





Together, we create welcoming spaces where all are free to explore and connect.

INSIDE THIS REPORT

From Denver Public Library Leadership 5

Program Stories 6, 10, 11

Financials 13

Denver Public Library Friends Foundation 14

> Supporters 17

Locations 21



Dear Library Community,

Right now, our world feels uncertain due to the COVID-19 crisis. This is uncharted territory for all of us, and we face many unknowns. I am so proud of our staff, our Library Commission, the Friends Foundation, the City and library leadership for coming together to serve our customers virtually. This is a time when our community needs us more than ever.

As we look back on 2019 and celebrate our accomplishments, at the same time we are looking ahead as we adapt and plan for new ways to provide library services.

Several highlights stand out for Denver Public Library in 2019: In January, we eliminated fines.
Customers have been coming back ever since and we couldn't be happier. Removing barriers to library use has made a positive impact. We began the celebration of our 130th birthday and are looking forward to the next 13 decades, and beyond, of serving the community.

Thanks to Denver voters, we continued plans to renovate the Central Library and several branch libraries, as part of the Elevate Denver Bond that provided for \$69.3 million. This funding allows us to take care of long overdue maintenance to our facilities, enhance our buildings and better serve our customers.

In 2019, we connected millions of people to information, services and resources. It is a privilege to serve our customers, and we take delight in their successes. In this year's report, we share some of their stories. We also take a look back at our 130-year history, one of which we are extremely proud.

We thank you, as well as our volunteers, for your continued support of the library.

Michelle Jeske

Michelle !

City Librarian

Carlos Martinez

President

Denver Public Library Commission

Denver Public Library Executive Team

City Librarian: Michelle Jeske Interim Chief of Staff: Bria Ward Central Library Administrator: Rachel Fewell Director of Neighborhood Services: Annie Kemmerling Assistant to the City Librarian: Bec Czarnecki Director of Collections, Technology & Strategy: Zeth Lietzau Director of Communications & Community Engagement: Erika R. Martinez Director of Finance and Facilities: Amber Lindberg Director of Human Resources: Bria Ward Executive Assistant III: Stephanie Pinales

Denver Public Library Commission

Carlos Martinez, President
Catherine Lucas, Vice President
Laurie Mathews, Secretary
Jehan Benton-Clark
Vicki Hellmer
Alice Kelly
Michael Niyompong
Sonya Ulibarri



Journey to new friendships

Florencia Ramos rolls through the book sorting space in the basement of the Central Library, in her wheelchair, chatting with staff. Here, volunteers

sort donated books, DVDs and CDs, which will eventually be sold at one of the Friends Foundation's popular book sales.

Flo, as she is affectionately called by her close-knit family and friends, loves the library. Library staff and other volunteers love her too. They even surprised her recently with a birthday cake on her big day. Born with cerebral palsy, Flo, age 20, has been in a wheelchair her entire life and has faced challenges along the way. There were the expected mobility issues, but she also struggled with talking to people and making friends.

"People stare and sometimes can't understand me because my speech isn't clear," she says shyly. "I'm the only one at my school who uses a chair and who has cerebral palsy."

But the West High School senior loves reading and anything to do with books. When her teacher asked if she wanted to work at the library, the answer was an enthusiastic yes. As a collaboration with the Denver Public Schools ACEConnect Career Engage Internship Program for students with disabilities, Flo volunteers one afternoon a week, organizing CDs and DVDs.

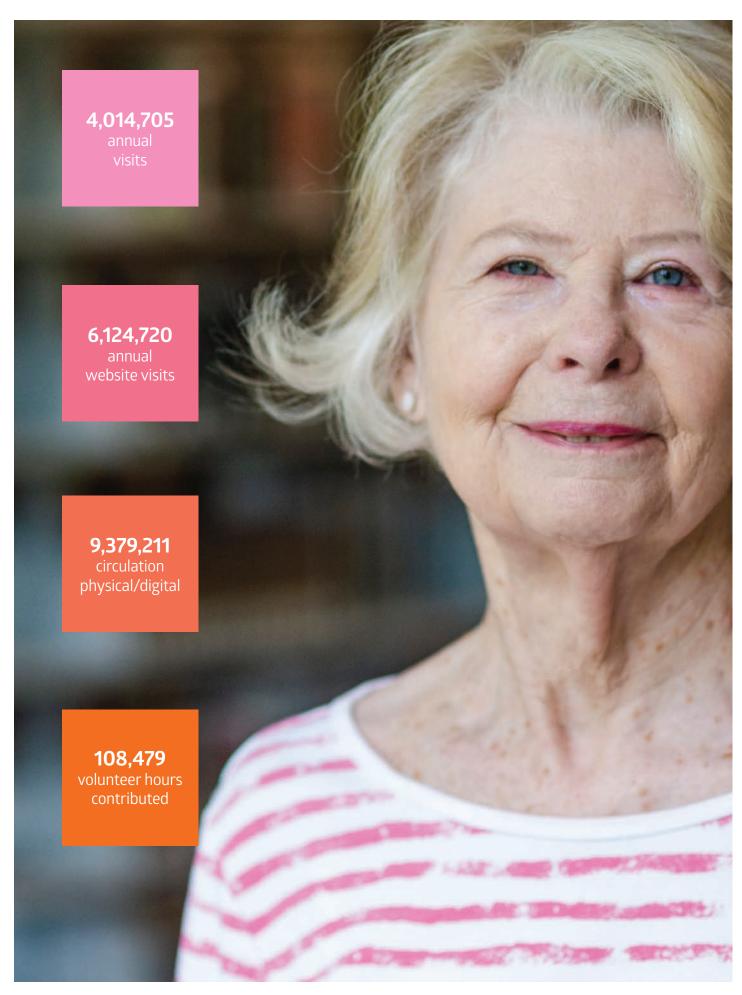
"Flo has grown so much during her three years with us. She is comfortable with the volunteers and confident with the systems in our space," says Gretchen Roberts, Friends Foundation director of philanthropy - marketing, events and book sales.

After her shift, Flo often goes to the Children's Library and the Teen Space on the first floor. "The librarians ask me about myself and I get to talk to them about my day" she says, smiling. "The best thing about the library is the people. And getting to check out all the books I want."

1889



What will become the Denver Public Library begins in the south wing of Denver High School

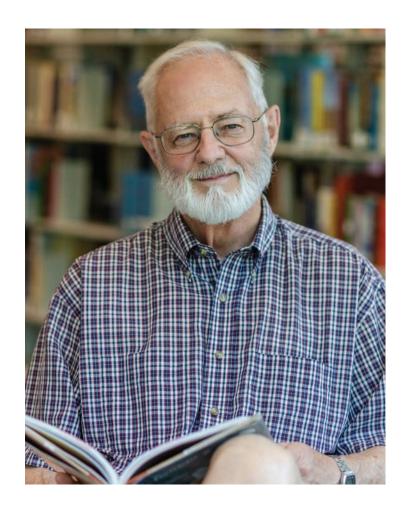




The Denver Public Library is the most visited cultural institution in our city.

Eighty-six percent of people who responded to a survey after attending one of the library's programs for older adults said they felt happier.

An average of 2,500 people walk through the doors of the Central Library every day.





Journey to a treasured memory

When Ed and Kathy Whitney married some 38 years ago, Kathy told her new groom, who is now 88, "I think this is going to be a good marriage." She was right; they are happily wed and going strong.

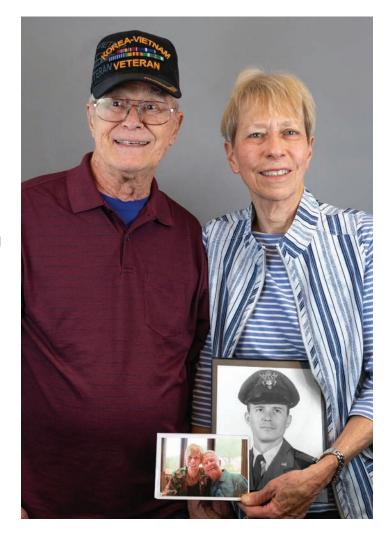
Unfortunately, Ed is suffering from the effects of dementia, so the two came to a program hosted by the library for older adults, called Photography and Memory. And while Ed has difficulty remembering some things, there was an unmistakable twinkle in his eyes when he talked about a photo of the two of them.

The Photography and Memory program is a collaboration between the University of Denver and Denver Public Library that pairs university students with older adults, some of whom have memory loss. The project helps people talk about the stories of their lives through the medium of photography, leading to powerful conversations, friendships and realizations.

Each person was asked to choose a treasured photo that holds meaning for them (the one they would save if they had to escape a burning building).

"This led to a beautiful connection and reminds us that we are all connected to one another," says Amy DelPo, administrator of programs for older adults. "When we talk about our favorite photos, we are sharing the most important stories of our lives."

"The human connection with customers like Ed and Kathy," she says, "inspires us each and every day."





1910
"Old Main" Library opens and is the first building in Civic Center

Journey to a high school diploma



Reyes Saucedo has dreamed of being a police officer since he was five years old.

"It's just something I always wanted to do," says the 21-year-old Colorado native.

But there were challenges.

"School and life got in the way," says the polite 21-year-old, who shows up early to appointments, addresses people as ma'am and sir, and opens the door for others.

"I got into some shenanigans," he says. "I guess you could say I grew up too fast."

Reyes didn't graduate from high school with his classmates, which he regretted

the most when it came time to complete a job application.

But he learned about the library's Career Online High School, a free online diploma and career certification, and immediately enrolled. Reyes says that library staff member Viviana Casillas inspired him. He studied hard, even while he was working a graveyard shift, and completed all of the requirements in less than half the usual time.

"I could finally add that I have my diploma on my application to the police force," he says with his signature wraparound smile. "I want to be a police officer who changes people's minds. If I could help one person, that would be amazing."





REVENUE

\$54,282,431

Grants - State & Federal

\$167.192.40

Donations, Transfers, Misc

\$2,616,969.73

City General Funds

\$51.498.269.62

EXPENDITURES

\$53,691,750

Library Programs

\$1,125,794.23

Technology

\$1,884,307.99

Administration & Other

\$3,767,310.90

Library Materials

\$6,347,867.90

Staff Salaries & Expenditures

\$40,566,469.60

FRIENDS FOUNDATION

DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

2019 Statement of Financial Position (as of December 31, 2019)

Total Assets

\$10,103,204

Equipment

\$1,539

Pledges & Accounts Receivable

\$137.108

Cash & Cash Equivalents

\$1,276,833

Long Term Investments

\$8,687,724

Liabilities & Net Assets

\$10,103,204

Net Assets with Donor Restrictions

\$8,398,507

Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses

\$44,605

Net Assets without Donor Restrictions

\$1,660,092

2019 Statement of Activities (for the year ending December 31, 2019)

Revenue

\$1,892,778

In Kind Services/Facilities

\$58.701

Events & Book Sales

\$421,444

Memberships

\$135,901

Contributions

\$1,276,732

Expenses

\$2,984,388

Distributions to Library²

\$2.044.424

Other Library Program Assistance

\$93,988

Supporting Services

\$845,976

Revenue is exclusive of \$1.322 MM in 2019 investment returns.
 Distributions to the library includes \$1.786 MM from prior year commitments.

A Message from the Denver Public Library Friends Foundation

Dear Friends,

We are grateful for our members, individual and corporate donors, Foundation grantors, book buyers, Ball participants and volunteers. We thank you for your time, talent and generosity.

Though the COVID-19 pandemic is creating many challenges, we are working hard to pursue solutions in partnership with the library and our community. The Foundation is assisting the library with immediate and longer-term challenges such as funding the expansion of digital access.

While we know these are difficult times, if you are in a position to give, please go to dplfriends.org and do so. A gift at this time would help with this digital inclusion work and other urgent community needs due to the pandemic.

The Foundation has an 80-year history of augmenting the public funding the library receives with philanthropic funding. Here's what we have to celebrate from 2019:

• We provided \$2.1 million in distributions to the

library. This included \$200,000 in unrestricted gifts, \$250,000 in endowment distributions, and \$1.65 million in restricted gifts.

- These funds supported children's programming, the Western History and Genealogy department, services to immigrants and refugees, services to those experiencing homelessness and other life challenges, makerspaces, the collections and materials the library circulates, and more.
- A Story Still to Tell campaign was launched to raise funds for the Central Library's first major renovation in 25 years, and for endowment and program needs. The capital goal is \$12 million and through Q1 of 2020, we have raised \$4.4 million.

We are excited to carry on the tremendous legacy of the Foundation and thank you for your support. Special thanks go to Pam Jewett for her two years of service as Board Chair during a time of significant positive transition. Please reach out to any of us with questions or ideas at friends@denverlibrary.org. We wish you health, safety and the very best as pandemic recovery occurs in our world. We are optimistic about the future, and we hope you are too!

Yours very truly,

Pam Jewett

Chair, Board of Trustees, 2019

Famila Jewitt

Jeff Riley

Executive Director

Deb DeMuth

Chair, Board of Trustees 2020



1918 Smiley Branch Library opens; Byers Branch Library opens



The Denver Public Library Friends Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that enriches our community by building support and fundraising to enhance the services and programs of Denver Public Library. Primary operations include direct fundraising with individuals, corporations and foundations, membership, used book sales, events, advocacy and endowment management. Through its fundraising, volunteerism and advocacy work, the Foundation has served as an important philanthropic partner to the library since 1940.









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Philanthropy Specialist – Used Book Sales, Megan Spencer

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Philanthropy Specialist - Monica Peritt

Director of Philanthropy – Events, Marketing & Book Sales, Gretchen Roberts

Director of Philanthropy – Individual & Planned Giving, Marshall Wallach



1920 Elyria Branch Library opens; Park Hill Branch Library opens

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of:

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Viviana Casillas Rachelle Naishtut

Michael William Barrow

Marcia & Will Johnson Christine Shore Ana Wahl

Sarah Austin Burbank

Rosemary Burbank

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1930



First Eugene Field Branch Library opens

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Denver Public Library

Photos by

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Morrissey

Judith & Reif Heck

1935
Western History
Department opens

Maharas

Sharla Marshall

LOCATIONS

Central Library

10 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy. 80204 720-865-1111

NORTHWEST

Byers Branch Library

675 Santa Fe Dr. 80204 720-865-0160

Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales Branch Library

1498 N. Irving St. 80204 720-865-2370

Ross-Barnum Branch Library

3570 W. First Ave. 80219 720-865-0145

Smiley Branch Library

4501 W. 46th Ave. 80212 720-865-0260

Woodbury Branch Library

3265 Federal Blvd. 80211 720-865-0930

NORTHEAST

Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library

2401 Welton St. 80205 720-865-2401

Ford-Warren Branch Library

2825 High St. 80205 720-865-0920

Green Valley Ranch Branch Library

4856 N. Andes Ct. 80249 720-865-0310

Montbello Branch Library

12955 Albrook Dr. 80239 720-865-0200

Park Hill Branch Library

4705 Montview Blvd. 80207 720-865-0250

Pauline Robinson Branch Library

5575 E. 33rd Ave. 80207 720-865-0290

Ross-Cherry Creek Branch Library

305 Milwaukee St. 80206 720-865-0120

Sam Gary Branch Library

2961 Roslyn St. 80238 720-865-0325

Schlessman Family Branch Library

100 Poplar St. 80220 720-865-0000

Valdez-Perry Branch Library

4690 Vine St. 80216 720-865-0300

SOUTHWEST

Athmar Park Branch Library

1055 S. Tejon St. 80223 720-865-0230

Bear Valley Branch Library

5171 W. Dartmouth Ave. 80236 720-865-0975

Hadley Branch Library

1890 S. Grove St. 80219 720-865-0170

Westwood Branch Library

1000 S. Lowell Blvd. 80219 720-865-0215

SOUTHEAST

Decker Branch Library

1501 S. Logan St. 80210 720-865-0220

Eugene Field Branch Library

810 S. University Blvd. 80209 720-865-0240

Hampden Branch Library

9755 E. Girard Ave. 80231 720-865-0185

Ross-Broadway Branch Library

33 E. Bayaud Ave. 80209 720-865-0135

Ross-University Hills Branch Library

4310 E. Amherst Ave. 80222 720-865-0955

Virginia Village Branch Library

1500 S. Dahlia St. 80222 720-865-0940

DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY TIMELINE



1940 Denver Public Library Friends established



Dahlia Branch Library opens

1968

1970

1971



Michael Graves designed Denver Central Library remodel and expansion opens

1995



1951 Ross-Broadway Branch Library opens



New location of Eugene Field Branch Library opens



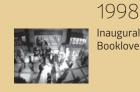
Internet access arrives; Valdez-Perry Branch Library opens; Pauline Robinson Branch Library opens



1954 Ross-Barnum Branch Library opens



Bear Valley Branch Library opens



Inaugural Booklovers Ball



1956 Burnham-Hoyt Central Library opens



1975 Ford-Warren Branch Library opens



2002 Schlessman Family Branch Library opens



1962 Ross-University Hills Branch Library opens; Ross-Cherry Creek Branch Library opens



Hampden Branch Library opens

1975



2003 Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library opens



Athmar Park Branch Library opens. Temporary branches open at Bear Valley, Montclair, South Holly, and Chaffee Park.



Montbello Branch Library opens; Westwood Branch Library opens



2015 Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales Branch Library opens



1964 Hadley Branch Library opens

1963



Athmar Park Branch Library and Virginia Village Branch Library open in their current locations



2020+ A Story Still To Tell

1994



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