



2017-2018 FRIENDS SUPPORT AT ROPL

During the past fiscal year, the Friends spent nearly \$35,500 supporting library materials and over 500 programs for all ages. Much of the Friends' revenue is generated from sales in the Friends Shop (Stop by when you're checking out a book or attending a program!), fundraisers in the Royal Oak community (such as ice cream sales at summer concerts), and special book sales. The Shop earned just over \$23,000 this past fiscal year. The combined earnings of the two-day October book sale, the four-day annual book sale, and the Summer Reading Opening Day sale netted nearly \$5,400.



A major portion of the Friends' revenue stream continues to be from online sales of donated books. Working with third-party dealers, Friends volunteers scan donated books from the community to check for potential sales to book buyers across the country. Buyers include organizations/stores such as Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley, Powell's, Textbooks.com, SellBack, Bookstores.com, and Textbook Rush. In 2017–18, outside sales revenue totalled just over \$7,000. We've also ramped up online sales of "special" donated books (e.g., out-of-print, antiquarian) and hope to bring in \$1,000 in the coming year.

Another source of revenue is the sale of City of Royal Oak merchandise (T-shirts, hats, and tote bags that are available in the shop). The Friends are also supporters of local organizations and have donated books to groups in need and little free libraries. Along with membership dues and generous donations, Friends' total revenue was nearly \$40,000, a fantastic year! As Friends, you have helped raise this money - be sure to make use of the materials and programs we fund!



Sunday Hours at ROPL!

Sunday hours resumed September 9. ROPL is open on Sundays from 1:00 to 5:00 pm September through early June, excluding holiday weekends. Parking is free in all city lots on Sundays!

Summer Reading 2018

Summer 2018 was another record-breaking year at Royal Oak Public Library! 1,349 kids signed up for Summer Reading for the most registrations ever! The 71 different programs that were offered during summer reading attracted 4,822 attendees, making it the highest program attendance of any summer. These programs were funded by the Friends of ROPL. Teen summer reading had 194 participants who attended 19 programs and also helped create games for the Readers' Fair finale. All youth and teen summer readers were eligible for prizes generously donated by local businesses and each participant could choose their own book to keep. The free books are funded by the Friends.



Summer reading is designed to keep children reading and learning during the summer vacation so that they do not experience "summer slump" in their academic skills. By providing many different programs and activities for a variety of age groups, ROPL keeps families excited about visiting the library during the summer. These activities would not be possible without the support of the Friends! Thank you!



Thank you to all who purchased concessions at the Summer Concert Series. **Brandon and Carly Kolo** generously donated the concessions for the events again this year. We appreciate all of the support the Friends receive with endeavors such as these. **Look for flyers for our next fundraiser near the Library Checkout desks!**



Friends Book Sale News

The Friends are happy to report that donations from patrons continue to come in at a steady pace! Summer seemed to bring about a surge of bookshelf and basement cleaning! With that in mind, the Friends will continue with its new schedule (as of 2018) of book sales. In June, we again piggybacked onto the library's Summer Reading Kickoff date with a one-day paperback sale that netted the Friends a total of \$872.75 (\$617.75 – auditorium; \$255.00 - shop).

The Friends are holding a **two-day sale: Saturday, October 13 (10 am–4 pm), and Sunday, October 14 (1 pm–4 pm)**. It's not too early to start thinking about our annual four-day sale, which will take place **Thursday through Sunday, March 7–10, 2019**. Both of these popular community events are only possible with the help of many volunteers. **Please consider donating your time for this event.** Volunteers are needed to help set up (March 4–6), work during the event (March 7–10), and tear down (March 10–11). Contact Larry Baker, Book Sale committee chair, at **Larbaker4@gmail.com or (248) 515-4560 to volunteer.**



Go beyond ratings and reviews and save time and money with Consumer Reports **now available online to ROPL cardholders.** Get unbiased ratings for thousands of products and services based on their scientific testing and satisfaction scores from nearly one million consumers plus expert tips on topics including health, food, cars, tech and money.

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Celebrates Anniversary

Youth Services is celebrating the one-year anniversary of launching 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten. This program is part of a nationwide initiative to encourage parents and children to read aloud together by setting a goal of 1,000 books read before the child begins school. To date, nearly 400 children have signed up for the program and 38 have reached the 1,000 books mark. Special prizes are included along the way, and those who complete the program are honored with a special graduation ceremony during the seasonal party to celebrate participants.



Volunteer Spotlight: Friends' Sorters

There are two teams of volunteer sorters. One meets on Tuesday morning, the other on Friday morning. Without exception, they are all readers and book lovers. The sorters are often the first volunteers to handle the books left on the donation carts. After an initial examination for condition (some books are not "gently used"), they are sorted by subject (see below) and placed in the appropriate boxes and carts for the scanners. Once the books are scanned, the sorters' next task is to shelve them in the sorting room stacks. This last step often involves others' opinions on the appropriate subject designation. For instance, should the book entitled, "And God Said Play Ball" with "parallels between the Bible and baseball," be shelved in Sports, Religion, or Humor? Should the book "Shakespeare's Insults" be shelved with the Bard's plays or in Humor? Lastly, if at any time a sorter finds something "special," she can put it on the scanners' workspace with a note or on the shelf marked "specials." These items are often found in the bookshop with a "special" designation.



Many thanks to our current sorting team: picture left to right: Marie Jones, Cathy Carter, not pictured: Cathy Becker, Maryann Dunaj-Ring, Mary Ann Marcinkowski, and Mary Youngblood!

Interested in joining the sorters on Tuesday or Friday? Contact Cathy at 248-583-9737.

New Seed Library @ ROPL!

The Royal Oak Public Library is excited to announce the opening of a Seed Library. Vegetable, herb, and flower seeds are available to everyone in the community at no charge. Interested gardeners are welcome to take up to five seed packets. It is hoped that these patrons will return seeds from their own harvest to make the Seed Library self-sustaining. The Seed Library was made possible thanks to the generous donations from: High Mowing Organic Seeds, Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds, Territorial Seed Company and Seed Savers Exchange. Questions? Contact Mick Howey at 248-246-3724 or michaelh@ropl.org.



If your membership has expired (address label 9/1/2018 or earlier), PLEASE RENEW NOW!



LIVE MUSIC @ ROYAL OAK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us in the Friends Auditorium for these free performances. Perfect for all ages!

Saturday, October 20 at 3pm – Royal Oak Blues Band: will perform blues-based songs touching on gospel, country, rhythm & blues, and rock 'n' roll influences.

Saturday, November 3 at 1pm – The Dug-outs: the Music, the Times, and the men of the Great War. In observance of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I; three musicians in period clothes with props

Saturday, December 1 at 3pm – RJ Spangler Holiday Concert: featuring trumpeter James O'Donnell.

Monday, December 3 at 7pm – Royal Oak Handbell Ensemble: Will perform a variety of holiday pieces. The ensemble performs with Schulmerich handbells with use of hand chimes, percussion and other instruments.

Tuesday, December 4 at 7pm – Cello Recital: traditional and jazzy holiday music presented by the cello students of Priscilla Hawkins.

Saturday, December 15 at 3pm – Martin Mandelbaum and Friends: Festive Holiday Concert including both traditional and contemporary holiday music.



Volunteer Appreciation Tea

In appreciation of our regular volunteers who work many hours during the year to make our shop and other activities a success we are holding a **Volunteer Appreciation Tea Sunday October 21, 2 pm** in the Friends Auditorium. Good food, conversation, and free raffle prizes! You are encouraged to come dressed as your favorite literary character.

MEL is Back!

The Michigan Electronic Library has a full array of resources for our patrons, courtesy of the state. The interloan component has been down the past few months due to the change in our shared system but now its fully functional. Also, unlike in the past media can now be interloaned as well as print books. Melcat as it is called is a supplement to the The Library Newtwork or TLN service that allows our patrons to borrow materials from member libraries throughout the region. Melcat provides interloan access to its member libraries across the state including large university libraries. The other component to MEL is the informational databases in the areas of health and finance and Learning Express tutorials. Novelist is now part of MEL which provides book information and recommendations.



Friends Shop News

Check the Friends Shop for **Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas** books as each approaches. Children's books are for sale in the Shop and on carts in the Children's Department. **Royal Oak logo gear** is available in the Friends Shop. **New items are added to the shop four times a week** so there is always something new! Even when the shop is closed, the carts outside the shop have books for sale at great prices!

We have a **great need for new volunteers** to continue all that the Friends do! Fran Pierce started volunteering with the Friends because she wanted to volunteer where she could really help out. She says, "It's been fun to work at the library because I love books and wanted to work with them! Working with new friends made it even more special." Volunteer for a **2½-hour shift in the shop**, process incoming donated books, scanning, or sorting!

Ongoing OPEN Shop Shifts need volunteers! Contact Vanessa at vanessa.salliotte@gmail.com or 814.571.3731

- 1st Saturday of the month (10:00am - 12:30pm)
- 1st Thursday of the month (3:00pm - 5:30pm)
- 2nd Saturday of the month (12:30pm - 3:00pm)
- 3rd Monday of the month (5:30pm - 8:00pm)
- 4th Saturday of the month (10:00am - 12:30pm), (12:30pm - 3:00pm)

Interested in representing the Friends at the Senior Expo 10/8 (9a-2p)? Contact Margaret at mcblount@sbcglobal.net or 248-224-5228.

This newsletter is distributed up to three times a year, free of charge.

FRIENDS

Of the Royal Oak Public Library
222 E. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, Michigan 48067

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
ROYAL OAK, MI
PERMIT NO. 64

Friends of the ROPL BOARD MEMBERS

- Margaret Blount, President
(9/2021)
- Mitzi Hoffman, Vice President
(9/2021)
- Larry Baker, Treasurer (9/2019)
- Joan Koelsch, Recording Secretary
(9/2021)
- John Pelegrino, Corresponding
Secretary (9/2020)
- Deb Ballard (9/2019)
- Mary Beer (9/2020)
- Melissa Kaunelis (9/2020)
- Pam Lindell (9/2020)
- Kevin Pierson (9/2021)
- Vanessa Salliotte (9/2019)
- Lyndsay Sloan (9/2019)

Book Sale: October 13 & 14

Contact the Friends Board and newsletter editor at friends@ropl.org or in person at our monthly board meeting 7pm in the ROPL Friends Auditorium. 2018 Dates: Oct 15, Nov 19 2019 Dates: Jan 14, Feb 18, Mar 18, Apr 15, May 20, Jun 17, Aug 19

More ways to support the Friends of the ROPL...

- Share this newsletter. Ask a friend to join a growing organization – **152** strong – dedicated to supporting the Royal Oak Public Library!
- Leave a legacy by naming the Friends of the ROPL in your estate.
- Donate your gently-used books, CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, games, and puzzles at ROPL.
- Make a purchase in the Friends Shop or Children's area.
- Volunteer! Fill out a volunteer form and return to the circulation desk at the Library.

Friends of the Royal Oak Public Library

Membership Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

☐ Life \$200

☐ Single \$10 annual

☐ Patron \$100 annual

☐ Family \$20 annual

☐ Business/Organization \$50 annual

☐ Yes, I've included a one-time donation of \$ _____

☐ Yes, I want to be an active member. Please contact me.

Drop this form and your check off at the ROPL Circulation Desk, or mail it to:
Friends of the Royal Oak Public Library, 222 East 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak, MI 48067