



# **YEAR IN REVIEW 2025**



Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners,

As we reflect on 2025, the Douglas County Libraries Foundation (DCLF) is deeply grateful for all we have accomplished together. This past year marked another chapter of growth, innovation, and meaningful community connection. We surpassed our annual fundraising goals, secured larger family foundation grants, and hosted the 10th anniversary of the Fête des Fables to a sold-out crowd. None of this would have been possible without the generosity and dedication of our supporters.

2025 highlights include:

- Surpassed a million dollars in our endowment fund
- Secured new corporate sponsors and partners
- Granted 28 summer camp scholarships to young community members

As we step into 2026, we are energized by the momentum of the past year and excited for what lies ahead. We remain committed to growing our endowment and advancing our mission—delivering funding and resources to support Douglas County Libraries and positively impact community and literacy efforts.

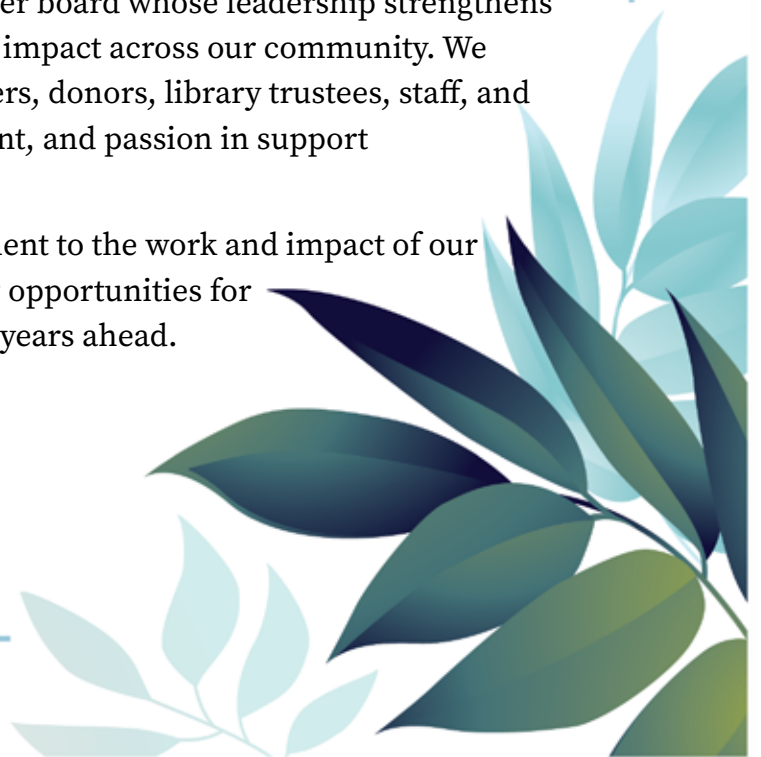
DCLF will continue to support impactful library events and services, including providing books to local children's hospitals and offering scholarships that help community members attend Camp DCL, support teens with college tuition, and participate in other library programs when financial assistance is needed.

Our work is guided by a dedicated volunteer board whose leadership strengthens the Foundation and deepens the libraries' impact across our community. We are sincerely grateful to our board members, donors, library trustees, staff, and volunteers who contribute their time, talent, and passion in support of this mission.

Thank you for your support and commitment to the work and impact of our libraries. We remain focused on fostering opportunities for reading, discovery, and connection in the years ahead.

With gratitude,

*Amber DeBerry*  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



# Fundraising



## **Fête des Fables**

The 10th anniversary gala, evoking the time-honored tale of Beauty and the Beast, was the most successful gala in DCLF history, filling the Highlands Ranch Mansion to capacity, and raising nearly \$120,000 through sponsorships, ticket sales, silent auction, and the very popular wine pull; the event netted just over \$76,000 after expenses. Two hundred and fifty guests enjoyed the French Provincial feel with Champagne drinks, flowers, a dining experience amid more than 2,000 candles, and other activities throughout the mansion.

## **Kendra Scott**

Back for a third year, DCLF partnered with Kendra Scott for a community give-back event at the Park Meadows location. This May event took place just in time for Mother's Day and spring graduations. The community was invited to shop in person and online with a portion of their purchases directly benefiting DCLF. In 2025, the Foundation received \$783 from Kendra Scott.

## **Colorado Gives Day**

- Goal: \$75,000
- Total raised via Colorado Gives Day campaign (November 1-December 10): \$88,764
- Total year-end giving (November 1-December 31): \$121,113
- Donors: 559, including 115 first-time donors

# Impact



## **Scholarships**

- 28 Camp DCL scholarships, totaling \$7,900
- 2 Career Online High School (COHS) scholarships, totaling \$2,590
- 4 Excel High School Scholarships, totaling \$4,000
- 17 individual GED test vouchers, totaling \$722
- 19 graduates from DCL's GED and online high school programs

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### Summer Reading Award Recipients

Each year, the DCLF awards \$500 to four K-12 schools (one at each level: elementary, middle, high, and other/charter) with the highest percentage of Summer Reading registrations for their school enrollment through the Summer Reading school contest. In addition, if the community reading goal is met, we award \$1,000 to a Douglas County nonprofit chosen based on our Summer Reading theme. Recipients of the DCLF donation awards in 2025 were Roxborough Primary School, Mountain Ridge Middle School, Thunder Ridge High School, Ben Franklin Academy, and Colorado Agricultural Leadership Foundation (CALF).

### Community Fundraisers

- The DCLF donated six silent auction baskets, value totaling \$465.
- In 2025, the Foundation donated 50 new books to Children's Hospital Colorado (CHCO) each quarter, to support patients and their families who are admitted to or receiving care at CHCO Highlands Ranch.

### Operation Paperback *Managed by DCL Volunteer Services*

This service, managed by DCL Volunteer Services, sends books to U.S. military personnel, veterans, and their families, helping to provide comfort and entertainment during their service.

- 627 books shipped
- 69 family recipients
- Shipped within the U.S. and abroad

### Used Book Donations from Volunteer Services

In 2025, DCL's Volunteer Services department donated a total of 320 books to the Kiwanis Club of Castle Rock in support of South Elementary School's Trunk-or-Treat event. South Elementary is a Title 1 school in Douglas County and its students and families appreciate receiving the books to add to or start their home libraries. Another 2,915 used books were donated to 18 different community nonprofits, Little Free Libraries, and government entities. Preference is given to local or other Colorado-based organizations with some support going abroad to help promote and support literacy efforts.



# Supporting The Work of Douglas County Libraries

The DCLF grants money each year to Douglas County Libraries to support the incredible work of our libraries. With the help of these funds, DCL provided premium programming and services to more than 3.2 million visitors to our library locations and online last year. DCL offers an array of opportunities impacting youth, families, and adults in Douglas County.

DCL's journey with a family begins with a gift bag for parents welcoming a new addition, signifying the start or growth of their family, delivered in Douglas County hospitals. Last year, 4,400 gift bags were delivered through the Douglas County Healthy Families Partnership, which provides even more resources to families in the hospital. Our gift bags are included in this larger package to provide a community's worth of support.

DCL's Storytimes continue to support our youngest residents to help them learn important early literacy skills and prepare them to be future readers. In 2025, more than 168,000 people attended Storytimes at all our locations. Through our Book Start program, trained volunteers also provide Storytimes to daycares and preschools in our community, for those unable to attend these events at our libraries. In 2025, they read to more than 34,000 people through this unique form of outreach.



In other support for school-aged children and families, our libraries partner with and support Douglas County schools and students through school ID access to digital resources, book-themed theatrical assemblies, and trivia bowl-style competitions around books. In addition, participants of all ages in DCL's Summer Reading program logged over 11 million minutes of reading last year. With myriad book clubs, lifelong learning events, and outreach, DCL provides for everyone, stretching beyond our walls to deliver services.

Our success continued in 2025 as an affiliate for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a book-gifting program that mails books to children from birth to age five for free. The program provides the gift of literacy for all children, inspires children to love books and reading, and supports parents and communities in fostering a child's success. More than 9,000 children are now registered and receiving new books at home every month, with help from DCL.

Forest of Stories was back in 2025 and bigger than before, with more than 175 book-inspired trees located throughout the library's seven branches and displayed for seven weeks. DCLF was once again the presenting sponsor of this wintertime tradition, offering a free cultural experience that brings shared enjoyment and wonder to the entire DCL community. Online promotions, advertising, printed marketing materials, social media, and signage for each themed tree recognized the Foundation's sponsorship.

**"Thanks for putting on such a cool display every year."**

**"The Glassmaker tree is stunning!**

**I am honored to live in Parker and to be able to see such beauty at my local library."**

**"The Amigurumi crochet tree was an immaculate work of art. The amount of hand-stitched hours on display here is something that I have not let go unnoticed."**



## Other Noteworthy Activity



### **Grants Received**

- 2 competitive grants from Ent Credit Union, totaling \$3,000
- 16 grants from community organizations, including Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs, totaling \$5,831
- 25 grants from family foundations, totaling \$28,750

### **Endowment**

DCLF's Endowment strengthens the library's ability to support and serve our community well into the future. The DCLF Endowment, managed by Rose Community Foundation, had a value over \$1,130,000 by the end of 2025.

### **Volunteer Services Contributions**

In addition to monetary donors, DCL is fortunate to have a wonderful volunteer program. These individuals donate their time to support the vision of DCL and directly impact money earned for DCLF through our physical and online bookstores.

*Book sale services are managed by DCL Volunteer Services.*

- 1,481 unique volunteers
- 30,426 hours donated to DCL
- Second Chapter Used Bookstore sales revenue: \$77,761
- Amazon Online book sales: 670 units, \$8,433.67

### **DreamBooks Co.**

Recycling books back into the hands of readers.

- 182,434 pounds of material diverted from the landfill
- \$17,403 given back to DCLF

### **King Soopers**

- 125 households
- \$3,039.42 donated to DCLF

# Recognizing Donors

## 2025 Supporters, \$5,000+



STERLING RANCH™  
COLORADO

MIDWESTTAPE | hoopla



Ent  
Credit Union  
Becoming Wings Credit Union

FRANSEN  
PITTMAN  
EXPECT PRECISION

CEGR  
LAW

Ewing Family Foundation  
Beryl and Jay Jacobson  
Larry Kuhn  
Bryant McCarthy

Terry Nolan  
Sjostrom Family Fund  
Wayne Steiner

## 2025 Corporate, Community, Grants & Foundations Supporters

Alidade Brewing  
American Furniture Warehouse  
The American Legion  
Arthur Murray Dance Studio  
Atomic Provisions  
Bellco Credit Union  
Biscuits & Berries Catering  
Bobo's Oat Bars  
Blanchard Family Wines  
BOK Financial Services  
Boondocks Food & Fun  
Branch & Barrel Distilling  
Brown & Brown  
Castle Pines Chamber of Commerce  
Castle Pines Jewelers  
Chick-fil-A Castle Rock  
Chipotle  
The Chocolate Therapist  
City of Castle Pines  
Clothes Mentor  
The Club at Pradera  
Clyfford Still Museum  
CEGR Law  
Colorado Ballet  
Colorado Symphony  
Comedy Works  
Compassionate Being Yoga  
Confluence Communities  
Convict Coffee Company  
The Cookie Jar Kitchen  
CORE Electric Cooperative  
Cornzapoppin  
Costco  
Cranelli's Italian Restaurant  
Crumb Cookies  
CycleBar Lone Tree

Deja Brew Coffee and Print  
Denver Art Museum  
Denver Film Society  
Denver Museum of Nature & Science  
Denver Zoo Conservation Alliance  
Dignity Memorial Olinger Funeral Homes & Cemeteries  
Direct Edge Media  
A Dog's World  
Douglas County Community Foundation  
Douglas County Sheriff's Office  
Downhill Brewing  
Eddie V's Prime Seafood  
Eileen's Colossal Cookies  
Enchanted Grounds Coffeehouse & Gameporium  
English Tealeaves  
Enstrom Toffee & Confectionery  
Ent Credit Union  
Evergood Adventure Wines  
A Fine Balance  
FirstBank  
Fuzzy's Taco Shop  
Game Show Battle Rooms  
Google Fiber  
Glenmoor Country Club  
gorjana  
Gourmet Gift Baskets  
The Grezian Glazier  
HCA HealthOne Sky Ridge  
History Colorado  
Ike's Sandwiches  
In-N-Out Burger  
Integrated Cleaning  
Keepsake Reflections  
Kendra Scott

King Soopers (Kroger)  
Kiwanis Clubs of Castle Rock  
Kneaders Bakery & Cafe  
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Thank you  
to all our donors!

While we only list individual donors at \$1,000 and above in this report, DCLF acknowledges and appreciates support from all our donors at all levels. We are grateful for our more than 800 donors and supporters.

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Kroenke Sports & Entertainment  
La Mar's Donuts  
Las Portancas Mexican Restaurant  
Susan Leider  
Diane L'Heureux  
Links Golf Course  
Living the Dream Brewing  
The Lodge Casino  
Lone Tree Arts  
Lone Tree Brewing Company  
Molly Brown House Museum  
Monarch Casino, Resort, Spa  
Melony Mont-Eton  
Mountain Pine Woman's Club  
Museum of Contemporary Art  
Denver  
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply  
Natural Grocers  
Old Chicago Pizza + Taproom

OPN Architects  
Oriental Trading  
Out of Print Clothing  
Outlets at Castle Rock  
Ovest Via Ristorante  
OverDrive, Inc.  
PACE Center  
Pappas Restaurants  
Parker Chamber of Commerce  
Parker Pour House  
Parkside Promotions  
Peak Potential Chiropractic  
PetVet365  
Perry's Restaurants  
The Pet Stuff Place  
Piney Creek Chapter NSDAR  
Playaway Products  
Pollywog Station Lavender Farm  
Print Partners  
Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers

Republic National Distributing  
Company  
Rick Steve's Europe  
RidgeGate Investments Inc.  
Ridge Vineyards  
Rockyard Brewing Co.  
Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery  
Rodizio Grill  
Rose Community Foundation  
Cindy Ross  
Rouge Wine & Bourbon Bistro  
Rotary Club of Castle Rock  
Rotary Club of Parker  
Sander Ranch Flowers  
Cynthia Schumann  
Seasons 52  
Shake Shack  
Skin Essentials Medical Skin Care &  
Day Spa  
Snapology  
Snarf's Sandwiches

South Metro Fire Rescue  
Space Foundation Discovery Center  
Starbucks  
Stretch Lab  
Swallow Hill Music  
Tagawa Gardens  
Tastings Colorado  
Torchy's Tacos  
Town of Castle Rock  
Trane Technologies  
Tropical Smoothie Cafe  
Via Baci Italian Bistro  
Wahoo's Fish Tacos  
Waterway Carwash  
West Main Taproom + Grill  
Wild Goose Saloon  
Wines for Humanity  
Woodhouse Day Spa

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## 2025 Individual Donors, \$1,000+

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Joanne and Richard Akeroyd  
Megan Boespflug  
Mariya Bunenko  
Suzanne and Rob Burkholder  
James and Jean Coates  
Johanna Harden

Dave Hlavac and Denise Basse  
David and Camille Johnson  
Leandra and Charles Koester  
Betsy and Terry Marzoni  
Elaine McCain  
Karen Miller

Janiece Murphy and Terry Comer  
Joli and Rich Murphy  
Robin Ostroff  
Michael and Rachel Palmer  
Susie Reynolds  
Anna Root

Jeff Stotler  
Ed Struzeski  
Melanie and Sean Tafaro  
Christopher Walsh  
Ronald Zelaya



# Foundation Board

2025/2026



**ELAINE MCCAIN**  
Chair

- Board Member since 2022
- Retired from a 20-year career in nonprofit development and 16 years in corporate management. Also volunteers for Cancer League of Colorado, Creutzfeldt/Jakob Foundation, and The Day of Caring for Breast Cancer Education and Awareness.

"I have believed in and strongly supported libraries all my life. As a child I volunteered, then was employed by the Grand Junction City Library all through high school, and I worked in the high school library. Libraries serve everyone in so many ways, and I feel this is my way to further serve my wonderful community of Douglas County. I have lived in this County for 34 years and have seen so many changes. Our Libraries continue to grow and serve magnificently, and I choose to be a part of that!"



**LINDA BOYLE**  
Vice-Chair

- Board Member since 2019
- Retired from legal career in the telecom industry. Assisted with fundraising and donations for nonprofit organizations sponsored by previous employers.

"I have been a frequent visitor to libraries from the time I learned to read. I grew up in a small town that was blessed with a Carnegie Library and librarians who wanted to share their knowledge of books. I worked at a university library when in college as part of a work-study program, and after graduating, volunteered to re-catalogue books from Dewey Decimal to the Library of Congress system. I am thrilled to be able to serve Douglas County Libraries. Before the creation of Second Chapter Used Bookstores, I volunteered for semi-annual book sales and now serve on the Foundation Board."



**LAUREEN BOLL**

- Board Member since 2019
- Founder and CEO of MeritFirst Solutions and previous extensive experience in Health & Benefits. Serves as a State Coordinator and chapter lead for the Foundation Against Intolerance & Racism.

"A library system is the backbone of a highly-functioning, literate society that is required to self-govern as outlined in the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence."





**ROCHELLE LOGAN**

- Board Member since 2015
- Retired from a career at Douglas County Libraries, and has served on many boards within the library community and PERA.

“I have a passion for libraries. In particular, I love DCL! This library district has been my own library, as I have lived in Highlands Ranch since 1992. Working for DCL was a dream come true for me and watching it continue to grow and thrive is important to me. Foundation Board work has been my small contribution to keeping DCL on top of the best libraries in Colorado and the country.”



**KRYSTIE BAKER**

- Board Member since 2019
- Senior Vice President with FirstBank and board member of the Douglas County Crisis Center.

“Volunteering and being engaged with nonprofits has allowed me to pursue a passion for life’s little moments. Raising boys reminds you to slow down, be involved, teach them young, and go above and beyond in the areas you can control. My husband’s family included several librarians, and our boys love to read – what better way to support this legacy and learning environment than being involved in the local library system?”



**DAWN VAUGHN**

- Board Member since 2024
- Retired public school librarian and administrator. Former Trustee of the Douglas County Libraries Board.

“I donate my time to Douglas County Libraries because I believe that libraries are the bedrock of a democratic society. They are places where anyone can access information without prejudice. Douglas County Libraries are vibrant, living, and inviting to everyone, and I feel privileged to support them in any way I can.”



**RON COLE**

- Board Member since 2022
- Retired from a career in the U.S. Air Force and National Security. Former Trustee of the Douglas County Libraries Board.

“Libraries are the key to a successful city, and I hope my time will contribute to that success.”





**LOUISE WOOD**

- Board Member since 2023
- Employed by UBS Wealth Management and is a former Trustee of the Douglas County Libraries Board. Active in her church.

“I support the Douglas County Libraries Foundation because our libraries are a place where we all belong. The libraries serve everyone and are a space for all of us, regardless of our backgrounds or beliefs. We can all get information, discuss ideas, and find common ground at our extraordinary public libraries!”



**TAYLOR WATSON**

- Appointed as DCL Board of Trustee Representative, 2026.



**MEGAN BOESPFLUG**

- Board Member since 2024
- Owner of Stiletto Communications, bringing over a decade of experience in marketing to small to medium-sized businesses and nonprofits. Extensive experience in fundraising and volunteer work with Chamber of Commerce, Rotary International, and as a board member at the Lighthouse Family Resource Center.

“I believe in the transformative power of libraries to inspire a love of reading, discovery, and connection within the community. Volunteering with the Douglas County Libraries Foundation allows me to contribute to a cause that enriches lives and fosters lifelong learning. By supporting the Foundation, I help ensure that libraries continue to provide valuable resources and programs that positively impact community members, helping them grow and thrive.”

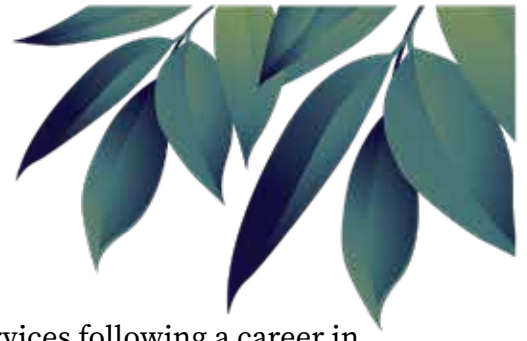


**PAMELA PAGE**

- Board Member since 2024
- Retired from career in the medical and business management industries. Currently working as a Senior Tax Analyst and volunteering time to numerous organizations with board positions on many.

“I believe very strongly that it is our responsibility to support with time, money, and voice those organizations which serve our community and are dependent on public support to continue to provide the level of service, activities, and options we have learned to expect. In our current environment, I see our libraries in danger of being restricted and inhibited in their ability to provide essential learning opportunities to all who seek it. I want to ensure that funding continues to flow into the Douglas County Libraries Foundation, and that we continue to expand in accessibility and offerings.”





**RICK O'DELL**

- Board member since January 2025
- President of O'Dell Management Services following a career in commercial construction projects.

“Having experienced firsthand the profound impact of Douglas County Libraries’ diverse and innovative programs and services on our community, I’m eager to lend my support and collaborate with this dedicated team to help advance and evolve DCL’s mission.”



**SUZANNE BURKHOLDER**

- New to Board January 2026
- Self-employed mediator with a previous business career in telecommunications. Volunteers with the Better Business Bureau, City of Lone Tree’s Teen Court, and has raised funds for the City of Lone Tree’s Arts Guild.

“Throughout Douglas County, DCL is the trusted core of critical infrastructure, both funded and relied upon by our fellow tax-paying citizens. DCL serves as the social adhesive that connects with and unifies our community. DCLF’s important work nurtures DCL as a central hub where our community comes together in library spaces and as sources of knowledge open to all. DCLF’s important work acts as a force multiplier to DCL in ways that surprise and delight community members, with efforts such as The Forest of Stories—all in service to community.”



**JOLI MURPHY**

- Board member since 2025
- “Throughout my career, I have directed my passion and deep investment expertise toward helping purpose-driven corporate and nonprofit organizations meet their financial goals and fulfill their missions. My investment acumen helps to provide a means by which good things can materialize: pension assets for retirees, foundations to serve others, endowments to educate students, and funds for individuals to pursue the life they envision.”

“I joined DCLF for a sense of camaraderie with others who want to support and promote the good work that libraries contribute to our community. I have truly found that with Douglas County Libraries and its Foundation.”

