



ridgefield
library

Annual Report for 2010-2011

Enriching Minds.

Enhancing Community.

Christina B. Nolan, *Library Director*

Carroll Brewster, *Chair, Board of Directors*

Approximately 75% of the Library's annual operating budget was supplied by a grant from the town of Ridgefield. The remainder was raised through our **annual appeal, tribute gifts, special events, grants and sponsorships, in-kind donations from local merchants**, the tireless efforts of the **Friends of the Library** and other sources. We are pleased and proud to acknowledge the **more than 1,000 individuals and organizations** listed below, whose generous support made it possible for us to maintain the high level of library service Ridgefielders have come to expect and demand. **Our heartfelt thanks to all of you!**

The **Ridgefield Library Guardian Society**, inaugurated in 2009-2010, added **26 new members** and spearheaded a **17% increase in charitable giving** for the Library's annual operations, despite an uncertain economy.

A grant from the **National Endowment for the Arts** enabled the Library to partner with the **Ridgefield Playhouse** and dozens of other community organizations to present **The Big Read**, which engaged nearly 5,000 people young and old in reading and discussing **"The Grapes of Wrath"** and related material. An Early Reading Grant from **Target** funded this year's sold-out **Dr. Seuss's Birthday** parties, hosted by the **Younger Set** parent volunteer committee.

Special events gave Ridgefielders a range of entertaining and educational ways to show their support of the Library. The annual **Ridgefield Library Days at Books on the Common** was joined by a fundraising promotion with **Piccolo Pizza** celebrating the end of the Summer Reading Program. Music lovers enjoyed a spectacular recital by violin prodigy **David Gale**, who donated his time as a token of appreciation for all the Library meant to him as a young student. The yearly **Camp Snooze** 4th grade sleepover has become such a hit that we had to add a second session! Popular new offerings were the **Tables of Content** literary-themed meals hosted by generous supporters, which provided education and entertainment for participants as well as raising funds for the Library.

For more highlights of the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year, see our online Year in Review at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org.

~ The Mission of the Ridgefield Library ~

The Library is an intellectual and cultural center for Ridgefield, offering a supportive, welcoming environment that encourages all

- ... to read
- ... to discover
- ... to question
- ... to exchange ideas
- ... to grow.

RIDGEFIELD LIBRARY GUARDIAN SOCIETY

Guardian Society members commit support of \$1,000 or more annually toward the operating needs of the Library. 26 new individuals and families joined the Guardian Society this year.

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Ridgefield Library Association

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* Has contributed to the Annual Appeal each year for at least the past five years.