

Annual Report 2016-2017



Affinity Konar, author of *Mischling*, at One Book, Everybody Reads Program funded by Friends of the Wilmette Public Library



Ms. Konar discussed her spellbinding novel to an engaged audience at the 12th annual One Book, Everybody Reads program on May 7, 2017. Since 2006, Friends has funded this popular community-wide shared reading experience with a series of program events, culminating in a visit by the book's author.

Friends in 2016

Friends of the Wilmette Public Library remain committed to its mission of supporting and funding library programming. Funds are generated from memberships and sales of gently-used books at the Friend's bookstore, Books Down Under. Books Down Under, located in the library's lower level, is staffed by dedicated volunteers six days a week. Excess inventory from Books Down Under is often shared with communities in need. By being *bigger than just our community*, Friend's *expands its local footprint* and shares the love of reading with others including: A Just Harvest, Chicago Women in Prison, Cook County Corrections Facility, Hands of Peace, Kids' Korner at the Lake County Courthouse, Perspectives Charter School, Rotary Club of Wilmette, and Stand for Children, Illinois. A special 2016 program funded by Friend's included *Uniquely Chicago*, featuring expert-led discussions about neighborhoods, architecture, and local history. Additionally, the Children's Reading Club and Shakespeare Project of Chicago remain community favorites.

Friends Mission: Provide meaningful library opportunities for the community and support the Wilmette Public Library.

Thank You to All Our Friends: Board, Members, Donors, Volunteers, Booksellers, WPL Librarians, Staff and Trustees, and BDU Customers. Special thanks to Mid-Central Printing & Mailing in Wilmette.