



## Anatomy of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System

**Population Served:** 919,040    **Circulation:** 8,154,384 (2011)

**Library Locations:** 37\*    **Operating Budget:** \$25,766,103 (2012)    **Per Capita:** \$28.04

*Includes Central Library and all member library branches*

**Buffalo & Erie County  
Public Library (B&ECPL)  
System Board of Trustees**  
15 Members, appointed by  
the Erie County Executive  
and the Legislature



The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System Board of Trustees consists of 15 members who serve five year terms on a rotating schedule. The trustees are appointed by the Erie County Executive, who appoints ten members (two each calendar year), and the Mayor of Buffalo, who appoints five members (1 each calendar year). All recommended trustees are subject to confirmation by the Erie County Legislature.

**B&ECPL System Director**  
Appointed by B&ECPL Board



The director serves as administrative, executive and fiscal officer of the B&ECPL under the supervision and jurisdiction of the Board of Trustees. The director oversees business affairs, administration, and employees of the Central Library and eight Buffalo branches.

**Contracting Libraries**  
Contracts for Services from  
Library System



Each of the 22 contracting libraries has its own Board of Trustees. Libraries annually contract with the System for services, including circulation technology, programming, materials, etc., among others. The system provides funding for almost all of the operations of member libraries while the local municipality or membership association provides for the library building and capital needs.

**Association of Contracting  
Libraries (ACT Board)**  
Acts as a Liaison



Promotes cooperation among member libraries, provides a forum for exchange of information and ideas and is a mechanism for liaison between the contracting libraries, their trustees and staff and the B&ECPL trustees and staff.

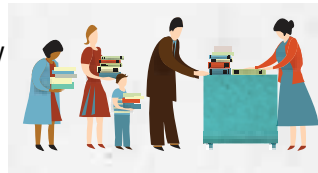
## Taxpayers/Erie County Library property tax

A local law, the Library Protection Act, dedicates a portion of Erie County's real property tax for library purpose and guarantees that funds appropriated by the Legislature cannot be re-appropriated to cover mid-year shortfalls elsewhere in the County budget.



## Other County Aid

Erie County's 2012 Budget allocates \$2 million in interfund revenue to the Library in addition to the amount received by the library tax.



## Fund Balance Onetime Sum

The B&ECPL Board of Trustees voted to utilize \$537,954 in unrestricted fund balance in 2012.

## New York State State Aid

Formula aid is provided by the Governor and State Legislature for public library systems. State aid supports interlibrary loan, delivery, continuing education, coordination of collection development, automation and Internet access. Direct formula aid to assist individual public libraries is provided by the Local Service Aid Program through library systems. Libraries that meet minimum standards set by the Education Department can receive this aid.



## Other

Other revenues includes but not limited to fundraising, fines, and fees.

## 2012 Adopted Operating Budget

77%

8%

2%

7%

6%

Governance

APPOINTS

*System Board has four main committees:*

### Executive Committee

Acts of behalf of the Board if necessary between Board meetings; has all the powers and duties of the Board of Trustees.

### Budget and Finance Committee

Has general management of the finances, funds and investments of the corporation. With the director, it prepares a budget request as required by Erie County.

### Policy Committee

Supports the development of policies for human resources, circulation of materials, collection, development, access to library facilities and resources and matters of effective operations.

### Building Oversight Committee

Ensures that adequate facilities are designed, situated, constructed and maintained to meet the B&ECPL's mission of service to the community.

APPOINTS

*System Board appoints director to manage staff*



DIRECTOR

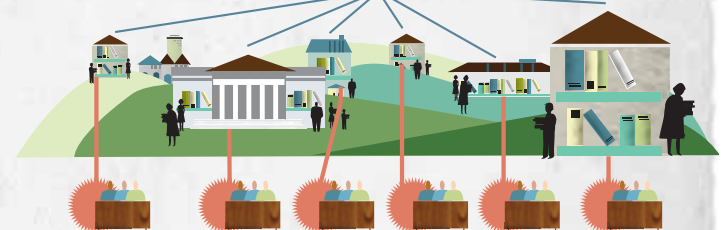


SERVICES

*Director and staff administer services to contract libraries*



22 Contracting Libraries



# BUFFALO and ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

