



125 S. Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126
(630) 279-8696 • elmhurstpubliclibrary.org

NEWS RELEASE

November 1, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Information:
Rita Perona, Head of Marketing
Office: 630-279-8696
Email: Rita.Perona@elmlib.org

Elmhurst Public Library Receives Five-Star Status

Elmhurst, IL – For the second year in a row, Elmhurst Public Library received a five-star rating in *Library Journal's* annual national review of public libraries. Each year, the *Library Journal's* Star Library Ratings and the Index of Public Library Services spotlight the “best of the best across America.” This is the ninth consecutive year EPL secured a star rating.

A total of 7,361 public libraries were rated nationwide and only 257 qualified as star libraries. In Illinois, 21 libraries received star ratings, but only three earned the distinction of receiving a five-star rating: Elmhurst Public Library, Skokie Public Library, and Oak Park Public Library.

"Providing resources, services, and amenities that best reflect the needs and values of our community is our priority," says Mary Beth Harper, director. "To be recognized as a five-star Library for the second year in a row is truly an honor. The strong support we have from the Elmhurst community and the Library Board, coupled with the smart, forward-looking EPL staff is what makes the Library a destination for the entire community to create, connect, and explore."

Library Journal reviews public library data reported to the government—visits, checkouts, program attendance, digital materials, and public computer use per capita—and ranks the best performing libraries within budget categories. Elmhurst Public Library placed in the top ten nationwide and 1st in Illinois in the \$5-9.9M category, with notably high visits and checkouts per capita.

In an article published with the rankings, *Library Journal* explores the star libraries across the nation. For top libraries like Elmhurst Public Library, the two

prime per capita measures—circulation and visits—continue to establish libraries with star ratings. The best libraries also have welcoming facilities with well-targeted programs, and collections with range and depth. Technology is also an important factor affecting scores.

For more information about Elmhurst Public Library's five-star status and the full article from *Library Journal*, visit elmlib.org/stars.

Elmhurst Public Library enriches life in Elmhurst by providing opportunities to connect, create, and explore. EPL provides the support, resources, and environment for Elmhurst patrons to: pursue a love of reading; access information; explore interests; engage with technology; connect with others; and create and innovate. Elmhurst Public Library is the place for discovery at the heart of the community.