



2023



ANNUAL REPORT



MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
& Foundation





Nine locations throughout the City of Madison

### TOP 3 CHECKOUT LOCATIONS

Sequoia: **572,750** items

Pinney: **469,633** items

Central: **351,207** items

Lake Mendota



#### ALICIA ASHMAN LIBRARY

733 North High Point Road  
608.824.1780



#### SEQUOYA LIBRARY

4340 Tokay Blvd.  
608.266.6385



#### MEADOWRIDGE LIBRARY

5726 Raymond Road  
608.288.6160



#### MONROE STREET LIBRARY

1705 Monroe Street  
608.266.6390



#### CENTRAL LIBRARY

201 W. Mifflin Street  
608.266.6300

Lake Monona



#### GOODMAN SOUTH MADISON LIBRARY

2222 S. Park Street  
608.266.6395



#### LAKEVIEW LIBRARY

2845 N. Sherman Ave.  
608.246.4547



#### HAWTHORNE LIBRARY

2707 E. Washington Ave.  
608.246.4548



#### PINNEY LIBRARY

516 Cottage Grove Road  
608.224.7100



# STRONG LIBRARIES, THRIVING COMMUNITIES

Mini Feria de Libros at Pinney Library



Madison Public Library and Madison Public Library Foundation are always evolving and responding to changing community needs. Last year, the library experienced significant growth in visitors, checkouts, and programs as our community bounced back following the pandemic. We're thrilled to see all nine libraries teeming with activity!

Next year, the library will celebrate its **150th birthday**. As the library staff and board discussed the future, it became clear that the library needed to evaluate shifting patterns in use and requested services, and determine what its role and focus should be in providing service to Madisonians.

Madison Public Library Foundation provided library leadership with a grant to work with a consultant on the development of new library strategic priorities. Staff, board members, patrons, community partners, and other stakeholders inspired and informed these guiding principles through participation in numerous engagement sessions.

You can find the library's new mission and vision statements, values, and strategic priorities on pages 15 of this report.

Additionally, the library is under **new leadership**: Tana Elias — who has served as the library's Digital Services & Marketing Manager for many of her 31 years on staff — became Library Director this month. Our foundation is excited to continue working with Tana, who will rely on her deep institutional knowledge to



Elias

increase efficiencies in the library budget as the City of Madison anticipates an operating budget shortfall.

One of our favorite phrases that came out of the strategic planning work is **Strong Libraries, Thriving Communities**. Every day, the library connects Madison residents with services and resources, as well as each other, so they can become informed, inspired, and engaged citizens. Our strong library system relies on taxpayer dollars for basic services, but it's **you, our library donors**, who make it possible to offer so much more — from an expanded collection of books, audiobooks, music, movies, and magazines, to fun and educational programming, to engagement outside library walls. Your support will become even more essential as we work to build a 10th library — the Imagination Center at Reindahl Park — on the city's northeast side, an area that lacks library service.

We're so thankful for your investment in our libraries and ultimately, our communities, throughout last year and for years to come.

Gratefully,

CONOR MORAN  
Executive Director,  
Madison Public Library Foundation



Moran



Building Better Libraries Every Day

## MISSION

Mobilize the Madison community to continuously improve, promote, and support Madison Public Library.

## VISION

Equip Madison Public Library with robust resources to deliver outstanding services, facilities, and programs that meet the Madison community's needs.



Photo by Shanna Wolf



Board President Tanya Salman, husband Owen Sizemore, and Richard Thomas at Ex Libris

## 2023 FOUNDATION BOARD

**Tanya Salman**, President

**Jennifer Hannon**, Vice President

**Ron Bote**, Treasurer

**Brigid Elliott-Boger**, Assistant Treasurer

**Francesca Rodriguez**, Secretary

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**Bryan Chan**, Director

**JP Croake**, Director

**Libby Gerds**, Director

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**Joe Hankey**, Director

**Nathan Houdek**, Director

**Jillana Kelly**, Director

**Tom Kuplic**, Director

**Ray Mendez**, Director

**Laura Murray**, Director

**Aaron Olver**, Director

**Phil Plourd**, Director

**Gene Williams**, Director

**Jessica Yehle**, Director

**Alyssa Kenney**, Ex Officio

**Linda Baumann**, Ex Officio

# Foundation Core Values



## COMMUNITY

Engage the community as stakeholders for the library system



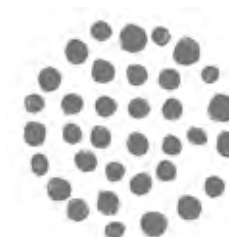
## INTEGRITY

Demonstrate transparency in how gifts are used to support the library



## ADVOCACY

Champion what is best for the library and the community



## LEADERSHIP

Act as visionaries in advancing the library



# Foundation Strategic Goals

## FUNDRAISING

The foundation provides stable, consistent support to the library for ongoing and new initiatives.

## PR AND COMMUNICATION

Community members know that the foundation funds and advocates for Madison Public Library.

## PROGRAMMING AND VITAL SERVICES

The foundation provides innovative programming for donors and supports expanded library services.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

The foundation is a socially just and antiracist institution, and diversity, equity and inclusion is considered in foundation decision-making.

River Food Pantry's Munch mobile meals delivery at Goodman South Madison Library



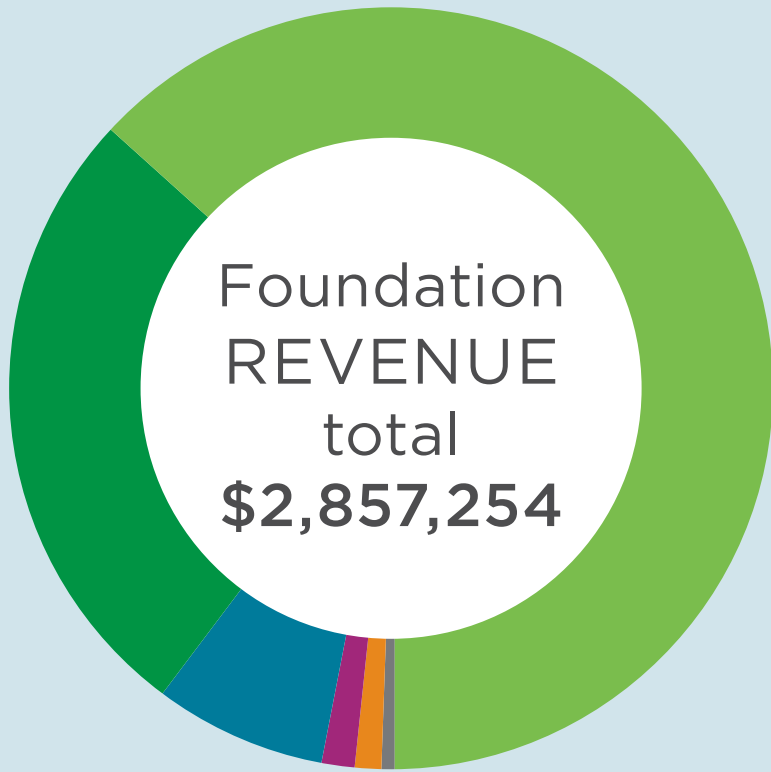
Photo by Shanna Wolf



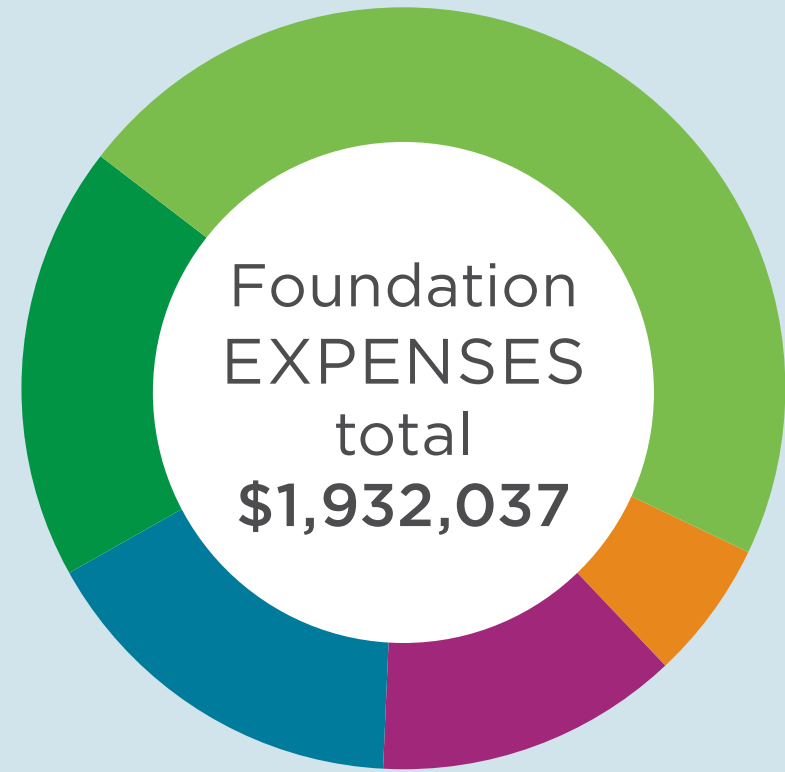


# 2023 Foundation

## by the Numbers



- Contributions \$1,816,409
- Investment income held at Madison Community Foundation \$749,976
- Special events \$210,171
- Special events in kind \$13,489
- Other income \$35,097
- Investment income \$32,112



- Grants & library programming \$902,358
- Fundraising \$360,851
- Wisconsin Book Festival \$313,379
- Administration \$247,237
- Capital campaigns \$108,212

**3,157**  
Donors

**5,302**  
Gifts

**Bequests**  
**\$363,686**

**267**  
Volunteers

**839**  
Loyal Friends households  
giving 5+ years

**Endowment  
balance**  
**\$8,731,109**



# Over \$1 Million to Library in 2023

Contributions and grants from individuals, businesses, and organizations enabled Madison Public Library Foundation to provide more than \$1 million to the library last year. Thank you!

Author Michelle Zauner signing copies of *Crying in H Mart* at a Wisconsin Book Festival event



Photo by Shanna Wolf

Wisconsin Book Festival author Leila Aboulela (left) in conversation with Ainehi Edoro



Photo by Shanna Wolf

Patron family reading in Goodman South Madison Library



Photo by Shanna Wolf



# BOOSTING LITERACY

The library replaced lost items and expanded its collection with new popular titles, including graphic novels and manga, as well as audiobooks, eBooks, video games, and more. We Read, Anji Play, One Book at a Time, and Parents as First Teachers programs sparked a love of reading through interaction and play among early learners. The Dream Bus visited more than 15 underserved neighborhoods weekly, providing Wi-Fi access, library cards, physical checkouts, and activities for kids. More than 12,000 people attended 90+ Wisconsin Book Festival free, year-round author programs, including events with Elliot Page and Michelle Zauner.



**4,070**  
Free Wisconsin  
Book Festival  
books given away

Book checkouts on the Dream Bus

**7,277**  
Dream Bus  
checkouts





# ADVANCING TECHNOLOGY

Funds outfitted Sequoya Library with hybrid meeting capabilities, and added webcams, credit card readers, digital displays, projectors, and AV equipment to other libraries. Several libraries were outfitted with equipment that allows patrons to participate in hybrid city meetings as part of the Amplifying Community Voices grant.



**130,644**  
Computer  
reservations

Computer session  
at Alicia Ashman Library



Photo by Shanna Wolf

AV equipment installation and wiring  
in the Community Room at Central Library



Photo by Shanna Wolf

New self-check machine  
at Lakeview Library





# SUPPORTING STAFF

Staff participated in valuable training sessions, conferences, workshops, and other professional development opportunities thanks to the annual fund and Professional Development Endowment Fund. The annual fund also fueled BIPOC and Pride Affinity Groups to encourage a sense of belonging.

Library's Pride Affinity Group at OutReach MAGIC Pride Festival





# INVESTING IN FACILITIES

Endowment gifts allowed libraries to make improvements and update furnishings at many libraries. Library and foundation leadership worked with City of Madison partners in numerous planning meetings for what will be the library's 10th facility, the Imagination Center at Reindahl Park.

Rendering of the Imagination Center at Reindahl Park



**JLA**  
ARCHITECTS



# BUILDING EQUITY

Ensuring access to library programs and resources is fundamental to both the library and foundation. Bubbler artist residencies and hands-on arts activities engaged patrons of all ages. Library staff led podcast, video, and visual art workshops for incarcerated and at-risk teens through the Making Justice program. Library Takeover provided underrepresented groups the opportunity to present their own events at the library. BCycle Community Passes gave patrons the chance to check out e-bikes and helmets at no cost. The library also offered several AASPIRE (Affirmative Action Student Professionals In Residence) internships for underrepresented students to gain experience with City of Madison agencies.

Kichwa Collective Team at its Library Takeover: Kaypimi Kanchik event



**481**  
BCycle Community  
pass checkouts



MADISON  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

## MISSION

Madison Public Library sparks literacy, fosters curiosity, and supports community. We provide equitable access to experiences, ideas, and resources necessary to thrive.

## VISION

Madison Public Library:  
Where worlds connect and dreams are built.

## VALUES

- Learning in all forms
- Intellectual freedom
- Diverse perspectives
- Customer experience
- Collaboration
- Innovation
- Making a difference



Library Board President Alyssa Kenney

## 2023 LIBRARY BOARD

**Alyssa Kenney**, President

**Lisa Hempstead**, Vice President  
& Madison Metropolitan  
School District Representative

**Mathias N. Lemos-Castillo**,  
Secretary/Treasurer

**Ald. Sabrina Madison**,  
City Council Member

**Genevieve Carter**, Director

**Tom DeChant**, Director

**Cindy Fesemyer**, Director

**Salud Garcia**, Director

**Jolynne Roorda**, Director



## STRONG LIBRARIES,

## THRIVING COMMUNITIES

Our community looks to its libraries for a wide variety of services and activities. Our priorities focus on helping community members and library users connect with services and resources, interact with others, and find the tools they need to be informed, inspired, and engaged in their own communities.

### ENGAGING & ACCESSIBLE SERVICES

We share collections, programs, and digital resources that foster learning, literacy, and personal growth.

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

We actively partner with community leaders, organizations, and government services to connect visitors to needed services in areas of basic needs, technology, and education.

### NOURISHING SPACES

We provide welcoming, safe, environmentally friendly, community-responsive spaces which are accessible and well maintained.

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT

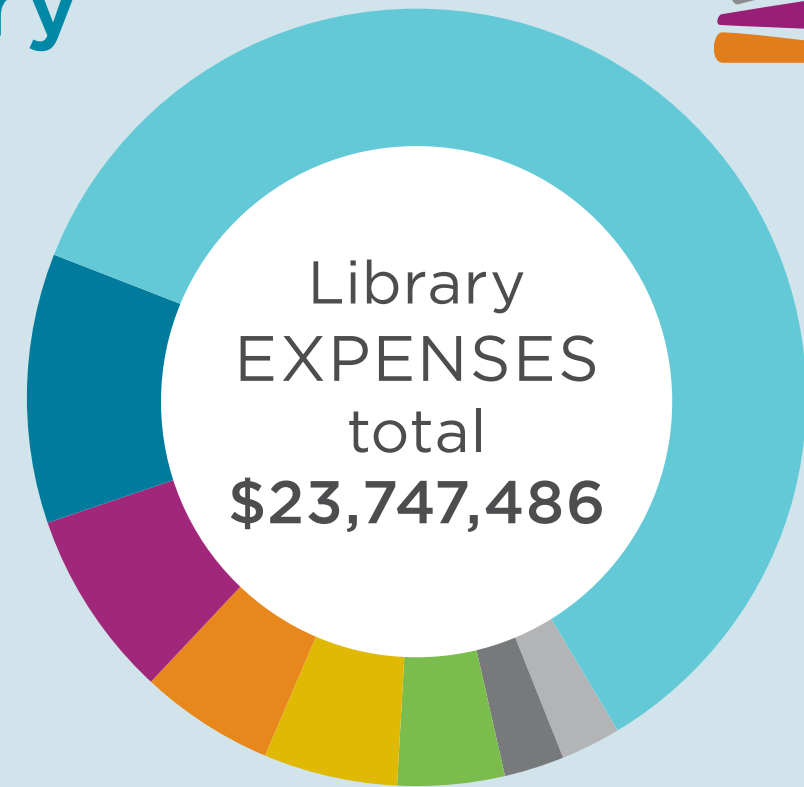
We invest in people and structures to provide an affirming workplace where staff at all levels can pursue their goals and best serve our community.







# 2023 Library Financials



- City of Madison Library appropriation \$19,770,825
- Dane County Library System contractual services \$1,277,496
- Grants \$750,228
- LINK contractual services \$404,255
- South Central Library System contractual services \$308,111
- Other \$268,134
- Library fees \$42,417
- Endowment \$8,700

- Salaries and benefits \$14,371,380
- Debt retirement \$2,667,314
- Dane County Library System contractual services \$1,805,294
- Library books, media, and databases \$1,363,294
- Facilities \$1,306,613
- Purchased services, miscellaneous \$1,052,870
- LINKcat online computer operations \$624,172
- Supplies \$556,549

# 2023 Library by the Numbers

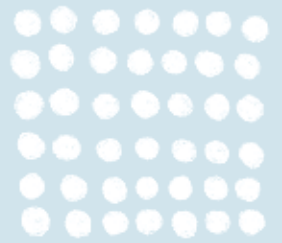


**1,283,565**  
Library visits

**16,426**  
Library cards  
issued



**121,680**  
Library cardholders  
(42% of Madisonians)



**321,530**  
eBook  
checkouts



**329,821**  
audiobook checkouts

**2,300,564**  
Physical items  
checked out



# 2023 Library by the Numbers

Photo by Shanna Wolf



Ex Libris guests creating self-portraits for the  
Bubblers' *Our Town Everywhere* project



**1,046**  
*Our Town Everywhere*  
portraits created



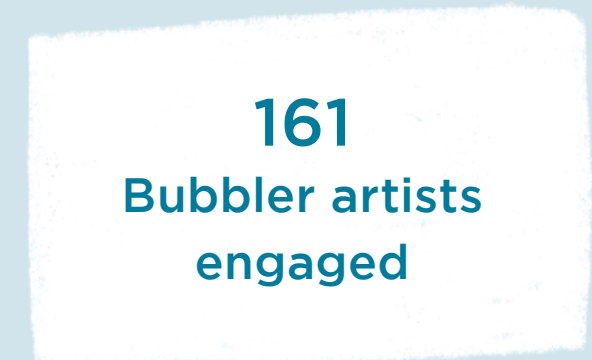
**91**  
Wisconsin Book  
Festival events



**12,391**  
Book Festival  
attendees



**34,600**  
Seed packets  
distributed



**161**  
Bubblers artists  
engaged

## Top 10 Most Requested Titles

1. Lessons in Chemistry
2. Demon Copperhead
3. Tom Lake
4. Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow
5. The Covenant of Water
6. Remarkably Bright Creatures
7. Hello Beautiful
8. The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store
9. Happy Place
10. Fourth Wing



# Donors

Madison Public Library Foundation is so thankful for our donors' steadfast support throughout 2023. From cash gifts to our annual fund and special efforts like the Bubbler to sponsoring and volunteering at our fundraisers or the Wisconsin Book Festival, this long list symbolizes the high value our community places on literacy, lifelong learning, and equity. Thank you!

## EPILOGUE CIRCLE

Formerly the Silas Pinney Legacy Society, this group was founded in 2012 and includes all who plan to leave or have left the foundation a gift, such as bequests, charitable gift annuities, stock, and life insurance.



Anonymous (4)  
Beverly Brager\*  
James Cain\*  
& Miriam Simmons  
Richard Chandler  
Debbie Collins  
Ted & Barbara Crabb  
Tom DeChant  
Norma Denbrook  
Christine Dreger\*

Kate Edwards\*  
Ellen Esser\*  
Marcella Finegan\*  
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& Susan Tikalsky  
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## Donors • EPILOGUE CIRCLE

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Barbara J. Williams\*  
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Kathleen Woit  
Frances  
& George Wood\*  
Rose A. Zerwick\*

*\* deceased*

Northpoint Community Learning Center  
visit to Hawthorne Library



## SUSTAINERS

Our monthly donors provide the foundation with a steady, reliable stream of income.

Anonymous (21)  
 Betsy Abramson  
 & David Seligman  
 George Alexander  
 & Terri Lynn  
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 & Robert Hanssen  
 Carey Dachik  
 & Lindsay Morris  
 Jonathan Davis  
 Peg Davis  
 Jacquelyn Dix  
 Kathy England



Photo by Shanna Wolf

Family reading at Monroe Street Library

Kristin Eschenfelder  
 Mary & Andy Evenson  
 Stephanie & David Farnia  
 Pam Foster Felt  
 Charles Gilliam  
 Dan & Alice Gould  
 IndiAna Gowland  
 Mary Grace  
 Trisha Grant  
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## Donors • SUSTAINERS

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Susan & Ray Vanderby  
Kent Wedemeyer  
& Susan Hart  
Ann Wilson  
Pam Wilson  
LeAnne Wintrode  
Peter Witucki  
Shanna Wolf

*\* deceased*

**Did you know  
Sequoia Library  
offers sewing classes,  
and Lakeview Library  
has a knitting group?**



# STEWARDS \$1,000+

Anonymous (19)  
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 Foundation, Inc.  
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 American Family  
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 American Girl's Fund  
 for Children  
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 & Sarah Neujahr  
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 AprilAire  
 Rich Arnesen  
 Barbara Arnold  
 Allen Arntsen  
 & Elizabeth Erickson  
 Associated Bank  
 Baker Tilly  
 Jill Ball  
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 Linda Ciofu Baumann  
 Chloe Benjamin  
 & Nathan Jandl

Bonnie Benson  
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 Diane Bless  
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 Capitol Bank  
 Nancy & Chuck  
 Carpenter  
 Douglas & Sherry Caves  
 Center for East Asian  
 Studies  
 Chad's Design Build



Photo by Shanna Wolf

Madison Writing Assistance program at Lakeview Library

Rick Chandler  
 & Heidi Pankoke  
 Lau & Bea Christensen  
 Judith & Arlen  
 Christenson  
 Nancy Ciezki  
 & Diane Kostecke  
 Mark & Janice Cis  
 Heather Clefisch  
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Reading new fiction at Lakeview Library



Photo by Shanna Wolf



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Fred Lee & Marjorie  
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Jane Lewis & Paul Nelson  
Caroline & Jim Liedtke  
Barbara Widder-Lowry  
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Anne Lucke

Katharine Lyall  
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Munns-Wojner Family  
Emily & Randy Natera  
Geraldine Naymick  
Deb Neff & Kurt Sladky  
Jo Nord  
Numbers 4 Nonprofits  
Old National Bank  
Tamara Packard & Renee  
Herber  
Park Bank  
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Miriam Parker  
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Andrew Policano  
Public Health Madison  
& Dane County

Making Justice participants learning about podcasting from Bubbler artist partner Dee Star at the Dane County Juvenile Detention Center



Photo by John Hart/Wisconsin State Journal



## Donors • STEWARDS

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Rajaraman  
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Geri Torti  
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Julia Unger  
& John-Paul Yu  
University Research Park  
Inc.  
UW Center for  
the Humanities  
Virent  
John Voegeli  
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Woodman's Food  
Markets  
James & Jessica Yehle  
Susie & Matthew Younkle  
Janet Zimmerman  
Jennifer Zorr  
William Zorr

Northpoint Community Learning Center visit to Lakeview Library



## PATRONS \$500+

Anonymous (21)  
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Tributes are donations made in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend.

Photo by Shanna Wolf



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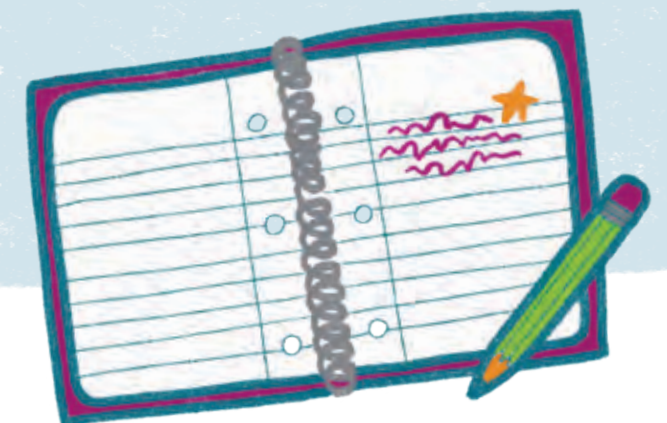
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Mini Feria de Libros at Pinney Library



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Rusty Dog Coffee at Ex Libris



Photo by Shanna Wolf



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Photo by Shanna Wolf

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Wisconsin Book Festival author Erin Carlson signing a copy of her book, *A League of Their Own*

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We Make Mini Wishing Wells activity with Bubbler artist Maria Schirmer Devitt at Hawthorne Library



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ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR • Rita Salm is a non-binary and queer illustrator who likes to focus on making things that are meant for everyone. Rita enjoys using a colored pencil texture and hand-rendered typography in their illustrations and designs. Some of their favorite things to make are patterns, designs for cards, and just little doodles.

GRAPHIC DESIGN • Georgia Rucker

