

Connection. Collaboration. Creativity.

GOOD NEWS: A letter from the WPLF



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People Make the Difference

In 2021, 502 people gave \$737,000 to fund Library programs and services. Four people promised \$700,000 to the WPLF in their estates. Fifteen Foundation Board of Directors donated their time, treasure and talent. Three volunteers helped create content and edit collateral materials. Two staff members worked to fulfill the mission of the WPLF.

When reporting outcomes, numbers are often used, but the people behind the numbers make the difference. People like you! If you are reading this newsletter, you likely are one of the people who have made a difference in the quality and quantity of Library collections, services, and programs. Thank you for that and thank you for being one of the people who have created a Stronger Library for a Stronger Wichita.

Become a Friends Advocate

The Friends of the Wichita Public Library's mission focuses on advocacy for the Library, encouraging community members to support programs and literacy objectives through advocacy partnerships. For only \$25, you can become a Gold Level advocate and receive such benefits as previews to book sales, a grace period of three calendar days on the return of Library materials, and a gift certificate to shop in the Friends Used Bookstore at the Advanced Learning Library. To join as an advocate, visit wichitalibraryfriends.org.

Did You Know?

You can participate in Dillons' Community Rewards program and support the Library every time you shop. Sign up at www.dillons.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow.

Branch Library Updates



Stop by the Evergreen Community Center and Library and view the progress on the stunning artwork for the Library. A grand opening will be held in April.

The Alford Regional Library will begin issuing passports as an official distribution center in March. The branch worked throughout 2021 to be trained and get logistics in place. We look forward to serving South Wichita with this new service.

Library Programs

The Library continues to adapt to keep customers safe and engaged. Your financial support of the WPLF makes these programs possible:

Big Read Shorts: A Film Series Inspired by “The House on Mango Street,” March 4-8, online, curated by mama.film, presented in partnership with Wichita Public Library and Fishtrap. Short films explore such subjects as identity and belonging, othering and the immigrant experience, generational divide, responsibility, gender, family, faith, and home. Their main characters add depth and perspective to the story and life of Esperanza Cordero, the book’s protagonist. Register to receive the link.

You can also sign up to join the Live Filmmaker Q&A, March 5, 5 p.m. CST. Filmmaker Q&A will be added to the videos available on Vimeo following the program.

Senior Wednesday: Somos de Wichita, March 9, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Advanced Learning Library. Learn about the history of Wichita’s Hispanic and Latinx community from Dr. Enrique Navarro, WSU associate professor of Spanish. Co-curator of the Somos de Wichita digital exhibit, Dr. Navarro will address themes in the Big Read Wichita selection “The House on Mango Street” and connect them to our own community’s past when families from Mexico and Latin America settled in Wichita during the 1910s and 1920s. Dr. Navarro will discuss their experiences and help us learn how Sandra Cisneros’ novella intersects with our own local history.

More Big Read events at www.wichitalibrary.org/bigread/pages/events.aspx.

Storywalk Around Angelou, March 12, 1-5:30 p.m., Angelou Northeast Branch. Take a stroll around the Angelou Branch Library and discover stories that inspire hearts and minds. For ages 2-6.

Academy Award Shorts All Day Screening, March 19, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Advanced Learning Library. Watch the films nominated for best short film in the categories of Animated, Live Action, and Documentary. Each film is 40 minutes or less and may not be suitable for all audiences.

Visit wichitalibrary.org/events **for more programs and information.**

Farewell Cambry Gossett

For two years, Cambry has served the WPLF as Development Associate. The title doesn’t begin to encompass all Cambry helped achieve during her tenure at WPLF. Wonder Woman would more appropriately describe her talents. Cambry worked tirelessly to help take the WPLF to a new level of professionalism and increased fundraising. The word “no” is not in her vocabulary. Cambry is a problem solver extraordinaire and created solutions to complex issues. Please join me in thanking Cambry for her service and wishing her and her husband, Elliott, well as they begin a new life in Dayton, Ohio.

Wichita Public Library Foundation

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