Our Mission: To enrich lives, build communities and foster success by bringing people, information and ideas together.
Letter from the Director

This past year, we created innovative services, offered thousands of learning opportunities, tweaked our technology and built partnerships, all with one purpose—our mission: to enrich lives, build community and foster success. In many important ways, our services touch the lives of our customers, and it is our hope that we again added a burst of energy and a splash of color to their world.

Though we share the facts and figures of our accomplishments in this report, we also invite you to see our impact firsthand. Come and meet the men and women who attend math and reading classes in order to pass the GED® exam. Visit the library when dozens of excited youngsters are checking out books, for some their first-ever trip to the library, as part of a partnership program with Duval County Public Schools.

Stop by and participate in an innovative French or Spanish class that uses a new immersion technique. Listen to the people who attend one of many computer classes we offer talk about how their new skills will help them at work.

In the year ahead, we hope to broaden our reach to the community and find new ways to bring literacy to those without access. We will continue to use technology to connect our customers with information to improve their lives. And we will continue to offer the hundreds and hundreds of library programs that add color to the lives of our customers.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. B. Gubbins
Library Director
FY 2015 Highlights

The Board of Library Trustees is proud to be a part of a library system as innovative and accomplished as Jacksonville Public Library.

Power of Partnerships
In partnership with Duval County Public Schools, the Jacksonville Public Library rolled out a pilot program in September that will bring thousands of students to the library in the next fiscal year and make checkout easy with new virtual Student Cards. New Educator Cards added privileges and increased access to library materials for teachers.

Council Champions Capital Improvements
Jacksonville City Council created a Library Capital Projects Account that allows the library to retain its fine and fee revenues in order to finance capital improvements. Until now, the fines and fee revenues were returned to the City’s General Fund.

Impact of Innovation
New immersion-style language classes earned kudos from students and a national award—2015 Top Innovator Award—from the Urban Libraries Council. The often full-to-capacity classes combine in-person instruction with an online language program that provides language, grammar and cultural materials. A second innovator award came from the Northeast Florida Library Information Network for our highly successful School Age Traveling Tales.

Discovering with Debate
The League of Women Voters sponsored City Council Candidate Debates that were hosted by the Board of Library Trustees at four library locations. The partnership benefited nearly 400 people who attended the debates to learn more before voting.

Transforming with Technology
Customers embraced new services: Hoopla allows library card holders to stream movies, audiobooks and music to computers, tablets and mobile devices at no cost and with no holds or late fees.

The Board of Library Trustees would like to thank the leadership and staff involved in achieving these wonderful accomplishments. We look forward to more successes in 2016.

Erin Vance Skinner
Board of Library Trustees Chair
By the Numbers

EVERY MINUTE THAT JPL WAS OPEN...

18 PEOPLE VISITED A library location

31 ITEMS WERE checked out

16 PEOPLE USED THE library website

PUBLIC COMPUTER SESSIONS began 4

REFERENCE QUESTIONS WERE answered

4

Did you know?
For every $1 of taxpayer money invested, Duval County residents receive $6.29 in value, making the library a great return on investment.
In Just One Year

FY 2015

JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY by the numbers

3.4 MILLION VISITS

396,548 E-BOOKS CHECKED OUT

727,996 PUBLIC COMPUTER SESSIONS

3.1 M WEBSITE VISITS

5.9 M TIMES ITEMS WERE CHECKED OUT

177,977 1-ON-1 TECH TRAINING SESSIONS

10,924 PROGRAMS OFFERED

3,810 SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS

50,000 BOOKS READ AND LOGGED

41,000 YOUTH ATTENDED PROGRAMS

687,917 REFERENCE QUESTIONS

4,069 JOB SEEKERS HELPED

Total $31,707,987

Total City Funds 30,595,904

Salaries and Benefits 16,980,916

Indirect Costs 2,946,802

ITD Allocation 1,887,427

Library Books and Materials 2,934,849

Direct Operating Expenses 2,217,749

Other Internal Service Allocations 3,875,483

State Aid (equipment, furniture, maintenance, books) 1,608,911
OUR MISSION: To enrich lives

- Nearly 300 adults attended math, algebra, geometry, language arts and essay writing classes in the hopes of changing their futures by earning a high school equivalency diploma from the Center for Adult Learning (CAL). Another 500 adults were enrolled in CAL’s English for Speakers of Other Languages classes.

- More than 1900 visually and physically impaired customers not able to access the library’s regular collection checked out audiobooks and videos from the Talking Books/Special Needs Library, proving again that we provide more than one way to read a book.

- At the Main Library, professional and emerging musicians filled the Hicks Auditorium with beautiful sounds, enriching the lives of many area residents with 25 free performances. Dozens of music lovers also were entertained by 13 free concerts featuring music of Florida and the St. Johns River as part of the library’s participation in Cultural Fusion’s Year of the River celebration.

- Five New York Times Best-Selling Authors—Mary Kay Andrews, Stephanie Evanovich, Tess Gerritsen, Charles Martin and Jacqueline Woodson—and 21 local and regional authors brought their literature and insights to the library.

Did you know? Jacksonville Public Library is one of the few places in the city where a full range of GED® classes are offered for free.
OUR MISSION: To build community

"This library is a well-oiled machine ... I bought my house here because it is less than one mile away from a library. I feel strongly that having a good library positively impacts my home's value."
South Mandarin Branch Library Member

Three Big Library Read events made the world a smaller place by connecting Jacksonville with people around the globe, allowing everyone access to the same e-books at the same time for each three-week program.

Jacksonville readers turned their attention to the award-winning book Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson during a month-long community reading event promoting literacy called JAX READS!

The library won an Historic Preservation Award from the City Preservation Board for preserving the Loyd Sandgren photo collection to be enjoyed by our Jacksonville community.

The 26th Annual Black History Calendar was unveiled to an overflow crowd, marking the eighth year at the Main Library. The 2015 theme was “A Century of Black Life, History and Culture.”
OUR MISSION: To foster success

Did you know?
Our library staff excels at making learning fun. Just ask the crowds of superhero readers and learners of all ages who filled the Beaches Branch Library for the 3rd Annual Comic Con on Saturday, May 2, 2015.

Educational Success

More than 8,000 children and teens registered for the library’s Summer Learning program, logging nearly 59,000 books read. Attendance at a new six-week mini-series format for in-library programs topped 40,000.

Adults were invited to an Escape the Ordinary series with 10 programs featuring local authors and entertainers from June through August, proving that summer learning at the library is not just for kids.

Families flocked to more than 240 hands-on, fun programs at neighborhood libraries when area schools closed their doors for time off and our staff rolled out Winter Break Happenings and Spring Break Happenings for children and teens.

Our customers learned the basics of many legal topics—from renters and employee rights to child support—in more than 60 Lawyers in Libraries workshops offered by partners Pro Bono Jacksonville Area Legal Aid and Three Rivers Legal Services.

"I love this library. It's a great use of sources and helps me with my homework. I love this place."
Argyle Branch Library Member
Our Mission: To foster success

“...is not only a helpful resource for any first-time job seeker but a more than helpful service for all.”
University Park Branch Library Member

Economic Success:

Young adults lined up outside the Dallas Graham Branch Library to take advantage of the Urban Library Center’s comprehensive job search program that began with workshops on resume writing and interviewing skills followed by a Job Fair with area employers.

A new partnership to support the area’s emerging entrepreneurs is now evident every month when the Main Library downtown makes space available for Jax Community of Entrepreneurs (JaxCoE) to meet and attend workshops.

Nearly 200 programs that provided the tools for financial and economic success took place all around the library system last year, from Small Business Resources workshops, to $ave Money Week programs, to tax preparation, to money programs for teens, to JEA Backpack Workshops.

More than 6,780 adults received in-person help preparing a resume, conducting a job search, and improving interviewing skills through the library’s partnership with CareerSource Northeast Florida.

Did you know?

A new survey from the Pew Research Center indicates that many Americans want their libraries to create programs for local businesses or entrepreneurs and to assist job seekers and those upgrading their work skills. Jacksonville Public Library does that and more.
Our Mission: To foster success

“I had very little computer experience; in fact, I was extremely afraid of it. The many resources the library has to offer are wonderful...”
Highlands Branch Library Member

Technology Success
Hundreds of Technology Classes

- Introduction to library services that enable customers to download digital materials, including e-books, audiobooks, magazines, movies, television shows, videos, music and more

- Computing, keyboarding, mouse skills, Microsoft programs, Internet searching, email, safety and security online, tablets and smartphones, and open-source software

- Social media, online shopping, web design, digital photography, blogging, technology for seniors, and 3D printing and design

- Open lab for job applications, online classes, and many computer classes available in Spanish

Did you know?
Our customers can call their library to schedule a free, hour-long 1-on-1 Tech Tutoring session with an e-library specialist.
Our Mission: To enrich lives, build communities and foster success by bringing people, information and ideas together.

- The Joy G. Korman Endowment, established in 2015 by the Korman Family in honor of Joy G. Korman, will fund the creation of a Joy G. Korman Discovery Zone in the library’s Children’s Room, with a mural created by Bolles School teacher Jim Smith and colleagues.

- In June, close to 300 teens and young adults attended the Dallas Graham Branch Library Job & Resource Fair for ages 16 – 21. The library also held adult job fairs in February and September at the Main Library, providing nearly 900 people an opportunity to meet with local businesses, discover career opportunities and distribute resumes.

- In January, more than 60 students attended the 15th annual North Florida Regional Braille Challenge held for the first time at the Main Library. Students attended from Duval and Clay counties and the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind in St. Augustine, drawing more participants than any previous challenge of its kind.

- In April, Beaches Watch, Inc. awarded the 2015 Friend of the Beaches Award to the Beaches Branch Library. The branch staff and volunteers were recognized for enriching life at the beaches by providing valuable community resources including programs, Internet access, materials and books, and public meeting rooms.

- Librarians Matthew Moyer and Andrew Coulon expanded their one-hour radio program “Lost in the Stacks” to a two-hour format at the request of WJCT. The second hour consists of live music played by local Jacksonville musicians.

“My experience at the library is always a pleasurable one. I received a library card from there about a year and a half ago, and it was the best decision I could have ever made.”

University Park Branch Library Member

FY 2015 Changes in Administration:

- In January, we bid farewell to Deputy Director of Public Services Carolyn Williams after 34 years of service to the library.

- In April, we welcomed our new Deputy Director Jennifer Giltrip, who joined us from the District of Columbia Public Library.

- Keli Likins was promoted to manager of the Southeast Region, which includes four library locations.

- Michael Sullivan was promoted to manager of the Urban Region, which includes four libraries and the Main Library.

L to R: Mayor Lenny Curry, Jacksonville Symphony Music Director Courtney Lewis, and Duval County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Nikolai Vitti.
The Conference Center at the Main Library

From a business meeting with hundreds of attendees to an intimate wedding reception, The Conference Center at the Main Library is the ideal setting with a variety of venues to choose from: an outdoor courtyard, two large multipurpose rooms, an auditorium and a private lounge.

Key Conference Center events included:
- Jewish Community Alliance Film Festival
- Regional Braille Challenge in partnership with the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind
- Jacksonville Black History Calendar Unveiling
- The Florida Times-Union Regional Spelling Bee
- Urban Education Symposium
- Mayor's Education Summit

Top Customer:
CSX Technologies

Did you know?

In Fiscal Year 2015, the Conference Center hosted 42 weddings—a wonderful way to enrich lives for many years to come!

"Thanks for making my wedding day as beautiful as the Main Library itself. I still can't believe how amazing it looked for both the ceremony and reception."

Main Library Conference Center bride
Meet the Board

We appreciate the leadership and dedication of our Board of Library Trustees members. These volunteers serve as the policy and planning body for the library system.

BOARD TERMS OF SERVICE, AS OF 2015

Erin Vance Skinner
Trustee: 2009 – 2016
Chair: 2014 – 2016

Guy K. Anderson
Trustee: 2013 – 2016
Vice-Chair: 2014 – 2015

Jackie Perry
Trustee: 2010 – 2017
Secretary: 2014 – 2015

Brenda Simmons-Hutchins, Ph.D.
Trustee: 2009 – 2017

Timothy J. Anderson
Trustee: 2014 – 2019

Sybil Ansbacher
Trustee: 2013 – 2019

Marc Hardesty
Trustee: 2013 – 2018

Ronnie King II
Trustee: 2012 – 2016

Charles Kleeman
Trustee: 2014 – 2018

Mario Payne
Trustee: 2015 – 2016

Gerald Reid
Trustee: 2011 – 2017

Council Member
Greg Anderson,
Ex Officio: 2013 – 2014,
2015 – 2016

Council Member
Richard Clark,
Ex Officio: 2014 – 2015

Council President
Clay Yarbrough,
Ex Officio: 2014 – 2015

Larry Roziers,
Duval County Public Schools,
Ex Officio: 2014 –

Did you know?

Trustees are appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. Each trustee serves a four-year term and may serve a total of two consecutive terms. The 12-member board also includes at least two non-voting members who serve in an ex officio capacity.
With a Little Help from Our Friends

Did you know? The library's current operating budget is less now than it was 10 years ago.
Donations to the Foundation help provide funding for the ongoing success and continuation of library programs.

Jacksonville Public Library Foundation, Inc.
The Jacksonville Public Library Foundation is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization providing support to the public library over and above taxpayer support and free from political influence by building public-private partnerships and encouraging investments for the future.

Ann L. Harwood-Nuss, M.D., Chair, Executive Director

Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library
The Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library groups encourage support of libraries, increase awareness of public libraries in the community, and raise funds to enhance library services for the good of the public library system. Fundraising events include book sales, author events and much more. Customers are invited to join a Friends group to support their neighborhood branch or the community-wide Friends group which helps libraries throughout Jacksonville.

Friends of Jacksonville Public Library
Sylvia Wren, President

Friends of the Beaches Branch Library
Joshua Messinger, President

Friends of the Olga L. Bradham and Etta L. Brooks Branch Library
Alisa Harrell, President

Friends of the Murray Hill Library
Bill Brinton, President

Friends of the Willowbranch Library
Roxanne Henkle, President

Friends of the Dallas Graham Branch Library
Celia Miller, President

Friends of the Brentwood Branch Library
Melvin Turnage, President

Friends of the South Mandarin Branch Library
Ed Zoller, President

Friends of the Maxville Branch Library
Kim North, President
With Many Thanks

Jacksonville Public Library wishes to acknowledge and express our sincere gratitude to our grantors, partners, sponsors and donors for their consistent support of library programs and services this year:

Collaborators, Grantors & Partnerships

AARP Florida
AARP Foundation, Inc.
American Library Association
CareerSource Northeast Florida
City of Jacksonville Disabled Services Division
City of Jacksonville Parking Division
Cultural Fusion
Downtown Vision, Inc.
Duval County Public Schools
ElderSource
Florida Department of Education
Florida Department of State Division of Library & Information Services
Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI)
Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB)
Florida State Library and Archives
Friends of the Beaches Branch Library
Friends of the Brentwood Library
Friends of Hemming Park
Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library, Inc.
Friends of the Murray Hill Library
Jacksonville Public Libraries Foundation, Inc.
Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra
JaxCoE
Learn to Read, Inc.
Northeast Florida Information Network (NEFLIN)
University of Florida IFAS Duval Extension Office
WJCT, Inc.
WJCT Radio Reading Service

Donations – Cash and In-kind Gifts

Organizational Donors
BL-LO Holdings Foundation
City of Jacksonville Disabled Services Division
City of Jacksonville Parking Division
Clay Council of the Blind
Clube do Livro
College Park Garden Circle
Cub Scout Pack 131
Daughters of the American Revolution, Jacksonville Chapter (DAR)
David and Bonnie Foster Advised Fund
Duval County Public Schools
Feltel Family Foundation, Inc.
First Coast Romance Writers, Inc.
Friends of the Beaches Branch Library
Friends of the Brentwood Library
Friends of Dallas Graham Branch Library
Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library, Inc.
Friends of South Mandarin Library
FSCJ Vision Education & Rehabilitation Center
Girl Scouts of Gateway Council, Inc. Whispering Pines Service Unit
Jacksonville Chinese School
Jacksonville Council of the Blind
Jacksonville Public Libraries Foundation, Inc.
Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra
Jewish Community Alliance
Jordan & Shirley Ansbaecher Foundation, Inc.
Living Water Christian Church of Jacksonville
Mandarin Garden Club
Mandarin Museum & Historical Society
National Federation of the Blind of Florida, Greater Jacksonville Chapter
National League of American Pen Women, Jacksonville Branch
Neighbor M.A.N.I.A.
Newcomers Alumnae
Sirsi Dynix ”Favorite Library Contest”
Temple Sisterhood Braille Group
Theatre Jacksonville
The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, Inc.
UNF Shark Biology Program
UNF Delta Gamma Fraternity Eta Delta Chapter
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<th>Business Donors</th>
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James A. Montgomery, M.D.
John Murr
Leslie Patterson
A. Riles
Bryan Sendosso
Kelly Solomon
Spingola Family
Marco Vann
Hester Wolf

Talking Books Special Needs Library
Clinton H. Blood Northwestern Mutual
The Herbert & Doris Seubert Charitable Fund
Carolyn McAfee
Charles E. Marquardt
Florence M. Marquardt
Eleanor F. Slimmon

Memorial Tributes

Carolyn Williams Staff Fund
Marian Bunch
Jimmy Burns
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Cannon
Susan Derrick
Friends of Murray Hill Library
Barbara A. B. Gubbin
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hazelip
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Henderson
A. Elaine Kitchings
Dr. & Mrs. Alton D. Kline
Kathy Lussier
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Patricia Mason
Presbyterian Women, Riverside Presbyterian Church

Dorothy Johnson
Friends of Beaches Branch Library

Shirley Gray
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Conrad J. Gregoire
Jill Kloberdanz

Larry Smith
Betty L. Donahue
Patricia D. Knowles
Lonette D. Seaton

William Hinton White, Jr.
Michael A. Caneleto
Marian Hilton & Family
Visit our locations... and see our impact firsthand.

1. Main Library:
   630-2665  303 Laura St. N., 32202
   • Center for Adult Learning: 630-2426
   • Talking Books and Special Needs Library 630-1999 (TTY: 630-2740)

2. Argyle Branch:
   573-3164  7973 Old Middleburg Road, 32222

3. Beaches Branch:
   241-1141  600 3rd St., 32266

4. Olga L. Bradham and Etta L. Brooks Branch:
   765-5402  1755 Edgewood Ave. W., 32208

5. Brentwood Branch:
   630-0924  3725 Pearl St., 32206

6. Brown Eastside Branch:
   630-5466  1390 Harrison St., 32206

7. Dallas Graham Branch:
   630-0922  2304 Myrtle Ave. N., 32209

8. Highlands Regional:
   757-7702  1826 Dunn Ave., 32218

9. Mandarin Branch:
   262-5201  3330 Kori Road, 32257

10. Maxville Branch:
    289-7563  8375 Maxville Blvd., 32234

11. Murray Hill Branch:
    384-2665  918 Edgewood Ave. S., 32205

12. Pablo Creek Regional:
    992-7101  13295 Beach Blvd., 32246

13. Regency Square Branch:
    726-5142  9900 Regency Square Blvd., 32225

14. San Marco Branch:
    858-2907  1513 LaSalle St., 32207

15. South Mandarin Branch:
    288-6385  12125 San Jose Blvd., 32223

16. Southeast Regional:
    996-0325  10599 Deerwood Park Blvd., 32256

17. University Park Branch:
    630-1265  3435 University Blvd. N., 32277

18. Charles Webb Wesconnett Regional:
    778-7305  6887 103rd St., 32210

19. West Branch:
    693-1448  1425 Chaffee Road S., 32221

20. Westbrook Branch:
    384-7424  2809 Commonwealth Ave., 32254

21. Willowbranch Branch:
    381-8490  2875 Park St., 32205

Library Anniversaries in FY 2015:

The library celebrated 10 years of service at five library locations. The anniversary parties included children’s activities, special guests, door prizes, visits from area community partners and more.

Pablo Creek Regional Library, October 2014
University Park Branch Library, October 2014
South Mandarin Branch Library, June 2015
Maxville Branch Library, July 2015
West Branch Library, August 2015

Dallas Graham Branch Library marked a half-century of service with a golden anniversary party in June. More than 80 people came out to celebrate and share memories. The program included presentations, special guests, music, refreshments and a commemorative video.

Looking Ahead:

In September 2015, Jacksonville’s City Council approved an extra $1M of funding for the library’s budget. These funds will be used to extend the hours of several higher-demand library branches, resulting in a net 88 additional hours per week of branch availability in FY 2016.
Branch Photos

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