



# The Lisa Libraries

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## Donate Online

You can now donate online to the Lisa Libraries. Please visit our website, and with just a few clicks you can make a secure financial contribution.

[www.LisaLibraries.org](http://www.LisaLibraries.org)

## WISH LIST

### Books

New hardcover and paperback books for ages 6 months to 18 years. Areas of special need are Spanish language and bilingual books, reference books, classics, picture books and board books.

### Computer equipment

Please call or email for specifications.

### Volunteers

working either in our Kingston, NY, office or remotely. Please contact us for more information.

### Financial contributions

Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

[LisaLibraries@gmail.com](mailto:LisaLibraries@gmail.com)  
[www.LisaLibraries.org](http://www.LisaLibraries.org)



## Dear Friends,

*Summer is almost over,  
and at the Lisa Libraries  
we've been busier  
than ever.*

Summer vacation, when most kids are out of school for at least eight weeks, allows for plenty of unscheduled free time, but it also leads to that summer slide, a learning loss that affects disadvantaged students more dramatically than students from higher socioeconomic communities.

Enter the summer reading program. Time for fun, time for art projects, time for books!

In late spring this year the Lisa Libraries donated a total of 2200 books to summer reading programs for underprivileged children, including the

Literacy Fair in Sullivan County, NY.

Laura Fishman of the Fallsburg Library, sponsor of the event, reported that children ages 4-12 would each be given a new book "to keep and take home as their own to treasure. This gateway would open up the importance of summer reading and help parents become role models for increased skills."

The Woodville Public Library, in Woodville, Alabama, received 100 books for underprivileged children participating in their Summer Reading Program. Each child was given two books to read over the summer – and to keep.

Happy reading!

*The Lisa Libraries*



**Winners of the Woodville Public Library's summer reading program contest with their prizes, which included books from The Lisa Libraries.**

# Feed the Body, Feed the Mind

Last year the Lisa Libraries began a new initiative, Feed the Body, Feed the Mind, in which children whose families visit food pantries can leave with brand new books of their own in addition to food for their kitchens.

We started out small, making a donation of books to the People's Place in our hometown of Kingston, NY. Word began to travel and next we were approached by the Reservoir Food Pantry in Boiceville, NY. Reservoir was started in the fall of 2013 serving approximately 150 families, many of whom lost everything in Hurricane Irene.

Our most recent donation was to the Milwaukee Food Pantry, which serves more than 27,000 clients, 40% of whom are children.

*The director of the program wrote:*

*It is wonderful to think that a child will receive a book when their parent visits the Pantry. In many cases, the children who receive these books have never owned a book before.*

We plan to continue this initiative, donating books to food banks across the country, partnering with organizations working to feed hungry families.



***Bookcases with Lisa Libraries  
books at the Reservoir Food  
Pantry in Boiceville, NY.***



## *The Lisa Libraries*



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# A Head Start on Reading

*"I think my neighbors thought I had lost my mind when I pulled into my garage and opened the boxes. I started screaming and jumping up and down. What fantastic books you donated! ...It took me some time to go through the books because I sat down and read most of them."*

This was Kellian Collins' reaction when she received a donation of Lisa Libraries books for Head Start of Eastern New York in Newburgh. Kellian is the community service chair of the Iota Pi Zeta chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., whose charitable activities have benefited many local organizations.

The Newburgh Head Start serves 3-4-year-olds, and the 300 Lisa Libraries books will be given to the older children in a summer reading program in order to prepare them for kindergarten in the fall.

This is just the beginning of The Lisa Libraries' collaboration with Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and Head Start. Every three months another donation of 300 books will arrive, presumably in Kellian's garage.

We hope that her neighbors don't truly think she has lost her mind, since the work she and the other chapter members do is invaluable, and will help the Head Start students learn to love both learning and reading.

## Operation School Bell

Operation School Bell began in the 1950s when one woman saw a need and decided to take action. She began providing new clothing to disadvantaged children in order to increase their self-esteem, thereby improving their school attendance, which led to greater academic success.

Today Operation School Bell is the core philanthropic effort of the Assistance League of Greater San Diego, and provides new school necessities to more than 3,100 students (although based on family income over 34,000 children in the area qualify for the program). Each student receives two school outfits, a jacket, school supplies, and a brand new book.

This, of course, is where The Lisa Libraries comes in. The children receiving assistance are among the neediest in San Diego. Many have never owned a book before.

This summer The Lisa Libraries sent the Assistance League 300 books for children in grades K through 6, and in the fall, each student who visits the Assistance League facility can pick out a brand new book – and go home outfitted and ready for a new school year.



**Madi in front of books donated to the Assistance League of Greater San Diego.**

# Thank You

One of the largest donations we have ever received was from author **Bruce Coville**, the president of **Full Cast Audio**. We received over 3,000 brand new audio books for middle grade and young adult listeners. What a treasure!

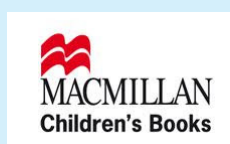
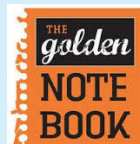
Thank you to the **Girl Scouts of Kingston, NY**, who held a book drive to benefit the Lisa Libraries. We appreciate the wide variety of lovely books they dropped off.

When long time independent bookstore, **The Bohemian Book Bin, in Kingston, NY**, closed its doors, owners **Linda Harrington and Christina Spano** were kind enough to donate the remaining children's books to The Lisa Libraries—over 300, including a complete set of the Lemony Snickett stories.

A big thank-you to three first-time donors – **Houghton Mifflin Harcourt** in Boston; **Arte Publico Press**, in Houston, Texas; and **Algonquin Young Readers** in New York City.



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