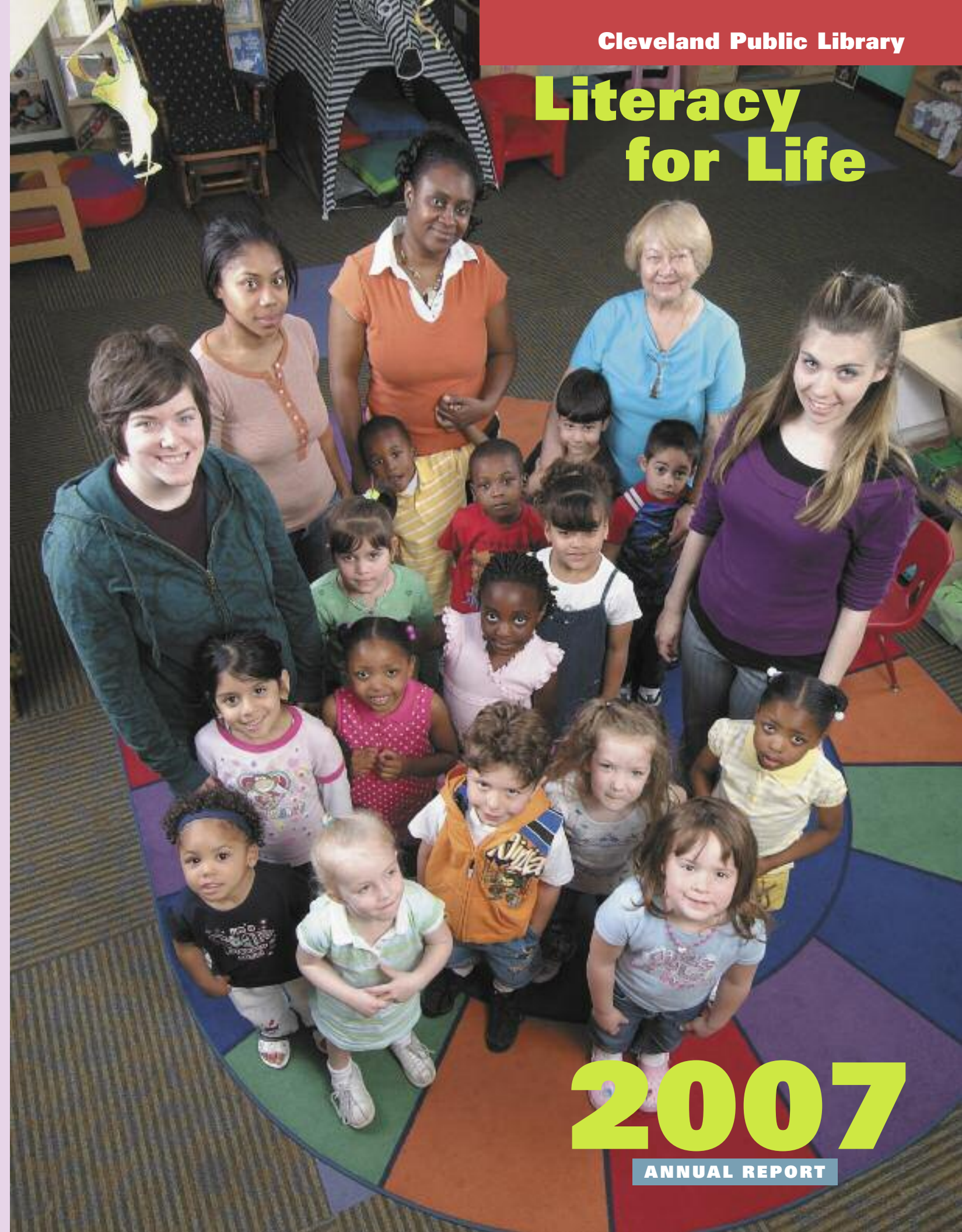


Cleveland Public Library

Literacy for Life

2007

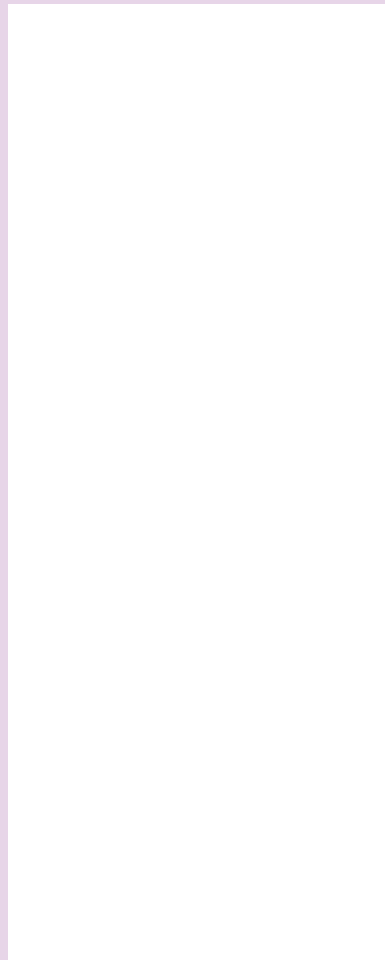
ANNUAL REPORT



Cleveland Public Library
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COVER:

The day care center of the West Side Ecumenical Ministry was the first to take advantage of the "On the Road to Reading" program. The new mobile unit visits 31 sites weekly, where pre-K teachers and care providers use a certified curriculum created by Library staff to introduce children to the world of books and reading. "On the Road to Reading" also services 12 pediatric and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) centers throughout the community.



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.

The People's University: Striving For Excellence

Members of the Board of Library Trustees



Charlene A. Jones
Vice President
Through June 2007



Thomas D. Corrigan
Vice President
Beginning September 2007



Maritza Rodriguez
Secretary

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.



Venerine L. Branham



Lori McClung



Vita C. Redding
Through February 2007



Alan Seifullah
Beginning March 2007



Rick Werner
Beginning July 2007



David Fritz, Vice President of Public Affairs, University Circle, Inc.; Holly Carroll, Deputy Director; Maritza Rodriguez, Secretary, Board of Trustees; The Most Reverend Richard G. Lennon, Bishop of Cleveland; Sister Juanita Shealey; Alice G. Butts, President, Board of Trustees; Venerine L. Branham, Board of Trustees at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day commemorative celebration where Bishop Lennon was the keynote speaker.

(top) Charlene A. Jones, Board of Trustees; author Thrity Umrigar; Alice G. Butts, President, Board of Trustees; and Holly Carroll, Deputy Director, at the Writers and Readers series.



Alice G. Butts
President

Comments from Board President Alice G. Butts

Our community is fortunate to have what many consider to be one of the nation's finest public libraries. Faced with many opportunities and challenges, Cleveland Public Library continues to create new and exciting ways to not only service the needs of Greater Clevelanders, but also to expand programming, resources, and access to library collections.

This annual report looks back on the many accomplishments and success stories of 2007. Throughout the year the Library continued to strengthen partnerships with many community organizations and forge new relationships to work toward shared goals. In addition, goals and initiatives of the 2002 Strategic Plan moved forward, providing the highest standards of information and service to all residents.

As we look to the future, we are excited about the opportunities and projects for 2008. As President of the Board of Library Trustees, it has been my pleasure and honor to serve you in 2007. The Board salutes the Library staff and administration who strive each day to achieve excellence in library service and continued growth of Cleveland Public Library. Our staff acts as caring role models to a new generation of readers, inspiring our citizens to reach for the rich rewards of an ever-expanding global connectedness.

Alice G. Butts

Alice G. Butts
President, Board of Trustees



Library staff and friends are annual participants in Parade the Circle



The Harry Potter Bus Tour visited our Rockport Branch, one of only two libraries in Ohio that were on the tour.





Programs for Youth at Your Library

Andrew A. Venable, Jr., Director, with **Teen Read Week** participants (top) and with **Summer Reading Club** participant at the program's finale.

The **Urban Libraries Council Conference** was held at Cleveland Public Library on May 4-5 to explore how libraries can be resources for addressing urban issues. (left to right) Rose Zitiello, Manager, Bank Relations, City of Cleveland; Sari Feldman, Executive Director, Cuyahoga County Public Library; Christopher Ronayne, President, University Circle, Inc.; Deborah L. Sutherland, Mayor, City of Bay Village; Steven A. Minter, Executive in Residence at Cleveland State University; Andrew A. Venable, Jr., Director; Martin Gómez, President, Urban Libraries Council, and Cleveland City Councilman Joe Cimperman.



The **Preservation Department** receives the 2007 Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections. Attending the presentation Laura Wallencheck; Elizabeth Bardossy; Alice G. Butts, President, Board of Trustees; Ann Olszewski, CPL Preservation Manager; Lawrence L. Reger, President, Heritage Preservation; Eryl Wentworth, Executive Director, American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works; Andrew A. Venable, Jr., Director; Albert Albano, Director, Intermuseum Conservation Association (ICA); Andrea Chevalier, Senior Conservator, ICA; Lyla Chilkcutt; Gloria Massey; and Renee Pride.

Message from the Director

This year Cleveland Public Library garnered significant national recognition. On June 25 **"The People's University On Wheels"** visited **Capitol Hill**, where we served as exemplary backdrop for the welcoming of Members of Congress during the American Library Association Annual Conference and for a press conference led by ALA president Lorie Roy. Your Library also co-hosted Cleveland's first national **Urban Libraries Council Conference** in May, and received the **2007 Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections** from the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works and Heritage Preservation on April 4.

In September, following a Community Attitude Survey by TRIAD Research Group, which revealed that **Cleveland voters are very positive about their Library**, a series of **Town Hall Meetings** were held to discuss the status of our five library service initiatives. Sixty percent of voters supported their Library and our new plan on May 6, 2003. Your support remains steadfast; as this annual report goes to press, we are **celebrating the March 4, 2008 passage of a 5.8 mill replacement property tax levy**. Clearly, your response to our new initiatives has been very positive!

This year we also strengthened our ongoing partnership with the **Cleveland Metropolitan School District**; to improve the academic performance of Cleveland's students, full sets of school textbooks are now available in our 28 neighborhood Branches and Youth Services Department, Main Library, on a non-circulating basis.

The State Auditor's Office issued a **good audit for our Year 2006** financial records, thereby continuing our history of earning good audits as custodians of the public's trust.

Plans are underway for relocating the **Garden Valley Branch** into the new Bridgeport Place, building a new **Rice Branch**, and renovating the **Woodland Branch**.

Thank You Cleveland for your confidence in and support of "The People's University"!

Andrew Venable

Andrew A. Venable, Jr.
Director

Your Neighborhood Library Fosters Learning and Literacy for Life



Dance performance during **Hispanic Heritage Month**.



Harry and the Potters event at our Lake Shore Facility.



We presented more than 13,800 programs at CPL, in schools and daycare and community centers.

Our programs were attended by more than 142,500 Library patrons.



Chess for Success event (left) at Main Library. Children perform during **Chinese Lunar New Year** two-day celebration.



The Library's **Staff Holiday Chorus** performed in the Louis Stokes Wing under the direction of Andrew A. Venable, Jr., Director.



In May of this year your community proudly hosted "The Changing Face of Cities," part of the Urban Libraries Council's Partners for Success conference series, which explores how libraries can be resources for addressing urban issues. Library professionals from across the country convened in Cleveland to talk about the vital role urban libraries play in cultivating community and fostering knowledge and innovation. Cleveland was the ideal site for this gathering of dedicated library leaders; in the last six years we've transformed your Cleveland Public Library based on your aspirations. You asked for increased hours of operation in neighborhood Branches; for more programs for children, young adults, senior citizens, and New Americans; and for more computers and computer classes. We promised to meet these needs and we kept our

promises. You have taken full advantage of our enhanced services; this is our reward for six years of hard work and dedication.

This annual report provides a record of our accomplishments in 2007. During its production we secured your most significant vote of confidence; on March 4, 2008, Issue 2, a five-year, 5.8 mill replacement property tax levy passed by a more than sixty-five percent margin. We remain committed to our goal of ensuring that the Main Library and Branches are the center of our city's neighborhoods. Our buildings are as lively as the people who work and serve, and study, read, gather, create, and learn within them. This 2007 annual report illustrates just how engaged you are in your Library's programs, exhibitions, and activities. Thanks to the combined efforts of our staff, Board, community partners, and—most importantly—our dedicated patrons, Cleveland Public Library is a center of dynamic innovation and creativity. Most importantly, however, our buildings are places where lifelong learning happens. Your Library inspires literacy for life.

Reading/Literacy for Life



The annual **Read, Baby, Read!** Reading Celebration was held at Cleveland Public Library's Lake Shore Facility auditorium on May 15.

Patrons borrowed more than 5.4 million items from the Library

Over 3.9 million people visited a Cleveland Public Library

We answered more than 2.1 million questions

And more than 389,500 items were added to the collection



The Summer Reading Club participants, and Lyrics contest winner.



Winter Reading Club events took place at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo (top right) and at the Cleveland Botanical Garden, where puppet shows were just part of the fun.



Literacy for Life means offering programs like **Live Long & Like It** where Linda Jaeckel, Addison Branch Manager, presented "Seniors Take Charge: Money Matters!"

for children, on **Read, Baby, Read!**, a multicultural book group for second graders from approximately 20 public, charter, and parochial schools. In 2007 Read, Baby, Read! launched *Spotlight*, a magazine with a circulation of 5,000. This year we began an important collaboration with **Care Alliance**, an agency that provides medical and dental care to homeless people in Northeast Ohio, and **Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry**, the organization that operates the 2100 Lakeside Homeless Shelter. Each week, men living at **2100 Lakeside Homeless Shelter** gathered to discuss books such as Barack Obama's *Dreams from My Father* and *Is Bill Cosby Right?* by Michael Eric Dyson. The group provided camaraderie and conversation; it also gave men the opportunity to explore their own problems and circumstances in relation to authors' experiences, the tribulations of fictional characters, and the challenges faced by their homeless peers. Another goal of the discussion group was to have members read books by authors who were scheduled to appear at the Library; like all Clevelanders, homeless individuals are welcome to attend author events and programs held at their Main neighborhood Library.

When we hear the word "literacy," we most often think of reading and writing. But living in today's complex, competitive information society requires that we are "literate for life." Attaining life literacy requires that we have easy access to the Internet, and to textbooks and materials that are fundamental to public education and intellectual development. Our visual culture—the realm of television, billboard, magazine and Internet advertising—encourages us to consume fatty, sugary, high-carbohydrate foods; therefore, we must stay informed about good nutrition and exercise. Your Library makes these resources available to you on site at the Main Library and neighborhood Branches, and we also bring them to you with our Mobile Library units, our community partnerships and programs, and our website.

Books clubs, which promote group interaction and a sense of community, remain popular vehicles for sharing ideas and intellectual growth. Creating a successful club sometimes means connecting with people where they live, study, and gather. Since 1999 your Library has partnered with **A Cultural Exchange**, a literacy-based nonprofit multicultural arts organization



Teen Empowerment: A Motivational Summit 2007

East Tech graduate Richard Starr (far right) kicked off the Teen Empowerment: A Motivational Summit 2007 with a motivational talk about his life journey to adulthood.



Fit For Life

Fit For Life was created to inspire teens to become physically fit. It was made possible by a grant from MetLife.



Poetry Slam Teen Read Week

During the American Library Association's tenth annual Teen Read Week, young writers wrote, read, and performed their own work at a poetry slam.



November 16 launch of “On the Road to Reading.”

Children’s Book Week author Ashley Bryan (circle photo) was on hand to read to young patrons.



Rhonda Fulton (center), Children’s Librarian, Mobile Services, works with teachers at West Side Ecumenical Ministry as part of “On the Road to Reading.”

A Special Invitation

Mobile Library Arrives in Washington DC



On June 25 “The People’s University on Wheels” visited Capitol Hill. A number of mobile units from libraries across the country convened on Washington DC. Your Library’s vehicle was chosen to serve as a lively backdrop for the welcoming of members of Congress during the American Library Association Annual Conference (ALA). ALA president Lorie Roy also held a press conference in front of our Mobile Library, and media outlets dispersed images of it throughout the U.S.

Often getting people engaged in reading and connected to their Library means taking books, DVDs, CDs, and materials to them where they live and work. We expanded our **Mobile Services Department** this year; an \$80,000 Library Service and Technology Act grant from the State Library of Ohio made the purchase of the new mobile unit possible, and a \$40,000 grant from Starting Point helped us stock the shelves with books and materials. The new project, “**On the Road to Reading,**” strengthens our commitment to early childhood education. Library staff wrote a certified curriculum for pre-K teachers, which is focused on teaching early literacy skills. Next year the Woodland Branch, home to Mobile Services, will be expanded and updated to better accommodate the staff and fleet.

Another rewarding 2007 endeavor involved filling requests for books for the Richland Correctional Institution’s Library. Your Library’s **Interlibrary Loan** staff worked with the correctional institution’s

librarian, to meet the reading interests of incarcerated men. These efforts keep confined men involved in reading and engaged with positive institutional programming.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts of **Cleveland Metropolitan School District** (CMSD) and Cleveland Public Library staff, public school students now have access to a full set of textbooks—2,000 copies in all—at their neighborhood Branch and in the Youth Services Department of the Main Library. Beginning in September of this year, books from every subject taught at CMSD for first through twelfth grades were available to students and their caregivers for on-site use.

Holly Carroll, Deputy Director, Cleveland Public Library (CPL); John M. Moss, Board, Cleveland Municipal School District (CMSD); and Venerine Branham, Board of Trustees, CPL collaborated with CMSD to include textbooks in all Library branches and Youth Services. With the help of the Library’s Technical Services Department, this was completed in time for the beginning of the school year.



“The Library’s collaboration with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District ensures that students and their caregivers can access the textbooks after school, five evenings a week and on weekends. Cleveland Public Library’s literacy mission is to provide as much educational support to school-age students as possible.”

— Merce Robinson, Literacy Coordinator, Cleveland Public Library

Library patrons and Cleveland Municipal School District students at their Jefferson Branch (left to right) Miyera A. Showers, Rayanne Bassin, Nathaniel Bassin, Natasha Rivera, Orlando Hackney, Kyle Stacey, and Teleza M. Reeves.



New Life Literacy for New Americans
Exhibition

Freedom

In May Cleveland hosted the Urban Library Council conference, “The Changing Face of Cities.” A dynamic, dedicated group of librarians, administrators, and politicians from across the U.S. engaged in dialogues on the contributions of urban libraries to the quality of life in the city. Historically, American cities have always been hubs of racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic diversity. Cities remain multicultural centers; however, new immigrants of the 21st century need different skills than those who came before them. In industrial cities like Cleveland, nineteenth and early twentieth century immigrants settled in ethnically unified communities near factories. Industrial jobs did not require immediate mastery of the English language and native languages were commonly spoken in tight-knit ethnic communities. In Cleveland’s post-industrial era, New Americans often look to their neighborhood Library for a way to stay connected to their new neighbors, native languages, and traditions.

For the second year in a row, we partnered with the Arts League of Michigan to mount an exhibition and program series at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch gallery. This year’s exhibit, “Freedom: A Visual Arts Exhibition,” incorporated a series of programs on the nuanced meanings of freedom. The January 12 opening featured performances by **The Singing Angels** and **Spirit Plus Show Band**, and drew 400 people. In March, a panel, “Freedom: New American Perspectives,” featured people from many different countries.

Participants from Guatemala, Nigeria, Vietnam, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and Ireland responded to questions on what freedom in America meant to them. The exhibit and programs inspired conversations about freedom and its variable meanings across race, gender, generation, and socioeconomic status.

New Americans planning to apply for citizenship were given free assistance in mastering the newly revised U.S. citizenship exam. In collaboration with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, your Cleveland Public Library offered free **citizenship classes** on Saturday mornings at the Main Branch. The citizenship course is one of the many ways your Library is working to meet the changing needs of our diverse, changing, urban community.

Your Library earned recognition in the global community; Shanghai Public Library selected us as a partner in their “Window of Shanghai” program. Our **Foreign Literature Department** received 500 copies of top-notch Chinese language books covering a wide range of topics, many of which were printed in bilingual formats. By accepting the invitation to participate in this international endeavor, your Cleveland Public Library joins the ranks of some of the world’s most prestigious institutions.

“Freedom: A Visual Arts Exhibition” was on display at the Martin Luther King, Jr. branch and included a **Free Speech Zone**.

“Freedom Dance: A Celebration of Women and Their Girls” performed as part of the Freedom exhibition.

A series of programs on the meaning of freedom occurred throughout the exhibition. Rev. Dr. Marvin A. McMickle (circle photo) and speakers Dr. Spencer R. Crew, President, National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, and Avery Friedman, Attorney at Law, Law Professor and CNN Legal Correspondent participated in one of the programs.

Library patrons Macer Diaz and Esperanza Arias at their Jefferson Branch.

To celebrate **Hispanic Heritage Month**, programs in Spanish and English were held throughout the Library system.

JAN 2007



Keith Beauchamp visited CPL on January 28 as part of **African American History Month**.

JAN 2007



Bishop J. Delano Ellis II, Senior Pastor, Pentecostal Church of Christ in University Circle; Charlene A. Jones, Board of Library Trustees; Holly Carroll, Deputy Director; and The Most Reverend Richard G. Lennon, Bishop of Cleveland



Library patrons with Bishop Lennon at the **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** commemorative celebration.

FEB 2007



Chinese Lunar New Year celebration at Main Library.

SEPT 2007



Cleveland Public Library:
Your Urban Center for Research
and Intellectual Inspiration

“In our collaboration with the Cleveland Public Library and the Cuyahoga County Public Library, we were able to bring together hundreds of library leaders, public officials, and other experts to discuss the changing challenges faced by our libraries in our rapidly changing communities.”

— Martin Gómez, President, Urban Libraries Council



Cleveland Public Library is the city center of intellectual discourse and creative engagement. This spring at the **Urban Libraries Council “Partners for Success” conference in Cleveland**, keynote speaker Ohio Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher cited three essential elements to economic development, “Knowledge, innovation, and talent—all of which,” he added, “libraries nurture.”¹ Your Library is the third largest public research library in the United States and we are a leader in creating technological advancements such as e-Books and online services such as KnowItNow24x7. We also inspire and support your creative and intellectual endeavors.

Researchers from all over the world—from India and Ireland to the United Kingdom and Germany—travel to Cleveland, or work with our librarians via telephone or email to get the information they need to write chronicles on historic chess clubs, dissertations—including one on composer Leslie Adams of Oberlin College—and essays on topics such as East Prussian folklore, or on chess greats Bobby Fischer and Boris Spassky. The **Public Administration Library (PAL)**, located in Cleveland City Hall, Room 100, was established in 1912 and is one of the oldest municipal reference libraries in the country. While PAL specializes in the history of the city of Cleveland, city-authored documents, and our city’s current and historic laws, it also houses an important collection of books and papers on age, race, and gender discrimination, green design and sustainable urban development, public health and safety, and urban parks and recreation.

¹“Urban Librarians Meet Politicos in Cleveland,” *American Libraries* (June/July 2007), 43.



Urban Libraries Council
Exhibit

Cleveland’s Evolving Public Library: 138 Years of Books, Information & Service, an exhibit on the third floor of Main Library, was featured at the opening night reception of the Urban Libraries Council’s conference. More than 100 photographs, letters, timelines, and maps chronicled the Library’s rise from a modest one-room operation in 1869 to the citywide system it is today. Among the notable figures highlighted was librarian Linda Anne Eastman who, with director William Howard Brett, helped to shape our service ethic and develop the collections for which the Library became known. When William Howard Brett was tragically killed in 1918, the Library’s trustees unanimously selected Eastman to succeed him, making her the first woman in the U.S. to direct a large metropolitan library system. Eastman’s greatest single accomplishment was the construction of the Main Library. When it opened May 5, 1925, Cleveland’s library represented a substantial break from traditional central library architecture in that every element of the building was focused on bringing books and information as close to users as possible. Influential librarian John Cotton Dana, who sought throughout his long career to make libraries relevant to the lives of patrons, had this achievement on his mind when he sent Eastman this congratulatory letter (above).



PAGE 10 (top to bottom)

Frank Jackson, Mayor, City of Cleveland; Sari Feldman, Executive Director, Cuyahoga County Public Library; Tim Hagan, Cuyahoga County Commissioner; Charlene A. Jones, Board of Trustees; and Martin Gómez, President, Urban Libraries Council.

Martin Gómez, President, Urban Libraries Council; Andrew A. Venable, Jr., Director; Sari Feldman, Executive Director, Cuyahoga County Public Library; Lee Fisher, Lieutenant Governor of Ohio; Mary A. Dempsey, Commissioner, Chicago Public Library; and Peter Lawson Jones, Cuyahoga County Commissioner.

Attendees at the Urban Libraries Council conference at Cleveland Public Library.

Cleveland City Councilman Joe Cimperman; Christopher Ronayne, President, University Circle, Inc.; Deborah L. Sutherland, Mayor, City of Bay Village; Rose Zitiello, Manager, Bank Relations, City of Cleveland; and Steven A. Minter, Executive in Residence at Cleveland State University.



The **John G. White Chess Collection**, located in **Special Collections**, is used by researchers from around the world.

This unique, hand written 18th century manuscript (far left) illustrates how to play chess.

Chessmaster, Gioachino Greco created this 17th century manuscript that illustrates chess traps and gambits. Cleveland Public Library owns eight of these manuscripts.

2007 COLLECTION STATISTICS

Titles	2,257,497
Book Volumes—Main Collection	2,622,300
Book Volumes—Branch Collection	799,610
TOTAL	3,421,910
Bound Periodicals	274,597
Computer Media (CD-ROM, Software)	8,989
Government Documents	815,454
Maps	178,556
Microforms	4,644,278
Paperbacks	128,122
Photographs, Pictures	1,381,795
Sheet Music	18,000
Sound Recordings (CDs, Cassettes)	162,699
Videos, DVDs	165,634

What if you are ready to patent your idea but you don’t know the language of patents? Or you are looking for the most effective way to search for patent information? Since 1886 your Library has been a Federal Depository Library and the staff in **Government Documents** provides hands-on training using U.S. patent search processes and research tools, including the Cassis DVD-ROM system, the PubWest database, and the United States Patent and Trademark (USPTO) web site. Classes are available to help patrons understand how to work with the USPTO web site.

You can use the Government Documents resources for historic patent information and trademark research. The department also has census, congressional publications, legislation, consumer information, and federal statistical resources available to the community for research.



Page from *Official Gazette of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office*, March 1982 and pages from U.S. Patent Application Publication, June 2007, for Vibram FiveFingers,[®] named one of *TIME* Magazine’s best inventions of 2007.

The **Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Cleveland Ohio from 1886-1910** are now available online through the Cleveland Public Library **Image Collection** (<http://cpl.org.cdmhost.com/>). Unlike the black and white versions available through OhioLink, these are full-color maps scanned from originals. These historical colorized maps assist researchers in determining building construction material content through a color-coded symbol key. More information is available in the **Map Collection**.



In 2007, over 1,400 digital scans were requested by patrons and researchers for reproduction in books, journals, videos and for personal use. All photographs included in the book *Historic Photos of Cleveland* are from the **Photograph Collection** and range in date from 1850-1979. The exhibition *Visions of a City with a Soul: Four Photographers in Cleveland, 1925-2005* at the Beck Center for the Arts was our first loan of photographs for an exhibition organized outside the Library system.



Death Certificates

Library patrons can now view and copy any death certificate issued in Ohio between December 20, 1908, and December 31, 1953, by using the Library’s newly acquired collection of **Ohio Death Certificates**. A rich source of primary information for genealogists, death certificates include information such as the names and birth places of the deceased person’s parents, the place and date of the decedent’s birth, marital status, occupation, and place of burial. The examples shown here are for American sharpshooter Annie Oakley, whose married name was Annie Oakley Butler, and Tom Loftin Johnson, mayor of Cleveland during the Progressive Era. Complete information on locating and obtaining death certificates is available at www.cpl.org (click Do Research and Genealogy).

Our dedication to caring for our extensive collection of research materials—books, photographs, works on paper, and works of art—was recognized this year, as your Library was granted the **2007 Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections**. This annual award is presented jointly by the American Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works and Heritage Preservation. Since its inception in 1999, we were the first public library to receive this honor; previous recipients include art museums such as the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and historic sites such as Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia. The award was presented in October at a Board of Trustees meeting, which was held at our Lake Shore Facility, home of the Preservation Department.

2007 marked the third year of **SPECTRUM...The Lockwood Thompson Dialogues**, a partnership with Cleveland Public Art, which is funded by an endowment from the trust of Lockwood Thompson. This year's *Pen & Ink* series explored how, in combination, words and images have played crucial roles in storytelling and visual communication. Art Spiegelman, author of the Pulitzer prize-winning title *Maus*, spoke to an audience of more than 300 patrons. At a later program, Dave Eggers, a voice of Generation X, author, and founder of McSweeney's, an independent book publishing house in San Francisco, and moderator Michael Kimmelman, chief art critic for *The New York Times*, engaged in a public dialogue on the ways artists and writers are pushing publishing in new directions and challenging perceptions of high and low art.

Erin Gruwell (center) signs books for Library patrons.



Connie Briscoe

More than 1,500 patrons attended the Sunday Afternoons for Writers and Readers Series.



Thrity Umrigar



Michael Chabon



Jim Harrison



Marie Arana



Sherman Alexie



Intermuseum Conservation Association paper conservator Emily Helwig (left) with Ann Olszewski, Preservation Librarian (center) Senior Technician Renee Pride treating a book in the CPL Preservation Lab. (below) Preservation staff members Lyla Chilkcutt, Gloria Massey, Elizabeth Bardossy and Renee Pride.

“It is very encouraging to know that, even within this challenging economic climate, Cleveland Public Library remains committed to preservation, which is at the very heart of its mission to the public, and a cornerstone for sustaining Cleveland's heritage.”

— Albert Albano, Executive Director of the Intermuseum Conservation Association



Michael Kimmelman and Dave Eggers, at the December 13 SPECTRUM Dialogue.



Ambrozi Paliwoda's *Out of the Past, the Present* (top left) and Donald Duer Bayard's *Early Transportation: Cleveland's Waterfront About 1835* (below) are two restored murals considered when Cleveland Public Library received the Preservation Award.

Book of Mormon, 1830 (center) was restored by the Northeast Document Conservation Center. *Lakefront Garden plan detail* (background top) and *Italian Cultural Garden plan* (background bottom) were treated by CPL Senior technician Elizabeth Bardossy.





CPL Homepage and blog



Ohio Center for the Book



Homepage for Fine Arts



Homepage for General Reference

Technological Literacy for Life: Your Library as Innovative Catalyst for Bridging the Digital Divide

Becoming “literate for life” encompasses more than computer and Internet proficiency. Technology-based cultural literacy also means being able to access and use computers and online resources to get the information you need to apply for jobs, stay healthy, write reports or research papers for school and work, and stay informed on topics that are interesting and important to you and your family and community. A study conducted this year by the Pew Hispanic Center and the Pew Internet and American Life Project reveals that urban libraries are helping city-dwelling families—particularly Latino/as and African Americans—bridge the newest iteration of the “digital divide.” Today this divide is not simply about having Internet access; according to the Pew study, most young people use computers and the web on a daily basis at their neighborhood libraries and public schools. What many less affluent families lack are computers and high-speed Internet connectivity at home. Bridging the digital divide means ensuring that people have broadband connectivity and the skills required to make the most of the Internet as an interactive tool for life and learning. Urban Latino/a

and African-American families are less likely than suburban white families to have broadband Internet connections at home. Forty-three percent of affluent white families enjoy broadband access, compared with only 29 percent of Latino/a and 31 percent African American city-dwelling families.² The Pew study supports what you told us at Town Hall meetings beginning in 2003; you depend on us to provide computers and training that is effective, efficient, and accessible.

Because you depend on your Library’s computer hardware and staff expertise, we added 35 new patron computers to the Main Library and neighborhood Branches. And laptop users can now enjoy wireless Internet access at all 29 Library sites.

Also new this year is our new teen web site, **Voices Rising of Cleveland (VROC)**. VROC is a youth-centered space that features new fiction, manga, and anime, as well as Library events planned just for teens. Young people are invited to “be heard” through the online discussion forum, YRead?, and “get help” via a link to HomeworkNow, a service of KnowItNow24x7, which offers homework assistance from librarians.

² Catherine Holahan, “America’s Digital Divide Narrows,” http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/mar2007/tc20070315_573361.htm?chan=top+news_top+news+index_technology (first accessed May 20, 2008).

Your Library launched a new web site design in 2007. The new site includes a blog, a page for Ohio Center for the Book, and subject department homepages, such as Fine Arts and General Reference.

Voices Rising of Cleveland (VROC) is a new web site for teens.



More than 1 million card holders in 10 counties in Northern Ohio
Patrons placed more than 2 million holds for themselves

**In 2007, CLEVNET celebrated 25 years of
commitment to access and public service**

More than 23 million items were checked out

Access to 60 online databases paid for by CLEVNET members
3 million items were shared among the CLEVNET members
(sent from one library system to another to fill holds)

CLEVNET members downloaded 38,000 audio eBooks, 37,000 eBooks,
and over 4,000 files of music and videos



**“CLEVNET allows even the smallest library to have access to
the largest collection in Northeast Ohio, that of the Cleveland Public Library.”**

— Steve Wood, Director, Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library
first CLEVNET member to join in 1982

CLEVNET 1982 - 2007

In 1979 Cleveland Public Library Director Ervin Gaines and staff began an automation project with Data Research Associates (DRA). The system they envisioned would be capable of expanding the number of programs it could manage, deliver information simultaneously to a large number of terminals quickly and efficiently, and have maximum data storage capacity.

The first tasks to be automated with the new DRA system included the card catalog, circulation procedures, serial and periodical records, and an index to Cleveland newspapers. Our catalog was partially online in July of 1980, and by December of that year, it was fully online and the new circulation system was working in every Library agency.

The following year, Dr. Gaines predicted that our independent database would attract other Cleveland area libraries to

be a part of a regional bibliographic database. Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library became the first area library to engage in a collaborative dialogue. In six months an agreement was signed and by the end of 1982 Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library went live, launching the CLEVNET consortium.

Today, under the leadership of Director Andrew A. Venable, Jr., your Library has 30 CLEVNET partners, making it one of the largest public library systems in the world and offering innovative online community and reference services such as KnowItNow24x7, HomeworkNow, and ReadThisNow.



2007 Member Libraries

Cleveland Public Library
Bellevue Public Library
Birchard Public Library (Fremont)
Burton Public Library
Cleveland Heights–University Heights Public Library
Clyde Public Library
East Cleveland Public Library
Elyria Public Library
Euclid Public Library
Fairport Harbor Public Library
Hudson Library & Historical Society
Huron Public Library
Kirtland Public Library
Lorain Public Library
Madison Public Library
Medina County District Library
Milan–Berlin Township Public Library
Orrville Public Library
Peninsula Library
Perry Public Library
Ritter Public Library (Vermilion)
Sandusky Library
Shaker Heights Public Library
Twinsburg Public Library
Wadsworth Public Library
Wayne County Public Library
Wickliffe Public Library
Willoughby–Eastlake Public Library

2007 Non-Public Member Libraries

Cleveland Law Library
(services are restricted to members only)
Global Issues Resource Center
Hawken School

New Needs = New Facilities,
New Practices + Processes

“Planning for the Garden Valley and Rice Branches is very rewarding because both are collaborative projects involving community stakeholders. These partnerships allow us to pool resources and bring progressive, creative concepts to fruition.”

— Holly Carroll, Deputy Director, Cleveland Public Library



“The new Rice Branch is designed to reflect Cleveland Public Library’s vision for revitalizing service at the neighborhood level. We’ve been lucky to share our process with CPL administration and staff; they’re a natural extension of our team and will continue to help guide the design to achieve their mission.”

— Richard L. Ortmeyer AIA LEED A.P., Principal, Bostwick Design Partnership



Bostwick Design Partnership’s initial planning sketches for Rice Branch were part of a collaborative process documented by the above photos of Library administration and staff and the architects. Plans courtesy of Bostwick Design Partnership, 2007.

Ensuring that our neighborhood patrons have tools for life literacy is central to our mission; we also want to lead and collaborate on neighborhood projects that enliven our city. One of our greatest ventures of 2007 was planning the new **Garden Valley Branch**. Garden Valley is one of our smallest Branches in size, yet it serves the largest number of children. The new building, designed by Richard Bowen and Associates, will be located in the Bridgeport Place Plaza, and the space and collection, furnishings, and technology it will house are being planned based on the needs and interests of these enthusiastic young patrons and their families and neighbors.

Neighborhood Progress, Inc. and Buckeye Area Development Corporation invited us to be a part of a major undertaking in the Buckeye-Larchmere neighborhood, where our Rice Branch is located. NPI and Buckeye Development are planning and building an environmentally friendly, “green” district and the **Rice Branch** is part of the scheme. Bostwick Design Partnership is working on the new Branch



design, which will reflect the important move toward greener, more sustainable architecture and neighborhoods. To meet the goals of our newly expanded **Mobile Services Department**, a larger garage and office space are in the works at the **Woodland Branch**. The space will meet the demands of this growing department, which is currently divided between a garage adjacent to Woodland and a carpenter’s shop on the Branch’s lower level. Mobile Services’ new home will ensure that staff can maximize workflow efficiency and—with two state-of-the-art vehicles to

Multi-purpose rooms are available in all Branches for many local groups and community organizations to meet in a safe and comfortable place.

- NASA
- FAITH METHODIST CHURCH PRESCHOOL
- METRO YOUTH OUTREACH
- VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE
- CPR CLASSES
- GLENNVILLE SENIOR HEALTH FORUM
- HOMEOWNER’S SEMINARS
- STARTING POINT
- THE BOY SCOUTS
- LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
- STREET CRIME WATCH GROUPS
- BLACK LITERARY GUILD
- CHILDREN’S HUNGER ALLIANCE
- CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
- CLEVELAND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
- AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT

Architects’ initial planning for Garden Valley Branch, including floor plan (background photo) and isometric drawing of the interior. Plans courtesy of Richard Bowen and Associates, 2007. CPL Board of Library Trustees and Administration, including Andrew A. Venable, Jr., Director; Jan Ridgeway, Branches and Outreach Services Administrator; and Venerine L. Branham, Board of Trustees; were committed to bringing a new branch to the Garden Valley community.



BUILDING A COLLECTION

In 2007 a committee discussed the needs of our neighborhood patrons and determined which materials would be most widely used and appropriate for a range of ages. The staff knows our patrons from the neighborhood and can make decisions that are beneficial to all who use that Branch.

TECHNICAL SERVICES

When we build a new Branch, we spend time planning the facility, and we also plan the new collection for our patrons. Technical Services oversees the workflow process so all materials arrive at the branch.

COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

Several months before the new branch was opened, selections for the Garden Valley Branch collection are sent to Collection Management where they are reviewed, compiled, and sent to Acquisitions.

ACQUISITIONS

Acquisitions creates purchase orders and submits orders to vendors electronically. Later materials will be returned to Acquisitions where they are received in the Library’s system and invoices are processed.

SHELF SHIPPING

When books, DVDs, CDs, and other materials arrive they are unpacked by Shelf Shipping where property stamps and barcodes are applied. The materials are placed on book trucks and returned to Acquisitions.

CATALOGING

Book trucks travel to the Catalog Department where items are entered into the online catalog for future check out. The item records are associated with a record for each title so all copies are displayed together in the online catalog.


BOOK PREPARATION

Materials arrive at Book Preparation where they receive labeling and plastic covers. Items are stored at Shelf Shipping until the week before the opening.

GARDEN VALLEY BRANCH

Materials are shipped to the new Garden Valley branch several days before opening. Technical Services staff unpack and set up materials so they are ready for the opening.

manage and maintain—it also allows for better traffic flow and route organization. In addition to offering you Internet access through one of our many computers, **patrons looking for wireless service can now find it at all of our Branches and at the Main Library.** Making some of our historic buildings wireless was a necessary and worthwhile endeavor, however, adapting all of them for wireless Internet access was no small task, especially since many of our buildings are decades or nearly a century old. Imagine installing wireless routers in Carnegie West, Lorain, or Sterling, which were all built between 1910 and 1913, long before computers—much less wireless communication—had entered architects’ imaginations!



LBPH Receives Generous Grant for Self-Playing Audio Books

This year the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped was awarded a grant for approximately \$10,000 from the State Library of Ohio's Library Services and Technology Act Funds for the purchase of pre-loaded, self-playing audio books called Playaways. A few days after the department staff sent information marketing the new devices, the phones began ringing and didn't stop. During the month of August more than 700 Playaways were in circulation and staff answered more than 1,000 calls about the new self-playing audio books.

Donors

The following individuals and organizations made generous donations to the Library in 2007. 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

Darrell & Marlene Smith • Rick & Joan Andersen • Steve & Evelyn Sahul • Ursula Korneitchouk • Ellen Mayer • Janet Armstrong • Lawrence & Mary Weber, TTEE • Louis & Linda Neely Yurasits • John & Dora Yatson • Sally Windle • Jean Miske OCSEA/AFSCME Local 0220 • Oakwood Correctional Facility • Betty J. Taylor • Bath Local School District • Eyedoc Properties LLC • James M. McDowell • Lakewood Board of Education • Larissa Bleiker Living Trust • John & Mary Ward • Lynn & Marian Voegeding • Richard & Carolyn Moles • William Tomcho
- ### Donors of \$100 to \$499

Marian Elizabeth Andrade • Marsha Coffman • Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.–Gamma Delta Zeta Chapter • David Schoedinger • Waterloo Aerie–Ladies Auxiliary General Fund • Estate of Ruth E. Ketteringham • Pysht Fund
- ### Donors of \$500 to \$999

Library of Congress–Center for the Book • American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.–Cleveland Chapter • Harley C. Lee and Elizabeth K. Lee Fund
- ### Donors of \$1,000 to \$4,999

Irwin Jack and Lena Pincus Foundation • John Wiley & Sons, Inc. • Dr. John F. Burke, Jr. and the Honorable Nancy A. Fuerst • Western Reserve Kennel Club



New acquisitions from the **Lockwood Thompson Memorial Fund** include *At the Zoo: A Book of Block-Prints of Wild Animals Sketched at Washington Park Zoo* by Kendrick Bell, published in Milwaukee at the State Teacher's College, WPA Handicraft Project, circa 1935; *Das graphische Werk Max Pechstein's* by Paul Fechter, published in Berlin: Fritz Gurlitt, circa 1921 (limited edition design by leading Expressionist artist, Max Pechstein).

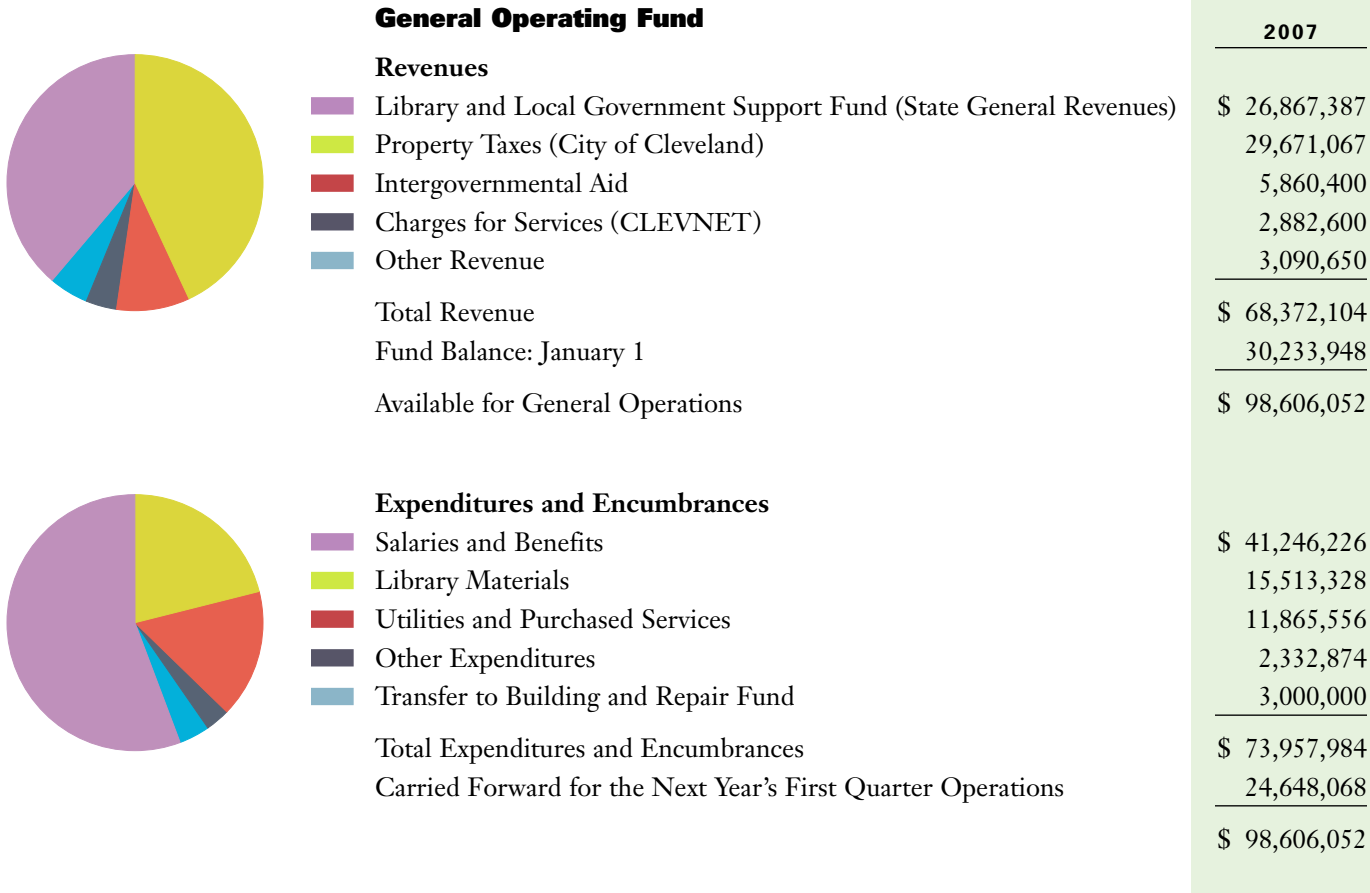
- ### Grants

 - Senior Gateway–**\$49,452** for service and programs for the elderly
 - LSTA KnowItNow–**\$325,176** for providing reference services 24x7
- ### Other Funds Received Regularly

 - Friends of the Cleveland Public Library–**\$16,801** for program support
 - Estate of Anna M. Schweinfurth–**\$39,458** for the purchase of architectural materials
 - Frederick W. and Henryett Slocum Judd Fund–**\$204,351** for the Library's Homebound Service
 - Lockwood Thompson Memorial Fund–**\$157,094** for the purchase of fine arts materials, lectures, staff recognition, and travel expenses
 - Winifred Beech Young Testamentary Trust–**\$38,121** for services to blind persons of the Connecticut Western Reserve

How Library Dollars Were Spent

A Cash Basis Report of the General Operating Fund



Fifty Years of Service

JEAN PIETY

Jean Piety, Science and Technology Manager, celebrated fifty years of Library service in August of this year. When she began working at Cleveland Public Library, salaries were \$4,000 per year, and the affluent, Post-World War II United States was in the midst of a competitive race to space with the Soviet Union (now Russia). 1957 was also the International Geophysical Year; as a result of developments in this moment in history, Mrs. Piety focused on the challenges and innovations of science and technology as she began her career. After a party honoring her half-century of Library service, Mrs. Piety announced a January 31, 2008 retirement date.

During Mrs. Piety's tenure, our Science and Technology Department has become known for its collection on dogs, which contains more than 3,000 volumes on specific breeds, care and training, canine psychology, and texts on breeding, showing, and kennel management. Stud books from American Kennel Club, Canadian Kennel Club, and the Kennel Club (UK) provide patrons and researchers with the means to trace pedigrees back to the mid-nineteenth century.

Monetary gifts from the Western Reserve Kennel Club and breeds clubs generously help us purchase books and magazines for the dog collection. Dog lovers also give unique and significant gifts to this collection; this year Mary Schuetzler of California donated the print series German Shepherd Dog Champions 1918-1982 to the Science and Technology Department's dog collection.



Andrew A. Venable, Jr., Director and Main Library Subject Department Managers celebrate fifty years of Library service with Jean Piety (center).

Jean Piety assists Library patrons, 1969.

Print from 2007 gift to the dog collection, 1982 German Shepherd champion Merkel's Vendetta



Behind the Scenes



Miss Linda Eastman, circa 1950



September 1969 Friends of CPL Scholarship recipients (left to right) Miss Linda Maset, Mrs. Shirley Lee, Miss Lena Nance, Miss Elaine Lynch, and Mrs. Harley C. Lee, President of the Friends



August 1970 (above) Friends of CPL Scholarship recipients (left to right) Miss Susan Green; Miss Gloria Coles; Dr. Fern Long, Acting Director, Cleveland Public Library; Miss Barbara Barstow; Mrs. Sybil Green and daughter Sabrina; Mrs. Eunice Peters



Mary Scelsi serving patrons at the Friends Gift Shop (circle photo at left) in September of 1987



Funded by The Friends, artist Malcolm Cochran's *Pig Bank* (left) was installed in 1999 in the Business, Economics and Labor Department at Main Library
Treasures Events are fundraisers with opportunities for patrons to view treasures from the Library's collection. *Treasures: Experience the Magic*, 2005, and *Treasures III: 1001 Cleveland Nights* included a performance by the Cleveland Boy Choir, 2006



Crowds shop at Friends Book sale with proceeds used to support CPL programs.



2000s

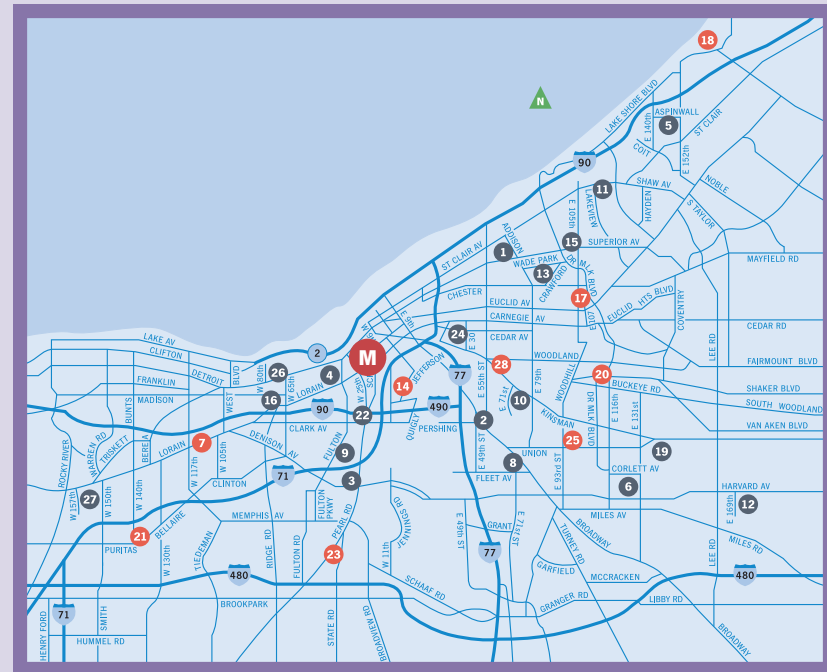
In 1957 one of the Friends of the Cleveland Public Library initial actions was to make retired Library director Linda A. Eastman the group's first honorary member. Their 1958 charter luncheon was held at The Higbee Company on November 7, where tables featured centerpieces designed to reflect popular book titles. At that time Friends membership cost \$3.00 a year. We have undergone a great deal of change in fifty years, but one thing has remained constant—the Friends commitment to your Cleveland Public Library.

The Friends have actively advanced our vision of being a learning place for you—our diverse community—and for inspiring people of all ages to develop a life long love of books and literacy in all of its forms. Over the years they've held numerous fundraisers, which have included book sales and auctions, Flower Fairs, and, more recently, three "Treasures Events" in 2004-2006. A book sale in 1986 grossed \$24,000, and "Treasures 2004" raised \$22,000 for our Summer and Winter Reading Clubs,

Children's Book Week activities, children's programs, and Special Collections. Throughout the years, the Friends of the Library has also given gifts from a fund dedicated to purchasing rare books to embellish the collection by deepening research facilities. In the 1980s, for instance, they approved the purchase of a facsimile edition of the famous anti-slavery newspaper *The Liberator*, which was published by William Lloyd Garrison from 1831-1865.

In 1991 Friends created The Eugenia Thornton Scholarship Fund to recognize Eugenia Thornton's nineteen years as dedicated writer of the Friends' literary newsletter, *Marginal Notes*. Annually the fund provides four \$1,000 scholarships in support of Library staff and their dependents, patrons, and Friends members for post-secondary education pursuits.

Cleveland Public Library board, staff, and patrons extend our sincere gratitude to our Friends and congratulate them on this fifty-year milestone!



Neighborhood Libraries

E | East
C | Central
W | West

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 | E
6901 Superior Avenue
(216) 623-6906

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cleveland Public Library System Map

"The People's University on Wheels"
Mobile Services | C
(216) 623-7114

18a. | E
Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*
17121 Lake Shore Blvd.
(216) 623-2911
(800) 362-1262

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

14. Jefferson* | C
850 Jefferson Avenue
(216) 623-7004

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23. South Brooklyn* | W
4303 Pearl Road
(216) 623-7067

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

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

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

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

28. Woodland* | C
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.

Music Celebration Nathaniel Dett Program

The **Cleveland School of the Arts Choirs** (bottom) and **R. Nathaniel Dett Choir** gave a lively performance to an audience of more than 400 patrons.



Administration

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

Friends of The Cleveland Public Library

Robert F. Pincus, *President*
Amy McMaken, *Vice President*
Willie Ann Maddox, *Treasurer*
J. Stefan Holmes, *Secretary*
Anne Marie Warren, *President*
Pamela Blake, Tracy L. Conn, Melissa M. Gleespen, Lute Harmon, Sr., Kathleen B. Havener, Mike Kelly, John M. Moss, Allison L. E. Wallace, *Trustees*
Mary Scelsi, *Director*
Tom Feczkanin, *Associate*

Annual Report Credits

RESEARCHER, WRITER, EDITOR. Lyz Bly

DESIGNER. Pam Cerio Design

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