Dear Friends,

I’m grateful to say that the St. Louis Public Library Foundation has had another successful and significant year helping the Library improve lives throughout St. Louis and beyond. Since the Foundation was formed to help with the enormous task of renewing and restoring Central Library, it has grown to take on, and make possible, a remarkable variety of services that support your community. Public Libraries are as important as they have ever been in the life of our nation, and you help provide one of the best here in St. Louis.

The Foundation makes it possible to extend our important “Born to Read” programs, services and outreach almost literally from birth, helping families and children with the vital gift of literacy at every stage of their life and development. We could not carry out our wildly popular and constantly expanding “Summer Camp” program without the Foundation’s support: children all across St. Louis have opportunities to take part in an amazing variety of fun and enriching camps thanks to your help. Your support continues into the school year through your Homework Helper program, providing students with guidance after school in neighborhood Libraries all across St. Louis.

The Foundation continues to help develop remarkable Central Library into the cultural and learning center our community needs and deserves. Beautiful and moving exhibits such as “Catholic Sisters” and “STL Symphony: 50 Years at Powell Hall” help connect St. Louis to its rich cultural life and the remarkable resources of the Library. Working in America explored the significance and diversity of the working world in the lives of St. Louisans. All made possible because of you.

The Foundation even got its hands dirty in 2018 by funding the “Central Pollinator Garden,” an example of a beautiful, environmentally thoughtful garden of native plants surrounding the stunning Butterflies sculpture on the east terrace of Central Library. Located just outside the Children’s Library, the garden will provide rich learning opportunities as well as respite and joy, and the Foundation has funded its maintenance to ensure it continues to thrive. Lest you doubt the need, we watched a variety of pollinators find the plants before they even made it into the ground!

Your generosity makes an important difference in every corner of your community. Our citizens support the daily operations of their Library through their taxes and direct vote – they are not asking private donors to shoulder their load. But the Library’s history, mission and presence throughout St. Louis opens many exciting possibilities, and you, over and over, have turned those possibilities into reality.

Our thanks.

Waller McGuire
Chief Executive Officer, St. Louis Public Library

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIVING

In fiscal year 2018, your St. Louis Public Library Foundation provided $800,923 in support of St. Louis Public Library.

$215,000
Exhibits and Special Projects:
• Catholic Sisters: The Spirit of St. Louis
• The STL Symphony: 50 Years at Powell Hall
• Working in America
• Central Library Pollinator Garden

$97,944
Adult Programming:
• Career Online High School
• Creative Experience Programming
• Diversity Programming
• Not So Quiet! Concert Series
• Veterans Writing Workshops

$397,600
Children’s Programming:
• Born to Read Early Childhood Programs
• Homework Helpers
• Read it Forward
• Reading Rays
• Summer Reading
• Summer Camps
• School Year Camps

$71,310
Endowment

$19,069
New Materials
Thank you to everyone who made 2018 a success! The following donors have made gifts between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018.

This list can also be accessed on our website at: www.splf.org/about/splf-foundation