



# ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY PROMOTING LEARNING

LEAVE A LEGACY - PLEASE JOIN US

For additional information, contact:  
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Scan the QR code to make a donation >>



[whitewaterlibrary.org](http://whitewaterlibrary.org)



# ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY PROMOTING LEARNING CAPITAL BUILDING CAMPAIGN





## WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT THE LIBRARY?

“Books. That’s it. Books. And the scavenger hunt is my favorite thing to do.”  
-Dawn, age 7

“I like storytime, puzzles, and computer games especially the ABC train game.”  
-Jonathan, age 3

“I love the graphic novel series, especially Amulet and Cleopatra.”  
-Evelynn, age 10

# THE VALUE OF LIBRARIES TO A COMMUNITY

Libraries of the 21st century are versatile, dynamic organizations that continually change to meet new demands and provide up-to-date materials, programs, services, and opportunities to people of all ages and backgrounds, connecting people with the resources they need.

Libraries are equal-access institutions; they are a public trust where all members of the community can come, without cost, to access materials, learn new skills, and gather together. Libraries also play an integral role in fostering lifelong learning, civic engagement, and fighting disinformation. A community’s library levels the playing field to assure that all may reap the benefits of knowledge and education.

## STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

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A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CAN COME TO  
READ, LEARN, CONNECT, CREATE, & FEEL WELCOME.

- The renovated and expanded library will:
- Enhance children and youth engagement
  - Foster literacy
  - Increase accessibility
  - Promote cultural connections
  - Nurture creativity
  - Provide a friendly space for all

## MAKERSPACE



## WHY DOES WHITEWATER NEED A RENOVATED AND EXPANDED LIBRARY?

With the expansion and renovation, the Irvin L. Young Memorial Library will meet the community's needs for many years to come. The additional 4,400 square feet and the redesigned existing space will make our library an even better place where people can come to read, learn, connect, create, and feel welcome.

The design is based on community input, the latest census data, state library standards, post-pandemic considerations, environmental sustainability features, community resiliency, technological needs, and community partnerships.



EARLY LEARNING



LECTURE ROOM



MEETING ROOM

## HOW WILL DONORS BE RECOGNIZED?

Every gift to the library is an important step toward making the vision of a renovated and expanded library in Whitewater a reality. Gifts will be recognized in many ways ranging from inscribed pavers to a number of naming opportunities for different spaces that are particularly meaningful to the donor. While we feel strongly that support at all levels should be publicly acknowledged, anonymity will be strictly respected if requested.

## IS MY GIFT TAX DEDUCTIBLE?

All donations are tax deductible. The Whitewater Community Foundation is acting as fiscal agent for the project; they will provide the official acknowledgement that can be used for taxes. The library will track all gifts and pledges.

## HOW MUCH WILL IT COST AND WHO WILL PAY FOR IT?

The cost of the proposed expansion and renovation is \$5,950,220; this includes furniture, fixtures and equipment, and technology designed to be flexible for the future. The City of Whitewater, the Library Board and the Library Steering Committee have done extensive work in developing the plans for this public/private partnership:

- \$6,000,000** Total cost; plans were reviewed by City staff with building experience; there will be a bidding process to ensure the lowest costs. Inflation and recent construction cost increases were factored in recently.
- \$3,000,000** City commitment presented a challenge to the Whitewater community
- \$750,000** Library reserves used to launch the campaign. This includes the sale of properties. These funds were donated specifically for the building project. Reserves will be held for future building needs.
- \$2,250,000** Goal for the capital campaign; this is a 'stretch' goal that will require the entire community to come together with gifts of every size.

Due to other loans being paid off before January 2024, taxpayers will not see a significant change in their tax bill from this borrowing.

## ARE LIBRARIES NEEDED IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY?

Libraries are more vital and necessary than ever! In addition to the computers available for public use, the library provides:

- Meeting space (social groups, study groups, online classes and testing, informational events, tutoring, social service providers and their clients)
- Early literacy programs for preschool-aged kids
- Digital books, audiobooks, music, movies, TV shows, comics, and magazines to download
- Hundreds of free online classes, resumé help, databases like auto repair and Consumer Reports,
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Kits
- Family Adventure Packs such as bird watching, geocaching, Ice Age Trail, & telescope for stargazing
- Printing, copying, and laminating services as well as research assistance
- Technology assistance for printing, downloading library apps and digital materials and helping to locate online resources
- Local history and genealogy resources

## THE TRANSFORMED, RENOVATED, AND EXPANDED LIBRARY WILL

- Offer expanded early learning areas, including play centers and places to gather
- Offer engaging teen and pre-teen spaces
- Offer an expanded Makerspace area and upgraded technology to allow people to create, design, and learn 21st-century skills
- Offer expanded large and small meeting, study, and collaboration spaces
- Provide an inviting entryway that leads into a large meeting room to host community events
- Offer expanded areas of informal seating for reading, studying, and socializing
- Offer outdoor tables and spaces for community members to utilize the Internet even when the library is not open
- Provide additional accessibility to materials and the opportunity for community residents to learn the latest technology, among other valuable skills
- Provide more natural light and upgraded facilities

## HELP MEET COMMUNITY LITERACY AND LEARNING NEEDS

It was difficult for all students to stay on track academically during the pandemic, and this has been especially true for low-income and minority students. At present, 46% of students in the Whitewater School District receive free or reduced lunches, and over one-third of the students in our school district live in families with a first language other than English.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago recently published a study which examined the impact of public library expansion nationwide from 1992-2018. They found that significant library expansion increases attendance by children at library events by 18%, total library attendance by 21%, and library checkouts by 21%. Significant capital improvement also slightly increases reading scores.

The increased space and renovations allowing for more programming and learning space for early learners (the really little kids), children, and teens.

- TEEN SPACE  
414 SF
- SMALL GROUP MEETING ROOMS  
130 SF
- OUTDOOR EVENTS
- SOCIAL / READING  
850 SF
- MAKERSPACE  
320 SF
- EXPANDABLE MEETING ROOMS  
750 SF & 1300 SF
- DROPOFF & BIKE RACKS



DEMOLITION:	2250 SF
NEW ADDITION:	6970 SF
NET GAIN:	4420 SF

## WHAT YOUR EXPANDED LIBRARY WILL OFFER

- EXPANDED SERVICES FOR CHILDREN
- A SPACE FOR TEENS
- SMALL GROUP MEETING AND TUTORING SPACES
- MAKERSPACE FOR DIGITAL AND CRAFTS PROJECTS
- ENHANCED LARGE GROUP MEETING ROOMS
- UPGRADED SEATING AND TABLES WITH POWER OUTLETS
- IMPROVED AND EXPANDED CONNECTIVITY THROUGHOUT
- BETTER SMALL BUSINESS SERVICES
- OUTDOOR SPACE WITH LIGHTING AND WiFi FOR EVENTS AND INDIVIDUAL USE

