

2019 Summer Reading Program Ends with a Grand Prize Winner!

by Sara DuBois, OPL Coordinator, Grants & Volunteers

After completing the 2019 Kids' Summer Reading Program, Allison – a patron at the César E. Chávez branch – was selected via raffle as the Grand Prize winner from more than 6,000 systemwide finishers! Allison won a four-day stay for up to four people at Oakland Feather River Family Camp for next summer, donated by the camp to our Summer Reading program. Thank you to all our Summer Reading prize donors!

Athletic Playground * The Bookmark Bookstore * California Canoe & Kayak * Cat Town Oakland * Chabot Space & Science Center * Children's Creativity Museum * Children's Fairyland * CREAM * The Crucible * Downtown Oakland YMCA * East Oakland Sports Center * Fentons Creamery * Flavor Brigade * Folkmanis * Ford GoBike * Golden State Warriors * Grand Lake Theater * Kinetic Arts Center * Lake Merritt Boating Center * The Museum of Art & Digital Entertainment (The MADE) * The New Parkway Theater * Oakland Athletics * Oakland Feather River Family Camp * Oakland Ice Center * The Oakland Zoo * Oaklandish * Pacific Pinball Museum * San Francisco Bay Ferry * Studio Naga

2019 Summer Reading was made possible thanks to the following Major Supporters: the Friends of the Oakland Public Library, Fentons Creamery, the Hellman Foundation, the Kenneth Rainin Foundation, The Bernard Osher Foundation, and the William G. Gilmore Foundation.



Upcoming Events @ The Bookmark | 721 Washington Street, Oakland

SATURDAY, OCT. 12, 4-7PM

PRE-SALE CELEBRATION

Oakland's Libraries: Growing Together

Join us for light refreshments and enjoy our guests: 2019-2020 Youth Poet Laureate, Samuel Getachew, who will perform an original poem for the event.

Meet a Typewriter founder, Edward Pollard, who will bring a collection of typewriters for guests to tinker with.

THURSDAY, OCT. 17-SUNDAY, OCT. 20

SEMI-ANNUAL SALE

Friends of the OPL Members receive 50% off their purchases on Thursday, 10/17.

All book & media lovers enjoy:

30% off Friday, October 18

40% off Saturday, October 19

50% off Sunday, October 20

Connect with Friends of the OPL on Social Media!



BookmarkBookstore.FOPL



FOPL_Bookmark



FOPL_Bookmark

Get to Know Your Grants

by Sara DuBois, OPL Coordinator, Grants & Volunteers

At their meeting on September 4, the Friends of the OPL Board approved a “wish list” of grants for the library totaling \$210,000! To be spent during the Friends fiscal year (October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020), these grants will benefit every location and patrons of all ages.

- **Children’s Services** received \$20,000 to pay for performers and supplies systemwide during the next year. (This represents almost 15% of the total Children’s Literacy programming budget.)
- **Teen Services** will have \$41,000 to use for programming (including the Youth Poet Laureate scholarship), support for Youth Leadership Councils and teen volunteers, and prizes for the Summer Passport program.
- **Adult Services and Outreach** will use \$26,000 to pay for systemwide outreach expenses, special t-shirts to help patrons identify OPL staff, and adult programming at the Main Library.
- **Branch Services and AAMLO** received \$50,000 to pay for programming, supplies, exhibits, film licenses, furniture and signage, after school snacks, and Play Café refreshments.
- **Community Relations** will have access to \$22,500 to create a 2018-19 Annual Report, promote OPL activities via social media, procure promotional artwork and photos, and support volunteer appreciation activities.
- **OPL staff at all locations** will have the chance to apply for \$1,500-2,000 in mini-grant funds (totaling \$20,000) to implement or improve library programs or services.
- **The remaining \$30,500** will pay for OPL’s collection of Wi-Fi hot spots to lend to patrons, three scholarships for OPL staff pursuing their MLIS degrees, hospitality and training for staff, community partnership opportunities, and much more.

These generous grants are only possible thanks to your membership dues, donations, and purchases made at the Bookmark Bookstore. The impact of these funds upon the library is difficult to overstate. There are some long-standing programs that would not be able continue without these grants, and others that will be inspired by this year’s commitment. The library would like to thank all Friends members for their part in making this possible!

For more information, please contact Grants Coordinator Sara DuBois at sdubois@oaklandlibrary.org or (510) 238-6572.

Did You Know....

The Friends of the OPL donates an average of \$200K to Oakland Public Library **every year**.
That is **\$2 million over the last 10 years** going directly to the Oakland Public Library!
This is only possible with your support - **please consider gifting or renewing your Friends of the OPL Membership today!**

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS!

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 6PM | Main Library

LITQUAKE & OPL PRESENT:

“LET HER TELL IT! BLACK WOMEN HEALING THROUGH WRITING”

Featuring Kira Lynne Allen, Jeneé Darden, Natalie Devora, Dr. Adrienne Danyelle Oliver and Kelechi Ubozoh.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 6:30PM | Main Library

LITQUAKE & OPL PRESENT: “LIT BY THE LAKE AT THE LIBRARY”

Celebrate six of the East Bay's literary luminaries in a special after-hours event at Oakland's Main Library.

To learn more about other fabulous OPL events, go here: oaklandlibrary.org

Friends of the OPL Annual Meeting | Wednesday, November 6, 5:15pm

Please join us for the Friends of the Oakland Public Library Annual Meeting on **Wednesday, November 6, at 5:15 pm, at the Main Library, 125 14th Street**. The main item of business is the election of board members for the upcoming two-year term. **All Members are invited!**

Slate of nominees to be re-elected for a 2-year term: Ynez Arce, Stephen Cole, Pooneh Koohyar, Ronile Lahti, Rebecca Pfiffner, Valerie Villanueva, Julie Waldman, Winifred Walters.

Nominees under consideration for the first 2-year term: M. C. Abbott, Elizabeth Falkner, Corey Hatcher, Sanam Nassirpour.

More, Better Main: Update on the Oakland Downtown Plan

by OPL Advocates

The revised Downtown Oakland Specific Plan was released Aug. 30. Thanks to your help (THANK YOU!!), **the revised plan now includes the need for a new and/or expanded Main Library** and for improvements to the Main Library to be made (p.153). The Plan also calls for further study of impact fees to fund such improvements (p. 263).

While these revisions are a crucial step in bringing a new/updated Main Library to fruition, the Plan also raised several issues Library Advocates will address. **We will request that the City Planning Staff make the following revisions:**

1. In many places, the Plan speaks about the Main serving as a "shelter" for the homeless. The library *provides* shelter, but is *not a shelter* – a key difference. Members of the Library staff are not trained in social work, and the homeless community deserves the best resources the City can offer. Moreover, the Library must meet and balance the needs of all populations in the community. **Even when expanded, the Main Library should not be viewed as a permanent daytime shelter for the homeless.**
2. **The value of the Main Library as an incubator of economic development** was not mentioned. The Main Library offers job fairs for teens and adults; @oaklandhasjobs, an Instagram account displaying current job openings in Oakland, and educational programs for job seekers. It also offers resources for grant seekers and business developers. More space would allow the Main to offer additional programming, meeting rooms, coworker spaces and a makerspace where 3-D printers and other devices could be more readily used by the public.
3. The role the Library plays in supporting youth was not emphasized. The report focused on disconnected black teens feeling unwelcome in the downtown area. It did not highlight **the many ways that the Library provides educational and recreational resources and programming for young people**. Examples include: the Youth Poet Laureate contest (and college scholarship), the Youth Leadership Council, volunteer opportunities in the Library, children's story times, and free food programs.
4. Although downtown development is viewed through an equitable framework, **the role of the digital divide in Oakland and how the Library helps meet that challenge** was not discussed. Between July 2018 and June 2019, free public computers were used in more than 61,000 sessions. Additionally, the Library offers free Internet access, black-and-white and color printing, free checkout of Wi-Fi hot spots and free individualized tutoring. You can read the entire Plan at: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/documents/draft-dosp-eir>

There are many opportunities on the horizon where we would love to have representation from supporters of an expanded Main Library: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/news/2019/draft-plan-to-be-released-august-30>

If you cannot attend one of the listed meetings, please send your comments and thanks to City Planning staff at plandowntownoakland@oaklandca.gov. Thank you for your support!

OPL ADVOCATES ARE the informal coalition of volunteer advocacy groups working to support the Oakland Public Library. These include the City of Oakland Library Advisory Commission; Friends of the Oakland Public Library; Youth Leadership Council; Teen Advisory Boards; Branch Friends groups; Save Oakland Library; staff, and patrons.

Connect with OPL Advocates on Social Media!



OPLAdvocates



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OPLadvocate

The Bookmark Bookstore: Powered by Volunteers, Beloved by the Community

by Ynez Arce

Since the store opened in its current location at 721 Washington Street in 1995, it has been powered by a civic-minded, book-loving, library-cheering group of volunteers. The Bookmark represents a unique opportunity to support the Oakland Public Library, and our volunteers generously support that mission with their time and engagement in this special store.

When The Bookmark Bookstore was profiled in 2005 by the San Francisco Chronicle, it was described as "a bookstore and curiosity shop." Fourteen years later, The Bookmark has thousands of books and media selections to peruse and certainly still has curiosities - you never know what you're going to find in our store or online!

While e-book sales continue to steadily rise worldwide, paperbacks and hardbacks still outsell them by a large margin. Unlike the disruption that digital media has caused for the news publishing and music business, people still love their physical books. This love of physical books and continuing efforts by consumers to buy used instead of new has led to a steady increase in The Bookmark's sales over the last several years. Strong sales of books, media, and Friends of the OPL Memberships at The Bookmark mean more opportunities to support the OPL. What could be better than that?!

We are most grateful for our store volunteers, loyal patrons, Friends of the OPL Members, store manager, and donors.

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE BOOKMARK

In 1992, The Bookmark first opened at 817 Washington, up the street from its current location. In 1995, the store moved to its current location, 721 Washington. Friends Board members teamed up with a handful of store volunteers to move hundreds of books down the street. We have come a long way since 1992. **Today we have....**

1 Amazing, full-time store manager, Phyllis Coulliard, who keeps the store running smoothly and always keeps the mission in mind: supporting the Oakland Public Library!

6,000 Books and media items donated to The Bookmark *each month*.

66 Volunteers who keep the store open 7 days/week.

8 Volunteers have been there 15 or more years!

2 Volunteers have been there **between 10-14 years!**

7 Volunteers have been there **between 5-9 years!**

49 Volunteers have been there less than 5 years!

Why do people volunteer at The Bookmark?

Our volunteers love books, they want to give back to the community, and they want to support the library.

Why do we always need volunteers?

We are open seven days a week with many 3-hour shifts to fill. We have a very diverse group of volunteers and there can be turnover due to changes in their lives that make it hard to keep volunteering. **Our job is to always be recruiting and prepared for anything!**

How do the volunteers spend their time?

Bookmark volunteers have a range of responsibilities including: pricing, shelving, and culling books, helping customers find books or sections, promoting Friends of the OPL memberships, running the cash register and iPad for credit card and cash sales, answering phones, processing incoming donations, looking up and listing books for sale on Amazon and eBay, keeping up the store, and suggesting themes for table and window displays. Wow, our volunteers are busy and engaged! Whatever your volunteering goals are, The Bookmark has something for everyone.

JOIN US!

The Bookmark always needs volunteers - join us today!

Please visit, call, or email for more details:

721 Washington Street, Oakland | (510) 444-0473

bookmark_bookstore@yahoo.com

Book Recommendations from the Friends of the OPL Board

Recommended by Ashley Robinson

All About Love, by bell hooks

This book is a reflective, spiritual read. Gracefully written and thoughtfully ordered, you will close the book with a deep and honest understanding of love as a verb and its impact on all relationship dynamics.

Recommended by Sheila McCormick

Valley of Genius: The Uncensored History of Silicon Valley (As Told by the Hackers, Founders, and Freaks Who Made it Boom), by Adam Fisher

Adam Fisher conducted hundreds of interviews, then stitches them together cohesively, so that you feel as if you are in the room listening to a conversation. I am not a techie by trade but loved this book.

Giving

- In memory of Rose Tassielli from Jane Freeman
- In honor of Gabriella DiVerdi from Stephen DiVerdi
- In memory of Mario Paul DiGiovanni from The Moms Group, Anonymous, Winifred Walters
- In memory of Herb Mager, Jr. from Paul Hoch and Susan Schumacher
- In memory of Audine Stier from Ann and John Jones
- In appreciation of Kirsten Baldock, Senior Librarian at OPL, from Robert Simmons
- "In honor and celebration of Kathryn Sterbenc's birthday. She loves Oakland Public Library and we love her," from Lester and Visenta Kowalski
- In memory of Gary P. Encinas from James Wright
- In memory of Donald Chin Lee from Hank Yuan, Sheila Lionelle, Simonette Choate

To learn about more ways to donate, go to: fopl.org/donate

#GIVINGTUESDAY...IS COMING! DECEMBER 3, 2019

Celebrated each year on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, this year #GivingTuesday is December 3. #GivingTuesday is an annual global movement that celebrates and encourages charitable giving online. The *good* news that as a member of the Friends, you already support Oakland's Libraries. The *great* news is that you have another opportunity to get involved and support the OPL! In 2018, OPL and the Friends of the OPL participated in #GivingTuesday for the first time. The response was extremely positive - we signed up 12 new members and raised over \$3,000 in just a few days. For 2019, please keep an eye out for our social media posts and share freely! Psst.... #GivingTuesday is a great opportunity to gift memberships and ask your friends and neighbors to join the Friends of OPL. Join us for #GivingTuesday2019!

Found at The Bookmark

by Sheila McCormick

The Bookmark often has some real finds in the DVD collection (located in a wooden box on the checkout desk), and this is one of them. Yi Yi, the last film from the director Edward Yang, is about a family in Taipei, Taiwan. That description might sound boring, but it is not – the movie is charming, funny, serious, insightful, and not to be missed – and luckily, it is available for checkout at OPL.



Branch Friends News

Request from The Friends of the Piedmont Avenue Library: the Friends of PAL are conducting a survey of neighborhood residents to learn what the community needs and is willing to support as the group continues its quest for a permanent library location. To learn more and take the survey, go to friendsofpal.org or visit the branch at 80 Echo Avenue, Oakland, California.



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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 Library. Members receive a discount on purchases.

We welcome your feedback & comments:
info@fopl.org

If the date on your mailing label is **9-01-2019**
or earlier, PLEASE RENEW TODAY!

Your support is crucial:

Your annual member dues help fund grants to the Oakland Public Library. In the last 10 years, Friends of the OPL granted over \$2M for library programs and projects.

More ways to support Friends of the OPL:

- Invite a friend to become a member
- Leave a legacy by naming Friends of the OPL as a beneficiary in your estate plan
- Donate your gently-used books to the Bookmark Bookstore
- Volunteer! www.oaklandlibrary.org/volunteer
- Shop online at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchase when you select Friends of the Oakland Public Library.

Thank you!

To learn more, visit www.fopl.org or call The Bookmark Bookstore at (510) 444-0473.
The Friends of the Oakland Public Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.
Our tax ID is 94-2553734, and contributions are tax deductible.