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East Hill Foundation Provides Library Grant

Buffalo's Crane Branch Library receives \$15,000 for interior& exterior upgrades

The East Hill Foundation has awarded a \$15,000 grant to the Crane Branch Library for interior and exterior building enhancements. Located at 633 Elmwood Avenue at Highland, the Crane Branch is one of the 37 Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries.

East Hill funding went toward a number of projects to beautify, enhance and update the building entrance. These include new brightly colored mosaic tiles installed in the vestibule; two new outdoor benches and an outdoor display window to promote library programs; foyer floor and acoustic ceiling patching; new wayfinding signage; removal and repair of a closet door and concrete slabs; and applying a fresh coat of paint on entranceway walls and canopy poles.

"The Crane Branch is a very popular fixture along Buffalo's Elmwood Avenue district," said Library System Director Mary Jean Jakubowski. "We are thankful to the East Hill Foundation and Board Member Julia Spitz for supporting our vision to provide the neighboring community - many who walk or ride bikes to the Library, with an updated, fresh and welcoming main entryway."

"Libraries are an integral part of thriving communities. To enhance the entrance of the Crane Branch is an upgrade not only to the Library, but also the neighborhood and the people it services," said East Hill Board Member Julia Spitz.

From January 1 through May 30, 2015, the Crane Branch saw 32,880 patron visits, 47,361 items (books, periodicals, DVDs, etc.) borrowed and 9,857 public computer sessions logged. These numbers reinforce the importance of library services and resources. The impact can be seen daily with public computers in use to support job seekers, students and families, and through the variety of literacy, health, social and cultural programming available to encourage lifelong learning.

For details on open hours and free programming at the Crane Branch Library call: 716-883-6651 or visit <http://www.buffalolib.org/content/library-locations/crane>.

The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System has more than 2.6 million materials available for borrowing including books, eBooks, DVDs, music and more. Free library card applications can be downloaded and taken to any of the 37- local public libraries for processing. A valid form of identification and proof of address is necessary. For more information call 716-858-8900 or visit www.BuffaloLib.org. Friend the Library System on **Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest , Instagram and Flickr**.

Photo:

Michele R. Schmidt, East Hill Foundation, Grants Director

Kenneth Dulian, East Hill Foundation, Sustainable Funding Project Manager
Julia Spitz, East Hill Foundation, Board Member

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