

BPL Offerings Benefit Our Community

BPL provides educational and life-enriching programs for all age groups. Our professional library staff work diligently to provide responsive and engaging services.

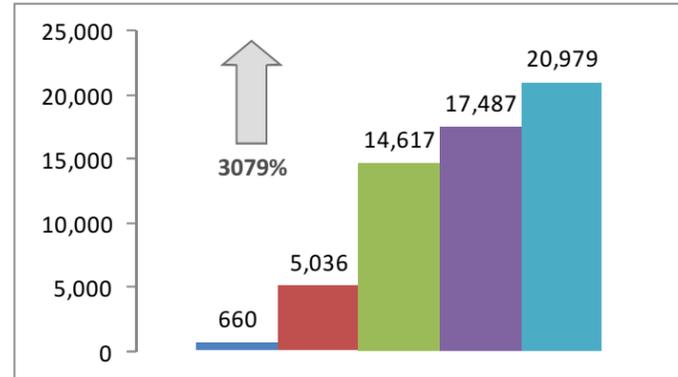
From storytimes and family activities to music programs and résumé assistance for adults, we value our involvement with children, teens and adults in our community.

Children's Services: Inspiring Young Readers



Bentonville Public Library encourages a lifelong love of books and learning in children. Educational and dynamic programs are offered for our youngest library users including baby, toddler and preschool storytimes that feature songs and rhymes. Library Lessons for homeschoolers, plus programs for elementary kids, "tweens" and teens presented by the library include book clubs, film events, chess clubs and other programs. Children's offerings comprise 95% of BPL's program attendance. 19,000+ children and caregivers attended youth programs at BPL in 2010.

Program Attendance, 2006-2010



Summer Reading @ Bentonville Library

BPL children and teens read 16,176 hours in June and July, 2010. Studies show that students who read during summer months have higher reading achievement scores. In 2010, BPL's annual Summer Reading Program reached record numbers in reading goals and event attendance.



More than 300 people attend a special family program, summer 2010

Community Teens Give Back



BPL has a robust teen volunteer program. In 2010, 133 teens volunteered 3,315 hours at the library. In 2011, a teen library volunteer became the first Mayor's "Outstanding Citizenship Award" Teen Winner. At BPL, teen volunteers are exposed to education, positive work ethics, leadership skills and public service.

A new initiative to support our community's teen demographic, BPL selected nine local teenagers to serve on the Teen Advisory Board to suggest services, materials and programs for Benton County teens.

Adult Offerings—Lifelong Learning, Career Help and Technology Assistance



BPL staff offer free help with mobile technology, laptops and e-readers.

In times of economic recession, people turn to public libraries for help. In 2009-2011, BPL's adult services specialized in personal improvement, professional development resources and job support initiatives through résumé workshops, computer classes, individualized résumé assistance and provision of a job & career database.

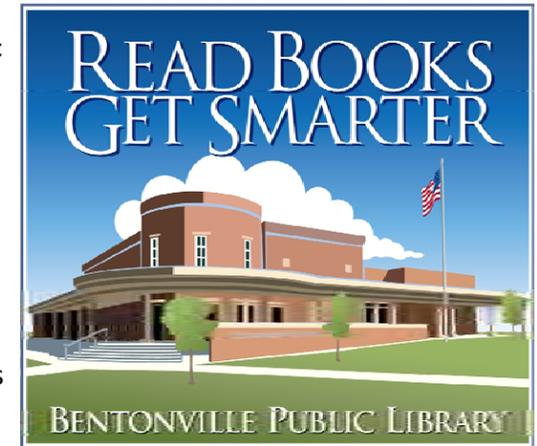
BPL has also focused on developing other lifelong learning resources that meet our users' interests: legal forms, language learning software, Universal Class (a continuing education and coursework resource) and downloadable audios, ebooks, videos and music.

From Historic Places to New Spaces

The Bentonville Public Library was previously located in the historic Massey Hotel in downtown Bentonville, but the small, outdated space was unable to meet our users' growing needs. In 2003, the Bentonville community began grassroots efforts to fund and build a new library facility.

A Public/Private Partnership

A public/private partnership, the Bentonville Library Foundation succeeded in the task of raising \$7,000,000 for the \$9,000,000 project. Generosity from individuals, corporations and foundations joined the City of Bentonville's \$2,000,000 contribution toward construction of the Library.



A Destination Place, Downtown Bentonville

When the modern 38,000 square foot library opened October 30, 2006 at 405 South Main Street, Bentonville Public Library became a destination place in downtown Bentonville.

BPL Stats-At-A-Glance

Since Opening, BPL has experienced:

Library Visits:	1.1 Million
Circulation:	1.6 Million
Computer Usage:	208,856
Program Attendance:	58,119
New Library Cards:	28,014
Meeting Room Groups:	14,794
Meeting Room Attendees:	41,581

Bentonville Public Library Amenities

- High-energy "Bogle Family Children's Library"
- Trendy Teen Zone and KidTech spaces
- Free computer/Internet use, WIFI access
- Private study rooms for individuals & groups
- Comfy chairs and natural light enhance the Fireplace Room for leisurely reading
- "William R. Enfield Local History & Genealogy Center," operated by NWA Genealogy Society
- *Read It Again* used bookstore, operated by Friends of the Library
- Coffee shop, operated by a local small business owner
- Conference rooms, public meeting spaces

Bentonville Public Library — a Quality Library in a Quality City

Statistics and anecdotal evidence demonstrate an overwhelmingly positive response to Bentonville Library. BPL's quality services are valued by library users, supporters and advocates.

The Bentonville Public Library is fortunate to receive support from our local community:

- City of Bentonville
- Bentonville City Council
- Friends of the Bentonville Library
- Bentonville Library Foundation
- Library Advisory Board
- Northwest Arkansas Genealogy Society
- Hundreds of volunteers
- Local nonprofit groups, corporations and individuals.

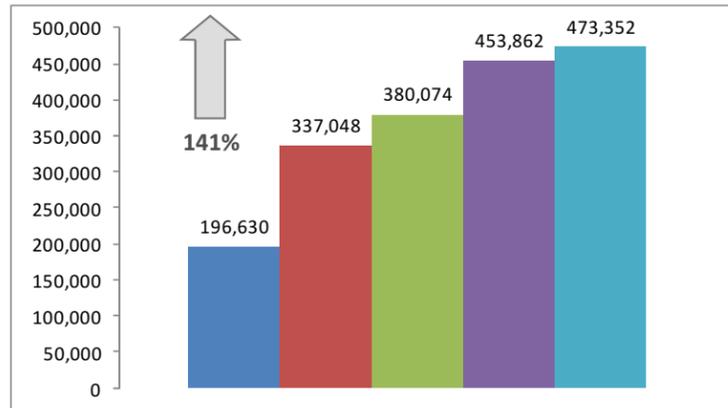


Governance & Funding

Governed by the Bentonville City Council, BPL is a City Department. Primarily funded by the City of Bentonville general operating fund, BPL's annual budget of nearly \$1 million supports library personnel and operational expenditures.

Revenue resources include overdue fines, basic cost-recovery fees, donations and grants. Bentonville Library benefits from the Arkansas State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) programs under the Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) supporting technology and summer reading.

BPL Circulation Growth, 2006-2010



Fast Facts: BPL Collections

- BPL's collection size: 92,869 items
- Collection value: \$2,034,231.89
- 42% growth across 5 years
- On average, one BPL book will check out 5 times per year.
- During summer reading programs, 70% of popular children's books are checked out from BPL.

Strategic Planning for Success

In 2010, BPL's first-ever 3-year Strategic Plan was prepared and completed by library administration and presented to Bentonville City Council.

Covering FY2010-2012, the plan focuses on four priorities:

1. Growth and Development
2. Differentiation in the Community
3. Organizational Efficiency
4. Financial Viability.

Strategic goals for BPL have allowed BPL to successfully improve library services.

The American Dream Starts @your library

United States Naturalization @ BPL

Bentonville Public Library hosted a United States Naturalization Ceremony, our premiere event launching BPL's "American Dream Starts @ your library" grant initiative. The public library is the perfect setting for a celebration of diversity, inclusiveness and civic engagement. On Friday, May 14, 2010, 30 participants from 14 countries took the Oath of Allegiance in the library's community room.

Countries represented: *Canada, China, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, India,*

Iran, Laos, Mexico, Nicaragua, Philippines, Somalia, Syria and Vietnam. Bentonville Library's Naturalization Ceremony was a special, moving experience for all who attended. Our day at BPL was a shining example of what American Dreams are made of – hope, faith and determination.

BPL's Naturalization Ceremony included:

- Chief United States District Judge Jimm Larry Hendren presided over the legal court proceedings
- Guest speaker, City of Bentonville Mayor Bob McCaslin
- Posting and Retiring of Colors by Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
- *The National Anthem* was performed by Janelle Hendren Edwards
- Invocation and Welcome by the Daughters of the American Revolution
- Department of Homeland Security made a motion to the court with a "Presentation of Petitioners"
- Petitioners took the Oath of Allegiance
- Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance
- Presentation of Certificates
- Participants received Citizenship Toolkits from BPL.



Mayor McCaslin encouraged naturalized citizens to vote and read to their children.

A Success Story: Francisco and Ingrid Maldonado

- Originally from Guatemala and moved to Benton County four years ago.
- Francisco is a local realtor working part-time for a local community college, teaching GED classes to Spanish students.
- Ingrid is studying to take the GED with future higher learning plans in elementary education.



"The Naturalization Ceremony at Bentonville Library was amazing. This is our American Dream!

We are a part of the Land of Opportunity. We are Citizens of the Greatest Nation on Earth!" -Francisco & Ingrid Maldonado

Military Appreciation Day at BPL



Color Guard Flag Ceremony by Boy Scout Troop 450

Bentonville Library hosted its first annual Military Appreciation Day in May 2010. This patriotic event celebrated and supported our community's military personnel, veterans and their families. **Approximately 150 people attended the celebration.**

BPL's event featured:

- Formal flag raising ceremony by Boy Scout Troop 450
- Mayoral proclamation from Bob McCaslin
- National Anthem by BHS Trumpet Ensemble
- Vocal performance by the Quadrapops
- National Guard climbing wall
- Information booths about military branches and family support
- Library patriotic crafts and special storytime with Jesse the Dog
- The Chick-Fil-A Cow



BPL's Service to Children: All America City Finalist

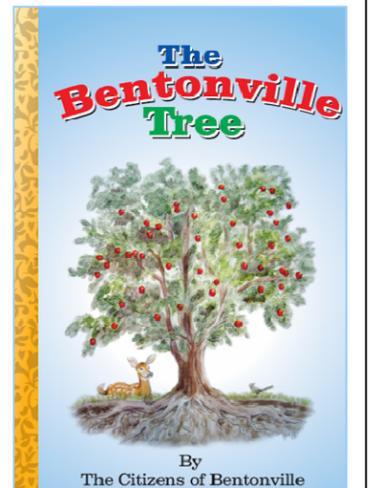


Bentonville Library's service to children was presented to the National Civic League as supporting criteria benefiting youth and children, helping the City of Bentonville achieve All-America City Finalist status.

BPL representatives joined the City's delegation:



- Library Director
Hadi Dudley
- Children's Librarian
Sue Pekel
- Library Advisory Board
Octavio Sanchez
- Library Foundation Board
Miguel Rivera
- Library Teen Volunteer
Lily Chang



Ard Hoyt, children's book illustrator, custom created artwork for *The Bentonville Tree*

'Round the World with Rexy

Bentonville Public Library partnered with the Children's Museum of Northwest Arkansas to present our 3rd annual "Rexy Day." **668 people attended the program!**



Children and families traveled to Great Britain, Japan, Jordan, Mexico and back to Bentonville, Arkansas without leaving the library. Youthful explorers created passports, and visited each country for hands-on science, art and cultural activities. From milking a mechanical cow, to origami, to filming a TV spot, it was a fun-filled, educational event. Corporations, non-profit groups, in-kind donations and 64 community volunteers made this day at Bentonville Library a HUGE success!

Volunteerism Supports Bentonville Public Library

- 10,277 volunteer hours generously supported Bentonville Library initiatives in 2010.
- A significant contribution, this volunteer service is valued at more than \$219,500.