At the touch of a button or the turn of a page.
I want to give a sincere thank you to the community of Fargo for our record-setting year in 2018. The Fargo Public Library achieved record circulation with over 1,026,000 items checked out, and record program attendance with over 27,000 attendees in 2018. It continues to be a tremendous honor to see the ongoing support the library receives from the citizens of Fargo.

In conjunction with our strategic planning goals, we introduced a number of new services, collections, and programs in 2018. In the summer we rolled out our new Fargo Public Library Book Bike. The Book Bike enables us to provide items for checkout at events around the city. We also now have mobile Wi-Fi hotspots available. Library patrons are able to check out a hotspot and have Internet access either in their homes or on the road. We also introduced collections of adult and children’s board games.

Another important focus for the library in 2018 was the reduction of barriers to library services. We eliminated overdue fines on children’s items in order to ensure equitable access. In addition, we initiated a Student Digital Resources card for children and teens in order to facilitate access to our online resources.

2018 was an extremely exciting year for the Fargo Public Library and we look forward to another year of service to the community.

Regards,

Timothy S. Dirks, MLIS, MPA
DIRECTOR • FARGO PUBLIC LIBRARY
The Fargo Public Library continues to focus on growing and improving our electronic collections to meet the increased needs of our community. In 2018, the Fargo Public Library partnered with a wide variety of organizations and individuals to enhance library programming and strengthen the community.

### CIRCULATION

2018 was a record year. Our patrons checked out 1,026,953 Items!

The Fargo Public Library continues to focus on growing and improving our electronic collections to meet the increased needs of our community.

### NEW

#### BOOK BIKE

In 2018, the Fargo Public Library rolled out its new Book Bike to the community! The Book Bike can bring books and other materials, along with information about the library, out into the community on sidewalks, at parks, and at community events.

Equipped with a mobile hotspot and a tablet, the Book Bike acts as a mini library branch for library staff to reach residents who might not have access to the library. With the Book Bike, library staff are able to make library cards, check out materials and make sure people know about all of the resources and the variety of events going on at the library. The Book Bike was at various events in late summer, including Pride in the Park and the Red River Market.

### NEW

#### STRATEGIC PLAN

In early 2018, the library implemented a new three-year strategic plan to guide our work. This plan focuses on our direct service to the community and the need for reducing barriers to library services for our residents. In support of this goal, last year we eliminated overdue fines for all children’s materials. This change increases access to books and materials for children and makes it easier for kids to continue to check out books and read.

In addition, we implemented a new Student Digital Resources Card to provide school children in Fargo’s public and private schools the opportunity to access our electronic resources. Students are able to register for the card with the assistance of their teachers without the necessity of visiting a library location.

In 2018, the Fargo Public Library continued to focus on growing and improving our electronic collections to meet the increased needs of our community. The Fargo Public Library provides effective programming that has distinguished us for years. The stage is set for another exciting year and we thank the community for its continued support.

### A MESSAGE FROM BOARD PRESIDENT RACHEL STEENHOLDT

2018 was a record-setting year for the library. Our community attended library programs and checked out materials in unsurpassed numbers. The library’s three-year strategic plan was unveiled, and these results reflect that when the community spoke, the library listened. Among many advances, the library increased community access by reducing policy barriers, expanded circulation opportunities at community events, and built upon the imaginative materials and programming that has distinguished us for years. The stage is set for another exciting year and we thank the community for its continued support.

### 2018 FARGO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rachael Steenholdt</td>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Carlos Hawley</td>
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</tr>
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### OUR MISSION

The Fargo Public Library provides effective and efficient library services to meet our community’s personal, professional, and lifelong learning needs.

### OUR VISION

The Fargo Public Library will be a model of excellence in library services and the primary place in the community for people of all ages to fulfill their informational, recreational, and lifelong learning needs.

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ADULT PROGRAMMING

JANUARY: The Library kicked off the New Year with a four-part Wellness Trends informational series. Over 90 people attended the sessions covering the topics of microgreens, grains, kombucha, and yoga and kefir.

The Library also hosted two author visits. Laetitia Mazero Hellenius, author of Being at Home in the World, and a four-time refugee, shared what she has learned about adaptation and finding your home in the midst of chaos and struggle. Alicia Underlee Nelson, author of North Dakota Beer: A Heady History, presented her research on the history of beer in North Dakota, including prohibition days, behind-the-barn stills, and the recent explosion in new beers.

FEBRUARY: Printmaker and painter Cameron Peterson led the workshop “Reduction 101: Linocut Cuts” where he introduced a fun and friendly way to experience the printmaking world. During the month, a selection of Peterson’s works were displayed in the gallery space at the Main Library for the public to view.

MARCH: The Library hosted a presentation by local author and journalist Danielle Tegen. Tegen’s well-researched book, Hidden History of Fargo, was published by The History Press in 2017. Over 60 people attended her engaging talk on Fargo’s history and the influential figures in Fargo’s past.

APRIL: Inspired by U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky’s Favorite Poem Project, the Library hosted a Favorite Poem Reading in April. Community members celebrated the importance of poetry in their lives by reading favorite poems out loud.

MAY: The Library welcomed three of the authors of the book, 1957 Fargo Tornado, Tinda Rameau-Chara, John Halberg, and Lisa Eggbaasen, to share the story of the F5 tornado that struck Fargo on June 20, 1957. The presentation included photographs from the book that are part of the Col Olsson Photograph Collection and other photograph collections held at the NDSU Archives. Over 60 people attended this program.

CRAZY HORSE

CRAZY HORSE THE Lakota Warrior’s Life & Legacy

Floyd Clown and Doug War Eagle, along with author William Matson, visited the Library to discuss and sign their book Crazy Horse: The Lakota Warrior’s Life & Legacy. The book, based on the Edward Clown family’s oral history, tells the family tales and memories told to them about their famous grandfather, Crazy Horse.

Over 100 people attended this event, which was the group’s 118th book signing as they travel their way through the United States.

JUNE: Lindy of the North, a Fargo swing dancing group, provided a swing dance demonstration at the Library. Attendees received a free dance class and a little bit of swing dance history to boot. Twenty participants cut the rug for a fun evening with a dedicated local group of dancers.

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The Library welcomed author Christine Seifert to talk about her nonfiction book, The Factory Girl: A Kalidoscopic Account of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire. She spoke about her research for the book, which covers the tragic 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire. Seifert, a native North Dakotaan, is currently a professor at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, Utah. She also writes about pop culture and feminism for magazines and has written several books for young adults.

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JULY: The U.S. Navy was in Fargo for a number of outreach programs in conjunction with the Blue Angels performances at the Fargo AirSho. The Library was fortunate to host three concerts of Navy musicians: the U.S. Navy Ceremonial Band, the U.S. Navy Brass Ambassador, and the U.S. Navy Protocol Combo performed to over 100 people.

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The Library held its first murder mystery program, “Behind the Books.” Library staff portrayed a number of “suspicious” characters from a famous book at the Library. Attendees got to solve a mystery along the way.

The 1 Book, 1 Community reading project selection for 2018 was The Cartographer of No Man’s Land by P. S. Duffy. The historical novel is set during World War I and centers on the themes of family, friendship, and sacrifice. 2018 was the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, and this novel’s setting and themes provided the greater Fargo-Moorhead community an opportunity to delve into World War I’s history and resonating effects. The Library again collaborated with Moorhead Public Library, West Fargo Public Library, Moorhead Community Education, the libraries of NDSU, MSUM, and Concordia College, and the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County for the project.

SEPTEMBER: In conjunction with Welcoming Week Fargo-Moorhead, the Library hosted a second cultural program in partnership with Cultural Diversity Resources. Samena Zaich and Aftif Osman presented on the festivals, art, languages, religions, and traditions of Pakistan. Attendees were also able to snack on Pakistani cookies and view beautiful handmade textiles from the country.

George Frenn, a Chautauqua-style presenter, portrayed Erich Maria Remarque, author of All Quiet on the Western Front, an international bestseller and one of the most famous novels of all time. This event was funded by Humanities North Dakota as part of the 2018 1 Book, 1 Community reading project.

OCTOBER: The Library hosted a six-week murder mystery program, “Behind the Books.” Library staff portrayed a number of “suspicious” characters from a famous book at the Library. Attendees got to solve a mystery along the way.

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The author P.S. Duffy spoke to over 140 people at the author presentation and book signing at the Knuthon Campus Center Centrum on the campus of Concordia College. Over 1000 people took part in the 2018 1 Book 1 Community event series.

Dr. John Cox, NDSU history professor, provided insight into World War I’s significance to the global stage in his presentation “What Was So Great about the Great War?” Over 70 people attended this presentation that was a part of the 1 Book, 1 Community event series.

NOVEMBER: The second Native American Festival and Education series was held in partnership with Cultural Diversity Resources, the Native American Commission, and the Plains Art Museum to celebrate Native American Heritage Month. Highlights this year included storytelling from Mike Gabbard, food sampling from Daughters of the Earth, a panel discussion with members of the F.M. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women – Human Trafficking Taskforce, and a screening of the documentary Reel Injun.

Also during the month, the Library displayed a large portion of the traveling art exhibit, Bring Her Home: The Stolen Daughters of Turtle Island.

NDSU history professor Dr. Tom Irwin visited the Library with his newest book, Facing Dakota. Dr. Irwin read from his book, which highlights his travels throughout the region, and relayed his thoughts regarding the changing landscapes over the years.

DECEMBER: The Library wrapped up the four-part film series “World War I on Screen” with facilitators Matt Olien and Tony McRae, local film critics. These films (“World War I on Screen”) were part of the 1 Book, 1 Community event series and brought out over 150 people. The discussions after the films not only covered the movie and WWI history, but attendees also shared memories and photographs of family members who had served in the war.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Silent Reading Parties were a popular off-site event in 2018. The Library held seven silent reading parties at various locations with just over 200 people attending in total. Folks found a comfortable spot and read silently while library staff were on hand to make library cards, check out books, suggest titles, and provide snacks. The events were held at Atomic Coffee on Broadway, Front Street Taproom, Hotel Donaldson’s Sky Prairie Rooftop and Stoker’s Lounge.

The Library participated in FargoParks’ Park in the Park events throughout June, July, and August. These community events were held at ten different parks on Tuesday evenings (Roosevelt Park, Centennial Park, Osgood School Park, Lewis and Clark Park, Clara Barton Park, Village West Park, Madison Park, Bennett Park, Jefferson School Park, and Trollwood Park). At the events, the Library staff had the opportunity to meet families throughout Fargo, promote the Summer Reading Program, register new patrons for a library card, do a craft, and more.
CHILDCRNS’S 2018 PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

Crafternoons at Carlson – 3,413 in Attendance
Crafternoons is a weekly afterschool open house program for children ages 12 and younger. Now in its second year, Crafternoons has been a great success for the Children’s department with well over 75 children and their parents attending the craft program each week at the Carlson Library.

Crafternoons was so successful in 2018 that beginning in September, staff added a new session at the Northport Branch where on average 50 children and their caregivers attend each week. At these programs, the library strives to encourage creativity in children through arts and crafts, and provides a fun and approachable environment for families in the community.

The Friends of the Fargo Public Library generously support the Crafternoons event series.

NEW
163 children completed 100 titles, 28 children completed 1,000 titles

Designed to encourage reading and sharing stories, the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program highlights the benefits of reading to babies, toddlers, and preschoolers. It is our goal to help prepare all children in the Fargo community to become lifelong readers. By reading just one book a night, families can reach the 1,000-book goal in three years and provide their children with essential early literacy skills. Research shows that the most reliable predictor of school success is being read to during early childhood. Reading to children from an early age can help prepare children to enter Kindergarten with the skills they need to succeed. Most importantly, sharing books with children promotes a lifelong love of books and reading.

The Fargo Public Library launched the 1,000 Books program in January 2018. Since then, 163 children have completed 100 titles and 28 children have completed 1,000 titles.

NEW
Theatrical Performance: The Wizard of Oz – 67 children participated – 400 people attended the performance in the winter of 2018, the Fargo Public Library provided an opportunity for children to perform on stage. The Wizard of Oz theatrical performance presented a real-life theater experience.

Over 60 children were both the onstage talent and the backstage crew. They met for 12 weeks for rehearsals which culminated in a performance at The Stage at Island Park where 400 people attended. This event benefited children who wanted to perform or participate in community theater but were unable to afford the fees typically associated with those types of experiences.

It also accommodated children whose families are unable to commit to the time requirements usually required for theater productions or those who are too shy to take part in the audition process.

Children’s involvement in The Wizard of Oz helped them express themselves creatively, improve fluency through read-aloud experience, build their self-confidence, and meet new friends.

The Friends of the Fargo Public Library generously supported the theatrical performance of The Wizard of Oz.

Most Popular Children’s Programs

March 400 Wizard of Oz Performance 175 SuSandastic Celebration
June 229 Dizzy Dance Party
July 250 Pokémon Party 223 Library-Palooza 167 Red River Zoo Visit
October 165 Crafternoons at Carlson
November 315 Train Day – Saturday 208 Train Day – Sunday 194 Crafternoons at Carlson
December 200 ‘PJ Mask’erade

Children’s Program Attendance by Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Storytime Attendance</th>
<th>Punch Cards Completed</th>
<th>Puzzles Completed</th>
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<td>January</td>
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<td>977</td>
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<td>1,332</td>
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8
2018 TEEN PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

Teens participated in many fun activities held at the Fargo Public Library over the course of the year. In 2018, programming for teens included a wide range of fun and educational activities for many different interests. This year, we held programs on basic life skills, cooking, fun arts and crafts, science, and even a murder mystery. In all, The Fargo Public Library offered 33 programs with a total of 478 teens participating!

In 2018, the Fargo Public Library continued our partnership with Dr. Graeme Wyllie and the Concordia Science Academy to offer three unique science programs designed for teens. Participants tried their hand at several fun science experiments with the guidance of Dr. Wyllie and students from the Concordia Science Academy. We look forward to our continued partnership in 2019!

The theme of the Teen Summer Reading Program for 2018 was Libraries Rock. Teens participated in weekly programs designed to encourage creativity and collaboration. Some of the more popular programs included Spray Dye Shirts, Cupcake Wars, and Color Slime. In all, 206 teens turned in book logs, and 219 participated in summer events, an increase from 2017.

Once again, we offered a variety of after-school craft programs including marbled bookmarks, clay ornaments, locker chalkboards, stamped leather key fobs, and home spa items. In 2018, we offered some new programs as well, including a Board Game Day and Book Tasting events in October, as well as the start of a new “How to Adult” series where teens learned basic hand sewing skills, such as fixing hems and sewing buttons, and simple cooking tips using a microwave and pressure cooker. Plans are in place to expand on this series offering classes on other basic life skills in 2019.

In December, the Fargo Public Library held two special events for teens. First, a celebration of all things Harry Potter was held at the Main Library. There was a series of crafts for all ages, along with food, photos, and a special Harry Potter-themed escape room challenge for teens. As with previous escape room challenges, this event was extremely popular. Participants had a great time trying to solve the clues to “escape” the room, and all of the teams that participated made it out just in time! To wrap things up for the year, we offered one last holiday themed craft in December. Teens made gingerbread ornaments from polymer clay – perfect for the holiday season to give as a gift or decorate the tree.

2018 TOP TEEN PROGRAMS

| 47 | Great Science for Teens |
| 36 | Cupcake Wars |
| 33 | Talent Show |
| 33 | Color Slime |
| 32 | Escape Room |
| 32 | Harry Potter |
| 31 | Tie Dye |
| 22 | Home Spa |
| 18 | Dungeons & Dragons |
| 15 | Father's Day Key Fob |

In 2018, 478 teens actively participated in the 2018 programming.
OUTREACH SERVICES 2018
The Fargo Public Library is dedicated to serving the Fargo community including those who are unable to visit one of our three locations. Our Outreach Services are made possible by our team of outreach staff and dedicated and hardworking volunteers.

In 2018, Outreach Services delivered 15,578 items to 6,272 patrons at 20 sites, and our outreach volunteers gave us a total of 1,407.5 hours. In addition, volunteers contributed more than 1,682.5 hours inside the library by shelving books and providing program assistance at the three library locations.

According to the organization Independent Sector, the dollar value of a single hour of volunteer service rose in 2017 to $25.29 for North Dakota. That makes the cumulative total value of all hours given to the Fargo Public Library in 2018 by volunteers was $78,146.10.

FRIENDS OF THE FARGO PUBLIC LIBRARY
BUILDING ON A LEGACY OF SUPPORT
The Friends of the Fargo Public Library provided a record level of support to the library in 2018 with a total of $22,644 donated. The Friends provided financial support for such major events as 1 Book, 1 Community, Crafternoons, and the Children’s Summer Reading Program. The Friends also provided resources that enable us to recognize the accomplishments and hard work of library staff. The generosity of the Friends of the Fargo Library allows us to provide the highest levels of events and services to the community of Fargo.

The full list of items and events funded is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friends Provided</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$22,643.45 to the Fargo Public Library in 2018</td>
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For more information about the Friends
CALL: (701) 364-2665
EMAIL: Friendsoffargopubliclibrary@gmail.com
MAIL: Friends of the FPL
P.O. Box 1365 • Fargo, ND 58107

OUTREACH PARTNER AGENCIES
Bethany Retirement Living
Bethany on 42nd
Edgewood Vista
Elim Rehab & Care Center
Eventide Fargo Ecumen
Evergreens
Goldmark Property Management (Crossroads, North Sky, Sunrise)
Good Samaritan Society
Fargo Housing Authority (New Horizons)
One Oak Place
Pioneer House Assisted Living
Riverview Place
Rosewood on Broadway
Touchmark at Harwood Groves
Retirement Community
Trollwood Senior Center
University Drive Manor
Villa Maria
Youthworks

1 Book, 1 Community 2018 $2,500
Crafternoons Spring 2018 $600
Wizard of Oz $2,000
Bookpage 2018 $1,020
Children’s SRP Performances $1,310
Children’s SRP Books/Prizes $2,550
History Hunt 2018 $1,852
Author Visit - Ame Dyckman $500
2018 Northern Narratives $341.51
Outreach Items $841.90
Crafternoons Fall 2018 $800
2019 Northern Narratives $400
Crafternoons Spring 2019 $1,000
Crocodile Display for Main Children’s Area $2,305.20
Display Sign Holders & Brochure Racks for Main & Carlson $1,242.84

For more information about the Friends
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EMAIL: Friendsoffargopubliclibrary@gmail.com
MAIL: Friends of the FPL
P.O. Box 1365 • Fargo, ND 58107

TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT
Pam Strait
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR
pstrait@fargolibrary.org
701-241-8111
The Fargo Public Library continues to focus on growing and improving our collections to meet the increased needs of our community.

**Number of Items in Collection**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Magazines</td>
<td>Adult Print – 118,960</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Audio/Visual</td>
<td>Adult Audio/Visual – 36,297</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Print</td>
<td>Adult Print – 118,960</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Audio/Visual</td>
<td>10,152</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Kits</td>
<td>Children’s Kits – 1,502</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Magazines</td>
<td>Children’s Magazines – 6,973</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teen Print</td>
<td>Youth Print – 88,665</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>Miscellaneous: 1,013</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Children’s Equipment (Launchpads) – 27</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Adult Equipment – 47</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Teen Magazines – 103</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Adult Kits – 162</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Children’s Magazines – 673</td>
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**TOP 10 CIRCULATED TITLES IN 2018**

**Adult**
1. The Great Alone – Kristin Hannah
2. Into the Water – Paula Hawkins
3. The Woman in the Window – A.J. Finn
4. Small Great Things – Jodi Picoult
5. The Midnight Line – Lee Child
6. The Rooster Bar – John Grisham
7. Girl, Wash Your Face – Rachel Hollis
8. Before We Were Yours – Lisa Wingate
9. Hardcore Twenty-Four – Janet Evanovich
10. Camino Island – John Grisham

**Teen**
1. The Hate U Give – Angie Thomas
2. Turtles All the Way Down – John Green
3. The Book Thief – Markus Zusak
4. Everything, Everything – Nicola Yoon
5. Thirteen Reasons Why – Jay Asher
6. Children of Blood and Bone – Tomi Adeyemi
7. War Storm – Victoria Aveyard
8. Red Queen – Victoria Aveyard
9. The Cruel Prince – Holly Black
10. Girl with the Red Balloon – Katherine Locke

**Children**
1. Wonder – R.J. Palacio
2. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Ugly Truth – Jeff Kinney
3. Don’t Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late! – Mo Willems
5. Secret Ninja Force – Julia March
7. Guinness World Records
9. Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus – Mo Willems

**BUDGET • PROJECTED REVENUE • FY 2019**

- **City of Fargo General Fund**
  - **$4,415,753**
  - **95%**

**PROJECTED EXPENSES FY 2019**

- **Salaries and Benefits** 69%
- **Collection** 15%
- **Utilities** 8%
- **Miscellaneous** 4%
- **Communications** 1%
- **Rent and Maintenance** 3%
- **Fines & Fees**
- **State Aid**
- **Miscellaneous**
The Fargo Public Library
is a department of the City of Fargo.

THREE LOCATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAIN LIBRARY</td>
<td>102 3rd Street North</td>
<td>(701) 241-1472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fargo, ND 58102</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DR. JAMES CARLSON LIBRARY</td>
<td>2801 32nd Avenue South</td>
<td>(701) 476-4040</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fargo, ND 58103</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTHPORT LIBRARY</td>
<td>2714 North Broadway</td>
<td>(701) 476-4026</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fargo, ND 58102</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

www.fargolibrary.org

...at the touch of a button or the turn of a page.