

# EVERY GIFT MATTERS

## 2023 Impact Report & Annual Appeal



**Newton** Free Library  
Board of Trustees



## WHY I GAVE

DaNice D. Marshall is a writer and narrative-based artist who transitioned to art when a serious vascular disease led to hearing loss. Her work has been showcased on a digital billboard in Boston's theater district, exhibited in venues such as the NIU Art Museum, and is featured in Naomi—a television series streaming on HBOMax. DaNice is also a donor to the Newton Free Library, having contributed a portion of proceeds from her exhibit at the Library last year. Each year, the Library's two exhibit spaces, the Gallery and Main Hall, host 23 artists from around New England.



“The Newton Free Library gave me a tremendous opportunity to show my work in this beautiful space and sell my art. I was honored to give back by making a donation.”

– DaNice D. Marshall

# EVERY GIFT MATTERS



November 2023

Dear Newton Neighbors,

The Trustees of the Newton Free Library are honored to steward one of Newton’s most-treasured resources and we are delighted to share this inaugural Impact Report with our annual appeal.

Visited by more than 400,000 people each year, the Newton Free Library provides a place for learning, gathering, quiet study, and enrichment. We offer free access to literature, art, music, movies, programming, information, technology, museum passes, tools, digital books and resources, games, and so much more. As we reflect on fiscal year 2023, it is clear what makes this Library special – people like you. The visitors, volunteers, supporters, and staff of the Library together create a community space that connects and enriches so many lives.

One of our roles as Trustees is to raise funds that support and supplement the offerings that make our Library so unique. In August, for example, we celebrated the first anniversary of the new Childrens’ Room – a wonderful reminder of the public-private partnership created by philanthropy. We are deeply grateful for the continued generosity that makes stellar collections, programs, and services possible in every area of the Library and we are inspired by the stories that happen here each day. Please give today.

Thank you.

*Jean Notis-McConarty*  
Jean Notis-McConarty

President, Trustees of the Newton Free Library

Annual Support Fund

RAISED IN FISCAL YEAR 2023 TO SUPPORT AND SUPPLEMENT THE SERVICES AND OFFERINGS THAT MAKE OUR LIBRARY UNIQUE



Collections	Programs	Furniture
Technology	Supplies	Staff Development

Donations to the Trustees of the Newton Free Library help provide direct support where the needs are greatest.  
**Thank you for considering a gift to the Annual Fund.**

VISITORS  
**402,873**



HOME DELIVERIES  
**1,850**  
4,319 items

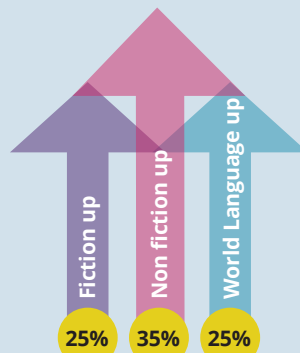
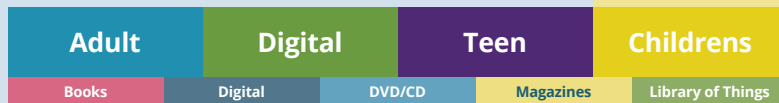
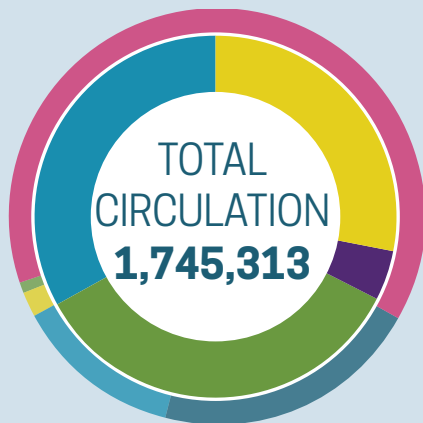
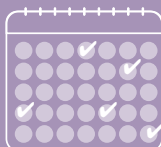
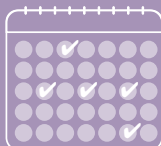
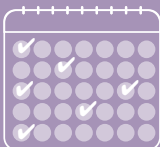
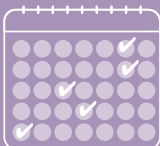
MUSEUM PASSES  
AND LIBRARY OF  
THINGS BORROWED  
**16,601**



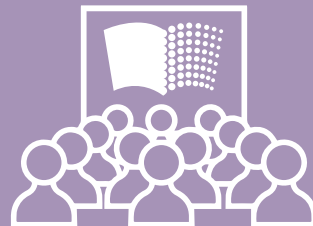
CARD HOLDERS  
**42,593**  
4,903 new

## A YEAR OF GROWTH ■ FISCAL YEAR 2023 ACTIVITY REPORT

PROGRAMS  
HOSTED  
**1,905**  
up 37%



CHILDRENS ITEMS  
BORROWED



PROGRAM  
ATTENDEES  
**43,195**  
up 87%

# SPRING FLING

Spring Fling is an annual fundraising event that raises awareness and support for the Library. The evening transforms the Library into a literary feast, complete with mingling and dining. In the last fiscal year, we were fortunate to feature a wide range of authors interviewed by Christa Delcamp. Please reach out to be added to the mailing list for an invitation or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities. We welcome new members to join the Spring Fling Committee that plans this annual event.



**Dan Shaughnessy**  
AUTHOR



**Lisa Napoli**  
AUTHOR



**Christa Delcamp**  
EMCEE



**Tom Perrotta**  
AUTHOR



**Dr. Robert Waldinger**  
AUTHOR

**THANK YOU** to our Spring Fling corporate and individual sponsors, committee members, and guests!



**We hope you join us**  
**May 4, 2024**

# YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Each spring, the Trustees kick off a special appeal to raise funds for a directed purpose. We are very thankful for Library supporters of this effort to bolster areas and programs that benefit from *just a little more*.

Your support of our **English Language Learning Program** makes it possible to sustain this well-known offering. The ELL program provides one-on-one and small group tutoring, matching hundreds of volunteers with students each year. English Language Learning participants have traveled to Newton from more than 30 countries, such as China, South Korea, Ukraine, and Brazil. In fiscal year 2023, we held 694 ELL programs on topics such as parenting, art, and civics.



Our **Library of Things** is growing! This unique collection includes a range of useful items - assistive equipment, health & wellness devices, games, household tools, musical instruments, outdoor gear, maker materials, technology, and more - and is becoming a favorite stop for Library patrons. With contributions from our campaign this spring, we added dementia-friendly games, a soil analyzer, additional bluetooth speakers, and two portable DVD players, just to name a few!



# THANK YOU, DONORS!

This list includes supporters who donated \$100 or more to the Trustees between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.

Every effort is made to publish an accurate list: we ask for your forgiveness for any omissions or errors.

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Charlotte Dietz & Adolfo Perez  
Randolph Felts  
Barbara & Bob Fierman

\*deceased



# A LASTING IMPACT

This spring, in part through the generosity of friends and family of Barbara Brin Hyatt, Druker Auditorium received a major upgrade to its sound system. Barbara Hyatt was a dedicated volunteer in the English Language Learning Program and loved the Library. To honor her memory, her family members asked how their contribution could make a difference. The original sound system was installed about 30 years ago and an upgrade was necessary to better project the presenters who share their talents with us. We are grateful to Barbara's family for enabling the installation of a dozen new speakers and enhancing our capability to support a more seamless audio visual experience.

“When our mom passed away and we were thinking about something we could do in her memory, we immediately thought of the Newton Free Library. She was a regular borrower of books and participated in many of the programs.”



*\$250 – \$499 continued*

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## A TREASURED COMMUNITY RESOURCE

The Annual Fund allows the Library Director to allocate funds where they matter most – a growing physical and digital collection, upgrades to furnishings and technology, and special programming. Annual Fund donations also support opportunities for professional development for the team that makes the Newton Free Library exceptional.

ALAN LONG, SUPERVISOR  
OF MATERIAL SERVICES,  
ATTENDED VALUABLE TRAINING AND  
COMPLETED COURSEWORK FURTHERING  
HIS KNOWLEDGE OF TRENDS  
INFLUENCING PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

“If I had not been encouraged to pursue professional development at the Newton Free Library, and given the opportunity to do so, I would be at a much different place in my career.”

- Alan Long



# THANK YOU, FRIENDS

The Trustees of the Newton Free Library and the Friends of the Newton Free Library are separate entities that collaboratively support the Library's mission. Through fundraising activities and events, each is a group of dedicated volunteers committed to ensuring the future of the Library's collection, programs, and technology.

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