

FALL 2022

ONE FOR THE BOOKS



THE FORT WORTH
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

500 W 3rd Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102 | www.fwplf.org | 817.871.8022 | info@fwlibraryfoundation.org

WHEN YOU GIVE TO THE FOUNDATION, YOU GIVE TO THE LIBRARY

Our work is made possible because of the generosity of people, foundations, community organizations, and businesses that give to the Library Foundation and share our belief in the transformational power of libraries for all Fort Worthians. Your gifts enhance library programs that nurture literacy, imagination, and lifelong learning.

FIRST AMPLIFY 817 SHOWCASE A SUCCESS



Bencjones

Over 375 fans danced and cheered at the Amplify 817 Showcase on August 17. Featuring four diverse Amplify artists—Gr4nt, Bencjones, Averi Burk, and Cut Throat Finches, the concert was a huge success and will be the first of an annual event.

The idea for the showcase came from **Council Member Elizabeth Beck**, who saw the potential for a big event and a gathering of people who love local music at Will

Rogers Memorial Auditorium.

What began to document local music, Amplify, has created a community of musicians and their growing fanbases. Amplify 817 is a music streaming platform presented by the Fort Worth Public Library that exclusively showcases local Fort Worth musicians. The platform features albums by lesser-known and up-and-coming musicians, curated by a group of community jurors and is free to use—even without a library card—at amplify817.org. Artists are paid \$300 upfront to license their music for three years.



GR4NT

“Amplify is a network of people that really understand the importance of local musicians. Ever since I was accepted into the program, I’ve gotten a lot more fans, I’ve connected with music people I thought I would never connect with, and a lot of times, doing events for Amplify leads to something else. I feel appreciated.”

Elise Amara, Amplify 817 Artist



Averi Burk

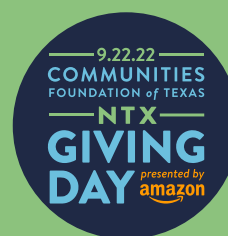
Launched in February 2020, the **Amplify platform has 66 artists** and is growing. In addition to streaming music, the Library has developed strong relationships with venues like Tulips Fort Worth, who regularly schedule Amplify artists. Musicians are also given opportunities to learn about entrepreneurship and media training, and some are employed by the Library to provide basic virtual and in-person music instruction to patrons.



Sean Russell with Cut Throat Finches

Amplify 817 partners with Hear Fort Worth and is supported financially by donors to the Library Foundation. Submissions for the next round of Fort Worth artists will be open in January.

To learn more or to partner with us on this amazing program, please visit fwplf.org/programs/amplify-817.



YOU DID IT!
WE RAISED \$6,500
51 DONORS
THANK YOU!

FORT WORTH RISES TO THE CHALLENGE



The Mayor's Summer Reading Challenge "Oceans of Possibilities" came to a close on August 27, with a whopping 2.04 million minutes read!

From June to August, participants logged minutes read, enjoyed fun challenges and activities on the free Beanstack app/website. From

reading lists, activities, crafts to book clubs and guest readers; this year's challenge offered many ways to beat the relentless Texas heat. Guest readers included Mayor Mattie Parker, Fire Chief Davis and Telemundo Anchor, Adriana Lopez. Together, Fort Worth families completed nearly 18,000 activities.

Congratulations to the branches with the most participants.

1. Ella Mae Shamblee Library/Reby Cary Library
2. East Regional Library
3. Diamond Hill/Jarvis Library

A big thank you to the library staff, volunteers, and donors for making this program fun and engaging for ALL. To learn more about how you can support programs like these, please visit fwplf.org/programs.

PHILANTHROPY SPOTLIGHT



Atmos Energy loves giving back to the community, especially when it comes to early education. They recently surprised The Foundation with

a \$50,000 gift to support the Library's childhood literacy programs! Their contribution will help fuel the success of the Mayor's Summer Reading Challenge for thousands of young readers. Hundreds of expectant and new parents will create opportunities for early and pre-reading success. And caregivers can track books while reading 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten to their children. Committed to making a difference, Atmos Energy has long been a supporter of the Library's literacy initiatives. We are so appreciative of their investment in the future of our children and their lifetime success.

GRANT AWARDED TO SUPPORT LAUNCHPAD

Mrs. Helen Littauer, born in Fort Worth, moved to New York to work as an editor. After relocating to Connecticut, she became an active community volunteer, developing a passion for teaching troubled youth.

She established the Helen Irwin Littauer Educational Trust in 1969 and remained involved in grant decisions until her death in 1989. Now managed by Bank of America, Mrs. Littauer's trust continues to fund programs enabling underserved but competent students to attend college. The Foundation is honored to receive its first grant from the Littauer Foundation in the amount of \$10,000 to support LaunchPad and the many students who, through this program, can attend the college of their dreams.

LAUNCHPAD CONTINUES TO BE IN DEMAND



Olivia & Zach, R.L. Paschal High School Graduates

The LaunchPad college application program is currently in its thirteenth year of guiding prospective college students through the arduous college application process. LaunchPad is a free service offered to any high school student in Fort Worth. Program Director Dr. Paula Tyler summarized the outreach, "Students range from highly motivated youngsters in the top 10% who have long lists of potential colleges to first-

generation applicants who are considering whether they can go to a 4-year college or university." Students meet with Dr. Tyler one-on-one for individual counseling. She also conducts small classroom workshops in area high schools, conducts large school presentations, and presents a summer writing workshop at the Central Library.



A LaunchPad participant and college student said, "LaunchPad served as the most crucial resource for thriving in college. The support I received has ranged from learning how to design the most effective

college application, to maximizing my college education, and even discovering who I am. I use the critical thinking skills I developed with LaunchPad in college, where essays and assignments are much more thought-provoking and demanding. LaunchPad gave me an invaluable boost to my writing skills that made a huge impact on my life."

LaunchPad furthers the mission of the Foundation in an essential manner, providing educational programming to our diverse community. Your generous donations support Dr. Tyler's efforts and provide her with resources to deliver this essential service.

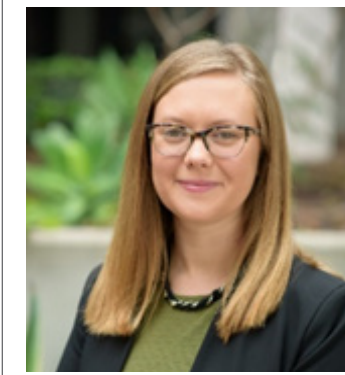
To learn more or to partner with us on this amazing program, please visit fwplf.org/programs/launchpad.

DREW NEAL 40 UNDER 40



Let's celebrate board member Drew Neal for his recognition as an emerging leader in the Fort Worth Business Press' Top "40 Under 40" winners!

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Kelsey Picken
Director, Planned Giving
Cook Children's Health Care System

California transplant and one of The Library Foundation's newest board members, Kelsey currently serves as the Planned Giving Director at Cook Children's Health Care System. With over ten years

of experience in the nonprofit sector, she has raised funds for higher education, health care, and the Los Angeles Public Library Foundation.

Kelsey's educational background includes a B.A. from Grinnell College, M.A. from Western Illinois University, and Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University.



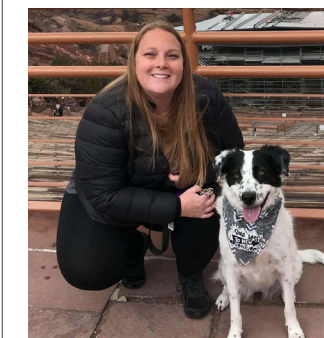
Paul H. Farmer, Jr.
Attorney
Bonds Ellis Eppich Schafer Jones LLP

When asked about his love for the library, Paul said, "I read a lot as a kid, so the library was my educational entertainment. I remember using the library at one point to teach myself how

to lawyer because I was writing a "courtroom drama" script for school." An attorney today, Paul primarily practices business litigation and data privacy. He and his wife recently moved here from Baltimore to be closer to family. Paul says he loves it and looks forward to doing his part to make Fort Worth an even better place.

Paul graduated from Clemson University with a B.S. and received his J.D. from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law. He's been honored as a Super Lawyers® Rising Star from 2018-2021.

WATER COOLER TALK



Already an incredible asset to The Foundation team, please help us welcome Development Assistant Taylor Snow.

Taylor is thrilled to step into the nonprofit community and support free access to literacy and education found at the Fort Worth Public Library.

When not at work, Taylor loves spending time traveling around the country with her dog, Aspen. She is an advocate for animal rescue and welfare. We're so excited for her to be a part of the team.

The CIGAR SMOKER

benefiting
The Fort Worth Public Library Foundation

SAVE the DATE

MAY 3, 2023

Fort Worth Club
5:30PM Cocktail Reception | 7:00PM Program & Dinner

Interested in Sponsoring?

Please contact us at smoker@fwlibraryfoundation.org or call 817-871-8022

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHILDREN'S AUTHOR SERIES: JENNIFER L. HOLM

Nov. 09 | Reby Cary | 5:00PM – 6:30PM

Celebrated children's author Jennifer Holm, of Babymouse and Squish fame, is coming to Fort Worth! Join us as she discusses her books, inspirations, and answers questions from the audience. Stick around after the presentation for pictures and signed copies of her books!

"I write books for young readers ... and for the young at heart." - Jennifer L. Holm

FIFA WORLD CUP WATCH PARTY

Nov. 26 | 6:30PM – 7:30PM

Who will win the 2022 FIFA World Cup?

Come join the library in celebrating all things soccer with a FIFA watch-along party. Come and root for your favorite team and create your own personalized jersey using the library's Cricut machine!

To learn more about library events, visit
fortworthtexas.gov/departments/library.



*Enjoy Sips, Sweets, & Jewels at
our Kendra Gives Back Party!*

Thursday, November 10th
6:00–8:00 PM

Kendra Scott, University Park Village
1612 S University Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76107

enter code

GIVEBACK-CWEHN

in your cart at checkout on kendrascott.com, or mention
it at checkout in-store, and 20% of your purchase will
benefit The Fort Worth Public Library Foundation.

GIVING NOV
TUESDAY 29

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