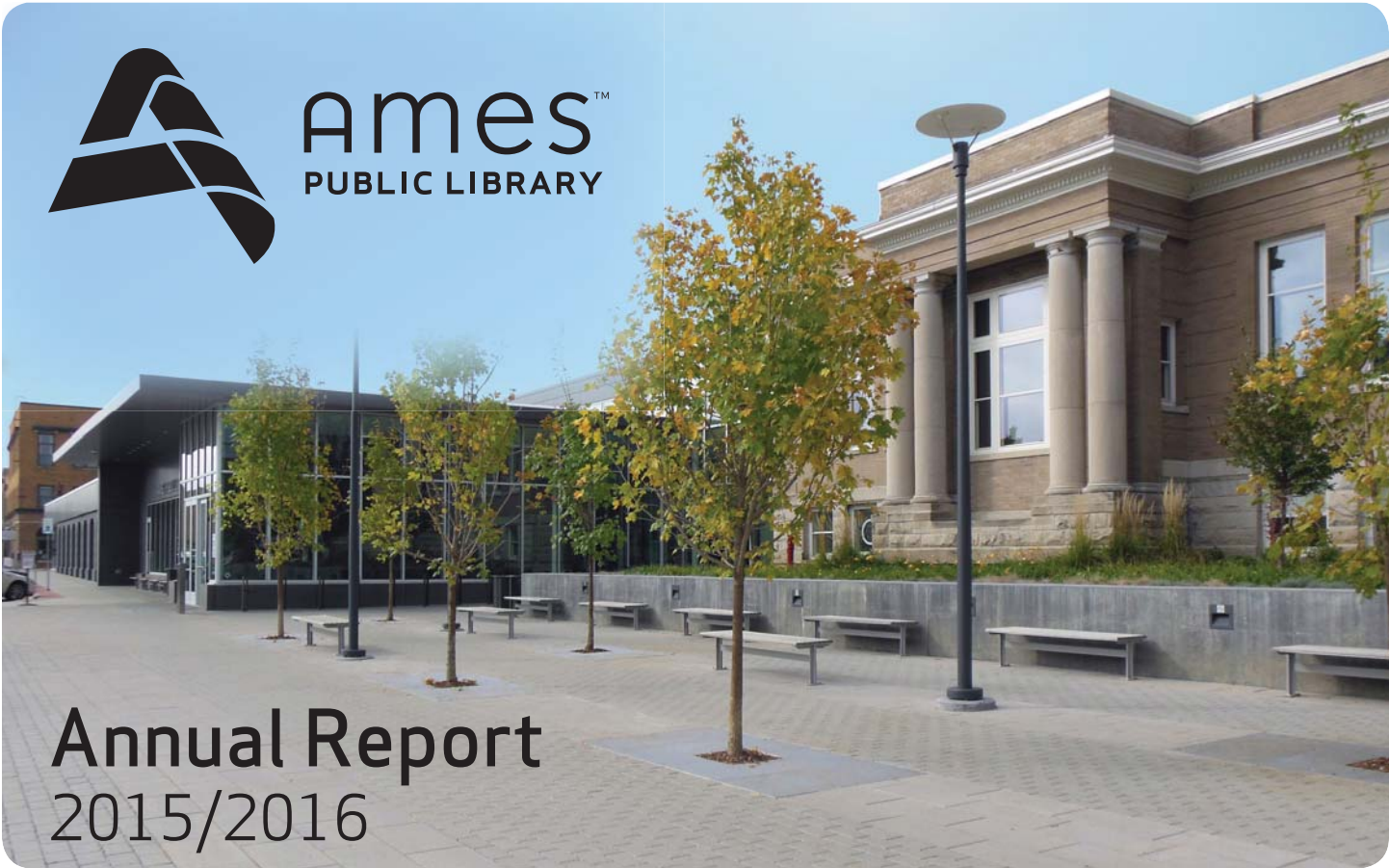
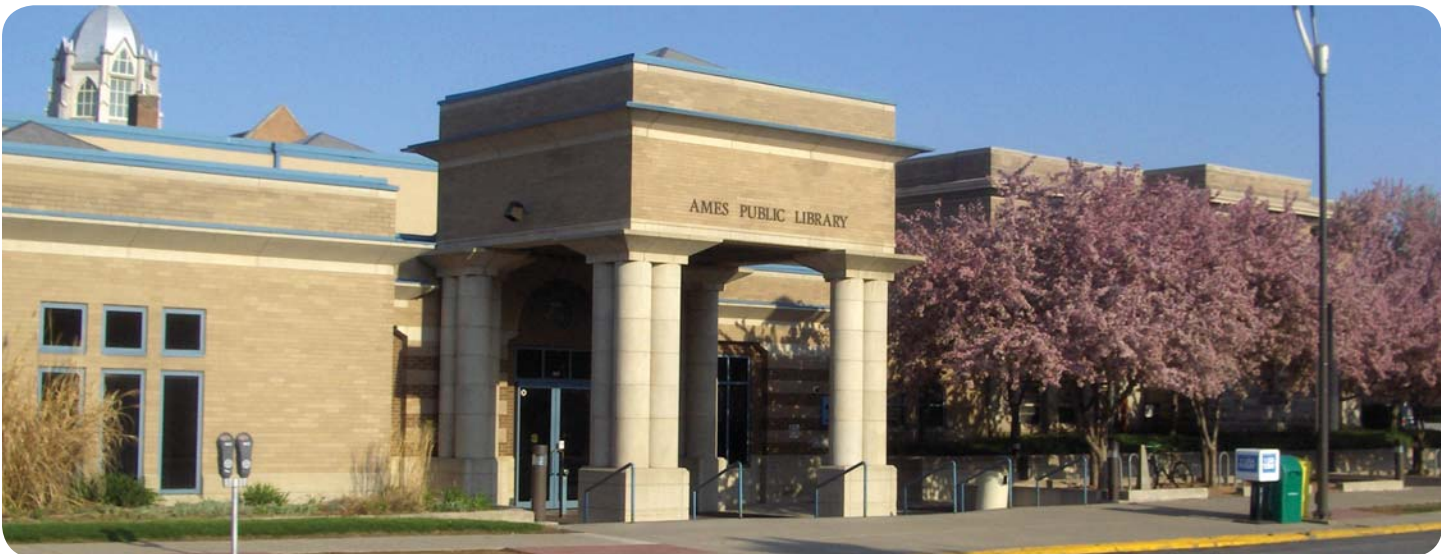




Ames<sup>TM</sup>  
PUBLIC LIBRARY



# Annual Report 2015/2016



# Just the Facts

## 2015/2016 by the Numbers

Over **1.3 million** items were **checked out last year.**  
(That's the equivalent of each and every Ames resident checking out 22 items!)

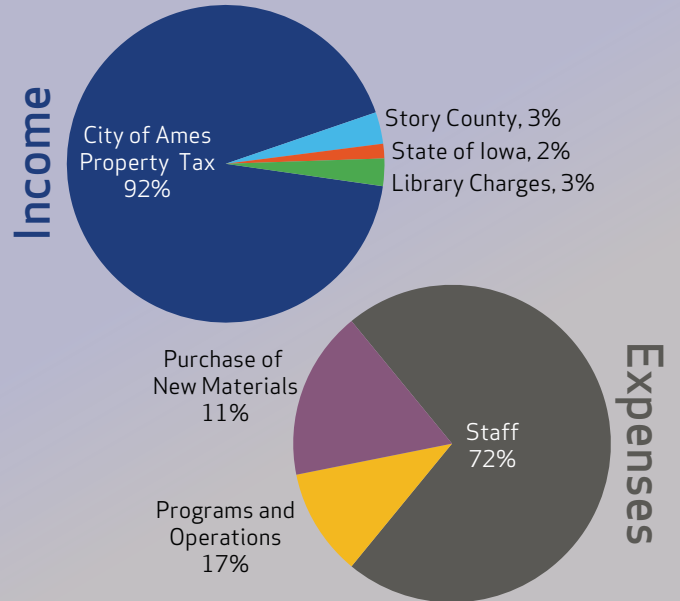


An average of **1,390 people** **visited per day.**



About **380 people** **signed up** for a Library card **each month.**

## Operating Budget: \$3,972,868



## Grants & Donations: \$152,313

in grants and donations supported Ames Public Library Friends Foundation projects, including enhancing the collections, Project Smyles, a presentation by award-winning author Matt de la Peña, book clubs, special events, and more.

*Special thanks to the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation, the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust, and the Kinney-Lindstrom Foundation.*

## Most Popular from the Media Box

### Video Games

1. *Destiny* (PS3)
2. *Donkey Kong Country Returns* (Wii)
3. *Super Mario Galaxy 2* (Wii)
4. *LEGO Marvel Super Heroes* (XBox 360)
5. *The Amazing Spider-Man 2* (XBox 360)

### Blu-ray Discs

1. *Guardians of the Galaxy*
2. *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*
3. *Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace*
4. *Big Hero 6*
5. *X-Men: Days of Future Past, The Rogue Cut*





# Planning for the Future

Since Ames Public Library reopened in the expanded and renovated building, members of staff have been refocusing on the future of Library services. Community input, expert analysis, and staff brainstorming led to establishing these new strategic priorities:

## Uniquely serving the Ames community as a



**Center for  
Information  
Access**



**Hub of  
Community  
Connections**



**Heart of  
Discovery and  
Creativity**



**Place for Literacy  
and Lifelong  
Learning**

As part of the planning process, the Library conducted a survey of the community. Here are just a few of the wonderful things respondents had to say:

*"[Ames Public Library] gives me a sense of community and has been a constant source of solace and peace in my ever-shifting 15 years in Ames."*

*"I have been very happy with the interlibrary loan system and being able to pick up and return items to a neighborhood bookmobile stop."*

*"I was impressed with the collection of movies, the abundance of children's literature, and the beauty of the renovations."*

To see Ames Public Library's complete 2016-2018 Strategic Plan, visit [www.amespubliclibrary.org](http://www.amespubliclibrary.org).

# A Place for Literacy & Lifelong Learning

Library staff and volunteers made **755 deliveries** of books to 65 homebound citizens and 14 centers through **Home Delivery**.

The Library's **meeting and study rooms** were used for 9,188 programs, meetings, tutoring sessions, and more. That's over **25 uses per day!**

**83 young people** grades 6-12 spent the summer helping out at the Library contributing 2,040 hours through the **APL-Youth Volunteer Program**.

The Library helped combat childhood hunger by serving **477 meals** in 2015 as part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's **Summer Meals for Kids & Teens** program.

**Books for Babies** provided a board book and information packet to the family of each baby born at Mary Greeley Medical Center.



**8,723 people** attended the Library's **421 programs for adults**.

**1,971 teens** attended **100 Library events** designed for 6th-12th graders.

**26,630 people** attended **771** storytimes and **programs for children and families**.

**2,257 children, 318 teens, and 409 adults** participated in the 2015 **Summer Reading Program**.

**Project Smyles** took books and storytimes to children to over 1,400 children in daycares and preschools every month through **972 visits and 44 Library tours**.

**Small Talk Story County** helped **26 families** create an enriching language environment for their babies by providing information, personalized training, and a "talk pedometer" for parents to measure their progress.

# A Hub of Community Connections

**The Bookmobile** celebrated 50 years of service in 2015! The current Bookmobile is the 4th vehicle to provide mobile branch service throughout the community.

Ames Public Library's Bookmobile makes several weekly stops throughout Ames. In 2015/2016, **9,332 customers** visited a **neighborhood stop!**

The Bookmobile also visited a variety of **community events**, such as Farmers' Markets and the annual EcoFair, welcoming **1,945 people** aboard.



## Community Partners

Partnerships with community organizations and City departments helped Library staff create a rich and diverse lineup of events for the community, from Step Into Storybooks to local history lectures to job-finding workshops.

Iowa State University students, faculty, and classes worked with the Library to share knowledge and skills through programs, class projects, and internships.

## Creating Connections

Library staff strive to create an environment that encourages people to connect to one another. Programs such as Conversations brought community members together to speak their native language or practice a new one, while participants in parenting groups shared experiences and advice.



# A Center for Information Access

Ames Public Library offers technology and digital resources for many purposes, including bridging the digital divide, helping individuals of all ages gain skills needed in our digital world, and connecting our community with the many resources available online.

**Computers** for the public were used over **128 times per day** in 2015/2016.

The Library's **10 iPads** were checked out an average of **188 times per month**.

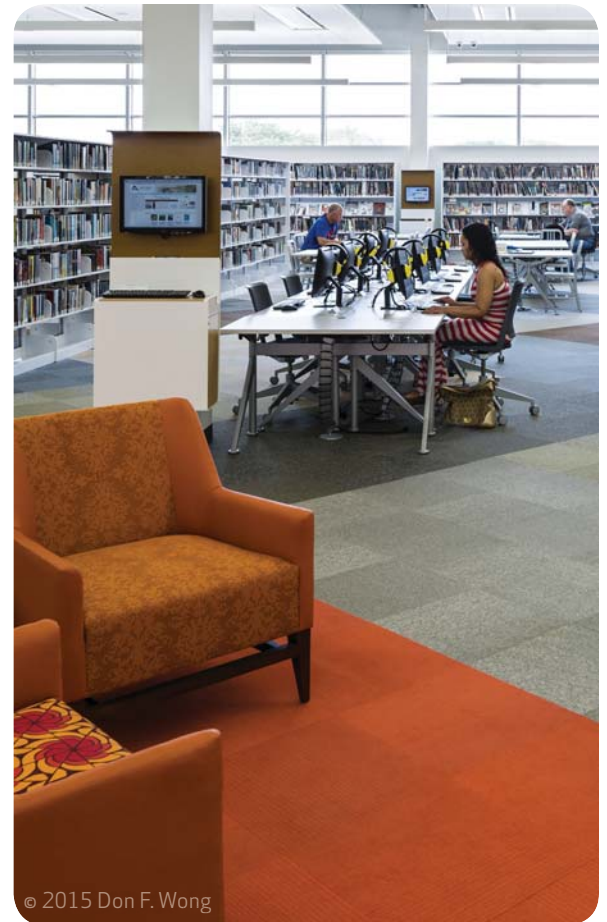
The **4 early literacy computers** were used over **4,750 times each** last year.

Ames Public Library offered card holders free access to **36 subscription online resources**, which were used a total of **103,878 times** in 2015/2016.

- EBSCO Host was used 22,209 times.
- ValueLine was used 18,967 times.
- Ancestry was used 15,567 times.

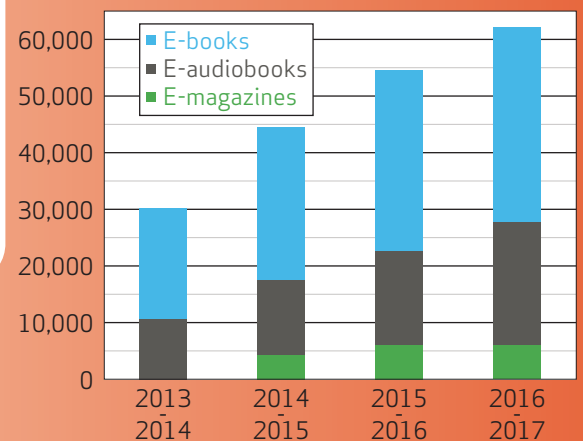
Library staff and community partners shared their technology expertise through computer classes, iPhone & iPad Training, Tech Talk, Workforce Readiness Training, Coding for Kids, and more.

Use of Ames Public Library's downloadable e-books, e-audiobooks, and e-magazines continued to increase steadily.



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## E-Materials Checkouts





# A Heart of Discovery & Creativity



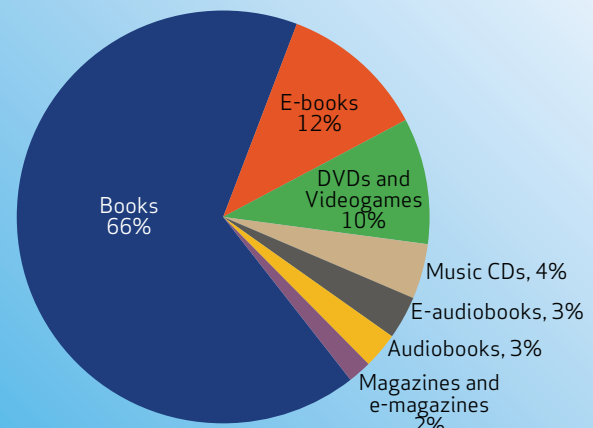
Libraries offer opportunities to discover a new favorite book, explore a hobby, and experience arts and culture—without an admission fee.

In 2015/2016, Ames Public Library offered over **300,000 items**, from bestselling e-books to children's puzzles to GRE study guides.



The children's area of the Library is packed with exciting ways for young people to discover their world and get creative. Options range from puppets and musical instruments to educational computer games, Legos, and the new Keva planks.

## Material Formats



Local and regional artists shared their creativity with the Ames community through concerts, author events, workshops, and artwork displayed within the Library—and on the Bookmobile!

Library users explored their own creativity at a variety of Library programs and events, including CRAFTERday, Coloring Book Club, Inkspots, Poetry Jam, and more.

# Thank you!

Ames Public Library staff and board members have a vision to connect with, inspire, and bring together the Ames community while promoting literacy.

This goal could not be accomplished without the boundless energy and support of the Library's volunteers, donors, community partners, and City of Ames employees.

Community members who are passionate about educating, entertaining, and making connections with others aid the staff in turning a beautiful building into a true place for enrichment—filled with opportunities to learn, grow, discover, and connect.

*Thank you for your support!*

**506 volunteers**  
contributed **15,268 hours**  
of assistance in 2015/2016.

That's an average of over  
**43 hours each day** the  
Library was open!

**125 people** volunteered at  
least **once every week!**

## Leadership

**Library Director:**  
Lynne Carey

**Library Managers:**  
Tracy Briseño  
Valerie Donnell  
Alissa Dornink Hawes  
Jerri Heid  
Mary Logsdon

**Library Trustees:**  
Jane Acker  
Sarah Barchman  
Sherry Bradley  
Kyle Briese  
Mavis Butler  
Al Campbell  
Charles Glatz  
John Linch  
Shazia Manus  
Joanne Marshall  
Wayne Rohret  
Kevin Stow

**Ames Public Library  
Friends Foundation Board:**

Jane Acker  
Andrea Anselman  
Mavis Butler  
Stevin Dahl  
Jennifer Garst  
Karen Hallberg  
Marcia Imsande  
Mary Jane Johnson  
Amy Juhnke  
Roger Kluesner  
Jere Maddux  
Jean Meek  
Monica Porter  
Molly Redenbaugh  
Jon Sargent  
Kevin Stow  
Steve Sullivan



Ames Public Library's Teen Advisory Group and the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation created a hugely successful 5K fun run fundraiser in September 2015. The creativity and teamwork of the zombie-themed event was even featured in VOYA magazine!