



A Year of New Beginnings, Challenges, Team Building, and Planning for a Brighter Tomorrow!



Annual Report 2014



A Year of New Beginnings, Challenges, Team Building, and Planning for a Brighter Tomorrow!

By Angela Fisher Hall, Interim Director

In October of each year, our staff participates in Staff Training Day. It is about unifying us, bringing us all together to celebrate who we are

and just how awesome we are as a team. The day is also about making us better—I think the best way to do that is to reflect on what we have done. Throughout the day, we are reminded of the many things accomplished since we were last together. Also, the library's staff leader is typically asked to make comments on the "State of the Library." Now, as I look over the entire year, I can continue to say as I did in October, "the State of the Library is strong."

Our Pratt City Branch Library staff returned to a rebuilt and reinforced structure in February of this year. Deborah Drake Blackmon (Branch Manager) and her team, along with the Pratt City community, are all enjoying the bright and welcoming space. During February, we also added three new coordinator positions to our organization. It was the first time coordinator positions were added since 2011, when an IT Coordinator was hired. The new members of our leadership team include Karyn Davis-West, Central Public Services Coordinator; Felita Hawkins, Southern Region Coordinator; and Jared Millet, Collections Management Coordinator. In 2014, a total of 34 new employees were hired by the library and 27 staff members were promoted to new positions. By year's end, BPL said farewell to nine employees—all new retirees. Collectively, they gave more than 210 years of service to the system.

Great investments were made in 2014 to upgrade equipment in buildings throughout our system. Staff and patrons showed a great deal of patience as we faced reduced hours of service at several locations due to HVAC malfunctions. Due to the frigid temperatures in January, heating and cooling coils were damaged beyond repair. This really became evident in April when we were unable to maintain cool temperatures in several buildings including the Central, North Birmingham, Powderly, and Southside Libraries. The Central Library did not return to its regular operating schedule until mid-June. This reduction is reflected in our statistics, especially those regarding our public PC usage.

In May, the Inglenook community celebrated the return to a newly renovated, "more than we ever could have imagined," library. Karnecia Williams (Branch Manager) and her team members at the Inglenook Branch Library have been welcoming more visitors than ever before to the new building.

In 2014, we counted more than 2,186,700 visitors to our 19 libraries and just over 1,012,770 items were checked out. With 808,555 items in our collection—not including the Archives and Manuscripts collection—we had comparatively steady circulation numbers. In addition to building a world class collection, we were extremely busy in other ways. With 302 employees, we provided over 2600 public programs in 2014—including 505 summer reading programs. In all, we welcomed 60,958 program attendees.

On August 1, our Director Renee Blalock retired after serving as director for five years—she gave more than 32 years of service to the library system. Since that time, I've been in place as Interim Director—the system's number one cheerleader on a daily basis. As I stated at Staff Day, until you actually sit in the "big chair," it's hard to fully understand just how much we do in our libraries each and every day. It's also very apparent that we still have lots of work to do in letting the public know about the services we offer and just how vital our libraries are in the communities we serve. It will be our job to continue to tell our story and advocate for libraries on a regular basis.

October brought with it the realization of a bigger and better Eat Drink Read Write festival. The event, which took place over an eight-day period, brought with it more than 25 new partner organizations, a recipe competition for children, and a beautiful book of classic recipes printed by EBSCO to benefit the Birmingham Public Library. The year ended with hope for a brighter future for the Birmingham Public Library System. Phase One of our Central Library Complex Renovation Project was completed by the Robert A.M. Sterne Architects working in conjunction with the local Hoskins Architecture firm. With guidance from the Birmingham Public Library Trustees and Foundation Boards, along with a Renovation Steering Committee, a preliminary design for both Central buildings has been completed. As the year came to an end, staff at our Wylam Branch Library had cause to celebrate. An architecture firm was selected for their rebuild project and the contract was approved by the Birmingham City Council. As the New Year kicks off, the branch staff will meet with architects to work on plans for the new facility.

The year 2014 brought many new beginnings and challenges to our system. Yet, in spite of the issues with our buildings, staffing, and overall funding cuts, our staff continued to provide quality service. We worked together, with board input, to find new ways to deliver services—instead of cutting back, we found new opportunities.

BPL BY THE NUMBERS FOR 2014

The Birmingham Public Library system has 19 library locations throughout the city limits of Birmingham. Its 302 employees manage and operate the libraries while providing quality service to the community.

Hours Open to the Public
48,516

Visitors to the Libraries
2,186,746

Items Checked Out from Libraries
1,012,776

Number of Items in the Collection
808,555

Number of Public PC Users
416,757

Reference Questions Answered
682,708

Annual Visits to Website
1,034,586



Public Programs
2,616

Program Attendance
60,958

both numbers include summer reading counts

SUMMER READING

Total Number Registered=7140

Total Number of Certificates=3613
(for children and teens only)

Total Number of Programs Offered=505

Total Program Attendance=17,664

Estimated Total Books Read=46,833



*BPL Coordinators (left to right)
Sandra Crawley, Felita Hawkins,
Jared Millet, Sandi Lee,
Phillip Willingham, Karyn Davis-West,
and Janine Langston.*

Personnel

In 2014, the Birmingham Public Library hired a total of 34 new employees and 27 staff members were promoted to new positions.

By year's end, BPL said farewell to 9 employees—all new retirees. Collectively, they gave more than 210 years of service to the system.

2014 Retirees

Irene "Renee" Blalock

Phillip Clark

Lewis Gowdy

Diane Jones

James Lowe

Leroy Mauldin

Betty Pruitt

Marguerite Scott

Diane White



*Pictured
clockwise from
top—Irene
"Renee" Blalock,
Lewis Gowdy,
Marguerite Scott,
and Edith Major,
personnel officer.*

*James Lowe and his wife;
Leroy Mauldin and his mother;
Phillip Clark and Mary Stewart, head of
Catalog Department.*

Staff Training and Development



In 2014, staff throughout the Birmingham Public Library system was encouraged to sign up for personnel training designed to help them perform their jobs better. Selected training was also mandatory for all staff.

Training for All Staff

ADA Workshop

Performance Evaluation

Staff Development Day
(October 16, 2014)

Optional Staff Development Day

Sessions Included:

Money Management: Retirement Planning
for All Ages

How To Build a Vision Board

Utilizing Your Workplace for Healthier Living

Bullying Beyond the Playground: Is It in Your
Workplace?



Major Building Improvements



Completed Renovations

Pratt City Branch Library
Reopens February 10, 2014, \$1,500,000

Inglenook Branch Library
Reopens May 22, 2014, \$405,414

Building Upgrades/Studies and Plans

Central Library HVAC Coil Replacement, \$49,000

North Avondale Branch Library Geo-Tech Study, \$5,200

Springville Road Regional Branch Library
Chiller Repair, \$12,000

Titusville Branch Library Geo-Tech Study, \$5,200

Wylam Branch Library Contract for Architects, \$110,000



Selected Highlights From The Front Lines

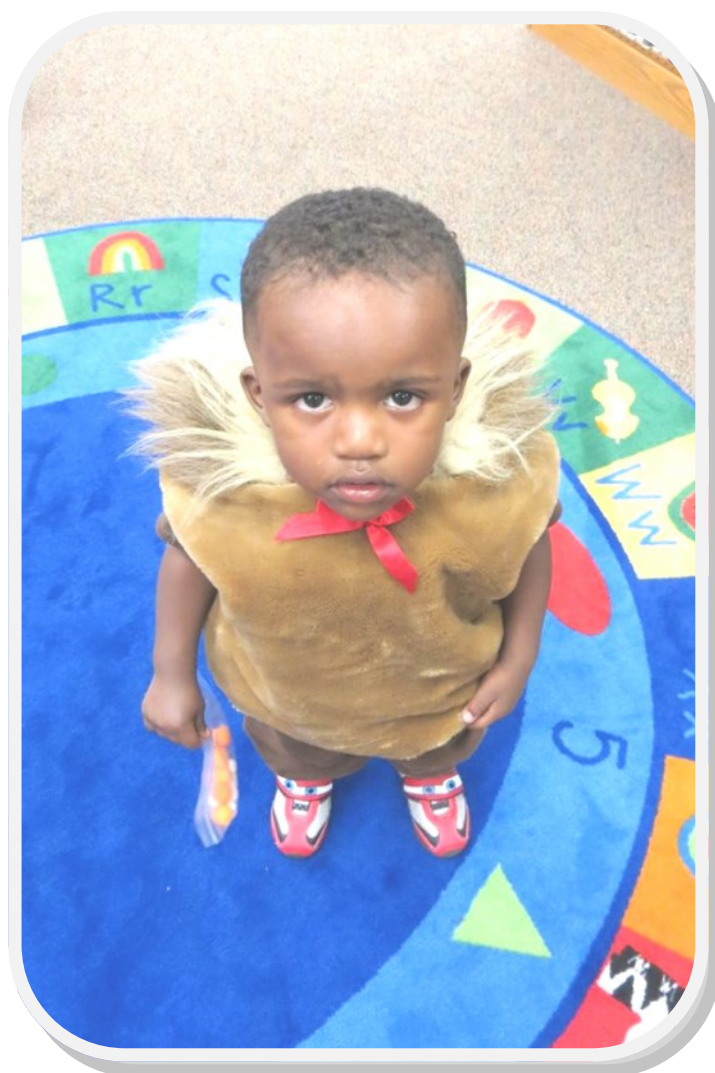
What Staff at Our Branches and Central Have To Say

BRANCH HIGHLIGHTS

AVONDALE REGIONAL BRANCH LIBRARY—Our library patrons were happy to once again see the friendly faces of AARP's Tax Assistance staff. They provided free tax assistance and have partnered with the Avondale Library for a number of years. The Black Nurses Association distributed flyers pertaining to heart disease and hypertension—the information was helpful to area residents. When representatives from the Chinese Consulate were in Birmingham to promote their partnership with the city, an event was held at the Avondale Library due to the proximity of Walgreens—a program supporter. The Chinese Consulate assisted attendees with passport registration. During the month of July, the library closed early several days due to HVAC issues. Portable air conditioning (A/C) units were installed to give some relief—we made it through the summer. New flooring was installed in the work room and break room areas to the cheer of all staff. We accomplished so much during the year—19 adult summer reading programs took place with 366 in attendance. Throughout the year, we presented 42 regular adult programs with 640 in attendance.

EAST LAKE BRANCH LIBRARY—During the past year we have hosted a variety of programs for children, teens, and adults. Each Thursday at the East Lake Library, we have preschool story time for families and daycare students in our community. When the Dalai Lama visited Birmingham, the East Lake Library hosted a viewing of the Dalai Lama's *Awakening* documentary with a discussion time for adults. In November, the library presented Chef E Holiday Cooking for teens and adults. The afterschool children had an opportunity to learn how to make nutritious holiday meals. In October, the East Lake Library hosted a Free Will Preparation program where community members were provided free assistance with will preparation by Legal Services of Alabama.

EASTWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY—The Eastwood Library had its biggest change this year when long-time branch manager William Darby became the branch manager at the East Lake Branch Library. Brandon C. Smith took over as the branch manager in June 2014. When the Eastwood Library had a break in during the month of November, the community really came together in support for the library and helped staff recover from the incident that took away



the library's "big sign" monitor—a flat screen TV. Circulation for the Eastwood Library has fallen by about 20% in 2014 when compared to 2013 and this became obvious as the year progressed. Only January of 2014 equaled or exceeded the numbers for the same month in 2013.

ENSLEY BRANCH LIBRARY—The Ensley Library experienced high temperatures during the summer months in 2014. The building operated with portable A/C units for a short while. Even with the heat outside, our summer reading program brought in better than average participants and numbers. Ultimately, we had a great year and look forward to a great 2015!

FIVE POINTS WEST REGIONAL BRANCH LIBRARY—On February 5, 2014, the Five Points West Library celebrated its 10th anniversary at the current location. This special



occasion was commemorated by creating a photographic display of former Central Park and Five Points West Library buildings and hosting an open house for patrons and community leaders. The celebration continued throughout the year with many new opportunities and programs for patrons and staff.



With funding from a LSTA grant, a public Computer Commons area was created with 20 new public computers, the former computer lab was updated with a wall mounted monitor to assist with computer classes, Wi-Fi capabilities were added to the meeting room, and two additional early literacy computers were purchased for the Youth Department. With the addition of the Computer Commons the library expanded and increased the variety and number of public adult computer classes offered. From January 2014 through November 2014, the Five Points West Library staff presented 61 computer classes with a total attendance of 511. In addition to basic computer use and Microsoft Office, the library offered classes on Google, using tablets, shopping on Amazon, BPL Databases, and improving job search/resume skills. The Five Points West Library celebrated its first PRIME TIME Family Reading Time event. We offered six sessions between September 23 and October 28, 2014, with 30 families participating and a total attendance of 400.



INGLENOOK BRANCH LIBRARY—In 2014, the Inglenook

Library's renovation was completed and, as a result, library visits increased. Community partnerships, which consist of monthly book deliveries from the Inglenook Library's collection, were established with Inglenook K-8 School, Inglenook Recreation Center, and the Smart Kids Daycare. Other partnerships including UAB's Writing Center, DHR JOBS Program, My Sister's Closet, America's First Credit Union, and Alabama Humanities Foundation, were established and resulted in meaningful and pertinent programming for the Inglenook community.

LITERACY AND OUTREACH OFFICE—Staff in Literacy and Outreach represent the Birmingham Public Library at a variety of venues and events including weekly outreach initiatives to the JOBS Program at the Family Guidance Center, License to Read and WILD Card school presentations, Early Literacy Parent Workshops at JCCO Head Start Centers and Preschool Partners, DYS Cultural Arts Fair, Annual Youth Fishing Rodeo at East Lake Park, JCCO Health Fair, Holiday at Railroad, and Babypalooza at the BJCC. Literacy and Outreach directs Ready to Read, a literacy program designed specifically for adults age 18 and over who want to improve their reading skills. The programs are held at the Central Library and the Five Points West Library. In 2014, the library offered 180 sessions with an attendance of 824. The Literacy and Outreach staff also serve as the project directors for the Family Place Libraries grant from the Junior League of Birmingham. The staff planned and facilitated 50 weekly 1-2-3 Play with Me sessions at various BPL locations. This is a program specifically designed for children ages birth through 3 years and their parent and/or primary caregiver.

NORTH AVONDALE BRANCH LIBRARY—In 2014, the North Avondale Library was committed to maintaining



and developing new community partnerships, offering great programming for all levels, and meeting the daily needs of patrons. The library partnered with Hayes K-8 and Cornerstone schools for storytime with music and crafts. The library offered its long-standing book club and other programs which included the Hallo-Read Celebration, Harriet Tubman and George Washington Carver presentations, and a first-time program on couponing and shopping tips for adults. The staff worked diligently to provide support for community group meetings and informational workshops and made available a welcoming space for library users.

POWDERLY BRANCH LIBRARY—One of the greatest highlights for 2014 has been programming for senior adults. We have found that these adults are dependable, dedicated, and devoted to living and learning. The average attendance at our monthly Senior Adult Book Club/Game Day is eighteen; however, the attendance at other programs often exceeds this



number. These adults are energetic and also take advantage of the various computer classes and programs that are targeted to this age group. This year we made an effort to have programs that interested them. Programs such as Wills and Power of Attorney, Dental Education for Seniors, You Need to Know Your Voting Rights, Breast Cancer Awareness, and various other topics of concern were presented. This age group is a joy to work with.

SMITHFIELD BRANCH LIBRARY—During 2014, the staff at the Smithfield Library offered a variety of programs that supported the mission of the BPL system. There were lectures Through My Sister's Eyes (foot soldier Gwendolyn Gamble shared her involvement in the Children's March), an author showcase featuring Stephanie Perry Moore, and a career day to promote job readiness. The community appreciates our continued efforts to host parenting classes and tax preparation at our location. Whether it's summer reading programs, crafts, movies, afterschool tutorials, health care awareness, gardening, or Thanksgiving basket giveaways, each activity is designed to effectively give back, motivate, and enlighten the community.

SOUTHSIDE BRANCH LIBRARY—Branch Manager Teresa Ceravolo served as moderator for the Circulation Round



Table of the Jefferson County Public Library Association. On Snapshot Day, 478 patrons visited the library and we posted photos to Flickr and sent them to the Alabama Public Library Service as well. We were extremely proud that we had 100% participation from our staff for United Way. Once summer reading was behind us, 291 total certificates were awarded, over 1,900 books read, and 11 programs offered. Limited air conditioning continued to plague the branch during the summer. From June 23 to July 12, the Southside Library was only open five hours per day to cope with the A/C issues. Repairs were made to the roof throughout the year—and that lasted a few months with leaks returning just as the year came to an end. Staff formed a new partnership with the Veterans' Hospital during the year. On Tuesday and Thursday mornings, Darius Wilson commandeered two library computers to teach vets the basics of computer use.



SPRINGVILLE ROAD REGIONAL BRANCH LIBRARY—This location had a wonderful 2014 with many successful programs for all ages including great gardening programs, summer reading for all ages, and outreach in our community. Our newest addition to the Springville Road Library is the Ecoscape. A collaboration with the Southern Environment Center and Birmingham-Southern College yielded a grant that funded the first phase of the Ecoscape. The beginnings include great garden areas surrounding the library, a walking trail, an outdoor learning space, and an area for relaxation have all been created—more plans are on the horizon. Our fastest growing program during 2014 was our Crafts, Conversation, and Coffee group that meets each week for the opportunity to create, converse, and share a great cup of coffee. This group has seen an increase in



attendance that has new participants joining each week and bringing a new friend. They have taken on several service projects to the community including creating Valentines for Veterans, making mats for the homeless, and working on knitted hats and gloves to send to the troops serving in deployed areas around the world. They also found time to create great projects for themselves as well as share their joy of crafting with each other. We had the opportunity to reach out to our schools with the



Children's Art Gallery that displays pieces from our partnered schools in our community. Each new exhibit is celebrated with a reception for the artists and their families. We had great fun in conducting database training for a number of the middle school students at W.J. Christian. In an effort to help the students begin their research for term papers and other assignments, we conducted group training at the school and invited the students to come to the library to do further research with the opportunity for individual instruction. A database scavenger hunt was created and passed out for the children to return to the library and receive a small prize when they completed it. We saw a number of the children take the opportunity to visit the library and become more familiar with the databases and other activities that we offer for them year round. This was a great year. Bigger and better opportunities are waiting at the Springville Road Library in 2015.

TITUSVILLE BRANCH LIBRARY—The Titusville Library is on the main thoroughfare of Sixth Avenue, SW. We bridge Birmingham's southside to the westside. The customers are varied with a multiplicity of needs. An integral part of what we do is front line work. We respond to basic ready reference questions, as well as offer services with similarities to a business center. Faxing, printing, and copying services are done extensively throughout the day. We have offered system-wide programming to our patrons, as well as local programs that specifically speak to the needs of our community such as Affordable Care Act assistance, personal finance, etc. Our space is comfortable and inviting. Some patrons come to relax and read. Most patrons like the idea of having information readily available within a few steps from home. Students from all levels of education come and study daily. On any given day, we will have nursing, law, and theology students in the building.

WEST END BRANCH LIBRARY—This has been a wonderful year of community involvement and support for the West End Library. Two of our longest running library programs—West End Afterschool Reading Program and West End Crochet Class—have been run by volunteers Willa McNeal and Joan Black, respectively. Our 2014 JCPLA Library Champions Representative John Rogers, Jr. and Birmingham City Councilor Sheila Tyson have funded many of our public programs. In addition, we partnered with local service provider Trudi Phillips to present a series of small business workshops at the West End Library. Phillips went on to conduct these workshops for other public libraries in Jefferson County.





WYLAM BRANCH LIBRARY—We began 2014 by making a list of what we would like to see in a renovated building and we are excited to now have plans underway for a whole new building. Staff continued the Wednesday programming begun in 2013. Our Library Assistant III, Connie Tolbert, developed and presented programs on gardening, jewelry making, and scarf making at the Wylam and Powderly Libraries, in addition to programs presented by outside speakers. In the fall of 2014, we began a book discussion group which has been very successful. We have read *Lady Elect* by Nikita Lynette Nichols, *The Preacher's Wifey* by DiShan Washington, and *Skipping Christmas* by John Grisham. Our children's storytime is enjoyed by the children from Alice Christian Daycare. Our afterschool children look forward to having BPL storyteller Candice Hardy come the first and third Wednesdays. She plays games and brings fun crafts. This year, staff was given the responsibility of selecting our own juvenile materials. This has been a very good decision. We are able to select materials better suited to the Wylam community. Finally, we are very appreciative of the donation Faith Chapel gives us every month. We are able to provide afterschool snacks and refreshments for our programs.

YOUTH SERVICES—BPL Youth Services directed several system-wide events including Reading with Ringling Brothers, the Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Scavenger Hunt, Valentines for Children's Hospital, and summer reading. In 2014, the library registered 6005 children and teens for summer reading and presented 404 programs with a total attendance of 16,243 children and teens. BPL partnered with the Cotchery Foundation to provide the





beer tasting series, enjoyed a very successful year. We added new venues, which in turn brought in new poets and audience members. Twelve high schools participated in WORD UP!, the annual poetry slam for high school students in Jefferson County. The Eat Drink Read Write festival was a huge hit, bringing in about 1330 people to eight days of programs. We completed a major weeding and shifting project of the department's book collection, thus making the collection more attractive and accessible.

BUSINESS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY and SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT—During 2014, much of the Business, Science and Technology and Social Sciences (BST/SE) staff's time and effort was focused on public programming. The MakingCents grant activities wrapped up during the first six months of the year, and, of the 62 total programs offered by the Birmingham Public Library, 40 were held during 2014. BST/SE hosted 13 programs during the year, seven of which were held at the Central Library while seven



annual Teen Tailgate Party (approximate attendance of 250) and Skills and Drills Clinic (approximate attendance 200) at Legion Field. BPL Youth Services hosted teen author Stephanie Perry Moore for a series of author programs. Moore presented 12 programs at various BPL locations with a total attendance of 388. The library once again offered From Page to Stage—A Reader's Theatre Workshop. These workshops were presented at eight BPL locations in partnership with the Junior League of Birmingham and the Birmingham Children's Theatre. The workshop titles for 2014 included *Tom Sawyer*, *The Secret Garden*, *Wizard of Oz*, and *Babes in Toyland*.

CENTRAL

ARTS, LITERATURE AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT—Poetry-centric programs, coordinated by Arts, Literature and Sports (ALS) staff, brought in large numbers of participants. Bards & Brews, the poetry performance/

were held at offsite locations. In conjunction with MakingCents, departmental staff also took part in the inaugural Alabama Money Expo, which was held on February 1, 2014, at the Birmingham Jefferson Convention Center (BJCC). The Expo brought together a variety of organizations, businesses, and agencies that provide a variety of financial resources and services to the community.

BST/SE staff assisted with other library programming efforts that took place during the year. In celebration of the Dalai Lama's visit to Birmingham in October, the staff assembled a bibliography of materials about His Holiness and also created a brochure that highlighted both these materials and the BPL location screenings of documentaries about the spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism. That same month, staff put together bibliographies of materials related to the Eat Drink Read Write festival.



websites, making it even easier for Birmingham residents to borrow hard-to-find items from all over the country. In the fall, Elizabeth Swift implemented and trained staff on the new Program Registration software within our catalog, allowing libraries to advertise and register patrons for library programs within the catalog itself. And finally, come rain, snow, or blistering heat, Collection Management work has to go on. When the East Building became unlivable in May and June of this year due to HVAC issues, the Acquisitions and Catalog Departments' staff packed up our equipment and crammed into the Linn-Henley Computer Center and Government Documents service areas in the research building so that our assistance to the other libraries in the BPL system could continue without a hitch—and it did!



SOUTHERN HISTORY DEPARTMENT—In 2014, the Southern History Department offered four specialized genealogy classes to patrons that were developed and taught by our own staff. This was in addition to the Introduction to Genealogy class that we offered throughout the year. The Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership (BCAP) continued in 2014. In March, we offered two weeks of afterschool programs for students at Green Acres Middle School and Hudson K-8 School. Miss Iwate, our Japanese Friendship Doll, was much in demand. On March 22, she was displayed at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens as part of the Annual Sakura Festival and on October 11, a lecture about Miss Iwate was given at the Birmingham Doll Club's annual luncheon where she was displayed.

COLLECTION MANAGEMENT DIVISION—In the 2014 calendar year, Collection Management added 38,000 new items to the BPL collection. At the beginning of the year, Collection Management staff worked diligently to get the new Pratt City Branch Library collection shelf-ready and in place for the grand reopening. A few months later, we did the same to get the Inglenook Branch Library's collection back on the shelves for the renovated facility. Work on the Smart Investing initiative continued with staff training taking place at our monthly Collection Management meetings and with many new personal finance books added to the collection courtesy of the Smart Investing grant. In Interlibrary Loan, the new WorldCat Discovery interface was implemented on BPL's and The Public Libraries In Jefferson County's

In June, the department was given a gift of \$1,000 from the General Sumter Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. In 2014, the Southern History Department staff represented BPL at events including The Greater Birmingham Convention & Visitors Bureau Reunion Planners Workshop (June 21 and October 4, 2014) and Save Our African American Treasures presented by the National Museum of African American History and Culture (September 6, 2014). While the air conditioning was not working, we were happy to offer a cool refuge to staff from Catalog, Acquisitions, Youth, Fiction, BST, and ALS. We enjoyed sharing our space and getting to know our co-workers better.



Books and Articles Researched In BPL Archives

In 2014, the Birmingham Public Library Archives and Manuscripts Department, which serves as the official archives for the City of Birmingham, served researchers from 32 states and Washington, D.C. Researchers also visited from Australia, Brazil, Canada, England, Finland, France, French Polynesia, Germany, India, Ireland, Israel, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, and Russia. Our researchers used 91,079 files in 2014. Archives staff spent 661.25 hours researching and responding to out-of-town research requests. Researchers who visited our archives published 18 new books in 2014.

Books

Allen, Lee N. and Catherine B. Allen, *Higher Ground: A Celebration of 70 Years*. Mountain Brook Baptist Church, 2014.

Armor, Jerry C., *A Home for Wayward Boys: The Early History of the Alabama Boy's Industrial School*. New South Books, 2014.

Bearden, Sandra and June Mathews, *Images of America: Trussville*. Arcadia Publishing, 2014.

Blejwas, Emily, *The Truth of the Radish: Fourteen Foods Tell the Story of Alabama*. University of Alabama Press, 2014.

Brown, Carolyn J., *Song of My Life: A Biography of Margaret Walker*. University Press of Mississippi, 2014.

Capshaw, Katharine, *Civil Rights Childhood: Photo Books and Liberation*. University of Minnesota Press, 2014.

Jimerson, Randall C., *Shattered Glass in Birmingham: My Family's Fight for Civil Rights, 1961-1964*. Louisiana State University Press, 2014.

Hollis, Tim, *Where All the Lights Were Bright: Memories of Downtown Birmingham*. History Press, 2014.

Keith, Todd, *Birmingham: Then and Now, 2nd Edition*. Anova Books, 2014.

Krumm, Brian, *The Little Rock Nine: A Primary Source Exploration of the Battle for School Integration*. Capstone Press, 2014.

Latta, Sara L., *The Woman Who Invented Windshield Wipers: Mary Anderson and Her Wonderful Inventions*. Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow Elementary, 2014.

Whiting, Marvin Y. and Cathy C. Adams, *Independent Presbyterian Church: Forward in Faith*. Independent Presbyterian Church, 2014.

Articles, Conference Presentations, and Invited Lectures

Bates, Kelsey Scouten, "The Welfare of a Nation: Birmingham's Young Women and the Emerging Domestic Science Curriculum of the Early Twentieth Century." *Alabama Heritage* (Winter 2014, Issue 111).

Dorman-Hickson, Nancy, "Lou's Calling: How a 19th Century Madam Saved a City." *UAB Public Health* (Spring/Summer 2014).

Ellis, Joana S., "50 Years of ADLA: 1964-2014—Honoring Our Founders, Highlighting Our Significant Events and Challenges, and Proudly Celebrating Our Continued Growth and Success." *Alabama Defense Lawyers Association Journal* (Fall 2014).

"The Frank Nelson Building Endures 111 Years Later." *The Jefferson Journal* (Summer 2014).

Friedman, Bob, "A Radio Hero: Birmingham's Black Radio History and the Early Life and Times of WENN Radio Announcer Paul 'Tall Paul' White" at the Carver Theater (Birmingham).

Rumore, Samuel A., Jr., "The Last Bombing: The Story of Nina Miglionico." *Alabama Heritage*, (Spring 2014, Issue 112).

Vaughn, J. Barry, "'The Problem of the Color-Line': Edgar Gardner Murphy and the Montgomery Conference on Race." Delivered as part of the E.O. Wilson Distinguished Lecture Series, Harvard Club of Birmingham, April 2014.

Motion Picture Productions

Civil War: The Untold Story. Great Divide Pictures for Public Broadcasting Service, 2014.

Martin Luther King: Content of Character. ESPN, 2014.

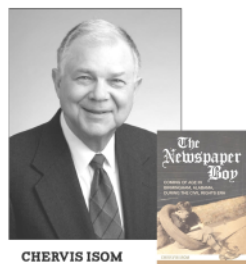
Scout's Honor: The Mel Didier Story. SHMD Productions Ltd./Aquila Productions Inc., 2014.



BIRMINGHAM STORIES OF Race, Redemption & RECONCILIATION

A PANEL DISCUSSION ON HOW BIRMINGHAM'S PAST IS SHAPING US FOR TOMORROW

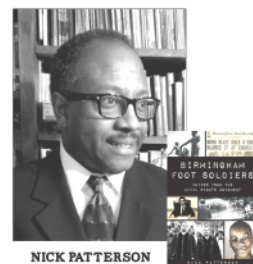
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 · NOON
ARRINGTON AUDITORIUM
BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY, 2100 PARK PLACE



CHERVIS ISOM

Birmingham attorney Chervis Isom realized that the racist views he had in his youth were simply wrong, thanks to lessons he learned on a Birmingham newspaper route he had in the 1950s.

They grew up in different times, but both men managed to capture the true essence of the Jim Crow laws and civil rights movement in their new books. Come hear them as they tell stories that are worth hearing.



NICK PATTERSON

Local news reporter Nick Patterson always believed the untold stories of Birmingham foot soldiers would help a new generation understand and even revisit history.

THIS PROGRAM IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. VISIT WWW.BPONLINE.ORG.



Stage Productions

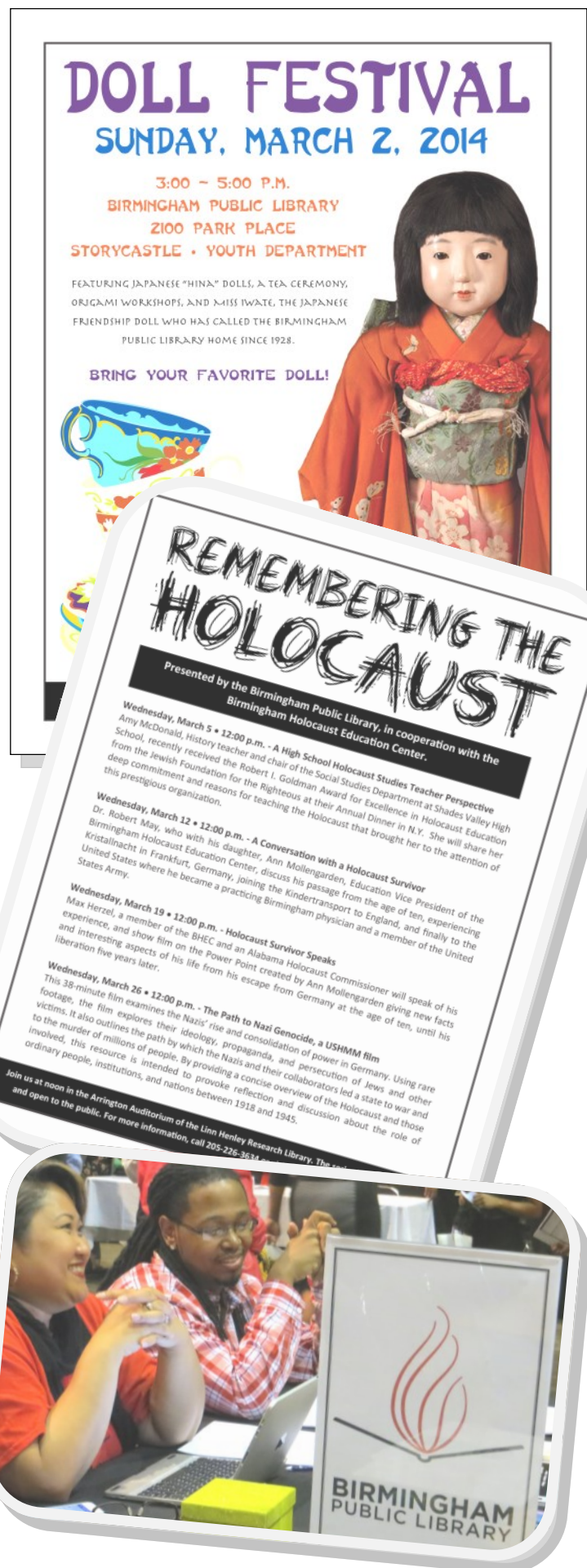
Revive. Arova Contemporary Ballet (Birmingham, Alabama), 2014.

Exhibits

La Storia: Birmingham's Italian Community. Vulcan Park and Museum, 2014-2015.

Rolls Down Like Water: The American Civil Rights Movement. The National Center for Civil and Human Rights (Atlanta, Georgia), 2014.

TCI and the Company Town. Iron and Steel Museum of Alabama at Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park, 2014 to 2015.



AIDS ALABAMA in association with Project IVOICE
presents

for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf

A CHOREOPOEM
DIRECTED BY JACQUELINE LOCKHART BY NTOZAKE SHANGE

7:30pm · Monday, June 16, 2014 · \$10 Donation at Door
6:00pm Pre-Show Reception Hosted by The Ballard House Foundation
Dorothy Jemison Day Theater (Alabama School of Fine Arts)
1800 Rev. Abraham Woods Blvd. 35203
www.aidsalabama.org • 205-918-8204
for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf is made possible by special permission granted by SAMUEL FRENCH

FEATURING READINGS BY:

RENEE BLALOCK & ANGELA FISHER HALL, Birmingham Public Library · TASHA SIMONE, Hot 107.7/Cumulus Med
PRISCILLA HANCOCK COOPER, Birmingham Civil Rights Institute · YOLANDA SULLIVAN, YWCA Central Alabama
EUGENIA TAYLOR, Magic City Acceptance Project · MAJELLA CHUBE HAMILTON, Ballard House Foundation
THE HONORABLE SHARON BLACKBURN, Northern District of Alabama · SHAKIRA DESA VOIR, AIDS Alabama
CAPRENIA ANTHONY · ANGELA CRENSHAW · SHAUNTEKA CURRY · SHIRLEY FERRILL
DEBRA RICHARDSON · JOANETTE RIDNER · DELORES BYRD-SMITH · DONNA TODD



DEBRA EUBANKS RIFFE
"EVERY LINE TELLS A STORY"

Linoleum Block Relief Prints

July 24 - August 26, 2014



"I learnt to sing a glad new song"

4th Floor Gallery
 Birmingham Public Library
 2100 Park Place



Exhibitions

Oscar V. Hunt Photography Exhibit

Five Points West Regional Branch Library
 January 1-December 31, 2014

Ladies, Gentlemen and Bazarads: The Art of Lois Wilson

Central Library, Fourth Floor Gallery
 January 6-February 21, 2014

Release of the Inner Artist

Central Library, First Floor Gallery
 February 5-March 29, 2014

Illuminations in Poured Color: Paintings by Starr Weems

Central Library, Fourth Floor Gallery
 February 27-April 30, 2014

Debra Eubanks Riffe "Every Line Tells a Story"

Central Library, Fourth Floor Gallery
 July 24-August 26, 2014

Watercolor Society of Alabama Annual Members' Showcase

Central Library, Fourth Floor Gallery
 September 21-October 31, 2014

100 Lenses: Ensley

East Ensley Branch Library
 November 5, 2014

Bob Moody's Birmingham: A City in Watercolor

Central Library, Fourth Floor Gallery
 November 6, 2014-January 4, 2015



Awards and Honors

Library Leadership and Management Association of the American Library Association and EBSCO names BPL as a 2014 John Cotton Dana Award recipient for its

Worldwide Celebration of the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr.'s Letter From Birmingham Jail

Jefferson County Public Library Association names State Representative John Rogers, Birmingham City Councilor Sheila Tyson, and volunteer Hope Cooper as 2014 Library Champions

BPL Director of Public Relations Chanda Temple named One of Twenty Birmingham Magazine's Women Who Make A Difference

Livability.com names Birmingham Public Library's Youth Department as a Top 10 Library for Children

BPL Finishes in 8th Place during Impact Alabama's 2014 Birmingham's Brightest Company

Grants

Alabama Power Foundation— <i>Summer Reading</i>	\$ 15,000
Alabama Public Library Service— <i>Library Services Technology Act (LSTA)</i>	\$ 11,185
Alabama State Council on the Arts— <i>Bards & Brews</i>	\$ 1,700
Alabama State Council on the Arts— <i>Teen Poetry Initiative</i>	\$ 4,900
Goodrich Foundation— <i>After School Programs for Children</i>	\$ 10,000
Junior League of Birmingham— <i>Family Place Libraries</i>	\$ 3,335
Regions Bank— <i>Adult Programming</i>	\$ 1,000
Susan Mott Webb Foundation— <i>Ecoscope Project at Springville Road</i>	\$ 10,000



Selected Gifts for 2014

Alagasco for Second Printing *Birmingham's Best Bites*

Anonymous Gift to BPL Foundation \$15,000

Estate of Pauline Tutwiler \$25,000

EBSCO for Original Publishing and Printing
Birmingham's Best Bites

Hope and Mitchell Cooper \$2,700

Phillip Morris Gift to Archives \$10,000



Special Supporters

Irene S. "Renee" Blalock Challenge

*\$50,000 In Support of the
Birmingham Public Library's
Central Renovation Project*

The gift was a result of donations from Blalock's children, Brooke Coleman and Daniel Hartzog; the library's Foundation Board; and special friends of the library.

"We are just proud of our mom.

She was an inspiration to us and we wanted to inspire other people," Coleman said.

Donors Included

Dr. Paul and Gwendolyn R. Amamoo

Drs. John and Regina Ammon

Lanier and Michelle Brown

Daniel and Brooke Coleman

John Coleman

Drs. Will and Liesel French

Daniel Hartzog and Lorrin Thomas

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Sol Kimerling

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Tony and Jackie Smoke

Judge Scott and Cameron Vowell

Lyord and Katrina Watson

James H. and Marjorie White



Community Partners

A. G. Gaston Boys and Girls Club, Inc.	Committee to Protect the Homeless	Public Libraries In Jefferson County
Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Jefferson County Office	Copper Pot Kitchen	Rally's Hamburgers, Inc.
Alabama Genealogical Society	Cotchery Foundation	Reach Out and Read Alabama
Alabama Health Info-Net	Cultural Alliance of Greater Birmingham	Reading with Ringling Brothers
Alabama Holocaust Education Committee	The David Mathews Center for Civic Life at Montevallo University	Real Life Poets
Alabama Public Library Service	Deep South Magazine	Red Cat Coffeehouse and Gourmet Coffee Roasters
Alabama Public Television	Dreamland Bar-B-Que	Red Mountain Park
Alabama Sports Hall of Fame	Druid City Brewing Co.	Rock Creek Graphics
American Association for State and Local History (AASLH)	Family Violence Center	The Rotaract Club of Birmingham
Arc Light Stories	Friends of Rickwood Field	Ruffner Mountain Nature Preserve
Avondale Brewing Company	Full Moon Southern-Style BBQ	Southern Environmental Center — Birmingham-Southern College
Back Forty Beer Company	Girls Inc. of Central Alabama	STAIR Reading Program - Westminster Presbyterian Church
Barnes & Noble	Good People Brewing Company	Tau Poco
Beer Engineers	Greater Birmingham Convention and Visitors Bureau—Reunion Planners Workshop	Terrapin Beer Company
BIG Communications	Haiku Society of America	The Theo Hawthorne Insurance Agency - State Farm
Birmingham Botanical Gardens	Higher Ground Coffee Roasters	Todd English P.U.B.
Birmingham Children's Theatre	Hop City Beer and Wine Birmingham	The Historic Tutwiler Hotel- Hampton Inn & Suites
Birmingham City Schools	Impact Alabama	United States Bartenders' Guild
Birmingham Civil Rights Institute	The J. Clyde	United Way of Central Alabama—Read and Romp
Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership (BCAP)	Japan America Society of Alabama	University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham Genealogical Society	JCCEO Positive Pathways Program	Vulcan Materials Company
Birmingham Historical Society	Jefferson County Beekeepers Association	Vulcan Park and Museum
Birmingham Holocaust Education Center	Jefferson County Historical Commission	
Birmingham Doll Club	Jefferson County Office of Senior Citizens	
Birmingham Metro NAACP	Jones Valley Teaching Farm	
Birmingham Museum of Art	Junior League of Birmingham	
Birmingham Parks and Recreation Board	Lawson State Community College's Culinary Arts Program	
Birmingham Pledge Foundation	LINKS, Incorporated (Magic City Chapter)	
Birmingham to Beijing Project	Literacy Council of Central Alabama	
Birmingham Zoo	Martie Knows Parties	
Blue Pants Brewery	Mayor's Office Division of Youth Services	
Books-A-Million	McWane Science Center	
Cahaba Brewing Company	Pepper Place Market: Birmingham Saturday Market	
Cathead Distillery	Pet Supplies Plus	
The Collins Bar		



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