

INSIDE

Program highlights included our **Writers and Friends** author series, our second annual **Teen Film Fest**, and **Fit for Life**. We also enjoyed another delightful season of **A Little Sunday Music** and the finale for the week-long regional **Riverway Storytelling Festival**. We participated in the Town's celebration of the **Hudson Quadricentennial** with over eighteen events for people of all ages and interests. The library sponsored a total of **618** programs, attended by **15,691** people of all ages.



MISSION

Bethlehem Public Library values its responsibility to enhance the general welfare and quality of life in the community and region it serves. The library pursues excellence in its mission: to provide equal and uncensored access to resources and services that encourage lifelong learning, cultural enrichment, and professional growth.

LIBRARY TRUSTEES 2008-09

Aaron Baldwin *president*
John Sobiecki *vice-president*
Tamra Wright *treasurer*
Penelope Koburger *assistant treasurer*
Rachel Baum *secretary*
Yolanda Caldwell *trustee*
Nancy Smith *trustee*

bpltrustee@uhls.lib.ny.us



WORKING TOGETHER

2008-09 annual report

BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY • DELMAR NY



AND OUT

We continued **reaching out** to the community

through our visits to **Bethlehem schools** and **assisted living** facilities, our **Books to People** delivery service for the homebound, the Town **Health Fair**, and our annual **blood drive**.

FRIENDS OF BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY 2008-09

Mary Kim Purcell and Sue Viscuso *co-presidents*
Marsha Levin *vice-president*
Mike Levin *treasurer*
Janna Harton *secretary*
Polly Hartman, Meryl Norek *at large*
Meghan Seely *student representative*
Jeanne Biggins *library liaison*

<http://friends.bethlehempubliclibrary.org>



FROM THE DIRECTOR

POINTS of INTEREST

- **Writers and Friends*** drew full houses in its second season with two prominent contemporary authors—Jeffery Deaver and Russell Banks—and regional notable Steve Hamilton.
- The second annual **Teen Film Fest** rolled out the red carpet for a lively event that showcased the creativity and thoughtfulness of our talented teens.
- We received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to display **Picturing America**, a cultural initiative that brought representations of our nation's art to schools and libraries across the country.
- We played a large part in the Town's celebration of the **Hudson Quadricentennial**. Beginning with various "Explore Your Shore" children's offerings and display of Estelle Yarinsky's commemorative art quilt "Adriaen and Mahican," we offered 18 programs for all ages from January through October 2009.
- With the help of a grant from the MetLife Foundation, we inaugurated **Fit for Life**, a series for senior citizens that featured programs on holistic health and victory gardens, a comedy performance by The Improv Club, and a film documentary about an octogenarian chorus.
- We continue our ongoing **service to the community** through school and assisted living outreach, Books to People, participation in the Town's senior health fair, and our annual blood drive.
- **Evenings on the Green, A Little Sunday Music*** and the **Riverway Storytelling Festival finale*** are longstanding favorites that continue to draw large audiences each year.
- The New York Library Association awarded our IT staff the 2008 **Best Practices Award** for design and development of original registration and record-keeping software for our Summer Reading Program.
- Finally, the board approved the start of the library's **PARC** project, which expands available parking, improves safe access, renews our commitment to greenspace, and serves all those who seek what we have to offer: **books and media, reference and technology assistance, meeting space, restful gardens, reliable information, and educational and cultural enrichment.**

*underwritten by Friends of the Library

—Nancy L. Pieri

GOODS AND SERVICES

PEOPLE

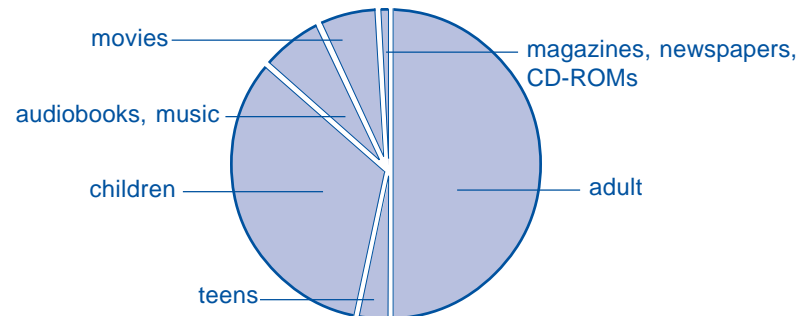
Bethlehem population	25,965	
library cardholders	19,282	
library visitors		355,663
website visitors	308,404	
library staff, full-time	33	
library staff, part-time	33	

BUDGET

personnel	\$2,597,265	\$3,824,465
materials	\$329,500	
operations	\$573,300	

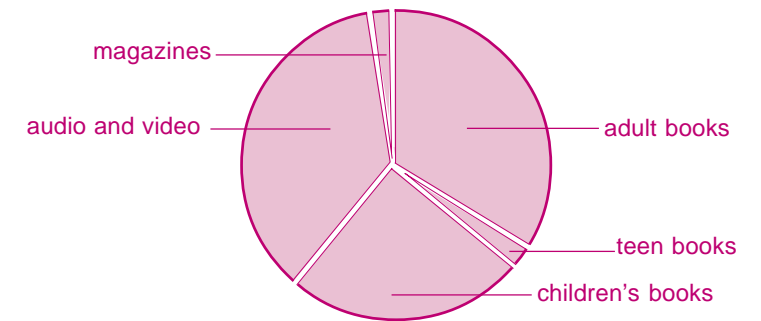
COLLECTIONS

adult	61,317	126,138
teens	3,918	
children	44,216	
audiobooks, music	8,720	
movies	7,579	
magazines, newspapers	287	
CD-ROMs	101	



CIRCULATION

adult books	242,533	742,127
teen books	18,544	
children's books	177,783	
audio and video	288,791	
magazines	14,476	



SERVICES

questions answered	82,303
holds placed	110,547
interlibrary loans in	77,895
interlibrary loans out	66,017
public meetings	345

we answered **1,582**
reference questions every week

PLUS

- wireless access • study rooms • Local History Room
- email notification of holds/overdues • Playaways
- *footnotes* newsletter • Community Contacts • Computer Partners • museum passes