

## OPL Annual Report

By Jamie Turbak, Library Director

Dear Friends,

I am pleased and proud to share with you the Oakland Public Library's 2021-22 Annual Report, recently published online at [www.OaklandLibrary.org/AnnualReport](http://www.OaklandLibrary.org/AnnualReport).

This report covers a busy transitional year (July 2021-June 2022), during which OPL resumed in-person programming after a long hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It also documents the launch of OPL's new website, announces a significant grant to support youth art instruction, introduces the 2022 Oakland Youth Poet Laureate, and commemorates the success of library funding parcel tax Measure C in June 2022.

In two articles that are very dear to me, this report marks milestones of dedicated library volunteer groups: the 10-year anniversary of the Friends of Elmhurst Library's twice-monthly Litter Walk, and the 30th anniversary of the Friends of the OPL's beloved Bookmark Bookstore. I am inspired by the work of library volunteers throughout Oakland, and I am so pleased to recognize their important contributions.

The work of graphic designer Elaine Joe and photographer Doug Zimmerman make this annual report especially vibrant and engaging. The library was able to work with Elaine and Doug on this project only thanks to support from the Friends of the Oakland Public Library.

Reflecting upon this busy and productive year fills me with gratitude for the tremendous support that the Oakland Public Library receives from Friends, volunteers, funders, and the community. Please enjoy this report, which is a testament to our collective efforts to strengthen and enhance public library service in Oakland.

You can read the report online at [www.OaklandLibrary.org/AnnualReport](http://www.OaklandLibrary.org/AnnualReport) or email [sdubois@oaklandlibrary.org](mailto:sdubois@oaklandlibrary.org) to request a hard copy.

## Oakland Public Library



2021-2022 Annual Report

## The Bookmark News

### We Love Our Members! Book Sale

**Saturday, February 11, 11am – 4pm**

50% off everything in the store ALL DAY for Friends of the OPL Members. Non-members can join on the day of the sale to receive the discount!

Memberships start at just \$25 for individuals, with special discounts for seniors and students.

Learn more about memberships and other ways to support the Friends here: [www.fopl.org/get-involved](http://www.fopl.org/get-involved)

### New Bookmark Service: Search & Reserve Books

The Bookmark has launched a new digital catalogue that will enable customers to search online for titles and request to place them on hold for purchase. Note: only Fiction titles are available at this time, but this will be expanded to other genres in the near future. Visit [www.fopl.org/bookstore-inventory](http://www.fopl.org/bookstore-inventory) to search the inventory today!

**Step 1**

When you find a book you want to buy, click "Reserve for In-Store Purchase."

**Step 2**

Fill out and submit the form online. Please note: we only hold books for 1 week.

**Step 3**

Purchase and pick up the book in-person at The Bookmark bookstore.

## Connect with Friends of the OPL on Social Media



BookmarkBookstore.FOPL



FOPL\_Bookmark



FOPL\_Bookmark

## Get to Know Your Grants

By Sara DuBois, Coordinator Grants & Volunteers

Thanks to the Friends of the Oakland Public Library, OPL employees pursuing their Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) degrees were invited to apply for a \$1,500 scholarship to support their education.

OPL's Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the 2022 scholarship winners:

- J Jimenez (81st Avenue Branch Library)
- Brenda Membreño (81st Avenue Branch Library)
- Louise Yu (Main Library)

The library is grateful to all Friends' members for supporting this important and impactful program!



J Jimenez and son

Excerpt from an interview with **J. Jimenez:**

"OPL and libraries in general are the gems of the community. Always love visiting any library in a new city or town I'm visiting. I believe in people power, organizing, and community resiliency. I know the library has been, is, and will be a hub for empowerment and a community resource that's

vital for everyone. Plus, and more importantly, it's where babies meet over songs and books and play with their village."



Brenda Membreño celebrating Halloween at Hogwarts (81st Ave. Branch Library)

Excerpt from an interview with **Brenda Membreño:**

"It has been amazing working with and supporting [81st Avenue Branch] staff with brainstorming and executing programs. I've helped Librarians focused on all age groups, but I find the most joy helping adult patrons. I continue to be inspired by our creative team. "



Louise Yu

Excerpt from an interview with **Louise Yu:**

"What I love about the library is its egalitarian values of access and knowledge for everyone. It is gratifying when I'm able to help people find the information they're looking for, and to connect them to resources they need but did not previously know existed."

## 2023 Youth Poet Laureate: Applications Open 1/6/23



Friends of the OPL is a proud sponsor of the Oakland Youth Poet Laureate Program, a citywide effort to celebrate literacy through poetry and connect young writers to far-reaching opportunities..

Each year the program accepts applications from talented Oakland writers (ages 13-18) to join a community of young poets. OPL will begin accepting applications for the 2023 Oakland Youth Poet Laureate Program on January 6.

Being part of the OYPL program means being part of a community of young poets and leaders who learn from each other, grow together, and share their truths with audiences in Oakland and beyond! Whether you are a practiced performance poet or are just learning to get your thoughts out in your notebook, this program is for you.

Go to [oaklandlibrary.org/oyplapply](https://oaklandlibrary.org/oyplapply) to apply!

## Friends Board Welcomes Anastasia Yip and Aniya Grimm



Anastasia is a Supply Chain Digital Transformation Manager at Clif Bar and a multidisciplinary artist, who seeks to challenge the status quo with both her artwork and her work in sustainable operations. She is an avid reader and believes that the library system provides critical resources to

the community and is irreplaceable. She aims to support the Oakland Public Library's mission and operations as an active board member of the Friends of the OPL.

Anastasia grew up in Hong Kong and originally came to Berkeley for her undergrad (Go Bears!). She currently resides in Oakland with her husband Eddie, who is a proud Oakland native.



Aniya Grimm was born and raised in the Bay Area. Aniya is a talent development professional with over 10 years of experience building various company-wide learning and organizational effectiveness experiences in banking, non-profit, retail, and technology industries with a passion for helping others unlock

their potential.

When she's not working, Aniya volunteers with organizations to support education for children and adolescents. She enjoys spending as much time with her family as possible cooking, dancing, and reading.

## What the Friends Board is Reading

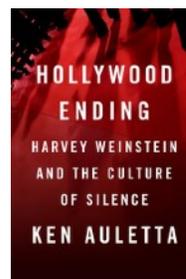
These titles can be found at OPL (check the card catalog at [oaklandlibrary.org](http://oaklandlibrary.org)) or purchased from Bookshop [bookshop.org/shop/theBookmarkBookstore](http://bookshop.org/shop/theBookmarkBookstore)



### THE SUM OF US Heather McGhee

One of today's most insightful and influential thinkers offers a powerful exploration of inequality and the lesson that generations of Americans have failed to learn: Racism has a cost for everyone—not just for people of color. Well-written and infuriating - and the audiobook version (read by the author) is terrific.

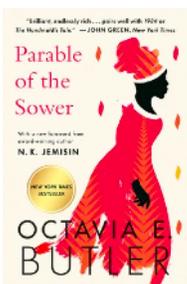
-Recommended by Julie Waldman



### HOLLYWOOD ENDING Ken Auletta

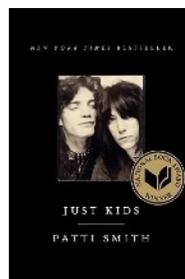
A vivid biography of Harvey Weinstein--how he rose to become a dominant figure in the film world, how he used that position to feed his monstrous sexual appetites, and how it all came crashing down, from the author who has covered the Hollywood and media power game for The New Yorker for three decades.

- Erica Dennings reading



### PARABLE OF THE SOWER Octavia E. Butler

This acclaimed post-apocalyptic novel of hope and terror from an award-winning author pairs well with *1984* or *The Handmaid's Tale* and includes a foreword by N. K. Jemisin (John Green, New York Times). - Recommended by Corey Hatcher



### JUST KIDS Patti Smith

*Just Kids* begins as a love story and ends as an elegy. It serves as a salute to New York City during the late sixties and seventies and to its rich and poor, its hustlers and hellions. A true fable, it is a portrait of two young artists' ascent, a prelude to fame. - Stephen Cole reading

## Giving

- In memory of Tina Wong from Steven Wong
- In honor of Sue Pon from Lawrence Joe
- In honor of Luana Ratliff from Karman Guadagni
- In honor of Oakland Public Library staff from Winifred Walters
- In honor of Damian Trujillo from Aileen Frankel
- In honor of Doug Wick from Audrey Wick
- In honor of Lakeview Branch Librarians from Erin Jaeb



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## Friends of the OPL Board Members

- ✦ Ynez Arce, *Vice President, Newsletter Editor*
- ✦ Jennifer Chan
- ✦ Stephen Cole
- ✦ Erica Dennings
- ✦ Erica Faitek, *Assistant Treasurer*
- ✦ Elizabeth Falkner
- ✦ Aniya Grimm
- ✦ Colleen Haikes, *Newsletter Editor*
- ✦ Corey Hatcher
- ✦ Sara Jewell, *Treasurer*
- ✦ Pooneh Koohyar
- ✦ Ronile Lahti
- ✦ Nick Marble
- ✦ Charu Mehra
- ✦ Rebecca Pfiffner
- ✦ Kathryn Sterbenc, *President*
- ✦ Valerie Villanueva, *Secretary*
- ✦ Julie Waldman
- ✦ Anastasia Yip

We welcome your feedback & comments: [info@fopl.org](mailto:info@fopl.org)

If the date on your mailing label is **12-01-2022**  
or earlier, PLEASE RENEW TODAY!

**Thanks to your support, in the last 10 years Friends of the OPL granted almost \$2 million for library programs and projects. Thank you for your continued support!**

### Mission

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 Libraries.

### Ways to Support Friends of the OPL

- Membership - your annual member dues help fund grants to the Oakland Public Library
- 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 where members receive discounts for their purchases
- 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). Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchase when you select Friends of the Oakland Public Library.

**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.