



December 2014

Special Year-in-Review Edition 2014

From the Director



"The year always passes so quickly at Memphis Public Libraries! With so many great events and programs each month, customers stay engaged all year long.

Readers of all ages can "connect, learn, and grow" at the Library, especially after the Library's exponential growth this year toward our Strategic Plan. Strong strides have been made in key S.T.E.A.M. areas - Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. Our Explore Memphis summer reading program included events in all these areas for customers to enjoy. Teen Tech Camp 2014 was another example of Memphis Public Libraries meeting the specialized needs of Greater Memphis and helping to prepare teens for tomorrow's work world. These are only a few examples of how your Library served you throughout 2014, and more exciting programs are scheduled for the New Year!

But for now, let's take a look back at 2014."

-Keenon McCloy
Director of Libraries

CHILDREN

Kids 'Explored' Their Creative Sides During 'Explore Memphis' Summer Reading Program



After a summer of reading and exploration at Memphis Public Libraries, it was all fun and games at the *Explore Memphis Finale!*



The Explore Memphis Showcase was a chance for kids and teens to "show" their families what they learned or created over the summer.

Bookstock Jr. Offered Activities Galore for Young Readers



A list of educational activities were available for kids to enjoy at Bookstock Jr. like reading to a READ therapy dog or meeting their favorite author!



Face painting, books, and balloons were only a few options for young readers during Bookstock Jr. at the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library.

Best-selling Author Eric Litwin Made Storytime into a Concert for Kids



New York Times best-selling children's author Eric Litwin and his famous guitar stopped by the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library for a special performance that included original songs from his books *The Nuts* and the first four *Pete the Cat* stories.



After storytime, Litwin signed autographs for enthusiastic fans!

[Click here](#) for a list of upcoming children's events at Memphis Public Libraries!

TEENS

Teens Shared What's Cool and What's Not for Library's Upcoming Teen Learning Lab



Teens shared their ideas with architects about what they would like in a digital media lab, an 8,300-square foot space coming to Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library. The innovative facility will house the latest technology for teens.



Teens examined a wall of photos displaying teen learning labs, and they selected their favorite ones.

Teens Got Into "Tech" Top Shape at Teen Tech Camp 2014



The 10th Annual Teen Tech Camp was a chance for technology lovers ages 13 - 15 to learn how to create video games, run their own companies, and network with information technology professional. This program was hosted by the Memphis Public Library & Information System in partnership with SIM (Society for Information Management).



When teens completed the five-day technology program, they were able to showcase their creations to proud parents and families during a graduation ceremony.

Memphis Teens Were 'Up' for Some Fun @ #TeenUP901



Central Library was the place to be for #TeenUP901, an event with great food, fun, and webcasts from all over the world.



#TeenUP901 created social media madness at the Library! Teens were encouraged to share their thoughts to the online world throughout the program.

[Click here](#) for a list of upcoming teen's events at Memphis Public Libraries!

Books Flew Off the Shelves at Friends of the Library Book Sales



Two annual Friends of the Library book sales benefiting Memphis Public Libraries were a draw for avid readers of all ages! Items from books and magazines to DVDs and more were all priced at \$2 or cheaper.



Parents stocked up on books for their kids at the Friends of the Library book sales this year. It's the most affordable way to build your child's library!

Memphis Library Foundation Threw Party of the Year for Libration 2014

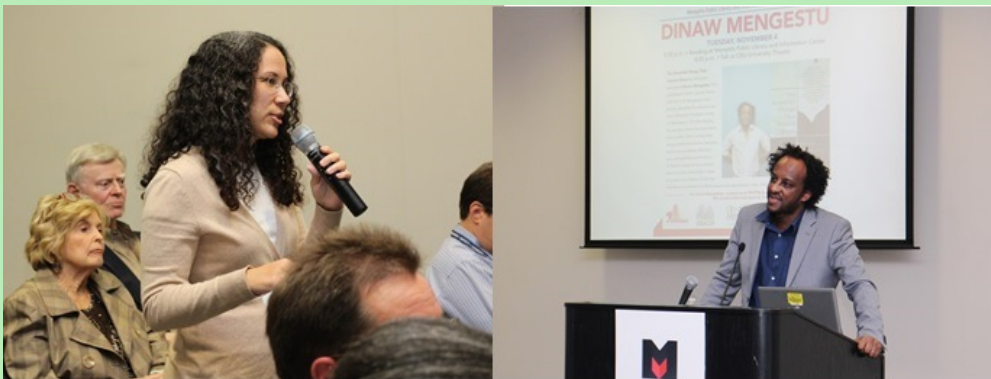


Libration 2014 was a party at the Library! The event, hosted by the Memphis Library Foundation, is an annual fundraising event benefiting The Memphis Public Library & Information Center.



New York Times best-selling author Jess Walter was keynote speaker for Libration 2014, a three-part event including an exclusive evening with the author, a public lecture and book reading, and a party at the Library.

Award-winning Author Dinaw Mengestu Stopped by Central Library to Meet a Few Fans



A crowd of readers gathered to hear award-winning author Dinaw Mengestu talk about his experiences as an Ethiopian immigrant to America and to ask questions about his book *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*. This event was hosted by The Memphis Public Library & Information Center in partnership with Christian Brothers University.



After Mengestu's presentation, he signed autographs for long-time fans. Meanwhile a panel of local immigrant authors took center stage to discuss their personal stories of struggle and survival. Panelists were (left to right) Dr. Clark Blatteis, a Holocaust survivor and passenger aboard the *St. Louis*; Morris Gbee, survivor of the Liberian Civil War and author of *War Face*; and Della Adams, granddaughter of a Chinese warlord and author of *An American Dream*. Panel moderator was Jonathan Judaken, the Spence L. Wilson Chair in the Humanities at Rhodes College.

[Click here](#) for a list of upcoming events at Memphis Public Libraries!

ON THE AIR

WYPL FM 89.3 Radio

Let's talk about books during **BOOK TALK!** Tune in to WYPL FM 89.3 Radio.

Join the conversation!

Book Talk

Saturday, December 6, 6 pm - James Ellroy's *Perfidia*

Saturday, December 20, 6 pm - Eugenia Bone's *The Kitchen Ecosystem*

Books

Best Seller, Monday - Friday, 4 pm, December 15 - 22 --- Daphne Benedis-Grab's *The Angel Tree*

Classics, Saturdays, 2 pm, December 6, 2014 - January 3, 2015 --- L. M. Montgomery's *Anne of Avonlea*

Mystery, Monday - Friday, 2 pm, December 9 - 22 --- Stephanie Barron's *Jane and the Twelve Days of Christmas*

[WYPL](#) is located at the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library (3030 Poplar Avenue).

For more information, visit [WYPL](#) online.

BRANCH HIGHLIGHT

Great Programs, Services, and People Keep Customers Coming Back to Cherokee Library

The friendly staff at Cherokee Branch Library (3300 Sharpe Avenue) has been serving the Orange Mound and Cherokee Heights communities since 1975, and readers can find the same great service today - second to none!

Meeting the needs of customers is nothing new for librarians at Cherokee Library or throughout The Memphis Public Library & Information Center. Cherokee is home to the Library



Customers learned the secrets of great gardening at Cherokee Library

System's rotating large print collection,

during the Master Gardeners' Program.

so librarians at all 18 locations and

customers alike can visit the branch to find the large print books they need. While there, readers can check out Cherokee Library's vast array of books, ranging from easy and adult fiction to non-fiction and noted African American books.

Customers who enjoy surfing the web will find 10 Internet-ready desktop computers and laptops for checkout. Kids are welcome to take advantage of technology too. Cherokee Library's early literacy station offers young minds the interactive learning opportunities they need to continue growing and developing. Storytimes, children's books, magazines, and audiovisual material also help to keep little ones excited and engaged!

Non-profit community organizations looking for a place to host their next meeting should stop by Cherokee Library also and take advantage of the Library's meeting room which seats up to 50 people.

The great programs, services, and people at Cherokee Library keep customers coming back Mondays through Thursdays, 10 am - 5 pm; and Saturdays, 10 am to 5 pm. For more information about Cherokee Library, call (901) 415-2762.

PLAN AHEAD

Upcoming Events

Bestselling Children's Author Jan Brett Visit - Thursday, December 4, 5 pm - 7 pm @ Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library (3030 Poplar Avenue)

International Storytime: Celebrating Puerto Rico - Saturday, December 6, 11 am @ Cordova Branch Library (8457 Trinity Road)

Holiday Tea & Storytelling for Seniors - Tuesday, December 9, 11 am - noon @ Gaston Park Branch Library (1040 South Third Street)

Food Fight: Nutrition Discussion - Wednesday, December 10, 4 pm - 5 pm @ North Branch Library (1192 Vollintine Avenue)

Earn Benefits Program - Thursday, December 11, 10 am - 1 pm @ Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library (3030 Poplar Avenue)

Colorcopia with Dixon Gallery & Gardens - Friday, December 12, 10:30 am - 11:30 am @ Cordova Branch Library (8457 Trinity Road)

Hattiloo at the Library - Saturday, December 13, 10 am - 1 pm @ Gaston Park Library (1040 South Third Street)

Teen Cooking - Tuesday, December 16, 4 pm - 5 pm @ Randolph Branch Library (3752 Given Avenue)

Colorcopia with Dixon Galley & Gardens - Wednesday, December 17, 10:30 am - 11:30 am @ Cornelia Crenshaw Branch Library (531 Vance Avenue)

Snow Globes - Monday, December 22, 11 am - 12:30 pm @ Levi Branch Library (3676 Highway 61 South)

The Memphis Public Library & Information Center
and the Booksellers at Laurelwood present

Children's Author
and Illustrator
**Jan
Brett**

Thursday, December 4, 2014
5 - 7 pm

New York Times #1 best selling author Jan Brett welcomes children and families to celebrate winter with a reading from her new book *The Animals' Santa*.

BENJAMIN L. HOOKS CENTRAL LIBRARY
Meeting Rooms A, B, C, and Gallery - 3030 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38111
For more information about this event, visit us online at www.memphislbrary.org or call (901) 415-2738

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This event may be recorded or photographed for use by the Memphis Public Library & Information Center for media, social media, broadcast, and/or print purposes.

Crazy 8s Math Club - Monday, December 22, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm @ Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library (3030 Poplar Avenue)

All Library Locations Closed - Christmas Eve (December 24) and Christmas Day (December 25)

Kwanzaa Holiday Crafts - Tuesday, December 30, 11 am - noon @ Cornelia Crenshaw Branch Library (531 Vance Avenue)

[Click here](#) for more events happening in the Memphis Public Library System.

The Memphis Public Library is in the business of satisfying customers' need to know!
Visit memphislibrary.org for more information.

Library Trivia Question

How well do you know Memphis Public Libraries?

Which of these great services can you access at your local Memphis Public Library branch?

- a.) [TumbleBooks](#) eBooks for Kids
- b.) [Freegal Music Service](#)
- c.) [Zinio eMagazine Service](#)
- d.) [eBooks and Audiobooks](#)
- e.) All of the above

(e.) All of the above!

CONTACT US

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E-newsletter *Connect, Learn, Grow* is now a TV show!
Tune in to WYPL TV-18.

Love Your Library Online!



@MemphisLibrary



For a complete list of Library events, [click here!](#)