



Friends & Foundation *of the* Rochester Public Library

115 South Avenue ~ Rochester, NY 14604 ~ 585.428.8325 ~ ffrpl.org

March 2023

Dear Library Supporter,

Thank you for being a generous donor to the Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library (FFRPL) in support of the Rochester Public Library. Your gifts enable us to provide supplemental support for the Library, above and beyond the municipal budget.

All who enter the doors of our libraries are welcome to participate in programs, take advantage of resources and relax in a safe environment. But, did you know, that each Library Branch has a unique personality that is based on the needs of its patrons. Toys, laptops and sewing machines are available for loan. Tax preparation, patent, business assistance and health & human services assistance are also available. And of course, books, movies, and music, are obtainable digitally as well as physically in the library.

Many times, patrons just need to know How-To: how to obtain a bus pass, or how to fill out an application for a job or apartment. **Libraries are able to fill these needs.** For example, the Maplewood Branch Library provides a unique portfolio of how-tos through its New Americans Program.

Refugees and other immigrants who desire to become American citizens may find the path challenging. Maplewood's New Americans Librarian Brian DiNitto helps these patrons with the how-tos for taking the Naturalization exam; a 15-week

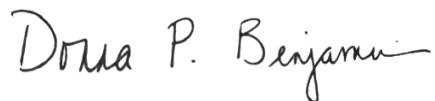
citizenship class that teaches U.S. History, reading, writing and conversation requirements that are necessary to become a citizen. Library staff are available to help them practice both written and spoken communications.

Brian recently attended the Naturalization Ceremony for a graduate of the class. He was very proud of her; *“Lan completed the 15-week Citizenship online course at least 3 times, and was always the hardest working student in the sessions. She works in a local factory, but finds time to attend an hour and a half Citizenship Class on Tuesdays, sessions with library volunteers to improve her conversational English on Saturday mornings, and a writing class on Sunday mornings.”*

When you support the Library through FFRPL, you are enabling each branch to meet the needs of their patrons. Whether through Outreach to homebound patrons, or reading programs for our young, your generosity speaks volumes about your investment in this community. We ask you therefore, to reaffirm your support with a gift to FFRPL and your library system.

We are so grateful for your continued commitment to the Rochester Public Library and the community we serve. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna P. Benjamin".

Donna P. Benjamin, Board President
Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library

P.S. Please give today and give generously, so that we can put your gift to use right away and impact the lives of more people in our community.