INDIANA PUBLIC LIBRARIES ANNUAL REPORT
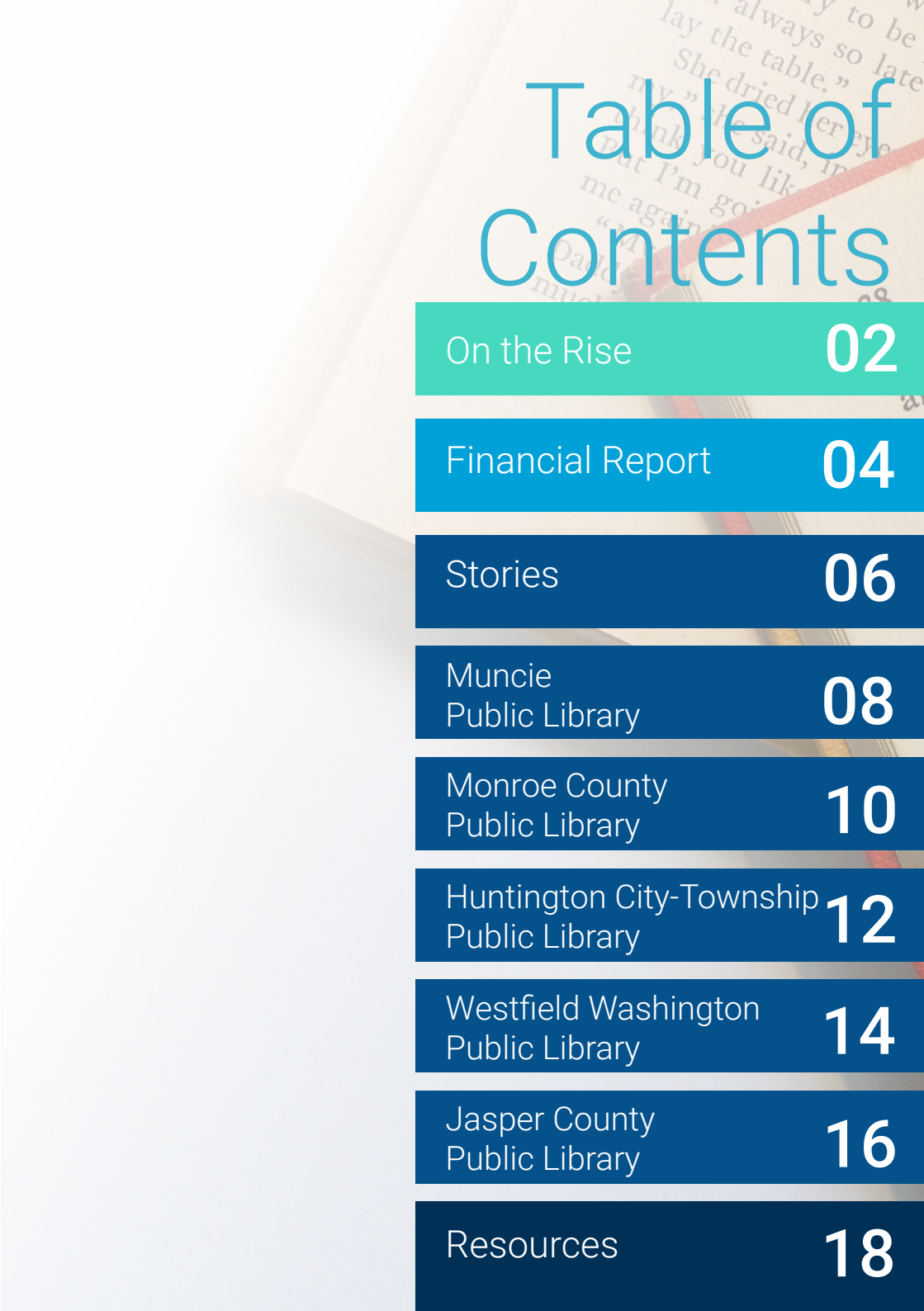
2017

Enhancing communities by granting access to information and knowledge.

A Message From
Indiana State Librarian
Jacob Speer

As the overall function of public libraries continues to transform with emerging technologies, 2017 showcased how Indiana libraries have not only adapted to contemporary technology, but have set a path for the future. Whether it was the Jasper County Public Library introducing telecommunication technology to a generation who grew up without it, the Monroe County Public Library holding its first-ever VR camp or the Muncie Public Library actually being named a "Library of the Future" by the American Library Association and Information Today, Inc., 2017 demonstrated that Indiana public libraries are, indeed, ready for the future. The rise in digital holdings, wireless internet usage and overall program attendance – many of the programs involving STEM-related themes and activities – reflects the libraries' ability to meet the needs of the public in relation to current technology. I'm pleased to share the contents of this report with the public and I very much look forward to all of the thrilling technology advances that Indiana libraries will implement and innovate in the future!

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On the Rise

•Downloadable audio holdings were up 136 percent in 2017, with Indiana public libraries offering 2.9 million titles.

•There were 23 percent more downloadable videos available in 2017, with a total of 223,414 titles.

•In 2017, wireless internet usage jumped by 36 percent at public libraries across the state.

•Young adult program attendance was up 11 percent over the previous year, as 229,955 young adults attended programs in 2017.

•Adult program attendance rose by 2.4 percent in 2017, as 427,325 adult patrons attended programs.

•SRCS continues to grow as materials shared between libraries shot up 231 percent over the previous year.

•After an 8 percent increase in total program attendance in 2016, total attendance rose another 1.69 percent in 2017, as libraries saw nearly 3.4 million program attendees statewide.

Top Evergreen Circulations

Adult print book: Nicholas Sparks held on to the top spot in 2017 with his book "Two by Two," which circulated 2,358 times.

Movie: With 4,867 checkouts, the animated feature "Trolls" was the top movie on Blu-ray and DVD.

Children's print book: Jeff Kinney's Diary of a Wimpy Kid series dominated the children's book checkouts, taking nine of the top 10 spots. "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Double Down" was number one with 2,295 circulations.

Audiobook: The Harry Potter series continues to be extremely popular, claiming six of the top 10 spots in audiobook checkouts, but "The Whistler" by John Grisham was number one with 604 circulations.
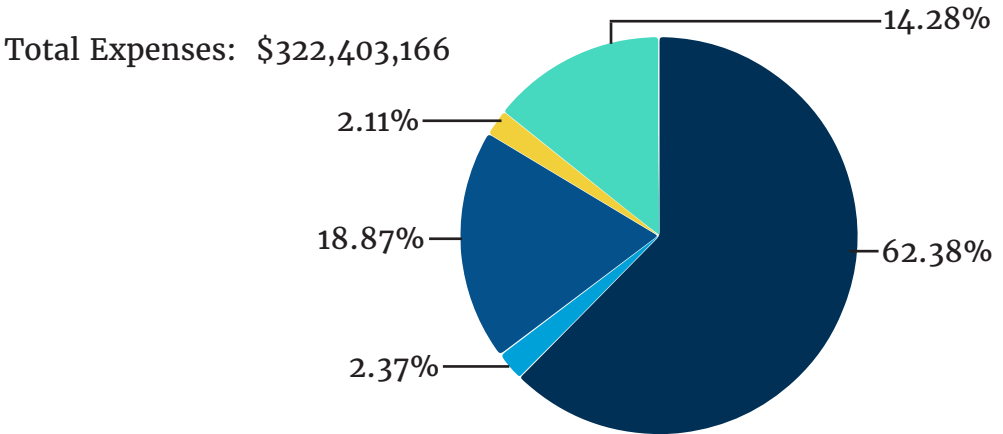
Magazine: People, once again, was the most-popular magazine title, circulating a total of 13,093 times. TV show: The award-winning, animated "PAW Patrol" bumped "Downton Abbey" as 2017's most-popular show with 9,844 check-outs.
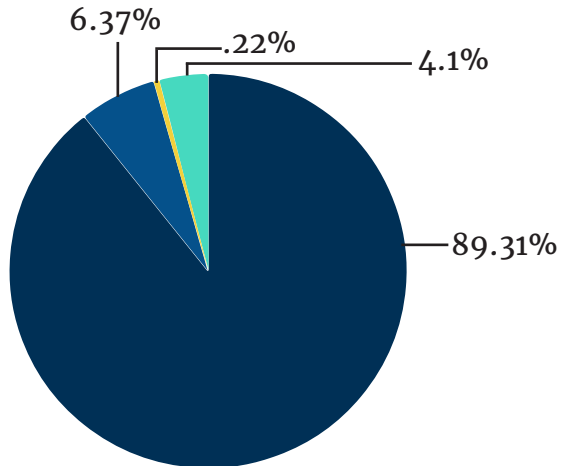
Financial Report

Operating Expenditures

Salaries and Benefits: $201,107,948 (62.38%)
Supplies: $7,626,479 (2.37%)
Other Services and Charges: $60,828,459 (18.87%)
Land, Buildings and Furniture: $6,796,057 (2.11%)
Collection Expenditures: $46,044,223 (14.28%)

Total Expenses: $322,403,166

14.28%
2.11%
18.87%
2.37%
62.38%

Operating Income

Local: $315,614,445 (89.31%)
State: $22,525,186 (6.37%)
Federal: $766,967 (.22%)
Other: $14,488,745 (4.1%)

Total Income: $353,395,343

6.37%
.22%
4.1%
89.31%

Public Library Statistics and Holdings

- 425 library buildings
- 188 branches
- 31 bookmobiles
- 3,177,915 individual resident borrowers
- 21,620,044 books
- 8,598,330 e-books
- 2,174,568 videos (physical units)
- 223,414 videos (downloadable)
- 1,443,419 audio materials (physical units)
- 2,947,160 audio materials (downloadable)
- 70,753,625 total materials in circulation
- 8,378 public computers in Indiana libraries
- 99 percent of Indiana libraries offer wireless internet access
- 31,813,502 library visits
- 147,321 public programs
- 3,383,043 public program attendees

Library Stories

★ Muncie Public Library
Muncie Public Library named "2017 Library of the Future"

★ Monroe County Public Library
Monroe County Public Library offers first-ever VR camp

★ Huntington City-Township Public Library
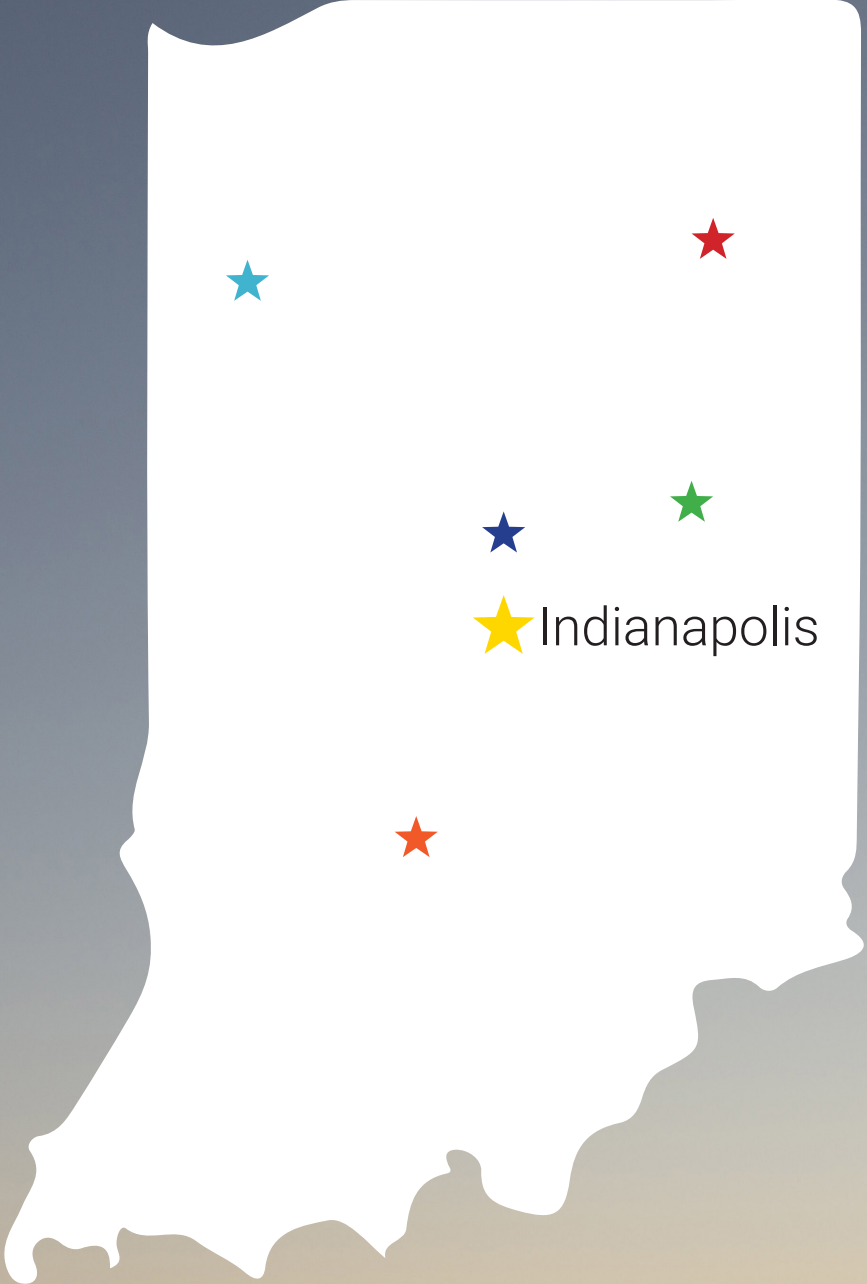Huntington City-Township Public Library joins the Fun Palace

★ Westfield Washington Public Library
Starting small and making connections at Westfield Washington Public Library

★ Jasper County Public Library
Jasper County Public Library book club Skypes with New York author

Indianapolis

Muncie Public Library
Muncie Public Library named "2017 Library of the Future"

Muncie Public Library's Digital Climbers is a hands-on, self-guided program that challenges students to complete and master skills learned from technology kits. Digital Climbers started in the library's high-tech center, Connection Corner, years earlier when a branch manager noticed that the kids visiting the center were excited about using iPads, 3-D printers and building kits, but were only dipping their toes into the technology. This prompted the tech-savvy staff at MPL to work together to develop a curriculum, thus creating Digital Climbers. In the program, students select and complete a project, which allows them to "climb" the digital mountain of STEAM success. The participating students attain more skills the higher they climb, while also earning treats and prizes along the way.

"Students who participate gain valuable technology and problem-solving skills that transfer naturally to other aspects of their lives."
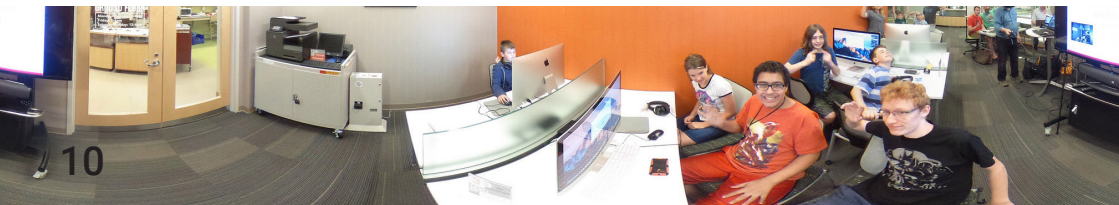

After MPL staff shared the program at a district conference, several other libraries also wanted to climb the digital mountain. The implementation and success of the program led to MPL being honored at the annual American Library Association conference in Chicago. In June of 2017, MPL was named the "2017 Library of the Future" by the American Library Association and Information Today, Inc. "We are thrilled with the success of Digital Climbers," said Akilah Nosakhere, MPL director. "Students who participate gain valuable technology and problem-solving skills that transfer naturally to other aspects of their lives."

Monroe County Public Library

Monroe County Public Library offers first-ever VR camp

In early June, the Monroe County Public Library held its first-ever VR camp. Jeannette Lehr, MCPL's digital creativity specialist, wanted to utilize the virtual reality console housed in the library's digital creativity center, Level Up, for more than just entertainment. "We didn't want people to think of VR as something to passively consume, or just some tech novelty," Lehr said. "We wanted them to think creatively and practically about the possibilities of virtual reality, and incorporate it into their own projects and ideas."

Lehr constructed a partnership with UITS Research Technologies (RT) at Indiana University, whose staff regularly works on VR development. Both institutions plotted and executed the four-day camp, which had roughly 30 attendees. Campers chose one of two tracks: photogrammetry or programming. In photogrammetry, which allows photos to be viewed as 3-D objects, the campers used a 360-degree camera to photograph downtown Bloomington. The programmers created a virtual downtown environment. The result, an exercise in virtual historic preservation, combined the town's landscape with 3-D objects found at places like the Monroe County History Center and the courthouse. "We'd definitely want to offer this again," said Lehr, "and based on the response we got this year, plus the growing overall visibility of virtual reality, I think it'll get more and more popular."

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Huntington City-Township Public Library

Huntington City-Township Public Library joins the Fun Palace

On Oct. 7 and 8, the Huntington City-Township Public Library staged its inaugural Fun Palace. A Fun Palace is an annual, free, worldwide celebration of arts and culture originally created as a grassroots campaign in the United Kingdom. Its core idea is to encourage communities to create works by and for themselves. Over the two-day event, more than 500 community members came to create, learn and try something new; from playing an instrument to discovering a hobby. Over 30 volunteers shared their passions with others.

Participants walked in the front door to an instrument petting zoo, where children and adults could try out various instruments such as a guitar, trumpet or flute. In the meeting room, attendees studied the fine art of cake decorating, learned to embroider, created a cement planter, painted a tile to take home and were able to try painting like Jackson Pollock. The clerestory of the library contained tables with volunteers teaching everything from making chainmail jewelry to writing calligraphy to folding origami. In the Indiana Room, patrons were encouraged to start working on their family tree, while in the board room they were learning how to play Dungeons & Dragons. Other activities included baby archeology, finger painting and bubble science for toddlers in addition to Live Action Role Playing (LARPing) in a roped off parking lot.
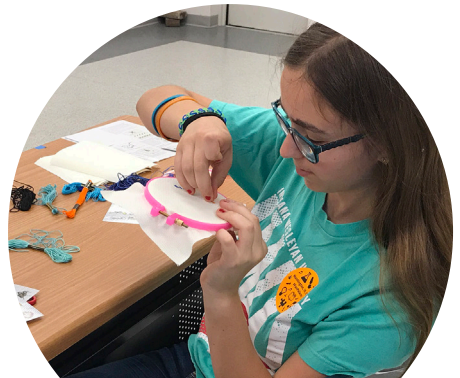
"Both our staff and patrons had a blast participating in this event, and are still talking about it. We have begun planning our 2018 Fun Palace and cannot wait to see what new things the community will get to discover next," said Assistant Director Jessi Brown.
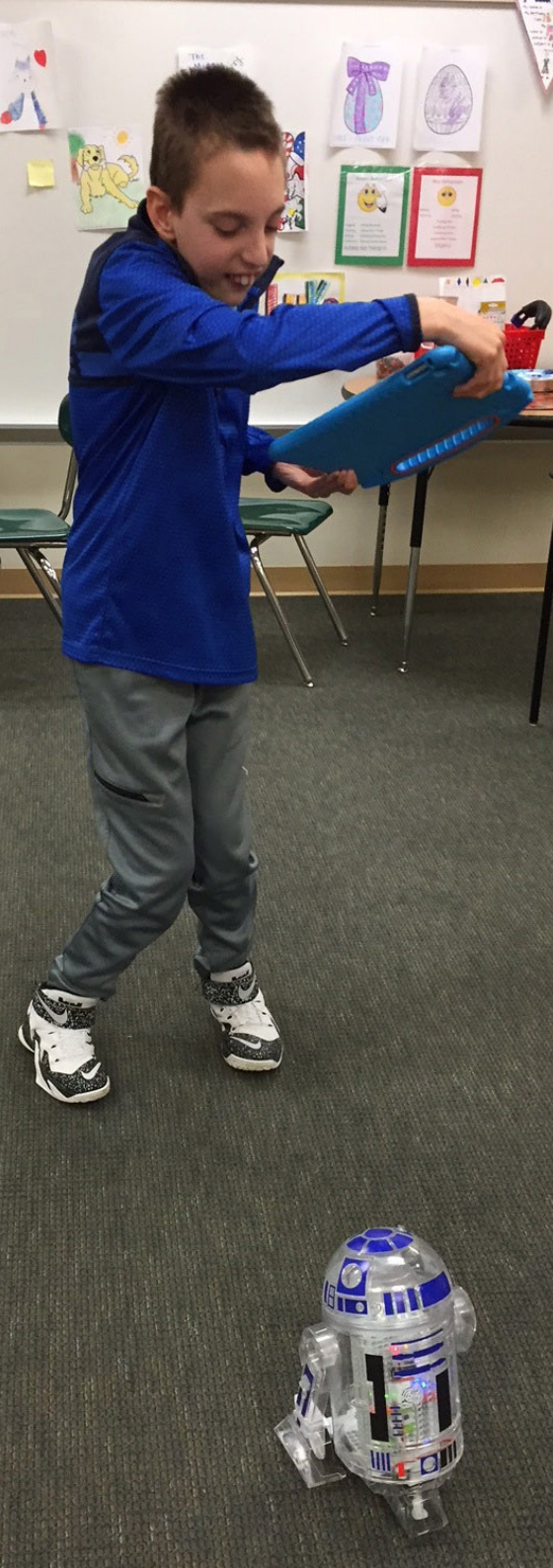
Westfield Washington Public Library

Starting small and making connections at Westfield Washington Public Library

For over a decade, the Friends of the Westfield Library have sponsored the Westfield Washington Public Library's FIRST LEGO® League team, where elementary and middle school students attempt to solve real-world problems by building robots using LEGO® MINDSTORMS® kits. After attending sessions about makerspace and STEM programs at the Children and Young Peoples Division (CYPD) conference and the annual Indiana Library Federation conference, the library started to think about how to offer more STEM opportunities to its patrons. After receiving a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant, the library was able to purchase iPads, Ozobots and 3Doodler pens which were then used for programming purposes.

In addition to the pen and robot programs, WWPL also took an interest in offering coding programs. During summer reading, the library tapped into Star Wars and Minecraft's popularity as a catalyst to hosting four Hour of Code programs utilizing themes from those franchises. Based on the popularity of the Hour of Code programs, the library began researching CoderDojo, a global network of free computer programming clubs for young people, which they'd learned about at CYPD.

In December, Children's Librarian Julie Stephens was invited to a CoderDojo training event. At the event, the library received a gift of 10 Chromebooks, 10 BBC micro:bits and two littleBits circuits kits from TechPoint Foundation for Youth organization. With portable tech in hand, WWPL networked with Deb Graff of the Bartholomew County Public Library and started their own CoderDojo development.

"I'm very excited about being able to offer these wonderful programs. I'm looking forward to continuing to expand this programming with new STEM/STEAM, LEGO® and coding programs for the Westfield community's youth," said Library Director Sheryl Sollars.

Jasper County Public Library
Jasper County Public Library book club Skypes with New York author

In late 2016, Rachel Kuhn, program coordinator and facilitator of the 4th Thursday Book Club at the Jasper County Public Library, won a publisher's contest that awarded the library a Skype session with debut author Radha Vatsal. Released earlier in 2016, Vatsal's "A Front Page Affair (A Kitty Weeks Mystery)," about an up-and-coming journalist in 1910s New York, was selected as the club's July 2017 book.

With the date set, Kuhn arranged a Skype trial run with Vatsal one day prior to the book club meeting and tech-savvy staff member Melissa Widner set up a camera to capture the Skype interview. The next day, excited book club members, many of whom had never used Skype or interacted with an author before, settled into the library's meeting room to hear Vatsal share personal information, speak about her writing process and discuss her book. As the members became more comfortable, the conversation flowed. Vatsal, sitting comfortably in her New York home, could see who was asking each question as a Skype-connected iPad was passed around. Book club members left happy and Kuhn reflected on the event, "It was a delight to be able to speak directly with the author via Skype. It was a fun and inexpensive way to expand the experience of the book club. I look forward to using Skype again to connect the book club with other authors."

Resources

INSPIRE

INSPIRE, Indiana's virtual online library, is a collection of academic databases and other information resources that can be accessed by state residents using any computer equipped with an internet protocol (IP) address located in Indiana and a web browser. INSPIRE is supported by the Indiana General Assembly through Build Indiana Funds, the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and in partnership with Academic Libraries of Indiana. **https://inspire.in.gov/**

Indiana Memory

Indiana Memory, a collaboration of Indiana libraries, museums, archives and related cultural organizations, is a digital collection of images and documents that enables access to Indiana's unique cultural and historical heritage through a variety of digital formats and via free distribution over the Internet. **https://digital.library.in.gov**

Hoosier State Chronicles

Hoosier State Chronicles is operated by the Indiana State Library and funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), as well as being funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Hoosier State Chronicles aims to provide free, online access to high quality digital images of Indiana's historic newspapers by digitizing the state library's collection and by assisting other organizations in making their collections digitally available. **https://newspapers.library.in.gov**

SRCS

Indiana's Statewide Remote Circulation Service (SRCS) is the state's latest and largest resource sharing tool. SRCS links together the catalogs of over 150 Indiana libraries into a single interface containing over 30 million items. Authorized users can search this combined catalog and request to have selected materials delivered to their home library, using the InfoExpress courier, where they can check them out. SRCS is not a replacement for your library's ILS system; rather it works with over 15 different ILS systems to provide this extended access and functionality.
https://www.in.gov/library/SRCS.htm

Evergreen Indiana

Evergreen Indiana is a growing consortium of over 110 libraries located throughout Indiana that use the Evergreen integrated library system. Patrons of member libraries can use their Evergreen Indiana library card to view the catalogs and borrow materials from the other member libraries.
https://www.in.gov/library/evergreen.htm

InfoExpress

InfoExpress is the statewide library courier service provided by the Indiana State Library that delivers library materials. Public library districts, school districts, academic, institutional and special libraries are eligible to participate in InfoExpress. **https://digital.statelib.lib.in.us/infoexpress/home.aspx**

Statewide Services

The Indiana State Library's Professional Development Office (PDO) and Library Development Office (LDO) provide trainings and consulting both in-person and via webinars on a variety of topics.

Please visit **http://continuinged.isl.in.gov/** to see listings of the trainings and webinars available to librarians.

Indiana State Library Services

If you are a library or librarian in need of assistance, please contact the Library Development Office (LDO) or the Professional Development Office (PDO) by visiting:
http://www.in.gov/library/libraries.htm
Library Development Office: 317-232-3697
Professional Development Office: 317-234-5650

If you are a patron with a general question, please visit our home page at http://www in.gov/library

Indiana State Library general inquiries:
317-232-3675; toll free: 1-866-683-0008

Blog

Keep up on a variety of library topics by reading the Indiana State Library's blog.
https://blog.library.in.gov

Thank You

Thank you to the following libraries for contributing materials for this report: Centerville-Center Township Public Library, Huntington City-Township Public Library, Indianapolis Public Library, Jasper County Public Library, Monroe County Public Library, Muncie Public Library and Westfield Washington Public Library.

This annual report was assembled, created and edited by Angela Fox, Travis Wagner and John Wekluk.

Connect with us!