

A challenge for the Library. An opportunity for your business.

The adaptability demanded by the 21st century workforce holds true for the library itself. A static learning environment will fall short of both our users' and our community's expectations. This will ultimately leave employment seekers without the resources necessary to succeed in today's workforce and employers with fewer qualified candidates.

We must continually invest in technology, materials, staff training, and other resources so that Saint Paul Public Libraries remain dynamic homes for the most current information, learning tools, and services.

We need you to invest in this essential Saint Paul institution.

An investment in the future

The Saint Paul Public Library is a department of the City, but funds from corporate and residential taxes do not reach far enough to meet the demands for today's Library services.

An independent nonprofit, founded in 1945, The Friends exists to help libraries, and the communities they serve, thrive. The Friends is committed to providing at least \$1 million each year to the Saint Paul Public Library to ensure that essential and inspiring services are available to every interested individual in our City.

When you invest in The Friends, you are investing in your future workforce. You are supporting a diverse community of lifelong learners who can make our economy and our city stronger.



Let's work together.

There are lots of ways that your company can make a difference. Contact Greg Giles to discuss creating a partnership with The Friends that works for you.

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The Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. EIN: 41-6029683



Corporate Partnership

Investing in your workforce of tomorrow means investing in the Saint Paul Public Library today.



Preparing Saint Paul's workforce

To thrive in a changing society, our corporate community depends on a strong workforce pipeline. The foundation of a robust workforce is a community that can read, learn, inquire, and adapt.

This is where the Library comes in.

The Saint Paul Public Library helps people of all ages and backgrounds read, learn, and be problem solvers. The Library removes barriers to achieving these skills by bridging the achievement gap, supporting adult learners, and providing access to important technical and creative resources. The Library is an engine for equity.

With a Saint Paul Public Library branch in every corner of the city, and free programs and resources available every day to all, individuals have the opportunity to find the information and develop the skills they need to thrive.

Libraries help people prepare to work.

The Saint Paul Public Library cultivates 21st Century Skills in people at every stage of life.

The Saint Paul Public Library has been enormously effective at responding to changes in technology and globalization by offering new learning tools for all ages. Alongside the shelves of books are now computers, maker spaces, community gathering hubs, and classrooms, as well as programs that help people acquire new skills. The Library fosters a sustainable cycle of learning that equips today's workforce - and tomorrow's - with skills they need to succeed.

The journey begins with literacy.

Reading builds the foundation for lifelong learning.



Summer Reading Programs

Kids continue learning to stay on track for the next school year.



Homework Help Centers

Students can access free one-on-one assistance every day.



Workforce and Innovation Center

Creators can access the latest technology, business equipment, and resources.

The journey continues.

Lifelong learners pursue knowledge and inspiration at the Library.



Storytime in 9 Languages

Literacy begins when kids 0-3 and caregivers learn to talk, sing, and read together.



Teen Makerspaces

The next generation of innovators gets to tinker and create using the latest technology.



Digital Literacy Classes

Classes for all skill levels and digital assessments create job-readiness.



Small Business Resource Center

Entrepreneurs and business owners can take classes and learn the latest skills.

A new kind of economy. A new kind of worker.

Society is being reshaped by technology and globalization. In the old economy, employee loyalty and mastery of specific skills were hallmarks of a productive workplace. Today's corporate enterprise demands that workers be adaptable, lifelong learners who can thrive in a knowledge-based economy and a technology-driven workplace. The 21st Century Skills Framework highlights the specific competencies necessary in today's worker.

21st Century Skills Framework: Critical Workplace Competencies		
Critical thinking and problem solving	Technology literacy / media literacy	Social and cross cultural skills
Productivity and accountability	Communication and collaboration	Flexibility and adaptability
Creative thinking and innovation	Teamwork	Global awareness

The 21st Century Skills Framework was developed through a partnership between the US Secretary of Labor, US Department of Education, National Education Association, dozens of Fortune 500 corporations, and other entities.



Resource equity

Today's innovators are just as creative and teeming with ideas as Saint Paul's most well-established brands, but often lack access to the expensive technology and resources necessary to realize their dreams.

At Saint Paul Public Library's Workforce Innovation Center, creators can use technology like 3-D printers, laser engravers, a recording studio, and more to turn their dream into a prototype, and their prototype into a reality. These future leaders can also write their business plan, research financing options, and learn about intellectual property rights and laws.