

# GPL ENDOWMENT TRUST

Ensuring our Enduring Treasure

# 2024

## REPORT AND APPEAL TO THE COMMUNITY



### Groton Residents Appreciate Their Library and All the Endowment Makes Possible

**O**ur early 2024 town-wide survey revealed residents’ deep appreciation for their library, especially for the Children’s Department, Library Staff, materials, and services, many of which are vitally enhanced by the GPL Endowment Trust.

### Survey Says

#### Top Three Reasons for Using the Library:

1. Borrowing Traditional Materials (88%)
2. Attending Programs (48%)
3. Borrowing Non-Traditional Items (35%), Including Endowment-funded Museum Passes

“We love the library and have been so excited by the programs and services offered here since moving to Groton!”

Half of the over 900 survey respondents reported that attending a program was a top reason for using the library. In FY2024, the Endowment funded 90% of all library programs and program support. Because of the community’s support and generosity, the Board’s wise fiscal management, and the fantastic library team, GPL can offer a robust and engaging program schedule beyond what a town library of our size could otherwise provide.

“I love the Groton Public Library! For its size, it is remarkable in the breadth of its offerings.”

*Dear Neighbor,*

**The Heart of Groton:** Since 1998, the GPL Endowment Trust has ensured that the library remains a vibrant hub of learning, discovery, and connection—all thanks to your support.

#### Financial Performance

Thanks in part to your donations, the GPL Endowment Trust’s net assets grew by 12.78% to \$4.2 million. This strong performance allows us to continue investing in the library’s future.

#### Grants and Expenditures

In FY2024, we provided over \$159,000 to support the library’s programs and services. This includes \$127,841 for ongoing initiatives and \$31,494 for one-time improvements.

#### Your Investment, Their Enrichment

Thanks to your generosity, the library offers a broader range of programs, services, and enhancements than would otherwise be possible. These help us enrich lives, foster lifelong learning, and bring our community together.

Together, let’s keep this vital resource thriving!

#### Explore Ways to Give

(details at [gplendowment.org](http://gplendowment.org))

- **Charitable Giving Account/ Donor Advised Fund**
- **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from IRA (over 70 ½)**
- **Matching Gift Program (through your employer)**
- **Direct Gift of Securities**
- **Planned Giving Options (bequests, etc.)**

#### Donate online

Visit [gplendowment.org](http://gplendowment.org) to make a secure contribution.

#### Contribute by check

Make checks payable to “GPL Endowment Trust” and mail them to 99 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450, or bring them to the library.

*Thank you for your invaluable support!*

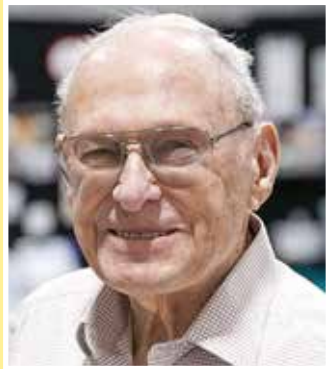
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#### GPL Endowment Board of Trustees:

John Konetzny, Samuel Morrow, Michael Woods, David Zeiler, and Vanessa Abraham

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## Remembering Al Stone, GPL Endowment Trust's Founding Member and Board Chairman



We are profoundly grateful to Al Stone for his critical support in helping to establish the GPL Endowment Trust. His tireless efforts and unwavering commitment were instrumental in establishing the foundation from 1996 to 1998 and helping it succeed as Chairman of the Board from 1998 to 2010. He was an extraordinary man, and his legacy will live on forever in his family, company, and every fortunate organization gifted with his generosity, expert leadership, and unparalleled philanthropy.

### Mission Statement

The purpose of the Trust is to assist in maintaining the quality and excellence of the Groton Public Library by providing a means above and beyond the library's normal resources, assuring the continuation of the high standards achieved during the library's long history.

Income from the Trust will enhance, enrich, and supplement the funds available for the library's materials collection, programs, and other special needs.

This income shall not replace funds appropriated annually by the Town or other funds managed by the Town to support the library.

"I love the library, it is a great place to hang out and read."

"The activities at the library are amazing; I wish I could attend more of them!"

"I think the summer programs are very fun and I love going to the library with friends."

"This is an amazing place to have fun and study!"

## 2023 Grades 5-12 Survey:

**Overwhelmingly  
Positive Feedback @ GPL,  
Programs, and Staff**

We were delighted by the feedback we received from 248 tweens and teens about the library, programs, and staff!

Our consultant said she has never seen such overwhelmingly positive and thoughtful responses from any teen survey she's ever done.

### Children's Room

Where Young Minds Can Explore and Grow

# of Programs: 274, # of Attendees: 5,506

Our dedicated team creates exceptional experiences for young minds. From storytimes and book groups to STEAM learning and homeschooling classes, we spark curiosity and imagination.

"The children's room is fantastic! My daughter loves the weekly crafts and it is so great to have a place to take my tween son. We LOVE the selection of events: kids yoga, Lego, drumming, and robots—there really is something for everyone!"



Rockabye Beats Music

### Teen Programs An Amazing Year!

# of Programs: 191,  
# of Attendees: 2,954

Our Groton students love the library! Our most popular program is Llama Lounge, where on middle school half-days, the library is full of lively young people enjoying games, crafts, snacks, and socializing. On other days, they participate in book clubs, art, science, and robotics, or simply relax with friends. Our teens volunteer regularly, and our summer and winter reading program participation grows every year. We are grateful that the Endowment allows us to provide so many opportunities for our teens in such a fun and welcoming space.

"I always have a fun and safe time here."



Buildware activity



## Adult Programs Flourish

A Year of Learning and Fun

# of Programs: 564, # of Attendees: 6,516

# of Post-Event Recorded Views: 5,381

Our vibrant adult program offerings, from online sessions with renowned experts to hands-on art classes and book clubs, kept our community engaged and the library hopping this past year!

“We are SO lucky to have Beth (and the lovely Library Endowment Trust) to enable us to try such exciting and different types of programs.”

### Lifelong Learning: Inspiring Creativity

Participants unleashed their inner artists in local art classes and immersed themselves in the collections with the curators of the Asian Art Museum.



Peony Flower Arranging

Alcohol Ink Workshop



## Museum Passes

Thanks to the Endowment, over 800 adults and families enjoyed free or discounted passes to 20 area museums and attractions. New England Aquarium, Discovery Museum, Museum of Science, and Butterfly Place continued as perennial favorites.



Dug Morton speaks about his work.

## Art Gallery Season

**Voices from Ukraine: Images of War**  
Traveling exhibition of Ukrainian artists, organized by Hanna Melnychuk of Groton.

**Central Mass Pastel Society**, group show.

**Harold Sandford, Watercolors**  
Paintings by a gifted Groton resident.

**Dug Morton, Abstract Paintings**  
Works by a Groton native son.

**Pam Boivin, Spirit of America**  
Photographs of uniquely American scenes.

**Soaking up Summer**, featuring members of the Nashoba Valley Artists Guild.



## A Musical Journey

The new Groton Hill Music Center inspired our theme of music, and we selected *Symphony of Secrets* by Brendan Slocumb for a thrilling read about a jazz-age mystery. Our events were hits, too—from a roaring 1920s murder mystery party to pizza night to Author Brendan Slocumb joining us virtually to discuss his work.



Murder Mystery Night

## Adult Summer Reading Program

169 participants read  
1,579 books!

Our grand prize winner said, “I was literally so excited when I saw you had it for adults, not just kids!!!”

# GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ENDOWMENT TRUST

P.O. Box 401

Groton, MA 01450

NON-PROFIT ORG.

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PERMIT NO. 122

GROTON, MA

## GROTON POSTAL PATRON

**We gratefully acknowledge the individuals and organizations who donated to the GPL Endowment Trust from October 2023 through September 2024. Thank you for your generosity and support!**

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