

AMONG FRIENDS

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE JEFFERSON-MADISON REGIONAL LIBRARY WINTER 2023

Dear Friends of JMRL,

Welcome to the second digital offering of “Among Friends,” a biannual effort to update you on the initiatives and activities of the Friends of the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library.

Book Sales:

The **Spring 2023 Book Sale** is coming soon, April 1 – 9, and this event will again be held at Albemarle Square Shopping Center. The Pre-Sale for Members is scheduled for Friday, March 31 from 5:00 – 7:00 p. m., and you can sign up to become a member at the door of the Pre-Sale beginning at 4:00. You can also renew your membership online or by mail. Annual membership is \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families. Members can spend up to \$75 at the Pre-Sale, and the ceiling of a family membership (which consists of two or more people) is \$150.

Looking back, the **Fall 2022 Book Sale** was the most successful one-week sales event in the history of the Friends. Over \$137,000 was collected to support our regional library system! Many thanks to Book Sale Director Peter Manno, Assistant Book Sale Manager Austin Conner, and the many volunteers who work to make these sales a reality.

Volunteers:

Are you interested in volunteering with the Friends of JMRL? Throughout the year, volunteers sort and price donations for the sales, and during the sales, volunteers serve as checkers, cashiers, and stockers. One such dedicated volunteer is **Liza Millett**. Liza moved to Charlottesville twenty-three years ago, and she started volunteering with the Friends shortly thereafter. Currently, she is in charge of the children’s book section where she sorts and prices everything from board books to Young Adult novels. Liza has also served on the Board of the Friends of JMRL, and during the height of the pandemic she created the popular drive through Bag-of-Books sales, an effort that raised thousands of dollars for the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library. Like most of our volunteers, Liza enjoys reading, and she is particularly fond of contemporary literary fiction.

Forthcoming Programming:

JMRL invites all Central Virginians to read and discuss acclaimed poet and essayist Ross Gay’s [The Book of Delights](#), the 2023 **Same Page Community Read** selection. The region-wide

reading initiative provides opportunities for book groups, classrooms, and individuals to explore the themes of a single book by an author appearing at the Virginia Festival of the Book. Throughout March, JMRL presents Same Page programs and activities for all ages, and offers free copies of the book through all library branches while supplies last. Take a look at this year's programs and activities [brochure](#).

Same Page is generously funded by the [Friends of JMRL](#), supported by the Art and Jane Hess Fund of the Library Endowment and [Virginia Festival of the Book](#) (a program of [Virginia Humanities](#)).

JMRL's New Outdoor Lockers:

The next time you place library materials on hold, you could pick them up at your convenience—even after hours—by choosing one of JMRL's new outdoor lockers as your pickup location. The lockers are available 24/7 near the entrance of the following branch locations: Crozet Library, Gordon Avenue Library, Greene County Library, Louisa County Library, Nelson Memorial Library, and Scottsville Library.

How does it work? Choose your library materials and select "Place a hold." Then choose "(BRANCH) LOCKER" as your hold pickup location. Library staff will place the items in the locker and you'll receive an email notification that the items are ready. At the locker kiosk, scan your library card and follow the onscreen instructions. The corresponding locker door will automatically pop open with the items ready to go. It's that easy! Be sure to close the locker door fully after you remove your materials. Your checkout receipt will be sent in an email.

Installation of these lockers was made possible by funding from the Friends of the Library and the Library of Virginia. Questions? Call your local library for more information.

Thank You:

As always, we appreciate your support of the Friends of the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library. Please consider donating to the Friends and its mission to generate additional funding for our regional library system. A link to donate is found below. Thank you, and we hope to see you at Spring Book Sale!

<https://www.networkforgood.org/donation/ExpressDonation.aspx?ORGID2=540834830>