

## FOPL GRANTS IN ACTION: OPL'S YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Author: Amy Sonnie, Teen Outreach Librarian



**Photo:** Member Wendy Calmo shares YLC highlights from 2011.

In December, OPL's youth advisory board celebrated more than 10 years of teen leadership with a very special program at the Chavez Branch. The Youth Leadership Council's (YLC) annual alumni brunch highlighted teens' hard work in the Save Oakland Libraries effort, and showcased photos of their inaugural Culture Fest, which drew 160 people last August. Teen advisor Wendy Calmo delivered a speech summing up their exciting year, and professor Anthony Bernier discussed how he uses YLC as a model with his graduate students at San Jose State University. YLC alumni also shared advice with current members. Each said the library program helped them gain confidence, public speaking skills and lasting friendships. From the group's early efforts to establish a TeenZone at the Main Branch to Measure Q to more recent projects, YLC members

gain formative experience readying them for college, work and civic advocacy. Thank you FOPL for supporting this important program!



**Photo:** YLC alums answer questions from current members and offer advice.



**Photo:** Members attend a special after-brunch art show with local artist Favianna Rodriguez.

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### GIVING

FOPL is grateful for donations recognizing special people and events. Listed below are gifts for general support received in 2011:

#### *In memory of:*

**Anne Rosenbaum** from Neshama Franklin  
**John Ruymaker** from Ethel Ruymaker  
**Phil Tercera** from Kathleen Solares  
**Jacob Schwartz** from Lillian Schwartz  
**Helen Pulich** from the Chabot Park Literary Society, better known as the Book Club  
**Clint Arndt** from May Arndt -- Clint Arndt was a librarian at the Oakland Main Library, Art and Music department for many years and also a librarian at the Montclair branch  
**John A. Montgomery** from Carl Alexander  
**Gloria Hansen, mother of John and Robert Hansen**, from Sophie Souroujon and Ruth Souroujon

#### *In honor of:*

**Jon Gerald and Cate Lacy** from Linda Trocki  
**The Halperin Family** from Shira Levine  
**Winifred Walters** from Lee and Bonnie Jameson  
**Ann Harrington, Winifred Walters and the Ladies of the Book Club** from Rita Howard  
**Heather Yager**  
**Donald King**  
**Susan Carter's special birthday** from Mary Jacobs  
**Rebecca Rothschild** from Judith & Michael Rothschild  
**The John Mooney Family** from Katherine Mooney & Jeff Haydu  
**Michael Ziegler** from Suzanne Ziegler  
**Tom and Winifred Walters** from Jane Gilden

*And thank you to members who designated the Friends for a matching gift from their employer in 2011:*

Applera Corp	Starbucks
Bank of America	Sidley Austin LLC
Chevron	Union Bank
Chubb & Son, Inc.	US Bancorp
Clorox	Verizon
Kaiser Permanente	Visa Inc.
PG&E	Wells Fargo
Roche Diagnostics	

### WANT TO BE A LIBRARY VOLUNTEER?

OPL will be hosting Volunteer Information Sessions for anyone interested in learning about current volunteer opportunities in support of Oakland's libraries. Representatives from the Second Start Adult Literacy and other programs and FOPL's own Bookmark Bookstore will be available to answer your questions. Two sessions will be offered: Thursday, March 15 (6:30 p.m. at the Main Library) and Saturday, March 17 (10:15 a.m. at the Rockridge Branch).

For more information and to register contact **Winifred Walters** (510) 238-6932 or [wwalters@oaklandlibrary.org](mailto:wwalters@oaklandlibrary.org)

### LOCAL AND STATE BUDGET NEWS

The City of Oakland's budget outlook changed dramatically in late December when the California Supreme Court ruled on the legality of legislation affecting Redevelopment Agencies statewide. To address the expected loss of \$25-30 million in redevelopment funds, the City will consider an amended budget proposal. The City Administrator says that employee layoffs are necessary to balance the budget by the deadline of February 1<sup>st</sup> as required by the California Supreme Court's December 29<sup>th</sup> ruling.

The Oakland Public Library's operating budget, more than 50% of which is funded by Measure Q, a dedicated library parcel tax, does not rely on redevelopment funds. However, the budget gap caused by the elimination of redevelopment funds will likely impact many city services. For more information, go to the City's website – [www.oaklandnet.com](http://www.oaklandnet.com) – look for "Redevelopment Updates." FOPL will post updates on impacts, if any, to the Library's budget and services on its blog at: [www.thebookmarkbookstore.org](http://www.thebookmarkbookstore.org).

Last year, FOPL published an article "State Budget: What is at Stake for Libraries?" (February 2011) detailing the Governor's proposal to completely eliminate \$30 million in state funding for libraries in California. With a pessimistic outlook for state revenues as of December, three important statewide programs will receive zero funding in Fiscal Year 2011-2012. For Oakland, this resulted in the loss of a \$65,000 grant for the Second Start Adult Literacy Program and the loss of \$150,000 from the Public Library Foundation, placing more pressure on limited local funds to maintain our library system. The Governor's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2012/13 again contains zero funding for these programs. Visit the California Library Association's website [www.cla-net.org](http://www.cla-net.org) for more info.

### UPDATE ON THE PIEDMONT AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY

The Piedmont Avenue Branch continues to be open its regular hours at its long time location on 41st Street. The public will be notified when the situation changes.

The future of the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library has been uncertain since a new owner purchased the building from Citibank and the rent that the City pays for the branch went from \$1 to \$4,250 per month. Last fall, Piedmont Avenue Branch patrons were greeted with signs stating that the branch would be moving soon because the current lease was about to end. The Oakland Public Library was working with Oakland Unified School District officials on an agreement to allow the branch to relocate to a modular unit located at Piedmont Avenue Elementary School. No agreement has been announced and for now the branch is staying on at the current location on a month-to-month basis.

Local branch supporters--the Friends of the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library-- will post updates in the branch and on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-the-Piedmont-Avenue-Branch-Library/110524322297793>.

The group has an extensive email list and it's open to everyone. Folks should email **Peg Janosch** at [pjanosch@comcast.net](mailto:pjanosch@comcast.net) if they wish to join. The next community meeting is on Thursday, February 16, 6:30pm, at the branch -- 160 41st Street.

### BOOKMARK BOOKSTORE SPRING SALE

Mark Your Calendar for the Spring 2012 Friends of the Oakland Public Library Book Sale: **April 5-8, 2012**

50% OFF for members only on "Members' First Choice" Sale Day -Thursday, April 5, 2012.

And for all book lovers:

30% OFF – Friday, April 6

40% OFF – Saturday, April 7

50% OFF – Sunday, April 8



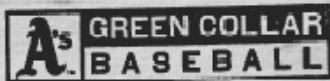
Most of the store's 17,000 books are \$3-\$6.

Hours: 10:30 am – 5:30 pm each day during the sale.

The Bookmark Bookstore, 721 Washington St. in Old Oakland, is operated by the Friends of the Oakland Public Library.

Join the Friends' e-news mailing list for special sale notices! Send an email to: [bookmark\\_bookstore@yahoo.com](mailto:bookmark_bookstore@yahoo.com) – Subject: e-news.

For information, call (510) 444-0473.



The Oakland A's and FOPL are teaming up to raise funds for the library. Join us at the July 8th game between the A's and the Mariners. We have 50 Field Level seats for \$26 each, of which HALF goes directly to benefit the library. Game time is currently scheduled for 1:05 p.m. and the first 10,000 fans will receive a 1955 Oakland Oaks Hat - presented by Cache Creek. For more information and to reserve your tickets call Winifred at (510) 238-6932 or send an email to [info@fopl.org](mailto:info@fopl.org) (include "Oakland A's" in the subject line).

### JOIN FOPL & THE OAKLAND A'S



Last year, more than 30 FOPL supporters enjoyed the game, and supported the library at the same time.



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If your membership has expired,  
**PLEASE RENEW NOW!**

***More ways to support the Friends...***

- Share this newsletter. Ask a friend to join a growing organization - 800 members strong, dedicated to supporting the Oakland Public Library.
- Donate your gently-used books, CDs and DVDs to the Bookmark Bookstore. Call (510) 444-0473 for more information.
- Do you have a few hours per month? Call (510) 444-0473 or visit us online at [www.fopl.org](http://www.fopl.org) to learn more about our volunteer opportunities.
- Donate items needed to improve Bookmark Bookstore operations:
  - ➔ Sturdy work table, approximately 3 by 5 feet (up to 4 X 6)
  - ➔ Sidewalk sign "Bookmark Bookstore"

**JOIN US**

Yes, I want to show my support for the Friends of the Oakland Public Library!

Enclosed is my check payable to FOPL for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ New (1 year membership)                      \_\_\_ Renewal (1 year membership)

\_\_\_ Donation (\$ \_\_\_\_\_ in addition to my membership dues)

Supporting Membership Levels:

\_\_\_ \$1000 Book Angel                      Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ \$500 Bibliophile                      \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ \$250 Book Conservator              Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ \$100 Book Worm                      City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ \$50 Book Friend                      Gift in Honor/Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Basic Membership Levels:

\_\_\_ \$35 Family/Household  
 \_\_\_ \$25 Individual  
 \_\_\_ \$15 Senior (65+)/Student

Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Sign me up for **email** notices of Bookmark Bookstore news)

Contributions are tax deductible (Tax ID #94-2553734)  
 Make your Credit Card donation online at [www.fopl.org](http://www.fopl.org)  
 Mail to: FOPL, 721 Washington St., Oakland, CA 94607