PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
Stark County has a rich and noteworthy history of being a trailblazer, adapting to change and advancement. Today as our focus shifts from rustbelt manufacturing new strengths emerge like a burgeoning arts community, technology startups, leadership in the oil and gas industry, and national tourist destinations like the Hall of Fame village. 

Your library, in the same spirit of trailblazing, is reimagining itself and moving in a fresh direction. By offering innovative new services, programs, and technology, we are adapting to the changing times and meeting the unique needs of Stark County.

The library continues to serve its original mission; providing free and open information access to the community, a commitment to intellectual freedom, and a dedication to serving our community. And, as always, these resources are available at no cost. As the needs of our patrons transform, so must we.

Collaboration was a key component for our 2015 achievements. Our partnerships with organizations such as Canton City Schools, Stark Parks and Canton City Parks, and the Palace Theater, allowed us to introduce the Start Smart School Partnership, the BikeSmart Bike Sharing Network, and bring acclaimed authors to share their innovative ideas and insights with the community.

As we open this new chapter and step into the future, we will continue our mission with a focus on responding to the needs of our patrons with a growing and evolving list of offerings to build a smarter, stronger, more vibrant community and ensure the Library remains a key asset to our community.

DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE
We’ve just successfully completed our first full year as The Smart Store®, and what an exciting year it has been! As the surge of new ideas, information, and technology continues to accelerate change in our world, our local community needs new resources to help them keep pace.

Many members of our community are discovering that the best “new” resource has been a vital source of information in our community for over 120 years: the Stark County District Library. We continue to offer our community free access to valuable resources in order to:

- START SMART – Our emphasis on early childhood development helps families teach their children early literacy and basic life skills that lead to school readiness and a love of learning.
- STAY SMART – Our diverse selection of events, resources, and services encourage and enable lifelong learning for everyone in our community, regardless of age or interest.
- SHARE SMART – Our commitment to community engagement drives us to serve as a common meeting place for sharing ideas, creating connections, and fostering conversation.

Reimagining ourselves as The Smart Store, where everything is free® has helped our community rediscover their library and increased utilization – all a part of our goal creating a smarter community. As just one example, in 2015, we saw double-digit growth in system-wide circulation due to our efforts to eliminate overdue fines and simplify borrowing rules.

It is my hope that we are meeting your ever-changing needs and offering you the resources you’ve come to expect from the Library. If you are a regular patron, I thank you for your continued support and welcome your feedback about how we can serve you better. If it’s been a while since your last visit, I invite you to rediscover the Library!
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUPPORTS THE STARK COUNTY DISTRICT LIBRARY’S MISSION OF INSPIRING IDEAS, ENRICHING LIVES AND CREATING COMMUNITY.
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John and Tena Wilson
J. Richard Ziegler
LIBRARY FOUNDATION
FINANCIALS

Opening
Foundation assets $357,152

Closing
Foundation assets $362,547

Donations,
Tap Into Literacy Proceeds
and Other Income received $27,307

The Stark County District Library Foundation raises funds to financially support and advance the mission and values of the library. The Foundation has received donations from individuals, foundations, and businesses which have been used to support library programming and to begin to build an endowment fund.

STARK COUNTY DISTRICT LIBRARY
2015 FINANCIAL STATISTICS

General Fund Receipts
Public Library Fund (PLF) .................................. $6,878,900
Property and Other Local Taxes .............................. 6,535,939
Intergovernmental ........................................... 1,128,174
Patron Fines and Fees ........................................ 114,327
Earnings on Investments ...................................... 6,165
Services Provided Other Entities ............................. 6,367
Contributions, Gifts and Donations ......................... 1,855
Other Receipts .................................................. 126,549
Total General Fund Receipts ................................ $14,798,276

General Fund Disbursements
Salaries .............................................................. $6,067,674
Employee Benefits .............................................. 2,544,253
Supplies ........................................................... 285,837
Rents and Leases-Buildings and Equipment .................. 201,225
Utilities ............................................................ 269,207
Professional Services .......................................... 447,916
Communications and Publicity ............................... 313,802
Maintenance-Buildings and Equipment ....................... 891,825
Other Purchased and Contracted Services ................. 216,647
Library Materials and Information ........................... 1,934,238
Capital Outlay .................................................... 391,395
Other Disbursements ........................................... 48,017
Total General Fund Disbursements ......................... $13,612,036

Excess of Receipts over Disbursements .................... $1,186,240
General Fund Transfer Out ................................... (1,000,000)
Beginning Balance at January 1, 2015 ....................... 2,037,283
Ending Balance at December 31, 2015 ....................... 2,223,523
Reserve for Encumbrances ................................... $789,922
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Friends of the Library (FOL) groups support Stark County District Library through a variety of avenues. Eight library locations have designated FOL groups, including the Main Library FOL that supports the Main Library as well as the entire Library staff. The FOL volunteer networks were founded to support the mission and provide additional resources to the Library.

FOL groups provide support to the Library in the following ways:

- Providing supplies and funding for Library programs
- Volunteering at Library programs
- Serving as ambassadors for the Library throughout the community
- Providing funding for professional development and training opportunities
- Providing scholarship funds for Library staff who are continuing their education
- Funding facility improvements and additions
- Supporting levy campaigns

The Library’s eight FOL groups have a great impact and serve as a valuable partner to Stark County District Library.
IN 2015 OUR COMMUNITY BORROWED...

3,850,000 items from our
1,463,000 item collection during
1,434,000 onsite visits and
413,000 website visits.

THEY PARTICIPATED IN...

260,000 computer sessions and as
179,000 program attendees. They asked
187,000 reference questions and
103,000 have active cards.

ALL FROM...

200 staff at
10 locations and
6 mobile libraries.
library locations

Main Library
715 Market Avenue N

DeHoff Memorial Branch
216 Hartford Avenue SE

East Canton Branch
224 North Wood Street

Jackson Township Branch
7186 Fulton Drive

Lake Community Branch
565 Market Avenue SW

Madge Youtz Branch
2921 Mahoning Road NE

North Branch
189 25th Street NW

Perry Sippo Branch
5710 12th St NW

Plain Community Branch
1803 Schneider Street NE

Sandy Valley Branch
9754 Cleveland Avenue SE

Mobile Services
715 Market Avenue N

715 MARKET AVENUE NORTH
CANTON, OH 44702
330.452.0665
StarkLibrary.org

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