

## FRIENDS OF THE CONCORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Christine Lamb, President  
Stephan & Faith Bader, Co-Treasurers  
Karen Brown Clerk  
Jacqueline Barnard  
Lise Brown Stefanie Cloutier  
Anne Irza-Leggat Janet Kamenstein  
E. Glenn Mitchell Fiona Stevenson  
Jane Torpie Dianne Weiss  
Deb Ervin, Library Liaison

The Friends of the Concord Free Public Library, a non-profit volunteer organization, supports the Library and promotes its vital role as a cultural and literary resource for the community.

With more than 1,100 member and volunteers, the Friends funds library materials, professional development, performances and programs not otherwise provided for in the Library budget. A selection of highlights from 2012 follows.

### *Poetry Series*

Program Chair: E. Glenn Mitchell. The Friends' Weekend Poetry Series hosted four acclaimed younger poets. Poet, cartoonist, and videographer Mark Leidner read from his work, screened one of his videos, and discussed how the language of poets of his generation is informed by the Internet. Pushcart prize winner, Jill McDonough, director of 24Pearl Street, the online writing program at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, enthralled the audience with her researched-based sonnets about public executions and her work as a teacher of poetry in Massachusetts prisons. Melanie Braverman, winner of the Audre Lorde Poetry Award for her collection RED (Perugia Press), read lyrics powered by images and narrative structure about her life on Cape Cod. Joshua Bell, current Briggs Copeland Lecturer on English at Harvard University, entertained patrons with poems by zombies who "come to the over-world to speak to the living" from No Planets Strike (University of Nebraska Press).

### *Music Program*

Committee Chair: Sally Sanford. Music from the Library celebrated its 15th season of presenting world-class artists in free chamber music concerts. Performances by the Arneis Quartet, one of New England's most exciting young string quartets; the distinguished

virtuoso pianist, Geoffrey Bursleson; the husband and wife duo of Mark Feldman, violin, and Sylvie Courvoisier, piano and a concert by pianist Hans Poppel, one of the founding members of the Music Committee, and percussionists Curt Newton and Aaron Trant, were all filled to capacity in the rotunda of the Library.



Many people picnic on the lawn and enjoy the annual Concord on the Lawn series sponsored by the Friends of the Concord Free Public Library

### *Film Series*

Program Chairs: Jacqueline Barnard, Dianne Weiss. The 18th season of The Friday Flicks at Fowler continued its successful screenings of acclaimed international and independent films including the "The Band's Visit", (Israel, 2003), Welcome (France, 2009), Shall We Dance? (Japan, 1996), Le Quattro Volte (Italy, 2010), Do It Again (USA, 2010), Match Point (England, 2005).

### *Author Series*

Program Chair: Maureen Belt. The Thursday Author Series of readings and presentations runs once a month from November to May and in September. Authors are drawn from Concord and the greater Boston area. Speakers included Concord resident and Brandeis Economics professor Catherine Mann, NYT bestselling author of women's fiction, Margot Livesey, Concord resident and novelist Alan Lightman, Concord residents psychiatrist James Chu, MD and cardiologist Malissa Wood MD, as well as Diane Frampton, author of a cookbook on the Paleo diet. Speakers may sell their books after the lecture.

### *Summer Programs*

Program organizers: Karen Brown, Fiona Stephenson; Karen Ahearn, librarian. Friends funding supports the Summer Concerts on the Lawn: (Sol y Canto), (Balla

Kouyate and World Vision) and (Annalivia); Toddler Singalong with singer/musician Ed Morgan at both the Main Library and the Fowler Library; monthly reading groups for elementary aged children and teen groups, after-school Friday films for middle school students at both the Main and Fowler branches, an evening showing in September of the "Hunger Games" film with a costume contest and games inspired by the book. The Friends support the Library's Teen Advisory Board, which hosted a Dr. Seuss-themed evening in December at the Fowler for elementary-aged children, with free babysitting, a magic show, a showing of the film of *The Lorax* and snacks. Music and Movement is a new series of programs for young children given by the Concord Conservatory of Music and their Delcroze Eurhythmics instructor; Teen Workshops - Cake Decorating and Polymer Clay Bead Making Workshop; Wingmasters Presentation - Raptor Rehabilitator brought live birds of prey; Teen Book Group visit to *Reasons To Be Cheerful* to make rocky road ice cream after reading the book *Rocky Road*; Frisbee Throwing program for families; Paper snowflake folding workshop for kids and adults.

#### *Library Materials and Continuing Education*

In 2012 the Friends provided adult and children's CD's and DVDs for the Main and Fowler libraries, museum passes, e-readers and e-content, and librarian continuing education.

Annually, the Friends honor an American historian. In 2012, the Ruth Ratner Miller award for Excellence in American history was presented to Eric Foner.

The Friends gifts and programs are funded primarily through memberships and sales of donated books. Online sales are managed by Empire Books and books are for sale every day on the Friends Bargain Book Cart at the Main Library. The next book sale is Saturday, June 1, 2013 (rain date June 8).

More than half of Friends revenue comes from sales of donated books. Around 20,000 books were on sale in June, raising more than \$18,000. The Holiday Sale in December raised more than \$8,700. To donate gently used books, bring them to the reference desk at the Main Library, 9 am to 3 pm Monday through Saturday.

Friends' memberships are tax deductible. To join, visit [www.concordlibraryfriends.org](http://www.concordlibraryfriends.org) or pick up a brochure

at the Library. For those who love libraries and books, the Friends offers many volunteer opportunities. Volunteers sort donated books for sale; set up and staff the book sales; handle publicity, marketing, membership, database management and finances for programs and events. To volunteer or learn more email friends @ [concordlibrary.org](mailto:concordlibrary.org) or follow the Friends on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Everyone is welcome!

## CONCORD CULTURAL COUNCIL

Richard Perkins, co-chair

Diana Lee, co-chair

Di Clymer

Stephanie Leone

Natalie Bartlett

Daniel Schragger

Janet Silver

The Concord Cultural Council (CCC), whose members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen, supports community cultural projects through its grant program. Funds are received from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) whose mission is "to promote excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities."

Individuals and organizations may apply to the CCC for funding for programs, projects and presentations in music, dance, visual arts, poetry, literature, drama, the humanities and scientific interpretation for all age groups. Preference is given to applicants who live or work in Concord or who offer programs, projects or presentations that specifically benefit Concord.

Information about applying for FY 2012-2013 grants was publicized in the Concord Journal and on the Mass Cultural Council website ([www.mass-culture.org/Concord](http://www.mass-culture.org/Concord)).

Guidelines and applications were distributed at the Town House and both branches of the Concord Free Public Library, and at other selected areas around the Town. The application deadline for 2012 was October 15. Public Meetings were held on September 11, October 16, October 23, and November 20, 2012. Applications were reviewed and voted on in accordance with both State and Local guidelines. The Council chose to