

Support the Library you love with your year-end gift!

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!

☒ YES! I want to change more lives at the library in 2017 and beyond!

☐\$25

☐ \$60

☐ \$120

☐ \$240

☐ \$600

☐ \$1,000

☐ Other \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Please postmark by December 31, 2017.

Give by mail: Friends of HCL
300 Nicollet Mall, Mpls., MN 55401
Give by phone: 612-543-8104
Give online: supportHCLIB.org

For all the Book Lovers on Your Holiday Shopping List

A Library bookplate is a gift that shows the book lovers in your life how much you care—and it becomes part of HCL’s amazing collection. For \$50, you can purchase a personalized bookplate that will be placed in a brand-new book entering the Library’s circulation across Hennepin County!

Give back to the Library while also giving someone special a truly meaningful gift. Your contribution will help ensure that the Library can continue offering free access to books and other much-needed resources.

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



New Library Music Service Launches 60 Albums from Minnesota Artists - Free to the Public - Thanks to YOU!

It’s like iTunes, but free! The only thing you need to access the music of local artists on MnSpin, Hennepin County Library’s new online streaming and download platform, is your library card.

Minnesota has been a player in the international music scene since the Andrews Sisters stole music lovers’ hearts in the 1940s. From Atmosphere to Spider John Koerner, Bob Dylan to Prince, Cantus to Semisonic, Cloud Cult to Trampled by Turtles, the Minnesota Orchestra, Bobby Vee, the Replacements, Maria Jette, The

Steeles, Robert Robinson, Owl City, and so many others have made their mark on the world, but they also had their start in Minnesota. As of this December, Hennepin County Library has launched 60 albums from Minnesota musicians on MnSpin.

Thanks to your generosity, Minnesota musicians can connect with new audiences through MnSpin, and music lovers can enjoy their favorite local musicians, and even discover new artists, just by logging onto www.hclib.org/arts-culture. Anyone can stream from the platform, and Hennepin County Library cardholders can download songs for free.

“Minnesota is such an incubator for musical artists. MnSpin is an opportunity for the music community to have its music heard and for all music lovers to have access to the rich talents of local musicians.” ~ Lois Langer Thompson, Hennepin County Library Director



Member Newsletter ♦ Winter 2017

Your support means everyone has a home at the Library

Our Library is a treasured resource and safe haven for many

There’s no place quite like the library. It is a place that carries the shared ideals and affections closest to our hearts ... a place where books power discovery, where young minds grow wise, where newcomers find open doors to community, and where diverse ideas spark imagination.

We believe that *everyone* has a library story and that *every story* matters. Recently, we partnered with Stephanie Glaros, founder of Humans of Minneapolis, to help us discover the personal, heartfelt stories of our Library patrons—like the story below, told by Tami, a frequent patron at Hennepin County Library - Minneapolis Central.

Tami’s Story ... in her own words

“I’m here every day. I’ve been homeless since mid-August last year. I come to the fourth floor, go back by the fireplace to the comfy chairs, get whatever books I want and start reading. I have friends who come here too, so sometimes we’ll sit and read together. If you don’t have money, you can’t just go sit anywhere in this city. But at the library you can, and there’s no judgment passed on you.

There are a lot of homeless people who are mentally ill. I’m bipolar. Mental illness doesn’t often allow you to make much money, and this town is way overpriced. A few years back, I could get an apartment for \$600, but not anymore. They won’t even look at you.

When I take my medicine I’m pretty good, but when I get going, I get going. Very manic. I’ve pretty much got it where I want it, but it’s taken a long time to find it in terms of the right medicine and the right living situation, which isn’t ideal yet, but it will be.



“I’ve been homeless since mid-August last year. I come to the fourth floor, go back by the fireplace to the comfy chairs, get whatever books I want and start reading.”

To deal with this problem, I really have to be around something stable. I’m getting into a program called Shelter Plus Care that will help me get a voucher for shelter.

I also get an ARMHS worker to help me get to my appointments, and then I have a case manager who oversees it all. Given my situation, these are things that I probably should have been connected with a long time ago, but I wasn’t and that’s ok. I didn’t make the right effort. But now I have and the people who have helped me have gone way above and beyond what they need to do for their jobs.”

Very few mentally ill people are dangerous. We’re more scared of you than you are of us.”

BECAUSE OF YOUR SUPPORT, patrons like Tami can enjoy a welcoming Library space where inclusion and opportunity are accessible to all. We are so grateful to patrons like Tami for sharing their stories, and to YOU, for supporting the humans of our Library.



YOUR Generosity Makes a World of Difference to...

Reem - Walker Library

"This is my first time at Walker Library. We usually go to Linden Hills or the St. Louis Park one. Usually it's for my son, for story time. He's bilingual. Before he started daycare we spoke only Arabic at home, so I wanted him to be exposed more to other languages.

We're from Syria. We came to the United States seven years ago. At that point Syria was a normal country in the Middle East. No war, nothing. My husband and I are both medical graduates from Damascus, so we came here to specialize and get all of the knowledge here. We thought that we could go back and start our own practice. But after the war started, it became impossible, especially now.

I'm really thankful for all the people here, especially in Minnesota. Even though I'm not from here, they make me feel like I am welcome, and I really appreciate it."



"I'm really thankful for all the people here . . . they make me feel like I am welcome and I really appreciate it."

Alicia - Brooklyn Park Library

"We've been in Brooklyn Park nineteen years, and we've been coming to this library for fifteen. I started coming when I was a new mom. We came every week for story time. My barrier is my language, and story time was my school for learning English. I didn't go to college or earn a big degree, but I resourced my education, especially the language, from the library.

The kids love Julie, the librarian here who teaches story time. She's been a really good influence on them. She has a gift for making them engage. It's been a big help for me because I don't have to push them to read. They just read. I'm really grateful for the people who work in the library. They always make me feel welcome. I think we're really, really lucky to have them.

My kids want to be volunteers here, too. The oldest one started last summer. He started with cleaning shelves. We love this place. We feel it's a part of us."



"I didn't go to college ... but I resourced my education, especially the language, from the library."

Neil - Southdale Library

"I come to the library three or four times a week. I own a small business, and it's a productive way for me to get a lot of things done in a less distractive environment. I do a lot of critical writing and thinking here. Even though I'm by myself at home, I still can't get as much done as I can by coming to the library.

I work with a lot of baby boomers who've been laid off from corporate America and all of a sudden it's, 'I'm past 50 years old. What am I gonna do?'

I was in the same boat. I worked in the airline business for twenty years. One day I had a new boss, and they decided to go in a different direction. So I decided, 'Maybe it's time for me to start my own company.'

Since they've never done it before, there's a lot of fear that keeps people on the sidelines. And unfortunately even though this is really what they want to do, they've just decided it's way too hard."



"So I decided, 'Maybe it's time for me to start my own company.'"

Tommy - Minneapolis Central Library

"I come to the Best Buy Teen Tech Center every two or three days. I come to clear my head and make music. I write down lyrics that talk about my life, and I put it down into a song.

I had a hard life as a young kid, me and my brothers and sisters. My dad passed, so I grew up without him. My mom always needed help in her struggle, so I had to help her out as a young kid. And as a kid, you keep a lot of anger in. So music helps me stay calm. Helps me focus. Helps me move on from what I was just thinking about. Helps me move on from the past.

This is a good place for young people to come. They can actually stay out of trouble here. They can have fun, be positive, and get away from all the negativity. Music is the perfect thing for me. I don't want to be sitting in jail or something like that. I'd rather do good with my life."



"This is a good place for young people to come."



More Ways to Support your Library

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 #080013669102
U.S. Bank: Charitable Services Group
101 E. 5th Street, Suite 1400
St. Paul, MN 55101
US Bank Contact: Alex Bakum 651-466-8742

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.

Legal Name: Friends of the Hennepin County Library
Federal EIN#: 36-3579536
300 Nicollet Mall Suite N-290
Minneapolis, MN 55401
612-543-8106

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 Breining, Director of Development, at 612-543-8106 or abreining@hclib.org.

2017 Highlight: Webber Park Library Grand Opening



The new Webber Park Library opened its doors last May. Since 2016, library circulation at Webber Park has increased by 250%, and the number of library visitors has more than doubled. What a testament to the value of great libraries in our neighborhoods and communities!

You are providing more resources, support and hope for all. Thank you!

