TOPEKA & SHAWNEE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Haley DaVee
Library Foundation Chair

A Year of Growth and Lasting Impact

2025 was a meaningful year for the Library Foundation, shaped by the generosity, energy, and shared commitment of our community. Together, we continue to strengthen the library as a place where people of all ages can learn, connect, and grow.

A defining milestone was the ribbon cutting and opening of the newly renovated Kids Library. Funded in part by the Foundation, this vibrant, thoughtfully designed space is already making a big impact. During the summer of 2025, the Kids Library welcomed a record number of children and families, underscoring the importance of investing in spaces that inspire learning, creativity, and connection from an early age.

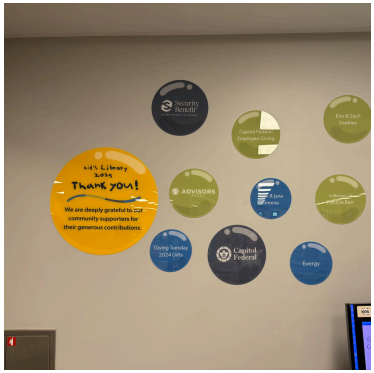
Throughout the year, the Foundation also focused on strengthening its ability to support the library's future. By expanding our donor base, we are positioning the Foundation to continue investing in innovative programs, enhancing library spaces, and responding to evolving community needs.

These accomplishments reflect a collective commitment to ensure the library remains an accessible resource for all. We are grateful to the many individuals, partners, and supporters who make this work possible.

Together, we are building a strong foundation for the future—one that ensures the library continues to serve, inspire, and connect our community for years to come.

Thank you for your continued generosity and belief in this work.







MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Marie Pyko
Library CEO

A Year of Impact Made Possible by You

As I look back on 2025, one thing is clear: our community doesn't just visit the library—they rely on it. From our youngest readers to our most senior customers, the library has become a place where everyone finds exactly what they need.

Because of your support, 2025 was a year overflowing with "wow" moments:

- A Brand New Wonderland: We reimagined the Kids Library, welcoming over 600 excited children and families at our grand reopening on May 29. It's now a daily hub of play and discovery!
- A Summer of Color: In the Alice C. Sabatini Gallery, 20,015 visitors explored Dr. Drab's Lab, rediscovering the beauty of every color in our world through this immersive exhibition.
- The Soundtrack of Our Community: We filled our halls with songs during the Music for a Sunday Afternoon series and our Holiday Concerts in the Rotunda, bringing neighbors together to enjoy the talents of local and regional artists.

It was a year of pure joy, deep exploration, and true community—and you made it all possible. Every day, our library is bustling with energy. It is a vital space where people from all walks of life connect through literacy, learning, and enrichment. Whether someone is discovering their first book or a teen is learning a new creative skill, your commitment ensures our resources remain available to everyone.

On behalf of our staff, our board, and the thousands of community members we serve, thank you. We simply could not do what we do without you.

With gratitude,
Marie Pyko







WILDER SOCIETY

The Wilder Society recognizes donors who have included The Library Foundation in their estate planning. Through blended and deferred gifts, bequests, trusts, and other planned giving instruments, these thoughtful individuals support the Library's future impact by generating funds to enrich, not replace, traditional tax-based support for strategic Library initiatives. * indicates deceased society member

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WILDER SOCIETY

MEMBERS

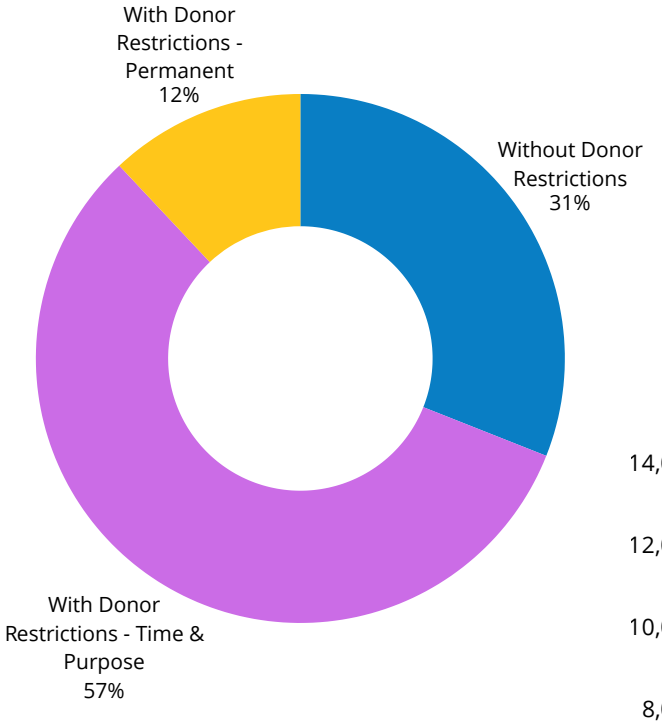
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Katherine Park Pyle* and son: Oliver Holmes Gilliland*
Becky Richmond
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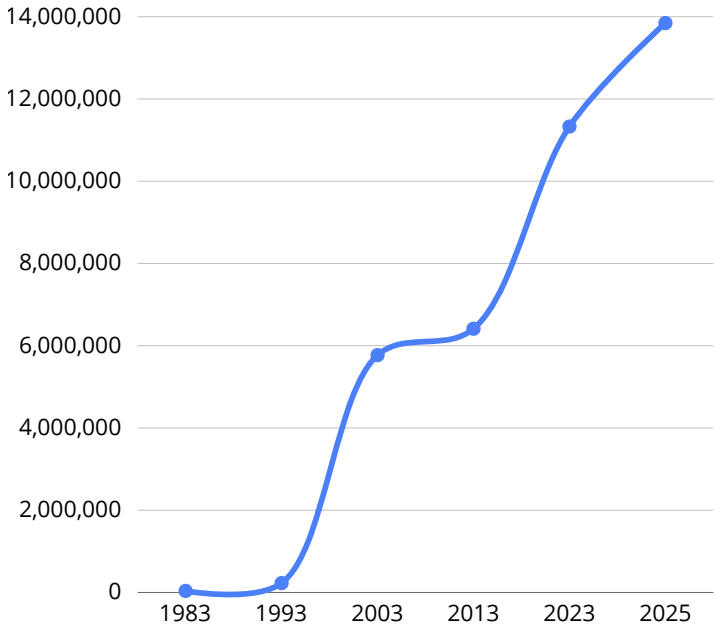
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Linda Woolf*
Alice Young*

FOUNDATION ASSETS





Assets of the Foundation have grown tremendously over the past 10 years. It started with $37,000 and at the end of FY 2025, assets in the Library Foundation were $13,845,343.

LOYAL GIVERS

The Library Foundation is fortunate to have donors that consistently give to support the mission of the Foundation and the work being done at the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library. Our Loyal Givers have given every year, for at least the past 10 consecutive years. *indicates deceased loyal giver

Roger and Robyn Aeschliman
Joan Arterburn
Marilyn and Mark Ault
Terry and Robert Bernatis
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Bruce and Connie Burns
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Jodi Gee
Susan and Terrence Gooden
Cecelia and Paul Harris
Peggy and Richard Hawkins
Martha and Duane Huizenga
Dr. Allen and Mrs. Beth Kossoy
Nancy Lindberg
Carolyn Litwin
Cathy Maassen
Ruth Maus
Dr. Walt Menninger
Stephen Page and Gwen McClain
Dr. Kent and Mrs. Marsha Palmberg
Norma Phillips
Elizabeth Post and Paul Bicknell
Carole Purdum
Dr. Bartlett W. Ramsey
Barbara and Robert Scofield
Marsha and Bill Sheahan
Bob Storey* and Kerry Onstott Storey*
The Honorable Franklin and Mrs. Judith Theis
Dr. Stanley and Reverend Sandra Vogel

LIFETIME DONATIONS

UNDER $2,000,000

Jo Ann Klemmer*
Robert M. and Hazel F. Lingo*
Dr. Glenn and Claire Swogger*

Under $1,000,000

G. Lester Jordan, Jr.*
Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System

Under $500,000

Capitol Federal Foundation
CoreFirst Bank & Trust
Friends of the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library
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Lillian Landberg*
Frank* and Judith Sabatini
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John Culbertson*
Lillian Dawkins*
Noelle Todd Drechsel*
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Margaret McCausland*
Ms. Barbara A. Mertz*
Dr. Jo Ann Myers
National Endowment for the Humanities
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UNDER $250,000

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Eldon and Harriet Sloan*
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Stanley Flowers
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UNDER $25,000

Advisors Excel
John and Carole Ashley*
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UNDER $25,000

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Caterpillar Foundation
Cengage Learning
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Jim and Gwen Chandler*
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Jeanne P. Hirschberg*
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Mary Beth and Jim Schroff
Ralph and Beth Skoog*
Linda Spalding
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Roger and Joan Underwood
Waddell & Reed
Max and Pauline Williams
Jan Weiner and Jerald Skinner*
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Julie and Brad Woods

UNDER $10,000 to $5,000

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Mr. Eugene Boyer*
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UNDER $10,000 TO $5,000

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Molly Morris
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Bruce and Kathy Myers
Marianna and Austin Nothern

LIFETIME DONATIONS

UNDER $10,000 TO $5,000

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Safari Golf
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Kirke and Diane Snyder
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Patricia L. Stinson*
Nancy Stone
Judi and Rob Stork
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Dr. Stephen and Mrs. Joan Tempero
Annette and Ron Thornburgh
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Topeka Council of the International Reading Association
Topeka South Rotary
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Wal-Mart Foundation
Marilyn and Howard Ward
Washburn University
Robert Webb
Peggy Welsh
Susan and Rick Wienckowski
Susan Krehbiel William
June Windscheffel*
Alice M. Young*

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY

$186,150

funds one year of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

5,653

kids age birth - 5 years old enrolled in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library at the end of 2025



10,888

kids who have been enrolled in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Shawnee County and who have "graduated" from the program

$1,630,378

funds raised in Shawnee County since inception

EMPLOYEE GIVING

Each year the employees of the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library give as part of The Library Foundation's Employee Giving campaign. The funds go to support areas in the Library that are important to each employee. In 2025 total employee giving was $13,486.

Natalie Allen
Leah Anderson
Arion Beals
Lisa Bebout
Sherry Best
Dawn Buttery
Christina Callison
Donna Casey
Ashley Charest
Aubrey Conner
Jennifer Crump (Magers)
Carrie Cummings
Deb Ellerbrook
Aileen Finney
Scarlett Fisher-Herreman
Autumn Friedli
Diana Friend
Theresa Girdler
Thad Hartman
Meagan Hepburn
Cale Herreman
Felicia Hillebert
Marlana Hodgkinson
Ryan Holm
Elaine Holt
Brenda Hough
Wilson Ingram
Katie Keckeisen
Alexandra Lockwood
Cadie Maas
Jesse Maddox
Ginger Park
Sandra Patterson
Michael Perkins
Marie Pyko
Deborah Reiff
Teresa (Trish) Reuter
Riley Sanford
Abigail Siemers
Kelli Smith
Lissa Staley
Debbie Stanton
Kimberly Strube
Susan Thomas
Debbie Updegraff
Karen Watson
Luanne Webb
Martha Williams-Hayes
Bret Wilson
Trevor Worthington
Kari Zimmerman

EMPLOYEE GIVING



Staff made baby tie blankets for ChildCare Aware of Eastern Kansas during Employee Giving Week.



Just letting out some creativity while painting river rocks to keep during Employee Giving Week.



Enjoying some kitty yoga during Employee Giving Week. Kitties were from Helping Hands Humane Society!

2025 DONATIONS

UNDER $250,000

Carolyn Adams*

UNDER $100,000

Nell D. Thompson*

UNDER $50,000

Martha Herrick*
Sabatini Family Foundation

UNDER $25,000

Joan Gatewood*
Betty Northup*
Sports Center, Inc.
Topeka Genealogical Society

UNDER $10,000

Bonkers
Peg Dunlap
Kay Holle
Martha and Duane Huizenga

UNDER $10,000

Annie Launey
Carolyn Litwin
Carol* and David Parker
Bob Storey* and Kerry Onstott Storey*

UNDER $5,000

Ken and Pam Alexander
Bruce and Connie Burns
Ashley Charest
Randy and Debra Clayton
Judith Craig
Mary Ellen Cronin
Haley and Jason DaVee
Larry and Lois Dimmitt
Gail and William Eliason
Evergy
Michelle Ewert
Elaine Gill
Kathleen and James Harr
Dr. Russell Harvey and Patricia McGivern
Hazel Hill Chocolate Traditions

2025 DONATIONS

UNDER $5,000

Clyde and Janis Holiwell
Ryan D. Holm
Chris A. Huntsman
Dr. Judith Kooser and Mr. Nicholas Good
Dr. Allen and Mrs. Beth Kossoy
Tim Marchand & Eva Landry
McDonald's Restaurants of Lawrence
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Stephen Page and Gwen McClain
Briena and Matthew Parks
Fred and Kim Patton
Greg Pechin
Dennis and Patricia Petterson
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Marie and Marc Pyko
Jerry and Saundra Quiring
Jenalea Randall
John and Alicia Salisbury
Maybelle Scheetz
Mary Beth and Jim Schroff
John M. Shapiro Trust

UNDER $5,000

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Zach and Erin Snethen
Target Stores
Topeka Community Foundation
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Donna Whiteman-Gast

UNDER $1,000

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Catherine Buckley
Cashmere Gourmet Popcorn
Creative West
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Nancy Dutton
Karen and Rich Farr
Sara Ford
Susan and Kent Garlinghouse
Kim Garnier
Rebecca and Larry Hinton
Becky and Terry Holmquist
Walter and Ellen Horn

2025 DONATIONS

UNDER $1,000

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Margo Kren
Maria and Kenneth Kutina
Tighe and Margaret LaRue
Mallory Lutz
Cathy Maassen
Craig and Akimi McKinney
Greg Monaco and Jeanne Tomiser
Ginger L. Park
Patterson Legal Group
Eric and Shujing Purcell
April Reynolds
Pat and Jim Simonson
Kelli Smith
Kathryn Stroebele
Annette and Ron Thornburgh
Andy and Glenda Tompkins
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Roger and Joan Underwood
Joan and William Wagnon
Max and Pauline Williams

UNDER $1,000

Susan Krehbiel William
Mark and Jan Zillinger

Under $500

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Marilyn and Mark Ault
Sherry Best
Duane and Terri Bond
Janet Bova
Dr. Yuttana Chawengsub, MD
Aubrey Conner
Rob and Lori Downing
Joseph M. Feeney, Jr.
Nancy and Larry Ferrell
Autumn Friedli
Diana and John Friend
Susan and Terrence Gooden
Thad and Christianna Hartman
Chris Henson
Wilson and Cynthia Ingram
Junior League of Topeka Book Club

2025 DONATIONS

UNDER $500

Roland and Sandra Kassebaum
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Emily Lawton
Nancy Lindberg
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Judy A. Moler
Lona J. Morse
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Sandra Patterson
Ramon and Eva Powers
Carole Purdum
Dr. Bartlett W. Ramsey
Mr. Charles F. Raplee
Judith and Donald Rogers
Dr. Peter and Margie Schloesser
Lissa Staley

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Mr. Steven Tallen* and Mrs. Mary A. Torrence
Julie Taylor
United Way of Greater Atlanta
Chris Wall
Mrs. Karen E. Watson
Tony and Alice Weingartner
Wichita State University
Office of General Counsel
Louise and Donald Williams
Martha L. Williams-Hayes

UNDER $250

Thomas Akins
Sharon Anthony
Joan Arterburn
Jana Atchison
Katherine Barnard
Jennifer M. Barr
Arion Beals
Alice and Terry Bertels
Rhonda Boyd

2025 DONATIONS

UNDER $250

Beth Anne and Russ Branden
Paul and Mary Brennan
Dianna and Chris Brodine
Marilyn Brown
Mr. H. Richard Bush
Dr. Nadia Cabrilo
Miranda Carico
Dr. Maurice and Naomi Cashman
Dr. Michael and Mrs. Marcia Cassidy
Kris and Jeff Chanay
Teresa Clark
Alan and Julie Conroy
Kathleen C. Correll
Carol Cowger
Carrie Cummings
Lacey Deiter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. - Topeka Alumnae Chapter
Casey Devore
John and Shirley Dotson
Gary Doyle
Priscilla Dugan

UNDER $250

Joseph and Dorothy Dunbar
Spencer Duncan
Deb S. Ellerbrook
Duane and Beth Fager
Judy and Owen Faul
Karen Faulk
Scarlett and Cale Fisher-Herreman
Diana and Jim Frownfelter
Dr. and Mrs. John Gardner, MD
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