Summer Reading Program 2022 kicks off at all Hall County Libraries!

The library system launched their 2022 Summer Reading Program “An Ocean of Possibilities” in May. The program runs through the end of July. With a very generous grant from the Friends of the Hall County Library System, the library is offering prizes and programs all summer long. For the first time, the Friends earmarked funds to give another grant for the adult summer reading program. This has allowed the adult services department to offer literacy and summer programs for adults. The programs were met with huge success! All of the programs that required reservations, such as a Bob Ross painting, Downton Abbey tea party, and acrylic pour painting filled up quickly. Adult services also hosted bingo, trivia, Betta fish aquariums, and water safety. The library also hosted “Murder and Moonshine” about the true crime of the Bailey Sisters in the 1800s in North Georgia. The Youth Services department also went back to pre-Covid programs in the library such as puppet and magic shows, zoo presentations, and stories in different languages. Tweens and teens have enjoyed programs such as escape the room, murder mystery party, Ramen cooking, and more! The outreach team has also been doing storytimes at locations across the county.

Dark and Stormy Night Ghost Storytelling Fundraiser Is back and with a new storyteller!

The Friends will host their fourth annual Dark and Stormy Night Ghost Storytelling Fundraiser on Friday October 21, 2022 at the Gainesville Library. Tickets will go on sale for the Friends on Monday, August 15th and for the general public on September 1st. Tickets are $20 for Friends members and $25 for the public. The night includes stories with professional storyteller Barry Stewart Mann and a catered dessert. Attendees will be able to view evidence collected from ghost hunters of the Gainesville library during dessert intermission. Get your tickets early and tell your friends! Every year this is a sell out event. Tickets can be purchased online at www.hallcountylibrary.org/friends or call 770-532-3311 ext. 126
Dear Friends,

This is an exciting time for our library system and for the Friends. We just learned that the Hall County Commission has approved the library's request for next year. The new Gainesville parking deck is set to open in the next month. We are so delighted that Diletto Bakery will open at the café at the Spout Springs Library in the next few weeks.

Our Friends group has been busy. We are exploring new fundraising ideas. Along with library staff, we have made our Bookstore at the Gainesville Library much more attractive and inviting. We have revamped the schedule for our Big Book Sale. It will be held Spring 2023, and we are spending this year sending books to Thrift Books and reorganizing the way we store and sort our books in our storage room. A special thanks to Jim and Mari-Ann Wise, who have worked extremely hard on this project for the last few months. We also will be pursuing ways we can help with improvements at the Blackshear Place Library and the construction of the new East Hall Library Branch.

As always, we want to increase our membership. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join the Friends of the Hall County Library System. We need your help and your dues and donations to assist the library staff in all the good things they do. We also solicit book donations, so spread the word!

Our next meeting will be at the Gainesville Branch Library on August 9th at 3:30PM. All Friends members are encouraged to attend.

With gratitude,

Ruth Bruner

Friends Store gets an update!

At the April Friends meeting, a committee was formed to improve the look of the Friends used book store and to improve donation storage at the Gainesville Library. Over the last few months the committee has purchased new shelves, brochure holders, and wall decor to improve foot traffic into the store. Jim and Mari-Ann Wise and Tom Walsh organized the Friends storage room and process for storage of books that are sold with our online vendor, Thrift Books, and stored for upcoming Friends Sales. Both rooms look amazing! Book donations are sorted through weekly by Jim and Mari-Ann Wise. As always, please send in your gently used book donations! We can use them in our sale room, with Thrift Books, or our upcoming book sale in the Spring. The Friends' profits have greatly increased due to the hard work of these committees.

Want to get more involved in your community?

Hall County Library System will be launching a new volunteer outreach program to let trained library volunteers be ambassadors for the library system. Information coming at the August 2022 Friends Meeting!

Legislative Update FY2023

Thank you to our legislative delegation for supporting Georgia's libraries!

Latest legislative session:
- Book materials funds rose from .40 per capita to .60 per capita
- Funding for grants maintenance and repair of library buildings
- Seven library systems received library construction grants
- Budget amended for FY22 to increase the library technology budget
Friends Members 2022

Joyce Branch
Ruth Bruner
Anne Chenault
Bob Conner
Carlyle and Bernice Cox
Leslie and Chip Frierson
Kathy and Lamar Gailey
Gainesville Phoenix Women’s Club
Gainesville Newcomers Club
M. Jane Goodrich
Virginia and Jim Hale
MyGeorgia Credit Union
Barbara J. Hermann

Life-time Friends
Jackson EMC
Bonnie and Harley Jones
LaFarge North America
Liberty Utilities
Lifestyle Real Estate by Dominai Reeves
Jim and Carolyn Mahar
Abit and Kayanne Massey
John and June McPherson
Irene Michaud
Adrian and Susan Mixson
Cara Mitchell

NE GA Health System
Rushton Accounting and Business Advisors
Chris Sanders
Laura Sheperd
Turner, Wood, and Smith Insurance
Sandy Wilbanks
Grover and Janice Young

Sponsors
Andy and Sandra Henderson
Mike and Gail Hogan
Denise Lee
Celeste Morris
Carol and Duncan Niven

Families
Rosalyn and Larry Baldwin
Mr. and Mrs George Budzinack
Jessica and Rocky Green
Morris and Jane Hollingsworth
Gabriele Koecher and Robert Copeland
Adrienne and Christopher Junius
Michael and Kristin Krantz
Lisa and Keven MacKinney

Friends Board 2022
Ruth Bruner--President
Jim Wise--Vice President
Janet Ordway--Treasurer
Mari-Ann Wise--Secretary

Next Friends Meeting
Tuesday August 9 at 3:30
Gainesville Library Meeting Room
All are welcome!

It is time to renew your Friends membership for 2022. Our membership/renewal form is located on the back of the newsletter. If your name is not listed, we have not recorded your renewal for 2022. If you feel we have omitted your name in error, or if we have misspelled your name, please call Adrianne Junius at 770-532-3311 ext. 126. All membership renewals are based on the calendar year and due in January.

Families
Gina Miller
Carolyn Moses
George and Janet Ordway
John and Vicki Sherry
Jim and Mari-Ann Wise

Individuals
Nancy Carvell
Cynthia Donoho
Eliza Jones
Naomi Lawson
Billie Sanders
Ronda Sanders
Carol Sherman
Teresa Strayhorn
Kerry Whitlock

Patrons
Judy Chasey
Debra Evans
Jeanne and Bobby Jimerson
Elaine Martin
Sandra Martin

New books
at HCLS this summer!
Join Friends of the Hall County Library System and enjoy your membership through the year 2022. With your help, we can expand our library activities and services throughout Hall County.

Individual $25   Family $50   Patron $100   Sponsor $150   Lifetime $500

NAME________________________________________PHONE___________________
ADDRESS___________________________________________________________
EMAIL_________________________________________________________________

Please send me the newsletter by U.S. mail _____ Please send via email only _____

I would like to help with:   Library book sales_______ Author programs_______
Fundraising______ Service on the Board _________

My check for $_____________ is enclosed.
Pay to FOHCLS, 127 Main Street NW, Gainesville. GA 30501