

Friends Help Fund Library Studies

For 23 years, the Friends of OPL has supported OPL staff enrolled in an accredited Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) program with a scholarship opportunity. The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce this year's winners, who each received \$1,500 for their education:

Adolfo Gomez-Delgado (Melrose Branch) "Growing up in East Oakland is not easy; I know this from experience. I also know Oakland is resilient. I want to become a librarian so that I can more efficiently connect patrons to the resources they need. I want to help increase literacy rates, and I want to create a space that encourages lifelong learning."

Chantra Tham (Asian Branch) "The library is a place where our language and culture can be protected and a place where our younger generations can seek

themselves and complete their story. Long story short, I was a teen patron at OPL, turned volunteer at OPL, and now turned staff at OPL inspired to serve Oakland's diverse community."

Jennifer Agarwal (Rockridge Branch) "A significant focus of our MLIS coursework is on enhancing the user experience of library patrons. How can we facilitate individual patrons' finding resources on our shelves and in our digital archives? How can we design outreach and programming that meets their needs?"

Award recipients are selected by the OPL Staff Scholarship Committee in a competitive process, headed up by Dorothy Lazard of the Oakland History Center, serving as the Acting Chair, Friends of the OPL Scholarship Committee. The library is grateful to all Friends' members for supporting this important and impactful program! Thank you, Friends!

2021 Friends of the OPL Community Survey

The Friends of the OPL want to hear from YOU! Tell us how we met, how we're doing, and how we can improve. The survey is online and should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

Thank you in advance for your participation!

Survey Link: bit.ly/FriendsOPLSurvey2021

Shop the Fall Sale at The Bookmark

The Friends of the OPL is having its Fall 2021 sale event at The Bookmark Bookstore Thursday, October 21 to Sunday, October 24. Take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to discover your next great novel, coffee table book, biography, or how-to guide among the 17,000 books. We also have a diverse collection of LPs, DVDs, CDs and jigsaw puzzles.

Members of the Friends of the OPL save 50% on all purchases on Thursday, October 21. After that, all

shoppers get great discounts that apply to already low prices of \$3 to \$6 for most of the books in the store:

- 30% off on Friday, 10/22
- 40% off on Saturday, 10/23
- 50% off on Sunday, 10/24

As always, proceeds from the sales of these high-quality, gently-used books benefit our Oakland Libraries.

Connect with Friends of the OPL on Social Media



BookmarkBookstore.FOPL



FOPL_Bookmark



FOPL_Bookmark

OPL Launching New Website

Coming **November 8**: A New Website for the Oakland Public Library!

- This new site will be mobile friendly and easy to use on any device.
- It will allow users to search the catalog, website, FAQs, or events.
- There will be an expanded presence for special collections.
- And much, much more!

Take a look at some of the features we're most excited about in this introductory video: oaklandlibrary.org/NewSiteVideo

Get to Know Your Grants

Sara DuBois, OPL Coordinator, Grants & Volunteers

When OPL's Management Team planned its Annual Grants request to the Friends in August 2020, no one knew what the year would bring. At that time, the library was providing "Sidewalk Service," distributing free to-go meals and produce at three locations, and offering virtual programs as staff capacity allowed.

Although these modified services did reduce our usual grants spending (on honorariums, refreshments, film licensing fees, afterschool snacks for youth, and more), we were thrilled to be able to request some very special grants from the Friends of the OPL Board last year. During the 2020-21 fiscal year, the Friends provided critical funding for a Chromebook lending program, support for a renovation of the bike repair container at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch (which provides youth with opportunities to repair, tune up, and decorate bikes), and a portion of the costs for new flooring at the West Oakland Branch.

This year, the situation has improved: all locations are open to the public with the hours offered pre-pandemic, except for 81st Avenue Branch (which will reinstate Sunday service hours after more staff have been hired and trained.) Local schools are back in session with in-person classes, allowing us to reconnect with greater numbers of children and families, and to conduct in-person and virtual class visits. OPL computer labs are open, serving a vital need to many individuals in Oakland who lack access to technology. Librarians continue to look for safe ways to bring the

community together – virtually or in person – and we are hopeful about the year ahead of us.

As our operations have more fully resumed, grants spending has slowly increased. In our 2021-22 Grants proposal to the Friends in August 2021, we requested approximately \$200,000 in funding to support:

- Children's Programming
- the Youth Poet Laureate Program
- the Youth Leadership Council
- Teen Leadership Field Trips (formerly a Friends of the OPL mini-grant project)
- Library Outreach
- Systemwide Programming
- Adult Main Programming
- AAMLO Programming/Exhibit Supplies
- Branch Equity Grants (extra support for 81st Avenue, Asian, Brookfield, Chavez, Eastmont, Elmhurst, Martin Luther King, Jr., Melrose, and West Oakland branch libraries)
- Community Relations efforts
- Staff hospitality and training
- Staff MLIS Scholarships
- And more!

Like many institutions, the library has gone through a tumultuous and challenging time over the past 18 months. We are still getting our bearings and focusing on our core service to the public. The generous support we receive from the Friends of the OPL – through grants as well as other, less tangible forms – means so much to us. My colleagues and I thank you for all that you do to make OPL stronger and better.

Oakland-Berkeley Hills Firestorm Panel

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the devastating Oakland-Berkeley Hills Fire, the Oakland History Center will host a panel of speakers who played important roles during and after the firestorm. The panel will include former Oakland City Manager Henry Gardner, North Hills community advocate Sue Piper, former city councilwoman Marge Gibson, and retired Oakland Fire Department captain Mark Hoffman.

Thursday, October 21, 6–7:30pm

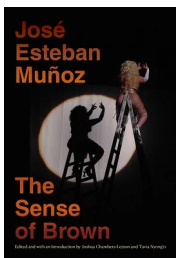
To register: oaklandlibrary.org/FirestormPanel

This is just one of six online events in the Oakland History Center's Fall History Series, which starts on October 6. Visit oaklandlibrary.org/events to learn more and to register.

Book Recommendations

Friends of the OPL Board

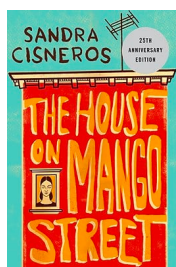
These titles can be found at OPL (check the card catalog at oaklandlibrary.org) or purchased from Bookshop bookshop.org/shop/theBookmarkBookstore



THE SENSE OF BROWN

José Esteban Muñoz

Before his death in 2013, Muñoz wrote a series of essays discussing Chicano history, immigration, and the general feeling of “brownness.”



THE HOUSE ON MANGO STREET

Sandra Cisneros

In a series of vignettes that cover a broad spectrum of emotions, Cisneros tells the story of Esperanza Cordero, a young girl growing up and defining her identity in Chicago.

Notice of Friends of the OPL Annual Meeting

The Friends of the Oakland Public Library will hold its Annual Meeting on **Wednesday, November 3 at 5:15pm** via Zoom. The main item of business is the election of board members for the upcoming two-year term. All members are invited!

If you would like to attend, email info@fopl.org and we will send you the Zoom meeting details.

Current directors standing for re-election for two-year terms (2021-23):

Ynez Arce, Stephen Cole, Elizabeth Falkner, Corey Hatcher, Pooneh Koohyar, Ronile Lahti, Rebecca Pfiffner, Valerie Villanueva, Julie Waldman

Directors appointed during 2021 to be elected for two-year terms (2021-23):

Erica Dennings, Colleen Haikes, Sara Jewell, Nick Marble

Giving

- In honor of Sandra Toscano, Librarian at the Rockridge Branch, from Micaela Cacho-Negrete
- In memory of Annie Pankow from The Streits and Dolginows
- In memory of my mother, Betty Ferguson, volunteer at The Bookmark Bookstore, from Penny Strohl
- In memory of Eric Sinn from William and Christine Sinn
- In memory of Jean Chung from her family and friends
- In memory of Beverly Bortin from Rita Kaikow
- In memory of Gary Encinas from James Wright
- Thank you to members who participate in the following employer-sponsored giving programs: Abbott, Adobe, Apple, Autodesk, Bayer, City of Oakland, Clorox, Chevron, Google, Genentech, IBM, Kaiser Permanente, LinkedIn, Netflix, PG&E, S&P Global, Thermo Fisher, Twilio, Walt Disney Company Foundation, UserTesting, VMware Foundation, Wells Fargo

The Friends of the Oakland Public Library is honored to receive a \$10,000 grant for the Bookmark Bookstore to support our efforts to find new homes for gently used books. StopWaste, a public agency reducing waste in Alameda County, awarded grants to 49 local nonprofit and for-profit organizations for projects focused on repair, reuse, food waste reduction, and food donation equipment. With funding amounts ranging from \$5K to \$20K per grant award, the program engages businesses and community-based organizations to reduce waste in Alameda County while helping to address some of the most pressing environmental and equity issues facing county residents. *For more information, visit StopWaste.org.*

Connect with OPL Advocates, a Coalition of Groups that Love Our Libraries!



OPL Advocates



opladvocates



OPLadvocates



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Oakland, California 94607
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Friends of the OPL Board Members

- ✦ Ynez Arce, *Vice President*
- ✦ Stephen Cole
- ✦ Michael Dalton
- ✦ Erica Dennings
- ✦ Elizabeth Falkner
- ✦ Colleen Haikes, *Newsletter Co-Editor*
- ✦ Corey Hatcher
- ✦ Sara Jewell, *Assistant Treasurer*
- ✦ Pooneh Koohyar
- ✦ Ronile Lahti
- ✦ Nick Marble
- ✦ Charu Mehra, *Newsletter Co-Editor*
- ✦ Sanam Nassirpour
- ✦ Rebecca Pfiffner
- ✦ Kathryn Sterbenc, *President*
- ✦ Valerie Villanueva, *Secretary*
- ✦ Julie Waldman, *Co-Treasurer*
- ✦ Winifred Walters, *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

If the date on your mailing label is **09-01-2021**
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
- 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 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.