



August 2021 Newsletter

Thanks to our amazing community, our Diverse Books for a Diverse Community campaign has raised more than \$13,000 or 87% of our goal of \$15,000. With the campaign wrapping up on Labor Day, we need your help to meet our goal! We hope that you will donate either at our upcoming event this Saturday, August 21 (see details below) or [online](#). It's so important to offer our patrons books that reflect our community!

As the Library takes steps toward re-opening, we are starting to plan for our first post-pandemic book sale. Our volunteers have been busy for months sorting and boxing great donations for the sale and we can't wait to share so many wonderful books! As with everything during the pandemic, timing is uncertain but we're hopeful that a sale will be possible later this fall. Friends members will be the first to know once we have set a date.

You don't need to wait for our book sale to find book bargains since the [Friends Online Book Store](#) offers over great prices on more than 3,000 fabulous books! You can shop 24/7 for great books at great prices in a variety of categories from children to adult.



With thanks,

Karen Curtin

President

Friends of Chapel Hill Public Library

Friends Funds at Work: Greenway Storywalks



I am so pleased with the progress of the “Diverse Books for a Diverse Community” campaign! And I am so thankful for the generous support from our community that will allow us to continue the important work of ensuring diverse collections for all readers.

I'd also like to highlight another way that the Friends are supporting both special projects and diversity – the newly launched https://www.townofchapelhill.org/Home/Components/News/News/17101Greenway_Storywalks. Found at three different parks and greenways around town, these installations encourage kids and families to get outside and walk and read together. Each location features a nature-themed picture book with diverse topics and representation. Authors and titles will be updated throughout the year.

The project was funded in large part through a grant from the state library, with the Friends providing matching funds. In addition to being a funding partner, the Friends were a project partner, with vice president Marj Moe serving on the project planning and implementation team. Flyleaf Books generously donated the physical copies of the 18 titles that were deconstructed & laminated that will be featured in the first year of this project.

Read more about the project [here](#) and check out the Storywalks at Pritchard Park, Umstead Park, and Homestead Park.

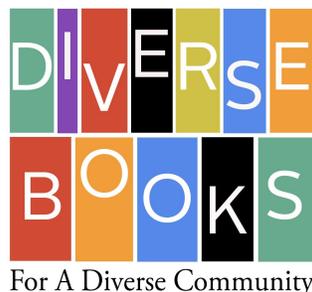


With gratitude,

Susan Brown
Library Director

We're Almost There. Help Us Reach the Goal of the Diverse Books for a Diverse Community Campaign!

[Donate Now](#)



So many of you have already supported our [Diverse Books for a Diverse Community](#) campaign because you know that representation is so important. As you think about the look of joy and discovery on the face of a child who realizes the image in the mirror is their own, imagine that same look on children as they open a book and see, not just a mirror of themselves, but of their playmates in an increasingly diverse world.

Chapel Hill Public Library is committed to being a true reflection of our diverse community. To do that, the library's collection needs to be updated with books that represent the faces and voices of the world around us. We are nearing the campaign's goal of raising \$15,000 by Labor Day, which is almost here, so now is the time to act! If you have not supported this effort, please [donate now](#), with whatever amount you can afford. With your help, we can meet—and even exceed—our goal, ensuring that the library can make a meaningful addition to its diverse book collection, particularly for children.

Visualize the smiles on all those happy faces that will appear when children find themselves and their playmates, neighbors and those they see every day on the pages of the books they love.

By Martha Brunstein

Campaign Top Off and Kids Coin Collection



August 21
Saturday

10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Library plaza
(near entrance)

Come join the Friends this **Saturday, August 21 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** for our third and final popup event of our [Diverse Books for a Diverse Community campaign](#). We'll be on the library plaza, near the entrance to Chapel Hill Public Library.

Kids (and grownups) are invited to bring your piggy banks to help the campaign reach our goal! Every child who donates will be able to choose one of our like-new children's books. (We'll also have books for the adults who donate that day to choose from.) Come meet some of our great volunteers, donate to a great cause, and receive a book as our thanks!

Be a Friend!

Join or Renew Now



Membership in the Friends of Chapel Hill Public Library is a low-cost/high-impact way to support one of our community's treasures. An all-volunteer organization, the Friends uses all money we raise to support the library's programs, services, and collections.

Membership starts at just \$25/year (\$10 for students). While we can't currently offer in-person events and offer members benefits related to our Big Book Sales, we are pleased to offer members a monthly discount at our [Online Book Store](#). Best of all, your membership gives you the benefit of knowing that you are supporting your community through the library!

We're pleased to now offer an automatic renewal option for new members or current members whose membership is up for renewal. It's easy to change both your membership level (amount that you pay annually) and payment type (recurring or non-recurring) on our [website](#). Please [join or renew](#) today!



Whether you have your book bag packed or are a life-long learner, it's the time of year to get ready to go back to school! And the **Friends Online Book Store** has all your reading needs covered. Make those book reports more engaging for school-aged children and let them choose what to read.

The book store features many books for all reading levels, from **picture books** to **young adult (YA)**. Now is the perfect time to try out a new skill, learning from one of the more than 100 books to choose from in the **food & cooking, crafts, and gardening** sections. The literary scholars among us can broaden those personal libraries with great finds in the **classics, history, and poetry & play** sections. Or maybe you just need a break from all of that studying. **Games** and **puzzles** are a great way to relax.

NEW SECTION ALERT! With the cost of all the supplies needed to start off the school year, everybody loves a good deal. The **bargains** section offers recently reduced price books in all genres. We look forward to seeing you online!

By Meg McGurk

[Shop Online Book Store](#)

Love Books? Want to Support our Library? Become a Friends Volunteer!

As an all-volunteer organization, Friends of Chapel Hill Public Library relies on the time and talent of our amazing community members who give of themselves. If you'd like to help us support the library, [sign up online](#) and be sure to let us know your interests, skills and availability so we can easily see if there is a good match. We are especially interested in finding volunteers with graphic design, legal, accounting and computer expertise so please let us know if you have these skills and are willing to share them!

While we love engaging with new volunteers, the pandemic has limited our current ability to do so both because of social distancing constraints and the fact that we are not holding in-person book sales until it is safe to do so. (Book sales are where we use lots of volunteers!) Thanks in advance for your support.

Reader Recommendations

In each issue of this newsletter, we feature the reading recommendations of a Friends member. We would love to include you! [Email](#) us if you'd like to be featured.

Kathryn Chan has been sharing her energy, good cheer, and enthusiasm with the Friends events committee since she began volunteering with the Friends in 2017. When not working as the assistant manager of the UNC Kenan-Flagler undergraduate business program help desk, Kathryn volunteers as a Guardian Ad Litem, advocating for children in the foster care system. During the pandemic, she kept sane by playing lots of tennis, discovering the amazing walking trails in Chapel Hill, picking up all her books on hold at the library, and playing games of any kind. Feel free to challenge her to a round of 5 Crowns, Monopoly Deal, Canasta or Codename!



Favorite Genre(s): [Historical fiction](#)

Favorite Authors: Ann Patchett, Louise Erdrich and Anthony Horowitz

Current Favorite Books: *White Dog Fell from the Sky* by Eleanor Morse, *Miracle Creek* by Angie Kim, *A Constellation of Vital Phenomena* by Anthony Marra, and *The Power* by Naomi Alderman

Currently Reading: *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett

Want to Read: *Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner

Books I'd Want on a Desert Island: *The Devotion to Suspect X* by Keigo Higashino, *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles, and *Persuasion* by Jane Austen

Book Recommendation Resources: [Goodreads](#), [Gates Notes](#), and recommendations from my friend Cyndy J.

Follow us on Facebook. And now you can follow us on Instagram!

Want to keep up with the latest Friends events? Need to know the newest items in the Friends Online Book Store? Follow us on [Facebook](#) and on our [Instagram](#) account!

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Friends of Chapel Hill Public Library
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