



Dear Friend of the Library:

We all want to make a difference. It's especially true during this season of giving and giving thanks for the things that truly matter. You can make a difference this season by making a gift to the River Forest Public Library Foundation.

**“A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people,”** according to Andrew Carnegie, a voracious reader who became one of America's wealthiest and most philanthropic individuals. Working as a bobbin boy in a Pittsburgh cotton factory, Carnegie spent any spare time educating himself by reading countless books in a benefactor's library made available to local working boys. That's why Carnegie later funded thousands of public libraries to help people help themselves through self-directed learning.

Today, your River Forest Public Library carries on that core mission of self-directed learning by providing not just books but a wide array of other transformative learning opportunities that would have dazzled Carnegie: digital magazines; e-books; online databases; Internet access; online tutorials; instructional videos with industry experts; streaming movies and music; and interactive programs for all ages (story-times, book and community discussions, arts/crafts, technology, how-to programs, gaming, movies, and fireside events). Our library strives to enhance the quality of life of everyone in the community by offering a welcoming environment -- in person and online -- to create young readers, stimulate imagination, and promote lifelong learning.

Your gift to the RFPL Foundation supports innovative programs, helps preserve our historic building, and helps our Library to thrive as it grows and changes to offer new ways of learning. In contributing to the future of our Library, you can honor your own love of lifelong learning, or the people who matter most to you – a family member, teacher, mentor, or friend.

Make a difference. Give to the RFPL Foundation by mailing the reply card below or donating online at [www.riverforestlibraryfoundation.org/donate](http://www.riverforestlibraryfoundation.org/donate). Your gift will inspire others and transform the lives of so many in our community.

Sincerely,

Tom Smedinghoff  
President, River Forest Public Library Foundation

**Yes**, I want to make a difference and help our Library transform lives through learning. Please accept my gift to the RFPL Foundation Annual Fund in the amount of:

\$25    \$50    \$100    \$250    \$500    \$1000    Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

My gift is in honor/memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please acknowledge this memorial gift to (Name): \_\_\_\_\_

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Donate online at [www.rfplfoundation.org/donate](http://www.rfplfoundation.org/donate) or by mail to: RFPL Foundation, c/o RFPL, 735 Lathrop Avenue, River Forest, IL 60305.

The RFPL Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.