

Missouri State Library Grants

The Library has received funding from the Missouri State Library to support these programs:

1940s Jackson County Tax Assessor Photos

In 1940 the Works Progress Administration supported a photographic survey of all standing buildings within Kansas City. This grant allows us to categorize and create descriptive text for the more than 40,000 vintage photos.

Book Clubs for Central and East High School Students

A Spotlight on Literacy grant helps us fill the literacy gap by creating positive social experiences around books

and reading in partnership with the school librarians at Central and East High Schools.

Teen Zines in Ink and Paper Digital media is great, but there's also value in young people publishing a story they can have and hold. The Library asked teens to send in their comics, fiction, poetry, essays, art and more to create a handmade magazine – due out later this year.

These projects are supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Missouri State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.



The 1940s photo collection includes this building that served as a gambling hall, Midland Hotel annex, Elks Club lodge, and City Union Mission shelter. It was razed in 1961.

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Thank you

The Library is privileged to receive gifts in tribute to loved ones and friends. The tributes listed were received from May 2012 through July 2012.

In Honor of Julia Barnard

Mr. and Mrs. Max E. Singer

In Honor of Kathi L. Allison

Judy and Joe Moody

In Memory of Gladys Feld Helzberg

Shirley and Barnett Helzberg

In Memory of Patrolman Arthur J. Morris

Ms. Karen A. Scott

In Memory of Grover Cleveland Rice, MD, and Barbara Lentz Rice, RN

Ms. Lucinda A. Rice-Petrie

In Memory of Sally Biles Sprague

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. True

In Memory of Timothy Wells

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Anderson

Janet and Darren Blakesley

BlueCross BlueShield of Kansas

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cole

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Dick

Ms. Melinda Dick-Lang and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fritch

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hohendorf

Mr. Duane Melvin and Family

Judy and Joe Moody

Mr. and Mrs. Arian Myers

Mr. and Mrs. Gayle Stithem

Mr. and Mrs. Matt Wells

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wells



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You can receive future issues of Reading MATTERS electronically! Simply visit the Library website at <http://www.kclibrary.org/support-the-library> and complete



the sign up form for the Foundation newsletter.

Reading MATTERS

VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 2

Health Careers, Great Futures

Dr. Bipin Avashia and his wife Rita Avashia were concerned about how young people would be affected by the terrible violence they witnessed in their community. So they provided funds for Health and Wellness Explorers, a pilot program to help teens experience positive activities.

In partnership with Truman Medical Centers, more than 40 teens from the Library's North-East, Bluford and Southeast Branches and from Boys and Girls Clubs were recruited to explore medical-related careers. Every Thursday in July, they participated in a series of lunches and field trips to give them a vision of how their futures could take shape.

Destinations included the Kansas City Fire Department's Ambulance Barn, the Penn Valley Health Sciences Institute, and the Culinary Arts Center at Guadalupe Center.

In addition to gaining a new perspective on career building, kids who participated in all four events were rewarded with a night at Worlds of Fun. The Library was proud to partner in this effort for our valuable patrons, teenagers.



Health and Wellness Explorers were intrigued by their visit to the Penn Valley Health Science Institute mock hospital. Here they're listening to the heartbeat of one of the "patients".

Benefactors Fund Trails West Branch Facelift

Byron and Betty Widmier were great readers and fans of the Library. So when their estate was distributed after their deaths, the Library was honored to receive a \$182,000 bequest through their wills that will be used to upgrade the interior of the Trails West branch.

Byron, a long-time advertising manager, and Betty, a finance executive, used the Library to research their extensive travels. They even checked out cookbooks to experience local foods from places they planned to visit. And now they have paid their enjoyment forward with this most generous gift.



THE KANSAS CITY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

SUMMER 2012

Kaite's Book Nook

By Kaite Stover
Director of Readers' Services



For some good summer reading, pick up *A Novel Bookstore*, a translation of a popular French novel by Laurence Cosse. Fans of Muriel Barbery's *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* will recognize the witty tone that translator Alison Anderson brings to the story of a most unusual bookstore in Paris.

Francesca and Van are both passionate about

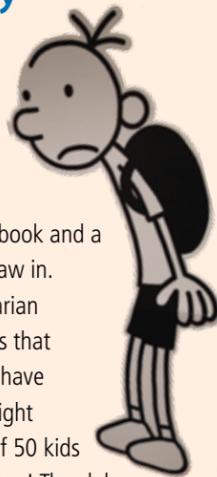
reading so they decide to open *The Good Novel*, a bookstore that will only stock quality literature vetted by a secret committee. The business is a success, but authors and publishers whose books they refuse to stock are not pleased. This is a dense, rich book with an intriguing premise: Who has the right to decide what is "good"?

Young Readers Not the Least Bit Wimpy

Diary of a Wimpy Kid was the inspiration for the Wimpy Book Club, named by its 8-12 year old members at the North-East Branch. Just to make it really exclusive, they declared that everyone must touch the stinky cheese and execute the secret handshake to become a

full-fledged member! More than 25 members met for five Mondays in July, and each young reader received a copy of the book and a journal to write and draw in.

Youth Services Librarian Meghann Henry reports that North-East story times have increased from six or eight attendees to a group of 50 kids and parents. Way to grow! The club will continue during the school year on first Tuesdays, and participants will receive another book in the *Wimpy* series.



North-East's Wimpy Book Club

Children's Summer Reading: Dream Big – READ!

Early results from the 2012 Summer Reading program show 10,140 registrations by children, a significant increase over last year's record-setting results! We'll have more details to share in the next issue of Reading MATTERS.



How to Build a Learning Lab



Andrea Ellis plans the digital media learning lab for teens.

Last November the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation broke the news: The Kansas City Public Library, in partnership with Science City at Union Station, would be one of 12 U.S. organizations to receive \$100,000 in funding to plan and design a learning lab for teens. Now the planning has officially begun!

The lab will encourage teens to use digital media technology such as social networking, video games and audio/visual media production to create and collaborate in ways beyond the traditional classroom.

Andrea Ellis, the project coordinator, will work with our Youth Services librarians and Science City representatives to develop a prototype for a lab in Union Station and a mobile lab to travel between Library branches.

The project will enable cutting-edge research in 21st century learning, incorporating the HOMAGO model developed by University of California's Mizuko Ito. Short for "hanging out, messing around, geeking out," HOMAGO teaches that teens learn best in a safe space in which to play, learn, create and interact.

Money will be invested in laptops, cameras and software for hands-on testing with teens. Project leaders will recruit a Teen Advisory Board to assist with the process and conduct teen focus groups.

When the planning grant expires in June 2013, more funding will be needed to build the lab. That money may come from grants, corporate sponsors or other sources. Sustainability is important in building a movement with a positive impact on teens and youth in Kansas City.

Pre-Register Today for Access to Google Fiber

As part of its plan to connect homes in Kansas City with paid Internet and TV packages, Google is providing a free connection to public buildings, including libraries, community centers, and schools. But here's the catch: Google is asking residents to pay a \$10 pre-registration fee by **September 9, 2012**. Only those neighborhoods with enough pre-registrations will receive Fiber access.

The fastest Internet service on the planet could be yours to use free at your local branch of the Kansas City Public Library. But only with your help. Register now by following the three simple steps here – and tell your neighbors to do the same!

- 1 Go to the website <http://fiber.google.com/> cities.
- 2 Click "Pre-register" and enter your street address.
- 3 Pay the \$10 pre-registration fee to Google (your \$10 will apply toward future service; if not enough people pre-register your \$10 will be refunded).



Volunteers, Come On Down!

The Library's mission of knowledge for all depends on the entire community. So why not volunteer? You can make new friends, learn new job skills and get involved. We need help in these core positions:

- **Materials Locator** Use a computer generated printout to find material. Must be able to bend and reach; morning hours only.
- **Materials Shelves** Sort, check condition

and shelf books and other materials. Organize alphabetically and numerically; reach and bend; push a cart up to 45 pounds.

- **Shelf Reader** Straighten and make sure books are in proper alphabetical/numerical order.
- **Homework Help** Assist elementary and high school students; evening hours only.

For more information, please call 816-701-3707 or email volunteer@kclibrary.org

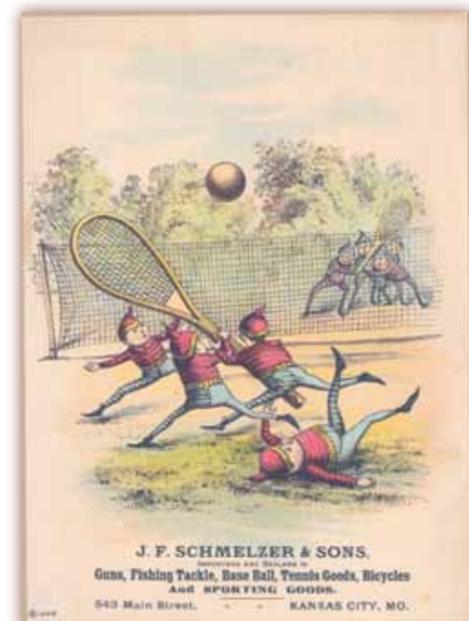


BG Donald Scott and Mrs. Betty Scott
Mr. Willard B. Snyder
Ms. Ann Straulman
Joan B. Wells
David N. Wetzel
Dr. Jane Wood

The MVR Club was launched last May to provide funds for strategic acquisitions to our special historical collections. Annual membership is \$200 per person or \$250 per household. Our thanks to these charter members!

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Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Brous
Dr. and Mrs. Guy Deyton
Monroe Dodd III
Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Farnsworth
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Mr. and Mrs. Bruce C. Mathews
Marshall and Janet Miller
Ms. Patricia A. Needham
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Noll
Lori Cox-Paul and Eli Paul
Mr. Tom Rafiner
Mr. Brent Schondelmeyer

We welcome you to become a charter member of the MVR Club this year by mailing your gift today to the Kansas City Public Library. Or donate online by visiting our website at <http://www.kclibrary.org/support-the-library> and click on "Donate Now" and choose program designation "Mo. Valley history collections."



J. F. Schmelzer & Sons advertising card, circa 1880s-1890s. Advertising Card Collection (SC3), Missouri Valley Special Collections

Frank Lloyd Wright Event

Saturday, September 1 – Sunday, October 28
Central Library, 14 W. 10th St.

Admirers of the great architect can see high-quality reproductions of Wright's drawings of interiors, furnishings and household objects in this comprehensive traveling exhibit titled *Architect of the Interior*.

In addition, Dennis Domer, Ph.D., will speak on Wright's philosophy and achievements at the

Central Library, Thursday, October 11, at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Domer is acting director of the Museum Studies Program and director of graduate studies for the Department of American Studies at KU and retired associate dean of the School of Architecture and Urban Planning.

These events are co-sponsored by the Richard J. Stern Foundation for the Arts, Commerce Bank, Trustee.