Today’s public library is both a physical and virtual place, but it continues to be the physical presence of the library that anchors it most firmly in the community. A recent Aspen Institute Dialogue on Public Libraries report described the public library “as a welcoming space for a wide range of purposes—reading, communicating, learning, playing, meeting and getting business done. Its design recognizes that people are not merely consumers of content but creators and citizens as well. Its physical presence provides an anchor for economic development and neighborhood revitalization and helps to strengthen social bonds and community identity.”

In 2014, in an effort to make the library an even more welcoming and friendly space, as well as a response to the loss of adult reading spaces over many years, renovations were completed to create three additional seating areas. The project began with the removal of soil and plants from atrium spaces and continued with installation of new flooring, seating and updated electrical outlets.

Highlights of the seating areas include additional electrical outlets with optional USB charging; high-top tables and stools; comfortable upholstered chairs; acoustic panels featuring historical Eau Claire photographs; adjustable-height work tables for accessibility; and views overlooking the Eau Claire River. The re-purposed space meets a need for individual and group seating and is consistent with the larger trend in libraries to focus on providing community space that encourages collaboration and engagement.

Renovation of each of the three seating areas was funded separately by generous donations from the Cora Rust Owen Trust, named for the daughter of Eau Claire lumber baron John Owen; the estate of Mildred J. Gerland, a former U.W. system educator and library volunteer; and by the Friends of the L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, a nonprofit group that supports the library financially through membership dues and fund-raising projects.

Come to YOUR public library and “discover, connect, engage, enrich.”

John Stoneberg
Library Director
THE LIBRARY

The L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library serves the residents of the City of Eau Claire as well as residents of Eau Claire County through a contractual agreement. It is the largest library in west central Wisconsin and a member of the ten-county Indianhead Federated Library System and the MORE consortium.

The library’s policies and operations are overseen by the City of Eau Claire and governed by a ten-member Board of Trustees that is appointed by the City Council, and includes two representatives from Eau Claire County.

The library’s mission is to be a source of ideas and information, provided in a wide variety of formats, in order to meet the personal, educational and occupational needs of all its customers, enriching individual lives and contributing to the development and cultural life of the community.

LIBRARY COLLECTION

At the end of 2014, the library collection included:

- Art Prints: 99
- Audiobooks - Cassettes: 558
- Audiobooks - Compact Discs: 6,101
- Books: 197,191
- Large Print Books: 14,199
- CD-ROM Software: 500
- DVDs: 20,812
- Magazines: 6,660
- Microfilm: 1,492
- Music Cassettes: 11
- Music Compact Discs: 17,622
- Videocassettes: 467
- Other Materials: 7,502

TOTAL: 273,214
# 2014 Annual Statistics and Output Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>2014 Total</th>
<th>Increase or Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circulation (including renewals, not including interlibrary loan)</td>
<td>887,512</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary loans provided to other MORE member libraries</td>
<td>103,304</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary loans provided to libraries not members of MORE</td>
<td>3,882</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary loan items borrowed from other MORE member libraries</td>
<td>95,155</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary loan items borrowed from libraries not members of MORE</td>
<td>4,028</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation of E-books</td>
<td>50,235</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation of E-audiobooks</td>
<td>17,577</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation of E-video</td>
<td>180</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Downloads</td>
<td>24,874</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LOAN ACTIVITY</strong></td>
<td>1,186,747</td>
<td>-6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average daily number of library visits</td>
<td>1,373</td>
<td>-9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annual library visits</strong></td>
<td>455,306</td>
<td>-8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of users of public Internet computers</strong></td>
<td>80,828</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reference transactions</strong></td>
<td>68,263</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Volunteer hours</strong></td>
<td>5,214</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Home Delivery Service customers</strong></td>
<td>206</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ArtsWest 35**

**Friends of the Library Book Sale**
## FINANCIAL REPORT (Pre-Audit)
### For the year ended December 31, 2014

### Undesignated Fund Balance
#### January 1, 2014:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Eau Claire</td>
<td>$2,900,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County of Eau Claire</td>
<td>517,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Wisconsin Counties</td>
<td>231,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianhead Federated Library System</td>
<td>39,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fines and Fees</td>
<td>126,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Gifts</td>
<td>47,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Revenue</td>
<td>14,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Fund Balance</td>
<td>41,162</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Receipts:** $3,919,423

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disbursements</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits</td>
<td>$2,616,645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractual Service</td>
<td>388,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials and Supplies</td>
<td>678,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service</td>
<td>39,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Expenditure</td>
<td>195,879</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Disbursements:** ($3,919,423)

**BALANCE:** $790,306

| Transfer to Gift Reserve                     | ($102,424)  |
| Reserve for Transfer to Capital Projects     | (90,000)    |
| Prepayments                                  | (41,276)    |
| Inventory                                    | (5,069)     |

**Undesignated Fund Balance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 31, 2014:</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$551,538</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The library sponsors and coordinates a broad spectrum of programs for all ages. In 2014, 23,310 children and teens attended 453 programs and 3,310 adults attended 60 programs. The Summer Library Program registered 2,438 children and 548 teenagers while 593 readers participated in summer and winter reading programs for adults.

Research has shown that children get ready to read long before they enter school. This year, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten was launched, with 325 children participating. The program is designed to help parents prepare their children for one of life’s big milestones – kindergarten.

Each year, thousands of library visitors view the library’s art exhibits, which feature the work of local and regional artists, as well as many displays of interest to children and adults. Wisconsin ArtsWest, the library’s annual juried art show, celebrated its 35th year in 2014, attracting 165 entries by 89 artists. Of these, 64 works were selected by the juror and displayed in the library’s gallery.

2014 Notable Programs & Events
- What’s It Worth? – Antique Appraisal
- Chippewa Valley Book Festival
- Homesteading Series
- Robert Frost Poetry Series
- Tech Tuesdays
- Black Friday Boot Camp
- Clearwater Edible Book Festival
- WWI: The Human Experience Literature Series
- Renaissance Poetry Series
- Clear the Clutter
- Grant Writing Workshop
- Genealogy Workshop
- Design Secrets to a Beautiful Yard & Garden
- The Hurt Locker and Dallas Buyers Club film screenings
- Writers Read Series

New & Notable Programs for Kids and Teens
- Summer Library Program “Library Laboratory”
- Young Writers Workshop
- Nature Backpacks
- New Websites for Kids and Teens
- Teen Technology programs
- Charity Challenge
THANKS TO OUR DONORS!

Library Donors (2014)
Dr. Sharat Ahluwalia
Karl Andresen
Dr. Louis G. Arnold
Arnold and Lois Domer Foundation
Ms. Marlene Arntson
John and Susan Ayres
Tom and Jill Barland
Brandon Behrens
Shirley Bennett
Steven and Julie Betchkal
Linda Bohacek
Susan J. Bruce
Thomas and Joyce Bruckner
Kathy Brunstad
Carolyn and Michael Carlson
Mr. and Mrs. F.L. Carr
Janet Carson
Dr. Gene & Anita Cartwright
Richard and Susan Cochrane
Nancy and Matt Coffey
Laura Cohen
Carlyn Conway
Christopher and PattiAnn Curtin
Cheryl Cutsforth
Alice Droske
Lucille Dufeck
Richard and Katherine Duplessie
eBay Enterprise
Robert and Melissa Eierman
En Avant School of Dance
Don and Jan Etnier
Pat and Lloyd Everhart

Marcus Fay
Arlene Fenske
Penny France
Donald and Karen Frank
Lou and Jan Frase
Bob Fraser
Shelley Fredson and Maury Pasternack
Friends of L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library
Jeff and Tess Goodwin
Joanne Graaskamp
Sarah Harder
Holly Hart
Karen Havholm and Glenn Reynolds
Mr. and Mrs. Don Heard
Nathan and Christine Hoekzema
Richard and Pat Horecki
Carol J. Kading
Karen Kelsey
Allen and Rachel Keniston
David and Marianne Klinkhammer
Evelyn Krigsvold
Phyllis Kurtz
Mildred N. and Brian F. Larson
Christopher and Jana Lind
Lew Mallow
Sharon and Jim Manz
Lawrence and Claire Martin
Mayo Clinic Health System
Mayo Foundation for Med Research
Susan McLeod
Marjorie K. McManus
Joanne Mellema and Rich Swanson

Lapsit Program
Summer Library Program - Library Laboratory
Library Donors, continued (2014)

Ruth Mickelson
Bob and Sue Nelson
Deborah Nissen and Steven Bircher
Meg Nord and Paul Kaldjian
Dennis Ogurek
Carol and Rick Olson
Sue and Doug Pearson
Dr. John Plewa and Trish Cummins
Carolyn and Milo Pritchett
Margaret and Jack Quaid
William Ritsch
Mary Rosolack
Dave and Sue Rowe
Kathy Ryder
Margaret and Paul H. Savides
Jeanette Scheuermann
Jane Schley
Robert and Gail Schneider
Ms. Elaine Schultz
Jim and Judy Schwarzmeier
Flo Sheridan
Vicki Snider
Michael and Sanae Stacy
Gloria Steahr
Wilson Taylor
Cheryl Thiede
William and Barbara Thiel

Donating $100 or More to Book Marks Remembrance (2014)

Ted and Kathleen Balcom
John Byers
CVTC Book Group Friends
Family of Bob & Veronica Benzschawel
Tom and Monika Fiedler
Friends and Family of Marian Culbert
Friends and Family of Ann Fischetti
Friends and Family of Conrad Hutterli
Friends and Family of Cleo Powers
Friends and Family of Irene Stoneberg
Friends and Family of George Voll
Golden K Kiwanis

Mary Ellen Hutterli
L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library Programming and Communications Services Staff
L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library Staff Affairs
L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library Technical Services Staff
Elizabeth Monaghan
Robert and Jodi Ritsch
Carol Trullinger
Dr. Sally A. Webb
Jeri Weiser