



The original Waukesha Public Library building in 1904. The Waukesha Public Library has been awarded a \$10,000 gift from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the foundation created by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.



Photos courtesy of Waukesha Public Library

The current Waukesha Public Library building as it stands today. The Waukesha Public Library has been awarded a \$10,000 gift from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the foundation created by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.

Waukesha Library awarded \$10K gift from Carnegie Corporation

WAUKESHA — The Waukesha Public Library has been awarded a \$10,000 gift from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the foundation created by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.

The funding is part of Carnegie Libraries 250, a national initiative marking the upcoming 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence while recognizing the roughly 1,280 Carnegie Libraries that

continue to serve communities across the United States.

Between 1886 and 1917, Scottish immigrant Andrew Carnegie funded the construction of 1,681 free public libraries nationwide. About 750 of those libraries remain in their original buildings, while others have relocated over time. Opened in 1904, the Waukesha Public Library is one of 63 Carnegie Libraries built in Wisconsin through the historic program.

“I’d like to thank the Carnegie Corporation for their generous gift to the library. Since Andrew Carnegie’s original gift of \$15,000 to help build the first free-standing library in Waukesha, the library has helped meet the educational and entertainment needs of its community. As the Waukesha Public Library celebrates its 130th year, we look forward to being a key part of the community for another 130,” said Library Director Bruce Gay.

The library will receive the funds this month and may use the gift at its discretion to commemorate the nation’s 250th anniversary, advance the library’s mission, and benefit the community.

For more information, visit carnegielibraries.org or WaukeshaPublicLibrary.org, or call 262-524-3682. The Waukesha Public Library is located at 321 Wisconsin Ave., Waukesha.