

# FOLMC

## FY21 ANNUAL REPORT



### Message from the FOLMC Board President and Executive Director

**Pamela Saussy, President | Ari Z. Brooks, Executive Director**

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us just how instrumental libraries are to our community, and as we begin our collective recovery, libraries will continue to play an important role in bringing us all back together.

Despite the challenges we've faced this past year, FOLMC has funded online programming, digital library resources, and equipment needed to increase access to Montgomery County Public Libraries. We created a Covid-19 Relief Fund (Friends Fund) to address special needs that arose as a result of the pandemic, and as soon as we were able, we resumed donation acceptance, collecting tens of thousands of items that will directly support our mission.

Most of all, we were overjoyed to witness MCPL branches reopening, as well as to reopen our own beloved Bookstores again.

We were there for MCPL in 2021, because **you were there for us**, and for that we offer our deepest thanks. FOLMC spent 87 cents out of each dollar donated on funding programs and services, because our mission doesn't change in a crisis—it only grows stronger.

We are pleased to present to you our FY21 annual report. Our activities and financials demonstrate our deep commitment to literacy, learning, transparency, and our community, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We would also like to take a moment to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of Tom Thomson, as he ended his second term as Board President. Through his leadership and his wisdom, he brought a great deal of compassion to this role, and he will be missed. Thanks Tom, for your years of service.

**\$945,079**  
DOLLARS  
RAISED

**571**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

**COUNTLESS**  
LIVES  
CHANGED

**friends** OF THE LIBRARY  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

#### Administrative Office

21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 310  
Rockville, MD 20850  
(240) 776-6001 • office@folmc.org

#### Bookstores

Randolph Hills Shopping Center  
Wheaton Library and Community  
Recreation Center  
Open Daily  
www.folmc.org/bookstores

Stay up to date on all  
the latest FOLMC news!

Facebook.com/FOLMC

@FOLMC

@folmcmd

in Friends of the Library,  
Montgomery County

# PROGRAMMING

FOLMC sponsors and executes a range of programs that educate, entertain, and enrich curious minds.



## LIBRARY LOVERS MONTH

Celebrates libraries and recognizes their value in our community. "I love my library because..." virtual postcard collection to show how library patrons use and appreciate libraries.



## MOSAIC CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

A program for middle school students to express their cultural identity through essays, poetry, short stories and featured three workshops with local authors to help them hone their craft. Students also had the opportunity to earn SSL hours for the first time in FY21! Winners and honorable mentions enjoyed a virtual discussion with author Andrew Aydin (pictured).

Mosaic

**Writers: 150 | Middle Schools: 21**  
**Winners: 9 | Honorable Mentions: 11**



## JUST FOR THE RECORD – A VINYL DAY

A day devoted to the culture of playing, making, collecting and repurposing vinyl records through panel discussions, focused on Women in Vinyl in 2020 and Racial Equity & Social Justice in Music in 2021, and musical activities.

*Two held in FY21 due to COVID-19 delays.*

## NEW Initiative

### FOLMC Responds to the COVID-19 Pandemic

In FY21, FOLMC created a COVID-19 Relief fund, known as the Friends Fund. Because of COVID-19, the Wheaton Bookstore remained closed for more than a year, which was devastating to our business. Net profits from the Wheaton Bookstore provide the basis for direct grants to MCPL, such as for library staff development training and the Summer Read and Learn program. MCPL experienced needs directly related to COVID-19, such as audio/visual equipment for virtual programming, and marketing tools to reach customers who faced the digital divide to let them know about library services like Holds-to-Go while the doors were closed.

With your collective help, we raised more than \$50,000 and enabled MCPL to host digital and outdoor programs ranging from cartooning workshops to virtual happiness sessions, storytimes, yoga, music and dance classes, theatrical performances, puppet shows, public speaking lessons, STEM programs, and arts & crafts groups. We hope to continue to rebuild this fund so that, pre-emptively, we will have the resources that we can put to use in the event of another emergency.

## LIBRARY AFTER DARK GALA

Due to the pandemic, our awards ceremony recognizing library contributors, donors, and professions became a popular virtual event.

**Presidents' Award:** Edward L. Snyder

**Cokie & Steve Roberts Award:** Hena Khan

**B. Parker Hamilton Award:** Marketing & Communications Team, Digital Strategies Team, and Technology Management Team



## BOOKSTORES

Offer thousands of donated items at affordable prices to raise funds that support our mission. Open daily.



*Rockville re-opened in Summer 2020 and Wheaton opened in the final days of FY21. In addition, shoppers can select from thousands of books from the comfort of their homes at our online marketplaces.*

## CONTEMPORARY CONVERSATIONS

A series of talks about cultural and current issues with journalists, authors and other relevant speakers.



*Right To Vote:* Ida Turner and Rebecca Roberts  
August 22, 2020

*Diasporic Literature:* Edwidge Danticat & Katia D. Ulysse  
September 12, 2020

*How to Understand Personal Finances:* Michelle Singletary  
April 24, 2021

*A True Story About Growing Up in a Family Grappling with Addiction:* Jarrett J. Krosoczka  
June 26, 2021

*Conquering Harvard Law & Becoming a Disability and Human Rights Advocate:* Haben Girma  
June 5, 2021





# FUNDING

Financial Support\* to Montgomery County Public Libraries



## Staff Development and Training (\$30,000)

FOLMC funding pays for supplies, speakers, facilitators, refreshments, and any follow-up sessions.



## Urban Libraries Council Partnership (\$12,000)

Membership provides valuable assistance in ensuring that MCPL stays abreast of the latest urban library research techniques, trends, and advocacy.



## Library Services Outreach & Education (\$3,100)

The project funds outreach, education, and networking activities related to State Legislative Day and participation in Citizens for Maryland Libraries.



## System-Wide Marketing and Special Programs (\$38,463)

Funds printing of marketing materials, Go! Kits, 1000 Books before Kindergarten and other ongoing initiatives; focused marketing of MCPL resources such as databases; translation services, and more.



## System-Wide Programming (\$55,100)

Programming includes educational, awareness, health & wellness, cultural, arts & crafts, and musical programs, STEM programs, workforce & business development programs and financial literacy classes, speakers' fees for the Contemporary Conversations series, author events, writing and reading programs, and programs for the Summer Read and Learn initiative. Funds presenters, programming supplies, services, and equipment.

## Support Totaling \$138,663

*\* This financial support is above and beyond the FOLMC core programs that are held in branches and benefit the patrons all year long.*

## MISSION STATEMENT

To strengthen, promote, and champion Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL), for it to better serve the learning interests and needs of the diverse and changing communities of the County, by

- Raising funds to enhance and supplement library programming, equipment, and services;
- Increasing public awareness of library resources and connecting local communities with their branch libraries;
- Creating volunteer opportunities for County residents to support MCPL;
- Engaging with the County's library support community to address the ongoing needs of the library system, and advocating for MCPL's budget to the County government.

## VISION & VALUES

### VISION

Everyone in the County values, benefits from, and supports Montgomery County Public Libraries.

### VALUES

Education – we facilitate awareness of public library resources for everyone

Innovation – we embrace change and evolution of libraries

Service – we give back to our community

Integrity – we operate transparently as responsible stewards of public trust

Advocacy – we are champions for our library system

## CHAPTERS AND PRESIDENTS

Aspen Hill, Chris Swan	Potomac, Edythe Wingate
Chevy Chase, Judy McGuire	Marilyn J. Praisner, Elizabeth Matthews, & Vicky Taheri
Connie Morella, Joan Greenbaum	Quince Orchard, Dawn Fairbanks
Damascus, Earl Patrick	Rockville Memorial, Kathy Wessman
Davis, Robert Owen	Silver Spring, Joseph House
Gaithersburg, Rhoda Alderman	Twinbrook, Elaine Joselovitz
Germantown, Robert Fuss	White Oak, Jan Bloom
Kensington Park, Katie Engen	
Little Falls, Jane Snyder	
Olney, Salley Shannon	

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

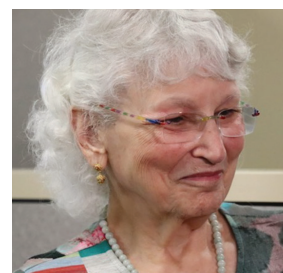
Pamela Saussy, President	Kelly Metz
Fred Evans, Vice President	James Montgomery
Denise Neary, Secretary	Paige Nerenberg
Eric Smith, Treasurer	Carla Satinsky ( <i>In Memoriam</i> )
Lynn Abrahamson	Mark Schwartz
Javiera Alarcon	Cephas Silvera
Wilson Badillo	Tony Spearman-Leach
Kathy Bittinger	Kristen Theiss
Frances Frost	Tom Thomson
Tyler Hoover	Martin White
Larissa Johnson	Student Members: Corinne Nicholls (Jr.) Maraki Solomon (Sr.)
Rachel Maleh	Dennis Horn, Counsel
Melissa McDonald	

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ari Z. Brooks, Executive Director  
Lysette House, Deputy Director  
Lance Salins, Director of Business Operations

## ADDITIONAL TEAM MEMBERS

LF CPA & Associates  
Laura Frene, CPA, CFA, Accounting  
Paisley Green  
Laura Rodini, Development  
& Communications



IN LOVING  
MEMORY OF  
CARLA  
SATINSKY

# DONATIONS & SUPPORT

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, grantors, and sponsors, we raised \$945,079 in contributions to fund programs that benefit the library community. *Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you feel there is an omission, please notify us immediately.*

## 7TH ANNUAL LIBRARY AFTER DARK GALA SPONSORS AND DONORS

Lynn Abrahamson*	Friends of the Library, Connie Morella Chapter	Mark Kimmel	Hillary Pettegrew	Sam & Anita Vassallo
Wilson Badillo*		Rachel Maleh*	Sonja Roberts	Sandy Vogelgesang
Dan and Nancy Balz	Frances Frost*	Caitlin McCarthy	Pamela & Gordon Saussy*	Kendra Wells
Kathleen Bittinger*	G2 Ops, Inc.	Mary McCormick	Mark Schwartz*	Tanner Wray
Ari Brooks	Parker Hamilton	Melissa McDonald*	Scotty's Vodka	Penny & David Yao
Gail Brooks	Kelly Headd**	Aishling McGinty	Cephas Silvera*	Rivka Yerushalmi
Ranelle Bruch	Eleanor Heginbotham	Daniel Melnick	Sanford and Doris Slavin Foundation	
Julia Caldwell	Jane Hess	Kelly Metz*	Eric Smith*	
Eric Carzon	Susan Hoover	James Montgomery*	Tony Spearman-Leach*	
Double Deuce Distilling	Dennis Horn**	Hon. Connie Morella**	Kristen Theiss*	
Natali Fani-Gonzalez	Lysette & Joseph House	Aimee Mui	Tom Thomson*	
Amanda Farber	Cynthia Farrell Johnson	Kimi Murakami	TXDesign	
Dianne Favre	Larissa Johnson*	Denise Neary*	Juliana Valencia	
Laura Frene	Christopher Kelly	Paige Nerenberg*		

## IN MEMORIAM/ IN HONOR OF

Dr. William Frawley  
Margaret Ann Heidt  
Kathaleen "Kitty" Hempstone  
Hon. Connie Morella  
Maggie Nightingale  
Nessa Spitzer

## FY21 DONORS

### \$100-\$249

Lynn Abrahamson\*  
Diane Baker  
Sally Cameron  
Patricia & Timothy Carrico  
Thelma Deutsch  
David & Ellen Epstein  
Jason Fabritz  
Joan Geer  
Giant Food  
Paul Goldsmith  
Jonathan Greenberg  
Sarah Guroff\*\*  
Charles Huppmann  
Celesta Jurkovich  
Roger & Luanne Karr  
Mark & Maureen Kennedy  
Janice Kuhl  
Susan Levine  
Alison Lutz  
Donald & Margaret MacGlashan

Klare Markotic  
Melissa McDonald\*  
Sonia Mendonca  
Donald Mooers  
Narayanan & Latha Ramesh  
Robert & Sarah Rosenbaum  
Marco Scappa  
Carl Seastrum  
Frances Stewart  
Al Thomas  
Daniel Tutas  
Viktoria Van Nederveen  
Nadine Wettstein  
Sheryl Woestwin  
Margaret Wright  
Haili You

### \$250-\$499

Matthew Juhasz  
Carolyn Lichtenstein

Rachel Maleh\*  
David & Glenna Osnos  
Brenda Smith  
Deborah Weinstein  
Todd Worms

### \$500-\$999

Mary Beale  
Renaissance Charitable  
Foundation

### \$1,000 and above

Arts & Humanities Council  
of Montgomery County  
Paige\* & Eric Nerenberg  
Pamela & Gordon Saussy\*  
SalesForce  
The Daniel Eisinger  
Family Trust  
United Way of the National  
Capital Area

## FRIENDS FUND

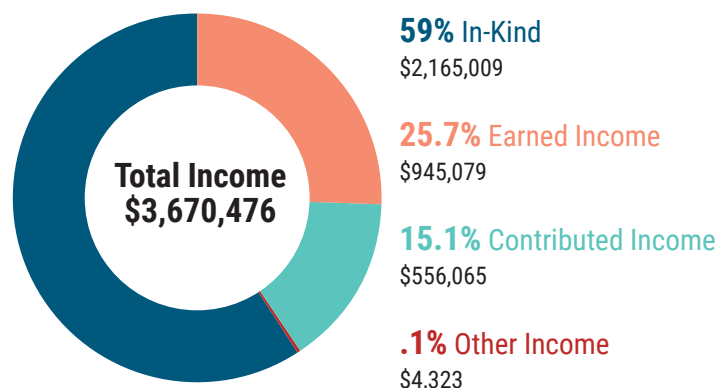
Helen Aberger  
Ralph Baker  
Ellen Berman\*\*  
Marika Brown  
Richard & Pamela Feinstein  
Friends of the Library,  
Davis Chapter  
Friends of the Library,  
Aspen Hill Chapter  
Friends of the Library,  
Gaithersburg Chapter  
Friends of the Library,  
Germantown Chapter  
Friends of the Library,  
Potomac Chapter

Friends of the Library,  
Quince Orchard Chapter  
Amy Greenberg  
Eric Holmes  
Emily Kenton  
Wallace Knutsen  
Rebekah Kuschmider  
Sean McGuinness  
Judith McLean  
Mary Jane Rodini  
Tom Thomson\*\*  
Jon & Laura Thorsen  
Rudy & Aremita Watson\*\*

\* = Current Board, \*\* = Former Board

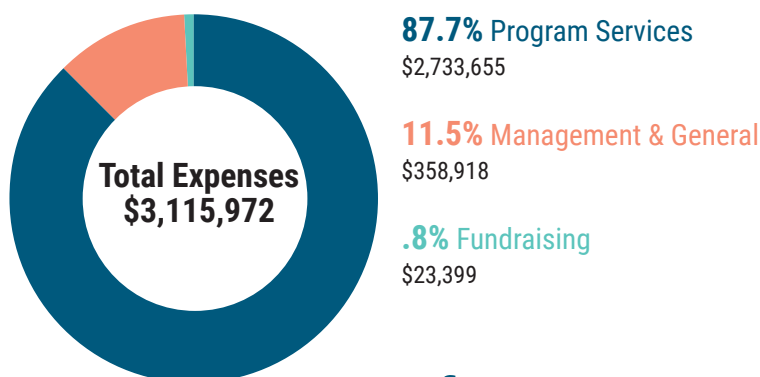
A special thanks to our almost 2,000 members contributing at all levels of our organization.

# FINANCIALS



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY – FYE JUNE 30, 2021

Audit presented by Squire, Lemkin + Company LLP, December 7, 2021



See our complete audited financial statements on our website at [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org).