

Toronto Public Library Foundation's Literary Circle

2021-2022 Membership Report



Toronto Public Library helps build a more resilient Toronto

Everything is not equal. We live in one of Canada's wealthiest and fastest-growing cities, yet not all residents have equal access to the economic, educational, health and social opportunities that are critical to succeed. The pandemic shone a bright light on the many inequities that exist in our city, and the need for public libraries to help solve some of our most pressing needs of today, and beyond.

As a donor at the Literary Circle level, you are part of a very special group of like-minded individuals who share a love of the Library and invest in the well-being of our city.

Your membership supports TPL's highest priority needs and helps ensure all Torontonians have free and equitable access to vital Library resources including virtual career coaching, online IT certification programs, job search assistance, and the technology and Internet connectivity to participate and stay connected. Thank you for supporting this critical work.



Helen Gaan
Manager
Individual Giving and Events

Bringing members together during a global pandemic

COVID-19 restrictions forced the TPL Foundation to cancel our planned in-person events and bring members online conversations in 2020 and 2021. You can find these all at: youtube.com/TPLFoundation

Fall 2020

Writers Natalie Jenner and Phuc Tran came together for a lively discussion about their debut books, unique career paths, a pivot to being first-time authors, and their love of public libraries.



Spring 2021

TPL City Librarian, Vickery Bowles was joined in conversation with Richard Reyes-Gavilan, Executive Director of the DC Public Library. Together, they discussed the vital need for public libraries today and how donor investment empowers libraries and supports our most vulnerable residents.



Fall 2021

Award-winning filmmaker Deepa Mehta discussed her exceptional career, upcoming projects and strong thoughts on the critical work libraries do. The conversation was hosted by Globe and Mail columnist Liz Renzetti.



Did You Know?

Your gift could go even further!

See if your employer offers a matching gift program.

tplfoundation.ca/literary-circle



Toronto Public Library Foundation

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The impact of supporting TPL's highest priority needs in 2021



31,500 children's library cards cleared of overdue fines



Free Internet Connectivity Kits given to 670 individuals in need of a laptop, Wi-Fi, and data plan



Career Coaching in Residence offered virtual job search help to 919 participants

How donations make a difference in the lives of those who rely on Toronto Public Library



Hello! I'm Manal. Welcome to my branch in Scarborough.

When my family moved to Toronto some 20 years ago, I remember my first visit to the Library and how it was a magical place of books and movies. After graduating from university, the Library helped me at a time when I really needed it. During a rough patch in my life, and after experiencing depression and financial instability, I reconnected with TPL. My home branch at Highland Creek was somewhere welcoming that I could walk to, even if I didn't have bus fare. In this space, I could borrow books, use a computer and stay for as long as I liked (all for FREE!). Today, as I embark on an exciting new career, I am still a regular visitor to my Highland Creek branch.

Thank you to the staff at Highland Creek, and thank you to everyone who generously supports Toronto Public Library.

“It seems so mundane when you grow up with TPL, but as an adult, I really recognize just how remarkable our library system is. It's something I don't want to ever take for granted.”

- Manal, Toronto Public Library user



Thank you for making this work possible.

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