



Fact Sheet

Friends of the Library of Collier County, Inc. was formed in 1957 to establish a free public library system in Collier County. **Friends** fund the expansion and enhancement of educational, recreational and technological needs at all Collier County Public Library branches. **Friends** have contributed over \$1 million since 2001 to meet library needs. The **Friends** have nearly 2,700 dues paying members and are one of the largest nonprofit organizations in Collier County.

Do you know?

Mr. & Mrs. Ferdinand Lee in 1963 donated a large block of land on Central Avenue to the Friends to be used for a public library. The Naples Regional Library is located on this land and remains owned by the **Friends** who lease it to Collier County for \$1 per year.

Do you know?

Friends Events...

- Annual "Nick Linn Lecture Series" consisting of four nationally known authors with over 500 attendees per lecture with discount for Friends members.
- Bagels and Book Clubs Breakfasts
- Non-Fiction Lecture Series
- Member Receptions
- Complimentary Friends only Programs and Concerts

Do you know?

Friends provide or contribute towards...


- Adult and Children's Books
- Genealogy Reference Books and Data Bases
- iPads for library users and specifically designated ones for children
- Children's Furniture and Activity tables
- Children's Summer Reading Program Software and Incentive Rewards
- Classic, Foreign and Documentary Film Series Screened by Regional Libraries
- Needs and improvements requested by each Library branch
- The West Wing Art Gallery at the Naples Regional Library

Do you know?

Friends pay for...

- Every public program in all Library Branches that requires out-of-pocket expenditures
- Library Employee of the Month Recognition Programs
- Library Volunteer Recognition Programs

Do you know?

 **Friends** funded capital construction projects such as...

- Rose Hall and Reading Patio at Marco Island Branch Library
- Sugden Library Theater at the Orange Blossom Headquarters Library
- Sugden Reading Patio and Mackworth G. Rees Meeting Room at Naples Regional Library

Do you know?

 **Friends** support...

- Adult Literacy Program Needs
- Audio/Visual Equipment for Programs
- Public Computers & Software for both Adults and Children
- LEAP which employs teenage students to provide tech & computer support for library patrons

Do you know?

 **Friends** assist with...

- Children's Story Times Materials and Supplies
- Early Childhood Developmental Reading Program Supplies (beginning age 6 mos.)
- Library Office and Operating Supplies

Friends have played a key role in expanding informational, educational, and entertainment opportunities that broaden the horizons of Collier County's children, their families, residents and visitors.

Please consider becoming one of the **Friends** today. Your tax deductible membership is only \$30 for individuals and \$40 for families. By joining the **Friends**, you will have the satisfaction of knowing you have helped make the library a better place. Join us... Because **Friends** matter.

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Friends of the Library of Collier County, Inc.

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