

Executive Director's Report January 2018

(covering time period of November 20, 2017 – January 19, 2018)

New York State Budget Update

On January 16, 2018, New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo released his Executive Budget for FY 2018-2019. The budget proposes direct cuts in State Library Aid and State Library Construction Aid. Library Aid faces a cut of \$4 Million to \$91.6 Million and Library Construction Aid faces a cut of \$10 Million to \$14 Million. These cuts would result in funding at a level comparable to FY 2010-2011 Education Law formulas.

The New York Library Association (NYLA) is leading state-wide advocacy efforts to raise the funding levels for Library Aid up to \$102.6 Million (amount required by current Education Law formulas) and for Library Construction Aid up to \$24 Million. Advocacy efforts are crucial to restoring and ideally increasing Library Aid and Library Construction Aid and are already underway. On January 10, 2018, the New York State Assembly Committee on Libraries and Education Technology held a public hearing in Albany. WLS submitted written testimony, which can be found by visiting the [WLS Library Advocacy webpage](#). The NYS Legislature Westchester Assembly Delegation is holding a Public Forum on the proposed budget that will be held on Friday, February 2nd, from 10:30 AM-2 PM at the Greenburgh Town Hall, 177 Hillside Avenue. I have registered to speak at this public forum.

NYLA's annual Library Advocacy Day will be held on Wednesday, February 28th. Member library directors and trustees have been notified regarding possible plans for this year's event, which may include participation in a special tour to celebrate The New York State Library's 200th Anniversary. Interest is currently being gauged, and further details will be forthcoming.

Of course, one of the best ways to voice your support for increased funding is to contact your State representatives by phone, mail or email. Use of social media is also effective—post to your Facebook wall, tweet about Library Aid, or add a button to your website by using the [social media advocacy tools provided by NYLA](#). It is important to express to our legislators that additional library funding will allow public library systems and public libraries to meet essential community needs.

Snapshot of Digital Content within WLS

Mobile technology has evolved as a normal, often expected, part of everyday life. With the mobile phone's growth and acceptance have come opportunities for libraries to get digital content and information into everyone's hands. Below is a snapshot of usage statistics for downloadable materials made available through WLS-funded resources over a 10-year period

from 2008 to 2017. Overall usage recorded in 2008 was 8,507 and by 2017, the annual usage recorded was 516,033—that is an increase of **6,000%**. While e-books remain the most popular, the usage of products that offer other formats such as music (via Freegal) has overtaken that of audiobooks.

Year	Audiobooks	E-books	Magazine issues	Movies & TV Shows	Music songs	Total for All Formats
2008	7,119	1,370	-	11	7	8,507
2009	22,626	38,740	-	94	299	61,759
2010	29,024	51,879	-	113	245	81,261
2011	30,470	92,523	-	83	282	123,358
2012	32,076	172,077	-	108	130	204,391
2013	40,833	185,514	-	149	94,014	320,510
2014	52,527	211,901	-	85	90,336	354,849
2015	59,921	266,625	2,189	2,349	134,775	465,859
2016	68,823	297,575	2,019	1,860	132,376	502,653
2017	79,098	285,055	15,106	8,037	128,737	516,033

This usage snapshot includes the following content providers: Flipster (magazine issues), Freading (e-books), Freegal (music), Hoopla (audiobooks, e-books, movies/TV & music), Instant Flix (movies), OverDrive (audiobooks, e-books, movies/TV & music), PressReader (magazine issues), Recorded Books (audiobooks), Total Boox (e-books) and Tumblebooks (e-books). Additional digital resources are available as well and their usage statistics can be viewed on the [WLS Information Technology Wiki](#).

Evaluation on a cost-per-use perspective for 2017 (shown below) suggests a steady per-use price that can provide cost efficiencies through these digital formats. As a reminder, many of these resources have been fully or partially funded by Central Library Aid and are budgeted to provide continued support in 2018.

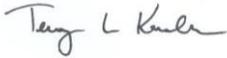
	2017 Costs	2017 Cost/Circulation
Audiobooks	\$ 74,846.69	\$ 0.95
E-books	\$ 317,960.38	\$ 1.12
Magazine issues	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 1.99
Movies/TV Shows	\$ 17,971.10	\$ 2.24
Music	\$ 163,989.25	\$ 1.27
Total All Formats:	\$ 604,767.42	\$ 1.17

We are in the early stages of the mobile revolution and there is still much room for growth. As more services transition to mobile products, WLS will continue to support our member libraries in meeting the growing demand for downloadable electronic content; in training staff in new technologies; and in promoting ways of utilizing these materials to connect with communities.

Future Events

February 9-13	American Library Association (ALA) Mid-Winter Conference, Denver, CO
March 20-24	Public Library Association (PLA) Conference – Philadelphia, PA
April 6	<i>Celebrating Westchester Libraries</i> Breakfast – Doral Arrowwood, Rye Brook
April 24	WLS Multi-language Book Fair – White Plains Public Library
April 27-28	Library Trustee Association (LTA) Trustee Institute – Uniondale, NY

Respectfully submitted,



Terry L. Kirchner
Executive Director

LIST OF VISITS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED
November 20, 2017 – January 19, 2018

NOVEMBER

- 20 Nancy Silberkleit, Co-Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Archie Comics Publications
Elise Burke, Executive Assistant
- 21 Programming & Services for Adults
Rob Caluori, Director of Information Technology (IT)
NonProfit Westchester (NPW) Executive Meeting
- 22 Pat Brigham, Director of Development
Hui Sheng, Manager, eContent & Resource Sharing
- 27 Sean Ryan, WLS Trustee
- 28 Rob Caluori, Director of IT
WLS Board Meeting
- 29 Pat Brigham, Director of Development
WLS Staff Meeting

DECEMBER

- 4 Elise Burke, Executive Assistant
NPW Annual Meeting
- 5 Rob Caluori, Director of IT
Impact100 Westchester, Greenburgh Public Library
Public Library System Directors (PULISDO) and NYS Library Division of Library Development
Conference Call
- 6 Tom Geoffino, Director, New Rochelle Public Library
Hui Sheng, Manager, eContent & Resource Sharing
- 7 SirsiDynix Operations Conference Call
Douglas Wray, Manager, Cataloging Services
- 12 Sean Ryan, WLS Trustee; Brian Kenney, Director, White Plains Public Library
Rob Caluori, Director of IT
- 13 Pat Brigham, Director of Development
Webinar: *Recent Changes to E-Rate and Compliance with CIPA: An Update*
- 14 Westchester Library Association (WLA) Board Meeting, Ossining Public Library
- 19 Rob Caluori, Director of IT
- 20 NPW Executive Committee, Mental Health Association (MHA) of Westchester
Pat Brigham, Director of Development
Hui Sheng, Manager, eContent & Resource Sharing
New Yorkers for Better Libraries Conference Call
- 21 Public Library Directors Association (PLDA) General Membership Meeting
Douglas Wray, Manager, Cataloging Services

JANUARY 2018

- 2 Rob Caluori, Director of IT
- 3 Fine Free Discussion Group
Pat Brigham, Director of Development
Hui Sheng, Manager, eContent & Resource Sharing
CEO Learning Lab 360 Feedback Review, Westchester Community Foundation
- 8-16 Vacation
- 17 New Yorkers for Better Libraries Conference Call
Elise Burke, Executive Assistant
- 18 PLDA Strategic Planning Workshop with Plan A Advisors & General Membership Meeting
eContent/Central Library Committee Conference Call re e-book platform
- 19 CEO Learning Lab, Westchester Community Foundation