

## Staff & Volunteers

The Library staff, led by Library Director Lynn Burkholder, includes 3 full-time and 16 part-time workers. There were 146 volunteers who donated 2,944 hours of service in the Library. Many other volunteers contributed their time for fundraising activities. In recognition of this service, the Library Board hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Ice Cream Social in August.

## Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Lower Providence Community Library support the Library through volunteer work and fundraising efforts. In 2018 they assisted with the Annual Wine Tasting and sponsored other fundraising activities, including an ongoing used book sale, supermarket receipt refund programs, raffles and the Wine Tasting basket raffle. The Friends donated \$18,000 to the Library in 2018, which was used to fund children's and teen programs and the museum pass collection, purchase new library materials, including e-book content for library Kindles.

**The Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** is the junior division of the Friends. Members take an active part in supporting the Library by helping with Library fundraising events, children's programs and activities, the LPT Easter Egg Hunt and Fall Festival, and decorating the Library for the holidays.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018



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[LowerProvidenceLibrary.org](http://LowerProvidenceLibrary.org)

## Mission

The Lower Providence Community Library provides the highest quality library services to its patrons of all ages. The materials, resources, services and facility meet community needs for education, recreation, technology, and cultural enrichment.

## Vision

Lower Providence Community Library is an essential gathering place; a center of culture, intellect and technology; and a portal for discovery of information and enlightenment for its community.

## 2018 Library Board of Trustees

The Library is governed by a 7-member volunteer Board of Trustees appointed by the Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors.

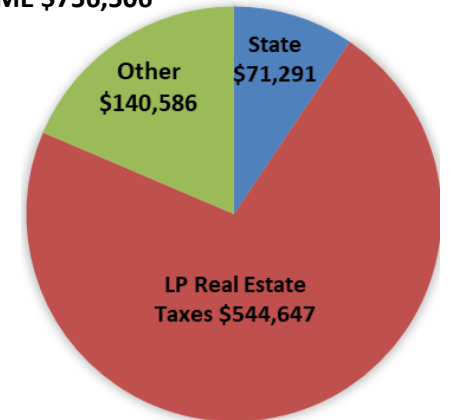
Nancy Klein, President  
Lucy Arnold, Vice-President  
Arthur Miller, Secretary  
Ben Simkin, Treasurer  
Lisa Bono  
Earl Catagnus, Jr. PhD  
David Nawrocki, PhD  
  
Library Executive Director  
Lynn Burkholder

## Funding

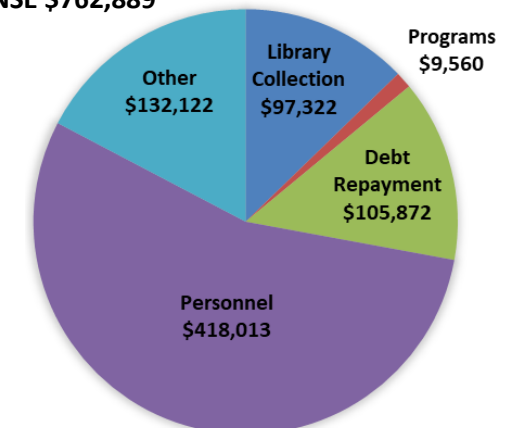
The Library is partially funded by allocations from the state and from Lower Providence Township real estate taxes. The remaining funds for the operating budget are raised by the Library through fundraising events, donations, grants, interest, fines, and fees. The Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

In 2018 the Library spent \$29.74 per capita for each Lower Providence Township resident, \$21.41 (72%) of which came from local tax dollars.

### INCOME \$756,506



### EXPENSE \$762,889



## Highlights of 2018

The Library received 185,111 visitors in 2018 and loaned 230,533 items. The Library was open for

The teen area received a facelift this year with the addition of new furnishings. Two easy chairs, a table, a café height computer table with outlets and charging ports, and three café height stools replaced the existing furniture and serve to set the area apart. Three free-standing charging stations were placed around the library in the teen area, the café, and the adult area.

The Museum Pass collection was expanded to include family passes for the new Museum of the American Revolution and the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove, for a total of 12 area sites. Passes were checked out 1,502 times.

The \$1.00 fee to checkout DVDs was dropped in 2018. Since the elimination of the fee, DVD checkouts have increased by 72%. Free and equal access to all library materials is available to everyone.

A community-wide survey was distributed

in the fall to assess the needs and preferences for library services and use of space as part of the strategic planning for the future process.

## Children's & Teen Programs and Events

The Children's & Teen Department, under the leadership of Sandrah Moles, hosted 449 programs attended by 9,951 children, teens, and adults.

- Story Time—held 4 days a week, 2 sessions each day
- What's the BIG Idea?—one 10-week session of this STEM based early literacy program
- Summer Quest—529 children and teens registered for the Summer Reading Program
- Science in the Summer—4-day science workshop sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline with 60 children participating
- Pennsylvania One Book, Every Young Child—annual parent/child interactive early literacy event
- TAB (Teen Advisory Board)—met monthly to plan programs, help with library events and have fun

Many other programs and special events

were held throughout the year including author visits, crafts, Legos Club, preschool Halloween party, and a variety of STEM programs. Families enjoyed programs by magicians, storytellers, musicians, and theater groups. Firefighters from Lower Providence Fire Company brought a fire engine to the library and spoke to kids about fire safety. The Library participated in the Longwood Gardens "Community Reads" program.

The Library worked cooperatively with Methacton schools by participating in Back-to-School night events in the schools and their summer library program. Library tours were provided for preschool groups and library space was made available for homeschool group activities.

The Library participated in the Lower Providence Township Easter Egg Hunt with help from the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) and in the Lower Providence Fall Festival. Children in the township summer camp programs also participated in library summer programs.

## Adult Programs & Events

The Adult Department, under the direction of Barbara Loewengart, offered 594 programs with an attendance of 6,070. Weekly programs included Mahjong Club, Crafters

Club, Canasta, Cercle Francais, yoga, chair yoga, and meditation. Other programs included:

- Monthly book discussion groups
- Computer and technology classes
- Summer Quest Reading Program
- Movie showings
- Programs on various topics including gardening, art, crafts, finances, food, Medicare, Social Security, musical performances, writing, well-being and more.
- Volunteer Fair with 13 community organizations participating

The two major fundraising events for the year were the 18th Annual Wine Tasting held in March and Las Vegas Night in November.

## Library Resources

The Library collection totals 54,355 physical items; 428,389 e-books, 365,635 downloadable audiobooks and music, 41,193 downloadable and streaming videos, and 100 digital magazines titles. Library patrons had access to 34 electronic resources, 10 public desktop computers, 9 laptops, an early literacy computer and tablet, 4 iPads, and a wireless internet access point.