

Engaging Our Community



“I feel like I’ve done
something good”
“It makes me happy to see people smile”
“You feel like you’re on
top of the world”



Cleveland Public Library
325 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1271

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cleveland, OH
Permit No. 408



COVER:
Rockport Branch Prime Time students are engaged in community service, which provides them with a sense of responsibility and bolsters their self-esteem. Because a goal of Prime Time is to develop job and life skills, community service is perfectly suited to the program.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Cleveland Public Library is to be the best urban library system in the country by providing access to the worldwide information that people and organizations need in a timely, convenient, and equitable manner.

Vision

of "The People's University" is to be the learning place for a diverse community, inspiring people of all ages with the love of books and reading, advancing the pursuit of knowledge, and enhancing the quality of life for all who use the Library.

The People's University: Striving For Excellence

Members of the Board of Library Trustees



Sandra E. Noble
Vice President
Through July 2005



Thomas D. Corrigan
Secretary
Vice President



Venerine L. Branham



Alice G. Butts
Appointed August 2005



Kevin J. Kelley
Through April 2005



Lori McClung
Appointed December 2005



John M. Moss
Through November 2005



Vita C. Redding



Maritza Rodriguez
Appointed June 2005



Luis Rodriguez, best known for his 1993 memoir of gang life, *Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in LA*, was part of the **Sunday Afternoons for Writers and Readers series**; he appeared during our celebration of **National Hispanic Heritage Month**.



Singer **Melba Moore** performed as part of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Commemorative Program at Main Library.



(center) The historical exhibition "**Visas For Life: The Righteous and Honorable Diplomats**" was on view at the Main Library in April and May of this year.

(left) Children tutor one another at the **Harvard-Lee Branch**.

Comments from Board President Charlene A. Jones

The past year was exciting and fulfilling! It has been an honor and a privilege to serve yet a second term as President of the Board of Library Trustees. This was also a year of challenges and opportunities, as we continued our commitment to provide enhanced lifelong learning experiences to our customers throughout our community, the state of Ohio, and the nation.

Our 2005 annual report to the community provides an in-depth focus on the Library's progress, growth, and community engagement. In a larger sense, this informational report chronicles the important role of the Library in our neighborhoods. We are committed to providing access to a wealth of information and learning opportunities for people of all ages throughout the nation.

As President of the Board of Library Trustees, and on behalf of my fellow trustees, I would like to conclude by personally thanking each staff member of Cleveland Public Library for the effort he or she gives each day toward helping the Library achieve excellence in service. We look forward to another year of exceptional service and continued growth at the Cleveland Public Library, "The People's University."



Charlene A. Jones
President

Charlene A. Jones

Charlene A. Jones
President



Rock 'N Art Recognition Ceremony was held as part of the Rock My Soul program with Oliver Ragsdale, Jr., Director, Arts League of Michigan; Kwame Plato; Andrew A. Venable, Jr., Director; and Joyce Bowers, Manager, Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch.



(top) Featured speaker **Sam Fulwood** at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration.



Parade the Circle



(left) Andrew A. Venable, Jr., Director; Glenda Thornton, Director, CSU Library; Holly Carroll, Deputy Director; and Dr. Michael Schwartz, CSU President, at the opening of the CPL@CSU Library Connection Lounge.



Message from the Director

Cleveland Public Library is not only **Cleveland's symbol of knowledge**; it is an **American treasure**. Since 1869, it has been a major information resource for our city, region, state, nation, and the world. As beneficiaries of the commitment, dedication, and hard work of Library leaders, managers and staff who came before us, we promote the development and growth of **"The People's University"** by engaging our community in order to provide **books, information, and service**.

To celebrate National Library Week in April, we sponsored three **town hall meetings** in neighborhood Branches to report our progress on implementing the five library service initiatives Cleveland voters approved with sixty percent in favor on May 6, 2003.

We are encouraged by the support of our community for two new Library services. We partnered with **Cleveland State University** to establish a novel Connection Lounge, providing popular and recreational reading materials to **encourage lifelong learning** for faculty, students, and the public. And we established a **Teen Center** in the **Collinwood Branch** in partnership with **Collinwood High School**, taking wise counsel from a **Teen Advisory Panel**.

More than 800 **Library Ambassadors** delivered service in a timely, convenient, and equitable manner to an appreciative community from attractive, clean, safe buildings, a bookmobile, and KnowItNow24x7, our online virtual reference service.

Thank you for supporting and using "The People's University."

Andrew A. Venable, Jr.
Director



Engaging Our Community

Since 2002 when our Board of Trustees approved a comprehensive Strategic Plan, your Library has changed in many exciting ways. This blueprint for the future of "The People's University" continues to be put into action, and we remain committed to engaging the community—our valued patrons and neighborhood partners.

Your Branch is on one of three teams—West, Central, and East—each led by a manager who knows your community. The restructuring of the Library into team clusters makes us even more efficient in serving you. Your Branch offers innovative programs and enhanced services that are tailored to the needs and interests of you and your neighbors.

Another way we serve Cleveland's diverse neighborhoods is by partnering with companies and organizations that contribute knowledge and resources to Library programs and services. In 2005 we collaborated with Walgreens, Web Wise Seniors, the Cleveland Branch of the NAACP, the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, Cleveland State University, the Arts League of Michigan, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, and many others. These collaborations are highlighted in this publication, our annual report to you.

Last year our report demonstrated the ways in which your Cleveland Public Library is "Making the Grade." This year we would like to introduce you to some of the people who help us continue to reach our goals and maintain our commitment to Greater Cleveland; establishing relationships—*engaging our community*—is key to serving you, the patrons of "The People's University."



The **MLK Teen Writer's Club** meets monthly to share their creative writing projects and learn about different areas of writing from poetry to character creation.

"The Library is one of the few places where everyone is welcome; teens are very receptive to that. They need a place where they are able to explore their interests and interact with their peers without the structure of school or the pressure of grades. As they are developing their identities, the Library will become an important part of their lives and they will become life-long patrons and readers."

— Elizabeth Gaughan, Librarian II, Young Adult, Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch

More than 3.7 million people visited a Cleveland Public Library

This year we continued to put our **Strategic Plan** into action. A key component of the plan is to increase hours; **twenty-three Branches now offer Saturday hours year round**. We also created new programs and enhanced some of those that were already popular, generating more special services for **young people** and **senior citizens, increasing computers and computer training**, and developing new initiatives for our city's diverse communities of **New Americans**. In addition to these innovations, we also restructured our Library system into **three regional team clusters**—West, Central, and East. We also increased staff in our Branches, particularly in youth services departments. In April we hosted three **town hall meetings** to report our progress; these meetings also gave us a chance to hear your feedback on new and established programs and services.

As in previous years, the staff of your Library fostered and maintained innovative initiatives, taking our vast collection beyond our buildings. The **Mobile Library** completed its fourth full year of operation, serving thirty-nine stops every three weeks. As in previous years, Mobile Services participated in community events such as St. Patrick's Day Parade, Parade the Circle, and Sankofa Fine Art Expo. This year, the Mobile Library's computers were replaced with laptops, upgrading its connection to broadband, and adding nearly six additional feet of shelf space.



The staff of the Popular Library oversees valuable programs that take the Library to the people. **Homebound Services**, a program for patrons who, due to age or disability, are unable to get to their neighborhood Library grew this year; seventy-nine new patrons took advantage of the service, and more than 14,000 items were circulated. This department also maintains a relationship with the **Cuyahoga County Jail**; in 2005 more than 5,000 paperback books were circulated among jailed individuals. New in 2005 is **CPL@CSU**, a program created in partnership with Cleveland State University. CSU students, faculty, and staff can now check out materials or browse popular fiction and nonfiction books in a relaxing, appealing environment.



“One of the key responsibilities of the Neighborhood Team Manager is to develop relationships with staff members and members of the community in order to achieve outstanding customer service.”

— Ellen Leavitt, Neighborhood Team Manager, East



Dr. Michael Schwartz, CSU President, speaking at the opening of the CPL@CSU Library Connection Lounge.



CSU staff members Valerie Isom, who is also a student, and Barbara Guathier enjoy the benefits of having CPL on the CSU campus.

“When two great libraries collaborate, the potential for the power of ideas to influence the world grows exponentially. Our ability to create, preserve, and transmit knowledge, and to find new uses for knowledge is enhanced, and that is what is properly called ‘progress’.”

— Dr. Michael Schwartz, President, Cleveland State University



Partnerships in the Community



(above) Richard A. Hornzy, Manager Lorain Branch with West-End Block Club member Brian C. Kazy in the future neighborhood park.

(left to right) Andrew A. Venable, Jr.; Richard A. Hornzy, Manager, Lorain Branch; staff members Paula Straka; Stamatis Tripodis; Dina Lytle; Terrence Metter; Valerie Johnson; and Matthew Zone, Councilman, Ward 17.



Lorain Branch 100 years of service and commitment to community

In December the Lorain Branch celebrated 100 years of service. Staff at the Branch demonstrated their commitment to the community by working with the West-End Block Club, securing a grant to convert a vacant plot of land near the Library into a park. Upon completion, Lorain Branch staff plan to use the new park for events, especially those targeting young people.



Lorain Branch facade, 1937, and Children's Room, 1912.

56% use the Library from one to four times per week
95% are satisfied with Branch Libraries
81% rate Library service as very important

— from The Strategic Plan, Community Survey Results

Programs and Activities are Ongoing in Our Neighborhood Branches:

Broadway School of Music and the Arts partnership at Broadway

Sickle Cell Anemia Puppet Show at Brooklyn

National literacy initiative Day of the Child/Day of the Book at Carnegie West

Call & Post sponsored Creative Writing Workshops at Collinwood

Brains & Brawn, Baseball & Bookin' at Fleet

Young Adult Book Discussion Group at Glenville

"Why Do We Celebrate MLK, Jr. Day?" at Harvard-Lee

Youth Book Club—Anime Club and Snak and Yak Club at Martin Luther King, Jr.

Women's History Month Program—
"African-American Women in Business: A Practical and Historical Perspective" at Langston Hughes

Women's History Month Program—"A Visit with Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis" at South Brooklyn

Library patrons Marquita Mickey with her family Eric, Jr.; Ernest; Elijah; and Eric, Sr.; at the **Broadway Branch**.



"The Library is an essential part of our community; it is a valuable education tool—one that I frequently use to enlighten my children."

— Marquita Mickey, Library Patron

One of our goals is to deliver the best services to you—our patrons—where you live. **Branch Libraries** are conveniently located within one mile of most residents' homes; they are also close to schools, businesses, and public transportation. Branches are centers of community activity, offering people access to books, magazines, compact disks and DVDs, as well as access to the Internet and digital resources. Branch Library programs are planned with the interests and needs of the neighborhood in mind, and our librarians and staff know many of their patron-families by name.

A vital component of our Strategic Plan is enhancing the ways we serve our city's **New Americans**. Programs are planned and collections garnered with your neighborhood's diversity in mind. This year, for instance, the Rockport Branch increased its Vietnamese fiction titles and Spanish language graphic novel collections.



Be Well Informed@Your Library

Cleveland Public Library was one of ten library systems in the country to participate in the Be Well Informed@Your Library program sponsored by the **American Library Association** and **Walgreens**. Your Library was granted \$25,000 to host free seminars led by pharmacists, as well as develop new collections and resources on health care. This year the program was presented in Spanish at the South Branch.

Harvard-Lee Branch



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Commemorative Program featuring **Sam Fulwood** at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch and singer **Melba Moore** at Main Library.



More than 9,800 programs were held at CPL, in schools, daycare centers, and community centers.

Programs were attended by more than **164,000 Library patrons.**



Author Anchee Min (above) appeared as part of Sunday Afternoons for Writers and Readers. Other programs also took place during our first celebration of **Asian Pacific American Heritage Month**.



Programs Celebrating Cleveland's Cultural Diversity



Chinese Lunar New Year celebration (left) brought more than 650 people to Main Library.



Library patrons Jessica Hom with sons Jonathon, Andrew, and Matthew.

"Using Library programs and materials, I can teach my children about their cultural heritage. I also enjoy the wide variety of books in Chinese on topics like health, fashion, and cooking that are available in the Foreign Literature Department."

— Jessica Hom, Library Patron

Get Real! Teen Read Week @Your Library

Your Library is committed to offering programs that foster reading among young people and their families. This year **YREAD? United Through Books**, the online service for children and teens, included live, online chats with authors Sharon Flake and Jacqueline Woodson. Your Library received the **Diversity Award** at the American Library Association's 2005 conference for this popular online program. **Teen Read Week** featured appearances by Flake, as well as a Youth Services staff development day with Dr. Andrea Bonney from MetroHealth Medical Center. In celebration of **Children's Book Week**, National Book Award Recipient **Richard Peck** made community-wide appearances, including a visit to the Carnegie West Branch. The **Summer** and **Winter Reading Clubs** remain popular among young people of all ages. The Summer Club—"Lights! Camera! Action! Read!" included a free "Poppin Fun" Film Festival, and Winter Reading Club members were invited to a free Annual Cleveland Metroparks Family Zoo Day in April.

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.) launched **Prime Time** at five Branches—Collinwood, Fleet, Harvard-Lee, Rockport, and South Brooklyn. Prime Time engages young patrons in workshops, which impart life skills, provide academic support, and involve them in community service projects. This unique program provides young people with opportunities to learn skills that are applicable to everyday life; some participants have earned paying jobs using skills garnered through Prime Time.



"An important step in our literacy initiative is making a connection with youth. Racing has been a way for me to connect with young people at the Library and in the community."

— Sandy Nosse, Librarian II, Young Adult, Rockport Branch and race car driver



Author Sharon Flake

Cleveland Real Star

More than 150 teens and adults attended **Cleveland Real Star**, the competition inspired by "American Idol." Teens from all over Cleveland competed; opening round competitions were held at each of our twenty-eight Branches with some participants advancing to the second round. Contestants were judged on stage presence, diction, accuracy, focus, and voice quality. Representing the Mt. Pleasant Branch, twelve-year-old Kiara Ellis wowed judges and an enthusiastic crowd with a stunning performance of "Summertime."

Prime Time students at the **Fleet Branch** participate in mock interviews to practice for internships and employment. They watch each other and offer suggestions on how to improve.

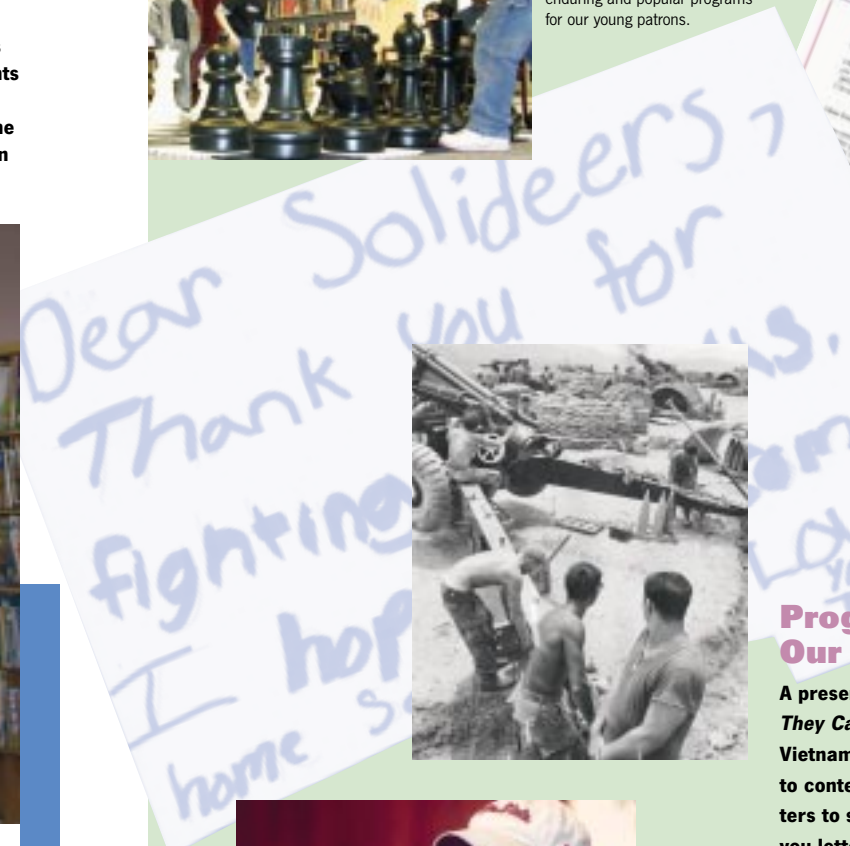


"Our partnership with the Library has been beneficial to both the youth we serve and Youth Opportunities Unlimited. The young people have the opportunity to learn new skills in the ideal environment — "The People's University."

— Connie Fletcher, Career Coach, Prime Time, Youth Opportunities Unlimited



Chess for Success remains one of the Main Library's most enduring and popular programs for our young patrons.



Programs to Engage Our Community

A presentation by Tim O'Brien, author of *The Things They Carried*, a book on the loss of innocence of Vietnam War soldiers, inspired a letter writing campaign to contemporary American soldiers. Children wrote letters to soldiers and their efforts earned an official thank you letter from the USO. This program was planned in collaboration with Playhouse Square and Cuyahoga County Public Library, and included a traveling photography exhibition on the Vietnam War with photographs from the Library's Photograph Collection.



Author Tim O'Brien

Richard Peck, National Book Award Recipient, appeared during Children's Book Week.



Author and illustrator **Gerald McDermott**, Caldecott Medal winner for his book *Raven*, appeared at the Louis Stokes Wing for the Summer Reading Club Kick-Off.

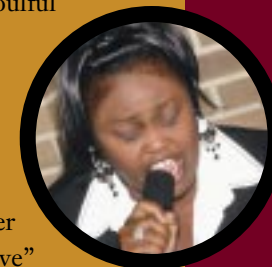
ROCK MY SOUL

THE BLACK LEGACY OF ROCK AND ROLL



Community engagement was epitomized by the “Rock My Soul: The Black Legacy of Rock and Roll” project, which was presented this year in partnership with the **Arts League of Michigan**, the **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum**, and **Sankofa Fine Art Plus**, and sponsored by **The Ford Motor Company**. This highly successful, multi-disciplinary endeavor was inspired by an art exhibition of the same title, which was organized by the Arts League of Michigan, and on view at our **Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch**. Numerous cultural events were held at the Branch in conjunction with the exhibition; people of all ages took part in or attended artists camps, workshops, exhibition gallery talks, a Gospel festival, and a Rock ‘N Art Community

Mural Project. Two “Friday Night Live@ the Library” events were extremely popular. “Dance to the Music: The Soulful Sounds of the 60s and 70s” took place in September; participants learned the history of Soul music and had the chance to enter a dance contest. The November iteration of “Friday Night Live” was titled “Hip Hop as a Cultural Phenomenon: Interpreting a Social Consciousness.” Teens were invited to share their skills as vocal performers, MCs, and break dancers. The evening a was celebration of music and youth culture.



Friday Night Live @ the Library

September 16, October 21, November 11, December 16

Dance to the Music: the Soulful Sounds of the 60s and 70s

Gospelfest: Making a Joyful Noise

Hip Hop as a Cultural Phenomenon: Interpreting a Social Consciousness

The Spirit of Africa: the Drum and the Dance

JUNE



JULY



AUGUST



AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER



DECEMBER

June 17, Opening Night began the most ambitious interdisciplinary project in the history of your Library’s Branch Services Department.



Rock ‘N Art Young Artist Camp

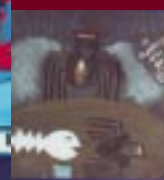
July 25 - August 5

Arts League of Michigan and Sankofa Fine Art Plus led an interdisciplinary art camp for young artists.

Artists’ Development Workshops

July 28, August 4

Facilitated by Arts League of Michigan and Sankofa Fine Art Plus.



Rock ‘N Art Community Mural Project

August 19, 20, 27

Sankofa Fine Art Plus and local artists collaborate with the community to create murals inspired by the art exhibition.



Connections: the Art, the Music, the History

October 3, 2005 through January 20, 2006

Visits, performances, and hands-on activities connecting students to the art and rich heritage of African-derived music and its influences on American culture.



November 19

Illustrating Children’s Books about Art and Music
Authors/illustrators Jerry Pinkney and Steven Kellogg. Planned in partnership with Ohio Art Education Association.



The overwhelming success of the program and public interest resulted in the extension of the exhibition through January 2006.



Young Library patrons from the Tantour family use Library computers with the help of Computer Aide Eanas Salem at the Eastman Branch.



“Staff at the Branches are closely connected to people who live in the neighborhood. We know many of our patrons by name, and many of us share the same languages and cultures. Establishing lasting relationships—even friendships—is one of the best parts of my job.

— Eanas Salem, Computer Aide, Eastman Branch

www.cpl.org

This year the staff of your Library also **redesigned our web site**; current information was reorganized and the overall look was changed to incorporate artwork by Cleveland artists such as Ora Colman, whose painting *Dominance of the City* of 1934 is represented. The new site is, in part, centered on events and programs, including a new front-page events calendar. It is now even more user friendly, and provides people with access to the **CLEVNET Digital Library Catalog**, and **OverDrive eMedia’s down-loadable audio books** and **eMusic**.

The Library’s redesigned web site won the **2005 Buddie Award**, a prize given in recognition of a database’s wide-ranging innovation, significance, and quality. While the site is not a database, *Information Today* reviewer Mick O’Leary nonetheless extolled it for features such as online reference and standard library services, 24/7 interactivity, health information, and homework assistance, as well as easy navigation and user friendliness. Our web site is another

important way we take the institution’s resources beyond its buildings.

One of your Library’s biggest challenges has been to ensure that you have access to the hottest new books. This year we addressed this challenge, working with CLEVNET to select \$100,000 worth of yet-to-be published books that we anticipated would be in high demand. This collection—what we call a **Floating Collection**—was delivered to Library facilities ready to circulate by publishers’ release dates. When James Patterson and Maxine Paetro’s *4th of July* was received into the Floating Collection on May 4 it had been requested by 1,079 patrons. By the time the book appeared on the bestseller list, all of those patrons were able to borrow a copy from the new Floating Collection. This successful, innovative project involved the creative efforts of staff from our Collection Management, Technical Services, and Buildings Departments.



Sample web pages show the redesigned homepage with the events calendar and an events page for a “Live Long and Like It” program. (top left) A web page for the Computer Learning Connection.

Detail of the painting *Dominance of the City*, by Cleveland artist Ora Colman is incorporated into the new homepage design (circle above).

This year, “The People’s University” remained committed to establishing and maintaining **new programs** and **services for senior citizens**. Three years ago we began a project to meet information-technology needs of our community’s eldest citizens, resulting in **The Senior Gateway Web Initiative** and a web site, **SeniorsConnect.org**. This online resource is a free “North Coast” focused site that provides resources and information on successful aging. Your Library was awarded \$25,000 by **The McGregor Foundation** to train senior service providers how to best use SeniorsConnect.org’s vast resources. In collaboration with the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging, SeniorsConnect.org staff hosted a training seminar; nearly 300 employees of area agencies attended, and more than twenty agencies scheduled additional sessions. SeniorsConnect.org continues to be a valuable tool for bridging the digital divide experienced by seniors and their caregivers.

Your Library hosted a **Medicare enrollment session**, giving those eligible for the prescription insurance program assistance in choosing a plan. Members of the Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Greater Cleveland Access to Benefits Coalition were on hand to sign-up Medicare recipients.

Our **“Live Long and Like It”** Committee hosted fairs for seniors in May—**“Older Americans Month”**—and October. In collaboration with Goodwill Industries, the group also hosted a vintage clothing fashion show. Another unique project was the older adults’ “Live Long and Like It” collective cookbook.

(top) Using an accessible computer and online meeting software, LBPH patrons participated in an **online book discussion** with students from Ohio School of the Blind in Columbus.

(center) Each year the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) hosts the **Family Fun and Learning Day**, which gives patrons the opportunity to catch up with old friends and learn new methods of accessing information.

(bottom) **Senior Day** at the Louis Stokes Wing gives senior citizens access to resources and information.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

LBPH



The LBPH of “The People’s University” is one of our most technologically innovative entities. Using **CyberDialogue**, a virtual meeting room, and **InfoEyes** software, patrons who have access to computers meet online to discuss books, poetry, and technology. **The Ohio State School of the Blind** used these resources to meet with LBPH patrons and discuss a wide range of books, including the biography of the Wright Brothers, *To Fly*. A NASA staff member, who is also a Wilbur Wright impersonator, and students from the **Perkins School for the Blind** also joined the discussion.

LBPH patrons tested prototypes for digital players and book cartridges, taking the specialized products through a series of tests and offering feedback on the products’ advantages and shortcomings. Many of the testers’ suggestions will be incorporated in the final product design. Out of 350 testers nationwide, fifty are Greater Clevelanders.

This year’s LBPH **Family Fun and Learning Day** included the induction of nine patrons into the National Library Service’s **“10 Squared Club.”** This revered group is comprised of readers who are 100 years of age and older. Frank Kurt Cylke, director of the National Library Service, inducted our nine honorees in person and via telephone.



Web Wise Senior instructor Matt Godlaski works with senior service providers at the Margaret Wagner House.

“Through SeniorsConnect.org, the Cleveland Public Library has enabled us to provide an exciting array of services and educational opportunities to local seniors and those who care for them.”

— Matt Godlaski, Instructor, Web Wise Seniors, Inc.

Authors engage our Community

More than 1,600 patrons attended the Sunday Afternoons for Writers and Readers series.



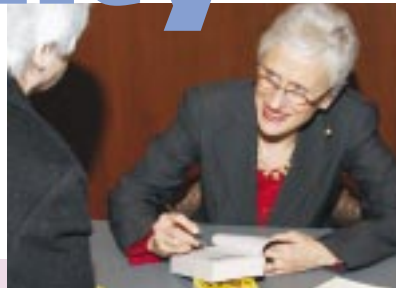
Susan Orlean, native Clevelander and best-selling author of *The Orchid Thief*.



Edward O. Wilson, writer, two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, and one of the most highly regarded scientists in the world.



E. Lynn Harris, author of *Not a Day Goes By* and recipient of the James Baldwin Award for Literary Excellence.



Sara Paretsky, a mystery writer who trenchantly addresses important social issues such as women's rights, racism, anti-Semitism, and free speech in her novels.

An important part of engaging the community is giving our patrons a chance to meet some of the most revered writers of our time; our **Sunday Afternoons for Writers and Readers Series** featured authors speaking about their work to further spur people's desire to continue reading.

Members of our new **Main Library Book Discussion Group** took advantage of authors' visits, focusing on works by Rodriguez, Orlean, and O'Brien. They also discussed Jonathan Safran Foer's *Everything Is Illuminated* in honor of Jewish Book Month, among other compelling works.

Staff of the **Popular Library Department** forged a unique partnership with **WCPN 90.3 FM's "Around Noon"** host **Dee Perry**, establishing an online discussion on Jonathan Safran Foer's *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*. The successful discussion forum included three local authors, as well

as an array of Library patrons and fans of Perry's popular radio program.

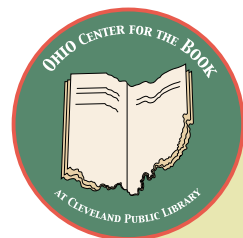
Your Library received a **Northern Ohio Live Award of Achievement** for the **Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards** during the publication's 25th Anniversary black-tie dinner in September. Prior to receiving this award, we hosted A. Van Jordan, author, poet, and recipient of the seventieth annual Anisfield-Wolf Book Award; he appeared in the Louis Stokes Wing of our Main Library.

Anne Garrels, correspondent for National Public Radio's foreign desk, and one of only sixteen non-embedded foreign journalists in Baghdad throughout the start of the Iraqi War appeared at Cleveland State University on November 17. The program was a **collaboration between your Library and CSU**, and was held in support of the latter's new Middle Eastern Studies program. Following her talk, Garrels was on hand to sign copies of her book *Naked in Baghdad*.

Anchee Min, former member of the Chinese Red Guard, propaganda film star, and author of *Red Azalea* and *Becoming Madame Mao*.



Luis Rodriguez, best known for his 1993 memoir of gang life, *Always Running: La Vida Loca, Gang Days in LA*, visited the Louis Stokes Wing following our celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month.



PROMOTING LIBRARIES, READING, AND LITERACY OHIO CENTER FOR THE BOOK

Your Library is the site of The Ohio Center for the Book, an entity that promotes books, reading, libraries, literacy, and authorship throughout Ohio, with a strong emphasis on our state's literary history. This year we collaborated with the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress and the Target Corporation on the national "Letters about Literature" writing contest for students in grades four through twelve. Target and Barnes & Noble provided prizes for Ohio contest winners. Beginning this year The Ohio Center for the Book will join with the newly formed Literacy Initiative of your Library to focus on literacy projects for young people.

1

V. S. Ramachandran, Ph.D.



Jaron Lanier

This year we collaborated with **Cleveland Public Art** in the inauguration of **SPECTRUM: The Lockwood Thompson Dialogues**. The new annual program engages the community in a series of public talks on issues connected to visual and popular culture. The 2005 series topic was Truth, Technology, and the Visual/Virtual World. April's inaugural program featured **V. S. Ramachandran, Ph.D.**, Director of the Center for Brain and Cognition, who also serves on the faculties of the University of California at San Diego and the Salk Institute. SPECTRUM's October guest, Paul D. Miller, a.k.a. **DJ Spooky That Subliminal Kid**, is a conceptual artist, writer, and musician working in New York. Computer scientist, composer, visual artist, professor, and author **Jaron Lanier** moderated both discussions. The innovative series will continue annually and is sponsored by your Library's Lockwood Thompson Fund.



Andrew A. Venable, Jr., Director; Jaron Lanier; V. S. Ramachandran, Ph.D.; and Bellamy Printz, Cleveland Public Art.

2



DJ Spooky That Subliminal Kid



Joan Clark introduces featured speakers of the inaugural SPECTRUM Dialogue Series.



After thirty years of dedicated service, **Joan L. Clark**, Head of Main Library, retired in 2005. Clark was an enthusiastic leader and a sincere advocate of Library collections and programs.

Patrons borrowed more than 5 million items from the Library

More than 393,000 items were added to the collection

More than 2 million questions answered

Your Library connects with the community in many important and diverse ways. We serve as a key resource for, and as a repository of, historic photographs, documents, personal papers and collections, as well as works of literary and visual art. Staff members of the **Photograph Collection** and other departments frequently provide images, information, and bibliographies to scholars, people working in the nonprofit sector, and individuals researching historical and contemporary subjects. Staff in the **Business Economics and Labor Department** provided research and “webliographies” to program producers at WCPN 90.3 FM; staff of WCPN showed their appreciation by crediting your Library during radio broadcasts.

The historical exhibition **“Visas For Life: The Righteous and Honorable Diplomats”** was on view at the Main Library in April and May of this year. The exhibition honored rescuers of Jewish people during the World War II Holocaust, and featured photographs and documents detailing the stories of many diplomats of neutral and allied countries who defied orders and helped Jewish people escape the atrocities of the Holocaust. “Visas For Life” was a partnership with the Cleveland Chapter of the American Jewish Committee. It is just one of many exhibits your Library mounts each year.

COLLECTION STATISTICS	
Titles	2,089,272
Book Volumes—Main	2,546,698
Book Volumes—Branches	752,017
TOTAL	3,298,715
Bound Periodicals	270,614
Computer Media (CD-ROM, Software)	7,492
Government Documents	811,666
Maps	177,085
Microforms	4,561,625
Paperbacks	142,144
Photographs, Pictures	1,381,467
Sheet Music	18,000
Sound Recordings (CDs, Cassettes)	153,875
Videos, DVDs	142,267



(top) Andrew Borowiec, *The Flats*, 2002. The **Borowiec Collection** includes twenty-five images purchased by the Photograph Collection.

(above) The Cuyahoga River burning is one of the most requested subjects by researchers using the **Photograph Collection**. This year the photograph was requested by *Balanced Living Magazine*, a regional publication.

(left) The Northeast Document Conservation Center recently conserved thirty-two photographs by **Arthur Gray** (1884-1976), who was active in Cleveland and shared a darkroom with Margaret Bourke-White. Gray's distinctive images of Cleveland's industrial landscapes and downtown were cleaned, old adhesive residues were removed, and they were mounted using archival standards.

(circle photo) The **Bingham Building**, view from the street. One of two architectural renderings from 1915, see page 18 for more information.



Law for Laymen, a legal education series, was organized in collaboration with the Cleveland Branch of the NAACP, the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, and the Norman S. Minor Bar Association. The series of free educational workshops were designed to teach people about their legal rights and responsibilities.

James L. Hardiman (left) and Lester S. Potash, Instructors, Law for Laymen

“The Law for Laymen program uses everyday practical knowledge to give people a better understanding of the law, the ways it is applied, and how it affects their daily lives.”

— Lester S. Potash, Instructor, Law for Laymen

An Overview of the Library's High School Newspaper Holdings

Microfilming Cleveland high school newspapers is an ongoing Library preservation project. Staff in the Preservation Department carefully inspect and repair the original documents before shipping them to the OCLC Preservation Service Center for microfilming. When the microfilm is returned, it is checked to make sure that every page was filmed accurately.

Make your school's records a lasting part of Cleveland's history. Your Library's Social Sciences Department gladly accepts donations of newspapers and yearbooks for public, private, and parochial schools located in the city of Cleveland. Call 216-623-2860 or e-mail socsci@cpl.org.

Central High School
Belfry Owl
Central Times

Collinwood High School
Collinwood Spotlight

East High School
Blue & Gold

East Technical High School
East Tech Scarab
Scarab

Glenville High School
Glenville Torch

John Adams High School
John Adams Journal

John Hay High School
John Hay Ledger

John Marshall High School
Interpreter

Lincoln High School
Lincoln Log

Longwood Commercial High School
Longwood Ledger

South High School
South High Beacon

West Commerce High School
Commerce Budget

West High School
West High School Review
West Higher
West High

West Technical High School
The Tatler

Joyce Chappelle reviews the January 15, 1920, issue of West Technical High School's "The Tatler."

“Without the preservation program from the Cleveland Public Library, historic school newspapers would deteriorate from age. By putting the newspapers on microfilm, they will be available to students, the community, and researchers forever.”

— Joyce Chappelle, Retired Librarian,
Collinwood High School Media Center

Resources available to our Community

Microfilming of Local Neighborhood Newspapers

The Plain Press and the *Old Brooklyn News* both record the history of neighborhood life on Cleveland's west side. Printed mostly on poor quality newsprint, the Library's preservation-quality microfilm captures this printed history in a stable format, making it accessible in perpetuity. Microfilming of *The Cleveland Voter*, the newspaper of the Cleveland League of Women Voters, was completed this year.

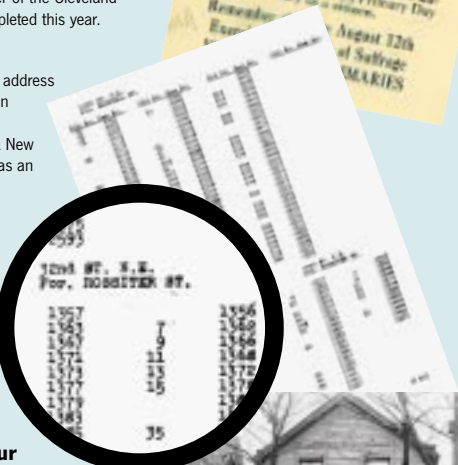
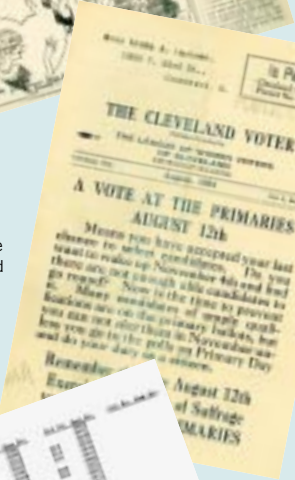
Old & New Street Numbers

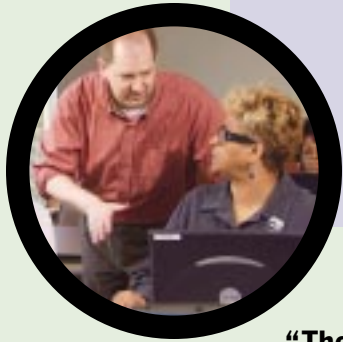
Genealogists often need to determine what a street address became after the city adopted a comprehensive plan for renaming streets and renumbering addresses in 1905. The History Department's sole copy of *Old & New Street Numbers*, published in 1905, was reprinted as an archival facsimile during the year.

On April 1 the History Department published a twenty-two page guide to the Library's genealogical resources, which also included a comprehensive guide to genealogical records in Cuyahoga County. By year's end, the guide had been reprinted three times, with more than 1,500 copies having been picked up by Library patrons, and the staff of the department had noticed a marked increase in the use of the reference collection. The guide's “shelf browsing guide” helps patrons more fully appreciate the depth of our collections, much of the content of which is available only in traditional print formats. A major genealogy exhibit was assembled during the year to complement the guide. The exhibit will be on display from April-September 2006 in the Main Building, second floor exhibit corridor. Please visit or contact the History Department for a copy of the guide (216-623-2864, history@cpl.org), or view it online under the “How do I...” tab at www.cpl.org.

Gifford Family Album, circa 1870, Carte-de-Visite.

(background photo) Imogene Wormley, circa 1900, Wormley/Graves Collection, African-American Families Photograph Collection. Both photos are from the Library's Photograph Collection.





Web Wise Seniors instructor Matt Godlaski works with senior service providers at the Margaret Wagner House.

SENIORSCONNECT.ORG ACCESS TO OUR RESOURCES

Your Library received a grant for \$25,000 from The McGregor Foundation to teach those who work with and support senior citizens how to best utilize the vast resources of SeniorsConnect.org. Also known as “The Web Site for People Who Weren’t Born Yesterday,” SeniorsConnect.org helps older adults and those who care for them connect to vital information and resources on successful aging. The McGregor grant will help more seniors gain access to this digital “North Coast” community.

“The awarding of the McGregor grant enabled SeniorsConnect.org to partner with Web Wise Seniors to train senior service providers on the Library’s online resources, adaptive technology, and computer and Internet basics.”

— Mark Weiker, VP of Web Wise Seniors, Inc.

Donors

The following individuals and organizations made generous donations to the Library in 2005. Some gifts were made in honor of loved ones, while others were made to enhance specific library services, programs, or collections. All gifts to the Library are greatly appreciated as they improve our ability to deliver high quality service and to build outstanding collections.

Donors of Up to \$99

American Association of University Women • Janet Armstrong • Mr. & Mrs. Jack Blickensderfer • Evelyn Boyd • Judy Brown • Louella & Charles Campbell • Richard & Janina Ceaser • Edna Crowl • Norma Dolezal • W. Thomas Dowling • Sam & Frances Eckelson • Dennis & Elaine Engelmann • Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fentz • Harold & Doris George • Agnes Hanson • Lee & Dolores Hartzmark • Karen & Tom Knaulf • Timothy & Bonnie Konczal • Mr. & Mrs. Greg Loyd • Steven & Tammy Levy • Prudence K. N. Lyman • Michael Martaus • Judith H. Miller • Nick & Donna Mundo • Cynthia A. Myers • George and Sabra Qua • Rainey Institute • Elizabeth Ramsey • Nancy Reed • Ray & Norma Richards • John & Carolyn Rowland • Glen Sanzenbacher • Margaret Schrock • William & Marian Simmons • Petricia Sindlinger • Dr. Anna A. Siva • Robert & Beverly Skarlinski • Dianne Solembino • E. Roger & Linda Stewart • Billie Tegethoff • The Urban Institute • Cora Welling • John Weigand • Mark Woodburn • Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Woodburn • Katherine A Work

Donors of \$100 to \$499

Eaton Charitable Fund • Martin Gottlieb • Maurice F. Hadley Trust • James Heath • Dominika Jacobs • Thomas & Norma Jacobs • Mount Pleasant NOW Development Corporation • Pysht Fund • Edward A. Richley • Waterloo Aerie Ladies Auxiliary • Westfield High Alumni Association • Zeta Phi Beta Sorority—Gamma Delta Zeta Chapter

Donors of \$500 to \$999

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers—Cleveland Chapter • The Harley C. Lee and Elizabeth K. Lee Fund • Library of Congress—Center for the Book

Donors of \$1,000 to \$4,999

Estate of Andrew A. Mulwick • Dr. John F. Burke, Jr. and the Honorable Nancy A. Fuerst • John Wiley & Sons, Inc. • The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation • Irving Rothchild Trust • Western Reserve Kennel Club

A notable purchase from the **Schweinfurth Fund** was the 1915 architectural rendering of the **Bingham Building**. Located in the downtown warehouse district, this building was designed by **Walker & Weeks** for the hardware company, the W. Bingham Company. The drawing, executed in watercolor and pastel, received conservation treatment at the Intermuseum Conservation Association.



Grants

- Senior Success Vision Council—Senior Gateway to Information Initiative—**\$293,238** (December 2005 through November 2006, the fourth year of a multi-year project)
- The McGregor Foundation—**\$25,000** for SeniorsConnect

Other Funds Received Regularly

- Friends of the Cleveland Public Library—**\$26,918** for program support
- Estate of Anna M. Schweinfurth—**\$24,797** for the purchase of architectural materials
- Frederick W. and Henryett Slocum Judd Fund—**\$194,216** for the Library’s Homebound Service
- Lockwood Thompson Memorial Fund—**\$209,794** for the purchase of fine arts materials, lectures, staff recognition and travel expenses
- Winifred Beech Young Testamentary Trust—**\$47,442** for services to blind persons of the Connecticut Western Reserve

How Library Dollars Were Spent

A Cash Basis Report of the General Operating Fund

General Operating Fund

Revenues

- Library and Local Government Support Fund (State Income Tax)
- Property Taxes (City of Cleveland)
- Intergovernmental Aid
- Charges for Services (CLEVNET)
- Other Revenue

Total Revenue

Fund Balance: January 1

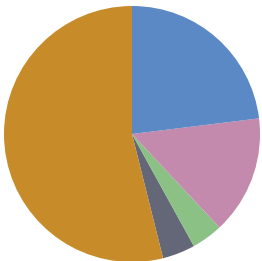
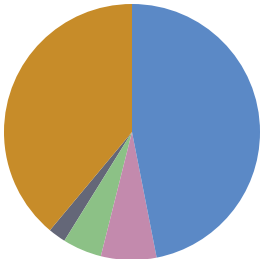
Available for General Operations

Expenditures and Encumbrances

- Salaries and Benefits
- Library Materials
- Utilities and Purchased Services
- Other Expenditures
- Transfer to Building and Repair Fund

Total Expenditures and Encumbrances

Carried Forward for the Next Year’s First Quarter Operations



“My love of reading and learning came from many days sitting on the floor at the Lorain Branch. Those were some of the happiest days of my Cleveland childhood. I wanted to arrange for a gift for the Library for a long time. Someday another kid will find a dream at Lorain and end up sitting in the White House, or flying a jet, or traveling the world.”

This year the **Lorain Branch** was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the **Henry J. Kaiser Foundation**. The Branch, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2005, used the funds to purchase furniture and computer equipment. **Donna Shalala**, who served as U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services under President Clinton, and is now President of the University of Miami, spent her childhood in the west side neighborhood, and was a regular patron of the Lorain Branch. Ms. Shalala is on the board of the Kaiser Foundation; her fond memories of her Branch of “The People’s University” inspired her to help secure the grant.

— Donna Shalala, President of the University of Miami, former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services under President Clinton, on the Kaiser Foundation’s grant to the Lorain Branch of the Library

Treasures Unveiled

ANNUAL FRIENDS OF THE CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDRAISER

Since 2000 the Friends of the Cleveland Public Library have annually organized a fundraising event for the Library to increase awareness about their unique group. Last year they hosted “Treasures: A Tour of the Special Collections of the Cleveland Public Library,” a phenomenal affair, which showcased some of your Library’s special collections. They hosted a second “Treasures” event this year—“Treasures: Experience the Magic.” The theme was explored through three special collections—“The Magic of Baseball,” “The Magic of Folklore,” and “The Magic of Children’s Literature.” Event attendees were able to explore the historic roots of magic through The John G. White Folklore Collection and the Newbell Niles Puckett Collection, both of which include rare and captivating examples of fairy tales, myths, and folklore. This event incited interest and excitement about the range of historic, fascinating, and valuable “treasures” in your Library’s special collections.



Behind the Scenes

CPL Staff Development Day

“The World of Graphic Storytelling... from Asterix to ZAP and Beyond!”

As a means of literary and visual expression, graphic storytelling is an exceedingly popular part of your Library's collection. Its popularity is not only prevalent among teens, adults are also beginning to enjoy intricate fictional and non-fictional narratives that are presented in graphic formats.

To appeal to our patrons who already voraciously read comics and graphic novels, and enlighten others, the staff of the Main Library mounted an exhibition—“The World of Graphic Storytelling... from Asterix to ZAP and Beyond!”

STAFF DISCUSSES
IDEA FOR AN
EXHIBIT

The Team
Literature Department
Popular Library
Youth Services Department

Additional Collaboration
Graphics Department
Photograph Collection

“Ground-breaking interdepartmental cooperation was at work, displaying the riches of the Library's collection—this is what our staff loves to do!”

—Evelyn Ward, Head of Literature Department

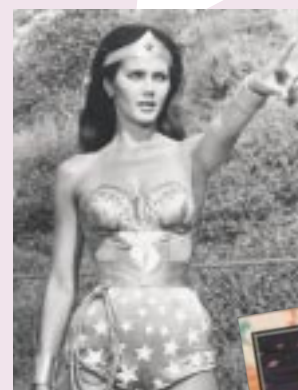


The Quitter, by Cleveland author Harvey Pekar, art by Dean Haspiel with Lee Loughridge.

Taking an exhibition concept from idea to reality involves the work and dedication of staff members from throughout your Library. This concept was inspired by a workshop, led by Mike Pawuk of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, which was part of a staff development event. All staff who worked on the exhibit are personally interested in graphic storytelling, or wanted to learn more because of patrons' fascination with the subject.

The team included staff from the Literature, Popular Library, and Youth Services Departments, as well as staff from our Graphics Department and Photograph Collection.

Display cases focusing on Japanese manga and anime, Superman and the history of graphic storytelling, Ohio authors and artists, underground comix and independent publishers, and superheroes were divided among the members of the exhibition team; each person arranged at least one case. Members of the team included materials from their own personal collections, and James Eritano of Barberton, Ohio, loaned a unique collection of Superman memorabilia. Didactic text—“Why Should the Cleveland Public Library Collect Graphic Novels?”—explained the importance of this popular literary medium.



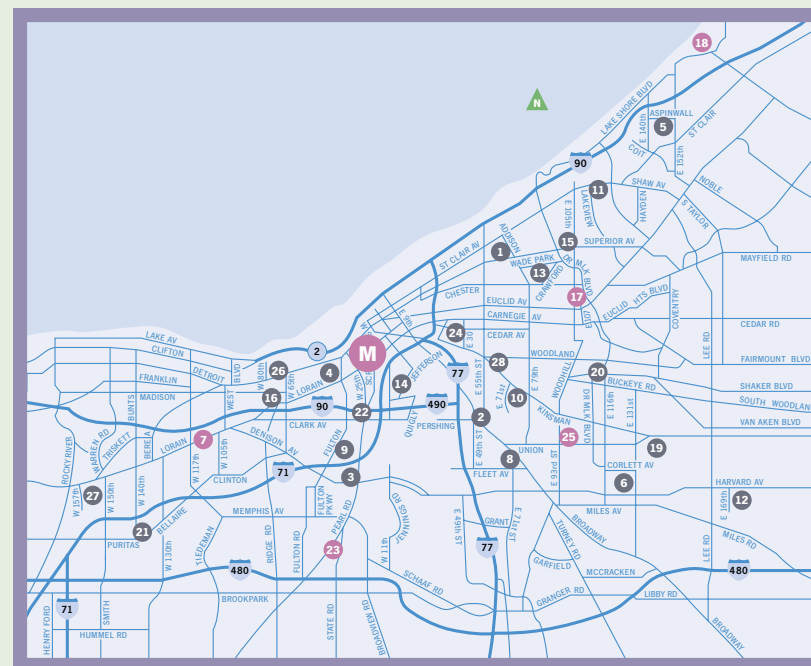
Wonder Woman played by actress Linda Carter, ABC press release, from the Library's Photograph Collection.

(right) *Rurouni Kenshin*, volume 13, by Nobuhiro Watsuki, was the best selling manga title in the U.S. in 2004.

(center) *Mom's Cancer*, by Brian Fies, received the Eisner Award, one of the premier awards given for comics and graphic novels.



The “Graphic Storytelling” exhibit was seen by 1,000s of Main Library patrons. Staff members who made the compelling exhibit a reality were rewarded; each day, people of all ages took pleasure in viewing the displays and learning more about graphic novels, comics, anime, and manga.



M. Main Library*
325 Superior Avenue
(216) 623-2800

Public Administration Library
(in City Hall)
601 Lakeside Avenue, Room 100
(216) 623-2919

1. Addison
6901 Superior Avenue
(216) 623-6906

2. Broadway
5417 Broadway Avenue
(216) 623-6913

3. Brooklyn
3706 Pearl Road
(216) 623-6920

4. Carnegie West
1900 Fulton Road
(216) 623-6927

5. Collinwood
856 East 152nd Street
(216) 623-6934

6. East 131st Street
3830 East 131st Street
(216) 623-6941

7. Eastman*
11602 Lorain Avenue
(216) 623-6955

8. Fleet
7224 Broadway Avenue
(216) 623-6962

9. Fulton
3545 Fulton Road
(216) 623-6969

10. Garden Valley
7100 Kinsman Road
(216) 623-6976

11. Glenville
11900 St. Clair Avenue
(216) 623-6983

12. Harvard-Lee
16918 Harvard Avenue
(216) 623-6990

Administration

Andrew A. Venable, Jr., *Director*
Holly Carroll, *Deputy Director*
Joan L. Clark, *Head of Main Library*
Janice M. Ridgeway, *Head of Branches and Outreach Services*
Robert T. Carterette, *Head of Automation Services*
Timothy R. Diamond, *Head of Planning and Research*
Michael A. Janero, *Chief of Security*
Patricia E. Lowrey, *Head of Technical Services*
Myron Scruggs, *Facilities Manager*
Joan L. Tomkins, *Head of Financial Services*
Sharon L. Tufts, *Head of Human Resources*
David L. Williams, *Head of Marketing and Public Relations*

Friends of The Cleveland Public Library

Anne Marie Warren, *President*
Robert F. Pincus, *Vice President*
J. Stefan Holmes, *Secretary*
Willie Ann Maddox, *Treasurer*
Mary Scelsi, *Director*
Thomas Feczkanin, *Associate*

Pamela Blake, Tracy L. Conn, Melissa M. Gleespen, Lute Harmon, Sr., Patricia S. James, Meryl N. Levin, Amy McMaken, *Trustees*

Annual Report Credits

RESEARCHER, WRITER, EDITOR.

Lyz Bly, *newsense enterprises*

DESIGNER. Pam Cerio Design

PHOTOGRAPHY. The following photographers' work was used in this publication: Rodney Brown, Diana McNees, Thomas Darryl Polk, William Rierer (Cleveland State University), Tim Safranek, Don Snyder, and Subliminal Kid, Inc. (DJ Spooky background photograph)

Cleveland Public Library System Map

**“The People’s University on Wheels”
Mobile Services**
(216) 623-7114

18a.

Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*
17121 Lake Shore Blvd.
(216) 623-2911
(800) 362-1262

13. Hough
1566 Crawford Road
(216) 623-6997

14. Jefferson
850 Jefferson Avenue
(216) 623-7004

15. Langston Hughes
10200 Superior Avenue
(216) 623-6975

16. Lorain
8216 Lorain Avenue
(216) 623-7011

17. Martin Luther King, Jr.*
1962 Stokes Boulevard
(216) 623-7018

18. Memorial-Nottingham*
17109 Lake Shore Boulevard
(216) 623-7039

19. Mt. Pleasant
14000 Kinsman Road
(216) 623-7032

20. Rice
2820 East 116th Street
(216) 623-7046

21. Rockport
4421 West 140th Street
(216) 623-7053

22. South
3096 Scranton Road
(216) 623-7060

23. South Brooklyn*
4303 Pearl Road
(216) 623-6975

24. Sterling
2200 East 30th Street
(216) 623-7074

25. Union*
3463 East 93rd Street
(216) 623-7088

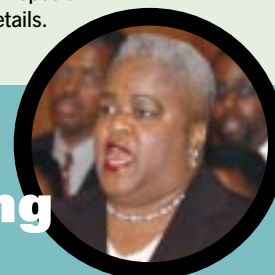
26. Walz
7910 Detroit Avenue
(216) 623-7095

27. West Park
3805 West 157th Street
(216) 623-7102

28. Woodland
5806 Woodland Avenue
(216) 623-7109

*All sites feature high-powered closed-circuit TV enlargers for people with declining vision. These sites feature additional adaptive equipment for people with special needs. Call (216) 623-2911 for details.

Celebrating with the Holiday Chorus



This year the Library's **Staff Holiday Chorus** gave its ninth annual concert in the Louis Stokes Wing of the Main Library. The festive chorus was established in 1997 and performs under the direction of Andrew A. Venable, Jr.

