



Cranston Public Library

2013
annual report





(Left) Circulation desk renovations at Cranston Public Library's Central Branch have resulted in a welcoming entrance for patrons

Our Mission

The Cranston Public Library brings people, information and ideas together to enrich lives and strengthen the community.

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CPL By the Numbers*

LIBRARY CARD HOLDERS	37,463
LIBRARY VISITS	615,803
SIZE OF COLLECTION	308,940
TOTAL CIRCULATION	777,876
REFERENCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED	93,452
NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	953
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	30,696
NUMBER OF PUBLIC COMPUTERS	109
PUBLIC USE OF LIBRARY COMPUTERS	94,432 sessions
HOURS OPEN	10,552

*THESE STATISTICS REFLECT JULY 1, 2012 - JUNE 30, 2013



(Above) Cranston Public Library's recent purchase of a new 3D printer ushers in a new technological era



(Above) The Teen Room at CPL's Central Branch provides a fun, safe space for young patrons



(Above) Cranston children participated in a tree planting ceremony at Meshanticut Park. The ceremony served as a closing event for the year's summer reading program

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Letter From the Chair

It has been my pleasure to serve as Chair of the Cranston Public Library Board of Trustees over this past year. I would like to take a moment to thank the Board Members and our new Library Director, Ed Garcia, for their dedication to the library and our community. Together, we worked diligently to oversee the financial and organizational needs of the library.

There have been many positive changes that have taken place over the past year which will impact the Cranston Public Library for many years to come. The renovation and extended hours of the new Arlington Branch have been a huge success with our senior community. Also, the new circulation desk at the Central location has been well received by our dedicated staff and patrons.

As we know, the demands of the library will continue to change as we move forward in the 21st century. I am confident that our new strategic plan will help to ensure that we keep up with these evolving demands.

I look forward to another successful year in 2014.

Sincerely,

Julie Colangelo

CHAIR,
CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CPL Board of Trustees

JULIE COLANGELO CHAIR

FREDERICK MILLER VICE CHAIR

ROBERTA COSTA

ROSEMARY DASILVA

FRED RAISNER

REGINA SPIRITO

JACK TREGAR



(Left) Sen. Jack Reed, Rep. James Langevin, Mayor Allan Fung and Board member Roberta Costa joined CPL Director Ed Garcia for the dedication ceremony of CPL's Arlington Branch



Letter From the Director

THE THEME OF 2013 WAS RE-IMAGINING THE CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY. IN MY SECOND YEAR AS THE DIRECTOR, WE TOOK MAJOR STRIDES IN EVOLVING AND RE-IMAGINING LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF CRANSTON IN A CHANGING ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT.

In 2013, the Arlington Reading Room underwent a six month renovation and was transformed into the Arlington Branch Library at the Cranston Senior Center. The project, which was funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that was secured by Senator Jack Reed and the RI congressional delegation, was the culmination of over a decade of work to improve library services in the Arlington neighborhood. The new library can serve as a model for how public libraries and senior services can collaborate. With funding from the Champlin Foundations and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Central Library received a \$100,000 renovation to the Circulation Department. The project included a new expanded circulation desk with increased space for staff and materials. The staff work area was re-designed to include more work space and work surfaces for staff. The new space has increased productivity and allowed library staff to put materials into the hands of the public faster than ever. While other libraries have moved towards automation, the Cranston Public Library believes that library staff provide a valuable interaction with the public and this renovation helps us to continue to improve the user experience.

The library has continued our goal of becoming a center for digital learning. We expanded our digital literacy programs, helping our users gain the skills they need to compete in an evolving jobs market and to access health and financial information online as the role of e-government continues to grow. We increased our programs to help the public learn how to use eReaders, tablets, and access digital content. We were able to improve network infrastructure in four of our six locations, providing increased broadband and wireless Internet access. The library also continued our goal of offering access to emerging technologies as we were the first public library in Rhode Island to offer access to 3D printing technology with classes offered in partnership with the Providence makerspace AS220Labs.

The re-imagining of CPL was not limited to building renovations or technology. We hired a new Coordinator of Youth Services to begin a renewed emphasis on providing library services to the children and teens of Cranston with a focus on improved early literacy initiatives.

Finally, we wanted to hear from the public, our users, on what they think the library should be providing the community. For the first time in seven years we conducted a community assessment. We reached out to community stakeholder groups and surveyed the public to help plan for the future. That effort resulted in the new Cranston Public Library strategic plan 2014-2019. You can read the plan here: CRANSTONLIBRARY.ORG/STRATEGICPLAN

I want to thank everyone who used one of our libraries this past year - the staff of the Cranston Public Library will continue to serve your needs. We are looking forward to a great 2014!

Edward Garcia

DIRECTOR, CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

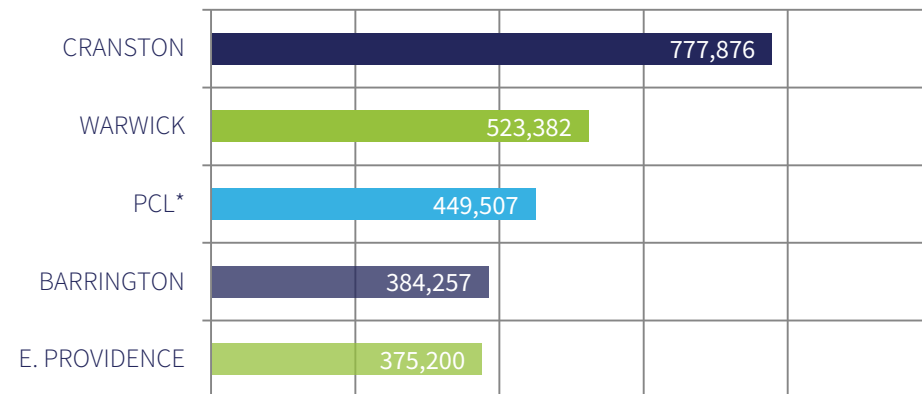
LIBRARY USAGE

How Much Do People Use The Library?

Cranston Public Library is among the top five public libraries in the state of Rhode Island by any measure of usage.



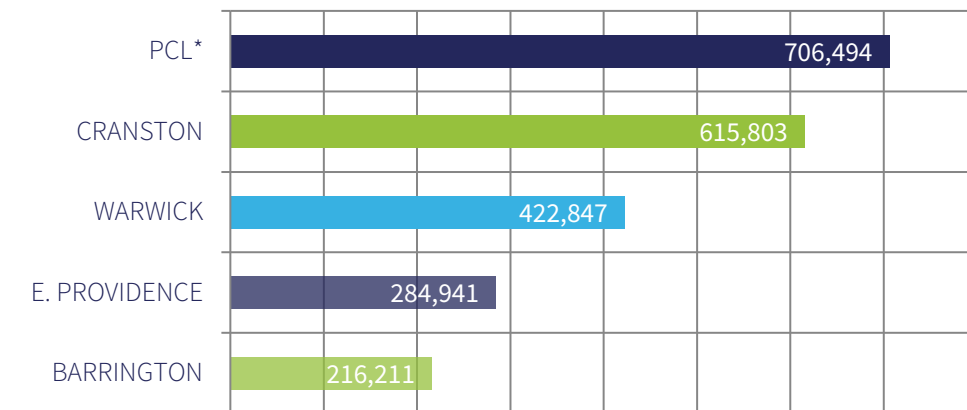
Circulation: Top RI Public Libraries



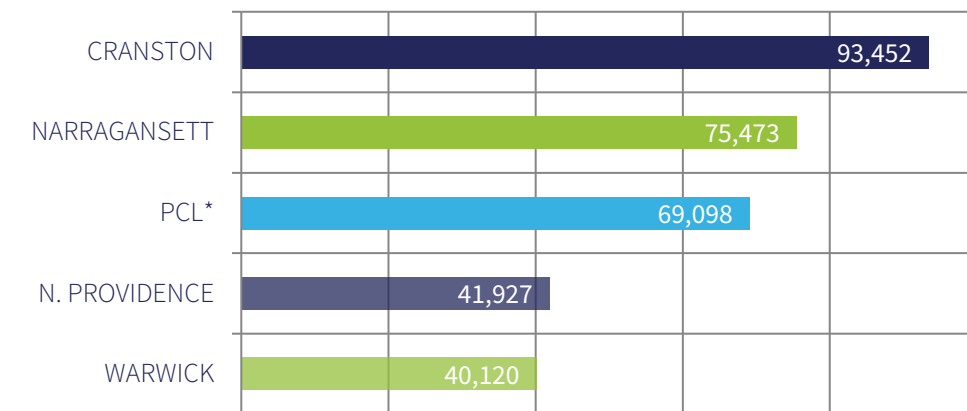
Library Jargon Alert

Circulation is the process of checking out library materials. In this case, circulation means the number of library materials that were checked out in 2013.

Visits: Top RI Public Libraries



Reference Questions: Top RI Public Libraries



*PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

USAGE TRENDS

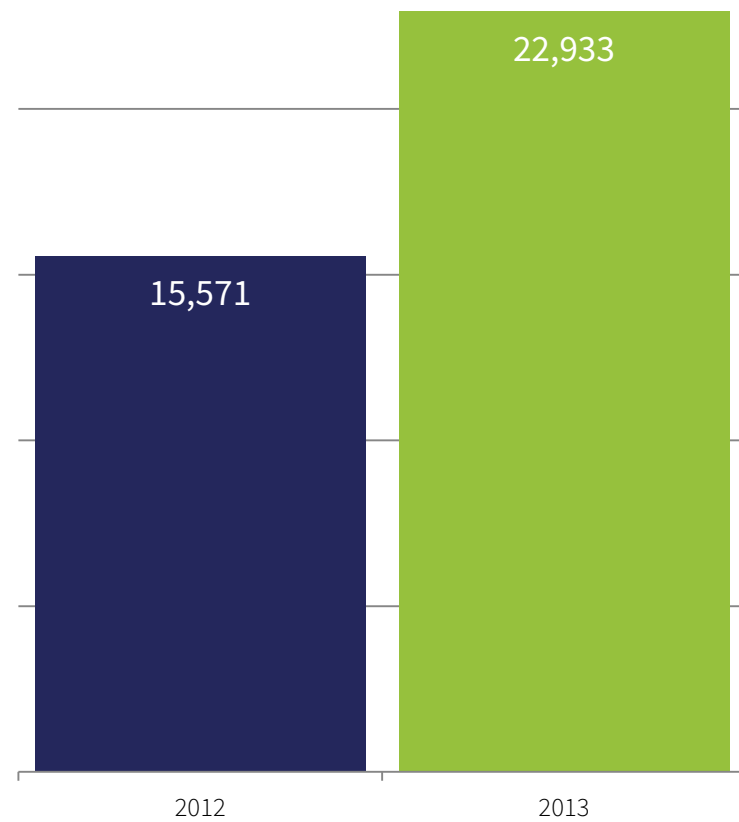
E-Zone

The E-Zone is the Ocean State Libraries statewide cooperative eBook and digital media lending service. All public libraries in Rhode Island support this service through cooperative purchasing of materials.

The circulation of eBooks and digital audio books among Cranston patrons increased by 32% from 2012 to 2013. Cranston now has the second highest E-Zone circulation in the state.

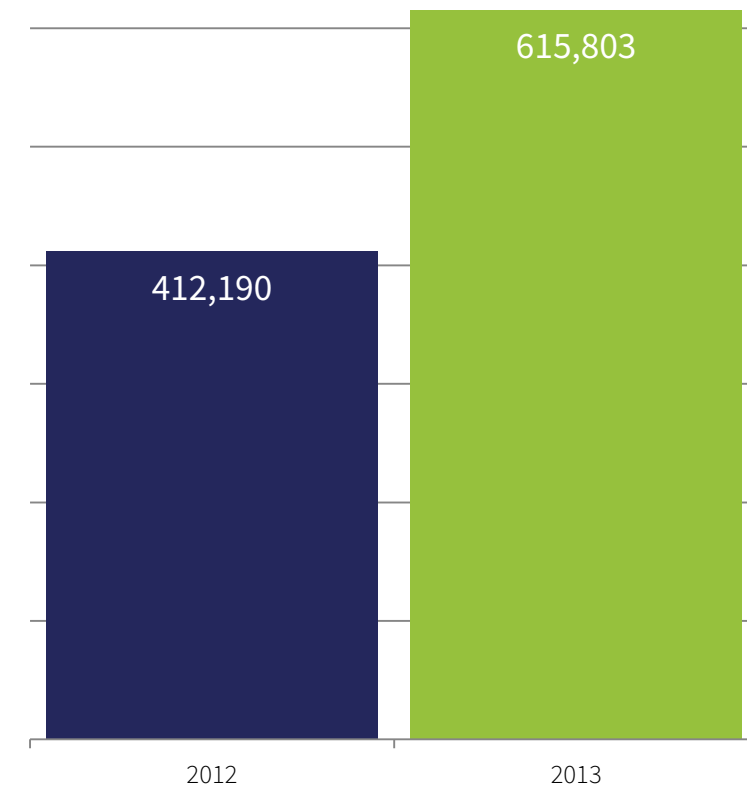


(Above) Just one of the many eReaders circulated at CPL's Central Library



Library Visits

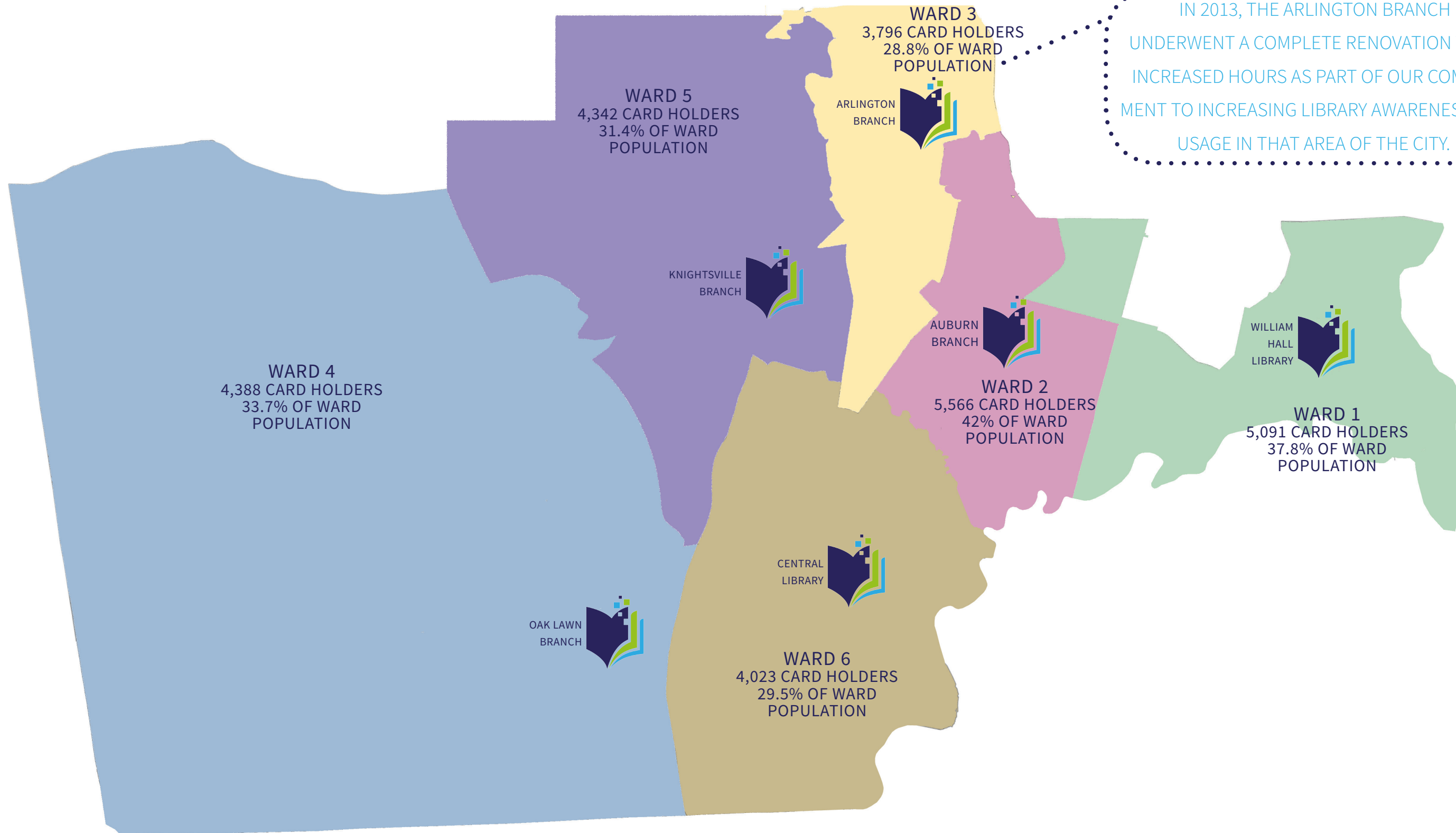
While more patrons accessed library resources through mobile devices in 2013, this did not lead to a decrease in visits to the physical library. In fact, library visits increased by 32%.



fast fact

Did you know that CPL has 12 eReaders available to the public? They can be checked out at the Central Library.

MAPPING LIBRARY USERS



IN 2013, THE ARLINGTON BRANCH UNDERWENT A COMPLETE RENOVATION WITH INCREASED HOURS AS PART OF OUR COMMITMENT TO INCREASING LIBRARY AWARENESS AND USAGE IN THAT AREA OF THE CITY.

USERS

Who Uses the Library?



40%

OF RESIDENTS IN CRANSTON HAVE LIBRARY CARDS.

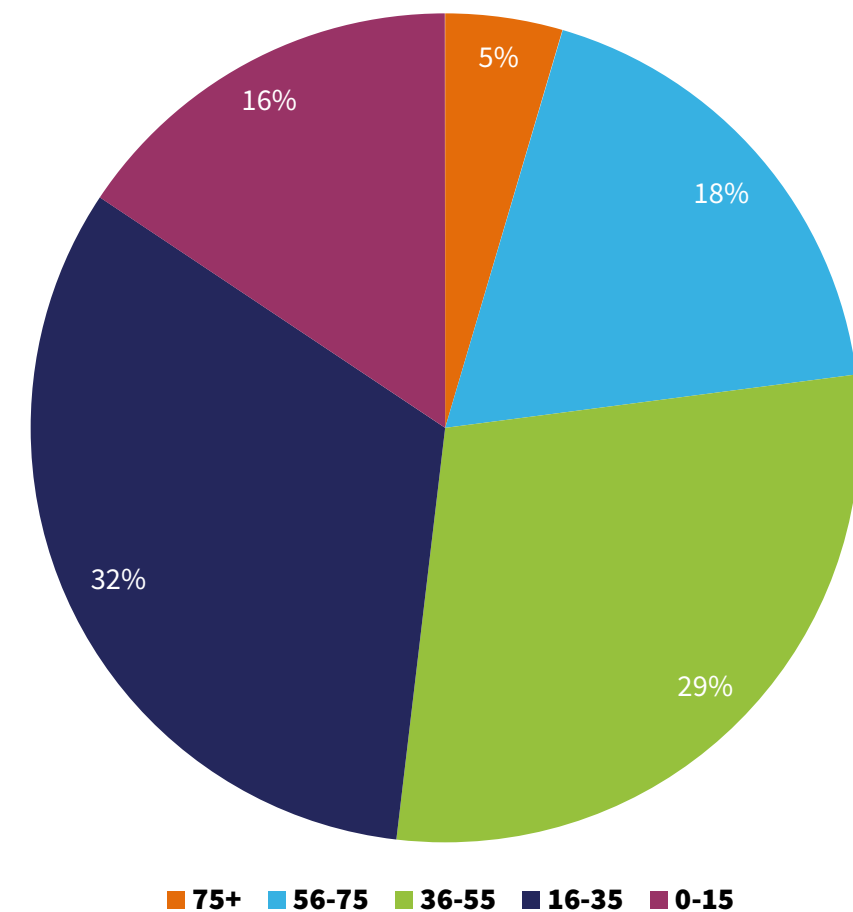
20%

OF CHILDREN IN CRANSTON PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM.



Library Cardholders By Age Group

People of all ages use the library, but the largest group of users is between 16 and 35.

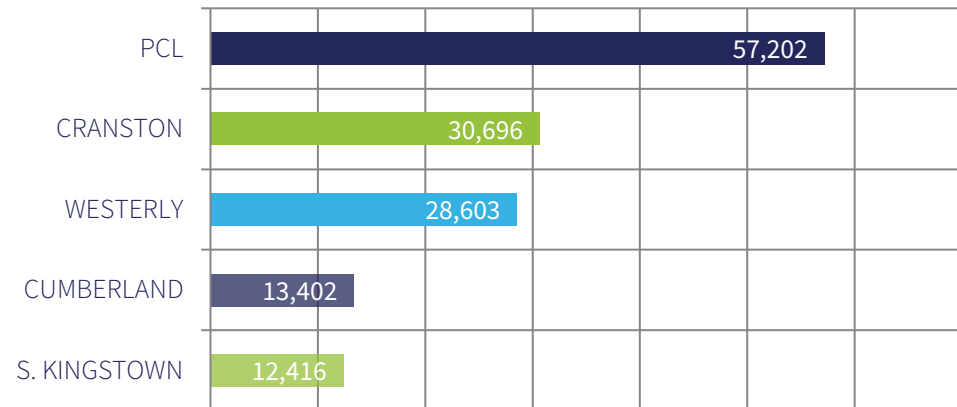


fast fact

In 2013, CPL supplied 4800 items to over 35 homebound users across the city.

PROGRAMMING

Program Attendance: Top RI Public Libraries



Rhode Island Family Literacy Initiative

As a member of the Rhode Island Family Literacy Initiative (RIFLI), Cranston Public Library offers English as a Second Language and citizenship classes.

In 2013 we served 75 students, 57% of whom advanced two or more reading levels. Forty-three of the students also became citizens.

Early Literacy

Early literacy programs like preschool storytime are fun bonding opportunities for caregivers and children. They also help children recognize letters and build their vocabularies, which are critical first steps in learning to read.

In 2013, the Cranston Public Library offered 259 early literacy programs, which is one for every week day that the library is open! The total attendance for these programs was 5,295 people.



(Above) Coordinator of Youth Services, Emily Brown, prepares for storytime with children

Camp XL

In summer 2013, the library supported Camp XL, a summer learning program for Bain Middle School, where 75% of students are on free or reduced lunch.

This grant-funded collaboration between the YMCA, the Bain +2 Afterschool program, the Cranston Public Library, and the Cranston Area Career and Technical Center gave these middle school students the chance to develop healthy living and career skills.

fast fact

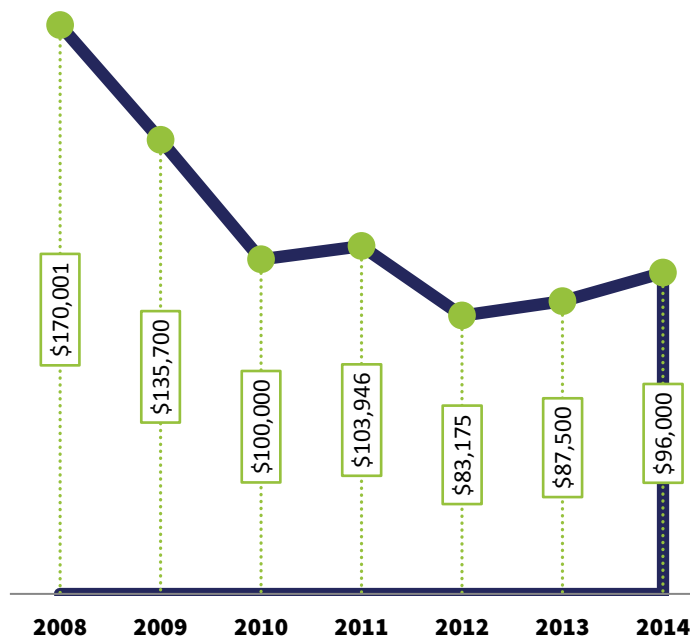
Cranston Public Library ranks #13 in circulating materials among all public libraries in New England.

FUNDING

Financial Information

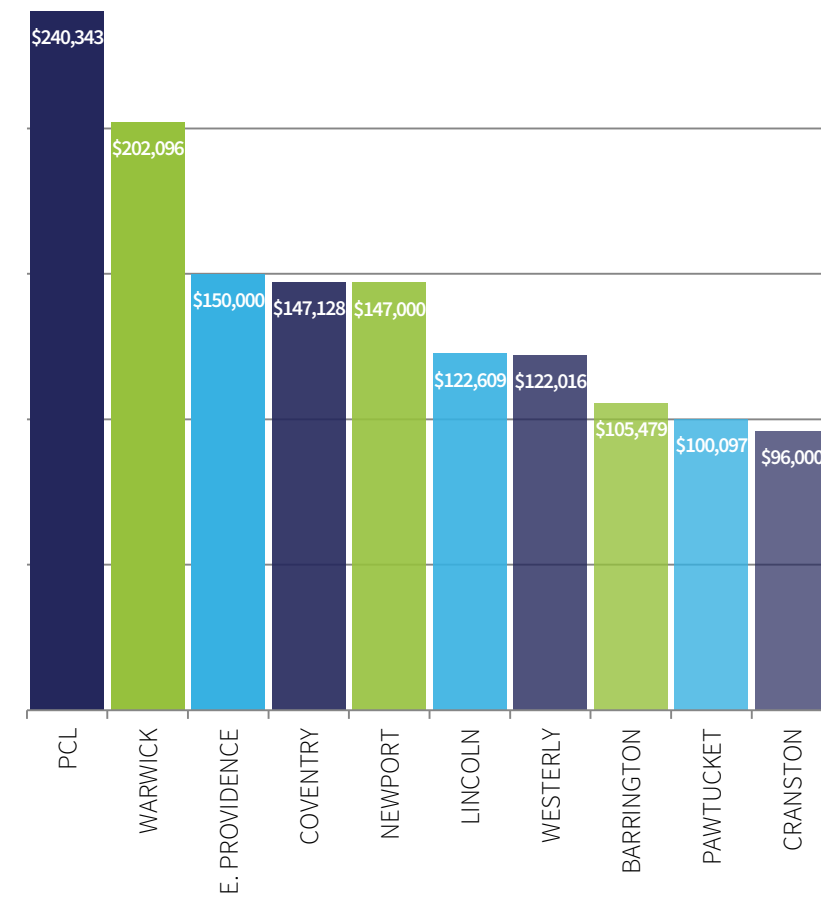
The Cranston Public Library operating budget for fiscal year 2013 was \$2,890,199. In fiscal year 2013 the library received a 1.9% budget increase from the City of Cranston with an appropriation of \$2,334,538. The library also received \$524,404 in state grant-in-aid. The remainder of our operating budget came from fines and fees.

Budget Snapshot: Book Budget Trends



Although library use has only increased, the budget for books at Cranston Public Library is much lower now than it was five years ago.

Book Budgets: RI Public Libraries



Among RI Public Libraries, Cranston Public Library has the highest circulation in the state, but ranks 10th in book spending.

Cranston Public Library Association

The Cranston Public Library Association (CPLA) is a non-profit association that will assist the library in providing programs and services by soliciting, receiving and holding funds from individuals, businesses and organizations. Funds will be made available to the library for the support of programs for children, teens and adults, for the purchase of books and media and for capital renovation and expansion.

CPLA is recognized by the IRS as a 501C3, making all contributions fully tax deductible.

To make a donation to the CPLA, please call 401-943-9080 ext. 100.

fast fact

Cranston spends \$33.66 per capita on library services.

Library Supporters

The Cranston Public Library and Cranston Public Library Association seek donations and grants throughout the year to fund additional programs and improvements to the library. This is a list of selected organizational supporters (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013).

\$250,000+

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (FOR RENOVATIONS AT THE ARLINGTON BRANCH AND CENTRAL LIBRARY)

\$100,000+

CHAMPLIN FOUNDATIONS (FOR RENOVATIONS TO THE CENTRAL LIBRARY AND WILLIAM HALL LIBRARY)

\$2,000+

CRANSTON MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION
 FRIENDS OF THE CRANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
 SENATOR JOSH MILLER LEGISLATIVE GRANT
 WASHINGTON TRUST CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
 WILLIAM HALL LIBRARY TRUSTEES

\$1,000+

AUBURN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
 RANDOLPH SAVINGS BANK PETER PASTORE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
 WALMART FOUNDATION

\$500+

ALEX AND ANI, CHARITY BY DESIGN
 CITIZENS BANK FOUNDATION
 CRANSTON PERMANENT FIREFIGHTERS RELIEF ASSOCIATION
 SENATOR HANNA GALLO LEGISLATIVE GRANT
 TACO/WHITE FAMILY FOUNDATION
 TALK STORY: SHARING STORIES, SHARING CULTURE
 WHOLE FOODS MARKET, CRANSTON

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTERS

LIFESPAN AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR FOR CENTRAL LIBRARY

MOBILE BEACON SECURITY CAMERAS FOR CENTRAL LIBRARY

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE HUMANITIES BRIDGING CULTURES BOOKSHELF: MUSLIM JOURNEYS PROGRAM

Library Administration

ED GARCIA **LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

ANN OSBON **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

BARBARA HAYDEN **OFFICE MANAGER**

EMILY BROWN **COORDINATOR OF YOUTH SERVICES**

BETH JOHNSON **COORDINATOR OF ADULT & INFORMATION SERVICES**

CORRIE MACDONALD **COORDINATOR OF TECHNOLOGY**

STEFANIE BLANKENSHIP **OAK LAWN BRANCH LIBRARIAN**

ADRIENNE GALLO **WILLIAM HALL LIBRARY BRANCH LIBRARIAN**

KAREN MCGRATH **AUBURN BRANCH LIBRARIAN**

NANCY GIANLORENZO **KNIGHTSVILLE BRANCH LIBRARIAN**

BARBARA ANGELONE **HEAD OF CIRCULATION**

LINDA ARCHETTO **HEAD OF TEEN SERVICES**

Library Branch Locations

CENTRAL LIBRARY
 140 SOCKANOSSET CROSS ROAD
 CRANSTON, RI 02920
 401.943.9080

AUBURN BRANCH
 396 PONTIAC AVENUE
 CRANSTON, RI 02910
 401.781.6116

OAK LAWN BRANCH
 230 WILBUR AVENUE
 CRANSTON, RI 02921
 401.942.1787

ARLINGTON BRANCH
 AT THE CRANSTON SENIOR CENTER
 1064 CRANSTON STREET
 CRANSTON, RI 02920
 401.944.1662

KNIGHTSVILLE BRANCH
 1847 CRANSTON STREET
 CRANSTON, RI 02920
 401.942.2504

WILLIAM HALL LIBRARY
 1825 BROAD STREET
 CRANSTON, RI 02905
 401.781.2450



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