

Hennepin County Library's mission is to nourish minds, transform lives and build community together.

Hennepin County Library is consistently recognized as one of the top library systems in the United States. Forty-one libraries and Outreach Services serve a diverse population of 1.2 million Hennepin County residents in an area of 611 square miles. Hennepin County Library's mission is to nourish minds, transform lives and build community together. Our priorities are early literacy, out-of-school time, jobs and small business support, lifelong learning and individuals age 55+, weaving diversity throughout each area.

## 2009 FACTS

### Cardholders

- More than 860,000 people have library cards and are considered active users.
- Almost 70 percent of Hennepin County residents have a library card and have used it within the past three years.

### Visits

- There were an estimated 5.6 million in-person visits to our libraries in 2009.

### Collection

- About 5 million books, CDs, DVDs, electronic resources, and other items in more than 40 languages are available to the public.
- About 17.0 million items were checked out in 2009, including almost 6.9 million checkouts of children's and teen materials. This is 14.9 items checked out per capita.

### Reference

- More than 900,000 reference questions were asked in 2009.

### Electronic Resources

- In 2009, there were an estimated 15.6 million visits to the Hennepin County Library website, [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org).
- There were 1750 public computers in Hennepin County libraries in 2009.
- Library computers were accessed more than 2.8 million times by library customers in 2009.
- 145 subscription databases were accessed about 630,000 times in 2009.
- Friends of Hennepin County Library's Facebook page: 2700 and counting.
- People who follow the Library on Twitter: 3000 and counting.

### Outreach

- Outreach services are provided at 91 sites, including senior housing sites and correctional facilities throughout Hennepin County.
- Outreach liaisons assist Hmong-, Spanish-, and Somali-speaking residents.
- At Home Service reaches more than 960 customers who cannot go to a library due to disability, illness, or lack of transportation.

### Programs, Events, Classes

- More than 10,500 programs were presented in 2009.
- More than 235,000 children, teens and adults attended library-sponsored programs in 2009.
- Of the 10,500 programs presented in 2009, more than 1700 were classes, attended by more than 13,000 customers.

### Volunteers

- More than 2500 adult and teen volunteers and Friends of the Library contributed more than 86,000 hours of service in 2009.

### Resources

- A \$69 million operating budget was approved for 2010.
- Hennepin County Library is a department of Hennepin County Government and reports to County Administration and the County Board of Commissioners.
- The Library Board is an advisory board that reports to the County Board and helps Library staff define and meet our mission.

- The Library Foundation of Hennepin County helps to ensure our libraries are thriving community centers of intellectual discovery and lifelong learning.

### Awards in 2009

- National Association of Counties (NACo) award for "A Library System's Response to the Economy," which highlighted the Library's jobs and small business resources; Freedom Ticket, Outreach Service's resource for correctional facilities residents; and our partnership with Hennepin County Taxpayer Services and the Minnesota Home Ownership Center to present foreclosure information workshops.
- American Institute of Architects 2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Award for Hennepin County Library – Minneapolis Central in downtown Minneapolis.
- Minnesota History Award for Minneapolis Central Library's Minnesota Sesquicentennial exhibition, "Minnovation: 150 Years of Ingenuity."

*\*NOTE: Plymouth Library was closed all of 2009; Nokomis closed on Sept. 13, 2009, and Northeast closed on Oct. 30, 2009 for renovation. The Children's Readmobile completed service in May 2009.*