

# LIVINGSTON PARISH LIBRARY 2018 ANNUAL REPORT





# ABOUT LIVINGSTON PARISH LIBRARY

**Director:** Giovanni Tairov

**Assistant Director:** Jennifer Seneca

**Board of Control:** Ronnie Bencaz (President), Kathy deGeneres (Vice-President), Clark Forrest, Ivy Graham, Larry O'Neill, Debbie Henson, Lindsay Varnado, Layton Ricks (Ex-Officio Member)

The Board of Trustees serves as the governing body for the LPL system. Board members are appointed by the parish council and are residents from across the parish. Board members are appointed to five-year terms and may serve more than one term.

## **Vision Statement**

Livingston Parish Library will be our community's primary resource for information and learning opportunities, as well as be a leader for innovative library services that spark curiosity and inspire new ideas.

## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Livingston Parish Library is to provide all members of the Livingston Parish community with resources and programs to fulfill their informational, educational, recreational, and cultural needs.





# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends:

Two years ago, your Livingston Parish Library (LPL) set out on a four-year course to better align library services with the needs of our community. Through the tireless efforts of the LPL staff and introduction of programs and services, 2018 was a very productive and successful year, and your LPL continues to be one of the parish's most valuable resources for information and lifelong learning opportunities.

To better meet our strategic objectives, we constantly look for ways to break down barriers to library access, especially among our community's most vulnerable populations. To that goal, in 2018 we eliminated overdue fines for all children's accounts, because we believe a late fee should never stand between a child and a book. In addition, last year we enrolled more than 26,000 Livingston Parish students and teachers in the new eCard Program, which grants access to all electronic resources provided by the Library. Another exciting 2018 educational innovation were our learning kits; kit content is varied, and provides access to items as far-ranging as globes to graphing calculators to microscopes. The kits are a way to serve our community's many homeschooling families and others interested in taking a hands-on approach to learning.

As exciting as these educational services have been, our Outreach Services Department continues to grow by leaps and bounds. We purchased a state of the art bookmobile in 2018 to expand our community reach and help our staff bring the Library's services to those unable to visit us in person. Our Outreach Services Department uses the bookmobile, now dubbed the Discovery Mobile, to make regular visits to schools, daycare centers, nursing homes, community centers, and apartment complexes.

The accomplishments mentioned above are only a few of the innovative programs your Library offers our community. We are proud to be an integral part of Livingston Parish, contributing to the overall quality of life and making our Parish a coveted place to live and raise a family. We will continue to work hard to make sure that your Library meets the high expectations of our community.

Warmest Regards,

Giovanni Tairov  
Director





# LAST YEAR BY THE NUMBERS



**121,558**

**TOTAL LIBRARY  
CARD HOLDERS**

**31,489**

**NEW LIBRARY  
CARD SIGN-UPS**



**TOTAL ITEMS  
IN COLLECTION**

**1.01 M**

**ITEMS ADDED  
TO COLLECTION**

**660,946**



**324,290**

**TOTAL LIBRARY  
VISITS**

**2,481**

**MEETING ROOM  
RESERVATIONS**





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# LAST YEAR BY THE NUMBERS



**1,867**

**TOTAL NUMBER  
OF PROGRAMS**

**32,355**

**TOTAL PROGRAM  
ATTENDANCE**



# LAST YEAR BY THE NUMBERS



**43,561**

**TOTAL  
COMPUTER  
LAB SESSIONS**

**120**

**COMPUTER  
LAB SESSIONS  
PER DAY**

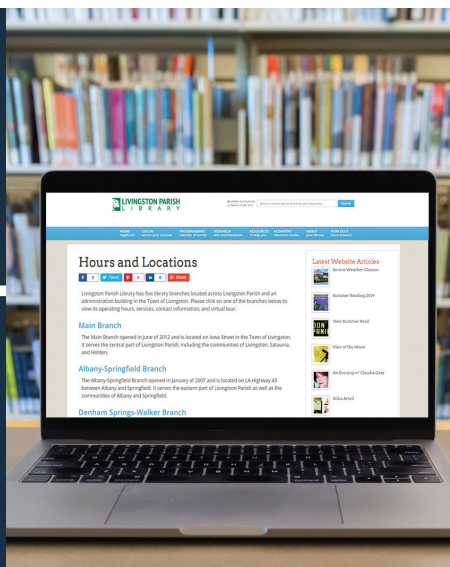


**2018  
WEBSITE  
VISITS**

**191,949**

**VS. 2017  
WEBSITE  
VISITS**

**11,000+**



**3000+**

**FACEBOOK  
FOLLOWERS**

**21%**

**AUDIENCE  
GROWTH VS. 2017**





# ACHIEVEMENTS & PARTNERSHIPS



## LPL ANNOUNCES FINE FORGIVENESS FOR ALL YOUTH AND TEEN ACCOUNTS

On October 1, LPL announced it would no longer charge overdue fines on juvenile and teen patron accounts in an effort to allow youth greater access to the Library's databases, resources, and services. The policy change was approved by the Library's Board of Control at the September 2018 meeting.

With the policy change approval, LPL effectively removed a significant barrier that prohibited younger patrons from utilizing the Library's resources. Recent studies show that avoiding overdue fines does not serve as an incentive for returning items in a timely manner and often becomes a barrier for students. The Library believes that providing youth continued access to resources is paramount to their future, especially during developmental years.

## LPL EXPANDS PARTNERSHIP WITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND MIGHTY MOMS

In 2018, LPL expanded a community-wide partnership with Livingston Parish Public Schools (LPPS) and Mighty Moms, a Livingston Parish non-profit organization aimed with ending childhood hunger throughout the parish. Now available at all five branches of the LPL, Feeding Young Minds provides kids and teens with free snacks and a safe space to learn, grow, and participate in activities. Through this cooperative initiative, more than 5,200 students are provided with free meals after school annually.

**FEEDING**  
YOUNG **MINDS**

**MORE THAN**  
**5,200 STUDENTS**  
**SERVED ANNUALLY**

## LPL IMPLEMENTS ONLINE REGISTRATION & LIBRARY CARD RENEWAL

Livingston Parish residents who do not have a library card can now register for one online. This new process streamlines the application process, saves time during in-branch registrations, and offers new library users immediate access to LPL eResources and services, including eBooks, audiobooks, and resources offering digital movie and music downloads. Additionally, current library patrons can now renew their expired library card online, offering continuous access to the LPL's resources.



# LIBRARY ENHANCEMENTS



## STRUCTURAL CHANGES AND ENHANCEMENTS TO LPL BRANCHES

In 2018, LPL made significant strides in maintaining and enhancing the quality of its five library branches across Livingston Parish. These improvements were made to offer an enhanced library experience and provide a more secure environment for patrons. Enhancements made include:

- Implementation of LED signage at the South Branch and Denham Springs-Walker Branch to better promote library programs and services.
- Construction of sidewalk connecting Watson Branch to nearby elementary school. This new sidewalk allows safer passage to students and teachers visiting the Library.
- New furniture and learning stations installed in the adult, teen, and youth areas of the Denham Springs-Walker Branch.
- Installation of enhanced exterior and interior security cameras at the South Branch and LPL Administrative Building.
- Roof repairs to Watson Branch and Albany-Springfield Branch.





# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



## FIFTH ANNUAL LIVINGSTON PARISH BOOK FEST ATTRACTS NEARLY 1,500 ATTENDEES

LPL presented its annual book festival celebrating books, literacy, and Livingston Parish at the Main Branch in Livingston on Saturday, October 27. Free and open to the public, the fifth annual festival featured local author discussions, book signings, live music, and activities for the entire family to enjoy. Free jambalaya was also offered by the Friends of the Livingston Library System (FOLLS).



More than 30 local authors participated in the event, including featured authors Jack Caldwell, Season Vining and Lyndsey Duga. Attendees were also treated to live performances from The Chase Tyler Band, Gal Holiday and the Honky Tonk Revue, and Papo Guevara.





# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



## "LIBRARIES ROCK!" SUMMER READING PROGRAM KICKS OFF AT LPL

LPL kicked off its annual summer reading program on Thursday, May 24 with a celebration kickoff party at all five branches of the LPL. Patrons of all ages were invited to register for summer reading, play games, earn prizes, and get a preview of the entire summer reading program activities and performances.

The annual summer reading program for children, teens and adults ran between May 24 and August 1. The program aimed to promote literacy and engage school-aged youth throughout the summer by offering fun and educational activities as well as reading challenges to compete and earn prizes.

## SUMMER READING PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

**3,633** Total Participants

**2,293** Children (Ages 0-11)

**466** Teens (Ages 12-18)

**874** Adults (Ages 18+)

**488**

More Participants vs. 2017

**58%**

Completion Rate





# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



## EXPANDED COMIC CON DEBUTS AT DENHAM SPRINGS-WALKER BRANCH

For the first two years of its existence, the LPL Comic Con helped kickoff the Library's Summer Reading Program, and the Main Branch in Livingston hosted it. Due to the program's popularity, Comic Con became a spring standalone event hosted by the Denham Springs-Walker Branch. On Saturday February 3, 2018 over 450 patrons gathered at the new venue to celebrate their fandom at the third annual LPL Comic Con.

Inspired by the annual mega-event in San Diego, the LPL Comic Con is a celebration of all things comic book, movie, television, video games, and pop culture. Attendees were invited to participate in games and activities, interact with local authors and illustrators, or cosplay as their favorite characters.

Featured activities at the LPL Comic Con included a costume contest, speed painting demo, Harry Potter Escape Room, games of Quidditch, and a Marvel versus DC Comics battle.





