

# friends

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35 YEARS!

Friends of the Library, Montgomery County • [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org)

## Library Lovers Month 2017

### Library Lovers Month Kick-Off

Show your libraries some love this February during Library Lovers Month. Stop by your local branch to fill out a postcard or share a photo on FOLMC's Facebook page and tell us why you love your library (be sure to tag #ILoveMyLibrary).

FOLMC will host a family-friendly Library Lovers Month Kickoff at the Twinbrook branch on Saturday, January 28, at 11 a.m. The event will feature an interactive musical performance by Groovy Nate highlighting how music promotes learning and understanding. FOLMC will sponsor door prizes and other fun activities during the kickoff. MCPL provides a variety of musical resources and offerings. Branches and FOL chapters will host special events and activities to celebrate "peace, love, and libraries" all month long.

Groovy Nate is a children's performer and Wolf Trap Teaching Artist who blends music, puppet skits, movement, and comedy into one groovy experience. His performances introduce participants to various genres of music while encouraging them to move, sing, and play creatively. Visit [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org) for more information about the kickoff event and other Library Lovers Month activities. Library Lovers Month is hosted in partnership with the Montgomery County Library Board.

### Library Lovers Month Original Pancake House Dine-In Day Fundraiser



Celebrate Library Lovers Month with stacks for the stacks! The Original Pancake House (OPH) will host a Dine-in Day fundraiser on Thursday, February 23 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. OPH will generously donate 15% of sales to FOLMC. Two participating locations:

Bethesda, 7703 Woodmont Avenue, (301) 986-0285

Rockville, 12224 Rockville Pike, (301) 468-0886

Visit [www.OPHRestaurants.com](http://www.OPHRestaurants.com) for their menu.



### FOL Chapter Sponsored Events

Visit our website for more upcoming events: [www.folmc.org/events-calendar](http://www.folmc.org/events-calendar).

#### DECEMBER:

- 27 10:30 a.m., Damascus: Light Painting Lab
- 29 10 a.m., Germantown: Electronics Essentials

#### JANUARY:

- 4 3:30 p.m., Quince Orchard: Learn the Basics of Comic Book Illustration
- 6 4 p.m., Twinbrook: Lego and Duplo Playtime
- 12 6 p.m., Kensington Park: Family Gaming Night
- 20 2 p.m., Twinbrook: LEGO Star Wars: The Yoda Chronicles
- 28 2 p.m., Potomac: Author Talk: *Smart Mom, Rich Mom*
- 30 7 p.m., Bethesda: Meet Author Ellen Hopkins

#### FEBRUARY:

- 2 10:30 a.m., Chevy Chase: Toddler Arts and Crafts
- 4 2 p.m., Potomac: Chinese New Year Celebration
- 9 7 p.m., Bethesda: Meet Authors Jeff Giles & Kami Garcia
- 11 10 a.m., Germantown: Book Sale

## Officers

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Awo Sarpong Ansu, *Vice President*  
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## Trustees

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Carla Satinsky	
Jamar Foster, <i>Student Representative</i>	

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FOLMC is supported in part by funding from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

## From the Executive Director

Ari Z. Brooks, MSW



Today I received a phone call from my mother who told me there was someone in her office who wanted to speak to me. To my surprise, the voice at the other end was Juliana Schoettler who served as the FOLMC student representative to the board 12 years ago. It was gratifying to hear that Juliana fondly remembered her experience and was grateful to have had the opportunity to benefit libraries at such a young age. While working with my mother on a project, they both realized they shared a connection to me. That same evening I received an email from Juliana describing her current use of libraries as a young professional and expressing her interest to help mentor our newly elected student representative Jamar Foster (see article on page 3).

Nonprofit board diversity is a key indicator of good governance helping organizations connect with and support a broad constituent base. It is important to consider our entire community, especially young people, when determining organizational leaders and stewards. Engaging youth as a part of the board process has many advantages including ensuring relevancy to this fast-growing population, promoting healthy relationships between young people and adults, and providing meaningful opportunities for service.

Over the past two decades, FOLMC student representatives have added great value to the organization through their service projects and their unique voice. For example, former representative Peggy Li worked with the Rockville branch staff to create a year-long advanced reading copies program. Juliana conducted a study group of teens that led to the creation of a position paper on library experiences among local teens. Erica Cafritz created a "Young Adult" version of our print newsletter that she distributed to local public and private high schools. And Jamar, who hosts a local MCPS television show, will be a great asset to reach young people through the media.

If you know a 10th grader that would like the opportunity to serve the library community, gain awareness and knowledge of board leadership, promote a positive image of youth, and develop new skills, please encourage him/her to apply for this unique position. Applications will be accepted online beginning in January at [www.folmc.org/get-involved/student-representative](http://www.folmc.org/get-involved/student-representative). The position is a two-year commitment and requires attending four board meetings each year. Email [studentrepresentative@folmc.org](mailto:studentrepresentative@folmc.org) with questions about the application process.



**Congratulations to Tom Thomson** who is the newly elected FOLMC board president. Tom has served on the board for the past three years and replaces Ellen Berman who stepped down after nine years of board service.

Tom brings a wealth of skills and passion to this leadership position. With degrees in business administration and social work, he is a strong strategic thinker and has the knowledge and experience to effectively lead the board.

Tom's role as president is to partner with the executive director to steer the organization toward its vision to be a model of strong collaboration that engages the community to provide dynamic and innovative support for the public library system.

# 3rd Annual Library After Dark



On Saturday, April 8 join FOLMC for our third annual Library After Dark fundraiser at the Rockville Memorial Library. This year we will celebrate our organization's 35th Anniversary and how FOLMC has helped Libraries Open Doors. Libraries are a vital part of our community, offering a broad range of free services to all children and families; a place where we can create, gather, and learn together. For 35 years, FOLMC has played an essential role in our libraries' ability to serve our increasingly diverse population. Join us for the celebration, beginning at 7:30 p.m., with an evening of entertainment, hors d'oeuvres and desserts, cocktails, mystery door prizes, an awards ceremony, and more.

We are pleased to announce this year's Honorary Chairs, Major General Arthur Holmes, Jr. and Mrs. Wilma Holmes. After a venerable military career of almost four decades,

General Holmes served several years with the county government including as Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board and Director of *Go Montgomery!* Mrs. Holmes had a long and distinguished career as a teacher, principal and Director of Human Relations with Montgomery County Public Schools and has served on the Montgomery County Commission on Women. Together they have provided the most admirable service to Montgomery County and we are privileged to present them as our 2017 Honorary Chairs.

Help us reach our goal of \$35,000 celebrating FOLMC's 35th Anniversary. Individual and corporate sponsorships for Library After Dark are available. Visit [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org) or call (240) 777-0020 for more information. Ticket purchasing will open in February 2017.

## Board Spotlight Jamar Foster

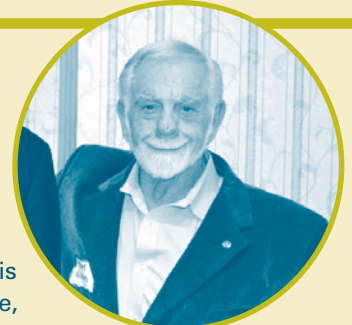


Jamar Foster, a junior at Seneca Valley High School, is one busy 16-year-old. Not only is he the newly elected student representative to the Board of Trustees, but he is also his school's ambassador to the National Society of High School Scholars for the State of Maryland. In addition to his studies, Jamar is involved in Seneca Valley's Student Government Association, track and field team, ROTC, and debate team. Jamar is also a certified studio technician at Montgomery Community Media and works for the Montgomery County Recreation department.

Jamar was born in Minneapolis and moved to Montgomery County when he was one year old. He has always been a dedicated reader, holding the record of most books read in a year at his elementary school. He enjoys reading biographies and history, and is particularly fascinated by the lives of public figures. In his free time, Jamar enjoys watching movies, especially documentaries.

Jamar learned about FOLMC through his work with MCPL's Teen Advisory Group. As student representative he wants to further develop how libraries involve teens in the community. He lives in Germantown with his family.

## Spring Literary Event



On March 23 at 2 p.m., FOLMC will host a book launch with local author Tom Glenn. The event is free to attend and will be held at Asbury Methodist Village in the Rosborough Center Community Rooms. Asbury's scenic campus is home to a 17-acre nature preserve, and the entire 130-acre campus has been certified as a "Wildlife at Work" site by the Wildlife Habitat Council.

Mr. Glenn will discuss his newest novel *Last of the Annamese*, followed by Q&A and a book signing. Books will be available to purchase on-site and light refreshments will be provided. Mr. Glenn spent 13 years working on covert intelligence assignments shuttling between the U.S. and Vietnam. He speaks seven languages and has won numerous prizes for his short stories and novels. His writing draws on his experiences as an undercover agent as well as his time spent caring for hospice and AIDS patients, and the homeless. In *Last of the Annamese*, Mr. Glenn describes the haunting portrait of the lives of those trapped in Saigon in April 1975 as the city, and surrounding country, fell to North Vietnamese forces.



# Staff Spotlight: Lysette House



Lysette House joined the FOLMC staff in June as our Membership and Database Coordinator. She interacts closely with chapter leaders and membership chairs and is a great resource for questions on chapter bylaws or membership renewals. Here's part of a conversation between FOLMC and Lysette.

**FOLMC:** Why did you decide to join the FOLMC team?

**LH:** I am the secretary for Friends of the Library, Silver Spring Chapter. I was recruited when my husband and I kept buying several bags of books from the chapter's quarterly book sales. When I saw that there were positions open with the FOLMC administrative team, I thought it would be a great way to be more involved.

**FOLMC:** What is your hometown, background, where did you go to school?

**LH:** I'm from Vernon, New Jersey; I came down for college and never left. I have a B.A. in Political Science and M.S. in Justice, Law, and Society, both from American University, which is really just a lot of words to say I studied domestic and international human rights.

**FOLMC:** What do you like to read?

**LH:** I have a pretty eclectic taste.

I re-read *Harry Potter* usually once a year or more, but my bookshelves, ok, library--I had so many books we turned the guest room into a library--is full from John Grisham, Janet Evanovich, Stephen King, Clive Cussler, Agatha Christie, *Lord of the Rings*, and classics like *Pride and Prejudice* and *Anna Karenina*.

**FOLMC:** What are your other hobbies?

**LH:** I spend most of my free time at a local winery; the owners are friends and it's conveniently located near the Silver Spring Library, so I'm usually either doing something with the wine (bottling, labeling, crush/press, working festivals, etc.) or spending time with the owners' children. We make frequent trips to the library to read or play with the ELC [Early Literacy Center, funded by FOLSS].

**FOLMC:** What's a fun fact about you?

**LH:** I enjoy wine and Harry Potter. I'm also a 3-year cancer survivor. I volunteer some time with Lolly's Locks, a Bethesda-based organization providing real hair wigs to those who can't afford them. I was one of their first recipients.

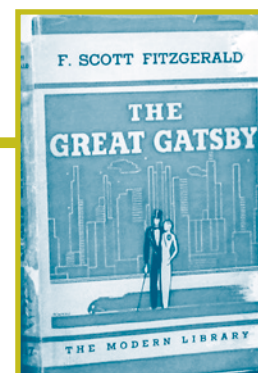


## From the Stacks

The new programming space in the expanded Rockville Bookstore was the venue for our third annual live auction on September 10. A signed Andy Warhol book with original drawing garnered the highest bid of the afternoon. Thank you to all those who joined us. Preparation has already begun for the fourth auction scheduled for next June 2017.

Staff at the Rockville Bookstore recently discovered a First Modern Library Edition of *The Great Gatsby* in a second state dust jacket. Published in 1934 with a new introduction by Fitzgerald, only 5,000 copies were printed and the work sold poorly. The publishers kept the title in the catalog for five years before finally pulling it in 1939, at which time a second dust jacket was printed. These jackets were stamped "Discontinued Title" in red. Interestingly, despite being a

second state jacket, the copy found at the Rockville Bookstore does not bear the red stamp. This rare find sold for \$700 in partnership with the F. Scott Fitzgerald Festival ([www.fscottfitzgeraldfestival.org](http://www.fscottfitzgeraldfestival.org)).



Other recent finds include a first American edition of *Amerika* by Franz Kafka, published in 1940 and bearing its original orange salmon colored dust jacket; and an original correspondence between an American lawyer and Nazi architect Albert Speer discovered by Wheaton Bookstore staff inside a book. Stay tuned for more information about other unique treasures.



# From the Library Director

Parker Hamilton, MCPL Director



As a result of a directive from County Executive Leggett during his second Library of the Future Summit, MCPL has increased its efforts in the areas of workforce and economic development. In May, MCPL's first Workforce and Business Development Coordinator began working on programming to better support and coordinate these efforts.

The initial project under this umbrella, Career Online High School (COHS), brought to libraries by Gale, a part of Cengage Learning, was launched in June. MCPL, the first library system in Maryland to launch COHS, began offering qualified community members the opportunity to earn an accredited high school diploma and a credentialed career certificate through this program.

Partnerships developed to bring free workshops to MCPL include:

- The Nuts and Bolts of Starting a Business, in partnership with the Maryland Small Business Development Center, for those interested in starting their first business, but needing more information on what to expect before beginning.
- A series of business workshops in Spanish, in partnership with the Latino Economic Development Center. The first two workshops focused on social media and websites for businesses.

- How to apply for jobs with Montgomery County Government, in collaboration with the County's Office of Human Resources (OHR). These workshops were the first ever by OHR targeting the public.
- A Job and Career Assistance for Skilled Immigrants workshop, in partnership with Upwardly Global, to address the challenges faced by many internationally-trained professionals residing in the County. The workshop offered resources available to help internationally educated and trained professionals to improve their job search skills in order to continue careers in their fields in the U.S.
- Federal Student Aid Application Assistance workshops, in collaboration with Montgomery College's Educational Opportunity Center, to give families hands on assistance in completing their FAFSA 2016-2017 and/or 2017-2018.

We will continue collaborating with businesses, organizations, and other County departments to deliver more of these targeted programs and to carry out the objectives in our FY2017-2020 Strategic Plan that will assist County residents in their pursuit of career and business development.

## Check It Out



Congratulations to Library Director Parker Hamilton and MCPL, who recently received the Urban Libraries Council (ULC) Award for Organizational Change and Strategic Management as the 2016 Top Innovator Award. MCPL was bestowed this award for The Library Refresh Program: In-Time Solutions.

The Program presents a novel approach to renovate libraries by avoiding building demolition and long-term shutdown of facilities, and updating infrastructure and technologies towards creating 21st century libraries. The "refresh" methodology is fiscally responsible, dispersing community benefits of less "down time" and lower expense. These changes originate from the evolving role of public libraries, updates in technology, and ongoing customer expectations. The objective of the Program is to "return" an "improved" library to its community in a timely manner.

FOLMC funds MCPL membership in ULC, an organization of leading public libraries in North America. ULC articulates the strategic role public libraries serve for strengthening their community in economic and workforce development, learning and education, citizen and resident engagement, health and public safety.

## Get Social!

Stay up to date on all the latest FOLMC news!



## FOLMC CHAPTERS

### Aspen Hill

4407 Aspen Hill Road  
Rockville, MD 20853  
President: Chris Swan  
aspenhill@folmc.org

### Bethesda

7400 Arlington Road  
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### Chevy Chase

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### Damascus

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### Gaithersburg

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### Germantown

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### Kensington Park

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President: Eli Sola-Sole  
kensingtonpark@folmc.org

### Little Falls

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President: Jane Snyder  
littlefalls@folmc.org

## Chapter Spotlights

### CHEVY CHASE

*President: Vacant*  
chevychase@folmc.org

In 2017, the Chevy Chase Chapter looks forward to celebrating the Chinese New Year at the end of January and Library Lovers Month in February. The chapter continues to fund supplies and equipment for children's activities at the branch, including new rugs for the meeting room and supplies for STEM and Lego sessions. The chapter also supports three book groups; the Jefferson Cafe, a discussion group of contemporary issues; and a foreign film showing once a month.

Last year, the Chevy Chase Chapter helped their branch celebrate its 50th birthday with local authors Louise Farmer Smith (*One Hundred Years of Marriage*) and Sara Taber (*Born Under an Assumed Name*), as well as *Washington Post* critic, Michael Dirda. Tracey Eldridge put on the children's Music 'N' Motion program and, of course, there was a celebratory cake.

The chapter enjoyed having Uzoma Onyemaechi as branch manager this past year up until his departure at the end of September. Uzo brought several authors and speakers to the branch and helped keep the library up-to-date.

This November the chapter said goodbye to long-time president Steve Schmal and his wife Deb at a party organized by branch staff and a final send-off at the recent chapter meeting. The Schmal's dedicated service and extraordinary efforts to increase membership; advocate for MCPL with petitions, postcards, and testimony; and keep programs and publicity going smoothly will be missed. The Schmal's tireless support for libraries has been an inspiration to us all. Since the Chevy Chase Chapter is in the process of transitioning to new chapter leaders, email chevychase@folmc.org to find out more information and how to get involved.

*Photos courtesy of the Chevy Chase Chapter*



Pictured from left to right: Kirsten Gardner, Kristen Theiss, Pat Moskof, Steve Schmal, Kathleen Jeschke, Lynn Lichtenstein, and Uzoma Onyemaechi.



## Chapter Book Sales

For a full list of book sales in library branches, visit the MCPL website at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/about/bookdonations.html>

# Chapter Spotlights

## WHITE OAK

President: *Frank Altrichter*  
[whiteoak@folmc.org](mailto:whiteoak@folmc.org)

The White Oak Chapter has been active in improving the Children's Room at the branch this year. They funded multicultural dolls for the room's doll house, new rugs for storytime, and the Reptiles Alive! Summer Read and Learn program this past summer. The chapter also donated gift cards and card tables for the library's Chess Club tournaments.

The White Oak Chapter is in need of your unique talents and professional skills to help benefit your community. There are many ways to donate your time. Even small acts of volunteering can make a big impact. They are looking for all types of volunteers, from helping with book sales to fulfilling leadership positions. Student volunteers can also fulfill Student Service Learning (SSL) hours for certain projects. Email [whiteoak@folmc.org](mailto:whiteoak@folmc.org) to find out how you can become involved today.

*Photos courtesy of the White Oak Library*



## OLNEY

President: *Salley Shannon*  
[olney@folmc.org](mailto:olney@folmc.org)

The Olney Chapter has been very busy with children and teen programming this Fall. The chapter hosted "There's No Place Like Dome" STEM program in October. The event had children building structures out of toothpicks and marshmallows. In November, the chapter sponsored the children's STEM program Electric Light Lab presented by Futuremakers, focusing on LEDs, circuitry, and batteries. The chapter also provided funding for board games and art supplies for the branch's Teen Mish/Mash program and new magnetic letters used in the Lego Block Party programs.

The Olney Chapter also provided support for the branch's musical programs in September including a Jazz concert by the Charles Rahmet Woods Quartet and Harp Happy.

The Olney Chapter is looking for volunteers to help with all types of activities. Volunteering with a chapter is a great way to give back to your community. The chapter has both occasional and ongoing volunteer opportunities, email [olney@folmc.org](mailto:olney@folmc.org) to find out how you can get involved.

*Photos courtesy of the Olney Library*



## FOLMC CHAPTERS

### Olney

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### Potomac

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### Marilyn J. Praisner

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Co-chairs: Vicky Taheri & Nora Siegel  
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### Quince Orchard

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### Rockville

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### Silver Spring

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### Twinbrook

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### White Oak

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President: Frank Altrichter  
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Rockville, Maryland 20850-2389

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## A BOOK TO LOVE AT **FRIENDS' BOOKSTORES**

### **ROCKVILLE BOOKSTORE – EXPANDED**

Randolph Hills Shopping Center  
4886 Boiling Brook Parkway, Rockville, MD  
301-984-3300

### **WHEATON BOOKSTORE – NOW OPEN!**

at the Old Silver Spring Library  
8901 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD  
301-933-1110

### **GAITHERSBURG BOOKSTORE – CLOSED**

## Give the Gift of Libraries

Libraries are a gift to their communities, and FOLMC supports our county public libraries through your generous donations and purchases at our bookstores. In addition to offering affordable reading materials, our two used bookstores have become community fixtures.

Your end-of-year gift today will contribute to programming such as Summer Read and Learn, children's activities and learning centers, technology initiatives, and various efforts to help the library staff reach even more people.

### How you can support our mission:

- **Join or renew** your membership today.
- **Give an additional end-of-year contribution** with the enclosed envelope, or online at [www.folmc.org/donate](http://www.folmc.org/donate).
- **Shop at our bookstores** to find great gifts for the holidays.
- **Designate FOLMC** as your charity of choice as you plan your workplace giving. Some companies may match your individual donation. United Way #8729, Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) #42387, Maryland Charities Campaign #52-1283371.

Remember, your donation before **midnight on December 31** counts for the 2016 tax season. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, donations to FOLMC are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

We hope we can count on you this year to make our end-of-year campaign better than ever!