



**DISCOVER**

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For Immediate Release

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## EVPL East and EVPL West to Receive \$10,000 Gifts From Carnegie Corporation of New York

October 24, 2025 – EVPL East and EVPL West will each receive a \$10,000 gift from [Carnegie Corporation of New York](#), the foundation established by Andrew Carnegie. The award, which was announced yesterday, is part of [Carnegie Libraries 250](#), a special initiative celebrating the upcoming 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and honoring the roughly 1,280 Carnegie Libraries still serving their communities across the United States.

Scottish immigrant Andrew Carnegie funded the construction of 1,681 free public libraries nationwide between 1886 and 1917. Approximately 750 of them continue to use their original buildings, while others have moved to new locations. EVPL East and EVPL West, opened in January 1913, are two of 158 Carnegie Libraries in Indiana built through this historic program.

“This gift honors the history of Carnegie Libraries and the role they have played in communities nationwide for more than a century,” said Scott Kinney, CEO, EVPL. “EVPL East and EVPL West serve their surrounding neighborhoods and beyond with quality collections, engaging programs, and inviting spaces to gather and meet. We’re proud of how these locations have continued and built upon Carnegie’s vision for free access to knowledge.”

“Our founder, Andrew Carnegie, who championed the free public library movement of the late 19th century, described libraries as ‘cradles of democracy’ that ‘strengthen the democratic idea, the equality of the citizen, and the royalty of man,’” said [Dame Louise Richardson](#), president of Carnegie and former head of the University of Oxford. “We still believe this and are delighted to celebrate our connection to the libraries he founded.”

EVPL East and EVPL West will receive the gifts in January 2026. Per the announcement, the funds may be used to celebrate the 250th anniversary, further the organization’s mission, and benefit our community.

The Carnegie Corporation is inviting patrons to share their EVPL East and EVPL West photos, stories, and community celebrations at [carnegielibraries.org](https://carnegielibraries.org).

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