

# Volunteer Vantage

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www.metrolibrary.org

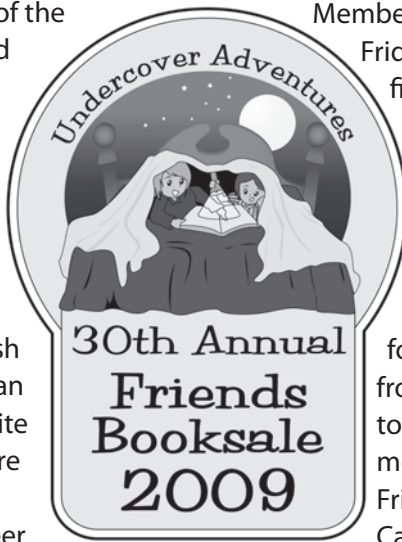
## Getting Ready for Booksale

Oh yes, it's coming, and the 2009 edition promises to be the biggest and best of them all.

It's the 30th Annual Friends of the Library Booksale, Saturday and Sunday February 21-22, 2009, in Oklahoma Expo Hall of the State Fairgrounds.

The Friends will need volunteers to move "for sale" items from the sorting site to Expo Hall, to keep the tables stocked with books, to run cash registers, and to help with clean up. You can work at the sort site or at the Fairgrounds, and there are seven different shifts to choose from. You can volunteer as an individual or as part of a group.

The sale is open for business from 9:00am to 5:30pm.



Are you planning to do a little buying while you're there? Consider joining the Friends and you can attend the

Members only Presale Party on Friday, February 20, and get first shot at some of the most desirable items.

As always, proceeds benefit the Metropolitan Library System.

Membership application forms and volunteer forms can be submitted from the web site. Just go to [www.mlsfriends.org](http://www.mlsfriends.org). For more information, contact Friends Coordinator Carol Gilbert at [friends@metrolibrary.org](mailto:friends@metrolibrary.org), call (405)

606-3763 or check the website [friends@metrolibrary.org](http://friends@metrolibrary.org)!

## Summer Stuff A Thon

Hours, days and weeks go into getting ready for the library's annual Summer at the Library programs for children and teens, and one of the most essential preparation projects is stuffing the information packets that are given to each person who enrolls. Now picture library staff trying to stuff those packets while rows of excited kids stand in line waiting to sign up.

Scary, huh?

That's why Volunteers help every year by stuffing those Summer Reading packets in advance. Many of you have helped in years past, and you are needed again in 2009.

The four day Stuff-a-Thon will be held at the Downtown Library from May 4 through 7. There will be two daily shifts, from 9:30am to 12:30pm, and from 1:00 to 4:00pm. Free lunch will be provided and you can work one or both shifts, but please RSVP!

"We need about 25 people per day," said volunteer coordinator Heidi Port. "It's a great opportunity to work with your friends or meet new ones, and help the library get ready for it's biggest event of the year."

Need more information or want to schedule your shift? Give Heidi a call at 405-606-3762

## The Best Week of the Year

Some people think their birthday is important. Some think summer is the best time of year. Some opt for their favorite annual holiday. But they all pale beside the week of April 19-25, 2009.

National Volunteer Week.

This is the time to recognize our community's volunteers, mentors, and contributors, so we'd like to say "Thank you" on behalf of the thousands of people whose

lives are made a little better but are not in a position to express personal gratitude. As a volunteer, be glad that you're able to give of yourself to those who need the help—then go grab a friend and get him or her involved, too.

We love what you've done for us, and will do in the future. There's always someone who needs what you have to give. Thanks for caring.

## Volunteering: As Oklahoman as a Windy Day

Here's the bad news: according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of young people (25-34 years) who volunteer time in their communities dropped each year from 2003 to 2007. The national average is 22.6 percent.

That's them; this is us—and we're the good news.

Over the same time frame, the rate in Oklahoma City has increased to 47.4 percent. Over all in central Oklahoma, 32.1 percent of the population volunteers some of its time to helping out where the need is great—that's around 324,000 volunteers out of a population of a million.

Want to get in on the action? Your Metropolitan Library System is always in need of volunteers for its Summer at the Library

programs for children and teens. Here's how to get involved:

- If you've volunteered before, be sure to contact your volunteer supervisor at your library location and get on the summer schedule.
- If you have friends who would also like to volunteer, they can go to the library website ([www.metrolibrary.org](http://www.metrolibrary.org)) to print a volunteer application.

Come join us again this year. As you know, volunteering can be a lot of work, but it's always a lot of fun.



# Award-Winning Author Ann Patchett Scheduled for Literary Voices Event



The most eagerly awaited literary event of the year in central Oklahoma is the Annual Endowment Trust Literary Voices Dinner. This year's guest speaker is the award-winning novelist Ann Patchett. Her first novel was named a New York Times Notable Book for 1992, but it was her 2002 bestseller *Bel Canto* that received the PEN/Faulkner

Award and became a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award.

The Literary Voices Dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2009, beginning at 7:00pm at the Oklahoma City Golf and

Country Club. Reservations are \$125 each and go on sale after February 15.

Oklahoman book blogger and MLS Development Specialist Chris Carroll has described Patchett as "a wonderful writer whose novels are each wildly different from the others."

For more information, call Chris at 405-606-3760, or Director of Development Ernestine Clark at 405-606-3761.



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# THE Volunteer Vantage

**Metropolitan Library System**

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### 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**

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

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