It is love –

unreserved,

unlimited,

unalloyed.

To think of the 42nd Street Library and its branches is to be elevated and comforted simultaneously. So - anything I can do for the Library -

—Frank McCourt

The New York Public Library
Annual Report 2003
This year was one of continued accomplishment for The New York Public Library, in which our mandates of collections building and public access were significantly advanced. Notably, completed construction in several branches greatly improved physical access to those libraries for local patrons, while valuable digital collections were made available to users all over the world. The archives of American icons Malcolm X and Robert Wilson, among others, added new dimension to our research collections. However, our friends will not be surprised to learn that the economy made fiscal year 2003 something of a roller-coaster ride. The Library weathered this test of its resolve — meeting financial obstacles with creativity, vision, and character. We are pleased to report that with the help of our Board of Trustees, the work of exceptional staff, and the support of a critical balance of public and private funding, we rose to the challenge. In words and pictures, we detail the year’s triumphs and obstacles.

THE EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN

For more than a century, the Library has relied on the support of a public/private partnership. On the public sector side, we are sustained through City, State, and federal dollars, and private support comes from individuals, foundations, corporations, our endowment, and our earned-income activities. But the sluggish economy and sharp downturn in the financial markets, coupled with the ongoing after-effects of the 9/11 tragedy, took their financial toll. This resulted in fewer dollars with which to fund the Library’s operations. Dramatic cuts in City funding reduced allocations for the Library’s day-to-day operations by more than $16 million. Consequently, service in our research centers and most of our neighborhood branch libraries was reduced from six days a week to five. Fewer books were purchased, from the scholarly and rare to the latest bestseller or school-assigned classic. Popular programs that serve our most vulnerable citizens were, in many cases, curtailed.

In the face of these challenges, the Board and staff mapped out a plan, the Emergency Campaign for the Library, to see us through what is — and could remain for some years to come — one of the most challenging periods in our long and distinguished history. No public library system in America raises more private funds for its operations than The New York Public Library. However, in this climate we want to do even more. To sustain us during this period of government cutbacks, the Emergency Campaign calls for raising a total of $18 million in private funds ($2 million for The Research Libraries and $4 million for The Branch Libraries in each of three years). We must

My job at The New York Public Library was lowly (it was long ago), and I was a college student: I was hired as a sub-page. My responsibility was to dust the big shiny tables in the Periodicals Room, but even the dust particles seemed sacral; they had, after all, alighted on Literature’s dwelling-place, and I knew that (in the guise of a sub-page) I had ascended to Paradise. The passing of decades has only intensified these feelings of gratitude, privilege, and bookish infatuation. The New York Public Library represents civilization at its most sublime: an open-hearted, democratic, universally accessible American zenith.

CYNTHIA OZICK
Access to knowledge is the superb act of truly great civilizations. The New York Public Library is, in this regard, both symbol and act of what is the best civilization has to offer.

Toni Morrison

The leadership of the Emergency Campaign, from left to right: Bill Gray, Chairman of the Marketing Committee; Louise L. Grunwald, Chairman of the Research Libraries Committee; Samuel C. Butler, Chairman of the Board of Trustees; Catherine C. Marron, Chairman of the Branch Libraries Committee; and Paul LeChle, President of The New York Public Library.

achieve — and ideally surpass — these goals if we are to maintain even the severely restricted books and materials budgets, and to continue to provide the vital services to the public that we are struggling to sustain.

Under the direction of citizen “working groups,” the Campaign addresses the special needs of The Research Libraries and The Branch Libraries. A supporting marketing arm provides awareness through a promotional campaign that asks Library supporters in every community to step forward and play a role in protecting our resources at this critical juncture. The team of New Yorkers leading the Emergency Campaign includes Library Trustee Catherine C. Marron, who chairs the Branch Libraries Committee; Trustee Louise L. Grunwald, who is leading the Research Libraries Committee; and Trustee William Gray and his wife, Diana Gray, who co-chair the Marketing Committee. The Emergency Campaign was formally launched at a press conference, held on May 8, 2003, at the Muhlenberg Branch Library, which called for broad public support of New York City’s three library systems. Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg presided over the event with New York City Council Speaker A. Gifford Miller, and his group as local media sponsors, providing free media space to promote Summer Reading 2003.

Since the inception of the Emergency Campaign, we have been particularly heartened by the degree to which our energetic leaders have offered their time, strategic thinking, and expertise toward meeting our financial goals, as well as by the groundswell of support that has come from so many members of the New York community. Leadership gifts to

30,000
NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE TAKEN THE "CLICK ON @ THE LIBRARY" COMPUTER TRAINING CLASSES

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and City Council Speaker A. Gifford Miller kick off the Emergency Campaign at the Muhlenberg Branch.

Governor George E. Pataki examines the Library’s copy of the Declaration of Independence at a special dinner in his honor.
launch the Campaign and provide critical support for the collections have come from members of the Board of Trustees of The New York Public Library and a number of generous donors, including the Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Starr Foundation, Mel and Lois Turkman of California, Francis Levy, E.H.A. Foundation, UBS, and The Louis Calder Foundation. In addition, many notable “alumni” — longtime users of the Library’s collections and services — have lent their voices to the Campaign, among them, Robert Caro, Bill Cosby, Joan Didion, Dominick Dunne, Alan (Ace) Greenberg, Oscar Hijuelos, David McCullough, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Julie Taymor, and Garry Wills. As the Campaign progresses, some of our alumni will be participating in programs and events and entreat the community to give back to the Library.

The finalized agreements between the Mayor’s office and the City Council resulted in great news — a nearly complete restoration of proposed cuts for FY 2004. While the restorations have brought us almost back to our FY 2003 levels of City funding, the FY 2004 budget is still 14 percent, or $16 million, less than our FY 2002 City support. In addition to our Campaign to raise private funds to bridge the gaps, we are assessing alternative ways of organizing and delivering library services to the public, on the one hand, and administrative services to our libraries on the other.

ACCESS
NEW CONSTRUCTION Even at a time of significant budget reductions for public libraries, we are committed to moving forward with renovations that were already in progress — and for which funding had already been secured — within our branch libraries, many of which have not been altered in years. We are keenly aware that during times of economic strife, the city needs its libraries — which are not only rallying points for many residents, our branch libraries are their only access to computers and the Internet, as well as to the technology and research training that are so critical for work or school. Among the branches that reopened following renovation this year were the Grand Concourse Branch, the Webster Branch, and the Sedgwick Branch. The popular Grand Concourse Branch in the Bronx, built in 1958, has book and periodical collections in English and Spanish for adults, young adults, and children, and hosts numerous educational programs for all ages in the upper-floor community room. The $1 million renovation included the installation of thirty-four new public PC stations and a reconfiguration of space, including the community room, to allow for more efficient use — following the earlier replacement of the roof and the heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems. Funding for the interior and exterior renovations was secured by Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrón, Jr., and supplemented by a grant from the New York State Education Department/Public Library Construction Program, among others. The special Halloween-themed ribbon-cutting ceremony in November 2002 was attended by City representatives, local community leaders, and enthusiastic children, decked out in costume.

In midwinter, Manhattan’s historic Webster Branch Library also celebrated its reopening after a $2.96 million interior and exterior renovation, made possible with City funding secured by New York City Council Speaker A. Gifford Miller, as well as support from Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields. This was the first complete redesign of the branch, originally designed in the Classical Revival style by the architectural firm of Babb, Cook and Willard, since its opening in 1906. The building was transformed into an accessible and technologically
advanced library, while retaining its architectural integrity. In addition, the Sedgwick Branch Library in the Bronx celebrated the addition of a second floor and the renovation of the first floor in the early spring. The Sedgwick expansion has almost doubled the size of the original 3,800-square-foot building to 7,500 square feet, and the branch now provides library patrons with 20 computers with Internet access, expanded collections, and much-needed additional space. The second-floor addition was funded by The New York Public Library’s Adopt-A-Branch program, an innovative project that matches City funding with private contributions for urgently needed renovations to targeted branches throughout the NYPL system. The $2.35 million project was made possible by a contribution from The Louis Calder Foundation as well as funding from the City of New York: Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, current New York City Council Member Helen D. Foster, and former New York City Council Member Reverend Wendell Foster.

Last year’s reopening of the Mott Haven Branch in the South Bronx was celebrated anew in December, when children’s author and illustrator Ashley Bryan unveiled his two specially commissioned paintings, which are on permanent display in the children’s room on the second floor. The children’s room was named in honor of Mr. Bryan by Library Trustee Catherine C. Marion, whose private contribution was combined with City funding from former Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer and current Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrión, Jr., and federal appropriations from Congressman José E. Serrano through the Small Business Administration, as well as funding from the New York State Education Department and a grant from the New York Life Foundation, for the $4 million renovation through the Library’s Adopt-A-Branch program. The paintings were also the gift of Mrs. Marron. Mott Haven is one of the original branches built with a 1901 gift from industrialist Andrew Carnegie. The first of those, the Yorkville Branch on 79th Street in Manhattan, celebrated the 100th anniversary of the opening of its doors this year. Another such celebration, at Chinatown’s Chatham Square Branch, will follow in the fall of 2003.

Finally, several branches were closed at various times during the year for renovations or “spruce ups” – the Parkchester Branch, Baychester Branch, Van Nest Branch, Seward Park Branch, Harlem Branch, and 115th Street Branch – and a temporary branch site was provided for the Harlem and 115th Street branch community. When construction is completed, the Seward Park Branch, for example, will have air conditioning and an elevator for the first time in its history, and the Harlem Branch will have a new second-floor children’s room.

ACCESS CARDS Along with The New York Public Library’s mission to provide free and open access to materials comes its responsibility to care for its collections. And, indeed, the Library grapples daily with issues of collection preservation and security. This year, The Research Libraries adopted a strategy used by many of its peer institutions all over the world and initiated a program of registering its readers. Beginning in January 2003, personalized ACCESS cards were issued to readers requesting materials from the closed-stack collections. The new system not only allows the Library to track its valuable collections, but gives users an immediate indication of whether materials are available. Eventually, ACCESS card holders will also be able to submit electronic call slips, to make advance reservations for collection materials, and to gain remote access to some of the electronic resources of The Research Libraries — all via the web — as well as to make reservations for computers, media stations, and training classes.

Under the ACCESS system, items in the collections will be barcoded, making it possible to compile data about which

50,000 APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF SCHOOLCHILDREN WHO VISIT NEW YORK CITY LIBRARIES EVERY AFTERNOON
materials are being used. As a result, the Library will be able to prepare more accurately the reports on collection use required by funding sources, and to make more informed decisions on collection acquisitions and preservation.

COLLECTIONS

NEW ACQUISITIONS Through gifts and purchases, a vast number of new items come into our research collections each year — many of them rare, one-of-a-kind, and of great cultural significance. One of the single most important archives to come to The New York Public Library in the last decade is a large collection of Malcolm X’s papers, currently on long-term deposit at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Diaries, speeches, photos, and letters, along with a trove of other materials, chronicle the path of this dynamic figure, who spearheaded a vigorous and often controversial fight for the rights of African Americans in the 1960s. The collection will be loaned to the Library for seventy-five years, while remaining the property of Malcolm X’s six daughters.

As many know, Malcolm X survived a childhood marked by tragedy to become an effective organizer and spokesperson for the Nation of Islam. As such, he represented the position of racial separatism until his transformative pilgrimage to the Middle East and Africa in 1964. The diaries in which Malcolm X documented his trips to Africa and the Middle East are included in the collection. Also featured are sixty-seven handwritten radio addresses delivered to spread the message of Elijah Muhammad’s Nation of Islam, many outlines and manuscripts for speeches given at rallies and other public appearances, and the manuscript outline of his “The Ballot or the Bullet” speech, encouraging the black community to flex its political muscle by voting. The availability of these papers promises to provide insight into Malcolm X’s militant, ambitious, and idealistic views, and perhaps untangle mysteries of his life, his work, and his death.

Collecting materials that document the richness of 20th-century American culture is one of many priorities for our Research Libraries. Hence, the acquisition by the Humanities and Social Sciences Library of the archive of novelist, essayist, and screenwriter Terry Southern (1924-1995), whose distinctive voice in the screenplays Dr. Strangelove and Easy Rider helped define the Cold War paranoia and counter-culture of the 1960s, was a source of great pride. A serious novelist who successfully made the transition to the film world, Southern bridged boundaries between literary and pop cultures, working with authors like William S. Burroughs and Christopher Isherwood, as well as icons of the 60s such as the Beatles, Stanley Kubrick, and Peter Sellers. Southern, whose black humor struck at the heart of complacency and hypocrisy, won a large measure of renown and notoriety for his sharply satirical and often sexually explicit writings, notably The Magic Christian and Candy.

In another significant acquisition, The New York Public Library is working with the Byrd Hoffman Foundation to preserve a unique audio-visual record of one of the most important bodies of work in 20th-century theater: The Robert Wilson Audio/Visual Archive (see highlight on page 37). The collection will be housed in the Theatre on Film and Tape Archive (TOFT) of The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center. A major grant for the preservation and the processing of the collection came from Robert W. Wilson (no relation to theater director Robert M. Wilson). Generous support for preservation and processing was also provided by Barbara Goldsmith and Mr. and Mrs. William Rayner. Through a gift from the Byrd Hoffman Water Mill Foundation, additional support has been provided by the Lily...
Auchincloss Foundation, Dianne Benson, Irving Benson, Lois Bianchi, Elaine Terner Cooper, Dorothy and Lewis Cullman, Christian Eisenbeiss, the Howard Gilman Foundation, the Scaler Foundation, and Stanley T. Stairs. We are grateful to all of them for making this exceptional acquisition possible.

Finally, Texaco — which vacated its headquarters in White Plains, New York, after merging with Chevron — offered the contents of its library to the Science, Industry and Business Library (SIBL), an acquisition that enhanced the already extensive company information collections at SIBL. Arthur Andersen, which also closed its New York City library, donated important titles from its collection to SIBL. In times of corporate mergers, downsizing, and closings, these major gifts enable companies to keep their names and histories alive and are important research tools, offering specialized industry and company information to business students and business researchers. The collections continue a Library tradition of being a repository for important materials from corporate libraries that are being dissolved or reduced.

DIGITAL LIBRARIES

Free and democratic access to materials is of course the cornerstone of the Library’s mission, and electronic technology has made that access possible in ways that few of us could have imagined even a decade ago. Two initiatives — one in The Research Libraries and the other within The Branch Libraries — are capitalizing on that technology to make the collections increasingly accessible to a broad audience. NYPL’s Digital Gallery (digitalgallery.nypl.org) will offer thousands of digitized images of unique, primary source materials from The Research Libraries’ collections, making them available to readers on home computers in Brooklyn, office workstations in Sri Lanka, or library PCs in Berlin — indeed, to anyone, anywhere, with web access. The Digital Gallery site will be the Library’s first full-size working version of its growing digital image database, providing online access to prints, engravings, photographs, maps, and other visual images from the collections of NYPL’s four research centers.

Digital images of materials from our collections have been available on the Library’s website since the late 1990s. However, the database draws from and expands on those resources, offering at its inception approximately 200,000 images from over thirty research collections — and growing. Documenting materials from the 16th century to the present, the digital collection reflects the extraordinary breadth and depth of the Library’s collections. Among the images are 16th-century maps and drawings depicting the landing of European explorers, contemporary engravings of battle scenes of the American Revolution, daguerreotype portraits of African Americans in the mid-19th century, stereographic photos by William Henry Jackson documenting the building of the Union-Pacific Railroad, aquatints by Mary Cassatt, sheet music covers illustrating social dance in the 1920s, and photos depicting life in Depression-era New York City by Lewis Hine and Berenice Abbott. Users can search by subject across collections, view their selections in an online portfolio, print out low-resolution copies for personal research, or order high-resolution prints, or digital files on CD.

In a major initiative within The Branch Libraries, some 30,000 images from its Picture Collection were digitized, to create a database that users can tap into by logging on to picturecollection.nypl.org or The Branch Libraries’ home page (see highlight on page 49). For those who don’t know its history, the Picture Collection began in 1914 as a modest archive of pictorial materials, clipped from a variety of sources and largely developed to meet the needs of artists and designers. In the years since, it has grown into a world-renowned resource, consisting of an extensive circulating collection and reference archive covering more than 12,000 subjects. The Picture Collection Online now makes these valuable visual materials more widely and readily available, so that our many users can browse the collection from the comfort of their homes, schools, offices, or studios. The New York Public Library, Mid-Manhattan Library, Picture Collection Online is made possible by a federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) National Leadership Grant, and a private donation.

EXHIBITIONS AND PROGRAMS

Each year, The Research Libraries mount several exhibitions that draw attention to the depth and breadth of our extraordinary collections. This year’s budget constraints reduced the number of those exhibitions, but did not diminish the considerable curatorial creativity that went into them. Exhibitions such as New York Eats Out (see highlight on page 41), an in-depth look at the meteoric career of Vaslav Nijinsky, and an exhibition on the art of African women were among the highlights. In addition, dozens of smaller displays were on view in many of our eighty-five branches throughout the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island.

For more than a century, The New York Public Library has been instrumental in making New York the vibrant literary city that it is, where education and discourse are accessible to all — without charge — and it is now at the forefront of providing broad access to 21st-century information technology.

Each of us owes a huge debt to the NYPL, and, in these times of budget cuts, it is crucial that we support this great library, and libraries everywhere.

OLIVER SACKS, M.D.
from the research I was able to do at the Performing Arts and the Mid-Manhattan libraries. The Picture Factory is often the inspiration for sets and costumes, the Library has proven to be an invaluable asset in the process of creation.

Vaslav Nijinsky: Creating a New Artistic Era, in the Donald and Mary Oenslager Gallery of the Library for the Performing Arts, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center, unveiled the man and his extraordinary work, through photographs, diaries, and relevant art and ephemera. The exhibit focused on the dancer/choreographer’s career in a time marked by international disruptions of war and avant-garde collaborations characterized by great artistic energy. This exhibition was followed in the Oenslager Gallery by Puppetry of Shadow and Light, an extraordinary presentation of artifacts and film honoring the ancient, traditional, and modern manifestations of this art form. The exhibition offered examples of puppets and screens from India, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand, Greece, Turkey, and Western Europe, including figures from the Pauline Benton collection of Chinese puppets. In the Vincent Astor Gallery, Original Cast Recordings illuminated the history, art, and craft of original cast recordings of musical theater productions, as documented in the collections of the Library for the Performing Arts.

Exhibitions at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture included The Art of African Women: Empowering Traditions, an unprecedented survey of African artistic traditions that have been passed down from mothers to daughters for centuries. The exhibition featured more than seventy-five stunning photographs by internationally acclaimed photojournalist Margaret Courtney-Clarke, captured during her twenty-year quest to document traditions in South, West, and North Africa. Through the spring and summer of 2003, Harlem Is ... a multi-media, intergenerational, living history program, celebrated thirty Harlemites (ages fifty to one hundred) whose contributions in the fields of art, music, education, politics, community service, and sports define Harlem’s rich and diverse cultural legacy. The exhibition honored such trailblazers as opera singer Betty Allen, historian Dr. Yosef ben-Jochannan, Afro-Latin Jazz musician Joe Cuba, author Rosa Guy, and many more.

This year marked the fiftieth anniversary of the discovery of the DNA double helix, one of the greatest and most influential scientific discoveries ever made. Seeking the Secret of Life: The DNA Story in New York at the Science, Industry and Business Library highlighted contributions made by New York researchers along the way. The exhibition’s focus was the pivotal research carried out at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Rockefeller University, and Columbia University.

Finally, in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library, Passion’s Discipline: The History of the Sonnet in the British Isles and America considered the development of the sonnet, the poetic form that has provided writers with a vehicle for passionate thought and feeling on love, religion, politics, and a rich variety of other topics since its development in 13th-century Italy.

In connection with exhibitions — or on their own — hundreds of public programs illuminated the collections and drew attention to our research centers as vibrant hubs of intellectual activity and discourse. Among the many speakers to appear at the Library for the Performing Arts were British playwright Michael Frayn, author of such plays as Noises Off and Copenhagen. Two programs featured staged readings of selections from Mr. Frayn’s own plays as well as from his translations of Anton Chekhov’s The Cherry Orchard, The Seagull, and Wild Honey with actors Marcia Gay Harden, Amy Irving, Swoosie Kurtz, Brian Murray, Marian Seldes, and David Strathairn, among others, directed by Daniel Sullivan.


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Many of my theater, opera, and film projects have seeds and trees of inspiration from the research I was able to do at the Performing Arts and the Mid-Manhattan libraries. The Picture Factory is often the inspiration for sets and costumes, the Library has proven to be an invaluable asset in the process of creation.

Julie Taymor
When we cut back on public libraries, we betray our national COMMITMENT to democracy and equal rights. The real losers are the poor of our city, the people who can’t afford to buy books, the people who need the knowledge books contain to enrich their lives as well as to give them a fair CHANCE to make their way in the world. By cutting library budgets, we demean and diminish American democracy.

ARThUR SCHLESINGER, JR.

Plimpton, Oliver Sacks, and Eugenia Zukerman, among others. The Library’s Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers also maintained an active and well-attended series of lectures by this year’s Fellows. And the Schomburg Center hosted programs featuring Chris Cillloway, Vernon Jordan, Stephanie Mills, and Phylicia Rashad, to mention a few. SIBL’s popular Financial Services Leadership Forum — an annual series of breakfasts offered in association with The McGraw-Hill Companies — featured Harvey Pitt, Chairman, the Securities and Exchange Commission; Eliot Spitzer, New York State Attorney General; Robert Rubin, Director and Chairman of the Executive Committee, Citigroup Inc., and former Secretary of the Treasury; and John Whitehead, Chairman of the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation. SIBL also offered scores of weekly public programs exploring small business marketing, science and technology issues, and financial planning, among many other subjects. In connection with the center’s exhibition on DNA, James Watson, the co-discoverer of the double helix, spoke about the profound changes in biological science in the last fifty years.

AWARDS

In November, the Library celebrated its sixth annual Library Lions evening. Each year, Library Lions honors an outstanding group of individuals whose accomplishments have enriched our lives and served as an inspiration to millions. Represented in the Library’s extensive collections, their lifework is a significant part of our collections. Honored this year were Robert A. Caro, definitive biographer of U.S. President Lyndon Johnson and New York City power broker Robert Moses; David Levering Lewis, Martin Luther King, Jr., Professor, Department of History, Rutgers University, and author of several works on African American icons and culture, notably W.E.B. Du Bois: Biography of a Race; Julie Taymor, Tony Award-winning director and designer for theater, opera, and film, including Broadway’s The Lion King, the 1995 production of Wagner’s The Flying Dutchman at the Los Angeles Music Center, and the feature film Frida; and Christopher Wheeldon, New York City Ballet’s first Resident Choreographer and creator of the acclaimed ballets Polyphony, Variations Sériéuses, and Morphoses. Award-winning actress and author Marian Seldes was Master of Ceremonies for the event, which raised $1.3 million in support of print and electronic collections.

In June, our fourth annual Corporate Dinner honored Harold McGraw III, Chairman, President, and CEO of The McGraw-Hill Companies, for his outstanding corporate citizenship. Richard J. Bressler, Martin Lipton, Sir Deryck Maughan, Henry A. McKinnell, and James S. Turley served as Dinner Chairmen. The evening raised funds for operating support of The Research Libraries, to help continue the services that people in New York, across the nation, and around the world count on every day.

This year the Young Lions, a group of Library supporters in their twenties and thirties, honored two authors — Anthony Doerr, for the story collection The Shell Collector (Scribner), and Jonathan Safran Foer, for the novel Everything Is Illuminated (Houghton Mifflin) — with the Young Lions Fiction Award. Spearheaded by Young Lions committee members Ethan Hawke, Rick Moody, and Jennifer Rudolph Walsh, the prize honors an American author age thirty-five or younger, and is the only major fiction award for younger writers. In his collection of eight stories, Doerr offers vividly drawn portrayals of humans seeking refuge and renewal in nature, in what The New York Times called “sinewy sentences blending the naturalist’s unswerving gaze with the poet’s gift for metaphor.” Everything Is Illuminated, called “a remarkable first novel” by New York magazine, traces the journey of a young writer looking into the circumstances of his grandfather’s escape from the Nazis. The other finalists for the award of ceremonies for the event, which raised $1.3 million in support of print and electronic collections.

When we cut back on public libraries, we betray our national COMMITMENT to democracy and equal rights. The real losers are the poor of our city, the people who can’t afford to buy books, the people who need the knowledge books contain to enrich their lives as well as to give them a fair CHANCE to make their way in the world. By cutting library budgets, we demean and diminish American democracy.

Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.
were Adam Johnson for *Emporium* (Viking), Ben Marcus for *Notable American Women* (Vintage Contemporaries), and Peter Rock for *The Ambidextrist* (Context Books).

The New York Public Library Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism was presented this year to Keith Bradsher for his book *High and Mighty: SUVs — The World’s Most Dangerous Vehicles and How They Got That Way* (Public Affairs). Now in its sixteenth year, the Bernstein Award is given annually to an outstanding journalist whose book has brought an important issue, event, or policy to public attention. *High and Mighty* lays bare the dangers that sports utility vehicles pose to those who drive them as well as to other cars on the road and society at large. The four other finalists were Ann Louise Bardach for *Cuba Confidential: Love and Vengeance in Miami and Havana* (Random House), Richard Bernstein for *Out of the Blue: The Story of September 11, 2001 from Jihad to Ground Zero* (Henry Holt & Co.), William Langewiesche for *American Ground: Unbuilding the World Trade Center* (North Point Press), and David Rieff for *A Bed for the Night: Humanitarianism in Crisis* (Simon & Schuster).

The annual New York Times Librarian Awards recognized fifteen librarians from the tristate area — including, from The New York Public Library, Gwendolyn Taylor-Davis, Senior Adult Librarian of the 96th Street Regional Branch in Manhattan; Violet Alfalla, Supervising Branch Librarian at the Castle Hill Branch in the Bronx; and Karla Kostick, Senior Children’s Librarian of the 96th Street Regional Branch in Manhattan; support public libraries by acknowledging those library staff members in the tristate area who have demonstrated outstanding community service. The winners were selected by a panel of judges from the library community.

**IN MEMORIAM**

This year, we mourned the passing of our Chairman Emeritus, great leader, champion, benefactor, and guardian Andrew Heiskell, who died on July 6 at his home in Darien, Connecticut. With great wisdom, and with selfless dedication and devotion for more than two decades, he was the guiding spirit in the Library’s resurgence from financial difficulties in the 1970s and helped move the Library into a new century, embodying his vision of a people’s university without equal. New York is a better place because of Andrew Heiskell, for his creation of beautiful public spaces, his drive to provide democratic access to knowledge, and his unwavering support of cultural institutions and their role in bettering society. We are grateful to have been touched by a man of such extraordinary vision and goodness.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

The Library’s successes in FY 2003 — achieved in spite of significant obstacles — were made possible through the exceptional generosity of countless supporters in the public and private sectors. We wish to thank Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg; City Council Speaker A. Gifford Miller, and his fellow Council Members; New York State Governor George E. Pataki; Senator Charles E. Schumer and Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton; New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and his fellow Assembly Members; Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrin, Jr.; Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields; and Staten Island Borough President James P. Molinaro, for the substantial support they made possible for The New York Public Library.

We are also delighted to record our great appreciation to all of our private sector benefactors in FY 2003. Their names can be found on pages 38–56. Our profound thanks go to those who were able to make gifts of $1 million or more: Alman Foundation • The Atlantic Philanthropies • Celeste and Adam Bartos Charitable Trust • Celeste Bartos and Jonathan Altman Charitable Trust • Carnegie Corporation of New York • Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman • Mr. and Mrs. Oscar de la Renta • Roger and Susan Hertog • Mr. and Mrs. John Klingenstein • Mr. and Mrs. Paul Milstein • NASDAQ Disaster Relief Fund • Nash Family Philanthropic Fund • New York Life Foundation • Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation • The Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation, Inc. • The Picower Foundation • Lionel I. Pincus • The Jerome Robbins Foundation, Inc. • Susan and Elihu Rose • The Starr Foundation • Time Warner Inc. • Robert W. Wilson

In closing, the Trustees offer their deepest thanks to the thousands of individuals and organizations invested in the Library.

Samuel C. Butler
Chairman

Paul LeClerc
President
Of all the institutions that make New York so exciting, The New York Public Library is the most precious to me, because its enormous wealth is free, accessible, and, above all, usable. And palpable! Unlike the collections in New York's great museums, I can touch and hold most of the materials the Library holds. I can turn the pages, I can feel and smell them. You can't get that sensual intimacy on the Internet! Since 1967, when I was working on my first book, I have gone to the NYPL to find everything from Gaelic words for the sea to the 1919 Michelin Guide to a particular World War I battlefield, and I have never been disappointed.

ROBERT MacNEIL

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**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Years ended June 30, 2003 and 2002

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<th>The Research Libraries &amp; Librarianship</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Libraries Programs</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating support and revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of New York</td>
<td>$ 104,917</td>
<td>$ 131,771</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of New York</td>
<td>23,250</td>
<td>21,874</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Government</td>
<td>2,951</td>
<td>4,092</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations, including promises to give investment return used for operations</td>
<td>20,931</td>
<td>18,568</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6% spending rate</td>
<td>1,154</td>
<td>30,531</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional spending authorized</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>4,300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue from real estate investments</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>2,690</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fines, royalties, and other revenue</td>
<td>5,158</td>
<td>9,992</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total operating support and revenues</td>
<td>138,075</td>
<td>257,426</td>
<td>273,543</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Operating expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Library services</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Books and other library materials*</td>
<td>9,688</td>
<td>9,688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and other expenses</td>
<td>117,907</td>
<td>215,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation and amortization</td>
<td>10,320</td>
<td>11,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Library services</td>
<td>139,807</td>
<td>226,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising and development</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>4,168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fundraising and development</td>
<td>10,320</td>
<td>11,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total operating expenses</td>
<td>136,062</td>
<td>277,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions to collections*</td>
<td>136,062</td>
<td>277,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total operating expenses and additions to collections</td>
<td>136,062</td>
<td>277,469</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Non-operating support, revenues, gains, and losses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Library services</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additions to permanently restricted net assets</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>17,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets before recording interest rate swaps</td>
<td>1,083</td>
<td>47,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in value of interest rate swaps</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>(4,181)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative effect of change in accounting principles</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>(1,241)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>1,083</td>
<td>47,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets (deficit) at beginning of year</td>
<td>2,202</td>
<td>512,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets (deficit) at end of year</td>
<td>$ 1,119</td>
<td>$ 512,705</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Books and other library materials acquired by The Research Libraries are displayed as "Additions to collections."
Despite continuing turmoil in financial markets and reductions in the levels of governmental support, The New York Public Library remains in sound fiscal condition, with net assets of $481.6 million at June 30, 2003. Although this represents a decrease of $31.1 million during the fiscal year, over the past six years, the Library’s net assets increased by $42.4 million, or 9.6%.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
The Summary of Financial Activities (page 21) presents in abbreviated form the Statement of Activities contained in the Library’s audited financial statements. The complete financial statements, including notes and the unqualified opinion from our auditors, Ernst & Young LLP, are available upon request.

OPERATING SUPPORT AND REVENUES
The Branch Libraries and The Research Libraries are distinguished from each other not only by their collections and services, but also by their funding. Support from the city, state, and federal governments, excluding the contributed rent-free use of the majority of the Library’s facilities and payment for the Library’s energy costs, comprises 75% of total operating support and revenues for The Branch Libraries, compared with 23% for The Research Libraries and Librarywide Programs.

Contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations, including promises to give totaled $28.9 million in fiscal 2003; this was nearly 18% of the budget for The Research Libraries and 5% for The Branch Libraries. These contributions came from nearly 58,000 separate gifts.

The Library’s endowment is made up of its permanently restricted net assets, the reinvested appreciation and accumulated income on those assets, and other unrestricted net assets specifically designated by the Library’s Board of Trustees to function as endowment. In recent years, the Trustees have made available for spending an amount equal to 6% of the average market value of the endowment for the three preceding years. This is categorized in the Summary of Financial Activities as Investment return used for operations, and equaled $31.7 million in fiscal 2003 — nearly all for The Research Libraries. During fiscal year 2003, the Trustees also authorized additional spending of $4.3 million for support of The Research Libraries. This amount represents 1.5% of the average market value of the

---

**At the time I first came to New York, straight out of Berkeley, the 42nd Street library was my salvation, my sanity, my secret place — I spent every weekend there, reading at random, despairing of ever learning everything there was to learn, finding that enriches beyond any possible cost.**

*Joan Didion*
unrestricted portion of the endowment for the preceding three years. The average annual total returns (net) that the Library has realized on its investments over the past one, five, and ten fiscal years were 4.1%, 5.1%, and 10.2% and compare favorably with the broad indices.

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

Expenditures for Books and other library materials totaled $9.7 million for The Branch Libraries, a decrease of 19% from the level of spending in the prior year. Purchases of library materials by The Research Libraries are reported as Additions to collections, separate from total operating expenses. In contrast to the expendable books and other library materials acquired by The Branch Libraries, which are regularly replaced with new editions and new titles, acquisitions of The Research Libraries are preserved under curatorial control. The Research Libraries expended $13.5 million in fiscal 2003 for the purchase of such acquisitions.

Salaries and other expenses of library services totaling $215.0 million include both personnel and other costs, a decrease of $14.1 million over the prior year. Nearly all of the decrease is owing to the reduction in expenditures for capital improvement projects.

The Library recorded a net deficiency of operating support and revenues over operating expenses and additions to collections of $17.6 million. Non-cash charges for depreciation and postretirement benefits accounted for nearly all the deficit.

**NON-OPERATING REVENUES, SUPPORT, GAINS, AND LOSSES**

New gifts to endowment of $12.9 million comprise the Additions to permanently restricted net assets. During the past five years, donors contributed $96.3 million to endowment, thanks to the highly successful Second Century Campaign. These gifts, combined with carefully managed spending and strong investment performance, resulted in steady growth of the endowment through fiscal 2000. During fiscal 2003, the Library’s investment performance, while strong in comparison with the broad market indices, did not meet budgeted spending.

Since the Library’s founding in 1895, a partnership between the public and private sectors has been the keystone to the Library’s success. Strong support from both sectors, combined with prudent financial management, place the Library in good position to weather the current fiscal challenges while continuing to invest in its collections, services, and the new technologies required to make those collections fully accessible.

Ralph E. Hansmann
Treasurer

![Growth of Long-term Investments](image-url)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

For the years ended June 30, 2003 and 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$5,597</td>
<td>$4,436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td>62,535</td>
<td>87,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>3,745</td>
<td>3,367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assets restricted as to use</td>
<td>10,173</td>
<td>14,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments, at fair value</td>
<td>462,242</td>
<td>466,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in joint venture</td>
<td>9,669</td>
<td>9,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate investment, at cost</td>
<td>15,521</td>
<td>15,521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation</td>
<td>137,860</td>
<td>141,691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>707,342</td>
<td>738,998</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short-term bank borrowings</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable, accrued expenses, and other liabilities</td>
<td>33,420</td>
<td>33,412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term debt</td>
<td>111,295</td>
<td>116,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest rate swaps</td>
<td>12,628</td>
<td>5,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued postretirement benefits</td>
<td>60,429</td>
<td>55,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>225,703</td>
<td>226,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Branch Libraries:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>(31,165)</td>
<td>(30,012)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>20,430</td>
<td>20,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>11,654</td>
<td>11,903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Research Libraries and Librarywide programs:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustee-designated</td>
<td>53,569</td>
<td>81,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net investment in fixed assets</td>
<td>1,129</td>
<td>4,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earned for fiscal 2003 operations</td>
<td>9,061</td>
<td>4,903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total unrestricted</td>
<td>65,749</td>
<td>91,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net investment in fixed assets, including promises to give</td>
<td>35,740</td>
<td>38,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other promises to give</td>
<td>5,422</td>
<td>5,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other temporarily restricted assets</td>
<td>107,924</td>
<td>118,077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total temporarily restricted</td>
<td>148,922</td>
<td>162,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>287,849</td>
<td>257,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total net assets</td>
<td>481,639</td>
<td>512,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities and net assets</td>
<td>$707,342</td>
<td>$738,998</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The very first “novel” that I had ever read, Peter Pan, was checked out from the 125th Street branch when I was about eight or nine years old, my library card a passport to a much wider world than I had ever known. During the late 1970s and into the 80s, I spent nearly every lunch hour at either the Mid-Manhattan branch or at The New York Public Library on 42nd Street just prowling around and, often enough, coming away with many a work of fiction and nonfiction to my hunger for literature. But there is no period in my life when the library system has not been of an enormous help to me as a writer and human being.

Oscar Hijuelos
During the past year, these eminent artists, writers, and scholars participated in lectures, panel discussions, lectures-recitals, award ceremonies, and other special events at the Humanities and Social Sciences Libraries, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and the Science, Industry and Business Library, furthering the Library’s efforts to make available to the public a series of educational and cultural programs of the highest quality. In addition, hundreds of distinguished guests took part in the more than 26,000 public programs presented over the past year in The Branch Libraries.

Public Programs

The Star Foundation and the Ahman Foundation.

For support of the Fall/Winter 2002–2003 program season,

The New York Public Library gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the Jacob Poet Fund.

For support of the Spring 2003 program season, The New York Public Library gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the Ahman Foundation, Inc., and the Ahman Foundation.

The Star Foundation and the Ahman Foundation.

For support of the Fall/Winter 2002–2003 program season,

The Libraries gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the Jacob Poet Fund.

For support of the Spring 2003 program season, The New York Public Library gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the Ahman Foundation, Inc., and the Ahman Foundation.

The Star Foundation and the Ahman Foundation.

For support of the Fall/Winter 2002–2003 program season,

The Libraries gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the Jacob Poet Fund.
As a kid, the public library was my escape route from humiliating after-school baseball games where I’d always be the last picked. It became my safe-haven that led me into worlds of words and pictures by Franz Kafka, Peter Breugel, and thousands of other writers and artists … many of whom were probably as crummy at baseball as I was. ► The public library is one of America’s most generous and hospitable creations. Benjamin Franklin, the institution’s inventor, is honored by having his face on our $100 dollar bills (the largest we print). Not providing enough of those bills to allow our libraries to thrive leaves me apoplectic about our nation’s priorities … and if you don’t know what “apoplectic” means, get to a library while they’re still around to help you find out!

ART SPIEGELMAN
I arrived in New York City in March of 1949. I knew no one and I started calling on brokerage firms for a job. After the occasional interview I had nothing but time on my hands, but I did discover the New York Public Library. It was cold outside and warm in the Library — and, of course, the time went by quickly because I was reading all day long. I will never forget what an oasis the Library was for me at that time in my life.

ALAN C. GREENBERG

Robert Wilson Collection

At a press conference on May 13, The Byrd Hoffman Water Mill Foundation presented the Library for the Performing Arts with the gift of the Robert Wilson Video/Audio/Visual Collection — an archive of 1,048 videotapes and films and 249 audiotapes documenting the work of one of the most significant creative forces of our time. Born in Waaco, Texas, in 1941, Robert Wilson was a leading member of New York’s avant-garde by the late 1960s, and achieved international acclaim for his 1976 opera Einstein on the Beach, written with composer Philip Glass. The archive ranges from 1970 to the present and includes performances and partial performances, workshops, rehearsals, documentation, interviews, excerpts, and auditions, covering such works as Deafman Glance, The Life and Times of Joseph Stalin, The Civil Wars, A Letter for Queen Victoria, Einstein on the Beach, The Magic Flute, Madame Butterfly, Parsifal, and Salome, among others. “I work in a room full of people, like a chorographic,” Wilson says. “A theater with a blank book and the piece comes to me, silently staged. If someone wants to recreate Einstein on the Beach 100 years from now, they could do it through the video notation and the log books that go with it.”

PERFORMING MIRACLES

Robert Wilson Collection


Music Division

Arthur Cohn. Papers and manuscripts documenting the career of the composer, conductor, violinist, and writer on music. Gift of Lois Cohn.

Irish Folk Music. Manuscripts, notes, letters, and other written materials by the composer, letters to him (from Leonard Bernstein, Benny Goodman, Páll Csath, and Henry Cowell, among others); papers concerning him, newspaper notices, concert programs and similar materials; personal manuscripts, photographs, recording tapes, and photograph records. Bequest of Paul Kuh.

Meyer Kupferman. Papers and manuscripts of original compositions and correspondence of the American composer and clarinetist. Gift of the composer.

Eugene Weintraub. Music publisher. Original manuscripts by composers Howard Swenson, Peggy Glanville-Hicks, George Antheil, and Virgil Thomson, all of whose music was published by Wranter Music Co., New York City. Gift of David Weintraub.

Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound

Broadway and London Original Cast Recordings. 245 CD recordings from the 1940s to the present. Gift of Mr. Murray Schmieg.

Brooklyn Academy of Music. Collection 1,245 albums of live performances from 1972 to 2003, including the Academy’s Claudius Monteforte series of operas performed by the Dutch National Opera, the Chicago Opera Theatre, and Los Angeles Philharmonic Radio St. Martin’s-Pascoe performed by the New York Collegium; Handel’s

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Art and Architectural Division


Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Makimoku X Papers. Correspondence, journal articles, writings, photographs, sketches, and audiovisual materials documenting the life and activities of the African American human rights leader. Gift of the estate.


Theatre on Film and Tape Archive (TOFT)

Lives of the performances videotaped on Broadway were Dinner atEight, Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune, Hampton: Mambo Mix: Noise Oil, Private Lives, Take Me Out, Thoroughly Modern Millie, and Unzipped Off-Broadway productions documented included The Blues: Black/Orange: The Troubadours, Elvira, Elegies: A Song Cycle; Far Away; Gelb and Harry Densmore and to other aspects of the period (Ellen Terry, Ethel Barrymore, Alla Nazimova, Sarah Bernhardt, Joseph Jefferson, Lillian Russell, and Julia Marlowe). Gift of Carol O’Connor.

56 books, dating from 1854 to 1941, on various aspects of 17th-, 18th-, and 19th-century English theater, including a book of Shakespearean costume designs by Phelan; and 75 theatrical posters signed by such notable figures as George Bernard Shaw, William Gillette, Henry Irving, Ellen Terry, Leslie Howard, and Yvonne Tilly. Gift of William Appleton.
New York Eats Out

In 1996, New York Times food critic William Grimes, the exhibition’s curator and restaurant critic, wrote a essay about the history of New York City restaurants, including their impact on New York City culture. Grimes traced the history of New York City restaurants from the 19th century, when New Yorkers ate in small, family-owned restaurants, to the 20th century, when New York City became a center of the restaurant industry.

The essay culminated in a 1996 New York Times article, “New York Eats Out,” which showcased the diversity of New York City restaurants, from mom-and-pop diners to fine-dining establishments. The article highlighted the role of New York City restaurants in shaping the city’s culture and history, and it was widely praised for its insight and analysis.

The essay and article were followed by a series of events, including a New York Times Cooking School class, a New York Times cooking competition, and a New York Times food festival. These events further highlighted the importance of New York City restaurants in the city’s culture and history.

New York Eats Out

The New York Eats Out exhibition was held at the New York Public Library, L-O-C-X-B-I-N., and it was a hit with visitors. The exhibition showcased the history of New York City restaurants, from the 19th century, when New Yorkers ate in small, family-owned restaurants, to the 20th century, when New York City became a center of the restaurant industry.

The exhibition included a variety of exhibits, including photographs, menus, and artifacts. It also featured a series of lectures and events, including a series of talks by New York City restaurant owners and chefs.

The New York Eats Out exhibition was widely praised for its insight and analysis, and it was a hit with visitors. It was held at the New York Public Library, L-O-C-X-B-I-N., and it ran from September 1 to October 1, 1996.

The exhibition was sponsored by the New York Public Library, L-O-C-X-B-I-N., and it was supported by a variety of organizations, including the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The New York Eats Out exhibition was a success, and it helped to raise awareness of the importance of New York City restaurants in the city’s culture and history.
Over the years, The New York Public Library has been my unofficial alma mater, and my intellectual mother. I have spent countless days at her bosom, using her for my research into my nonfiction books, articles, and novels. When I had the good fortune to be selected as one of the fellows at the Library’s Center for Scholars and Writers, I not only was able to complete amounts of research on my New York waterfront book, but could enjoy the PRIVILEGE of visiting one of my favorite buildings six days a week. It ennobles all who come within its purview. If I had my wish as to where I would most like to be buried, it would be underneath the stacks of the NYPL.

PHILLIP LOPATE

Kenn Duncan’s photograph of Anita Morris as Carla in the original Broadway cast of Nine. Kenn Duncan Photograph Archive, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Dorothy and Lewis B. Culman Center.

Grace R. and Alan D. Mazure Foundation Jack Macou Peter Martino Lucy K. Marks and Scott Spenson Nancy and Edwin S. Marks Dino Marcone Meredith Marzell Marzanos Family Foundation Michael T. Martin Mrs. Julian L. Murnell The Virginia and Leonard Mars Foundation Andrea Marzo Francis S. Mason, Jr. Marjorie Mantie Malina-Pohl Foundation Priscilla and George Malouk Mrs. Milton S. Maurer Mr. and Mrs. Hamish Maxwell Alfred, Lee and Peter Mayer Foundation The Helen R. & Harold C. Mayer Foundation The Louis B. Mayer Foundation Mrs. William Mayer, Jr. Elizabeth D. Mrazo The Edith Minor Foundation Ilse Mehlhorn Katherine and Joseph Mele The Harold and Sophie Mervis Foundation, Inc. Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Moyer, Jr. Charles E. Merrill, Jr. James D. Mermitt Geraldine Fabianek Metz and Robert T. Metz G. G. Michelson Paula Michtom Mrs. Henry B. Midleton Joanna M. Migdal Dr. and Mrs. Alexander Miles Arthur Miller Lynne and Leigh M. Miller Stephen E. and Evelyn E. Milman Mrs. Syramon Milstein Sally Minard and Norton Garfield Caroline Minkoff Dr. Rae Alexander Minter and Dr. Thomas K. Minter Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mints Stephanie and Stephen Miron The Los Medin Foundation Christine Moler and Matthew Guerreiro Down and Isaac Montessori Foundation Hannela Montgomery

other Library branches across this city.”

“tions, serving millions of New Yorkers each year. “I am proud to take

All cities need centers, like in a medieval village, where people congregated in a cathedral for learning and inspiration.

The Library as a CENTER gives us a place where one can look at the past as well as gaining knowledge of the FUTURE.

It gives us a window to our community in New York as well as the entire world. Without such a center it is difficult for us to go forward.

ROBERT WILSON

Yorkville Branch Through a spectacular $5.2 million gift from industrialist Andrew Carnegie in 1901, 65 branch libraries were built in New York City between 1902 and 1929, and all free and open to the public. The first to open its doors was the Yorkville Branch, located at 232 East 79th Street in Manhattan. To mark that historic event, an centennial celebration was held on December 10 at the Yorkville Branch with Library staff, government representatives, and branch users in attendance. Cited was Carnegie’s letter announcing his gift to John Shaw Billings, the first Director of The New York Public Library. In which Carnegie wrote about “the needs of Branch Libraries to reach the masses of people in every district” — an idea that has been born out in the Library’s vast network of 85 loca-

tions, serving millions of New Yorkers each year. “I am proud to take part in this centennial,” said Mrs. Frederick Pристik Rose (picturing on the right with Mary K. Conway, Senior Vice President and Director of The Branch Libraries), who with her late husband helped fund the 1987 renovation of the landmarked building. “It is gratifying to know that New Yorkers continue to seek out the treasures that lie within the Yorkville Branch and in all of the other Library branches across this city.”

100 AND COUNTING Yorkville Branch
The Alex-Telly Foundation
Martha Ulman
Paul Underwood
The Yapan Unterberg
Foundation, Inc.
June T. Upton
Melissa G. Vail
Cynthia and Leon Vance
E. Grace Vandecar
Maria L. Vechiotti and Paul P. Tanco
Mrs. Alexander G. Victor
Edgar and Rosemary Vilchis
Ellen M. Violette
Anthony and Maria Viscardi
Erector and Dolores Voglino
Jeanette and Paul Wagoner
Mr. and Mrs. Rod Wagner
Fred Ley Lukan
Dr. and Mrs. Karl M. F. Weaver
Laura C. Wang
Helen Williams
Dr. Leonard Weather, Jr.
Estates of Hobe Wemsehn
Edwin L. and Suzanne A. Weiland
Mr. and Mrs. George Wein
The Emmetts and Anna
Weinstein Foundation
Weslaco Family Foundation
Mrs. Solomon M. Weisner
Charitable Trust
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen H. Weiss
Kathleen B. Weissman
Marie L. Welling
Lucille Weitnich
Maryanne and Willard White
Shelby White and Leon Levy
Robert and Donna Whitefield
John C. Whitehead
Mr. and Mrs. James O. Whiteman
Whitewall Whittemore III
Charles A. Whittemore
Walter and Sandra Wilke
Franz H. Williams
Colonel and Mrs. James E. Williams Jr.
Mary L. and Jaw W. Williams
Trust
William Williams
Mary Williams
Mark A. and Carol A. Willis
Peter E. Wilson
Fred Wistow
Esther & Morton Wolfenghm
Amidan Foundation, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wolfe
Wolffe-Wolfe Family Foundation
Alice E. Wolff
Gerlad E. Wood Foundation
Candida and Aubrey Woolf
Sustainers
$50,000-$99,999
American Express Company
GLI Fund
News Corporation
Sponsors ($25,000-$49,999)
Academy
Bank of America, N.A.
Barclays, America, Inc.
Bloomberg
Cascde Lincoln and Uniform
Service
Central National-Germany
Foundation
Citigroup Foundation
Credit Suisse FirstBoston
Deloitte & Plampton
The Walt Disney Company
Goldman, Sachs & Co.
The Grand Manan Foundation
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America, Inc.
Crown, Locksatan & Latimer
P.C.
Darby & Darby
Davey Bond Broyer
Dettorre & Tocci
Without the AID
of The New York Public Library
I would not have known
that my chosen
vocation existed. A
SOCIETY
without public libraries
is doomed to spend its
life in front of a mirror.
LAWRENCE WEINER

The 2003 GALA benefit book auction, sponsored by
the New York Public Library, was a success.

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Fred M. Wilz

about what the Library can do for them, we would not need to raise funds!

bill cosby
For me the Public Library IS New York. I love everything about it, from the lions out in front to the MAJESTY of the reading room to the amazing collection of historic cookbooks and menus. It is an extraordinary resource, and one of the institutions that makes New York such a wonderful place to live. 

RUTH REICHL
And yet all it amounts to are a few scratches on a more or less flat surface. These scratches—and there are entire galaxies of them behind the three arches and two lions of The New York Public Library—are the most precious thing mankind knows. How fragile the life of a book, how fragile a library, and how fragile the enduring miracle of human creativity.

ANDRE ACIMAN
As a “starving artist” when I first came to this often overwhelming city, the Library provided me with plays, with movies, and with valuable research material so that I could audition for the theater. I still use the Library, and have now introduced my 4-year-old daughter to its wonderful children’s programs. The Library is one of the great traditions of New York and, I will go so far as saying, of America.

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The Council of the Trustees

I genuflect every time I pass the junction of 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue.

I have done that for forty years, out of respect for the accumulated wisdom for so long abundantly available to us all, and I do it now in prayerful hope that the justly celebrated generosity of Americans will come to the rescue of an essential institution so suddenly and sadly vulnerable in the city’s post-9/11 crisis.

As a dependent of the Library, as a writer, and as the publisher of many co-dependents, I suppose I have a special interest, but my overriding concern is to preserve the Library’s gift to us all as the guardian of our cultural heritage, our learning, indeed our civilization.

HAROLD EVANS
The Library makes employment decisions at the Library are
recruits, hires, trains, promotes, and compensates without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, citizenship status, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, political affiliation, or any other characteristic protected by law. All employment decisions made at the Library are committed to a program of Affirmative Action for minorities, women, disabled individuals, and disabled and Vietnam-era veterans to ensure equal employment opportunities without discrimination prohibited by law. The Library is committed to act affirmatively to ensure the full utilization of each of these groups on our staff.
I came to this country as a teenage refugee from Nazi-occupied Europe. The New York Public Library became my mentor in the English language, in history and literature, and, over the years, in countless subjects of interest and importance to me. Its very existence is reassuring because it is always accessible. As a treasure of knowledge it is limitless and priceless. A character in George Bernard Shaw’s Caesar and Cleopatra speaks of the great library in Alexandria as the memory of mankind. The same can be said about The New York Public Library.

HENRY GRUNWALD
Librarywide

Operating Expenses
Operating expenses of The Research Libraries, Librarywide Programs, and Related Central Services and Administration $59,088,000
Operating expenses of The Branch Libraries and Related Central Services and Administration 4,983,000
Total 63,401,000

Employees
The Research Libraries, Librarywide Programs, and Related Central Services and Administration
Salaried employees 4,774
Hourly employees 173
Total 4,947

The Branch Libraries and Related Central Services and Administration
Salaried employees 1,140
Hourly employees 374
Total 1,514

Cyberfacts
Electronic visits to NYPL website 10,947,496
Countries accessing website 199
Web pages 22,860
Web images 196,311
Computers for public use 2,794
Electronic databases for public use 226

The Research Libraries

Collections

Of this figure, 11,944,785 are books and book-like materials; the remainder consists of various other categories of items, such as audio recordings, films, videotapes, maps, sheet music, prints, and clippings.

Users in Fiscal 2003

Humanities and Social Sciences Library 973,915
Library for the Performing Arts, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center 320,322
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture 45,556
Science, Industry and Business Library 415,456
Total 1,776,450

Reference Inquiries

Onsite reference 509,631
Telephone reference 85,586
Mail 2,514
E-mail 14,091
Total Reference Inquiries 609,368

Programs for the Public

Public programs 254
Classes 946
Tours 819
Total 2,039

Program Attendance

Public programs 53,578
Classes 6,266
Tours 9,780
Total 69,624

Materials Preserved

Through restoration, preservation, microfilming, and repair 120,996
Preservation photocopying 8,658
Hours of recorded sound media 1,289
Fret of motion picture film 22,938
Number of hours of videotape media 980
Volumes stabilized for ReCAP 81,677
Items accessioned at ReCAP 947,338

Fee-based Services

Document-delivery requests filled 10,357
Photographic reproductions 3,395
Microfilm reels 2,036
Permission requests 1,176

Volunteer Services

Number of volunteers 341
Number of volunteer hours 27,794

The Branch Libraries

Collections

Of this figure, 4,583,492 are books; the remaining 1,937,400 items consist of various categories of nonprint items such as films, videotapes, materials for the blind, orchestral parts, pictures, and audio recordings.

Items Purchased 688,261
Titles Cataloged 65,754

Library Card Holders 1,977,040

Users (homeless attendance)

Bronx 3,557,486
Manhattan 4,406,377
Staten Island 1,613,190
Central Library Units 2,438,799
Total 12,026,512

Branch Libraries Use

Items circulated 14,399,959
Reference inquiries 6,406,478
Directional inquiries 6,339,679
Internet user sessions 6,249,561
Web page views 10,847,664

Free Programs

Adult 6,668
Young Adult 2,631
Children 13,414
Outreach Services 4,406
Total Programs 20,429

Total Programs includes:

Technology Training 3,034

Free Program Attendance

Adult 95,328
Young Adult 12,793
Children 265,794
Outreach Services 71,061
Total Attendance 482,866

Total Attendance includes:

Technology Training Attendance 22,636
CLASP (School Outreach) Students Reached 144,591

Community Agency Contacts 915

Branch Exhibits 2,067

Volunteer Services

Number of volunteers 1,604
Number of volunteer hours 41,515
**RECOMMENDED FORM OF BEQUEST**

The New York Public Library is a not-for-profit education corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of New York. The Library is exempt from federal income tax as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a publicly supported organization under section 170 of the Code.

Gifts and bequests to the Library are deductible under the federal income, estate, and gift tax laws. For federal tax purposes, the Library uses its formal corporate name: The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations (reflecting its incorporation by the consolidation of the Astor Library, the Lenox Library, and the Tilden Trust). The Trustees of the Library recommend that for estate planning purposes, friends consider the following language for use in their wills:

“If I give and bequeath (dollar amount, percentage of residuary estate, or description of property) to The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, New York, New York 10018, for the Library’s general purposes.”

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**THE HISTORY OF THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The New York Public Library, a private corporation, formally came into existence on May 23, 1895, as a result of the consolidation of the Astor Library, Lenox Library, and Tilden Trust. In January 1901, the existing New York Free Circulating Library merged with The New York Public Library; a few months later, Andrew Carnegie offered a gift of funds to build 65 branch libraries throughout New York City, providing that the City would supply the sites and fund the libraries’ maintenance and operations. In July 1901, The New York Public Library contracted with the City of New York to operate the Carnegie branches in the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island. Today, under one name and guided by one Board of Trustees, The New York Public Library operates four major research facilities and 85 circulating libraries in three boroughs.