

Fall/winter  $2018 \cdot a$  publication by friends of the whitefish bay library

### President's Message by Ann Lowrey

t's time for raking leaves, getting the children back into the school schedule, migrating to a warmer climate, lighting the pumpkins, baking warm treats and..... National Friends of Libraries Week.

Did you know that October is the month when we celebrate the hard work and contributions made by Friends groups nationwide?

We're celebrating the 13th annual National Friends of Libraries Week October 21-27, 2018. This national recognition week is coordinated by United for Libraries, a division of the American Library Association. United for Libraries supports those who govern, promote advocate and fundraise for libraries, and brings together library trustees, advocates, friends, and foundations into a partnership that creates a powerful force for libraries. For more information, visit www.ala.org/united.

Why do I bring this up? It's time to say "THANK YOU"! In October we are grateful for all of our Friends who give their time tirelessly throughout the year. This may include book sorting and preparation for the semiannual book sales, Adopt-a-Shelf, Green Day in the Bay, stocking the Book Room, membership on the Friends Board, volunteering for various receptions and library events, and much more. For our Friends who volunteer and for our Friends who renew their memberships year after year we take this time to say, "We couldn't do it without you!"

Our fall booksale is just around the corner. The dates are:

Friday, November 2nd (Preview for members only), Saturday November 3rd, and Sunday, November 4th (bag sale). Mark your calendars!

If you're not a Friend, take this opportunity to attend the Preview night on Friday and become a member on the spot!

We now accept major credit cards at the semiannual Book Sale and in the Book Room in the lobby. (MasterCard, Discover, American Express and Visa). Hopefully this will make it easier for you to buy books and support the Friends.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2018. As always, this meeting is open to the public and we invite you to attend.

(6:30 p.m. in the conference room, second floor of the library).

Enjoy the beautiful autumn weather and see you at the booksale!

## **From the Director**

By Nyama Y. Reed

As part of the Whitefish Bay Public Library's 2016-2021 Strategic Plan, one of our Guiding Principles is to "Provide a welcoming place for all who enter"

(https://www.wfblibrary.org/about/mission\_and\_values/)

Thanks to Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library for helping the library replace our 16-year-old furniture! Can you imagine how much use our couches, comfy chairs, and wooden study chairs have gotten in that time? Enough for the fabric items to show their fraying and the wooden chairs were getting wobbly (no matter how much wood glue we used). Over the course of the next few years, we aim to replace all library furniture thanks to the Friends generous support.

In case you're thinking, "Get something on sale at a big box store!" - that quality of furniture will not last long, much less 16 years. Furniture comes with fabric ratings for "rubs" (i.e. how many times someone sits in it). The loveseats Friends purchased for our Children's area last year have a rating of 180,000 rubs, whereas a chair at a big box store that I investigated had a rating of only 15,000 rubs. What a difference in quality!

To put that in perspective, during the life of the old furniture from 2002-2017: Almost 3 million people visited the library, over 100,000 attended a library program, and almost 500,000 used a computer. Many of those patrons likely sat on a chair or couch (hopefully not on top of a table!).

Like the old watch commercials, our furniture takes a lickin' and keeps on tickin'! Thank goodness for Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library funding our furniture replacement project, so we can offer our patrons a refreshed and comfortable space.

In 2017, we were able to add 3 loveseats and a few comfy chairs in the Children's wing, so families have a comfortable spot to sit and read a story. The new colors really brighten the space. This fall Friends will be purchasing 2 loveseats, 12 comfy and 50 wooden study chairs on the Adult side. We aim to replace the 20 on the children's side in 2019. Later improvements will be new computer chairs and Program Room chairs for special events.

Thank you to Friends for all you do to help make the Whitefish Bay Public Library so wonderful!

~Nyama



Thanks, Ann

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### **Adult Services Update**

By Scott Lenski

The Whitefish Bay Public Library is excited to announce our winners in our 2018 Photography Contest. We received nearly 350 entries in this year's contest and I'm thrilled to announce that our Best in Show winner is Abby Jakowski. Her winning photo, along with the 30 other winning photos, will be on display beginning on Saturday, November 10 from 4:30-6:30pm at the photo contest reception. The reception is open to the public and we'll be serving some light refreshments. If you are unable to attend the reception, winning photos will be displayed in the library through 2019 so be sure to swing by the Adult Services department to see them. The photo contest, with over \$800 in cash prizes, would not be possible without the support of Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library.

Friends are also once again offering Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library Writing Contest. This will be the 6th straight year for the contest, which includes submission categories for short story (1,000 words or less), memoirs (1,000 words or less), and poetry (200 words or less). The contest is open to anyone 16 and up. Submissions will be accepted from January 14-February 11 and are limited to one entry per person per category. Cash prizes will be awarded in mid-March. Please include a cover page on your entry with the following: Name, address, email, phone number, and entry date.

Drop off entries in person at the Adult Services Desk or mail them to:

Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library Writing Contest 5420 N Marlborough Drive Milwaukee, WI 53217

Then join us for a reception on Tuesday, March 19 at 6:30pm where winners of the writing contest will be on hand to read their winning pieces

## 2018 Photography Contest Winners





Above: **Abby Jakowski** Best in Show

Left: **Leena Meyers** Judges Big Wow Winner

## **Volunteers Needed**

This is just a quick note to all of the Friends of the Whitefish Library members about volunteering opportunities. First, to all those members who have volunteered in the past a sincere thank you. We appreciate all your time, energy and efforts very much. I would also like to briefly review the various ways in which you can volunteer your time with the "Friends". You can help at our semi-annual book sales held the first weekends in November and May, help maintain book shelves at our library through the Adopt-a-Shelf program, welcome guests at any of the various library programs, and/or help with sorting and researching the hundreds of donated books we receive each week. You could also volunteer to become a board member of the "Friends" as those positions become available. Thank you for your continued support, for reading this article and for helping to make our library the wonderful resource it is to our community. Please contact me if you have any questions or if you want to begin volunteering. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you,

Jim Gay, Volunteer Coordinator | jasrgay@hotmail.com

## Whitefish Bay Library Book Sale Nov. 3-4 Now Accepting Credit Cards!

Teachers, book lovers and bargain hunters, mark your calendars now. The Fall Book Sale sponsored by Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library will be held Nov. 3-4 at the Library at 5420 N. Marlborough Ave.

The sale is open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 3, and noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 4. A special preview party will be held Friday evening, Nov. 2, from 5 to 7 p.m. This invitation-only event is open only to Friends of the Library.

The semi-annual book sale is a tradition among area book lovers. Thousands of gently-used books are sorted fiction versus nonfiction. Fiction offerings are available by author. Non-fiction books are for sale by category. So if you have a favorite author, or are looking for just the right book, you'll find it all at the Book Sale. Also featured is an eclectic range of music and movies and gently used toys and puzzles. Another popular Book Sale feature is the Sunday Fill-A-Bag: As many books as you can put into a standard grocery bag for \$5. Bags provided!

Proceeds from the book sales go to supplement the wide range of activities at the Library including reading programs, computer equipment purchases, speakers, furniture and much more.

Donations are also accepted for the Library Book Sale. All books; CDs, DVDs, records and other media; puzzles and other slightly-used toys and games can be dropped off throughout the year at the Library. Receipts for tax purposes can be provided.

For more information on the Book Sale, or how to become a Friend of the Whitefish Bay Library, click on the Library's website: WFBLibrary.org.

Teachers - Time to stock your classrooms! A large inventory of children's books! Library discards are only \$2 a bag.

Friends - The Friends can use your large used mailing envelopes. We recycle these for a second use when we send out purchases made from the Friends' online eBay store. The fewer new envelopes we have to buy means more \$\$ for our great library. And you get to help the environment. Please drop off your envelopes at the front desk of the library.

> Accepting all major credit cards! No maximums or minimums!

## **Welcome New Members!**

It's a pleasure to welcome the following new member who has joined Friends since the last newsletter was published:

Kelly A.	Lynne & Bruce Soto
Jane Glaser	David Westrop
Dave Laci	Al & Kris Wulz
Brad Michel	Sherry A.C. Wulff
Amanda Quester	Michael A. Newmark
Shawn Rogutich	Seb Mei & Dalyn Ward
Alisa & David Wasserman	

Thank you for your support. Members are the lifeblood of our organization!

## Not a Friend of WFB Library Yet?

Not a Friend of the WFB library yet? Well **spend \$50** at our Fall book sale and you can **receive a FREE one-year membership!** 

(Eligible for new members only)

## **Did You Know?**

Did you know you can renew your annual Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library online through PayPal? It's true. Go to the Library's website – **WFBLibrary.org** – and click on **Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library** and **Become a Friend**. There you can renew your membership, or join Friends. Use PayPal and save a stamp!!

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## **Youth Services Update**

By Katie Kiekhaefer & Valerie Morris

At the beginning of each year, youth services staff members brainstorm ways to enhance our services and space. We're able to dream big and think about furniture, paint, new toys and more because of the generous support we receive from Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library. In previous years, Friends funding helped us renovate our storytime room, purchase new furniture, and do much more.

In January 2018, we had a different idea, one that had been percolating for years. We wanted to reorganize our picture books—transitioning them from arranged alphabetical by author to organized by subjects or categories. Why did we want to do this? The youth services department believes that reorganizing the picture books in this way will make it easier for our patrons to locate the books they want. We often get the question "where are the books on trucks?" Now, all of those transportation books that are so loved will be shelved in one place! The same will be true for books about animals, princesses, dinosaurs, weather, and gardening. This will make the picture books more browse-able for our patrons, and we hope it will increase the enjoyment and educational opportunities our patrons can get from these books (as well as increasing our circulation numbers!)

So how are Friends helping make this a possibility? Although it might not seem like it, reorganizing the picture books is a bit of an expensive venture. We need to relabel each picture book with its new spine label, and then that spine label needs to be covered by a colorful label denoting its new category. These items add up, especially when you're relabeling over 4000 books! We'll also be adding new signage and bookends to help make this big transition easier to navigate for our patrons.

I'm glad that Friends wanted to support this project because I strongly believe it is an extension of the work they have done to improve the early childhood area—the storytime room reno, the new furniture, the board book bins, the play kitchen, etc. The children's area is constantly evolving and improving, thanks to the generosity and hard work of Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library. Thank you, Friends!

I invite all of you to check out our picture books in the next few months!





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## **National Friends of Libraries Week**

By Steph Salvia

Hopefully, since you are reading this newsletter, you have become a member of the Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library. Library lovers everywhere are invited and encouraged to join us! These dedicated volunteers advocate for libraries, raise much needed funds, sponsor programs and special events, and host the ever-popular used book sales. Friends funds supplement the library's operating budget to provide materials and programs that enhance the library's service.

Friends of Libraries groups even have their very own national week of celebration! The 13th annual National Friends of Libraries Week is Oct. 21-27, 2018.

Please help us promote our amazing friends group, raise awareness, and encourage membership within your community.

Join us!





#### VOLUNTEER

Your time, energy, and ideas.

DONATE

Books or money to your local Friends group. SHARE

With others what you love about your library.

SPEAK Up and speak out about your library. JOIN

Your Friends of the Library group today!





Whitefish Bay Public Library 5420 N. Marlborough Drive Whitefish Bay, WI 53217 414-964-4380 • www.wfblibrary.org

## FRIENDS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Nyama Reed

Board Meetings are held at the Library at 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month (except July and August). Friends members are welcome to attend to get an idea of our work in progress, ask questions, or contribute ideas.