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CELEBRATE "LOVE YOUR LIBRARY AWARENESS MONTH



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Celebrate "Love Your Library Awareness Month" by visiting

any Buffalo & Erie County Public Library

Tell your story about how the Library has transformed your life

In 2015, more than 7 million books and other reading materials were borrowed through the 37 Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries. But libraries do more than just lend books! **Libraries transform lives**. That message is being emphasized this month both locally and nationally during **Love Your Library Awareness Month**. No longer just places for books, libraries now offer a wide assortment of free digitally-based programs and services, including eBooks and downloadable music, technology training, public computers, and, for Buffalo Public School Students - access to their classroom curriculum on public library computers. At the downtown Central Library, there are 3D printers and a digital recording studio. These tech-based resources are transforming lives through digital literacy and lifelong learning, contributing to a growth in education, employment, entrepreneurship, engagement and empowerment.

The impact and services provided by Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries is significant. Over 751,000 public computer sessions and over 242,600 WiFi sessions were logged last year – meaning local library patrons rely on the technology provided by their libraries for the gathering of information.

"Today's libraries are not just about what we have for people, but what we do for and with people," said Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Director Mary Jean Jakubowski.

"Our libraries are dynamic. We are transforming lives, matching those seeking information with those who offer it – such as local community service agencies, and educational, health and career assistance providers. Libraries are here to serve those seeking employment by providing assistance with resume writing, job search skills, career discussion groups, and job fairs. Online databases range from resources for new immigrants to LGBTQ information. Library cards also offer free online access to dozens of newspapers and other media sources regionally as well as internationally," Jakubowski added.

We want to hear how the Library has transformed your life! In 250 words or less, the community is being asked to describe why the Library is important to them. Follow this contest link: http://www.buffalolib.org/content/tell-us-why-your-library-important. Four winners will be randomly selected to win a Library System book bag filled with books and other goodies. Deadline to enter is April 17, 2016.

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. The Library also offers eLibraryCards for those 17 and over who want to use online services and public library computers. For more information on library programming visit www.BuffaloLib.org or call 716-858-8900.

Visit your local Buffalo & Erie County Public Library for details about....

Pronunciator - online database

Learn up to 80 foreign languages with lessons ranging from beginner to advanced levels. There is also English instruction for speakers of 50 foreign languages including Arabic, Bengali, Nepali, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese.

OverDrive - online, downloadable eBooks & more

The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library offers over 24,000+ downloadable titles, including eBooks, audiobooks and videos – all FREE with a library card and downloadable to your computer, phone or tablet!

JobNow, Job Clubs - online and in libraries

Looking to clean up your resume? Prepping for a big job interview? JobNow is a great resource – and it's FREE with your Library card. From live interview coaching to a resume writing expertise, JobNow has practical tools to help you get a job. Several libraries also offer Job Club meetings.

Freegal - online downloadable music that you keep

Download up to five songs FREE each week – and keep them! From the Sony Music catalog, the tunes range from the latest popular hits, to rock, opera, hip hop, polka and everything in between.

Technology Training, Public Computers & Free WiFi - in libraries

Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries offer FREE technology training on a regular basis providing "how to use" guides for Microsoft Word, Facebook, eBay, genealogy resources, online shopping, iPads, Kindles and more.

Programs - in libraries

All 37 libraries offer year-round educational, fun and community interest programs and speakers for children, teens, families, adults and seniors.

At the downtown Central Library...

Milestones of Science: Books that Shook the World!

An exhibition featuring 35 of the most significant rare books written by the leaders of science.

Celebrating 400 years of Shakespeare: Reflecting on the Life of the Bard

An exhibit that includes the very rare First, Second, Third and Fourth Folios along with Shakespeare's poems, historical, religious, literary and scientific works.

Launch Pad, MakerSpace – A place to learn new skills, create virtual & physical projects, collaborate and share ideas – featuring fun tech, augmented reality books, interactive puzzles, circuit and robot creating, 3D printing and a Recording Studio!

STEM (SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING MATH) Education CenterAll ages, interactive & fun!

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Tags:

<u>Libraries transform</u> <u>contest</u> <u>love your library</u>

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