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## Kathryn L. (Kay) Schwartz

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Kay Schwartz has been Director of Library Services of the Flint Public Library since 2010 after serving as Interim Director for a year.

In 1996, Kay left a 20-year career as a CPA to enter the Master of Information and Library Science program at the University of Michigan.

"I was fascinated with the new world of digital information and worldwide connectivity," she says. "I felt this was going to change everything for public libraries and I wanted to be a part of that change."

Upon graduation in 1998 with her MILS, Kay joined the Flint Public Library as its Cybrarian. In that role, she oversaw the Library's computer training program and worked with both youth and seniors to introduce them to technology. Later, she became Manager of Technical Services and then Director of Library Services.

What is the greatest challenge for public libraries today? "Staying relevant to their communities. Libraries must create new services that align closely with community needs and they also must be nimble enough to change direction in a heartbeat," says Kay. "Another challenge is managing resources carefully - almost every public library is working today with serious resource limitations."

The Library's new vision, adopted in 2015, is to be Flint's "go to" place for learning across the lifespan. Kay is eager to continue the transformation of Flint Public Library into a 21st century learning center. Guiding Flint Public Library toward realizing this vision is exactly the work she set out to do when she decided to become a librarian.

Kay serves on the Michigan Library Association Board of Directors and the Advisory Council of the Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative. She is a charter member and past President of the Rotary Club of Greater Flint Sunrise, a member of Temple Beth El, and previously served on several community boards.