



# Publio Bash

CO-PRESENTED BY



FITZROVIA



CIBC

## Highlights and Fundraising Impact

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**Toronto Public Library Board Meeting  
Tuesday, April 22, 2025**

**Moira Dossetor**

Vice President, Philanthropy, TPLF

**Tracy Finkelstein**

Vice President Marketing & Communications, TPLF

**Lisa Heggum**

Senior Manager, Youth Services, TPL



# GALA HIGHLIGHTS



THANK YOU!

\$1,070,100

RAISED IN SUPPORT OF TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY





## A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!

The Toronto Reference Library was transformed for this black-tie gala with over 400 guests and 37 notable Canadian authors in attendance.

We welcomed Toronto's city builders, library lovers, business leaders and philanthropists to an intimate evening dedicated to raising funds for Library initiatives in support of teen social health and mental wellness.

Since its inception in 2017, Biblio Bash had raised over \$6.3 million to support Toronto Public Library's highest-priority needs and assist some of our city's most vulnerable residents.

**We could not have reached this ambitious fundraising goal without the tremendous support of Co-Presenting Sponsors; Fitzrovia and CIBC.**





## BIBLIO BASH 2025 CO-CHAIRS

CLAIRE MACNAMARA & FARAH NASSER



## BIBLIO BASH COMMITTEE

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AMANDA ALVARO

AMANDA AQUINO

SARAH ARANHA

AMY BURSTYN-FRITZ

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# THE IMPACT OF BIBLIO BASH

Beyond the \$1,070,100

## Steward existing donors

- Bring like-minded philanthropists and library champions together
- Deepen engagement in the Library's work.
  - Hear from the City Librarian
  - Learn about a new fundraising priority
- See TRL transformed

## Introduce new donors

- Re-engage with the Library
- Raise awareness of TPL as a vital institution worthy of philanthropic support

## Post event engagement

- Customized thank you notes
- Personalized outreach to engage guests (e.g. library tours, invitations to learn more)
- Continued engagement: spring fundraising campaign posts, invite to donor events and ask to host author talks





# MARKETING & MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



# 2025 BIBLIO BASH AUTHORS



Photos by celebrity photographer George Pimentel



# MEDIA IN ATTENDANCE




**Guests included journalists, freelance writers, anchors, hosts and producers from:** CBC, CityNews, CP24, CTV News, CTV Your Morning, FASHION Magazine, Global News, Globe and Mail, The Kit, The Social, Toronto Star

← Photograph:

- Nathan Downer, CTV News Toronto
- Miranda Anthistle, Global News
- Tracy Tong, Global News
- Michelle Dubé, CTV News Toronto
- Dr. Chika Stacy Oriuwa, Author
- Farah Nasser, CBC
- Sangita Patel, formerly ET Canada
- Pooja Handa, CHFI
- Lindsey Deluce, CTV Your Morning
- Alan Carter, CityNews
- Kamil Karamali, CTV News




# SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS




151 likes

jeeyuntv This Rexdale girl wanted to feel regal for one night. I said yes to the dress because the dreamy draped cape was the extra sparkle I wanted for this stary night. I also didn't feel like wearing a thong. Let's keep it real. Thank you to @kirkpickersgill and the @gretaconstantine family. It didn't matter that I wasn't wearing a thong. I was wearing a cape. Congratulations to the @tplt foundation at this year's Biblio Bash. The and resources to help people community, reach for the stars




1,057 likes

poojahandadv Another fantastic fundraiser is in the books 📖! Congratulations to @tplt.foundation @tplt.teens on raising over \$1 million!!! And congratulations to the @tplt.foundation for being recognized and celebrated. 🥳




1,850 likes

lindsey.deluce A Magical Night at a Magical Venue 📖 The Toronto Public Library Foundation




987 likes

farahnasserglobal The evening unfolded like a storybook. A galaxy of gratitude to our partners for helping #Bibliobash2025 raised over \$1 million



282 likes

manamansour Memorable snaps from last week's #Bibliobash! 📖 The @tplt.foundation created an amazing transportation for guests through the glorious purpose of supporting youth mental health and wellness in #Toronto.




274 likes

tracytongtv A fairytale evening in Canada's largest public reference library 📖

Surrounded by media friends, talented authors and some very generous donors - in one magical night we raised over \$1M for youth mental health and wellness services at @torontolibrary!

And how stunning does everyone look in this year's theme "sunset hues & midnight blues"? 🌅💙💜


Thank you @tplt.foundation board chair and former colleague @farahnasserglobal for your important work and bringing us together.



4,745 likes

sangita.patel BLUE-Y 🌊


And LEG-gy 📖 Umm, my razor (well Sam's) took a beating yesterday 📖 but...all worth it! I had a wonderful time at biblobash @tplt.foundation catching up with amazing peeps and we couldn't have been more proud of Farah who is part of the team raising funds and awareness of the importance of libraries.



332 likes

mirandaanthistietv The Toronto Public Library has been a staple in my life ever since I was a kid (I loved reading so much that I once burnt my bed's headboard trying to covertly read past my bedtime after twisting my lamp against it so there was just a sliver of light to read by 📖) ... and so it was such a privilege to get dolled up & attend the magical #Bibliobash in support of the @torontolibrary - this year's focus being the TPL's services for teens' mental wellness.

Public libraries are vital to communities. A huge thank you to @tplt.foundation board chair, @farahnasserglobal for her impactful work & getting us media colleagues together for such a meaningful cause - the gala raised more than \$1M for the TPL & its important services!



71 likes

deeburman Last week, I had the pleasure of attending Biblio Bash 2025, @tplt.foundation's annual fundraiser. This year, the over \$1 million raised will go towards supporting youth mental health programs - something very close to my heart.

If you've followed me for even a short while, you'll have seen me sharing (and over sharing) the highs and lows of my mental health journey and my ongoing learnings from therapy. I cannot stress the importance of mental health supports enough, especially for young people. Access to programs that will help set them up for a less anxious life ahead and the ability to truly thrive and enjoy that life is invaluable and I'm so happy I was able to support that initiative.



rachelimphan

I'M PROUD TO SUPPORT TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

*I hope you will too.*

When you donate, you help teens who rely on TPL programs to support their social health and mental well-being.

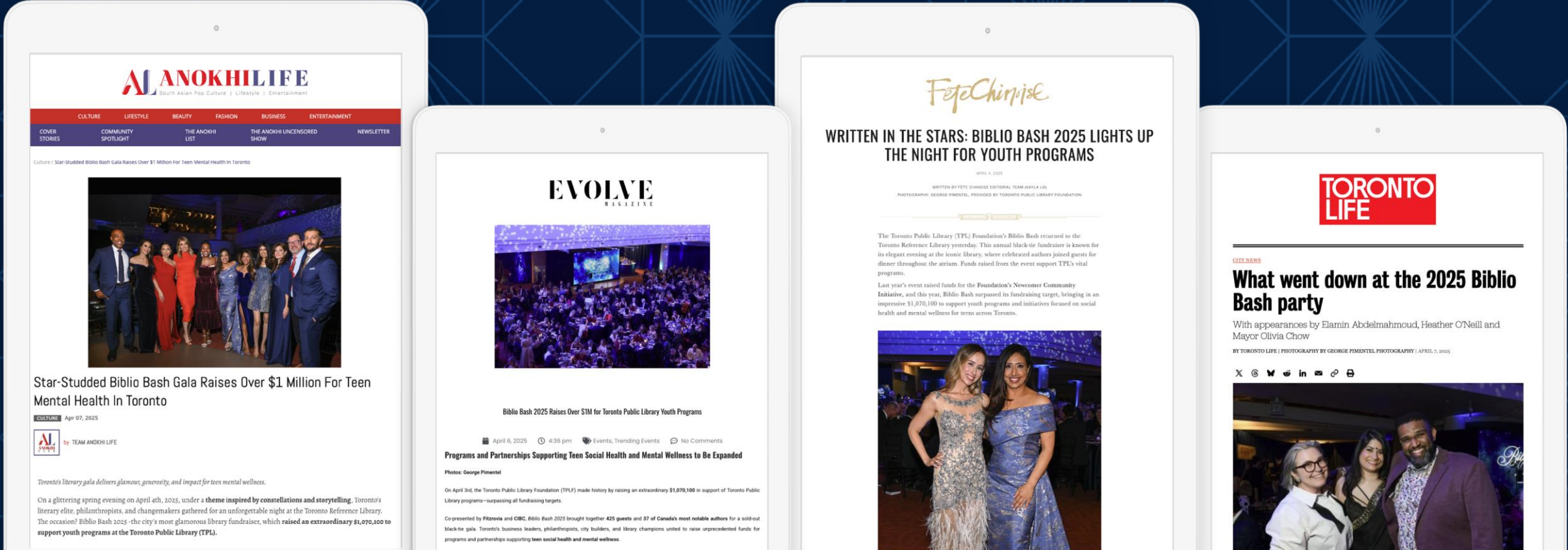
DOUBLE YOUR DONATION  
THANKS TO A MATCHING GIFT

 toronto public library foundation

[tpltfoundation.ca/match](https://tpltfoundation.ca/match)



# MEDIA COVERAGE HIGHLIGHTS



**ANOKHILIFE**  
South Asian Pop Culture | Lifestyle | Entertainment

**EVOLVE**  
MAGAZINE

**FeteChirpise**

**TORONTO**  
**LIFE**

ANTICIPATED COVERAGE:

**THE GLOBE AND MAIL**

**TORONTO STAR**





THE GENEROSITY OF DONORS MAKES  
A MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE.

Everybody has a library story.  
This is Arden's.

“

Communication was something I struggled with when I was younger, and through the Library I was able to develop those skills in order for me to succeed in my career today. **Without TPL and the services, programs and spaces it offers, I don't think I would be the same adult I am today.**

”

- Arden, who  
volunteered with TPL's  
Teen Council.





highlights | photos | videos | media coverage

**[bibliobash.ca](http://bibliobash.ca)**





# FUNDRAISING IMPACT

# Teen social health and wellness





# Teen social health and wellness

## Support through partnerships

- Explore programs that strengthen family, peer and community connections
- Expand leadership and social skills training for teen volunteers
- Provide staff training to better support teen mental health
- Consider community-building initiatives through space activations

# Teen social health and wellness

## First year goals

- Host a conference-style youth wellness event
- Deliver multi-week social health program series
- Pilot workshops for teens and their families
- Offer teen volunteer training sessions and staff training workshops
- Explore space activations designed to encourage social engagement





Thank you.