connecting
Kevin Gile  
President of Friends Foundation

Shirley Amore  
City Librarian

Jay Mead  
President of Library Commission

The Denver Public Library had much to celebrate in 2013. Our customers were all smiles to find our doors open an astounding 40 percent more than the previous year. We thank you—the voters—for passing Ballot Measure 2A to ensure that we serve the community with more hours and resources.

We are also very pleased to report that the Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales Branch Library in West Denver is under construction and scheduled to open by the end of 2014. This is the third and final branch funded by the 2007 Better Denver Bond Program.

In 2013, we connected millions of customers to information, ideas and experiences. More than four million people walked through our doors and nearly 11 million customers visited us online. Customers checked out almost 10 million items and attended hundreds of programs. A record 41,263 kids participated in Summer of Reading, which promotes reading, literacy and life-long learning.

Behind every statistic is a personal journey. In this year’s Annual Report, several customers share their stories. We are privileged to serve our customers and delight in their personal triumphs.

We are profoundly grateful to each of you for your support of the Library and the Friends Foundation, and to our volunteers and docents who donated more than 100,000 hours of service. Without you, we could not serve the community as well.

Jay Mead,  
President of Library Commission

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City Librarian

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President of Friends Foundation

Molly’s hard work paid off. The straight-A student placed first in the Junior Exhibits category at the Denver Public Schools competition, then moved on to the state competition where she placed second. It just got better from there. She then traveled to Maryland with her parents to compete in the national competition, against 112 of the best exhibits in the country. Molly brought home the bronze.

Molly says, “I would rather do my research at the Library than on the Internet.” No doubt that is music to the ears of librarians everywhere.

Joe was among the first people with whom Molly shared her good news. “I couldn’t be more proud of her if she were my own niece,” he says with a smile.

Reference Librarian Joe Cahn congratulates Molly Maier on her national award-winning entry.

ON THE COVER

“I couldn’t be more proud of her if she were my own niece.”

Reference Librarian Joe Cahn

Reference librarians answered 506,012 questions in 2013 and also assisted customers such as Molly one-on-one.
Four-year-old Reese Robinson has one thing on her mind when she comes to the Children’s Library at Central: snuggling with the big brown stuffed bear. It’s no surprise. Her favorite book – which “Nana” Janet Reese says she has read to the youngster ‘at least a hundred times’ – is No Sleep for the Sheep.

Reese participated in the Library’s Summer of Reading program in the pre-school category which is geared toward completing activities with parents or guardians. Reese completed enough activities to claim her prizes: a yellow duck, a book and a backpack.

But the prizes weren’t the highlights. Reese says that reading stories with Mom and Dad was “awesome.”

Mom Brittany Robinson says since Summer of Reading, Reese gathers her stuffed animals, pretends they are her students and reads aloud to them. Awesome, indeed.

A record 41,263 kids participated in Summer of Reading.
Bob Ragland 
comes to the 
Ford-Warren 
Branch Library 
faithfully at least three days a week to read 
The Denver Post and a list of other newspapers.

“If I don’t read the paper every day, I’m afraid I might miss something that could be helpful.”
— Bob Ragland

“I prefer to read the hard copy because it’s not edited like the online version,” says the artist/educator, adding, “If I don’t read the paper every day, I’m afraid I might miss something that could be helpful.”

Bob has been coming to the northeast Denver branch, which is a ten-minute stroll from his home, “since it opened.”

“You can just say, ‘more than fifty years,’” Bob adds with a chuckle.

The Ohio native, who is listed in Who’s Who in American Art and whose work is featured in the Kirkland Museum, not only catches up on the news at the Library but researches the latest trends in art and marketing. Bob believes in helping other artists. He rarely misses a chance to hand out one of his business cards which includes his philosophy on marketing:

“Remember that people will not knock your studio door down to buy your art. Market or starve!”

Senior Librarian Annie Kemmerling says that she has developed a relationship with Bob over the years. “We talk art, and I’ve learned a lot from Bob.” The entire staff at Ford-Warren knows Bob by name. And he knows them.

“The staff is the best ever, so friendly and helpful,” Bob adds. “I just love the people here.”

Bob Ragland is one of 390,000 Denver Public Library card holders.
We connect customers to information, ideas and experiences.

At the ripe old age of 12, Quinton Feast has produced a movie, altered images in Photoshop and built a programmable robot with LEGO Mindstorms – all in the ideaLAB on level four of the Central Library.

Quinton is a weekly regular at the state-of-the-art digital media lab where teens can express themselves electronically to their hearts’ content.

Here, 12 to 19-year-olds can design a website, record an original song, or create a video complete with special effects. The ideaLAB has a list of software long enough to make any tech-loving teen swoon. There’s GarageBand, Dreamweaver, Cakewalk Sonar X1, and GameMaker Studio.

“The lab has really been popular since we opened,” says Library Program Associate Nate Stone who oversees the tech-rich lab. “We’re very proud of the fact that we have developed an environment where kids can learn and feel comfortable playing around and experimenting,” Stone adds.

“It’s great to see kids making cool stuff – at the Library.” The idea behind the lab is to engage teens in the production of all things digital by building on their interests in games, movies, music and art, and thus developing skills that will serve them in school and in their future careers.

The strategy seems to be working – at least in Quinton’s case. The seventh grader wants to be an engineer one day. But for right now, he’s content to build and program a robot. As one of his peers says, “Epic.”

Denver’s rapid growth in the 1970s led to the 1975 opening of twin branch libraries Montbello and Hampden. More than thirty years later, thanks to the 2007 Better Denver Bond Program, both received technology upgrades, renovations and infrastructure improvements.

The DPL’s ideaLAB is a state-of-the-art digital media creation center where teens learn core STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) concepts through creative expression. The lab was made possible through a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the Colorado State Library.

In 2013, we had 10,813,807 online visits and provided 127 public access computers for our community.

In 1975 local artist Carlota Espinoza was commissioned by the Denver Public Library to create a mural for the Byers Branch Library. The awe-inspiring 20-foot mural, Pasado, Presente, Futuro, was restored by Espinoza in 2011.
We connect people to information, ideas and experiences.

When Lap Le and his wife Duong Nguyen moved to Denver from Vietnam in 2008 to live with their daughter and her husband, they spoke little English and knew nothing about libraries in this country.

They soon discovered the Hadley Branch Library and the many services it offers including Plaza programs, which provide services to new immigrants. The couple came faithfully to the southwest Denver branch with their daughter and grandchildren to practice English and work toward their U.S. citizenship.

“Plazas were designed specifically to help new immigrants with many different needs,” explains Pilar Castro-Reino, branch cluster manager.

Plazas provide services to new immigrants and learners who need assistance with information access, English, understanding cultural practices, developing new social networks, using homework resources, health information, computer/technology, job searching and more. Parents can get help while their kids are nearby sharing other program resources with their friends. The entire family can embark on creative pursuits together while at the same time contributing a fresh perspective to our community.

“Kids, parents, grandparents can all come here for support,” adds Will Chan, program coordinator of New Immigrant Initiatives for the Library.

Lap Le and Duong Nguyen studied diligently and passed the citizenship exam. He remembers the exact day and place he and his wife took the oath to become U.S. citizens.

“We will always remember,” he says proudly. “We love this country. And, we love the Library.”

In 2013, some 4.3 million customers walked through our doors, each with a story and a personal journey.
Denver Public Library 2013 financials

**Library Revenues**
- City general fund: $37,827,017
- Donations, transfers, misc revenues: $2,304,414
- Contributions, less direct expenses: $256,175
- Investment income: $40,286,206
- Total Revenues: $40,288,206

**Library Expenditures**
- Staff salaries & expenditures: $29,795,900
- Library materials: $5,023,082
- Supplies, services: $3,952,972
- Total Expenditures: $38,766,954

Friends Foundation 2013 audited financials

**Financial Position**
- Contributions: $1,655,966
- Investment income: $859,816
- Investment losses: $271,512
- Contributions: $254,150
- Membership fees: $35,500
- Total Revenue: $1,076,044

**Activities**
- Long term investments: $7,509,466
- Staff salaries & benefits: $1,695,866
- Pledges: $707,341
- Accounts receivable, prepaid expenses: $21,067
- Total Liabilities: $9,595,928
- Total Assets: $9,595,928
items circulated in 2013: 9,811,501
memorial gifts

In Memory of:

- Wayne B. Coffey
- Janice Brenner
- Judith & James Brenner
- Richard Das
- Thelma Moore
- Janice & Jim Branch
- Janet & Mark Daily
- Diane Hinchman
- Jane Hullin
- Mr. & Mrs. Walter Hullin
- Joanna & Gregory Johnson
- Ilene Kamlet
- Jennifer Lauter
- Robert Mantsby
- Teresa Maderehill
- Carol Morrison
- Rose Petronella
- Dennis & Ann Smith
- Barbara & Larry Stewart
- Clare & Tracy Spence
- Joseph & Jill Swenson
- Judy & Bob Tyler
- John & Connie Waters
- Maurice & Judy Weins
- Stephen Werner
- Tricia & Mike Huguelet

route gifts

- In Honor of:
  - Kristen Ashley
  - Allie Cameron
  - Dixie Good
  - Steven Katan
  - Vicki Helmman
  - Elizabeth Neufeld

100,000+

Colorado State Library, State Grants to Libraries
- Estate of Shawn Gravelle
- Institute of Museum and Library Services
- Lutheran Family Fund of The Denver Foundation
- Estate of Avery A. Nemiro
- Estate of S. Viola Smith

25,000-$99,999

- Estate of Evelyn Bravron
- Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation
- Denver Public Library Trust
- The Janus Foundation
- Helen K. & Arthur E. Johnson Foundation
- Target
- Estate of Mary E. Wiedemann
- Estate of David A. Weir

$10,000-$24,999

- William Sharpless Jackson
- Joseph Endowment of The Denver Foundation
- Elizabeth & Michael King
- Metropolitan State University of Denver
- Montecillo Associates

- Mountain States Toyota
- TD Ameritrade
- Tenesh Mountain Division Foundation
- Denver Public Library Foundation
- FirstBank Holding Company of Colorado
- Billie Gaskill Trust
- Harriet C. Kellogg Foundation
- Ingram Content Group
- Interlock Construction Corp.
- Jennifer Joseph
- Love Fund of The Denver Foundation
- Northern Trust Bank
- Otten, Johnson, Robinson, Neff & Ragonetti
- Payday Foundation
- Andrea Pollack
- Renal Ventures Management
- Gowanwadeen-Susan Shepherd

- Stapleton Master Community Association
- Teletech Community Foundation
- Town Center Dentistry and Orthodontics

$5,000-$9,999

- AMG National Trust Bank
- Linda & Wes Brown
- Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck DaVita
- Denver Post Community Foundation
- FirstBank Holding Company of Colorado
- Billie Gaskill Trust
- Harriet C. Kellogg Foundation
- Ingram Content Group
- Interlock Construction Corp.
- Jennifer Joseph
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- Otten, Johnson, Robinson, Neff & Ragonetti
- Payday Foundation
- Andrea Pollack
- Renal Ventures Management
- Gowanwadeen-Susan Shepherd

- Stapleton Master Community Association
- Teletech Community Foundation
- Town Center Dentistry and Orthodontics

$1,000-$4,999

- Adelphi & Peterson Construction
- Joanne & Richard Ackroyd
- Shirley & John Amore
- Elizabeth & Evan Andeamer
- The William H. Anderson Foundation
- Anton Collins Mitchell
- Alicia Bakamenza
- Baldwin Morgan & Riker Barnhart Communications
- Bauerle & Company
- The Thomas W. Bean Foundation
- Kim Bassen & Allen Stover
- Shelia Bivens
- BNBD, LLC
- Claudia & Marc Braunstein
- Sue Carroll
- Ann & John Chafee
- Merle C. Chambers & Hugh A. Grant

- Stapleton Master Community Association
- Teletech Community Foundation
- Town Center Dentistry and Orthodontics

Donations

- Located on level five of the Central Library, this Western History/Genealogy Department’s Reading Room is a haven for researchers. To invoke a Western feel, architect Michael Graves created the three-story Symbol of the West made of Douglas fir from a sawmill that was scavenged in the 1970s.

- In Honor of: Kristen Ashley
- Allie Cameron
- Dixie Good
- Steven Katan
- Vicki Helmman
- Elizabeth Neufeld

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  - Kristen Ashley
  - Allie Cameron
  - Dixie Good
  - Steven Katan
  - Vicki Helmman
  - Elizabeth Neufeld

- Twist Phelan & Jack Chapple
- Margaret of G. W. Coll
- Sam Schwartz
- Celoe & Jack Gryzinski
- Katie & Kenneth Katz
- Lisa Wol & Steven Zemberg
- Mary & Jason Sloan
- Louis & Saul Sloan

- In Memory of:
  - Lena Archuleta
  - Lupe Arguello
  - Florencia Northway
  - Mary E. Baca
  - Flora Rodriguez Russell
  - Dan Russell
  - Judith Cunningham Braar
  - Thomas Braar
  - Nancy E. Bathke
  - Bob Pulcipher
  - Jack Mc. Bland
  - Lawren Blank
  - Evelyn Brewer
  - Dorothy Haug
  - Laurn & George Kjeldseth
  - Peter Bruck
  - Dorothy Haug
  - Laurn & George Kjeldseth
  - Peter Bruck
Adrian Miller Booksigning

Adrian Miller with Geoff Lewis

Latino Awards Judy Montes, Carlotta Espinoza, Liz Garcia Gomez

Donations

Margaret & G. W. Covel
John Cohen
Elizabeth & Edward Cohen
Agnes & Philip Cohen
Catherine Cole
Dianne & Henry Davis
Joy Davis
Manisha Doshi
DPC Midstream Matching Gift Program
Claudia Dreyer
Sarah Desler
Jesse Deffebough
Mary del Monte
Kim Dehens
Frederick Deve
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Linda Deistor
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce E. Dines Sr.
Joanne Diter
Barbara A. Ingram
Drs. Roy & Esther Lowenstein
Nell & David London
Richard Jordan
James Carroll

Adrian Miller Booksigning

Cynthia & Philippe Dunoyer
Kathryn Dufford
Andrew Dufford
Marie Fitzpatrick & Larry
Adam Fiedor
Kenneth Feder
Fairmount Cemetery Company
Susan Eslick
Carol Friend
Michele Fratarcangeli
Mary & Donald Hoagland
Susan A. Hill
Judy Herm
Bridgette Hendricks
Joseph Henderlong
Jacqueline Heller
Joseph Pendler
Benjamin Honigman

Adrian Miller Booksigning

Evil Companions Literary event

Cynthia & Philippe Dunoyer
Kathryn Dufford
Andrew Dufford
Marie Fitzpatrick & Larry

Adrian Miller Booksigning

Dr. & Mrs. Wilbur A. Franklin
Tony Frank
Abigail Frank

Adrian Miller Booksigning

Ms. Gertrude Grant
Mrs. & Mr. Newman M. Grant
Great West Life & Annuity Insurance Company
Tennessee Creben
Robert Greene
Mary Greene
Elizabeth Greaser & Alan Miller
Andrew Griffiths
Barbara & William Gingrey
Aimee & Mike Grishak
Sara Grimmaker
Patricia Gage & Robert Howey
Gap Foundation CRF Match Program
Richard Garrett
Laurel Fulton
Patricia Cage & Robert Howey
Germanica & Fulvio Hare
Ms. & Mr. Merson D. Hare
Holly B. Hicken
...
Donations

Patrick Moran
Denon & Sean Moore
Vicki Moore
Andy Moore
The Moody’s Foundation
Robert Moody
Tamara Monroe
MOMS Club of Washington Park
Jacqueline Moch
Shawn Miller
Leslie & Tyler Miller
Jane Miller
Ardis Miller
Ruby Miller
Norman Mueller
Alan Greenberg
Paul Peters
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald F. Perkins
LaVonne Perkins
Jessica & Jeffery Pearson
W. Perry & Bradley Pearce
Steven Pearson
Jessica & Jeffrey Pearson
Karen Pelleo
LaVerne Perkins
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald F. Perkins
Paul Peters
Nancy Petry
Susan & Ted Weitz

That’s an average of 12,466 every day!!

Robert Nelson

That’s an average of 12,466 every day!!
Kids and adults alike love the Reading Rocket. Thanks to a generous donation from the Janus Capital Group, DPL has two Reading Rocket bookmobiles that visit 25 schools and 18 senior centers throughout Denver. Powered by bio-diesel fuel, each is wheelchair accessible and holds up to 3,000 books, CDs and DVDs. Combined, the two bookmobiles serve some 9,000 students and residents, annually.

This annual report was written and photographed by Sherry Spitsnaugle and designed by Studio Harris.