



April 12, 2018

Stuart Boley, Mayor
City of Lawrence
6 East 6th Street
PO Box 708
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Mayor Boley,

In celebration of National Library Week, I am pleased to present Lawrence Public Library's 2017 Community Report.

What an incredible year! The library welcomed Man Booker Prize Winner George Saunders, Freedom Rider Joan Trumpauer Mulholland, and music legend Jimmy Webb. Our year-end 2017 statistics reflect a community that loves and trusts its public library:

- 668,412 visitors
- 53,617 library programs attendees
- 10,467 meeting room reservations
- 105,552 computer sessions
- 8,373 new library cards issued

Best of all, Lawrence Public Library is a great steward of its public funds. According to the American Library Association's Library Value Calculator, Lawrence Public Library provided \$5.41 in services for every \$1 of taxes it received in 2017. Its annual \$4.4 million budget translated into expenditures of \$45 per capita.

Thank you for your continued support. We are proud of the progress that Lawrence Public Library made in 2017. It is a safe and welcoming space that is Lawrence's place to learn, connect, create and grow.

Sincerely,

Brad Allen
Executive Director

Enclosure

growth trailblazer

1,245,046 items checked out
668,412 visitors
223,912 website visitors
198,259 items in collection
1,358 library programs
53,617 attended library programs
38,271 attended children's programs
10,467 meeting room reservations
105,552 computer sessions
8,373 new library cards
65,901 library card holders
15,944 volunteer hours
527 storytimes with 21,375 attendees

"I love my library because it is now a center of social activity for Lawrence."



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"Lawrence Public Library has its finger on the pulse of its community!"



library-trailblazer

2017



707 Vermont Street | Lawrence, KS 66044 | 785-843-3833



lawrence public library
community report



In 2017, Lawrence Public Library

encouraged everyone in our community to imagine more for their lives. As a community trailblazer, the library provides a safe and welcoming space that offers free and open access to information and life-changing resources. It is Lawrence's place to learn, connect, create, and grow.

Lawrence Public Library leads the way for children to learn to read through hundreds of storytimes each year. It connects families, teens and adults through book clubs, the after school Teen Zone Expanded, and summer movies on the Library Lawn. Its SOUND+VISION Studio is the epicenter of creativity, providing a place to create music, podcasts, and family oral histories. Lawrence Public Library's vision is for Lawrence to thrive through learning, innovation, and opportunity.

The library owes its success to you. Your tax dollars, private gifts, volunteer hours and library visits make a world of difference. So please keep it up! Your library needs you now more than ever. Together, we are creating a dynamic community learning center for the digital age. Here's to a bright and exciting future.

Many, many thanks,

Brady Flannery

Brady Flannery, Chair
Library Board of Trustees



2017 was a trailblazing year at Lawrence Public Library.

The library presented its first ever Big Read with award-winning author Julia Alvarez, who shared her personal story of immigrating to the United States from the Dominican Republic. Freedom Rider Joan Trumpauer Mulholland told her story of participating in the 1963 Woolworth lunch counter sit-in, while Standing Rock activists reported on their experiences of protecting their culture, water, and land. Trailblazing songwriter Jimmy Webb headlined our 780s Series for 2017. Webb has topped the country, disco, and pop music charts, writing songs for an astoundingly diverse list of artists.

The year also saw the debut of Deja's Reading Rainbow, an all-inclusive and diverse storytime that celebrates families of all kinds. The library's annual Beach Author Series hosted its first ever Man Booker Prize Winner — George Saunders — who delighted a capacity crowd at Liberty Hall and spoke about his book, *Lincoln In the Bardo*, and other creative writing adventures. Adding to this incredible year was the return of our wildly popular perennial library programs, including Harry Potter Book Night, Book Club Speed Dating, a Seed Library, and 527 storytimes!

Lawrence Public Library leads us all to learn, connect, create, and grow.

In 2017, Lawrence Public Library provided **\$5.41** in services for every **\$1** of taxes received.

SOURCE:
American Library Association
Library Value Calculator



learning trailblazer

The **Library's Friends and Foundation** provided **more than \$290,000** to Lawrence Public Library in 2017. This incredible private support supplements and strengthens the public's investment in the library. Here are some of the many programs and projects made possible through grants and gifts:

George Saunders visit • Tail Wagging Readers • Big Read • An Evening with Jimmy Webb • Summer Reading prizes • Self-check machines • New library website • Summer Reading entertainers • Music on the lawn • Movie licenses • New Technology desk • SOUND+VISION software • Dr. Bob Reader books • Children's fish tanks • Volunteer appreciation brunch • Read Across Lawrence books • Mergent Intellect database • Read Across Lawrence programs • Julia Alvarez visit • Library school scholarships • Library t-shirts • Foundation Center grant writing database • Game of Gnomes • Book Club in a Bag kits • Summer movies • Lawrence Songbook Project • Auditorium lighting • Kansas Reads to Preschoolers books • KPR advertising • "Light Reading" lamps • Weave A Tale workshop • Reusable library bags • SOUND+VISION keyboard • Tanner Colby visit • ACT practice tests • Sing and Rhyme Storytime • Winter Reading prizes



Lawrence Public Library is the community's living room.

With more than 1,300 library programs and 10,000 meeting room reservations, the library is our community's gathering place. Here's a sample of the local organizations and businesses that use the library for meetings and programs:

AARP Driving Safety Class • Audio-Reader • Audubon of Kansas • AUMI • Bert Nash • Cans for the Community • Kansas Public Radio • Center for East Asian Studies • Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at KU • Center for Public Partnerships and Research-KU • Century School • Lawrence Chamber of Commerce • Citizen's Climate Lobby • City of Lawrence • Coalition for Homeless Concerns • Communities In Schools of Mid-America • Community Blood Center • Dads of Douglas County • DG Co. Emergency Management • DG Co. Food Policy Council • DG Co. Republican Party • DG Co. Special Olympics • DG Co. Young Democrats • DG Co. Master Gardeners • Downtown Grocery Store Committee • DREAMers KU • eXplore Lawrence • Farmer's Market • Food Not Bombs • Girls Rock Lawrence • Grassland Heritage Foundation • Harvesters/The Community Food Network • Heartland Community Health Center • Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging, Inc. • Jayhawk Audubon Society • Justice Matters • Kansas Appleseed • KS Association of School Boards • KS Authors Club • KS Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) • KS Federation of Music Clubs • KS Green Party • KS Health Foundation • KDHE Cancer Program • Knit Lawrence • KS Department of Corrections KU Endowment-Student Endowment Board • KU School of Public Affairs and Administration • LATTE/Lawrence Anti-Trafficking Taskforce and Education • Lawrence Adult Soccer League • Lawrence Art Guild • Lawrence Busker Festival • Lawrence Childrens Choir • Lawrence Community Handbell Choir • Lawrence Community Orchestra • Lawrence Community Shelter • Lawrence Education Association • Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee • Lawrence High Class of 1982 • Lawrence Humane Society • Lawrence Memorial Hospital • Lawrence Music Club • Lawrence Rotary Clubs • Lawrence Sister Cities • Lawrence Songbook • Lawrence Young Democratic Socialists • Lawrence Area Catbackers • Lawrence-DG Co. Health Department • Let's Talk, Inc. • LFK Book Club • LiveWell • Healthy Kids • Master Gardeners at KU Native Med Garden • Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense • National Federation of the Blind Jayhawk Chapter • Northeast Kansas Library System • New Generations • New York Elementary 2nd Grade Heiman's Class • Old West Lawrence Association • Parenting Class for DG Co. District Court • Pelathe District, Heart of America Council, Boy Scouts of America • Prairie Moon Waldorf School • Relevelate Church • runLawrence • Lawrence Schools Foundation • Senior Center Scrabble Group • Eudora Public Library • Spencer Museum Pollinators Mural Project • Sunrise Project • The Felt Show • The Merc Co+op • Shelter, Inc. • Friends of Oak Hill Cemetery • Trout Marketing • Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lawrence • United Way • University of Kansas Upward Bound • University Women's Club Book Discussion Group • Ventura Club • VITA / Catholic Charities • Watkins Health Services • Willow Domestic Violence Center • Women's March Huddle • Langston Hughes Center • KU Libraries • Libraries Love Lawrence • Party of the Center • Climate & Energy Project • Crime Stoppers • DG Co. Community Foundation • DG Co. Suicide Prevention Coalition • Girl Scouts • Heartland Hospice-Kansas • Hilger Piano Studio • Hyerim Mapp Cello Studio • Jayhawk Chapter National Federation of the Blind • Kansans Advancing Women • Kansas Hospice-Heartland Hospice • KPERS 457 • KU Film Dept • Landplan Engineering Lawrence Coalition on Homeless Concerns • Lawrence Homebirth Midwives • Lawrence Linux User Group • Lawrence Opera Theatre • Lawrence Trail Hawks • Lawrence Women's Network • LFK Writers Group • Mama Support and Social • MOPS (Mother's of Preschoolers) • P.E.O. Chapter JC • Sister City Advisory Board • Unity Church of Lawrence • KU School of Social Welfare

library finances

Total 2017 Revenue: \$4,424,725

Taxes: \$4,111,719 (92.9%)

Overdue and Lost Items: \$168,100 (3.8%)

Grants and State Aid: \$96,702 (2.2%)

Miscellaneous fees and interest: \$48,204 (1.1%)

Total 2017 Expenditures: \$4,395,834

Salaries & Benefits: \$3,104,467 (70.6%)

Library Materials: \$637,485 (14.5%)

Other Operating Expenses: \$273,714 (6.2%)

Technology: \$205,263 (4.7%)

Equipment & Capital Improvements: \$128,211 (3%)

Programs & Marketing: \$46,694 (1%)