# 2020 - 2021 Denver Public Library Updates

Michelle Jeske, City Librarian 2.3.2021



### **Library Updates**

- Highlights from 2020
- Charting the Course Strategic Planning
- Bond Project Updates
- What you can expect from us in 2021



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2020 numbers may not be final and are subject to change.

### **2020 Highlights**



38,945 new card holders in 2020



### **2020 Circulation**





#### Circulation

**Physical Materials:** 2.9M **Electronic Materials:** 2.5 M (increase from 2019)

#### Notable Increases:

- **Overdrive (all formats)**: 13.6% increase in checkouts, 17% increase in unique users.
- Kanopy (movies): 80% increase in plays, 81% increase in visits
- Personalized Reading Lists: increased from average of 6 per week, to average 34 per week

### **2020 Circulation**



#### Borrowing

#### Curbside Pick Up at all 26 locations opened Officially Began July 7, 2020

#### New Services: 7/7/20-12/31/20

- Curbside Bundles: 39,491 items checked out
- Bundle Requests: 25,360 items requested



### **2020 Programs & Services**





287 Older Adult Programs 3,755 attendees

Phone-a-Story 61% increase in weekly calls

2020 annual total AskUs sessions: 19,440

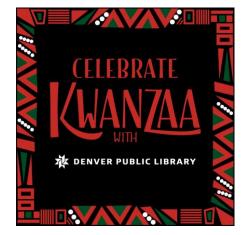




### **2020 Programs & Services**

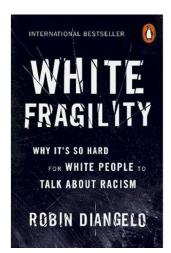












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### **Community Resource Team**

### \*2002 touchpoints

\* individuals, couples, groups

# 74.1% of touchpoints are due to outreach

### **37.2% of contacts** occurred at or near Central Library



### **Community Resource Team**

### 95.4% are experiencing housing instability and/or homelessness

#### **Need Identified by Customer**

- 67.2% Emotional Support
- 61.8% Rapport Building (making connections, establishing trust)
- 55.8% Immigration/refugee support
- 31% Homeless services



### **Technology Access**

- All branches offer free WiFi outside of our branches even though we are closed (1,400 unique users each week)
- 12 Branches including Central serve as Computer Pop-Up Locations
- 6,182 individuals used Outdoor Computing in 2020 (does not include outreach sites)
- We started offering Chromebooks outside of library property





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### Outreach

- Started going back out into the community in April
- Focused on serving the most vulnerable in our community (DPS lunch sites, older adult locations, food banks, motels with immigrant and refugee communities)
- By the numbers:
  - o 22,721 contacts
  - o 44,207 books
  - o 8,268 waters
  - 36 partners

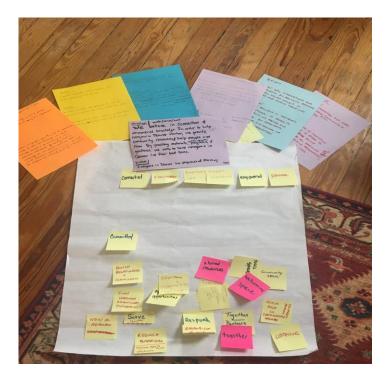






### **Charting the Course**

#### The next 10 years!









### **Charting the Course**

New Vision: A strong community where everyone thrives.

**Mission:** Together, we create welcoming spaces where all are free to explore and connect.

#### Values in Action:

- Welcoming Everyone
- Fostering Curiosity
- Strengthening Connection
- Challenging Inequity
- Honoring Public Trust



## Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

- EDI Committee consisting of staff representation from across the organization was established in 2018
- Staff perception survey to understand internal challenges
- Hosted Symposium on Advancing Racial Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace
  - July 8-10
  - Attendance: Approx. 3,000 people from across the nation
  - Supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services
- Hired Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Manager
  - Part of Executive Team
- Began hosting Care Circles in May for BIPOC staff
- Contracted mental health specialist to offer 1:1 sessions to staff for approx. 2 months





#### Smiley

- Renovation includes
  - Outdoor facade
  - Improved ADA ramp
  - Upgraded service desk
  - Updated community room in the basement
  - Other: new furniture, unique built-in bookshelves, interior book drop
- Opening curbside February 2021







Smiley









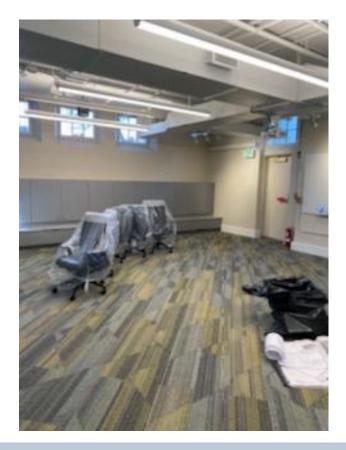
#### **Byers**

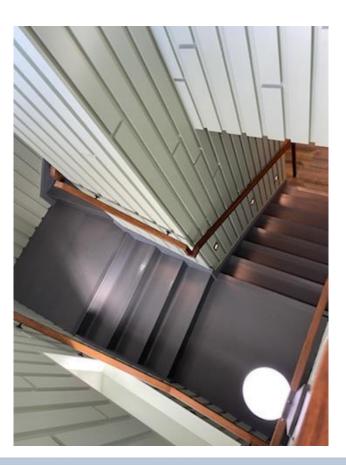
- Renovation includes:
  - Improved layout including updated community room
  - Early literacy space for children and caregivers
  - New teen space
  - Seating and workspace updates
  - Others: Improved lighting, painting interior wall, new carpet
- Opening curbside in February 2021





**Byers** 





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#### **Central Library**

- Renovation includes:
  - New, modernized elevators
  - Redesign and enlarge public restrooms to increase access and security; adding a bay of all gender restrooms to first floor
  - Grand hall renovation with relocated, centralized service points
  - Additional meeting rooms
  - Large programming space on the first floor with views of Civic Center Park and more accessible location
  - Deferred building maintenance
  - Re-imagined Children's Library
  - And more!
- Construction has begun! Major construction begins April 1, 2021.
  - June 1, 2021 Open first floor for services
  - Q1 2022 New Children's Library opens
  - Q1 2023 Construction Complete, Building to open







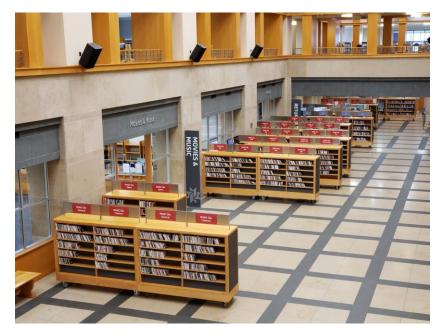




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**Central Library** 





#### Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library

- Renovation includes:
  - Floor plans will be reconfigured to increase space for learning, making, creating, meeting and collaboration
  - Preservation needs for archival collections and areas will be met. Building systems and components will be new and improved.
  - Community and conference rooms will be transformed into flexible multifunction spaces with the power, data, technology and sound systems to support out-of-school learning, adult classes, meetings, collaboration, cultural programming and community events.
  - And much more!
- Project is currently in design phase
  - Construction is expected to start in late 2021



### What can you expect from us in 2021

**Collection Access** 

Technology Access

Key Customers BIPOC Vulnerable Youth Unemployed Unhoused Refugees Immigrants Older Adults Access to Public Space

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### What can you expect from us in 2021

- Chromebook/hotspot lending in partnership with DEDO
- Continuing to pivot to center our services on our commitments
  - Virtual programming
  - Outreach (mobile services, community resource team)
- Extended curbside hours We started the week of 1/25
- Home Delivery Service
- Restoring in-person services once it's safe to do so
- Renaming of Byers and Barnum branches
- Opening of Art Park Library location
- Continuing bond renovations
- Continue to move EDI work forward
- Focus on internal communications to support our staff
- Approval of our strategic plan





# Friendly Reminder!



A reading challenge for adults 17+!

January 2 - February 28

How to play:

- Do online for the first time, download a brochure and print at home, or pick one up at any branch location.
- □ Complete any 5 activities.
- Bring your completed brochure to any branch location by February 28, 2021 to claim your prize.



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