



## GEORGIA LIBRARY SERVICES USING LSTA — 2016

Each year, GPLS uses funds awarded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) to support:

- the award-winning, nationally recognized **PINES network** and statewide library card system, which is used regularly by more than 1.9 million Georgians and provides statewide lending via a shared database of almost 10.7 million books and other library holdings
- **technical support staff** for the PINES automation and lending network's coverage of 283 public libraries across 142 counties, and **continuing education, training and technical education loaner kits** for IT staff at public library systems statewide
- **"talking book"** library services — encompassing more than 430,000 annual circulations — for the blind and other Georgians whose physical abilities require the use of books and magazines in audio format or in braille
- the **GALILEO online databases**, containing essential quality digital resources for students (kindergarten through higher education), teachers, professors and public library users
- the statewide **Summer Reading Program**, serving more than half-a-million youth in 2016
- **Georgia HomePLACE** — Placing unique, historical public library collections into the Digital Library of Georgia for worldwide access
- **shared services** that provide necessary OCLC cataloging information and interlibrary loan access to every library in the state
- **continuing education programs** and training for library staff from all types of libraries (public, university, K-12 and specialized)

- **electronic services** for libraries, including website hosting and provision of email accounts
- **strategic partnership programs** with state and private organizations that have educated and entertained thousands of Georgians while saving more than \$13 million in direct expenditures and providing hundreds of hours of free programming at public libraries
- **professional consulting** to assist in improving local library services in such areas as technology, services to children and interlibrary cooperation
- maintenance and development of the **state professional library collection**

Statistics clearly show that more Georgians than ever before are turning to their public libraries for their informational and educational needs. Libraries play a critical role in workforce and economic development throughout our state. LSTA funds allow the state's libraries to take advantage of economies of scale and cooperative activities that benefit all Georgia residents. ■

*IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 35,000 museums. Its mission is to grow and sustain a "Nation of Learners" because lifelong learning is essential to a democratic society and individual success. Through its grant making, convening, research and publications, the institute empowers museums and libraries nationwide to provide leadership and services to enhance learning in families and communities, sustain cultural heritage, build 21st century skills, and provide opportunities for civic participation. The institute's grants are awarded under LSTA and are made to each state according to a population-based formula, with each state's library agency administering the funds. In FY2016, Georgia expended \$4,503,334 in LSTA funding to help expand learning resources and access to information for individuals of all ages.*

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