

Hamilton Public Library

Annual Update



2018



The Hamilton Public Library has kicked up momentum over the past year.

2018 begins our five-year Strategic Plan that motivates us to serve as a vibrant hub in each of our communities. It guides us to provide relevant and responsive services and contribute to Hamilton's overall growth, innovation and continued evolution. With it, we will provide each of our Hamilton neighbours with the Freedom to Discover.

It is our privilege to serve the people of Hamilton and support the City's mission to be the best place to raise a child and age successfully. The Library contributes to this vision by offering programs, services and activities that reflect innovations for which Hamilton has long been recognized.

Over the next five years, Hamilton Public Library will fulfill three strategic priorities:

- 1 Community Beacon**
- 2 Relevant & Responsive**
- 3 Learning & Innovative Organization**

It is through these priorities that we will be a source of pride in the community. The Library will act as a unifying force by welcoming everyone. Our physical and digital spaces will entertain, enlighten and educate, and we will be a leader in fostering community engagement and participation.

The Hamilton Public Library will continue to advance core Library values of improving access to literacy and supporting lifelong learning journeys. We will maintain strong physical collections as we grow digital services.

5,034,921

PHYSICAL ITEMS
CIRCULATED

1,206,765

DIGITAL ITEMS
CIRCULATED

(28% increase from 2017)

We will be a national Library leader, working collaboratively to create policies and agreements that ensure access to intellectual property in all formats.

And finally, the Library will seek new ways to assist the learning and growth of all individuals. The Library will support staff in their daily and professional endeavours. We will focus on building

awareness of the wide range of our Library services to the communities we serve.

It has been a bright year and we look forward to a dynamic future that encourages knowledge and creativity for all. Thank you for the opportunity to gather and lift up our community.



**Lori-Anne
Spence-Smith**

Board Chair



**Paul
Takala**

Chief Librarian and CEO

Key 2018 accomplishments included:

01

Rural Extended Access invites pre-registered card holders to use the Lynden and Freulton branches **60 hours** each week.

03

Launch of award-winning **Memory Café at several branches.**

05

Grow with Google job creation **partnership.**

02

New branch opens in Binbrook. **Upgrades** at Central Library, Dundas and Locke branches.

04

Open on PA days and **extended** study hall hours added at Red Hill.

06

Coffee with Paul invites community members to **share ideas.**



01 / Freulton Branch, longer open hours.



02 / The new Binbrook Branch.



05 / Grow with Google.

2018 in Review:

Highlights & Accomplishments

21,702

NEW REGISTERED CARDHOLDERS

157,368

ACTIVE CARDHOLDERS

3.75

MILLION IN-PERSON VISITS

Kids & Youth

In 2018, we encouraged children and their families to visit their local branch and connect with us through their digital devices.

The Library's 22 branches and two Bookmobiles are often the focus of our youngest visitors' artwork and stories. They are represented on bookmarks, in art classes and on social media. Our beloved mascot, Scout, continues to be a frequent ambassador in building awareness of HPL's brand.

Our reading lists, museum passes, Homework Help clubs and classroom visits all support early learning. This will develop curiosity in Hamilton's youngest residents and encourage a strong connection to their communities.



Zachary in the Summer Reading Club at Red Hill Branch.



Oliver and Winston participate in our Sit! Stay! Read! program at the Sherwood Branch.



Halloween Storytime fans in 2018 on our Bookmobile.



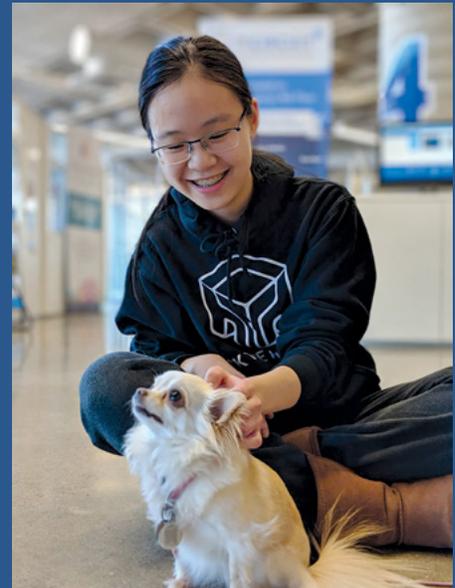
**We strive to develop
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Teens & Young Adults



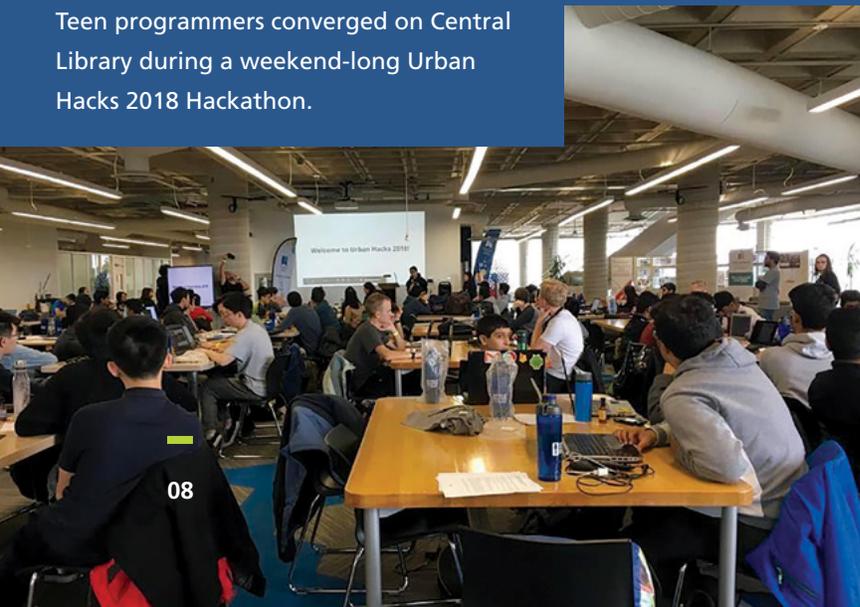
This year, teens volunteered at the Library's Homework Help Club and Teen Review Board, submitted their best writing for the Power of the Pen awards and organized and hosted a weekend-long hackathon to build Hamilton's next transportation innovation.

The Library's Makerspaces continue to resonate with Hamilton's teens. The sound/recording studio is booked solid and the 3-D printers fabricate pioneering designs. We work to connect teens with resources that will open new opportunities for future paths.



A Hackathon teen snuggles with a pup during a break from coding.

Teen programmers converged on Central Library during a weekend-long Urban Hacks 2018 Hackathon.

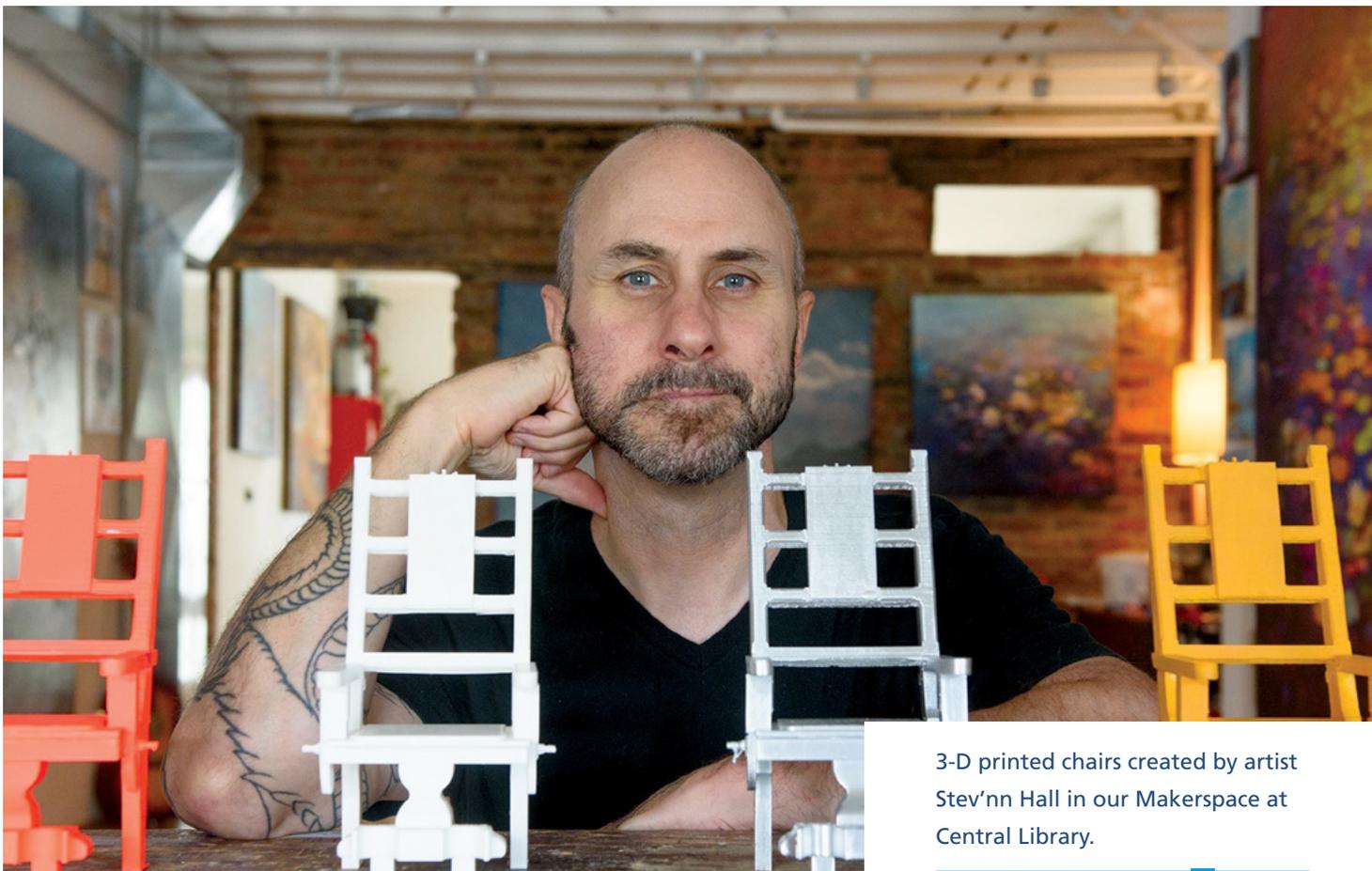


A teen experiences Virtual Reality.

Digital Inclusion & New Frontiers



Social Workers at the Makerspace.



3-D printed chairs created by artist Stev'n Hall in our Makerspace at Central Library.

Adults & Older Adults

Aging gracefully AND successfully is the City's mission and a priority for the Library.

Our award-winning adult and seniors' programs, collections and partnerships are vital in keeping these populations healthy and connected within their community.

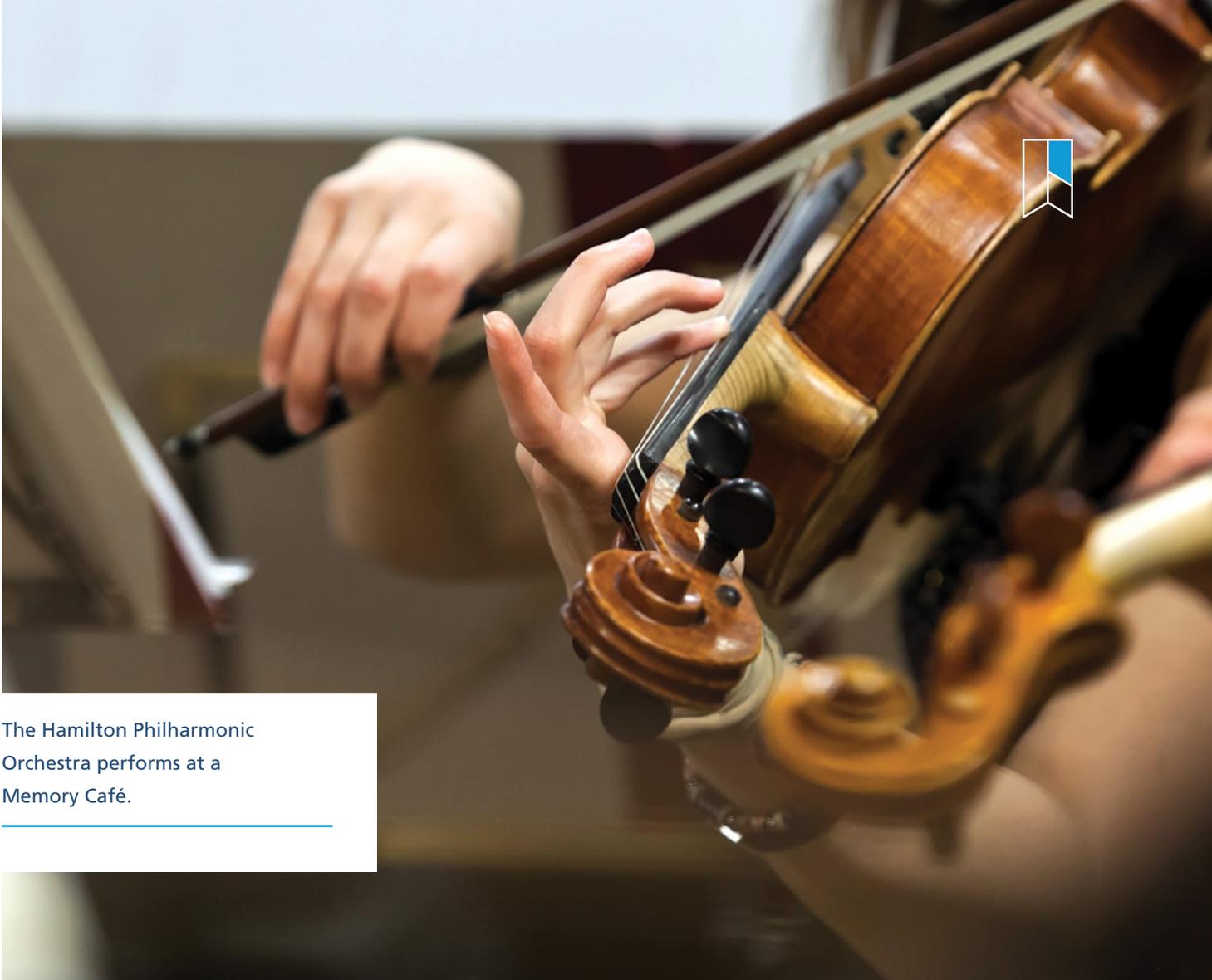
Hamilton Reads and our many programs – from book clubs to Memory Cafés, Disability Information Services, games, hobbies, events and concerts – ensure our adults and seniors are engaged. Our dedicated volunteers in the Visiting Library Service diligently deliver books and resources to those who can't physically visit a branch.



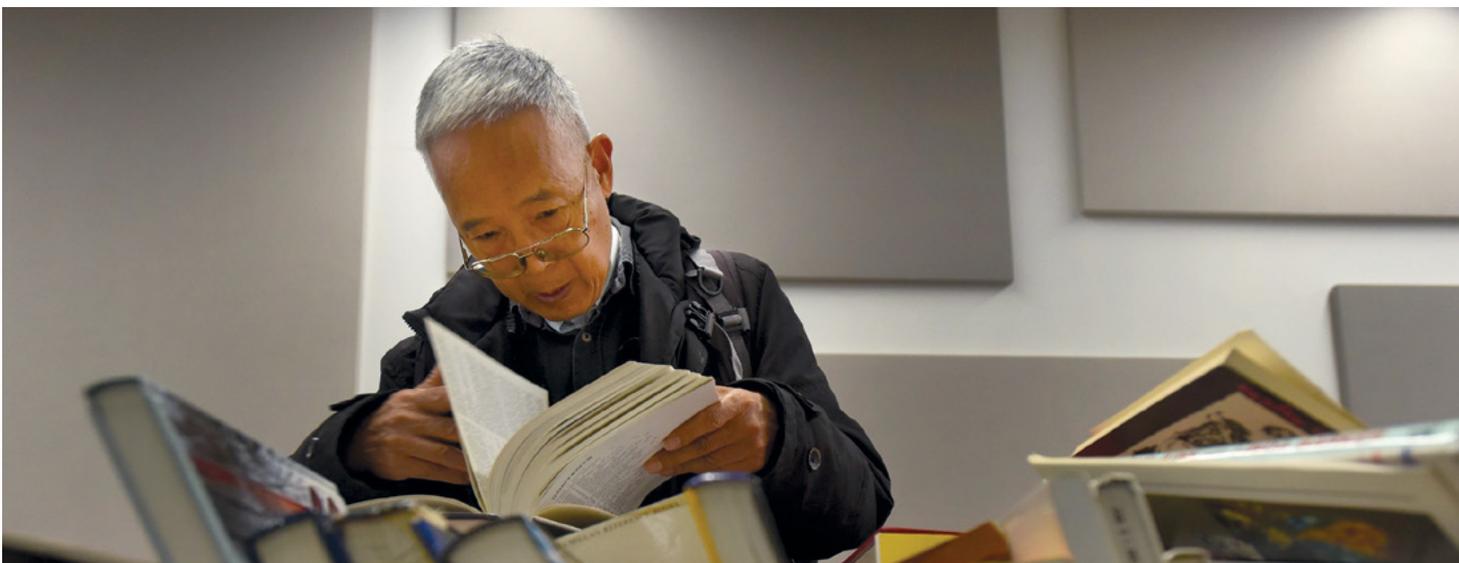
Scrabble players enjoy a competitive round at the Westdale Branch.



Sit to be Fit participants exercise at the Sherwood Branch.



The Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra performs at a Memory Café.



Browsing for deals at the Annual Book Sale at Central Library.

Local History & Archives

We cannot celebrate future wins without learning from our past.

Since 1914, the Library's Local History & Archives (LH&A) has continued to collect and preserve Hamilton's history including the important minutes, photos and memorabilia that built our community. Whether researching a scholarly paper, attending the Genealogy Fair or searching family ancestry records, LH&A serves as an anchor for historic interest. From ground-breaking music to foundational politics to media archives, our region's history is guiding our tomorrow.



Lighting candles for Kwanzaa, in 1995.



Helen Gougeon, Women's Editor of Weekend magazine interviewed at the CHML radio station, circa 1950.



HPL's inaugural Genealogy Fair drew large crowds to Central Library in November 2018.



Children's storytime at the Dundas Branch, 1966.



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Community Partnerships

Together, we are stronger and the Library's partnerships tie our services with other community organizations to ensure our neighbours are healthy, safe and optimistic about the future.



CEO Paul Takala with Hamilton Police Services' Officer Ray Wong.



Whether newcomers needing broad access to training, seniors aging at home, teens exploring their forthcoming options, or vulnerable populations needing shelter and food security, it is vital for everyone to come together and provide services necessary to lift our entire community.



HPL's two Bookmobiles make 32 stops each week throughout the City.



Outfront Media displayed the winning entry in the 2018 Billboard Contest at Main Street East and Huxley Avenue in the Fall.



HPO's annual Holiday Brass Concert in December draws a large crowd of fans.



Greyhounds from the Greyhound Lovers of Hamilton Wentworth visit Central Library during Summer Reading Club special events.

