



# Annual Report

of the Municipal Library of Prague

# 2012



Municipal Library of Prague

# A word from the director

The year 2012 was a very difficult year, in which we had to undertake several unpopular measures. Nevertheless, I am convinced that it was a successful year. Despite all the savings and cuts, the library continued to develop its services and did not allow the public to stop perceiving and needing us. Work on a number of above-standard tasks was commenced or continued, which are also included in this Annual Report, and I am certain that you will be able to read about the progress of some of them next year.

One of the greatest novelties introduced last year was the reservation of books with delivery, which follows up on the highly successful “return anywhere” service, which has garnered much praise among readers. The Reading House has taken up an unmistakable position on the literary map of Prague, and the Municipal Library of Prague has become a respected cinema with interesting direction and cutting-edge technical equipment. Efforts on the cultural field have not declined at the branches either. Lovers of sci-fi and fantasy are familiar with CONiáš and the journey to Smíchov; lovers of old prints can delight in the opening of the rare books research department.

There was plenty of activity in the area of employee education 2012. We took on a fairly large load last year and we know it was hard. But it is also essential: the new challenges faced by the library mean that we must learn new things.

Yes, despite all the problems it was a successful year. And what about the year 2013? I hope it will be as smooth as possible, although it surely won't be easy...

RNDr. Tomáš Řehák  
2013

# In brief

Change in opening hours, closing of the Vršovice branch and department for adults at the Pankrác and Cibulka branches; reduction of the systemized number of employees by 6.2% as a result of **cost-saving measures**.

Most borrowed title for adults:

**The Girls Who Played With Fire** - Stieg Larsson

Most borrowed title for children:

**Garfield's Show** - Jim Davis

Most downloaded title from the e-library:

**Memories of Sherlock Holmes** - Arthur Conan Doyle

**Reservation** is a service where the library reserves and prepares a title for the reader that the reader's heart desires. Now, the reader can also choose the library where they wish to borrow the reserved book.

Following a change in opening hours, most branches are now **open** even on **Mondays**.

Since 2012, the Municipal Library of Prague has been **perfectly accessible** – one library pass is valid at all branches, books can be returned at any branch and books moved based on the reader's wishes.

Searching for documents about Prague, theatre, film and music is easier for the public, scientists and students with the new service **Tailored topical research**.

Library reviews via e-mail were expanded. Apart from the Chequered Paper and invitations to events, we also send a list of **new titles** to appear on the library bookshelves.

Temporary **closing of the Lužiny branch** for reconstruction of the shopping centre facility. The library should be reopened in 2014.

The Rare Books Department has been **opened** to researchers, students and those seriously interested in the library's historical collection.

The option of returning books anywhere required intervention into the internal logical of distributing books within the MLP library network. Librarians have a new tool to generate less popular titles and the shipping department has a program that checks the future location.

The title detail in the online catalogue contains additional information, such as a sample from the e-book, interesting links or digital form of the catalogue card. Experienced seekers will value the option of searching by the name of part of the work – e.g. a specific poem, song, and article – with a link to the original title.

Launched trial version of the **mobile website** for smartphones.

We repeatedly asked readers about their opinion of library services. This time, the topic concerned changes in services after 1 March 2012, volunteering, e-libraries and culture at the MLP. A brief report on the results can be seen in the article **We asked readers in 2012 at [www.mlp.cz](http://www.mlp.cz)**.

For the first time in history, an extensive **employee satisfaction survey** was conducted at the MLP. The results are expected in 2013.

The **anniversary of the flood** (10 years since the floods in 2002) was commemorated with the electronic publication of the Prague Bible Story comics by Václav Šlajch and an exhibition on the rescue and restoration of damaged books.

The cinema of the Municipal Library in Prague screens not only in digital quality, but also in **3D**.

Close cooperation with the city halls of Prague 3 and Prague 7 has brought an outlook for **new library premises** in these locations. We believe it will work out.

The **Cultural Diary** is a blog by volunteer Ivana Matyášová, who regularly evaluates attended cultural events organized by the library.

The development of the MLP e-library has also resulted in the definition and setting of rules for e-book categorization and processing, which the library publishes or obtains by other means (publication through licenses with authors).

# Library in numbers - 2012

- 43** MLP branches (from 1 March 2012 the number of branches was 42) + 2 mobile libraries
- 427** is the number of systemized employment relations, in total the library had 473 employees of which 77% are women and 23% are men.
- 19** volunteers helped us during events within and outside the libraries
- 2 268 079** books, maps, CDs, DVDs, pictures, notes, tapes and electronic documents in the MLP collection
- 107 059** documents added to the MLP collection
- 17,65** million CZK is the amount the MLP invested in 2012 to purchase new documents
- 14** specialized databases were available online via [www.mlp.cz/database](http://www.mlp.cz/database)
- 72** volumes were restored at the restoration workshop of the Rare Books Department, including the Catholische Postill of 1747 by Antonín Koniáš
- 6 717 895** library units (CDs, DVDs, maps, pictures...) borrowed by readers in 2012
- 2 066** readers did not return books borrowed from the library even after repeated warnings, and were served with pre-lawsuit appeals
- 412** is the number of times the most-borrowed book of 2012 in adult fiction was borrowed – The Girl Who Played With Fire by Stieg Larsson

- 236** is the number of times the most-borrowed book of 2012 in children's fiction was borrowed – Garfield's Show by Jim Davis
- 955 000** downloads and views of electronic documents from the library fund (e-books, digitalized documents)
- 187 872** people had a valid library card in 2012 and used library services at least once
- 38 403** people had a valid library card for at least a part of 2012, but did not use any library services
- 34 370** people got a new library card in 2012
- 2 169 830** people came to the library for books, information or culture
- 2 910 344** people visited the library's website
- 33,5** is the average age of a registered MLP reader; child readers are 10,7 years old on average
- 3 440** cultural or educational events took place at the auditoriums of the Central Library and MLP branches through the care of librarians and program employees of the Cultural and Education Centre
- 128 442** people attended these events
- 197** educational events held for MLP employees and employees from regional libraries
- 40** Prague public libraries operated by the MLP within regional functions

# Financial results of the Municipal Library of Prague in 2012

The Municipal Library of Prague is a contributory organization of the City of Prague. The non-investment contribution for 2012 was approved by the founder in the amount of 212 816 000 CZK, then adjusted to 222 552 300 CZK. The adjusted non-investment contribution includes a **purpose-bound subsidy from the budget of the City of Prague** (partly for the Prague City of Literature project, renewal of computer technologies, repair of seats in the main auditorium, website development and library collection purchases), a **purpose-bound subsidy from the state budget** – grant projects within the Ministry of Culture programs

**VISK1** (Metering the value of library services – phase 2),

**VISK 2** (Improving librarian qualifications in the Prague region in the area of using information resources and technologies),

**VISK 3** (Municipal Library of Prague services for the blind, visually impaired and hearing impaired),

**VISK 5** (Retro-conversion of the MLP general catalogue),

**VISK 7** (Production of protective covers for the rare MLP fund).

Financial contributions for the operation of some branches were provided by the **city sections of the City of Prague**, namely: Prague 1 CS (Hradčany branch), Prague 3 CS (Chmelnice branch), Prague 5 CS (Ostrovského and Cibulka branches), Prague 6 CS (Dejvice branch), Prague 11 CS (Opatov and Chodov branches – cultural events), Prague 15 CS (Hostivař branch – cultural activities) and Prague – Velká Chuchle CS (Velká Chuchle branch – purchase of new books).

The grant programs of the city sections are also a source for financing cultural and social activities at some of the branches. In 2012, this method was used to finance these events: Support of reading among children at the Dejvice, Břevnov and Dědina branches (Prague 6) and Prague 11 Celebrations at the Opatov Library (Prague 11).

## **We thank all the aforementioned city sections for their support of library development and activities at their locations!**

The costs of the Municipal Library of Prague in 2012 were covered from the following resources:

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Non-investment contribution from the City of Prague      | 86,51% |
| Non-investment contribution from City of Prague sections | 0,95%  |
| State subsidy  | 0,69%  |
| Own resources (revenues, donations, funds)               | 11,85% |

## **Main activities**

### **Revenues:**

|                                    |                       |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| From library activities            | 23 802 000 CZK        |
| From Popular University activities | 2 489 000 CZK         |
| Other revenues                     | 3 789 000 CZK         |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>30 080 000 CZK</b> |

### **Costs:**

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Consumables            | 31 838 000 CZK         |
| Services               | 51 142 000 CZK         |
| Personnel costs        | 158 370 000 CZK        |
| Taxes and levies       | 533 000 CZK            |
| Other costs            | 656 000 CZK            |
| Write-offs             | 9 198 000 CZK          |
| Low-value fixed assets | 2 907 000 CZK          |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>254 644 000 CZK</b> |

## **Capital expenditure**

Capital expenditure in 2012 was approved by the founder in the amount of 2 824 000 CZK, reduced in the course of the year to 1 574 000 CZK and spent in the amount of 1 266 000 CZK. The resources were designated for the projects: renovation and modernization of the headquarters and MLP and construction of the Petřiny Library. Unused resources were transferred to 2013.

## Investment fund

With consent from the founder, assets were purchased from the investment fund worth 4 560 000 CZK; 4 176 000 CZK was paid in favor of a non-investment contribution.

| Project name:  | Expense:      |
|--|---------------|
| Renovation and modernization of headquarters                     | 282 000 CZK   |
| Construction of the Petřiny library                              | 28 000 CZK    |
| Payment from the investment fund                                 | 4 176 000 CZK |
| Prague City of Literature (UNESCO) website                       | 114 000 CZK   |
| Mini-bibliobus   | 2 843 000 CZK |
| MLP website  | 714 000 CZK   |
| Renovation of social amenities in the building at Mariánské nám. | 27 000 CZK    |
| Opel truck   | 553 000 CZK   |

## Additional activities

(lease of non-residential premises)

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Revenues          | 1 652 000 CZK |
| Costs             | 972 000 CZK   |
| Profit before tax | 680 000 CZK   |

# Projects

## Prague – City of Literature

**[www.prahamestoliteratury.cz](http://www.prahamestoliteratury.cz)**

The aim of the project is to support the perception of Prague as a place with a rich literary history, and also to expand awareness of the Prague literary scene – cafes, bookstores, libraries, authors, books, trade fairs, festivals... In short, to remind inhabitants and visitors to Prague that their city is a living inspiration, a place where literature is born and read.

The activities include efforts to obtain the title of **UNESCO – Creative City of Literature**. The application to the network of creative cities will be submitted in 2013 through the Permanent Delegation of the Czech Republic to UNESCO.

## Method of metering the value of libraries

Is a public library worthwhile? This is a complex question that is not easy to answer, although the automatic reply would be: “Of course, no doubt.” The issue of the invaluable service of libraries was examined in 2012 by a team coordinated by the Municipal Library of Prague. The task is solved within Priority 17 of the **Czech Library Development Concept for 2011-2015** and will continue in 2013.

## Books not just for school

**[www.skolnicetba.cz](http://www.skolnicetba.cz)**

We read through the lists of recommended reading of many schools. We selected the titles that can be published as e-books for free download, published them as e-books and made them available on a single website: Babička, Faust, F. L. Věk, Povídky Malostranské, Romaneta, Božská komedie, Osudy dobrého vojáka Švejka, Tak pravil Zarathustra, Květy zla...

## **E-books in every library**

**[www.prezencnieknihy.cz](http://www.prezencnieknihy.cz)**

This joint project between libraries and publishers brings new electronic books to every library that is involved, even the smallest. Books can be read directly at the library through reader computer stations.

## **Let's give books another chance**

**[www.precteno.cz](http://www.precteno.cz)**

Activities that should help readers find a new use for books from their home libraries, which they no longer plan to read. The library has thus added **3951** volumes of new or requested books, and readers have exchanged thousands more within the **Book Exchange Day** or **Readers to Readers** service. We have produced an instruction video on how to donate books, starring **Pavel Kříž**.

# Thanks and Cooperations

Adjust Art Pro, Albatros Media a. s., Asociace českých filmových klubů, Awifilm, British Council, Cambridge University Press, Centrum pro integraci cizinců, Class Acts, Česká centra, Česká rada dětí a mládeže, Člověk v tísni, Egmont, FAMU, Insider Media, s. r. o., K. Semelka, Kosmas, Mladá fronta, Metropolis, Mimo domov o. s., Music Art Prague, Muzeum hl. m. Prahy, nakladatelé a vydavatelé, Pevnost, Pevnost – České centrum znakového jazyka o. s., Portál české literatury, Pražská organizace vozíčkářů, Scena.cz, sdružení Litera, Sjednocená organizace nevidomých a slabozrakých, Skandinávský dům, Spektra v. d. n., Společnost bratří Čapků, Společnost poezie, Straky na vrbě, Svět knihy, Švandovo divadlo, Taktika Muzika, schools

## Membership

Česká asociace orální historie, Česká sekce IBBY, International Association of Music Libraries, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions – Metropolitan Libraries Section, Klubko – Klub dětských knihoven, Praha město literatury, Sdružení knihoven ČR, SIBMAS – International Association of Libraries and Museums of the Performing Arts, Svaz českých knihkupců a nakladatelů, Svaz knihovníků a informačních pracovníků ČR



**The Municipal Library of Prague  
Annual Report  
2013**

Mariánské nám. 1, 115 72 Praha 1

222 113 555

knihovna@mlp.cz

www.mlp.cz

Text: **Lenka Hanzlíková**

Graphics: **Petra Hájková**

Translation: **Presto**

Director: **RNDr. Tomáš Řehák**

Founder of The Municipal Library of Prague is City of Prague.

FB – [www.facebook.com/knihovna](http://www.facebook.com/knihovna)

YT – KnihovnaPraha

TW – @KnihovnaPraha

©2013 Municipal Library of Prague

