

2008 KDL Annual Report

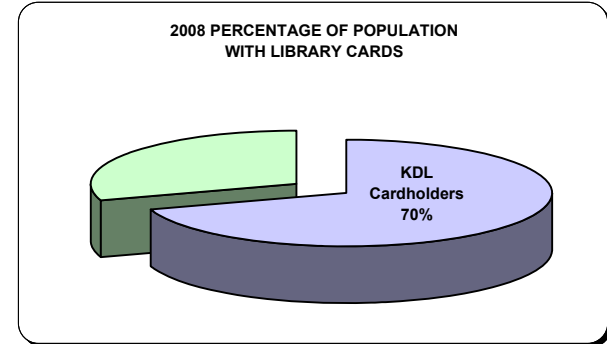


2008 was another year of tremendous growth and opportunity at the Kent District Library. It was a year of record-breaking circulation statistics and program attendance, as well as continued increases in website visits and usage of online resources. A number of new media formats were added to the collection, including Wii videogames and Playaway portable audiobooks. All of these accomplishments have been a testament to the support and enthusiasm of our customers, proving once again the value of the library as not only a community resource, but a community destination.

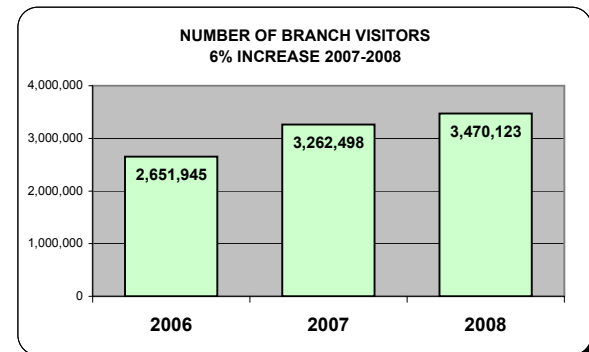
With your support, we plan to continue these trends as we work toward providing our customers with superior library services and resources. At the Kent District Library, we see a bright future ahead.

2008 Highlights

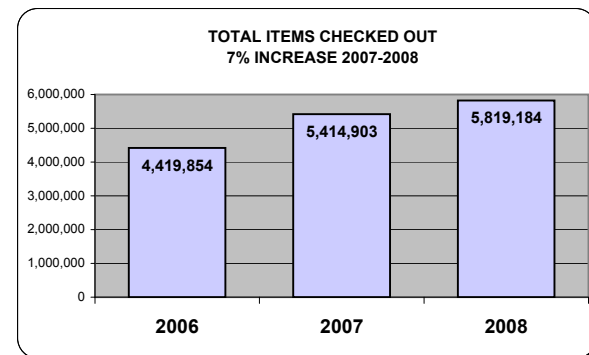
Usage



- More than 250,000 people have KDL library cards – approximately 70% of the people in KDL's service area.



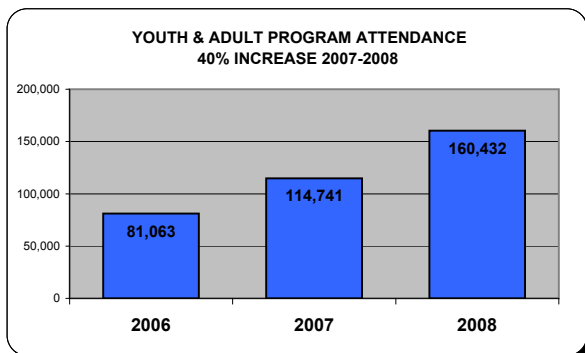
- Our visitor count continues to trend upward. Over 3.4 million visitors used KDL branches in 2008.



- More than 5.8 million items were checked out, an increase of 7% from 2007 and 32% from 2006.

Programs

- In 2008, 160,000 people attended more than 5,000 free library programs, an increase of 40% over the previous year.



- Participation in the “Catch the Reading Bug” Summer Reading Club met a record high of nearly 20,000 children and teens. Over 1,000 free programs were offered during the summer.
- Over 1,000 adults attended KDL’s computer classes. Topics included basic Internet skills, email, resume writing, and job searching on the Internet.
- KDL hosted a number of award-winning, notable authors including One Book, One County author Ha Jin, Michigan notable author John Otterbacher, Christian fiction author Francine Rivers, and Newbery Honor and Printz Award author Gary Schmidt.

Resources

- KDL expanded its collection to include Nintendo Wii games, Playaway audiobooks, and new ebook content.
- The KDL website was visited 2,030,765 times, or an average of 5,549 visitors per day.
- The Lakeland Library Cooperative’s shared online catalog was upgraded with the addition of a new search interface. Catalog users can now search the catalog using one simple search box, explore related subjects through tag clouds, and narrow searches to favorite formats such as DVDs or audiobooks.

- Kent District Library joined over 250 public, academic, school, and special libraries in an enhanced resource sharing service called MeLCat, a statewide initiative providing KDL customers access to 26 million items.



Initiatives

- In 2008, Kentwood voters approved a 0.35 millage to build a new 40,000 sq. ft. library to be located on Breton Avenue just south of the Kentwood City Hall. The facility completion date is scheduled for the summer of 2010.
- The Caledonia Campaign Committee kicked off a public fundraising “Next-Chapter” campaign in September to raise \$1 million for a new Caledonia Library.
- In 2008, KDL initiated a sustainability effort in order to review the environmental impact of our organizational practices.
- With donations to the KDL Annual Fund in 2008, an Early Literacy Computer Station was purchased for the Kentwood Branch.

Recognition

- Kent District Library was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the American Library Association's "The American Dream Starts @ your Library" program to reach out to new immigrants to the United States. KDL used the funds to create a Storytime Ambassador program to offer bilingual storytimes with help from community volunteers.
- Hennen's American Public Library Rating (HAPLR) Index named Kent District Library a "Top Ten American Library." Kent District Library ranked eighth nationally among 96 libraries serving a population of more than 250,000 people.

KDL Board of Trustees

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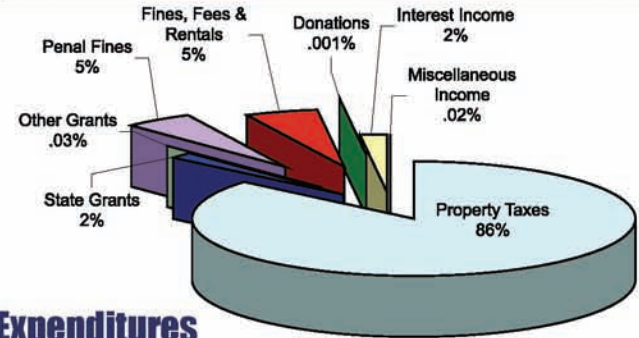
Martha Smart

KDL
Kent District Library
www.kdl.org

2008 Summary Financial Information

Revenue

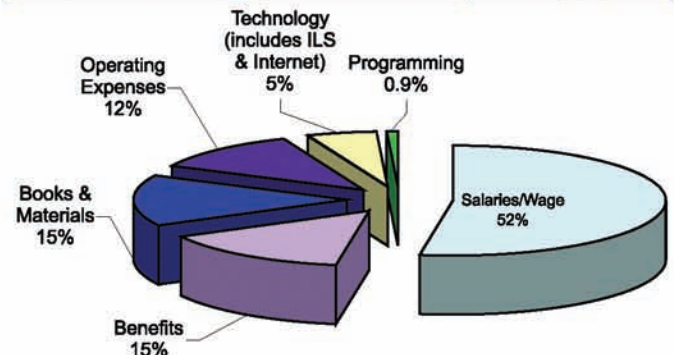
Property Taxes - Millage (.88mills)	14,053,001
State Grants	280,812
Other Grants	5,000
Penal Fines	814,916
Fines, Fees & Rentals	844,402
Donations	175
Interest Income	321,668
Miscellaneous Income	2,729
TOTAL REVENUES	\$16,322,703



Expenditures

Salaries/Wages	8,506,789
Benefits	2,381,421
Books & Materials	2,433,247
Operating Expenses	1,870,221
Technology (includes ILS & Internet)	859,700
Programming	145,625
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	16,197,003

Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	2,753,877
Excess Revenues over Expenditures	125,700
TOTAL FUND BALANCE, End of Year	\$2,879,577



The above numbers have been derived from the 2008 Financial Statements. The complete audited Annual Financial Statements will be available after June 2009.