

2009 Annual Report

Presented by the Marlborough Public
Library Board of Trustees

Library Mission

The mission of the Marlborough Public Library is to create a community meeting house where citizens of all ages are free to gather and pursue common educational, cultural and recreational interests.

Overview

The Marlborough Public Library continued to enrich the lives of the city's residents in 2009 by offering a wide range of free services and materials in a comfortable, accessible environment.

The ongoing effort to update our collection to meet the diverse needs of our community has resulted in a steady increase in circulation and activity in our library. In 2009, total circulation rose 17.64%, representing the second year in a row in which the library has experienced double digit circulation increases.

In addition to providing residents with an array of educational and leisure materials in a host of formats, the library conducted over 400 programs in 2009 for children, young adults and adults. These ranged from Story Hour and summer reading programs for children to book clubs and educational programs for young adults and adults. Further enrichment programs were offered by The Friends of the Marlborough Public Library throughout the year.

Free Internet access continued to be a very popular service provided by the library. Many patrons utilize this service every day via our bank of computers, or by accessing our wireless service on their own laptops.

Our collection of museum passes was as popular as ever in 2009. These passes offer free or reduced priced admission at a number of local and Boston-area museums and attractions, such as the New England Aquarium and the Museum of Science.

2009 by the Numbers

- 242,063 items circulated
- 1,595 museum passes used.
- 420 programs presented by the library staff
- 5,470 people attended programs at the library
- 8,806 new materials added to the library's collection during 2009.
- 28,489 computer sessions hosted at the library.
- According to FY2008 data, per capita expenditure for the library was \$20.22 or 0.81% of total municipal expenditures.

Facility Improvements

Steady progress was made throughout 2009 to improve the library facility and ensure it remains a warm, inviting environment for our patrons. Improvements included:

- New carpeting, flooring and a fresh coat of paint to improve the overall appearance of our entrance and other areas of the building.
- Upgraded shelving, coupled with improvements in call numbers, to make it easier for patrons to find materials.
- New/refurbished furnishings, tables with electric outlets for electronic devices, and a rearranged overall floor plan to create a wider range of more comfortable seating areas.
- A minor facelift in the Children's Room to improve the play area.
- New furniture and a new seating arrangement in the Young Adult area to make that section of the library more appealing to patrons.



New Books area



Young Adult area

Supporting Organizations

The Friends of the Marlborough Public Library

In 2009, nearly 3,000 people enjoyed a host of stellar programs offered by the Friends of the Marlborough Public Library. With only a few exceptions, these programs were presented free of charge to Marlborough residents. Highlights included its always-popular author/celebrity speaking series, which this year featured a special presentation by noted author and historian Doris Kearns Goodwin. In addition, the Friends presented a range of outstanding music programs, a remarkable photography show, a juried art exhibit, and numerous social events. Now celebrating its 40th year, this all-volunteer organization has 385 members who continue to support the mission of the Marlborough Public Library.

Marlborough Public Library Foundation

The foundation is a non-profit organization created to raise funds for the improvement, enrichment and recognition of the library as vital and necessary entity for the citizens of Marlborough.

MPL Online—The library information you need is right at your fingertips.

- Visit <http://www.marlboroughpubliclibrary.org>
- Become a fan of the Marlborough Public Library on Facebook!