

# A YEAR WITH FRIENDS

As Julie Webb has said many times, "Here we come rejoicing." We rejoice that we can once again come together to celebrate a love of libraries, books, and reading. Strengthened by our members, partners, and donors, we did not give up. We met via Zoom. Our volunteers invested an average of 15 hours a day in our work. We wore masks to protect ourselves and others. Because of our partnerships, our annual tribute to Wilma Dykeman Stokely was uninterrupted. Our weekly sponsorship of The Authors Page on WUOT kept our community in touch with Tennessee writers. We reveled in the reach of Knox County's Imagination Library. We gloried in the reopening of our libraries and appreciated the many ways that KCPL kept us engaged. We exulted in our 50th anniversary by contemplating 50 ways we love our library and presenting a \$50,000 gift to KCPL. We made the rounds of our branches to promote KCPL's delightful Tails and Tales campaign and Read City USA. To make up for lost funds, we sold books online, decorated our Christmas trees with a commemorative bauble, had a ball staying at home, and donned new t-shirts. We continued to put books in the hands of community agencies and inherited our first Little Free Library. We were exuberant about Lawson McGhee's 50th anniversary and its welcoming new signage. Flocking to our reopening branch sales, we delighted in seeing our Friends and making new ones. We now come rejoicing to a new year, confident in the dedication, resourcefulness, and creativity of both our library and our Friends.

## Among Friends



## We Raised



**\$250,566**

grants and corporate sponsorships

**57,035**

donations and fundraising events

**27,304**

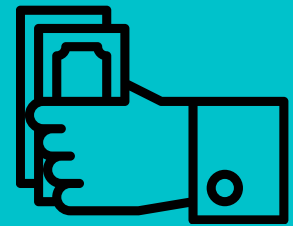
membership dues

**23,349**

book sales



## We Disbursed



**\$231,660**

grants and corporate sponsorships

**97,680**

library collections and services

**5,343**

community outreach

**5,000**

Imagination Library

**3,115**

Friends mini-grants

**2,500**

Wilma Dykeman Stokely Memorial Lecture

**1,819**

staff and volunteer appreciation



## Because of You



**5,508**

volunteer hours served

**81%**

dues, donations, and fundraising events as a percentage of our operating budget

**12,825**

books and other materials shared with our community

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

John Williams, President  
Natalie Smith, President-Elect  
Sharon Smith, Past President  
Shirley Underwood, Rusha Sams, Secretary  
Amy Counts, Treasurer  
Lindsay Banda, Jen Cooper, Brewton Couch,  
Sarah Ford, Bailey Foster, Sara Hobbs, Al Horn,  
Laurie Pearl, Jane Row

**COORDINATOR**

Tracey Wiggins, Eileen Taylor

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Advocacy & Outreach:** Marye Rose, Sharon Smith  
**Author Events:** Bonny Naugher, Claire Serrell  
**Board Development, Charter, & Bylaws:**  
Meryl Keegan, John Williams  
**Communications:** Martha Edington, Martha Gill  
**Fundraising:** Natalie Smith  
**Investments:** Rusha Sams  
**Membership:** Jane Row  
**Nominating:** Jen Cooper  
**Sales & Distribution:** Peter Andreae, Jen Cooper

**VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR**

Jean Idell

**Leadership**



**Keeping in Touch**



16,369

visits to  
knoxfriends.org

3,010

active e-newsletter contacts

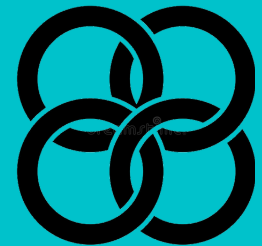
8,347

connections made on Facebook,  
Instagram, Twitter, and  
LinkedIn

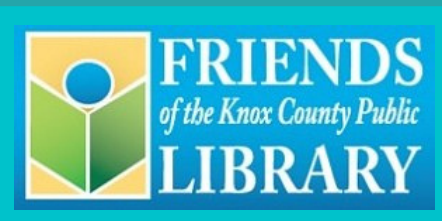
**Friendships & Memberships**

Alliance for Better Nonprofits  
City of Knoxville  
Friends of Tennessee Libraries  
Imagination Library of Knox County  
Knox County Public Library  
Knox County Public Library Foundation  
Libacious

John C. Hodges Society, University Libraries  
Read City USA  
Union Ave Books  
United for Libraries  
United Way of Greater Knoxville  
WATE TV  
WUOT 91.9



**Our Mission**



Join or donate online at  
knoxfriends.org

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.