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# GOOD NEWS: A letter from the WPLF



Kristi Oberg WPLF CEO/President VOLUME THREE/ISSUE SIX December 20, 2021

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## **Giving Feels Good**

December is the time of year that we make a difference in the lives of others through giving. We buy holiday gifts for people we love, bake our favorite recipes to share with friends and family, and donate to or volunteer at our favorite charities. Why do we all do this? Because giving feels good!

What's great about giving is that everyone can give something. You can make someone's day with the gift of a smile or by bringing treats to the office. Even letting someone go ahead of you in the check-out line is a gift of time. You have so much to offer, and what you have to offer people need.

As this *Season of Giving* comes to a close, please consider a financial gift to the WPLF. You will help children become better readers, provide technology to help people find jobs and create access to information that otherwise would not be available. No matter the amount or type of giving you do this season – just give. You'll feel better for it!

### Thank You – WPLF 2021 Board Members

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### **Did You Know?**

As the pandemic began, 25% of households did not have internet. Lack of internet became a significant barrier for low-income families. Together the Library and Foundation added to our "Library of Things" collection to ensure digital inclusion for our community.

- 1. This summer, 50 hotspots (small devices providing internet) became available. wichitalibrary.org/things
- 2. This fall, 200 Internet Bundles (Chromebooks and hotspots) became available. wichitalibrary.org/Services/Pages/chromebooks.aspx#bundles
- 3. This month, Kanopy streaming video service became available, offering a collection of high-quality award-winning, classic and independent movies, foreign films, documentaries, and select TV shows. <u>wichitalibrary.org/kanopy</u>



#### Welcome 2022 with New Library Programs

The Library continues to adapt to keep customers safe and engaged. Your financial support of the WPLF makes these programs possible.

**Senior Wednesday: Library of Things,** Jan. 12, 1:30-2:30 p.m. in person at the Advanced Learning Library Conference Center. Libraries worldwide are expanding their collections to include equipment and educational tools of all kinds, creating a Library of Things accessible to the public. The Library now offers items ranging from internet bundles to telescopes.

**Denise Neil and Classic Restaurants,** Jan. 22, 2:30-3:30 p.m. on Zoom. Join the Wichita Eagle's restaurant and entertainment writer and author of "Classic Restaurants of Wichita" as she shares Wichita's rich history of eateries. Classics include Abe's, NuWay Cafe, Angelo's, and more. Registration is required. Call (316) 261-8500 or visit wichitalibrary.org/events to register.

**High School Journaling Club,** Jan. 25, 6-7 p.m. on Zoom. Required registration begins Jan. 11 at 10 a.m. for teens in high school (grades 9-12). Whether you bullet journal, draw daily or aim for a productive planner, you can share your favorite pages, and receive writing prompts and supplies to help your journal shine.

**Lunar New Year Party,** Jan. 30, 2:30-3:30 p.m. on Zoom. Celebrate with us! We will be going live on Zoom to learn about Lunar New Year traditions and create a cultural craft together. Registration is required. Craft materials must be picked up between Jan. 24-30 and are only available to the first 50 registered participants.

Visit <u>wichitalibrary.org/events</u> for more programs and information.

#### **Kids Love STEAM Garden**

The Children's STEAM Learning Garden opened in October and is ready for action at the Advanced Learning Library. The garden creates an outdoor space for kids to play and explore interactive stations relating to science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. Special thanks to Spirit AeroSystems and Georgia and Keith Stevens for their gifts that made the garden possible.



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The Wichita Public Library Foundation's mission is to fund Library operational needs directly benefiting the public and not covered in the tax-supported budget. The mission directs the Foundation's activities through private fundraising, foundation, individual and corporate grants, and annual endowment distributions to the Library.