



Fact Sheet

Friends of the Library of Collier County, Inc. was formed in 1957 to establish a free public library system in Collier County. **Friends** fund the expansion and enhancement of educational, recreational and technological needs at all Collier County Public Library branches. **Friends** have contributed over \$1 million in the last 10 years to meet library needs. The **Friends** have nearly 3,000 dues paying members and are one of the largest non-profit organizations in Collier County.

Do you know?

Mr. & Mrs. Ferdinand Lee in 1963 donated the Central Avenue land to the Friends to be used for a public library. This site upon which the Naples Regional Library is located is still owned by the **Friends**. The Central Avenue site is leased to Collier County for \$1 per year.

Do you know?

Friends Events...

- Annual "Nick Linn Lecture Series" consists of four nationally known authors with 600 attendees per lecture.
- Bagels and Book Clubs Breakfasts
- Non-Fiction Lecture Series
- Donor Appreciation Receptions

Do you know?

Friends provide...


- Artwork for Children's Library Spaces
- Circulation Desk(s) for the Immokalee and Vanderbilt Beach Branch Libraries
- Florida Book Collection
- Genealogy Reference Books and Data Bases
- iPads for library program users
- The West Wing Art Gallery at the Naples Regional Library

Do you know?

Friends pay for...

- Every public program in all Library Branches that require out-of-pocket expenditures
- LEAP which employs teen students to provide tech & computer support for library patrons
- Library Employee of the Month Recognition Programs
- Library Volunteer Recognition Programs
- Professional Development and Continuing Educational Opportunities for Library Staff
- Staff Graduate Degree Scholarships (Master of Library Science Degree)

Do you know?

 **Friends** funded capital construction projects such as...

- Rose Hall and Reading Patio at Marco Island Branch Library
- Sugden Library Theater at the Headquarters Library
- Sugden Reading Patio and Mackworth G. Rees Meeting Room at Naples Regional Library

Do you know?

 **Friends** support...

- Adult Literacy Program Needs
- Audio/Visual Equipment for Programs
- Public Computers & Software for both Adults and Children

Do you know?

 **Friends** assist with...

- Children's Story Times Materials and Supplies
- Early Childhood Developmental Reading Program Supplies (beginning age 6 mos.)
- Library Office and Operating Supplies

Do you know?

 **Friends** contribute toward...

- Adult and Children's Books
- Children's Furniture and Activity tables
- Children's Summer Reading Program Software and Incentive Rewards
- Classic, Foreign and Documentary Film Series Screened at Regional Libraries

Friends have played a key role in expanding informational, educational, and entertainment opportunities that broaden the horizons of Collier County's children, their families, residents and visitors.

Please consider becoming one of the **Friends** today. Your tax deductible membership is only \$30 for individuals and \$40 for families. By joining the **Friends**, you will have the satisfaction of knowing you have helped make the library a better place. Join us... Because **Friends** matter.

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Friends of the Library of Collier County, Inc.

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