



Fishers Island Library



Campaign to

Preserve **Transform** Strengthen



2016-2017 Library Renovation Project

In the fall of 2016, the Fishers Island Library will embark on a renovation project to transform the front room of our unique library into a more functional, welcoming and contemporary space. These improvements will greatly benefit all members of the Fishers Island community by bridging the gap between our traditional role as a gathering place for enthusiasts of books and learning with the increased need for access to outside resources and technology. The preservation and enhancement of this beloved island landmark is paramount to our mission. Our goal is to raise \$250,000 for this project.

“Upon moving to the island seven years ago, I was delighted to find a wonderfully welcoming community of readers in the Book Group at the Fishers Island Library. I found them a source of intellectual stimulation and friendship. I also found the library a charming space to browse or stop to work on a puzzle or find the latest best seller. My grandchildren always make it one of their first stops upon their arrival because of the wonderful children’s section.”

— Frances Roethgen (year-round resident)

Mission

The library’s mission is to encourage a love of reading, storytelling and learning by providing free year-round access to its collection, programs and technology in a traditional, friendly and charming setting for islanders of all ages.



Welcoming



Our library is becoming more technologically focused, with patrons expanding their use of electronic resources far beyond our walls. The front room's current design and layout impedes access to the wealth of online information which is essential to any vibrant 21st century library.


As a result of these upgrades, patrons of all ages will have a greatly improved experience. The library will not only better serve our residents and students; it will build upon the island's year round sense of community, ultimately making the library an engaging center of island activity. This renovation is crucial to upgrading and maintaining one of our island's most treasured resources. We are pleased to report that all members of the Fishers Island Library Association Board of Trustees have generously committed to support this project.

Our plans include the opening up of the library's front room and adding:

- new, more accessible shelving
- additional, improved work and reading spaces
- more comfortable furniture, lighting and carpeting
- upgraded technology



Explore & Learn



“The Fishers Island Library is a great place to read because it makes me feel calm and peaceful. I always like to sit on the big Curious George if I am reading a book. When I am looking for a book, I often find more than what I needed or expected. Even though it is a hard ride on my bike to get up the hill, it is always worth it. I like returning my books to the little box on the porch and when I put it in, it makes me feel accomplished.”

— Lilah O’Neil (age 10)

Preserve Transform Strengthen

Preserve



Built in 1888, the library’s front room originally functioned as the island’s first school. Since 1914, the building has served as the island library, a welcoming place for islanders to read, explore and learn. With this project, the structure will remain an historic landmark for islanders, continue to provide free, year round access to our well

edited and continuously updated collection, and bring state of the art technology to connect patrons to off island resources.

Transform

The new front room will transform the library into a modern educational space for all visitors, including Fishers Island students. Patrons will have full and improved access to the internet and the resources of Live-brary, a cooperative online project of the Suffolk County public libraries. This exciting system will provide users with thousands of ebooks, magazines, music and films, as well as a wealth of educational services. Combined with countless other online tools, Live-brary will keep islanders connected to the outside world while broadening their cultural and educational opportunities. For Fishers Island students, the library will enhance their learning across curricula, as it will offer both students and teachers the opportunity to effectively use important resources for learning and research. This will help to reduce the potential for an academic and digital divide between Fishers Island students and those on the mainland.



Preserve Transform Strengthen

Strengthen

A welcoming front room will enhance the library's use as a community hub of learning, offering additional space for library programming, training and events. For residents and visitors, the upgraded room will provide an attractive and functional space for working remotely. Finally, by designing a comfortable, accessible room, the library will offer easy access to the abundance of online cultural institutions, distance learning programs, and various other e-resources.

"We know that students learn best when their families and community are involved in and supportive of their children's education. The Fishers Island Library is an important partner in the school's goal to ensure the success of each and every one of our students. The Library Board and staff have enthusiastically embraced every initiative we have proposed, from a summer Magic School Bus reading incentive program to regular school year visits to the library by every elementary class. Renovating the library to better facilitate the use of both technological and print resources will enrich and empower the lives of all residents."

— Karen Loiselle Goodwin (Superintendent/Principal, Fishers Island School)



Access



Community Hub



Fishers Island Library Association

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filibrary.org



Fishers Island Library

Live-brary.com
Redefining Your World