

## AGORA OF OUR COMMUNITY

Our library is a living space where people come together to experience the world of ideas not only through books but also through program presentations and group discussions. The ancient Greeks called such a community place an agora.

This year, Ames Public Library developed a strategic plan to direct our agora through 2010. Using input from community leaders, we identified 15 goals for our library, including:

- Library customers will have age-appropriate advisory services, resources, and programming to direct them to leisure materials in various formats of interest to them.
- Library customers will have the collections, services, and programs they need to satisfy their curiosity and continue to learn throughout their lives.
- Library customers will have safe, comfortable, and welcoming physical spaces in which to enjoy individual pursuits, express themselves, and interact with others.
- Children through age six and their caregivers will have collections, programs, services, and spaces designed to ensure that children will enter school ready to read, write, and listen.
- School age children, teens, and their caregivers, will have collections, programs, services, and spaces designed to encourage reading, library use, and creativity.

The entire strategic plan, including all 15 goals and the activities in which we will engage to fulfill these goals, is available at Ames Public Library's Information Desk.

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Art Weeks, Director  
Lynne Carey, Assistant Director

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AMES PUBLIC LIBRARY  
515 DOUGLAS AVE. AMES, IA 50010-6215

[www.amespubliclibrary.org](http://www.amespubliclibrary.org)



# HIGHLIGHTS



## New Library Director

Art Weeks joined the Ames Public Library team as Library Director August 7, 2006.

## Summer Reading Program for All Ages

This year's summer reading program broke the age barrier, including programs for adults and teens as well as children. Over 50 adults joined in to "Get Wild & Read!"

## New Website Launched

Ames Public Library launched its new website, featuring easy access to research and readers advisory tools, a searchable event calendar, and RSS feeds.



## Wi-Fi at the Library

Patrons now have another way to connect to the world of ideas with the option of wireless internet access in the library.



## The Big Read

The Ames community joined The Big Read this year with a month of events centered on Willa Cather's *My Antonia*.

## Fall for Ames Concert Series

The Ames Convention & Visitors Bureau awarded Ames Public Library and Ames Parks & Recreation with a grant to fund the Fall for Ames 2007 concert series.

## Record-Breaking Circulation

The number of items checked out at Ames Public Library continued to climb, hitting another all-time high this year!

# BY THE NUMBERS

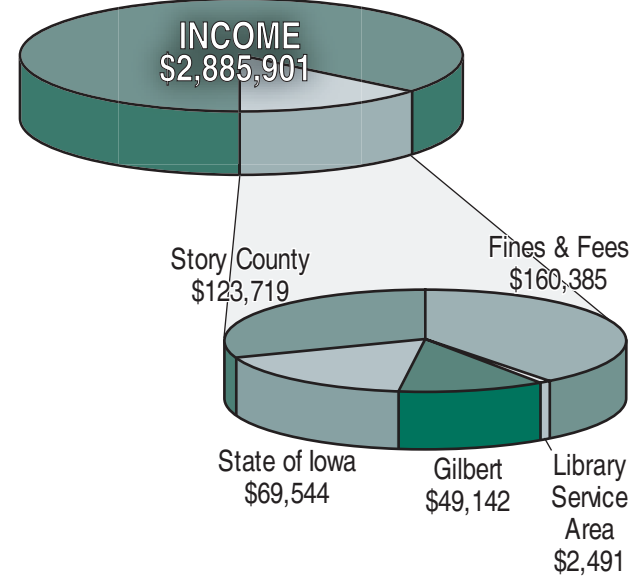
<b>Population Served.....</b>	<b>61,539</b>	
Ames.....	50,731	
Gilbert (by contract).....	987	
Rural Story County (by contract).....	9,821	

## Usage Statistics      2005/2006    2006/2007

<b>Total Circulation</b>	<b>1,311,122</b>	<b>1,361,888</b>
Books/Magazines	725,014	742,304
Videos, CDs, Audiobooks, etc.	586,108	619,584
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>202,746</b>	<b>204,977</b>
Average Loans per Volume	6.5	6.6
Items Added to Collection	23,052	24,805
Items Withdrawn from Collection	13,459	22,574
<b>Borrowers</b>	<b>27,176</b>	<b>26,405</b>
Ames Registered Borrowers	19,536	18,808
Circulation per Ames Borrower	53.3	57.4
Circulation per Capita for Ames	25.8	26.1
% of Ames Population	38.5	36.0
<b>Visitors</b>	<b>476,517</b>	<b>459,000</b>
<b>Programs</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>1,868</b>
<b>Total Attendance</b>	<b>33,253</b>	<b>41,260</b>
Youth/Family Programs	1,008	1,502
Attendance	22,068	29,148
Young Adult Programs	49	52
Attendance	709	1,230
Adult Programs	222	314
Attendance	10,476	10,882
<b>Meetings</b>	<b>1,383</b>	<b>2,201</b>
Attendance	24,528	41,778
<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>525</b>
Hours Contributed	14,752	13,681
FTE (Full-Time Equivalent)	7.1	6.6
<b>Interlibrary Loans</b>		
Borrowed for APL Users	905	790
Loaned to Other Libraries	3,465	3,773
<b>Reference Questions</b>	<b>48,048</b>	<b>52,780</b>
<b>Electronic Resource Use</b>	<b>69,985</b>	<b>77,110</b>
<b>Computer Use</b>		
Number of Customers	51,918	56,040
Hours of Use	36,900	35,491

# DOLLARS & CENTS

## City of Ames Property Tax \$2,480,620 (86%)



## Wages & Benefits \$2,101,009 (73%)

