# The New York Public Library

## 2012 Annual Report

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## COVER IMAGES

Second row: Carolyn George (far left), Beowulf Sheehan (middle); third row: Jonathan Blanc (left and right); fourth row: Jonathan Blanc (far left and far right), Jori Klein
In this increasingly digitized world, many people often ask if libraries are still necessary. Have libraries or even books become obsolete? One look at The New York Public Library and the answer is clear: libraries have never been more important.

The numbers speak for themselves. In the last fiscal year, 18 million visitors came through the Library’s doors, while another 32 million visited nypl.org. Meanwhile, circulation and program attendance is setting records. Public high school students are borrowing books, and scholars are doing major research here. Job seekers continue to rely on our comprehensive resources at the Bronx Library Center and other locations. And our public computers were used for 3.6 million hours in FY 2012, a 160% increase from five years ago.

Together these facts underscore how essential the Library is to so many. Indeed, a recent report from the Center for an Urban Future strongly argues that the city’s public libraries have become an increasingly important part of New York’s “human capital” system. The report is succinct: “No other institution in New York serves so many different people in so many different ways.”

However, even as use soars, the Library continues to face severe fiscal challenges. Over the past five years, City funding for the Library has been steadily reduced, forcing NYPL to find ways to continue serving its patrons amid declining resources, and making private support even more crucial.

Despite these challenges, NYPL cannot—and will not—stand still. In the spring of 2012, we unveiled a blueprint for the Library’s future that will create a center of inspiration for all New Yorkers in our Stephen A. Schwarzman Building on 42nd Street. We are also investing in our branches. High points include a new state-of-the-art Teen Center at Hamilton Grange Library in Upper Manhattan and a major facade restoration at Jefferson Market Library in Greenwich Village.

We are also building our vital research collections, continuing to collect widely while attracting major gifts, including Mikhail Baryshnikov’s personal archives. And our critically acclaimed exhibitions are drawing record crowds, such as our Centennial exhibition, Celebrating 100 Years.

The Library’s many achievements and successes over the past year would be unthinkable without the support of so many, including our staff, generous donors, Library members, tireless volunteers, and, not least, those great lovers of the Library—Trustees, past presidents, and my distinguished predecessors as Chairman.

With thanks to all,

Neil L. Rudenstine
February 2013
Letter from the President

This has been a time of new beginnings at The New York Public Library. As our iconic 42nd Street branch embarked on its next 100 years following its Centennial in May 2011, both Neil Rudenstine, the Library’s Chairman, and I embarked on our first years leading this vital institution. And with Library use at an all-time high, we have worked to launch a series of new initiatives to ensure that the Library continues to meet the ever-changing needs of our patrons in the years to come.

We are committed to vastly expanding free programs and educational initiatives in our branches. In FY 2012, we increased the number of free events at NYPL to more than 55,000, while we expanded the number of computer classes to nearly 7,700, a more than 350% increase over the year before. We also offered more than 1,800 ESOL classes to help recent immigrants learn English. But we aim to do more. Every day after school, 30,000 kids come to our branches. We should be providing the finest after-school program in the nation. We are also working to bring library books to every school in the city through a partnership with the Department of Education, which we launched as a pilot in fall 2011.

Through our Virtual Library initiative, we are striving to create a vibrant online community that complements and supports the irreplaceable work of our branches, while bringing digital tools to all New Yorkers. As digital literacy becomes increasingly essential, we must guarantee that everyone has access to computers. Moreover, as more and more materials move online, we must ensure that patrons continue to have free access to books, in all formats, including e-books. We are proud of our groundbreaking efforts with the major publishers and other e-content providers to make more e-books available to libraries.

Finally, we are working to create a vibrant circulating library within the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, uniting the world’s greatest research library with the books and services from our Mid-Manhattan Library and Science, Industry and Business Library. Designed by celebrated architect Norman Foster, this plan will restore the landmark to its original mission of serving all New Yorkers while maintaining its historic public spaces and greatly expanding services and facilities for scholars.

This is indeed our “Gutenberg moment.” We will and we must create the future of libraries here at NYPL. But our mission is constant. Carved into the wall of the Wachenheim Trustees Room at 42nd Street are these words of Thomas Jefferson: “I look to the diffusion of light and education as the resource most to be relied on for ameliorating the condition promoting the virtue and advancing the happiness of man.” That is the founding ideal of America, and of this institution. This is the very mission to which we recommit ourselves as we forge ahead.

Anthony W. Marx
February 2013
More people than ever before turned to The New York Public Library in FY 2012, seeking everything from books and e-books to computer classes, kids’ programs, job-search help, free English classes, and more.
PEOPLE

Total Library Visits

18 million
12% ↑
FROM FY '08

Most Visited Libraries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Visitors</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen A. Schwarzman Building</td>
<td>2.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Manhattan Library</td>
<td>1.4 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronx Library Center</td>
<td>679,979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science, Industry and Business Library</td>
<td>423,079</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York Public Library for the Performing Arts</td>
<td>347,868</td>
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Exhibition Attendance

782,469
Visitors in FY '12
87% ↑
FROM FY '08

Visits to nypl.org

32 million
15% ↑
FROM FY '08

Programs and Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Programs</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
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<tr>
<td>'08</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>60,000</td>
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<td>'09</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>60,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>'12</td>
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Attendees

1,168,127
↑72%
FROM FY '08

Programs

55,140
↑73%
FROM FY '08

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Classes

1,857
ESOL Classes
34,575
Total Class Attendance
BOOKS+MORE

Circulation

28 million

FROM FY '08

E-Books Circulated

667,162

FROM FY '08

Hours of Public Computer Use

3,557,162

160% ↑
FROM FY '08

NYPL Laptop Use

441,434 reservations of 1,303 laptops

↑ 60% ↑ FROM FY '10
FY 2012 Highlights

JULY 2011
Political science scholar Anthony W. Marx succeeds Paul LeClerc as The New York Public Library’s President and CEO. In his first year, the former president of Amherst College leads initiatives that increase educational programming at neighborhood libraries, improve services for researchers, and expand public access to e-books. He also launches a master planning process to bring a state-of-the-art circulating library to the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street.

The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture opens two major exhibitions as its new director, Khalil Gibran Muhammad, takes the helm. Romare Bearden: The Soul of Blackness/A Centennial Tribute celebrates the prolific artist's long life and career. Malcolm X: A Search for Truth features diaries, manuscripts, and original drafts of speeches written by the political activist.

Dance icon Mikhail Baryshnikov donates hundreds of videotapes, personal recordings, photographs, documents, letters, and scrapbooks to NYPL. These treasures are later displayed at The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center, in Mikhail Baryshnikov: An Archival Preview.

AUGUST
The top readers from NYPL’s 2011 Summer Reading program are honored on the field at Yankee Stadium and meet with Yankees center fielder Curtis Granderson in recognition of their achievements. More than 104,600 children participated in NYPL’s program.

Out of the Shadows: The Fashion of Film Noir opens at the Library for the Performing Arts. The exhibition displays film stills, lobby cards, posters, and designs from a variety of Hollywood film noir releases of the 1940s and early 1950s. The images of women presented in the exhibition reveal the continuing influence of film noir fashion on contemporary clothing.

The Library hosts a Winnie-the-Pooh Birthday Bash to celebrate the beloved literary bear’s 90th birthday. Almost 750 guests attend the party, where they enjoy cake and crafts. The original Pooh stuffed animal came to NYPL in 1987 and lives in the Children’s Center at 42nd Street in the Schwarzman Building.

Once it’s been catalogued, Mikhail Baryshnikov’s personal archive will be available to dancers, students, scholars, and the public. The dancer made his gift to NYPL official in July.
**SEPTEMBER**

The Science, Industry and Business Library (SIBL) announces the winners of the New York StartUP! 2011 Business Plan Competition. The top prize of $15,000 goes to Harlem resident Denise Adusei to launch a preschool in her neighborhood.

The Library waives fines incurred by children and teens as it launches its first-ever New Chapter program in collaboration with Brooklyn Public Library and Queens Library. Designed to encourage young patrons to return to their libraries and rediscover books, the monthlong amnesty benefits more than 240,000 kids.

Neil L. Rudenstine begins his tenure as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The New York Public Library. The former president of Harvard University succeeds Catherine Marron, a member of the Board since 1993 who served as Chairman from 2004 to 2011.

Nearly 400 young fans flock to the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building to see supermodel Tyra Banks at the season premiere of TeenLIVE. Teens get a chance to hear about Banks’s first novel, Modelland, which she wrote at the Library, and find out what it takes to write a book.

NYPL partners with the New York City Department of Education on a groundbreaking pilot program that allows 50,000 students from 83 public schools in the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island to borrow books directly from the Library. The pilot, which is designed to expand students’ access to books, is expanded to hundreds of schools citywide.

NYPL announces that its e-books can now be borrowed and read on Kindle e-readers. On the day the news goes out on social media, registrations on ebooks.nypl.org spike three times the average.

**OCTOBER**

The Library opens the new Hamilton Grange Teen Center, the first NYPL Teen Center in Northern Manhattan. The 4,400-square-foot space offers 30 computers, high-tech audiovisual equipment, and a performance space with bleacher seating.

More than 350 people attend Financial Planning Day at SIBL. The event offers New Yorkers a one-stop resource for the financial issues they’re most concerned about, including budgeting, investing, and retirement. In April, SIBL’s Financial Empowerment Day draws 300 participants.
FY 2012 Highlights

NOVEMBER
New York City's literary community gathers at the 2011 Library Lions Gala. Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and City Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn join the Library in feting the honorees: novelist Jonathan Franzen, singer-songwriter Natalie Merchant, author Stacy Schiff, novelist Ian McEwan, author Isabel Wilkerson, and playwright Tony Kushner.

More than 900 New Yorkers attend the First Annual Workers Needed Job Fair at the Bronx Library Center. The fair offers job seekers a chance to meet hiring managers at a time when unemployment in the borough was close to 12 percent.

The Birth of Promotion: Inventing Film Publicity in the Silent-Film Era opens at the Library for the Performing Arts. Among the advertisements and programs displayed are an original pro-Union sketch meant to advertise The Birth of a Nation, and publicity material for films that starred Lillian Gish, Mary Pickford, Rudolph Valentino, and others.

DECEMBER
Budding scientists get an up-close look at the wonders of science during KidsLIVE’s Mad Science Holiday Spectacular at the Schwarzman Building. Other events include a show by the Paper Bag Players and a reading by ice-skating champion and author Kristi Yamaguchi.

The 10-week fall English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) session ends at 16 libraries. The popular program served almost 800 students from 75 countries in 2012 and is undergoing a major expansion.

Nearly 5,000 Library supporters gather at the Library’s 30th Annual Holiday Open House for Friends of the Library, a festive afternoon at the Schwarzman Building featuring live music, holiday carolers, crafts, storytelling, and more.
JANUARY 2012

More than 600 Library patrons receive hands-on help at NYPL’s new eBook Central drop-in clinics at Mid-Manhattan Library and the Schwarzman Building. These post-holiday sessions offer guidance about using tablet computers and e-readers to access NYPL’s nearly 22,000 e-books.

The Library’s Family Benefit: Passport to Adventure! transforms historic Astor Hall into a wonderland inspired by children’s books set in foreign countries. The event raises much-needed funds to support children’s services and programs at NYPL’s 87 neighborhood libraries.

NYPL Labs launches the Stereogranimator, a participatory website that encourages patrons to discover the Library’s vast collection of historical stereographs. Established in late 2011, NYPL Labs is an experimental technology unit within the Library that develops new tools to help patrons engage with digital collections. Other projects include Direct Me NYC 1940, which allows researchers to use NYPL-digitized 1940 phone directories to better navigate census data, and What's on the Menu?, which enlists patrons to help NYPL transcribe its renowned collection of historical menus. By the summer, more than 100,000 volunteers had transcribed 569,000 dishes from 5,700 menus!

FEBRUARY

Shelley’s Ghost: The Afterlife of a Poet opens at the Schwarzman Building. The exhibition, a collaboration between NYPL and the Bodleian Library at Oxford University, includes sections from Mary Shelley’s original Frankenstein manuscript on view for the first time in the U.S., along with diaries, letters, and family heirlooms. The Library also releases the second installment of its award-winning free digital app, Biblion Frankenstein: The Afterlife of Shelley’s Circle, which brings the exhibition to life, and explores how the classics resonate in modern society. It was later named a Parents’ Choice Recommended Award Winner for 2012.

TeenLIVE presents popular urban literature author Tracy Brown at the St. George Library Center on Staten Island. Other notable TeenLIVE guests include choreographer Jermaine Brown and Icelandic musician Bjork, who introduces students to Biophilia, her experiential music and science program. NYPL Teen Centers offer Biophilia workshops throughout the year.

The Obama Presidency: A Look Behind the Scenes opens at the Schomburg Center. Official White House photographer Pete Souza’s 56 photographs document nearly two years of President Obama’s first term. A second exhibition, GMAD at 25: A History in Words and Images, opens in conjunction with the 25th anniversary of Gay Men of African Descent (GMAD), the oldest social services organization for black gay men in New York City.
**March**

**Live from the NYPL**, the Library’s premier lecture series, brings Nobel Prize winner Eric Kandel to the Schwarzman Building to discuss his book *The Age of Insight*. This season’s eclectic guests include John Lithgow, Harry Belafonte, Russell Simmons, Rick Rubin, Gilberto Gil, Joan Didion, and Van Cliburn.

**Celebrating 100 Years**, the Library’s Centennial exhibition, closes after a record-breaking run. More than 600,000 visitors—then the highest turnout for any Library exhibition—explored the more than 250 treasures from NYPL’s collections on display, ranging from 5,000-year-old Sumerian cuneiform tablets to the first Gutenberg Bible acquired in the Americas to John Coltrane’s handwritten score of *Lover Man*.

The Schomburg Center’s annual *Women’s Jazz Festival* features four nights of stellar performances, including Meshell Ndegeocello, who takes the stage at a sold-out show that pays tribute to legendary singer Nina Simone.

**April**

The Library for the Performing Arts opens two exhibitions. *The Great American Revue: How Ziegfeld, White and their Rivals Remade Broadway* displays original scores, costume designs, and production notes from these theatrical masterpieces, which were most popular between 1907 and 1938. *Star Quality: The World of Nöel Coward* celebrates the famed Englishman’s accomplishments as a playwright, composer, actor, director, and painter.

**May**

In response to a $43 million proposed City budget cut to NYPL, the Library launches its *Protect Your Roots, Support Your Branches* public awareness campaign. It becomes the Library’s most successful advocacy initiative ever as nearly 135,000 people submit letters of support for NYPL to their elected officials urging them to restore the Library’s budget. As a result, the cut was reduced to $3 million.

Westchester Square Library in the Bronx welcomes 500 new library cardholders during the annual neighborhood *Fair at the Square* celebration, while more than 400 people write letters opposing proposed budget cuts that would severely curtail NYPL’s services and staff.

Author Karen Russell wins the 2012 *Young Lions Literary Award* for her debut novel, *Swamplandia!*, which she completed during her 2009–2010 fellowship at the Library’s Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers.
JUNE

Lunch Hour NYC opens at the Schwarzman Building. The exhibition, which goes on to become the best-attended exhibition in the Library’s history, looks back at more than a century of made in New York midday meals, including the quick lunch, the school lunch, and the power lunch. A restored section of an original Automat attracts history buffs, while hungry visitors grab a bite from popular food trucks parked near the Library’s Fifth Avenue plaza.

The New York Public Library leads the ReadersFirst Initiative, a collaborative project to increase e-book access and services so that all library users have the same level of access to e-books as they do to physical books. With more than 100 library systems from across North America, NYPL urges e-content providers to revise their policies to meet the demands of a public growing more dependent on digital materials.

More than 600 teens flock to AntiProm 2012: Monster Prom at the Schwarzman Building. The event, designed to provide an alternative, safe space for teens who do not feel welcome at official school proms, features a Design NYPL fashion show of teen creations and live music.

Wall Street Journal reporter Ellen E. Schultz wins the 2012 New York Public Library Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism at a ceremony marking the award’s 25th anniversary. Her book, Retirement Heist: How Companies Plunder and Profit from the Nest Eggs of American Workers, takes the prize from among five finalists and more than 100 submissions.

The 2012 Brooke Astor Award is presented at the Library’s Spring Gala to education advocate Seymour Fliegel in honor of his contributions to New York City public schools. Fliegel is president of the Center for Educational Innovation–Public Education Association.

NYPL kicks off Summer Reading 2012 at Seward Park Library with a visit from Diary of a Wimpy Kid author Jeff Kinney, plus a dancing Chinese dragon, music, and magic tricks. More than 500 kids and teens attend the celebration, while many more get excited about reading at smaller kickoff celebrations held throughout the month at neighborhood libraries across NYPL.
On July 1, 2011, Anthony W. Marx became the new President of The New York Public Library; on September 14, 2011, Neil L. Rudenstine became the new Chairman of the Library’s Board of Trustees.
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367% FROM FY ’11
Actor Billy Crudup hosted this year’s Young Lions Fiction Award in the Celeste Bartos Forum. Karen Russell garnered the top honor for her novel *Swamplandia!*
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Helen Stone set up an impromptu lemonade stand outside Morningside Heights Library to help NYPL as it faced looming budget cuts.
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Amount first-grader Helen Stone raised
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Kids of all ages enjoy NYPL’s children’s rooms, where librarians hold frequent story hours for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age book lovers.
Musician Gilberto Gil performed and spoke at the Schwarzman Building in November as part of LIVE from the NYPL’s Rolex Arts Weekend.

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34,841 Number of Library Friends and Schomburg members
At NYPL, children learn about science and art in workshops that introduce them to such subjects as the world of insects, the solar system, and printmaking.
Summer Reading

127,430
Total books and items checked out for Summer Reading

262
Number of books read by 6-year-old Michael Piñeda, a top Summer Reader from the Bronx

3
Number of home runs hit by Curtis Granderson during a Yankees game attended by Summer Reading winners

37,173
Books read by teens

90,257
Books read by children
NYPL’s top Summer Readers 2011 were feted on the field at Yankee Stadium and met center fielder Curtis Granderson.
### Borough Highlights

#### BRONX
- **Number of visitors to the first annual Workers Needed Job Fair at the Bronx Library Center:** 900

#### MANHATTAN
- **Number of attendees at financial help days at the Science, Industry and Business Library:** 650

#### STATEN ISLAND
- **Amount of new library space coming to Mariners Harbor Library and Stapleton Library:** 22,000 ft²

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**THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO**

By Stieg Larsson
In February, the Schomburg Center’s new series, Talks at the Schomburg, debuted with a panel discussion about President Obama’s first term. The event brought together (from left to right) William Jelani Cobb, David Remnick, Randall Kennedy, and moderator Farai Chideya.

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Ellen E. Schultz was awarded the 2012 Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism at a ceremony in June for her book Retirement Heist. She is pictured with James F. Hoge, the Selection Committee Chair.
Tutor Shanita Lawrence (center) volunteers several times a week at Clason’s Point Library, where she helps children doing their homework, teens filling out college applications, and adults studying for civil service exams.

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Patrons at all 91 NYPL locations proudly declared their allegiance by wearing colorful buttons as part of the Library’s Protect Your Roots, Support Your Branches public awareness campaign in May.

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- **THE BLIND SIDE (2009)**
- **ALICE IN WONDERLAND (2010)**
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Virginia Woolf typed all her major works and other writings on a typewriter. But what brand of typewriter did she use?

ASK NYPL ANSWERED

112,669

QUESTIONS IN FY ’12

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Support for AntiProm 2012: Monster Prom was provided by the Mr. and Mrs. Timothy R. Barakett Endowment for Children’s and Young Adult Programs and Services. Special thanks to LGBT @ NYPL.

The Hamilton Grange Teen Center has been made possible through the extraordinary leadership support of The Starr Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Goldstein, and Hess Corporation, with additional support from Mr. and Mrs. Martin J. Gross, Dwight and Julie Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Votis, and The Barker Welfare Foundation, along with contributions from the Estate of Everett A. Eisenberg, Susan Fales-Hill, and Nickelodeon’s Big Help Grants Program.

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LIVE from the NYPL is made possible with generous support from Celeste Bartos, Mahnaz Isfahani Bartos and Adam Bartos, and the Margaret and Herman Sokol Public Education Endowment Fund, with additional support from the Rolex Mentor & Protégé Arts Initiative, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP, and Christie’s.


*Up from the Stacks* was co-commissioned by the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library and Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts for Target Free Thursdays at the David Rubenstein Atrium.

The Celeste Bartos Education Center at South Court is made possible through the extraordinary generosity of Celeste Bartos. Additional leadership support was provided by The Starr Foundation and the Altman Foundation.

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MetLife Foundation is the Lead Corporate Sponsor of the *Lunch Hour NYC* exhibition and related programming.

Additional support for *Lunch Hour NYC* has been generously provided by the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers.

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Support for *Star Quality: The World of Noël Coward* has been provided by The Noël Coward Foundation with additional support from the Nancy Jones Beard Foundation, Alan Brodie Representation, Christopher Cara, Audré Carlin, Dany Dasto, DreamWorks Theatricals, Donald Fowle, Samuel French, Inc., Patricia and Norman Friedman, the Irvine Foundation, the Dorothy Loudon Foundation, George and Audrey Moore, Francine Pascal, the Shubert Organization, Norman Vale, Warner/Chappell Music, and Duane Wilder.

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**GMAD at 25: A History in Words and Images**

Initial funding of the LGBT Initiative provided by Time Warner Inc., with additional support from M.A.C. AIDS Fund; Arcus Foundation; and Friends of the LGBT Initiative.

**Awards**

The New York Public Library Young Lions Fiction was founded by Ethan Hawke, Jennifer Rudolph Walsh, Rick Moody, and Hannah McFarland. The Award is made possible by an endowment created with generous gifts from Russell Abrams, Nina Collins, Hannah and Gavin McFarland, Ethan Hawke, Stephan Loewentheil, Rick Moody, Andrea Olshan, and Jennifer Rudolph Walsh.

The Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism was established by The New York Public Library in 1987 in honor of journalist Helen Bernstein Fealy. The Award honors journalists and their important role in drawing public attention to current issues, events, or policies.

The Brooke Russell Astor Award is given annually by The New York Public Library to an unsung hero of the New York City community, in honor of Brooke Russell Astor and her lifetime of service to the City. It was established in 1987 by a generous endowment gift made by David Rockefeller.
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Literacy specialist Shawanda Williams Scott (right) at Mott Haven Library helped Leticia Cruz bolster her academic skills and prepare for the GED.

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Micah May

Director of the Website
Matt Morgan

Manager, NYPL Labs
Benjamin Vershbow

Manager, Internal Systems
Chris Mulholland

Director of Merchandising
Sara Abraham

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Staff at SIBL’s Financial Literacy Central help patrons with a variety of personal finance and business topics, including taxes, debt, and investing.
Sisters Frances and Terry Ziccardi have been patrons at Kingsbridge Library for 36 years. Librarian Martha Gonzalez-Buitrago (center) assists them in finding new books, music, movies, and friends.
We Love Our Volunteers

1,593
LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS
55.8
HOURS OF SERVICE
PER VOLUNTEER
88,889
HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE
As of December 31, 2012, more than 2,300 staff members were engaged in the work of The New York Public Library. Unfortunately, there is not room to list all of their names in these pages.

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The New York Public Library has continued to drive several major strategic initiatives essential to its mission in an increasingly digital world—despite continuing erosion in operating support from the City of New York. Most notably these initiatives include:

• Central Library Plan. The Library has unveiled a design for this $300 million transformation of the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, which will provide more and better space and service for Library users, a superior preservation environment for its invaluable collections, and yield financial benefits equivalent to $15 million per year. Thanks to a $150 million capital commitment from the City and the sale of various real estate assets, the Library now has the financial resources in hand to undertake this project.

• Branch Library Programming. The Library has launched pilot programs to evaluate a quantum increase in programs provided through the branch libraries in order to increase the library’s impact in New York City. Computer training, literacy and English classes for immigrants, and after-school programs for children are all being explored. One particularly exciting program is the Library’s recently announced partnership with New York City schools, which makes the Library’s collections directly accessible to teachers and students throughout New York City public schools. Initial results indicate that students with such access are three times more likely to be reading a book.

• The Virtual Library. The Library is investing steadily to improve its online presence—adding content, tools to make it easier to find and use content, and features to enable users to connect with one another to build a robust online literary community. The virtual library and the virtual library community are the natural extension of what exists in the white marble physical being, and central to NYPL’s future.

Despite the decline in City operating support—down 14% or $20 million between fiscal years 2008 and 2012, excluding reimbursements for pension and inflationary expense increases—the Library’s core services have shown excellent growth over the same period:

• annual visits have grown 12%, to 18.2 million,
• annual circulation has grown 44%, to 28.3 million, and
• web visits have grown 15%, to 32.3 million.

And on top of this performance, NYPL is launching the Central Library Plan, enhancing branch programming, and the virtual library initiatives.

Having lost $20 million in City support, how is this possible?

The simple answer is the increasing generosity of New Yorkers in times of need. Private cash donations of all sorts (including restricted and unrestricted gifts, bequests, and endowment gifts) grew from $54 million in the year ended June 2007 to $98 million in the year ended June 2012. This generosity is truly inspiring as it is the embodiment of many individuals stepping up in tough times to support a beloved bedrock New York institution that serves so many—the very symbol of democracy and freedom of information.

David G. Offensend
Treasurer
February 2013
### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$97,310</td>
<td>$102,888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government and other receivables</td>
<td>26,210</td>
<td>24,427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions receivable, net</td>
<td>62,216</td>
<td>82,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>2,012</td>
<td>2,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds held by bond trustee</td>
<td>24,631</td>
<td>4,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>889,324</td>
<td>814,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate investment used in operations</td>
<td>1,084</td>
<td>1,084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets, net</td>
<td>284,821</td>
<td>301,533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>$1,387,608</td>
<td>$1,332,731</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LIABILITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</td>
<td>$57,405</td>
<td>$54,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue—City of New York and other</td>
<td>87,488</td>
<td>104,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term debt</td>
<td>84,510</td>
<td>88,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest rate swaps</td>
<td>16,917</td>
<td>11,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued postretirement benefits</td>
<td>182,757</td>
<td>146,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td>429,077</td>
<td>405,953</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>295,593</td>
<td>241,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>236,691</td>
<td>268,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>426,247</td>
<td>416,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
<td>938,531</td>
<td>926,778</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total liabilities and net assets                 | $1,387,608 | $1,332,731 |
### Financial Activities

#### Operating Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of New York</td>
<td>$133,066</td>
<td>$133,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of New York</td>
<td>16,391</td>
<td>18,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal government</td>
<td>1,731</td>
<td>1,377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributed rent and utilities</td>
<td>10,072</td>
<td>10,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private contributions and grants</td>
<td>32,110</td>
<td>33,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment return appropriated for spending</td>
<td>38,234</td>
<td>34,982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fines, royalties, and other revenue</td>
<td>12,982</td>
<td>14,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total operating revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>244,586</strong></td>
<td><strong>244,748</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Operating Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library services</td>
<td>211,457</td>
<td>204,367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising and membership development</td>
<td>8,170</td>
<td>9,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>23,308</td>
<td>25,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total operating expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>242,915</strong></td>
<td><strong>239,467</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions to research collections</td>
<td>10,361</td>
<td>12,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total operating expenses and additions to research collections</strong></td>
<td><strong>253,276</strong></td>
<td><strong>251,766</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets from operating activities, before gains on sales of real estate</td>
<td>(8,690)</td>
<td>(7,018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gains on sales of real estate, net</td>
<td>80,767</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in net assets from operating activities</strong></td>
<td><strong>72,077</strong></td>
<td>(7,018)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Non-Operating Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endowment contributions and funds designated for long-term investment</td>
<td>45,068</td>
<td>14,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriations and contributions for capital</td>
<td>13,118</td>
<td>13,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributed property for use</td>
<td>14,466</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation and amortization</td>
<td>(23,158)</td>
<td>(20,547)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment return, net of amounts appropriated</td>
<td>(55,257)</td>
<td>105,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postretirement benefits changes other than net periodic benefit cost</td>
<td>(29,306)</td>
<td>13,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in value of interest rate swaps</td>
<td>(5,255)</td>
<td>1,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in net assets from non-operating activities</strong></td>
<td><strong>(40,324)</strong></td>
<td><strong>128,157</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>31,753</strong></td>
<td><strong>121,139</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets at beginning of year</strong></td>
<td><strong>926,778</strong></td>
<td><strong>805,639</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets at end of year</strong></td>
<td><strong>$958,531</strong></td>
<td><strong>$926,778</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BEHIND THE SCENES

HOLDINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FISCAL YEAR</th>
<th>BRANCH COLLECTION HOLDINGS</th>
<th>RESEARCH COLLECTION HOLDINGS</th>
<th>NUMBER OF ELECTRONIC DATABASES OFFERED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY '12</td>
<td>6,563,362</td>
<td>44,781,169</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '11</td>
<td>7,001,664</td>
<td>44,002,516</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '10</td>
<td>8,438,775</td>
<td>44,507,623</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '09</td>
<td>8,708,869</td>
<td>44,356,334</td>
<td>414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '08</td>
<td>7,565,579</td>
<td>44,160,825</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CATALOGING AND PROCESSING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FISCAL YEAR</th>
<th>BRANCH PROCESSING</th>
<th>RESEARCH CATALOGING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY '12</td>
<td>1,008,921</td>
<td>1,367,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '11</td>
<td>901,682</td>
<td>1,019,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '10</td>
<td>256,329</td>
<td>1,075,691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '09</td>
<td>152,213</td>
<td>144,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '08</td>
<td>143,932</td>
<td>124,954</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MATERIALS PRESERVED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FISCAL YEAR</th>
<th>PRINT MATERIALS &amp; PRINTS</th>
<th>AUDIOTAPES &amp; CDS (HOURS)</th>
<th>MOTION PICTURES (FOOTAGE)</th>
<th>VIDEOTAPES (HOURS)</th>
<th>ITEMS ADDED AT OFFSITE CLIMATE-CONTROLLED FACILITY (RECAP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY '12</td>
<td>57,055</td>
<td>1,967</td>
<td>48,324</td>
<td>2,442</td>
<td>611,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '11</td>
<td>40,503</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>69,708</td>
<td>1,053</td>
<td>96,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '10</td>
<td>25,197</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>38,901</td>
<td>1,045</td>
<td>93,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '09</td>
<td>133,961</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>73,555</td>
<td>1,183</td>
<td>91,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '08</td>
<td>156,433</td>
<td>884</td>
<td>7,138</td>
<td>1,796</td>
<td>111,419</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FISCAL YEAR</th>
<th>NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARIES</th>
<th>RESEARCH CENTERS</th>
<th>NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARIES</th>
<th>RESEARCH CENTERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY '12</td>
<td>1,335</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>1,089</td>
<td>508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '11</td>
<td>1,461</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>1,108</td>
<td>532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '10</td>
<td>1,724</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>1,397</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '09</td>
<td>1,997</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>1,002</td>
<td>397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY '08</td>
<td>2,128</td>
<td>1,016</td>
<td>1,036</td>
<td>394</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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:

“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, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, New York, NY 10018, for the Library’s general purposes.”

If you wish to make a bequest for a specific purpose, it is suggested that you consider adding the following language to any restriction you may impose on your bequest:

“If at any time in the judgment of the Trustees of the Library the designated purpose of this bequest proves to be impracticable or impossible, I authorize the Trustees to use the income and principal of this bequest for any purpose they deem to be consistent with the general intent and purpose set forth herein.”

Should you decide to leave a bequest to the Library in your Will, you will become a member of the Bigelow Society. Created by the Library in 1991, the Bigelow Society is an honorary organization whose purpose is to recognize the generosity of individuals, during their lifetime, who include this institution in their estate plans. The Library expresses its gratitude to members by inviting them to special Library events and by listing their names in the Annual Report under The Bigelow Society.

If you or your attorney would like to discuss a bequest with a member of the Library's staff, please call John M. Bacon at 212.930.0568, or write to him at plannedgifts@nypl.org or at the following address: Development Office, Room 73, The New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, New York, NY 10018.