



## Acknowledgments

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**New Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library is a tribute** to the memory of the Indianapolis-born writer. Housed in the historic Emelie Building in Downtown Indianapolis, the library features some of Vonnegut’s drawings, a never-opened sealed letter from his father during World War II, a 20-foot timeline of important events in his life, and a Purple Heart awarded for his wartime service. Captured during the Battle of the Bulge, he was sent to a prisoner-of-war camp near Dresden. After the Allied bombing destroyed 90 percent of the city in 1945, he was forced to dig bodies out of the rubble. Many consider that experience the basis for his first best-selling novel, *Slaughterhouse-Five*. That book, along with *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater*, *Breakfast of Champions* and other works began as blank pieces of paper in a turquoise Smith-Corona Coronomatic 2200 typewriter like the one pictured. Many artifacts have been donated by Vonnegut’s family, and his son, Dr. Mark Vonnegut, sits on the library’s board of directors. The library has been covered extensively by local media, as well as the *New York Times*, *Chicago Tribune* and the C-SPAN bus. Pivotal to the library’s success are founding members (left to right) K.C. Norwalk, treasurer; Kip Tew, vice president, and Julia Whitehead, executive director. A Lilly Endowment grant helped with strategic planning and building organizational capacity.