

# REPORT FROM THE BRANCHES

## North County

The North County Branch located in Galena hosted a variety of programs, including weekly preschool storytime, STEM programs for school-age children, the occasional series "Happiness Hour: Creative Time for Grown-Ups," and movies matinees for all ages.

First steps were taken to begin refreshing the collection, a process that will continue into FY19.

## Rock Hall

In January 2018, KCPL's newest book group, The Page Turners, began meeting monthly at the Rock Hall Branch.

In June 2018, the children's and young adult collections at the Rock Hall branch were refreshed and rejuvenated thanks to a generous donation from the Maryland State Education Association to celebrate the outgoing president of the MSEA's ongoing dedication to students and educators.

The adult collection and DVD collection were also refreshed with a large infusion of newer items.

## LIBRARY STAFF

### Personnel (FTE) - 12.75

KCPL has a professional staff that includes 5 Maryland certified librarians.

In FY18, staff members participated in a wide variety of trainings and professional conferences, including:

- Intro to Library Work
- Understanding Community Needs: Reaching Users and Nonusers
- Privacy Issues: An Overview for Librarians
- Science and Technology Resources
- The Teen Brain
- Mid-Atlantic Futures Conference
- Maryland Library Association Annual Conference
- Maryland Tech Connect Conference

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

KCPL regularly partners with a wide variety of community organizations to provide collaborative programming, access to resources, and opportunities for entertainment and education.

FY18 partners included: AARP Tax-Aide; Bayside HOYAS; Chestertown Recreation Commission; Community Chess Club; C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience; Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Social Services; Judy Center; Kent County Board of Elections; Kent County Chamber of Commerce; Kent County Health Department; Kent County Public Schools; Kent Family Center; League of Women Voters; Maryland Department of Disabilities; Maryland Humanities; Sassafras Environmental Education Center; SCORE; Sultana Education Foundation; Sumner Hall; University of Maryland Extension Office; Washington College; Your Vote, Your Voice.



**Chestertown Branch**  
408 High Street  
Chestertown, MD 21620

**North County Branch**  
111-B1 N. Main Street  
Galena, MD 21635

**Rock Hall Branch**  
5585 Main Street  
Rock Hall, MD 21661

[kentcountylibrary.org](http://kentcountylibrary.org)



## LIBRARY USAGE

KCPL Card Holders - 12,795

Library Visits - 111,269

Programs & Classes Held - 488

Program Attendance - 7,494

KCPL offers a wide variety of programs designed to support learning for all members of the community from babies through adults. In FY18, programming highlights included hands-on STEM programs for kids and teens, the "Write, Edit, Publish, Market" series for writers, intergenerational board game nights, several author visits, and a variety of programs designed to explore creativity.

Information Questions Answered - 2,630

Every day, librarians answer questions and help find information on a wide range of topics.

## MATERIALS

Materials Owned - 41,939

Digital Items - 84,691

Materials Circulated - 139,683

Interlibrary Loan Items Borrowed - 2,544

In August 2017, KCPL entered into the Eastern Shore Library Consortium in order to bring library users more efficient and expansive access to library materials via a consolidated library catalog system that is shared by eight county systems and coordinated by the Eastern Shore Regional Library.

The benefits of streamlined access, faster delivery, and more efficient behind-the-scenes processes resulted in satisfied patrons and a 16% increase in the number of items that were checked out!

## COMPUTER & INTERNET

Public Computers Available - 33

Patron Computer Sessions - 61,553

Using Public Computers - 15,429

Via Public WiFi - 46,124



## GRANTS RECEIVED

**The County Library Capital Grant Program, Maryland State Library**

Used for renovations at the Chestertown Branch to install a new HVAC system, redesign the children's department, upgrade the electrical system, and create a combined collaborative/teen space.

**Library Services & Technology Act Innovation Grant**

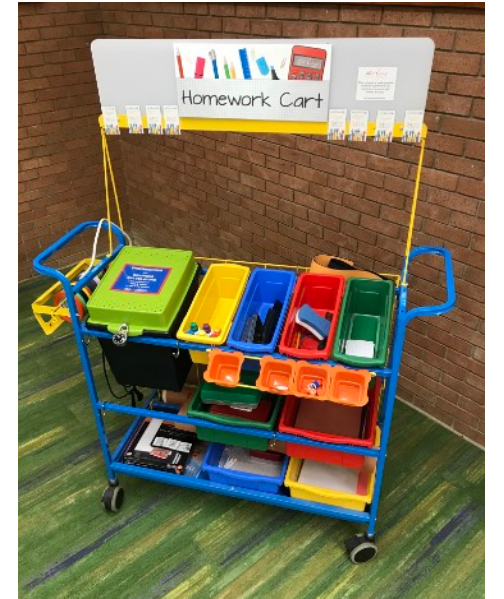
Enabled the creation of a Homework Cart at each KCPL location to provide basic supplies for homework and school projects, including Chrome Books that can be borrowed for in-library use.

**Library Services & Technology Act Staff Development Grant**

Provided funding for formal education to two staff members and enabled three staff members to attend the annual Maryland Library Association Conference.

**PNC Foundation Grow Up Great Grant**

Supported Summer Reading Program activities and events, including the ever-popular Summer Reading Game.



## RENOVATIONS

Funding for Kent County Public Library's Project 20/20 Phase II Renovations was provided by The County Library Capital Grant Program, Maryland State Library; The Kent County Government; The Friends of Kent County Public Library; and The Foundation for the Kent County Library.

## A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

In FY19 and FY20, KCPL anticipates completing the final round of capital renovations to the adult and reference areas of the Chestertown location.