



GWINNETT COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

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PRESS RELEASE

GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY AWARDED \$5,000 'PROJECT GRANT' FROM GEORGIA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS

ATLANTA – July 14, 2025 — Gwinnett County Public Library was awarded a \$5,000 Project Grant from the Georgia Council for the Arts, a strategic arm of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, for fiscal year 2026. The grant will support Gwinnett Reads: Jane Austen. This year, the library is celebrating the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birthday with a massive book giveaway, author visits, film screenings, book club discussions, and other festivities that highlight her life and works.

"We are honored to receive this grant as it will help us inspire older and newer generations to get to know Jane Austen and her published works," said Gwinnett County Public Library Executive Director Charles Pace.

"Our arts communities foster economic and cultural vitality, contributing to a high quality of life across the state, from cities to rural small towns," said the Georgia Council for the Arts Director, Tina Lilly. "Georgia Council for the Arts is excited to help fund projects that contribute to community development by bringing artists to the table to solve challenges, support small businesses, and educate young people. We are grateful to the Georgia General Assembly for providing this support."

Georgia Council for the Arts received applications from nonprofit organizations, government entities, public libraries, schools, colleges, and universities. Projects may be one-time events, such as a festival or exhibit, or a series of events, such as a roster of classes or a series of productions.

These grants are funded through appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts. Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) uses

Peer Review Panels to judge and review applications following standard practices set by the National Endowment for the Arts. Panelists are GCA Council members and fellow professionals who are experienced in the arts discipline or type of grant being reviewed, or are citizens with a record of arts activities, experience, and knowledge.

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About Georgia Council for the Arts

Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) empowers the arts industry in Georgia and artists around the state to cultivate healthy, vibrant communities rich in civic participation, cultural experiences, and economic prosperity. As part of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, the Georgia Council for the Arts provides grant funding, programs, and services statewide that support this vital industry, preserve our cultural heritage, and create increased access to meaningful arts experiences. Visit gaarts.org for more information.

About GDEcD

The state's sales and marketing arm is the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD). It is Georgia's lead agency for attracting new business investment, encouraging the expansion of existing industry and small businesses, and locating new markets for Georgia products. As the state's official destination marketing organization, it drives traveler visitation and promotes the state as a location for film and digital entertainment projects. GDEcD is responsible for planning and mobilizing the state resources for economic development, fostering innovation and the arts to drive opportunity from the mountains to the coast. Visit georgia.org for more information.