

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

CITY LIBRARY

## A Brighter Future for Springfield Today!



*Success in education, work and life*

# TOP INNOVATOR!



## Positioning the Library

*At its annual meeting held in June during the American Library Association Conference the **Urban Libraries Council** unveiled awards for its **2011 Top Innovators**. A panel of judges chose eleven Top Innovators including the Springfield City Library, awarded the top prize in the category of Positioning the Library for our "**A Brighter Future for Springfield Today**" strategic planning effort. The Urban Libraries Council, a membership organization made up of America's leading public library systems that lead, improve, and transform the communities they serve with innovative ideas, based its award decision on the words crafted by Library Director Molly Fogarty and Assistant Library Director John Ramsay.*

*Legislative Breakfast  
Central Library Rotunda*



## Choose Libraries

*Library Legislative Day  
State House, Boston*

**Ana Leon** is a student of the library's Read/Write/Now program, which helps adults living in the greater Springfield area achieve their basic education goals as family members, workers and community members.



*Attendance at 201 classes: 4,790  
Waiting list: 135*

Read/Write/Now is sponsored by the Springfield City Library and funded by grants from the Massachusetts Department of Education - Adult and Community Learning Services as well as other public and private funds.

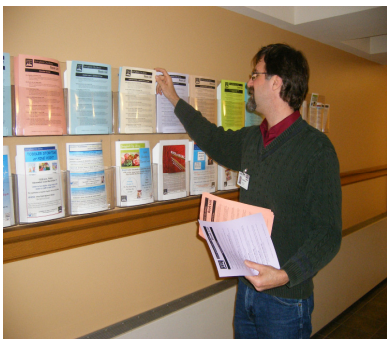




## *Workforce Readiness and Development*



*Help for Unemployed  
Finding Work, Finding Help  
Career Spotlight  
Jobseekers Open House  
Free Computer Classes*



*Matthew Jaquith, Program & Training Librarian  
managed a federal grant designed to help job seekers.*

*Total program attendance: 140*

Federally funded with LSTA Funds through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.





## *Early Childhood Literacy*

**“The Brightwood Branch Library** has opened its doors and its hearts to the kindergarten classes from Brightwood Elementary School. Miss Geneva and Miss Patti have engaged the kindergarten students with playful and entertaining stories, hands on crafts, and upbeat and rhythmic music. Each week we take the walk over to the library, where we are met by smiling faces, happy to greet and interact with the children. Each child has the opportunity to fill out a library card application, and the children are able to see the many things the library offers such as puppets, movies, computers, books on tape, and of course an unlimited supply of reading materials. Many of the children have now brought their families to the Library after expressing all of the positives they have seen. This program is very vital to the children and the community. Without the library storytime, many of the children would never step into a library. It is all thanks to the great staff at the Brightwood Branch Library and all they do to help our children become readers.”

*Maureen Moriarty, Brightwood Kindergarten teacher*

*Program attendance: 350*



## *Building strong partners*



April 13, 2011  
A glorious reopening of  
**Mason Square  
Branch Library**



*The Peter Brace Brigade, Springfield MA*

*The Springfield Library Foundation, guardians of the Annie G. Curran Endowment, allocated \$1.5 million to renovate and refurbish the building, and the “new” Mason Square Branch Library celebrated its grand reopening in April of 2011, fittingly during National Library Week. Community residents and local organizations showed their support and talents each day as special events, programs, music and food highlighted the vital role this branch plays.*

# In Recognition



*Library Director Molly Fogarty was named the 2010 recipient of the Emerson Greenaway Award for Distinguished Service, given annually by the New England Library Association to recognize the contributions of exceptional librarians.*

*Janet Stupak, Community Relations Coordinator received a second prize award at the Massachusetts Library Association Conference for her monthly Library Column in the Springfield Republican newspaper.*



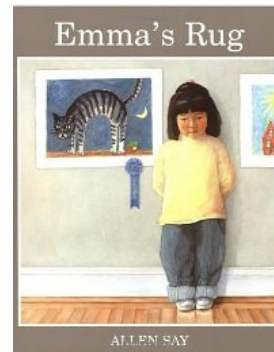
*Emily Bader, Library Director (1994-2009)  
For 37 years Emily gave her time, energy and passion to the Springfield City Library. Emily steadfastly promoted the value of reading and libraries to this community, with determination, thoughtfulness and grace. We believe that Emily's Place for Children will continue her vision for all future generations.*





## Community Leadership/Collaborations

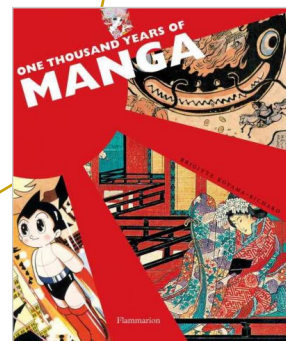
- Baystate Health, Computer Classes led by Margot Malachowski, Outreach Librarian
- Department of Elder Affairs, eReaders for Seniors
- Hampden Bank Charitable Foundation, Art Classes at Indian Orchard Branch
- MassHumanities, Family Adventures in Reading (FAIR), Central Library, Indian Orchard
- New Growth Gardens and Gardening the Community, Urban Gardens, Pine Point, Brightwood, Mason Square
- Preschool Enrichment Team, Family Childcare Language and Literacy Project
- Springfield Business Improvement District, Art & Soles, “Step Into the Library” Sneaker
- Springfield Cultural Council, Art Programs
- Springfield Museums Association, Littlefest of Storytelling
- Springfield Parent Academy, library staff taught literacy and art workshops
- Springfield Public Schools, Library Card Sign-Up Drive, Read-aloud in the Schools
- Teatro V!da, Open Mic





# Springfield City Library

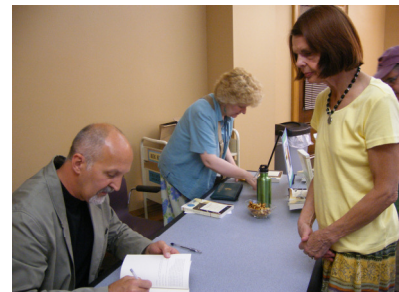
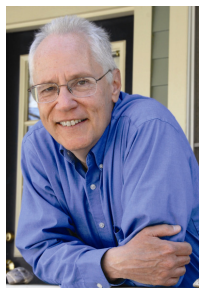
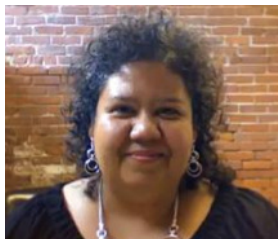
## A Place for You





# Celebrate Springfield

- **Local Author Fair** with Sparkie Allison, LaToya Bosworth, Durham Caldwell, Michael Dialessi, Michael Dobbs, Marty Dobrow, Keshawn Dodds, Genevieve Fraser, Donalyn Gross, Umm Juwayriyah, Mike Maloni, Melva Michaelian, Lorene Morin, Dean Nimmer, Stephen Patrick, Joan Morris Reilly, and Charlene Saint Onge. *Attendance: 250*
- Dedication of WWII Veteran's Plaque, Brightwood Branch
- Summer Reading Club for Adults, Teens and Children: about 200 adults and 600 children participated. Attendance at celebratory "end of summer reading club parties" was high, especially for programs featuring magicians, giant bubbles, and live animals!





***Visitors: 641,303***

***Circulation: 601,071***

***Cardholders: 73,117***

***Website Hits: 17,378,442***

***Questions Answered: 98,698***

***130 Public Computers saw 87,923 sessions, with an average of 1,231 users during a typical week.***

***Children's Program Attendance: 25,830***

***Adult Program Attendance: 9,405***

***Attendance by outside groups using our Community Rooms: 6,854***

***Special thanks to each of our volunteers!***

***45 volunteers donated  
2,217 hours of their time.***



The **Springfield City Library system** is made up of a Central Library and nine branch libraries spread throughout the neighborhoods of the city of Springfield MA. The Library Director is Molly Fogarty, the Assistant Director is John Ramsay. There are 77 staff members, 55 full-time and 22 part-time. Each member plays a unique and important role in making the Springfield City Library the community source for literacy, technology, and information.

The members of the **Springfield Library Commission** are Chairman Steven Cary, and Krysta Fyntrilakis, Timothy Moriarty, and Vera O'Connor (Secretary), who hold public meetings monthly in the Central Library Community Room.

