



Buffalo & Erie County Public
LIBRARY

January 2017

Dear Supporter of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System,

The Library System is working hard to provide Erie County residents with materials, programs and resources required to meet the ever changing needs of society. Last year almost 7 million items were borrowed through the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library System. In 2016, hundreds of thousands of people used library computers and reference information for job, career and resume writing support. There are 37 library locations in Erie County and each one offers free services and information in the form of books, resource and reference materials, CDs, DVDs, VHS and Blu-ray. Through the Library System website, www.BuffaloLib.org, you can download books, music and videos; update your account; reserve an item; read reviews; learn a foreign language; conduct research; or learn about the hundreds of library sponsored events, activities and programs, such as story times for kids, book clubs, chess clubs, concerts and lectures 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Funding for the Library System is primarily through Erie County, with balance in operating funds coming from New York State, fines and fees and our own fundraising initiatives. The System Board of Trustees approved 2017 Operating Budget allows the Library to continue to offer 2016 levels of open hours and services our patrons need and are using now more than ever. The commitment from the growing list of Library users is phenomenal. Your support can help to provide the services and resources our community has come to expect from its libraries.

We cannot continue our work without you! In 2016, the Library raised over \$240,000 from direct mail appeals; memorial and general donations; corporate and foundation donations; sales from our online store; fundraisers, such as the "Library Night at the Ballpark," and the *Bucks for Books* campaign. We thank you in advance for your donation, and ongoing support. **Each and every donation to the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library System helps fulfill our mission of connecting diverse communities with library resources that enrich, enlighten and entertain. Please make your secure online donation today by hitting this link <https://ways2give.buffalolib.org/donation-welcome>.**

For more information on how your donation is helping your libraries, please contact the Office of Development and Communications at 716-858-7182 or testaj@buffalolib.org.

Sincerely,

Mary Jean Jakubowski

Joy Testa Cinquino

Mary Jean Jakubowski
Library System Director

Joy Testa Cinquino
Assistant Deputy Director, Development & Communications

The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization.

Your contribution is tax deductible by fullest extent of the law.

P.S. See the list below of all the things you can do to support your Library



Show your love for your library by...

- **Getting A Free Library Card.** Applications are available in all 37 public libraries in Erie County. Bring a valid proof of residency and ID. It is quick, easy and free.
- **Taking advantage of the free programs, training and online services.** All libraries offer programs for kids through adults throughout the year including author visits, lectures, computer training classes, story times, Lego clubs, book clubs, and more. You can learn more by visiting www.BuffaloLib.org.
- **Telling friends and family how great the Library is.**
- **Making a tax-deductible donation, any time, any amount.**
- **Buying your Library a subscription to a magazine.**
- **Informing us if your employer will match the gift.** Many employers match employee charitable donations. We will do the legwork, just let us know.
- **Considering a memorial gift or endowment gift.** Give us a call and we will answer all your questions. 716-858-7197.
- **Remembering the Library when planning your estate.**
- **Joining a Library Friends Group.** Several of the 37 libraries in the System have volunteer Friends Groups; these dedicated folks may assist with fundraising, book sales or other special events. Call us and we will match you with a nearby Library Friends group.
- **Volunteering.** There are various times during the year volunteers may be needed for fundraising events and activities. Call us and we will provide details, 716-858-8900.
- **Writing letters of support to the local newspaper touting your library.**
- **Informing elected officials from all levels whose jurisdiction covers Erie County Public Libraries how important libraries are to you.**
- **Liking the Library on Facebook -** <https://www.facebook.com/buffalolibrary.central>
- **Following the Library on Instagram -** <http://instagram.com/buffalolibrary>
- **Following the Library on Twitter -** <https://twitter.com/buffalolibrary>
- **Following the Library on Pinterest -** <http://pinterest.com/buffalolibrary/>
- **Subscribing to the Library's YouTube Channel -** <https://www.youtube.com/user/BECPLTrainingLab>
- **Joining our email listserv.** We will keep you informed. Hit this link to be added to our online mailing list. <https://ways2give.buffalolib.org/>
- **Contacting us with questions, concerns and accolades, 716-858-7197.**

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