



## Celebrating Literature

Vanessa, a 4th grader, visited with "artistrator" E.B. Lewis at BPL's Inaugural Youth Literature Festival. Lewis autographed *Tea Cakes for Tosh*, a picture book he illustrated.

## From the Library Director



- The year 2015 is in the record books for BPL’s **highest circulation**, totaling 651,289 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. **Digital downloads** totaled 114,966; this was a **48% increase** over 2014.
- BPL expanded tech access with new eLearning resources and growth of our **BPL Tech Card** program.
- Our Materials Recovery Program continues to promote the responsible return of library assets, recouping **\$29,040.41** in materials, fines and fees.
- The Library experienced increases in many categories of use over the prior year with a **26% growth in program attendance**. This increase is comprised of new programs, library outreach activities, passive programming and cross-departmental offerings for children, teens and adults.
- Public computer use at BPL is declining; this is a **national library trend** due the growing use of personal devices. BPL’s WiFi use and other digital services continue to increase.
- BPL established a solid **partnership** with the **Bentonville Parks and Recreation** Department to open a Mini-Branch Library at the new Community Center. BPL at the Community Center is where the ‘Epicenter of Fun’ meets Lifelong Learning!
- Bentonville’s Inaugural **Youth Literature Festival**, hosted by BPL in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department, was a lovely event that was well-received by our community.
- The Library **upgraded circulation technology** that was outdated and inefficient. New hardware and software programs were implemented through planned budget expenditures and phased projects.
- BPL partnered with Bentonville Film Festival to host **The Library Series** for BFF’s inaugural celebration of women and diversity in film.

## Bentonville Public Library Budget

### Library Expenditures

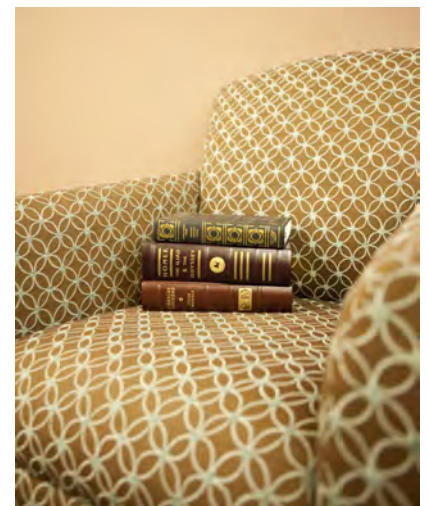
Personnel Salaries	\$662,821
Personnel Benefits	\$181,483
Library Materials & Digital Resources	\$252,491
General Operating & Maintenance	\$244,250
Capital Expenditures	\$ 91,499
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	\$1,432,543

### Library Revenue

Cost-Recovery Fees & Overdue Fines*	\$ 58,844
Grant Funds & Donations**	\$ 9,200
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	\$ 68,044

### Contributions

Materials	\$ 44,759
Monetary Donations**	\$ 64,021
Volunteerism	\$193,615
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	\$302,394



\*Revenue continues to increase due to BPL’s Materials Recovery Program; MRP recovery totals \$99,900+ (Jul 2012-Dec 2015).

\*\*Monetary contributions were made to partner 501c3 groups to support library collections, the Youth Lit Fest and the Summer Reading Club (includes foundation’s end-of-year appeal).



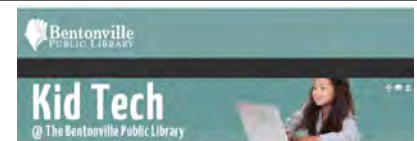
## BPL Statistics

<b>Circulation</b>	651,289
<b>Library Visits</b>	298,585
<b>Program Attendance</b>	49,509
<b>Staff Assistance</b>	43,738
<b>Computer Usage</b>	29,041
<b>Material Requests Filled</b>	22,431
<b>New Library Cards*</b>	13,824
<b>Outreach**</b>	7,815
<b>Library Tours**</b>	1,103
<b>Meeting Room Groups</b>	2,275
<b>Meeting Room Attendees</b>	18,681
<b>Collection Size</b>	131,070
<b>Collection Value</b>	\$2,859,012



## Technology Supports Learning

- Our innovative **BPL Tech Card** program expanded to 11 schools in the Bentonville Public School District, with more than 8,400 cards distributed to students.
- Nine new databases were added for younger audiences, history and science topics: Capstone **PebbleGo**, Rosen **PowerKnowledge** and **Core Concepts**, and Scholastic **FreedomFlix** and **TrueFlix**.
- **Flipster** is a product that provides access to popular magazine titles.
- A new **Kid Tech Portal** was launched at BPL providing direct links to library databases.
- Visit [www.bentonvillelibrary.org](http://www.bentonvillelibrary.org) to access BPL Downloadables, eLearning resources and the Student Portal.



### Donation Sponsors Tech Cards

Special thanks to the Ron McDevitt Agency, Farmers Insurance for sponsoring 2015-2016 Tech Cards with a gift of \$2,665 to the Bentonville Library Foundation.

BPL Tech Card program is in partnership with



\*New Library Cards include the BPL Tech Cards issued to 8,400 students

\*\*Library Tours and Outreach attendance included with Program Attendance

# Youth Literature Festival

## Bentonville's Inaugural Event

"When libraries, authors, illustrators and children connect, ... magic happens!" This lovely sentiment from Obert Skye was a reality on May 2nd in Bentonville.

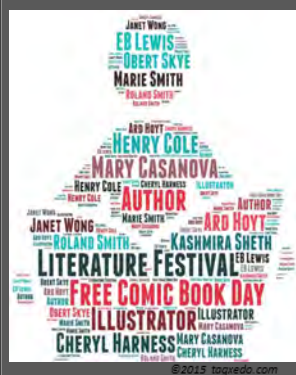
Bentonville's Inaugural Youth Literature Festival, hosted by BPL in partnership with the Bentonville Parks and Recreation Department, was attended by 1,250 participants.

Thirteen authors and illustrators of youth literature inspired attendees of all ages in a celebration of reading, writing and creativity.

The festival was considered an "official event" by Children's Book Week!



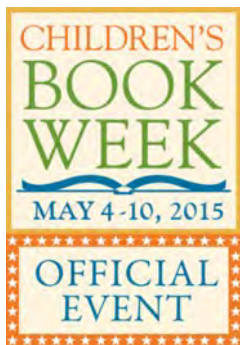
Author Mary Casanova is photographed with 6-year old BPL patron, Cailyn. Photo by Lindsay Falkenberg.



### Amazing Talent

These authors and illustrators are people who possess amazing talent, humility, thankful hearts and genuine interest in their readers.

[R: Front / L to R: Marie Smith, Kashmira Sheth, Mary Casanova and E.B. Lewis; Back / L to R: Obert Skye, Ard Hoyt, Roland Smith, Janet Wong and Henry Cole; Not pictured: Cheryl Harness]\*



### Special Thanks

In addition to our partnership between the Library and the Parks and Recreation Department, Bentonville's Youth Literature Festival was supported by grants, private donations, gifts, in-kind contributions and sponsorships. BPL is grateful to Bethany Culpepper, co-founder of the Bentonville Youth Literature Festival, for her hard work and passion.

### Bentonville Film Fest

Joining our city and community to welcome the inaugural Bentonville Film Fest (BFF), the Bentonville Public Library hosted "The Library Series." The series focused on educational panels and workshops that were free to attend.

- *Fly Low Jack and the Game* with Nora Brown and Mike Champlin
- *Seed & Spark: Crowdfunding Workshop* by Emily Best
- *Connecting the Dots* presented by Anna Martemucci
- *A Director's Process* with Catherine Hardwicke



\*Tina Hoisington, literacy teacher and 2015 festival volunteer, commented on the authors' and illustrators' "amazing talent." Photo by Bethany Culpepper.

## BPL at the Community Center

Bentonville Public Library partnered with the Bentonville Parks and Recreation Department to open a Mini-Branch Library at the new Bentonville Community Center.

BPL at the Community Center features an exterior book drop, internet computers, materials available to check out, browse-able magazine and newspaper collections and outreach library programming.

New self-service kiosks were introduced to the public with Parker and Rex at the Mini-Branch! New library materials stock the shelves in the two lounge areas. Bestsellers, large print, movies, plus health and fitness resources are available to check out by patrons of the Bentonville Library.

BPL's Mini-Branch has been well used by visitors to the Community Center! Patrons have checked out 4,246 library materials from the 1,965-item collection; this is equivalent to 216% collection use. The convenient exterior book drop is also popular with 6,998 books and audiovisuals collected (May – December 2015).



The project was primarily funded by the City of Bentonville, with donations and sponsorships to support magazine and book collections. Designated funds in the Library's operating budget will support the mini-branch in future fiscal years.

The Bentonville Community Center is located across town at 1101 SW Citizens Circle. Featuring a gymnasium, indoor track, exercise equipment, meeting rooms, outdoor spaces, competition pool and interactive leisure pool, the facility is 83,000 square feet with a price tag of \$16.5 Million. The library presence is included as a unique amenity. BPL appreciates David Wright and Lee Famer for their supportive partnership. Learn more about the Community Center at [www.playbentonville.com](http://www.playbentonville.com).



## New & Improved Technology

The library upgraded RFID (radio frequency identification) equipment that was more than eight years old to improve efficiency and enhance the customer experience.

Existing security gates were 'end-of-life' and no longer supported; the new gates are sleek and modern!

New self-service kiosks replaced outdated equipment. The main library introduced Arwen, Frodo and Gandalf to library patrons in August.

Staff workstations at the Check Out desk were also upgraded.

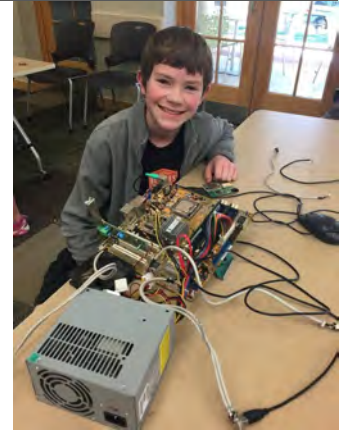


## Children's Services

- The Bogle Family Children's Library expanded its program offerings to include STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) activities.
- Read to Obi was added to BPL's Ruff Ruff Read therapy dog storytime schedule.



- Art, LEGO® and DUPLO® offerings are now included as passive programs that foster creativity and learning through hands-on activities.
- Attendance at children's programs increased 16% over 2014 attendance.
- Summer Reading Club participants logged 29,682 hours; readers were kids, teens and adults!



## Teen Zone

- Teen collection checkouts increased 110% over the prior year.
- Teen volunteerism totaled 4,650 hours of service to our library.
- Local author Karen Akins discussed her book, *LOOP*, with the Teen Book Club.
- BPL partnered with the Bentonville Police Department to offer Safe Driving Lessons for Teens.



## Adult Services



- Program attendance at adult offerings increased more than 100% over the prior year.
- BPL produced several tabletop gaming events, along with crafts for adults and other new offerings.



### The Library Team

Cross-departmental offerings included Youth Lit Fest, Free Comic Book Day, Summer Reading, the Tech Card campaign and other initiatives for all ages reaching more than 3,000 patrons.

## Program Volunteers

Karen Akins	Jenna Cook	Melanie Gartside	K.B. Kidder	Paula Ryburn
Katherine Auld	Mattie Couch	Diane Giannini	Susan Knapps	Ross Sanchez
Katrina Baker	Carol Cowell	Namrata Gopinath	Danielle Koerner	Matthew Sisson
Laura Brewer	Shruti Dere	Larry Gramling	Nick Lai	Sophie the Dog
Sarah Burks	Shevawn Dillingham	Amber Harris	Rick Marshall	Alan Thomason
Darby Bybee	Tim Ernst	Jonathan Holmes-Smith	Chas McCoy	Corrin Troutman
Melsine Carter	Leslie Evans	Kathleen Holmes-Smith	Obi the Dog	Mike Vass
Sandra Chandler	Ashley Feng	Houston Hughes	Margaret Ann Parenti	Ed Wheeler
Srikar Chikkala	Marissa Fennell	Tricia Jennings	Roman Rios	Charles Wright
Cody the Dog	Katie Fitch	Jesse the Dog	Teresa Robinson	Zaida the Dog

## 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.

Members: Aaron Jones, Judy DeGarmo, Elaine Kerr, Judy Marquess, Kimberly Seay; Chair: Hadi Dudley; Ex Officio: Octavio Sanchez, Brenda Compton and Michelle Vargas [R: Board & Mayor recognize David Wright & Lee Farmer]

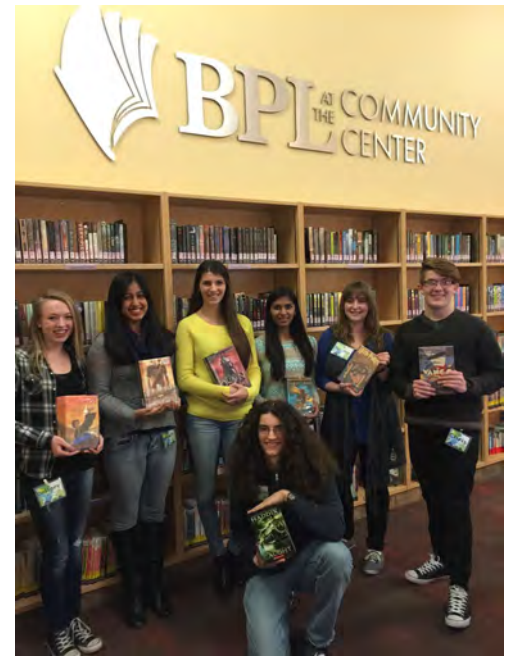


## Teen Advisory Board 2015-2016

Teens apply and are selected through a panel interview process. These young leaders advise on library services that support our community's teenagers. Teen Advisory Board members volunteer for special projects throughout the year including a "1,000 Books for 1,000 Readers" book drive, Summer Reading Club workshops and represent BPL at outreach programs in the community.

## Junior Partners

Gina Allen	Nick Mitchell	Ally Swindell	Lori Todd
Mackenzie Allen	Nadine Moustafa	Kevin Swindell	Raja Valli
Amy DeMania	James Orejuela	Amy Thomas	Daniel Vogel
Mackenzie DeMania	Kate Orejuela	Lilli Thomas	Susan Vogel
Michelle Garcia	Nicole Orejuela	Joan Timmerman	Angelica Yang
Norma Garcia	Laasya Ravipati	Megan Timmerman	Estrella Yang
Vinod Kanna	Sravya Ravipati	Bria Todd	Nhia Yang
Sandra Leal	Eric Rosales	Kinley Todd	Snow Yang
Daryn Mitchell	Amal Soliman		



L to R: Delaney Pollard, Shruti Dere, Sadie Pate, Nikhita Nakka, Autumn Roberts, Christofel Enslin; Front: Austin Kreulach

Not Pictured: Vakula Mallapally, Trevor Smith and Saranya Varanasi

## Adult Volunteers

Andrew Adams	Elizabeth Fuller	Sidharthan Madhavan	Sudha Shanmuganathan
Deepika Anantharaman	Taylor Genser	Mamie Matteri	Divya Sivasankaran
Dana Apple	Andrew G. George	Joshua Matthews	Sabrina Stephenson
Minu Babel	Melissa Halsema	Jeff Myers	Tiffany Stephenson
Narayanan Balagopalan	Rene Harper	Madhu Nagadjody	Nandini Tedla
Goriana Barquero	Nick Harvey	Zeena Nair	Ramya Thiagarajan
Kaitlyn Bewley	Lucas Hobson	Adela Nochebuena	Shervon Thomas
Morgan Brown	Archana Kalidindi	Dominique Nyce	Ramyasai Uppuluri
Amanda Bryson	Narmadha Karthick	Cathy Otto	Preeti Varshney
Sandy Buckley	Suguna Krishnamurthy	Rebekah Parsa	Vamshi Veggalam
Megan Byrnes	Narmada Krushna	Jordan Perry	Holly Wertens
Margaret Curry	Teresa Lamantia	David Plunk	Pamela Willis
Marbella De Salvador	Roni Lewis	Vinitha Ramakrishnan	Ulyana Zavadskaya
Petula DeSylva	Mark Lloyd	Diane Rennell	Amanda Zoellick
Kalpana Devarasetty	Monica Lopez-Gallo	Akshaya Samy	



# Teen Volunteers

Hashane Abey	Stephanie Galen	Mirdula Manivannan	Anna Robertson
Gabrielle Agcaoili	Aaliyah Garcia	Rithu Manoharan	Katelyn Robinson
Jessie Agcaoili	Matthew Gates	Ruth Martinez	Jason Rosete
Lily Agnacion	Aaron Gbedey	Cassie McCreary	Joshua Rugger
Jose Aguilar	Wesley Gernstetter	Cayla McGrail	Paula Ryburn
Benjamin Allen	Namrata Gopinath	Nathan McSpadden	Sri Sanjanaledalla
Isabella Anderson	Mackie Gregory	Omar Moustafa	Lydia Scallion
Max Arteaga	Zander Gregory	Abdussaboor Muhammad	Lauren Skinner
Khadeeja Asif	Alec Gudenau	Haadiya Muhammad	Alex Solis
Emily Badeen	Yashika Gupta	Kaitlin Murray	Estefano Soria
Maddy Baumhover	Courtney Gutche	Thomas Murray	Jacob Spinato-Taylor
Shiloh Beeler	Whitney Haak	Molly Myers	Kaelyn Stewart
Ethan Bennett	Alison Harp	Pooja Naik	Nithya Sundar
Lizzy Bermudez	Nicholas Herlevic	Nikhita Nakka	Tanvi Sunkireddy
Emma Berndt	Monica Hernandez	Pranav Natargjan	Robyn Surber
Madelyn Bertrand	Alyssa Hobbs	Meesha Naveen	Amirtha Sureshbabu
Nikita Britto	John Horton	Nickolas Newnham	Hayley Szymanzk
Nicholas Brophy	McKensie Hulsey	Christina Olson	Rachna Talluri
Laura Browning	Furqaan Indori	Stephanie Olson	Vanessa Tam
Sarah Burks	Sarah Jackson	Brenner Ordendorff	Abby Terlouw
Shyam Chandra	Julia Jeffrey	Marie Osmola	Drake Tittle
Matthew Chastain	Duke Jenkins	Kaylan Oxford	Samantha Trujillo
Meghana Chithirala	Beth Jennings	Rachna Panechuri	Cameron Turner
Chloe Christian	Haley Johnson	Alex Paprocki	Christian Turner
Mary Claire Clark	Madison Johnson	Sarah Paracha	Paige Van Oudheusden
Kayton Coffee	Lian Juan	Wesley Parker	Brittany Vandevort
Colin Conway	Radhik Kalaiselvan	Amrutha Parvathaneni	Saranya Varanasi
Jenna Cook	Nawal Kashif	Sadie Pate	Vini Vianna
Shelby Costley	Aroob Kasif	Reetik Patel	Sydney Vissar
Mattie Couch	Mandeep Kaur	Kailee Patterson	Ryan Wahl
Mackenzie DeMania	John Kent-Hicks	April Perrin	Gillian Wall
Shruti Dere	Savannah King	Jada Peten	Zhong Yu "Alice" Wang
Sophia DeToro	Madeline Knight	Delaney Pollard	Brandon Ward
Jessica Dias-Jayasinghe	Varsha Kolluru	Logan Pollard	Michel Waterhouse
Anna Disney	Austin Kreulach	Lydia Pope	Rebekah Weiberg
Saivipulteja Elagandhula	Arthi Krishna	Sarah Price	Abigal Wiatrek
Chris Enslin	Suquna Krishnamurthy	Caitlyn Purcell	Natalie Widdowson
Austin Estabrook	Apoorva Krowvidi	Jack Purcell	Kylie Wilkins
Jonathan Ewin	Sophia Lacy	John Robert Purvis	Brianna Willis
Alyssa Fakunle	Joana Lome	Kaitlyn Putnam	Timothy "Grant" Wilson
Rebecca Farfan	Carla Lutcher	Montserrat Rangel	Emily Wurzer
Jake Fennell	Natalie Macias	Seth Rippetoe	Samantha Yamane
Marissa Fennell	Aryan Maheshwari	Emilee Roark	Sterling Yang
Kaleigh Fischer	Shreya Majagi	Maeghan Roark	Elise Young
Sian Fox	Vakula Mallapally	Autumn Roberts	
Beth Francis			



# Volunteers in Action

At BPL, our volunteers are the greatest! From shelving to book repair to craft prep, many people give their time and talent! From service on boards to program expertise, we are grateful for everyone who serves.

In 2015, **331 volunteers** gave **8,392.48 hours**.\* This is **valued at \$193,614.50!**

\*Library volunteers only; Genealogy, Foundation and Friends volunteered thousands of hours to support BPL too.



# Genealogy Volunteers

Volunteers from the Northwest Arkansas Genealogical Society dedicated 1,732 hours assisting library patrons with family history research. 2015 Volunteers: Cary Anderson . Pat Artman . Robert Bowers . Jacque Carpino . Anita Frevert . Kurt Frevert . Wanda Haines . Karen Hotaling . June Melton . Chris Miller . Dorothy Miller . Jane Nanney . Cathy Otto . Kim Watson . Mary Wynne

# Community Partners & Corporate Sponsors

Alzheimer's Association, Arkansas Chapter  
American Legion  
American Library Association  
Ancestry Sleuths  
Anderson Merchandising  
Arkansas Arts Council  
Arkansas Department of Heritage  
Arkansas Geological Survey  
Arkansas Guardian literacy mentors  
Arkansas State Library  
Asian American Living  
Bee Well Yoga  
Benton County Master Gardeners  
Benton County Sheriff's Office  
Bentonville Film Festival  
Bentonville Garden Club  
Bentonville Library Foundation  
Bentonville Parks and Recreation Department  
Bentonville Police Department  
Bentonville Public Schools  
Calliope Games  
Central Garden & Pet  
Chick-Fil-A  
Children's Book Week  
City of Bentonville Community Center  
City of Bentonville Human Resources  
Compton Gardens  
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art  
Delta Cultural Center  
Diamond Comic Distributors, Inc.  
Downtown Bentonville, Inc.  
Dryden House Publishers  
Free Comic Book Day  
Friends of the Bentonville Library  
Game Exchange  
Gamer Utopia  
Gear Gaming Store  
Geek and Sundry  
Girl Scouts  
Illinois River Watershed Partnership  
Inferno Fitness and Mixed Martial Arts  
Kendrick Fincher Foundation  
LeaderOne Financial  
Legal Aid of Arkansas  
Literacy Council of Benton County  
Looney Labs  
Malco Theatres  
Marco's Pizza Bentonville  
McDonald's  
Museum of Native American History  
National Novel Writing Month  
Northwest Arkansas Naturals  
NWA Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
NWA Roleplaying Gamers  
Paranormal Ozarks Investigations  
Passport Game Studios  
The Peel Compton Foundation  
Pro Martial Arts  
Reef Ready  
The Roark Group  
Rogers Historical Museum  
Ron McDevitt Agency Farmers Insurance  
Rotary Club of Bentonville  
Sam's Club  
The Scott Family Amazeum  
Southern Girl Sweets  
Spice and Tea Exchange of Bentonville  
Steve Jackson Games  
Storybook Strings  
Swasthan Seva Foundation, Care-A-Child Tutoring  
Table Mesa  
Tea Rose Foundation of Northwest Arkansas  
Teen Action and Support Center  
Trike Theatre  
Walmart Foundation  
The Walmart Museum  
Walmart Volunteerism Always Pays  
University of Arkansas  
Vintage Stock  
Zaxby's

## Corporate Groups Volunteer at BPL

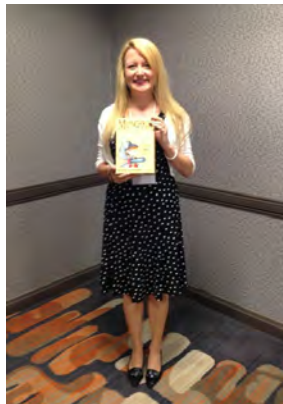
MaxAttention Team with Software Solution Company  
Walmart Global Back Office Solutions  
Walmart ISD Infra Ops Collaboration  
Walmart Health & Wellness Compliance Team



## Session Presenters at Library Conferences

Dudley with Fayetteville PL Executive Director, David Johnson [above].

Dudley with Fort Smith PL Director, Jennifer Goodson.



Heather Hays presented two sessions at the Association for Rural and Small Libraries conference; and one session at the Arkansas Library Association conference.

## BPL Leaders are ALL-In

Courtney Fitzgerald [left] and Sarah Gowdy [right] attended the Arkansas State Library's Arkansas Library Leadership Institute (ALL-In). They are photographed with the Arkansas State Librarian, Carolyn Ashcraft.

Fitzgerald also graduated from the Leadership Benton County program, representing the City of Bentonville.



## Special Presentations & Tributes



Ms. **Juanita Fryer**, longtime member of the **Bentonville Garden Club**, shared a portion of her flower frog collection at Bentonville Public Library inside the Coughlin Reading Hearth room.



In **Honor of Mary Baggett**, several new books on fitness for seniors were purchased by the Library Foundation for BPL at the Community Center to recognize her long-term service on the Bentonville City Council.



Members of the **Book Lovers Book Club** honored their friend **Joan Clifford** by sharing a special presentation with Ed Clifford. The club contributed memorial funds to the Bentonville Library Foundation to purchase books for BPL at the Community Center.



## Library Friends Support Reading

The **Friends of the Bentonville Library** sponsored the Summer Reading Club with a generous donation of \$6,000. The Library also received new picture book bins in the Children's Department.

2015 Friends Executive Committee

- Brenda Compton, President . Jean Batta, Vice President
- Luci Henderson, Treasurer . Dalene Schrier, Secretary
- Ex Officio: Hadi Dudley

# The Bentonville Library Foundation

## 2015 Board of Directors

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

## Give Today, Make a Difference Everyday!



The **Bentonville Library Foundation** spearheaded a successful end of year appeal to support Bentonville Public Library. Special thanks to Mike and Marianne Poore who served as campaign co-chairs!

## Library Loyalists, Honor Society & Youth Literature Festival

The Foundation's end of year appeal featured new societies and designations for donors. These giving opportunities honored library lovers and supported BPL services!



**The Mary Baggett  
Loyalist Society**



**The Culpepper Family  
Supports the Youth  
Literature Festival**



**The Douglas Honor  
Society**

**Supporting our library, enlightening our community**—more information available at [bentonvillelibraryfoundation.org](http://bentonvillelibraryfoundation.org).



### Our Mission

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