THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Library are unflagging supporters who make sure the Library is strong, relevant and well-funded. They extend the Library’s capacity when it’s needed most through grants, volunteers, program support and through advocacy. Their tangible support helps leverage grant funding from many other sources, too. The Friends fall and spring book sale events totaled $285,329.82. Here are some of the things the Friends provided in 2017-2018 through $211,640 in gifts and grants:

- Grant to purchase 24-hour Library Express West (opened 2019)
- Big Read authors Emily St. John Mandel and John Barry (partial funding)
- Summer Reading Program entertainers
- Cider Sessions at Midtown — Emily Higgins, Steve Ames, Shannon Stine
- Geezerfest and 29 more free music concerts
- Springfield Symphony Brass Quintet in "Holiday Horns"
- Dementia Inclusive Creative Art Workshop
- Library Station 15-year Birthday Bash
- Teen Disc Jockey Workshop with DJ Imperial
- Melinda Mullins concert, songs of her father, songwriter Johnny Mullins
- Missouri Over There, World War I exhibit, supplemental funding
- Maurice Sendak Memorial Exhibition grant for fall 2020 exhibit
- Author Varian Johnson visit
- Afternoon of Anime art and Japanese language lesson

The Friends of the Library fall 2017 and spring 2018 book sales supported many Library extras that patrons enjoyed all year.

National author Varian Johnson, of the “Jackson Greene” middle-grade series, gave a hands-on workshop for youth and adults.

2017-2018 FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

Carol Grimes, President
Shirley Lawler, Vice President
Bill Kastler, Treasurer
Joyce Kastler, Director
Pat Marsh, Secretary
Andrea Still, Membership
Pat Woodward, Membership
THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Library Foundation, established in 1993, promotes charitable giving to the Library and invests funds to support a strong and innovative Springfield-Greene County Library District.

These were some of the Foundation-led activities:

• The Laton Endowment Fund was created with $537,673 through an estate gift of longtime patron and supporter Ursala Maria Laton. The Foundation invested the unrestricted fund with the Community Foundation of the Ozarks to provide yearly income for Library operational expenses.

• Donors, patrons and staff raised $18,210 in February’s Library Love Challenge through private gifts and a challenge gift of $5,000 from the Community Foundation for the Laton Endowment.

• The Foundation helped fund a March visit by Newbery Honor Medalist Kimberly Brubaker Bradley, who thrilled children and adults at the Library Center during her talk about “The War That Saved My Life,” and its sequel, “The War I Finally Won.”

• Some children can’t get to a library in the summer so we bring the library to them, in places like the Salvation Army. The Library Foundation purchased new books for kids to take home as a reward for participating in the Summer Reading Program. This was made possible through a $4,500 Community Foundation of the Ozarks Video Challenge Grant.

• The Library Foundation received a PBS grant for the Library to join KSMU and Ozarks Public Television to host The Great American Read.

A $4,500 video contest prize from Community Foundation of the Ozarks is buying books for children in underserved areas who complete the Summer Reading Program.

2017-2018 LIBRARY FOUNDATION BOARD
Joselyn Baldner
Teresa Blair
Terry Breazeale
Laurie Edmondson
Melissa Haddow
Molly Holtmann
Bruce Robison
Richard Russell
Julia Schreiber
Karen Shannon
Faye Sturhahn
Julie Viorel

Ex-Officio
Regina Greer Cooper, Library District Executive Director
Ashley Norgard, Board of Trustees member
Carol Grimes, Friends of the Library President
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

THE LIBRARY ONCE AGAIN has had a very busy year providing services throughout the District. Take a look at some of the things that have happened this past year and you will be amazed at what has been accomplished with our staff, our partners and our funders. Hopefully, you have had a chance to take advantage of the many resources made available this year. If not, it’s never too late to get a library card, which will open up a world of opportunity. Join us at The Library.

— REGINA GREEN COOPER

The Library won first place in the nonprofit division during Springfield’s Downtown Christmas Parade. The float was titled “Find Your Story @ The Library.”

An Oh! The Horror series tapped into our fascination with the scary side of literature and folklore, featuring authors Michael and David Frizell — “The Bloody Benders: Horror at the Devil’s Inn”; Grady Hendrix — “Paperbacks from Hell: The Twisted History of ’70s and ’80s Horror Fiction” — and talks on legends and hauntings.

Nearly 200 fans of Newbery honor Medalist Kimberly Brubaker Bradley filled the Library Center auditorium to hear her talk about her books “The War That Saved My Life,” and “The War I Finally Won.”

The Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale Oct. 18–22 at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds E*Plex hit $143,264.64 in sales of used paperbacks, hardbacks, CDs, DVDs, audiobooks and more.

The Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale sold over 2,000 items.

The Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale at the Springfield Library Center, Oct. 22. The Friends of the Library celebrated its third-highest sales total in its book sale history — $142,065.18 — after its 2018 Spring Book Sale at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds E*Plex. Among the shoppers was Carmel Fink, who chose to celebrate her 91st birthday on April 29 by going to the sale’s Bag Day.

The Library Station, the library’s downtown branch, celebrated its 10-year anniversary in April 2018.
2017-2018
LIBRARY BOARD
OF TRUSTEES

Michele Risdal-Barnes, President
Steven Ehase, Vice President
Ashley Norgard, Secretary
Derek Fraley, Treasurer
William Garvin
Andrea McKinney
Catherine Moore
Matthew Simpson
Cindy Waites

2017-2018 BY THE NUMBERS

3,249,723 Items checked out
1,934,371 Visitors
1,407,575 Website views
391,028 Books and materials in collection
131,377 Audiovisual items in collection
268,760 Checkouts of digital media: e-books, audiobooks, videos and music on OverDrive and Hoopla
6,414 Total number of programs
128,922 Total attended library programs
98,858 Attended children’s programs
139,589 Reference questions answered
95,969 Card holders
26,201 Meeting room reservations (public)
11,334 Volunteer hours

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Springfield-Greene County Library District is to improve and enrich the lives of our users through information, education and recreation. The Library values the citizens of Greene County and responds to their needs by providing clean and inviting buildings, well-organized and up-to-date collections, friendly professional service and well-trained staff who are committed to the Library vision.

TOTAL REVENUE & OPERATING RESERVE CARRY-FORWARD $14,738,130

Taxes ........................................... $13,025,354
Overdue Fines and Fees..................... $232,426
Grants/Contributions/State Aid .......... $513,770
Service Fees................................ $299,591
Miscellaneous Income and Interest ..... $616,986
Operating Reserve Carry-Forward ...... $50,003

TOTAL EXPENDITURES......... $14,738,130

Salaries and Benefits........................ $8,464,773
Library Materials ............................. $2,276,921
Other Operating Expenses .............. $1,301,175
Facilities ..................................... $698,647
Equipment and Capital Improvements ........................................................................... $494,772
Debt Service ................................ $390,050
Professional Services and Misc. Expenses ......................................................................... $1,111,792