



2019 Annual Report

This was our first full year in our beautiful new library. The community demonstrated their enthusiasm by checking out more than twice as many materials as they did at the old library for a total of 239,000 items. Now more than half the population of Brentwood have library cards. The library was constantly busy with people attending classes such as sewing and 3-D printing in our Makerspace. Hundreds of children enjoyed Storytime and other programs, while people held meetings in one of our four meeting rooms. The Friends of the Brentwood Library also added more volunteers who enjoyed helping in their successful Second Story Book Shop.

The Brentwood Library Foundation used their funds to enhance the library. We bought magnetic white boards for the meeting rooms for use in instruction. We spent \$17,000 on young adult books to encourage reading. A bronze book bench had always been part of our plan as a signature piece in front of the library. That didn't work out, so the bench is an attraction in the lobby. We bought three umbrellas for the patio after the safety barriers were installed. It's important that the community knows about the services of the library, so we paid for advertisements in *110° Magazine*. We also had a public presence through our website, Facebook, Instagram and The Press.

We have always wanted to fill the library with art, so we were grateful when the Art Guild of the Delta chose the library again as the benefactor of the Banner Up! auction. They raised \$3,072 for art in the library and some individuals donated banners. We were required to give 1% of the construction budget for art so we gave the City of Brentwood \$88,065. They will have the Arts Commission choose the art and have it installed. Liberty's Public Arts Academy will also make an art installation.

We also received other donations. The Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation had given us a large donation last year and surprised us with a \$13,000 donation "in support of the purchase of furnishings, technology or collections at the Brentwood Library." The Ross Stores Foundation included us in their fundraising event at the local Ross Store in February and gave us \$3,122 for programs for youth. Our community continued to support the library and we received \$15,366 in donations from individuals. Since our Keystone Donor wall was completed, we bought a plaque to record donors who give at least \$100 to the Friends or the Foundation.

The Foundation made some updates to our administration. An audit was completed by a volunteer accountant, Kahn Lee Alley, and we passed. We ended the year with \$137,203.95 in assets. We voted to end our contract with DonorPerfect, the online program where our donation records were kept, in January 2020. Since our main fundraising drive was over, we didn't think the expense was justified. A binder of the Foundation's history was also completed.

We look forward to 2020 when art is installed, and the Brentwood Library Foundation continues to support the needs of our library.

Diane Alexander, President