Philip Roth, world-acclaimed novelist and literary icon, was born in Newark. He grew up in the city’s Weequahic section, spending time at the Osborne Terrace branch (now called the Weequahic branch) of the Newark Public Library. When he attended Rutgers University in Newark, the nearby Main library was his refuge and inspiration. Although he had homes in New York City and Connecticut, Roth returned to his roots, setting many of his novels in Newark. Among his numerous honors, Roth received the Pulitzer Prize for American Pastoral, and was twice the winner of the National Book Award.

The Friends of the Philip Roth Personal Library (FoPRPL) is seeking members who are interested in Roth, want to learn more about him as a renowned writer and Newark native and who are committed to ensuring his literary legacy and ongoing relevance. The organization was founded in 2021, the year of the Roth Library opening.
THE MISSION

The mission of the Friends of the Philip Roth Personal Library (FoPRPL) is to raise funds to support exhibitions about Roth as well as host programs and events related to the author and the broader themes raised by his novels.

A Forum
Cultivating creative expression and the discipline of writing through seminars, workshops, book talks and citywide literary festivals.

A Literary Destination
Engaging current and future enthusiasts of Roth’s novels with world-class exhibitions that allow visitors to explore the imagination of Philip Roth and the authors who inspired him.

An Educational Hub
Providing scholars and readers with the opportunity to examine Roth’s creative process and intellectual life, while adding to the Newark Public Library’s already established diverse research collection.

YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PHILIP ROTH PERSONAL LIBRARY:

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Thank you for your support!