

NOTICE OF MEETING
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, 5:30 P.M.**
- 2. AGENDA APPROVAL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA** *(Three Minute Time Limit)*
- 4. RECONSIDERATION**
- 5. VISITORS**
- 6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A. May 1, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes Page 3

7. REPORTS

A. Library Director Report – May, June, & July Page 11

1. Statistics for 2017 Page 19

2. Statistics for 2018 (laydown)

B. Friends of the Library

1. August 2018 Newsletter Page 21

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. PENDING BUSINESS

A. Library Policies: Discussion & Approval Page 25

1. Updated Circulation Policy Page 27

2. Updated Displays-Exhibits Policy Page 33

3. Draft of Library User Conduct Page 39

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Rescheduling of October Meeting for Library Advisory Board Page 41

B. Preliminary Library Budget Review Page 43

C. FIMLS Future Funding Support Page 45

D. Findings From Published Library Studies/Reports Page 47

1. “From Awareness to Funding” – Voter Perceptions & Support
of Public Libraries in 2018 Page 49

2. American Libraries – The State of America’s Libraries 2018 Page 83

E. Board Member Absences Page 109

F. Museum & Library Services Act of 2017 Page 111

11. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

A. Announced 2018 CLIA Winners Page 119

12. COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

13. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

14. ADJOURNMENT

Next regular meeting is **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.** in the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at City Hall, 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska

Session 18-04, a Regular Meeting of the Library Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Peterson at 5:30 p.m. on May 1, 2018 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBER FINN, MASSION, PETERSON, KUSZMAUL, FAIR

ABSENT: SANSOM

STAFF: LIBRARY DIRECTOR DIXON
CITY CLERK JACOBSEN

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MASSION MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF MAY 1ST

There was no discussion

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

RECONSIDERATION

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 3, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Board members and Library Director Dixon noted minor typographical corrections.

KUSZMAUL/MASSION MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/ BOROUGH REPORTS

A. Library Director Report

Library Director Dixon reported that circulation and attendance numbers are down a little bit from the previous year. She isn't concerned about it because there are still of people coming in and circulation is good.

Library Director Dixon addressed the reciprocal borrowing program where people who have cards from other Alaska libraries can come in and borrow books from the Homer Library. This is the first time Homer will be participating in the program, and after a year staff will consider whether to continue and establish policies for the program. She provided a brief overview of how the program works.

She reported that the Friends are working on Book Mobile improvements for this year. They have received some grants to purchase new books, will continue to work with donations and used books, and are working to improve their system for circulating new books. She also shared that visiting authors Barbara and Ethan Atwater are going to be at the Library on May 19th for a reading of their children's book, *How Raven Got His Crooked Nose: An Alaskan Dena'ina Fable*.

There was discussion regarding the Exhibit and Display policy that she'd like to address at the next meeting, and also intangible things, not reflected in the statistics, that may be impacting the circulation numbers, including digital access increasing and outreach work by Children's Librarian Haines and the Friends of the Library.

B. Friends of the Library Report

Board member Kuszmaul reported that the schedule has changed and she will be attending the upcoming Friends meeting on May 3rd.

PUBLIC HEARING

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Library Board OWL Teleconference Results and Next Steps

Board members shared their feedback on the OWL Teleconference that was held Tuesday, April 10th. Comments included:

- It was a little disappointing that of the 5 or 6 Library Boards invited only one participated, but it was a worthwhile discussion with the Anchor Point Library Board.
- It was great to talk to the Anchor Point Board and get their perspective to Borough funding.

- The Anchor Point Board is interested in collaborating with Homer to help Anchor Point Library get a viable Friends group started.
- Anchor Point has a need for more Russian language books and teen books.

There was consensus to have another OWL Teleconference next year during Library Week.

B. Student Representative Board Member

The Board confirmed with the City Clerk that there is a student who submitted an application for the Student Representative seat. They discussed whether to continue to advertise the open seat or request the Mayor make the appointment of the student who has applied. They considered the challenges of losing the potential applicant and acknowledged they have done outreach at the schools. They also confirmed that the City Clerk's office has had the opportunity to advertise after Student Rep Vance submitted her resignation.

KUSZMAUL/MASSION MOVED TO REQUEST THE MAYOR APPOINT THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE AT THE FIRST MEETING IN JUNE.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution 18-037(S) Amending Fee Schedule to Increase Copy Fees
1. Memorandum 18-043 from Acting Library Director re: Library Copy Fees
 2. Memorandum 18-052 from Library Director re: Library Copy Fees
 3. Email from Councilmember Smith thru City Manager re: Library Copy Fees

Library Director Dixon provided a summary of photocopier and printer costs and fees as a laydown. She explained her first memo was prepared in haste having just returned from being off and needing to prepare something for the Council meeting. The information provided tonight is more accurate and includes photocopy and printer information specific to the Homer Public Library and fees from seven other Alaska public libraries.

She explained that the photocopier is used by public and staff. They do not have a mechanism for tracking staff use versus public use, but a majority of the use is by the public. The public use printers are connected to the public computers and are not used by the staff. In looking at the actual cost compared to the fees, they are making a profit on the copy fees. An issue is the mission of the library is not to make a profit, but they do want to cover costs

for the service provided. It raises the question whether the rates should be raised to meet the lowest charge of local business.

Library Director Dixon responded to the 8 questions posed in the email from Councilmember Smith.

1. The estimated annual electrical draw the copy machine requires and it's associated cost?

Library Director Dixon responded she has no idea and the Maintenance Department would have to measure the amounts of electricity over a period of time to get an accurate reading.

2. How often library personnel are required to assist patrons with the copier in any capacity? Frequency and time involved?

Library Director Dixon explained they do not track this, it's simply one of the many things they do at the front desk. It's not frequent, but if users don't know how to make the machine work, staff will show them and it probably takes a minute or two at the most. Occasionally they may have to help a little more extensively but not often.

3. How often our IT department is called upon to trouble shoot machine malfunction? I've seen them doing so at city hall. Frequency and time involved?

Library Director Dixon responded that IT almost never gets involved because the photocopier is leased from Xerox and Xerox provides service through the contract. Occasionally IT will have to assist with printers.

4. Who provides the paper for the machine? Who orders it? Who receives it? Who loads the machine? Cost per sheet? Frequency and time involved?

Library Director Dixon explained the City purchases paper in bulk. A staff member will pick up a case of paper from City Hall. In 2017 they picked up paper 14 times and that was for all copiers and printers at about 15 minutes per trip. Staff members take turns loading the machines as part of their morning start up procedures, it takes about five minutes. The approximate paper cost is less than a penny per page, roughly .007 cents per sheet.

5. Who collects the money, accounts it, and deposits it? Frequency and time involved?

Library Director Dixon said the coin machines are emptied once a week and counted twice a month with other monies collected through fines and fees, it takes about 15 minutes. She takes the money to City Hall twice a month.

6. What is the structure of Xerox's fees? Who receives, processes and remits back bills from xerox? Frequency and time involved?

Library Director Dixon reviewed the information provided in the summary of photocopier and printer costs and fees. The annual lease with Xerox is \$2,580.84. Black and white copies are charged \$.0072 per page and color copies are charged at \$.0553 per page. She receives a monthly bill from Xerox which she reviews and submits it to finance for payment, it takes about two minutes.

7. Who is responsible to collect and dispose of paper waste generated from copier users? Frequency and time involved?

Library Director Dixon explained there is a volunteer who comes regularly on Tuesday and Thursday evenings who takes the paper waste to the back and maintenance takes out the garbage and recycle.

8. How many of these factors were used in establishing the recommended copy fee structure to council?

Library Director Dixon said they took into consideration the lease cost and paper cost per sheet.

Discussion ensued and it was noted they are probably using more light energy tonight sitting here talking about this than is used to make a copy.

Board member Kuszmaul thinks the price seems in line with the cost, and it seems in line with the businesses. She isn't sure there is an issue. Library Director Dixon explained they are five cents lower than the lowest business price in town. Ms. Kuszmaul doesn't think the local businesses offer printer copy service or let you take your laptop in and connect to a printer. The commercial printers offer more services, sizes, flexibility and if people need something with a lot of options they use a commercial service. If you find something you need a copy of at the library, you should be able to do it at the library for a reasonable cost. In her opinion the current library costs are reasonable.

Board member Springer pointed out the library isn't a business. When she has to do University work she uses the university campus because she's a student and she needs a public service that's available to students. She doesn't need to go to a business. The library provides a service to the people who use the library.

Board member Fair concurred and thinks the recommendation should be the library fees remain exactly the same.

FAIR/MASSION MOVED THAT WE RECOMMEND TO THE COUNCIL THAT THE FEE STRUCTURE FOR COPIES AND PHOTO COPIES AT THE HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY BE LEFT EXACTLY THE SAME.

There was discussion in support of maintaining the current copy fees at the library and about the process to report back to Council.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

B. Library Fees

Library Director Dixon said she provided this so Board members could start thinking about fees before they reconvene in August and start discussing the budget.

C. Areas of Interest for Summer Break

Library Director Dixon and Chair Peterson suggested they give some thought to the Exhibit and Display policy and think about a public forum area as a patron and what would be acceptable.

D. Library Policies – Status on Updates and Recommendations of the Board

1. Reciprocal Borrowing
2. Circulation
3. Lending Period – Children's

Library Director Dixon noted the packet information and the proposed amendments to the circulation policy provided as a laydown for the Board to consider and be ready to discuss at their next meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. 2018 Board Member Attendance at Council Meetings

Board member Massion agreed to continue to report at the Council meetings. He suggested he could attend and give updates about the library during these months that the Board isn't meeting.

City Clerk Jacobsen reminded them that Board and Commission reports on the Council's agenda is a time for the Boards and Commissions to report the work they are doing at their meetings.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR

COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Board member Kuszmaul commented regarding National Library Legislative Day and Week that's coming up. She gave the Board members a cheat sheet with a URL for individuals to participate in a virtual legislative day and pointed out that American Library Association will be speaking about reauthorization of the LSTA. She highlighted that Lisa Murkowski is one of the sponsors for that reauthorization and we as Alaskans should thank her for being a strong supporter of that. She also commented about the newsletter from the Trustee Division of the American Library Association called the Voice for America's Libraries, and encouraged others to take a look at it.

There was discussion of funding programs and grants that are important in Alaskan communities.

Board member Finn commented about Federal HR5305 a bill to amend US Code title 44 to ensure the availability of no fee public access to government information and reform the federal depository library program to authorize the activities of the superintendent of documents. She's amazed to see how many things that are being addressed that the ALA meeting regarding legislation. It would be nice to discuss these things when they are going on around their meeting time.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

Approved: _____

**Homer Public Library
Director's Report
May 31, 2018**

Meetings in May

City Council - 1
Department Heads - 2
Library Advisory Board - 1
Friends of Homer Library - 1
Friends' Landscape Committee, Matt Steffy (Parks) - 2
Alaska Books for Alaska's Kids (phone) - 1
Finance Director & City Manager - 1 (2017 budget review)
Mike Haines re: Small Business Start Ups Grant - 1

Issues of Interest

In lieu of staff meetings we held CPR training on two consecutive Friday mornings. It was led by Fire Chief Terry Kadel and much appreciated.

We're pleased to announce the hiring of Eryn Gillam for our Temporary Summer Library Aide position. In high school Eryn volunteered and worked as a Friends-funded intern here at HPL, assisting Youth Services Librarian Claudia Haines with Summer Reading and Maker Club programs. She is currently a student at MIT and works at one of the campus libraries.

This year's *Summer @HPL* reading and learning program is launched! Claudia Haines and Holly Brennan have been working very hard to organize and implement the many programs and digital components of the program. As of today, 281 participants have signed up.

Thanks to Eagle Scout Keegan Partridge and his helpers, installation of our permanent Story Walk is complete! A new story will go up each month over the summer.

More good news -- Reciprocal Borrowing is now possible. Despite some technical challenges still being worked on, we're ready to implement this new option for Homer Library patrons, as well as visitors. HPL patrons may check out items at over 60 participating libraries in Alaska with their HPL cards and visitors to Homer may check out up to 5 items at HPL using their cards from participating libraries. We've already had requests this past month so are pleased to get started.

Behind the Scenes

I completed several staff evaluations this month; worked with Amy Gordon to iron out numerous wrinkles in summer scheduling; coordinated with partners involved in renovation of several garden beds and installing the permanent Story Walk; interviewed and hired our Temporary Library Aide; finished (finally!) weeding and partially updating the 300 section; and worked with other staff members on fine-tuning the details of our new Reciprocal Borrowing option.

Staff

Claudia and Holly have been busy with Summer @HPL preparations.
Jackie McDonough is working on collecting the new Battle of the Books selections.
Deb Waldorf has announced that she'll retire in October.

Facility

Last month's electrical problems appear to have resolved themselves for now.
The Friends have hired Dutch Boy to renovate several garden beds. Invasive species experts will work on eradication of the worst invasive plants on library grounds.

Special Events in May

Maker Club (ages 8-11).
BOB (Books on Board) the Bookmobile - 6 trips to area schools.
Author visit - Barbara and Ethan Atwater.
Author visit - Holly Fitzgerald.
Summer@HPL began May 29.
Libraries Rock: Rock Painting (family event, ages 5+).
Chess Camp - (ages 6-12).
<HPL Code>: Intro to Game Design (ages 11-14).
The Great Book Exchange - BOB the Bookmobile at Karen Hornaday Park.

Upcoming in June

Chess Camp - Fri. 6/1, Sat. 6/2, 10 AM - 1 PM. Ages 6-12. Event & waitlist full.
Kids Rock Book Club - Fri. 6/1, 2 - 3 PM. Kids entering 1st and 2nd grades.
Comics Camp with Nathan Hale - Mon. 6/4, 9 AM - Noon, ages 8-11; 2 - 5 PM, ages 11-14.
Both events & waitlists full. LOCATION: City Hall Council Chambers.
Summer Chess Club - Wednesdays 10:30 AM - Noon. Ages 6-12.
<HPL Code>: Intro to Game Design - Thursdays 4 - 5:30 PM. Ages 11-14.
The Great Book Exchange - Thursdays 4:30-6:30 PM. BOB the Bookmobile book exchange at Karen Hornaday Park.
Rockapalooza at the Library - Fri. 6/8, 6-8 PM. Ages 8-11. Registration required.
<HPL Code> Music & Sound - Mon.-Fri., 6/11-15, 10 AM-Noon. Ages 9-11. Event full.
Storytime at Triangle Park with BOB the Bookmobile - 11 AM.
Solstice Poetry Reading with Erin Hollowell, Peggy Shumaker, and James Englehardt. Thurs. 6/21, 6:30 PM.
Geocaching at the Library - Sat. 6/30, 4-6 PM. Family event, ages 3+.

Ongoing

Family Storytimes -Wednesdays, 10 AM. **JUNE 27 at Bishop Beach Pavilion. Bring lunch!**
Small Fry Storytime -Thursdays, 11:30 AM.
SPARC Radio Club - First Tuesday, 4:30 PM.
Knitting - Mondays, 1:30-4:30 PM.
Book Club - Fourth Tuesday, 4:30-6:30.
LARP - Live-Action Role-Playing, ages 10-18. Fridays 3:00-5:45 PM.
Walk-in Tech Help - First and third Saturdays, 10 AM-noon.
Writer's Refuge - Third Tuesdays, 6-8 PM.
Homer Storytellers - Third Saturdays, 3-5 PM.

**Homer Public Library
Director's Report
July1, 2018**

Meetings in June

City Council - 1
Department Heads - 1
Friends of Homer Library - 3
Alaska Books for Alaska's Kids (phone) - 1
Small Business Start Ups Grant (phone) - 1
Staff Meeting - 1
School Safety Meeting -- 1

Issues of Interest

Our summer Temporary Library Aide, Eryn Gillam, is working at the front desk and taking on two special projects that otherwise never get done: sorting and inventorying records for storage at City Hall; and inventorying our book collection, which hasn't been done in 7 years. Thanks to Eryn, a stack of boxes filled with receipts, invoices, and statistics is now gone from my office!

Feedback on the *Summer @HPL* reading and learning program is enthusiastic so far. Events such as coding camp, chess camp, Rockapalooza, and others have been full and even wait-listed. Over 300 participants are signed up and reading!

Several patrons have expressed thanks for our twice-monthly "Walk-in Tech Help" sessions. (Our tech expert, Tom Sulczynski, is paid by the Friends of Homer Library.) A senior also thanked the library for making internet access available. Because of where she lives, dial-up is all she can afford, which is almost unworkable for many basic purposes.

Friends of Homer Library has recently been recognized both nationally and statewide for their outreach work in support of literacy and learning with BOB (Books On Board) the Bookmobile. They received an honorable mention for the Innovations in Reading Prize, given by the National Book Foundation, as well as the Alaska Center for the Book's CLIA award for Contributions to Literacy in Alaska. Check out their schedule of stops around town this summer! <https://friendsofthehomerpubliclibrary.wildapricot.org/BOB-the-Bookmobile>

Behind the Scenes

All the technical details needed in our circulation system for Reciprocal Borrowing are now in place. I've finally had time to research and do some planning for beginning a small Historical Collection. Materials to have a locally-built display cabinet will be part of a Rasmuson grant request, which I've just started working on. Several staff members and I have been brainstorming ways to create space for adding much-needed bookshelves in the Teen Area. And I'm collaborating with six other public libraries in

the state to implement a grant for improving outreach to, and library resources for, small businesses in our communities.

Staff

Youth Services Librarian Claudia Haines attended the American Library Association Conference in New Orleans as part of the Makers 2 Mentors grant she obtained. She's returned with fresh enthusiasm and new ideas for public library service.

Library Technology Specialist Holly Brennan passed the tests to renew her certification in CompTIA A+, a significant achievement. Congratulations, Holly!

Facility

Renovation of the garden beds along the south wall and near the library entrance is underway.

A patron expressed written concerns about inadequate cleanliness in the bathrooms. She was surprised to hear that the City employs only two janitors to clean all the City's buildings, which means that the library is cleaned only 2.5 hours per day on average, or less if a janitor is out. Given the size of the building and level of traffic this is clearly inadequate, although Maintenance does the best they can. Staff picks up some of the slack, wiping down tables and counters, and sometimes we are fortunate to have volunteers who do light cleaning, such as dusting and wiping surfaces. But volunteers are not generally interested in cleaning public bathrooms! Commercial bids requested a few years ago quoted a minimum of 4 hours per day to do the job.

Special Events in June

Chess Camp - Ages 6-12.

Kids Rock Book Club - Kids entering 1st and 2nd grades.

Comics Camp with Nathan Hale -ages 8-11 and ages 11-14.

Summer Chess Club - Ages 6-12.

<HPL Code>: Intro to Game Design - Ages 11-14.

The Great Book Exchange - BOB the Bookmobile at Karen Hornaday Park.

Rockapalooza at the Library - Ages 8-11.

<HPL Code> Music & Sound - Ages 9-11.

Storytime at Triangle Park with BOB the Bookmobile.

Solstice Poetry Reading with Erin Hollowell, Peggy Shumaker, and James Englehardt.

Geocaching at the Library - Family event, ages 3+.

Upcoming in July

LEGO Lab - Tuesday 7/3, 10:30 AM - Noon. Ages 8-11.

BOB on Parade! - Join us at the 4th of July parade, either walking or cheering from the sidelines! Don't miss Homer's first-ever Book Cart Drill Team!

<HPL Code>: Intro to Game Design - Thursdays 4 - 5:30 PM. Ages 11-14.

The Great Book Exchange - Thursdays 4:30-6:30 PM. BOB the Bookmobile at Karen Hornaday Park.

Kids Rock Book Club - Fri. 7/6, 2 - 3 PM. Kids entering 1st and 2nd grades.

Mysteries of Magic - Saturday 7/7, 10:30 AM - Noon. EVENT FULL, Waitlist available.

Rockin' Magic Show with Don Russell - Saturday 7/7, 3-4 PM. All ages!
Girls Get IT! Alaska - Monday 7/9-Friday 7/13. Time TBA. Registration Required.
Storytime at Triangle Park with BOB the Bookmobile - 11 AM.
Summer Chess Club - Wednesdays 7/11, 7/18, 7/25. 10:30 AM - Noon. Ages 6-12.

Maker Lab: e-Sewing - Tuesday 7/17, 2 -3:30 PM. Ages 9-12. EVENT FULL. Waitlist available.
2018 LEGO Contest - Entries due Monday 7/23 by 6 PM. Ages 0-17. See website for details.
Sonic Storytime and Ice Cream Celebration - Friday 7/27, 6-8 PM. Music, ice cream, hot dogs, family activities and announcements of prize winners. At the Library!
Bullet Journaling for Teens - Tuesday 7/31, 6-7:30 PM. Ages 14-18 (high school students).
Registration required.

Ongoing

Family Storytimes -Wednesdays, 10 AM.
Small Fry Storytime -Thursdays, 11:30 AM.
SPARC Radio Club - First Tuesday, 6:30 PM.
Knitting - Mondays, 1:30-4:30 PM.
Book Club - Fourth Tuesday, 4:30-6:30.
LARP - Live-Action Role-Playing, ages 10-18. Fridays 3:00-5:45 PM.
Walk-in Tech Help - First and third Saturdays, 10 AM-noon.
Writer's Refuge - Third Tuesdays, 6-8 PM.
Homer Storytellers - Third Saturdays, 3-5 PM.

**Homer Public Library
Director's Report
July 25, 2018**

Meetings in July

Department Heads - 2
Friends of Homer Library (program planning) - 4
Alaska Books for Alaska's Kids (phone) - 1
Small Business Start Ups Grant - 2
Staff - 1
Help Me Grow/MAPP -- 1

Issues of Interest

Summer @HPL reading and learning program ended with a special musical “sonic story time” and celebration at the library, featuring ice cream, grilled hot dogs, activities, and prizes. 387 children, teens, and adults participated, up slightly from last year but in range with numbers in recent years.

HPL made another “first” happen in Homer by entering its novice book cart drill team in the July 4 parade. As a team member, I can attest that it was tons of fun and the crowds loved us! We marched and performed behind the Friends’ bookmobile, followed by a band of library fans who handed out candy and used books.

Behind the Scenes

I began work on a Rasmuson grant application but was stymied by their requirement for an audited financial report for 2017, which is not yet available from the Finance department. Instead I worked on several drafts of an updated policy on displays, exhibits, and distribution of materials, which is being submitted for discussion and approval by the LAB. Now I’m working on the lengthy annual report to the Alaska State Library. I’ve also been collaborating with Mike Haines and other librarians to plan and implement the first stage of the “growing small business” interlibrary cooperation grant. We’re finalizing a survey to gather information about how libraries can best serve the interests of small businesses and entrepreneurs, and creating promotional materials to communicate our resources.

Staff

David Bernard thwarted a thief who literally ran off with the donation jar. David chased the young man up Hazel Avenue, caught up with him by Safeway, and talked him in to turning over the jar of cash. The thief was soon picked up by police. He is trespassed from the library for a year. No one was injured.

Facility

Renovation of the garden beds along the south wall and near the library entrance is complete. Plants will be added to fill in the near-empty beds. It will take a couple seasons to develop but the weeds are gone, for now anyway. Some work is also

supposed to be done on the “North Meadow” (that wild area by staff offices) before the end of summer.

The handicapped button on the front entrance door is broken again.

Special Events in July

LEGO Lab - Ages 8-11.

BOB on Parade! -4th of July first-ever Book Cart Drill Team!

<HPL Code>: Intro to Game Design - Ages 11-14.

BOB the Bookmobile at Karen Hornaday Park.

Kids Rock Book Club - 1st and 2nd grades.

Mysteries of Magic - workshop for ages 9-14.

Rockin’ Magic Show with Don Russell - All ages.

Girls Get IT! Alaska - Week-long coding workshop for girls ages 9-12.

Storytime at Triangle Park with BOB the Bookmobile - 11 AM.

Summer Chess Club - Ages 6-12.

Maker Lab: e-Sewing - Ages 9-12.

2018 LEGO Contest - Ages 0-17.

Sonic Storytime and Ice Cream Celebration - End of *Summer* @ HPL party at the library. Music, ice cream, hot dogs, family activities, and announcements of prize winners.

Bullet Journaling for Teens - Ages 14-18.

Upcoming in August

<HPL Code>: Robots 4 Little Kids - Wed. 8/1, 2 PM. Ages 6-8.

Kids Rock Book Club - Fri. 8/3, 2 PM. Kids entering 1st and 2nd grades.

Navy Band of the Northwest Concert - Tues. 8/7, noon-1 PM. All ages.

<HPL Code>: Robots 4 Little Kids - Wed. 8/8, 2 PM. Ages 6-8.

Ongoing

Family Storytimes -Wednesdays, 10 AM.

Small Fry Storytime -Thursdays, 11:30 AM.

SPARC Radio Club - First Tuesday, 6:30 PM.

Knitting - Mondays, 1:30-4:30 PM.

Book Club - Fourth Tuesday, 4:30-6:30.

LARP - Live-Action Role-Playing, ages 10-18. Fridays 3:00-5:45 PM.

Walk-in Tech Help - First and third Saturdays, 10 AM-noon.

Writer’s Refuge - Third Tuesdays, 6-8 PM.

Homer Storytellers - Third Saturdays, 3-5 PM.

Homer Public Library Statistical Summary for 2017

Date: 01-Aug-18

CIRCULATION	17-Jan	17-Feb	17-Mar	17-Apr	17-May	17-Jun	17-Jul	17-Aug	17-Sep	17-Oct	17-Nov	17-Dec	Y.T.D.
Total # of Items	15,865	14,332	15,627	15,294	13,009	14,791	15,278	15,918	14,074	13,023	13,202	12,656	173,069
INTERLIBRARY LOANS													
Incoming (Borrowed)	11	21	16	19	19	26	11	17	22	16	15	18	211
Outgoing (Lent)	32	31	36	16	41	46	25	20	30	28	35	31	371
STUDY ROOM USE													
# of groups	234	207	302	237	221	175	159	218	208	196	258	191	2606
# of people	514	517	645	564	413	356	308	374	390	353	485	409	5328
MEETING ROOM USE													
# of groups	36	40	28	38	33	29	27	21	17	22	24	22	337
ATTENDANCE													
TOTAL (*Included)	11,137	11,080	12,397	11,160	10,448	11,398	11,196	11,921	10,650	10,258	9,812	9,289	130746
*Story Hour & Lapsit	327	384	412	355	291	312	293	342	367	254	271	216	3824
*School Classes	36	65	70	70	22	0	0	0	0	42	54	98	457
*Internet sessions	3,882	4,146	4,590	3,981	4,297	4,677	3,915	4,914	3,925	3,584	3,714	3,531	49156
*Programs	397	371	279	257	498	760	637	355	255	447	399	287	4942
OUTREACH													
# Visits	4	4	4	7	9	4	4	5	6	5	5	5	62
# People	24	24	24	168	146	26	26	30	205	47	25	28	773
NEW CARDS ISSUED													
City	32	24	32	26	46	47	40	49	40	26	30	21	413
Borough	22	33	25	9	29	25	36	24	19	34	25	17	298
Temporary	1	2	2	2	4	11	7	4	4	1	0	1	39
VOLUNTEER HOURS													
# of people	83	94	82	83	46	51	51	66	59	105	84	77	881
# of hours	193	249	253.75	296.25	175	159.75	136.25	125.5	153.75	270.25	228	171.75	2412.25
MATERIALS ADDED													
Books	154	232	305	352	275	165	195	266	213	223	339	251	2970
Audio	17	18	0	51	18	0	37	12	9	2	17	15	196
Video	20	38	22	57	51	79	0	97	84	23	89	68	628
Serials	6	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Electronic Resources	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
MATERIALS REMOVED													
Books	167	134	246	222	385	477	236	322	181	59	141	279	2849
Audio	5	1	28	5	2	1	3	7	2	0	2	0	56
Video	4	14	5	10	6	8	7	1	12	2	27	3	99
Serials	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	5
Electronic Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUES DEPOSITED													
Fines/Fees/Copies	2735.45	2074.06	2695.54	2633.67	2480.13	2375.89	2501.51	2564.33	3103.42	2358.51	2445.83	2156.82	30,125.16
Building Fund (151-)													0.00
Library Gifts (803-)			25.00				100.00					100.00	225.00
Grants			1250.00					7000.00			19581.00		27,831.00
TOTALS	2,735.45	2,074.06	3,970.54	2,633.67	2,480.13	2,375.89	2,601.51	9,564.33	3,103.42	2,358.51	22,026.83	2,256.82	\$58,181.16

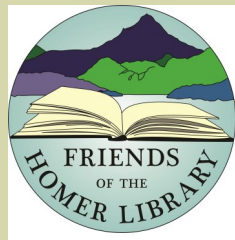
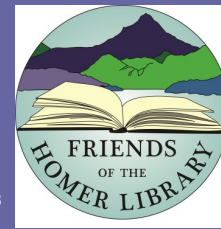
CE for HB

PLAG

M2M

Wavelengths

AUGUST 2018



Like what we are doing? Consider being a volunteer for the Friends.

The Friends has a constant list of things for volunteers to help with, from copying newsletters, to hanging posters, to assisting with the data-base, to helping with events. Contact: info@friendshomerlibrary.org

Join your Friends!

Go to the Friends' website to find out more about member benefits: www.friendshomerlibrary.org

Highlights

On-going & Special Events..3

Art in the Library ... 3

CPR Class.....4

Children's Concert

Navy Band's Northwest Woodwind Ensemble returns to the library for a concert specially tailored to kids and families. Last year they gave an outdoor concert, this year they will play indoors. Navy Band Northwest's Woodwind Ensemble

performs for official military ceremonies and receptions, as well as public concerts

and patriotic events throughout the Northwestern United States. Composed of flute, oboe, and bassoon, they perform a variety of styles, including an eclectic blend of classical and Americana music featuring composers such as Sousa, Haydn, Ibert, and Rossini. Bassoon Instrumentalist, Stefan Lang, says "We're looking forward to seeing beautiful Homer, one of the prettiest places in the United States, and performing for a well-received friendly audience. We enjoy being the face of the Navy when we have



the opportunity and inspiring patriotism through music." As summer winds down, please join us for a special concert. Be sure to bring your friends and neighbors!

When: Tuesday, August 7, 12:00 pm

Where: Fireplace Reading Room @ the Homer Public Library

South Peninsula Amateur Radio Club

Amateur Radio (Ham Radio) is a popular hobby and service that brings people, electronics and communication together. People use ham radio to talk across town, around the world, or even into space, all without the Internet or cell phones. It's fun, social, educational, and can be a lifeline during times of need. In times of disasters like earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions, when regular communication channels fail, hams assist emergency communication efforts and work with public service agencies.

An Amateur Radio license from the Federal Communications Commission is required. The Technician class license is the entry-level license for new ham radio operators. To earn the Technician license requires passing one examination totaling 35 questions on radio theory, regulations and operating practices. Morse code is not required for this license.

To help you learn the basics for your license, the South Peninsula Amateur Radio Club is offering free classes:

Saturdays, September 8, 15, 22 & 29,

10:00 am– 2:00pm at the Homer Public Library.

Test will be held Thursday, October 4, 5:00-8:00 pm

For more information contact Ken Adams (907) 299-7336 or Fred Trieselmann (510) 861-4329

Secretary: Ken Adams AE7ES **21**



Friends of the Homer Library Members, *Thank You for your support!*

2

Individual

W. Findlay Abbott
Daisy Lee Bitter
Holly Brennan
Nyla Charest
Gloria Corey
Jeremy Day
Sara (Sally) Fisher
Michael Gavillot
Mako Haggerty
Barbara Haynes
Dave Schneider & Bonnie Jason
Barb Kennedy
Milli Martin
Morgan McBride
John Miles
Jerri Naguruk
Jan Needham
Joanne Olson
De Patch
Laura Patty
Satchel Pondolfino
Norm Randle
Lani Raymond
Jeanne Roche
Larry Smith
Simyra Taback
Tammy Taylor
Christopher Turner
Lisa Whip
Carly Wier
Johann Willrich
Gary Wolfe

Family

Tonda Allred
Dan & Patricia Boone
Lynn Burt
Charles Ingham & Christa Collier
Peggy & Michael Craig
Bob & Jimmy Day
Sandy Early
Peter Kaufman & Wendy ErdSue Fallon
Janet Fink
Clyde Boyer & Vivian Finlay
Sean Hogan
Amber Huestis
James Hutchinson
Paula & Jon Kulhanek
Ben Gibson & Rachel Lord
Scott & Kate Meyer
Scott & Susan Miller
Megan O'Neill
Emilie Otis
Emily Parg
Walter & Linda Partridge
Jacqueline Peterson
Audrey Rearden
Johnelle Reid
Henry & Laura Reiske

Amy Russell
Arthur Kruski & Priscilla Russell
Melonie Shipman
Ted and Kathy Sudol
Rosie Tupper
Jeanne & Kevin Walker
Diana Carbonell
Mike Haines
Barbara Hill
Nancy Levinson
Jane and Jack Regan
Tara & Tim Schmidt
Donald & Sherry Stead
Dylan Weiser
Jane & Bill Wiebe
Anne Wieland

Book Lover

Diana Conway
Michael McKinney & Roberta Copeland McKinney
Beth Cumming
Lucy Cutting
Carla Fabian
Steve Glasman & Claudia Haines
Jack & Carole Hamik
Robert Archibald and Roberta Highland
Kathy Hill
Bruce and Ruth Hunting
Peggy Pittman & Roger Imhoff-Patti Jay
Janet Klein
Tom & Janette Latimer
Judy Gonsalves & Dan Layland
Therese Lewandowski
Ken Castner & Nancy Lord
Linda & Larry Martin
Craig Matkin
Neil McArthur
Thomas & Jacqueline McDonoug
Donna Rae Faulkner & Don McNamara
Jack Wiles & Michelle Michaud-Melisa Miller
David & Marga Raskin
Ron & Turid Senungetuk
Kathy and Maynard Smith
Susan McLane & Hal Smith
The Gagnon Family
Candy & Jim Van Oss

Bibliophile

Suzanne Bishop
Linda Chamberlain
Charles Evans
Jeanne McArthur
Mary Schneider
Christy & Jeff Tyler
Caroline & Franco Venuti
Caitlin Walls

Best Friend

Wayne & Donna Aderhold

Patrick Ahern
Marcia Akresh
Sean Carey
Rich Chiappone
Dotty Cline
Denice & Roger Clyne
Steve Hughes & Robbie Coffey
Madeleine Doran
Jeff Williams & Brie Drummond
Kate Fariday
Eileen Faulkner
Ed Bailey & Nina Faust
Pete Fineo
Stephen Bottum & Charles Francis
Tom Collopy and Mary FrischeMalcolm Gaylord
Phil Gordon
Mary Griswold
Nell & Richard Gustafson
George Harbeson
Dotti Harness
Beth Graber & Mike Hawfield
Mr. & Mrs. R. A. Jacobson
Alison Kelley
Bill Bell & Mary Lou Kelsey
Tom Kizzia
Mark Robinson and Nancy Lander
Jo & Peter Michalski
John & Rika Mouw
Robert Oates
Janice Peyton
Arlene Ronda
Christine Scott
Paul & Tina Seaton
Debbie Smith
Dana Stabenow
Susan Green & George Trudeau
Dana Whittaker
Randy Wiest
Bob Neubauer & Nan York
Mel Strydom

Pick Click Give

Janet Ames
Jenny Stroyeck & Michael Armstrong
Philip Barber
Dave & Molly Brann
Kristine Bredehoft
Tracie & Eric Brown
Rianne Campbell
Nancy Chastain
Leland Curtis
Jessica Eller
Kate Finn
Bryce & Jessica Golden
Christine Griffard
Helen Gustafson
Taneeka Hansen

Margaret Herbert
Aaron Knoll
Vicky Merrell
Emmet Meyer
Michael Milligan
Odin Onion
Daniel Perry
Thea Person
Jim Levine & Sue Post
Carey Restino
Lucca Sanders
Wayne Stanley
Soren Thomas
Mary Wood
Amy Woodruff

Pick-Click-Give Book Lover

Lynn Bittner
Laura Brooks
Mike Byerly
Blythe Campbell
Adam DePesa
Pauli Lida
Wendy Noomah
Giula Tortora
Peter Velsko
George Matz & Jeannie Woodring

Pick-Click-Give Best Friend

Betty Jo Goddard
Lisa Krebs
Sherry Pederson

*Interested in
becoming a
member?*

*Call 435-3195 or
visit our website,
friendshomerlibrary.org*

Ongoing Library Programs

SPARC Radio Club

Tuesday, August 7, 6:30-7:45 pm.

- Amateur radio club. (Repeats every 1st Tuesday.)

Walk-In Tech Help

Saturdays, August 4 & 18, 10:00 am–12:00 pm.

- Bring your computer, tablet, or smartphone and get help with your tech questions. (Repeats every 1st and 3rd Saturday.)

Homer Storytellers

Saturday, August 18, 3:00 pm.

Develop your storytelling skills in a friendly atmosphere. (Repeats every 3rd Saturday.)

Writer's Refuge

Tuesday, August 21, 5:45-7:45 pm.

- A Writer's Critique group. (Repeats every 3rd Tuesday.)

HPL Book Club

Tuesday, August 28, 4:30-6:30 pm.

- *History of Wolves* by Emily Fridlund (Repeats every 4th Tuesday.)

Knitting Circle

Every Monday, 1:30 -4:30 pm.

- All are welcome. Refreshments.
- Monday, July 9, call 235-3180 to confirm location.

Preschool Storytime

Every Wednesday, 10:00-11:00 am.

No Storytime on August 15.

Small Fry Storytime

Every Thursday, 11:30 am-noon.

No Small Fry on August. 16.

LARP: Live Action Roleplay

Every Friday 3:00-5:45 pm.

- Live Action Roleplay, crafts, and quests. 10-18yr olds.

Upcoming Special Events @ The Homer Public Library

<HPL Code> Robots 4 Little Kids: Kids 6-8 years old will learn the basics of coding with Dash and Dot robots. **August 1 & 8, 2:00-3:00 pm.**

Navy Bands Northwest: Join us for a family concert! **Tuesday, August 7, 12:00 pm.**

Author Reading: Cassandra Windwalker will share excerpts from her new book *Bury the Lead*, **Thursday, September 13, 6:00pm**

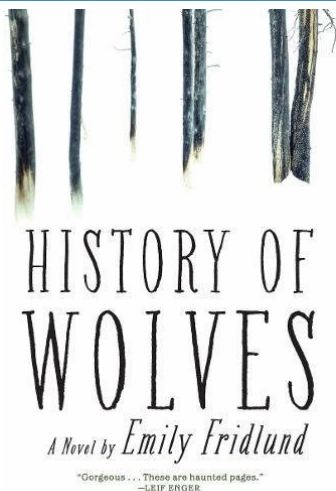
Amateur Radio Licensing Class: Become a licensed Ham operator! **Saturdays, September 8, 15, 22, 29.** Test will be on Thursday, October 4, 5:00-8:00 pm.

Art in the Library

Art is an integral part of the Homer community. Every year we ask local artists to send us samples of their work and we form a subcommittee to select the pieces that will be displayed at the library. None of the work on display at the library is for sale, but is an opportunity for artists to showcase their work. In 2017-2018 artists included Marjorie Scholl, Sarah Schweitzer, Sharlene Cline and Beth McKinney, who is currently on display. We seek work from emerging artists and accomplished artists.

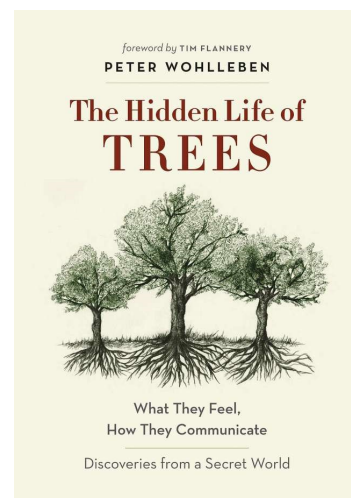
For complete instructions please visit: friendshomerlibrary.org

Entries are due October 8, 2018



HPL Book Club

Fall is the perfect time to join a book club! Join us on **Tuesday, August 28**, to discuss *History of Wolves* by Emily Fridlund, and on **Tuesday, September 25** to discuss *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben. We're a friendly group that meets every 4th Tuesday, **4:30 pm**, at the Homer Public Library. We look forward to seeing you there!





Free CPR Class for Friends of the Homer Library!

The class will take about 45 minutes with hands-only CPR demo and practice, followed by AED demo and practice. No formal test. The class will be led by area EMS providers. No cards will be issued, no books will be issued, and the class is 100% free.

This class is being specially offered to members and volunteers of the Friends of the Homer Library. It's a great time to brush up on your skills!

Where: The SPARC building

When: Monday, August 13, 12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Registration: Contact Samantha Cunningham

Phone: 907-226-1134

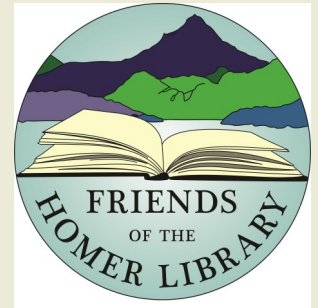
Email: scunningham@sremsc.org.

Suggested donations to the SPARC building are accepted for lighting/facility use, but this is not a requirement and is 100% voluntary.

The Friends of the Homer Public Library is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) community organization established in 1982 that encourages public use and enjoyment of the Homer Public Library services and facilities. With the financial and volunteer support of its members, FHL provides resources for programs such as the Summer Reading Program, the Top Drawer Collection, preschool story hour, and author readings, among others. FHL volunteers work closely with the library staff to publicize the valuable tools and services available at the library to all community members at no cost, without discrimination. FHL also provides resources for capital improvements to the facility.

FHL Board of Directors

Suzanne Haines, president
Elaine Burgess, vice president
Marylou Burton, treasurer
Sean Campbell, secretary
Isabel Kulhanek, student rep.
Andy Haas
Lyn Maslow
Michael Mosley
Fran Jacobsen
Ann Dixon



Fall Book & Plant Sale



**Saturday, October 13,
10:00 am-6:00 pm
@ The Homer Public Library**



*Pssst...want first pick? Friends of the Homer Library members get a free pass to the **MEMBERS ONLY FIRST-PICK SALE**, Friday, October 12, 6-8 pm. Desserts will be served! Questions? Call 435-3195 or stop by the library. Please drop off plant donations October 12.*

Lunch with a Councilmember

Bring your questions, ideas, and lunch for an informal conversation with a councilmember.



Donna Aderhold and Heath Smith
Monday, September 10



Caroline Venuti
Monday, October 8



Rachel Lord
Monday, November 26



12:00-1:00 pm @ The Homer Public Library



City of Homer

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Office of the City Clerk

491 East Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603

clerk@cityofhomer-ak.gov

(p) 907-235-3130

(f) 907-235-3143

MEMORANDUM

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
FROM: RACHEL TUSSEY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: AUGUST 1, 2018
SUBJECT: LIBRARY POLICIES – DISCUSSION & APPROVAL

At the May 1, 2018 meeting, Library Director Dixon provided information regarding lease policy updates. Those documents have been revised and are ready for further discussion and approval. These items include:

1. Updated Circulation Policy
2. Updated Display, Exhibit, and Distribution of Materials Policy
3. New draft of Library User Conduct

Recommendation

Review the provided information. Make a motion to approve the updated policies for Library Circulation; Display, Exhibit, and Distribution of Materials; and Library User Conduct and recommend to City Council for adoption.

HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY CIRCULATION POLICY

The library is supported by tax funds, and ~~to the greatest extent possible,~~ its services and resources are made available to the public without charge whenever possible. ~~Materials in all formats shall be circulated on the same basis.~~ Those materials designated for library use only, due to fragility or rarity, may circulate on a limited basis to be determined by the library director.

LIBRARY CARDS

- A library card is a legal and binding contract between the library and the patron.
- A patron may have only one library account.
- A patron must present a card in good standing to borrow materials.
- ~~A patron's card will be blocked, and no services may be obtained with it, if the patron owes \$10.00 or more in unpaid fines and/or fees.~~
- ~~Legal guardians are responsible for keeping dependents' cards in good standing. The guardians listed on the account are responsible for paying any fines and/or fees on their dependents' accounts.~~
- At patron request, library staff will renew overdue materials that have not reached the maximum renewal limit, even if a patron's card is blocked, in order to keep fines and/or fees from accumulating. ~~Please Note:~~ An item that has been placed on hold by another patron may not be renewed.

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LOST, STOLEN, OR DAMAGED CARDS

- A patron is responsible for notifying the ~~Library~~ library promptly of a lost or stolen card.
- A patron is responsible for all items checked out on the card prior to it being reported lost or stolen.
- When a patron reports a library card is lost, stolen, or damaged, a block is placed on that account number. ~~or a replacement card is issued. A replacement card may be issued for a small fee.~~
- A patron must be present when a new card is issued.
- ~~Replacement cards cost \$5.00.~~
- A card may be replaced free of charge at the discretion of library staff for normal wear and tear (e.g., when the scanner is no longer able to read the barcode) or hardship (e.g., patron's house burned down).
- A patron must verify registration information.
- ~~A patron may have only one library account.~~

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FINES AND FEES

Please see Fees Schedule.

OVERDUE MATERIALS

Patrons who do not return overdue library materials after receiving two notices will ~~be~~ have their account blocked until library material is returned or compensated for. Patrons with large delinquencies will be referred to a collection agency ~~for collection~~ and will be charged an additional ~~\$25.00~~ administration fee, as well as all collection agency fees.

~~Collection options include small claims action and attachment of the individual's Permanent Fund Dividend in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of what is owed.~~

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LOST MATERIALS

- A patron will be charged the cost of the lost item plus a processing fee.
- A patron should not purchase a replacement copy of a lost item; the ~~l~~library may choose not to accept a replacement item due to a variety of circumstances (e.g., the item has a ~~library~~ (reinforced) binding, there is a newer edition, or more current information is available in a different- item).

REFUND OF REPLACEMENT FEES

• The amount paid for a lost book that is later found and returned in good condition to the ~~l~~library can be refunded within 60 days of ~~Lost Status~~ being marked lost.

- ~~After 60 days, the fee will not be refunded.~~

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INCOMPLETE MATERIALS

If an item is returned missing a part, it will not be checked in and fines will continue to accrue until the missing part is returned. If the patron does not return the missing part within 6 weeks, the patron will be charged a non-refundable replacement fee as well as a processing fee.

DAMAGED MATERIALS

~~If an item is returned in non-repairable condition, and this condition is due to negligence by the patron, the patron will be charged a non-refundable replacement fee plus a processing fee. If an item is returned damaged due to negligence by the patron, the patron may be assessed a fee for the repair. If the item has been damaged beyond repair, the patron will be charged a replacement fee plus a processing fee.~~

CLAIMS RETURNED MATERIALS

~~All staff will refer patrons with questions regarding claims returned materials to the Claims Returned Supervisor.~~

MATERIALS LOST TO THEFT OR NATURAL CAUSES

- ~~At the discretion of library staff, c~~Charges for materials lost or destroyed by natural causes such as fire or flood may be waived at the discretion of library staff.
- The library may request documentation of the loss.
- The library will furnish a list of borrowed materials with costs for insurance purposes if asked to do so.

HOLDS

- Items owned by the library but not immediately available will be placed on hold (i.e., reserved) for patrons upon request.
- Items placed on hold may not be renewed; instead, the item must be returned to the library by its due date so it may be available for the patron who placed the hold.

LOAN LIMIT

- The loan limit per library ~~card-account~~ is 25 items of general collection materials ~~per patron.~~
- Of the 25 items, a patron may not have more than 510 videos checked out at ~~any~~ one time.
- Lower limits will apply for patrons with temporary cards.

CIRCULATION DETAILS BY ITEM TYPE

Audio Visual Equipment

- Overnight ~~or 2-day~~ checkout period.
- Patron must be 18 years or older and ~~hold~~ have a permanent library card to borrow.
- ~~The cardholder will be responsible for missing or damaged items.~~
- ~~Patrons borrowing equipment must keep the equipment in their possession and not allow anyone else to borrow it.~~
- Circulation periods may be extended if the piece of equipment has not been reserved for another patron.

Audiobook

- 14-day checkout period.
- Two week renewal period for up to two renewals.

Book

- 14-day checkout period.
- Two week renewal period for up to two renewals.
- Some lengthy books have been allotted a 21-day checkout period, with two three week renewal periods.

~~Book3 (extra week for lengthy book)~~

- ~~• 21-day checkout period.~~
- ~~• Three week renewal period for up to two renewals.~~

Digital Device (including e-reader, MP3 player, and electric usage meter)

- 14-day checkout period.
- Patron must be 18 years or older and have a permanent library card to borrow.
- Renewable at staff discretion.

Game

- Non-~~c~~irculating.
- Available for use in the ~~Library~~library.

~~Kit (book with CD or cassette)~~

- ~~• 14-day checkout period.~~
- ~~• Two week renewal period for up to two renewals.~~

Magazine

- 14-day checkout period.
- Two week renewal period for up to two renewals.
- Current issue does not circulate until a newer issue is available for public use.
- ~~• Circulation period may be shortened at the discretion of the library staff due to the timely subject matter of certain magazines.~~
- ~~• Please ask a library staff member for assistance with non-circulating magazine titles.~~

Maps

- Non-~~c~~irculating.
- Available for use in the ~~l~~ibrary.

Music CD

- 14-day checkout period.
- Two week renewal period for up to two renewals.

Newspaper

- Non-~~c~~irculating.
- Available for use in the ~~l~~ibrary.

Punch Bowl & Cups

- Overnight ~~or 2-day~~ checkout period.

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Indent at: 0.5"

- ~~Use may be extended on a case-by-case basis~~ Circulation period may be extended if bowl has not been reserved for another patron.

Toy

- 14-day checkout period.
- Two week renewal period for up to two renewals.

Vertical File

- Non-~~c~~irculating.
- Available for use in the ~~l~~ibrary.

Video

- ~~7~~-day checkout period.
- One week renewal period for up to two renewals.
- Maximum of ~~five~~ 10 videos checked out on a library card at a time.

Approved by the LAB on 3 June 2014

Adopted by the HCC on 9 June 2014

Edited by JM 27 April 2108

**HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY
DISPLAY, EXHIBIT, AND DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS POLICY**

The Homer Public Library has four kinds of spaces available for displays, exhibits, and distribution of materials.

A. BULLETIN BOARDS AND INFORMATION RACKS

Bulletin Boards

As a service to the City of Homer, the library is a designated posting place for notices issued by the City. Space permitting, other public notices that meet the following guidelines will be posted.

- Official notices of borough, state, and federal agencies relevant to the Homer area.
- Notices for public meetings and events for non-profit organizations.
- Notices of educational courses sponsored by a recognized community organization (but not those publicizing instruction by individual teachers or private firms).

All noticed events must be open to the general public. Notices must be dated and include the name of the sponsoring organization. Library bulletin boards may not be used for commercial sales, personal services, or advertisements for political candidates, parties, and causes.

If bulletin board space becomes insufficient to contain the volume of notices requested for posting, the following restrictions may apply:

- Priority is given to events occurring within the Library's area of service.
- Notices will be no larger than 8.5 x 11."
- Only one notice per organization may be posted at a time.
- Items will be posted for no more than two weeks.
- Items will be posted for one-time but not recurring events.

Posting of notices does not imply endorsement by the library or the City of Homer.

All decisions on posting notices are at the discretion of the library director.

Information Racks

The library has limited space for brochures and informational handouts. Materials relating to the library will have first priority. Space permitting, materials meeting the following guidelines may be made available for the public:

- Information produced by city, borough, state, and federal agencies.
- Informational materials from non-profit organizations.

- Information about educational courses and resources sponsored by a recognized community organization (but not those publicizing instruction by individual teachers or private firms).
- All materials must have relevance to the Homer community.

B. SOLICITATION, PETITIONS, AND DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

Individuals or groups may circulate petitions and distribute literature on any topic in the public forum area surrounding the library building, after receiving permission from library staff, subject to applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations. Such activity must not disturb library patrons, impede their access to the library, create a safety hazard, or interfere in any way with normal use of the facility, the grounds, or parking areas.

Commented [AD1]: Anchorage says this; Juneau only "recommends" that staff be notified.

Circulation of petitions and distribution of literature are forbidden within the library building, under the covered entrance to the library, along the front walkways that connect with sidewalks and the parking area, and in the parking areas in order to maintain safety and allow public access to the library without impediment or disturbance. The remaining library grounds are designated as public forum areas.

All materials must be worded to avoid any implication of endorsement or sponsorship by the Homer Public Library or the City of Homer. Permission to use the library grounds does not constitute an endorsement or sponsorship of any group, individual, organization or event or carry with it any responsibility for representation of all points of view.

Soliciting funds for any reason is not permitted anywhere on library property.

C. AREAS FOR NON-PROFIT DISPLAYS AND EXHIBITS

As part of its public service and information mission, the library makes available designated display and exhibit areas to non-profit groups engaged in educational, cultural, intellectual, or charitable activities.

The provision of display space for public use does not constitute library endorsement of the beliefs or viewpoints advocated by the displays, or the organization responsible for the displays.

Individuals or organizations interested in posting displays or exhibits should fill out an exhibit request form (provided by the library) to include a written description and, if possible, photos.

Exhibits shall be appropriate to community standards. All decisions regarding exhibits shall be at the discretion of the library director. Due to limited space, the library director will use his/her judgment regarding value to the community and balancing over time a variety of community interests. Regarding community interests and standards,

the library director may seek the advice and determination of the Library Advisory Board's exhibits committee or the entire LAB, but final authority rests with the director.

Duration of displays shall generally be for a maximum of three months.

Artwork **may not be offered for sale while** on display in the Homer Public Library, **except to benefit the library or Friends of the Homer Library.**

The library does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage of exhibited materials. An owner may wish to obtain private insurance for valuables. Before leaving any materials or objects on exhibit, an individual in charge must sign and date a release form (provided by the library).

D. AREAS FOR ROTATING DISPLAYS OF WORK BY ARTISTS

Rotating exhibitions and displays of artwork may be installed in the library's public spaces in accordance with the following approved policies and procedures.

1. Responsibilities and liabilities

Artists and/or galleries that submit artwork for display in the Homer Public Library accept full responsibility for the proper installation, display, and upkeep of artwork chosen for exhibition.

All installations and related processes must be approved by the appropriate staff of the Homer Public Library.

The general well-being, safety, maintenance, and good order of the Homer Public Library will take precedence over the agreement to mount or otherwise show exhibitions in library spaces.

Release forms: artists and/or galleries that submit artwork for display will sign a general "release form" that establishes: (a) the official responsible parties, (b) dates of exhibition, (c) specifics of exhibition, (d) insurance coverage or waiver, and (e) details of conditions of display.

The library does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage of exhibited materials. An owner may wish to obtain private insurance for valuables. Before leaving any materials or objects on exhibit, an individual in charge must sign and date a release form (provided by the library).

2. Selection processes

General guidelines: it is recognized that tastes and preferences in artwork vary widely and that freedom of expression and access to alternative perspectives are among the highest national values. It is also recognized that the public library is a space in which all segments of society are welcome and encouraged to participate in all its services and

activities without barrier; these considerations require a community-based process and public sensitivity in the selection process for exhibitions installed in the Homer Public Library.

Community standards: exhibits shall be appropriate to community standards. A Community Artwork Selection Panel will evaluate proposed exhibitions and develop an appropriate schedule. All final decisions regarding exhibits shall be at the discretion of the library director.

Process: the following process is intended to achieve a broad-based consensus on “community standards” for artwork on display in the Homer Public Library.

The Community Artwork Selection Panel:

The Panel shall meet once a year to select works for exhibition and determine the schedule of the exhibitions.

Composition:

- One LAB member
- One member of the Friends of the Homer Public Library who is not a LAB member
- One member of the **Parks, Art, Recreation, and Culture Advisory Commission.**
- The library director

Solicitation of artwork: the library director and/or the Community Artwork Selection Panel may formally solicit artwork for display in the Homer Public Library.

Director review: in all cases, the director of the Homer Public Library will have final review authority of recommendations made by the Community Artwork Selection Panel.

3. Available spaces

General: while all exhibitions and displays of artwork are to be placed in such designated areas where they can be viewed by library visitors, no exhibitions or displays will be allowed to block or otherwise impede public access or movement in and around the library.

Main Stacks area: each wall panel/exhibit space is numbered and may be assigned individually or in groups to artwork exhibitions (single works or multiple works) according to an annual calendar plan.

Children’s area: selected works may be free-standing, placed on vacant wall space, or suspended from the **ceiling.**

Lounge area: rotating displays of three-dimensional works may be placed in fireplace niches. **Two-dimensional artwork may be hung on the east and north walls.**

Open areas: may contain free-standing works that do not interfere with movement in **the** area.

Outdoor spaces: works and exhibitions to be displayed in outdoor spaces will also be considered by the Community Art Selection Panel.

4. Sales and commissions

Artwork **may not be offered for sale while** on display in the Homer Public Library, **except to benefit the library or Friends of the Homer Library.**

5. Exhibition Openings and other events

All exhibit-related events using the Homer Public Library grounds and interior spaces must be incorporated into the library calendar and schedule and have the written approval of the library director (or other established library use approval mechanism).

No alcohol may be served on Homer Public Library grounds or within the library. Unless the Homer Public Library has been retained for private, after-hours use, all exhibition openings and related events must be open to the public **and** free of charge.

Approved:
December 6, 2011 by the Library Advisory Board
by the Homer City Council

Updated July 24, 2018. AD.

HOMER PUBLIC LIBRARY LIBRARY USER CONDUCT

The Homer Public Library is available to persons of all ages. While everyone has an equal right to access library services and facilities, no person has the right to interfere with the ability of others to use and enjoy library resources, services, and facilities.

To ensure that visitors may enjoy a safe and pleasant library experience, the following rules have been established and adopted by the Library Advisory Board and approved by the Homer City Council.

The ~~Library~~ director and staff are responsible for enforcing ~~customer~~ **patron** conduct in the **Library**. Anyone found to be interfering with another's use of the **Library** will be asked to stop the behavior or activity. If the behavior continues, the staff will ask the individual to leave the **Library**. Failure to leave will result in staff calling the police for assistance. Repeated or serious violations may result in denial of library privileges and permanent exclusion.

Patrons should observe the following guidelines:

- Attend to children.
- Speak in a soft voice.
- **Contact a staff person with any questions, concerns, or needs for assistance.**

No list can be exhaustive; however, any conduct which disrupts ~~the Library~~ **library use** is prohibited. The following behaviors are ~~inappropriate and are~~ not acceptable in the **Library**:

- Disturbing or distracting others.
- Using abusive or profane language.
- Running inside the ~~Library~~.
- Using a **bicycle**, skateboard, scooter, roller or in-line skates in the **Library or near the entrance and entryway sidewalks**.
- Using cell phones to make or receive calls ~~while in the Library~~, **except in designated areas**.
- Bringing animals into the facility, with the exception of service animals ~~such as dogs serving patrons experiencing disabilities~~.
- ~~Bringing~~ **Consuming** food **inside the library** ~~or drinks other than bottled water beyond the security gates~~, **except where and when specifically allowed. Beverages in covered containers are allowed, except at public computer stations.**
- Smoking in the ~~Library~~ **or near the entrance. Smoking is allowed in a designated smoking area 50' from the library entrance.**
- Circulating petitions or ~~soliciting funds~~ **distributing materials outside of designated areas and/or without approval by library staff.**
- **Soliciting funds.**
- ~~Distributing or~~ **Posting** materials that have not been previously approved by library ~~personnel~~ **staff**.

- Making unauthorized or inappropriate use of library equipment (for example, computers, copiers, fire alarms, or emergency exit doors).
- Trespassing into any area closed to the public.
- Exhibiting ~~bodily hygiene~~ **odor** or fragrance that ~~is distracting to users or staff~~ **disturbs others** to the point that it interferes with ~~users'~~ **library activities**, use of library resources, or staff work.
- Using library facilities for purposes of bathing or sleeping.
- **Having a visible infestation of lice, parasites, or other pests.**
- **Having wet or soiled clothing that may stain or befoul library furniture.**
- ~~Displaying threatening demeanor toward patrons or staff.~~
- Possessing a weapon except as exempted under State of Alaska law (AS 29.35.145) or other applicable authority.
- Consuming or ~~possessing~~ **being under the influence of** alcohol or ~~illegal drugs or being under the influence.~~
- Destroying or defacing library property or the property of ~~customers~~ **patrons** or staff.
- ~~Illegally removing~~ **Stealing** library materials (~~theft~~). ~~Theft~~ **This** includes but is not limited to:
 - Attempts to remove materials from the ~~Library~~ without checking them out
 - The removal of **equipment**, artwork, plants, or decorations from library property
 - ~~Clipping portions or sections from books and other library materials~~
- Harassing or threatening patrons or staff verbally, physically, sexually, or electronically.
- Committing any other illegal acts or conduct in violation of ~~F~~**f**ederal, ~~S~~**s**tate, or local law, ordinance, or regulation.

Approved:

by the Library Advisory Board

by the Homer City Council



City of Homer

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MEMORANDUM

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
FROM: RACHEL TUSSEY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: AUGUST 1, 2018
SUBJECT: RESCHEDULE OCTOBER MEETING

Chair Peterson requested this item be on the agenda for the Board to consider rescheduling the October 2, 2018 regular meeting.

Recommendation

Make a motion to reschedule the October meeting, or cancel, as necessary.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
FROM: RACHEL TUSSEY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: AUGUST 1, 2018
SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY LIBRARY BUDGET REVIEW

Chair Peterson requested this item be on the agenda for the Board to discuss.

Recommendation

No action requested. Informational only.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
FROM: RACHEL TUSSEY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: AUGUST 1, 2018
SUBJECT: FIMLS FUTURE FUNDING SUPPORT

Chair Peterson requested this item be on the agenda for the Board to create a statement of support for the future funding of the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Recommendation

Any recommendations for support should be made by motion.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
FROM: RACHEL TUSSEY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: AUGUST 1, 2018
SUBJECT: FINDINGS FROM PUBLISHED LIBRARY STUDIES/REPORTS

Chair Peterson requested the following reports be on the agenda for the Board to review and discuss their findings, and their relevance to the Homer Public Library.

1. "From Awareness to Funding" – Voter Perceptions & Support of Public Libraries in 2018
2. American Libraries – The State of America's Libraries 2018

Recommendation

No action requested. Informational only.



From Awareness to Funding

Voter Perceptions and Support of Public Libraries in 2018

ALA American Library Association

PublicLibrary ASSOCIATION

OCLC

WebJunction



From Awareness to Funding

Voter Perceptions and Support of Public Libraries in 2018

Summary Report



Data from a survey panel of 2,000 US voters ages 18 to 69 living in areas with populations of fewer than 300,000, administered by Leo Burnett USA between September 29 and October 4, 2017. This research and report is a project led by OCLC, the Office for Library Advocacy of the American Library Association, and its Public Library Association division.

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Table of Contents

Introduction **5**

Voter Perceptions and Support for Library Funding Today: Key Overall Results **6**

Comparison of 2008 and 2018 Overall Findings **8**

2018 Library Support Segments: Key Findings and Comparisons to 2008 **12**

Cultural Context: What Has Changed in Ten Years? **26**

Next Steps **28**

Methodology **30**

Notes **32**

Tables and Figures

TABLES

- Table 1. Voter Perceptions of the Value of Core Aspects of the Library **9**
- Table 2. Voter Enthusiasm about Library Staff **10**
- Table 3. Snapshot of Library Support Segments **14**
- Table 4. Library as Office Voter Perceptions of the Value of Core Aspects of the Library **19**

FIGURES

- Figure 1. Voters Frequently Visit Libraries in Person and Online **6**
- Figure 2. Voter Confusion about Public Library Funding **7**
- Figure 3. Voters Support Federal Funding for Libraries **7**
- Figure 4. Survey Results for Support of Library Funding **11**
- Figure 5. Library Support Segmentation Pyramid **13**
- Figure 6. Library Support Segment Comparison 2008 and 2018 **13**
- Figure 7. Comparing 2008 to 2018 – Super Supporters **15**
- Figure 8. % of Super Supporters Who Would Vote Favorably for Library Referendum **15**
- Figure 9. Comparing 2008 to 2018 – Probable **16**
- Figure 10. Comparing 2008 to 2018 – Greater Good **17**
- Figure 11. Comparing 2008 to 2018 – Look to Librarian **18**
- Figure 12. Comparing 2008 to 2018 – Library as Office **19**
- Figure 13. Comparing 2008 to 2018 – Kid Driven **20**
- Figure 14. Comparing 2008 to 2018 – Just for Fun **21**
- Figure 15. Comparing 2008 to 2018 – The Web Wins **22**
- Figure 16. Detached Voters Demographics **23**
- Figure 17. Comparing 2008 to 2018 – Financially Strapped **24**
- Figure 18. Financially Strapped Voters' Willingness to Pay More in Local Taxes **24**
- Figure 19. Percentage Total Revenue from Local Sources **27**

Introduction

In 2008, OCLC published *From Awareness to Funding: A Study of Library Support in America*,¹ a national study of the awareness, attitudes, and underlying motivations among US voters for supporting library funding. The research, which was led by OCLC with funding by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and conducted by Leo Burnett USA, dispelled long-held assumptions and provided eye-opening insights about who supports public library funding and for what reasons.

A decade later, OCLC has partnered with the American Library Association (ALA) and its Public Library Association (PLA) division to investigate current perceptions and support among US voters and how they may have shifted in the intervening years. The partners re-engaged Leo Burnett USA and revisited the survey instrument used in the original research.

To allow for comparisons across segments and time, the new study is based largely on the original survey instrument and population (voters age 18 to 69 living in populations of 300,000 or less), yet expands queries into new types of library services, community impact, perceptions of funding sources other than taxes, and attitudes toward federal funding. Two population segments that were not part of the original research panel—people age 70 or older and people who live in large cities (populations greater than 300,000)—have been added and analyzed separately. The Methodology section (p. 30) details the methods and research questions used for this study in comparison to the original research and provides definitions of some of the terms used in this report.

This summary includes key findings from the 2018 research and highlights notable comparisons to 2008 results. The analysis shows that libraries remain valued institutions that most voters have a positive association with and find useful. There continues to be stalwart support for library funding in many communities as evidenced by the fact that the majority of local library ballot measures in recent years have passed. This new national voter data, however, indicates a softening in committed support for libraries over the past decade. Libraries and library advocates should take action to address this downward trend.

Readers can visit oclc.org/awareness2018 to access 2018 survey questions, data set and data tables, and summary analyses of the two additional population samples. Case studies, commentary, resources, and programming related to this research will be added to the website as they are made available.



Voter Perceptions and Support for Public Libraries Today: Key Overall Results

A majority of US voters value public libraries.

Analysis shows that 55% of voters² view the public library as an essential local institution, and 53% as a source of community pride. Fifty-eight percent (58%) feel that public libraries advance education, and 51% believe libraries enhance the quality of life of any community.

About half (49%) of voters agree that the public library remains an invaluable community resource, even in the Internet age. Over a quarter (27%) see the Internet as a suitable equivalent to libraries as an information source, and only 19% agree that bookstores or online retailers are an easier source for books. Just 13% question the necessity of libraries at all in the Internet age.

Voters frequently visit the library. Seventy percent (70%) of voters have visited the library in person in the past year, an average of 8.6 times. Two-thirds of voters place high importance on foundational library services such as:

- having quiet areas for doing work or research (67%),
- providing free access to books and technology (66%),
- being convenient to get to (66%),
- providing free access to computers and the Internet (65%),
- having a broad range of materials to explore (65%), and
- providing Wi-Fi (64%).

More than half (56%) of voters feel it is important to be able to download a variety of materials via the library's website; and 52% have accessed their library's website in the past year, an average of 7.6 times.

Voters frequently visit libraries in person and online



FIGURE 1.

The community aspect of the library is important to many voters.

A notable percentage of voters (44%) value the library as a gathering place for community members, and nearly half (48%) believe it is important that libraries offer enriching activities that can't be found anywhere else in the community. Thirty percent (30%) of voters view their local library as a community hub. Of those who visited their library in the past year, 37% have attended community meetings; and 33% have attended a library-organized program or event in the past six months.

Commitment to library-funding support does not align with voter attitudes and use of the library.

While a majority of voters value and use the library, just over a quarter (27%) indicate they would definitely vote in favor of a referendum, ballot, or bond measure in support of the local library; another third (31%) say they probably would vote in favor. And, 35% agree they would be willing to pay more in local taxes to better fund the public library; only 19% would not agree to pay more in taxes.

Voters are confused about the sources of public library funding.

Institute for Museum and Libraries Services (IMLS) data shows that 86% of public library funding comes from local government sources;³ yet, 59% of voters think most library funding comes from non-local sources.

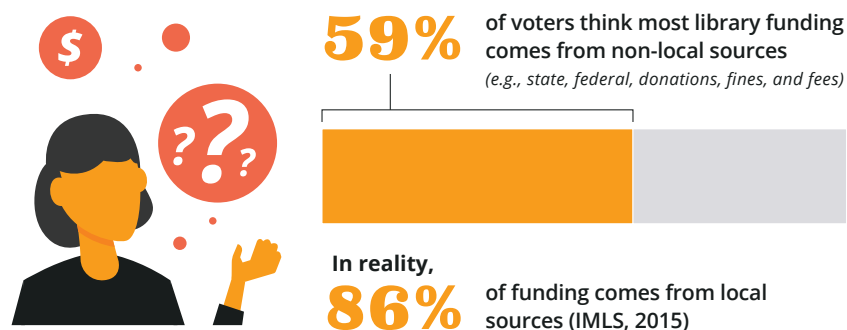


FIGURE 2.

76% say the federal government should either...

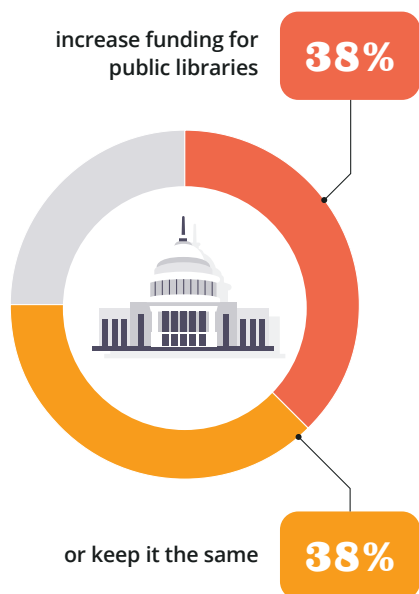


FIGURE 3.

Voters support federal funding for libraries.

Thirty-seven percent (37%) believe that federal funding for libraries is too little, 29% think it is just right, and another 29% aren't sure (only 5% think it's too much). Regarding future federal library funding, three-quarters of voters say the federal government should either increase (38%) funding for public libraries or keep it the same (38%). Only 8% would recommend that federal funds are decreased or eliminated; and 17% are not sure.

Voters are receptive to library fundraising efforts.

The majority (61%) of voters have either contributed (28%) or are willing to contribute (33%) to fundraising efforts in support of their local library.

Comparison of 2008 and 2018

Overall Findings

A side-by-side assessment of the 2008 and 2018 research indicates that more voters today view libraries as hubs for connecting, learning, and skill building. Findings also indicate some decline among voters' use and perception of libraries, and that voters' commitment to support for tax-based library funding has softened.

Libraries are increasingly seen as a community hub for human connection and lifelong learning.

Significantly more voters today (43%) describe the library as a place that “offers activities and entertainment you can’t find anywhere else in the community,” than did in 2008 (34%) and more believe this is an important role for a library (48% in 2018 vs. 38% in 2008). Similarly, 44% now view their local library as “a place for people in the community to gather and socialize,” compared to 35% in 2008; and more believe this is an important role for a library (45% in 2018 vs. 36% in 2008). Also, 41% of voters in 2018 see the library as a place to turn to for help in disaster situations, a small increase from 37% in 2008.⁴

More voters recognize libraries as a resource for job training and language building.

In 2018, 42% of voters feel that the library “helps provide people with skills for the workplace,” compared to 35% in 2008; and 35% acknowledge that the library “provides classes, programs, and materials for immigrants and non-English speakers,” an increase from 25% in 2008.

Voters report visiting the library and its website less frequently.

The 70% in-person library visitation rate in 2018 is a decline from 79% in 2008; and the average number of visits per year dropped from 13.2 in 2008 to 8.6. Use of the library website declined from 77% in 2008 to 52% today.

Some traditional library services are used less often.

While still popular, some common services have seen declines, including use of nonfiction (53% in 2018 vs. 67% in 2008), fiction, or bestseller (54% vs. 63% in 2008) books for adults; DVDs (45% vs. 51% in 2008); print reference material (34% vs. 51% in 2008); computer searching (40% vs. 47% in 2008); photocopying (39% vs. 48% in 2008); and English as a second language classes (27% vs. 42% in 2008).

Fewer voters associate the library with some of its core aspects.

While still valued by the majority of voters, some features of the local library have seen a rating decrease of seven to nine percentage points:

TABLE 1. Voter Perceptions of the Value of Core Aspects of the Library

Library Ratings	2008 (%)	2018 (%)
Free access to books and technology that some people may not be able to afford	70	61
Free access to computers and the Internet for everyone	68	61
Quiet areas for doing work or research	67	60
Having the right staff to meet the needs of the community	57	49

Fewer voters are likely to see the library as a resource for children.

In 2008, 71% agreed that “the library is an excellent resource for kids to get help with their homework”; today, 51% agree. In 2008, 53% agreed that “the public library does an excellent job of helping prepare children for school,” compared to 44% today. And, while just 24% of 2008 voters felt that “libraries just aren’t as important in kids’ lives as they once were,” 36% believe this in 2018.

People need technology services at the library more than ever.

With the growing ubiquity of mobile devices over the past decade, more voters value the library’s technology and Internet services than they did in 2008. There was a large jump (from 39% in 2008 to 64% in 2018) in those who rate wireless Internet as a highly important library service. While a majority of voters still view the library as a technology hub, this percentage has decreased as mobile devices and Internet access have become more prevalent in the US. In 2018, 62% agree that “for some people, the library is the only place to access computers or the Internet,” down from 79% in 2008. And, the accelerated pace of technology change has taken its toll; only 48% of voters today agree that “the public library has done a good job of keeping up with changing technology,” down from 60%.

Voters today are less enthused about library staff.

While more voters today recognize librarians' ability "to help non-English speaking patrons" (29% in 2018 vs. 23% in 2008), ratings of local library staff on several qualities declined in comparison to 2008.

TABLE 2. Voter Enthusiasm about Library Staff

Librarian Ratings	2008 (%)	2018 (%)
Friendly and approachable	67	53
True advocate for lifelong learning	56	46
Knowledgeable about my community	54	42
Understands the community's needs and how to address them through the public library	48	42
Has excellent computer skills	50	42
Well known in the community	40	31

The library's perceived value and relevance to the community has declined.

In 2018, 53% of voters agree that "having an excellent public library is a source of pride," which is a significant drop from 73% in 2008. Similarly, while 55% agree today that "if the library were to shut down, something essential would be lost," this is a drop from 71% in 2008. Today, less than half of voters (46%) feel that "the public library stimulates growth and development;" in 2008, 63% did. While 38% of voters in 2008 believed that "the library offers services equally important as the police and other services," today only 28% do.⁵

People are less likely to vote in support of library funding.

While a majority of voters today state they would still probably or definitely vote favorably for a library funding ballot initiative, referendum, or bond measure, the percentage who say this has declined from 73% in 2008 to 58% today.

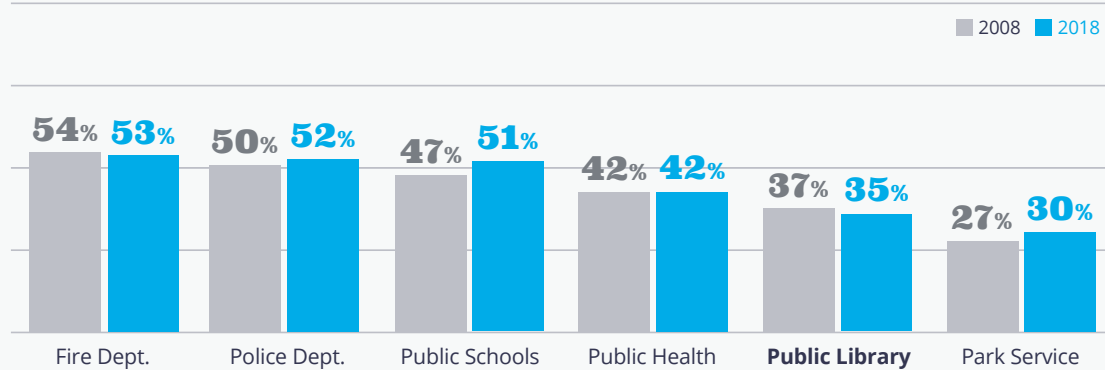
However, public libraries aren't the only services facing softening voter support. While voters are just as likely to say they'd be "willing to pay more in taxes" to fund all public services (e.g., fire department, police department, public schools, public health, public library, and park service) as they were ten years ago, they are also more prepared to make cuts during a budget crisis today compared to a decade ago.

Perhaps related, most voters recognize local funding for libraries is insufficient; only 20% feel that local government provides adequate funding (27% did in 2008).⁶ However, just 57% today believe that "local support can make a big difference in the quality of the library"—a dramatic decrease from the 81% who did in 2008.

Survey Results for Support of Library Funding

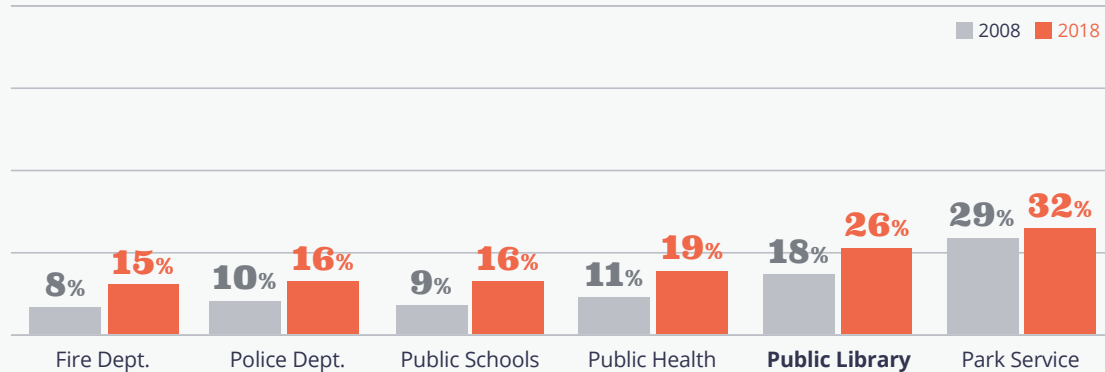
I'd be willing to pay more in local taxes to better fund this

(% Top 3 Box Agreement: 8, 9, or 10 on a 10 pt. scale)



Should be one of the first things cut in a budget crisis

(% Top 3 Box Agreement: 8, 9, or 10 on a 10 pt. scale)



Should be a top priority when allocating tax dollars

(% Top 3 Box Agreement: 8, 9, or 10 on a 10 pt. scale)

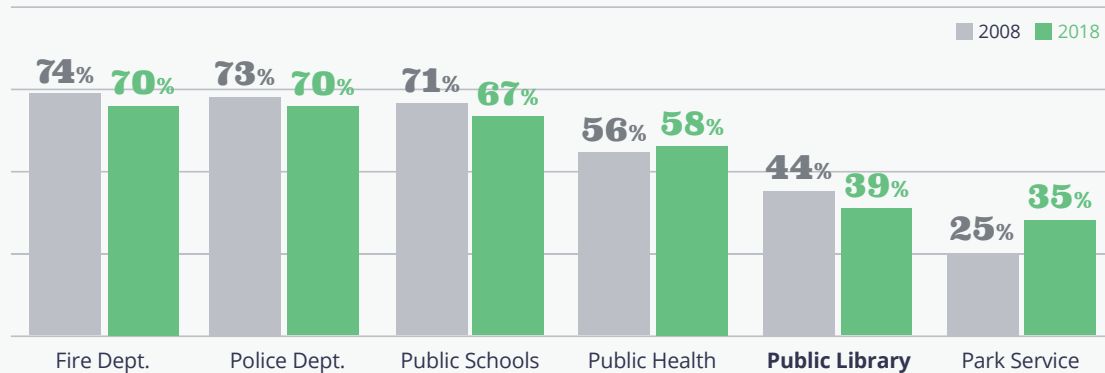


FIGURE 4.

2018 Library Support Segments: Key Findings and Comparisons to 2008

The 2008 research uncovered that voters' support for library funding is not driven by demographics (e.g., income, age, gender, race, political affiliation), but rather their attitudes, perceptions, and behaviors. The study identified six key drivers among voters:

1. likelihood of voting favorably on a library referendum
2. general voting behavior
3. barriers to using/supporting the library
4. library services used
5. attitudes toward the library
6. perceptions of library staff

These constructs were used to develop a Library Support Segmentation Pyramid consisting of ten segments organized into four tiers: **Super Supporters**, **Probable Supporters**, **Barriers to Support**, and **Chronic Non-Voters**.

The ten segments comprising these tiers are:

- 1. Super Supporters**
People who most value the library and are most firmly committed to supporting library funding.
- 2. Greater Good**
Those who strongly believe the library plays an essential role in the overall well-being of a community.
- 3. Look to Librarians**
Those who especially value a librarian's knowledge and research expertise, and believe that librarians are advocates for learning in the community.
- 4. Library as Office**
Those who use the library for work and study purposes, seeing it as an important, practical resource in their lives.
- 5. Kid Driven**
Those who are focused on the role the library plays in educating and inspiring children.
- 6. Just for Fun**
Those who see the library as a place to relax, hang out, and socialize with others, and recognize the library's role as a community gathering place.
- 7. The Web Wins**
People who rely heavily on the Internet as an information source and believe that the library provides little added value.
- 8. Detached**
Those who are not involved with their local library or community as a whole.
- 9. Financially Strapped**
Those for whom financial strains are the chief barrier to library support.
- 10. Chronic Non-Voters**
People who do not vote in presidential or local elections. This segment is considered outside the influence of libraries and was not analyzed.

Library Support Segmentation Pyramid

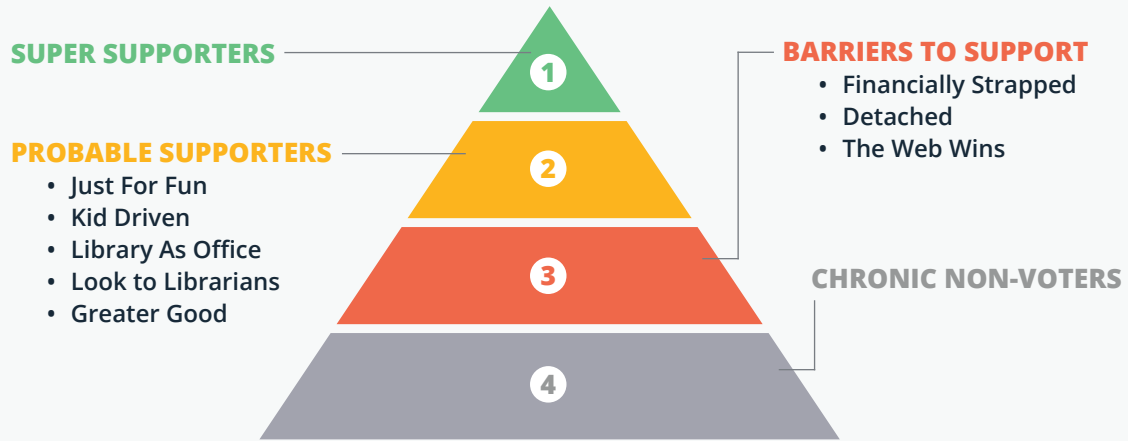


FIGURE 5.

Library Support Segment Comparison 2008 and 2018

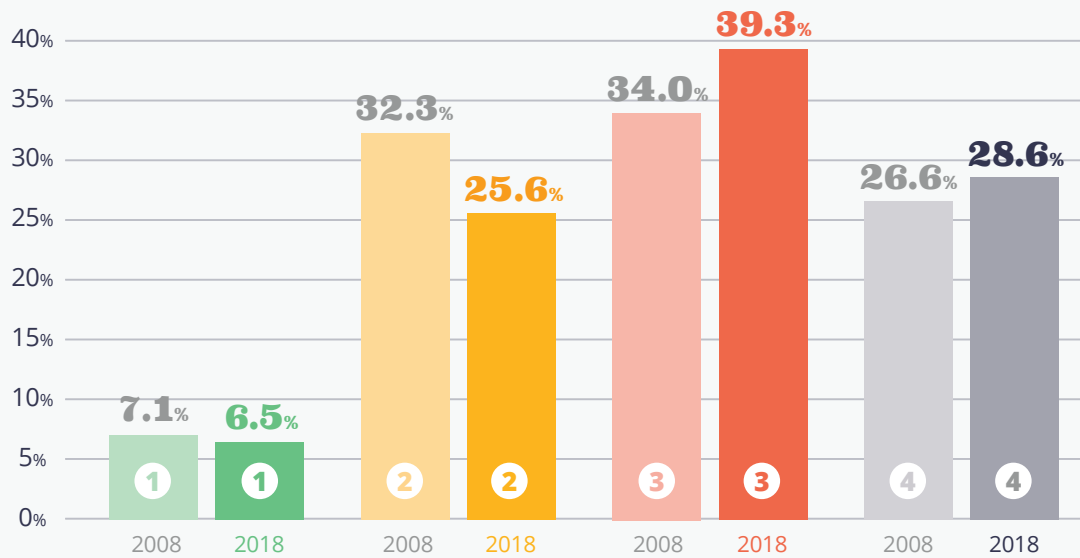


FIGURE 6.

This section includes a snapshot view of the drivers for each of the nine analyzed segments and callout boxes to highlight significant changes to segment demographics since 2008.

TABLE 3. Snapshot of Library Support Segments

Tier/Segment	% of total population		% of segment that would vote "yes" for libraries		Number of annual library visits		% who rate libraries positively		% who rate librarians positively	
	2008	2018	2008	2018	2008	2018	2008	2018	2008	2018
Super Supporters	7.1%	6.5%	80%	64%	15.9	15.9	71%	80%	72%	73%
Probable Supporters	32.3%	25.6%	47%	36%	19.9	13.6	73%	73%	72%	65%
Greater Good	8.7%	6.7%	50%	44%	4.5	6.0	61%	68%	63%	56%
Look to Librarians	6.5%	5.9%	50%	26%	24.5	13.8	80%	79%	83%	76%
Library as Office	3.4%	3.4%	49%	45%	18.0	26.4	59%	73%	57%	59%
Kid Driven	6.6%	5.2%	48%	30%	18.0	14.0	79%	70%	75%	62%
Just for Fun	7.1%	4.5%	37%	36%	36.3	14.6	80%	74%	73%	73%
Barriers to Support	34.0%	39.3%	19%	15%	6.4	4.1	49%	49%	46%	45%
The Web Wins	7.4%	12.1%	24%	20%	6.2	6.6	51%	50%	51%	47%
Detached	16.0%	17.7%	21%	10%	3.7	1.9	39%	44%	37%	39%
Financially Strapped	10.6%	9.5%	11%	18%	10.6	5.2	62%	54%	57%	53%
Chronic Non-Voters	26.6%	28.6%	Excluded from questions							

SUPER SUPPORTERS

Representing 6.5% of the total population, the Super Supporters tier is the pinnacle of the pyramid; it offers the largest proportion of definite library support of any segment. This group has had more formal education than the average voter, but is otherwise demographically average in terms of age, gender, race, and income. Super Supporters are committed to a strong library: in 2018, 87% are willing to pay more in local taxes to better fund the library. People in this segment are avid readers and learners, and they visit the library an average of 15.9 times per year—the same as a decade ago.

Comparing 2008 to 2018, Super Supporters are:

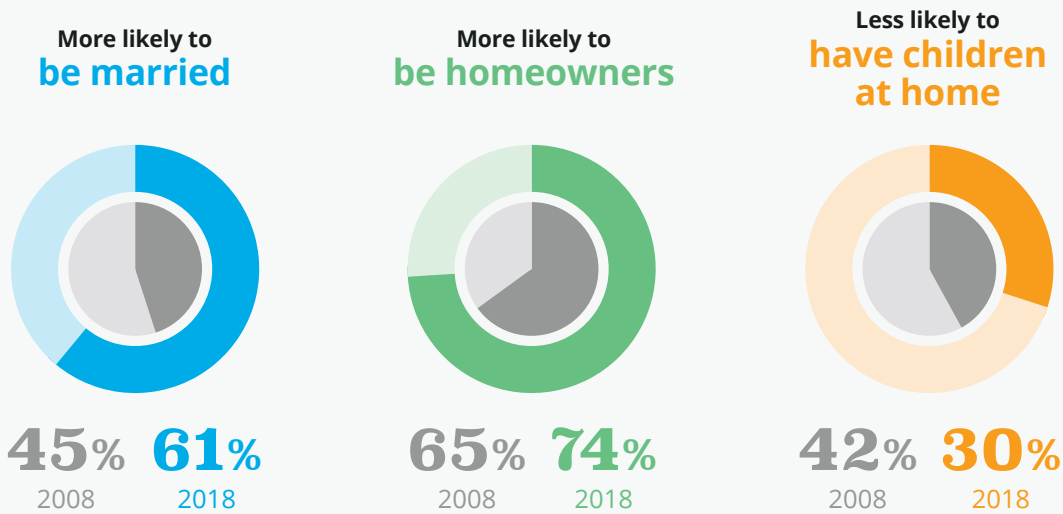


FIGURE 7.

Super Supporters have a deep emotional connection to the library and recognize its role in a thriving community. Today, 88% view the library as a source of community pride; 77% believe it stimulates community growth and development. Over the past decade, Super Supporters have grown in their conviction that a strong library raises property values: 80% believe this in 2018, a jump from 65% in 2008. And, nearly half (46%) see their library as a community hub today, compared to 34% in 2008.

% of Super Supporters who would vote favorably for library referendum

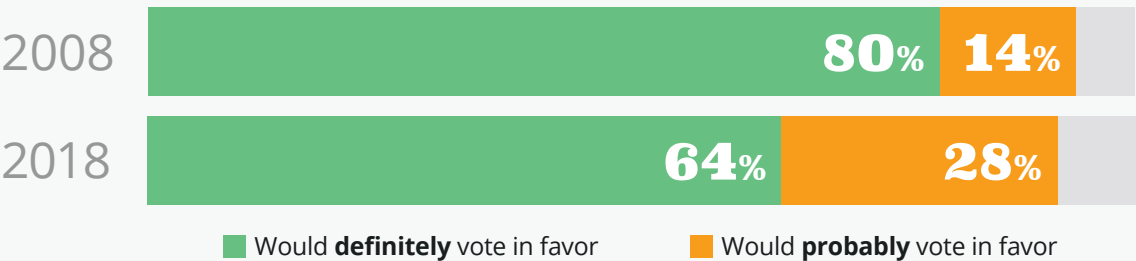


FIGURE 8.

Super Supporters believe the library is a better information source than the Internet. Today, 83% believe that the library helps people find trustworthy information, and 68% understand that the library offers access to resources not freely available elsewhere. Only 8% believe today that the Internet provides all the information that one could find in the library (down from 16% in 2008); and just 10% think that search engines produce information as good as a library search does—a notable decrease from 22% in 2008.

While Super Supporters' likelihood to vote favorably remains consistent (92% in 2018 vs. 94% in 2008), the percentage of those who say they will *definitely* vote for library funding has declined from 80% in 2008 to 64% today. These results correspond to the downward trend in definite support across voters in general.

PROBABLE SUPPORTERS

The Probable Supporters tier, comprising five segments, are voters who are likely to support library funding initiatives but are less committed than Super Supporters. This group currently represents a quarter (26%) of the total population, which means their decisions at the ballot box have substantial impact on the success of library funding initiatives, yet less so than in 2008 when it comprised 32% of voters.

Comparing 2008 to 2018, Probable Supporters are:

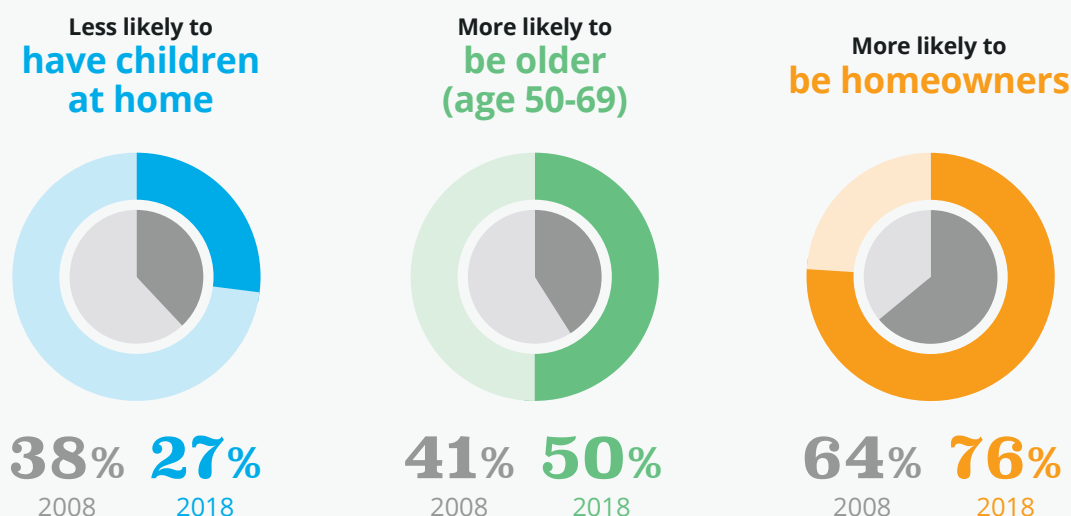


FIGURE 9.

Probable Supporters see the library as an important asset, and many are willing to support the library with tax dollars. Today, 36% of this tier would definitely support a library referendum, down from 47% in 2008. While this tier still yields the largest number of people who will offer this definite support, this number has decreased since a decade ago.

Key findings and changes among demographics, use, perceptions, and support for the library are summarized below for each of the five Probable Supporter segments.

PROBABLE SUPPORTERS: GREATER GOOD

The Greater Good segment, representing 6.7% of the total population today, uses the library less frequently (6.0 average visits in-person over the past year) than other segments in this tier, but this has remained steady since 2008. Three-quarters feel it is important for the library to provide free access to a broad range of knowledge resources and technology, offer quiet work areas, and be an excellent educational resource for students. Two-thirds (67%) agree that the library is an invaluable resource even in the Internet age; and 60% believe that the public library “is a resource we cannot live without.” Half (50%) of the voters in this segment place importance on the library as a gathering place for community members, 53% as a resource for small businesses, and 56% as a place to gain workforce skills.

Comparing 2008 to 2018, Greater Good supporters are:

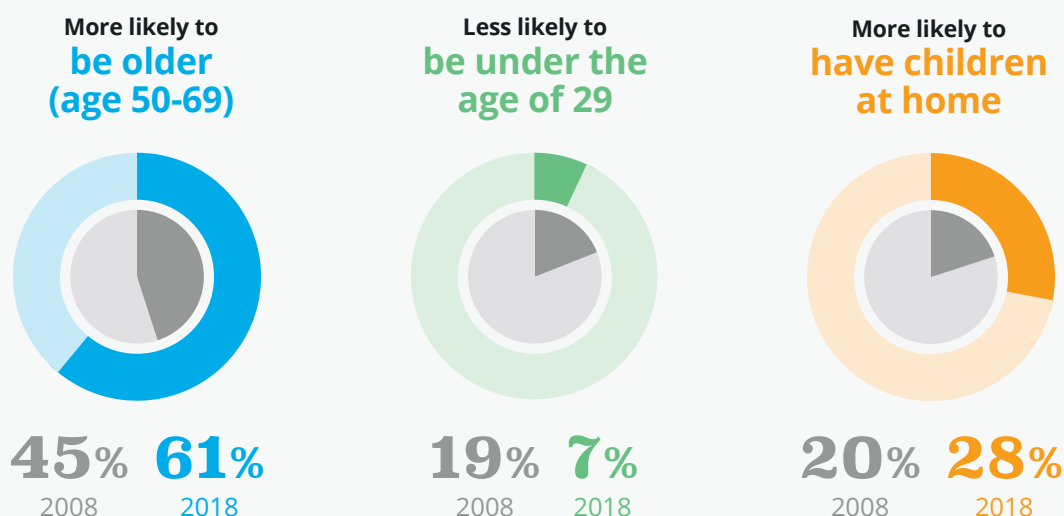


FIGURE 10.

With only slight erosion since 2008, Greater Good voters are more likely than average to support funding for the library: 44% would definitely vote for a library referendum on the ballot, and 38% would agree to pay more in local taxes toward library funding. Forty percent (40%) have donated to library fundraising groups in the past (2018 data only).

PROBABLE SUPPORTERS: LOOK TO LIBRARIANS

The 5.9% of 2018 total population in the Look to Librarians segment rate the library highly and have an especially strong appreciation for its staff. They value librarians' knowledge and research expertise, and believe that they are true advocates for learning in the community. In fact, this segment's 76% who give librarians a positive overall rating makes it the strongest of any segment in 2018; and their 79% who rate public libraries positively in general is second only to Super Supporters. Yet, their consistently positive attitude is coupled with a decline in usage: they visited the library 13.8 times in the past year, compared to 24.5 visits a decade ago; and fewer use library services when they do visit. This group is no more likely than other voters to be aware of newer library services.

Comparing 2008 to 2018, Look to Librarian supporters are:

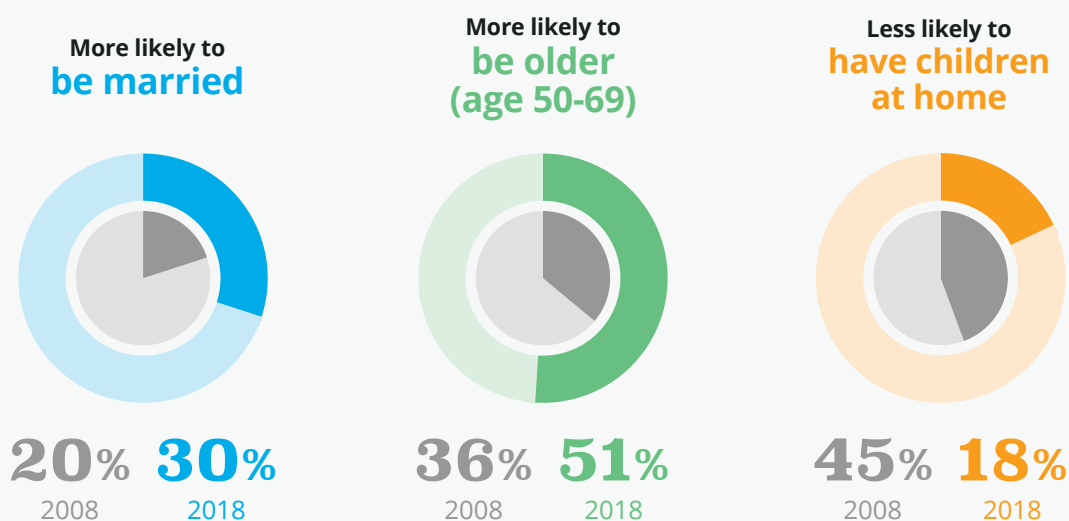


FIGURE 11.

Although this segment still treasures the library as a place of learning, fewer of them agree that something essential would be lost if the library were to shut down (92% in 2008 vs. 73% today). Consequently, compared to ten years ago, this segment has become far less interested in funding or supporting the library. In 2008, 50% would definitely vote for library funding, but only 26% would today. The percentage who would probably vote for library support has remained roughly the same (43% in 2008 vs. 45% today).

PROBABLE SUPPORTERS: LIBRARY AS OFFICE

The Library as Office is the smallest segment in the pyramid, making up just 3.4% of the total population. However, they are the library's heaviest users, visiting in-person an average of 26.4 times over the year, which represents a significant jump from an average of 18.0 visits in 2008. They also visited the library website 20.7 times over the same period, well above the average.

Comparing 2008 to 2018, Library as Office supporters are:

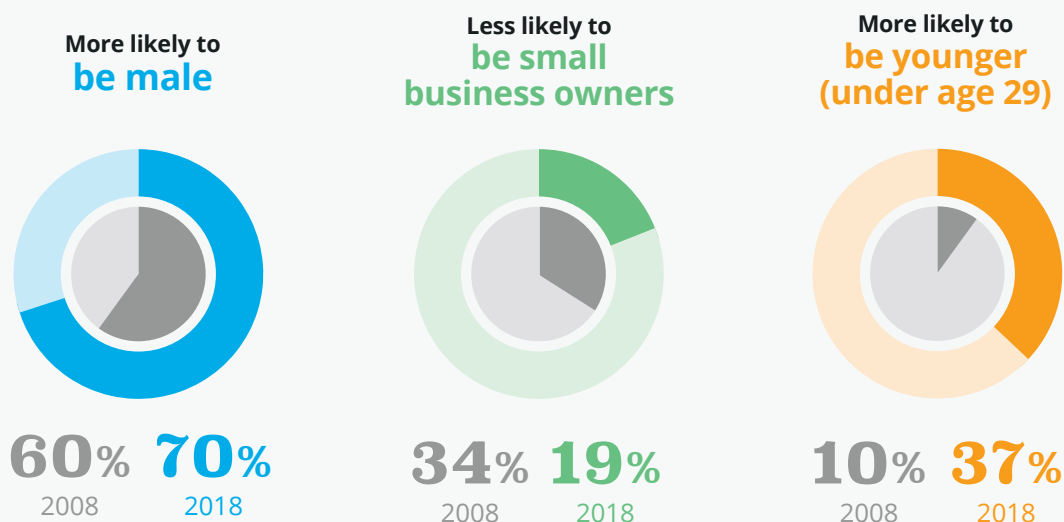


FIGURE 12.

This segment sees the library as an essential, functional resource. Their use of the library for job seeking, doing organizational research or work, and using equipment such as the photocopier has increased significantly. Only 12% believe that a search engine such as Google will provide as good information as a library search will, and only one in five think a search engine is easier for research than the library. However, their ratings of the library have slipped significantly in a few areas compared to 2008; they no longer see the library excelling in some key services, such as offering quiet spaces and access to computers, and fewer agree the library has done a good job of keeping up with changing technology.

TABLE 4. Library as Office Voter Perceptions of the Value of Core Aspects of the Library

Library Ratings	2008 (%)	2018 (%)
Offer quiet spaces	67	45
Access to computers	82	48
Keeping up with changing technology	72	37

With 45% committed to definitely voting for libraries at the ballot box, this segment represents strong library support. They're also more likely than others to donate to private fundraising efforts, and more than half agree that the federal government should increase funding for libraries.

PROBABLE SUPPORTERS: KID DRIVEN

The Kid Driven segment represents 5.2% of the total population. The biggest users of children's books and entertainment, these voters value the library as a resource for childhood learning. However, this perception has weakened: In 2008, two-thirds viewed the library as an excellent resource to prepare children for school; now only half do. And, whereas 80% of 2008 Kid Driven voters agreed libraries are an excellent resource for homework help for kids, this has declined to 63% today. Today, 29% of these voters believe that libraries just aren't as important in children's lives, double that of 2008 (14%). This segment uses the library less frequently now, dropping from 18 in-person trips per year in 2008 to 14 per year in 2018.

Comparing 2008 to 2018, Kid Driven supporters are:

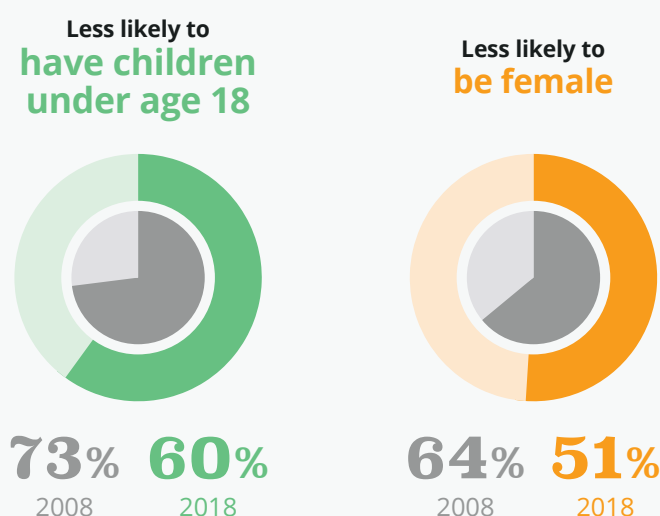


FIGURE 13.

This segment places a great emphasis on the library being a community, technology, and entertainment hub, even more so than they did ten years ago. For example, in 2008, 47% agreed that the library should be “a place for communities to gather together,” and, in 2018, 58% agree — which is well above the 44% across the total voter sample. Nearly three-quarters (73%) give high marks to the library for providing wireless access (vs. 39% in 2008), and 53% rate the library highly for “offering activities and entertainment you can’t find anywhere else in the community” (vs. 47% in 2008). Yet, this segment has become less confident that library staff are in close enough touch with community leaders and community needs. For example, 48% now agree that library staff are “knowledgeable about my community,” which is down from 69%. And, only 33% believe that librarians work “closely with local politicians and community leaders to get public library funding and support,” a drop from 50% in 2008.

The Kid Driven segment is less firmly committed to library funding than they were a decade ago. In 2008, 48% would definitely vote in favor of library funding; this has declined to 30% in 2018; meanwhile, 43% would probably vote in favor in 2018, a slight increase from 39% in 2008.

PROBABLE SUPPORTERS: JUST FOR FUN

Just for Fun represents 4.5% of the total population. As in 2008, they have positive views of the library, particularly in offering a range of entertainment options, having the “right staff,” and being an invaluable resource. Similarly, their overall impression of both libraries and librarians remains high.

Comparing 2008 to 2018, Just for Fun supporters are:

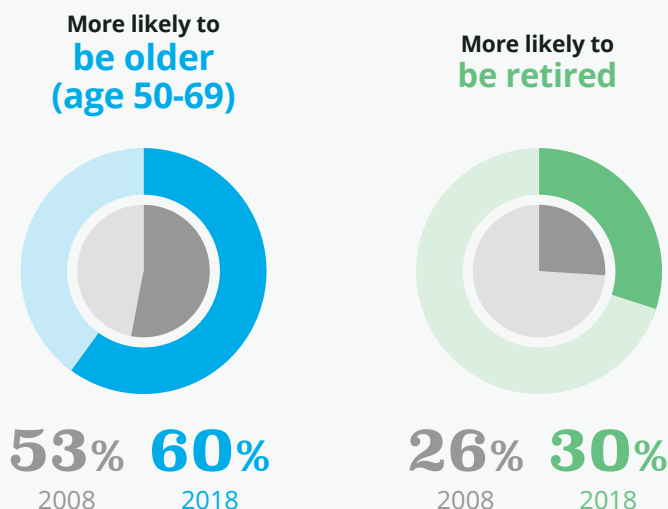


FIGURE 14.

These voters still visit the library a lot—14.6 in-person visits per year compared to the 8.6 average of all voters—but this is a sharp decline from 36.6 visits in 2008; and their use of library services has also significantly decreased over the past decade. They are also above average users of the library’s website: in 2018, 73% report having visited the website in the last year, with an average of 17.2 visits over that time. And while inside the library, these voters are avid users of the library’s Wi-Fi to access the Internet: 37% have done so in 2018, an increase from 20% in 2008.

This segment brings a strong commitment of library support to the mix, which has not changed since 2008. Thirty-six percent (36%) would definitely vote for a library referendum, 46% would pay more in local taxes to fund the library, and 36% have donated to library fundraising groups.

BARRIERS TO SUPPORT

The Barriers to Support tier is the most challenging group (beyond the Chronic Non-Voters) to convince of library funding support. The tier has increased slightly since 2008, from 34% to 39% of the general public. It still represents a proportionally small number of definite supporters of library funding; the percentage of voters in this tier who would definitely support library funding has slipped somewhat, from 19% to 15%. Key results from each of the three segments in this tier are summarized below.

BARRIER TO SUPPORT: THE WEB WINS

The Web Wins represents 12.1% of the total population, a significant increase from 7.5% in 2008. This group is more likely than most to believe that the information found on the Internet is equally as good as what can be obtained at the library, although this viewpoint has softened: today, 50% agree with that statement, compared to 63% in 2008. However, they do use several library services more today, including non-English books (42% in 2018 vs. 34% in 2008) and job-seeking support (35% in 2018 vs. 23% in 2008).

Comparing 2008 to 2018, The Web Wins voters are:

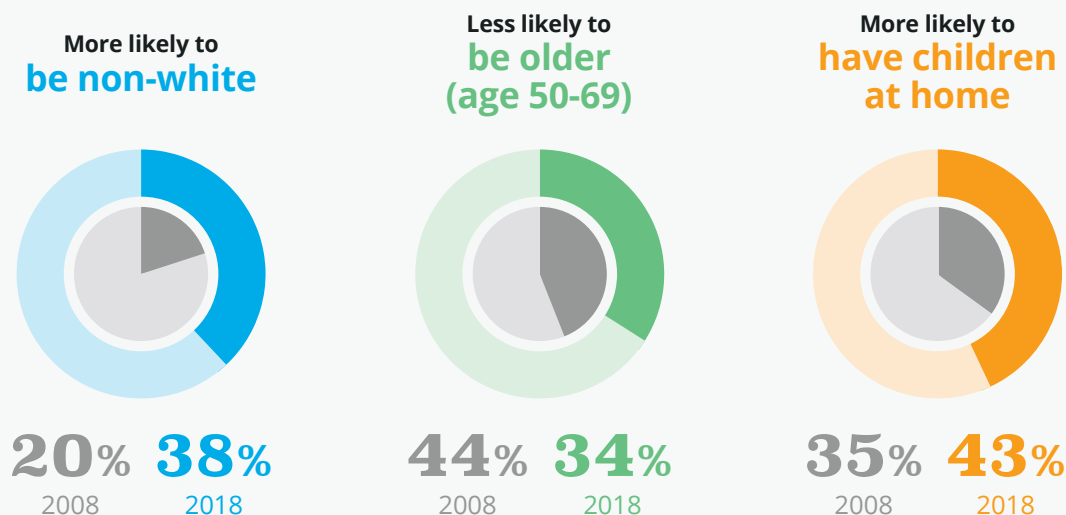


FIGURE 15.

Just 28% of the Web Wins segment believe that the library remains an invaluable resource to the community in the Internet age, significantly fewer than the 49% of total voters who do.

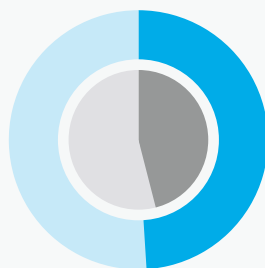
Consistent with 2008, most of the voters in this segment are not likely to vote for library funding. Only one in five say they would definitely vote for a library referendum; and 22% indicate they would be willing to pay more in local taxes to better fund the library.

BARRIER TO SUPPORT: DETACHED

Detached make up 17.7% of the total population, only a slight increase from 2008. Those in the Detached segment are generally disengaged from the library, and they infrequently visit the library in person, about once a year. They fundamentally don't see much value in the library for either their family or the community; only 44% believe that there would be impact to the community if the library were to shut down, and just 15% say that their own family would feel the effect. Not surprisingly, only 10% would definitely vote for a library referendum, and just 16% would pay more in taxes to improve funding for the library. A small percentage (13%) of these voters have donated to library fundraising groups. This segment's level of apathy toward the library has remained consistent since 2008.

Detached voters are demographically similar today as they were 10 years ago:

Just under half are
female



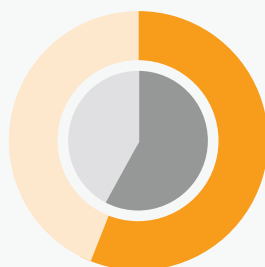
46% **49%**
2008 2018

About half are
age 50-69



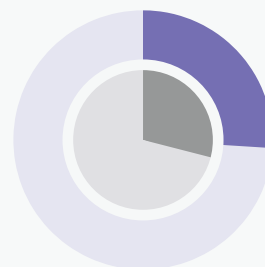
46% **46%**
2008 2018

The majority are
married



58% **56%**
2008 2018

More than 1/4
**have children
at home**



29% **26%**
2008 2018

FIGURE 16.

BARRIER TO SUPPORT: FINANCIALLY STRAPPED

Those in the Financially Strapped segment represent 9.5% of the total population, a small decrease from a decade ago. They skew to being younger, non-white, with lower incomes, and a higher rate of unemployment compared to the total voters. These voters are not frequent visitors of the library, but when they do visit, it is most often for Internet/computer access, English as a second language classes, and checking out books and materials in languages other than English. They are higher than average users of the library's job-seeking services, homeschooling support, and training on the Internet and technology. Just about half (49%) indicate it is important that the library enhances the quality of life in their community. And, while 52% think it is important for the library to be a resource for students, only 40% see their library as an excellent resource for homework help.

Comparing 2008 to 2018, Financially Strapped voters are:

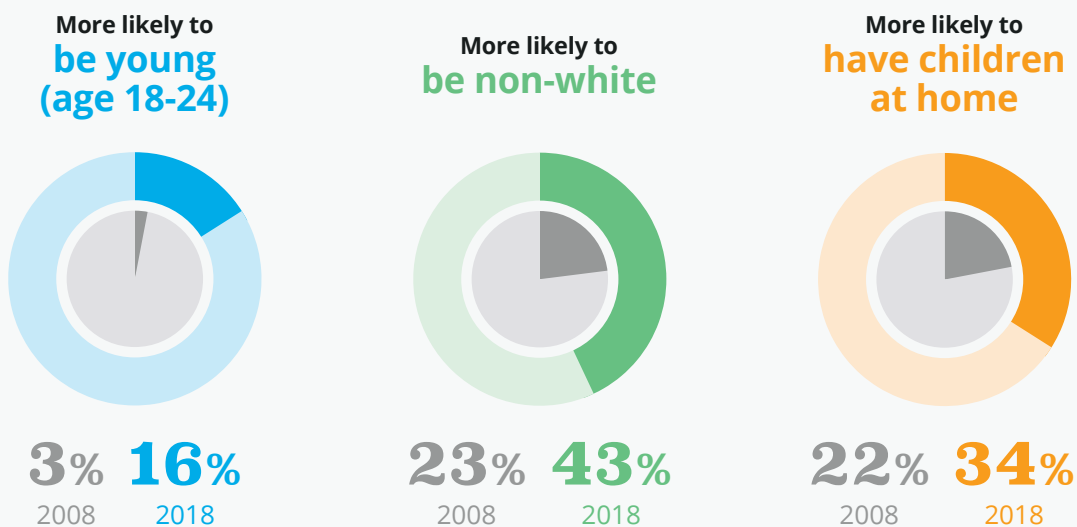


FIGURE 17.

Financially Strapped voters' willingness to pay more in local taxes to fund public services

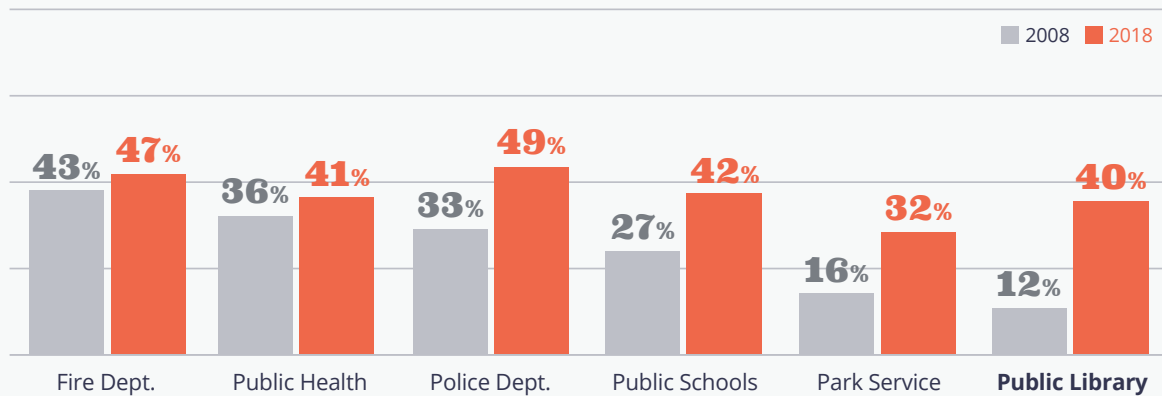


FIGURE 18.

Although the library has gained some ground relative to other public services in their eyes (see chart), their support for libraries at the ballot box remains below average. Although 40% are willing to pay more in local taxes to fund the library, only 18% would definitely vote for a library referendum. Just under 30% have donated to library fundraising groups in the past. Half of these voters state that they cannot afford to pay more taxes, and nearly as many (46%) think that the library should be able to make do without a budget increase.

Cultural Context: What Has Changed in Ten Years?

In the decade since the first *From Awareness to Funding* study, there have been significant economic, technological, demographic, and political shifts in the US, including three presidential elections, a global economic crisis, and the sharp rise in social media-driven information flow.

Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube had opened to the public just a year before the original research was conducted; the introduction of the first iPhone soon followed. Today, smartphones and social media are used by millions around the world. They have amassed vast shares of the attention economy and created tidal shifts in how people communicate and access information.

The Great Recession⁷ also had widespread impact, including on public libraries. Library use climbed in the wake of economic duress, and libraries gathered resources and developed programs and services to support job seekers, the unemployed, and business owners striving to rebuild local economies. Over the past decade, the library industry has explored how libraries can and should become more deeply engaged with their communities in terms of programs, services, and outreach. Libraries are reorienting toward measuring success based on patron and community outcomes, rather than library outputs. And library digital content and services are exploding.

It is possible that the Great Recession and other shifts in the external landscape have had a chilling effect on public service, overall. Evidence suggests a deprioritization of public support not just for libraries, but also for fire, police, public schools, public health, and park services. And recent studies, such as ones conducted by Gallup Organization,⁸ show a decline in the public's trust in every major institution—government, education, business, labor unions, media, religion, banks—starting in 2007.

Today, public libraries are even more reliant on local funding sources for operating revenue. In 1998, local government was the source of 78% of public library funding. By 2008 this percentage had risen to 82%. As of 2015, the percentage had increased further, to 86%.⁹ In recognition of this trend, bolstering local support for library funding is one of the most pressing needs faced by public libraries today.

Percentage total revenue from local sources

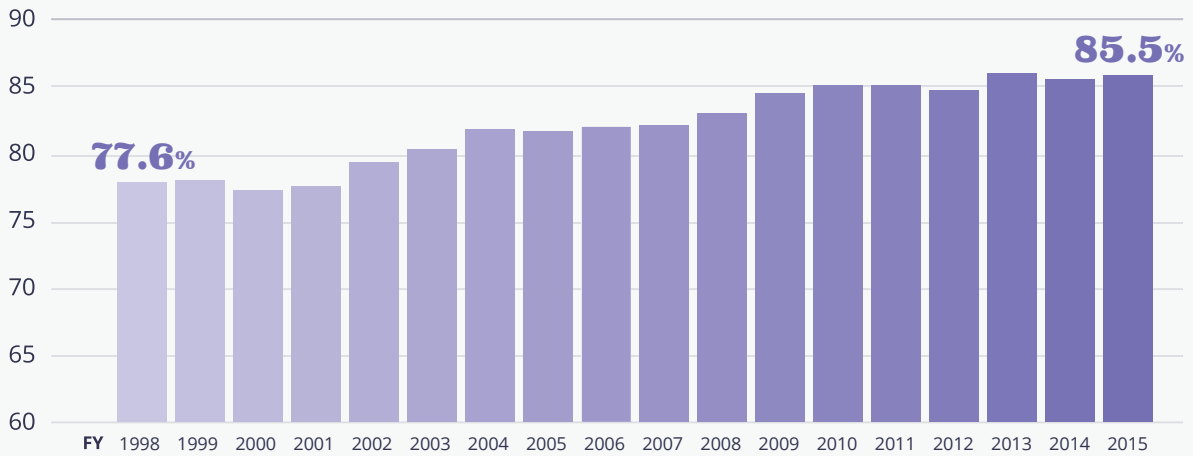


FIGURE 19.

In the last few election cycles, many libraries were rewarded for their local advocacy efforts with successful ballot initiatives, affirming voter investment in bond measures and increased millages for the library. For example, voters across 22 states passed more than 81% of 150 library funding measures in 2016; and in 2017, 95% of all 133 library ballots tracked passed.^{10,11} While these outcomes are heartening, this research study confirms trend data about public library use from the Public Libraries Survey¹² and finds that, overall, public library support has softened. Demographic shifts (Baby Boomer supporters are aging, and the percentage is shrinking as a proportion of the population, while the percentage of skeptics is increasing in size) and cultural trends suggest these losses could accelerate and undermine library funding in the future, if concerted action is not taken.

Next Steps

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel once said, “You never want a serious crisis to go to waste. It’s an opportunity to do things you thought you couldn’t do before.” In terms of strengthening awareness and support for our public libraries, we as a library community should not wait for a crisis to take action we might believe is not possible.

With this current view of US voters’ perceptions, use, and support of libraries, and an understanding of how it compares to a decade ago, we can initiate and coordinate action at local, state, and national levels. Some areas for exploration could include the following:

Target public awareness efforts

Awareness of library offerings and value continues to be a challenge—perhaps one that is only growing as people are more distracted and diverted into a fragmented communications environment. The Pew Research Center has consistently found in their household surveys that many Americans, including library users, are still unaware of the breadth of resources offered by the public library.¹³ The market segments and their characteristics outlined in the original research and updated here can better enable library professionals to target communications and customize messaging via traditional and social media channels to more effectively reach people. For instance, libraries may connect announcements of new programs or services to larger stories about how the library supports school-age children, workforce readiness, or small business development.

Leverage areas of positive public perception

Consider the balance between traditional and emerging services and how they are communicated to the public. Several service areas that people feel are among the most important for libraries saw a decline in their perception among voters over the past decade, including providing free access to books and technology, helping students with homework, and having the right staff to meet the needs of the community. Yet, these services remain common to all public libraries. While still strong overall, public perception of our work in these areas has fallen. The library “book” brand persists in people’s minds to our benefit and detriment. At the same time, we can maximize and leverage areas where we see improving public perception, including helping provide people with skills for the workforce and providing an inviting gathering place for community members to connect and learn together.

Amplify library resources and impacts for school-age children

The decreased perception of library value in this area and the decrease in funding support among the Kid Driven segment are particularly alarming: all public libraries dedicate significant resources to this population, and engaging families is essential to developing future library users and supporters. In 2013, the Pew Research Center found that parents were among the most active library users surveyed; and 94% said the library was important for their children.¹⁴ While Pew Research surveyed a different population segment than the one used for this study, these new findings indicate that more work is needed to raise awareness of the vital roles that libraries play for children and families. Children also may have less free time to spend at the library than they once did; a better understanding of the trends in out-of-school time and the competition for children’s (and their busy parents’) attention is also warranted.

Cultivate and empower Super Supporters

A significant bright spot in the research is that support among library Super Supporters—a small but mighty group—is largely unchanged. This segment’s loyalty should not be taken for granted, but rather nurtured and protected. In addition, library leaders can consider how to engage and leverage this group as library ambassadors to advocate with decisionmakers and influence other segments of the population that might be more disconnected or skeptical.

Engage the Library as Office segment

The Library as Office segment includes the most frequent users of the library, offers a much higher than average percentage of definite library supporters, and skews younger than Super Supporters. This makes them a valuable segment to nurture. Their connection to and investment in the future of our institutions might be increased by focusing on the library traits that mean most to them: convenience, comfortable work spaces, and ample access to computers and technology. As the gig economy continues to attract more and younger professionals, this small segment may continue to grow.

Recognize local libraries as community hubs

As the need for traditional services continues to evolve, the spotlight can be shined on assets that are often overlooked: the library as a safe and welcoming place, a hub that connects people and gives them opportunities to learn together, and the positive impact of library staff engaged with the community around local priorities. For some libraries, the shift could include new programming that emphasizes community issues or cultural intersections; while in others, an assessment of community needs and evaluation of services could be incorporated. In either case, it is important to continually communicate the value of the library as a vital and noncommercial third space that is positioned to bring together diverse communities with equally diverse and enriching programs.

Address those in the Barriers to Support tier

Consider how to make inroads among the nearly 40% of voters who do not currently support the library. What do they value, and how does this influence service delivery and communications about library programs? The Web Wins segment has seen the largest growth in size. Speak early and often to the role of the library in a digital world—both in enabling access for all and in being an essential physical place for community connection.

Clarify misconceptions about funding sources

Build a clearer “line of sight” as to how funding leads to improvement. Government at all levels struggles to make visible the impact of public investments in infrastructure such as roads and public buildings. How can libraries better show the return on local investment? It is alarming that we have seen a more than 20-point drop in the belief that “local support can make a big difference in the quality of the library.” The data clearly shows that this issue is not limited to libraries, as willingness to fund public services and growing privatization efforts affect all sectors. But it is one we must confront.

These summary results and initial reflections are offered as a catalyst to conversation and collaboration among library leaders and library support organizations across the country. We encourage you to explore the full report and additional resources online at oc.lc/awareness2018. Together we can identify our next best steps forward, knowing that our essentially local institutions will continue to develop local solutions.

Methodology

For the original 2008 study, OCLC partnered with Leo Burnett USA to create a segmentation analysis and targeting framework. The goal was to identify segments of the public that were more or less interested in supporting their local libraries, and to uncover the motivations and barriers driving this support.

For this updated study, OCLC partnered with ALA, PLA, and Leo Burnett to update the segmentation and assess what, if anything, had changed—both among the general public as well as among specific library segments. While this new study dropped the qualitative research (focus groups) and the survey of city officials, it expanded the analysis in a few areas. It includes a sample of those living in larger metropolitan areas to gauge differences between smaller and bigger populations. While the previous study focused just on population areas with fewer than 300,000 residents, this study included another dataset from voters in regions with more than 300,000 residents. The results do not show significant variation from the results of the voters in the smaller geographic regions. In addition, some new questions were added to assess awareness and usage of newer library offerings, and to probe more in-depth into opinions about library funding.

Between September 29 and October 4, 2017, a 25-minute survey was administered by Leo Burnett via an online panel. The data was weighted to be nationally representative on age, gender, income, and education. Data was collected for three samples:

1. A sample of 2,000 people age 18 to 69 in areas with a population of less than 300,000 (used for direct comparison to the 2008 study). Results for this sample have a statistical margin of error of +/- 2.3 percentage points at the 95th confidence level.
2. A sample of 1,000 people age 18 to 69 who live in population centers of more than 300,000. As noted above, results for this group were not significantly different from the smaller geographic regions; a summary of those results can be found at oclc.org/awareness2018.
3. A sample of 200 respondents age 70+. While this group is similar with respect to funding support to the general sample, they have an overall higher impression of librarians, the library, and its impact on the community. A summary analysis of the 70+ can be found on the website at oclc.org/awareness2018.

An algorithm was used to screen for all ten segments that were identified in the original study. Like last time, the survey screened out the Chronic Non-Voters segment, because those not registered to vote or who do not vote are deemed outside of libraries' scope of influence.

To allow for comparison from 2008 to 2018, a significant number of the questions had to be retained in their original form around the following topics:

- demographics
- voting behavior
- library voting support
- library usage, overall and for specific services
- library attitudes
- funding attitudes
- importance of library vs other public services
- library and librarian ratings
- anticipated impact of library closings

New to 2018 were questions related to:

- awareness and usage of new library offerings
- library website visitation frequency
- library's impact on community advancement (education, employment, etc.)
- additional library and librarian ratings
- perceptions of funding
- contributions to private fundraising efforts
- additional probes on impact of library closings
- anticipated impact of library closings

The survey instruments used are included as a downloadable file on the report website here:

oc.lc/awareness2018.

Various question constructs were used in the survey instrument that relate to how the results are described in this summary report:

Importance Scale. The report uses words such as “important” or “importance” in reference to questions where respondents were shown phrases and words and asked to rate how important they were for public libraries (e.g., *offers quiet areas for doing work or research*) and librarians (e.g., *knowledgeable about my community*). The scale ranged from 10 (“extremely important”) to 1 (“not at all important”). The percentage of those who found the statement “important” was calculated from those respondents who rated each phrase with an 8, 9, or 10.

Description Scale. The report uses words such as “describe,” “view,” “believe,” “acknowledge,” “feel,” and “recognize” in reference to questions where respondents were shown the same phrases and words used in the importance scale and asked to rate how well each described their local library and its staff. The scale ranged from 10 (“describes it extremely well”) to 1 (“doesn’t describe it at all”). The percentage of those who found the statement as “describing” their library or its staff was calculated from those respondents who rated each phrase with an 8, 9, or 10.

Agreement Scale. The report uses words such as “agree,” “feel,” “view,” or “believe” in reference to questions where respondents were asked to rate to what extent they agree with a given statement, e.g., *I would be willing to pay more in taxes that would fund operating costs of the local public library*. The scale ranged from 10 (“agree strongly”) to 1 (“disagree strongly”). The percentage of those who “agree” with the statement was calculated from those respondents who rated each phrase with an 8, 9, or 10.

Library visitors and services used. The report references services used at the public library. The base for those who have used a service is made up of those who indicate they have visited their public library in the last year (“library visitors”); the % indicated as using a service is library visitors that have used the service in the past six months.

Overall positive ratings of libraries and librarians. The report references those who give libraries and librarians an overall positive rating. This is based on the question, “Please rate your overall impression of your local public library/librarians at your public library on a 10-point scale, where a 10 means it’s “An Excellent Library” and 1 means it’s “Unsatisfactory.” The percentage who rate libraries/librarians “positively” was calculated from those respondents who gave a rating of 8, 9 or 10.

Notes

1. De Rosa, Cathy, and Jenny Johnson. 2008. *From Awareness to Funding: A Study of Library Support in America: A Report to the OCLC Membership*. Dublin, OH: OCLC. <https://www.oclc.org/en/reports/funding.html>.
2. The research panel is composed of a sample of 2,000 US voters between the age of 18 and 69 who live in population areas of fewer than 300,000 residents.
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4. The Pew Research Center report, *Libraries 2016*,^{4a} found that 69% of the general US public (age 16 and older) say the library contributes "a lot" to providing a safe place for people to spend time; 38% say they contribute "a lot" to promoting a sense of community among different groups within their local areas; and 29% believe they contribute "a lot" to serving as a gathering place for addressing challenges in their communities. Also, the FY2014 Public Library Survey Annual Report compiled by IMLS^{4b} notes a 68% increase over ten years in the number of community programs offered at public libraries, stating that, "Although print and physical audio materials have been decreasing, the number of programs has consistently increased, indicating a demand for in-person opportunities that differ from the traditional library services."

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to view the infographic, download the full data set and find additional resources.



american libraries

SPECIAL REPORT | APRIL 2018

THE MAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The State of America's Libraries 2018

A Report from the American Library Association

LIBRARIES
TRANSFORM®

Top Ten Most Challenged Books p. 13

ABOUT THE REPORT



KATHY S. ROSA is the director of the ALA Library and Research Center. Rosa draws on many years of experience working in a variety of libraries. She has taught information and technology skills in school and public libraries, as well as library and information science courses for graduate students. She can be reached at 312-280-4273 or krosa@ala.org.

The following ALA divisions and offices also contributed to this report:

- American Association of School Librarians
- *American Libraries* magazine
- Association for Library Service to Children
- Association of College and Research Libraries
- Office for Accreditation
- Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services
- Office for Information Technology Policy
- Office for Intellectual Freedom
- Office for Research and Education
- Office of Government Relations
- Public Awareness Office
- Public Library Association
- Young Adult Library Services Association

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ABOUT ALA

The American Library Association (ALA) is the foremost national organization providing resources to inspire library and information professionals to transform their communities through essential programs and services. For more than 140 years, the ALA has been the trusted voice of libraries, advocating for the profession and the library's role in enhancing learning and ensuring access to information for all. For more information, visit ala.org.

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Prince George's County (Md.) Memorial Library System, Laurel branch

4 The State of America's Libraries

A report from the American Library Association

EDITED BY Kathy Rosa

8 Academic Libraries

9 School Libraries

10 Public Libraries

12 Issues and Trends

12 Intellectual freedom

16 Youth and teen services

18 Library programs

19 Sustainability

20 National Issues and Trends

22 Resources
85

The State of America's Libraries 2018

A Report from the American Library Association

EDITED BY Kathy S. Rosa

The 2017 Harvard Harris Poll on Crime and Safety in America reports that voters rank healthcare, economy and jobs, and terrorism and national security as the most important issues facing the country today. In uncertain times, people turn to trusted institutions, such as libraries, for reliable information resources. The Pew Research Center reports that a growing number of people believe librarians can help them locate information they can trust, and a majority feel that the library provides a safe place to work and relax. Libraries and librarians empower people to lead with cutting-edge technologies, paths to lifelong learning, and responsiveness to social issues.



Bryan McGeary, subject librarian for the humanities, teaches “Foundations of Research 2: Information has Value” in Alden Library, Ohio University, Athens.

Academic libraries empower learners with access to authoritative digital and print collections, as well as instructional sessions. A recent study reports that 6.2 million students participated in face-to-face and online instructional sessions. Libraries in doctoral degree-granting institutions were open an average of 109 hours per week, followed by comprehensive university libraries at 88 hours per week and baccalaureate school libraries at 87 hours per week. Community college libraries were open an average of 63 hours per week.

Library staff are hired or retrained to deliver evolving library services. The top five new services currently supported by academic libraries are web development, open access institutional repositories, learning systems, digital humanities, and digital media production. Other services supported by library staff include massive open online course (MOOC) development, e-portfolio development, makerspaces, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

School libraries are a unique and essential part of the learning community. American Library Association (ALA) President Jim Neal writes, “School libraries are about innovative technologies and creative spaces. Through school libraries, students understand issues like privacy, confidentiality, intellectual freedom, open access, fair use, and how these relate to their work as learners. Students view libraries as a positive and essential part of their lives.”

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), signed by President Obama in 2015, reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and replaced the No Child Left Behind version passed in 2002. For the first time, the legislation includes language on “effective school library programs” and student learning outcomes. In 2016–2017, the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) and the ALA Office for Library Advocacy led state workshops to inform school librarians about strategies designed to

ensure that school librarians were included in the state ESSA plans.

Public libraries lead in bridging the digital divide with 16,500 physical locations in communities of all sizes across the country. The resources and services of public libraries empower low-income families and expand access to health information.

Public libraries worked with community partners to help find ways to address the national opioid crisis by supporting community efforts within their scope as learning organizations. The Public Library Association (PLA) and WebJunction created a Libraries and the Opioid Crisis Facebook page where library workers can discuss the health crisis and share resources.

Access and challenges

The ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) reported that bans and challenges to remove or restrict access to library materials rose from 45 in 2016 to 91 in 2017.

The theme for 2018's Banned Books Week, observed in libraries and bookstores across the country September 23–29, will be: “Banning books silences stories. Speak out!”

Top Ten Most Challenged Books in 2017. OIF tracked 354 challenges to library, school, and university materials and services in 2017. Some individual challenges resulted in requests to restrict or remove multiple titles. Overall, 416 books were targeted. Here are the “Top Ten Most Challenged Books in 2017”:

1. *Thirteen Reasons Why*, by Jay Asher

Originally published in 2007, this *New York Times* bestseller has resurfaced as a controversial book after Netflix aired a TV series by the same name. This YA novel was challenged and banned in multiple school districts because it discusses suicide.

2. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*,

by Sherman Alexie

Consistently challenged since its publication in 2007 for acknowledging issues such as poverty, alcoholism, and sexuality, this National Book Award winner was challenged in school curricula because of profanity and situations that were deemed sexually explicit.

3. *Drama*, written and illustrated by Raina Telgemeier

This Stonewall Honor Award–winning, 2012 graphic novel from an acclaimed cartoonist was challenged and banned in school libraries because it includes LGBT characters and was considered “confusing.”

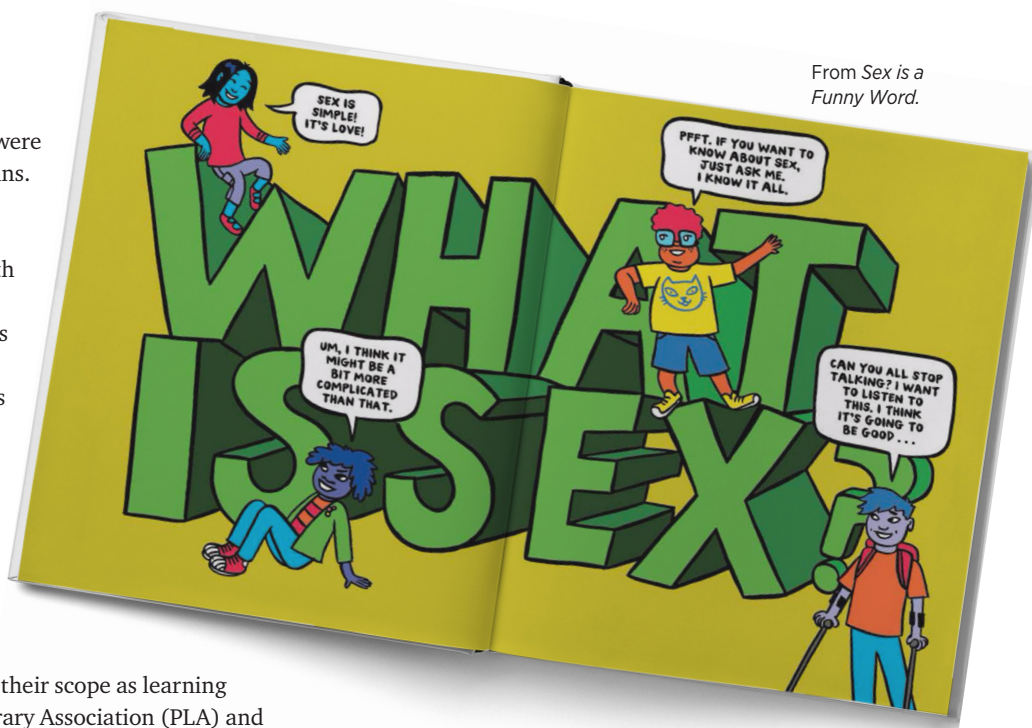
4. *The Kite Runner*, by Khaled Hosseini

This critically acclaimed, multigenerational novel was challenged and banned because it includes sexual violence and was thought to “lead to terrorism” and “promote Islam.”

5. *George*, by Alex Gino

Written for elementary-age children, this Lambda Literary Award winner was challenged and banned because it includes a transgender child.

From *Sex is a Funny Word*.



6. *Sex is a Funny Word*, written by Cory Silverberg and illustrated by Fiona Smyth
This 2015 informational children's book written by a certified sex educator was challenged because it addresses sex education and is believed to lead children to "want to have sex or ask questions about sex."

7. *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee
This Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, considered an American classic, was challenged and banned because of violence and its use of the N-word.

8. *The Hate U Give*, by Angie Thomas
Despite winning multiple awards and being the most searched-for book on Goodreads during its debut year, this YA novel was challenged and banned in school libraries and curricula because it was considered "pervasively vulgar" and because of drug use, profanity, and offensive language.

9. *And Tango Makes Three*, by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson, illustrated by Henry Cole
Returning after a brief hiatus from the Top Ten Most Challenged list, this ALA Notable Children's Book, published in 2005, was challenged and labeled because it features a same-sex relationship.

10. *I Am Jazz*, written by Jessica Herthel and Jazz Jennings, illustrated by Shelagh McNicholas
This autobiographical picture book cowritten by the 13-year-old protagonist was challenged because it addresses gender identity.

Issues and trends

Many libraries struggled to fund the resources and staff training needed to address both the serious societal issues teens are facing as well as meet the needs of historically underrepresented groups. A 2017 [member survey](#) by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) indicated that 51.9% had reached out to teens who aren't regular library users, and about the same number of respondents (51.2%) worked to build their own cultural competence skills.

Children encounter digital media in many places, including libraries, according to a [recent report](#) from the

Erikson Institute's Technology in Early Childhood Center. Libraries provide a space for families to connect with the digital tools and media that ensure their access to information. Children's librarians are at the forefront of being trusted resources for the youngest members of their library communities.

The function of libraries as community centers is readily recognized. A [Brookings Institution](#) article even referred to librarians as "ad hoc social workers and navigators" who "help local people figure out the complexities of life." This role is especially evident, and never more essential, than in times of crisis, and 2017 has had its share of adversity—from natural disasters to shootings on school campuses.

Threats to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (the agency that provides federal support for libraries and museums in the US) and to federal policies that impact public access to information were met with strong opposition from America's libraries throughout the past year. By the time FY2018 officially began in October 2017, the Appropriations Committees from both houses of Congress had [passed bills](#) that maintained (and in the Senate, increased by \$4 million) funding for libraries.

ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries has identified numerous [trends](#) that will affect libraries. Among them are:

Aging. An aging workforce and population will impact the workplace, government budgets, policy, and family life. For libraries, this could mean a change in the profile of their users, and in the profile of librarians and library professionals.

Income inequality. According to the [Institute for Policy Studies](#), income inequality has been growing markedly for the past 30 years in the United States. Library services in support of skills development will likely become more important, empowering the upward mobility of people.

Connected learning. Social and digital media available via the internet will provide learners with limitless opportunities to seek and acquire new knowledge and skills. In order for connected learning to help level the playing field between the haves and have-nots, students must have regular access to new and emerging technologies and the internet. Libraries that offer access to these will be better able to integrate themselves into connected learning environments.

Academic Libraries

ALA's Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) conducts an annual survey of staffing, collections, expenditures, operations, and initiatives for all academic libraries in the United States. The statistics in this section are taken from the most recent data set in 2016.

Staffing trends

In the past five years, 21% of all academic libraries saw staffing increases, while 19% saw decreased funding and 60% reported flat budgets. Expenditures for salaries and wages accounted for 57.2% of the total library expenditures on average. Salaries and wages constituted 76.5% of total library expenditures for associate-degree granting institutions, 52.3% for baccalaureates, 55.7% for comprehensive schools, and 44.5% for doctoral/research institutions.

During the same time period, almost 61% of academic libraries repurposed or cross-trained staff to better support new technologies or services or provide support for new positions or library departments. Retirements and budget constriction were also factors.

Services

Although almost two-thirds of libraries reported flat budgets, new services continue to grow. The top five new services currently supported by academic libraries are web development, open access institutional repositories, learning systems, digital humanities, and digital media production. Other services supported by library staff include massive open online course (MOOC) development, e-portfolio development, makerspaces, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Most academic libraries employ staff to provide specialized assistance with copyright, metadata, data management, research impact, instructional design, and data visualization.

In the past five years, more than 58% of all academic libraries have changed their reference staffing models, with the most popular change being a switch to on-call staffing. Academic libraries also provide staff and other support to such campus services as writing centers (42%), tutoring (39%), testing (25%), diversity and equity (12%), and digital scholarship labs (11%).

Academic library staff provided instructional sessions (face-to-face as well as electronic) for more than 6.2 million students. Almost 43% of these sessions were digital.

Doctoral degree-granting institutions averaged the most reference transactions and consultations per year (more than 16,700), followed by comprehensive universities (more than 5,100 transactions and consultations), community colleges (more than 7,200), and baccalaureate schools (more than 2,300).

Doctoral or research universities accounted for more than 85% of institutional repository usage followed by comprehensive universities (9%), baccalaureate schools (5%), and community colleges (1%). More than 1.2 million items were accessed in 2016.

Access

Libraries in doctoral degree-granting institutions were open an average of 109 hours per week, followed by comprehensive university libraries at 88 hours per week and baccalaureate school libraries at 87 hours per week. Community college libraries were open an average of 63 hours per week.

Collections

Academic library expenditures for collection materials averaged \$5,623,980 for doctoral degree-granting institutions, \$701,778 for comprehensive degree-granting institutions, \$493,206 for baccalaureate schools, and \$148,822 for associate degree-granting institutions. On average, doctoral degree-granting institutions spent 70.9% of their materials budgets on ongoing commitments to subscriptions in 2016, comprehensive schools spent an average of 79.2%, baccalaureate schools spent 74.2%, and associate degree-granting institutions spent 55.2%. On average, academic libraries spent 69.8% of their materials budget on journal subscriptions.

School Libraries

School libraries and librarians are vital to the educational community. The school library is a unique and essential part of the learning community, and when led by a qualified school librarian, prepares all learners for college, career, and life.

ALA President Jim Neal writes, “School libraries are about innovative technologies and creative spaces. Through school libraries, students understand issues like privacy, confidentiality, intellectual freedom, open access, fair use, and how these relate to their work as learners. Students view libraries as a positive and essential part of their lives.”

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), signed by President Obama in 2015, reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and replaced the No Child Left Behind version passed in 2002. For the first time, the legislation included language on “effective school library programs” and student learning outcomes.

School librarians and administrators are not alone in creating the state ESSA plans. The American Association of School Librarians (AASL), as the national organization for the school library profession, is following ESSA and tracking individual states’ approval. State workshops were offered by AASL and the ALA Office for Library Advocacy in 2016–2017, with more than 40 states participating.

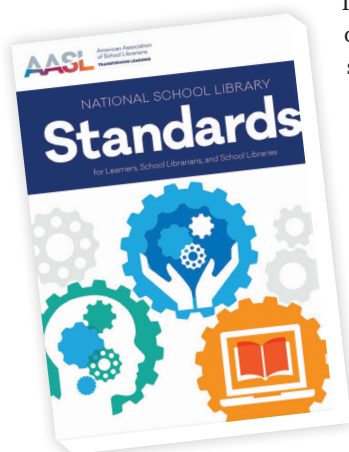
These workshops were not only designed to inform school librarians about the legislation, but most importantly to walk them through developing a personalized, state-specific, advocacy and coalition-building plan to ensure that school librarians were included in the state ESSA plan. Follow-up interviews with



“Collaborate” is one of the six Shared Foundations that anchor the AASL Standards Integrated Framework.

workshop participants indicated a significant increase in general comfort level in advocating for school library programs. This will have a lasting impact on all state-level advocacy efforts.

AASL’s release of *National School Library Standards for Learners, School Librarians, and School Libraries* is a groundbreaking publication that provides school librarians with a structure to develop curriculum tailored to their local priorities and accommodate learner growth through personalized experiences. The AASL Standards Integrated Framework, featured within the book, reflects a comprehensive approach to teaching and learning that demonstrates the connection between students, librarians, and standards.



Public Libraries

Public libraries continue to play a vital and expanding role in serving their communities. Through innovative programs and partnerships, they are narrowing the digital divide and the achievement gap for low-income families, as well as expanding access to health information.

Digital literacy

With more than 16,500 physical locations in communities of all sizes across the country, public libraries make powerful partners in bridging the digital divide. They are essential providers of public internet access, computers, and training that community members need to compete in today's digital world. In February 2017, the Public Library Association (PLA) and Cox Communications announced a new partnership intended to strengthen and expand the organizations' shared commitment to helping low-income students and their families use technology through greater access to digital literacy training in their local libraries and online at DigitalLearn.org.

Nurturing from a loving parent or caregiver in the early years of a child's life supports healthy brain development that forms the foundation for success later. Public and school libraries are taking a proactive approach toward engaging caregivers in supporting children's early literacy development. The Every Child Ready to Read (ECRR) program is an excellent tool to ensure libraries' success. A study released November 17 by Susan B. Neuman, a professor of childhood education and literacy development at New York University, showed significantly greater engagement of parents and caregivers in the libraries that used the ECRR program.

Health literacy

Low health literacy is a major source of economic inefficiency in the US healthcare system. Nine in ten adults have difficulty understanding and making use of the health information they encounter every day. Last summer, PLA and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) launched a nationwide initiative to



increase public library workers' knowledge and skills related to consumer health services. PLA and NNLM are assessing health information needs among public librarians and sharing free resources and professional development opportunities that will help library staff better serve their patrons' consumer health needs.

Public libraries have also worked closely with community partners to help find ways to address the national opioid crisis by supporting community efforts within their scope as learning organizations. PLA and WebJunction teamed up in September to present a virtual "town hall meeting" on the opioid crisis. They also created a Libraries and the Opioid Crisis Facebook page where library workers can discuss the health crisis and share resources.

Playing these important roles that help communities address critical needs in technology access, education, and health is changing the public's perception of libraries and shaping how libraries do business. Public libraries were recognized and rewarded at the ballot box with

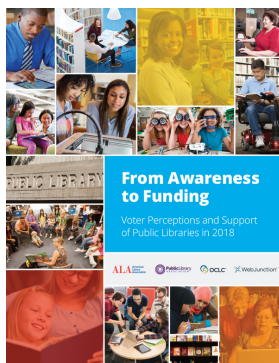
widespread support in 2017. A vast majority of local ballot measures to expand programs, staffing, services, or collections, were approved.

Voter perceptions

OCLC, the ALA Office for Library Advocacy, and PLA collaborated in 2018 to update the seminal research published in OCLC's *From Awareness to Funding* report in 2008 in order to get a current understanding of voter perceptions, use, and attitudes toward public libraries, librarians, and library funding.

Several themes emerged from the new survey, *From Awareness to Funding: Voter Perceptions and Support of Public Libraries in 2018*, among them:

- A majority of US voters believe public libraries are essential to communities and a source of civic pride.
- Voters still highly value such traditional library services as free access to books and quiet areas, but they also increasingly value the library as a community hub.
- A disconnect still exists between the services libraries offer and public awareness and support for those services.
- Although a majority of voters are likely to support library funding at the local ballot box, fewer are committed to definite support.



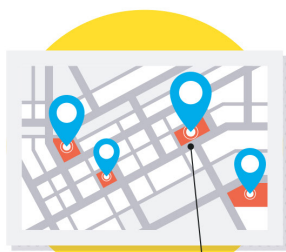
- A majority of voters still do not realize that the primary source of library funding is local.

Other key findings:

- Some 55% of voters view the library as an essential public institution, and 58% feel that public libraries advance education.
- As many as 44% of voters (up from 35% in 2008) view the library is a place for people in the community to gather and socialize. They increasingly see this as an important role for libraries.
- A total of 70% of voters visited a public library in the last year, in addition to 52% who visited online.
- “Foundational” library services—including quiet spaces, access to books and technology, and Wi-Fi access—continue to be very important for two-thirds of voters.
- The majority of voters (58%) indicate they are likely to vote for local ballot efforts that benefit libraries. A strong majority also support federal funding for libraries and are willing to donate money to support libraries.
- There is confusion, however, in terms of the disproportionate impact of local funding for public libraries. Almost 60% believe public library funds come from sources other than local.

The 2018 survey was once again conducted by Leo Burnett USA. It reuses many of the same questions and the same segmentation as the original study to allow for comparison with the 2008 results. As with the original research, the survey findings are expected to generate important conversations about what the data means for future library planning and advocacy—which will then inform future local, state, and national initiatives.

Voters frequently visit libraries in person and online



70%

of voters have visited a public library in the last year, an average of

8.6 visits



52%

have visited the library's website in the last year, an average of

7.6 visits

Issues and Trends

Intellectual freedom

In 2017, three key trends emerged in the area of intellectual freedom.

First, most challenges (formal attempts to remove or restrict access to library materials and services) go unreported. But a combination of publicity for the new reporting form used by the Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) and outreach by state intellectual freedom committees resulted in a sharp increase in the number and types of challenges reported. Public challenges and bans rose from 45 in 2016 to 91 in 2017. These 91 cases are summarized and sourced in the *ALA Field Report 2017: Banned and Challenged Books*, published by OIF in April 2018.

Second, while book challenges constitute the majority of challenges, in 2018 OIF is highlighting challenges beyond books. People challenged films (featuring both pro- and anti-LGBT content), magazines (such as *Teen Vogue*), programs (including drag queen storytimes), displays and art exhibits (even Banned Books Week displays), and online resources including EBSCO databases and library social media posts. Authors (Colson Whitehead and Andrew Aydin, to name just two) have been invited, then disinvited. Although it's not specifically a library issue, campus protests (against mostly conservative speakers such as British political commentator Milo Yiannopoulos, white supremacist Richard B. Spencer, and political scientist Charles Murray) even resulted in property damage, most notably at the University of California, Berkeley. Studies, such as the *National Undergraduate Study* conducted by McLaughlin and Associates, continue to explore the support for free speech on campus.

Third, in cooperation with the ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy, and Outreach Services, OIF began to collect data on hate crimes in libraries. In 2017, 23 were reported (of a total of 57 since OIF began collecting the reports). Most of them involved vandalism—the scrawling of swastikas or epithets on library walls, or the destruction of Muslim



religious texts. In two cases, one in a public library parking lot and another within a university library, men made death threats to women wearing hijab.

The theme for 2018's *Banned Books Week*, observed in libraries and bookstores across the country September 23–29, will be: “Banning books silences stories. Speak out!”

Top Ten Most Challenged Books in 2017. OIF tracked 354 challenges to library, school, and university materials and services in 2017. Some individual challenges resulted in requests to restrict or remove multiple titles. Overall, 416 books were targeted. Here are the “Top Ten Most Challenged Books in 2017”:

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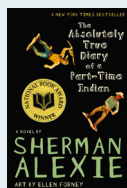
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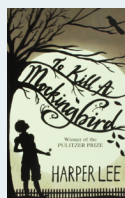
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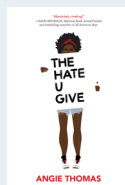
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This Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, considered an American classic, was challenged and banned because of violence and its use of the N-word.



3 *Drama* Written and illustrated by Raina Telgemeier

This Stonewall Honor Award-winning, 2012 graphic novel from an acclaimed cartoonist was challenged and banned in school libraries because it includes LGBT characters and was considered "confusing."



8 *The Hate U Give* By Angie Thomas

Despite winning multiple awards and being the most searched-for book on Goodreads during its debut year, this YA novel was challenged and banned in school libraries and curricula because it was considered "pervasively vulgar" and because of drug use, profanity, and offensive language.



4 *The Kite Runner* By Khaled Hosseini

This critically acclaimed, multigenerational novel was challenged and banned because it includes sexual violence and was thought to "lead to terrorism" and "promote Islam."



9 *And Tango Makes Three* By Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson, illustrated by Henry Cole

Returning after a brief hiatus from the Top Ten Most Challenged list, this ALA Notable Children's Book, published in 2005, was challenged and labeled because it features a same-sex relationship.



5 *George* by Alex Gino

Written for elementary-age children, this Lambda Literary Award winner was challenged and banned because it includes a transgender child.



10 *I Am Jazz* Written by Jessica Herthel and Jazz Jennings, illustrated by Shelagh McNicholas

This autobiographical picture book cowritten by the 13-year-old protagonist was challenged because it addresses gender identity.



CENSORSHIP

BY THE NUMBERS

Banning books silences stories and discussions. Censorship succeeds when no one talks about it. Raise your megaphone and speak out for banned books! Learn more at ala.org/bbooks.

DEFINITIONS

CHALLENGE

attempt to remove or restrict materials, based on objections from a person/group

BAN

removal of materials based on content

WHO INITIATES CHALLENGES TO MATERIALS?

14% Board/
administration

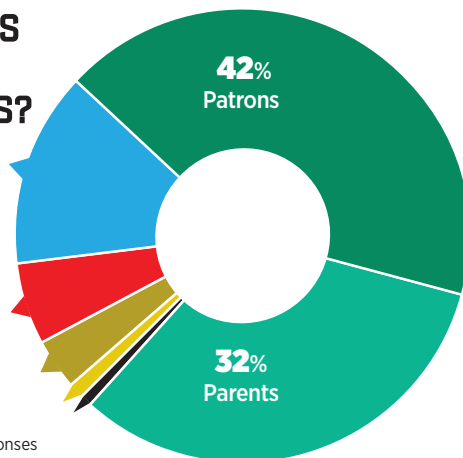
6% Librarians/
teachers

3% Political and
religious groups

2% Elected officials

1% Students

Statistics based on 318 responses



Banned Books Week 2018 is September 23-29.

WHERE DO CHALLENGES TAKE PLACE?



56%
Public
libraries



25%
School
(curriculum
and classrooms)



16%
School
libraries



2%
Academic
libraries



1%
Special
libraries/
other

WHY ARE MATERIALS CHALLENGED?

PERVASIVELY VULGAR
UN-AMERICAN
SEXUALLY EXPLICIT
RELIGIOUS
VIEWPOINT
LGBT
POLITICAL VIEWPOINT
PROFANITY
RACISM
ABORTION
RAPE
SEXISM
PORNOGRAPHY
MENTAL ILLNESS
N-WORD
MISOGYNISTIC WORLD VIEWS
PERPETUATING STEREOTYPES
HOMOPHOBIA
DEFIES AUTHORITY
CONFUSING
OCCULT/SATANISM
UNQUALIFIED AUTHOR
GENDER IDENTITY
OFFENSIVE LANGUAGE
SUICIDE
NUBILITY
QUESTIONING OF RELIGION
DRUGS
ANTI-FAMILY
SCARY TO MINORS
MAY LEAD TO TERRORISM
SEX EDUCATION
GENDER ROLES
INDOCTRINATION OF CHILDREN
PROPAGANDA
POLITICALLY BIASED

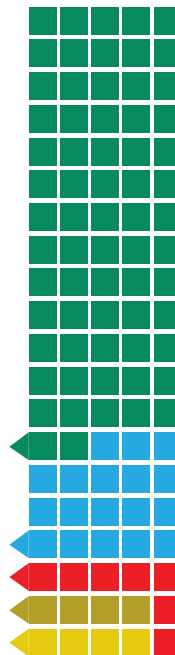
BEYOND BOOKS

Books aren't the only items threatened with censorship.

The American Library Association tracks challenges to materials and services in libraries, schools, and universities. In some cases, community members want an author's speaking engagement canceled or an LGBT display taken down. Other times, patrons would like certain DVDs or magazines removed from shelves. In 2017, 491 materials were challenged or censored.

Breakdown of 354 challenges tracked in 2017:

67% Books
18% Databases, magazines, films, games
7% Programs
4% Displays
4% Other



Statistics on censorship are compiled by:



OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association



Shelby Barnes, an intern at Kitsap (Wash.) Regional Library, facilitates a STEM Pop-Up lab with an afterschool club as part of the Make Do Share project.

Created by Helen R. Adams, April Dawkins, Jean Duncan McFarren, Lisa Errico, Valerie Nye, Kristin Pekoll, and Kristin Whitehair, and endorsed by the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee in January 2018, the “Selection and Reconsideration Policy Toolkit for Public, School, and Academic Libraries” provides a comprehensive guide to the creation of policies on the selection, deselection, and reconsideration of library resources. The toolkit was unveiled at the 2018 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

The theme for Choose Privacy Week (May 1–7, 2018) will be “Big Data is Watching You,” with a focus on the collection, use, and analysis of big data (voluminous and complex data sets) and its possible consequences for patron privacy. The Choose Privacy Week website theme will be updated and changed to “Choose Privacy Every Day,” to encourage librarians and the public to visit and use the privacy resources available through the website throughout the year.

Finally, in cooperation with the Office for Library Advocacy, OLF provided Advocacy and Intellectual Freedom Bootcamps for more than 350 librarians and trustees in 15 states. The workshops encourage attendees to adopt a more community-centric planning model, recruit library champions, brand libraries with the value of intellectual freedom, and use the power of story to create a climate of support for libraries and the freedom to read and learn.

Youth and teen services

2017 was a year of successes and challenges for US teens. While the Alliance for Excellent Education reported that the high school graduation rate hit an all-time high of 84.1%, there are still persistent gaps in standardized test scores and college attendance between Caucasian students and their African-American and Hispanic peers. Additionally, a 2017 survey by Youth Truth found that only one in two teens feels prepared for college upon leaving high school. Teens were also not immune to the political climate, with incidents of hate becoming more frequent in schools in 2017, as reported by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Similarly, teen services also experienced a year of challenges and successes. Many libraries struggled to address both the serious societal issues teens are facing as well as meet the needs of historically underrepresented groups. A 2017 member survey by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) indicated that just 51.9% had reached out to teens who aren’t regular library users, and about the same number of respondents (51.2%) worked to build their own cultural competence skills. Despite the high numbers of teens reporting they leave high school unprepared for college, just 45.3% of respondents indicated they provided college and career readiness services in 2017.

One barrier to more effective teen library services is funding. A 2017 survey of state library agency staff who focus on youth services indicated that for 88.5% percent of respondents, lack of funding was a barrier to providing adequate teen services in their state. However, grant funding has enabled a small percentage of libraries to offer teen services aligned with the needs of today's teens, such as Kitsap (Wash.) Regional Library's Make Do Share project, funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). IMLS also funded LibraryU, a project from the Providence (R.I.) Public Library that will provide a national model for teen workforce development programming.

According to the same survey of state library agency staff, 88.5% of respondents indicated that access to continuing education for frontline library staff is another barrier to effective teen services. To address this, in 2017 YALSA began work on a National Agenda for Continuing Education in Teen Services, through an IMLS-funded grant. In addition, YALSA published its Teen Services Competencies for Library Staff, which outlines the knowledge, skills, and dispositions all library staff required to effectively serve teens.

With lack of funding a barrier to many libraries' ability to improve teen services, the threat to federal funding for libraries that occurred in 2017 was taken seriously throughout the teen services community. Some 79.5% of respondents to the 2017 YALSA member survey indicated they participated in local advocacy activities.

As 2017 ended, many of the challenges related to teen services that libraries faced were poised to continue into 2018. YALSA's National Research Agenda on Libraries, Learning, and Teens, published in 2017, provides the library and academic communities with a call to action to conduct research to help move teen services forward in the years ahead.

Media mentorship

According to a recent report from the Erikson Institute's Technology in Early Childhood Center, libraries are one of the many places where children encounter digital media throughout their day. Libraries provide a space for

families to connect with the digital tools and media that ensure their access to information. Children's librarians are at the forefront of being trusted resources for the youngest members of their library communities. In their roles as media mentors, children's librarians connect with families to help them make thoughtful decisions by sharing research, offering guidance with media use plans, and model-

ing appropriate ways to select and use new media. There is continuing interest and concern about children's media consumption. Through engagement and thoughtful conversation around the benefits and challenges of becoming media mentors, librarians are increasing opportunities to work with families as they navigate children's interaction with digital media.

Diversity and inclusion

Recent research by the Pew Research Center suggests that "Americans are more racially and ethnically diverse than in the past, and the US is projected to be even more diverse in the coming decades. By 2055, the US will not have a single racial or ethnic majority." Diversity and inclusion values have increasingly been incorporated into youth library services over recent years. Libraries are considering how and where efforts can be improved to create welcoming spaces for their diverse communities.

Many libraries offer bilingual activities to promote literacy and inspire imagination. For example, the Ohio State University Libraries partnered with other campus offices to sponsor a Children's Day/Book Day (El día de los niños/El día de los libros) event on April 22, 2017, at the annual block party in Prairie Township, Ohio. Children and their families came together to celebrate and read bilingual books.

Resources continue to be published centering around diversity and inclusion. Jamie Campbell Naidoo, vice-president of the Association for Library Service to Children, writes that it is time for "radical change" in the way we approach diversity in our libraries. "One avenue in our libraries is through intentional programming—specifically, inclusive programming that engages children and families in opportunities to explore diversity, understand commonalities, and build bridges of cross-cultural understanding."



ALA and its affiliates also issued a [joint statement](#) on libraries and equity, diversity, and inclusion in August 2017, stating, “As our nation increasingly becomes more diverse, so should library collections, staff, and our nation’s social consciousness.” Although still a current challenge, the need to transform and diversify librarianship in all possible areas is progressively becoming more crucial to better serve and respond to our changing communities.

Supporting children and families in times of need

The function of libraries as community centers is readily recognized. A [Brookings Institution](#) article even referred to librarians as “ad hoc social workers and navigators” who “help local people figure out the complexities of life.” This role is especially evident, and never more essential, than in times of crisis, and 2017 has had its share of adversity—from natural disasters to shootings on school campuses.

Librarians respond in such times by delivering direct services and creating resources to help children and families cope. Two notable examples include:

- San Rafael (Calif.) Public Library staff [joined relief efforts](#) in the wake of the October 2017 Northern California wildfires, providing storytimes, crafts, and entertainment to the youngest fire victims who lost their homes and were thrown into unfamiliar surroundings.



Margaret Stawowy, children's librarian, San Rafael (Calif.) Public Library, conducts a storytime at a North Bay fire evacuation center.

- Library and information science students at the University of Washington created a toolkit on “[Youth Services Programming During a Time of Crisis](#)” to assist public libraries in planning programs to help restore a sense of normalcy and safety for young people coping with upheaval.

Library programs

Library workers see the impact of library programs every day—from young people developing comprehension skills through summer reading programs, to older adults finding companionship and learning new skills through arts classes.

But the library field lacks sufficient data on whether and how these efforts are working—knowledge that is necessary in order to prepare the librarians of today and tomorrow to provide the best possible learning experiences for our nation.

In response, the ALA Public Programs Office has undertaken the National Impact of Library Public Programs Assessment (NILPPA), an intensive two-year initiative, funded by a \$512,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, to collect and assess data from libraries across the country to understand and document the outcomes and values of US library programming.

With library programming on the rise, this research is taking place at a critical time. Though public libraries have seen a downward trend in circulation per capita (a drop of more than 11% since FY2012), program attendance has increased significantly in the same timeframe—nearly 17%, according to the [2017 Public Library Data Service](#) report.

“As programming gains importance and requires more resources of the library (money, staff, space, collateral, equipment, etc.), libraries will need to better prepare to demonstrate their efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery,” the report states. “Nevertheless, expanding the number of hours open to accommodate more programming (perhaps at more convenient times) implies a potential increase in commitment for additional resources, including staff. Correspondingly, there will be a need for libraries to justify those commitments.”

NILPPA is a necessary step toward that justification, said Mary Davis Fournier, deputy director of the Public Programs Office and director of the NILPPA initiative.

“In recent decades, we have seen public programming expand from a peripheral offering—most often directed toward children, such as storytimes—to a central library service for patrons of all ages,” Fournier said. “Along the way, library services have changed to reflect their institutions as hubs for civic and cultural life in their communities. NILPPA will allow the field to understand this shift and prepare the library professionals of the future for a more community-focused librarianship.”

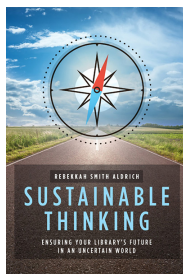
This first-of-its-kind project, conducted in collaboration with social science think tank New Knowledge Organization Ltd., brings together a network of researchers and librarians from libraries of all types to answer two research questions: How can we characterize and categorize public programs offered by libraries today? What competencies and training are needed by professionals working with library programming?

The work has begun with a series of digital surveys in which programming librarians are polled about their program offerings, audiences, partners, and training. A series of focus groups will convene at the 2018 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans to further identify how librarians came to acquire the skills they need to lead successful programs and how that learning can be translated into best practices for the larger library field.

Sustainability

“Sustainable thinking refers to the alignment of a library’s core values and resources,” writes Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, coordinator for library sustainability for the Mid-Hudson (N.Y.) Library System, “including staff time and energy, facilities, collections, and technology—with the local and global community’s right to endure, bounce back from disruption, and thrive by bringing new and energetic life to fruition through choices made in all areas of library operations and outreach.”

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions has formed an Environment, Sustainability, and Libraries Special Interest Group to address library sustainability. This group’s mission is to address:



- Effects of climate change on libraries (modification of the conditions of storage and preservation, building insulation, impact on library finances and management).
- Applications of environment-friendly practices in libraries (recovery of rainwater, use of renewable energy sources, printing control, paper recycling).
- Proposed environmental recommendations for the profession (recycling of outdated documents, use of biodegradable materials).
- Increasing and promoting sustainability-related library resources and services (development of collections on environmental themes, exhibitions, outreach).
- Increasing librarians’ own awareness of environmental concerns.

Some recent resources on sustainability include:

- The 2018 book *Sustainable Thinking: Ensuring Your Library's Future in an Uncertain World* by Rebekkah Smith Aldrich shows that the first step towards a sustainable library is sustainable thinking: a determined yet realistic attitude that will help librarians spot opportunities for institutional advancement, advocate for and safeguard operating funds, and generate intense loyalty from the communities they serve.
- The Special ALA Task Force on Sustainability is charged to develop a white paper that describes areas of focus and recommendations for the ALA Executive Board to increase the adoption and implementation of sustainable practices by the Association, the profession, libraries, and the communities they serve.
- The ALA Sustainability Round Table (SustainRT) was created in 2013 as a venue in which members can exchange ideas and opportunities regarding sustainability in order to move toward a more equitable, healthy, and economically viable society. The mission of the organization is to provide resources for the library community to support sustainability through curriculum development, collections, exhibits, events, advocacy, communication, library buildings, and space design. SustainRT is open to all ALA members and includes both individual members and organizational members.
- The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has created a LibGuide on Green Libraries: Sustainable Libraries that lists resources to help libraries go green.

National Issues and Trends

From Washington, D.C., the current outlook for libraries is as promising as it is challenging. The administration's threats to severely cut federal library funding for FY2018 had the effect of galvanizing support for libraries. ALA advocates rallied in unprecedented numbers to voice their support for federal library funding at strategic points throughout the year. Through countless emails, phone calls, and meetings with congressional staff, ALA advocates reminded members of Congress in every state and congressional district how indispensable libraries are for the communities they represent.

After a year of vigorously defending the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and federal policies that impact public access to information, America's libraries have emerged with renewed energy, fortitude, and a measure of success. By the time FY2018 officially began in October 2017, the Appropriations Committees from both houses of Congress had passed bills that maintained (and in the Senate, increased by \$4 million) funding for libraries. When the White House FY2019 budget again proposed to eliminate IMLS, ALA President Jim Neal immediately responded with confidence, saying "there is bipartisan support for libraries in Congress, where decision-makers know that to cut funding for libraries is to undercut opportunity for their constituents."

Fortunately, Congress passed and President Trump signed an FY2018 omnibus spending bill on March 23 that includes significant federal funding increases for our nation's libraries. ALA advocates have helped libraries win \$9 million more for IMLS than it had in FY2017, including \$5.7 million for the Library Services and Technology Act.

There is also cause for optimism, not only with regards to federal funding, but also to government information access. At least half a dozen bills were introduced to increase government transparency and make more taxpayer-funded data available free to the public. On top of the good news about FY2018 funding for libraries, Congress added a policy provision that has been on ALA's advocacy agenda for years: Congressional Research Service (CRS) reports will now be published online by the Library of Congress, ensuring for the first time permanent public access to valuable government information. Also,

Congress began the process of modernizing the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) for the first time since the 1960s. Library stakeholders convened by ALA's Washington Office submitted recommendations to make the FDLP relevant for future generations of information users.

Even amid setbacks on major issues like network neutrality, libraries gained a foothold. In the face of the Federal Communications Commission's inevitable rollback of the Open Internet Order, thousands of ALA members filed comments with the FCC as part of a massive groundswell of support for network neutrality. Libraries offered a unique voice to the debate and are viewed in Washington as a valued, sought-after partner in national public policymaking.

In preparation for the 75th anniversary of ALA's Washington Office, ALA is developing new resources and



Rep. Seth Moulton (D-Mass.) shakes hands with Dianne Carty, director of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, during National Library Legislative Day 2017.

Photo: Andrew Propp

Spaces and programs that bring people together may help improve the dialog across inequality and provide important economic opportunities for the community.

expanding capacity to facilitate advocacy for libraries. This year the ALA Policy Corps, a presidential initiative of Jim Neal, was established to cultivate a cadre of policy experts ready to lead targeted advocacy work at the national level and mentor a new generation of advocates. While National Library Legislative Day, which drew more than 500 library supporters to Washington in 2017, will remain ALA's premiere event on Capitol Hill (and is scheduled for May 7–8 in 2018), ALA is taking steps to increase direct advocacy in congressional districts.

America's libraries are poised to make even greater strides in advocacy in 2018—not just in greater numbers, but in deeper engagement in year-round advocacy.

Future Trends

ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries has identified numerous trends that will affect libraries. The following are three of the most prominent.

Aging. An aging workforce and population will change the US and other developed nations, impacting the workplace, government budgets, policy, and family life. An increasing life expectancy will require adequate retirement income and access to health care for aging adults. Adults may continue to work past traditional retirement ages. For libraries, this could mean a change in the profile of their users, especially in academic, medical, and special libraries, and in the profile of librarians and library professionals.

Increased time in retirement could result in demand for leisure activities to fill older adults' time, deeper pools of volunteer talent, or need for new community and gathering spaces. Large populations of older adults may shape the direction of collections (leisure reading, large print), programs (Medicaid support, technology instruction), and services (book delivery, deposit collections). Retired adults may find their way back into the workforce

or campuses, potentially changing the user population for academic or special libraries.

Income inequality. President Barack Obama has called income inequality the “defining challenge of our time.” According to the Institute for Policy Studies, income inequality refers to the extent to which income is distributed in an uneven manner among a population—and in the United States, income inequality has been growing markedly for the past 30 years.

Income inequality limits the upward mobility of people, especially the ability of those at the bottom of the distribution to rise. Library services in support of skills development will likely become more important, especially for administrators and funders, but libraries will need to make sure the skills they seek to develop align with the types of skills needed in the economy, especially STEM skills.

The library space—or any opportunities the library provides that bring different people together—could be especially important in combating income inequality. High-income and low-income people increasingly live in separate spaces, with city governments, schools, and communities more fragmented and less inclusive than before. Spaces and programs that bring people together may help improve the dialog across inequality and provide important economic opportunities for the community.

Connected learning. Social and digital media available via the internet connect students and young people to each other and to a host of formal and informal educators, providing limitless opportunities to seek and acquire new knowledge and skills.

Connected learning happens across learning networks including school, home, libraries, and community centers. Connected learning also supports the idea that learners achieve best when learning is reinforced and supported in multiple settings, providing opportunities for libraries to engage other institutions as partners in connected learning environments.

In order for connected learning to help level the playing field between the haves and have-nots, students must have regular access to new and emerging technologies and the internet. Libraries that offer access to these will be better able to integrate themselves into connected learning environments.

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Memorandum

TO: CHAIR PETERSON AND THE LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

FROM: MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

DATE: JULY 31, 2018

SUBJECT: BOARD MEMBER ABSENCES

On January 3, 2018 Memorandum 18-001 was approved appointing Byron Sansom to the Library Advisory Board. Although he has been regularly notified of meeting information along with the rest of the Board Members, Mr. Sansom had not attended any meetings since his appointment was confirmed.

Homer City Code 2.48.060(b) states:

If any Library Board member is absent for three consecutive meetings (unless a majority of the other members have previously granted a leave of absence, not to exceed six months), the seat of that member shall be declared vacant and a new member appointed by the Mayor subject to confirmation by the City Council.

Recommendation

Make a motion to declare Board Member Sansom's seat vacant due to his consecutive absences in accordance with Homer City Code 2.48.060(b).



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MEMORANDUM

TO: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
FROM: RACHEL TUSSEY, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
DATE: AUGUST 1, 2018
SUBJECT: MUSEUM & LIBRARY SERVICES ACT OF 2017

Board member Finn requested this item be on the agenda for the Board to discuss.

Recommendation

No action requested. Informational only.

- From the American Library Association website

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- **Support libraries, support MLSA**

- The Museum and Library Services Act of 2017 (**S. 2271**) has been introduced by Senators Jack Reed (D-RI), Susan Collins (R-ME), Thad Cochran (R-MS), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK). The 2017 MLSA reauthorizes the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), showing congressional support for the federal agency. IMLS administers funding through the Library Services Technology Act (LSTA), the only federal program that exclusively covers services and funding for libraries. The LSTA provides more than \$183 million for libraries through the Grants to States program, the National Leadership Grants for Libraries, the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, and Native American Library Services.

If passed, MLSA would send a strong message from Congress recognizing the important role libraries play in every community across the country. Please call your Senators and ask them to show their support of libraries by cosponsoring MLSA. For more information, check out the latest [District Dispatch post](#), take a look at the [press release](#), or read about the [history of MLSA](#).

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Federal Budget Request Seeks to Defund IMLS, Cultural Agencies—Again

by [Lisa Peet](#)

Feb 16, 2018 | Filed in [News](#)

The FY19 budget request released on February 12 by the Trump administration calls for the defunding of the [Institute of Museum and Library Services \(IMLS\)](#), as well as a number of other programs relevant to libraries, just as it did last year. Trump's proposed budget would eliminate funding for IMLS, the Department of Education's Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) grant program, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, as well as after-school programs, K–12 literacy programs, the Global Climate Change Initiative, and a range of health assistance, foreign aid, housing programs, and state grants for education, the environment, and community redevelopment. The \$4.4 trillion spending plan would favor defense spending, including earmarking \$18 billion for a wall on the United States–Mexico border, and a \$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan. The announcement came three days after Congress's final authorization of the FY18 budget—which, when first presented in early 2017, included strikingly similar cuts to the same domestic programs as are targeted in the FY19 request. Those threats to library and cultural agencies mobilized a community of supporters, including the American Library Association (ALA), library political action committee EveryLibrary, [Library Journal](#), the then newly formed [Corporate Committee for Library Investment \(CCLI\)](#), and a multitude of other library organizations, policymakers, and individuals, engendering a grassroots advocacy campaign that worked throughout the spring and summer of 2017 to make library voices heard in the fight for federal funding—an effort which is already kicking back into high gear in response to the renewed challenge. "We are disappointed that for a second year, the President's budget request did not provide funding for the continuation of IMLS activities for the next fiscal year," IMLS director Kathryn K. Matthew said in a statement February 12. "As the primary source of federal funding for museums and libraries, IMLS grants make a difference in communities of all sizes, from rural to urban, in every U.S. state and



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SWIFT RESPONSE

The administration's announcement fell in the middle of the American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter meeting in Denver, and the response from libraries, organizations, and supporters—both in attendance and around the nation—was swift and decisive. ALA immediately broadcast a call to action, updating its [Action Center](#) and [Fund Libraries](#) campaign page with resources to provide and track support for both the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), which funds IMLS, and IAL. Associate executive director of ALA's Washington Office Kathi Kromer likened the situation to the movie *Groundhog Day*. ALA president Jim Neal said in a statement, "The administration's FY2019 budget is out of touch with the real needs of Americans and the priorities of leaders in Congress who represent them. The president miscalculates the value of more than 120,000 libraries across America, just as he did in his FY2018 budget proposal. There is bipartisan support for libraries in Congress, where decision-makers know that to cut funding for libraries is to undercut opportunity for their constituents." To Neal's point, last year the final congressional budget not only restored the cuts proposed by the White House, Congress ultimately increased Federal library funding by [\\$4 million](#). EveryLibrary updated its [Save IMLS](#) page as well, and outlined [a series of steps](#) supporters can take now. "If the Institute of Museum and Library Services is closed as planned, state libraries around the country will lose critical funding for services supporting the blind and visually impaired, 24/7 homework help for students, and vital programs for veterans and their families," EveryLibrary executive director John Chrastka, a 2014 *LJ* Mover & Shaker, said in a statement. "Voting Americans need to respond with urgency in order to build Congressional support and protect these devastating cuts from moving forward." By the morning of February 13, more than 5,000 emails to representatives had already been sent through ALA's website, and by February 14 nearly 3,000 had been sent through EveryLibrary. "The response has been good," Chrastka told *LJ*. "It takes, like any advocacy campaign, moving people from unawareness to action. So we're focusing all of our attention right now on reaching the public, the people who use libraries, the people who know that communities are stronger because libraries are there, and campuses are stronger because libraries are there." A number of library organizations expressed their concern over the proposed budget cuts, and encouraged their members to step up. The Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA) offered its perspective as a leadership organization for the libraries that receive direct funding from IMLS. "With its reach into every public library in America and its intimate connections to state and local needs and issues, COSLA is unique in its understanding of the importance of federal funding in the provision of essential library services," noted Sandra Treadway, Librarian of Virginia and COSLA president, in a statement. "Each state and territory identifies the most appropriate uses of funds from the IMLS Grants to States program, implementing services and activities to meet their communities'

TOP STORIES

LIBRARY EDUCATION

Kids are using VR to explore worlds and create new ones

COMMUNITY FORM

Kids are using VR to explore worlds and create new ones

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Kids are using VR to explore worlds and create new ones

unique economic, education, civic, and demographic needs. The return on investment of these federal funds is substantial and enhanced by each state's matching contribution and local funding." Urban Libraries Council president and CEO Susan Benton said in a statement, "With his 2019 budget, President Trump has again shown us education, digital inclusion for low income children and families, and lifelong learning have not made it to the top of his list of priorities. Just like last year, his proposed funding cuts to IMLS will do nothing to achieve a balanced budget while doing great harm to communities across the country.... Slashing this funding is counter to the values of our country which has been built on personal and professional growth through resources provided by public libraries. We call on Congress to make sure libraries can continue to serve the people who count on them." The Society of American Archivists announced plans to partner with the National Humanities Alliance, the National Coalition for History, the Council of State Archivists, and others to issue a call to action to the archives community. Last year more than 90 national corporations joined forces to support federal library funding as CCLI, and the organization is making its collective voice heard again. In a statement released February 14 on behalf of CCLI by cofounder Gale, a Cengage company, the organization reiterated its message: "Libraries are worth the investment. Libraries and library businesses themselves spend more than \$8 billion on goods and services provided by thousands of businesses. They bring leaders, experts, entrepreneurs, veterans, students and other community members together to solve difficult problems—from access to opportunity and academic success, to work-readiness and literacy. Furthermore, they launch careers, spark passions and offer countless materials, programs and services to bolster the overall health and wellness of the communities which they, and CCLI companies, serve."

MAINTAIN MOMENTUM

Every message accompanying the press releases, information sites, and toolkits—whether from professional, political, academic, or nonprofit sources—shares the same basic point: the need to keep the advocacy momentum generated in the past year's work for library and cultural funding. The fight was not over with the authorization of the FY18 budget, and may not be over for some time. "Withholding federal support for libraries means withholding services that foster achievement, develop the workforce and contribute to local economies," stated Neal. "ALA members will continue to highlight the value of libraries to our elected leaders in every U.S. congressional district. And we are confident that our congressional leaders will continue to protect the federal programs that invest in our communities." "We can all stand together with courage...to rally ourselves," said Chrastka. "We have to take a principled stand. Otherwise we're going to get rolled." The budget next goes to Congress, where—perhaps promisingly—last year a number of Republican lawmakers rejected several of the same cuts, and many of the officials who heard the message from library supporters are now up for reelection.

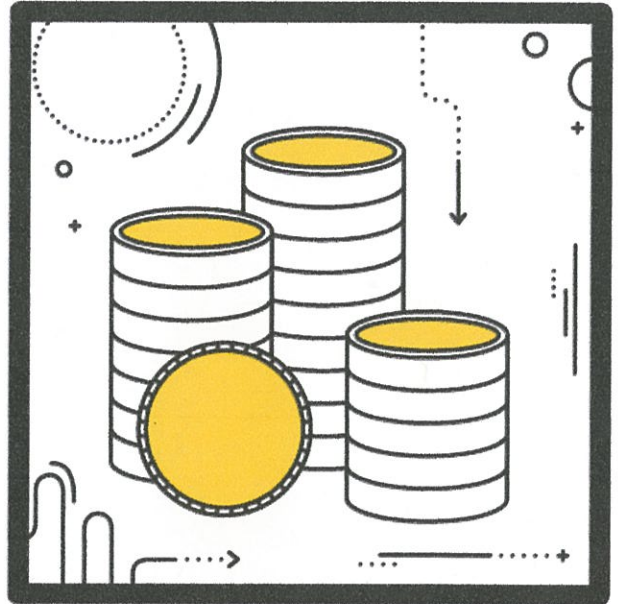
ALA Website

Appropriations

Objective

Increase or maintain current levels of federal funding for a wide range of job training, citizenship, business support, literacy, veterans assistance, technology access and training and other vital programs and services provided to millions of library patrons in virtually every U.S. city, school, and community.

The majority of federal library program funds are distributed through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (<https://www.imls.gov>) (IMLS) to each state. The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)



(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/federallegislation/lsta>) is part of the annual Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill. Also, the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/federallegislation/ial>) grant program from the U.S. Department of Education supports school libraries and non-profit literacy organizations working to improve reading skills at the most critical early years of a child's development. While funding for libraries most often comes from state and local sources, federal funding provides critical assistance, giving libraries across the country the financial support they need to serve their communities.

Priorities

ALA urges Members of the 115th Congress to:

- **Reauthorize** and fund the LSTA at \$186.6 million for FY 2018 and FY 2019. Funds flow through the IMLS directly to states per a population-based formula with a state match. States determine for themselves the best use of funds, which support such services as database access, computer instruction, summer reading, collection digitization, access to e-books and adaptive technology ([/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/fed/ALA%20Advocates%20Path%20to%20Federal%20Appropriations.mp3](#)), and bookmobiles among many others.
- **Maintain** level funding for the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) program at \$27 million for FY 2018 and FY 2019. IAL is the primary source of funding for school literacy programs. Funding allows school libraries to modernize, purchase up-to-date books, promote family engagement in early literacy, and provide e-books and other adaptive technology for millions of the nation's students and underserved communities across the country.
- **Oppose** the FY2018 budget proposals to eliminate the Institute of Museum and Library Services, LSTA, IAL, Title IV Part A, and other vital library programs. If implemented, the proposed cuts would decimate or preclude programs that support student literacy, job training, business expansion, entrepreneurship, veterans' assistance, high-speed internet access, and millions of library patrons in communities everywhere.

In addition to advocating for LSTA and IAL funds, the Washington Office communicates to Congress about the importance of funding federal libraries, like the Library of Congress, the National Agricultural Library, and the National Library of Medicine. We also lobby for increases for adult education and literacy and look for opportunities for libraries of all kinds to become involved in education programs like those for early childhood education.

- **Current Issues and Legislation**

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/federallegislation/libraryfunding/leg>)

- **Legislative Background**

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/federallegislation/libraryfunding/pastleg>)

Key Communications (2016 - 2018)

- Coalition Letter (</advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/govinfo/Sign-ons/LetterSenateFY2019CJS.pdf>) to the Senate Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittee regarding FY 2019 funding for the Census Bureau (June 4, 2018)
- Testimony (</advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/govinfo/ALA%20-%20LOC%20GPO%20-%20Hse%20Leg%20Approps%20FY19%20-%20OWT.pdf>) before the House Appropriations Subcommittees on the Legislative Branch regarding funding for the Library of Congress and Government Publishing Office (April 17, 2018)
- Testimony (</advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/govinfo/ALA%20-%20LOC%20GPO%20-%20Sen%20Leg%20Approps%20FY19%20-%20OWT.pdf>) before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on the Legislative Branch regarding funding for the Library of Congress and Government Publishing Office (April 16, 2018)
- Letter (</advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/govinfo/Sign-ons/Leg%20Branch%20FDLP%20study%20FY19.pdf>) from four library organizations to the House and Senate Subcommittees on Legislative Branch Appropriations regarding a study of grantmaking to Federal Depository Libraries (April 6, 2018)
- Letter (</advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/fed/FY%202018%20Library%20Letter%20-%20American%20Library%20Association.pdf>) to Senate and House Appropriations Committees about FY 2018 Library Funding (February 22, 2018)
- Coalition Letter (/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/libfunding/fed/PSLF%20Coalition%20Letter_Final.pdf) to Congress about preserving the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program (November 13, 2017)
- Coalition Statement (</advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/advleg/federallegislation/07-11-16%20Coalition%20Statement%20on%20the%20House%20Labor%20HHS%20Education%20Subcommittee%E2%80%99s%20Action%20on%20Education%20Funding.pdf>) to House Appropriations Committee Urging Members to Support Full Funding of the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants Program (SSAEG) at \$1.65 billion (July 11, 2016)
- Letter (</advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/advleg/federallegislation/05-18-16%20Letter%20to%20Senate%20Leg%20Branch%20Appropriations%20Subcommittee%20Opposing%20Inclusion%20of%20LC%20Provision.pdf>) to Senate Legislative Branch Subcommittee on Appropriations Opposing Inclusion of Library of Congress Subject Heading Provision in Legislative Branch Appropriations Legislation or Report (May 18, 2016)
- Letter (</advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/advleg/federallegislation/04-28-16%20Letter%20to%20House%20Appropriations%20Committee%20Requesting%20Removal%20of%20LC%20Classification%20Language.pdf>) to House Appropriations Committee Requesting Removal of "Library of Congress Classification" Language from Legislative Branch Appropriations Legislation (April 28, 2016)
- Coalition Letter (</advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/advleg/federallegislation/04-26-16%20Coalition%20Letter%20to%20House%20%26%20Senate%20Subcommittees%20on%20LHHS%20Appropriations%20Urging%20Rejection%20of%20FY17%20Proposal%20to%20Eliminate%20Impact%20Aid%20Funding.pdf>) to House and Senate Subcommittees on LHHS Appropriations Urging Them to Reject the Administration's FY 2017 budget proposal to eliminate funding for

2018 CLIA winners announced

For immediate release

June 19, 2018

Contact: Carol Sturglewski

csturgulewski@gmail.com, (907) 764-1604

An Anchorage playwright, an Utqiavik librarian, a Fairbanks poet, and a Homer bookmobile program are winners of the 2018 Contributions to Literacy in Alaska (CLIA) awards.

The statewide CLIA awards have been presented annually since 1993 by the Alaska Center for the Book, Alaska's liaison with the U.S. Library of Congress Center for the Book. The program honors people and programs that have made a significant contribution in literacy, the literary arts, or the preservation of the written or spoken word.

These are 2018 honorees:

David Ongley retired in 2017 from 20 years as director of the Tuzzy Consortium Library, which serves the Utqiavik community, seven outlying villages, and Ilisagvik Tribal College. With a passion for building a library that reflected its community, Ongley wrote numerous grants to preserve documents, oral histories, and local publications. He helped create the Alaska Library Association's Native Issues Round Table and was a leader in developing "Culturally Responsive Guidelines for Alaska Public Libraries," which has become a model for all public libraries serving Native patrons.

Dick Reichman of Anchorage is one of Alaska's best-known playwrights. He was the resident playwright at Cyrano's Theatre Company and has had 11 world premiere plays produced. As a mentor, writer, actor and director, he has had a strong presence at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference in Valdez over the years. Some of his productions include "The Ticket," about an imaginary meeting between Wally Hickel and Jay Hammond; and "The Big One," a chronicle of the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

Peggy Shumaker of Fairbanks is an internationally recognized poet and non-fiction writer who served as Alaska's writer laureate in 2010-12. She is the author of eight books of poetry, including the recently-published *Cairn*, and a memoir, *Just Breathe Normally*. In 2008 she founded Boreal Books, an imprint of Red Hen Press, to publish literature and fine art from Alaska. In addition to her writing and speaking, she serves on multiple boards and is a guest editor for several literary journals.

BOB, Books on Board, is Homer Friends of the Library's bookmobile program. A totally volunteer effort, BOB is stocked with donated books that are given to children and adults, who are encouraged to exchange other books for them. Volunteer drivers take BOB to various locations in the Homer area on a regular schedule. BOB was awarded the CLIA Sue Sherif Award for Literacy, named for a longtime Alaska librarian pivotal in supporting literacy efforts through the state library system.

The CLIA awards program will also include recognition of the work of the late John Active, a Yup'ik broadcaster on Bethel-area public radio and television for 47 years.

The awards will be presented Tuesday, July 10 as part of the UAA Creative Writing and Literary Arts summer residency program at the Fine Arts Building of the University of Alaska Anchorage campus . A dessert reception begins at 7:30 p.m., followed by the awards presentation at 8 p.m. That will be followed by readings from two members of the summer residency faculty: Homer writer and poet Erin Coughlin Hollowell, and Juneau author, actor and playwright Ishmael Hope.

The event is free and open to the public. Free parking is available at the event. For information, see the Alaska Center for the Book website at alaskacenterforthebook.org, or call (907) 764-1604.