



THE KANSAS CITY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

Volume 1 • Number 1
SPRING 2011

Mission

The Kansas City Public Library Foundation develops friends and funds for the Kansas City Public Library.

Claudia Baker, Director

Board of Trustees

Olivia Dorsey, Chairperson

Cheryl Brown Henderson

Laurie Ingram

Crosby Kemper III

Jonathan Kemper

Thomas R. Brous

INSIDE

- 2 The love of reading:
A librarian's gift to children
Greenwood Society
- 3 Building a Community of
Readers
- 4 Classical Mass

KANSAS CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Donors Hal and Wilda Sandy value Library as keeper of the past

Talk to Hal and Wilda Sandy and you'll soon find out the Library is an important part of their lives, both as patrons and donors for more than 20 years. No big fans of TV or most films, they turn to books for their entertainment, edification and continuing education - and that calls for frequent trips to the Library.

Wilda believes that discovery is the Library's most important role. She says "To learn and to be stimulated by knowledge for free is a wonderful privilege." Hal likes to discover the past at the library, whether through stories, reference materials or other media.

Both Sandys began their love of libraries as children, Wilda in northern California and Hal right here in Kansas City. Together they became donors to the Kansas City Public Library as patrons of the old 9th and Locust location back in the 60s. Hal owned an advertising agency, and librarian Dick Sealock involved the couple with the program to get the then new Library built at 12th and McGee.

Wilda is impressed with recent positive



changes at the Library, notably Director Crosby Kemper's forward thinking public programs and refinements. Hal is eager to see what changes will come about with Google, Wikipedia and other resources transforming access to information.

According to Hal, the Library's greatest challenge is "money, money, money." And Wilda thinks the lack of literacy of the young public is a daunting challenge facing the Library. For this Library-centric couple, modern challenges are all the more reason to support one of Kansas City's most treasured institutions.

Missouri Valley goes digital

Digitization is making the Missouri Valley Special Collections much more accessible. A popular example is the group of 700 Kansas City postcards from Mrs. Sam Ray. They had been scanned at low resolution and posted online, and now we plan to replace them with new higher resolution images.

Small collections to be digitized are award-winning photographs from the 1940s-60s by local photographer Elbert Landfried; 41 Liberty Memorial design proposals; 45 photographs of early steamboats on the Missouri River; and nu-



Manuel of Tesuque woodcut
by Treva Wheete, 1935

merous maps. Two slide collections covering the 1950s-70s will be digitized: 108 slides from photographer Dorothy Eldridge and some 800 slides from Hallmark Cards.

Also due for digitization is the complete booklet of 18 woodcut prints from The Woodcut Society. The Society was formed in 1932 by H. Alfred Fowler, a Kansas City grain dealer and businessman. Last year a student came from Australia specifically to access these materials. Digitization is enhancing

our collections and making them more attractive for researchers to visit.

The love of reading: A librarian's gift to children

When Helma Hawkins accepted her first library job in Gillette, Wyoming, one of her daughters said, "Kids and books—your two favorite things!" It was an apt description of Helma's distinguished career, both professionally and as a volunteer.

When Helma's fourth grade teacher read Caldecott and Newbery award-winning books to her class, she didn't know it but she was sowing the seeds of Helma's lifelong passion.

Helma earned her Bachelor's degree in English at SMU, and her Master's in Library Science in Denver at a satellite of Emporia (Kansas) State.

Helma kept reading as a wife and mother, always involved with books. In the 1970s she was a stay-at-home mother in Kansas City and a pioneer in groundbreaking trends for parents. Always focused on giving children the best start in life, she was first to teach Lamaze natural child-birth and was a leader in La Leche League, promoting breastfeeding for healthy development.

Over the years Helma worked at libraries wherever her husband's ministerial job took their family. Helma and her family moved back to Kansas City in 1994, when

she accepted the position of Director of Youth Services (now Director of Children's Services) at the Kansas City Public Library. She believes the Library's most important role is to expose children to books, to instill a love of reading and lifelong learning . . . especially in our urban district, where so many kids would have little exposure to books without the free public library.

A highlight of Helma's career has been serving on the committees of both the Newbery and Caldecott awards for children's books, which is also the focus of her work with the Association of Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association. The Newbery and Caldecott books have been her way of connecting children with reading, by giving them the opportunity to experience the best.

Helma's extensive community involvement links back to her love of children and books. She serves on the community council for Reach Out and Read Kansas City, a national organization that provides books to low-income children through pediatric clinics. In 2004 she received the Hooked on Books Dr. Seuss Award as outstanding community volunteer.

For many years she has been Paul Mesner Puppets' "resident board librarian," a key role since most of the puppet shows are based on books. And Helma has been a longtime volunteer at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, serving on the Nelson's education committee that advises on classes, activities and tours.

Dedicated to library science and a passionate advocate for children, Helma is one of the Library's most valuable assets and best friend to young library patrons.



The Greenwood Society is a recognition program for annual donors of \$1000 or more to support the mission of the Library. We appreciate the generosity and shared vision of these members.

Mark Twain Circle

Jean L. Blackman Family Fund
Julia and Jonathan Bredin
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Kemper

Langston Hughes Circle

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kirk, Kirk Foundation
The Neal and Jeanne Patterson Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry D. Reece
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Sherman

T.S. Eliot Circle

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce H. Branyan
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Brous
Pete B. Browne and Julie Walker-Browne
Mr. and Mrs. Barnett Helzberg, Jr.
Mrs. Beth Ingram
Bill and Peggy Lyons
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. McDonnell
Mary Kay McPhee and William E. Pfeiffer, Sr.
Mr. Steven P. Smith
Mr. Morton I. Sosland
Mr. Adam C. Starr and the Lawrence D. Starr Charitable Foundation
Steve and Linda Taylor

Laura Ingalls Wilder Circle

Dr. and Mrs. Virgil R. Albertini
Mr. and Mrs. Don H. Alexander
Andrews McMeel Universal Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Paul D. Bartlett, Jr.
Chuck and Joan Battley
Mr. and Mrs. Bert M. Berkley

Irwin and Rita Blitt
Mrs. Mary Shaw Branton
Miss Joan M. Bruderer
Mr. and Mrs. James Byrd
Mr. and Mrs. Newton A. Campbell
Dr. Joan Caulfield and Dr. Alan Warne
Patricia A. Chasnoff Fund
Ms. Shirley Christian
Mary D. Cohen, Ed.D.
Mr. and Mrs. Paul L. Copaken
Dorothy and Mitch Elliott
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Fitzgerald, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Fried
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Gingrich
Mr. Lee H. Greif
Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Hall, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Michael R. Haverty
Ms. Nancy W. Hawley
Mr. and Mrs. Bush C. Helzberg
Mr. Francois G. Henriquez II
Mr. Daniel R. Hesse and Ms. Diane Y. Canaday
Mr. David H. Hughes, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Chip Ingram
Mr. and Mrs. Eric T. Jager
Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Jonathan
Mr. Cliff C. Jones, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Norman B. Kahn
Mr. James Kemper
Mr. David Kiersznowski and Ms. Demi Lloyd

Mr. Charles H. Kopke
Kathleen and James Maenle
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F. Mann
Mr. and Mrs. Alan R. Marsh
Dr. and Mrs. James E. Miller
Dr. and Mrs. Carlos Moya
Ms. Sherrill Mulhern
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Nutter, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Doyle Patterson
Mrs. Frank Paxton, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin M. Pistilli
Peter and Carol Powell
Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Regnier
Wilda and Hal Sandy
Ms. Kristin Schultz and Mr. Joe Markley,
Ralph Schultz Family Foundation
Ms. Beth Smith
Rick and Betsy Solberg
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Stowers III
Ms. Marilyn Strauss
Mrs. Norma H. Sutherland
Mr. and Mrs. Byron G. Thompson
Mrs. Sally Tranin
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Uhlmann III
Mr. Paul Uhlmann, Jr.
Mrs. Ann G. Upjohn
Kirk and Barbara Vaughan
Mrs. Adelaide C. Ward
Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Wewers
Sally Wood

The Library Foundation is privileged to receive gifts in tribute to loved ones and friends. The tributes below were received from December 11, 2010 through April 6, 2011.

In Honor of Shannon Julien
Ms. Joan Howard

In Memory of Jane Neale Havens
Ms. Ellen Bresky, The Wally Foundation
Ms. Kathleen Marquardt
Mr. and Mrs. Lamson Rheinfrank, Jr., and Family

In Memory of Jesse Pacheco
Dennis and Peggy Farney and Erin Farney

In Memory of Grover C. Rice, M.D., and Barbara Lentz Rice, R.N.
Ms. Lucinda A. Rice-Petrie

The Kansas City Public Library Foundation newsletter is published periodically during the year and posted on the Library's website at www.kclibrary.org under the Giving tab. To learn more about opportunities to support the Library, or if you have questions regarding the newsletter, please contact Claudia Baker at 816-701-3518 or claudiabaker@kclibrary.org



BUILDING a COMMUNITY OF READERS

THE KANSAS CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Kansas City Public Library has always promoted reading in our community through programs and activities for children and adults. Helping to place reading materials in people's hands is a fundamental part of what we do. The Library has set its sights on an unprecedented campaign to create a community of readers. "This multi-year effort seeks to stimulate the imagination of the community and inspire a new consciousness that we are a community of readers," explains Crosby Kemper III, Library Director. "It is our most ambitious program initiative to date and potentially the most transformational."

Through this campaign we will promote and expand our reading programs for little children and young families, for teens and for adults in order to encourage a community of lifelong readers and learners.

An immediate objective is to enroll at least 16,000 kids this year in Summer Reading. That's a 23% increase over last year, involving more children and youth than ever in the pleasures of summertime reading. As a result, they'll be better prepared for school success in the fall and more likely to love books and reading for a lifetime.

Summer reading involves kids of all ages

Special reading events and activities will be featured in this summer's program for children birth to age 12. Following the theme "One World, Many Stories," kids will earn rewards for each three hours of reading or being read to, for a total of 12 hours in all.

The teen version of Summer Reading is themed "You Are Here." Teens earn entry into a drawing for each book they comment about via paper, Facebook, texting, email or the Library website, kclibrary.org.

Summer Reading is a key component of the Library's Building a Community of Readers campaign. Over the next several years, our goal is for individuals and our community to benefit from the rewards of reading beyond the requirements of work and school. These rewards include doing better in school, launching more businesses, earning better incomes, and being more likely to support the arts and humanities.

Over the next few years the Library will seek additional philanthropic support to strengthen and expand reading programs and community outreach activities. As a result, our goal is for



Building a Community of Readers to lead to a better educated population and more vibrant participation in civic life.

Teens texting while reading

This March the annual Teen Tech Week encouraged young readers to bridge the gap between paper and pixels. Titled "Mix and Mash @ Your Library," the program invited teens to text or email reviews of their latest reads to win a pair of custom earbuds.

Digital video workshops were held, where teens learned how to make their own trailer for their favorite book, movie, game, website or magazine. More than 100 teens sent in digital book reviews via email and text. It was a great way to engage young people and start building a community of readers.

Demand Rises for e-Library Services

Use of the Library's downloadable books has grown significantly over the past six months. Library customers downloaded 1500 e-Books and 1400 e-Audiobooks to iPhones and iPads in March. That's triple the number of downloads recorded during any month last year. Although print materials still comprise 96 percent of the Library's total circulation, the Library is planning now for dramatic growth in demand for electronic collections.





THE KANSAS CITY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

14 West 10th Street
Kansas City, MO 64105



Classical Mass

The first time **Carol Wallace** heard Pachelbel's immortal "Canon in D" was nearly 40 years ago, when she was working in the arts and music collection of the Old Main Library on McGee Street, managing the record collection.

"I would listen to it over and over," she remembers.

Though she still oversees the Library's arts and music-related materials, Wallace (an accomplished organist) no longer checks out records to patrons. But as steward of the Central Library's **Performing Editions Collection**, she gets the music to the masses in an even bigger way.

Performing Editions consists of 321 orchestral scores, many inherited from the Kansas City Philharmonic. These volumes of sheet music by world-famous composers are a boon to area orchestras.

The Kansas City Chamber Orchestra, students at the UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance, the Philharmonia of Greater Kansas City, the Northland Symphony Orchestra, the Olathe Community Orchestra, and the Overland Park Orchestra all use Performing Editions.

In a tight economy, borrowing music makes good financial sense.

Liberty Symphony Music Director **Tony Brandolino** says the economic downturn led to his orchestra "finding other means of keeping the level of music at a high standard."



**The Liberty Symphony:
a community of
musical readers.**

The solution: borrow it for free.

"Music is valuable," Brandolino says. "We could form several seasons from your Library."

And on May 7, at the Liberty Symphony's fourth and final performance for the season, Brandolino will be leading his orchestra through mostly borrowed material.

Both of the selections for the evening are from the Performing Editions Collection, specifically, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* (minus the choral parts, which were provided by the choirmaster) and Barber's *Adagio for Strings*.

Wallace will likely be in the audience—she has season tickets.

"Even though I check the music out to one person, it goes out to the whole community," she says.