



Bookends!

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Bellaire Library

Volume 2, Issue 3

November 2023

New Faces at the Library!

If you have not had a chance to visit the Library recently, a couple of talented new staff have been added.



Chris Arrowood, Assistant Library Director, July 2022

Chris was previously associated with the Montgomery County Memorial Library System where he was the Librarian III/Assistant Manager at the Mitchell Library. Prior to working at MCMLS, Chris was the Branch Manager for the Hillendahl & Ring Neighborhood libraries. During his 7+ years at HPL, Chris also held management positions at the Frank, Meyer, and Robinson libraries.

Chris is a graduate of the University of North Texas with a Master of Library and Information Science with Advanced Management Certification. He was also inducted into Beta Phi Mu, international honors society for library and information studies, in recognition of outstanding academic achievement (Summa Cum Laude) and the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society. Chris also holds a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from Middle Tennessee State University and a Master of Music Degree from the University of Tennessee.

Before working in public libraries, Chris was a band director at Crockett High School (Austin), DeSoto High School (DeSoto), Bonham Junior High School (Odessa), Katy High School (Katy), and East Bernard High School (East Bernard).

JOIN US FOR BOOKCLUB ON NOVEMBER 18th

The Last Dance on the Starlight Pier Set in Galveston during the Great Depression, Sarah Bird's novel is about one woman—and a nation—struggling to be reborn from the ashes. The meeting will be Saturday, November 18th from 2 to 3 in the library's meeting room.

New Faces, cont'd



Matthew Amenda, Youth Services Librarian, January 2023

Matt Amenda is a first year Youth Services Librarian, who graduated with his MLIS from the University College Dublin. He specializes in programming for teens and tweens. His favorite library activities to run are video game tournaments and role-playing, board, and card games. He is also knowledgeable about children's movies and graphic novels, has a background in community theater and radio, and loves storytelling. His favorite children's books are *A Wind in the Willows*, *Watership Down*, and *The Hobbit*.

What have the Friends of the Bellaire Library been doing this year?

- Held our Annual Meeting of the Friends on January 25 and granted a donation to fulfill the the Library Director's wishlist
- Ran two book sales (our primary fundraisers) on April 15 & October 7 at the Bellaire Fire Station
- Sold books at our booth at the April 29 Bellaire Arts & Crafts Festival
- Sold snow cones at Bellaire's Fourth of July Festival
- Raised almost \$10,000 for the library!

Upcoming Events

- Come see us at our booth at the November 11 Arts & Crafts Festival on the Bellaire Boulevard Esplanade!
- Please join us for our Annual Friends of the Bellaire Library Meeting on January 10, 2024 at 6pm in the library.

Become a Business Sponsor



The Friends of the Bellaire Library offers a number of sponsorship opportunities for your business. From the summer reading program which is enjoyed by hundreds of local children to upgrading digital resources, your generous donation will help make a difference in the lives of the families of Bellaire and surrounding areas.

Your business will be recognized on our website and at events, depending upon your level of sponsorship, and can greatly increase your visibility within the City of Bellaire. Examples of available benefits (depending on level of sponsorship) include:

- Recognition on the Friends of the Bellaire Library website.
- Recognition in press releases sent out to members of the local media.
- Recognition at planned events such as the Summer Reading Program and Book Sale.
- Membership sticker to display at your place of business.

To join, contact us directly on fotbl1@gmail.com.

Support Your Beloved Bellaire Library!

There are many ways to support the Bellaire City Library.

- Annual Family Membership - \$20 per year
- Lifetime Membership - \$100 one-time payment
- Voluntary Donations – any amount
- Annual Business Memberships are also available. Please email us for more information.
- Donations are always welcome, too! Just use this link: https://paypal.me/FOTBL?locale.x=en_US

Join or donate via cash, check, or online via Paypal (*Select "Send", and enter username "FOTBL" if needed.*) Checks can be mailed to: Friends of the Bellaire Library, c/o Bellaire City Library, 5111 Jessamine, Bellaire, TX 77401. Checks or cash can be dropped off at the Library. For more information go to: <https://www.fotbl.org/membership/>

Be an Advocate for the Library

Dear Friend of the Bellaire City Library,

Please see the website, <https://www.fotbl.org/> for an updated list of the Board Members and other useful information.

Interested in serving on the Board of Directors or want to be involved in another way? Send an email to FOTBL1@gmail.com. **Now accepting applications for 2024 until November 15th.**

Please continue to use the Library's services and stop by to find a great book!

Yours in Reading,

The Board of the Friends of the Bellaire Library

~~~~~  
**The Friends of the Bellaire Library**  
**c/o Bellaire City Library**  
**5111 Jessamine St.**  
**Bellaire, TX 77401**