

Behind the Lines

Since 1987

From the desk of Leah Barnhard
Executive Director
Wichita Public Library Foundation

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The Foundation welcomes newest Library Board members Shelby Petersen, Dr. Justin Henry and Randall Johnston. Watch Shelby and her son Peyton in action as advocates of literacy and library services in the Foundation's video, *Library Transformation*. They play a major role in explaining the need for library services for home and virtual school students and the impact a new central library building would have in the Library's ability to serve our community. *A big thank you for their work on the video and support of the Library!*

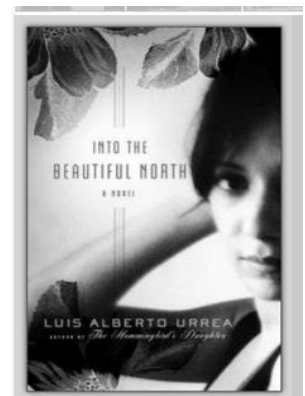
The video is available on the Foundation's website, SupportWichitaLibraries.org. Click on *Library Transformation* to watch Shelby, Peyton, USD 259 Superintendent John Allison, Wichita Downtown Development Corporation President Jeff Fluhr, Small Business Administration Regional Director Wayne Bell, and Wichita State University President John Bardo share their thoughts on the need for a new central library. *And then be sure to share the video with your family and friends!*

We wish Board President Steve Roberts, Treatha Brown Foster and Rosie Dool a fond farewell as they leave the Library Board, having fulfilled their respective terms. I am sure we will continue to see them volunteering at the Library.

Announcing the 8th annual Big Read Wichita! Funded in part by a grant from



the National Endowment for the Arts, this year's title, *Into the Beautiful North* by Alberto Luis Urrea proves Wichita loves a good book about family and community. Against the backdrop of the Mexican experience, the book tells the story of a girl in search of her father, the importance of family and the realities of life in a small Mexican town. The characters of the book bring depth to the immigrant experience and a delightful sense of optimism. Additional information is available on the Big Read Wichita website at www.bigreadwichita.org. *Look for The Big Read*



Wichita activities to begin mid-September!

The Big Read Wichita brings together over 50 partner organizations and makes our programming special. As one of 75 organizations in the United States and the only organization in Kansas to receive a 2015 Big Read grant, *your support really does make a difference!*

We would love to hear from you. Please complete the short survey below. Return to me by e-mail at foundation@wichita.lib.ks.us or send by regular mail to Leah Barnhard, 223 South Main Wichita, KS 67202. *Thank you for helping make the Library a very special place!*

How do you use the Library?

- Attend programs/Book club discussions
 - E-books
 - Paper books
 - Reference materials including genealogy and local history
 - Computer access including internet services
 - Other:
-

What are your favorite Library activities or programs?

How do you find out about Library programs and activities?

Help us share our story! The Foundation continues to look for speaking opportunities to promote the Library. Do you belong to a civic club, a book club, a church group, or an organization wanting to know more about the role of the Library in our community? Just call, 261-8523, or e-mail me at foundation@wichita.lib.ks.us and we will send a program out to your group. Our goal – to reach out to our community and share our Library story. *Help us promote the very special work our Library does in our community!*

WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

Leah Barnhard
223 South Main
Wichita, KS 67202
e-mail: foundation@wichita.lib.ks.us
Web site: <http://www.supportwichitalibraries.org>
316.261.8523