

Bridgeport Public Library program highlights included the re-opening of the Black Rock Branch Library and expanded hours of service system-wide. For the first time in a generation, the Main Library is open six (6) service days.

In the fall of 2009, Bridgeport Public Library partnered with Public Allies of Connecticut towards the development of a new Volunteer Services program. Volunteers have assisted with Friends book sales, and gardening and beautification projects throughout the library system.

The Library sponsored a total of 580 programs attended by 11,770 people of all ages.

We continued reaching out to the community through our visits to parochial and public schools in Bridgeport, through bookmobile visits and with the assistance of the Friends of the Bridgeport Public Library and volunteers.



**Mission:** We believe that libraries can change people's lives and are a cornerstone of our democracy. The Bridgeport Public Library provides opportunities for our residents and taxpayers to pursue lifelong learning, cultural and economic enrichment and enjoyment. To accomplish this mission, we offer free and open access to creative works, knowledge and information from diverse perspectives.

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**BRIDGEPORT LIBRARY**

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**2009-10 annual report to the community**



From the City Librarian, Scott A. Hughes, History happened at Bridgeport Public Library in 2009-10. While doing more with less, we managed to provide 1,862 additional hours of service compared to the previous year. Library usage spiked and so did funding. The Bridgeport Public Library Board of Directors, the library staff and community advocates led the first library operating referendum campaign in the history of the state of Connecticut. On November 3, 2009, the Bridgeport library ballot question passed by a 2-1 margin (this measure increases the library's operating budget 44%). On November 18, 2009, the Bridgeport Public Library Board of Directors adopted the library's latest long range strategic plan entitled "The Bridgeport Public Library: Building Community...Helping People...Changing Lives..."



**GOODS & SERVICES**

Bridgeport population (139,529)

Library card holders (56,780)

Library visitors (431,984)

**BUDGET**

Total operating budget (\$4,927,149)

Personnel (\$3,203,626)

Library materials (\$515,586)

Operations (\$1,207,937)

**COLLECTIONS**

Total collections (493,734)

Adult books (358,464)

Teen books (13,565)

Children's books (119,614)

Audio-visual materials (45,185)

Magazines & newspapers (656)

Museum passes (9)

**CIRCULATION**

Total circulation (406,315)

Adult books (121,757)

Teen books (16,750)

Children's books (101,141)

Audiovisual (166,057)

**SERVICES**

Questions answered (75,205)

Interlibrary loans in (1,200)

Interlibrary loans out (988)

Public internet users (164,430)

Computers for public use (198)

**PLUS**

Computers, special outreach, tax assistance, meeting space, e-newsletters, community contacts and referrals, online business opportunities, careers, genealogy, grants, languages, and testing databases, wireless access, emergency assistance

