ANNUAL REPORT 2020

THE LIBRARY IS CLOSED
OUTSIDE PICK UP ONLY
CALL 201-488-7185

BOGOTA PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOGOTAPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG
THE TEAM

We maximize your potential through exploration, education and empowerment. Our vision is to become the common thread bringing family and neighbors together for a lifetime of learning and enjoyment.

Board of Trustees
Mary Komorowski, President
Rebecca Youla, Vice President
Arthur Konigsberg, Treasurer
Eileen Karpooff, Secretary
Mary Ellen Murphy, Mayor’s rep
Eileen Lewis, Superintendent’s rep
Joanne Cursinella
Carmen Diaz
Yvonne Montemurro

Library Staff
Chelsea Dodd Coleman, Director
Tommy Sknirch, Youth Services Librarian
Jennifer Aprias, Library Assistant
Elsy Garcia, Library Assistant
Marlene Jaipersaud, Library Assistant
Sandra Leonard, Library Assistant
Alicia Pugh, Library Assistant
Denise Roberts, Library Assistant
Cali Skrnich, Library Assistant
When we reflect on 2020, it is hard not to linger on its hardships—a global pandemic, a multitude of natural disasters, civic unrest, and a wide circulation of disinformation. Library workers across the country, with unswerving motivation to uplift their communities, rose to the challenge of overcoming unfamiliar obstacles to maintain meaningful services. Your library was no different.

When the governor ordered the shutdown of workplaces across New Jersey in mid-March, staff continued to issue library cards and respond to information needs from our homes. By April, storytimes and adult lectures were moved online, and we quickly created a reopening plan that would ensure the safety of staff and community.

As our physical item circulation dropped, we saw a 55% increase in digital material loans. The sudden shift to a virtual existence forced the library to take stock of its services and pivot toward immediate community demands. To supplement our digital collection, the library subscribed to the arts and crafts database Creativebug.com with the help of the Friends of the Library.

Despite the difficult circumstances of 2020, it was not without opportunity. The library was selected to host the National Endowment for the Arts Big Read, which brings communities together to share and discuss a classic book. We had chosen to read Ray Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451 long before we knew the dystopian world we would find ourselves in.

We were also able to take advantage of the building’s closure to tackle projects like the bathroom and lobby renovation. Additionally, we updated our collection into a colorful, more browsable system. Items are now shelved by genre, and juvenile chapter books are sorted by level. It is a modern approach that encourages visual exploration instead of relying on searching the online catalog.

The year before us is uncertain both in terms of income and the number of weeks we will be able to open to the public. One thing that remains true and that we felt deeply throughout the year is the strong sense of community in Bogota. We are proud to serve this borough and look forward to 2021.

Chelsea Dodd Coleman
Library Director
NOTABLE PROGRAMS

NEA Big Read
The library participated in the National Endowment for the Arts Big Read, which broadens our understanding of our world, our communities and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. The title selected was Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury.

Take-Home Arts & Crafts Projects
Sixteen arts and crafts kits were given away. 515 kids, teens and adults participated!

1000 Books Before Kindergarten
The library celebrated the first child to log 1000 books before entering kindergarten as part of its early literacy initiative.

Virtual Connections
From storytimes to historical lectures to small business trainings, literacy and educational opportunities continued remotely.
New Browsable Collection

All books and media were reorganized into a more modern, browsable system. Is your kid obsessed with trucks? You need Things That Go picture books. Does your child read at Level K? Head to the leveled juvenile section. Want to explore diets for the new year? Check out Body & Soul.

Creativebug.com

Creativebug.com offers online video arts and crafts workshops and techniques. Cardholders can learn how to paint, knit, crochet, sew, screen print, and more. This new database is provided with support from the Friends of Bogota Library.

Local History Collection

The library now has a Local History Collection available for public use. Anyone can make an appointment to view parts of the collection to aid in research or to simply satisfy curiosity about Bogota's history. The archive includes yearbooks, photographs, atlases, the Bogota Woman's Club Collection, and more!
## OUR VALUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Average Price</th>
<th>Cost to Residents</th>
<th>Value Provided</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computers Users</td>
<td>2,269</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td></td>
<td>$40,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wifi Users</td>
<td>3,458</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td></td>
<td>$27,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Questions</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
<td>$4,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Participants</td>
<td>4,026</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td></td>
<td>$60,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary Loans Obtained</td>
<td>3,609</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td></td>
<td>$90,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Books Circulated</td>
<td>8,592</td>
<td>$28</td>
<td></td>
<td>$240,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adult Books Circulated</td>
<td>1,586</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td></td>
<td>$39,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Books Circulated</td>
<td>16,021</td>
<td>$22</td>
<td></td>
<td>$352,462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazines Circulated</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audiobooks Circulated</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>$28</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dvds/Blu-Rays Circulated</td>
<td>3,447</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td></td>
<td>$62,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video Games Circulated</td>
<td>749</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td></td>
<td>$37,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eBooks &amp; eAudiobooks Circulated</td>
<td>5,406</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td></td>
<td>$54,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Magazines Circulated</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
<td>$730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Movies &amp; Music Circulated</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,225</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Value to Bogotians: **$1,017,608**
YEAR AT A GLANCE

- $22,125 in grants
- 5,997 digital materials circulated
- $9,835 in Annual Appeal donations
- 202 passport applications processed per operating month

- 57 times 2019 grant income
- 55% higher than 2019
- 39% more than 2019
- 25% higher than 2019

- Open an average of 34 hrs/week for in-library or pickup services
- 12,612 website visitors
- 4,721 questions answered
- 33,255 items in the collection