



Wilsonville Public Library

# FOUNDATION

Annual Report

# 2024



## OUR MISSION

The Wilsonville Public Library Foundation's mission is to foster excellence in the Wilsonville Public Library. Private donations enable the library to expand its impact through innovative services and enhanced programming not funded by public dollars.



A Message from our Board Secretary  
Brook Gore

In 2006, I started taking my twin daughters to Wilsonville Library Storytime when they were six months old and continued this practice until they entered grade school. This weekly activity nurtured their love for reading. As an elementary reading and writing educator, I recognize the critical importance of early exposure to literature. Upon learning about Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which offers complimentary books for children from birth to age five, I was inspired to inform parents about this valuable resource, as well as the numerous other services available at our local library. As a result, in 2019, I joined the Wilsonville Public Library Foundation Board of Directors.

The Wilsonville Public Library Foundation is committed to offering opportunities to all community members, including addressing the needs of an often-overlooked demographic such as the women in custody at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. The foundation supports two book clubs within the prison, one of which I oversee. These clubs convene monthly to discuss a selected book that all participants read. During these sessions, we delve into the readings, and each participant has the chance to share how the story resonates with her unique life experience.

Throughout this process I have been profoundly aware of the role books play as a medium for connection among individuals. Sharing the experience of reading the same book creates a unique bond.

The Wilsonville Library Foundation has been a champion for these book clubs, and it is my privilege to serve as a board member.

Brook



### Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

In May 2024, Governor Kotek announced a statewide expansion of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Oregon. The objective is to cultivate a love of reading by ensuring that books are available to all children ages 0-5 across every zip code in Oregon, regardless of the family's income. In 2012, Jan Rippey inspired the Kiwanis Club of Wilsonville to kick off Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Wilsonville. The Wilsonville Public Library Foundation has been the sponsor of the program since its inception and took on full responsibility for its administration in 2017. That year, Jan Rippey and Wilsonville Library Director Pat Duke visited

Oregon's rural counties to promote the program, initiating a statewide effort.

**Statewide impact:** Dolly Parton's Imagination Library was available in 32 of 36 counties by 2018!

**Local impact:** Since 2012, in collaboration with the Wilsonville Public Library to promote early literacy, over 104,000 books have been mailed through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, and more than 4,200 Wilsonville children have received at least one book. Donations to the foundation covered the cost of the books and postage.

With the generous support of the Rotary Club of Wilsonville our initiative has expanded to include children of Adults in Custody at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, regardless of their location. These children are now part of our Imagination Library family.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is founded on decades of research that demonstrates the value of having books at home to foster a love of reading and help children develop literacy skills early in life.

Thanks to our generous community for helping us ignite a passion for reading in Wilsonville's youngest children.



## Board of Directors

### Calendar Year 2024

- Bob Renfro** | President
- Kristi Park** | Vice President, Little Free Libraries
- Natalie Cohen** | Treasurer
- Brook Gore** | Secretary
- Hilly Alexander** | Wilsonville Imagination Library
- Carole Hanna** | Director
- Mary-Elizabeth Harper** | Director
- Stephen McConnel** | Director
- Dick Spence** | Director
- Maegan Vidal** | Director
- Shasta Sasser** | Library Director
- Associates**
  - Judy Chase
  - Susan Hanson
  - Susie Stevens
- Emeritus Director**
  - Joan Vedder
- Honorary Director**
  - Donna Bane



**Shasta Sasser**  
Wilsonville Public Library Director

The Wilsonville Public Library has been on a mission to bring library services

out to the community. Whether it's attending local events, going to the schools, or connecting with retirement centers and daycares, we've made outreach a priority as part of our strategic plan.

With the support of the Wilsonville Public Library Foundation, the library has increased book giveaways at outreach events. Handing out books that patrons can keep has been a big hit. It gets books into the hands of children in our community and creates a positive library experience. At the city's Juneteenth celebration, for example, we gave away books for every age group written by black authors. At our annual Kindergarten Carnival, we gave out an Elephant and Piggie book to each child heading into kindergarten.

Book giveaways are a great example of a service that isn't built into the library's budget. We are so grateful to have donors like you contributing to the foundation. This support supplements library resources and gives the library the flexibility to try new things and add new services—like book giveaways.

Thank you!

## 2024 Donor Impact

### Crystal Reynolds Outreach Librarian

Since May 2024, I have had the privilege of organizing outreach opportunities to advocate for library programs and services. Together with library staff, we are actively promoting library programs at local preschools, middle and high schools, senior citizen centers, and various community events.

Notable outreach activities include:

- Four different stories have been provided for Storywalk®, a series of poster-sized stations extending a quarter of a mile along Tivoli Park. In collaboration with the city, school field trips have been organized and two visiting authors will be featured this summer.
- Initiated the Outreach Book Club at the Community Center and visited three Senior Living Communities—Portera, Springs, and Springridge—to familiarize senior residents with library services. Partnering with Wiedman Park Senior Apartments to offer a crochet program.
- Conducting monthly Storytime sessions at Building Blocks Preschool and Evergreen Preschool to promote the library's Summer Reading Program.
- Brad Clark and I are meeting middle and high school students and giving them information on the library's Afterschool Drop In, the Teen Advisory Board and volunteer opportunities.
- Angee Glastra Van Loon and volunteers are providing library resources to homebound patrons.
- Jo Caisse is conducting Storytime at the Head Start program at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility.
- The Youth Services Summer Reading Program Promotion was presented eighteen times last summer, reaching all school students in Wilsonville.

It has been an exciting year meeting so many people and expanding library services to the Wilsonville community, alongside our dedicated staff, volunteers, and community partners. I look forward to another year filled with further opportunities. Keep an eye out for me on the Book Bike at any fun community events this summer!



### Donor Appreciation Event

In September 2024, the Wilsonville Public Library Foundation held its inaugural annual donor appreciation event. This event provided an excellent opportunity for board members to engage personally with donors and express their gratitude for the generous support extended to the foundation.

The evening included a discovery challenge where donors had the chance to hear directly from library staff and board members about the programs and equipment that have been funded through their contributions in recent years. Each attendee was honored with a personalized bookplate added to a book of their choice.

The event featured an array of delectable hors d'oeuvres provided by Elephant's Delicatessen underwritten by a generous dono, and wines donated by Sokol Blosser Winery. The after-hours atmosphere at the library added a unique and special touch to the occasion. We eagerly anticipate

another delightful evening on Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025.



### Technology Upgrades

The Wilsonville Library continually seeks to enhance its services for the community. In 2024, the Wilsonville Public Library Foundation made notable investments in technology upgrades by installing hearing loops and new electronic locks for the study rooms.

A **Hearing Loop** is a specialized sound system designed to assist individuals with hearing aids. It is the only assistive listening technology capable of broadcasting directly to a variety of hearing aids or cochlear implants, making it a preferred option for accessible audio in public spaces since it reduces background noise. This technology was installed at all three public service desks and does not require any additional devices.



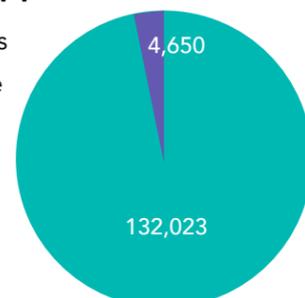
As part of a comprehensive library-wide security upgrade, new electronic locks were installed on the study room doors. These locks enable staff to lock or unlock the study rooms using their badges, similar to other doors in the library, eliminating the need for a centrally located physical key that staff previously had to retrieve each time they needed to grant access to the rooms.



## Financials Total Income \$136,673 Total Expenditures \$156,112

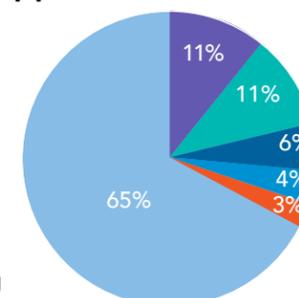
### Where Support Comes From

- Individuals
- Corporate



### How Support is Applied

- Endowment
- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
- Library Technology
- Outreach Services
- Adult Programming
- Youth Programming



\*During 2024, the Wilsonville Public Library Foundation received the remainder of a donor bequest. These funds have been allocated to the foundation's endowment fund to support future library programs and initiatives. Additionally, the foundation financed two significant technology improvements: study room key fob access and Hearing Loop solutions, as well as ongoing support for library programs and services.

## Children's Patio Mural

Murals are art that reflects community spirit, history, and culture. We're excited to share a special story about a beloved piece of art at the Wilsonville Public Library – the stunning Sculpture Tile Mural. Created by renowned artist Dallas Cole, the mural features over 500 intricately sculpted and glazed ceramic pieces, which were installed on the patio wall by talented mason artist Ralph Weary.

More than 20 years ago, the Wilsonville Public Library Foundation commissioned this mural, and with the support of private donations was installed in the outside patio, outside the children's room. To this day it continues to captivate visitors with its vibrant colors and intricate designs. Many of you may already be familiar with the various children's books Dallas Cole so beautifully depicted, from *Gentle Ben* by Walt Morey to *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. It's a true testament to the power of art and literature.



*WPLF Board Director, Hilly Alexander and mural artist, Dallas Cole.*

## Thank you to our 2024 Supporters

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**Wilsonville Public Library Foundation**

8200 SW Wilsonville Road

Wilsonville, OR 97070

[wplf.org](http://wplf.org)