

HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

Check It Out

Book Sale on Saturday Jan. 11



A freshly set up book sale room awaits its fate the evening before the November 16 sale at the Plymouth Library. The November sale raised a record-breaking \$8,351 for the library.

Another big Plymouth Library book sale is coming on January 11! The Friends of the Plymouth Library will be selling hundreds and hundreds of adult and kid's books, puzzles, DVDs, CDs.

Books range in price from 50¢ to just \$2. From 2–3 PM, you can fill entire bags with books for \$5 per bag! Proceeds benefit the Plymouth Library and Friends programs and events.

Sale Hours:

- 9-10 AM Exclusive early access for Friends members (join at the door for just \$10 for an annual membership)
- 10 AM–3 PM Open to the general public
- 2–3 PM Fill entire shopping bags with books for just \$5 per bag!

Cash or check only, please. We do not yet have a solution for accepting credit cards or digital payments.

Sale takes place at the Plymouth Library, located at 15700 36th Ave N, Plymouth, MN 55446.

Interested in volunteering for the sale or donating books? Flip to page $2 \rightarrow$

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Prologue

Book Sale Volunteers Needed

We are still looking for volunteers to...

- Move books from storage to the library on Thursday, January 9
- Receive donated books and help set up the book sale on **Friday**, **January 10**
- Help run the sale on **Saturday**, **January 11**

Please visit the link below to view the online signup sheet: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/</u> <u>10C044EA8A623A4F58-54167362-january</u>

Donations Accepted

We will be accepting donations in the meeting room at the Plymouth Library on Saturday, January 4, from 10:30 AM–12 PM, and on Friday, January 10, from 9 AM–3 PM. We gladly accept gently used adult and children's books, DVDs, CDs, and jigsaw puzzles.

Unfortunately, we cannot accept textbooks, encyclopedias, video tapes, or audio tapes. Please read your shelves and bring us some goodies! Thank you for your contributions.

Plymouth Checkouts Remain #1 in HCL System

Fun Fact: The Plymouth Library brought in about 800 visitors on a "normal" Saturday this past fall, and the visitor counts for our book sales in September and November were 2,216 and 2,086 respectively. **Our last two book sales added about 1,300 visitors those two Saturdays!** We are proud that our book sales continue driving traffic to our amazing library.

Plymouth Library Total Checkouts		Plymouth Library Care	
Oct '24	37,931	Oct '24	261
Nov '24	37,730	Nov '24	212
Dec '24	33,382	Dec '24	190

Thank you, Members!

This coupon entitles the Member to one FREE book* at the January 2025 book sale.

*Coupon counts towards books only. Maximum value \$2. Must present coupon to cashier at checkout.

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2024 Recap: Growth Powered by People



Josh Velasquez, President & Communications Chair

As we turn the page to a new year, the Friends of the Plymouth Library can now reflect on 2024 and our incredible year of growth, powered by all of you: our members, our volunteers, our social media followers, our Board of Directors, and, of course, our beloved Plymouth Library staff.

Here's a look back at what we achieved together in 2024:

- Our membership grew to 576 members—the largest of the HCL local Friends groups—and our volunteer list now includes 367 individuals who contributed over 1,700 hours in 2024.
- Each of our four book sales in 2024 broke records, and together raised a total of \$29,116. These four sales were powered by 94 volunteers, who filled 538 volunteer slots throughout the year. (Special shoutout to Board Member Sandy Hoglund, who alone filled 42 of those slots!)
- Our book sales caught the attention of local media, with five vibrant features in the Sun Sailor newspaper, including a front-page story ahead of our record-breaking September sale.
- The November sale boasted our largest-ever physical setup. Thanks to feedback from our community, we worked with the library to expand beyond our usual space, making shopping more comfortable.
- Our experiments with Facebook ads spun up a flywheel of attention to our book sales and built up enough organic traffic that we stopped paying for ads for the past two sales and still get amazing numbers. Our January book sale Facebook event has already amassed over 3,100 people interested in the event.
- We ended the year with 1,078 Facebook followers, almost doubling our followers in just one year.

All of this momentum will be put to good use in 2025, with *six* sales scheduled this year! (That also means six newsletters. Buckle up.) With all of your support and energy, we're poised for another remarkable year.

Happy New Year!

Josh Velasquez President & Communications Chair

Treasurer's 2024 Year In Review

The Friends of the Plymouth Library continued our successful fundraising efforts in 2024. Our four book sales (February, May, September, and November) brought in the largest portion of our annual income in the amount of \$29,116, making 2024 the most successful year for book sales in the past 12 years.

A second source of income is donations received from the Ready Reads carts of used books in the library lobby. We received \$5,560 from this source. We also received \$2,875 from membership dues. In addition, we received \$6,357 from other donations, which includes \$5,350 from Give to the Max 2024.

We sent grants of \$34,350 to the Friends of Hennepin County Library to help support the collection, outreach and engagement, career development, and student success initiatives for the 41 Hennepin County libraries.

The Friends of the Plymouth Library \$25,000 endowment fund that was set up in November 2022 had a value of \$30,853 at the end of third quarter 2024. (Year-end 2024 value will be reported in a future newsletter). This endowment is designated for the collection. The first appropriation will occur in the first quarter of 2026.

Thank you to the many members of the Friends of the Plymouth Library for your generous contributions of book donations, monetary donations, membership dues, and volunteer hours in 2024. All of these contributed significantly to our financial successes this year!

Bernadeen Brutlag

Treasurer

Bernadeen Brutlag Treasurer



2024 Fundraising Goals Final Report



The Friends of the Plymouth Library successfully achieved (and far exceeded!) our 2025 fundraising goal of \$20,000 *and* our additional \$5,000 stretch goal in support of the Hennepin County Library.

The funding was provided as a series of grants to the Friends of the Hennepin County Library over the course of the year. The grants aligned to the fundraising priorities established by FHCL at the beginning of 2024.

These grants were made possible by your membership and generosity at the Ready Reads book cart, and at our five book sales in 2024. We look forward to your support at our events in 2025.

Thank you!

Did You Know?

Don't Put That Book Back!

Did you read a book at the library and didn't need to take it home? **Resist the urge to put it back on the shelf.** (We know you mean well.)

Just place the book on the carts around the library so the staff can scan them into their system. The library staff have started tallying "in-house" book use in order to better support collection building.

Need a Reading Recommendation?

The Ask Us service can provide book suggestions based on a simple questionnaire to share your preferences. The Ask Us team then uses a variety of tools, such as Novelist, a book search database. They consider factors like pace, characters, and tone. They browse summaries, reviews, and awards. In the end, 3-5 suggestions are sent your way.

Get your own personal book recommendations by visiting <u>https://www.hclib.org/programs/books-reading/ask-us-reading-suggestions</u>

Have a Question? Ask Tami.

When Tami first became aware of a career in librarianship, "I was sold," she recalls. "I thought, this is *exactly* what I want to do. I can serve my community and offer entertainment and education that could change someone's life."

Today, the Senior Librarian uses this passion to manage the Ask Us Service at Hennepin County Library.

The Ask Us team is ready to answer your questions by phone, chat, text, and email.

These speedy researchers are like a 42nd library—a virtual location—providing answers at your fingertips, 24/7. The option comes in handy when you're homebound, want privacy, or need help after hours.

The Ask Us Service also provides book suggestions.

The next time you have a burning question or find yourself stumped on what to read next, just ask Tami and her team.



You can reach this team of experts by calling 612-543-5669, texting 612-400-7722, or visiting <u>www.hclib.org/contact#ask-us</u> to chat or email!

Did You Know?

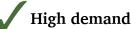
Magazines Piling Up? Donate Them to Outreach Services

Want to put your magazine pile to good use? The HCL Outreach Services team accepts magazine donations to support their efforts in the community. Just bring your magazines to the library in a bag or box labeled "For Outreach Services" and the library staff will take it from there.

For more information about HCL Outreach Services, visit <u>https://www.hclib.org/en/about/outreach</u>

Guidelines for donated magazines:

*** Magazines must be less than 3 years old ***



High demand magazines:

- Car, motorcycle, & truck
- Celebrities (e.g.: Interview, People, Vanity Fair, Us Weekly)
- Fashion (e.g.: Elle, Esquire, GQ, Harper's Bazaar, Vogue)
- Music (e.g.: Billboard, Rolling Stone)
- Sports (e.g.: ESPN, Slam, Sports Illustrated)

Also accepted:

- Art
- Astronomy

Cooking

- Fishing/Hunting
- Health & Wellness
- History
- Home Repair
- Interior Design

- Military history
- Minnesota
- Pets
- Science/Technology
- Skateboarding
- Spanish
- Travel
 - Woodworking

NOT accepted:

- Fabric/needlework crafts
- Guns/knives (hunting is fine)
- Martial arts
- Technical medicine (medical journals)

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Magazine donations for Outreach Services are separate from book/CD/DVD/puzzle donations for Friends of the Plymouth Library Book Sales. Flip back to page 2 for details on those donations.



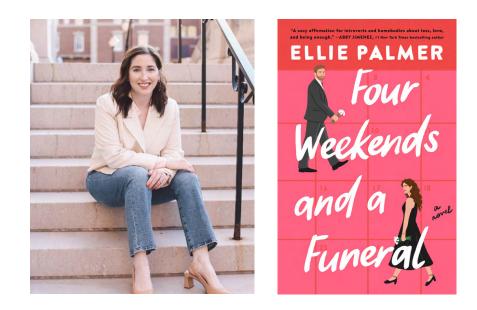
Plymouth Library 15700 36th Avenue N. Plymouth, MN 55446 | 612.543.5825|

Tabletop Gaming!

Saturday, January 25, 2–3:30 p.m.

All ages. Calling all tabletop gamers! Challenge friends to classics such as Scrabble and Sorry! or explore new favorites from Ticket to Ride and Forbidden Island to Wizard and 5-Minute Dungeon. Play our games or bring your own. No tabletop gaming experience needed. Drop-in.

> HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY



Plymouth Library 15700 36th Ave. N., Plymouth | 612.543.5825 | hclib.org

Author Talk: Ellie Palmer

Thursday, February 20, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Register at www.hclib.org/events or call 612-543-5825

Author Ellie Palmer will present about her hit 2024 romantic comedy novel *Four Weekends and a Funeral*! The book's protagonist, Alison, attends her ex-boyfriend's funeral only to discover that his family thinks they're still together. Alison's decision to play the grieving girlfriend all the while falling in love with his best friend sets the stage for this love story with delightfully messy characters. Includes time for Q&A. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

This program is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY



CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN BIPOC WRITERS

Mary Moore Easter and Christopher P. Lehman

Thursday, January 16 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.



Registration required for this free
Zoom event
https://tinyurl.com/w2wjan16

Join us for a fascinating conversation with poet Mary Moore Easter and scholar Christopher P. Lehman as they discuss their different approaches to writing about the incredible emancipation of Eliza Winston, an enslaved woman from Mississippi who was freed from her owners while serving them on a vacation in Minnesota in 1860. O&A session to follow.



HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY





Plymouth Library Adult Events

Genealogy Discussion Club

Third Wednesday of the month, 2–3 PM

Join the Genealogy Discussion Group to talk about all things genealogy! Each month we will talk about our research challenges and triumphs while sharing tips and tricks. You are welcome to bring your laptop but that is not required. This program will be cohosted by staff of the Plymouth Library and the Plymouth History Center and every month we will alternate meeting at <u>Plymouth</u> <u>Library</u> or at the <u>Old Town Hall</u>.

Collaborator: Plymouth History Center. Location: January: (No meeting); Feb. 19: Old Town Hall

Ukulele Practice Time

Thursdays, January 9, 16, 23 & 30, 4–5 p.m. Do you already know some ukulele basics and feel like you need more time with the instrument to build your skills? Drop in and practice at your own pace with the assistance of Hennepin County Library staff & volunteers. Resources for learning new chords, strum patterns, and songs will be available. Bring your own ukulele or use one of ours. Intended for beginner-level players; first-time ukulele players should start with the intro class Try Ukulele.

Tabletop Gaming

Saturday, January 25, 2–3:30 PM

All ages. Calling all tabletop gamers! Challenge friends to classics such as Scrabble and Sorry! or explore new favorites from Ticket to Ride and Forbidden Island to Wizard and 5-Minute Dungeon. Play our games or bring your own. No tabletop gaming experience needed. Drop-in.

Puzzle Exchange

Sunday, January 26, 1–2 PM

Need a new puzzle? Bring a used jigsaw puzzle (please make sure all pieces are included) and swap it for someone else's! Puzzles can be from 100 to over 1,000 pieces. *Sponsor: Friends of HCL*

History Discussion Club

Second Wednesday of the month, 2–3 PM Each session we will dive into a fascinating historical topic, event or era. We all read a history packet comprised of news articles, database journal excerpts and book snippets before the discussion. There will be some physical packets available at Plymouth Library by the service desk. You won't need to read everything but come ready to have a conversation. Every

month we will alternate meeting at the <u>Plymouth Library</u> or at the <u>Old Town Hall (OTH)</u>. *Collaborator: Plymouth History Center.* Register: <u>hclib.org/events</u> **Topics:** January: (No meeting) Feb. 12: Hubert Humphrey (@ OTH)

Author Talk: Ellie Palmer*

Thursday, February 20, 6:30-7:30 PM Author Ellie Palmer will present about her hit 2024 romantic comedy novel "Four Weekends and a Funeral"! The book's protagonist, Alison, attends her ex-boyfriend's funeral only to discover that his family thinks they're still together. Alison's decision to play the grieving girlfriend all the while falling in love with his best friend sets the stage for this love story with delightfully messy characters. Includes time for Q&A. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

This is part of a series of programs throughout 2025 celebrating 30 years of Plymouth Library in the community.



with appreciation Shilest tookinglag





Even More Plymouth Library Adult Events

Computer and Tech Help

Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 2–5 PM One-on-one help at Plymouth Library with a tech volunteer available for setting up an email account, working on a document, working with e-readers, laptops, cell phones, and more. No appointment necessary. Call ahead to verify volunteer availability.

Plymouth Library Language Clubs

More info about language clubs: hclib.org/events

• English Conversation Circle Mondays, 9:30–10:30 AM (weekly starting January 6)

French Club

Mondays, 1–2 PM (weekly starting January 13) Tuesdays, 5–6 PM (weekly starting January 14)

• Spanish Club (no sessions in Jan. and Feb. – will start again in Mar.)

Plymouth Library Chess Club

First and Third Mondays of the month, 4:30–6 PM Drop-in. Open to all ages and abilities, but children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

Bring Your Own Book - Book Club

<u>@ Luce Line Brewing Company</u> First Tuesday of the month, 6–7 PM Join us at the Luce Line Brewing Company for a casual, commitment-free book club and discuss what books you are reading with the group. You may hear about books you'd like to read and ones you may not have considered before. Purchase of refreshments is not required to participate. *Collaborator: Luce Line Brewing Company*

Medicare Counseling

First Wednesday of the month (no session in January), 9:30 AM–1:30 PM Come get help with Medicare. Registration required at https://trellisconnects.org/get-help/medicare/. Choose to make an in-person appointment, select Plymouth Library and a date/time.

Career Counseling and Job Search Assistance

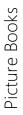
Second Thursday of the month, 1:30–4 PM Drop in and meet with an employment counselor from **CareerForce** for career counseling and job search assistance. Résumé critique, job interview coaching, and effective job search strategies offered.

Knitting Club

Fridays, January 3, 17 & 31; February 21, 2–4 PM For all skill levels. Make new friends while creating your own handmade masterpieces. Learn how to knit or practice new techniques. Bring your own needles and yarn. Register: <u>hclib.org/events</u>

For complete programming information: <u>www.hclib.org/events</u>

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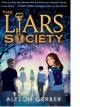
Kid Books



Bing! Bang! Chugga! Beep! by Bill Martin (preK-gr2)



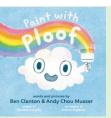
Can You Survive the Schoolchildren's Blizzard? F595 .C697(gr4-6)



* The Liars Society by Alyson Gerber (gr3-7)



@ * A Strange Thing Happened in Cherry Hall by Jasmine Warga (gr3-7)



Paint with Ploof by Ben Clanton (prek-k)



@ * The Curse of Eelgrass Bog by Mary Averling (gr3-7)



Lone Wolf Goes to School by Kiah Thomas (gr1-4)



The Underdogs of Upson Downs By Craig Silvey (gr3-7)



@ * Radha & Jai's Recipe for romance by Nisha Sharma (gr9+)



Tap! Tap! Tap! Dance! Dance! Dance! by Hervé Tullet (prek-k)



The Ice Castle by Anna Holly (gr1-3)



by Isol (gr 2-4)



@ * Welcome to Woofmore by Donna Gephart (k-3)



@ * The Bitter End by Alexa Donne (gr8+)

*= eBooks available



Titles on this list were compiled for students in grades k-12 by Hennepin County librarians, December 2024

Grade recommendations are from School Library Journal and Amazon and should be used as a guide, not as a rule.

@ = downloadable audio available \bigstar = graphic novel

Plymouth Library Youth Events

Baby Storytime

Mondays, Jan. 6-13, 27-Feb. 10, 24, 10 AM

No registration required. For children from birth to 24 months and their caregivers. Talk, sing, read, and play together. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement in a format especially designed for babies.

The Library will be closed Jan. 20 for MLK and Feb. 17 for President's Day.

Family Storytime

Thursdays, Jan. 9–30 and Feb. 20–Mar. 13, 10 AM No registration required. For children of all ages and their caregivers. Talk, sing, read, write and play together. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

Story Yoga

Wednesdays, Jan. 15–29 and Feb. 26–Mar. 12, 6:30 PM.

PreK-grade 2 and their favorite grownup(s).

Experience yoga through stories and songs, and discover new ways to move and play together. **Register online.** *Please register total number of family members (kids and adults) who will be attending this program.*

PreK Friday

Friday, **Jan. 3** and **Feb. 7**, 10–10:30 AM No registration required.

Toddlers and preschoolers and their favorite grown-ups. Drop by the library for a fun activity!

PreK Playtime

Thursday, **Feb. 6**, 10–11 AM Toddlers and PreKs and their favorite grown-ups. Drop in to play, learn and move together at the library! No registration required.

Cookie Cutter Needle Felting Winter Shapes*

Sunday, Feb. 23, 1–2:30 PM

Grades 1-5. Use wool fibers, a special felting needle, and a cookie cutter template to transform loose wool roving into a colorful 3D shape! Register online. *Collaborator: Textile Center.*

Read With an Animal

Saturday, Feb. 22, 1:30–3 PM

Grades 1-3. Cuddle up with a certified therapy animal and practice reading aloud. Sign up when you arrive for a 15-minute slot, first come, first served. Collaborator: PAWS to READ is a program of North Star Therapy Animals (NSTA). All handlers are required to be trained in an additional children's reading program that focuses on utilizing registered therapy animals.

Story Theater: Mo Willems*

Saturday, **Feb. 15**, 10–10:45 AM Ages 3-6 and their caregivers. Learn how to bring storybook characters to life using beginning theatrical skills through imaginative play, collaborative storytelling, active games, and family engagement. Caregiver participation is highly encouraged. Led by a CTC teaching artist. *Collaborator: Children's Theatre Company (CTC)*.

Mo Party

Saturday, Feb. 15, 11 AM-12 PM

Ages 3-6 and their caregivers.

Ready for Mo fun? Join us after the program for Mo activities featuring the Pigeon, Elephant and Piggie and more!

* This program is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

For complete programming information: <u>www.hclib.org/events</u>

Plymouth Library Teen Events

Teen Study Space

Saturday, **Jan. 18**, and Sunday, **Jan. 19**. Use the large meeting room as a quiet study space. Warm drinks provided.

Skateboard Deck Art for Teens*

Saturday, **Feb. 8**, 12–2 PM

For teens in grade 6-12. Using permanent markers and templates, create art on a skateboard deck. Skateboard deck and art materials provided. Wheels and additional hardware not provided. Register online.

Collaborator: Rivard Art.

Coiled Accessories*

Sunday, Feb. 9, 2:30-4 PM

For teens in grade 6-12. Use wool fibers, a special felting needle, and a cookie cutter template to transform loose wool roving into a colorful 3D shape! Register online. *Collaborator: Textile Center.*

Teen Anime and Fandom Club

Sunday, **Jan. 12**, and Saturday, **Feb. 8**, 3–4:30 PM Grades 6-12. Watch anime and other shows/ movies, play fun games, share your artwork, make geeky crafts, and nerd out about your favorite fandoms with others who share anime interests.

Plymouth Library Events for All Ages

Tabletop Gaming

Saturday, Jan. 25, 2–3:30 PM

All ages. Calling all tabletop gamers! Challenge friends

to classics such as Scrabble and Sorry! or explore new favorites from Ticket to Ride and Forbidden Island to Wizard and 5-Minute Dungeon. Play our games or bring your own. Drop-in.

^{*} This program is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Epilogue

Board Meetings

All members are welcome at Board meetings, which are held at the Plymouth Library on the second Thursday of each month from 6–8 PM unless otherwise announced.

Recurring Donation Days

Donations of gently used adult and children's books, DVDs, CDs, and jigsaw puzzles are accepted the first Saturday of each month from 10:30 AM to noon in the meeting room at the Plymouth Library. Donations are also accepted the Friday before each book sale, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Growing Our Endowment

In 2022, the Friends of Plymouth Library established an endowment fund to support the Hennepin County Library collection well into the future. When we have extra funds, we contribute them to the endowment. Did you know you can contribute, too? There are three options that are commonly used by individuals to help grow an endowment:

- 1. Making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD)
- 2. Including the fund in an estate plan
- 3. Making a legacy gift

Please consider these when making your charitable giving decisions this year. For questions, please contact us at <u>plymouth@supporthclib.org</u> or write us at: Friends of the Plymouth Library, PO. Box 46232, Plymouth, MN 55446.

Plymouth Library Hours

Monday–Thursday 9 AM–8 PM Friday–Saturday 9 AM–5 PM Sunday 12 PM–5 PM

Library Closed: Jan. 20 and Feb. 17

Who are we?

The Friends of the Plymouth Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission is to support the Plymouth Library by providing resources, promoting programs and services, and strengthening community. FOPL volunteers also assist library staff with many activities throughout the year. Membership is open to all.

Board Members

	PRESIDENT	Josh Velasquez	
	VICE-PRESIDENT	Carrie Almaer	
	TREASURER	Bernadeen Brutlag	
	SECRETARY	Cathy Fischer	
	BOOK SALES	Katherine Jaeger	
		Sandy Hoglund	
	MEMBERSHIP	Ellen Griffin	
	COMMUNICATION	Josh Velasquez	
	VOLUNTEERS	Sandy Hoglund	
	EXT. RELATIONS	Cathy Fischer	
	PLYMOUTH READS	LuAnn Svendsen	
	NOMINATIONS	Katherine Jaeger	
DIRECTORS		Shannon Banks	
		Margaret Bird	
		Irma Johnson	
		Barb Marshall	
		Brian Wilkerson	
	TEEN DIRECTORS	Shritha Devaraju	
		Aish Devulapalli	

LIBRARY LIAISONS Joanna Redman Steve Richter

Contact Us

plymouth@supporthclib.org (612) 543-5825