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JEFFERSON COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION | Annual Report 2008

## From the Library Foundation Chair

To our many friends and supporters, I am happy to share the 2008 Annual Report of the Jefferson County Library Foundation.

We are pleased with all that we have done this year and want to give you insight into the year's successes. From our annual book sales to our great programs to our countless volunteers and monies raised, we are supporting the possibilities. As you review this report, we hope for two things – that you will see the difference we make in the lives of the citizens of Jefferson County and that you will identify opportunities to join us in our work.

On behalf of the Jefferson County Library Foundation Board of Directors, we are glad that you "Support the Possibilities."

Tami Shrader  
Chair, Board of Directors



SUPPORT THE POSSIBILITIES

## 2008 Programs

### Knott's Kids

Knott's Kids brings programs to the children of Jefferson County that they might not ordinarily see...or programs that will pique their interest in a topic and get them to want to learn more by reading and using their library. In 2008, programs were presented in partnership with The Wildlife Experience, Denver Museum of Nature & Science, ArtVentures, the City of Lakewood, the Colorado Railroad Museum and Dinosaur Ridge.

Knott's Kids also brings backpacks, called Bookpacks, filled with 20 books to before and after-school care centers (Kindergarten-grade six) in areas with disadvantaged populations. During the monthly site visit, the kids are treated to a storytime, a science experiment or craft, and a new Bookpack.

- Project Bookpack grew from six sites in the 2007-2008 school year to 15 in the 2008-2009 school year.
- 126 Project Bookpack kids received a free book during the May book giveaway.



## Traveling Children's Library

The Traveling Children's Library (TCL), enhances the early literacy experiences of preschool-aged children by delivering books and programs to children in their Head Start classrooms. Through a monthly bilingual storytime visit and a monthly deposit of books in English and Spanish, the TCL provides these children with greater exposure to books, reading and stories. The TCL also works to educate children's families about the free services and materials available to them through the public library and how parents, as a child's first teacher, can help develop their child's pre-reading skills. During the 2008-2009 school year, the TCL will be visiting nearly 80 preschool and Head Start classes each month, reaching approximately 1,500 children.

### TCL Stats

- 3,500 miles on the car
- 1,350 kids read to each month
- 1,000 hugs received by librarian
- 300 requests to "read it again!"



## Summer Reading Club

2008 was another record-breaking year for Jefferson County Public Library's Summer Reading Club (SRC) with increases in the double digits. More than 31,000 children, teens and adults signed up, an increase of 24 percent from 2007. The total numbers of hours read for children and teens was 246,664 hours, which easily surpassed the goal of 160,000 hours. As a result, the Jefferson County Library Foundation, which funds the program, donated \$1,000 in new children's books to Colorado Homeless Families.

## Vision and Mission

Our vision is to support Jefferson County Public Library through a partnership commitment to improving and enriching the lives of Jefferson County residents. To assist us in fulfilling our vision, we see our mission as the enhancement of the programs and services of Jefferson County Public Library that strive to increase literacy in the community by providing program support and library enhancement for preschoolers, school-aged children, seniors and Library staff through countywide outreach programs and resource development activities.

## Beyond the Headlines

The successful Beyond the Headlines program continued in 2008 at JCPL locations. The program, conducted by Active Minds™, highlighted current topics and featured items in the Library's nonfiction collection. More than 300 people attended this program to learn about Venezuela, Tibet, the future of Pakistan, the crisis in Sudan, the duality of India, bio-engineered food, our immigration policy, our energy policy, and Buddhism.

## Culture Pass

In October 2008, Jefferson County Public Library started a Culture Pass program. With this program, Library card holders are able to book a specific date to visit participating institutions using the Library's membership.

The Foundation helped the Library get this program off the ground by purchasing the software and the first passes with The Wildlife Experience. With the Culture Pass, up to six people can visit The Wildlife Experience on the Library's membership and we have 10 memberships with The Wildlife Experience.

Efforts are underway to secure additional partnerships for the upcoming year.



## Operating Budget

During 2008, the Foundation raised funds from many different events and activities. The majority of funds came from the following:

- Spring and Fall Whale of a Used Book Sales
- Holiday Whale Book Sales
- Rare & Novel Event
- Friends Gift Shop
- Library used book sales
- Grants
- Contributions and Friends membership dues

With these funds, the Foundation contributed more than \$500,000 in support of Library programs and activities. Major beneficiaries were:

- Traveling Children's Library
- Knott's Kids Programs
- Summer Reading Programs
- Distinguished Author Series
- Other literacy programs