

10th Anniversary

Ten years of innovation on Library Street

2014 Annual Report



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Hudson Library Ranked Among Best in Nation!



This past November the Library received national recognition for the 7th year in a row for the exceptional service it provides its customers. In 2014 the Library received the **top 5-star rating**. Only 3.5% of all public libraries in the United States receive "star status" and *less than 1% receive 5 stars*. This coveted professional award, based on data from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, recognizes outstanding libraries whose innovative services distinguish them from their peers.

From the Director

For more than a century the Hudson Library has been the heart of our community. With a diverse array of resources and services for research and entertainment, business development and job search, and early literacy and curriculum enrichment, the Hudson Library has continued to be a vital cultural and educational entity. In recent years we have also repositioned ourselves to become a center of innovation in the digital age helping to unlock new worlds of information and opportunity for all Hudsonites. The world is rapidly changing around us and the Hudson Library must continue to reinvent itself in order to meet and exceed your expectations.



E. Leslie Polott

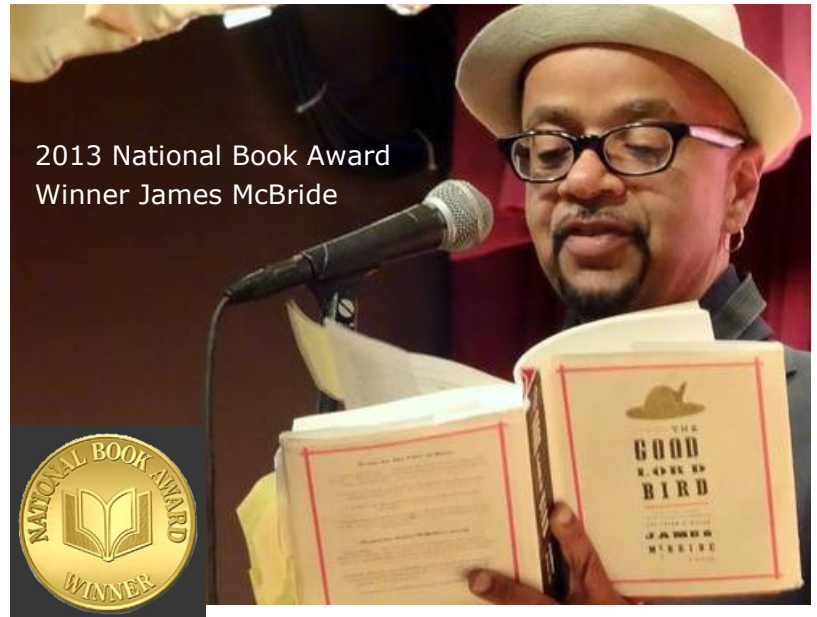
Where Culture Meets Community

Celebrating the Arts

The arts have always played a central role at the Hudson Library. Beginning with the creation of the **Baldwin-Babcock Lecture Series** in the 1920's, the Library has sought to provide cultural and educational programming that highlights its resources and enriches its customers' lives. In 2014 this tradition continued as music enthusiasts enjoyed a full array of sounds from the ethnic melodies of the **Morningstarre Celtic Band**, the **North Sea Gas Scottish Band** and the **Cleveland Chinese Music Ensemble**, to the foot-tapping music of the **BlueStones**, the **Doppel Adler Bavarian Brass Band** and the **Abbey Road Beatles Tribute Band**, and the stirring secular and sacred music performed by the **Amethyst Duo** and the **Kent/Blossom Chamber Groups**. Topping the year's offerings were the rich and emotionally evocative sounds of the **Nightingale Opera Theatre** and the **Hudson Middle School Choir** providing holiday cheer.

Record-breaking audiences also filled the Library to listen to numerous authors, including **National Book Award Winner James McBride** and **Colby Military Award Winner Logan Beirne**, as they discussed their latest

works. And visitors to the Library's **Watson-Ewell-Currin Art Gallery** were delighted by the diverse array of art installations offered. These shows, featuring local artists, engaged their audience through the use of multiple media.



2013 National Book Award Winner James McBride

North Sea Gas



Morningstarre



Creating an Ecosystem for Innovation

In 2014 **The Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship Research** served thousands of aspiring and established entrepreneurs providing them with the necessary business skills, resources and networks to start and grow successful businesses. Many received free professional advice during one-on-one business counseling sessions offered by Certified Business Advisors from the Library's affiliate organizations. A city-wide celebration of **Global Entrepreneurship Week** in November featured the Library's annual "**Pitch Night Competition**" where entrepreneurs competed for seed capital to fund their business plans.



Offering New and Emerging Technologies

In 2014 the Library unveiled a number of exciting new technologies.



- Google Glass Explorer—Wearable computer which displays information on a screen above the right eye.



- Roku Streaming Player—Streaming entertainment device (circulating).



- Oculus Rift—Virtual reality headset that allows players to step inside their favorite games and virtual worlds.

- Augmented Reality—Software that enhances the physical world through sound, video, graphics and GPS data. (to be implemented in 2015)

AUGMENTED REALITY



- 3-D Printing Services—Manufacturing three-dimensional solid objects from digital files.

- Tech Fest 2014— in partnership with Overdrive, showcased cutting-edge technology and services.



The Library is the Digital Place of Choice



- Migrated to Office 365 email
- Installed **digital security cameras** to enhance customer, staff and collection safety
- Purchased **flat screen with camera** to facilitate programming
- Installed early literacy **AWE computer**
- Purchased **additional iPads, iPad minis, Kindle Touches, laptops** and other devices for in-house and circulating use
- Installed **video conferencing equipment** to facilitate distance learning opportunities in the Flood Room
- Purchased **iMACs** for Adults and Teens
- Installed **directional information monitor**
- **Implemented PayPal credit card services** for Brewster Café and Circulation
- Implemented **automated filming** in the Flood Room

- **Increased the number and range of technology classes** including: *Best Apps for the Older and Wiser; Google Glass for Teens; Quickbooks; Minecraft; Computer Coding; Graphic Design with Canva; Pinterest; iPad for Beginners; LinkedIn; Excel; Windows 8; Prezi; Intro to Publisher; Lego Mindstorms; iPhonography; WordPress for Writers* and *3-D Printing for Teens*
- **Expanded the number of pre-loaded digital devices** in our circulating eBook Library including iPads
- Installed **video conferencing technology** in the Training Lab
- Added **online educational products** such as: Tumblebooks, Lynda.com and Muzzy



TumbleBooks
e-books for e-kids



lynda.com

Engaging Young Minds

Summer Learning —2014

This past summer children and teens flocked to the Library in record numbers to learn new things, escape with a great story and relax, as well as enjoy the Library's many programs. Reading Club members continued to be amazed by "**Bubble Science**"; fascinated by the "**Touch a Truck**"; inspired to create their own art during "**Chalk the Walk**"; captivated by **Juggler Extraordinaire Matt Jergens** and his marvelous stunts; enchanted by **Singer/Storyteller Jim Gill**; and challenged to compete in a **Quidditch tournament** against four neighboring libraries. This important summer series engages young people through positive, enriching activities.



Tail Waggin' Tutors

In 2014 the Library continued its support of early childhood literacy with its **Tail Waggin' Tutor** program. In this "book buddy" program children have the opportunity to read to service dogs, which enhances language skills and encourages independent reading.



Born to Play

Sponsored by the **Friends of the Hudson Library** this innovative early learning program provides a stimulating, child-centered educational experience for preschoolers and their families. Open throughout the week, the Center helps develop and strengthen pre-literacy skills through creative play. This past year thousands of families used the Center to learn and grow.

Facts and Figures

2014 REVENUE

Ohio Public Library Fund	\$926,211
Local Operating Levy	\$1,899,463
Unencumbered Carryover, 2013	\$1,530,349
Fines & Other Income	\$79,716

TOTAL \$4,435,739

2014 EXPENDITURES

Compensation (Salary/Benefits)	\$1,649,405
Library Collection	\$267,944
Library Collection (special funds)	\$84,913
Technology	\$239,050
Utilities & Maintenance	\$367,502
Professional Services	\$54,250
Programming	\$27,416
Office/Library Supplies	\$66,317
Equipment, Furniture & Capital Improvements	\$60,966
Other	\$29,250
Transfer to Capital Replacement Fund	\$90,000

TOTAL \$2,937,013

2014 SERVICE STATISTICS

Registered Library Users	26,007
Reference Questions Answered	103,653
Other Questions Answered	130,526
Computers in Building	245
Computer Use	148,100
e-Media downloads	76,691
Documents Notarized	604
Volunteer Hours Donated	2,267

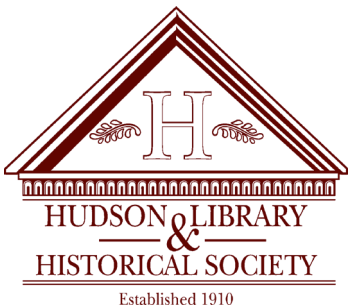
2014 CIRCULATION

Collection Size	352,173
Total Items Checked Out	1,171,916

2014 PROGRAMS & ATTENDANCE

Programs provided	1229
Program attendance	40,211





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