



Annual Report FY 2022-2023

Friends of the Wilmette Public Library in 2022-2023:

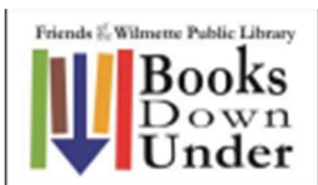
- FOL supports library special events/programs for the Wilmette and Kenilworth communities. Funds to support programming are generated from donations, and sales of gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and more, at our store, Books Down Under, which is staffed by dedicated volunteers. In 2023, Books Down Under expanded its opening hours to seven days a week and held 2 Pop Up Shops on the plaza in front of the library.
- *Now is not the Time to Panic* by Kevin Wilson was the 2023 Wilmette Library One Book Everyone Reads. Now in its 17th year, the event, sponsored by FOL, culminated with a virtual author talk moderated by former WBEZ host Alison Cuddy.
- FOL donated books to Antioch Public Library FOL, the Evanston Women's Club (for its children's gift bags), Humble Designs, Bernie's Book Bank, Just Harvest, and Kids Korner at the Lake County Courthouse. FOL also donated \$555.45 to the Friends of the Maui Library for its rebuilding efforts after the destructive August wildfire.

Thank You to Our Friends: Friends' Board, BDU Volunteers, Donors, WPL Staff, Library Trustees, BDU Customers, and Mid-Central Printing & Mailing in Wilmette.

Friends of the Wilmette Public Library Funded Programs:

- Adult/Teen/Youth Summer and Winter Reading Clubs
- One Book Everyone Reads & Author Events
- Books for Babies

Thank you to our Books Down Under Booksellers, Sorters and Shelves: Books Down Under expanded its opening hours in 2023 to include Sunday afternoon. It is now open every day the library is open. Successful outdoor Pop-Up events were held in front of the Library during Wilmette's Summer Sidewalk Sale (July 2023) and the Wilmette Block Party (September 2023).



Books Down Under is Wilmette's only bookstore. Located in the Library's lower level, sales of gently-used books help fund Library programs and events.

Friends by the numbers in 2022 - 2023:

Bookstore sales: \$21,390 - Donations: \$12,772 - Donors: 105 - Volunteers: 50+

Books Down Under accepts donations of gently used books, CDs, DVDs, records and sheet music. During regular Library hours, donations can be left inside the library's staff entrance, located at the east end of the parking lot. Donation receipts are available.

Learn more about Friends at www.wilmettelibraryinfo/friends-of-the-library



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