Library fans have generously responded to efforts to improve Library programs and services by giving to the Friends Foundation for 25 years. Funds are raised through donations, mailings, special events, grants, and The Book End. You can see the impact of that fundraising around the Library.

The new Digital History Project scanner? Your gifts to the Foundation paid for that. New items in the Art-to-Go collection and prizes for the Summer Reading Programs? Donations covered those. The building’s 2013 remodel, including the addition of the Koza Family Teen Center, was launched because of the backing of the Foundation.

The Friends Foundation will celebrate years of supporting the Library – and the community’s support – during its 25th anniversary in 2017. After all, if any group understands the importance of collaborations, it’s one that began because of an alliance.

The Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation launched in 1992 with the merger of the Friends of the Iowa City Public Library and the Iowa City Public Library Foundation. Prior to this, the two groups operated separately.

The Friends of the Iowa City Public Library came first. According to A Century of Stories: The History of the Iowa City Public Library, 1896-1997 by former ICPL Director Lolly Eggers, “As soon as the Library Board saw a possible new facility in Iowa City’s future, members started making plans to establish a Friends of the Library organization” with the goal to build public support for the project.

We’ve all heard it’s better to give than to receive.

Supporting the Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation is one instance that accomplishes both.
An organizing steering committee was formed with Ann Bagford at the helm. She eventually became the organization’s first president.

“I always loved libraries and I wanted to do something for our library,” Bagford says.

The Friends of the Iowa City Public Library had its first official membership meeting in the fall of 1976. By June 1977, there were more than 300 members, $3,000 in the treasury, and two newly-elected presidents – Dottie Ray and Ann Feddersen – ready to take over.

“We had such good backing,” Bagford says. “It was amazing to me how many people came forward and helped.”

That help translated into public support for the Library’s November 1978 bond issue, which funded construction of the 1981 Library building. As ICPL transitioned from the old Carnegie building to its new facility, the Friends group continued their fundraising efforts as a membership committee, taking over the annual book sale and other projects with the goal of supporting ICPL. Meanwhile, the Iowa City Public Library Foundation formed in 1982 to accept financial gifts on behalf of the Library.

“The ICPL Foundation was a natural extension of the incredible support and the enthusiasm of the entire community for the new public library building in 1981. I was proud to be part of the formation of a Foundation that has served the Iowa City Public Library generously for many, many years,” says Lynda Ostedgaard, who was president of the Board of Trustees when the Foundation was born.

It’s a feeling that continues years later with both groups working under one umbrella.

“I’m very proud,” Bagford says. “As I go on with my days, I don’t think ‘Oh, gee, look what I did,’ because it was so many people coming together that made it successful.”
Dear Friends,

Where I grew up in St. Louis County in the 50s and 60s, our school didn’t have a library and our access to a public library was through a bookmobile. I loved the day that it came to visit! When I moved to Iowa City, I was amazed by the Iowa City Public Library. My young children and I spent many wonderful hours finding books, films, and music, and going to fun and informative programs. It is really wonderful to live in a place where so many are passionate about the Library and the opportunities it presents for everyone. It is the great equalizer in the heart of our city.

It is an exciting time for the Library and the Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation. I am honored to serve as the Friends Foundation’s leader as we celebrate its 25th anniversary, and help the Library introduce its new bookmobile in the spring. None of that would be possible without your donations every year. Thank you for your library friendship.

Without you, we would have an OK library but for it to continue to be fantastic in the future, your gift is essential. This year, we ask everyone who receives this newsletter to use the enclosed envelope to send a financial contribution. If you prefer, you can give online at icpl.org/support/donate.

Every gift makes a difference.
• $25 will add two books for children.
• $100 will add three e-books, or a new album to the Local Music Project.
• $1,000 will replace three computers used for job searches, or add three new works of art for you to borrow.

Do you agree with this library friend who recently posted, “Does ICPL ever do anything halfway? Thank you for going above and beyond in even the tiniest of ways. BEST. LIBRARY. EVER.” I hope that your answer is a proud “Yes!” and you let us know that by sending your gift today. Thank you for your donation to enrich the Iowa City Public Library!

Warm regards,
Peggy Doerge, President

ICPL to Celebrate Black History Month

Numerous programs, displays and discussions will be held at the Iowa City Public Library in February to commemorate Black History Month.

Exact dates and times will be announced in 2017, and will include two programs on Underground Railroad Conductor Harriet Tubman by Kathryn Harris. Harris is the retired Library Services Director at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

Lena Hill, senior associate to the University of Iowa President and associate professor of English and African American Studies at UI, and Michael Hill, also an associate professor of English and African American Studies at UI, will read from their new book, Invisible Hawk-eyes: African Americans at the University of Iowa During the Long Civil Rights Era.

Other events include:
• A teen program focused on black comic book heroes
• A live gospel music performance featuring the Gospel Explosion Church and other local groups
• Western Africa: Before the Boats display on loan from the African American Museum of Iowa
• Special storytimes, displays and reading lists for children

Black History Month is an observance of important people and events in African-American history. Visit icpl.org for details.
Annual Report
July 2015 - June 2016

materials borrowed 1,369,069
789,919 people into the building
program attendance 64,978
91,565 public computer sessions

"THANK YOU SO MUCH!!! SINCE RETIRING, THE ICPL HAS BECOME MY FAVORITE PLACE IN TOWN."
- ANONYMOUS
It's hard to put a value on public library service, but using average commercial prices, we calculated what it would cost Library users for some common services in FY16.

- **Books Borrowed (all formats)**: $12,182,601
- **Children’s Programs**: $279,174
- **Computer Sessions & Database Searches**: $1,169,015
- **Public Meeting & Discussion Rooms**: $202,120

**Value of Library Services**

- **Iowa City Public Library: priceless!**

**Income Sources**

- **Iowa City**: $4,899,691
- **Gifts**: $367,583
- **Fines/Fees/Other**: $258,263
- **Other City Contracts**: $62,594
- **Johnson County**: $440,949
- **Income Sources**: $440,949

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On The Move: A Life by Oliver Sacks
“I have read several of Dr. Sacks’ collections of neurological case studies and have always been made to feel a connection with the patients whose stories he told. This autobiography is as beautifully written as the case studies and allows its readers to feel that same kind of connection with him. I highly recommend any of Oliver Sacks writings.”

I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsberg Makes Her Mark by Debbie Levy
Illustrations by Elizabeth Baddeley
“With engaging storyline and strong illustrations, this picture book biography of one of my feminist heroes delivers the important message, “Disagreeing, does not make a person disagreeable. In fact, it can change the world!” A perfect gift for the grandchildren.”

The Atrocity Archives by Charles Stross
“Espionage, horror and science fiction collide in this delightful trope-splosion.”

My grandmother asked me to tell you she’s sorry by Fredrik Backman
“A novel of quirky characters from the author of A Man called Ove. What a fun read!”

Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer
“The book is an exciting account of the disastrous climb of Everest during the 1996 climbing season. Not only is the book exciting, but the description of the climb is very interesting.”

Commonwealth by Ann Patchett
“Life for two families is irrevocably altered when Bert kisses the very married Beverly at a family party. The book follows the six step-siblings over 50 years.”

The Prisoner’s Wife by Asha Bandele
“While this is a memoir, the author is also a poet and that comes through in her lyrical writing.”

Our Friends Foundation Board give these books two thumbs up!

Need a book recommendation?

JULIE MONSON
Fundraising Committee Chair
ICPL Friends Foundation

DAVE BRIGHT
Secretary, ICPL Friends Foundation

PEGGY DOERGE
President, ICPL Friends Foundation

WESLEY BEARY
President-Elect, ICPL Friends Foundation

ANDY SWANSON
Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair
ICPL Friends Foundation

JOY SMITH
Past President, ICPL Friends Foundation

DAVE BRIGHT
Secretary, ICPL Friends Foundation

Peggy Doerge
President, ICPL Friends Foundation

Wesley Beary
President-Elect, ICPL Friends Foundation

Andy Swanson
Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair
ICPL Friends Foundation

Julie Monson
Fundraising Committee Chair
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Fredrik Backman
“my grandmother asked me to tell you she’s sorry”

Jon Krakauer
“Into Thin Air”

Ann Patchett
“Commonwealth”

Asha Bandele
“The Prisoner’s Wife”

Debbie Levy
“I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsberg Makes Her Mark”

Elizabeth Baddeley
Illustrations for “I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsberg Makes Her Mark”

Fredrik Backman
“My grandmother asked me to tell you she’s sorry”

Ann Patchett
“Commonwealth”

Asha Bandele
“The Prisoner’s Wife”

Debbie Levy
“I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsberg Makes Her Mark”

Andrea B Smith
Past President, ICPL Friends Foundation

Dave Bright
Secretary, ICPL Friends Foundation
More than 4,300 people participated in our 2016 Summer Reading Program, On Your Mark, Get Set … Read! Everyone who completed the program was entered into a drawing for the grand prize at their program level. Cohen and Karen, pictured, were the lucky winners of new Trek bikes, donated by Ryan Baker, owner of World of Bikes.

Thank you to all of our great Summer Reading Program sponsors: Aspen Leaf Frozen Yogurt, Blank Park Zoo, Buffalo Wild Wings, Fin & Feather, The Iowa Children’s Museum, Iowa City Downtown District, Iowa City Parks & Recreation Department, Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation, Lucky’s Market, McDonalds, Pizza Ranch, Scheels, Sky Zone Trampoline Park, Telenet UCI Cyclo-cross World Cup, Westdale Bowling Center & Lazer Tag, World of Bikes, and Z’Mariks Noodle Café. Your generosity kept people reading all summer long.

The Historical New York Times database allows users to view historical newspaper articles either as abstracts, full text, or in their original placement in the newspaper from 1851 through 2012. Obituaries, birth, and marriage announcements are now included.

The Historical Statistical Abstracts of the United States is the authoritative and comprehensive summary of statistics on the social, political, and economic organization of the U. S. The Library’s database is the enhanced digitization of the information published from 1878 to 2012.

Digital Sanborn Maps are a great tool for anyone studying the history of an urban area. The maps were developed by the Sanborn Company in the latter part of the 19th century to identify fire hazards for each building in a town. The maps cover more than 360 Iowa towns from the 1870’s to the 1940’s, including Iowa City fire maps for September 1883, July 1888, April 1892, June 1899, April 1906, January 1912, July 1920, February 1926, and February 1933 through April 1946.

You may access databases at icpl.org under the Reference and Research tab on the left side of the page. Every database may be accessed in the Library, and some also can be accessed at home, including the Library’s most-used database: Consumer Reports.

Patrons wishing to access a database at home must have a library card. This option is available to Iowa City residents, as well as those who live in rural Johnson County, or the cities of Hills, Lone Tree, and University Heights.
Help us Celebrate

Save the date!
Sunday, April 23, 2017
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Iowa City Public Library
with Guest Speaker Frank Delaney

icpl.org/support/looking-forward

Frank Delaney is an Irish-American writer, broadcaster, BBC host, and Booker Prize judge whose career spans more than three decades.