



READING PUBLIC LIBRARY

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2018 ANNUAL REPORT A PUBLICATION OF THE **READING PUBLIC LIBRARY**

READING PUBLIC LIBRARY RECEIVES GIFT TO FUND CONSTRUCTION OF LEARNING AND MEETING COMMONS

It was announced in early January that Reading Public Library has received a private donation to fund the construction of a series of high tech meeting rooms on the first floor of the main library. The Reading Public Library's "Learning and Meeting Commons" will consist of glass enclosed meeting spaces of various sizes that will each include technology and furnishings designed to meet the flexible needs of our community's diverse citizenry. According to the library's Executive Director, Bronwen Gamble, "This generous gift from Jerome I. Marcus will transform the main library into the 21st Century workforce development and collaborative learning center our residents want."

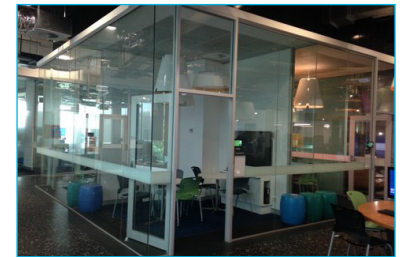


Image of meeting commons concept

Nancy Campbell, President of Reading Public Library's Board of Trustees, characterized the gift as the largest designated donation ever received by the Library for a capital project. Regarding the importance of the project, Campbell said, "This very generous donation will help transform our building into a modern, technologically equipped, multi-use facility. A great library is a necessity for our citizens."

Donor Jerome Marcus when asked about his desire to fund this project stated, "The beauty of our society is that we value the genius of the individual as well as the genius of the group. This project facilitates that spirit of collaboration."

Preliminary planning meetings, led by Board of Trustee members Maureen Dolan and Michel Micozzi, have included architects, construction managers, HVAC contractors, and technology designers. Watch for future updates or join in the excitement and visit us along the way.

RPL TRUSTEE AWARDED COUNTY'S HIGHEST HONOR



Left to right - Renee' Dietrich, award recipient; Bronwen Gamble, Executive Director

On February 27, Berks County Public Libraries held its annual award celebration recognizing members of the community for outstanding dedication and support of library services in 2018. RPL Trustee Renee' Dietrich received the prestigious Dreisbach Award for Exemplary Service. This award is the highest honor the System presents. Renee' shared the following sentiments regarding the award, "I was very honored to receive the Dreisbach Award. Dr. Dreisbach was a leader in establishing the Berks County Public Library System. I knew him personally and had the privilege of working with him on the Book Bonanza."

Renee' is a fierce advocate for libraries in Berks County and has dedicated years of service to supporting and promoting Reading Public Library. She has served on RPL's Board of Trustees since 2010, serving as Chairperson from 2013 through 2015. Combining a passion for RPL with her years of professional fund raising experience, Renee' has led the effort to stabilize our library's budget. In 2015, with Renee's leadership, Reading City Council passed a resolution to dedicate a percentage of the city tax millage to our library and the library's fund raising program has more than tripled in the past three years.

Asked about her future plans, Renee' stated, "Working with community partners to get proper funding for our public libraries will continue to be my major goal." Our heartfelt congratulations to Renee' on this well-deserved recognition.

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

2018 OPERATING INCOME

State	739,709
County	1,022,685
City of Reading	385,285
Other	
Grants and Gifts	247,431
Daily Operations (includes Fines, Fees, Reimbursements)	551,634
From Library Trusts	205,000
TOTAL INCOME	3,151,744

2018 OPERATING EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits	2,150,395
Collection Development	428,531
Other Operating Expenses	635,085
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,214,011

Beginning Balance January 1, 2018 132,886

TOTAL ENDING BALANCE 70,619

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Associated Construction • Berks County Living
Dolan Construction • El Palo Magazine
Lowe's Home Improvement • Miller Center for the Arts
Reading Eagle Company • Reading Symphony Orchestra
Skyline Property Services • Steve Stauffer Painting
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READING PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION BOARD

Kenneth Haupt, President
Scott Burky • Nancy Campbell • Alan Carman
Renee' Dietrich • Bronwen Gamble • Paul Hoh
Greg Knies • Craig Perrotty

MISSION STATEMENT

The Reading Public Library will generate a library for the future by meeting the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the library consumers today.

If we missed your name or made an error, we apologize.
Please contact us with any corrections.

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