Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library

Wolfner formally changed its name from Wolfner Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to Wolfner Talking Book and Braille Library. The change was met with approval by the Wolfner Advisory Council, Friends of Wolfner Library and patrons.

DIGITAL TRANSITION

Wolfner’s duplication staff transitioned from analog cassette duplication to digital download/duplication fully in 2011. They made the radical break with the past and ceased cassette production then thoroughly assimilated downloading/duplication. The duplication staff is comprised of 3 full time employees, and part-time assistance from circulation staff cross-trained in the download/duplication procedures.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Wolfner Library outreach team traveled to many locations throughout the state of Missouri this past year. Presentations, exhibits and trainings were conducted in the following counties:


Twenty-two outreach events were facilitated by Wolfner staff which allowed information to be displayed and or presented to a total of approximately 5,500 attendees for all these events.
Increased use of Facebook promoted Wolfner services to the public. Increased postings in Show Me Express, the State Library newsletter, gave more exposure to library staff around the state.

**YOUTH SERVICES AT WOLFNER LIBRARY**

In 2011 the BARD program was opened to schools, and Wolfner’s Youth Services Librarian worked diligently to introduce school staff to BARD. At this time, 21 schools are downloading audiobooks through BARD for their students.

In the summer of 2011, Wolfner again participated in the Collaborative Summer Library Program theme for the summer reading program. In 2011, the general theme for the club was World Cultures. The slogan for younger children was *One World, Many Stories* and the slogan for teens was *You Are Here*. A total of 58 young patrons registered, and 37 completed the program. Those who reported a reading time received participation prizes, such as rubber punching balls, tote bags and tactile Rubik’s Cube puzzles, and club members who met all reading goals for their club were entered into a grand prize drawing. The grand prize for each club was a Playaway audio home library of new and classic fiction.

**ADULT WINTER READING PROGRAM 2011**

This year's program was a great success. Of the 82 readers who signed up for the program, 65 reported their reading, resulting in these top three winners.

Program participants reported that they have discovered new (to them) authors that they are now enjoying. Wolfner staff has also received numerous suggestions for next year's theme.

**WOLFNER VOLUNTEER SERVICES**

In 2011, 44 volunteers worked a total of 3,133 hours. 65 digital books were produced: 25 adult, 14 young adult, and 26 juvenile. All 10 books for the ‘Show Me’ school award were recorded.
and put on one cartridge, as were all 10 books for the ‘Building Block Picture Book’ award. The ‘Angels of Mercy’ series by Charlotte Hubbard was completed and put on one cartridge. 90 Missouri digital titles were added to the KLAS SHELF project, making them available for download to all KLAS customers.

Forty-two print/braille books were created, including two copies of each Building Block award book, and at least one of the majority of the Show Me award books.

Volunteers assembled over 2000 outreach and volunteer recording packets, stuffed over 5000 applications, put labels on over 2000 envelopes, and put 7667 labels on cartridges and book boxes.

Volunteers reviewed and corrected over 2000 records in the KLAS catalog database.

A workshop was held for volunteers working in the recording program, in conjunction with the NLS consultant visit. Mary Beth Wise, NLS consultant, talked to all the volunteers as a group about recording tips in general, and then worked with each individual narrator in the recording booth.

Wolfner Library collaborated with the Missouri State Archives to produce an audio tour of Divided Loyalties: Civil War Documents. The audio companion was accessible on the Wolfner and Missouri Digital Heritage home pages in both an audio and screen-reader compatible text format. The exhibit had more than nine million pages of Civil War-related documents to examine the upheaval and uncertainty that characterized Missouri during the Civil War era.

WOLFNER LIBRARY 2011 STATISTICS HIGHLIGHTS


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>13,550</td>
<td>8,891</td>
<td>10,007</td>
<td>8,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13,973</td>
<td>9,208</td>
<td>10,342</td>
<td>9706</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Public and Private Schools & Institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary and secondary only</td>
<td>774</td>
<td>774</td>
<td>811</td>
<td>836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutions</td>
<td>1,751</td>
<td>1,745</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>1,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total Readership*</td>
<td>20,977</td>
<td>16,188</td>
<td>17,542</td>
<td>17,302</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Readership is total individuals (9,706) plus 4 times institutions (1,899)