# St. Louis County Library Foundation of the St. Louis County Library Foundation



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#### **Board of Directors Officers**

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**Gifts and Tributes** 

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Library Happenings

#### **Honorary Board Members**

Sen. Bill Bradley Mary Engelbreit Eddy Harris Julius K. Hunter Ridley Pearson Scott Phillips Beau Willimon 16

#### **Upcoming Author Events**

Director and CEO Kristen Sorth

Assistant Director, Advancement Jackie Hamilton

Author Events Coordinator Carrie Robb crobb@slcl.org

Friends Coordinator Courtney Wood cwood@slcl.org

#### Friends Newsletter

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St. Louis County Library **Foundation** 

The St. Louis County Library Foundation is recognized as a tax-exempt organization by the IRS under Section 501(c) (3), EIN 43-1863977. Please check with your tax advisor to confirm if all or part of your gift may be tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

### Construction of 74,000-square-foot Ladue Branch to Commence in May



St. Louis County Library announced plans for a new library branch in Ladue to replace the current Headquarters building, located at 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd. The project is part of a multi-year campaign to renovate or replace 19 branches within the Library District.

Library Headquarters will close to the public in late May. During construction, patrons will be directed to nearby SLCL locations where they can pick up holds and receive normal library service. A groundbreaking ceremony for the new branch will be held in summer 2022. The new library is expected to be completed in late 2023. The timeline is subject to change based on weather conditions and other factors.

The new Ladue Branch, which has not yet been named, will be a two-story, 74,000 square foot building with high windows, an outdoor courtyard and walking trail, a second-floor reading deck and a small-business center. Colorful spaces for children and teens will be upstairs, along with a Genealogy Center, sponsored by Emerson. Teens will have access to a high-tech creative space, sponsored by Object Computing, that includes a 3-D printer, a recording studio and green screen for videos. The Stephany and Richard Kniep Children's Space will feature a large playhouse, along with other interactive learning activities for kids. The first floor will feature an event space for author events, programs, meetings and other special events, with seating up to 800.

Other amenities at the branch include 19 private study rooms, a quiet reading room, a computer lab, community meeting rooms, and comfortable seating.



"Libraries have changed since this building was built. We are a center of the community. It's hard to do that in a building where you came in, checked out a book, someone shushed you, and you left. This new branch will be completely dedicated to patrons. It will be a more modern, spacious building that clearly celebrates the different patrons who use it."

-Kristen Sorth, Director and CEO



The new Ladue Branch is designed by Lamar Johnson Collaborative. The budget is \$22 million. The branch is the final project of the Your Library Renewed campaign. Details about the campaign can be found at www.slcl.org/your-library-renewed.

# Note from the President

Brian Davies, Foundation Board President



Thankfully, spring is here. After the winter we endured, there's lots of welcome warm news in this issue. First, 2022 is the 75th anniversary of the St. Louis County Library. It goes without saying that the tools and services of libraries have changed enormously to accommodate the complex needs and challenges of today. Besides being a source of books, information

and entertainment, they now are also community centers that create a safe space with resources previously not available in libraries. From summer lunches for kids to sold-out events with bestselling authors, our programs are building a vibrant public library system, one reader at a time.

Check out the plans for the new Ladue branch as well as updates on in-person and virtual author events and recommended reads. The Foundation board continues to add talented and committed individuals and we are saying farewell to three long-time library staffers upon their retirement. We are grateful to everyone involved in getting the legislation before the St. Louis County Council for a bill to provide ARPA money for the renewal of GrandPads for the current 1,500 county residents with the device and to expand the program to 1,500 additional residents.

The St. Louis County Library Foundation helps your local library do more. **Please don't forget us on May 5–annual Give STL Day. Our 2022 Fund the Need Week will be June 6–10.** We're making it easier to support us–donors can now set up monthly giving options electronically as well as one-time gifts.

As always, we thank you, our Friends and donors. Because of you, the St. Louis County Library is more than you imagined!

### give STL Day | May 5

### Don't Wait-Early Giving Starts April 5, 2022.

Many in our community depend on the library for much more. Your donation could help us add social workers for extra support in five branches. **Please give today.** 



### Fund the Need Week | June 6–10



Support St. Louis County Library's Foundation's Fund the Need Week, June 6–10. New in 2022 your donation will help fund social workers for patrons, support the St. Louis Storytelling Festival and ongoing literacy efforts in the region.



We heard loud and clear from our guests last year who loved our casual, fun food truck event—"do it again!" So on June 10, we will host a food truck finale event with a variety of delicious food, drinks and treats right on the parking lot of the Ladue HQ. **Ticket information coming soon.** 

# Focus on Friends



Full Name: Maria Viehman

Place of Employment and Job Title (Former if retired): retired from Mercy Hospital in Supply Chain Administration

Friend of the Foundation Since: 2015

Your library branch: Daniel Boone

Favorite Author or Genre of Books? Mysteries and historical novels

Traditional book or eBook? Traditional book

**Best part about the library?** Close by, spacious, friendly staff, a great variety of programs and items to borrow especially with my little granddaughters now.

Author you enjoyed seeing as part of the Author Series and why? So many, but especially Charles Finch, C.J. Box, Dan Brown, Jonathan Drori. They all have a great sense of humor, energy and seem easy going.

What is the one classic novel you always meant to, but never got around to reading? There are none, I look forward to new ones.

If you could have dinner with one author dead or alive, who would it be and why? Would rather attend a library event to share questions. Food and eating are distracting! What is one book you wish they would turn into a movie or one book that was better than the movie? No suggestions or critiques at this time. I am really enjoying "ATW in 80 days" and "All Creatures Great and Small on PBS."

**Best vacation you have ever taken and why?** To the Far East in 1987. I always wanted to go there, and enjoyed the cultural change of the five countries I visited.

You lend one of your favorite books to a friend. They return the book with a cracked spine and dog-eared pages. Do you address the issue? Please select one answer.

- Who cares! It's a Friend after all. (They must have really liked it!)
- No, I wouldn't say anything, but it would annoy me all day.
- Yes, I would be upfront with my disappointment.
- Irrelevant, I would never lend a book.

Not only did you forget that book club is at your house, you didn't even read the book. What do you do? Please select one answer.

- Don't admit anything. Maybe no one will notice.
- Peruse the book club discussion questions to piece together a plotline.
- Admit it you haven't read the book right out of the gate.
- Confess you haven't read the book, but out another member of not reading the book as well.

### New Board Member Announcements

The St. Louis County Library Foundation welcomes Bill Luster and Apollo Carey J.D., LL.M.



**Bill Luster** is a native of St. Louis and currently works as a Financial Advisor for Edward Jones. He has worked in a variety of states for Kimberly-Clark for over 25 years in marketing, manufacturing and human resources before returning to live and work in St. Louis. He currently sits on several boards including 100 Black Men of America, 100

Black Men of Metropolitan St. Louis and Fathers and Families Support Center St. Louis.



**Apollo Carey** is a Member (Partner) of the Lewis Rice LLC in St. Louis where he practices corporate, transactional and regulatory law. He is also active in the St. Louis community, serving as the City Attorney for the City of Ferguson. Apollo teaches a class in issues in nonprofit management law at Washington University School of Law as an adjunct

professor. Apollo also serves on additional nonprofit boards.

### From the Stacks If the service is free, you are the product.

by Jennifer Alexander, Adult Collection Development Specialist

"Never trust a candy house!" exclaims a character in Jennifer Egan's latest novel. Myths and fairy tales like Rumpelstiltskin, Hansel and Gretel, and King Midas all contain warnings on the theme of hidden costs of apparent good fortune. Similarly, Egan's "The Candy House" offers a cautionary tale of a near future in which a product with the tagline "Own Your Unconscious" promises much but yields unexpected consequences.

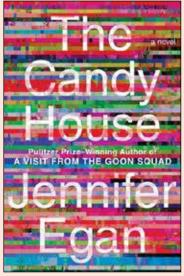
In this imagined future, it is possible to download your memories and experiences externally to a device. Whenever needed, you can not only recall the day you met your spouse, but you can watch it and share it with others exactly how it happened. Many decide to upload all their experiences each day to a shared collective consciousness.

Things become complicated when the conclusions from a decadesold and largely ignored work of sociology are resurrected. A woman who spent years in an isolated tribal community where all members knew the histories of all other members wrote a book called Patterns of Affinity in which she introduces formulas for predicting human inclinations. She speculates that these formulas could theoretically be applied to modern societies, but the amount of personal information that would be required would be difficult to obtain. After all, people would be reluctant to share so much personal information.

The combination of complete access to a collective consciousness with algorithms predicting preferences is an opportunity for monetization and manipulation. Companies use what they can to maximize profits. One result is that entertainment has been broken down into mathematical formulas. "Counters" work to turn plot points into algebraic functions. One character working for a network creates formulas to determine the comparative dramatic punch of either throwing a drink in the face or whispering, "how dare you?"

When any utopia shows signs of dystopia, there are resisters. In the world of "The Candy House," these are called eluders. Not only do these rebels refuse to add their experiences to the collective consciousness, but they also disappear. They work together to find privacy from the collective. Online proxies are used to camouflage their absence.

The twin daughters of the author of Patterns of Affinity are impressed with the promptness and accuracy of the proxy they suspect is responding to their text messages to their mother. Because a proxy has access to everything one has said digitally, imitating the "voice" is not



difficult. Each request to get together is delayed with a claim of being too busy. Responses to texts and emails allow the girls to keep alive the diminishing belief that their mother has not disappeared. "Without an immediate expectation of seeing someone physically, it can take a while to be certain you're dealing with a vacant identity."

The allure of easy access to one's own memory along with the memories of others is powerful. But in Egan's novel, the mechanical recording of life leaves many feeling a loss.

When humans gather, they often talk about their shared experience. They tell stories they have heard many times before. What they are after is not a video-like accuracy in the retelling. Instead, they are creating. All those hazy memories, all that imperfect recollection creates the story that we are connected. We lived, and our lives intersected in a million little ways.

Fans of Jennifer Egan's 2010 book "A Visit from the Goon Squad" will enjoy seeing some of the same characters from those interrelated stories navigating the imagined reality of "The Candy House." This inventive novel offers readers much to think about, some laughs, and perhaps even a tiny bit of worry.

Library Holiday Closures

All St. Louis County Library Branches are closed the following dates: Monday, May 30 Monday, June 20 Monday, July 4

# Readers' Advisory Reads for Spring



#### "With Love, from London" by Sarah Jio

What happens when a woman's estranged mother dies, leaving her with a London bookshop and a set of revealing letters?



### "Greenwich Park"

by Katherine Faulkner

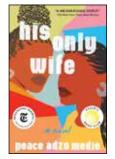
A twisty psychological thriller about a new friend in a woman's prenatal class who has a hidden agenda.



### "The Reading List"

by Sara Nisha Adams

Can mysterious lists of recommended books left in an English bookshop help struggling characters?



### "His Only Wife"

by Peace Adzo Mede

A young Ghanian woman marries a rich man, only to discover that he has a secret, second family.

### A LOOK BACK | History & Genealogy

# Past Library Technologies

by Ellen Mays, History & Genealogy

St. Louis County Library has utilized many different technologies over the years for processing, cataloging, and circulation. One unique item used by St. Louis County Library staff in the 1950s to print information on book pockets and catalog cards was the addressograph. First patented in 1896, the addressograph was an address and labeling system that helped make many library processes more efficient. Joseph S. Duncan, a bookkeeper who had grown tired of addressing mail by hand, wanted a faster and more efficient way of completing this task.

By 1910, the addressograph made it possible to reach 100,000 people by mail each month. Many new developments and changes occurred in the design. The addressograph of the 1960s was very different from the early models. The new models had a steel frame and keyboard that helped with stamping the address plates. The steel cassettes in which the steel plates were inserted looked a lot like library card catalogs of the time.



Photo by Elva Norman

By the 1960s, copy machines replaced most of the addressographs. Many other technological advancements have occurred since the addressograph. As technology is constantly changing, there are sure to be many new technological advances at the St. Louis County Library.

# New and Renewing Friends

The following is a list of people who joined the Friends of the St. Louis County Library Foundation or who renewed their membership between the dates of November 16, 2021 and January 31, 2022.

Mr. David Alexander Ms. Jodi Alfermann Dr. & Mrs. David Alpers Ms. Terry Anderson Ms. Susan J. Ansehl Ms. Judy Anthon Dr. Alice L. Aslin Ms. Linda Austin Mrs. Laua Dierberg Ayers & Mr. Brock Ayers Mrs. Marv Jo Barker Mr. Robert & Mrs. Christine Barrett Ms. Kelsey Batten Mrs. Carolyn Becker Crista & Brian Beracha Mrs. Melissa Biehl Ms. Alicia Bingel Mr. Rick Blaha Mr. & Mrs. Rov Blair Dr. & Mrs. Morey Blinder Mr. Leslie Block & Mrs. Ruth Litman Block Mr. Eric & Mrs. Elaine Bly Ms. Ellen Bonacorsi Mrs. Hallye Bone Ms. Deborah J. Boniske Dr. Ellen C Boone Mr. Farrell & Mrs. Marv Boundinier Mr. & Mrs. Conrad Bowers Mr. George Brell Barbara M. Briggs Mr. & Mrs. Steven M. Brown Julie & Michael Bulthaus Ms. Mary Bumpus Ms. Sharon E. Burke Mr. Mark Burkhart Dr. Pat Burrell-Standley & Dr. Bob Standley Tom & Pat Busch Ms. Catherine Buttermore Mr. Eric Button Mrs. Carolvne Candrl Mrs. Jeanne M. Cardinale Mr. & Mrs. James M. Carr Ms. Marjorie Carter

Michael & Alkistis Case Ms. Marie Casey & Mr. Kenn Entringer Ms. Louise Cenatiempo Ms. Julie Chauvin Mr. Chris Chorlins Mr. William G. Clark Dr. & Mrs. Daniel Cohen Mr. Bruce & Mrs. Marian Collins Ms. Eileen Condon Ms. Shannon Conlon Mr. Robert & Mrs. Sherri Connors Dr. David & Mrs. Sheri Corman Ms. Rita Coulter Ms. Jeanette R. Craig Mrs. Cherie Crowe Ms. Chervl Curik Mrs. Marv Curran Mary E. Dahlem Mr. Brian & Mrs. Jennifer Davies Mrs. Pat Davis Ms. Kathryn Davis Mr. & Mrs. David Dean Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Desuza, Jr. Mr. David L. Dilthey Tracey Temanson & Jim Donnelly Mrs. Judith Donohue Mrs. Sharon M. Dougherty John F. Dunning, Jr. Ms. Ann E. Earlev Mr. Stan & Mrs. Susan Edelstein Ms. Susan Ekberg Charles Elbert & Karen Berrv Flbert Ms. Phyllis Ellis Mr. & Mrs. David Everson Ms. Amv Evler Mr. Robert J. Falk Michael D. Farlev Jeanne Fischer & Michael Kafoury Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Fitzpatrick Ms. Katharine Flores Ms. Westelle Florez Mr. & Mrs. Morton D. Fowler

Ms. Ann King Carter

Mr. Barry Freedman & Ms. Ava Ehrlich Mr. Steve & Mrs. MaryAlice Gallagher Mr. & Mrs. David P. Garino Mrs. Martha Ann Garrett Ms. Julia Geissler Mr. & Mrs. David Gierada Ms. Celeste A. Gleason Dr. & Mrs. Julius L. Goldstein Ms. Patricia Gormlev Ms. Susan Gould Mr. Thomas Gow & Mrs. Karen Witmer-Gow R. Mark Grady Ms. Elizabeth Grant Mrs. Debbi L. Grebler Ms. Elizabeth L. Green Mr. Harvey Greenstein Mr. Chris & Mrs. Meg Griesedieck Ms. Candyce Grisham Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Guerrant Mr. Timothy M Guntli Ms. Jackie Hamilton Mr. Paul F. Hanpeter Ed & Laurie Hansell Ms. Judy Hardebeck Ms. Barbara R. Harris Ms. Eileen H. Heidenheimer John F. Heil Vicki & Richard Helfrev Dale & Susan Henn Dr. Alyssa & Mr. Joshua Henn Ms. Marv Hennicke Mr. Philip M. Hess & Mrs. Teresa Mayhew Hess Ms. Michele Hill John & Nancy Hillhouse Mary E. & Anthony E. Hoffmann Ms. Tina Holland Clark & Maryjane Hotaling Judy & Ray Hubbs Mr. Jack & Mrs. Teresa Huether Mr. & Mrs. David W. Hughes Mrs. Nancy Hutchins Ms. Susan D. Imhoff

Dr. Sherifa labal Ms. Clarie Jacobi Mr. Neil & Mrs. Wendy Jaffe Mr. Harry & Mrs. Lindley James Ms. Susan Jesse Barbara L. Johnson Mr. Tom Johnson Ms. Karen Jordan Ms. Frieda F. Kaemmerlen Ms. Karen Kalish Ms. Jovce Kettenhofen Mrs. Stephanie Kline-Tissi Ms. Paula Knight, EdD Mrs. Janet Knight Ms. Fran Koch Ms. Carol Kopolow Mr. & Mrs. James H. Korn Mrs. Lvnn Kostadine Mr. & Mrs. Keith Kowalczyk Miss Christine Kozlowski Mrs. Patricia Kozlowski Mrs. Judi Kramer Debbi M. Krieg Mrs. Dottie Kroenung Mr. Mark & Mrs. Deborah Kumming Ms. Judith Laitman Ms. Sue Lancaster Ms. Janet Landrum Ms. Sally Lefler Mr. & Mrs. Derek Legler Eugene Lerman Lewis & Leslee Levey Ms. Terri Leyton Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Light Mr. Mark Lincoln Ms. Nancy W. Litzinger Mr. & Mrs. Charles Lombardo Mr. Jonathan B. Losos Ms. Jane Lowenthal Ms. Maggie Loyet Mrs. Ann Ludlow Mr. Donald Lueders & Mrs. Donna Bossow-Lueders Ms. Karen D. Luscri William Luster Ms. Gail Luther

The St. Louis County Library Foundation is committed to enhance and enrich the library's educational and cultural mission by securing financial support beyond public funding, sponsoring programs and special projects, and serving as a library ambassador.

Mr. Raymond M. Maciejewski Ms. Hazel Mallory Mrs. Betty Malott Ricki & Neil Marglous Mrs. Pat Marstall Ms. Margot M. Martin Mr. Frank J. Matula, Jr. & Mrs. Leslie E. Conway Ms. Kathv A. Maxson Ms. Peggy A. McClure Mrs. Connie McKee Mr. & Mrs. John C. McManus James D. McMillan Brian & Nora McMorrow Mrs. Jo Ann McNaughton-Kade Ms. Cynthia Merrins Mr. James & Mrs. Elizabeth Meteer Linda & Ted Meyer Mr. & Mrs. John Meyer Mrs. Kathleen Buescher Milligan Ms. Cindy B. Mitchell Mr. Charles & Mrs. Susan Moellerina Mrs. Kia Moore Ms. Jeanne E. Most Mrs. Sherrv Muehlfarth June Mueller Mrs. Gloria G. Mundwiller Ms. Susan Murphy Ms. Sarah Herstand Myers Ms. Nancy C. Nietz Mrs. Sue Nugent Mr. David Obedin & Mrs. Clare Davis Dr. & Mrs. Edward J. O'Brien. Jr. Mr. John & Mrs. Barbara O'Brien Mr. & Mrs. Michael C. Ogilvie Dr. Stephen & Mrs. Heather Olson Mr. & Mrs. Oly Olson Mr. James W. & Mrs. Joan M. O'Neill Mr. Henry & Mrs. Ilene Ordower Mr. Terrence J. & Mrs. Sheila O'Toole Mr. Gary Otten

Ms. Sheila M. Palitzsch Ms. Farnell Parsons Alexander & Elizabeth Peng Dr. Jay Pepose & Ms. Susan Feigenbaum Mr. & Mrs. Edward J. Perantoni Cvnthia & Ravmond Peters Mr. & Mrs. Don Phillips Bob & Cathy Pickard Ms. Pat R. Pickett Mrs. Linda Pietroburgo Mr. Wiliam Piper Ms. Dana A. Plonka Ms. Patti Pokornev Ms. Leatrice Polityka Chris & Kathryn Preston Mrs. Jane A. Protte Simon & Vicki Pursifull Ms. Mary L. Quick Mr. Roy & Mrs. Edith Quick Ms. Beth Quick-Andrews Mr. & Mrs. Maurice E. Quiroga Mr. & Mrs. R. Terry Rassieur Amv Ravin & Eric Brown Ms. Cvnthia Reeg Mr. David & Ms. Kathy Rehmer Mr. Rickv Rhine Mr. Steven & Mrs. Susan Rhoades Mrs. Pat Rich Mr. & Mrs. James C. Roberts Ms. Karen Robinson AI & Nancy Rose Ms. Rebecca Roth Ms. Jacqueline Rouff Mrs. Anne C. Rudder Ms. Irma Ruebling Mr. & Mrs. Bruce D. Ryder Ms. Beverlee N. Sagel Ms. Joyce Salih & Mr. Marvin Pund Mrs. JoAnn Sandifer Mr. Barry J. Schapiro Stephanie Scheibal Mr. & Mrs. David J. Schepers Mr. & Mrs. Douglas C. Schlattmann

Ms. Lisa Schlesinger & Mr. Charles Allen Mr. Harvev & Mrs. Leanne Schneider Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Schoor Jerry & Barbara Schroy Mrs. Kathy Schweich Laurie & Bert Schweizer, III Mrs. Judith Scissors Susan S. Scribner Mr. Marc & Mrs. Madelyn Semanoff Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Seslen Mr. & Mrs. Richard Shatz Ms. Judith Shaw Jeremy & Elizabeth Shook Mr. Norman & Mrs. Linda Shore Dr. Sherman & Joan Silber Ms. Valerie L. Silberman Mrs. Laura Silver Mr. Dale & Mrs. Merle Singer Alfredine & Jerry Slaby Mr. Thomas & Mrs. Shelley Smith Martin & Esther Smoller Ms. Hazel Sohn & Dr. Richard Sohn Mr. Barrv & Mrs. Vickie Sokolik Dr. Elizabeth L. Sondhaus Mrs. Kristen & Mr. Mike Sorth Jeff Spahr Dr. & Mrs. Robert Spewak Ms. Victoria A. Stanford Ms. Pamela S. Statler Mr. Bill Stebelski Mrs. Karen Stern Mrs. Joy Sterneck Ms. Audrea Strelo Mrs. Amanda Strupp Mr. Kevin & Mrs. Jean Sullivan Mr. Michael & Mrs. Donna Sullivan Mrs. Nancv Tank Ms. Sandy Taryle Mr. & Mrs. Donald Tate Ms. Celie Tatom Ms. Penny R. Taylor

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### SLCL Ranked 4-Stars by Library Journal

For the 8th year in a row, St. Louis County Library has been ranked as a 4-star library in the 2021 Library Journal Index of Public Library Service. SLCL is the only four star library in the St. Louis region. The rank of four stars indicates a high per capita use in five major areas of library service: library visits, circulation, program attendance, circulation of electronic material and public Internet computer use. The ranking is based on statistics from 2019, when SLCL circulated over 16 million items.

To create the index, public libraries are compared to others with similar annual expenditures and ranked accordingly. Star Library ratings of five, four, and three stars are awarded to libraries that generate the highest combined per capita outputs among their peers. SLCL received a four-star rating in the \$30,000,000+ expenditure range.

The past two years have been a time of adjusting, adapting and transforming Library service to the community. Throughout the pandemic, SLCL has provided critical resources to the region, including distributing over 1.3 million drive-thru meals with Operation Food Search, providing emergency diapers and period supply kits from the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank, and issuing thousands of Chromebooks and Wi-Fi hotspots to area students to assist with virtual learning



through the Digital Equity Initiative. SLCL is planning for the return of more traditional library services in 2022, as well as new projects, including:

- Adding social workers to assist individuals and families
- Hosting a regional storytelling festival
- Adding more items to our "library of things"
- Upgrading our bookmobile fleet

The Library Journal is a publication of the American Library Association.

# Check out a Fort Building Kit from SLCL

Check out a fort building kit from St. Louis County Library and take your creative play to the next level! SLCL offers fort building kits for check out at all 20 branches. The kits are recommended for ages 5



years and older and can be checked out for 14 days. Each kit contains plastic tubes and connectors, as well as instructions to create a variety of different shapes and structures. The completed design can be covered with a sheet or blanket for maximum fun. Fort building kits from SLCL are a great way for kids to practice hands-on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) skills. Kids can design and build their ultimate fort with help from adults, siblings or friends. The kits provide opportunities to problem solve and communicate while working towards a common goal. Each kit contains 120 pieces and a portable bag for use indoors or outdoors.

SLCL offers a variety of items to help to liven up a rainy day. In addition to books, music and movies, patrons can use their library card to check out portable projectors, musical instruments, telescopes, binoculars, puzzles, board games, Read & Play kits, and more.

For additional information or to reserve a fort building kit, please contact St. Louis County Library at 314-994-3300 or www.slcl.org.

### RETIREMENT Barbara Turkington

#### by Kristen Sorth, Director and CEO

Barbara Turkington, Assistant Director of Advancement, announced her retirement effective February 28, 2022. Barbara started working at the Library on November 1, 2011. During her tenure, Barbara has reenvisioned the St. Louis County Library Foundation Board. She worked closely with the Foundation to increase their goals, fundraising efforts and Friends of the Foundation.

Barbara oversaw the first Strategic Plan for the Foundation, which significantly raised the amount of support provided by the Foundation to the Library for programs and services. She also implemented a spring and fall appeal to solicit regular donations by mail. During her tenure, the Foundation created Alison Grants, which directly impacts public service by supporting innovative programs and pilots created by branch and Headquarter employees such as telescopes, sensory storytime, musical instruments, seed packets, MetroMarket stops, cooking programs, ACT prep, and many more.



Library Director and CEO Kristen Sorth, Pulitzer Prize–winning author Jon Meacham and Assistant Director of Advancement Barbara Turkington.

In addition, under Barbara's direction, the Foundation began its sponsorship and support of large Library programs including, but limited to Born to Read, Coding 101, Gift of Reading, and Excel online high school (previously COHS). Most recently, this has included COVID 19 projects, diapers and period supplies (in partnership with the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank), Playtime Learning Pads and Digital Equity Initiatives (consisting of hotspots and Chromebooks).

Barbara recognized and communicated the value of these programs to the Foundation. In addition to programs, Barbara has been the center of planning and implementation for all of the successful Foundation Galas from 2012 to present, which involved a new concept for the Library Foundation, a Food Truck event in 2021. These and other special events planned and implemented by Barbara and her team have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support library programs and services. Barbara always makes sure these events are fun and classy but that comes with a large amount of work.

In a sea of hundreds of St. Louis galas, the Library Foundation's Gala stands out every year as a must-attend event because of Barbara. And last, but certainly not least, Barbara has worked tirelessly to make sure that the Library's amazing author event programs are world class. She has overseen the implementation of visits from Al Gore, Tan France, Madeleine Albright, Salmon Rushdie, Valerie Jarrett, C.J. Box, Roxane Gay, H.W. Brands, Louise Penny, Bernice King, and Amy Tan in addition to hundreds of smaller events.

Perhaps the most meaningful author event to me and Barbara was Jon Meacham. We were so overwhelmed upon meeting Jon, that he felt compelled to tell us that we needed to get ourselves together, so we would not embarrass ourselves and the Library! On a personal level, Barbara is first and foremost fun and hilarious, but also kind and caring. We are so happy for Barbara. We know that her husband Bill can say "well finally" about her retirement but we are going to miss her in a very big way and know that we will still see her at the author events!

### Do we have your email?

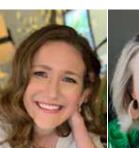
Sign up to be on our email list to make sure you can reserve seats to your favorite author events, receive invitations to upcoming Foundation events and learn more ways you can support your library. **Email friends@slcl.org with your preferred email address.** 

# Upcoming author events

Due to COVID-19, many author events are being held virtually with our media partner, HEC-TV. The events will be broadcast simultaneously on Facebook.com/STLCoLibrary and on the Higher Education Channel at Spectrum 989 and AT&T U-verse 99. A Facebook account is not required to watch these events. Past events are available to view at https://hecmedia.org/category/literature/virtual-events/.

*In-Person Events: Mask Required for Admission*–*A properly worn mask covering your mouth and nose is required at all times during in-person events.* 

Adult program Youth program







a Trigiani Du April 29 M







Kathy Gilsinan Thursday, April 7 In-person Sally Hepworth Mic Wednesday, April 13 Thu In-person Virt

Michelle Higgins Thursday, April 14 Virtual Adriana Trigiani Friday, April 29 In-person Don Winslow Monday, May 2 In-person

Daniel Jose Older Saturday, May 7 In-person Chris Bohjalian Saturday, May 14 In-person Beatriz Williams Wednesday, May 18 In-person

### April

*Thursday, April 7, 7:00 p.m.* | Headquarters Kathy Gilsinan, "The Helpers: Profiles from the Front Lines of the Pandemic"

Presented by the Gale Medical Arts Series\* *In-person event.* 

Monday, April 11, 7:00 p.m. | Headquarters John Searles, "Her Last Affair" In-person event.

Wednesday, April 13, 7:00 p.m. Headquarters Sally Hepworth, "The Younger Wife" In-person event.

Thursday, April 14, 7:00 p.m.

Watch on www.facebook.com/STLCoLibrary Ekemini Uwan, Christina Edmundson and Michelle Higgins, "Truth's Table: Black Women's Musing on Life, Love, and Liberation" Virtual event.

Thursday, April 21, 7:00 p.m. | Headquarters Theresa Brown, "Healing: When a Nurse Becomes a Patient" Presented by the Gale Medical Arts Series\* In-person event.

Wednesday, April 27, 7:00 p.m. | Headquarters Jennifer Close, "Marrying the Ketchup" In-person event.

Friday, April 29, 7:00 p.m. | Headquarters Adriana Trigiani, "The Good Left Undone" In-person event.

Monday, May 2, 7:00 p.m. | Headquarters Don Winslow, "City on Fire" In-person event.

Thursday, May 5, 7:00 p.m. Watch on www.facebook.com/STLCoLibrary Mark Updegrove, "Incomparable Grace: JFK in the Presidency" Presented by the Westfall Politics & History Series Virtual event.

Saturday, May 7, 2:00 p.m | Headquarters

Daniel Jose Older, "Ballad & Dagger: An Outlaw Saints Novel" Presented by the Reading Garden Series for Young Audiences In-person event.

Saturday, May 14, 7:00 p.m. Headquarters Chris Bohjalian, "The Lioness" In-person event.

*Monday, May 16, 7:00 p.m.* | Headquarters Ed Wheatley, "Wrestling at the Chase" *In-person event.* 

Wednesday, May 18, 7:00 p.m. | Headquarters Beatriz Williams, Lauren Willig and Karen White, "The Lost Summers of Newport" In-person event.

Please check the library's website. Dates and other details may change.

\*The **Gale Medical Arts Series** at the St. Louis County Library was founded in 2015 by Dr. Arthur Gale with the purpose of increasing the public's knowledge and understanding of medicine and health care.

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### RETIREMENT Marie Conlin

#### by Kristen Sorth, Director and CEO



Marie Conlin's title as Library Planner does not adequately describe her accomplishments! Marie Conlin will be retiring from the Library after 31 years of service. When Marie and I were talking about her time here, she summarized her time by calling it her "Life's Work" and I totally agree. Marie started with the Library on January 2, 1990 as a Professional II. A month

later, she moved to Tesson Ferry as the Assistant Branch Manager.

At the end of 1990, Marie moved to Reference. Important to note is that our records do not list a title for her at that time because what she was about to accomplish was groundbreaking for SLCL. Her title eventually became Electronic Resources Librarian. At the time Marie moved into this position, there were zero electronic resources offered by the Library. In that role, Marie spearheaded and oversaw the very first acquisition of electronic resources for the Library. Her job involved finding, reviewing, purchasing and then training employees and patrons on electronic resources and databases. Marie was also here for the advent of the Internet at the Library. She was responsible for training both employees and the patrons on how to use the Internet!

In 1997, Marie moved to Administration and was once again tasked with creating something new as Library Planner. In this role, Marie would create the first Strategic Plan for the Library and would go on to create many more Strategic Plans by actively listening to the community. Her work on the Strategic Plan has steered the priorities of the Library for almost 25 years. Prior to Marie, the Library did not actively seek out and apply for grants. As another first for the Library, Marie took on this role and has successfully written over 300 grants and is responsible for the Library receiving over \$3 million in grant funds!

Her role here goes beyond the titles and job descriptions. Marie is kind and caring and interested in people. She is an exceptional listener and never fails to remember an important milestone, birthday or celebration. Marie serves as a confidant and conscience to many and also happens to be an incredible editor but most of all is the true definition of a friend.

### RETIREMENT Scott Hol

By Emily Althoff, Public Services Administrator, Headquarters



We thank **Scott Holl** for his immense contributions to the genealogical world! Scott retired at the end of the year. Scott began working for the Library in 2007 as an Assistant Manager in Special Collections. He was promoted to Manager of the Special Collections in August of 2014. In September of 2014, he helped rebrand the department as the

History & Genealogy Department.

Scott has received accolades from the Missouri State Genealogical Association (MoSGA) with a Certificate of Appreciation and the Filby Award for Genealogical Librarianship from the National Genealogical Society. He has helped to bring unique collections to SLCL during his tenure. Scott worked on the acquisition of the Lewis Rohrback collection from Switzerland and the Joy A. Reisinger Collection from Sparta, WI. Other collections acquired during his time at the library include the William C.E. and Bessie K. Becker collection and the Mary F. Berthold collection. Scott was always looking for ways to reduce barriers and promote greater use of his department's resources. He was successful in opening up Tier 4 for public access, has worked on digitization efforts to expand access to historical newspapers and most recently local yearbooks, saw the establishment of the very popular and heavily used electronic look-up form used world-wide, created the Family History Ambassador program for library employees, and has helped to usher in a vast amount of programming, including popular instructional videos with ever-increasing viewership. Scott was responsible for creating the first PastPorts issue in March 2008. This newsletter reaches email boxes across the world and continues to receive praise and appreciation for the helpful articles.

Scott has helped to elevate the status of the History & Genealogy Department during his 14 years here at SLCL. He is a knowledgeable and trusted figure in the Genealogy world and is sought out by members of the research community. He has truly been an asset to the library.

# Grants Received

The library was awarded two grants totalling \$10,450 in January 2022.

#### January

**The Saigh Foundation provided \$5,000** in grant funding to support literacy tutoring at SLCL. In partnership with Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring, older adults are paired with children in grades K-3 as their tutors, mentors, and friends. Tutors use a 6-step literacy approach that emphasizes improved speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Originally intended to be in-person tutoring, the service is currently offered virtually using Zoom.



Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring



Christina Soontornvat, author of "All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys Soccer Team."

The Missouri State Library's Summer Reading Program Grant provided \$5,450 to support STEM programming, specifically a virtual event with Christina Soontornvat, engineer, STEM educator, and author of "All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys Soccer Team." The grant will also support the creation of Spanish-language Summer Reading Club materials for more inclusive participation.

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## Gifts and Tributes

The Library Foundation offers a special opportunity to honor and remember a loved one, friend or colleague. A donation to the Foundation recognizes and expresses your love and respect for a beloved individual while enhancing the Foundation's early childhood literacy programs. Please consider the Foundation for a tribute or memorial gift.

The following is a list of people who gave gifts or tributes between the dates of November 16, 2021 thru February 25, 2022.

#### In Memory of:

Helen Alu Mrs. Dana Kennedy

Mr. Patrick Creason Mr. Michael Wade

Ms. Holly Ann Hutchings John Zalewski

Ms. Evelyn Lieberman Ms. Nikki Cohn Tureen

Mary Marcus Kay and Randall Cappos

Susan Stampfer Heller Marcus Dr. Frances Levine Thomas C. McKelly Jr. Ms. Johanna Schillinger

Mr. Bill Mellish Mrs. Mary Lou Mellish

Mr. Jay Ring Jay & Lisa Ring Charitable Fund Sybil Smith Teresa L Kendrick

Mr. Joseph Wrangler Anonymous

#### In Honor of:

Mrs. Anna R. Bertman The St. Louis Trust Company Josephine Carr

Suzanne M. Hechemy Mrs. Lisa Hanly Ms. Heather R. Hanly Dr. Lynn Pott Miss Caroline E. Ayers

Ms. Carrie Robb Mr. Doug Clark

Mr. Thomas Thompson Ali & Ira Mabel

"The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence that we may yet have hope for the future of man." -T.S. Eliot

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# Library Happenings



The Black REP performed at Florissant Valley Branch.



Daniel Boone Discovery Zone fun.



Telescope repair by the St. Louis Astronomical Society at the Oak Bend Branch.



The Library kicked off a new partnership with St. Louis Urban League at their Jennings Head Start Location to provide readalong books to help improve literacy skills. The partnership is made possible by a grant from Citi.



Eowyn loved the llama she won from the Winter Reading Challenge Raffle.



Set the Night to Music was back with the melodic sounds of the Love Jones the Band at the Florissant Valley Branch.



Animal Magic presented virtually by the Saint Louis Zoo.





2022 Black History Celebration Keynote Laura Coates in conversation with KMOX news anchor Carol Daniel.

Okunsola Amadou received the Frankie Freeman Inspirational Award as part of the 2022 Black History Celebration



**St. Louis County Library's new shared catalog with St. Louis Public Library is now live!** The new shared catalog allows patrons from both library systems to access nearly 5 million items. Library users across the region will be able to seamlessly view, request, and check out material from either system. Patrons can place holds on items from the either library system, and have them delivered to any City and County location for pick up! **Explore the new catalog at www.slcl.org.** 



St. Louis County Library Foundation 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63131 foundation.slcl.org

### Fascinating Fiction

Wednesday, April 13 7:00 p.m.

### Sally Hepworth

"The Younger Wife" In-person author event at St. Louis County Library Headquarters

Photo by Mrs. Smart





#### Monday, May 2 7:00 p.m. Don Winslow

"City on Fire" In-person author event at St. Louis County Library Headquarters

Photo by Robert Gallagher



Friday, April 29 7:00 p.m.

Headquarters Photo by Tim Stephenson

Adriana Trigiani

"The Good Left Undone"

at St. Louis County Library

In-person author event

### MASKS REQUIRED FOR ALL ATTENDEES



#### Saturday, May 14 7:00 p.m. Chris Bohjalian

"The Lioness" In-person author event at St. Louis County Library Headquarters

Photo by Victoria Blewer

Go to **foundation.slcl.org/events** for more information about these and other author visits.