



STAUNTONTM

PUBLIC LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT: 2017-2018

AT A GLANCE

373,359

Items circulated

177,198

Visitors

19,908

Cardholders

27,650

Computer users

13,610

Attendees

at 776

events

594

Public meeting
room reservations



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I started as Director just over a year ago at the very start of Fiscal Year 2018. During my first year on the job, the Staunton Public Library drafted a new strategic plan using input from staff members, patron surveys, a community conversation, and board members. You can find our full plan on our website, but you can see from this report just how busy we've been. We're excited to be working towards strategic goals that forge connections, harness information and technology resources, build a strong sense of community, and remove barriers to access. This report shows a glimpse of our activities that are helping us to reach those goals, but it doesn't show the important daily impact of the library's work: job seekers learning to use a computer for the first time, children getting excited about STEM projects, and teenagers finding a safe place to hang out.

We're passionate about making the library a place that serves and welcomes everyone. Our staff invites you to see what new connections you can make at the Staunton Public Library, be it with information, each other, or the greater world. We hope you will share your ideas and feedback with us as we move forward!

SARAH SKROBIS
DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES

OUR MISSION

To acquire, organize, and provide access and guidance to a wide variety of information and materials which help to fulfill the intellectual, educational, social and recreational needs of all the people in the city.

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS SERVING IN FY2018

Lisa Brooks, Christy Davis,
Dr. Joshua Howard, Brenda
Mead, Daniel Swift, and
Mac Warford

CONTACT US

Staunton Public Library
1 Churchville Avenue
Staunton, VA 24401
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StauntonLibrary.org





PUBLIC SERVICES

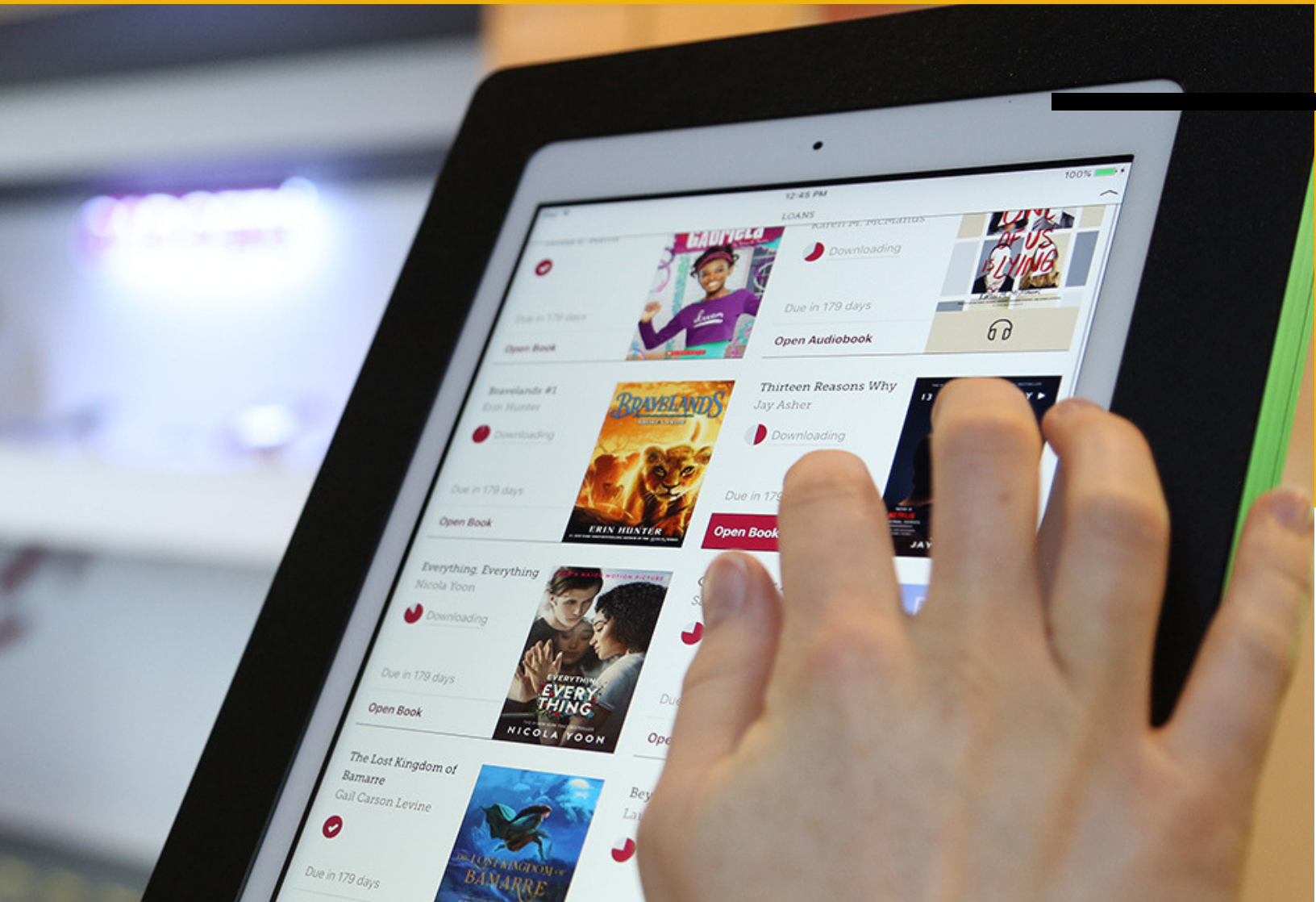
- Implemented a community-driven musical equipment collection available for circulation
- Collaborated with our colleagues in Augusta and Waynesboro to launch a popular series of events at local breweries including trivia nights and book clubs
- Hosted perhaps the biggest library program ever: a solar eclipse party with over 600 attendees
- Worked with the Library of Virginia to digitize historic local yearbooks, which are now available to view for free online

YOUTH SERVICES

- Over 10,100 attendees at children's programs
- Over 650 attendees at teen programs
- Eliminated overdue fines for children's materials checked out on children's cards
- Planned the first collaborative Valley Libraries Summer Reading Program
- Developed new community partnerships with Greater Good Gaming and Positive Paws
- Performed weekly outreach visits at schools and daycares while also participating in community events such as Queen City Mischief & Magic, Kids Matter Day, and more



TECHNOLOGY



- Launched a monthly email newsletter to push news and events out to subscribers
- Added mobile-printing service to allow patrons to print documents from their own devices
- Digital circulation increased 6.5% over FY17
- Cataloged the entire magazine collection for better statistical tracking and stewardship of this collection
- Integrated reading suggestions into the online library catalog and form-based reader's advisory on our website
- Offered over 30 public technology classes
- Conducted 35 one-on-one tech tutoring appointments

*"Thank you for keeping
books in my life despite
my vision loss."*

TALKING BOOK CENTER

- 16,952 items checked out to patrons in the cities of Lexington, Staunton, and Waynesboro and the counties of Augusta, Bath, Highland, and Rockbridge
- Visited each public library system in its service area
- Hosted a reading with local author Phyllis Campbell, who read from a Braille copy of her newest book
- Two new employees took the reins: Ilia Desjardins and Elaine Cronin



VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

**Over 2,700 volunteer hours given in FY2018:
the equivalent of 1.3 FTEs.**

We are thankful for the help of

- Staunton City Schools mentorship program
- Office on Youth summer work placements
- Mary Baldwin work study students
- VSDB work study students
- Staunton Library Foundation
- Our incredible group of dedicated individual volunteers

With special thanks to the Friends of the Staunton Library, who hosted fundraising events and contributed over **\$13,700** toward family programs, new furniture, staff training, and much more

ACCOLADES, AWARDS, & GRANTS

- Winner of Virginia Public Library Directors Association awards for Best Public Relations Project for the Valley Libraries Radio Reference spots on WQSV 106.3 and for Best Teen Program for Read the Rainbow LGBTQ+ Book Club
- Recipient of a Community Foundation grant to fund photo digitization equipment
- Library Assistant Jackie Sheffer awarded a Virginia Public Library Associates scholarship to attend their annual conference in Newport News
- Youth Services Librarian Lizzy Hill accepted into the 2018 Virginia Library Leadership Academy
- Recipient of a Kiwanis grant to support a teen book club series





**"I HAVE
FOUND THE
MOST VALUABLE
THING IN MY WALLET
IS MY LIBRARY
CARD."**

LAURA BUSH