

# FOLIO

Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma

Newsletter Vol. XXXVII No. 3—Winter 2016

[www.okfriends.net](http://www.okfriends.net)

## Strengthening Libraries in Oklahoma through Friends of Libraries

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## Join us at the Annual Conference



**Friends of Libraries in OK Annual Meeting on Friday, April 1, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Tulsa, meeting in conjunction with the Oklahoma Library Association.**

**The cost of registration is \$50 and includes lunch.**

**Register at <http://www.oklibs.org/?OLA2016>**

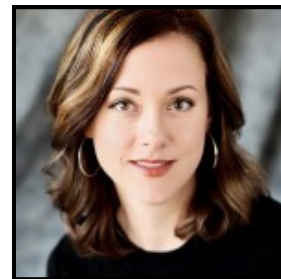
Of course, other Oklahoma Library Association events are available to you. Wednesday evening's banquet speaker is Beau Jennings, Oklahoma film director and musician, who will discuss making the film and album, *Verdigris*, about Will Rogers. A Wednesday preconference is planned "Turning the Page: Library Advocacy in Action," led by Brenda Hough from Lawrence, Kansas. Participants will use tools and learn strategies to advocate on behalf of libraries.

## We're Tulsa Bound

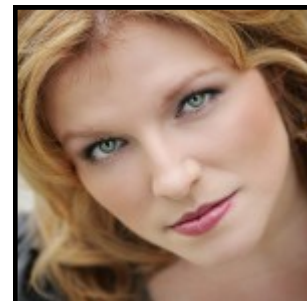
**Friday, April 1**

10:30 a.m. Networking with the Vendors  
11:30 a.m. Fundraising Discussion  
12:30 p.m. Author Luncheon  
1:45 p.m. FOLIO Business meeting  
*[Come earlier for vendor exploration and stay later for other programs.]*

The FOLIO Annual Meeting is a great time to network with other Friends, see exhibits, meet authors, and learn tips about Friends. Join us on April 1. The morning program will feature great ideas on fundraising. The luncheon speakers are Oklahoma authors Sonia Gensler and Tara Hudson. In the afternoon the annual business meeting will be held; then the FOLIO Board meeting.



Sonia Gensler, children's author



Tara Hudson, young adult author

*(continued on page 2)*

## A Message from the President

**RECIPE FOR  
SUCCESS:  
HEAT UP AN IDEA  
TAKE ACTION  
MIX IT UP WITH  
PASSION AND BELIEF  
THEN ADD A DASH  
OF PERSISTENCE**

What a great year for FOLIO as we continue promoting and supporting libraries in Oklahoma through Friends groups. We have great ideas, have taken action and with the wonderful persistent board and members' passions and beliefs in libraries, we have accomplished a lot this year.

On April 1, 2016, at our annual conference, we will continue our endeavors. Please come join us as we provide four scholarships to staff members who are pursuing additional library skills; honor two Friends groups that have shown exemplary service to their communities; hear some dynamic children's and young adult authors; and share ideas for fundraising.

To register for the FOLIO annual meeting, go to the OLA website at [oklibs.org](http://oklibs.org), under Events. This year all registrations must be completed online.

I hope to see you at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Tulsa on April 1, 2016. The morning session begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by the luncheon with authors at 12:30 p.m., and then our business meeting at 1:45 p.m. Come early and enjoy the vendors and stay later for other interesting programs.

*Dr. Judy Neale, President*



*(continued from p. 1)*

Authors Sonia Gensler and Tara Hudson traveled around the state in 2015-16 visiting five towns and giving presentations to hundreds of youth at local schools and public libraries.

The Double R (Reading Roundup) Author Tour was held in conjunction with a \$40,000 grant the Oklahoma Department of Libraries' Office of Library Development received from the Reading Trust.

Gensler and Hudson's books focus on paranormal subjects which were well-received by both young adult and adult readers. Hudson is the author of *Hereafter*, *Arise*, and *Elegy*. Gensler is the author of *The Revenant* (winner of the 2012 Oklahoma Book Award), *The Dark Between*, and *Ghostlight*.

The Double R Author Tour is sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the Oklahoma Center for the Book, Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma (FOLIO), and Best of Books.

FOLIO assisted with travel funds for the authors. More information and photos are available at <http://doubler.oklibraries.org/>. You will be delighted by their presentation at conference.

FOLIO's morning session will be sharing ideas about fundraising. Resources will be explored. Bring your ideas and hear what others have found successful.

## Yukon Book Sale



The Friends of the Mabel C. Fry Public Library in Yukon will be holding their annual spring book sale on Friday, April 22 from 9am-7pm and Saturday, April 23rd from 9am-2pm at the Dale Robertson Center located at 1200 Lakeshore Drive in Yukon.

Sara Schieman, Librarian, Mabel C. Fry Public Library, Yukon

## FOLIO Scholarships

FOLIO offers scholarships annually for library staff furthering their library careers. There are four \$500 scholarships available this year. The application process is easy and requires only a short essay. All the information needed to apply can be found on the FOLIO web page at [www.okfriends.net](http://www.okfriends.net). The deadline for receiving applications is March 16, 2016. Let your library staff know about this available assistance.

## Best Friends Awards

FOLIO will present awards to Friends groups who have demonstrated exemplary success in support of their local library in 2015. The Oklahoma Best Friends Award recognizes Friends groups in cities with a population in excess of 10,000. The John Harkey Best Friends Award recognizes Friends groups in cities with a population of less than 10,000. The award for first place in both groups will be \$500.

- All competing Friends groups must have a paid membership in FOLIO. Membership forms are on the web page at [www.okfriends.net](http://www.okfriends.net).
- Complete the entry form and submit it with your entry notebook or documentation before March 16, 2016.
- Check [www.okfriends.net](http://www.okfriends.net) for details and the entry form for the Best Friends awards and the Scholarships.

**“A Library outranks  
ANY OTHER**

**one thing a community can do to  
benefit its people**

**It is a  
never failing  
Spring in the Desert.”**

**—Andrew Carnegie**

## Chickasaw Regional Library System's Renovation Underway

“Open During Renovations” reads the sign hanging from the Chickasaw Regional Library System's (CRLS) Ardmore Branch as customers enter the

front doors for service. The library is currently operating out of the meeting room while construction takes place for a much needed renovation. The Friends group helped with fundraisers for the renovation.

The building looked the same as it did when it first opened in the 1980s, including the drab orange carpet! But as community needs have changed, so has the design of library spaces. Digital resources, high speed Internet, programming, video conferencing and distinct spaces for youth are a necessity for customers today! CRLS' renovation will create unique spaces for all library customers from young toddlers to adults.

The remodel will improve the functionality of customer service allowing visitors to move more freely around the library. A self-check machine at the circulation desk will give guests more independence and save them time. Improving the appearance of the library with new flooring, vibrant paint colors, shelving and furniture will give the existing facility a much needed “face lift.” The library is being redesigned to include comfortable and functional spaces for all age groups - children to adults. Additions include early literacy computers, a flat screen TV for virtual gaming (available in the “teen zone”), as well as a “*maker space*” with 3D printers, other games and study tables.

A quiet comfortable adult reading area will be available as well as the “*Tech Center*” for computer and microfilm users which will also serve as a computer lab for classes and private instruction.

The renovation of the library space will allow CRLS to offer all customers more choices, convenience and comfort!



*The tech center will include glass walls and will house 14 public computers with the microfilm reader.*



## News from Around the State

### Libraries Receive Funds

The Educational Facilities Authority (EFA) gave funds in January to four Canadian County libraries to expand services and reach out to new users. Mustang PL received \$17,567 with Yukon, Piedmont and El Reno public libraries receiving the balance of \$63,061 in authority funding.

They formed a partnership to work on the proposal. The funding formula was based on the state aid formula set by the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. In addition to traditional resources of books, magazines, newspapers and other printed materials, each of the four libraries has also made strides in recent years not only for in-person services but online access, which can be particularly important to those living in rural areas and to homebound residents, according to Desiree Webber, Director, Mustang Public Library.

"Today more than ever, we are able to serve residents across the county because we have web-based services available 24/7. Customers can access eBooks, download audio books, 250 online magazines, legal forms, live educational classes, encyclopedias, and access to full-text research articles in the fields of medicine, business and more," Webber continued.

In Mustang the EFA funds will be used to purchase eBooks and downloadable audio books, as well as mobile printing software. Webber explained that the software will allow anyone holding a Mustang library card to print a job at the facility and then pick it up later. Customers using Wi-Fi may send a wireless print job to the network printer. In addition, a part-time youth services associate will be concentrating on programming.

The EFA funding will help promote the countywide partnership already established. "The four libraries work together to share resources to efficiently serve our customers," Piedmont PL Director Rhonda Turley said. "We're all excited about this opportunity for funding."

The EFA was established by the county commissioners in 2009. They serve as trustees of the fund.

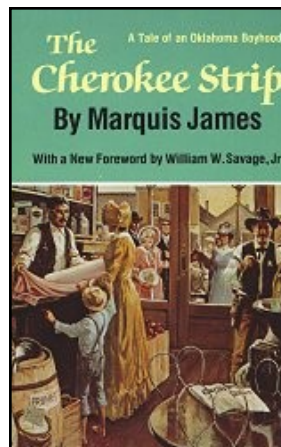
Traci Chapman, "Library Receives Funds From EFA."  
*Mustang Times*, Jan. 6, 2016, p.3A

### McAlester Friends of the Library



Above is pictured the McAlester Friends meeting in December, featuring McAlester radio personality Megan Waters (left, holding book) who read some of her favorite holiday poetry. The McAlester Friends of the Library meet at noon on the third Tuesday of each month. In November they hosted author J. Michael Matkin, who discussed libraries of the ancient world.

### Next Literary Landmark will Honor Marquis James



The next Literary Landmark dedication in Oklahoma will honor the late Marquis James sometime during the weekend of the Cherokee Strip Festival in Enid. Events are Sept. 16 and 17, 2016. Stay tuned for the exact date and time!

### El Reno's Chocolate Festival

Friends of the El Reno Carnegie Library sponsored a chocolate festival on February 18 to benefit the renovation of the historic Carnegie Library. They provided chocolate treats, take out chocolate, cash bar, and live jazz band. The tickets were \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door.



## News You Can Use

### Mustang Chocolate Festival



The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Friends of the Mustang Library Chocolate Festival will be held Friday, March 4, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Mustang Town Center, 1201 N. Mustang Road. An array of chocolate treats will be on hand for people to taste or to purchase as gifts. Tickets are \$8.00 for eight tastes.

Last year's festival featured chocolate-covered bacon, chocolate torts, cupcakes, cheese cakes, brownies, cakes, cookies, and all types of candies. This year's festival will also provide sugar-free and gluten-free selections. In addition, there will be a table for children to decorate their own cupcakes.

"Awards will be given for Most Unique Chocolate, Best Tasting Chocolate and Best Decorated Table," says event chair Nancy Keiser. "Winners are chosen by popular vote and announced before the end of the evening. There will also be a silent auction with all kinds of great items on which to bid," says Keiser.

Proceeds from the Chocolate Festival will be used to support the Summer Reading Program at the Library. The Friends of the Library support a Summer Arts Series that is held every Thursday afternoon during June and July. The Summer Arts Series presents artistic programs such as The Oklahoma Children's Theatre, Cimarron Opera, storytellers, Native American dancers and more. The Friends also support educational programs during the summer paying for the presenters and supplies so that all children may attend without concern of costs involved. All Library events and classes are free to the public.

### Contact Your Congress Member Now

This month individual members of Congress will start signing letters addressed to their influential colleagues on the Appropriations Committees. Those letters will ask the Committee to provide specific dollar amounts for specific programs, Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) included. The LSTA is the only federally funded program specifically dedicated to supporting libraries. Last year, libraries received just under \$183 million in LSTA funding, about \$156 million of which flowed to states as matching grants.)

The more members of Congress who sign the "Dear Appropriator" letter asking for significant LSTA funding, the better the odds of that money actually being awarded by the Appropriations Committee and eventually flowing to your state. Members of Congress will most likely sign the LSTA letter if they hear from constituents and see the positive impact LSTA-funded programs are having on their constituents.

Your Representative and Senators work for you and will love hearing about all of the great things that LSTA money does for their constituents.

### National Library Legislative Day 2016

This year, the event will be held in Washington, D.C. on May 2-3, 2016, bringing hundreds of librarians, trustees, library supporters, and patrons to Washington, D.C. to meet with their members of Congress and to rally support for library issues and policies. As with previous years, participants will receive advocacy tips and training, along with important issue briefings prior to their meetings.

Participants at National Library Legislative Day are also able to take advantage of a discounted room rate by booking at the Liaison (for the nights of May 1st and 2nd). To register for the event and find hotel registration information, please visit the website (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/nlld>).

A scholarship opportunity is available to one first-time participant at National Library Legislative Day. Recipients of the White House Conference on Library and Information Services Taskforce (WHCLIST) Award receive a stipend of \$300 and two free nights at a D.C. hotel. For more information about the WHCLIST Award and Legislative Day, visit <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/nlld>.

--Lisa Lindle, American Library Association Washington's  
Grassroots Communications Specialist



## Six Active Learning Spaces for Libraries

In the book *Get Active: Reimagining Learning Spaces for Student Success*, the authors identify six types of active learning spaces that are essential for creating an engaging learning environment.

### Small group areas

In your library, have areas available where small groups of students can meet, talk and brainstorm.

### Large group areas

For large groups, have flexible furnishings so they can be reconfigured to transition the space. Have an easy-to-use presentation setup, too.

### Community Area

Often, the community area will be one and the same with the large group area, where you host special events like author visits, bookfairs, meetings, etc.

### Technology rich area

Your library should have a space where students can utilize technology. Think beyond just the basic computer lab, maybe tablets, photoediting, or a small music studio.

### Quiet, solitary areas

Try to designate a quiet room or quiet zone in your library where students will know to keep the volume down.

### Makerspaces

Makerspaces come in all shapes and sizes, from a bin of LEGOs on a table in the corner to a full-blown fab lab with 3D printers and laser cutters. Try to find a way to give students access to hands-on materials where they can explore new ideas and have creative play experiences.

Diana Rendina, *Knowledge Quest* (1/26/2016)

## National Library Week

APRIL 10 -16, 2016

"Libraries Transform"

NLW sample press releases, public service announcements, other promotion ideas and proclamations are available at <http://www.ala.org/> under conferences and events.

## New Friends at South OKC Library



In October 2015, South Oklahoma City Friends of the Library had their first General Meeting/Chili Dinner. Introductions were made and a general "welcome" was made for new members. After the meeting, customers in the library were invited to partake of the Chili Dinner. (Photo above.) In November 2015, the SOKC Library held the first-ever SOKC Friends of the Library Tag Sale. Library customers and community members were invited to come shop gently used household goods and clothing. The event raised a total of \$712, which supports library programming for children, teens, and adults.

Kelly Sitzman, Information Services Manager  
Southwest Oklahoma City Library

## Stilwell Friends Society Honored



The Stilwell Public Library Friends Society was recently honored by the Cherokee Nation at their National Holiday Awards Ceremony when they received the Cherokee National Community Leadership Award Organization for 2015. Seen in the photo are Principal Chief Bill John Baker, Deputy Chief Joe Crittenden, Council member Shawn Crittenden along with the board of the Stilwell Friends Group.

The Stilwell Friends' community involvement includes the local food pantry, Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, local schools, hospital, Cherokee Nation, Stillwell Farmers' Market, OSU Extension, Home Educators, and Stillwell Library. They helped establish the Farmers Market and are involved in its grant writing, management, and bookkeeping. Their fund-raising efforts for the last 8 years have netted \$360,000 towards the addition of a children's wing for the library which they hope to see started this fall.

Grace Ferris, President, Stilwell Public Library Friends Society



You can assist FOLIO when you shop Amazon online. FOLIO will receive 0.5 percent of eligible sales. Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations.

- Simply go to smile.amazon.com when you want to begin shopping.
- Select FOLIO as your charitable organization.
- Shop as you would normally.

## Newsletter by Email

Would you like to receive the *FOLIO Newsletter* by email? Please include your email address when you renew your membership or email Gerry Hendon, FOLIO Treasurer, today.  
ghendon@wings-n-things.com



### Yes! I want to join FOLIO and be a Friend of Libraries in Oklahoma.

Your membership dues and donations are the primary source of funds to support FOLIO's mission. New members are always welcome.

**Basic dues** are as follows:

- \$10 Individual Membership
- \$15 Friends Group Membership
- \$20 Library Membership

Contributions above the minimum dues further support FOLIO's mission, are greatly appreciated, and are tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Individual, Friends group, Library or Corporate Business)

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Donation enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift to Endowment: \_\_\_\_\_

***FOLIO—We are Friends helping Friends!***

***Mail to Gerry Hendon, FOLIO Treasurer  
P.O. Box 702585, Tulsa, OK 74170***

## Need Help?

### Call your FOLIO Ambassador

FOLIO has Outreach Ambassadors who are ready and willing to talk or consult with your Friends' group or your officers. We want to help you be successful and strengthen your library. Let us know how we can assist you.

Ambassadors are available for each quadrant of the State.



#### Northeast

- Jon and Sharon Douthitt  
sdouthitt@prodigy.net

#### Northwest

- Joe and Carol McReynolds  
joemcreynolds@yahoo.com

#### Southeast

- Judy Neale  
judyn@cameron.edu

#### Southwest

- Judy Haught  
judyhaught@swosu.edu
- Carla Garrison  
cgarrison@cableone.net

## Seed Grants



FOLIO has been making Seed Grants available to help get Friends groups started or reinvigorated since 1993. The application and details are available on the FOLIO website—[http:// www.okfriends.net](http://www.okfriends.net).

Seed Grants are awarded on the basis of need and available funds, and are accepted at any time. There is no specific deadline. The Grant was recently increased to \$425.



Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma

P. O. Box 702585

Tulsa, OK 74170

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**FOLIO:**  
Strengthening  
Libraries  
In  
Oklahoma  
through  
Friends  
of  
Libraries  
Since 1978

## Oklahoma Legislative Day—April 11

Friends and library advocates are needed at the State Capitol on Legislative Day, **Monday, April 11**. **[Please note this date change.]** The legislative briefing will be at 9:30 a.m. at the Ralph Ellison Library, 2000 NE 23rd Street (just west of I-35). *(The State Capitol is under construction.)*

Participants will then go to the Capitol and meet with their legislators. The Oklahoma Library Association (OLA) Legislative Committee suggests that you make appointments to meet with your legislator. Find your legislator and contact info at <http://www.oklegislature.gov/>.

Friends are really wanted. Some legislators think that librarians have vested interests, and they really want to hear from local constituents. To register go to [www.oklibs.org](http://www.oklibs.org) and select Events. (The registration form will be available soon.)

The winners of the "Why My Library Is Important to My Community" Contest will be honored in the House Lounge at 1:00 p.m.

### What's at Stake?

The Oklahoma Library Association's one legislative goal is to save the Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL) and its budget. A resolution to support ODL is available at [www.oklibs.org](http://www.oklibs.org). Your public library director also has a copy of the resolution.

We have all heard about the State's budget shortfall with everything on the table for cuts, deletion, consolidation, or other combinations. ODL's budget has been cut 30.6% since 2008. ODL is crucial to the library services offered across the State.

The last issue of this newsletter identified specific services that would be impossible for many public libraries to do a la carte—i.e., online databases, summer reading program, interlibrary loan.

Please have community groups, the library board and your Friends group support the resolution and report to the OLA Legislative Committee chair Kristin Herr, [www.kherr@cityoflawton.ok.us](mailto:www.kherr@cityoflawton.ok.us).