

## INSIDE

The library hosted well-known authors Joe Bruchac, Bruce Coville and The Beekman



Boys, offered perennial

favorites *A Little Sunday Music* and *Evenings on the Green*, and made



way for a visit with Elephant and Piggie. We sponsored a total of

896 programs, attended by 21,000 people of all ages, and 371 outreach programs with more than 11,000 participants.

## and OUT



We reached out beyond our walls through school and community visits, co-sponsorship of a town concert, and by offering free WiFi at the

town pool. Outreach continued with Books to People delivery service for the homebound and our annual blood drive.



## 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 (current 2016-17)

Mary Redmond, *president*  
Mark Kissinger, *vice-president*  
Brian Sweeney, *treasurer*  
Harmeet Narang, *assistant treasurer*  
Joyce Becker, *secretary*  
Lisa Scoons, *UHLS board liaison*  
Paula Rice, *trustee*

[trustees@bethlehempubliclibrary.org](mailto:trustees@bethlehempubliclibrary.org)

### FRIENDS OF BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY (current 2016-17)

Sandra Mortensen *president*  
Polly Hartman *vice-president*  
Elissa Zwiebach *treasurer*  
Mary Kim Purcell and Sue Viscuso *co-secretaries*  
Marianne Purcell and Barbara Traynor *at-large members*  
Geoffrey Kirkpatrick *library liaison*

<http://friends.bethlehempubliclibrary.org>



# Annual Report 2015-16



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8.16

## PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

- The **Beekman Boys** packed the community room when they came by to discuss their latest book, "1802 Style."
- Popular children's authors **Joe Bruchac** and **Bruce Coville** each made a stop at the library to talk about their work.
- **Jester Jim** helped kick off summer reading with a smile.
- Use of **digital magazines** remains high among Bethlehem patrons, prompting the addition of a second service - **Flipster**.
- **Coffee and Conversation**, co-sponsored by Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc., serves a large local audience of older adults and others who find the Friday afternoon schedule convenient.
- We expanded our **sewing programs** to add quilting and more in response to the demand.
- **Online registration** makes it easy to sign up for programs.
- The **free library WiFi** at the town pool is used by many.
- We have added a number of **special collection items** underwritten by the Friends, including **GoPro cameras, telescopes, metal detectors, additional museum passes** and more.
- **Paws to Read** and **Book Buddies** continue to help school-age kids build reading confidence.
- Our **3D printer** sees frequent use, and a donation of **3Doodler pens** has inspired some fun teen programs.
- The library hosted its first **candidates forum** for those running for the board of trustees.
- Multiple **cinema series** remain popular with audiences of all ages.
- We maintain our community connections through **school and assisted living outreach, Books to People, participation in community events, our annual blood drive, and our own community and volunteer fair.**
- We continue to open up our meeting rooms to teens for **group study** before the January and June Regents exams, adding study break activities on some of the days.
- Monthly **Listening Parties** allow music lovers to explore their favorite artists in depth.
- A **bicycle fix-it station** and **phone charging kiosk** offer nontraditional services.
- Both of our longstanding concert series, **Evenings on the Green\*** (summer) and **A Little Sunday Music\*** (winter), draw large audiences each year. An **ice cream social\*** during one of the summer performances is a huge hit with the community.

\* sponsored by Friends of Bethlehem Public Library

## GOODS AND SERVICES

### PEOPLE

Bethlehem population	28,243	
Library cardholders	20,957	
Library visitors		<b>339,120</b>
Website visitors	421,162	
Library staff, full-time	31	
Library staff, part-time	43	

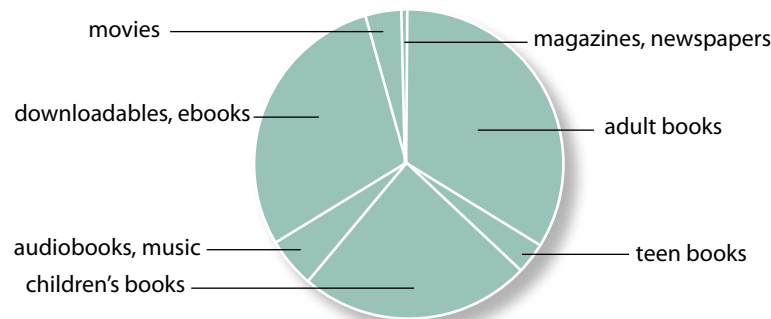
### BUDGET\*

		<b>\$4,003,374</b>
Personnel	\$2,952,494	
Materials	\$443,500	
Operations	\$607,380	

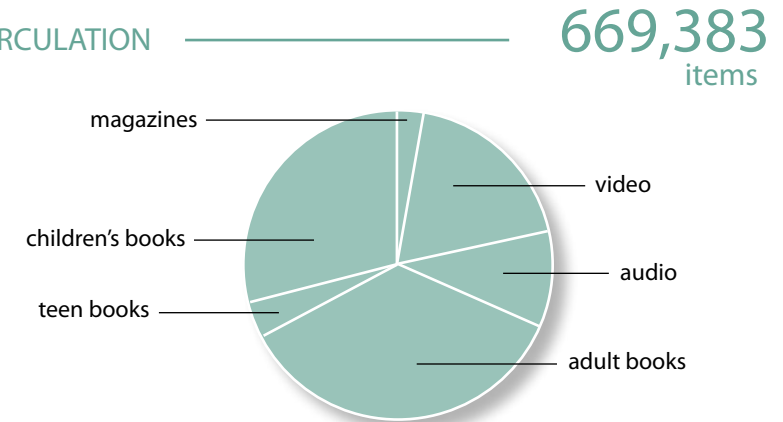
\*view full 2015-16 budget at [www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org](http://www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org)

### COLLECTIONS

		<b>166,238</b>
		items
Adult books	56,313	
Teen books	5,195	
Children's books	40,259	
Audiobooks, music	8,876	
Downloadables, ebooks	48,044 (incl. UHLS-shared)	
Movies	7,144	
Magazines, newspapers	258 (print only)	
Museum passes (July 2016)	29 (to 20 museums)	



### CIRCULATION



### SERVICES

Questions answered	86,000
Interlibrary loans in	88,494
Interlibrary loans out	67,730
Public meetings	480
Public computer use	44,087
Holds picked up (not incl. ebooks)	97,253
Museum pass loans	904
Ebook loans	53,350
Wireless use	56,887
Tech room use	448

we answered **1,750** reference questions every week

### PLUS

wireless access and printing • study rooms  
volunteer opportunities • Computer Partners  
eBooks • eMagazines • *footnotes* newsletter •  
BCSD yearbooks online • laptop loans • tech help  
local history collection • *Spotlight* online • sewing  
storytimes • assistive listening devices • job coaching  
research databases • exam proctoring