

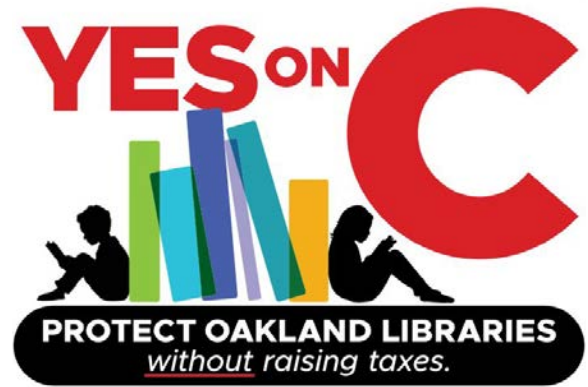
## Measure C Passes!

By Jamie Turbak, Director of Library Services

Last month, City of Oakland voters overwhelmingly approved Measure C to extend a 2004 parcel tax that was about to expire. Measure C will provide approximately \$18 million/year and represents 40% of the library's operating budget. A "yes" vote on this measure was critical to maintaining library service in Oakland.

I am deeply grateful to the City of Oakland voters for their support, and to the many volunteers who helped to spread the word about this important measure. Thanks to the passage of Measure C, the Oakland Public Library can continue to serve the community with public computers, access to books and other materials, safe after-school spaces for youth, connections to community resources, and engaging activities for all ages.

I often hear people express their gratitude for libraries. But today the library is grateful for you. **Thank you!**



## The Library Advisory Commission Needs You

The City of Oakland's Library Advisory Commission (LAC) makes recommendations to the Oakland City Council, provides citizen oversight of Measure Q and Measure D tax funds, and advocates on behalf of library programs and services. The Commission consists of 15 seats, appointed by the Mayor and Council. Public meetings are held on the last Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

The LAC is actively recruiting new commissioners, and we invite you to consider this important community service role. More information can be found at [OaklandLibrary.org/Volunteer](http://OaklandLibrary.org/Volunteer)

## The Bookmark News

**The Spring sale** at The Bookmark was a busy and bustling event. Our book sales neared our pre-pandemic sale numbers - hooray! The pandemic changed many things about The Bookmark and the Old Oakland neighborhood. We are grateful to our patrons who donate, shop, and spread the word about the store. Even in a digital world, people LOVE books and supporting independent bookstores (especially those whose profits benefit our community libraries). So we say, THANK YOU!

### Need new books?

Please shop our [Bookshop.org](http://Bookshop.org) store - 30% of the sale price comes directly back to the Friends of the OPL.

This continues to be a substantial and wonderful way to support the Friends.

### Genre Sales at The Bookmark

As of May, the Bookmark has been having a "Genre of the Month" sale. We will continue to 50% off the selected genre (no additional discounts apply). In July, our American History genre books will be 50% off. Come browse our shelves at 721 Washington Street!



American History books at The Bookmark

Connect with Friends of the OPL on Social Media



BookmarkBookstore.FOPL



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## The Bookmark Bookstore is Looking for a New Manager

Phyllis, our fearless bookstore manager, has decided that the time has come to retire. We thank her for her service and wish her the best of luck on her next adventure! In the meantime, The Bookmark is looking for a new manager. This role will be responsible for driving sales of 100% donated books and media. We are searching for a manager who has knowledge of retail bookstore operating procedures, inventory management, pricing strategies, great communication skills, and basic retail accounting. In addition, the manager should also have the ability to recruit, motivate, and lead a diverse all-volunteer staff of 40-50 individuals. The self-directed position reports to the Board of Directors of The Friends of the Oakland Public Library. Please refrain from contacting the store about this position, instead email resumes and inquiries to [jobs@fopl.org](mailto:jobs@fopl.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

## Get to Know Your Grants

By Sara DuBois, Coordinator Grants & Volunteers

The Annual Grants awarded to the Oakland Public Library last fall by the Friends of the OPL contained something new: the Branch Equity Grants. These were \$1,500 awards for each branch located in high priority neighborhoods (per the OakDOT Equity Toolbox), to be spent as staff at those branches determined.

These grants have made a great impact and funded a variety of projects that otherwise would not have been possible. Thanks to the Branch Equity Grants:

- 81st Avenue Branch planned special programming, including the East Bay Counter Narratives event described in this newsletter, and a popular online visit with Dolores Huerta.
- Asian Branch enhanced their Children's play space with new furniture designed to inspire creative play.
- Brookfield Branch purchased planters and gardening supplies which has allowed them to host a series of hands-on gardening workshops.
- The César E. Chávez Branch strengthened its "maker" offerings by purchasing a 3-D printer and a craft cutting machine, as well as supplies for their garden.

- Eastmont Branch is setting up an online newspaper and e-resources kiosk for patrons.
- Elmhurst Branch upgraded their equipment for teens and improved their outdoor space.
- The Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch organized a teen art program (as described in the April edition of "Off the Shelf") and enhanced their seed library and garden.
- Melrose Branch created a mural project for teens, purchased programming supplies, and enhanced their seed library.
- And West Oakland Branch purchased equipment to support their popular "What's Cookin' at West" program, and a set of hygiene kits to meet critical requests from patrons.

The Branch Equity Grants have inspired staff and given them the means to accomplish their programming and service goals. The Oakland Public Library is so appreciative to the Friends for making these grants possible.

*Note: Although also located in a high priority neighborhood, the African American Museum & Library at Oakland (AAMLO) did not receive a Branch Equity grant because the 2021-22 Annual Grants already included an award of \$7,000 designated for AAMLO programs, supplies, and equipment.*



## 2022 Summer Programs

It's not too late to check out the library's Summer Programs... Through August 6, Kids (ages 0-14), Teens (12-17), and Adults (18+) can participate in fun programs and have the chance to earn fantastic prizes. And there are programs galore for children and teens. Visit the library or sign up online at [OaklandLibrary.org/Summer](http://OaklandLibrary.org/Summer) – there is something for everyone!

## Friends Board Welcomes Jenn Chan



We are thrilled to welcome Jenn Chan to the Friends board. Jenn is a graduate student specializing in UX (User Experience) design at UC Berkeley's School of Information. Before going to graduate school, she worked at Disney Publishing Worldwide where she led marketing initiatives to amplify diverse authors and their books on Disney's official social media

accounts. We look forward to working with her on the Friends board!

## Oakland Selects Youth Poet Laureate

We were thrilled to be in-person to congratulate Nadia Elbgal as she was announced Oakland's Youth Poet Laureate. She and the other finalists performed on a beautiful afternoon at Lake Merritt on May 21. Friends of the OPL were on hand to deliver the \$5K "big check" college scholarship to Nadia. 16 year-old Kaylan Black will be the 2022 Vice Poet Laureate. Congratulations to these talented Youth Poets Laureates!



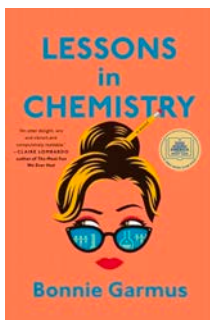
## Meet Our Bookmark Volunteer Extraordinaire

Trish Elliott is a longtime volunteer at the Bookmark Bookstore, and she has been an invaluable part of our Membership team for many years. In a Q&A by Friends President Kathryn Sterbenc, you'll meet the indispensable and irreplaceable Trish Elliott with 20+ years of service at The Bookmark. Please go to our blog to read the article: [fopl.org/post/letter-writer-volunteer-extraordinaire](https://fopl.org/post/letter-writer-volunteer-extraordinaire)



## Friends of the OPL Board Book Recommendations

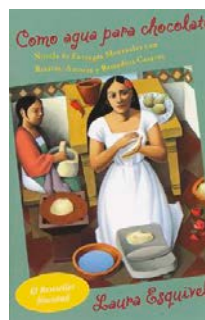
These titles can be found at OPL (check the card catalog at [oaklandlibrary.org](https://oaklandlibrary.org)) or purchased from Bookshop [bookshop.org/shop/theBookmarkBookstore](https://bookshop.org/shop/theBookmarkBookstore)



**LESSONS IN CHEMISTRY**  
Bonny Garmus

Set in the 1960's; the protagonist is a scientist who has to deal with all the anti-feminist attitudes of her era. Despite a series of setbacks, she eventually triumphs. Along the way, there's a cooking show, a wonderful dog, and plenty of karma.

Recommended by Julie Waldman



**LIKE WATER FOR CHOCOLATE**  
Laura Esquivel

The author weaves together visceral descriptions of flavors and cooking with magical realism to create a story unlike any other. You will feel like you're right there in the kitchen with Tita, the protagonist, as her life and longings unfold throughout the pages.

Recommended by Rebecca Pfiffner

## Giving

- In memory of Adam Twain from co-workers who remember his warm, kind, and generous nature
- In memory of Paul Seidenberg from George Zimmer
- In honor of Winifred Walters from Virginia Newton on Library Giving Day
- In honor of Robin Spencer from Jennifer Brown
- In honor of Mahika and Peter's Wedding from Toba Smith
- In honor of Jaime Schwalb and the team at Sounds True

Thank you to members who participate in the following employer-sponsored giving programs:

Apple	The Clorox Company	PlayStation Cares	Walt Disney Company Foundation
BlackRock	Genentech	PG&E	Wells Fargo
City of Oakland	Google	Port of Oakland	WorldWide, Inc
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.	Kaiser Permanente	Private Company	
Chevron	LinkedIn	Twitter	



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## Friends of the OPL Board Members

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- ✦ Jennifer Chan
- ✦ Stephen Cole
- ✦ Erica Dennings
- ✦ Elizabeth Falkner
- ✦ Colleen Haikes, *Newsletter Co-Editor*
- ✦ Corey Hatcher
- ✦ Sara Jewell, *Co-Treasurer*
- ✦ Pooneh Koohyar
- ✦ Ronile Lahti
- ✦ Nick Marble
- ✦ Charu Mehra, *Newsletter Co-Editor*
- ✦ Rebecca Pfiffner
- ✦ Kathryn Sterbenc, *President*
- ✦ Valerie Villanueva, *Secretary*
- ✦ Julie Waldman, *Co-Treasurer*

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](mailto:info@fopl.org)

If the date on your mailing label is **06-01-2022**  
or earlier, PLEASE RENEW TODAY!

### Your support is always needed and appreciated:

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

More ways to support Friends of the OPL:

- 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
- Donate gently used books to the Bookmark Bookstore
- Purchase new books at [bookshop.org/shop/theBookmarkBookstore](http://bookshop.org/shop/theBookmarkBookstore)
- Shop online at [smile.amazon.com](http://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 about Friends of the Oakland Public Library, visit [www.fopl.org](http://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.