

What's in....

The Stacks

May 2019

A Message from PPL's Development Team — Erica, Beth & Kilian

First, *thank you* for everything you've made possible for PPL this year. Your generosity and dedication inspires us daily. We sincerely could not do this work without you!

We are thrilled to share our plans for an inaugural community giving day: **PPL Give Day!** on **Wednesday, June 12.**

This day falls during our spring fundraising campaign (going on now!), and our goal is simple: to create an opportunity for community members both to share their passion for and give back to PPL while also taking part in fun, engaging learning activities at the Library (and on social media) on June 12.

We are truly excited about the potential of a dedicated giving day just for PPL, and we hope you are too! Wondering how you can get involved? We thought you'd never ask!

We've set a goal of raising \$10,000 on PPL Give Day; to do so, we will need help from everyone in our community — including you! There are a few ways you can participate:

- **Volunteer to help** with a community activity at PPL on June 12.
- **Share your PPL story** on social media and Facebook Live (we'll help with this!).
- **Spread the word** about PPL Give Day to your networks (ask us for email and social media templates)!
- **Give!** We will have a special PPL Give Day Match Challenge on June 12. Every donation received on PPL Give Day will be matched, dollar for dollar, up to \$6,500, by a group of PPL Board, Committee, and Conservator Society members. All of the money raised during PPL Give Day (and through the match challenge) will go directly towards PPL's education and workforce development programs. (Interested in adding to the Give Day Match Challenge? Let us know! We would love to get it up to \$10,000!)

We look forward to having many of you involved in PPL Give Day! If you'd like to take part in any of these ways or have questions, please contact Erica ebusilloadams@provlb.org. Again, thank you for ALL you make possible for PPL! We're looking forward to our first Give Day, a banner end to this fiscal year, and an amazing FY20, all because of YOU. You are heroes to us (truly)!

Conservator Society

Did You Know...

The bulk of PPL's general collection — about 500,000 items — has been in storage in Connecticut for the past nine months during our renovation. That's roughly 5—6 miles of shelving! But the books are coming back in June and will be available again in August.

Upcoming Events...

Looking Ahead to September & October — Save these Dates!

Thursday, September 19, 6 — 8 pm

The Last Good Heist with Tim White at the Bonded Vault

Thursday, September 26, 6 — 8 pm

Your Heart, My Hands talk with Dr. Arun Singh at PPL (open to the public). *If we missed you at our February Conservator event, we hope to see you!*

Thursday, October 3, 6 — 8 pm

The Future of Media & The First Amendment Panel

2019 Savor the Story Gala a Success!

We are thrilled to let you know that our 2019 Savor the Story Wine Gala was our most successful to date.

Thanks to many of YOU, our Co-chairs Kathleen & Barry Hittner, and an amazing Host Committee, along with many extraordinary partners and sponsors, **we raised \$128,000!** More than 200 guests were on hand as we presented Senator Jack Reed with PPL's highest honor — *The Enlightenment Award* — and announced that we will be recognizing Senator Reed's longtime support of and advocacy for public libraries by formally naming our new Information Commons the **Reed Information Commons.**



If you didn't get to attend, you can still celebrate this announcement and join the **Reed Commons Founders Circle** — a special group helping to make the **Reed Information Commons** a reality.

If you'd like to make a gift to support the Reed Information Commons, please contact Erica Busillo Adams at ebusilloadams@provlb.org or (732)-742-7757.



PPL Alum Spotlight

Thanks to your generosity as a Conservator, individuals from all walks of life have experiences at PPL that exemplify the difference the Library makes in our community. We are thrilled to share these stories of success and achievement and to demonstrate the incredible impact you are making as a member of the Conservator Society. You make these alum stories possible!

Analiese (Ana) — PPL's Youngest PVD Young Maker is a Star

Analiese has been a prolific artist and scientist since a very early age. She prefers to explore her creative side and watching her ideas go from conception to art. She enjoys working with multiple media. She loves producing sculptures, drawings, crafts of all kinds, and painting. Once she gets started on a project, she spends hours or days working on it, and in many cases she makes several versions of her creations until she has accumulated a great body of work.



"Analiese hopes to bring joy to people through her art and creations and she truly loves doing it."

Analiese has enjoyed her time at PPL's PVD Young Makers space immensely and has loved bonding with her mentors. When she first discovered she could earn a badge for learning about sewing machines, she earnestly began work on the sewing badge; learning how to thread the machine, re-thread and reload the bobbin, change

needles, and use materials efficiently. Through PVD Young Makers, she learned how to make decorative pillows and has made many since she began, each with their own artistic flare. Adding pillow designing to her list of skills, sometimes she adds buttons or decorations on top, different filling materials, or laminate stickers.

Another project she has worked on at PVD Young Makers space is creating pretend robots using re-used or recyclable materials. There is no limit to her creativity for making robots, and she has amassed 50+ robots. Recently, she has expressed interest in producing YouTube maker videos and her first video featured 20 of her completed robots. After that, she began making instructional videos for her Lego builds. She hopes to bring joy to people through her art and creations and she truly loves doing it.

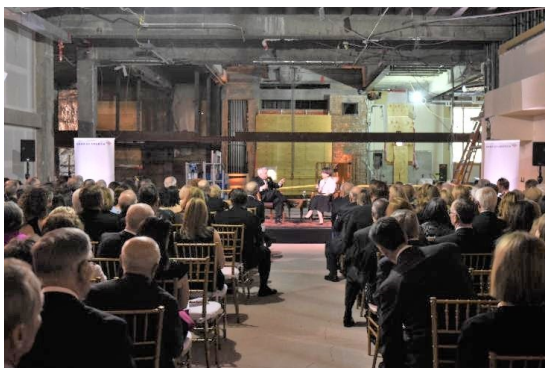
Meet our Development Coordinator, Kilian Webster!

Kilian Webster joined PPL as our Development Coordinator in September 2018. Kilian is a self-proclaimed "Annual Fund nerd." With a background in fundraising for public radio at WBUR, Boston's NPR station, and higher education at Simmons College, she's excited to bring a new culture of philanthropy to PPL.



Through building a monthly giving program and initiating a volunteer committee, the PPL Friends, dedicated to supporting the Library's vast array of initiatives, her goal is for all of PPL's visitors to know that a gift of any amount goes a long way. Reach out to Kilian at kwebster@provlib.org.

Renovation Update...



While sitting in the construction zone during the speaking program, Savor the Story guests got a close up glimpse of the soon to be complete new three-story atrium stairway.

Now a full eight months into our project, we are beginning to see our building transformation take shape! Perhaps the most exciting is the cutting of our new three-story atrium stairway! The final level will be done in June. If you haven't been for a tour yet, please contact Nancy at nponte@provlib.org or 401-455-8003. We are also pleased to report our latest major campaign contribution — an anonymous \$500,000 gift — which brings our total to date to just about \$18 million!

Welcome New & Returning Conservators!

Welcome to our newest Conservators Edward Levine and Isabella Porter, Winn Major and Susan E. Starkweather, Bob and Tina Miklos, and Zachary Stolz. Welcome back to Leon and Karen Boghossian, Alex Carlin and Lisa Churchville, Richard and Inge Chafee, and Thomas and Sandy Dimeo.

Dear Conservator Society Members-

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The PPL Development Team
Erica, Beth, & Kilian