

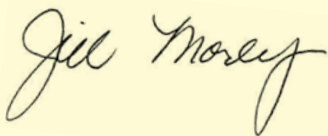
# YPSILANTI DISTRICT LIBRARY

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2014

**val-ue** (vál yoo) n. v. 1. relative worth, merit, or importance; 2. equivalent worth or return in money, material, services, etc.; 3. estimated or assigned worth; 4. any object or quality desirable as a means or an end in itself; 5. to calculate or reckon the monetary value of; 6. to consider with respect to worth, excellence, usefulness, or importance; 7. to regard or esteem highly.

## DEAR PATRONS, FRIENDS, AND SUPPORTERS:

Value is defined, measured, and demonstrated in multiple ways. The Ypsilanti District Library Board of Trustees and staff are pleased to share the valuable ways your library contributed to the community in 2014. This year's report focuses on the Library's mission-driven values—our promises to the community we serve as well as the value patrons receive from the Library through its programs, resources, and service. The board and staff of YDL value each and every patron who walks through our doors, steps onto the Navigator, or logs onto one of our exciting digital resources. We hope you agree that YDL is a real value to our community as well!



Jill Morey  
Library Director

*P.S. Want to see how valuable YDL is to you? Visit [www.ypsilibrary.org/savings](http://www.ypsilibrary.org/savings)*

## YDL IN ACTION IN 2014

- 822,424 ITEMS CHECKED OUT
- 185,678 REFERENCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED
- 38,623 PEOPLE ATTENDED OUR PROGRAMS IN 2013-14
- COMPUTER SESSIONS +15% OVER LAST YEAR
- INCREASED OUR E-BOOKS AND E-AUDIO COLLECTION BY 51%,
- 30,835 E-BOOK DOWNLOADS





**Core Value: Equal Access**

“Thank you to Brigitte. She is always so helpful. I have learned so much and the personalized service in library via email or phone has helped so much in my job search”

“We recently lost internet at home due to my husband’s job loss and having such a nice library to take the kids to so we can continue to homeschool has been a huge blessing in our lives! Thank you so much!!”

**Core Value: Diversity**

“Thank you for offering a lovely range of children’s books that are full of diversity. I hadn’t really noticed how impressive your collection is until I read an article on NPR.org about the lack of diversity in children’s books. Keep up the good work.”

**Core Value: Excellent Service**

“Mary in the children’s department gave us outstanding service. She was sincere and genuine in her recommendations. She has obviously found her calling as a librarian.”

“Everyone is so helpful and knowledgeable. The quality of my life has been made so much better because of YDL. I have learned so much, and enjoy coming to the library. It’s like a second home.”

“Christy went above and beyond to help us learn how to download books onto our iPhones. She was so friendly and patient. She even went outside with us because the signal was too weak in the library. She is a real “full-service” librarian.”



**Core Value: Outreach and Partnerships**

Now in its ninth year, the Ypsi Song Fest (YSF), a distinctly original YDL program, is supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts. YSF’14 featured singer/songwriter John Doe of the seminal punk band X along with workshops on songwriting and recording. Local bands were showcased in our Whittaker Road “garage”.

In a special partnership with Food Gatherers, YDL launched a summer Lunch and Listen program for school-aged children who receive free lunches during the school year. While enjoying a healthy meal, kids were treated to stories read by our librarians..



## Core Value: Public Trust

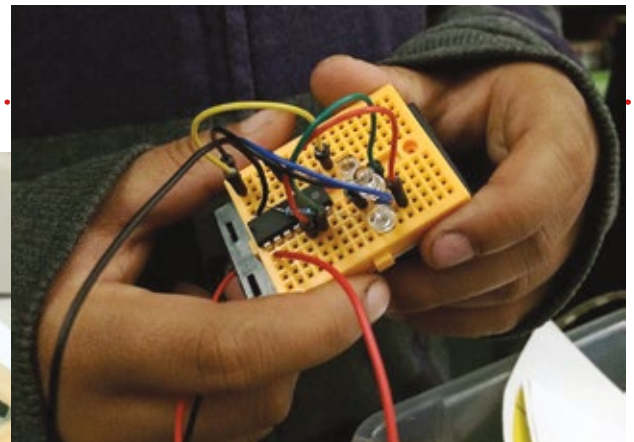
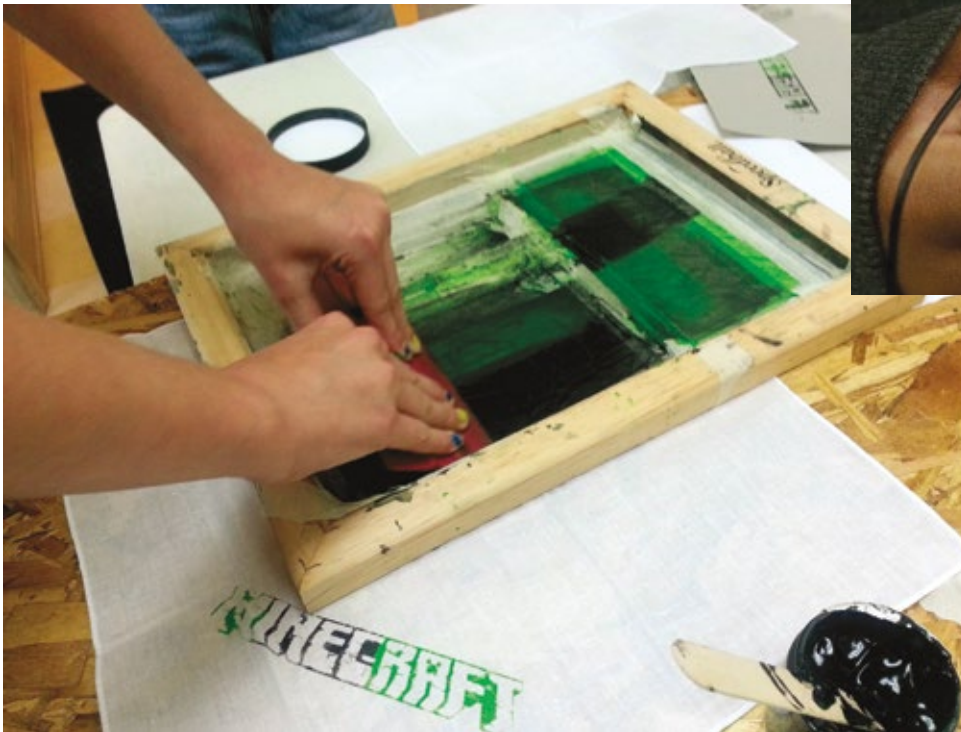
The biggest challenge ahead for YDL is managing our budget in the reality of the reduced property values in our district. In earlier years, property values accounted for 90% of YDL's budget. In 2014, that figure declined to 84%. Although property values are beginning to rise in Washtenaw County, the amount by which they can increase is capped by state law. Unless there is considerable growth in new housing, it will be a long time before the library sees a significant increase in revenue from this source. The Library Board has worked to keep service levels high despite falling revenues. Strategic cuts to our materials and program budgets have been made, funds have been transferred from YDL's fund balance, and fund-raising is on-going in an attempt to keep our budget balanced.

## REVENUE

Property taxes	\$3,216,113	84.4%
State aid and penal fines	\$167,296	4.4%
Fines, printing and guest passes	\$143,321	3.8%
Interest/other	\$26,983	0.7%
Donations, grants, friends	\$102,657	2.7%
Transfer from fund balance	\$152,342	4.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,808,712</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## EXPENSES

Salaries and benefits	\$2,524,629	66.0%
Materials	\$306,931	8.4%
Utilities	\$183,370	5.0%
Repairs and maintenance	\$143,609	3.9%
Technology	\$214,346	5.6%
Other	\$435,827	11.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,808,712</b>	<b>100.0%</b>





It was an honor and a true pleasure to host a visit – free of charge-- with the “father of the graphic novel” Art Spiegelman in April. Best known as the creator of the masterful Holocaust narrative, Maus, Pulitzer Prize-winner Spiegelman took the audience on a journey through the evolution and art of comics in a stimulating multimedia presentation. The evening was an extraordinary opportunity for lovers of literature, history buffs, and graphic novels fans.

*“This facility is a jewel in Ypsilanti’s crown—made excellent by the helpful, friendly and funny staff. Keep up the great work. Ypsilanti deserves such a great library.”*

### **Core Value: Idea Gathering Place**

More than 8,000 visitors to YDL-Whittaker Road were transported back in time to experience the childhood days, World War II stories, and post-war boom years of the Greatest Generation during the installation of the National Endowment for the Humanities On the Road national touring exhibit of Our Lives, Our Stories: America’s Greatest Generation. This moving and enlightening exhibit honored the life stories and sacrifices of this generation through a museum-quality display featuring personal anecdotes, photomurals, video and audio recordings, and objects of daily life, including kitchen items, clothing, and games. Visitors personalized the exhibit by adding their own Greatest Generation stories on our Ypsi Lives, Ypsi Stories collage wall.



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