

HONORING THE PAST
• 1795 Society •
ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

Investing in the Library of Our Future

Honoring the Past.

The Lexington Public Library is a gateway to knowledge, a bridge to opportunity, and a hub for community connection. Tracing its history back to **1795**, the library has been a steadfast presence in our city, evolving to meet the needs of Lexington and the Bluegrass Region.

As our library works to serve our growing and diverse community, we see ample opportunities to strengthen services that improve the lives of all who walk through its doors, inspiring minds of every age and background.

The Library envisions a curious community engaged in discovery.

A Strong Foundation to Build Upon:

The Lexington Public Library Foundation envisions a thriving public library system, enriched by philanthropy. Created in 1997 to benefit, promote, and enhance the programs and facilities of the Lexington Public Library, our supporters assist in making the Library more valuable to the entire community.

Cassondra Koett, an accomplished educator, nonprofit champion, and small business owner, is a committed partner of Lexington Public Library. She and her husband were among the first to invest in the transformative Marksbury Family Branch, and their continued financial support is a testament to what is made possible through the combination of public and private funds.

Cassondra shares, "I grew up a library kid, and it's in the fabric of who I am today. I'm a proud financial supporter because I am hopeful for the future of Lexington and see my investment making an impact. I trust that my investment is being put to it's highest use."



Envisioning the Future.

Public funding ensures the Lexington Public Library can operate six locations open seven days a week, house a carefully curated collection of materials, both physical and digital, and hire highly trained staff to daily serve our community. Free programs are also regularly offered, spanning a range of interests and needs - from educational support to cultural exploration, civic engagement to entertainment.

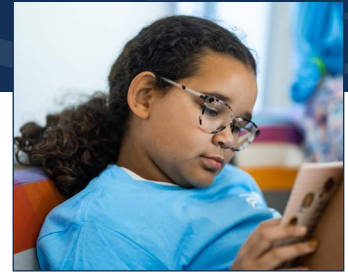
Philanthropic support from donors like you gives the Library the opportunity to expand programs, enhance spaces, and meet the ever-changing needs of our community.



The 1795 Society is a community of donors who enable the Library to serve, inspire, and connect our neighbors. Named for the year the Library was first imagined in Lexington, the Society honors those who invest in a legacy of learning, access, and opportunity for generations to come.



Investing in the Library



Library programs, spaces, and resources help build confidence, especially for our youngest patrons. Here, they gain skills to help them thrive in the classroom and beyond.

For many kids in our community, the Library is like a second-home. It's a place for them to learn and be introduced to new ideas, but also to have fun and make new friends.

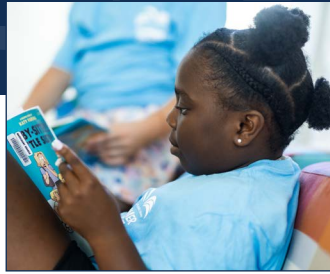
All library staff - from Children's Librarians to our Security team - strive to make our visitors feel seen and valued. They build relationships by learning about their interests and passions, and encourage them to follow their curiosity!



"I love it here! I can explore and imagine my bright future and what's possible."

-Lucy, age 9

of Our Future.



As Lexington grows, so does demand for library services. While we cannot predict every future need, the Library is committed to listening to the community and adapting in real-time. With consistent and forward-thinking investment through philanthropy, we can ensure Lexington Public Library has the resources to remain a cornerstone of opportunity, belonging, and lifelong learning.

Over the next 3-5 years, your support will help:

- Enhance library spaces for learning, creativity, and connection.
- Foster lifelong learning through early and adult literacy programs and hands-on workshops.
- Close the digital divide by expanding technology access and digital literacy training.
- Support civic engagement through partnerships and opportunities for conversation.



Our Three Impact Areas:



**Innovation in Literacy
& Education**



**Enhancing Accessible,
Inviting Spaces**



**Fostering New, Vibrant
Connections**

Join Our 1795 Society Today:

With your help, the Library will continue to grow and adapt - meeting the needs of our community now and in the future. Together, we'll enrich our Lexington Public Library for the next 230 years.



Innovation in Literacy & Education

Literacy is the foundation of opportunity. We believe every child and adult should have access to the resources that strengthen reading skills and spark curiosity to become lifelong learners - that's why we're investing in innovative programs and tools to make learning accessible for all.

Your support will help:

- Expand outreach services to under-served neighborhoods—offering story-times, literacy programs, and access to books where they're needed most.
- Spark curiosity through play-based learning—funding educational toys and interactive materials that build essential early-literacy skills.
- Build confidence for families, early readers, English learners, new Americans, new parents, adults changing careers, and so many more in our community.





Enhancing Accessible, Inviting Spaces

The library is a study nook, a place for creativity, and a space for connection. Our goal is to make each branch vibrant, accessible, and inspiring.

Your support will help:

- Renovate and modernize library facilities to meet today's needs.
- Improve accessibility for people of all abilities.
- Create hubs for collaboration, including meeting spaces and maker-spaces with cutting-edge tools and technology.



"This is a place where we can all learn and grow together."

-Stephanie, Library Board Trustee and Foundation Board member, pictured with her grandchildren.



Fostering New, Vibrant Connections

The Library is an important part of our community's social and civic infrastructure. We desire to spark connection and create space for developing new and meaningful relationships across demographics.

Your support will help:

- Provide innovative programs and experiences that encourage connection and opportunities to form new friendships.
- Inspire and invite diverse view-points and perspectives to share space and understanding.
- Strengthen community with opportunities for collaboration in cultural and civic engagement.



Engagement Opportunities:

Your generosity has already helped make Lexington Public Library a cornerstone of education, innovation, and connection. Now, we invite you to deepen your impact. 1795 Society members commit to giving a minimum of \$1,000 each year for three years.

You can give annually, monthly, as well as include the Library in your estate planning.

- Invitations to special member only events
- Exclusive invitation to the annual 1795 Society Book Club
- Listed in Annual Report
- Receive our quarterly newsletter
- Behind-the-scenes private tours of special collections, archives, Lexington historical walking tours, or new library spaces before they open to the public (up to 25 people)
- VIP access to Library events throughout the year – including early or reserved seating at lectures and programs, book signings, special exhibits, and cultural programs
- Insider briefings with leadership opportunities to engage with the library director and foundation team about future plans
- Early access to space and room naming opportunities

Librarian's Circle
minimum \$50,000 annually

Visionary
minimum \$10,000 annually

Benefactor
minimum \$5,000 annually

Supporter
minimum \$1,000 annually

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Join the 1795 Society:
Together, we'll enrich
the Lexington Public Library
for future generations.



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