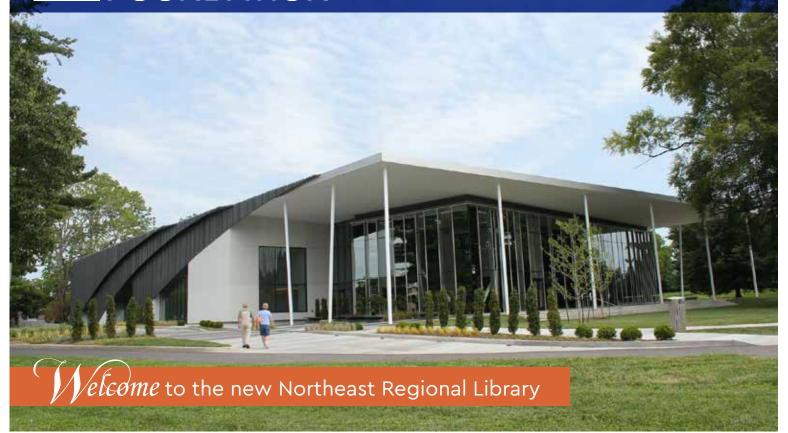


# Annual Report FY2019 Our Year | Our Future | Our Supporters









# **Philanthropy and Advocacy Keys to Success in FY2019**

What a year! Fiscal 2019 saw great successes and major challenges. But, through it all, your unwavering philanthropy and advocacy were instrumental in making the situation significantly better. So, we say Thank You!

Let us say it again ... Thank You!

The newly renovated St. Matthews Branch opened in May, and the new 40,000 SF Northeast Regional Library opened in June. Your contributions to the Library

Foundation helped make these wonderful facilities and their resources available to the community, and the community responded with enthusiasm.

In their respective first 30 days of operation, each library far exceeded every previous record for materials circulation. And, these were hard copy materials, not digital, proving once again that people LOVE books!

Thank you for your efforts in helping the Louisville Metro Council better appreciate the value of our public libraries during a tough budget climate. Your phone calls, letters, and appearances at budget hearings had a meaningful impact.

We ask that you continue to donate your time and your treasure. Your advocacy is more important than ever; please continue to remind our elected officials how vital our public library system is to the community.

Because of your generous donations to the Library Foundation, we are able to provide that all-important margin of excellence in our library system that the community deserves.

Our best to you,

Stephen C. Gault Chair

**Executive Director** 



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## **Page Turners - New Monthly Giving Program**

## **KEEP THE PAGES TURNING WITH YOUR MONTHLY GIFT!**

The Page Turners monthly giving program was created by the Foundation's Leadership Louisville Ignite Team, Lou City 7. As a Page Turner, you can help write the next chapter of our community story by ensuring a vibrant library system for all. It's easy to sign up. Simply visit the Library Foundation website, click Donate Now, and choose a monthly giving amount. Become a new monthly donor to the Library Foundation at the \$15 level or above and a one-year membership to the Friends of the Library is included. What does that mean? In addition to supporting the Louisville Free Public Library's programs and materials collection with your donation, you become a member of the Friends of the Library, a volunteer organization that advocates on behalf of the library and whose members participate in various projects including book drives and volunteer outreach.



Lou City 7 Ignite Team left to right: Jason White, KPFF Consulting Engineers; Jenita Lyons, Norton Healthcare; Jason Miles, Republic Bank; Lauren Hitron, Sacred Heart Schools; Angela Champion Sprowl, University of Louisville (not pictured: Jennifer Mulvihill, LG&E and KU Energy LLC)

# **Our Year: Another Successful Chapter for the Library Foundation**

# The Campaign for the Northeast Regional Library

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Those words from author Helen Keller perfectly sum up the Library Foundation's campaign to raise \$3.8 million of the \$17.8 million that was needed to build the new Northeast Regional Library, which opened to the public on June 24.

Together, the Louisville Free Public Library's vision of creating world-class facilities, the Library Foundation's management of the capital campaign, and the community's willingness to provide financial support resulted in this amazing addition to Louisville's library resources. Not one of those entities could have accomplished the task alone.

Campaign funds provided 123,374 books, CDs, DVDs, and other items patrons can borrow; furnishings; and technology to complement \$14 million in construction funds from Louisville Metro Government and the State of Kentucky. The Northeast Regional Library brings resources for education, cultural entertainment, and lifelong learning to an area of Louisville in which the demand for library services had outstripped its resources.

The public has responded exuberantly. In July 2019, the first fully open month, total circulation at Northeast Regional was 81,177 items. The previous record for one month was 60,493 with the re-opening in May 2019 of the newly remodeled St. Matthews branch. In July, 70 programs were conducted for children and adults. The program calendar included activities designed for all ages to take advantage of every unique space in the library – yoga on the screen porch; Girls STEAM Club and Introduction to 3-D printing in the maker pavilion; Healthy Choices and cooking classes in the demonstration kitchen; Introduction to Podcasting in the recording studio; Family Storytime, children's theater, and bilingual concerts in the children's area amphitheater; and other activities, such as book discussion groups, in other areas of the building.

Clearly, the community is enjoying its new library!

# **Corporate Development**

Lynn Huffman, Director of Corporate Development, is the newest employee of the Library Foundation. Lynn comes to the Foundation with 30 years of experience in nonprofit fundraising. As Director of Corporate Development, Lynn works with business and corporate partners to help increase support for LFPL. LFPL hosts thousands of interesting, educational, and fun events and programs throughout the year. The Foundation is excited to announce that corporate sponsorships of some of these amazing programs are now availble at LFPL. Companies can sponsor informative and well-attended programs like the How-To Festival, Family S.T.E.A.M. Day, Books & Brews 502, the Craig Buthod Author Series, AnimeCon, and more!

Companies can also show their ongoing support of the Library by becoming an annual donor. Annual corporate giving programs can be designed for businesses, large and small, and offer networking and marketing opportunities, among other benefits. Contributions support the work of LFPL and the Library Foundation. For more information, contact Lynn at 502-574-1642 or lynn.huffman@lfpl.org

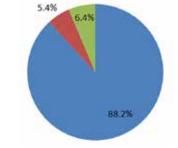


## FINANCIALS AND STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Fiscal Year 2019		Fou	ndation Expenses
Support and Revenue*		5.4	1%
Contributions	\$1,695,563	/	
Interest and Dividends	\$306,114		
Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments	\$148,252		
Total	\$2,149,929		4
Grants and Expenses			88.2%
Program Expenses and Grants to the Library	\$3,264,019	88%	Program Expenses and
Fundraising Expenses	\$200,473	0070	Grants to the Library
Administration	\$236,663	5%	Fundraising Expenses

\$3,701,155

Total



Fundraising Expenses Administration

Foundation Grants to LFPL

Capital Projects and Technology Books, E-magazines, and Downloadables Children's and Teen's Programs Other Library Support

\*Grants to the Library were funded by contributions raised during the current fiscal year as well as funds raised in previous years.

## **Our Future**

A year of change, challenges, and great expectations. That's how I would sum up the past twelve months. In October of 2018, I was honored and excited to fill in as interim director following the departure of then Library Director Jim Blanton. And I was humbled and inspired in April 2019 to be officially named Director. It has been my goal to use my knowledge of our community and our library, and my relationships with our staff, patrons, and stakeholders, to lead the Library through this transition without breaking the outstanding momentum we have built up over the past two decades.



LEE BURCHFIELD Director, LFPL

There are clear signs of positive change. The second half of the year our circulation numbers began trending upward despite our busiest location, the St. Matthews Library, being closed for expansion. And when St. Matthews record to be a business of the first fall manch on the second to be a business.

St. Matthews Library, being closed for expansion. And when St. Matthews reopened in May 2019, it proved to be a huge success. Its first full-month open, St. Matthews set a new system-wide record for circulation, with 60,493 items being checked out in a single month. And when the beautiful new Northeast Regional Library opened in late June, it took just a few days to see the new regional was poised to become by far the busiest library in the system.

This year also saw thousands of people attend annual events like the How-To-Festival and Family S.T.E.A.M. Day. A number of great authors also made appearances at LFPL, including Silas House, Celeste Ng, Dorothea Benton Frank, and Susan Orlean. And Summer Reading proved once again to be a huge success with 25,836 children and teens completing the program by reading at least 10 books during the summer.

But there are also some serious challenges ahead. The pressures on the Metro Government budget, driven largly by the increased pension obligations placed on us by state government, threaten the well-being of our library system. The Middletown and Fern Creek branches were both closed due to lack of funding. And while Metro Council has funded the reopening of Middletown in 2019, the budget outlook for future years is daunting.

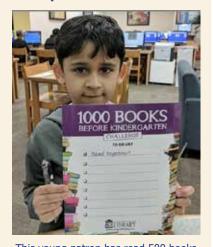
One very encouraging sign is that everywhere I go around the county and no matter who I talk to, there is clear support for our libraries. Everyone agrees that a vibrant and healthy library system is critical to our community. Everyone agrees that we need more libraries, more books, more staff, and more open hours. So I will continue to work with elected officials, library patrons, the Library Foundation, Friends of the Library, and other supporters and stakeholders to find a permanent solution to our long term funding challenges. And my great expectation is that our community will rally around the threat to our Library system and that we will emerge from this with increased funding, more resources, and a stronger Library.

Finally, to those of you who gave your time, your energy, or your wealth to support the LFPL this year I want to say "Thank You." Our Library and our community are better because of you, and I am sincerely and deeply appreciative.

Lee Burchfield, Library Director

Contributors to the Foundation directly support all branches of the Louisville Free Public Library. FY2019 donations to the Library Foundation supported: Early Literacy Initiatives, Summer Reading, STEAM Programming, Adult Literacy Efforts, Craig Buthod Author Series, How-To Festival, New Books, Technology, and the Northeast Regional Library Capital Campaign

Library Foundation donor support makes all of these programs and many more possible at LFPL!



This young patron has read 500 books toward his goal of 1000 in the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Challenge. 23,172 preschoolers and parents have joined the challenge.



43,150 kids and teens became Monster Readers by participating in LFPL's 2019 Summer Reading Program.



835,000 people took advantage of the Library's FREE public computer and wi-fi access

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