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Orange County Library System General News Release

ORLANDO, Fla. (October 2025) – For more than 100 years, the Orange County Library System has been a cornerstone of the community, supporting literacy and learning that empowers residents to improve and enrich their lives. As a public library, it is Orange County Library System’s goal to provide excellent library service to the 1.5 million residents in the library’s growing service area.

Today, Orange County Library System is led by Library Director and Chief Executive Officer Steve Powell and governed by a five-member Library Board of Trustees.

Powell, an OCLS employee since 2007, became OCLS’ director in 2022. Since then, he has focused on removing barriers to library services and increasing the library’s presence in the community. In 2025, Powell was awarded Florida Library Association’s Administrator of the Year for his outstanding contributions through distinguished service to the library system.

Orange County Library System exists to serve the residents of the Orange County Library District, and it strives to be a responsible steward of taxpayer dollars. For more than 20 years, the library has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

The Orange County Library District is primarily funded through property tax revenues, as an independent special taxing district, for the purpose of providing library services and facilities in Orange County, Florida, except the incorporated areas of the cities of Winter Park and Maitland.

Over the years, the library has evolved to remain relevant and useful. While the library still loans books, it also offers a wide range of digital resources to cardholders. Users can download ebooks and audiobooks, access learning tools like LinkedIn Learning and live online tutors, use language-learning apps like Mango Languages and Pronunciator, and read newspapers from all over the world online for free.

In 2024, total checkouts of physical and digital materials totaled more than 7.5 million and we added more than 65,000 new library cardholders. Our locations saw nearly 6,000 visitors on an average day and during June and July, more than 80,000 people attended our summer programming. For more information about the library, review our [Annual Report](#).