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MOST POPULAR ITEMS CIRCULATED IN 2011

Wonder what Western New Yorkers were reading this past year? The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System, with 37- locations, reports that 2011 was a banner year for interesting and intriguing reading. The following are the most popular print books and eBooks circulated locally through the Library System during 2011.

BOOKS:

Adult Fiction	<i>The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo</i> by Stieg Larsson ** <i>this is the second year this title has been the most borrowed library book in Erie County.</i>
New Adult Fiction	<i>The Confession</i> by John Grisham
New (21-day) Adult Fiction	<i>Sing You Home</i> by Jodi Picoult
Graphic Novel	<i>Grim Hunt (The Amazing Spider-Man)</i> by Joe Kelly, Fred Van Lente and others
Adult Non-Fiction	<i>Without a Word: How a Boy's Unspoken Love Changed Everything</i> by Jill Kelly
Adult Paperback	<i>Eat This, Not That! 2011: The No-Diet Weight Loss Solution</i> by David Zinczenko
Children's	<i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Ugly Truth</i> by Jeff Kinney <i>Princess Bedtime Stories (Disney Princess)</i> (no specific author)
Children's Non-Fiction	<i>The Wimpy Kid Movie Diary</i> by Jeff Kinney
Children's Paperback	<i>The Sea of Monsters</i> by Rick Riordan
<u>eBOOKS</u>	
Fiction	<i>The Help</i> by Kathryn Stockett
Non-Fiction	<i>Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption</i> by Laura Hillenbrand

When asked about her favorite book this year, Library System Director Mary Jean Jakubowski gave 'thumbs up' to *The Hunger Games* series by Suzanne Collins. The three book series includes *The Hunger Games*, *Mockingjay* and *Catching Fire*. The books fall under the young adult - fiction/science-fiction genre.

Ms. Jakubowski said, "Just when you think you know what is going to happen next, you are hit with another complex character or twist in the plot. These were gripping stories of a darken world of the future where young adults must fight for their survival and for the honor of their district. The characters are well developed and grow throughout the series."

Glenn Luba, director, City of Tonawanda Public Library says his favorite read in 2011 was *Green Restorations: Sustainable Building and Historic Homes*, by Aaron Lubeck. The book is Non-Fiction under the home improvement section. "Home remodeling is my hobby and I am always looking for the latest trends, materials, tools and techniques that lessen our impact on the environment but offer practical and appealing solutions to design challenges," said Mr. Luba. This book details ways to bring older houses up to today's environmental standards while keeping the integrity of the original design and materials intact or integrated with new technology.

Jack Edson, director of Hamburg Public Libraries voted Jeffrey Eugenides' *The Marriage Plot* as his best read this year. The book is about a love triangle among three youthful and intellectual graduates of Brown University, class of 1982. "Reading it in 2011, I found it funny, intellectual and "so" 1980's. Today, a marriage plot might include some new complications such as prenuptial agreements, but the plot still grabs me, especially when it is about three brilliant kids who discover that real life has nothing to do with what they learned at college," said Edson.

Like many readers, book clubs and moviegoers, Angola Library Manager Mary Truby enjoyed *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett. Ms. Truby felt the fiction book was an entertaining and informative glimpse into the South of the 1960's.

The Library System welcomes hearing about your favorite reads. Become a fan of our Facebook page (**Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library**) and post your book recommendations. The Library System has more than 2.6 million materials available for borrowing through the 37-branch system. Free library card applications can be downloaded and taken to any of the local public libraries for processing. A valid form of identification and proof of address is necessary. Those under 17 years of age must be accompanied by a parent/guardian to obtain a card and the guardian is required to have valid identification. For more information, visit www.BuffaloLib.org .

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