

2013

Akron-Summit County Public Library Facts



History

The Library was organized in 1874 as the Akron Free Library. It has served this community for 138 years.

Mission Statement

Mission Statement: The Akron-Summit County Public Library provides resources for learning and leisure, information services, meeting spaces, and programs for all ages that support, improve, and enrich individual, family, and community life.

Facilities and Organization

With the Main Library in downtown Akron, two bookmobiles, a Mobile Service van, and 17 branch locations throughout Summit County the system has 21 physical public service outlets.



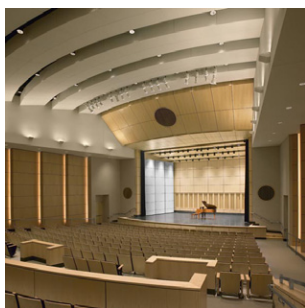
Main Library has 270,000 sq ft. Avg. new branch size: 12,000 sq. ft. (Old branch library locations averaged 4,000 - 4,500 sq. ft.)



Total square feet for Main and Branch Libraries: 442,807



Numerous community spaces are provided, including a 425-seat auditorium, computer training labs at Main Library, a bookstore operated by the Friends of Main Library, and branch library meeting rooms that are available for non-profit and community groups.



Funding Sources and Library Finance

Libraries are currently operating at the same level of state funding received in 1996. The cumulative effect of years of reduction to the Public Library Fund has taken a toll on public libraries in Ohio.

Public Library Fund state revenue to Library

2008 \$14.2 million
2012 \$10.86 million (-23%)

The impact of the PLF reduction for our library system includes a 15% reduction to the workforce (70 fewer employees or 50 fewer FTEs since 2008) and a 20% reduction to expenditures for library materials (Books, CDs, DVDs). Despite the reductions, we have not reduced hours or basic services.

Local revenue

2012 \$10.98 million

Total annual revenue \$22.7 million (\$26.7 million in 2008)

An \$80 million building program bond issue was passed by voters November, 1997. The building program, which included a new Main Library and 15 branch libraries, was completed in October, 2008.

Staff

Employees 385 (295 FTEs)

Volunteer support

Friends of the Library groups are at all library locations. The Council of Friends is the umbrella organization. The Friends of Main Library operate the Library Shop on Main.



Library Statistics 2012

Population of Legal Service Area: 377,588

Visitors to library facilities: 3 million

Registered borrowers: 285,492

Program attendance: 263,126

Items available (Books, CDs, DVDs): 2 million

Library Items Borrowed: 5,720,791

Computer Access

487 public computers with Internet access

Over 890,000 logins on library computers

Wireless connectivity is available at all library locations

Customers can access the Internet with library card

Web site address: www.akronlibrary.org

