

Librarian's Shelf by Joie Taylor

Library Foundation participates in Big Give Day

The Big Give Day is coming! Do you know about it? Big Give Day, sponsored by the Columbus Area Philanthropy Council, on May 18th and 19th is a time when you can make a donation to your favorite non-profit organizations. One of those organizations is the Columbus Library Foundation. Donations of all sizes are welcome, but Big Give donations are not intended to replace donor's regular gifts to their favorite organizations.

People have many different reasons for donating to various causes. Sometimes the biggest reason is a tax deduction. People who know me know that I'm a big supporter of libraries. All types of libraries. That too is a reason to give; because you believe in what an organization is doing. Another reason is that they know an organization needs money to fund what they do.

What does the Library Foundation do with its money? Recently, along with the Friends of the Library, Foundation funds purchased new furniture for the Reading area you see as you enter the library building. Some of the new tables came with ports to connect electronic devices, like computers, a much desired and needed service. No more need to hunt for an outlet in order to plug in a computer.

The teens are enjoying their area on the second floor. Part of the funding for the furnishings for that area came from the Library Foundation. Having a teen area has allowed Rachelle McPhillips, the Young Adult Librarian, to develop programs and activities suited to that age group. As a result we now have more teens using the library.

If you have been to the Children's Room, you know how the remodeling done a few years ago gave it a brighter, more open feeling. The Library Foundation provided some money to help make that happen. The Foundation has from time to time also provided funds to help buy supplies for the Summer Reading Program. The Summer Reading Program is important in helping students practice and retain their reading skills during the summer.

As you can see the Library Foundation has used its money to provide better services to the community as well as create a more pleasant place to come. While the Foundation will continue to support these types of activities, there are others, with larger price tags that need funding, such as new carpeting and curtains, and a new building.

I encourage you to participate in Columbus Big Give Day and support one or more of the Philanthropic organizations. Of course, I'm hoping you will consider the Columbus Library Foundation.

If you prefer to donate online, go directly to <http://www.columbusne.us/library>. Or go to ColumbusBigGive.org. This will take you to page where you can click on the organizations to which you wish to contribute.

There are two locations at which you can make a donation. On May 19th donations can be made at the Columbus Public Library or HyVee from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. You may also make donations at HyVee on May 18 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The benefit in donating at either the Library or HyVee location is that each hour one name will be drawn from that hour's donations for a monetary prize. The organization that has the largest number of total givers at the end of the day will also receive a monetary prize.