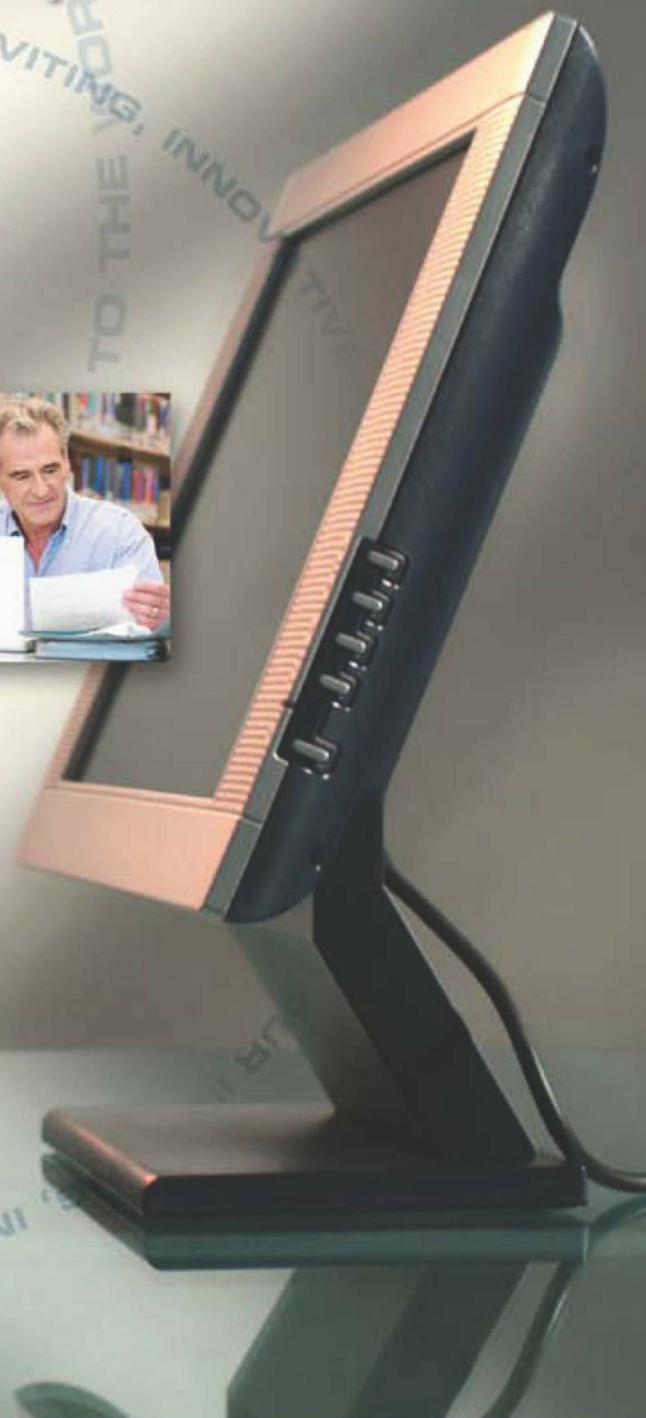
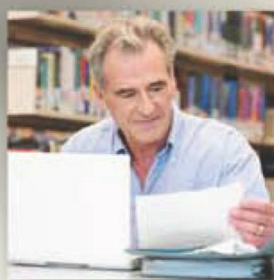


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Only Connect

Your Inviting, Innovative Link to the World!

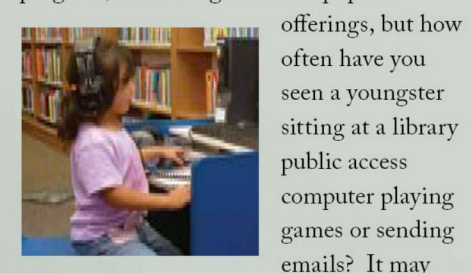
That's not just a slogan, you know. Slogans are means used to brand a company so you'll think of its products when you hear or read the familiar phrase. No, "Your Inviting, Innovative Link to the World!" is more than a slogan.

It's a statement of fact and an invitation to you to take advantage of the myriad of services your Metropolitan Library System has worked hard to put in place and maintain. We didn't become a recognized leader in public library technology and service just by checking out books.

Traditional libraries are content to stand outside the lives of their customers, but public libraries in the 21st Century want to become a vital part of the lives of their communities by creating a user base that runs the age gamut from pre-birth to retirement and beyond.

Pre-birth? Certainly. Many of our libraries offer workshops on prenatal care and then present experts who give advice on childhood developmental issues. As babies age, we have story hour sessions for the little ones—even aerobics for toddlers.

Our organized events for children, especially our annual Summer Reading program, are among our most popular



offerings, but how often have you seen a youngster sitting at a library public access computer playing games or sending emails? It may

look like play (and, of course, it is) but that child is also exercising hand/eye coordination with the game or practicing computer and writing skills with email. Anyone, young or old, sharpens the ability to think and see links between ideas when searching the web for information.

It's easy now for kids to find information via the Internet, but that means that it's also easy to find faulty or prejudiced information as well. Did you know the MLS pays subscription fees to specific databases so we can be reasonably sure that the data collected from those databases will be free of bias and partisanship?



Whether you want to find out how to construct a resume, what make of DVD player would best suit your needs, or when Captain Caveman debuted on television (it was 1977), you can find it on the web. If you need some help searching, just ask a librarian.

Do you have your own laptop computer equipped for wireless searching? Go to a library! They're all set up for WiFi service.

But let's get back for a minute to the idea of performance events in libraries. Justly proud of Summer Reading as we are, much of our programming is intended for adults, teens and families.

Music from around the city and around the globe makes up a big part of our programming and provides another link to

the whole world. Live presentations from a variety of area theatrical companies introduce children to the fun of stage productions, and give older adults a reason to get out of the house and go someplace comfortable and safe to see old friends and to meet new ones.

Film screenings introduce people of all ages to new concepts and varied cultural ideas, while workshops address such topics as financial planning, health care, hunting and driver safety, and the path on which we, the people progressed to where we are today.

Your Inviting, Innovative Link to the World!

It's not just a slogan. It's a promise.

