

Brooklyn Public Library General Fact Sheet 2007

Background

Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) is an independent library system for the 2.5 million residents of Brooklyn. It is the fifth largest library system in the United States, with 60 neighborhood libraries located across the borough. BPL offers free programs and services for all ages and stages of life, including a huge selection of books in more than 30 languages, author talks, literacy programs and public computers. BPL's eResources, such as eBooks and eVideos, catalog information, and free educational assistance, are available to customers of all ages 24 hours a day at BPL's website.

Facts & Figures (FY 07)

Population Served	2.5 million/5th largest public library system in nation
Locations	Central Library, Business Library, 58 neighborhood libraries
Collection	5,045,500 circulating and reference items, with materials in more than 50 languages
Circulation	16,496, 552 (checkouts and renewals)
Cardholders	1,079,297
Door Count/Attendance	12,410,531
Reference Questions	3,147,600
Home Page Visits	2,770,352
Computers for Public Use	1,078 public computers with high-speed Internet access
Electronic Resources	Wifi at every location. Website (www.brooklynpubliclibrary.com) includes links to hundreds of eJournals, reference databases, digital collections, eBooks, eAudio and eVideo
Volunteers/Hours*	1,323/71,567
Governing Board	25-member Board of Trustees appointed by the Mayor of the City of New York and the Brooklyn Borough President

Vision

Brooklyn Public Library will be a vital center of knowledge for all, and a leader in both traditional and innovative library services. BPL's resources will be multimedia, multilingual and accessible 24 hours a day. Local libraries will be welcoming, comfortable and up-to-date, while BPL satellites will bring library programming to customers across the borough. Through community relationships and private support, BPL will serve the public through programs and services that reflect the diverse and dynamic spirit of the people of Brooklyn.

**Based on figures from FY06.*

Public Service and Cultural Programming Highlights

Public Service

Adult Learning Centers (Literacy)

Caribbean Literacy & Cultural Center (CLCC)

The Child's Place for Children with Special Needs

Education & Job Information Center (EJIC)

ESOL

First Five Years: Pre-literacy programs for infants, toddlers and preschoolers

Live Online Homework Help

The Multilingual Center

Pre-GED Classes

Reading is Fundamental (RIF)

Service to the Aging

Summer Reading Program (Children and Adults)

T4 Computer Training Workshops for teens

Tutors

Workshops: Technology, Personal Finance, Health and Legal

Programming

Adults

Readings and Discussions, Films, Exhibitions and Artist Talks, Live Music and Performing Arts

Teens

Computer and Technology classes, Money for College workshops, Reading Groups, Poetry Slams, Games, Dance, Arts and Crafts, Music

Children

Creative Writing, Arts and Crafts, Games, Films, Math and Science, Music, Dance

Did You Know?

- There is a library within a half-mile of every Brooklyn resident.
- More than one million Brooklynites have library cards.
- Extraordinary Brooklynites are honored at the library's black tie gala each year. Past honorees include Richie Havens, Terry McMillan and Maurice Sendak.