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April 2011

Libraries Change Lives



Why we do what we do.

In short, we give because we can, and we think that if you can, you should. ~ Jim Sloan.

Rochester wins diversity award for Hosting RACE exhibit

Four cities were honored on March 14, 2011, for implementing quality and innovative programs in communities to enhance and promote cultural diversity. Cities honored for 2011 are: Southfield, MI, (first place, population category 25,001 – 100,000); Fargo, ND (runner-up, population category 25,001 – 100,000); Hollywood, FL, (first place, population category 100,001 – 400,000); and Rochester, MN, (runner-up population category 100,001 – 400,000).

In 2010, Rochester hosted the RACE: Are We So Different? exhibit, which examined race and racism by showcasing scientific, historical and cultural perspectives on race. Through a collaboration of more than 53 organizations, businesses and school systems, including the Mayo Clinic's Allied Health Diversity Committee, more than 37,000 people visited the exhibit, which created a community dialogue on issues of race in the community.

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After I retired from IBM, I started a software company that has done well. My wife and I were able to start the Judy and Jim Sloan Foundation to help make donations to various organizations. We have no specific focus for our Foundation, but generally support the arts, education, and people in need.

Having a Foundation has been an eye opening experience to the number and quality of the organizations that need help. The list is endless and we only wish we had more to give. It has been our privilege to know many of the people who run these organizations and we are always impressed with their dedication and sincerity.

The Rochester Library is a favorite of ours in that they can and do assist people who have a passion for learning. Learning should be a life long goal and the more you know, the more you can know. In addition, the library is an outstand-

ing resource for people that enjoy the opportunity to read for pleasure, listen to CDs, watch videos, etc.

We have been very fortunate in life to have received many blessings and have had a chance to help many organizations. It is both gratifying and humbling to be able to do so.

In short, we give because we can, and we think that if you can, you should. ~ Jim Sloan.

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Items that have been bought with funds donated by the Judy and Jim Sloan Foundation are:



- A new globe in the second-floor reference area
- A 42" plasma flat panel display that has been installed above the book drop next to the public service desk. This display is used to announce our library events and other information.
- The Bard Goose and the Amazing Bench, both of which were street art projects lead by the AARTS Council.
- Library materials such as Storytime Kits, books and DVDs



