The Annual Campaign has generated $61,625 as of September 30.

The Annual Campaign Month/YTD comparison shows an increased value of gifts so far this year. If you have already given to this year’s campaign, thank you! It is encouraging that the increased giving that occurred during the pandemic is continuing:

- As of September 30, 2020: 568 gifts valued at $51,842
- As of September 30, 2021: 473 gifts valued at $49,585
- As of September 30, 2022: 489 gifts valued at $61,625

Planning continues for FFRPL’s participation in ROC the Day on November 29. This year’s campaign project will support the funding of new chairs for the Kate Gleason Auditorium in the Bausch & Lomb Library Building. Please watch for a “Board Challenge” email within the next few weeks.

FFRPL submitted a grant proposal to the John F. Wegman Fund of RACF for $3,300 for support of the Extension/Outreach Department. The proposal was selected for the second phase of review which was a Board member site visit on October 20.

A site visit for the Konar Foundation for their current $50,000 grant to Safe to Be Smart will take place this Thursday, October 27.

Seventeen partners have returned their signed contracts for online book sales for FY23. They are Brighton, Brockport Seymour, Chili, East Rochester, Gates, Greece, Henrietta, Irondequoit, Macedon, Medina Lee-W hedon, Mendon, Monroe Community College, Nazareth College, Rush, Scottsville, Strong Museum of Play, and Woodward Leroy.

FFRPL’s first three Fall *Books Sandwiched In* reviews have gone well; we are averaging about 40 people (in person) for each event. We're also using the new technology FFRPL purchased which enables us (and the Library) to Livestream directly to the Library’s YouTube channel. The next *Books Sandwiched In* review is on **November 8**. Curt Smith, senior lecturer at UofR will review *Undelivered: The Never-Heard Speeches that Would Have Rewritten History* by Jeff Nussbaum.

Since 2014, FFRPL has partnered with Rochester’s non-profit literary center, Writers & Books, to bring their ‘Rochester Reads’ authors to Central Library. This year we will host **Jason Mott**
(author of the National Book Award-winning novel, *Hell of a Book*) for a free reading and book-signing at Central Library on Wednesday, November 2, 12pm-1pm. Register here.

Last Call for 'Art of the Book!' FFRPL is proud to be the Founding Sponsor of this International Juried Exhibit. AOTB is on view through Nov. 1 in the Anthony Mascioli Gallery in Central Library's Harold Hacker Hall.

FFRPL is proud to partner with RPL and the Library Speakers Consortium to present "RPL Author Talks," a new series of online talks from bestselling authors and thought leaders.

We will begin promoting the Sokol H.S. Literary Awards in a few weeks, and we look forward to reading this year's submissions.

FFRPL information and event registration can be easily accessed at FFRPL.org