



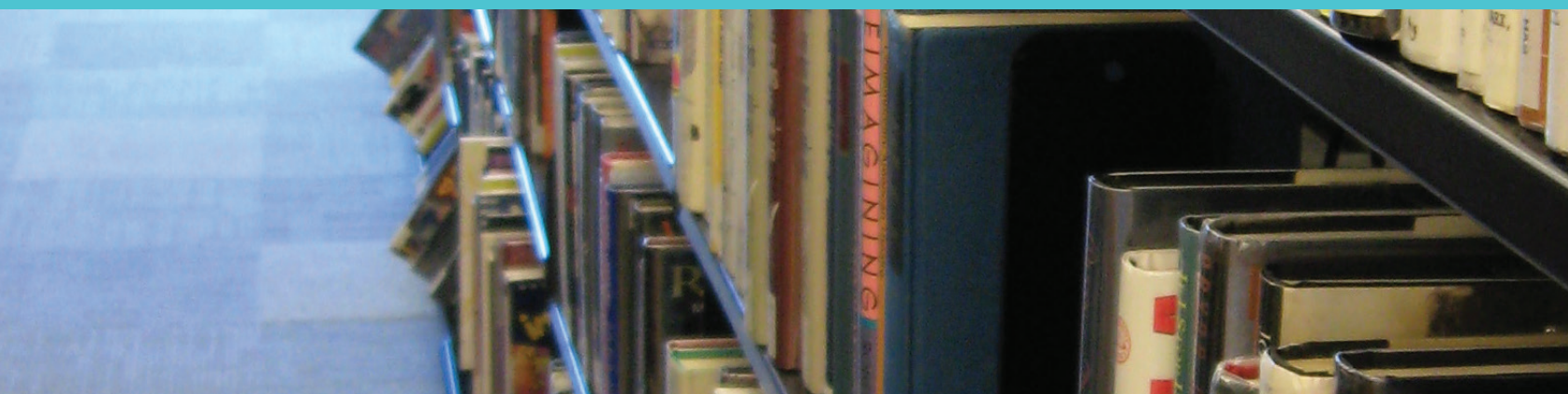
MOUNT PROSPECT
PUBLIC LIBRARY



ANNUAL REPORT

| 2019

10 S. Emerson Street
Mount Prospect, IL 60056
www.mppl.org



THANK YOU

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AND BOARD PRESIDENT



It is our pleasure to share with you the 2019 Annual Report from the Mount Prospect Public Library. This report highlights our key statistics and achievements that support our mission of building community and connecting people to information, resources, and opportunities.

Su joined as the new Executive Director on July 1 following the retirement of Marilyn Genter. We consider the Library to be the heart of the community, where all are welcome, and all have access to information, education, and recreation. It's a pleasure and a privilege to provide Library services to the Mount Prospect community.

We hope you enjoy this peek into the work of our dedicated and welcoming Library staff, and the many services, resources, and events that we provided during the past year.

We invite everyone to engage with the Library. Visit us on Instagram or Facebook, check out the online resources on our website, or stop in to explore the possibilities.

Su Reynders

Sylvia Haas

Board of Trustees

SYLVIA
HAAS



PRESIDENT

2008-
present

MICHAEL
DUEBNER



VICE
PRESIDENT

2015-
present

BRIAN
GILLIGAN



SECRETARY
TREASURER

2011-
present

TERRI
GENS



ASSISTANT
TREASURER

2017-
present

MARIE
BASS



TRUSTEE

2019-
present

SYLVIA
FULK



TRUSTEE

2014-
present

JACKIE
HINABAR



TRUSTEE

1987-2011
2019

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A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY:
In June, we celebrated the work and retirement of longtime Executive Director Marilyn Genter. She passed the torch to Executive Director Su Reynders in July, who was warmly greeted by staff and the community.

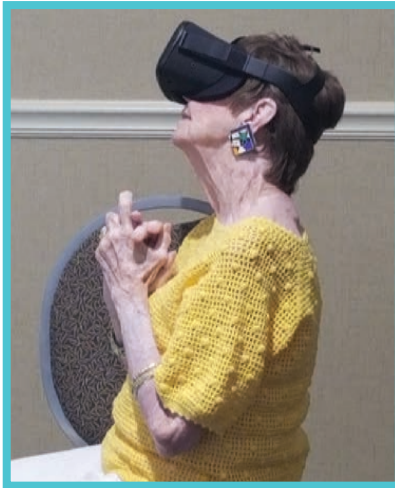
**SU REYNDERS AND MARILYN GENTER
CELEBRATE THE SOUTH BRANCH 10TH ANNIVERSARY**



NEW SERVICES

AT YOUR SERVICE

- The Library added **Kanopy** streaming video service, which allows patrons to stream award-winning movies, foreign films, and documentaries via a mobile device or computer.
- Not just classes anymore, we added **pop-up virtual reality** programs this year using the Oculus Rift sponsored by the Friends of the Library.



- Mount Prospect Public Library's online platform has unique features that it opens to patrons so they can create searches using metadata. Called **authority records**, these additional sources of data describe and give information about authors, content creators, works, and subjects. The cataloging librarians at MPPL have been trained by the Library of Congress to create these records and are on-hand to help patrons use this feature.

- Hands-on technology continues to be popular in Youth Services. This year, we added the Harry Potter Invisibility Cloak and the Makeblock mBot Robot. We offered kids new drop-in technology programs like **Tech Playground** and **Coding Club**.

- We increased public **WiFi** bandwidth and **e-printing** capabilities.
- Bike locks** became available for checkout as of June 1. Patron response has been overwhelmingly grateful and positive.

BY REQUEST

- The Library received many positive responses on October 1 when we launched **automatic renewals**. If an item is eligible for renewal, patrons receive an email notification shortly after midnight to reflect a new due date.
- For arts and crafts enthusiasts, we added **Creativebug**, an eLearning resource with more than 1,000 video classes taught by recognized design experts and artists. Video topics include sewing, quilting, knitting, paper crafts, food, jewelry, and holiday crafts.



- Patrons continue to love **magazines** on eMedia. We added many new offerings on RBdigital, including "Apple Magazine," "Clean Eating," "Cook's Country," "Rolling Stone," and "Condé Nast Traveler."

- The Library introduced a **mobile hotspot** program during the summer, available for checkout for two weeks. Each kit includes a mobile hotspot, a micro-USB charger, and instructions.

- This year we increased the number of audiovisual checkout limits, plus increased the fine threshold to \$10.



●Patrons now have the option to store and view their **checkout history** using their Library account or MPPL app. By default, the Library does not save checkout history, but users may now choose to opt-in and enable this service. Once enabled, all future checkouts for physical materials are shown for up to five years.

●The Patron Services Desk will now accept **credit card payments** for program fees, meeting room rentals, or fines.

NEW CONNECTIONS

●We reimagined Teen Advisory Board into two new programs this year. **Teen Speed Volunteering** brings together helping the community and offers teens service hour opportunities. **Teen Think Tank** meets monthly to focus on advocacy, engagement, and patron leadership.

●It started with a response to community feedback – help our neighbors feel connected – and it grew into the Library hosting **Meet Your Mount Prospect Neighbors**. In August, dozens of residents played bunco while sharing pizza, craft soda, and camaraderie. In November, the Islamic Society of Midwest visited for an afternoon with patrons enjoying traditional Turkish food and music along with a presentation on the basic tenets of the Muslim faith.

●Enjoying coffee refreshments and ice cream with new books became such a hit that we made **Teen Book Café** a monthly program.

●We launched a **bilingual, inclusive playgroup**. Everybody Plays is a result of a new partnership with a Polish-speaking occupational therapist. The program for ages birth-3 includes stories and songs in English and Polish, and provides an environment where children of all abilities can play together and parents can meet and find support.

●Youth and Teen Services teamed up to bring students in grades 4-6 the **90-Second Newbery** film experience. During the camp, students wrote a script, told a story, and learned the basics of **live-action and stop-motion filmmaking**.

●South Branch added **pop-up storytimes**, health programs, **one-on-one computer services**, and Friday Family Movie Nights.

●For homeschooling families, we held **Just Add Art** in the spring for students of all ages to explore their artistic side.



READING PROGRAMS



SUMMER & WINTER READING

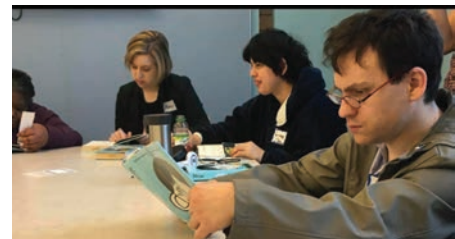
More than **4,300** patrons participated in the Summer & Winter Reading Programs.

Youth Librarian Becca dances with a T-Rex in the 2019 Summer Reading Program video. The fun-filled video played during school visits as well as on social media.



NEXT CHAPTER BOOK CLUB

In the fall, we launched the bimonthly Next Chapter Book Club in collaboration with Search, Inc., a Chicago area nonprofit serving people with disabilities. Search, Inc. empowers people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to achieve their full potential.



Staff and volunteers brought their community spirit while sporting "It's Showtime" Summer Reading Program T-shirts in Mount Prospect's Fourth of July parade.

FANFEST



IN 2019, MPPL INTRODUCED FANFEST

Stormtroopers, superheroes, and wizards arrived in full costume for the Library's first FanFest, a Comic-Con style celebration of pop culture. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, more than 500 participants enjoyed a full day of festivities, including virtual reality, crafts, games, and cosplay.

FANFEST FEEDBACK

“ I loved it so much! There were so many fun things for everyone!
What an awesome experience! I liked the scavenger hunt.
Loved the costumes! Amazing swag. Thanks!
Not too crowded...great crafts with space to do them. ”





YOUTH SERVICES 2019



Every day is an adventure for babies, preschoolers, and elementary school students! We love welcoming your children to storytimes, Super Saturdays, interactive author visits, free play, introductions to music and dance, and special exhibits. Come again!



For 20 years, the Library has participated in the Boxwood Bash, providing free books in Spanish and English.



The Library was abuzz with activity in April when more than 1,700 patrons stopped by to see the Northern Illinois LEGO® Train Club exhibit.



Read With a Principal welcomed 10 principals and assistant principals reading aloud their favorite picture books to families.

OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

COLLABORATIONS

The Library builds community by collaborating with our neighbors and area partners in many ways beyond our buildings. Each year we endeavor to reach new audiences and community partners while continuing to strengthen existing relationships. Our work is the result of the Library's active networking and role as a trusted resource in the community.

Breakfast With Baby St. Paul Lutheran Church

Youth Services staff interact with families experiencing financial hardship through play and music. This collaboration affords the opportunity to reach families who might not be familiar with the Library and to model behaviors that foster early literacy.

Strong Families Program YWCA

The YWCA held its monthly summer playgroups at the Library and joined our storytimes. Youth Services highlighted programs and services to parents and their young children, including the Summer Reading Program.

League of Women Voters

We collaborated with the local, nonpartisan League of Women Voters to recognize National Disability Voter Registration Week in July. During the week, League members offered voter registration. A representative from the Cook County Clerk's office provided detailed information about the different ways to vote in Illinois, and what accommodations are available to anyone with a disability.

Local Elected Officials

A number of local elected officials expanded office hours at the Library this year. Residents who wish to speak with the offices of State Sen. Ann Gillespie, State Rep. Mark Walker, State Sen. Laura Murphy, and U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky are able to during their scheduled times in the Lobby conference room.



Local Veterans

We worked to establish a more formal partnership with local veterans. Librarians met with key members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1337 and the American Legion Post 525 to discuss current and future programming.

CONVERSATIONS

Conversations with the community foster meaningful connections and add valuable insights that help us to develop strategies, plans, and programs. A participant's aspirations and concerns become our point of reference.

We spoke with professionals who work in the area of mental health. Community partners from local agencies talked about the challenges they face as service providers, as well as ways to remove barriers for their clients.

We also engaged with parents of children with special needs in Mount Prospect School District 57. Parents generously shared their hopes for their children and provided practical suggestions for the Library. We are working to add weighted blankets, noise-canceling headphones, and communication software to the collection.

10 YEARS @ SOUTH BRANCH



On August 17, approximately 500 residents and invited guests celebrated the 10th anniversary of the South Branch and Community Connections Center. Visitors enjoyed music and dancing presented by Diwali dancers and a Mariachi group, food, as well as temporary tattoos and crafts.

South Branch Manager Maria Garstecki displays the 10-year proclamation from the Board of Trustees.

Overheard at the event: "I love South Branch," "This is one of the first places we discovered when we moved here," and "This is amazing, I'm coming back."



- South Branch organized its first small library called "Take and Read!" at a local laundromat, consisting of children's and adult books mostly in Spanish to read at home.
- South Branch added programs about health this year, such as yoga, Zumba, and the Mind and Body Connection series.
- South Branch staff engaged more than 2,500 Mount Prospect and area residents during outreach events.
- Approximately 800 patrons participated in Winter and Summer Reading Programs specifically at the South Branch location, reading books and earning prizes.

OUR COLLECTION

960,140
ITEMS CHECKED OUT

73,645 ITEMS DOWNLOADED

23,297 BOOKS ADDED
TO THE COLLECTION

POPULAR eMedia

Overdrive checkouts = 51,132
Hoopla Digital Media checkouts = 14,621
RBDigital checkouts = 5,730
Kanopy streams = 733



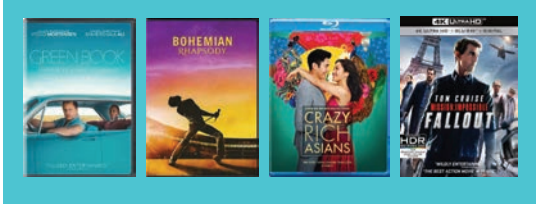
TOP CIRCULATING NON FICTION TITLES



TOP CIRCULATING FICTION TITLES



TOP CIRCULATING DVDS



TOP MAGAZINES

US WEEKLY ↔ NEWSWEEK ↔ OK! MAGAZINE ↔ KIPLINGER'S PERSONAL FINANCE ↔
CHICAGO MAGAZINE ↔ FOOD NETWORK MAGAZINE ↔ PC MAGAZINE ↔
THE NEW YORKER ↔ GOOD HOUSEKEEPING ↔ CAR AND DRIVER

TOP WEB RESOURCES

GALE COURSES

Patrons participated in 80 courses for 1,078 hours of class time.

The most popular courses were:

- Genealogy Basics
- Introduction to Microsoft Excel
- Speed Spanish

LYNDA.COM VIDEO TUTORIALS

Patrons viewed 13,773 videos for 881 hours of viewing time.

The most popular videos were:

- JavaScript Essential Training
- Online Marketing Foundations
- Audio Recording Techniques

MANGO LANGUAGES

Patrons participated in 221 hours of class time.

The most popular courses were:

- Spanish, Latin American
- French
- Italian

CONSUMER REPORTS

Patrons viewed 17,177 articles.

PRESS READER

Patrons viewed 15,072 articles.

NEW YORK TIMES

Patrons viewed 13,407 articles.

BY THE NUMBERS



BUILDING SERVICES

Bollards installed

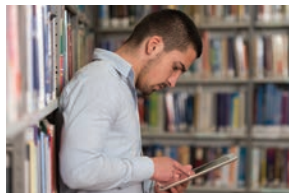


In a safety evaluation of the Library, one recommendation was to install protective bollards at the front entrance of the Main Library. The Friends of the Library sponsored three lighted bollards, which were installed in April.



LEARNING

One-on-one assistance



We provided nearly 1,000 patrons with one-on-one technology assistance this year. They worked together with librarians and technology instructors during open tech labs, technology programs, and at public service desks.



RESEARCH

What do people ask at the Research Desk?

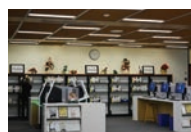
Every day we help people navigate all sorts of situations and queries. Here's a sampling of the **41,697** questions we received in 2019 at the Research Desk:

- Where can I get this map laminated?
- What tools can I use to market my business online for free?
- I need help filling out legal immigration papers.
- How do I grow chicken scratch greens?
- I need articles about unconscious bias for a discussion group I'm leading.
- Can you provide a list of area electricians? Are there ratings available for electricians?
- How does one add three people's names to a property deed in Cook County.
- I need help with green card renewal.
- I need help with renewal of FOID card.
- I need help setting up a Fitbit.
- I need help e-filing Cook county court documents.



CIRCULATION

MPPL APP



Out and about and want to place a hold? Over 20% of holds were placed through the MPPL app.

Our patrons happily put their library cards on their phones using the app as well as adding family members, checking out books, and reviewing their checkout history.



VISITORS **395,248** MAIN SOUTH
38,889



WONDERFUL STAFF WORKING AS A TEAM **160** MAIN SOUTH
6



ACTIVE LIBRARY CARDS **24,845** CARDS

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

We celebrated National Library Week in April. **865 patrons** stopped in the Lobby to spin our prize wheel, **390 items** of food were donated in place of fines, and **24 contestants** participated in our trivia contest.

CULTURAL MONTH

A Ticket to Ride: Exploring England and Wales consisted of 9 adult programs and 3 youth programs. The series drew **811 patrons**.

BANNED BOOKS WEEK

During Banned Books Week in September, we celebrated an individual's constitutional right to choose what they read. One highlight was a well-attended performance by City Lit Theater Company presenting "Books on the Chopping Block," with dramatic readings of the top **11 books** challenged or banned in the United States in the past year.

HOMEBOUND

Volunteers delivered **788 items** to homebound patrons.



TRIVIA



FOOD FOR FINES



PRIZE WHEEL

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

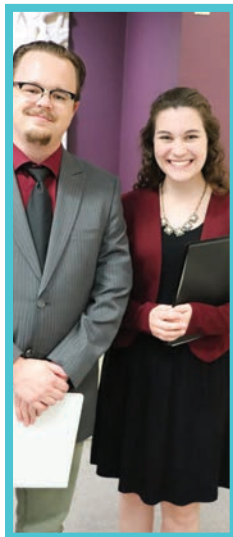
Our three main book discussion groups – Coffee, Books & More, Food for Thought, and Book Chat – covered **35 books** with **643 attendees**.

STUDY ROOMS

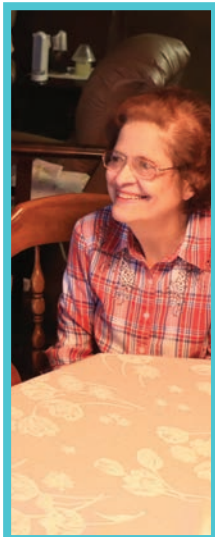
Study rooms were used **11,936 times** this year.



CULTURAL MONTH



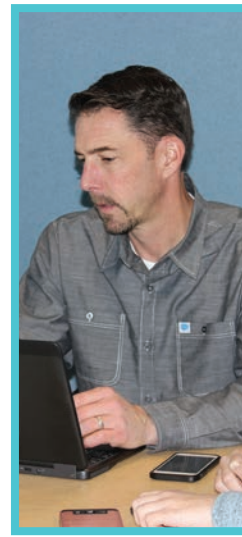
BANNED BOOKS WEEK



HOMEBOUND



BOOK DISCUSSIONS



STUDY ROOMS



FRIENDS

The Friends of the Library financially supports Library initiatives and programs. Promoting literacy and community spirit drives the Friends' goals every year. By way of continuous community donations, hundreds of books were given to the Library for use in programming and added to the collection for patron checkout. The Friends held five used book sales in 2019 and generated more than \$52,000 in revenue to support the Library.

FUNDING



The mission of the Foundation is to inspire growth and learning through culture and education. Its signature series of theatrical readings performed by **The Shakespeare Project of Chicago** delivers the works of Shakespeare in a way that is understandable and impactful for all audiences.

FUNDRAISING



Throughout the year, the Foundation plans and executes many interactive and creative events. The fifth annual **Library Mini Golf** fundraiser welcomed more than 400 players of all ages, bringing them through the Library on a unique adventure showcasing different areas.

FUTURE



Created more than 20 years ago, the endowment fund continues to ensure the future success of the Library. The Foundation's commitment to lifelong learning is also demonstrated by its support of the **1,000 Books Before Kindergarten** early reading initiative. In 2019, the program succeeded in surpassing 100,000 books read by young participants.

FOUNDATION

THANK YOU —



Every day we provide access to books, programs, information, services, and technology to the Mount Prospect community. You can also use the Library without coming in. We are proud to serve our neighbors, where there is a community feel and a connection to people that is hard to find anywhere else.

Has it been a while since you have visited the Library? Has your library card expired? Maybe you never signed up for a library card. We are here to welcome you. Give us a call, check online, or stop in, and we will help you. We offer top-notch, personalized service year-round, including a professional staff, weekday hours until 10 p.m., and South Branch location.

On behalf of the Library Board of Trustees, administration, and staff, we thank you for your support of the Mount Prospect Public Library. Please continue to learn, enjoy, and explore what the Library has to offer for years to come. We are here for you!

OUR VALUES

Accessible:
free, equal, open

Welcoming:
helpful, friendly, inviting, approachable

Professional:
knowledgeable, trustworthy

Personal:
individualized service, collaborative





MOUNT PROSPECT PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAIN LIBRARY HOURS:

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9 A.M. - 10 P.M.

SATURDAY 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

SUNDAY 12 - 5 P.M.

SOUTH BRANCH HOURS:

MONDAY - FRIDAY

11 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.

FRIDAY BEFORE THE 2ND SATURDAY

11 A.M. - 3 P.M.

2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

11 A.M. - 3 P.M.



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