2023 Snapshot



The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library is the Center for the Book in Minnesota, designated by the Library of Congress. The Friends was honored with this distinction largely because of the success of our statewide programs, including the Minnesota Book Awards.

As Minnesota's Center for the Book, The Friends produces dynamic programming to promote reading, literacy, and libraries that benefits all ages and reaches all corners of the state.

By the Numbers ▼

2,285 attendees at all 2023 counties with people author programs per year different authors who programs participating in programs participated in programs in 2023 of 2023 Moving Words attendees agreed of One Book | One Minnesota participants that the program "gave them a greater reported conversations about the featured that the program "gave them a greate understanding of the range of stories 80% title with others; about half felt more written by Minnesotans" and "increased connected to their community through their connection with their library." participation in discussion.

Programs ▼

The Friends produces a variety of programs designed to connect Minnesota readers and writers of all ages.

One Book | One Minnesota

Virtual, statewide book club

Minnesota Book Awards

Year-long program celebrating and connecting readers and writers

Fireside Reading Series

Intimate author talks in Saint Paul libraries

Minnesota Writers on the Map

Print and digital resource for noteworthy Minnesota writers

Moving Words

Discussions in libraries with Minnesota Book Award winners and finalists

Minnesota Writers Directory

Digital directory of current authors in Minnesota available for engagements

"One Book | One Minnesota presentations are always outstanding!"

What Participants Sav

"I loved "listening in" to the conversation between two Native women who are authors. I thought they were both wonderful. I learned things about Native culture I hadn't thought about."

"Amazing common threads among diverse work. The authors shared a wealth of knowledge and experience to a captivated audience."