

It's Time to Step Up for Your Library!

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Stepping Up for Your Library



Ask a group of members of Friends of the Knox County Public Library why they decided to **step up for their library**, and you'll get a variety of answers — a love of books and reading, a desire to make sure books are available to others, a passion for literacy, a chance to give back and say thanks for the role the library plays in their lives. Many acknowledge the importance of libraries in an informed society. Still others were drawn to Friends by their friends and colleagues.

Friends is an organization that promotes the joys and benefits of **literacy and learning** for people of all ages. It recognizes the importance of preserving the past as a way of **investing in our future**. And above all, it understands the important role the Knox County Public Library and its staff play in our community.

The members of Friends understand that **KCPL isn't just about checking out books**. It's about community programs such as the Children's Festival of Reading and the NEA Big Read as well as programs and events at individual branches that bring people together. It's about music and films and a safe place to gather for conversation. It's about computer access and training and using databases and archives for research.

Do you love libraries, books, and reading? Do you value the programs and services that KCPL provides to everyone in our community at no cost? Do you want to share those beliefs with your friends and neighbors and even people you haven't met yet? Then we invite you to **step up for your library** as a member of Friends in 2018. There's a place for you at the table.

Giving the Gift of Reading



Gifts from Friends and their donors filled empty stockings last year. Toddlers laughed and pointed at the pictures in their new board books, and third graders delighted in chapter books. Middle schoolers devoured fantasy and mystery novels while high schoolers pored over graphic novels.

share the joy of reading with children. Donors fill bins with new or like-new books, and library staff and Friends volunteers ensure that the books are ready for ESF Distribution Day on December 23.

You can help us fill empty stockings this year by:

- **Collecting gift-quality books.** For some children, their ESF books and gifts will be the only ones they receive.
- **Dropping off your book donations** at any [Knox County Public Library branch](#) or at [Union Ave Books](#).

The 2017 holiday book drive extends through **Thursday, November 30**.

The Big Read: Learning and Growing as a Community



Thirty people, most of whom were students, gathered at Hardin Valley Academy to discuss *Station Eleven*. They also explored the science behind the story as teachers explained the biology behind viruses.

For the past month, members of our community have been reading and examining Emily St. John Mandel's *Station Eleven* through discussions, board games, and other activities as part of the [Knox County Public Library's Big Read](#). Schools, library branches, and other locations have served as centers for conversations that have brought people together to learn and grow.

Mandel says that, unlike many post-apocalyptic novels, *Station Eleven* "is ultimately and intentionally a hopeful book." She will appear in Knoxville on **Monday, November 13**, at the final Big Read event at the **Cox Auditorium** in the UT Alumni Memorial Building. Seating is limited, and [reservations are required](#).

Other events remaining on the Big Read schedule include:

- **Friday, November 3, 6 p.m.:** [First Friday opening reception for The Museum of Lost Civilization](#) at The Central Collective
- **Wednesday, November 8, noon:** ["The Fever That Was Fatal to so Many" with Jack Neely](#) at the East Tennessee History Center

understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book.

Reading Close to Home: William Faulkner



"To understand the world, you must first understand a place like Mississippi."
—William Faulkner

William Faulkner's first published work was the poem "L'Après-midi d'un Faune," which appeared in *The New Republic* on August 6, 1919. Nearly 100 years later, he is recognized as one of the most important voices in American and Southern literature. His literary legacy includes 19 novels, over 125 short stories, several screenplays, six collections of poetry, and a number of essays and letters.

Three of Faulkner's short stories, all set in the fictitious Yoknapatawpha County in Mississippi, will be the subject of the Knox County Public Library's new reading and discussion series, **Reading Close to Home**. The series begins at Lawson McGhee Library on **Sunday, November 5**, at 2 p.m. with an introduction to Faulkner's life and work and a screening of two films based on his short stories, *Barn Burning* and *A Rose for Emily*.

The series will continue with three discussions at Lawson McGhee on consecutive Tuesdays:

- **November 7, 6:30 p.m.:** "A Rose for Emily"
- **November 14, 6:30 p.m.:** "Barn Burning"
- **November 21, 6:30 p.m.:** "Dry September"

Edward Francisco, professor of English at Pellissippi State Community College, will lead the discussions. Admission is free.

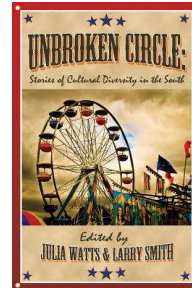
Reading Close to Home: William Faulkner is supported by a Friends **mini-grant**.

'Will the Circle Be Unbroken?'



title of their anthology, they made a connection with a Southern classic that has been performed and recorded by a wide spectrum of artists — “Will the Circle Be Unbroken.” The lyrics of the song temper grief with the vision of a circle of love that will be unbroken “by and by.”

Watts, who was inducted into the Friends of Literacy’s East Tennessee Writers Hall of Fame on October 19, and six of the contributors to ***Unbroken Circle: Stories of Cultural Diversity in the South*** will appear at the East Tennessee History Center on **Sunday, November 12**, at 2 p.m. to talk about their stories. The event, which is **free and open to the public**, is sponsored by Friends, the Knox County Public Library, and the East Tennessee Historical Society.



Copies of *Unbroken Circle* and the individual authors’ books will be available for purchase at the event. Cash and checks only will be accepted for payment.

Santa’s Coming to a Library Near You



Santa has been enticed to take a break from his normal holiday routine for a series of visits to Knox County Public Library locations in December. Each visit will include a special activity or event for young library patrons.

The first stops on Santa’s itinerary this year are:

- **South Knoxville Branch** — December 5, 3:30 p.m.
- **Burlington Branch** — December 6, 10:30 a.m.
- **Corryton Branch** — December 7, 3 p.m.

Santa’s KCPL visits are supported by a [Friends mini-grant](#).

Shop for the Holidays at the Friends @ Rothrock Used Book Shop

On the Calendar

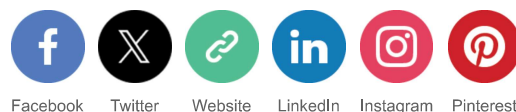
- **Cedar Bluff Branch Used Book Sale** — Friday, November 3, and Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **Holiday Hoedown Used Book Sale** — Saturday, November 11, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- ***Unbroken Circle: Stories of Cultural Diversity in the South*** — Sunday, November 12, 2 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **The Vietnam War: East Tennessee** — Sunday, November 12, 2 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **All Over the Page: *Nutshell*** — Monday, November 13, 6:30 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **Books Sandwiched In: *Evicted: Property and Profit in the American City*** — Wednesday, November 15, noon [MORE>>](#)
- **Karns Branch Used Book Sale** — Thursday, November 16, and Saturday, November 18, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **Bearden Branch Used Book Sale** — Friday, December 1, and Saturday, December 2, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **Holiday Open House at the East Tennessee History Center** — Saturday, December 9, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. [MORE>>](#)

Step Up for Your Library in 2018

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FRIENDS KCPFL is a monthly e-newsletter produced by the Communications Committee of Friends of the Knox County Public Library. Members of the committee who contribute to the e-newsletter include: Martha Gill (co-chair), Martha Edington, (co-chair), Deanne Charlton, Beth Fisher, Ryan McCray, Stacey McCray, Rusha Sams, Claire Serrell, and Joyce York.

About Friends of the Knox County Public Library: Friends is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to foster a love of libraries, books and reading in the Knox County area. The organization raises funds to sponsor community outreach programs, represent the interests of Knox County library patrons, and support a variety of services offered by the local library system that would otherwise not be available due to budget or staff restrictions.

Friends of the Knox County Library has this e-mail address either from our membership roster or from email sign-up sheets. If you are receiving this message in error, please accept our apologies and unsubscribe below. Thank you.

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