



Friends of the Youngstown Free Library Quarterly Newsletter

Looking Forward. . .

**Friends of The Library
BakeSale 6:30-8:30pm
Falkner Park
July 7, 2023**



**Summerfest 2023
Porter on the Lake
July 15, 2023**



**Historic Youngstown
Festival of the Arts
July 22, 2023
Noon - 10:00pm**



Letter from the FOYL President

Dear Friends,

Summer is upon us, and we are moving towards a wonderful season here in Youngstown. There have been some administrative changes within the FOYL Board as our past President has resigned due to personal reasons. In the interim, I have agreed and it has been voted on that I will take over the role as FOYL President. The FOYL Board will work together to make these changes work, and I am grateful for everyone's support.

We held our Spring Book Sale in early May, and we're looking forward to Summer activities. Come see us and buy some baked goods at the Summer Concert Series on July 7th in Falkner Park, and join us at Summerfest July 15th at Porter on the Lake. We are appreciative of everyone's participation, and look forward to seeing you throughout the season.

Until then,

Colleen Mary Summerville - FOYL President

2023 Friends Membership Drive

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far to our 2023 Membership Drive. We currently have over 210 Members who have rejoined or newly-joined this year. Thank you so much, but there are still many people out there who don't know how they can help the Library stay strong and active, by joining as a Friend.

The Friends' mission is one of community-outreach and Library-support, by which we mean that nearly every dollar raised is given to the Library to be used to buy those important extras which do not get funded by the Library's Operating Budget. This year we hope to be able to offer \$16,000 to the Library to fund those 'extras' - for example, an 'Old Fort Niagara' pass which you can borrow if you have friends or family in town, additional hard-copy magazines and periodicals, children's activities, a Wi-Fi hotspot to borrow and many, many additional items and services.

The Membership Drive continues all year. Please share this with your neighbor if they are not yet a 'Friend'. Let's see if we can't have a strong membership of 250 members by the year's end.

Become a Friend by using the QR code with your smartphone, or going to: <https://donorbox.org/friends-membership-drive-2023>



Financial Report

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This & That

Summer 2023

The Book Sale this year was a great success, netting over \$3,500. Our Membership Drive is also in progress, so at this time of year we are relatively 'cash-rich', having over \$18,000 in unrestricted operating funds.

I am extremely grateful to Bill Siddall for handing over the Treasurer's 'portfolio' in such good order!

Please feel free to call me or email me if you have any questions regarding the finances or their use.

Maggie Steyn: 716-745-7427 or jandmsteyn@gmail.com

Dessert & Wine In The Stacks 2023

After an absence of four years, our popular fundraising event for the Library, Dessert & Wine in the Stacks, will be returning at the library on the evening of Friday October 13, 2023 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Dessert in the Stacks is a sale of tasty homemade desserts with recipes taken from books in the library, and beverages that are consumed on premises. Baked goods can also be purchased for consumption at home. Tickets will be available ahead of time later in the summer at the library at a discount, or at the event itself.

This year we will be spreading out the event to both the library on the main floor and to the second floor of the building, including the Library Programming Room and the Town of Porter Historical Society Museum. This will include the interesting display in the upstairs hall of the Lewiston-Youngstown railroad that ran parallel to River Road at the turn of the 20th century.

Please mark your calendars now for this October 13th event.

The Youngstown Free Library Foundation

We would like to remind everyone that last summer, the Library made the bold step to establish a Foundation, partnering with the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. This 'setting aside' monies from our account will hopefully allow us to secure the long-term funding 'health' of our Library for your children, grandchildren and your neighbors' grandchildren. Hopefully years from now, it will ensure the valuable resources you use and enjoy *today* are available for our *future* generations.

"Let Literacy be your Legacy"

We would love to hear from you if you would be able to consider, in your financial planning, maybe a bequest to the Youngstown Free Library Foundation or the creation of a Living Legacy Project - a way to recognize your life-time goals and financial plans now. If you wish to discuss, and connect with someone on our Board, please inquire at the Library. You can stop by, or call 716-745-3555.

Meet Your Friends:

Each Season we feature a "Friend" of the Library, and we are asking YOU to nominate someone for us to feature in our next FOYL Newsletter. Please send your nomination by text to Colleen Summerville at 716-531-6701
We appreciate your help! ☺

Book Sale Magic

The spring 2023 book sale was a resounding success. It is not difficult to figure out why. It was YOU, yes YOU!!! This is what YOU did to help:

- Sorters joyfully completed a TEDIOUS task.
- Cashiers worked their brains and fingers to collect much needed money to support OUR Library.
- Lewiston-Porter club members, under the direction of Tina Oddy, used their muscles and energy to haul tables and books.
- Sonora, our Library Director, responded to our every need.
- Youngstown library staff solved problems with a SMILE.
- Friends members diligently worked for HOURS at the gym to collect and organize donated books.
- Village of Youngstown employees installed our yellow banner on the front of the building, put our message on the electric sign, and happily permitted us to use the gym for an entire week.
- Generous book lovers donated TONS of books to enable us to have something to sell!
- Patrons spent their hard earned money on literary treasures.

What you see above is quite an impressive list. It truly tells the tale of a community coming together to support their local library. I feel the love, don't you! \$3584.21 for our beloved library! See you in November. Let's make it even better. I am open to suggestions...

Thank you, Jill Mazur



A note from Board of Trustees

Summer at the Youngstown Free Library

Hi everyone! Summer will soon be here and that means Schools are out of session, people go on vacation, and time slows down. While this is true for most, that's NOT the case at your Youngstown Free Library. If anything, the use of services goes up for the summer months as parents look for things for their children, adults often read more and digital loans (movies and games) increase.

Our Director, Sonora Miller, has promised a phenomenal summer of programs for the children, including LEGO Club, craft kits, storytimes in the park, and weekly StoryWalks. She is also again inviting children AND teens to sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge, a summer-long challenge to read as much as they can. Those who record their reading achievements will earn great prizes! Last summer Youngstown's youth read OVER 99,000 minutes for the Summer Reading Challenge; can they break 100,000 minutes this year? We all hope they can!

Children can sign up for the Challenge at www.youngstownfreelibrary.org

The Director also puts great effort into choosing outstanding new reads, both Fiction and Non-Fiction, for our library (especially given our limited resources). Books and other materials can also be borrowed through the NIOGA System of libraries. Of course, should one prefer it, many different forms of digital materials can be borrowed via Libby and Hoopla. Ask any staff member how that works if you are interested.

Members of the Library Board joined the Friends of the Youngstown Free Library at their table at the Village of Youngstown Summer Street Dance on June 22nd, and fun was had by all.

We will be present on July 15th for the Town of Porter Summerfest at Porter-on-the-Lake, and of course will be marching in the 2023 Labor Day Parade.

We all lead very busy lives. But, this summer, take the time to try something different. Start a new hobby, explore a subject you have always been interested in, or just borrow and read an interesting book. All this can be found at the Library. I promise you'll be glad you did.

Submitted by:

David Smith

In the month of May, the Library celebrated Asian American and Pacific Islander month, and Library Clerk Lois created a beautiful display of books to honor authors, characters, and biographies of people of Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage.

While we've moved on to other displays for June and beyond, here are the titles from this display for you to peruse, and possibly find your next great read!

The Perfect Gentleman: A Muslim boy meets the West by Imran Ahmad
Love, Hate and Other Filters by Samira Ahmed
The Japanese Lover by Isabel Allende
Counterfeit by Kirstin Chen
Forgotten Country by Katherine Chung
Long for This World by Sonya Chung
The Fortunes by Peter Ho Davies
Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford
Bend, Not Break: a life in two worlds by Ping Fu
A Map of Betrayal by Ha Jin
Little Gods by Meng Jin
When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanith
An American Family: a memoir of hope and sacrifice by Khizr Khan
Babel by R. F. Kuang
Crazy Rich Asians by Kevin Kwan
Anna K: a love story by Jenny Lee
Pachinko by Min Jin Lee
Natalie Tan's Book of Luck and Fortune by Roselle Lim
Somewhere Inside: one sister's captivity in North Korea and the other's fight to bring her home by Laura Ling and Lisa Ling
Arsenic and Adobo by Mia Manansala
Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng
Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng
A Fort of Nine Towers: An Afghan childhood by Qais Akbar Omar Bruce Lee by Matthew Polly
Grandfather's Journey by Allen Say

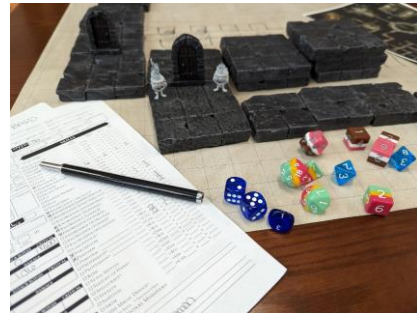


Reading is the **KEY** to learning

Welcoming Tabletop Roleplaying Games to the Library

During the month of May, the Library held a Tabletop Roleplaying Game program for three weeks. What is a tabletop roleplaying game? It's not Minecraft, that's for sure!

Tabletop Roleplaying involves pretending to be a magical person or creature and going on adventures involving peril and plunder. The fates of our characters are decided by our own terrible decisions and dice that have way too many sides. As a group we all have our own special abilities, but that also means we have weaknesses. Without teamwork, we will all die horrible and gruesome deaths (in game only, of course!).



Summer Reading Season will run from June 26th to August 11th this year. The calendar of events is available on our website at www.youngstownfreelibrary.org and a flier of events is available at the Front Desk of the Library.



We look forward to sharing weekly storytimes in the park, LEGO Club, craft kits, and StoryWalks with you this summer!

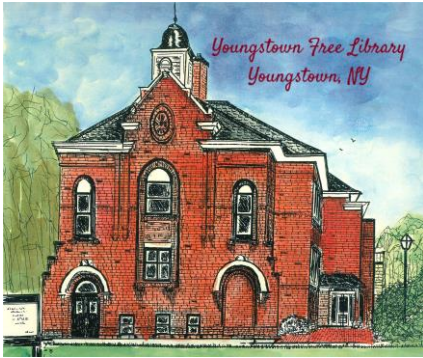
In addition to the programs, children and teens are invited to sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge, a summer-long challenge to read as much as they can. Last year, Youngstown Free Library's readers tracked more than 99,000 minutes they read over the summer—do you think we can break 100,000 minutes this year? Those who record their reading achievements will earn great prizes!

Upcoming Fundraisers:

Dessert & Wine in the Stacks
October 13, 2023

Friends of the Library Bake Sale
July 7, 2023

Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale
November 2-4, 2023



We Are Here to Serve You!!!

Library Contact Information

Librarian - Sonora Miller

Phone: (716) 745-3555

Fax: (716) 745-7122

Email: yfl@nioga.org

Website:

youngstownfreelibrary.org

Library Hours

Monday & Wednesday

2:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Thursday

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Inform Engage
Educate Entertain

2022 Friends of the Library

Board of Directors

Colleen Mary Summerville, President

Elaine Barbiero, Vice President

Maggie Steyn, Treasurer

Wendy Guild Swearingen, Secretary

Bill Siddall, Liaison to the Library Board

Nancy D'Arcangelo Judy Freiermuth

Maureen Gambino Janice Mariani

Jill Mazur Christine Swartz

Michelle Wesley Kim Winning

Colleen Mary Summerville

(Newsletter Editor)

Friends Board Meetings

7 p.m., third Wednesday of every month

Friends email: foylboard@gmail.com

2022 Board of Trustees

Karran Swayze, President

Bill Siddall, Vice-President

Dave Smith, Treasurer

Mary Clinch, Recording Secretary

Barbara Costello, Corresponding Secretary

David Brooks, Historian

Shawn D'Luhy

Trustee Board Meetings

7 p.m., fourth Monday of every month,

The public is welcome to attend.

If you are interested in serving on the

Board of Trustees, please let us know!

Friends of The Youngstown Library