

## Celebrate Rochester-Area Authors!

by Catherine H. Armstrong



© Kathleen Murphy Photography  
Rochester Authors Elissa Elliott  
(center), Joshua Alan Parry (left),  
and D.A. Lampi (right)

The Friends of the Rochester Public Library is excited to announce the 2nd Annual Celebration of Rochester-Area Authors, to be held on July 18th from 5pm-8pm in the library auditorium. New this year will be two discussion panels featuring short lectures and discussions on illustrating and publishing by Rochester-area authors Patrick Mader and Jim Postier. These panels will be held at 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm in Conference Room A, which is adjacent to the library auditorium.

Sixteen additional authors representing nearly every genre of interest will showcase their amazing literary talents, meet the public, and possibly even sign a few autographs. Among the confirmed authors are:

- Catherine Friend - the multiple award-winning author of the memoir, *Hit By a Farm*; the children's book, *The Perfect Nest*; and the very witty, *The Compassionate Carnivore* - to name only a few.
- Dianne E. Gray - the multiple award-winning author of *Tomorrow, the River*; *Together Apart*; and *Holding Up the Earth*.
- Kathryn Sullivan - the award-winning author of *The Crystal Throne* series and numerous other Young Adult, Fantasy and Science-Fiction publications.
- Elissa Elliott - author of *Eve: A Novel of the First Woman*.
- Joshua Alan Parry - author of *Virus Thirteen*.
- Steve Bein - author of *Daughter of the Sword*.
- Jody Brown - author of *Upside Down Kingdom*.
- D.A. Lampi - author of *Shadow Play*, due to be released in June.
- Reema Fairbain Wehlage - author of the children's book, *Seasons of Fun*.
- Mary Bleckwehl - author of the children's books *Henry! You're Late Again!* and *Henry! You're Hungry Again?*
- Sue Wolfe - author of the children's book, *Lily Bouquet and a Special May Day*.
- Jennifer L. Davidson - Author of *Missing Maggie* and *Sincerely, sad dad*.
- Ed Fischer - *Post-Bulletin* cartoonist and author of *You're Never Too Old to Laugh*.
- Tom Brinkman - author of *An Aeronautical Engineer's View - The Vought F4U Corsair and Its Contemporaries*.
- Denise Eide - author of the *Uncovering the Logic of English* series of books.
- Mike Kalmbach - author of a variety of children's and young adult novels and non-fiction works including *Writing Advice for Teens: Creating Stories*.

This event is free, open to the public, and appropriate for all ages. Don't miss it - There's something for everyone!

## Poets at the Plummer House

by Susan McMillan

Earlier this year, the Friends of the Rochester Public Library set out to recognize Minnesota poets. To this end, we established a writing contest and solicited original, unpublished poetry from poets throughout Minnesota. The result was stellar work from 63 poets— some residing as far away as Crookston and Ely.

Poems were judged in two categories: Critic's Choice and Popular Choice. The Critic's Choice finalists were selected by Rochester poet and playwright Katie Hae Leo. Popular Choice winners were chosen by vote, and all poems submitted were posted in the library where everyone who wished to do so could read them and select their favorite.

Winners were honored on March 13th at the Plummer House with a lovely afternoon of poetry and refreshments which began with opening remarks and poetry by *Post-Bulletin* managing editor, Jay Furst. Winners read their poems to a full house of friends, family, and poetry lovers. Rochester poet laureate Jane Belau wrapped up the event with a poem about the Plummer House.

This event raised \$740 for the library and allowed us to showcase the work of many creative and talented Minnesota writers. We are grateful to the *Post-Bulletin* for their co-sponsorship, to Andy's Liquor for donating space at the Plummer House, and to the tireless committee of Friends' members. Thanks to all who participated, contributed, attended, and assisted with this wonderful event.

Congratulations to all of our Poets at the Plummer House contest winners!

### • Critic's Choice Category

*1st Place:* Doris Stengel of Brainerd.

*Also Participating:* Kit Rohrbach, Rochester; Tim Brennan, Austin; Ronald Palmer, Bloomington; and David Olson, Rochester.

### • Popular Choice Category

*1st Place:* Steven Vogel of Rochester.

*Also Participating:* Diane Klein, Rochester; Ruby Wallace, Lake City; Mickey Owens, Rochester; Elena Walden, Rochester.

## Library Space: Now and Into the Future

By Audrey Betcher, Library Director



During the strategic planning process, we heard from the community about what they wanted for Rochester. They also looked at how the library can support that vision. Most of those great ideas have implications for library space. We heard that the community wants more meeting room space for groups of various sizes, more creativity space, and more programming of all different kinds from the library.

Right now we have more questions than answers.

- How can we best utilize our current space to meet the strategic plan/community vision?
- How can we carve out new spaces in our existing building without major implications to valued current services?
- How much might the changes cost?
- How does modifying existing space fit in with our longer term plan of adding two stories onto the existing library?

Lots of ideas are floating around and one of them in particular has implications for the Friends.

- One of the ideas is to create a new meeting room out of a part of the bookmobile collection area and the Friends' sorting area.
- The Friends sorting area is moving to what was currently a maintenance storage room near the auditorium.
- The new meeting room would be primarily for staff, Library Board, Friends and Foundation meetings. This would greatly free up Meeting Room B for the public. It might also provide opportunities for additional programming.
- John has been getting input from those volunteers most directly impacted by the changes.

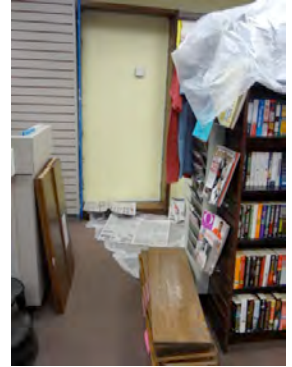
We will continue to explore options, get more information, and the library board will make the final decision about any changes. We will be sharing more as the process unfolds. It is an exciting time at the library!

# News from the Bookstore

by Mary Barrett, Bookstore Manager

Have you been in the Bookstore lately? The Bookstore crew has been working really hard on store appearance, trying to make the environment as welcoming as possible for all the customers and visitors who drop in to browse our excellent supply of books.

In April, the Bookstore got a fresh coat of cheery yellow paint as well as some new track lighting. The improvement is amazing! (The photo shows the “during” part of the painting.) The track lighting has especially improved customers’ ability to see hard cover fiction titles and the science fiction section.



*Under Construction*



*McMillan's display*

The excellent displays created by S. McMillan also brighten the store. She creates a new display for each month or event. Here is a display that she created for Mother’s Day.

In addition to the displays in the store, we also have decorated windows thanks to S. Glocke. While the book and glasses are permanently displayed on one of our windows, the other window decorations change to reflect the seasons.

The Bookstore is arranged to maximize the customers’ ability to find the book(s) they are looking for. Alphabetized fiction, non-fiction organized by genre, and knowledgeable cashiers all help customers have satisfying experiences in the store. The final piece of our decorating will be the placement of new signs designating the location of our various store sections.



*Glocke's window paintings as displayed in the Friends' Bookstore*

## New Pricing Policy

Have you noticed how much the price of new books has increased? When the Friends’ Bookstore first opened 17 years ago, most paperbacks were under five dollars, and hard-bound books were generally less than ten dollars. One of the hardest tasks of the Bookstore Committee is to set the prices on books. The Friends’ mission is to raise funds for the Library, and the cost of books and materials has dramatically increased for the Library in the past few years. In order for the Friends to meet their funding goals for the Library, we have had to adjust our prices – but the Friends’ Bookstore is still the best buy in town. Mass market paperback fiction published in 2008 or before is priced at \$1.00. Books published from 2009 to 2012 cost \$2.00, and books published this year are \$3.00. Most brand new paperback books cost between \$7-\$10, so the Bookstore prices are terrific. If you can’t find a specific book, make sure to ask a cashier to write down a request for you and the sorters will watch for it to come in. Shelves are stocked almost daily, so drop in often!

The books that fill the Friends’ Bookstore shelves are in almost-new condition. (If this were a garage sale, we’d say the tags were still on them!) The Bookstore also carries gift items such as tote bags and t-shirts; or you can give a gift certificate and let your friend or family member enjoy the shopping experience themselves!

## Friends’ Website

Be sure to visit the Friends’ website for current information about special sales, author visits and other special events. Volunteers make sure that the information stays up-to-date so you can be well-informed. The website is located at <http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/supporting/friends/index.html>.



If you are in the Library, be sure to watch the Friends’ Bulletin board for even more information.

# CELEBRATE Rochester-Area Authors

July 18, 2013  
5pm-8pm  
Rochester Public Library  
Auditorium

Featuring two author discussion  
panels on illustrations and publishing.  
(Conference Room A at 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm)



*Join us to meet some of the best literary  
talent in the Rochester-Area!*



## From the Friends' President

by Barbara Eakins

I hope we can really say that winter is behind us and spring is here (at least for now). We have much to look forward to in the next few months.

The Friends sponsored, along with the Post Bulletin, a wonderful gathering at the Plummer House in March to celebrate area poets. Several attendees said that they hoped this would be an annual event.

Several of the Friends took part in World Book Night in April. One night a year participants give out free books to readers who normally might not buy books. A wonderful time was had by all that took part. If you think you might be interested next year talk to me (Barbara Eakins), Cathie Armstrong, or Pat Stephenson.

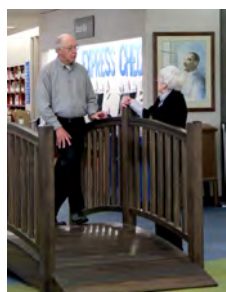
Don't miss our upcoming events:

- During Rochesterfest, the Friends will have their next auditorium sale. Save the dates of June 25, 26, and 27th for the sale. Friends of the Library are invited to attend the preview sale on June 24 from 5pm to 7pm. At that time you will be able to have a chance to snatch up the great buys before the sale is open to the public.
- On July 18th, the second Celebration of Rochester-Area Authors will take place in the Library Auditorium. We have all been working to make this an exciting event and 18 authors are participating.
- On August 17th, the Friends of the Library will be manning a booth at ArtiGras. Stop by to see us.

We look forward to seeing you at all of these events and thank you for your support.

### **Congratulations and Many Thanks!**

The Rochester Public Library and the Friends of the Rochester Public Library wish to extend their congratulations and gratitude to Al Dollerschell for surpassing \$40,000 in sales on Amazon. Your efforts are deeply appreciated!



Al Dollerschell



## **Don't Miss the 4-Day Rochesterfest Book Sale!**

### **Rochester Public Library Auditorium**

**June 25, 26 and 27  
9:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

**\*Special Members-Only  
Preview Sale on  
June 24th  
from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

*\*Not a Friends of the Library member?  
Come to the June 24th Preview Sale  
and purchase your membership then  
for great savings at all of our book  
sales and in the Friends' Bookstore!*

### **We Now Accept Credit Cards!**

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Thank you for your support

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**Friends' Bookstore Hours**

**Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays**  
10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

**Tuesdays and Fridays**  
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Saturdays**  
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (Summer)

**Sundays**  
CLOSED (Summer)

Shopping on Amazon? Remember to use the link on the Bookstore Webpage and a percentage of your purchase will go back to benefit the library! ([www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/supporting/bookstore](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/supporting/bookstore))  
