

2008 Annual Report



Welcome to the Middleton Public Library

People value the Middleton Public Library not just as an informational resource center, but as a central community gathering place. In addition to friendly and knowledgeable staff, the Middleton Public Library has an attractive physical facility with outstanding collections that keeps people coming back.

The Middleton Public Library occupies a beautiful 32,000 square foot facility that was constructed in 1990 and renovated in 2003/04. Serving the growing city of Middleton and its surrounding townships, library staff has long been committed to serving anyone regardless of residency, religion, gender, age or ethnic background. Of the 16,604 registered library patrons, two-thirds identified the city of Middleton as their place of residency. The remaining one-third is comprised of residents from around the state and the nation.

More than a warehouse of books, Middleton Public Library contributes to the cultural well-being of the community through services such as monthly art exhibits, literary events, educational programs, computer access, and meeting rooms for public use.

The 2008 HAPLR Rating ranked our library 9th in the nation of libraries serving communities of similar population size. The fact that library use continues to grow shows that the Middleton Public Library is indeed relevant.

Middleton Public Library offers added value services

In addition to the physical materials found on the shelves and racks, library patrons enjoy a variety of nontraditional services. During 2008, staff provided hands on computer classes for the novice, as well as the advanced user. For the convenience of our users, the handouts from these courses serve as online tutorials and can be found on our website.

The latest in literary technology (electronic books, videos and audiobooks) is readily available 24/7, through our website. Downloadable videos and audiobooks can be checked out via Overdrive and E-Books are provided by netLibrary.

From the library computers, library patrons can access our electronic databases, which support the goal to enhance information access on the topics of business, literature and history. Titles include: Ancestry Library, BadgerCat, HeritageQuest, LearningExpress, Literature Resource Center, NoveList, What Do I Read Next?, WorldCat, ReferenceUSA and Consumer Reports.

Computer Classes:

- ✓ Basic, Intermediate & Advanced Word
- ✓ Basic, Intermediate & Advanced Excel
- ✓ Introduction to PowerPoint
- ✓ Genealogy Online
- ✓ Introduction to the Internet
- ✓ Introduction to Computers

Imaging Services:

- ✓ Computers, printer & scanner
- ✓ Copies: b&w 10 cents,
colored 50 cents ☀ **NEW!**
- ✓ Self-service Faxing service ☀ **NEW!**

Technology-related

Customer Services:

- ✓ Online catalog from home or office
- ✓ Wireless Internet anywhere inside the building
- ✓ Self checkout stations
- ✓ Express Internet computers
- ✓ Laptops for in-library use

Electronic Materials available:

- ✓ Downloadable videos **362**
- ✓ Downloadable audiobooks **3,854**
- ✓ E-Books **8,370**

Program Attendance increased by 28% over last year.

In 2008, the library hosted a total of 527 programs attracting a total attendance of 15,632.



How does Middleton Public Library measure up?

The numbers show a direct correlation between investments in library services with library popularity. The following is a snapshot of the library's growth from three key years:

1990: A new library facility opens for business.

2003: The library begins a 6-month remodeling and expansion project.

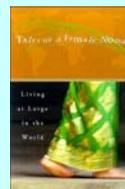
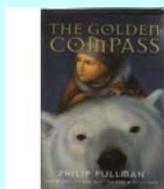
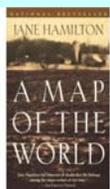
2008: Our highest use ever!

Library Service Data	1990	2003	2008	1990-2008 % increase
Hardcover books	40,076	52,136	68,371	70%
Paperback books	3,340	13,500	26,879	704%
Audiovisual materials	2,687	13,918	16,357	508%
Magazines & newspapers	200	284	268	34%
Annual circulation	255,011	523,796	755,761	196%
Internet access computers	0	10	39	↑
Fulltime-equivalent staff	10.0	15.5	20	100%
Annual hours of operation	3,016	3,528	3,528	17%
Annual budget	\$358,825	\$987,280	\$1,548,526	331%
City of Middleton share	\$301,620 (84%)	\$621,571 (63%)	\$995,758 (64%)	230%
Dane County share	\$57,205 (16%)	\$365,709 (37%)	\$552,768 (36%)	866%

Inside the Numbers

- The Middleton Public Library's collection has one of the highest turnover rates in the state. On average, each item circulates an average of **7 times**, compared with a statewide average of 2.6.
- Of the 388 public libraries in Wisconsin, Middleton's annual circulation ranks **15th**.
- An average of **233** items per hour was checked out of the library in 2008, compared with 84 in 1990.
- The **39** Internet access computers provided **195,482** sessions in 2008.
- Last year, the four study rooms provided **5,838** hours of work space.
- In 2008 the library shared **203,672** items with patrons from other libraries, while Middleton patrons borrowed **205,483** from other libraries.

Some of the titles chosen for our adult, teen, and parent/child book discussions in 2008





Professional Librarian Staff at the Middleton Public Library

Pamela K. Westby (Director)

Patrick Williams (Head of Information Technology)

Liz Dannenbaum (Head of Adult Services)

Elizabeth Bauer (Head of Circulation Services)

Rebecca Van Dan (Head of Young Adult Services)

Svetha Hetzler (Head of Children's Services)

Lori Bell (Youth Services Librarian) 2008

Amanda Struckmeyer (Youth Services Librarian) 2009

Sarah Hartman (Adult Services Librarian)

A word of thanks! It was with great humility that I assumed the duties as Library Director on August 29, 2008. I am thankful for the trust bestowed to me by the staff, members of the library board, city officials, volunteers, Friends of the Library and members of the community at large. The commitment to a shared vision has and will be what carries this library forward to meet the challenges of this particular time in our nation's history. I wish to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who has contributed to a successful year of transition.

During the coming year we intend to look closely at the needs and interests of our community. It is our intention to faithfully provide the same outstanding services with an emphasis on a more global view, while keeping an eye on current library trends, new technologies, and a commitment to decisions that support sustainability and conservation.

Thank you for a successful year! We look forward to 2009!



Respectfully,

Pamela Westby, Library Director