YOU ARE HELPING BREAK DOWN BARRIERS TO LIBRARY SERVICE

Historically, library service began when a patron walked through the doors of their neighborhood library. While this approach worked for some, it didn’t meet the library’s mission of serving everyone.

In response, Hennepin County Library launched Community Embedded Library Service

ABOVE: A grass dancer from Native Pride Dancers leads a Round Dance in front of the Franklin Avenue Library. (Photo by HCL)
SUMMER (LEARNING) IS AROUND THE CORNER

You’re Helping Kids Learn and Grow All Summer Long

Nearly 1,000 free programs will be offered in Summer 2019

Last year, more than 15,000 students participated in Summer Learning programs!

Did you know...

While Summer Learning focuses on literacy and reading, it also provides programs for kids to explore art, science, math, technology, dance … you name it!

Here’s just a few of the Summer Learning events your support helps make possible:

- Somali hand-weaving
- Double-dutch jump roping
- Theater workshops
- Building robots
- Using GPS to find geocaches

And so much more!

“The extra books we purchase for prizes and book clubs remove the barrier that some kids have in borrowing library books and builds buzz about reading. With Friends support, we are able to keep kids busy, happy, engaged, and ready to return to school in the fall.”

HCL SUMMER LEARNING STAFF MEMBER
YOU’RE INVITED TO AN EVENING WITH

DESSA!

Join us for an Intimate Performance from Minnesota’s Brightest Star

Thursday, June 13 – 5:30pm

Minneapolis’ own singer, poet, and songwriting powerhouse—Dessa—will join Library supporters for a special fundraising event.

Enjoy an indoor and outdoor experience (weather permitting) at the private residence of Tom and Mary Racciatti—a beautiful home with a panoramic view of downtown Minneapolis, the Guthrie Theater, and the Stone Arch Bridge. The evening will include appetizers, cocktails, and an intimate performance by Dessa.

Tickets: $150 / $250 VIP
To learn more or purchase tickets call 612-543-8104 or visit supportHCLIB.org

This very special event benefits Hennepin County Library programs like MnSpin, the Library’s streaming service featuring local musicians.

MNSPIN:
BRINGING LOCAL MUSIC TO YOUR FINGERTIPS

Over the last few years, Hennepin County Librarians had seen the impact of streaming music services and noticed that finding local musicians’ recordings had become more difficult. With the support of Friends like you, HCL launched MnSpin - the latest streaming and downloading platform that showcases Minnesota artists - in 2017.

Now in its second year, MnSpin currently features more than 120 albums representing Minnesota’s incredible range of musical talent, from hiphop, jazz, and underground rock, to mariachi, reggae, country, and more!

Artists gain exposure and build a broader audience

Anyone, anywhere can stream MnSpin music, and library patrons can download the music to carry with them wherever they go. “It’s a great way to get exposure and listen to music digitally. For a long time there were tapes and CDs; this is a streaming service,” says MnSpin artist, Tufawon (Rafael Gonzalez).

Stay tuned! Next round of music on the horizon

Recently, HCL closed its third round of submissions with a record 395 artists submitting work to MnSpin. The review process is currently underway and the next collection of music will be launched later this year. Tune in to MnSpin music and hear the impact of your support by visiting supportHCLIB.org.
MEMBERS NEWSLETTER
Summer 2019

Celebrating Community Innovation at Hennepin County Library

YOU ARE HELPING BREAK DOWN BARRIERS TO LIBRARY SERVICE

Celebrating Community Innovation at Hennepin County Library

BUILDING NEW BRIDGES WITH THE NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Franklin Library serves one of the largest Native American communities in the United States and the most tribally diverse populations in the region. In a survey, Native Americans identified several opportunities for our Library to strengthen ties to the community, including: access to indigenous literature and authors; Ojibwe and Dakota language preservation; indigenous food and community health; and cultural connectivity through art and music programming. CELS has worked proactively to create banners in Dakota and Ojibwe to demonstrate that the Native American community is welcome in all 41 Hennepin County Library locations! CELS is also working to increase Franklin Library’s holdings by Native American authors and artists, especially resources in tribal languages.

“The intentional and genuine inclusion of our Indigenous...
“Now, there is so much excitement and so much interest about the library. It’s absolutely incredible!”

KARINA KELTON, OXBORO LIBRARY STAFF

communities in Hennepin County Library has been an important way to bridge the gap,” Allison Waukau, HCL Community Liaison, said. “So many of the books we read – the media we consume – don’t include the first peoples of this country. That’s why it’s so vital for CELS to continue its work of including everyone.”

WELCOMING OUR LATINX NEIGHBORS NEAR OXBORO LIBRARY

Despite an exponential population increase since 1970, the Latinx and immigrant communities in Bloomington have had little to no strong tie to the Library. Thanks to the work of CELS, that is now changing.

After hiring local liaisons, recruiting volunteer ambassadors, and conducting extensive outreach within the community, the CELS team found that the Latinx and immigrant communities in Bloomington experienced significant barriers to Library access. Many said libraries are intimidating because most staff do not speak Spanish and the vast majority of materials were for English speaking patrons. Additionally, immigrants associate libraries with other government institutions they view as threatening.

To help overcome these barriers, the CELS team created a weekly play group for parents and caregivers to help build skills in early literacy, began facilitating weekly craft and English language learning programs for adults, and launched Spanish language digital literacy classes.

CELS team members also learned adult Latinx community members wanted their children to experience more traditional celebrations like Dia de los Muertos. Many parents with children born in the U.S. are excited to share aspects of their culture for the first time. “This is what it was like at Grandma’s house,” one patron said.

Building on the momentum from last year, new programs, events, and workshops created in partnership with the Latinx community are already underway in 2019.

“There is a shift in the way people are thinking about the library. Before, it was a place they didn’t see themselves...a place that had never been for them...a place that didn’t offer programs, events, resources, books that were for them...a place they didn’t feel welcome,” Karina Kelton, Oxboro Library staffer said, “Now, there is so much excitement and so much interest about the library. It’s absolutely incredible!”

RESPONDING TO THE NEED

Thanks to your donations, CELS can respond to the needs of the community – as defined by the community – to reduce disparities and increase access to one of its greatest assets for lifelong learning.

To learn more about how your donation improves library services for all, visit supportHCLIB.org or call us at 612-543-8104
JOIN US FOR OUR 2019-2020 SEASON OF PEN PALS

The 23rd season of our highly-acclaimed and well-known author series features several beloved and exciting, fresh voices in the literary world.

Subscriptions are now available.

Last season SOLD OUT, so please order today to ensure your spot in the Pen Pals audience.

Subscriptions go on sale Monday, May 6, 2019. Individual Tickets go on sale Wednesday, August 7, 2019.

Call 612-543-8112 or visit our website at supportHCLIB.org/pen-pals for more information.

Susan Orlean
Thursday, October 10, 2019, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, October 11, 2019, 11 a.m.

Susan Orlean is the bestselling author of *The Orchid Thief* and *Rin Tin Tin* and has been a staff writer at *The New Yorker* for more than twenty years. Orlean’s newest book, *The Library Book*, was named one of *The New York Times*’ 100 Notable Books of 2018 and *The Washington Post’s* Best Books of 2018.

Ann Patchett
Thursday, October 24, 2019, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, October 25, 2019, 11 a.m.

Ann Patchett is the author of the celebrated novels, *Bel Canto, Run, State of Wonder*, and *Commonwealth*. She was named one of the 100 most influential people in the world by *TIME*. Her latest novel, *The Dutch House*, releases in September 2019.

Esi Edugyan
Monday, December 9, 2019, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 11 a.m.

Esi Edugyan reimagines classic literary genres through the eyes of black characters. Her novel *Half-Blood Blues* (2011) received the Giller Prize, Canada’s most prestigious literary award. Edugyan’s most recent novel, *Washington Black* (2018), was named one of the top ten books of the year by *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Entertainment Weekly* and *TIME*.

Reza Aslan
Thursday, February 13, 2020, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, February 14, 2020, 11 a.m.


Tommy Orange
Thursday, April 30, 2020, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, May 1, 2020, 11 a.m.

Tommy Orange is the author of the *New York Times* bestselling novel *There There*, a relentlessly paced story about a side of America few of us have ever seen: the lives of urban Native Americans. It received the PEN/Hemingway award and was named one of the top ten books of the year by *The New York Times* and others.
Thank you to the more than 500 Friends members who contributed an additional gift to our 2019 Library Campaign! Your inspiring generosity is already making a difference by strengthening HCL resources like:

- Homework Help
- Senior Outreach
- Programs for Families Facing Incarceration
- Teen Tech Squad
- Special Collections … and MORE!

**YES!** I am investing in our Library with my additional gift to the 2019 Library Campaign! Make checks payable to Friends of HCL or call (612) 543-8104.

**CONTACT INFO:**
Name ____________________________________________
Address ________________________________________
City ____________________________________________
State ___________________________ Zip ________
CC# ________________________________
Exp. Date______________________ CVV ________

“Any place that has books already feels halfway like home. Being in the library and surrounded by books that are accessible to everybody and in a place that’s accessible to everybody feels really good and healthy for society.”

“This library just helps everything! Anything you need to know: you come to the library!”

“This Library really helps and impacts the community that it serves. Thank you so much!”

“I just love the vibe and the aura you get from being somewhere with so much knowledge packed into one place.”

**2019 Library Fund Campaign**

2019 National Library Week Highlights

**LIBRARIES = STRONG COMMUNITIES**

Kyle

Sakhi & Frances

Jackie

Carneisha
FRIENDS SUMMER READING LIST

KRISTI recommends:

Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine | Gail Honeyman

Soon to be a major motion picture produced by Reese Witherspoon, *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* is the smart, warm, and uplifting story of an out-of-the-ordinary heroine whose deadpan weirdness and unconscious wit make for an irresistible journey.

LINDA recommends:

Centered Riding | Sally Swift

Widely known for her innovative teaching philosophy stressing body awareness, the value of “soft eyes,” proper breathing, centering, and balance, Sally Swift has been a pioneering riding instructor for half a century.

ALFRED recommends:

How We Fight For Our Lives | Saeed Jones

Haunted and haunting, Jones’s memoir tells the story of a young, black, gay man from the South as he fights to carve out a place for himself, within his family, within his country, and within his own hopes, desires, and fears.

ADAM recommends:

The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World | Dalai Lama XIV, Desmond Tutu

Both the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Tutu have been tested by great personal and national adversity. Now that they are both in their eighties, they especially want to spread the core message that to have joy yourself, you must bring joy to others.

COURTNEY recommends:

Becoming | Michelle Obama

In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerizing storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her—from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years in the White House.

ROB recommends:

Lost Children Archive | Valeria Luiselli

An emotionally resonant, fiercely imaginative new novel about a family whose road trip across America collides with the immigration crisis at the southwestern border—*Lost Children Archive* is a story of how we document our experiences, and how we remember things that matter to us most.

KRISTI recommends:

Leave Your Library Legacy

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.

For more information about leaving a legacy for our Library or to notify us of plans already in place, please contact Phil Edwards, Donor Relations Officer, at 612-543-8114 or pedwards@hclib.org.