

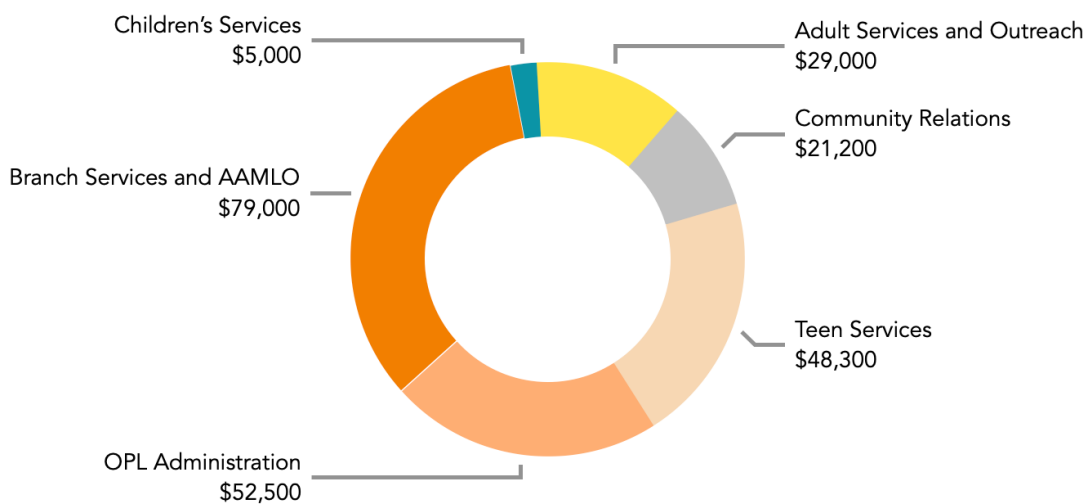


## Friends of the Oakland Public Library

2023 - 2024 Grants to the Oakland Public Library

Grant Total: \$235,000

The Friends of the Oakland Public Library board approved a “wish list” of grants for the Oakland Public Library totaling \$235,000 in September 2023. To be spent during the fiscal year (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024), these grants benefit every location and patrons of all ages.



- **OPL Administration** grants totaling \$52,500 allow OPL to provide refreshments at staff meetings, participate in recruiting events, organize special staff trainings, make safety improvements, 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 who are pursuing their master's degree in Library and Information Science.
- **Branch Services and AAMLO** grants of \$79,000 pay for programming at branch locations, facility improvements throughout the system, film licensing for the public screening of movies, and Branch Equity grants, which provide extra funding for OPL branches in high-priority neighborhoods. A special grant to the African American Museum and Library of Oakland (AAMLO) provides funding for 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 \$21,200 that will allow 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** received \$5,000 to pay for performers and supplies systemwide during the next year. Together with other foundations and donors, the Friends of the OPL support library programming for children and families throughout Oakland. Our most popular programs -- Kids' Summer Reading and Winter Bingo -- would not be possible without this critical funding. These grants also pay for children's outreach supplies, and year-round programming.
- **Adult Services and Outreach** will use \$29,000 to pay honoraria to authors and speakers at adult programs, Adult Summer Reading program prizes, OPL staff t-shirts, adult outreach supplies, 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](#).