



Grass Theater

“YOU HAD BETTER LIVE AND ACT YOUR BEST AND THINK YOUR BEST TODAY; FOR TODAY IS THE SURE PREPARATION FOR TOMORROW AND ALL THE OTHER TOMORROWS THAT FOLLOW.”

Harriet Martineau

FOUNDERS' CIRCLE

“WHATEVER I HAVE TRIED TO DO IN LIFE, I HAVE TRIED WITH ALL MY HEART TO DO IT WELL; WHATEVER I HAVE DEVOTED MYSELF TO, I HAVE DEVOTED MYSELF COMPLETELY IN GREAT AIMS AND IN SMALL.”
Charles Dickens

New York Chapter



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FOUNDERS' CIRCLE

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THE LONDON LIBRARY is an exceptional British institution with broad international connections. It was founded in 1841 by Thomas Carlyle and a group of 500 “first” subscribers who set the Library on its feet and insured its future. The stunning Victorian library building housing the current Library is located in St James’s Square, off Piccadilly and is a literary refuge in the heart of the capital for all its members.

As the UK’s leading literary institution, its unique collection continues to play a central role in the intellectual life of the nation.

“THE WORLD IS A
LOOKING GLASS
AND GIVES BACK
TO EVERY MAN THE
REFLECTION OF HIS
OWN FACE.”

William Makepeace
Thackeray

Open to all, it is dedicated to the advancement of education, learning and knowledge. Among its members are many active novelists, historians, journalists, playwrights and actors who are assisted by the Library in their research; in this respect its benefits extend to millions more readers worldwide.

The library houses more than one million books and periodicals in over 50 languages. From rare 16th century books to latest electronic publications the Library is a contemporary resource which maintains quality in an age when the quantity of words is superabundant.

Founders’ Circle

The London Library has always been defined both spiritually and financially by its independence. Indeed, the Library has managed to remain self-financing throughout its history, thanks to the recognition by generous men and women of the important role the Library plays in the world of letters and literary culture.

With the help of Andrew Cavendish, 11th Duke of Devonshire, the International Friends of The London Library was created a quarter of a century ago to foster US interest in the London Library.

Since then the support of **The Library’s International Friends** has been vital to its continued good-health.

Last year, the Founders’ Circle was established in London. Rather like our original founders, it is a group of members dedicated to supporting the running of the Library year by year, ensuring that it has the means to continue at the service of all who have need of its intellectual capital. The new Founders’ Circle has been named in honor of the first 500 members who backed the Library at its inception.

THE
LONDON
LIBRARY
INTERNATIONAL
FRIENDS



Founders’ Circle USA

We are now establishing the Founders’ Circle in America.

AS IS THE CASE IN LONDON, THERE WILL BE THREE LEVELS OF MEMBERSHIP:

Dickens: \$10,000
Thackeray: \$5,000
Martineau: \$2,500

Membership Benefits

Membership benefits will include full annual membership of the Library, invitations to all events in New York and all Founders’ Circle events organized for the London Chapter which includes visits with authors and an opportunity to see other libraries and literary collections often not open to the public.