Gaining Momentum

2017 Annual Report

New Executive Director Scott Duimstra in our renovated Leslie branch
In August, Board member Quenda Story retired after 15 years of service.

**LEADERSHIP**

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*This is a publication of the CADL Marketing Department.  
Cover photo credit: Dave Trumpie*
In May of 2017, I started a new chapter when I was selected to be CADL’s new Executive Director. I would like to thank outgoing Director Maureen Hirten for her leadership and vision over the past six years. During her tenure, CADL made great strides toward positioning us as an important partner in the communities we serve.

I’ve been part of the CADL family since 2005, working both in branches and administration. I feel fortunate to have been chosen to lead this active and robust library system at a time when there is so much opportunity for growth and innovation.

We’ve chosen “Gaining Momentum” as the theme for this annual report, because it focuses on our ongoing efforts to improve facilities and expand services, while at the same time remaining good stewards of taxpayer dollars. For example, we undertook major renovations at our Downtown Lansing and Leslie branches, adding tables with recharging stations, state of the art projectors and more. Our collection grew to include unique items such as GPS units and app-controlled robots.

As we move toward our 20th year of service, I am confident that we can keep the momentum going. I’m proud to be part of a forward-thinking team committed to providing excellent, innovative library services now and for years to come.

—Scott Duimstra
**CADL Conference**

Our annual CADL Conference brings together library staff for a day of learning, sharing and fun. This year, several speakers made the day especially memorable. Our guests were MSUFCU President and Chief Executive Officer April Clobes, Community Mental Health Prevention and Wellness Specialist Joel Hoepfner, and MSU Senior Advisor to the President for Diversity Paulette Granberry Russell.

**2017 Staff Awards**

Named for a founding member of CADL’s Board of Trustees, our annual Dr. L. Robert McConnell Award honors staff members who provide exceptional customer service and innovations.

Heidi Butler, Local History Specialist, was recognized for her work on moving the Local History Collection into the digital age, dramatically increasing its use.

Purchasing Specialist Heather Goupil earned her honor for consistently finding lower cost alternatives and developing efficient processing methods.

L to R: Scott Duimstra with Butler, Goupil and McConnell
PUBLIC SERVICE GRANTS

StoryWalks®

CADL branches in Aurelius, Holt-Delhi and South Lansing partnered with their local townships to install StoryWalks® in each of their communities. In addition, we worked with the Braille and Talking Book Library and the Michigan Department of Education to bring a Braille Enhanced StoryWalk® to Fenner Nature Center in Lansing.

Technology

Several branches used grant funds to enhance technology services. The Holt-Delhi and South Lansing branches purchased Apple TVs and iPads to use with digital storytime, movie making programs and a cartooning workshop. CADL Downtown Lansing bought two iPads pre-loaded with digital magazines from our RBdigital collection.

Learning Fun

Proving that learning can be fun, CADL Foster added a portable LEGO Wall, Snap Circuits, a marble race kit and other activities. CADL South Lansing used their funds to support their Family Tree Genealogy Camp for kids and parents.

MOMENTUM...

Since its debut in 2016, our Public Service Grant initiative has provided CADL branches with $60,136 of additional funding to create unique projects for their communities.
NEW SERVICES

Home Photos Online

Our Local History Online collection added nearly 17,000 historic images of homes in Greater Lansing, mostly from the 1960s. The photos had been transferred to the library from the city assessor’s office in the 1990s but had never been digitized.

These photos are now part of CADL’s Stebbins Real Estate Collection, which also houses information cards, newspaper clippings, negatives and other information. Patrons have responded enthusiastically to the images, sharing them with neighborhood associations, families and friends.

New hoopla Content

Expanded hoopla content gave patrons even more entertainment choices in 2017. New selections included Marvel comics, more than 100 Paramount Picture films, and a significant addition of HarperCollins eBooks. These new titles contributed to a 17% increase in circulation for our digital collection.

MOMENTUM...

After thousands of historic photos of Lansing homes were uploaded to our Local History Online website, visits to that site increased over 1600%!
Zinio to RBdigital

Zinio has been CADL’s digital magazine service since 2013. The name was changed in 2017 to RBdigital, but the service continues to provide a large variety of digital magazines, with over 160 titles to choose from. Patrons can read current and past issues of travel, fitness, sports, news, entertainment and style magazines, with no holds or expiration dates.

Blind Date with a Book

Linking books to Valentine’s Day, this new promotion encouraged patrons to expand their reading horizons. They could choose a “blind date” book from special displays at our branches, with titles and author names hidden. Lucky readers in each branch unwrapped a great prize with their books, such as movie tickets. One grand prize winner walked away with a Kindle.
EXPANDED COLLECTIONS

More “Things” to Borrow

Since its debut in 2016, the Library of Things collection has grown from 56 items to 219. In the spring we expanded it to include popular outdoor games like cornhole (bean bag toss), bocce ball, laddergolf and badminton, all free for our cardholders to borrow. Later in the year, we added board games, Ollie robots, Thereminis and more.

Mobile Library Collection

Circulation of the items onboard our colorful Mobile Library reached 44,067 in 2017. This is a 46.9% increase, reflecting the excitement surrounding the new vehicle in its first full year of use.

Digital Collection

The demand for digital downloads continued to grow in 2017, leading to a 17.3% increase in downloads. Demand for digital audiobooks was especially high—patrons checked out a total of 125,841 of them this year, a 36% increase over 2016.

The majority of our digital titles come from the MCLS OverDrive Consortium. From January–September 2017, the consortium reached one million checkouts from that collection. That’s three months less than it took to hit the same number in 2016.

The fastest growing digital format in our collection was hoopla eBooks. The nearly 21,500 checkouts represented an 87% increase, indicating our patrons’ appreciation of titles that are instantly available.

MOMENTUM...

In 2017, our libraries catalogued 33,601 titles and processed a total of 66,175 items—all ready to be checked out by cardholders!
NEW TECH SERVICES

Public Computer Enhancements

Every computer was licensed for Minecraft, making this popular and creative virtual environment accessible to all library users. ZoomText Fusion was added to all public computers, providing magnification and screen reading that eases access for people with vision challenges.

Audio Visual Enhancements

Digital projectors with an array of display adaptors were made available to patrons who reserve meeting space at our Haslett, Okemos, South Lansing and Downtown Lansing branches.

Website Features

New website features in 2017 included a web chat service, online job applications, and online library card renewal. These interactive functions help us serve our patrons more quickly and conveniently.

Wireless Internet Access

This was the first full year of loaning mobile hotspots to patrons through our Library of Things. The 42 devices in our system circulated 689 times, with a typical waitlist of 90–100 patrons. In addition, we obtained $15,000 in grant funds to test the viability of TV White Space technology, which would power wireless hotspots at partner agencies in the community.
**EARLY LITERACY**

**VOX Books**

This addition to our collection for young children combines technology with early literacy. VOX Books are picture books that come with a built-in MP3 player, so children can listen to the story as they turn the pages.

**Reading Month Activity Calendar**

To encourage young children to do activities that help develop skills used for reading, we designed a March is Reading Month calendar. Copies were made available at every branch and on our website. Children who completed at least 10 of the suggested activities received a prize.

**Playaway Launchpads**

These new devices for young children, available for checkout, are pre-loaded with high-quality, ad-free learning apps and games for hours of interactive learning and play. The content emphasizes STEM topics, with a mix of interactive science, technology, engineering, art, and math-based games.
Storybook Character Visits

Our youngest readers love meeting their favorite storybook characters in person. This year we partnered with the Early Childhood Literacy Coalition during March is Reading Month to host Pete the Cat, Cookie Mouse and Froggy at special storytimes.

Building Success

From June 9–Aug. 19, we invited kids, teens and adults to read for fun and prizes with our “Build a Better World” Summer Reading program. Nearly 9,000 participants logged the time they spent reading and doing fun activities. Everyone earned prizes, and lucky winners of our drawings also enjoyed prizes like Lansing Lugnuts tickets and Impression 5 Science Center passes.

We also hosted hundreds of exciting, free events all summer long. Nearly 19,000 people visited our branches for magic shows, concerts, live animals and more.

North Pole Express Contest

We celebrated the holidays by giving CADL patrons a chance to win a ride on the steam train used in the popular Polar Express movie. The magical adventure began in Owosso and included a stop in a Christmas Village that featured Santa and his reindeer, horse drawn carriage rides and more. Two lucky area families climbed aboard in mid-December for an unforgettable trip.

MOMENTUM...

Over $30,000 worth of support was generated from business and media partners for our Summer Reading program.
OUTREACH EFFORTS

**CADLcast**

Launching in September, the CADLcast podcast is a new way to introduce people to library events, collections and services. The show is hosted by Library Assistant Mark Buzzitta, and features library news, community events and entertainment.

Notable guests in 2017 included authors Johnathan Rand, Jen Mann and Cookie Johnson. CADL branch heads, selection specialists and administrators also contributed interviews.

**Lunch & Learn**

To reach local entrepreneurs and small business owners, CADL partnered with Michigan.com to offer digital marketing seminars at the South Lansing and Okemos branches. Our Business Librarian discussed market research tools and library business resources, while the Michigan.com team spoke about digital platforms and business metrics.

**Crowns**

Local churches offer a valued and trusted pipeline for sharing library information. We kicked off outreach to churches in our community by creating an online photo gallery featuring local women wearing church hats. The idea was inspired by Michael Cunningham’s book *Crowns: Portraits of Black Women in Church Hats*. 
Reaching Out

Staff from our Community Outreach Department visited the City of Lansing’s Mobile Food Pantry, providing library cards and promoting services. We also partnered with Lansing’s City Rescue Mission to help the homeless population acquire driver’s licenses, identification, and birth certificates.

To reach children in the community, CADL provided free books to families at well-child doctor visits. In addition, a partnership was established with Ingham County jail to give children of inmates a book, along with a video recording of their relative reading a selection from it.

Citizenship Resources

In January, three CADL librarians attended the United States Customs and Immigration training for offering citizenship programming in libraries. Since then, CADL has increased the number of ESOL programs offered, and added Citizenship classes at our South Lansing and Downtown Lansing branches.

Refuge Lansing Exhibit

Refuge Lansing is a storytelling project celebrating decades of local refugee resettlement. In September, CADL Downtown Lansing and CADL Holt-Delhi hosted their “Stories of Resettlement in Mid-Michigan” exhibit, featuring families who have fled violence and persecution and are now an integral part of our Lansing area community.
FEATURED EVENTS

Author Visits

Author visits are always a highlight at CADL, and this year’s diverse slate offered something for every reader. We started the year by welcoming Shaka Senghor for a discussion of his inspirational title *Writing My Wrongs*. In May we partnered with the Library of Michigan to host Cookie Johnson, author of the NY Times bestselling memoir, *Believing in Magic*.

Other visiting authors included Ruth Behar, Gary Schmidt, Johnathan Rand, Lynn Austin, Drew Philp and Allison Leotta. We also partnered with Michigan State University to host a visit with Ta-Nehisi Coates.

Harry Potter Fall Fest

Hosted by our Williamston branch, this exciting event held at a local park featured a live concert from wizard rock band Tonks and the Aurors, playing original Harry Potter-themed music. More than 200 attendees enjoyed music, crafts, games, photo booths and food trucks.
Local Expos

CADL provided well-received support to the Lansing Baby Fair this year. We hosted an appearance from book character Curious George at the event, and gave away literacy calendars, library information and more. CADL also partnered with the Mid-Michigan Women’s Expo and the Lansing Home and Garden Show.

9/11 World Trade Center Memorial Quilt Project

This unique project remembers those who lost their lives in the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. CADL partnered with Meridian Township to bring the exhibit to the Meridian Mall, where visitors could view more than 300 quilts made up of hand-made quilt blocks, each honoring one of the victims. A quilt was also donated to CADL’s Local History collection.

MOMENTUM...

Visiting schools, homeless shelters, farmers markets and more, CADL staff engaged with 69,230 people in their communities.
Retirements

Maureen Hirten, our Executive Director, retired after nearly 15 years of service at CADL. Her tenure here was notable for a successful millage renewal campaign, establishment of CADL Public Service Grants, an increase in digital services, and the planning of several branch remodeling projects.

Kathy Johnson retired in March after 40 years of working in public libraries, including 19 as CADL’s Downtown Lansing Head Librarian. Kathy led the branch through several major renovation projects over the years. She was a tireless advocate for CADL and was devoted to her staff and patrons.

New Executive Director

Scott Duimstra took over the reins as CADL’s Executive Director in May. In his 12-year career at CADL, he has worked as a Public Services Librarian, Training Specialist, Associate Director of Public Service, and Senior Associate Director.
Promotions

**Jolee Hamlin**, our Associate Director of Collection Services, was promoted to the position of Senior Associate Director of Public Service. Her previous service at CADL included Holt-Delhi Branch Head and Associate Director of Collection Services.

**Melissa Cole**, previously Head Librarian at CADL Dansville, took a new position heading up CADL South Lansing. Prior to her work in Dansville, she held a Library Assistant position at CADL Okemos.

**Thais Rousseau**, working as CADL’s Youth Services Specialist, was tapped to fill the position of Associate Director of Collection Services. Her career at CADL began in 2007 when she was hired as Dansville’s Head Librarian.

**Lynn Harper**, a Library Assistant in Mason, was selected to fill the Head Librarian slot in Dansville. Her previous positions at CADL included Public Services Librarian and Youth Services Specialist.

**Michele Brussow** was named as Downtown Lansing Head Librarian in April. Previous positions at CADL include South Lansing Public Services Librarian, Head Librarian at Williamston, and Head Librarian at South Lansing.

**Marisela Garza** was selected as the new Youth Services Specialist in July. Mari began working at CADL in 2008, first as a Public Service Librarian at the Downtown Lansing branch, then as Youth Services Librarian at CADL Mason.

**Jolee Hamlin**

**Michele Brussow**

MOMENTUM...

At our annual CADL Conference, 22 current employees were recognized for five, 10 or 15 years of service.
CADL is an active, vital member of the communities we serve. Through our CADL Cares initiative, we support local charities and service organizations.

**Operation Backpack**

Sponsored by St. Vincent Catholic Charities, this local backpack and school supply drive provides local children in need with the necessary materials to learn. CADL partnered with WILX 10 and Two Men And A Truck to help assure its success, offering our branches as collection points and helping fill over 1,000 backpacks. Among the items in each backpack was a CADL card so that students could use our resources.

![Back row, L to R: Brig Sorber, Andy Provenzano, Lupe Izzo and Scott Duimstra](image)

**Capital City River Run**

CADL organizes a corporate team each year to participate in the annual Capital City River Run. Proceeds from the family-friendly event benefit Impression 5 Science Center.

**Volunteers of America**

During the summer we partnered with Volunteers of America, encouraging patrons and staff to donate personal care items for homeless veterans in our area. The project fit perfectly with our Summer Reading theme of “Build a Better World.”
Each of our 13 branches is supported by a volunteer Friends group, whose members work tirelessly to raise funds and advocate for their libraries. Their many roles include maintaining used book collections, running fundraising projects, providing materials or refreshments for special events, and much more.

Friends group members also serve as library advocates and ambassadors. They share the message that access to information and technology is at the heart of a successful community, and that libraries play a vital role in this success.

In 2017, our Friends groups collectively raised and donated $16,454 to Capital Area District Libraries, enhancing our buildings, services and events.

MOMENTUM...

In 2017, our Friends groups held more than 20 different fundraising events, including book sales, auctions, receptions and field trips.
FINANCIALS & FACILITIES

At $11.39 M, total revenue was $210,000 higher than in 2016, an increase of 1.9%. The change was due to increasing tax revenue, which improved by $171,000, and to reimbursement for lost personal property taxes due to legislative changes.

CADL spent $1.59 M on collections, an increase of $124,000 from 2016. Excluding capital projects, ongoing operational costs increased only 2.2% for the year.

Facilities improvements included:

• A major renovation of over 30,000 square feet at CADL Downtown Lansing, completed on time and under budget.

• A full renovation of CADL Leslie, including a new floor plan, children’s area with an electronic gaming table, carpet, mobile shelving, furniture and more.

• LED lighting upgrade projects at Mason, Okemos, Downtown Lansing, South Lansing and Leslie; this $15,090 expenditure is expected to yield $40,000 annually in reduced electricity costs.

GRANTS

• Universal Service Fund—$121,032 for Internet Connections; $7,120 for regular telephone services

• Lansing BWL and Consumers Energy—$32,543 to subsidize LED lighting conversion projects

• Digital Village and the LSTA—$15,500 to fund a TV White Space project

• Invale Foundation—$5,000 for cross cultural understanding

• Mid-Michigan Library Cooperative—$4,000 to fund technology upgrades

• The Len Family (via Capital Region Community Foundation) and Leslie Friends Group—$25,400 for the Leslie renovation project

OTHER MONETARY DONATIONS

CADL received $48,489 in donations, including $11,454 from Library Friends Groups and $37,035 from individuals and other organizations.
This year saw a significant increase in both the number of Aurelius Township cardholders and in program attendance.

Among our most popular events were an Eclipse Viewing Party attended by over 200 people, and a baseball clinic where nearly 200 attendees enjoyed hanging out with Lansing Lugnuts players and Big Lug. Our adult Reminisce group was treated to a visit from Beatles scholar Aaron Krerowicz.

Library staff connected with many schools, churches and local businesses with information and support. We held storytimes at Precious Hearts Daycare, hosted children from the VFW National Home, and provided support and materials for teachers at North Aurelius Elementary.

On a sad note, CADL Aurelius said goodbye to former Head Librarian and Friends President Eileen Droscha, who passed away in November. She will be missed by the entire Aurelius community.

MOMENTUM...

In partnership with Aurelius Township, we used a CADL Public Service grant to install a StoryWalk® in Glenna Droscha Park, encouraging visitors to read the posted pages of a children’s book.
We were excited to see a strong completion rate in our Summer Reading activity logs this year, reflecting the enthusiasm shown by patrons of all ages for this important program.

Other literacy efforts included providing storytimes and book checkouts to local preschools and daycares, hosting the 29th Annual Fifth Grade Battle of the Books, and throwing a very popular Pete the Cat party during March is Reading Month.

Community partnerships continued to bolster our efforts. We collaborated with the Dexter Trail Questers for two well-attended history events. A donation from Dart Bank employees supported our Summer Reading program. We partnered with the Willow Tree Family Center to host bi-monthly meetings of the Rural Moms Group, and promoted library services at school events and teacher staff meetings. Our Holiday Open House was presented in partnership with the Dansville Business Alliance, Ingham Township and the Village of Dansville.

MOMENTUM...
Thanks to a partnership with our Friends group, we added a patio, furniture and garden, providing both additional seating and wireless access beyond our open hours.
In the spring, CADL Board members, city officials and staff welcomed patrons to our newly-renovated building.

Over 1,000 kids, teens and adults participated in 44 different events during Summer Reading, and an enthusiastic crowd turned out to meet author Johnathan Rand. Many visitors enjoyed a refugee pictorial display, hosted in partnership with St. Vincent Catholic Charities.

Beyond our walls, library staff provided information and library cards to almost 7,000 people at local events. We participated in events such as Silver Bells, Juneteenth, Be a Tourist Day and more.

Local partners included dozens of agencies, including WKAR, Greater Lansing Food Bank, Capital Area Literacy Coalition, and Homeless Veterans.

A particular focus of our outreach efforts was area schools. Staff attended school fairs, open houses, and before and after school programs at both Gier and Foster Community Centers. We presented storytimes at preschools, elementary schools, Head Start and Special Needs classes.

MOMENTUM...

Our building underwent a major renovation in 2017, reopening in March with a redesigned lobby, new study rooms, tables with power and USB access, open floor plan and more.
Events for all ages were popular at CADL Foster. Adults enjoyed a guided meditation session as well as a quilt history program that sparked comments for weeks afterward. Children created cat toys to donate to the Humane Society, and teens and tweens came in after school for hands-on Maker sessions. In the summer, members of Lansing Hoops had everyone giving hula hoops a spin.

Partnering with the Lansing State Journal and WKAR, we co-hosted a Pop-Up Stories event held at the Downtown Lansing branch. We also hosted a Lansing Food Bank Garden Project workshop on local basic gardening. We were grateful to receive a generous donation of board books from a Dart Bank employee initiative.

Children were a focus of our outreach efforts, as staff participated in the Gier School Health Fest and Post Oak’s Halloween Carnival. We also provided storytelling events to a variety of schools and retirement centers.

MOMENTUM...

We hosted monthly meetings of a networking group for crafters interested in pursuing sales of their creations, under the guidance of CADL Business Librarian Jessica Goodrich.
Community engagement played an important role in our 2017 story. We partnered with Meridian Historical Village to display a historic quilt in honor of the Township’s 175th anniversary. Haslett Public Schools, Meridian Township Police, Fire & Facilities, Okemos Marathon, and Michigan Farm Bureau shared their vehicles and expertise at our Touch a Truck event.

In collaboration with the Wharton Center, we hosted a Little House on the Prairie party to complement their stage show. We partnered with MSU to offer free homework help to students. To reach younger children, staff took storytimes to over 350 children in Haslett elementary schools, preschools and daycare centers.

Events were popular for all ages. Horticulture expert Joseph Tychonievich taught patrons how to shop for plants. Witches and wizards of all ages, many in costume, gathered for our Harry Potter Party. And each week brought valuable parent/child interactions during our Play with Purpose series.

MOMENTUM...

To support interest in science education, we developed a STEAM series that entertained and informed school-aged kids, with topics like Colorful Science and Marshmallow Engineering.
This year we helped Delhi Township celebrate its 175th birthday, participating in the annual Holt Hometown Festival and marching in the parade. We also partnered with Delhi Township to install a StoryWalk® path in Valhalla Park.

Partnerships remained strong as our branch served as a collection site for the Holt Community Food Bank, the Holt Lions Club, Movers for Moms, Give a Kid Projects, and Helping Women Period.

Staff participated in local events such as Relay for Life, Healthy Kids Day, and the Holt Community Arts Council’s Maker Expo. Employees from Dart Bank made a generous donation of books to enhance our Summer Reading program.

Exciting events rounded out the year. We held monthly book discussion groups at Great Lakes and Mancino’s, and hosted storytimes at the South Cedar Head Start, Midway, and the Oak Park YMCA. During the summer, more than 2,800 kids, teens and adults enjoyed 120 different events.

In response to the demand for science-related resources, we used CADL grant funds to buy an Apple TV and iPads that enhance our STEAM programming.
In 2017 we used CADL Public Grant funds to install a StoryWalk® trail in Russell Park, encouraging families to walk and read together. Our Summer Family Fun Day featured Ronald McDonald. In August, we welcomed over 200 people to an Eclipse Viewing Party.

Community partnerships were strong this year. We partnered with the City of Leslie to create cars for Drive-In Movie Night, provided a crafts table at Leslie Township’s Movie & Music at the Pavilion, and sponsored an entry in the annual Christmas Parade.

Students from Woodworth Elementary and White Pine Academy visited the library for orientation sessions, Constitution Day, 4th grade Non-fiction lessons, and a Second Grade-First Card event. Our staff visited White Pine and Leslie Public School for assemblies, storytimes and instructional support. We were especially pleased to host a visit by author Gary Schmidt at Leslie Middle School.

MOMENTUM...

We were thrilled to complete a renovation that meets the needs of our community, including a new electronic play table, a movie-quality projector, charging stations, LED lighting and more.

Barb Keeler
Head Librarian
All year long families enjoyed events that entertained and informed. We celebrated the joy of reading, music and play with storytimes and other child-centered programs. Children from the James C. Harvey Education Center and Mason’s Elementary schools visited to learn about library resources. And our annual Holiday Open House featured music, crafts, and a visit from Santa and his reindeer.

We also provided a space for adult community engagement and creativity. Events included instruction on language learning, finger knitting, food preservation and more.

As a community partner, CADL Mason served as a site for the Mason DDA’s First Annual Chocolate Walk, Witches About Town, and Trick or Treat with Your Dog. We gave away free books at Down Home Days and Spring Fling, and benefitted from a fundraising project organized by Dart Bank employees. We also participated in the Mason Holiday Light Parade.

MOMENTUM...

More than 2,000 children attended our weekly Movers & Readers Storytimes this year, enjoying lively stories and activities that help develop skills used for reading.
Taking library services to the community was a highlight in 2017. CADL Okemos staff provided two monthly programs to Meridian Senior Center, and two monthly storytimes to Okemos Edgewood Community Childcare. We also introduced library services to the International Spouses Center at MSU.

Staff reached out to area students by partnering with the Okemos High School Action Team to get their help with library events like our Halloween and Christmas parties. Our Teen Advisory Board created some library programming, including a fall ice cream social. We also provided activities to a summer playground group supported by Okemos Community Education.

Community partnerships were strong, with CADL Okemos participating in projects sponsored by Ronald McDonald House, Haven House, Women Helping Women, Ingham County Humane Society, Meridian Township and more. On our behalf, Michigan Audubon submitted a grant with USDA to develop a native plant garden around the library.

MOMENTUM...

A donation of adult and children’s books from the MSU Chinese School was added to our robust Foreign Language collection.
This year our staff worked on developing new early literacy and STEAM-focused programs, such as Baby Storytime, Apps That Make Your Life Better, and After-School Science. A very successful Holiday Celebration featuring Rooftop Landing Reindeer and Shenanigans the Clown drew more than 300 people.

Reaching out to local children, staff provided bi-weekly storytimes to Oak Park YMCA preschool classes and provided Youth One Cards and library instruction to classes at Everett and Mount Hope STEM.

We presented a monthly library program at Attwood Elementary and also partnered with Lansing community centers to provide after-school and late start Wednesday programs.

Other connections were made by participating in orientations, family festivals, parent meetings and Community Advisory Committees at several Lansing schools and preschools.

We promoted Summer Reading and library card signup to over 1,400 students. Signups for Summer Reading increased by 10%, contributing to an 18% increase in completion rates.

MOMENTUM...

We were excited to tally a 5% increase in both program attendance and library visits in 2017, as well as a 4.1% increase in circulation.
Strong community partnerships were a hallmark of our year. Staff participated in local Day in the Village and Harvest Moon Festival events. We also coordinated efforts with the Stockbridge Area Arts Council and the Chamber of Commerce to bring 16 weeks of live music to the Open Air Market.

To reach local students we attended or hosted open houses, Great Start Readiness class visits, and parent-teacher conferences. We worked with SRSLY-Stockbridge, Stockbridge Community Schools and Stockbridge Community Education to create a Kids’ Community Read project, involving over 500 book giveaways and a pro-reading assembly. Partnering with the elementary schools, we hosted pro-reading assemblies for about 600 kids in grades K–5.

Among our popular events this year were STEM-related programs such as LEGO Junior Makers, circuits, Pi Day, and Impression 5 building challenges. Adults enjoyed social and cultural events such as a concert film series, monthly book discussions, weekly coffee chats and more. All ages turned out for a solar eclipse viewing party on the front patio!

**MOMENTUM...**

Responding to interest in Maker programs, we hosted workshops for adults and teens to try their hand at cooking, soap making, pottery and more.

Paul Crandall
Head Librarian
Special events this year brought residents of all ages to the library. Adults enjoyed presentations by authors Suzi Perron (Barn Quilt Trail books) and Kathleen Tedson (Haunted Travels). We offered a Mendi Body Painting session for teens and a live animal event for kids. Concert pianist Peter Bergin entertained all ages at our holiday music sing-along.

Outreach was a priority in 2017, as staff hosted fall and spring visits from preschool classes, giving away free books donated by our Friends. We provided Youth One cards to preschoolers at Webberville Elementary and regularly took books to their classroom. We also participated in Family Reading Night at Webberville Elementary.

Partnerships included working with the Webberville Village DDA Event Planning Committee to bring entertainment to several annual events, including the annual Webberville Community Picnic and Fireman Field Days.

**MOMENTUM...**

Building on our efforts to reach adults in the community, we used CADL Public Service Grant funds to host a popular watercolor painting workshop.
Library events for all ages were a focus of our efforts this year. A highlight was the Fall Fest held at McCormick Park, which featured a concert by wizard rock band Tonks & the Aurors, along with crafts, games, giveaways and more.

Summer Reading events drew 800 kids, teens and adults, while more than 1,000 children and caregivers enjoyed Family Storytime and Early Literacy Playtime sessions. Children were introduced to early financial literacy through our Lemonade Stand series.

We reached out to teens and tweens all year long with unique programs like Ultimate Ice Cream Floats, Healthy Vegetarianism and the Harry Potter Club.

As community partners, we hosted visits from daycare centers, Girl Scouts and more. Staff greeted over 1,000 visitors at Williamston Elementary PTSA’s Annual Ice Cream Social. We also hosted Family Fun Days at Williamstown Township and Wheatfield Township locations, and participated in the city’s Annual Holiday Light Parade.

**MOMENTUM...**

We reached out to local seniors by taking library events and services to the Williamston Area Senior Center, connecting with more than 560 attendees.

*Julie Chrisinske*
Head Librarian
The success of Capital Area District Libraries depends on crucial support from our communities. Our Head Librarians express their thanks for the loyalty and generosity they received in 2017.

“Many thanks to all who make the Aurelius Library the amazing community gathering place that it is—Aurelius Township, our hardworking Library Friends, staff and patrons. ”
—Jennifer DeGroat, CADL AURELIUS

“Great appreciation goes out to our loyal patrons and dedicated staff for making the library a welcoming place. Many thanks also to Ingham Township, Dansville Village, the Library Friends, Dansville Schools, and local businesses and organizations.”
—Lynn Harper, CADL DANSVILLE

“Many thanks to Friends of the Lansing Libraries who helped fund our renovations and programs. CADL South Lansing and CADL Foster welcomed our patrons and made room for our staff during renovations. We also appreciate the continued support of the City of Lansing and Lansing School District.”
—Michele Brussow, CADL DOWNTOWN LANSING

“Special thanks go to a dedicated staff, our patrons who embrace our small space, staff at the Foster Community Center and Lansing Parks and Recreation, and Friends of the Lansing Libraries for their generous and continuing support.”
—Jean Bolley, CADL FOSTER

“We are privileged to serve a community that recognizes the value of a public library and fully accesses our resources. We appreciate the continued support of the Friends of the Haslett Library, Meridian Township and Haslett Public Schools Facilities for enhancing library services for all.”
—Ann Chapman, CADL HASLETT

“We are lucky and honored to serve and be part of a wonderful community that values the library and considers us a gem. Thank you to Delhi Township, our Friends group, and the patrons who make each day enjoyable.”
—Paulina Poplawska, CADL HOLT-DELHI
“Many thanks to the Leslie Area United Fund, Friends of the Leslie Library, our volunteers, City of Leslie, Leslie Township, Leslie Public Schools and White Pine Academy, as well as our loyal patrons for their continued support.”
—Barb Keeler, CADL LESLIE

“CADL Mason provides service through the collaborative efforts of branch and CADL staff, the City of Mason, the Friends of the Mason Library, volunteers, community groups and businesses, and most importantly, the support and patronage of our users. Thank you!”
—Cheryl Marcotte, CADL MASON

“As always my work is made easier by the dedicated staff who provide fine customer service; CADL administration for its support of the building and program development; Meridian Township for its facility maintenance; and the Friends group for their oversight and financial support.”
—Betsy Hull, CADL OKEMOS

“Thanks to our patrons, the City of Lansing, the Friends of Lansing Libraries, and our local schools, businesses and organizations for their support and loyalty. We would not be able to provide high-quality programming and service without you. It is an honor to be a part this community.”
—Melissa Cole, CADL SOUTH LANSING

“We would like to thank the Friends of the Webberville Library, The Village of Webberville, Leroy Township, Webberville Community Schools, and all of our patrons for their continuous support.”
—Peg Mawby, CADL WEBBERVILLE

“Thanks go to the City of Williamston, Williamston Area Schools and the Friends of the Williamston Library for your continued support of library services.”
—Julie Chrisinske, CADL WILLIAMSTON