

# Royal Oak Public Library

## Highlights 2010-2011

In a three year period, the Royal Oak Public Library's revenues have declined by \$376,000 while library usage has increased significantly during this time. We have continued to provide excellent library service without decreasing hours or seeking a millage increase. The millage revenue continues to decline, but at a slower rate, so we hope to be able to maintain our hours and services for the foreseeable future.

A constant challenge for any library is changes in format of the information and entertainment that people seek. Just as VHS gave way to DVDs and cassette tapes were replaced by compact discs, we are currently experiencing a big demand for downloadable e-books. The same novel can now appear as a regular print book, a large print book, a foreign language book, an e-book, an audio book on compact disc, a downloadable audio book, or a preloaded MP3 Playaway audio format. Each format has its audience and each format has its price so our librarians have to make difficult decisions on which formats to purchase. During these years of declining revenues, the Friends of the Royal Oak Public Library have provided additional funding for the large print book collection, the Playaway format of audio books, the foreign language collection, and e-books.

ROPL's range and quality of programs is truly impressive. There are author and book programs, drop-in tech help, parenting programs, live music, Civil War re-enactors, a "Think Green" series, Independent Movies series, astronomy, personal finance, "how-to" for e-books, magic shows, puppet shows, live animals programs, and more. With over 500 programs presented each year, it is best to stay tuned to Royal Oak Public Library's website (ropl.org) to find out what is coming up. The e-newsletter has also been designed to highlight the upcoming programs.

Come and enjoy ROPL!



Mary M. Karshner  
Director

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### Library Director

Mary M. Karshner



*The mission of the Royal Oak Public Library is to be an informational, intellectual, cultural, and recreational resource for all people; to inspire the spirit, educate the mind, and be a center of community pride.*

**ropl** Royal Oak  
Public Library

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[www.ropl.org](http://www.ropl.org)

**ropl** Royal Oak  
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**Annual  
Report**

July 1, 2010 to  
June 30, 2011

## Library Revenues

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
<b>Library Millage</b>	\$2,118,234	\$2,223,086	\$2,229,742	\$2,210,507	\$2,062,222
<b>Penal Fines</b>	\$93,951	\$90,505	\$86,165	\$80,317	\$76,657
<b>State Aid</b>	\$46,547	\$43,140	\$39,284	\$18,161	\$29,176
<b>Fines, Fees, Misc.</b>	\$48,840	\$60,308	\$73,116	\$67,742	\$86,895
<b>Grants/Gifts</b>	\$6,619	\$3,397	\$8,696	\$9,350	\$11,362
<b>Interest</b>	\$68,625	\$48,985	\$19,330	\$10,190	\$7,090
<b>Transfer from Fund Balance</b>	\$20,729	\$60,459	\$46,767	\$0	\$0
<b>Total operating revenues</b>	<b>\$2,403,545</b>	<b>\$2,529,880</b>	<b>\$2,503,100</b>	<b>\$2,396,267</b>	<b>\$2,273,402</b>



One of ROPL's many youth programs.



Opening Day of the 2011 Summer Reading Program.

## Library Expenditures

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
<b>Personnel</b>	\$1,129,712	\$1,379,864	\$1,495,272	\$1,386,925	\$1,298,894
<b>Books, music, video</b>	\$164,559	\$258,827	\$283,739	\$234,780	\$153,333
<b>Other expenses*</b>	\$956,528	\$891,189	\$724,089	\$701,939	\$700,974
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>\$2,250,798</b>	<b>\$2,529,880</b>	<b>\$2,503,100</b>	<b>\$2,323,644</b>	<b>\$2,153,201</b>

\*Maintenance, services, supplies, utilities, debt service on bonds issued for 2006 renovation

## Library Operating Activities

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	% Change FY 2009-10 to FY 2010-11
<b>Visitors</b>	296,578	481,986	618,279	653,482	651,552	0%
<b>Programs</b>	345	435	556	539	510	-5%
<b>Program Attendance</b>	9,513	13,180	17,438	16,750	16,172	-3%
<b>Reference Questions</b>	29,386	33,760	39,908	41,700	42,741	2%
<b>Computer Uses</b>	154,585	97,482	77,910	65,858	64,075	-3%
<b>Lending Transactions</b>	336,445	360,333	405,067	424,169	461,182	9%
<b>Card Holders</b>	24,364	25,771	28,166	30,700	31,762	2%
<b>Collection Size</b>	139,940	153,499	163,176	172,773	177,803	3%



## Of Interest in 2010-2011

- Library usage continued to be strong. **Circulation of library materials increased 9% over the previous year.** The number of card holders continued to grow. Application for a library card was added as an online service and many people have saved time by doing this.
- New formats gained popularity. **Interest in e-books has skyrocketed.** ROPL offered programs on how to use e-readers and how to **download free e-books and audio books from OverDrive** which is available to ROPL cardholders through the library's website [ropl.org](http://ropl.org).
- Library supporters have responded favorably to our semi-annual donation appeal letters which go out in July and November. **In FY 2010-11, over 700 people made donations that totaled over \$35,000.** This has certainly been extremely helpful during this time of declining revenues and a hearty thank you goes out to all the donors!
- New bargaining agreements with all full-time library employees included a combination of concessions which amounted to about a 15% reduction in wages and benefits.
- ROPL entered into staff sharing agreements with both Blair Memorial Library in Clawson and the Ferndale Public Library while they were closed for renovations. Members of their staffs worked at ROPL and helped to serve the Clawson and Ferndale residents using ROPL while their facilities were closed.
- At the Royal Oak Chamber of Commerce's Clay, Glass and Metal Festival **two stunning mosaic panels** were created as a community art project. They were unveiled in December in the Youth Services area of the ROPL.

< Samples of the many formats available at ROPL.