### STILLWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION Turning the Pages

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## 2021 Impact Report

## From Our President

Greetings fellow library lovers!

Thank you for being so supportive this last year; you have helped make our mission to support the library possible. As you know, 2021 was another challenging year with the ups and downs of the pandemic. I am very fortunate to have such a strong board willing to work remotely and pivot as new challenges arise for our programs and fundraisers. I feel incredibly blessed to be working with people who kept unwavering in supporting our incredible local library.

Please also let me say how proud I am of our library. Every time I went in to check out books, I continued to have the same wonderful experience that I expected pre-pandemic. Mark and his staff have done a fantastic job of making sure the library patrons continue to receive excellent service and that our library is a safe and welcoming place for everyone.

I'm also incredibly thankful to you, our donors. Because of your gifts, the foundation is in a stronger position than ever to provide support to the library. In addition, in 2021, the foundation was honored to receive a legacy gift. The foundation has invested the legacy gift in a conservative, well-diversified portfolio and created an investment policy to ensure that these funds help maintain the foundation's longevity and the library's ability to support our community.

Amongst all of the things we've been able to help fund at the library this past year, one that stands out is the data plan needed for the hotspots purchased in 2020. The hotspots continue to be a blessing to our community, especially for those who otherwise would not have access to wi-fi or the internet. I hope you managed to attend one of our virtual events. Pi Day and For the Love of the Library were very well-orchestrated events. Domacin Wine Bar was wonderful to work with, and I think everyone learned something about wine. We were fortunate to have Lee Valsvik from FM 108 help us out again, and The Honorable Justice Alan Page was a delight to hear how vital reading and education are to him.

Thank you once again for all your support for the library. Without it, nothing mentioned above would have been possible. We all love the library; it remains a gem of the city. So many of us use it as our central hub for support or entertainment. Your love for the library completely amazes me.

With gratitude,

Shawn Glaser 2021 Foundation President



## Our Story So Far

### OUR MISSION

To engage the community and its resources to expand the reach and impact of the Stillwater Public Library.

The mission of the Stillwater Public Library Foundation is to raise funds to enhance the library's materials, programs, services and historic renovation beyond what the city is able to provide in tax monies.

Since 2008, because of donor support, the foundation has given nearly \$1 million to fund:

### MATERIALS

- new copies of beloved books & eMaterials
- up-to-date editions of favorite nonfiction materials
- multiple copies of popular, new books to shorten waiting lists
- support for newspaper subscriptions, which are ballooning in cost and becoming evermore valuable to patrons

### PROGRAMS

- opportunities to learn, to connect, and to grow
- summer of enrichment, engagement, and fun for kids
- special programs and classes throughout the year for children, teens, and adults

### SERVICES

- Sunday hours
- Wi-Fi hotspots available for checkout
- a Volunteer Coordinator to arrange valuable support for the library staff

### HISTORIC RENOVATION

- masonry restoration
- awning sun shade on the terrace

### **OUR PURPOSE**

The foundation shares your love and appreciation of Stillwater's beautiful and historic library and serves to support the Stillwater Public Library.

Our Vision: The Stillwater Public Library is celebrated as a world-class library!





# The Library & Alliances

Before a public library was established in Stillwater, the city had a history of making reading materials available to its residents through a library association and a lending library. Neither of these organizations was a true public library, however, because citizens had to pay per use for the service. In 1897, voters (men) went to the polls and passed a referendum to establish a city library.

When local attorney S. Blair McBeath heard that Andrew Carnegie was giving money to cities for libraries, he applied for and received a grant for \$27,500 for the construction of the building if the city would provide the site and ensure funding for library services. The Stillwater Public Library has undergone three major renovations since 1902, and each time the community has generously provided private dollars to supplement what the city was able to provide.

## **1** THE CITY OF STILLWATER

The funding authority for the library. The city levies property taxes, which provide the primary funding of the library's operating expenses. The city appoints the library director and a nine-member board of trustees to govern the library.



# 3

THE STILLWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 2008 to enhance the library's materials, programs, and services in ways that would otherwise not be possible.

## 2

### FRIENDS OF THE STILLWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Established in 1999 as a nonprofit 501(c)(3), after the library's second expansion and renovation. It raises money to support the library through memberships and two significant book sales each year.



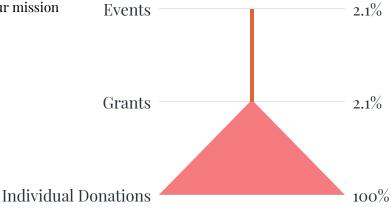
# The Library In Review



## Our 2021 Impact

Donor support makes our work possible! Our mission is funded through individual contributions, grants and events.

"Donation and grant funding for our library is a great example of investing to grow those intangible benefits that are difficult to quantify, but continue to accrue over a lifetime and thereby impact people's lives in many positive and unexpected ways." ~ SPLF Donor



## **Donor** Support Makes Possible

\$2.8 Million IN DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS \$98,066 AWARDS & GRANTS TO THE LIBRARY \$137,003 ENDOWMENT FUND BALANCE

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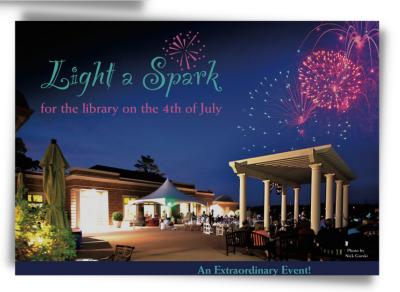


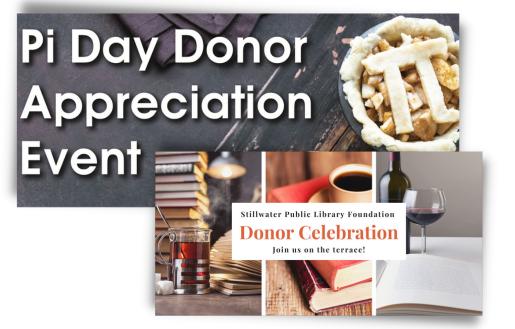
#### OUR VIRTUAL EVENT

Nearly 300 people attended our virtual event featuring The Honorable Justice Alan Page & Lee Valsvik from FM108.

#### OUR SIGNATURE EVENT

Celebrated on the 4th of July, Light a Spark has been our signature event. Sadly, due to supply chain shortages, this event was canceled again 2021. We hope to make this event a reality in 2022.





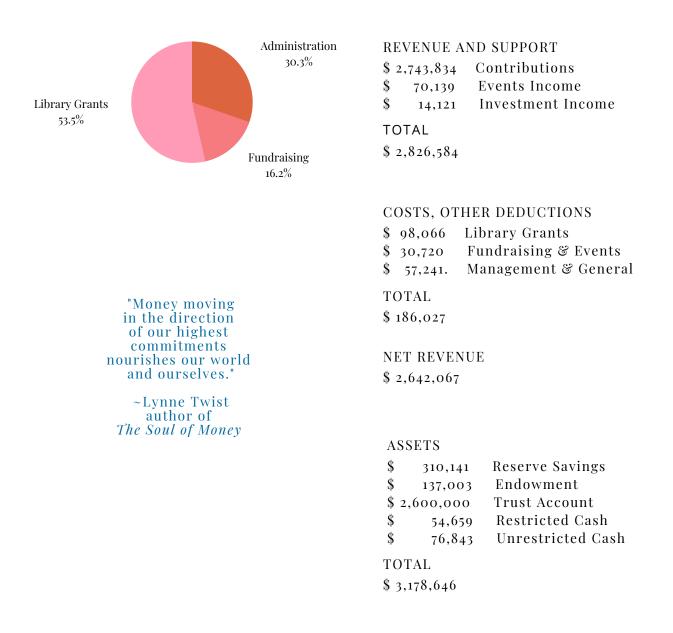
APPRECIATING OUR DONORS

Celebrating the impact of the foundation made possible because of the generosity of donors.

## Our 2021 Financial Statement

The strength of the foundation is evidenced by a strong record of fundraising events and initiatives, leadership and management, financial stability and accountability, and most importantly a committed, diverse and rapidly growing pool of generous donors.

Since the foundation began in 2008, donations have steadily increased in number and size.



## From The Library Director

Many hands make light work is an expression relevant in many areas of life—from spring cleaning to backing a cause close to one's heart. The many hands of our wonderful benefactors provide the tangible and intangible support needed to expand the breadth of services at Stillwater Public Library. Quite simply, without your generosity, most of the programming offered across age levels would not exist, the library would not be open on Sundays in 2022, and the collection of titles available to read would be noticeably reduced. You make all of those things, and much more, possible! Contributions of time, talent or financial resources are all welcome, be they large or small.

With donor support, over the past year the library implemented more offsite and outdoor programming than ever before. You may have seen our exhibit of local historical photos in Lowell Park last winter, checked out a cookbook from our booth at the farmer's market, or attended an astronomy program on the terrace. In addition, story strolls were featured in Pioneer Park and on the library's 4th Street lawn, a walking tour of 19th century architecture was popular, distillery tours that included learning how to make literary-themed cocktails were a big hit, and staff hosted dozens of outdoor storytime programs. Partnerships are a key component that help us stretch our resources. In 2021, the Minnesota Astronomical Society, Stillwater Noon Rotary Club, Stillwater Sunrise Rotary Club, and the Stillwater Public Library Foundation came together to fund four telescope kits that patrons can take home to explore the wonder of the night sky. Also, the Stillwater and Bayport libraries collaborated-thanks in part to financial assistance from the Hugh J. Andersen Foundation and the Library Foundation—on a Summer Explorers reading program to encourage literacy skills encompassing areas such as reading, writing, science, math, and the arts. Additionally, support from the Huelsmann Foundation, Library Foundation and the City of Stillwater aided necessary masonry repairs to preserve the library's exterior.

Thank you for all the ways in which you support literacy and lifelong learning. Together, with our collective hands, we are able to take many disparate threads and weave together a beautiful tapestry that is this library. Your kindness fosters a collaborative and creative environment that allows us to reach ever more people and positively impact our community.

Warmest regards,

Mark Troendle Director, Stillwater Public Library



## Our Board & Staff

### **OFFICERS**

Shawn Glaser *President* VP, Bank Services Director First State Bank And Trust

Summer Seidenkranz Vice President Owner National Refund & Marketing Services, Inc.

Dustin Moeller *Treasurer* CPA Foley, Kalseim & Co., LTD.

Paige Hoyle *Secretary* Retired

### STAFF

Alicia Gordon Macalus Executive Director

Susie Danielson Volunteer Coordinator

#### **BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE**

Ryan Collier Principal Architect Google Cloud

Amber Dailey-Hebert, Ph.D. Director, Faculty Center for Innovation Professor, Leading Adult & Organizational Learning Graduate Program Park University

Sandy Ellis Project Manager & Event Coordinator

Roger Funk Retired Teacher, 3M, Army/Army Reserve, Store Owner

John Gray Retired Nurse

Aquib Khan Financial Advisor, Financial Planning Specialist Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, St Croix Group

Kevin Sandstrom Attorney Eckberg Lammers P.C.

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