



# Annual Report FY 2012-13:

*Welcome A/E Over*

One of our Twitter followers sent us a message not long ago that pretty well sums up what most library users think: "There's just something about libraries."

They know what a lot of people may not realize: MLS libraries are not static, but are among the most flexible and changing institutions in central Oklahoma. We enjoy not only a constant influx of new materials, but we also add new services, and FY 2012-13 was no exception to the rule.

The addition of Zinio to our list of Databases was one of our most overwhelming success stories. By logging into Zinio you can download over 250 popular magazines for free. Lisa posted on Facebook, "I think this is going to be awesome." We couldn't agree more. In fact, we checked to find out the Top 5 Most Downloaded Magazines and got this result:

## Top 5 Most Downloaded Magazines

1. Us Weekly
2. \$10 DINNERS (OR LESS!)
3. 100 Decorating Ideas
4. National Geographic Interactive
5. 100 Best Cookies

Another popular acquisition last year was Freegal, a downloadable music service that offers free and legal downloads of DRM-free music every week. Freegal's catalog gives you access to millions of songs from artists across 10,000 music labels. MLS has always been a good way to save money—as we've said before, why buy when you can borrow—and Freegal is another way to save some dollars every month. In tricky economic times, there's a practical reason for using the library. Robin, one of our Facebook friends, told us: "I

drive a lot and listen to audiobooks while on the road. Each audiobook costs \$50 to \$100. And I save on magazines and music, too." Joey's savings were even more amazing. "I calculated this a few months ago and my family uses \$1,000 of library services each month. What we save on magazine subscriptions alone is craziness."

A lot of folks wrote in to tell us that they enjoy other

free services as well, things like Same Day Global Newspapers, and Playaways, which are self-contained recorded books. You don't need any kind of player to take advantage of them. You just plug in an earbud or head phone and you're ready to go. Whitney tweeted that Playaways "just made my book obsession worse."

Readers, and listeners, continued to access our large selection of books in audio and digital formats. We looked into popularity there, too, to discover the Top 5 Most Popular Digital Books.

## Top 5 Most Popular Digital Books

1. *Inferno: Robert Langdon Series, Book 4*, by Dan Brown
2. *Gone Girl: A Novel*, by Gillian Flynn
3. *The Heist: O'Hare and Fox Series, Book 2*, by Janet Evanovich
4. *Fifty Shades of Grey: Fifty Shades Trilogy, Book 1*, by E.L. James
5. *A Game of Thrones: A Song of Ice and Fire Series, Book 1*, by George R. R. Martin

We asked library users on Facebook to share with us their best library memory. Not surprisingly, several remembered getting their first library card. "I felt like the world was finally within my reach," Mandy told us.

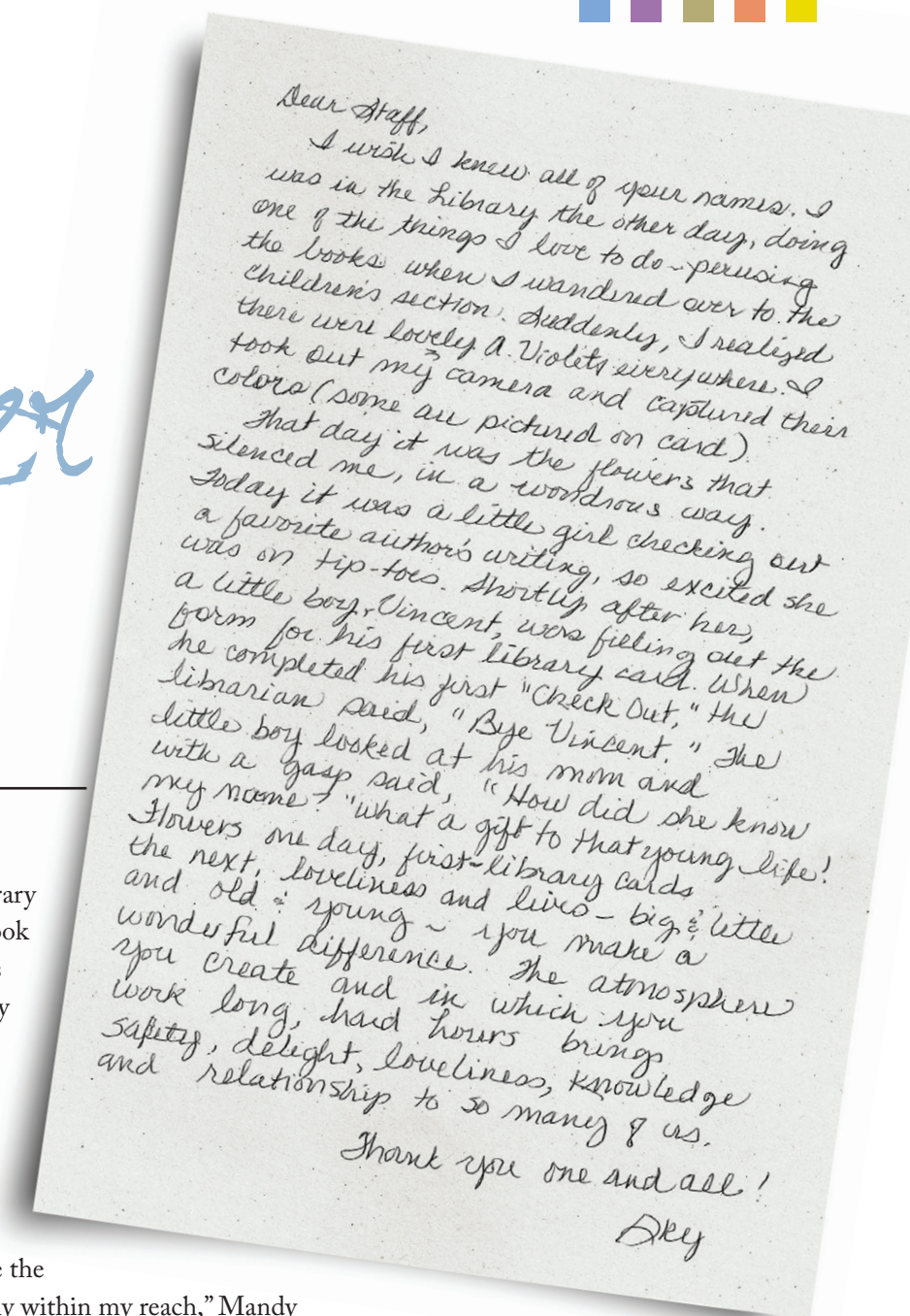
Children have to be taken to the library, and many people remembered moms and dads fondly as parts of their library experiences. Tracy said, "In middle school I would walk to the library after school and spend an hour or so there until my mom picked me up. I can't tell you how many times she had to drag me out of there." Jan recalled "going to the Downtown OKC library (the old location) with my Dad." Elizabeth remembered going to the library with her Mom, who volunteered at a library when she retired. "When she died at 89, I flew back home to Oklahoma. I had a rough day and the librarians let me go into

an unused room with a book so I could feel close to my mom. No place says love like the library!"

Maybe Christina summed it up best when she told us her best library memories are "the ones I'm making now with my two boys."

When we asked our customers why they liked to read, Sue responded, "That's like asking me why I breathe," and Nikki said, "Because I cannot not read."

You know, it's never too late in anyone's life to create more great library memories. Joey added, "the librarians always helps me find exactly what I'm looking for. The







# Annual Report *continued*

librarian will not stop looking until I have the book I need. My librarian is my partner in learning stuff.”

That’s an important point—you, us, we’re partners. We make a good team. And while we contribute to your fond memories of the library, you contribute to ours. They say that a team is only as strong as its weakest member. We’re lucky. We have no weak members on our team.

We have you.

## Financial Information - Budgetary Basis

	FY 2012-13	FY 2011-12
<b>Revenues</b>		
Property Taxes	\$30,663,799.70	\$30,251,610.47
Fines, Fees, & Gifts, etc.	520,000.00	500,000.00
State Aid	287,392.00	286,073.00
Investment Income	325,335.45	421,542.81
Miscellaneous Revenues	483,196.60	292,447.16
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$32,279,723.75</b>	<b>\$31,751,673.44</b>
Beginning Fund Balance Forward	\$10,880,866.28	\$12,054,150.84
Reserves for future capital and other projects	\$19,333,641.14	\$19,171,370.30
<b>Total Revenues &amp; Balance Forward</b>	<b>\$62,494,231.17</b>	<b>\$62,977,194.58</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Personnel	\$21,623,592.11	\$19,873,731.80
Maintenance & Operations	5,005,322.64	4,563,531.42
Books & Materials	5,456,694.75	5,553,256.14
Capital Outlays	835,349.82	731,442.77
Capital Improvements	541,903.17	2,040,725.03
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$33,462,862.49</b>	<b>\$32,762,687.16</b>
Ending Fund Balance	12,902,418.56	10,880,866.28
Reserves for future capital and other projects	\$16,128,950.12	\$19,333,641.14
<b>Total Expenditures and Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$62,494,231.17</b>	<b>\$62,977,194.58</b>