



# Burlington Public Library

Fiscal Year  
2016-2017  
A Year in Review



The Burlington Public Library creates opportunities for people of all ages to connect with others, to learn about the world around them, and to imagine the futures before them. – Mission Statement

# The Highlights



Celebrated 10 years at the 210 Court Street location with a Tom Pease concert and an afterhours birthday bash for teens.

Continued to have a summer story walk. In June 2017 the story walk came indoors with a book on peace.

Continued the summer bookmobile. This partnership with the school district allows library services to serve where kids are and help overcome the transportation barrier some families face. Partnership with the school district continued through the school year with monthly visits to classes for book talks, participation in special events, attendance at conference nights, membership in the school's Youth Net collaboration, and frequent visits to before and afterschool programs.

Enhanced STEM programming with the addition of Makey Makey kits and the expansion of classes throughout the year, including coding, robotics, and more.

Transitioned youth services following the retirement of longtime storytime teacher Debbie Wagenbach. Allison Richert was hired and kept up the Wiggle Time classes as well as developed new events such as family fort night, stuffed animal sleepover, and sensory storytime.

Reorganized after the retirement of longtime staff member Sherri Riney in December. Kathy Gerling moved into the role of Cataloguing Assistant, Tiara Carter shifted to Interlibrary Loan, and Bethany Luttenegger was hired to manage the Home Library program for homebound seniors in our community.

Formalized a payment plan to help remove barriers to service to those on fixed or limited incomes.

Revitalized the teen area with new furniture and a wall decoration and lighting thanks to a grant from the Alliant Foundation. Painted the teen area and south wall of the library thanks to funding from Paint Iowa Beautiful.

Began a pilot run of Grayhound cards to improve access and remove barriers to students. These cards are issued through the school and allow students access to all online library resources and the ability to checkout one item. These cards do not require a parental signature.

Expanded outreach storytimes with the help of funding from the Murray Foundation. Readers reach 32 preschool classes impacting over 500 children each month. The program ends with each child receiving a book to add to their home library. Added two annual community events to the already successful ComiCon, Holiday Sing-along, and the Sterling Lord Writers and Readers Festival. The Clothing Swap was a new collaboration to serve residents, engage new and non-traditional library users, and collaborate with community organizations. Pumpkinpalooza featured stories, pumpkins, and treats for children and families to celebrate fall.

Added a monthly homeschool class to feature library resources as well as activities such as coding and robotics.

Upgraded to a new projection systems for the three large meeting rooms.

Replaced the public computers after 10 years and initiated a new print, time, and security management system.

Added two new digital microfilm reader printers to improve access and usability of the local history collection.

Updated the Fine Arts DVD collection thanks to funding from the Fine Arts League.

Held a well-attended Harry Potter Yule Ball for families.

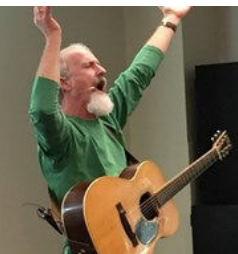
Added a coloring station and a tree fort to the youth area. Both have been popular with children and parents as tech free activities.

Added an AED unit thanks to a grant from Great River Health Systems.

Installed a vending machine in the lobby in response to a request from TICOS, the library's teen advisory group.

Added two AWE tablets featuring educational games for ages 6-12 and improved the iPad station in the youth area.

Won first prize in the Lighted Holiday parade and entered the Steamboat Days parade.



# FY17 By the Numbers

Visitors

2 1 2 9 0 8

6,072

Meeting Room  
Reservations



Classes and Events

Adults 124

Youth 852

Participants



Adults 2,934

Youth 25,688

1,618

New Borrower  
Accounts Opened



2,040 Laptop  
Checkouts



57,228 Wi-Fi  
Sessions



55,937 Database Uses



46,478 Computer Logins

Nonprint Items

Borrowed

Adults 146,826

Youth 19,607



Books & Magazines

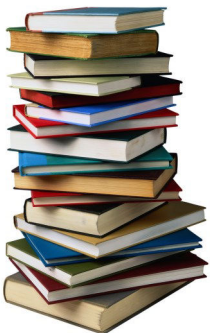
Borrowed

Adults 105,308

Teens 9,920

Tweens 4,663

Children 93,361



Downloads

Books 38,423

Music 8,129

Audio 6,228

Magazines 2,028



## A Day in the Life of the Library

The library was open 307 days in fiscal year 2017. While the smiles, the success stories, and the achievements by library users can't be measured in numbers, here are a few numbers that represent the activity at the library on an average day.

694 people visited

656 books checked out

479 videos checked out

186 wireless network logins

179 book, audiobook, music, and magazine downloaded

151 questions answered

151 public computer logins

94 youth ebooks accessed

93 people at library classes and events

56 audio recordings checked out

38 magazines checked out

30 items added to the library collection

28 hours of volunteer time donated

20 meeting rooms reserved

6 video games checked out

8 items loaned or received through the interlibrary loan program

5 new library accounts opened

3 library programs offered



## What People are Saying

"Your library is beautiful and was the perfect place to hold our interviews. Our Miss Burlington Youth Pageant was a great success because of the generosity of the City of Burlington."

The library is "the reason we chose to stay here."

"Everyone is always so helpful here!"

"You gals are so great with the classes. So wonderful and informative. I hope you never stop."

"We just love LEGO club. I'm always coming back!"

"The staff is always friendly and helpful. I love the variety of DVDs and books."

"Wonderful place to take your kids. Wonderful staff."

"Thank you so much for taking books to the nursing homes and other shut-ins. My mother uses this service and is so happy to get her next books."

"It's my favorite place to hangout with friends."

"I don't know how to thank you enough for making me feel welcome and safe. Thanks for the variety of books, dvds, cds and magazines."

"I love your books and I am glad we come every Thursday to get books here and you guys are always happy."

"Love the online features!"

"The many activities for the kids is a big draw."

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