



Greenburgh Public Library

Annual

Report to the Community

2018

In 2017 The Greenburgh Public Library again set a new record for library visits as more than 257,000 people of all ages came to experience the broad array of programs and materials we offer. Over 29,000 children, teens and adults attended our programs which saw a significant increase in the number of events for teens.

The year was marked by significant additions and changes to the physical layout of our library. With the help of a construction grant from New York State, we were able to construct two glass-walled study rooms in the adult reading room. These rooms allow for collaborative work to be done by small groups or quiet individual study. The Children's Library, thanks to a \$100,000 donation from The Greenburgh Library Guild, received a re-design that makes the room more open and welcoming with the addition of new shelving along the walls, shorter book stacks, and two special features: a discovery table with all kinds of hands on possibilities for little ones and a new curved book shelf which features an irresistible crawl through circle in its middle. We also changed the study tables and installed integrated modular seating cushions that have to be seen in action – i.e. in the hands of kids - to be believed.

The Library also changed outside, with a redesign of the circular drive in front of the entrance which was widened to allow for easier passage and included an ADA compliant ramp to aid those who are dropped off by the front door. We also initiated the first phase of an upgrade to the parking lot by replacing four grass islands with parking spaces. The next phase will include 14 more spaces in the upper lot toward the Knollwood Road entrance.

The total circulation of library materials increased slightly by 1% to 475,085 in 2017. The popularity of electronic materials continues as library patrons increased their usage of downloadable and streaming content. The library added Kanopy, a robust collection of streaming films and documentaires and also added Mango Languages which is a very popular downloadable language learning program accessible through our website.

Our programing budget again received a great boost from the Friends of the Greenburgh library whose lobby bookstore and annual book sale provide us with funds for programs as wide ranging as classical concerts and toddler drumming sessions; computer learning for seniors and computer coding for children; drawing classes and video game contests. The remarkable efforts of the Friends are greatly appreciated.

We also rely on support from the Greenburgh Public Library Guild, whose fund raising makes possible library improvements like the makeover of the children’s room. This year, their Opera Night fundraiser was a fun evening for all.

Our library programs and collections of materials are all designed to ensure that opportunities for learning and discovery are available to every Greenburgh resident. It is my belief that curiosity is an integral part of being human. When we are curious, we explore. When we explore, we discover. When we discover, we learn something new. It is the delight in the process of learning that establishes the library as such a very special place in the community we are so privileged to serve.

John Sexton
Library Director

