## Hays Public Library Receives Collection Development Grant from Ross and Marianna Beach Foundation

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The Ross and Marianna Beach Foundation has given a grant of \$20,000 to the Hays Public Library for the purchase of books in the subject areas of art, autobiography, biography, children, culture, history, music, science and travel. The extraordinarily generous collection development grant was unexpected and critical to the acquisition of works in the areas of art and culture, whose prices tend to be high.

Library Director Melanie Miller commented, "I could not be more delighted that the Ross and Marianna Beach Foundation grant specified the purchase of books. In the age of technology, many people have incorrectly predicted the

demise of books. Hays Public Library usage statistics indicate just the opposite, particularly among children, who are probably the most computer-conversant and computer-enthused generation."

Miller noted that Ross and Marianna Beach are longstanding public library champions, having contributed annual donations to the library collection and to Friends of the Hays Public Library. The Ross and Marianna Beach Wing of the Hays Public Library represents the Beachs' support of the Public Library

Trust's 1911 Carnegie Library Replication, completed in 2004. Marianna Beach also helped the Public Library to lobby a statewide, local library collection development program called the "Interlibrary Loan Development Plan" in 1985. The legislation has provided Hays Public Library with over \$160,000 to date.

