

# The BOOKMARK

Newsletter of the Redwood City Library Foundation

Volume 12, Number 1 • Spring 2012

## ***You Did It! Donors Made it Happen***

### **Fair Oaks Library Campaign for Books Tops \$200,000**

It was the perfect time for the campaign to end. Supporters were in high spirits at the Foundation's "We Love Bookworms" fundraiser on February 9. The Fair Oaks Library was filled with guests, enjoying food, wine, live music, and cute bookworm decorations. A sense of excitement filled the air as guests waited to learn if the \$200,000 goal would be reached that night.



By evening's end, \$20,000 came in from live/silent auctions and donations at the door. It was the amount needed to push the campaign over the top. A hearty cheer erupted as the total was announced.

This is how the funds were raised during the past two years:

- You donated in response to newsletter solicitations
- You surpassed the goals of two challenge grants
- Generous businesses sponsored fundraisers
- Local foundations awarded annual grants

Twenty three major donors were honored at the February "We Love Bookworms" event.



### **Fair Oaks Library Campaign for Books Donors:**

#### **GOLD**

Hannig Law Firm  
David B. & Edward C.  
Goodstein Foundation

#### **SILVER**

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Sandra Cooperman  
Dave Genesy  
Georgi LaBerge  
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Funds raised in the Fair Oaks Library campaign purchased children's books and videos, books for adults, English language audio materials and music for children and adults.

## ***Redwood City Public Library Earns 5-Star Rating***

### **Highest-rated library of any size in State**

Once again RCPL received a five-star rating this year. Ours is the highest rated of all libraries in California, regardless of size. There are only two five-star libraries in the state (Santa Monica is the other one) and just twenty of them in the nation.

Ratings are based on elements including number of items borrowed, number of library visits, numbers of programs and attendance, public computer use and open hours.

Clearly, library services are central to the citizens of Redwood City. Congratulations to the staff who provide the valuable services. Congratulations to the donors who provide the funding for materials and programs.



## ***Popular Story Times Draw Thousands*** **Foundation funds 19 weekly sessions**

People love stories. Both kids and adults love stories. Attendance at a Redwood City Library story time ranges from 20 to 200. Annually, more than 10,000 children and their caretakers come to story times presented at the four Redwood City libraries.

The popularity of these early literacy programs confirms the need to continue them. However, as the library budget is reduced, continued funding becomes more difficult.

In keeping with the Foundation's focus on early literacy, the Board of Directors allocated \$20,000 to keep the story times program running this year. This amount provides a total of 19 weekly sessions. Most sessions are aimed at preschool age groups, but many are open to all ages. Bilingual storytelling is provided in some libraries.

Story times help build fundamental literacy skills. They provide opportunities to introduce kids and parents to high-quality picture books, songs, poetry, finger rhymes and puppets. These experiences help establish a love of reading between a parent and child, build reading skills, and promote the habit of visiting the library on a regular basis.

## ***Foundation Expands Summer Reading Program*** **Combats student reading loss during vacation**

Studies show that students who don't pick up a book over the summer suffer significant "summer reading loss." The gap is especially great with students from low socio-economic families, who lose an average of two months of reading achievement. By the end of fifth grade, these kids are three grades behind their more affluent peers in reading.

The absence of summer school in Redwood City makes this an issue of concern for our community.

In the recent past, the Redwood City Public Library, with support from the Friends of the Library, has run a Summer Reading Club during June and July. Now, with the expectation of donor support, the

Library Foundation has pledged to cover the cost of expanding the Reading Club through August.

"The purpose of the Summer Reading Club is to get our youth and families reading, to engage in learning activities and to make frequent use of the library," said Dave Genesy, Library Director.

"The library provides extra copies of great books, schedules weekly story times, family performances and incentives for reading." Last year more than 6,500 adults and children participated.

You can help the students of Redwood City maintain their reading skills throughout the summer by mailing a check or donating online at [www.redwoodcitylibraryfoundation.org](http://www.redwoodcitylibraryfoundation.org). Do it today! You can make a big difference.

## ***Teens Benefit from San Jose Museum of Art Program***

### **Eight-week studio arts classes and museum visit**

During an eight-week series of classes in early winter, 26 teens learned various art techniques and how to teach art to younger students. Classes, led by an arts educator from the Museum, were held in the library's teen center.



Projects included creating collages using magazine cutouts, robots from recycled materials, and multi-media projects centering on a past experience. Classes also included sketching lessons and printing using different mediums. Building on their classroom experiences, on the last day of class, a gallery teacher led the students on an extensive tour of the Museum.

The project was funded by the Library and a library foundation donor.

The success of the program has encouraged the funders to support another art session this summer. Plans include creating teen advisory groups to assist with planning and implementing the projects.

## ***You're Invited to Leave a Legacy Gift to the Redwood City Library Foundation***

Your generous contributions have helped fund nearly a dozen initiatives. A gift from your estate could continue that legacy by providing important future support. Estate gifts can be unrestricted or dedicated to specific programs/initiatives that are close to your heart. For more information, contact Georgi LaBerge, Executive Director, at [glaberge@redwoodcity.org](mailto:glaberge@redwoodcity.org) or (650) 780-7045.

## Many thanks to our generous donors!

The following individuals, groups and businesses contributed between January 1 and December 31, 2011.

### \$10,000-\$14,999

David B. & Edward C.  
Goodstein Foundation

### \$5,000-\$9,999

Cargill  
Marcie J. Freeman  
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 Carol Chivier's Birthday  
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 Of Vi Hammer  
 Ann Marie Sulzbach  
 Of Trinity & Petra Kishi Chow  
 Edwin & Janice Kishi Chow  
 Of Lilia Ledesma  
 Georgi LaBerge  
 Of the Officers and Directors  
 of the Redwood City  
 Library Foundation  
 Marshall Blank  
 Of Paul & Maureen's Birthday  
 Gloria & Howard Levin  
 Of Schaberg Library  
 James & Stavroola Jameson

**In Memory...**

Of Art Chauvel  
 Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Freeland  
 Of Rose Cook  
 Teresa Foss

Of Tom Cooper  
 Jack & Joan Erickson  
 Of the Jordan Family  
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 Of Tyler Alexander Memole  
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 Of Sumi Yokoyama  
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**Redwood City Library Foundation**  
 1044 Middlefield Road • Redwood City, CA 94061  
[www.redwoodcitylibraryfoundation.org](http://www.redwoodcitylibraryfoundation.org) • (650) 780-7045

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**Ex-Officio:**

Georgi LaBerge, *Redwood City Library Foundation*  
 David Genesy, *Redwood City Library*

**Save the Dates!**  
**Upcoming Events**

**Kermes & Dia del Niño**  
 (Community Festival & Day of the Child)  
 Sunday, April 29, 2012 • 11 a.m – 3:00 p.m.  
 Fair Oaks Library parking lot

**Benefactors' Circle Reception**  
 Thursday, September 6, 2012 • 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
 Fireside Room, Downtown Library



**Redwood City  
 Library Foundation**

More than just books.

[www.redwoodcitylibraryfoundation.org](http://www.redwoodcitylibraryfoundation.org)