

CONCORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
FACTS AT A GLANCE
FY2009* Statistics

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|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Circulation (New Record) | 417,566 |
| Collection holdings | 279,178 |
| Interlibrary loans received | 40,829 |
| Interlibrary loans provided | 61,041 |
| Registered Concord borrowers | 11,916 |
| New items (excluding magazines) | 14,000+ |
| Audio books and music CDs | 14,430 |
| DVDs and VHS holdings | 7,654 |
| Downloadable Audiobooks (titles) | 1,692 |
| Hours the Libraries are open | 5,759 |
| Children's programs held | 178 |
| total attendance | 4,062 |
| Adult & Young Adult programs held | 61 |
| total attendance | 2,645 |
| Visits to the library web page | 560,000 |
| Number of Volunteers and | 143 |
| Number of hours they worked | 7,732 |
| Public wireless (wi-fi) logins/month | 700+ |

*Fiscal Year 2009 = July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

**FRIENDS OF THE CONCORD FREE
PUBLIC LIBRARY**



Front, left: Claire Greene, Glenn Mitchell, Dianne Weiss, Jacqueline Barnard. Rear, left: Kerry Cronin, John Lynch, Karen Brown, Stephan Bader, Jane Torpie. Not pictured: Faith Bader, Edi and Ken Hetling

The Concord Free Public Library is much more than a building where one goes to borrow books. It is the cultural centerpiece of our Town, where films are shown and shared, museum passes are loaned, authors are heard, and music is performed. The majority of these programs are funded by a non-profit volunteer organization, the Friends of the Concord Free Public Library.

Last year, the Friends provided many important cultural events in Concord. If you watched a movie from the library or visited a museum with a library pass or attended

a concert or poetry reading at the Library, you have experienced the results of the work of the Friends.

Among the contributions by the Friends last year:

- 400 adult and children's CDs and DVDs purchased for the Main and Fowler libraries
- 15 museum passes, checked out by 2,500 individuals or groups
- 14 poetry readings and author talks, attended by more than 700 people
- 4 chamber music concerts, with more than 500 people attending
- Funding for children's story, craft, and music programs
- 6 Friday Flicks at Fowler, attended by 300
- Continuing education for three librarians
- 3 summer concerts, with about 300 present

In all, the Friends contributed more than \$51,000 to the Library and pledged \$25,000 for the renovation and expansion of the Loring N. Fowler Memorial Library.

The Friends funds itself primarily through book sales and memberships. Throughout the year, Concord residents donate books and other materials. The Friends gather these materials and, twice a year, sell them during extremely well-attended and popular book sales. Books also are for sale every day on the Friends' shelves the Main Library.

About 55% of Friends revenue came from sales of donated books. Some twenty thousand books were offered for sale in June 2009, raising \$17,700. The Holiday Book Sale in December raised \$5,800. CCTV supported book donations by producing and airing the Friends public service announcement. You can see it on local channels 8, 9, and 10. To donate books, bring them to the reference desk at the Main Library, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The next book sale is Saturday, June 5, 2010 (rain date June 12).

Other Friends revenue came from memberships, gifts, and memorial gifts. The Friends has about 900 members. Memberships are tax deductible. To join, pick up a brochure at the Library or visit the Friends page at www.concordlibrary.org.

In addition, more than 150 volunteers contribute the gift of time. Notable among them are Judy Dennen and Rebecca Purcell. Judy Dennen retired from the Friends board after more than 30 years of service, most

recently as volunteer coordinator. Rebecca Purcell, who continues as the Friends hospitality coordinator, retired as President. In Rebecca's honor, the Friends purchased two additional museum passes for the Library: Museum of Science for Fowler and Zoo New England for the Main Library.

In May 2010, the Friends will celebrate 40 years of supporting the Library. If you love the Library, there are many volunteer opportunities, large and small. Volunteers sort donated books for sale; usher and sell books at concerts and author events; create music, film, poetry, and author programs; organize, publicize, set up and staff the book sales; and handle publicity, marketing, membership, database management, and finances.

As part of Concord's 375th anniversary in fall 2010, the Friends will publish a new edition of *Historic Concord & the Lexington Fight: a Step By Step Guide to the Battlefields and to the Later Literary Concord*, revised and updated by Leslie Perrin Wilson, Curator of Special Collections.

To keep up with Friends activities, you can follow the Friends on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn as well as at www.concordlibraryfriends.org. Everyone is welcome. To volunteer or learn more, email friends@concordlibrary.org.

CONCORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY CORPORATION

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This year was marked by honoring the past and preparing for the future. In June, the Library community celebrated the many gifts given to Concord by Barbara Powell during her thirty years as Library Director. At a festive retirement dinner, speaker after speaker noted Barbara's dedication to the Library and to the Town. Her intellectual prowess and her fierce determination to maintain the highest standards of service benefited the community in myriad ways. The

gala celebration captured her spirit perfectly.

After a national search, Town Manager Chris Whelan appointed Kerry Cronin as the new Library Director. Kerry began her duties in August and has thrown herself enthusiastically into all the activities which make this Library unique.

The Trustees of the Library Corporation voted to proceed with the Fowler Branch renovation and expansion. Early fund-raising efforts were positive enough to indicate that we could raise the \$3,500,000 necessary to undertake the project. The likelihood that construction costs will rise in the coming years from their current lows has caused the Board to push hard to get started. The West Concord community has been very enthusiastic about this refurbishing of the Fowler Branch. They are excited about a new and expanded Children's Room and a new large community meeting room, and they have embraced the beautiful design for a glass-fronted stairwell by J. Stuart Roberts, our architect, who also designed the highly successful renovation of the Main Branch.

As Trustees of the Williams Scholarship Fund, made possible by a bequest from Charles H. S. Williams, we continue to award grants to several college students currently pursuing studies in the arts.

The primary task of the Trustees is to maintain the two library buildings – the Main Library in Concord Center and Fowler Branch in West Concord. This year we were able to also support library services financially with funds totaling over \$100,000.

2009 was a full year, and 2010 promises to be equally exciting as we work to support the activities of the libraries and as we undertake a physical rebirth of the Fowler Branch.