



FOCUS ON FRIENDS MONTHLY BULLETIN

August 2024

friendsofmichiganlibraries@gmail.com

Issue 37



Note from the President:

As summer comes to a close, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all of our Friends groups for another successful Summer Reading Program! Your dedication and hard work have brought joy and learning to countless community members across Michigan. Now, as we take a well-deserved FOML recess for the rest of the summer, I hope you all enjoy a little downtime. I'm looking forward to reconnecting and getting back to work together this fall to continue our mission of supporting Michigan libraries. Enjoy the rest of your summer!



FOML Officers

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Jill Sodt

Mott Community College

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Novi Public Library

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Eaton Rapids Area District Library

Treasurer

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United for Libraries Representative



Connect with FOML online! Be sure to like and follow Friends of Michigan Libraries, FOML, on Facebook.

You can get the latest news about other Library Friends groups around the state and helpful reminders or resources useful for your own group.

facebook.com/FOMLLibraries

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Focus on Friends

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Marketing Made Easy

I'm excited to share with you a powerful design tool called Canva. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, you have the amazing opportunity to utilize Canva's features and resources for free. Let's explore how Canva can empower our organization and enhance our communication efforts! Canva is an online design platform that provides user-friendly tools and an extensive collection of templates, graphics, and fonts. It enables you to create visually

stunning and professional-looking materials for your nonprofit organization, such as event flyers, social media posts, newsletters, and more. With Canva, you can showcase your mission, engage your audience, and amplify your impact.

By utilizing Canva's free features as a nonprofit organization, you have the power to elevate your communication efforts and enhance your visual presence. With its user-friendly interface, customizable templates, and extensive resources, Canva empowers you to create professional designs that effectively convey your mission and engage your audience. Let's leverage this incredible tool to tell your story, build awareness, and drive meaningful impact in our community.

For more information visit ow.ly/NOYr50OuVvo

Fall Talk About Friends:

FOML is trying something different for our Fall Talk About Friends. With Detroit Area Friends being spread out and construction causing lengthy travel times, we have decided to hold two separate sessions. One session will be at the Clinton-Macomb Public Library, North Branch, for those on the east side, and the other will be at Southfield Public Library for the west side Friends. Both sessions are scheduled for Friday, October 11th, from 9:15 AM to 12:15 PM.

We will be presenting our new Consult-a-Friend program at both locations, with ample time planned for table talk so you can reconnect with old Friends. Both libraries are beautiful, so please join us at the session closest to you.





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FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN LIBRARIES HAPPENINGS:

Kalkaska County Library Friends

Crafting for a Cause: Successful Fundraiser Sparks New Friendships and Fun

After our very successful wind spinner class, we continued with our Up North crafting ideas with a Circle of Rocks project led by Carol Lironess-Flayer. Participants learned jewelry-making techniques and identified the beautiful rocks used in the project. Thank you, citizens of Kalkaska County, for your support! We are thrilled to announce that our Millage Renewal was approved with overwhelming support, ensuring the continuation of our library's growth and services.

On August 13th, our Semi-Annual Wine Auction took place, raising \$1,150 thanks to the enthusiasm of 21 participants and the energetic auctioneering of Ellen Besaw. We are now looking forward to our 9th Annual Golf Outing on September 20th at Timberwolf Golf Course, a key event for our building fund. Additionally, our final August fundraiser, a paint pour technique class led by Kalkaska artist Wendy Carlson, is filling up fast. As fall approaches, so do our monthly "Take and Make" projects, curated by Becca Barr, which have become a beloved tradition for parents and children alike.



Mandala designs, flowers, birds, dragonflies, butterflies, and lighthouses were among the most popular wind spinner choices that afternoon. It was such a fun day!



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Shelby Area District Library Friends

Shelby Area District Library Supports Good Heart Health

The Friends of the Shelby Area District Library are pleased to announce that we were one of the Michigan libraries to receive a grant from the American Heart Association (AHA) to support good heart health! This grant has enabled the Shelby Library to acquire clinically validated blood pressure monitors for on-site use, offer educational support for staff and community members, and provide information for referrals to local healthcare providers. With nearly 120 million Americans experiencing some level of hypertension—often more prevalent in rural areas like ours—blood pressure is the leading cause of preventable death.

The blood pressure monitors are now available at the Shelby Library, along with printed educational materials, instructions to assist patrons in using the devices, and guidance on where to seek further treatment if needed. The Friends of SADL express our gratitude to the AHA for this grant and to the Shelby Library staff for supporting this critical initiative to serve our community.



Visit: <https://www.facebook.com/AHAMichigan>

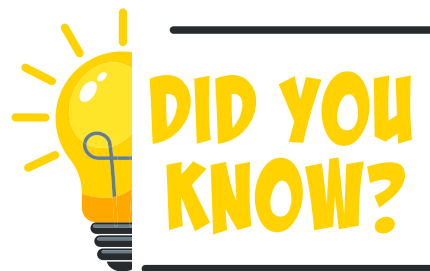
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Attention all Friends of the Library groups! Your hard work deserves recognition, and The Friends of Michigan Libraries newsletter wants to feature you! Send us images and a short article highlighting a project you're proud of, and we'll showcase it in our newsletter. Let's celebrate the incredible efforts of Friends of the library groups across Michigan and inspire others with your accomplishments. Email us today to be part of our next issue!



Fun Fact About Michigan Libraries

Did you know that Michigan has the only free-standing library in the United States dedicated exclusively to the art and science of magic? The American Museum of Magic, located in Marshall, Michigan, houses the largest collection of magic artifacts in the U.S., including books, posters, and memorabilia related to famous magicians like Harry Houdini and Harry Blackstone Sr.

Sources:

- Library of Michigan: [Fun Facts About Michigan Libraries](#)
- American Museum of Magic: [About the Museum](#)