



2020  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

*Nashville Public Library Foundation  
& Nashville Public Library*

NPL|F



## **AS WE HONOR AND HIGHLIGHT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE LAST YEAR**

*(July 2019 – June 2020), we are honored to celebrate the culture and fabric of our great Music City community. While there are numerous cultures represented in our community, with over 140 languages spoken within Davidson County, we have specifically featured five demographics: African-American/African, Jewish, Kurdish, Laotian and Hispanic to celebrate the fabric that ties us together as a city - our culture and a common desire to live equally.*

*The patterns that you see within this year's Annual Report reflect imagery that connects to fabrics or symbols of the cultures represented within each color block.*

*Here are the cultures each represents:*

**KUBA CLOTH** - graphically distinctive and richly evocative of central Africa and generally handwoven using strands from raffia palm leaves. With demographics that include 28% African-American population and numerous African cultures represented in our immigrant community, the Kuba cloth is meant to feature the rich history of the African diaspora right here in Music City.

Designed to **HONOR TRADITIONAL MEXICAN ART AND CRAFT**, this pattern celebrates Hispanic and Latinx culture. It is distinct from other Hispanic cultures and represents one of our city's largest immigrant groups and the rich diaspora of Spanish-speaking residents who call Nashville home.

**THE JEWISH CULTURE AND FAITH** are often represented with the Star of David. We have used this symbol to create a pattern that honors Jewish culture and Judaism. With demographics that include over 11,000 persons who identify as living in a Jewish household in Nashville and middle Tennessee, we feature the rich history of Jewish people in our community.

**THERE IS A RICH ASIAN CULTURE** within the middle Tennessee community. In fact, Nashville has the ninth largest Laotian population in the country. Understanding that there are many Asian cultures that live within Davidson County, we chose this pattern, which is based on an ancient Lao Buddhist temple mural found in the Wat Xieng Thong Temple to depict the significant Laotian culture that calls Music City home.

**NASHVILLE IS HOME TO THE LARGEST KURDISH POPULATION** in the United States of America and serves as a city where Kurds can vote in their native country's elections. This pattern is based on the tradition of carpet weaving, widely practiced for centuries, by Kurdish people and is meant to feature their rich history.

*Join us as we continue to celebrate the cultural fabric and traditions of our community throughout our next fiscal year.*

# *Nashville Public Library*

IS THE HEART OF OUR CITY AND IS A KEY PART OF OUR COMMUNITY'S FABRIC.

From July 2019 to February 2020 NPL achieved record engagement. Then the events of March changed everything. We quickly found out how essential NPL is to our patrons as our community recovered from horrific tornados and then began to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. You are (and continue to be) instrumental in exhibiting the library in action. You have reminded us that we are more than just a place for books (though we have a lot of those too – physical and digital). We are a community that connects our neighbors to learn and find inspiration in each other – by traditional means or through mechanisms that highlight our ability to pivot and meet needs as they arise. In a difficult year, we come together to celebrate literacy and learning and the library's programs and opportunities for the community, made possible by the generous support we have received from you.



*Nashville Public Library (Main Branch) Nashville, Tennessee*

## *From the Director*



Kent Oliver, *Director,*  
Nashville Public Library

If there's one thing I've learned in my career in libraries, it's this: to stay relevant, libraries must evolve to serve the times. Since I became director of Nashville Public Library (NPL) in 2012, my staff and I have prioritized getting the latest technology and resources into our library for Nashville to access. That was especially true in 2019 and I thought it would be for 2020, as well.

But, when the COVID-19 pandemic hit Nashville in March 2020, none of us were prepared for what was to come. Businesses closed, people were forced to remain at home, and we've experienced widespread unrest as the virus has taken a tremendous toll on our city.

One thing was obvious: to protect our city, things would have to change. When we made the decision to close our library in March, it was tough. From July 2019 until then, we'd already had **more than 2.3 million visits to NPL, with nearly 5 million items checked out.** To say I was apprehensive about how we would serve our city during the pandemic is an understatement. As it turns out, there was nothing to worry about.

Within a month of closing, we transitioned many of our programs online through **NPL Universe.** From story times to homeschool help and more, our staff made the shift to online-only seamlessly. To date, **more than 630,000 viewers have tuned in to more than 2,000 of these programs.**

NPL's **Collection Development Division** has rocked it by expanding our digital catalog. We've **added more than 200,000 new e-titles** to give readers more options. We also extended the checkout limit from 10 to 15 items per user on Hoopla, where we host thousands of digital titles. Thus far, **nearly 85,000 people have checked out more than 1 million digital items.**

Knowing that online resources would be at the forefront during this time, we ensured that folks who weren't "tech-savvy" weren't left behind. Our **Digital Inclusion team** is working hard to bridge that divide, having conducted **more than 5,000 training meets** with folks over email, phone, and Zoom. They cover everything from how to use electronic devices to navigating Google Drive.

I knew that Nashville would be eager to return to NPL in whatever way it could happen. But, I had no idea just how well-received our **contact-less curbside service** would be. Since we launched June, **we've averaged more than 4,500 checkouts each week, with nearly 86,000 transactions completed to date.**

Undoubtedly, some of these changes and additions are here to stay. I'm completely amazed by what our NPL team has achieved over the past year. They are always creative and committed to serving the people of Nashville and Davidson County.

Regardless of the challenges we face, NPL remains devoted to providing the modern public library that Nashville deserves.

Sincerely,



Kent Oliver,  
Director, Nashville Public Library



*Dara Bacon and Laura Calverley discover books in the Children's section for their families.*

## *From the President*



Shawn Bakker, *President,*  
*Nashville Public Library*  
*Foundation*

I want to thank you for your continued support of the Nashville Public Library Foundation. Your generous gifts made it possible for our library to adapt to the specific needs of our community following a major tornado in March and a generational pandemic still underway. Throughout the fiscal year, you have helped us **contribute over \$3.5 million to the library.**

In February, the Foundation board and staff met to finalize a strategic plan. Collectively, we agreed to:

- Optimize the Alignment of the Library's Needs and the Foundation's Resources
- Strengthen Staff and Board Accountability
- Increase Organizational Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Though our world has changed dramatically since we drafted these goals, our commitment to them has not wavered. Indeed, the pandemic has made the need for the Foundation's strategic support of the library even more clear.

- Throughout the year, **Limitless Libraries** distributed library books and educational resources through Metro Nashville Public School bus routes. The program also kept kids reading during school closures. Nashville Public Library's juvenile e-book usage rate increased by 120%.
- To help prevent additional out-of-school learning loss due to closure of schools, Nashville Public Library started its **Summer Reading Challenge** two months early. 7,497 people signed up for the program and logged 13,384,004 total minutes read.
- Program work continued unabated, though in a non-traditional form. The library hosted hundreds of live-streamed and recorded programs in its **Civil Rights Room**, through **Bringing Books to Life!**, and by way of **Story Time with the Professor**.
- **Seniors** who graduated from our Digital Inclusion program **learned how to connect with their families and communities digitally and gained tools** to help them access important health information from valid resources and place orders for food or medication deliveries.

- One of the most exciting ventures of this year was the outpouring of support for the **Votes for Women Room**. In the past two years, you helped us to raise nearly **\$4 million** to create the space and ensure that there is adequate funding to provide engaging, relevant programming for the next decade.

I cannot thank you enough that you have chosen to support the essential work of Nashville Public Library! As you read through the following pages, I hope you will join us in celebrating what we have been able to do together.

Gratefully,



Shawn Bakker

*President, Nashville Public Library Foundation*

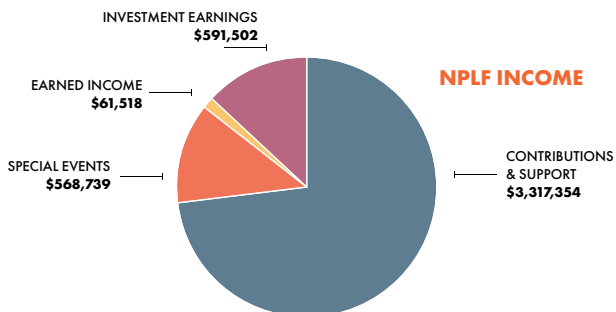


*Metro Nashville & Davidson County female elected officials gathered at NPL for a special preview of the new Votes for Women exhibit in February 2020. (Photo was taken before COVID-19 closures.)*

# NPLF ANNUAL REPORT FIGURES (FY2020)

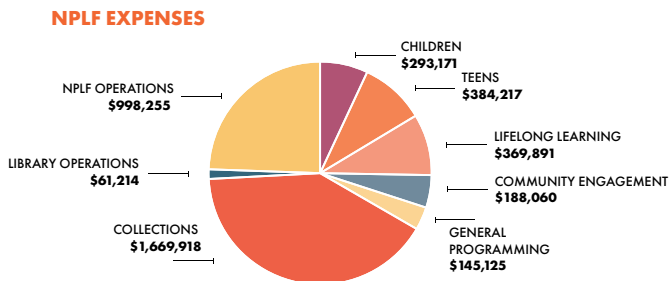
## INCOME:

Contributions & Support	3,317,354	Special Events	568,739*
Earned Income	61,518	Investment Earnings	591,502*
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>4,539,113</b>	<i>*Net of expenses</i>	



## EXPENSES:

Children	293,171	Teens	384,217
Lifelong Learning	369,891	Community Engagement	188,060
General Programming	145,125	Collections	1,669,918
Library Operations	61,214	NPLF Operations	998,255
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,109,851</b>	<b>Surplus</b>	<b>429,262</b>

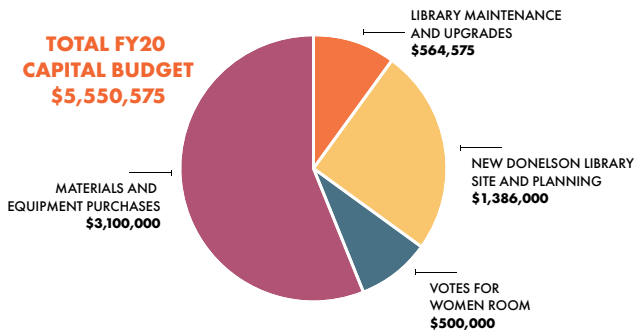




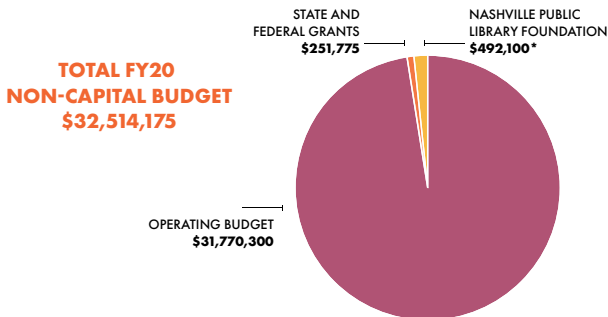
**AS A DEPARTMENT OF METRO NASHVILLE GOVERNMENT**, the Nashville Public Library receives the majority of its funding directly from the city. The Nashville Public Library Foundation was created in 1997 to enhance the library's programs, facilities and collections beyond the city's budget. We are pleased to share our joint fiscal story, showcasing how a partnership between public funding and private philanthropy makes the difference for the Nashville and Davidson County library patrons we proudly serve.

## NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY FINANCIALS

**CAPITAL BUDGET:** The capital budget funds the library's physical footprint and uses bond proceeds to support construction, renovation and large library maintenance equipment.



**OPERATING BUDGET:** The operating budget is the annual amount approved by Metro Council to operate the Nashville Public Library system. This includes General Fund Appropriations (personnel, utilities, repairs and other costs associated with operating NPL facilities) as well as support from the Nashville Public Library Foundation and State and Federal Grants.



\*The Nashville Public Library Foundation provided an additional \$2,619,496 on behalf of NPL and in total contributed \$3.1 million towards library programs, collections and facilities.

# NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## A Year of Impact





### LIMITLESS LIBRARIES

Reallocated \$70,000 for juvenile and young adult ebook titles which increased usage by 120%.



#### NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

### SUMMER STUDIO PLAYLIST

- 32 Original Episodes
- 1,000 Views
- 14 Hours of Original Content

### BRINGING BOOKS TO LIFE!

- 10,500 Participants
- 362 Virtual and In-Person Programs



# 28

LANGUAGES REPRESENTED IN NPL  
**CHILDREN'S MATERIAL**

#### WISHING CHAIR PRODUCTIONS

54,638 Performances  
326 In-person + Virtual Programs

## 369 VOLUNTEERS

14,689 HOURS WORKED



### COVID-19 STATS

**+80,000 MONTHLY  
YOUTUBE VIEWS**  
DURING COVID CLOSURE

**DIGITAL  
CIRCULATION**  
INCREASED BY 60%

### PUPPET TRUCK

- 34,194 SERVED
- 439 VIRTUAL + IN PERSON
- 207 LOCATIONS

# Donors by Gift Level

Because generosity is at the heart of what we do, Nashville Public Library and Nashville Public Library Foundation thank our donors for their generous support.

## Gifts of \$100,000+

AllianceBernstein  
Dollar General Literacy Foundation  
Margaret Ann and Walter Robinson Foundation  
Mary Elizabeth Nelson\*  
Network of the National Library of Medicine  
Sandra Schatten Foundation

Marlene and Spencer Hays Foundation\*  
HCA Foundation  
Joan and John Hindle  
Ingram Content Group  
Stephanie and John R. Ingram, John R. Ingram Advised Fund+  
Martha R. Ingram, Martha Rivers Ingram Advised Fund\*+

Laura Anne Turner\*  
UBS  
Vanderbilt University  
Katy Varney and Dave Goetz, The Clearview Fund\*+  
Mary and Alex Wade\*  
Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis  
West End Home Foundation

## Gifts of \$25,000 to \$99,999

America's Promise Alliance  
Anonymous  
Barge Design Solutions  
Joanne G. Cato\*  
Dan and Margaret Maddox Charitable Fund  
Josephine and John Darwin\*  
Dollar General  
First Horizon  
Carol and Robert Frist, Carol K. and Robert A. Frist, M.D. Fund\*+  
Google Fiber  
Barbara Haynes\*  
Lucy and Jeff Haynes\*

Institute of Museum and Library Services  
The James Stephen Turner Family Foundation  
Juli and Ralph Mosley\*  
Nashville Adult Literacy Council  
Jeanie Nelson and Will Martin\*  
The Nissan Foundation  
Jennifer and Eric Paisley, Rechter Family Fund\*+  
Victoria and William Pao\*  
Pinnacle Financial Partners, Inc.  
PNC Bank  
Joan and Ben Rechter, Rechter Family Fund\*+  
Truist Foundation  
Judy and J. Stephen Turner\*

## Gifts of \$10,000 to \$24,999

Advance Financial Foundation  
AEG Community Foundation  
Anonymous  
Cassidy and Dierks Bentley, RISER Foundation\*  
The Blakney Foundation  
Blue Grass Community Foundation  
Ann and Frank Bumstead\*  
Anita Cochran\*  
Community Partnership Fund  
CoreCivic  
Anne Davis and Karl Dean, Anne Davis and Karl Dean Advised Fund\*+

Deloitte  
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 Annette Eskind\*  
 Donna and Jeffrey Eskind\*  
 FirstBank  
 Genesco Inc.  
 Jeff Ruby's Steakhouse  
 Lillias and  
 William Johnston\*  
 Legility  
 Patty and Jeff Marvel  
 MP&F Strategic  
 Communications  
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 Marian T. Ott, The Philip  
 Family Advised Fund\*+  
 Shirley and Stuart W.  
 Speyer, Shirley and Stuart  
 Speyer Family Fund\*+  
 Nancy and Robert Wahl\*  
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 J. Hendrix Foundation\*  
 Jerry and Ernest Williams,  
 The Enchrion Foundation\*

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 to \$9,999**

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 Aon Corporation  
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 Bank of America  
 Merrill Lynch  
 Jean Ann and  
 Barry Banker\*  
 Bass, Berry & Sims

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 Harlan Dodson\*  
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 Lori and William J. Collins+  
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 Martha Cooper  
 Heathie and Chip Cox  
 Sondra and  
 Doug Cruickshanks\*  
 Katie and Kevin Crumbo\*  
 Dowdle Construction, LLC  
 Laura J. Dugas\*  
 Economic Club of Nashville  
 Edgehill Village  
 Neighborhood Association  
 Ensworth  
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 Jamie and Billy Eskind,  
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 Advised Fund\*+  
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 Elizabeth and David Fox\*  
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 Karyn McLaughlin  
 Frist Fund+  
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 Kailey and JR Hand  
 Hastings Architecture, LLC

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 Jonathan Shayne,  
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 Parnassus Books, LLC  
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 Jennifer and Gus Puryear\*

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Jerry Martin

The Ryman Hospitality  
Properties Foundation

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Susannah and Zulu  
Scott-Barnes\*

Kerry Brock and John  
Seigenthaler

Jacqueline Shrago\*

Joanne Sowell\*

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The Steakley  
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UBS Private  
Wealth Management

Linde and Blair Wilson\*

## **Gifts of \$2,500 to \$4,999**

Vandana and  
Rick Abramson

Amy and Kenneth Adams

The Andrews Agency

Sue Adams Andrews\*

The Association for Moving  
Image Archivists

AT&T

Allison and John Beasley\*

Belmont University

Claudia and  
Gordon Bonnyman\*

Boulevard Bolt

Lou Ann and Gary Brown

Iris Buhl, Buhl Family  
Advised Fund\*+^

Tricia and Ben Carswell\*

Caterpillar Financial Services

Scott Chambers, Scott C.  
Chambers Fund\*+

Marie Griffin and  
Bob Coffey\*

Fletch and William Coke

Mayor John and  
Laura Cooper

Laurie and Steven Eskind\*

Emily and Jan Freitag\*

Elizabeth and Bryan Frist,  
The Elizabeth and Bryan  
E. Frist Fund+

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Julie and Tommy F. Frist\*

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Julie and Bob Gordon

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Kelli and Dave Haywood

Cathy and Clay Jackson\*

Ann and Owen Kelly\*

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Ann Marie and  
Martin McNamara

Metropolitan Nashville  
Airport Authority

NASBA-National  
Association of State  
Boards of Accountancy

National Film  
Preservation Foundation

Anne and Tommy  
Nesbitt, Jr.\*

Donna and Jerry Nicely\*

Oakpoint Real Estate

Reco Foundation\*

Emmie and Stephen Rick

Kate and Eric Satz\*

Elaina H. Scott\*

Amy Seigenthaler and  
Tim Pierce

Marietta Shipley\*

Patti and Brian Smallwood\*

Beth and John Stein\*

Rebecca and  
Michael Swan\*

Ellen and Joseph Torrence\*

Jan van Eys\*

Sarah and Stephen Ward\*

WME Entertainment

Joyce and Stephen Wood\*

Zander Insurance

## **Gifts of \$1,500 to \$2,499**

Jennifer and Mark Aaron

Ronette Adams-Taylor and  
Lawrence Taylor

Beth A. Alexander\*

Beth and Dave Alexander\*

Honey and  
Lamar Alexander\*

Robin and Gary Anderson\*

Christina and Mike Apperson	Donna Dalton and Luke Froeb*	Debbie and Don Holmes*
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Sallie B. Bailey*	Caroline A. Davis*	Tari and Jim Hughes*
Shawn and Jeremy Bakker*	Suann and Ralph Davis*	Paula DeWitt Hughey*
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Barbara Bell*	Rebecca Diggs*	Cathy and Jerry Johnson*
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Julie and Frank Boehm	Bonnie Dow*	Natasha Kamrani and Chris Barbic
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Marty and Jim Conrad*	Google	Conn and Betty McConnell, Betty and Conn McConnell Charitable Fund+
Ashley and Joe Cook*	Bernice and Joel Gordon	Julia McCown*
Mary and Charlie Cook, Charles W. Cook, Jr. Advised Fund*+	Lynn and W.L. Gray*	Carol McCoy*
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	Meg and Alexander Harris*	
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	Tina and Mike Hodges	
	Robin Holab-Abelman and Stephen Abelman*	

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Heather Fairbank and Rusty Miller\*  
Marlee Mitchell\*  
Trish and Chris Mixon\*  
Dianne and Kent Oliver\*  
Marguerite and Kevin Orndorff\*  
Libby and Ben Page\*  
Kimberly and Brad Paisley\*  
Joann Palazzo  
Elizabeth and Larry Papel\*  
Pam and Phil Pfeffer\*  
Nancy and Keith Phillips\*  
William Polk  
Carol Len and Scott Portis, The Portis Family Fund\*+  
Leah Cannon Portis, The Portis Family Fund\*+  
Sylvia Rapoport\*  
Gayle Ray  
Brenda and Colin Reed, Brenda and Colin Reed Advised Fund+  
Margaret and Brian Roark\*  
Anne and Charles Roos  
Jim Sasser  
Karen and Eric Saul\*  
Tara Scarlett and Michael Peacock\*  
Laurie and James Seabury  
Harriett and Robert Sewell\*  
Joan Shayne, The Blum Family Foundation\*

Dana and Tom Sherrard  
Caroline and Gary Shockley\*  
Sign Club Co  
Susan and W. Lucas Simons\*+  
Allison and Arthur Smith  
Susan and Anderson Spickard\*  
Julia and Justin Spickard  
Hope Stringer\*  
Cecelia and Patrick Theobald\*  
Urban Grub  
Ann Patchett and Karl VanDevender  
Jessica and Dan Viner\*  
Elizabeth C. Walls, Colton Family Advised Fund\*+  
Janice and E.W. Wendell\*  
Women Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Melissa and Chris Wyatt  
Mandy and Stephen Young\*  
Pam Zimmerman\*  
Mary Zutter and Sam Santoro\*

### **Gifts of \$1,000 to \$1,499**

12 South Dental Studio  
Anonymous  
Dominique Arrieta  
Meera Ballal and Seenu Reddy

Bank of America Foundation  
Megan and Bruce Barry  
Shanna and Anthony Belott  
Jennifer and Lewis Borden  
Kate Brady  
Mary Lea and Rick Bryant  
Daphne and Rawls Butler  
Nicky and Jim Cheek  
Jane F. Corcoran  
Delek Fund for Hope  
Susan Edwards  
Courtney and James Fitzgerald  
Karlen and Louis Garrard  
Shari and Eric Green  
Kevin Hageman  
Anna Hemmes and Jacob Schwarz  
Jacob Hill  
Kay and Stephen Horrell  
Angie and Chris Howard  
Irvin and Beverly Small Foundation  
Brian Jackson and Roger Moore  
Sally and Thomas Kanaday  
Margaret Kelly  
Emily and Will Kendrick  
Susan Kupisch  
Ellen Eskind Lehman, Lehman Family Fund +  
Amanda and Carter Little  
Brooks and Bert Mathews



Roochita and  
Abhishek Mathur

Kate and Todd McKee

Pat Meadows, James R.  
Meadows, Jr. Foundation

Ray Meneely

Lise and Will Morrow

Christopher Ott

Robin and Richard Patton,  
The Patton Advised Fund+

David Pruett

Kathy and Robert Rolfe

Alice and Michael Rolli

Carolyn Schott

Carole and John Sergent

Rebecca and Ashish Shah

Melissa Smith and  
Edwin Williamson

Sandra and William T. Spitz

Douglas Stolman

Perian and Samuel Strang

Kerstin and  
William Sund-Meyer

Carolyn and Steve Taylor

Ellen and John Tighe

Linda and  
Alexander Waddell

Melissa and Jay Wellons

Joni P. Werthan

W. Ridley Wills

## NEXT CHAPTER SOCIETY COUNCIL

Jocelyn Gibbons

Katherine Johnson

Adam Mansell

Sydney Mathieu

Melissa McDonald

Nikki Powell

Claire Quinn

Rosemary Rapolla

Jamie Redfearn

Caitlin Reed

Sydney Shearer

Sara Wigal

John Williams

\* Denotes membership in the Carnegie Society

+ Through the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee

^ Deceased



### **EAST BRANCH LIBRARY**

A Carnegie Library | Opened 1919

*Suffered tornado damage 2020*



### **NORTH BRANCH LIBRARY**

A Carnegie Library | Opened 1915

*Suffered tornado damage 2020*





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