

March 4, 2024

Dear ACLCP,

Thank you so much for awarding a \$400 Program Design grant to the High Library. With your generous support, we successfully launched a plant loan program in mid-January! After drawing inspiration from seed libraries and plant exchange programs, we decided to try a new approach: loaning the plants themselves. To grow the collection, we purchased pots, soil, and 35 hardy houseplants (e.g., aloe, peace lily, schefflera, snake, spider plants). We also obtained 10 free cuttings from interested employees. We then invited the campus to a potting party! News of the program spread quickly, with students and staff borrowing the entire collection by the end of the first week.

To date, we've received positive feedback and discovered many plant enthusiasts at the College, some with extensive propagating skills but most with no prior knowledge or experience. One commuter student shared that his aloe brings such joy to his family that he might not be able to part with the plant when the semester-long loan period ends!

Thank you again. We are grateful for the grant funding and, above all, appreciative of the fun conversations and meaningful connections that the program has cultivated for our library and community.

Sincerely,

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Sarah Penniman Director of the High Library