

Letter from the Director

In 2017 we moved forward with our vision of creating a 21st century library. Sage and Coombe Architects, hired by the Maplewood Library Board of Trustees, presented their conceptual design to the public in September. The design was developed taking into consideration input from extensive meetings with focus groups, an open community forum, and an online survey.

The renovation and expansion of the Library will be paid for by a combination of local public bonding and state funds as well as privately raised funds. The New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act, making \$125 million dollars available for public library construction, was approved by New Jersey voters on November 7, 2017. The program will be a 1:1 match of state and local dollars, and Maplewood will be eligible to apply for construction funds in a competitive grant program to be announced in 2018.

We are fortunate to have the strong support of the Maplewood Memorial Library Foundation, and we were thrilled to close out the year with a fundraising event with Ken Burns and Khalil Gibran Muhammad. Over 1,000 people attended the event at Columbia High School, and the support for the Maplewood Memorial Library was palpable.

We look forward to providing free and equal access to information and ideas for years to come.

Sarah Lester
Director



A LIBRARY FOR THE 21st CENTURY



2017 Partnerships

AARP
Achieve Foundation
Blood Center of New Jersey
Catching Joy
Community Coalition on Race
DCH Audi
DKC
Essex County Library Directors
Financy
Friends of the Maplewood Library
Legal Services New Jersey
League of Women Voters
Literacy Volunteers of America
Maplewood Department of Cultural Affairs
Maplewood Department of Public Works
Maplewood Fire Department
Maplewood Health Department
Maplewood Historic Preservation Commission
Maplewood Library Foundation
Maplewood Police Department
Maplewood Village Alliance
Maplewood Woman's Club
Maplewoodshop
Midtown Direct Rep
Money Smart Week
NAACP of Newark and the Oranges
National Endowment for the Arts
New Jersey Council for the Humanities
NJ Makers Day
NJ PAC
North Jersey Pride
Orange ACA Navigator Project
Passport to Haiti
Piscataway Library
Rent Party
SOMA Families
SOMA Film Festival
SOMA Two Towns for All Ages
South Orange Maplewood School District
South Orange Public Library
Springfield Avenue Partnership
Steam Works Studio
Wilma & the Wings
WNYC
[words] Bookstore
Youth Activists of SOMA
Youthnet



2017 Library Board of Trustees

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www.maplewoodlibrary.org

Main Library: 51 Baker Street 973-762-1622
Hilton Branch : 1688 Springfield Avenue 973-762-1688



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Maplewood
Memorial Library



259,543 people used the library

225,275 items were checked out by
our patrons

688 Library programs were offered,
attended by 22,545 people

61,270 wireless connections were made on the library's Wifi

49,982 people used our public computers

307,365 visits were made to our website

14,258 reference questions were answered by our librarians

17,222 residents had a Maplewood Library card

Annual Report 2017