



WHEN YOU GIVE TO THE FOUNDATION, YOU GIVE TO THE LIBRARY

Our work is made possible because of the generosity of people, foundations, community organizations and businesses that give to the Library Foundation and share our belief in the transformational power of libraries for all Fort Worthians. Your gifts enhance library programs that nurture literacy, imagination and lifelong learning.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



You don't have to be an avid reader to love libraries. Libraries are essential to the fabric of every community across the globe. I can bet that many of you have at least one fond library memory that cemented your love of libraries. Whether it was a place to meet

friends to hang out or work on group projects, to take the little one(s) for story time or to gather armfuls of books for summer reading, whatever your reason, libraries have always been community hubs that provide essential programs and services. So, why not show how much you love your Fort Worth Library by:

- Attending an activity or event using the Library's **Fun Finder**. Program attendance helps increase library services and supports community interests.
- Joining the Foundation's **Dream Builder** community. As a Dream Builder, you provide sustainable support all year. No matter how big or small, every dollar counts towards ensuring services and programs are accessible to everyone. You also receive exclusive swag when you become a Dream Builder.
- Volunteering your skills and expertise by serving on the Foundation's **2025 Smoker Gala** planning committee or as an event day volunteer on May 7, 2025.
- Supporting while you shop for library swag. All proceeds from purchases made through the **Library Web Store** support our mission.
- Advocating for libraries by talking about how essential they are to our community to your neighbors, council person or state representative.

There are many creative ways to show your love and support throughout the year. Visit fwplf.org or email info@fwlibraryfoundation.org for more information on how to get involved.

With Gratitude,

Andrea L. Ash, CFRE

FIND YOUR PASSION, GIVE WITH PURPOSE



Save The Date!

Thursday, **Sept. 19** is North Texas Giving Day.

This annual 18-hour online giving event is a chance for

Fort Worth to give back by supporting local nonprofits. NTXGD is the largest community-wide giving event in the nation, and on Sept. 19 you can make a lasting impact in our community by giving to the Fort Worth Public Library Foundation.

The Library is a gathering place that offers essential services and programs to all. With 19 locations and counting, your support helps build a community of learners, dreamers and doers. Together, we can bridge gaps in literacy and ensure the Library can continue to meet our growing community's needs.

Mark your calendars now and join us Sept. 19 to give with purpose. Let's show up and make a difference for everyone in our community!

Get ready to give to the Fort Worth Public Library by visiting NTXGD2024.

THERE'S A BOOK CLUB FOR EVERYONE

From Reese Witherspoon to Oprah Winfrey, book clubs have become all the rage in recent years. Celebrities enjoy reading a good book and discussing it with others, just like us regular people do. No matter what your favorite genre is, the Fort Worth Public Library has book clubs for you and others with similar tastes. You're sure to find the perfect book club that fits your schedule. Whether you need a daytime or evening discussion, the Library has you covered.

There are book clubs that meet in person at a library location, others meet off-site at designated venues and there is even an online book club for those needing more flexibility. Share your love of reading with your community and join fun discussions every month.

With 13 book clubs to choose from, the Library has something for everyone. Take a look at a few of our

favorites:

- “**Page Turners**” at Riverside for adults 18+.
- “**Get Lit**” at Southwest Regional for all the fiction lovers.
- “**Shelf Indulgence**” at Ridglea meets at the local McAllister’s.

Explore all of the Library’s book clubs by visiting [Library book clubs](#).

LAUNCHPAD: SUCCESS THROUGH PERSEVERANCE



As one of the two top students in her graduating class, **Hope Beth** had concerns about the writing involved in the college application process. Although academically successful, she worried that her essays would not be good enough for the schools she was applying to. It took multiple drafts, but by working with the LaunchPad team, she stayed dedicated and committed to the process and eventually found her voice.

Hope comes from a single-parent home where she has stepped up to being a caregiver for her brother and grandfather for most of her life. In addition to working 30 or more hours a week and taking multiple AP classes, Hope was responsible for driving her grandfather to medical appointments on a regular basis while her mother worked full-time to support the family.

Hope’s final essay highlighted the power of community and speaking up. Her essay demonstrated many of the characteristics and values that colleges look for, such as perseverance, vulnerability, academic curiosity and risk-taking.

Hope was able to use the techniques she learned while writing her application essay on her supplemental and scholarship essays. She applied to 23 different schools and was accepted to 19. She will be earning her bachelor’s degree in global studies from the very selective University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She plans to begin law school in two years after completing her bachelor’s. Her education at Chapel Hill is completely funded by scholarship awards.

All the editing and planning that goes into finalizing an essay is worth the effort once you see the sparkle of pride and excitement in a student’s eyes. Without programs like LaunchPad, students with so much potential would be discouraged during the college application process.

LaunchPad helps students become college-ready by guiding them with one-on-one counseling, so they feel

confident when applying to schools. We wish Hope the best in her endeavors!

To learn more or to partner with us on this amazing program, please visit [LaunchPad](#).

PHILANTHROPY SPOTLIGHT: NEW OUTDOOR INSTRUMENTS

Thanks to the generous contribution of the Ninnie L. Baird Foundation and Adeline & George McQueen Foundation, the Reby Cary Youth Library is now making a lot of noise. The library recently added six large, weather-resistant percussion instruments to its outdoor space. These instruments enable activities to go beyond the walls of the already interactive space and provide joyful sounds for families to enjoy.

The library’s opening in 2021 filled a need for a community space that caters specifically to children and their caregivers. As Fort Worth’s first youth library, families can enjoy the activity stations, maker space, bright colors, interactive art installations and cozy cubbies.

In 2023 alone, 2,727 patrons checked out over 104 thousand resources at this one location, demonstrating the library’s positive impact on this evolving neighborhood.



From left to right, Foundation CEO, Andrea Ash; Fort Worth Library Director, Midori Clark; Foundation Development Director, Rhonda Ross; and Bruce Baird of the Ninnie L. Baird Foundation try out new outdoor instruments at Reby Cary Youth Library.

THIRD ANNUAL AMPLIFY 817 SHOWCASE



Let's end summer (even though we all know Texas summers don't officially end until October) with live, local music as the Amped-Up Music Tour makes its final stop at the third annual Amplify 817 Showcase on **Saturday, Aug. 17**.

Named as one of the best patios in Fort Worth by Texas Monthly, Fort Brewery & Pizza is hosting the Amplify 817 Showcase this year.

The free event is family-friendly and open to all ages from 6 – 10 p.m. This year's lineup includes music from **J/O/E, TRVR?, Celestial L'amour** and **The Nancy's**.

The Fort Worth Public Library launched the Amped-Up Music Tour this summer to promote free local and unique music across the city. Your support helps Amplify 817 deliver commercial-free music from Fort Worth artists to library card-holders at no cost.

Music plays an important role in our community. It brings people together for a shared experience. Show your support for our local artists by purchasing exclusive Amplify 817 merch through the Library Store. All proceeds from purchases go towards funding Library programs like Amplify 817.

Your Amplify 817 donations ensure local artists are paid upfront licensing fees that help them reach new audiences. To learn more about Amplify 817 or to donate, visit amplify817.org.

GET YOUR LIBRARY MERCH TODAY



MORE THAN ONE WAY TO GIVE



Set it and forget it. It's that easy! Support the Foundation while you shop for household essentials with the **Kroger Community Rewards program**.

Kroger shoppers earn money for the Foundation on every purchase with their Kroger Plus Card. A shopper's card or Alt ID and a digital account are required to participate in the Community Rewards program.

Follow these instructions to link your Plus Card to the Foundation's profile and start earning for your Fort Worth Public Library today!

Every effort counts towards bridging gaps in literacy and providing free services and programming to all of Fort Worth. Together, we can ensure our community thrives.

To learn more about the Kroger Community Rewards program, visit [Community Rewards](#).

A poster for the Clifford Crossing Grand Opening. It features a blue background with a rainbow at the top and a red ribbon being cut by yellow scissors. The text reads: "FORT WORTH | Fort Worth Public Library", "Clifford Crossing GRAND OPENING", "SATURDAY, AUGUST 31", "You are invited to join us at the grand opening of Fort Worth's Clifford Crossing Library!", "Doors open at 10 a.m. with remarks following.", "9336 Clifford St, Suite 120, Fort Worth, TX 76108". At the bottom, there are three icons: a lightbulb, a cloud, and a checkmark, followed by the text "EXPERIENCE YOUR LIBRARY".

UPCOMING EVENTS

FW Writes: Writer's Workshop

August 25 | East Regional | 1:30 – 2:30 PM

Writing doesn't have to be a solitary pursuit. Join other local scribes and scribblers for writing sprints, accountability and read and critique sessions. All levels welcome!

Intro to Public Speaking

August 31 | Northside | 11 AM – 12 PM

Get a handle on your fear of public speaking, practice some off-the-cuff speaking and learn how to create a speech on the spot.

Honeybee Show-and-Tell & Honey Tasting

September 14 | Lincoln | 3 – 4:30 PM

Join We Bee Keepin' to explore honeybee biology, beekeeping and more with the help of a mobile observation hive that allows safe viewing of honeybees at work.

LaunchPad

September 25 | Golden Triangle | 5:30 – 6:30 PM

Discover how to demonstrate who you are and why you are a good fit for the schools you apply to.

Handbell Choir

October 13 | Southwest Regional | 4:30 – 5:30 PM

Join our adult handbell choir!

Open to all skill levels and welcoming of anyone with a love for music. No handbell experience necessary!

ESL Conversation Class

October 27 | Southwest Regional | 3 – 4:30 PM

The English as a Second Language (ESL) class provides an opportunity to practice and strengthen English-speaking skills in a fun and supportive environment.

To learn more about library events, visit fwpl.info/events.