

**Maryland Public Libraries**  
**Annual Report Requirements**

**FY2013**

**System Name, Address and Contact Information**

Kent County Public Library

408 High Street

Chestertown, MD 21620

Jacqueline M. Adams, Library Director

**Names of Board Members and Director**

Richard Kalter, President

Barbara Macbeth, Vice President

Beverly Birkmire, Treasurer

Wendy Costa, Secretary

Richard Hawkins

Harry Packard

Clayton R. Newell

Jacqueline M. Adams, Library Director

**Elected Officials: County Commissioners**

Ronald H. Fithian, President

William Pickrum

William A. Short

**Annual Statistics for the Fiscal Year**

- Total Budget (see **Financial Statements Audit Report pgs. 26-27**)
- Total Budget by source (see **Financial Statements Audit Report pgs. 26-27**)

### Other Statistics

- Branches & Bookmobiles **(3)**
- Materials Collection, including electronic books **(65,646)**
- Materials Circulated **(139,712)**
- Registered Borrowers **(16,217)**
- Information Questions Answered **(6,943)**
- Number of Library Visits **(96,094)**
- Number of Programs/Attendance **(423/7610)**
- ILL (received: ) **(2,816)**
- Personnel **(12.2)**
- Public Access Computers **(36)**

### Library Highlights

KCPL completed its yearlong celebration of fifty years of service to the Kent County Community with exciting and unique events. In addition to placing a plaque at the second site of the KCPL library, the Chestertown library was the site for a “Mini Golf Extravaganza” and an evening with Christopher Tilghman author of *Mason’s Retreat* and *The Right Hand Shore*, novels celebrating the Eastern Shore’s culture and history. The final event was a family friendly event featuring a birthday cake and fun for all.

The KCPL Board of Trustees began work on developing a new three-year strategic plan. The Steering Committee met in early March and developed a three stage planning process. The Steering Committee felt very strongly that all stakeholders should have a voice in the strategic planning process and wanted to proactively seek input from the entire community. In total, over 100 people shared their thoughts with the Steering Committee at Community and Organization meetings and interviews. In April, the Steering Committee met to review the current mission statement and to discuss the option of creating a vision statement. In early June the draft mission, vision, strategic plan, goals, and action plans were sent to the Board of Trustees for review and comment. The final plan was approved by the Board on October 7, 2013.

In FY 2013, a twenty year facilities master plan was developed for the Kent County Public Library. This report was commissioned through the Eastern Shore Regional Library. The purpose of this report was to serve as a comprehensive facilities condition audit for all three locations and recommend the level of library service over the next twenty years.

The Foundation for the Kent County Public Library on behalf of the Library was awarded a \$6,600 grant from the PNC Foundation to create an Early Literacy Center for parents, and early child care providers for Kent County Title I families to improve school readiness. PNC provided the funding in support of *Grow Up Great*, its bilingual program in early childhood education.

The Chestertown Branch was open on four holidays to provide added hours of library service to the community and to serve as a holiday destination for appropriate programs and services.

Trustee membership remained constant and their engagement remained high. Two new members of the Board of Trustees were appointed to replace two members whose terms were expired.

The community in the form of the municipalities, the Friends, the Foundation and the general community continued their support.

### **Library Service Highlights**

#### **Children's and Teens Programming Highlights**

We served 4,608 patrons at youth programs

The Eastern Shore Regional Library sponsored the award winning author Grace Lin for a visit in April. There were 230 excited visitors in the Kent County Worton Community Center. This matched the 2012 highest attendance record for a Children's program. Library Board members, local Grade 5 elementary school students, Washington College students, home school students and educators and administrators in the Kent County area were invited.

KCPL partnered with Washington College's Student Environmental Alliance Club did a "Penguin Gourd" program last March.

There was great attendance at 4 perennial programs:

Polar Express (69) November  
Cat in the Hat (105) March  
Curious George (82) May  
Books in Motion (83) April

June kicked off the 2013 "Dig into Reading" summer reading program with record breaking participation due in part to an outstanding participation with Kent County Schools. 441 children registered for the "Dig into Reading" summer game.

January 2013, KCPL offered a three-session program for teens on drawing anime. Artist Hanna Kingsley led enthusiastic teen participants through the process of character creation, from initial drafts to the final inking, with an exploration of coloring techniques along the way. This was a special program offered in conjunction with the twice monthly Manga & More teen group that began meeting in the fall of 2011.

Teens and adults pooled their creative energy in March for an afternoon of Pysanka, a Ukrainian batik technique for decorating eggs. For the second year in a row, this was a hit!

Summer 2013: Chestertown branch was fortunate to have three teen volunteers who contributed over 50 hours of volunteer service to re-shelve materials, keep the children's area neat and clean, help with program prep and set-up, prepare materials for the summer reading game, and other tasks.

## Adult Programming Highlights

We served 3,002 patrons at adult programs

Excellent turnouts for author events featuring: Christopher Tilghman, Jan Elvin, Daryl Davis, and Bob Rich.

Other programs included:

- Quest for Freedom : *Legacy of Slavery in Maryland* project
- Superstitions and Curses
- The Summer Sky
- Kent County and the State of the Bay
- FIRE! - How a series of fires in the 20th century transformed Chestertown
- "Julia Child: Queen of Cuisine"
- Historic and Old Home Maintenance
- 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Jazz and Java concert

Successful ongoing programs included:

- Needlecrafters group (initiated this year)
- "First Friday" art reception given by the participating artists.
- Four KCPL sponsored book groups and assistance provided to over 10 community book groups
- Monthly "Tech Talk"
- Weekly films of classic films for public viewing and discussion
- Macintosh User's Group, Digital Photography Classes, and Digital Walk-In Clinic

## **Partnerships**

- Bayside HOYAS: Book club for middle school/high school students
- Chestertown Initiative
- Chestertown Diversity Group
- Kent County Chamber of Commerce: hosted a "Business after Hours"
- League of Women Voters
  - Hosted the 2012 School Board Forum.
  - & Dr. Kathryn Ruud- *Protecting our Democracy*
- Judy Center of Kent County
- Kent County Public Schools: Class tours and book purchases for required summer reading
- Chestertown Rotary Club
- Board of Elections: Chestertown Library was a designated polling place
- SCORE
- Pepco
- Kent County Department of Social Services
- AARP Tax Preparation

- Partnered with community organizations and individuals to provide a displays for timely and relevant subjects
- Chestertown Book Festival
- Galena Dogwood Days Parade
- Rock Hall July 4 Parade
- Story time at Chestertown Farmer's Market
- Chess Club meets weekly in the Children's Department
- University of Maryland Water Clinic

**FY 2012 Budget**

The attached Financial Statements Audit Report and Management Letters contain information on budget issues and provide significant financial highlights for FY 2013.