



The James Blackstone Memorial Library 2017—2018

Members of the Campaign for the Blackstone, library staff and trustees continued to work throughout the year to raise funds for the capital cost of renovation and redesign. The Campaign successfully met the Branford Community Foundation’s match requirement of \$100,000, and the total raised toward the \$800,000 goal reached \$700,000 at the end of June. Raffle tickets are being sold to raise additional funds, with the prize being the opportunity to name the upper rotunda art gallery.

RTM funding approval for the renovation project was granted in January, delayed slightly due to the uncertainty of the state budget situation in the fall. Approval from the State Bond Commission came in April, and the project received approval by the State Historic Preservation Office, and the State Fire Marshal. By the end of June, the project was ready to go out to bid, with bids due in July. Construction is expected to begin in September, 2018.

The Board of Trustees Development Committee hosted the popular Hogwarts School of Wizardry and Magic for its fourth year. Nearly 400 children took part in this fundraiser which earned \$15,000 toward library services and programs. New this year was an escape room, *Escape from the Forbidden Forest*, which doubled as an adult event on Saturday evening to rave reviews.

Donations and direct appeals earned over \$44,000. In January, we ceased booking the auditorium for regular programs and after-hours events for the duration of the renovation. Regular programs and event rental will resume once the renovation is close to completion.

Library staff developed and hosted several new and interesting programs this year, including a new First Friday Game Group, Intro to Arduino, Lock Picking 101, Sewing classes, Intro to HOOPLA, SCORE

Business Workshops, Books & Brews, plus many 3-D printing and design classes, and drop-in tech help. *Uncover Branford* continued to introduce residents to new people and places in town.

The Branford Garden Club installed a pair of beautiful planters on the front steps of the library and kept them filled with plantings all year round.

While the circulation of materials has decreased slightly over prior years, our membership in LION provided an improved catalog interface, better delivery system for access to collections shared by member libraries, and access to an ever increasing library of downloadable titles. Use of digital materials through HOOPLA, Kanopy and Overdrive continues to grow.

The Friends of Blackstone Library held their annual book sale in September 2017 with gross receipts in excess of \$60,000. These funds supplement our materials budget, allow for unique public performances and workshops, and provide professional training for staff.

In the upcoming year, as the renovation progresses through six phases, there will be many changes. We are deeply grateful for the community support the library continues to receive each year and we look forward to providing improved resources.

2017-2018 Statistics

Registered Cardholders	10,824
Material Circulated	226,675
Reference Questions	71,237
Children’s & Teen Program Attendance	6,762
Auditorium Events Attendance	3,605
Lucy Hammer Room Bookings	2,385
Average Patrons Each Day	491

Library Materials

Books	58,229
Newspapers/Periodical Subscriptions	140
Audiovisual Material	10,009
Electronic/Digital collection	24,707
Total Collection	93,088

Karen Jensen
Library Director

**James Blackstone Memorial Library
Board of Trustees 2017-2018**

Andrew McKirdy, President
Robin Sandler, Vice-President
Richard Mahoney, Treasurer
Gina Wells, Secretary
David Henderson, Assistant Treasurer
Maryann Amore
Sandra Baldwin
Keira Cervoni
Jan Day
Dr. Norman Dahl
Polly Fitz
Matthew Hughes
Ed Kirk
Beth Law
Frank Twohill, *ex. officio*

Library Staff

Karen Jensen, Library Director
Deborah Trofatter, Associate
Librarian for Technology and Reference Services
Gennett Grinnell, Associate
Librarian for Technical Services
Deirdre Santora, Associate
Librarian for Access Services
Carly Lemire, Associate
Librarian for Youth Services
Kathy Oxsalida, Business Manager
Jennifer Aldieri, Youth Services
Jenna Anthony, Access Services
Barbara Barrett, Access Services
Andrea Belair, Reference
Patricia Bussman, Cataloging
Erin Byrne, Access Services
Carol Capezzone, Youth Services
Katy Dillman, Development & Outreach Librarian
Whitney Gayle, Reference Librarian
Nancy Graves, Access Services
Allison Horton, Access Services
Sandre Johnson, Access Services
Christina Kondziela, Reference
Mary Lockery, Youth Services
Sarah Mallory, Reference
Angela Meikle, Access Services
Frank Zdunek, Maintenance

Friends of the Library Officers

Hatsie Mahoney, President
Alpha Coiro, Vice President

Don Mitchell, Secretary
Callista Stoddard, Treasurer
Paula Harrington, Assistant Treasurer/Membership

Library Volunteers

Gabriella Alred
Tim Bures
James Davis
Zenaida Davis
Cynthia Faticone
Cynthia Feldman
Rebecca Gibb
Diamond Humes
Marwa Issa
Noor Issa
Dylan Keathley
Michael Lipcan
Daniel Liu
Alex Milne
Alessandra Moguet
Joey Pekar
Jack Radziunas
Gabby Sapp
Jill Thomas
S.A.R.A.H. Inc. Volunteers
Alex Van Gelder
Daniel Vencak
Diane Whelan
Rachel Wells
Priscila Yanez

Hogwarts School of Wizardry

Actors

Cornelia Evans
Anthony Festa
Stephanie Stiefel Williams
Vicki McWeeney Blake
Erica Reinholz
Mike Bein
Chris Lemieux

Adult volunteers

Marc Anthony
Jenna Anthony
Chris Bolick
Kim Cobden
Cindy Dorwin
Polly Fitz
Sharon Gracen
Mary & Matt Hally

**Hogwarts School of Wizardry
Adult Volunteers, continued**

Matt Hughes
James Kaiser
Doreen Larson
Beth Law
Kattie Leonffu
Natalie Leonffu
Christine Liu
Aviva Luria
Rick Mahoney
Tamara Orput
Charlotte Osborn
Erica Reinholz
Round Table Players
Alex Stein
Amy Tisdale
Samantha Tucker
Terry Twigg
Denise Whelan
Diane Whelan

Teen Prefects:

Emilio Borrero
Amber Bratsenis
Cheyenne Cardone
Ariel Cobden
Caitlin Consiglio

Bridget Cunningham
Emily Graves
Cleo Hazen
Caroline Huber
Mia Katz
Ryder Kropiwnicki
Suruchi Kunwar
Sushant Kunwar
Natalie Leonffu
Mason Moore
Matthew Mowerson
Timmy Neumeister
Taylor Novaco
Stella Pennacchini
Jonah Porter
Maya Porter
Gabriela Rosen
Liev Shpitalnick
Veronica Smith
Abdalla Syed
Angela Zamora
Syeda K Zaidi



**Campaign for the Blackstone
Contributors*:**

Robert Aaronson
Philomine Acunzo
Karen & Earle Adams
Daria & Jay Ague
Kathleen Ahern
Don & Carol Albig
Caron & Norman Alderman
All-Brite Electric
Karen Allen
Eleanor Allison
Kathleen M. Allison
Patrick Alvino
American Polyfilm Inc.
Charles Andriole
Patricia Andriole
Anonymous Donors
Rosetta Armitage
Richard Armstead
John Atallah
Bailey Scarano CPA
Theresa Baldino
Sandra & Ronald Baldwin
Mark & Joan Barnes
Susan Cosgrove Barnes
Grace Barrett
Faith Barrington
Susan Basile
Michael & Jennifer Bennick
Joan Berdick
Rita Berkson
Louise & Nelson Bernabucci
Maria Bernier
Alfred & Lisa Bertoline
F. Vining Bigelow
Joe & Betty Lou Blumberg
Jan Blustein
Terri Boissonneault
George Bonci
Stephen & Terry Bogan
Jane Bouley
Patricia Bourne
Elizabeth Bove
Michalah Bracken

Claudia Bradley
Branford Community
Foundation
Patricia Broughal
Carole Brown
John & Madelyn Burzenski
Karla Butterfield
Lloyd & Judith Buzzell
Anne & Jack Byrnes
Elena Cahill
Karen & Burdeen Camp
Theresa Capone
Ronald N. Caron
Kathleen Carr
Cassano Family
Victor & Marilyn Cassella
Patricia Caswell
Keira Cervoni
Andrea Bloom & William Chapin
June Chittick
Donna Christian
Liz Christian
Patricia A. Christian
Dr. & Mrs. Adam Church
Rocco, Maria, & Pilar Ciravolo
Frances R. Clark
Martha & Jeff Clark
Karen Clement
Richard & Kate Coan
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Coddington
Alpha Coiro
Coldwell Banker Residential
Brokerage
David & Barbara Colley
Donald & Deborah Conklin
Anna May Connolly
Alice Cortigiano
Estate of Dan Cosgrove
Daniel T. Cosgrove
Peter & Susan Craig
Dody & Paul Criscuolo
Sharon & Robert Criscuolo
Susan & Donald Crockford-
Peters
F. John Dahill
Norman & Janet Dahl
Alan Daniels
Marianne Davies
Mary E. Davis
Janet Vaill Day
Kerry DeBenedictis
Allan DeFilippo

Don & Cathy Delano
Ron & Marcia Delfini
Pat Delvecchio
Meg Dempsey
Marie Gibson & Barbara Derrico
Vincent & Mary Kay DeVita
Andrew DeVito
Carol Dew
Harry & Maureen DiAdamo
Suzanne DiBiase
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Dickinson
Stephanie & Bill Dietz
Robert & Lenore DiGioia
Bernadette DiGiulian
Elizabeth Dock
Betty Ann Donegan
Christine Donegan
David & Mary Dong
Patricia H. Donovan
David Drexel
Andrea Duffy
Howard & Patricia Dugan
Loretta Eisler
Beverly Esposito
Marie Esposito
Leonard & Stephanie Farber
J.D. Farricelli
Cynthia Feldman
Richard & Barbara Fenton
Karen A. Finley
Polly & Alan Fitz
Johanna L. Foley & Mark de
Yoanna
Bob Buckholz & Lizanne
Fontaine
The Fontana Family
Gregg Forte
Amy Fracasso
Lawrence T. Frase
Karen & Gerald Freedman
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Freeman
Annie Freund
Friends of the Blackstone
Library
Raymond F. Ferguson
Thomas & Carol Gagliardi
Donna Gagliardi
Richard Gagliardi
John & Tracey Gajewski
Bernadette Garino
Joe & Brenda Garrison
Gordon & Shelley Geballe

Carol B. Gesner
David & Donna Gibson
Donald & Linda Gibson
Melissa Gibson
Michael & Elinor Giglio
Dan Gilfeather
Shirley Girouard
David & Joanne Goldblum
Harvey & Nancy Goldstein
Kara Gormley
Kenneth & Nadine Graham
Paula Grimm
Katherine Griswold
Guilford Savings Bank
Marilyn Gwynne
Bruce Hall
Martin Hallier
Kathleen & Lawrence Hally
David Hambleton
Peggy & Ed Hammond
Laurie & Stephen Hanchuruck
John Hanniford
Eugene C. & Lisa U. Hayes
Sarah Heidenis
Maureen & Peter Herbert
Lauren Brown & John Herzan
Charlotte Hickey
Kate Higgins
Anne D. Hines
Stephanie Hodor
Theresa Hofmeister
Ferrin Holmes
Lea Brilmayer & Bill Horne
Merle Hornstein
Allison Horton
Richard & Sharon Hosley
Judith Hotz
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Howard-
Flanders
Kathryn Hughes
Matthew Hughes
James & Carol Hunter
Sharon Huttner
Patricia Hynes
Tina & David Iaccarino
Lawrence & Lucie Iannotti
Nancy & Vincent Inglese
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Iwanczuk
Selby & Ann Jacobs
Lois & Eliot Jameson
Carolyn K. Jenks
Karen Jensen
Carl & Patricia Johnson

Kathy Johnson
Marcia K. Johnson
Sarah Johnson
Myra Josephson
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Joy
Joanne Judd
Carol Just
K & G Graphics
Leo & Marlies Kamin
Nina Adams & Moreson Kaplan
Ron Katz
Eunice P. Kaymen
Fredda Kelly
Roger & Mary Jane Kelsey
Frank & Kimberly Kenna
Kiki & Ted Kennedy
Patrick & Nancy Kennedy
Lisa Kereszi
Haeja Kim
David Henderson & Nancy Kim
Tiffany King
Janice Kirby
Edward & Linda Kirk
Debra Kirschner
Betsy & Stuart Klarman
Mike & Susan Klimas
Arthur H. Knowlton, MD
Ruth B. Knowlton
Margaret Kobylanski
Gary & Hedda Kopf
Ronald Koppel
Nancy Koval
Suzanne Kozik
Michael Krause
Henry N. Kraver
Patricia Kahlbaugh & John
Kreider
Edward Krzyzek
Patricia A. La Bonte
Helen Laird
John & Alice Lambert
Louise LaMontagne
Kris Landis
Allan Lang
Michael Lang
Lynn Langella
Anthony & Eunice Lasala
Cynthia Laurello
Beth & Mark Law
Terry & Dotti Lawlor
Marion & Bill Lawton
Maryann Leach
Claudine Lee

Barbara Leete
Mallory Legman
Blake & Lois Lehr
Carol & Gary Lemmon
Donna Levy
Francesca Libby
Alice Locarno
Sarah Lockery
Rhoda Loeb
Brian & Melissa Lonergan
Penny Lowenstein
Mary F. Lowery
Marcia & Vincent Lynch
James MacBride
Fred Gorelick & Cheryl
MacLachlan
Beverly Madeska
Jan & Richard Mahoney
Jennifer Marks
Andy & Susan Marlatt
David & Carol Martens
Kendra Martin & Cormick
Martin
Dawn Massey
Preston Maynard
Donna Mazzucco
Andrew & Bonnie McKirdy
McLeod Blue Sky Foundation
Susan I. McNamara
James Link & Patricia McNichol
Katy & Jonathan McNicol
Angela Miccinello
Philip Mickelson
AJ & Linda Milici
Anne & David Miller
Judy Miller
Ron & Sue Miller
Don & Meg Mitchell
Ed & Tammy Mockus
Lynda & Mike Mollow
Barbara & Patrick J. Molloy
Sally & Kelly Monaghan
Richard & Ina Montelius
Joseph Mooney
Jacqueline H. Morales
Karlo Moran
Cynthia Morawski
Addie Morrissey
Ed & Lucille Murray
Valerie Murray
Charles J. Newfield
Shirley Nichols
Margot & Stanson Nimiroski

Laura Noe
Carolyn & Paul Ober
Susan G. Oberstein
Margaret O'Brien
Terence O'Brien
Deanna O'Connell
Maureen & Michael O'Connor
Theresa O'Connor
Estate of Priscilla Oliver
Alice Palma
Joseph & Lorraine Paoella
Bernice Paprocki
Cynthia S. Parmelee
Donald F. Patenaude
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Paulson
Richard & Stephanie Peck
Roseann C. Perito
Diana Perron
Thomas Perrone
AnnMarie & Doug Perry
Helen & George Pertesis
William & Pamela Peterson
André Pierson
John & Joan Pirtel
Jean & Joseph Polka
Sarah Pont
Margaret Porto
James Powell
Carole Presnick
Kitty Parente & Stephen Press
Carolyn Proctor
Jeanne D. Prota
Jeanne P. Prota
Daniel Rabin
Mark & Fran Rabinowitz
Edgardo P. Ragaza, MD
Christine Randall
Veronica Doskal & Tzvi
Rapaport
Thomas & Nancy Rafferty
Donald & Helen Ratliff
Jeannette Redensek
Robert C. Redmann
Matthew W. Reed
Sandra Reiners
Valerie Reinke
Pam Reis
Martin D. Reisler
Howard & Frances Reitman
Bill & Sharon Reynolds
Heidi Richard
Al & Tricia Ridinger
Arthur Robertshaw

David & Susan Rood
Amy Rosen
Gail Rosen
Robert H. Rovaldi
Chad & Pamela Roy
Christopher Rucinski
Jodi Rucquoi
Elsa Ruoff
Bob & Maryetta Russell
Hope Ryan
Janet Ryan
Charles Samson
Patricia & William Sanders
Prem Sandhu
The Sandler Family
John & Lynda Scanlon
Jonathan Clark & Andrea
Schieckel
Bryna Lasker Scherr
Abigail & Michael Scholl
Pamela Schreiber
Eileen Schuffman
John & Kathleen Schwenk
Jay Scott
Edwin & Deborah Selden
John Casso & Mark Serchuck
Harry W. Blair & Barbara A.
Shailor
Richard Shanahan
Barbara Shaw
Charles Shelton, Jr
Truman Elliott Sherk
Woodrow W. Skidgel, Jr.
Claire B. Smith
John & Constance Smith
Harriet D. Spear
Ruth E. Spring
Elizabeth Stainton
April Stephanovics
Gabor Stein
Carol Steinfeld
Lawrence & Betsy Stern
Timothy Stevens
Carol Stewart
Russell Schwartz & Mindy
Stollman
Marlene & Shepard Stone
Elizabeth Suatoni
Eric Taylor
William & Janelle Theroux
Thimble Islands African Violet
Society
Jack Thompson

Virginia Thompson
Neil & Carol Titcomb
Elizabeth Tobin
Alexander & Christina Todd
Kenneth Torelli
Harry J. & Marie R. Torello
Ryan, Karen, & Sienna Torello
Tammy J. Conley & Roselinde
Torres
Elizabeth Tortora
Deborah Trofatter
Susan Power Trucksess
Theresa Twigg
Frank Twohill
Teresa Vegliante
Doss Venema
Andrew & Ellen Wagner
Peter Banks & Nancy Wallace
Milton & Joan Wallack
Christine Wantola
Ruth K. Warner
Donna & Jay Webb
Mark Schaefer & Beth
Weinberger
Bill & Gina Wells
Carolyn Wells
Margot Hardenbergh & Carl
Wies
Diane Whelan
Patricia J. Whitestone
Martha Wieler
Lisa Peccini & Chris Willems
Constance Willis
Sheila Wilmer
Karen Wolfe
Margaret M. Wolfe
Frazier Bronson & Helen Wong
Karen Wood
Yale University Women's
Organization
Janet Murphy & Henry Yorzinski
John Young
Judith & Peter Young
Lorraine Young
Jennifer Zambrano
Frank Zdunek
Joseph & Myra Zelson
J.E.F. Zetterberg
Benjamin & Norma Zielinski
Jane & Rick Zilinskas
Darlene & Remy Zimmermann
Linda & Howard Zonana

**Campaign for the Blackstone
Donors, continued**

Gifts In Honor

Susan Cosgrove Barnes, by
Anonymous

Josephine Finger, by Annie
Freund

Phyllis Fitzpatrick, by Suzanne
DeBiase, Pat Delvecchio,
John & Tracey Gajewski,
Sarah Heidenis,

Joanne Judd, Beverly Madeska,
Tammy & Ed Mockus

Carol Gagliardi, by Susan
Cosgrove Barnes

Liz Kessler, by Annie Freund

Peggy King, by Annie Freund

Dr. Arthur Knowlton, by
George & Joanne Caruso

Eunice Lasala, by Bonnie
McKirdy & Polly Fitz

Laurie & Bill Van Wilgen, by
Polly Fitz

Gifts in Memoriam

Joan Ahern, by Friends of the
Blackstone Library

James Carr, by Harry &
Maureen DiAdamo

William B. Davis, by
Christopher Rucinski

Edith "Edie" Fenn, by Anne M.
Freund

Angela Carrano, by Polly Fitz,
Christina Marsh,

Lea Brilmayer & Bill Horne

Dr. Richard Grossman, by
Roberta D. Grossman

Kenneth Kaminsky,
by Anne M. Freund

Kenneth Krause,
by Karen & Earle Adams

Eva Nobile, by Anne M. Freund

Susan Holmes Spear,
by George Spear

Stuart Klarman,
by Cynthia Feldman

Betti Panaroni,
by Anne M. Freund

Eugene Twigg, by Friends of the
Blackstone Library

Michael Vlock, by Susan
Cosgrove Barnes & Eunice &
Anthony Lasala

Benjamin Zielinski, by Susan
Cosgrove Barnes

*Fiscal Year 2018
ending June 30, 2018