Dear Friends of the DCPLA,

It has been an honor serving as DCPLA president for the past two years. There is much to reflect on, as support for our libraries continues and we have been able to raise funds for the libraries and serve our diverse community. Through generous grants and donations, we raised over $40,000 in 2019.

We started this year with a new Executive Director Victoria Magbilang, who has helped us stay on track with her boundless energy and enthusiasm. Our Board was again “hands-on” in working on our two events, the St. Patrick’s Day luncheon and the “Crazy About Cars” fundraiser, as well as tabling at every opportunity at community events to bring more awareness to the importance of our libraries.

We are looking forward to our every-other-year book sale – so save those books to donate, drop by and peruse the selections, or lend a hand. We are still in the planning stages, so stay tuned.

I’m happy to pass the torch to my successor as DCPLA president, Rosie Tejada. Rosie has been a supporter of the DCPLA for many years, and has a vast amount of experience leading PTA Boards at M.H. Tobias Elementary School, Benjamin Franklin Intermediate School, and as a trustee of the Jefferson Union High School District Governing Board. We’re looking forward to an exciting year under her very capable leadership.

Our libraries are havens for the young and the young-at-heart. With the continued support of our members, our major donors, and our partners in the business community, the DCPLA looks forward to another great year ahead.

Tom Nuris
2018-2019 DCPLA Board Chair

Funds raised from events and grants in 2019 were given to the libraries for the following:

**JANUARY** $8,500 for the “Daly City Libraries Take a Lending Leap With a Laptop” laptop checkout program (with the help of a grant from the Carl Gellert and Celia Berta Gellert Foundation).

**MAY** $1,500 for a boost to the Graphic Novel Collection.

**DECEMBER** $12,575 (including a $5,000 grant from the Town of Colma) for a 3D carving machine and a Lucky Day Collection of high-demand items.

**Total Grants Given to the City of Daly City in 2019:** $22,575

The mission of the Daly City Public Library Associates is to raise private funds to supplement public funding of the Daly City libraries. This mission is accomplished by developing community, civic and business support for fundraising, advocacy, and innovative programs that benefit our diverse community and promote greater awareness of the Library’s valuable resources.

Our support complements, but does not supplant, the City’s responsibility for funding the Daly City Library’s Operations.
2019 WAS A YEAR OF TRANSITION and we saw many changes, some established traditions, and some new ones. Our sole Mission is to raise funds to help our libraries, and in 2019 we raised $80,340 through memberships, grants, and donations.

We began the year with new Executive Director Victoria Magbilang, taking over from founding director Susan Brissenden-Smith, who retired at the end of 2018. Victoria had big shoes to fill, but her enthusiasm as a longtime supporter of our libraries and her work in the schools and the community made her transition seem effortless.

The DCPLA's first event of the year was the much anticipated 7th Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon on March 14th which raised nearly $20,000. These “Fund the Need” projects were partially funded by attendees, who gave generously via donations and purchasing raffle tickets: the Lucky Day Collection (additional copies of high demand items for a special collection that doesn’t allow holds or renewals), a 3D carving machine, and a boost to the Graphic Novel collection.

The capacity crowd of 150 enjoyed a delicious corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots and Irish soda bread at the lovely Colma Community Center, as well as a selection of Irish songs sung by Teresa Proaño of Duggan’s Serra Mortuary.

Then Daly City Vice Mayor (current Mayor) Glenn Sylvester gave a rousing speech on “The Essentials of Libraries – Value Added Propositions”. He shared that the library is a place where people feel safe and welcomed, and that libraries boost local economies by assisting businesses and jobseekers. The next speaker was Vanessa Garcia, owner of the 7 Mile House restaurant and bar in Daly City and debut author of See You at the 7. Vanessa spoke movingly about how public libraries were instrumental in making her immigrant dreams a reality.

On April 9, Westlake Library hosted the launch celebration for “Daly City Libraries Take a Lending Leap with a Laptop”. Thanks to funds raised by DCPLA during its annual St. Patrick’s Day event and by generous grants from the Atkinson Foundation, Carl Gellert and Celia Berta Gellert Foundation, and the Town of Colma, Daly City Libraries started a Chromebook and Wi-Fi Hotspot Lending Service. The library also launched its bilingual Early Literacy Stations featuring high quality educational software, also funded by the DCPLA and designed for children ages 2-8.

DCPLA in partnership with Serramonte Center hosted a “Spoken Word Poetry Jam” on May 4th showcasing the talented students from Jefferson Elementary School District and Jefferson Union High School District who performed their original works.

Our last event of the year was our 2nd Annual Crazy About Cars event on September 18th held at Serramonte Center. It was a festive event featuring performances, vendors, community agencies, classic cars, and the popular “Pit Crew Challenge”. Through generous sponsorships and raffle ticket sales, DCPLA raised over $20,000 for our libraries!

We closed out the year in December by receiving a grant of $25,000 from the Carl Gellert and Celia Berta Gellert Foundation to go towards funding a community-use library computer upgrade project. This grant is the largest single grant the DCPLA has received in its history.
**Crazy About Cars**

DCPLA’s second annual CRAZY ABOUT CARS event was a tremendous success! We raised nearly $19,000 for our libraries!

In perfect Daly City weather (sunny and just warm enough), the CRAZY ABOUT CARS event drew hundreds to Serramonte Center on September 18th. This family-friendly event had something for everyone: performances, vendors, community agencies, and classic cars.

Of course, none of this could have been possible without our dedicated donors and sponsors. All raffle prizes were donated. Thank you to sponsor Serramonte Center for donating the use of the vast space, tables, chairs, advertising, gift cards, and the volunteer t-shirts. Heartfelt thanks go to our sponsors City Toyota Daly City, Serramonte Ford, Planet Fitness, and Home Depot for their unparalleled support. Our gratitude to Bob McLennan, owner of Planet Fitness, for making our Pit Crew Challenge exciting and extra special – serving as emcee and sponsoring a team, donating cash prizes for the winning team as well as tool sets, and donating the trophy. Bob also donated a year’s membership to Planet Fitness and gift bag for the raffle.

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**Spoken Word Poetry Jam**

DCPLA has always recognized the importance of our libraries to our youth so DCPLA hosted a “Spoken Word Poetry Jam” where students from Jefferson Elementary School District and Jefferson Union High School District bravely shared their own work onstage at Serramonte Center on May 4th. Many thanks to Serramonte Center and to Jefferson Elementary teacher and gifted spoken word artist Luisa Santos who worked with the students beforehand, served as emcee, and performed as well. The students gave powerful and moving readings of original pieces with topics including mental health, racial and cultural inequity, and environmental responsibility.
OUR OUTSTANDING 2019 DONORS!

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In keeping with DCPLA’s commitment to the community, our DCPLA team and volunteers put their all into making this day a success. Thank you to our volunteers: DCPLA leadership and members, CarMax, and students from Benjamin Franklin Intermediate (fantastic job selling raffle tickets!), Jefferson High, Jefferson High’s Robotics Team, Westmoor High, and Oceana High.

DCPLA is a recognized public charity with non-profit 501(c)3 status.

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