



Annual Report of the Providence Athenæum

July 2019 - June 2020



“Pandemic” comes from the Greek PANDEMOS, meaning “pertaining to all the people,” and all the people associated with the Athenæum stepped up to support it in an otherwise dark period. The board always put the health and safety of the Athenæum community first. The staff was tireless, innovating quickly to ensure we could deliver books and programs to the membership. Our members and donors were exceedingly generous, and they led us - remarkably - to our third consecutive modest surplus. It was a terrible year. It was also a wonderful year, filled with shared purpose and shared sacrifice.

The year started with great promise. In September, the Athenæum welcomed two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Colson Whitehead to speak before a crowd of 800, and the institution was on track to reach records in membership and visitorship. Then, in March 2020, the outbreak of COVID-19 forced the library to close for almost five months - the longest closure in the long and storied history of the institution.

While the Athenæum’s physical building remained closed to the public, the staff and board pivoted quickly, creating programs, services, and initiatives to serve the public during this unique period in American life. The Athenæum was among the first libraries in Rhode Island to institute a robust curbside pickup program, and we were able to circulate nearly as many books during this time as we had when we were physically open. We ramped up our digital offerings, launching a series of high-quality virtual programs. We leveraged the close to our advantage and undertook long-delayed maintenance and beautification projects. As a result, the library flourished. By the time the library re-opened partially in August of 2020, the Athenæum looked as fine as it had in decades.

In times of crisis, institutions matter. 2020 was tumultuous, but the Athenæum mattered. Everyone involved with the institution pulled together to serve the institution and its essential mission:

*to enrich the mind, inspire the spirit, and
elevate the public discourse.*

MATT BURRIESCI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JONATHAN BELL
BOARD PRESIDENT



2019–2020

A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

45,814

Patrons & visitors served by the library

3,882

Visitors to the Children's Library

2,090

*Total members**

2,883

Exhibition visitors

Programs

123 adult events
8,149 adult event attendees
80 children's events
1,570 children's event attendees
54 tours of building & collections

Library Services

175,876 items in collection
1,374 acquisitions
21,740 total items circulated
3,018 digital items circulated
636 curbside orders fulfilled

IN MARCH 2020, THE ATHENÆUM WAS FORCED TO CLOSE ITS DOORS FOR THE LONGEST PERIOD IN ITS 200-YEAR HISTORY DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. WITH THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF STAFF AND VISITORS AS THE FOREMOST PRIORITY, THE LIBRARY QUICKLY PIVOTED TO OFFER VIRTUAL PROGRAMS, A CURBSIDE PICK-UP SERVICE, AND EXPANDED DIGITAL OFFERINGS. AS A RESULT, CIRCULATION AND MEMBERSHIP HELD STEADY, AND WEEKLY ADULT PROGRAM ATTENDANCE ROSE.

**Includes two adult members in each Household membership*



Programs

Almost 10,000 people attended an Athenæum program this year. We welcomed two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Colson Whitehead, National Book Award-winning historian Nathaniel Philbrick, acclaimed spiritual scholar Karen Armstrong, and internationally best-selling author Gish Jen, among many others.

In the spring of 2020, the library suspended its in-person programming due to the COVID-19 outbreak, and we developed *EX LIBRIS*, the institution's new slate of digital programs. This was the first time the Athenæum had offered online events, and programs reached both local members and audiences across the world. From witchcraft to spider-silk, these online programs proved to be both well-received and popular. The Athenæum also launched a series of virtual cocktail hours, allowing our members the opportunity to gather (albeit virtually) during the isolating quarantine. The Children's Library launched a series of online story times and curbside craft kits, making sure we didn't forget our youngest members.

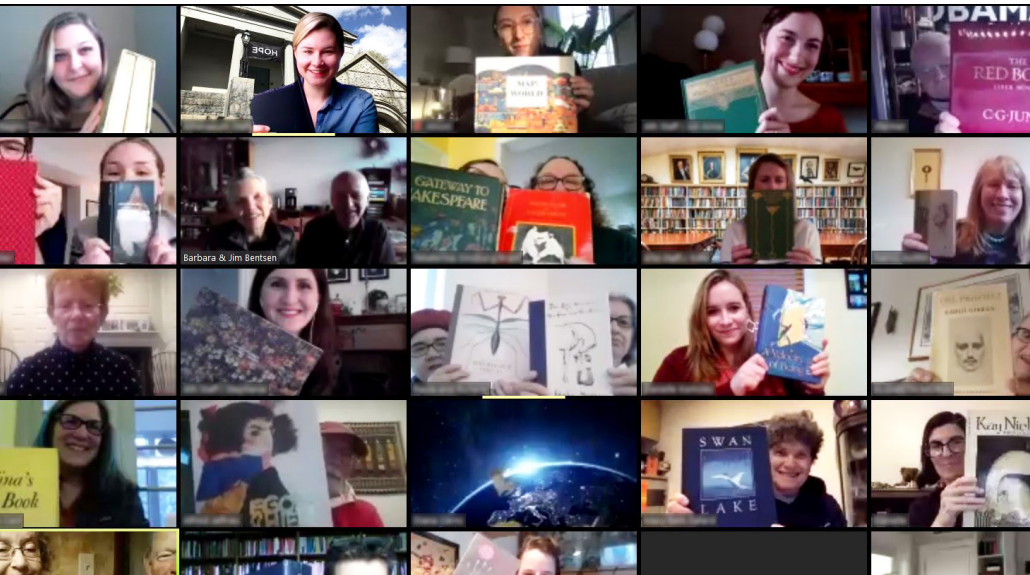
Partners included the ACLU of Rhode Island, Campus Fine Wines, the English Speaking Union, the First Unitarian Church, Providence Children's Film Festival, the Public's Radio, and the Walt Whitman Initiative.

LEFT: Attendees at the "A Mysterious Affair" fundraiser

FOLLOWING: Member reception; a "book nerd" meets Colson Whitehead; bestselling author Gish Jen; virtual cocktail party; Colson Whitehead takes a selfie with a member; Professor Julian Hayter discusses Confederate monuments; May baskets curbside craft; acclaimed historian Nathaniel Philbrick; Little Pumpkins' Party

Highlights

- Two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Colson Whitehead
- A Mysterious Affair fundraiser
- Acclaimed historian Nathaniel Philbrick
- Annual Little Pumpkins' Party
- Virtual cocktail parties





Collections

Exhibitions

In spite of the five-month closure, Athenæum exhibitions attracted almost 3,000 visitors. Opening in June 2019, *Providence Unveiled* explored the library's place on Benefit Street and highlighted materials from the archives.

In the fall, the Athenæum joined the Walt Whitman Initiative, a consortium that included the Library of Congress, Folger Shakespeare Library, the Academy of American Poets, and others, to celebrate the 200th anniversary of one of the most unique American poets. The Athenæum is the first institution known to have purchased *Leaves of Grass* at the time of its publication, and it showcased three first editions of the book in its exhibit *Poet of the Body*, which also featured items from the collection of Susan Jaffe Tane.

In February, *Bibliomania: Book Arts at the Providence Athenæum* celebrated the library's extensive and beautiful collections, including the complete 25-volume set of the *Description de l'Égypte*, rarely displayed in its entirety. While the exhibition was cut short due to the pandemic, the library was able to share *Bibliomania* through one of its most popular virtual programs.

Special Collections

The Athenæum conserved its first-edition *Leaves of Grass* (1855) and was able to acquire several important items of note through the Hayden Special Collections Development Fund, including a bust of Edgar Allan Poe, the *Kelmscott Chaucer Leaf Book* (including an original William Morris leaf), Walt Whitman's *Specimen Days* (1882), and *Candle-Lightin' Time* by Paul Dunbar (1901).

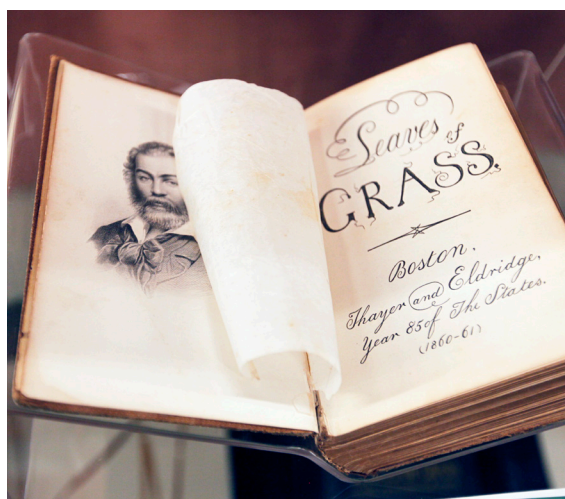
We are also grateful for the contributions of three framed drawings by Edna Lawrence (Jack & Regina Partridge) and *A Topographical Chart of Narragansett Bay* (1777) (Mr. & Mrs. Henry Sharpe).

Circulating Collection

In the spring, the library services team developed a new curbside pickup service, which allowed members to order and pick up materials despite the building's closure. The Athenæum also invested heavily in hoopla, a digital circulation service, that proved to be extremely popular. The Children's Library offered curated grab bags and book selections along with the curbside craft kits. Thanks to these initiatives, circulation remained strong, and members were able to continue to enjoy the Athenæum's collections during the building's closure.

PRIOR: *Bibliomania: Book Arts at the Providence Athenæum* exhibition

FOLLOWING: Conservator Anthony Bevilacqua restores an antique frame; illuminating letters at the *Bibliomania* opening; *Leaves of Grass* in *Poet of the Body*; one of the library's oldest books in *Bibliomania*; *Poet of the Body* exhibition



Exhibitions

- *Providence Unveiled: Stories from the Archives*
June – September 2019
- *Walt Whitman: Poet of the Body*
October 2019 – January 2020
- *Bibliomania: Book Arts at the Providence Athenæum*
February – March 2020 (closed prematurely due to COVID-19)





Buildings & Grounds

In the fall, the Athenæum completed its roof replacement and skylight repair, ensuring the integrity of the roofing system for a generation. This large project was made possible through the support of the Champlin Foundation and the Rhode Island State Preservation Grants. Funds were also used to completely replace all of the skylights in the building, most of which were more than a century old. The filtered glass will protect the library's collection against damaging ultraviolet light, and it has the advantage of being both beautiful and safer.

Traditionally, the Athenæum is open to the public seven days a week, and in recent years it has become one of the more popular tourist destinations in Providence – but the volume of traffic and extensive public hours have prevented the institution from completing painstaking beautification projects. When the Athenæum closed to the public, the board leveraged the rare opportunity to do a deep clean and rejuvenation program. Most public areas of the library were cleaned, repainted, and reappointed.

Perhaps the most exciting project was spearheaded by former board President Tripp Evans, who singlehandedly renovated the Art Room. The room was repainted, decluttered, re-upholstered, and re-curated, and it is now one of the most beautiful interior spaces in the city.

LEFT: Bust of Edgar Allan Poe installed in front of the renovated Art Room

FOLLOWING: Executive Director Matt Burriesci introduces Colson Whitehead





Treasurer's Report

The fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 found the Athenæum in a strong financial position, despite the disruption caused by the outbreak of COVID-19.

While the Athenæum saw a slight downturn in membership revenues (-2.7%), the organization saw a 2.7% increase in its annual fundraising. Capital projects funding rose substantially due to a one-time project to replace the roof and refurbish the skylights, with an offsetting corresponding expense. Facility rental revenue decreased by 63% as a result of two factors: a one-time film shoot in the previous year and rental cancellations resulting from the closure of the building in March of 2020.

Investment income designated for operations decreased by .8%, but for the first time in more than a decade, the Athenæum reduced its draw on its endowment.

Personnel expenses rose by 1.7% as a result of cost-of-living adjustments for staff, while fundraising expenses rose by 32%, resulting from a one-time feasibility study conducted in the fall of 2019.

Total Equity increased by .5%, to \$13,114,552. Total liabilities increased to \$173,090, reflecting successful procurement of a Payroll Projection Program loan, which will be realized as revenue in Fiscal Year 2021.

Overall, the library's financial position remains strong, and, for the fourth consecutive year, the Athenæum ended its fiscal year with a surplus.

Bradford M. Gibbs, Treasurer

INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUE	FY20	FY19
Membership	\$186,215	\$191,433
Fundraising	\$401,742	\$391,361
Capital Projects Funding	\$348,684	\$27,762
Facility Rental	\$20,619	\$55,065
Bequest	\$0	\$0
Trust Funds	\$39,444	\$39,160
Miscellaneous	\$18,314	\$19,110
Investment Income for Operations	\$504,870	\$509,187
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,519,888	\$1,233,078
EXPENSES		
Personnel	\$800,568	\$787,135
Library Materials	\$46,553	\$47,224
Library Services & Management	\$37,352	\$29,292
Programs	\$41,589	\$46,629
Communications & Marketing	\$8,283	\$17,674
Membership & Development	\$49,514	\$37,449
Building & Grounds	\$52,247	\$68,519
Capital Projects Expense	\$348,684	\$27,762
General Office & Admin.	\$100,836	\$129,599
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,485,626	\$1,191,282
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$34,262	\$41,795

Note: the above financial information presents only unrestricted operating activity before fixed asset capitalization or depreciation. Revenue and expense for special projects are included only as net assets are released from restrictions. Further details are published in the audited financial statements available through the accounting department.

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	FY20	FY19
Cash	\$433,439	\$490,887
Endowment	\$10,858,109	\$10,889,416
Receivables	\$14,666	\$26,757
Prepaid Expenses	\$17,680	\$29,892
Inventory	\$2,706	\$1,044
Fixed Assets*	\$1,961,042	\$1,682,893
TOTAL ASSETS	\$13,278,642	\$13,120,889
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$7,743	\$18,273
Accrued Expenses	\$26,255	\$45,197
Deferred Revenue	\$5,675	\$8,915
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$173,090	\$72,385
EQUITY		
Unrestricted	\$10,527,517	\$10,276,975
Temporarily Restricted	\$1,094,902	\$1,280,971
Permanently Restricted	\$1,492,133	\$1,490,558
TOTAL EQUITY	\$13,114,552	\$13,048,504
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$13,287,642	\$13,120,889

*Fixed assets are listed here net of accumulated depreciation.

Board of Directors

Jonathan F. Bell

President

Jen Gazdacko

Vice President

Karen Jessup

Secretary

Bradford M. Gibbs

Treasurer

Candy Adriance

Kristi Agniel

Kqantu Pareja

Bennett

Kipp Bradford

Tom Bryson

Scott Burns

R. Tripp Evans

Touba Ghadessi

Mark K. W. Gim

Brian Hayden

Ethan Hillary

Kisch, MD

Peter Lofgren

Cathy Lund, DVM

Timothy Philbrick

Suzanne Scanlan

Melvin Wesley, AIA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Matt Burriesci

FULL-TIME STAFF

Mary Brower
Circulation Supervisor

Ken Garrepy
*Director of Finance
& Administration*

Juli Anna Herndon
Executive Assistant

Stephanie Ovoian
*Reference & Special
Collections Librarian*

Brendan Ryan
*Technical Services
Librarian*

Lindsay Shaw
Children's Librarian

Robin Wetherill
*Director of Membership
& External Relations*

Kate Wodehouse
*Director of Collections
& Library Services*

Jenny Young
Events Coordinator

Library Staff

PART-TIME STAFF

Genesis Barrera
Circulation Assistant

Kirsty Dain
Circulation Assistant

Christopher Garrepy
Temporary Bookkeeper

Susan Mary Kennedy
Circulation Supervisor

Sandy Markley
*Membership &
Development Assistant*

Lydia Mathewson
Circulation Assistant

Denise Ramirez
Circulation Assistant

Morgan Ross
Circulation Assistant

Michaela Sheerar
Circulation Assistant



COLSON WHITEHEAD ADDRESSES A SELL-OUT CROWD

Supporters of the Athenæum

The generosity shown to the Athenæum during one of its most challenging years was nothing short of remarkable. The following pages are a tribute to these people, businesses, and foundations who gave cash and in-kind contributions to the library between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

Francis Wayland Circle (\$25,000+)

James C. Raleigh Memorial Fund at the Rhode
Island Foundation
RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission

Stephen Hopkins Circle (\$10,000-\$24,999)

Anonymous (3)
Vincent Buonanno
Scott & Cynthia Burns
The Carter Fund at the Rhode Island Foundation
Barbara Goldstein, Leon & Barbara Goldstein
Fund at the Rhode Island Foundation
June Rockwell Levy Foundation
Ms. Ann Mason, in memory of Professor Edward
E. Mason
Cynthia Patterson
Rhode Island State Council on the Arts

Moses Brown Circle (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Candy Adriance
Dr. Joseph A. Chazan
Melanie & Stephen Coon

Bradford & Robin Gibbs, Gibbs Family Fund,
Fidelity Charitable
Susan & David Haffenreffer, Haffenreffer Family
Fund, Rhode Island Foundation
Mabel T. Woolley Trust
Preserve Rhode Island
Providence Tourism Council
Rhode Island Council for the Humanities
Abbot Stranahan & David Ward
Susan Jaffe Tane

Grace Leonard Circle (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Anonymous
Anonymous, in honor of Amanda Knox and in
memory of Gertrude Kolacki Jacobs, who
made this gift possible.
Anonymous, in honor of President Trump and
our Congress
A. Sidney Clifford Jr., Charitable Gift Fund,
Renaissance Charitable Foundation Inc.
Tripp Evans & Edward Cabral
Carl & Grace Farmer, in memory of Louis
Fazzano
Ellen & David Galkin
Rita & Jonathan Gewirz

Cate S. & Richard T. Gilbane, Richard T. Gilbane
Fund, Fidelity Charitable
Mark & Catherine Gim
Laura & Roy Brady
Dr. Ethan Hillary Kisch & Dr. Helene Kisch-
Pniewski
Chas A. Miller III & Birch Coffey
Barbara & Larry Schoenfeld for the Sand
Foundation
Deming & Jane Sherman
Tom & Barbara Slaight
Mary Chapman Speare
Universal Service Administrative Company

Zachariah Allen Circle (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Anonymous (3)
Charles & Marilyn Doeblar Fund at the Rhode
Island Foundation
Sylvia Street Fund, in memory of Ruth Ely, at
the Rhode Island Foundation
Kristi Agniel
Leslie Atik & Robert Preucel
Kqantu Pareja Bennett
Julie M. Boegehold, in memory of Alan Boegehold
Dr. & Mrs. William Braden
Matt Burriesci & Erin Kemper
Arnold B. Chace, Jr., Chase Family Giving Fund,
Fidelity Charitable
Inge & Richard Chafee, Mr. & Mrs. Richard S.
Chafee Fund, Fidelity Charitable
Cornish Associates, LP
Jill H. Davis
Davide Dukcevic & Alice Berresheim-
Dukcevic, in honor of Miss Lindsay

Nicholas G. Fazzano
Mary Jean B. Freeman
Robert Garzillo & Kate Wodehouse
Touba Ghadessi & John Richard
Mr. & Mrs. L. Martin Gibbs
Sarah Godfrey, Godfrey Family Fund, Fidelity
Charitable
Donna & Paul Gricus
Almon & Suzanne Hall, Almon & Suzanne Hall
Family Fund at the Rhode Island Foundation
Elizabeth Hallowell
Hannah Street Consulting, Inc.
Brian & Lyn Hayden
Karen & Richard Jessup
Lyn Johnson
Evan & Catherine Jones
Jennifer E. Kiddie, Kiddie Giving Fund, Fidelity
Charitable
Joyce & Paul Kilmartin
Sally Kingsbury
Leonard & Linda Levin
Cathy Lund & Peter Karczmar / City Kitty
Veterinary Care for Cats, in honor of all the
cats who've helped us shelter in place
Steve & Jane Metzger
Hugh McAden Oechler & Joanne Oechler
Peter O'Neill & Lindsay French
Carol Grant & Charley Otto
Partridge Snow & Hahn
Barton Payne
Tim & Claudia Philbrick
Dr. Brian Regel, in honor of special collections
Frank & Monica Schaberg
Kay & Peter Scheidler

Clarkson Schoettle, Raether-Schoettle
Charitable Fund, Fidelity Charitable
Jenny & Stephen Schweich
Peggy & Henry Sharpe, Peggy & Henry Sharpe
Fund at the Rhode Island Foundation
Ann & John Woolsey
Variable Data Printing, Inc.
Carol & Kevin Welsh, in honor of Kate
Wodehouse
Ann T. Willaman, matching gift Textron, Inc.
Yankee Travel, Inc.

William Stickland Circle (\$500-\$999)

Suzanne Barksdale
Alayne Barnicoat & Dale Lesh
Anne Barylick, in memory of Marie Barylick,
mother & book lover
Jennifer Becker & Jeffrey Fox
Jonathan Bell & Sarah Zurier
Phoebe Blake & Peter McClure
Kip & Judith Brott
Muriel H. Constantine
Alexandra Cummings, Robert Cummings
Family Foundation
Albert & Pamela Dahlberg
Lewis & Betty Dana
Douglas R. Davis, in memory of Katherine J.
Moore
Kristin DeKuiper
Curt DiCamillo, in honor of Matt Burriesci
Bob & Rena DiMuccio, matching gift Amica
Companies Foundation
Mary-Beth Fafard, Ph.D.
David & Suzanne Francis, Francis Family Fund,
Schwab Charitable
William Gagnier
Jen & Michael Gazdacko
The Gertrude & Seebert Goldowsky Foundation
Mitchell & Ellen Hansen, Hansen Family Fund,
Fidelity Charitable
Matthew & Diane Josefowicz
Karen Kaplan
Danielle Kemsley, in honor of the Athenæum staff
Mary Louise Kennedy
Mike King & Martha Bellows
Russell & Jean Knott
Eleanor Koo
Jane & Tony Lancaster
Sally Lapides
Kay & Peter Lisle
Govind Menon & Anjali Sridhar
Anne B. Miller
Doug & Elsie Morse
Suzanne & Terrence Murray, Murray Family
Charitable Foundation

Richard & Audrey Olmsted
Richard A. Olsen
Mr. Charles H. Page
John & Regina Partridge
Kevin & Marianne Phelan, in honor of the
Athenæum's Special Collections, matching gift
Amica Companies Foundation
Amy Prigmore
Sara Reichley
Russell & Carla Ricci, the Ricci Family Fund at
the Rhode Island Foundation
Suzanne Scanlan
John Stephenson, in memory of Brook Kamal
Stephenson
Jim Sunshine
Dexter Strong & Maureen Taylor, Taylor
Strong Charitable Fund at the Rhode Island
Foundation
William Tift & Ellen Bruzelius
Mary Wall
Becky Waugh
Edward & Karin Wetherill
Edward C. Widmer

Sarah Helen Whitman Circle (\$250-499)

Anonymous (3)
Anonymous, in memory of David W. McKain
James & Susan Allen
Arria & Harrison Bilodeau
Kathleen Bower
Anna Brookes
Ella & Barrett Browning
Desiree Caldwell & William Armitage
Jake & Maggie Camara
E. A. Carter, in memory of John S. Carter, Jr.
Susan Cohen & Ronald Cohen
Mary K. & Jack Connor
Brian M. Daniels & Jeff C. Davis
Dante & Vanessa Del Giudice
Carla Dowben
Dennis J. & Kathleen Y. Duffy
Sara Dunn
David Durand & Elli Mylonas
Barry & Elaine Fain
Vincent & Jessica Galatro
Jeremy Giller & Julie Roth
Philip Gould & Athena Poppas
Don & Ann Gralnek
Michelle Grove
Philip Gruppuso & Martha Manno, Manno-
Gruppuso Charitable Fund, Fidelity Charitable
Ruth & Mark Guyer
Erica & George Hardy
Kevin J. Harrington
Stephanie Hartselle & John Hewitt, Jr.
Anne Holland
Sheila Hughes
Alfred Jeffries III
Arlene Kibarian Hatch
Kate & Howard Kilguss



A LIVE RADIO THEATER PRODUCTION PERFORMED BY THE WILBURY THEATRE GROUP AT A MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR

Maureen Krasnow & Stanley Bleeker
 Larry Larson & Lynne Sykes Larson
 Rebecca Lebeau
 Janice W. Libby
 Judy Barrett Litoff, Ph.D
 Seth Magaziner
 Michael & Geraldine Malanga
 Peter & Kathryn Mandel
 Marion Mariner
 John & Lynn McCarthy
 Sara & Jack McConnell
 Li Yan McCurdy
 Frederick McMillen
 Dr. & Mrs. Michael E. Migliori
 Christopher Moore & William Dilworth
 Sarah & Pierre Morenon
 Dr. Joan Munson
 Benjamin Nacar
 Mark & Linda Narbey
 Jack & Pat Nolan
 Stephen Ostrach & Linda Eisenmann
 Dan & Stephanie Ovoian, matching gift Medtronic
 Ben & Annie Philbrick
 Yahaira Placencia
 Katherine Prevost, Hannah Read, & Daria Phoebe Brashear
 Kurt A. Raaflaub & Deborah Boedeker
 Joan & Francis Richards
 Alicia Ridge
 Tina Rizack & Christopher Langlois
 Martha Roberts
 Noel Rubinton & Amy Cohen Rubinton
 Rich Rudert
 Kenneth Sacks & Jane Kaufman
 Faith & Fred Sandstrom
 Bruce Schaller
 Drew Schofield
 Monique & Robert Schweich, in honor of Jenny Schweich
 Cynthia & Gardiner Shattuck
 Melissa Simon
 Jillian Siqueland
 Ann & Daryl Stahl
 Sally & Scott Stevenson, Stevenson Charitable Fund, Fidelity Charitable
 Sally Strachan, in honor of Kate Wodehouse & Lindsay Shaw
 Carol & Hrant Tatian
 The Mendocino Fund, Commonwealth Charitable Fund
 Jen Thum & James Grice
 Julie Van Noppen
 Paul Van Zuiden
 Jessica Wang

James Watkins & Elizabeth Pannell
 Nancy Weiss-Fried
 Steve Wellmeier & Anne Bergeron
 Robin Wetherill & Ryan Cobb
 Joy & Charles Wharton
 Jessica Wright

Elizabeth B. Patten Circle (\$100-\$249)

Anonymous (13)
 Anonymous, in honor of Catherine Wodehouse
 Anonymous, in honor of Robin Wetherill and Barbara Johnson
 Anonymous, in memory of Samuel A. Miller
 Mrs. Thomas R. Adams
 George W. Ahl III
 Mary Stair Andrews
 Thomas & Kathleen Banchoff
 Barbara Barnes
 G. Barrett, in honor of my mom
 Patricia T. Becker
 Elisabeth Bell
 Jane & Daniel Blanchette
 Bob Bonadies & Bettina Rounds
 Michael & Alice Bonitati
 Abigail Borchert
 Kipp Bradford & Julie Steele
 Michele Brannigan
 Susan Burland
 Hannah Carlson & Charlie Cannon
 Paula Carmichael & Richelle Russell
 Lisa & Michael Casey
 Nancy Cassidy & Jeffrey Schreck
 Anthony & Sarah Champa
 Audrey Chapuis
 Kate & Arthur Chute
 Kim Clark
 Anna & Bill Colaiaice
 Eliza G. C. Collins
 Sheila & Dick Congdon
 Connie & Terry, in honor of Albert
 Lavinia M. Connors, Connors & Murphy Family Fund, Fidelity Charitable
 John & Christine Conway
 JP Couture
 Virginia Davidson
 Carol DeBoer-Langworthy
 Elizabeth Debs & Isabel Turner-Debs
 Allen & Jane Dennison
 Carrie Drake & Cranston Paull
 David & Sally Duncan
 Monica Dzialo
 Pamela Ellsworth, in memory of R. Einar Soderback

Julia & Robert Emlen
 Tony Estrella & Jennifer Madden
 Lewis Evans
 Pedro Felzenszwalb & Caroline Klivans
 Susan C. Fisher
 Eileen Forster
 Elizabeth Francis
 Arthur Geltzer & Younghee Kim
 Pam High
 Anne Freeman Giraud
 Sarah Gleason, in memory of Tom Gleason
 Maraya & Robert Goff
 Susan Gunter
 Charlotte & Seth Handy, in memory of Edward Otis Handy, Jr.
 Anthony Hayward
 Edith Hemenway
 Jacques V. Hopkins, in memory of Lorraine L. Hopkins
 Elisabeth Hubbard
 Michael & Elizabeth Huber
 Ardie Jenkins
 Audie & Bill Jennings
 Dana Jessup
 Diana L. Johnson, in memory of V. Duncan Johnson
 Peter & Joanne King
 Susan Kinloch
 Rachel M. Schwartz & Peter Kramer
 Margaret Howland
 Rosalind Ladd
 Stein/Landow Family
 Charles & Amey Larmore
 Francis J. Leazes, Jr.
 Andrew Lemman, in honor of Finn Lackey
 Allison Levy
 Peter & Natasha Lofgren
 William Lonardo, in memory of William & Marie Lonardo
 Cindy Loveless
 John & Sandy Markley
 John A. Mattera
 Donald & Mary McClure
 Mr. & Mrs. Norman E. McCulloch, Jr., Trustees, McAdams Charitable Foundation
 Em & John McManamy
 Andrea Mernan
 Alice Miles
 Ted & Susan Mocarski
 Adrienne Morris
 Burleigh & Carol Morton
 Patrice Moskow & Bob Gimlich
 Dr. & Mrs. Samir Moubayed
 Martha Murphy & Mark Anderwald & Susan Seymour Murphy
 Jane S. Nelson



ART ROOM RENOVATIONS

Ken & Laura Nordstrom
 Paul Cantor & Caroline Obrecht
 Lauri & Christopher Ontso
 Valerie Ottaviano & Rebecca Randolph
 Robert Ovoian & Valerie Welch
 Tim & Kim Paige
 Eric & Jane Peterson
 John & Christine Popoli
 Joseph A. & Claire-Lise Presel
 Tania Ralli & Franklin Goldsmith
 Betty & Fraser Lang
 Amy Remensnyder
 Alexandra C. Reynolds
 Anne M. Richardson
 Kim & Kenneth Rickler
 Deborah Ring & Michael Simoncelli
 Timothy Rivinus
 R-Keough Construction, Inc.
 Thomas Roberts
 Rosanna, Inc.
 Carolyn & Charles Rosenthal
 Nancy Safer
 Neil Safer & Iris Montero
 Sobrevilla
 Mark & Elaine Sawtelle
 Ford & Sally Sayre
 Clare Schoenfeld
 E. Ann & James E. Scott, The Ann & Jim Scott Charitable Gift Account at Schwab Charitable
 Theresa & George Seidel
 Andrew & Martha Shaindlin
 Henry & Julie Sharpe
 Lindsay Shaw
 I.C. Sheldon
 D. E. Stark

Martha E. Stone
 Andrew & Louise Swanson
 Carol Terry & James Janecsek
 Nathaniel Tobey
 Frances & Peter Trafton
 Marquita Troiano
 Lori Vallario, in memory of Louis A. Fazzano
 Charles & Kavita Vansant
 Barbara A. Weindling & David A. Cohen Charitable Fund, Schwab Charitable
 Naida Weisberg
 Beth & Stanley Weiss
 Ellen Welty & Michael Mideleer
 Melvin & Elizabeth Wesley
 Michael White
 Leslie & Stephen Whitmer, in memory of Louis Fazzano
 Inge Wimmers, in honor of Henry Majewski
 Dee Dee Witman
 Joe Handly & Mack Woodward

Daniel Cushing Circle (\$1-99)

Anonymous (21)
 Anonymous, in honor of Ellee Goldenberg
 Rocky & Anne Adriance
 Alex Aho
 Denise C. Aiken
 Katharine Amaral
 Norma Anderson
 Mary-Kim Arnold & Matthew Derby
 Jane & Robert Arnold, in honor of Jim & Harriet Wrenn

Timothy & Cheryl Aubin
 Belinda Bachand
 Marilyn Baldwin
 Beverly Bennett
 Andy Birch
 Judy Blake
 Steven B. Bloomfield & Melissa H. Apperson
 Catherine Boisseau
 Adele M. Bourne
 Ann & Tom Boyd
 Anne Bozzi
 Tish Brennan
 Jennifer Ketay Brock
 Anna Browder
 Mary E. Brower, in memory of Elizabeth Carpenter
 Mary Belden Brown & Lynn Clapham
 Barbara Burke & David Whalen
 Anne Butler
 Teal Butterworth & Dennis Ballou, in honor of Kqantu Bennett
 Elaine Cali
 Stephen Caruana
 Barbara F. Casey
 Elizabeth Caswell
 Paula Champa
 Maximilian Chang & Corinne McKamey
 Andrew & Avital Chatto
 Professor John Cherry
 Percy & Susannah Chinoy
 Shawn Christian
 Duane & Nancy Christy
 Nick Cicchitelli
 Charles & Susannah Cohen
 Kerry Condon

Marcia Cone
 Sean & Anne Connor, in memory of Deborah Dunning
 Annelise & Ian Conway
 Carol Cook
 Joseph Correia, in memory of Hilda Mendonsa
 Michael Crowley
 Alex & May-Tal Cutler
 David & Sharon Cutts
 Stephen Dambruch
 Judy Davis
 Philip Devens
 Rachel DiCioccio
 Megan Dincher
 Mary Margaret & Timothy Donovan
 Diane & Douglas Dougherty
 John R. Duhamel
 Marc & Kathryn Dunkelman
 Frank & Laura Durand
 Susan W. Durham, in honor of Dr. R. Tripp Evans
 Peggy Edwards
 Tina Egnoski & Dan O'Mahoney, in memory of Callie
 Sarah M. Ellis
 Jane E. Evans
 John & Heidi Farkash
 Thomas Farrell & Lisa Barsumian
 Jean & Barrett Flanders
 Richard Flinn & Stella Ormai
 Rynne Flynn
 Stephanie Fortunato
 Vittoria Buerschaper & William Fuqua
 Jennifer Gage
 Lucas Gelfond
 Garth Gergerich
 Mary Anne Golda
 Vaughn & Diane Gooding
 Ellen Goodman
 Carrollyn Grace
 Robert Grant
 William & Kira Greene
 Erin & Bill Haas
 Rebecca Hancock
 Dean Hantzopoulos
 Betsy Waters Harrison
 Eric & Meredith Hastings
 Karie Hayes
 Peter & Susan Allen, in memory of Charles Sullivan
 Anthony & Pam Hitchman
 Claudia Horwitz
 Jan Howard & Dennis Teepe
 Lucia Huntley
 Jay Hurd
 James Hurley & Teresa Gorman
 Mary Hutchins
 Wendy Ingram
 Caroline Patterson Inlow
 Clare Irwin, in memory of Dorothy Mullen

Susan Janis
 Irene Jefferson
 Brad Jenkins, Megan & Sharon McKain
 Christopher Kalley
 Barbara Karoff
 Katherine Kazarian
 Deborah M. Kelley
 Nancy Kendrick
 Liam Kerwin
 Jessie Kingston
 Max Kohlenberg & Becky Minard
 Lee Kossin & Philip Leis
 Dennise Kowalczyk
 Steven & Diana Lackey, in honor of our grandchildren
 Richard Lamon & Ann Kordas
 Mrs. Christina Lantz
 Marie LaRochelle
 Ryan Laughlin
 Jennifer Laurelli
 Alan Lawson & Mary Beth Tabacco
 Levi L. Leland, in honor of Mrs. Whitman
 Kristine Lemke
 Lucy Ann Lepreau
 John Loerke & Marie Langlois
 Kate Losman
 Joan Lusk
 Ann Brooke Mason
 Sheryl Mason
 Colin McGlynn
 Joan Medeiros
 Peter Mello
 Christopher Menard
 Michelle Miller
 Mary R. Minow
 Joyce E. Monac
 Marjorie Montgomery
 Edward & Carolann Morrissey, in honor of Robin Wetherill
 Elias Muhanna & Jennifer Jackson
 Maevie Murray
 Elinor Nacheman
 Rita Nenonen
 Erin E. Newell
 Bill & Susan Newkirk
 Mildred Nichols
 Amy & Kevin Orth
 James & Ashley Ostendorf
 Michael Owen
 Allison Pace, in memory of Marianne Pace
 Donna Pacella
 Kelly Knight
 Jill Pearlman
 Elise Petrarca
 Patricia Petroccione
 Anthony & Lillian Picchione
 Phyllis D. Poor
 Laura Porter

Prof. Rosemary W. Prisco, in memory of John & Mary Elizabeth Prisco
 Judith Queen, in memory of Sylvia Moubayed
 Betsey Quigley
 Mary Kate Ragno
 Chris & Cynthia Ragona
 Ramzi J. Loqa, P.E. Consulting Engineers
 J. Richard Ratcliffe
 Connie & George Raymond
 David T. & Jennifer F. Riedel
 Dr. & Mrs. Noel Robin, in honor of Andrew Robin
 Steven & Diana Rodriguez
 Karen T. Romer
 Fred & Sally Rotenberg
 Brent Runyon
 Jayne Guertin
 Roxie Sgouros
 Narmin Shahid
 Ruby Shalansky
 David Shapiro-Zysk
 Sarah & Robert Shaw
 John & Kathleen Sheran
 Patrick Simas
 Nathaniel Smulling
 Virginia Sofios
 Lora Spalt
 Joseph C. Spencer
 Robin M. Tagliaferri
 Friends at The Wolf School, in memory of Louis A. Fazzano
 Kathleen & Robert Thurston-Lighty
 Alan & Karen Usas
 Amy & Joel VanderWeele
 Victoria Veh
 Kelli Viera
 Destenie Vital, in honor of Albert's IG post
 Mary J. Volatile
 Stephen Walker, in honor of H. P. Lovecraft
 Ashbel Wall & Maria DeCarvalho
 Mike & Marcia Walsh, in honor of the Levin Family
 Terry Ward
 Vera Wayne
 Jasmine White
 Robert & Mary Ellen White
 Scott White & Bruce Churchill, in honor of Ellee Goldenberg's 90th birthday
 Lauren Williams
 Lea E. Williams
 Linda Wilson
 Angeline Koziara
 Richard & Mary Worrell
 Timothy Wynne
 Alan Yuspeh
 Evelyn Zepf
 Lisa Zerdelian

Volunteers

Jane Arnold
 Leslie Atik
 Jennifer Becker
 Adele Bourne
 Ellen Bruzelius
 Edward Cabral
 Carol Delaney
 Peggy Edwards
 R. Tripp Evans
 Elizabeth Farjardo
 Carl Farmer
 Grace Farmer
 Faith Fogle
 Robert Garzillo
 Molly Harrington
 Greg Healy
 Jen Huntley
 Lucia Huntley
 Jennifer Kiddie
 Jane Lancaster

Lucy Lepreau
 Iveta Madden
 John Moran
 Elsie Morse
 Joanne Oechler
 Alex Reynolds
 George Sargent
 Patricia Sargent
 Cynthia Shattuck
 Sarah Shaw
 Carol Tatian
 Claire Uziel
 Rebecca Waton

Committee Volunteers

Grace Farmer, Finance, Pension Advisory
 Lyn Johnson, Finance
 Conor MacDonald, Buildings & Grounds
 Deming Sherman, Finance

Reading Group Leaders

Robert Allio, *The Examined Life*
 Lenny Cambra, *Dialogues of Plato*
 Bonnie Clayton & Jonathan Migliori, *Infernal Journeys*
 Susan Cohen, *Athenaeum Book Discussion Group*
 Stephen Coon, *French Kisses: Pleasures and Perils of Love in French Fiction*
 Armistead Covington, *New York Times Bestsellers*
 Vanessa Lillie, *Reading Like a Writer*
 Johanna Hannink, *Thucydides*

Athena Society

The following individuals have generously provided for the long-term financial health of the library by including the Athenaeum in their will or estate plans.

Anonymous
 Anonymous, deceased (2)
 Candy Adriance
 Alex Aho
 Kqantu Pareja Bennett
 Garrett Bliss
 Thomas & Antonia Bryson

Stephen & Melanie Coon
 R. Tripp Evans
 Dean Hantzopoulos
 Brian & Lyn Hayden
 Lynne Hoppin-Fazzi
 Mary Louise Kennedy
 Jane & Tony Lancaster

Cathy Lund & Peter Karczmar
 Timothy & Claudia Philbrick
 Rich Rudert
 Gardiner & Cynthia Shattuck
 Deming & Jane Sherman
 Jim Sunshine
 Vicki Veh



*In a fine spirit of understanding,
the shareholders have accepted
the slight shortening of hours, the
publishing makeshifts, the lack of
gasoline to bring one conveniently
to the door. They accept, for
they know the essence remains
of the quiet companionship of
Athenæum shelves and fellow
men - aware of the day but
inheritors of the past.*

*Without conscious or defiant
show, without trumpets in
attendance, without seeming to
partake of a sacrament,*

*we pursue as always
the right to read.*

*The Athenæum Bulletin,
Volume 18 No.1, June 1945.*

This report highlights the operational and financial activities of the Providence Athenæum and reflects gifts made to the Athenæum over the 12-month period July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020.

*We are grateful to the photographers who contributed to this report:
Ryan Cobb, Cat Laine, Mary Murphy, Kelly Prizel, and Adam Waz*





THE
PROVIDENCE
ATHENÆUM

251 BENEFIT STREET, PROVIDENCE, RI 02903
PROVATH.ORG