

MID-YEAR IN REVIEW

LEWIS & CLARK LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Making a great library even better!

Library Remodel Plans Move Forward



Lewis & Clark Library's new logo combines the Library's past with a vision for the future.

Library Director

John Finn says, "We worked really hard to capture the library's rich history while looking forward to another century of service to the residents of Lewis and Clark County."

"Lewis & Clark Library prides itself on being open to new technologies, trends, and resources and this new logo encapsulates that. We will always strive to provide the best possible library services to our community."

The Library Board of Trustees, Library staff, and the Library's Construction Team have made great progress since the announcement of the Library's Next Chapter remodel plans in March. The Construction Team and staff have met for a design workshop which allowed staff to envision what the spaces could be used for after the remodel.

Since the project is all about improving program spaces, and the public's ease of use of the building, staff focused on those spaces that would have the highest impact on patrons. Those spaces continue to be the entry, café, and lobby areas, meeting rooms, quiet study rooms, the children's and teen spaces, and comfortable living room spaces.

Working closely with Mosaic Architecture and Design, the Construction Team is nearing the end of the design planning process and will most likely have a final design plan ready for renderings, 3D modelling, and Virtual Reality tours very soon.

In late April, Mosaic and the Construction Team took a very enlightening tour of the libraries of the Calgary Public Library System. The Team saw four libraries: two brand new buildings, one recently remodeled, and one in need of remodeling. The tour implanted some very important ideas about programs and use of space that hadn't been considered before the visit.

The project is still on schedule and still on budget. The Library, with the assistance of Mosaic will soon be hiring a General Contractor to begin helping to stage the project and finalize the budget figures. Interviews for a GC should take place at the end of May. November remains as the possible start date for the demolition and construction phases of the project.



OUR THANKS TO THE EMCEES AND READERS OF THE 2019 POETRY READING!
 Left to right: Bonnie Bowler, Dennis Taylor, Captain Rob Lawler, Trish Sternberg, Helen Fandrich, Riley Meredith, Hannah Musckiewicz, Loren Graham, Jill Roberts, Judge Jim Reynolds, Commissioner Ed Noonan, and Joe Furshong.

11th Annual

Community Leaders Poetry Reading

The Lewis & Clark Library Foundation celebrated National Poetry Month with the 11th Annual Community Leaders Poetry Reading on April 23, 2019. Like the art of poetry itself, the evening's content ran the gamut from humor to history, faith to doubt, life to death. The readers delivered engaging descriptions of their chosen pieces, and the audience enjoyed delicious desserts from the Helena High Culinary Arts Club. The evening was a wonderful celebration of leaders in our community and the poetry that inspires them.

The Lewis & Clark Library Foundation was established in 1978 to support the Lewis & Clark Library system, beyond what tax monies can provide. In these times of increasing demand for information in all formats, private support is critical to maintaining excellent library services. It is the goal of the Foundation Board of Directors, through the caring and generosity of like-minded citizens, to maintain long-term financial support for the public library.

Visit us online at:
www.lclibfoundation.org

The Lewis & Clark Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

Tax ID# 81-0419768



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2018-19 Annual Campaign Update

Between July 1, 2018 and April 30, 2019, our donors generously gave **\$75,349** to the Library Foundation. Our goal of \$50,000 was more than fulfilled thanks to a surprise gift in early April of \$32,000 from the estate of John Sauer. *Gifts of any amount are much appreciated!*

Donations are accepted year round and up to 30% of our total annual campaign revenue is invested in the Foundation's Permanent Endowment, currently valued at **\$888,666**.

After modest administrative expenses, all remaining funds are spent on public programs such as the annual BIG READ, books and educational materials, Dear Author prizes for school libraries, Edventure passes, and literary events. As part of our annual budgeting process, we invite library staff to brainstorm items or services to add to a Library Wish List, and the Foundation has thoughtfully granted these wishes for the past two years.

GREATER HELENA GIVES



Greater Helena Gives is an annual 24-hour fundraiser that brings dozens of local nonprofits together to raise awareness about their work and generate needed revenue.

At this year's event on May 3rd, the Foundation collected **\$1,615!** Thanks to everyone who contributed and thanks to our stalwart board members who staffed the "donor lounge" in the library lobby on a beautiful Friday afternoon: Art Butler, Babs Leaphart, Anne Pichette, Virginia Reeves, and our dedicated director, John Finn.

TRIBUTE GIFTS TO HONOR FAMILY & FRIENDS

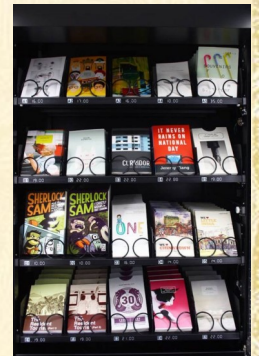
When you give to the Lewis & Clark Library Foundation, you may name a person, group of people, or organization you wish to honor or be remembered with your gift. If you wish, we will send an acknowledgement of your gift and will also list the honored/memorialized person in the Foundation's Annual Report.

PLANNING AHEAD FOR THE LIBRARY'S FUTURE

Call Library Director John Finn at (406) 447-6699 to learn how easy it is to make a planned gift that can make a big difference in our community. You can help ensure the lasting health and vitality of our county-wide public library resources for generations to come.

Book Vending Machine for PAL

A partnership between Lewis & Clark Library and PAL (Project for Alternative Learning), though outstanding, is nothing new. The newness rapidly changes, however, when you add a librarian's wish list, the creativity and generosity of the library's Foundation, and a book vending machine into the mix.



Teen Services Librarian Heather Dickerson works extensively with PAL students and educators both at the library and in the school. Over the course of this partnership, she has noticed that she sometimes hits barriers when helping students check out books from the library. Either students don't have a library card or they have fines preventing them from checking out books either for school or for leisure.

Determined to change PAL students' lack of accessibility to books, Dickerson saw the idea of a book vending machine and knew the school had to have one. She took the idea and an estimated budget for the project to the library's Foundation, who has always encouraged the local librarians to think big and create wish lists that help "make a great library even better." The foundation agreed and the planning began.

This unique vending machine—though anxiously awaiting installation—is just about what you're imagining it is. Rather than stocked with sweet and salty snacks or a cold beverage, it's filled with new books that will be partly selected by Dickerson, partly by PAL students, and completely free thanks to the Lewis & Clark Library Foundation. Rather than coins or bills, this vending machine will accept tokens earned by students for perfect attendance or other great works to be determined by PAL educators.

We at the Helena Public Schools are so grateful for our community partners, and we're excited not only for the book vending machine, but to see what big ideas come out of the Lewis & Clark Library Foundation next!

Our thanks to Michelle Skinner, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, for writing this thoughtful article that originally appeared on the Helena Public Schools website.



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Making a great library even better!