About Shaker Heights Public Library

“Here is where people,
One frequently finds,
Lower their voices
And raise their minds.”
– Richard Armour, Library

Located in Shaker Heights, Ohio, a first-ring suburb of Cleveland, Shaker Heights Public Library is an independent library serving a diverse population of 32,000 people in a city cited nationally for its pro-integrative housing initiatives and exceptional public schools. Shaker Library enjoys heavy use reflected in circulation figures that are well over twice the national average for libraries in communities of comparable size. Shaker Library has been designated as a Five-Star Library by Library Journal Index four times.

The library provides an online catalog and databases as a member of CLEVNET, a consortium of more than 30 libraries across 11 counties, and maintains a home page at www.shakerlibrary.org. In keeping with the community’s dedication to diversity, Shaker Library regularly offers programs and book discussions celebrating cultures reflective of the community.

Shaker Library’s Main facility is equipped with a Computer Center and Training Lab and the staff to teach free computer classes. It also has a Teen Center, an Art Gallery, a Community Entrepreneurial Office (CEO), and a Career Transition Center for those seeking jobs. In addition, Shaker Library provides a full range of services through its Bertram Woods Branch Library.

The Library’s mission is to build community and to enrich lives by bringing together people, information, and ideas. As an indispensable part of the community, Shaker Library is known for its wide range of resources, customer-driven services, welcoming spaces, and knowledgeable staff.
What is the Shaker Heights Public Library Fund?

The Shaker Heights Public Library Fund provides ongoing financial assistance to Shaker Heights Public Library (Shaker Library) and its programs. The fund is held and managed by the Cleveland Foundation, which invests the gifts for greater return on investment and prudent growth.

Each year, a percentage of the fund is available for the needs of Shaker Library. Unless it is determined otherwise, the remainder is reinvested in the fund to protect against inflation and to meet the future needs of the organization.

Gifts to the fund provide Shaker Library with an important source of revenue now and into the future. This revenue, combined with Shaker Library’s partnership with the Cleveland Foundation, provides a measure of security that allows Shaker Library to focus on its mission. The fund offers donors a wide variety of giving options.

How can I help Shaker Heights Public Library through its fund?

GIVING NOW
Cash or Stock Gifts These gifts are simple to make and immediately effective. All cash contributions are tax-deductible (up to 50 percent of a donor’s adjusted gross income). Appreciated assets can include stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and real property, and are tax-deductible up to 30 percent of adjusted gross income.

FUTURE GIVING
Bequest An outright bequest to Shaker Library is the simplest way to provide a future gift. Please contact Shaker Library for specific bequest language that can be included in your will or trust.

Charitable Gift Annuity A charitable gift annuity is an irrevocable gift that returns a stream of payments to the donor or another beneficiary, based on the recipient’s age at the time of the gift. The donor qualifies for a charitable tax deduction for part of the gift, while the payments may receive favorable tax treatment. Most importantly, the gift annuity will substantially help meet the future needs of Shaker Library.

Life Insurance Policy Unused life insurance policies make excellent charitable gifts. Please contact Shaker Library for more information.

Charitable Remainder Trust Charitable remainder trusts allow donors to make gifts using payment options that best meet their needs. Additionally, remainder trusts are flexible enough to permit the use of a variety of assets, including cash securities and real property. Donors qualify for a charitable deduction for part of the gift, and trust beneficiaries receive a percentage of the trust returned to them annually. The payments also may offer some tax benefit to the recipient.

Charitable Lead Trust Through charitable lead trusts, donors can support the charitable needs of Shaker Library now, and the remaining assets can be transferred to other individuals or even themselves at a future date. Assets in the lead trust would come to Shaker Library for a fixed number of years or over a donor’s lifetime. When payments are no longer being made to Shaker Library, the remainder can be returned to a beneficiary or beneficiaries with possible tax advantages.

Your gift today can have an impact on the lives of others for generations to come. Please consider how you might create a legacy through the Shaker Heights Public Library Fund of the Cleveland Foundation.

For more information, please call the Advancement team at the Cleveland Foundation at 216-861-3810 or toll-free 877-554-5054, or Shaker Heights Public Library at 216-367-3001.