

Ensuring our Enduring Treasure

2022

GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ENDOWMENT TRUST

REPORT AND APPEAL TO THE COMMUNITY

The Opportunities of “Yes!”

We are able to enhance and expand our offerings every year thanks to the GPL Endowment Trust. With the Trust's resources we are able to say “Yes!” to as many new ideas and experiences as we can implement.

With the Endowment's generosity we are able to say:

Books for Babies gift bags for new parents? Yes!

New 1,000 Books before Kindergarten activity books? Yes!

Emily Post training to lead a future children's etiquette series? Yes!

Supplies for our LEGO® Spike and freestyle building clubs? Yes!

Pizza for 25 young teens for movie night? Yes!

New or additional museum passes? Yes!

Summer Reading rewards, special events, and activities for all ages? Yes!

Town-wide mailing of GPL's quarterly newsletter? Yes!

Lifelong learning series and many year-round library clubs and groups? Yes!

Fantastic programs and events for every age throughout the year? Yes!

Even more wonderful things planned for 2023? Yes!

And of course,

“Is it all free?!” Yes! —Thanks to GPL Endowment Trust!

We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to respond to affirmatively to requests, enhancements, and innovative activities to provide the best service to our community.



Dan Shaughnessy speaks about his new book

Dear Groton Neighbor,

Greetings! The GPL Endowment Trust was established in 1998 by people like you—generous citizens and businesses in Groton and surrounding towns. The Groton Public Library could not continue to excel without the support of its community. We wish to thank everyone who has contributed in the past and invite everyone to support this vital fund.

The financial statements of the Trust as of June 30, 2022, shows net assets totaling \$3,351,731. The Trust invests the principal and grants up to 4% each year for programs and services for the library. In FY2022, \$102,216 was expended for grants and \$118,248 has already been approved for FY2023.

The Groton Public Library, with funds from the Endowment, has been able to pivot and adapt to changing circumstances to provide program continuity and community connection through difficult times. As you think about your charitable giving this year, we encourage you to give to the GPL Endowment Trust. Your support and contributions are a crucial part of this important work.

For online giving via PayPal, go to gplendowment.org and select DONATE under “Ways to Give,” or send a check payable to the GPL Endowment Trust to PO Box 401, Groton, MA 01450-0401 or care of the library. Please help us ensure our enduring treasure, the Groton Public Library, with your generous support.

Thank you.

The GPL Endowment Board of Trustees: John Konetzny, Samuel Morrow, Michael Woods, David Zeiler, and Vanessa Abraham

With deep gratitude, we thank and bid farewell to two Endowment Trustees, Connie Keeran and David Riggert, who stepped off the board last year. Not only did both faithfully serve with dedication and diligence for 12 and 6 years, respectively, but both also continued providing support for our new board members this year. We thank you for your extraordinary service to the library and the GPL Endowment Trust.

We also acknowledge and honor Jane Allen, who served as Endowment Trustee this year until her passing in August.

FanFest 2022

We kicked off Summer Reading in June with FanFest! Hundreds of kids, teens, and adults (many in costume) came out to enjoy face painting, costume contest, karaoke, green screen, teen cosplay workshop, scavenger hunt, and a sing-along with Encanto's Mirabel.

Program registrants had the extra delight of signing up for summer reading with a friendly sloth, flamingo, or dinosaur (aka costumed staff member)!



Children's & Family Program Highlights

by Lauren Sanchez, Children's Librarian



We celebrate literacy skills and STEAM education with our youngest patrons every day in the Children's Room. Through our collections, outreach efforts, and educational programming, we support and guide parents during exciting

language and learning milestones. This past year, we were thrilled to share the following new and expanded offerings with our community:

- *Baby ABC's Welcome Bags for new parents*
- *Comics Club for Gr. 3-5 kids to meet, draw, write, and create their own comics with other graphic novel enthusiasts*
- *LEGO® Spike Kits for Gr. 3-5 kids to learn early coding and robotics*
- *Drop-in Crafts. By popular demand, we have expanded the drop-in craft activity on Tuesdays to all week long! We provide the crafts, supplies, and space so kids can have fun expressing their creativity whenever visiting the Children's Room.*



Adult Summer Reading Program 2022

by Nicole Irvin,
Head of Adult &
Circulation Services

The Adult Summer Reading Program was a wild success this summer! This year, we teamed up with the Groton Conservation Trust (GCT) to provide our community with fun reading challenges and incentives. Participants enjoyed exploring different reading genres as well as local trails. We were pleased to double our participation rate from last summer, with 178 patrons reading 1,408 books!

Lifelong Learning

Read. Think. Engage. Learn.



The Culturally Curious Online Art Series was a huge hit! Jane Oneail's irrepressible enthusiasm, engaging style, and stunning visuals provided great enjoyment alongside each overview on a major artist and their work. We also hosted two great series with Mass. Audubon on Birds and Birding as well as Climate Change Conversations.

Museum Passes

The Endowment provides 20 free or discounted passes to museums and other attractions.

The most borrowed this year were:
New England Aquarium,
Discovery Museums, Museum of Science,
Butterfly Place, and
the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

Book online at gpl.org!

Teen Programs

by **Deb Dowson**, Young Adult Librarian



When we saw the response to the new Beanstack reading app during our Teen Winter Reading Program, we knew our summer readers would embrace it too! We had 182 sign-ups for Read Beyond the Beaten Path and logged a total of 301,165

minutes—over 5,000 hours and far beyond our expectations! All these hours earned individual prizes and donations to the Marion Stoddard Greenway Fund. We had an incredible group of readers and some excellent writers, as participants independently submitted 277 reviews of books they had read.

Our teen volunteers continue to impress us with their creativity and commitment. It was thanks to their efforts that we brought back the fantastic FanFest, and they helped facilitate several new clubs like Chess, Creative Writing, Dungeons & Dragons, Magic the Gathering, Coding Club, and Debate Club.

Adult Program Highlights

by **Beth Dalal**, Adult Programs Coordinator

Many of our existing groups continued with great interest. Spice Club and Trivia Tuesday have strong and loyal followers, and Mad About Mystery and Page Turners Book Clubs took advantage of hybrid meeting options to include members both near and far!

Food programming ranging from chef tutorials to virtual wine tastings remain very popular, and our Plant Powered

Group provides support and information for attendees trying out some delicious and healthy food ideas.

Hands-on Art programs were very active throughout the year. From leaf printing to painted paper collage to fabric dyeing and felting, patrons explored it all! We also got to know several new local artists in addition to regular favorites.

Some of our best-attended adult programs this year: Anti-Bias in Early Childhood Education, The N Word: Nature Revisited with Carolyn Finney, Food as Medicine, and Haunted Light Houses. On a glorious spring day at Town Field, Dan Shaughnessy spoke about his new book on the Larry Bird Celtics. His talk was fittingly accompanied by the ping of baseball bats at a game going on nearby!



Art Gallery

by **Ken Hansen**, Gallery Coordinator

We were so excited to bring back our rotating art exhibits after a long COVID hiatus. Our gallery was once again filled with the artistry provided from paintings by Martha Oldham and Priscilla Levesque, photographs by Christopher Riemer, Tina Franziska Jost, and Edward Birch. I am always delighted to highlight the Honor Society and Art Club students of GDRHS. The array of styles and mediums displayed by our young artists really lit up our Spring!



Rebecca Kostich, Art Instructor at GDRHS, and Ken.



Groton Reads & Eats

Since our 2020 Groton Reads & Eats event was interrupted by COVID, we brought it back this year to complete our celebration of food-themed books, discussions, and all-new programs including Seed Starting with interactive kits, Pi Day Lunch, Knife Skills, cooking from *The Kitchen Daughter*, and preserving family recipes. We even collected patron and staff favorite recipes and bound it together in a Groton Reads & Eats Cookbook for all participants! Copies available for purchase at the Circulation Desk.

Honoring Family and Friends

Gifts to the GPL Endowment Trust are a thoughtful way to honor a person who has been special or important to you.

Each 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 Groton Public Library and its abundant offerings of programs, services, and collections.

Groton Public Library Endowment Trust Mission Statement

The purpose of the Trust is to assist in maintaining the quality and excellence of the Groton Public Library by providing a means above and beyond the library's normal resources, assuring continuation of the high standards achieved during the library's long history. Income from the Trust is to be used to enhance, enrich, and supplement the funds available for the materials collection, programs, and other special needs of the library.

This income shall not replace funds appropriated annually by the Town or other funds managed by the Town for the support of the library.

GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ENDOWMENT TRUST

P.O. Box 401

Groton, MA 01450

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