

MEMBERSHIP

Renew your Friends of the Library membership in 2024

—Jeanne Burgart, Friends of the Library President

The Association of Friends of the Library (the Friends), numbering about 155 members, provides ongoing financial and volunteer support for the library. Major resources of income for the Friends include membership dues and used book and book bag sales. In 2023, the Friends Board estimated revenues and expenses at \$6,300. As of the end of August, actual revenues were \$5,935, and regular expenses for \$5,708. In addition, \$2,609 was spent on special projects.

Over 85% of the Friends budget was used to finance children and teen programs at the Clear Lake Library. The Friends completely fund the 8 week long Summer Reading Program. This year, the theme was "Find Your Voice." This program encouraged 268 early literacy, grade school children, plus teenagers and adults to read during the summer months. About 55% of the children completed the program and earned the book prize. In-person programming included 31 staff-led and 6 special programs with a total of 1,541 attendees. Some programs, such as "Instrument Petting Zoo," "Magician Jonathan May," and "My Very Silly Monster," were each attended by 85 or more people.

The Friends funded a set of StoryWalk Pages at Central Gardens of North Iowa for the fall months. We also fund the monthly *BookPage* magazine and provide four Friends newsletter to members and other library patrons with information about upcoming programming.

Special projects funded this year included the restoration and upkeep of the new Book Bike called "Wheelie Good Books," which had 1,040 interaction at 9 outreach events, and purchasing a train table, remodeling costs and new furniture for the children's area at the library.

Friends volunteers helped with the Iowa Storytelling Festival, manned a booth at the Green Expo, assisted at library functions, and kept the two Little Free Libraries at Central Gardens stocked with donated books.

The Association of Friends has a positive impact on our library, and we are proud of our accomplishments in 2023. We appreciate the support of our membership and look forward to serving our library in the coming years.



Yes, I would like to be a Friend of the Library in 2024

I am enclosing \$_____ for my membership. (Your contribution is tax deductible.)

___ \$20 Individual, ___ \$30 Family, ___ \$100 Sustaining, ___ Other

Send to: Friends of the Clear Lake Public Library, 200 N 4th St., Clear Lake, IA 50428-1639

Membership expires December 31, 2024

****Any and all donations are greatly appreciated to further library programs and projects.****

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

____ I would like to be contacted for volunteer opportunities.