

Forbes Library

WE ASKED KIDS IN THE
CHILDREN'S ROOM
"WHAT DOES THE LIBRARY
MEAN TO YOU?"

"I love the library!"



"The library is a lot of fun. If there was no library I would only know half the things I know."

"If I didn't have a library I wouldn't be able to become such a great reader. Thank you library."



FORBES library

The Forbes Library collections are large and varied including popular fiction and non-fiction, large arts, music and children's departments, and an impressive art gallery, as well as extensive local history and genealogy for Hampshire County and the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum. Forbes also offers Northampton the use of meeting rooms, computers and the internet, reference, health, and job search services, and an array of programming for children, teens and adults. Catering to underserved populations of the community, Forbes offers an Outreach Program which delivers materials to nursing homes and the homebound.

WE RECENTLY ASKED "WHAT DOES THE LIBRARY MEAN TO YOU?" AND HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THE RESPONSES WE RECEIVED:



"For those who can't afford a computer at home, the Forbes Library is a vital resource."

"The library is a jewel in Northampton. Lovely to look at, valuable for its art displays, video and music collections, as well as an architecturally beautiful place to spend time."

"It's a place of social gathering, my source for books, music, and DVDs. But it's also an anchor, a support, an entrée into a new town, and a crucial link to community."

"It gives a strong sense of community in a way that no other location does. It is accessible to everyone."

"Those of us of relatively small means with voracious reading appetites are eternally grateful to public libraries. Give me library or give me death!"

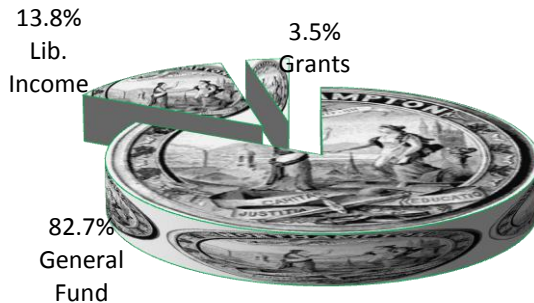


"I don't know what my life would be like without Forbes. It would not be as rich, for sure."

Staffing Proposal for FY2012

The city makes an annual appropriation to the Forbes Library. Elected Trustees use that appropriation in addition to a state library grant and funds raised by the Forbes Library through fines and fundraisers to craft an annual budget. Employees at Forbes Library are employees of the Library; they are not City of Northampton employees. However, because the Library is owned by the city, its employees are eligible to participate in the city's health insurance program.

The Forbes Library anticipates funding 25.54 Full Time Equivalent positions with its appropriation in FY 2012.

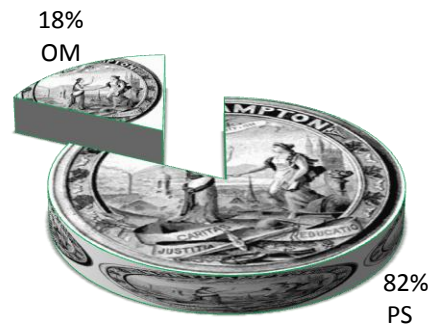


Where Our Funding Comes From

The annual budget of the Forbes Library is supported through a General Fund appropriation, Library Income, and state grant funds.

How We Spend Our Money

This chart shows how much of the annual budget of Forbes Library is spent on staff (PS), on Ordinary Maintenance (OM).



Some Accomplishments At A Glance

beyond our day-to-day operations

- We expanded patron services by acquiring several e-book readers, additional Spanish language materials, Braille books for children, audio books and DVD's.
- The library developed a World Languages collection by bringing together books in the library's adult collection written in a language other than English. The circulation of these items has increased and patrons are very pleased that these materials were made much easier to browse.
- We provided educational tours of the library and the [Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum](#) to local school children and social service agencies with a focus on basic research skills, using library databases, and finding books to read with your children.
- The library fundraised to renovate the [Children's and Young Adult Department](#). The space had not been updated in 18 years and now has a spruced up interior and increased technology offerings.

The Year Ahead

- We are applying for a Federal grant to improve the services we offer our readers. We want to be able to help everyone find recreational reading, viewing and listening material in the most helpful way possible.
- The library is working on a comprehensive strategic plan that will allow us to respond to the current needs of our community and be proactive to their future needs.

FORBES LIBRARY

	Actual FY 2010	Budget FY 2011	Budget FY 2012	\$ Change FY11-12	% Change FY11-12
<u>Appropriation by Major Object</u>					
Personal Services	853,927	906,527	894,851	(11,676)	-1.3%
Ordinary Maintenance	214,733	165,631	196,231	30,600	18.5%
Other than Ordinary Maintenance	0	0	0	0	0%
Total	1,068,660	1,072,158	1,091,082	18,924	1.8%
<u>Appropriation by Major Activity</u>					
Library Services	1,068,660	1,072,158	1,091,082	18,924	2%
Total	1,068,660	1,072,158	1,091,082	18,924	1.8%
<u>Financing Plan</u>					
General Fund	1,068,660	884,594	902,384	17,790	2.0%
Library Income	0	147,350	150,100	2,750	1.9%
State Grants	0	40,214	38,598	(1,616)	-4%
Total	1,068,660	1,072,158	1,091,082	18,924	1.8%

The City appropriation goes up each year by the minimum amount required by the state in order to continue to be eligible to receive state library aid.

Forbes Library

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by the numbers

- 360,516** Items circulated last year at Forbes Library – over 160 items each hour the library was open
- 800** Average number of patrons coming to the library each day
- 32,644** Reference questions answered ([Ask a Librarian yourself!](#))
- 12,313** Children attended [special children's programs](#)
- 400** [Programs for adults](#) held in the last year.
- 918** People a week using public internet computers
- 576** Times the Forbes [meeting rooms](#) were used by community groups