



LIVINGSTON PARISH LIBRARY

2014 Annual Report





Director's Report

For all of us at Livingston Parish Library, 2014 was a year of growth, achievements, and the relentless pursuit of excellence. We grew our patron base to 73,363 cardholders, which was an increase of 11% since 2013; 54% of Livingston Parish residents are now library users. There were 405,452 patron visits to the library in 2014.

Program attendance grew by 12%, with 21,999 people attending library events. Livingston Parish Library hosted its second Livingston Parish Book Festival at the Main Branch, drawing 1,762 people to enjoy live music, featured authors, and activities for all ages while celebrating the library, literacy, and our culturally rich community.

Our talented staff continued providing innovative and exciting new programs. The Dewey Decibels, a band comprised entirely of library staff members, held performances throughout the year. The band performed family-friendly songs that delighted patrons young and old.

When it comes to technology, Livingston Parish Library makes it a priority to provide its patrons with the most advanced and useful products. Computer and print management systems were installed

at every branch. Patrons can now use their library cards to reserve a computer, make photocopies, and print documents (including the ability to send print jobs from any location in the world), improving the efficiency and security of the library's computer and printing services.

Livingston Parish Library debuted a video game collection at all five branches in 2014. The collection offers a variety of games for the Nintendo Wii and Wii U; PlayStation 3 and 4; Xbox 360 and Xbox One.

Our statistics and totals can define our library's success, but above that, our community loves the library. Our customers often express their appreciation through social media, e-mails, phone calls, and in conversations. Our patron Mary W. has recently stated:

The Livingston Parish Library has been one of the greatest tools that we have used over the years. I'm so proud of the long way the library has come.

From gardening lessons to one-on-one technology sessions; from business consulting to puppet shows; from musical performances to author visits—the library has something to offer to everyone. As we review the achievements of the last year, I invite you to personally discover your library today.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Giovanni Tairov". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Giovanni Tairov
Livingston Parish Library Director

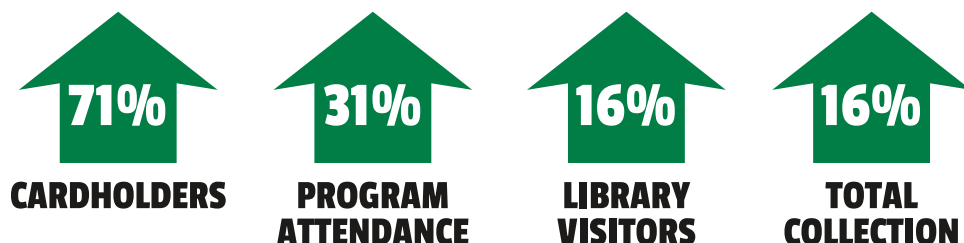


Library Board

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 are residents from across Livingston Parish. Board members are appointed to five-year terms and may serve more than one term. The Livingston Parish President also acts as an ex-officio board member.

Library board meetings are held each quarter and are open to the public. Board meeting agendas and minutes can be found online at www.mylpl.info.

Library Growth (since 2009)





Jo Ann Graul (President)



Ronnie Bencaz (Vice President)



Juanette Courtney



Kathy deGeneres



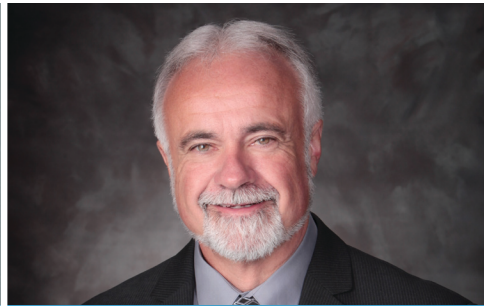
Shelley Davis



Debbie Henson



Lindsay Varnado



Layton Ricks (Ex-Officio)



Creating Community

Funding for the next 10 years of Livingston Parish Library services and facilities passed by a 68% margin in April 2014. Thank you to all who supported the library at the polls! A special acknowledgement goes to the Livingston Parish Library Board of Control and the Friends of the Livingston Library System for all of their hard work and dedication promoting the library.

Livingston Parish Library hosted its second Livingston Parish Book Festival at the Main Branch, drawing approximately 1,762 people to enjoy live music, featured authors, and activities for all ages while celebrating the library, literacy, and Livingston Parish.

The library launched its own Instagram account, @mylplinfo, where patrons



can check out all of the exciting happenings at all five branches in photos.

Patrons had the opportunity to turn their library fines into food for needy families during Fine Forgiveness Month in November. Approximately 1,725 pounds of food equaling 1,438 meals were donated to the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank.

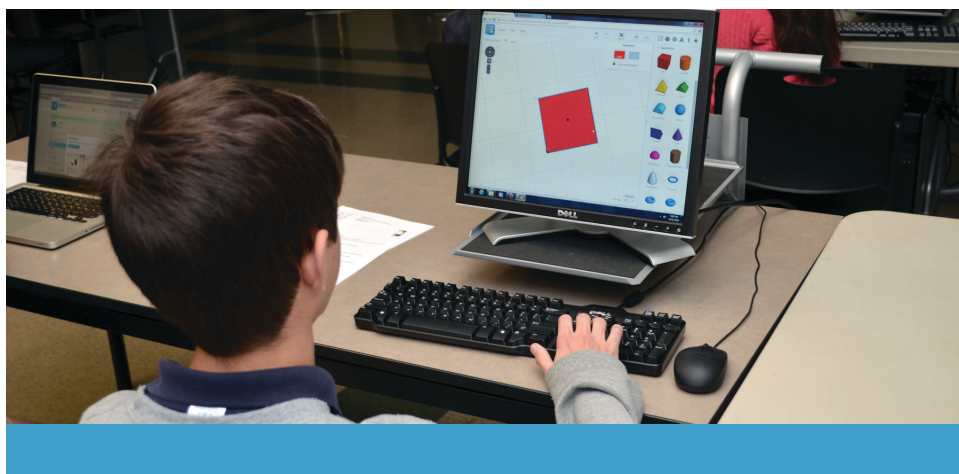
The Dewey Decibels, a band comprised entirely of library staff members, held performances in July, November, and December. The band performed family-friendly songs that delighted patrons young and old.





Expanding Technology

Livingston Parish Library continued to expand its technology services in 2014. As the first public library in the state to add 3D printing, the library also began offering 3D scanning and allowed patrons to submit their requests for 3D printed designs online.



The library continued to offer regular 3D design classes along with a number of specialized 3D design programs for tweens, teens, and adults throughout the year.

Computer and print management systems were installed at four of Livingston Parish Library's five branches in November. Patrons

can now use their library cards to reserve a computer, make photocopies, and print documents, improving the efficiency and security of the library's most utilized technology.

Livingston Parish Library debuted a video game collection at all five branches in 2014. The collection boasts a variety of games for the Nintendo Wii, Nintendo Wii U, PlayStation 3, Playstation 4, Xbox 360, and Xbox One.

Participants in Livingston Parish Library's summer reading programs for adults, children, and register online for the first time last year. Patrons could track their reading progress, prizes, and events from the convenience of an online account.

Livingston Parish Library also debuted online registration for meeting room reservations in 2014. Interested patrons can submit a request up to six months in advance.

The library invested in Freegal, a service that offers free music downloads and streaming. Users also enjoy free movie streaming with Freegal Movies.

Livingston Parish Library offered screen printing and button making machines for public use in addition to offering programs teaching patrons crafts and encouraging creativity.





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 could get 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 Starting & Financing Your Small Business, Roadmap To Success For Veterans, and Facebook For Business.

Livingston Parish Library partnered with the Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) to host seminars at two library branches educating local business owners and job seekers about valuable resources available to them through the department.

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

Livingston Parish Library made free business eBooks from Gale Virtual Reference Library and World Book Web available to patrons through the library's website.

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

Three branches of Livingston Parish Library partnered with Volunteer Income Tax Assistance to provide free income tax preparation for individuals or families with a combined income below \$50,000. The library also hosted MyFreeTaxes, an online tax filing service, on its website throughout tax season.





Reaching Out

Livingston Parish Library continued to expand and coordinate outreach services for all age groups in Livingston Parish.

Outreach staff performed puppet shows at schools, community events, fairs, festivals, and day care centers throughout the year. Staff members also showcased storytimes, music, and crafts for children of all ages.

Library staff participated in school literacy, math, and science nights throughout the parish. Students and parents signed up for library cards, played educational games, and learned about library services.

Library staff brought events, music, and library materials to assisted living centers and senior apartments throughout Livingston Parish. This allowed home-bound seniors to socialize, enjoy entertainment, and utilize library materials.

Livingston Parish Library participated in the Denham Springs, French Settlement, Livingston, and Maurepas 2014 Christmas parades. The Livingston parade culminated in a community party at the Main Branch of the Livingston Parish Library that



featured refreshments for parade goers, a visit from Santa, and a performance by library band The Dewey Decibels.

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

Livingston Parish Library was one of more than 2,300 libraries and bookstores across America supporting World Book Night 2014. The Main Branch served as a community base for donations and provided useful resources to patrons passionate about literacy.





Offering Resources

Livingston Parish Library constructed a demonstration garden and outdoor stage area at the Watson Branch. The garden is funded by the library and a Think Outside The Box grant from RedBox and OCLC. The LSU AgCenter Livingston Cooperative Extension Office and Live Oak High School FFA assisted with garden planning and construction. This project offers an outdoor space for community members to read and relax, learn about gardening, and enjoy outdoor entertainment.

Two branches of the Livingston Parish Library offered Creative Aging acting classes in 2014. In November, the Creative Aging: Our Stories On Stage class participants presented an original play at the Livingston Parish Book Festival based on a tapestry of personal stories.

Library staff worked with Alzheimer's Services of the Capital Area to sponsor Sharing The Journey, a series of



of supportive educational workshops for caregivers and individuals with dementia. The workshops covered dementia care, stress management and resources, understanding medication, and legal preparation.

Throughout the year, Youth Services staff presented original puppet shows written by programming assistant and award-winning playwright Bridget Connor-Feldbaum.

The Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office partnered with Livingston Parish Library to offer Preventing Cyber Crime seminars. Patrons learned about vulnerabilities and methods to prevent cyber crime, elderly crime, and financial crime.

Navigators for a Healthy Louisiana partnered with Livingston Parish Library to help the public answer their questions about the Affordable Care Act and purchasing insurance through the Health Insurance Exchange at sessions throughout the year.

Livingston Parish Library offered a variety of events for writers in 2014, including How To Get Published, Fiction Writers Workshops, Nonfiction Writers Workshops, National Novel Writing Month Write Ins, and more. These events featured advice from fellow writers, feedback on writing, and writing tips.



Youth Services Librarians used Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) principles in programs for all ages, including Soda Pop Science, Magic Tree House: Master Librarian Special Mission, Kool Kinetics, and many others throughout the year.

405,452 LIBRARY VISITORS
1,248,779 WEBSITE PAGE VIEWS
474,282 ITEMS CIRCULATED
94,393 QUESTIONS ANSWERED
73,363 LIBRARY CARDHOLDERS
21,999 PROGRAM ATTENDEES
364 SERIAL SUBSCRIPTIONS
167 COMPUTER STATIONS
5 LOCATIONS
73,761 SQUARE FEET
14,872 SERVICE HOURS

ONE LIBRARY