



a world class African city

City of Johannesburg

Library and Information Services

The City of Johannesburg (CoJ) Library and Information Services aims to provide accessible, world-class library services that foster a culture of reading, promote literacy and lifelong learning, and encourage digital inclusion for all the City's residents.

Vision Statement

The Library's vision is aligned with the city's **GDS 2040** (Growth and Development Strategy) to be a "**World-Class African City**", providing world-class library and information services that are accessible to all, with a modern approach focused on "**Library @ your Palm**" through digital transformation:

- Becoming community-centred smart hubs that use technology to bridge the digital divide.
- Providing a network of vibrant library spaces that are the "spaces of choice" for knowledge, learning, and recreation.
- Ensuring all citizens are literate to meet the skills needed of a modern economy.

Mission Statement

The mission focuses on promoting a **reading culture** and **lifelong learning** and providing free, equitable access to information. Key pillars include:

- **Reading Culture:** Developing and promoting a strong culture of reading through community and schools programmes and storytelling.
- **Digital Inclusion:** Providing free internet access through Free Wi-Fi, free electronic resources (online newspapers, journals, magazines, books, etc.), eLearning classrooms, and digital literacy training.
- **Social Inclusion:** Addressing inequalities by improving access for poor and vulnerable households, specifically focusing on women and children.
- **Educational Support:** Assisting students with study spaces, research support, and career development services.

Strategic Objectives

- **Collection Management:** Maintaining and developing a vast collection of over a million books and eBooks, including specialist African studies, visual and performing arts collections.
- **Safe Spaces:** Providing safe hubs for learning, studying, and community interaction.
- **Service Excellence:** Contributing to the City's motto of "**Service with Pride**" by being responsive to local community needs.