YOUR ANNUAL FUND GIFTS
IN ACTION

Total granted to library in 2021: $285,771

TECHNOLOGY: $30,000

In 2021, Madison Public Library Foundation provided Madison Public Library with technology funds to continue supporting the public during the COVID-19 pandemic. Purchased items like intercom doorbells, headsets for staff to use on Zoom meetings, customer relationship management (CRM) software and laser pointers allowed staff to serve patrons remotely. As the year — and the pandemic — progressed, the library prepared for reopening with new public printers for Goodman South Madison Library and self-check machines at Monroe Street Library, all purchased with additional foundation funds. The library also bought a new computer for events staff at Central Library.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: $30,000

Library staff are focused on providing excellent service to patrons and becoming better prepared to deal with any situation that may arise in library spaces. To that end, the foundation funded numerous library employee training opportunities, including:

- digital literacy
- trauma-informed care within the library setting
- how to be a community co-conspirator
- suicide prevention strategies for 44 team members
- YWCA Racial Justice Summit participation for 13 team members
- enrollment for six staff in an American Library Association reference course
- OverDrive’s Digipalooza for six staff members to expand their knowledge of the library’s digital content software
- eight staff registrations for the remote Edelweiss Bookfest

Additionally, the library hosted an organization-wide book club, purchasing copies of The Office of Historical Corrections by Danielle Evans, with staff book discussions and a virtual visit with the author.

COLLECTIONS: $25,000

A foundation grant helped the library add a variety of content that reflects community interests and requests to its print and media collections, keeping pace with Madison’s growing population. New media included adult graphic novels, audio-enabled picture books, board books, book club kits, equity-centered books, juvenile series replacements, juvenile world language books, large-print editions and more.

mplfoundation.org
WE READ AND PLAY: $36,327
The library used a foundation grant to purchase We Read & Play materials that boost literacy and educational play in our libraries. These durable, child-tested sets included magnetic wooden Tegu blocks, Magna-Tiles, Squigz and Stapelstein toys, as well as rainbow rockers and Wobble boards for large motor development. The library embraces the philosophy of open-ended, child-led play, and these items allow children to learn through doing.

MINI-GRANTS: $14,444
The library requested numerous mini-grants to support public-facing and internal initiatives, including:

- membership to the Schools, Health, & Libraries Broadband Coalition
- financial support for the We Read: Youth Voices Writers’ Contest
- promotion of the Native American Storyteller-in-Residence program
- staff recognition efforts
- networking events for the library’s BIPOC Affinity Group
- Making Memories with Family Portraits 2022, a Black History Month program

AMPLIFYING COMMUNITY VOICES: $150,000
Prior to the pandemic, library staff researched and reported that Madison’s marginalized populations experienced disparities in accessing city services, as well as in civic engagement. The pandemic-driven switch to remote meetings highlighted public internet access challenges. To combat these issues, the foundation granted the library $150,000 to install technology at Central Library that will allow Madison residents to participate remotely in city government meetings. Once complete, the Amplifying Community Voices initiative will ensure that community members can access public information regardless of whether they have internet at home.