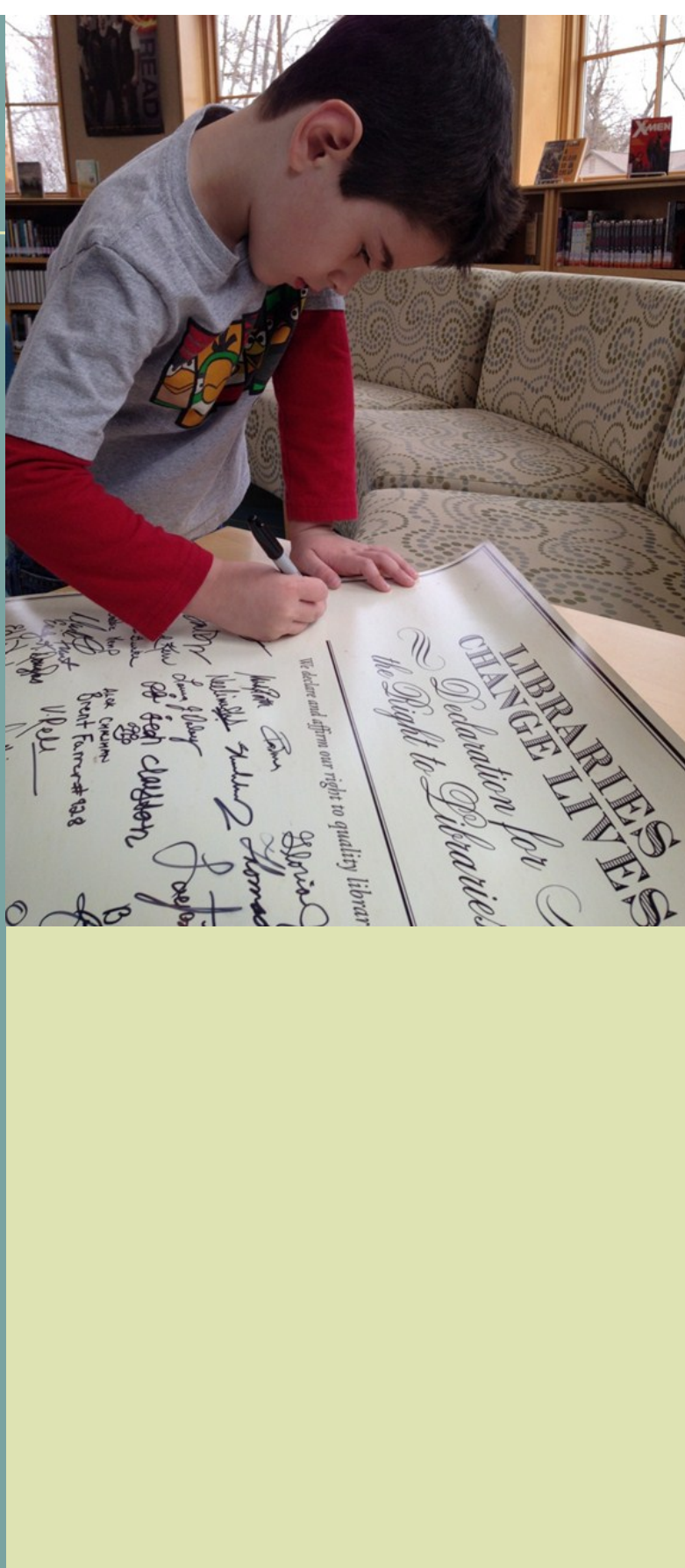


ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Libraries Change Lives



Our Mission:

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



www.bentonvillelibrary.org

Libraries Change Lives.

From the Library Director

The accomplishments outlined in Bentonville Public Library's 2014 Annual Report illustrate values in the ***Declaration for the Right to Libraries***, a national campaign developed by 2013-2014 American Library Association President Barbara Stripling.

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.



Dudley attended the 2014 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philly, representing Arkansas libraries



Cody the Dog & Miss Lesley sign BPL's Declaration for Libraries

Bentonville Public Library Budget

Library Expenditures

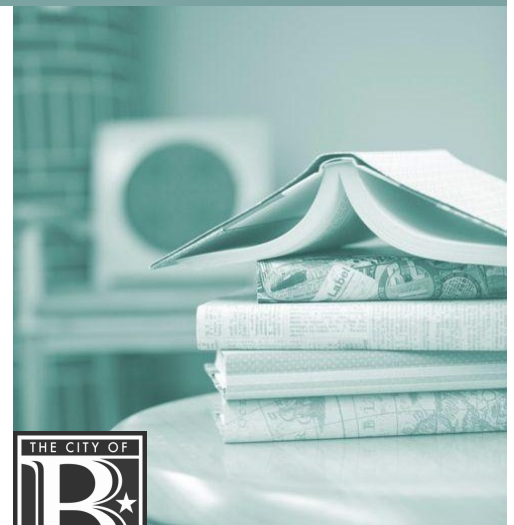
Personnel Salaries	\$643,079.23
Personnel Benefits	\$173,365.31
Library Materials & Digital Resources	\$208,597.87
General Operating & Maintenance	\$230,685.18
Capital Expenditures	\$0.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,255,727.59

Library Revenue

Cost-Recovery Fees & Overdue Fines*	\$58,960.36
Grant Funds & Donations**	\$52,480.00
	<hr/>
	\$111,440.36

Contributions

Materials	\$49,451.90
Monetary Donations**	\$7,800.00
Volunteerism	\$150,462.54
	<hr/>
	\$207,714.44



*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 Protect Our Right to Know.

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

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



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.

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.



Reading Buddies

Teen volunteers are paired with kids to practice reading skills. Grant helps Max with sight words and vocabulary.



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



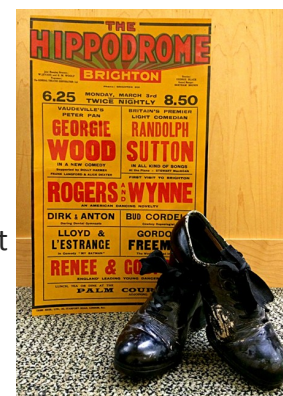
“ A great book is never out of reach at the Bentonville Children’s Library. ”

Ardy the Owl

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.

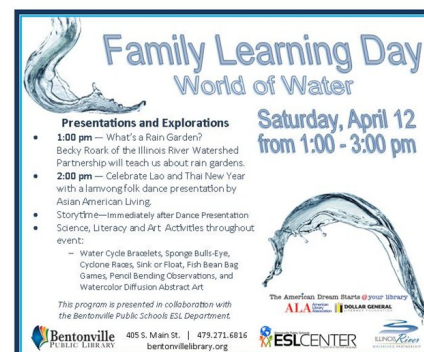


Libraries Support Literacy & Lifelong Learning. The American Dream Starts @ your library

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.

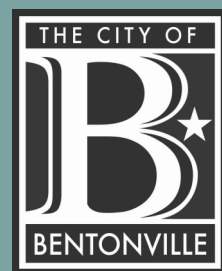


Libraries Build Communities.

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!



Youth Literature Festival 2015

In 2014, hard work began on Bentonville’s Inaugural Youth Literature Festival in preparation for its spring 2015 debut. It is with the warmest regard and gratitude, that BPL recognizes the commitment and passion of **Bethany Culpepper**, co-founder and dedicated volunteer, for the Youth Lit Fest!

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.

[L to R] Aaron Jones, Judy Marquess, Judy DeGarmo, Elaine Kerr, Octavio Sanchez | [not pictured] Chair: Hadi Dudley, Ex Officio: Brenda Compton, Luci Henderson & Michelle Vargas

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.

[L to R] Trevor Smith, Daniel Garcia-Carvajal, Kayla Spitzer, Vakula Mallapally, Vinita Devarasetty, Sarah Gowdy, Mattie Couch, Delaney Pollard, Sranita Devarasetty, Brenner Orendorff, Shelby Costley



Adult Volunteers

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

Teen Volunteers

Gabrielle Agcaoili	Mohan Dodda	Dhivya Kannan	Paula Ryburn
Jessie Agcaoili	Colin Doege	Mandeep Kaur	Moushumi Sahu
Lily Agnacion	Nicole Dougherty	Melody Kerperien	Hannah Sebastian
Jose Aguilar	Yatish Dubasi	Savannah King	Emily Sellers
Dee-Anna Ancliff	Brynlee Duty	Savannah Kirk	Shiva Shanmugonathan
Ashley Arnolts	Saivipulteja Elagandhula	Aneesh Komanduri	Lauren Skinner
Michayla Ashley	Olivia Ellis	Preetika Kondepudi	Trevor Smith
Faizullah Asif	Chris Enslin	Gourab Kundu	Tollie Sneed
Jax Ball	Katherine Espina	Sophia Lacy	Alex Solis
Tarun Baskar	Austin Estabrook	Hannah Lancaster	Jacob Spinato-Taylor
Maddy Baumhover	Hayden Etz	Stephanie Little	Haley Stephens
Beatrice Becerra	Jake Fennell	Jacob Loukota	Sabrina Stephenson
Shiloh Beeler	Marissa Fennell	Natalie Macias	Hannah Stolt
Ethan Beere	Kaleigh Fischer	Shreya Majagi	MaKenna Strasser
Jake Bevill	Sophie Flint	Teja Makkapati	Anindhitha Sudhakaran
Charlee Blair	Mykenzie Fowler	Vakula Mallapally	Swathi Sunil
Erin Branca	Beth Francis	Victoria Mantel	Amirthavarshini Sureshbabu
Jack Branca	Paige Francis	Molly Myers	Christian Sylvester
Nikita Britto	Stephanie Galen	Pooja Naik	Rachna Talluri
Morgan Brothers	Daniel Garcia-Carvajal	Nikhita Nakka	Hooria Tariq
Amanda Bryson	Veronica Garcia-Carvajal	Pranav Natargjan	Kinsey Tate
Harrison Buchanan	Jahnvi Gattu	Caylea Nell	Prudhi Tavva
Sarah Burks	Aaron Gbedey	Rebecca Norton	Abby Terlouw
Keysharria Candler	Winona Gbedey	Sarah Oakley	Andrea Thompson
Michael Chapman	Jay Giordano	Susan Onyebueke	Michael Tiberghien
Matthew Chastain	Namrata Gopinath	Brenner Ordendorff	Sam Trujillo
Srikar Chikkala	Remington Gould	Wesley Parker	Cameron Turner
Caitlin Clark	Mackie Gregory	Rachna Paruchuri	Christian Turner
Kayton Coffee	Zander Gregory	Michael Pierson	Paige Van Oudheusden
Kelsy Conkling	Alec Gudenau	Delaney Pollard	Brenden Vaughan
Jenna Cook	Courtney Gutche	Katelyn Pool	Angel Vizcaino
Amber Cooper	Whitney Haak	Sareena Potter	Mikenna Voirol
Jessica Cortez	Grace Hamilton	Sarah Price	Sagar Vonteru
Shelby Costley	Diana Hart	John Robert Purvis	Vanna Vu
Mattie Couch	Shaylee Harviston	Kiana Radcliffe	Emily Walker
Abraham Delgado	Seth Hastings	Saloni Ramnathkar	Michel Waterhouse
Seth Dennis	Layla Haymore	Tyler Randall	Alexia Whitfield
Shruti Dere	Ryan Hicks	Melodey Reeves	Ariya Williams
Kismet Derkovitz	Alyssa Hobbs	Seth Rippetoe	Timothy Wilson
Sophia DeToro	Erica Hudson	Autumn Roberts	Madison Withey
Sranita Devarasetty	Elizabeth Jennings	Katelyn Robinson	Alli Wolbert
Vinita Devarasetty	Madison Johnson	Joshua Rugger	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	Colin Doege	Randy McCrory	Roman Rios
Karen Akins	Lesley Evans	Jennifer Michaels	Teresa Robinson
The Ayers Family	Marissa Fennell	Marshall Mitchel	Tim Robinson
Katrina Baker	Mark Foster	Autumn Mitchell	Jennifer Rollins
Trevor Bartlett	Remington Gould	Julie Murdock	Tommy Rollins
Madison Bigelow	Binod Gupta	Misty Murphy	Holly Smardo
Jenny Brown	The Hofmann Family	Kiranmai Nanduri	Nichole Smith
Sarah Burkes	Kathleen Holmes-Smith	Scott Nigemann	Dawn Spragg
Nancy Busen	Trish Jennings	Sarah Oakley	Ann Turner
Steven Byess	Jesse the Dog	Brenner Orendorff	Sandra Underwood
Carissa Clifton	Danielle Koerner	Christy Paxton-Tureman	Mike Vass
Cody the Dog	The Lai Family	Hannah Pikel	Anitha Yerneni
Dr. Lisa Das	Rick Marshall	Lauren Ray	Zaida the Dog

Junior Partners

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



Genealogy Volunteers

Volunteers from the Northwest Arkansas Genealogical Society dedicated 1,697.5 hours assisting library patrons with family history research. 2014 Volunteers: Cary Anderson . Robert Bowers . Jacque Carpino . Pam Coots . Anita Frevert . Kurt Frevert . Wanda Haines . Beth Hickman . Karen Hotaling . June Melton . Dorothy Miller . Cathy Otto . Alta Ramsey . Mary Wynne

Community Partners & Corporate Sponsors

Academy of Professional Cosmetology
Alderac Entertainment Group
Amazeum of Northwest Arkansas
American Library Association
Anderson Merchandising
Arkansas Arts Council
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission
Arkansas State Library
Asian American Living
Atlas Games
Barnes & Noble
Benton County Sheriff's Office
Bentonville Convention & Visitor's Bureau
Bentonville Fire Department
Bentonville Garden Club
Bentonville Police Department
Bentonville Public Schools
Bentonville Public Schools - ESL Center
Bentonville/Bella Vista Chamber of Commerce
Bentonville/Bella Vista Daybreak Rotary Club
Bentonville High School Drama Students
Bike Bentonville
Care A Child Tutoring
Central Garden & Pet
Chick-Fil-A
Compton Gardens
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art
Diamond Comic Distributors
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Downtown Bentonville, Inc.
Galaxy Games
Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP)
John Brown University
Kumon Math and Reading Center
LeaderOne
Learning RX
Literacy Council of Benton County
Malco Theaters
Master Gardeners of Benton County
McDonald's
Museum of Native American History
National Novel Writing Month
Northwest Arkansas Area Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Northwest Arkansas Community College
Northwest Arkansas Conservatory of Classical Ballet
Northwest Arkansas Council
Northwest Arkansas Master Naturalists
Northwest Arkansas Naturals
Northwest Technical Institute
NWA Audubon Society
Ozark Philharmonic Youth Orchestra
Panera Bread
Paranormal Ozarks
Perot Museum of Science and Nature
Phat Tire
Project Play Every Day
Random House
Reef Ready
Rio Grande Games
Rogers Historical Museum
Rotary Club of Bentonville
ShurTech Brands
Steve Jackson Games
Student Library Advisory Board (SLAB at BHS)
Swasthan Seva Foundation
Teen Action & Support Center
The Make a Difference Youth Foundation
The Spice and Tea Exchange of Bentonville
Trike Theatre
University of Arkansas
Vintage Stock
Walmart Corporate Teams
Walmart Foundation
Walmart Volunteerism Always Pays
Yum Yo's Frozen Yogurt
Zaxby's

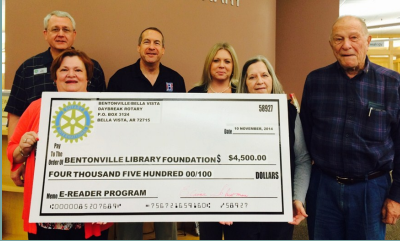
“ Thank you to all who contribute their time and resources to help make Bentonville a special place to visit, work and live! ”

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.



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.

Libraries Advance Research and Scholarship.

BPL Leadership and Professional Development

- 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.

Library Foundation Board

Kathryn Jones, President . Howard Kerr, Vice President . Shelley McMillon, Secretary / Treasurer
Pat Carroll . Rustin Chrisco . Daniel Cruz . Johnny Haney . Madeline Knight . Chip Stacy . Tammy Thurow
Ex Officio: Mayor Bob McCaslin . Hadi Dudley . Luci Henderson . Brenda Compton
Advisory: Mary Baggett . Ed Clifford . Galen Havner . Cindy Suter . Steve Trolinger

Friends of the Library

Brenda Compton, President . Jean Batta, Vice President . Luci Henderson, Treasurer . Emily Douglas,
Secretary | Bookstore Volunteers . Friends Membership . Ex Officio: Hadi Dudley

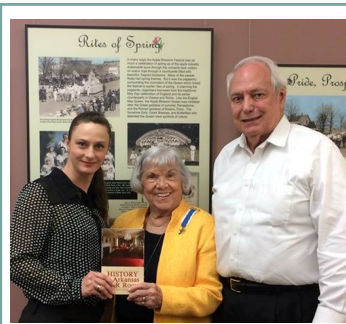
Supporting Our Library

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.

