

Harold Washington Library Center Departmental Information

Archives and Special Collections Division

- Archives and Special Collections Division
 - Department email: ascdivision@chipublib.org
 - [Archival Collections](#) has a list of all CPL collections and finding aids.
 - <https://www.chipublib.org/special-collections/>
- Special Collections at the Harold Washington Library Center
 - Department email: specoll@chipublib.org
 - Phone: (312) 747-4875
 - The Special Collections and Preservation Division, on the 9th floor of the Harold Washington Library Center, showcases rare and unique materials focusing on Chicago as well as the Civil War.
- Vivian Harsh Research Center at Woodson Regional
 - Email: harshcollection@chipublib.org
 - Phone: (312) 745-2080
 - The largest African American history and literature collection in the Midwest, the Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection of Afro-American History and Literature documents the Black experience with a strong focus on Chicago.
- Northside Neighborhood History Collection at Sulzer Regional
 - Email: northsidehistory@chipublib.org
 - Phone: (312) 742-4455
 - The Northside Neighborhood History Collection highlights historical and contemporary materials about Northside neighborhoods.

Arts and Music

- Primary Contact- Matthew Genthe, mgenthe@chipublib.org, 312-747-4805
 - Department email: artsandmusic@chicagopubliclibrary.org
- What does this department have/how can they help?
 - As the title suggests, the Arts and Music department provides scores, recordings, LPs and sheet music as well as music practice rooms.

Assistive Resources and Talking Book Center

- Contact information:
 - Patrice Johnson, Department Manager
 - Toll free: 800-757-4654
 - Phone: 312-747-4001

- Email: artbc@chipublib.org
 - Website: <https://www.chipublib.org/assistive-resources-and-talking-book-center/>
- What does this department have/how can they help?
 - The Assistive Resources and Talking Book Center provides library services for students with reading disabilities such as dyslexic, or are blind, deaf-blind, or have low vision. Through our technology and collection we help remove reading barriers and motivate students to become empowered readers.

BSTG (Business, Science, Technology, and Government)

- Contact information:
 - Jean Petersen, Asst. Manager, BSTG Dept., jlpeters@chipublib.org; Carol Le Bras, Asst. Manager, BSTG Dept., clebras@chipublib.org, (312) 747-4400 (main reference line)
- What does this department have/how can they help?
 - The Business, Science, Technology and Government (BSTG) Department has helped many students with history fair in the past. We often help students researching topics dealing with subjects such as: Chicago businesses, Chicago public housing, transportation history (aviation, railway) Chicago labor history (Pullman Strike), etc. Some of the most helpful materials on the 4th floor can be found in our Chicago Collection. We have a great deal of materials on famous Chicago businesses and industries. We also have information in our collection on the World's Fairs held in Chicago. Another area covered is medicine in Chicago, including Chicago Hospitals. Our Municipal Reference Collection on the 5th floor has many primary resource documents covering many different aspects of Chicago City government, including government decisions, projects, public works, etc., that may also be helpful for students doing research on Chicago history.

ILL (Interlibrary Loan Department)

- Contact information:
 - Ashley Susina, Department Manager, or Jennifer Rodriguez, Librarian, ill@chipublib.org, (312) 747-4344 (M-F, 9a-5p)
- What does this department have/how can they help?
 - Through the Interlibrary Loan Department, specific titles/articles not available at Chicago Public Library may be requested from other libraries. Interlibrary Loan service is only available to residents of Chicago with a valid Chicago Public Library card. Interlibrary loans usually take 2-6 weeks. It may take as long as 5 weeks to learn that no library will supply the material. There may be fees. Interlibrary

loans can be submitted online, via the following form:

<https://www.chipublib.org/request-an-interlibrary-loan/>

- If running short of time, CPL patrons can access the database/online resources of WorldCat through the CPL's website. By using this resource, they can see who may own a specific title, such as a nearby suburb, and choose instead to go pick it up by registering for an Illinois Reciprocal Library Card to check out the item(s).

Information Center

- Primary Contact - Sasha Neri, nerisash@chipublib.org, 312-747-4372
 - Department email: info@chipublib.org
- What does this department have/how can they help?
 - The Info Center is everyone's first stop to get acquainted with what the library has to offer and which departments in HWLC you might find what you need. They also organize group visits to the library.

Newspapers and Periodicals

- Primary Contact - Maurice Thomas; mthomas@chipublib.org; 312-747-4369
 - Department email: ngpnews@chipublib.org
- What does this department have/how can they help?
 - Newspapers and Periodicals provides both print and digital options for students looking for current and historical events. Some materials are available virtually as well: <https://www.chipublib.org/chicago-newspapers-on-microfilm/#Newspapers-on-Microfilm>

Social Sciences and History (SSH)

- Contact Information:
 - Ramona Thompson, LIII, SSH, rthomps@chipublib.org, (312) 747-4600
- What does this department have/how can they help?
 - SSH has the Chicago Room and Chicago History materials. We can provide one-on-one catalog and database instruction; show students where the particular history reference books are located; and we have a handout titled, "How to choose a database for research."