Our Mission
The Cranston Public Library brings people, information and ideas together to enrich lives and strengthen the community.

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CPL By the Numbers*

LIBRARY CARD HOLDERS ........................................... 37,463
LIBRARY VISITS .................................................... 615,803
SIZE OF COLLECTION ........................................... 308,940
TOTAL CIRCULATION ............................................ 777,876
REFERENCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED ................... 93,452
NUMBER OF PROGRAMS ........................................ 953
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE ........................................ 30,696
NUMBER OF PUBLIC COMPUTERS ......................... 109
PUBLIC USE OF LIBRARY COMPUTERS .................... 94,432
HOURS OPEN ......................................................... 10,552

*These statistics reflect July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013
Letter From the Chair

It has been my pleasure to serve as Chair of the Cranston Public Library Board of Trustees over this past year. I would like to take a moment to thank the Board Members and our new Library Director, Ed Garcia, for their dedication to the library and our community. Together, we worked diligently to oversee the financial and organizational needs of the library.

There have been many positive changes that have taken place over the past year which will impact the Cranston Public Library for many years to come. The renovation and extended hours of the new Arlington Branch have been a huge success with our senior community. Also, the new circulation desk at the Central location has been well received by our dedicated staff and patrons.

As we know, the demands of the library will continue to change as we move forward in the 21st century. I am confident that our new strategic plan will help to ensure that we keep up with these evolving demands.

I look forward to another successful year in 2014.

Sincerely,
Julie Colangelo
CHAIR, CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Letter From the Director

The theme of 2013 was re-imagining the Cranston Public Library. In my second year as the Director, we took major strides in evolving and re-imagining library services for the residents of Cranston in a changing economic, cultural and technological environment.

In 2013, the Arlington Reading Room underwent a six month renovation and was transformed into the Arlington Branch Library at the Cranston Senior Center. The project, which was funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that was secured by Senator Jack Reed and the RI congressional delegation, was the culmination of over a decade of work to improve library services in the Arlington neighborhood. The new library can serve as a model for how public libraries and senior services can collaborate. With funding from the Champlin Foundations and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Central Library received a $100,000 renovation to the Circulation Department. The project included a new expanded circulation desk with increased space for staff and materials. The staff work area was re-designed to include more work space and work surfaces for staff. The new space has increased productivity and allowed library staff to put materials into the hands of the public faster than ever. While other libraries have moved towards automation, the Cranston Public Library believes that library staff provide a valuable interaction with the public and this renovation helps us to continue to improve the user experience.

The library has continued our goal of becoming a center for digital learning. We expanded our digital literacy programs, helping our users gain the skills they need to compete in an evolving jobs market and to access health and financial information online as the role of e-government continues to grow. We increased our programs to help the public learn how to use eReaders, tablets, and access digital content. We were able to improve network infrastructure in four of our six locations, providing increased broadband and wireless Internet access. The library also continued our goal of offering access to emerging technologies as we were the first public library in Rhode Island to offer access to 3D printing technology with classes offered in partnership with the Providence makerspace AS220Labs.

The re-imagining of CPL was not limited to building renovations or technology. We hired a new Coordinator of Youth Services to begin a renewed emphasis on providing library services to the children and teens of Cranston with a focus on improved early literacy initiatives.

Finally, we wanted to hear from the public, our users, on what they think the library should be providing the community. For the first time in seven years we conducted a community assessment. We reached out to community stakeholder groups and surveyed the public to help plan for the future. That effort resulted in the new Cranston Public Library strategic plan 2014-2019. You can read the plan here: CRANSTONLIBRARY.ORG/STRATEGICPLAN

I want to thank everyone who used one of our libraries this past year - the staff of the Cranston Public Library will continue to serve your needs. We are looking forward to a great 2014!

Edward Garcia
DIRECTOR, CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
How Much Do People Use The Library?

Cranston Public Library is among the top five public libraries in the state of Rhode Island by any measure of usage.

Library Jargon Alert
Circulation is the process of checking out library materials. In this case, circulation means the number of library materials that were checked out in 2013.

Visits: Top RI Public Libraries

Reference Questions: Top RI Public Libraries
E-Zone

The E-Zone is the Ocean State Libraries statewide cooperative eBook and digital media lending service. All public libraries in Rhode Island support this service through cooperative purchasing of materials.

The circulation of eBooks and digital audio books among Cranston patrons increased by 32% from 2012 to 2013. Cranston now has the second highest E-Zone circulation in the state.

Library Visits

While more patrons accessed library resources through mobile devices in 2013, this did not lead to a decrease in visits to the physical library. In fact, library visits increased by 32%.

Did you know that CPL has 12 eReaders available to the public? They can be checked out at the Central Library.
WARD 1
5,091 CARD HOLDERS
37.8% OF WARD POPULATION

WARD 2
5,566 CARD HOLDERS
42% OF WARD POPULATION

WARD 3
3,796 CARD HOLDERS
28.8% OF WARD POPULATION

WARD 4
4,388 CARD HOLDERS
33.7% OF WARD POPULATION

WARD 5
4,342 CARD HOLDERS
31.4% OF WARD POPULATION

WARD 6
4,023 CARD HOLDERS
29.5% OF WARD POPULATION

MAPPING LIBRARY USERS

IN 2013, THE ARLINGTON BRANCH UNDERWENT A COMPLETE RENOVATION WITH INCREASED HOURS AS PART OF OUR COMMITMENT TO INCREASING LIBRARY AWARENESS AND USAGE IN THAT AREA OF THE CITY.
Who Uses the Library?

Library Cardholders By Age Group

People of all ages use the library, but the largest group of users is between 16 and 35.

In 2013, CPL supplied 4800 items to over 35 homebound users across the city.

fast fact

In 2013, CPL supplied 4800 items to over 35 homebound users across the city.
Program Attendance: Top RI Public Libraries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PCL</td>
<td>57,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRANSTON</td>
<td>30,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESTERLY</td>
<td>28,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUMBERLAND</td>
<td>13,402</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. KINGSTOWN</td>
<td>12,416</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Rhode Island Family Literacy Initiative

As a member of the Rhode Island Family Literacy Initiative (RIFLI), Cranston Public Library offers English as a Second Language and citizenship classes. In 2013 we served 75 students, 57% of whom advanced two or more reading levels. Forty-three of the students also became citizens.

fast fact

Cranston Public Library ranks #13 in circulating materials among all public libraries in New England.

Early Literacy

Early literacy programs like preschool storytime are fun bonding opportunities for caregivers and children. They also help children recognize letters and build their vocabularies, which are critical first steps in learning to read.

In 2013, the Cranston Public Library offered 259 early literacy programs, which is one for every week day that the library is open! The total attendance for these programs was 5,295 people.

Camp XL

In summer 2013, the library supported Camp XL, a summer learning program for Bain Middle School, where 75% of students are on free or reduced lunch.

This grant-funded collaboration between the YMCA, the Bain +2 Afterschool program, the Cranston Public Library, and the Cranston Area Career and Technical Center gave these middle school students the chance to develop healthy living and career skills.
Financial Information

The Cranston Public Library operating budget for fiscal year 2013 was $2,890,199. In fiscal year 2013 the library received a 1.9% budget increase from the City of Cranston with an appropriation of $2,334,538. The library also received $524,404 in state grant-in-aid. The remainder of our operating budget came from fines and fees.

Budget Snapshot: Book Budget Trends

Although library use has only increased, the budget for books at Cranston Public Library is much lower now than it was five years ago.

fast fact

Cranston spends $33.66 per capita on library services.

Book Budgets: RI Public Libraries

Among RI Public Libraries, Cranston Public Library has the highest circulation in the state, but ranks 10th in book spending.

Cranston Public Library Association

The Cranston Public Library Association (CPLA) is a non-profit association that will assist the library in providing programs and services by soliciting, receiving and holding funds from individuals, businesses and organizations. Funds will be made available to the library for the support of programs for children, teens and adults, for the purchase of books and media and for capital renovation and expansion.

CPLA is recognized by the IRS as a 501C3, making all contributions fully tax deductible.

To make a donation to the CPLA, please call 401-943-9680 ext. 100.
Library Supporters

The Cranston Public Library and Cranston Public Library Association seek donations and grants throughout the year to fund additional programs and improvements to the library. This is a list of selected organizational supporters (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013).

$250,000+
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (FOR RENOVATIONS AT THE ARLINGTON BRANCH AND CENTRAL LIBRARY)

$100,000+
CHAMPLIN FOUNDATIONS (FOR RENOVATIONS TO THE CENTRAL LIBRARY AND WILLIAM HALL LIBRARY)

$2,000+
CRANSTON MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

$2,000+
FRIENDS OF THE CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

$2,000+
SENATOR JOSH MILLER LEGISLATIVE GRANT

$2,000+
WASHINGTON TRUST CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

$2,000+
WILLIAM HALL LIBRARY TRUSTEES

$1,000+
AUBURN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

$1,000+
RANDOLPH SAVINGS BANK PETER PASTORE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

$1,000+
WALMART FOUNDATION

$500+
ALEX AND ANI, CHARITY BY DESIGN

$500+
CITIZENS BANK FOUNDATION

$500+
CRANSTON PERMANENT FIREFIGHTERS RELIEF ASSOCIATION

$500+
SENATOR HANNA GALLO LEGISLATIVE GRANT

$500+
TACO/WHITE FAMILY FOUNDATION

$500+
TALK STORY: SHARING STORIES, SHARING CULTURE

$500+
WHOLE FOODS MARKET, CRANSTON

Library Administration

ED GARCIA  LIBRARY DIRECTOR
ANN OSBON  ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
BARBARA HAYDEN  OFFICE MANAGER

EMILY BROWN  COORDINATOR OF YOUTH SERVICES
BETH JOHNSON  COORDINATOR OF ADULT & INFORMATION SERVICES
CORRIE MACDONALD  COORDINATOR OF TECHNOLOGY
STEFANIE BLANKENSHIP  OAK LAWN BRANCH LIBRARIAN
ADRIENNE GALLO  WILLIAM HALL LIBRARY BRANCH LIBRARIAN
KAREN MCGRATH  AUBURN BRANCH LIBRARIAN
NANCY GIANLORENZO  KNIGHTSVILLE BRANCH LIBRARIAN
BARBARA ANGELONE  HEAD OF CIRCULATION
LINDA ARCHETTO  HEAD OF TEEN SERVICES

Library Branch Locations

CENTRAL LIBRARY
140 SOCKANOSSET CROSS ROAD
CRANSTON, RI 02920
401.943.9090

ARLINGTON BRANCH
AT THE CRANSTON SENIOR CENTER
1864 CRANSTON STREET
CRANSTON, RI 02920
401.944.1662

AUBURN BRANCH
396 PONTIAC AVENUE
CRANSTON, RI 02910
401.781.6116

KNIGHTSVILLE BRANCH
1847 CRANSTON STREET
CRANSTON, RI 02920
401.942.2504

OAK LAWN BRANCH
230 WILBUR AVENUE
CRANSTON, RI 02921
401.942.1787

WILLIAM HALL LIBRARY
1825 BROAD STREET
CRANSTON, RI 02905
401.781.2450

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTORS
LIFESPAN AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR FOR CENTRAL LIBRARY
MOBILE BEACON SECURITY CAMERAS FOR CENTRAL LIBRARY
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE HUMANITIES BRIDGING CULTURES BOOKSHELF: MUSLIM JOURNEYS PROGRAM