

# THE URBANA FREE LIBRARY FOUNDATION

In this past year of unpredictability, The Urbana Free Library endured as a steadying force for goodness and joy in central Illinois. In its proud philanthropic support, the Foundation has helped widen the Library's impact across the community. Thanks to thoughtful donors like you, the Foundation provided vital funding for capital projects, new community engagement initiatives, and sustained efforts to advance the Library's mission. No matter what 2026 brings, I know the Foundation will continue its dedicated work to ensure the Library remains a welcoming place of impact, growth, and belonging. With warm gratitude, Shannon Morber, President

## 2025 Annual Report

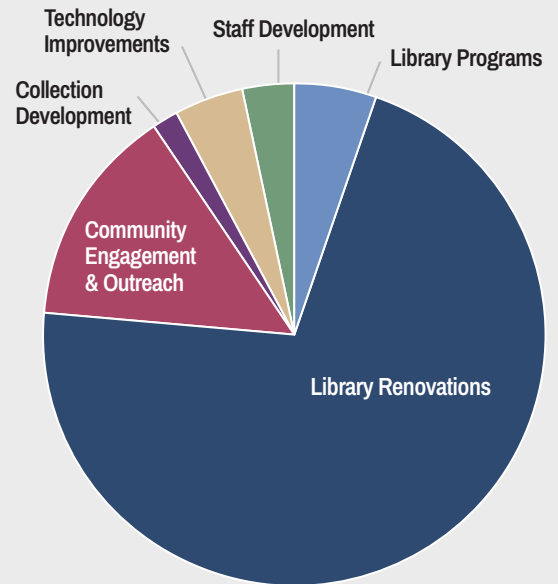
Provided programming support for UFLive! concerts, author talks, Teen Open Lab, and more.



## Foundation Highlights

Total Funds Raised **\$136,618.90**  
Total donors **303** | Total first-time donors **103**

### Funded Areas



Hosted our second **Double Your Impact! Gift Match Challenge**, sponsored by the Frampton family in honor of Margaret Frampton, exceeding our goal in only two weeks!

Hosted a **Giant Desk Concert, celebrating the Library** while raising funds to support necessary upgrades.



## Library Highlights

- In 2025, there were **203,741 visits** to the Library.
- The Library held **624 programs with 22,017 in attendance**.
- **Partnered with the University of Illinois** to decorate and design programs for the **17th Annual Fairy Tale Ball**, which drew 1,659 attendees.
- Welcomed our new executive director, **Taliah Abdullah**, to the Library!
- **1,785 patrons of all ages** participated in Winter and Summer Reading, logging a total of **5,606 books and 784,486 minutes**.
- Partnered with **Cunningham Township** to offer the **Township Help Desk**, providing application assistance and digital support to residents.



Supported important **technology upgrades**, including enhancements to the auditorium's A/V system.

Supported the Library's partial renovation project, debuting the **Ann & Kermit Harden Welcome Desk** with a generous gift from Ann Harden.



# Donor Recognition

## Tribute Gifts

In honor of Polly Hill  
 In honor of Rachel Vellenga  
 In memory of Goldie and Harley Shoup  
 In memory of Jack Waaler  
 In memory of John Brandon  
 In memory of Julia Hartman  
 In memory of Karl Bauer  
 In memory of Lorraine Weber

## In-Kind Gifts

Amara Yoga & Arts  
 Art Mart  
 Cloud Mountain Kombucha  
 Crystal Lake Aquatic Center  
 CU Adventures in Time & Space  
 Defy Gravity Aerial Arts Studio  
 Delight Flower Farm  
 Dr. G's BrainWorks  
 Elm City Coffee  
 Gretchen Webb  
 Krannert Center for the Performing Arts  
 Nothing Bundt Cakes  
 Parkland Planetarium  
 Riggs Beer Company

Rose Barnes  
 Stephens Family YMCA  
 Sun Singer Restaurant  
 Urbana Dance Company

## Benefactor: \$10,000+

Samuel Freeman  
 Charitable Trust

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

Community Foundation  
 of East Central Illinois  
 Jane Swarr  
 Virginia Waaler

## Guardian: \$1,000 - \$4,999

Anna Merritt  
 Barbara Wysocki  
 Bruce Michelson

Candace McMaster  
 Carol Spindel  
 Carolyn Trimble  
 Country Arbors Nursery  
 Deborah Allen  
 Debra Newell  
 Dennis J. Miller  
 Don Krummel  
 Edward A. Perry  
 Elaine Hershberger  
 Ellen Willcox  
 Frances Newman  
 Gary Gladding  
 Glenna Spitze  
 Jayne Burkhardt  
 Joan Sargent  
 Kathy Reiser  
 Lane Broadbent  
 Linda C. Smith  
 Mark Netter  
 Mary Lee Spence  
 Nancy Delanty  
 Patrick Hoey  
 Patricia Philip

Peter J. Kurath  
 Plot Twist Fund  
 R. Janice Sherbert  
 Robert Switzer  
 Robin Sahner  
 Sandra Smith Volk  
 Sarah Nemeth  
 Stephen Dale Mey  
 Susan K. Appel  
 The Wenneborgs

## Sustainer: \$500 - \$999

Ameren Illinois  
 Amy Hassinger  
 Atkins Group  
 Beth Scheid  
 Carol Lichtensteiger  
 Cochran & Heller INC  
 Craig T. Milling  
 David Lutzer  
 Dr. G's BrainWorks  
 Elizabeth Cardman

Helen Grandone  
 Herbert R. Hiestand  
 Inga Karlner  
 Jerald J. Wray  
 Jerry Carden & Timothy Temple  
 Jo Kibbee  
 John Dunkelberger  
 Kay L. Kummerow  
 Marian C. Milling  
 Mark Hamby  
 Mark Opperman  
 Michael Fuerst  
 Michael Sargent  
 Michael Stevenson  
 Nancy Diamond  
 Olga Uribe  
 Oumu Foundation  
 Pamela Hohn  
 Prudence Spodek  
 Tom Kacich

## Ambassador: \$1 - \$499

Adam Davis  
 Adelle Swanson  
 Adrienne Kizer  
 Alain D. Fresco  
 Albert J. Valocchi  
 Alex Leong  
 Alexandra M. Newman  
 Allison Funneman  
 Altrusa International of Champaign-Urbana  
 Andrea Alguire  
 Andrea Anderson-Holmes  
 Andrea Watkins  
 Andrew Harden  
 Angela Urban  
 Anna Kanevskaya  
 Anne Silvis  
 Athena Hubert  
 Augusta Kilburn  
 Barbara Ford  
 Barbara Gillespie  
 Barbara Hartman  
 Barbara Meyer  
 Bart D. Witter  
 Belinda Porter  
 Benita G. Romero Nunez  
 Benjamin W. Dyer  
 Bethany Frost  
 Bill Gropp  
 Bonnie Switzer  
 Brittni Krokenes  
 Brooke Bear  
 Carissa Yau  
 Carl Belber  
 Carol & Frank DiNovo

Carolyn Burrell  
 Castlewood Chamber Singers  
 Catherine I. Salika  
 Catherine Meehan  
 Charles Smyth  
 Chris Donley  
 Christa Knust  
 Christi Fernsberg  
 Christopher Stohr  
 Christyna Moore  
 Cindy & Michael Loui  
 Copenhaver Cumpston  
 Dana Rabin  
 Dani Nyikos  
 Darius White  
 Dave Villeneuve  
 David Followell  
 David M. Butler  
 David Meller  
 Donald Greeley  
 Dorothy E. Bell  
 Elaine Bearden  
 Elizabeth A. Rockman  
 Elizabeth Abraham  
 Elizabeth Jackson  
 Elizabeth Vallier  
 Ellen Jacobsen-Isserman  
 Erica Bellina  
 Evan Melhado  
 Faye Lesht  
 First Federal Savings Bank of Champaign-Urbana  
 Frances Harris  
 Frank Charles Modica  
 Frederick Neumann  
 Gabby Mancuso

Gail Hueting  
 Gene Amberg  
 Glen Layne-Worthey  
 Grace Schoedel  
 Honora Hoey  
 James Freihofer  
 James Hulett  
 James Moffitt  
 James W. Hannum  
 Jameson Mori  
 Jan Kalmar  
 Jane Block  
 Janet Robinson  
 Janis Shearer  
 Jared Hutchins  
 Jeannie Berns  
 Jeffery Poss  
 Jeffrey Kinkley  
 Jeniece Mitchell  
 Jenn Smist  
 Jenny & Mike Lokshin  
 Jens Sandberger  
 Jessica Camilletti  
 Joan M. Volkmann  
 Jo Ann McNaughton-Kade  
 Joan Peterson  
 John Cardoni  
 John Peterson  
 John Prussing  
 John Thies  
 John Tilford  
 Jonathan Sweedler  
 Jordan Kahle  
 Joseph Williams  
 Judith Bach  
 Kady Ball  
 Kara McKinn  
 Karen Bojda

Karen M. Madsen  
 Karl Heinz Schoeps-Jensen  
 Kasia B. Hopkins  
 Kate McDowell  
 Kate Techtow  
 Katherine Ashcraft  
 Katherine Ryan  
 Katherine V. Boyle  
 Kay Grabow  
 Kerry Helms  
 Kirstin Gebhart  
 Kirstin Johnson  
 Kirstin R. Wilcox  
 Kristen Maria  
 Lauren Chambers  
 Lauren Moller  
 Laurence Miller  
 Leslie G. Hunsaker  
 Letitia Moffitt  
 Linda Bauer  
 Lisa Diaz  
 Lisa Surber-Cunningham  
 Loretta Morales  
 Lucas Walters  
 Lucinda Strehlow  
 Lyndzie Taylor  
 Lynette Olson  
 Mankin Mak  
 Marc Snir  
 Marcy Joncich  
 Margaret Pacold  
 Margaret Saks  
 Margaret Stanton  
 Mari McKeeth  
 Mariangela Segre  
 Marie Bohl  
 Marilyn Marshall

Mark Dixon  
 Martha Lampman  
 Martin Camargo  
 Megan Slocum  
 Meijer  
 Michael C. Lenard  
 Michael Poker  
 Michael Walker  
 Michelle Johnson  
 Mitchell Harris  
 Mologu Bokamba  
 Nadja Shoemaker  
 Nancy Patricia O'Brien  
 Naomi Jakobsson  
 Nicole Morgan  
 Nils Jacobsen  
 Pam & Mike VanBlaricum  
 Pamela Hinz  
 Pat Cain  
 Patricia A. Cardenas  
 Patricia Hruby-Powell  
 Patricia Manns  
 Patty Gropp  
 Paul Hixson  
 Paula Watson  
 Peggy Grossman  
 Perry C. Morris  
 Rachel Fleming-May  
 Rachel Fuller  
 Rachele Grossman  
 Renee Hough  
 Rhanor Gillette  
 Rhonda Gillogly  
 Rich Thompson  
 Richard N. DeLong  
 Richard Palmer  
 Robert Krumm  
 Robert Wickesberg

Roger L. Buchhass  
 Rudolf Mortimer  
 Russell G. Stewart  
 Ruth E. Wyman  
 Ryan Levy  
 Sam Lechowicz  
 Sandra Lewis  
 Sandra Reifsteck  
 Sara Bennett  
 Sarah E. McEvoy  
 Sarel Har-Peled  
 Scott Bennett  
 Shalini Smith  
 Shannon Morber  
 Sharon Gerth  
 Stacey Ballmes  
 Stephen Ullom  
 Steven Andes  
 Stuart Levy  
 Susan Hinrichs  
 Sylvia Coleman  
 Sylvia Sauer  
 Taliah Abdullah  
 Tammie Bouseman  
 Ted Balcom  
 Theryl Newland  
 Thomas & Jeanne Ward  
 Thomas Webb  
 Timothy Bretl  
 Todd Kinney  
 United Way of Champaign County  
 Veronica Gonzalez  
 Walter Harrington  
 Wendy Rogers  
 William Weber  
 Zach Hench

If you love the Library as much as we do, we welcome your support.

Here's how you can make a difference:

- Scan the QR code.
- Text "TUFL" to 50155.
- Mail a check:

The Urbana Free Library Foundation,  
 210 West Green Street, Urbana, IL 61801



Learn more at [urbanafreelibrary.org/about-us/foundation](http://urbanafreelibrary.org/about-us/foundation).

Join our email newsletter at [urbanafreelibrary.org/foundationnewsletter](http://urbanafreelibrary.org/foundationnewsletter).

With gratitude,  
**The Board of Directors**

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 Patrick Hoey

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 Katherine Boyle

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 Elizabeth Rockman

**Directors**  
 Kara McKinn  
 Katherine Ryan  
 Robert Switzer  
 Patricia Philip

**Ex Officio**  
 Daniel Urban  
 E. Barbara Meyer  
 Kate Levy  
 Taliah Abdullah

**Call to Action**  
 Your dollars at work



**\$50** helps purchase books, DVDs, and more for the Library.

**\$150** provides children access to **diverse programs**.

**\$250** supports important **technology upgrades**.

**\$500** assists with ongoing **facilities needs**.

**\$1,000+** ensures **vital resources** remain available to the community.