

FRIENDS *of the* SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT FY 14/15

JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015




Supporting San Francisco's PREMIER URBAN LIBRARY

Friends of the San Francisco Public Library has a robust and diverse history as our Library's leading support organization. Our roots as library advocates date back to 1961, when Friends was formed to support the Library system, including many years of efforts to build a new Main Library. In 1994, Friends advocated for the creation, and later the renewal, of the Library Preservation Fund in order to prevent branch closings, expand hours and increase the books and materials budget. In 2000, Friends helped to pass \$106 million in general obligation bonds to rebuild neighborhood libraries. Leveraging private donations into millions of public dollars for the community, Friends has helped create, sustain and improve a world class Library system that is free and open to all.

Our successful history as advocates has paved the road for continued Library support. Two years ago we celebrated the completion of The Neighborhood Library Campaign that provided furniture, fixtures and equipment to 24 renovated or rebuilt branch libraries in every neighborhood of the city. In our fiscal year 2014/15, we helped open the doors to a new state-of-the-art teen digital learning center, The Mix at SFPL. Other highlights include the funding of the Spoke & Word library-on-a-bike which brings smiles everywhere it goes, open houses at many branch libraries which build community and classes in yoga, tai chi, Zumba and healthy eating which promote health & wellness. In 2016 we'll be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Main Library opening at its current location.

As San Francisco continues to grow, the San Francisco Public Library continues to bolster, represent and serve the many different needs, populations and challenges of our amazing city. We are excited and proud to support the San Francisco Public Library system in its efforts to stay relevant, vital and available to all of its residents.



Mikiko Huang, Board Chair



FRIENDS is a member-supported, nonprofit organization that fundraises, advocates and works with partners and volunteers to provide critical support for the San Francisco Public Library and the Bay Area community.

OUR MISSION is to strengthen, support and advocate for a superior free public library system in San Francisco.

OUR ROOTS of activism and support date back to 1961 when the San Francisco Public Library was underfunded and operating in aging facilities that did not adequately serve the Bay Area community.

WE BELIEVE that libraries strengthen communities by providing free and equal access to information and technology for all and that better libraries are a nexus to stronger communities.

WE LEAD community campaigns; our success resulted in the building of a new Main Library and stable funding for library hours and services through passage of the Library Preservation Fund. Friends also led the way for renovating and updating our neighborhood branch libraries, raising the monies necessary for the equipment and furniture in the newly renovated branches.

WE FUND diverse programs, resources and services beyond those supported by the city, thereby enriching and enhancing the public library system in San Francisco.

WE NURTURE AND ENGAGE a community of library supporters through membership, volunteer opportunities, community partnerships, the recycling and sale of books, outreach, events and literary programs.

WE SUPPORT and provide the community with continuing opportunities to invest in the success of the Library.

Become a Friend and support our efforts to ensure continuing innovation and excellence at the San Francisco Public Library, a system that is responsive to the needs of our Bay Area community and, in turn, strengthens that community.





LIBRARY SUPPORT

\$1,734.990

SUPPORT GIVEN

including in-kind support by Friends

“We at Friends are so proud to be working with SFPL in a strong public-private partnership to help ensure that our library system will continue to serve our community’s needs as a free resource of such breadth and depth. We are pleased to help support innovation at the Library, whether it was starting the Project Read program over 30 years ago or currently making it possible to realize ideas like the book bike , Spoke & Word.”

Mikiko Huang, Chair of the Board, Friends of SFPL

ONE CITY ONE BOOK: the city-wide book club with resource materials and a wide array of related lectures and programs (including an engaging scavenger hunt) featured Armistead Maupin and his book, *Tales of the City* ; included **30** events attended by **3,018** people.

EFFIE LEE MORRIS LECTURE: The 19th annual children’s literature program featured award-winning author and illustrator Chris Raschka.

AT THE LIBRARY: Monthly newsletter is the major communication vehicle for library sponsored programs and events; **11,000** are circulated monthly.

2 INNOVATION GRANTS: *Spoke & Word*, a Library outreach bicycle, and *Inventing the DIGI Center*, a planning grant for a physical space at the Library for creating and hosting programming for the Library’s growing digitization efforts.

27 GRANTS TO BRANCHES: such as *Taste It @ Your Library* partnering with local food industry businesses, Health and Wellness workshops featuring Yoga, Tai Chi, reflexology, healthy eating, dancing, etc., *Culture to Culture* introducing patrons to cross cultural themes related to dance, food, literature and music and Branch Digital Archive Projects providing an

opportunity for branches to collect and document historical photographs and memorabilia to preserve the rich history of San Francisco.

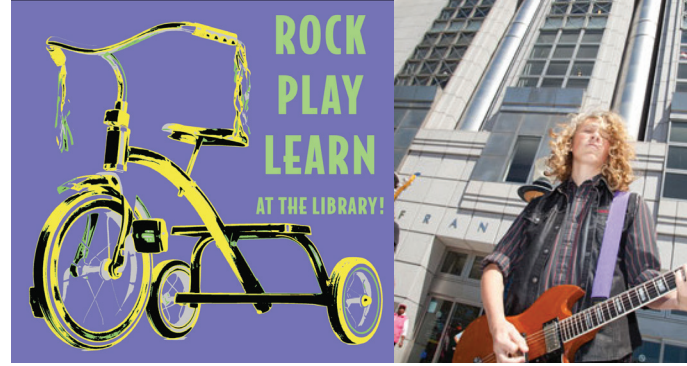
BOOKS GIVEN TO SFPL & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: Friends donated \$10,000 worth of rare & collectible books to the Library, including a 1st Edition hardcover of Bill Owens’ *Suburbia*; a 1st Edition of Gregory Corso’s *The Vestal Lady on Brattle* and a signed edition of *Howl* by Allen Ginsberg.

EXHIBITS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMMING: such as The San Francisco Latino Heritage Fair, SF Financial Planning Day, large gallery exhibitions including California’s Wild Edge: Tom Killion; The Coast in Prints, Poetry and History and 20 smaller exhibits including Green II: Our Environment through Quilt Artists’ Vision and Voice – **4,052** public programs drew **63,708** attendees, a **4%** increase over the prior fiscal year.



LIBRARY SUPPORT

CONTINUED



STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

145 program attendees received grants averaging \$206 each.

CHILDREN AND TEEN PROGRAMMING: 392,019

attendees at 11,757 programs including Friends' funded educational enrichment programs such as Tricycle Music Fest and Rock the Bike smoothie making and those aligned with system-wide themes such as IMAGINUIY Science Fest, Maker March and Black History Month.

SUMMER STRIDE: open to all ages; 14,692 enrolled;

included 681 programs representing a variety of cultures and interests with 26,096 attendees.

“The Tricycle Music Fest is amazing. It is great for us to visit our local library and enjoy the program.”

Family participant

Read. Make. Learn.



LIBRARY VISITS



WWW.SFPL.ORG



56,567

NEW LIBRARY
CARD HOLDERS

↑ 9.6%

27

BRANCHES



6,730,268 VISITS



THE MIX

AT SFPL

GRAND OPENING: June 2015

Friends is proud to support this new youth-designed, 21st century learning center. State-of-the-art digital media, video-sound recording, computer and creative maker equipment and programs give teens opportunities to expand their imaginations as well as their technology and literacy skills. We're excited to continue working with the Library to bridge the digital divide in San Francisco.



12 YEAR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN


CELEBRATING SUCCESS

The largest Capital Campaign in our history

Friends' successful campaign provided the furniture and equipment for **24 renovated or rebuilt branch libraries**. Over the course of 12 years, and with the help of **4,866 donors**, Friends raised over **\$14 million dollars** for the branches!

In the Spring of 2015 we threw a party at our Spring Big Book Sale to celebrate the success. As part of the festivities, the Library rolled out its new Techmobile, a computer lab on wheels partially sponsored by Friends that brings digital literacy into the community.



\$14 
MILLION RAISED

Thank you to all of our enthusiastic supporters!



BOOK OPERATIONS

Making friends everyday through the power of books

Big Book Sales

The largest used book sales on the west coast!
All items are sold for \$3 or under



• Sale

↑ 4%

\$1.40 MILLION
TOTAL GROSS
SALES

FRIENDS of the
SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY

BIG BOOK SALE

500,000+
Books & Media

All \$3 or Less

September 24-28, 2014



50th ANNIVERSARY

50th Anniversary Big Book Sale

September 24 – September 28, 2014

\$226,456
RAISED

↑
20%

110,000
ITEMS SOLD

2015 CLA
PR EXCELLENCE
AWARD WINNER

5th Annual Spring Big Book Sale

April 1 – April 5, 2015

\$188,393
RAISED

↑
11%

89,000
ITEMS SOLD

MEMBER SALES

5 MEMBER
SALES



\$95,000
RAISED

PER SALE: 10,000 SHOPPERS

75 CATEGORIES OF BOOKS AND MEDIA

761
VOLUNTEERS



3,532
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

QUARTERLY COMIC BOOK SALES

10,000+ COMICS PER SALE

25 CENTS PER COMIC

\$3,400 RAISED

25¢

BOOK OPERATIONS

CONTINUED

Online Sales

Check out our rare & collectible items on eBay, AbeBooks and Amazon.

\$252,216 RAISED
6,131 ITEMS SOLD



\$1 STEPS SALES

20 VOLUNTEERS



1,800 VOLUNTEER HOURS

OVER **1,000** ITEMS

\$28,000 RAISED



30

STEPS SALES PER YEAR

NEW: Steps Sales are year-round in 2016!



“If ever there were friends of the book and the act of writing, it is Friends of the San Francisco Public Library.”

Jack Hirschman, Poet-in-Residence

SPECIALTY BOOK FAIRS

\$47,000 RAISED

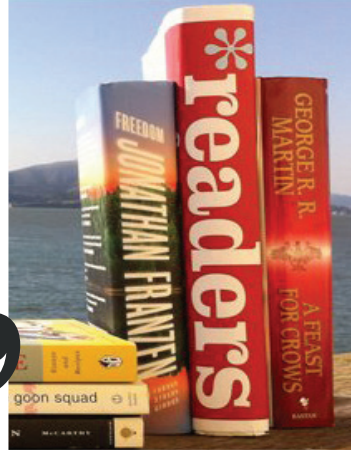
SACRAMENTO ANTIQUARIAN BOOK FAIR
SEPTEMBER 2014

SAN FRANCISCO ANTIQUARIAN BOOK AND PAPER FAIR FEBRUARY 2015

SACRAMENTO ANTIQUARIAN BOOK FAIR
MARCH 2015

2014 FALL BIG BOOK SALE COLLECTIBLES BOOTH

2015 SPRING BIG BOOK SALE COLLECTIBLES BOOTH



readers bookstores

READERS AT MAIN
\$282,000 RAISED

4,000
ITEMS FOR SALE

30 YEAR ROUND
VOLUNTEERS

4,800 TOTAL
VOLUNTEER HOURS

READERS AT FORT MASON

\$422,000 RAISED

10,000
ITEMS FOR SALE

45 YEAR ROUND
VOLUNTEERS

6,480 TOTAL
VOLUNTEER HOURS



Donation Center

1,000,000 | ITEMS DONATED (KEPT OUT OF LANDFILL)

50 TONS OF PAPER | **SAVED**
250 TONS OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

MOST VALUABLE ITEM DONATED TO SFPL THIS FISCAL YEAR:
1ST EDITION OF SUBURBIA BY BILL OWENS, VALUED AT \$1,250

155 VOLUNTEERS  **12,666** VOLUNTEER HOURS

MORE THAN **3,000** BOOK DONORS

WE MOVED! CHECK OUT OUR NEW SPACE...

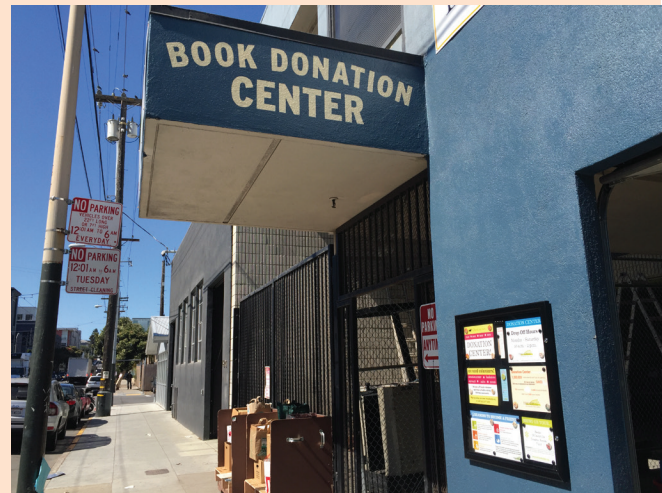
1630 17TH STREET
*Between Wisconsin &
Carolina*

DONATE YOUR ITEMS!

DROP- OFF HOURS:

Monday - Saturday
10 AM - 2 PM

Phone: (415) 522-8600



VOLUNTEERS & MEMBERS

The core of everything we do,
and our ambassadors in the community

21,648

VOLUNTEER HOURS DONATED



1,347
VOLUNTEERS

\$581,669 VALUE OF
VOLUNTEER HOURS



Become a volunteer or member of Friends of the San Francisco Public Library and help us build a strong, thriving community by supporting libraries and literacy. Your generous support adds to the quality of life in our city.

Join online at www.friendsfpl.org, or call 415-626-7500. You may also join at either of our Readers Bookstores at Fort Mason or in the Main Library.

“I’ve been a member of Friends for a number of years, to receive discounts on books and to support the Library. Libraries instill a desire for learning and create a link and point of access to our entire human past. Using this public space reminds people that they are part of a community. They provide cultural and educational amenities to the city’s population for free.”

Gary Kamiya, Author, *Cool, Gray City of Love*

3,775
MEMBERS

EVENTS

Supporting San Francisco's rich literary community



IMBIBE
Portola Branch
on 2/6/2015
(Valentines-themed)

BRANCHING OUT

A benefit held at the Ritz-Carlton, San Francisco



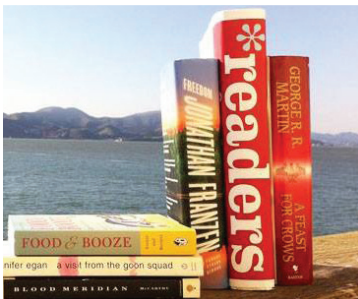
On Wednesday November 11th, 2014, Friends kicked off a citywide celebration of the transformation of the San Francisco Public Library through the renovation and building of 24 branch libraries, and it was a huge success!

We honored Former Mayor **Willie Brown, Jr.**, **Governor Gavin Newsom** and **Mayor Ed Lee** before a holding a successful Fund-A-Need for the The Mix at SFPL.

The San Francisco Public Library is branching out - new ideas, innovative programs and forward thinking, and the generous contributions of the event's donors, sponsors and supporters helped us raise over **\$185,000!**



Thursdays at Readers
100 POETS  **50 EVENTS**
Provocative International Poetry



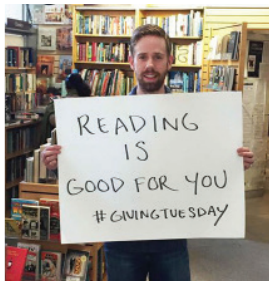
POETS LEVEN
5 Languages **150** Poets **11** Districts
11 Neighborhood Branch Readings/Events
12 Poets who have been published as a result of Poets 11

INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORES

We partner with 39 local, independent bookstores in the Bay Area

Academy Store
 Adobe Bookstore
 Alan Wofsy Fine Arts LLC
 Alexander Book Co., Inc.
 Alley Cat Books
 Amazing Fantasy
 Beat Museum
 Bibliohead Bookstore
 Bibliomania
 Bird & Beckett Books & Records
 Black Oak Books
 Bolerium Books
 Books Inc. Opera Plaza
 Books Inc. Laurel Village
 Books Inc. Marina
 Books Inc. Castro
 Books Inc. Palo Alto
 BookShop West Portal
 BookSmith
 Borderlands Books
 Browser Books
 Christopher's Books
 Chronicle Books
 Chronicle Books @ Metreon
 Compass Books Inc.
 Dog Eared Books

East Wind Books
 Globus Slavic Bookstore
 Great Overland Book Co.
 Green Apple Books
 Green Arcade
 Kayo Books
 Louie Brothers Book Store
 Manning's Books & Prints
 Marcus Book Stores
 Omnivore Books On Food
 Readers Main Bookstore
 Readers Bookstore Fort Mason
 San Francisco Botanical Garden
 Schein and Schein
 Thidwick Books



FRIENDS *of the* SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FISCAL YEAR 2014 - 15

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deYoung Museum	The Beat Museum	Ourshelves/The Sequel Project
The Castro Theater	Alley Cat Books	PBA Galleries (Pacific Book Auction)
The Roxie Theater	Beat Museum	Poetry Flash/Northern CA
Nopa	Books, Inc.	Book Reviewers
Nopalito	City Lights	Revolutionary Poets Brigade
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