

## *Types of Donations*

***Endowment Fund Gifts*** (cash or planned gifts) allow the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation to build a strong base for the future. All donated funds remain in principal, while interest is put to work for the improvement of the library and its branches. Planned Gifts can show a lifetime of caring, and can be made through your will or a gift of property, life insurance, stocks or annuities. The Library Foundation can answer any questions you may have about your planned gift to lifelong learning through the Grand Rapids Public Library. Donors who establish Named Funds or Leave a gift to the GRPLF in estate plans become members of the Ryerson Legacy Society.

***Corporate And Foundation Support*** is becoming increasingly important to the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation as the GRPL expands its programs.

***Matching Gifts*** When you give to the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation, check to see if your employer has a matching contributions policy that will help maximize the power of your gift. The process is simple and we will be glad to help.

***General, Unrestricted Contributions*** Many of these gifts are generated through the Annual Fund Campaign. All gifts, in any amount, are needed and appreciated.

***Designated Gifts*** can support specific projects at any of the Library's facilities. Generous donors have purchased new equipment, new collections, special programming, and capital needs. Your gift will be appreciated by everyone who uses the Library.

***Memorial Gifts*** identify a contribution to the Library for a special book or another item you and your family purchase to commemorate the life of a loved one. Based on the level of memorial gift, the Foundation will use these memorial gifts to either purchase books, other library materials, or minor capital needs. Recognition in memory of your loved one will be placed on these items.

***Honor Gifts*** are a creative way to celebrate a birthday, graduation, holiday, anniversary, or another personal celebration with a lasting contribution to purchase a book or other library collection item. Based on the level of the honor gift, the Foundation will use these funds to purchase books, other library materials, or minor capital needs. Recognition in honor of this special person will be placed on these items.

## *Giving Options*

*Outright Cash Gifts* which allow for an immediate impact for our community.

*Bequest in a Will or Living Trust* A provision in a will or living trust that names the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation as a beneficiary.

*Named Funds* Restricted endowment funds with a minimum gift of \$50,000 which are used to fund programs and services matching the donors area of interest with the Library's needs.

*Charitable Gift Annuity* A contract with the GRPLF (through the Grand Rapids Community Foundation) providing the donor or loved one with fixed payments for life in exchange for charitable gift.

*Unrestricted Funds* The Foundation uses the Unrestricted Funds to support the current initiatives below as well as other special projects and services the Library institutes to respond to changing community needs. Unrestricted donations may consist of any dollar amount.

Donors may give to Unrestricted, add to any existing Named Funds, or establish their own Named Fund with a minimum gift of \$50,000. Named Funds community support of unrestricted needs currently includes the Grand Rapids Community Foundation Agency Fund — donors may give directly to this Fund as well as establish Charitable Gift Annuities through this Fund.

### *Giving to Departments and Named Funds*

*Children's / Teen Services* The Library seeks to provide all families in the city with library cards. The Foundation's main priority is to raise funds for children's services. These funds will help cover the cost of essential children's programs and services as well as transportation to and from all eight Library locations. Named funds supporting Children's Services include:

- *Meijer Family Fund* supports programs targeting children
- *Edsko & Claire Hekman Family Fund* supports GRPL's annual programs celebrating Children's Book Week.

## *Giving Options (cont.)*

**Adult Services** Changes in our society, particularly new technologies, demand new and expanded educational programs for adults. The Library needs to expand its adult material, programming and technological resources. Named funds supporting Adult Services include:

- ***Vander Veen Center for the Book Fund*** supports programs and services for the VanderVeen Center for the Book
- ***Titche Family Fund*** Supports references services and activities.

**Advancing Literacy** Literacy is the core value that prompted the creation of public libraries centuries ago and guided programming and services since the Grand Rapids Public Library was founded in 1871. Unfortunately, illiteracy remains a problem with 22% of Grand Rapids Adults. The Library and Library Foundation share a distinct role in improving our community's literacy rate.

***Doug & Maria DeVos Foundation*** Supports literacy programming for all ages.

**Special Collections** The Library's specialized holdings of furniture design information, genealogy materials, pictorial archives, and local history collections are of distinct value. The Library is a federal document depository as well as an affiliate Center for the Book for the state of Michigan. Funds are required to continue these services to individuals and groups. Named funds supporting Special Collection include:

- ***Audio Book Fund*** to fund the audio book collection at GRPL
- ***Stuart Local History Fund*** supports the local, Michigan, & Northwest history collection

## *Special Collections (cont.)*

- ***Skendzel Intern Fund*** to work on the Polish or Catholic collection at GRPL
- ***Helen E. Conger Collection Fund*** to purchase and maintain materials on the history of Grand Rapids, Kent County, the State of Michigan, American Indians of Michigan, areas surrounding Lake Michigan, and genealogy of Grand Rapids or Michigan families
- ***Ladies Literary Club Fund*** provides funds to document and index the GRPL's archives on the LLC history and tradition and to fund related enhancement programs and services at GRPL.