the total number of Seattle cultural partners offering free admission to Library cardholders to 10. Library cardholders can reserve a pass to a museum once every 30 days, and may use one pass per week. Other participating museums include: The Burke Museum, The Center for Wooden Boats, Experience Music Project (EMP), Henry Art Gallery, Log House Museum, Nordic Heritage Museum, Northwest African American Museum, Seattle Art Museum and Wing Luke Museum. To learn more and reserve a museum pass, visit [www.spl.org/museumpass](http://www.spl.org/museumpass).

## 'DANCING ABOUT ARCHITECTURE'

The Central Library was the setting for a unique series of modern dance performances on three floors by the Sapience Dance Collective. More than 100 Library patrons followed the dancers throughout the building to watch the performances. Cinematographer Matthew Witschonke turned the performances into a film, which explored the building's dynamic architectural space through the medium of modern dance. The film, "Dancing About Architecture," was choreographed by Lilah Steece and Sapience Dance Collective and featured Seattle's Mirrorman. The film was later shown in the Central Library Microsoft Auditorium and included a Q&A with the cinematographer and dancers.

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“Thank you for listening to your patrons! Actions speak more loudly than do words!”

ABBIE, A REAL PERSON & FILM-LOVER!

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## BATTERY RECYCLING DAY

In support of Battery Recycling Day, the Library collaborated with Call2Recycle and served as a collection site for used batteries and cellphones for five days in June. Batteries were accepted at the Ballard, Beacon Hill, Capitol Hill, Lake City, University and West Seattle branches. Approximately 1,059 pounds of batteries and cellphones were collected from the six branches in just five days. The West Seattle Branch won the "Greenest Seattle Neighborhood" challenge by collecting 538 batteries.



**1,059 LBS. OF  
RECYCLED  
BATTERIES**  
collected from six  
branches in five days

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

City Librarian Marcellus Turner invited the public to join him for a series of “Community Conversations” to talk about Library services. The series of 12 meetings in libraries across the city began in September. The conversations were scheduled through February 2014.

In addition to hearing from the public about their needs and expectations for future services, Turner provided an update on implementation of the Library levy, approved by Seattle voters in August 2012.

Participants were also asked for specific feedback on the Library’s five new service priorities: Youth and Early Learning, Technology and Access, Community Engagement, Seattle Culture and History and Re-Imagined Spaces. Highlights from each Community Conversation are available on the Library’s website at [www.spl.org/communityconversations](http://www.spl.org/communityconversations).



HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC AT THE CENTRAL LIBRARY COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

# 2013 Year in Review

## REACHING MILLENNIALS

The Seattle Public Library launched a project focused on improving the Library's use by the hard-to-reach millennial population, adults between the ages of 18 and 30. This effort was made possible through a grant from The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation. The first phase of the project involved working with a market research firm to better understand the needs and priorities of millennials and then developing strategies to reach them. The second phase of the project, which will continue into 2014, will involve developing and implementing three pilot programs.

## NORTHEAST BRANCH IMPROVEMENTS

The children's area of the Northeast Branch was remodeled to better serve and accommodate learning activities for the neighborhood's many young patrons. In addition to increasing the children's area by 50 percent, furniture was added that allows families to read together and the holds area was relocated. Improvements were based on branch usage, circulation and demographics, and trends in library services. These enhancements were funded by The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, Library Capital Improvement Program budget and Library levy funds. Following a community open house in October, construction got underway in November and was completed in December.

## LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH

The Library launched a campaign during National Library Card Sign-up Month to raise awareness about Library e-books. The campaign featured photos of staff holding Library cards on large banners and Metro bus signs, as well as in local magazines, newspapers, the Library e-newsletter and social media pages.

## MICROSOFT IT ACADEMY

Residents now have access to Microsoft IT Academy, a suite of over 1,500 online classes covering everything from learning basic MS Word to advanced IT skills. The academy is sponsored by the Washington State Library and will be available for free to everyone in Washington state, regardless of whether they have a Library card. The Seattle Public Library has incorporated the offerings into some of its computer skills classes. The Library continues to assist people with the sign-up process, which they only need to do once online.

## DESIGN LECTURE SERIES

The Seattle Public Library partnered with the local design firm Civilization on a series of design lectures at the Central Library. Free tickets for a program with Stefan Sagmeister, who has designed branding, graphics and packaging for clients as diverse as the Rolling Stones, HBO and the Guggenheim Museum, "sold out" of free tickets in less than one minute. More than 425 people attended the lecture with the Austrian-born, New York-based designer.

## NATIONAL NOVEL WRITING MONTH

Writers from across the city came to the Central Library in November for a series of "write-ins" during National Novel Writing Month, which encourages people around the world to draft a 50,000-word novel in 30 days. The Seattle Public Library reserved a section of Level 3 for novelists every Thursday evening in November. The write-ins drew approximately 25 novelists each week. The Reading Room on Level 10 officially became the "writing room" for the last write-in and stayed open until midnight so that novelists could make the final sprint to reach their 50,000-word goals for the month.

**1,500 ADVANCED  
IT CLASSES**

now available through  
Microsoft IT Academy

THE NEW  
"FUN"  
LIBRARY  
CARD WAS  
DESIGNED  
FOR  
CHILDREN BY  
A LIBRARY  
STAFF  
MEMBER



# Author Event Highlights



SEATTLE READS  
AUTHOR GREGORY MARTIN  
ANSWERS QUESTIONS AT  
GREENWOOD BRANCH

The Library  
held  
8,228 EVENTS  
in 2013

## MADELEINE ALBRIGHT

An overflow crowd of 900 people filled Town Hall to hear former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright discuss her memoir, “Prague Winter: A Personal Story of Remembrance and War, 1937-1948.” The crowd gave her a standing ovation at the conclusion of the program. Albright graciously stayed to sign books for everyone waiting.

## CAROLINE KENNEDY

The Library presented an evening of poetry with Caroline Kennedy at Seattle First Baptist Church. She was joined by students and Washington State Poet Laureate Kathleen Flenniken. She spoke to a full house of nearly 800 people. She talked about her latest anthology, “Poems to Learn by Heart,” and the importance of libraries, librarians, teachers and reading to students.

## REZA ASLAN

An enormous crowd of 500 filled the Central Library’s Microsoft Auditorium and overflow seating for best-selling author Reza Aslan. More than 100 people had to be turned away. Aslan, an acclaimed scholar of religions, was on tour to discuss his new book, “Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth.” He presented onstage with Seattle author Lesley Hazleton. The Stranger billed it as “the smartest religious event in Seattle this year.” Aslan had made extensive national media appearances and his book was rising on the bestseller list when he visited Seattle.

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“...I’m proud to live in a city that hosts such great literary events. Kudos.”

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SOME OF THE AUTHORS WHO SPOKE AT  
THE CENTRAL LIBRARY IN 2013



PATRON  
PARTICIPATING  
IN A COMMUNITY  
CONVERSATION

# Community Partnership Highlights

## AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE ENROLLMENT

The Library welcomed King County Public Health, as well as a variety of local social service agencies to eight Library locations to provide one-on-one assistance for individuals enrolling in the federal health care system of providers. The Library was an essential participant in the city's effort to enroll as many qualified Seattle residents as possible. Libraries providing information assistance and health care enrollment included the Central Library and the Ballard, Broadview, Columbia, Delridge, Douglass-Truth, High Point and Northgate branches.

## SANISLO/ROXHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PILOTS

Students at Seattle's Sanislo and Roxhill elementary schools benefited from expanded literacy programs and library resources this school year, thanks to a partnership with The Seattle Public Library. The pilot project was funded by a \$91,000 grant from The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation.

Through the pilot, titled, "Sharing Our Stories: A School and Public Library Partnership Project," The Seattle Public Library has:

- **Loaned** books that support the Common Core State Standards to both schools
- **Provided** special Library cards to the teachers and school librarians for easier checkout of materials from The Seattle Public Library
- **Introduced** Raising a Reader at the Roxhill Elementary Head Start program, as well as the kindergarten programs at Roxhill and Sanislo elementaries

- **Expanded** the permanent library collections at Roxhill and Sanislo elementaries
- **Enhanced** the partnership between librarians from The Seattle Public Library and the school librarians

## SUMMER READING HELP WITH TEAM READ

The Library entered into a partnership with Team Read to deliver summer tutoring services for elementary students. Team Read is an existing program within Seattle Public Schools that focuses on helping second- and third-grade students become better readers. Team Read offers individualized reading help with dedicated teen tutors who are trained in reading strategies aligned with classroom instruction and best practices.

Sixty students received two hours of reading help each week for six weeks. Twenty teens received paid summer work experience for tutoring. As part of the program, Team Read also created a Family Reading Playbook that tutors could use during tutoring sessions and was shared with parents.



BEACON HILL BRANCH  
TEAM READ VOLUNTEER  
HANDS OUT AWARD



## Youth & Early Learning Highlights

### SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The Seattle Public Library's 94th Summer Reading Program drew 25,124 participants who read a total of 190,482 books while school was out. The Library also offered 256 educational events and activities attended by 13,132 children, teens and adults. The Library's annual Breakfast of Champions event for one lucky Summer Reading Program finisher from each library was held at the Space Needle. The children were honored with breakfast, reading medals, T-shirts, Friends of The Seattle Public Library bags and a special story time. The event was emceed by KING 5 news anchor Dennis Bounds.

### GLOBAL READING CHALLENGE

The "Bookettes" from John Muir Elementary won the city final of this year's Global Reading Challenge. More than 2,500 fourth- and fifth-graders from 45 Seattle Public Schools studied 10 books to prepare for this 18th annual reading competition. Seattle Schools Superintendent Jose Banda and City Librarian Marcellus Turner had a celebratory lunch with the Bookettes at the school. In addition, the Library piloted

a third grade Global Reading Challenge program this year. This pilot involved 390 students from six schools. All six schools want to participate next year.

### READING MARATHON

The Seattle Public Library hosted a citywide reading marathon for middle school students at six Library locations on Saturday, Nov. 16. All students in sixth, seventh and eighth grade from Seattle public, private, or home schools were invited to compete in this reading marathon. Teens and tweens from 39 schools participated in the six hours of reading, which also included prizes and lots of positive encouragement from friends, family members and teachers. The reading marathon was held at the Ballard, Douglass-Truth, Green Lake, Northgate, Rainier Beach and Southwest branches.

**Reading  
Marathon 2013  
involved six  
branches and  
400+ STUDENTS**



SUMMER READING PROGRAM EVENT  
AT NORTHEAST BRANCH

## STORY TIMES

The Seattle Public Library presented 2,612 story times attended by 98,189 children, parents and caregivers in 2013. These included Sensory Story Times, American Sign Language story times and story times in English, Somali, Spanish, Vietnamese and Mandarin. Sensory Story Times are new this year and are being piloted at the Columbia and Greenwood branches. They are designed for children ages 10 and younger who have a hard time in large groups, are on the autism spectrum, or are sensitive to sensory overload.

## KALEIDOSCOPE PLAY & LEARN GROUPS

A total of 8,354 children, parents and caregivers attended Kaleidoscope Play and Learn groups at branches or neighborhood education centers this year. Play and Learn programs provide fun, age-appropriate learning environments for children up to age 5.

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“...The Global Reading Program... is well planned, organized ‘professionally’ and a huge service to the students in the Seattle Schools. With much appreciation,”

JOHN AND KATE G

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# Recognition Highlights

**FIVE-STAR RATING** The Seattle Public Library was awarded the top rating of five stars among large libraries for the fourth year in a row.

The rating is from the Library Journal Index of Public Library Service. Library Journal is the library field's leading professional publication and developed its national ranking of public libraries based on per capita statistics for library visits, circulation, program attendance and public computer use. The Seattle Public Library was one of only five libraries in the country with expenditures of \$30 million or higher to receive a five-star rating.

## URBAN PLAYER AWARD

Susan Adkins, a longtime board member of The Seattle Public Library Foundation, received the Urban Libraries Council's Urban Player Award in recognition of her civic leadership on behalf of the Library, as well as her commitment to expanding learning services, particularly for children. The award was presented at a ULC conference in Chicago. Each year, the Urban Player Award is presented to an individual who stands out as a strong and effective advocate for the public library. The Urban Player Award was established in 2001 to honor Betty Jane Narver, Seattle civic leader and former chair of ULC's executive board. Narver, who died in 2001 at age 67, was a member of the Library board of trustees and Library Foundation.

## OVERDRIVE MILLION DIGITAL CHECKOUTS CLUB

The Seattle Public Library was inducted into the "OverDrive Million Digital Checkouts Club" because of its high circulation of downloadable e-books by Seattle Library patrons. The Seattle Public Library was one of only six U.S. libraries to check out over 1 million e-book downloads through OverDrive, an e-book vendor, in 2013. Circulation of downloadable media at the Library was up 26 percent over 2012.

## MOST LITERATE CITY

Seattle held steady as the second most literate city in the nation, according to an annual statistical study ranking 75 cities. The city has consistently been ranked the first or second most literate city in the nation since Central Connecticut State University began its rankings in 2005. The university's rankings are based on a combination of factors including education level and library and Internet resources.

## BROADVIEW BRANCH FICTION AREA



# Library Volunteers

The Seattle Public Library had 581 individuals contribute 21,391 volunteer hours in 2013.

According to the Independent Sector, the estimated value of volunteer time for 2013 was \$26.72 per hour in Washington. Based on this hourly rate, volunteers contributed \$571,568 to the Library.

Library volunteers helped K-12 students with homework, facilitated Talk Time sessions for English language learners, assisted patrons in computer classes, mended books, landscaped outside our buildings, welcomed patrons to the Central Library, provided support at author events and much more!

In addition, teen volunteers wrote book reviews and articles for the Push to Talk blog, designed displays to encourage teens to read, and assisted librarians with hosting Teen Space and other fun learning activities for teens.

Many Friends of the Library members also provided volunteer service by sorting and preparing materials for book sales, selling gift items in the FriendShop, delivering free books to teachers, serving on the Friends Board and promoting the Library in the community.



**Volunteers  
contributed  
around \$571,568  
in time in 2013**

# 2013 Statistical and Financial Summaries

## FACILITIES

Central Library  
**26**  
 branches and  
 mobile services

## STAFFING

**674**  
 (567 full-time equivalents)



## 2013 CIRCULATION

ADULT BOOKS:	3,731,477
CHILDREN'S BOOKS:	2,540,883
MEDIA (DVDS, CDS, AUDIOBOOKS):	4,315,485
DIGITAL/ DOWNLOADABLE MEDIA:	1,268,259
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>11,856,104</b>

## 2013 COLLECTION SIZE

CENTRAL LIBRARY:	1,248,273
BRANCHES:	953,693
VIRTUAL LIBRARY:	224,376
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2,426,342</b>



## PATRON VISITS

CENTRAL LIBRARY (DOOR COUNT):	1,833,915
BRANCHES (DOOR COUNT):	4,900,740
VIRTUAL VISITS: (INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL WEBSITE VISITS)	7,214,323
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>13,948,978</b>

## SERVICE LEVELS AND PROGRAMS

**880,845**  
 reference questions answered in person,  
 phone, fax, mail, email, Live Help chat, online  
 Homework Help

**4,124,473**  
 holds placed

**452,421**  
 database sessions

**339,479**  
 people attended 8,228 programs at the  
 Central Library or neighborhood branches  
 or listened by podcast

## OPERATING BUDGET

PERSONNEL:	\$48,643,703
BOOKS AND MATERIALS:	\$6,307,969
EQUIPMENT:	\$2,696,050
MAINTENANCE, SECURITY & UTILITIES:	\$3,360,838
SUPPLIES:	\$727,545
OTHER:	\$1,837,076
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$63,573,181</b>

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## EVENT SERVICES

Managing Central Library  
meeting facilities and  
building tours



### MEETING ROOMS

425

private groups rented space

46

nonprofit groups used  
free meeting room spaces

1,202

programs were hosted by the  
Library in meeting rooms

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1,673

total meetings supported



### PHOTO SHOOT

25

photo or film shoots

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## SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK FANS: 22,973

TWITTER FOLLOWERS: 7,306

LAUNCHED PINTEREST

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NORTHGATE BRANCH CHILDREN'S AREA

# The Seattle Public Library Foundation

## GRANTS

Donations to The Seattle Public Library Foundation allowed it to make grants to the Library totaling \$4.1 million in 2013. These grants supported expansion of the Library's collection, free public programming and capital improvements.

## GIVEBIG

During The Seattle Foundation's GiveBIG day of giving held on May 15, a total of 1,125 donors made gifts to the Library Foundation. The Library Foundation received \$217,000 in just one day and had the second-highest number of donors of all the participating organizations.

## E-BOOKS

Special funds from the Foundation enabled the Library to increase its digital collection by purchasing more than 20,000 e-books from top publishers in the country.

## BULLITT SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCED

The Foundation announced an essay scholarship competition to honor civic leader Stimson Bullitt. The competition is open to high school seniors and undergraduate students who live, work or attend school in Seattle and have cards from The Seattle Public Library. Essays must address the theme of civic courage. Six scholarships will be awarded in 2014. Winning essays will be added to the collection in the Hugh and Jane Ferguson Seattle Room at the Central Library.

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## 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Theresa Fujiwara**  
**Rona Zevin**

## CITY LIBRARIAN

**Marcellus Turner**

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Jonna Ward**

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# Friends of The Seattle Public Library

## GRANTS

The Friends provided four grants to the Library totaling **\$45,000**, which included:

**TEEN SPACE – \$12,000** to support a variety of teen programs across the system, including a Teen Advisers program and a Reading Marathon at six branches that included 440 students from 39 schools.

**TALK TIME – \$3,000** was allocated to support Talk Time ESL classes. Talk Time gives ESL students an opportunity to practice their English conversation skills in a friendly and supportive environment. There were 198 Talk Time sessions with 3,070 attendees in 2013.

**VIETNAMESE ENGAGEMENT PILOT – \$10,000** to build connections with the Vietnamese community through research, additional staff capacity and community presentations.

**SYSTEMWIDE PROGRAMMING – \$20,000** to support 110 classes and workshops across the city that reached over 2,200 patrons, including Lego programs, financial workshops, an Edible Gardening Series and writing activities. Some of the projects included partnerships with SeedArts, Seattle Housing Authority, North Seattle Family Center, the University of Washington and the Seattle Municipal Court.



## CANDIDATES READ EVENT

In June, the Friends organized its first “Candidates Read” event. All the mayoral primary candidates participated. Each read from a favorite or meaningful book.

## BOOKS FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

The Friends received **\$15,000** from the Renee B. Fisher Foundation to put books into high-need public schools. The Friends distributed 170 vouchers each totaling \$100. The vouchers were redeemed at three Friends Book Sales. In addition, the Friends worked with an online vendor to get donated books from a variety of entities to low income Seattle elementary and middle school students. In 2013, over 20,000 books were given to children in Seattle Public Schools.

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**Neil Bergquist**, vice president  
**Susan J. Baker**, secretary  
**Lori Cleaves**, treasurer

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# Library Locations

## **CENTRAL LIBRARY & MOBILE SERVICES**

1000 Fourth Ave.  
206-386-4636

## **BALLARD BRANCH**

5614 22nd Ave. N.W.  
206-684-4089

## **BEACON HILL BRANCH**

2821 Beacon Ave. S.  
206-684-4711

## **BROADVIEW BRANCH**

12755 Greenwood Ave. N.  
206-684-7519

## **CAPITOL HILL BRANCH**

425 Harvard Ave. E.  
206-684-4715

## **COLUMBIA BRANCH**

4721 Rainier Ave. S.  
206-386-1908

## **DELRIDGE BRANCH**

5423 Delridge Way S.W.  
206-733-9125

## **DOUGLASS-TRUTH BRANCH**

2300 E. Yesler Way  
206-684-4704

## **FREMONT BRANCH**

731 N. 35th St.  
206-684-4084

## **GREEN LAKE BRANCH**

7364 E. Green Lake Dr. N.  
206-684-7547

## **GREENWOOD BRANCH**

8016 Greenwood Ave. N.  
206-684-4086

## **HIGH POINT BRANCH**

3411 S.W. Raymond St.  
206-684-7454

## **INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT/CHINATOWN BRANCH**

713 Eighth Ave. S.  
206-386-1300

## **LAKE CITY BRANCH**

12501 28th Ave. N.E.  
206-684-7518

## **MADRONA-SALLY GOLDMARK BRANCH**

1134 33rd Ave.  
206-684-4705

## **MAGNOLIA BRANCH**

2801 34th Ave. W.  
206-386-4225

## **MONTLAKE BRANCH**

2401 24th Ave. E.  
206-684-4720

## **NEWHOLLY BRANCH**

7058 32nd Ave. S.  
206-386-1905

## **NORTHEAST BRANCH**

6801 35th Ave. N.E.  
206-684-7539

## **NORTHGATE BRANCH**

10548 Fifth Ave. N.E.  
206-386-1980

## **QUEEN ANNE BRANCH**

400 W. Garfield St.  
206-386-4227

## **RAINIER BEACH BRANCH**

9125 Rainier Ave. S.  
206-386-1906

## **SOUTH PARK BRANCH**

8604 Eighth Ave. S.  
206-615-1688

## **SOUTHWEST BRANCH**

9010 35th Ave. S.W.  
206-684-7455

## **UNIVERSITY BRANCH**

5009 Roosevelt Way N.E.  
206-684-4063

## **WALLINGFORD BRANCH**

1501 N. 45th St.  
206-684-4088

## **WEST SEATTLE BRANCH**

2306 42nd Ave. S.W.  
206-684-7444

**TEA CUPS AT THE  
INTERNATIONAL  
DISTRICT/  
CHINATOWN  
BRANCH**





