



Director’s Message

I am delighted to share with you this 2009-11 Oakland Public Library (OPL) annual report. As we were organizing the report, one theme kept popping out at us, and that was “support.” Because the public library is, by mission and profession, dedicated to free access, we are supported every day by our users – you, the citizens of Oakland. Why? Because you like what you see. You like what you can take home for free. You like the fact that libraries are democratic places where opinions are heard without judgment, where information resources can be found, and where programs are offered on topics and issues that people care about. You support us because we have remained a relevant public service in your lives.

We thank you for continuing to come to the library and we thank you for trusting us with your donations and your time. We were supported in great part these last two years by 15 Friends of the Library groups, including our newest, Friends of the African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO), Friends of the Oakland History Room, and Friends of the Tool Lending Library. The larger Friends of the Oakland Public Library (FOPL) were more active than ever. Their fundraising efforts resulted in grants to OPL for systemwide support such as collections, programs, and projects, which include a new OPL web page (debuting soon) and a “makeover” of the Magazine and Newspaper Room at the Main Library. FOPL’s Branch Friends network also created a forum for friends of branch libraries to share best practices and learn from each other. Indeed, Friends members are the OPL’s Best Friends.

FOPL was an especially integral partner in our efforts to raise funds for the new 81st Avenue East Oakland Community Library, which opened in January 2011. The new library is a beautiful addition to the Oakland Public Library system, and we simply could not have accomplished it on our own. We succeeded in finishing the \$14.8 million project thanks to our partnerships with the California State Library, the Oakland Unified School District, the Oakland Redevelopment Agency, and over 300 individual and foundation donors.

Support also came by way of the quickly organized Save Oakland Libraries coalition. An option to balance the City’s budget by closing 14 libraries was met with huge waves of effective protest by this passionate group. Hundreds of supporters – including many OPL staff, who participated on their own time – prominently displayed signs and made eloquent speeches at every single City Council meeting from May through July 2011.

Seventeen thousand supporters signed petitions. Bicyclists rode the streets, calling attention to the crisis. A “Read-In” was organized at Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, where in over 100 degree weather, staff and supporters read aloud from their favorite works from 6 am until 8 pm, a total of 14 hours.

The world took notice, and Save Oakland Libraries was honored with a 2011 CALTAC (California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners) award in the category of Organization, for making a significant financial contribution to a library program.

Volunteers are a growing part of our support system at OPL. Our dedicated volunteers contribute their time to answer questions at the Information Desk in the Main Library, beautify our branches, conduct storytimes at Oakland preschools through our Books for Wider Horizons program, tutor Second Start adult students, and help in countless other ways.

Enjoy this year’s OPL Annual Report. And please, do me a favor. Join me in thanking our staff, the dedicated, creative, energetic, and incredibly awesome people who serve the public every day, in every way that their skills allow. They are the reason you are reading this report today. Thank you to the Administrative Team – Gerry Garzon, Gene Tom, Jamie Turbak, and Rosalia Romo – for your hard work to guide and direct the operations and public services that benefit our library users in so many ways. Thank you very much to our Supervising Librarians – Nina Lindsay (Children’s Services), Jane Lopez (Branches), Mary Schrader (Branches), and Kathleen DiGiovanni (Main) – and to Daniel Hersh, the Library’s Acquisitions/Processing and Safety Coordinator. Thank you to Amy Sonnie, Brian Boies, Pete Villaseñor, and all the teen specialist librarians for working so effectively without a Teen Services Coordinator. Thank you forever to Winifred Walters for her extraordinary work to complete a \$3 million capital campaign that provided a key piece of funding for the new 81st Avenue East Oakland Library. And heartfelt thanks to Tom Downs for getting our message out and for producing this annual report.

Carmen Martínez, Library Director



In 2011, as part of the Save Oakland Libraries campaign, OPL supporters and staff demonstrated in front of City Hall and marched the streets in zombie costumes.

A New Library

The big news over the past year has been the opening of the **81st Avenue East Oakland Community Library** in January 2011. A crowd of over 700 people showed up to celebrate the branch’s grand opening along with Mayor Jean Quan, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, City Council President Larry Reid, and a host of other dignitaries.

The new library introduces library services into an East Oakland neighborhood that badly needs informational and educational resources. At 21,000 square feet, the new library is the largest branch in the Oakland Public Library system, and it contains 30,000 books, magazines, CDs, and DVDs. The library’s technology

provides much needed access to digital information. Fifty-four computers with Internet access are available for public use.

With the 81st Avenue Branch, the OPL also ups its game in terms of sustainability. The new structure was built with recycled materials and sustainably harvested wood. The building was designed to meet high standards in water and energy efficiency for LEED Silver Rating, which is pending.

The vibrant and dynamic look of the new library is a tribute to Group 4 Architecture, the firm that designed the building. The distinctive interior was honored for its outstanding design in the American School & University’s Educational Interiors Showcase 2011.



Mayor Jean Quan and Congresswoman Barbara Lee led the ribbon-cutting ceremony, joined by Alice Spearman, Director of the Oakland School Board; Council President Larry Reid; and Assemblymember Sandré Swanson.

Building a new library at a time when municipal budgets are shrinking could only have happened with the development of new partnerships and a new level of resourcefulness and generosity. The 81st East Oakland Community Library stands on land owned by the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), right next to two public elementary schools. The land was made available in return for the library services, which benefit the schools’ 515 students. The cost of building and furnishing the new library was covered primarily by a grant

from the California State Library Bond Act of 2000 and funds from the City of Oakland’s Redevelopment Agency. The OUSD pitched in for furnishings and the Friends of the Oakland Public Library and OPL raised \$3 million for equipment, furniture, and books. The branch’s impressive computer lab was supported by a grant from the Koret Foundation.



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A NEW LIBRARY



Associate Director Gerry Garzon (pictured above) was a driving force behind the library’s effort to build the new branch. He and Allene Warren, a member of FOPL’s 81st Avenue Campaign Committee, inspected the site before construction was completed. The dream was realized when the doors finally opened to the public (below).



Students and faculty representatives from EnCompass Academy and ACORN Woodland Elementary School enjoyed the opening day festivities at the new 81st Avenue East Oakland Community Library.

Site Improvements and Expanding Collections



Melrose Branch underwent extensive repairs in 2010.

While reaching out to more communities with new branches in new facilities is an important part of the library's vision for the future, the maintenance and improvement of existing locations is no less critical. Some of the library's older branches are architectural treasures that require occasional restoration as well as frequent modification in order to keep up with changing times.

One such branch is the **Melrose Branch**, a Carnegie library built in 1916. It is a designated city landmark. In the spring of 2010, the branch closed temporarily so that workers could restore the building's original wood sash windows,

which had suffered from extensive water damage.

Similarly, **Elmhurst Branch** underwent extensive repairs at the end of 2010, to make the entrance and restrooms comply with standards established by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Work was also completed to augment branch security and make improvements to the interior and surrounding landscaping.

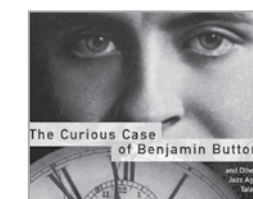
During the winter of 2011, **Brookfield Branch** received some much needed upkeep, which included renovation of the building's skylights, which previously caused excessive heat in the library on sunny days. The branch also

received upgrades to its air conditioning system, further improving the comfort level during the hotter months.

Books continue to be the library's main draw, and all of the library's book collections grow steadily to keep up with new publications and to respond to patrons' needs. With a grant from First 5 Alameda County, the Children's Room at the Main Library added a **Chinese language collection** in April 2010.

Meanwhile, the library is diligently developing its **new media collections** as the demand for downloadable eBooks and audiobooks escalates. In mid-2010, the library announced the launch of the **Oakland ePort**, an online gateway to the library's electronic book collection powered by Overdrive, a distributor of eBooks and audiobooks. Usage increased dramatically once the ePort went live – from just over 2,000 checkouts

during the first six months to nearly 8,000 in the second six months. In part, this jump was due to the growing familiarity with the ePort, as word of the new service got out among OPL patrons. But it also was due to the growing collection made available through the site. The library has already purchased nearly 2,500 titles, and through the ePort patrons are also accessing the collection of Project Gutenberg, which includes 15,000 free, copyright expired, and public domain eBooks to download to PCs and many kinds of devices. Currently, the library's electronic collection includes materials in English, Spanish, and Chinese.



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OAKLAND ePORT

Special Programs

In addition to making information freely accessible to the public, the Oakland Public Library also serves as a locus for culture and learning, a place where ideas not only are read or learned, but discussed and considered from multiple angles. Increasingly, new voices are discovered and honed at the library. The library offers instruction in disciplines ranging from home repair to memoir writing, and continually provides author talks, poetry readings, travel forums, film screenings, musical and theatrical performances, and stimulating art exhibits that enhance our connection to our community and culture.

Oakland Word is a stellar example of the library conceiving a program, seeking grant opportunities, organizing a team of instructors, scheduling courses, and ultimately generating an overwhelming response from the community. In January 2010, after securing funding through a grant from the California State Library, with additional support from the Friends of the Oakland Public Library, Oakland Word opened enrollment for some 20 writing courses that included fiction, poetry, personal essays, and songwriting. Nearly every class filled to capacity, and the program concluded that June with the

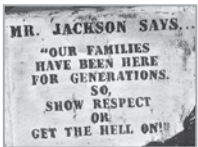


Kenji Liu, program director of Oakland Word

publication of the highly praised *In Your Ear*, a 172-page book that tells the story of Oakland and its residents from some 40 different points of view.

Following a similar strategy, with funding from the California State Library, **Oakland Book** set out during the 2010-11 school year with the goal of encouraging and refining written expression by Oakland teens. By conducting classes at Oakland Unity High School, College Preparatory and Architecture Academy, East Oakland School for the Arts, and Arise High School, the program was more accessible to high school students. Young writers were encouraged to find their

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IN YOUR EAR



BRANCHES

voices, chiefly in verse form, and to commit their words to paper. True to the program's name, their efforts were printed and bound in a volume of stirring poetry, entitled *Branches*.

Meanwhile the Tool Lending Library began offering handy **classes for do-it-yourselfers**. Sponsored by the Friends of the Tool Lending Library, the series brought professional tradespeople to the library to offer free instruction in home improvement projects. Course subjects included tilesetting, tree pruning, and foundation bolting. Also, the Tool Lending Library continued to increase its collection of tools, which are available to residents. Circulation increased by a dramatic 38% in summer 2011, compared with the same months in 2009.

Lakeview Branch launched a free **ESL program** in June 2011, in response to devastating cuts to similar programming in area colleges and adult schools. Courses for this six-session program were taught by ESL teachers from Berkeley Adult School and Oakland Adult School. The program was immensely popular, which underlined the

continuing need for these classes.

As it has done for many years now, the library offered **free legal advice** in partnership with the Alameda County Bar Association. Licensed lawyers volunteer their time at nine library locations to provide legal information and referrals. Not a week goes by without a lawyer providing assistance in a branch or the Main Library. For its contributions to this valuable service, the Alameda County Bar Association honored the library with a Distinguished Service Award in 2010. Similarly, in partnership with the AARP, the library continues to offer **free tax help** in the weeks leading up to the mid-April tax deadline. The AARP trains volunteers to help patrons file their taxes at five library locations.

Second Start, providing adult literacy tutoring, expanded its reach when staff began traveling to different library branches to conduct intake interviews with potential students. This more flexible approach increased Second Start's visibility throughout the library system as the program prepared to move into its new permanent location at the Main Library.



The Friends of Golden Gate Branch sponsor **Jazz on Sundays**, putting on free outdoor concerts during the month of July and August. The festival has been drawing appreciative crowds for 21 years.

Events and Exhibits



Día de los Muertos at César Chávez Branch

Each month the Oakland Public Library hosts celebrations that reflect this city’s heritage and great cultural diversity. These include international festivals such as the Indian **Diwali Festival of Light** and **Día de los Muertos**; ethnic and cultural tributes such as **Black History Month**; music festivals like Golden Gate Branch’s **Jazz on Sundays** series; and events of particular local interest, such as the **Black Panther Film Festival**. To these annual events the library adds special events that always raise the buzz level on our calendar.

For the National Library Week Author Event, best-selling author **Isabel Wilkerson** was greeted with a beyond-capacity crowd when

she spoke at AAMLO in May 2011. More than 300 people lined up along 14th Street before scaling the stairs to AAMLO’s elegant gallery, where an overflow crowd made themselves comfortable in the aisles. Ms. Wilkerson talked about her book, *The Warmth of Other Suns*, about the 20th century African American migration experience, and she and her



Isabel Wilkerson

rapt audience enjoyed an energetic discussion that continued late into the evening. The event was supported by the Friends of the Oakland Public Library and aired on KTOP television.

Another best-selling author, Oakland resident **Mary Roach**, gave an informative and humorous talk at Dimond Branch in October 2010. Before a lively Tuesday night audience, Ms. Roach read passages from her popular new book, *Packing for Mars*. She also shared anecdotes from her research, which among many other things entailed questioning NASA officials about how astronauts perform necessary bodily functions at zero gravity, while encumbered in their space suits.

As part of the Main Library’s annual travel series, best-selling travel writer **Jeff Greenwald** gave an inspirational talk in June 2011.



Mary Roach

Greenwald related exciting stories from his travels and shared tips on how other travelers can write artful narratives based on their own journeys.

In February 2010, the Oakland Public Library, in partnership with ACORN Woodland Elementary School and EnCompass Academy, offered a screening of **California of the Past: East Oakland Stories**. Produced at the library, *East Oakland Stories* is a series of short videos recorded by residents of East Oakland. Each three-minute segment is a personal narrative augmented by photographs, music, letters, and other pieces illustrating each individual story. The stories are preserved as part of the California of the Past’s online collection.



[CLICK TO VIEW](#)

EAST OAKLAND STORIES



The audience enjoyed the lively discussion led by best-selling author Isabel Wilkerson during the 2011 National Library Week Author Event.



Events and Exhibits

In January 2010, appraiser and host Wes Cowan of the PBS Television series “History Detectives” filmed a segment in the **Oakland History Room**. History Room staff also provided historic photographs for the HBO documentary, “The Curious Case of Curt Flood,”



Curt Flood

which premiered July 2011; and to Ken Burns’ production company, Florentine Films, for a documentary about the Dust Bowl that is due out in 2012. The Oakland History Room provided a nonstop series of exhibits, including a display commemorating the 20th anniversary of the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, and another that looked back on the old Oakland Oaks baseball team.

On Earth Day 2010, the library joined the citywide **Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB) campaign** and gave away free canvas tote bags emblazoned with the OPL logo. The durable, attractive bags were a popular item, and most locations had long lines of patrons wanting



Happy patrons snagged free bags at the library on Earth Day 2010.

one. The bags were courtesy of the Public Works Agency, Oakland Recycles, and Waste Management of Alameda County.

The **African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO)** consistently offered stellar programming and exhibits. Author Maxine Hong Kingston gave a talk at the museum in April 2011. Exhibits included *Breezin’ on Two Wheels*, which cast a spotlight on African American motorcycle culture, in August 2009.



Access to Life, a traveling exhibit presented by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, came to AAMLO in December 2009. The show featured photographs from eight renowned Magnum Photos artists and chronicled the transformative effect that access to free antiretroviral drug treatments is having on AIDS patients around the world. *Memory and Passion*, which opened in November 2010, featured the highly textured paintings by West African artist Hawa Kaba that celebrate the culture and landscape of Africa, the lives of women, the cause of social justice, and the painter’s own memories.



Dorothy Lazard, Librarian, Oakland History Room.

Services for Children

The Oakland Public Library upheld its commitment to several system-wide initiatives to promote early reading, creativity, and library use. In addition to ongoing programs, like weekly storytimes for pre-readers, the library offers many special events that are consistently well attended.

The annual **Summer Reading Program** was as popular as ever, promoting reading and library use while school was out during the summer months. As part of this program, fun and educational events and reading games took place in all branches, thanks

to support from the Bernard Osher Foundation, the Friends of Oakland Public Library, the Stocker Foundation, and Union Pacific Foundation. In June 2011, more than 9,400 children signed up for Summer Reading at the Oakland Public Library!



Similarly, **El Día de Los Niños/El Día de Los Libros**, in which the library participates each April, emphasized the importance of advocating literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds. On a more local level, as part of the Oakland Literacy Coalition initiative, the Brookfield Branch participated in the **Literacy Zone** during the 2010-11 school year. The initiative, which linked the library with Brookfield Elementary School and Head Start, introduced new programs to promote literacy and made new materials available to children.

For its **Children's Reading Festival**, 81st Avenue Branch invited award winning children's author Jacqueline Woodson and renowned local author/illustrator Maya Christina Gonzales into the library and to the classrooms of the adjacent schools.



Another fun program promoting reading is **Paws to Read**, at Lakeview Branch. Thanks to a partnership with Therapy Pets, this exceedingly popular program has been bringing young readers and patient canine listeners together for three years now.



Author Mac Barnett read his books to children at Montclair Branch.





Services for Children

From January 2010 to June 2011, **Rockin’ Robins Family Play Days**, made possible by a grant through First 5 Alameda County, brought instructive activities and play to promote learning-positive interaction between parents and young children. Partner organizations helping to bring this program to fruition were Raising a Reader and Lotus Bloom.

The library and the Museum of Children’s Art (MoCHA) forged a new partnership to bring weekly **MoCHA Afterschool Art** programing to four library locations, with seasonal one-time programs at all locations. This program, made possible through an Oakland Fund for Children and Youth grant, builds on the library’s collaboration with MoCHA and the Re-Create Art Workshops. A similar partnership with the Lawrence



Art teachers from the Museum of Children’s Art lead afterschool art programs at many Oakland Library locations.

Hall of Science brought the **Check Out Science** programs to three library locations, with the help of an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant.

Additionally, the Library supports early literacy development throughout the community, preparing volunteer story readers through its training program, **Books for Wider Horizons**. Each

year the Library trains dozens of volunteer readers who, on completing the program’s intensive workshops, can take their skills to preschool and childcare centers all through the city of Oakland.

Furthering its mission to welcome hard-to-reach families within the community, the **West Oakland Library Shuttle** continued to provide free transportation to the West Oakland Branch, making it easier for children and families in this sprawling area to access their branch library. The shuttle is funded by a multi-year grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission’s Lifeline Transportation Program, and administered by the Alameda County Transportation Commission. A questionnaire



of shuttle users revealed children are more likely to ask to be read to after their visits to the library.

During the summer of 2011, Alameda County Community Food Bank partnered with the library and the Oakland Unified School District to make **free lunches** available to children at the



Eastmont, Chavez, 81st Avenue, Martin Luther King, and Golden Gate branches. The program was designed to keep kids healthy in learning environments, much as the U.S. Department of Agriculture assists low-income students during the school year.



[CLICK TO VIEW](#)

LUNCH AND LEARN

Services for Teens

The Teen Services Department does a terrific job not only in drawing young adults into the library and getting them involved in library programming, but in engaging teens in events that impact the community at large.

The Main Library’s TeenZone and a growing number of expanded teen areas in branches throughout the library system cater to this important segment of the OPL community with books, periodicals, and computer technology that appeal to teens and address their needs. The library frequently hosts visits from high school classes to introduce its teen areas and services. Free book giveaways, comic



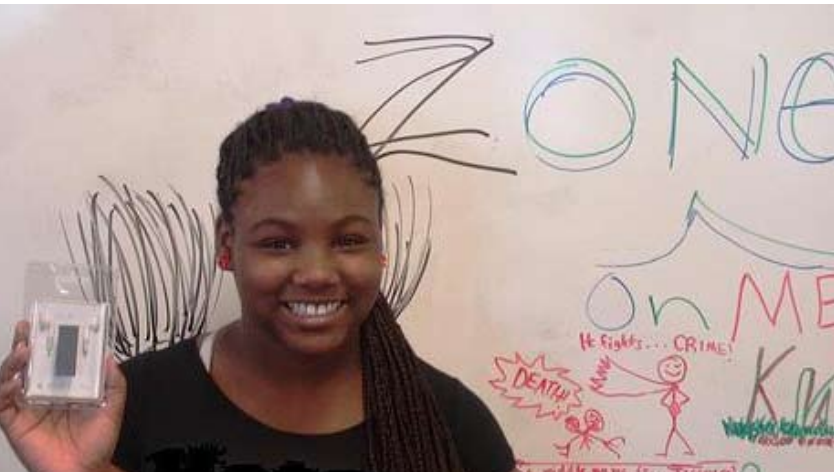
EastSide Arts Alliance exhibited their work on the TeenZone Art Wall.

book days, video game contests, chess matches, and other fun and creative activities attract similarly enthusiastic crowds to further engender greater familiarity with and appreciation for the library. Thanks to local arts teachers, who offer their time afterschool and on Saturdays, the library is able to offer craft-making classes that show teens how to make soap, jewelry, or temporary henna tattoos.

For three summers running, Teen Services has offered is increasingly popular **Teen Summer Passport Program**, which provides fun and challenging programming that

keeps teens coming to the library when school is out. The passport program also encourages young people to explore cultural attractions throughout the Bay Area, rewarding teens for getting their passport stamped at museums

and historical sites accessible by public transit. Although the Summer Passport idea did not originate here in Oakland, its success here has inspired other public library systems to model similar programs on ours.



A happy prize-winner from the 2010 Teen Summer Passport Program.

The arts are a key forum in which teens are able to engage in the politics and culture of their time while honing voices and points of view, and Teen Services took big steps to bring more teen art and culture in to the library. In early 2011, Teen Services forged a two-year partnership with **Youth Speaks** promoting free speech and youth leadership through **after-school writing workshops**, poetry competitions, festivals and visual arts that showcase teen talent and promote youth voice. As part of



Members of the Youth Leadership Council spoke at a City Council meeting in 2011.

the ongoing relationship between OPL and Youth Speaks, the Main Library co-hosted the preliminary round of the **Youth Speaks Slam Poetry Competition**. Also, the TeenZone Art Wall and the West Auditorium were the sites of the **Youth Speaks art exhibit**, marking the 15th

anniversary of the organization.

The TeenZone Art Wall was the site of a **Fashion Art exhibit**, which culminated in a fashion show at the Main Library. The **Challenges of Champions** exhibit, also on the Art Wall, showcases some very moving art by young people expressing their sorrow about violent deaths occurring in Oakland.

In March 2011, girls were able to participate in a rock ‘n’ roll performance at the library, which was offered through a partnership with **Bay Area Girls Rock Camp**. After developing skills on their instruments and practicing songs they wanted to play, the girls put on a show before a crowd exceeding 100 people. Needless to say, the old cliché about librarians shushing noisy patrons was not in effect as young women jammed on electric guitars and drum kits in the TeenZone.

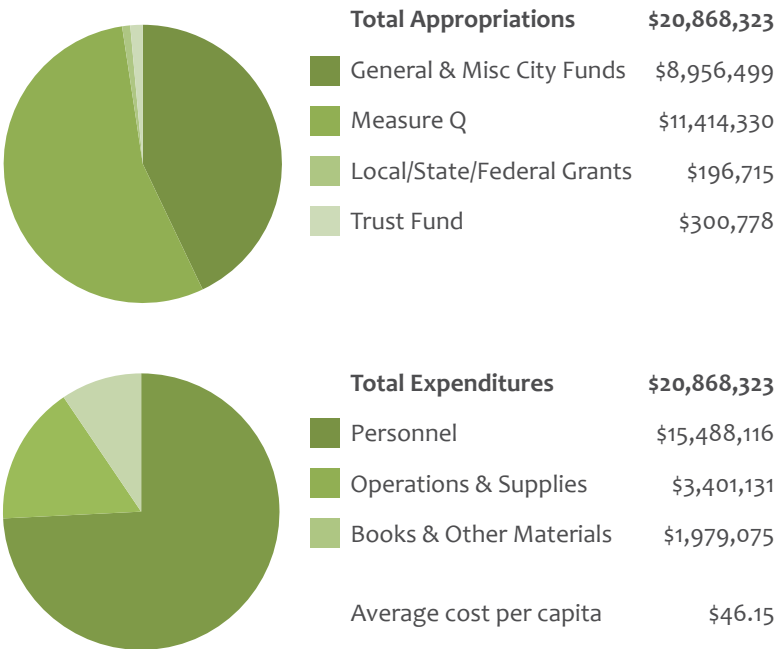
The **Youth Leadership Council** (YLC) is a well established resource through which the library can absorb highly valued input from teens. This year, the YLC took its growing voice to City Hall, speaking at a City Council meeting to express support for the library as budget cuts were being discussed.



Girls rocked the TeenZone in 2011 with help from the Bay Area Girls Rock Camp.

Financial Summary

2009–2010



STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

USE

Population Served	452,155
Registered Borrowers*	236,290
Percent of population registered	52%

COLLECTIONS

Total Circulation	2,469,588
Circulation of Children’s Materials	912,199
Circulation of DVDs, CDs, and other Media	831,649
Circulation of Non-English Materials	298,524

SERVICES

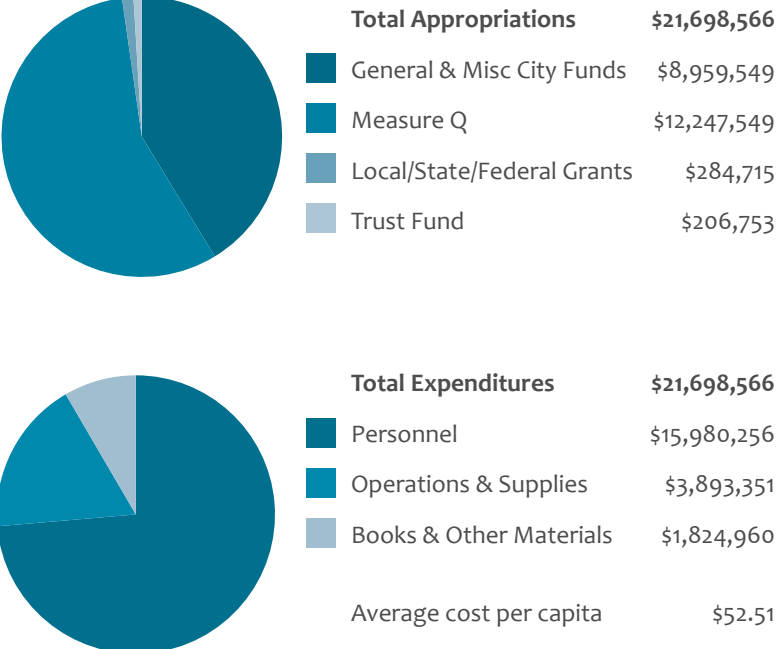
Reference Questions	745,614
Computer Sessions	325,849
Program Attendance	98,408

PERSONNEL

Total Number of Staff	390
Annual Volunteer Hours	21,267

* Drop in registered borrowers resulted from re-registration of 2010, which culled out non-active accounts.

2010–2011



STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS

USE

Population Served	413,783
Registered Borrowers*	229,145
Percent of population registered	55%

COLLECTIONS

Total Circulation	2,504,952
Circulation of Children’s Materials	996,251
Circulation of DVDs, CDs, and other Media	895,052
Circulation of Non-English Materials	269,653

SERVICES

Reference Questions	785,182
Computer Sessions	278,054
Program Attendance	122,195

PERSONNEL

Total Number of Staff	360
Annual Volunteer Hours	25,819

Supporters

The Oakland Public Library thanks and acknowledges the following supporters who donated \$100.00 or more between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2011. Gifts to the Oakland Public Library support and enhance library services, programs, collections, facilities and the community.

2009–2010 Supporters

Individuals

Anonymous (6)
Joellen Adamski
Heather Bakke
Karen A. Chandler
Janet Chin & Elinor Barron
Deborah L. Churchill
Kevin & Brenda Fitzpatrick
Pat M. & Hal Gelb
D. M. Jackson
Martin D. Kung
Judy M. Martin
Dino O’Neal
Gregory Sloan

Organizations

Anonymous
Burma Superstar Oakland, Inc.
California Library Association
Chevron Humankind Employee Fund
S.H. Cowell Foundation
Edwin H. Lennette Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation
Fentons Creamery
First 5 Alameda County
Friends of the Montclair Library
Friends of the Oakland Public Library
Give Something Back Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation
Irene S. Scully Family Foundation
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Philanthropic Ventures Foundation
Kenneth Rainin Foundation
Raymond Family Foundation
Riverstone Networks, Inc. Settlement Fund
Rogers Family Foundation
Stocker Foundation
Surtman Foundation
Thomas J. Long Foundation
Porter E. & Helenmae Thompson Foundation
Union Pacific Foundation
United Way of the Bay Area
University of California

Tributes

In honor of Elizabeth Burr & William Balsham from
Andrea & Joe Banyas
Eugene & Julia Ericksen
Susan & Edward Goldstein
Anne & Arthur Pringle
In memory of Richard Higgins from
Brian Fisher
In memory of Ja-Lih Lee from
Winifred Walters
In honor of Clio Salzer from
Steven & Stephanie Brown

State & Federal Grants

California Library Literacy Services (California State Library)
Library Services & Technology Act (California State Library)
Public Library Foundation (State of California)

2010–2011 Supporters

Individuals

Anonymous (3)
Wynne Chang
Franklin F. Chen
Deborah Churchill
Estate of Clyde L. Evans
Ira S. Feldman
Ellen Fenichel
Kevin & Brenda Fitzpatrick
Laura Jerrard
Paula Kimbro
Alan B. “Amos” Lans
Lloyd Lavagetto
Loretta & Dan San Souci
Kenji Yamada

Organizations

Alexander & Baldwin Foundation
BART
Chevron Humankind Matching Gift Program
Community Health Charities
Fentons Creamery
First 5 Alameda County
Friends of Rockridge Library
Friends of the Asian Library
Friends of the Montclair Library
Friends of the Oakland Public Library
Heatherly Born Fund, Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley
HEDCO Foundation
Koret Foundation
Kresge Foundation
Lake Merritt Breakfast Club Charitable Foundation
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Pacific Library Partnership
Philanthropic Ventures Foundation
Porter E. & Helenmae Thompson Foundation
Stocker Foundation
Union Pacific Foundation
University of California
Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation
William G. Gilmore Foundation

Tributes

In memory of Jean Ayers from
Teiko A. Ayers
In honor of Elizabeth Burr & William Balsham from
Charles Ashcom
Jonathan B. Ashcom
Amy P. Jirsa
In memory of Luella Edmond from
Judy M. Martin
D. M. Jackson
In memory of Richard Higgins from
Brian Fisher
In memory of Richard Jenevein from
Winifred Walters
In memory of Carol Summer from
California Communications Access

State & Federal Grants

California Library Literacy Services (California State Library)
Library Services & Technology Act (California State Library)
Public Library Foundation (State of California)
California State Library Bond Act of 2000

Note: Every effort has been made to ensure that our listing is accurate. If there are any errors or omissions, please accept our apologies and do contact the Grants and Development Office, 238-6932, so that we may correct our records.

Recognition of Friends, Volunteers & Supporters

Each year the **Friends of the Oakland Public Library** (FOPL) raise funds through membership dues and the Friends’ used book-store, The Bookmark, which is located at 721 Washington Street, in Old Oakland. Money FOPL donated to the library helped support free community programs, including the National Library Week event, children’s and teen programs, collections, and enhancements to branches and the Main Library. FOPL also helped raise money for books and furniture at the new 81st Avenue East Oakland Community Library.

FOPL volunteers donate their time – approximately 50 volunteers staff the Bookmark Bookstore, open 7 days a week. And customers of the Bookmark contribute to the Oakland Public Library every time they make a purchase at the shop.



The Bookmark



Elen Moyer, FOPL President, and Robert Bacon, FOPL member, at the Grand Opening of the new 81st Avenue Branch.



Ian Watson, volunteer and FOPL member, posed as Clifford the Big Red Dog with Adam Traeger-Hirschfelder, Senior Program Officer, Koret Foundation, and his son.

Fifteen branches are supported by local Friends volunteers who conduct book sales, advocate for libraries, help with programs, and support their local branch in many other ways.

Other OPL **volunteers** work the information desk at the Main

Library, serve as computer docents, greet at events and perform a variety of other services at Oakland libraries. In May 2011, half a dozen employees of the Clorox Company volunteered half a workday to help the library conduct inventory on its DVD collection. The library benefits greatly from contributions such as these.

Volunteer tutors in the Second Start Adult Literacy program work one-on-one with adult learners and trained volunteer story readers extend the library’s early literacy services by reading to preschool classes once a week.

Despite deep cuts to the city budget, the Oakland Public Library continues to offer a full range of services to the public largely because the public values these services and has been effective in



Employees of the Clorox Company volunteered to help the library do an inventory check on its DVD collection.



Save Oakland Library played a significant role in expressing the importance of keeping libraries open.

making its priorities known. In 2011, **Save Oakland Library**, a coalition of concerned Oakland residents, advocated tirelessly to raise awareness about the threat to Measure Q and library services. Organizers used social media, public demonstrations, and fliers to get the word out. Save Oakland Libraries also organized the 14-hour “Read-in” in front of City Hall, and members led a branch-to-branch bicycle tour, which demonstrated its support for the entire system, rather than a select few library locations. Thanks to their efforts, thousands of residents signed petitions that were delivered to City Council at the budget meetings.

Oakland Public Library

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Carmen Martínez, Library Director
Gerry Garzón, Associate Director
Gene Tom, Chief Financial Officer
Jamie Turbak, Administrative Librarian
Rosalia Arteaga-Romo, Executive Assistant
Winifred Walters, Grants and Development Manager
Crystal Ramie-Adams, Human Resources Manager
Rick Moss, Chief Curator, AAMLO

PUBLIC SERVICES TEAM

Kathleen DiGiovanni, Acting Supervising Librarian, Main Library
Nina Lindsay, Supervising Librarian, Children’s Services
Jane Lopez, Supervising Librarian, Branch Administration
Mary Schrader, Acting Supervising Librarian, Branch Administration
Daniel Hersh, Public Services Support

FRIENDS OF THE OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2009-2011)

Ellen Moyer, President
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Judy Toll, Secretary
Michael J. Dalton
Genevieve Katz
Ronile Lahti
Bob Shurtleff
Sophie Souroujon
Brook Vanderford
Winifred Walters
Evan Zubritsky
Carl Alexander, Honorary Director

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSSION (2009-11)

Steve Tidrick, Chairperson
Jill Broadhurst, Vice Chairperson
Muhammad M. Alabi
Marilyn Citron
Susanna Gilden
Sylvester Grisby, Sr.
Genevieve Katz
Jessica Leavitt
Tom Manley
Carolyn Mixon
Arthur Noble
Peggy Simmons
Linda White Taylor
Billie Wooldridge

LOCATIONS

- Main Library**
125 14th Street
- African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO)**
659 14th Street
- Second Start Adult Literacy Program**
1801 Adeline Street
- 81st Avenue East Oakland Community Library**
1021 81st Avenue
- Asian Branch Library**
Pacific Renaissance Plaza
388 9th Street, Ste.190
- Brookfield Branch Library**
9255 Edes Avenue
- César E. Chávez Branch Library**
3301 East 12th St., Ste. 271
- Dimond Branch Library**
3565 Fruitvale Avenue
- Eastmont Branch Library**
Eastmont Town Center
7200 Bancroft Ave., Suite 211
- Elmhurst Branch Library**
1427 88th Avenue
- Golden Gate Branch Library**
5606 San Pablo Avenue
- Lakeview Branch Library**
550 El Embarcadero
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch Library**
6833 International Blvd.
- Melrose Branch Library**
4805 Foothill Blvd.
- Montclair Branch Library**
1687 Mountain Blvd.
- Piedmont Avenue Branch Library**
160 41st Street
- Rockridge Branch Library**
5366 College Avenue
- Temescal Branch Library**
5205 Telegraph Avenue
- West Oakland Branch Library**
1801 Adeline Street



Derrick DeMay, Children’s Librarian of the 81st Avenue East Oakland Community Library.

CREDITS

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www.oaklandlibrary.org