Inspiring Lives, Transforming Durham

ANNUAL REPORT, FY19
Letter from the Director

Throughout FY19, Durham County Library staff developed a strategic plan that will guide our work through 2022. The library’s five priority goals are the foundation of the plan: building literacy and lifelong learning; bridging the digital divide; strengthening workforce development; capturing the culture of Durham; and growing accountable, efficient, and visionary libraries. As you make your way through this year’s annual report, you’ll see some of the ways we are already working to achieve these goals, aided by community partners, grant funds, and the generous support of the Friends of the Durham Library and the Durham Library Foundation.

Each of these goals and all the work we do are rooted in our mission to encourage discovery, connect the community, and lead in literacy. From early literacy storytimes, to expanding our effort to make mobile hotspots available for check out, to OASIS (Older Adult & Shut-In Services), we are serving Durham County residents of diverse backgrounds, ages, and interests. We offered a total of 6,245 programs in FY19 with an overall attendance of 145,023. We watched local teens’ experiment launch into space to be conducted on the International Space Station as part of Higher Orbits’ and the Go for Launch! program. We introduced sensory-friendly programming and spaces across the system and expanded health and wellness offerings to include adaptive training for people with restricted mobility. It’s been an awesome year.

As we prepare for the spring 2020 reopening of Main Library, it’s powerful to see all that our team members have achieved at our library locations and through outreach across Durham County.

It’s a testament to the teamwork, passion, and expertise of our staff, combined with tremendous community support. Twilla McDonald, Circulation Manager at East Regional Library, shared recently, “I love customer service. Helping and serving people is very rewarding. It does not have to be something big — it’s in the small things we do that we find joy.” This joy — the joy of service and the hard work of attending to the needs of the community — is the heartbeat of our library. It’s what drives innovation and motivates us to grow and improve. I am grateful to our staff for bringing that energy to our library system. And I am grateful to our partners for helping us ensure Durham County Library is an outstanding resource for the community.

It’s a joy for me now to invite you to explore the annual report and discover some of what the library has to offer. Better yet, stop by any of our library locations and experience it yourself. We’re looking forward to your visit.

Warmly,

Tammy Baggett, Durham County Library Director

SLAM

Durham County Library and Durham Public Schools launched the Bull City-NC Schools & Libraries Achieving More (SLAM) initiative in the fall of 2018. This project provides students in the Durham Public Schools with access to Durham County Library resources using their student ID number.

Durham Public Schools and Durham County Library share a strategic partnership to help ensure student success and support literacy initiatives. Together, the heart of our partnership is to promote literacy, a love of books, and the importance of reading as a foundation for lifelong learning. By working together, we have increased access for Durham Public Schools students to all Durham County Library print and digital resources.
Literacy and Lifelong Learning

Offer resources and programs to promote literacy in all its forms and for all ages as fundamental building blocks for academic and personal success.

**Bilingual Book Club**

In February, East Regional Library hosted a teens and tweens Bilingual Book Club with Antonio Alanis from El Centro Hispano. The discussion about the book, *Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya, encouraged participating young people and their families to share their perspectives. Families from diverse backgrounds discussed their life experiences and got to know one another. Alanis moderated the discussion in both Spanish and English and asked participants thought-provoking questions. The program brought the community together by sharing a book, conversation, and pizza!

“My kids have taken more interest in reading and learning.”

**Afterschool and Summer Programming**

Through a community partnership with the Durham Housing Authority, the library’s Family Literacy and Community Services staff served the McDougald Terrace community by providing afterschool activities and summer programming at the T. A. Grady Community Center. During the school year, children received assistance with homework and reading and participated in special craft and science activities facilitated by the Library Youth Partners and library team members. While summer sizzled, kids participated in enriching activities and worked to avoid the “summer slide.” Children were directly connected to the library through bookmobile services and had access to nutritious lunches and a weekend pantry to take food home, sponsored by Durham Public Schools Nutrition Services and Duke Pediatrics.

**Field Trip to the Library**

On Valentine’s Day, Kestrel Heights Middle School sixth-grade students visited South Regional Library. Approximately 75 students rotated through learning stations in small groups. They explored how the library works through a scavenger hunt, participated in a creative writing workshop, visited a mini-makerspace, and played with spinning plates, yo-yos, and diabolos! The field trip even included lunch, recess, and a library “swag bag” for each student.

Field trips and partnerships with schools across Durham County make it possible to reach more young people, build their confidence in and familiarity with accessing library resources and staff, offer high-quality literacy programming at critical moments of transition such as middle school, and create opportunities for people to try new things and have fun learning together.

96% of surveyed Early Childhood Literacy program participants said that they will spend more time interacting with their children (reading, talking, singing, writing, or playing) after program participation.
Bridging the Digital Divide

Create opportunities for equitable access to technology and technology education, thereby encouraging participation in an increasingly digital society.

**Coding Workshops**

Durham County Library offered multiple coding workshops for kids, tweens, and teens in FY19. The programs focused on learning coding basics, exploring technology, and playing games. Unplugged and digital activities alike taught learners how to create lines of instruction, use coding language, and work together. The library partnered with local organizations to provide coding classes to a diverse group of students who may not have otherwise had this educational opportunity.

“**It was hands-on and fun!”**

**The Tech Mobile Hits the Road!**

The Durham County Library Tech Mobile launched this spring with an open house at South Regional Library. The Tech Mobile has since traveled to many of our locations, with a special stop for the Summer Reading Launch. The 37-foot vehicle serves as an access point to technology. The Tech Mobile includes computer and internet access, meeting room space, an enclosed work area, and maker technology!

**Typing for Kids**

Typing for Kids, a five week introductory typing class, provided individually tailored instruction to students in grades 4–8. In addition to attending class regularly, students completed daily typing homework at home or at the library. During each class meeting, students played team-building games and began learning a new group of letters, and at the end of the five weeks, the group celebrated the students’ hard work and focus. Programs like this help the library achieve our objective to expand technology access, especially to those with barriers to access.

**Hotspots for Check Out**

Through our pilot program at Stanford L. Warren Branch Library in FY18, Durham County Library patrons began borrowing mobile hotspots to take the internet wherever they go. As this program grew in popularity, it was expanded in FY19 to include each of our regional locations as well. A hotspot is a portable device that provides Wi-Fi internet access to computers, phones, or tablets. Durham County Library hotspots connect to 4G LTE speeds through a cellular network and come with unlimited data. So, if you don't have internet access at home or want a reliable internet connection for your devices on vacation, hotspots are a great option.

80% of surveyed Digital Learning program participants said they feel more knowledgeable about using digital resources after attending a program.
**Workforce Development**

Strengthen the workforce by supporting relevant education, training, and resources.

---

**Strengthening Libraries as Entrepreneurial Hubs**

Durham County Library was selected to be part of the Strengthening Libraries as Entrepreneurial Hubs Cohort, sponsored by the Urban Libraries Council and the Kauffman Foundation. The cohort works to ensure that potential entrepreneurs, particularly women, people of color, and immigrants, have access to the support needed to succeed. Durham County Library was one of eleven libraries selected. Through this project, the library is learning to support business programming in a dedicated space in the transformed Main Library. The library is connecting with the entrepreneurial ecosystem of Durham through partnerships with Durham Tech's Small Business Center. Responding to the needs of area entrepreneurs, the library offered a series of intensive workshops including Social Media Marketing and Art of the One Page Business Plan.

---

**Partners for Middle School STEM Initiative**

In FY19, Durham County Library was selected to participate in the Urban Library Council’s Partners for Middle School STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Initiative. The initiative focuses on reaching low-income middle school students to provide programs that ensure youth have fun with STEM while understanding its long-term relevance and value in their lives. As part of the project, lead staff attended a conference in Chicago, and Durham County Library received $10,000 in direct program support from the Urban Libraries Council. This support will enable Durham County Library to offer the STEAM Off (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) Afterschool Program at Stanford L. Warren Branch Library and the Durham County Youth Home in fall 2019. The theme-based enrichment program will give youth hands-on experience exploring topics such as outer space, LEGO robotics, and coding. The program will culminate in a celebration of all that the students have learned, including a panel discussion by local educators and STEAM professionals covering topics such as the education needed for, and careers possible in STEAM fields.

This program support is made possible by funding from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant number LG-95-18-0025-18.

---

**Navigating College Admissions**

Durham County Library, in conjunction with A2Z College Planning, offered the Navigating College Admissions program to help guide college-bound teens and their parents through the process of preparing for and applying to colleges. This program covered everything from guidance on academic performance and extracurricular activity participation, to essays and personal statements, to college preparation and how colleges read applications.

“It was perfect! 10 out of 10!”

---

**Workforce Development**

95% of Business Development program participants indicated that they feel more knowledgeable about what it takes to start a business.
Capturing the Culture of Durham

Promote Durham’s culture through programming and special collections, including the North Carolina Collection and the Selena Warren Wheeler Collection.

Durham and the First World War

In November of 2018, the North Carolina Collection team presented a humanities program in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. The program highlighted individual soldiers from Durham and other areas of North Carolina and their experiences enlisting, training, and fighting in the war. The program discussed local media coverage, segregation and race relations among North Carolina soldiers, and the war effort at Trinity College. Items presented from the North Carolina Collection included local news articles, propaganda posters, recruitment bulletins, photographs and personal correspondence of Durham soldiers, and media coverage of the homecoming parade after the war’s end, as well as the dedication ceremony of the WWI memorial.

Family Rainbow Festival

The Durham County Library LGBTQ committee held a Family Rainbow Festival in June of 2019. At the event, Carolina Family Law provided a presentation on the legal aspects of knitting together LGBTQ families through adoption, second-parent adoption, name changes, and other family topics. Among other programs, the festival also featured two Drag Queen Story Hours. These storytimes were hosted by local drag queen Vivica C. Coxx and embraced gender diversity.

Selena Warren Wheeler Collection

The Selena Warren Wheeler Collection of the Stanford L. Warren Branch Library was formerly known as the Negro Collection. The original 799 volumes with which Dr. Aaron Moore began the Durham Colored Library contained several books by and about African Americans and African American culture. In 1942, Head Librarian Selena Wheeler, recognizing the uniqueness and importance of many of the African American materials owned by the library, designated the Negro Collection a special, non-circulating collection. It was renamed the Selena Warren Wheeler Collection in her honor in 1990. The collection remains at the Stanford L. Warren Branch Library for all to enjoy.

Turning the Page: Durham’s Reading History

The City of Durham celebrated its 150th anniversary throughout 2019 by hosting numerous events and exhibitions focusing on Durham’s history and culture. As a participant, Southwest Regional Library hosted Turning the Page: Durham’s Reading History, a library exhibition which showcased pictures of Durham residents engaged at the library and library activities through the years.

86% After attending a Civic or Community Engagement program, 86% of respondents said that they intend on becoming more engaged in their community.

“Love the enrichment, affirmation, and community.”
Accountable, Efficient, and Visionary Libraries

Grow an effective organization committed to continuous innovation, exceptional customer service, transparency, and fiscal responsibility.

Practicing Inclusivity

In FY19, Durham County Library received a $95,735 grant from the State Library of North Carolina for Practicing Inclusivity: Establishing a Multi-Sensory Environment, Inclusive Playroom, and Mobile Adaptive Technology Units for Transformation Main. Through inclusive spaces, programs, and staff training, this award helps make our libraries more welcoming environments for individuals with sensory processing differences and special needs, as well as their families and caregivers. Sensory elements are now at all locations, including bubble walls at four libraries. The grant also funded an array of sensory-friendly programs including Bubble Wonders, sensory storytimes, a sensory jump at Sky Zone Trampoline Park, and a temporary sensory room at Southwest Regional Library. The initiative has been awarded $106,062 for a second year of the project to include creating a permanent sensory space in Main Library.

“This was amazing! As a family with a member on the autism spectrum, we are incredibly grateful for this level of inclusion...We have always felt welcome here, but we are now feeling more understood than ever before. Please keep up the great work!”

Durham County Library Financials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits</td>
<td>$7,564,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$2,572,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
<td>$1,592,560</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All of Us Durham

Durham County Library was awarded $64,560 in grant funds from the National Library of Medicine and National Institutes of Health to implement All of Us Durham in FY19. A collaboration with the Durham County Public Health Department, the project raised awareness of the All of Us Research Program for populations underrepresented in biomedical research, funded a program coordinator position, and added health information resources to the collection. One program, Adaptive Training, weekly strength-training for those with restricted or limited mobility, helped a participant climb stairs on their own. A second year of grant funding for $51,650 will fund All of Us Durham through April 2020.

This project has been funded in whole or in part with Federal funds from the Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Library of Medicine, under Grant Number UG4LM012340 with the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Great Stories Club

Durham County Library was selected to participate in the Great Stories Club offered by the American Library Association with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Library staff received program resources and training to facilitate the program with teens at Durham County Youth Home, a juvenile detention center where the library runs regular programming.
Staff Recognitions and Awards

Library Director’s Awards
The Library Director’s Award is awarded quarterly to staff members based on nominations from their peers. The FY19 quarterly recipients were Teresa May, South Regional Library; Ruth Link, Southwest Regional Library; Kathleen Hayes, Bragtown Branch Library; and Bryan Angelico, Main Library.

Leadership Academy
Larry Daniels, Southwest Regional Library, and Jenny Levine, Main Library, both graduated from Durham County Leadership Academy in October of 2018. The goal of the academy is to strengthen leadership and focus on employee development.

Grants and Initiatives
Learn more about these grants, grantors, and the great work these staff members are doing on pages 5 and 7.

- Leander Croker, Main Library, was selected to be part of the Strengthening Libraries as Entrepreneurial Hubs Cohort, sponsored by the Urban Libraries Council and the Kauffman Foundation.
- Stanford L. Warren Branch Library’s Ericka Hill was awarded a seat on the Urban Library Council’s Partners for Middle School STEM and is the Project Manager for the accompanying $10,000 in direct program support.
- Sarah Alverson and Faith Burns Phillips, Main Library, were awarded, and are the Project Managers for the $95,735 grant awarded by the State Library of North Carolina for Practicing Inclusivity: Establishing a Multi-Sensory Environment, Inclusive Playroom, and Mobile Adaptive Technology Units for Transformation Main.
- Stephanie Fennell, North Regional Library, and Terry B. Hill, Deputy Director, were Project Managers for a grant of $64,560 from the National Library of Medicine and National Institutes of Health to implement the All of Us Durham project.
- Ericka Hill, Stanford L. Warren Branch Library, with assistance from Patricia “Archie” Burke, East Regional Library, was selected to take part in the Great Stories Club offered by the American Library Association (ALA) with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities.
- Desiree Peterson, North Regional Library, was awarded a grant from Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) to attend the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Symposium in November of 2018. The symposium focused on diversity in library programming for teens and classroom management skills.*

* This scholarship was supported by grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the federal Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

On the Spot
Durham County Government presented Lakesia Farmer and Jackie Hawkins, both of Main Library, each with an On the Spot Award to show appreciation for their exceptional customer service.

Books Published
Not only do library team members love to read books, but they also write them. Three library staff members are recently published authors. Daniel Davis, Main Library, has written a new work of nonfiction, Upcycled Technology: Clever Projects You Can Do With Discarded Tech. Charles “Chuck” Ebert, Main Library, and Phillip “Phil” M. Locey, East Regional Library, have both published works of fiction. Chuck’s newest book is The White Angel of Death and Phil’s two novels are Shiver the Moon and The Name of the Beast.

NCPLDA Awards
The North Carolina Public Library Directors Association (NCPLDA) recognized two Durham County Library team members in December of 2018. Hitoko Ueyama-Burke, Main Library, won the Public Relations Promotional Project Award for Photographs of Transformation Main, a photographic documentation of the rebuilding process of the Main Library. Mark Donnelly, East Regional Library, won the award for Large Library/Children’s Programming for Bike Events at the Library, an annual event providing free, new bike helmets for children.
The Library Board of Trustees serves as an advisory board for the Library Director and currently consists of seven members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The general public is welcome and encouraged to apply for these appointments. Each member is dedicated to library advocacy and listens to the needs of the community regarding what is and isn’t working within the library system. They have served as a voice for the transformation of Main Library and have spoken in support of increased outreach efforts for the Bragtown community while the location is closed for repairs. They share excitement from friends, neighbors, and library patrons who express their love for Durham County Library. The Board of Trustees also supports the budget requests to Durham County and works diligently with staff to review and approve the library policies. They are a committed group of individuals, dedicated to Durham County having the best library system possible.

Trustees’ Award

Desiree Peterson, North Regional Library, won the 2018 Trustees’ Award. This honor is bestowed upon a staff member who exemplifies exceptional service, creativity, reliability, and helpfulness, and who works to improve the public’s awareness of the library. Peterson has helped encourage community participation by creating events such as the evening Origami Club.

She also organizes and helps prepare monthly lessons for homeschooled children. Peterson enthusiastically represents Durham County Library with her friendly and courteous demeanor. Her colleagues greatly appreciate her energy and enthusiasm.

Main Library Update

FY19 was an exciting time at the Durham County Main Library construction site. We have watched the building grow and become completely enclosed. The work inside continues to progress, while planning and preparation for re-entry into Main Library continues full steam ahead. The Main Library Public Service team has been working hard completing initial trainings to help the library run at its peak while offering exceptional customer service. Our team has been working hard with the architects and engineers to select furniture and ensure our library is the best it can be for our community. All is progressing well, and we are eagerly anticipating a spring 2020 reopening!

Board Members

Sandra Chambers, Chair
Hank Kinsley, Vice Chair
Mrinmay “Moy” Biswas
Melissa B. Kimathi
Camilla Meek
Luis Olivieri-Robert
Willis Whichard
Anita Robinson,
Durham County Library Administrative Officer and Board of Trustees Liaison

“She has been dedicated to teaching our kids each week for the homeschooling lab. The lessons are engaging, and my kids enjoy coming on a regular basis.”
Friends of the Durham Library

The Friends of the Durham Library is a nonprofit organization that helps fund programs, services, and materials at Durham County Library through book sales and memberships. The Friends regularly help fund Summer Reading, Durham Comics Fest, Durham Reads Together, and Staff Development Day. In 2018, the Friends spent $37,668 on programming and staff development.

“It was accepting and fun. Wish there were more LGBTQ programs.”

taught by NCCU students and African drummer, Osei; Caroline Peterson and Desiree Peterson’s project, LGBTQ Teen Lock-In, featuring young adult author Robin Talley; Karlene Fyffe Phillips’ Incentive Books for 1,000 Books before Kindergarten, giving books to young children; Monica Belford’s Conversar, Caminar, y Comer, or Talk, Walk, and Eat, through which participants shared meals, adult English and Spanish speakers practiced language skills, and teens were hired to facilitate children’s programs; and Spring into Romance, a project featuring author talks on a myriad of topics.

Staff Proposal Projects
Each year the Friends invite staff to apply for up to $5,000 to implement a project of their own design, driving innovation and excellence across the library. Funded proposals in FY19 were: Joel White’s Muziki: Summer Music Mix Camp for children,

“I got to meet new people I would have never met on my own.”

Book Sales

Academic Scholarships for Library Staff
Graceon “Gracey” Gordon and Floyd Harris won the 2019 Friends Academic Scholarships. Gracey will use hers toward her master’s in library science, and Floyd will attend a class in social media and digital marketing.

Join the Friends of the Durham Library
Online at friendsofthedurhamlibrary.org or return this form to Friends of the Durham Library, P.O. Box 3809, Durham, NC 27702.

Level of Membership: (circle one)
Annual: Individual: $15.00 Senior (over 65): $10.00 Youth (18 and under): $5.00 Family: $25.00
Patron: $30.00 $50.00 $100.00 Additional contribution $ __________
Lifetime: Individual: $300.00 Additional contribution $ __________

Make checks payable to...?
Durham Library Foundation

The Durham Library Foundation is on a mission to expand resources for all libraries in the Durham County Library system. The Foundation supports library facilities, services, and programs in order to help develop and sustain a world-class library system. The Durham Library Foundation provides annual programming grants, raises funds for capital projects, and ensures the library’s future successes through endowment funds.

2018–2019 Durham Library Foundation Allocations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allocation</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>$49,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Reading</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Youth Partners</td>
<td>$20,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Grant</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go for Launch!</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Transformation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upgrades in Technology, Furnishings, and Equipment</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Pledges</td>
<td>$455,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,440,100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Board Members

Ann Craver, President
Norma Martin, Vice President
Leta Loyd, Treasurer
Alice Alexander, Secretary
Jennings Brody
G. Rhodes Craver
Leslie Dillon
Lew Myers
Sylvianne Roberge
Arthur Rogers
Elizabeth Townsend
Sara Stephens,
Durham County Library
Development Officer and
Foundation Liaison

“My girls were able to work through complex real-life problems, meet astronauts, and learn in diverse groups what it’s like to be challenged as a team.”

– Participants’ parent in the Go for Launch! program

Durham Library Foundation leadership includes Executive Director Karen Wells, President Ann Craver, and Durham County Library Development Officer Sara Stephens.

Two Ways to Support Durham County Library Foundation:

Give online at DurhamLibraryFoundation.org/make-a-gift/
Return this form to: Durham Library Foundation, PO Box 25246, Durham NC 27702

DONOR

Name (as you would like it to appear in donor listings) _____________________________
Address __________________________________________ City, State ________________ Zip _______
Phone __________________________ Email Address ________________________________

Gift of (circle one): $25 $50 $100 $250 $500 $1,000 Other $ _____________

☐ My check is enclosed payable to the Durham Library Foundation.

☐ Please charge my credit card:

Name on Card: __________________________ Card Number: __________________________ Expiration Date: ___________ CVV: _______
Executive Leadership Team

Tammy Baggett, Director
Terry B. Hill, Deputy Director
Sandra Lovely, Assistant Director for Planning and Facilities
Stephanie Bonestell, Public Relations Officer
Matthew Clobridge, Technology Management Administrator
Lakesia Farmer, Human Resources Analyst
Kathy Makens, Resources and Finance Officer

To save on resources, if we showed multiple people listed at one address, we only mailed one copy. Please share!

If you received duplicate copies, please email your correct mailing information to LibraryMarketing@dconc.gov.

Library Locations

Main Library
300 N. Roxboro St., Durham, NC 27701
(919) 560-0100

East Regional Library
211 Lick Creek Ln., Durham, NC 27703
(919) 560-0203

North Regional Library
221 Milton Rd., Durham, NC 27712
(919) 560-0231

South Regional Library
4005 S. Alston Ave., Durham, NC 27713
(919) 560-7410

Southwest Regional Library
3605 Shannon Rd., Durham, NC 27707
(919) 560-8390

Bragtown Branch Library
3200 Dearborn Dr., Durham, NC 27704
(919) 560-0210

Stanford L. Warren Branch Library
1201 Fayetteville St., Durham, NC 27707
(919) 560-0270

DurhamCountyLibrary.org