

# PAGE TURNER



FALL/WINTER 2020 • A PUBLICATION BY FRIENDS OF THE WHITEFISH BAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY ANN LOWREY

Greetings from the Friends!

We decided that a November book sale might not be safe for book-lovers or our volunteers. However, much remains the same for the Friends and many activities have been ongoing. Here's what is keeping us busy these days:

Check the listing of books for sale on eBay! Our crew has been researching and listing books and we have more to choose from than ever.

The Book Sale Room in the Library is open during Library hours. It is jam-packed with high quality gently used books.

We have received very generous donations. We had two Saturday donation day drop-offs in the Library parking lot and the generosity of the community was overwhelming! We also had a donation from a bookseller (now changing careers) of 300 boxes of high quality books. Amazing!

A limited work crew has been sorting and researching these books and making them available on eBay and in the Book Sale Room.

An ad hoc committee has been formed from a few of our Board members. They are assessing how we can continue to contribute to the Library at a high level outside of our regular book sales.

The Friends are sponsoring the photography contest and the writing contest as usual.

Obviously the Fall PageTurner has been published!

A thank-you note and gift will be sent this fall to our volunteers. This will mark National Friends of the Library week, which is October 18 – 24.

Members continue to renew their memberships and we've added new members. Welcome!

So, while there won't be a November book sale this year the Friends are active and we thank you for your contributions.

Ann

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

BY NYAMA Y. REED

COVID-Librarianship is certainly teaching us all how to be flexible and how to pivot. I feel like one of those modern dancers on "So You Think You Can Dance." All kinds of bending, twisting, and jumping in the air while trying to remember how to land without hurting myself.

I know many people are sad to have no book sale and not be able to bring in donations to the Library. They miss hanging out with family, friends, and neighbors. At the Library, we miss seeing our usual patrons and new faces as people sit to read the paper, study for their nursing exam, or come in as a family for storytime.

The constant change of rules and regulations makes it hard to settle into a new normal, at the Library or at home. We're getting emotionally fatigued due to worry about staying healthy and wondering when this will all end.

If you want to come back to the library and sit all day – I hear you. Just, not yet.

If you want to want to check out books and veg all day reading the latest beach-read even though it is Fall – I hear you. And, we can totally help you with that right now.

If you are tired and miss your friends – I hear you. Here's a virtual hug from me to you (and I need some hugs too right now).

If you need something to be happy about right now, I can share my thoughts this week:

- The changing tree colors with sun shining through make me so happy! And, sugar maples are the best.
- The Library staff truly is awesome and so supportive of each other as we try to get through this. They all work diligently to keep the library running for you all.
- The Friends Board is working extra hard to figure out how to safely get used books into your hands.
- I get to wear a costume at work for Halloween and I can't wait!

I hope to see you in the library, whether it is sooner or later, and that you stay healthy through the coming holiday season.

Sincerely,  
Nyama

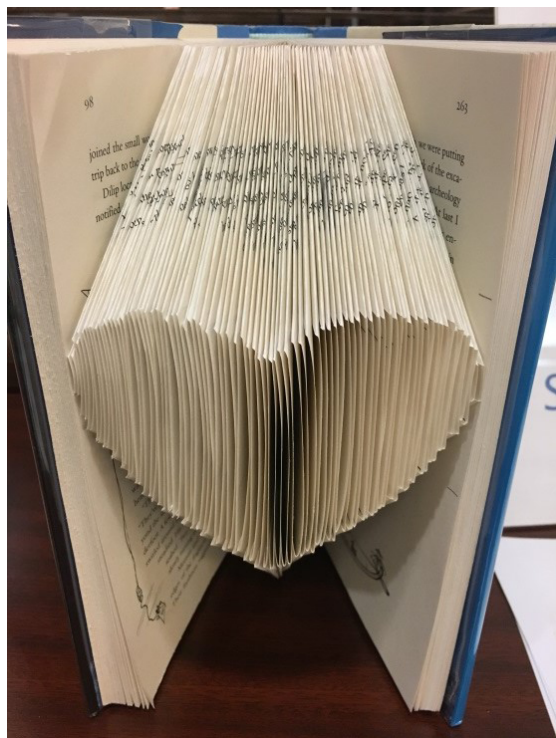


### Adult Services Update

By Scott Lenski, Community and Adult Services Librarian

As we enter fall, this is where I'd usually talk about our summer reading program and all the exciting programs that we are hosting at the library in the coming months. We don't have any programs on our books for the fall but we're working on a few things that I'd like to share. For a summer recap, we did host an Adult Summer Reading Program. The format for summer reading was new this year. Folks could still read books and enter drawings for prizes, but it was done entirely online. Over the program we had 120 participants read nearly 1,400 books (that averages out to 8 books per person). Prizes were gift cards to businesses located in Whitefish Bay and Friends provided the money to purchase those cards. I heard from folks who were excited that they still got to participate in a summer reading program and I am very thankful to Friends for allowing that to happen.

A new service we launched in October was providing Take and Makes. These are craft kits that you can take and work on from the comfort of your home. We provide the supplies and you provide the creativity. Our first Take and Make provided the supplies to make your own bath bombs. Our plan is to offer one Take and Make per month for adults so check our website to see what's coming in the winter months: [www.wfblibrary.org/at\\_the\\_library/adults/take\\_and\\_make/](http://www.wfblibrary.org/at_the_library/adults/take_and_make/)



In November we are making folded book art. This is a really fun project that allows you to recycle some of your old books and make some impressive book art. We are also looking at hosting a few virtual speakers later this year or early next year so keep an eye out for that.

In these times library services can change rapidly. The best way to stay on top of library news is to sign up for our monthly library email newsletter. We promise to keep you informed but not fill up your inbox. Just stop by the library website to signup: [www.wfblibrary.org/get\\_involved/newsletter\\_sign-up/](http://www.wfblibrary.org/get_involved/newsletter_sign-up/)

### Friends of Whitefish Bay Library Writing Contest

Friends are once again offering Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library Writing Contest. This will be the 8th straight year for the contest, which includes submission categories for short story (1,000 words or less), memoirs (1,000 words or less), and poetry (200 words or less). The contest is open to anyone 16 and up. Submissions will be accepted from January 11-February 8 and are limited to one entry per person per category.

Cash prizes will be awarded in early spring. Please include a cover page on your entry with the following: Name, address, email, phone number, entry date, and category.

**Drop off entries in person at the Adult Services Desk or mail them to:**

Friends of the Whitefish Bay Library Writing Contest  
5420 N Marlborough Drive  
Milwaukee, WI 53217

Depending on the status of the pandemic, a reception may be held where winners will be on hand to read their pieces. Winners will also have their entries posted to the library's website.

## Welcome New Members!

It's a pleasure to welcome the following new members who have joined Friends since the last newsletter was published:

Mary Miller	Bruce and Jill Anderson
Anne Marie Finley	Lynne Shaner & Dave Nelson
Jeanette Ewers	Sara Bowen
William Frink	Murray Weiss
Michael Smith	Michael Diedrick

*Thank you for your support.*

*Members are the lifeblood of our organization!*



## National Friends of Libraries Week

Steph Salvia

Hopefully, since you are reading this newsletter, you have become a member of the Friends of the Whitefish Bay Public Library. Library lovers everywhere are invited and encouraged to join us! These dedicated volunteers advocate for libraries, raise much needed funds, sponsor programs and special events, and host the ever-popular used book sales, well, when we aren't in the middle of a pandemic. Friends funds supplement the library's operating budget to provide materials and programs that enhance the library's service. Friends of Libraries groups even have their very own national week of celebration! The 15th annual National Friends of Libraries Week is Oct. 18-24, 2020. Please help us promote our amazing friends group, raise awareness, and encourage membership within your community.

**Join Us!**



## November Book Sale – Good and Bad News

Jan Concannon

We're sad to announce that the Friends of the Whitefish Bay Public Library Fall Book Sale has been postponed. We hope to be able to resume twice yearly sales in May.

We would like nothing better than to throw open our doors and see all our friends and neighbors streaming in and browsing the shelves. But thanks to the pandemic, that's not to be at this time. We know that you understand that the safety and wellbeing of our volunteers, the library staff and our patrons comes first.

However, the news isn't all bad. A reminder that the Library's Book Sale Room, located next to the front desk, is back up and running and features a constantly-changing variety of gently-used books at super prices. Stop by the next time you're in the library.

Thanks to the generosity of Whitefish Bay residents, Friends have a lot of books. And since we're not having the Book Sale in the form that you're accustomed to, discussions are currently underway about how to get these books to people that can use and enjoy them, while also raising money for the Library. We expect to have some news about these events soon and when details are finalized, we'll let you know.

Also, we expect to be able to let you know soon about plans to accept book and media donations.

## Youth Services Update

By Katie Kiekhaefer

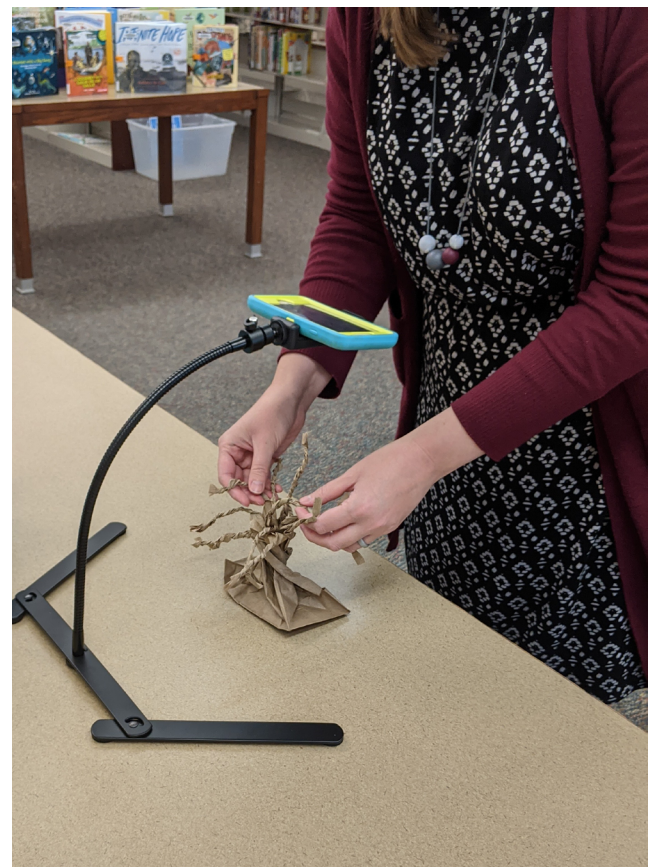
In my last article in April, I talked a lot about how the Youth Services department has adapted and changed our programming because of the pandemic. It's safe to say that our department is continuing to adapt and change, as we enter the last quarter of the year.

In April, I had hoped we were able to continue with Summer Reading Program (a cornerstone of our yearly programming), and thankfully we were. We went entirely virtual, using a program called Beanstack to have our kids and teens and families track their reading over the summer. We also had our families enter prizes to win gift cards from businesses in the community, which was another fun addition for this summer. Both the gift cards and the books were entirely funded by Friends, as was our (limited) programming. We created Take and Make kits and handed them out to our families outside of the library, which were extremely popular and well received.

Looking forward to fall and winter, it seems most of our programming will continue virtually or outside of the library, and we're using the opportunity to expand our offerings and refine our processes. One seemingly small purchase (purchased with Friends funding) has made a world of difference: an adjustable tripod with an overhead phone mount! This allows youth services librarians to film overhead videos of book illustrations or take pictures for showing the steps to a Take and Make craft.

Virtual storytime, either on Facebook or YouTube, continues to be a staple of our programming offerings right now. We've also added some videos of DIY game instructions, science projects, and an art project, which can be found on our Facebook page. We've all become far more comfortable in front of the camera or filming voiceovers, and YS Librarian Valerie Morris helps bring it all together with her adept editing skills. It's safe to say we've all learned a lot of new skills and gone outside of our comfort zone, but it's worth it to bring some happiness to our families.

I invite you to follow our Facebook page to see the exciting ways we are continuing to provide services to our community. Thank you again for all of your support, Friends of the Whitefish Bay Public Library!





Whitefish Bay Public Library  
5420 N. Marlborough Drive  
Whitefish Bay, WI 53217  
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## FRIENDS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### Library Representative

Nyama Reed

Board Meetings are held at the Library at 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month (except July and August). Friends members are welcome to attend to get an idea of our work in progress, ask questions, or contribute ideas.