



OFF THE SHELF

AUGUST EDITION - 2011

BOARD APPROVES GRANTS TO THE LIBRARY

July 11, 2011

The Friends of the Oakland Public Library Board of Directors approved grants to the Oakland Public Library for branches, collections and programs totaling **\$105,200**. FOPL's annual grants are made possible by you -- our members, Bookmark Bookstore customers, book donors and volunteers. Thank you!

Branches –

Funding for collections, furnishings and programs at 8-12 branches \$ 10,000

Specific branch projects to be implemented will be determined by the Library. Last year FOPL grants supported branch collections at AAMLO and Piedmont Avenue; furnishings at Asian, Chavez, Dimond, Eastmont, Elmhurst and Lakeview; the Diwali Annual Festival of Lights at Golden Gate and Teen Gaming Equipment at Rockridge.

Collections – Funding for e-books and other media to meet growing demand

Technology/e-books, e.g., foreign language 35,000

Technology/new media 30,000

Programs –

Children's Programming, including Summer Reading 10,000

Teen Summer Passport Program 5,000

Teen Youth Leadership Council 2,000

National Library Week 6,000

Library Staff Scholarships 1,200

Volunteer Recognition and Activities 3,000

Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War – support for a program sponsored by the African-American Museum and Library at Oakland 1,000

Director's Discretionary Fund 2,000

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www.FOPL.ORG

OAKLAND CITY BUDGET: ALL LIBRARIES SAVED, FOR NOW...

The Oakland City Council approved a budget which maintains library services at all locations just in time for the fiscal year that began July 1, 2011. The budget includes \$9 million from the City's General Fund for library services, the minimum required to allow the City to continue to collect Measure Q revenues, the dedicated library parcel tax passed by 77 percent of Oakland voters in 2004. Measure Q raises almost \$14 million per year and now pays for 60 percent of the library's budget.

One of the scenarios in the Mayor's proposed budget – the "all cuts budget" – reduced the General Fund contribution below the Measure Q minimum. As a result, at risk were 13 branch libraries, the African American Museum and Library at Oakland, and services at the remaining 3 branches and the Main Library.



FOPL is pleased to be a part of the Save Oakland Library coalition of concerned citizens who worked to raise awareness about the threat to Measure Q and library services. Organizers used Facebook (online) and fliers to get the word out. Thousands signed petitions that were delivered to City Council at the budget meetings. FOPL president Ellen Moyer joined hundreds of speakers to urge City Council to retain library funding at the minimum level required by Measure Q.

For now, at least until the next budget review, all libraries are saved. Library director Carmen Martinez thanked community members including OPL staff on their own time, local businesses, and FOPL and branch friends groups for their support at a community picnic July 24th on the grounds of the Lakeview library.

FOPL WISH LIST

FOPL operates on volunteer power so that more of your membership dues and donations go directly to the Oakland Public Library. Here are current needs to support the ongoing operations of the Bookmark Bookstore and FOPL's office:

Equipment and furnishings:

- Sturdy work table, approximately 3 by 5 feet (up to 4 X 6)
- Straight back/office chairs or folding chairs
- Sidewalk sign "Bookmark Bookstore"
- Hanging sign "Bookmark Bookstore"
- Color printer (with scanner)
- Handheld scanner

Services:

- Quarterly window cleaning (requires tall ladder)
- On-call for minor repair services
- Graphics & Printing
- Volunteer(s) to work with BookMark Bookstore on administration of online sales through our Amazon storefront; experience with this process would be helpful

SAVE THE DATE: BOOKMARK FALL BOOK SALE

Mark Your Calendar for the Fall 2011 Friends of the Oakland Public Library Book Sale, October 6 - 9, 2011.

50% OFF for members only on "Members' First Choice" Sale Day - Thursday, October 6th (non-members can join FOPL that day).

And for all book lovers:

- 30% OFF – Friday, October 7
- 40% OFF – Saturday, October 8
- 50% OFF – Sunday, October 9



Join the Friends' e-news mailing list for special sale notices!

Send an email to:

bookmark_bookstore@yahoo.com

Subject: **e-news**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: PRESCHOOL STORY READERS

Author: Winifred Walters

The Oakland Public Library offers a unique volunteer opportunity: to read aloud to children at preschool centers in Oakland. Volunteers present a 30-minute weekly storytime to children ages 3-5. Storytime introduces children to the pleasure of stories and creates excitement about books and reading.

FOPL members **Jennifer Vetter** and **Randi Voorhies** are BWH volunteers. According to Randi, a retired school librarian who discovered the program through this newsletter 2 years ago, "the training is excellent and fun and reading to the children is pure joy. The children's librarians and BWH staff provide terrific support and engaging materials." This is Jennifer's 6th year at De Colores Head Start near Fruitvale BART. "It's a big commitment: first the course of seven classes, and then reading once a week in an Oakland preschool. But it's so worthwhile, rewarding, and fun. There's nothing like opening the classroom door and seeing the kids' faces light up as they call out your name. It's Storytime!"



For more information and to sign up for the Fall 2011 Books for Wider Horizons preschool story reader training, please call (510) 238-7453 or email Celia Jackson at cjackson@oaklandlibrary.org.

Want to Be a Library Volunteer?

OPL will be hosting Volunteer Information Sessions for anyone interested in learning about BWH and other current opportunities. Two sessions will be offered: Wednesday, September 14 (6:30 p.m. at the Main Library) and Saturday, September 17 (10:00 a.m. at Dimond Branch). Co-sponsored by FOPL. Contact: Winifred Walters at (510) 238-6932 or email wwalters@oaklandlibrary.org.



PLEASE SHARE

We do not sell, rent or exchange our mailing list. We rely on referrals for new members. Please share this newsletter with a friend and ask them to join you in supporting the Oakland Public Library.



GIVING

FOPL is grateful for the following donations received through July 2011:

In honor of **Yolana Retter** from Lindsay C. Ralphs

In memory of **Jacob Schwartz** from Lillian Schwartz

In honor of **Robin Ludmer** from the Lois Rawlings Education Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation.

FOPL salutes Robin Ludmer, teacher-librarian at Beach Elementary School in Piedmont, for being selected to be one of the Lois Blair Rawlings Foundation 2011 Educational Inspiration Awards honorees. Ms. Ludmer selected the Friends of the Oakland Public Library to receive a grant to be used for Spanish language childrens books for the collection and for support of the Library's volunteer story reader program, Books for Wider Horizons.



**FRIENDS
of the
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If your membership has expired,
PLEASE RENEW NOW!

More ways to support the Friends...

- Share this newsletter. Ask a friend to join a growing organization - 800 strong - dedicated to supporting the Oakland Public Library.
- Donate your gently-used books, CDs and DVDs to the Bookmark Bookstore. Call (510)444-0473 for more information.
- Do you have a few hours per month? Visit www.fopl.org or call (510)444-0473 to learn more about volunteering.
- Donate items needed to improve Bookmark operations:
 - Sturdy work table, approximately 3 by 5 feet (up to 4 X 6)
 - Hanging sign "Bookmark Bookstore"
 - See our Wish List (inside) for more items.

JOIN US

Yes, I want to show my support for the Friends of the Oakland Public Library!

Enclosed is my check payable to FOPL for \$ _____

___ New (1 year membership) ___ Renewal (1 year membership)

___ Donation (\$ _____ in addition to my membership dues)

Supporting Membership Levels:

___ \$1000 Book Angel Name(s) _____

___ \$500 Bibliophile _____

___ \$250 Book Conservator Address _____

___ \$100 Book Worm City/Zip _____

___ \$50 Book Friend Gift in Honor/Memory of _____

Basic Membership Levels:

___ \$35 Family/Household

___ \$25 Individual

___ \$15 Senior (65+)/Student

Email _____
(Sign me up for **email** notices of Bookmark Bookstore news)

Contributions are tax deductible (Tax ID #94-2553734)
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Mail to: FOPL, 721 Washington St., Oakland, CA 94607