

Behind the Lines

Since 1987

From the desk of Leah Barnhard
Executive Director
Wichita Public Library Foundation
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Breaking News: Mary Lynn Oliver Joins Library Capital Campaign

The Wichita Public Library Foundation is pleased to announce that Mary Lynn (Beech) Oliver is joining the fundraising efforts as honorary chair for the new Advanced Learning Library.

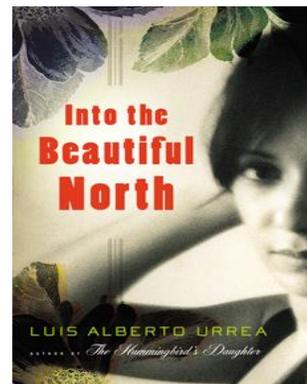
“We are excited to have Mary Lynn join our recently-expanded capital campaign, providing her expertise into what has become a major public-private initiative for our city,” said Wichita Public Library Foundation Chairman Don Barry. “She joins us at a time when the momentum for creating a margin of excellence for the new Library is at an all-time high.”

“I am pleased to have been asked to serve on this worthwhile endeavor,” said Mary Lynn Oliver. “It is a unique opportunity to be part of a project that has the potential to touch the lives of every person in our community in very new and significant ways.”

The younger daughter of aviation founders Walter and Olive Ann Beech, Mary Lynn Oliver has shown a long standing dedication to our community. Among the many organizations that Oliver has supported are the Sedgwick County Zoological Society, Wichita Community Foundation and Wesley Medical Center.

The campaign serves to augment the City’s \$30 million investment in what is being called “a community keystone project.” The Advanced Learning Library will be unlike the libraries of the past. “It will provide our community with the resources to meet the needs of our ever-changing world. It’s one more way Wichita is moving toward being a more vibrant place to live,” said Chairman Barry.

The 8th annual Big Read Wichita continues: Join us for a lecture by “Into the Beautiful North” author Luis Alberto Urrea as he shares his personal story and the journey of 19 year old Nayeli as she crosses the Mexican border, to the north, to look for the answers to protect and save her hometown. This very special event will be Saturday, November 7th from 7 - 9 p.m. at the WSU Hughes Metropolitan Complex, 5101 E. 29th. A book signing will follow the lecture. *Hope to see you there!*





A sincere thank you to the National Endowment for the Arts, Friends of the Wichita Public Library, Wichita State University, the Wichita Public Library and our many community partners for making this year's Big Read Wichita a huge success!

And for the younger set: Kansas Reads to Preschoolers Kick-off

Party: Llama Lovers Unite! Join us on Saturday, November 7th from 2pm – 3pm at Rockwell Branch Library, 5939 E 9th, to celebrate this year's Kansas Reads to Preschoolers title, *Is Your Mama a Llama?*, written by Deborah Guarino and illustrated by Steven Kellogg. Attendees will learn about and interact with a live llama and alpaca, participate in a llama storytime, enjoy a llama craft, and explore the biofacts, including a llama hide, provided by the Sedgwick County Zoo. The first 50 families will receive a free copy of “Is Your Mama a Llama?”

Funded in part by the Downtown Wichita Kiwanis Foundation and the Leonard and Celia Levand Trust, Kansas Reads to Preschoolers marks its 11th anniversary in Wichita. *Your support makes us special!*

Thank you to the family of Alberta Burkett for the establishment of a Foundation memorial in her honor and memory. Donations to the Foundation have been designated for the purchase of mystery books. As demand for Library materials continues to grow, we are so appreciative to have the opportunity to honor her memory with this very special request and support the work of the Library.

Contributions to the Alberta Burkett Memorial may be sent to the Wichita Public Library Foundation (made payable to WPLF), 223 S. Main, Wichita, KS 67202 or credit card donations are accepted via PayPal at www.supportwichitalibraries.org. Alberta was a very special member of our Library family and our community. She will be missed.

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

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