Friends of the Knox County Public Library, what a year you’ve had! You soared into the clouds as you read around the world. You were constant gardeners growing Knox County’s support of the library. You had books to sell and books to embrace. When library doors were open, you had music and words to speak to your heart, mind, and soul. Then doors closed. But you still had books to read and films to watch because your library lives beyond its doors. You had the hope of children who sit on Santa’s lap. You had the magic of imagination that sees beyond what’s visible. And you had the support, financial and moral, of a community that shares your love of libraries, books, and reading.

**THANK YOU, FRIENDS!**

ABOVE: President Sharon Smith on board for Read City USA; membership campaign with Doris Narro, Coordinator Tracey Wiggins, Deanne Charlton, and Natalie Smith; President-elect John Williams; Sandi and Glen Daugherty at History Fair book sale; Suzanne Freeman, Mary Miller, and Marilyn Jake at Bearden Branch sale.

BELOW: Santa at the Library; Books in the Community at Beaumont Magnet Academy; Poetry Lounge with Black Atticus and friends; magic for Summer Library Club.

**WE RAISED**

$246,845

- $130,730 grants and corporate sponsorships
- $48,920 donations
- $41,904 book sales
- $24,247 membership dues
- $1,044 author events

**WE DISBURSED**

$276,693

- $234,201 grants and corporate sponsorships
- $12,134 community reading initiatives and outreach
- $9,956 Friends mini-grants
- $5,143 library collections, services, and programs
- $5,000 Imagination Library
- $2,985 scholarships, conferences, and other
- $2,740 staff and volunteer appreciation

**MISSION**

Friends of the Knox County Public Library is dedicated to fostering a love of libraries, books, and reading in the Knox County area by community outreach, advocacy, and support of the Knox County Public Library System and staff.
Writers and perceptive readers opened books for the community. Delivering the Wilma Dykeman Stokely Memorial Lecture, Michael W. Twitty connected readers to the culinary culture of enslaved people through *The Cooking Gene*. Erik Larson shared a year in the life of Winston Churchill in *The Splendid and the Vile*. Gilly Segal and Kimberly Jones, co-authors of *I'm Not Dying with You Tonight*, lit up the writers’ scene at LitUp. And Reading Close to Home, Ed Francisco led readers into a new understanding of the work of Walker Percy.