

Anniversary Challenge Grant

Founded in Philadelphia in July 1988 to declare independence for print-impaired students in the Delaware Valley, the Philadelphia Unit of Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic recommits itself to our continuing fight for our students' independence.

Three longtime donors have pooled their resources to establish a \$20,000 Challenge Grant. These funds will be applied to match all first time gifts and the increased portion of all gifts from donors who supported RFB&D last year. Combined, we can hope to raise upwards of \$40,000 in increased gifts for our 20th Anniversary Annual Fund.*

Gretchen Hall, RFB&D Volunteer 1988-2008

"I think that most baby boomers who are now retired realize that we have been fortunate in our lives and it's time to give back. At a certain point in life people have enough material goods & now it's time to make a contribution. Plus one gets a lot of joy from helping others. I am happy to mark my 20th year with RFB&D with a special contribution that reflects my belief in the RFB&D program. I hope that this milestone will encourage others to mark it in a similar way. "

*For information about this challenge grant or other gifts that may apply, please contact: Toni Makowski, Director of Development, 610.265.8090, x 27 (tmakowski@rfd.org)

The 20th Anniversary Annual Appeal asks that you be as generous as possible so that

- Students with learning disabilities achieve academic independence through the use of RFB&D audio books;
- Children with an inability to see or perceive standard print, gain the help which RFB&D can provide – changing their lives as it removes a huge barrier to learning;
- Veterans with loss of eyesight from today's overseas conflicts gain access to the content of books, just as was intended by RFB&D's founder 60 years ago; and
- We reach all of the students in Pennsylvania who can benefit from RFB&D audio textbooks.



Stacy Stone, RFB&D Philadelphia Unit board member and Learning Support teacher at Valley Forge Elementary School, is shown here with one of her former students and RFB&D member, Elizabeth Meenan.

RFB&D thanks Sandra Stecher for the photograph of her son Christian and Maggie Green Photography for its contributed services of the remaining photographs.

20th Anniversary Annual Appeal and Anniversary Challenge Grant

*On our 20th Anniversary in the year 2008,
the Philadelphia Unit of Recording
for the Blind & Dyslexia Dedicates Itself
Anew to Independence from the Printed Word for
Our Student Members with Visual Impairments,
Learning Disabilities, and Physical Disabilities.*





Christian Stecher, a student in the joint Drexel University/Delaware County Community College engineering program, has been using RFB&D audio textbooks since elementary school.



Lilianne Brown, a fourth grader and RFB&D member, is also a protege of Stacy Stone. Lilianne loves physical education and art. She would like to sell shoes or be a hair stylist someday!



Christina Menegos thought RFB&D an amazing idea a year ago when she spotted the volunteer opportunity online. A postgraduate in criminal justice at West Chester, she believes ardently in the influence of education on people's lives.



Timmy Kelly, blind since birth, is now a freshman at Lower Moreland High School. Timmy has been a long-time RFB&D member. Avid about current events, he wants to pursue a career in radio or television.



The textbooks which RFB&D volunteers record for our members are accessible through various playback devices, l. to r., a table model , a portable CD player, and the most recent, AudioAccess, via a personal computer that is synched to a portable media player, shown at right.



Sunshine Hurlburt, a fine artist by profession, is completing her first year at RFB&D. The added bonuses of intellectual stimulation and interesting people have come with her recording.



Elizabeth Meenan, a sixth grader and RFB&D member, has become an avid reader and excellent student due to her hard work and the mentoring of her teacher, Stacy Stone.



Dave Dalton, Temple physics professor and volunteer for eleven years, cites his reason for helping RFB&D as a way "to contribute a small fraction of what I owe to the community."



Marcia Klafter, an education consultant for many years, enjoys Outreach volunteering because it enables her to continue her life's work of helping those with reading challenges.