Dear Friend of the Library,

Thank you very much for investing in the Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries (B&ECPL). Our libraries are your libraries and they are for everyone!

This past year we welcomed nearly 3 million visitors to our 37 locations and the Library on Wheels bookmobile. Some used the libraries for traditional services including: obtaining a book, movie or music; reading; using a computer; doing research; or completing homework. Others attended a variety of children's, teen, adult or family programs; attended a class; learned a new skill; participated in a Job Fair; listened to a concert; or experienced an exhibit. The list goes on and on.

Our libraries are transforming lives every single day. Library access is changing with digital library usage growing rapidly. Accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year, B&ECPL’s website, in 2017, had over 18.4 million (yes, million!) visits. Downloads of eBooks, audiobooks and music surpassed 788 thousand, WiFi access surpassed 520 thousand and social media activity exceeded 229 thousand with nearly 21 thousand fans/friends. Whether seeking accurate information, employment opportunities, applying for college, researching health or medical data, exploring family history, studying for exams or learning a foreign language, the Library’s virtual presence has the resources to guide you through your journey.

B&ECPL libraries will continue to change with the times. While we will always provide traditional collections and services, as Library Director I believe we have a responsibility to be flexible and change to meet the ever changing needs of our communities. Libraries are at the center of our society and, in many instances, they are the heart of the neighborhood. As such, we have cultivated over 900 community partners that include organizations representing families, veterans, refugees, senior citizens, the underemployed and the underserved from educational, career, business, cultural, mental health, social and welfare agencies – we want to connect with YOU!

I am proud to lead this great institution which has been providing free access to materials, resources and services to the residents of Erie County for more than 180 years. Working with an extremely talented staff, dedicated trustees, our elected officials and supportive stakeholders has been an honor. My sincerest thanks to each and every one of you.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome!

Ph.: (716) 858-8900  *  Fax: (716) 858-7206  
e-mail: communications@buffalolib.org

See you at the Library!

Mary Jean Jakubowski, Library Director

---

2017 LIBRARY USAGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Items borrowed</td>
<td>6,484,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library visits</td>
<td>2,998,127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program attendees</td>
<td>219,371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology class attendees</td>
<td>2,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer sessions</td>
<td>633,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WiFi sessions</td>
<td>521,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eBooks downloaded</td>
<td>447,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio books downloaded</td>
<td>168,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website visits</td>
<td>18,442,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total materials added to collection</td>
<td>223,866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media fans/friends</td>
<td>20,817</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fundraising revenue $378,464

“I love my library because it helps and gives people chances and opportunities that we wouldn’t be able to have if we didn’t have this library.” - Savannah
### 2017 CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT
For fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 2017

#### Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library Property Tax</td>
<td>$23,943,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York State Library Aid</td>
<td>2,228,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual New York State Grants</td>
<td>684,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Recurring Grants and Member Aid</td>
<td>272,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Support</td>
<td>120,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>643,373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Charges - Fines</td>
<td>798,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenues</td>
<td>1,179,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>$29,870,885</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Wages</td>
<td>$14,613,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fringe Benefits</td>
<td>7,057,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Materials</td>
<td>3,076,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>788,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service/Maintenance Contracts</td>
<td>1,014,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Costs</td>
<td>2,685,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
<td><strong>$29,234,455</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: Includes operating and grant revenue & expenses for entire Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System which includes the Central & Buffalo City Branches, Contracting Member Libraries, and Library System Services, Outreach and Library on Wheels. Does not include revenue & expenses for Capital Construction projects.
Thank you to these generous Library donors — from January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

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- Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority
- The Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies
- Dr. Grant S. Golden & Ms. Deborah A. Goldman
- Library Foundation of Buffalo & Erie County
- Southwest Airlines
- Greyline Outdoor Advertising
- State of New York
- The Buffalo News
- Weissman Family FDN, Inc.

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- Charlotte Potter Whitter Trust
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