**2020** Annual Report





"Libraries are at the heart of an open, inclusive, diverse society—and we need them now more than ever."

### **Hillary Rodham Clinton**

Former U.S. Secretary of State and New York Senator, in the Library's 125th anniversary video, *Reading Brings Us Together*, from May (see p. 9)

## The New York Public Library **2020 Annual Report**

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Pages 5–12 were originally published, in slightly different form, in *Inside The New York Public Library:* 2020 Member Report

#### LETTER FROM THE LIBRARY

FEBRUARY 2021



Evan R. Chesler



**Anthony W. Marx** 

This past year was always going to be historic for The New York Public Library. It marked, in May 2020, the 125th anniversary of our founding—a testament to the enduring legacy of the Library as our most used and trusted civic institution. It was also a year of unprecedented challenges. New York City was an early epicenter of the coronavirus pandemic in the spring of 2020, forcing the closure of our physical locations and testing the resilience of our patrons and staff as New Yorkers supported each other through those harrowing months and the year that followed.

As demonstrated throughout 2020, our efforts to serve our city amid challenges define who we are as an institution. Despite the anxiety and unknowns we continue to face, at the Library we know one certainty: we are and will be here to support learning and opportunity for all New Yorkers, as we have been since our founding in 1895.

For 125 years, we have provided access to information and opportunity for everyone. When we are forced apart, we will always find space for connection and community, whether in our branches or online. And where there is divisiveness we will always foster learning and understanding. As we not only grappled with a pandemic in 2020, but also a contentious election year and violations of social justice and racial equity, the Library remained a beacon of support. We help people seeking to understand both the current moment, and the history that has led us here, ourselves and others, which are foundational to finding a better path.

As our country forges ahead in these times, it is thanks to the support of donors like you that the Library continues to be an institution that can be counted on by so many. Ongoing but not unchanging, preserving the past while looking to the future, The New York Public Library is here for all New Yorkers.

**Evan R. Chesler** 

Chair

**Anthony W. Marx** President



# Steadiness Amid Uncertainty

Since its founding, The New York Public Library has served New York City through good times and bad. This past year brought forth unprecedented challenges for our city and patrons—but the Library quickly adapted to ensure that New Yorkers could continue to rely on our essential services.

#### **UNINTERRUPTED SERVICE**

In March 2020, as the pandemic forced New York City to shut down to slow the spread of COVID-19, the Library acted quickly to transition and expand its services to ensure that communities were still able to access the resources and information that they needed. While constantly monitoring the rapidly changing circumstances, the Library increased its core digital services—from e-book access to online learning support for students, remote research services, online programs, and virtual one-on-one job support.

Following the Library's temporary closure, patrons across the city—

and beyond—rushed to access and use our digital collections. In the first month, patrons checking out e-books increased more than threefold. Between mid-March and July of 2020, 65,000 new users signed up for SimplyE, the Library's free e-reader app, and 2 million e-books and e-audiobooks were checked out.

In late spring and early summer, as the city began its reopening efforts, the Library followed suit, offering contactless grab-and-go service at select locations, which was soon expanded to 50 locations across the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island. Reinstating limited physical service proved vital for

communities; through the second week of grab-and-go services, patrons placed over 40,000 holds for pickup.

#### **SYMBOLS OF RESILIENCE**

The lions in front of our flagship location on 42nd Street were named Patience and Fortitude by Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia in the 1930s for qualities he felt New Yorkers needed during the Great Depression. Today, these beloved icons continue to stand watch over the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building as ongoing symbols of our values. They even donned face masks to help encourage mask-wearing—an act that drew attention not just in our city but around the world.



"Your services have been a godsend to my family. Thank you for making yourself available to the community."

#### Jose Tuma with his family

Hamilton Grange Library, Manhattan

Major support for educational programming is provided by Merryl H. and James S. Tisch.

Major support for children's and young adult programming is provided by the Andreas C. Dracopoulos Family Endowment for Young Audiences. Major support for youth education is provided by Arthur W. Koenig; Stavros Niarchos Foundation;

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy R. Barakett Endowment for Children's and Young Adult Programs and Services; the Bok Family Foundation; Lisa and Jeff Blau; The Hearst Foundation, Inc.; the Institute of Museum and Library Services; The Lisa E. Javitch Early Literacy Initiative; The Pinkerton Foundation; the Cleveland H. Dodge Foundation; the Gray Foundation; The Joseph

H. Flom Foundation; Viking Global Foundation; and the E.H.A. Foundation; with additional support through City's First Readers, an initiative made possible with funding from the New York City Council.

SimplyE has been made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (Award Numbers LG-05-13-0356-13 and LG-00-15-0263-15).



## Education as a Lifeline

From storytimes to education support resources, the Library serves families and students of all ages, providing the tools they need to succeed. This past year was no different, as we quickly adapted to the challenges of remote learning and closures to provide our essential services in new and innovative ways.

#### **REMOTE LEARNING**

When New York City schools closed in March 2020, the Library immediately became a key partner for both families and educators in at-home learning. Our robust early literacy offerings moved online, with librarians recording hundreds of video storytimes that attracted high-profile organizations as partners. These programs featured readings, songs, rhymes, and early literacy tips; introduced special STEAM-themed episodes; and were offered in five languages.

NYPL also brokered an important partnership to bring after-school help online, offering access to oneon-one virtual tutoring in a range of subjects for school-age kids and teens. Our School Support team pivoted to make sure teachers, administrators, and educators across the city were connected to our extensive online resources and learned how to apply them to the remote classroom.

#### **ENSURING EQUITY**

NYPL's 2020 Summer Reading "Quest for Adventure" became a major digital campaign with online reading trackers, author programs, and book clubs. We introduced Virtual Summer Camp, which provided kids with weeks of creative at-home activities accompanied by video tutorials from librarians.

As the new school year began, the Library continued to support remote learning across the city with these expanded digital resources, including online after-school programs.

One of the Library's core priorities is to bridge the digital divide and provide resources to patrons who cannot easily access the internet. Over the summer, NYPL raised money through partners to provide nearly 40,000 summer reading kits, including free books and learning tools, to families who couldn't participate in our online program. Despite the challenges 2020 presented, the Library remained a vital educational partner to all who needed us.



"The Library's remote resources have been phenomenal for students during this very unusual, unprecedented time."

Alisa Bialor, Public School Librarian Mariners Harbor Library, Staten Island

Major support provided by the New York Life Foundation, the 2020 city-wide sponsor for the Summer Reading Program.

The New York Public Library's Summer Reading Program is generously funded by HSBC Bank USA;

New York Yankees Foundation; The Rona Jaffe Foundation; WarnerMedia; Pine Tree Foundation of New York, Inc.; anonymous donors; and the continuing major support of the Andreas C. Dracopoulos Family Endowment for Young Audiences. © 2020 Sesame Workshop. All Rights Reserved.

PREVIOUS PAGE: Gladys, age 8, and Baldwin, age 11, of Mosholu Library in the Bronx were two of the winners of this year's Summer Reading Writing Contest, which asked kids to write a story imagining the tale of this year's Summer Reading mascot, the Book Dragon.



## Reading Brings Us Together

Throughout our 125th anniversary year, the Library celebrated the power of books for readers of all ages and backgrounds. After the pandemic hit, we supported and strengthened our communities by expanding remote access to our collections—and guiding patrons to reliable resources.

#### MORE PEOPLE READING MORE

To kick off our anniversary in January 2020, we released our list of the Top 10 Checkouts of All Time, which featured a related specialedition library card and MetroCard and sparked a national—and even international—discussion of the importance of reading. Next came our series of anniversary book lists for all ages, 125 Books We Love, followed in May by an anniversary video, featuring celebrity writers, performers, and other leading voices honoring the power of reading and libraries to unite us.

We released more high-profile reading lists throughout 2020. The Library's Schomburg Center released its Black Liberation Reading

List in June to mark its own 95th anniversary as well as worldwide uprisings demanding justice for Black lives. NYPL's Essential Reads on Feminism coincided with the August centennial of the 19th Amendment—while our 2020 Election Reading List released in October encouraged voter engagement and awareness ahead of the election.

While e-books and our lists were key tools, connecting patrons with physical books remained a top priority for the Library. In October, we launched a new book selection service, Shelf Help, which quickly connected hundreds of patrons with physical materials.

"What better place to spark a love of reading than The New York Public Library. I basically grew up there. It's a hub for the community."

The Kid Mero, comedian and television host, featured in the Library's 125th anniversary video

PREVIOUS PAGE: Our anniversary video featured well-wishes from 125 Library supporters, including former U.S. Secretary of State and New York Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, comedian and TV personality The Kid Mero, writer Karan Mahajan, writer Jenny

Xie, actor Alan Cumming, Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden, author and activist Mahogany L. Browne, Pulitzer Prize–winning writer Elizabeth Strout, and chef Marcus Samuelsson. Watch the film: nypl.org/125

### TOP CHECKOUTS OF ALL TIME

- 1 The Snowy Day Ezra Jack Keats
- 2 The Cat in the Hat Dr. Seuss
- 3 1984 George Orwell
- 4 Where the Wild Things Are Maurice Sendak
- 5 To Kill a Mockingbird Harper Lee
- 6 Charlotte's Web
  E.B. White
- 7 Fahrenheit 451 Ray Bradbury
- 8 How to Win Friends and Influence People
  Dale Carnegie
- 9 Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone J.K. Rowling
- 10 The Very Hungry
  Caterpillar
  Eric Carle



## Innovating For the Future

The Library was founded on the ideals of free and open access to knowledge and opportunity for everyone. As we looked to the future, we continued to innovate how we preserve and share our collections and services, ensuring that those founding principles remained central to our mission.

#### **REIMAGINING RESEARCH**

In 2020, the Library increased access to its world-class research collections in ways that will serve users for years to come. We expanded availability of our Scan & Deliver service to all of our research centers so that writers, scholars, college students, and creators can get increased remote access to more material than even before.

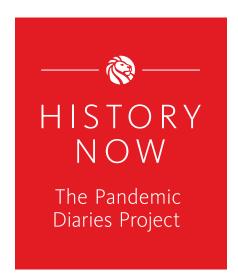
We also worked to build upon our collections for the modern age. Over the summer, we launched our Pandemic Diaries Project, an initiative that invited participants to submit audio recordings of themselves or their loved ones telling personal stories about life

during the COVID-19 pandemic. These stories will be archived in our research libraries and made available to future scholars, journalists, students, and the public.

At our Schomburg Center, a web-based archive, including state and local news and government responses, documented the African diaspora's experiences of COVID-19, including racial disparities in health outcomes and access, and its impact on Black-owned businesses. Meanwhile, the Library for the Performing Arts laid the groundwork for a new project that will provide tools for documentation to those who are currently underrepresented in the arts.

#### **BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE**

The Library continued to invest in its spaces and infrastructure, both physical and online, to meet the needs of our patrons. Over the summer, the renovation of our largest circulating library in Midtown—the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library (SNFL)—was completed, allowing it to operate as a grab-and-go location as part of our phased service restoration. When fully opened in 2021, it will feature eight floors of state-of-the-art services. Meanwhile, we continued to invest in our digital infrastructure to ensure we can continue to collect, preserve, and support our growing collections and serve our patrons in the years ahead.



"This is a great opportunity to make contributions to the Library's store of knowledge. It will benefit those who study the pandemic in years to come."

**Rob Snyder, Manhattan Borough Historian** 

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The Library launched its 125th anniversary in January with our Top Ten Checkouts of All Time, led by Ezra Jack Keats's iconic picture book *The Snowy Day*—which was featured on library cards and a special MetroCard.

#### **LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES**

AS OF DECEMBER 2020



The Schomburg Center hosted its eighth annual Black Comic Book Festival in January, featuring panels with guests such as Darryl "DMC" McDaniels and Dr. Eve L. Ewing, creator booths, and a costume showcase.

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In February, the Library released its first anniversary reading list, 125 Books We Love, featuring titles from the past 125 years that inspire a love of reading.

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AS OF JUNE 30, 2020

#### A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS

We are deeply grateful to donors at every level, all of whom make it possible for The New York Public Library to continue providing the essential services that people in New York, across the nation, and around the world count on every day.

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The Library's #LoveReading anniversary campaign was launched on February 14 at a special Valentine's Day Library After Hours.

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The Schomburg Center's March acquisition of the personal archive of Harry Belafonte expands the Library's extensive collections on the musician, actor, and activist.



After our temporary physical closure in March due to COVID-19, NYPL expanded digital services like SimplyE, databases, and remote tutoring to support patrons.

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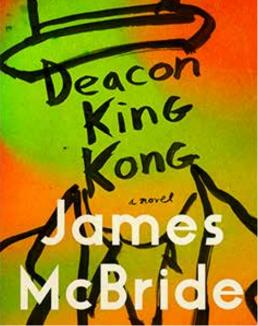
Maggie Flanigan

In the spring, New Yorkers posted nearly 2,000 digital sticky notes to share how the Library's online offerings helped them stay connected through the coronavirus pandemic.

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In April, the Library and WNYC launched a new monthly virtual book club, beginning with *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride, that features virtual author talks, branch book discussion groups, and unlimited e-book checkouts, to bring New Yorkers together to discuss ideas this year even while staying apart.

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In May, the Library released *Missing Sounds of New York*, a special album of soundscapes that evoked the city many were missing during the pandemic: honking horns, cooing pigeons, and the comforting hum of their local library branch.

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Following the physical closure of branches, librarians found new ways to engage our communities virtually with storytime videos featuring read alongs, dancing, and songs; early literacy tips for parents; biligual storytimes; and more.

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In May, the Library staged a week-long virtual reading of Neil Gaiman's *Coraline*, featuring actors LeVar Burton, Dakota Fanning, Rosario Dawson, and Gaiman himself as New Yorkers read along at home through our free e-reader app, SimplyE.

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To honor the Library's anniversary year, we celebrated the May birthday of our iconic lions, Patience and Fortitude, who remain symbols of New York's resilience.

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On May 23, to honor our 125 years of serving New York City and beyond, the Empire State Building's lights featured the Library's signature red and white.

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In 2020, our annual Summer Reading initiative went online with digital reading trackers, virtual author talks and programs, and a six-week virtual summer camp of creative at-home activities for kids of all ages supplemented by how-to videos from Library staff.



As part of the 2020 Summer Reading campaign, the Library partnered with the National Book Foundation to provide free books along with 40,000 Summer Reading kits that we distributed to help bridge the digital divide in high-needs communities.

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#### **BENEFIT EVENTS**



To mark the 95th anniversary of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and respond to uprisings across the globe demanding justice for Black lives, the Schomburg Center released its Black Liberation Reading List, featuring 95 titles that help celebrate and foster better understanding of the Black experience.

#### **Library Lions Gala**

#### **2019 Library Lions**

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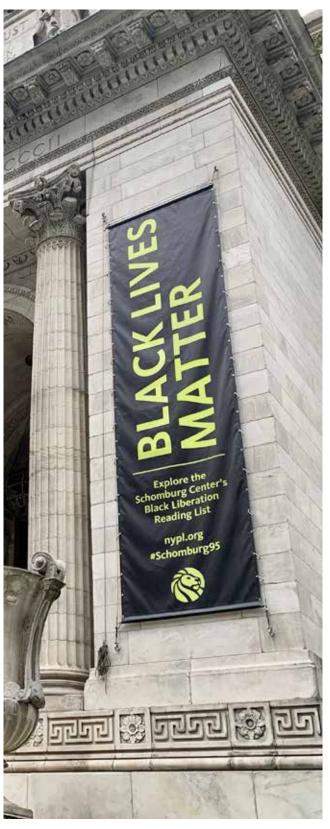
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The facade of the 42nd Street library highlighted the Schomburg Center's Black Liberation Reading List and our ongoing commitment to racial equity and justice.



As part of our gradual reopening in July, the Library launched an updated service model to help New Yorkers access physical books by allowing patrons to go online or call the library to request materials for pickup at one of our open branches.

#### **The Bigelow Society**

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Audrey Friedland



As local libraries welcomed their communities back for limited service, patrons showed their enthusiasm by requesting more than 40,000 materials to borrow through the first two weeks alone.



In August, the Library marked the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which granted some American women the right to vote, with its list of Essential Reads on Feminism, exploring the history and evolution of women's rights through recommended titles for all ages.

Eugene P. Friedman Dorothy B. Gail Shirley Gallagher Lois Gartlir Lauren M. Gee Robert J. Geiger Michael Gelber Egon R. Gerard Brian Gerber Mark Getlein Barbara Gettinger Connie Giampietro Mary Gibbons Ellen B. Gibbs Judith Ginsberg Judith A. Gitenstein Elisabeth Gitter Robin Glasser Judith M. Glassman Patricia M. Glenns Joan Marlow Golan Elmera Goldberg Margaret Goldman Evelyn Goodman Helen Goodman Apollonia Goodridge

Emma Leigh Goodwin

Dinah S. Gordon Miriam Gordon Jean Patrice Gorham and Robert H. Brenner Gabriele M. Gossner Stanley Gotlin Barbara Gottlieb Iohn Gotwalt Lorraine Gracey Sally Gran \* Georgia Adams Grann Patricia Grant Nancy Gray Virginia Gray Marilyn Grayburn Estelle Greco Ann F. Green \* Jules Greenberg Mel Greene Joan Greenfield Joanna Greenspon Patricia Jones Gregory Rosalind Guaraldo \* Iean S. Guilder Lawrence Gutman Christina Gutt Julina Gylfe \*

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The Scan & Deliver electronic document delivery service launched at the end of summer to help researchers gain greater digital access to general collections items from the Library's research centers.

Johanna Hurwitz
Caroline Howard Hyman
Isabelle and Jerome E.\* Hyman
Adele Idestrom
Jack Intrator and
Debrah Welling
Nina M. Itkin
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Helene Kline Doris M. Kling

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Arlyne Krum Denise Krupit Thomas Kudas

James I. Lader James LaForce and

Stephen Henderson Anthony and Berna LaFortezza

Mavis E.P. Lakeman in memory of Joseph Schrank

Jan Lakin Eleanor Landi Charlene Landis Lynn D. Lane Berel Lang

Scott and Tracy Lange

Joan L. Larson Jorge Lasso Man Wai Lau

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Ruth Ann Leach

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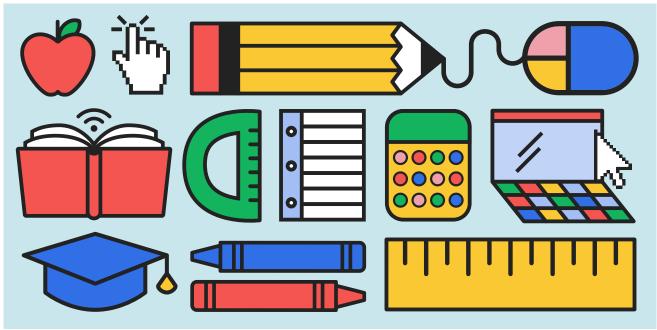
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In September, as school resumed for New York City students, featuring a mix of remote and blended learning, the Library expanded online resources for students, families, and teachers, and launched two new virtual programs, NYPL After School and Little Learners.

Nancy Pirodsky
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Vyette G. Plotch

Yvette G. Plotch Marietta Poerio

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Richard E. Salomon

Harvey Salzman

Marguerite Sanders James Sargis

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Joel Savishinsky

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Carol Springstun Helene Stansky

Vera J. Stecher



To help readers of all ages discover new and engaging books during a difficult time—particularly families with young children—we launched Shelf Help, a new recommendation service that offers personalized book bundles for pickup.



In advance of Election Day in November, the Library released a book list designed to help patrons and voters understand the many issues at the center of the 2020 elections—from healthcare and immigration to foreign policy and climate change.

Caroline Steele Rita L. Stein Lila Steinberg-Rockstein Joshua L. Steiner Martha Roby Stephens **June Stern** Sandy Stern Suzanne Stevens Harriet Stollman **Dail Stolow** Mrs. Peter H. Stone Nina Strattner Steven Strauss Stephanie Strickland Julia Strohm Philip Strongin Beverly M. Sullivan Carla M. Sullwold Kathleen Susmann Estelle S. Sussman Jeanne M. Sutherland Eileen Sutton **Judith Sutton** Sheila C. Swigert

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\* Deceased



The new Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library (SNFL) in midtown—which partially opened in July for grab-and-go service and is expected to fully open later in 2021—features eight floors of spaces for the public, including a roof-top terrace with views over midtown and event space for Library programming.

# NAMED ENDOWMENT FUNDS



To help New Yorkers—and New York City itself—during this unprecedented moment, the Library launched its "Roar for NYC" campaign during the holiday season, featuring books, programs, and collection highlights to honor the strength and resilience of the city we have served for 125 years.

# Named Endowment Funds Established with Gifts or Pledges of \$100,000 or More

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This year's tongue-in-cheek Black Friday ad encouraged readers to find escape through books and reading—thanks to the support of an anonymous trustee.

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The Ruth and Seymour Klein Endowment for Exhibitions provided by the Bertha and Isaac Liberman Foundation, Inc.

The Ruth Kleinman Fund

Mr. and Mrs. John Klingenstein Foundation Endowment Fund

Elinor D. Krauthamer Book Fund

The Jeanette Labelson Memorial Endowment Fund

Lapidus Center Endowment

Roy E. Larsen Fund



For one of our Roar for New York events, high-profile writers Robert Jones, Jr., Susan Choi, Isaac Fitzgerald, Marlon James, and Min Jin Lee (clockwise from top left) gathered to discuss writing the city—just one of the many free virtual programs hosted throughout 2020 by LIVE from NYPL, the Library's premier lecture series.



This December, our annual Holiday Open House—a beloved celebration where the Library welcomes donors for a festive afternoon at the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building—took its traditions online and opened its virtual doors to all Library patrons with winter-themed crafts, special performances, holiday playlists, and more.

The Harry Lebensfeld Fund for Economics and the Dorot Jewish Division

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Kathryn and Gilbert Miller Fund Endowment for the Theatre on Film and Tape Archive

The Irma and Paul Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy Endowment Fund

J. P. Morgan & Company Incorporated Fund for the Economic and Public Affairs Division William C. Morris Endowment Fund

The Belle and Murray L. Nathan Endowment for the Dance Collection

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The Family of Donald and Mary Oenslager Fund for the Library for the Performing Arts

Anita O'Gara Endowment for Dance

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The Parsons Family Foundation Endowment Fund for Schomburg Collections

Oliver Payne Memorial Fund

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The Henry and Henrietta Quade Foundation Endowment Fund

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The Aaron and Clara Greenhut Rabinowitz Fund

The Hirsch and Braine Raskin Foundation Book Endowment

Tibor Remenyi Collection Fund

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Jerome Robbins Archive of the Recorded Moving Image Fund

The Jerome Robbins Foundation Endowment Fund for the Dance

Alfred W. Roberts New York City Real Estate and Real Estate Law Collection Fund

Rockefeller Brothers Dance Documentation Endowment Fund Rockefeller Foundation Performing Arts Fund at the Schomburg Library

David Rockefeller Endowment Fund

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Fund

Rodgers and Hammerstein Chair for Recorded Sound Fund

Rodgers and Hammerstein Foundation Fund

The Elizabeth and Felix Rohatyn Endowment Fund

The Elizabeth and Felix Rohatyn Endowment Fund for the Science, Industry and Business Library

Billy Rose Theatre Collection Fund

The Frederick Phineas and Sandra Priest Rose Chief Librarian of the General Research Division Fund

The Susan and Elihu Rose Foundation in Honor of Marshall Rose The Judy R. and Alfred A. Rosenberg Curator of Exhibitions Fund for The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Dr. Herman Rosenthal Family Memorial Fund for Russian Collections

Elizabeth E. Roth Fund

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The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation Fund for the Dance Collection

Rona and Martin L. Schneider Endowment for the Print Collection Irving and Sara Selis Endowment for the Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library



For this year's virtual Holiday Open House, the West Point Glee Club and Band filmed a performance of "Gloria Fanfare" to share with Library lovers.

Leo Seltzer Endowment

Evelyn Shrifte Endowed Book Fund in memory of the Shrifte Family

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The Alfred Z. Solomon – Janet A. Sloane Fashion Industry Endowment Fund

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The Wallach and Wachenheim Families 2011 Endowment Fund in Honor of Anthony W. Marx

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The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Cataloging and Conservation of Art, Prints and Photographs Fund

The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Chief Librarian of Art, Prints and Photographs Fund

The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Fund for the Purchase of Items for the Division of Art, Prints and Photographs

Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation Fund

Weatherhead Foundation Book Fund

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Sue Ann Weinberg Fellowship Endowment in honor of Jean Strouse

The Sue Ann and John Weinberg Director of the Center for Scholars and Writers Fund

The John C. Whitehead Book Fund in honor of Nancy Dickerson Whitehead

Payne Whitney Legacy

Henry and Muriel Winestine Memorial Fund for Adult Literacy Programs

Young Lions Fiction Award Endowment

Sergei S. Zlinkoff Fund for Medical Research and Education Endowment





The Library's TeenLIVE series continued online in 2020, with authors such as Emily X.R. Pan (right), who joined YA librarian Susen Shi to talk about her book, Foreshadow: Stories to Celebrate the Magic of Reading and Writing YA, and her own creative process during a December event. Sponsored by the Andreas C. Dracopoulos Family Endowment for Young Audiences.

# **GOVERNMENT FUNDING 2020**

The City of New York National Endowment for the Arts

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The New York Public Library is supported generously by elected officials at city, state, and federal levels:

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NYC BOOKS WE Kids





The Library capped off our 125th year in December with our final anniversary book list for all ages—125 NYC Books We Love—which celebrated the city's energy, vibrance, and resilience.

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Libraries were an important partner for New York City throughout the 2020 Census, encouraging all New Yorkers to be counted with email campaigns, virtual events, and other forms of community outreach.

Council Member
Jimmy Van Bramer

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# REPORT OF THE TREASURER



Iris Weinshall

This year marks an important milestone for The New York Public Library, the 125th anniversary of our founding. We began 2020 focused on honoring the values the Library has upheld since 1895: free and open access to knowledge and information for all. However, 2020 has also brought unexpected challenges for NYPL, as the global coronavirus pandemic required location closures, changes to Library service models, and exceptional resilience from our staff and communities.

Despite closure of our physical locations in March 2020, the Library remained indispensable for our patrons, expanding access to digital resources, supporting distance learning, and holding our programs online. The Library also marked our anniversary and the importance of our legacy with a series of book lists. An online campaign in May celebrated NYPL's birthday, with a video love letter from Library fans, including Hillary Rodham Clinton, Al Roker, Jonathan Lethem, and more.

The Library adapted to this extraordinary year in a number of ways, including:

- Signing up 45,000 New Yorkers for digital cards through our free e-reader app, SimplyE, since March
- Starting in July, 50 locations opened for grab-and-go service to the public, including the newly renovated Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library (SNFL)
- The research libraries launched the Scan & Deliver service, allowing scholars and researchers to request digital copies of materials from our collections

The Library has maintained a strong financial position through this uncertain year. As of June 30, 2020, net assets were \$1.739 billion (vs. \$1.596 billion on June 30, 2019), reflecting an increase of \$143 million, or 9%. The increase in net assets over the most recent five-year period is 28%. The market value of our endowment on June 30, 2020, stood at \$1.265 billion. Long-term debt outstanding on June 30, 2020, was \$185 million.

Strong financial standing helps ensure the Library can continue to be the key community hub our patrons rely on. Throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Library demonstrated our importance to the city, even when our physical locations are closed, as thousands of New Yorkers took advantage of Library services. The support of our City, State, and Federal elected officials this year ensured the Library could continue to support our city through a time of enormous uncertainty.

By maintaining our strong financial position, we ensure The New York Public Library can continue the mission it has upheld for the past 125 years. We are grateful for the generosity of our donors and Board of Trustees and the support of our worldwide community which has maintained the Library as a beacon of knowledge, literacy, and opportunity for all.

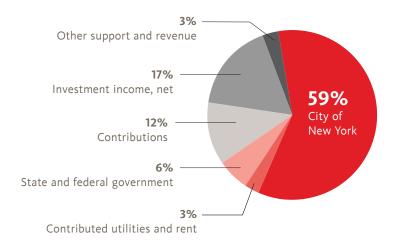
**Iris Weinshall** 

Treasurer, The New York Public Library

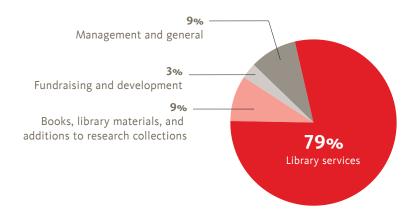
J. Wendall

# **FINANCIAL FIGURES**

## **1. OPERATING REVENUES** (\$329,595,000)

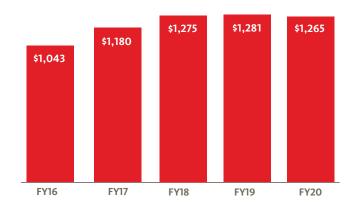


### **2. OPERATING EXPENSES** (\$312,801,000)



### 3. CHANGE IN ENDOWMENT (IN MILLIONS)

Market values as of June 30



IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS	FY20	FY19
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$154,993	\$115,263
Government and other receivables	141,643	153,632
Contributions receivable, net	49,496	47,881
Other assets	8,213	8,475
Funds held by others	4,108	4,151
Investments	1,273,413	1,300,403
Fixed assets, net	584,051	493,127
Collections		
Total assets	\$2,215,917	\$2,122,932
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	97,916	\$97,719
Deferred revenue	46,293	42,796
Notes payable, net	6,753	7,163
Financing obligation	21,456	102,364
Capital lease liability	26,966	-
Bonds payable, net	183,812	183,764
Accrued postretirement benefits	93,615	92,582
Total liabilities	476,811	\$526,388
NET ASSETS		
Net assets without donor restrictions	\$717,871	\$629, 883
Net assets with donor restrictions	1,021, 235	966,661
Total net assets	\$1,739,106	\$1,596,544
Total liabilities and net assets	\$2,215, 917	\$2,122,932

IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS	FY20	FY19
OPERATING REVENUES		
City of New York	\$195,972	\$181,934
State of New York	19,533	21,018
Federal government	811	716
Contributed utilities and rent	9,187	9,395
Private contributions and grants	39,164	41,716
Investment return appropriated for spending	54,453	54,999
Fines, royalties, and other revenue	10,475	15,660
Total operating revenues	\$329,595	\$325,440
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Branch library services	\$179,041	\$174,603
Research library services and library-wide programs	82,809	87,670
Total program services	261,850	262,273
Fundraising and membership development	10,345	10,895
Management and general	26,967	25,372
Total operating expenses	299,162	298,540
Additions to research collections	13,639	14,302
Total operating expenses and additions to research collections	312,801	312,842
Change in net assets from operating activities, before gain on sale of real estate	16,794	12,598
Gain on sale of real estate	88,200	-
Change in net assets from operating activities	\$102,994	\$12,598
NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Endowment contributions and funds designated for long-term investment, net	\$16,002	\$7,600
Appropriations and contributions for capital	67,909	81,504
Depreciation and amortization	(22,218)	(22,401)
Investment return, net of amounts appropriated	(20,620)	(15,523)
Changes in postretirement benefits obligation other than net periodic benefit cost	(856)	(11,085)
Net periodic benefit cost other than service cost	(649)	(992)
Change in net assets from nonoperating activities	39,568	39,103
Change in net assets	142,562	51,701
Net assets at beginning of year	1,596,544	1,544,843
Net assets at end of year	\$1,739, 106	\$1,596,544
•		

# **DIRECTORY OF LOCATIONS**

#### **BRONX**

Allerton • 2740 Barnes Avenue • 718-881-4240

Baychester • 2049 Asch Loop North • 718-379-6700

Belmont • 610 East 186th Street • 718-933-6410

Bronx Library Center • 310 East Kingsbridge Road • 718-579-4244

Castle Hill • 947 Castle Hill Avenue • 718-824-3838

City Island • 320 City Island Avenue • 718-885-1703

Clason's Point • 1215 Morrison Avenue • 718-842-1235

Eastchester • 1385 East Gun Hill Road • 718-653-3292

Edenwald • 1255 East 233rd Street • 718-798-3355

Francis Martin • 2150 University Avenue • 718-295-5287

Grand Concourse • 155 East 173rd Street • 718-583-6611

High Bridge • 78 West 168th Street • 718-293-7800

**Hunts Point •** 877 Southern Blvd. • 718-617-0338

Jerome Park • 118 Eames Place • 718-549-5200

**Kingsbridge** • 291 West 231st Street • 718-548-5656

Melrose • 910 Morris Avenue • 718-588-0110

Morris Park • 985 Morris Park Avenue • 718-931-0636

Morrisania • 610 East 169th Street • 718-589-9268

Mosholu • 285 East 205th Street • 718-882-8239

Mott Haven • 321 East 140th Street • 718-665-4878

Parkchester • 1985 Westchester Avenue • 718-829-7830

Pelham Bay • 3060 Middletown Road • 718-792-6744

Pelham Parkway-Van Nest • 2147 Barnes Avenue • 718-829-5864

Riverdale • 5540 Mosholu Avenue • 718-549-1212

Sedgwick • 1701 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd • 718-731-2074

Soundview • 660 Soundview Avenue • 718-589-0880

**Spuyten Duyvil •** 650 West 235th Street • 718-796-1202

Throg's Neck • 3025 Cross Bronx Expy Ext • 718-792-2612

Tremont • 1866 Washington Avenue • 718-299-5177

Van Cortlandt • 3882 Cannon Place • 718-543-5150

**Wakefield** • 4100 Lowerre Place • 718-652-4663

West Farms • 2085 Honeywell Avenue • 718-367-5376

Westchester Square • 2521 Glebe Avenue • 718-863-0436

Woodlawn Heights • 4355 Katonah Avenue • 718-519-9627

Woodstock • 761 East 160th Street • 718-665-6255

#### **STATEN ISLAND**

Dongan Hills • 1617 Richmond Road • 718-351-1444

Great Kills • 56 Giffords Lane • 718-984-6670

**Huguenot Park •** 830 Huguenot Avenue • 718-984-4636

Mariners Harbor • 206 South Avenue • 212-621-0690

New Dorp • 309 New Dorp Lane • 718-351-2977

Port Richmond • 75 Bennett Street • 718-442-0158

Richmondtown • 200 Clarke Avenue • 718-668-0413

**South Beach •** 21–25 Robin Road • 718-816-5834

**St. George Library Center •** 5 Central Avenue • 718-442-8560

**Stapleton** • 132 Canal Street • 718-727-0427

 $\textbf{Todt Hill-Westerleigh} \bullet 2550 \; \text{Victory Boulevard} \bullet 718\text{-}494\text{-}1642$ 

**Tottenville •** 7430 Amboy Road • 718-984-0945

West New Brighton • 976 Castleton Avenue • 718-442-1416

### **MANHATTAN**

53rd Street • 18 West 53rd Street • 212-714-8400

58th Street • 127 East 58th Street • 212-759-7358

**67th Street** • 328 East 67th Street • 212-734-1717

**96th Street •** 112 East 96th Street • 212-289-0908

125th Street • 224 East 125th Street • 212-534-5050

Aguilar • 174 East 110th Street • 212-534-2930

Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library •

40 West 20th Street • 212-206-5400

Battery Park City • 175 North End Avenue • 212-790-3499

Bloomingdale • 150 West 100th Street • 212-222-8030

Chatham Square • 33 East Broadway • 212-964-6598

Children's Center at 42nd Street • Fifth Avenue & 42nd Street • 212-621-0208

Columbus • 742 Tenth Avenue • 212-586-5098

Countee Cullen • 104 West 136th Street • 212-491-2070

Epiphany • 228 East 23rd Street • 212-679-2645

Fort Washington • 535 West 179th Street • 212-927-3533

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Grand Central • 135 Fast 46th Street • 212-621-0670

Hamilton Fish Park • 415 East Houston Street • 212-673-2290

Hamilton Grange • 503 West 145th Street • 212-926-2147

Harlem • 9 West 124th Street • 212-348-5620

Harry Belafonte-115th Street • 203 West 115th Street • 212-666-9393

Hudson Park • 66 Leroy Street • 212-243-6876

Inwood • 4790 Broadway • 212-942-2445

Jefferson Market • 425 Avenue of the Americas • 212-243-4334

Kips Bay • 446 Third Avenue • 212-683-2520

Macomb's Bridge • 2633 Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Boulevard • 212-281-4900

Morningside Heights • 2900 Broadway • 212-864-2530

Muhlenberg • 209 West 23rd Street • 212-924-1585

Mulberry Street • 10 Jersey Street • 212-966-3424

New Amsterdam • 9 Murray Street • 212-732-8186

NYPL for the Performing Arts • 40 Lincoln Center Plaza

(at 65th Street) • 917-275-6975

Ottendorfer • 135 Second Avenue • 212-674-0947

Riverside • 127 Amsterdam Avenue • 212-870-1810

Roosevelt Island • 504 Main Street • 212-308-6243

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture •

515 Malcolm X Boulevard (at 135th Street) • 212-491-2200

Seward Park • 192 East Broadway • 212-477-6770

**St. Agnes •** 444 Amsterdam Avenue • 212-877-4380

Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library • 455 Fifth Avenue • 212-340-0863

 $\textbf{Stephen A. Schwarzman Building •} \ \textbf{Fifth Avenue \& 42nd Street} \ \bullet \ 917\text{-}275\text{-}6975$ 

**Terence Cardinal Cooke–Cathedral •** 560 Lexington Avenue • 212-752-3824

Tompkins Square • 331 East 10th Street • 212-228-4747

Washington Heights • 1000 St. Nicholas Avenue • 212-923-6054

Webster • 1465 York Avenue • 212-288-5049

Yorkville • 222 East 79th Street • 212-744-5824

For location hours and accessibility, visit nypl.org/locations

## SUPPORT THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

RECOMMENDED FORM OF BEQUEST



The New York Public Library is a not-for-profit education corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of New York. The Library is exempt from federal income tax as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a publicly supported organization under section 170 of the Code.

Gifts and bequests to the Library are deductible under the federal income, estate, and gift tax laws. For federal tax purposes, the Library uses its formal corporate name: The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations (reflecting its incorporation by the consolidation of the Astor Library, the Lenox Library, and the Tilden Trust). The Trustees of the Library recommend that for estate planning purposes, friends consider the following language for use in their wills:

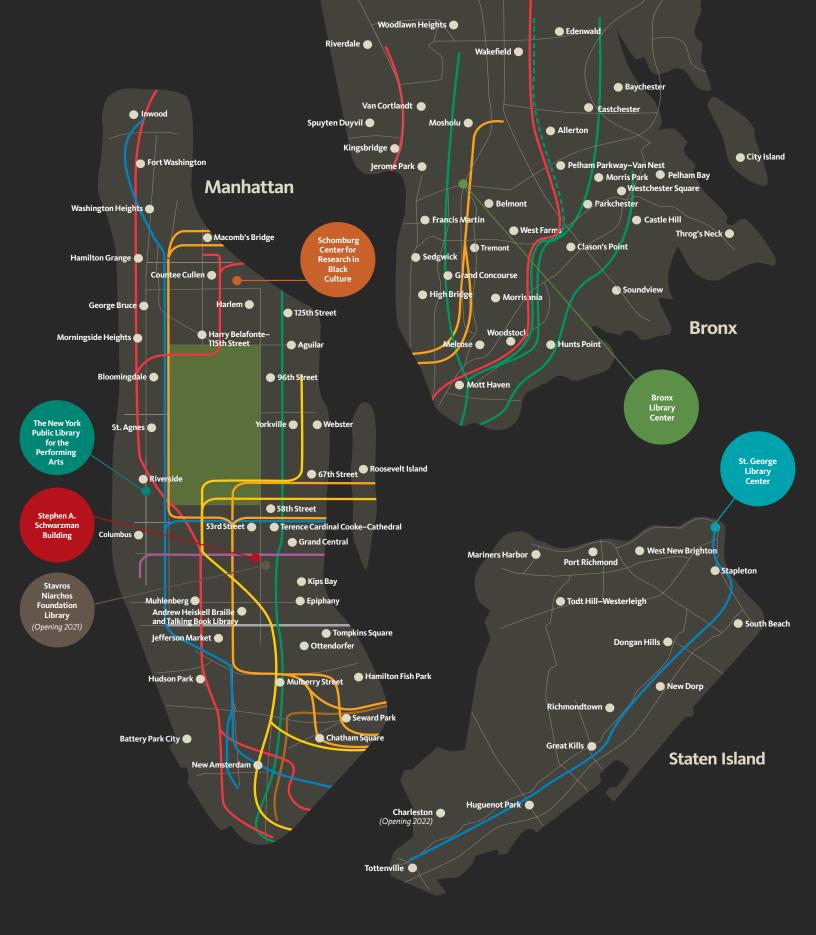
"I give and bequeath (dollar amount, percentage of residuary estate, or description of property) to The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, New York, New York 10018, for the Library's general purposes."

If you wish to make a bequest for a specific purpose, it is suggested that you consider adding the following language to any restriction you may impose on your bequest:

"If at any time in the judgment of the Trustees of the Library, the designated purpose of this bequest proves to be impracticable or impossible, I authorize the Trustees to use the income and principal of this bequest for any purpose they deem to be consistent with the general intent and purpose set forth herein."

Should you decide to leave a bequest to the Library in your will, you will become a member of the Library's honorary legacy society, created to recognize the generosity of those individuals who include this institution in their estate plans. The Library expresses its gratitude to members during their lifetime by inviting them to special events and by listing their names on donor publications, unless they prefer to remain anonymous.

If you or your attorney would like to discuss a bequest with a member of the Library's staff, please contact the Planned Giving Office at 212-930-0652 or plannedgifts@nypl.org, or at the following address: Development Office, The New York Public Library, 445 Fifth Avenue, 4th Floor, New York, New York 10016.



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