

Annual Report 2019

Friends of the Swarthmore Public Library

The Friends of the SwPL are integral to our ability to provide great services and programs to the community. Each year the hard work of the members of the Friends group in organizing book and bake sales and fundraising appeals helps the Library meet its goals. In 2019 alone the Friends has provided nearly 20% of our budget, in addition to sponsoring awesome services, such as the Museum and Parks Pass Program.



The Friends' Board (from left to right)

Betty Dowling, Vice President
Carol Kennedy, President
Anne Papa, Treasurer
Virginia Williams Joyce, Secretary



FOSwPL Book & Bake Sale

Library Volunteers

Our volunteers have spent 3,278 hours helping the Library provide excellent service to our patrons. We cannot do what we do without you. Thank you!

Jeannine Anckaitis

Marnie Berkowitz

Nancy Carroll

Sam Charney

Patti Clymer

Louise Coffin

Lois DeLapp

Betty Dowling

Sue Dyson

Beth Fitzsimons

Meredith Flower

Sally Fullam

Kate Francis

Kathy Gerner

Moira Hahn

Virginia Williams Joyce

Carol Kennedy

Alison Manaker

Bob Mayer

Maria Mooney

Eve Mountford

Mimi Nenno

Anne Papa

Dorothy Philipson

Bern Rehberg

Sarah Rehberg

Carol Savery

Diane Scott

Jenny Shulbank

Beth Soch

Marty Spiegel

Helene Van Hoeven

Sally Wadleigh

Betty Wallace

James Banko, President of the Swarthmore Public Library Board of Trustees



Two thousand nineteen was the ninetieth year of the Swarthmore Public Library's existence. To celebrate, last May we held something of a birthday party in the amphitheater adjacent to the library with children's stories read out loud, speeches delivered, dances for kids organized, and the setting up of an "escape the room" game. Also in 2019, the library debuted a new logo and increased the library's "Aging in Place" program by providing additional services for older adults and related training to the staff and volunteers of the library.

The library provides great services to so much of the Swarthmore community where 66% of the population is registered with a library card (excluding the college student population). Now in 2020, the Library has two needs. First, the library desperately needs to expand its physical premises. Second, within the next few years, the library's annual expenditures will exceed the library's present operating income. Thus, funding continues to be a major concern for the library.

The library Board will continue in its efforts to ensure the Library continues its tradition of excellence in the community. Fundraising is becoming an ever more important part of that goal, as well as ensuring the library reaches its 100th birthday at the end of this decade.

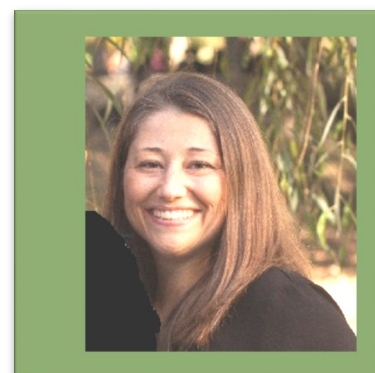
Amber Osborne, Library Director

It is hard for me to pinpoint my favorite part about our library. It could be the collection—I love walking down the aisles in search of something to occupy my mind. Will it be poetry, history, mystery, biography, or something entirely different? Unbelievably, there are over 56,000 titles in our collection and I always seem to find the perfect thing!

My favorite thing could be our many events and program offerings. We have art, language, music, lectures, movies, flower arranging, stories, and more happening all the time. In 2019, we shared these events with nearly 12,000 people and loved every minute.

Maybe my favorite things are all the extras we offer—eReaders, ancestry, magazines, Museum & Park Passes, newspapers, the Storybook Walk, Hoopla, movies, music, Book It! 5k run/walk—there are so many it's exhausting just making this list!

All those things are great and make our library one of the busiest in Delaware County, but what I really love about our library are the people. Each one of you who walks through our doors to work your shift, borrow a book, attend a program, volunteer your time, ask a question, or take advantage of all the extras breathes life into our library. You are the reason the library is here and I appreciate your help in making us the bustling heart of the town.

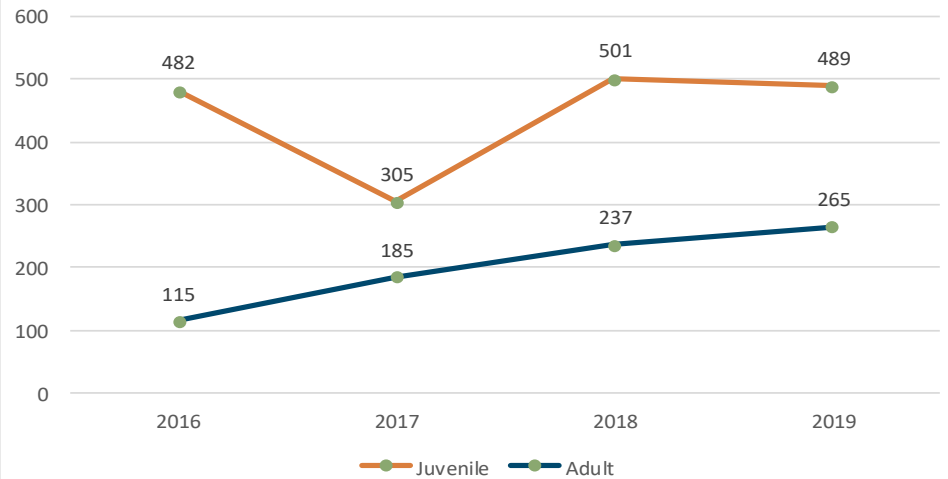


Programs & Events

For children & families

- 489 programs attended by 9,407 people
- Highlights include Day of Service Project, Community Art Project, Mask Making at the Farmer's Market, One Book One Swarthmore Story Time, and Outreach Visits to Cades.
- 150 Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math (STEAM) programs

Number of Programs

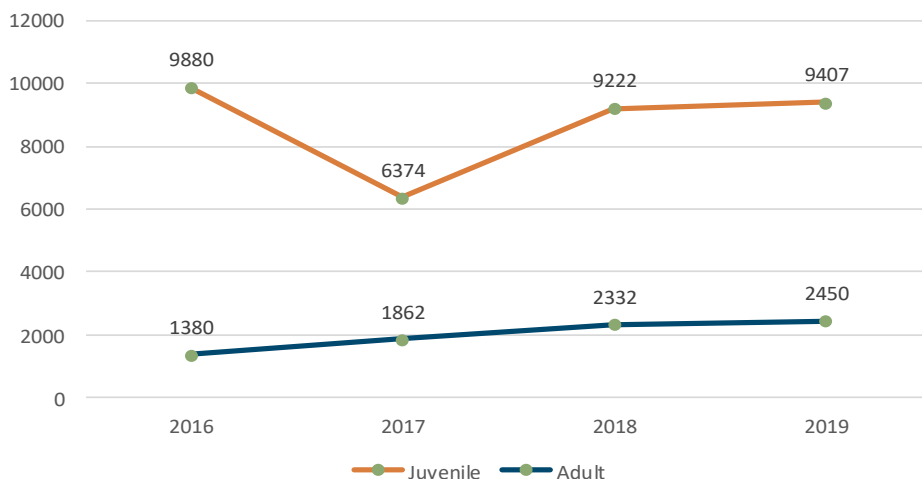


Flower Arranging Workshop



ScienceTellers,
Wonderful Wednesday Performance

Program Attendance



For adults

- 265 programs attended by 2,450 people
- Highlights include Flower Arranging Workshop, Anna Crusis Choir, Chinese New Year, Spring Yoga, Video Lecture Series, and Tai Chi Chih.
- 52 Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Math (STEAM) programs

Circulation

Total Circulation: 104,704

Adult: 32,490

Periodicals: 2,121

Audiobooks: 2,878

Music: 2,319

Video: 7,050

Museum & Parks Passes: 774

eReaders: 201

Picture Books: 18,444

Juvenile: 22,074

Young Adult: 3,765

eBooks (Overdrive): 10,180

Streaming (Hoopla): 2,408

Inter Library Loan (not counted in total circulation)

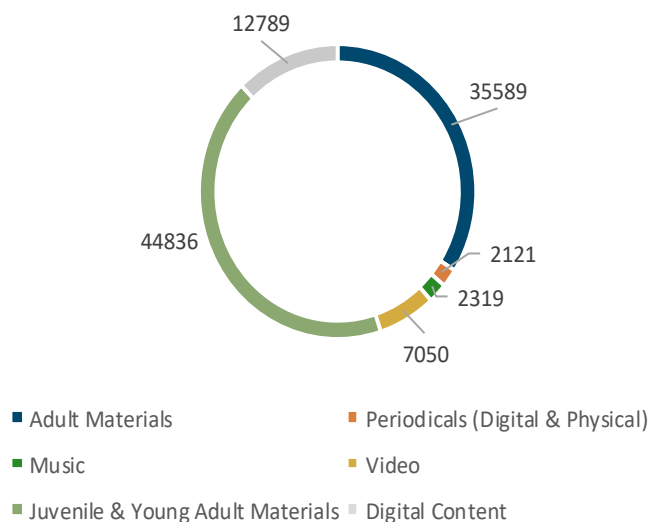
In County Materials Sent: 8,378

In County Materials Received: 11,698

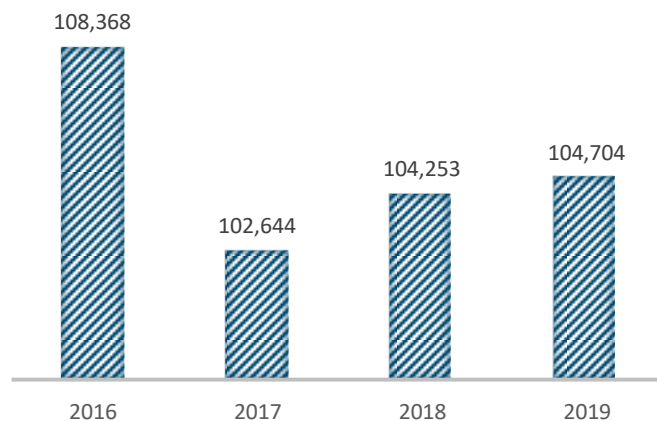
Out of County Materials Sent: 115

Out of County Materials Received: 133

CIRCULATION BY FORMAT



TOTAL CIRCULATION



Membership, Computer Use, & Collection

Registered patrons: 3,024

66% of Swarthmore's population (excluding Swarthmore College)

Computer Usage: 5,700 hours (does not include untracked Wi-Fi usage)

Total Collection: 56,092

Volumes added: 2,515

Volumes withdrawn: 2,362

New and Improved SwPL Logo

As part of our 90th anniversary celebration, we unveiled a new logo for our library. We were lucky enough to work with local graphic designer, Amy Pollack, owner of Twist'n'Shout on the new design. After some in depth discussions about the library, its mission, programs, and services, Amy came up with the concept of the library as a bustling hub of the community. This hub, visualized in the logo through the circular shapes, then connects to the Swarthmore community through the 4 colorful leaves. The leaves also connect back to our mission of empowering our community to Read, Meet, Discover, and Grow. The circle of books adds to the depth of the image and acknowledges the discovery and informational aspect of our work. We're so pleased with our lively, colorful logo!



Swarthmore Public Library

Staff and Volunteer Development



Staff AED/CPR Training

On March 7, thirty staff and volunteers participated in training sessions featuring speakers from Crozer-Keystone Hospital discussing service for patrons with dementia and/or Alzheimer's, training on customer service including our Service Philosophy, and certification for staff on AED/CPR. The cost for the training was covered by a grant for Aging in Place services from Swarthmore Borough.



Staff/Volunteer Development

Day of Service Project

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, the Library partnered with the MOM's Club of the Wallingford-Swarthmore School District for a day of service. The community was invited to donate items and/or volunteer to help us put together breakfast bags for local homebound seniors. We had numerous individuals donate items and 80 children and adults join us on Martin Luther King Jr. Day to organize the bags. By the end of the project, over 200 bags were prepared for delivery.



MLK Day of Service

New Team Member

In May, Kerry Doyle joined the Library team as a Library and Public Relations Assistant. Kerry's previous work as an adjunct college professor has given her broad ability to help people navigate available resources, find new books, and adapt to new technologies. Public relations is an important aspect of getting the word out about all we do but is a large job for a small staff. Kerry has significantly helped our little library to focus and increase our publicity efforts. Welcome, Kerry!



Kerry Doyle

One Book, One Swarthmore

One Book, One Swarthmore (OBOS) was an inaugural community-wide reading program where we endeavored to bring together our community to have thoughtful discussion around important issues through the reading, discussion, and celebration of a common book. Modeled after *One Book, One Philadelphia*, the idea for *OBOS* was brought to us by community leader, Satya Nelms. We began with a community wide vote on the featured book for each age group; each book was within the 2019 theme, "I, Too, Am America," taken from the Langston Hughes poem, "I, Too". After the vote, we held an all community potluck to discuss the book choice then followed up with a community art project, poetry workshop, and a fun filled story time. We look forward to more civic dialogue and comradery as we make *OBOS* a tradition for our library.



Satya Nelms with the OBOS community collage

Aging in Place Initiatives

Thanks to a grant from Swarthmore Borough for services for older adults, we have been able to continue our work in serving the aging in place population. In 2019, we continued offering our popular Video Lecture Series and Teen Tech Tutor sessions. We also introduced a new series that allows our patrons to create, featuring workshops teaching techniques such as watercolor, marker art, and flower arranging. In May, sixteen participants took the train into Philadelphia to visit the Penn Museum of Anthropology and Archeology where they took a guided tour, and had a catered lunch in the museum.



Collage Workshop



Destination Event, Penn Museum



Stamping Workshop

90th Anniversary

On May 17, 2019, the Library celebrated 90 years of serving the Swarthmore community with books, camaraderie, information, and inspiration. We celebrated with a balloon fundraiser plus a kick-off party with live music and a birthday party featuring special guest readers and performances, costumed characters, Story Time with Judy Schachner, cupcakes, piñata, and an Escape the Room game. Not only did we have a wonderful participant turn out for our events, but we had dozens of volunteers and organizations offer their time, goods, and services in support of our library. We are very grateful to be part of such a vibrant and supportive community!



Fun Fair Table



Story Time with Judy Schachner



Birthday Party



20th Century Ramblers at
Kick-off Party

\$1,955,018
\$315 per Swarthmorean

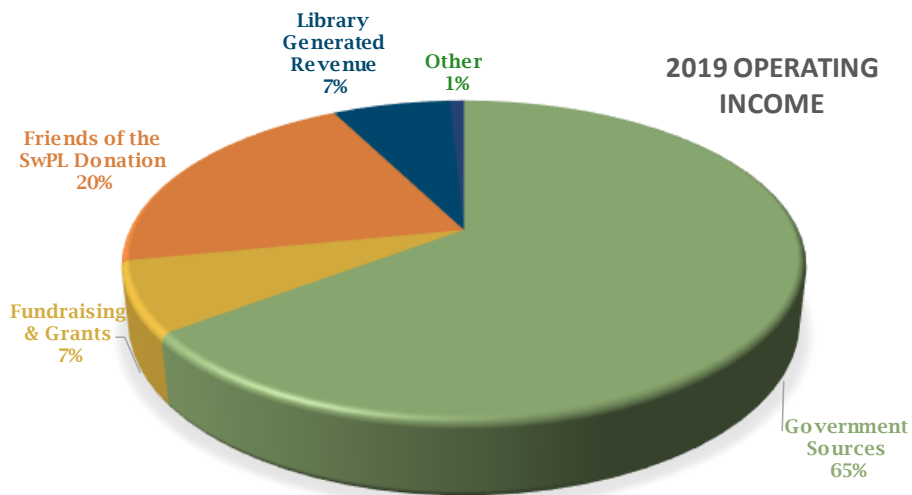
Adult Books Borrowed	\$649,800
Young Adult Books Borrowed	\$ 64,005
Children's Books Borrowed	\$486,216
Audiobooks Borrowed	\$ 59,205
Interlibrary Loan Requests	\$203,832
eBooks Downloaded	\$112,720
Magazines Read	\$ 7,427
Newspapers Read	\$ 3,183
Movies Borrowed	\$ 67,635
CDs Borrowed	\$ 23,074
Music Downloaded	\$ 102
Adult Program Attendance	\$ 36,750
Children's Program Attendance	\$ 65,849
Museum Passes Borrowed	\$ 23,220
Computer Use (excluding wifi)	\$119,700
Reference Assistance	\$ 32,300

American Library Association, Library Value Calculator

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/library-value-calculator>

Operating Income: \$315,263

Government Sources	\$204,099
Fundraising & Grants	\$ 22,663
Friends of the SwPL Donation	\$ 64,741
Library Generated Revenue	\$ 21,261
Other	\$ 2,500

**Operating Expenses: \$311,077**

Salaries & Benefits	\$250,173
Collection & Services	\$ 43,395
General & Administrative	\$ 11,414
Programming	\$ 6,095

