



2017 Annual Report

Our mission is to empower our community to read, meet, discover, and grow.



121 PARK AVENUE
SWARTHMORE PA 19081
(610) 543-0436
WWW.SWARTHMOREPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG

A MESSAGE FROM...

James Banko, Board President

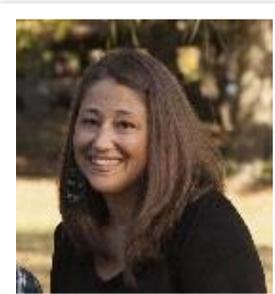
The Board of Trustees of the Swarthmore Public Library is entrusted with the task of ensuring that the Swarthmore Library continues its tradition of excellence in service to the community. The library finances, managed by Library Director Amber Osborne and overseen by Board Treasurer Bern Rehberg, constitute state and local contributions that fund the library with supplemental funds from the Friends of the Library and our generous community members. The Swarthmore Library also received federal tax-exempt status in 2016 making the Library eligible to apply for grants.



Our membership remains strong—50% of Swarthmore residents had a library card last year. This number only reflects registered users and not those who used our computers or browsed newspapers and magazines as a guest. The Library also continues to have the highest per capita circulation rate of all public libraries in Delaware County.

The Library will celebrate its 90th birthday in 2019. The Board is proud of the Library's achievements but recognizes how vital it is for the Board to continue to support the Library in its efforts to anticipate and meet the needs of its patrons and the community in the future.

Amber Osborne, Library Director



2017 was a year of growth for our Library. Our staff welcomed new members, some in newly created positions, to provide great service during all open hours. Our services grew to include a Storybook Walk in a nearby park and home access to digital movies, tv shows, music, and books. Programming expanded in both attendance and offerings, as we listened to your feedback and brought you programs where you can socialize, create, and discuss. Even our community grew to include a neighboring library and its patrons when we collaborated with Helen Kate Furness Library for the first annual Book It! 5k Walk/Run.

As we reflect on the growth of our Library in the past year, it is plain to see that at the core of everything we do is the dedication to meeting our community's needs. We value each person that walks through our doors whether it is to ask a question, attend a program, use our computers, or borrow a book. You will find many numbers in this annual report that help to tell the library's story, but numbers alone do not show the impact of our programs and services in the community. The most important part of our library is you, the patron. The value you add to our library—your engagement in our programs, the materials you choose to borrow, your presence in our aisles—is our motivating force. What you think about the job we are doing determines our ability to grow.

Thank you for checking out materials, attending our programs, and showing us you care through kind words, donations of books and money, and positive word-of-mouth. Thank you for taking pride in Swarthmore Public Library. Thanks to the strength of our library community, we are looking forward to more growth in 2018!

Board of Trustees

James Banko, President
Stephen Russell, Vice President
Bern Rehberg, Treasurer
Rebecca Carovillano, Secretary
Bridget Doherty
Laura Kosmalski
Mary North
Karen Robinson
Mark Turbiville

Library Staff

Amber Osborne, Director
Carol Mackin, Circulation Manager
Lucy Saxon, Assistant Librarian
Scott Schumacher, Youth Services Coordinator
Sadhana Kapur, Library Assistant
Perri Rechner, Library Assistant

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO...

Friends of the Swarthmore Public Library

The Friends of the SWPL are integral to our ability to provide great services and programs to our community. Each year the hard work of the members of the Friends group in organizing book and bake sales and fundraising appeals helps the Library meet its goals. This year alone the Friends has provided nearly 15% of our budget, in addition to sponsoring awesome services such as the Museum and Parks Pass Program.

The Friends' Board

Carol Kennedy, President
Jeannine Anckaitis, Vice President
Anne Papa, Treasurer
Betty Wallace, Secretary



From left: Jeannine Anckaitis, Betty Wallace, Carol Kennedy, and Anne Papa

Library Volunteers

Our volunteers have spent 3,059 hours helping the Library provide excellent service to our patrons.
We cannot do what we do without you. Thank you!

Jeannine Anckaitis
Polly Bech
Marnie Berkowitz
Nancy Carroll
Patti Clymer
Louise Coffin
Lois DeLapp
Sue Dyson
Beth Fitzsimons
Meredith Flower
Sally Fullam
Kate Francis
Kathy Gerner
Virginia Joyce
Carol Kennedy
Alison Manaker
Bob Mayer
Eve Mountford

Mimi Nenno
Anne Papa
Maria Mooney
Dorothy Philipson
Marisela Rechner
Bern Rehberg
Sarah Rehberg
Carol Savery
Diane Scott
Jenny Shulbank
Betty Barbara Smart
Beth Soch
Marty Spiegel
Ann Stevick
Helene Van Hoeven
Sally Wadleigh
Betty Wallace

BY THE NUMBERS

Programming

185 Adult Programs attended by 1,862 people

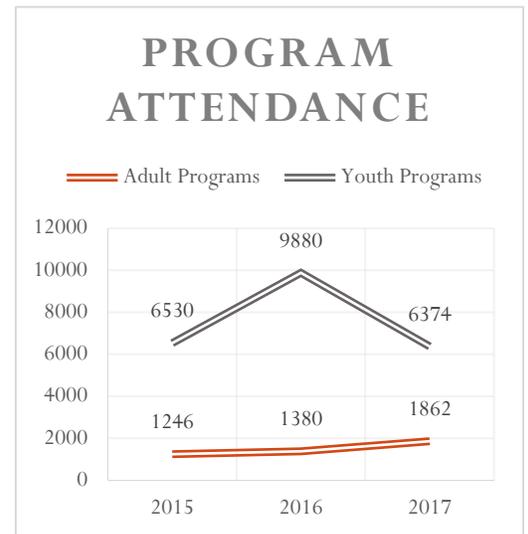
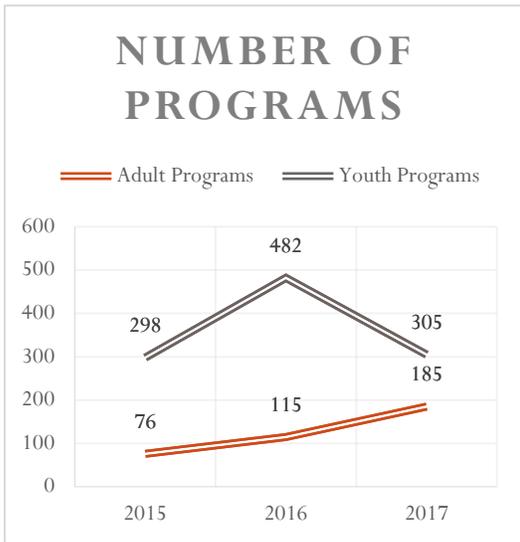
Highlights include a Celtic Harp Concert, a program on gerrymandering with Fair Districts, PA, Bee Education with the Philadelphia Bee Company, and the Greatest Paintings Video Lecture Series

305 Youth Programs attended by 6,374 children and their caregivers

Highlights include Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead, Wonderful Wednesday summer series, Halloween Tot Parade & Storytime, and the Storybook Walk Unveiling Party



Storybook Walk Unveiling Party



Bee Education with the Philadelphia Bee Company



Halloween Tot Parade & Storytime Special

BY THE NUMBERS CONTINUED...

Circulation

Total Circulation: 102,644

Adult: 37,581

Periodicals: 2,266

Music: 2,845

Video: 6,564

Museum & Parks Passes: 501

Picture Books: 19,426

Juvenile: 20,874

Young Adult: 3,765

eBooks (Overdrive): 8,224

Hoopla Digital: 382

Encyclopedia Britannica: 216

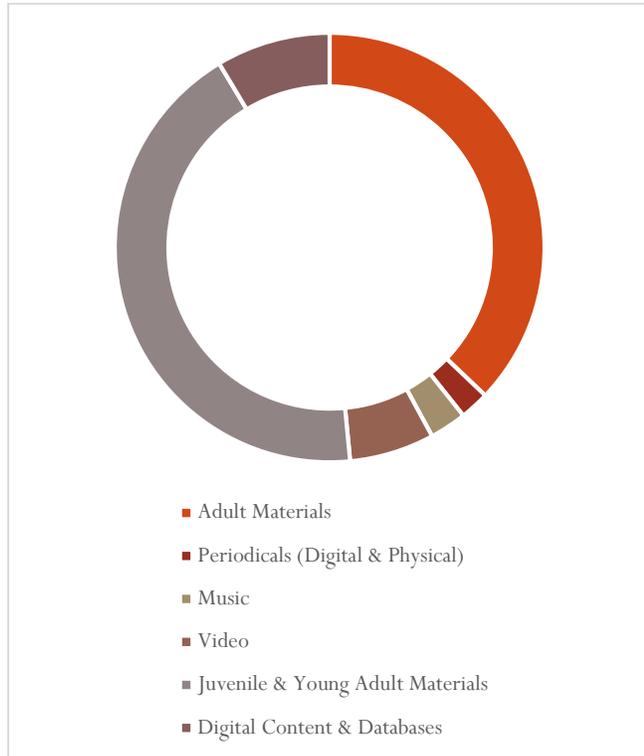
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In County Materials Received: 10,162

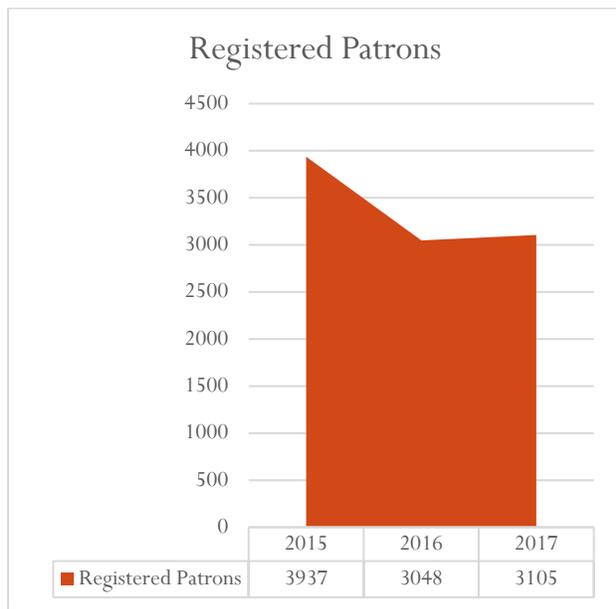
In County Materials Sent: 8,439

Out of County Materials Received: 161

Out of County Materials Sent: 134



Membership & Collection



Registered Patrons: 3,105 OR

50% of Swarthmore's population

Computer Usage: 10,598 sessions OR

6,051 hours

Total Collection: 58,993

Volumes Added: 3,348

Volumes Withdrawn: 5,068

WHAT IS SWARTHMORE PUBLIC LIBRARY WORTH?

\$2,195,916

\$830 per Swarthmorean

Adult Books Borrowed	\$580,873
Young Adult Books Borrowed	\$ 45,180
Children's Books Borrowed	\$673,982
Audiobooks Borrowed	\$ 40,457
Interlibrary Loan Requests	\$472,400
eBooks Downloaded	\$123,360
Magazines Read	\$ 21,330
Newspapers Read	\$ 19,000
Movies Borrowed	\$ 26,256
CDs Borrowed	\$ 28,307
Music Downloaded	\$ 382
Adult Program Attendance	\$ 27,930
Children's Program Attendance	\$ 44,618
Museum Passes Borrowed	\$ 10,020
Computer Use (excluding wifi)	\$ 72,612
Database Searches	\$ 4,309
Reference Assistance	\$ 4,900

American Library Association, Library Value Calculator

http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/advocacyuniversity/toolkit/makingthecase/library_calculator

SERVICE & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

New Team Members



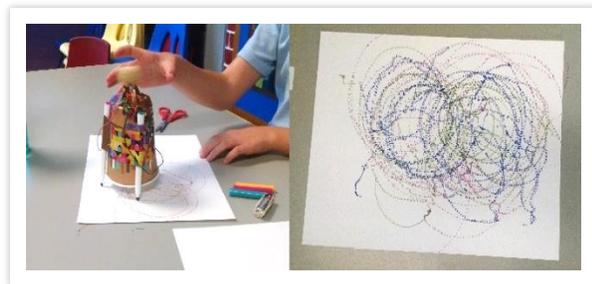
Sadhana Kapur, Library Assistant



Perri Rechner, Library Assistant



*Scott Schumacher,
Youth Services Coordinator*



S.T.E.A.M. Club Activity: ArtBot

Community Programming

We were excited to introduce several new programs in 2017 that helped fill gaps in our programming offerings. Mr. Scott debuted the Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead Club, which provides hands on science, technology, engineering, arts, and math activities for 8 to 11 year olds. For adults we now offer monthly knitting clubs and a cookbook club to satisfy those looking to make and create!

Aging in Place Grant Initiatives

Thanks to a generous grant from Swarthmore Borough, we were able to develop and provide several important services and programs for our senior community. Programming such as the Great Courses video lecture series and Thanksgiving Floral Design have provided a venue for our community to gather, create, and discuss. Our Teen Tech Tutor initiative pairs an older adult with a tech savvy teen who will answer any tech related questions. In 2017, we organized 19 meetings of Teen Tech Tutors and plan to continue the program in 2018.



As part of the Aging in Place Grant, the Library also created a Senior Information Center in Borough Hall where older adult community members can retrieve information about health and home care resources, available transportation services, and local events and activities. We hope this Center offers a one-stop shop for our seniors' information needs.

MORE SERVICE & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Book It! 5k Walk/Run

On April 1, 2017 we held our first annual Book It! 5k Walk/Run in partnership with nearby Helen Kate Furness Library. The point-to-point course took participants from the Wallingford train station (a short walk from Helen Kate Furness Library) to our Library. There were activities for families at Central Park in Swarthmore and an awards ceremony. It was a fun event for the whole family while raising money for two great libraries.

Hoopla Digital

Last year, we were excited to roll out access to a new digital media service, Hoopla Digital. Our patrons now enjoy nearly half a million titles in movies, TV, music, eAudiobooks, eBooks, and graphic novels from their computers, tablets or Smartphones with just their library card. We really love this service and are pleased to be able to share it with our community!

Extended Hours

You asked and we listened! In response to answers given during our strategic planning survey, we adjusted our hours to offer additional morning and weekend hours. We are now open 60.5 hours a week all year round.

Storybook Walk

To encourage literacy, exercise, and a connection to nature, Anne Ferguson, a librarian in Montpelier, Vermont, created the concept of the Storybook Walk. Swarthmore's Storybook Walk is a children's picture book, displayed page by page in permanent installations along the paths in Little Crum Creek Park. The book changes several times a year, so our community can keep coming back to enjoy a new story. We couldn't have pulled off this awesome project without the help of several other community organizations; the Swarthmore Environmental Advisory Council, Swarthmore Borough, Swarthmore Public Works, Swarthmore Trailblazers 4-H Club, and the Friends of the Swarthmore Public Library all helped bring our Storybook Walk from dream to reality!



Book It! 2017

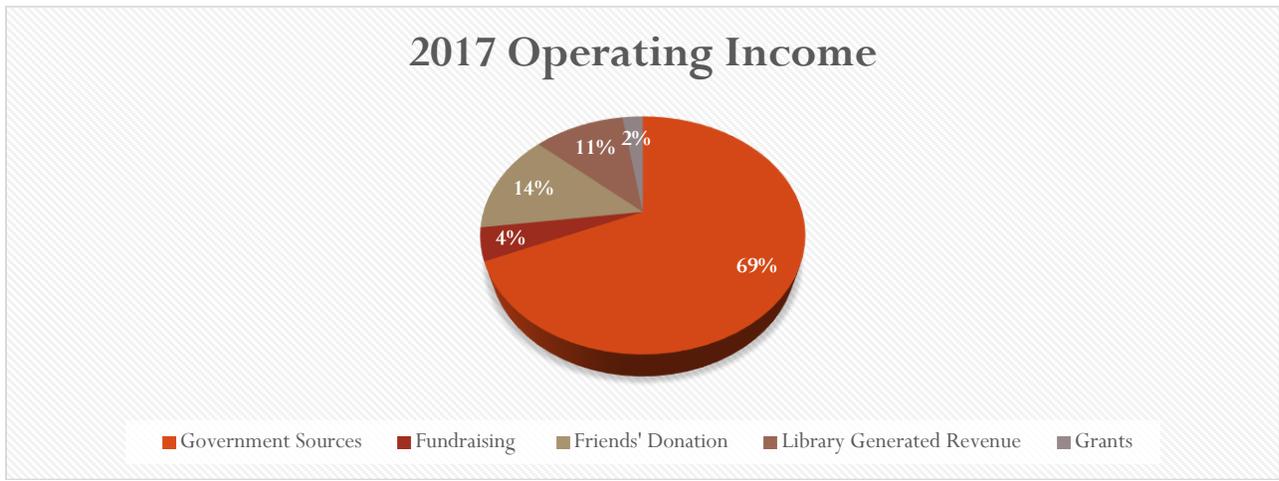


Enjoying SWPL's Storybook Walk!

2017 OPERATION INCOME & EXPENSES

Operating Income: \$275,236.52

Government Sources	\$ 188,422.00
Fundraising	\$ 12,210.62
Friends' Donation	\$ 38,000.00
Library Generated Revenue	\$ 29,903.90
Grants	\$ 6,700.00



Operating Expenses: \$278,016.93

Salaries & Benefits	\$ 211,352.74
Collection & Services	\$ 43,153.45
General & Administrative	\$ 19,066.66
Programming	\$ 4,444.08

