



FRIENDS OF THE BOCA RATON PUBLIC LIBRARY, INC.

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

December 2025

Dear Friends members:

We are about to wrap up another year of support for the Boca Raton Public Library, and what a year it has been! Your financial contributions to the Friends, which are donated to the library, expanded daily Hoopla digital media usage for library cardholders, brought local professionals to share their knowledge at the library's Thursday Night Speaker events, hosted two summer reading parties at the library, funded materials for the library's ESOL and Citizenship classes, taught sustainable agriculture to children, and so much more.

From January through November 2025, the Friends donated approximately \$63,000 to the library, with an additional \$8,000 credited or to be credited for the Friends matinee music series (a value-add service), and in-kind book donations to the library for use in its collections and community bookshelves/community book giveaways that the library manages.


In addition to your yearly financial contributions to the Friends, bookstore sales at the Friends Bookstore in the lobby of the downtown library have brought in over \$85,000 this year.

We are also extremely grateful to our very generous high-end donors, including the Patricia Gould Peck Charitable Trust (in 2020) and long-time Friends members and donors, Sharon & Bill Griffin. Some special projects have been generously funded each year by other donors like Arthur & Ellen Wagner (Friends Sunday Music Matinee series), and Shari & Stephen Sadek (children's book special events).

For a full listing of the library programs/projects funded by the Friends from November 2024 through October 2025, and the amounts funded, see the Library Funding Overview in the Treasurer's Report that follows.

Looking Ahead

For 2026, we have budgeted a cash donation to the library of approximately \$145,000, and a value-added service and in-kind donation contribution of over \$12,000, making our total expected library support for 2026 over **\$157,000**.



This significant funding increase for 2026 is expected to support new library initiatives in addition to the usual annual library programs and ongoing special projects funded by the Friends.

Some of the new library initiatives for 2026 include an Everbrite Interactive Display for children/youth (approximate cost: \$28,000), a Florida Author Series (approximate cost: \$12,500); the 2026 Lynn Conservatory of Music Youth Music Program (4 programs – approximate cost: \$4,000), and a StoryCon for Graphic Novels (approximate cost: \$2,000).

The Friends have also committed to funding new upgrades and/or replacements of the very popular AWE Early Literacy Stations (approximate cost: \$15,000), the eight Storywalk projects in Boca parks (approximate cost: \$4,600), and an increase in enrollment books for the annual summer reading program (approximate cost: \$2,000)

By continuing to frequent our public library and the Friends Bookstore of gently-read books, you help us to support the library's diverse programming and enriching community projects. You are ensuring that our library remains a vibrant institution of knowledge and creativity for everyone.

Your involvement matters. We can't wait to see the difference we can make together next year!

Tracy Wasserman, Board President
on behalf of the Board of Directors of
the Friends of the Boca Raton Public Library, Inc.

FRIENDS OF THE BOCA RATON PUBLIC LIBRARY

2025 TREASURER'S REPORT

(2025 Figures based on November 1, 2024 – October 31, 2025)

Note: all figures rounded to the nearest dollar

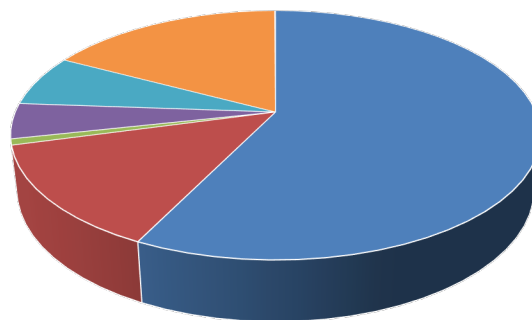
Total Income (Nov 1, 2024 – Oct 31, 2025): \$124,788

BOOKSTORE SPECIFIC INCOME	<u>Total Amount Nov 24 – Oct 25</u>	<u>Prior Year Total Amount (Nov 23 – Oct 24)</u>	<u>Change in Current Year vs Prior Year</u>
Bookstore Sales (taxable)	\$74,885	\$66,324	+\$8,561
Reseller Sales (non-taxable)	\$17,674	\$12,286	+\$5,388
Consignment (Thriftbooks, Better World Books, etc.)	\$1,024	\$2,614	-\$1,590
In-Kind Donation*	\$5,993	\$4,324	+\$1,670

**in-kind donation: The library will “shop” within our bookstore to help support various programs. For example, the library will replenish the little free libraries within the community using the books from the bookstore throughout the year.*

OTHER INCOME	<u>Total Amount Nov 24 – Oct 25</u>	<u>Prior Year Total Amount (Nov 23 – Oct 24)</u>	<u>Current Year vs Prior Year</u>
Membership Dues	\$8,692	\$7,205	+\$1,487
Donations	\$22,439	\$11,055	+\$11,384
Interest Income	\$73	\$152	-\$79

Friends of the BRPL 2024-2025 Income



- Bookstore Sales (57%)
- Reseller Sales (14%)
- Consignment (1%)
- In-Kind Donation (5%)
- Membership Dues (7%)
- Donations (17%)
- Interest Income (>1%)

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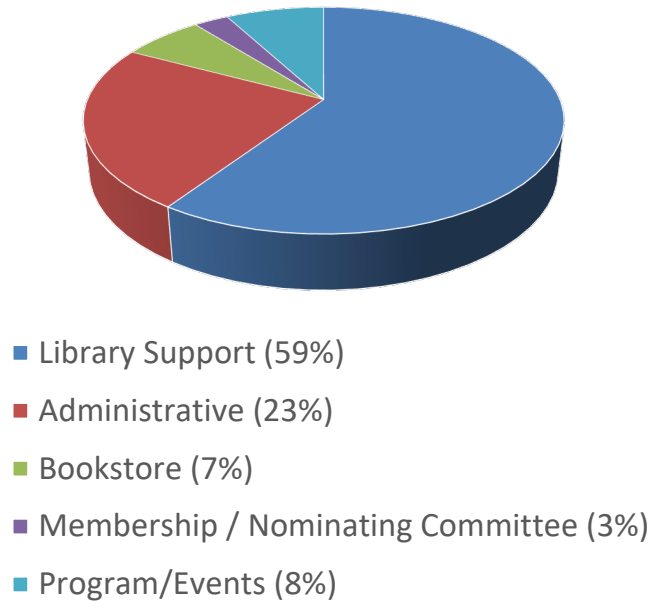
(2025 Figures based on November 1, 2024 – October 31, 2025)

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Total Expenses (Nov 1, 2024 – Oct 31, 2025): \$119,806

	<u>Total Amount</u> <u>Nov 24 – Oct 25</u>	<u>Prior Year Total</u> <u>Amount (Nov 23 –</u> <u>Oct 24)</u>	<u>Current Year vs Prior</u> <u>Year</u>
Administrative	\$28,025	\$26,171	+\$1,854
Bookstore	\$7,815	\$7,080	+\$735
Membership / Nominating Committee	\$3,339	\$4,060	-\$721
Program/Events	\$9,450	\$6,720	+\$2,730
Library Support	\$71,177	\$63,260	+\$7,917

Friends of the BRPL 2024-2025 Expenses



Treasurer Comments on Expenses

Breakdown of Administrative Expenses: This category primarily consists of monthly fixed-cost operational expenses such as Bookkeeper/Accounting, various insurance policies, marketing administration, storage unit and various software programs. All amounts have been carefully examined to ensure the best possible prices and the necessity of each item.

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In 2025 the Friends took many steps to help decrease the amount of expenses within this category for the upcoming year. Such efforts included decreasing the size of the storage unit, which saves an average of 30% a month, as well as, moving to a different website and email host which cut that cost all together.

The increase shown in the Administrative category is primarily due to Marketing. The Friends' Board feels it is important to focus on this area to help get our name out into the community, encourage engagement, find new members and donors, and increase foot traffic in the Bookstore.

Breakdown of Bookstore Expenses: The primary factor for the expenses in this category is the Square fees which the Friends must pay on every credit card transaction that goes through the Square machine, located in the Bookstore, as well as, online orders. This is the cost of doing business. For example, from Nov 1, 2024 to Oct 31, 2025 the Friends took in approximately \$84,589 via credit card purchases within the Square. The fees accrued for this period were approximately \$2,871.

Breakdown of Membership/Nominating Committee Expenses: November 2024 was the last in-person Annual Membership meeting the Friends will be holding. It is expected that the budgeted cost for this category will reduce by 80% for the upcoming year. Although the Annual Membership Meeting is a wonderful way to see everyone again in person and share our accomplishments, the Board decided that reallocating these funds to help fund more for the Library was more consistent with our mission.

Breakdown of Programs/Events Expenses: The Friends put on a Sunday Matinee Music Series each month during in-season. This expense is paid for in this category. The cost increased from last year due to the increase in performance charges give to the musicians. This category also takes into account fundraising fees, such as raffle baskets and marketing, as well as volunteer appreciation costs. National Volunteer Appreciation Week is held each year in April. The Board looks to give a thank you to all the volunteers by providing food, beverages and a small gift for all of their hard work.

Breakdown of Library Support: Please see the attached itemized list of support hereto.

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Net Income: \$9,291

Ending the physical year with a positive net income allows the Friends to reinvest the funds into the savings account. Also, the Board can feel confident in approving higher expenditure requests from the library throughout the year knowing the additional income is expected.

Total Assets as of 10/31/25: \$232,630 (assets increased by \$14,601 since 2024 annual meeting report)

Outlook for 2026:

- As we head into a new year, we are proud to announce the Board has approved the 2026 Library Funding request of \$157,310, which is approximately \$79,000 more than last year's funding request. With our current assets (inclusive of funds in our reserve/savings account), we are more than able to fund the various initiatives set forth by the library and will also be able to approve additional programs/projects throughout the year if the need arises.
- Please see President's Report for all details of current fundraising, library engagement and Bookstore accomplishments and plans.

Respectfully,

Alexis Johnson
Treasurer

FRIENDS OF THE BOCA RATON PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARY FUNDING OVERVIEW

November 2024 – October 2025

**all amounts rounded to nearest dollar*

• Storywalk printing inserts/stands	\$1,713
• Patch Reef Park Replacement Storywalk	\$653
• Various books for Children/Teen Book Clubs	\$3,361
• Chess Classes for Youth	\$1,000
• Read & Make Take Home Kits	\$1,734
• Thursday Night Speakers Series	\$5,675
• Youth Art Show and Reception	\$1,097
• Indie Author Event	\$464
• Mario Kart Tournament	\$191
• 1000 Books before Kindergarten Program	\$1,183
• 1000 Books Before Kindergarten enrollment books	\$500
• Twin Palms Center Craft Event	\$482
• Farmer Jay – Junior Sprouts Classes	\$4,000
• Summer Reading	\$15,667
• ESOL Instructor & Materials	\$802
• ESOL Open House	\$217
• High Tea and History Event	\$171
• National Library Week Staff Luncheon	\$604
• World Book Student Library Subscription	\$2,168
• Make A Mix Series	\$339
• Hoopla Subscription	\$7,500
• Thanksgiving Boca Help Hands Book Giveaway	\$423
• Thanksgiving StoryTime Books	\$360
• FAU Jazz Orchestra Performance	\$1,000
• Citizenship class books, refreshments	\$66
• Jigsaw Puzzle Tournament puzzles	\$261
• Mad Science Fall-o-ween Event	\$465
• SEFLIN Hotspots (20 total)	\$7,056
• Coaching for College Success Seminar	\$500
• Portuguese Bilingual Storytime books	\$496
• Millena the Musy - Storytelling program	\$400
• Summer Reading Enrollment Books	\$77
• Teen K-Pop Event	\$570
• High Tea and History Flowers	\$245
• Touch a Truck book giveaways	\$2,000
• Holiday Parade Trolley & Decorations	\$2,263
• In Kind Donations (from bookstore)	\$5,268