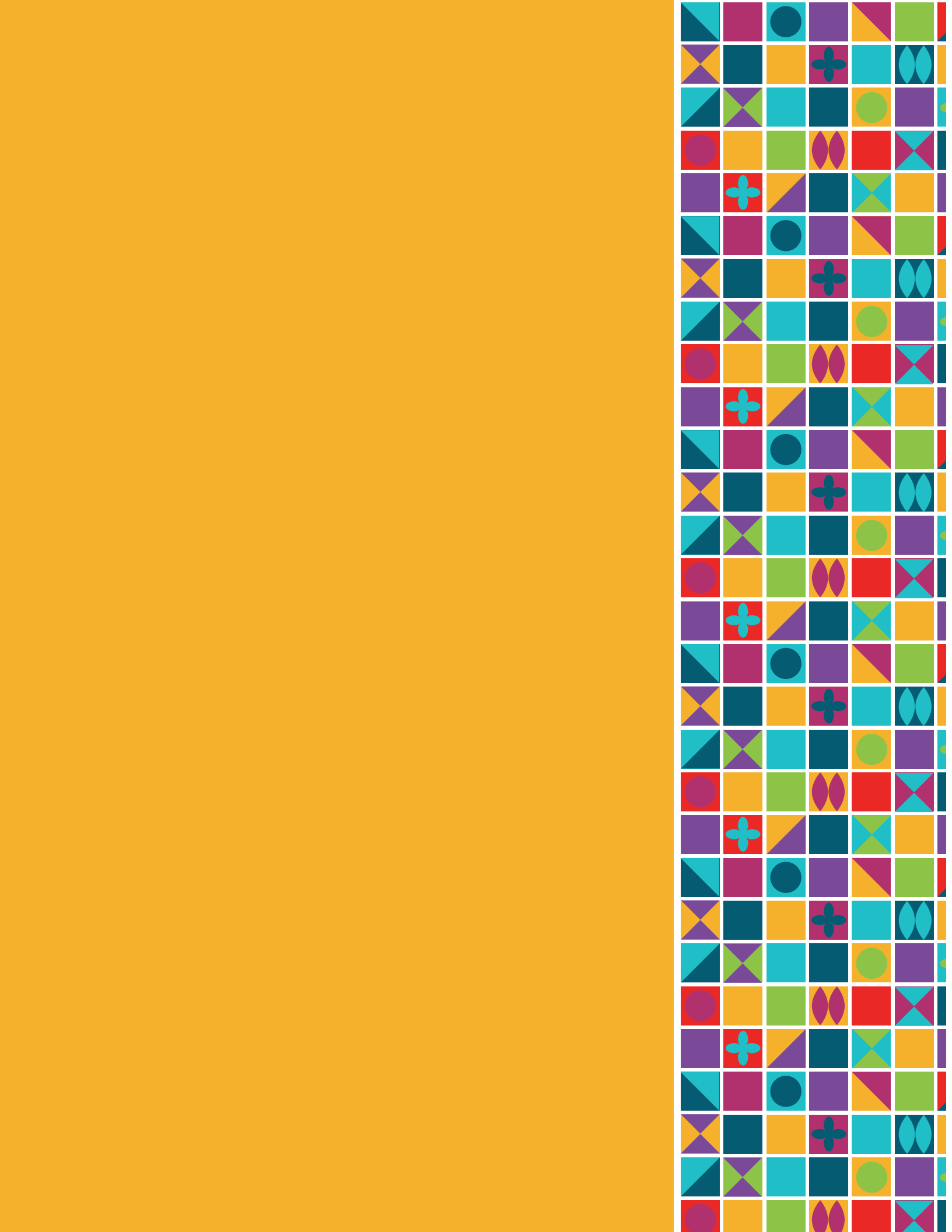


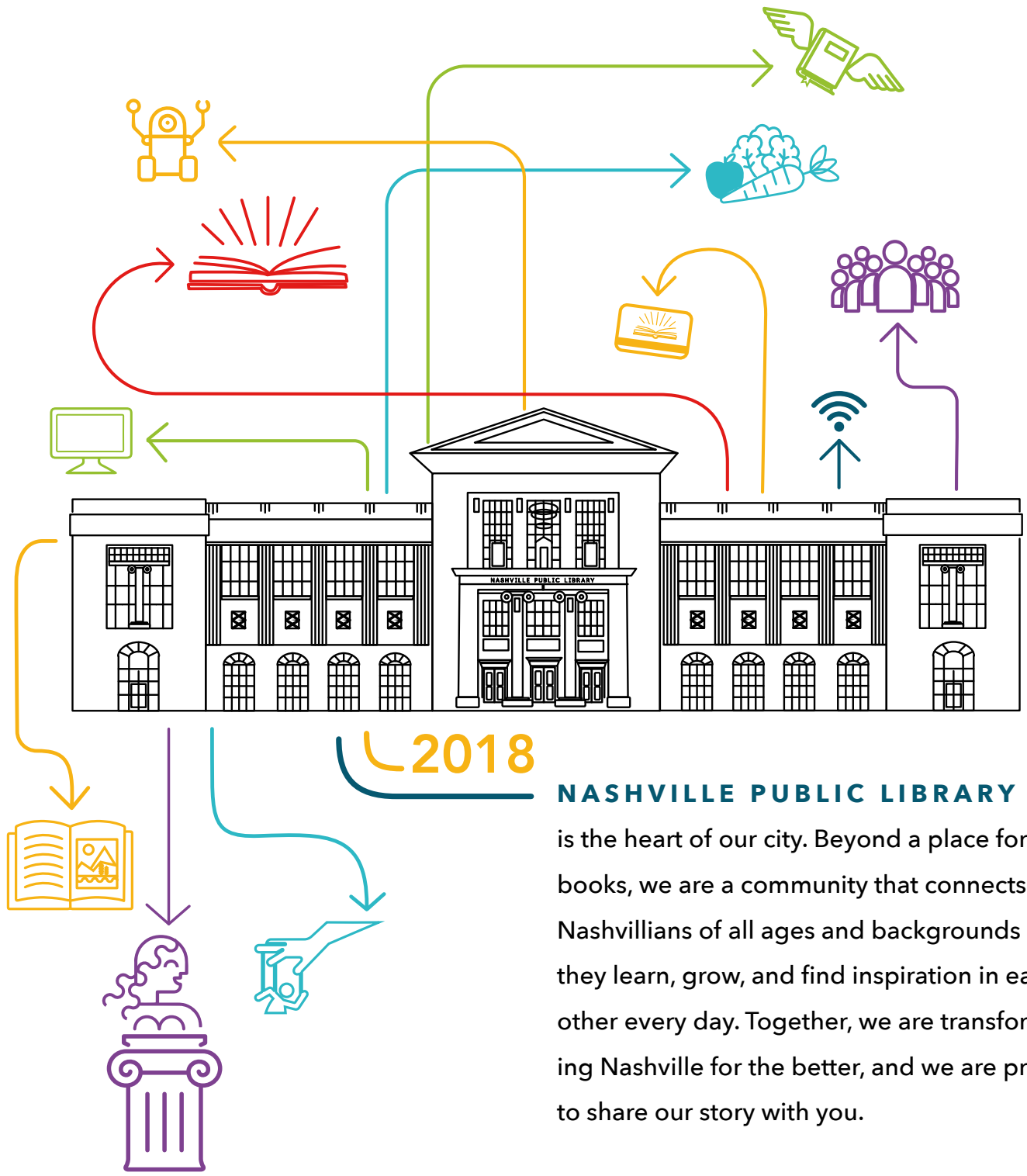
*The Nashville Public Library Foundation
and Nashville Public Library*

LIBRARIES

TRANSFORM

2017 - 2018 ANNUAL REPORT





NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

is the heart of our city. Beyond a place for books, we are a community that connects Nashvillians of all ages and backgrounds as they learn, grow, and find inspiration in each other every day. Together, we are transforming Nashville for the better, and we are proud to share our story with you.





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INSPIRE READING, ADVANCE LEARNING, CONNECT COMMUNITY



This mission drives the people who use, work for, volunteer at, and support Nashville Public Library. As we begin 2019, I have been reflecting on how we've accomplished our mission in the last twelve months.

First, we held steady to our commitment to intellectual freedom. You can't advance learning by putting limits on a person's right to discover an idea, question it, and decide for themselves. You can't support democracy that way, either.

At Nashville Public Library, we'll never tell you what to read or what not to read. We will do everything we can to give you free access to as many stories and ideas as possible and let you choose.

Second, we reached people across Davidson County who needed access to a computer or internet connection and wanted to learn how to use them meaningfully - everything from paying bills and applying for jobs to using social media and reading ebooks.

Digital literacy is one focus area for our adult education work. Smart, hardworking people in our community see a space between their current skills and abilities and the accomplishments and milestones they have the natural potential to realize.

Our job is to share free learning tools and instruction with them to close that gap.

Of course, you can't address education gaps in Nashville without acknowledging this crisis: two in three of Nashville's third-graders aren't reading at grade level. That can set into motion alarming patterns of high-school dropout, limited earning potential, and lifelong struggle.

This summer, more than 17,000 Nashvillians read

for a total of 11,350,000 minutes, helping to fight "summer slide." We use that term to describe summer learning loss that can occur when students stop reading during their break.

Finally, as we created a welcoming environment for people to thrive as readers and learners, we also focused on growing as neighbors and citizens.

People from different races, countries, and across the many lenses through which we see and identify ourselves have **participated in our Civil Rights and Civil Society workshops**. They've joined our staff from the library's Civil Rights Room to have respectful, courageous conversations about the complex civil rights issues we face today.

Much of the work you'll read about here is possible because of private support received through the Nashville Public Library Foundation, thousands of hours of service from library volunteers, and support from elected and community leaders who see how Nashville's library benefits our city.

We are thankful for them, and for the book lovers, thinkers, artists, and inventors who invest their time and talents into making Nashville a great city with a great library.

Sincerely,

Kent Oliver
Director, Nashville Public Library



LIBRARIES TRANSFORM

Dear Friends,

Over this past year, the phrase **Libraries Transform** has been ubiquitous for us at the Nashville Public Library Foundation. Each month, we have highlighted the transformative impact of Nashville Public Library upon the communities we serve.

Transformation happens every day at library branches throughout the city with **programs that foster civic conversation, nurture curiosity and confidence in children and teens, and cultivate lifelong learning.**

As I read through these pages and reflect upon all the ways I've seen NPL and NPLF change Nashville for the better this year, I'm especially thankful for you - our patrons, advocates, volunteers, and friends - for making it all possible with your generosity, your energy, and your dedication to our community.

This year, we were **thrilled when Friends of the Nashville Public Library officially joined forces with the Nashville Public Library Foundation**, maximizing our collective power to engage more community

supporters to expand the library's reach across the greater Nashville area.

In addition, we continued to **celebrate the legacy of Margaret Ann Robinson, as the Endowment established in her honor hit the \$1M milestone.** Through this funding, the library that Margaret Ann loved will continue to thrive for years to come. The following pages tell our story, highlighting the dynamic and diverse programs that the Foundation is able to fund throughout the year. We are proud to showcase the many ways in which the Nashville Public Library brings our city together to learn, to grow, and to connect.

Because of your support every step of the way, our Library can transform us all.

Sincerely,

Shawn Bakker,
President, Nashville Public Library Foundation

5,648,749
NUMBER OF ITEMS BORROWED

12 MILLION
Minutes Read During
Summer Reading Challenge

329,889 Questions Answered
(reference transactions)

96,993

Books Delivered to
Students Through
Limitless Libraries

31,430
NEW
LIBRARY
CARDS

337,650
People Attending Events

17
LANGUAGES
Represented
in the Library's
Collection

22,248
Volunteer
Service
Hours



607
PUPPET TRUCK
Performances

450
WISHING
CHAIR
Performances

1,862,048
DIGITAL DOWNLOADS
(books, music, and magazines)

882 Generous Donors

1,952
Health and Wellness
Programs Provided

20
CELEBRATED
AUTHORS
Visiting
for Our
Salon Series

400
Patrons
Celebrating
the Library
at the
Annual
Gala

3,261,586
LIBRARY
VISITS

330
Digital Inclusion
Programs
Conducted

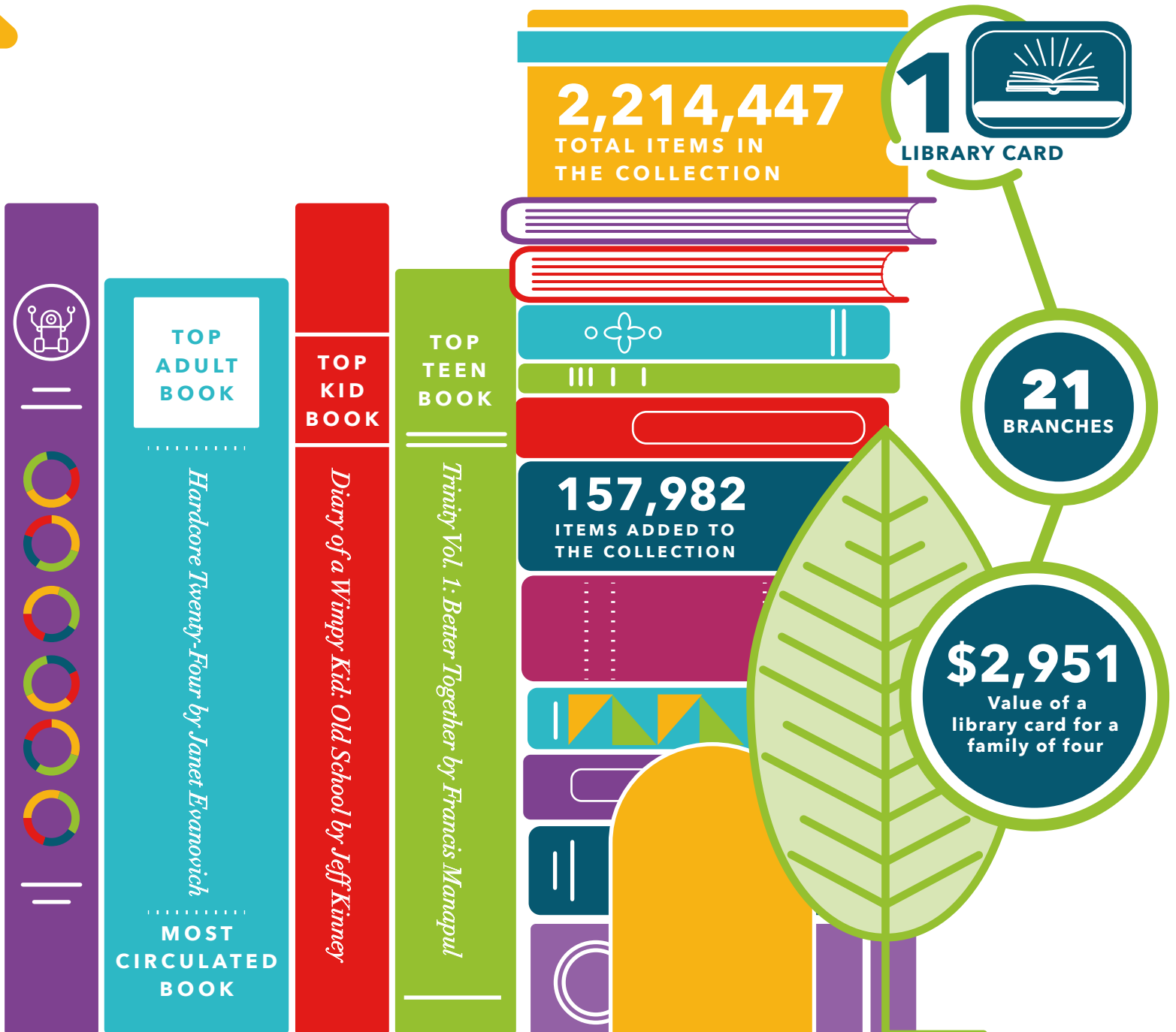




2017-2018

Nashville Public Library

BY THE NUMBERS

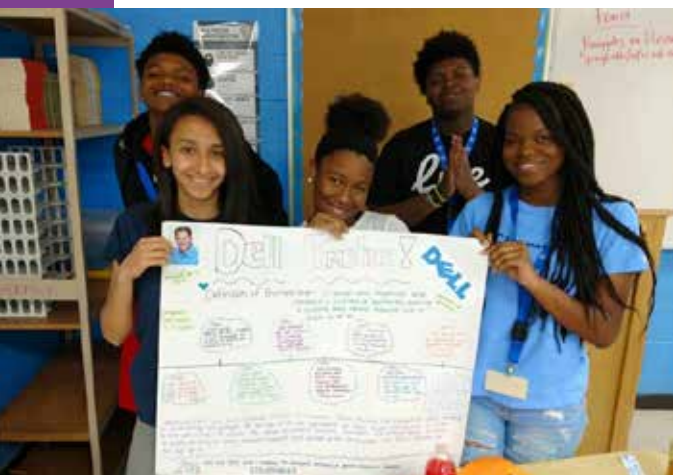


SPOTLIGHT

Studio NPL

The teen years are a complex time that plays out inside and beyond the classroom. With a safe and supportive “third space” beyond homes and schools, students can fill this time with creativity, personal development, and practical learning. Studio NPL provides students with such **a space, where mentors help teens find their voices through dynamic learning experiences and cutting-edge technologies.**

This past year, teens have visited Studio NPL learning spaces more than 25,000 times to participate in one of 1,909 workshops or to work on their own projects. Drop in on any of Nashville Public Library’s eight studios or mobile lab sites, and you’ll see students collaborating and sharing ideas. You’ll



also find mentors, creative and technical professionals, teaching teens how to bring their ideas to life. **From tracking beats to shooting videos, performing slam poems to using 3D printers, Studio NPL is a place of possibility.**



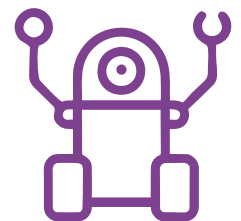
“What I love about the Studio is its openness to everyone and how much is possible there. I've developed friendships with people that I never thought I would through having the space in common.”

Rachel, Studio NPL student

Through these creative opportunities, **mentors help teens lay a foundation of confidence, critical thinking, and digital literacy.** This year, 86% of students participating in Studio NPL reported an increase in their understanding of technology tools, and 68% reported an awareness of new careers and career pathways. Most importantly, Studio NPL motivates teens to venture out of their comfort zones and become self-directed learners: 88% of participating teens reported gaining confidence and life skills over the past year.

Though it may look like all fun and games, Studio NPL is a launch pad that will propel teens into a thriving life beyond high school, wherever their creativity may lead.

86% of students participating in Studio NPL reported an increase in their understanding of technology tools



In 2018, teens visited Studio NPL learning spaces more than 25,000 times.



**BECAUSE A
MENTOR
CAN TURN
"I NEVER"
INTO
"I NEVER
KNEW I
COULD DO
THAT."**

BBTL served 13,903 children, parents, and teachers through
443 story times, workshops, and training sessions.

BECAUSE A STORY CAN MAKE A BOOK COME ALIVE.



SPOTLIGHT

Bringing Books to Life!

Nashville Public Library is dedicated to nurturing kids' curiosity and cultivating their reading readiness. We know children entering kindergarten ready to read are more likely to graduate high school, and we want to equip teachers, parents, and caregivers with the tools and training they need to get kids excited about reading. That's why we developed our award-winning early literacy program, Bringing Books to Life!

Bringing Books to Life! partners with 160 preschools and daycare centers throughout Nashville to connect families and educators with the library's dynamic, age-appropriate resources. For each workshop, Bringing Books to Life! experts select a storybook to bring to life through specially-developed classroom resources and the library's famous marionette shows. Our staff of early childhood educators leads

a fun-filled story time in the classroom so children can engage with the storybook, and teachers can experience read-aloud techniques in action. Beyond the classroom, we provide professional development for educators and families at literacy workshops, where caregivers learn the importance of reading aloud with children and receive free books to grow their home libraries. This work culminates in an exciting performance from the library's Puppet Truck.

Demand for the program continues to grow. This year, **BBTL served 13,903 children, parents, and teachers through 443 story times, workshops, and training sessions.** We are committed to meeting our community's needs, and 69% of BBTL workshops, offered in both English and Spanish, occurred in Nashville's most underserved neighborhoods. Nashville Public Library is one of the largest agencies in our city that provides ongoing literacy workshops at this scale. We are proud to work with parents and educators throughout Nashville to inspire children to read.

**There's always so much you
can build on with a book.**

Janice Minor, Rosedale Baptist Church Child Care director





Wishing Chair
brought more
than 450
performances
to the library's
21 branches.

SPOTLIGHT

Wishing Chair Productions

Since 1938, when revered puppeteer Tom Tichenor performed his first “Puss in Boots” marionette show at Nashville Public Library, puppetry has been one of our most cherished traditions.

Today, our award-winning Wishing Chair Productions troupe continues to delight Nashvillians of all ages with magical performances and innovative storytelling. Drawing on puppetry techniques from all over the world, **Wishing Chair gives performances across the city** ranging from old favorites like “Cinderella” to shows like “Anansi the Spider” and “The Stonecutter” that are inspired by Nashvillians’ diverse storytelling traditions.

As a beloved fixture of our city’s culture, Wishing Chair Productions partners with institutions like the Nashville Ballet, the Nashville Jazz Workshop, and the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum to develop

world-class puppet theater. This year, Wishing Chair introduced two new shows: “Gulliver’s Travels,” which debuted at Music City Irish Fest, and “Momotaro, the Peach Boy.” Produced with guidance from the Japanese Consulate, “Momotaro” vividly brings a classic Japanese folktale to life with hand-carved puppets and traditional Bunraku puppetry.

More than 59,000 children and adults visited the library this year to experience Wishing Chair’s weekly story times, and Wishing Chair brought more than 450 performances to the library’s 21 branches and out in the community. We also worked closely with the library’s Bringing Books to Life! program to inspire reading-readiness in preschools across the city. This year, our mobile Puppet Trucks delivered 647 literature-based puppet shows to more than 47,200 enthralled children. In every performance, we built upon Tom Tichenor’s legacy of storytelling, and we look forward to enchanting Nashville for years to come.

**BECAUSE PUNCTUATION
WITHOUT IMAGINATION
MAKES A SENTENCE,
NOT A STORY.**



SPOTLIGHT

Nashville Reads

We want to bring people together around great literature. Every year, we recommend a good book to our entire city and hold free forums and events to explore its themes - it's like a citywide book club for Nashvillians of all ages and backgrounds, and it's called Nashville Reads.

For Nashville Reads 2018, we selected John T. Edge's *The Potlikker Papers: A Food History of the Modern South*. Beginning with the lunch counter sit-ins of the civil rights movement, Edge traces a people's history of the South through the food that has fueled social change and shaped our region as we know it today. **By encouraging our neighbors to read *The Potlikker Papers*, we wanted to bring our community together through food and highlight Nashville's history, cuisine, and people.**

To get the conversation started, the library and our Nashville Reads partners distributed free copies of *The Potlikker Papers* throughout the city for residents to pick up, discover, and pass on in an initiative called "Take Me, Read Me, Leave Me." We also kicked the Nashville Reads season off with a panel discussion featuring legends



2018 Nashville Reads:
*The Potlikker Papers: A Food
History of the Modern South*
by John T. Edge

of Nashville's food scene, including Margot McCormack of Margot Café and Tandy Wilson of City House.

Throughout Nashville Reads 2018, we partnered with local restaurants and organizations to hold book discussions, give free cooking demonstrations, and more. We even invited our neighbors to contribute to an exhibit for the Main Library created by Dirty Pages, a local recipe storytelling project.

In May, we wrapped up with our finale: a discussion of *The Potlikker Papers* with the author followed by a conversation with representatives of Nashville's food future.

I think Nashville Reads is an important initiative because it helps define who we are as a city. It sends a message about what we value and what is important to us... reading, learning, and creating a sense of community. *Renee, Nashville Reads participant*

**BECAUSE
OUR
CITY CAN
COME
TOGETHER
AROUND
A GOOD
BOOK.**

This summer, 18,000 children, teens, and adults read for a grand total of 12 million minutes.

**BECAUSE
SUMMER
BREAK
CAN BE A
READING
ROCK
STAR'S BIG
BREAK.**





SPOTLIGHT

Summer Reading Challenge

“Summer slide” might sound like fun, but it’s actually what we at the library call the loss of reading and cognitive skills that occurs when children don’t read over the summer. This loss is cumulative, and children who lose those reading skills can be as much as two years behind their classmates by the end of the sixth grade. However, **studies show reading just four or five books over the summer can make a big difference.** Nashville Public Library wants to turn the tables on summer slide.

Through our Summer Reading Challenge, we aim to make summertime a time for practicing reading skills, not losing them. **Participants in the Summer Challenge log reading time and participate in learning activities to earn points toward fun prizes.** Those who log 600 minutes of reading, about 20 minutes a day, earn the coveted status of Reading Rock Star.

This summer, 18,000 children, teens, and adults read for a grand total of 12 million minutes, and **11,000 participants read their way to rock stardom.**

The Summer Reading Challenge is a flexible program, engaging people of all ages, from infancy to adulthood. Being read to by a grown-up is just as important for little ones as independent reading for older children, and we encourage adult participants to read to a child in their life.

“ It is encouraging to me when I hear my 11-year old granddaughter use words that I had no idea she knew or even understood. My grandson, a junior in high school, always has a book in his hand and has a couple in his backpack. Reading will never be a lost art in our family. And awarding prizes is genius - who doesn’t want to win a prize?

Carol, Summer Reading Challenge participant”

The library also creates Summer Reading Challenge resources in multiple languages and provides free books and programs at outreach locations in the community, so everyone can have a chance to be a rock star. Summer slide? Not on our watch.

BECAUSE UNDERSTANDING OUR PAST IS THE FIRST STEP IN BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE.



We have to know our history in order to progress, in order to move forward, in order to have better relationships with the communities that we protect and serve.

Richard Moore, TBI Assistant Director

SPOTLIGHT

Civil Rights and A Civil Society



Nashville Public Library's Civil Rights Room provides our community with a space to come together in open dialogue about our history and to grapple with the issues of equity and intercultural development facing us today. Overlooking the intersection of Church Street and Seventh Avenue North where nonviolent protests against segregated lunch counters took place in 1960, the Civil Rights Room archives first-hand photographs, periodicals, manuscripts, news accounts, and oral histories that tell the story of the civil rights movement in Nashville.

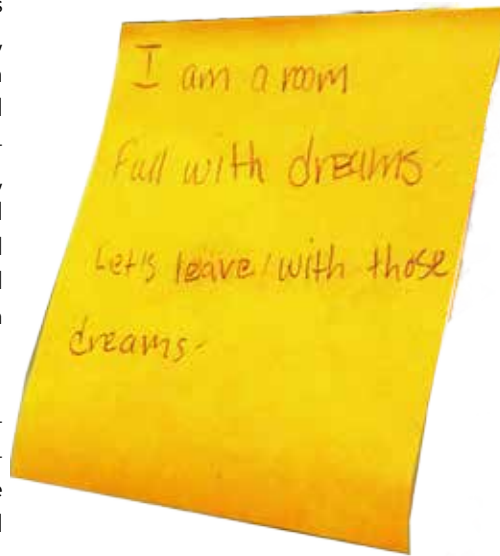
Our Civil Rights Collection has been utilized by everyone from researchers and classrooms to corporate organizations and community groups from across the nation. We are proud to welcome nearly **10,000 visitors to the Civil Rights Room each year.**

Our Civil Rights and a Civil Society program builds upon this foundation, using local history as a gateway to productive conversations and storytelling to give voice to ex-

periences in the struggle for equality and democracy. **Begun as a training experience for law enforcement officials and recruits, Civil Rights and a Civil Society facilitates conversations for groups** throughout the community. Participants use the library's unique resources to discuss complex community dynamics in ways that encourage open discussion and greater understanding through a historical framework.

Civil Rights and a Civil Society is internationally recognized and emulated for its approach to community dialogue - 6,598 people from universities, schools, community organizations, corporate groups, and law enforcement institutions participated in Civil Rights and a Civil Society this year.

Nearly 92% of all attendees indicated that the program was effective in changing their attitudes and perceptions. Through these conversations, we work to inspire cultural awareness, sensitivity, and empathy in our community and nation.



10,000 people visited the Civil Rights Room

6,598 children, youth and adults participated in Civil Rights and a Civil Society

92% of participants reported a change in attitudes and perceptions

**BECAUSE
AFTER SCHOOL
IS JUST THE
BEGINNING
OF THE STORY.**



SPOTLIGHT

NAZA

“ The NAZA program takes kids off the streets and puts them in an environment where they can learn fellowship, and have a good time.

*Steve Fleming,
Bethlehem Centers
CEO* ”

The hours between the end of the school day and the end of a parent's workday can be a vulnerable time for kids. National studies show that unsupervised students are more likely to engage in crime, become victims of crime, or to try risky behaviors between the hours of three and six o'clock. **While those hours can represent a precarious in-between space for kids, Nashville Public Library believes that space can be reclaimed for tremendous exploration and potential.** That's why we invest in the Nashville After Zone Alliance.

Nashville After Zone Alliance (NAZA) is a nationally recognized network of free, high quality afterschool programs that provide Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) middle school students with safe spaces to learn and explore creative outlets, both at school and in the community. Designed to expand the horizons of our city's youth, NAZA supplements in-school learning while introducing middle school students to new learning opportunities.

At NAZA-sponsored sites, kids do homework, develop their social and emotional skills, and participate in engaging academic and enrichment activities led by caring adults.

Over the past school year, NAZA **supported the growth of 2,097 young people through quality programming at 44 safe spaces** in middle schools and throughout the city. The learning didn't stop when the last school bell rang, either. This summer, 304 kids participated in our STEAM programming offered in cooperation with Metro Parks. We also partnered with the Mayor's Opportunity NOW initiative to provide 504 high school students with opportunities through our Teen Explorers' Camp.

Because we know that educators are at the heart of thriving afterschool programs, **NAZA also offers professional support to organizations working with Nashville's youth.** This year, we conducted training for 309 youth workers. In doing so, we estimate that NAZA has also indirectly benefitted nearly 5,700 young people.

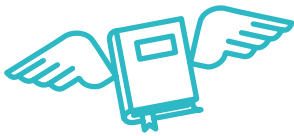


**BECAUSE
LEARNING
SHOULDN'T
BE LIMITED BY
A BUS ROUTE.**



SPOTLIGHT

Limitless Libraries



92,000+
Nashville public
school students
have access
to over
2 million
physical and
digital items.

Ask a Metro Nashville Public School librarian, and they'll tell you: our students love to read. Some devotedly follow their favorite series of fantasy fiction; others start book clubs with their friends, and some even download graphic novels to read on their phones. Unfortunately, transportation barriers can make it difficult for many of these young readers to visit a library regularly. **For many students, the school library is their only easily-accessible resource for the books and tools they need.** That's why Nashville Public Library collaborates with Metro Nashville Public Schools to invest in Limitless Libraries. **Limitless Libraries is a nationally-recognized initiative that shares Nashville Public Library's collections with all 125 of our city's traditional public schools, removing all barriers to access for students and teachers by delivering physical and digital materials directly to school libraries.**

Through this program, Metro students' school ID becomes their library card. Students can request any book or resource from our collection and have it delivered right to their school within a week. That means that each of Nashville's 92,000-plus

public school students and educators has access to over two million physical and digital items - everything from classic novels to ebooks, databases, and audio-visual materials for English Language Learners. **This year, patrons of Limitless Libraries checked out 176,828 items, 96,993 of which were sent through our school delivery system.**

Limitless Libraries is a truly innovative collaboration, and it's yielding exciting results in our schools. This school year, **83% of responding Metro students reported checking out books for fun**, a 15% increase from last year, and 61% checked out books to support their studies. Plus, 20 school libraries stayed open this summer because of our advocacy, and independent reading time is now being encouraged in Metro schools.

At the library, we believe in limitless learning. Limitless Libraries is helping to make that a reality in our schools.

I've seen Limitless Libraries impact students a lot over the past few years. There are some kids who, like me, found out about the program through a librarian and now order their favorite books just as frequently as me. Sometimes, I've gotten a smile on my face over the years when I see kids zooming over to the counter to check for their books just as eagerly as I did and still do to this day.

Kathleen, Limitless Libraries student participant

**BECAUSE
YOU'RE NEVER
TOO OLD
TO LEARN
SOMETHING
NEW.**



SPOTLIGHT

Adult Literacy

“ NPL exemplifies true partnership. They allow collective need to drive programming, which is why they are the best in the nation. The library provides what the community values.

*Kim Karesh, CEO of the
Nashville Adult Literacy Council* ”

At Nashville Public Library, we are committed to connecting adults and seniors in our community with the resources they need to succeed. Nashville adults come to the Library with a variety of educational needs. Our city is richly diverse and constantly growing, which means many of our neighbors need English language and citizenship support. This August alone, more than 900 Nashville residents participated in our English language learning programs, and close to 800 more were on the waitlist. In addition, many residents are looking for opportunities to close the gap between their current skill sets and the personal visions they have for themselves. In Davidson County, 12% of adults lack basic reading comprehension skills; even more do not have a high school diploma or equivalent, and many are unemployed. Overall, an estimated 250,000 residents need adult education support.

Our Adult Literacy program staff partner with more than 35 local organizations to offer scheduled classes, drop-in sessions, and one-on-one teaching throughout our community. We support residents' life-long growth in digital literacy, job skills, high school equivalency, English language learning, and more. This year, **more than 4,500 adults benefitted from 1,000 classes and workshops.**

While we provide space and resources for classes, we know an educational program is only as strong as its teachers. That's why **we are dedicated to fostering literacy partnerships, leading a citywide conversation among adult educators** about best practices and collaboration techniques, and provide educators with opportunities for professional development. This year, at our annual Middle Tennessee Adult Education Symposium focused on issues of collective impact and systems change. Our Adult Literacy program provides vital support for our city, and the library continues to be a hub for Nashville's adult education community.



SPOTLIGHT

Digital Inclusion

Today, digital technology is at once an everyday reality and an ever-evolving frontier. Yet, while digital tools continue to transform the ways we learn and work, a lack of digital literacy skills presents a barrier to student achievement, employment, and higher education. Many Nashvillians turn to their neighborhood library for help. **Hosting nearly 800,000 public computer sessions each year**, Nashville Public Library has become our city's center for digital education and public access to technology. Beyond providing our patrons with free access to computers and the internet, we offer **a comprehensive series of free digital literacy programs and resources** that equip people to thrive in a digital world.

Our Digital Inclusion initiative takes digital literacy beyond the library and into the community, increasing access to digital education and cultivating a more digitally literate society. We partner with organizations including FiftyForward and MDHA to develop classes and programs that meet the needs of our neighbors, from Metro students to senior citizens. This year, our

Digital Inclusion initiative included 330 classes, labs, and community events for more than 1,946 attendees across the city. We were especially excited to pilot our CyberSeniors program in collaboration with FiftyForward and Opportunity NOW, which teaches older adults new computer skills with help from youth mentors.

After taking part in Digital Inclusion programs this year, **95% of participants reported feeling more knowledgeable about using digital resources; 90% reported feeling more confident with those resources; and 93% said they intended to apply what they had learned to their lives.** We know digital literacy can open a world full of possibilities, and we are equipping our neighbors to discover those possibilities for themselves.

I am very excited about this new phase in my life. It is all because of you and the computer training I received through Nashville Public Library.

Lee, Digital Inclusion graduate



**BECAUSE
A LITTLE
KNOW-HOW
CAN MAKE A
SMART PHONE
SMARTER.**

**BECAUSE
WELLNESS
SHOULDN'T
BE A
PRIVILEGE.**



SPOTLIGHT

Be Well at NPL

We consider our neighbors' health to be a big deal, and we understand that health is about more than just healthcare. **Many Nashville residents can face significant barriers accessing wellness information and activities.**

In fact, Davidson County has been ranked 44th among 95 Tennessee counties for socio-economic factors affecting health outcomes: 22% of Nashville adults have not graduated high school, 29% of our children live in poverty, and 19% of residents face severe housing problems.

The library aims to break down those barriers to access. While we hold health and wellness classes at all of our branches, **the Be Well at NPL program focuses on enriching the communities served by our branch locations through free health activities, education, and resources provided in a safe and welcoming environment.**

Residents can attend nutrition seminars, join a casual cooking club, stretch out during weekly yoga classes, and more. Be Well at NPL also partners with several organizations in the community, such as NashvilleHealth, Small

World Yoga, TSU Extension, Second Harvest Food Bank, NAMI Davidson County, Mental Health Cooperative, and Neighborhood

Health, to connect residents with the resources and expertise they need to enjoy healthier lives.

Be Well at NPL is making a big difference for Nashville residents. **This year, we provided 1,952 health and wellness programs to 25,595 patrons.** Plus, **81% of participants indicated they would make a health change based on what they learned from Be Well at NPL.** 97% of program attendees indicated that classes being free, welcoming and conveniently located affected their decision to attend.

“Most excellent class on smart eating... Shopping tips and saving money was a big plus. The teacher was highly knowledgeable, able to answer questions - she engaged the class and served tasty bites.

Participant in a class on “Eating Smart, Moving More””



1,952

health and wellness programs for 25,595 patrons.



BECAUSE A LITERARY COMMUNITY IS WORTH CELEBRATING.



SPOTLIGHT

2017 Literary Gala

Each year, the Nashville Public Library Literary Award brings an outstanding individual to Nashville to honor her or his achievements, to benefit the Library, and to promote books and literacy. In past years, the library has presented the Award to distinguished individuals and literary icons Margaret Atwood, Ann Patchett, John Lewis, Billy Collins, David Halberstam, John Irving, John Updike, David McCullough, Doris Kearns Goodwin, John McPhee, Robert K. Massie, Scott Turow, and Jon Meacham. In 2017, the library's fourteenth annual Literary Award **honored award-winning author Elizabeth Gilbert, not only for her significant achievements, but for her unique ability to inspire creativity, exploration, and discovery through the written word.**

The Literary Award weekend kicked off with 'the best book club in town' - the Patrons Party. We had much to celebrate: the Nashville Public Library Foundation's **twentieth**



anniversary, Nashville Public Library's recognition as the 2017 Library of the Year and, of course, the patrons who make it all possible. Held at the home of Keith and Jon Meacham and chaired by Anna Windrow, the Patrons Party honored former Nashville Mayor and Governor Phil Bredesen for his foundational work that's helped grow NPL into a world-class library system. Guests mingled with friends and colleagues before sitting down to an insightful and entertaining conversation between Meacham and Bredesen.

The Nashville Public Library Foundation also invited the community to come together for a free Public Lecture given by the Literary Award Honoree. On Saturday morning, Elizabeth Gilbert joined Ann Patchett at Montgomery Bell Academy for an hour-long conversation touching on everything from Gilbert's classic memoir *Eat, Pray, Love* to her most recent book, *Big Magic: Creative Living Beyond Fear*.

Finally, we capped off the weekend by honoring Elizabeth Gilbert at our annual black-tie Gala at the Main Library. Co-chaired by Denine Torr and Laura Anne Turner, the Literary Award Gala drew its theme from Gilbert's *Big Magic*, looking to the future of NPL while celebrating where we've been. More than 400 guests joined us for an evening of cocktails, literary conversation, and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet and mingle with the acclaimed author.



Following cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in Ingram Hall, our guests ascended to the Grand Reading Room for dinner and remarks from co-chairs Torr and Turner, Foundation president Shawn Bakker, and Mayor Megan Barry. After dinner, Elizabeth Gilbert accepted the 2017 Nashville Public Library Literary Award with a moving personal story about the centrality of community to human thriving and creativity.

In addition to honoring Gilbert and celebrating the library, we remembered Nashville Public Library's strongest advocate, Margaret Ann Robinson, with the inaugural Margaret Ann Robinson Leadership Award. Presented this year to Phil Bredesen, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, and the Turner Family, the award will continue to be presented every five years to individuals and organizations that have championed the mission of Nashville Public Library and its Foundation, just as Margaret Ann did for more than thirty years.

This year's Literary Award was a great success, raising close to \$800,000 to support the work of the Nashville Public Library Foundation. Proceeds from the weekend's events ensure that NPL's vital programs continue to enrich our community for years to come.



**BECAUSE WE
CELEBRATE
AND SUPPORT
NASHVILLE'S
FAMILIES.**



SPOTLIGHT

Picnic with the Library

Last spring, Nashville Public Library Foundation hosted its **third annual Picnic with the Library fundraiser in support of the library's signature children's programming.** Co-chaired by Cassidy Bentley and Ashley Frist, this was our biggest Picnic yet, with a sold out crowd of more than 600 people.

Held in the Main Library's Robinson Courtyard and Children's Department, families enjoyed an afternoon of picnic-style food, drinks, fun, and entertainment, including exclusive puppet performances by Wishing Chair Productions, music, crafts, face painting, a photo booth, and more. The Picnic was an incredible success, raising money for the Nashville After Zone Alliance, Studio NPL, Limitless Libraries, and Summer Reading Challenge.



GIFTS BETWEEN JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2018

Donors by Gift Level

Nashville Public Library and the Nashville Public Library Foundation thank our donors for their generous support.

**BECAUSE
GENEROSITY
IS AT THE
HEART OF
WHAT WE
DO.**

Gifts of more than \$100,000

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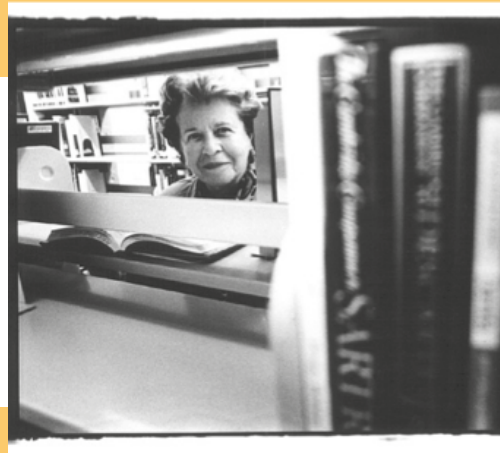
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A LASTING LEGACY

The Margaret Ann Robinson Endowment

“She loved that the wonderful resources of the Nashville Public Library were available to every Nashvillian.”

As Libby Page, NPLF Board member and daughter of Margaret Ann Robinson, recently said: “Mom was a people-person down to her core, and she loved that the wonderful resources of Nashville Public Library were available to every Nashvillian. **She knew everyone in her beloved city could find something to delight and inspire them in the Public Library.**”

Margaret Ann Robinson transformed the Nashville Public Library for the better. For forty years she poured her intelligence, wit, and energy into the library, securing its place at the heart of Nashville and connecting with every corner of the community. Margaret Ann served on the library and foundation boards from her first appointment by then-mayor Richard Fulton in 1977 until her death in 2017. She left an indelible mark on the Nashville Public Library and Foundation, and we are deeply indebted to her advocacy and example.

The Margaret Ann Robinson Endowment was created in 2017 to carry forward

the legacy of one of the Library's fiercest champions. As NPL adapts to our growing city and its changing needs, the Endowment will stand at the center of the library's support system, just as its namesake did throughout her life.

Our community has honored Margaret Ann's memory with an outpouring of generosity - **within a year of its creation, the Endowment reached its initial goal of \$1,000,000 in funding.**

Margaret Ann Robinson saw the library as a central thread in the tapestry of civil society - it is a community institution that connects people from all walks of life. The Endowment honors her work and her vision, ensuring that Nashvillians of all ages and backgrounds have access to our greatest civic treasure today and for years to come. Through all the ways that NPL continues to transform our community, Margaret Ann's legacy lives on in support of the library she loved.

OUR FISCAL STORY

Nashville Public Library Financials

As a department of Metro Nashville, Nashville Public Library receives the majority of its funding directly from the city. The Nashville Public Library Foundation was created in 1997 to enhance the library's programs, facilities and collections beyond the city's budget. We are pleased to share our joint fiscal story and showcase how a thriving partnership between local government funding and private philanthropy makes a difference for library patrons and the city of Nashville.

Capital Budget

The capital budget funds the library's physical footprint and uses bond proceeds to support construction, renovation and large library maintenance equipment.

LIBRARY MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADES	485,776
MADISON BRANCH RENOVATIONS	1,506,156
MAIN CONFERENCE CENTER RENOVATIONS	1,133,523
MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASES	3,327,689
TOTAL FY18 CAPITAL BUDGET	6,453,144

JULY 1
2017
THROUGH
JUNE 30
2018

Operating Budget

The operating budget is the annual amount approved by Metro Council to operate the Nashville Public Library System. This includes general fund appropriations (personnel, utilities, repairs and other costs associated with operating NPL facilities) as well as support from the Nashville Public Library Foundation and state and federal grants.

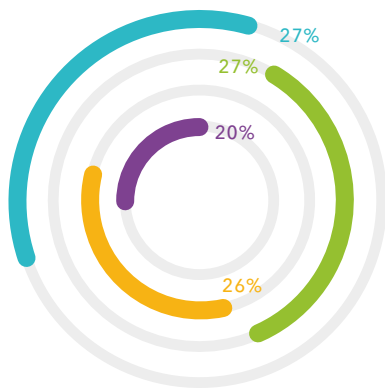
OPERATING BUDGET	30,793,711
ADDITIONAL FUNDING	
STATE AND FEDERAL GRANTS	143,394
NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION	
DIRECT FUNDING TO NPL	656,649*
TOTAL FY18 NON-CAPITAL BUDGET	31,593,754

*The Nashville Public Library Foundation provided an additional \$2,012,682 on behalf of NPL and in total contributed \$2.6 Million towards library programs, collections and facilities.

NPL Foundation Financials

The Nashville Public Library Foundation is supported by generous community members dedicated to building a brighter city by empowering one of our city's greatest resources - Nashville Public Library.

JULY 1
2017
THROUGH
JUNE 30
2018



Revenue

CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUPPORT	2,996,249
SPECIAL EVENTS	577,497
EARNED INCOME	49,337
INVESTMENT EARNINGS	520,292
RESTRICTED FOR FUTURE YEARS	(962,249)
TOTAL REVENUE	3,181,126

Expenses

CHILDREN	426,868
TEENS	421,158
LIFELONG LEARNING	261,908
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	172,710
GENERAL PROGRAMMING	197,365
COLLECTIONS	686,826
LIBRARY OPERATIONS	160,329
NPLF OPERATIONS	823,493
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,150,657
SURPLUS	30,469

LIBRARY LEADERSHIP

Great Professionals

Nashville Public Library Foundation Board of Directors

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* Ex-Officio

Nashville Public Library
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Claudia Schenck <i>Director of Operations and Events</i>
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Felicia Terry <i>Database and Strategic Information Manager</i>
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Elyse Adler
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Assistant Director for Branch Services

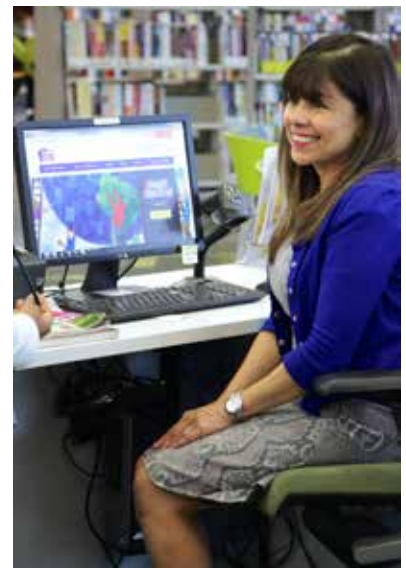
Jena Schmid
Assistant Director for Main Library

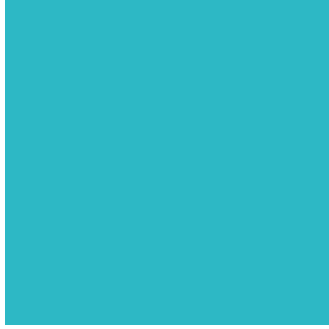
Felicia Wilson
Assistant Director for Collections and Technology





TRA





TRANSFORMING OUR LIVES





A city with a great library is a great city.



**Nashville Public Library
Main Library**

615 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37219
(615) 862-5800

Bellevue Branch Library

720 Baugh Road
Nashville, TN 37221
(615) 862-5854

Bordeaux Branch Library

4000 Clarksville Pike
Nashville, TN 3721
(615) 862-5856

Donelson Branch Library

2315 Lebanon Pike
Nashville, TN 37214
(615) 862-5859

East Branch Library

206 Gallatin Avenue
Nashville, TN 37206
(615) 862-5860

Edgehill Branch Library

1409 12th Avenue South
Nashville, TN 37203
(615) 862-5861

Edmondson Pike Branch Library

5501 Edmondson Pike
Nashville, TN 37211
(615) 880-3957

Goodlettsville Branch Library

205 Rivergate Parkway
Goodlettsville, TN 37072
(615) 862-5862

Green Hills Branch Library

3701 Benham Avenue
Nashville, TN 37215
(615) 862-5863



Hadley Park Branch Library

1039 28th Avenue N
Nashville, TN 37208
(615) 862-5865

Hermitage Branch Library

3700 James Kay Lane
Hermitage, TN 37076
(615) 880-3951

Inglewood Branch Library

4312 Gallatin Pike
Nashville, TN 37216
(615) 862-5866

Madison Branch Library

Gallatin Pike South
Madison, TN 37115
(615) 862-5868

North Branch Library

1001 Monroe Street
Nashville, TN 37208
(615) 862-5858

Old Hickory Branch Library

1010 Jones Street
Old Hickory, TN 37138
(615) 862-5869

Richland Park Branch Library

4711 Charlotte Avenue
Nashville, TN 37209
(615) 862-5870

Southeast Branch Library

5260 Hickory Hollow Parkway
#201
Antioch, TN 37013
(615) 862-5871

Thompson Lane Branch Library

380 Thompson Lane
Nashville, TN 37211
(615) 862-5873

Looby Branch Library

2301 Rosa L Parks Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37228
(615) 862-5867

Pruitt Branch Library

117 Charles E. Davis Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37210
(615) 862-5985

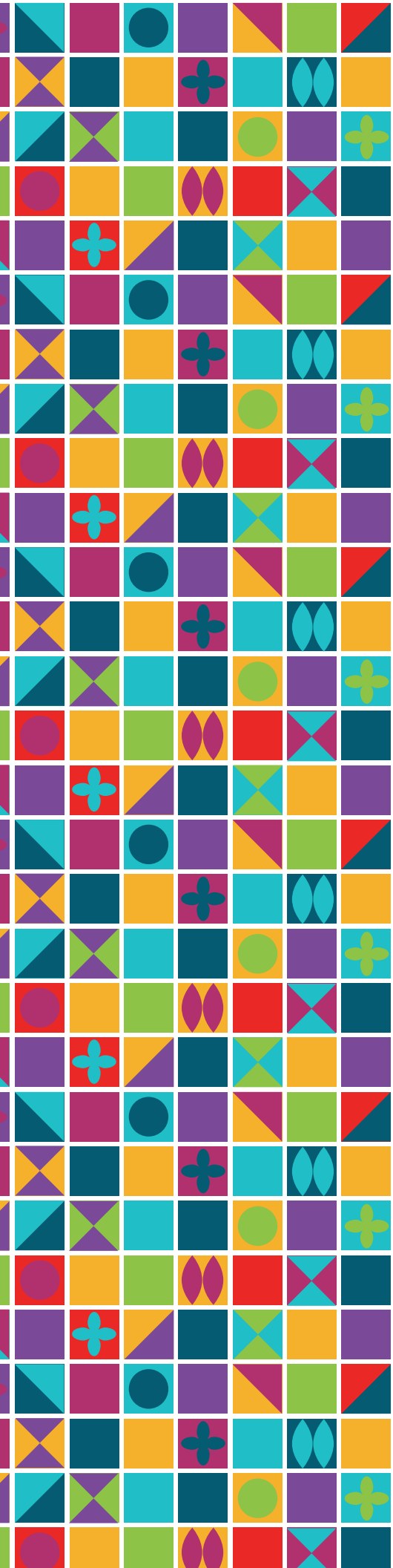
Watkins Park Branch Library

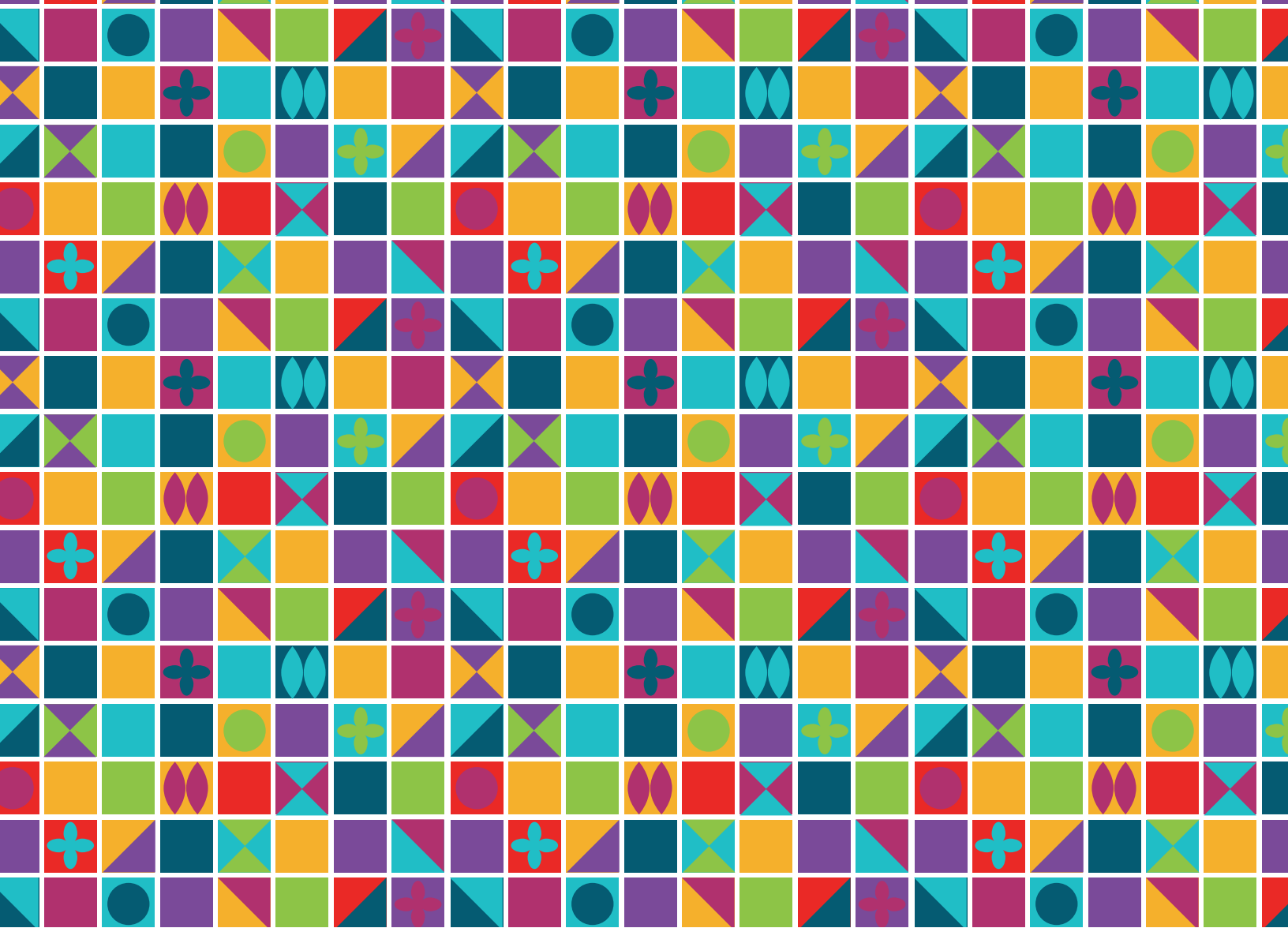
612 17th Ave N
Nashville, TN 37203
(615) 862-5872

Nashville Public Library

is able to transform our city because Nashville believes in its library. For all the ways you support us – for your time, your energy, your investment, and your belief – *we thank you*. Nashville Public Library is the heart of our city, and you are the heart of the library.







615 Church Street
Nashville TN 37219

nashvillepubliclibrary.org

NPL|F Nashville Public Library
FOUNDATION

615 Church Street
Nashville TN 37219

nplf.org