

OUR WHY

May 5, 2021 | The Fort Worth Club

In 1901, at the suggestion of Andrew Carnegie, a group of Fort Worth ladies asked local gentlemen to donate “the price of a good cigar” to help raise money to build a local library and bring literature to Cowtown. To honor our history and to further promote literacy in our city, the Fort Worth Public Library Foundation hosts the Annual Cigar Smoker at the Fort Worth Club.

Since 1997, this prestigious event serves as The Fort Worth Public Library Foundation’s largest fundraiser each year. As one of Fort Worth’s most anticipated social events of the year, The Cigar Smoker Gala is as unique as Fort Worth itself by offering guests a rare opportunity to enjoy cigars at the Fort Worth Club.

Proceeds raised at this annual event make a significant impact throughout the year. These funds provide support for the Foundation’s two key financial initiatives. Launch Pad is a college application guidance program that helps high school students navigate the complexities of selecting, applying to, and financing college. Equally vital, the Foundation provides funding support to The Fort Worth Public Library, so they have the resources necessary for innovative and relevant programs, services, and spaces for our rapidly growing community.

Key Impact Areas:

- Mobile Wi-Fi Hotspots
- Digital Resources and Literacy Programming and Materials
- Technology and Furniture for the New Library Locations
- Amplify 817 and Instrument Lending and Lessons
- 100+ High School Students Helped on College Admissions + Scholarships
- Summer Reading Challenge
- STEM Learning Kits

When you support the Foundation – you support the Fort Worth Public Libraries’ diverse array of programs and services, thus you are impacting literacy and learning for all generations.

