



FRIENDS *of the*
Plymouth Library
HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

Check It Out

Book Sale This Saturday May 11



The 9 AM members-only crowd takes over the book sale room on February 10. Thank you, members! Annual memberships can be purchased at the door starting at just \$10.

Another big Plymouth Library book sale is coming up! On May 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–2 PM - Open to the general public
- 2–3 PM - Fill entire shopping bags with books for just \$5 per bag!

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

Interested in volunteering for the sale or donating gently used books, DVDs, CDs, and puzzles? More details on page 2.

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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, May 9
- Receive donated books and help set up the book sale on Friday, May 10
- Help run the sale on Saturday, May 11

Please visit the link below to view the online sign up sheet: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044EA8A623A4F58-49340685-may2024>

Donations Accepted

We gladly accept gently used adult and children's books, DVDs, CDs, and jigsaw puzzles. We will be accepting donations in the meeting room at the Plymouth Library on Friday, May 10, from 9 AM until 3 PM. We also accept donations on the first Saturday of each month from 10:30 AM to noon.

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.



Thank you, Members!

This coupon entitles the Member to one FREE book* at the May 2024 book sale.

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

Plymouth Library 2024 Q1 Statistics

The Plymouth Library continues its monthly streak of being #1 in the system for checkouts, consistently surpassing 40,000 checkouts per month in the first quarter of 2024. Plymouth is also seeing around 300 library card sign-ups per month. We continue to be so impressed by our Plymouth Library staff and community!

Plymouth Library Total Checkouts	
Jan '24	43,829
Feb '24	41,681
Mar '24	43,704

Plymouth Library Library Card Sign-ups	
Jan '24	314
Feb '24	301
Mar '24	297

2024 Year-to-date Financial Update

In the first four months of 2024, we received income of slightly more than \$9,000. The two largest income sources were our February book sale in the amount of \$6,483, our largest sale in over ten years, and \$1,400 of donations received from the Ready Reads cart of used books in the library lobby.

In March we sent a \$5,000 grant to the Friends of Hennepin County Library to be used for the collection.

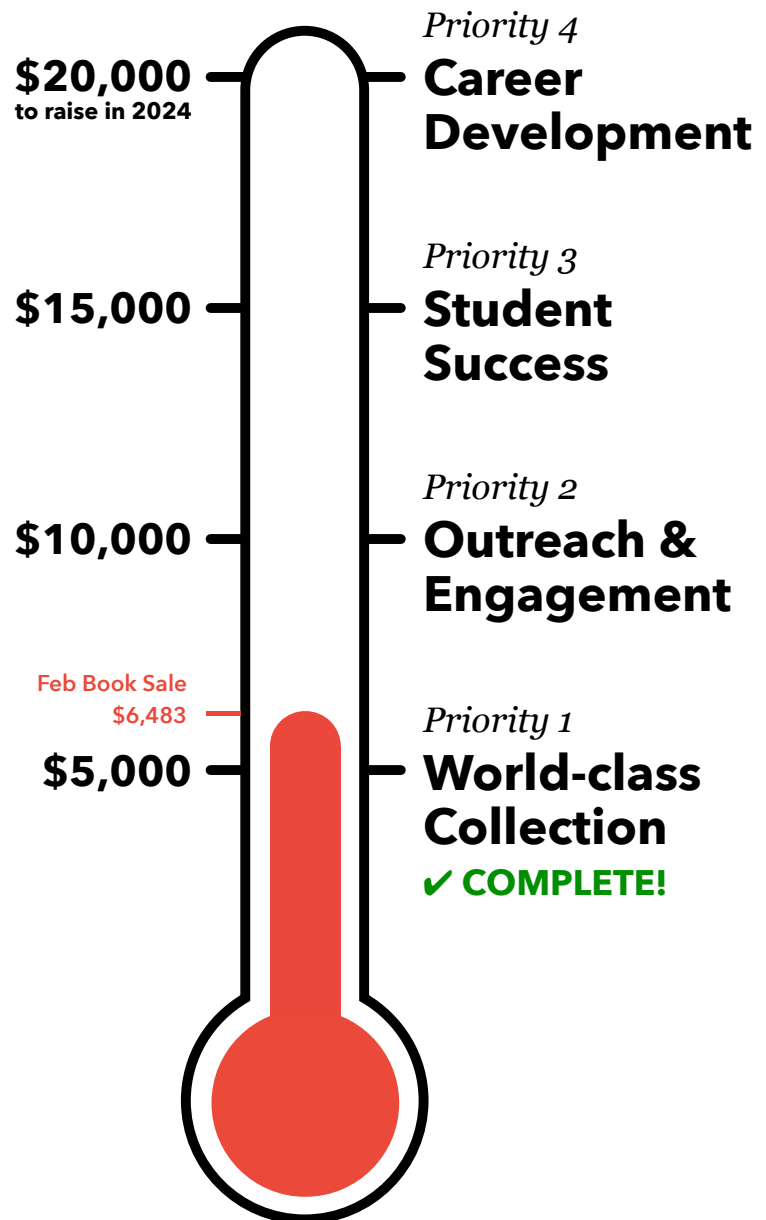
The Friends of the Plymouth Library \$25,000 endowment fund that was set up in November 2022 now has a value of \$28,970. There are three options that are commonly used by individuals to help grow an endowment:

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 plymouth@supporthclib.org or write us at: Friends of the Plymouth Library, P.O. Box 46232, Plymouth, MN 55446.

—Bernadeen Brutlag, Treasurer

2024 Fundraising Goals



FOPL's Third Year at Discover Plymouth

The Friends of the Plymouth Library proudly marked our third year in a row participating in Discover Plymouth, an annual expo of Plymouth-based non-profits, community groups, city services, and local businesses. The Plymouth Community Center's fieldhouse hosted 106 exhibitors this year, up from last year's 88, which provides a strong indicator of the event's year-over-year success.

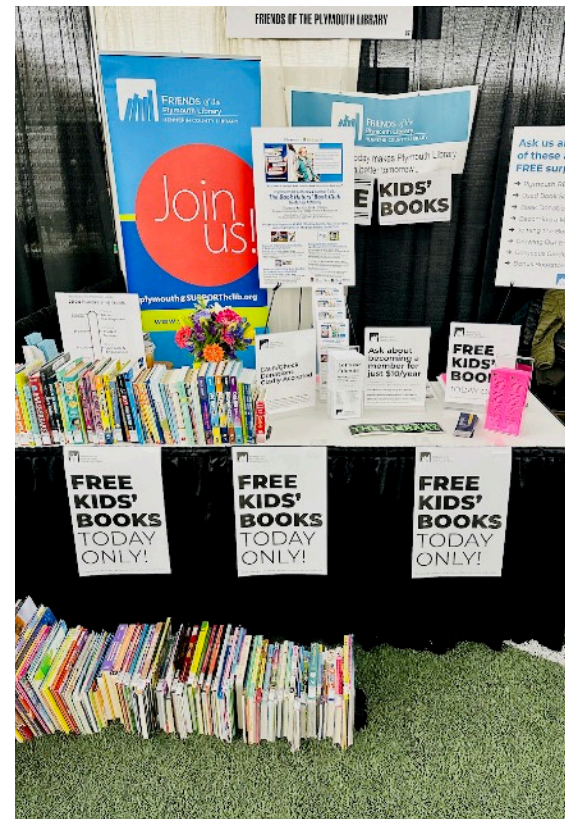
Each year, we bring back lessons learned from our participation in Discover Plymouth and iterate on how we plan our participation in the subsequent year. Our primary lesson from last year: it's hard to share a 10'x10' space between ourselves and our Plymouth Library staff representative. Fortunately, the fix was simple: pay for two neighboring booths! We were thrilled to see Plymouth librarian Angela Langeberg return for her second year representing the library, and this time our two booths gave us room to spread out and have double the exposure.

We repeated our main promotional tool which has spanned our three years participating in Discover Plymouth: free books! For the second year in a row, we gave away free kids books to families visiting our booth. And we made sure they all knew they could find books just like these at our wonderful used book sales. This giveaway was a huge draw and we were able to give away hundreds of pieces of promotional materials. Here were our metrics for the day:

- Welcomed **326 visitors** of all ages to our booth!
- Collected **\$25 in donations**
- Gave away **85 book lovers' stickers**
- Handed out **112 free book vouchers** for the May book sale
- Distributed **130 Plymouth READS flyers**, **133 FOPL brochures**, and **143 book sale bookmarks**
- Gave away **220 free kids' books!**

None of this would have been possible without our amazing booth volunteers: Barb Marshall, Brian Wilkerson, Carrie Almaer, Shriha Devaraju, Josh Velasquez, Ava Velasquez, and a special appearance by our treasurer Bernadeen Brutlag at the end of the day to collect our cash donations!

—Josh Velasquez, FOPL President





Garden Tour Bids Farewell

In 2014 the Friends of the Plymouth Library sponsored our first garden tour, which included eight gardens. (We were really ambitious!) Every year after that, except for 2016 (when we couldn't find enough gardens) and 2020 (because everything was closed due to COVID-19), the garden tour has been a well-attended community event.



This year we could only find three gardens to include in the tour. We approached the owners of several lovely gardens, but they all had good reasons for declining to participate.

Therefore, we are sadly announcing that the garden tour is being discontinued as a Friends annual fundraiser. We think we left the tour on a high note, as we had five fabulous gardens last year.



We thank all the garden owners who shared their work and their beauties with our community, and leave you with some photos that we hope bring back happy memories.

—Cathy Fischer, Garden Tour Co-chair





PlymouthREADS 2024 Recap

We have always had two goals for PlymouthREADS: to build community and encourage reading. This year, we once again saw success on both fronts!

Our Saturday morning “all ages” book craft project brought in 65 participants. Children decorated bookmarks along with adults who turned books into art! Families worked together with other tables of four making new friends as they helped each other with the cutting and folding to create book beauty.

Continued on next page...





Another event brought Kate Russell from the Little Free Library (LFL) organization. Kate was an excellent, amusing speaker. Many of us left that evening, thinking about the amazing work that LFL is doing at home and internationally to promote reading.

Our main event kicked off the Primavera arts festival as always. Our group of volunteer readers' selection of "The Book Haters' Book Club" turned out to be a winner. Imagine our surprise when the committee learned that Gretchen Anthony wrote much of the book at Plymouth Library! Turns out that she lives in Maple Grove, a couple houses out of Plymouth. Her talk was funny, heartwarming and totally enjoyable.

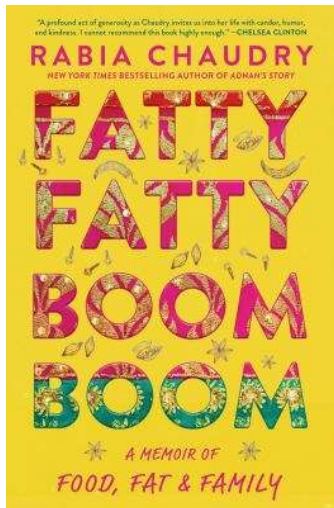
We were happy with the publicity we received from two articles in the Plymouth Sun-Sailor, a CCX Channel 12 TV interview of Gretchen Anthony, an article in Plymouth Magazine, and a notice of Gretchen's talk in the 'free things to do' in the Star Tribune.

We thank all of our partners for their support. Thanks to the City of Plymouth Parks & Recreation department for providing the beautiful room for the main event. Thanks also to the Plymouth Arts Council for providing an honorarium for our author. Thank you to the Plymouth Lions Club for financial support. And, most important, thank you to Hennepin County Library Plymouth for providing space for events at the library, providing us books for our volunteer readers, and helping us in so many ways to make PlymouthREADS possible.

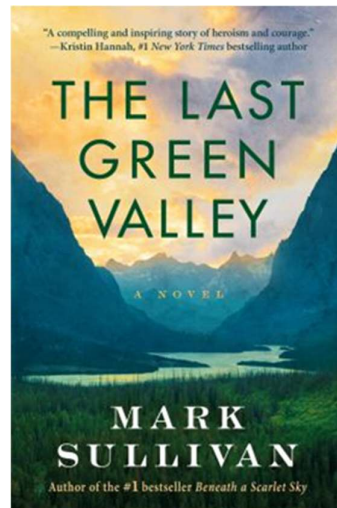
—LuAnn Svendsen, PlymouthREADS 2024 Chair



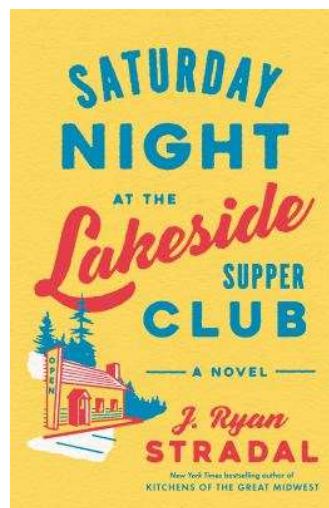
Plymouth Library Community Favorites



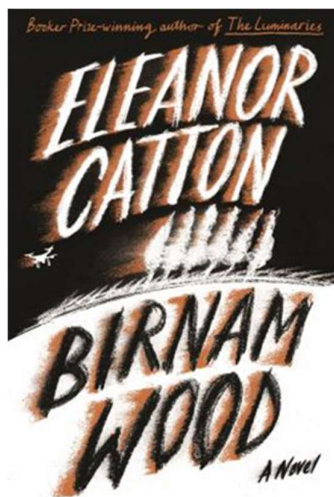
[Fatty Fatty Boom Boom: A Memoir of Food, Fat, and Family](#)
by Rabia Chaudry



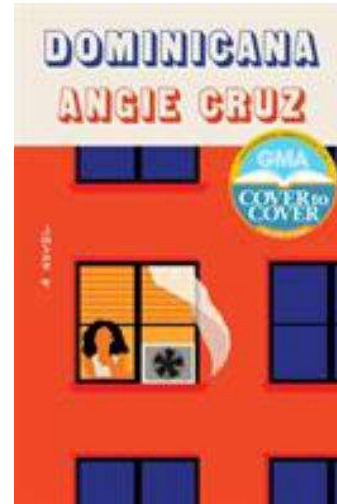
[The Last Green Valley: A Novel](#)
by Mark T. Sullivan



[Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club](#) by J. Ryan Stradal



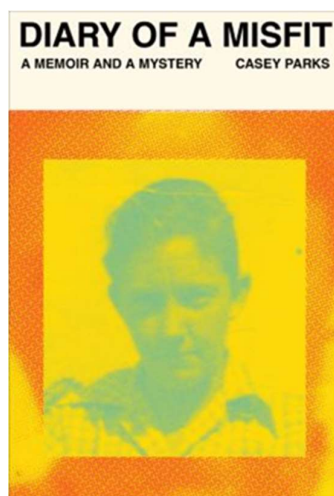
[Birnam Wood: A Novel](#)
by Eleanor Catton



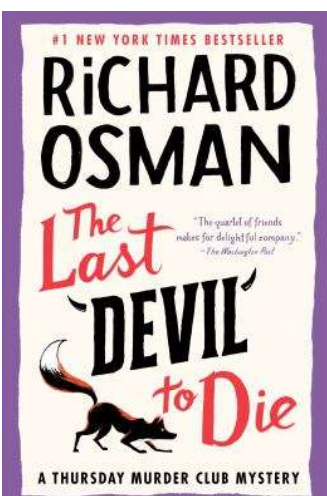
[Dominicana](#)
by Angie Cruz



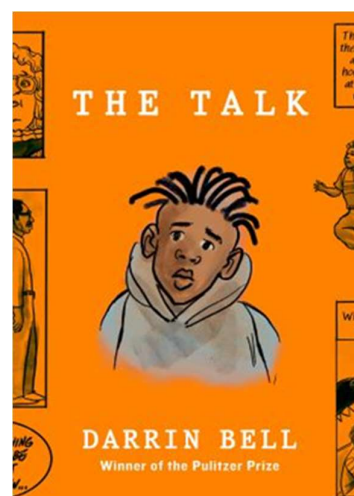
[Hello Stranger](#)
by Katherine Center



[Diary of a Misfit: A Memoir and A Mystery](#) by Casey Parks



[The Last Devil to Die](#)
by Richard Osman



[The Talk](#)
by Darrin Bell

Plymouth Library

Adult Events

History Discussion Club

Wednesdays, May 8 & June 12, 2-3pm

Each session we will dive into a fascinating historical topic, event or era. We all read a history packet comprised of news articles, database journals 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. *Collaborator: Plymouth Historical Society.*

- May 8: Bloody Friday: The Minneapolis General Strike of 1934
- June 12: The US-Dakota War I

Knitting Club

Fridays, May 10 & 24, June 7 & 21, 2-4pm

The Knitting Club is open to adults with all skill levels. It will serve as a place to build community, spread cultural art, and connect peers who share similar interests. Registration is required due to limited space and materials available.

Great Decisions: U.S. China Trade Rivalry

Thursday, May 16, 4-5:30pm

China's economic rise and its current policies of increasing the role of the state in the economy have led some U.S. policymakers to seek to deny China access to U.S. technology and investment. This is seen as a necessary corrective to decades of predatory Chinese economic policies. Is this a wise strategy, and how effective can it be? Andrew Latham, Professor of International Relations and Political Theory at Macalester College, will discuss. Registration is required. *Sponsor: Friends of HCL.*

For complete programming information including **Chess Club** and more: www.hclib.org/events

Puzzle Exchange

Sunday, May 26, 1-2pm

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.*

Author Talk: U.S. Elisa Bernick

Thursday, May 16, 6:30-7:30pm

In her memoir *Departure Stories: Betty Crocker Made Matzoh Balls (and other lies)*, Elisa Bernick discusses growing up "different" (i.e., Jewish) in the white, Christian suburb of New Hope, MN during the 1960s and early 1970s. Poignant and provocative, *Departure Stories* peers through the broader lens of Minnesota's recent history to reveal an intergenerational journey through trauma that unraveled the Bernick family and many others. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Registration requested. *This program is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.*

Medicare Counseling

First Wednesday of the month (June 5), 9am-1pm

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

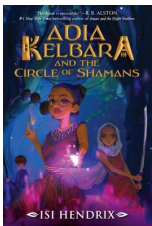
Second and Fourth Thursdays of month, 1:30-4pm Drop in and meet with an employment counselor from CareerForce for career counseling and job search assistance. Résumé critique, job interview coaching, and effective job search strategies offered.

Plymouth Library Language Clubs

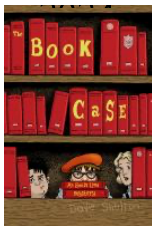
More info about language clubs: hclib.org/events

- **French Club:** First, Third and Fifth Mondays of the month, 1-2pm
- **Spanish Club:** Thursdays, 1-2pm

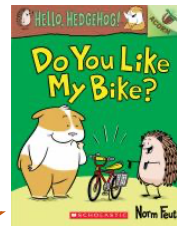
Awesome Books for Kids & Teens



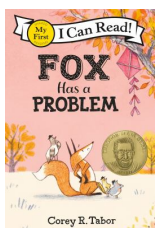
* Adia Kelbara and the Circle of Shamans by Isi Hendrix (gr3-7)



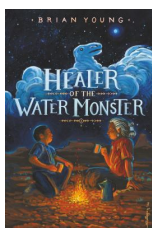
* The Book Case by Dave Shelton (gr4-6)



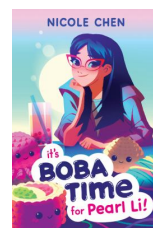
★ * Do You Like My Bike? By Norm Feuti (grk-1)



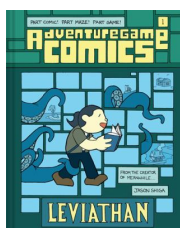
* Fox has a Problem by Corey Tabor (grK-1)



@ * Healer of the Water Monster by Brian Young (gr3-7)



@ * It's Boba Time for Pearl Li! By Nicole Chen (gr3-7)



★ Leviathan by Jason Shiga (gr4-6)



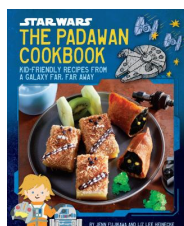
@ * Mirror to Mirror by Rajani LaRocca (gr4-8)



@ * Mrs Smith's Spy School for Girls by Beth McMullen (gr4-8)



@ * Mystery of the All-Seeing Eye by Max Mason (gr3-7)



* The Padawan Cookbook TX652.5 .F853 (gr2+)



★ * The Party and Other Stories by Sergio Ruzzier (grK-2)



@ * Lightlark by Alex Aster (gr8+)



★ Mister Miracle: The Great Escape by Varian Johnson (gr7+)



The Rumor Game by Sona Charaipotra (gr10+)

Kid Reads

Teen Reads

Titles on this list were compiled for youth in preschool through grade 9 by Hennepin County librarians, Nov 2022
 * = eBooks available @ = downloadable audio available ★ = graphic novel 🇲🇳 = Minnesota setting
 Grade recommendations are from School Library Journal and Amazon and should be used as a guide, not as a rule.

Plymouth Library Youth Events

Baby Storytime

Mondays through May 20, 10am

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.

Move and Play

May 9 & 16, 9-12

For toddlers, preKs and a favorite adult.

Explore balance and movement at the library!

Build gross motor skills and discover fun physical literacy activities together.

Chess Club

Thursdays through July 25, 4:30-6 PM

Open to chess players of all ages and abilities, but children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

Non-competitive and friendly playing only. All chess equipment will be provided. Come and have fun!

Sensory Play

Thursday, May 16, 9-12

Toddlers and preschoolers and their favorite grown-ups.

Explore your world through sensory activities at the library. Drop in to practice fine and gross motor skills and discover fun early literacy activities together! No registration required.

Homework Help

Mondays and Tuesdays, 4-7pm through May 28

Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students.

No advance sign-up needed.

Homework Help will be closed Memorial Day, May 27

Teen Anime and Fandom Club

Sunday May 12, 3:00pm-4:30pm,

Grades 6-12. Come watch anime, talk manga, eat snacks, and connect with other teens who share your interests! No registration required.

For complete programming information:

www.hclib.org/events

Flowers for Pollinators

Sunday, June 16, 1-2 PM

Grades 2-3. Become a garden scientist to discover that everything we eat is connected to plants. Learn about the different ways flowers welcome special visitors (pollinators) to come and visit, and why bees are such important pollinators. Pretend to be a bee using a dropper for your proboscis and buzz around to various flowers (bowls) to collect the nectar for your hive, while picking up pollen (pompoms) to stick to your hairy bee body (Velcro bracelet) along the way. *Collaborator: University of Minnesota Master Gardeners. Sponsor: MELSA (Metropolitan Library Service Agency). Registration opens two weeks before program.*

Heart and Soul Drum Academy Interactive Performance

Friday, June 28, 1-1:45 PM

For all ages. Enjoy a Djembe hand drum performance and watch as drummers express their creativity in drum circles, then join the circle and jam with the group. *Collaborator: Heart and Soul Drum Academy. This program is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.*

Llamas at the Library

Sunday, July 28, 1-3:30 PM

Learn about and lounge with the curious, sociable creatures when Carlson's Lloveable Llamas visit the library! Stories and other activities will also be provided. *Sponsor: MELSA (Metropolitan Library Service Agency).*



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.

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 plymouth@supporthclib.org or write us at: Friends of the Plymouth Library, P.O. 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

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
MEMBERSHIP	Ellen Griffin
COMMUNICATION	Josh Velasquez
VOLUNTEERS	Sandy Hogleund
EXT. RELATIONS	Cathy Fischer
PLYMOUTH READS	LuAnn Svendsen
NOMINATIONS	Katherine Jaeger
DIRECTORS	Shannon Banks Margaret Bird Irma Johnson Barb Marshall Brian Wilkerson Barbara Wills
TEEN DIRECTORS	Shritha Devaraju Aish Devulapalli
LIBRARY LIAISONS	Aaron Albertson Joanna Redman Steve Richter

Contact Us

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