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Canton Public Library Fact Sheet

Library Governance

Library's mission statement

The Canton Public Library connects your community.

Core Values

Relevance: We will adapt and grow as our community's needs change, providing flexible, customizable and evolving collections and services.

Access: We support the pursuit of individual and community goals by ensuring the open exchange of diverse materials and ideas.

Integrity: We are respectful of all people at all times and serve our community with excellence.

Leadership: We will lead with enthusiasm and respond to challenges with creativity and professionalism

Library Board of Trustees

The Library Board is a six-member governing board elected every four years on a nonpartisan ballot. The board sets the policies of the library but does not manage the library.

Who is on the Board of Trustees?

Chairperson: Colleen Van Auken
Vice Chairperson: Michael Siegrist
Secretary-Treasurer: Don Turner
Jim Fausone
Kimberly Schulz
George Snow

When and where does the library board meet?

The board meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the library conference room. The public is welcome to attend.

Who manages the library?

The Library Director, Eva M. Davis, is in charge.

Funding

Where does the library get its revenue?

Canton residents are assessed a 1.5437 mill property tax to support the library. By vote of the board, the library collects 1.4980 mills. There is additional revenue from various other sources e.g. state aid, penal fines (fines collected for state infractions are distributed to public libraries), donations and copy revenues and overdue fines.

What is the Endowment Fund?

To ensure the library's long-term financial stability, an endowment fund has been established with a goal of \$1,000,000. The principal of the fund remains intact while the interest generated helps to pay for library services and programs. Contributions are tax deductible. As of December 2009, the fund balance was \$246,001.57.

What is the nonresident fee?

Families who are not Canton residents but wish to have full access to services and materials of the Canton Public Library are able to purchase a membership for \$170 per family, the current millage assessment.

Number of employees

110+; all but 17 are part-time

Connection to Canton Township

The library is completely independent from Canton Township. However, the township levies the library tax and collects it. Since the library can't borrow money, the township sold the bonds and the library pays the debt through the township.

Circulation/Collection

How large is the collection?

277,354 unique titles and 304,147 total materials.

How busy is the library?

The library circulated 2,015,317 items in 2009 and averaged nearly 1900 visitors per day.

The library issued an average of 740 new library cards per month in 2009. Currently, we have over 86,000 library card holders. We are the busiest single-branch library in Michigan.

Special Collections

International Language Collection

The library features an extensive International Language collection containing more than 3,000 adult titles in 21 languages. The collection includes books, newspapers, magazines and videos. It is one of the largest collections locally, reflecting our diverse patron base.

Michigan History Collection

A special collection of Michigan history and resources is maintained in the library and as a Subject Page on the Internet Branch.

How does a patron file a complaint about a book, video, or some other library material?

Request a copy of "Citizen's Request for Reconsideration of Material" from either the Adult or Children's Reference Desk.

Building/Grounds

A brief history

October 20, 1980 - the doors opened on the third floor of the Township Hall in 12,000 square feet of space. In 1986 voters supported a second mill to construct and operate a new 31,000 square foot facility on 7.5 acres just south of the Township Hall. That facility opened in 1988.

In April 2001, the library expanded and renovated to its current size of 53,000 square feet. The library also added an Internet Branch on the World Wide Web at www.cantonpl.org. The Internet Branch allows users to access many library resources at any time and from anywhere.

The Library Café opened December 2004. It serves hot and cold drinks, sandwiches, soups, salads and snacks. It is currently operated as Jungle Java Express.

The library has 53,000 square feet of space

Separate areas in the library allow for specialized use. Currently those spaces include: Children's, Tween Scene, Teen Space, Quiet Study, Internet Lab and Copy Center.

Computers & Technology

How many computers does the library have?

The library has more than 116 computers for public use.

Are there access restrictions on library computers?

Public space library computers are filtered as required by federal laws.

The Internet Lab is restricted to users 18 years and older and provides unfiltered Internet access.

Can I get Internet access from my laptop?

Free wi-fi is available throughout the building. Additionally, Internet and power portals are available throughout the library.

What other tech services can I find?

The Copy Center has color printers/copiers, black and white printers/copiers, two flatbed scanners, a slide scanner, a change machine, fax machine and typewriter.



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