

training to local high school students in simple book repair. This year we welcomed college graduates considering library school degree programs.

We want to express our sincere appreciation to our long-time and new volunteers who contributed their time, talent, knowledge and skills to the Department and the Library in the past year.

CONCORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY CORPORATION



Back row from left: Rick Briggs, Jeff Adams, Sandy Smith. Front row from left: Sally Schnitzer, Sherry Litwak, Chair; Fred Lovejoy, Di Clymer, Mario Favorito. Not pictured: Walter Birge

The Concord Free Public Library Corporation is a Massachusetts charitable corporation created by the Massachusetts Legislature in 1873 for the purpose of forming and maintaining a public library in Concord, which it undertakes to do in collaboration with the Town and the Library Committee.

The primary responsibility of the Trustees is to maintain the two Library buildings and grounds – the Main Library in Concord Center and Fowler Branch in West Concord – and to preserve and grow the Special Collections. The Corporation provided over \$500,000 to the Library, including \$125,000 to supplement the Town Budget for library materials and services. The majority of these funds come from the Annual Appeal and income from the Corporation's Endowment. One of the major building projects this year was the repair and restoration of the front columns and brick patio in front of the Main Library.

The William Munroe Special Collections continues to be an outstanding resource for researchers from around the world and the community. A highlight this year was a collaborative program with the Concord Museum and ConcordCAN! About Farming and Food with an exhibition in the Art Gallery: "The Garden Spot of Concord, Mass,": Farming at Nine Acre Corner. We have also begun to draft a strategic plan that will guide our growth and preservation efforts and increase accessibility to the Collections. To learn more about Special Collections, click the link at the top of the CFPL website: www.concordlibrary.org

As Trustees of the Williams Scholarship Fund, made possible by a bequest from Charles H. S. Williams, we continue to award grants to several college students pursuing studies in the arts.

The third annual Leslie Riedel Lecture for Young People featured award-winning author Lois Lowry. This special event was greatly appreciated by the capacity crowd.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to Walter Birge for his long service to the Corporation and the Library as a trustee and Chair of the Board. His wisdom and humanity enlightened every situation and his presence will be greatly missed.

We would like to thank Sue Gladstone, the Development Director of the Corporation for the past 10 years. She helped us to raise over \$10 million for the renovation of the Main Library and the Fowler Branch during her tenure. We are in the process of conducting a search for a new Development Director.

This past year has been busy and productive for the Library. The future promises to be exciting as the long-range plan guides us in the growth and development of the Library in the 21st century. The Library Corporation is committed to supporting this plan by ensuring that our beautiful historic buildings meet the community's growing needs.