Many, many thanks for all the work you and your crew put in yesterday to make the Founders Day program run smoothly. All the microphones and wires you had to fiddle with, all the chairs you put out, all the tests you ran with the performers - they are much appreciated. Your attention to detail, including the purple bows, helped make the celebration a big success.

- Shelley Mastran, Reston Historic Trust
In the pages of this Annual Report, you will read about Reston Community Center facilities, programs and services in calendar year 2012. We publish our Annual Report each year in the month of June to provide our community with a picture of the past year’s highlights and the coming year’s challenges. As we put together this year’s Annual Report, we have been engaged with our community to help us chart the right path forward for RCC and how we serve Reston. I hope that, even when the process elicits conflicting views about what is best for the people we serve, we keep in mind that we are all working to achieve a better community for everyone. We strive to be mindful of Reston’s leisure, recreational and cultural aspirations across our neighborhoods for all ages and interests. It is the paramount goal of the Board of Governors to assure that Reston Community Center serves the whole community with excellence.

To make the right choices and provide direction to the superb RCC staff, I am joined on the Board of Governors by truly outstanding volunteer leaders. In 2012, we said goodbye to RCC Board members Carol Bradley and John Gasson. We are grateful for their service and see them both in a variety of new volunteer roles that take advantage of Carol’s and John’s extraordinary gifts and Reston experiences. Taking their places on our Board are Lisa Sechrest-Ehrhardt and Gerald Zavala. Lisa and Gerald bring wonderful perspectives and skills to add to the Board’s talents. They work with RCC Board members Bill Bouie, Bill Penniman, Cathy Vivona, Vicky Wingert, Roger Lowen, and Bill Keefe to steer RCC to the outcomes we have identified in our Strategic Plan. As we listen to you and examine how to address the challenges of limited facility capacities and growing demand for RCC programs and services, we do so keeping in mind the need to be fiscally responsible, to be creative in problem solving, and to be focused on serving Reston. I know my colleagues on the Board of Governors join me in hoping you will stay involved in our discussions. Together we will find the right Reston solutions to meet the challenges we confront.

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A Message from Beverly Cosham,
Chair of the Board of Governors

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A Message from Leila Gordon,
Executive Director

This past year has seen great successes in our efforts to expand our programs and services. We also hit a significant speed bump. The failure of our business system software to support our efforts to launch online registration as an option for our priority Reston registration periods was as frustrating to us as to our patrons. We are not going to launch this effort again until we have independently tested and verified that the software we are using will support the numbers of people wanting to enroll online at the start of Reston priority registration.

A great deal of the frustration stemmed from the popularity of RCC programs. Participation and attendance continue to rise as our staff teams explore new ways to offer more people engaging options for their leisure time. They continue to look for locations we can use outside our facility walls. Our partnerships offer us opportunities to reach parts of the community that can’t always come to RCC to enjoy Reston experiences. Regardless of how we creatively work to expand our reach, we always keep in mind how to maximize the quality of the programs, along with availability to all who live and work here, and how to minimize the cost to Reston patrons.

Our work every day, regardless of the area, is directed at serving Reston and particularly at making your experience with RCC one you enjoy and would recommend to others. Whether you are enrolled in a class or volunteering at an RCC event, swimming in our pool or taking a trip with us, going to a show in the CenterStage or working out in our Fitness program, scheduling your family celebration in the Community Room or enjoying the work of artists in the Jo Ann Rose Gallery, we want you to get the value and excellence you expect from Reston Community Center.
We attend most of the events that RCC has for small children throughout the year. We love them for their simplicity, cost and frequency. RCC is a big reason we love living in Reston.

- Lee Green

CHALLENGES

RCC Board of Governors members guide RCC and also function in partnership with other Reston civic and non-profit organizations. Each Board member has liaison roles that connect RCC to our schools, arts and culture organizations, human services agencies, business community, Reston civic organizations and Fairfax County initiatives. In our relationships to civic groups (Reston Association, Reston Town Center Association, Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, Reston Interfaith, and Reston Citizens Association); to Reston arts and culture organizations (Initiative for Public Art – Reston, Greater Reston Arts Center, League of Reston Artists, Reston Historic Trust, Reston Community Players, Reston Chorale, Reston Community Orchestra and others); and to recreation organizations (Reston YMCA, Southgate Community Center, and the Fairfax County Park Authority); we are able to work cooperatively to achieve outstanding results collectively for the community. From these invaluable partnerships and collaborations, we learn about opportunities to program together, to identify community needs, and to avoid duplication of services or conflicts that adversely affect our ability to achieve our goals. It is this spirit of working together that is the key to RCC’s success now and will be the foundation of our ability to solve the challenges of the future.

Those challenges will only grow. We have outgrown the capability of our facilities to meet the needs of our patrons. We are exploring how to remedy that with our community partners – which include the Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax County Public Schools, Reston Association and Reston YMCA. We are investigating how to achieve a new indoor recreation facility that will support the demand we know now exists and will only grow for aquatics, fitness, courts, meeting and classroom space, and play areas. Our community also needs more fields for youth sports and outdoor activities. We continue to program in multiple locations and use all available community resources to reach as many participants as possible.
**SUCCESSES**

While looking to the future, the Board also spent time examining our past. All previous RCC policies were reviewed and discussed. From those discussions, a policy framework has been developed. A new RCC Policy and Operations Manual will provide our patrons and the community with a guide to how RCC is governed, what our requirements are for conducting business, what RCC facilities, programming and services priorities are, and how we serve the public. This booklet will be published and effective in FY14 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014) and will be available online, in our facilities and to our partners.

The Board also continued support for Community Partnerships with its involvement in the community consortium of partners that will be funding the South Lakes High School synthetic turf fields replacement project. This significant improvement to youth athletic and practice fields at South Lakes High School is funded by Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services, South Lakes High School Booster Club, Reston Community Center, Reston Association, Reston Youth Soccer, and Reston Youth Association. The fields and lights will be installed this summer. With this improvement, young people in our community will have significantly greater playing and practice time and better field conditions.

Work on *The Reston Story* continued in 2012, capturing many chapters of our shared experiences. Again, this significant legacy project to celebrate Reston’s 50th Anniversary will be realized with community-wide support. RCC also continued its support of Reston for a Lifetime as this new community initiative explores solutions to transportation and services problems for people with limited options. We joined the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce in December to celebrate its 30th Anniversary. Our Reston YMCA collaboration expanded the resources available for children to participate in the summer Kids Triathlon, which they program with our friends at Reston Association. These are just a few examples of the power of partnerships to support the entire community’s needs in ways that are consistent with Reston’s values.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Board of Governors members will continue their exploration of how to best address our facility priorities. They will work with all the people who want the best results from their investment in Reston resources, County planning efforts, and robust and thorough examination of all the possible paths to achieve the new facilities identified by our Strategic Plan. Through our ongoing relationship with the Chamber, we will reach out to Reston’s non-profit organizations through a sponsorship program to support this area of the Chamber’s work. The two major public art projects the community has been working to achieve at Reston Town Center and Dogwood Pool will be realized in 2013. Reston Community Center joins the many organizations working with Reston Interfaith in the next two years to raise an unprecedented $1,000,000 to end homelessness in our community. During 2013, the filming for *The Reston Story* will conclude and efforts will turn to planning for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of this unique and special community.
Administerion

The administrative functions of Reston Community Center include Customer Service, Finance and Human Resources, Communications, Building Engineering and Information Technology. Collectively they support our lines of business and programs for our patrons.

CHALLENGES
As many people experienced, launching online registration failed to deliver to our patrons. Other challenges we worked to address this year included building improvements and scheduling them without conflicting with our programs. Replacing systems that are outdated is an ongoing effort for us. We also continued training and implementation of Fairfax County software components related to its business systems. In 2012, that effort centered on mastering the human resources areas of the new systems. We continued to explore layer upon layer of effort to redesign our website.

SUCCESSES
Our Finance and Human Resources teams have mastered the requirements of each new phase of Fairfax County implementation of new software systems. In the past year, this dedicated group processed more than 5,000 time sheets and more than 2,300 purchase orders. They participated in 75 different training classes to be able to successfully implement the new human resources system. This project, Fairfax County Unified System (FOCUS), is a continuing multi-year joint initiative of Fairfax County Government and Fairfax County Public Schools that we will continue to deploy at RCC.

In our building operations, we continued to work through our ADA-related improvements list. An accessible drinking fountain was installed in our CenterStage lobby; automatic door openers were installed on restroom doors; door openers were replaced wherever they were not in compliance with ADA standards; elevator improvements were completed; and the final ADA projects related to the Terry L. Smith Aquatics Center were completed.

In addition to ADA-related efforts, the RCC Hunters Woods building was converted from fuel oil use to natural gas. This conversion will result in more environmentally friendly fuel consumption as well as significant cost savings. This project and others that were overseen by RCC Deputy Director Thomas Ward were so successful that his efforts were recognized with an Outstanding Performance Award from RCC and Fairfax County Government in the fall of 2012.

This past year, we launched two social media platforms, Facebook and Twitter, and implemented a social media policy to support promoting RCC and select community-sponsored events and to augment the agency’s public relations strategy. We’ve seamlessly integrated these electronic communications tools into our marketing efforts to enhance our relationship with the community and strengthen community partnerships.

In our efforts to further establish RCC as an essential community partner, the Media department continued to participate in community-wide communication efforts with numerous partner organizations. Our team serves on various communications committees/sub-committees for community organizations such as the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce (GRCC), the Arts Council of Fairfax County (ACFC), Initiative for Public Art – Reston (IPAR), Ad Hoc Memorial Garden Committee, and The Reston Story, in addition to sponsoring many other community events/initiatives with Reston Interfaith, Greater Reston Arts Center, Reston Town Center Association, Reston Historic Trust and many others.

LOOKING AHEAD
To assure that our patrons will be able to register for our programs online without complication, we are examining how such software needs to perform, how it connects to our business systems, and to what degree it operates without problems for our patrons. In the coming year, the new RCC website will be launched and will connect seamlessly to the parts of our enterprise systems patrons use to purchase tickets or register for RCC program opportunities. The website will also provide efficient support to online platforms we use to promote our activities and partners, as well as further the use of Facebook, Twitter and any future social media platforms.

The ADA project list will be completed; the final project on our ADA list involves the installation of a family ADA restroom in the upstairs rear hallway of the RCC Hunters Woods building that will be accomplished in August of 2013. We will be removing the fuel tank from our property. Our exploration of energy efficient and environmentally supportive building practices will continue. We will improve air quality in the Terry L. Smith Aquatics Center by pursuing specialized improvements to its HVAC system.
Reston Community Center’s Facility Rentals team works diligently to provide high-quality rental experiences and to schedule all available spaces in both RCC facilities for program patrons and users. Each year, hundreds of community members take advantage of the low-cost facility rentals that RCC offers for events ranging from business meetings to wedding receptions. Between classes, workshops, community events, and rentals, RCC’s facilities are booked to capacity seven days per week. Our staff works hard to manage all of these activities and to ensure that every experience is a special one in clean, safe and attractive settings.
CHALLENGES
The primary challenge continues to be accommodating as many users as possible. Our facilities are fully utilized and many of our rooms book six months or more in advance, particularly for weekend dates. We work hard to balance the needs of our internal programming and our hundreds of rental patrons. Our room rental rates are well below market rates for Reston patrons, making our facilities a great value. Unfortunately, we’re not able to accommodate everyone who desires to use our facilities and we turn away hundreds of requests each booking season.

RCC does have a rental hierarchy in place to ensure that Reston-qualified patrons receive priority scheduling. Access to the facility calendar is first provided to RCC’s Founding Partners, a small group of organizations that were instrumental in helping get RCC Hunters Woods built and who have been utilizing our facilities since we opened in 1979. Once the needs of our Founding Partners are met, our staff books space for internal events, including Board of Governors meetings and public hearings, classes, workshops, and community events. After that process is complete, Reston patrons have exclusive access to the rental calendar during the first month of every rental season. Only after their scheduling is complete do non-Reston patrons have the opportunity to rent facilities. Additionally, non-Reston patrons pay significantly more for their rental experiences.

SUCCESSES
Rental utilization and program attendance continue to exceed all expectations and demand is at an all-time high. We are working with other providers, both inside and outside of Reston, to create a master list of alternatives to consider so that we can provide local options to patrons whose event can’t be accommodated at an RCC facility due to size or availability.

In 2012, we marked the first full year of patrons being able to take advantage of our renovated Community Room. Accommodating up to 250 people, the Community Room is the largest rental space RCC offers and is an ideal setting for events such as large parties, weddings, and performances. New state-of-the-art lighting and sound systems greatly enhanced the space and made it a much more functional venue for these types of activities. Reston Chorale and Reston Community Orchestra regularly perform in the Community Room and these improvements have greatly enhanced the audience experience for patrons attending these and other events.

RCC continues to be a popular venue for community meetings. Each year, we accommodate several meetings hosted by public officials, including the Hunter Mill District Supervisor and our elected officials in the Virginia legislature. We’ve hosted numerous meetings related to Metro’s Silver Line expansion and the changes that it will mean to those in Reston, particularly sessions related to Fairfax Connector bus service in the community. We support the ongoing meeting requirements of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force.

LOOKING AHEAD
Our team of professionals will continue to focus on providing the best possible experience for every single patron. RCC’s Operations team is committed to maintaining our facilities to the highest quality standards. Our Maintenance team ensures that every event is provided with an exceptional level of service. We’ve shifted staff schedules to provide greater levels of support during evening and weekend hours, when usage is typically the highest.

We continue to work diligently to provide the valuable service of affordable, high-quality facility rentals to Restonians, as well as to all of the businesses and organizations that call Reston their home.

We plan to work on expanding our outreach to the business community in an attempt to achieve greater utilization of our facilities, particularly during daytime hours when usage is lower. We already have several local businesses that regularly utilize our facilities for non-commercial purposes (commercial activity is prohibited), such as training and staff team-building activities. We also continue to work with many non-profit organizations that seek space to host events that benefit the greater Reston community. Starting in late 2013, the American Red Cross will be conducting blood drives on a semi-regular basis at RCC’s Hunters Woods facility. RCC is a community hub for much of what makes Reston thrive.
The Arts and Events department offers a wide range of professional and community-based arts performances and experiences. We offer classes and workshops in the performing and visual arts, sponsor or co-sponsor festivals and outdoor activities, and present fine arts exhibitions. The Arts and Events team provides support for our arts partner organizations, and programs school workshops and performances in Reston schools.
Every year, our community’s professionally operated theatre facility, the CenterStage, hosts professional artists, community-based arts organizations’ theatre, music and dance performances, community forums, film series, and the educational opportunities associated with our Young Actors Theatre program. The CenterStage calendar is bursting because there are such diverse tastes, groups and opportunities to host and support.

Our Lake Anne facility houses a great variety of formal instruction in the visual arts, as well as drop-in opportunities for patrons to hone their artistry. RCC Lake Anne includes the Jo Ann Rose Gallery and our new 3D arts gallery. When combined with the gallery space that graces the walls of our Hunters Woods building, and our classroom studios, we have a robust visual arts instruction and exhibits platform.

Our Community Events team directs such RCC signature events as the Reston Multicultural Festival and the Reston Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration. They are part of community-wide planning efforts to produce the Festival on the Square, Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival and more. This team executes the Take a Break Concerts, Family Fun Entertainment Series, Reston’s Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and many other opportunities to bring people together in celebration of what makes Reston a culturally vibrant and giving community.

**CHALLENGES**

The Arts and Events team works to bring as many people as possible to programs every year. With the increasing number of leisure time activities, grabbing the “market share” of ticket dollars has always been a challenge. Weather can have a negative impact on attendance at performances. Many of our community events are vulnerable to unpredictable weather as well. In our Arts Education program, the challenge is often the opposite. The studio sizes and specialized nature of many of the visual and performing arts classes and workshops limit how many participants can be enrolled. We are always endeavoring to move more patrons off our waitlists and into classes.

**SUCCESES**

**Performing Arts**

The Professional Touring Artist Series at the CenterStage hosted performers who are either at the top of their careers or are headed there on an unmistakable trajectory of success. Audiences enjoyed greats like the Steep Canyon Rangers, the renowned Irish band Lúnasa, and the Hot Club of Detroit. These performers wowed sold-out houses and played enthusiastic encores. Up and coming artists like Cyrille Aimée, Zoë Keating and Grace Kelly left deep impressions and will be remembered as they reach wider and wider audiences. Our Professional Touring Artist Series exceeded our financial and attendance goals for 2012 in spite of the fact that two CenterStage performances had to be postponed due to inclement weather.

The CenterStage hosts Reston Community Players and many local dance companies in programs that also generate intense audience loyalty and garner acclaim. The staff of the CenterStage believes in “building community” among and between the arts groups and the people enjoying them here in Reston. There is wonderful cross-pollination between these groups, local students, and the visiting artists in our community, which are exemplified in both the ways the groups work together and the visits from professionals who extend themselves in artist residency work. This past year, those efforts included outstanding professional artists Luis J. Rodriguez, Cyrille Aimée, Diego Figueiredo, and The Reduced Shakespeare Company.

In a new program launched in 2012, RCC partnered with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute of George Mason University to present free performances by top musicians on Thursday afternoons. This “Meet the Artist” format and daytime curtain time proved to be a big hit and will continue in the coming seasons.

**SUCCESES**

**Community Events**

Combining community celebrations with opportunities for community service was a major focus of planning. The Reston Multicultural Festival reached out to young people with a new Multicultural Book Fair for children, as well as the moving and inspirational Naturalization Ceremony that reaffirms the privilege and obligations of citizenship for all attendees. The annual Thanksgiving Food Drive continued a history of community compassion. Reston Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebrations have included inspirational speeches by performer Nnenna Freelon in 2012 and Civil Rights Movement veteran Julian Bond in January 2013. In conjunction with their messages, community service projects were designed to help Reston’s non-profit human services organizations like Reston Interfaith and The Closet. Other projects included cleaning and sprucing up Reston Association outdoor areas and Southgate Community Center.

Of course, often the point of community events is simply to get together and have fun. In 2012, partnership efforts with Reston Association
expanded the number of Community Cookouts. RCC also partnered with Reston Town Center Association to offer the Family Fun Entertainment Series and Holiday Performances at that location. RCC’s popular Take a Break concerts and our sponsorship of the Annual Jazz Festival at Lake Anne Plaza are outdoor entertainment highlights for visitors to this historic heart of Reston. RCC is a major sponsor of the Greater Reston Art Center’s Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival. In May of 2012, RCC brought in the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) to perform throughout the festival. Claire Chase, the Executive Director of ICE, was a 2012 MacArthur Fellow.

SUCCESSES
Arts Education
The greatest success of the past year was opening the 3D arts gallery at RCC Lake Anne, which offered unprecedented visibility to our ceramics, beading, stained glass, mosaic and woodworking artists and students. Combined with our existing two-dimensional exhibit spaces, this has created tremendous opportunities for our teaching professionals and student artists to learn from each other and showcase their artistry.

Our partnership with Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) continues to enable both organizations to offer even more visual arts learning experiences at the GRACE Gallery in Reston Town Center with the Appetite for Arts, T.G.I.F., and Super Studios programs.

We will also feature fascinating film explorations of public art projects presented jointly with Initiative for Public Art – Reston, in addition to the realization of a major public art project set in Reston Town Center. This sculpture by Mary Ann Mears will be a visual landmark for people visiting or living in Reston. RCC will continue to collaborate with IPAR to help people learn more about unique projects, artists, and the intersections they create with different communities.

The core pillar of the Arts and Events department is programming that people love for its high quality and sense of cultural adventure. Our local schools rely on RCC for wonderful opportunities that allow students to engage with renowned artists and their work. Encouraging people to enjoy the company of friends and neighbors at festivals, cookouts and events will continue to enrich the lives of people living, working and playing in Reston.

Who can help after this weekend to be filled with pride and enthusiasm for our community and country for what we are and what we stand for and hopefully strive each day to become. I wish to congratulate you and your entire staff, Board and Committees for providing the backdrop for the events of the concert of the Reston Orchestra and the Sunday lunch in honor of Martin Luther King. Both were done impeccably and both were a thrill to be part of; soaring to heights worthy of us all. I know there is so much going on behind the scenes to make these events happen and you all did a fabulous job.

- Lynn Lilienthal

LOOKING AHEAD
The coming year will provide programming connected to other RCC departments and parts of the community including classes for children, Parkinson’s patients and senior adults (offered by Professional Touring Artist Series guest artists), a new partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts Heritage Award Fellows, and a residency program by Sweet Honey in the Rock for the 2014 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.
The Leisure and Learning team engages patrons from birth to their wisdom years in thousands of different enriching, educational, entertaining, and healthy programs. Whether they participated in extensive new fitness offerings or journeyed to a new attraction, took a class or dropped in to work on a project, Reston patrons in these programs explored their interests and enhanced their wellbeing with their involvement. In trying to expand program options for the community, the Leisure and Learning department collaborates with many other organizations and uses facilities outside our own buildings to meet growing demand for the high-quality leisure experiences that RCC offers.

**CHALLENGES**

In 2012, we served an even greater number of Reston community members in our classes, trips and events. Despite increased enrollment, we continue to face lengthy waitlists for trips, fitness classes, and summer camp programs. As the community grows, the waitlists for these program areas will also grow. In addition, youth and senior adult populations increasingly desire programming where it is easy to reach without having to drive; that can mean using public transportation or locating programs in neighborhoods.
SUCCESSES
Last summer, we offered seven additional camps and enlarged many existing camp programs to create more than 130 new openings. Consequently, we filled nearly 200 more seats than the previous summer, yet we still had a significant number of waitlisted individuals. RCC also reached out to Dogwood Elementary School to serve as the primary sponsor of the Bridge to Learning initiative. This effort prompted RCC to double the size of our JASON Project summer program to serve 50 students in both the morning and afternoon camps. The JASON Project is an award-winning Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program that delivers engaging experiences to the participating students. RCC used the additional openings to provide 50 scholarships for Dogwood Elementary School students to participate in one or both of the camps. The camps filled all 100 seats and served 72 individual student participants (some children attended both the morning and afternoon camp). We were very grateful for the loan of 50 laptop computers from Hunters Woods Elementary School and Dogwood Elementary School in support of the JASON Project summer camps.

We expanded our Green Living Series collaboration with Sustainable Reston and Reston Association and produced 14 enrichment programs designed to increase awareness of environmental sustainability and self-reliance. These programs continue to grow in popularity and we could not offer them without the support of the Reston Association staff at the Walker Nature Center, which serves as the host site for many of the classes; as well as the outstanding knowledge and leadership provided by the instructional resource team of Sustainable Reston volunteers.

Reston Interfaith expressed interest in helping their clients and the community at large learn more about sustainable culinary practices. As a result, we produced new classes on food preservation. The classes allowed students to learn the appropriate equipment to use, create tasty recipes, and follow safety guidelines. Everyone walked away with their own hand-canned jars of delicious, nutritious food.

These innovative programming efforts were honored with a Virginia Recreation and Park Society Best New Program Award for RCC’s Green Living Series at the 58th Annual State Conference in September 2012.

Other new program efforts in 2012 included the launch of more extensive program offerings for the 55+ participants through a partnership with Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). Trips and tours scheduled included family-friendly opportunities and weekend options for senior adults who are working.

LOOKING AHEAD
As we move forward with scheduling future summer seasons, we will need to refine our offerings to focus on those garnering the most interest, and consider facilitating some camp programs at offsite venues in order to reach and serve more of the community. RCC’s sponsorship of the Bridge to Learning program at Dogwood Elementary School supports the development of new or expanded after school and out of school enrichment offerings at that location. Additionally, we will be embarking on our fifth year of sponsoring the Prospera Hispanic Leaders Program (formerly Heritage Language Literacy Club) at Lake Anne Elementary School. RCC and other community providers of youth programs are working to coordinate and collaborate to fulfill the needs of all young people in our community by sharing information and resources.

Given the ongoing success of the Green Living Series, we will continue to work closely with Reston Association, Sustainable Reston, and other local organizations to provide more environmental education and skills training opportunities to the community. The partnership with OLLI will continue the opportunity for our 55+ program participants to explore topics in depth with experts. The Leisure and Learning department is collaborating with our colleagues in the Arts and Events department to support coordinated program offerings that offer simultaneous experiences for different family members, and to extend visiting artists’ expertise through student workshops. As we reach the limits of our facilities’ capacities, we will be exploring efficiencies, alternative locations and intriguing new approaches to expand programs and participation.

I’m often thankful to have the ability to attend RCC programs. They are varied in subject matter, reasonably priced and the teachers really radiate the feeling that they enjoy what they are teaching.

- Lori Russell
Reston Swim Team Association (RSTA) has enjoyed a wonderfully supportive, collaborative relationship for many years with the Terry L. Smith Aquatics Center. Because of our partnership with RCC, we have been able to successfully run critical programs throughout our off-season ... All of the programs we have run at RCC have gone smoothly and efficiently. Joe Leary and his team provide high-quality, professional support to RSTA. We look forward to our continued partnership with the RCC Aquatics Center for many years to come.

- Karen Marginot, Reston Swim Team Association

The Terry L. Smith Aquatics Center entices and supports swimmers of all ages and abilities. Whether the goal is recreation, learning to swim, water safety education, fitness, celebrations or therapy, the RCC Aquatics staff welcomes visitors year round. The hot spa pool offers patrons a quiet, soothing reprieve for daily aches and stressed muscles. The weather at our pool is always right for swimming.

**CHALLENGES**
Meeting the growing need for more indoor aquatics continues to put pressure on the limited capacity of RCC’s facility. Population increases and consistent demand for quality instructional classes have continued to create large waiting lists for our Learn to Swim programs. For those seeking therapeutic and fitness regimens, our drop-in water aerobics and therapeutic exercise options are very popular. Unfortunately, these programs also attract more people than we have the space to accommodate.

**SUCCESSES**
Adjustments to class offerings on varying days and times have been successful in increasing attendance and enrollment. The addition of private swim lesson instruction resulted in our ability to provide patrons with another option for learning to swim or enhancing their swimming skills. Private lessons are offered in times where water availability permits. This has resulted in additional teaching sessions for patrons while also recovering RCC’s cost of instruction.
The Drowning Education and Prevention (DEAP) program offers free water safety programming. In 2012, the RCC Aquatics staff conducted 16 dry land presentations, provided water safety skills lessons, and issued scout badge certifications to more than 500 young people. In addition, RCC works with Reston Association to support certifications needed by lifeguards and instructors. This coordinated effort helps maintain both organizations’ staffing at optimum levels.

RCC’s ADA-related facility enhancements have resulted in increased attendance by patrons with mobility and physical impairments for water based activities and classes. The Adapted Aquatics swim program attracted new volunteers to provide support to this program.

LOOKING AHEAD
In addition to being used to capacity, the current natatorium HVAC system is not adequately supporting the growing number of users and programming. RCC will investigate both near-term remedies that can provide some relief to our system and swimmers, and long-term strategies to replace the existing equipment with systems that can more effectively introduce fresh air for the volume of use we experience. Maintaining a high-quality facility that is more than thirty years old will be an ongoing challenge.

A review of our drop-in and pass fees has revealed that RCC pricing, particularly with respect to use of the pool, has lagged behind the other area public amenities significantly. New pricing will be established in 2013 that will bring rates up over a phased number of years. Drop-in fees, like the registered program fees, will be reviewed annually thereafter. Reston patrons will always pay less than similar fees paid in other public facilities as a benefit of the extra Reston taxes paid to support RCC.

The Board continues to investigate all possible avenues to being able to construct a new indoor aquatics facility that will provide relief to the ongoing demand issues. They have explored and will continue to explore every cost-effective and appropriate option that may be available to RCC.

VISION
Reston Community Center enriches lives and builds community for all of Reston.

MISSION
To create positive leisure, cultural and educational experiences which enhance the quality of life for all people living and working in Reston by:

- Providing a broad range of programs in arts, aquatics, recreation, enrichment and lifelong learning.
- Creating and sustaining community traditions through special events, outreach activities, and facility rentals.
- Building community through collaboration and celebration.

VALUES
In accomplishing our Vision, RCC will be:

- A welcoming community resource committed to improving citizens’ quality of life,
- A builder of sense of place and community traditions,
- Celebratory of peoples’ traditions, cultural and recreational aspirations,
- An active partner with other Reston organizations,
- A barrier-free organization - physical, financial, cultural,
- An accepting and open organization,
- A responsible and accountable steward of community resources,
- A respectful organization that supports and nurtures its staff, board, volunteers, constituents and patrons.
The following tables and charts reflect a calendar year of activity in order to present a complete picture of RCC participation for every program season (winter, spring, summer and fall). We routinely monitor data on patron participation to be sure we are offering programs that patrons enjoy and that are diverse in content and approach and, to the extent possible, to address program waitlists.
Aquatics participation is adjusted to separate Open/Lap Swim and Drop-in Aerobics (as shown in chart). Prior year data included both in Open/Lap Swim.

Total Program Participation in 2012: 289,463

Class, Workshop and Trip Participation by Line of Business
January 1 - December 31, 2012

Trips & Tours Participation
January 1 - December 31, 2012

*Including Drop-in Water Aerobics
Aquatics Program Participation
January 1 - December 31, 2012

- Aquatics Rental
  - 15,174 Participants (22%)
- Swim Classes
  - 3,627 Participants (5%)
- Drop-In Water Aerobics
  - 7,120 Participants (11%)
- Open/Lap Swim
  - 42,720 Participants (62%)

*Excluding Theatre and Pool Rentals

Facility Hours Rented by Reston Status*
January 1 - December 31, 2012

- Founding Partners
  - 1,020 Hours (13.5%)
- Non-Reston
  - 116 Hours (1.5%)
- Reston
  - 6,409 Hours (85%)

*Excluding Theatre and Pool Rentals

Professional Touring Artist Series Ticket Admission by Reston Status
January 1 - December 31, 2012

- Non-Reston
  - 635 Admissions (17%)
- Reston
  - 2,909 Admissions (83%)

Facility Rental by Household Reston Status*
January 1 - December 31, 2012

- Non-Reston
  - 55 Households (9%)
- Founding Partners
  - 9 Households (2%)
- Reston
  - 544 Households (80%)

*Excluding Theatre and Pool Rentals
We extend our heartfelt thanks to the hundreds of talented, hardworking individuals who also support RCC in part-time, administrative, instructional, lab supervising, lifeguarding, theatre technical assistance, and many other roles. These outstanding individuals are too numerous to list here. We can’t do what we do without their key contributions.

RCC also extends its profound gratitude to our wonderful volunteers who give everything they do the shining touch of their generous community spirits. Volunteers are the heart and soul of the RCC experience.

We also extend thanks to our community partners. Their tireless efforts on behalf of Reston are essential to our success.

- Reston Association
- Reston Interfaith
- Greater Reston Arts Center
- Initiative for Public Art-Reston
- Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
- Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce
- Sustainable Reston
- Reston Citizens Association/Reston Accessibility Committee
- SPecially Adapted Resource Clubs
- Lake Anne Plaza
- Reston Town Center Association
- Reston for a Lifetime
- Reston Historic Trust
- Reston Elementary/Middle/High Schools
- League of Reston Artists
- Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services/Southgate Community Center
- YMCA Fairfax County Reston

Thank You For All That You Do...

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We welcome your questions, comments, concerns, and suggestions. Please send them to RCCContact@fairfaxcounty.gov. All inquiries are answered within 48 business hours.