

## Friends of the Library Booksale- A Volunteer Opportunity

Here's a fact you may not know: Since 1978, the FOL has contributed more than \$2,000,000 to your libraries for a variety of programs, services, grants, and capital improvements. Friends donations have helped encourage children to participate in Summer at the Library and adults to participate in Winter ReadFest. Black History Month

and Spring Fling entertainment also relies on the Friends.

All this support requires a lot of money.

Where does it come from? Mostly from the Friends Annual Booksale. Every year in late February, the Friends of the Metropolitan Library System host one of America's largest book sales at the State Fairgrounds.

Hundreds upon thousands of books, magazines, audiotapes and videos sell for \$1.00 or less. There is also a Collector's Choice area where each item is priced individually. Admission is free and book lovers will have a great time.

Booksale requires lots of volunteers—1,000 people are needed to put

on The Big Show. No, make that 999 plus YOU. FOL currently has about 30 loyal, hardworking volunteers who work at the Sort Site all year to prepare books for the sale, but finding 1000 volunteers to work the week of the sale is a challenge!

Volunteer opportunities begin February 14th and continue through Booksale

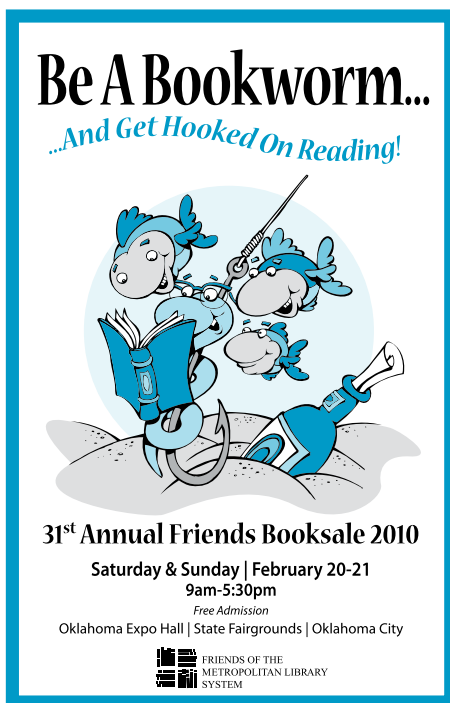
weekend, February 20th and 21st. In addition to people getting the books to the sale, we need volunteers to set up tables, to keep the coffee perking, to cashier, to cheer everyone on—and to clean up the mess when it's all over.

And if you're a member of the Friends, you'll be invited to a presale shopping party Friday night, February

19th, before the event begins the next morning.

Interested? Check out the volunteer sign-up form on the Friends' website, [www.mlfriends.org](http://www.mlfriends.org).

Questions? Call FOL: (405) 606-3763  
It's hard work, but it's the fun kind.



## Kids and Volunteering

Is there a teen in your life who is looking for a way to work with his or her community in a way that is both fun and productive? Is there a place that actively looks for young volunteers that offers such a setting? Hello. Here we are.

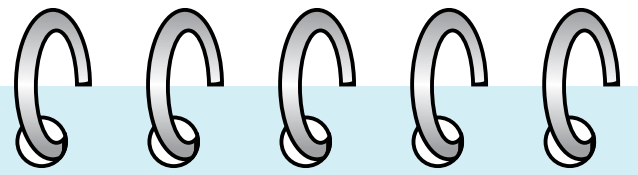
For the 2009 Summer at the Library events we had a wonderful 305 young volunteers sign on, donating 10,000 hours to the cause of helping kids keep their reading skills up during the annual school hiatus. We can imagine keeping Summer Reading going without the help of our Teen Volunteers, but it wouldn't be pretty and it would cut the impact of the program considerably.

Teens who volunteer to help in the

library stay busy and active, and the educational benefits are another plus. They are also exposed to such important life skills as responsibility, caring, independence and organization.

The challenge may be in convincing young people that volunteering in their communities entails more than just cleaning up stretches of highway or working for food drives, but once they are committed to a volunteer situation they quickly realize that they can actually accumulate experience that can be related to a future career.

And they will also discover, by working with the library's varied clientele in the real world that people less fortunate than themselves can use a helping hand.



## Teens Read About It

The Metropolitan Library System's cable TV program Read About It is now in its 18th year of production. It airs on Cox Cable station 7 Saturday mornings at 10:30 with reviews of



books, CDs and DVDs that are held in the library's collection, and with inter-

views of writers, illustrators, publishers and editors. The reviews are offered by MLS staff and by people in the community.

For the last several years, those people have included teen volunteers, and they have proven to be some of the program's most engaging reviewers. The number of young people sharing their reading interests with the show's

audience has increased every year. Teen reviews are taped all at



one time and then inserted into the show one a week until the current group is exhausted.

As a general rule, potential teen reviewers are nominated by their supervising librarians, but parents, there's no reason why you can't watch the show with your teen and then chat about the possibility of becoming a "star" on Read About It. Check with Associate Producer Doug Bentin, 606-3752, for more information.

# Giving Back When It Counts

**F**or over two decades the Library Endowment Trust has raised money to help fund Metropolitan Library System programs and materials for the over 600,000 estimated library users in Oklahoma County.

This year donations to the Endowment Trust helped fund the popular Winter Readfest program for seniors as well as the library's biggest annual event, the Summer Reading program. The Endowment Trust also contributed \$25,000 for public art at the newly renovated Ralph Ellison Library.

In addition to supporting programs and public art, donations to the Endowment Trust have in previous years helped pay for a new maintenance vehicle, updated furniture for libraries around the system, and many children's books.

Gifts can be given to the Library Endowment Trust in memory or in honor of friends, co-workers, or family members. Please consider donating to the Library Endowment Trust's Annual Funds campaign to support their important work. For more information, go to the MLS website: <http://www.metrolibrary.org/endowment/aboutus.htm> or call 606-3760.



Volunteer Services  
Metropolitan Library System  
300 Park Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102-3600

## Inside:

 *Summer at the Library 2009*

 *Booksale Rises Again*

 *Good Stuff*

# Volunteer Vantage

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[www.metrolibrary.org](http://www.metrolibrary.org)

### Full Service Libraries

**BELLE ISLE**  
5501 N. Villa 843-9601

**BETHANY**  
3510 N. Mueller 789-8363

**CAPITOL HILL**  
334 S.W. 26th 634-6308

**CHOCTAW**  
2525 Muzzy St. 390-8418

**DEL CITY**  
4509 S.E. 15th 672-1377

**DOWNTOWN**  
300 Park Ave. 231-8650

**EDMOND**  
10 S. Boulevard 341-9282

**MIDWEST CITY**  
8143 E. Reno 732-4828

**RALPH ELLISON**  
1918 N.E. 23rd 424-1437

**SOUTHERN OAKS**  
6900 S.Walker 631-4468

**THE VILLAGE**  
0307 N. Pennsylvania 755-0710  
TDD 755-7319

**WARR ACRES**  
5901 N.W. 63rd 721-2616

### Extension Libraries

**HARRAH**  
1930 N. Church Ave. 454-2001

**JONES**  
111 E. Main 399-5471

**LUTHER**  
310 N.E. 3rd 277-9967

**NICOMA PARK**  
2240 Overholser 769-9452

**WRIGHT**  
2101 Exchange 235-5035

### On the Web

[www.metrolibrary.org](http://www.metrolibrary.org)

MLS Volunteer Services  
300 Park Avenue  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

**606-3762**

[volservices@metrolibrary.org](mailto:volservices@metrolibrary.org)

**Volunteers!**

*Remember to sign in and  
out each time you volunteer  
at the library!*