The Boulder Public Library is busier than ever! In 2012, the Boulder Public Library (BPL) reached out to inspire, invite and include our community. This past year, BPL offered an array of inspiring new programs and services for patrons of all ages, from the “Ready, Set, Read!” volunteer outreach early literacy program, to the Northern Colorado Common Read, featuring community-wide dialog surrounding the compelling best-seller, Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand. The Boulder Public Library also invited the community to the first annual children’s book sale (to benefit the children’s collection), and we invited best-selling children's author, Eric Litwin, to perform for standing-room only audiences, as part of the annual Summer Reading Program, sponsored by the Boulder Library Foundation. BPL also included new and innovative resources for patrons to choose from, such as Freegal, a free downloadable music service; Nooks pre-loaded with bestsellers to check out; and Invest-a-Kits, our popular take-home storytime kits. The Boulder Arts Commission, in their continued efforts to forward their mission of furthering the development of a dynamic arts community, awarded $224,000 in community arts grants, supporting over 50 creative and community-focused programs and projects. The Boulder Public Library is proud to be included in the visioning for the new civic heart of our city with the Civic Area Master Plan project, and we are inspired to be moving forward – thanks to input from the community – with the Capital Improvement Bond’s remodel and renovation of the Main Library’s children's and teen spaces. There is so much more to share in 2013, and, the Boulder Public Library invites you to come and check us out!

Sincerely,
Valerie Maginnis
Library & Arts Director
Main Library Renovation Project

Studiotrope Design Collective was chosen as the architect for the renovation of the Main Library in November 2012 after a five-month selection process. The renovation is funded by the 2011 voter-approved Capital Improvement Bond. The design process is occurring in 2013 with a lot of community engagement. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2014, with completion anticipated in late 2014.

Americans for the Arts Scholarships

The Boulder Arts Commission implemented an annual scholarship program to fund the travel of five local arts leaders to the Americans for the Arts annual convention. Four scholarships awarded in 2012 sent recipients to the convention in San Antonio, TX in June. Two staff members and three arts commissioners also attended, and then presented what they learned at a public presentation.

Resume & Job Search Advice Workshops

BPL hosted two popular “Free Resume & Job Search Advice” workshops in 2012, at which 52 people had resumes reviewed and received valuable advice for their job searches. These workshops are conducted in collaboration with the Colorado Career Development Association, University of Colorado Career Services, YWCA and local, freelance career counselors.

National History Day

What makes a reference librarian happy? Helping students with National History Day research, of course! BPL reference librarians help schools ‘make the grade’ with tailored help to classrooms and individuals during NHD, as well as serving as judges during the competitive phase. It makes us proud to see many of these students move on to win in the regional, state, and even the national competition! Congratulations!
Library Usage
Visits to BPL’s four libraries 894,073
Visits to library website 748,917
Materials circulation 1,446,816
Collection total 333,432 items
New items added 36,934
Total new patrons added 12,738
Total e-books 94,352

Children’s
Storytime attendance 21,224
Ready, Set, Read attendance 832
Summer Reading Program participants 2,126

Social Media
BPL Facebook page In 2012, BPL had 600 new “likes,” for a total of just over 1,400 total page fans. 43% of fan base added in 2012.

BPL Now e-newsletter
2012 subscribers 10,742 (e-newsletter introduced January 2012)

BoulderReads!
GED subtests administered 508
One-on-One Adult Literacy
Students 114
Volunteer tutors 124
Volunteer hours (tutoring and planning) 6,648

Reading Buddies
(CU students tutoring children)
Little Buddies tutored 64
Big Buddies trained 71
Big Buddies tutoring hours 1,404

Carnegie Branch
Library for Local History
Patron visits 4,105
Reference questions answered 2,042
(including 188 from outside Boulder)
Requests for historic photographs 252
Programs 178 attendees to 4 programs
An average of 16 volunteers spent a total of 1,693 hours identifying and scanning 1,580 photos.

Maria Rogers
Oral History Program
New interviews recorded 63
New interviews in digital archive 69
Interviews in the collection 1,826
Items viewed online 12,065
Volunteers 38 volunteers; 1,132 hours

Arts & Programs
Boulder Arts Resource 768 artist members; 1,005 e-newsletter subscribers; 49,024 user sessions at boulderarts.org
Canyon Gallery art exhibitions 10 exhibitions viewed by over 157,000
Dance Bridge co-sponsored 10 events with 1,700 attendees and over 400 dancers participating
Concert Series 45 performances experienced by nearly 6,000
Cinema Program 64 screenings viewed by over 3,800

Boulder Arts Commission Grants
Major Grants 24 awarded; $77,494
Mini-grants 18 awarded; $16,922
Arts in Education Grants 13 awarded; $38,045
Theater Rental/Marketing Assistance Grants 12 awarded; $27,190
Arts and Business Collaborative Grants 2 awarded; $45,000
Americans for the Arts Convention Scholarships 4 awarded; $4,000

The BAC provided $105,940 in support to the Dairy Center for the Arts and the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art.

In addition, a $15,000 collaboration with the Boulder County Arts Alliance facilitated monthly “business of arts” workshops and leadership forum series, both free for local artists.
We have been to over 9 libraries in the past 9 years and never seen one where we could get a Nook! Yay! -T.B.F.

Thank you for having such a great ‘Holds’ service. Both the Reference Dept. and the Circulation Dept. have provided exceptional service. I especially like the fact that I can place a ‘hold’ online and in just a matter of day, I am notified to come pick it up. – E.F.J.

We thoroughly enjoyed this summer’s reading program! It was wonderful that both my 8-yr.-old and 2-yr.-old could participate. What a tremendous idea, to tie in reading with art and bind it all with a beautifully crafted scavenger hunt—huge hit! The art clues were open-ended and quite thought provoking. We loved the whole experience, read a lot, and were hungry for more! Melanie is an extraordinary resource, warm and inspiring, the relationship glue which keeps us coming back. – J.J.

As a low-income single parent, the free screenings at the library have meant so much to me by leaving me money to pay a babysitter, or go out to eat with a friend afterwards. Thank you for this amazing, engaging and intelligent program! – Anonymous

Experiencing the Music and Meditation was a blessing. Taking time out from my busy day to ‘be still’ and become one with the music led to a blissful state of peace and calm. My body began to move in a healing way, and I found myself on the floor stretching out the kinks and balled up energy, releasing resistance and opening myself up to the universal flow of love and well being. – K.G.

A thousand thanks! I love the classics, and you have opened many new doors for me; I printed out the directions and will try it right away. I love librarians!! – Anonymous
BRANCH LOCATIONS

Main Library
1001 Arapahoe Avenue, Boulder, CO, 80302
303-441-3100

Carnegie Branch Library for Local History
1125 Pine Street, Boulder, CO, 80302
303-441-3110

George Reynolds Branch Library
3595 Table Mesa Drive, Boulder, CO, 80305
303-441-3120

Meadows Branch Library
4800 Baseline Road, Boulder, CO, 80303 (located behind Safeway)
303-441-4390

www.boulderarts.org
www.boulderreads.org

Photographs generously donated by Dana Rogers – www.danarogersphotography.com