



# STATE OF THE **LIBRARY**

**free**  
LIBRARY OF  
PHILADELPHIA



# **MY OWN STORY**

of the power of positive learning



# NEVER MORE **RELEVANT**

- 
- A wide-angle photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, viewed from across a river. The skyline is filled with various skyscrapers and buildings, some with distinctive architectural features. The river flows through the center of the frame, with a bridge visible in the distance. The foreground is dominated by lush green trees and foliage, which are slightly out of focus. The sky is a clear, pale blue with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.
- **A connected set of multipurpose community hubs**
  - **28,000 yearly workshops and programs**
  - **Helping people get online, find jobs, start businesses, and foster literacy skills**
  - **Providing access to vital health information and government services**

# NEVER MORE **AT RISK**

- 
- A nighttime photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, viewed from across a body of water. The sky is dark and stormy, with a bright lightning bolt striking down from the clouds. The city lights are visible, including the Manhattan skyline and a bridge on the right side of the frame.
- **Stagnant public funding**
  - **Relentless cutbacks and closings**
  - **Aging infrastructure**
  - **Complex governing structure**
  - **Soaring demand from the communities**
  - **Competitive philanthropic landscape**

# WE ARE **OPEN**

**to new thinking**

**to roles and responsibilities**

**to new innovations**

**to new possibilities**

**to new partnerships**



# OUR STORY OF TRANSFORMATION



**PURPOSE**



**PLACE**



**PEOPLE**



**PRIORITIES**



**PARTNERSHIPS**



# 1 PURPOSE

Free  
LIBRARY OF  
PHILADELPHIA

# February 11, 1895

The purpose for which the corporation is formed, is to establish and maintain for the use of the People of Philadelphia, a general library which shall be free to all.



# OUR HIGHER CALLING

To build an enlightened  
community devoted  
to lifelong learning.

**Advancing Literacy**  
**Guiding Learning**  
**Inspiring Curiosity**



PURPOSE



2 PLACE

Free  
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**DISCOVERING  
AND DEVELOPING  
NEW WAYS TO LEARN**



PLACE



PLACE



PLACE





PLACE



PLACE



4:37 PM

freelibrary.org

Free Library of Philadelphia

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Access your account online  
Sign up for a library card



GET A CARD AND CHECK US OUT.

Support the Library

About the Library

Find a Location

Programs & Services

### Find

Search our catalog databases

Search for:

Go

### Explore

Ben Franklin ebook Guide Genealogy

Graphic Novels Read Baby Read STEM

### Ask

Email Us Text Us Homework Help

Browse FAQs Chat (Ask Here Plz)

Podcasts  
Featured: Ralph Nader

Digital Media  
For adults and more!

Digital Learning  
For adults and kids

Summer Reading

YEAR BARD  
SWEETEN UP! etc.

Digital Collections

#### I Would Like to...

find a location

#### Branches and Locations:

Learn about our renovations & closings

#### Upcoming Events:

Today | This Month | Author Events | By Location

- Tue. Jun. 10 Learn about Community Gardens and Farms at Parkway Central - 6:30 p.m.
- Wed. Jun. 11 Kick-off Summer Reading with a Magic Show at Oak Lane - 5:00 p.m.
- Mon. Jun. 16 Enjoy A Story and Craft at Whitman Library - 4:00 p.m.

#### What We're Reading:

- Bestsellers: The Target by David Ballard - more bestsellers...
- Staff Picks: The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou by Maya Angelou - more staff picks...
- Children: Chasing Chetahs by Ty Montgomery and No. 1 Bestselling more children's books...
- Teen: Willow by Tonya Haggren - more teen books...

Light On: announcing our new Culinary Literacy Center! Hear. Take the Philadelphia Parent & Guardian Impact Survey now! Read our latest issue of Off the Shelf featuring our amazing staff! There's still a month left to see Shakespeare's First Folio during Shakespeare for All Time

We're listening! TAKE OUR SURVEY

Free Library of Philadelphia | Phone: 215-686-5322 | Employees Intranet | Terms of Use | Your Privacy | RSS





3 PEOPLE

Free  
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# OUR STAFF

SHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH



PEOPLE

# OUR STAFF

FROM ENFORCER TO **ENTREPRENEUR**  
FROM CATALOGER TO **CO-CREATOR**  
FROM HELP DESK TO **HIGH-TECH**  
FROM SHHHHHH TO **WHOOOSH**



PEOPLE

# OUR CUSTOMERS



PEOPLE

# OUR DONORS



PEOPLE



# 4 PRIORITIES

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**FAMILY  
LITERACY**

**ALTERNATIVE  
LEARNING**

**ACCESS**

**CAREER  
SUPPORT**

**CIVIC  
DIALOGUE**



**PRIORITIES**

# FAMILY LITERACY



By age 3, children in low-income families hear roughly **30 MILLION FEWER WORDS** than their peers.



PRIORITIES

# ALTERNATIVE LEARNING



PRIORITIES



## Affordable Care Act Open Enrollment | HEALTH FAIRS

freelibrary.org

The Free Library is hosting health fairs during Open Enrollment to help you understand health insurance, find answers to your questions, and learn more about local health resources. Our librarians and experts on staff will guide you through the enrollment process.

### Parkway Central Library

Friday, November 3 | 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
215-686-5322

### South Philadelphia Library

Wednesday, November 15 | 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
215-585-1866

### Northeast Regional Library

Friday, November 17 | 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
215-615-6322



# ACCESS



PRIORITIES

# CAREER SUPPORT



**15%** of surveyed BRIC users started a small business.  
**17%** grew one!



**32% OF JOB SEEKERS GOT A NEW JOB** with the help of our programs and resources.



# CIVIC DIALOGUE





**words** <sup>A</sup>  
at **PLAY** <sup>B C</sup>  
VOCABULARY INITIATIVE

# 5 PARTNERSHIPS

**Free**  
LIBRARY OF  
PHILADELPHIA

# WE ARE OPEN

## FOR NEW PARTNERSHIPS WITH

- The City
- Students
- Visionaries
- Entrepreneurs
- Innovators
- Game Changers
- Millennials
- Corporations
- Leaders
- Job Seekers
- Families
- Foundations
- Educators
- Seniors
- Advocates
- Individuals





AND OUR STORY IS  
**JUST BEGINNING**

**Free**  
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PHILADELPHIA