

JOIN THE FRIENDS BOARD!

Learn more about Friends of the Oakland Public Library's Board of Directors

When We Meet

The Board meets every other month on Wednesdays and in January for our annual (and fun!) strategic planning session. Committees typically meet once a month.

Requirements & Benefits

To be a Director, one must be a *Friends of the OPL* Member. Directors are expected to serve on at least one committee, and ideally attend all Board meetings, as well as the annual planning session. Joining the Board offers unique opportunities to pursue new initiatives, learn more about OPL, build community, be creative, and support Oakland and its libraries.

Board Committees

Board Committees are an excellent way to find your niche, target your engagement, and get to know your fellow Board of Directors. Below is a list of current committees, although we are always open to new committees based on new ideas and interests.

- Advocacy
- Board Development
- Bookstore
- Branch Relationships
- Development, Engagement, & Communications (DEC)
- Finance
- Membership

Our Mission

The Friends of the Oakland Public Library works to advance the role of Oakland's Public Libraries as a vital community resource and as an institution critical to the culture, education, and welfare of our diverse community. We fulfill our mission by encouraging and facilitating advocacy, donations, and volunteerism.

Who We Are

The Friends of the Oakland Public Library's Board of Directors is a lively group of volunteers, advocates, and library nerds who deeply value the role of the library in Oakland's community.

As the Board of Directors, we:

- Oversee a robust membership program and engage our members with monthly newsletters, with updates on our work, OPL happenings, and community events
- Operate the volunteer-staffed Bookmark Bookstore in Old Oakland, whose profits support Oakland libraries
- Award an average of \$200K in grants to the Oakland Public Library annually, which support Adult/Teen/Children services, individual branches, community relations, and provide other support such as funding for Wi-Fi hotspots, OPL staff scholarships, and staff training
- Created and maintain the popular "Mini-Grants" program, which provides OPL staff with individual grants (generally up to \$2K/grant) to implement or improve library programs or services
- Support and engage with other Oakland Public Library Advocacy Groups, including Branch Friends groups, the City of Oakland Library Advisory Commission, Save Oakland Library, and the Youth Leadership Council (including providing scholarship funding for the Youth Poet Laureate program)

Interested in joining? Hooray!

Email pres@fopl.org for more details

Visit our website for more information: www.fopl.org