



BRADFORD AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

# 2016 Annual Report

*Making Life Better*



67 West Washington Street

Bradford, PA 16701

814-362-6527

[www.bradfordlibrary.org](http://www.bradfordlibrary.org)

proudly supported by:



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## Many Thanks to Our Volunteer Leaders

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*Elaine Summerday and Len Norville,*  
*Senior Outreach Advisors*  
*Jane Bowes, e-book and DVD cataloging*  
*Patti Fisher and Linda Fox, Book Sale*  
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## A Message from... Lacey Love, Executive Director



I didn't think it was possible for my second year as Executive Director to be even busier than my first, but I'm glad to say I was wrong! After we successfully raised \$260,000 in 2015, we listened to feedback from patrons, staff, and volunteers. The overwhelming requests were to update the community meeting rooms, add new technology, including more public computers, and arrange a more efficient work space for library staff. We are

proud to announce that all of our campaign projects have been completed, to make the library a more friendly and welcoming space for everyone in the Bradford community.

These projects were necessary for the library to accommodate a growing user base. This year, we've had 800 more computer log ins than during the same time period in 2015. Last year, we had 5,500 more people walk through our front doors than we did in 2014. As more people learn about the resources we provide, these numbers will only continue to increase. I see a bright future for the library, one where we continue to offer more programs for all age groups, forge more connections and partnerships, and make life better for our entire community. Our hardworking staff, volunteers, and trustees make this all possible, and I'm very grateful for all the hours they've dedicated to the library this year.

## Chris Minich, Board Chair



Making Life Better continues to guide us through our annual ask as we remain committed to our mission to inform, educate and enrich our community. Because of the continued support of our staff, patrons and volunteers, I am proud that our library is able to meet the needs of many demographics of our community.

During my tenure as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, our team made a commitment to work diligently to adapt to the evolving world and provide improvements that will sustain the Bradford Area Public Library well into the future. I am proud to state that our commitment to community relations, governance, fiscal responsibility and technology is the strongest it has ever been. Because of our professional board of trustees, committed patrons and remarkable community support, we are making an impressive impact to improve the quality of life for our community. I am especially grateful for the leadership of Lacey Love, her staff and volunteers who have remained committed to this mission to serve our library.

Our vision to make life better continues to evolve, and I am so proud of the Bradford Area Public Library. The broad and consistent services are bringing so much value to our community that will resonate for generations to come.

# Making Life Better

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our *Making Life Better* Capital Campaign donors. Thank you for helping us meet our goal!

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# Our Programs and Outreach

## Teen Book Club



The BAPL Teen Book Club is in its fourth year under the advisorship of Marie Troskosky with assistance from Jean Keltz and Brian Kelley. We've grown from 12 members to nearly 30, averaging about 20 teens at each meeting. Our mission is to offer local teens (ages 13-18) a chance to interact with other teens who enjoy reading. We also provide activities that encourage social interaction, personal enrichment, and enjoyable leisure activities.

This summer was very full for the Club. We took 30 teens and 23 adults on a one-day trip to New York City to tour the NYC Public Library and to see the Broadway

play "*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*," based on the novel of the same title about an autistic boy's adventure to find his missing mother. We really enjoyed reading the novel as a group and were very pleased with its dramatic counterpart.

The club also offered one of its many Read-a-thons in July, three hours of continuous reading with breaks for snacks. At the beginning of August, we offered five workshops to teens in patch poetry, clay sculpting, portrait photography, cartooning and adult coloring. Between 10 and 15 teens and adults attended each workshop. All agreed they were enriching and fun. The Teen Book Club meets the third Tuesday of each month from 5-6 PM.

## Outreach Programs

The Bradford Area Public Library has many new outreach programs designed specifically for literacy. The outreach programs provide an element of learning about our library and what we have to offer. Making connections in the community is a wonderful way for BAPL to share its resources. Many of our programs are outside the library such as the YMCA preschool, Christian Academy, Growing with Grace Preschool, School Street Read Across America Day, Beacon Light, and Evergreen Elm. Some come to the library weather permitting. If not, we travel to their locations. There are themes each month and a craft is provided to extend their knowledge of a story.



Many have reached out to our library to designate a specific day and time for their program! We also have been going to the community for special events such as the Pumpkin Fest, Kids Fest, family visiting day at FCI McKean, and the Senior Expo. We truly appreciate the many invitations to serve our community both within and outside our doors!



BRADFORD AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

# Programs and Outreach Continued

## Senior Outreach

The senior outreach program has continued to grow over the past year, now including all nursing homes, assisted care homes, and senior centers across McKean County. Books from our separate large-print collection are given to individuals based on their preferences, and books are also rotated in several libraries within the nursing homes. Besides handing out books, the senior outreach program also does group reading activities at the Bradford Pavilion, and hands out large-print coloring books. The senior outreach large-print collection is now well over 1,000 books, and we consistently work with the other McKean County public libraries to add to that collection via donations.

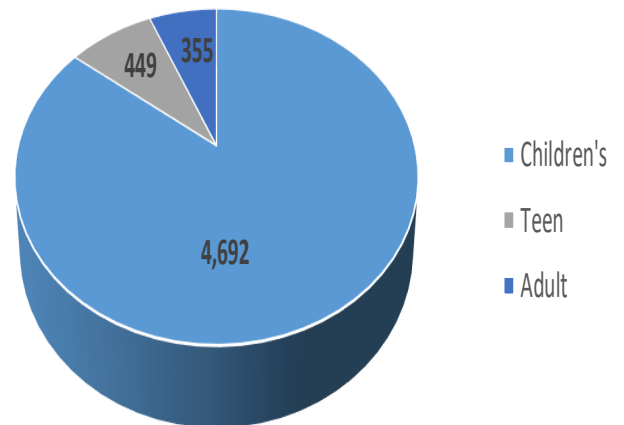


## Story Seekers

Our youngest learners, their families and friends participate in weekly storytelling experiences in the newly renovated children's space. Our Story Seekers project is based on the children's book, *Babayon and the Magic Star*, a story about a fierce lion who was magically transported to the beautiful peaceful Island of Shama Bama. He discovered many new friends who were so kind he decided to stay.

Each month a new study topic is presented followed by open-ended play experiences that encourage active learning and inspire a young child's imagination. Adults and children look forward to engaging in interactions and completing projects with their friends each week. Story Seekers participants have opportunities to create their own stories in many different ways using open-ended art materials, building blocks, writing and drawing, and dramatic play.

2016 Program Attendance (through 8/31)



# Employee Spotlights...

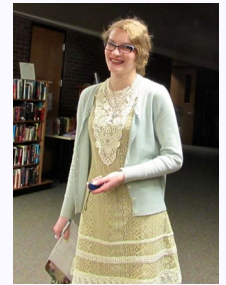
## Fran Goodrich

After 27 years of service to the library, we are so sad to say goodbye to Fran Goodrich, as she has announced her retirement, effective October 19. Fran started working at the library in 1989, and she has had a variety of job duties over the years. After her retirement, Fran plans on volunteering at the library and devoting a lot of time to her favorite hobbies, reading cozy mysteries and cross-stitching. When asked what her favorite memory was from the past 27 years, Fran said, "The people and the cats. I've become friends with many patrons I see in the library every day."



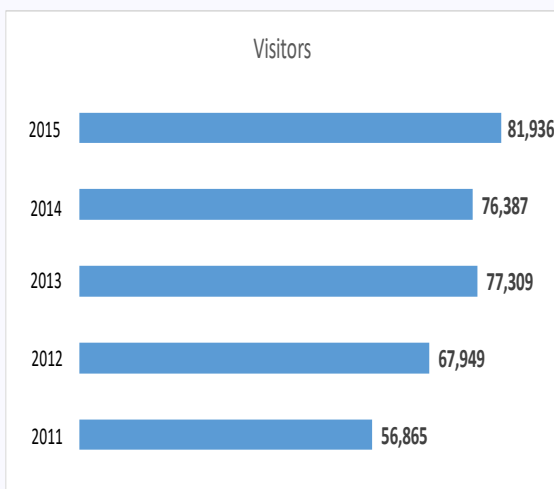
## Autumn Ament

Autumn Ament has worked at the BAPL for nearly a year and a half, and she currently works at the front desk and handles all book processing. Autumn's favorite part of working at the library is dealing with the interesting patrons. She also loves that there's never a dull moment! Earlier this year, Autumn put together a murder mystery program based on local Bradford history during the Prohibition era. For Autumn, "The most rewarding part of the program was hearing participants reminisce about their grandparents discussing actual names and events that I used for the murder mystery." She looks forward to holding another murder mystery later this year.

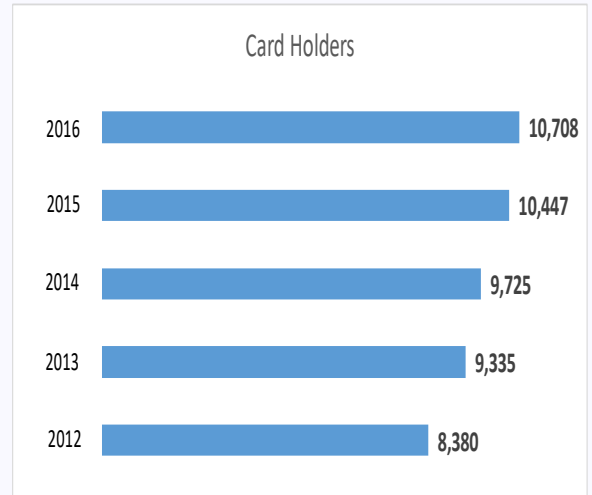


## Mary Kafferlin

You can find Mary Kafferlin at two of Bradford's libraries – Bradford Area Public Library (BAPL), as well as the Hanley Library at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. She has worked at BAPL for a year, and she's been the Serials and Cataloging Specialist at Hanley for eight months. Although she works full-time at Pitt, Mary still loves doing children's programming at BAPL. She has a passion for children's books, and she's grateful to have the opportunity to share her passion with others through exciting, engaging children's programming. You can stop by to see Mary during her evening story time at 6:00 PM on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month!



*The Library's card holders and visitors have grown steadily over the last five years.*

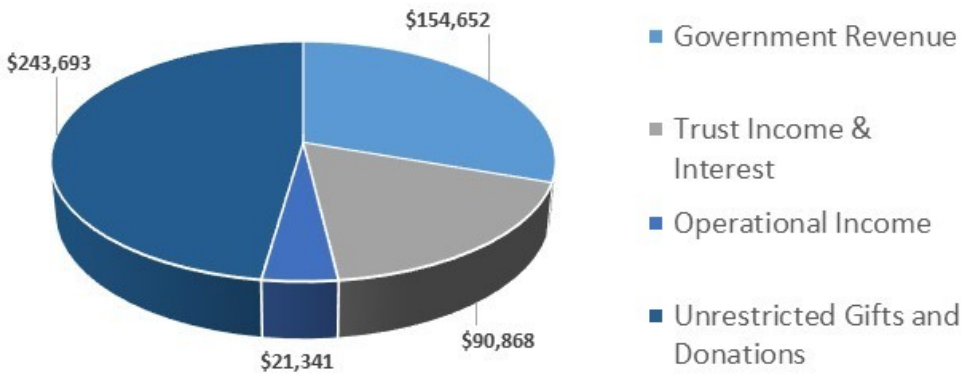


*Making Life Better*

# 2016 Annual Report

## The Numbers at a Glance...

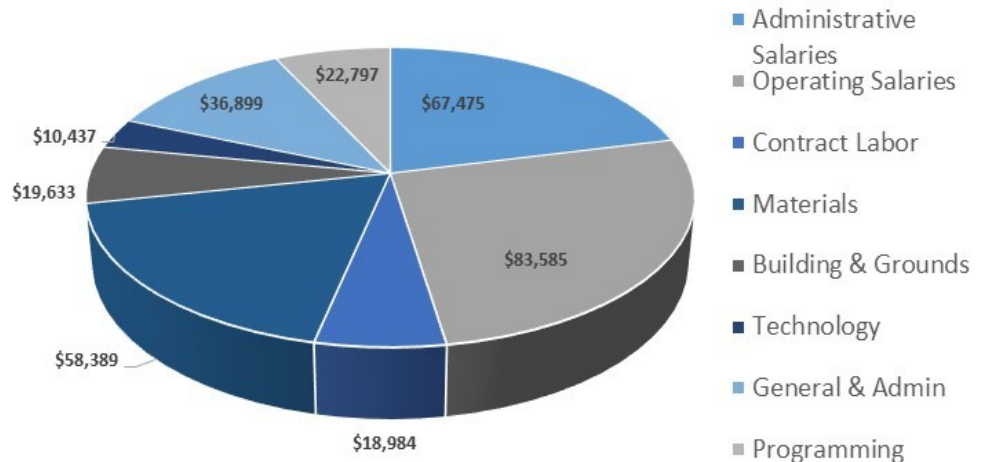
2015 Operating Income



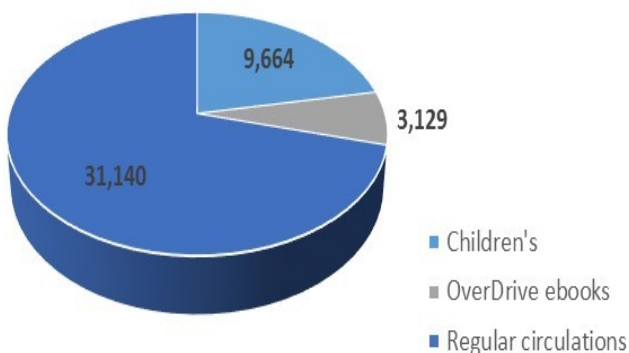
*While government funding provides the largest source of income for the library, the amount of government funding received has not increased in the past six years. Private gifts and donations are critical to fill gaps in funding.*

*Each year, the Board of Trustees assures that funds are available to support the operations of the Library.*

2015 Operating Expenses



2016 Circulations (through 8/31)



*With over 43,000 circulations since the beginning of the year, the Library is on track to have more than 55,000 circulations in 2016.*



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67 West Washington Street

Bradford, PA 16701

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## ***Bradford Area Public Library Mission and Vision***

### ***Mission***

*To provide the resources to inform, educate and enrich our community in a way that demonstrates:*

- *Literacy*
- *Equal access and diversity*
- *Lifelong learning*
- *Fiscal responsibility and integrity*
- *BAPL's rich heritage*



### ***Vision***

*To be a recognized as a premier library in service to our community.*