

# Tell us why you... love your library

Here's just some of what patrons say about Charleston County Public Library ...

2009

"It's easy to take for granted all the library offers – and for free. It's an amazing service. But in this current economic crunch time, libraries are at a crossroads ... While we should be celebrating one of our greatest public services, government budget cutbacks are hindering libraries' progress ... If you haven't been to your local library lately, stop by for a visit. Wander among the shelves, take in story time with your child, check out a movie or pick up the latest bestseller. I guarantee you'll find our libraries are worth saving."

– Holly Fisher, library patron in *"Have you hugged your Library lately?"* blog post



"This library is terrific! We moved here four years ago from Massachusetts where our library could not hold a candle to you. The quality of various genres from books to video covers the bases. I am quite proud of having such a facility on our island."

– Constance McMillin, patron of the John's Island Regional Library

"The Poe Branch of the Charleston County Library is just fantastic! The people who work here couldn't be nicer or more helpful. It is indeed one of the best parts of living here."

– Jerry McMillan, patron of the Sullivan's Island/Poe Branch

"The Charleston County Public Library system is AWESOME! There is a tremendous selection of books and all the library employees are friendly and helpful."

– Kathleen R. Hale-Getman, patron of the Mt. Pleasant Regional Library

"This would be a HUGE list - so I will name a few! The convenience of several locations near my house. The opportunity to use the computers for job search and information. The kindness from the librarians at the Dart Branch - they know me by name. For being able to obtain the books that I want to read and DVDs from any location. Mostly for enriching my life!!!!!"

– Susan Fox, patron of the John L. Dart Branch

"Libraries are a necessity of life ... My library, the books, the information are an integral part of life; the employees are pleasant and helpful – always. I love my library because warmth, information and reading are an essential part of living, maturing and succeeding. I count on CCPL to do that and more, not just for me, but family, friends, colleagues, employers, employees, tourists, visitors. I love the library because it's family."

– Randy McIntosh, library patron

"For as long as I can remember I have been a big fan of libraries, but Charleston County Library seems extra-efficient. I love that I can always go online to check my account and put items on hold. I have lived in Charleston for seven years now and have yet to have a bad library experience. The librarians are always very friendly and helpful. Thank you CCPL!"

– Whitney Kerr, patron of the West Ashley Branch



"I enjoy reading new books and the library always has something new for me. I also like to use the computer as I don't have internet access at work. The people are very nice ... They have opera and a lot of fun programs I could never afford to attend if I had to pay. They provide classes for computer programs. Music is one of my hobbies. I find lots of different types of music that I might not know about otherwise. I look at DVDs from the library. I also call phone reference when I have questions. I use it for my work as a law office administrator. They always try hard to find what I need. I hope the County can find funds to keep the libraries running. I don't know what I would do without our county library."

– Michael Kaynard, patron of the Main Library

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"I love my library because it is full of information that I need. If the information is not available, the librarians will make every effort to obtain the information requested. The staff is always friendly and they get to know us as patrons. They are always willing to assist. I use the library at least three to four times a week. Thanks to the library and the weekend hours that are available for working individuals who need to use the library. Thanks for all you do St. Andrews staff."

– Sandra Bligen Frazier, patron of the St. Andrews Regional Library



"I home school our daughter and we wouldn't know what to do without the resources the library provides. In these times of financial hardship I know the library would be an even more important resource. The library employees do an amazing job!! They know us at many branches and have our holds pulled out even as we walk in the door. They should (every one!) know how much we appreciate their dedication and hard work. I think the public should stand beside our library system with all the budget cuts, and help ensure that needs are met, books purchased, to help continue the great service our libraries contribute to society."

– Margaret Ridge, patron St. Paul's Branch and St. Andrews Regional Library

"I love the John L. Dart Library because of the workers' attitudes and warm personalities. They are always willing to assist you, regardless of the request, with a sincere smile and eagerness. ... (It) is conveniently located with ample resources and never seems to be too crowded – offering a serene environment for all activities."

– Patron of the John L. Dart Branch

"I love my library first of all because the employees are helpful and knowledgeable, secondly because most of them are conveniently located, and thirdly because I can rent videos, DVD's, CD's and tapes free of charge! Those are the reasons I LOVE MY LIBRARY!!!!"

– Emma Mungin-Campbell, library patron

"Many years ago, (as) a newly arrived resident from Washington, DC, I expressed my delight with the Charleston County Library system. Since that time, new libraries have been built and fantastic services and materials added. The ease of renewing and holding books on-line and the concern and courtesy of the staff at ALL branches (and I have been to every location), is extraordinary. I visit one or two libraries each week and the treasures I discover evoke that same feeling one has upon opening presents on Christmas morning. Thank you!"

– Marcia Bustraan, library patron

"I love to check out oodles of board books for my baby to read at home. Their summer reading program is the best. Great fun and reading – for free!!"

– Jessica, patron of the Otranto Road Regional Library

"I love my library because it has all my favorite books. And, it is a fun place to hang out with friends and do my homework. But, the most honest reason why I love my library is the people there. They are so nice to me and do all these fun activities that I enjoy a lot. Thank you for all your care and hard work to make my summer vacation fun! You're the best!!"

– Luke Griffen, patron of the Mt. Pleasant Regional Library



"Why do I love my library? Why wouldn't I!?! It is close, convenient, and always kept in impeccable physical condition. The staff is so helpful and friendly that I've never had problems finding what I need. As a social worker for a local community outreach, they have been welcoming and enthusiastic about partnering with us in various ways. The most obvious reason, though, is because of the wealth of things they offer in the way of books, CDs, and DVDs to check out, as well as the amazing programming they offer for people of all ages. This library is a true asset to John's Island!"

– Deborah Harnish, patron of the John's Island Regional Library

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"I've been living in Charleston, SC since 1995, and one of the many pluses in moving here was the incredible library system. Everyone on staff is very friendly, and I know many employees on a first name basis. The variety of reading materials is wonderful; there is a mix of what is popular as well as classic reading material. The internet system at the library is the best, and I never worry about what my children look up due to the useful filter system the library provides. And the interlibrary system – the system that provides books or DVDs from other libraries in case it is not in the Charleston County library system - is superb."

– *Leslie Jonsson, library patron*

"We love the DVD and VHS tapes available. We have always used this and, now with the economy, it helps us save. We love the summer reading programs. My daughter worked to achieve the medals when she was younger. I find tax forms and information on any subject that I need. I especially love our librarians who always know the answers to my questions or where to find the answer."

– *Terrie Johnson, patron of the West Ashley Branch*



"Our library has so many wonderful things, and if they don't have something I'm looking for, they will happily find it for me. The staff is always friendly and helpful."

– *Tamara, patron of the Dorchester Road Regional Library*

"I have loved books since I was born and was the kind of child who preferred reading on the couch to playing outdoors ... As a teenager, I would go to our small public library and get lost in the shelves, sucked into some other world of mystery or romance. To this day, every time I walk into a library, I breathe deeply, taking in that distinct library book smell that has the power to make your imagination come alive ... Now, as a mother, I daily read to (my daughter). I take her to the local library, and even though she's only 1, I'm doing my best to teach her books and libraries should be cherished."

– *Holly Fisher, Library patron in "Have you hugged your Library lately?" blog post*



"Charleston County Public Library system is the best! The main library is comfortable and comprehensive. The branches are very convenient. I live within walking distance to the St. Andrew's branch, and I especially appreciate the fact that you can return items to any branch. I frequently use the CCPL system for research and their Interlibrary Loan program helps me tremendously. I also attend the book sales regularly and leave with boxes full of books. I am a relatively new resident of Charleston, and I think that this public library system is a great asset to the city."

– *Library patron*

"I love this library because the staff is so friendly and helpful."

– *Patron of the McClellanville Branch*

"I love the programs offered for further education on grants and foundation work."

– *M. Hansen, patron of the Main Library*

"I love the atmosphere in the library. The staff members are warm and friendly. They always answer any questions I have and what they don't know, they always try and find the answer for me. They have a good variety of books and DVDs. There is never a shortage of good reading materials. My library feels like a second home to me. I could live in my library and never get tired of it. This is why I love my library."

– *Dorothy Allen, library patron*

"(Using the library) is economical! Research is the key to a full life and, in doing so, you become knowledgeable, and knowledge is power, so this place is full of power!"

– *Carrie Perez, patron of the John's Island Regional Library*

"I love the library! So many books, movies, programs, etc. You can have materials sent to the one nearest you, you can just go and browse, you can sit and read, whatever suits you at them time. One reason I love ours is we have very nice, friendly, smiling faces which makes visiting very enjoyable. Keep up the great work--love it!"

– *Teresa H., patron of the James Island Library*