Our Mission:

To engage our community, encourage discovery and promote literacy by offering lifelong learning opportunities.
From the Library Director

The Declaration is a strong statement that expresses all libraries’ impact on our shared communities. Bentonville Public Library partnered with Bentonville Public Schools as active participants in the Declaration initiative in the spring of 2014.

Total participation across the Natural State was tallied with 58 libraries, collecting 7,927 signatures of support from citizens, students, library users, children, friends, government officials, Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe and “Cody the Dog.” Learn about the Declaration at www.ilovelibraries.org/declaration.

- The year 2014 is in the record books for BPL’s highest circulation, totaling 602,217 checkouts of physical items and downloadable content. Usage of print and audiovisual materials continues to climb, alongside eBooks, digital audiovisuals and magazines, plus streaming music.
- Bentonville Public Library was voted “Best Library” by the readers of NWA Media.
- BPL expanded access to technology with new eLearning resources and the debut of our BPL Tech Card program.
- Our Materials Recovery Program continues to promote responsible return of library assets, recouping $70,950 in materials, fines & fees (July 2012-December 2014).
- The Library realized increases in every category of use over the prior year, with a 7% growth in program attendance.
- BPL established a solid partnership with the Bentonville Parks & Recreation department with plans for a mini-branch library at the new Community Center. Preparatory work for the project in 2014 leads into a summer 2015 grand opening.

Bentonville Public Library Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Expenditures</th>
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<tr>
<td>Personnel Salaries</td>
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<td>Personnel Benefits</td>
<td>$173,365.31</td>
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<td>Library Materials &amp; Digital Resources</td>
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<td>General Operating &amp; Maintenance</td>
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<td>Capital Expenditures</td>
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<td>$1,255,727.59</td>
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<th>Library Revenue</th>
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<td>Cost-Recovery Fees &amp; Overdue Fines*</td>
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<td>Grant Funds &amp; Donations**</td>
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<td>$111,440.36</td>
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<th>Contributions</th>
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<td>Materials</td>
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<td>Monetary Donations**</td>
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<td>Volunteerism</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$207,714.44</td>
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</table>

*Fees/Fines increased by $1,117.23 due to BPL’s Materials Recovery Program. **A special donation sponsoring the Teen Services Librarian position is included, plus grants and donations supporting library collections and technology access. Other gifts were donated through partner 501c3 groups.
Libraries are the Great Equalizer.

Digital & eLearning Resources

- Our innovative **BPL Tech Card** program debuted with Bentonville Public Schools providing eLearning resources for students, supporting digital & technology skills, information literacy and homework projects. A new **Student Portal** and curriculum support complement the project.
- **Tutor.com** was purchased as a new eLearning tool providing reliable online tutors in various subjects, including math.
- BPL added streaming videos with **Overdrive**, plus new **Kids & Teen eReading Rooms** offer youth-friendly collections.
- Expanded content was added to **Reference USA**.
- **Freegal Music** services were upgraded to 3 hours of streaming per day and 5 free song downloads per week.

Library Collections

Bentonville Public Library’s collection size totals 121,905 items, valued at $2,676,720.63.

"I cannot live without books."

Thomas Jefferson

**BPL Statistics**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Circulation</strong></td>
<td>602,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Library Visits</strong></td>
<td>296,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Usage</strong></td>
<td>39,402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Staff Assistance</strong></td>
<td>40,498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Program Attendance</strong></td>
<td>39,402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Material Requests Filled</strong></td>
<td>23,014</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>New Library Cards</strong></td>
<td>7,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Library Tours</strong></td>
<td>1,274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outreach</strong></td>
<td>6,435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meeting Room Groups</strong></td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meeting Room Attendees</strong></td>
<td>19,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Libraries Protect Our Right to Know.**

- Libraries are the Great Equalizer.
- Library Collections
  Bentonville Public Library’s collection size totals 121,905 items, valued at $2,676,720.63.

- **BPL Statistics**
  - **Circulation**: 602,217
  - **Library Visits**: 296,819
  - **Computer Usage**: 39,402
  - **Staff Assistance**: 40,498
  - **Program Attendance**: 39,402
  - **Material Requests Filled**: 23,014
  - **New Library Cards**: 7,065
  - **Library Tours**: 1,274
  - **Outreach**: 6,435
  - **Meeting Room Groups**: 2,000
  - **Meeting Room Attendees**: 19,500

**Thomas Jefferson**: "I cannot live without books."

**Link to BPL Downloadables, eLearning resources and the Student Portal** at www.bentonvillelibrary.org.

---

*Library Tours and Outreach attendance included with Program Attendance.*
Libraries Help Us to Better Understand Each Other.

Teen Services

- New **programs** were added while existing programs were expanded and improved! Writing workshops, crafts, book discussions, film events and other programs were offered. BPL teens participated in national campaigns for **Teen Read Week** and **Teen Tech Week**.
- Program attendance for young adult events **grew 117%** over the prior year.
- The **ACT Prep Workshop** continues to help students develop preparation skills for standardized tests with 77% growth in 2014.
- Both the **Teen Volunteer Program** and **Teen Advisory Board** (TAB) are managed by the Teen Services Librarian. These programs support the library, and encourage community involvement for local teenagers. Programs like Peer Tutors, Study Buddies and Reading Buddies offer mentoring opportunities too.
- The TAB created and worked on a holiday book drive to benefit local children in need. The project ‘**1,000 Books for 1,000 Readers**’, collected approximately 2,000 donated books. Partner organizations included Bentonville Public Schools and Friends of the Bentonville Library. Used books were gathered and sorted by TAB members, then delivered to non-profit organizations based on need: The Call (Arkansas Foster Care Group), Children’s Advocacy Center, Children’s Shelter of NWA, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), New Beginnings Children Home, The Salvation Army and Youth Bridge.

**Meet Athena!**

- The Teen Department unveiled a new logo, created just for BPL.
- **Athena** is Ardy’s ‘big sister.’
- Custom designed and donated by **Ard Hoyt**, graphic artist/children’s book illustrator.

[**R:** TAB was recognized during a BHS football game]

Libraries Empower the Individual.

Adult Services

- Library programs for adults **expanded** in the number and variety of public offerings.
- Attendance at adult programs **increased** by 22% over prior years.
- **Annual events** returned to BPL with Tim Ernst and Still on the Hill, while attendance in the adult book club steadily grew.
- Sessions providing **tech help** and résumé assistance continued with good patron response.
- New programs offered include **TableToppers, Doctor Who**, plus workshops on **finance** topics.
- The second annual **Free Comic Book Day** continued as a successful annual event for all ages.
 Libraries Strengthen Families.

Children’s Services

- Special author visits by Barbara O’Connor and Roland Smith were offered as opportunities for community children to gain experience with creative writing.
- Library programs for youth and families were attended by 33,460 children, caregivers and educators.
- For the 5th year, BPL partnered with Bentonville Public Schools to promote “One District, One Book,” featuring The Fantastic Secret of Owen Jester by Barbara O’Connor. The program culminated in a finale event—hosted by Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art.
- Annual events continued at Bentonville Public Library with the Chinese New Year celebration and Family Learning Days.
- The Ruff Ruff Read program expanded as three therapy dogs regularly visit BPL for special storytime events.
- New programs offered include LEGO® Club, Bentonville Birding, Invention Convention and Safety Day.

 Summer Reading Report

Thank you to our Friends of the Bentonville Library, Anderson Merchandising and other donors for sponsoring our summer reading programs: Fizz Boom Read, Spark a Reaction and Literary Elements!

- Children, teens & adults read 25,290 hours during June and July
- 9,265 people attended summer events at the Library
- 116,777 items checked out during our two month reading program

“
A great book is never out of reach at the Bentonville Children’s Library.
”

 Libraries Preserve Our Nation’s Cultural Heritage.

Sharing History

Special displays at the library featured photographs and artifacts of local interest and historical significance. “Preserving Places” by the Rogers Historical Museum and a Vaudeville exhibit on loan from the private collection of Bea Nilsson Carney were shared with library patrons.
Libraries Support Literacy & Lifelong Learning.
The American Dream Starts @ your library

Bentonville Public Library concluded our “American Dream Starts @ your library” grant with special activities to promote family literacy.

- Chinese New Year: 2014—Year of the Horse
- Family Learning Day: World of Water
- BPL’s American Dream success was featured in an *Arkansas Libraries* journal article [spring 2014 issue].
- American Library Association conference session, a national venue, featured Bentonville Library in “Stories from the Field,” a panel discussion that illustrated the grant’s impact. BPL featured immigration interviews and community partnerships that promote literacy and celebrate diversity.

The $10,000 award was made by the American Library Association from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

Libraries Build Communities.

During the course of the year, many partnerships emerge to support BPL services. The City of Bentonville is a key partner. The Library recognizes and thanks:

- Custodial Team
- Fire Department
- Parks & Recreation Department*
- Police Department
- Public Works Department

*Special thanks to **David Wright** and **Lee Farmer** for partnering with BPL staff to plan our new mini-branch library at the Community Center!

Libraries Strengthen Our Nation.

[Left] Special thanks to the Global Integration, CTC Team from Walmart Leverage for volunteering at Bentonville Public Library. [Right] John Robert Purvis, a teen volunteer, shelves children's picture books.
Library Advisory Board
Library Advisory Board members represent our community, advising on all library business. The volunteers are presented by the Mayor of Bentonville for appointment by the City Council.


Teen Advisory Board 2014-2015
Teens apply and are selected through a panel interview process. These young leaders advise on library services that support our community’s teenagers.


Bentonville Public Library

Adult Volunteers
Sadaf Ahmed
Kimberly Bennett
Karen L Boen
Sandy Buckley
Ronny Cerniga
Cristina Clayton
Dylan Combs
Kristin Cook
Margaret Curry
Justin Davis
Judy DeGarmo
Kalpana Devarasetty
Ray Dixon
Ciber Fleck
Yao Fu
Andrew G George
Nicole Gnecco
Theresa Goncalves
Melissa Halsema
Mark Henkle
Mariana Hernandez-Cortes
Archana Kalidindi
Narmadha Karthick
Angeline Kemp
Christy Kewan
Mounika Korivi
Suguna Krishnamurthy
Llahona Lavea
Mark Lloyd
Jeanne Lombardo
Melissa Mammay
Emma Mancera
Amanda McGee
Pranom McNeil
Jeff Myers
Kiranmai Nanduri
Kim Oehlerking
Denisse Ollivier
Cathy Otto
Vandhanaa Ramesh
Charlotte Rodgers
Joshua L Ross
Marilyn Ross
Brenda A Russell
Georgia Russow
Akshaya Samy
Jessica Smith
Tiffany Stephenson
Arpita Tat
Alexandra Thomas
Melissa Thompson
Afshan Toor
Shannda M Turner
Uma Udharaju
John H Watson
Pamela Willis
Teen Volunteers

Gabrielle Agcaoili  
Jessie Agcaoili  
Lily Agnacian  
Jose Aguilar  
Dee-Ana Ancliff  
Ashley Arnolts  
Michayla Ashley  
Faizullah Asif  
Jax Ball  
Tarun Baskar  
Maddy Baumhover  
Beatrice Becerra  
Shiloh Beeler  
Ethan Beere  
Jake Bevill  
Charlee Blair  
Eri Branca  
Nikita Britto  
Morgan Brothers  
Amanda Bryson  
Harrison Buchanan  
Sarah Burks  
Keysharria Candler  
Michael Chapman  
Matthew Chastain  
Srikar Chikkala  
Caitlin Clark  
Kayton Coffee  
Kelsy Conkling  
Jenna Cook  
Amber Cooper  
Jessica Cortez  
Shelby Costley  
Mattie Couch  
Abraham Delgado  
Seth Dennis  
Shruti Dere  
Kismet Derkovitz  
Sophia DeToro  
Sranita Devarasetty  
Vinita Devarasetty  
Mohan Dodda  
Colin Doege  
Nicole Dougherty  
Yatish Dubasi  
Brynlee Duty  
Saiviputleja Elagandhula  
Olivia Ellis  
Chris Enslin  
Katherine Espina  
Austin Estabrook  
Hayden Etz  
Jake Fennell  
Marissa Fennell  
Kaleigh Fischer  
Sophie Flint  
Mykenzie Fowler  
Beth Francis  
Paige Francis  
Stephanie Galen  
Daniel Garcia-Carvajal  
Veronica Garcia-Carvajal  
Jahnavi Gattu  
Aaron Gbedey  
Winona Gbedey  
Jay Giordano  
Namrata Gopinath  
Remington Gould  
Mackie Gregory  
Zander Gregory  
Alec Gudenau  
Courtney Gutche  
Whitney Haak  
Grace Hamilton  
Diana Hart  
Shaylee Harviston  
Seth Hastings  
Layla Haymore  
Ryan Hicks  
Alyssa Hobbs  
Erica Hudson  
Elizabeth Jennings  
Madison Johnson  
Dhivya Kannan  
Mandeep Kaur  
Melody Kerperien  
Savannah King  
Savannah Kirk  
Aneesh Komanduri  
Preetika Kondapudi  
Gourab Kundu  
Sophia Lacy  
Hannah Lancaster  
Stephanie Little  
Jacob Loukota  
Natalie Macias  
Shreyaa Majagi  
Teja Makkapati  
Vakula Mallapally  
Victoria Mantel  
Molly Myers  
Pooja Naik  
Nikhita Nakka  
Pranav Natargjan  
Caylea Nell  
Rebecca Norton  
Sarah Oakley  
Susan Onyebueke  
Brenner Ordendorf  
Wesley Parker  
Rachna Paruchuri  
Michael Pierson  
Delaney Pollard  
Katelyn Pool  
Sareena Potter  
Sarah Price  
John Robert Purvis  
Kiana Radcliffe  
Saloni Ramnathkar  
Tyler Randall  
Melodey Reeves  
Seth Rippeto  
Autumn Roberts  
Katelyn Robinson  
Joshua Rugger  
Paula Ryburn  
Moushumi Sahu  
Hannah Sebastian  
Emily Sellers  
Shiva Shanmuganathan  
Lauren Skinner  
Trevor Smith  
Tollie Sneed  
Alex Solis  
Jacob Spinato-Taylor  
Haley Stephens  
Sabrina Stephenson  
Hannah Stolt  
MaKenna Strasser  
Aninditha Sudhakaran  
Swathi Sunil  
Amirthavarshini Sureshbabu  
Christian Sylvester  
Rachna Talluri  
Hooria Tariq  
Kinsey Tate  
Prudhi Tavva  
Abby Terlouw  
Andrea Thompson  
Michael Tiberghien  
Sam Trujillo  
Cameron Turner  
Christian Turner  
Paige Van Oudheusden  
Brenden Vaughan  
Angel Vizcaino  
Mikenna Voirl  
Sagar Vonteru  
Vanna Vu  
Emily Walker  
Michel Waterhouse  
Alexia Whitfield  
Ariya Williams  
Timothy Wilson  
Madison Withey  
Alli Wolber  
Sterling Yang
The Value of Volunteers

At BPL, our volunteers are the greatest! From shelving to book repair to craft prep, many people give time and talent! From service on boards to program expertise, we are grateful for everyone who serves. In 2014, 245 volunteers gave 6,522 hours.* This is valued at $150,462.54!

*Library volunteers only; Genealogy, Foundation and Friends volunteered a combined total of 3,500+ hours to support BPL

Volunteers in Action

[Left] Ally, sixth grader at Ardis Ann, is a Junior Partner at BPL and volunteers with her dad, Kevin.

[Right] Volunteers are recognized during BPL’s annual recognition event. Last year’s program at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art was sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Program Volunteers

David Adair
Karen Akins
The Ayers Family
Katrina Baker
Trevor Bartlett
Madison Bigelow
Jenny Brown
Sarah Burkes
Nancy Busen
Steven Byess
Carissa Clifton
Cody the Dog
Dr. Lisa Das
Colin Doege
Lesley Evans
Marissa Fennell
Mark Foster
Remington Gould
Binod Gupta
The Hofmann Family
Kathleen Holmes-Smith
Trish Jennings
Jesse the Dog
Danielle Koerner
The Lai Family
Rick Marshall
Randy McCrory
Jennifer Michaels
Marshall Mitchel
Autumn Mitchell
Julie Murdock
Misty Murphy
Kiranmai Nanduri
Scott Nigemann
Sarah Oakley
Brenner Orendorff
Christy Paxton-Tureman
Hannah Pekel
Lauren Ray
Roman Rios
Teresa Robinson
Tim Robinson
Jennifer Rollins
Tommy Rollins
Holly Smardo
Nichole Smith
Dawn Spragg
Ann Turner
Sandra Underwood
Mike Vass
Anitha Yerneni
Zaida the Dog

Junior Partners

Tanisha Banerjee
Tina Banerjee
Lisa Bowman
Raiden Bowman
Chloe Hicks
Kristy Hicks
Brigham Hill
Hunter Hill
Phillip Hill
Arjun Krishna
Arthi Krishna
Chitra Krishna
Oliver Mammay
Skyler Mandella
Traci Mandella
Camille Newell
Geoff Rahmer
Kasey Rahmer
Sean Ramsey
Ally Swindell
Kevin Swindell

Genealogy Volunteers

# Community Partners & Corporate Sponsors

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<tr>
<th>Academy of Professional Cosmetology</th>
<th>Master Gardeners of Benton County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alderac Entertainment Group</td>
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<td>American Library Association</td>
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<td>Northwest Arkansas Area Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.</td>
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<td>Arkansas Arts Council</td>
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<td>Arkansas Game &amp; Fish Commission</td>
<td>Northwest Arkansas Conservatory of Classical Ballet</td>
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<td>Arkansas State Library</td>
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<td>Atlas Games</td>
<td>Northwest Arkansas Naturals</td>
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<td>Barnes &amp; Noble</td>
<td>Northwest Technical Institute</td>
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<td>Benton County Sheriff’s Office</td>
<td>NWA Audubon Society</td>
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<td>Bentonville Convention &amp; Visitor’s Bureau</td>
<td>Ozark Philharmonic Youth Orchestra</td>
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<td>Bentonville Fire Department</td>
<td>Panera Bread</td>
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<td>Bentonville Garden Club</td>
<td>Paranormal Ozarks</td>
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<td>Bentonville Police Department</td>
<td>Perot Museum of Science and Nature</td>
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<td>Bentonville Public Schools</td>
<td>Phat Tire</td>
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<td>Bentonville Public Schools - ESL Center</td>
<td>Project Play Every Day</td>
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<td>Bentonville/Bella Vista Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>Bentonville/Bella Vista Daybreak Rotary Club</td>
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<td>Bentonville High School Drama Students</td>
<td>Rio Grande Games</td>
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<td>Bike Bentonville</td>
<td>Rogers Historical Museum</td>
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<td>Care A Child Tutoring</td>
<td>Rotary Club of Bentonville</td>
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<td>Chick-Fil-A</td>
<td>Steve Jackson Games</td>
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<td>Student Library Advisory Board (SLAB at BHS)</td>
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<td>Swasthan Seva Foundation</td>
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<td>Teen Action &amp; Support Center</td>
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<td>Dollar General Literacy Foundation</td>
<td>The Make a Difference Youth Foundation</td>
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<td>Walmart Volunteerism Always Pays</td>
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<td>Literacy Council of Benton County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malco Theaters</td>
<td>Zaxby’s</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Thank you to all who contribute their time and resources to help make Bentonville a special place to visit, work and live!"

Bob McCaslin, Bentonville Mayor
Local Organizations Support BPL

The Library’s trellis garden, visible from Main Street, is planted and maintained by the Bentonville Garden Club. The flowering landscape changes with the seasons and is a lovely example of the Garden Club’s beautification projects around town.

A Bentonville/Bella Vista Daybreak Rotary Club grant totaling $4,500 was awarded to support BPL’s eReader Loan Program. The funds purchased new eBooks for the library’s circulating devices. This is the second grant provided by Daybreak Rotary to our library in recent years.

Public Librarianship

- BPL’s Circulation and Reference Librarians attended the Public Library Association national conference.
- The Children’s Librarian attended the annual children’s workshop.
- The Library Director and Reference Librarian attended the Arkansas Library Association conference.

Libraries Advance Research and Scholarship.

Public Librarianship

- Librarians at BPL continued leadership at local, state and national levels. These accomplishments included, but are not limited to: national legislative advocacy, executive board participation, conference attendance and professional development presentations to library colleagues, committee work and more.
- Bentonville Public Library hosted two training sessions in partnership with the Arkansas State Library for regional colleagues in the spring and fall.
- All five librarians at Bentonville Public Library published professional articles in the Arkansas Libraries journal.
- The Library Director was awarded the LaNell Compton Prize by the Arkansas Library Association for the best article published in Arkansas Libraries journal within a two-year period.
- The Reference Librarian began serving as the Associate Editor for Arkansas Libraries journal.
- The Circulation Librarian was selected to participate in the Leadership Benton County program.

National Advocacy

Heather Hays and Hadi Dudley [far left] attended National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. Hays served as the Arkansas Library Association’s Legislative Committee Chair.

The association sponsored Hays’ travel costs for the event. Dudley’s expenses were sponsored by Friends of the Library.
Supporting Our Library

The Bentonville Library Foundation spearheaded a successful holiday giving program with Elaine and Howard Kerr serving as campaign chairs. A $5,000 donation launched the initiative and the non-profit organization raised more than $29,000 to support Bentonville Public Library.

The Friends of the Bentonville Library sponsored the Summer Reading Club with a generous donation of $6,000. The Library also benefited from Scholastic Book Fairs, with over $12,000 worth of new books, display units, supplies and more added to BPL’s inventory.

Both organizations fulfilled a significant pledge benefiting our Library’s Teen Services department.

Volunteers for the Foundation and Friends provided a combined 2,000+ hours during the year too! From attendance at meetings, special events and bookstore help, the gift of time also supports BPL.

Donations & Grants

The Daughters of the American Revolution donated a book to the Genealogy Society.

Arkansas Representative Jim Dotson presents the Library Director with a NWA Economic Development District GIF grant for $5,500 to purchase new computer furniture.

Farewell, Rexy!

In April, BPL bid farewell to Rexy, the much-loved 1/2-sized replica of a Tyrannosaurus Rex, who starred in the film, Night at the Museum. While he dwelled here, BPL hosted five annual Rexy events [2008-2012]. Each celebration brought learning to life by focusing on education and literature. From multiculturalism to history to scientific inventions, Rexy events were extremely popular with attendance totaling 2,625 across the 5-year timeframe. Rexy joined the Arkansas Discovery Network as part of a traveling dinosaur exhibit. We wish him safe travels on his exciting journey and know that other Arkansans will enjoy Rexy as much as our community.