



**FRIENDS OF THE
Duluth Public
LIBRARY**

Stay in touch with friends

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Hello Friends!

I want to share several of the reasons why our organization exists. The following are three of the "Philosophies of the Friends of the Duluth Public Library":

Friends are people of all ages from all walks of life who believe the public library is a valuable asset in the development of their community: its culture, its citizenry, and especially its youth.

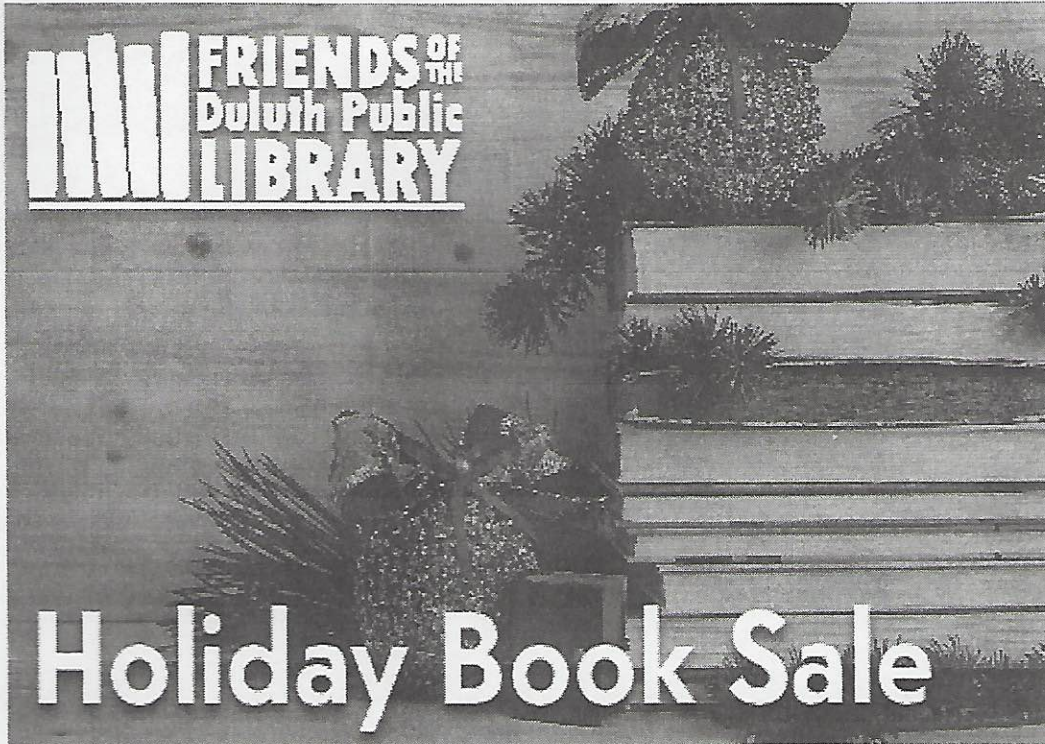
Friends believe in the value of books and reading. They regard the public library as an impartial, reliable information center. They believe the public library is a dynamic agency for the continuing education of the citizenry.

For these reasons and many more, Friends believe the public library needs constant enrichment and community support. Friends are a constituency, and advocacy body to protect and enhance the public institution designed to permit all people the freedom to develop their own minds in their own ways.

When I began writing this article in my head it was a lot warmer outside. I imagined taking a cup of coffee out to my deck and reading a reserve I had picked up from the Library. As I actually write it, those thoughts will remain a part of my imagination. Instead, I sit at my kitchen counter, drink that cup of coffee and listen to a compact disc I borrowed from the Library.

There are so many resources to choose from and activities to participate in at the Library, please visit and try them out for yourself - books, music, movies, newspapers, clipping files, books on cd, downloadables, toys, storytimes, to name a few. "Check it out" by going to any of the three branch buildings or online.

By being a Friend of the Duluth Public Library, by supporting our organization, you are providing opportunities for all. The Library is a place where all community members are welcome. Thank you for all that you do.



Tuesday, December 4
10 am to 5:30 pm

Wednesday, December 5
10 am to 7:30 pm

Thursday, December 6
10 am to 3 pm

 **MOUNT ROYAL**

Three days of book sales for the holiday season at the Mount Royal Library!

Proceeds from the sale support free library events for children and teens.



Carla's Corner

November 2018

In the spirit of thankfulness, for the month of November the Duluth Public Library will be eliminating fines on youth cards and youth materials. It's part of the "We're Thankful for You" fine- and fee-free initiative organized by the Arrowhead Library System, designed to encourage kids and teens to use the library.

During the month of November anyone under age 18 who has overdue items can return them without being charged late fines. If they already have late fines on their library account, they can stop into any Duluth Public Library location and have the fines erased. If they have lost their library card, they can get a new one for free. The only charge that will not be erased from a child's account is the replacement fee for something that has been lost or damaged. However, staff will be glad to work with kids and teens, or their caregivers, to figure out a payment plan for replacement charges if needed.

If you are an adult who checks out items for kids on your library card, you can have overdue fines for those items erased from your account as well. However, fines for adult items checked out on an adult's card, as well as all replacement costs, will not be erased.

We hope that this initiative will make it easier for young people and their caregivers to feel welcome at the library and to check out books and other items that they need. Overdue fines can serve a purpose when they encourage people to return things on time so that others may use them. But they also can serve as a barrier, especially for young people because kids often depend on adults to take them to the library. We hope that this month's initiative to erase kids' fines will remove this barrier and encourage young people to become regular library users and lifelong learners.