# *the* **NEXT CHAPTER**

he Seattle Public Library Foundation Summer



Sharon Eva Grainger's stunning photographs featured in the Living Cultures Exhibit, are now part of the permanent collection in the Seattle Room. In this photograph, Grainger captures Tlingit Chief and statesman Jim Thomas.

#### **Community Unites to Go Beyond the Frame**

This year marks the 150th birthday of photographer Edward S. Curtis. More than 20 organizations across the region, including libraries, cultural centers and museums, are staging exhibits and events to revisit Curtis' iconic photographs while exploring Native identity. The community-wide project, called "Beyond the Frame: To Be Native," was led by The Seattle Public Library.

The Seattle Public Library Foundation

> Native community leaders participated on an advisory committee formed by the Library and quickly helped shape the direction of the project. What began as a look back at Curtis' work became a deeper and more inclusive project that attracted more organizations and greater engagement across the region. Exhibits and events delve deeply into what it means to be Native in the Northwest today, while exploring the complex legacy left by the Curtis photographs.

"We're pursuing this much more community-based initiative. I like the fact that it's called 'Beyond the Frame,' – so here's the frame of Curtis, what he did in 1910, let's just move it a bit beyond that and take a 21st century look at what's happened," says Jodee Fenton, the special collections services manager of The Seattle Public Library.

Thanks to the generosity of Harriet Bullitt, the Library has one of the largest collections of Curtis prints in the region. The Library has hosted two exhibitions showcasing its photographs alongside contemporary photographs, offering viewers the historical perspective alongside the exploration of Native culture today.

Continued inside

#### in this issue

#### Community Unites to Go Beyond the Frame continued from front

Additionally, the Library's Curtis photographs are featured at the Seattle Art Museum's exhibit: "Double Exposure," which shows Curtis' photographs alongside contemporary indigenous artwork to provide a counter narrative to the stereotypes present in Curtis' images.

A free exhibition now on display at the Central Library is "Protecting the Xwəlč: Indigenous Stewardship of the Salish Sea." The exhibit explores the importance of the Salish Sea to Northwest Native communities and the work they are doing to protect natural resources.

"Beyond the Frame" has been successful in stimulating thoughtful conversations. Fenton says, "This is the kind of project where the Library can play a significant role. Interesting conversations happen and difficult issues come forward. We can protect that conversation and create a place where all can come and agree or disagree and try to learn – it is the role of



The Mussel Gatherer by Edward S. Curtis. Courtesy of The Seattle Public Library, spl\_nai\_09\_313

the Library, I think, and 'Beyond the Frame' really demonstrates that."

The Seattle Public Library Foundation expresses our appreciation to Harriet Bullitt, Gary Kunis, King County 4Culture, our exhibition partners and members of the "Beyond the Frame" advisory committee for supporting the project.



Protecting the xॅ<sup>w</sup>əlč: Indigenous Stewardship of the Salish Sea Now through August 30, Central Library, Level 8 Gallery



**Double Exposure** Now through September 9, Seattle Art Museum



Beyond the Frame Symposium November 16-18, Central Library

To learn about the organizations involved in "Beyond the Frame," visit www.beyondtheframe.org.

#### Six Essential Books to Add to Your Summer Reading List!

Our librarians recommend these books to help you explore Pacific Northwest Native culture. For additional book suggestions related to "Beyond the Frame," visit **www.spl.org/beyondtheframe.** 

When the River Ran Wild! Indian Traditions on the Mid-Columbia and the Warm Springs Reservation by George Aquilar



Chief Seattle and the Town That Took His Name: The Change of Worlds for the Native People and Settlers on Puget Sound by David M. Buerge



A Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest by Robert H. Ruby



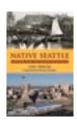
Framing Chief Leschi: Narratives and the Politics of Historical Justice by Lisa Blee



Rights Remembered: A Salish Grandmother Speaks on American Indian History and the Future by Pauline Hillaire



Native Seattle: Histories From the Crossing-Over Place by Coll-Peter Thrush



#### **Opportunity and Impact: Message From the CEO**

By Jonna Ward

Walk into any Library branch this summer and you'll see the latest Book Bingo or perhaps encounter one of the hundreds of events or activities centered around the Summer of Learning, now in its 99th year. Because of donors like you, more than 30,000 kids and families will enjoy 250 engaging programs that capture their imagination and spark their love of learning.



Foundation CEO Jonna Ward and Foundation Board President Grace Nordhoff.

These Library programs are more than fun, they also help combat the "summer slide." Research shows that students lose academic achievement gained during the school year if reading and learning skills are not regularly practiced. Kids from low-income households and underserved communities are especially vulnerable. Thanks to gifts from generous donors, the Library can prioritize programs to serve those who need the Library most.

The Summer of Learning program is just one example of nearly 65 projects the Foundation board has committed to fund in 2018. They can make this commitment to the Library because of support from you. Thank you for understanding the profound impact the Library has on the people of our city!

Our Foundation board is made up of approximately 30 community volunteers who care deeply about our Library. Every two years, we welcome a new board member to serve as the president. We thank past president, Ross Baker, for his leadership and long-term commitment to our board on which he has served since 2001. In January, Ross passed the baton to our new president, Grace Nordhoff. A member of the Foundation board since 2010, Grace

works to ensure the Foundation is the strongest possible support partner to The Seattle Public Library. Her priorities as president include strategic planning to help the Foundation define its vision for the future, raise more money for the Library and shine a light on all the good work our Library is doing.

It's an exciting time at the Library and the Foundation. As we move ahead into the future, we're grateful for your generous and enthusiastic support of this essential community resource. Libraries truly nourish minds, build community and transform lives. I have the privilege of seeing this happen every single day!

With gratitude,

#### All in the Family

Growing up in rural Kitsap County, the daughter and granddaughter of librarians, becoming a librarian was the furthest thing from Anne Cisney's mind. However, life has a funny way of working out. Once she entered the workforce, she realized that her favorite tasks in every job were things librarians get to do all the time – research, teaching and empowering people – so she eventually went back to college to get her library degree. She is now a fixture at the Seattle Central Library, just like her father and grandmother before her!



Third-generation librarian, Anne Cisney.

We recently sat down with Anne to talk about the role of the Library in the community then and now. Below is a small portion of our conversation. To read the full interview, please visit www.bit.ly/SPLF\_family.

### What do you think is the Library's role in the community?

I believe the Library exists to provide free and fair access to information and entertainment, opportunities for gathering and civic engagement and friendly assistance to individual patrons. It also plays a vital role in helping even the playing field within the community, offering educational opportunities to people who might not otherwise be able to afford these services.

# How has the Library changed from generation to generation?

I believe the mission of the Library, and its

#### Fresh Start Gets Teens Back in the Library



Teen area at the Central Library.

We've all lost a book in our lifetime, right? A new expanded Fresh Start program gives young people a second chance by waiving lost item fees and restoring their access to Library materials. Funded by your donations, the program has been an unmitigated success!

The program helps teens who cannot afford the financial hardship of paying for a lost book. In some areas of the city, where populations are most vulnerable, there is a higher concentration of blocked teen accounts with the average teen owing approximately \$50 in fines and fees.

Once their account is blocked, teens usually stop using Library resources. Of all accounts that were blocked at the end of 2014, 68% still had a blocked account three years later.

After their account is unblocked, they are more than twice as

likely to use the Library as other teens whose accounts were blocked.

The Fresh Start program hopes to reinstate more than 1,000 teen accounts by the end of 2018.

#### **Success Story**

Rosemary Washington, a library associate at the Greenwood Branch, experienced firsthand the impact of Fresh Start:

"A teacher was calling on behalf of a 13-year-old student who is struggling with many issues right now. She was helping him get some information from books, but was concerned because the student's Library account was blocked... She knows the family has been struggling financially. When I explained Fresh Start and how easily we could grant a waiver to get this teen using the Library again, she was thrilled. I add my thanks to the Foundation and donors for making Fresh Start such a gift."

In the first three months of the Fresh Start expansion, over 700 donors have contributed a total of \$10,000. In addition to helping unblock teen accounts, the donations add new materials to the collection. It's a win-win for teens and donors!

If you would like to donate to Fresh Start, please visit our website: www.bit.ly/SPLF\_FreshStart or call us at 206.386.4130.

essential work, has changed remarkably little between my grandmother's day and my own. We have always helped people find information and solve problems.

In the modern Library, patrons solve many simple questions using search engines, but the number of deep, complex and sensitive questions is on the rise. Rather than difficulty finding any information, patrons are often overwhelmed with potential information sources. This leaves librarians in the role of navigator through the information universe. We help people know what information exists, how to find it and how to evaluate whether it is trustworthy.

Right now, the Library is currently doing important, intentional work to ensure that the services we provide are truly reaching not just "everyone," but the most vulnerable among us. However, even this work is not new.

# How does the Library stay relevant?

The most important thing we can do is to listen to our patrons. That means both sharing the types of needs and experiences patrons express when they come to the Library and reaching out into the community to identify additional gaps that we could meet with resources and services, often for patrons who have not used the Library much in the past.

There is always far more need than we have capacity, forcing the Library to make difficult choices at every turn regarding where best to focus our limited resources.

The Seattle Public Library Foundation and its donors make a huge difference in expanding the scope of what we are able to accomplish. We are so lucky to have you!



Preserving art wall glass during renovation. Photo credit: Becky Gibler



Preparing for new energy-efficient, radiant heat floors. Photo credit: Becky Gibler

#### Show Your Love for the Lake City Library!

The Lake City Library is always humming with over 200,000 visitors per year. The branch also has one of the busiest Homework Help programs in the system and more demand for public meeting rooms and computers than can be met.

Currently, a \$3.1 million major renovation is underway. When completed, patrons will be able to enjoy new meeting rooms, comfortable new seating and re-imagined areas for children and teens.

The Seattle Public Library Foundation has launched a campaign to raise \$500,000 to support the project. With the campaign heading into the home stretch, we have a goal to raise \$75,000 by August 15!

> Donate \$50 or more by August 15 and have your name added to the branch donor wall!

Give online at www.bit.ly/LakeCity18 or call us at 206.386.4130.



Story time with Children's Librarian Nancy Pew at the Lake City Farmers Market. Photo credit: Kerri Martinez

While the Lake City Library is closed during renovation, the Library's Bookmobile will be at the Lake City Farmers Market every Thursday. Librarians are also partnering with community organizations to continue service delivery for children and families!

#### **Create a Lasting Legacy for the Future of Libraries**

Love your Library? You can help ensure that the Library will be enjoyed for generations to come through a planned gift. By making a planned gift, you recognize the extraordinary value of the Library and the benefit to future generations of readers. This can be done by including The Seattle Public Library Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, retirement asset or life insurance, or by making a gift to an endowment. These gifts let the Foundation know that future resources are in the pipeline that will help secure the long-term vitality of the Library. When you make a legacy gift, and notify us, you are invited to become a member of the Legacy Society. In recognition of the generosity of your foresight, you'll receive benefits that include invitations to annual events and briefings, popular author receptions, book signings and more.

Join us on October 2, 2018 at the Northeast Branch where we'll share information about how you can create a lasting legacy. For more information about making a legacy gift or to RSVP to this event, please contact Jennifer Shin at **jennifer@supportSPL.org** or call **206.413.7177.** 

# The Seattle Public Library Foundation

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Mom and kids enjoying a bee-themed Summer of Learning event at the High Point Branch. Photo credit: The Seattle Public Library

#### Join the Celebration!

The Seattle Public Library Foundation is hosting its very first benefit luncheon on **March 5, 2019.** Join us as we celebrate 100 years of The Seattle Public Library's Summer of Learning program and hear about the incredible impact your support makes on the families in our community. Stay tuned for more information about the event by following us on Facebook or Twitter.

As we prepare for this event we are seeking table captains, corporate sponsors and volunteers to serve on an event committee. If you're interested, please contact Kerri Martinez at **kerri@supportSPL.org** or call **206.413.7473**.

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