



125 S. Prospect Avenue, Elmhurst, IL 60126-3298  
(630) 279-8696 • Fax (630) 516-1364 • [www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org](http://www.elmhurstpubliclibrary.org)

## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Information:

Cheryl Moore, public information coordinator

Office: (630) 279-8689 ext. 306

Fax: (630) 516-1364

E-mail: [cheryl.moore@elmhurst.org](mailto:cheryl.moore@elmhurst.org)

### **Elmhurst Public Library Ranked 5th Nationally, 1st in Illinois**

ELMHURST, IL — Elmhurst Public Library has been named one of the top five public libraries in its category nationwide according to the 2008 Hennen's American Public Library Rating (HAPLR™) Index.

This is the fourth year in a row the library has been nationally ranked in the top ten by the HAPLR™ Index. The library was compared to 928 other public libraries across the country with similar populations and was ranked in the 99th percentile. In Illinois, EPL is the top-rated library of the 67 in its category. In 2006 and 2007, the library was nationally ranked sixth and ninth, respectively.

The Index focuses on 15 factors, including circulation, staffing, materials, reference service and funding levels. HAPLR™ identifies the public libraries in America with the highest input and output measures. The HAPLR Index uses six input and nine output measures. Scores for each library within a population category are added to develop a weighted score. The population categories change at 1,000, 2,500, 5,000, 10,000, 25,000, 50,000, 100,000, 250,000, and 500,000 residents. Elmhurst is in the 25,000-50,000 population category. The HAPLR Index is similar to an ACT or SAT score with a theoretical minimum of 1 and a maximum of 1,000, although most libraries score between 260 and 730. EPL earned an astonishing score of 896.

For more information, visit <http://www.haplr-index.com>.

The Elmhurst Public Library strives to enrich life in Elmhurst by providing opportunities to explore, learn and grow. The Library provides the support and resources for Elmhurst residents to develop a love of reading; access information for work and learning; pursue interests that will enrich their lives; understand changes in technology, society and culture; and gather and interact with each other. Elmhurst Public Library is a place for discovery at the heart of the community.

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