

PAGE TURNER

FALL/WINTER 2019 • A PUBLICATION BY FRIENDS OF THE WHITEFISH BAY LIBRARY



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY ANN LOWREY

Fall is in the air and it's back to school time! Our fall Book Sale is timed for back to school needs. The sale is Friday, November 1 (Friends only), Saturday, November 2 and Sunday, November 3 (bag sale).

For children we have good quality, gently used board books, picture books, easy readers, and chapter books. We also have workbooks, foreign language books, and biographies. For teens we have a good collection of fiction and nonfiction. We have textbooks for children, teens, adults and teachers. To buy books in quantity (both teachers and students), please come to our Sunday bag sale.

Does your student need a dictionary, a thesaurus or an atlas? We've got 'em!

If you're reading this, you're probably a Friend of the Library already. October is the time when we give a shout-out to our members and volunteers by celebrating National Friends of Libraries Week. This year the 14th annual Friends Week is October 20th to 26th. We truly thank you for all you do throughout the year.

Our December meeting of the Friends Board is scheduled for Wednesday, December 18th. As always, on this last meeting of the calendar year, this is our Annual Meeting and the public is invited to attend. The meeting is held at 6:30 p.m. in the second floor community room of the Library.

Enjoy the crisp fall weather and we hope to see you at the book sale!

-Ann

From the Director

By Nyama Y. Reed

A sincere thank you to Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library for sponsoring the 4th Annual WFBPL Photography Contest. This is an event enjoyed by people in our community and beyond. I always find it interesting to see how far away winning entrants live or the photo locations were. This year, one entrant was from AZ and the farthest photo was taken in Luxembourg (Europe, not WI.)

Congrats to the winners of the 2019 Photography Contest.

-Best in Show went to Joseph Eichers of Grafton for his photo of the Port Washington Breakwater Lighthouse

-The Judge's Big WOW went to Vince Condella (yes, THAT Vince Condella) of Mequon for his photo of Point Cabrillo Light Station in Mendocino, CA.

-A full list of winners is available on our website here:

https://www.wfblibrary.org/at_the_library/photography_contest/photography_contest_winners.php

Please join us at the library after-hours for a reception for the winners on Saturday, November 2nd from 4:30-6:30pm. Winning photos will be on display.

Lastly a big thanks to:

Jay Filter, an internationally honored photographer, who lives locally and wins awards nationally and internationally. Jay has helped recruit judges for the photo contest, and has helped lead the creative vision since its inception. <http://www.jayfilterphotography.com/>

This year's judges include:

Peter Hernandez, Photographer/Videographer & Co-owner with mp2 Productions. Michele McCormack, Individual Giving Manager at Hunger Task Force; formerly WDJT Anchor/Reporter Peter Zuzga, Freelance Photographer at Peter Zuzga Photography (Visit https://www.wfblibrary.org/at_the_library/photography_contest/photo_contest_judges.php for more detailed bios)

Sincerely,

-Nyama





Best In Show (left):
Joseph Eichers

Judge's Big WOW (right):
Vince Condella

Adult Services Update

By Scott Lenski, Community and Adult Services Librarian

2019 was another fantastic and fun year for our Adult Summer Reading Program. This year we saw 275 readers participate in the program. They read a record breaking 1,653 books! Thanks to all who participated and congratulations to all our winners! Whitefish Bay Library has offered summer reading for adults for nearly 10 years and I know our participants really enjoy the challenge of reading as much as they can over the summer. This year we also offered a bonus challenge where readers could play book bingo. The idea behind bingo was to have readers stretch their skills and explore topics and genres that aren't in their usual reading repertoire.

The continued participation and success of our adult summer reading program is partially based on the awesome giveaways that are funded by Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library. The library does receive some prize donations but the bulk of larger prizes are funded by Friends. Every year it's so wonderful to see readers bringing in their colorful entry forms with smiles on their faces. Reading is its own reward but it's also nice to get the added chance of winning a gift card from a local area business. Thank you Friends for your continued support of this program that continues to encourage the love of reading, not only among kids, but teens and adults too.

This is also the 3rd continuous year for our Whitefish Bay TALKS, conversations about art, history, food, culture, people, books and more! Over the years we've had such a wide range of topics and speakers and I'm really excited about what we've got coming up in 2020. On January 21 at 6:30pm we're hosting Barbara Gross, a member of the Red Lake

Nation of Ojibwas. Barbara will be sharing "A Year in the Life" which covers Ojibwa life during the 4 seasons. She'll have a number of show and tell pieces at the program. This is just the program to keep us warm during the cold month of January.

On Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30pm we're hosting musician William Hindin. William is a musical director, pianist, arranger, and vocalist that splits his time between Milwaukee and New York. William has quite the resume so we're so excited to host him at the library. He will both educate and entertain us with music through different American eras. This is sure to be a toe-tapping program you won't want to miss. A very big thanks to Friends whose support of our Whitefish Bay TALKS have allowed me to bring speakers with such diverse backgrounds and a depth of knowledge. It is such a joy to bring all these amazing speakers to this wonderful community, thanks again to Friends.



Friends' Library Book Sale Coming Up! November 1st-3rd, 2019

By Jan Concannon

We're firmly into Fall. And along with all those pumpkins on doorsteps, another sign is the Fall Book Sale set for Nov. 1-3 at the Library. The sale is sponsored by Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library.

Special This Sale: A special table (or two) of Holiday items.

A special preview party will be held Friday evening, Nov. 1, from 5 to 7 p.m. This invitation-only event is open only to folks like you - Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library. Look for your invitation coming soon by mail. For the general public, the sale is open from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2, and noon-3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 3. The Sunday sale includes our popular \$5 Bag of Books and deep discounts on much of our remaining merchandise.

And don't forget, we now take credit cards.

If you can't make it to sale, you still can help out. Please pass on word of the sale to every book lover, reader and teacher you know. It's a great time to stock your nightstand or your classroom.

And Friends are always looking for volunteers. If you're interested, go to WFBLibrary.org and click on the Friends tab on the right side of the page.

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.

Welcome New Members!

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

Chad Beck	James Cosgrove
Mary Lynn Han	Emily Burkholder
Remy Perez	Susan Mischler
Carol Gauger	Gabriella Leachmon

Thank you for your support.

Members are the lifeblood of our organization!

DONATIONS

Jan Concannon

You probably know that Friends' accepts book donations. But do you know what happens to those books? And do you know what else we happily accept?

Books and Magazines: You might think all donations end up at our twice-yearly Book Sales. But some of the more valuable books and magazines are sold through the Friends' store online at eBay. Others are offered in our Book Sale Room, located immediately to the left of the front desk (a great place to get gift books!!). Still others are used to stock the Little Free Libraries in Cahill and Klode Parks. And this year we had the pleasure of donating several boxes of books to the Sojourner Family Peace Center in Milwaukee.

CDs, DVDs, Records and other media: If you're finding yourself overwhelmed with music and movies, we accept these items. They also are sorted to go to the places listed above. CDs and DVDs make up a significant portion of our eBay sales.

Toys, Games and Puzzles: Gently used, please. And if the puzzle is missing pieces, please tell us. We'll pass that info on to potential buyers. This is a great place to get used jigsaw puzzles at a great price. (Psst! We have lots of games this year!!)

And new this year: We've come into possession of several tables full of holiday decorations – statues, knickknacks, tree decorations and more. If this proves to be a popular table, we will definitely make this a yearly thing and will be actively seeking those items.

You probably know someone who is or soon will look towards downsizing or Spring cleaning, or even just finally getting into those closets and basement. Please keep Friends in mind when you wonder what to do with those items that need to go on to a new home. In certain situations, we'll even pick them up.

E-mail FriendsWFBLibrary@gmail.com for more information.

Youth Services Update

By Katie Kiekhaefer & Valerie Morris

The biggest event in the Youth Services department is always the summer reading program, which is generously made possible by Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library. We had a wonderful turnout in 2019. More than 1300 children, teens, and adults attended programs during our summer reading program in June, July, and August, including storytimes, performances, STEM/STEAM-inspired projects, and more. We used our Friends programming funds to bring in entertaining, high-quality performers, like Wendy & DB, an award winning children's music duo from the Chicago area. This summer's theme was A Universe of Stories so we were able to purchase promotional materials and decorating supplies to get people excited about the summer reading program. We also created some terrific galaxy themed programs, including galaxy cake pops, space-themed escape rooms, galaxy jars, and a huge sensory space playdate for toddlers and preschoolers.

Even more exciting: with the generous support of Friends, we were able to send a free book home with nearly 500 children this past summer. Our goal each and every summer is to inspire the children in our community to continue reading, learning, and enjoying their time at the library.

As we approach fall, we'll be working to make sure we keep up that momentum, using Friends funds to create innovative programming like Spooky Cake Pops, Community Art Day, and Epic Art Engineering. Keep an eye out for these new programs and changes to the library. Thank you, Friends!



Teen Services & Technology

By Allison Fantetti

The biggest event in the library is always the summer reading program, which is generously made possible by Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library and had a wonderful turnout in 2019! This year the young adult program had 142 teens participate! By completing hours of reading teens were able to stop in and collection prizes like their own book, a water bottle, and a chance at a grand prize of gift cards to various businesses including Fox Bay Theater and Target. In addition to reading, teens were invited to programs throughout the summer. One favorite was a painting class led by local business, Painting with a Twist. During the program an artist demonstrated step by step instructions for the 17 teens in attendance to create their own galaxy painting. Another favorite was our annual

end of summer Teen Lock In. In this after hours program teens were able to play with the library's Wii gaming system, problem solve in an escape room and enjoy pizza. This summer was the 4th time we have used the event and had the highest turn out yet of 21 teens. As we approach fall, we'll be working to make sure we keep up that momentum, using Friends funds to create innovative programming. Keep an eye out for fall and winter teen programs! Thank you, Friends!

Scholarship News

By Marta Magnuson

This past May Friends awarded their first two \$500 Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library Scholarships. Applicants needed to be high school seniors who were residents of or attend school in Whitefish Bay and will be attending college during the 2019/2020 school year. The main consideration for the scholarship was each applicant's 400-word original essay describing how libraries have helped them achieve their academic goals or influenced their personal life. The two winners this year were both students from Whitefish Bay High School. Ali Khoddam is attending Amherst College in Massachusetts where he is majoring in Biochemistry and Biophysics. Samantha Yang is attending the University of Wisconsin – Madison and is pursuing a double degree in Violin Performance and English/Linguistics. They both graciously allowed us to reprint their essays.

Find them on the following pages.



Ali Khoddam



Samantha Yang

My Classroom Outside of School

By Ali Khoddam

“Hello” and “thank you.” Those were the only words I could say when I moved to Whitefish Bay from Iran in 2012. Not only I was surrounded by new people in this new environment, but I also spoke a language foreign to them. About one month after we arrived at our new home, my parents and I decided to walk around our new town. After walking for a few blocks, we ended up in front of the Whitefish Bay Library.

I was left in awe when we walked in. I vividly remember being shocked by the fact that there were computers inside a library. I remember how sweetly Ms. Katie at the youth’s services desk greeted me. With the minimal words that I knew, I asked her where I could find easy books to read. Particularly, I remember how astonished I was by just seeing how many books there were at one place. I had never seen such library back in Iran. That day, I received my first library card and checked out a collection of picture books with it. When I got home, I started reading those books. Despite all difficulties, I read the pages word by word. As the weeks progressed, I gradually checked out more difficult books and began to use the words I came across in those books. Within a few months, I could easily communicate with my peers at school.

Not only those books taught me English, but the library opportunities also taught me how to interact with others. That summer, I asked Ms. Valerie if I could volunteer for the summer reading program. With a smile on her face, she explained to me what my duties as a volunteer were and how I should interact with the program participants. As I spent time volunteering at the library, I began to make friends with the other kids who would often come there. To this day, I still volunteer for that program every year which allows me to continue to meet other Whitefish Bay resident.

Today, as a high school senior, I often go to the library with my friends to study for our tests. However, to me, the library isn’t just a place to study. The library is where I learned how to communicate with others and where I learned to be kind like the staff. In other words, the library is my classroom outside of school. I partially owe my academic success in high school to the Whitefish Bay Public Library.

[Untitled]

By Samantha Yang

I was a naturally indecisive child. I wanted to be a professional artist by tomorrow, then tomorrow I would plan ways to save the world as a zoologist, and with every future the Whitefish Bay Public Library was right there with me. I was homeschooled from first grade to ninth, so, for eight years, everything I learned was from the library. Library books yielded art projects and science labs, documentary binge-watching was provided by the library, and many weekends were spent surrounded by about fifty percent of the library's comics collection. Growing up with a huge information source, I loved learning. That constant need to understand carried me through all high school courses - but I gained much more than that.

For example, I never liked to ask where a book was, always choosing to undertake the adventure myself, so I developed a strong sense of self-reliance: I could learn anything by reading enough, and I could find anything if I looked hard enough. I applied those same concepts to my high school classes and found an ability to grow and improve in any subject. Once I got a job as a library shelver, I became more independent and learned self-discipline and time management. Maybe just time management. As much as I try to be single-minded, I still examine books before I shelve them or as I pass by, and a surprising number of them are children's books. I am officially an adult, but after all these years, the library is still a source of wonder and possibility. Between the time I spend at the library and my high school English classes, I've found a beautiful meaning in every picture book I come across, a stunning simplicity that I lack in my everyday, chaotic, nearing-adulthood life. My job has not only taught me to alphabetize quickly but also to appreciate the things that so often go overlooked. As a violinist, I am noticing more details in music, which improves both my playing and my understanding. As a student, I find greater satisfaction in the togetherness of something done well.

The library has been central to my entire life, its purpose for me changing as I change but reliable and incredible all the same. Faced with college and the decisions that come with it, I question a lot of what I've decided on - namely, "what can I do with my majors?"

Anything. I can do anything.



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

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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.