

Mark Your Calendars!

Join the Friends for our indoor book and media sales at Orange, and a look ahead at 2022.



Everyone is invited to our **INDOOR BOOK Sale** on **Saturday, November 6 from 9am - 2pm at Orange Branch**. The lobby and meeting room will be filled with books only for your winter stocking-up of reading material. Also, remember that books (including used books) make great holiday gifts! Buy books individually or by the bag; bring your Friends bag back for a discounted refill price.



Come back for an **INDOOR MEDIA Sale** on **Saturday, December 4 from 9am - 2pm at Orange Branch**. CD/DVD/Audiobooks are on sale for \$1 each, 6 for \$5. This is not a “fill a bag” sale.



Making plans for 2022? We’re having a **BOOK and MEDIA sale** on **Saturday, February 5, 2022 from 9am - 4pm at Delaware Main**. Similar to the October 2021 sale, books will be sold in the garage, and CD/DVD/Audiobooks will be sold in the Community Room. Fill up your Friends bag with books or buy books individually. Media are on sale for \$1 each, 6 for \$5.



What else are we planning for 2022?

Our Friends Board and Committees are working now on our 2022 Events Calendar. Expect to see:

- ◆ Author Visits
- ◆ More frequent Book Sales
- ◆ Young Writers/Middle School Writers Workshops
- ◆ Friends-only event in advance of Liberty Branch opening

Details on these events will be emailed to Friends members and are available on social media and at delawarelibraryfriends.org.

Recent Event Highlights

We had a beautiful day for our Friends Members Picnic at Orange on Sept 26. Treats, balloon animals, dedication of the gazebo and updates on the construction of the new Liberty branch were among the highlights.



An enthusiastic, sold-out crowd enjoyed our Oct 25 Author Visit with local mystery writers Connie Berry, Andrew Welsh-Huggins and Robin Yocum at Ill Mannered Brewery in Powell.

The DCDL Great GeekFest: “An event that is very geeky!”

The title’s tautology notwithstanding, exploring the library’s “geekfest” is a window on the varied, creative, and intriguing interests of today’s youth – and adults, too – and illustrates the evolving roles of public libraries in the life of communities. First, let’s define *geek*: according to Wikipedia, the word typically connotes an expert or enthusiast obsessed with a hobby or intellectual pursuit (usually with great attention to detail, often referring to technology).

DCDL’s Great GeekFest – or Geek Week - took place in virtual form the week of October 11-18. It began five years ago as a free comic convention for all ages. This year’s event began with **Bad Movie Night** - a YouTube screening of *Bucket of Blood*, - one of the “worst movies of all time” – led by resident movie geek: Luke [See the library’s podcast page for more information: <https://www.delawarelibrary.org/podcast/>]. Note that the podcast page also includes episodes of “Off the Shelf” radio show and “What to Read Wednesdays with Annie.”

Cosplay is considered one of the “crowning achievements” of Geek Week. *Cosplay* (costume role-play) is an activity and performance art in which participants wear costumes and accessories that represent a character. Cosplay can be singular or involve groups small and large, including online (see cosplay.com) Sources of ideas for characters include anime (animated works), cartoons, comic books, TV series, manga (graphic novels in a style that originated in Japan), and video games. *(continued on page 2)*

Welcome, Friends!

We welcome the following New Members:

Mary Albright	Barbara Chapman
Glenn Forrester	Maribeth Graham
Lisa Heintz	Penelope Justice
Sabra Kershaw	Jan Kisting
Barbara Ledford	Joanne Lewis
Beth Marchant	Carlin Neighbors
Deb Omlor	Catherine Pannebaker
Michelle Pomles	Marty Pratt
Kathy Prorok	John Schmarr
Kathy Seibert	Glenn Shaw
Melissa Siferd	Annie Stevens
Libby Wallick	Karen Wickliff
Jennifer Wiest	Renee Yohe

Hooray for Book Sales! Thanks to all of you who donated books, volunteered at the October 15-16 event, shopped and invited friends -- we had nearly **\$2000** in sales. Remember to join us at Orange on Nov 6 and Dec 4!

Board of Directors and Committees

Karen Cowan, President	president@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Doug Wilson, Vice President	vicepresident@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Linda Silverstein, Secretary	secretary@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Cheryl Stagg, Treasurer	treasurer@delawarelibraryfriends.org

Standing Committee Chairs

Executive, Karen Cowan	president@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Finance, Doug Wilson	vicepresident@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Fundraising, Brad Cowan	fundraising@delawarelibraryfriends.org
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Publicity, Nichole Klatte	publicity@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Special Events, Penny Mong	events@delawarelibraryfriends.org

Keep Current with the Friends!



For up-to-date info on ticket releases, events and more!

Facebook: Friends of the Delaware Library (@FriendsoftheDelawareLibrary)

Instagram: Delaware Library Friends

Twitter: @friendsofDCDL DW Library Friends

Website: delawarelibraryfriends.org

Email: Make sure the Friends have your **preferred email address**. Send it to membership@delawarelibraryfriends.org.

Not receiving our email? Please check your spam folder for event notices, newsletters and other information. We use MailChimp and you can unsubscribe if you choose. Your email is not shared beyond the Friends and DCCL.

www.delawarelibraryfriends.org

DCDL Great GeekFest (cont.)

Although the term *cosplay* was coined in the 1980s, the practice has its roots in early 15th century carnivals where people dressed up as objects, concepts, famous historical figures, or popular characters from fiction or stage plays. In the U.S., fan costuming started at the First World Science Fiction Convention of 1939, in conjunction with the New York World's Fair (the theme was "The World of Tomorrow)."

Other Geek Week activities included a **Trivia Night**; a **Dungeons and Dragons** broadcast of "Librarians' Lore," with DCCL staff playing their own D&D game, bringing fantasy worlds to life (produced by the Maker Studio). See: <https://youtu.be/Qwx5z9hDSg>.

Three **keynote speakers**, all of whom are popular authors, were featured. The authors and their books are:

Minh Le and **Dan Santat** (illustrator) wrote *Drawn Together* – a story about a boy and his grandfather, who connect across generations and a language difference. The book was the 2019 winner of the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature. *Lift*, their second book, is about sibling rivalry and a magical elevator that teaches about the power of sharing discoveries on several levels. *Lift* was selected as a Washington Post Best Children's Book of 2020. Santat is a Caldecott medalist.

Vera Brosgol is the author of *Anya's Ghost* (a graphic novel about finding a friend who has been dead for a century) and *Be Prepared* (a non-fiction graphic memoir about a 9-year old girl who struggles to be accepted at a camp for Russian speakers only). It was selected as the Best Graphic Novel of 2018 by Parents' Magazine and a NY Times Notable Book for 2018. Brosgol was born in Russia and emigrated to the US at the age of five.

Librarian Mr. George also offered a "Little Geeks" virtual story time, featuring super-heroes. See: <https://youtu.be/NzlaRCRmXng>

Readers may want to learn more about graphic novels, cosplay, and video games and their importance to learning and personality development. According to Scholastic.com, graphic novels are engaging and high-quality reading material. They improve literacy skills and encourage kids to "dive into" books for fun - what Scholastic calls "the perfect recipe" for a love of reading. Some psychologists report that cosplay can be beneficial for mental health because people are free to be creative and imaginative and help work through issues such as anxiety and depression. Video games have been controversial - but are played by the majority of youth (and many adults), which is not likely to change.

See ProCon.org for a discussion about video games and society: <https://videogames.procon.org/>

The importance of our public library in the development and wellbeing of youth and all people in our communities cannot be overstated. Learning about GeekFest is one way for those of us who are not "digital natives" to embrace the future and also to relate better to our children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors! Submitted by Becky S. Cornett