

2014 Revenues		2014 Expenses	
Local Government	\$5,215,179	Staff	\$4,132,825
State Government	\$147,308	Adult and Children's Materials	\$649,605
Other Receipts	\$667,741	Other Operating	\$941,084
	\$6,030,228		\$5,723,514



The Book Bike can bring the library right to your neighborhood!

What You Did at the Evanston Public Library in 2014

You checked out or downloaded 1,074,972 books, movies, audiobooks and music. You visited us in-person 640,121 times and on our website 558,484 times. We answered your 128,445 reference questions. You had more than 2,500 library events to choose from at our three locations or in the community. You used our free computers/WiFi more than 230,000 times.

Thank you! You donated 12,719 volunteer hours and \$256,977 to support the Library through the Fund for Excellence, the library Book Sales, and other donations. Your generosity extends our reach and improves our collection.

In 2014, we deepened our connections to residents throughout Evanston. New partnerships expanded our reach, while listening to the aspirations of our community helped us meet their needs. We hosted our first Special Needs Resource Fair and developed new systems to help local teachers get resources they need with greater efficiency.

The introduction of the Book Bike let us travel from the Lakefront to the West End Market to Free Lunch programs in the parks bringing books, program information, and making library cards. We have many neighborhoods yet to explore!



We also found new ways to surprise and delight patrons. Our Summer Reading Program, "Create Your Dreams at the Library!" encouraged creativity in Evanston residents of all ages. In partnership with the City's Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department, we brought the Summer Reading Program to three summer camps – meeting children where they were already engaged. In the Library's Loft, teens learned about book making and film making through hands-on experience. New programs for adults included: explorations with musical instruments, creating art based on a book, and lessons in 3D printing.

We will continue to create new partnerships and new programs to connect you with life-enhancing ideas, learning opportunities, and enjoyment. We are committed to our role as the important third place in Evanston, after home and school or work, and invite you to share your ideas and suggestions with us. YOU are one of our most important partners! With your support and engagement, together we'll experience the joy of reading, learning, and connecting in the wonderful city of Evanston, where learners thrive.

Karen Danczak Lyons
Library Director

Evanston Public Library aims to be the heart of the community by promoting the development of independent, self-confident, and literate citizens through open access to cultural, intellectual, technological, and informational resources.

2014 Board of Trustees

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- Sandra Smith



Support Evanston Public Library

We hope you agree, the Library makes our community stronger. Using its abundant free resources and programs, we grow through the power of learning. But we are drastically underfunded! Please consider making a gift or volunteering. To learn more about volunteering at EPL, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Mary Kling at 847.448.8645.

Your financial contributions allow us to expand the reach of the Library for our ever changing population. We can help you fulfill your philanthropic goals here at EPL. To learn more about gift vehicles or priorities for support, please contact our Chief Development Officer, Wynn Shawver at 847.448.8657.

To see more beautiful photos of and interviews with the Readers of Evanston, go to our Facebook page or our Readers of Evanston Tumblr page.

- twitter.com/evanstonpl
- facebook.com/evanstonpubliclibrary
- evanstonpubliclibrary.tumblr.com

For more information on our annual report and programs and events, [see epl.org](http://see.epl.org)

Talk to us!

- Main Library: 847-448-8600
- North Branch: 847-866-0330
- Chicago Avenue/Main St. Branch: 847-905-0764

2014: A Year of Powerful Connections



evanston public library

Together we make a smarter, more empowered community.

Where Transformative Ideas

Meet Engaged Citizens

African American History Month? Not Enough. Our “11 Months of African American History” brought more than 900 attendees to: 10 August Wilson plays, 3 lectures from Northwestern’s Humanities faculty, an exploration of North Shore African American history, and a standing-room only discussion of Mary Barr’s book on Evanston’s history of segregation.

Young Minds Tackle New Technology. The popularity of our Saturday FUSE program has exploded! Teens take on fun and engaging challenges in robotics, electronics, graphic design, and 3D printing. Makers unite! Today’s experiments become tomorrow’s new reality!



We Can End Youth Violence. Innovative summer programs worked toward change. Using the book “How Long Will I Cry?” we delved into youth experience with violence. More than 300 free copies were picked up around the City in advance of solution-focused intimate discussion groups in sites around Evanston, readings, teen theater performance and a talk from Cure Violence.

Reducing Stereotype Threat. “Navigating Real Life Diversity with our Kids” and “Whistling Vivaldi: Identity as a Bridge between Us” packed the house to explore cultural gaps that divide us. Community leaders facilitated difficult conversations on stereotypes. Together we’re learning skills to confront our biases head-on and move toward real progress.

Where Learners Grow Together

We visit at-risk preschoolers in their classrooms with activities that build key early literacy skills. Parents receive advice on connecting with their kids through reading, talking, and play. **That’s Literacy Education at Play (LEAP).**

Two wins in one: teenagers get summer library jobs and young children get summer reading mentors. **That’s ABC Boosters.**

Adults gather together to read challenging literary works at locations throughout Evanston: **That’s Mission: Impossible.** More than 8,000 adults throughout the year came to lectures, book groups, documentary screenings and discussions, author events and more: **That’s Free Community Education.**



Our Outreach Librarians connect with Districts 65

and 202 school librarians for **Book Talks** and **Library Tours**. Plus our new **Teacher Check Out** program helps students get essential resources they need to do their work: **That’s Effective Public and School Library Collaboration.**

It can be impossible for small, local, home daycare providers to bring their little ones to the Library, so we make monthly deliveries of high-quality books: **That’s the Home Day Care Book Bag Program.**

Thousands of children and teens made the Library a stop this summer, keeping literacy skills strong, creating and making. In a 2014 pilot, our librarians met kids out in City camps to spread the program beyond our walls. Adults came to read, make art, and enjoy music. **That’s the Summer Reading Program.**

250 entrepreneurs gathered to teach and learn from each other on topics from “How to be Self-Employed” to “Entrepreneurial Law” to “Brand Development and Design.” **That’s Next Chapter.**

Where Essential Services

Make Lives Easier

The Library is free and open to all, making it a welcoming space for everyone in the community. In 2014, we established a network of support for our vulnerable residents, establishing weekly hours for **social work interns** in the Library.

Twenty local service providers gathered for our first **Special Needs Resource Fair**. This networking event connected parents and professionals for an exploration of local resources and needs.



Affordable Care Act is a challenge that we took on full-force with certified **ACA Navigators at the Library seven days a week** to answer perplexing questions and get people signed up for health care.

The Library is now a tax site where income eligible individuals can get their **taxes prepared and filed for free**. In 2014, 373 households took advantage of this service and received refunds totaling \$521,314.



Understanding the

“The YWCA Evanston/North Shore is grateful that we can rely on the Evanston Public Library for programming that moves the entire community to a deeper understanding of each other.”

Eileen Hogan Heineman,
Director Racial Justice Programs,
YWCA Evanston/North Shore

“Our family spends an average of 5 hours a week at the Evanston Public Library. The extensive resources that are available to us are invaluable. We feel that EPL is one of the greatest assets of Evanston.”

Silvio Ribeiro

Thank You

to the many authors who visited and shared their unique viewpoints, including:

Ali Abunimah, Mary Barr, Joelle Charbonneau, Deborah Cohen, Huey Copeland, Anna Dewdney, Candace Fleming, Laurence Gonzales, Darlene Clark Hine, Barbara Mahany, G. Neri, Richard Peck, Ina Pinkney, Nina Sankovitch, Kevin Stein, Tamara Ireland Stone, Chris Terry, and Jesse Joshua Watson.

The Library IS Community. Deepest thanks to our vast network of partners, including:

- Andy’s Frozen Custard
- Blake Manor
- The Book Stall
- Bookends and Beginnings
- Becky & Me
- Campus Kitchens
- CEDA
- Celtic Knot
- Center for Economic Progress
- Centro Romero
- Chicago South Asian Film Festival
- Child Care Center of Evanston
- City of Evanston
- Cognizant
- Cole Taylor Bank
- Comix Revolution
- Connections
- Council for Jewish Elderly
- Dajae Coleman Foundation
- Daughters of the American Revolution
- District 65
- Downtown Evanston
- Ebenezer Primm Tower
- Edward Jones
- Erie Health
- Evanston Art Center
- Evanston Bicycle Club
- Evanston Chamber of Commerce
- Evanston Community Foundation
- Evanston/Northshore YWCA
- Evanston/Skokie PTA Council
- Evanston Township High School
- Evanston Vet Center
- Family Action Network
- Family Focus
- Foundation 65
- Harris Bank
- Have Dreams
- Infant Welfare Society of Evanston



- Interfaith Action
- Jugando con la Ciencia
- Lyric Opera Corps
- Meals at Home
- Muse of Fire
- Music Institute of Chicago
- National Able Network
- Neighbors for Peace
- Northwestern University
- PEER Services
- Percolator Films
- Presence Health
- Reba Early Learning Center
- Ridgeville Park District
- Romano Wealth Management
- SCORE
- Shorefront Legacy Center
- Silk Road Rising
- Sigma Alpha Iota International
- Music Fraternity
- Untold Stories Project
- Whole Foods
- Youth Job Center
- Y.O.U.
- YMCA

Thanks to Katie Barthelemy for the beautiful photographs shot for Readers of Evanston and used in this report.