Your tax-deductible gift by December 31 will help fund critical Library programs and help reach our $250,000 December fundraising goal.

$25 for new books  
$60 for Homework help tutoring  
$120 for preservation of local history  
$240 for senior outreach  
$600 for children’s programming  
$1,000 for a membership in the Minerva Leadership Circle

Your gift is a gift to everyone who uses our beloved Hennepin County Library!

Gift Ideas that Give Twice

1. Tribute Gifts for the people you love and the Library you love

Perfect for the person on your list who loves reading but whose shelves are full! Honor them by supporting your Library.

A $50 Tribute Gift includes a bookplate in a new Library book, inscribed with the name of the person honored.

We will send a letter and a sample bookplate to the honoree acknowledging your contribution, which is tax-deductible.

To make a Tribute Gift:
Visit supportHCLib.org/give-tribute-donation
Call 612-543-8104

2. Spring Subscriptions or Tickets to the Pen Pals Author Lecture Series

ORDER TICKETS
Order by phone at 612-543-8112 or online at supportHCLib.org.

Flex-Subscriber - Save 20%
Get access to priority seating and attend all 3 lectures as a subscriber. Subscribers save 20%, and Friends of HCL members receive an additional $10 discount per subscription.

Daytime or Evening Season Subscriber (Save 20%): Level 1 - $440 Level 2 - $495

Daytime or Evening Subscription (Save 10%): Level 1 - $520 Level 2 - $575

Buy Individual Tickets
Daytime or Evening, Reserved Seating:
Level 1 - $50 Level 2 - $60

Add on an Evening Wine Reception
Meet the author face to face after the Thursday evening lecture!
Tickets - $25 each

Lee Child
FEB 16/17, 2017

Elizabeth Strout
MARCH 30/31, 2017

James McBride & The Good Lord Bird Band
MAY 11/12, 2017

You’re Helping Recent Immigrants Discover Opportunity

“Pop-up” libraries transport the Library experience

Asma, a Minneapolis mother, told librarians at a recent Cedar Riverside library pop-up event that (like many mothers) she used the library to get books for her children. But it was when she mentioned her interest in a nursing career that her life took a new direction. The librarian told her about Library resources that help people study for nursing exams. With the help of those resources, Asma is now on her way to pursuing her dream to become a nurse.

Cedar Riverside, a dense urban neighborhood south of downtown Minneapolis, is home to the largest population of Somalis outside East Africa. While Hennepin County Library (HCL) has four locations within three miles of Cedar Riverside, it had no direct presence in the neighborhood... until now.

Building Trust & Familiarity with the Library

With donor support, an innovative Cedar Riverside library outreach project launched this year. Pop-up library events brought the library experience directly to the community and connected residents with nearby libraries. The pop-up events were funded by a Library Services and Technology Act grant from the Minnesota Department of Education, secured by Friends of HCL. Library staff brought mobile technology kits with iPads, laptops, a projector and a mobile print station to each event. Community members were able to sign-up for a library card, check out books, gain technology skills, and meet HCL staff from the four libraries surrounding the Cedar Riverside neighborhood.

Hennepin County Law Library was another partner, connecting community members who visited to relevant legal resources.

Raising Awareness for a World of Resources

Asma is Following her Dream, Thanks to you.

Asma is far from the only Cedar Riverside resident seeking new opportunities after encountering a pop-up library. A high school student came to a pop-up event and learned that HCL was hiring summer Teen Specialists, a position funded by Friends like you, allowing teens to work at a library’s front desk and be the first point of contact for patrons. She applied to work at Hosmer Library and was one of six teens hired!

In total, Hennepin County Library served more than 775 patrons and issued 181 new library cards at Cedar Riverside pop-up libraries! Thank you!
YOUR Generosity Makes a World of Difference to...

Andrea, daughter of an At Home Library Outreach patron

“I appreciate the At Home service so much. My mom was ill for quite some time with Huntington's disease. For the last 2 years, she has lived in an assisted living facility and didn't love it. However, having books delivered to her was the highlight of her every day. She and I would look for new books she could request, and she enjoyed finding new titles. The ease of mailing the books back and requesting new titles makes this service so easy. My mom passed away last Christmas Eve. This service is extremely important to those who love reading as my mom did,” says Andrea.

Elizete, Teen Public Service Assistant

Coming from a Spanish-speaking family, Elizete takes pride in her heritage and her ability to help the many Spanish-speaking patrons who visit the Augsburg Park Library feel welcome. Over the past two years, Elizete has developed a special relationship with her supervisor and mentor, Amy Kennedy Fosseen, who even helped Elizete throughout her college application process.

“Amy’s given me great advice on college and made it clear that yes, education is important. I didn’t have a role model for the college application process. I’m the first person in my family to go to college.” Following college, Elizete says, “I hope to work in social services, helping kids.”

The Patel family, who love Summer Learning programs

“We love Summer Learning. There has not been a lot of indoor sports options for us during the summer, but this sports program was awesome,” says Falguni Patel, mother of Summer Learning participants Shibam and Meera.

Participants like Shibam and Meera walked out of the Ridgedale library after a Double Dutch jump rope program with an enhanced sense of pride as well as a few final words of encouragement from jump rope Coach Jonny.

“Remember, you have to believe in yourself. If you believe in yourself, you can run far, jump high – even do your homework.”

Shaakir and Steve, Homework Help Student and Tutor

“It’s been helping a lot. I used to have a B in math, but now I have an A! Steve also adds some humor, so I don’t get bored,” says Shaakir, a 7th grader who regularly gets help with homework assignments at Hennepin County Library - Nokomis.

Homework Help is a drop-in after-school tutoring program that offers youth a free, safe, and welcoming after-school space to work with adult volunteers to master academic concepts and complete homework assignments.

“They can bring in anything they want. We see a lot more high school kids so we’re doing a lot of algebra, a lot of U.S. history, world history,” Steve says.

How YOU Can Help

More Ways to Support your Library this Holiday Season

Stocks and Appreciated Assets

You can make a gift of long-term appreciated securities—publicly traded stocks, bonds and mutual fund shares—to Friends of the Hennepin County Library while avoiding capital gains tax. You will receive credit and an immediate income tax deduction for the fair market value of your donation (average high and low prices on the day of the transfer).

DTC Transfer # 2803 / Account #08011369102
U.S. Bank Charitable Services Group
101 E. 5th Street, Suite 1400
St. Paul, MN 55101
US Bank Contact: Ben Webster 651-466-8040

IRA Distributions

If you are 70½ years or older, you can make a tax-free distribution from your traditional or Roth IRA to Friends of HCL without incurring federal income tax. Distributions can total up to $100,000 annually. Contact your financial adviser with questions.

Planned Giving

The Gratia Legacy Circle honors individuals who leave a legacy for our Library through a bequest in a will or other planned gift to Friends of the Hennepin County Library. Common planned gifts include bequests in a will, designation of an organization as a beneficiary of a retirement asset, IRA, or life insurance, or establishment of a charitable remainder trust.

More Information

We appreciate advance notice of your gift to ensure proper stewardship. To notify Friends of HCL or ask a question, please contact Adam Breininger, Director of Development, at 612-543-8106 or abreininger@hclib.org.

Legal Name: Friends of the Hennepin County Library
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... and 840,000 other proud library card holders in our community!