It’s Not Just for Books Anymore

Through both fund-raising and friend-raising events, membership dues, remembrances, and special gifts, GLA helps provide a wide range of library resources, including:

- Books
- Technology resources
- Scholarly journals
- Historical documents and archival materials
- Special collections
- Databases
- Recorded music and movies

Additionally, GLA underwrites two important student ventures emphasizing the use of library resources. Given in alternate years, both of these awards are named in honor of the founder and first president of GLA.

- The Patricia Lindell Scholarship provides an opportunity for a Gustavus student to work under the guidance of a librarian on a research project “of value to the Library and/or the College.”
- The Patricia Lindell Research Prize is awarded by the library faculty for a Gustavus academic course paper that demonstrates excellent use of source material.
What We Do

GLA’s programs offer its membership and guests a variety of opportunities to connect with one another and the greater Gustavus community. Major events are highlighted below.

A Royal Affair

This biennial gala benefit, offered in the fall, features both silent and live auctions, a formal dinner, and outstanding entertainment for over 1,000 guests. All proceeds are directed to the library endowment. More than 100 GLA members and friends spend an entire year creating this truly spectacular event.

The Festival of St. Lucia

Connecting with Gustavus’s Swedish heritage each December, GLA hosts a bountiful Scandinavian buffet on the College campus following the crowning of St. Lucia in Christ Chapel. This “sold-out” brunch has featured entertainers from a variety of disciplines, including author Tom Hegg, gospel vocalist Jearlyn Steele, and storyteller Lisa Lunge-Larson. Who can resist Swedish meatballs and rice pudding, fruit soup, lingonberry sauce, herring, lutefisk, and sugared almonds?

Author Days

Each year, GLA welcomes fine novelists such as Judith Guest, Ann Patchett, Lorna Landvik, and Patricia Hampl; columnists like Thomas Friedman of The New York Times; actors and playwrights including Max von Sydow and Kevin Kling ’79; poets and noted writers like Irving Stone, James McPherson ’58, and Bill Holm ’65. A lovely brunch enhances this opportunity to connect with great writers, interesting ideas, and good friends.

Easter Bunny Breakfast

Since 1989, hundreds of young families have gathered each spring to celebrate a joyous Saturday morning with the Teddy Bear Band, a tasty breakfast, and much merriment with the Easter Bunny. Cameras and grandparents welcome!

Why We Do It

Benefits of GLA membership are valued and varied. Your membership provides all of this and more!

- Joy and satisfaction as you support young men and women who are being prepared for lives of leadership and service
- Partnership in creating an academic climate of excellence at Gustavus Adolphus College
- Advance notice of events, speakers, and related opportunities
- Subscription to Ex Libris, the GLA newsletter
- Access to thoughtful book reviews
- Networking and creation of meaningful business and social relationships
- Opportunity to build skills in fundraising, organization, planning, and communication

Who You Are

Please complete the enclosed form to tell us a little about you. Mail it, along with your membership dues, to us at Gustavus Library Associates, Gustavus Adolphus College, 800 West College Avenue, St. Peter, MN 56082 or join online at gustavus.edu/gla.

Sign up today. We’ll be delighted to welcome you to GLA membership and we look forward to your participation in our exciting and enriching activities!