

Director's Message

Although facts and figures are important in an annual report, they cannot tell the whole story. The Greensboro Public Library offers so much in the way of opportunities to everyone in our community. From our Books and Babies story times to our Beginner Computer Classes for seniors, we serve all ages. From the businessman with an MBA seeking P&L data on a potential stock pick to the homeless man working on his GED, we serve all education levels.



I consider myself very fortunate to be part of an organization that truly makes a difference in people's lives. It really brightens my day when a staff member relates a story about a customer who found a Library service or resource that made their life better.

Now, more than ever, the Greensboro Public Library is a cornerstone of this community. We provide the tools and assistance to help businesses, job seekers, families and individuals weather these difficult economic times.



Our Future



The Greensboro Public Library's services for children help assure that all students have the opportunity to start school ready to learn. Story times promote language development, print recognition skills and the joys of reading. Reading Railroad, our mobile library, serves nearly 100 child care centers with books, dvds and teacher resources. For older children, the library provides invaluable research tools, test preparation services, live homework help and more.

One student, fifth-grader Lauren Ellwood, enjoyed her visits to the Library so much that she spent part of her summer volunteering at Central and the Hemphill Branch. Lauren helped young children find books, assisted with arts and crafts projects and even worked at the front desk. Now, in addition to being a chapter-books author, Lauren would like to be a children's librarian when she completes her education.

Commerce

Dr. Simon Whittaker, a consultant, speaker and author, has discovered how useful the Library is for small businesses. "During these difficult economic times, the Library takes on an even greater importance to the community. As a business owner, I have found the Greensboro Public



Library to be a great resource for several business-related tasks, such as creating a business plan, and identifying prospective clients. In addition to the physical and online resources, the staff has also been very helpful. Central Library's business librarian has been extremely helpful answering questions and guiding me toward helpful resources."

The Greensboro Public Library supports the local business community by offering premium online business databases, computer classes and more. Our Business Librarian offers educational programs, consultation and contacts with other organizations. Our business collection is located at Central Library and includes current business titles, reference tools, directories and magazines.

Employment Assistance

Tommy Freeman and his son Thomas are frequent visitors to the Vance Chavis Branch. They live nearby and the Library is the most convenient place for Tommy to search for a job and fill out online applications. Three-year-old Thomas gets to enjoy story times, practice his letters, draw, watch movies and get to know other children in the neighborhood. "The Library is an excellent place for us to spend time together. Because of his experience here, I know that Thomas will be ahead of the game when it comes time for him to start school."



For customers seeking to improve their employment status, the Library offers a collection of career resources, one-on-one career counseling, computer access and job search assistance. Our Career Counselor at Central Library can help job seekers find resources and discover career preferences.

Community

The Greensboro Public Library is the starting point for so many adventures and life experiences. We offer cultural celebrations, art classes, game nights, knitting groups, nature programs, computer classes, rock bands, poetry slams, community meetings, movie nights, business seminars and more. One City, One Book and Poetry GSO are among the most popular literary events in the community. The Library is the number one destination for personal growth and a great place to connect with the diverse members of our community.

Greensboro Public Library



Annual Report 2007 - 2008

A World Of Possibilities
www.greensborolibrary.org

Statistical Summary & General Fund Statement 2007-2008

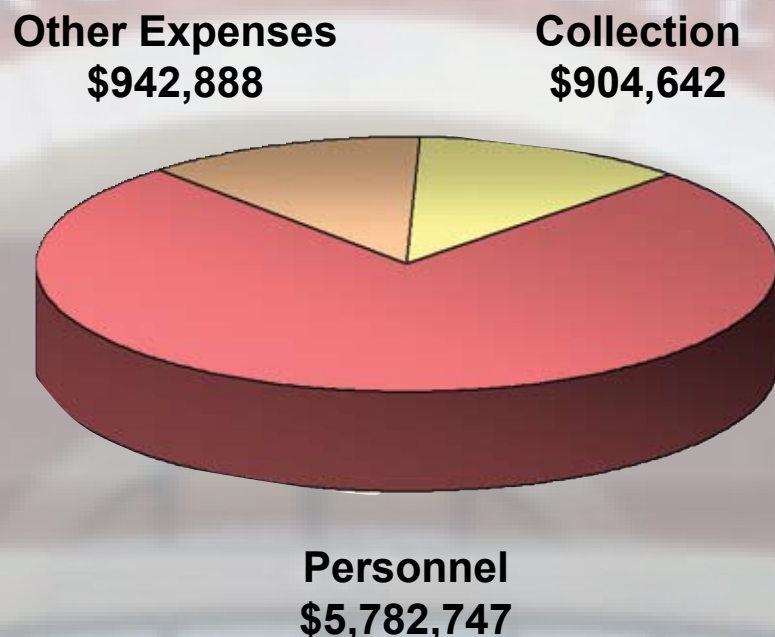
Visits to the Greensboro Public Library.....	2,860,892
Books & materials at the Greensboro Public Library.....	509,803
Books & materials checked out	1,515,202
Children's & Young Adult books checked out.....	782,612
Adult programs offered.....	1,222
Attendance at adult programs	22,435
Reference questions answered.....	209,625
Computer classes offered.....	212
Computer class attendance.....	1,033
Library computer users	527,094
Hours of computer use	451,499
Virtual Visits to the Library's web site.....	922,899
Business programs offered.....	77
Job and Career service contacts	2,208
Children's programs offered	3,211
Attendance at children's programs.....	66,006
Children who participated in Summer Reading.....	15,815

What is the Library Really Worth?

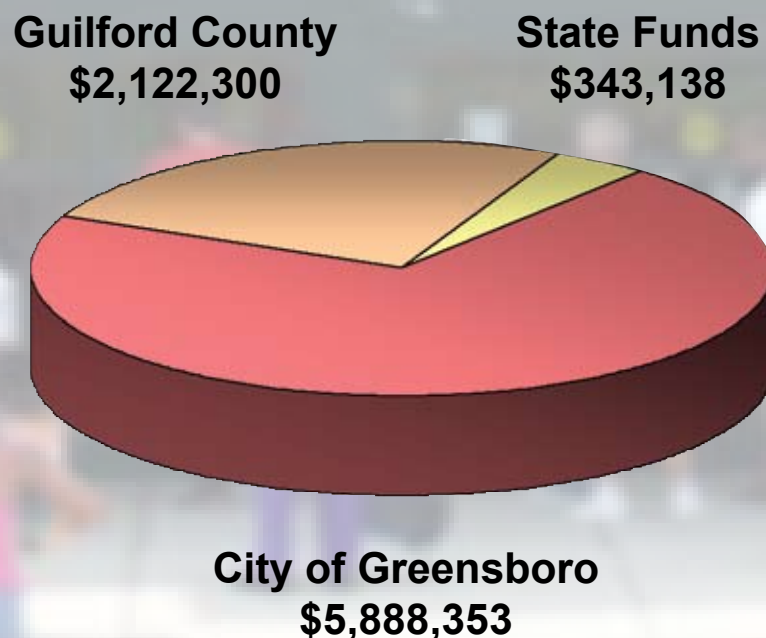
The per capita cost of the Greensboro Public Library is about \$26. For a small business owner looking for new prospects, that's less than the cost of a box of copy paper. For a family of four looking for something to do on the weekend, that's less than the cost of an evening at the movies. For a job seeker who needs to fill out an online application, that's less than the cost of internet access for a month. For a senior citizen learning to use a computer for the first time, that's less than the cost of a class at a community college.

\$26 Goes A Long Way!

Total Expenses \$7,630,277



Total Revenue \$8,365,500



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Greensboro Public Library Foundation

The Greensboro Public Library Foundation is dedicated to helping the Library build and sustain an involved, diverse community of life-long learners through state of the art libraries. We invite you to stay involved with the Greensboro Public Library as we look forward to improving the lives of everyone in our community. Thank you for your support!

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