About the Dewey Circle

The Dewey Circle was established to acknowledge the outstanding generosity of individuals who have included the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Foundation in their estate plans. Their legacy gifts will provide crucial support for the Library in the years to come, helping us provide for learners of all ages throughout our community.

Legacy gifts include bequests, retirement assets, charitable trusts, life insurance policies and other types of contributions. Dewey Circle commitments become part of the Library Foundation's endowment fund to provide resources, in perpetuity, to help meet future needs of the Library. Library Foundation funds are invested and managed by Foundation For The Carolinas. Thank you to the individuals and families who are a part of the Dewey Circle.

The Dewey Circle honors Bessie Lacy Dewey, Charlotte's first librarian. In 1891, a group of prominent citizens organized the Charlotte Literary and Library Association. This subscription library operated in a room above a bookstore on South Tryon Street for nine years, under the direction of Bessie Lacy Dewey.

In 1901, directors of the Association transferred control of the Library to the City School Commissioners, so that the general public and students would have access to the collection. Thus, the roots of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library were firmly established.

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Foundation

The Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Foundation was established as a supporting organization in partnership with Foundation For The Carolinas. The Library Foundation exists to help the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library create a community where reading, learning, and imagination thrive. Created in 2012 as a non-profit 501©3 organization, the Foundation supports the Library's programs and services through advocacy, fundraising and building relationships with others who share a passion for the Library's work. The Library Foundation supports library services; expands the Library's print and electronic collections; enhances programming for all ages; and strives to grow an endowment to prepare for the future needs of our Library system.

When naming the Library as a beneficiary of your estate, life insurance policy or retirement account, please indicate the beneficiary as:

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Foundation
Federal Tax ID #46-1172548
310 N. Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

To learn more, contact:

Karen Beach, Deputy Director
Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Foundation
704-416-0802 or kbeach@cmlibrary.org
foundation.cmlibrary.org
Impact of Your Gift

The Charlotte Mecklenburg Library creates a community of readers and empowers individuals with free access to information and the universe of ideas. Survey after survey indicates that the Library is one of the most valuable, accessible, broadly attended and fully utilized resources in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Throughout the Library’s 110+ years of community service, those individuals who believe in the importance of free and open access to literacy, education and information have provided critical support to ensure Library services remain relevant and accessible in an ever-changing world.

Your planned gift provides for the future of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library and will impact such services as early literacy, educational programs, books and materials in many formats, special collections, technology and innovation.

If you have already made a Dewey Circle commitment, we hope you will let us know so that we can recognize your support, understand your intentions, and include you in special donor events during the year. We will keep your commitment anonymous in any donor listings if you wish. However, if you are willing to be recognized publicly, you may encourage others to support the library as well.

Giving Options

Unrestricted gifts provide the most flexibility for meeting future Library needs, but we will be glad to work with you if you have special wishes. If you anticipate a restricted gift, it is recommended that you share your plans with Library Foundation staff so that we can work with you now to ensure your gift has its intended impact.

Gift Types

Charitable bequests are a straightforward way to leave a meaningful legacy through your will. If your needs or intentions change in the future, your will can be amended to reflect that change.

Life Insurance Policies and Retirement Accounts: You can make a legacy gift by naming the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Foundation as a beneficiary.

Other gifts: Please consult your tax advisor and/or financial planner to make certain a contemplated gift fits well into your overall needs and planning. Library Foundation staff are happy to provide additional information that you may need in cooperation with your advisor.

Please complete and return this form to notify the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Foundation of your planned gift or to request more information.

Name(s):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

Email:

☐ I would like more information on making a planned gift to the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Foundation.

☐ I have included the library in my estate plans and wish to join the Dewey Circle.

Please mail to:

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Foundation
310 North Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

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