

Welcome to Broadway!

The Bookmark Bookstore is off to a brisk start with sales and foot traffic at our new home on Broadway and 10th! After our soft opening on June 15, the store has seen an enthusiastic show of support from the public thanks to our extraordinary volunteer staff fueling store operations, internet sales, memberships, and more. Since June, shop volunteers have hustled and jostled hundreds of boxes of inventory to empty the warehouse and storage unit into the new location's footprint, while simultaneously organizing the back office and front of the house to create a functional operational flow. In addition to carving out pathways to move around the new space, the team has also bolstered its volunteer roster,

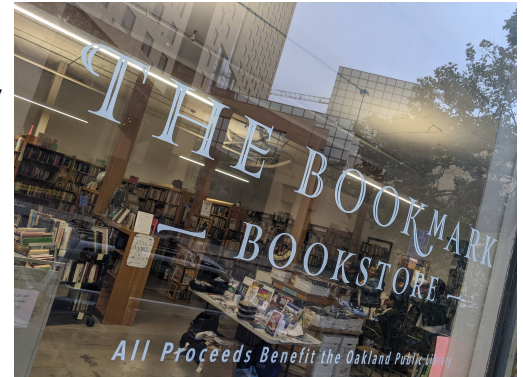


garnered free furniture donations for both the office and storefront, and installed beautiful wooden shelving from Mills College to create space for more material. The team also hosted its first after-hours

event, staying open til nearly 9:00pm on Saturday, July 27 during two legs of Oakland's 2024 Beast Crawl Literary Festival. All the while, the crew pushed inventory and saw encouraging results with its first full month of sales figures in July exceeding May's totals.

As the Bookmark continues to aim high, members can now enjoy the return of our free children's book giveaways on the second Sunday of the month. Stay tuned for the future return of our monthly member sales, and please save the date for the Bookmark's **Grand Opening celebration on September 28.**

The Bookmark Bookstore is now located at 933 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94607. For more information, call (510) 444-0473 or email bookmark@fopl.org.



A peek into the new store!

Join Us for Our Grand Opening Celebration

Saturday, September 28, 3pm - 6pm

The Bookmark, 933 Broadway

We are excited to announce the Grand Opening of The Bookmark Bookstore in its brand-new location!

- Speakers: Hear inspiring words from our special guests.
- Treats: Indulge in delicious goodies as you explore the new space.
- Silent Auction: Bid on items from local Oakland organizations.
- Children's Book Giveaway: Bring the little ones to pick out a free book!
- Library Card Sign-ups: Become a part of our library community.

This is a wonderful opportunity to support your local library and connect with fellow book lovers. We hope to see you there!

The Fall Sale is ON!

Saturday, October 19 & Sunday, October 20

10am – 5pm

50% off everything in the store ALL DAY for Friends of the OPL Members. Non-members can join on the day of the sale to receive the discount!

Memberships start at just \$25 for individuals, with special discounts for seniors and students.

Learn more about memberships and other ways to support the Friends here: fopl.org/get-involved

Get to Know Your Grants

By Sara DuBois, OPL Coordinator of Grants & Volunteers



Ella Gordon, the 2024 Youth Poet Laureate, receiving the big check from Ynez Arce, Friends Vice President.

Congratulations to 2024 Oakland Youth Poet Laureate Ella Gordon! On June 7, Ella performed alongside the eight other Finalists who had competed for the title. The nine Finalists wowed the crowd with poetry, their passion, and

their support for one another during performances at the Oakstop in downtown Oakland.

Ella, a senior at Oakland Technical High School, won a \$5,000 college scholarship generously funded by the Friends of the Oakland Public Library. She will represent the Oakland community through poetry, media and public appearances.

"Poetry is a voice," Ella said. On being the 2024 Oakland Youth Poet Laureate, she says, "It is such a humbling experience to be appreciated for the very thing that allows me to speak. I am lucky enough to be supported by a creative and immensely talented community of poets that are my eternal inspiration and motivation. This program has given me and young poets all over Oakland the platform to share our voices and flourish. I am supremely honored to be this year's voice."

This powerful program would not be possible without the financial support from the Friends of the Oakland Public Library. In addition to funding the scholarship, the Friends of the OPL pays for the social media advertising, event space, finalist prizes, and refreshments.

Sharon McKellar, the OPL librarian who supervises the Teen Services department and the Oakland Youth Poet Laureate program, said, "It's impossible to overstate the importance of the Friends' contributions. Library staff and volunteers work very hard to encourage applicants, to connect young writers with resources, and to create a real community of young poets. But things like snacks and advertising and the scholarship prize are absolutely critical to the success of the program. My colleagues and I are so grateful -- thank you!"

Get to Know Your Grants is a regular newsletter feature which highlights some of the library programs, activities, and improvements that are possible thanks to your support for the Friends of the OPL. For more information, please contact Sara DuBois at sdubois@oaklandlibrary.org or (510) 238-6572.

Remembering Judy Toll

Many in the Friends of the OPL community remember long-time volunteer Judy Toll. She was a regular Friday afternoon Bookmark Bookstore volunteer and a cheerleader for the Friends at OPL events. She represented the Oakland Friends in a county-wide group of Friends of the Library groups that met periodically to share information and best practices.



A former school librarian who retired from San Leandro High School after more than 20 years of service, Judy began volunteering at the Bookmark in 2001 and joined the Friends of the OPL board in 2003. She served as board Secretary from 2005-14 and chaired the Bookstore Committee from 2011-17. After stepping down from the board in 2017, Judy continued to volunteer at the Bookmark until 2020.

Judy loved reading and had a special passion for theatre, travel, art, and picture books.

On May 20, 2023, Judy passed away. She is sorely missed by family, friends, and fellow volunteers.

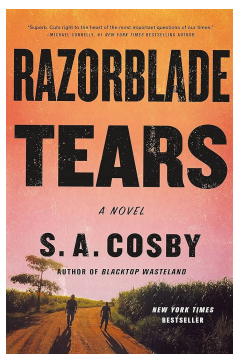
We are touched to share that Judy's contributions to the Oakland Public Library continue. Judy and her husband Bob included a bequest to the Friends in their estate plan which will help the Friends to support the library in the future. And last fall, Bob decided to give a generous gift now, in Judy's memory.

In 2024-25, this gift will cover the costs of the Story Bus, a beloved program which provides transportation from preschool through kindergarten classrooms in the West Oakland neighborhood to the West Oakland Library. At the library, the children have a special storytime with library staff and then they choose one book each to take back to their school. This simple but effective program helps children to develop a love for reading and to learn about the many resources to be found at the library.

The library and the Friends are grateful for Judy's service and for this generous gift in her memory. To learn more, please visit fopl.org/post/the-story-bus

What the Friends Board is Reading

These titles can be found at OPL (check the card catalog at oaklandlibrary.org) or purchased from Bookshop bookshop.org/shop/theBookmarkBookstore



RAZORBLADE TEARS

S.A. Cosby

A gripping thriller about two fathers in Virginia with criminal pasts who form an unlikely alliance to dig up the truth when their sons, a married couple, are murdered for reasons unknown.

Recommended by Mifta Chowdhury



ACCOUNTABLE

Dashka Slater

It's a true story of a discovered racist media account at Albany High School and what it meant for the school, its students and the community as a whole....it explores the answer to "what does it mean to be held accountable for harm to take place behind a screen."

Recommended by Pooneh Koohyar

Friends Board Bids Farewell to Stephen Cole, Welcomes Glenn Poppe

The Friends bid a fond farewell to Director Stephen Cole, who resigned from the board after seven years of outstanding service across multiple committees. Stephen's unwavering dedication, especially during the recent Bookmark move, has been truly remarkable. He has devoted countless hours to ensuring the success of this project, and his efforts have greatly benefited the Friends of the Oakland Public Library. When you visit the Bookmark's beautiful new location at 933 Broadway, pay a visit to the beautifully restored antique bookshelf in the children's area. This was one of Stephen's final labors of love during his board service. Many thanks and best wishes, Stephen!



We are excited to welcome Glenn Poppe to the Friends Board. Glenn is an entrepreneur and early-stage technology professional, most recently focused on decentralized social media and digital public goods. He believes libraries play an essential role in providing open access to knowledge, fostering lifelong learning, and serving as one of the few remaining spaces you can be without buying something. Glenn is a regular volunteer at the FOPL's Bookmark Bookstore and patron of the Dimond Branch. He lives in the Laurel with his wife Amy, kiddo, and two dogs.



Giving

- In honor of Diana Ghermann and Tony Schoenberg from Steve and Toni Schoenberg, Michelle Berlin, Anita Jackson, and Philip W. Peters
- In honor of Winifred from Dolphin Waletzky
- In memory of June Brumer from Claudia Kruse
- In memory of Brian W. Walsh from Stephanie W. Walsh
- In memory of James Maranan from Gordon Shell

Thank you to members who participate in workplace giving programs offered by these employers:

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| • Apple Inc. | • Exelexis | • Microsoft | • PG&E | • Ripple |
| • Clif Bar | • Google Inc | • Moss Adams | • Salesforce | • Take-Two Interactive |
| • City of Oakland | • Hewlett Packard Enterprise | • Pinterest | • Sephora | Software |
| • The CLOROX Company | • Kaiser Permanente | • Roblox | • Service Now | • Veeva |



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Friends of the OPL Board Members

- ✦ Ynez Arce, *Vice President, Newsletter Editor*
- ✦ Mifta Chowdhury, *Assistant Treasurer*
- ✦ Erica Dennings
- ✦ Elizabeth Falkner
- ✦ Aniya Grimm
- ✦ Colleen Haikes
- ✦ Corey Hatcher
- ✦ Sara Jewell, *Treasurer*
- ✦ Diana Kaw
- ✦ Pooneh Koohyar
- ✦ Ronile Lahti
- ✦ Rebecca Pfiffner
- ✦ Glenn Poppe
- ✦ Kathryn Sterbenc, *President*
- ✦ Anastasia Yip, *Secretary*

We welcome your feedback & comments:

info@fopl.org

If the date on your mailing label is **09-01-2024**
or earlier, PLEASE RENEW TODAY!

Thanks to your support, in the last 10 years Friends of the OPL granted almost \$2 million for library programs and projects. Thank you for your continued support!

Mission

Our mission is to advance the role of the Oakland Public Library as a vital community resource and as an institution critical to the culture, education, and welfare of our diverse community.

The Friends of the Oakland Public Library is the only organization that provides support to all Oakland Public Libraries.

In addition to that great feeling that comes with supporting the library, members receive our quarterly newsletter that includes a special feature highlighting grants to the library.

The Bookmark Bookstore operates on volunteer power and is a community resource for anyone who loves books. The Bookmark has been in Oakland since 1992. Proceeds benefit the Oakland Public Libraries.

Ways to Support Friends of the OPL

- Membership - your annual member dues help fund grants to the Oakland Public Library
- Make a tax deductible donation
- Invite a friend to become a member
- Leave a legacy by naming Friends of the OPL as a beneficiary in your estate plan
- Shop for books and media at The Bookmark Bookstore where members receive discounts for their purchases
- Donate gently used books to The Bookmark Bookstore
- Purchase new books at bookshop.org/shop/theBookmarkBookstore

To learn more about Friends of the Oakland Public Library, visit www.fopl.org

The Friends of the Oakland Public Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.
Our tax ID is 94-2553734. All contributions are tax deductible.