



F**R**I**E**N*D*S TALK



F•R•I•E•N•D•S
OF NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Supporting Friends of the Library Statewide

Hello Friends,

Labor Day is almost upon us. Don't know about you, but Labor Day is the beginning of many projects with FONCPL, my New Bern Friends of the Library, and several other nonprofits that I occasionally help. My schedule is jam-packed between now and Christmas. And that's not even counting family commitments. My dance card is filled! How about yours?

FONCPL is hoping that every member Friends group nominates a worthy member for the Friend of the Year award. Recognizing contributions of your members is very important and this is one way to do so. We strongly encourage you to take the time to nominate someone. The deadline is September 30th. [Click here](#) for more information.

September 15th is the deadline for a Challenge Grant. Your Friends could be the recipient of \$250 to use on a project or program that directly benefits your Friends. Use it for things like engraved name badges for your Board members, fitted table cloths, a banner, business cards, design services (new logo or new Friends brochure), website design, a cart to haul stuff, awards for your Friends, SWAG or books to give out at an event, a prize wheel, etc.

We only had one application last year which is really unfortunate. Surely there is something your Friends need. [Click here](#) for details and the application.

We are starting back up with our monthly Open Mic night on Tuesday September 19th. We'd love to hear from Friends that use membership management programs and that Use online dues payment options. We'd especially like to hear from Treasurers. Do take the time to join in on this Zoom meeting.

And lastly, I'd like to plug the NC-Friends Listserv. We have not been getting much discussion which is a shame, because this is such a useful communication tool. Our FONCPL Board is going to be posting more regularly. We hope you will help us by telling your members how they can sign up for this listserv. The more the merrier—we say.

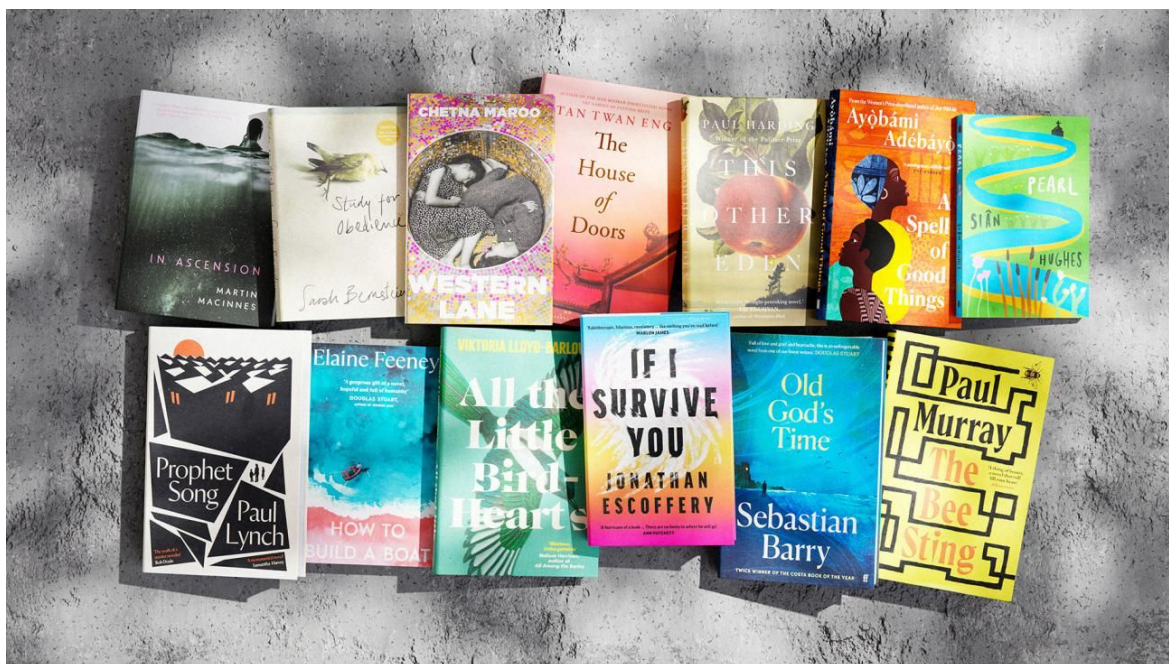
Don't forget to send Kathy Lambe, our Newsletter Editor, pictures and articles. The deadline is the 25th of the month. We love hearing about what your Friends are doing!

Happy Fall Y'all!
Judy Hills, FONCPL President

The International Booker Prize 2023

The Booker Prize, first awarded in 1969, recognizes the best novel written in English and published in the UK or Ireland. The 2023 prize considers books published between October 1st 2022 and September 30th 2023. They have just announced their **13-book longlist**. The 6-book shortlist will come out September 21st, with the winner announced November 26th. The winner will receive a £50,000 prize.

“The list is defined by its freshness – by the irreverence of new voices, by the iconoclasm of established ones. All 13 novels cast new light on what it means to exist in our time, and they do so in original and thrilling ways. Their range is vast, both in subject and form: they shocked us, made us laugh, filled us with anguish, but above all they stayed with us. This is a list to excite, challenge, delight, a list to bring wonder. The novels are small revolutions, each seeking to energise and awaken the language. Together – whether historical or contemporary – they offer startling portraits of the current.”



<i>The House of Doors</i> – Tan Twan Eng		<i>This Other Eden</i> – Paul Harding
<i>The Bee Sting</i> – Paul Murray		<i>How to Build a Boat</i> – Elaine Feeney
<i>Western Lane</i> – Chetna Maroo		<i>If I Survive You</i> – Jonathan Escoffery
<i>In Ascension</i> – Martin MacInnes		<i>Study for Obedience</i> – Sarah Bernstein
<i>Prophet Song</i> – Paul Lynch		<i>Old God's Time</i> – Sebastian Barry
<i>All the Little Bird-Hearts</i> – Viktoria Lloyd- Barlow		<i>A Spell of Good Things</i> – Ayobami Adebayo
<i>Pearl</i> – Sian Hughes		



Cultivating the Relationship-Driven Library: A Toolkit

As August ends so too does our three-year project funded by the U.S. Institute of Museum & Library Services focused on understanding [how public libraries work with others to support healthy eating and active living, or HEAL](#).

One part of this project involved creating a toolkit to help public librarians work more collaboratively with others.

The Cultivating the Relationship-Driven Library Toolkit was given [a soft launch at a public event in April](#), and was then edited into its final form.

We invite you to download the toolkit and try it out in your community!

[Download the Toolkit as a pdf file](#)

[Access the toolkit as an interactive webpage](#)

We'd love your feedback on this endeavor!



DOLLAR GENERAL[®]
LITERACY
FOUNDATION

GIVE.
DREAM.
HOPE.

Dollar General – Summer Reading and Youth Literacy Grants

http://www2.dollargeneral.com/dgliteracy/Pages/grant_programs.aspx#flg

Youth Literacy Grants

Youth Literacy Grants provide funding to schools, public libraries, and nonprofit organizations to help students who are below grade level or experiencing difficulty reading. Grant funding is provided to assist in the following areas:

- Implementing new or expanding existing literacy programs
- Purchasing new technology or equipment to support literacy initiatives
- Purchasing books, materials or software for literacy programs
- Not sure about application dates—winners for 2023 will be announced 8/12/23.

Summer Reading Grants

Summer Reading Grants provide funding to local nonprofit organizations and libraries to help with the implementation or expansion of summer reading programs. Programs must target Pre-K through 12th-grade students who are new readers, below grade level readers or readers with learning disabilities. **The 2024 Summer Reading grant applications will be available January 2024.**



Why is Bubble Gum Pink?

In 1928, an accountant for the [Fleer Chewing Gum Company](#) began toying with new recipes. At the time, chewing gum was extremely sticky. But this accountant, a man named Walter Diemer, found a recipe that was less gluey and more stretchy, qualities that allowed him to do something unprecedented — blow bubbles. The color of the gum (the [original Dubble Bubble](#)) was supposedly born out of necessity: A diluted red dye was the only food coloring Diemer had available, which thankfully turned the grayish concoction pink.

Why Are Gummy Bears Shaped Like Bears?

In 19th-century Europe, it wasn't uncommon to see [trained bears](#) frolicking down the streets in celebration of a parade or festival. Called "dancing bears," these animals would skip, hop, whirl, twirl, and perform an array of tricks. Fast-forward to the 1920s, when German candymaker Hans Riegel was searching for a clever way to sell his gelatin-based confections to children. Recalling the two-stepping bears of yore, Riegel decided to make an *Ursus*-shaped candy called *Tanzbär* (literally "dancing bear"). The snacks were a huge success. Today, you probably know [Riegel's company](#) as Haribo.



What's the Origin of the After-Dinner Mint?

Invented in Great Britain, the "curiously strong" Altoid has been freshening mouths since the 1780s. But foul-smelling breath isn't the reason candied mints became a mainstay at restaurants. In the mid-20th century, peppermint oil was touted as a digestive [aid](#). In the early 20th century, sprigs of mint were [offered](#) to diners at the end of meals; eventually restaurants began offering buttermints, scotch mints, polo mints, and After Eights with the bill. (The creators of Altoids, however, were ahead of the pack. They had been marketing [the mints](#) as a "stomach calmate to relieve intestinal discomfort" for decades.)



Visit [Libraryaware.com](https://libraryaware.com)
for some great Fall Promotion templates.

Fall into a good book

Cool down or cozy up with these fall promotion templates.

COZY MYSTERIES



Grab a blanket and get ready to curl up to these cozy reads.

Ask a librarian for more recommendations.

COZY MYSTERIES



Grab a blanket and get ready to curl up to these cozy reads.

For more recommendations, search UI 4.57500 in NovelList or ask a librarian.



FALL *into* FICTION

Recommended fiction titles to leaf through this fall.



ADD YOUR LIBRARY NAME HERE

FALL READING CHALLENGE

- ☐ A book that takes place in the fall.
- ☐ A book that features baking.
- ☐ A dark academia or cozy mystery.
- ☐ A book with fall colors on the cover.

From our Friends of the Western Watauga Branch Library:

Appreciating Our Appalachian Heritage Through Music – Dulcimer Project at Bethel Elementary School

The **Watauga Arts Council** and the **Friends of the Western Watauga Branch Library** partnered with Bethel Elementary School this spring to present a program entitled “Appreciating Our Appalachian Heritage Through Music”.

The goal of the joint project was to educate and enlighten students about the rich musical culture of Watauga County and Appalachia, with a focus on the **dulcimer**. With instructor Mary Greene, a well-respected local dulcimer teacher and musician, an appreciation for the instrument and our unique Appalachian heritage was developed among children in our community. The program brought an underserved area of Watauga County music that echoes our heritage: for those who grew up in the South, Appalachian music was often their first introduction to our culture.

Appalachian music and the dulcimer in particular are rapidly becoming a thing of the past, as only a few craftsmen of the instrument and skilled musicians still exist in the High Country, according to Ms. Greene. She led classes beginning in March at the school in Sugar Grove.

Fifteen 5th graders participated in the program. Activities included a six-part educational program introducing the students to the dulcimer by listening to songs played on actual Watauga County dulcimers, building their own cardboard dulcimers from kits, learning the basics of playing simple songs, and ending with a presentation of singing and playing their dulcimers on May 2.

The Watauga Arts Council is thrilled to be providing arts education in a rural school, says Amber Bateman, Executive Director. Western Watauga Branch Librarian Jackie Cornette met with administrative staff and teachers at Bethel Elementary to set up the program, and they were also very excited about the prospect of offering this program to their students. The school requested books for their library relating to Appalachian Culture be purchased with grant funds as well, to allow students the opportunity to further pursue their interest in the subject.

Gauging from the excitement at the final recital, the program was a huge success!!







Molly Wyand

1 August 2023

Here are July's top ten titles (with very few changes from last month!) searched in library catalogs that include NoveList Select:

1. *Fourth Wing* by Rebecca Yarros
2. *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
3. *Happy Place* by Emily Henry
4. *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese
5. *It Ends With Us* by Colleen Hoover
6. *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver
7. *It Starts With Us* by Colleen Hoover
8. *The Five-Star Weekend* by Elin Hilderbrand
9. *Verity* by Colleen Hoover
10. *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano



September is LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH

Celebrate and Spread the Word

Library Card Sign-Up Month offers an opportunity to get involved with your local library and check out all the great services it offers your community. Here are a few ways you can celebrate and help spread the word about the joys of getting a library card.

Visit Your Library

Visit your library in-person or online to see what's new and take part in the celebration. Libraries across the country are participating. Do you have friends who don't have library cards? Invite them to sign up in September!

Help Spread the Word

Follow I Love Libraries on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and the hashtag #LibraryCardSignUpMonth to join the celebration on social media.

Sample social media posts:

- Yay—September is #LibraryCardSignupMonth! Celebrate by visiting your library and getting your very own library card.
- Make sure your kids have the most important school supply of all—a library card! Get one this September and kick off the school year right. #LibraryCardSignupMonth
- Do you have a library card? September is #LibraryCardSignupMonth so get one today! Check out your library's website to learn how you can access movies, eBook's, video games and much more.
- There is nothing more empowering than getting your own library card. It gives you access to technology, resources, and services to pursue your passions and dreams. #LibraryCardSignupMonth
- Sign up for a library card and find something wonderful at your library! From storytime to audiobooks to DIY classes and more, there's something for everyone. Happy #LibraryCardSignupMonth!



PLEASE don't forget to nominate one of your friends for the NC Friend of the Year Award.

Friend of the Year is awarded to a member of a Friends group who made an outstanding contribution to the Friends of the Library in this past year.

Please send us the name of your Friend, a photo and a concise paragraph on why your Friend is outstanding. How have they contributed to your Group? When did they join your Group?

****Send before September 30, 2023!!****

Please email all the fun facts to Donna Morgan at Ladyloves2read@protonmail.com

CHALLENGE GRANTS

The Friends of the North Carolina Pulbic Library (FONCPL) will award Challenge Grants of up to \$300.

These grants are awarded to FONCPL member groups current on their FONCPL dues.

Up to \$300 may be requested for any project or program that aligns with the mission and purpose of the Friends group and which directly benefit the Friends.



Challenge Grant Program Timetable

Deadline for Applications: |
Grants Awarded:
Project Completed:
Evaluation Deadline:

September 15th current year
By October 31st current year
By June 30th following year
By August 31st following year

If you wish to share some photos or an article with us for the October
F*R*I*E*N*D*S TALK ,
please email your information to klambe@me.com
by September 25, 2023.

The Impact of a Library on a Child

By Angela Hursh. August 10, 2023

Library supporters often focus on the educational impact of libraries on kids but, then I thought about all the other ways the library made a difference in my development.

It expanded my world.

My parents did not travel much. But I have a wanderer's heart. And books allowed me to do all the traveling I wanted, to states and countries and planets I could only imagine. Books showed me how the people in those locations lived: What they wore, how they spoke, what they ate, and what they valued. Books showed me how to push past the discomfort of new situations to make friends and explore. They instilled in me the value of travel long before I ever had the chance to.

It showed me possibility.

All through my childhood, there was one section of the library I favored: biographies and memoirs. From reading about the lives of women like Amelia Earhart, Marilyn Monroe, Harriet Tubman, and Sacagawea, I learned how to be brave and resilient, how to fight injustice, and how to make a difference in the world. And, since I grew up in the 1980s when the glass ceiling was still very much a thing, I learned that I didn't have to settle in my career. I could, and should, push to achieve as much as possible.

It taught me persistence.

When I was a journalist, I leaned on a skill I learned at the library: How to solve problems and uncover answers. The reference librarians taught me how to go beyond curiosity to enlightenment and to find the answers from credible sources. They also taught me how to continue looking for those answers even when it appeared that none existed. My poor children have often heard me say, "There's no problem that can't be solved." They can blame my childhood librarian for that!

It taught me personal responsibility and how to share resources.

The first time I ever signed a paper and made a promise to an organization all on my own was at the library. We moved to the Fremont area when I was 8 years old, old enough to fill out the form myself. I know it's corny, and everyone says it... but the moment the librarians handed over my very own library card, I felt like a grown-up. I was meticulous about returning books before their due date, but not just because I wanted to avoid late fees. The librarian explained how all the books in the library were shared and told me that we all played a role in making sure our fellow community members could have a turn with the books. That sense of community really stuck with me.

It let me explore my weird quirks.

As a teen, I was obsessed with... etiquette. (I know, right?) I loved to read about how to properly introduce yourself and others in new encounters, how to write formal letters, and — my favorite — how to throw formal dinners, including proper place settings, the right order in which to serve courses, and how to seat guests at your table to maximize conversation. It was a strange thing for a country kid to want to learn, but the librarians never made me feel ashamed of my interest in fish forks and place cards.

It made me feel less alone.

When I couldn't get to the public library building, the library came to me. In the summer, a Birchard Public Library bookmobile came to the farm half a mile from my house. I'd ride my bicycle down the country road and fill my basket with a week's worth of books. It seems like a little thing, but the bookmobile was my lifeline to the outside world. None of my friends lived near my house in the country, and summers were quite lonely. The visits by the library staff in their magical truck full of books were a gift. They gave me someone new to talk to, and they meant that I'd get to see other kids who lived in the area and would also come to the bookmobile.

OPEN MIC NIGHT

with Judy!

**Tuesday
Sept 19
7:00 pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86068195908?pwd=dnU5eU9lOHlEcGp6QzBoWHpjMDhUUT09>

Call in #: 301.715.8592

Meeting ID: 860 6819 5908

Passcode: 965089

Topics: Member management programs and online dues and other payments. We'd like to know your group's experience with these programs—good or bad. Please ask your Treasurer to join in the conversation. Additional topics if there is time: Banned Books week plan (October 1-7) and plans for National Friends of the Library week (October 15-21).

Your 2023-24 FONCPL Board

President Judy Hills (Craven County) jahnbnc@gmail.com		Secretary Joanne Straight (Craven County) jostraight@gmail.com
Treasurer Tim Como (Catawba County) 826mechanic@gmail.com		Director Donna Morgan (Brunswick County) Ladyloves2read@protonmail.com
Director Joyce Speas (Alleghany County) Joyce.speas73@gmail.com		Director/Newsletter Kathy Lambe (Forsyth) klambe@me.com
Director Laurie C. Cranston (Onslow County) LCCran@gmail.com		Director Lyn Marsh (Forsyth) Mclincoln1@gmail.com
Director Tess Thais (Haywood County) Tessthais88@gmail.com		State Library Liaison Lynda Reynolds lynda.reynolds@dn-cr.nc.gov

PLEASE Don't forget to include these two events in October!! Start planning now!!

October 1-7, 2023

Banned Books Week will be October 1 – 7, 2023. Book bans and restrictions are on the rise in classrooms and libraries across the country. We invite readers, authors, educators, librarians, and everyone who opposes censorship in America to get involved during Banned Books Week 2023.



Friends of Libraries groups have their very own national week of celebration!

United for Libraries will coordinate the 18th annual National Friends of Libraries Week Oct. 15-21, 2023. The celebration offers a two-fold opportunity to celebrate Friends. Use the time to creatively promote your group in the community, to raise awareness, and to promote membership. This is also an excellent opportunity for your library and Board of Trustees to recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library.



... from the Friends of the Library Clayton NC