



GROSSE POINTE LIBRARY FOUNDATION

WINTER
2020



Masquerade 2019



All photos by: Renee Landuyt and John Merritt



Accomplishments:

Gifts made to the Foundation have supported many programs, enhancements, and additions to the GPPL over the past 17 years.

- Creation of the Ewald Branch
- Establishment of the Grosse Pointe Public Library Endowment
- Preservation of the Marcel Breuer designed Central Branch
- Restoration of the world class art housed at the Central Branch
- Mini Libraries in all five Pointes
- Purchase of a van to deliver books between branches and schools
- Construction of ADA compliant ramp at the Central Branch
- Creation of Central Plaza - an inviting and accessible open-air space at the Central Branch
- Programs made possible with gifts to the Foundation include Books on the Lake (the Library's most popular author event), the Summer Reading Program, and National Library Week events.

Improvements at both the Ewald and Woods Branches are underway. Foundation donors in 2020-2021 are asked to support the lighting project at Ewald that will provide new more modern and efficient LED lighting. Your generosity will light up the Library for generations!

Everything begins with a strong.... FOUNDATION

It's time... Fall of 2005 saw the launch of the first-ever Grosse Pointe Library Foundation newsletter that shared the goals and aspirations of a newly formed Foundation with the community. During this strange and isolating year of 2020, we are hoping to do the same once more - connect with you! It is ultimately you we serve by supporting the excellent programs, services, and resources of our outstanding libraries.

A mission worthy of support...

The Grosse Pointe Public Library (GPPL/Library) is committed to expanding learning, inspiring creativity, and connecting our community. This is accomplished through consistent evaluation and assessment of the needs of the community and how the Library can best meet and exceed those needs. In 2020, when COVID-19 forced the world into virtual

connectedness, this commitment was made evident. The GPPL pivoted brilliantly to serve the more than 29,000 active patrons with curbside material distribution (33,462 items circulated through curbside pickup) and a wealth of online programming including story times, book discussion groups, workshops, and lectures (137 virtual programs hosting 5,031 patrons). Digital access to books, magazines, movies, and educational materials through multiple platforms increased in utilization

by 68%!

The Grosse Pointe Library Foundation (GPLF/Foundation) is proud to support the Library's dedication and mission. We do so by connecting with the thousands of Library lovers who wish to show their support monetarily and to shepherd those funds in a responsible and meaningful way. The generous donors to the Foundation recognize the value of an excellent public library and its unique ability to serve the intellect and imagination of an entire community.



Ewald Branch



Woods Branch

The Grosse Pointe Library Foundation is a non-profit 501c(3) organization.

Foundation donors make an impact through:

- Contributions to the Annual Fund
- Contributions to the Breuer Preservation Fund
- **Support of the Masquerade for the Stacks (or Mask or Aid for the Stacks- our 2020 non-event fundraiser)**
- Lasting gifts to the Endowment fund or the Book Endowment Fund
- Legacy gifts through Planned Giving
- The Gift Book Program

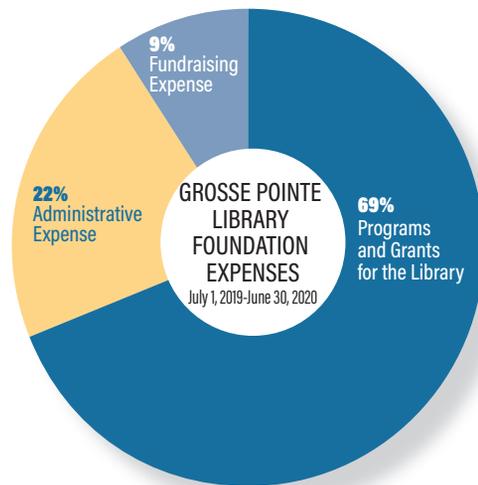
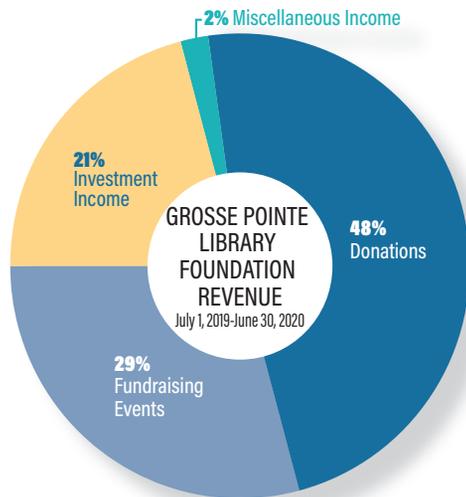
For more information about the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation or to make a donation, please visit ffgplf.org or contact Beth Vernon at 313.640.4683 or beth@gplf.org.



MASK OR AID FOR THE STACKS



Annual Report Fiscal Year July 2019-June 2020



Jessica Keyser- Library Director with authors Lillian Li, Desiree Cooper, and Maria Semple at the Foundation's Books on the Lake VIP Reception



Masquerade 2019



Ribbon cutting at Central Plaza



Central's Art and Architecture

Founded in 1922, the Grosse Pointe Public Library has been housed in many buildings on many sites as it continued to evolve and expand to meet the needs of the community. The Ewald and Woods branches are stunning examples of the modern library. But the Central Library, designed by renowned Bauhaus architect Marcel Breuer, is quite literally a work of art.

The Central Library building and its modern art collection were commissioned in 1951 by Dexter M. Ferry, Jr., a local business and civic leader,

philanthropist, and patron of the arts. Ferry's son, W. Hawkins Ferry, was studying under Marcel Breuer at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Hawkins encouraged his father, who served as the head of the library building committee, to recommend the renowned Bauhaus architect. It was a tough sell.

Built with donations from Dexter M. Ferry, Jr. and Murray W. Sales, the Central Branch was completed in 1953. Carrying out Breuer's vision for the Central Library to function as the community's living room, W. Hawkins Ferry commissioned four key pieces of art to complement the modernist building design. These pieces are a hand-woven tapestry created from the designs of Wassily Kandinsky, a steel and aluminum mobile created

by Alexander Calder, a mural created by photographer and graphic designer Herbert Matter, and a sculpture created by Lyman Kipp. Together, the art and architecture of the Central Library is a classic illustration of the Midcentury Modern Movement. As such, Central was honored to be included in the 2008 World Monuments Watch as part of the "Main Street Modern" category to encourage community support for the preservation of modern architecture.

The Grosse Pointe Library Foundation established the Breuer Preservation Fund (BPF) to support the restoration of Central Library's art and architecture, and to hon-

or its significance in the Modernist Movement. Through the generosity of our donors, restoration of the Central Library's four major works of art was completed in 2016. The Breuer Preservation Fund will continue to raise and distribute funds to support period-specific improvements and restoration efforts to the Central Library. The BPF most recently supported the Central Plaza project which extended the community's living room outside to the community's patio!

Opportunities to commemorate your appreciation for this local treasure exist on the Community Giving Wall of Honor that will be built in the entry way at Central.

Staff appreciation...

The Foundation provided all Library staff with custom GPPL logo masks made locally by Amy Whitaker and printed by Albatross Creative Embroidery.

Stay safe!



Library Staff



**GROSSE
POINTE
LIBRARY**
FOUNDATION

10 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236



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MISSION

The Grosse Pointe Library Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the services and ensuring the financial stability of the Grosse Pointe Library System.

Key Characteristics:

- ▶ Effective advocacy for support of the Grosse Pointe Libraries
- ▶ Dedicated commitment to raising private donor funding
- ▶ Rigorous transparency, stewardship, and growth of all monies raised
- ▶ Outstanding public accountability and transparency with sustained public trust

Grosse Pointe Library Foundation Board of Directors

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