The 21st century library is about learning in all possible formats. That's how we're approaching not only the collection and activities but the design of every single library renovation. How do people learn in each community; what are the activities they want in each community; and what kind of space do they need to make that happen?

Melanie Huggins
Richland Library Executive Director
RICHLAND LIBRARY

Libraries are in the business of serving communities, and while our physical facilities or the size and nature of our collection may change, we are constantly evolving and adapting so that we can continue to serve Richland County as a place of learning, creating and sharing.

Nearly 200,000 Richland County residents have library cards. This year, the library saw a 48% increase in the number of children ages zero to 12 who used their cards online or at one of our 11 library locations throughout Richland County.

Building Your Library

Richland Library has spent the last year talking with customers, community partners, collaborators and others about shaping our facilities to meet their needs both today and in years to come. From Community Conversations to Focus Groups and One-on-One Interviews, our design teams have worked hard to take community input and realize it through floor plans, refreshed service areas, innovative technology and more.

Focused on maximizing community participation and growth opportunities, the library held several information sessions with local, women and minority-owned businesses to educate them on the type of construction and finishing work that would be available for bid. By the end of the fiscal year, plans for both Richland Library North Main and Main had been revealed to the community and construction projects were out to bid.

For the latest news on Richland Library renovations and reconfigurations, visit BuildingYourLibrary.com.
DIGITAL RESOURCES

In addition to children's books; popular fiction and nonfiction; music CDs and movies; the library also provides access to a wide range of free downloadables—eBooks, audiobooks, and eMagazines as well as downloadable and streaming music, movies and TV shows.

This fiscal year, customers downloaded:

- More than 314,700 eBooks
- More than 89,500 audiobooks
- More than 48,900 eMagazines
- More than 164,000 songs
- More than 48,900 videos

Watching your favorite movie has never been easier. Customers now have access to streaming and downloadable movies through a new service called Hoopla as well as newly released DVDs and video games thanks to the self-serve Media Box that was piloted at the Main library.
CAREER & JOB RESOURCES

From dedicated spaces like The Business and Job Center and The Coworking Center, to innovative programs like Business Boot Camps, Richland Library's highly trained librarians and career coaches have helped turn dreaming into doing.

By the numbers:

- Online and printed job applications – 9,080
- Cover letters, resumes and references – 5,802
- Classes, programs and Goodwill information sessions – 1,665 attendees

Driving Entrepreneurial Spirit

As Richland County continues to grow, library staff are fueling residents' entrepreneurial spirit. Working one-on-one with budding entrepreneurs and small business owners, they've offered trusted assistance with business plan development, market research, demographic analysis and navigating the Affordable Care Act. All for free!
OUTREACH

Richland Library recognizes that those who need library materials and services most often have the greatest barriers. Our commitment to our community is evident in our ability to meet people where they are—including providing books and programs in our most at risk communities.

By the numbers:

- 789 programs attended by 33,269 people
- 12,672 books delivered to homebound seniors
- 71 community sponsored events attended
- 20 volunteer tutors took part in Project Summer Stride

Early Literacy

The library provided 483 early literacy outreach programs with 13,235 participants. These programs gave children exposure to the skills they need to be ready to read when they enter kindergarten, and also empower parents and caregivers to be their child's first (and perhaps most important) teacher. Thanks to funding from the Rotary Club of the Vista Night, programs included family storytimes in various community settings, like Gonzales Gardens (Columbia Housing Authority). In addition, Here Comes Kindergarten, funded through the United Way of the Midlands, provided parents and caregivers with early literacy skills and tools in Columbia Housing Authority sites, Section 8 housing, and Spanish-speaking areas of the Northeast.

Grade Level Reading

Project Summer Stride reduces summer learning loss by pairing more than 20 volunteer tutors with struggling students in grades first through third for one-on-one reading tutoring, special programs, field trips and enrichment activities in the summer months. Students also receive more than 15 high quality books to help them build a home library and a new backpack and school supplies for the next school year. The program is currently made possible by generous funding from United Way of the Midlands and in partnership with the Midlands Reading Consortium and Harbison West Elementary School.
Community Engagement

In an effort to promote access to resources throughout the community, the library attended 71 events—connecting with 6,908 attendees. Thanks to the addition of the Play Freely Bus in August 2014 and strong community partnerships, events included festivals, back-to-school bashes, school open houses, street fairs and more.

Essential Services

Committed to the continued growth of our community, the Community Outreach Department provided 188 programs geared towards promoting literacy and life skills to 32,791 participants.

Thanks to a unique partnership with South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, a Library Nurse joined the Outreach team in October 2014. Customers and staff received individualized assistance and participated in group programs on health related topics, flu clinics and more.

Through the generous support of the Knight Foundation Donor Advised Funds and the Central Carolina Community Foundation, residents were once again connected to reliable information about the Affordable Care Act (ACA) through library forums, information sessions, and a series on Marketplace education and enrollment. Navigators were available on-site at several library locations to walk customers through the ACA sign-up process.

Lifelong Learning

Over the past year, 12,672 books were delivered to more than 180 customers who are no longer physically able to visit the library. For many of these customers, the books they receive from the library are a true source of comfort. In addition, the library partnered with assisted living facilities to provide cultural programming and book discussions. Partnerships were also formed with the Richland County Recreation Commission, Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center, Transitions Homeless Recovery Center, and many local churches.
CHILDREN

Thanks to the library's robust collection, dedicated children's spaces, and award-winning staff, children are learning, creating and sharing every day at our libraries. From storytimes to puppet shows to mini maker spaces and outpost libraries at places like EdVenture Children's Museum, Richland Library understands the importance of making sure children have access to the evolving resources they need to grow into the community leaders of tomorrow.

Children's Highlights:

- 57,946 children ages 0 – 12 attended library programs
- 48% increase in the number of children ages 0 – 12 who used their library card
- More than 1.6 million children's books (print) and movies were checked out

The Lit Room

Richland Library worked with researchers and designers from Clemson University to host an experimental space that's equal parts high-touch and high-tech. Nestled in the Children's Room at Richland Library Main, the stand-alone space integrates both a traditional and digital learning environment. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the project has transformed the way Richland Library can share stories by creating an adaptive and exploratory learning environment. By introducing robotic elements that infuse the story with light, sound and movement, the room creates a multisensory reading experience. In other words, the everyday space of the library merges with the imaginary space of the book turning words into worlds.
Richland Library's high-quality programs and free access to a wide variety of technology help ensure all teenagers in Richland County have the support, opportunities and resources they need to graduate from high school and develop the 21st Century Skills of critical thinking and problem solving, communication, collaboration, and creativity.

In addition to its regular teen programming, the library spent the last year helping more than 250 teens and their families prepare for a successful future through a series of 15 grant-funded programs thanks to a $20,000 grant from the First Citizens Foundation. Highlights included Shark Tank: Teen Edition; My Teens Going to College, Now What?; and Within Reach: Arts and Communications Career Fair.

Community Conversations across the library system also highlighted the growing need for dedicated teen spaces as part of the building and renovation process currently underway.
OUR PEOPLE

Richland Library is an award-winning, forward-thinking public library system because of our exceptional, diverse staff, who are passionate about serving our community. From Librarians to graphic designers, social workers, accountants and more, Richland Library employs nearly 400 Midlands’ area residents. Interested in joining our team? Apply today.
VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are the heart of the library, giving countless hours of time to further our mission. Throughout the past year, 1,145 total volunteers served more than 23,000 hours - a value of more than $450,000. Volunteers include individuals and groups from local businesses, schools and community organizations like Americorp Vista Summer Associates, the United Way, and more.

Interested in volunteering? Call (803) 929-3436 or visit our website.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board members are appointed by Richland County Council and volunteer their time to advance their community.

2014 – 2015 Board

One of the library's missions is to be the preferred destination for information and entertainment, no matter how folks access that. The changes that we are making will broaden that access. That's why the bond referendum passed overwhelmingly – people see the library as a safe bastion of inspiring learning.

JoAnn Turnquist, Chair, Richland Library Board of Trustees, 2014-2015

Robert E. Gahagan, Vice Chair
Ed Garrison
Alethia P. Rearden
Joyce Dickerson, Norman Jackson, Kelvin Washington - 2014 Richland County Council Liaisons

Nathaniel A. Barber, Treasurer
Jack Godbold
Kirby D. Shealy III

Ida W. Thompson, Secretary
Rev. Johnny Ray Noble
Yvonne Stocker

Elected to Serve 2015 – 2016

Nathaniel A. Barber, Chair
Johnny Ray Noble, Vice Treasurer
Betty L. Gregory
James “Jamie” Shadd III

Ed Garrison, Vice Chair
Yvonne Stocker, Secretary
Katherine Swartz Hilton

Ida W. Thompson, Treasurer
Cheryl English
Alethia P. Rearden
RICHLAND LIBRARY FRIENDS

The Richland Library Friends is a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising support for library programs and spearheading advocacy efforts on behalf of the library. Established in 1975 by the Junior League of Columbia, Inc., the Friends group raises money throughout the year in book sales and special events including The Literary Vine. Ready to join? Visit RichlandLibrary.com or call (803) 988-0885.

This fiscal year, the Richland Library Friends:

- Volunteered **more than 5,200 hours** to support Richland Library.
- **Raised nearly $75,000** to support the library through their quarterly book sales, pop-up sales and half-price sales.
- Contributed **nearly $100,000** to champion library programming system-wide
- Took part in Community Conversations to help shape the future of library services and building plans.
- Encouraged **more than 20,000 children**, teens and adults to participate in the 2014 Friends' Summer Learning Challenge.

2014 – 2015 Board

From learning to knit to learning about new legislation, you can accomplish anything thanks to the library and its innovative approaches to addressing literacy through the lens of the 21st Century learner. The Richland Library Friends are honored to support the library’s efforts to serve our community through access to cutting edge technology and superior programming for all ages.

Susan Hackett, President
Susan Mazur, Vice President
JP Lee, Immediate Past President
Tara Branham
Erin Crawford
Amy Hill
Sarah Martin
Rebecca Roser
Sara Weinberg
JoAnn Turnquist, Richland Library’s Board of Trustees Representative

Elected to Serve 2015 – 2016

Susan Mazur, President
Sara Weinberg, Secretary
Nathaniel Barber, Richland Library’s Board of Trustees Representative

John Bradley, Vice President
Ashlye Wilkerson

Aubrey Dillard, Treasurer
Robin Blume
Michelle J. Clark
Tracy Haisley
Suzy Madden
Chakisse Newton
Jess Torres
The Richland Library Foundation is concluding its Learning Centers campaign after raising nearly $500,000 to fund youth and work force development programs and services in five library locations across Richland County. Funding was received from local corporations and foundations as well as those who serve on the Library's three volunteer boards—the Foundation, Friends, and Trustees. The final phase of the campaign now underway focuses on support from individual donors.

While public funding supports basic library operations, private support helps ensure a higher level of service both now and in the future. It's what makes the difference between a good library and a great library.

**Donations**

Tax-deductible gifts are accepted in any amount. [Donate Now](#) by using our convenient, safe online contribution form.

**2015 – 2015 Board**

The five Learning Centers funded by the Foundation campaign will ensure the right technology and programs will be in place to maximize Richland Library's ability to meet the diverse needs of our communities. We're proud to have provided nearly $500,000 in funding for this initiative from the Foundation's very first major gifts campaign.
David Campbell, Chair
Buddy Bateman
Beth Elliott
David Hodges
Lee Rambo

Adam Davis, Vice Chair
Tony Cooper
Sara Fisher
John Nichols
R. Neal Reynolds, M.D.

Sarena Burch, Secretary/Treasurer
Susie Dibble
Alexander Fournil
Nonie Price

Elected to Serve 2015 – 2016

Adam Davis, Chair
Sarena Burch, Vice Chair
Sara Fisher, Secretary/Treasurer

Susan Hackett, Richland Library Friends' Representative
OUR NUMBERS

REVENUES

$23,764,000  County Appropriation
$619,550    State Aid
$2,557,380  Bond Revenue
$935,685    Miscellaneous

TOTAL

$27,876,615
EXPENDITURES

$15,934,982 Personnel
$3,923,169 Materials
$3,634,798 Operations
$2,857,441 Capital Projects

TOTAL

$26,350,390

Addition to reserves: $1,526,225
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Items Checked Out</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main</td>
<td>1,666,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballentine</td>
<td>293,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blythewood</td>
<td>185,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper</td>
<td>478,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastover</td>
<td>67,448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Main</td>
<td>156,377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>353,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandhills</td>
<td>624,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>526,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Andrews</td>
<td>449,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheatley</td>
<td>182,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>27,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EdVenture</td>
<td>1,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,013,777</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
eRESOURCES CHECKED OUT

- 314,758 eBooks
- 89,564 eAudiobooks
- 48,905 eMagazines
- 164,010 eMusic
- 508,922 Streaming Music
- 9,797 eVideos

TOTAL 1,135,956
LIBRARY USE

199,483
Total registered borrowers

26,516
New registered borrowers

5,063
Number of in-library programs

83,796
Number of attendees at in-library programs

789
Number of outreach programs

33,269
Number of attendees at outreach programs
5,013,777 items checked out this fiscal year

2,682,317 visits this fiscal year

199,483 registered borrowers

52% increase in eAudiobooks checked out this year

47,141 people attended early literacy programs held by the library this fiscal year

3,059 individuals were served through our Homebound Service this year.
## CONTACT US

### Locations and Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library Main</td>
<td>1431 Assembly St.</td>
<td>(803) 799-9084</td>
<td>Mon – Thurs, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Fri – Sat, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Sun, 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library Cooper</td>
<td>5317 North Trenholm Rd.</td>
<td>(803) 787-3462</td>
<td>Mon – Thurs, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Fri, Sat, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library Northeast</td>
<td>7490 Parklane Rd.</td>
<td>(803) 736-6575</td>
<td>Mon – Thurs, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Fri, Sat, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library St. Andrews</td>
<td>2916 Broad River Rd.</td>
<td>(803) 772-6675</td>
<td>Mon – Thurs, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Fri, Sat, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Sun, 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library Ballentine</td>
<td>1321 Dutch Fork Rd.</td>
<td>(803) 781-5026</td>
<td>Mon – Thurs, 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library Eastover</td>
<td>608 Main St.</td>
<td>(803) 353-8584</td>
<td>Mon – Thurs 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. Fri, Sat, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library Sandhills</td>
<td>1 Summit Parkway at Clemson Rd.</td>
<td>(803) 699-9230</td>
<td>Mon – Thurs, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Fri, Sat, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library Wheatley</td>
<td>931 Woodrow St.</td>
<td>(803) 799-5873</td>
<td>Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Tues, Thurs 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library Blythewood</td>
<td>218 McNulty Rd.</td>
<td>(803) 691-9806</td>
<td>Mon – Thurs, 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. Fri, Sat, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library North Main</td>
<td>5306 North Main St.</td>
<td>(803) 754-7734</td>
<td>Mon – Thurs, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Fri, Sat, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richland Library Southeast</td>
<td>7421 Garners Ferry Rd.</td>
<td>(803) 776-0855</td>
<td>Mon – Thurs, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Fri, Sat, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Sun, 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All hours are subject to change.
HOW DO I...

- Find a Children’s Book, (803) 929-3434
- Get my account info, (803) 929-3456
- Reserve a meeting room, (803) 929-3457
- Find a newspaper or magazine, (803) 929-3405
- Find music, movies or eBooks, (803) 929-3450
- Get help finding a job, (803) 929-3401
- Research my family history, (803) 929-3402
- Start a research project, (803) 929-3400
- Volunteer at the library, (803) 929-3436
- Access the Deaf Relay Service, (803) 735-2905

Need to renew materials? It’s easy!

Call (803) 929-3425 or (803) 929-3427.
Visit any Richland Library location.
Richland Library offers more than 60,000 eBooks in its collection.

Richland Library has more than 26,516 people registered for a Richland Library card this fiscal year.

Richland Library has more than 350 eMagazine titles available for download.

1,145 Richland Library volunteers contributed more than 23,000 hours of service last year.

83,796 people attended more than 5,000 library programs this year.

You can check out 60 books at a time with your Richland Library card.

The library's work force development teams assisted with more than 9,000 job applications.

The Media Box at Main holds more than 750 new release DVDs and video games.

There are currently more cardholders than non-cardholders in Richland County.