



Annual Report FY 2020-2021

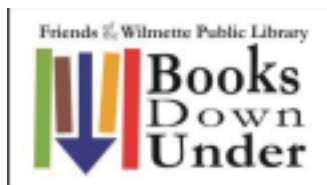
Friends of the Wilmette Public Library in 2020-2021:

- Friends supports library programming and events for the Wilmette and Kenilworth communities. Funds to support programming are generated from memberships, donations, and sales of gently used books at our bookstore, Books Down Under. The bookstore is staffed/supported by dedicated volunteers. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Friends' funded programming shifted from in-person to virtual. Books Down Under temporarily stopped accepting book donations and was closed from March 2020 through October 2021.
- 2021 marked the 15th year Friends sponsored One Book Everyone Reads, and it was made extra special by going virtual! Charles Yu, author of this year's featured book, *Interior Chinatown*, joined us for a presentation and Q&A session in April.

Thank You to Our Friends: Friends' Board, BDU Volunteers, Members, Donors, WPL Staff, Library Trustees, BDU Customers, and Mid-Central Printing & Mailing in Wilmette.

Friends of the Wilmette Public Library Funded Programs:

- Adult/Teen/Youth Summer and Winter Reading Clubs
- Meet the Author events
- One Book Everyone Reads
- The Shakespeare Project



Books Down Under is Wilmette's only bookstore.
Located in the Library's lower level, sales of gently-used books help fund Library programs and events.

Thanks to our Books Down Under Booksellers, Sorters and Shelves:

Books Down Under was closed due to the pandemic and book donations were suspended from March 2020 through October 2021. An outdoor book sale was held in front of the Library during the Wilmette Sidewalk Sale in July 2021. BDU volunteers were welcomed back and celebrated at a luncheon held in September 2021, at Gillson Park. We thank the many dedicated community volunteers who make Books Down Under possible. We are happy to be open once again, and look forward to seeing you in the store!

Friends by the numbers in 2020 -2021:

Bookstore sales: \$7498 - Donations: \$7523 - Memberships: 92 - Volunteers: 50+

Books Down Under accepts gently-used book donations with books left inside the staff entrance, off the east end of the parking lot during regular Library hours. Donation receipts available.

Learn more about Friends at

<https://www.wilmettelibrary.info/friends-of-the-library>



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