



HILLSDALE
LIBRARY

2017 ANNUAL REPORT: ENGAGING
COMMUNITY

Community

The Library remains a vital and inviting center for residents to enjoy. Apart from the traditional circulation of books to ambitious readers, the Library provides opportunities for people to gather together, to study, to share their talents, and to pursue their passions.

Our mission is to help our community accomplish these things.

Our challenge is to continually engage our service population in meaningful, thoughtful, and relevant ways. And sometimes we just have fun, because reading and learning and shared experiences should be fun. The gears which you see on this page and on the back cover were decorated by organizations and installed on the ceiling, a collaborative art piece called “All Geared Up.” All of the gears meshed together as a whole machine, just like community.

This annual report is a snapshot of how the community utilized the Library and documents how we engaged the community.

David J. Franz
Library Director and Chief of Fun



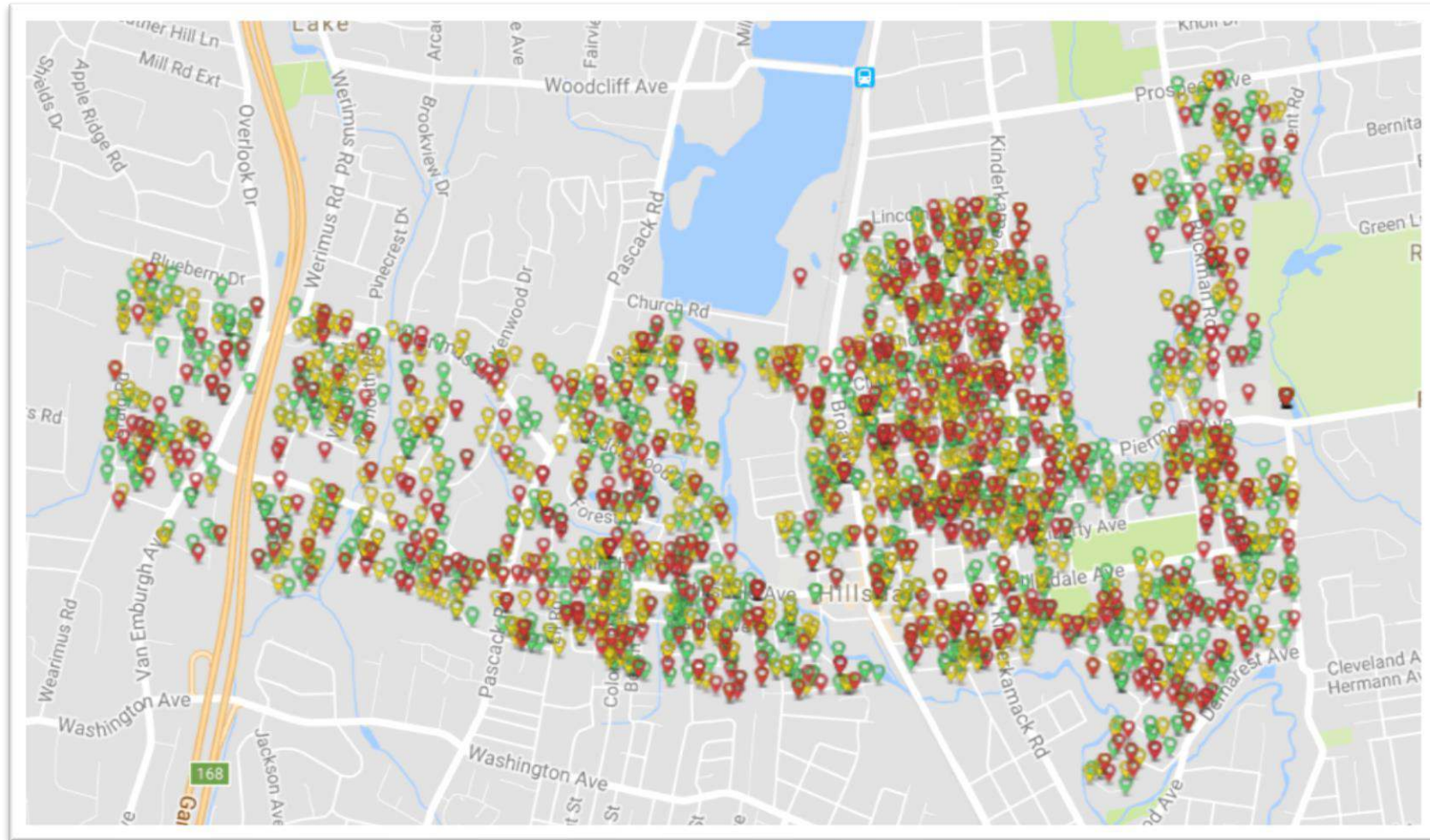
About the front cover –

The Friends of the Library agreed to fund free canvas book bags for all newborn residents. They are custom embroidered with the recipient’s name. We are doing this to encourage parents to read to their young children, to pass on the love of reading. Jordan Stewart and her children Dakota and Jasper are featured on the cover. There’s nothing quite like a free gift to engage the newest members of our community.

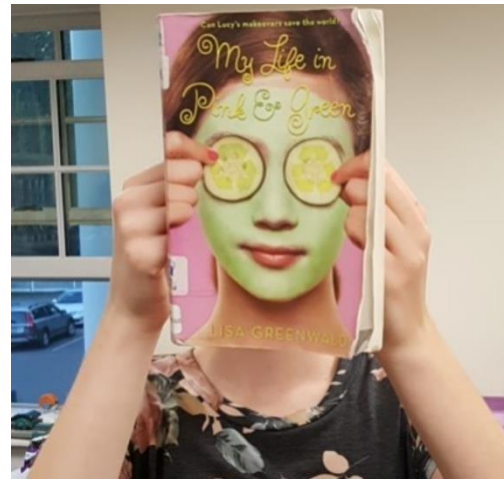
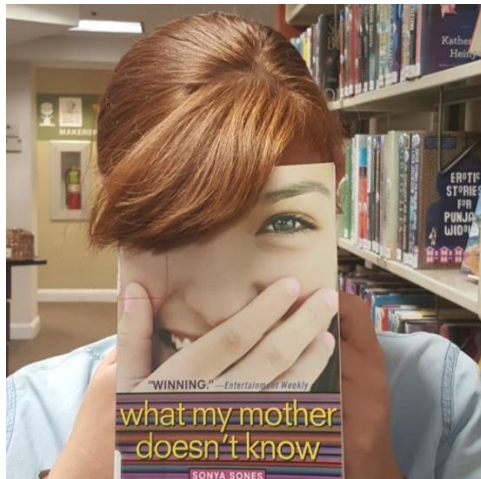


2,815 Hillsdale Cardholders used their card at least once in 2017.

An additional 1,362 used their card at least once in the last two years. 265 new library cards were issued. There are 6,878 registered Hillsdale Library cardholders. There are 3,600 Hillsdale Library cards that are current (unexpired). Red dots (620) represent patrons borrowing more than 50 items. Yellow dots (849) represent borrowing 10-49 items. Green dots (1,346) represent borrowing 1-9 items.



The Library engaged the community through continued creative use of the sign and Bookface Friday posts.



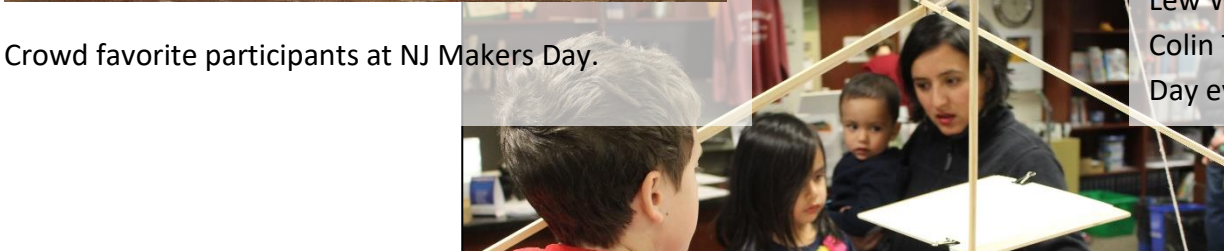
The Library engaged the community by hosting NJ Makers Day.



Crowd favorite participants at NJ Makers Day.



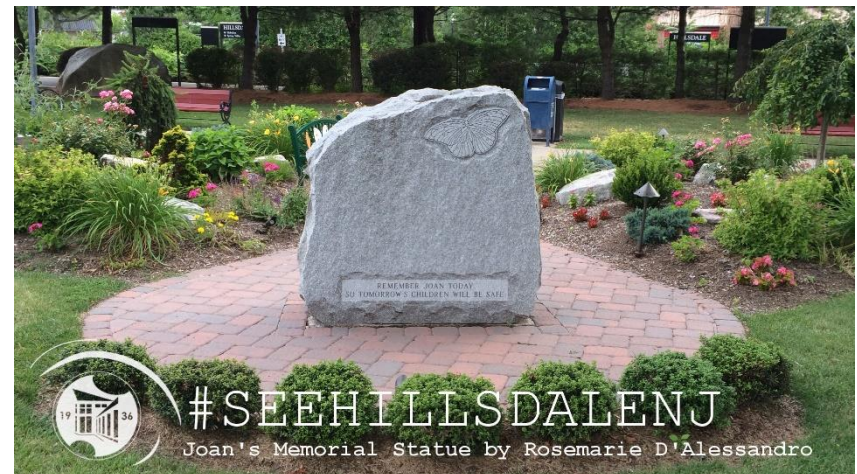
Lew Weiss, Manufacturing Talk Radio host, interviewing Colin Tofts, winner of Best in Show at the NJ Makers Day event.



The Library engaged the community by sponsoring the Seeing Hillsdale Photo Wall contest.



Diane Scozzafava, winning participant of the "Seeing Hillsdale" photo wall program.



The Library engaged teens through creative book displays, movie marathons, school book clubs and several late-night events.



Teen Late Night
HALLOWEEN

Friday - October 13, 2017
8:00pm to 11:00pm

Teens, 7th - 12th grade, join us for a Halloween themed Teen Late Night!

Come in Costume!!!
(Prizes for the best ones)

There will be a mini murder mystery, a viewing of the original *Friday the 13th*, games, a Halloween obstacle course, snacks, drinks, and more!



3,336 visitors participated in 222 activities sponsored by the Library.

Film festivals, story times, book groups, yoga, author talks, art classes and more! These programs are funded primarily by the Friends of the Hillsdale Library. The Library also hosted a Brain Health Fair, organized by the Senior Services Division of Bergen County.

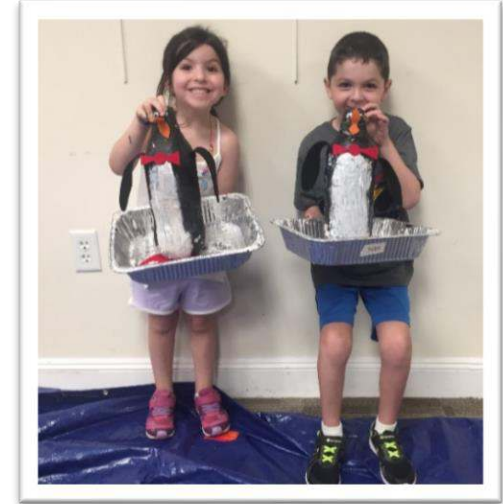
Over 535 visitors participated in 58 activities sponsored by community organizations.

The meeting room is utilized by the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, senior clubs, the Kids for Earth, the Science Fiction Society of Northern New Jersey, and numerous other community organizations. The Sundial Garden Club continues to tend the patio planter throughout the year.



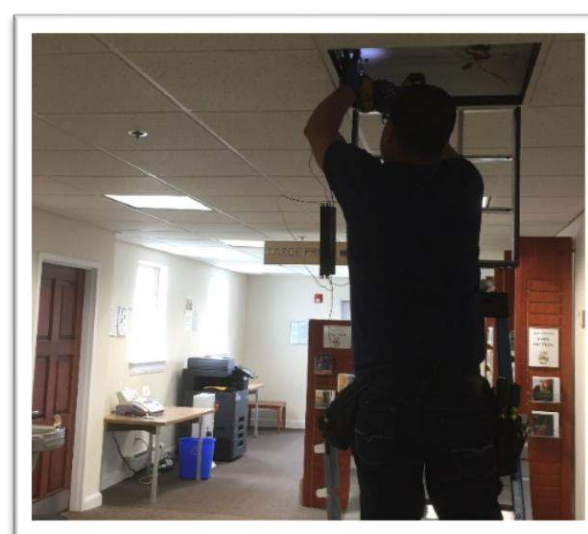
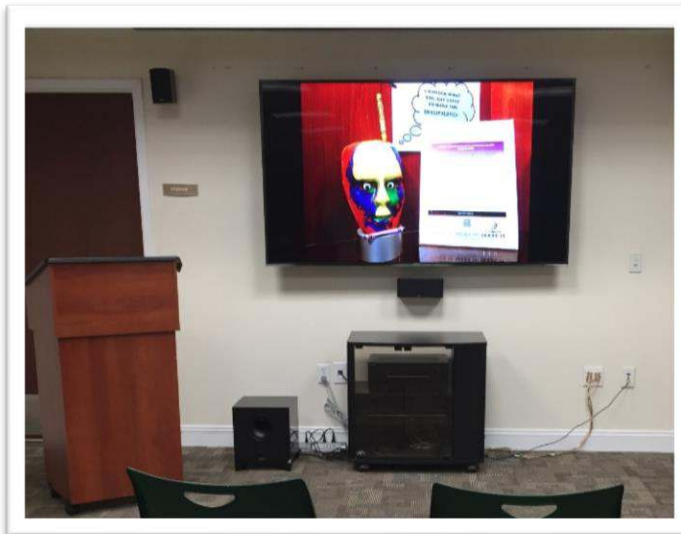
The Library engaged children through a variety of special programs and three book clubs.

The summer reading program wrapped up with a petting zoo. The “Summer Chillin” penguin craft program was a cool summer delight. And sand crafting proved very popular.

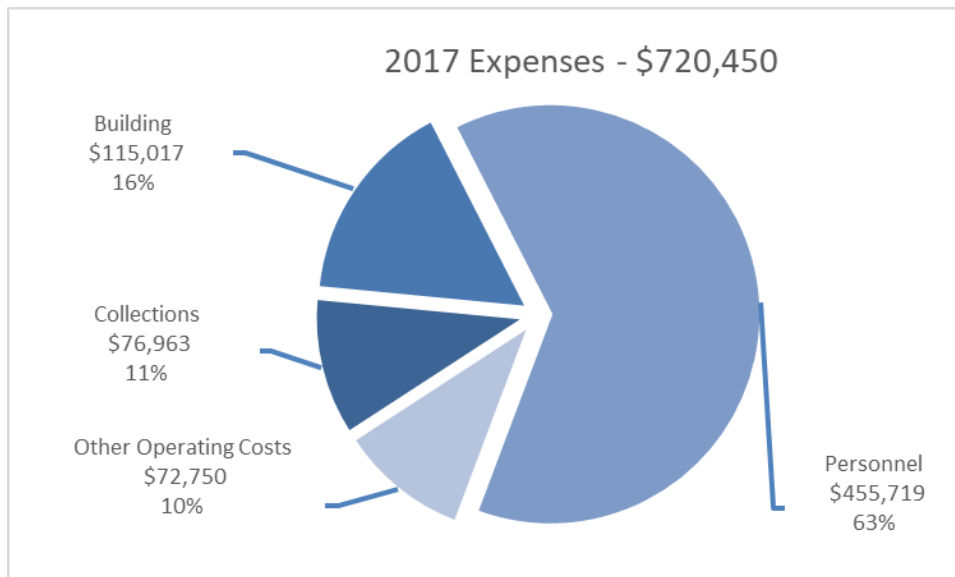
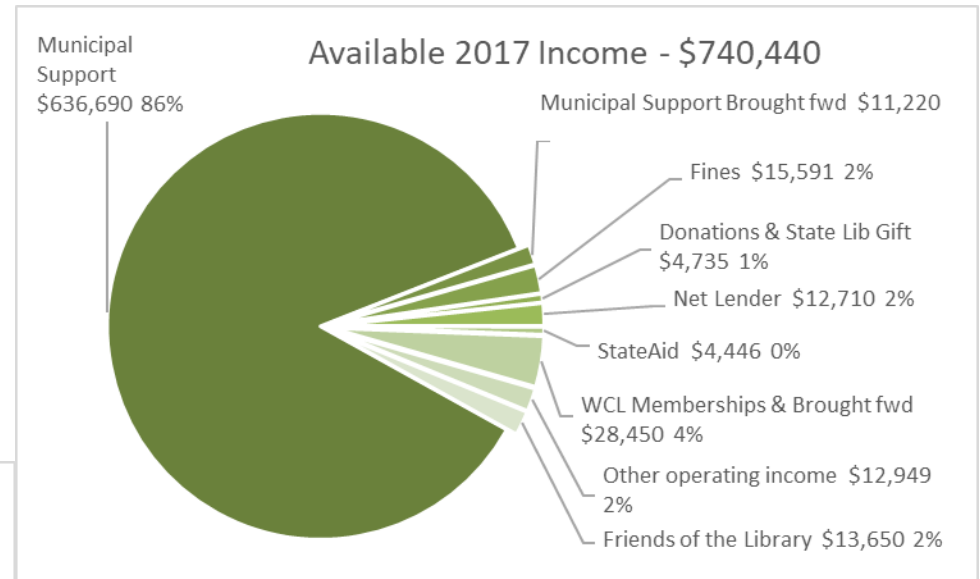


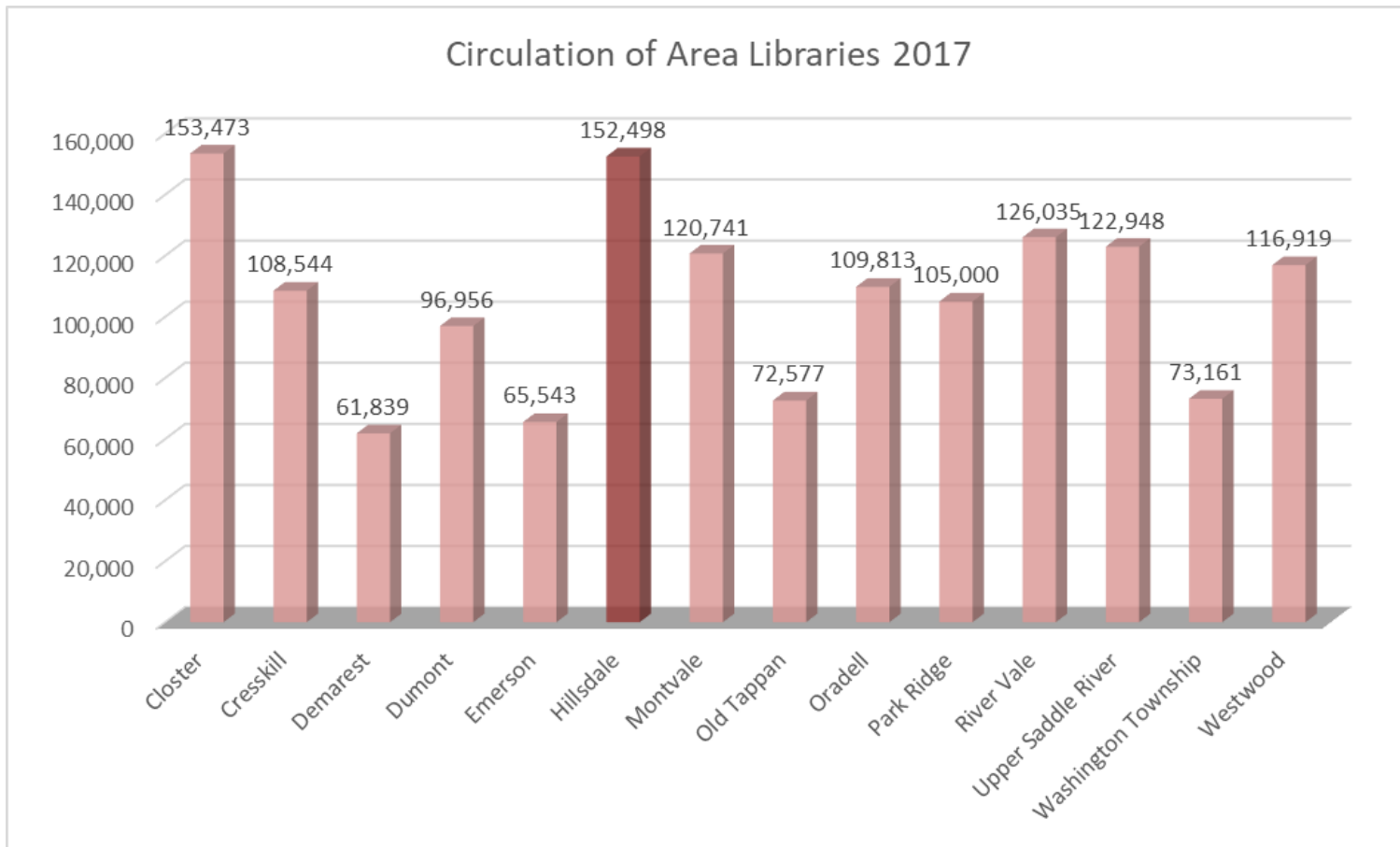
Home Improvements

Capital funding from the Borough permitted the replacement of the failing boiler. New carpet tiles replaced worn and frayed broadloom on the main floor. The Friends of the Library funded the new 75" flat screen in the meeting room. LED lighting was installed as part of the PSE&G Direct Install program.



Budget Snapshot





The Library remains a leader among area libraries in terms of total annual circulation. This high level of activity resulted in Hillsdale Library having the lowest cost per circulated item among all 75 libraries in the Bergen County Cooperative Library System from 2007 through 2013. In 2016 the library was ranked 3d lowest at \$4.62 per circulation. The BCCLS average is \$8.46.

Fast Facts:

- 265 new borrowers were registered in 2017. There are 6,878 registered Hillsdale Library cardholders. Of these, 2,815 used their card at least once this year. An additional 1,362 used their card at least once in the previous two years.
- The Library was open 2,814 hours and 338 days.
- The Hillsdale Library remains a leader in circulation among area libraries.
- The two study rooms were reserved 1,603 times during the year.
- The Children's Room alone circulated more items (71,215) than **22** other entire libraries in the Bergen County Cooperative Library System.
- Approximately 86,000 people visited the Library.
- 3,336 visitors participated in 222 Library sponsored programs.
- 535 visitors participated in 58 community group activities held in the meeting room.
- 10,758 People used a library computer during the year. 16,200 clients connected to the public WI-FI and transferred 1.12 TB.
- 5,148 books, 200 audiobooks, 506 DVDs, and 151 CDs were added to the Library's collection. 6,803 old or damaged items were withdrawn. There are 71,580 items in the total collection.
- Several dedicated literacy tutors volunteered hundreds of hours teaching English as a second language. One adult student became a U.S. Citizen and one is scheduled for her final interview. Harold Gainer received the Tutor of the Year award at the International Dinner of the Literacy Volunteers of Pascack Valley.



Dear Hillsdale Library Board of Directors,

The Hillsdale library has been the foundation of my writing career for the last 15 years. In my late teens, the daily 45 minute walk to 509 Hillsdale Avenue included trekking through the less travelled Woodcliff Lake reservoir bridge road, and past the toxic waste management facility; just so I could escape to my favorite computer in the world.

Quickly escalating to the third floor two staircases at a time, I eagerly sat in front of the onyx keyboard arched in front of the square CRT monitor, and begin to furiously write my transdimensional thoughts away.

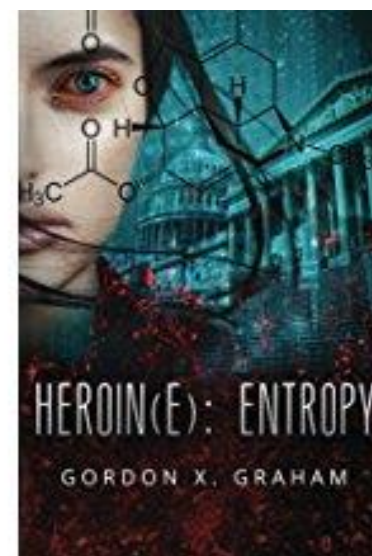
After numerous short stories abstractly written and rewritten at this library, I transitioned to composing dramatic screenplays, and now write full-length novels. My debut novel *heroin(e): entropy*, the first book of the *heroin(e)* trilogy, reached #12 on Amazon's best selling political suspense list in March. In addition, a local businessman and I have formed Entropy Media, which will serve as an entertainment platform to convert my novels to films and open-world video games.

Dave and his staff have been incredibly supportive of my career, and their continued efforts in marketing my art will always be sincerely appreciated.

Best Regards,

Gordon X. Graham

December 1, 2017



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