



FOML Officers

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Livonia Public Library

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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 Friend groups around the state and helpful reminders of resources useful for your own group.

www.facebook.com/FOMLLibraries



Hello FOML Family,

Final planning and preparations are underway for the Annual Meeting on April 7, 2022. As we wrap up 2021, I am pleased to give you a summary of the activities of the FOML Board throughout last year as we worked toward our commitment to Information, Support, and Advocacy for Michigan Friends of Libraries.

11 issues of the Focus on Friends Newsletter

3 virtual Connect with Friends programs, via Zoom

2 Merit Awards for an outstanding project or successful activities that had a significant impact on your library services to the community

2 Harriet Larson Founders Grant awards, to help new or reorganizing groups in their efforts to support, enhance, and showcase their local library

3 number of questions received from FOML members on questions of By-Laws, and Board representation

1 the 2021 Annual meeting with Beth Nawalinski, Executive Director of the United for Libraries, speaking on the free access for Michigan Friends and Trustees to United for Libraries content on the ALA website

1 first comprehensive survey of the FOML membership

Thank you for your continuing support of Michigan Public Libraries! FOML will continue to energetically Inform, Support, and Advocate on behalf of Michigan Friends.

Pat Orr
FOML President





FOML SURVEY



FOML Survey

Friends of Michigan Libraries wanted to understand how we could better serve the Friends groups in our state. We designed a short survey using Survey Monkey to ask a few key questions.

Q1 - Please choose your top three concerns for your local Friends of the Library Group.

Q2 - What is your Friends of the Library group's annual operating revenue?

Q3 - Tell us about your Friends of the Library group's membership.

Q4 - How has the Covid-19 pandemic impacted your Friends of the Library group?

Q5 - What is the status of your Friends group's FOML (Friends of Michigan Libraries) membership?

Q6 - How have you engaged with Friends of Michigan Libraries?

Q7 - If you have visited the FOML website in the last year, tell us why.

Q8 - Would you be interested in becoming more involved with FOML (Friends of Michigan Libraries)?

On October 25, 2021 we sent out a request to all current and previous FOML members and asked that they take the survey. We had 199 individuals who completed the survey.

We are in the process of looking at the data to see how we can help Friends groups across Michigan in the challenges that they face today.

Just to give you a flavor of the top concerns:

- Reengaging Friends groups after COVID
- Aging membership
- Attracting new members especially younger members
- Getting members to volunteer
- Fundraising besides book sales
- Engaging with Library Boards and Directors

Several who responded indicated that they would be willing to get involved with FOML. We will be following up with those individuals. We plan to have a "Connect with Friends" on April 21st. There will be two sessions from 10am-12pm and 6-8pm. We will discuss the survey results and give you a chance to Zoom with other Friends groups to share your concerns and ideas.

Share Your Stories

If you have a story for the Focus on Friends bulletin you would like to share with Friends, please email it to friendsofmichiganlibraries@gmail.com





Join Us for the Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, April 7th at 10am

This year's annual membership meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, April 7th at 10am. To register, visit fomlevents.org/events/2022-annual-membership-meeting/

The agenda is as follows:

Call to Order - Pat Orr, FOML President

Determination of Quorum of Members

Present at Meeting

Motion to Approve Changes in FOML Bylaws

Motion to Approve Roster of FOML Board Officers & Board Members 2022

Introduction of Guest Speaker - Pat Orr

Presentation by Cordelia Anderson, CEO, Cordelia Anderson Consulting, "How Library Friends Can Be Super Supporters"

Questions for the Speaker

Information About FOML Services

- a. Focus on Friends
- b. FOML Awards
- c. FOML Manual

Open Mic: Questions from Attendees

Motion to Adjourn



Renew Your Membership

Our annual membership drive is underway for 2022. Your FOML membership is greatly appreciated and supports our mission to serve Michigan libraries.

Annual membership is based on a calendar year, January 1st through December 31st.

Please visit the membership page to join or renew your membership.

<https://foml.org/membership/>



Connect with Friends, Thursday, April 21st, 10 am and 6 pm

Join us for our Connect with Friends series on April 21st. We will discuss the survey results and invite you to share your ideas. The event is free for FOML members.

Registration for the sessions will be open later in March.

Thank You!

Thanks for reading this issue of Focus on Friends and thanks for being a FOML member. We appreciate you and hope to provide you with helpful services and events.