

The New York Public Library

The Research Libraries • The Branch Libraries

General Fact Sheet 2003

Background

Created in 1895 when the private libraries of John Jacob Astor and James Lenox were consolidated with the Samuel Jones Tilden Trust, The New York Public Library (NYPL) comprises simultaneously a set of scholarly research collections and a network of community libraries. NYPL's intellectual and cultural range is both global and local, while singularly attuned to New York City. That combination lends to the Library an extraordinary richness. It is special also in being historically a privately managed, nonprofit corporation with a public mission, operating with both private and public financing in a century-old, still evolving partnership. Samuel Butler serves

as Chairman of the Library's Board of Trustees. Dr. Paul LeClerc serves as the Library's President.

The research collections (for reference only, and organized as The Research Libraries, with four major centers) resemble the holdings of the great national and university libraries, with holdings numbering more than 42 million items. The community circulating libraries (organized as The Branch Libraries, with 85 neighborhood branches) resemble classic American municipal libraries. They offer a wide range of services, including literacy tutoring, English-language instruction, and special services for people with disabilities.

Facts & Figures (as of June 30, 2002)

| | The Research Libraries | The Branch Libraries |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Locations 89 | 4, IN MANHATTAN: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Humanities and Social Sciences Library• The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center• Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture• Science, Industry and Business Library | 85, IN MANHATTAN, THE BRONX, AND STATEN ISLAND: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bronx: 34• Manhattan: 39• Staten Island: 12 |
| Staff 3,443 | 899 full time/313 hourly | 1,634 full time/597 hourly |
| Collections 49 million | 42,762,893 ITEMS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 14,933,283 books; the remainder includes maps, manuscripts, recordings, musical scores, posters, prints, clippings, and many other items | 6,647,603 ITEMS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4,377,648 books; the remainder includes films, DVDs, videos, CDs, audio tapes, pictures, and materials for the blind |

Facts & Figures (as of June 30, 2002)

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|---|---|--|
| Users in FY02 <i>15 million</i> | 1,788,286 | 13,210,875 |
| Cardholders <i>1.86 million</i> | N/A | 1,863,944 |
| Programs <i>29,924</i> | 1,514 Lectures and performances by artists, writers, musicians; technology training and special classes | 28,410 Poetry readings, story hours for children, author lectures, films, technology training, workshops |
| Exhibitions <i>2,259</i> | 29 major exhibitions highlighting the Library's rich and varied collections and rare materials | 2,242 branch displays, many featuring the work of local artists |
| Operating Support (as of 6/30/02) <i>\$273,543,000</i> | \$130,479,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of New York: \$63,626,000 (48%) • State of New York: \$11,327,000 (9%) • Federal government: \$1,368,000 (1%) • Investment income: \$29,393,000 (23%) • Contributions: \$17,955,000 (14%) • Other support and revenue: \$6,810,000 (5%) | \$143,064,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of New York: \$114,518,000 (80%) • State of New York: \$10,547,000 (7%) • Federal government: 534,000 (>1%) • Contributions: \$11,324,000 (8%) • Other support and revenue: \$6,141,000 (4%) |
| General | | |
| Endowment (as of 6/30/02) | \$450,000,000 | |
| Operating Expenses (as of 6/30/02) | \$290,921,000 | |
| Cyberfacts | WEBSITE: WWW.NYPL.ORG <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10,055,889 visits to website • 189 countries accessing website • 13,666 web pages • 61,397 web images • 1,769 computers for public use • 350 electronic databases for public use | |

