

James Prendergast Library

Annual Report to the Community

2014

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Letter from the Director

If you think the library is no longer relevant, think again! The library is busier than ever with patrons looking not just for books, but for computer classes, technology help, tutoring, storytimes, craft classes, research - and social interaction. Today the library is a place to meet friends and discuss ideas, interact with others online, dream, create, explore, learn and, yes, read. Books in whatever format the reader chooses contain information that people want to share.



Tina Scott, Director

A successful construction project has resulted in three new handicapped-accessible restrooms on the main floor, including a family restroom, plus a Community Room upstairs and a "tween/teen" area above the entrance. The increase in public space is important as the library continues to be used more and more as a community area where patrons interact and learn. Please stop by and see all the changes!

Another new development in 2014 was an ongoing book sale which allows visitors to shop for books (and help the library) whenever our building is open. No more waiting for June! Staff time spent preparing for a huge sale has been reduced, and it's no longer necessary to close the library for it. Donated books are dropped off daily so the stock is always rotating. Stop by and say hello to all the wonderful volunteers who keep the sale area organized and assist browsers.

The 2014 Summer Reading Program was the library's most successful ever! This year's theme is all about Superheroes - it will be a blast, and the whole family can participate.

None of this would be possible without your help. We appreciate the tremendous generosity of those who contribute to maintain the high quality of library materials and services. Thank you for supporting us this year and every year!

Fast Facts



Library Visitors 208,080



Cardholders 43,746 (1,697 new cards issued)



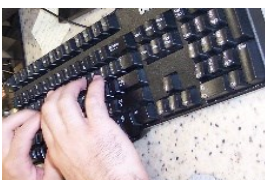
Collection 179,746 items (including 9,761 additions)



Items Borrowed 304,372 (29,358 self-checkouts and 17,925 electronic materials)



Reference Questions 32,923 – up 24.7%



Website visits 132,263



Computer Users 35,430



Meeting Rooms 506 - bookings - up 22.5%

A total budget of \$1,161,921 provided Family Literacy, Adult Services, building operations, circulation and functions.

Community Financial Support

Financial assistance through grants in 2014 made possible the purchase of books and other library materials, program supplies, equipment, technology upgrades and facility improvements. We acknowledge with deep appreciation the support of the Carnahan-Jackson Foundation, Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, Five Star Bank, Holmberg Foundation, Hultquist Foundation, Inc., Jessie Smith Darrah Fund, Johnson Foundation, Lake Shore Savings, The Lenna Foundation, Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation, Susan G. Komen Western New York Affiliate, United Arts Appeal of Chautauqua County Projects Pool Grant Program & Zonta Club of Jamestown.



Annual Fund, Honorariums and Memorials

Donations to the Annual Fund from individuals, businesses, groups and organizations are used to buy new books and other library materials. Likewise, gifts to the library in someone's honor or memory benefit the community for many years to come.

Thank you for your generosity!

Construction

Construction began in June of 2014 on several areas in the library. Upstairs, two levels were made into one Community Room, providing the library with another large area for storytimes and other meetings.



New ADA compliant men's, ladies' and family restrooms are now available.



It is with great appreciation that we thank the following foundations without whom the construction would not have been possible:
Carnahan-Jackson Foundation
Hultquist Foundation, Inc.
Johnson Foundation
The Lenna Foundation
In addition, thanks go to the **City of Jamestown** for enabling ADA funding, and to a **New York State Department of Education Public Library Construction grant**



The Ladies' room is now a tween/teen area.

New to the Library



Bargain Book Sale



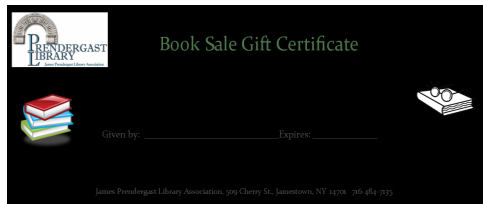
Foster Grandparents



3D Printer and Classes



Book Sale Vouchers



Gift Certificates



TV for Viewing News



Teen Gaming Club



Microfilm Scanners



One-on-One Tech Help



Volunteers, including members of the Southern Tier Xpress hockey team

In 2014, the library instituted:

- a new online catalog
- digital magazines
- notarial services
- electronic devices for loan

The library also:

- began accepting credit cards for fines and fees
- installed a new public printer
- partnered with Literacy Volunteers of Chautauqua County



Computer Lab Relocation

Summer Reading



Kickoff

Participation	Amount of Reading
1,147 Children	325,000 Minutes
27 Teens	407 Books
71 Adults	703 Books
Attendance at summer reading programs 4,876!	



Tablets for Kids



Family Reading



Financial Literacy Fun!

The 10-week Summer Reading program was a record-breaker with **1,245** participants, **441** programs, **756** hours of volunteerism from the Foster Grandparent Program and generous donations from local businesses!

Popular activities included crafts, storytimes, a Wii dance-off, and musical entertainers.



Teen Crayon Art and Writing Contest



SBU ArtMobile Visit



Finale program by Dave Jeffers



Winner of Adult Summer Reading Prize



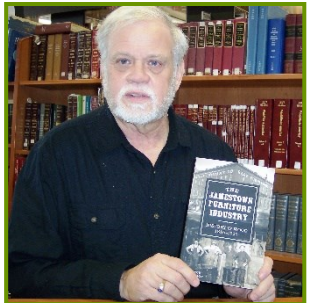
Science Kits

Programs and Events



Silent Witness Display

- The library also hosted:*
- Computer, life skills and yoga classes
 - HSE and ESL instruction
 - Parent education
 - Puzzle Pals
 - Saturday family activities
 - Teen events
 - Master Gardener Trowel Talks
 - Foreign film night
 - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance



Author visits



Doors Open Jamestown



Family Literacy Challenge



Nutrition Classes



Thrifty Crafters



Love your Library Open House



Lego Club



Art Gallery exhibits



Benefit Plays by Community Organizations



Bob Lecture



Scrabble Club



Cummins Run for Literacy



Big Read Poetry

2014: What a Year!

Prendergast Library's 123rd Year of Public Service

MISSION

The mission of the James Prendergast Library is to provide access to information resources, staff, facilities and services that respond to the pursuit of knowledge, education, lifelong learning opportunities and cultural enrichment by the people of the City of Jamestown and Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties.

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Never too young for reading!



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