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MISSION
Spokane Public Library is a community of learning.
Thank you for making 2017 another remarkable year for Spokane Public Library. Our accomplishments this year highlight our continued relevance in the community as well as our ability to re-invent and improve our services to meet and exceed the needs of Spokane.

From record-setting attendance at our Summer Reading programs (more than xx,xxx people attended our Solar Eclipse programs!) to a 37% increase in cardholders and a 10% increase in digital resource checkouts, Spokane continues to turn to the library for education and entertainment.

Those same community members supported us in April when voters passed the Library Levy Lid Lift. This endorsement by the community has allowed us to continue our expanded hours at East Side, Hillyard and Indian Trail and maintain our Sunday hours at Shadle. Starting January 21, 2018, we are also able to add Sunday hours at South Hill. It has also allowed us to continue to provide early literacy programming, technology access and funding toward expanding our collection.

In October, we introduced the Community Lens, a stage and gathering place on the 3rd floor of the Downtown Library that will allow us better showcase Spokane and continue to build the community’s social capital. I encourage you to attend an upcoming event in this space like the monthly Lilac City Live, a late-night style talk show that features some of the best above- and below- the radar talent in Spokane.

Finally, the culmination of 2017 saw the rebrand of the Spokane Public Library visual identity. The previous logo and identity had been in place for more than 15 years. This new dynamic branding better reflects our diverse offerings and will carry us into the future and to our vision of the 21st Century Library.

Spokane Public Library would not be where we are today without the hard work and dedication of our staff and volunteers, the leadership of the board of trustees and the continued support from the Spokane Public Library Foundation, the Friends of the Spokane Public Library and our elected officials.

We look forward to many exciting programs and improvements in 2018, including a capital bond on the ballot in August, the launch of the Numerica 24/7 library at the West Central Community Center, and more community partnerships and increased engagement with our customers.

I invite you to keep informed about library developments by signing up for our newsletter and following us on social media. Together, we are building a Community of Learning in the City of Spokane.

Sincerely,

Andrew Chanse
Executive Director
Spokane Public Library
INCREASE OF CARDS IN XX HOUSEHOLDS
This year the **Friends of the Library** expanded their financial assistance to the Library and provided much needed funds to launch some exciting new programs.

Their contribution launched our first ever, “Books for Babies” program. Every child born in the City of Spokane receives a new book and their very own library card.

More than 1,000 kits have been provided to all local hospitals and the Spokane Midwives. The community support of the project has been overwhelming.

In an interview with *The Spokesman-Review*, Spokane Public Library Learning and Literacy Coordinator Sally Chilson said, “Reading to babies from the first day is so important. Many parents don’t realize that early literacy can and should start at Day One.”

In addition to this landmark program, Friends of the Spokane Public Library continued to support the purchase of books for our youth and teen Summer Reading participants as well as the funding for our annual fall ‘Spokane is Reading’ event, which this year featured author Wiley Cash.
INTRODUCING THE COMMUNITY LENS
BUILD A BETTER WORLD SUMMER READING

Summer reading was presented online for the second year in a row. Summer reading programming ranging from medical to Solar Eclipse programming resulted in record-setting program attendance.

7,738 people signed up for summer reading

3,686 people read for at least 15 hours

1,868,573 minutes read

3.56 years of reading

23,000+ attendees at summer programs
As the Spokane Public Library actively works to reimagine 21st Century library needs through extensive cardholder analysis, it came to our attention that our service to the West Central Community is lacking. Currently, we serve less than 25% of households for all income levels in the area immediately surrounding WCCC. This is the only community center in the city of Spokane without a library on its campus.

After brainstorming and examination of potential emerging new library services, we identified the 24/7 Library as the answer. With this innovative kiosk all citizens can have free and open access to a wide range of materials specifically selected to meet the needs of the community. Library staff will supply the 24/7 Library with a wide range books and DVD’s for checkout.

At the 24/7 Library citizens can access:

- Books, DVDs, return items, and pick up holds
- Specialized collections to neighborhood needs
- Wi-Fi
- Pay Fines and Fees
- Personal accounts
- Hold requests
- Delivering service to an underserved community

The 24/7 Library will be full service by April 2018.

The 24/7 Library is made possible by generous funding and partnership from:

- Numerica Credit Union
- Walmart Foundation
- STCU
- Spokane Neighborhood Council
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