FRIENDS FOUNDATION
RIDGEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Dear Ridgewood Neighbor,

We are fortunate to live in a Village with many special resources, and our Ridgewood Public Library is at the heart of community life. We are excited to write to you on behalf of the Friends Foundation, a volunteer-led nonprofit that raises private funds for programs, services and improvements beyond the Library's operating budget.

Thanks to our donors' generosity we have recently committed over $1 million to the Library including major improvements to the auditorium. The renovation of the Library's heavily used auditorium is now underway, funded entirely through private donations. This project will create a more comfortable, flexible and technologically advanced space for lectures, concerts, films, community gatherings and performances.

What We Did Together:

- **Created better spaces to learn, work and connect:** Added electrical service to popular study rooms, used 6,106 times by more than 12,000 patrons last year.
- **Expanded access to cultural experiences:** Loaned 922 museum passes, giving residents access to museums and cultural institutions throughout the region, often at no cost to families.
- **Inspired the next generation of Library users:** Supported Maker Day, LibraryCon and the Reading Marathon. During Summer Reading alone, Ridgewood children read nearly 10,000 books.
- **Brought people together:** Funded programming that creates opportunities for conversation and connection, including 10 monthly book groups, Director's Choice and Reel Voices film discussions, and hundreds of other educational programs throughout the year.

What Your Support Can Make Possible:

- **Lobby Upgrade:** Transform the entrance into a welcoming gateway to the Library, improving navigation, highlighting resources and creating opportunities for community engagement.
- **Second-Floor Improvements:** Create additional study and community-use spaces, modernize the Technology Lab and Makerspace, and maintain current collection levels.
- **Collections & Programming:** Expand high-demand e-book and audiobook collections; launch First Fridays, after-hours events with special programs.

We hope you'll stop by the Library and see your support at work. Every tax-deductible gift helps us continue making a difference for the Library that enriches our community today and for generations to come.

With gratitude,

Joanie Harrington
Co-President

Paul McCarthy
Co-President

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Friends Foundation of the Ridgewood Public Library, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, provides an opportunity for donors to make tax-deductible gifts.
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