



Donor Corner



The 7th Annual Wit, Wisdom & Wine gala fundraiser was held at the Rochester Public Library on Saturday, January 12th. For such an event to happen at the library, a lot of preparation is required. With only one hour between library closing and the opening of registration for the event, there

Wit



Wisdom

was a great hustle to get everything ready. As soon as the library closed, volunteers from the Mayo and Century



&

Wine



High School key clubs, a Boy Scout and other interested individuals began moving furniture and setting up tables for the evening's festivities. Some volunteers were busy helping the

presenters set up in their areas and helping with the AV equipment. Others were busy hanging the sponsor banners and setting up the silent auction tables. Andy's Liquor representatives hauled in their boxes of

wine while Jasper's caterers set up their hors d'oeuvre tables. At 6:30 we were ready and the doors opened for registration.

After attendees were registered, they journeyed up to the second floor for socializing, munching on bread sticks, sipping wine and bidding on silent auction items. Nine speakers presented during the evening on a wide variety of topics including: Tim Penny, politics; Christian Milaster, green building; Chef Justin Schoville, meats & cheeses of Spain; and the ever popular Mike Cords, wine. Hors d'oeuvres, wine tasting, and generous bidding at the silent auction rounded off an entertaining and intellectually stimulating evening.

New to the event this year was a Tower of Wine raffle with 24 bottles of wine. The winning ticket was purchased by Terri Thomas, who was thrilled to win.

We are grateful for the generous support of our event co-sponsors: Home Federal Savings Bank and BridgeStreet Worldwide. We also want to thank Davies Printing, Jaspers, The Kahler Grand Hotel and KTTC for in-kind donations. The speaker sponsors were: Andy's Liquor, Associated Bank, Callaway Galleries, Edina Realty-Dave and Lois Marris, Barbara and Phil Henoeh, Nigon Woodworks, Inc., Think, US Bank, and Yaggy Colby Associates. A big thank you also goes to all the wonderful speakers who presented, making it an enjoyable and memorable evening.

Not only are we grateful for our financial supporters, but we are also very grateful to all of our volunteers who helped set up for the event, those who stayed to help out during the event, and those who cleaned up afterwards in order for the library to be ready for patrons on Sunday. We would like to thank everyone who donated items for our silent auction and to all the attendees of the event as well.

With everyone's help, the evening was our most successful ever, raising over \$22,000 that will allow the Foundation to help create a stronger library to meet the needs of everyone in the community.

More photos of the event can be found online at: www.rochesterpubliclibraryfoundation.org.



Audrey Betcher

From the Director's Desk...

Endowment Fund proceeds from 2007 are going to make a difference in the community in 2008. The Foundation Board approved appropriating \$78,423 to the library, and the Library Board designated the funds for several projects. All of the projects go toward piloting new projects that couldn't be done in the Library's existing operating budget, reducing barriers to library service, and building the library's collection.

- The project we are most excited about is piloting Tutor.com. Tutor.com is a service that connects students with live tutors on the Internet. We are partnering with the Rochester Public School District and other schools in Olmsted County to make this service available through the Rochester Public Library. Dollars are also included for marketing.

- We are adding \$26,478 to the collection budget to provide more materials to the community.
- A new wireless headset and microphone will be added in the auditorium to assist those with low hearing.
- More copies of the "We Welcome You" library orientation film in Somali will be duplicated for distribution in the community.
- We will also pilot the Children's Literature Comprehensive Database and the Next Reads database to assist the public in finding materials of interest.
- Last year we began a project to better merchandise the collections. The Foundation is continuing their assistance to make the library a friendlier place and the collections easier to browse.

Your donations to the Endowment Fund have made all these projects possible! Thank you!!!

Digital Microfilm Scanner Makes Old News Like New



The ad above is from a May 1918 Post and Record Daily (the Rochester newspaper before it was known as the Post Bulletin). This ad was viewed from a microfilm roll, digitally scanned, sent to an e-mail address and then saved as a file to be used for this newsletter. Sound complicated? Not really.

Microfilm rolls contain tiny images of newspaper pages. Many days, weeks or even months can be on one roll. When loaded onto a viewer (reader/printer) the newspaper articles become readable. Articles can

be printed from the viewer to the library's printer for ten cents per page. The library's microfilm collection contains local newspapers back as far as 1859, as well as the New York Times from 1960 - 2002 and the Wall Street Journal from 1987 - 2000.

One type of reader/printer available at the library is a digital microfilm scanner purchased with funds from the Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation. A digital scanner can have film reels mounted in any direction, zoom in closer on articles than older reader/printers and save film from damage by not using glass guides or hot bulbs. The equipment also works like a regular flatbed scanner, putting the articles in software where images can be cropped, enhanced, or cleaned up by removing lines from scratched film. Once an image/article is selected it can be printed, saved to a flash drive or e-mailed.

Still sound complicated? The library is offering sessions on using the scanner several times during March. Registration is required. Register online through the library events calendar at <http://evanced.info/rochester/evanced/eventcalendar.asp> or by calling 285-8002.

Youth Short Film Contest Winners Announced

The winners of the Young Adult Film Contest and the Magic Rules Trailer Contest were announced at the Cinemagic Theatres on Tuesday, January 8. And the winners are...

1st Place Winner - *These Modern Times*

Entrants - Alex Puent and James Denzer

A take on Charlie Chaplin's great silent film, *Modern Times*, but in these modern times (the 21st century) things are even harder to cope with, including friends.

2nd Place Winner - *Toys*

Entrants Ernesto Llano & Tony Adkins

A neglected toy decided to mail himself away to a better place. Then, his friends follow suit, leaving the owner sad and lonely. The owner, Luis is repentant and the toys return - lesson learned.

3rd Place Winner - *Beautiful Oddities*

Entrant: Adja Gildersleve

Beautiful Oddities is a music video with no words about two people that keep bumping into each other around town. These brief encounters develop into something much deeper.

Magic Rules Trailer Contest

Trailer # 1 - by Mary Glenski

Trailer #2 - by Rudy Miksanek

All winning films can be found on the library's YouTube page - <http://www.youtube.com/rplmnmninfo>.



Young Adult Film Contest and Magic Rules Trailer Contest Winners: Back Row: Ernesto Llano, Mary Glenski, James Denzer, Mitch Stevens (from Cinemagic Theatres), Rudy Miksanek, Alex Puent and Tony Adkins
Front Row: Alyssa Costopoulos, Jermaine Elliott & Adja Gildersleve.

About the Foundation

History

On April 10, 1996, Rochester Public Library Foundation was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Essentially, Rochester Public Library Foundation exists to fill the gaps in funding that result from shrinking City and County budget cuts.

Mission Statement

The Foundation's mission is to raise private funds for educational and informational resources and projects in a manner that does not diminish the need for strong public funding, and to educate the community about the Library's vital role in meeting our community's need.

Vision

The Foundation's vision is to build strong public-private partnerships with individuals, businesses, foundations, and community organizations that share our mission for creating a stronger library that is meeting the needs of the under served.

Priorities for Funding

- Provide more services to the youth in the community and those who support them
- Expand services to non-native English speakers
- Expand collections for the benefit of all patrons
- Provide all residents of all ages hands-on access to, and education about, technology
- Inform the public of the wide range of library resources available and making those resources more accessible

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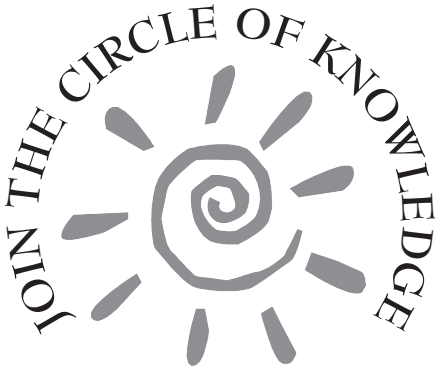
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Join the Circle of Knowledge during National Library Week - April 13 - 19



Rochester Public Library has planned some special events for National Library week. The week kicks off with a Friends of the Library book sale on Sunday, April 13, from 1:30 - 4:30 pm. If you've never

seen the inside of the bookmobile, take the opportunity to do so on Monday, April 14, from 9:00 - 11:00 am. Also on Monday is the ever-popular Sit-Stay-Read program for children to gain confidence in their reading skills by reading stories to gentle therapy dogs. Register online or call 328-2303.

At noon on Tuesday, April 15, join the Plain Readers Book Group as they read books set in the Midwest or by Midwestern authors. Book to be discussed is *Whistling Season* by Ivan Doig. Introduction to Blogging class will be held from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. Learn how to put your thoughts, opinions and pictures on the Internet for your friends, family (and the world) to see and set up your own free blog. Register online or by calling 285-8002. Bedtime stories are for children of all ages and their parents from 6:30 - 7:00 pm.

On Wednesday evening, Celebrate Earth day by joining us for the film *Arctic Tale*. This film follows a walrus and a polar bear from birth to maturity and parenthood in the frozen wilderness of the Great North. These magnificent creatures' world was once a perpetual winter wonderland of snow and ice, but now

they face extinction as their icebound world melts from underneath them.

On Thursday, April 17, Libraries Share class will be held from 3:30 - 4:40 pm. Learn about MNLINK, which is Minnesota's statewide virtual library, and SELCO (Southeast Libraries Cooperating) and how easy it is to request materials from other libraries. Register online or by calling 285-8002. Also on Thursday, please join us as we welcome Deborah Ellis, author of the Rochester Reads Junior title *The Breadwinner*. Deborah will be speaking at Mayo High School at 7:00 pm.

National Library week wraps up on Saturday, April 19, with the Schiffelly puppets as they present the humorous tale of *Harry and the Beanstalk* from 10:30 - 11:00 am.

GovDelivery

Never miss a booksale or author program again! The library is now using GovDelivery, an e-mail notification system used by the City of Rochester, to alert you to upcoming events and current news. Whenever you see a red envelope on a library webpage, you can click on it and subscribe to receive a notice when we update that page. If you want to visit a one-stop shopping place for all of the library's GovDelivery options, click on the red envelope at the top of the upper right column on our home page to see all the options available (including other City departments). If you have any questions about this great new service call 285-8002 and we'll be glad to help you get started.

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Please make checks payable to Rochester Public Library Foundation

_____ Endowment Fund _____ Materials _____ Either

My gift will be matched by: _____

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Please write name(s) as you would prefer in donor listings: _____

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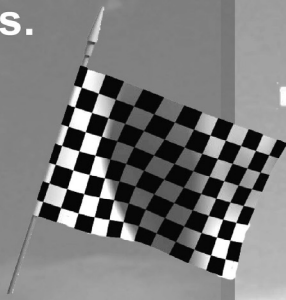


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So Many Books...

When you're stumped about what to read next, what movie you should bring home or what tunes you should listen to in your car on your next road trip, you can always stop at the Fiction, Movies & Music desk on the first floor near the fiction collection, and take advantage of our Readers' Advisory services to match you up with the library resources you're looking for. Readers' Advisory services can range from helping you find a "read-alike" for your favorite author, to recommending a foreign film you might enjoy, to letting you know where to find all that great polka music you've been craving. The next time you're looking for what to read/watch/listen, stop at the Fiction, Movies & Music desk and let us see what we can find for you.

The following is an email that we received from one of our loyal patrons.

"When we're in Texas we miss the Rochester Public Library like we miss our other good friends. If I find an interesting sounding book in a review on the Internet I check to see if you have it, then look to see if it is checked out. If it isn't I send an e-mail to one of our reading friends, forward the review and tell them if it sounds like a good book to them, it's on the shelf at the library. Twice recently I've found books you didn't have and recommended them for purchase, the latest on Saturday, *Artisan Bread in Five Minutes a Day* by Minnesota author, Jeff Hertzberg, MD (and later that day I got an e-mail that it would be ordered and I sent an e-mail to a couple of bread-baking friends there to reserve it!) It is fun.

Many years ago I read *The Read Aloud Handbook* by Jim Trelease, and met him at Century High when he gave a talk there sometime ago. I've given the book to many new parents including my step-daughter when she and her husband adopted their first child. They took the suggestions to heart and have read to Isaiah (now 13) and Marcus (now 7) and both boys are enthusiastic readers. They live in New Mexico and when they visit Rochester, guess where they want to go? The library!!

Best wishes for a joyful holiday season, Lois Hruska."