

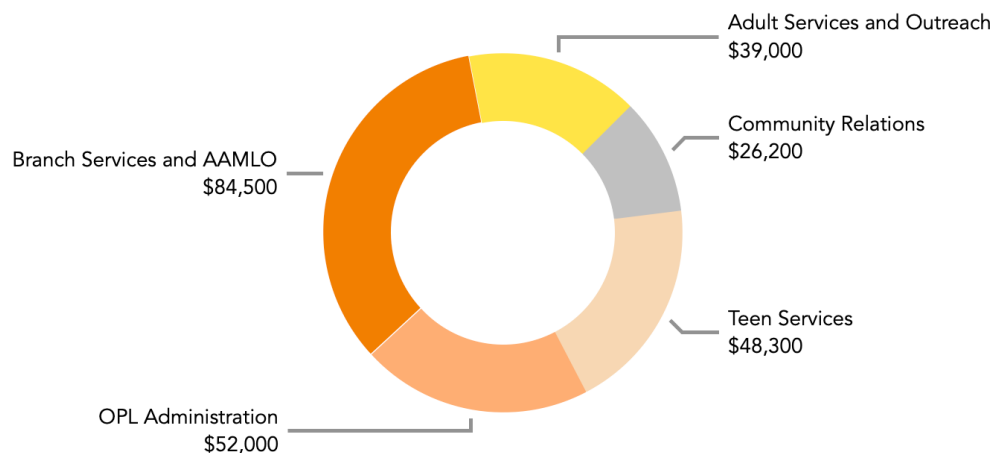


Friends of the Oakland Public Library

2024 - 2025 Grants to the Oakland Public Library

Grant Total: \$250,000

The Friends of the Oakland Public Library board approved a “wish list” of grants for the Oakland Public Library totaling \$250,000 in September 2024. To be spent during the fiscal year (October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025), these grants benefit every location and patrons of all ages.



- **OPL Administration** grants totaling \$52,000 allow OPL to provide refreshments at staff meetings, participate in recruiting events, organize special staff trainings, make safety improvements, rebind valuable books, and pay for critical items that aren't available through the City of Oakland. This grant also includes the annual Friends of the OPL scholarship, a competitive award open to OPL staff pursuing a master's degree in Library and Information Science.
- **Branch Services and AAMLO** grant of \$84,500 supports every OPL location and pays for programming, facility improvements, film licensing for public movie screenings, seeds for OPL seed libraries, parts and supplies for The Bike Fix, and extra funding for branches in high-priority neighborhoods. A special grant to the African American Museum and Library of Oakland (AAMLO) funds programs, exhibits, and equipment.
- **Teen Services** will have \$48,300 to support programs, services, and equipment for teen patrons at all OPL locations. These grants are critical to helping OPL serve teens throughout Oakland, paying for speaker honorariums, craft supplies, henna artists, after school snacks, teen furnishings, video game equipment, summer program prizes, the scholarship award and finalist prizes for the Oakland Youth Poet Laureate program, teen volunteer appreciation efforts, and much, much more.



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- **Community Relations** will have access to \$26,200 that allows OPL's Community Relations team to document and promote all that the library offers. These grants pay for photography services, special programs, graphic design software, and adult volunteer appreciation.
- **Children's Services** Thanks to a separate, dedicated grant of \$88,000 from the Friends of the OPL, the library has engaged the Museum of Children's Art (MOCHA) to provide art instruction with a social emotional component at 11 libraries in high-priority neighborhoods throughout the 2024-25 school year.
- **Adult Services and Outreach** will use \$39,000 to pay honoraria to authors and speakers at adult programs, Adult Summer Reading program prizes, systemwide programs such as gardening workshops and digital literacy classes, OPL staff t-shirts, adult outreach supplies, promotional items, and more.

Note: The "Get to Know Your Grants" articles in the Friends' quarterly newsletter, *Off the Shelf*, provides updates to our members about how the Friends of OPL supports the Oakland Public Library. Back issues are in [our newsletter archive](#).