

GPL ENDOWMENT TRUST

ensuring our enduring treasure

*If you have a garden and a library,
you have everything you need.*

2014

REPORT AND APPEAL TO THE COMMUNITY

New Technology Offerings @ Your Library

Digital Learning Stations, LEGO® Robotics, and 3D Printers, oh my!

Digital Learning Stations.

The library added two AWE computers in the Children's Room this year:

The *Early Literacy Station™* is for children ages 2-8, and it features over 70 educational software applications covering several curricular areas. From Math Doodles to Dora the Explorer, there is something special available for every child's learning preference.

After School Edge™ is for children ages 6-12, and it features rich educational software applications that span the entire curricular spectrum, from STEM topics to reading and math to reference and the arts.

As content is licensed and the computers are not attached to the Internet, these stations provide a safe, secure, and advertisement-free environment in which to learn.



LEGO® Mindstorms EV3

LEGO® Robotics.

The library will be offering *LEGO® Mindstorms EV3* robotics activities for middle-schoolers this year. Robotics is not only fun, but educational, as it teaches basic science and engineering concepts, and offers participants experience in simple programming. Participants also learn to solve problems and work as a team. (The "Robotics on the Run: Build a Simple Robot" program held in August, 2014 attracted 17 young adults in grades 5-12. They are eagerly anticipating attending more robotics programs at the library!)

3D Printers.

The library is going to be getting not one, but two 3D printers!

Technology Librarian Jeff Pike and Library Volunteer Ryan Leonard recommended the purchase of two very different machines. The first is an open source printer, called a RepRap. This printer is for the DIY enthusiast, because rather than shipping all necessary parts, it ships only what is essential and then the user prints the rest!

Ryan has spent many hours this summer gradually putting the machine together. The second 3D printer will be a Mark-Forged Mark One, one of the first 3D printers to print carbon fiber. This unit is on pre-order and is expected to ship this fall.

As we move forward with 3D printing, we are excited to think about the opportunities that this service will present to the community and how it will open a whole new chapter in the history of the Groton Public Library.

The library would not be able to provide any of these new technologies without the generous support of the GPL Endowment Trust.



Lily tries out the library's new digital learning station.

THANK YOU

We gratefully acknowledge the individuals and corporations who made gifts to the GPL Endowment Trust from September 2013 through September 2014.

Dear Groton Neighbor,

Greetings!

We offer this report to you at the end of the GPL Endowment Trust's 18th year to share the many ways the Trust benefits the Library, to provide an update on the financial health of the Trust, and to ask for your continued support.

Library Benefits. We hope you enjoy this newsletter, but more importantly, we hope you have enjoyed one or more of the many delightful programs, services, or special collections the Groton Public Library has been able to offer because of the Endowment.

Financial Health. The financial statement of the Trust as of June 30, 2014, shows assets totaling \$2,288,447. The Trust invests the principal and grants up to 4% each year for special programs and services for the Library. \$65,837 was expended for grants during Fiscal Year 2014, and \$63,329 has already been approved for FY2015.

Continued Support. The GPL Endowment Trust was established in 1996 by people like you – generous citizens and businesses in Groton and surrounding towns. The Groton Public Library cannot continue to excel without the support of its community. We wish to thank everyone who has contributed in the past and to invite everyone to support this vital fund.

It's easy and convenient to donate. Please visit our website at www.gplendowment.org and click on ways to give, or use the enclosed envelope for drop off at the library or mail.

Please help us ensure our enduring treasure, the Groton Public Library, with your generous support.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,
The Groton Public Library Endowment Board of Trustees:
Connie Keeran Lapres, *Chair*
Edward Strachan, *Treasurer*
David Alexander
Kristen von Campe, *Library Trustee*
Vanessa Abraham, *Library Director*

www.gplendowment.org

Complete financial reports are available at the library.

Applied Materials
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Bradford Bascom
C. Leonard and
Patricia Bennett
Alan Bernstein
Susan and Thomas Boggiano
Paul and Louise Bresnahan
Ed Bretschneider
Elaine Brown
Dell (YourCause, LLC)
Alan and Darcy Donald
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Janet Glenn
Gertrude Ellis
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Virginia Vollmar
David and Nancy Wilder
Sharon and Jerry Wooding
David Woods
Michael and Jennie Woods
Lois Young

Honoring Family and Friends

Memorial gifts to the Groton Public Library Endowment Trust, such as those made this year in honor of library patrons Frances Feeny and Allen Feldman, are a thoughtful way to remember a person who was important to you during their lifetime.

Each memorial donation signifies a caring tribute to the person in whose name the gift is made, and helps to perpetuate that person's interest in and love of the library and its abundant offerings of programs, services, and collections.



Alexi, Caitlin, and Annalee share laughs over their science creation during a Sciencetellers program in August 2014.

It was Full STEAM Ahead @ the Library this Summer!

by Karen Dunham, Children's Librarian

The Children's Department incorporated **STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) into its programming for the Summer Reading Program with the theme, "Fizz, Boom, READ!"

573 children joined the Summer Reading Program. Parents and children loved the "set your own reading goal" format, the library bingo game, and the reading prizes. Comments from parents and children:

"The kids felt a sense of pride by setting their own goals."

"Entertainment events were perfect!"

"The prizes motivated my son to keep his reading goal."

5th grader, "I loved everything about the Summer Reading Program!"

"Huge success! Loved the science shows!! Overall great program for the children/community!"

The science theme was a popular one and included many fun and inspiring programs such as Hands-On Science with Kosmic Kelly, a "Singing Scientist" musical science program, robotics expert and author Kathy Ceceri, Museum of Science's Super Cold Science, and visit (with rocket launching!) by Nate Ball, host of PBS's award-winning series *Design Squad* and author of the *Alien in My Pocket* series.

The Endowment also funded other special events: comedic juggler Bryson Lang, Sparky's Puppets, Kid Co interactive theatre, and a musical performance by David Grover. Always a highlight of the summer, the Tanglewood Marionettes enchanted an audience of over 200 with their production of *Cinderella*.

Children's Programs

This year we offered 278 Children's programs and drew a record 6,188 kids, a 12% increase over last year! New this year was the Winter Reading Program for children in grades K-4, "Chill Out and READ!" 100 children signed up and participants who read 4 books during February received a gift bag of prizes, a reading certificate, and a raffle ticket for a \$25 gift card to the Toy Shop of Westford.

Bus Transportation for School Visits

Twenty-three elementary school classes from Florence Roche and Swallow Union (a total of 523 children) visited the library thanks to funding for bus transportation provided by the GPL Endowment Trust.



Children enjoy looking at the Tanglewood Marionettes after their "Cinderella" performance in August, 2014.

Other special programs:

- **Theatre at the Mount's** musical play, *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*.
- **Mini-Motions** classes which included dance and movement for children ages 2-5.
- "Eyes on Owls" live owl program.
- The very popular monthly **Tales & Tunes** music programs for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.
- Weekly drop-in preschool craft activities.



Host of PBS's *Design Squad* and *Alien in My Pocket* series author Nate Ball gets ready to launch a rocket during a library program in July 2014.



Mafeus, Austen, and Samrita work together to program their robot during the "Robots on the Run" program.

YOUNG ADULTS

by Deborah Dowson,
Young Adult Librarian



Elsa is transformed by face painting artist Kelley.

For the past two years, we've ranked first and second for total young adult program attendance out of the 52 towns our size in the Commonwealth, and last year's attendance – our highest yet! - grew 11% over the previous year!

We couldn't have achieved this level of success without the GPL Endowment Trust's ongoing commitment to teen programming.

Our young adult community is bright, creative, and eager to engage in learning and social activities that the Endowment allows us to provide. We had our first-ever Winter Reading Program this year because teens in the Young Adult Advisory Council asked for it!

They even picked the theme, "Reading is Snow Much Fun!" This summer's "Spark a Reaction" Summer Reading Program invited participants to explore robotics, chemistry, acting, and glass fusion in hands-on workshops, as well as offering the generous reading incentives that teens love. We will continue to offer workshops and ongoing programs that reflect our communities' interests in science, technology, art, and literature.

Coming soon:
LEGO® Mindstorms
and after school gaming
and crafts.



The Improv Acting Class warms up with a rendition of "Ain't No Mountain High Enough."

MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM

The Groton Public Library Endowment Trust generously provides free (or discounted) admission passes to 22 local attractions, where you can escape the endless winter at the New England Aquarium, travel back in time at Old Sturbridge Village, or be amazed by a life-sized T-rex model at the Museum of Science.

Museum passes were used 1,332 times last year, saving our patrons \$33,091! The five most popular passes were to the New England Aquarium, the Museum of Science, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Discovery Museums in Acton, and the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem.

A complete list of passes is available online at gpl.org. Passes may be reserved online up to three months in advance with your library card number and PIN.



Congratulations to Akul - our summer reading grand prize winner!

Boston Globe Sportswriter Dan Shaughnessy returned to his hometown to Talk Sports in Nov. 2013. After Dan's talk and Q&A with over 70 fans, Sheri Miner of Groton enjoyed a laugh with Shaughnessy.



ADULT PROGRAMS

by Ann Wilson,
Adult Programming Coordinator

The 2013/14 programming season drew a record 2,118 people to our adult programs! This represents a 17% increase (300 people!) over last year (our previously highest number.)

Perennial favorites returned: Artist Gregory Maichack taught "Monet's Mirror: A Pastel Workshop;" Chef Liz Barbour demonstrated healthy cooking with "Feasting with Superfoods;" and the Delvena Theatre Company performed "Lizzie Borden and the 40 Whacks!"

Groton-born Boston Globe Sports Columnist and Author Dan Shaughnessy delighted a packed hall with his take on Boston sports. Master Gardener

Jodie Gilson presented several popular gardening programs. Stephen Collins presented "Shake-Scene I" in April, in honor of Shakespeare's birthday.

Save the date: Stephen Collins returns on Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at 7 p.m., for "Shake-Scene II."

New favorites appeared: Naturalist Sy Montgomery inspired with her book talk on *Birdology*; Peg Lorenz and Joanna Brown offered comfort and advice on caring for our dying loved ones; and Poet and Jazz Vocalist Charles Coe warmed our hearts with his deep baritone voice and verses from *All Sins Forgiven: Poems for My Parents*.

Notable Upcoming Events!

Please register on gpl.org's calendar, as space is limited for some programs.

- **Our Annual Local Authors Fair, Sunday, November 16, 1-3 p.m., with music provided by harpist Rebecca Swett.**
- **"Feasting from Literature" with The Creative Feast's Liz Barbour, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015, at 7 p.m.**
- **The Delvena Theatre Company presents, "W. C. Fields and Mae West," on Sunday, March 1, 2015, at 2 p.m. (snow date: March 8). Co-Sponsored with the Groton Woman's Club.**
- **An Evening with CLAIRE MESSUD, the New York Times bestselling author of *The Emperor's Children* (2006), on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, at 7 p.m. Her latest novel, *The Woman Upstairs* (2013), was a New York Times Review Notable Book and a Boston Globe Best Book of the Year.**

And lots more great adult programs coming this year! Sign up for Groton Library's "Check It Out" email newsletter so you don't miss a thing!

ADULT SUMMER READING PROGRAM

by Lisa Baylis,
Head of Circulation Services

Summer Reading Programs...they're not just for kids and teens anymore!

We introduced an exciting and very popular "Literary Elements" Adult Summer Reading Program this year. Grown-up readers earned raffle tickets for reading or for completing library activities on a bingo card. At the busy Circulation Desk we heard, "What fun!" "It's great that the whole family can do this together!" "We get rewarded for what we love to do...read!"

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see that the science-themed Adult Summer Reading Program was a big hit! Here are the numbers...

216 people signed up, read 881 books (most books read by one person: 48!), and completed 48 library bingo activity cards! Thirty-nine readers met the Summer Reading Challenge of reading 9 books in 9 weeks. There were 9 weekly raffle winners of \$50 gift certificates to local businesses and one Grand Prize Winner of a \$250 gift certificate to Gibbet Hill.

Looking for a good book to read? The library will be compiling all adult summer readers' favorite titles, along with the many wonderful reviews participants wrote.

**Did you know
that over
1,000 people
participated in
Groton Public Library's
2014 Summer Reading
Programs?**



Author Barbara Shapiro

We want to thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Trip. We had never visited this museum and, without this opportunity, we likely would never go into Boston to visit this museum.

The museum was absolutely beautiful and the guided tour was informative. We enjoyed the lunch, especially conversing with other Groton residents.

Overall, we give our experience an A+, and hope that the library will offer more activities like this.

Sincerely,

Andrea & Richard Burrier

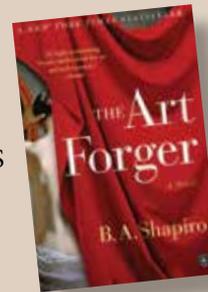
Thank you for a most informative, inspiring and fun filled day. I might add an elegant day I had, from the very comfortable bus ride in the capable hands of Ernie the driver, to our timely arrival at the museum and lunch. The tour guide was very knowledgeable and the wait staff at the Café provided excellent service. It was the tonic I personally needed to leave my 'winter cave' after being house bound this winter ... The Groton Library is a treasure!

Warmest regards,

Nancy LeMay

Groton READS 2014

by Vanessa Abraham, Library Director



This was our 10th year and one of our most successful Groton READS yet, as hundreds of residents read and celebrated *The Art Forger* by Barbara Shapiro!

The kick-off event was a bus trip to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum for 30 Groton residents, who enjoyed a free trip, group tour, and admission to the special exhibit by Sophie Calle, thanks to the generosity of the GPL Endowment Trust.

Geoff Kelly, the FBI Agent who headed up the Gardner Heist investigation, and the Gardner's Security Director, Anthony Amore, presented "The Gardner Heist" to a completely packed meeting room, as attendees found out first-hand about the largest unsolved art heist in history, and about the efforts to recover the 13 stolen pieces, including masterpieces by Vermeer and Rembrandt – art valued at more than \$500 million.

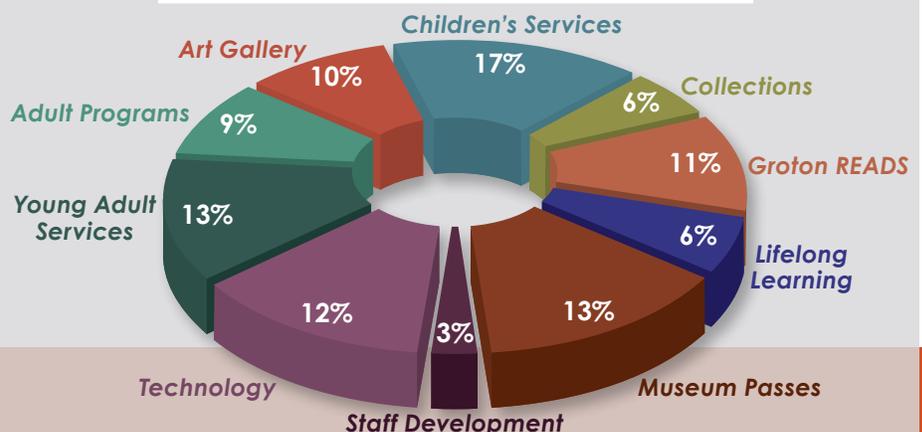
The grand finale for all Groton READS events was a visit from Barbara Shapiro, who delighted the audience of over 120 people with her wit, humor, and tales from her life as an author.

"It took twenty-five years to become 'an overnight success!'" she said, evoking gales of laughter.

A pop-up Local Artists' Fair in the Library, "A Journey Inside Rembrandt's Paint" by local artist Donald Shambroom, a discussion of *The Art Forger* by the GPL Book Group, an Art Scavenger Hunt in the Library, corresponding books and discussions for older children (*Masterpiece* by Elise Broach) and teens (*Moxie and the Art of Rule Breaking* by Erin Dionne), and a visit from author Erin Dionne on "Boston's History and Mystery" rounded out the rest of our 2014 community-wide reading event.

Stay tuned! Another Groton READS is being planned for 2015!

FY2014 Endowment Programs



SAVE THE DATE!

GPL Endowment Trust
Donor Appreciation Evening
Friday, March 20, 2015
7 pm to 9 pm

Lifelong Learning Courses

by **Vanessa Abraham,**
Library Director

Building upon the success of the first full year of Lifelong Learning Courses at the library, the sophomore offerings this past year were a big hit with residents, thanks to exceptional efforts by Dr. Mary Jennings, Curriculum Coordinator, and all the volunteers who generously donated their time and expertise to facilitate these terrific programs.



Lifelong Learning Leaders celebrating their successful courses for calendar year 2013:

*Back (L to R): Tom Lamont, Library Director
Vanessa Abraham, Arlene Townes, Peter Schulz,
Mary Jennings*

*Front (L to R): Bobbie Lamont, Gregg Baker
(Justice, 2012/13), and Donna Nowak*

(Not pictured: Nancy LeMay)



Recent memoirs from the library's memoir writing workshops. (L)



The library's new Spanish Language Group Coordinator, Verónica Mazzu. (R)

Fall 2013 Courses:

Lunch with TED: TED Talk Discussions, led by Bobbie Lamont and Mary Jennings

The World According to Robert Altman, led by Mary Jennings

The Universe, Updated: Studying the Night Sky, led by Peter Schulz with Larry Swezey and Tim Brothers

Herstory: The Women's Rights Movement in America, pre-1960, led by Arlene Townes

Why We Call it Art: A Beginner's Guide, led by Donna Nowak

Spring 2014 Courses:

Why We Call it Art: A Beginner's Guide, led by Donna Nowak (encore for Groton READS)

Book Discussion of The Better Angels of our Nature by Stephen Pinker: Parts I & II, led by Mary Jennings

Great Decisions 2014, designed by the Foreign Policy Association and led by Tom Lamont

Herstory: The Women's Rights Movement in America, 1960-, led by Arlene Townes

And lots more great courses coming up this year!

Stories Only You Can Tell: Memoir Writing Workshops

The memoir writing workshop has been a perennial favorite since 2003.

Zoa Guernsey founded the course and led it for over 10 years. Now the tradition is carried on by Zoa's daughter, Zoann Guernsey. Over 150 local townspeople have shared pieces of their personal history through this workshop, and most of the stories are available for reading in the library.

The next 6-week session starts Tuesday, March 3, 2015, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and runs through April 7, 2015.

New Spanish Conversation Group Leader!

Verónica Mazzu is a native Spanish speaker from Chile. She has a Master's in Education with Spanish Concentration from Framingham State College and a Massachusetts Educator Foreign Language License. She is currently the Spanish teacher at the Ayer-Shirley Regional High School. She has led an adult conversational Spanish course on a weekly basis for the Littleton Continuing Education Program for several years. The Spanish Conversation Group meets at 7 p.m. every other Tuesday evening from September through June.

In addition to our Spanish Group, Thomas Knatt continues to lead our wonderful French Conversation Group every other Thursday night at 7 p.m.

Book Discussions

The library continues to support three wonderful book discussion groups: Great Books, GPL Book Group, and the Mystery Book Group, which meet monthly. All are welcome to attend!

The GPL Endowment Trust provides support for all Lifelong Learning Courses.

**Did you know that over 10,000 people
attended programs at the
Groton Public Library last year?**

GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ENDOWMENT TRUST

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Art Gallery News

by Deborah Santoro, Art Gallery Coordinator



Mary Minifie gives a talk on Edmund C. Tarbell and the Boston School of Painting.

This past year began with “Edmund C. Tarbell: Works From the Tarbell Charitable Trust.” Mary Minifie, local artist and heir to the Boston School tradition of which Tarbell was a founding member, gave two talks to the public and held two workshops for young adults on Tarbell and the Boston School style of painting.

As fall turned to winter, the bright autumnal colors of Heather Lenz’s paintings and Pamela Lawson’s prints kept warmth and light in the gallery during their dual show, “A Flock of Days.”

In the spring, the gallery combined forces with Groton READS to bring “Local Talent,” a preview exhibition for the Pop-Up art show organized by Groton READS Coordinator Hattie Bernstein. Local artists included in this exhibit were: Petra Breen, Dianne Bunis, Carol Panek-Clarke, Peter Dixon, Nancy French, Tamara Gonda, Ronald Hubbard,

Douglas Huntley, Cheryl King, Jill M. Pottle, Wendy Prest, Judy Seidl, Alice A. Shafer, Donald Shambroom, Marlene Stemple, Bronwen Wallens, Gwenneth Wallens, Lisa Wiesner, and Deb Wolf.

The students of the Groton-Dunstable Regional High School were also represented in the spring in a show titled “Future” which featured the work of Maddy Bugbee, Walter Campbell, Avery Ferrante, Emily Gaines, Zach Hogan, Julie King, Heather Mischel, Mitchell Navetta, Rob Neff, Serena Scharn and Erin Sheedy.

Closing out the year for the gallery and my eight-year tenure as Groton Public Library’s Art Curator, I selected the monotypes and monoprints of Justin Campaniello, Catherine Kernan, and Jan Cadman Powell in “Singularity: The Unique Print” for my final show.

Thank you for eight rewarding years, and please join me in welcoming our new curator, Ken Hansen, to the Owen Smith Shuman Gallery.



Gallery Coordinator Deborah Santoro with Artists Pam Lawson and Heather Lenz at the reception for “A Flock of Days.”