

the THOMAS H. PERKINS LEGACY SOCIETY

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Giving Back and Looking Forward



Jan Rolff

Jan Rolff, sitting in his house surrounded by his wife's photographs of their time in Africa, says that he earned his bread with his eyes. He was a geodesist, one who studies the size and shape of the earth, so much of his professional life was looking through telescopes and other optical devices. Born in Holland, he worked for three years in Liberia evaluating the best location to construct a road and a railroad. He then worked in Curacao and was invited by the Smithsonian Institution to come to the United States. In 1968, he first noticed something strange with his vision, and he learned that he had macular degeneration in the left eye, which he was able to work around. Then, in 2000 he was having difficulty seeing faces with the right eye and soon was declared legally blind. Professionals from the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind connected him to Perkins School for the Blind and the Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library.

"I had mentioned that I liked history, and I was pleased that all these history books started arriving,"

Jan says. As he listened to more and more "talking book" cassette tapes from Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library, his fondness for the service grew and he wanted to thank Perkins. Through conversations with Perkins staff, he decided the best way for him to express his gratitude was to establish a Charitable Gift Annuity. In addition to helping the Perkins Library, Jan would also help himself by increasing his annual income.

Jan's relationship to Perkins grew as he visited the campus for student concerts and toured the new Thomas and Bessie Pappas Horticulture Center. He was so pleased with what he'd been learning of Perkins that he created a second Charitable Gift Annuity.

"I like what Perkins is doing," he says. "They're not talkers; they're doers."

So is Jan Rolff. He is increasing his fixed income and creating a legacy of services that helps the patrons of Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library and the many students who use the greenhouse everyday.

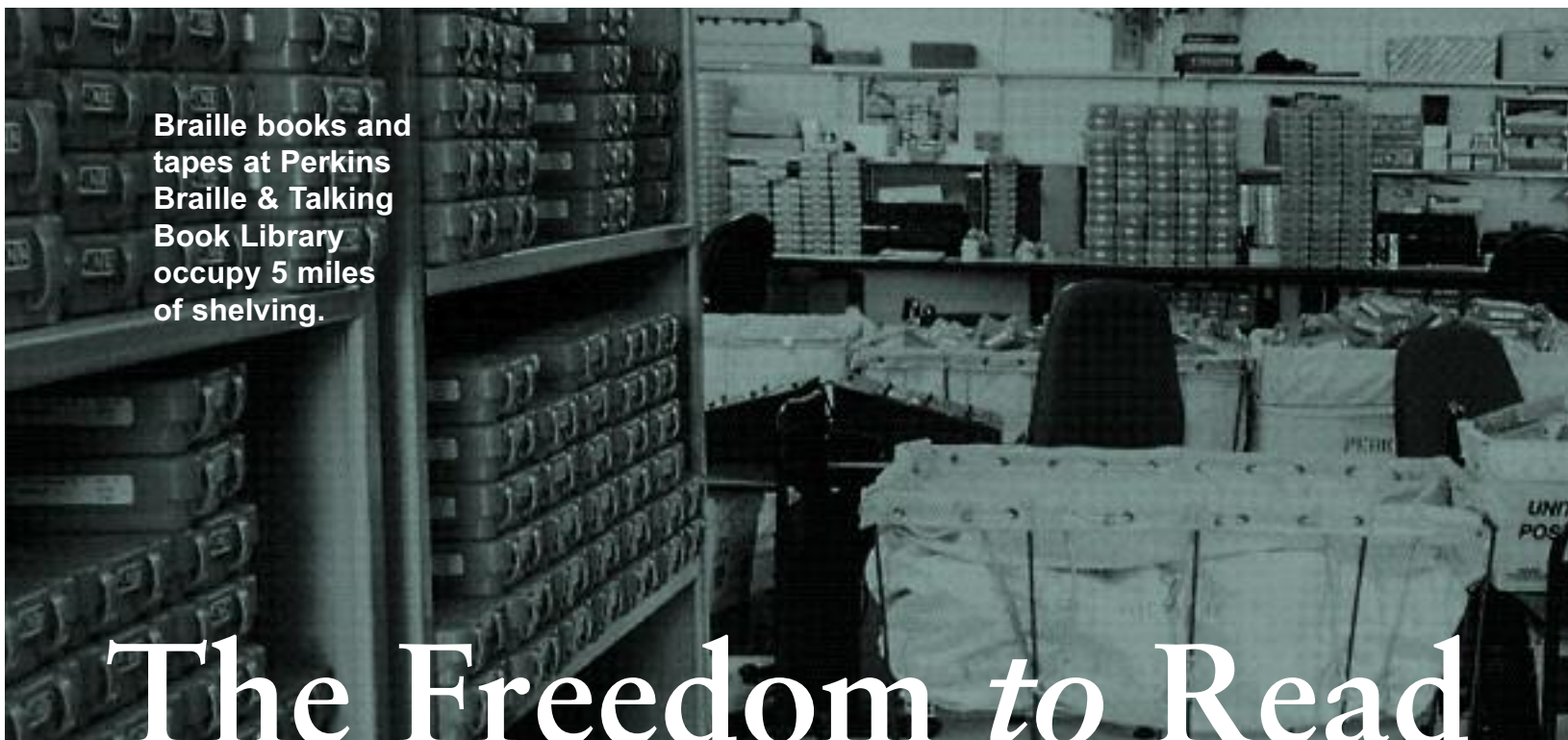
To find out how you can make a gift to Perkins that would increase your income, please call Alleather Toure in the Office of Gift Planning at 617-972-7680.

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ALL WE SEE IS POSSIBILITY



Braille books and tapes at Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library occupy 5 miles of shelving.

The Freedom to Read

Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library

Imagine that all bookstores, newspaper stands and libraries carry reading material in languages that you don't know. Imagine being 13-years old, and your friends won't stop talking about books and movies you can't understand. Then, imagine a place that gives you those same books and videos in your language. The Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library is that place.

More than 20,000 children, adults and elders who cannot read traditional books, because of blindness, or a physical or neurological disability, borrow braille, recorded materials and special tape players free of charge from the Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library.

As we live longer, age-related problems... effect many, making traditional reading difficult, sometimes impossible.

Patrons of the Library span all segments of society and live all over New England. The majority are elders who have lost their sight late in life. Others have used the library all their lives. Most patrons are legally blind, but some are people who cannot read traditional text due to other disabilities such as severe dyslexia or arthritis. The Library carries over 16,000 braille books and

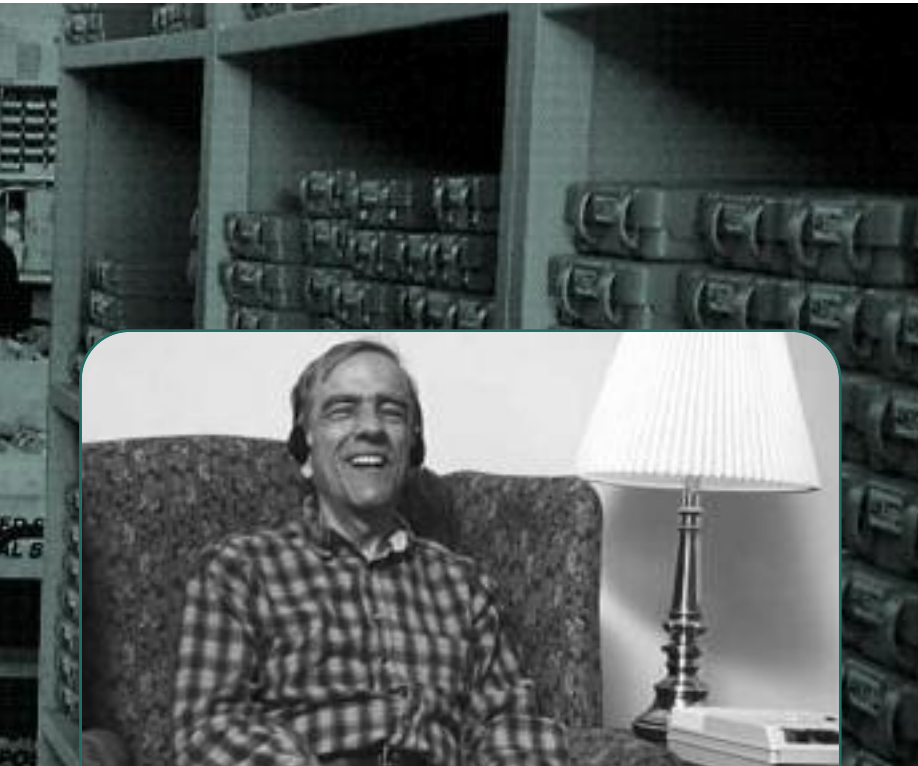
60,000 unabridged talking book cassettes in 64 languages. Having in stock 750 mainstream videos with audio description of the film's unspoken action is particularly helpful, for it is difficult to buy and almost unheard of to rent described tapes. Parents and young children can share picture books with clear braille overlays allowing a blind child to follow along, or allowing a blind parent to read while a sighted child enjoys the pictures.

The need for the Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library has never been greater. As we live longer, age-related problems such as macular degeneration, glaucoma, cataracts and diabetic retinopathy effect many, making traditional reading difficult, sometimes impossible. Losing what had been a lifetime joy, or simply a way of getting information, can be devastating in an already challenging situation.

"My mother enjoyed [talking] books more than she or I could ever tell you. They were her window to the world after she lost her eyesight," reports Sylvia Estabrook, daughter of former Library patron Elsie Wanhatalo.

"I get tapes from the Perkins Library and listen to all the stories my classmates are reading," writes Scott Varley. "I am much happier because





A loyal patron

“I know my learning style is different than most of the kids, but I don’t want to be left out because of it.”

in school I can talk about the same books everyone else does. I know my learning style is different than most of the kids, but I don’t want to be left out because of it.”

The Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library is continually reaching out to new people before they resign themselves to a world of diminishing sight and diminishing expectations. At no time in one’s life – not in childhood, not in adulthood, not after retirement – does blindness have to mean isolation. The Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library helps make sure of that.

For more information on the Perkins Braille & Talking Book Library:
1-800-952-3133 or 617-972-7240
library@perkins.org www.perkins.org

How Does a Charitable Gift Annuity Work?

Very simply, you make a gift of cash, appreciated securities, or mutual fund shares to Perkins School for the Blind. Perkins pays you (and/or one other beneficiary that you may designate) a lifetime of income. The amount of income received is determined by the age of the beneficiary at the time the Charitable Gift Annuity is created. Generally, the more senior the beneficiary is when the Charitable Gift Annuity is established, the higher the rate of return the beneficiary will receive.

After your lifetime, when income payments are no longer required, the balance of your donation will be used by Perkins to carry out its charitable mission.

BENEFITS TO YOU

- Satisfaction of knowing you are helping Perkins assist individuals who are blind and deafblind.
- Increased income.
- Guaranteed income.
- Tax free income.
- Reduced and deferred capital gains tax when you donate appreciated securities that have been held for one year or more.
- Charitable income tax deduction.
- Removal of asset from your taxable estate.

ALL WE SEE IS POSSIBILITY

Double, Triple or Even Quadruple My Return

Gift Annuity Payment Rates

For One Person

AGE	RATE
65	6.0
70	6.5
75	7.1
80	8.0
85	9.5
90+	11.3

For Two Persons of the Same Age

AGE	RATE
65/65	5.6%
70/70	5.9
75/75	6.3
80/80	6.9
85/85	7.9
90/90	9.3

Are you retired and living on a fixed income? Perhaps you have low interest Certificates of Deposit that are maturing or Money Market accounts that are not paying you a very high return and would like to receive more income. As you explore options, you may want to consider a Charitable Gift Annuity.

After some investigation, Jan Rolff decided to establish a Charitable Gift Annuity with Perkins School for the Blind, naming himself as the sole beneficiary. In doing so, he immediately increased his income and received several tax benefits.

For Jan and Perkins, this gift is a win-win. He is guaranteed to receive payments for the rest of his life and the income will not decrease regardless of market performance.

Jan is pleased to know that after his lifetime the funds will be used by Perkins to assist children and adults who are blind or deafblind, with or without other disabilities, to achieve maximum independence.

A Charitable Gift Annuity is easy to establish. Typical assets to donate are cash or appreciated securities. The rate of return is based on the beneficiary's age at the time the Charitable Gift Annuity is established. Generally, the more senior the beneficiary is, the higher the rate of return. For instance, an 81-year old qualifies to receive an 8.3% return; an 87-year old receives 10.2%.

If you own assets like Money Market accounts, Certificates of Deposit or appreciated stock that pay you anywhere from 2% to 4%, you may be able to double, triple or even quadruple your return.

To find out what rate of return you qualify for, call Alleather Toure in the Office of Gift Planning at 617-972-7680.

If you want to make a donation to Perkins but are concerned about losing income, you might want to consider an income-producing gift.



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