



2015 Year in Review

By the Numbers

Our Vision

GCLS libraries are the center of an informed, engaged, and connected community.

Our Mission

The Gloucester County Library System provides welcoming community spaces where people gather to learn, create, and have fun.

- ◇ GCLS branches recorded 403,824 patron visits.
- ◇ GCLS branches circulated a total of 471,062 items.
- ◇ Library staff answered 34,385 reference questions.
- ◇ The library webpage was accessed 286,616 times.
- ◇ GCLS provided meeting room space for 1,519 community programs and 3,376 library programs, with a total attendance of 77,891.
- ◇ GCLS benefited from 3,304 hours of volunteer service.
- ◇ Over 1,205 recreational, cultural and educational programs for adults were offered at GCLS branches. More than 10,963 people attended these programs.
- ◇ Library staff provided 2,254 children’s programs in 2015, attended by 39,887 children and their caregivers.
- ◇ The GCLS Summer Reading Program registered 1,486 children and teens. They read 16,637 books during the six-week period. There were 301 special programs with 7,824 attendees.

Special Recognition

- ◇ GCLS Director Anne Wodnick was chosen as a recipient of Gloucester County Education Association’s “Friend of Education Award. The theme was *Literacy: the First Step in Lifelong Learning*.
- ◇ Head of Reference and Digital Services Ralph Bingham presented at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission’s “Breaking Ground 2015” conference in Philadelphia. He was part of a panel discussing *Makerspaces and the Next Industrial Revolution*.
- ◇ Head of Youth Services Jennifer Schureman was selected by the Young Adult Services association to present *Finding Yourself on the Shelves: Diversity in Ethnicity and Language for Your Teens* at the American Library Association’s 2016 Annual Conference. This is a national honor for Ms. Schureman and for GCLS.
- ◇ The Greater Swedesboro Business Association received the NJLA Library Champion Award in recognition of their ongoing library advocacy and generous financial support of the Swedesboro and Logan libraries. Swedesboro Councilwoman Diane Hale also received the NJLA Champion Award. Ms. Hale was recognized for her many contributions to the Swedesboro Library through the Municipal Alliance and as Chair of the Economic Development Committee and Clean Communities.

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Programming Highlights

GCLS branches offered educational, creative and fun programming for all ages.

NJ Maker's Day. GCLS was a founding partner in the establishment of NJ Makers Day, serving as a regional "hub" and offering a day of creative learning activities for children and adults at all branches.



Veterans were honored and thanked for their service at the Logan Branch. November 2015

Swedesboro Library was awash with butterflies in September as staff and residents released 29 monarch butterflies raised in the library under the supervision of Sr. Library Assistant Julie Suiter.



Holocaust Survivor Frances Neuman spoke at the Mullica Hill Branch about her experiences in a concentration camp as a child.

The Logan book club held a live discussion of *Gone Girl* with their counterparts at the library in **Logan, Australia** via Apple TV.



Iron Man visits the Glassboro Branch Summer Reading 2015

The Greenwich Library offered an African-American art program from the **NJ Council for the Humanities**. Dr. Anne Swartz presented a slide show that introduced unfamiliar and familiar artists, many of them women, and many that were part of an exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

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Museum Pass Program

In July 2015, GCLS began offering passes for several area museums. The program is funded by a generous donation from the Friends of GCLS. Passes are available at all branches. They may be borrowed by adult GCLS cardholders and checked out for one week on a first-come, first-served basis.

Museum passes were checked out a total of 625 times from July-December 2015. The most popular museum to date is the Battleship New Jersey.

Detailed information may be obtained at www.gcls.org/library-services/museum-pass-program or by calling the GCLS Reference Desk at 856-223-6050.

Participating museums are:

Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia

Battleship New Jersey, Camden

Camden Children's Garden

Garden State Discovery Museum,
Cherry Hill

Gloucester County Historical Society,
Woodbury

Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts,
Philadelphia

South Jersey Museum of American History,
Glassboro

University of Pennsylvania Museum of
Archaeology and Anthropology, Philadelphia

Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center,
Millville



Maker programming is not just about technology. It embraces all aspects of DIY. The **GCLS Library Garden** is a perfect example!

GCLS Volunteers Honored

GCLS volunteers were honored by the Volunteer Center of South Jersey at the 2015 Spirit of Community event. FURever as Friends received the prestigious Bob Shyroch award. John and Sharon Bednar and their teams of animal and human volunteers provide pet literacy programs at all our branches.

John Bednar and Logan Library volunteer, Dana McClellan were recognized as 2015 Volunteers of the Year. John and Dana also received Presidential Volunteer Service Awards, along with Robin McElroy and Gabby Ciminera from the Logan Branch; Shelby Carlton and Gabriel Cicone from the Swedesboro Branch; and Scott Doyle from the MakerStudio@GCLS.

We thank all our volunteers for their many contributions and dedicated service to GCLS.

Gloucester County Library System

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Branch Libraries

Glassboro Branch
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Glassboro, NJ 08028

Greenwich Branch
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Gibbstown, NJ 08027

Logan Branch
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Manager: Marge Dombrosky



Grants and Awards

- ◇ The GCLS Mullica Hill Library was awarded a \$7,500 Curiosity Creates grant from the Association for Library Services to Children. The grant funded the creation of the DesignStudio@GCLS and provides technology for graphic design, music mixing, and animation. The Grand Opening ceremony took place on February 27, 2016.
- ◇ GCLS was one of five institutions awarded the 26th annual NJ Council for the Humanities Book Award Collection. The collection includes 25 titles nominated by publishers from across the country.
- ◇ The new outdoor recreation area at the Logan Branch includes benches, game tables, and space for outdoor programs. Annina Hogan of Remington & Vernick received a First Place award from the NJ Society of Municipal Engineers for the design. Funding for the space was provided by the Township of Logan.
- ◇ Logan Branch manager Carolyn Oldt was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by Commander Charles Wells from Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10886 for her work serving local veterans.