

Become a Library Defender and protect the values that push us forward.

Your tax-deductible gift by December 31 will help fund critical Library programs and help reach our \$300,000 year-end fundraising goal.

\$25 for a new book

\$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 donation is a gift to everyone who uses our beloved Hennepin County Library!



YES! I want to change more lives at the Library in 2018 and beyond!

☐ \$25 ☐ \$60 ☐ \$120 ☐ \$240 ☐ \$600 ☐ \$1,000

☐ Other \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Please postmark by December 31, 2018.

Give by mail: Friends of HCL

300 Nicollet Mall, Mpls., MN 55401

Give by phone: 612-543-8104

Give online: supportHCLIB.org

For 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 tax-deductible contribution.

To make a Tribute Gift:

Visit supportHCLIB.org/give-tribute-donation

Call 612-543-8104



There's one place that always has our back: Hennepin County Library



Libraries remain a source of strength that defend the values that allow us to move toward a better future. We are so grateful to you, our generous donors, who defend the library values—knowledge, democracy, expression, understanding, and curiosity—that make our community stronger.



FRIENDS
of the **HENNEPIN**
COUNTY LIBRARY

Member Newsletter ♦ Winter 2018

Your Library: Where Dreams Come True

Empowering young adults, like Sunnie, on their path from homelessness to independence

On a gloomy afternoon in downtown Minneapolis, a haven at Hennepin County Library—Minneapolis Central is buzzing with energy.

Beats drift from a group laying down tracks in the practice room at the Best Buy Teen Tech Center. Others edit video or music in the computer lab, and still others quietly draw or write poetry at a worktable.

Unlike most afternoons, when teens and tweens fill the Teen Tech Center, this group is all young adults.

Growing up and no place to go

Five years ago, Library youth staff realized that young people who counted on the Teen Tech Center as a creative space to explore their own ideas and develop new skills - and also as a reprieve from the stressors of homelessness - were "aging out" of teen programs without alternatives. Adult programming didn't exactly meet their needs, leading to occasional, difficult encounters with staff and security.

"Teen Central was designed as a sacred space for kids younger than 18," said Bernie Farrell, Library Youth Services Coordinator. "But we knew there were so many people in that 20- to 24-year-old range who were not being supported and not always having positive experiences," she said.

Meanwhile, Library staff were collaborating with Learning Dreams, an initiative within the University of Minnesota's School of Social Work that helps youth overcome obstacles, discover their dreams and find a path to achievement. Youth workers from Learning Dreams, Jena and Joy, began incorporating visits to the library as part of their outreach efforts to build trusting relationships with young adults from YouthLink, a drop-in center for young people experiencing homelessness. Soon thereafter, Jena and Joy were ready to formalize and intensify their efforts to connect youth and library resources.

The joint solution is an initiative known as the Emerging Adults Cohort. Learning Dreams staff identify and invite young adults to participate, and library staff provide special access to the Teen Tech Center to young adults ages 19 and older on Friday afternoons. In five years, the project has grown from an initial group of 10 to over 50 youth in 2018. Participants now include Youthlink youth referred from Learning Dreams, youth "aging out" of the Teen Tech Center, and, most importantly, youth referred by past and current participants in the project.

Funding for the Emerging Adults Cohort – including youth workers, youth leader stipends, supplies, and guest artists serving as speakers and mentors – is provided by Friends of the Hennepin County Library.

[Read more →](#)



[continued →](#)

Big plans and dream maps

Now 26, Sunnie was introduced to Learning Dreams and the Teen Tech Center several years ago through YouthLink.

“It was a time in my life when there was a lot of transition,” she said of her years participating in the program. “Everything outside of that was so uncertain, so having that environment really helped.”

With support from Learning Dreams youth worker Brune, Sunnie mapped out steps to realize her dream – to create a variety show or flash mob.

“Brune,” she said, “had a way of saying, ‘It’s OK to have that big dream. Let’s cut it into baby steps.’ I was never shut down,” Sunnie recalled.

Sunnies dreams have evolved, but the skills learned in breaking down a huge project into manageable pieces introduced her to disciplines she continues to use as an adult. She’s also gone on to seek higher education, and is currently a case manager at Nicollet Square, one of YouthLink’s housing sites.

Every month, Sunnie and other alumni coordinate spoken word events for young adults at the library. With a magnetic smile, Sunnie introduces performers with flair that would make Oprah proud. And Brune beams from the back row.

“Sunnies leadership skills have always been there,” she said. “Learning Dreams held space for what Sunnie already was.”

A LOOK BACK

Thank You, Friends, for Making
2018 a Year to Remember



Automatic Renewals at HCL
January 1, 2018

HCL announces a new plan for automatic renewals to help make it easier for patrons to manage their library account. More time to read and enjoy more books - one of the many reasons we love HCL!



TESTIFY Exhibit Opens
January 11, 2018

TESTIFY: Americana from Slavery to Today opens in Cargill Hall at Hennepin County Library-Minneapolis Central. The collection of art and artifacts from the Diane and Alan Page Collection aims to re-frame the conversation about racial justice.



National Library Week
April 8-14, 2018

The American Library Association (ALA) launches *National Library Week*. Friends of HCL members share the many ways in which Hennepin County Library has made a positive impact on their lives. Eight-year-old Elsa says, “I feel excited to learn and read when I’m at my Library.”



Colson Whitehead @ Pen Pals
February 1, 2018

Colson Whitehead, 2017 Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Underground Railroad*, shares stories about his life and writing to sold-out crowds at the Pen Pals Author Lecture Series, held at Hopkins Center for the Arts.



Tracy K. Smith @ Talk of the Stacks
May 16, 2018

U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith discusses her latest collection of poems, *Wade in the Water*, at our free Talk of the Stacks event. May 16, 2018, was officially declared “Tracy K. Smith Day” in Minnesota by Governor Mark Dayton.



Sean Sherman shares The Sioux Chef story
June 18, 2018

Chef Sean Sherman, James Beard Award-winning author of *The Sioux Chef’s Indigenous Kitchen*, shares his mission to celebrate and showcase Native cuisine through a special cooking and educational demonstration attended by Friends of HCL donors.



Summer Learning at HCL
June-August, 2018

Combining the joy of summer fun with educational experiences, Hennepin County Library provides experiences that keep children discovering, engaging, and learning during the summer months. Programs focus on STEM, art, and literacy, and engage thousands of youth participants annually.



MnSpin Live Concert
August 21, 2018

Friends of HCL presents the first-ever MnSpin Live concert at The Hook and Ladder in Minneapolis. Hip-hop artist, educator, and producer Toki Wright emcees the concert featuring local artists UZZA, Siana, Katy Vernon, and The Federales. Stream and download music from MnSpin at hclib.musicat.co.



Ridgedale Library Re-opens
September 24, 2018

After being closed for a 14-month renovation, Ridgedale Library re-opens to an enthusiastic crowd of Library supporters at a special ribbon-cutting ceremony. The updated space includes eight new meetings rooms, new family and collaborative work spaces, and large windows that flood the space with natural light.



Give to the Max Day
November 15, 2018

Friends of HCL launches our Give to the Max Day campaign celebrating the values our public library embodies. More than 1,000 donors joined together on this day to protect the values — knowledge, curiosity, expression, democracy, and understanding — that move us forward.

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 Bakkum 651-466-8706

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.

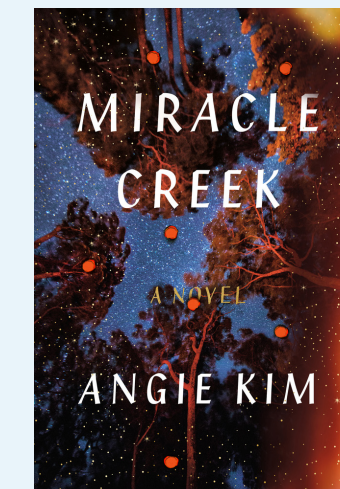
Legal Name: Friends of the Hennepin County Library
Federal EIN#: 36-3579536
300 Nicollet Mall Suite N-290
Minneapolis, MN 55401
612-543-8106

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 Breininger, Director of Development, at 612-543-8106 or abreininger@hclib.org.

Books Hitting Shelves in 2019

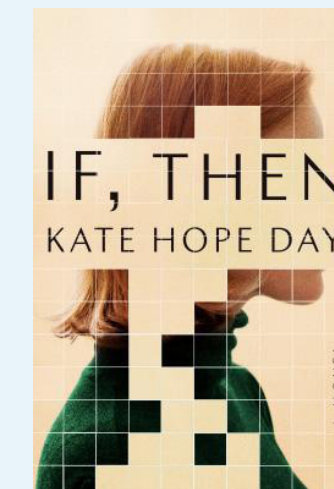
Hennepin County Library staff know a thing or two about books, which is why we were excited to get a sneak preview of some of the most anticipated titles coming to HCL in 2019, to share with you, our Library Friends!



Miracle Creek
by Angie Kim



Cape May
by Chip Cheek



If, Then
by Kate Hope Day



Black Leopard, Red Wolf
by Marlon James

For more specially curated reading lists visit: hclib.org/browse/staff-reviews-featured-lists