

This nomination is for the following award: **Library of the Year Award**

First Name **Barbara**

Last Name **Gubbin**

Library Affiliation (if applicable) **Jacksonville Public Library**

Title (if applicable) **Library Director**

Street Address **303 Laura Street North**

City, State, ZIP **Jacksonville, FL 32202**

Telephone Number **(904) 630-1994**

E-mail Address [bgubbin@coj.net](mailto:bgubbin@coj.net)

Are you nominating an individual or a group/organization for this award? **Group/Organization**

Library (Other Organization or Research Team) Being Nominated **Jacksonville Public Library**

First and Last Name of Head of Organization **Barbara Gubbin**

Title of Head of Organization **Library Director**

Street Address **303 Laura Street North**

City, State, ZIP **Jacksonville, FL 32202**

Telephone Number **(904) 630-1994**

E-mail Address of Head of Organization [bgubbin@coj.net](mailto:bgubbin@coj.net)

What is the budget per capita of the library or library system? **\$33,095,096/913,010=\$36.248**

What is the total population that the library or library system serves? **913,010**

Will you be submitting any supporting documentation? **Yes**

If you would like us to review web pages in consideration of this application (including videos or other supporting materials that are stored online), please enter the Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) below.

[https://issuu.com/jacksonvillepubliclibrary/docs/annual\\_report\\_2016\\_final](https://issuu.com/jacksonvillepubliclibrary/docs/annual_report_2016_final)

Essay **Simply put Jacksonville Public Library (JPL) had a busy and phenomenal year in 2016. In an effort to fulfill the library's strategic mandate and deliver exceptional library service to our community, administrators and staff worked tirelessly on several key initiatives that mirror our three focus areas—Educational Success, Technological Success and Workforce Success. By staying true to the mission and vision years of planning aligned with deliberate execution to deliver in 2016 a year of growth, transformation, innovation and access benefiting the community and JPL. Partners in Innovation In 2016 we kicked off our Jax Makerspace, a place to explore, collaborate and create in more than 25,000 square feet at the Main Library dedicated to making things from movies to music, art to apps, robots to radios and novels to needlepoint. Designed to be a creative space for novices, experts, and everyone in between—the Jax Makerspace is for anyone interested in hands-on opportunities to innovate. Since its launch in August 2016, the Jax Makerspace has offered a total of 177 programs attended by 2,538 people; 32 programs presented by external partners. Project LEAP**

(Library Enhanced Access Program), the Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) Partnership, and Career Online High School (COHS), highlight three of the more impactful programs—each program developed to address a community need in a new, creative or innovative way. Project LEAP, funded by a City of Jacksonville anti-crime initiative—Jax Journey—has gone beyond the library’s walls to partner with dozens of community organizations—churches, child care providers, nonprofit centers—to provide early literacy, adult literacy, and digital success programs to thousands of young adults and children. The community need? Find a way to engage families in Health Zone 1 where high rates of crime, lower educational attainment, and income challenges are the norm not the exception. Project LEAP, which began January 2016, is an intensive public library outreach initiative designed to provide underserved communities in six city zip codes characterized by high crime, low income, low-performing schools, and low graduation rates with critical literacy resources, library services and educational programs. After making a compelling case before City Council, the library was awarded a \$266,210.07 grant from Jax Journey. The 2016 pilot project was so successful—at least 6,500 people improved their lives by participating in Project LEAP—it has been fully funded for year 2 in 2017. Award-Winning Alliances

Notable awards JPL received in 2016 recognition for innovation include: The 2016 IMPAC Dublin Literary Award for the winning title, *Family Life* by Akhil Sharma--a singular achievement as from more than 40 countries—JPL was only one of two libraries worldwide to nominate the winner. United Way of Northeast Florida Sherwood H. Smith Children’s Champion Advocacy 2016 Award, NEFLIN Innovation Award (Student Card Initiative), Member of the Year Award (Student Card and Educator Card Initiatives), Golden Apple Award (Training Enrollments), Best Use of Public Money Folio Weekly 2016 Reader’s Poll, ALA LAMA PR Xchange Awards (creative marketing collateral) and the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission’s 2016 Historic Preservation Award -Organizational Support, Annual Black History Calendar. To make the popular and important community resource more accessible for research nationally staff digitized the entire 28-year collection during 2016 for launch at the calendar unveiling January 2017. Open to All Jacksonville Public Library celebrated a year of growth with restoration of 88 operating hours at our branches allowing eleven libraries to open an extra day, giving customers access to valuable services and resources. These increased hours have had a significant impact in our community, especially throughout the urban core, where libraries serve as a lifeline to internet access and job search opportunities. In fact, visitor count at Urban Core libraries increased 22 percent, computer sessions were up 24 percent, and two libraries had triple-digit increases in program attendance. The DCPS Partnership (Student and Educator Card Initiatives) is another way JPL successfully expanded service to our youngest constituents. The community need? Many students were unable to visit their neighborhood library. Others could not checkout books due to parental issues (divorced parents, foster care placements, etc.) By partnering with DCPS on a workable solution to improve educational success, the library issued Student Cards for 60,000 students in kindergarten through fifth grade. More than 27,000 DCPS students in kindergarten through second grade made visits with their classes to the library for tours, storytime and to check out materials. For many students, the DCPS field trip was their first time visiting a library and checking out a book. “Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery” Jacksonville Public Library earned the distinction of having the first Smart Horizons Career Online High School graduate in Florida holding the first COHS commencement ceremony in the state. This program has been so successful that the library is in Year 2 and is accepting as many GED scholarship seats as the Division of Library and Information Services have available. This is a program that was designed to be replicated and by incorporating the COHS curriculum with the GED adult education and ESOL programs in the JPL Center for Adult Learning, the

**ability to leverage workforce development, English Language Learner (ELL) skills and other aspects of the adult learner experience have reaped knowledge and best practices that are easily transferrable to any size library. As previously mentioned, the Student Card Initiative is also scalable for a library of any size. JPL's program was so successful that it was expanded to higher elementary grades for academic year 2017.**

**Summary FY 2016 was indeed a phenomenal year for Jacksonville Public Library. It only takes one glance at the FY 2016 Annual Report to get a sense of the impact our library made in providing outstanding service to the community. Whether it was teaching older adults new technology skills, holding a high school graduation ceremony or sharing early literacy practices with a new mother, JPL administrators and staff worked tirelessly to deliver creative, innovative and impactful programs and services that get results. At Jacksonville Public Library we like to think we make an impact every year, but clearly FY 2016 was a "Library of the Year" year.**

# Florida Library Award Library of the Year Links

Jacksonville Public Library Annual Report

<http://www.jaxpubliclibrary.org/about>

Project LEAP

<http://www.libraryaware.com/1041/Posts/View/269e02ce-f2bd-47f2-a1b1-83ab19623fc6?SID=f85a48a1-5c51-4ca1-8be7-86cc24f6e2bd>.

Dublin Literary Award

<http://www.dublinliteraryaward.ie/libraries-2017/>

Susan Mankowski Early Childhood Literacy

[http://www.flalib.org/assets/IssuesAdvocacy/public\\_libraries\\_support\\_early\\_learning.pdf](http://www.flalib.org/assets/IssuesAdvocacy/public_libraries_support_early_learning.pdf)

<http://jacksonville.com/news/2016-09-02/story/giving-back-united-way-award-winner-brings-new-page-our-libraries>

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/0916-al-web.pdf>

*Folio Weekly* Best Use of Taxpayer Money

[https://issuu.com/folioweekly/docs/folio0921wkl\\_fullbook\\_sm](https://issuu.com/folioweekly/docs/folio0921wkl_fullbook_sm) (page 16)

Jacksonville Public Library Website

<http://www.jaxpubliclibrary.org/>

JaxLibrary App

<http://jax.boopsie.com/>

BOLT Vice Chair Ronnie King and Friends Board Vice Chair Lynn Sherman are being recognized for committing their time, skills and resources to make sure that young people succeed, and for playing an active role in improving educational outcomes for all students

<http://www.libraryaware.com/1041/Posts/View/5b01df99-f0f9-4dc7-b926-fe7599f7f7de?SID=7c9d4aad-1e55-4aea-a5aa-2b745a0f77cf>

Library and Florida Celebrate First Class of Career Online High School Graduates in State”

<http://www.libraryaware.com/1041/Posts/View/31848b15-2ca6-4b36-bb7f-93784c93d817?SID=7c9d4aad-1e55-4aea-a5aa-2b745a0f77cf>



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DCPS students have got it, encourage them to use it!

For the 2016/17 school year, ALL DCPS students, grades K - 12, will be able to use their DCPS student IDs as virtual student library cards to access many library resources. This includes checking out books and downloading electronic materials.

Learn all about the [Student Cards](#). Please share this information with students and parents. We've eliminated one step for them, now they just need to take the biggest step and use the card!



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Bring the whole family to enjoy free live, classical music at the popular Intermezzo Sunday Concert series. The new season kicks off Sept. 11 at 3 p.m. with [The Vivace Trio](#) in the Hicks Auditorium at the Main Library.

The musicians volunteer their time and talents for the opportunity to perform in the series. The series includes partners from area schools, colleges and universities, the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and Friday Musicale.

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Mark your calendars now. You won't be disappointed. Print out the [concert schedule](#) for the season.

**JACKSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

303 Laura St. N.  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
630-2665

[jaxpubliclibrary.org](http://jaxpubliclibrary.org)

630-BOOK

## 2016

IMPAC **Dublin Literary Award 2016 Award** (JPL-Nominated the winning title *Family Life* by Akhil Sharma; Selection Panel: Kathy Tekin, Kema Roseberry, Erin Tuzuner)

United Way of Northeast Florida **Sherwood H. Smith Children's Champion Advocacy 2016 Award** (JPL-Susan Mankowski, Early Childhood Literacy Specialist)

City of Jacksonville **2016 Spirit of ADA Award** (Chris Eaton, Librarian II for Restroom Accessibility 3D Directional Signage for Main Library Conference Center)

NEFLIN **Innovation Award** (JPL Student Card Initiative)

NEFLIN **Member of the Year Award** (Amber Holley, JPL Manager of Youth Services and Community Outreach)

NEFLIN **Golden Apple Award** (JPL Training Department - 331 Staff Training Courses Completed)

NEFLIN **Librarian Olympics** (Top 10 Finalist JPL - Lynn Jacobson, Bibliographic Systems and Access Manager)

*Folio Weekly* Magazine 2016 Readers' Poll **"Best of Jax" Annual Award** (JPL - "Best Use of Public Money" Category)

ALA Library Leadership & Management Association **PR Xchange Awards** (JPL - Community Relations & Marketing "It All Adds Up 2015 Library Statistics Pocket Card")

ALA Library Leadership & Management Association **PR Xchange Awards** (JPL - Community Relations & Marketing "Main Library 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary JPL Foundation Reception e-Blast")

Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission **2016 Historic Preservation Award** (JPL-Organizational Support, Annual Black History Calendar: Cranston Burney, Arthur Finley, Patricia Morrison; Board Trustee Brenda Simmons-Hutchins, PhD)



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Articles → 2015 → October → 23rd → Program would take library to urban core neighborhoods

## Program would take library to urban core neighborhoods

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Friday, October 23, 10:45 AM EDT

By Max Marbut, Staff Writer

Young people who live in the urban core soon may get some needed help in leaping toward a better education.

Legislation filed by City Council member Sam Newby would use \$266,000 from Jacksonville Journey contingency funds to allow the Jacksonville Public Library to establish a proposed Library Enhancement Access Program (LEAP).

The program is designed to offer enhanced education opportunities in ZIP Codes 32202, 32204, 32206, 32208, 32209 and 32254.

The urban core was selected because half as many adults in those neighborhoods have attained a high school diploma, compared to Duval County as a whole; the income per capita is 60 percent of the county as a whole (\$14,895 compared to \$24,983) and of the 37 traditional Duval County Public Schools in the area, 19 received a D or F rating in 2014.

The program is designed to help parents and caregivers build pre-literacy skills in children from birth to 5 years; increase the digital literacy of young adults, ages 16-24; and improve the language literacy of young adults ages 18-24.

"The Jacksonville Journey is about intervention and prevention for at-risk youth," said Jennifer Giltrop, public library deputy director. "Family literacy success is what libraries do every day."

The concept behind the program is to take services and trained personnel out of the library and into the community. The short-term goals are to increase digital and language literacy of neighborhood residents up to age 24 and to help young adults who did not graduate for high school prepare for the General Educational Development certificate.

The long-term goal of the program is to help the targeted population to be better able to achieve their educational and workforce goals by taking advantage of the resources available at the public library, she said.

The funds will be used to hire an e-specialist who will provide computer training; two literacy program specialists to meet adult basic education; and an early childhood specialist to expand into the community efforts already in place at all 21 public libraries.

The library will purchase equipment for a mobile computer lab to allow literacy training at off-site locations such as day care facilities, as well as the 10 city-sponsored community centers in the area, five centers managed by non-city agencies and four centers managed by the Police Athletic League.

Pre-GED classes equivalent to those provided at the library's Center for Adult Learning will be offered at some off-site locations.

Giltrop described the effort as "the bookmobile of the 21st century."

The program will take advantage of the extended library hours made possible by additional funding in the 2015-16 city budget. It will complement the new "Student Card" program that provides access to all library services to every K-5 student in Duval County Public Schools, she said.

The proposal indicates the library will report the program's progress each month to the Jacksonville Journey Oversight Committee.

Newby said he views the enhanced access program as part of the effort to reduce crime.

According to statistics from the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, in 2014, violent crime in the area designated for the program was more than triple the rate of the county as a whole with 16 incidents per 1,000 population compared to five.

"There are three ways to tackle crime: prevention, police and education," Newby said. "Statistics show a person who is more educated is less likely to commit a crime or be a victim of crime."

The legislation is the first that Newby has filed since July 1 when he took office.

"When it passes, I'm going to frame it," he said.

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City Council member Sam Newby

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