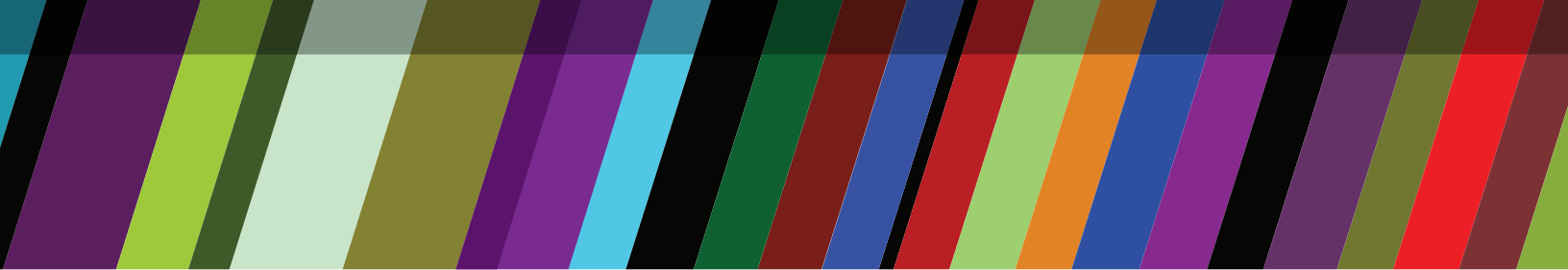




# *CONNECTION*

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



# Inside This Report

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# From Denver Public Library Leadership

Dear Library Community,

Welcome to the 2024 Annual Report - a record of the progress we made throughout the calendar year. The Denver Public Library had a lot to celebrate in 2024. As we look back on all the ways we fostered community, I want to thank you for continuing to connect with us and support us.

To make our organization more nimble and responsive to changes in our community's needs, we implemented a new leadership structure and welcomed new executive leaders to the team. Valencia Culbreath, Chief Equity and Strategy Officer, Theresa Liguori, Chief Public Services Officer, and Natriece Bryant, Chief Operations Officer, joined us at the beginning of the year and spent 2024 getting to know the Denver Public Library, making changes that have benefited the services we provide and quickly impacted our people and processes.

In November, we were able to fully reopen Central Library to the public after a multi-year, multimillion dollar renovation. Thousands of community members joined us throughout the day to experience a joyful celebration filled with performances. We also made progress on more bond funded renovations throughout the system.

2024 also marked our second year of implementation of Strong Library, Strong Denver, supported by the DPL Fund. We continued to enhance our library spaces, expand our collection, increase the number of library staff, and undertake additional measures to ensure the public is connected with our spaces and services. You'll find more details throughout the following pages.

With all of this incredible progress, there is one bittersweet note. As you may be aware, after 23 years of service, including 10 years as your City Librarian, I am embarking on my next chapter. This will be my last annual report, and I am turning the page at such a high point. Please know that I will continue to be DPL's biggest fan and supporter.

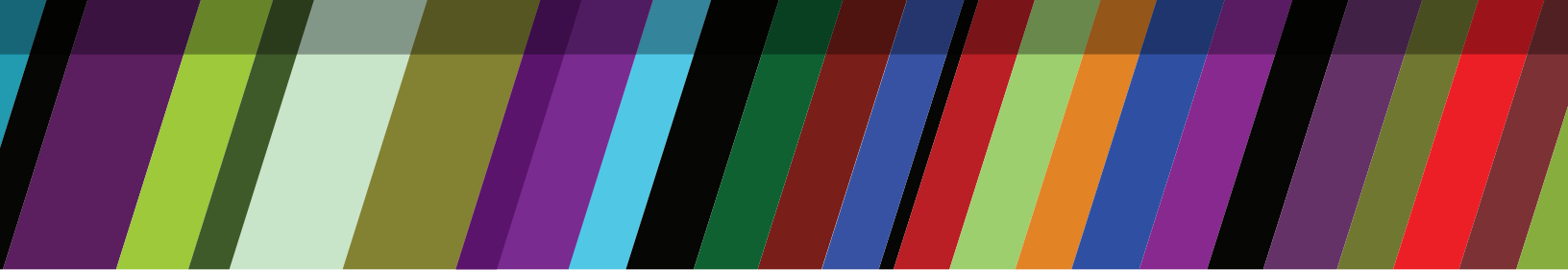
Sincerely,



Michelle Jeske  
City Librarian and Executive Director



Sonya Ulibarri  
President, Denver Public Library Commission



## VISION

A strong community where everyone thrives.

## MISSION

Together, we create welcoming spaces where all are free to explore and connect.

## VALUES

**Welcoming:** We make our resources, services, and expertise accessible for all, recognize the inherent dignity in each person, and provide safe places where everyone can be themselves.

**Curiosity:** We foster a culture of exploration, innovation, and forward thinking by creating environments that support learning and growth.

**Connection:** We are neighbors. We foster relationships, listen, and act to build and strengthen our community. We bring people together to share information, ideas, and experiences.

**Equity:** We work to change inequitable practices, structures, policies, and attitudes that drive them, to provide opportunities for every person in our community to thrive. As we do so, we actively examine our roles in perpetuating oppressive systems.

**Stewardship:** We are accountable to our community, using our resources responsibly. We lead with honesty and integrity, protect privacy, and preserve and share the full history of our Denver community.

## Library Commission

President, Sonya Ulibarri

Vice President, Laurie Mathews

Secretary, Patty Salazar

Cathy Lucas

Michael Niyompong

Cedric Buchanon

Sean Montoya

Jennifer Wolf

## Executive Leadership Team

City Librarian & Executive Director, Michelle Jeske

Chief Public Services Officer, Theresa Liguori

Chief Strategy and Equity Officer, Valencia Culbreath

Chief Operations Officer, Natriece Bryant



## Impact

**2,553,746**

visits across all DPL locations

**4,622,621**

views of [Denverlibrary.org](#), [history.denverlibrary.org](#), and [summerofadventure.org](#)

**8,695,807**

total circulated materials  
4,191,877 Physical, 4,503,930 Digital

**213,874**

people attended 9,180 programs

## Volunteerism

**Denver Public Library**

**240**

volunteers

**12,000**

total service hours

**Friends Foundation**

**206**

volunteers

**4,645**

total service hours

# Denver Public Library Financials

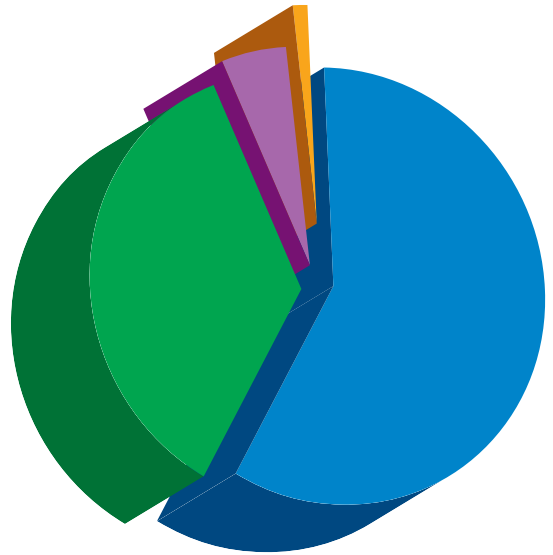
## REVENUE \$103,313,458.54

City General Funds \$60,833,690.75 (59%)

Property Tax - DPL Fund \$37,279,716.83 (36%)

Donations, Transfers, Misc \$4,818,205.37 (5%)

Grants - State & Federal \$381,845.59 (0.4%)



## EXPENDITURES \$90,951,861.47

Staff Salaries & Expenditures \$62,603,668.75 (69%)

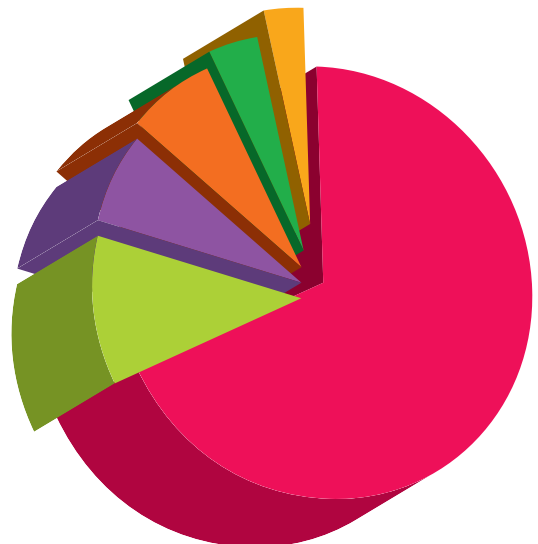
Library Materials \$9,853,079.26 (11%)

Capital Improvements \$6,580,461.00 (7%)

Library Programs \$6,129,352.72 (7%)

Administration & Other \$3,210,050.83 (4%)

Technology \$2,575,248.91 (3%)



# Friends Foundation Financials

## Statement of Financial Position

**\$11,331,118**

**Total Assets**

Cash & Cash Equivalents: **\$1,490,430**

Pledges Receivable: **\$127,355**

Endowment: **\$9,713,333**

**\$11,331,118**

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets**

Liabilities: **\$71,878**

Net Assets with Donor Restrictions: **\$9,187,147**

without Donor Restrictions: **\$2,072,093**

## Statement of Activities

**\$2,430,476**

**Total Revenue**

Contributions & Support: **\$1,761,599**

Events & Book Sales: **\$467,754**

Memberships: **\$146,545**

Donated Services & Facilities: **\$54,578**

**\$2,979,487**

**Total Expenses**

Distributions to the Library for Programs: **\$1,857,553**

Distributions for Central Renovations: **\$8,838**

Other Library Program Assistance: **\$194,333**

Supporting Services: **\$918,763**

## 2024 Distributions to Denver Public Library

**\$2,060,724**

Total distributions  
to and on behalf of DPL

Collection Development: **\$449,088**

Special Collections & Archives: **\$954,717**

Branch Support: **\$186,378**

Library Program Support: **\$155,452**

Advocacy: **\$120,756**

Other Library Support: **\$194,333**

**14,241**

books donated to the community

*Total Revenue is exclusive of a \$1,027,875 increase in investment value.*

*All Foundation financial information is derived from the audited financial statements, which are available, along with the 990, at [dplfriends.org](https://dplfriends.org).*



## From Denver Public Library Friends Foundation Leadership

Dear Library Supporters,

As we reflect on 2024, we're filled with deep gratitude. It's been a year of growth, celebration, and—most importantly—connection. We welcomed donors and supporters back into the Central Library for sneak peek tours and heard directly from the architects and renovation team about the thoughtful redesign of new spaces, including event areas, children's and teen zones, and an inviting Great Hall.

Together, we strengthened ties between the Library and the community through generous giving, meaningful events, and a shared belief in the Library's mission. From the Central Library reopening to one of our most successful Booklovers Balls yet, each moment reinforced the Library's critical role in connecting people of all ages.

The Friends Foundation proudly provided \$2.06 million in support of library operations, collections, programs, and services. This included Youth Services, Older Adult programming, eBooks, Spanish-language collections, Read-Aloud, Mobile Services, Author Events, Branch Renovations, and the planning for the outdoor playspace design. Hundreds of donors and volunteers made this work possible, and we celebrated them at events big and small. We also continued our advocacy work to ensure strong and sustained public investment in the Library.

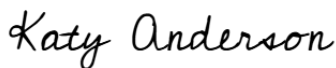
At the end of 2024, we marked a successful leadership transition. Laurie Troge completed her term as Board Chair, and Jeff Riley retired after six years as Executive Director. In 2025, Ron Tomassi became our new Board Chair, and after a competitive search, the board selected Katy Anderson as our new Executive Director.

Thank you for making 2024 a success. Your support helps build a stronger, healthier community. We're honored to partner with you and look forward to all we'll accomplish together.

With appreciation for the past and excitement for the future,



Jeff Riley  
*Executive Director, 2024*



Katy Anderson  
*Executive Director, 2025*



Laurie Troge  
*Chair, Board of Trustees, 2024*



Ron Tomassi  
*Chair, Board of Trustees, 2025*



# Denver Public Library Friends Foundation



The Denver Public Library Friends Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization whose mission is to enrich the community by building support and raising money to enhance the library's programs and services. The Friends Foundation seeks private charitable contributions to supplement the library's budget; and it advocates for public funding to help the library accomplish its mission. The core activities of the Foundation are: fundraising; membership; book and merchandise sales; the Booklovers Ball and community events; promotion and elevation of the library; advocacy; and, managing the endowment.

## Staff

Executive Director, Jeff Riley

Chief Philanthropy Officer, Katy Anderson

Director of Finance and Operations,  
Pam Jewett

Director of Philanthropy – Corporate Giving  
and Special Events, Liz Guillebaud

Director of Marketing and Communications,  
Lillie Lamm

Manager of Philanthropy - Database and  
Annual Giving, Monica Yori Peritt

Philanthropy Specialist, Cara Fulmor

Manager of Philanthropy – Used Book Sales,  
Andrea Hamilton

Book Operations Assistant, Marley Bogan

## Board of Trustees

Laurie Troge

Judy Allender

Stefan Beck

Andy Bishop

Joe Bochenek

Deb Brackney

Kim Burkhardt

Julie Davis

Alton Dillard

April Lambatos

Akash Madiha

Chris Ottele

Lawson Parker

Danielle Reubenstein

Jayne Ritchie

Andi Rugg

Byeongsook Seo

Ron Tomassi

Lisa Vela

# Public Relishes in Exploring Central

After a four-year renovation, the Central Library reopened to the public with much fanfare on November 4, 2024. Nearly 4,000 visitors accepted the invitation to “Explore Central” on opening day. Visitors got to experience the ~\$60 million renovation, featuring a new and improved Schlessman Hall, a relocated Red Chair Bookshop, a new Teen Library, a new and reimagined Children’s Library, and much more.

Central Library officially reopened its doors to the public at 11 a.m., with performances by Colorado Youth Mariachi and the Denver Nuggets Skyline Drumline welcoming customers back into the building. The day kicked off with a celebratory program and ribbon-cutting ceremony, featuring Mayor Mike Johnston, Senator John Hickenlooper, and members of the library’s leadership in the new Park View event space. Entertainment continued throughout the day.

The Central Library renovation was funded through the voter-approved 2017 Elevate Denver Bond, Strong Library, Strong Denver, supported by the DPL Fund, a Community Project Funding Grant through HUD, which is secured through the Congressionally Directed Spending process, and via private fundraising through the Denver Public Library Friends Foundation.





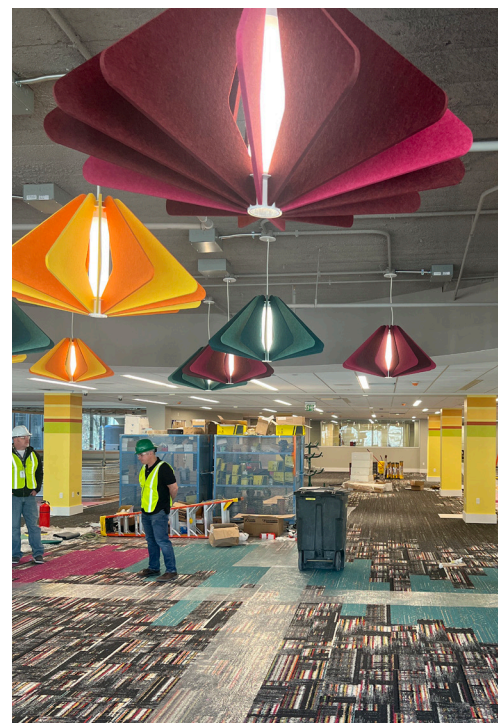
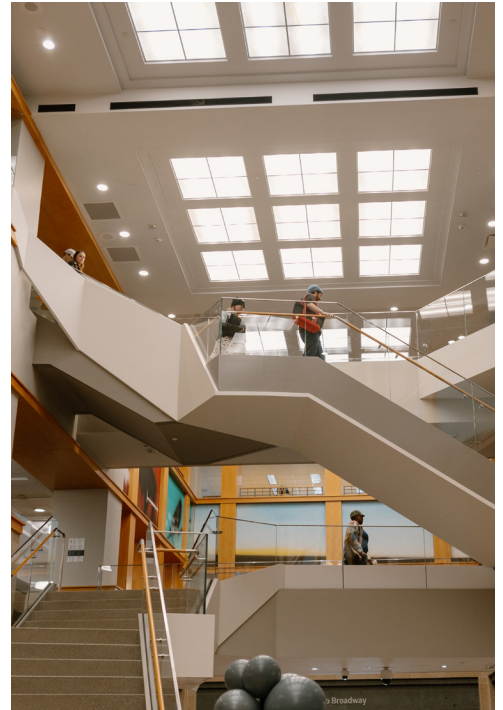
# Central Library Renovation Highlights



- Renovated public restrooms on every floor
- Updated Schlessman Hall, including a new grand staircase
- New second-floor Teen Library
- Relocated and reimagined Children's Library
- New public meeting and study rooms
- New and expanded Red Chair Bookshop
- New Park View event space

## Central Library Renovation By The Numbers

- 15 new study and community spaces added
- The new Children's library is roughly the size of more than 30 school buses.
- To create the two-story Park View event space, flooring roughly the size of a basketball court was removed from the second level.
- Park View is designed with over 60,000 sound-dampening holes in the wall and ceiling materials
- 8 interactive shelving units installed in the Children's Library
- A quarter of a million materials were shifted across the building during the renovation
- Removal of the escalator resulted in metal scraps weighing about as much as 10 elephants
- Grand Staircase is estimated to be as tall as a stack of about 250 books





# Central Library Renovation Highlights



## Central Library Grand Reopening Celebration By The Numbers

- 3,932 visitors
- 2,241 circulation
- 201 new library cards
- 172 PC Usage Sessions (Doubled the average amount from 2023)

## Public Reaction to Central Library Improvements

- "It's absolutely beautiful...We love the new kids' section!"
- "It feels fresh and modern! It just feels like a place where the community can really come together and be united with our love of books and learning."
- "I'm shocked by all the different things they have here."
- "[The renovations] make me want to come here every day to do homework and study..."
- "There's so much room that it has so many beautiful things in it... I want to come and sit and work on art and just [meet] people..."
- "Thank you, Denver voters! Thank you, library staff, for making this dream a reality!"





## *Strong Library, Strong Denver Connects Community*

We're grateful to Denver voters for passing Measure 2i in November 2022, which supports the library and provides DPL with an additional ~\$32 million dollars per year. Updates about how DPL is utilizing this funding can be found under the name Strong Library, Strong Denver, supported by the DPL Fund.

This funding has enabled the library to more fully meet the evolving needs of the community by providing resources that connect the community with our spaces, technology, neighbors, and local resources.

One of our services, funded by *Strong Library, Strong Denver*, supported by the DPL Fund, is Digital Navigators, which connects the community with technology. DPL's digital navigator team provides individualized assistance to community members in targeted areas who need affordable home internet service, affordable internet-capable devices, and/or coaching in introductory digital skills to become effective home internet users. They achieve this by building relationships based on trust with customers and working with them over multiple sessions to help them reach their personal technology-related goals.

Digital Navigators conducted a total of 814 individual appointments in 2024 at 20 different locations. In 2014, the program had 118 repeat appointment attendees (folks who came to two or more sessions).

### **STRONG LIBRARY, STRONG DENVER**

**supported by the DPL Fund by the Numbers**

**271,407** logins on NYTimes across News, Games, Cooking, Sports

**278,515** songs streamed on Freegal+

**2** branch renovation budgets supplemented with SLSD

**9** branch refreshes funded by SLSD



# Connecting with People Wherever They Are

Friends Feature: Lisa Eller Davis

For Lisa Eller Davis, the Denver Public Library has always been more than a place to borrow books—it has been a steady and inspiring presence throughout her life. From her early days walking to the University Hills Branch as a child to check out the three books she was allowed at a time, to the awe she felt in high school when Central librarians would pull together stacks of research for her papers, Lisa's connection to the library runs deep.



In 2023, that connection deepened even further when she received an email about the library's Mobile Services program. "Of all the institutions in this city, I have found that the library is the one meeting people where they are," Lisa said. "I want to be part of passing that on." She responded to that email by choosing to support Mobile Services and the eBook collection—both vital tools for expanding access to those who might not otherwise find their way to a library branch.

"To me, Mobile Services is a gateway," she explained. "It introduces people to the library who might not know anything about it, and once they're in, they begin to discover all the ways it can serve them." Whether through a bookmobile, a digital download, or a creative Zoom class like the ones she's taken through the library herself, Lisa sees accessibility as a foundation for equity and community.

Lisa has experienced firsthand how the library can be a lifeline—through grief, through growth, and through new creative chapters. After her mother died, the Central Library staff seamlessly helped her donate 63 boxes of her mom's books, a quiet yet profound gesture of connection during a difficult time. In recent years, she's explored new passions through library art programs, book discussions, and even the library's All Seasons Choir.

"The library is a lifeline," she said. "There is so much the library offers that has nothing to do with reading—it nurtures creativity, builds community, and serves people in ways no other institution does or can."

From a frequent donor to a champion for access, Lisa's generosity reflects her lifelong belief in the library as a place that meets everyone, exactly where they are.



# Tribute Gifts

Tributes are donations made in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend.

Rachel & Kevin Averch in memory of Mick Abegg	and Henry Bourne's 14th Wedding Anniversary	Lisa Damour Melly & Ray Kinnard Kristin Ryan	Eyerman Daniel Feldman in memory of Leon Feldman
Jeanne Crane in memory of Judith Aiken	Susan Burkhardt & David Mc Ilhenny in honor of Steve & Kim Burkhardt	Caroline Turner Mark Tomasko Melinda Heinritz in honor of Henry Daub	Janis & Richard Ferrell in memory of Gary Ferrell
Donald Yale & Jody Epstein-Yale in honor of Ted Alpert's 80th birthday	Hilary Carlson in honor of Ruth Burnham	Melinda Miller in memory of Christopher Diebold	Jane Rehmke in honor of the Fields Family
Robin Filipczak in memory of Shirley Amore	Carolyn Chafee-Howard in memory of Ann Chafee	Territorial Daughters of Colorado Denver Chapters in memory of Eileen Dowling	Stevie Wydra in honor of Patty Figel
Robin Filipczak in honor of Kathryn Anderson	Louanne Haines in memory of Janel Clough	John Ducker in memory of Jaren Ducker	Donald & Liza Kirkpatrick in honor of Maryanne Flynn
Janette Benson in honor of the Benson Holocaust Memorial Fund	Territorial Daughters of Colorado Denver Chapters in memory of Maureen Corcorren	Virginia Hammond in memory of Sue Schlessman Duncan	Karen Lohss in honor of Leonie & Sylvie Frank
Beth B. Warren in honor of Mike Boulden	Maria Creavin & William Plaus in honor of Stephen Creavin	Rivka Yerushalmi in honor of Shirley Epstein	Meredith Gabow in memory of Jack & Sulamit Lisa Gabow "Team Gabow"
Alisa & Henry C Bourne III in honor of Alisa	In honor of Sue & Tim Damour	Fred Eyerman in memory of Carol	Alan Gass in memory of Sally Rae Speken Gass

"A longtime customer, Alice, enjoys hosting Summer driveway concerts for her block since COVID-19 started. Word around the neighborhood is that the library has booked great performers, so Alice wrote to me today and said, 'One of my neighbors suggested a husband and wife duo they heard at the library,' and I was delighted to connect them to Gracie and Blue, Inc. — a neighborhood treasure and devoted library customers. Connecting to our communities, and helping our communities connect to one another, is one of the best aspects of our events." - Park Hill Branch Library

**Connecting with  
Community**



"Dear Ms. Val and team, I just wanted to say thank you for the incredible helpful storytime you put on at your library. When I took my twins there, I was, first of all, relieved to have a fun activity for them to do that didn't depend on me! But secondly, I learned so much about teaching them! So many great songs that taught them things like counting, rhythm and rhyme; techniques for preparing them to read, like making predictions and learning individual letters; and even fun ways to get them to get their energy out and then sit still. Thank you, thank you, thank you for putting together such fun, educational programming for my kids and me!" - Schlessman Family Branch Library

## Connecting with Literacy



Joan & Jim Kroll in  
memory of James  
Gehres  
Gayle Wilson in honor  
of Barbara Gillette's  
96th birthday  
Jan & Skip Gray in  
memory of Juanita  
Ross Gray  
Tami Murphy in  
memory of Steven  
Dick Greenwood  
Jessica Fuller in honor  
of Zach Hainline  
Andrea Hamilton in  
memory of Ronald  
Hamilton  
Sue & Tim Damour  
in memory of Walter  
Hammons  
In memory of Maureen  
Gorman Hong  
Kimber-Lynne Conger  
Karen Gilliat  
Helga Hong  
Margaret Kaluk  
M Littman  
Scot Schaeffer

Joanne Sifcik  
Liz & Peter Willert  
Alan & Jean Yamashita  
Michael Hosokawa  
in honor of William  
Hosokawa  
Lisa Houlihan in  
memory of Cynthia  
Houlihan  
Elizabeth Sparkman in  
honor of Fran Hughes  
In memory of Phyllis  
Jean Hughes  
Elizabeth Dillman  
Shirley Koralewski  
Sheran McCants  
Patty Figel in memory  
of Mona Imber  
Carol J. Ruckel in  
memory of Sally  
Isaacson  
In memory of James  
Jeffrey  
Susan Clasen  
Kaaren K. Hardy  
Joan & Jim Kroll  
Heather Jernberg &  
Robert Sarfi in

memory of John  
Jernberg  
Audrey Jarrard in  
memory of Meg  
Johnson  
Jennifer DeNoncourt in  
memory of Raymond  
Carl Jones  
In honor of Haley  
Jones' & John  
Millsap's Wedding  
Linda Burshiem  
Sabine Eid  
Esther Kletter in  
memory of David  
Kletter & Adina Shira  
Kletter  
Merry Pantaleo in  
memory of Rosemarie  
Koplin  
Michelle Koster in  
memory of Thelma  
Koster  
Carolyn Badalucco in  
honor of Alexander  
LaGonterie  
Lisa LaMunyon in  
memory of A.G.

LaMunyon  
Joan & Jim Kroll  
in honor of Martin  
Leithauser  
Charlie Eldridge in  
honor of Libby Marcus  
The Colorado Health  
Foundation in honor  
of Carlos Martinez  
Robin McGehee in  
memory of Virginia  
McGehee  
In memory of Sally  
Burch McLagan  
The Bufalino Family  
Evelyn McLagan  
Corrie Vaus  
JeanAnne Swope in  
honor of Jim Mechum  
Felicia Harmon in  
memory of Phyllis  
Andre Montanari  
Yue-Bo Jia in honor  
of Porter "Mac"  
Montgomery  
Robert Moody in  
memory of Maurine  
Moody



Tammy Mulligan in honor of Carol Mulligan  
 Stephanie Neid in memory of Darlene Neid  
 Ellen Fitzgerald in memory of Bob Nelson  
 David Newman in honor of Paula Newman  
 Elizabeth McNamara in honor of Carolyn & Bill O'Reilly  
 Philip Oswald in honor of Jonathan & Britney Oswald  
 In memory of Frances "Fran" Peterman  
 Pam Baukus  
 Al Brower  
 Mary Jane Davis  
 Jerry Gallegos  
 Barbara Haberman

Linda Houston  
 Linda Moore  
 Karen Padgett  
 Julie Seff  
 Jillian Slowinski  
 Syndeo Institute  
 Gerald Wallin  
 Linda Purcell & Billy Harris Jr. in memory of Ethel Purcell  
 Rosemary Cooke in memory of Kathleen Reilly  
 Morse Family Foundation in memory of A. Reynolds Morse  
 In honor of Jeff Riley  
 Sue & Tim Damour  
 Bruce Ducker  
 Jennifer Gasbarro  
 Pam Knepp  
 Joan & Jim Kroll  
 April & Anthony Lambatos  
 MaryBeth Lawson

Christina & Kevin McClelland  
 Brett Riley  
 Ray Merenstein & Ilana Steinberg  
 Pat Schwartz  
 Mary & George Sissel  
 Enid Slack  
 Daniel Tyler  
 Lauren & Ethan Watel  
 Diane Wunnicke  
 Joan & Jim Kroll in honor of James Rogers  
 Barry & Arlene Hirschfeld in honor of Todd Ruff  
 Dan Whitmore in honor of Charlton & Andi Rugg  
 Jane Scofield in memory of Sally Ryan  
 Don Meckley & Rose Parisi in memory of Karle Seydel

Marie Crist-Fulk in memory of Ellen Margaret Sickler  
 Jan Bernstein in honor of Ron Smith  
 In memory of Joyce Solomon  
 Eric Greene  
 Marcia & Will Johnson  
 Victoria Watkins & Caroline Garcia  
 Marilyn Starrett in honor of David Starrett  
 Sarah Tansley in memory of Melissa Stucky  
 Stephanie & Greg Thomas in honor of Tim Thomas  
 Estrella Gillette in memory of Tom Tippetts  
 Bob & Kathy Mannis in honor of Penny Trask

"During February, we featured displays and activities for both Black History Today and Lunar New Year trivia. A multigenerational family — appeared to be grandmother, adult son, and grandchild — came into the library. The child was so excited to do the Black History scavenger hunt and kept their sheet for the shared facts after claiming the completion prize, a pencil. ... When they turned in their completed trivia sheets, the family was delighted to receive red envelopes, also known as hongbao, and shared that they learned something new at the library that day, as they didn't know about Lunar New Year! As the family walked out of the branch, the young girl was delighted to discover the candy coins inside the red envelope." - Hampden Branch Library

## Connecting with Culture



Susan Bergmark in  
memory of Susan  
Scabrini Valas  
Gretchen Vaughn in  
memory of Glendel  
Vaughn  
Mary Franza in memory  
of Linda Vigor  
Matthew Kiefer in  
honor of Serena &  
Johnny Weber  
Marla Le Gourrierec in  
memory of Barbara &  
Gale Weeding  
Dan & Harovel Wheat  
in memory of Bernice  
Wheat  
In memory of Helen

Norton White  
Ann Bell  
Jennifer Boyle  
Lis & Jon Brown  
Tina Calicutt  
Caroline Heyer  
Vicki Jensen  
Lori Johnson  
Carla McConnell  
Meagan Puckett  
Carol & Michael Sarche  
Sarah Schow  
Laura Shamiyeh  
Martha Skinner  
Amy Staggs  
Brent Williams  
Jackie Winters  
Martin Okey in honor of

Julie Wielgo  
Steven Wilensky in  
honor of Lucia Leon  
Wilensky  
Alison Williams Helm  
in memory of Elana  
Williams  
Joan & Jim Kroll  
in honor of Tom  
Williamson  
Marjorie McRae in  
memory of Verlean  
Willis  
Melly & Ray Kinnard in  
honor of Susan  
Willson  
Maura Oneal in honor  
of Pam Wineman

Rebecca Ruvane in  
honor of Jack Winter  
In memory of James &  
Brooke Wunnicke  
In honor of Donald Yale  
& Jody Epstein  
Lee Alpert  
Robin Chotin  
Barry & Arlene  
Hirschfeld  
Joyce & Gary Pashel  
Karen & Mark Sather  
Karen & Robert Yudnich  
in honor of Nate  
Yudnich  
Mary Ann Krawchuk in  
memory of Bob Zinn

"I was working the desk at Virginia Village when I helped a customer who needed to get access to a computer and the internet. I placed them on the waitlist for the Chromebook and the hotspot and informed them about the Digital Navigator Program. ... She came to America a decade ago with nothing and used the Denver Public Library to get her citizenship, to study for her ACT WorkKeys test...to learn English, and to check out music CDs to help her relax. She used the Denver Public Library to access the materials that helped her land her job teaching Spanish at a Montessori school. She is a power user, a library lover and just an incredible lady. What a great way to start a Saturday. She is amazing!!!" - Virginia Village Branch Library

## Connecting with Technology



# Donations

"We recently added a record player, a set of vinyls and headphones to the teen area. A teen and their caregiver were looking at the records and record player. I helped them get it started, and then as I was walking away, I heard the caregiver tell their teen, 'Listen! This song was your Papa's favorite.' They continued to listen together while the caregiver showed their teen parts of the record player and shared some other songs and memories. It was wonderful to see this intergenerational bonding!" - Ross-University Hills Branch Library

## Connecting with Memories



### \$100,000+

Molly & Taylor  
Kirkpatrick  
Luff Family Fund of The  
Denver Foundation  
Schlessman Family  
Foundation

### \$25,000-99,000

GH Phipps  
Construction  
Companies  
Chambers Fund  
Sparkjoy Foundation  
Buell Foundation  
Interlock Construction  
Corp  
Singer Family  
Foundation

### \$10,000-24,999

Joanne & Richard  
Akeroyd  
Elizabeth & Evan  
Anderman

Anonymous  
Bardsley Foundation  
Ronald Berquist  
Linda & Wes Brown  
Marion, George, Peter  
and Tim Curtis  
Lisa Eller-Davis  
Sidney E. Frank  
Foundation  
Lulu Frankel-Weisberg  
Family Fund  
Alan Gass  
Greenberg Traurig LLP  
Allison & Jim Johnson  
Haley Jones  
Elizabeth & Michael  
King  
Susan & Paul Kotarba  
April & Anthony  
Lambatos  
Leon Cosgrove  
Jimenez LLP  
The Lillis Foundation  
Susan & Bruce  
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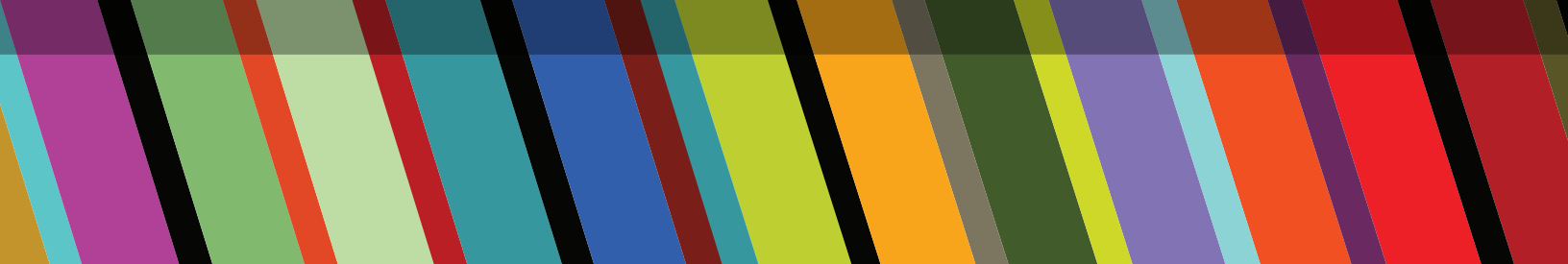
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“The best part of working at the library is providing resources and information to our customers. ...One customer, who didn’t know anything about the program, saw the printout. They took the information and applied. They came back and told me that they had gotten the tax credit and were very excited to get an e-bike. They said the e-bike would help with their health goals and lower the cost of gas and maintenance on their car. ...‘Yeah to e-bikes and the library.’ They thanked me that the library always provides resources and information about programs that they would not seek out themselves.” - Pauline Robinson Branch Library

#### **Connecting with Transportation**

”



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“At the 2024 Booklovers Ball, we watched a room full of people who believe in the power of libraries come together in support of something bigger than themselves. Held at the beautiful McNichols Civic Center Building and themed “Black and White and Read All Over,” the night was equal parts glamour and heart. Guests arrived in their finest black, white, and red attire, sipped cocktails under chandeliers, danced to live music and raised their paddles—all to support the Denver Public Library. ... The Ball raised critical funding for literacy programs, technology access, and cultural events across Denver. It was an unforgettable evening that proved how much this community values and believes in its library.” – DPL Friends Foundation Staff Member

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Philanthropy**





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We pay tribute to the memories of those who left generous bequests realized in 2024 to enrich the community through the Denver Public Library Friends Foundation:

Estate of Paul Aaker  
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Estate of Eleanor Gehres  
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With a charitable bequest, you can help guarantee the library's vitality for generations to come. For more information on creating a library legacy, contact [friends@dplfriends.org](mailto:friends@dplfriends.org).

We apologize for, and request forgiveness for any errors or omissions. If you would like your name listed differently in future publications, please call 720-865-2049.



\*Deceased listings are as of 3/15/2025 to the best of our knowledge.