

# ‘Stand Up For Standout Library Friends’ 2026 Nomination Form

Almost every Friends of the Library group can boast a few standout members – movers and shakers whose dedication, creativity and boundless energy help the organization overcome obstacles. In recognition of this fact, MALF is pleased to announce the return of “Stand Up For Standout Friends” for its 11th consecutive year!

Each member group is invited to put forward the name of one individual for this special annual honor, in thanks for standout efforts in furtherance of their work and mission. See [mnlibraryfriends.org](http://mnlibraryfriends.org) for more details, including recommended selection criteria and a list of “perks” for Standout Friends.

In order to participate, we ask that your Friends of the Library group make their selection and submit this form – along with an explanatory cover letter – to us by **July 31, 2026**. Please do so via email (to: [info@mnlibraryfriends.org](mailto:info@mnlibraryfriends.org)).

Your cover letter should address why your Friends organization wishes to honor this individual as a Standout Friend. Explanation of reasoning and qualifications should run a minimum of 100 words (though longer is appreciated). Supplemental letters of support and photos are highly encouraged.

‘Standout Friend’ Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Friends of the Library (FOL) Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Please ‘check’ the boxes to acknowledge that:

- My Friends organization is a member of MALF, and attached to a public, K-12, college, or special library in Minnesota.
- Nominee is a volunteer Friend of the Library - i.e. not on the staff or payroll of the library you support.
- Nominee is aware of our intent and agrees to be honored in this way.
- We did not honor this Friend as ‘Standout Friend’ in the 2016-2025 award cycles.

## APPLICATION APPENDIX: PHOTO MONTAGE

MALF customarily creates a short video tribute to each year's "class" of Standout Friends. This will debut as part of our online Friends mini-conference (*Saturday Splash*) this fall, date TBD.

In addition, MALF intends to spotlight each recipient as part of our bimonthly e-newsletters, as well as in letters from the Minnesota Association of Library Friends to local elected officials in the community which your Friends of the Library serves.

**Please share at least one, and preferably several, photographs.** Naturally, head shots or photos featuring your Standout Friend "in action" at the Library are especially strong candidates. However, we also welcome photos from past book sales and other fundraisers; photos of furnishings or materials purchased thanks (at least in part) to your Standout Friend's efforts; and other such visuals that contextualize the "story" of your honoree. If applicable/desirable, please provide a photo credit for each.

- I am including photograph(s) for use in Standout Friends celebration materials.
- I will round up photos and email to [info@mnlibraryfriends.org](mailto:info@mnlibraryfriends.org) by Friday, July 31.