

Free

2005 Annual Report



Fiscal Year July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005



“Benjamin Franklin” and friends at the June, 2005 kick-off of the Free Library’s Summer Reading Program, which launched the Library’s full year of special events honoring the 300th anniversary of Franklin’s birth. The great man was portrayed by William Ochester of the American Historical Theatre.

Contents

Leadership Letter Boards and Executive Staff	1
FREEing Kids and Teens	2 - 3
FREEing Adults	4
One Book/One Philadelphia	5
Branches and Regionals	6-7
Central Library	8 - 9
Technology	10
Friends and Volunteers	11
Financial Highlights	12 - 14
Donors	15 - 26



Jules Vuotto

Mayor John F. Street speaks at the reopening of the Widener Branch in February.

Service Statistics

	FY 2005 (7/1/04 - 6/30/05)	FY 2004 (7/1/03 - 6/30/04)
Library visits	5,517,569	6,216,973
Reference questions handled	2,780,389	3,219,215
Registered borrowers	482,310	482,854
Materials loaned, system-wide	6,294,315	6,963,935
Interlibrary loan requests processed	22,647	25,326

Note: Decreases in some FY 2005 statistics reflect a shortage of staff and temporary branch closures.

Boards and Executive Staff

The Free Library of Philadelphia
Board of Trustees
7/1/04 - 6/30/05

Officers

W. Wilson Goode, Sr., Chair
Phyllis W. Beck, First Vice Chair
Peter A. Benoliel, Second Vice Chair Ex-Officio
Ronald Hinton, Jr., Secretary
Wendy Weber, Assistant Secretary
John E. Riggan, Treasurer
Elliot L. Shelkrot, Assistant Treasurer

Members

Phyllis W. Beck, Peter A. Benoliel,
Roland K. Bullard II, Joseph F. Burke,
Girard S. Clothier, Stephen M. Curtis, Abbe Fletman,
Matthew Garfield, W. Wilson Goode Sr., Robert Heim,
Ronald Hinton Jr., Linda E. Johnson, Michael Karp, Alex-
ander Kerr, Herman Mattleman, Noel Mayo,
William R. Miller, IV, Stephanie W. Naidoff,
John E. Riggan, Teresa M. Sarmina, Sherry Swirsky

Ex-Officio

Victor Richard, Recreation Commissioner
John C. Younge, President,
Friends of the Free Library of Philadelphia

Emeriti

Gloria Twine Chisum, Armand Della Porta,
Eugene F. Dixon Jr., John A. Philbrick III, Jerome Shestack

Executive Staff

Elliot L. Shelkrot, President and Director

Kevin Vaughan, Associate Director

Helen Miller, Director of Public Services (retired October, 2005)

Martha Repman, Acting Director of Public Services

James Pecora, Chief Technology Officer

William J. Fleming, Administrative Services Director

Sandra A. Horrocks, Vice President for Communications and Development

Charles Burrall, Chief Financial Officer of Foundation

Wendy Weber, Executive Assistant

The Free Library of Philadelphia Foundation
Board of Directors
7/1/04 - 6/30/05

Officers

Peter A. Benoliel, Chair
A. Morris Williams, Jr., First Vice Chair
W. Wilson Goode, Sr., Second Vice Chair
Caro Rock, Secretary
Sandra A. Horrocks, Assistant Secretary
Deborah M. Fretz, Treasurer
Charles Burrall, Assistant Treasurer
Elliot L. Shelkrot, President and Director

Members

Paul D. Addis, James H. Averill, Peter A. Benoliel,
Sheldon Bonovitz, Roland K. Bullard II, Richard Collier,
Julia Conover, Tobey Dichter, Kevin F. Donohoe,
Loretta C. Duckworth, Marie Field, Deborah M. Fretz,
Elizabeth Gemmill, Barbara J. Gohn, W. Wilson Goode, Sr.,
Richard A. Greenawalt, Andrew T. Greenberg,
Robert J. Hall, Linda E. Johnson, Ernest E. Jones, Joyce
Kean, Ian A. MacKinnon, Marciene S. Mattleman,
C. Kent McGuire, Leslie Anne Miller, Stephanie Naidoff,
Caro Rock, William R. Sasso, Donn G. Scott,
Susan G. Smith, Manuel Stamatakis, A. Morris Williams Jr.,
Ronald D. Wilson, William Wilson, Andrew N. Yao

Legal Counsel

Joann Hyle, Pepper Hamilton LLP



Leadership Letter



It's just two short sentences on the back of the new Library registration card, but it reflects what the Free Library is all about:

This card enables you to exercise your freedom to be informed. Use it often.

The expansive sense of freedom suggested by our new logo – freedom to explore, freedom of expression – is something we work to support in all Philadelphians. Our passionate concern is to offer the best, most varied, and most “freeing” resources possible, through Free Library programs and services as well as our printed and electronic resources.

Elliot L. Shelkrot
President and Director
The Free Library of Philadelphia

Peter A. Benoliel
Chair, Board of Directors
The Free Library
of Philadelphia Foundation

So we are very grateful for the wonderful news received in late June – the decision by Mayor Street and City Council to restore \$3.5 million in operating funds to the Free Library’s budget for fiscal 2006. Shortly thereafter, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania increased its previously slashed contribution to our budget by \$3.4 million.

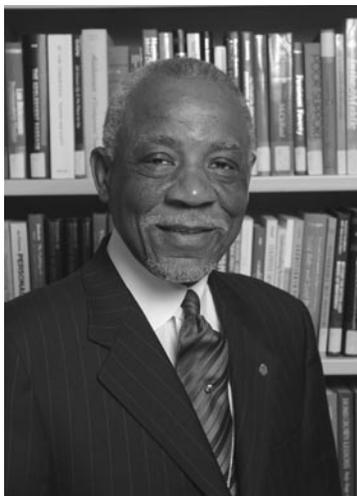
During the past three years, state and local budget restrictions have prevented our filling 130 staff positions as they became vacant. That forced us to begin restricting hours at many branches. The new increase in funding will enable us to hire approximately 80 new staff members – enough to adequately staff our libraries on full schedules.

For this wonderful development we heartily thank the Mayor, City Council, and our State legislators. Further, and with great personal appreciation, we thank the Library’s users, Friends, donors, unions, and staff members whose determined public insistence on the importance of our libraries and librarians carried the day.

We close with more good news. First, in spite of the heavy burdens imposed on Library employees by short-staff conditions, the most recent Mayor’s Report on City Services reported that 92.3% of respondents were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the helpfulness of our wonderful Library personnel.

Second, as the public side of our funding increased markedly, so did the private side, and annual giving to the Free Library of Philadelphia Foundation surpassed all expectations.

All this support increases our determination to make the Free Library’s service the very best it can be.



W. Wilson Goode, Sr.
Chair, Board of Trustees
The Free Library of Philadelphia

FREEing Kids and Teens – to Take a Giant Step



The new Library logo reminds all Philadelphians to exercise their freedoms through the Library.

2|

In fiscal year 2005, children and teens throughout the City had freeing opportunities, including these:



Preschoolers delight in Early Literacy Stations™

Early Literacy Stations™ for preschoolers were installed in all libraries this year, replacing outdated computers. The 115 stations are equipped with 21 updatable, librarian-approved software packages designed to help children prepare for the giant step of learning to read.

In 125 programs across the City with a total attendance of more than 3,900, **BOOKS ALOUD!** trained childcare workers and parents to use books in strengthening young children's early literacy skills. The program also provided trainees with free books and support materials.

School Success Workshops, co-presented by the School District's Even Start program at eight libraries, gave school children and their parents tips on homework and dealing with school problems as well as backpacks, books, and supplies. The program won a "Best Practices in Early Learning" award from the Pennsylvania Library Association.

LEAP, the Library's drop-in after school homework help program, continued to serve thousands of children and teens every school-day afternoon at all libraries. The program's 200 Teen Leadership Assistants again offered special programming as well as one-on-one help with homework and computers.

This year nearly 6,200 fourth- through twelfth-graders used **Homework Help Online**, the Library's service that provides live, one-on-one online help from certified English- and Spanish-

speaking tutors, even from home computers. Funding for the program came from the Library Services and Technology Act through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, from the Philadelphia City Institute Board of Managers, and the McLean Contributionship.

From June through August of 2004, the **Summer Reading Program** again set a record as more than 59,400 children and teens participated. According to a Harvard study reported at the 2004 Conference of the American Library Association, “reading four or five books over the summer months had an impact on fall reading achievement comparable to attending summer school . . . no matter which types of books children read.” Wachovia continued as lead sponsor of the program. Other sponsors included PKG Foundation, AMETEK Foundation, Sunoco, CRW Graphics, Verizon Foundation, and UGI Corporation. In-kind support came from Herr’s Snack Foods, the Philadelphia Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Rite Aid, the Philadelphia Phillies, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Franklin Institute Science Museum, the Country Barn Farm Market, and other sponsors.

Science in the Summer 2004 found elementary school children at all libraries studying starfish, coral, jellyfish, and other aspects of oceanography in hands-on classes sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline.

A feature article in January’s *School Library Journal* declared that the “star power” of the Library’s **Field Family Teen Author Series** makes it “a program that would make Oprah envious.” This year’s 14 speakers included Jerry Spinelli, Tim O’Brien, Martin Luther King III, and Nicole Bailey-Williams. Nearly 3,000 books were given to students in classes throughout the City, who could later meet the authors and discuss their books with them.

The Library’s **Teen Book Critics** – more than 200 of them – wrote brief reviews of books owned by or under consideration for purchase by the Free Library. Excerpts from reviews appeared in *Highlights for Teens*, an annual Library publication that helps guide librarians, teachers, and teens in choosing books. Each month during the school year, a teen’s full-length review is published in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

The **Youth Empowerment Summit (YES)** – an annual event planned and managed by teens – attracted 334 teens from 85 high schools for a day of workshops and career discussions. Keynote speakers were author and screenwriter Walter Mosley and former 76ers president Pat Croce. Funding for the Summit came from YOUTHadelphia (the Youth Advisory Committee of the Fund for Children at the Philadelphia Foundation), the City of Philadelphia, The Pew Charitable Trusts, and the Field Family Teen Author Series.

Program Statistics		
	FY 2005 (7/1/04 - 6/30/05)	FY 2004 (7/1/03 - 6/30/04)
Number of adult programs	7,322	8,466
Attendance at adult programs	155,447	146,512
Number of children’s programs	10,946	12,117
Attendance at children’s programs	203,353	249,578
<i>Note: Decreases in some FY 2005 statistics reflect a shortage of staff and temporary branch closures.</i>		

FREEing Adults – to Open New Doors

Opening career paths for adults is the goal of the Central Library's **Workplace**.

This year, Workplace librarians:

- hosted 2,774 two-hour appointments for training on Workplace computers in writing resumes and searching for jobs
- answered 20,089 reference questions for job-seekers
- presented 41 programs for job-seekers
- organized a job fair attended by more than 775 people

Adults can receive free, high-quality learning materials through the Library's **Reader Development Program (RDP)**. Last year RDP distributed 21,291 books, including 1,400 GED prep books, to 2,179 individuals and to 120 agencies that reported serving more than 25,000 adult students.

Staff members of non-profit agencies throughout the Greater Philadelphia area – and people planning *new* charitable ventures – turn to Central's **Regional Foundation Center (RFC)** for grant-seeking resources, including electronic journals and databases and the latest print directories and serial publications. Each year, thousands use the Center in person, and many others telephone or e-mail requests for information. Support comes from members of RFC's Advisory Council, including the Samuel S. Fels Fund, PNC Financial Services Group, the Rohm and Haas Company, and the following foundations: Fourjay, Independence, Philadelphia, William Penn, and Grundy.

4|

Several years ago, a Philadelphia pastor wanted to increase his church's services to children by installing playground equipment. Using RFC resources, he found funding – and expanded his vision. Since then he has obtained more than \$100,000 to do much more, including starting an after school youth program and building a new sanctuary!



Access technology workstation: The white spots are actually tiny pegs in variable Braille keys, which individually rise and fall to form different Braille letters so the user's fingers can read what's on the screen.

At nine libraries, **Access Technology** workstations enable people with visual impairments to convert electronic text to synthesized speech or to Braille, convert Braille keystrokes to electronic text, and to print out text in Braille. Training and outreach to access technology users is supported by the Joseph Kennard Skilling and Harriet G. Fredericks foundations; a grant from the Library Services and Technology Act supported software upgrades this year.

FREEdom of Expression – One Book, One Philadelphia

“We have all marveled at the extent to which this year’s program has engaged the enthusiasm and emotions of the people of Greater Philadelphia.” — Marie Field, Chair

Everyone was talking about *The Things They Carried*, Tim O’Brien’s fictional memoir of life as a foot soldier in Vietnam and the choice for the third annual *One Book, One Philadelphia*, a joint program of the Free Library and the Office of Mayor John F. Street.

From January to March, thousands of readers took part in the program, and more than 125 related events were presented by our libraries as well as literacy agencies, cultural institutions, bookstores, coffeehouses, churches, book clubs, and other organizations. For example:

- At the Wyoming Branch, 12 Vietnamese members of an English As a Second Language Class translated one story from the book into Vietnamese, then discussed it with the instructor and the branch’s adult librarian, who are respectively a Vietnamese and an American veteran of that war.
- LaSalle University lent the Central Library materials for a major exhibition, “Imaginative Representations of the Vietnam War.”
- The College of Physicians of Philadelphia mounted an exhibition called “The Injuries They Suffered, the Diseases They Contracted,” about the evolution of medical and surgical practices during wartime.
- Kimmel Center Presents, WHY?, and the Free Library co-sponsored a performance in which Tim O’Brien read from his book and Philadelphia Orchestra percussionists performed a piece by composer Jennifer Higdon that had been inspired by the book. The event was made possible by generous gifts from the Ted and Stevie Wolf Foundation and Marie and Joseph Field.

15

The program’s community partnership doubled, from 75 in 2004 to 151 in 2005, and more than 100 volunteers helped with the program.

Independence Blue Cross again served as the program’s lead sponsor.

Other major sponsors included PECO – An Exelon Company and the Commerce Department of the City of Philadelphia, which also provided in-kind services. Additional corporate sponsors included Pepper Hamilton, LLP; Harmelin Media; WHY?; Kimmel Center Presents; Dilworth Paxson LLP; Temple University Health System; Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP; and Starbucks Coffee Company.

One Book • One Philadelphia

Independence Blue Cross

In Philadelphia, everyone is reading *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien.

Are YOU reading it yet?

Visit any one of the Free Library's 95 branches and check it out!

There are over 100 ways to read through books. To help everyone enjoy and learn about the book — both book-lovers and those who don't read — we have created a variety of exciting programs. For a full range of events, visit our website at www.library.phila.gov and click on "One Book, One Philadelphia," or call 215-426-9790.

PECO

WHY?

A Project of the Office of Mayor John F. Street and the Free Library of Philadelphia

Raise a Cheer – Branch and Regional Renovations completed

After years of fund-raising, logistics, and very hard work, all branch and regional libraries in the system have been successfully renovated and equipped with up-to-date technology. Heartiest thanks for primary funding and support are due to Mayor Street, City Council, and the William Penn Foundation, with additional appreciation to the many thousands of other donors, large and small; area legislators; library Friends groups; and other community supporters who helped make it all happen.

The beautifully renovated **Walnut Street West Branch**, originally the first of Philadelphia's 30 Carnegie libraries, reopened in October as the first branch to offer self-checkout, donated by Checkpoint Systems. In addition to the primary funding, donations came from more than 150 groups and individuals, led by Wachovia Bank and including Independence Blue Cross, Morris and Ruth Williams, and the Friends of Walnut Street West.

*The Walnut Street West
Branch renovation
has received:
2005 Grand Jury
Project Award, from the
Preservation Alliance for
Greater Philadelphia*

*Outstanding Preservation
Award, 2005,
from the University City
Historical Society*



Janette McVey

Crowds enter the reopened Walnut Street West Branch under the fresco mural by artist Paul Santoleri that surrounds the library balcony.

The **Widener Branch** reopened in February, in a beautiful new building full of natural light with interior colors and decor suggesting the African plains. Young people gravitated to their own special areas: Preschool Plains, School-Age Savanna, Pre-Teen Plateau, and Teen Terrain. Additional funders for the new building included the William Penn Foundation, the Penn Fishing Tackle Company, and the Tasty Baking Company.

Left: City Councilman Darrell Clarke cuts the ribbon at the opening of the Widener Branch. Most visible adults, from left: Library Director Elliot Shelkrot, State Representative Thomas Blackwell, III, Councilman Clarke, State Representative Jewel Williams, Friends President Bonita Cummings, Adult/Teen Librarian Vanessa Morris, Head Librarian Jeff Bullard, and community activist Richard Dukes.

Jules Vuotto

The **George Institute Library** has proven to be too challenging to renovate, and will not reopen. The building has been taken over by the City and will be sold.

A Sampling of Special Events



Julia Vuorio

At the Overbrook Park Branch's June kick-off to the 2005 Summer Reading Program, the naturalist's guest keeps watch on the photographer.

A gift to the **Roxborough Branch**: Worried about budget cuts, a young girl took action on her own. She made lemonade, which she offered – in exchange for a contribution to the library – at summer events held at a neighborhood park. At the end of the season, she and her mother presented the branch with the \$100.41 that she raised.

"I hope this money helps keep the library open," she said.

This spring, the **Independence Branch** hosted "Through My Father's Eyes: *The Filipino American Photographs of Ricardo Ocreto Alvarado (1914-1976)*" – a traveling exhibition of the Smithsonian Institution.

The **Tacony Branch's** new book discussion group for students from St. Hubert Catholic High School for Girls was so popular that participants asked to have sessions extended when the group resumes meeting in the fall.

In September, the **Fumo Family Branch** celebrated the 5th anniversary of its opening in a new building and with a new name. The event featured special games and activities, performers, a book signing by four authors and illustrators, and a chance to talk with local legislators. In June, the **Widener Branch** held a week-long Teen Technology Summer Program – four presentations on physical, mental, and emotional health led by a physician's assistant from the College of Osteopathic Medicine. Key experiences for the more than 20 teens included skits about depression and being the new kid at school, an exciting demonstration of sewing sutures on a pig's foot(!), and a closing circle in which participants shared what they appreciated about each other.

The Summer Reading Program of 2004 commemorated Lewis and Clark on the 200th anniversary of their expedition. At the **Fishtown Branch**, 26 children used strainers to pan for "gold" (lemon drops hidden in roasting pans of sand), then exchanged the lemon drops for small prizes, refreshed themselves with "cactus juice" (lemonade), and learned about the gold rush.

Service Statistics

	FY 2005 (7/1/04 - 6/30/05)	FY 2004 (7/1/03 - 6/30/04)
Libraries opened after renovation or recent construction (cumulative)	52*	50

* This figure represents all branches and regional libraries. The other two libraries in the 54-library system are the Central Library and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

The Benjamin Franklin Parkway is hopping – and the Central Library is at the heart of the excitement.

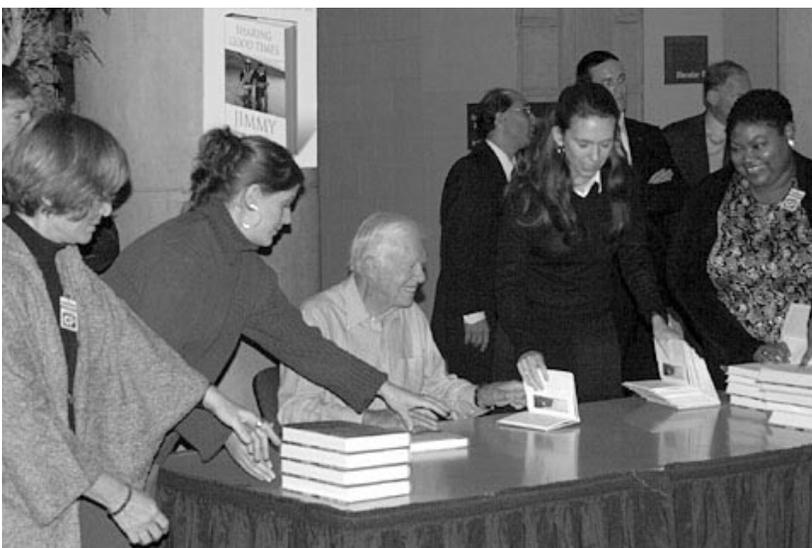


In December, City Council unanimously approved – and Mayor Street’s signature made official – the City’s commitment of \$30 million to the forthcoming expansion and renovation of the Central Library. That tremendous boost to the eagerly anticipated project was followed by generous early gifts from the private sector.

8|

Under internationally renowned architect Moshe Safdie, the plans for the new Central include a new Business, Science and Technology Department, 300 new computers with two Internet browsing centers, a new Department of Visual and Performing Arts, a new Teen Center, a greatly enlarged Children’s Department, and a new state-of-the-art auditorium seating 600.

Central’s own dramatic renovation is expected to be followed by the next-door relocation of the Barnes Foundation.



Sean Kardou

Authors by the dozen: This year more than 160 authors visited the Central Library, including: Cynthia Ozick, Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., Molly Ivins, Edward P. Jones, Seymour Hersh, David McCullough, and other speakers in the **Free Library of Philadelphia Lectures**. A recent *Philadelphia Inquirer* article said of this subscription series, “Since its debut a dozen years ago, the program has mushroomed into the region’s preeminent forum for writers and ideas.”

Free author lectures this fiscal year included addresses by Maureen Dowd, Cornel West, Russell Banks, and Jeanette Winterson.

In October, 800 people lined up to have former President Jimmy Carter autograph their copies of his books in the Central lobby.

Many other Central programs drew citywide audiences. The 6th annual **Robert F. Looney Memorial Event** consisted of a panel discussion on the fine art of printmaking, a reception, and a silent auction of art donated by local artists. In a joint presentation, **the later writings and speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr.** were discussed and musically illustrated by Martin Luther King, III, and Philadelphia Orchestra Music Director Christoph Eschenbach.

Central's **programs for teens** this year included a talent show, a poetry slam, and hip hop dance workshops, in addition to the annual Youth Empowerment Summit. In the talent show, 33 teen acts representing 25 high schools wowed a standing-room-only crowd of more than 450 teens, parents, and teachers.

Sundays on Stage – Central's free, multicultural performances for children, families, and adults – presented 14 programs ranging from Latin dance and Chinese opera to Appalachian clogging and the music of Paul Robeson and Marian Anderson. Sundays on Stage is funded by the Philadelphia City Institute Board of Managers.

In all, the Central Library hosted 1,395 programs, for people of all ages and interests. Attendees were among the more than 846,000 visitors who came to Central this year for events, research, materials to borrow, computers to use, or other means of **exercising their freedom to be informed.**

Central's Youth Services Specialist Betsy Orsburn was elected to the national 2007 Newbery Committee. The Newbery Medal, for the most distinguished children's book of the year, is awarded annually by the American Library Association.

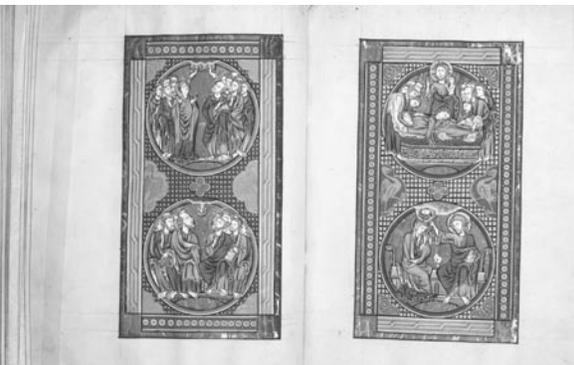
The Mayor's Commission on Literacy, which coordinates Philadelphia's adult literacy programs, this year moved to the Central Library to enhance the Library's own literacy efforts.

The Free Library owns materials in Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, French, German, Gujarati, Haitian French Creole, Hebrew, Hindi, Hmong, Italian, Japanese, Khmer/Cambodian, Korean, Lao, Pennsylvania Dutch, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, and Yiddish.

Collections Statistics (system wide)

	FY 2005 (7/1/04 - 6/30/05)	FY 2004 (7/1/03 - 6/30/04)
* Catalogued books		
Adult:	2,917,464	2,921,336
Juvenile:	1,153,012	1,220,267
Audio materials	1,072,689	1,038,109
Government documents	1,184,425	1,191,319
Microforms	2,005,586	2,027,584
Video cassettes	173,005	181,055
DVDs	30,788	18,804
Journal, magazine, and newspaper titles	3,350	3,350
* This category includes paperback books and pamphlets. This year's statistics reflect the weeding of items no longer appropriate.		

Technology



Rare art online: More than 1,400 illuminated medieval manuscripts from the Rare Book Department's Lewis and Widener Collections, with more than 3,000 digital images of the miniature paintings they contain, are currently being cataloged and digitized. The result will be an online database searchable by scholars and other viewers worldwide through the Library's website. Funding for the three-year project came from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Left: Digitized copy of an illumination from the Lewis Psalter, produced in Paris early in the thirteenth century.

New computers, everywhere: By June 30, the system-wide replacement of approximately 1,000 public and staff computers with updated models had been nearly completed. Demand for the public computers was heavy, with nearly 692,000 sessions of use recorded during this fiscal year.

Meanwhile, managing the public use of computers has been greatly simplified by **"PC Reservation,"** a computerized self-sign-up system that provides a print-out assigning the user a specific computer and identifying how soon it will be available. Besides its convenience for users, the system minimizes an extremely time-consuming and demanding staff responsibility.

10|

At the same time, our **"library without walls"** has expanded as our website is accessed through computers outside our network. During this fiscal year, such outside visits to our website totaled more than 2,044,518, a 23% increase over the previous year's total. Customers reviewed their library records online through "My Account," and/or used some of the Library's more than 150 special electronic subscription resources.

Exciting **new** electronic resources acquired this year include Proquest Newspapers, containing full-text coverage of five major U.S. newspapers in a searchable database, and Archive of America, a database providing full-text digitized reproductions of nearly every book, newspaper, broadside, and pamphlet published in this country from the seventeenth century into the nineteenth.

"Evie was soooooo excited and pleased with the help she received. And I felt like a hero." Excerpt from a grandmother's report about the live online help from a certified tutor – reachable even from a home computer – that's available via the Library's Homework Help Online service. To learn how it works, select "Programs and Services" from the homepage of the Library's website, then "Homework Help Online."

Technology Statistics

	FY 2005 (7/1/04 - 6/30/05)	FY 2004 (7/1/03 - 6/30/04)
Library website access ("hits")	56,968,564	67,784,632
Electronic resources use	129,001	160,916
Number of "My Account" uses	38,764	87,875
Public-access computers	700	700
Electronic virtual visitors (visits from non-Library computers)	2,044,518	1,661,794

Notes: Decreases in some FY 2005 statistics reflect a shortage of staff and temporary branch closures that resulted in fewer hours of public PC availability. The statistics above further reflect changes to the method of accounting for electronic activity that have resulted from the Free Library's required installation of internet filters on library public-access computers.

Friends Are Library Lovers



Friends organized this town meeting at the Charles Santore Branch, where more than 100 neighbors met with elected officials to urge full library funding.

“LOVE YOUR LIBRARY!” insisted the Friends of the Free Library, an independent, non-profit organization with the mission of supporting the Library, as Friends groups lobbied to restore all City libraries to full schedules. Rallies, town meetings, and a vigorous letter-writing/petition campaign yielding 20,000 signatures helped roll back a funding cut and increased the Library budget by \$3.5 million.

The fifth annual **Big Book Sale** (April 29-May 1) was a great success. Under a large tent on Logan Square – and in spite of Saturday’s rain – hundreds of children and adults bought used books and enjoyed arts and crafts activities. This spring, neighborhood Friends groups increased their memberships through cultural programs at ten branches.

Many raised money for their branches through book and bake sales, grants, holiday greens sales, raffles, and more. Friends of **Walnut Street West** provided the refreshments and programs for the thousands of people at that branch’s reopening celebration in October. During the preceding six years, this group of Friends had also raised \$43,700 for the branch’s renovation.

The number of vibrant Friends groups at individual libraries increased to 39 this year, a great achievement.

Volunteers: Citizens Helping Citizens

Volunteers are at the core of the Free Library’s ability to fulfill its mission of serving the diverse population of Philadelphia. They are citizens helping citizens in many ways.

Volunteers assist with income tax preparation at some branches, in conjunction with the Campaign for Working Families. They lead book discussion groups throughout the year, and especially during **One Book, One Philadelphia**. They host chess clubs, gardening clubs, and arts-and-crafts programs. They shelve books, assist with mailings, work on special projects, and operate many branches’ **Books to Go** programs. In the Central Library’s popular lecture series, volunteers assist with making each event efficient and successful.

This year, more than 2,038 volunteers contributed more than 96,073 hours of service, each hour representing their dedication to our Library, our customers, and our communities.

Volunteer Statistics

	FY 2005 (7/1/04 - 6/30/05)	FY 2004 (7/1/03 - 6/30/04)
Volunteers	2,038	2,491
Volunteer hours	96,073	97,633

Notes: Decreases in some FY 2005 statistics reflect a shortage of staff and temporary branch closures that resulted in fewer available opportunities for volunteers.

Financial Highlights

Free Library of Philadelphia

FY 2005
(7/1/04 - 6/30/05)

*Operating Support and Revenue

City General Fund**	\$ 37,278,139
State Grant Funds	11,827,237
Total support and revenue	49,105,376
Operating Expense	
Salaries and benefits	\$ 35,900,717
Library collections and materials	7,504,343
Facility leases, furnishings, maintenance	1,875,223
Technology purchases and support	1,261,203
Training and other professional services	1,604,731
Office supplies, postage, and printing	485,128
Other expense	474,031
Total expense	\$49,105,376

*Revenues may include encumbrances and/or appropriations from prior fiscal years, using the modified accrual and cash basis of accounting permitted by municipal accounting standards.

** State Grant Fund Revenues are up significantly over last year due to an increase in allocation for the Library's discretionary funds (\$2.8 million) and the addition of the Mayor's Commission on Literacy (\$1.3 million)

12| Major Gifts and Grants

City of Philadelphia • \$30,000,000 for the Central Library Renovation and Expansion Project.

The William Penn Foundation • \$4,000,000 over two years for the Central Library Renovation and Expansion Project.

Institute for Museum and Library Services • \$500,000 over three years to catalog and digitize 1,400 leaves and codices, totaling 3,055 digital images, from the John Frederick Lewis and Joseph E. Widener collections of Medieval Manuscripts; and \$74,400 for Phase II of the website redesign.

The estate of Esther Gehman • a bequest of \$213,880 to the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provision of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) as administered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania • \$164,500 (third year payment) for electronic career resources, Homework Help Online, and teen outreach; \$50,000 to improve assistive technology for the visually impaired; and \$30,000 to develop software to assist with collection analysis.

Wachovia • \$200,000 over five years to support the Free Library's annual Summer Reading Program.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Education • \$170,568 to support the Free Library's Reader Development Program.

The Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation • \$100,000 over three years for Phase II of the redesign of the Free Library's website.

Free Library of Philadelphia Foundation

FY 2005
(7/1/04 - 6/30/05)

Statement of Activities for the year ended June 30, 2005

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Totals
Operating support and revenue:				
Grants and contributions	\$1,021,767	\$1,320,129	\$ -	\$2,341,896
Federal and state grants and city capital appropriations	57,033	1,165,712	-	1,222,745
Contributions-Central Library Campaign	-	5,501,934	-	5,501,934
Fees and library services	50,103	17,982	-	68,085
Fines and lost books	411,844	-	-	411,844
Sale of books and publications	33,057	5,498	-	38,555
Other income	282,171	-	-	282,171
Dividend and interest income	93,890	-	-	93,890
Long-term investment income designated for operations	437,787	607,210	-	1,044,997
Net assets released from restriction	5,988,097	(5,988,097)	-	-
Total operating support and revenue	8,375,749	2,630,368	-	11,006,117
Operating expenses:				
Program Services				
Public programs	2,311,668	-	-	2,311,668
Collection and preservation	390,464	-	-	390,464
Technology	699,959	-	-	699,959
Facilities renovation	210,270	-	-	210,270
Central Library capital renovation project	2,917,788	-	-	2,917,788
Total program services	6,530,149	-	-	6,530,149
Supporting Services				
Administration	923,441	-	-	923,441
Fundraising	917,883	-	-	917,883
Total expenses	8,371,473	-	-	8,371,473
Change in net assets from operations	4,276	2,630,368	-	2,634,644
Non-Operating gains:				
Long-term investment return in excess of return designated for operations	(1,099)	454,575	-	453,476
Total change in net assets	3,177	3,084,943	-	3,088,120
Net assets at beginning of year	6,386,452	19,603,859	7,031,783	33,022,094
Net assets at end of year	\$6,389,629	\$22,688,802	\$7,031,783	\$36,110,214

1. BACKGROUND

The Free Library of Philadelphia Foundation (the Foundation) functions primarily to secure federal, state, city and private grants and contributions, and to expend those funds on various Library programs.

Agreement with the Board of Trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia

The Foundation entered into an agreement dated June 19, 1958 with the Board of Trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia, an independent board of the City of Philadelphia (City or City Library) responsible for securing and expending City appropriations. Under this agreement, the Board of Trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia maintains care and custody of certain physical assets of the Foundation and makes all necessary operational decisions as to the management of the libraries and other assets of the Foundation. These financial statements reflect only the assets, liabilities, net assets and changes in net assets of the Foundation and, accordingly, do not include any amounts applicable to the financial position or changes in net assets of the Free Library of Philadelphia.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Foundation have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and reflects all significant receivables, payables, and other liabilities.

Basis of Presentation

The Foundation is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets.

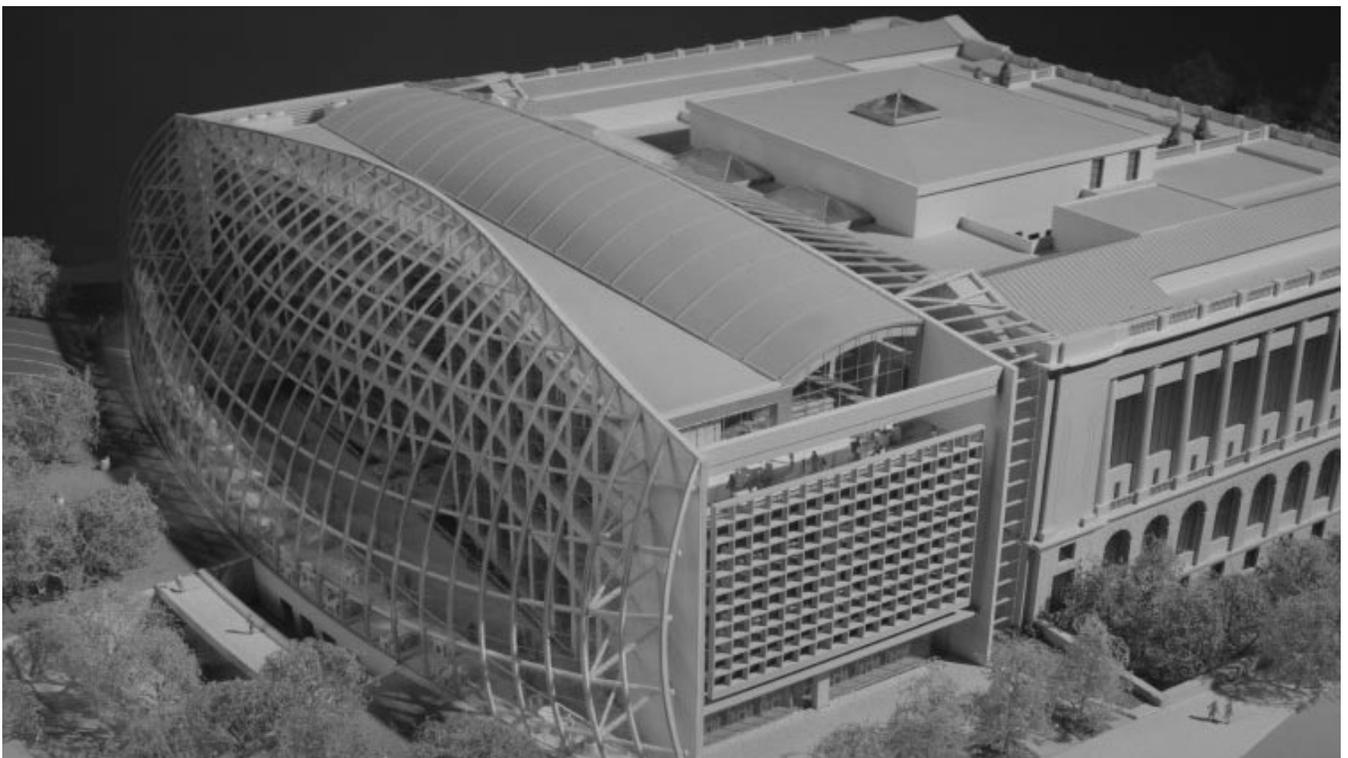
Unrestricted net assets - net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed stipulations. The Board of Directors may elect to designate such assets for specific purposes or to have them function as endowment. This designation may be removed at the Board's discretion.

Temporarily restricted net assets – net assets subject to donor-imposed stipulations that will be met either by actions of the Foundation or by the passage of time.

Permanently restricted net assets – net assets subject to donor-imposed stipulations that require that they be maintained permanently.

The statement of activities distinguishes changes in net assets from operations from other changes in net assets. Operating activity includes revenues and other support, including investment income generated from short-term investments, as well as long-term investment income designated for operations, and all expenses that are available to provide program services and support the administrative functions of the Foundation. Other changes in net assets include permanently restricted contributions and contributions designated for other purposes by the Board, as well as long-term investment income in excess of the Foundation's designated spending rate.

Revenue is reported as increases in unrestricted net assets unless use of the related assets is limited by donor-imposed restrictions. Expenses are reported as decreases in unrestricted net assets. Gains and losses on assets or liabilities are reported as increases or decreases in unrestricted net assets unless their use is restricted by explicit donor stipulation or by law. Expirations of temporary restrictions on net assets are reported as net assets released from restrictions.



Three views of Moshe Safdie's design for the new Central Library

Visit any one of our 54 Free Library locations or visit us at www.library.phila.gov

CENTER CITY

Central

1901 Vine St.
215.686.5322

Independence

18 S. 7th St.
215.685.1633

Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped

919 Walnut St.
215.683.3213

Philadelphia City Institute

1905 Locust St.
215.685.6621

Fox Chase

501 Rhawn St.
215.685.0547

Frankford

4634 Frankford Ave.
215.685.1473

Holmesburg

7810 Frankford Ave.
215.685.8756

Katharine Drexel

11099 Knights Road
215.685.9383

Lawncrest

6098 Rising Sun Ave.
215.685.0549

NORTH

Cecil B. Moore Ave.

2320 W. C.B. Moore Ave.
215.685.2766

Fishtown Community

1217 E. Montgomery Ave.
215.685.9990

Kensington

104 W. Dauphin St.
215.685.9996

Lehigh Avenue

601 W. Lehigh Ave.
215.685.9794

McPherson Square

601 E. Indiana Ave.
215.685.9995

Nicetown-Tioga

3720 N. Broad St.
215.685.9790

Richmond

2987 Almond St.
215.685.9992

Ramonita G. de Rodriguez

600 W. Girard Ave.
215.686.1768

Widener

2808 W. Lehigh Ave.
215.685.9799

Northeast Regional

2228 Cottman Ave.
215.685.0501

Tacony

6742 Torresdale Ave.
215.685.8755

Torresdale

3079 Holme Ave.
215.685.0494

Welsh Road

9233 Roosevelt Blvd.
215.685.0498

Wyoming

231 E. Wyoming Ave.
215.685.9158



NORTHWEST

Andorra

705 E. Cathedral Road
215.685.2552

Chestnut Hill

8711 Germantown Ave.
215.248.0977

Falls of Schuylkill

3501 Midvale Ave.
215.685.2093

Greater Olney

5501 N. 5th St.
215.685.2846

Logan

1333 Wagner Ave.
215.685.9156

Joseph E. Coleman

Northwest Regional
68 W. Chelten Ave.
215.685.2150

Lovett Memorial

6945 Germantown Ave.
215.685.2095

Oak Lane

6614 N. 12th St.
215.685.2848

Ogontz

6017 Ogontz Ave.
215.685.3566

Roxborough

6245 Ridge Ave.
215.685.2550

Wadsworth

1500 Wadsworth Ave.
215.685.9293

West Oak Lane

2000 Washington Lane
215.685.2843

SOUTH

Charles Santore

932 S. 7th St.
215.686.1766

Fumo Family

2437 S. Broad St.
215.685.1758

Queen Memorial

1201 S. 23rd St.
215.685.1899

South Philadelphia

1700 S. Broad St.
215.685.1866

Thomas F. Donatucci, Sr.

1935 Shunk St.
215.685.1755

Whitman

200 Snyder Ave.
215.685.1754

WEST

Blanche Nixon/Cobbs Creek

5800 Cobbs Creek Prkwy.
215.685.1973

Charles Durham

3320 Haverford Ave.
215.685.7436

Eastwick

2851 Island Ave.
215.685.4170

Haddington

446 N. 65th St.
215.685.1970

Haverford

5543 Haverford Ave.
215.685.1964

Kingsessing

1201 S. 51st Street
215.685.2690

Lucien E. Blackwell West Philadelphia Regional

125 S. 52nd St.
215.685.7424

Overbrook Park

7422 Haverford Ave.
215.685.0182

Paschalville

6942 Woodland Ave.
215.685.2662

Walnut Street West

201 S. 40th St.
215.685.7671

Wynnefield

5325 Overbrook Ave.
215.685.0298

NORTHEAST

Bushrod

6304 Castor Ave.
215.685.1471

Bustleton

10199 Bustleton Ave.
215.685.0472