

October 26, 2018

Dear [REDACTED]:

Minnesota's successful public library support organizations each contain a few members who are *movers and shakers* – volunteers whose dedication, creativity and boundless energy drive their organization forward.

In recognition of this fact, the Minnesota Association of Library Friends (MALF) created its "Stand Up for Standout Friends" initiative in 2016. Every year, we invite MALF member organizations – including **Friends of the [REDACTED] Public Library** – to put forward the name of *one* Friend of the Library in your area who is particularly noteworthy for their devotion and/or creativity.

Among other honors, each designee received recognition at the annual Minnesota Library Association conference (held this year in Saint Cloud on October 11-12), and a matted certificate of recognition.

For this third annual cycle, we had twelve "Stand Up" honorees in total. Included in that distinguished class is [REDACTED] of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED], of the Library, put forward [REDACTED] name for consideration. Below is a capsule description of why they merit the Stand Up for Standup Friends honor:

**Retirement proved something of a misnomer for hard-working [REDACTED]. After "retiring" from a long career in teaching (culminating in treasured years with fifth and sixth graders at [REDACTED] Public Elementary School), [REDACTED] immediately dove head-long into local library work. The Friends of the [REDACTED] Public Library play a leading role in the branch's summer reading programming, and much of the attendant responsibility falls on [REDACTED]. She also spearheads other children's events, including the Library's involvement in [REDACTED] annual [REDACTED] Kid Day (now in its 88th year). Like so many Standout Friends, [REDACTED] is also something of a pinch hitter, pitching in wherever necessary: editing newsletters and meeting minutes, organizing silent auction fundraisers, and much more.**

**Since joining the ranks in 2011, "[REDACTED] has impressed us with her creativity, enthusiasm, and her unique ability to pull things together on a whim's notice," lauded former head librarian [REDACTED]. "Over the past seven years, I can't remember her saying 'No'!"**

We invite you to take this opportunity to celebrate the important work that [REDACTED] (and colleagues) do for your library and, by extension, your community. Please consider sharing word of this honor with local media, and any other community stakeholders who may value this announcement. Your office might also wish to coordinate a recognition ceremony of your own – perhaps in conjunction with National Friends of Libraries week (October 20-26, 2019), an annual celebration of Friends of the Library coordinated by the American Library Association. Visit [ala.org](http://ala.org) to learn more.

You can reach out to nominator [REDACTED] at [REDACTED], and to MALF at [info@mnlibraryfriends.org](mailto:info@mnlibraryfriends.org).

Best wishes,

Nancy Guerino, President | Minnesota Association of Library Friends