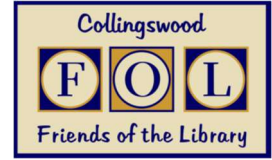


Friends Focus



The Newsletter of Collingswood Friends of the Library

Spring 2025

Treasurer's Report



It was another successful year for FOL thanks to our members who continue to support FOL and the Collingswood Public Library, as well as patrons and neighbors who support Friends. Memberships, donations, and on-going book sales continue to fund our contributions to the library and raise awareness throughout the community. For a detailed listing of support for 2024, please go to the library's home page, www.collingswood.org, select **About**, then **Friends of the Library** and you can view the detailed report.

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Collingswood Reads Book Club

Friends continues to support the monthly community book discussion for both adults and teens. This event runs from 7-8 pm; it takes place at the **library** in May and **outdoors** at the Scottish Rite in June, July, and August. Details available on the library website.

May 28 – The Women (Historical Fiction) by Kristin Hannah. The eBook and audiobook are available on Libby.

June 18* – James (Fiction) by Percival Everett. The eBook and audiobook are available on Libby. *Note this is the third Thursday.

July 23 – The Frozen River (Fiction) by Ariel Lawhon. The eBook and audiobook are available on Libby.

August 27 – Sigh, Gone (Fiction) by Phuc Tran. The audiobook is available on Libby.



President's Message:

Did you know that your membership dues & donations to Friends of the Library help support purchasing museum passes for the library? Currently we have 17 different passes that can be checked out for free with your library card. There is a museum pass for everyone. History buffs, families with littles, and adults just looking for fun things to do on a day trip. Give the library a call or check out their online catalog to see which passes are available for you to check out today. A free day of fun and knowledge awaits you.

Thank you for all you do to continue to support Collingswood Library.

Anita

Director's Message:

Library funding has been in the news a lot lately. On March 14, President Trump issued an Executive Order to dismantle the federal agency dedicated to funding library services, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), as well as six other agencies. You can view the full order here: <https://tinyurl.com/49ymf6ce/>. On March 31, 2025 all IMLS staff were placed on a 90-day administrative leave.

What does this mean for Collingswood Public Library and other public libraries? While Collingswood Library -- like most public libraries -- receives the bulk of its funding from local taxes, federal funding through IMLS supports many functions of State Libraries, including the New Jersey State Library (NJSL).

NJSL annually receives approximately \$4.5 million from IMLS through the Grants to States program. A total of 20 people at NJSL are in Grants to States program-related jobs, working on large and smaller scale initiatives that include: The Talking Book and Braille Center, the only NJ library geared exclusively to serving the state's Blind and print-disabled population; JerseyConnect, which provides integrated technology services for libraries, including internet and managed Wi-Fi services, email hosting, network access and cloud services; and online databases.* Collingswood Public Library and its patrons benefit from all of the resources listed above.

If you wish to learn more, or discuss IMLS with your federal representatives, you can visit the American Library Association at ala.org. ALA has up-to-date information and answers to Frequently Asked Questions, as well as ways to contact your representatives directly.

*NJSL Data excerpted from the NJSL Statement on IMLS – April 1, 2025.

Cheers,

Carissa

It's Membership renewal time. Friends of the Library advocates for the library, raises funds, sponsors programs and special events, and on-going used book sales in the lobby. One of the ways Friends provides financial support to the library is through membership dues, and we appreciate your continued support. If **2025** is not on your mailing label, this would be a great time to renew your annual membership by completing this renewal application!

A self-addressed envelope has been included for your convenience in remitting your **2025** dues.

Or you may donate thru PayPal. Go to the library's home page, www.collingswoodlib.org, select **About**, click on **Friends of the Library** and click on **Donate** and that will direct you to **PayPal**.

Thank you for supporting Friends of the Library.

Application for Membership

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ E-mail Address _____

Type of Membership (All are tax deductible) New ____ Renewal ____

Friend: _____ Sr. Citizen or Student (\$10)

_____ Individual (\$15)

_____ Family or Business (\$25)

Patron _____ (\$50)

Associate _____ (\$100)

Benefactor _____ (\$250)

Other _____ (\$_____)

Make checks payable and mail to:
(or drop off membership form at
the Circulation Desk)

Collingswood Friends of the Library
Collingswood Public Library
771 Haddon Ave.
Collingswood, NJ 08108

**This newsletter is published by
Collingswood Friends of the Library**

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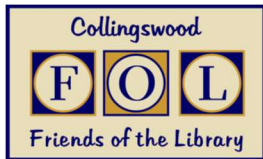
Friends meet on the Second Monday of the
month at 5.30 pm in the Director's office.

All members are welcome to attend.

Museum Pass Update:

Friends of the Library is pleased to announce that we now have **two (2)** museum passes for the **Please Touch Museum** in Philadelphia. Each pass includes free general admission for up to 6 people and free parking for (2) in the Museum's gated parking lot.

Adult cardholders in good standing may check out this pass for up to four days. For more information, or to find out if the pass is available today, call the library at 856.858.0649.



*771 Haddon Avenue
Collingswood, NJ 08108*