



CURRENTS

Volume 16 Issue 1, Spring 2019

Planned Giving: Looking to make a meaningful gift?



Leave your legacy by giving back to your community through your local library. Your decision will make a lasting impact and continue to preserve and enhance the library. A planned gift is a charitable donation that financially benefits both the donor and institution receiving the gift. Planned gifts include outright gifts, bequests, life insurance, retirement plans, and charitable trusts. Including Great River Regional Library in your will is an easy way to give back. With the help of an attorney, you may include a bequest for the library within your will. Visit griv-er.org/planned-giving for more information and to see our Statement of Intent form.

Locally Growin' funds Matched in Elk River

GRRL observed the second annual "Locally Growin'" campaign this April. The fundraiser is designed to support each library's quest to raise money for a special item or program.

This year, the Elk River Library's fundraising effort was a smash hit, thanks to a matching gift of \$750 by the Elk River Rotary Club.

Because of this outstanding partnership, the Elk River Library will significantly build their STEM (Science, Mathematics, Technology and Engineering)-related programming for kids and adults.



Elk River Rotarians: Robin Skinner, President; Robbie Schake, Elk River Library Services Coordinator; Tricia Downey, Taste of Elk River Chair and Brandon Hanson, Youth Director

Our heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported GRRL during the campaign: watch for updates as we total up this year's Locally Growin' donations from around the region and share updates as wish-list items arrive at a library near you!

Breakfast with GRRL Connectors and Scholars

Food is a wonderful way to bring people together, and Great River Regional Library did that very thing by hosting a donor recognition breakfast!

This spring, the Communications and Development department hosted the inaugural event to recognize and thank some of our most generous donors. The Donor Appreciation Breakfast, held in the Bremer Community Room of the St. Cloud Public Library, included a catered meal, a library services update from Executive Director Karen Pundsack and a behind-the-scenes tour of GRRL's headquarters.

Donors came from around central Minnesota, including Grey Eagle, Kimball, and St. Cloud, and enjoyed a deeper look into library operations. They especially enjoyed learning about the circulation area!

GRRL's communications and fundraising department is ever working on ways to honor our loyal donors. If you have questions or would like to contribute a gift to GRRL, reach out to Communication and Development Coordinator Breanne Johnson at breannej@grrl.lib.mn.us.



GRRL institutes new “Giving Club” for donors

Our library donors and supporters mean the world to us, and with that in mind, we’ve rolled out a new “Giving Club” to acknowledge their generosity.

You can join the “Giving Club” with a gift in one of four categories:

SCHOLAR: \$1,000+

- Acknowledged quickly by a letter signed by Executive Director of GRRL
- Stewardship phone call made by Communications and Development Coordinator within two weeks of receiving gift
- Stewardship phone call made by Executive Director of GRRL within three months of receiving gift
- Handwritten thank you by Fund Development Committee within three months of receiving gift
- Special invitations to Library appreciation events
- Acknowledgement in Annual Report
- Featured in a Donor Story on griver.org
- Currents newsletter

CONNECTOR: \$500 - \$999

- Acknowledged by letter signed by Communications and Development Coordinator within 10 days of receiving gift
- Stewardship phone call made by Communications and Development Coordinator within a month of receiving gift
- Handwritten thank you by Fund Development Committee within three months of receiving gift
- Special invitations to Library appreciation events
- Currents newsletter

LEARNER: \$200 - \$499

- Acknowledged by letter signed by Communications and Development Coordinator within 10 days of receiving gift
- Stewardship phone call made by Communications and Development Coordinator within a month of receiving gift
- Currents newsletter

EXPLORER: \$1 - \$199

- Acknowledged by letter signed by Communications and Development Coordinator within 10 days of receiving gift
- Currents newsletter

We love our donors! <https://griver.org/support-the-library> to learn about all the ways you can support your library, all year long.

Memory Box Kits join GRRL collection

GRRL now offers a collection of Memory Box kits – special collections of books and more to spark discussions, positive emotions and memories – thanks to the incredible kindness of our supporters.

Each box has an assortment of items including books, puzzles, DVDs, photo/activity cards and user tips, all organized around specific themes. Themes of the eight kits include the four seasons of the year, dogs, cats, America and farming.

These special kits were made possible through a partnership with the Buffalo Area Dementia Action Team, another example of how GRRL depends on our supporters to bring new and beneficial services to people all around central Minnesota!



Great River Regional Library Kicks Off 2019 Summer Reading Program

We're getting ready to launch our 2019 Summer Reading Program — a fun, free, and enriching experience for kids made possible with funding from generous donors like you.

Each summer has a theme, and the theme this year is "It's Showtime at Your Library." It's a celebration of the artistry and creativity to be found in books, libraries, our communities, and beyond.

Summer Reading is an integral part of academic development. Statistics show that summer readers move further ahead while non-readers fall behind. In fact, on average, students who don't read during the summer stand to lose two months of skills. Poor reading skills have a long-term impact on children, affecting career and life choices.

This is the real reason for the Summer Reading Program – and why we need your help.

Last year, we were able to register 11,166 kids for the Summer Reading Program around the region, and that's because of your kind support. Your gift goes directly to the Summer Reading Program to provide books, prizes, reading records, and other incentives to help children develop a love of reading.

We would genuinely appreciate your support.



IT'S SHOWTIME AT YOUR LIBRARY!!!



Book Club Kits

Book clubs are perennially popular ... but it can be tricky and expensive to find many copies of one book at one time.

Did you know Great River Regional Library has Book Club Kits?

These kits include 10 copies of the chosen title, a copy of the book on compact disc, and a discussion guide.

GRRL has a wide variety of titles included in the Book Club Kit collection, so be sure to check them out on griver.org by searching the catalog.

We owe debt of gratitude to our donors, who make adding these kits to the collection possible!

2019 Donation To Support Summer Reading Program

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Email: _____

Yes! I will support Great River Regional Library with a gift of:

Gift Amount: (checks made payable to GRRL) \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$ _____

Please include my/our name in donor recognition as above or I/We would like to remain anonymous.

Mail gift to: Accounting Dept., Great River Regional Library, 1300 W. St. Germain St., St. Cloud, MN 56301 - or donate online at griver.org/support-the-library

Information you provide here is protected under Minnesota Data Practices statutes. Providing this information is strictly voluntary and will be used for GRRL financial accounting and to support GRRL fund development activities. It will be available only to authorized library personnel and contracted vendors. There is no consequence for not providing this information.

CurrentsJun-2019 SRP Annual Appeal - Office use only: Pstm _____ Amt. _____ Ck# _____ Init _____



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Communications and Fund Development
at (320) 650-2549.

Winter Reading Program Breaks Sign-Up Records in 2019

The Winter Reading Program kicked off 2019 at Great River Regional Library, and teens and adult around central Minnesota were most definitely “Yeti” for it!

The theme of this year’s program was “Get Yeti to Read,” and the spirited event was felt at every branch of GRRL.

This year, nearly 3,500 people registered to read away the winter – a significant increase from the year before!

Prizes included these sweet yeti-themed hats and mugs (modeled by our wonderful GRRL staff) along with gift cards.



Save a Tree: Get Your Currents By Email

Contact us at currents@grrl.lib.mn.us if you would like to receive this newsletter by email.

Your information is protected by Minnesota Data Practices statutes. Providing your email is voluntary and will be used to support GRRL fund development activities and is only available to authorized library personnel and contracted vendors.

