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## 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

**MY LIBRARY.  
MY COMMUNITY.  
MY FUTURE.**



**LIVINGSTON PARISH  
LIBRARY**

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Livingston Parish Library started 2013 with a mission: to provide all members of the community with resources to fulfill their informational, educational, recreational, and cultural needs. Last year, the library achieved several milestones, solidifying its status as the primary resource for cultural and educational events in Livingston Parish as well as becoming a destination for print and digital media.

Livingston Parish Library became the first public library in Louisiana to offer 3D printing services to its users. The service became very popular in a very short time, gaining significant attention from students, local entrepreneurs, and mass media. In addition to 3D printing, library staff also began offering 3D

design classes open to anyone in the community with basic computer skills.

The library's first annual Livingston Parish Book Festival, held in November at the Main Branch, was one of the highlights of 2013.



More than 1,100 people attended the event, which promoted literacy and library services in the community. The library received extensive positive feedback and staff are already planning the next Livingston





Parish Book Festival to take place on November 15, 2014.

Traditional library services continued to grow, attracting more interest from the community than ever. The library's increased usage can be observed in the number of materials checked out to the public, the number of visits to our physical branches, public computer usage, the number of people attending library programs, database usage, and other statistics. The library's eBook collection grew tremendously last year and now exceeds 7,000 titles available to the public for check out.

Library staff continued to provide valuable services to the Livingston Parish business community. Several new online resources, as well as active participation in local business-related events, have put the library on the radar of many entrepreneurs. The library's subscription to Treehouse, an online interactive education platform where students can learn to build websites, create iPhone and Android apps, learn about user experiences, learn how to start a business, and much more, is a prime example of a resource that business owners or employees can use to their advantage.

Work has begun on the future expansion of the Denham Springs-Walker Branch. The project will utilize the library's reserve funds without an additional tax burden on the community.

As the Denham Springs and Walker communities have grown exponentially, so has usage of the branch since its grand opening in 2006. The goal of the expansion is to accommodate that growth with increased space that will continue to provide the services both communities have come to expect from their library system.



The Livingston Parish Library Board of Control has set clear goals for the library staff and administration for 2014. I'm confident that the library will continue to be the most valuable public resource in Livingston Parish.

*Giovanni Tairov*

Giovanni Tairov  
Livingston Parish Library Director



# LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL



The Livingston Parish Library Board of Control is the governing body for the Livingston Parish Library system. Board members are appointed by the parish council and include residents from across Livingston Parish.

Board members are appointed to five year terms and may serve more than one term. Library board meetings are held each quarter and are open to the public.

Board members are (clockwise from top-left) Jo Ann Gaul, President; Ronnie Bencaz, Vice-President; Kathy deGeneres; Debbie Henson; Layton Ricks, Livingston Parish President and ex-officio member; Lindsay Varnado; Shelley Davis; and Juanette Courtney.





# BY THE NUMBERS



12%

**Borrowers:** The total number of borrowers in Livingston Parish has increased 12 percent since 2008. As of this year, 66,054 people in Livingston Parish have a library card.

**Circulation:** This year, nearly half a million items were checked out from the library, 472,511 to be exact. This was a 24 percent increase from 2008.



24%



24%

**Program Attendance:** Over 19,000 patrons attended crafting sessions, puppet shows, computer classes, and other programming at the library. This was a 24 percent increase from 2008.

**Computer Usage:** Library computers were used by patrons 73,910 times this year, a 23 percent increase from 2008.



23%



23%

**Visitors:** Patrons visited the library a staggering 393,321 times over the past year. This was a 23 percent increase from 2008.





# CREATING COMMUNITY

Livingston Parish Library hosted its first Livingston Parish Book Festival at the Main Branch, drawing over

1,000 people to enjoy live music, featured speakers, and activities for all ages while learning about library services.



The Dewey Decibels, a band comprised entirely of library staff members, held performances in July, November, and December. The band performed family-friendly songs that delighted patrons young and old.

Livingston Parish Library joined Turn The Page, a literacy awareness campaign with the goal of improving literacy in the Greater New Orleans area. Turn The Page highlighted library events focusing on literacy skills and awareness.

Adult Services staff launched the

Livingston Parish Oral History Project. The project interviewed community members who have witnessed pieces of Livingston Parish history and transcribed them so they are accessible to future generations. Interviews from the Livingston Parish Oral History Project were featured in a Black History Month exhibit at Old City Hall in Denham Springs.

Patrons had the opportunity to turn their library fines into food for needy families during Fine Forgiveness Month in November.

Approximately 1,500 pounds of food equaling 1,250 meals were donated to the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank.

Livingston Parish Library launched a Goodreads page for online-savvy readers. The page features book discussions, staff recommendations, book club reads, and more.



# EXPANDING TECHNOLOGY

Livingston Parish Library was the first public library in the state to add 3D printing to its advanced technology services in October. The MakerBot Replicator II, a state of the art 3D printer, is available to patrons by appointment and 3D design classes are offered at the Main Branch each month.

Livingston Parish Library launched a new website in August. In addition to integrated features, an online event calendar, and a user-friendly layout, the website also debuted online registration for library events.

Livingston Parish Library introduced Axis 360, an eBook collection featuring a variety of fiction and nonfiction titles for all ages. Library staff also invested in more than 5,000 new eBook titles, further expanding the library's eCollection.

Livingston Parish Library invested in new online resources, such as Treehouse, Opposing Viewpoints In Context, Biography In Context, Career Transitions, ChiltonLibrary,

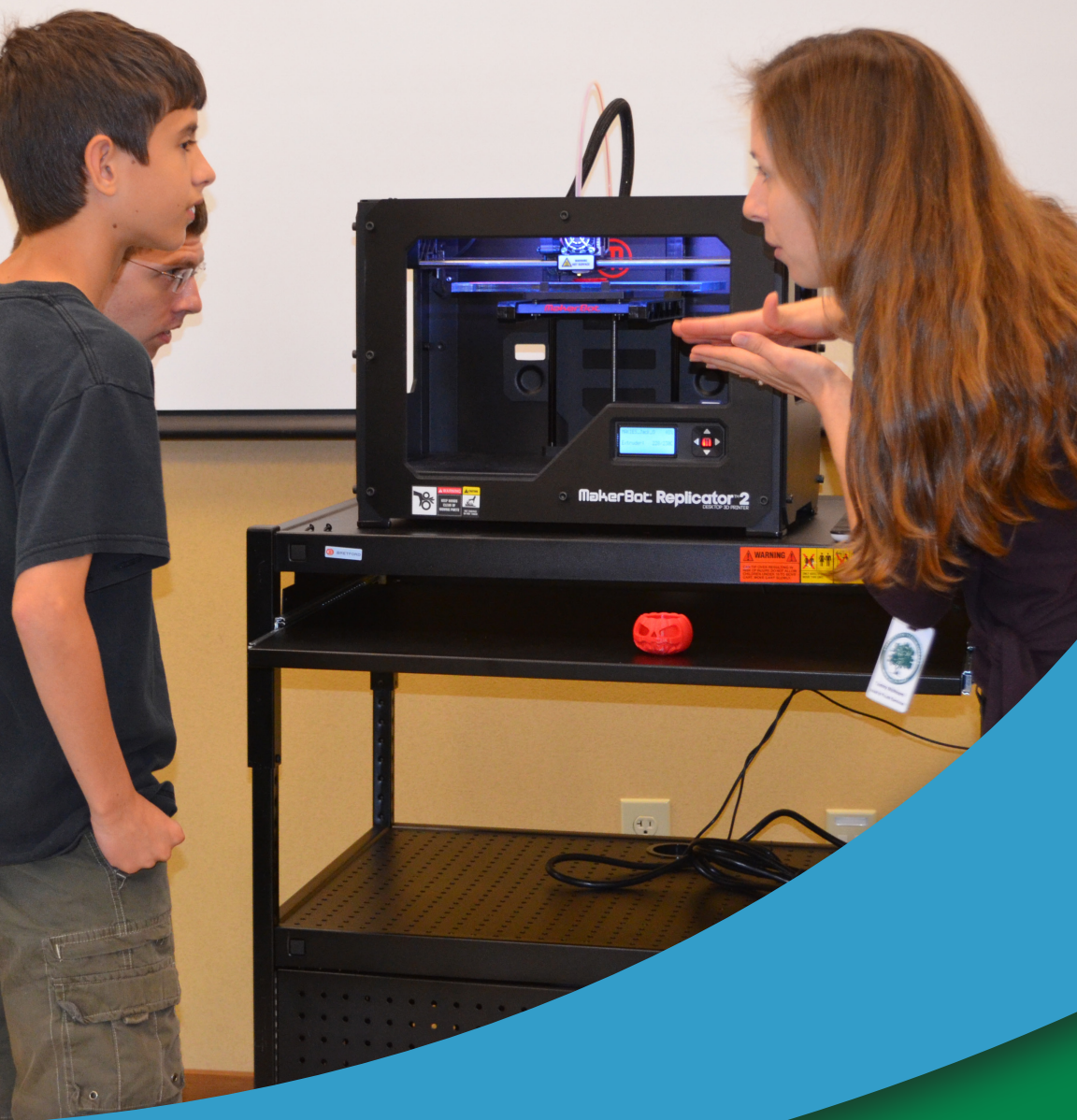
Science In Context, Cypress Resume, and WorldCrunch that provide continuing education, training, research sources, and skills to patrons.

Livingston Parish Library also added Playaways and Playway Views to its collection. These self-playing audiobooks for adults and portable all-in-one video players for children have offered popular titles in an appealing new format.

Library staff educated the community about new technology and how to use Livingston Parish Library's online resources through one-on-one eReader workshops and Gadget Helpdesk events held throughout the year.

Youth Services Librarians used STEM principles in programs for all ages, including Math Madness, Eye In The Sky, and many others.







What a

- Provides a roadmap
- Assists in obtaining
- Raises questions t
- Helps identify re
- Helps to formulat
- Forces you to thin
- Forces you to dev
- Helps to develop p
- Allows you to mak



# BUILDING BUSINESS



Livingston Parish Library partnered with Southeastern Louisiana University's Louisiana Small Business Development

Center (LSBDC) to

offer free small business consulting at three library branches. Small business owners received advice on business plans, advertising plans, inventory control, financial projections, cost analysis, and much more.

The LSBDC also offered free classes for current and potential small business owners such as Business Tax Incentives, Starting & Financing A Small Business, E-mail Marketing, Creating A Social Media Plan, and Writing Your Business Plan.

Livingston Parish Library joined the Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce in order to foster a closer relationship with the parish's business community.

Livingston Parish Library provided job search support through resumé workshops that helped patrons develop professional resumé.

Two branches of the Livingston Parish Library partnered with the Baton Rouge Bar Association to offer basic legal counseling and advice.



# REACHING OUT

Livingston Parish Library hired an Outreach Services Coordinator, who is responsible for planning library outreach to the parish. This allowed the library to expand and coordinate outreach services for all age groups in Livingston Parish.



Outreach staff performed puppet shows at the Tickfaw Craft Fair, Denham Springs Old City Hall, and many schools, community events and day care centers throughout the year.

Library staff participated in school literacy, math, and science nights

throughout the parish.

Library staff brought library materials to nursing homes and senior apartments in Livingston Parish. This allowed home-bound seniors to utilize library materials.



Livingston Parish Library participated in the Read Aloud 15 Minutes campaign in October. This online campaign shares facts about reading and literacy while encouraging parents to read aloud to their children for 15 minutes each day.





# OFFERING RESOURCE

Livingston Parish Library won a \$1,000 grant awarded by the Freedom To Read Foundation via its Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund for Banned Books Week programming in September. Library branches hosted Southern Style Café: Read Out/Sing Out events, a Southern Literature Lecture by professors from Southeastern Louisiana University, Banned Picture Shows, and a skit based on To Kill A Mockingbird written and performed by the Denham Springs-Walker Branch's Young Writers Club to celebrate and educate patrons about Banned Books Week.

Livingston Parish Library sponsored a Lights, Camera, Read! workshop for teens through a \$1,000 Dollar General YALSA Summer Intern grant. The Octavians theater group and library staff worked with teens to write, direct, and shoot their own book trailers.





Adult Services staff partnered with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to offer programs teaching veterans and their families how to use MyHealtheVet, the VA's online personal health record to manage their health care.

Adult Services staff partnered with Primerica to host How Money Works workshops that taught patrons about financial basics, budgeting, saving, and investing money wisely.

Library staff worked with Alzheimer's Services of the Capital Area to sponsor Sharing The Journey, a series of supportive educational workshops for caregivers and individuals with dementia. The workshops covered dementia care, stress management and resources, understanding medication, and legal preparation.

Livingston Parish Library began offering microfilm reading with a new digital microfilm reader that can store images into a digital document to be

transferred to a USB drive, e-mailed, or printed. The Main Branch also became a designated FamilySearch Center that can receive materials for patrons from FamilySearch.org, a nonprofit website offering free family history and genealogy records through The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Calliope Puppets hosted a puppet theater workshop for tweens and a puppetry training session for staff in June. Youth Services staff also wrote and performed two original puppet shows for children.





