



FRIENDS OF KANSAS LIBRARIES

WELCOME HUASCAR!

Join us at the Kansas Library Association Conference, Wed., Oct. 23 at noon during the Friends of the Library luncheon to hear our special guest, Huascar Medina. The new Humanities Kansas Poet Laureate for 2019-2020, Huascar will present "May Our Voices Ring True." He is a poet, writer, and performer who lives in Topeka. He currently works as a freelance copywriter and as the Literary Editor for *seveneightfive* magazine publishing stories that spotlight literary and artistic events in Northeast Kansas. His poems can be found in his collection *How to Hang the Moon* published by Spartan Press. He is the winner of ARTSConnect's 2018 Arty Award for Literary Art. His book *Un Mango Grows in Kansas* was released earlier this year.



As a Poet Laureate of Kansas, Huascar promotes the humanities as a public resource for all Kansans through public readings, presentations, and discussions about poetry in communities across the state.

About Humanities Kansas

Humanities Kansas is an independent nonprofit, spearheading a movement of ideas to empower the people of Kansas to strengthen their communities and our democracy. Since 1972, their pioneering programming, grants, and partnerships have documented and shared stories to spark conversations and generate insights. Together with their partners and supporters, they inspire all Kansans to draw on history, literature, ethics, and culture to enrich their lives and serve the communities and state we proudly call home. Visit them at humanitieskansas.org.

Friends of Kansas Libraries is a statewide organization of groups and individual members committed to helping libraries meet the need and expectations of their communities. It can provide startup grants to communities establishing new Friends groups or having unique program needs and provides technical assistance to local groups upon request. *FoKL Point* is the official publication of Friends of Kansas Libraries.

For more information or to submit newsletter articles, please contact: Wendy Morlan, editor, Pleasanton Lincoln Library, P.O. Box 101, Pleasanton, KS 66075, pleaslinlib@ckt.net



10 Reasons You Need a Teen Friends Group



Hamilton County Library is a place teens want to be. Library Director Amy Brucker has gone beyond the teen advisory group to create a *teen* Friends of the Library group, called Library Leadership Group (LLG). This is the only teen Friends of the Library group in the state of Kansas. Learn 10 reasons why a teen group is needed, both for your library and teens. Take away ideas on how to build relationships, how to get them involved, and how to engage them at the library beyond

teen events. This includes collection development, volunteering, community service and library advocacy. Hear testimonials from current teens on the benefits of a teen Friends group. Walk away understanding why this untapped demographic is amazing and resourceful, and ready to be your friend.

Building Community Partnerships

Building community partnerships results in great outcomes! Join us to hear how Friends groups have worked within their community to create great programs and events by partnering with other local organizations. We'll talk about how to find partners and what happens when you connect. Several Friends groups will share their stories and you will have the opportunity to tell us your success stories.

Friends group activities

Hamilton County Library's Library Leadership Group (LLG) work on teamwork and problem solving during their breakout box activity after the annual membership drive.



Friends of Belleville Public Library

The Belleville Public Library's summer reading program concluded with a July 18 swim-themed party complete with food, games and prizes. Preschoolers through teens enrolled in the program. Book titles read were written on a chart at the library. When a child read three books, they earned a prize - a book of their choice to add to their home library. Ten teen volunteers totaled 199.5 work hours. The Friends of the Belleville Library assisted with the funding for summer reading program. During the town's 150th Anniversary Parade, the Belleville Friends entered a float and won First Place! The event was featured in the *Bellevue Telescope* newspaper.



As of FoKL's September 20 board meeting, Membership Chair Janet Schmidt reported FoKL had a total of 99 memberships. They include: 5 Best Friends, 4 Bookworms, 29 Individuals, 48 Groups, and 12 Libraries.

Event-packed fall for Haysville Friends

The Friends kept the Haysville community busy this summer, and it appears fall will be no exception. July 27 - Their Annual Ice Cream Social was held to celebrate the end of Summer Reading. Ice cream was furnished by Cash Saver Grocery of Haysville, with special desserts provided by the Friends. August 10 and 11 - The 39th Annual Garage Sale was held, with Friends members volunteering at the biggest fundraiser of the year. As it's promoted to Friends members, "It's not hard work, and you get to meet a lot of nice people!" Sept. 17 - Educate and Celebrate 232 years: Constitution Day was celebrated with games, history and a free copy of the Constitution. Sept. 22-28 - The Banned Books Week display at the library reminded visitors to consider the hundreds of books, some of them classics, that have been banned across the country at one time or another. Sept. 28 - Friends Fall Covered Dish Dinner was held in the community room at the library. The featured speaker was author Joe Stumpe, a professional writer for 30 years, who has authored articles for *The New York Times*, *Agence France-Presse*, *Wichita Eagle*, *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, *Splurge* magazine and many advertising clients. He discussed his latest book, *Wicked Wichita!*

Fall reading discussions "The Classics" will include: Oct. 14: *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* by Thomas Hardy, Oct. 28: *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles, Nov. 11: *The Turn of the Screw* by Henry James, and Nov. 25: *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift. Their annual Mystery Dinner Theatre, a fundraiser for the Friends, will be held Oct. 25 and 26. "Cy's Uptown Diner" takes place in a diner. Ticket holders will be treated to a delicious breakfast meal and dessert of homemade cinnamon rolls.

Pool party celebrates youth reading record!

The Friends of the Salina Public Library assisted with the Salina Public Library's summer reading program by providing funding for t-shirts for youth volunteers, weekly prizes, food and door prizes. This year the library beat their community goal of reading/listening to 25,000 items by reading 27,728 items from May 24 through July 25.

Youth Summer Reading - There were 757 youth enrolled, ages 0-18, who read 22,380 items. At the conclusion of the program, there was a pool party at Kenwood Cove water park with 450 people in attendance.

Adult Summer Reading - There were 343 adults enrolled and 4,525 items were read. An after-hours party was held July 26 at the library to celebrate the success of the summer reading program. Finger foods, music, visiting and door prizes were enjoyed by all.

Staff - There were 31 staff members who participated and they read 823 items.

Ideas you can use

The following ideas were recently shared on the Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) email list-serv. It's an easy way members can ask questions, share information and ideas. Here are a few fundraising ideas your Friends group might try.

Rhonda from Piedmont Public Library wrote: Our Friends group has had great success with Bingo nights. We use a free Bingo calling app called Bingo Caller Machine, downloaded to an iPad. We connect the iPad to a projector, so players can see the numbers that are being called. We usually have someone be 'the Caller,' who runs the app, stops it if people get behind and keeps up the energy. We bought supplies (cards and daubers) from Amazon. We've done this four times over the last several years and average about \$2,000 a night.

Regional MLIS Director Judy shared: Our most successful fundraiser was an annual auction. Items from local businesses were collected (they like to donate something besides money!) The local charismatic person was asked to be the auctioneer. Think outside the box when asking for donations! Pawnshops are a treasure trove! Some of the items we received were a tombstone (yes, seriously!), concentrated weedkiller, 100 gallons of gas and Christmas tree topiaries that had been in the White House during Clinton's administration! Don't leave man stuff out. Go to the hardware, tractor and other "manly" stores.

Sarah from Pungo-Blackwater Library wrote: One of my staff members is helping our Friends investigate having a Craft show. Members of the community (vendors) would pay a fee to have a space. The vendors would keep any money from their sales. The Friends would keep the table fees.

Carol, the Assistant Director of NCKLS, has heard of libraries that auction quilts made by local quilt guilds. They have done this successfully for a number of years.

Sue from the Vermilion Library in Louisiana shared: Our Friends group does a bake sale in conjunction with our book sale and, to be honest, they make as much on the baked goods as they do from book sales. At the last one I think they made over \$750.

Anita from the Dubois Branch Library, Indiana, organizes a monthly silent auction where Friends members or others donate an item (usually something homemade, but sometimes even something as big as a piece of furniture), They either display the actual item or a photo of the item next to a container in which to put bids. The bid form asks for their name, phone number, date and time they bid on the item. At the end of each day, staff checks to see who had the highest bid and put that amount on the photo, so people know where to resume bidding. It's not a huge moneymaker, but tends to net \$25-150 per month with little effort.

FoKL BOARD MEMBERS

We call on you to be part of FoKL

Serving on the Board of Friends of Kansas Libraries offers “priceless” rewards. Our board members meet with enthusiastic and creative Friends throughout the state. Though volunteering takes time, it offers much satisfaction. Can you be a library advocate? Are you enthusiastic in your volunteer efforts? Are you willing to be part of a creative team that shapes the future of a statewide organization? Please note vacancies on the list below.

Officers:

President, Judy Burgess, Manhattan, jl6468@icloud.com

Vice-president/Governance Chair, Cathy Newland, Silver Lake, newland.cathy@gmail.com

Secretary/ Newsletter Editor, Wendy Morlan, Pleasanton, pleaslinlib@ckt.net

Treasurer/Finance Chair, Laura Carroll, Basehor, lcarrroll@basehorlibrary.org

Immediate Past-president, Carolyn Little, Topeka, little.carolyn67@gmail.com

Regional Trustees:

Northeast: Laura Carroll, Basehor, lcarrroll@basehorlibrary.org

North Central: Vacant

Northwest: Vacant

Central: Janet Schmidt, Membership, Salina, janfraser@usa.net

Southeast: Marilyn VonSoosten, Girard, von_farm@ckt.net

South Central: Vacant

Southwest: Amy Brucker, Syracuse, director@syracuselibrary.info

Trustees at Large

#1 Barb Mathews, Eudora, j54b55@gmail.com

#2 Brenda Hough, Lawrence, bckhough@gmail.com

#3 Pat Brune, Wyandotte, plbrune@gmail.com

#4 Vacant

#5 Vacant

#6 Vacant

Special Board Members:

United for Libraries Liaison: vacant; Kansas Library Association contact: Judy Burgess; Kansas Library Trustee Association (KLTA) Liaison: vacant; FoKL Website Administrator: Carolyn Little

FoKL, c/o Basehor Community Library, 1400 158th St., Basehor, KS 66007