

# Lorain Public Library System

## Annual Report 2018





**Vision** | Every individual will be enriched and transformed through embracing lifelong learning.

**Mission** | To connect individuals to the transformative power of information as a gateway to literacy, lifelong learning and personal enrichment.



# Director's Report

2018 was year of great change for us at Lorain Public Library System and I am grateful and thankful to our communities and our staff who make it all possible.

In 2018, we celebrated the 15th anniversary of the opening of our North Ridgeville and Columbia branch buildings. We also undertook a major refresh of the Main Library, including the creation of a new space for teens, four new conference rooms for the public with new, modern furniture throughout the library and a refreshed look. We also relocated the public computers to make them more accessible for all.

In 2018, LPLS introduced new services across the system to make it easier for our patrons to use the library, including new self-service printing, faxing and scanning at our buildings. Several behind the scenes changes helped to streamline operations and make us more efficient, which in turn helps us serve the community better.

As always, we helped children learn to read and adults find their next great read or look for a job. We helped people sign up for email and learn to use computers.

We helped children learn to cook and how to code. Thousands of people used our meeting rooms to gather and thousands more visited the library to attend the wide range of programs we offer, from the first LPLS Writers' Conference to the sewing club at Main Library. As the world changes, the power of libraries continues to be in our ability to support our communities, whatever the need. I am so excited for you to check out what we were up to in 2018 and hope to see you in our libraries for years to come.

Sincerely,

*Anastasia Diamond-Ortiz*

**ANASTASIA DIAMOND-ORTIZ**  
*Director, Lorain Public Library System*



“As the world changes, the power of libraries continues to be in our ability to support our communities, whatever the need.”



**Donna Kelly-Sprinkle**  
*Manager*

“ We completed 487 passport acceptances in 2018 and people have loved the convenience of location and the evening and weekend hours.

# Avon Branch

37485 Harvest Drive, Avon, OH 44011



Passport services was the big “new thing at the Avon Branch in 2018. Since there is no other location in the city of Avon for passport acceptance, we knew it was a needed service, but were quickly surprised at just how needed it was. We completed 487 passport acceptances in 2018 and people have loved the convenience of location and the evening and weekend hours.

I am really looking forward to see how our Oral Histories Program, which got a solid start in 2018, blossoms in 2019. We love hearing the stories of those who grew up in the small rural town of Avon that many of us know nothing about. The ultimate goal is to keep collecting history and make it accessible online to the public.

# Columbia Branch

13824 W. River Road, North Columbia Station, OH 44028



2018 was the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Columbia Branch being in the current building, and our celebration in November was a blast.

We offered programming for all ages including face painting, balloon animals, a special STEM project for children, a chili cook-off and a string performance from Oberlin College students. It was a really nice way to celebrate.

Librarian Rob Cox thinks says many patrons are surprised to learn that they can call or stop in at any branch to receive one-on-one tech assistance. There is such a vast amount that we can provide even beyond our physical materials, with our connection to CLEVNET, digital resources and more.



**John Guscott**  
*Manager*

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Anne Godec  
*Manager*

“Some of our new services include the addition of blood pressure kits for the public that circulate and a bicycle repair station with pump.

## Domonkas Branch

4125 E. Lake Road, Sheffield Lake, OH 44054



The Domonkas garden was part of the Food & Fun program. The children planted seeds in a tray under grow lights and watched as the plants grew over the following weeks. The teens volunteered to transplant the growing plants and also planted some starter plants from a local nursery. Our Maintenance department prepared the bed on the south side of the library. All summer long the garden grew and local residents enjoyed the vegetables and fruits. We grew broccoli, eggplant, radishes, tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchinis, lettuce, cantaloupe and watermelon.

Some of our new services include the addition of blood pressure kits for the public that circulate and a bicycle repair station with pump. Both are used and appreciated by our community.

## Main Branch

351 W. Sixth Street, Lorain, OH 44052



Very little didn't change at the Main Library in 2018. The very appearance changed during a much-needed renovation project. The once dated look gave way to sleek, colorful and comfortable and the response from visitors has been overwhelmingly positive. Along with these changes, much effort was put in to updating the collection itself and rearranging to make everything more accessible and easy to find. There was also a change in management as Jamie Lauver left and I took the reins. It is an incredible thrill and honor for me to come full circle and manage my childhood library and to serve the community that raised me.

I, and several of my staff, were moved to tears throughout the three Operation WARM coat giveaway programs that we held in December. Nearly 450 coats were given to Lorain residents in need, and it was incredibly heartwarming to see the children picking out the perfect coat and getting excited. Honestly, I was also a little teary witnessing the amazing teamwork and camaraderie that my staff displayed to pull this off. It was an amazing thing, all around.



Susan Spivey  
*Manager*

“It is an incredible thrill and honor for me to come full circle and manage my childhood library and to serve the community that raised me.





Jennifer Winkler  
*Manager*

“ The library also marked 60 years since North Ridgeville has had a public library branch as the library opened in a store front location in 1958.

## North Ridgeville Branch

35700 Bainbridge Road, North Ridgeville, OH 44039



North Ridgeville Branch created new space for small groups to use with our Conference Room being finished in 2018. The Friends of the Library paid for decorative stained-glass windows, including a special large story book window custom designed by the Friends and the stained-glass artist. Now small groups can meet in this room to free up the front rooms for larger groups and more people can therefore meet at the same times. We dedicated this room in May and celebrated 15 years in our current building on Bainbridge Rd. with an open house event on May 5. The library also marked 60 years since North Ridgeville has had a public library branch as the library opened in a store front location in 1958.

We offer free faxing and scanning service at self-service machines; we now offer Passports; and we offer free downloadable and streaming services for our patrons with the use of their library card from home as well as in the library.

## South Lorain Branch

2121 Homewood Drive, Lorain, OH 44055



We tried a variety of exciting, new programs, including Food and Fun, which provided free lunches, take home recipes complete with necessary ingredients and healthy living activities for children. Children’s Early Literacy Parties replaced our story times, which provided young children and their caregivers the chance to learn, grow and interact with kids in a fun, themed environment. We continued to provide new and exciting STEM activities, including Owl Pellet dissection, a Rube Goldberg Challenge, Spooky Ice Cream and more.

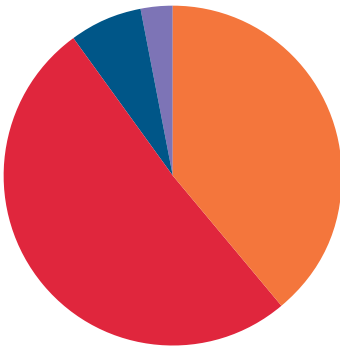
I had just started in my position when we had the penguins come. It was so popular that, after we had filled as many people as possible into the meeting room, we still had people lined up outside the door just waiting to get a chance to meet the penguin. Having the actual penguin waddling around on the meeting room floor was surreal enough, but the turnout from our community was even more amazing.



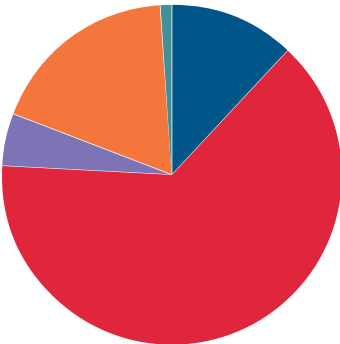
Ally Morgan  
*Manager*

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# 2018 Financials



REVENUE SOURCE DOLLARS	DOLLAR AMOUNT	% OF TOTAL
Public Library Fund	\$4,129,950.00	39%
Local Tax Levies	\$5,389,917.00	51%
State Rollbacks & Transfers	\$700,758.00	7%
Other	\$305,192.00	3%
Total Revenues	\$10,525,817.00	100%



EXPENDITURES	DOLLAR AMOUNT	% OF TOTAL
Library Materials	\$1,018,453.00	12%
Personnel	\$5,565,594.00	64%
Capital	\$412,069.00	5%
Contracts	\$1,582,247.00	18%
Supplies	\$129,551.00	1%
Total Expenditures	\$8,707,914.00	100%

# 2018 eLibrary Statistics

160,565	eBook, Digital Audiobooks and Video Storybooks (Ovedrive, Hoopla, Bookflix)
8,999	Digital Magazines (RB Digital, Overdrive)
7,962	Digital Movies and Television (Hoopla)
2,209	Streaming music albums (Hoopla)
309	Online education course enrollments (Gale Courses)
165	Online Education Courses Completed (Gale Courses)
3,471	Educational content (Lynda.com, Artistworks)

# 2018 System Statistics

540,746	Library visits
16,066	Open Hours
63,551	Library cardholders
3,852	Programs offered
74,655	Programs Attendance
309,754	Materials Owned
1,442,305	Materials loaned (not including eMedia)
51,520	New Materials
136,968	General questions answered
115,794	Computer bookings
1,119,363	Website visits
2,858	Facebook likes
1,680	Twitter followers



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