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
**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.
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 IMAGINUITY 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 SUPPORT
Continued

LIBRARY VISITS

WWW.SFPL.ORG

Friends of the San Francisco Public Library
Annual Report FY 14/15
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.

**GRAND OPENING:** June 2015

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.

*Thank you to all of our enthusiastic supporters!*
**BOOK OPERATIONS**

Making friends everyday through the power of books

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**Big Book Sales**

*The largest used book sales on the west coast!*

All items are sold for $3 or under

---

**50th Anniversary Big Book Sale**

September 24 – September 28, 2014

$226,456 RAISED  
110,000 ITEMS SOLD  
20%

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**5th Annual Spring Big Book Sale**

April 1 – April 5, 2015

$188,393 RAISED  
89,000 ITEMS SOLD  
11%

---

**PER SALE:**

- **10,000 SHOPPERS**
- **75 CATEGORIES OF BOOKS AND MEDIA**
- **761 VOLUNTEERS**
- **3,532 VOLUNTEER HOURS**

---

**MEMBER SALES**

$95,000 RAISED

---

**QUARTERLY COMIC BOOK SALES**

- **10,000+ COMICS PER SALE**
- **25 CENTS PER COMIC**
- **$3,400 RAISED**

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**2015 CLA PR EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER**

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**$1.40 MILLION TOTAL GROSS SALES**

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**CELEBRATING SUCCESS**

- **20%**
- **11%**
- **4%**

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**Friends of the San Francisco Public Library**

Annual Report FY 14/15
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
Donation Center

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

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

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

3,775
Members

“...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

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.friendssfpl.org, or call 415-626-7500. You may also join at either of our Readers Bookstores at Fort Mason or in the Main Library.
**IMBIBE**  
Portola Branch  
on 2/6/2015  
(Valentines-themed)

**Thursdays at Readers**  
100 Poets  
50 Events  
Provocative International Poetry

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

**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**!
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

COMMUNITY PARTNERS & SPONSORS
Teaming up with San Francisco’s most iconic businesses and institutions

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San Francisco Opera
San Francisco Symphony
Exploratorium
deYoung Museum
The Castro Theater
The Roxie Theater
Nopa
Nopalito
Greens
Delfina
State Bird Provisions
Flax Art Supplies
Bi-Rite
Litquake
The Long Now
Chronicle Books
The Maritime Museum
The Beat Museum
Alley Cat Books
Beat Museum
Books, Inc.
City Lights
Chronicle Books
Emerald Tablet
Green Apple Books
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Live Worms Gallery
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