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## FREE COMPUTER TRAINING AT BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

### Media Release

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### Free Computer Training at Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries

*Classes Range from Internet Basics to Using Apps*

This year, up through the end of October, 3,300 people have taken advantage of free computer training classes offered at the 37 Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries .

"New classes are always being offered," said Library System Director Mary Jean Jakubowski. "This fall our trainers are teaching about apps for tablets and smartphones, all things audio and tips for safe and savvy online shopping. Plus, we continue to offer training in popular topics such as: computer and internet basics, how to download free eBooks from the Library's website, and how to edit digital photos."

In 2014, there have been 279 public computer classes offered including Intro to Skype, iPad Basics, Kindle Fire Basics, Computer Basics, and Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint for Beginners, to name a few. The average class runs two hours and is taught on Library computers or laptops by trained staff. Attendees receive printed take-home guides and often there are online tutorials, available 24/7 through the Library's website [www.BuffaloLib.org](http://www.BuffaloLib.org).

Several classes are offered weekly at various times throughout the day in all 37 Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries. A one-on-one "Book a Technology Trainer" session can be scheduled as well at the downtown Central Library. All are free and open to the public, however, registration is required. To learn more see the upcoming schedule or ask questions, visit the TechKnow Lab section of the

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library website at <http://www.buffalolib.org/content/computer-training> or call 716-858-8900.

For every \$1 received in public funding from Erie County, Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries return a minimum of \$6.29 in services back to the community. Using \$50 as the average retail cost of a two-hour computer training, local libraries saved taxpayers (who took advantage of a free library computer class) over \$247,600 last year.

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