OUR MISSION

The Monterey Public Library is a welcoming community, cultural and learning center for people of all ages. Our collections and services inspire, educate and delight, and link the community with the knowledge and cultures of the world.

We support early literacy and reading readiness, kindergarten through college-level class work, including homework support, and self-guided learning and enrichment for adults and seniors.

As the “cultural heart for our city” (as one customer described us), the Library brings works, ideas, memories and creativity to life through art, music, poetry, storytelling for all ages, book discussions, online and audiovisual content creation, skilled staff, expert speakers, and local and nationally known performers.

Our mission is to not only continue this proud tradition, but to look forward and embrace the future.

WE NEED YOU

Your commitment of a gift to this endowment fund is the strongest statement of support that a friend of the Monterey Public Library can make.

As one of the cornerstones and key indicators of a democratic society, the Library benefits community members with the information they need to live informed lives; free to read, listen and view, and become engaged citizens.

Will you help us continue this vital mission into the future?
WHY?
Now, more than ever, the Monterey Public Library needs the support of individuals, companies, and philanthropic foundations to ensure that this historic and dynamic institution can continue its long and proud service into the future. The reduced basic funding provided by local government is not sufficient.

Your tax-deductible gift will provide a continuing source of income and ensure that the community will always have the resources of the Library available.

WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT FUND?
An endowment fund is a permanent fund in which your gift is prudently invested and grows over time. It’s our “long-term savings account.” Earnings from the fund are used to enhance library collections, technology, programs, and services. The principal remains in the fund, providing income to the library for years to come, managed by the Community Foundation for Monterey County.

CREATE A LEGACY – WAYS TO GIVE
You can create a legacy to ensure the Library will be enjoyed by generations. This can be done by making an endowment gift and becoming a member of the 1849 Society, or naming the Library a part of your estate plan.

“Cannot imagine living in a society without a library. Thank you for your wonderful service.”

1849 SOCIETY
With an endowment gift of $1,849 (cumulative) you will be invited to join the 1849 Society, named for the year of our historic founding as California’s first public library. The 1849 Society is made up of people who believe in the critical importance of public libraries, and the unique significance of the Monterey Public Library.

The 1849 Society brochure contains details about special events, presentations, and recognition available to members of this giving society.

WILL OR ESTATE GIFTS
Planned giving is a way for you to contribute money to the Library while simultaneously realizing your estate and financial planning goals. Estate planning instruments include wills, trusts, gift annuities, IRAs, real estate and insurance plans that transfer assets at the end of the donor’s life. Unless otherwise designated, planned gifts are added to our endowment fund—the MPL Fund at the Community Foundation for Monterey County.

Supporting the Library’s Endowment will preserve the future of California’s first public library and touch many lives for generations to come.

“Supporting the Library’s Endowment will preserve the future of California’s first public library and touch many lives for generations to come.”

“There’s also a place to find a sense of community, friends, and information. Our library serves as a bulwark against threats to our first amendment.”