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made at the library's website  
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established by law.*

The Belfast Free Library's Board of Trustees launches the 2024 Annual Appeal with the hope that you will be moved to participate and to offer your support.

Our library is a wellspring of possibilities offering a nonstop supply of opportunities for relaxation, invigoration, and convenience. Perhaps you have experienced this firsthand.

At times, the library offers a much-needed break for us. It becomes a haven from the demands and stresses that can fill our lives. The calm and hush that greets us upon entering the building is reassuring. Even in the busy-ness of the Children's Room, there are quiet nooks for reading and relaxing.

Then there are times when we want some of the more stimulating experiences that the library provides: connecting with staff to talk about great reads, attending edifying lectures, joining a reading club, getting help with genealogy exploration, checking out the current art exhibit, getting tech help, and so much more. And age is not a barrier. Children and teens are also offered an amazing array of programs, collections, and activities throughout the day.

When home is where you want or need to be, the library comes to you. At any time of night or day, you can go to the library's website at [belfastlibrary.org](http://belfastlibrary.org) to reserve items or request interlibrary loans, access archival collections that include genealogy records and local papers, download Ebooks and audiobooks, read full text articles from today's *New York Times* (I use it all the time...it's great!), stream films, and a whole lot more.

The beauty of all these possibilities is that you will not be treated like a consumer or a data point. You don't have to leave a tip. There is no extra payment no matter how many books you check out or other services you use.

Despite all of these opportunities and services, the library runs on a very lean budget. To a large extent, we rely upon your commitment and generosity. On behalf of the library's Board of Trustees, I ask you to—perhaps for the first time—demonstrate your appreciation and support with a donation during this Annual Appeal. Please know that your donation will be used to ensure that the library's possibilities and opportunities will continue to amaze us all.

Let me express a special note of thanks to those of you who have given to the library in the past. Large or small, your support has sustained many wonderful activities, projects, and collections and has allowed the library to reach a little bit further each year, striving to provide you and your families with even greater opportunities and possibilities. Thank you so very much!

Sincerely,

*Kay Zegel*

President, *Board of Trustees*