



A Year of Progress, Partnership, & Purpose at Reading Public Library

The Reading Public Library is proud to reflect on a year marked by meaningful progress, community investment, and exciting momentum for the future. From long-term planning to facility improvements and impactful partnerships, 2025 laid a strong foundation for the year ahead.

One of our most significant accomplishments last year was the completion of our 2026-2030 Strategic Plan. This plan provides a clear roadmap for the future and reaffirms our commitment to serving the evolving needs of our community. As part of this process, we also refreshed our mission and introduced a new vision statement—both rooted in access, inclusion, and opportunity.

Our mission affirms that the Reading Public Library is a welcoming space that empowers the community by providing free and open access to information and trusted navigation, promoting literacy and lifelong learning, and nurturing curiosity and community connections. Our vision looks ahead to a library that is accommodating, accessible, and vibrant—the heart of the City—where residents and visitors alike can explore, create, connect, and achieve their goals through culturally responsive resources and personalized services.

We also made important facility improvements that enhanced accessibility and pride across our system. The City completed ADA upgrades to the entrances at all library branches, ensuring a more welcoming and inclusive experience for patrons.

This year was also one of acknowledgment and collaboration. At the Berks County Public Libraries Awards Ceremony in March, the Reading Public Library received two honors: Mike Micozzi was named Trustee of the Year, and our Driver Simulation Program was recognized as the Outstanding Teen Program.



A group of families practicing culinary skills together in the new programming space in the Children's Department.

Through state and private support, we secured several transformative grants. A \$75,000 Job Training and Education Programs Grant is allowing us to replace public computers across all library locations, with upgrades currently underway. We also partnered with PA Humanities on a Rain Poetry project, installing three rain-activated poetry sites across the city that showcase haiku written by Reading youth.

Another way we are investing in our youth is through a new educational program series funded by an Orphans of Oddfellows grant. The \$117,000 award, dispersed over five years, supports the renovation of the Main Library children's area and the launch of a hands-on life skills and career development program for students in grades K-12. With renovations now complete, community youth will be able to participate in new programming focused on culinary skills, handwork, and construction.

Finally, we are proud to share that the Main Library is now a designated Safe Place for youth in crisis, made possible through a partnership with Mary's Shelter. This designation reinforces our role as a trusted, supportive space for the community—especially for young people who need it most.

Together, these accomplishments reflect the power of collaboration, thoughtful planning, and a shared belief in the importance of free access to knowledge, opportunity, and connection. As we look ahead, we remain committed to strengthening access, fostering lifelong learning, and providing community and opportunity in the City of Reading.

Thank you to our staff, partners, donors, and community members whose support makes this work possible!

**Melissa J Adams,
Executive Director**

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2025 ANNUAL REPORT

2025 OPERATING INCOME

State	648,207
County	1,280,736
City of Reading	485,226
Other	
Grants and Gifts	445,506
Daily Operations	94,809
From Library Trusts/Endowments	743,858

TOTAL INCOME	3,698,342
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2025 OPERATING EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits	2,648,421
Collection Development	458,999
Other Operating Expenses	623,986
To Library Trusts/Endowments	-

TOTAL EXPENSES	3,731,406
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Beginning Balance January 1, 2025	48,218
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TOTAL ENDING BALANCE	15,154
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A young poet activates water poetry on the sidewalk at Reading Public Library Main.



Young library patrons enjoy meeting Darcy the Therapy Dog.



Local author and journalist José Martinez with a group of patrons after his Author Talk.



Local author Phuc Tran reads his book *Cranky* to young patrons at Northeast Branch.

READING PUBLIC LIBRARY

2025 Year in Review

Library Programs



17,584 participants
in 1,205 children's programs



5,806 participants
in 495 teen programs



4,062 participants
in 444 adult programs



27,452
Total Participants

Special Programs



3,432 participants
in early childhood literacy



4,052 participants
in Summer@RPL



2,829 participants
in Senior Outreach



780 participants
in digital literacy

Library Services



182,228
items circulated



\$3.7 million
patron dollars saved



99,569
computer sessions

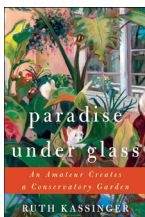


996 processed
passport applications

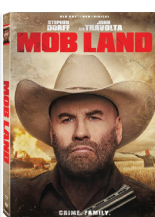
Top Titles



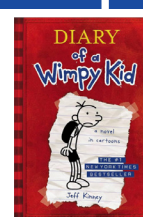
Adult
Fiction & Non-fiction



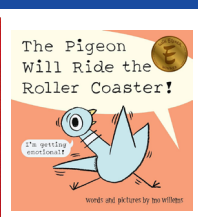
DVDs
Movies & TV series



Young Adult
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Children's
Graphic Novel & Picture Book



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Konopelski Fetivals LLC
Lilly Pulitzer/Lifeguard Press

Lisa's Salon & Spa
Longwood Gardens
LUXE Car Wash
Teresa Lydard
Mapatisserie Bakery Cafe
George Miller IV Auction Company
Moselem Springs Golf Club
Mister Car Wash
Jennifer Murdoch
Michael G. Najarian
Olive Garden
Rick Perez
Sue & Craig Perrotty
Philadelphia Museum of Art
Phillies Community Outreach
Sharon & Charles Phillips
P J W Restaurant Group
Reading Coffee Company
Reading Symphony Orchestra
Redner's Fresh Markets, Inc.
Ridgewood Winery
The Ritz-Carlton, Philadelphia
Russo's Food Market
Santander Arena
Saucony Creek Brewing Company
Linda Schofer

State Senator Judith Schwank
Seidel Hyundai
Sheetz
Sittler Golf
Sly Fox Brewing Co.
Sorrenti Jewelers
Carolyn Spano
The Standard Group
State Hill Craft Cocktails & Kitchen
Sweet Street Desserts
Sycamore Springs Farm LLC
Texas Roadhouse
That Personal Touch
Three Minute Car Wash
Tom Sturgis Pretzels
Turkey Hill Experience
Twitchy Coffee Co.
Uncorkd
Van Scoy Jewelers
Wawa
West Reading Motor Club
Randy Westley
The Works
Wyomissing Restaurant & Bakery
Zelda & Mark Yoder
Yuengling Brewery

Celebratory Honorees

The following friends, relatives, and co-workers were recognized with gifts to Reading Public Library.

Sherry Cameron
Ginny Chudgar
Attorney Osmer Deming
Renee Dietrich

Olive B Hecht
Madison Kochel
Bessie P. M. Wong

Memorial Honorees

The following loved ones were memorialized with gifts to Reading Public Library.

Christopher and Anna Carley
Gene Fizz
Jeanne Golden Frank
Margaret Hangen Leindecker
Donna Harris
Rhea A. Himmelreich
Mary C. (Kate) Hoh
David Miller Hollenbach & Mae E. Hollenbach

Margaret Hangen Leindecker
Susan Leindecker
Pam Matzelle
Marilyn Ann Poore
Eleanor Printz
Martha Ros
Christopher R. Shinn
David Thun
Sandra Van Sickle

Save the Dates!



Date to be
Announced



Wednesday,
May 13



Friday,
September 25

For more information,
call 610-478-8977 or visit
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Library Hours

Main Library

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Monday 9:00 - 7:00
Tuesday 9:00 - 7:00
Wednesday 9:00 - 5:30
Thursday 9:00 - 5:30
Friday 9:00 - 5:30
Saturday 9:00 - 4:00

Northeast Branch

610-655-6361

Monday 9:00 - 5:30
Tuesday 9:00 - 5:30
Wednesday 9:00 - 7:00
Thursday 9:00 - 5:30
Friday 9:00 - 5:30
Saturday 10:00 - 3:00
(Closed Mon, Tue, Thur 1-2) (Closed Wed 2-3)

Southeast Branch

610-655-6362

Monday 10:30 - 7:00
Tuesday 9:00 - 5:30
Wednesday 9:00 - 5:30
Thursday 9:00 - 5:30
Saturday 10:00 - 3:00
(Closed Tue, Wed, Thur 1-2) (Closed Mon 2-3)

Northwest Branch

610-655-6360

Monday 1:00 - 5:30
Tuesday 2:30 - 7:00
Wednesday 1:00 - 5:30
Thursday 1:00 - 5:30

Reference 610-655-6355
www.readingpubliclibrary.org

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Follow us on social media,
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calendar of upcoming events!



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If we missed your name or made an error, we apologize. Please contact us with any corrections.