

# THE VINEYARD HAVEN PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING FUND, INC.

## A Flexible Space to Welcome Everyone Help Us Address a Pressing Need

The Vineyard Haven Public Library has a well-deserved reputation for offering some of the best and most well-attended programs, lectures, continuing education classes and children's events on the Island. Since 2007 the library has experienced more than a 300% surge in attendance at adult programs, in addition to maintaining a vibrant schedule for children and young adults. All these programs and events are open to everyone and are offered free of charge.

However, the basement room in which we must hold these events presents a number of difficulties. This low-ceilinged room has inadequate acoustics and lacks even the simplest

modern audio/visual capabilities. When showing a slide presentation or movie, it is projected on the wall, the image size being further constricted by the low-hanging ceiling beams. The poorly ventilated room, with its sixty person capacity, becomes cramped. Also, many of those in attendance do not have a good view of the speaker or the projected presentation.



Social distancing would be impossible in our existing event space

Our esteemed programming can often attract audiences exceeding our capacity. This requires holding these events either off-site or upstairs in the limited reading area, which is not ideal. Over the past few years a number of speakers have declined to present programs at our library, citing space constrictions. These missed opportunities have been a great loss to our community. For many years this inadequate space has been challenging our best efforts to produce the fine programming and community events for which we are known.

Our educational and cultural activities, which are diverse and wide-reaching in nature, provide an unequalled opportunity for personal growth and social interaction. Programming and events at the Vineyard Haven Public Library enrich and renew the intellectual and social life for all members of our community. Your support in helping us sustain these valuable offerings is vital. Please help us keep the legacy alive by donating generously to our building program.

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2019 - 2022

## About Our Capital Campaign

The Vineyard Haven Public Library Building Fund, Inc. has been established to raise the money needed to fund this essential project. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation made up of volunteers from the community. At the launch of our campaign in 2019, townspeople responded generously with their support. The challenge ahead is to reach all potential donors and in particular to solicit the type of large leadership and major gifts that are so essential to reaching our goal. Based on the cost estimates for our most recent conceptual design, we have a fundraising goal of \$2 million. Every dollar donated goes directly to the building project and is tax-deductible to the full extent allowable by law. Please take a moment to look through this brochure to see the potential that lies ahead. You have our profound thanks for making as generous a donation as you can.



*The Vineyard Haven Library is often life-enhancing for me and I suspect generations of Styrons. Fine readings and lectures, always crowded, abound. We need a more heavenly space, a special place, for them. A bright new room with garden views is in our future. Let's make it happen now!*

Rose Styron, Honorary Co-Chair, Library Capital Campaign



## Ways to Give

You can support this project in many ways: making an immediate monetary donation, making a pledge, or even by donating appreciated stocks. You can also offer a big boost to our goal by choosing one of our naming opportunities.

### **Making a Donation**

Currently the Trustees of the Vineyard Haven Public Library have generously offered to make a 100% matching gift for all donations up to a total matching gift of \$500,000. This applies to any dollar amount donated and can be in the form of an immediate donation, pledge or stock gift. This is a great way to use the power of your donation to double your gift.

Send your donation checks made payable to "VHPLBFI" to the address listed on the back of this brochure. You may also securely donate or make a pledge online at our website which accepts credit cards, debit cards and PayPal ([www.vhplbfi.weebly.com](http://www.vhplbfi.weebly.com)). We will be glad to answer any questions and assist you personally for pledges, stock transfers or wire transfer gifts.

### **Naming Opportunities**

If you wish to make a major impact while leaving a lasting legacy through our Building Project, you can take advantage of one of the following naming opportunities:

1. The new multi-purpose community room \$500,000
2. The newly landscaped garden area (minus the already named Shakespeare Garden) \$100,000
3. The newly created reading nook surrounded by windows facing the garden \$100,000
4. The children's room activity center \$100,000

Please contact our Building Fund president, Arch Smith, who will be glad to answer any questions and to help with these or any other donations you wish to make ([vhplcapitalcampaign@gmail.com](mailto:vhplcapitalcampaign@gmail.com)).

## **Project Overview**

After extensive space-needs studies undertaken by the Vineyard Haven Public Library in which community members voiced the need for a more accommodating programming space, our Building Committee was formed and hired the talented architect and landscape designer Maryann Thompson. Thompson and her associates have developed plans for a flexible, well ventilated, accessible, and beautiful new multi-purpose community event room, with up-to-date technology, appropriate lighting and acoustics. Noteworthy features include:

- Large windows and doors opening the event room out to the garden. When necessary, the room can be easily darkened with drop-down shades.
- Acoustic engineering throughout with a state-of-the art sound system including an assisted hearing loop for the hearing impaired.
- A large retractable projection screen hidden in the highest rafter along with a high resolution projection system.
- A recessed kitchenette to one side in which to prepare refreshments.
- A professionally landscaped and welcoming garden area that is easily accessible from many points in the library.
- A reading area surrounded by glass windows looking out over the garden.
- A flexible space that will allow for a variety of “post-covid” arrangements with better ventilation.

## **A Word from the Architect**

Working on this Vineyard Haven Public Library project has truly been a great joy and privilege for me. My family has spent decades on the Vineyard taking part in community programs such as those offered by the library, and I could not be more excited to contribute to the creative vitality of this community through my design work. With my background in both Architectural and Landscape design, I strive to create an uplifting, state of the art, eco-conscious program space that closely interrelates with a revitalized garden and outdoor terrace as well as a newly renovated Reading Room.

We began our process in the Winter of 2018 with a thorough assessment of the existing facilities, including discussions with the library staff and greater community about what works and doesn't work about the existing building, and what character of space and landscape they envision for the project. Based on these conversations we explored a wide range of over ten possible locations for the program space on the site, analyzing how each possible siting would relate to the existing library spaces and circulation, how it would present itself to the public from the street, and ultimately, how much it would cost to build.

From these analyses and community discussions we arrived at a scheme that places the addition behind the existing library, connecting it intimately to a newly invigorated courtyard with benches, ADA compliant paving, and a restored Shakespeare Garden. This siting also provided an opportunity to renovate the existing Reading Room into a more open, sunlit space with abundant views out to the garden. The program space is envisioned as a wood-wrapped, timber framed space with acoustic dampening in the ceiling, creating a space that is cozy yet grand, modern yet familiar, and technologically advanced yet rustic.

We sincerely appreciate any degree of support you can provide – small or large – to contribute to this vital community project!

Maryann Thompson, FAIA

# Creating a Venue Befitting Extraordinary Programing

## Frequently Asked Questions

*How much of my donation will actually go to the project itself?*

All of it. The Vineyard Haven Library Building Fund, Inc. is composed entirely of volunteers and operates with no overhead. Our initial research and design fees of \$40,000 were paid for by the town. The Friends of the Vineyard Haven Library are generously taking care of our printing and promotional costs, leaving all your donated dollars to go directly to the building project.

*Is the entire amount of my donation tax-deductible?*

Yes. The Vineyard Haven Public Library Building Fund, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. Every dollar donated is tax-deductible to the full extent allowable by law and will help us reach our goal.

*What will happen to my donation if the project does not go forward?*

We have every confidence that this project will see fruition. However, in the unlikely event that we cannot reach our goal, your money will be used for other greatly needed projects solely for the benefit of the Vineyard Haven Public Library. None of your donation will be channeled to other town departments.

*How much of the garden area will be impacted by the project?*

The addition will encompass a portion of the existing patio garden but is sited in such a way as to make the large garden area remaining much more inviting and accessible. The smaller themed flower area known as the Shakespeare Garden will be restored within the newly designed patio garden. The Shakespeare Garden was dedicated to Margaret Webster in 1975 but was lost in the 2006 renovation.

*Is the project being designed in such a way that it is environmentally friendly and sustainable?*

Our architects, Maryann Thompson Associates, are creating a plan to improve the sustainability of the entire library with many new windows, a state-of-the art HVAC system, passive lighting, and consideration is being given to solar panels.

*Will there be enough parking to accommodate the attendance at events in the new venue?*

Our review of the recent programs indicate that the new room will not significantly change the number of attendees, but will allow for more flexibility, fewer disruptions to other uses of the Library, and more appropriate accommodations. Many citizens currently walk to the Library and others who do drive find sufficient parking nearby.

**The Vineyard Haven Public Library Building Fund, Inc.**

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Floor plan and landscape design (above) and an architect's rendering showing the exterior of the new space as seen from the newly landscaped garden area (below)





Architect's rendering of the new multi-purpose space



*As one whose life has been powerfully affected by the Library's generosity, I wholeheartedly support the project of a new multi-purpose meeting room. The Vineyard Haven Public Library is such a force for cultural activities on our island that its very success makes visible its problem. That missing room for future programs needs to be built. Its utility is both inexhaustible and crystal-clear. I am honored to be part of the team charged with bringing such a project to fruition.*

Philip Weinstein, Honorary Co-Chair, Library Capital Campaign



Architect's rendering of the newly created reading area with extensive glass-wall views out to the garden