2015 was an outstanding year of collaboration for the library and our community partners as we worked to improve our presence outside of the library and remind community members we have something for everyone. Staff continued building bridges to the community by reaching out to customers who are unable to come to us: volunteers delivered materials to our homebound customers, staff took storytime on the road to early learning centers who don’t have the transportation means to bring dozens of children to the library, and we hope you’ve seen library staff present at community events and festivals.

Our reach was also evident within the library walls as we continued valuable partnerships that brought high quality programming and services to our diverse users. We worked with the art community to bring unique exhibits to the library gallery. We offered space to community organizations to come together to collaborate. With the help of several community partners, we successfully launched a seed library – a project committed to increasing the capacity of our community to feed itself wholesome food by means of education, self-reliance, and a culture of sharing.

One of the best examples of collaboration from 2015 came from the strategic planning process in which staff, board trustees and community stakeholders participated. The group worked together through several planning sessions with the goal of ensuring the services and resources provided by the library align with the desires of our community. The process began with library director John Stoneberg, who retired after 38 years of dedicated service to the Library. We look forward to firming up the details and implementing the plan under the guidance of our new director, Pamela Westby.

What we’ve learned from our collaborative efforts is that together we are stronger. We have an exciting future ahead of us and we look forward to continuing the many partnerships we’ve nurtured and recruiting new partners for the future. We hope you’ll join us on the journey.

Shelly Collins-Fuerbringer
Interim 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.

2015 LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robert Hauser – President
Sarah Harless – Vice President
Penny France – Secretary
Brenda Brant
Robert Fraser
Dr. Mary Ann Hardebeck
Robert Eierman
Linda Stelter
David Klinkhammer

(The membership of the Library Board of Trustees was reduced from ten members to nine in 2015.)

LIBRARY COLLECTION

At the end of 2015, the library collection included:

Art Prints 106
Audiobooks - Cassettes 230
Audiobooks - Compact Discs 6,366
Books 190,922
Large Print Books 14,959
CD-ROM Software 344
DVDs 21,483
Magazines 7,310
Microfilm 1,566
Music Cassettes 6
Music Compact Discs 18,070
Videocassettes 279
Other Materials 7,674

TOTAL 269,215

Wisconsin Historical Society Exhibit
Summer Cinema
Summer Library Program
Teen Prize Auction
### 2015 ANNUAL STATISTICS AND OUTPUT MEASURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>Increase or Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circulation (including renewals, not including interlibrary loan)</td>
<td>836,739</td>
<td>864,388</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary loans provided to other MORE member libraries</td>
<td>86,356</td>
<td>92,571</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary loans provided to libraries not members of MORE</td>
<td>3,455</td>
<td>4,410</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary loan items borrowed from other MORE member libraries</td>
<td>92,571</td>
<td>98,087</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary loan items borrowed from libraries not members of MORE</td>
<td>2,083</td>
<td>2,656</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation of E-books</td>
<td>48,539</td>
<td>50,004</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation of E-audiobooks</td>
<td>19,514</td>
<td>21,411</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation of E-video</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Downloads</td>
<td>24,431</td>
<td>26,751</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songs Streamed</td>
<td>64,264</td>
<td>67,503</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL LOAN ACTIVITY</td>
<td>1,178,118</td>
<td>1,225,739</td>
<td>-3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average daily number of library visits</td>
<td>1,373</td>
<td>1,318</td>
<td>-4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual library visits</td>
<td>423,187</td>
<td>398,753</td>
<td>-5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of users of public Internet computers</td>
<td>76,141</td>
<td>71,100</td>
<td>-7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference transactions</td>
<td>72,716</td>
<td>77,468</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer hours</td>
<td>6,050</td>
<td>6,050</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Delivery Service customers</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Genealogy Open Lab**

**Banned Books Event at The Plus**
**FINANCIAL REPORT (Pre-Audit)**  
*For the year ended December 31, 2015*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Fund Balance January 1, 2015:</strong></th>
<th>$790,306</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Receipts:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Eau Claire</td>
<td>$2,929,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County of Eau Claire</td>
<td>527,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Wisconsin Counties</td>
<td>224,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianhead Federated Library System</td>
<td>41,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fines and Fees</td>
<td>111,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Gifts</td>
<td>140,754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Revenue</td>
<td>13,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Fund Balance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disbursements:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits</td>
<td>$2,712,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractual Service</td>
<td>404,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials and Supplies</td>
<td>593,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service</td>
<td>39,773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Expenditure</td>
<td>206,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BALANCE</strong></td>
<td>($3,955,961)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transfer to Gift Reserve</strong></td>
<td>($196,154)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reserve for Transfer to Capital Projects</strong></td>
<td>(90,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prepayments</strong></td>
<td>(47,255)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inventory</strong></td>
<td>(4,628)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue Control</strong></td>
<td>(14,547)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expense Control</strong></td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unassigned Fund Balance</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undesignated Fund Balance</strong></td>
<td>$469,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>December 31, 2015:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

The library sponsors and coordinates a broad spectrum of programs for all ages. In 2015, 22,397 children and teens attended 442 programs and 5,039 adults attended 123 programs. The Summer Library Program registered 2,095 children and 556 teenagers while 453 readers participated in summer and winter reading programs for adults.

Research has shown that children get ready to read long before they enter school. Launched in 2014, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten is designed to help parents prepare their children for one of life’s big milestones – kindergarten. With 486, the first class of 27 children graduated from the program in 2015.

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 36th year in 2015, attracting 186 entries by 102 artists. Of these, 68 works were selected by the juror and displayed in the library’s gallery.

2015 Notable Programs & Events

- Eau Claire Grows Community Seed Library
- Chippewa Valley Book Festival
- What’s It Worth? – Antique Appraisal
- Banned! Books in Drag: Comedy and Drag Show
- Beekeeping in the Chippewa Valley
- Climate Change Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
- Edible Landscaping with Heirlooms
- DIY Dabble Monthly Craft Program
- Tech Tuesdays
- Grant Writing Workshop
- Genealogy Workshop
- Literature series
- Selma and Scott Pilgrim vs. the World and UWEC Summer Cinema film screenings
- 52nd Street Street Jazz Festival

New & Notable Programs for Kids and Teens

- Summer Library Program "Readers to the Rescue"
- Young Writers Workshop
- iPads for Teen checkout
- New Websites for Kids and Teens
- Teen Technology programs
- Charity Challenge
THANKS TO OUR DONORS!

Library Donors (2015)

Mahmoud Ahmed
Dr. Louis G. Arnold
Arnold and Lois Domer Foundation
Lopamudra Basu
Jennifer Beckermann
Sarah Blockhus
Adam Bors
Margot Bouchard
Dr. Jim and Rosemary Bounds
Anneke Brainerd
Susan J. Bruce
Carolyn and Michael Carlson
Janet Carson
Ben Cheney
Howard and Edna Christenson
Matthew and Nancy Coffey
Carlyn Conway
Colette Couillard
Christopher and PattiAnn Curtin
Cheryl Cutsforth
John and Mary Dixon
eBay Enterprise
Mark Edstrom
Robert and Melissa Eierman
Robert Fabiny Bruce and Penny France
Friends of the L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library
Barbara Gilbertson
Chris and Carol Gorzek
Mary Harmon
Sandra Jacobson

James J. Johnson
Betsy Kell and John Steensland
John Kinney
David and Marianne Klinkhammer
Jack and Terry Knutson
Ev Krigsvold
Phyllis Kurtz
Lawrence and Claire Martin
Larry and Marge McFarlane
Susan McLeod
Robert and Suzanne Nelson
Meg Nord and Paul Kaldjian
Rick and Carol Olson
Robert and Juanita Peck
Kathy Prentice
Margaret and Jack Quaid
Betty Qualheim
Deb Raehl
Peter and Donna Raleigh
Rick Richmond
Mary Rosolack
John and Marcia Sarnowski
Drs. David Schifeling and Joan Hamblin
Jane Schley
Robert and Gail Schneider
Morton and Sylvia Sipress
Vicki Snider
Joanne and Rich Swanson
Dr. Gail Tasch
Wilson Taylor

DIY Dabble

Summer Library Program
Science Show
Library Donors, continued (2015)

Ted and Kathleen Balcom
Blue Stocking Book Club (Phyllis Fabiny Memorial)
Tom and Sybelle Burce
Helen Counsell
Sarah Herrell
L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library Staff Affairs
L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library Technical Services Staff
Phyllis Fabiny’s French Group

United Way Block Party

Donating $100 or More to “In Honor of” (2015)

Steve and Ellen Terwilliger
William and Barbara Thiel
Peter and Jo Mossburg Walters
Dr. Sally A. Webb
John Welter
L. Elaine Wendt
Susan and Thomas Weniger
Lori Whitis
Terry and Susan Willkom
Willard Young
CeCelia and Wayne Zorn

Home Delivery Service Client

The L.E. Phillips Family Foundation Inc. (On behalf of Maryjo Cohen, Eileen Cohen, and Stephen and Pat Ellenson)
The Presto Foundation (Dick Myhers’ Presto friends)
Sharen Hoepner’s CVTC Book Group Friends
John and Lynnette Stoneberg
Mary and Roger Tlusty
Sally Webb

Once Upon a Time Program