HOW DO YOU USE YOUR LIBRARY?

A library for this century
In November 2014, the AADL received a 5 Star commendation based on the use of the Library for the previous year, as reported to the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The stars reflect the use of the Library in four areas: buildings, computers, circulation, and program attendance.

If the 5 Star ranking were simply about dollars spent, it would be just another story. But it’s not. This is a story about one community’s astonishing use of its public library.

The AADL is the only public library in Michigan to attain 5 Stars, and it has been one of the top five public libraries in the nation within our budget category to rank 5 Stars since the ranking system began in 2009.

Our last two newsletters have been about AADL statistics. For this issue, we asked you about how you use your Library. This story combines your words with the numbers, and tells the larger story about who uses the Library in our community, and why. We love being part of this story.

Our stars are your stars.

Josie

**This is How**

**In the Last Decade:**

**VISITS TO ALL LOCATIONS INCREASED . . . . . . 34%**

**CIRCULATION TRANSACTIONS INCREASED . . . . . . 251%**

**PROGRAM ATTENDANCE INCREASED . . . . . . 84%**

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**2014 Visits to Library Buildings**

- Downtown Library: 209,667
- Traverwood: 207,600
- Pittsfield: 863,985
- Malletts Creek: 563,485

**2014 Event Attendance by Type**

- Storytimes & Playgroups: 41,799
- Art & Crafts: 6,618
- Performances, Concerts & Films: 8,670
- Meetups & Festivals: 11,398
- Science, Tech & Nature: 1,154
- Hands-on Classes: 2,338
- Talks, Lectures & Forums: 8,445
- Contests, Tournaments & Awards: 2,016

Total: 82,838

Number of Events: 1,431
Average Attendees per Event: 58

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2014 Meeting Room Reservations by Community Groups

- Downtown Room: 325
- Pittsfield: 58
- Traverwood: 136
- Malletts Creek: 77

Total: 895

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This is how

\*I am getting my MBA, so I come here for 2-3 hours at a time to study.*

–Godwin

\*Book Clubs To Go make it easy for all the members of our eclectic group to get a copy of the book.*

–Linda

\*Leela got her first Library card! She’ll check out the Bird Calls Tool to help in the Science Olympiad.*

–Leela’s Mom

\*I came to read the magazines; I like that there are so many.*

–Rashad

\*I came in to use the computers to find out how far away a restaurant is to where I live.*

–George

\*The Music Tools Collection has allowed me to expand my music production knowledge.*

–Dave

\*I use the wifi for studying.*

–Amita

\*We go to a Branch once or twice a week to check out movies and books. My daughter likes Storytimes.*

–Bartek

\*I check out the books on CD.*

–Cynthia

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AADL’s 2014 Fiscal Year began July 1, 2013, and ended June 30, 2014.
The Library offers many types of events each month; there is no charge to attend and no need to register. Here are a few of the AADL events that occur throughout the year. Find out more at aadl.org/go/events.

**Sustainable Ann Arbor Forums**

Created by the City of Ann Arbor, Sustainable Ann Arbor Forums include short presentations by panelists followed by Q&A, and cover issues such as Sustainable Building, Economic Viability, and Local Food, as well as actions that residents can take to live more sustainably.

**Nerd Nite**

AADL presents this monthly event at LIVE, 102 S. 1st Street. Nerd Nite includes several short, entertaining and informative presentations across all disciplines, given by local folks in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. From the science of the Simpsons to townie legends, bring your friends, grab a beer and learn about something weird.

**Bright Nights Community Forums**

Presented in partnership with the University of Michigan Depression Center, these forums feature medical experts addressing a variety of topics on mental health, including Depression During Childbearing Years, Academic Stress on Student Mental Health, and Sleep and Depression, followed by ample time for audience Q&A.

**Webcomics Lab**

Try this monthly lab and create a comic in the company of other cartoonists. Webcomics Labs often feature nationally known comic artists who offer their expertise.

**Emerging Writers Workshop**

This hands-on workshop for fiction and nonfiction writers features perspectives from both traditional and indie publishing. Two published authors lead participants in monthly topical discussions, followed by an informal meetup later in the month.

**Storytimes & Playgroups**

AADL storytellers delight babies and preschoolers with stories, rhymes, and songs. Join in the fun with other young families!