



# **Homewood Public Library 2016 Annual Report**

# Homewood Public Library

## 2016 Statistics at a Glance

Hours Open	3,302
Physical Materials Checked Out	450,921
53.9%    Adult	
5.4%    Teen	
40.7%    Children's	
Electronic Materials Used	65,446
97.2%    Adult	
1.9%    Teen	
.85%    Children's	
Database Use	122,167
New Library Users	2,003
Total Registered Users	23,181
Total Library Visits	465,007
Library Programs	989
Attendance	53,688
Meeting Room Rentals	1,787
Estimated Attendance	55,656
Study Room Use	1,620
Attendance	2,655
Computer Classes	72
Attendance	346
Reference Questions Answered	186,330
Public Computer Use	50,659
Wifi Use	59,516
Tests Proctored	117



## Letter from the Director

In 2016, the Homewood Library celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> year of service to the Homewood Community and the citizens of Jefferson County. Over the decades the Homewood Public Library has evolved to serve the citizens of Homewood. From one tiny room in the old City Hall to its own building and then the move to the current facility, the Library has always strived to serve the community. From circulation of a few books in the first few decades, the Library now circulates a whole array of items, including Ukuleles! Collection use topped 638,000 this year.

The Library is open to the public seven days per week for a total of 67 hours per week. However our online services are available 24 hours per day. Patrons use our Library app to reserve books and to access our online services which include databases, eBooks, downloadable audio books, streaming videos, and online magazine subscriptions.

The Homewood Library is an award-winning Library and has been recognized at the State and National Levels. It is one of the busiest Libraries in the State of Alabama and has just under 40,000 visits per month.

A large part of the success of the Homewood Library is due to the fantastic group of dedicated employees who work together to fulfill our mission statement: "To bring people, information, and ideas together to enrich lives, build community and inspire lifelong learning." I am proud to work in the City of Homewood and serve as the Director of one of the best libraries in the State of Alabama and the nation.

This Annual Report provides a glimpse of the services we provided in 2016 and a taste for the great things coming in 2017.

Deborah Fout, Director

## Hours

Monday, Tuesday, & Friday  
9am-9pm

Wednesday, Friday, & Saturday  
9am-6pm

Sunday  
2pm-6pm

## 2016 Board of Trustees

Ward 2  
Mike Higginbotham, Chairman

Ward 1  
Karen Roberson

Ward 3  
Mack Chapman/John Krontiras

Ward 4  
Dr. Paul Doran

Ward 5  
Melvin Upchurch

Council Representative  
Alex Wyatt

**Homewood Public Library 1721 Oxmoor Road Homewood, Alabama 35209  
(205) 332-6600 HomewoodPublicLibrary.org**

# Community & Culture



Top left: Animal Allies, a new teen service club, rolled newspapers for the Greater Birmingham Humane Society.  
Top right: The Children's Department took crafts, games and stories to local Farmer's Markets.  
Bottom: The Book Art program attendees learned to fold a heart into old novels.



## Community & Culture at a Glance

In 2016 the Homewood Public Library hosted unique, educational, and entertaining programs for Children, Teens, and Adults.

### Children's Programs

549 programs  
40,497 attendance

### Teen Programs

159 programs  
5,404 attendance

### Adult Programs

274 programs  
7,515 attendance

Many community groups and businesses held their meetings and programs at Homewood Public Library in 2016. Over the course of the year, 1,787 meetings were held with an estimated attendance of 55,656 people.

The Homewood Public Library also has three study rooms for use on a first come, first serve basis. Between October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2016, these rooms were used a total of 1,620 times by 2,655 people.

Read to Rover, a partnership with the Greater Birmingham Humane Society, lets children practice their reading skills with animals.

# Services & Resources



Top: The crowd at Minimalist Bartending learned how to use household items to craft cocktails.  
Bottom Left: Super Science Night entertained families with fun experiments.  
Bottom Right: Stylish Downton Abbey Tea and Trivia contestants dressed in period costumes.



## Services & Resources at a Glance

As a member of the Jefferson County Library Cooperative Homewood Library's patrons have access to two million items throughout the county. The Homewood Library itself houses a collection of over 99,000 items for use by the public.

In 2016 the Homewood Public Library circulated 638,534 items.

**Books**  
245,434

**Other Physical Materials**  
205,487

**Electronic Materials**  
65,446

**Electronic Content Access and Retrieval**  
187,613

These items were checked out not only by Homewood Library's 23,181 registered users but by library card holders throughout Jefferson County as well.

34,124 items were sent to other Jefferson County libraries to be checked out by their patrons.

24,201 items were sent to Homewood Public Library for checkout.

Additionally, Library staff answered 186,330 questions about resources, programs, and materials.

Top: Lunch N Learn Investing Workshop, a partnership between the Library and Edward Jones.  
Bottom Left: Gilmore Girls Trivia Contestants dressed up as the tv show characters.  
Bottom Right: Teens learned basic sewing skills at Sew What!.

# Technology



## Technology At a Glance

The Homewood Public Library's Don E. Hatcher Technology Center offers public use of computers, a scanner, and a color printer, and free classes are held in the computer training lab. There are public use computers in every department.

In 2016, 72 classes were held in the training lab for 346 attendees.

Library computers were accessed by 47,215 patrons, primarily for internet and/or Microsoft Office use.

59,516 people brought their own laptops and devices and used the Library's free wifi.

In January the Homewood Public Library unveiled a new Krayon Kiosk (see left). This kiosk has been immensely popular and was used 22,234 times in 2016.

Mary Eller helps a young patron with at the Library's Krayon Kiosk. Purchased with a Rotary grant and unveiled in January 2016, this four iPad station features educational apps for young patrons.



# Community Involvement



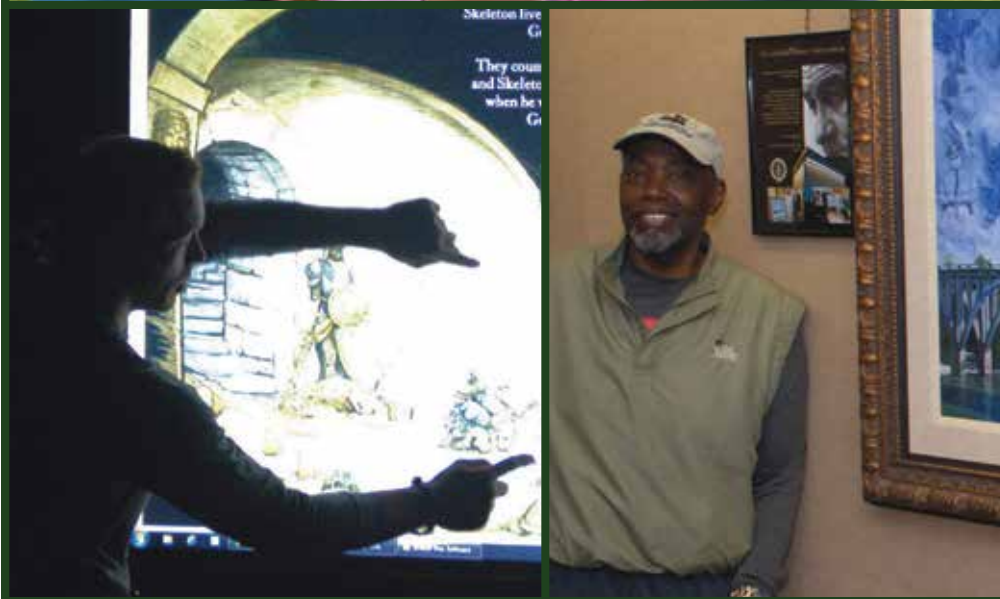
## Community Involvement at a Glance

The Homewood Public Library's staff went into the community throughout the year in 2016.

Children's staff conducted 28 storytimes at schools, daycares, festivals, and farmer's markets.

Adult staff facilitated a book club at the Homewood Senior Center each month and met regularly with lunch attendees to talk about what was going on at the Library.

Library staff also conducted offsite library card registrations 10 times over the course of the year at farmer's markets, community meetings, and schools.



Top: The Audubon Society taught bird watching basics.

Bottom Left: Author and illustrator Ben Hatke (*Zita the Space Girl*) came to talk about his books.

Bottom right: Nationally renowned artist Steve R. Skipper displayed his famous artwork in the Ellenburg Gallery.

# The Future



The Homewood Public Library is planning an expansion to better serve our community. This 3,000 square foot addition will be on the Ridge Road side of the Adult Services Department. It will relocate the Computer Services Department from the lower level to the main level of the Library, centralizing technology services for the public and providing easier access. The public computers currently in the Adult Department will be moved to the new Computer Department, making room for additional seating and shelving in the Adult Services Department. Extra study rooms, which are greatly needed by students using the Library, will be included in the expansion. The space freed up on the lower level will provide storage space for the Library as well as more meeting room space for use by the community. The expansion will also extend the current courtyard. This wonderful outdoor space is enjoyed year round by patrons reading books, using the Wi-Fi while they eat lunch, or simply enjoying the nice weather. Once enlarged, the courtyard may be used for small events and programs by the Library and the public.

# **“A CITY WITH A GREAT LIBRARY IS A GREAT CITY.”**

## **Thanks to the City of Homewood**

Homewood Library is loved by its users, has great leadership from the Library Board, and is wholeheartedly supported by the Friends of the Homewood Library and the Homewood Library Foundation. Even with this, the Homewood Library could not exist without the support of the City of Homewood. Mayor Scott McBrayer and the Homewood City Council, just as the Mayors and Councils before them, have generously funded the Homewood Library and realize its importance to this community.

## **The Friends of the Homewood Public Library**

The Friends of the Homewood Public Library is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization formed to support the Homewood Public Library and its mission to bring people, information and ideas together to enrich lives, build community and inspire lifelong learning.

The Friends manage and maintain the Friends of the Library Bookstore and recruit volunteers; sponsor cultural and other Library related programs for the community; promote increased public knowledge about the functions, resources, services, and needs of the Library, encourage gifts and memorials for the Library; provide funds to be used for items that are not included in the regular Library budget; and assist the Board of Trustees in raising funds for capital projects.

How can you help? Purchase books and other materials in the Friends of the Library Bookstore; attend the Bag Sales; donate items for the Bookstore and Bag Sales; become a Friends volunteer; join the Friends and/or make a donation to the organization. All donations are tax deductible.

For more information on the Friends of the Homewood Public Library contact Heather Cover at [hcover@bham.lib.al.us](mailto:hcover@bham.lib.al.us).

## **The Homewood Library Foundation**

The Homewood Library Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization which serves to enrich the Homewood Public Library as the cultural center of the community through raising private funds to supplement public funding for facilities, services, projects, collections and technology.

Donations to Foundation support their goals for improving facilities, funding community access to information technology, supporting creative educational programs, and enhancing the Library collection.

For more information on the Homewood Library Foundation contact Deborah Fout at [dfout@bham.lib.al.us](mailto:dfout@bham.lib.al.us).

# The Homewood Public Library's Community Partnerships

- AARP
- Alabama Ballet
- Alabama Humanities Foundation
- Alabama Institute for the Deaf & Blind
- Alabama Mentor
- Alabama Outdoors
- Alabama Symphony Orchestra
- Alabama Tech-Ease
- Alagasco
- Alzheimer's of Central Alabama
- Amanda Dabbs with the Fred Smith Group - Realty South
- Architectural Heritage
- AtHome Furnishings
- Auburn University
- Avondale Brewing
- The Bell Center
- Birmingham Audubon
- Birmingham Civil Rights Institute
- Birmingham Holocaust Educational Center
- Birmingham-Southern College
- Birmingham Sushi Classes
- Blank Canvas Art Academy
- Cahaba Cycle
- Carmike Cinemas
- Chick Fil A
- Chicken Salad Chick
- Clair McLafferty Evans
- Creative Montessori
- Dance Foundation
- Dave's Pizza
- Davis Architects
- Demetri's BBQ
- Dr. John K. Johnstone with UAB
- Dreamcakes
- Early Arts Preschool
- Ebsco
- Edgewood Creamery
- Edgewood Elementary School
- Edward Jones
- The Exceptional Foundation
- Fini Giattina
- First Partners Bank
- The Friends of the Homewood Public Library
- Fun Source Party Rentals
- Giattina Aycock Architecture Studio
- Girls Who Code
- Greater Birmingham Humane Society
- Grille 29
- Hall Kent Elementary School
- Hamburger Heaven
- The Homewood Library Foundation
- Homewood Art Center
- Homewood Chamber of Commerce
- Homewood Day School
- Homewood Family and Cosmetic Dentistry
- Homewood Fire Department
- Homewood Gourmet
- Homewood High School
- Homewood Middle School Peer Counselors
- Homewood Middle School
- Homewood Musical Instrument Repair
- Homewood Parks & Recreation
- Homewood Police Department
- Homewood Rotary
- Homewood Sporting Goods
- Homewood Toy & Hobby
- Horizons School
- Hunter's Cleaners
- iberiaBank
- Impact Martial Arts
- Insomnia Cookies
- Instagift
- IronTrust Insurance Agency, LLC
- Islamic Academy of Alabama
- Jersey Mikes
- John Carroll High School
- Kaplan Test Prep
- Kiwanis Club of Homewood-Mountain Brook
- La Petite Academy
- Limbaugh Toyota
- Little Donkey
- Little Professor Book Center
- Magic City Sweet Ice
- Master Image
- McWane Science Center
- Medicare
- Merrill Lynch
- Momma Goldberg's Deli
- Mountain Brook High School Special Education Department
- Nabeel's Mediterranean Café & Market
- New South Books
- Newks
- OLLI: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
- Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School
- Oxmoor Valley Orthodontics
- Pepsi/Buffalo Rock
- Piggly Wiggly
- Positive Maturity
- Powell Pediatric Dentistry
- Protech Recycling
- PT Orthodontics
- Publix
- Red Mountain Theater Company
- Rush Wines
- Samford University
- Scott Butler Photography
- Secure Destruction
- Shades Cahaba Elementary School
- Shaia's of Homewood Inc.
- Sisters in Crime (Murder in the Magic City)
- Skin Wellness Center
- South City Theatre
- Summit Training Academy
- Thomas Waters - State Farm
- The University of Alabama
- The University of Alabama at Birmingham
- UAB Callahan Eye Hospital Clini
- UAB Enabling Technology Lab
- UAB Neuroscience Center & Graduate School
- Urban Cookhouse
- University of Montevallo
- Vlachos Orthodontics
- The Wade Team - LAH Real Estate
- Western Supermarket
- Williams Blackstock Architects
- YMCA