

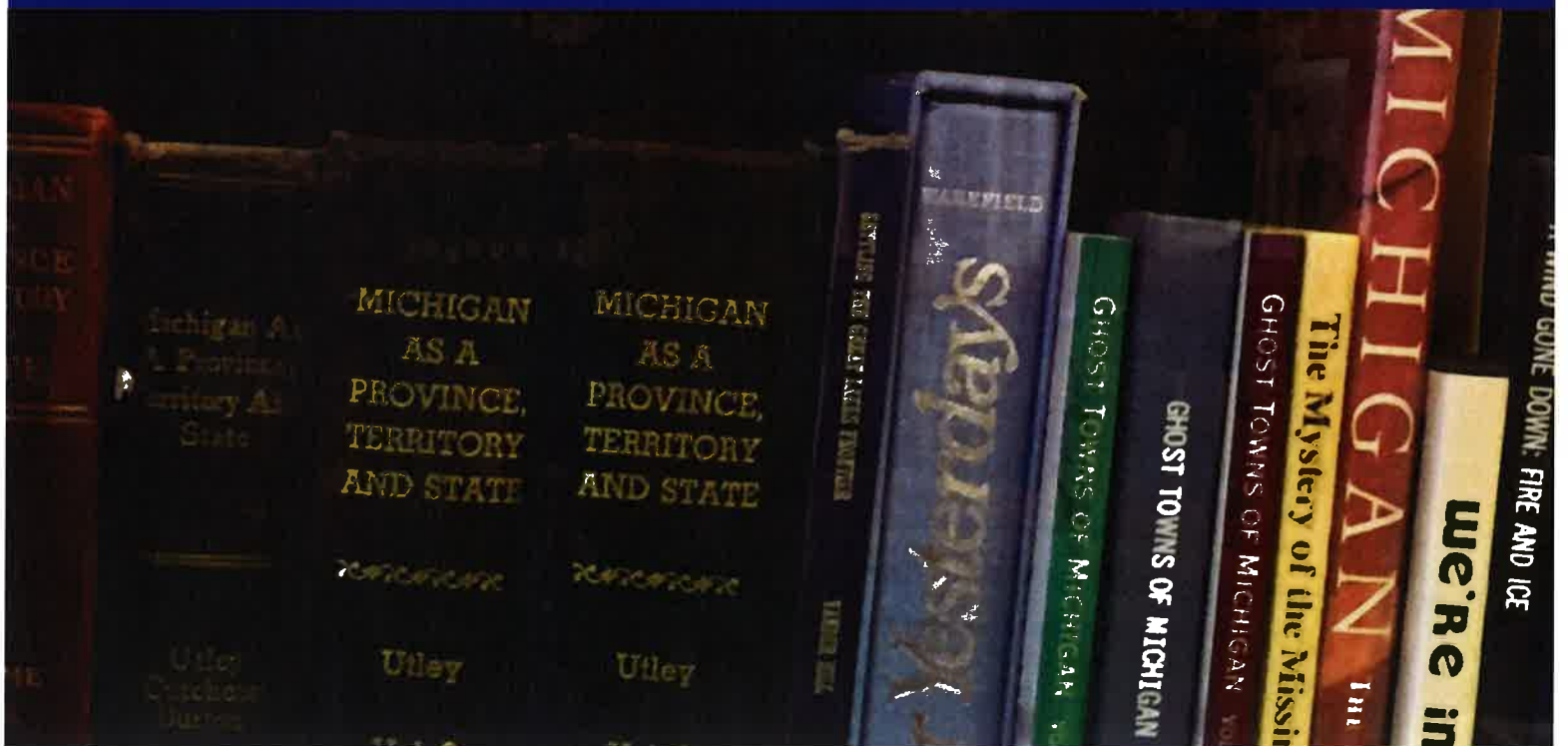
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TRAVERSE AREA
DISTRICT
LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

Traverse Area District Library



Annual Report - Director's Introduction



It's hard to summarize a whole year in just a few paragraphs, but 2019 was an exceptional year for many reasons. In 2019, we literally reached for the stars. As part of our wildly successful "Universe of Stories" Summer Reading Club and the hard work of library staff, we were picked as one of thirteen locations and the only public library to contact the International Space Station (ISS) via Amateur Radio as it flew 248 miles up over the library. Hearing the voice of Astronaut Nick Hague (Col. USAF) answer our callout was one of the most exciting events I've ever experienced in a library! I know this event was meaningful to our staff and patrons alike!



Also in 2019, we wished retiring staff members goodbye and good luck including previous director, Gail A. Juett. Gail's strong leadership left the library in an excellent financial position that will guarantee our future security and success. We continued to make extra payments toward our MERS unfunded pension liability. We continue to make improvements to our facilities, thanks in part in a generous donation from the estate from Dr. Marion Talbot. While we still have the significant expense of fixing our roof, we are hoping to resolve that issue in the near future.

I'm writing this in mid-2020 (after the close of our 2019 audit) as the pandemic continues. I look back fondly on how exciting and simple life was in 2019, and I look forward to sometime returning to that spirit some day. In the meantime, we've rededicated ourselves to providing the best services possible to all our patrons!

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2019 Facts & Figures



568,791

Visitors
(Main Library, East Bay,
& Kingsley)



65,258

Cardholders
(District-Wide)

22,891

Questions Answered
(Main Library Adult Services
Reference Desk)



1,092,936 (Main Library,
East Bay, &
Kingsley)

Items Circulated



372,467

Items Available to Circulate
(Lending & Reference)



49,293

Public computing sessions

District-
Wide

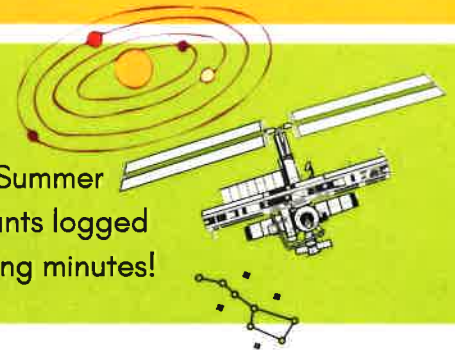


198,973

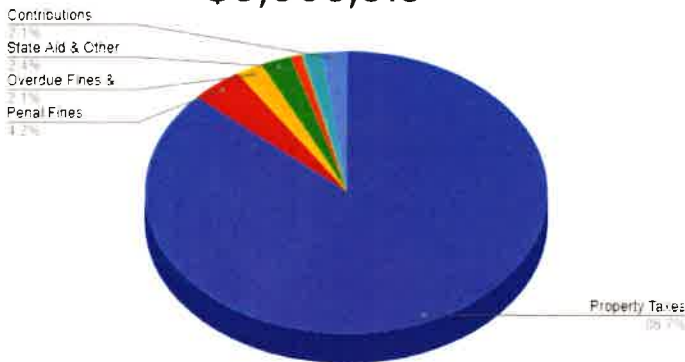
Wifi Logins

3,787

Universe of Stories Summer
Reading Club Participants logged
2,817,522 reading minutes!

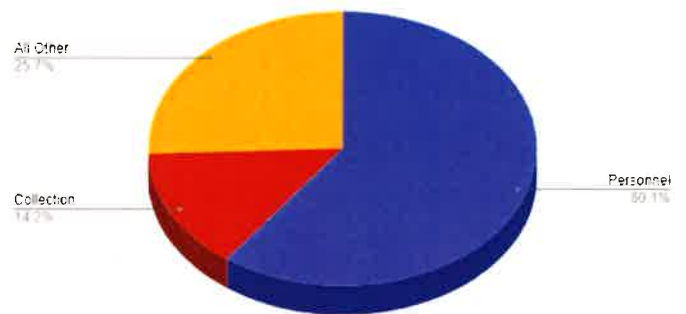


2019 Operating Revenue: \$5,508,615



Property Taxes	\$4,774,201
Penal Fines	\$230,067
Overdue Fines & Fees	\$115,295
State Aid & Other	\$133,808
Interest	\$51,214
Charges for Services	\$87,430
Contributions (& Other Income)	\$116,600

2019 Operating Expenses: \$5,408,773



Personnel *pension note?	\$3,265,855
Collection (Books, Music, Video, Digital)	\$771,135
All Other (Service Charges, Capital Outlay)	\$1,392,865

In 2019 we continued to remove barriers to access for younger readers.

Overall Fiscal Health

TADL continues to implement strong budget practices that result in annual balanced budgets and clean audits. Complete audits and budget information are always available online at tadl.org/finance!

Spending

We've continued our dedication to increase spending on new materials for the collection. In 2018 11% of our spending went to new materials (the benchmark for libraries is 10%) and in 2019 we hit the 14.2% mark!

Pension Funding

The TADL Board of Trustees once again passed a resolution to allocate additional funding to the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan (MERS) from the Internal Service Fund. The Board has allocated these additional payments for the past several years to reduce unfunded liabilities for TADL employees past, present, and future. TADL is proud to say our unfunded pension program is currently 85% funded!

Facility Notes

As our Main Library building continues to age we are updating our capital improvements plan - after the roof issue is resolved.

Grounds

TADL has continued to strengthen relationships with local organizations, including the Children's Garden, to help maintain the beautiful plantings on the grounds.



Looking Ahead



With a world-class professional staff, TADL fulfills its mission - providing dynamic resources and innovative services to stimulate intellectual curiosity, facilitate lifelong learning, promote literacy, and nurture personal enrichment to anyone in the service district. The COVID pandemic has presented many challenges but it has only made TADL staff more determined to get materials in the hands of people who need them.

Books are just the beginning

Available in print, audiobooks and e-books, we provide materials to fit all ages, interests and lifestyles. TADL offers music, movies, games, puppets, kits (STEM, storytime, book club, and health care), and much more. Our expanding Library of Things offers musical instruments, A/V equipment, image transfer devices, and record players. Plans for 2020 include yard games, a 3D printing service, and wifi hotspots!

A new approach to learning

Our programs and events are always free and open to the public, with topics for audiences young and old, including annual favorites like the Summer Reading Club. With COVID and barriers to physical access, our staff continually challenges itself to present content and programming our patrons can access anywhere. We also removed overdue fines for juvenile and teen materials. We never want to have patrons make a choice between food or fines.

Funding

The Traverse Area District Library is supported by an Operating Millage levy of 0.9382 mills, (adjusted as per Headlee Amendment, exp. 2025), as approved by the voters in participating districts. Public funding provides for day-to-day operations, but additional donations allow us to flourish and grow! We will continue to pursue grants and donations to help TADL expand the depth and care of the collection and

2019 Donors

TADL would like to thank the following donors for the personal gifts and investment to supplement and enhance the services and materials we provide. Gifts to the library of \$500+ are placed on our lobby donor wall for permanent public recognition.

Gold Level - \$10,000+

Marion L. Talbot Estate
The Friends of the Traverse Area District Library

Silver Level - \$5,000+

Lawrence E. Gordon

Bronze Level - \$500+

Traverse Area
Historical Society

Roswell William Ard, Jr.
James Levy

Jody Lundquist
Kathryn Wadsworth

Supporters

Anonymous

Fred Anderson

Danielle Baldwin

Lisa Boike

Devin Bond

Clyde Buchanan

Nancy Busch

Amanda Butt

Carol Allswede Chaffee

Nancy Courtney

C. Wesley Cowan

Garry Curtiss

Roy Davis

Jim Eckerle

John Faber

Kristine Fink

Kathleen Firestone

Christopher J Griffin

Katherine Grzesiak

Mike Hankwitz

Jim Harrelson

Stosh & Janese Horton

Michele Howard

Connie Hull

Arthur J. Jelinek

Gail Juett

Jane Kirschke

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James Levy

Ted Lockwood

Dr. Carl Madion

George McManus

Paige Nelson

Virginia Nelson

Barb Nowinski

Mary Orth

Mardi Peaster

Jane Reintges

Jim Schueller

Cherry Scott

Anthony Steeno

Robert Treadway

James Wallace

Sally Weaver

Danielle Williams

Women's History

Project of NW

Michigan

Jim Woodburne

Deborah Wyse

*Thank you
donors!*