

FRIENDS *of the* SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY



ANNUAL REPORT FY 15/16

JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016

Supporting San Francisco's PREMIER URBAN LIBRARY

Friends of the San Francisco Public Library has been a committed partner of the San Francisco Public Library for over 55 years, dating back to a time when the future of the Library was bleak and Friends emerged as a formidable organization with exceptional range of support and impact. Through the years, we have catalyzed the city's commitment to the construction of the new Main Library and raised funds for its furniture, equipment, and its unique Affinity Centers; advocated for the passage of the Library Preservation Fund, an essential reserve that ensures the long term fiscal health of the library system; and raised \$14 million in the Neighborhood Library Campaign to augment the Branch Library Improvement Program that built or rebuilt 24 branch libraries as distinct, state-of-the-art facilities.

Leveraging private donations into enormous benefits for the community, Friends has helped empower and improve a free and inclusive library system that is the envy of many systems across the U.S. and around the world.

Friends' unparalleled history of success as unabashed advocates of the San Francisco Public Library has created momentum for continued library excellence. This past 2014-2015 fiscal year, we helped the Main Library launch its new state of the art teen digital learning center, The Mix at SFPL.

Initiatives such as The Mix are only the start of a new era of partnership for developing innovative library programming to meet the needs for connecting communities digitally and engaging youth, adults and families in 21st century literacy.

In the past 2015-2016 fiscal year, our donors, members, board, staff, volunteers, and book lovers provided the community with \$3.5 million in benefit to the community. This is made up of direct cash support to the Library, in-kind management of philanthropic funds, and through indirect support of the Library's mission via Friends' community programs for literacy, volunteering and advocacy.

Friends is proud and inspired by the Library, but our greatest joy is in partnering in our shared commitment to stay current and responsive to the diverse and important needs of our community. We ask that you join us in this enterprise!



CHARLES HIGUERAS CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS



FRIENDS is a diverse community of individuals, families and institutions who love our San Francisco Public Library and make it exceptional. We champion free public access to information, resources and opportunities for all people.

WE ENVISION the future of the Library as exceptional centers of 21st Century literacy, economic opportunity and community life, with welcoming access to arts, culture and self-discovery.

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

Through Friends, members and donors express their love, support and aspirations for the Library as:

- Persuasive **Advocates** committed to a strong and responsive Public Library with secure funding.
- Engaged **Champions** advancing the Library's mission for community literacy, free resources and opportunities for everyone.
- Generous **Investors** bridging the funding gap between what the City provides and the cost of additional programs, resources and services that San Franciscans want and need.

OUR ROOTS of activism and support date back to 1961 when the public Library was underfunded and operating in aging facilities that did not adequately serve the community, and the partnership between Friends and the Library was formed.

OUR IMPACT: This year our donors, members, board, staff, volunteers and book lovers provided the community with \$3.5 million in support. This was made up of direct cash support to the Library and in-kind management of philanthropic funds, and indirect support of the Library's mission through Friends' community programs.



The San Francisco Public Library is one of the city's shining lights, brightening all of our communities. Friends is a critical partner. From poets reading their work to chairs for reading audiences, Friends helps to make the Library its most expansive and effective self."

**Jewelle Gomez,
Author & Former Library
Commissioner**





LIBRARY SUPPORT

\$1,256,000
DIRECT SUPPORT

As the Library's private partner, Friends raises money from private individuals, corporations and foundations for innovative programs throughout the Library system. Over 3,500 members and donors contributed \$1.4 million in donations last year.



The library led me out into the world. Summer Stride gave me discipline and I loved the sheer fun of competing to see how many books I could read!"

Diane Compagno Miller,
Friends Member

\$740,000 WAS GIVEN IN SUPPORT FOR:

- Children & youth services ● Grants to branches
- The Bridge at the Main ● Adult literacy & workforce programs
- Special Collections and Exhibitions ● Deaf & blind services
- Affinity Centers at the Main ● *At the Library* publication
- One City One Book program ● Community relations
- Innovative grants for special initiatives ● Summer Stride
- Professional development for Library Staff

\$516,000 WAS PROVIDED IN IN-KIND SUPPORT FOR:

Management of philanthropic funds, including special funds and endowments.



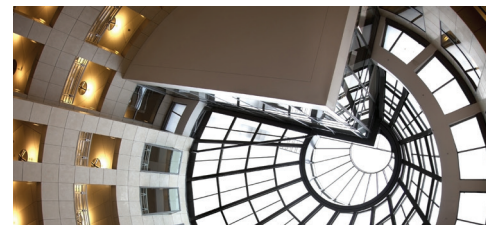
WWW.SFPL.ORG



55,372
NEW LIBRARY
CARD HOLDERS

27

BRANCHES



6,362,573 VISITS



HIGHLIGHTS OF DIRECTLY FUNDED PROGRAMS THIS YEAR INCLUDE:

27 GRANTS TO BRANCHES: Such as anniversary celebrations at neighborhood libraries and programs relating to health and wellness, cultural awareness, and the arts.

BOOKS GIVEN TO SFPL & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: Friends donated \$6,000 worth including *Ten Drawings in Chinatown* by Ernest Peixotto and *Tiny Nonsense Stories* by Dorothy Kunhardt.

CHILDREN AND TEEN PROGRAMMING:

Educational enrichment programs including STEAM- based Imagination Science Fest, Maker March and Tricycle Music Fest, and technology and digital media literacy, coding and robotics, maker, and author and illustrator engagement programs for teens. **The Library presented 13,961 free programs for 432,995 children, teens and families**, many of which were funded by Friends.

SUMMER STRIDE: Open to all ages; **18,644 enrolled**; included **905 events**, many in partnership with the National Park Service, with **28,286 attendees**. Additionally, **825 teens** enrolled as Summer Squad volunteers to help facilitate the program.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Friends funds public awareness initiatives, such as *At the Library*, a newsletter that is the major communication vehicle for the Library. **12,000+ are circulated monthly**.

ONE CITY ONE BOOK: The citywide book club with resource materials, lectures and programs featured David Talbot and his book, *Season of the Witch*; included **28 events attended by 1,575 people**.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: **70 staff members** participated in a variety of trainings and conferences and the average grant was \$309.

EFFIE LEE MORRIS LECTURE: The 20th annual children's literature program featured award-winning author and illustrator Christian Robinson.

EXHIBITS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS: Such as *Queerest.Library.Ever. #Hormelat20* and yoga classes for adults - **4,399 public programs drew 68,583 attendees**.

INNOVATION GRANTS: Including a mobile hotspot lending program for students enrolled in the Library's online high school diploma program, and *Tech-on-the-Go*, providing technology learning programs through the Library's TechMobile to 1,000 city residents.

BIBLIO BISTRO WINS TOP 2016 INNOVATOR AWARD FROM THE URBAN LIBRARIES COUNCIL!



Biblio Bistro, the Library's moveable kitchen, is a program brought to life through the Friends and Library partnership. It offers hands-on cooking classes at farmers markets, street festivals and neighborhood libraries to promote good nutrition, highlight library resources and expand health literacy.

2016

LIBRARY LAUREATES

Celebrating 20 Years of the Main Library with 35 Authors & Honoring Roselyne Chroman Swig

Friends celebrated the return of the Library Laureates Gala on March 18, 2016 at the San Francisco Public Library's Main Library. The exclusive event, chaired by Camilla M. Smith and Donna Miller Casey, recognized 35 acclaimed authors as 2016 Library Laureates. Over 350 philanthropists, community leaders, authors and corporate partners joined the celebration at this one-of-a-kind evening within intimate salons with an author at each table. The successful event served Friends' mission to support the San Francisco Public Library.



San Francisco has built an amazing contemporary library for which we should all be very proud. We have succeeded in constructing, maintaining and sharing a neighborhood library system that represents our commitment and our respect for all of our citizens."

- Honoree Roselyne Chroman Swig

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- A proclamation by the Mayor was issued: It is resolved that March 18, 2016, be named Roselyne Chroman Swig Day.
- Mrs. Swig was presented with an original work of art created by Christian Robinson that was part of the Library's summer learning program, Summer Stride, which was funded by Friends.
- The Bay Area community celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the opening of the Main Library.
- The event also honored 35 acclaimed authors as 2016 Library Laureates.



UNDER THE NAUTILUS

*Celebrating 20 Years
of the Main Library
1996-2016*





COMMUNITY ADVOCACY & VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

\$554,000

INDIRECT SUPPORT

Friends' Community Advocacy & Volunteer Programs leverage volunteer and staff time sorting and selling books; promoting library patronage, programs, and events; and generating a base of community member support dedicated to the critical importance of advocating for a strong Library.

24,580

VOLUNTEER HOURS DONATED



1,693

VOLUNTEERS



3,775 MEMBERS



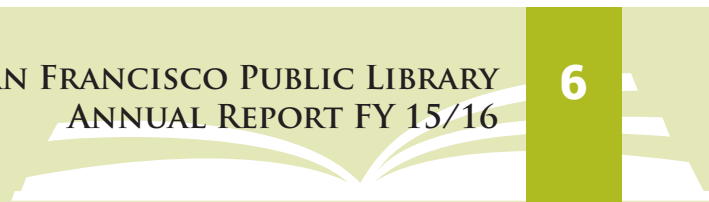
HELP SUPPORT THE LIBRARY!

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

Join online today at friendssfpl.org, or call (415) 626-7500.

You may also join at either of our Readers Bookstores (in Fort Mason and in the Main Library).

Friends embodies our values of leveling the playing field in innovative ways. In making Friends part of our estate plan, we say **"Yes!"** to the conviction that the Library and its supporters will live up to the challenges they face." **Barbara Berman, writer & member of the Friends Legacy Giving Circle**





BOOK OPERATIONS

\$1,690,000

INDIRECT SUPPORT

The Book Operations program promotes reading, access to free and low-cost books, and building home libraries by reselling used books and delivering free books to low income communities, schools and family shelters.

THE BIG BOOK SALE



The Big Book Sale is to book lovers as a grape harvest is to Dionysus."

Chronicle Books



*The largest used book sale on the West Coast!
500,000+ items for \$3 or less.*

6th Spring Big Book Sale

\$202,000 RAISED

51st Fall Big Book Sale

\$163,000 RAISED

OVER **10,000** SHOPPERS

70+ CATEGORIES OF BOOKS & MEDIA

3,552 + VOLUNTEER HOURS



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



COMIC BOOK SALES

10,000+ COMIC BOOKS

25 CENTS EACH

\$3,500 RAISED

25¢

Making friends everyday through the power of books



\$1 STEPS SALES AT THE MAIN

\$36,000 RAISED

Every Wednesday from 11 AM - 3 PM
in front of the Main Library. All items are \$1.

SPECIALTY BOOK FAIRS

\$11,000 RAISED



ONLINE SALES

\$232,000 RAISED



\$430,000

VALUE OF BOOKS DONATED

*to community programs, organizations
and schools, such as:*

- St. Vincent DePaul's
- The Homeless Prenatal Program
- University of Baghdad Library Project
- Free Little Libraries



MEMBER SALES

\$119,000 RAISED



readers bookstores



READERS AT FORT MASON

\$398,000

RAISED

2 Marina Blvd., Building C
(415) 771-1076

READERS AT THE MAIN

\$225,000

RAISED

Main Library, 30 Grove St.
(415) 557-4238

“ Support Friends and the Library and you support the community.” **Mario Reyes, Friends Member**

A Green Book Donation Center

1,000,000 | ITEMS DONATED & KEPT OUT OF THE LANDFILL

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

MORE THAN **3,000** BOOK DONORS



Donate Your Books & Media!

1630 17th Street

Between Wisconsin & Carolina

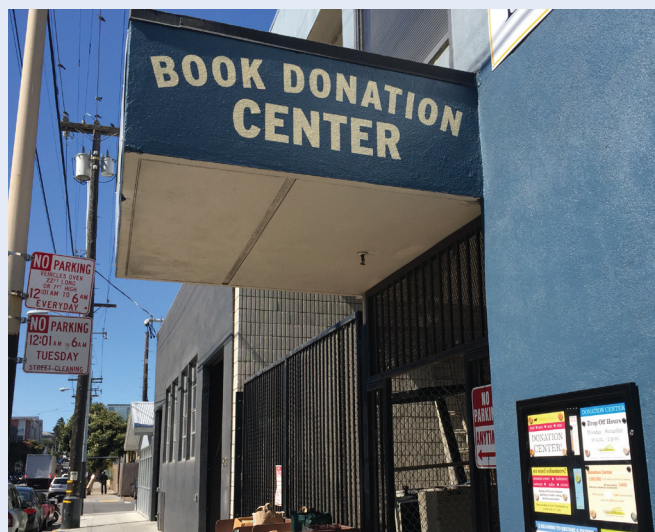
DROP-OFF HOURS

Monday - Friday: 10 am - 4 pm

Saturdays: 10 am - 2 pm

Phone: (415) 522-8600

Visit friendssfpl.org for more info



EVENTS

Supporting San Francisco's rich literary community



IMBIBE

Member cocktail party & fundraiser held in the library.

Golden Gate Valley
10/23/2015
Halloween - themed

Celebrating 20 Years of the JAMES C. HORMEL LGBTQIA CENTER at the Main Library

Queerest.Library.Ever. celebrated the James C. Hormel Center's achievements over its first twenty years.

On April 23, 2016, Friends hosted a special reception in the Main Library for community leaders and supporters of the Hormel Center.

The Hormel exhibits, funded by Friends, showcase the breadth and depth of its continually developing documentation of the LGBTQIA experience in the San Francisco Bay Area.

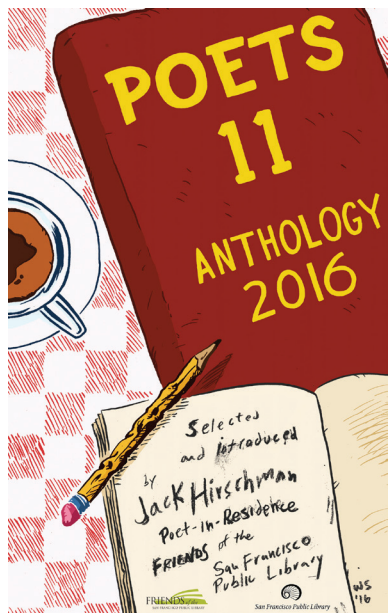
Thursdays at Readers

100 POETS



50 EVENTS

Provocative International Poetry & Performances



POETS 11

Citywide poetry contest and reading series

11 Neighborhood Branch Readings

150 Poets

11 Districts

12 Poets who have been published as a result of Poets 11



#HORMELAT20

QUEEREST.LIBRARY.EVER.



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FRIENDS *of the* SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY

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